

Shellbrook Chronicle & Spiritwood Herald



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Shellbrook CN Station hits auction block



Shellbrook's CN Station was buzzing with activity for perhaps the last time in its 113-year history on Monday morning. The building was auctioned off by the town over the weekend.

By **JORDAN TWISS**
Shellbrook Chronicle Reporter

After nearly three years in purgatory, Shellbrook's CN Station has reached the end of the line.

The building, which served for many years as the Shellbrook & District Heritage Museum, was auctioned off by the Town of Shellbrook on March 12, along with the train station shed, the old Rayside School building, and all the items remaining in the Shellbrook Museum's Collection.

Including the buildings — and the antiques, collectibles, and other items — there were 1007 lots up for grabs in the auction conducted by Schmalz Auctions over the weekend, with the net proceeds from all sales being earmarked to support the Parkland Pool Project Steering Committee's efforts to build a new pool for the community.

Though it will take some time to finalize the sales and tally the total raised through the auction, early signs seem positive. The CN Station itself sold for a final bid of \$300, while the train station shed hauled in \$2,000. Both sales come with the caveat that the buildings be moved by Sept. 30 to free up the land for the Town of Shellbrook.

"That allows Public Works to get the drainage sorted out there," Shellbrook Mayor Amund Otterson said. "Those are serviced areas [for sewer and water]. They're ideal spots for a business or a multi-family dwelling."

While the station and the station shed sold, no buyers were willing to bite on the Rayside School building. This means it will now fall to Shellbrook's town council to decide what happens next. Despite this small disappointment, Otterson feels the auc-

tion was a success.

"It was well attended by buyers from around western Canada," he said. "It was a good move using the auction group."

Citing the potential costs to taxpayers to maintain and upgrade the building, Shellbrook's Town Council originally floated the idea of demolishing the station, and even drafted a bylaw to remove its heritage status, at a meeting held in May 2020. But, after outcry from the public, it voted to give the station a 90-day reprieve to allow interested parties enough time to put together a proposal to save the building.

During this window, a proposal to turn the CN Station into an artisan's co-operative was brought forward by a local group that was interested in saving the building. However, these efforts were hampered by the COVID-19

pandemic and a lack of interest, and they failed to bear any fruit in the time period allotted by council.

This allowed council to proceed with removing the station's heritage status at its Oct. 18, 2021 meeting and sealed the fate of the building (and the museum). Throughout 2022, items from the museum's collection were deaccessioned and returned to the families that had originally donated them, paving the way for the remaining items and the buildings to be auctioned off.

Construction of the Shellbrook CN Station was completed in December 1909, making the building one of the town's earliest buildings. In 1988, the property was a designated Municipal Heritage Property and transformed into the Shellbrook & District Heritage Museum. Until its end, it was maintained and overseen by a dedicated group of volunteers.

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RM of Spiritwood contracts CSO services

By **JORDAN TWISS**
Shellbrook Chronicle Reporter

With rural crime and safety ever a concern among Saskatchewan residents, the R.M. of Spiritwood has become the latest municipality in the area to look to a Community Safety Officer (CSO) to bolster existing law enforcement services.

Colette Bussiere, administrator for the RM of Spiritwood, says council for the municipality initially began exploring the possibility of employing a regional CSO in partnership with surrounding communities in 2018. At that time, however, it was forced to put the idea on the backburner due to a lack of commitment from its potential partners.

"RCMP services continue to be in high demand and their resources in short supply. With traffic continually on the rise, the need to explore a CSO was again brought forth," Bussiere

said.

In its second attempt, the RM of Spiritwood reached out to the RM of Meota, which already had a full-time CSO, to explore its options.

With enough regional interest this time around, the RM of Spiritwood has been able to enter into a partnership with five other municipal authorities. Together, they've received funding to hire a consultant to provide a business case for a Regional CSO.

While the business case is being compiled and assessed, the RM of Spiritwood has entered into an agreement with the RM of Meota in the interim to make use of its CSO. The officer officially began duty in the RM of Spiritwood, on a fee for service basis, in November 2022, and currently works in the municipality a couple days per month.

"Council's main goal is to educate and communicate the importance of following the posted speed limits and

weight restrictions, in an effort to reduce road maintenance and repair costs and enhance public safety," Bussiere said.

"Employing a CSO also provides the area with an enforcement officer who is delegated to manage high priority, but low risk to harm concerns."

The CSO model of law enforcement appears to be taking off in the region.

Shellbrook's Town Council started exploring the idea of employing a CSO in early 2022, as a means to fill in policing gaps caused by frequent staffing shortages within the Ahtahkook-Shellbrook RCMP Detachment.

The idea was first floated to ratepayers at a town hall meeting held on April 12, drawing both questions and support from the community. In the end, council felt it had received enough agreement from ratepayers and chose to pursue the idea, spending \$100,277 to start up the program and outfit the prospective CSO.

Four months later, the town hired Craig Young to fill the CSO role.

While Young is still settling into his duties, he's spent much of February and March focusing on soft enforcement (issuing warnings) for things like illegally crossing the centre line on Main Street, speeding, unfit vehicles, unlicensed/at-large dogs, and unsightly yards, to name a few.

He's also already liaised with the Ahtahkook-Shellbrook RCMP Detachment on multiple occasions, and helped to end a nearly year-long investigation into the theft of \$100,000 of hockey memorabilia from a rural property near Shellbrook.

Going forward, Young may play a more regional role as a CSO. In response to interest from other communities in the area, council for the Town of Shellbrook recently agreed to loan out his services to other communities at a rate of \$125 per hour (plus mileage).

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This year's theme:
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SALE MANAGED BY  Chris Poley: 306-220-5006

Big River RCMP seeking wanted male

By **JORDAN TWISS**
Shellbrook Chronicle Reporter

On March 7, at approximately 1 a.m., Big River RCMP received a report of an altercation at a residence on Big River First Nation.

Investigation determined a male approached a residence and threatened the occupants with a knife and a firearm. No physical injuries were reported.

The male then fled in a black Chevrolet Equinox with Saskatchewan license plate 200 LKH, which had been reported as stolen to Big River RCMP on Feb. 25. There were three or four unknown passengers in the SUV.

Officers located the SUV on Highway #793 and attempted a traffic stop. The SUV did not stop. Officers continued efforts to locate the SUV, which fled toward

the Ahtahkook Cree Nation/Spiritwood area at a high rate of speed. Officers immediately advised the Ahtahkook-Shellbrook and Spiritwood RCMP Detachments to be on the lookout for the vehicle. It

was not located.

As a result of continued investigation, Big River RCMP has charged 27-year-old Brandon Whitefish from Big River First Nation with: two counts of pointing a firearm, two counts of pos-

session of a weapon for a dangerous purpose, one count of possession of a firearm knowing possession is unauthorized, one count of using a firearm in the commission of an offence, one count of being unlawfully in a dwelling, one count of uttering threats, and one count of failing to comply with release order condition.

A warrant has been issued for Whitefish's arrest and the Big River RCMP is actively working to locate him.

Whitefish is described as approximately 5'9" and 170 lbs. He has black hair and brown eyes. He has a tattoo of a 'B' on the side of his face.

Anyone who sees Whitefish or the black Chevrolet Equinox is urged not to approach.

Report information on the whereabouts of Brandon Whitefish, the SUV and its occupants, or this incident to Big River RCMP at 306-469-2590. Information can also be submitted anonymously by contacting Saskatchewan Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or www.saskcrimestoppers.com.



Brandon Whitefish.

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Highlights of a Shellbrook Town Council meeting

By **JORDAN TWISS**
Shellbrook Chronicle
Reporter

Shellbrook's Town Council met for its regular meeting in person and via teleconference on Monday, March 6.

In attendance were Mayor Amund Otterson, councillors Bruce Anderson, 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 Feb. 21 meeting, and moved on to council's reports.

Up first, Mayor Otterson provided an update on PARWU's proposed project to build a water treatment plant and bring an intermunicipal water pipeline to Shellbrook. Otterson said planning for the water intake from the river has been put on hold while the concept of digging wells close to the river is being explored.

If feasible, using wells could save as much as

\$15 million compared to the original water intake plan. Additionally, the wells provide a degree of flexibility, because more wells can always be dug as demand for water increases.

This news left Councillor Miller wondering why the engineering firm responsible for the water intake portion of the project hadn't considered the option before.

In other PARWU news, Mayor Otterson said the City of Prince Albert has expressed willingness to renegotiate PARWU's contract for water. Currently, PARWU pays the city \$1.59 per metre cubed of water, and charges customers \$4.05 per metre cubed of water, leaving the average customer paying about \$100 per month for water. The hope is that a more favourable contract would allow PARWU to lower its rates.

Moving to hospital and clinics talk, Mayor Otterson said the town's newest doctor is going through orientation and should be able to see patients on his own by April 1.

Otterson also updated council on a visit from Sask. NDP MLAs Vicki

Mowat and Matt Love, during which local improvements to services were discussed — including ambulance services, support staff like RNs and LPNs, and chemical lab services (blood work and urinalysis).

In a brief library board update, Hoare said new librarian Jacqueline Thibeault has been doing a great job with library programming. She also said the library's new Saturday hours have been a success.

Fielding a question from Councillor Miller regarding plans to move the library to the former Knox United Church building, Hoare said she's waiting on approval for feasibility study funding.

In policing talk, Hoare focused on the Community Safety Officer. Through February and March, she said, the officer's priority has been soft enforcement (issuing warnings) for a wide range of things, like illegally crossing the yellow centre line on Main Street, speeding, unlicensed/at-large dogs, unsightly yards, etc.

