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Peterson wins Division 1 hockey title



Debden's Rhea Peterson hoists the Division 1 National Women's trophy after winning it with the Adrian College Bulldogs.

By JORDAN TWISS

Shellbrook Chronicle Reporter

As a small-town hockey player who got her start in her family's little barn, Debden's Rhea Peterson learned early on how it felt to win.

Playing boy's hockey for much of her minor hockey career in Debden, Peterson was part of the Peewee (U13) team that won league in 2015. That same year, she and some of her teammates were picked up by Big River to compete on its team for Provincials, and she won her second championship in a single season

"It's a pretty unreal feeling winning those games at such a young age," she recalled. "At 12 years old, you felt like you were on top of the world winning Sask. Provincials."

Having seen such success on the ice, Peterson was called up to play Midget (U18) hockey while still a Peewee, and got to play alongside fellow Debden hockey player Camryn Amundson, who went on to play with the Prince Albert AAA Northern Bears.

It was Amundson and her dad who convinced Peterson to follow suit and try out for the Bears. And after making the team for the 2017-2018 hockey season, Peterson played through two full seasons and one season that was ended prematurely by the COVID-19 pandemic, scoring 11 goals and earning 16 assists through 102 games (playoffs included).

Peterson credits much of her success in hockey to the support systems she had both on and off the ice, including family, friends, and coaches.

"I was fortunate enough to have a lot of people in my corner growing up," she said. "In my time in PA, Jeff [Willoughby] was an absolutely amazing coach. My four years with him and the Bears helped me grow as a player."

As her time with the Prince Albert AAA Northern Bears' hockey program

came to an end with the cancelled 2020-2021 hockey season, and she began weighing her post-secondary education options, Peterson found herself at a crossroads where hockey was concerned.

She already knew she wanted to be an athletic trainer, but pandemic restrictions had kept her away from hockey since March 2020 and she wasn't sure if she wanted to keep playing.

That all changed, when fellow Bears alumna Colby Donald approached Peterson about joining the Division 1 hockey program at Adrian College in Michigan. Serendipitously, Peterson learned that Adrian College has one of top athletic training programs in the United States, offering her the best of both worlds: the career path she wanted, and a chance to still play the game she loved.

After a few long text messages and Facetime calls, Peterson was convinced to pack up and head south. There, she

got to play one season with Donald, quickly fell in love with the school, the hockey program, and her teammates, and was reminded of what she loves about hockey.

"It's the feeling I get when I'm on the ice, like nothing else really matters at the time," she said. "Doing what you love with a group of girls who love it as much as you do is just an amazing feeling."

Now 21, and having just finished her third hockey season with the Adrian Bulldogs, Peterson has also reacquainted herself with the thrill that comes with winning.

Peterson says this year was a big one for the Bulldogs. Through 34 games, the team amassed a 25-6-3 record, enough to rank third in the nation. The team also scored a couple big upsets throughout the season, beating the second-ranked team, Liberty, for the first time in six years, before going on to win the league championship.

Continued on page 2

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Province, teachers eye common ground

By JORDAN TWISS Shellbrook Chronicle Reporter

For the first time in months, there is a glimmer of hope that contract negotiations between the Sask. Party government and the province's educators could move towards a resolution.

Days after his government introduced the 2024-2025 budget, in which it's promising a minimum of \$356.6 million for classroom supports over each of the next four years as part of an agreement with the Saskatchewan School Boards Association (SSBA), Education Minister Jeremy Cockrill

has said the government is willing to adopt an accountability framework to hold itself, and the SSBA, accountable for the committed funding.

The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) the province is asking educators to sign onto would provide for accountability frameworks to be developed by each individual school division with their teachers.

According to the language of the MOU, divisions would have to engage with local teachers' associations to make sure they're considering teachers' voices in the allocation of classroom support money. The divisions would report to

the Ministry of Education how they intend to use the support money through the budget approval process, and would add to their annual reports what supports were used for.

However, the MOU also says that teachers' associations wouldn't hold any decision-making authority in the context of the agreement. Furthermore, dispute resolution mechanisms wouldn't be available, and activities under the agreement would not be allowed to delay school budgets.

"What this framework would do [is] it would establish a formal expectation between the government and SSBA and school divisions and the STF that this framework exists, and be clear

in communication with schools' staff on how they can participate in that accountability process," Cockrill explained.

In introducing the framework for the MOU, Cockrill reiterated the government's longstanding position that it will not make class size and complexity part of its contract with the province's educators. He argued doing so would take away management rights from local divisions in deciding what's best for their communities, and would give teachers say over divisions hiring and dealing with members of other unions, which he said isn't right.

He's advocating for things to be dealt with at the local level.

"That's really where we

think these discussions are best had — with local teachers with their local school divisions — in terms of how these supports for learning dollars are allocated within the classrooms," he said.

Based on what she's seen of the MOU so far, Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation (STF) President Samantha Becotte says she's cautiously optimistic about moving forward with negotiations.

However, she adds that both the government and the SSBA are mischaracterizing what educators have been asking for.

"Teachers do not have, and have never wanted, control of funding. We are asking for an agreement that guarantees funding for school boards and provides assurances that school boards will spend the funding on resources to directly support students, such as EAs, speech language pathologists, psychologists and other professionals," says Becotte.

Becotte stressed that there needs to be a way to make the MOU binding, saying that a means of dispute resolution is required in case one party doesn't uphold what gets agreed upon.

"If there's no dispute resolution, then it's no more than a pinky promise made amongst two people out on a school playground," Becotte said.

On Monday, Cockrill said there was a chance bargaining talks could resume this week.

Peterson wins Division 1 hockey title

Continued from 1

Peterson and the Bulldogs continued their winning ways through Nationals, beating rival Midland University 5-3 in the semi-finals, then topping Minot State University 4-1 to claim the school's first Division 1 National Championship.

"At any age, it feels like you're just on top of the world when you win those big games. And it really does still feel like that," Peterson said, giving the credit for the great hockey season to her teammates and coaches.

"This year, our team was so great off the ice that it just transitioned perfectly onto the ice. This was a group of the most hard-working girls, and we had such an unreal support system."

With a historical season under her belt, and her final hockey season coming up in the fall, Peterson is once more at a crossroads when it comes to her hockey career. All she knows right now is she'll be sticking around at Adrian College to finish up her master's degree in athletic training, then looking for work in the States upon graduating.

In the meantime, she says she hopes she'll be able stick close to the hockey and give something back to the game she loves.

Division 1 hockey title Shellbrook Library hosts gardening seminar

By EDDIE HOEHN

Assistant Librarian

On Tuesday, March 26, Joan Sommerfeld, Dennis Sommerfeld, and Rita Loiselle from the Walter Willoughby Horticultural Society taught attendees at the Shellbrook Public Library about local gardening.

