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"Freedom of the press ... is not the publisher's right to print. It is the citizen's right to know." - Arthur Hays Sulzberger



SARAH PACIO | GRASSLANDS NEWS

Community hall ribbon cutting

Surrounded by members of the fundraising and building committees, Mayor Larry Lockert assisted Odessa's most senior residents Pauline Wild and Konrad Lang in cutting a ribbon to celebrate the opening of the village's new community hall.

Grand opening held at new Odessa Community Hall

Thousands of volunteer hours invested in the project

By Sarah Pacio
Grasslands News

The Village of Odessa celebrated a tremendous accomplishment last weekend with special events and a ribbon cutting ceremony at the newly constructed Odessa Community Hall.

Kids' activities and karaoke took place last Friday evening at the hall beside the baseball diamonds on 2nd Avenue. On Saturday, festivities began with a polka party led by Dennis Ficor and Jason Stepp in the afternoon, which was attended by 200 people. This was followed by a catered supper served to 350 people, a ribbon cutting ceremony and a cabaret featuring Lenny & the Gypsies.

During the ceremony on Saturday evening, speakers recalled the origins of the construction project, commended the many people who had assisted with it, and celebrated the completion of the new hall. Throughout the program, community members were repeatedly praised for their generous spirit of volunteerism.

In 1948 a Parish Hall was built in Odessa and it be-

came a key gathering place for community members. Labour and funds were donated so that no debt was incurred from the project. In 1977, an addition was constructed to accommodate larger gatherings.

In 2018, the community began discussing options for revitalizing the aging hall. It was determined that renovations would not be feasible so a new hall should be built. Fundraising and building committees were formed and planning commenced for the new facility. The financial support and labour contributions that local residents and businesses made to complete the project successfully carried on the legacy of volunteerism that began with the original Parish Hall.

Project organizers estimate that more than 7,000 volunteer hours were contributed from the project's conception to completion. Volunteers demolished the old hall and cleared away debris early in 2022, and then hauled more than 100 loads of dirt to level the site. Construction began in the fall of 2022 and the building's exterior had taken shape by the following summer. Late last year, the various rooms could be distinguished inside the new hall. The first event was held in the com-

pleted venue on March 9, 2024, followed by the grand opening celebration on April 19 and 20.

Throughout the whole process, the fundraising and building committees persevered through changes to costs and timelines, caused primarily by the COVID-19 pandemic's impact on the economy.

Initially the new hall was expected to cost \$700,000 but the final expense totaled approximately \$1.3 million. The fundraising committee organized numerous events such as an online auction and trip of the month draws. Grants were also sought, along with individual and corporate sponsorships. The committee was successful in obtaining significant funds through the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program and other grants. The Thunder on the Prairies Tractor Pull contributed a donation of \$350,000 to the building project as well.

In addition to financial support, many people volunteered their time and skills to the community hall project. Though there were too many to name them all, several volunteers were acknowledged during last Saturday evening's program. These included members of

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infiNET announced for more communities in area

By Elaine Ashfield
Grasslands News

SaskTel announced an investment of an additional \$80 million in its Rural Fibre Initiative that will begin for more communities in the area that are waiting for infiNET service. Phase 7 will be supplied to an-

other 61 communities including B-Say-Tah, Lemberg, Maryfield, Neudorf, Stockholm, Wapella, Wawota and Whitewood. The communities will be fibre-ready by the end of 2027.

This investment will bring advanced fibre optic broadband connectivity to more than 22,000 addi-

tional homes and businesses further ensuring Saskatchewan remains one of the most well-connected provinces in the country.

Other communities already announced in the area that are part of the total list are (Phase 3): Esterhazy, Fort Qu'Appelle, Indian Head, and Moosomin, who are 95% complete while (Phase 4): Kipling, Rocanville; (Phase 5) Balcarres, Grenfell, Stoughton, Wolseley and (Phase 6) Arcola, McLean, Qu'Appelle, Vibank, amongst others are to be fibre-ready by the end of 2025.

Grasslands News inquired how the dates for installation within the various centres of the Rural Fibre Optic initiative are determined and SaskTel explained, "While population is one of the factors we take into consideration when determining our service expansion plans, it is not the only factor. Other factors we consider include the required capital expenditure, existing infrastructure, expected return on investment, and economic activity to name a few. As Saskatchewan's home-grown communications leader, we are pleased to be bringing our fibre optic broadband network to all 193 communities included in the Rural Fibre Initiative and will continue to do what we can to complete this project as quickly as possible."

"When SaskTel completes this work, it will have invested more than \$1 billion to bring its fibre optic broadband network to 225 communities and nearly 85% of all homes

and businesses across Saskatchewan," said Dustin Duncan, Minister Responsible for SaskTel. "The work being done at SaskTel, under the guidance of our government, will ensure that communities across the province have access to the communications infrastructure they need to grow and thrive for many years to come."

Powered by Saskatchewan's largest fibre optic broadband network, SaskTel's infiNET service delivers internet speeds reaching up to a Gigabit per second (Gbps), allowing subscribers to surf, stream, and share however much content they want at incredible speeds. Plus, the infiNET network has the capacity to grow to support the evolving needs of SaskTel's customers and increasing popularity of cloud services, video streaming, and smart technologies.

"At SaskTel, we truly understand how important a fast and reliable internet connection has become in the modern world, especially for those who live and work in rural communities," said Charlene Gavel, SaskTel President and CEO. "As Saskatchewan's home-grown communications leader, we're pleased to increase our investment in the Rural Fibre Initiative so that we may bring the unparalleled speed and reliability of our infiNET network to more of our customers who live and work in rural communities across the province."

Originally announced in 2020, the Rural Fibre Initiative is a multi-phase program that will see

SaskTel invest \$280 million to expand its infiNET network to nearly 200 communities across the province. SaskTel anticipates all communities included in the Rural Fibre Initiative will be fibre-ready by the end of 2027.

"SUMA is pleased to see this investment into 61 towns and villages through the fibre optic broadband network," said SUMA President Randy Goulden. "Access to good communications infrastructure like fast and reliable internet is necessary for all Saskatche-

wan hometowns to move into the future, to connect nationally and globally. It's why SUMA advocates for improved broadband services. These smaller centers will now have the same broadband access as larger centers. What a great step forward."

