



# HERALD SUN

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More than two dozen accidents reported on Trans-Canada east of Regina

## April snow storm shuts down Hwy. 1

By Chris Ashfield

Grasslands News

Winter isn't leaving easily in southern Saskatchewan as Mother Nature hit the area with another blast of the white stuff early this week, causing several highways to be shut down due to poor driving conditions and a large number of accidents.

The snow-storm began hitting some areas such as Grenfell and Melville on Sunday morning but by that evening, most of the area was being blanketed with wet heavy snow. The snowfall continued throughout Monday causing treacherous driving conditions and by early afternoon, several highways were closed including a stretch of Highway 1 between Grenfell and Wolseley. Just before midnight on Monday night, RCMP issued a travel advisory for the entire southeast part of the province, asking motorists to refrain from travelling for the night. Their message was re-iterated on Tuesday morning at 9 a.m.

"Strong winds and snow are reducing visibility and making roads icy and extremely slippery, the RCMP said in their release. "Saskatchewan RCMP officers are responding to at least a dozen motor-vehicle accidents in different areas of Highway 1, east of Regina."

The closure of Highway 1 was extended around midnight on Monday night to include a 130-kilometer section between Whitewood and Balgonie as well as a section of Highway 48 between the junction of Highway 47 and Highway 35. Travel was also not recommended on numerous other highways throughout the area as roads were ice packed and blowing and drifting snow was causing hazardous whiteout conditions.

Vehicles lining the highways in several locations continued to be reported. One person stated on Tuesday around noon that there were about 200 vehicles sitting on the number 1 going east between Summerberry and Wolseley that have been there for a long time by the amount of snow drifted up around them. Traffic was also backed up for several kilometers in the westbound lane of Highway 1 at Whitewood on Tuesday after RCMP closed the highway at the junction of Highway 9. Both the Co-op C-Store and Can Am truck stop, as well as the Service Road and part of Highway 9 were full with parked semi trucks. It is estimated there were a couple hundred semi's stopped at



CHRIS ASHFIELD | GRASSLANDS NEWS

### Highway 1 closed

Members of Broadview RCMP had Highway 1 closed and blocked off at the junction of Highway 9 in Whitewood on Tuesday causing traffic to be backed up for several kilometers in the westbound lane. The Trans-Canada was closed from Whitewood to Regina for most of the day after more than a dozen accidents were reported.

Whitewood.

Broadview Fire Department reported that they responded to two accidents outside town over a nine hour period, including a jackknifed semi at around 10:15 p.m. on Monday evening and a call for a vehicle that slid into a pulled over semi at 7 a.m. on Tuesday. An army vehicle also had flipped onto its roof while travelling the Highway 1 near Grenfell. There were no injuries reported in any of these incident.

By 9 a.m. Tuesday, Saskatchewan RCMP were advising motorists that overnight RCMP received 24 calls for service regarding motor vehicle collisions due to weather. Additionally, they received 15 calls for assistance where vehicles were stuck in the road or in the ditch. These numbers account for the calls received through their DOCC and do not reflect calls that may have gone directly to the RCMP Detachments. RCMP were asking people not to travel.

Highway 1 remained closed until Wednesday morning.

School buses in the Prairie Valley School Division were not affected as the division had extended remote learning until April 26 but students in neighbouring division such as Good Spirit School Division to the north had most of their buses cancelled on Tuesday due to the storm.

There was no mail delivery on Tuesday and some businesses remained closed or scrambled to make alternate arrangements as employees could not travel to work.

Crews in communities including Whitewood, Grenfell and Broadview spent much of Tuesday trying to clean streets and sidewalks, even as snow continued to fall throughout the day. By the end of the storm, as much as a foot of snow is estimated to have fallen, with drifts reaching several feet deep in some spots.

Cooler weather with temperatures hovering around zero degrees is expected to remain into next week with double digit temperatures forecasted to return next weekend.

## Bubble tightened as COVID cases increase

By Chris Ashfield

Grasslands News

The Saskatchewan government tightened the social bubble across the province on Tuesday by limiting private household gatherings to people's immediate households only. Previously, that tightened rule was only in place in Regina.

Effective April 13, household bubbles are limited to immediate household members only for all of Saskatchewan. Persons who live alone and single parents of minor children are permitted to meet with one consistent household of less than five individuals. Co-parenting arrangements are permitted to continue. Caregivers, support personnel and tradespersons who are not a member of the household are not included in the maximum number of people allowed in that household.

The eligible age for booking vaccination appointments online or by telephone was also lowered on Wednesday from 55 to 52. Changes were also made to the vaccine delivery plan to include more vulnerable groups to priority vaccination including all pregnant woman, young adults ages 16 and 17 who are considered clinically extremely vulnerable and everyone over the age of 40 in the far north. Those who qualify will receive an eligibility letter from their physician and will need to call 1-833-SaskVax to book.

The Public Health Order measures will be reviewed Apr. 26.

# Prince Philip remembered during visit to Fort and Melville

By Alan Hustak  
Grasslands News

Prince Philip took photographs with his own camera from the observation platform of their train along the trip through the Qu'Appelle Valley when he and the Queen visited Melville 43 years ago.

The Duke of Edinburgh, who died on April 9 at the age of 99, was with the Queen on a whistlestop tour on July 29, 1978, that took them to Fort Qu'Appelle, Balcarres, Melville and Yorkton. The royal train was the first passenger train on the tracks in 17 years and rail stations along the way were cleaned and spruced up for the occasion, except in Fort Qu'Appelle. Mayor Don Cockwill said the town only needed to paint the three walls that the couple would see as they passed.

Among those who met the Queen's consort was Lorna Standingready, a resident of Peekeepis First Nation who accepted an invitation from Premier Allan Blakeney to have dinner in Regina with the Royal couple. The protocol office sent her a letter suggesting she dress "appropriately" and wear a long gown, gloves and jewellery for the occasion.

In an interview with CBC news, Standingready recalled that she couldn't afford formal attire. "I went in my moccasins, my buckskin dress, my rabbit fur and my beads," she recalled. "And I felt so strengthened and I felt that I could be who I was in another society."

At the time, some First Nations were boycotting the visit because of a treaty rights dispute. But Standingready attended anyway and was delighted when Prince Philip admired her regalia.

Thousands turned out at each stop along the way. Dancers from the Gordon First Nation performed for the royal visitors in Fort Qu'Appelle. People stood for two hours outside the station waiting for the train to arrive, among them Paulette Anderson who was presented to the royal couple. "The wives of all the adlermen were taught to curtsy and told not to speak to the Prince unless he spoke to us first," said Anderson. "I remember he asked Alderman Kon Rippert what he did for a living. Kon said he was in the marine business. Here, on the prairies? The Duke seemed astonished." Humphrey Bartlett carried Anderson's daughter, Jesse on his shoulders so she could see her parents presented to the Royals. "What I remember is just as the Queen and Prince Philip stepped out on the station platform,



MELVILLE ADVANCE ARCHIVES | GRASSLANDS NEWS

## Red carpet treatment

Melville welcomed Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip as they made their trip by train that started in Regina and ended in Yorkton on Saturday, July 29, 1978 as shown in archived newspapers in the Aug. 2 issue of the Melville Advance.

the biggest security officer I have ever seen in my life stepped in front of us, and blocked the view. Jesse couldn't see anything."

The train stopped longer than planned in Balcarres. Flags and bunting flew from buildings in Melville when the Queen and her consort visited the comprehensive high school. A crowd of about 2,000 lined the streets as Mayor George Artemenko and Noel Joel Williams, Chief of Saskimay First Nation, welcomed the royal couple who took part in celebrations marking Melville's 70th birthday with the Queen helping to unveil a plaque. The couple also signed the city's quest book.

During the walkabout, the prince demonstrated his knowledge of agriculture, especially his knowledge of 4-H clubs, and seemed to thoroughly enjoy the Ukrainian dance troupe that performed. The only disappointment along the way was in Lebret, where the train failed to slow down as people waved to the couple as it sped along the tracks.

Prince Philip came to Saskatchewan eight times, his earliest visit in 1951 with the then Princess Royal; again in 1959 when he and the Queen stopped in Broadview and Indian head. He came alone a couple of times. His last visit to the province was in 2005.



COURTESY OF PAULETTE ANDERSON

## Meeting royalty

Fort Qu'Appelle Mayor Don Cockwill with the Queen Elizabeth as she meets members of the town council and their wives on their rail tour from Regina to Yorkton on April 29, 1978.

## Hon. Warren Kaeding PAg.

MLA for Melville-Saltcoats  
Minister of Environment

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# Project seeks Sask. Métis culture, traditions, info

By Alan Hustak  
Grasslands News

Saskatchewan's Métis Nation wants to hear from its elders in the south eastern part of the province about how Métis families who were born and raised in the Qu'Appelle Valley and the surrounding area contributed to the early life of the prairies.

The idea is to collect an oral history and document "the Métis footprint" left behind in the Qu'Appelle Valley through Moose Mountain down to the United States border.

"We, along with so many other families overcame such adversity and were very resilient and resourceful in challenging times throughout the years. This

project provides an opportunity to capture that history," said Marg Friesen, Chair of the oral history project.

The idea, she says "is to collect and preserve the Métis culture, traditions and identity and celebrate our families and communities throughout the region."

The Metis, a mixed blood race developed at the beginning of the 18th century when French and Scot traders with the Hudson Bay Company took Indian wives, whose offspring produced a distinct "michif" nation. They were considered outsiders by both European settlers who arrived on the frontier and by First Nations who were on the Great Plains for centuries. The Sioux, for example, referred to the Métis as "the people who

belonged to no one." Forced out of what is today Manitoba, they came to what is today Saskatchewan where they fought a losing battle which has for more than a century suppressed their identity.

The study's organizers hope to interview at least 100 Métis knowledge keepers and their descendants about early industries to learn, for example, how Metis industrial and farming industry contributed to the economic growth of the region and paved the way for settlers who arrived in the 19th and 20th centuries. Farm settlements provided meat and produce and they farmed the land. They produced wheat and grains and other crops to sustain the community and outer-lying communities including non-Indigenous communities.

They also established brick plants, conducted river transport and established early hardware and dry goods stores.

The \$800,000 research project is being financed by Parks Canada and the Saskatchewan's Métis Nation Legislative Assembly.

According to Métis Nation Saskatchewan lands director Mark Calette the information collected will be used to create a virtual map which, in part, will be used to support Métis land claims. The region being surveyed includes eight Métis locals in Fort Qu'Appelle, Lebreton, Lestock, Moose Mountain, Rocanville, Sinteluta, Weyburn and Estevan.

For more information contact [www.mnseasternregion3.com](http://www.mnseasternregion3.com) or email [tlus\\_eriii@sasktel.net](mailto:tlus_eriii@sasktel.net)

# Amendments offer new and innovative options to resolve tickets

Provincial News  
Grasslands News

Earlier this week, the Saskatchewan Government introduced *The Summary Offences Procedure Amendment Act, 2021*. The amendments in this Act will make it easier for citizens to resolve traffic tickets by introducing several process improvements and a new online system.

"The current procedure for resolving tickets can be cumbersome," Justice Minister and Attorney General Gordon Wyant said. "These changes will modernize the court process and will provide citizens timely and effective access to justice."

The changes will first be implemented for traffic tickets. The program will later extend to tickets for other offences. The amendments will make the process for

resolving tickets simpler and more efficient while still being fair for all citizens. For example, the amendments will allow defendants to:

- Request an extension to their fine payment due date without attending court;
- Enroll in the Fine Option Program prior to their court appearance, which will allow them to start paying down the fine earlier; and

- Participate in an early resolution discussion with a prosecutor either online, on the phone, or in writing.

These changes will significantly reduce court volumes by enabling defendants to resolve many tickets without having to travel to a court house.

Government is in the process of developing an online system to enact these changes. The first phase of the online system is expected to be operational by fall 2021.

ational by fall 2021.

Tickets issued under *The Traffic Safety Act* represent 90 per cent of all charges for provincial offences. The most frequent traffic offences are speeding, photo laser speed enforcement, red light cameras, unregistered vehicles, and holding, viewing or using electronic communications equipment.



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Provincial Budget | 2021-2022



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## Build.


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## Grow.

This Budget will **grow** Saskatchewan by helping to ensure a strong economic recovery.

To learn more, visit [saskatchewan.ca/budget](http://saskatchewan.ca/budget)



# Town of Whitewood increases staff salaries

By Elaine Ashfield  
Grasslands News

The council of the Town of Whitewood accepted a resignation with regret and approved salary increases as well as dealing with requests and reports at their regular meeting on April 6, 2021.

Reports receiving approval included Jeremy Brown, Water Plant Operator; Chris McRobbie, Foreman; Ryan Dale, Facility Operations Manager (FOM) and Cindy Baumgartner, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO).

## Reports

The town foreman reported that along with their regular spring duties and fixing of some roads, several trees had to be removed at the cemetery due to pine needle disease. The logs were kept for firewood at the campgrounds and the stumps will be removed once the frost is out of the ground. The town crew were thanked for doing this work, resulting in saving the town money.

Ryan Dale, FOM, discussed the ball diamonds with council and approval was granted to purchase grass seed for the infield of diamond #2. Council will be meeting with the Falcons, the men's ball team, to discuss some future planning being considered.

Approval was also granted to purchase some of the drama supplies such as glasses, tea towels, etc. for \$945. All are items that could be used in the future for arena rentals at weddings, kitchen rentals, etc.

The hiring of staff for the swimming pool will con-

tinue in hopes of the pool being operational over the summer and approval was also given to order the epoxy grit paint required to continue with renovations at the change rooms and pool building.

The STSSP grant for \$7,500 for the loss of recreational events was received and has been put into the recreational account until a decision on how it will be used is made.

Dale is also applying for the Canadian Parks Recreation Association grant that covers 100 per cent of a recreation worker's wage for a summer placement.

CAO Cindy Baumgartner reported that assessment notices were to be mailed and the period to appeal will be open for 60 days.

Baumgartner commented on her other tasks being completed and also that MLA Steven Bonk responded to the invitation to attend a meeting stating he will be going into session and won't be able to attend a council meeting until at least May 18, 2021.

## Old Business

In follow-up to a delegate's comments regarding the cost to the town of people using the electric vehicle charging station located at the town office, the CAO stated she hasn't seen them being used and since it is not costing the town anything if they are not being used, the matter was tabled. It was not known at this time what would be involved to remove the stations.

Grant Melynchuk from the department of highways called and stated that the work on Highway 9 north of Whitewood in the valley is on the 2022 projects for

preparations and will be done in 2023.

## Resignation Letter (New Business)

Ryan Dale, FOM, submitted his letter of resignation for April 23rd. The resignation was accepted with regret with a thank you to Ryan and to let him know council appreciates everything he has done.

The town is currently advertising for a replacement for the position.

## Salary Increases (New Business)

The Human Resources Committee met and went over salaries of all staff. The committee decided on a 2 per cent raise retroactive to Jan. 1, 2021 for staff members Derek Tait, Ryan Dale, Chandler Bachtold, Jeremy Brown, Anil Persaud and Trent Merkel. Trent Merkel also had his position changed to be Assistant Foreman. Lisa Istace, Accounting was increased to \$45,000/year. Chris McRobbie, Foreman was increased to \$63,000/year and Cindy Baumgartner, CAO was increased as per the UMAAS 2021 Salary Guideline to \$77,000/year. The three flat rate increases will also be retroactive to Jan. 1, 2021. The motion to accept the recommendations of the Human Resource Committee was carried.

## Request for dispensary (New Business)

A request was read for permission to open a dispensary in Whitewood. Discussion was held regarding permitting more than one request in a community since the town had already approved a request earlier and the matter was tabled to the next meeting so further information could be obtained from the government.