With reports concluded and approved, council welcomed a del-

egation from the Shellbrook Curling Club to discuss ice fees. Leading the presentation on behalf of the Curling Club Board, Paul Beaulieu provided an update on the past four or five years, which have seen the club's expenses exceed its revenues.

Beaulieu said the club has covered these losses with reserves and fundraising proceeds, and needs to begin exploring other revenue options. He also said the club can't realistically raise fees without losing members, noting that if a \$10 fee increase resulted in the loss of just two members, the club would be worse off financially.

Up next, council met with a delegation from Shellbrook Lacrosse to discuss rental fees. However, the majority of the discussion saw the delegation provide a recap of the first lacrosse season, outline new costs for the upcoming season (including \$13,000 to purchase equipment, and fees for referees and travel), and detail plans to host a U9 tournament and U9 provincials, as well as have the rink be a home for higher level

lacrosse teams.

Shifting to unfinished business, council agreed that the town should charge \$125 per hour, plus mileage, for other communities to use the Community Safety Officer.

In a short new business section, council first approved updates to the ice policy at the Richardson Pioneer Recreation Centre. The

updates mostly removed COVID-related policies.

Closing out the meeting, council approved a request from the Parkland Physician Recruitment and Retention Committee to raise its levy to \$10 per capita from \$7 per capita in the face of rising costs. The request will also have to be approved by other communities before it can go ahead.

NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF ASSESSMENT ROLL

Pursuant to subsection 214 of *The Municipalities Act*, Notice is hereby given that the Assessment Roll for the Resort Village of Pebble Baye for the year 2023 has been prepared and is open to inspection by calling (306)468-3104 or emailing resortpebblebaye@gmail.com for an appointment between March 17th and April 17th, 2023. Any person who wishes to appeal against his or her assessment is required to file his or her notice of appeal along with a fee of \$200.00, refundable upon a successful appeal, with: The Assessor, Resort Village of Pebble Baye, Box 449, Canwood, SK S0J 0K0. Contact for the Secretary for the Board of Revision is Nor Sask Board Services, 642 Agnew St., Prince Albert, SK S6V 2P1 Phone: 1-306-314-5418. Appeals to be submitted by the 17th day of April, 2023. Dated at Canwood, Saskatchewan, this 15th day of March, 2023.

Terry Lofstrom, Assessor
Resort Village of Pebble Baye

TOWN OF BIG RIVER NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF ASSESSMENT ROLL

Notice is hereby given that the assessment roll of the Town of Big River for the year 2023 has been prepared and is open to inspection at the office of the assessor from 8:30 a.m. to noon and 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. on the following days: Monday to Friday, March 17, 2023 to April 17, 2023.

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

Any person wishing to discuss the notice of assessment or potential appeal may contact the assessor at the Town of Big River, Box 220, Big River, SK S0J 0E0. A notice of appeal, accompanied by a \$100 appeal fee which will be returned if the appeal is successful, must be filed with the Secretary of the Board of Revision, Kristen Tokaryk, Western Municipal Consulting Ltd., Box 149, Meota, SK S0M 1X0, by the 17th day of April, 2023.

Dated at Big River, Saskatchewan this 17th day of March, 2023.

Noreen Olsen
Assessor

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China interference probe raises tough questions

In the wake of his defeat in the 2020 presidential election, the wise former Toddler-in-chief Donald Trump knew there could be just one explanation for his unexpected ousting.

Just as his opponents had conspired to deny him the popular vote in the 2016 contest that saw him elected president, they must have done so on an even grander scale to steal the 2020 election from the American people.

Though investigations – both by independent third parties and by Mr. Trump’s own allies – reached the conclusion that voter fraud is rarer than being struck by lightning or attacked by a shark, Mr. Trump knew better. And he was willing to fight (or have his supporters fight, at least) to save the very soul of democracy.

This episode from American history bears mentioning here, because eerily similar overtones of conspiracy and election tampering have been dominating Canada’s political discourse over the past month.

The only difference is, these allegations appear to be rooted in truth.

In mid-February, secret and top-secret Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS) documents were leaked, highlighting the sophisticated and aggressive strategy employed by China to meddle in the 2019 and 2021 federal elections.

Drawn from a series of CSIS intelligence-gathering operations, the documents illustrate how an orchestrated machine was operating in Canada with two primary aims: to ensure that a minority Liberal government was returned in 2021, and that certain Conservative candidates identified by China were defeated.

The documents, which have been shared among senior government officials and Canada’s intelligence allies, say China was “pressuring its consulates to create strategies to leverage politically [active] Chinese community members and associations within Canadian society,” and that it “uses Canadian organizations to advocate on their behalf “while obfuscating links to the People’s Republic of China.”

Despite the emergence of this intelligence over the past month, the Security and Intelligence Threats to Elec-



JORDAN TWISS
~
News Editor

tions (SITE) Task Force set up by Prime Minister Justin Trudeau’s government to monitor threats to federal elections never issued any public warning about foreign interference during the 2019 or 2021 campaigns.

Additionally, CSIS Director David Vigneault reportedly told Mr. Trudeau that there was “no indication that China’s interference efforts had helped to elect anyone.”

Though Mr. Trudeau has acknowledged that China is “playing aggressive games” to undermine democracies besides just Canada’s, he has steadfastly resisted calls from the Conservatives and the NDP to launch a public inquiry into the matter.

Instead, last Monday, he said he would appoint a special rapporteur to investigate foreign interference allegations, as well as the creation of a foreign agent registry.

“We believe deeply in the values of freedom, openness, and dialogue. These values are not universally shared by every government around the world,” Mr. Trudeau said. “Indeed, I don’t know if in our lifetime, we’ve seen democracy in a more precarious place. Many state actors and non-state actors want to foster instability here and elsewhere, to advance their own interests.”

It’s a standard half-measure from Mr. Trudeau, at a time when he can ill-afford to open the door to allegations that he has something to hide, or continue to take a kiddie gloves approach to dealing with rogue states like China and Russia.

Already, his tepid response has been seized upon by Conservative leader Pierre Poilievre as an opportunity to score some easy political points.

“They’ve been warning him for years about this. And what has he done? He’s covered it up, even encouraged it to continue,” Poilievre said last Tuesday, suggesting Mr. Trudeau is working against the interests of his own country and his own people.

Mr. Poilievre also accused Mr. Trudeau of supporting an RCMP investigation in the leak of the CSIS documents, as a means to silence whistleblowers and shutdown the probe into China’s election interference.

The seriousness of the Chinese machinations outlined in the leaked CSIS documents cannot be denied. Concrete



action is needed to shore up Canada’s democracy against outside influence, and not a single second should be squandered on partisan politicking.

And yet, the scandal also calls on us to reflect on some important philosophical and moral questions.

First, there’s no debating that China is a bad actor with an abysmal human rights record and a clear goal of skewing the global playing field in its favour through any available means.

On principle alone, Canada should stand with its allies against China.

But, then, how would Canada square this stance with its continued policy of exporting arms to Saudi Arabia (one of the few countries that may have a greater disregard for basic human rights than China)?

Indeed, in 2021, Canada exported \$1.7 billion worth of arms to Saudi Arabia as part of a \$15 billion deal brokered by the Harper government but approved by Mr. Trudeau, making the country its top customer.

Second, for as dangerous as Chinese espionage and election interference are, can we really delude ourselves into believing other countries (even our allies) aren’t doing the exact same thing?

Moreover, if we oppose the efforts of other countries to influence our elections and elected officials, should we not also be against similar efforts by non-state actors?

In 2007, Canada wisely barred corporations and trade unions from making political contributions at the federal

level. But there’s little reason to believe that those with a vested interest in shaping government policy in their favour haven’t found ways to bend or circumvent the rules.

And what do we make of the legal avenues used by lobbyists to influence elected officials? If we truly wish to protect our democracy, should we not insulate and safeguard our elections and politicians against any and all outside influence?

None of these questions excuse China’s aggression and disrespect for democracy. However, they do point to the need for us to examine international politics through a more nuanced lens, and reject the notion that China is the only boogeyman we need to be concerned about.

If we continue to separate things on simple terms like black or white and good or evil, and close our eyes to the world’s many shades of grey, we risk sliding back into the dangerous mentality of the Cold War.

During the protracted conflict between the United States and the Soviet Union, smaller nations became expendable pawns, and democracies and dictatorships were overthrown on a whim with utter disregard for the consequences.

In many ways, the Cold War continues to define the fractured and divided world we live in today. So, while we must stand against China’s aggression, we cannot afford to repeat that chapter of human history.

Shellbrook Chronicle

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Spiritwood Herald

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

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Report from the Legislature

Saskatchewan's provincial motto is "from many peoples' strength." Our province's strength comes from strong families, communities, businesses, and industries. Our government is committed to investing in programs and services that support and build on this strength. Last fall's Speech from the Throne provided the groundwork for several of these initiatives. Now, with our government back in Regina for the spring sitting of the Legislative Assembly, we are ready to continue moving forward with investments that will continue to build upon our province's strengths.

We are investing in regulated childcare to strengthen families



HON. SCOTT MOE,
PREMIER

~
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across the province. In a partnership with the federal government, our government announced this week that parent fees for regulated childcare will be reduced to \$10 per day starting April 1. Saskatchewan is one of the first provinces to achieve this

milestone, three years ahead of schedule.

Investing in affordable, inclusive, and high-quality childcare ensures Saskatchewan children get a strong start in life. In addition, improving childcare strengthens families by giving parents the flexibility to build both a family and a career. This investment builds on the Growth Plan commitment to improving childcare and education to meet the needs of our growing province.