The towns and villages that will receive infiNET service as a result of the additional investments announced recently will be connected as part of Phase 7 of the Rural Fibre Initiative.

To learn more about infiNET service, please visit www.sasktel.com/infinet.

Ottawa to collect Sask. carbon tax eventually

Residents to continue to receive rebates

By Alan Hustak
Grasslands News

The federal government has instructed the Canadian Revenue Agency to "eventually" collect the carbon tax money from the Saskatchewan government that Premier Scott Moe is illegally withholding from Ottawa.

During an impromptu media conference in Saskatoon on Tuesday, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said his government has "mechanisms to collect the money," and that he has faith in the "rigorous, quasi-judicial proceedings that can be used by the Canada Revenue Agency," to get it.

Trudeau said in spite of the power struggle between the two levels of government, Saskatchewan residents need not worry about receiving their carbon tax rebates.

"We are going to continue to deliver the Canada Carbon tax rebate to families right across Saskatchewan despite the fact that Premier Scott Moe is not sending the money he's collected to Ottawa right now."

Earlier this year Premier Scott Moe decided not to remit the federal carbon price on natural gas to Ottawa. The federal government initially warned that in retaliation, the federal government might withhold direct carbon tax rebates from Saskatchewan residents. That is no longer the case.

"Saskatchewan residents won't be penalized because their premier, Scott Moe, is playing politics with climate change," federal Environment Minister Steven Guilbeault has assured residents. "The Prime Minister and I think cabinet felt it would not be fair for the people of Saskatchewan to pay for the irresponsible attitude of the provincial government."

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History welded in steel

By Alan Hustak
Grasslands News

Anyone who has driven the Louis Riel trail between Regina and Saskatoon is familiar with the larger-than-life roadside sculptures at several towns along the way.

The installations at places such as Craik, Davidson, Kenaston and Hanley, are the work of Don Wilkins, who convinced the Saskatchewan government to promote the history of the Northwest as a tourist attraction.

"I don't pretend to be an artist, I am a histo-

rian," Wilkins told Grasslands News during a visit to Fort Qu'Appelle this week to do research on the historic prairie trails that once converged in the valley. "People always said the road between Regina and Prince Albert was boring. That bothered me, because there is nothing boring about Saskatchewan's history and I thought we could find a unique way to tell our stories."

He was inspired to create the works after seeing a bison made of metal during a trip to Montana in 1994.

"I set out to tell the

story of the Metis," he said, "from Louis Riel's return to Saskatchewan to lead the 1885 uprising and his subsequent execution," he explained.

Wilkins, 87, has been a history buff since he was a teenager. He first suggested that Highway 11 be renamed the Louis Riel Trail in 1997.

"I couldn't have done it without the commitment from the communities involved, without the support of academics at the University of Saskatchewan and Tourism Saskatchewan."

In 2001 the Department of Highways agreed to the name change. Representatives of the Metis community adopted the Red River Cart as the trail's identifying symbol.

Wilkins, who farms near Davidson, has had no formal training as an artist. He begins by making a chalk drawing then welds something that looks like a skeleton.

"That becomes my reference point. I start with the head and when I am satisfied with the look, I proceed to finish the rest of the figure."

Some of his sculptures along the road are 12 feet tall. His favourite, at Kenaston, depicts a Cree mother and her Metis son standing next to a Red River cart.

"It took me quite a while to weld all of the works. I never found putting any of them together easy."

One of his works, a



The Red River Cart, one of Wilkins pieces of metal art, is the symbol of the Louis Riel Trail along Highway 11.

ALAN HUSTAK | GRASSLANDS NEWS

statue of Prime Minister John A. Macdonald remains in his workshop because revisionists have attempted to write Macdonald out of history.

"You can't tell the story of the Metis without Macdonald," Wilkins said. "He is part of the story, he had Riel hanged."

Certainly (Macdonald's) great failure was that he didn't understand the west, but he still deserves the credit for being the father of our country."

Wilkins latest installation is a statue of Chief Sitting Bull. It is expected to find a permanent location later this year. Sitting Bull sought refuge in Canada after annihilating the U.S. 7th Cavalry at the Battle of the Little Big Horn in 1876 and spent time in the Qu'Appelle Valley during the summer of 1881.



A sculpture of Chief Sitting Bull has yet to be placed.

ALAN HUSTAK | GRASSLANDS NEWS



Don Wilkins has created more than a dozen installations.

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CALL FOR NOMINATIONS & RESOLUTIONS

Borderland Co-op is seeking nominations from members who are interested in serving as a Director of the Co-op.

There are three positions available for a 3-year term. All Nominees:

- Must meet Director eligibility requirements, which are included in the nomination package.
- Nomination package must be completed no later than **May 9th, 2024 at 4:30 p.m.**
- A copy of the nomination package can be picked up at Borderland Co-op Admin Office, 622 Carleton Street, Moosomin, SK.
- Resolutions must be submitted no later than **May 9th, 2024 at 4:30 p.m.** Resolutions can be dropped off at Borderland Admin Office, 622 Carleton Street, Moosomin, SK., or emailed to: info@borderland.crs

For further questions, please email: info@borderland.crs

Highway 9 considered one of province's worst roads

By Chris Ashfield
Grasslands News

Highway 9 in the Qu'Appelle Valley is in the running to be one of the top 10 worst roads in the province as part of CAA's popular Worst Roads contest.

The contest, which started on April 9, 2024, is now into the second week of the annual advocacy and safety campaign. Saskatchewan road users including motorists, pedestrians, cyclists, and passengers continue to select and vote for their worst, unsafe roads.

Highway 9 north of Whitewood through the Qu'Appelle Valley has drawn the ire of motorists for over a decade due to heavy frost boils in the winter that force speeds to be reduced from 100 km/h to 30 km/h.

On April 18, CAA's Angel Blair met road users of Whitewood #9 which placed 7th in CAA's 2023 Top Ten Worst Roads with potholes listed as the number one safety concern. Raquel Bear had this to say, "This past two years is probably the worst we have ever seen it – the ruts are just unbelievable."

According to Braedy Nesbitt, "It's just like riding a tube – the first bump is four feet and (the) second bump when you hit the rebound, you go like eight feet – everything in my cab probably flipped about a foot or two. I was lucky nothing went under my brake or gas..... but it's a pretty rough ride."