The meeting adjourned following an In Camera session regarding staffing.

The next meeting is Tuesday, April 20 and anyone wishing to follow the meeting may do so by going to the town's Facebook page for a Zoom password on the day of the meeting.



# Town of Whitewood

306-735-2210  
731 - Lalonde St.  
P.O. Box 129  
Whitewood, Sask.  
S0G 5C0

Email: [general@townofwhitewood.ca](mailto:general@townofwhitewood.ca)  
Web Site: [www.townofwhitewood.ca](http://www.townofwhitewood.ca)

## SUMMER STAFF

The Town of Whitewood is now accepting applications/resumes under the position of Summer Staff, with positions with Public Works, Recreation Department and Office Assistant.

Please indicate on your application/resume that you are applying for the "Summer Staff Employment Opportunity - Public Works, Recreation or Office Assistant"

The Town wishes to thank all persons who apply, however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted. Applications may be mailed, delivered, faxed, or emailed to the Town of Whitewood at the following address:

**Town of Whitewood**  
731 Lalonde Street, P.O. Box 129  
Whitewood, Saskatchewan S0G 5C0  
Phone: 306-735-2210 Fax: 306-735-2262  
e-mail: [cao@townofwhitewood.ca](mailto:cao@townofwhitewood.ca)

## GARBAGE / RECYCLING

Residents are reminded that Garbage or Recycling Carts must be out by 7 a.m. on collection days.

Upcoming **Recycling** Dates:

Wednesday, April 21

Upcoming **Garbage** Dates:

Wednesday, April 28

## TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Town of Whitewood Council meets on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month at the town office.

Upcoming Council Meeting Dates:

Tuesday, April 20 - 7 p.m.

Tuesday, May 4 - 7 p.m.

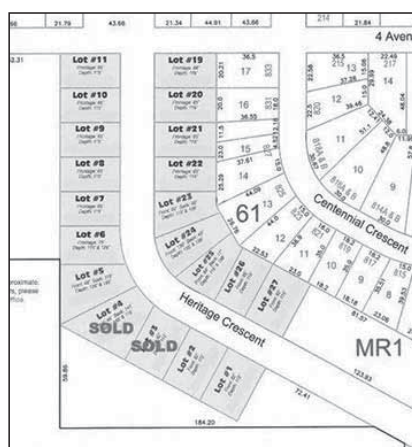
Meetings are held via Zoom. Please contact the office to get access information.

## RESIDENTIAL LOTS FOR SALE

The Town of Whitewood has completed development of Heritage Crescent located within town limits.

This 27 lot development includes power, water and sewer to all lots. Cost of a lot is \$2,500.

Contact the town office at 306-735-2210 to get full details.



## FACILITY OPERATIONS MANAGER

### About the Position

This key position is responsible for the overall operational direction of recreation facilities and programming within the Town of Whitewood. This includes leading and overseeing all recreation staff members and working closely with other municipal employees. This position shall ensure the safe and efficient operations of all mechanical and non-mechanical equipment, manage contractors as necessary and work to ensure the general satisfaction of all town residents and users. Job Type: Full-time Permanent (Salary); 40 Hours/Week

### Specific responsibilities:

- In conjunction with local user groups of the Whitewood Community Centre, ensure that activities are scheduled, invoiced and paid for in a manner that is consistent with current policies and procedures.
- Hire and supervise seasonal staff for the Whitewood Outdoor swimming pool
- Plan, prepare, implement and review, in conjunction with local groups, programs, workshops, clinics, seminars and other events that will benefit the community.
- Prepare and present monthly and annual reports for council including annual capital and operations budgets.
- Research and apply to local, regional, provincial and federal grants for the Town of Whitewood recreation facilities and operations.
- Provides diagnostic, technical, and hands-on support for complex building issues when required, mentoring Recreation department staff and pursuing externally contracted support when needed.
- Establishes work schedules, procedures, and coordinates activities for all Recreation department staff to ensure the smooth operation of all facilities.
- Ensures regular facility inspections are being conducted and all building maintenance, installation, and repairs and being completed when required.
- Develops and maintains partnerships with local user groups such as sporting groups, service clubs, schools, churches etc.
- Other tasks/duties that may change upon request
- Staying up to date with all Saskatchewan Health COVID-19 regulations and guidelines

### Qualifications:

- A minimum of five (5) years of experience is preferred but not mandatory in general facilities management and building maintenance, and hands-on experience with diagnosing and working with building mechanicals (HVAC, refrigeration, plumbing, electrical, etc.).
- A minimum of two (2) years of experience at a supervisory level.
- A relevant post-secondary degree in recreation or similar and/or Arena Operator Level 1-2, Pool Operator Level 1-2, and/or experience working in an environment with pools, hockey/skating arenas, and curling facilities are considered an asset.
- Experience in managing capital projects, such as renovations, installations, or equipment replacement.
- Experience in hiring, training, scheduling, managing performance, and coaching staff members
- Comfort with administrative tasks requiring the use of computers, various software, MS Office (Outlook, Excel, and Word) is required.
- Able to provide a clear Criminal Record Check and hold a valid Class 5 Drivers license.

To apply: Please email your resume and cover letter to: [cao@townofwhitewood.ca](mailto:cao@townofwhitewood.ca)

Please indicate your salary expectations in your application. Applications will be accepted until a successful candidate is found.

## Annual General Meeting

The Melville Legion Manor Inc. will be held on  
**Wednesday, April 21, 2021**  
at 4:15 p.m. by teleconference

Should you wish to participate, please call 306-728-2024 and information material will be provided in advance. Everyone welcome. 23-2c



Melville & District  
**Chamber of Commerce**  
**ANNUAL**  
**General Meeting**

**Tuesday, April 20, 2021 - 7 p.m.**

Lower Level of Melville City Hall

Due to COVID-19 all those wanting to attend will be required to RSVP to email: [melvillechamber@sasktel.net](mailto:melvillechamber@sasktel.net) or call 306-728-4177. Please come out and support your local Chamber of Commerce.

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9-26c - Odd

# Grenfell council approves new fees and charges

By Sarah Pacio  
Grasslands News

Grenfell town council met for its regular session in the Lilac Room on April 7 at 7 p.m. with all members present.

During councillor reports, Les McGhie shared that she and Dwayne Stone attended the annual meeting online for Red Coat Waste Management. The Carlyle landfill is full to capacity but RCWM renewed a permit for the landfill in Kipling for two more years. McGhie also relayed information about a one-year pilot project in which five garbage bins and two recycling bins were placed in the RM of Maryfield. "Ratepayers were very excited by it," she said. "It was well-used and they're finding there is not as much garbage in the ditches."

Councillor Patty Cole inquired whether the town's road sweeping machine is malfunctioning since it has left ridges of dirt along the streets. Mayor Rod Wolfe explained that the machine needs a repair but the COVID-19 outbreak in Regina has delayed the repairman's ability to fix the problem.

Mayor Wolfe acknowledged the encouraging announcement from the provincial government of \$3.6 million budgeted to replace the Grenfell Pioneer Home. "I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the old council for all the work that they did in the past; it's amazing what can get done when no one needs to take credit for it," Wolfe said. "I'm really looking forward to moving forward with this council with the next steps of the Level IV." Councillor Wes Overand,

who also served on the previous council, replied by expressing his appreciation for Mayor Wolfe's leadership in the matter.

Council reviewed information from staff about electrical repairs at the water treatment plant. Surge protection components were malfunctioning but the parts were still under manufacturer warranty so the town avoided a \$5,000 replacement expense and only had to pay labor costs for removal and installation of the parts.

Council made motions to tender equipment for sale, including a 2005 Grasshopper lawn tractor, a 1978 Sweeprite street sweeper, and a 1986 Ford F350. The tenders will be listed on SaskTenders as well as the town's website, and bids will be accepted until April 14.

Council approved the annual Fees and Charges Bylaw for the town. Trailer fees doubled, rising from \$15 to \$30 per month. The lagoon access fee increased from \$40 to \$240 per year; and the lagoon dump fee increased from \$10 to \$50 per dump. Rental fees for the Community Hall and GRP Arena also rose, but monthly camping fees now include a 25 per cent discount (compared to a 10 per cent discount last year).

Two other Bylaws were presented for their first reading, allowing council members an opportunity to review the documents. These included a trailer park fees bylaw and an animal control bylaw. The latter outlines licensing fees for cats and dogs, and stipulates the number of cats and dogs that can be kept at a single property in Grenfell.

The bylaw also includes a list of animal types that are prohibited within town limits, along with procedures for dealing with stray or dangerous animals.

After an in camera session, coun-

cil made a motion to approve a tender package presented by Pinter & Associates, the town's engineering firm. This enables the town to start the tendering process for a lagoon expansion.



## Mainline Music Festival

# Festival goes virtual for 2021

Submitted  
Grasslands News

Mainline Music Festival in Wolseley is going ahead, in a pandemic-safe format for 2021. The Music Festival Committee has been working hard to plan a safe competition, and have received permission from the Saskatchewan Music Festival Association to host this virtual event. We invite everyone to tune in to our YouTube Channel for our live stream.

### Monday, April 19

- 9 a.m. – Brass, Woodwind, Strings
- 10:45 a.m., 2 pm, 6:30 p.m. – Voice & Musical Theatre

### Wednesday, April 21

- 9:30 a.m., 1 p.m., 3 p.m., 6:30 p.m. – Piano

### Thursday, April 22

- 9:30 a.m., 1 p.m. – Piano

Monday, May 17 at 7 p.m., our Festival Finale

video will be posted, featuring performances by our award winners.

The link to our YouTube Channel, and the

Festival Program, is available on our website at [www.ihactivities.ca/MusicFestival](http://www.ihactivities.ca/MusicFestival)



Mainline Music Festival - Wolseley

## VIRTUAL FESTIVAL 2021

Brass, Woodwinds, Strings, Vocal, Musical Theatre, and Piano

19, 21, 22 APRIL 2021  
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Valley of Festivals

## Town of Fort Qu'Appelle

136 Boundary Ave. S. - P.O. Box 309 S0G 1S0

Phone: 306-332-5266

Email: [forttown@sasktel.net](mailto:forttown@sasktel.net)

Website: [www.fortquappelle.com](http://www.fortquappelle.com)

### Council Comment

Thanks goes out to the organizers and volunteers who came out for the Town's annual Pitch In Day. It is always nice to see community members involved.

Thank you to the frontline staff manning Fort Qu'Appelle's COVID vaccination centre. People receiving their vaccinations are going through seamlessly and very well organized. Keep up the good work! Please get your vaccination as soon as you are eligible.

### Contact Information

To ensure you receive all Town correspondence, please make sure you provide your correct contact information (phone, email, and mailing address) to the Municipal Office.

### Transit Van Operating

The Transit Van began operating again on Monday, Feb. 1, 2021. Please see the Fort Qu'Appelle website or Facebook page for Rules and Procedures.

#### New Transit Van Fares

<u>In Town</u>	One Way	\$5.00
	Second Stops (per stop)	\$2.00
<u>Out of Town</u>	Less than 25 kms from Fort Qu'Appelle, Plus	\$10.00 75¢ per km
	More than 25 kms from Fort Qu'Appelle, Plus	\$20.00 75¢ per km
	Plus	\$30.00 per hour
	Minimum 150 km charge	wait time

### Council Meeting

The next Town of Fort Qu'Appelle Council meetings will be held on: Thursday, April 22, and Thursday, May 6 at 7:00 p.m.

### Assessment Roll Notice

The Assessment Roll for the Town of Fort Qu'Appelle for 2021 has been prepared and is open to inspection in the office of the assessor from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday to Friday by appointment only.

### Gopher Baiting

The Town will be placing gopher bait out in the hope of reducing the number of gophers in Town this year. The product being used is called Rozol Pocket Gopher Bait. For full details about this product, please go to the Town's website, [www.fortquappelle.com](http://www.fortquappelle.com).

### Upcoming Recycling Dates

Upcoming recycling dates are slated for April 27 and 28.

### Elm Tree Trimming

From April 1 to August 31, pruning elm trees is prohibited as the fresh cuts can attract the Elm Bark Beetle increasing the chance of a Dutch Elm Disease infection. The insects spread the disease and are most active during the spring and summer.

# OPINION

"For the cause that needs assistance;  
for the wrong that needs resistance;  
the future in the distance and  
the good that we can do."

## Should government controlled centres raise toddlers?

Will our schools soon become an institution of childhood learning from newborn to adulthood?

On Monday of this week, the Government of Saskatchewan announced funding for the creation of two new Early Years Family Resource Centres in the communities of Estevan and Humboldt. Funding is provided through a Canada - Saskatchewan agreement. The new centres will be developed through community partnerships led by Horizon School Division and South East Cornerstone School Division. The divisions will be responsible for leading a community planning team that will develop the local centres, which are planned for opening in Fall 2021.

The announcement stated "Early Years Family Resource Centres offer a range of drop-in and scheduled programming for all families with young children aged zero to five including activities for babies and toddlers, access to information and professionals and support groups where parents can share their experiences with others and seek advice."

At present, communities are selected following analysis based on a combination of population, vulnerability and community readiness required to successfully develop and operate a centre.

Also at present, most communities have privately owned or community operated what we call 'daycare centres' for children. I am not disputing there is not a need for child care in some communities but I am al-

ways hesitant to agree with institutionalized care for very young children whose minds are in the important stages of development.

The most important years in a child's development are from birth to age five. Children's experiences and relationships that are formed during these years determine how their brain develops. In fact, by the time children reach age five, 90% of a child's brain is already developed.

How well a brain develops depends on many factors including the child's experiences with their families, other people and the world. Nurturing and responsive care for the child's body and mind is the key to supporting healthy brain development. Positive or negative experiences can add up to shape a child's development and can have lifelong effects. The resources and skills to provide safe, stable, nurturing, and stimulating care is an important public health goal.

So at what stage did the nurturing and stable resources of raising a child in their early years change from a health goal to an educational goal?

What areas of the brain are developed the most and at the youngest years through an Early Years Family Resource Centre where multiple children are cared for, supervised or taught - whatever terminology you wish to choose. Who ensures that the programs developed for early childhood care providers in resource centres are

what is the most important at the early stages of childhood - is it the parents, the health system or the educational system?

Is a resource centre an institution? The dictionary says an institution is an organization, establishment, foundation, society, or the like, devoted to the promotion of a particular cause or program - such as in this instance, caring for children. Educational institution means a school operated or directly supported by the local government - or shortly explained, government owned.

Why is the government turning the responsibility of the children under the age of 5 years over to the educational institutions?

Will all children this young eventually become cared for by government owned care in the future as governments compete with private businesses, including daycare?

There should not be government controlled care of young children in the most important developmental years of their life. Government financing may be necessary for many families but we need to consider what is the best means of assistance to support families with babies and toddlers, stop daycare as a convenience for some and don't let it become a means of control for others.

- Elaine Ashfield  
Grasslands News

## Third COVID-19 wave a struggle for us all

By Murray Mandryk  
Political columnist

The good news is we are getting a lot of vaccines in the arms of a lot of people and it is saving lives.

As of the writing of this, 457 Saskatchewan people have died of COVID-19-related illness - a devastating number. However, compared with Manitoba that saw rampant outbreaks this winter in long-term care homes that have so far produced 951 deaths in that province, we have enjoyed success.

Also as of the writing of this, 21.8 per cent of Saskatchewan people had received their first shot - second best in the nation only slightly behind Quebec.

Admittedly, Saskatchewan also owns some less favourable statistics. Our 36,882 total cases have now slipped ahead of Manitoba (35,459).

Our current 202 hospitalizations (Manitoba has 138 in hospital) and seven-day average of 274 new cases a day (Manitoba's seven-day average is less than half of that at 130 cases a day) are both, on a per capita basis, among the worst in the nation.