Their goal is to promote a sustainable lifestyle with people growing and using their own wholesome foods. The horticultural society members showed information gardening slides to the attendees with a projector.

Joanne Lapierre instructed attendees how to attach special garden cloth to a tomato cage in order to protect vegetables from flea beetles and other insects. Toni said that a study was done where 40 per cent of waste delivered to the landfill could have been composted. Rita mentioned using

airplane tires to grow her tomato plants in. Dennis showed attendees a package of nematode larvae.

Coffee and snacks were provided by the horticultural soci-

ety. There was a draw held for three available door prizes. Joanne Lapierre, Kant Moore, and Joanne Burant each won a door prize.



Walter Willoughby Horticultural Society members left to right: Roseanne Boyle, Doris Thiessen, Joan Sommerfeld, Rita Loiselle, Roland Riel, Dennis Sommerfeld, and Toni Som-

merfeld (front).

CANWOOD & DISTRICT HEALTH SERVICES CO-OPERATIVE ANNUAL MEETING

Wednesday, April 10th, 2024 6:30 PM, Seniors Room - Elks Hall

Coffee & Dainties will be served | Door Prizes



PICK OF

THE WEEK

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YOU

The Shellbrook Curling Club would like to thank all of our club members and community members for their support throughout this past curling season!

We would especially like to thank the following businesses for their exceptional support of our Year End Fun Spiel which took place on March 15 & 16. We would not have had the success we did if it wasn't for them!

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Spiritwood Music Festival hosts annual competition

By BEVRA FEE Spiritwood Herald Reporter

Over the course of March 25 and 26, the committee of the Spiritwood & District Music Festival staged its annual competition for the local music and voice students.

The Music Festival holds an array of objectives, among which are "to make available to those who compete, the constructive criti-



From left to right, Grace Driedger won the Best Piano Duet scholarship (sponsored by PCCU), while Raleigh and Langston Davies won the Best Vocal Duet scholarship (sponsored by Spiritwood Music Festival).



Spiritwood Lions Club Open Scholarship for most promising performer in any class presented by Lion Dave Hyndman (far right). From left to right: Liv Slater, Nyah Hart, Mitchell Ilioukevitch, and Hazel Driedger.



Outstanding Piano Solo Performers (sponsored by Spiritwood Pharmacy) by age group, from left to right: Scarlette Robertson, Nate Driedger, Langston Davies, Grace Driedger, and Anton Steinhardt.



Class prize winners, from left to right: Anton Steinhardt (Canadian), Elyse Menke (Baroque or Bach, Beginner of any age), Richard Ilioukevitch (Sonata or Sonatina), and Langston Davies (Saskatchewan Music).

cism of musicians who are outstanding in their profession and who have the experience of competitive festivals elsewhere in this province" and "to give some assistance, through scholarships and cash awards, to those who desire to progress in their knowledge of music and to aid their ability to perform or teach it."

To that end, some 20 music and voice students performed over the two days at Spiritwood Civic Centre.

The competition was adjudicated by Doreen Renschler of Castor, Alta. Ms. Renschler obtained an associateship diploma in piano Performance from the Royal Conservatory of Music, and guides a large class of students through piano, theory, accompanying, and composition. She also co-founded the Alliance for Canadian New Music Projects -Contemporary Showcase and a Canadian National Conservatory of Music exam centre.

Tuesday evening saw the culmination of the Music Festival's competition with a gala performance. The gala is an opportunity where performers — who were selected by the adjudicator — are invited to showcase their talent by playing one or more of their festival pieces for a general audience, rather than for adjudication.

Following the musical performances, the awarding of scholarships to outstanding performers — again, at the discretion of the adjudicator — in various categories and age groups capped off the evening. The scholarships are made possible by the supportive local businesses, Saskatchewan Music Festival Association, and gracious patrons.

This year's committee for the Spiritwood and District Music Festival consists of Heather Gatzke, Kathleen Gatzke, Carolyn Voss, Marjorie Klassen, Casey Peden, and Jillian Mayo.



Nyah Hart recites "Mice" at the gala performance.



From the Muppet Movie, "Movin' Right Along" by Langston and Raleigh Davies was a fun number, performed for an appreciative audience.



Outstanding Vocal Solo Performer winners, from left to right: Langston Davies (Age 12 & under) and Raleigh Davies (Age 13 & over).



The Outstanding Performer of the Festival plaque from Spiritwood Lions Club, with a \$100 scholarship from Hujbers Market on Main, was presented to Langston Davies by Lion Dave Hyndman.



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OPINION

Misinformation distracts from climate change

It's easy, in trying times, to look back fondly on the past through rose-tinted glasses and view the present day in a more pessimistic light.

It's human nature, after all, to take for granted the good things we have while we have them, only to miss them terribly after they're gone.

And yet, even knowing this human tendency to long for what has past, it's hard nearly impossible, in truth - to gaze upon Canada's current political landscape and

imagine a time when it was so fractured, so ruled by the rigidity of party lines.

Certainly, there's always been a degree of partisanship to Canadian politics; such is simply the nature of the beast. There's also never been a shortage of mudslinging and muckraking (though, seldom with the theatricality of American politics).

Despite this, Canadians could be reasonably confident that logic and reason would win out over emotion and rhetoric – that, in the end, elected officials would put their duty above their political agendas.

Those days, it seems, are but a distant memory, so far removed from the present day reality of Canadian politics as to feel like ancient myth. And increasingly, we see emotion and rhetoric triumphing over logic and reason not just in politics, but in nearly every facet of society, widening the partisan divide to an almost unbridgeable chasm.

So entrenched are we in our philosophical and ideological echo chambers, that facts and evidence are no longer the currency that sways our beliefs. Instead, catchy slogans, like federal Conservative Party leader Pierre Poilievre's infamous "Axe the tax," rule

It's how we end up with events like the recent Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities' annual convention, at which an overwhelming 95 per cent of delegates voted to support a resolution declaring that CO2 isn't a pollutant because plants rely on it.

The resolution says SARM will deem any policy that "unduly targets naturally occurring CO2" to be "illogical and dangerous," and calls on Saskatchewan to remove itself from any national or international net-zero agreements.

On one hand, SARM can be lauded



News Editor

for advocating for the interests of the rural municipalities it's duty bound to repre-

On the other hand, a majority of people agreeing on something doesn't necessarily make it true, especially if those people aren't experts in the matter.

Also, spoiler alert: the burning of fossil fuels is not a natural process. So, by the wording in SARM's own resolution, net-zero policies, which target unnatural in-

dustrial CO2 emissions and not the planet's natural carbon cycle, aren't "illogical or dangerous."

