

## Spiritwood High School celebrates 23 grads



**Spiritwood High School's Class of 2023: Back row, from left to right: Evan Scott, Lexie Jones, Anthony Watson-Tipewan, Dreyson Lewis, Cody Bear, Deon Laventure, Lane Darbyshire, Nithyan Kurup, Bohdan Booth, Mason Bachelder, Caleb Giesbrecht, Ehva Scott, Elias Thomas, and Morgan Gray. Front Row, left to right: Jenaya Patton, Phoenix Day, Amy Wright, Kylee Balazsi, Carmen Tipewan, Caitlyn Armstrong, Sadie White, Brooklin Fry, and Lauralee Lafond.**

*Photos courtesy of Shyhorses Photography*

By **JORDAN TWISS**  
*Shellbrook Chronicle Reporter*

The 23 graduates in Spiritwood High School's class of 2023 received a warm send off at their graduation ceremony on Friday, June 30.

In keeping with tradition, the ceremony began with the processional, during which masters of ceremonies Brad Nemish and Bronson Parker introduced the graduates as they took their places on the stage. The salutatory address by graduate Lexie Jones was next, followed by a welcome address by Scott Haggarty, who took inspiration from the ceremony's theme of "Carpe Diem" (Latin for seize the day).

Though he encouraged the graduates to always enjoy the moment, Haggarty implored them to also use it as a roadmap to future success.

"Celebrate today's achievements, accomplishments, and successes, but

don't waste the sacrifices made to get you here today by not using your accomplishments to help you achieve success in the future," he said. "This is just the beginning of your journey. Not the final destination. Continue to dream, create goals, and work hard to achieve them."

As the ceremony continued, Nancy Shultz brought greetings on behalf of the Living Sky School Division, and guest speakers Tawnie Kotyk and Shannon MacFarlane, both teachers at Spiritwood High School, took the stage to share their wisdom with the graduates one last time.

Like Haggarty before them, both centred their advice for the grads around the ceremony's theme. To begin, Kotyk provided one last lesson on the origins of the phrase "Carpe Diem," before urging the grads to seize the day by doing what makes them happiest.

"It doesn't matter what anyone else says, anyone else thinks, or anyone else

feels, it's your life. True happiness lies in authenticity, in being true to ourselves and our desires," she said.

Building on this, MacFarlane reminded the grads that seizing the day means having the courage to try, even when they might fail.

"If we stay only in our comfort zone, our world shrinks. But if we take risks — even little ones — if we are open to new challenges, our world will expand and we will be richer for it," she said. "Life will pose challenges and you will experience some bumpy roads, but it is worth the experience and the sense of accomplishment in order to learn valuable lessons."

Later in the ceremony, the mic was passed to Jenaya Patton and Kylee Balazsi, who earned joint honours as the class of 2023's valedictorians.

Patton began by reflecting on her close friendship with Balazsi, the hard work that they (and all the graduates)

put in to make it to graduation, and the memories made along the way.

Meanwhile, Balazsi touched upon all the lessons learned through high school, reminding her fellow graduates that most of life's important lessons are learned outside the classroom. Sticking to the ceremony's theme, she concluded by encouraging her fellow graduates to go out and seize the day.

"Graduation doesn't mark the end of our story, just the beginning of a new chapter," she said. "As we finish writing this chapter of high school and turn the page to the next one, we must keep on writing. We only have one book to write... these next chapters of life cannot be left unfinished."

Closing out the speaking portion of the ceremony, Nithyan Kurup, Lane Darbyshire, and Cody Bear were called up to the podium to offer a dedication to the parents.

*Continued on page 2*

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# Spiritwood High School celebrates 23 grads

**Continued from 1**

“These graduates on stage are a testament to the love and dedication you have displayed throughout the years. Without your gentle hands guiding us, and your patience, we would be but a sliver of our character today,” Kurup began.

“As we venture into the next phase of our lives, we hold close the profound influence our parents and guardians have had on our journey. Their steadfast backing, selfless sacrifices, and valuable lessons have shaped us into resilient, empathetic individuals prepared to confront the challenges of our world,” Bear continued.

“Thank you for the sleepless nights, the sacrifice of opportunities, the love, the care, and the endless dedication you have poured into us. It has not gone unnoticed,” Darbyshire concluded.

In addition to the speaking portions of the ceremony, the afternoon also saw diplomas, and academic awards and scholarships, handed out as follows.

- Phys. Ed. 30, boys: Bohdan Booth
- Phys. Ed. 30, girls: Phoenix Day & Brooklin Fry
- Career and Work Exploration 30: Mason Bachelder
- Psychology 30: Kylee Balazsi
- Math Foundations 30: Kylee Balazsi
- Pre-Calculus: Lexie Jones
- Biology 30: Kylee Balazsi
- Chemistry 30: Phoenix Day & Nithyan Kurup
- Physics 30: Lexie Jones
- ELA A 30: Lexie Jones
- ELA B 30: Jenaya Patton
- Law 30: Ehva Scott
- History 30: Nithyan Kurup
- Food Studies 30: Ehva Scott
- Visual Arts 30: Jenaya Patton & Phoenix Day
- PAA Survey A30: Cody Bear & Dreyson Lewis
- Wildlife Management 30: Deon Laventure
- Native Studies 30: Brooklin Fry
- Lake Country Co-op Award & Scholarship: Deon Laventure

- Golden Lion Award: Bohdan Booth
- Lion’s Scholarship: Jenaya Patton
- Student of the Year: Nithyan Kurup & Lane Darbyshire
- Growth in Learning: Mason Bachelder & Kylee Balazsi
- Most Dedicated First Nation Student: Dreyson Lewis
- Harper Scholarships: Jenaya Patton & Phoenix Day
- LSSD Academic Proficiency: Jenaya Patton
- 2022 Governor General’s Award: Katelyn Majory-Pauls
- Knights of Columbus Scholarship: Brooklin Fry
- Fast Genetics Science Award: Lexie Jones
- Joyce Willick Scholarship: Brooklin Fry
- CUPE Scholarship: Kylee Balazsi
- Spiritwood High School’s Class of 2023 is: Caitlyn Armstrong, Mason Bachelder, Kylee Balazsi, Cody Bear, Bohdan Booth, Lane Darbyshire, Phoenix Day, Brooklin Fry, Caleb Giesbrecht, Morgan Gray, Lexie Jones, Nithyan Kurup, Lauralee Lafond, Deon Laventure, Dreyson Lewis, Jenaya Patton, Ehva Scott, Evan Scott, Elias Thomas, Carmen Tipewan, Anthony Watson-Tipewan, Sadie White, and Amy Wright.



Kylee Balazsi gives one of two valedictorian addresses.



Jenaya Patton delivers her valedictorian speech.



Spiritwood High School vice principal Scott Haggarty offers the welcome address.



Spiritwood High School principal Susan Fry speaks during the graduation ceremony.



Nithyan Kurup speaks during the dedication to parents, while Cody Bear (left) and Lane Darbyshire (middle) wait for their opportunities.



Guest speaker Shannon MacFarlane also received a send off during the ceremony, as this year marks her last as a full-time teacher.

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Notice is hereby given under *The Tax Enforcement Act* that unless the arrears and costs appearing opposite the land and title number described in the following list are fully paid before September 7, 2023, an interest based on a tax lien will be registered against the land.

Note: A sum for costs in an amount required by subsection 4(3) of *The Tax Enforcement Act* is included in the amount shown against each parcel.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY	Title No.	Total Arrears*	Costs	Total Arrears and Costs
BLK/PAR A-PLAN 101577382 EXT 60	109779249	1,678.28	458.00	2,136.28
BLK/PAR A-PLAN 101595528 EXT 30	113638057	512.73	458.00	970.73
NE 26-50-10-3 EXT 138	136624114	1,327.90	402.00	1,729.90
NE 26-50-10-3 EXT 65	136624080			
NE 26-50-10-3 EXT 139	136624125			
LSD 14-26-50-10-3 EXT 68	136624260	705.86	402.00	1,107.86
LSD 12-26-50-10-3 EXT 67	136624204			
LSD 11-26-50-10-3 EXT 66	136624170			
LSD 13-26-50-10-3 EXT 69	136624226			
SE 24-50-11-3 EXT 4	146310296	393.45	458.00	851.45
SW 05-51-08-3 EXT 0	141916068	-3.29	458.00	454.71
SE 21-51-08-3 EXT 0	146515507	902.82	458.00	1,360.82
NE 01-51-10-3 EXT 144	119219328	808.02	458.00	1,266.02
BLK/PAR A-PLAN 101543116 EXT 16	147119441	525.49	458.00	983.49
BLK/PAR 4-PLAN AN4170 EXT 5	152581811	1,535.69	458.00	1,993.69

\* Penalty is calculated to the date of the Notice and will continue to accrue as applicable.

Dated this 29<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2023  
 Colette Bussiere, Administrator

# Shellbrook Clinic holds grand re-opening

By **JORDAN TWISS**  
Shellbrook Chronicle Reporter

Under normal circumstances, most of us go out of our way to avoid a trip to the doctor.

But on Wednesday, June 28, the Shellbrook Primary Health Care Clinic was packed, as physicians, staff, patients, and community members gathered and mingled to celebrate the facility's grand re-opening.

Along with the opportunity to get to know the local healthcare team in a more informal setting, the day also included a free BBQ, with cash donations being accepted for long-term care programming at Parkland Integrated Health Centre and food donations welcomed for the Shellbrook Area Ministerial Food Bank.