Our government is moving forward on the development of provincially regulated online learning programs. Course options are now available at the new Saskatchewan Distance Learning Corporation (Sask DLC)

website. Over 180 courses will be offered for Kindergarten through Grade 12 students, including more than 120 high school courses. Sask DLC students will be able to access support virtually or at one of ten regional campuses across the province.

The Sask DLC program will strengthen Saskatchewan's education system by allowing students greater flexibility and new learning opportunities. The development of the program further builds on the Growth Plan commitment to improve childcare and education.

We are also continuing to invest in connectivity for rural communities across Saskatchewan. SaskTel announced the sixth phase of its Rural Fibre Initiative, during which it will be adding inFiNET service to 48 communities across the province. The Rural Fibre Initiative is a multi-phase program that will see SaskTel invest \$200



HON. JEREMY HARRISON
MLA

~
Meadow
Lake
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jharrisonmla@sasktel.net

million to bring inFiNET services to residents and businesses in over 130 rural communities.

This investment is part of our Growth Plan commitment to expand SaskTel's fibre optic network and have one million broadband access points by 2025. SaskTel's inFiNET services strengthen rural Saskatchewan's families and businesses by helping them stay connected and access online resources.

Our government has invested in the Crop In-

surance Program to help agricultural producers mitigate risk on their farms. Crop Insurance coverage will reach a record-high \$446 per acre on average for 2023. Other highlights for this year's program include new individual premiums, increased coverage for unseeded acres, and increased AgriStability compensation. Crop Insurance helps strengthen our agriculture industry by supporting Saskatchewan producers. It also helps build on the Growth Plan commitment of building a sustainable and resilient agriculture industry.

By investing in programs and services that support the strength of families, communities, businesses and industries, our government is investing in a strong Saskatchewan. A strong Saskatchewan will have opportunities and prosperity, now and into the future. That's growth that works for everyone.

YOUR TWO CENTS

Fairy tale at Cluff Lake

Dear editor,

Once upon a time, in northern Saskatchewan, there was a place with lakes called Cluff Lake, Snake Lake, and Island Lake. These lakes were familiar to the local hunters and fishers.

A big company decided that this would be a good place to build a uranium mine and mill. Workers were asked to cut the trees out of a muskeg, which had a stream running through it, shallow hills on three sides, and Snake Lake on the fourth side.

Then, the radioactive waste, called "tailings", started being pumped onto the muskeg. For the next 22 years, the tailings spread out. When the mining was done, these tailings were lying on the surface over an area larger than a quarter section, with no barrier underneath.

Then, a worker was asked to spread one meter of till over this huge area, now 80 hectares, and a small dam kept tailings from falling into Snake Lake. But the area was so soft, he had to wait until winter when everything was frozen. In the spring, some of the till sank into the tailings, and much of the area was covered in water.

Now, in 2023, the company plans to give this place back to the people

of Saskatchewan because they say it has been returned to a natural state. And the Saskatchewan government is going to take this place back with about \$1.8 million from the company to cover future monitoring and possible unforeseen events!

Over 80 per cent of the radioactivity in uranium is left at the mine site in the form of tailings. We, as Saskatchewan taxpayers have paid \$220,000,000 so far in cleaning up "un-

confined tailings" in the Uranium City area, where the grade of ore was below 1 per cent. Some of the highest-grade ore at Cluff Lake reached up to 29 per cent.

The local people are hearing the end of the fairy tale now: "Go ahead and make tea with the water." (Even though Snake Lake will continue to load with radium until the year 4000.) "Eat the animals harvested there, the berries, the fish. No worries."

The End.
Val Drummond,
Prince Albert, Sask.

NOTICE OF POLL

[Section 81 of the Act]

TOWN OF SPIRITWOOD

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that:

- 1) A vote will be held for the By-Election of: Councillor: one (1) to be elected.
- 2) Voting will take place on April 5th, 2023, from 9:00am to 8:00pm at the Spiritwood Town Office, 212 Main Street.
- 3) I will declare the results of voting at the Town of Spiritwood Municipal Office on April 6th, 2023 at 10:00 am.

Dated at Spiritwood, this 17th day of March, 2023.

Rhonda Saam
Returning Officer

NOTICE OF ADVANCE POLL

[Section 83 and 84 of the Act]

TOWN OF SPIRITWOOD

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that provision has been made for an advance poll for the By-Election for all eligible electors:

Advance Voting will take place on March 30th, 2023 between the hours of 5:00pm and 7:00pm at the Spiritwood Town Office, 212 Main Street, Spiritwood, Saskatchewan.

Dated at Spiritwood, this 17th day of March, 2023.

Rhonda Saam
Returning Officer

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Co-op acquires Big River Liquor Store

By **JORDAN TWISS**
Shellbrook Chronicle Reporter

With the era of publicly-owned liquor stores coming to an end in Saskatchewan, the future of the Big River Liquor Store is now in the hands of Lake Country Co-op's Wine, Spirits, and Beer business unit.

As one of the last SLGA-operated liquor stores left in Saskatchewan, the Big River Liquor Store was among 35 locations that had their permits auctioned off in February, raising a total of \$45 million for the provincial coffers. Though some bids have been made public, Lake Country Co-op said the financial details of its deal won't be discussed.

Monique Zwack, the executive director of Pharmacy and Customer Experience for Lake Country Co-op, said the company saw the acquisition of the Big River Liquor store as an opportunity to expand its wine, spirits, and beer locations, and enhance its prod-

uct and service offerings within the community.

This sentiment was echoed by Geoff German, VP of Consumer Operations and Innovation for Lake Country Co-op.

"This investment expands the local services for our members," he said in a press release. "It also provides a convenient and expansive customer experience to the people of Big River and the visitors to this community."

Staying true to the Big River Liquor Store's legacy as a local, family-run business, Lake Country Co-op says it will continue to offer a high-end shopping experience, a unique and memorable atmosphere, and the excellent sale items, local products, craft beer, and limited-edition items customers expect.

"This has been a family run business that is trusted and well respected and has values and services that align with Lake Country

Co-op, which makes this opportunity a natural fit for Lake Country Co-op," Lake Country Co-op said in its press release. "Both entities have been an integral part of the community for years and Lake Country Co-op is proud to continue with this business."

With the acquisition of the Big River Liquor Store, Lake Country Co-op says it will now offer everything in the community, from food, to fuel, to liquor, to home and building supplies.

The ownership change is currently expected to take place on April 3, and Lake Country Co-op says grand opening details will be announced at a later date.

As for the store's existing staff, Zwack says all current employees will be offered employment at the location, and new employment opportunities will be available in the near future.

SaskTel unveils Phase 6 of Rural Fibre Initiative

By **JORDAN TWISS**
Shellbrook Chronicle Reporter

SaskTel has announced the 48 communities it plans to bring SaskTel infiNET service to as part of the sixth phase of its Rural Fibre Initiative, including the Town of Blaine Lake.

"A key part of our government's plan to build a stronger Saskatchewan is to invest in the infrastructure that will allow our province to continue to grow and prosper," said Don Morgan, Minister Responsible for SaskTel.

"Through the Rural Fibre Initiative, SaskTel is expanding its advanced

fibre optic broadband network to towns and villages across Saskatchewan, and ensuring more families and businesses have access to the same online resources, tools, and opportunities as those living in larger urban centres."

The Rural Fibre Initiative is a multi-phase program that will see SaskTel invest \$200 million to bring infiNET service to over 110,000 residents and businesses living and operating in more than 130 rural communities.

Once the announced phases of the Rural Fibre Initiative are complete, SaskTel's infiNET network, which is already Saskatchewan's largest fibre optic broadband network, will reach approximately 80 per cent of all households in the province.

The continued expansion of its infiNET and 5G networks is a direct result of SaskTel's commitment to invest more than \$1.5 billion of capital across Saskatchewan over the next five years. SaskTel says these investments will help Saskatchewan accelerate its transition to becoming a smart province, and ensure it remains one of the most well-connected regions in the country.

"Delivering speeds of up to a Gigabit per second, our infiNET network ensures SaskTel customers have the bandwidth they need to surf, stream, and connect in real-time," said Doug Burnett, SaskTel president and CEO.

"In addition, by upgrading our broadband networks to fibre, we will be better able to deploy future enhancements to keep pace with our customer's evolving bandwidth needs, especially as smart technologies become more common in both the home and workplace."

Though construction has yet to begin on Phase 4 of the initiative, SaskTel says it currently plans to start the construction process for Phase 6 in 2023/24. It anticipates all communities included in the initiative will be fibre-ready by the end of March 2025.

In addition to the Town of Blaine Lake in Phase 6, Phases 4 and 5 of the Rural Fibre Initiative will bring SaskTel infiNET service to the Towns of Shellbrook, Big River, and Spiritwood.

TOWN OF SPIRITWOOD NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF ASSESSMENT ROLL

Notice is hereby given that the assessment roll of the Town of Spiritwood for the year 2023 has been prepared and is open to inspection in the Office of the Assessor from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on the following days: Monday to Thursday, March 20th, 2023 to April 19th, 2023.

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

Any person wishing to discuss the notice of assessment or potential appeal may contact the Assessor at 306-883-2161 (Town of Spiritwood) or 1-306-446-7660 (SAMA).