The idea that CO2 is "plant food, not a pollutant," isn't original to SARM or to the Sask. United Party, which has taken up the rallying cry to put added pressure on the Sask. Party government. Recently, it's become another slogan for the anti-carbon tax and anti-climate change camp.

And like all good political slogans, this one is based on the careful twisting of information into a more convenient, albeit not entirely factual, shape.

In this instance, the victim of the fact twisting is a 2019 study published in the medical science journal The Lancet, in which the authors found, "Higher CO2 concentrations increase photosynthesis in C3 plants (e.g., wheat, rice, potatoes, barley), which can increase crop yields."

Indeed, the authors' findings suggest increased CO2 would increase growth in upwards of 85 per cent of plants.

While this seems like a clear vindication of those suggesting that more CO2 is the solution to all of our problems, the authors of the study note there would be considerable consequences to increasing CO2 emissions.

A major one, they state, is a sharp decline in nutritional value, which would be most harmful for the hundreds of millions of people in the world who face food insecurity, and the billions of people who are micronutrient defi-

Then, of course, there's CO2's heat trapping properties to contend with. While a warmer planet might be beneficial in some ways, it's also resulted in consecutive years of drought-like conditions here in Saskatchewan.

Based on spring runoff estimates and the moisture in the ground at freeze-



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As we saw last year, dryer and warmer conditions can severely harm crop production, meaning less food for the world and huge crop insurance payouts to producers from the provincial government (some peg the cost of last year's crop insurance claims at just shy of \$2 billion).

So, yes, CO2 is plant food. But the nuanced reality is that more CO2 isn't universally beneficial, and experts believe the drawbacks would outweigh any benefits.

This whole debate comes to the fore as the federal government and the provinces have been sparring over the carbon tax increase that took effect

Just last week, three provincial leaders, including Saskatchewan Premier Scott Moe, Alberta Premier Danielle Smith, and New Brunswick Premier Blaine Higgs, testified at a House of Commons committee meeting, hoping to convince Prime Minister Justin Trudeau to hold off on the increase and give cash-strapped Canadians a much-needed break.

Mr. Moe, whose government is no longer collecting and remitting the carbon tax on home heating after the federal government introduced a carbon price exemption for home heating oil in the fall, suggested the tax should be scrapped entirely. Barring that, he said Canada's focus should be on working with its national partners to find "global solutions" to climate change, rather than on penalizing Canadian industry.

THEY LOATHE ME NOT.

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Mr. Higgs echoed this, suggesting Canada should be exporting more liquified natural gas (LNG) to reduce the use of coal globally.

Proving misleading information can come from all sides of a debate, Mr. Trudeau's counterargument hinged on the carbon tax rebate, and his assertion that Canadians get back more than they pay in carbon tax.

This, of course, has been refuted by the Parliamentary Budget Officer, who estimates the carbon tax costs the average Saskatchewan family \$525 more than they receive in rebates each year.

Mr. Trudeau has also been inexplicably hesitant to export Canadian LNG, even as it would serve the dual purpose of lowering global emissions from countries that rely on coal and loosening Russia's stranglehold on the European energy market.

Instead, his solution for the provinces opposed to the carbon tax is for them to come up with their own carbon pricing systems... so long as they fit with his government's rigid guide-

In the meantime, all this back and forth over the carbon tax and climate change accomplishes nothing – except for making both sides of the debate dig their heels in deeper.

Indeed, if ever there was any hope of the country uniting to address climate change, its light has dimmed to a tiny flicker in the dark.

Shellbrook Chronicle

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Report from the Legislature

The 2024-25 provincial budget was introduced on March 20 and includes a record budget of \$3.3 billion for the Ministry of Education. This is an increase of 247.8 million or 8.8 per cent over last year to support Prekindergarten through Grade 12 schools, early learning and child care, and libraries.

Saskatchewan's school divisions will receive the largest-ever increase in school operating funding, totaling \$2.2 billion. This is up \$180 million or 8.8 per cent over last year's bud-



The school division operating increase includes \$35 million to support

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enrolment growth for the 2024-25 school year, as our communities across the province continue to experience unprecedented growth.

The budget includes \$356.6 million for classroom supports, an increase of \$45.6 million or 14.7 per cent, over last year. This includes ongoing funding for the Specialized Support Classroom and Teacher Innovation and Support Fund pilot projects.

School infrastructure continues to be a key priority. In addition to the \$3.3 billion for the Ministry of Education is an investment of \$216 million for school capital, an increase of \$68.7 million or 46.6 per cent over last year.

investment \$165.9 million will support ongoing projects across the province, including 11 new or consolidated school projects and three major renovations. A further investment of \$8.8 million will fund planning for nine new schools and two new school renovations announced in this year's budget.

The budget provides



\$12.8 million for minor capital renewal projects which will allow school divisions to address structural repairs and renovations and prolong the life of schools across the province. In addition, the budget commits \$28.5 million for relocatable classrooms to help address enrolment growth.

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School capital projects ensure our schools continue to meet the needs of Saskatchewan students and families. Since 2008, our government has committed approximately \$2.4 billion toward school infrastructure projects, including 60 new schools and 30 major renovation projects with an additional five projects approved through the Minor Capital Renewal Program.

To further support Saskatchewan families, the budget provides \$408.7 million for early learning and childcare. This includes an increase of \$21.1 million for the Federal-Provincial Child Care Agreements. This funding continues to support child care at \$10 per day for children under the age of six, which helps make Saskatchewan one of the most affordable places in Canada to live and raise a family. Our government is also committed to adding more regulated home-based and centre-based child care spaces in the province, creating more jobs for our growing province.

The budget also provides \$11.6 million for Saskatchewan's library system and \$1.1 million for funded literacy organizations.

Our government remains committed to investing in students, teachers and classrooms through the 2024-25 Provincial Budget. As I continue to represent you in the Legislature, I welcome your questions or comments at my constituency office.

SARM supports withdrawal from net-zero agreements

In March 2024, members of the Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities, voted by 95% to recognize that CO2 is not a pollutant and to have the Saskatchewan Party government remove the province from all national and international net zero agreements.

It is a call to remove our province from the ever-increasing regulations imposed on ag-producers since 2015. That is when this government agreed

to go along with the International COP-21 Agenda by signing the Vancouver Declaration, in which all Canadian provinces agreed to the national goal of reducing GHG



NADINE WILSON Saskatchewan Rivers 306-787-0615 saskrivers@sasktel.net

emissions by 30 per cent below 2005 levels by 2030.

Since then, under the Prairie Resilience strategy, layers upon layers of regulation and policy have been introduced, effectively raising costs and further complicating the business of farming.

This government, inch by inch, has embedded so-called 'sustainable' regulations that rural and urban municipalities are obligated to follow. In my constituency of

Saskatchewan Rivers, ratepayers recently held yet another meeting about land use bylaws, because they can see that this government is blind to the end game.