The celebration comes a little more than a year after the Shellbrook Primary Health Care Clinic and the former fee-for-service Shellbrook Medical Clinic merged to better concentrate resources and provide greater access to care for patients.

As Dr. Isa Saidu explains, there was a time when the Shellbrook Primary Health Care Clinic and the Shellbrook Medical Clinic couldn't work in tandem because they used separate electronic medical records.

This meant that if the Shellbrook Medical Clinic had to close while the doctor was away, patients wouldn't be able to see a physician at the Shellbrook Primary Health

Care Clinic without having to explain their entire medical history from the beginning.

"We are one Shellbrook. Why can't we be one group of doctors with one electronic medical record [system]?" Dr. Saidu says he asked when he learned of this issue, noting that this was also a burden for physicians who tried to run the Shellbrook Medical Clinic and had to buy their own electronic medical record systems and hire their own staff.

Making a solution to this gap in healthcare services a priority, Dr. Saidu was able to negotiate with former Shellbrook Medical Clinic owner Dr. Anatole Nguengo to obtain his electronic medical records.

"We've joined [electronic medical records] and now we've joined the clinics," Dr. Saidu said. "Hopefully we continue to get a supply of doctors, so that we don't lack doctors in town."

One key to this, he says, is to be more accommodating of doctors. Currently, local physicians work 24-hour shifts in the ER at Parkland Integrated Health Centre in addition to seeing patients. Dr. Saidu says the work in the ER is the heaviest, and that 12-hour ER shifts would be more appealing to physicians.

That said, his next aim is to work on ensuring continuity of physicians in the community. In many cases, physicians who come to Shellbrook sign a three-year service agreement and move on after it's done.



**A bariatric bed, acquired and donated to the clinic by the Shellbrook and District Health Services Foundation, makes the clinic more accessible to patients with disabilities or mobility issues.**

Dr. Saidu says he'd like to see the agreement extended to five years in the near future, and, ideally, all the way up to 10 years at some point.

In the meantime, he says he's very happy with the improvements that the merger of the Shellbrook Primary Health Care Clinic and the Shellbrook Medical Clinic has brought.

After a year of ironing out the kinks, a clearer vision for how the joint clinic will operate is beginning to take shape.

On the Shellbrook Primary Health Care Clinic side of the facility, it will mostly be business as usual, as there are eight exam rooms for doctors to see patients for regular visits. This is also where patients will continue to check-in for their appointments.

One big change, says primary health care manager Lydia Franc Beurivage, is that one of the rooms is being converted into a mental health room.

"The exam room and medical paraphernalia will be removed to create a more comfortable space for the doctors to speak to patients about mental health and addiction issues," she said.

Meanwhile, the former Shellbrook Medical Clinic space will serve multiple purposes, including storage, some administration, and an additional workstation for physicians on days when all the doctors are seeing patients. A bariatric bed, acquired and donated

to the clinic by the Shellbrook and District Health Services Foundation, will also make the space more accessible to patients with disabilities or mobility issues.

Additionally, the clinic will serve as an area for more specialized care, such as chronic disease management, and, if all goes according to plan, for minor procedures like lumps and bumps, wart and mole removal, and pap smears.

"The important thing is also to bring in specialists," Dr. Saidu said. "We're trying to bring mental health specialists and internal medicine here."

On the internal medicine front, Dr. Saidu says the SHA has been approached by a private ultrasound clinic about the possibility of providing ultrasound services in the clinic space as early as this month.

Though this isn't yet a certainty, and there's still much work to be done to complete the clinic merger, Dr. Saidu remains confident that it will be a benefit for patients.

"We don't have a walk-in clinic, but we're hoping to have lots of same-day appointments, where people can call at 8 a.m. and get in that day," he said. "[The merger] is going to help with that."

Dr. Saidu expects the joint clinic will be up and running "as intended" before the fall.



**Members of the Shellbrook Primary Health Care Clinic team that were in attendance for the grand re-opening.**

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## Congratulations, Graduates!

On behalf of everyone at Prairie Centre Credit Union, we'd like to wish you all the best in your next chapter, whatever that may be.



## TOWN OF SPIRITWOOD PUBLIC NOTICE

Public notice is hereby given that the Council of the Town of Spiritwood intends to adopt a bylaw under *The Planning and Development Act, 2007* to amend Bylaw No. 486/13, known as the Zoning Bylaw.

### INTENT OF THE ZONING BYLAW AMENDMENT

The proposed amendment will:

- Rezone Lots 1-10, Block 22, Plan 65B01484 from FUD - Future Urban Development to C2 - Highway Commercial District, as indicated on Sketch "A" below.

Sketch "A":



### REASON

The reasons for the amendments are:

- To accommodate commercial development in Spiritwood.

### PUBLIC INSPECTION

Any person may inspect the bylaw at the Town Office, located at 212 Main Street, between the hours of 8:00 AM and 4:30 PM on Monday to Thursday, and 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM on Friday, excluding statutory holidays. Copies of the bylaw are available at the Town Office at cost.

### PUBLIC HEARING

Council will hold a public hearing on July 25, 2023 at 6:30pm at the Town Office to hear any person or group that wants to comment on the proposed bylaw. Council will also consider written comments received at the hearing, or delivered to the undersigned at the Town Office before the hearing.

Issued at the Town of Spiritwood this 27<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2023.  
Rhonda Saam, Chief Administrative Officer

## Postmedia woes highlight need to support local... again

For more than four centuries, newspapers have been delivering the news to readers around the world.

From municipal, provincial, and federal politics, to little Timmy's first hockey game and little Suzie's high-school graduation, newspapers have been reporting on the events that matter, keeping readers informed, and acting as a historical record for the communities they serve.

Still, there are those who would celebrate the death of so-called "legacy media", and hasten the transition to news being delivered exclusively via Facebook and Twitter, without any checks and balances on whether this "news" is factual.

This, as the COVID-19 pandemic so clearly taught us, is a recipe for misinformation, for the "news" to become ever more politicized, and for each of us to remain entrenched in our personal echo chambers.

But make no mistake. Without a drastic climate shift – without the support of readers, businesses, and even governments – this is where Canada's news industry is headed.

For proof, we need only look at the latest national industry headlines about a proposed merger between Postmedia and Nordstar Capital LP, a company that owns the *Toronto Star* and the Metroland Media Group.

Currently, Postmedia owns newspapers across the country, including the *National Post*, the *Edmonton Journal*, and the *Calgary Herald*, as well as the Sun newspapers in Ottawa, Toronto, Calgary, and Edmonton, and the *Saskatoon StarPhoenix* and *Regina Leader-Post*.

Meanwhile, Nordstar brings to the table the *Toronto Star*, and the six dailies and 70 weekly community newspapers operated by Metroland, most of which are concentrated in southern Ontario.

Both companies view the merger as means to "create greater scale and respond to the existential threat facing the media industry." But history tells us all we need to know about what mergers like this mean.

In 2015, Postmedia purchased 175 Sun Media newspapers from Quebecor for \$316 million, with the intention of keeping separate newsrooms in cities where there were multiple dailies. By the next year, it had axed 90 jobs and merged newsrooms in four cities.



JORDAN TWISS  
~  
News Editor

Then, in November 2017, Torstar and Postmedia traded 41 publications, mainly in Ontario, with plans to stop publishing most of them. The deal resulted in 36 publications closing and the loss of 291 jobs.

Despite all these dealings and cutbacks, Postmedia continues to hemorrhage money.

In another desperate attempt to stanch the bleeding earlier this year, Postmedia shuttered the *StarPhoenix* newsroom (but kept the paper running) and put the building up for sale, relocated its printing operations to Estevan through a partnership with Glacier Media, and transitioned 12 community newspapers in Alberta to online-only.

All told, the moves resulted in an 11 per cent reduction in the company's editorial staff, and the elimination of a number of other jobs.

Of course, the great irony here is that Postmedia is creating a self-perpetuating downward spiral.

Eliminating journalists means fewer people to cover local events, fewer incentives for local businesses to advertise, and fewer reasons for readers to pick up the daily or weekly edition. This, in turn, means layoffs and closed newspapers, leaving whole communities and regions without a voice – no more coverage of local, provincial, or federal affairs, and no hockey games or high school graduations.

It's not just the national news industry that's struggling either.

A little more than a month after Postmedia's most recent round of cutbacks, Saskatchewan lost the *Wadena News*, a publication that had been serving its community and region for 115 years.

In the publication's final editorial, its staff laid bare the reasons for the closure as well as anyone could.

"In essence, cheap and nasty has now replaced local paid for advertising," it wrote. "We say cheap because it's free (a matter of perspective) – and only for now. Nasty, because American billionaires run the social media platforms with no regard for the local market. When did Facebook, Instagram, TikTok or Twitter last donate to your local event?"

Continuing, it added, "Even the town, including also those surrounding, chose not to engage their local newspaper first, and instead reported and/or advertised instead on social media."



Without the drastic climate shift mentioned earlier – without the support of readers, businesses, and even governments – the closure of community newspapers like the *Wadena News* won't just be a one-off, it'll become the norm.

From readers, we need not just your readership but your knowledge of your communities. Publications like the *Shellbrook Chronicle & Spiritwood Herald* have small teams, and can't be everywhere at once or know everything. To be a true community newspaper, we need our communities to keep us in the loop about local news and events.

From businesses and community organizations, we need you to choose local over the small handful of free likes and shares you can get by advertising your events on Facebook (or even better, choose both and maximize your reach). These are challenging economic times for all of us, and now, more than ever, supporting local matters.