Any person wishing to appeal an assessment is required to file "Notice of Appeal to the Board of Revision", by **April 19, 2023**, with Saumya Valdyanathan, Secretary to the Board of Revision, Box 149, Meota, Sask. S0M 1X0 or by email secretary@westernmunicipal.ca along with the applicable fee of \$200.00, made payable to the Town of Spiritwood, which will be returned if the appeal is successful.

Dated at Spiritwood, Saskatchewan this 17th day of March, 2023.

Rhonda Saam, Assessor
Town of Spiritwood
Box 460, 212 Main Street
Spiritwood, SK S0J 2M0
Email: tos@sasktel.net

Jamie King
Creekside Ranch,
Bridgeford, SK

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306-763-0615

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saskrivers@sasktel.net

Plant-based protein sources have potential

The area of plant protein becoming a bigger part of our diet is an intriguing one in terms of potential.

While we are likely to eat more plant protein in the years ahead, the question is how will we consume it?

At present, the sector seems to think the entry point for more plant protein into the diet of North America is in a concoction of flavourings, spices, preservatives and assorted unpronounceable additives that result in a product

that mimics some meat, because we tend to be rather devoted meat eaters here.

The problem with this is that if I like my ground beef burger why would I opt for an artificial option?

And, as the non-meat meat sector pushes their product, it feels very much like there is a push back from meat eaters to completely turn off plant protein options.

That is unfortunate, because plant protein can be a tasty option.

Personally, if I walk



CALVIN DANIELS

into an East Indian restaurant, I want to try the lamb and goat on the buffet, but I certainly enjoy many dishes where lentils or chickpeas are the protein source.

That is not surprising

as my favourite dish is chili – really chili con carne – which is both meat and kidney beans as a dual protein source.

The simplest way to increase plant protein consumption is to add legumes – peas, lentils, beans – to the diet.

Of course, the hope is to grind up various grains, and use the protein in new ways.

That would be a huge development, especially for the canola sector where the pulp left after the valuable oil is extracted is almost a

throw-away by-product.

The canola meal is relatively high in protein, albeit not particularly palatable, even as a livestock feed.

Crack the palatability issue, and you have a huge supply of protein-rich canola meal which could be used in ways that are probably already being thought about in labs somewhere.

There are some huge hurdles to overcome, and the process has frankly likely been hampered by the push of

non-meat substitutes turning many away from plant protein, but science will no doubt overcome many of the issues, and ad campaigns will help in terms of building a better image.

Will plant protein replace meat?

Well not in my diet, but what of younger generations?

How we view our place in a world compared to livestock, and ultimately food costs, will determine just how humans relate to their food in decades to come.

SARM joins calls for cattle producer supports

By MICHAEL OLEKSYN
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter
Prince Albert Daily Herald

The Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities (SARM), along with member RMs, says it is concerned for the future of livestock producers operating in the province due to veterinarian shortages, low profitability, support on premiums and year-over-year drought.

“Cattle producers have been struggling with feed concerns due to ongoing drought and it has taken its toll on the profitability of producers,” SARM president Ray Orb said in the press release. “Alongside the feed concern, young ranchers are struggling to get into the industry, or find sustainability with fluctuating prices and little to no risk management support.”

Saskatchewan ranchers are heading into one of the most important seasons, calving, and are concerned about the shortage of rural veterinarians. Livestock producers need the support of nearby veterinarians for the health and safety of their herds and the longevity of their stock.

“Can we put incentives in place to attract veterinarians to consider opening clinics in our rural communities? Let’s start offering opportunities for youth entering the field to open clinics in our

province,” Orb said. “The lack of veterinarians is a chronic concern for producers who are being left to travel great distances to find animal aid, or enduring additional costs for mobile vet appointments. We just don’t have enough services for our livestock industry.”

The Saskatchewan Cattlemen’s Association (SCA) also has concerns about the lack of veterinarians, among other issues. SCA board chair Keith Day said they plan to work with SARM to make sure those issues are addressed.

“The agriculture sector is fundamental to the growth of Saskatchewan’s economy, and the livestock sector needs to be recognized for the outsized role it plays in protecting our environment while providing quality protein for a world facing a food crisis,” Day said.

Jeffrey Yorga, 1st vice president Saskatchewan Stock Growers Association (SSGA) said the last five years of droughts exposed some cracks in the business of cattle. He said the lack of business risk management tools, lack of pricing transparency, and the rapid exit of aging producers has threatened the existence of Saskatchewan’s beef industry.

“Economics has sped the decline in cattle numbers,” Yorga said. “As well, the relative economic success in other sectors has turned the land from grass

to annual crops, ensuring that the cows won’t return.

“While all indications point to better days ahead for producers who remain, the SSGA welcomes all industry partners to continue to work together to fix the problems that got us here so that when these situations arise the industry is more resilient and able to operate on the same footing as other commodity producers,” he added.

SARM, SCA, and SSGA are invested in finding solutions and immediate support for the ranchers that make up a large portion of rural Saskatchewan. They said they want to see producers grow and succeed and to do this need support with better risk management programs, more rural vet clinics, irrigation, and consideration for a joint effort from our provincial and federal governments in cost-sharing premiums.



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PHARMACY ASSOCIATION OF SASKATCHEWAN

JUNIOR CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

2023 JUNIOR CITIZEN OF THE YEAR SCHOLARSHIP

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

SaskPower Powering our future swna

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

These prestigious awards are given to youth who:

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

This year four deserving youth will receive a **\$3000 bursary**, provided by SaskPower, to use towards their post-secondary education. Someone you nominate could be one of them.

Visit www.swna.com for further information and nomination forms
Nominations close March 31, 2023

MPs take pay raise same day they hike taxes

By **FRANCO TERRAZZANO**
CTF Director

In less than a month, members of Parliament will take more money out of your wallet and stuff more into their own.

On April 1, the federal government is increasing carbon and alcohol taxes while MPs take their fourth pay raise since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic.

This year's pay raise will range from an extra \$5,100 for a backbench MP to an extra \$10,200 for Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, based on contract data published by the government of Canada.

A backbencher currently collects a \$189,500 salary. Ministers take home \$279,900. Trudeau gets \$379,000 from taxpayers. Do they really think they should take thousands more from their constituents, many of whom are struggling to fill the fridge?

But this year's changes alone downplay the pay raises politicians took during the pandemic.

As of April 1, MPs will receive an annual salary \$15,700 higher than they did pre-pandemic, while the prime minister will take home an extra \$31,400.

Politicians don't deserve pay raises when they make life unaffordable with higher taxes.

The federal carbon tax will be cranked up to 14 cents per litre of gas and 12 cents per cubic metre of natural gas on April 1.

The Trudeau government claims "families are going to be better off" with its carbon tax and rebates. The government expects you to believe it can raise taxes, skim some off the top to pay for hundreds of new bureaucrats and still make you better off.

The Parliamentary Budget Officer's math shows Canadians shouldn't swallow that spin.

The carbon tax will cost the average family between \$402 and \$847 this year even after the rebates, according to the PBO. And this will be the fourth time Trudeau has increased his carbon tax since COVID-19 touched down.

While Ottawa sticks Canadians with higher bills, other countries have provided relief. The Canadian Taxpayers Federation identified 51 national governments that cut taxes during the pandemic and as inflation took off. That includes more than half of G7 and G20 countries and two-thirds of the countries in the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development.

Many of our peers were also offering relief at the pumps.

Australia cut its gas tax in half. India cut its gas tax to "keep inflation low, thus help-

ing the poor and middle classes." The United Kingdom announced billions in fuel tax relief. South Korea cut its gas tax by 30 per cent. Germany, the Netherlands, Italy, Israel, Peru, Poland, 25 Indian states and union territories, Alberta, Ontario, Newfoundland and Labrador, New Jersey, and Florida also cut gas taxes.

You could be forgiven if all this drives you to drink. But Trudeau will also be reaching further into your wallet every time you pick up a case of

Keith's, a bottle of Pinot or a mickey of rum.

Canadians already pay about half of the price of beer, 65 per cent of the price of wine and three quarters of the price of spirits in taxes. And in April, the federal excise tax will be going up by another 6.3 per cent.

First passed in the 2017 budget, the federal escalator tax automatically increases excise taxes on alcohol with the rate of inflation each April. This undemocratic tax hike allows MPs to take more money from your

wallet every year without having to vote on the increase.

After April's hike, the federal government's alcohol excise taxes will have increased by about 18 per cent since the automatic annual increase was introduced in 2017.

Politicians shouldn't be raising taxes and giving themselves pay raises when Canadians are choosing between the jug of milk or the package of beef at the grocery store. All MPs should oppose April's tax and pay hikes.

Lions recognize Rush-Battersby for 35 years



Corrie Rush-Battersby holds a plaque recognizing her 35 years of service as a Lion.

Submitted By **CORRIE RUSH-BATTERSBY**
Shell Lake Lions

The Shell Lake & District Lions Club recently presented a plaque to Lion Corrie Rush-Battersby, recognizing her 35 years of service to the club and Lions International.

Lion Corrie has served in all positions at the local level and has been on Cabinet in a district and regional role. Lion Corrie was very involved with the Lions Youth Exchange, be it in hosting students herself, finding host families for foreign students, or looking after applications for the youth camp.

In 1987, rules changed and Lions International allowed women to become Lions members. Lion Corrie was the first woman in Western Canada, and the second woman in Canada, to become a Lion member.

Lions International was founded by Melvin Jones in 1917. Presently, it has over 1.4 million members, in 48,000 clubs, and serves in over 200 countries.

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Saskatchewan

PIHC showcases wonderful women

**Submitted by
TRINA CHAMBERLAIN**

On March 7, ladies from the Shellbrook Kinettes visited with Parkland Integrated Health Centre's long-term care residents for a paint night led by local artist Tammy Smart.