All around the world, we see governments trying to shut down agricultural producers to comply with the international sustainability agenda. It is clear in Canada, the federal government wants to shut down our rural way of life and is using municipal regulation

We know Saskatchewan producers are the best land and livestock stewards in the world. They have led the world in livestock and agriculture best practices for generations.

Will this government listen to the people of this province, or will it continue to act as an arm of the Trudeau government? Will Premier Moe prove he truly cares about our communities, by withdrawing Saskatchewan from all net zero agreements?

Neighbours help neighbours in Mont Nebo

By BEVRA FEE Spiritwood Herald Reporter

The afternoon of Friday, Feb. 23, took an unexpected turn for Mont Nebo resident Louise Miller. Miller had been part of a group of volunteers preparing for a potluck supper at the Mont Nebo Hall, spending the morning setting up and getting the pulled pork started at the kitchen of the hall.

"I had already made three or four trips to the hall that day," commented Miller.

outside Conditions were very icy due to a recent melt, followed by a cold snap.

"For my final trip to the

I needed into the vehicle, Miller. and then I thought perhaps I should change my shoes – maybe they were too slippery for the ice... how ironic!"

After changing her shoes and making her final trip to the vehicle, Miller slipped and was unable to get up.

"I would typically have placed my cell phone in the vehicle, but for some reason I had put it in my coat pocket, and am I ever glad I did," reflected Miller.

Her husband was out of town, so when Miller phoned him first, he advised her to phone neighbour Donna Muller. Muller then called a few more locals, and all con-

"I tried one more time to get up, but it turned out that I had broken my hip and also fractured my arm, so there was no getting up," Miller added.

Once the neighbours arrived, Miller – who teaches First Aid - was able to advise them how to manoeuvre her properly, even though she was badly injured, beginning to freeze to the ground,

hall, I loaded everything verged to assist the fallen and was becoming hypo-

"They got me onto a board and drove me to Prince Albert, where I spent three days in hospital," commented Miller, who is still recovering at home and using a cane to assist her mobility. "I just thank all my neighbours who rushed to help me out, because it could have gone a lot worse if not for all their kindness and assistance!"



CHECK IT OUT!

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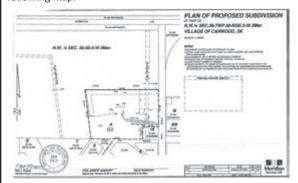
VILLAGE OF CANWOOD PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that the Council for the Village of Canwood intends to adopt a bylaw under The Planning and Development Act, 2007 to amend Bylaw No# 2-1993 known as the Zoning Bylaw.

The proposed bylaw will amend Section 5 by rezoning FD -Future Development District to R - Residential District all the land shown within the bold line in the attached plan.

Affected Land

The affected land is legally described as part of N.W. 1/4 Section 36-TWP.50-Rge-5-W.3mer. shown on a plan of proposed subdivision dated February 29, 2024 and signed by Matt Rustad, Saskatchewan Land Surveyor as shown on the following map.



Reason

The reason for the amendment is to provide for the sale of the surrounding agriculture land.

Public Inspection

Any person may inspect the Bylaw at the municipal office at 571 Main Street between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Tuesday to Thursday, excluding statutory holidays. Copies are available at

Public Hearing

Council will hold a public hearing on Monday April 22, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. at the Village of Canwood Municipal Office at 571 Main Street. Council will also consider written comments received at the hearing or delivered to the undersigned at the municipal office before the meeting.

Issued at Village of Canwood March 26, 2024 Carmen Jean - Administrator

Sask. RCMP warns of youth sextortion scams

The Saskatchewan RCMP is warning the public of a rise in reports of financially-motived online sextortion scams targeting youth across the province.

Financial sextortion is a form of blackmail that involves someone online threatening to send a sexual image or video of the victim to other people if they are not paid. Financial sextortion is not a new concept, but has been evolving with the complexity of social media in the last year and continues to affect more and more youth.

The Saskatchewan RCMP began investigating after receiving multiple reports of a scam targeting youths of all genders between the ages of 13-16. In the reported cases, victims were approached by individuals who identified as females of a similar age online or through apps targeting teenage audiences. Once initial contact was made, the victims were asked for their Instagram username and to exchange intimate photos. The photos were then used as blackmail in exchange for financial gain.

Once reported to the Saskatchewan RCMP, files of this nature are investigated by the Violent Crime Linkage Analysis Section (ViCLAS) and the Internet Child Exploitation (ICE) Unit, due to the victims being underaged. The investigations into the reported cases remains ongoing and no charges have been laid.

Online child sexual exploitation cases are on the rise across Canada. The rate of police-reported incidents of online child sexual exploitation has more than doubled since the tracking of cybercrime began in 2014. In the 2022-2023 fiscal year, the Saskatchewan RCMP's Internet Child Exploitation unit

responded to 931 cases, in 2023-2024 that number is expected to surpass 1,000.

With the increase of online sexual exploitation and sextortion cases targeting youth, parents are encouraged to talk to their children about online activities. Below are a few tips to help keep both adults and children safe online:

- Never answer messages or friend/follow requests from people you don't know;
- Do not send photos of any kind to people you don't know;
- Always answer video calls with the camera turned off until you know who the person calling is.

If you or your child have been targeted, please do the following:

- Report it to your local police or online via cybertip.ca.
- Immediately stop all communication with the suspect.
- Ensure that you and/or your child do not comply with the threat.
- Keep any correspondence between you or your child and the suspect.
- · Remember that you are not alone.

"What we want victims of any age to know, is that they are not to blame, they will not get in trouble for reporting it, and most importantly there is life after something like this happens" said S/Sgt. Scott Lambie of the Saskatchewan RCMP Major Crimes Branch. "There are people and resources available to help you and there are tools that exist to remove the images online. If you feel comfortable, reach out to your local police detachment or get more information at Cybertip.ca – and remember, you are not alone."

Community Calendar

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

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

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

BLAINE LAKE: Wapiti Library - Wednesday 1pm - 6pm; Thursday 1pm - 6pm; Friday 1pm - 6pm; Saturday 10am - 3pm. Contact us for more info 306-497-3130, www.wapitilibrary.ca.

BIG RIVER: Wapiti Library - Tuesday 11:30am - 4:30pm; 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 2pm - 6pm; Friday 1:30pm - 5pm. 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 11am - 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 2pm - 8pm; Wednesday 2pm - 8pm; Thursday 12pm - 6pm; Friday 10 am - 5pm (Story Time 10:30am - 11:30am); Saturday 10am - 4pm.

CANWOOD: Canwood & District Health Services Co-operative Annual Meeting – Wednesday, April 10, 2024, 6:30pm, Seniors Room - Elks Hall. Coffee & dainties will be served *Door Prizes*. For more information, contact Sandi @ 306-961-5217.