Finally, from governments, we need support in the form of advertising dollars.

To its credit, the government of Saskatchewan has been a national leader when it comes to advertising its policies and programs in community newspapers (a key part of keeping people informed).

The same cannot be said for the federal government, which in 2022 spent \$140 million on advertising, with only \$6 million going to print publications (and almost none of that coming to small community newspapers).

We also need governments to flex their policy muscles with programs like the Local Journalism Initiative, which helps publications hire journalists and share news content.

At the same time, however, we also need governments to know when to stand aside. Case in point, the federal government's Bill C-18, which "forces" digital giants like Google and Meta (Facebook's parent company) to pay media outlets for content they share or repurpose.

Not ones to be strong-armed into parting with their money, both companies have found ways to circumvent the legislation.

For its part, Google will be removing news links from its search engine, Google News, and Google Discover for only Canadian publishers and readers. Meanwhile, Meta will be removing Canadian news from Facebook and Instagram, and eliminating a fellowship program with the Canadian Press that helped young journalists get their foot in the door.

This harms not only publications, but also readers. And even if Google and Meta hadn't called Ottawa's bluff, the benefit to small community newspapers, whose bread and butter is still the printed word, would have been negligible.

Print is dead has been the adage since the dawn of the internet age. But this doesn't have to be the case.

With your support, community newspapers can not only survive, but thrive, and continue serving their communities like they have for the past 400 years.

### Shellbrook Chronicle

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

### Spiritwood Herald

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

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www.spiritwoodherald.com

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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

Summer is a time for celebrations and gatherings, exploring nature and trying new things. As a Member of the Legislative Assembly, I am enjoying meeting with you this summer and hearing your ideas.

The summer solstice brought a special celebration to our province as we recognized National Indigenous Peoples Day. Events were held in many communities and parks across the province to honour the unique heritage, diverse cultures and outstanding contributions of First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples. Our government remains committed to strengthening the rich culture and history of Indige-



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nous people while continuing on a path to reconciliation.

Canada Day was a day for everyone to take a moment and reflect on what it means to be Canadian. Canada continues to be a free and democratic country that

upholds the values of diversity and multiculturalism. There were many great ways to celebrate Canada Day in our beautiful province.

Thank you to the men and women who have served to keep our country safe. Thank you to the citizens of Saskatchewan for continuously working towards improving our communities for future generations.

Throughout the summer, our provincial parks will be buzzing with activity. Our government has partnered with 14 new businesses for this year, and we encourage you to take advantage of the unique accommodation, activities and services they

offer. You can learn more at [www.saskparks.com](http://www.saskparks.com).

We also encourage you to take advantage of Saskatchewan's lakes and rivers and give fishing a try with no license required during the annual free fishing weekend July 8-9. You can learn more at [www.saskatchewan.ca/fishing](http://www.saskatchewan.ca/fishing).

Our province continues to get exciting news about the economy. S&P has affirmed Saskatchewan's AA credit rating, the highest credit rating among all provinces. Saskatchewan's growing economy and strong finances allow us to continue to pay down the debt while investing in the programs, services and infrastructure



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that matter most.

The Government of Saskatchewan is improving 1,000 km of provincial highways this year. This keeps the province on track to meet the Growth Plan goal to build and upgrade 10,000 km of

highways over 10 years.

A weekly highway construction update is published on [Saskatchewan.ca](http://Saskatchewan.ca) to provide drivers with the latest details on projects underway to help plan safe and efficient travel.

If you're planning to travel, check the Highway Hotline at [saskatchewan.ca/highwayhotline](http://saskatchewan.ca/highwayhotline), which provides up-to-date information on construction, emergency road closures, the status of ferries, barges and other road activities. Information is also available by calling 511.

As the summer continues, our government is beginning to prepare for the fall sitting of the Legislature and we want to hear from you.

## Rebuilding trust in education will require complete transparency

Any trust parents may have had in Saskatchewan's education system has been shaken to its core.

In Lumsden recently, grade nine students had access to explicit 'flashcards' describing sexual fetishes that most adults had never even heard of. This was passed off as sexual health instruction. The cards were brought in by Planned Parenthood, which is unrepentant about the content. Parents only found out because a student told their parents about it.

No parent was informed or asked for consent about the content. Some on social media have even vilified the student for 'taking' the cards, which reportedly, were on a table as a resource. Others postulated that since this information is 'on the internet', it doesn't matter if students are exposed to it at school.

It DOES matter.

The assumption that all students will and should receive 'how to' instruction about those practices is outrageous. This 'we know better than you' attitude is on full display not only by Planned Parenthood, but by the school boards and administrations that have created a culture that allows this.

Many teachers have indicated that they are extremely uncomfortable about the agenda driven indoctrination



**NADINE WILSON  
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that is going on in the schools. They have no support, and fear reprisals if they speak out including losing their jobs.

The bottom line is parents have a reasonable expectation that their children won't be exposed to controversial information without their consent. Every fall, parents entrust their most precious gift, their children, to the school system, believing that they will learn what they need to succeed in life in age-appropriate ways. Now parents are fearful that certain agendas have hijacked the system.

Getting answers isn't easy. In my own constituency, a school with approximately 230 children had parents demanding a meeting with the division to address alleged extreme bullying, assaults and sexual assaults that occurred in or near the school. When a meeting was finally granted, approximately 100 parents attended. Most left frustrated because the actual incidents could not be candidly discussed due to privacy constraints. Neither could the administration promise that their children would be safe in school the next day, because of process. One of the main issues identified was the lack of communication by the school to parents, regarding the incidents and safety risks to students.

To rebuild trust in our system will

take extra measures, particularly in communication.

I would ask parents, do you believe it should become mandatory that all resource materials to be used in a classroom, be made available for parental review BEFORE it is presented? This could be as simple as posting them to the school's website or emailing to parents. Please let me know your thoughts on this idea.

Prior to the Lumsden incident, I have been reviewing the official government policy on Gender and Sexual Diversity because of inquiries regarding Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGI). ([www.sogieducation.org](http://www.sogieducation.org)) Parents have been asking me if it is already integrated in Saskatchewan schools. Of note, SOGI is not just presented as a sexual health class, but is a taught philosophy integrated into all aspects of the school environment.

As a provincial community, it is time to have frank, open discussion on what is acceptable curriculum and how to ensure parents have the right to influence and scrutinize that curriculum. Let me know what you think by emailing me at [saskrivers@sasktel.ca](mailto:saskrivers@sasktel.ca) or call 306-763-0615.

Saskatchewan Government webpage re: Gender and Sexual Diversity resources: <https://www.sas->

[saskatchewan.ca/government/education-and-child-care-facility-administration/services-for-school-administrators/student-wellness-and-wellbeing/gender-and-sexual-diversity](http://saskatchewan.ca/government/education-and-child-care-facility-administration/services-for-school-administrators/student-wellness-and-wellbeing/gender-and-sexual-diversity)

Deepening the Discussion: Gender and Sexual Diversity pdf: <https://publications.saskatchewan.ca/api/v1/products/75989/formats/84995/download>

Student Alliances for Gender and Sexual Diversity in Saskatchewan Schools pdf: <https://publications.saskatchewan.ca/api/v1/products/89505/formats/106357/download>



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# Live Music at the Gazebo rocks Shell Lake

By **BEVRA FEE**  
Spiritwood Herald Reporter

The evening of June 30 saw the inaugural event dubbed Live Music at the Gazebo draw a large crowd of several hundred people on a beautiful kickoff to summer holidays.

Offering fun and food for everyone, with face painting and Filipino fare, the pre-show activity provided the backdrop for attendees getting set up for the main event – music by the Brothers G.

Prize raffles, a lemonade stand, and craft vendors all contributed to the charity event, which raised well over \$6,000 for Make A Wish.

Heather Beauchesne, the event's founder and key organizer, felt the desire to provide a free event with something for everyone while raising money for a worthy cause and therefore partnered with Rose Freeman – a

Women For Wishes ambassador.

Building philanthropy into a music event grew into donations for raffle prizes and a grant from Sask Culture to offset costs.

“With the grant, we are able to meet all expenses and that means all money raised goes to the Make A Wish”, states Beauchesne. “You never know when you begin planning whether an event will flop or fly, but I think we did okay.”

Okay indeed, with a large crowd enjoying the music by the trio out of Hafford, Sask. Covering mostly country-rock hits under the shade of the Shell Lake gazebo, the Brothers G kept the lively crowd entertained through three sets.

Summer vibes similar to a tailgate party brought many positive comments about all aspects of the event, from the music to the food and all the fun in between music sets.



Founder and organizer Heather Beauchesne stands in front of the large crowd at the Live Music at the Gazebo event.



Vendors were another draw for the crowd at the Live Music at the Gazebo event.



The Brothers G, from Hafford, Sask., were the headliners for the Make A Wish concert fundraiser in Shell Lake.



Norie Beauchesne was painting faces during the event.



Marinor served up some Filipino fare.

## RESORT VILLAGE OF BIG SHELL NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

Public Notice is hereby given that the Council of Resort Village of Big Shell intends to adopt bylaws under *The Planning and Development Act, 2007* to amend Bylaw 2-85 The Basic Planning Statement Bylaw.