The current CAA 2024 top ten worst, unsafe roads list which includes residen-

tial streets, roads, and highways from across the province can be viewed at caaworstroads.com/clubs/saskatchewan. The nominations and votes are constantly changing and are automatically updated.

Selections and votes for worst unsafe roads that have potholes, poor road maintenance, poor road signs or road markings, unpaved roads, traffic congestion, no or poor cycling infrastructure, or poor transit infrastructure is easy and only takes a few minutes. The CAA 2024 Top Ten Worst Roads will be announced on April 30, 2024.

New this year is one grand prize of a \$1,000 (one thousand dollar) Shell Gift Card courtesy of CAA Saskatchewan, to be selected through a random draw from all eligible votes. The winner will be announced on April 30, 2024.

To nominate and vote for your worst, unsafe road visit caask.ca/worstroads and select a road - municipal or provincial - and a specific segment or section. One vote per road per road user in a 24-hour period is acceptable.

Other local area roads in the running for the worst road title include Highway 22 near Cupar and Highway 8 north of Moomin.

CAA Worst Roads is an online engagement campaign aimed at drawing attention to our province's worst, unsafe roads. The top ten worst roads for 2024 will be shared with stakeholders including government and business leaders in hopes of sparking conversation and action.



Highway through hell

The section of Highway 9 through the Qu'Appelle Valley is considered one of Saskatchewan's worst highways in the CAA Worst Road contest.

CHRIS ASHFIELD | GRASSLANDS NEWS

Teacher's strike affecting small business

Submitted
Grasslands News

One third (33%) of Saskatchewan small businesses say the ongoing Saskatchewan teachers' strike is having a negative impact on their business operations according to a recent Canadian Federation of Independent Business (CFIB) survey.

The survey found that of those businesses impacted, 74 per cent said they are experiencing staffing challenges as employees with children have had to leave work at odd hours, or take days off to care for their children. Business owners indicate they are having to work longer hours themselves to make up for missing staff.

In addition, 38 per cent said that the impacts of the strike have interrupted their regular business operations, leading to decreased productivity. An alarming 24 per cent say that they are experiencing lost sales/revenues because they have had to turn down or cancel contracts as staffing challenges are making it difficult to fill orders.

"The ongoing teachers' strike is disruptive for everyone, including local entrepreneurs," said Bri-

anna Solberg, CFIB provincial affairs director. "Business owners aren't just worried about their operations, but they're also worried about the wellbeing of their employees and their families."

In response to the survey, one business owner said the strike is "hurting our businesses productivity, but we are also concerned for our staff and those who need to choose between caring for their kids and earning an income to support their family." Another business owner added that "our staff have school aged children and are noticeably stressed at work."

The majority of business owners (69%) agree that the Saskatchewan government should use all the tools available to end the teachers' strike as quickly as possible to avoid further disruptions.

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Local woman and others warn of scammer

By Elaine Ashfield

Grasslands News

A local woman who became acquainted with a man in mid 2020, only to find out that he was a scammer, using women to gain access to their finances.

The woman discovered that incidents have been reported to the police as the man has served a sentence previously for scams in the past. The victims want him exposed as soon as possible to save other women from being scammed as the police continue their investigation. The romantic scammer that meets women through social media and destroys the lives of his victims is now being exposed by several women in the same manner – through social media.

“Snowed – the Michael Snow Fraud Story” is a Tic Tok series done by his victims, including the area woman identified as Cindy, the Farmer’s Wife. The story can also be found on Facebook as “Michael Snow is a Fraud.”

The man, that several women are accusing of scamming them out of finances, is a cross-Canada truck driver that has access to women in several locations and mainly targets certain women such as divorced women, women on dating sites and seems to prefer women of a somewhat larger build that are old enough to probably be established in their personal lives.

“This man is so good at the gab,” the local woman told Grasslands News. She says he has answers for every question and is what she calls a pathological liar; he has stories and even manufactures places and things that he shows his victims to substantiate his stories that are unbelievably real, but are not true.

“I wasn’t scammed as much as some others. Shelley (from Moose Jaw) was scammed out of about \$1 million in her five-year relationship with him,” Cindy, the Farmer’s Wife explained. Shelley had sold a profitable business that she had with a business partner prior to meeting Mr. Snow and set up her own business from her home. Her relationship with Mr. Snow, ac-

ording to Shelley in her videos, may seem quite unbelievable to some but she states that she is not a woman stupid to the facts in a normal relationship but eventually found out that this man was a professional at what he was doing. She purchased items that he would use, including a Jeep that could not be found when their relationship ended. He utilized her credit cards and always had what seemed to be a solid excuse why he needed them. He would pay some back but as time went on, the debt owed kept climbing.

Cindy, the Farmer’s Wife explained that prior to finding out about the scams with other women, “Red flags started to pop up. Things like him looking on his phone quite often and one of his victims would appear from inside her home. Why would there be security cameras inside the home and not on the outside?”

“In July of 2022 he asked if I wanted to go on a trip to Langley with him and a friend of his, Denise. They were making a trip to pick up his stuff as he was fired from the company he was working for. Upon returning, he asked to be left at a shop in Moose Jaw which seemed odd as he said he was still living at Shelley’s. Yea – not true. When the truth all came out, he had also scammed Denise, who is from Regina, out of \$109,000 as well.

“He had asked me to go on a trip to Newfoundland (his parents are located on the eastern coast) and the following trip, he took another woman from Maple Creek, Rae who was supposedly his fiancée, all the while still requesting loans from me.”

Eventually, some of the women became aware of each other and of the scamming that was taking place. He is known to add his face recognition to their phones for access to information and had a roundabout way of slipping in hints about the victim’s family or children that he knew and scammed some of them as well. He was also known



Accused of scamming SUBMITTED | GRASSLANDS NEWS

A local woman met this man and like other women, state he is a scammer. Many were taken for large sums of money and are warning others.

to drink alcohol and at times was described as ‘nasty.’

Cindy, the Farmer’s Wife says she was aware of the accusations for a while prior to ending the relationship but felt there was more information she could find out to help the case if she stayed in contact. She stated that on one trip to Winnipeg, he had shown her a somewhat isolated location with a building, and she said, “I remember thinking, what a good place to hide something. Sure enough, that was where Shelley’s Jeep was found.”