The evening, made possible with funding from the Saskatchewan Lotteries Community Grant Program, was filled with smiles and laughter, as Smart instructed the elders, the Kinettes, and some of their children, to paint beautiful scenes depicting the northern lights.

Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, paint nights with the Shellbrook Kinettes were a regular occurrence. Over the years, the events have been organized by long-time Kinette Amber Larson, who also spearheads annual donations of crafting and paint supplies to the elders in long-term care.



PIHC Elders and family members show off their works of art after paint night with the Shellbrook Kinettes.



Having recently turned 105, Grace Kennedy (right) took part in the paint night with her daughter Sharon.



Elder Ruth Bold works on her art piece while Kinette Kat Mackin-Smith looks on.

NFU sounds alarm about human trafficking in ag sector

The National Farmers Union (NFU) stands against the exploitation of undocumented workers, including those who are preyed upon by international labour traffickers.

As farmers, and as human beings, we are horrified by the recent news of human traffickers exploiting 64 undocumented Mexican workers, forcing them to live and work in appalling conditions, including on Ontario farms. The traffickers offered the labour of these people to farm employers that grow the food that feeds our cities.

This story should not be dismissed as a small, iso-

lated incident. Increasingly, farmers from coast to coast have been approached in-person, via email, or by phone by aggressive recruiters promising an easy solution to get much needed labour for fields and greenhouses. Workers are offered as if they were a commodity, "As many as you need, eager to work".

It is incumbent on employers across all sectors to take active steps to avoid supporting this kind of injustice. As farmers, we need access to ag-specific human resources training that will help us differentiate between legitimate businesses that offer le-

gal and rights-centered employment solutions versus those engaged in illegal human trafficking. Ontario's Anti-Human Trafficking Strategy, 2020-2025 needs to include specific support to help employers and concerned citizens identify and report the trafficking of undocumented, low-wage workers.

The NFU appreciates the reality that people seeking to better themselves and/or escape often life-threatening economic, political, and environmental conditions in their home countries will pursue unsafe routes into Canada. While the NFU supports criminal charges and hefty fines for all those involved in the trafficking and exploitation of undocumented workers (from recruiters to low-wage employers), what these workers deserve (and immediately require) are full rights of residency. Conditions that enable human trafficking will persist so long

as Canada lacks viable routes to permanent residency for foreign workers in low-wage occupations. At the NFU's National Convention in November 2022, members resolved to support migrant-led movements to win full and permanent immigration status for all migrants, including undocumented people.

This latest example of the exploitation of people's desperation underscores the need for action to: a) ensure employers are given the tools to identify and report human traffickers; and b) enhance and strengthen human rights in Canada by affording all workers permanent residency rights so they are empowered to leave coercive and abusive work situations.

Learn to identify warning signs of human trafficking. To report a potential human trafficking case, call the Canadian human trafficking hotline 24/7 at 1-833-900-1010.

Memorial Lake Regional Park KIOSK CAMPGROUND MANAGER

Full Time Seasonal Position
May to September
Wage TBD (based on qualifications and experience)

Duties Include

- » Monitor Campsite Bookings
- » Schedule and supervise staff (Office Staff and Campground Security)
- » Inventory Control – Season Stickers, Day Passes and Boat Passes
- » Daily, Weekly and Monthly Summary Sheets
- » Staff and Public Relations
- » Balancing Cash and Deposits
- » Cleaning and Maintenance of Kiosk
- » Report to Board and Administration

Skills and Requirements

- » Well Organized
- » Work well independently
- » Strong Leader
- » Strong Computer Skills (Microsoft Office, Excel, Online Booking System and Outlook)
- » WHMIS Course (must possess by start date)
- » Valid Drivers License

Must be able to work early morning, as well as night shifts and weekends.

Please apply with resume, cover letter and expected wage to Memorial Lake Regional Park

Box 10
Shell Lake, SK
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Email: memorial.admin@sasktel.net

Deadline for application is March 20th, 2023
Only successful candidates will be contacted.

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Openings in *Maintenance, Campground Kiosk Office and Golf Course Clubhouse.*

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Please send resume to:

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Or memorial.admin@sasktel.net

For more information call or text: **306-841-7724**

Deadline: March 31st, 2023

RESORT VILLAGE OF CHITEK LAKE NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF ASSESSMENT ROLL

Notice is hereby given that the assessment roll for the Resort Village of Chitek Lake for the year 2023 has been prepared and is open to inspection at the office of the Administrator from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm and 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm, Tuesday thru Thursday and 9:00 am - 12:00 pm and 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm on Friday.

Bylaw 159/2022 pursuant to section 214 of *The Municipalities Act* has been passed and the assessment notices have been sent as required.

Any person who wishes to appeal against their assessment is required to file their notice of appeal along with a non-refundable fee of \$300 to: *The Centralized Board of Revision, ADR Institute of Saskatchewan Centralized Board of Revision Services Inc.* Phone: 306-528-2131 cbor@adrsaskatchewan.ca A copy of the notice should also be sent to *The Administrator of the Resort Village of Chitek Lake, Box 70, Chitek Lake, SK S0J 0L0* by the 24th day of April, 2023.

Dated this 16th day of March, 2023.

Tara Westmacott, Assessor

\$10 Per Day Child Care In Saskatchewan By April 2023

By partnering with the federal government, Saskatchewan is one of the first Canadian provinces to provide \$10 per day regulated child care beginning on April 1, 2023. Parents whose children are under the age of six and attend regulated child care on a full-time basis can expect to pay \$217.50 per month, saving an average of \$395 to \$573 per month. Investing in affordable, inclusive, high-quality child care gives children a positive start in life while providing parents with the flexibility and choice to build a family and career.

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

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



Minutes of a Spiritwood Town Council meeting

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

The regular meeting of the Council of the Town of Spiritwood was held in the Council Chambers at the Spiritwood Town Office, 212 Main Street, on Jan. 10, 2023, at 7 p.m.

In attendance were, Mayor Gary von Holwede, Councillor Brad Nemish, Councillor Bryan Wingerter, Councillor Ragnar Latus, Councillor George Pretli, and CAO Rhonda Saam.

Absent were Councillor Kiera Andres, and Councillor Jim Bedi.

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

Pretli: That the agenda be adopted as presented. Carried

Wingerter: That the minutes of the regular meeting on Dec. 20, 2022, be approved as presented. Carried

Wingerter: That the Accounts for Ratification, Cheque No. 32371 to 32404 & payments 1135 to 1155 in the amount of \$135,891.12 be approved as presented. Carried

Wingerter: That the Accounts for Approval, Cheque No. 32405 to 32418 and on-line payment #1156 in the amount of \$63,654.25 be approved as presented. Carried

Nemish: That the Bank Reconciliation for the month of November 2022 be approved as presented. Carried

Wingerter: That the Bank Reconciliation for the month of December 2022 be approved as presented. Carried

Latus: That the Financial Statement for the month of November 2022 be approved as presented. Carried

Pretli: That the verbal reports be filed as presented. Carried

Councillor Wingerter declared conflict and left the council meeting at 7:22 p.m.

Nemish: That we amend the motion under resolution no. 2022-0343 by replacing the 36 month lease with a 24 month lease agreement, whereas the resolution would read;

That we renew the contract with Fast Genetics under a 24 month lease agreement for the office space at 511 Fourth Street East, effective January 1, 2023 in the amount of \$16.60 per square foot (\$3,032.27 per month plus GST) for the 2023 calendar year, and \$17.43 per square foot (\$3,183.88 per month plus GST) for the 2024 calendar year.

Councillor Wingerter re-entered the council meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Wingerter: That we sell Lot 1 of the construction material from the old arena containing the ceiling tile etc to Lyle Goossen in the amount of his offer of \$1,100 plus GST; and That we sell the five 4' x 6' sheets of rink glass to Debden Recreation Board in the amount of their offer of \$1,250 plus GST. Carried

Wingerter: That the following appointments be set effective Jan. 1, 2023:

1. Deputy Mayor - Jim Bedi
2. SARCS - Gary von Holwede, Jim Bedi
3. Spiritwood Museum - George Pretli
4. Spiritwood Library - Jim Bedi
5. Emergency Measures Organization - Jim Bedi, Gary von Holwede, Brad Nemish
6. Standing Committees; General Government - Gary von Holwede, Jim Bedi

Protective Services - Bryan Wingerter, Brad Nemish

Recreation & Culture - Gary von Holwede, Jim Bedi

Public Works - Bryan Wingerter, George Pretli

Planning & Development - Gary von Holwede, George Pretli

Health & Welfare - Bryan Wingerter, Ragnar Latus

Environment - Jim Bedi, Ragnar Latus

7. Fire Chief - Ron Radke

8. Deputy Fire Chief - Shane Colley. Carried

Nemish: That we accept the bond insurance as presented and required as per Section 113(1) of the Municipalities Act, which is attached to form part of the minutes. Carried

Wingerter: That we submit an application to Canada Summer Jobs 2023 for two summer student positions. Carried

von Holwede: That Gary von Holwede, Jim Bedi, Brad Nemish, George Pretli, and Bryan Wingerter register for the Municipalities of Saskatchewan Virtual Tradeshow & Convention in Saskatoon on April 16 to 19, 2023. Gary von Holwede and Jim Bedi will be appointed as the Town of Spiritwood voting delegates. Carried

Wingerter: That we approve the recommended wage rates effective Jan. 1, 2023, for Town of Spiritwood employees as attached to form part of the minutes. Carried