**Intent:** The proposed bylaw will rezone the affected area from Community Center District to R – Residential, the land described below:

**Affected Area:** The affected area of land is legally described as Parcel B, Plan No. 102024638 and Part of PR3, Plan No. 89B15672 and part of SW ¼ Sec. 5-TWP 49-RGE8-W3rdM, Big Shell, Saskatchewan, which is shown in the shaded area of the map which appears as part of this notice.

**Reason:** The reason of the proposed alteration is to allow for the development of Storage Lots to be titled.

**Public Inspection:** Any person may inspect the bylaw(s) by contacting Tara Bueckert at (306) 427-2188 or by email at [villagebigshell@gmail.com](mailto:villagebigshell@gmail.com) Monday to Friday. Copies are available at cost.

**Public Hearing:** A public meeting will be held on July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. at the Hall, 229 Loon Drive, Resort Village of Big Shell, Saskatchewan to discuss the proposal. Any person(s) who wish to object to the proposed restructuring may file a written objection, stating clearly their reason for their opposition, with the administrator of the Resort Village of Big Shell at the address below. A written notice of objection must be received by the administrator by 3:30 p.m. on Thursday July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

Resort Village of Big Shell  
Box 130  
Shell Lake, SK S0J 2G0

Issued at Shell Lake, Saskatchewan, this 6<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2023  
Tara Bueckert, Administrator



## R.M. OF LEASK NO. 464 PUBLIC NOTICE

Public notice is hereby given that the Council of the Rural Municipality of Leask No. 464 intends to adopt a bylaw under *The Planning and Development Act, 2007* to amend Bylaw No. 2/20, known as the Zoning Bylaw.

**INTENT**

The proposed bylaw will rezone the land from Resort Commercial (RC) to Lakeshore District (LD).

**AFFECTED LAND**

The affected lands are Lot 4A Lot 3 Plan 84B13418 as shown within the bold dashed line on the following map.

**REASON**

The reason for the amendment is to allow for the zoning change from Resort Commercial (RC) to Lakeshore District (LD).

**PUBLIC INSPECTION**

Any person may inspect bylaw at the municipal office between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. on Monday through Friday excluding statutory holidays. Copies are available at cost.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

Council will hold a public hearing on July 12, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. at the Leask Municipal Office to hear any person or group that wants to comment on the proposed bylaw. Council will also consider written comments received at the hearing (or delivered to the undersigned at the municipal office before the hearing).

Issued at Rural Municipality of Leask No. 464 this 15<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2023.

Donna Goertzen  
Administrator



## Next big crop not so easy to find

Agriculture, like most business sectors, spends a fair amount of resources, both cash and time, seeking what might be the next big thing.

It's not an easy find in terms of crops for Canadian prairie producers.

There are a number of core obstacles to overcome, starting with the growing conditions here, of course.

Producers might well wish to add field corn or soybeans to their rotations, but conditions here are not optimum for growing either crop.

So what has to take place, is considerable effort in terms of plant breeding to create vari-

eties that will produce under conditions here to a level where they are not just profitable in terms of the input and output of the crop itself, but competitive with long-term crops already grown.

What that comes down to is a new cropping option has to be able to muscle its way economically into a crop rotation now dominated by high value canola and backed up by well-understood and reliable wheat.

And there is also the consideration of markets when a 'new' crop is considered.

In truth, there are no new crops. There may be



CALVIN DANIELS

new varieties that allow expansion of acres into non-traditional areas, but they are not new.

So, markets exist and when a new area starts producing, they add production which must essentially leech market share from someone else.

The mere fact Cana-

dian farmers are starting to produce soybeans doesn't mean buyers are going to flock to acquire that product against well-established and trusted sources such as the United States, Brazil and Argentina.

Of course, corn and soybeans are the high profile crop producers likely dream of most. But researchers tend to take a very broad view of crop research.

For example, on a recent tour of the East Central Research Station, a joint effort of the East Central Research Foundation and the newly minted Suncrest College, two plots stood

out.

One was delving into whether lupins can be successfully grown in East Central Saskatchewan, while another series of plots was growing the spice fenugreek.

Both have been looked at before. A promoter, likely 25 years ago, was suggesting lupins could become a major crop – which obviously did not happen. And fenugreek, along with coriander and caraway, have been looked at as spice crops that can be grown under field conditions with existing equipment. But as one might expect, spices have a somewhat limited market.

According to *pulses.org*, lupins are widely grown in Australia, Russia, Europe, and South America. They are a popular snack usually preserved in brine or pickled.

If they were grown here, could Canada break into the market?

How does added acres of a spice market at a reasonable return?

Of course, research is about creating opportunities and the establishment of acres and markets is for others to figure out.

But one wonders will a major acre crop emerge again? Time will tell as they say.

## Bunge-Viterra merger has drastic implications for farmers

By CATHY HOLTSLANDER  
NFU Research & Policy Director

Just five companies known as the "ABCD group" control 90% of the world grain trade – and the B in this group is about to get much bigger.

B is for Bunge, which has announced it is in the process of buying Viterra. The other ABCD companies are Archer Daniels Midland, Cargill and Louis Dreyfus, which have dominated the grain trade for over a century, with China's COFCO joining the list more recently. In Canada, grain elevation and handling has been dominated by five companies from the early 2000s until 2015: Cargill, Viterra, Richardson, Paterson and Parrish & Heimbecker. In 2015 after the Harper government gave Bunge and the Saudi Agricultural and Livestock Investment Company (SALIC) the former Canadian Wheat Board's assets, the new company G3, moved into fifth spot. Viterra is currently a subsidiary of the Swiss conglomerate Glencore, is 40% owned the Canada Pension Fund Investment Board, and has its headquarters in Regina, Saskatchewan. Bunge's acquisition of Viterra would leap-frog it into first place in Canada, and move it into third place after Cargill and COFCO on the world stage.

Viterra and G3 are dominant in wheat, while Bunge is dominant in

canola, soy and corn. Combining them gives one company massive market power over the largest crops grown in and exported by Canada.

Until 1997, farmers owned close to 60 percent of Canada's grain handling system through their co-operatives, and until 2012, controlled all exports of prairie wheat and barley through the farmer-directed Canadian Wheat Board. With farmers in charge, the profits from sales were returned to our rural communities and were engines of rural prosperity.

The recent public consultations on Canada's competition policy highlighted its gaps and deficiencies. Then, the NFU called for changes that would ensure the Competition Bureau prevents harmful mergers, including by outlawing mergers that result in any company having more than 20% of market share in any sector, and prevents companies from using their dominance to exploit smaller players, among other recommendations.

The CR-4 ratio – four-firm concentration ratio – refers to the market share of the four largest firms in a market. If the CR-4 is less than 40%, a market sector is considered to be competitive; if CR-4 is above that, anti-competitive behaviour can be expected. Efficiency gains from economies of scale are not shared with customers, but captured as profits and used to further acceler-

ate consolidation. If the Bunge-Viterra merger goes ahead, we are looking at a CR-4 ratio above 80% in Canada's grain handling sector.

Today, farmers produce larger quantities and higher value products than ever, but now the vast majority of the wealth created on our farms is being captured by the ABCD traders and the highly concentrated input, farm machinery, financial, and food processing corporations. Their market power has so far not been restrained by Canada's competition policy. Past mergers reviewed by the Competition Bureau have merely shifted assets between already powerful players. The growing gap between the value farmers create and the value we receive from the marketplace amounts to billions of dollars every year, accelerated by the gap in market power between farmers and the multinationals they must deal with.

In light of the Competition Bureau's failure to prevent rapid consolidation of market power in the Canadian grain and oilseed sector, the National Farmers Union encourages the federal government to make a counteroffer to purchase Viterra and return its assets to the control of Canadian farmers and workers through a new co-operative. This would be in the national interest, ensuring food security and maintaining the proceeds from grain and

oilseed exports within the Canadian economy.

In 2018, the Government of Canada purchased the yet-to-be-built Trans Mountain Pipeline for \$4.5 billion, and has invested approximately \$21.5 billion in construction since then. The government has proven it has the financial capacity to make large investments. Unlike the pipeline, the Viterra network exists, and is operating. For a purchase price of just \$US 8.2 billion (\$CDN 10.9 billion) – a net annual cost of \$CDN 3.94/acre of Canadian farmland over 30 years -- Canada would own the world's eighth-largest grain trading company. Instead of waiting for the Competition Bureau to hive off pieces of Viterra, G3 and Bunge to the other big players in the grain industry, the federal government could create true competition in the sector by ensuring the farmers who produce the commodities will own and control the assets they have created, and regain the market power needed to safeguard farmers' interests in the international marketplace.

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



# Evergreen Oasis looks to break down barriers

By **JORDAN TWISS**  
*Shellbrook Chronicle*  
Reporter

Growing up in Prince Albert, Nicole Erb witnessed the community's struggles with mental health, addictions, poverty, and homelessness — and the barriers to finding the necessary supports — and knew from the age of 16 that she wanted to become a social worker and be part of the solution.

"I always wanted to help people, support them, and do whatever I

can to be an advocate in individuals' lives," Erb said.

Erb put in the work to turn this ambition into reality, first receiving her Youth Care Certificate from Saskatchewan Polytechnic before earning a degree in Indigenous Social Work from the First Nations University of Canada in 2015.

While completing her studies, Erb dove deep into the field, working at a group home supporting deaf and blind individuals, as well as at the Lighthouse Supporting

Living Shelter, helping those experiencing drug and alcohol dependencies and homelessness. And in the midst of all this, she got married in 2014 and relocated to Shellbrook.