What all this means is that while Saskatchewan has managed to keep down the death toll, we are seeing more people and younger people getting sicker. This is translating into longer stays in ICUs, tying up beds.

What we have been doing isn't working as well as we need it to work. Things needed to change.

For that reason, the Saskatchewan Party did the right thing by changing its vaccine rollout strategy and extending some additional restrictions to the entire province.

Neither will be popular with critics of Premier Scott Moe's government - many of who vehemently argue that the Sask. Party administration needed to be more nimble in its approach to get vaccines to those more vulnerable and needed to have gotten much faster imposing further, more severe province-wide restrictions.

Such criticism has its validity. There has been a penchant within this government to move too slowly and cautiously when it comes to change. This is a growing problem in this third wave where new variants spread more rapidly to younger people who are getting sicker.

With a sizeable portion of Saskatchewan seniors and those over 50 years having received their first shots, it only makes sense to get vaccines to younger people who are most at risk of being potentially exposed because of their jobs.

Mere hours after saying during a rare Saturday morning sitting of the legislature that it just couldn't move off its strategy of mass vaccinations at age-based strategy because it was the quickest way to get

## JUST WHEN YOU THOUGHT IT WAS SAFE TO THINK ABOUT RETURNING TO NORMAL... VARIANTS



the vaccines out, the government opened up vaccines to younger police officers in Regina.

That was followed by an announcement two days later that police officers, firefighters, pharmacists and those who working in places with pharmacies would be prioritized as supplies were available.

Given that many pharmacies are located in urban Safeway and Superstores or in big box stores like Walmart and Costco, that means we may be opening things up to a lot of younger and more vulnerable people working as cashiers.

While this could lead to more protection for frontline workers most exposed to the public, the problem may be that we don't have the vaccine supply to go around.

AstraZeneca is not being doled out to

those less than 55 years old because of rare blood clot cases. Similarly, the Johnson & Johnson vaccine has been placed on pause because of extreme remote incidents of blood clotting.

Given this challenge, it is more important than ever to stop the spread.

To the chagrin of many in the province, Health Minister Paul Merriman re-imposed province-wide restrictions that limit households from visiting and limit church services to 30 people.

Many doctors and epidemiologists worry these measures and strategies are still not enough.

It's been a long fight, but it looks like we all still have to do more.

NOTICE: The views and opinions expressed within the content of editorials or columns published in this publication are solely the author's and do not reflect the opinions and beliefs of Grasslands News.

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# SaskTel waives data overage charges until June 30

By Emily Jane Fulford  
Grasslands News

A number of different aid programs have been put into place over the last year to help people have a bit of an easier time of it during the

pandemic. With social isolation still a very real consideration, SaskTel announced on April 12 that it plans to waive data overage charges from that day and until June 30, 2021, so as to further assist customers who rely on their service to pursue

## SaskTel

online learning as well as working remotely as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

"With the added increase in COVID-19 variants in the province and the return to online learning, our government understands the importance of staying connected during these trying times," Minister Responsible for SaskTel Don Morgan said. "It has been a stressful year and waiving data overages will alleviate the worry of data usage for SaskTel customers until the end of the school year."

The promise to not be charged on data overage (domestic data) applies to business or consumer

customers, on SaskTel's postpaid Wireless plans, noSTRINGSPrepaid, wireless plans or SaskTel fusion Internet plans.

"SaskTel knows our previous offers were appreciated by our customers and we are once again pleased to assist them with their work from home and online learning requirements," SaskTel

President and CEO Doug Burnett said. "This has certainly been a challenging year for everyone and we hope that by the end of this offer things will be returning to normal for most folks."

This announcement came in conjunction with SGI's recent announcement to send customers rebate cheques in May of up to \$285 per vehicle. SaskPower customers were also offered a 10 percent bill reduction said to average roughly \$131 per customer this year. The

programs, when combined, add up to substantial savings. The savings have been implemented by these large provincial organizations in an effort to assist Saskatchewan residents, if even a little, while the world recovers from the economic impacts of the pandemic.

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## RCMP seek suspects for Otthon B&E

Sgt. Travis Adams

Melville / Ituna Detachment

Reporting period: April 7 to April 14

Melville and Ituna detachment area had 70 occurrences over the past week.

### Traffic

During this time, Melville and Ituna detachment responded to 31 reported traffic occurrences or traffic stops that resulted in 12 Charges and 11 Warnings.

RCMP responded to a single vehicle roll over with no injuries. The lone occupant was under age and had consumed less than legal limit of alcohol. RCMP suspended the driver for 60 days and impounded the vehicle.

RCMP responded to two separate single vehicle accidents of vehicles that slid into the ditch. No injuries.

### Mischief/Theft/Fraud

Melville Fire and RCMP responded to a fire alarm at a residence in Melville suspected of having oxygen tanks inside. Entry was gained and the residence was cleared.

RCMP attended a domestic disturbance in Melville. One male was taken into custody charged with assault with a weapon and forcible confinement. RCMP continue to investigate.

A person contacted the RCMP reporting Break and Enter to a trailer and a couple sheds in Otthon. Video surveillance identified a skinny male with a hoody and a larger built woman. Suspects drove a dark green or navy 4-door car. RCMP continue to investigate.

RCMP received a mental health warrant. The individual was located, arrested and transported to Regina General Hospital for assessment.

A person contacted the RCMP to report a break and enter in progress. RCMP attended and spoke with homeowner that was carrying a sword and using a replica machine (BB) gun to shoot out the lights in the residence. The person arrested under the mental health act and transported to hospital.

RCMP investigated a domestic disturbance that occurred in Otthon. One male taken into custody charged with assault causing bodily harm. RCMP continue to investigate.

If you have information related to these incidents please contact your local RCMP Detachment, call 310-RCMP for immediate response, or you can call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477).

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# Province makes changes to COVID vaccines and clinics

By Elaine Ashfield  
Grasslands News

The vaccination clinic for COVID-19 held in Whitewood last Saturday, April 10 saw a steady stream of people arriving for their pre-booked appointment. The clinic lasted most of the morning and afternoon.

Some of the appointments were people who had been notified of a cancellation from a previous date and the rest had booked either online or through the telephone reservation system in place.

Currently, booking online is for citizens 52 years and older (born on this day in 1963 or earlier). People meeting this criteria can book their appointment online 24/7 using their health card at [www.saskatchewan.ca/](http://www.saskatchewan.ca/)

covid19-vaccine; or call 1-833-SASKVAX (1-833-727-5829) between the hours of 8 a.m. and 11 p.m.

## Delays impact clinics

Last week Saskatchewan Health Authority has been made aware of a further delay impacting their next expected shipment of 19,300 Moderna vaccines. This delay stems from the manufacturer and is outside of SHA control.

Some appointments already booked in primarily rural locations and Northern clinics will be impacted, however the majority of patients will receive notification of their rescheduled appointment through text or email.

Some of the impacted clinics by Moderna delay in the Grasslands News area include:

- Broadview - Original

date April 15-16, New clinic date April 19-20

- Fort Qu'Appelle - Original date April 13, New clinic date April 19

- Indian Head - Original date April 14-15, New clinic date April 20-21

- Kipling - Original date April 14, New clinic date April 21

- Moosomin - Original date April 12, 16, New clinic date April 19, 23

- Wawota - Original date April 12, 15, New clinic date April 19, 22

- Whitewood - Original date April 13, New clinic date April 20.

## Changes in ages and vaccines

With a continued increase of COVID-19 variants of concern, additional steps are being taken throughout the province to offer vaccine to younger age groups to keep immunizations progressing as quickly as possible. In order to accomplish this, vaccine brands may be changed at some clinics in order to remove any age-barriers that prevent immunization of younger residents.

Individuals are NOT eligible to receive COVID-19 vaccine at this time if:

- You are less than 80 years of age and you have been diagnosed with

COVID-19 in the last 90 days.

- You have received any other vaccine in the last 14 days.

Drive-thru and Walk-in clinics continue to operate in Regina, Saskatoon, Swift Current, Yorkton, North Battleford and Humboldt.

## First responders to receive vaccines

On Monday, it was announced that Saskatchewan's vaccine delivery plan will begin to target first responders through mobile vaccination units once current priority populations are complete. Currently, mobile vaccination units are targeting select congregate living settings including group home and shelter staff and residents. Once vaccinations in these settings are complete, mobile vaccination units will target first responders including police officers, fire fighters and public health inspectors and will be dispatched to central workplace settings. Targeted vaccination of first responders

with mobile vaccination units is anticipated to commence within two weeks upon the completion of congregate living setting vaccinations.

As part of the Phase 1 prioritization framework, 40,500 health care workers were prioritized for the COVID-19 vaccine. Of those 40,500 priority vaccinations, first-dose uptake amongst priority health care workers has been 27,348 (67 per cent). Remaining front-line health care workers not included in Phase 1 prioritization will be allocated the remaining 13,152 first-doses.

## Pharmacies begin April 26

Saskatchewan's pharmacists are set to begin participating in delivering vaccines on the week of April 26. In addition to offering increased access to the general public in pharmacies through the age-based sequence, pharmacists will be offering vaccines to pharmacy and grocery staff working in the facility where vaccines are offered.

"As pharmacies begin

delivering the COVID-19 vaccine, we know there will be an increased risk of exposure to those front-line staff working in those facilities," Merriman said. "By making the COVID-19 vaccine available to staff working in the pharmacy or attached grocery spaces through the pharmacists delivering the vaccine, these workers will be protected."

Pharmacies will require proof of employment in the facility where the vaccine is being delivered. Any staff working in a facility where vaccine delivery is occurring will be eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine in that facility.

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3rd Week

## Secret gardening tips

By Patricia Hanbidge

### Bee Engaged

Bees are an important aspect of our ecosystems. We know that we need to improve the conditions for bees, which in turn improves the conditions for survival of people. In Saskatchewan, many of our crops depend on bees for pollination and we also produce approximately 25 per cent of Canada's honey.

Pollination is needed for plants to reproduce, and so many plants depend on bees or other insects as pollinators. When a bee collects nectar and pollen from the flower of a plant, some pollen from the stamens—the male reproductive organ of the flower—sticks to the hairs of her body. Bees are drawn to plants with open or flat tubular flowers with lots of pollen and nectar. The scent of the flower, the bright colours also help to bring the bees in. Flowers visited more often by bees will produce larger and more uniform fruit. There are other pollinators in nature including wind, birds, other animals and sometimes water, but bees and also other insects are the most valuable pollinators.

Every individual can contribute to the preservation of bees and other pollinators. If you are a beekeeper, you are particularly concerned to ensure you can keep your bees healthy and productive from the very earliest spring until you close down the hives in fall. In order for bees to be the most productive, a very diverse environment is necessary. A diverse environment contains trees, shrubs, perennials and annuals so there is always cover on the ground and there is always something growing. This is the environment that will give you the longest season for honey production.

Some plants are magnets for bees such as summer flowering annuals like borage, bee balm, heliotrope, sweet clover and lavender. Perennials such as our native prairie crocus, chives, joe pye weed and salvia also fit the bill. Be sure to include one or two spring flowering fruits in your garden: raspberry, cherry, apple,

chokecherry, plum and Saskatoon's are delicious as far as bees are concerned.

Bees need to feed in early spring too. It may surprise you that early-blooming willow is a major food source for bees. There are also those pesky dandelions that grace our lawns just as the grass is greening up. We're not suggesting that you grow a crop of them, but at least they are good for something. Bees just love them and this is another reason to keep herbicides off your lawn. Late summer blooming sunflowers, chrysanthemums and asters complete the season to keep bees fed until fall. Almost any flowering plant you grow in your garden will benefit bees.

If you would like to learn more about how to plant for bees or perhaps are interested in looking into keeping your own bees, be sure to sign up for the free online, interactive presentation hosted by Orchid Horticulture, sponsored by Grassland Honey and endorsed by the Saskatoon Bee Club. We hope this sharing of information will help new beekeepers learn more about what to plant to keep their hives producing and to help all of us learn more about what we can do to promote the health of bees in our environment.

Just in case you are interested, Grassland Honey still has some Nucs for sale. They will be in a five frame cardboard nucleus box (2 brood, 2 honey and 1 drawn comb for laying) and will be inspected by the provincial apiculturist. All spring treatments will be completed. Price is \$260. A \$60 deposit confirms your order. If you are interested or have questions call or text 306-380-4457 or get more details at [www.grasslandhoney.ca](http://www.grasslandhoney.ca)

Hanbidge is the Lead Horticulturist with Orchid Horticulture. Find us at [www.orchidhort.com](http://www.orchidhort.com); by email at [info@orchidhort.com](mailto:info@orchidhort.com); on facebook @orchidhort and on instagram at #orchidhort

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# 2021 a revaluation year for Sask. property tax system

By Rob Paul

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

With 2021 being a revaluation year for tax purposes, properties in Saskatchewan have been revalued, and at this time of year most municipalities have their assessment rolls open and property owners have the opportunity to appeal their assessments.

The Saskatchewan Assessment Management Agency (SAMA) is an independent agency that has developed an assessment system and is tasked by the provincial government to provide property valuation services to local governments.

Through SAMAVIEW, land owners are able to check their valuations and compare them to others and every four years there's a valuation year where SAMA updates all the values for all properties in the province to ensure they're current—2021 is a valuation year.

SAMA CEO Irwin Blank says the agency started over 30 years ago when the province wanted to provide municipal governments with a better property assessment process.

"SAMA was actually the creation of the recommendation of a committee called the Local Government Finance Commission that was created by the provincial government in the early 1980s in recognition of the fact that the property assessment system was not being given the level of attention that local governments thought it should be given," said SAMA CEO Irwin Blank. "So the Local Government

Finance Commission recommended that an agency like SAMA be created that would be governed by a board of directors and the government agreed.

"In 1987, SAMA was created with the passage of the Assessment Management Agency Act and we have a board of directors who govern us and the majority of the board members were elected officials from local governments—urban and rural municipalities—with the minority being appointed representatives from the province."

The revenue created through property taxes via SAMA's assessment system is a key cog in municipal governments' funding with a large chunk of it being poured into the education sector at a local level.

"SAMA is responsible through our board of directors for establishing the formulas, the rules, and the procedures that are used to establish assessed values that are used for property tax assessments for every property in Saskatchewan," he said. "That assessment currently provides over \$2.1 billion in annual revenue to local governments—that's both municipalities and the education sector each year.

"It's very substantial, it's the major source of revenue for most municipalities that they use to sustain all of the necessary community functions, to keep things rolling. About \$750 million of that \$2.1 billion goes to the education sector, that represents just under 40 per cent of the total kindergarten to grade 12 operational

funding for the education system—you can imagine what the education system would be like without that revenue to support it. Our assessment system essentially provides that predictable—hopefully stable—financial foundation for local governments to utilize to give revenue to sustain their communities. That's why we exist."

Having developed a thorough system to evaluate property worth through multiple formulas, SAMA doesn't need to have their appraisers travel to every property in the province to develop the valuation number unless there's a physical change on the property reported by the municipal government, says Blank.

"We've got a team of over 100 assessment appraisers that all have particular training and they're fully licensed and accredited—which you need to be to undertake valuations in Saskatchewan," he said. "They actually go out at the request of municipalities to check whenever there's new properties that are built or renovations are done on a property or a subdivision is developed or if something is torn down. When those things happen, we're asked by the municipality to go out and check those properties and collect the physical characteristics of those properties.

"Also, on an ongoing basis, every week we get all the sales that occurred through information ser-

vices corporation of any properties in any municipalities we serve and we're continually validating those sales. We utilize that information to establish market rates which we apply to the physical data we collect. The assessment system is an ongoing process of collecting and keeping physical data up to date for all properties and utilizing market evidence combined with cost information to establish assessments that are supposed to be reflective of the average selling price of those properties as of a particular point in time, which we call our valuation base date.