Previously, the scammer had suggested to the Farmer’s Wife that they should build an investment, a shop on her property and they could use her property as collateral. That was a definite “No” she said.

The scammer had been in Whitewood driving the camouflage Jeep of Shelley’s and his last visit to Whitewood was over Easter weekend. The relationship with the scammer ended when Cindy, the Farmer’s Wife posted on the Tik Tok video on April 9 revealing her knowledge of his scams. The texts from the scammer portraying coverups

he’s been in Yorkton lately and apparently was living in Winnipeg with another woman. Maple Creek is reportedly his residence at present. This scammer is destroying the lives of his victims, and has nothing to show,” Cindy, the Farmer’s Wife states in her warning to other women.

A news release in the Peterborough Examiner in December 2012 stated, “Fraud artist Michael Snow was sentenced to three years and three months in prison Monday. It will take most of his victims’ years to recover from the damage he created. Snow pleaded guilty to two counts of fraud over \$5,000 in July. He scammed eight people and one business in a series of frauds that totalled well over \$1.5 million.

The sums of money referenced in court are substantial. There are Jim and Don Anderson, the brothers behind Phoenix Organs on Drummond Line east of Peterborough, who gave Snow \$33,000 in 2006 for a router they didn’t receive. A Bowmanville businesswoman was scammed of \$130,000. A Lindsay-area man was defrauded of \$500,000. A Winnipeg woman lost \$65,000. A Toronto man lost as much as \$750,000 after he was conned into

a development deal with Snow to finance a subdivision in Pembroke.

One woman testified in court how she met Snow via an online dating site shortly after the death of a parent, she said, and on the heels of a bad divorce. “I had gone through some trying times,” Anderson read aloud, “but I had no idea of what I was about to be involved with.” Snow eventually bilked her out of \$185,000. Anderson told court she had to sell her retirement home and her car to get out of the debt created by Snow’s scam. A mother of two, she’s facing years of financial hardship.

Another victim wrote that she paces the floor at night, hounded by banks and creditors who await their “pound of flesh” because of her former association with Snow. Other victims wrote that their family’s futures, their retirements, their businesses, are all in question because they put their trust in a con man. Snow apparently has little to offer his victims by way of restitution after taking tens of thousands of dollars from people for his own personal use.

It appears that the scammer has not learned his lesson and may be back at his fraudulent ways. Be cautious people.

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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."

Who really makes and why the change in decisions by the feds?

During his visit to Saskatchewan on Tuesday, Prime Minister Trudeau surprised even his federal Environment and Climate Change Minister Steven Guilbeault (who stated he hadn't heard the announcement) with his statement that the federal government is going to continue to deliver the Canada Carbon Rebate to families right across Saskatchewan, even though Premier Moe is not sending that money to Ottawa right now.

Last fall, Saskatchewan Premier Scott Moe warned that his province would stop collecting the fuel charge from residents in the new year. Then, in late February, the province announced it would no longer remit the carbon price on natural gas to the Canada Revenue Agency.

Moe made the decision to not collect the fuel charge on energy bills in protest to the federal government's decision to exempt heating oil from the levy but not natural gas, which is used by eight in 10 households in Saskatchewan.

The removal of carbon tax for home heating oil was criticized as being an unfair benefit to mostly Atlantic Canadians who are the greater users of heating oil.

In a follow-up to the announcement, Guilbeault confirmed that the prime minister has turned over the collection of the money owed by Saskatchewan to the federal government from the carbon tax to the CRA.

Guilbeault stated, "And the prime minister said that he has great faith in the ability and the tools that are at the disposal of the CRA ... to ensure that the government of Saskatchewan pays what is owed to the federal government." Trudeau says, "And good luck with that. We don't have to do anything as a federal government."

With the Liberals having few seats in the Prairies, and a majority of seats in the Atlantic areas, the announcement this week to continue to pay Saskatchewan residents their carbon tax rebate must undoubtedly have a purpose. It is interesting that an announcement of such magnitude would be put out to the public by the prime minister without his ministers, especially the environment and climate change minister, being aware.

Natural Resources Minister Jonathan Wilkinson had also previously stated that one consequence of Moe's actions would be cutting the carbon rebates sent to Saskatchewan households. The rebates are based on how much money is collected in each province, and will be lowered, he said, if less money comes in.

Prior to the carbon tax increase on April 1, the four Atlantic premiers, as well as their counterparts in Saskatchewan, Alberta and Ontario, asked Trudeau to rethink the plan. Prime Minister Justin Trudeau says premiers would rather complain and "make political hay" out of his federal carbon pricing program than present an alternative to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Trudeau made the remarks after Newfoundland and Labrador Premier Andrew Furey wrote a letter urging him to convene an "emergency meeting of leaders" to discuss options. This has not transpired yet.

Trudeau has accused conservative premiers of lying about the policy's effect on inflation and challenged his provincial critics to present alternative plans to reduce emissions.

For months, he and his ministers have been struggling

to find support for the years-old policy as Canadians find themselves paying higher food and housing prices. The name change from Climate Action Incentive to Canada Carbon Rebate was made in hopes of boosting policy support for climate change.

Conservative Leader Pierre Poilievre aggressively campaigns against the carbon price. NDP Leader Jagmeet Singh will not say whether he would keep scheduled increases in place, namely carbon price rising to \$170 per tonne of carbon dioxide or equivalent by 2030, if he were to become prime minister. He states his party will put forward their own plan.

In summary, one party for the carbon tax initiatives now taking place (the Liberals) are the governing party due to the backing of another party (the NDP) who won't commit about the plan. The other party in contention to win an election (Conservatives) are against the carbon tax. One for the climate tax, one against and one that won't commit just yet.

So why the change in plans to now give the Carbon Rebate to Saskatchewan households? Was the announcement made in hopes of convincing Saskatchewan residents of the proposed good from receiving quarterly rebate cheques, (stated to be more generous to low-income households) and by playing nice to the province, convince the public of the benefits to reduce emissions.

Or possibly, could this be a change of policy to buy votes in the next election that must take place on or before Oct. 20, 2025? Either way, a battle is on.

- Elaine Ashfield / Grasslands News

Complex problems in healthy delivery beyond rhetoric

By Murray Mandryk
Sask. Political Columnist

What seems certain is that people want health care here at home ... or as close to home in this province as is reasonable.