Nemish: That we rescind motion no. 2022-0340 to send Brad Nordquist to the Class 1 Wastewater Treatment & Collection Training offered through ATAP from Feb. 27 to March 3, 2023 in Saskatoon. Carried

Latus: We approve that permanent town employees that utilize their personal cell phones for town business related calls and correspondence will be reimbursed a portion of their cell phone bill at a rate of \$50 per month. This does not apply to those employees that are provided with a cell phone from the Town for business use. Carried

Wingerter: That we approve Building & Development Permit #01-2023SW to remove and rebuild a new deck on

Lot 9 & 10 Block 25 Plan 76B03221, with the condition of approval of compliance to the Town of Spiritwood Zoning Bylaw, and the building permit pending authorization from the Building Inspector. Carried

Wingerter: That we approve the 2023 Transfer Site Schedule as presented to form part of the minutes and be posted at the town office, with Transfer Site Hours set as follows:

Summer Hours - April 1 to Sept. 30: Wednesdays 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., Saturdays 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Winter Hours - Oct. 1 to March 31: first and third Saturday of every month, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Carried

Pretli: That we provide a discounted dump day to Town Ratepayers on May 13, 2023, with a 50 per cent discount on Tipping Fees with the exception of shingles. Carried

Wingerter: That we accept Councillor Kiera Andres' resignation from Town Council effective Jan. 10, 2023 and we hold a by-election on April 5, 2023 that will address the vacant position. Carried

Wingerter: That in the event that a poll is necessary for the 2023 municipal by-election, daily remuneration for Returning Officer and Deputy Returning Officer will be the regular hourly rates and Poll Clerk will be \$185/day, and that it be acknowledged that the polling place will be at the Spiritwood Town Office Building for April 5, 2023, from 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. and the advanced poll will be at the Spiritwood Town Office Building on March 30, 2023, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Carried

Nemish: That for 2023 we appoint of Western Municipal Consulting Ltd. as our Board of Revision for assessment appeals and as our Development Appeals Board for appeals under the Planning & Developments Act. Furthermore, that Saumya Vaidyanathan be appointed as the Board of Revision and Development Appeals Board secretary. Carried

Wingerter: That we approved NLEDC's funding request of Jan. 5, 2023, in the amount of \$20,000. Carried

Wingerter: That this meeting be adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

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 - 3:30 pm; Thursday 3:30 pm - 8 pm; Friday 1:30 pm - 4:30 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 9 am - 2 pm; Wednesday 3 pm - 6 pm; Friday 1 pm - 5 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 - 6 pm; Thursday 12 pm - 6 pm; Friday 10 am - 5 pm (Story Time 11 am - 12 pm); Saturday 10 am - 4 pm.

SHELLBROOK: You're invited to the Shellbrook Skating Club's Year End Ice Show! This year's theme: 4 Seasons. Sunday, March 19, 1:00 pm at the Shellbrook Rink. Free Admission.

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Ready, set, pitch ... and hurry up!

Get ready for a wild and wacky Major League Baseball season in 2023.

'Pitch clock' was trending on Twitter after just two days of the pre-season schedules in Florida and Arizona, as MLB's new rules to speed up play were enacted.

Worried that baseball games were dragging on too long and that fans were either abandoning the sport, or just falling asleep, the powers-that-be in baseball decided that a pitch clock in every MLB park would speed things up.

Early returns say it's working, but it's also causing a bit of chaos.

On Day 2 of pre-season action, a game between Atlanta and Boston ended with a Braves' batter being called out for not being ready (in his batting stance and facing the pitcher) with eight seconds left on the pitch clock. The umpire called an automatic strike, a third strike, against the batter, and a 3-2 count, bases-loaded

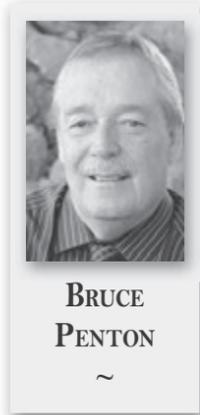
situation with the game tied came to a rather quiet conclusion. Spring training games don't go into extra innings and this one ended 6-6.

Did the fans go home happy? No. They booed, but at least they were on time for their dinner reservations.

"I don't think this (rule) was intended for a game to end like that. ... It's a good thing that we're starting (to use the rules in spring) because you never know what might happen," Braves' manager Brian Snitker told USA Today after the game. "That instance right there, it kind of shows you what could happen."

On Day 2 of spring training games, the longest contest went three hours and six minutes; the shortest was a Usain-Boltian 2:15.

The rules call for 15 seconds between pitches, with bases empty. Twenty seconds between pitches are allowed when runners are on base. The batter has to



BRUCE PENTON

be facing the pitcher and ready to hit with eight seconds left. A violation by the pitcher calls for an automatic ball; if the hitter breaks the timing rule, an automatic strike is called.

Another new rule bans infield shifting — the overstocking of defensive players on a particular side of the field to attempt to foil a hitter with a proclivity for hitting the ball a certain way. In theory, more base hits because of a ban on infield shifts will lead to more rallies, more runs and... longer games?

At least these po-

tentially longer games could be fan-friendly 9-8 or 14-11 contests rather than 2-1 or 1-0 snoozefests.

So, in 2023, we'll have faster-paced games, more offence and probably more drawn-out arguments between managers and umpires. At least it won't be dull, which is the adjective MLB is trying to eliminate from its game descriptions.

• Comedy guy Steve Burgess of Vancouver: "Baseball is back, with new rules. Going to take awhile to get used to the Benny Hill theme playing between pitches."

• Comedy writer Gary Bachman: "A 7-year-old baseball umpire seeks Guinness record as world's youngest. His strike zone is from the knees to the shoe tops."

• Comedy writer Brad Dickson of Omaha, after Gov. Jim Pillen said Nebraska is the greatest place in the world to live, and has the greatest people: "If he'd said this when he was play-

ing football he would've been diagnosed with a concussion."

• Comedy writer Alex Kaseberg: "The frisbee dog at the halftime of the University of Louisville basketball game took a big No. 2 on the court. He got the idea from watching the Los Angeles Lakers play."

• And from fark.com, on the same event: "Dog invited at halftime of game to catch frisbees delivers an unmistakable metaphor for entire Louisville season."

• Another one from Kaseberg: "A video shows Donald Trump driving his golf cart on the green. In pool this would be the equivalent of taking a shot while standing on the table."

• Jack Finarelli quoting from the Official Dictionary of Sarcasm: "Baseball: A spectator sport known as 'the great American pastime' largely because so much time passes while waiting for each game to end."

• RJ Currie of sports-

deke.com: "I'm not saying the Winnipeg Jets' Stanley Cup championship hopes seem to be going down the drain. But lately the cushions selling in their gift shop are shaped like toilet seats."

• Another one from Currie: "Satellite-imaging shows Greenland's retreating Jakobshavn Glacier moves at a speed of 12 feet per hour. It recently gained consideration as earth's slowest moving body — after the retirement of Tom Brady."

• fark.com headline after L.A. Kings' goalie Jonathan Quick was traded twice in two days — first to Columbus and then to Vegas the next day: "Quick moved quickly."

• fark.com again: "Bob Richards, three-time Olympian and first athlete to ever be featured on a Wheaties' cereal box, pole vaults into the great beyond at 97."

Care to comment? Email brucepenton2003@yahoo.ca

Spiritwood hosts U9 playoff tournament

By NATASHA CABASE
Spiritwood Herald Reporter

It was a very busy weekend for the Spiritwood U9-1 and 2 Timberwolves teams, as the 2023 STEP League playoff tournament was held in Spiritwood over March 11 and 12. Saturday had six games scheduled and Sunday featured five games, with teams coming from Spiritwood, Glaslyn, Turtleford, and Meadow Lake.

Kicking things off at 10 a.m. on Saturday, the Spiritwood U9-2 Timberwolves hosted the Turtleford Tigers at the Spiritwood Arena and fell by a score of 6-5.

The U9-1 Spiritwood team was up next, drawing the Glaslyn North Stars as their first opponent and fighting to an 8-6 victory.

Moving to the afternoon, the U9-2 Timberwolves had a chance to get in the win column against the Glaslyn North Stars, and managed to squeak out a close 9-8

victory.

Finishing off Saturday for Spiritwood, the U9-1 Timberwolves met with the Meadow Lake Mustangs U9-1 team, and gave them a 19-8 shellacking to climb to 2-0 in the tournament.

The third and sixth games on Saturday's schedules were matches between The Turtleford Tigers and the Glaslyn North Stars U9 teams. In both games, Turtleford claimed victory.

Day two of the tournament saw the Spiritwood U9-1 and U9-2 teams begin the action by playing against each other. After a hard-fought battle, the U9-1 squad maintained its undefeated record with a 7-6 victory.

The U9-1 Timberwolves returned to action on Sunday afternoon, facing off against the Turtleford Tigers. Here, the team suffered its first defeat of the tournament — a 7-5 loss.

The U9-2 Timberwolves took the ice

next, battling their way to a tough 10-9 loss against Meadow Lake to fall to 1-3 on the weekend.

Closing out the tournament, the U9-1 Timberwolves were given a shot at redemption against Turtleford, with a trip to the league's final mini series on the line. Unfortunately, the Tigers played to a 13-9 victory to claim the spot in the finals.