"Once every four years we update that valuation base date—we don't go out and physically check all the properties once every four years, but once every four years we look at all the current marketing information based on all of the sales that occurred over the previous four year period," he said.

"We then use that updated sales information to update assessments to reflect that more current valuation base date."

Due to many communities throughout Saskatchewan being rural, it can be difficult to use surrounding sales information to determine property worth. Blank explains that's why SAMA has developed a system using specific formulas to help with the process.

"In most municipalities in Saskatchewan we're applying what we call the cost approach," he said. "The cost approach is considered the best approach to use in areas where you don't have a huge amount of sales information and you don't have a huge

- SEE PROPERTY, 17

Gene Hauta

## It's A Strange World

Miami Beach is planning to reduce the proportion of palm trees in the city's canopy, but authorities promise it will not be 'Palmageddon'. The plan is to **plant more shade trees**, instead of removing palms. It is believed that more shade trees will fight the effects of climate change and make the city more 'walkable and pleasant.' Apparently, shade trees like oaks and elms absorb much, much more CO2 than the local palm trees, and about 10 times as much rainfall. Palms currently make up around 55 per cent of the city's trees; the plan calls for reducing the proportion to around 25 per cent by 2050.

Joe Biden has started "**Help is Here**", the Democrats' \$1.9-trillion COVID-19 relief bill, adding to the \$27-trillion debt, with each American already owing \$84,099 in federal debt alone. Will this massive spending spree help? Remember the words of Ronald Reagan: "The most terrifying words in the English language are, 'I'm from the government and I'm here to help.'"

As the story goes, there is a pastor in South Africa who is capable of healing people just by sitting on them and farting. Of course, he defends himself, saying that what he does is actually healing and not farting on people.

Pastor Christ Penelope of the SevenFold Holy Spirit Ministries says the pictures showing him sitting or standing on his parishioners don't tell the whole story. **The air from his backside**, he says, **is holy, not stinky**. Of course, he and his wife claim to have met God, who doesn't have a problem with his techniques. In fact, he says the technique started when Jesus stepped on Peter. I must have missed that Sunday School lesson. Pastor Jacob Sibiya and Bishop Miso Mabunda are two of his biggest detractors and say that nowhere does the Bible say to sit on people. They see it as a sign that the end of the world is nigh! One church-goer summed it up nicely. "When we come to church it's because we need prayers, not to be farted on."

In Pennsylvania, it turns out that a church treasurer was worshipping at an altogether different altar. Glenn Yothers, 56, faces theft charges after being accused of **stealing more than \$150,000** from Saint Paul Lutheran Church to pay for his porn addiction. Yothers claimed the money was going toward paying church bills and being donated to charity, but instead he has been paying for porn for four years. The church was very close to being shut down as utilities weren't paid.

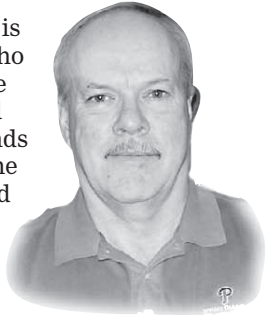
Dozens of workers in La Pocatiere, Que. have lost their jobs after a **theft at a plant in Mexico**. French rail manufacturer Alstom has laid off at least 70 employees for a minimum of six months and at least 50 more workers could soon lose their jobs. Wire intended to be used in Montreal Metro cars was stolen from a factory in Huehuetoca, Mexico, forcing the assembly line at the Quebec factory to stop.

For the first time in his 33-year career in law enforcement, Volusia County (Fla.) Sheriff '**Iron Mike**' Chitwood, hit hard by COVID-19, **took a sick day**. Then recently, while riding his bike, he was hit from behind, leaving a mirror impaled in his back. The hit-and-run impact also broke his leg. A woman was arrested for leaving the scene of an accident with serious bodily injury. She was definitely distracted, but not through texting. No, she was shopping on Amazon on her phone. This is True quipped, "Hopefully, she can find a lawyer on Amazon!"

It is not an uncommon occurrence for high school students to get into trouble at school for the colour of their hair. At Japan's Prefectural Kai-fukan High School, a student was sanctioned for disobeying the authorities. She was told not to go to class and also lost other privileges. **The school had ordered her to dye her hair every four days**, so that she wouldn't break the school expectation that every student had to have black hair. She was eventually awarded \$3,000 for the distress the school caused by enforcing the rule so harshly. "Schools just assume without any thought that all Japanese people have straight black hair," said Miyuki Nozu, who went to a school where brunettes had to bring documentation of their natural hair color with them every day. "But Japan is not a single-ethnicity nation anymore."

"If you think things are bad in America now," noted Hamilton. "In 20 years this country will be run by people who were home-schooled by day drinkers."

Sadly, I agree... keep reading between the lines...



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- Kidsville opening to be determined
- Canadian Mental Health Association - Melville Branch  
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- Magic Moments Playschool is currently full and accepting names for the 2020 - 2021 school year wait list. Please contact Chantel Fahlman for more info at 306-730-6272 or via Facebook messenger.



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# HOROSCOPE

WEEK OF  
APRIL 18 TO 24, 2021

THE LUCKIEST SIGNS THIS WEEK:  
LIBRA, SCORPIO AND SAGITTARIUS

**♈ ARIES**  
In spite of yourself, you'll be the focus of everyone's attention. You'll cause a sensation and be applauded for an impressive accomplishment. In an effort to do the right thing, you'll perform some kind of heroic act.

**♉ TAURUS**  
Your family needs you, so you'll spend part of the week at home. You may have to sell or purchase a property, which means you'll need to prepare for a big move.

**♊ GEMINI**  
You won't hold your tongue, and you'll have a lot of important things to say. Your words will have a long-term impact, and they'll be heard on the other side of the world, thanks to social media.

**♋ CANCER**  
You deserve to spoil yourself every now and then. You'll probably spend time shopping in local boutiques this week. Among other things, you'll buy a few trinkets to cheer yourself up.

**♌ LEO**  
The next few days will be hectic. Your zeal and perseverance will allow you to stand out from the crowd. This will lead to a considerable boost in your income, which you'll be sure to celebrate.

**♍ VIRGO**  
You may feel that your fatigue is building up. One night of insomnia this week could be enough to slow down a few projects. Adopting better eating habits is likely the solution.

**♎ LIBRA**  
You'll be in charge of planning an important meeting at work. There will be a lot going on in your social life. In addition, you may participate in some type of athletic competition.

**♏ SCORPIO**  
Don't be afraid of changes in your professional life; new responsibilities will lead to better working conditions. Time will be in short supply this week.

**♐ SAGITTARIUS**  
You'll be inspired to take a trip or go on an adventure, which will require a lot of planning. A training course or other learning opportunity will give you a new perspective about the future.

**♑ CAPRICORN**  
If there's tension between you and others, it's important to spend quality time with those people. They'll confide in you, and this new information will help you better understand the situation.

**♒ AQUARIUS**  
Your focus will be on your significant other. You'll need to make a few small changes in your relationship, and some quality time together will resolve several on-going issues.

**♓ PISCES**  
You'll hear about an open position at work that's perfectly in line with your career goals. Some effort and patience will be necessary to get the results you want.

# BREAK *time*

## CROSSWORDS

PUZZLE NO. 070

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57				58				59		

### ACROSS

- Huck's friend
- Farce
- Manhandle
- Climbing plant
- Skirt length
- Unit of land
- Breeze maker
- Gambler's concern
- Zest
- Narrow bottle
- Prepared a golf ball
- Organ levers
- Breakfast item
- Recipe instruction
- Wool producers
- Damage
- Vinegary
- Plump
- Opera star
- This woman
- Superman, e.g.
- Received an "A" on
- Long, skinny fish
- Make beloved

### DOWN

- Inlets
- Mom's brother
- Float
- Steel source
- Place
- Banish
- Air shaft
- Enjoyed a meal
- Swimsuit tops
- Preholiday nights
- Join together
- Scholastic
- Coffee vessel
- Knee's locale
- Zoomed
- Racetrack feature
- Wary of attack
- Prize
- Bestowed
- Alum
- Diamond feature
- Feel great pity
- Polish sausage
- Fix socks
- Exclamation
- Fathers' sisters
- Liberal \_\_\_\_\_
- Talon
- Behind time
- Viewed
- Shed tears noisily
- "\_\_\_\_\_ Town"
- Gun in neutral
- Single



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L	M	A	H	S	T



**Saskatchewan images**

SUBMITTED | GRASSLANDS NEWS

A road leading out of the tiny town of Sintaluta (above) and the China House in Melville (right) are just two of the many images that are found in 'Saskatchewan Book', a book with a collection of 256 images about Saskatchewan.



# Local sites included in 'Saskatchewan Book'

By Alan Hustak  
Grasslands News

George Webber is an acclaimed Calgary photographer who has trained his camera on Saskatchewan during road trips over the past 30 years.

A collection of 256 of his images have been published in his latest effort, his 9th book, Saskatchewan Book, (Rocky Mountain Books, \$45)

"His photographs do the work of poems," writes Swift Current born author Lorna Crozier. "That there are no people in his pictures adds to the sense of a way of life cut short. The invisible ink of weather and the passing years continues to send its message that one day we might be able to figure out."

Webber is a 'vernacular' documentary photographer, which means he takes pictures of subjects, which at first glance may seem to be mundane and

not especially photogenic: derelict buildings, (like the China House Restaurant or Paragon Hall in Melville), weather beaten road signs and murals (like one in Esterhazy advertising a banana split), or empty prairie vistas like a gravel road which leads out of Sintaluta to a distant horizon.

"Saskatchewan is God's country," Webber told Grasslands News in a telephone interview. He grew up in Drumheller, Alberta, which influenced his way of seeing things. "I have a great affection for these communities and a fascination about seeing something that is about to disappear. There is a real charm and magic of these places in Saskatchewan. You can't hold on to things, but when it comes to photography, there is this seductive quality that makes you think you can hold on to things just a little bit longer."

None of his pictures are staged or electronically manipulated. Moments of quirky beauty or his visually arresting compositions may be seen everywhere we go, even if most of us take them for granted. His precise approach to cropping and light make each of his compositions worth a thousand words.

"The closer you get to something, the easier it is to make a cohesive photograph," said Webber, "I look for simplicity, for the flatness. The empty space is an important part of the esthetic. With each of my photographs there is an invitation to consider a withheld or implied narrative. You get little insights and clues into the character of these places."

## Report from the Legislature

The COVID-19 pandemic is not just a global health crisis, it is the biggest shock to the Saskatchewan, Canadian and world economies since the Second World War. This is a significant challenge that requires a significant response. Saskatchewan's response can best be summarized in three words: Protect. Build. Grow.

The 2021-22 provincial budget protects the health and safety of our people and our economy, builds our province through investments in infrastructure, grows Saskatchewan through various incentives and delivers on 14 specific campaign commitments

The budget provides direct funding to fight COVID-19, record levels of investment in health, education, social services and assistance, while supporting the protection of persons and property.

**Protecting Saskatchewan People**

- \$1.5 billion to help fight against COVID-19. A further \$1.3 billion of support is in place for the next two years, for a multi-year commitment of \$4.8 billion;
- \$6.5 billion record level of health care funding;
- \$90 million for specific COVID-19 health response, including mass vaccination rollout, PPE, lab capacity and physician costs;
- \$23.4 million increase to the \$458 million budget for mental health and addictions services and programs, including specialized youth services, 12 new treatment beds in Estevan; and
- \$6 million to hire 100 continuing care aides, for long-term care and expanded home care services.

This budget will build Saskatchewan through capital investment, helping our economy, creating jobs and meeting people's needs.

**Building Saskatchewan Communities**

- \$3.1 billion in capital investment for hospitals, schools, highways, and many needed projects;
- \$162 million in health care capital, including funding for new long-term care facilities in La Ronge, Grenfell and planning for Watson and Estevan;
- \$5.7 million for urgent care centres in Saskatoon and Regina;
- \$553.2 million in transportation capital,

part of the \$10.6 billion since 2008 to improve 17,100 km of highways and build bypasses and interchanges;

- Includes twinning on Highway 3 west of Prince Albert, as well as multiple passing lane projects on Highways 2, 3, 5, 7, 12, 14, 16, and 39; and
- \$189.9 million for education capital, including \$101.9 million to support 21 ongoing capital projects and 28 major renovation projects since 2008.

This budget will grow Saskatchewan through key investments and incentives, and it will keep life affordable for families.

**Growing Saskatchewan's Economy**

- \$174.8 million for the Saskatchewan Economic Recovery Rebate reducing electricity bills by 10 per cent for all customers, and \$285 million for the Auto Fund Recovery Rebate;
- \$9.3 million, an increase of \$5 million, to establish four new international trade and export offices.
- \$3.8 million in royalty relief to help oil and gas producers invest in methane emission reduction projects; and
- Modernization and expansion of the High Water-Cut Program to make wells more viable for producers.

While our economy has fared better than most through the global health crisis, the pandemic has still had a significant impact on the province's economy and finances. As a result, this year's deficit will be larger - \$2.6 billion - and it will take longer to return to balance than we had anticipated.

Our government is committed to making the investments needed now to protect Saskatchewan people and drive a strong economic recovery as we emerge from the pandemic.

Throughout this pandemic, we have witnessed Saskatchewan's resolve, as our people made the sacrifices required to protect themselves, families, friends, neighbours and co-workers. When this pandemic is over, we will witness Saskatchewan's resilience.

This year's budget protects, builds, and grows Saskatchewan. It charts a clear course for our province through the pandemic and into the strong recovery that will follow.

You can learn more at [saskatchewan.ca/budget](http://saskatchewan.ca/budget).

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Travis Keisig, MLA  
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# COVID cancels Country Thunder

By Evan Radford

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The COVID-19 pandemic has rained on Craven's music festival parade, again.

Country Thunder organizers announced Tuesday, April 13 they're cancelling this year's country music show, after "ongoing dialogue with public health officials and the provincial government; and the continued uncertainty surrounding the border closure," the company said in a news release.

Last year's show was also cancelled due to the pandemic.

Luke Combs was to headline this year's event along with fellow musicians Dan and Shay and Kane Brown.

Troy Vollhoffer, CEO of the compa-

ny's Saskatchewan festival, said, "This is not the news that our fans want to hear or the news that we wanted to deliver... But, as we have learned, and given these extenuating circumstances, the decision-making process is completely out of our hands."

The news release announcing this year's cancellation says tickets purchased for this year are to be "automatically honoured" for next year's music festival.

The Regina area, which according to the Saskatchewan Health Authority includes Craven, remains a hot spot for active COVID-19 cases and variant strains of the virus.

By April 21, the border between the United States and Canada will have been closed to non-essential travel for 13 consecutive months.

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### Storm

CHRIS ASHFIELD | GRASSLANDS NEWS

Broadview RCMP had Highway 1 blocked off at Whitewood on Tuesday (top photo) resulting in hundreds of semi's and vehicles being lined up along the highway (bottom photo) and in truck stops. Meanwhile James Schaan (right) was just one of the many residents in town who had to dig themselves out on Tuesday.



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# All PVSD students resumed learning with online classes

By Sarah Pacio  
Grasslands News

schools caused several classes, and in some cases entire schools, to temporarily transition to online learning. Impacted communities included White-wood, Grenfell, Wolseley, and Indian Head.

This situation led PVSD's Board of Directors to take proactive measures and move all schools to online learning from March 29 to April 1. They hoped that in-person classes could resume on April 12, after the Easter break.

However, following the advice of the Saskatch-

ewan Health Authority, Chief Medical Officer Dr. Saqib Shahab, and other health officials, PVSD leaders informed families that remote learning would continue through April 23 for all students.