That has pretty much been the last 40 years of politic debate in Saskatchewan, recently dominated by the Saskatchewan Party government noting the former NDP government closed 52 rural hospitals and the Plains Health Centre on the outskirts of Regina and the now NDP Opposition accusing the government of underfunding the health system to the point where temporary closures of emergency and non-emergency services and sending people out of province for surgeries have been the norm.

One gets the politics. But when you delve a little more deeply into the problem, it becomes rather apparent that underneath all the politicking and rhetoric is the reality of some tough problems in health care

that aren't easily solved by throwing money at the problems.

Let's begin with the present-day temporary closures of emergency rooms and x-ray, lab or other services — 950 such temporary closures between August 2019 and July 2023, affecting 53 facilities mostly in rural areas outside the larger hospitals, according to information gathered by the NDP opposition.

Most of these closures are the net result of a severe staffing shortage of doctors, nurses and other health care providers. Health Minister Everett Hindley points to the government's latest \$140-million recruitment and retention action plan to create permanent and full-time position across the province and especially in rural Saskatchewan.

"It's working in our rural communities," Hindley said in the legislature last week. "New hires are happening as a result of that."

Unfortunately, many within the health system are saying the same

thing people in need of the health system are observing — the solutions aren't always working.

Recently, 49 emergency room nurses from Saskatoon's St. Paul's Hospital sent a letter to Hindley on the unfairness, inefficient and expense of temporary travel nurses as a stop-gap. "The agency nurses appear valued while they themselves are not," the permanent nurses wrote of the travel or contract nurses.

Hindley explained he was "trying to balance the need for filling those vacancies over time and making sure that the existing staff do have the ability to have time off."

But the NDP noted concerns from the Saskatchewan Union of Nurses that the average travel nurse salary is \$289,256 a year — also three times that of permanent nurses that SUN say are now having trouble booking shifts and getting more overtime.

Meanwhile, the amount the government is spending on this "temporary fix" of contract

POST-BUDGET BOUNCE...



nursing that is supposedly related to 2020 pandemic cost the health system \$59 million last year and is expected to cost \$70 million in 2023-25, according to SUN's numbers.

Similarly, the Sask. Party government is taking heat for the inability of this province's health system to deal with either diagnostic mammograms to stop breast cancer or the hip and knee surgeries. The medium time for knee surgery here was 318 days compared with

the 161-day national average.

The solution from the government has been to ship people out-of-province to Calgary. For mammograms, that cost is 10 times as much as if they would be done at home, say the NDP.

For hip and knee surgeries, the solution is a \$6-million contract with the private Surgical Centres Inc. whose parent organization, Clearpoint Health Network of Calgary contributed \$14,000 to the Sask. Party.

Suffice to say, the complex problems and solutions in health care go well beyond political rhetoric of underfunding, privatization and closure.

We have gone from the \$3.2 billion spent on health by the NDP government in their last 2007-08 budget to the \$7.6 billion the Sask. Party government is expected to spend in 2024-25.

Yet problems remain and government struggles to find solutions beyond spending more each year.

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Teachers to vote on contract in May

By Jacob Miller
Grasslands News

The Saskatchewan Teachers Federation (STF) announced on April 18, 2024, that members would be voting on a final offer from the Government-Trustee Bargaining Committee.

The final offer includes a three-year agreement, salary increases of 3 per cent in year one, 3 per cent in year two and 2 per cent in year three with retroactive pay to September 2023, and reference to the accountability framework in relation to a Memorandum of Understanding between the STF, Government of Saskatchewan, and the Sask School Boards Association (SSBA). STF Members are to vote on the offer May 8 and 9, 2024.

STF President Samantha Becotte said that the GTBC was clear that this would be their final offer after

two days of being at the bargaining table.

"Over the past few days, we have engaged in difficult conversations within negotiations. And as we had said before, we didn't want to go and sit at a table and hear no for another two days as we had previously experienced," said Becotte during a press conference on April 18, 2024.

"Unfortunately, that is a majority of what occurred at the bargaining table with the GTBC."

Becotte said that the GTBC returned to their original salary proposal and that there was little to no movement on many of the items as the Teachers Bargaining Committee attempted to reach a tentative agreement.

"The GTBC was clear that what was being offered was their final offer. We pushed back several times and we heard it repeated," said Be-

cotte.

Becotte added that the bargaining process has been hard on teachers across the province.

"Regardless of the outcome of the vote on this offer, the bargaining process has taken a toll on the sector," said Becotte.

"The action that we have seen from the government, the actions from the SSBA and the actions of some division administration have shown the lack of respect and appreciation for teachers in Saskatchewan, and the lack of appreciation for the work that they do as professionals in classrooms across Saskatchewan. Relationships have been damaged, and they will not be easily repaired."

This will be the first offer the STF is bringing forward to their members to vote on since bargaining has begun.

Gene Hauta

It's a Strange World

Russia's prison population has been plummeting as more inmates get recruited to fight in Ukraine. It is expected that some prisons will close "to optimize and save money." Russia's military has been relying on prisoners to plug its manpower gaps. In October, Russia's Deputy Justice Minister Vsevolod Vukolov revealed the **prison population had plunged** from 420,000 before the war to a historic low of 266,000.

Samual Pasillas, 47, hired a hitman to kill his daughter's boyfriend, who was shot several times, but survived. It was discovered that Pasillas, a pastor at a local Spanish-speaking church in Victorville, had conducted the **murder-for-hire plot**. The would-be killers had conducted surveillance on the victim in the weeks leading up to the attempt, and were paid about \$40,000. Pasillas was charged with solicitation for murder, conspiracy to commit murder, attempted murder, and assault with a deadly weapon.

In Bonifay, Fla., a woman checked out of a hotel and told staff that she was going on a **God-directed shooting spree** because of the solar eclipse. She shot two drivers on Interstate 10 before being arrested and charged with attempted murder. Taylon Nichelle Celestine, 22, of Georgia, fired at several other vehicles from her moving vehicle. She had that "necessary" AR-15 rifle and 9mm handgun. She was charged with attempted murder, aggravated battery with a deadly weapon, and improper discharge of a firearm.

"I can just see the TV ads this coming week," warned Argus Hamilton. "If clouds blocked your view of the eclipse, you may be entitled to compensation." Some people would try to formulate a lawsuit!