Seven years after graduating, with a wealth of experience from White Buffalo Youth Inhalant Treatment Centre and the Ministry of Social Services' Community Living Service Delivery branch under her belt, Erb realized another of her life's ambitions.

Working with her sister, Regan Buckingham, she opened her own counselling practice, Evergreen Oasis Counselling and Consulting, in June of 2022, hoping to fill in what she saw as a service and support gap in Shellbrook and area as well as in northern Saskatchewan.

"There are a lot of barriers in the north. We don't have any really big facilities, such as Saskatoon and Regina, that can provide different supports to people," Erb says. "There are supports here in Shellbrook, but there just aren't as many. As well, there are a lot of neighbouring communities that don't have supports."

A year later, Erb serves clients in Shellbrook and

surrounding communities and works closely with schools on the Big River and Ahtahkakoop First Nations. With Buckingham handling the behind-the-scenes of the business, Erb is joined by fellow registered social worker Taylor Corriveau, who works mainly out of Ahtahkakoop but also sees clients at the office located on 1st Avenue East in Shellbrook.

Recognizing that clients can't always come to her, and that mental health and addictions don't operate on a fixed schedule, Erb meets them where they are and when they're available, driving as far as Sandy Bay (nearly 500 kms northeast of Shellbrook), hosting virtual counselling sessions for clients in Alberta, and working evenings as necessary to ensure there's no waitlist.

In a busy week, Erb says she sees between 35 and 40 clients (she's

allowed to see seven or eight per day), pointing to a clear need for the counselling, workshops, and other resources and supports she provides to people dealing with mental health, suicidal ideation, addictions, self-harm, and simple daily stressors, as well as people with intellectual disabilities.

Her client pool is diverse, too, including both children and adults.

"We don't just want to focus on one thing. We want to focus on the individual, the family, and the community," Erb said.

"As well as young children, all the way up to adults," Buckingham added. "Lots of parents feel that their kids don't have anywhere to get support. It was really important to be able to open up supports for kids. Especially with COVID, anxiety is really coming out a lot."

Though the past decade has seen a monu-

mental shift in attitudes towards mental health and addictions, Erb says the stigma persists today. She says these lingering attitudes are especially harmful for younger men and teenage boys, many of whom choose not to seek help for fear being labelled as weak or "not manly enough."

"You are not weak. Everybody should have a counsellor in their life," she said. "Everybody needs help. And everybody deserves that support."

While Evergreen Oasis Counselling and Consulting helps fill in gaps in mental health and addictions services in the region, Erb feels more still needs to be done in terms of programming and services.

"We need more hospital beds, we need more psychiatrists, and we need more social workers in the field to be able to help everybody we need to help."



Regan Buckingham (left) and Nicole Erb, owners of Shellbrook's Evergreen Oasis Counselling and Consulting. Photo courtesy of *jcphotography - Jasmin Blais*.

## Lions present grant to Spiritwood Spirited Arrows

By **BEVRA FEE**  
*Spiritwood Herald Reporter*

The Spiritwood Spirited Arrows Archery Club was recently the recipient group of an \$800 boost from the Spiritwood & District Lions Club. Funds are made available from Saskatchewan Lotteries to non-profit community groups twice per year through the Lions Club. An annual call for applicants typically results in over a half dozen worthy groups submitting their appeal for funding.

The Spirited Arrows Archery Club is

rebooting this fall and determined the need for some new equipment for the youth club, with the grant funds being designated for the purchase of an arrow cutter and bow press.

"The club requires frequent upgrades and additions to equipment to ensure the program remains safe, affordable, convenient, and current," states Spiritwood Arrows spokesperson Sheila Turgeon.

This is the 10th grant of \$800 given out by the Spiritwood Lions since January 2019, according to committee Chair Shelley Allard.



Lion Megan Allard presents the grant cheque to Jennifer Epp, Kelsey Doucette, Tyce Turgeon, Liam Aumack (back), and Grayson Aumack.

## NOTICE TO OUR READERS

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Thank you for your understanding.

Shellbrook Chronicle  
& Spiritwood Herald



# Canada Day breakfast raises \$1,670 for food bank

By **JORDAN TWISS**  
*Shellbrook Chronicle Reporter*

While Canada Day celebrations are rare in Shellbrook, as residents often choose to take off to the lake rather than stay in town, the Shellbrook Ministerial Association celebrated Canada Day in the most Canadian way possible: by helping people in need.

For the second year in a row, the organization hosted a Canada Day Breakfast at the Shellbrook Pentecostal Assembly, welcoming about 130 guests to raise funds for the Shellbrook Area Ministerial Food Bank. The breakfast, prepared by volunteer chefs Brian Hagel, Keith and Dianne Ethier, and Shellbrook Legion members Hel-

en and Henri Dagenais, consisted of pancakes, breakfast sausage links, and a choice of drink.

Meanwhile, thanks to generous donations from local businesses and individuals, and the

organizational efforts of Food Bank coordinator Linda Lundy, breakfast wasn't the only thing being offered. There was also a selection of silent auction items up for grabs.

All told, donations for breakfast totalled \$964.30, while the silent auction raised \$707, bringing the total raised on the day to \$1,671.30.

With some of the funds to cover the costs of the

breakfast raised prior to Saturday's event, Pastor Dave Bodvarson of the Shellbrook Ministerial

Association says any leftover funds will also be added to the total donated to the food bank.



The Shellbrook Ministerial Association's second Canada Day breakfast fundraiser brought in a crowd of about 130 people.



The cooks were busy in the kitchen. From left to right: Dianne and Keith Ethier, Brian Hagel, and Helen Dagenais. Missing: Henri Dagenais.

## Spiritwood Museum re-opens

By **BEVRA FEE**  
*Spiritwood Herald Reporter*

The Spiritwood & District Museum returned after a four-year hiatus with an open house on July 1. From 10 a.m. until 4 p.m., visitors were treated to popcorn, ice cream, coffee, and cupcakes.

The museum will be open full-time for the summer of 2023, with a student employee hosting visitors and cataloguing artifacts.

Nithyan Kurup, recent graduate of Spiritwood High School, joined the committee for his first day of work at the open house.

In an age where important pieces of the cultural and historical fabric of communities seem to be vanishing at a rapid pace — be they grain elevators, or museums like the Shellbrook & District Heritage Museum — museum committee member Roberta Wasden says it's important to keep the Spiritwood Museum alive.

"[It's] for the public to see what people had to live with or put up with way back whenever," she said in an interview prior to the museum's reopening. "And also, the things are treasures for some of the people who have donated their items. There are treasures, and lots of them."

Among the treasures is the replica of

the Zarudski family's log cabin, which stood eight miles north of Mildred before becoming the fifth building in the Spiritwood & District Museum's collection of historical buildings at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2021. This summer will mark the first time the building can be toured freely (without needing to make an appointment beforehand).

Wasden indicated that the museum will be open five days per week with some weekends thrown in.



Student employee Nithyan Kurup joined committee member Roberta Wasden for his first day of work at the Spiritwood Museum.



Guests enjoy the deck at the newly re-opened Spiritwood Museum

### COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

**LEOVILLE:** Wapiti Regional Library - Wednesday 10am - 4pm; Thursday 10am - 3pm

**SHELL LAKE:** Wapiti Regional Library - Tuesday 11am - 4pm; Wednesday 12pm - 5pm

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

**BIG RIVER:** Wapiti Library - Wednesday 11:30am - 4:30pm; Thursday 11:30am - 4:30pm. Phone # 306-469-2152

**CANWOOD:** Canwood Branch of Wapiti Regional Library. Tuesday 10am - 3:30pm; Thursday 3:30pm - 8pm; Friday 1:30pm - 4:30pm. Kids Club is Fridays 3:30pm - 4:30pm, Crafter's Choice is the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month.

**DEBDEN:** Wapiti Library hours: Tuesday 10am - 4pm; Wednesday 1pm - 7pm. Librarian: Aline Hannon

**LEASK:** Wapiti Library & Legacy Gallery Hours - Tuesday 9am - 2pm; Wednesday 3pm - 6pm; Friday 1pm - 5pm

**MARCELIN:** Wapiti Library - Thursday 2pm - 7pm; Saturday 9am - 2pm. 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 2pm - 6pm; Tuesday 12pm - 8pm; Wednesday 2pm - 6pm; Thursday 12pm - 6pm; Friday 10am - 5pm (Story Time 11am - 12pm); Saturday 10am - 4pm.

**SHELLBROOK:** An Acoustic Country Music Concert Like No Other! Donny Parenteau, Freddie & Sheila Pelletier, and Donna & Leroy Anderson from the Tommy Hunter Show! Thursday, July 6 @ 7:30pm, Shellbrook Theatre (1st Ave, Shellbrook). Tickets: \$30/person ADVANCE or \$38 at door, from Shellbrook Bigway or call Sheila (306)960-7016.

**LEASK, MARCELIN, HAFFORD:** 12-40 and Beyond Self-Guided Tour - July 22 & 23, 2023. Visit artists showcasing their work: original paintings, prints, art cards, silk screened scarves, wooden treasures, denim creations, stained glass, leatherwork and much more. Demonstrations in woodturning and blacksmithing. For more info contact 306-852-9139 or visit our website: www.12-40andbeyond.com or www.facebook.com/1240andbeyond

**PARKSIDE:** 'LILIES IN BLOOM' Honeywood (Dr. A. J. Porter) Heritage Nursery Inc. Provincial Heritage Site Parkside, Sask. July 16th, 11am - 5pm (Kitchen closes at 4pm). Enjoy the awesome music of Kerri English and Friends. Great artisan displays, Tours, Food, Refreshments, Potted Lilies & perennials! \$5.00/person, Children 10 and under free. Ph: 306-747-3307 or honeywoodn8@gmail.com Facebook @ Honeywood Heritage Nursery Inc

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# WP Sandin ends year with fun day

By **JORDAN TWISS**  
Shellbrook Chronicle Reporter

With another school year at an end, the staff and students of WP Sandin High School set aside their lesson plans and notebooks for an afternoon and blew off some steam with a year-end fun day on Tuesday, June 27.