"The Public Health Order measures need time to impact as effects are not immediately seen," PVSD officials explained in a letter to parents and guardians on April 1. "The SHA continues to see a concerning rise in COVID cases in Regina and surrounding rural communities reaching as far as the Manitoba border."

Leaders will continue to monitor the situation with the hope of returning to classrooms on April 26.

Online learning resumed for Prairie Valley School Division on Monday, April 12 after the Easter Break.

Some classes have been participating in remote learning since last month as a result of COVID-19 contact tracing efforts. Throughout March, one-third of PVSD's 39 schools were impacted by COVID-19. Positive test results from individuals in thirteen



FACEBOOK | GRASSLANDS NEWS

## Teaching online

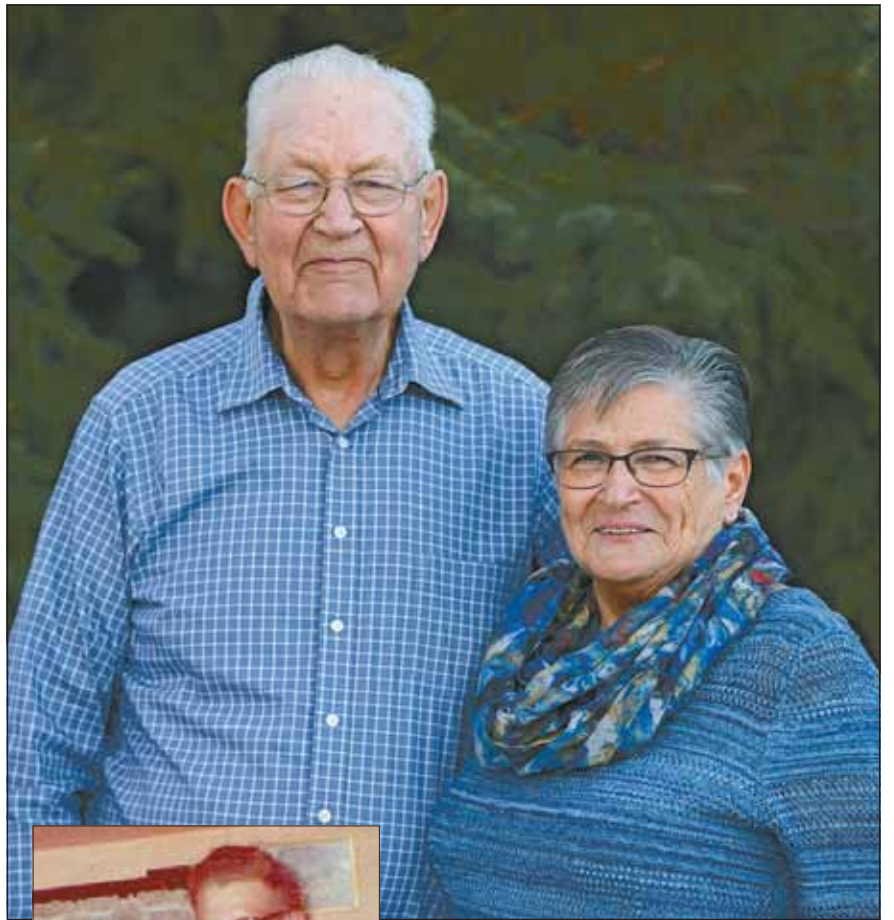
Broadview and other PVSD schools transitioned to online classes at the end of March. Remote learning will continue through April 23.

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## 60th Wedding Anniversary

John and Margaret Rygh marked their 60th Wedding Anniversary on Thursday, April 8, 2021. John was born and raised in the RM of Elcapo, north of Broadview, where his father and his grandfather farmed. Before starting his own farm, he worked road construction. That was where he met Margaret. Margaret was raised in Arden, Manitoba. She was a cook or cook's helper. They were married in the St. Andrew United Church in Broadview in 1961. John and Margaret farmed in the RM of Elcapo for many years raising four children, Nelson Rygh, Judy Fafard, Susan Obrigewitsch and Greg Rygh. They retired to Broadview, moving the house from the farm to town. Unfortunately with COVID, they were unable to celebrate with their children, grandchild and great grandchildren.

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[affinitycu.ca](http://affinitycu.ca)



# SPORTS

## Diva Dance Studio classes and competitions modified to run

By Sarah Pacio  
Grasslands News

Spring is typically a time for dance competitions and recitals. Many of these performances were completely cancelled in 2020 due to the initial coronavirus outbreak. However, this year students from Diva Dance Studio are able to display their talents with a few formatting changes.

The studio has offered a variety of class types and levels in Grenfell since 1997. Students come from Grenfell, Wolseley, Broadview, Whitewood, and other nearby communities.

Like many organizations, Diva Dance suspended classes in March 2020 and all activities were eventually cancelled for the remainder of the season. Classes resumed in the fall but with notable changes to their format.

In order to guard against COVID-19 spread, dancers and teachers

must follow guidelines laid out by the Saskatchewan Health Authority. Director Shayna Glass said these have changed throughout this past year and required weekly communications with officials to ensure the studio remains in compliance. She noted that building capacity and class size limits have had the greatest impact on operations.

"It's been a challenge to keep up with the restrictions but we were able to pivot and remain open the entire season," Glass told Grassland News. "We've had to rent additional venues and split most of our classes into smaller cohorts to stay operational. This also involved more teaching staff."

Public Health guidelines limit classes to a maximum of eight students and, within each of these cohorts, three meters of distance must be maintained between individuals. Cohorts within Diva Dance were assigned to either the Community Hall or Legion Hall in Grenfell for classes. Each group was also di-

rected to use a specific entrance at their designated venue in an effort to limit interaction between groups from different communities.

Throughout the spring, dance students usually participate in competitions. A year-end performance is also held in May with hundreds of friends and family members attending the weekend-long recital in Grenfell. Since COVID-19 regulations prevent live performances this year, competitions are being done virtually.

"Instead of the dancers travelling to the theatres to perform and compete in front of a live audience and judging panel, we had to set up a portable stage in Grenfell and video record all of the routines," Glass explained. "The videos are then submitted to the competitions."

Competition organizers compile the videos for judges to view and after adjudication is complete, the routines will be made available for parents, dancers and teachers to view.



**Video dance**  
Diva Dance Studio director Shayna Glass videos a performance of one of the dancers to send in to a competition to be judged.

## Contest being held to name Grenfell mini golf

By Sarah Pacio  
Grasslands News

Grenfell is preparing to open its refurbished mini golf course in June, and the town's leaders are inviting residents to help choose a name for the attraction.

Council approved the mini golf initiative for the Grenfell Recreational Park (GRP) in January and, shortly afterward, the Town Office began compiling a list of names suggested by community members for the course. Seven suitable names have been selected and individuals now have an opportunity to vote for their favourite one.

"We didn't sell the naming rights; we could have gone that route but we were fortunate to get a lot of

sponsorships so we opted just to name it ourselves," explained Andrea Nicholl, Grenfell's Director of Recreation and Culture. "It gives people an option to have an input to what their facilities are called."

A similar poll was held in 2019 to choose a name for a new subdivision on the north side of town, now known as Switzer Place.

Possible names for the mini golf course include: Cabbage Patch Mini Golf, Grenfell Putt-Putt Mini Golf, Lilliput Links Mini Golf, Little Greens Mini Golf, Putter's Pond Mini Golf, Shortside Mini Golf, and Sunbeam Mini Golf. Nicholl explained that the designation "mini golf" will be added to the end of whichever name is chosen, in order to facilitate online search engine optimization when potential visitors enter a search query such as "Grenfell mini golf."



Votes can be submitted online via the Town of Grenfell Facebook page until April 28; after which the new name will receive final approval from town council.

The mini golf course is expected to open June 1, to coincide with opening day at the GRP Pool. Over the next few weeks, staff will be hired and work will be completed at the facility.

"We're making progress; public works staff has completed the obstructions that they were going to make, either on behalf of the town or on behalf of some of the cash sponsors," Nicholl stated. "Now [they] need to install the carpet, the obstructions and then replace some of the fencing."

Once staffing has been finalized and COVID protocols reviewed, a directory featuring hours, rates and other information will be added to the town's website.

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## Sports Column – Darcy Gross

**Gross Misconduct****Contenders, Canadian clubs make moves**

Another National Hockey League trade deadline has come and gone with a bunch of minor deals being struck, as well as a couple of larger returns expected.

It looks as though the Toronto Maple Leafs got their man, and it would be difficult to find anything bad in their deal to secure former Columbus Blue Jacket Nick Foligno.

All the Leafs gave up for the veteran forward was a trio of draft picks – one first rounder and a couple of picks in the fourth.

Foligno is the exact type of player the Leafs needed. He's smart, he's tough and while far from a sniper, he certainly has some scoring punch despite only putting up 16 points so far this season.

He'll be the guy to set an example for how players should play. He'll go the extra mile when called upon and he's not afraid to drop the mitts and tune up an opposition player if that's what needs to happen. It doesn't hurt that he's a left winger and can play minutes in the top-six or bottom six, as the situation dictates.

Even though his best hockey is probably in the rearview, he should give the Leafs a lot of defensive minutes and some of the leadership that they've lacked in their recent post season past.

The Leafs also made a move that does nothing to clear up the goaltending situation in T.O., sending another draft pick to the Calgary Flames for David Rittich, a guy who's played well against the Leafs a few times this season, but hasn't fared well against virtually every other team in the North.

If Rittich wasn't bad enough, the Leafs also picked up pylon-in-training Ben Hutton from the Anaheim Ducks, a blueliner who has been painful to watch for most of his career.

He's not going to play a ton, but he will allow the real defenders to get a break from time to time, when the Leafs are up against a particularly weak opponent.

The Flames, still in the hunt for a playoff spot, also shipped Sam Bennett to the Florida Panthers for left winger Emil Heineman and a second round pick.

To say Bennett has underachieved with the Flames would be an understatement, but the forgotten man in Calgary may still have some upside when he plays on a stacked team like the Panthers.

It was inevitable that Bennett would leave, but I'm sure Flames' fans were hoping for a little more than they got for the former fourth pick in the 2014 draft.

The Winnipeg Jets, a team that's been looking for defensive depth for a few seasons, have swapped a sixth round draft pick for Vancouver Canucks' defenceman Jordie Benn.

Make no mistake, Benn isn't going to single-handedly change the fortunes of the Jets, but he is competent enough to step into a fifth or sixth spot on the blue line for Winnipeg.

Benn is an unrestricted free agent, so he's looking more and more like a total rental, but if he shows well, who knows?

The Boston Bruins went to the bottom of the standings to pick up Taylor Hall, a player who was supposedly looking to revive his career with a stint in Buffalo. If you happened to see him play this season, it's no wonder that the Bruins didn't have to give up much to pry Hall away from the floundering Sabres.

The only problem? Hall was one of the worst players on a team that was once placed behind the Seattle Kraken in the NHL power rankings.

It's difficult to believe that Hall is only a couple of seasons removed from being the NHL's most valuable player, when his signature move this year was to carry the puck over his own blue line and give it away immediately to the opposition, and then usually fall down for good measure.

The Sabres didn't get much in return, because of a couple of factors.

Hall will probably be a free agent again this summer is one reason and the other would be that he's just plain awful.

The Bruins are hoping he can find his 2018 form and help them secure a playoff spot.

The Habs picked up another Sabre, the slower-than-molasses-in-January Eric Staal, who immediately paid off for them, scoring an overtime goal in his first game with Montreal.

He'll be a fine player on the third or fourth line for the Canadiens, but I'm not sure what he's got left in the tank.

## Sports Column – Bruce Penton

**Happier days again for Andreescu, Spieth**

Everybody loves a good comeback story, and the world of sports has been presented with a couple of good ones in the last few months.

Welcome back, Jordan Spieth. Welcome back, Bianca Andreescu.

It was only last September that this writer distributed a column titled 'Spieth's elite golf game has vanished' and referenced the struggles experienced by the 27-year-old three-time major champion who hadn't won a title of any kind since the British Open in 2017 and had nearly fallen out of the top 100 in the official world golf rankings.

And Toronto's Andreescu, the darling of Canadian tennis fans since winning the 2019 Canadian Open and then the U.S. Open by beating the legendary Serena Williams in the final, missed all of 2020 due to injury, fuelling suggestions her career was not only on the downside, but perhaps finished.

But she rebounded in spectacular fashion after being non-competitive for 16 months. After falling in the second round of the Australian Open, Andreescu went to Miami and proceeded to serve and volley her way into the final. Unfortunately, she suffered an ankle injury mid-match against Ashleigh Barty of Australia and had to forfeit. Still, an ankle injury heals quickly compared to her earlier knee problems and she is pumped to play in this year's three remaining Grand Slam events, starting with the French Open in June. Andreescu is still only 20 years old, and has moved up to No. 6 in the world, so barring further injuries, her future looks bright indeed.

Spieth, meanwhile, got some swing advice from famed instructor Butch Harmon and in early 2021, he suddenly flipped a switch and started to play like the Spieth of old. He was dreadful from last year's PGA in August, until the Phoenix Open in February of this year — failing to make the cut five times in 10 events and finishing no better than 36th in the other five. Suddenly, in Phoenix, the old Spieth returned. He fired an astonishing third-round 61 to eventually finish fourth, and then racked up six top 15s in his next seven tournaments, capping it with a victory at the Valero Texas Open a week before the Masters, where he was again among the leaders all week, finally finishing tied for third.

Spieth said he never gave up hope that he would return to the top of the golf world. He was quoted in that aforementioned September, 2020 column as saying 'I've worked my butt off over the last year mentally, physically and mechanically. Things will start to come together.' It appears he was right.

Now, if only struggling Rickie Fowler could find that magic potion that Spieth used.

- Jay Busbee of Yahoo.com, on a typical sports fan's plans for Masters week: "... A tournament where napping on the couch isn't just an option, it's a prerequisite."

- Comedy writer Brad Dickson of Omaha: "President Biden said he will not throw out the first pitch before the Washington Nationals home opener. So if you want to see a 79-year-old pitcher you'll have to watch the Orioles."

- Comedy writer Alex Kaseberg: "Amid his sexual harassment allegations, Deshaun Watson received support on Twitter from O.J. Simpson. 'You know what, Juice, no, yeah, I'm good, that's OK,' said Watson."

- Janice Hough of leftcoastsportsbabe.com: "Dear Media. It's called 'The Masters. Not 'The Masters Without Tiger Woods. Thank you.'"

- Blogger Chad Picasner, on shortstop Francisco Lindor's contract negotiations: "Lindor wanted \$32 million a year (for 12 years) from the Mets, but owner Steve Cohen said no way, you'll take \$34 million a year (for 10) and like it. I'm glad he's not doing my taxes."

- Headlines in the San Diego Times-Union after Joe Musgrove pitched the first no-hitter in the Padres' 52-year history: "YES, A NO-NO" and "SAY IT'S SO, JOE"

- A groaner from RJ Currie of sportsdeke.com: "It should be no surprise that Baylor gunned down previously unbeaten Gonzaga 86-70 to win the NCAA tournament. Hasn't Texas always been big on the right to arm Bears?"

- Dwight Perry of the Seattle Times: "Further evidence that stat geeks have too much time on their hands: It was revealed that Tigers rookie Akil Baddoo just became the first player in MLB history to hit home runs in his first two career games while batting out of the ninth spot in the batting order. Somehow overlooked: By a left-handed hitter, at home, on natural turf, in day games."

- Patti Dawn Swansson, aka the River City Renegade, on squeaky-clean Edmonton Oilers star Connor McDavid getting fined \$5,000 for elbowing an opponent in the face: "I couldn't have been more surprised had I found a copy of 'Sinatra: The Rapper Years' at my local vinyl store."