Many religious people viewed the eclipse as a sign of the apocalypse, virtually the end of the world. Perhaps they refer to Joel 2:31: "The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and terrible day of the LORD come." This Biblical reference seems to be about both solar and lunar eclipses. Ancient cultures thought it was a sign that the gods were angry. More optimistic people **see eclipses as "new beginnings"**.

* "Someone told me to view the eclipse with a colander. I tried it and it just strained my eyes."

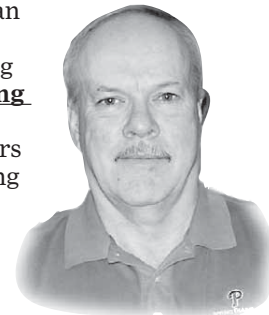
In Northeast Oregon, a Department of Fish and Wildlife tanker full of young salmon skidded off the road and spilled its load. The live fish were headed to replenish stocks depleted by dams. The 53-foot tanker, which was carrying about 102,000 fish, rolled onto its passenger side, skidded, went down a rocky embankment and flipped onto its roof spilling its load. About 25,525 smolts that were thrown onto the creek banks "were not able to flop down into the water," but the good news was that an **estimated 77,000 did make it into the creek** and did not perish. However, the smolts that were lost made up about 20 per cent of the total fish that state hatcheries planned to release into the Imnaha River this year.

A worried animal lover rushed to an animal rescue centre with what she thought was a baby hedgehog which she had found on the side of the road. It didn't take the vet long to relieve the anxiety caused by the fact that the little critter **had not moved or pooped all night**. Well, that's because it was a bobble (tassle) off a toque or hat. The vet on shift Janet Kotze said, "She was an older lady, maybe 60s or 70s, well-spoken and well-meaning. She said she could see something on the roadside that looked like a hedgehog."

I don't know the definite Saskatchewan laws, but Quebec residents have been **warned by police not to share photos or videos** that identify possible criminal activities. I guess I can understand the rationale of that warning because it could be seen as defamation if what is shown is not really what is happening. "In Canada, we have a presumption of innocence and posting that picture could be a violation of private life," stated a spokesman for Surete du Quebec. He also urged people to bring the proof to the police and not just post it. In Quebec, the law states that images of a private person which could identify them cannot be published without their permission.

"The total eclipse gave American kids always staring into their screens a much-needed 7-minute break," observed Argus Hamilton, "in order to stare into the sky."

Until next time... keep reading between the lines (you never know what you can find!)...



Policing efforts discussed with council

By Sarah Pacio
Grasslands News

Grenfell town council welcomed S/Sgt. Dallyn Holmstrom to its regular meeting on April 26. They discussed activities at Broadview Detachment, particularly in relation to mental health concerns, vehicle traffic violations, and drug trafficking.

Holmstrom mentioned that there is a temporary amalgamation with Moosomin that enables the two detachments to share resources when short-staffed, but reporting remains distinct to each detachment. There have been 760 calls in the Broadview Detachment area since January 1. Holmstrom noted that the overall volume of calls is consistent with previous years, but the frequency of high-risk calls has increased.

"It's directly related to the mental health crisis

and the illicit drugs that are on the rise," he explained.

RCMP conducts wellness checks when requested, but there are some instances where officers cannot take a person into custody because of the Mental Health Act. Instead, arrangements may be made for the individual to stay with a close friend or family member.

Holmstrom spoke with council regarding two particular issues of concern for the local area, namely traffic law violations and drug trafficking. Officers respond regularly to traffic violations due to the detachment's close proximity to Highway 1. Councilor Murray Richter inquired whether the Report Impaired Driver (R.I.D.) program is still valuable. Holmstrom affirmed that the RCMP appreciates calls from the public reporting impaired drivers.

Holmstrom informed council that methamphetamines have become readily available in Saskatchewan due to the drugs' low cost. The sergeant stated that Broadview RCMP is aware of drug trafficking concerns within the communities it serves. Officers are taking the measures available to them to address the issue.

When council asked how the town could assist the RCMP in their efforts, Holmstrom recommended that residents phone the detachment to report suspicious activity in their community. An organized Citizens on Patrol (C.O.P.) group is also helpful to the RCMP since there are limited officers to patrol a large geographical area.

Individuals can share information with the RCMP regarding drug trafficking or other crimes. However, Holmstrom described an important difference between any-

mous tips and confidential informants. Anonymous tips, such as those provided through Crime Stoppers, carry minimal weight in a court setting. Alternatively, confidential informants can provide valuable data.

"Say we get 100 Crime Stoppers tips for a warrant. We get to use that as one person because Crime Stoppers cannot tell us if it's one person giving 100 different tips or 100 different people giving one tip, which is a huge difference when it comes to me going to a judge," Holmstrom explained. "If you're going to give us information, sign up as a confidential informant because then we can count you as one."

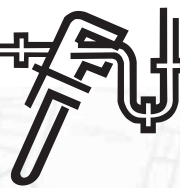
Council appreciated the opportunity to discuss local issues with S/Sgt. Holmstrom, and Councilor Wes Overand noted that it was an "eye-opening and very useful" session.

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PVSD students part of international delegation



PVSD FACEBOOK | GRASSLANDS NEWS

Student ambassadors travel to Japan

Students from Bert Fox Community High School, Indian Head High School, Lumsden High School and Wolseley High School participated in the biennial Discover Japan Language and Culture Program over the Easter break.

Prairie Valley School Division
Grasslands News

Prairie Valley students from Bert Fox Community High School, Indian Head High School, Lumsden High School and Wolseley High School were part of a 45-member delegation that travelled to Japan over the Easter Break.

As part of the biennial Discover Japan Language and Culture Program, students took on the role of international ambassadors participating in two cultural exchanges with high school students from Fujioka and Kyoto. The delegation visited Fujioka, Regina's friendship city, on their 70th anniversary carrying with them congratulatory messages from Mayor Masters of Regina to Mayor Arai of Fujioka.

Each of the students also carried several children's books with them as part of an ongoing international book exchange between the cities. The English books are added to bins of travelling libraries that rotate between Fujioka's elementary schools. The Japanese books that returned to Regina will be placed in Saskatchewan's Information Library Service so they may be accessed from any library in the province.

The students participated in cultural exchange activities with their counterparts in Fujioka and Kyoto Koka High School. They led with open hearts and minds and did an amazing job representing their communities, our province, and our country.