The U9-1 Timberwolves team is composed of Marshal Wingerter, Keatley Aumack, William Buswell, Huxley Kotun, Aidan Smolinski, Heath St. John, Sayge Lehoullier, Payten Caffet, River Andrews and Cameron Gaboury. The team is coached by Kendall Gaboury, who is assisted by Jeff Caffet, Lane Buswell, and Adam Kotun, and managed by Stacey Gaboury.

The Spiritwood U9-2 team is composed of Cruze Kajner, Asher Simonar, Beau Doucette, Tenille Rose, Sawyer Kotun, Carter Sarrazin, Benson Strate,

Sawyer Doucette, Max Mitchell, Bennett Schmidt, and Ryker Caffet. The team is coached by Jeff Caffet, who is assisted by Mike Sarrazin, and managed by Courtney Caffet.

Though the tournament didn't end how they might have liked, the coaching staff from both Spiritwood teams were proud of their players.

"It was awesome to have such a competitive tournament to end the year," U9-1 coach Kendall Gaboury said. "Our kids played as hard as they could all the way to the final buzzer, and for that I couldn't be more proud of them."

"There was a tremendous amount of growth from all the kids from my team this season," U9-2 coach Jeff Caffet said. "The playoff tournament this weekend went good for our team, and it could have gone either way. All our games were decided by one goal and the kids all played their hearts out."



Spiritwood U9-1 Timberwolves players shake hands with the Turtleford Tigers after a tough, playoff-ending loss.



The Spiritwood U9-2 Timberwolves face off against the Meadow Lake Mustangs during a playoff tournament held in Spiritwood on March 11 and 12.

OBITUARIES

Yvette Brûlé



Yvette Brûlé

Our sweet, very loved mother, mémère, little mémère, great grandma, great great grandma, Yvette Denise Brûlé (née Blais) passed away peacefully at Whispering Pine Place, Canwood on February 3, 2023, with family by her side.

Yvette was born in Mattes, Saskatchewan January 23, 1926, to Jean-Baptiste & Léontine Blais (née Paquette) and was the 5th of 8 children. Yvette attended school at Mattes until Grade 8 after which she stayed home to help her parents farm. In 1944, Yvette moved to Saskatoon with her sister Rosa and worked as a dietary aide at St. Paul's Hospital. Three years later she moved to Prince Albert to work at the Tuberculosis Sanatorium for a year as a dietary and nurse's aide.

In 1948, Yvette joined her sister Rosa in Port Alberni, BC working as a home aide until Rosa got married in December. Yvette returned to the Prince Albert Sanatorium to work and it's there that her friend Léona introduced Yvette to her brother Elzéar Brûlé. Yvette and Elzéar were married October 21, 1952, and farmed in the Silent Call District until Elzéar's passing in April of 1980. Yvette had an incredible work ethic which was evident with all that she did especially caring for her garden. Yvette sold the farm in 1983 but stayed on the farm until June 1985 to allow the last of her daughters to graduate. She moved to Prince Albert where she, over the course of several years, babysat for the Guy, Pacio- Rivera, Théoret & Jones families. Yvette loved to help her family and her "ladies". She had a very strong faith and right up until she made the decision to stop driving, she would take her "ladies" to the Sacred Heart Cathedral every Sunday then they would often go to Smitty's after church and enjoy each other's company. In 2017, due to declining health and the progression of dementia, Yvette moved to Canwood and resided at Whispering Pine Place until her passing. We, the family, would

like to thank the staff for their compassion, care and dedication.

Yvette is survived by her 4 daughters, 14 grandchildren and 24 great-grandchildren and 8 great-great-grandchildren.

Aline (Mike) Kostiuik of Prince Albert and their family:

Maria-Lynn (Tylor) Callaghan; Michael Lorenz-Kissick (Emily); Jonathon Lorenz-Kissick (Kayley Sawich) and their son Logan; Nykolys Lorenz-Kissick (Kaylynn) and their children Addison & Parker

Danielle (Garry) Fiddler; Kevin Fiddler (Kalan) and their children Kix & Bowynn; Tiler Fiddler (Taylor) and their children Rydan & Nova; Natalie Fiddler (Edward Schukei) and their daughter Kinsleigh

Pauline Lorenz (Derek Bird); Liam Barrowclough, Lance Gareau, Jesse Gareau

Megan Kostiuik **Dolorès (Richard) Beaulieu** of Prince Albert and their family

Christopher (Patricia) Beaulieu

Matthew (Ashley) Beaulieu and their children Graydon & Saydee

Richelle (Donny) Meiklejohn and their children Corbin, Mya,

Rayjeanne, Cody.

Paulette (Léo) Compagna of Prince Albert and their family

Marc Compagna (Angela Sterling)

Guy (Amanda) Compagna and their children Dylan & Zoey

Marshall Brûlé and his children Piper & Cheyanne

Odile (Ken) Aiken of Canwood and their family

Dallis (Evan) Johnson and their son Maverick

Rylee (Victoria) Aiken and their children Brynlee, Aubree, Kennady & Ridge

Ryan Aiken (Sarah Jensen)

Delayne Aiken (Blaine Sabraw)

Her sister – Sr. Aline Blais (Sisters of the Presentation of Mary) of Mont St. Joseph, Prince Albert.

Her in-laws – Odile & Lawrence Clark of Prince Albert

Archie & Sally Brûlé of

Prince Albert

Yvette is predeceased by: Her husband – Elzéar Brûlé (1980)

Her granddaughter – Natalie Lorenz (1973)

Her son-in-law – Paul Lorenz

Her siblings and their spouses – Lionel (Yvette) Blais, Nativa (Albert) Blais, Rosa (Maurice) Gauthier, René (Adèle) Blais, Denis (Bibianne) Blais, Gilles (1st Caroline, 2nd Dorothea) Blais

Her parents – Jean-Baptiste & Léontine (née Paquette)

Her parents-in-laws – Norbert & Éléodia (Marcotte) Brûlé

Her in-laws – Jérémie (Gilberte) Brûlé, Léona (1st Malcolm Anderson, 2nd Roy McLachlan), Constant (Annette) Brûlé, Roger (Sylvia) Brule, Mercedes (Stuart) Barden, David Shambrook

Her niece – Debra (née

Shambrook) Lidberg

Her nephews – Douglas Shambrook, Léon Blais, Rémi Blais

There will be a Memorial Mass for Yvette on Monday April 10, 2023, at 10:30 am, Sacred Heart Cathedral, 1401 Fourth Ave West, Prince Albert, SK. The interment service will take place at 3:30 pm at the Debden Cemetery followed by lunch and fellowship at the Golden Age Room in Debden SK. In lieu of flowers memorial donations may be directed to Debden Cemetery Fund (Box 70, Debden, SK S0J 0S0). Family and friends wishing to send online condolences may visit www.beaulacfuneralhome.com. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the care of Beau "Lac" Funeral Home and Crematorium, Tammy Smart and Lynn Anderson, Funeral Directors, Shellbrook, SK. 306-747-2828.

Shirley Peake



Shirley Peake

March 18th, 1930 – February 25th, 2023

It is with great sadness the family announces the passing of Shirley Peake, late of Leask, SK on February 25th, 2023, at the age of 92 years. Shirley was born on March 18th, 1930, to Alan and Eva Mattock (née Diehl) in the Marcellin District, SK. Shirley grew up in the Marcellin District her whole childhood, along with five brothers and two sisters. Shirley attended the Ottawa one-room school.

In November of 1952, Shirley married Leonard "Charlie" Peake of Leask, SK. Together they had four sons and one son from Charlie's first marriage. They lived and worked on Charlie's family farm, where they happily raised their family. Raising four little boys while helping to run the farm, Shirley was always busy. She raised a variety of chickens, always had a big garden, milk cows, and often checked for calves in the winter months at night, and she had com-

mented to her daughter-in-law that she sometimes didn't like doing the late-night checks because it seemed like something would always go wrong when she did. Eventually, Shirley and Charlie left the family farm in the hands of their sons and moved to town.

Shirley was actively involved with the Royal Canadian Legion Branch #79 and became a lifetime Legion member. Shirley loved to go uptown for coffee and chats. Shirley also enjoyed the occasional bus trip to the Prince Albert Casino. Shirley and Charlie especially enjoyed spending as much time at their cabin at Emerald Lake, SK as they could, looking forward to hosting family and friends.

Shirley was very involved with her grandchildren and still helped on the farm from time to time. Shirley had eight grandchildren, including four in Australia, two in BC, and nine great-grandchildren. They kept in touch any way they could despite the distance. Facetime sessions in the later years brought her great joy. She was a doting and kind grandmother who loved to babysit. There were many, many, family gatherings with card games and happy memories to be had at grandma's house. Her grandchildren remember that there were always chips and snacks at Grandma's house, as well as the sight of Shirley reading a book by the kitchen window and

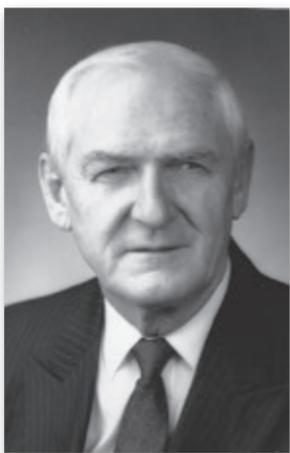
watching the hummingbirds that she faithfully fed every summer.

Shirley's last few years were spent at the Wheatland Lodge in Leask, SK where she met new friends, enjoyed the music, games, and bingo. Shirley was a very caring person, always happy to see company, and enjoyed life. We knew we couldn't keep her here forever, but it is still very hard to say goodbye. Shirley will be missed very much.