- Legendary basketball coach Roy Williams to reporters, on his Tar Heels coaching successor, Hubert Davis: "I will be here cheering. I won't ever criticize you. I'll blame it on the officials."

Care to comment? Email [brucepenton2003@yahoo.ca](mailto:brucepenton2003@yahoo.ca)

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# Saskatchewan community loses bid for Hockeyville

Province is yet to have a winner in contest

By Alan Hustak  
Grasslands News

Four communities recently had a chance to win \$250,000 in arena upgrades and the opportunity to host a National Hockey League pre-season game. All they had to do was win Kraft Hockeyville. The final four communities were Bobcaygeon in ON, Elsipogtog First Nation in N.B., Sainte Adolphe, MB and Lumsden, SK.

The afternoon prior to voting closing there was a nervous energy over the community of Lumsden. "The streets were like a ghost town with everyone in their homes voting," organizer of Lumsden Hockeyville Jamie Lees described. "There were plenty of emotions going around town including her own home where the Lees' family was a mixture of excited and nervousness."

In non pandemic year's, communities usually had huge rallies on the day of voting in a last ditch attempt to draw in support as well as votes. This was not allowed to

occur this year and had to all be done virtually. With the restrictions in place, restaurants are take-out only and only family is allowed in homes.

Winning Kraft Hockeyville is not an easy task, especially for communities situated in Saskatchewan or Manitoba. In the 14 previous years of the competition, neither province has produced the winner. That trend continued this year as well. Elsipogtog First Nation, New Brunswick is the winner of the 15th edition of Kraft Hockeyville.

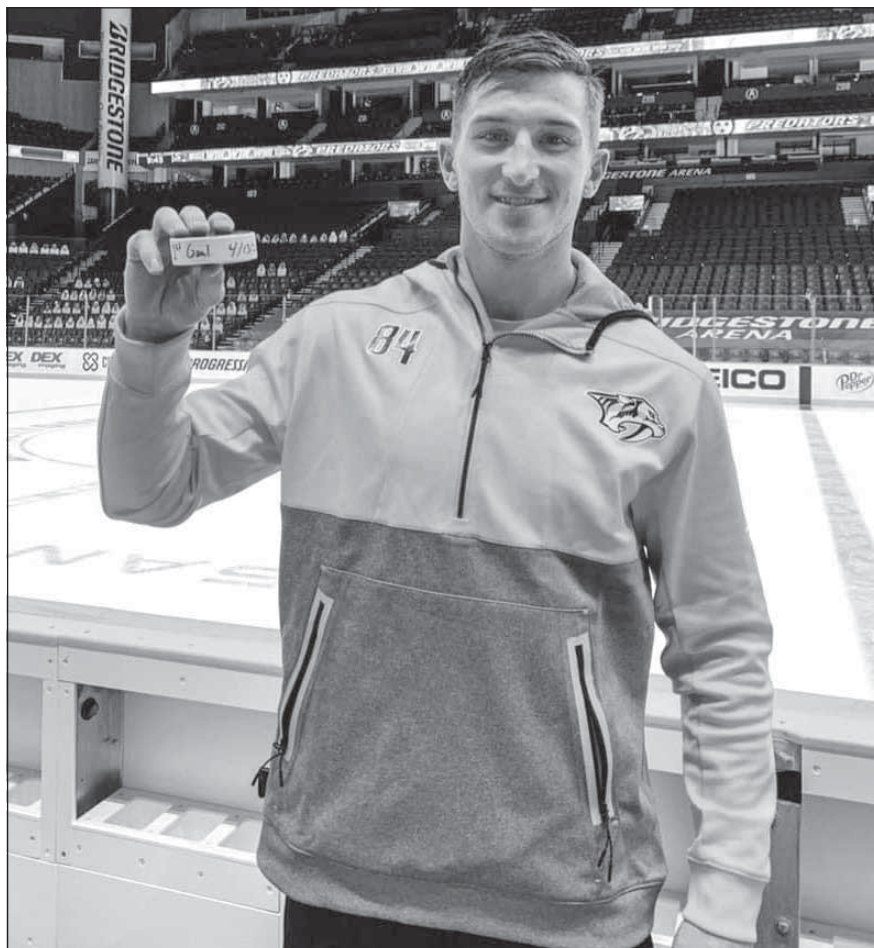
For the runner up communities, including Lumsden, the news is not all bad. They receive \$25,000 in arena upgrades and an additional \$10,000 worth of equipment. "The results were disappointing, but I'm very happy a deserving community got the money to help them in a time of need!" Lees adds "We were able to unite our town, surrounding communities and whole province in a approved way during a pandemic. So I regret nothing!"

The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has had a negative effect on almost ev-

erything and fundraising is no exception. One of the biggest annual fundraisers for the community centre is the duck derby. The derby had to be cancelled in 2020 and is in question for 2021.

On average, the Duck Derby brings in around \$60,000. "Having to cancel the duck derby due to COVID last year, we are trying to not only recoup funds for the rink but find a way to unite people again," Lee says. "Since we can't physically connect, this competition has allowed us to virtually unite. I love seeing people of all ages, gender, current and past residents of Lumsden come together for the purpose of supporting our town!"

The \$25,000 in arena upgrades won, as well as \$10,000 worth of equipment, will be very beneficial to the community. There will be a meeting at an undetermined date to discuss how the winnings will be spent. After the restrictions are lifted and life can start getting back to as normal as it can, hockey will once again be a vital part of small town life. In Lumsden, hockey



## First NHL goal

Tanner Jeannot of Oxbow, who has family in Whitewood, scored his first NHL goal Tuesday night against the Tampa Bay Lightning. The Nashville Predators' player scored the goal with 5:26 left to play in the third period, helping the Predators beat the Tampa Bay Lightning 7-2.

PHOTO COURTESY OF NASHVILLE PREDATORS

isn't just a game but rather a way of uniting communities, developing friendships and forming lifelong connections.

The provinces of Saskatchewan and Manitoba still have yet to capture Kraft Hockeyville but communities such as Lumsden are reasons

why the provinces consistently have communities in the final four. Lumsden in 2021, Pense in 2020 and many other communities have come close to being Saskatchewan's first winner of Kraft Hockeyville. One year a Saskatchewan or Manitoba community

will be crowned Kraft Hockeyville. There is no time like the present to start thinking about next year's competition and finally getting a Saskatchewan or Manitoba community crowned Kraft Hockeyville. After all - proper planning prevents poor performance.

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# Property reassessment

- continued from page 9

number of properties that are actively leased/rented in the market where the buyers of properties are actually buying those properties to get that rental income.

"In most small communities you don't have enough properties that fit those categories so then the standard approach followed there is to determine what it would cost to reconstruct those properties and we have cost guides and manuals that provide that cost information. Anything that would be associated with the cost to construct a property would be things that we consider as part of establishing the assessed values. So we see what it would cost to build that property new and then we ask how old that property is. How many years ago was it built? What condition is it in? Good, average, or poor? That then affects how much depreciation we apply to that particular replacement cost to determine how much the depreciated replacement cost is. To that we add the known value based on whatever sales information we can get—it's primarily on vacant land sales in the area.

"So we know land in the area is selling for this much, we know the replacement cost of the property is this much and we've depreciated it, and the final step in the process is to look at actual sales of those kinds of properties from that area over the previous four year period leading up to the base date," he said.

"With that, we look at on average when these properties are selling, are they selling for the full replacement cost plus depreciation and the land value? Are they selling for a little more than that? Are they selling for a little less than that? And we adjust the cost based assessments using what we call a market adjustment factor to bring them in line with what the selling prices are telling us is the average selling price of those kind of properties in that area. That's how we come up with the assessments."

When SAMA's property assessments come out, land owners are able to review them and have a window to decide if they want to appeal them. Blank says every municipality in Saskatchewan has a local board appointed to hear these challenges from land owners.

"In a revaluation year—this year is a revaluation year—we're updating all the values for all properties to reflect a more current valuation base date. In 2021, all the new assessments are going to be reflective of what most properties are selling for on average as of January 1, 2019," he said.

"That's a four year move from what last year's as-

sessments were supposed to reflect—the 2020 assessments were supposed to reflect the average value of those properties as of January 1, 2015, which had been in place for the previous four years. In a revaluation year, the opportunity for people to inquire and potentially challenge their assessments is doubled from a non-revaluation year.

"From the time that assessments are placed on an assessment roll and advertised as being available for review, property owners have 60 days to review that property assessment and ask questions about it—which they can do any time—and they can also go on our SAMAVIEW website which provides free access to any property owner across the province to look at their assessments and compare it against their neighbours' assessments. If they're satisfied their assessment is fair, that's where the process usually ends, but if they look at it and think something isn't right, they can challenge it and have a 60-day period to launch an appeal with their local board of revision—a group of local folks the municipality would appoint to sit as a board of revision.

"Before the board of revision happens, there's usually a process where our assessment appraiser will contact whoever appealed the property and try to find out what their concerns were and if an error was made," he said.

"Let's say we haven't checked the property for physical data for quite a few years and we haven't assessed for a garage that was torn down four years ago, but for whatever reason it wasn't reported by the local municipality so we never checked it out. If we find out that there's an error of that type there, we can recommend an agreement to adjust and at that point just correct the assessment without having to have the person go in front of the board of revision to get that done.

"The first step is the appraiser contacting the person who has launched an appeal to inquire about the issues and if there is an error, we try to work with the land owner to fix it and we show them what the assessment should be and if they agree and sign off on it, then that's where the process ends. If they can't come to a meeting of the minds there and our folks don't see an obvious error that should be corrected then the property owner goes in front of the board of revisions. It's a somewhat informal process, but they do need to have some substance at that stage—they can't just say, 'I think my value's too high;' they have to say, 'I think my value's too high and here's why.'"

When there's an appeal, it's up to the locally appointed board to make a final decision, but if the property owner or SAMA appraiser don't agree with the board's decision, the appeal process can continue at a provincial level, says Blank.

"The appeal final decision is made by the local board of revision," he said. "That local board of revision has that authority to determine if in fact this person has a case and they agree and suggest the assessment should be changed to a certain amount—whatever the appeal is seeking. For example if they say, 'we agree this property is in poorer quality than what SAMA has rated it and we think it should be rated as a poor quality,' they can ask our appraiser to tell them what the assessment would be at that poor quality and once the appraiser indicates that, they can say, 'that's what our decision is going to be.'

"That's not the last step in the process though; if either party comes out of the board of revision and feels that justice wasn't served, they can then appeal to a higher provincial level called the Saskatchewan municipal board. That Saskatchewan municipal board has oversight across the whole province and these are folks who are appointed by the province to be that second level of appeal.

"It's still relatively informal—you don't need lawyers or anything like that—but these guys are that much more well trained in the whole process. They can be that final point of review for any issues of fact and interpretation of those things."



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ads@grasslandsnews.ca

Neighbourly Advice According to ED - Ray Maher

# Joy and sorrow: opposite sides of the same coin

Ed, my old neighbor in Saskatchewan, told me recently that I should be rejoicing because I'm to get my COVID-19 shot. I told Ed that my booking for my vaccination was not joyous.

Booking my vaccination appointment online was a small nightmare because I was pretty dull about what and how the computer wanted information.

Eventually, after much frustration on my part, I was registered for my shot.

My joy at having made my appointment was tempered by my frustration in achieving my booking. Sometimes I feel that I'm confident on my computer, and sometimes it seems like I'm dumber than dirt at giving the computer what it wants. When it comes to my laptop, I'm both competent and incompetent.

I think that joy and sorrow are the opposite sides of the same coin. Can the sorrow of Good Friday be separated from the joy of the resurrection of Easter Sunday?

The challenge is not focusing on either joy or sorrow but on God, who is more magnificent than them both. When we focus on God, both sorrow and joy can be accepted

as part of circumstances beyond our control.

When my computer skill is lacking, there is help if I'm willing to seek it and accept it. My competence or incompetence does not begin and end with me but factors beyond my control.

God is hidden in the affairs that are the mixture of the positive and the negative flow of everyday life.

The Bible speaks in terms of, "A time for everything, a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance." Ecclesiastes 3:4

Our time on earth is never just laughter or weeping, but the reality of times of both in our lives, sometimes on the same day.

Do we live our lives centered on the almighty God, who is love and grace? God is greater than our best or worst days. He allowed Jesus to lay down his life, suf-

fering the punishment of our sins in his body on the cross on Good Friday.

In Christ's suffering and innocent death, "God was reconciling the world to Himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them." 2 Cor. 5:19

God, who did not spare his own Son for the salvation of us sinners, calls us to dare to rejoice and celebrate with joy while accepting both the frustrating and pleasant events that come our way.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 reminds us, "Be joyful always; pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ

Jesus."

Psalm 118:24,29 instructs us, "This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, his love endures forever."

Rejoicing and joy have everything to do with Jesus' resurrection from the dead on Easter Sunday, proving Christ's words, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me will live,

even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in Me will never die."

John 11:25-26

We rejoice in Jesus' victory over death. He assures us, "Because I live, you also will live."



## Melville's Churches Welcome You



**Melville Anglican Lutheran Ecumenical Community - MALEC**

**ALL SAINTS' ANGLICAN CHURCH**  
Corner 6th Ave. E. & Main St.  
Church Office 306-728-5764

**ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
238 - 3rd Ave. E. Office - Ph. 306-728-2551  
Office Hours: Mon. - Thurs. 10:00 a.m. - 12 noon  
Pastor Kim Sherwin - www.stpaulsmelville.ca

**April 18:** 9:30 a.m. All Saints' Annual Meeting  
11:00 a.m. Worship and Sunday School at St. Paul's  
1:00 p.m. Confirmation Class at St. Paul's  
**April 20:** 7:00 p.m. St. Paul's Council Meeting  
All services at St. Paul's can be streamed live on Facebook. Sunday morning live streams start at 10:50 a.m.

**FIRST UNITED CHURCH**

5th Ave. E. & King St.  
**Office Hours:**  
Mon., Tues., Thurs., 9 a.m. - 12 noon  
Ph. 306-728-5057  
Rev. Brian Mee, Ph. 306-335-7611  
website: firstunitedmelville.org

**April 18:** 11:00 a.m. Worship Service with Rev. Brian Mee

**THE RIVER CHRISTIAN CENTER**

(A Church with a Caring Heart)  
800 Prince Edward St. (Melville Comm. Works)  
Ph. 306-728-2347 - Pastor Tim Oehler

**Sunday:** 10:00 a.m. Doors Open - 10:30 a.m. Worship Service  
Pre-registration is welcomed, but not required.  
More information available online at:  
Website: www.melvillechurch.org  
Facebook Page @melvillechurch  
Recorded services will continue to be posted online

**MELVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH**

473 - 8th Ave. W.  
Office Ph. 306-728-5022 - Pastor Jon Pettinger

**Sunday Service Times:** 9:30 and 11:15 a.m.  
Pre-registration is required  
Online services can be found at: www.melvillebaptist.com

**BETHANY EVANGELICAL MISSIONARY CHURCH**

5th Ave. W. & Queen St. - Church Office Ph. 306-728-5001  
**April 18:** Worship Service 10:30 a.m.  
**April 25:** No Service

**MELVILLE PENTECOSTAL CHURCH**

115 - 11th Ave. W.  
Pastor Doug Braun - Office Ph. 306-728-0197  
email: mpc@sasktel.net  
www.facebook.com/melvillepentchurchsk

**April 18:** In-Person Service  
\*Please join us on Facebook at Melville Pentecostal Church

**GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH**

258 - 10th Ave. W. - Ph. 306-728-3971  
Pastor Doug Schmirler  
facebook.com/gslcmelville

**April 18:** 10:30 a.m. In-Person and Online Worship  
**April 20:** 6:30 p.m. Church Council Meeting  
**April 21 & April 22:** 3:30 p.m. Confirmation Class

**ST. GEORGE'S UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH**

Corner of 3rd Ave. E. & Manitoba St.  
Fr. Basil Malowany  
basilmalowany@gmail.com - 306-540-5102

**Sunday, April 18:** 11:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy  
**Saturday, April 24:** 5:00 p.m. Divine Liturgy  
**Please Note:** Parishioners MUST register 24 hours in advance for each service. Contact 306-728-3813.