Six students from Bert Fox Community High School showcased Indigenous culture through a presentation and demonstration of powwow dances. The students brought their regalia all the way to Japan to demonstrate fancy, jingle, traditional, and a hat and boots special dances on behalf of their cultures. This was an incredibly powerful moment to pause and consider the similar ways each government has treated Indigenous people and the collective responsibilities to work towards reconciliation.

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S0G 5C0

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Town of Whitewood Council meets at the town office. Upcoming Council Meeting Dates: May 7 and May 21 at 7 p.m. Meetings are held via Zoom. Please contact the office to get access information 306-735-2210.

REMINDER

- Staff will be reading meters every three months, [See the Water Meter Reads notice below](#). Utility bills are due at month end. After a second utility bill is received and remains unpaid your utilities can be disconnected in accordance with the Town of Whitewood Bylaw 1-2022. Please contact the office so we can keep your account active.
- After Hours - For water emergencies only call 306-735-7538.
- Taxes are due by December 31, 2024; can be paid by Etransfer to cao@townofwhitewood.ca, Debit, Credit or Cheque. Taxes can also be paid via online banking by most institutions.
- Business License are due, responsibility of the owner if you are doing business in town you are required by by-law to purchase a business license annually. For more information please contact the town office at 306-735-2210.
- Warmer weather has residents active in the community, we remind you it is your responsibility to clean up after your pet in town and on the walking trails. Please come to the town office to update or get a license for your pet and please keep your pets leashed at all times.

WALKING TRAILS

Reminder to please respect the walking trails, absolutely **NO** cutting down trees, camping or fires.

WATER METER READS

The Town of Whitewood is asking that residents please send their water meter reads in monthly. This can be done by sending a picture of your water meter to 1-306-853-7122. You may still call the town office with meter reads, as well as entering them through the town website. The town staff will still continue reading meters every three (3) months. This is the best way to be sure that readings are accurate each month.

GARBAGE / RECYCLING

Residents are reminded that Garbage or Recycling Carts must be out by 7 a.m. on collection days. Upcoming **Recycling** Date: Wednesday, May 1 and May 15. Upcoming **Garbage** Date: Wednesday, May 8 and May 22.

TOWN OFFICE INFORMATION

Whitewood Town Council and staff strive to improve the quality of life for the people who live and work in our community. We welcome your comments, questions and feedback.

The Town office is open Monday to Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 12 noon and 1 to 4 p.m.

Phone: 306-735-2210 - Fax: 306-735-2262 Email: general@townofwhitewood.ca

DIRT BIKES

There has been an increasing issue with dirt bikes, they are not permitted within town limits or on the walking trails. RCMP have been notified of the problem

REQUEST FOR LETTER OF INTEREST - GROUNDWORK

Letters of interest are invited from reputed/experienced companies for the purpose of GROUNDWORK for the proposed Recreation Park at NE Sec 25 Twp Rge 03 W2 Extension 0, in Whitewood. The Town of Whitewood is looking for someone to clear and level the land for future use as a Recreation Park. The area is 135 acres. Please submit letters of interest to:
Lisa Istace - cao@townofwhitewood.ca
By Monday, May 6th, 2024 at 5 p.m. CST.
If you have any questions, please call 306-735-2210.

2024 **WHITEWOOD, SK**

Swim Lessons

JUNE 17-28 - Moms & Tots

JULY 15-19

AUG 5-9 - If enough register



TO REGISTER CONTACT

general@townofwhitewood.ca or 306-735-2210

RCMP investigate multiple vehicle thefts in the area

Indian Head / Montmartre Detachment Cpl. Miles Kelly

Reporting period:
April 15 to April 21

Indian Head and Montmartre detachment area had 50 occurrences over the past week.

Traffic

This week RCMP gave 12 Provincial Traffic Safety Act ticket, 37 Provincial Traffic Safety Act warnings given, and four Inspection tickets handed out.

Mischief

April 15, 2024 - A man attended Indian Head RCMP Detachment with a wallet that he found in the ditch by Blair's Fertilizer Plant on Highway #1 while picking bottles. The wallet contains ID of a female resident of Indian Head. An RCMP member returned the wallet to the owner.

RCMP were alerted to a domestic dispute between a male and female. Members attended and found that both people had warrants and were held to appear in Indian Head Court April 16, 2024.

A resident of Indian Head reported six kids came knocking on her door and asked for her kids to come outside. When her kids went out, the other kids tried to beat them up but no assault occurred. The parents were spoken to and explained the kids just went to ask for their basketball.

A motor vehicle collision with a semi hitting a Fox on Highway #1 near

Wolseley. There were no injuries, and the vehicle was driveable. The Fox died.

April 16, 2024 - RCMP attended an Indian Head residence to warn him about an unrelated theft. During the visit officer found three Big Way shopping carts under his porch. The owner said he didn't know how they got there. The items were returned to Big Way Foods and no charges were laid.

A report of stolen items including tractor parts and machinery from a location in the RM of Vibank. RCMP are continuing the investigation.

A report of an abandoned vehicle on the Highway #56 North of Indian Head was made. The owner was contacted and had the vehicle removed.

RCMP were called to a false alarm at a residence in Indian Head. RCMP spoke to property owner who advised that his tenant's kids pushed the panic alarm in the rental property. RCMP confirmed the events with the renter that there is no emergency.

April 17, 2024 - An Indian Head resident called to report that an unknown male showed up with a mask and a machete outside his residence. The man's friend was outside being held down by the suspect. RCMP attended and arrested the subject, he was remanded for court in Regina.

A vehicle drove into the Indian Head Big Way grocery store building and drove away. The description of the vehicle provided

but no licence plate number. Police attempted to locate the vehicle but it was not found.

A call of a dog on Highway #56 was made to RCMP. The owner was located. RCMP were not required.

April 18, 2024 - A bus driver from Qu'Appelle School reporting a vehicle that passed the school bus with its "STOP" sign deployed. Police continue to investigate this incident.

An abandoned vehicle on Highway #1 near Summerberry. Integra Towing attended on the request of the driver and vehicle was towed from scene. Police checks were negative and nothing suspicious was found.

April 20, 2024 - CP Rail called the Indian Head RCMP to advise that there is a railway gate malfunction and that CP is aware of it and advised RCMP that vehicles are going around the tracks because the arms won't lift up.