PARKSIDE: The Chuck Labrash & Darrel Martin Memorial Fish Fry – Friday, April 26, 2024, Parkside Immanuel Lutheran Church. Sittings at 4:30 pm, 5:45 pm & 7 pm. Limited takeout meals available. Cost: \$25/Adult; \$10 Kids 6-12 yrs; Kids 5 & under Free. Tickets: Shellbrook Pharmacy 306-747-3435 or Glenys Martin 306-747-7765.

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Shellbrook Royal Purple supports food bank



The Shellbrook Royal Purple Lodge donated \$500 to the Ministerial Food Bank in Shellbrook on March 27. Presenting the cheque to food bank coordinator Linda Lundy (right) is Elaine Perkins, president of the Royal Purple. With the cost of living going up, Lundy said she's seeing an increase in the amount of hampers she distributes each month. Approximately 15 to 20 hampers go out monthly.

By ELAINE PERKINS, Shellbrook Royal Purple

Shellbrook Legion Feb. meat draw winners





Shellbrook Legion Member Nancy Carswell presents winners Lana Adams (left) and Vade Gatzke (right) their prizes at the legion's monthly Meat Draw for February. The draw is a fundraiser for improvements to the Legion Hall. Other winners were Alan Carswell and Cathy Moss.

By HENRI DAGENAIS, Shellbrook Legion

Sask. NDP challenges cuts to housing reno fund

The Saskatchewan NDP was joined at the Legislature last week by Shannon Kay, a single mother caring for seven kids. Shannon is one of the many Saskatchewan people living in squalid conditions after the Sask. Party government cut the housing reno fund.

"Shannon shouldn't have to fight so hard just to live in a house free from mould and raw sewage," said Opposition Leader Carla Beck in a statement. "This government has stopped listening to people. They are spending too much time on expensive international trips and failing to get the basics right."

Over three years ago, Shannon and her children fled their Saskatoon home due to domestic violence. The family attempted a fresh start, but just a few months later, a devastating electrical fire destroyed everything they owned. The fire received widespread news coverage, generating significant support for the family.

The SaskHousing Authority eventually relocated Shannon and her children to Sturby Place. Shannon was not informed of Sturby's history of sewage backups and within months of taking possession of her unit the basement flooded and many of the donated goods she received after the fire were ruined.

Shannon says that the provincial housing authority provided a dumpster for the belongings of her and her neighbours, and indicated that the government would not provide any compensation and that tenants ought simply to wait until the water recedes. The suite has

flooded with sewage numerous times in the last three years and each time the response from the government has been the same.

There is now significant water damage and black mould in Shannon's basement. The provincial housing authority has painted over past water damage and has yet to fix the underlying issue, despite multiple requests to do so.

Shannon and her children are developing serious health problems linked to mould exposure. And to make matters even worse, they are paying exorbitantly high water bills due to a water line leak that has been identified by the City of Saskatoon but not yet fixed by the Ministry.

The Sask. Party government has dramatically cut supports for SaskHousing for the better part of a decade. The province's overall contribution to the housing portfolio fell from 24 per cent of total revenues in 2011 to just 2 per cent in 2021. Cuts made over the past decade represent a reduction of between \$350 million and half a billion from previous levels of provincial funding. The cost of construction has also dramatically increased with inflation.

"This government has cut and mismanaged the housing stock so badly that children are actually getting sick just living in these units," said Social Services Critic Meara Conway in a statement. "It's simply unacceptable for 3,000 government units to lie vacant, and many others in disrepair, at a time when homelessness is reaching a crisis point and rent has never been more expensive."

Promise of new tech exciting for farmers

In the world of technology, five years can be enough time for huge leaps forward.

It does seem tech tends to develop ever faster, likely because as innovative advancements are made, they can then be piggy-backed, or blended into something else out there and the combo is a larger step than the two original developments

And one can certainly imagine the flow of information about new ideas is far faster than it would have been only a

few decades ago. While no doubt proprietary agreements will keep the developments at many companies under wraps, there is so much information out there it is still being shared.

Each tidbit of information gained can be a key to help someone else unlock a problem they had encountered, or the information is another building block in creating something bigger.

So when I saw a story www.producer.com about John Deere's vision to introduce autonomous



machinery for every job required to grow a corn or soy crop, from tillage to harvest, it was surprising of course but only moderately so.

There is little doubt farm machinery will be more autonomous as we move forward.

The difficulty is finding farm workers with the skills to operate a machine that might be worth near \$1 million, and there are ongoing costs with staff to consider too.

Add in the likely ability of an autonomous piece of equipment to operate 24 hours a day, with only maintenance, and you realize they could shrink the crucial seeding and harvest seasons, or allow a producer to take on additional acres. The trend of growing farm size has been around for decades, and it is not likely to change now.

What is interesting about the general goal by John Deere is that the target is 2030, which is just around the corner. That again speaks to the often rapid advancement of technology – in this case in the field of agriculture.

It also leaves an unanswerable question of what is possible in 10, 15, or even 25 years?

Certainly, the farm of tomorrow - literally tomorrow, in this case - will be distinctly different, but that of course is not a new thing on the farm.

We have gone from a hoe in human hands, to horse drawn equipment, to steam powered, through more recent designs, and now we are on the verge of equipment with computer brains taking over field work.

For producers it must be an exciting time, following these developments and determining how what is unveiled might work on their farms.

New system enhances access to surgeons

The Saskatchewan Health Authority (SHA) is giving patients more choice and enhancing access to the next available surgeon for their hip and knee replacement surgery referrals through a new intake system launched in Febru-

"This centralized intake system is a game-changer for hip and knee replacement surgery patients in Saskatchewan," said Cindy Graham, Executive Director of Provincial Surgical Services for the SHA. "Patient-centred care is at the heart of this new system. It offers patients more surgical options in an effort to shorten wait times - from a choice of surgical location to the choice of a specific surgeon, to the next available surgeon – all while reducing barriers to accessing timely surgical care."

The intake system enhances information flow by centrally coordinating, tracking, and monitoring all referrals for hip and knee replacement surgeries in Saskatchewan. It improves patient decision-making and control by giving patients their choice of location and then connecting patients with the most appropriate surgeon based on their preferences.

"For patients, the system greatly improves their quality of care and it standardizes their care across all SHA facilities," said Dr. Joan Wheat Hozack, an orthopedic surgeon based in Lloydminster and the SHA Surgical NW Area Lead. "When you have more control and can play a bigger part in your own surgical referral decision-making process you'll have a better overall experience with the health system, from being more involved in your medical journey to better surgical outcomes and recoveries."