**ST. HENRY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH**

729 Main St. - Office Ph. 306-728-5702  
Res. Ph. 306-728-2305 - 111 - 8th Ave. W.  
Father Andrzej Sowa, OMI

**Saturday Mass:** 7:00 p.m. **Sunday Mass:** 10:00 a.m.

**ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH**

(Lutheran Church - Canada)  
502 - 4th Ave. W. - Church Office Ph. 306-728-5689  
Email: zlcpastor@myaccess.ca  
Website: www.zionlutheranmelville.com

**Sunday, April 18:** 11:00 a.m. Worship Service  
Church of the Lutheran Hour heard Sundays at 9:00 a.m. on 940 CJGX Radio, Yorkton

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## WORSHIP SCHEDULE



### WHITEWOOD AND AREA

**KNOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
Services - 10:00 a.m.  
Rev. Seon Ok Lee

**NEW LIFE COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
Worship Service ~ 10:30 a.m.  
Wed. ~ Kids Club ~ 3:30 - 5:00 p.m.  
Held at New Life Church (Ages 5 - 10)  
Fri. ~ Youth Group ~ 7:00 p.m. (Ages 11 & Up)  
Pastor Doug Lancaster

**EVANGELICAL MISSIONARY**  
Sunday School - 10:30 a.m.  
Sunday Service - 10:30 a.m.  
Friday Youth Bible Study - 6:00 p.m.  
Pastor Samuel Jung

**WAPPELLA CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE**  
Service - 11:00 a.m.  
Sunday School - 10:00 a.m.

**ST. JOSEPH'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
Sunday Mass - 11:00 a.m.

**ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, WAPPELLA**  
\*No Services until further notice

**ST. MARY'S ANGLICAN CHURCH**  
\*Services CANCELLED until further notice



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116 Main Street

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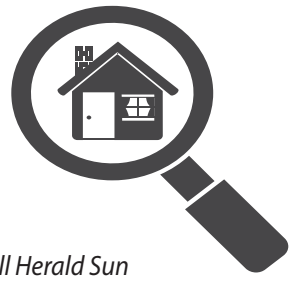
Melville, 306-728-4221 — Whitewood, 306-735-2335

Mark and Gaylene Matthews and staff



matthewsfuneralhome.ca

# CLASSIFIEDS



ONE AD, THREE NEWSPAPERS: All classified ads appear in the Melville Advance, Fort Qu'Appelle Times and Whitewood/Grenfell Herald Sun

## Obituary Lawrence Hoedel

April 7, 2021

With sadness, the family of Lawrence Albert Hoedel announces his passing on Wednesday, April 7, 2021 at the age of 97. Dad passed away peacefully at the Campbell Care Home in Regina, Sk. He was predeceased by his wife, Mary, who passed away in 2016 and his son Darrell in 1973.



Left to mourn are his children, Dennis (Beth) Hoedel, Norma (Martin) Knuth, Debbie (Greg) Miller, Gerry (Robbie) Hoedel, Mervin Hoedel and Lorne Hoedel; grandchildren, Tyson (Kayla), Steven (Lindsey), Garrett (Sarah), Alison (Keary), Tannis, Jesse, and Brooklynn; and great-grandchildren, Payton, Breann, Lydia, Adeline, Owen and Myles.

Dad was born and raised on the family farm near Grayson, Sask. He married Mary Ruhr of Dubuc in 1947 and together they worked hard to grow their own farm and family, raising seven children. Mom and dad moved to Regina in 2014 where they lived until their passing.

The family would like to thank Bahri and the staff at the Campbell Care Home for their compassion and care during dad's five years there. According to dad's wishes, cremation has taken place and his ashes will be buried in St. Mary's Parish Cemetery in Grayson. A private graveside service will be held at a later date.

## Obituary John "Johnnie" Kotzma

July 19, 1926 - March 16, 2021

John "Johnnie" Kotzma passed away peacefully on Saturday, March 16, 2021 in Surrey, British Columbia. He was in his 95th year.



Born on July 19, 1926 in Waldron, Sask., Johnnie moved from Waldron to Melville in his late teens to play hockey with the Melville Millionaires. He was a member of the 1951/52 Millionaire team that won the Saskatchewan Hockey League championship. It was said that Johnnie

"could skate like the wind"; he was regarded, at the time, as the fastest skater in the league. He was also a prolific goal scorer. When he put away his hockey stick, John didn't hang up his skates but became a registered hockey referee. He refereed junior and senior games and championship series from the west coast to Ontario for a number of years.

In Melville, John met Isabelle Jukes and they married in 1948. They raised their daughter Joan in Melville, where John was active in the Kinsmen Club and the First United Church choir. A keen sportsman, John also played for the Melville Millionaires baseball team, and spent much of his leisure time curling, fishing, golfing, playing bridge and gardening. Starting as a young man, he worked for many years for the Canadian National Railway, where he used his unique and now almost-forgotten skill at Morse Code to communicate with other telegraphers. He also worked in retail with Melville Stationery for several years.

In the early 1970s, John relocated to British Columbia, where he worked for the T. Eaton Company in various communities on Vancouver Island and in the Lower Mainland until he retired in 1991. Through his work, John met his second wife, Coral, and they married in 1987.

John continued to be social, healthy and physically active through golf, skating, skiing and walking well into his late 80s.

A social creature, John loved people and a good time, and he made many friends over the course of his long life. He especially loved children. He was the kind of uncle and neighbour who taught a kid how to crack gum and eat a mouthful of "sheemies" (sunflower seeds with shells), who tugged playfully on a little girl's braids, and who saved newspaper articles about National Hockey League stars for a young buddy's scrapbook. He will be fondly remembered by a number of nieces and nephews for whom he was a very special uncle.

John was predeceased by his parents, Rose (Zelisko) and John Kotzma Sr., and by his three siblings, Anne (Jackie), Stella/Sally (Dobson) and Edward. He is survived by his daughter, Joan (Selby) and her partner, Jamie Ritchie of Vancouver, B.C.; his ex-wife Isabelle of Vancouver, B.C.; his second wife Coral; and numerous nieces and nephews.

## Obituary Eleanor Jean Lamere

Sept. 18, 1945 - April 3, 2021

Eleanor Jean Lamere (nee Kreklewich) passed away peacefully on April 3, 2021 in Weyburn, SK.

Eleanor was born in Kelliher, SK on Sept. 18, 1945 and grew up on the family farm, attending school in Melville. She had two important guys in her life - her husband, Harry and her son, Kevin. Eleanor and Harry were the best of friends and were rarely seen apart during all the years they lived in Regina, Lebret, Fort Qu'Appelle and Weyburn.

Anyone who knew Eleanor, knows what a proud wife, mother and grandma she was. She loved nothing better than to tell others all about her family. She and Harry always had a beautiful vegetable garden, which they canned and shared with family and friends. Eleanor also enjoyed baking, knitting and playing cards.

Eleanor is predeceased by her parents, Peter and Stella Kreklewich; infant brother, Ernie and brother-in-law, Alec Kobsar.

She is survived by her beloved husband, Harry; her pride and joy, Kevin (Amanda) Zarubin and their daughters, Brooke and Alicia; sister, Virginia Kobsar and many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

The family wishes to thank the staff of Tatagwa View and Weyburn General Hospital for their compassionate care of Eleanor.

In lieu of flowers, expressions of sympathy in Eleanor's name can be directed to the Canadian Diabetes Association at [www.diabetes.ca](http://www.diabetes.ca)

Arrangements are entrusted to Tamara Seghers of Fletcher Funeral Chapel in Weyburn.

Due to pandemic restrictions, a private family celebration of Eleanor's life will be held at a later date.

Condolences may be left at:  
[www.fletcherfuneralchapel.com](http://www.fletcherfuneralchapel.com)

Services In Care of  
Fletcher Funeral Chapel & Cremation Services  
Weyburn, Saskatchewan  
306-842-5432



## Obituary Cindy Lee Nelson

Aug. 3, 1962 - March 25, 2021

Cindy Lee Nelson (nee Clarkson) of Whitewood, SK, passed away peacefully after a courageous battle with cancer on Thursday, March 25, 2021, in the Moosomin hospital with her family by her side. She was 58 years of age.

Cindy was born on Aug. 3, 1962, to William (Bill) and Ann Clarkson in Medicine Hat, AB, where she attended school and lived most of her life until meeting Wes. They settled in Whitewood, where Cindy lived her life to the fullest with her children and grandson. Cindy decided to go back to work as a caregiver and gave her all at the Broadview and Grenfell care homes, working for Helping Hands.

Cindy leaves to cherish her memory: her husband, Wesley Nelson; two daughters, Jennifer (Mark) and Brandi (Mart); her son, Marc (Kendra); her grandson, Brayden; her mother, Ann Clarkson; her brother, Wayne Clarkson; mother- and father-in-law, Merele and Colleen Nelson; and many aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her father, William James Clarkson, in 2007.

Cindy will be deeply missed by everyone.

A private family graveside service was held on Wednesday, April 7, 2021 at the Whitewood Cemetery with the Rev. Sunny Lee officiating. Brandi Schille delivered the eulogy.

Arrangements were entrusted to Matthews Funeral Home, Whitewood.



  
MATTHEWS  
Funeral Home

## Obituary Alvin "Moth" Miller

Feb. 12, 1936 - April 1, 2021

Alvin "Moth" Miller, 85, of Melville, SK, ended a long battle with Congestive Heart Failure on Thursday, April 1, 2021.

Al was born on Feb. 12, 1936 in the District of Grayson. He was the beloved only son to Jack and Mary (Armbruster) Miller. He received his education at Cana School.

On Nov. 16, 1963 Al married his sweetheart, Mary Kuntz. The couple celebrated their 57th anniversary in 2020; they were blessed with five children: Dwayne (Shawna), Scott (Lois), Gwen (Lee), Donna (Garth), and Shelley; plus 10 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Al worked in retail for many years, most notably managing both Melville and Yorkton Eaton stores, later becoming superintendent and greenskeeper of the Melville Golf Course. Al was an avid sports fan and proud supporter of many local teams including the Melville Millionaires hockey and Millionaires baseball teams. He also enjoyed following the Toronto Blue Jays, Saskatchewan Roughriders and his much-loved Winnipeg Jets, who he was thrilled to see in person in 2017.

Al was a well-known accomplished golfer, winning numerous trophies and awards over the years, finally obtaining the elusive hole-in-one in 2017! His second home was the Melville Golf Course which he took pride in being a member and contributing to its upkeep and maintenance. He was also an avid curler and cribbage player, winning several provincial titles, having the opportunity to travel nationally with his teammates.

Al contributed greatly to the community of Melville over the years, as an active member of not only the Melville Golf Course, but the Legion, Kinsmen and the Elks.

Crooked Lake held a special place in Al's heart where he enjoyed many years, sharing with family members and friends.

Al will be remembered for his quick wit, love of sports and zest for life. He will be missed dearly by family and his many friends and acquaintances.

We feel comforted that he has been re-acquainted with those who left before him, and that he is once again enjoying a round of golf.

A funeral mass was held on Tuesday, April 6, 2021 at 2 p.m. from St. Henry's Roman Catholic Church in Melville with Father Andrew Sowa, OMI, as the Celebrant.

Arrangements were by Bailey's Funeral and Cremation Care, Melville.

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FUNERAL AND CREMATION CARE  
[www.baileysfuneralhome.com](http://www.baileysfuneralhome.com)

## Obituary Arthur John Zaporozan

Aug. 15, 1940 - April 5, 2021

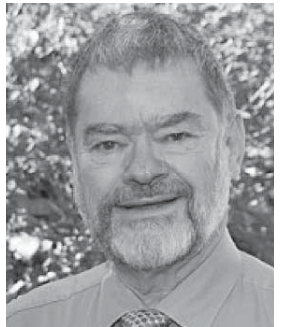
It is with profound sadness we announce the passing of Arthur John Zaporozan following a short battle with pancreatic cancer. Art was 81 years old.

Beloved and devoted husband of Margaret for 60 years; father to Brian (Joy), Beverly and Sheryl; grandfather to Christy (Thomas) Holden, Alexa, Keegan, Natasha (Grant) Massie, and Nathan (Kayla) Krywiak; great-grandfather to Leon, Elizabeth and Declan; brother to Harold Zaporozan (Helen Bechtel) of Kamloops, B.C.

A funeral service will be held at St. Herman's Orthodox Church. Due to COVID-19 requirements, this event will be by invitation only. A memorial page can be viewed at: [www.arbormemorial.ca/evergreen/obituaries/arthur-art-john-zaporozan/64509](http://www.arbormemorial.ca/evergreen/obituaries/arthur-art-john-zaporozan/64509)

The family is sincerely grateful to the staff of AHS Palliative Care Program; Alberta Community Paramedic Program personnel; and the wonderful staff at the Red Deer Hospice.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made online to Red Deer Hospice Society or The Lending Cupboard (Red Deer) whose equipment we could not have managed without.



**CLASSIFIED RATES**  
(based on 25 words or less)

Obituary Deadline Tuesdays 12 Noon



1 week: \$12.00 • 2 weeks: \$18.00 • 3 weeks: \$24.00 • 4 weeks: \$28.00  
Additional weeks: \$2.50 • Deadline: Tuesdays at 12 noon

**1-844-GNG-NEWS**

# Obituary

**Helen Vassos**  
Nov. 2, 1932 – April 7, 2021

It's with heavy hearts we announce the passing of Helen Vassos on Wednesday, April 7, 2021, in Melville, SK, at the age of 88 years.

Helen was predeceased by her husband, Gordon, sister Mary Edwards and brother Steve Antal. She will be lovingly remembered by her three children, Cindy Vassos, Marcus (Dianne) Vassos and Cletus (Lisa) Vassos; and grandchildren Alexander and Niki Donnelly, Carlie Vassos and Owen and Hilary Vassos.



Helen was born in Lestock, SK, on Nov. 2, 1932, the daughter of Steve and Margaret Antal and the youngest of three children. She enjoyed all sports, and any spare time away from school and farming was spent curling and playing fastball. Helen moved to Melville in the early 50s and landed a job at the CN Beanery; that's where our dad laid eyes on her and said to his buddies, "I'm going to marry that woman". Later on she worked for Dr. Gellman's Dental Practice as a receptionist.

Helen and Gordon were married on May 14, 1956, and immediately began to raise a family. Her passion for sports continued, as she was an avid league bowler for most of her adult life. Helen worked as a bureau agent for the Regina Leader Post and operated a Pizzeria in the early 70s. She moved on from making pizza to helping her husband, Gordon, as owner/operator of the Bake-Rite Bakery, which they closed in the mid-80s. Helen continued to manage the Leader Post bureau and occasionally helped with cleaning and keeping things in order at House of Hair until retirement. She was a devoted Catholic and member of The Catholic Women's League of Canada for over 50 years.

Helen found comfort in her later years spending time with her children and grandchildren and enjoying the peacefulness of being outside feeding the birds and gardening. Our mom worked tirelessly and instilled the value of hard work in all of us. We will remember our mother for her unconditional love, dedication to the community and genuine friendship with so many. She spent hours baking for family and friends over the holidays, loved listening to the radio and especially enjoyed the Roughrider football games. There is comfort knowing Mom and Dad are together again, laughing and dancing.

Thank you, Mom, for everything and all the memories we will cherish forever in our hearts.

*Love you - Your Children*

A family graveside service will take place in the Melville City Cemetery at a later date.