A longstanding WP Sandin tradition, the fun day is a community and school spirit-building event that offers a wide array of activities for kids to take part in. This year marked the second year of the event's return following the COVID-19 pandemic.

In the past, the highlight of the fun day has been a water fight, a messy mud pit, or a school-wide game of capture the flag. This year, however, students and staff participated in a school wide capture the flag game during the lunch hour,

then spent the afternoon playing various games such as beach volleyball, whiffle ball, cornhole, ladder golf, a mini golf course, and competed in an inflatable obstacle course.

"The SLC wanted to plan a fun afternoon, post-COVID, where students could interact with other students and staff, and have lots of fun," teacher Rhonda Berezowski said. "The SLC students planned the activities for the rest of the student body and the staff each manned the activities. Most of the staff participated in the activities with the students."

With sunny and hot conditions for this year's fun day, staff and students were offered plenty of treats to cool down with, including freezies and sno cones. Cotton candy and popcorn were also on the menu.

"The weather was spectacular, and everyone had a lot of fun," Berezowski said.



Students had fun bounding over the last hurdle on the inflatable obstacle course.



Student Payten Keyowski and Mrs. Herndier were serving sno cones.



Mrs. Thorpe and Emmy Ledding play a game of ladder golf.



Principal Karisa Klaassen swirls up some cotton candy.

## Regional KidsFirst hosts activities in Canwood

By **KARINA JOHNSON**  
Branch Librarian,  
Canwood Library

Regional KidsFirst, led by Chantelle Sprenger, made the trip out to Canwood on June 20 for morning activities with Moms and Toddlers. Whispering Pine Place was very kind to lend their backyard for the session.

The turnout was fantastic, with quite a few families arriving to participate. Canwood School's Kindergarten class also came to join in on the fun.

The morning led off with introductions and sing-alongs, before letting the children play with the various activity stations that were set up. The beautiful weather allowed for a bouncy castle and slip-and-slide to be available, both of which were immensely popular.

The residents at Whispering Pine Place very much enjoyed watching the wild activity of the children playing.

The time finished off with a few more sing-alongs and cold treats. Everyone left that day with a smile on their face.

Regional KidsFirst will be continuing its events at the lakes, to keep up with families that take their vacations there.



When the day ended, the kids figured out how to re-inflate the bouncy castle.



Whispering Pine Place residents and participating grandparents enjoyed watching the youngsters.

## SaskEnergy rate adjustments to lower gas bills

SaskEnergy is applying to the Saskatchewan Rate Review Panel (SRRP) for adjustments to its commodity and delivery service rates.

On June 29, 2023, SaskEnergy will submit a proposal to the SRRP for a 22.1 per cent decrease to the commodity rate, dropping it from \$4.20 to \$3.30 per gigajoule. At the same time, SaskEnergy will also bring forward a proposal for the SRRP to consider a five per cent delivery service rate increase.

The combined commodity and delivery service rate adjustments will result in an overall bill decrease of approximately \$5.66/month (\$68 per year) for the average residential customer.

If approved, the overall bill decrease will take effect on Oct. 1, 2023.

"Thanks to a drop in the market price of natural gas, as well as SaskEnergy's con-

tinued focus on price risk management, SaskEnergy is able to cut the commodity rate for its customers," Minister Responsible for SaskEnergy Don Morgan said in a statement.

"SaskEnergy's commitment to provide stable natural gas rates to the people and businesses of Saskatchewan helped shield customers from the volatile price fluctuations we saw in 2022, both across the country and the world."

SaskEnergy charges two rates - the commodity rate and the delivery service rate. SaskEnergy passes the cost to buy natural gas from the market on to customers, with no profit earned or loss incurred by SaskEnergy. The delivery rate supports continued investment in the system to ensure safe and reliable service to customers.

On the commodity side, SaskEnergy uses a hedging strategy that locks in the com-

modity price of natural gas for purchase in the future. This strategy shields customers from the extremes of market volatility.

"While we're committed to delivering strong financial results on behalf of the people of Saskatchewan, we also know it's essential to keep the cost and delivery of natural gas affordable for our customers to heat their homes and run their businesses," SaskEnergy President and CEO Mark Guillet said in a statement.

"That's why we're submitting an updated rate proposal that will support us in continuing to deliver affordable, reliable service while also providing customers with an overall bill decrease."

Additional information on the rate review process, including a full copy of SaskEnergy's commodity rate application, will be available at: <http://www.saskrateview.ca/>.

## Ohtani's spectacular play getting better

The Shohei show goes on. And it keeps getting better.

The most amazing athlete of our time — perhaps of all time — is the multi-talented Japanese superstar Shohei Ohtani, and his 2023 baseball statistics with Los Angeles Angels are off the chart. Financially speaking, it couldn't have come at a better time for the 28-year-old pitcher-outfielder-slugg-er, who will be a free agent this winter.

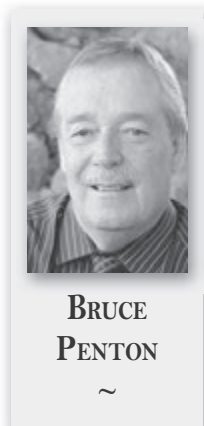
Can you spell gazillions? He'll be able to cover the national debt of most small countries with the financial offers he will undoubtedly receive. And if you're a fan of the Los Angeles Dodgers, his speculative landing spot, you're salivating at the prospect of Ohtani moving across town from the Angels to the Dodgers in the most lucrative free-agent signing in history. Ohtani's financial haul will make Aaron Judge's nine-year \$360 million deal with the Yankees

last year look minuscule in comparison.

So what kind of a year is Ohtani having in 2023? As of June 24, Ohtani led all of Major League Baseball with 25 home runs. He was tops in runs-batted-in with 59. He was also No. 1 in slugging, and in OPS, which is a combination of on-base percentage and slugging. OPS is generally regarded as the statistical category that best rates a hitter.

Oh, and Ohtani also does a little bit of pitching when he's not demolishing baseballs thrown by those who wish to be his mound peers. He's posted a 6-3 win-loss record, and his opponents' batting average of .179 is the best in the majors.

But if you're the Angels' management and you agree it's a foregone conclusion that Ohtani will go the free-agent route this winter, do you maximize the Ohtani asset and trade him in July to a contender? The trade haul would be massive, but it would likely



BRUCE PENTON

kill the Angels' chance of making the playoffs (they're currently in a wildcard position). It would also infuriate fans of the team, who love having baseball's best player wearing their home team's uniform.

The best-case scenario for the Angels would be to trade Ohtani by the Aug. 1 deadline, and then make him a free-agent offer he can't refuse in the off-season. Those close to the team, however, say Ohtani would be unlikely to sign with the Angels if they were to trade him this season.

The 2023 Angels hav-

en't been overpowering, but with Ohtani and Mike Trout in the everyday lineup, the team is a contender for the first time since the Japanese star joined the team in 2018. It would be a shame for the Angels to dump their superstar in a trade just when their first playoff appearance was on the horizon.

• Headline at fark.com: "GM says Angels unlikely to trade Ohtani as long as they stay in contention this summer. Which probably means he'll be suiting up for the Yankees or Dodgers by August."

• Janice Hough, aka leftcoastsportsbabe, on Twitter: "Leeds United was just relegated from the Premier League. Now the team has been sold to 49ers Enterprises. (Yes, as in SF 49ers.) I see a potential Ted Lasso sequel coming on."

• Scott Ostler of the San Francisco Chronicle, on the Oakland A's proposed move to Las Vegas: "A's will sell out every game in LV, as

long as seventh-inning stretch is Siegfried & Roy turning their tigers loose to chase Wayne Newton."

• English golf writer John Hopkins, on the barrancas at the L.A. Country Club, site of the recent U.S. Open: "What an attractive word barranca was. At home, such a feature would be called a ditch."

• Comedy writer Alex Kaseberg: "The collapsed I-95 highway in Philadelphia has been repaired in two weeks. That highway got fixed faster than a Las Vegas Raiders home game."

• Mike Bianchi of the Orlando Sentinel: "I just saw where French police are investigating Olympic organizers for graft allegations relating to the 2024 Paris Olympics. As the great Ben Franklin once said, 'Nothing in this world is certain — except death, taxes and Olympic corruption scandals.'"

• Comedy guy Torben Rolfesen of Vancouver: "I knew Vegas wasn't a real

hockey town when they didn't boo Gary Bettman."

• RJ Currie of sports-deke.com: "News of a shocking and unexpected implosion. We're talking of the missing submersible Titan's tragic dive toward the Titanic — not the Blue Bombers crash-diving at IG Field against B.C."

• Another one from RJ Currie: "TSN has been showing sailing highlight shows. Which tells you, among other things, the NHL and NBA playoffs recently ended."

• Headline at the onion.com: "Vegas-Area Pawn Shop Celebrates Being Six Weeks Away From Owning Stanley Cup."