Adoption of the centralized referral process has been rapid and extensive by both referring physicians and surgeons who have indicated patients value more timely access to care. Already, 32 orthopedic surgeons are participating in the initiative across five surgical lo-

"It's so easy to use and understand," said Dr. Wheat Hozack. "Physicians find the referral process simple to follow and it eliminates the need to know the sub-specialties of the surgeons to whom they're referring."

Since February 2024, referral providers and their patients have chosen the next available surgeon 65 per cent of the time. For the first time in a referral system, patients can choose the acceptable location(s) of their surgery, with 20 per cent already opting for hip and knee replacement surgeries outside of their home location.

"Surgeons want a system that allows patients improved access to surgery with as short of a wait as possible," said Dr. Michael Kelly Provincial Head of Surgery for the SHA. "Surgeons support the central pooled referral system as it will reduce surgical wait times by level loading surgical referrals between all surgeons provincially and to more surgical locations. It's helping to enhance and standardize the information patients receive prior to surgical consult, directly impacting their referral decisions."

Each participating orthopedic hip and knee surgeon in Saskatchewan receives referrals through this central intake system, which is designed to be flexible for each surgeon's capacity, designated operating room time and specialized services. All SHA orthopedic surgeons in Saskatchewan are exceptionally skilled and offer high-quality surgical services to their patients, regardless of location.

The new central referral intake also creates a more efficient system that will eliminate wait list duplication and avoid missed referrals. The data collected through the system will eventually help the SHA make data-driven decisions about future service delivery and opportunities for supportive services.

Doucette wins Easter basket



a successful "Hop into Spring" Easter basket raffle. The lucky winner was Cheryl Doucette, who said her granddaughters will be thrilled.

By HEATHER GATZKE, Librarian

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Provincial Budget | 2024-2025 **Investing in New Schools**

\$216 million in capital funding for 11 new or consolidated school projects and three major renovations, as well as the planning of nine new schools and two renovations. This school capital investment is an increase of \$68.7 million, or 46.6 per cent, over last year. This includes \$28.5 million for relocatable classrooms to help address enrolment growth.

MLA for Meadow Lake jharrisonmla@sasktel.net

For more information visit Saskatchewan.ca/budget Hon. Scott Moe, Premier MLA for Rosthern-Shellbrook scottmoe.mla@sasktel.net



Hon. Jeremy Harrison

Talented youth abound in MLB

Shohei Ohtani, currently embroiled in a gambling controversy but blessed with the amazing ability to throw and crush a baseball, is the best player in the world, but he's not making this list because at the age of 29, he doesn't qualify in the annual "Best Player 25 or Under" category.

Major League Baseball teams are flush with young superstars and it's our duty to list the best dozen. So, let the countdown begin:

12. Michael Harris, Jr., age 23. In two years, the Atlanta Braves star and NL Rookie-of-the-Year in 2022 has 37 home runs, a .298 batting average and has great speed and range in centrefield for the perennially contending Braves.

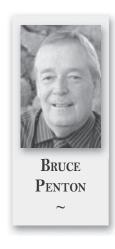
11. Isaac Paredes, 25. The Tampa Bay infielder broke out in his second full season last year, belting 31 homers after a 20-HR campaign in 2022.

10. Vladimir Guerrero, Jr., 25. Still one of the baseball's great young slugging stars, Jays' fans are still hopeful for more, more, more. Vladdy won the All-Star game home-run derby in 2023. Toronto's first baseman has 130 home runs in five seasons, including 48 in 2021.

9. Elly de la Cruz, 22. One of the fastest players in the majors, shortstop de la Cruz broke into the Cincinnati Reds lineup in mid-season last year, bashing 13 homers and seven triples while stealing 35 bases in only 98 games.

8. Spencer Strider, age 25. The Atlanta Braves' ace is the only pitcher on this list. Coming off a 20-5 season with 281 strikeouts in 186.2 innings, the right-handed Strider has reportedly developed a wicked curve this spring, so hitters should beware.

7. and 6. Gunnar Henderson, 23, and Adley Rutschman, 25, two reasons why the Baltimore Orioles became an MLB power last season. Infielder Henderson was AL Rookie of the Year after a 28-homer season while Rutschman (33 homers in two seasons and strong



defensively) is one of the game's best young catchers, finishing runner-up as the 2022 Rookie-of-the-Year.

5. Corbin Carroll, Arizona, 23. Last year's NL rookie of the year (voted unanimously) also placed fifth in voting for Most Valuable Player as the speedy outfielder's 25 home runs, .285 batting average and 54 stolen bases led the Diamondbacks to the World Series, where they lost in five games to Texas.

4. Julio Rodriguez, 23. The speedy outfielder has had two great seasons for the Mariners, with 60 homers and 62 stolen bases. He

was the AL's Rookie-of-the-Year in 2022.

3. Fernando Tatis, Jr., 25. Injuries and a drug suspension sidelined Tatis in 2022, but in his two full seasons (2021 and 2023), the swift and powerful outfielder crushed 67 home runs and stole 54 bases.

2. Bobby Witt, Jr., 24. Twenty homers as a rookie, 30 as a sophomore. The KC infielder can do it all.

1. Juan Soto, 25. A career .284 hitter with 160 homers in five seasons inspired the Yankees to sign the talented outfielder to a one-year contract for \$31 million.

• Sean McIndoe of The Athletic, in a story about some of hockey's unwritten rules: "Unwritten rule No. 14: When somebody shoots the puck over the glass, everyone has to stop and wave their arms around like first-graders who just realized they have to go potty."

• RJ Currie of sportsdeke.com: "CFL Hall-of-Fame QB Warren Moon played only six seasons in Canada, and on a recent TSN interview he pronounced Saskatchewan perfectly. So what's Milt Stegall's excuse?"

• Super 70s Sports, on a great Canadian athlete: "George Chuvalo had 93 professional fights and squared off with six heavyweight champions, including George Foreman, Joe Frazier, and Muhammad Ali twice. He never once got knocked off his feet. Ever."

 Vancouver comedy guy Torben Rolfsen: "Fourgame suspension for the Rangers' Matt Rempe.
 When does his Upper Deck Young Goons rookie card come out?"

• Janice Hough at leftcoastsportsbabe.com, after Yale upset Auburn in the NCAA men's basketball tournament: "And if millions of Americans didn't already hate the Ivy Leagues, Yale just busted several million brackets."

• From someone named Jeff on X: "Welcome back to SportsCenter presented by ESPN Bet. For more on the Shohei Ohtani situation we go to our FanDuel MLB Insider Jeff Passan at our

DraftKings Studio in Los Angeles brought to you by Caesar's Sportsbook. Jeff, how could something like this happen?"

• RJ Currie again: "The score went up by 2s between Canada-Switzerland at the women's world curling championships: Canada 2, Switzerland 2; then Canada 4, Switzerland 4; and finally Canada 8 over Switzerland 4. The game was played on twos-day."