Arrangements entrusted to Matthews Funeral Home, Melville and Whitewood.



## Memorium



LUTZ – In loving memory of Arthur (Jim) Lutz, April 17, 2010. Sadly missed along life's way, Quietly remembered every day. No longer in our life to share, But in our hearts he's always there.

–Remembered by your wife, children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. 11-1p

**Beverly L. Simes**

May 23, 1950 - April 17, 2018



A silent thought, a secret tear, Keeps your memory ever dear. God took you home, it was His will, But in our hearts you live still. We miss you so much!  
–Love Graham, Arla, Jodie and grandsons. 1-1p



SOULSBY – In loving memory of David, March 1, 1966 to April 16, 2010. Our thoughts are ever with you Though you have passed away, And those who loved you dearly Are thinking of you today. –Lovingly remembered by Wendy, Cam and Quinn. 11-1p

*Want to place  
an ad?*

**1-844-GNG-NEWS**

## Card of Thanks

The family of Cindy Nelson would sincerely like to thank the New Life Community Church, RM of Silverwood, Murray and Roxanne MacPherson, Sam and Linda Beutler, Les and Muriel Beutler, Mark and Jennalee Beutler, Myrna and Reid Mossing and Doug and Peggy Stevenson for all the support shown at the loss of our wife, Mom and Grandma.

Thanks to everyone also for all of the food, flowers, phone calls, messages of sympathy and donations to the Go Fund Me. We cannot express how much it is all appreciated during this difficult time. 43-1p

## Garage Sales

HUGE YARD SALE starting April 15 from 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. Tables, benches, lumber, fridges, stoves, tools, furniture, electronics, speakers, windows and doors, and a lot more. Also have a strawberry field. Call for information, 306-876-2106. 10-2p

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7-7c

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### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

In the Estate of **Elenora Mildred Hillier**, late of Melville, Sask., deceased.

All claims against the above estate, duly verified by statutory declaration and with particulars and valuation of security held, if any, must be sent to the undersigned before the 25th day of April, 2021.

COGENT LAW  
272 Broadway St. West  
Yorkton, Sask.  
S3N 0N6

Attention: Adeola O. Oloko  
Solicitor for the Estate

10-2p

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FOR RENT – Balcarres Housing Authority has a 1 bedroom seniors suite available for rent. For more information contact Anne Marie Moulding at 306-335-7638. 52-12tfc

## Employment Wanted


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application form.  
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## NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF ASSESSMENT ROLL

### Resort Village of Melville Beach

Notice is hereby given that the Assessment Roll for the Resort Village of Melville Beach for the year 2021 has been prepared and is open for inspection by appointment until June 1, 2021.

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

Any person who wishes to appeal against his or her assessment is required to file his or her notice of appeal, in writing, to the Board of Revision Secretary; P.O. Box 3250, Melville, Sask. S0A 2P0, by 4 p.m. on June 1st, 2021.

Dated this 5th day of April, 2021.

Kayla Hauser, Assessor  
Phone 306-730-5799 – [rvmelvillebeach@gmail.com](mailto:rvmelvillebeach@gmail.com)

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## Assessment Roll NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Assessment Roll of the Resort Village of District of Katepwa for the year 2021 has been prepared and is open to inspection, in the office of the assessor from Monday to Thursday, 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon and 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. from April 16, 2021 to June 14, 2021.

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

Any person who wishes to appeal against his or her assessment to the Board of Revision is required to file a notice of appeal in writing, accompanied with a \$50.00 appeal fee by June 14, 2021 to:

The Secretary of the Board of Revision  
Aileen Swenson  
31 Wilkie Road, Regina, SK S4S 5Y3  
Dated this 16th day of April, 2021.

Gail E. Sloan  
Assessor

## RM of South Qu'Appelle No. 157 Notice of Preparation of Assessment Roll

Pursuant to Section 214 of *The Municipalities Act*, notice is hereby given that the assessment roll for the Rural Municipality of South Qu'Appelle No. 157 for the year 2021 has been prepared and is open to inspection by appointment in the office of the Assessor from 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. on the following days:

Friday, April 16th, 2021 to Friday, June 18, 2021  
(excluding Statutory Holiday Monday, May 24, 2021)

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

Any person who wishes to appeal against his or her assessment or classification to the Board of Revision is required to file a notice of appeal along with a \$100.00 fee by the 18th day of June, 2021 (either by mail or deliver to the RM office through door slot) to:

RM of South Qu'Appelle No. 157  
c/o Darlene Tyson, Secretary  
Board of Revision

P.O. Box 66, Qu'Appelle, SK S0G 4A0  
Dated this 16th day of April, 2021.

Laurie Rudolph, Assessor

# Farewell parade for Lypka's

By Judy Hershmillier  
Balcarres Correspondent

Best wishes to Alex and Eva Lypka who will be moving to Saskatoon this week. Alex has lived in Balcarres all his life, and was a math teacher at Balcarres High School until his retirement. Eva has been an active member of many organiza-

tions while raising their three children, Tanya, Nadia and Michael, and following the time their children grew up and left home.

A farewell parade of close to 30 vehicles took place on April 8 to bid farewell and good luck to the Lypka's; you will be missed by us all.

Sincere sympathy to family and friends of

Betty Crossman who recently passed away. Betty lived all her life in Balcarres where she worked and was an active volunteer for various organizations.

Sincere sympathy to Bob Keys and family and friends on the recent passing of Jean Keys. Jean also lived all her life in Balcarres where she worked until retirement.

They moved to Katepwa, and back to Balcarres for several years and then finally to Regina.

These women are greatly missed and our thoughts and prayers are with their families.

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## Rural Municipality of Stanley No. 215 PUBLIC WORKS SUPERVISOR

The Rural Municipality of Stanley No. 215 is currently accepting applications for the position of Public Works Supervisor. This position is responsible for the supervision of the road maintenance crew, including permanent and seasonal public works and utility operators. This position is also responsible for administrative tasks including work planning and project tracking. This is a Working Supervisor position, and, as such, this position will also be responsible for the operation of equipment and maintenance tasks to ensure public safety and the efficient operation of the RM. A full Job Posting can be found online at [www.stanley.ca](http://www.stanley.ca)

Submit written applications stating experience, qualifications and two references to:

**RM of Stanley No. 215,  
P.O. Box 70, Melville, SK S0A 2P0  
or email to: [rm215@stanley.ca](mailto:rm215@stanley.ca)**

**\*\*The deadline for receiving applications will be 12 p.m. on April 19, 2021\*\***

The RM of Stanley No. 215 thanks all for their interest however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted. We will retain all applications on file for two (2) years unless otherwise requested.

*Please note that this is a safety-sensitive position, and as such, pre-employment drug and alcohol testing are required.*

**We want to know what's happening in your area**

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[www.brydenconstructionandtransport.ca](http://www.brydenconstructionandtransport.ca)

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## Notice of Assessment Roll

RM of Willowdale No. 153

Notice is hereby given that the Assessment Roll for the RM of Willowdale No. 153 for the year 2021 has been prepared and is open to inspection in the office of the assessor, on Monday, 8:30 a.m. to 12 noon and 1 to 4:30 p.m.; Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. from April 12 to June 14, 2021.

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

Any person who wishes to Appeal against their Assessment is required to file their Notice of Appeal along with the \$50.00 Appeal Fee to:

The Board of Revision,  
Gord Krismer & Associates Ltd.  
Attn: Aileen Swenson, Secretary  
31 Wilkie Rd.  
Regina, SK. S4S 5Y3  
[Aileen.swenson@sasktel.net](mailto:Aileen.swenson@sasktel.net)

By June 14, 2021 at 3:30 p.m.

Dated at Whitewood, SK. This 12th day of April, 2021.

Please note that due to the COVID-19 Pandemic the office is currently closed to the public. Please call to make arrangements with the Administrator by phone to 306-735-2344 to view an assessment.

Andrea Smyth,  
Administrator

## RM of South Qu'Appelle No. 157 Seasonal Grader Operator

The successful candidate will meet the following criteria:

- Class 1A Driver's License
- Have willingness and capability to operate various pieces of equipment as required for the job assigned (grader, semi, tractor, loader, etc.) or possess a willingness to learn operation of the required equipment.
- Have knowledge of servicing and maintaining various equipment.
- Must be capable of working within a group or with minimum to no immediate supervision.
- Attention to detail, safety conscious, and ability to take direction from Foreman.

Duties may include but are not limited to:

- Operating various pieces of equipment
- Assisting in road repairs
- Installing Culverts
- Erecting signs
- Trucking clay or gravel
- Any other tasks assigned by the foreman with the direction of Council

The RM of South Qu'Appelle offers a competitive wage and comprehensive benefits package including the Municipal Employees Pension Plan (MEPP).

Applicants are invited to submit a resume indicating of job-related safety courses and certificates achieved, qualifications, experience, and work references. A Drivers Abstract and a current Criminal Record Check must accompany resume.

Application Deadline: 4 p.m. Wednesday, April 28, 2021

**RM of South Qu'Appelle No. 157,  
P.O. Box 66, Qu'Appelle, SK S0G 4A0  
Fax: (306)-699-2671 - Email: [rm157@sasktel.net](mailto:rm157@sasktel.net)**

Only those applicants selected for an interview will be contacted.

## Caleb Village Melville

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#### Mail tender to:

Box 100-680 7th Avenue East,  
Melville, SK S0A 2P1.

Attention Manager

Please submit tender by **April 27, 2021.**



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## PUBLIC NOTICE

Rural Municipality of Lipton No. 217

### Notice of Discretionary Use Application

Pursuant to Section 55 of the *Planning and Development Act 2007*, the Council of the RM of Lipton No. 217 gives notice that a discretionary use application has been received and the details are as follows:

#### Discretionary Use Permit:

#### Gravel Operation- SE-08-24-14- W2M

**Gravel Operation:** The applicant is making an application to operate a gravel pit and crushing operation on the SE 08-24-14 W2M.

**Public Hearing:** Council will discuss the above noted Discretionary Use Permit at 9 a.m., Tuesday, May 4, 2021, in the Lipton Seniors Center, Main Street, Lipton Saskatchewan. For further information please call Frank Kosa, Administrator at 306-336-2244.

Dated at the Village of Lipton, in the Province of Saskatchewan, this 31st day of March, 2021.

**Frank Kosa, Administrator**

## ASSESSMENT ROLL NOTICE

Rural Municipality of Cana No. 214

Notice is hereby given that the assessment roll for the RM of Cana No. 214 for the year 2021 has been prepared and is open to inspections in the office of the assessor from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. during regular office hours on the following days: Monday to Thursday, April 16 to June 16, 2021.

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

Any person who wishes to appeal against his or her assessment is required to file his or her notice of appeal along with the appeal fee of:

- **Residential:** \$75.00 per alternate number
- **Agricultural:** \$75.00 per alternate number
- **Commercial:** Assessed Value 0-499,999 - \$150.00 per alternate number
- Assessed Value 500,000-1,000,000 - \$500.00 per alternate number
- Assessed Value 1,000,001 and Over - \$750.00 per alternate number:

with the Secretary of the Board of Revision, Gord Krismer & Associates Ltd., 31 Wilkie, Road Regina, SK S4S 5Y3 or the Assessor, RM of Cana No. 214, P.O. Box 550, Melville, SK S0A 2P0 by the 16th day of June, 2021.

Dated this 16th day of April, 2021

**Kali Tourney, Assessor**

# RCMP to focus on ATV education

By Sabrina Bailey

Fort Qu'Appelle Detachment

Reporting period:

April 6 to April 12

Fort Qu'Appelle detachment dealt with 78 occurrences over the past two weeks.

### Traffic

RCMP continue to receive calls about kids on quads. A reminder that those between 12 and 15 years of age can only operate an ATV in public areas while supervised by someone who has a valid driver's licence or who has passed an approved ATV training course.

Further to the ATV education piece from a few weeks ago, Fort Qu'Appelle RCMP will be focused on enforcing ATV regulations and ensuring proper adherence to the laws this spring and summer.

Members attended to calls of a jackknifed trailer and a semi in a ditch. Both were due to poor driving conditions during the snowfall. Neighbouring detachments received many more calls and assisted stranded motorists in the storm.

Many calls were received regarding speeding on the grid between Edgeley and Pasqua First Nation. Everyone who

hates speeding tickets raise your right foot.

Warning issued for driver performing activity to distract, startle, or interfere with other highway users.

### Other Incidents

A male was arrested after causing a disturbance at a residence he was on conditions to not be at.

Police attended a call to remove two fighting individuals from a house. One of the involved was arrested for a warrant out of Regina.

A male was relocated into cells after being found intoxicated and

sleeping in an alley. He was released without charges once he was sober.

The RCMP has been receiving more calls about people prowling vehicles; residents are reminded to keep their doors locked.

### Crimes Against the Person/Property

Warrants have been issued for a 26- and 48-year-old male for breaking and entering into a house and assaulting a 33-year-old male. It seems the motive was comments over Facebook.

A warrant has been issued for a 32-year-old male for assault and breaching

his conditions. The male assaulted a female he was on conditions to not have contact with after a previous assault. Social Services were contacted as children were present.

Police responded quickly to a 911 call of someone walking around with a machete. A youth was located and arrested for assault with a weapon and possession for a dangerous purpose. The victim needed medical attention for cuts on her hand and identified a second youth who assaulted a different victim with a two by four in the same incident. The investigation is ongoing.

# Seniors get tech savy with tablets

By Alan Hustak

Grasslands News

Seniors looking to become tech savy and develop their computer skills can now sign up for free lessons at the Fort Qu'Appelle Public Library. A New Horizon grant of \$9,800 from the federal government has allowed the library to buy iPads and Galaxy devices for a program designed to help seniors connect virtually with friends and family.

New Horizons provides funding for projects that make a difference in the lives of seniors and in their communities. Among the classes being offered, participants can learn how to use Facebook, participate in Zoom meetings, conduct their own on-line banking, or

learn how to play a number of games, even bridge. Three people have already registered for the 2-hour sessions which start in May. "It's a brand new project to give seniors the opportunity to learn how to use search engines and devices to learn a variety of topics in a relaxed atmosphere," said library board chair Jill Whiting. "We have six iPads and six Galaxy devices that you can use, or people can bring their own. And it's all free."

Because classes will be conducted under strict pandemic guidelines, only 10 people will be able to take part at any one time. So far three people have signed up for the course, which is expected to start in May. Classes will be offered throughout 2021 with the intention of giv-

ing seniors the knowledge to feel comfortable using devices that can be used as recreational diversions during the pandemic.

To sign up for a workshop or if you'd like to share your computer skills and teach others, please call the library at 306-332-6411.

The Broadview Lions Club have also taken steps to assist not only senior but anyone with sight disabilities as they have E-readers available to be used in the home for free.

An E-reader is a device similar to an iPad except it is only used for reading. They are somewhat smaller than an iPad and have a battery with a charge time much longer than an iPad.

Contact Doris Norbeck at 306-696-3166 to request an E-reader.



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- The minimum educational qualification for this position is a journeyman, technical diploma or degree in a relevant discipline.
- The minimum amount of practical, related experience required to perform the duties of this position is 3 years' experience in supervising, managing building maintenance and operations including financial responsibility, building systems, project management, general contracting, and asset management.
- A suitable combination of post-secondary education and relevant experience may be considered for this position.
- Demonstrated experience working in a cross-cultural environment.

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Send application by email to [careers@parklandcollege.sk.ca](mailto:careers@parklandcollege.sk.ca), quoting competition # 57-2021.

Application Deadline: Monday, May 10, 2021 at 12:00 p.m.

We thank all applicants for your interest; however only those selected for an interview will be contacted. Candidates will be required to submit a satisfactory criminal record check prior to initial employment.



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