Shirley will be lovingly remembered by her sons Ralph (Elaine) Peake, Allan Peake, Ronald (Gwen) Peake, Bruce (Kathy) Peake, & Boyd Peake; her grandchildren Brenton (Emma) Peake, Michael (Erin) Peake, Linelle Peake, Jodie Peake, Curtis Peake, Erin Peake, & Tara (Butch) Wellings; her great-grandchildren Melissa Baron, James Baron, Nyssa, Charlie Peake, Austin Peake, Ollie Peake, Leo Peake, Scottie Peake, & Vinnie King; her sister Betty (Trevor) Legge; & her sisters-in-law Dorothy Peake, Nellie Mattock, Myrtle Mattock, & Iona Mattock

A Funeral Service will be held for Shirley on Friday, March 10th, 2023, at 2 PM at the Leask Hall in Leask, SK. Condolences can be sent to the family on our website at www.mackenziechapel.ca. Arrangements in care of MacKenzie Chapel & Crematorium. Brian & Bev Stobbs, Mark Gyoerick - Mel Curle. 306.763.8488.

John Clayton Halliwell



HALLIWELL – John Clayton

Born in Shellbrook, Saskatchewan on June 27, 1932, John was the son of John (sr.) and Edith Halliwell, and brother to Daniel. He attended public school in Shellbrook and college in Saskatoon. As a young man, John played hockey for the Shellbrook Elks and was an avid curler. He enjoyed hunting and fishing and developed a lifelong passion for skiing.

In 1952 John married the love of his life, Eunice Wood. They had 2 children, Dawn and Boyd. Some of their favourite times were spent at the cottage 'Shan-

gri-La' at Emerald Lake.

John owned Halliwell Hardware in Shellbrook during the 1950s and 60s. He was an active member of the Retail Merchants' Association and the Elks Lodge. After retail, he served as a police officer for Saskatoon and Brandon forces.

John's career in the labour relations field began in 1966 when he joined the Manitoba Government Employees Association, holding several positions over time. When John left the MGEA in 1975, he was Executive Director.

In Barrie, John was the Executive Director of the Ontario Provincial Police Association for 2 years. He joined the Canadian Construction Association in Ottawa moving from Director of Labour Relations to Vice-President, and retiring in 1993 as President. During his time with the CCA he served as a member of the Canadian Employers Delegation to the International Labour Organization in Geneva. After retirement from the CCA, he continued as lead on the Canadian

Delegation to the ILO for several years.

John's flair for writing produced countless articles for periodicals and trade publications. He authored 3 books: The History of the Ontario Provincial Police Association; Proud Heritage—Exciting Future, The 75th Anniversary of the Canadian Construction Association; and To The Top the Hard Way.

Most of his retirement years were enjoyed in Napanee, close to his daughter and only grandson. Here, John took up power-walking, and was known in town as 'the walker'. He attributed his longevity to this daily regime.

John passed away on February 27, 2023. He will be greatly missed by his wife of 70 years, Eunice, daughter Dawn Halliwell (Doug Truman), son Boyd (Gayle), and grandson Carson (Taylor Johnston). John's ashes will be laid to rest in Kingston, Ontario. A celebration of life will be held later in spring; tributes may be left at www.cataraquicemetery.ca.

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MOVING SALE - 771 1st Street West, Canwood, SK, Phone 1-306-468-2680: Multicolour Rocker Chair \$25; Pink Chair \$50; Blue Rocker Chair \$50; Long Dining Room Table \$50; Desk With Shelves \$50; Orange Loveseat \$50. Will deliver free of charge. Pictures available. 5-13

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MEMORIALS

In Loving Memory of Robert Rene Girod



A year ago, March 20, 2022, we lost a husband, a father and a grandfather.

It's been the hardest thing to lose you
You meant so much to us
But you are in our hearts
And that's where you'll always be
We know that Heaven called you
But we wish you could have stayed
At least the memories we have of you
They will never fade
We did not want to lose you
But you did not go alone
Because part of us went with you
When Heaven called you home
You are always with us in our memories
And in our broken hearts.
Always remembered and missed dearly by:
Your loving wife
Madeline,
Marc, Brodie & Ryley,
Monique, Gil, Rene,
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PRAISE & WORSHIP

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

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

PENTECOSTAL CHURCH
Parkside
10:30 a.m. Worship
Pastor Lorne Valuck
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 11 a.m.
St. Henry's - Leask
Mass - Sunday 9 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 Riek 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

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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

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Looking for Vendors! Fort Qu'Appelle Spring Trade Show, April 22nd and 23rd, 2023. Please contact Tammy at 306-728-5690 or accounts@grasslandsnews.ca for more information. Or you can download the brochure at www.forttradeshows.com

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Growing orchids – Part I

By **PATRICIA HANBIDGE**

My mom was one of my favourite people in the world, and was also an orchid addict. Over her lifetime she grew hundreds if not thousands of orchids. Sharing her knowledge and helping others to become better stewards was always important so read on and learn more about how you can grow orchids. One of her favourite sayings was that orchids are not difficult to grow – just grow the orchid that suits the conditions in your home...and be careful as growing orchids can be addictive!

When growing orchids, it is important to purchase sensibly. Also, for beginners it is more satisfying to buy mature plants that are in bloom. Purchase plants that will suit your growing conditions and also try to duplicate the natural growing conditions of the plant.

An easy orchid to begin with is the Paphiopedilum (paf-ee-oh-ped-i-lum), commonly called the slipper orchid. They were first brought into cultivation in 1819 and are found naturally throughout much of

tropical Asia to northern India and the lowlands of the Philippines. The different species are found at various elevations in their natural range. Most are terrestrial (ground-dwelling), but a few are also lithophytic (cliff-perching). While they all trace their ancestry to tropical forests of Southeast Asia, most of the paphs of easy culture today are hybrids developed from the original jungle-dwelling species.

A cup-like lip called the pouch characterizes the flowers of paphs and by a prominent dorsal sepal, which is often large and strikingly coloured. The flowers of most have a thick, fleshy appearance, and may be so glossy that they seem almost to have been polished. An individual flower remains on the plant for up to four months. The plants have stiff, waxy or leathery leaves that are usually either glossy green or mottled. Masses of hairy roots are abundant in the potting medium of well-established plants.

The best way to care for any plant is to provide growing conditions that resemble those found in its native land. Since most of these plants would

normally inhabit a shaded jungle floor, they are intolerant of direct, intense sunlight. An east window, which exposes them to direct sun only in the early morning, is ideal.

They require high humidity of at least 40 to 50 percent along with gentle but steady air circulation. A small fan in a far corner of the room or a ceiling fan will maintain circulation. Avoid cold drafts as they can cause the flower buds to blast (brown and die). Standing the pots on shallow pans of pebbles and water helps increase the humidity directly around them.

Most paphs are considered “cool growers” with low light requirements. Daytime temperatures should fall in the range of 21 to 27 C (70 to 80 F). The green-leaved paphs prefer minimum night-time temperatures of about 10 to 13 C (50 –55 F), while those with mottled leaves require night temperatures a few degrees warmer.

Finely chopped fir bark makes an excellent growing medium, but bottom drainage should be enhanced with something like styrofoam “peanuts.” Since they cannot

store water, paphs require regular watering, but the medium should never be completely saturated or root rot is likely. Watering should be done early in the day so the foliage can dry before night.

Only mild fertilization is required, so fertilizing with 30-10-20 at about 1 ml/L (1/8 tsp/gal) every six weeks is proba-

bly adequate. You may use 2.5 ml (1/2 tsp.) of oyster shell on top of the potting mix to add some additional lime.

Hanbidge is the Lead Horticulturist with Orchid Horticulture. Find us at www.orchidhort.com; by email at info@orchidhort.com; on facebook @orchidhort and on instagram at #orchidhort.



Paphiopedilum.

GOOD NEWS

~ THROUGH A CHILD'S EYES

By **DAVE BODVARSON**

Shellbrook Pentecostal Assembly

In 2006, we moved to north central Saskatchewan, or more specifically to Shellbrook. We were able to secure a one-bedroom apartment, which we were grateful for.

I recall telling the owner at the time we would be there for some six months or so. We intended to eventually buy our own place. Well, we lived in the apartment for some eight years. Eventually, with the Good Lord's help, and help from others, we developed an acreage

very close to Shellbrook.

Marlene and I are blessed with seven grandchildren. One day, one of our granddaughters came for a visit in Shellbrook. She was about three years old at the time (by the way she is now 16).

I'll never forget what she said to me as she stood outside in front that six-unit apartment building.

“Grandpa big house.”

I guess, seeing through her eyes, we lived in a big house!

That got me thinking about what young eyes see and what they teach us.

1. Well, not to give up.

I read recently “A child learns to walk and falls down 50 times. He never thinks to himself, “Maybe this isn't for me.”

2. To live carefree.

It has been said, “A child can teach an adult three things: to be happy for no reason, to always be curious, to fight tirelessly for something.”

3. To never stop learning.

A preacher told of receiving letters that were signed “Yours, eighty-three years old and still growing.”

I have always been inspired by Caleb. Caleb's big challenge in life came when

he was 85 years old. No longer a young man yet he tells Joshua, “Give me this mountain.” (Joshua 14:12)

It has been pointed out, “This old man, who should have been pulling on his slippers, was talking of binding on shoes of iron so that he could ascend the mountain and rout out the giants before whom the Timorous Ten had quailed.”

4. To show emotion

Children love to express their feelings, knowing that it is important. It's a good reminder to us adults to do the same.

May you always see life through the eyes of child.

What happens when you don't advertise?

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