• Headline on fark. com: "As we approach this QB draft, let's remember 'one of the best classes in decades, blessed with the cannon arm of Zach Wilson, unlimited ceilings of Trey Lance and Justin Fields, and the pinpoint accuracy and well-rounded passing profile of Mac Jones."

• Late comedian Bob Hope, who said he once shot a 69 on his home course, but later revised it to 68. "I'm improving my lie"

Care to comment? Email brucepenton2003@yahoo. ca

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 March 12, 2024, at 7 p.m.

In attendance were, Mayor Gary von Holwede, Councillor Jim Bedi, Councillor George Pretli, Councillor Bryan Wingerter, Councillor Mark Corfield, Councillor Ragnar Latus, Councillor Shane Colley, and CAO Rhonda Saam.

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

Colley: That the agenda be adopted as presented. Carried

Wingerter: That the minutes of the regular meeting on Feb. 27, 2024, be approved as presented. Carried

Bedi: That the correspondence be filed as presented. Carried

Bedi: That the Accounts for Ratification, Cheque No. 33070 & payments #1599 to 1622, in the amount of \$49,815.32, be approved as presented. Carried

Wingerter: That the Accounts for Approval, Cheque No. 33071 to 33084 & payments #1623 to 1624, in the amount of \$28,733.07, be approved as presented. Carried

Wingerter: That the Bank Reconciliation for the month of February 2024 be approved as presented. Carried

Latus: That the Financial State-

ment for the month of February 2024 be approved as presented. Carried

Colley: That the reports be filed as presented. Carried

Corfield: That Bylaw No. 554/24, a bylaw to establish a code of ethics for council members, be read a first time. Carried (Editor's note: council unanimously agreed to give the bylaw three readings and adopt it at the meeting.)

Colley: That we enter into an agreement with Marcy Johnson to contract services for a Code of Ethics Investigator, as attached to form part of the minutes. Carried

Bedi: That we rescind Policy No. 31 Municipal Employees Code of Conduct and replace with option 1, Policy 2-6 Employee Code of Conduct, as attached to form part of the minutes. Carried

Wingerter: That we approve a donation to the Spiritwood & District Museum for the 2023 year in the amount of \$103.35. Carried

Wingerter: That we approve Building & Development Permit #01-2024SW to renovate a residential property on Lot 8 & 9 Block 11 Plan BK4385, 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 support Spiritwood Recreation Culture & Sports application to the Co-op Community Spaces Funding for the construction of a gazebo facility at SAD SAAC Park ball diamonds area. Carried

Colley: That we authorize to proceed with application for title acquisition in accordance with the tax enforcement act for Lot 14 Blk/Par 11 Plan No CA5071 Extension o. Carried

Latus: That we authorize to proceed with application for title acquisition in accordance with the tax enforcement act for Lot 7 Blk/Par 5 Plan No AP 518 Extension o Carried

Colley: That we approve Access Communications' request to replace their existing damaged cable lines along 5th Street West, with the condition that they contact Sask First Call to locate any utilities, as well as contact our Town Foreman before proceeding with the drilling. Carried

Bedi: That we approve Access Communications' request to build new conduit and place a new plastic pedestal within town limits as presented, with the condition that they contact Sask First Call to locate any utilities, contact any other affected parties such as Ministry of Highways, as well as contact our Town Foreman before proceeding with the drilling. Carried

Wingerter: That we approve Lottery License #02-2024 for the Cross Country Quilters for a Local Authority Raffle under \$2,500. Carried

Latus: That this meeting be adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Spiritwood senior curlers host wind up

By ARMAND SMITH Spiritwood Senior's Club

(Editor's note: The following story first appeared in the March 28 edition of the Shellbrook Chronicle & Spiritwood Herald. It is being republished to correct errors in the original article.)

The Spiritwood Seniors' Bonspiel was held Monday, March 18, and Tuesday, March 19, with 32 curlers making up 8 teams. Seven teams were made up by drawing names out of the hat, with one full team from Debden skipped by Guy Cyr.

The mornings started off with muffins supplied by Hujbers Market on Main and coffee provided by Louis Marion. After a busy day Monday, with each team curling two games, a delicious turkey supper was enjoyed by everyone.

The Shell Lake ladies made the dessert for the supper, plus they also supplied some of the soup for lunch both days. Sandwiches and donated pies were also served.

The two days of competition and socializing determined the A, B, and C event winners. The Dave Jensen rink came out on top in the A Event, while the B Event was won by the Lloyd Fisher rink, and the C Event winner was the Al Sulymka team.

The 2023-2024 curling season has come to an end, and we are all looking forward to next year with the new curling rink in Shell Lake ready, so our Spiritwood senior curlers can support them as they have supported our rink over the past two years.

Have a good summer everyone.

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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 306-468-2138Leask Gospel Tabernacle Sunday 11 a.m. Pastor Josh

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Big River Sundays 11 a.m.. - Worship at Anglican Church Rev. Dave Whalley 306 - 747 - 2804

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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)

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Mistawasis Sunday worship 11:00 a.m. Rev. Stewart Foster

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. Happy's - Leach

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

Pastor Myshan Irving 306-747-3398

Praise & Worship

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Lutheran/United/ Christchurch Anglican, 137-2nd St. W. Spiritwood Worship 11:00 a.m. Rev. Sarah Urano

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

CATHOLIC

SUNDAY Leoville - 9:30 a.m. Spiritwood - 11:15 a.m. Shell Lake - 2:00 p.m. SATURDAY Medstead - 6:00 p.m. Everyone Welcome Fr. Ramel Macapala

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

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OBITUARY

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Ulwinna Hinz



ULWINNA HINZ 1926 - 2024

Ulwinna was born on Aug. 12th, 1926, at Amiens, Sask. She was the middle child, with 5 older brothers, 3 younger brothers and 2 younger sisters.

I would like to tell you a story. It's a love story. The story of a woman who knew how to love, not selfishly, but with an "other centered" love. A love that was grounded solidly in her relationship with her Lord Jesus, a relationship that held her firmly, from the time she opened herself to this love, until the day, at the age of 97, that she peacefully went home to heaven.