• From the onion.com again: "Tyreek Hill Surprised To Discover Assault Illegal In Florida."

• Headline at fark.com: "Chris Paul traded to the Warriors for what could be his last season(-ending injury)."

Care to comment? Email brucepenton2003@yahoo.ca

## Shellbrook Library hosts pig-themed storytime

By LORRAINE THIBEAULT  
Assistant Librarian

At the final Preschool Storytime of the school year on Friday, June 23, 2023, children joined Shellbrook Public Library staff for activities focused on pigs. They listened to stories, participated in a felt-board rendition of 'The Three Little Pigs,' made snouts and finger puppets, and donned curly tails.

Weekly Preschool Storytime resumes the first Friday after Labour Day. Parents should check the Library Facebook page for special storytime activities during the summer. Storytime promotes early literacy and language development. It can help develop concentration, social and communication skills, and encourages imagination and creativity.



Storytime participants took part in a number of pig-themed activities.



Librarian Jacqueline Thibeault and the storytime participants donned pig noses and tails.



## Idylwild Lodge Ladies Auxiliary news

By IDYLWILD LODGE  
LADIES AUXILIARY

The Idylwild Lodge Ladies Auxiliary made its Spring Raffle draw on June 16 at Spiritwood Long-Term Care. All prizes were from Northern Meats in Spiritwood. 1st Prize went to Phyllis Madden, 2nd prize went to Lorne Long, and 3rd prize went to Esther Welsh.

On June 17, members of the Lodge Auxiliary and other volunteers were given the opportunity to run the canteen at the Latus auction, with supplies donated by Alma Latus.

Over the years, the Auxiliary has made numerous purchases

for the long-term care home. Between April 2022 and the end of June 2023 the Auxiliary has purchased: fuzzy blankets for each resident bed, a yearly membership fee that assists the recreation department with planning materials, flowers to fill the garden beds and flower pots around the long-term care area in 2022 and 2023, Christmas gifts for each resident, new blinds for 25 resident rooms, TV trays for the com-

mon area, a wagon to assist with gardening projects, money to pay for live entertainment, five new chairs for the common areas, a donation towards a new bathtub, and new furniture for our palliative care room.

All of these projects combined have come to a total of \$29,105.39.

The Auxiliary will continue to fundraise to improve the lives of those who reside in the long-term care facility.



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## OBITUARIES

*Martha Freida Boldt*

Martha Freida Boldt  
September 2, 1930 –  
June 16, 2023

On September 2, 1930, Martha Freida Harder was the first child born to John and Elizabeth (Wall) Harder at Gilroy, Sask. The drought of the 1930's hit hard in Southern Saskatchewan and after much debate it was decided the family would move north where there was green grass and poplar trees. In August 1933, her parents, paternal grand-

parents and her aunt loaded all their possessions onto wagons driven by horses, the livestock followed with grandpa on a pony to watch for any stragglers. After a month they arrived in the Carrollton School district to start their new homestead. Martha attended the Carrollton school for 10 years and finished her two remaining years at Hepburn High. It was during this time her parents moved to the Avery school district upgrading from a log house to a spacious 2 storey home.

In 1950 Martha began to go to choir practice with her neighbour's son, Werner Boldt. It was during those horse and buggy rides that a budding romance started and on October 15th, 1950, they were married. Life was not easy, but they were young, in love and ambitious and the future

did not frighten them. With the Lord's blessings, the horse and buggy years were replaced with machines, but still the cream cheques kept the economical wheels turning. In 1966 they were able to build a new barn and a neighbour sold them his milking machines. The dairy continued to flourish and with that, in 1973 Martha was able to get the new house that had been a long-time dream of hers.

As a young child Martha sang the chorus, "into my heart, into my heart, come into my heart Lord Jesus, come in today, come in to stay, come into my heart Lord Jesus." When she sang the chorus, she meant it and was baptized August 11, 1946. She joined the Glenbush M.B. Church and actively served on the Ladies Aid Committee, taught the Ladies Sunday school class and was the church pianist in her later years. Her faith was evident in the way she cared for oth-

ers, always putting their needs above hers, calling family to keep in touch, never complaining and welcoming new spouses into the family and loving them as her own children.

Martha was blessed to be able to live in her own home into her 90's making meals, gardening, and looking after her two spoiled cats who thrived on having their potatoes heated up before having it served to them. On June 3, 2023, Martha had a stroke which hospitalized her, and she remained there until her passing.

Mom will lovingly be remembered by her family Ray (Trudy) Boldt and their family: Jenelle (Scott) Lepp, Stephanie, Steven (Angie); Burt (Pauline) and their family Samantha, Cassandra, Dami-Anne (Cliff) Reiter, Dawn Schwartz fiancée (Jeff) McCallum, Ryan Schwartz, Amber (Paul) Funk, Barrie (Dian) and their family Chad, Dee Jay (Chris) Cobbe, Marcie

(Greg) Hope; Leona (Don) Baerg and their family: Jenilee (Steve) Evans, Chris (Lierin) and 23 great grandchildren. Martha is survived by sister-in-law Hilda Harder, Madeline Harder, siblings: Betty Smith, Lorena (Larry) Kehler, Jake, Agnes (Lawrence) Olfert and many nieces and nephews.

Martha was predeceased by her husband Werner, son Dorie, sister Edith White, her brothers, Ben and Walter, sisters-in-law Nettie Harder and Lee Harder and brother-in-law Ross Smith.

Martha will lovingly be remembered by her family and friends, she has been promoted to her heavenly home, the celebration she spoke of has come true.

A Funeral Service was held on Tuesday, June 20, 2023 - 2:00pm. at the Medstead Community Hall with Pastor Keith Klippenstein officiating.

Music ministry was provided by Marjorie Klassen and Kathy Covert. The Eulogy and Tributes were given by Don Baerg and Martha's Granddaughter's Stephanie Boldt and Jenelle Lepp. Pallbearers were Ray Boldt, Barrie Boldt, Steven Boldt, Don Baerg, Chris Baerg and Scott Lepp. Martha's final resting place is beside her beloved husband Werner in the Glenbush Mennonite Brethren Cemetery. Donations may be made to Canadian Bible Society, 10 Carnforth Road, Toronto, ON M4A 2S4, donorenq@biblesociety.ca, in memory of Martha Boldt as tokens of remembrance. Family and friends wishing to send online condolences are welcome to visit [www.beaulacfuneralhome.com](http://www.beaulacfuneralhome.com). Arrangements have been entrusted to the care of Beau "Lac" Funeral Home and Crematorium, R. Mark Muir Funeral Director, Spiritwood, SK (306) 883-3500.

*Arnold David Eliason*

Arnold David Eliason, born May 12, 1931 passed away peacefully on June 23, 2023 at Parkland Integrated Health Centre, Long Term Care Shellbrook, SK. He was 92 years old.

Arnold was the youngest child of nine, born to David and Amanda (Skoglund) Eliason.

Upon completing

grade nine at Park Valley School, Arnold went to work as a Faller for a logging company in Carrot River, SK.

In 1954 he married Laverne Erickson in Canwood, Saskatchewan. In 1955 they welcomed their daughter Myrna and in 1962 they were blessed with their son Terry.

In 1957 having survived a traumatic logging injury and subsequent surgeries, Arnold bought his farm from a neighbor who decided farming was not for him. On crutches, Dad and his brother-in-law John Nording built a home for his family to live in.

Arnold operated a mixed farming operation and to supplement his income took a job at Eldorado mines.

Always an entrepreneur, as a young boy he raised turkeys to sell to neighbors at Easter and Christmas.

He loved animals and was given a colt by his mother when he was young. His horse was trained to buck anyone else other than Dad who crawled on his back. His horse followed him around like a puppy and performed many tricks at Dad's command.

Arnold's dream was to be a rancher and he had as many cattle as his land would support.

His brother Oscar and him played ball as young men. Oscar the pitcher, Arnold the back catcher. Both were Blue Jay fans until their passing. Dad curled in many bonspiels. He was a sustenance hunter, his freezer was never empty. Dad was an excellent dancer and

attended many country dances. One of his greatest joys was having a drink and playing crib for money with the neighbors. He filled his pockets with a lot of their coins.

Arnold was a hard worker getting up at dawn working in the fields till dusk. With a grade nine education he taught himself carpentry, plumbing, mechanics, heavy duty mechanics, animal husbandry, and veterinarian skills. Dad was one of the first in the neighborhood to buy a computer and he took courses to master its use for his farm accounts.

Dad did not wear his heart on his sleeve. He kept his thoughts to himself, a man of few words. He never interfered but was very wise with advice if asked. Dad was a strong man in every aspect mentally, emotionally, and physically.

Arnold loved his family and took silent pride in their accomplishments. He loved his grandchildren, spoiling them when he could and correcting them if they were naughty. He spent his life caring for those he loved.

Arnold was very much respected and loved and will be forever missed by his family.

Arnold is survived by: Daughter: Myrna Eliason and family; Ian Mercereau (son) of St Pauls, Minnesota, USA; Amanda (daughter)/Patric Dunn and their son Liam of Mill Bay, BC; Brittany (daughter)/Calvin Campbell and their son Lincoln of Spruce Grove, AB; Son: Terry/Janice Eliason and family; Jamie (son) children Jen, Jaxon, Jaclynn; Danny (stepson)/Debbie Francouer and children

Hayden and Holden, St Walburg, SK; Marie (stepdaughter) Tupper and children Ostyn, Annika, Emery, Cohne of Wiseton, SK; Theresa (stepdaughter) Jason Farrell and children Linden, Isabelle, Dawson of Fillmore, SK; Sister in law: Dorothy (Oscar) Eliason; Numerous nieces and nephews.

Predeceased by: Wife Laverne (Erickson) Eliason; Parents: David and Amanda (Skoglund) Eliason; Brothers: Oscar and Melvin Eliason; Sisters: Elvie Nording, Emily Erickson, Ingrid Ewing, Gladys Berg, Isabelle (Bella) Muller, Mabel Eliason, Nephews: Dwight Eliason, Steven, Sigrud, and Gunnar Nording Melvin and Harold Erickson, Darrell, Ivor, and Brian Muller, Lifelong friend Lawrence Jonasson.

## GOOD NEWS



## FACING ONE'S FEARS

By DAVE BODVARSON

Shellbrook Pentecostal Assembly

I always love when I find a nugget in Scripture. I found one. It is the story of King Jehoshaphat.

It seemed that Jehoshaphat was riding a high. 2 Chronicles 19 refers to a revival that he experienced. But when we turn to chapter 20, we read about a crisis he is facing. I read 2 Chronicles 20:2 and it tells me that a huge multi-tude came against Jehoshaphat from beyond the sea and they were only 15 miles from Jerusalem (less than a day's march).

Jehoshaphat response?

The Bible says he was frightened! I don't believe fear in itself is wrong. It is an emotion. It is just that God doesn't want us to live in fear.

The Bible tells in 2 Timothy 1:7 that "God hasn't given us the spirit of fear but of power and love and a sound mind."

The nugget I discovered was the vast army that Jehoshaphat would have to confront actually crossed the Dead Sea at a small opening and then climbed a steep hill to get into the land of Judah. That is why King Jehoshaphat was taken off guard. Well Jehoshaphat did

what we need to do and faced his fear and took it to God.

I think one preacher shared good wisdom when he said, "Jehoshaphat was badly frightened, and he admitted it, unlike some men who deny their fear. It's too bad that they do, because the first step to overcome any anxiety is to face it."

Several years ago, I lived in Calgary. As a boy, I noticed that the mom got all kinds of literature from Oral Roberts. I recognized the name Richard Roberts when he came to Calgary (that is Oral's son), so I went to the Jubilee Auditorium to hear him. As I reflect, I so appreciated the song he chose to sing.

He sang, "When you're up against a struggle that shatters all your dreams And your hopes have been cruelly crushed by Satan's manifested schemes

And you feel the urge within you to

submit to earthly fears

Don't let the faith you're standing in seem to disappear

Praise the Lord, He can work through those who praise Him

Praise the Lord, for our God inhabits praise

Praise the Lord, for the chains that seems to bind you

Serve only to remind you that they drop powerless behind you

When you praise Him. "

I like to remind myself God can work through those who praise, and that God inhabits praise.

King Jehoshaphat did something so unusual. He appointed singers to go out before Judah's army and they lifted up praise to God. Something happened. God stepped in and gave King Jehoshaphat and Judah the victory.

There is a nugget!

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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  
1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 9:00 a.m.  
Rev. Sarah Urano

**UNITED /ANGLICAN**

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

**CATHOLIC SUNDAY**

Spiritwood - 9:00 a.m.  
Leoville - 11:00 a.m.  
Chitek Lake - 1:00 p.m.  
SATURDAY  
Medstead - 6 p.m.  
Shell Lake - 8:00 p.m.  
Everyone Welcome  
Fr. Ramel Macapala

**COWBOY CHURCH**

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

**LAKELAND COMMUNITY CHURCH**

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

**FIELDS OF HOPE (HOFFNUNGSFELDER) MENNONITE CHURCH**

Glenbush  
Worship - 10:00 am  
1st Sun. (June, July, Aug.)  
Worship - 10:00 am  
at Rabbit Lake  
Mennonite Church

**BETHEL Medstead**

1st Sunday, 10 am -  
Worship  
Pastor David Jensen  
3rd Sunday - 10 am  
Worship  
Pastor David Jensen

**MENNONITE BRETHREN**

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

**Gideons International of Canada**

Battlefords Camp  
Phone Art Martynes  
(306) 389-4633

**SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST**

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

**BELBUTTE FULL GOSPEL**

11 am Worship Service

**PARTNERS IN WORSHIP**

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

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# Dry Creek Summer Classic Returns

By GRANT PERSON

After a three-year hiatus, the Dry Creek Summer Classic Fastball tournament was held at the Canwood Regional Park on June 24 and 25. The squirrels and birds had to take cover, as the diamonds were taken over by players, spectators, and tournament organizers.

The tourney included mens', ladies' and U11 girls teams from around Saskatchewan. Weekend visitors were blessed with perfect weather for ball

games for the entire weekend.

The host Dry Creek Penguins were joined by the Moose Jaw Giants, Prince Albert Brewers, Prince Albert U15 Astros, Bruno Merchants, and Saskatoon Browntown in the men's division.

The 3 teams playing in the Ladies' division were the Parkland Pacers, the Old Aces, and the U19 Lloydminster Liners.

Something new to the tournament was the addition of the U11 girls' teams on Sunday. Teams playing in this were the Parkland Predators, Meadow Lake

Sox, Prince Albert U11 Aces (Bruce) and the Prince Albert U11 Aces (Bradbury). Of the three diamonds, the U11 diamond was the loudest.

The Ladies' final pitted the Lloydminster Liners against the Old Aces. The liners came out with the tournament title and prize money after a well played 2 to 1 final score.

The Parkland Predators came up short in the final game against the P.A. Aces (Bruce).

The semi-finals of the men's division saw the Bruno Merchants defeat the Moose Jaw Giants, while the Dry

Creek Penguins bested the Prince Albert Brewers. The top prize went to the Bruno Merchants, as they beat the Dry Creek Penguins with a 6 - 2 victory.

When the spectators weren't in the stands, they could be seen eating the great food that was provided by the Canwood 4-H Club, and enjoying some cold refreshments located past centre field fence on Diamond 1.

2024 will be the 75th anniversary of the Dry Creek Ball Club, so the team is looking forward to an even bigger and better event next year.



The Lloydminster Liners were the ladies' champions.



The Bruno Merchants were the men's champions.



The Parkland Predators and P.A. Aces faced off in the U11 finals.



The Dry Creek Penguins placed second in the men's division.

## RCMP news highlights

By JORDAN TWISS  
Shellbrook Chronicle  
Reporter

Police are investigating, following the theft of ammonia and fuel from the Shellbrook Nutrien site located just north of Shellbrook on Highway 55.

At around 8 a.m. on Sunday, June 25, Shellbrook Fire and Rescue responded to reports of smoke and a potential chemical leak at the site, dispatching four firefighters and three units.

Upon arrival at the location,

the crews discovered the gate had been driven through by a vehicle and a tank filled with anhydrous ammonia, a fertilizer used by farmers, was leaking from the valve. Using self-contained breathing apparatuses, two firefighters inspected and closed the open valves and used water to neutralize the chemical before turning the site over to a Nutrien employee.

Due to the damage to the gate, the RCMP was called to the scene to investigate and learned that someone had

broken into the site, stolen the ammonia, and failed to shut off the valve properly.

The following day, a fence around the site was cut open and fuel stored on the property was stolen.

Anyone with information about these incidents is asked to call the Ahtahkooop-Shellbrook detachment at 306-468-2969. People wanting to stay anonymous can use the Crime Stoppers line at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS) or go to [www.saskcrimestoppers.com](http://www.saskcrimestoppers.com).

### Highway 3 accident

Just before 5 p.m. on Wednesday, June 28, police and emergency crews were called to the scene of a three-vehicle collision on Highway 3 at the Crutwell turnoff.

Though one vehicle had been flipped onto its roof and another was on its side, Parkland Ambulance confirmed that only two people were transported by ambulance to hospital, and that the individ-

uals were in "good and stable condition."

As first responders tended to the scene, eastbound traffic remained at a standstill for close to an hour, and westbound traffic was detoured.

In connection with the accident, 37-year-old Lisa Smith from the Muskoday First Nation was arrested at the scene. In addition to three counts of dangerous driving, including two for causing bodily harm, Smith failed to remain at the scene of the crash and has been charged with obstruction for providing a false name to police.

This section of Highway 3 has long been considered dangerous. Indeed, a petition to the Ministry of Highways in 2016 called on the ministry to provide a roadside turnout and a clear sign with lights to alert drivers of the Crutwell turnoff.

### Sturgeon Lake accident

In what became a busy day, police and emergency crews were dispatched again at

around 9:30 p.m. on June 28 to respond to the scene of a single vehicle rollover at Sturgeon Lake Regional Park.

Investigation determined the driver lost control of their vehicle coming down a hill and overturned. One person sustained minor injuries in the accident and was taken to hospital by Parkland Ambulance.

### Highway 3 accident – July 3

Police and emergency crews were dispatched to the scene of a two-vehicle collision on Highway 3 east of Shellbrook at 10:27 on Monday, July 3.

According to an eye-witness account, one of the vehicles failed to stop at a stop sign and collided with the second vehicle. The driver who failed to stop then left the scene, heading east.

Both occupants of the second vehicle were transported to Parkland Integrated Health Centre by Parkland Ambulance with undetermined injuries.



Three vehicles were involved in an accident at the Crutwell turnoff on Highway 3 on June 28.

Photo courtesy of Shellbrook Fire and Rescue Facebook