She shared many stories of her growing up years with us, some

of which included her brother's going to war, of helping her mother with the upkeep of the garden and chores, washing, and mending her brother's many pairs of pants and socks. She talked about the economy at that time, her schooling, and her disappointment that she never got to take as many years as she would have liked. There was also the poignant sharing of her assisting her dad in delivering her youngest sister, at home, when she was 10 years

In her early 20s, Mom was alerted by her brothers, that the "neighbor" who was coming over often on his John Deere tractor to visit, was coming to see her. Their relationship developed after that, Mom bought a dress, and they were married at the Justice of Peace on July 4th, 1950. Mom was 24, Dad was 43!! They farmed until Dad retired, at which time they moved into town to Shell Lake, SK, and then later to Shellbrook. Dad passed away when Mom was 70. When she was 80, Mom told me that when Dad had passed, she had

asked the Lord to give her another 10 years, but now that she was 80 and in perfect health, she told the Lord that she had changed her mind, and he could just ignore her first request. While mom was in long term care and her memory was declining, she was always amazed when we reminded her how old she was. One day I reminded her of that conversation she had had with God, and I asked her if she had ever thought that maybe she should have put a cap on it? Mom had a good chuckle about that! Her sense of humour always lay just under the surface even in her last few years.

Mom's care for her children, their spouses/ partners and her grandchildren were beautiful and unique for each one. She will be remembered by her grandchildren for her good cooking, sleepovers, singing hymns while working, the letters she wrote and money she slipped in. She would pull out her albums and tell the stories of the pictures there. She will always be remembered for her hugs, her listening ear, and her interest in all of our lives.

Mom was not oblivious to pain, she loved us through our struggles and wrapped her arms of love around us in prayer. She was our family matriarch, the love she gave us will go on and on. We will carry you in our hearts mom and love like you taught us to love. She is here in us, even though she is with the Lord and now has every tear dried, pain erased and has a wonderful new body.

Her heart told a story, her life sang a song. To those who experienced her love, the notes and melody are woven into the fabric of our lives. If you listen, you will hear her! You are forever with us mom; we will not forget!

Ulwinna is lovingly survived by her children:

Denis

Alan (Saralie) and their family:

Jennifer (Darcy);

Kristian (Maddie)
- William, Thaddeus, baby arriving soon

Shaye (Chantel)
- Ruby and baby arriving soon

Faith (Kaleb) - baby arriving soon

Marcus Desireé (Warren); Brooke (Braydon) Nolan

Natalie (Scott);

Liv

Brandon (Chrystal); Jesse, Mary, an Wyatt

Gary (Cheryl) and their family:

Joseph

Rebecca - Senna and Luke

Marlene (Lloyd) Smart and their family: Ashley (Erin) - Malaya and Alyssa

Alicia (Kyler) - Dawson, Dajahnae, Kroft, and Gunnar

Conrad (Danay) -Gavin, Camerin, Haydin, and Jocelyn

Sandra Robinson (Bob Trost) and their family:

Rhiannon (Sean)

Arianne (Chuck)
- Hannah, Chevy,
Katharina, and Harley

Her siblings: Olga, Netta (Henry), and Simon; as well as numerous nieces, nephews, and other relatives.

Ulwinna was predeceased by her husband: August Hinz; her infant son: Raymond Larry; her parents: Henry and Maria Schmidt; her brothers: Cornelius, Jacob,

George, Edward, Harry, Arnold, Daniel.

There was a Funeral Service held for Ulwinna on Monday, March 18, 2024, at 1:00 p.m. from the Shellbrook Pentecostal Assembly with Pastor Dave Bodvarson officiating. Scripture was read by Saralie Hinz, Eulogy was shared by Marlene Smart, Susie Slemming was the pianist with Danay Smart as soloist. The active pallbearers were Denis Hinz, Brandon Hinz, Alan Hinz, Conrad Smart, Gary Hinz, Ashley Smart, and Joseph Hinz.

In lieu of tributes, memorial donations may be made in memory of Ulwinna to the Shellbrook & Districts Health Services Foundation – Long Term Care.

Ulwinna was laid to rest in the Shellbrook Cemetery.

Family and friends wishing to send online condolences are welcome to visit www.beaulacfuneralhome.com Arrangements have been entrusted to the care of Beau "Lac" Funeral Home & Crematorium, Tammy Smart, Funeral Director, Shellbrook, SK. 306-747-2828.

GOOD NEWS

How can anything grow here?

By LORNE VALUCKParkside Pentecostal Church

Several years ago, our daughter went on a shortterm mission trip to St. Lucia, an island country in the West Indies located in the eastern Caribbean Sea.

Needless to say, they experienced some hot temperatures.

The next winter, five St. Lucian young men that our daughter's team had met decided to come to Canada for a visit... in early January.

Needless to say, our guests experienced cold temperatures.

They were intrigued by the snow. A couple of them wanted to run barefoot in the soft, fluffy stuff. So they did, and got quite a kick out of it. (I have to admit, I've done a barefoot snow run

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a couple times. Add "freezing" to the soft and fluffy).

Those boys had some interesting ways of coping with our weather.

When we'd be getting ready to go outside, one of the boys would disappear and have a quick shower or bath. I think his idea was to warm up his body before exposing it to the cold, hoping it would retain heat he had taken on from the water. I'm not sure if it helped or not.

Have you ever noticed when someone comments that it's particularly cold outside, there will quite often be a reply, "But at least it's a dry cold."

Well, these St. Lucians were really bothered by our lack of humidity, and to combat the irritating, uncomfortable effects of dry skin, they would apply generous amounts of lotion or moisturizer. So, for some time after their visit, we would find greasy handprints on the interior walls of our house, as a humorous reminder of the wonderful time we had with them.

We had a great visit, and stayed in communication with them for some time afterward.

It's so good to interact and share with people of various cultures and climates.

I'd like to share one more climate related experience with our friends from the south.

As they looked around at our cold, snow-covered

landscape, they expressed an interesting thought. "How can anything grow here? How do you have

"How can anything grow here? How do you have gardens and crops?"

How can anything "grow" here?

You may be asking or thinking that thought in a different context as you look around at the social, political, and economic landscape and "climate" of the world, of your world.

We could go into a long discussion of the who,

what, why, and how, but overthinking sometimes prevents seeing the answer, or even being open to a solution.

My answer to those fine, young St Lucian men

was rather simple. I didn't go into a lot of details about heat units, biological adaption, or selective breeding.

"Spring will come and mirroulously growth

"Spring will come, and miraculously growth will happen," was my reply.

In Genesis 8:22 (NLT), God tells Noah after the flood had subsided, "As long as the earth remains, there will be planting and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night."

The God who created the earth has a plan, is still in control, and always will be. Psalm 24:1 (NLT) tells us, "The earth is the LORD's, and everything in it. The world and all its people belong to him."

We may not understand, and sometimes not appreciate how He's working things out, but God has a plan and our best position is, "Faith in Him, and Trust in His plan."

Amid the speculation, presumption, confusion, and maybe even corruption of the day, it may seem "nothing will grow." Focus on the simple, granted, sometimes difficult, instruction found in Philippians 4:6-7 (NLT), "Don't be anxious about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus."

Hey! That sounds a little like "Don't worry. Be happy". I think my Caribbean friends would like that. Stay warm. And with God's help, don't be anxious, and may the Joy of the Lord be your strength.