Report of lost ammunition somewhere along Highway #1, between Regina and Qu'Appelle. COM advised that two boxes of ammunition fell out of his truck sometime today between 12:30 and 1:30 p.m.

April 21, 2024 - A 60-day driver licence suspension and vehicle impoundment for a female driver was issued after an oral fluid test positive for marijuana.

A female driver was stopped due to no mud flaps, licence plate worn and cargo falling out of box. There was odours of liquor

and cannabis in the vehicle. Her eyes red and had used both last night. The ASD test O and oral fluid test was positive. She was given a 72-hour roadside suspension and three-day impound and the vehicle was taken by Highway 1 Towing at the RCMP's request.

A female driver was stopped for driver's licence, registration and sobriety check after pulling over to side of road after turning corner. She admitted to using cannabis last night at 7 p.m. and is a daily user, her eyes were red and the oral fluid test positive. A 72-hour suspension was issued and no tow available for impound.

Melville / Ituna Detachment S/Sgt. T. L. Adams

Reporting period:
April 16 to April 22

Melville and Ituna detachment area had 72 occurrences over the past week.

Traffic

During this time, Melville and Ituna Detachments responded to 19 reported traffic occurrences or traffic stops that resulted in six Charges and three Warnings.

Ituna RCMP were dispatched to a complaint of a single vehicle collision on Highway #52 near Homefield, SK. The driver and the occupant, both youths, were not injured. Emergency Medical Services were notified and checked on the occupants. Police continue to investigate.

Melville RCMP were contacted by a complainant, who reported their 2019 Ford Edge was damaged while parked at a business on the 200 block of Prince William Drive. The person told police that an unknown vehicle hit the driver's side front fender and bumper, leaving a yellow paint transfer. Police continue to investigate.

Theft/Mischief/Drugs
Melville RCMP received a complaint of mischief at a business on Veteran's

Way. Police were told that a patron had entered their business, took an item off the shelf and then damaged the product intentionally before leaving. The suspect was later identified. Police continue to investigate.

Melville RCMP were contacted and advised of several signs from the RM of Cana being stolen. The signs, a checkerboard with arrows and a stop sign were taken. Police continue to investigate.

Melville RCMP were notified by a business on the 200 block of Bailey Drive of a theft of gas. The complainant told police that a red pickup truck took \$190 worth of fuel and left without paying. Police continue to investigate.

Melville RCMP were on patrol and stopped a vehicle to check the driver's licence and vehicle registration. The driver provided police with a false name. Police were able to determine the driver's true identity, who was currently on a Conditional Sentence Order (CSO) with a number of conditions. The driver was arrested for obstruction as well as breaching their CSO. While the driver was being searched incidental to arrest, 29g of methamphetamine was located. The driver was held in police custody overnight and appeared in court the next day.

As a result of the vehicle stop mentioned above, police later conducted a search of a dwelling unit on the 800 block of Scotia Street. A small amount of methamphetamine was also located. The occupant in the dwelling unit was arrested and charged. Police

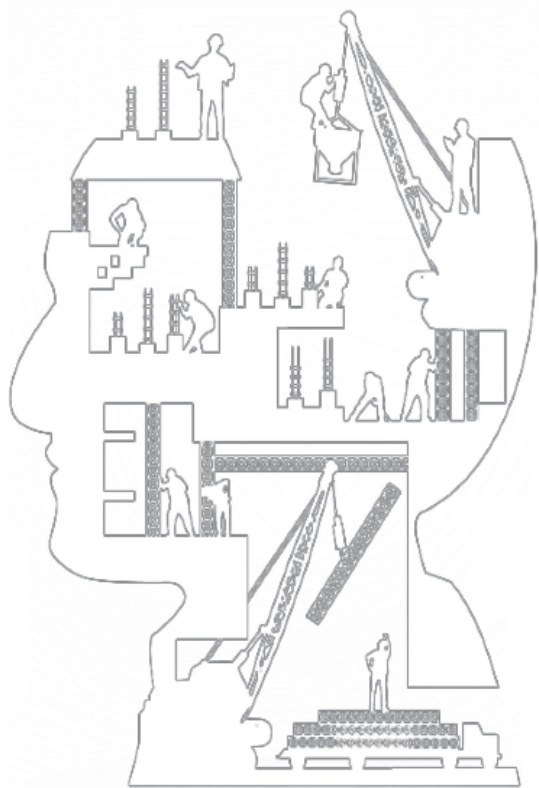
continue to investigate.

Ituna RCMP responded to a complaint of a theft of truck in the RM of Tullymet. Sometime over the past week the complainant's white 2011 Dodge Ram 1500 pickup truck, SK license plate 465MRF, was taken from their property. Police continue to investigate.

Melville RCMP responded to several complaints of theft of motor vehicles this past week. Melville RCMP were initially called to a rural residence located in the RM of Cana. The complainant told police that their 1995 Jeep YJ had been taken sometime overnight. As police were investigating this complaint, they located a stolen vehicle from Yorkton nearby. Melville RCMP were later called to a business on the 800 block of 3rd Avenue W. to a complaint of another theft of motor vehicle. The Jeep that had been previously reported stolen was located at this business, and one of the vehicles that had been parked at the business, a white 2016 Kia Soul, was now missing. Yorkton RCMP later contacted Melville RCMP and advised that they had arrested an adult male from Yorkton for these thefts. Police continue to investigate.

Melville/Ituna RCMP would like to remind the public to ensure that their vehicles are locked when left unattended, and all valuables either removed or hidden out of sight. Two of the three vehicles reported stolen to police had their keys left inside.

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Friends and Neighbours: Gena Ferguson Peters

Sometimes feels she could write the book on loss

By Allison Kydd
Grasslands News

Considering the number of losses she has experienced in the last couple of years, Gena Ferguson Peters feels she could write a book on the subject. However, like others before her, both men and women, she has no choice but to carry on even though she feels losing her husband, Randall Peters, on Dec. 4, 2022, was the worst thing that could ever happen to her.

Ironically, friends and neighbours don't always know how to help during such times. However well-meaning we are, we tend to mouth clichés, say the wrong things or shy away from talking about the deceased. Gena Peters says this silence is sometimes the hardest thing to take, since those who are bereaved have not only lost that significant person, but they can't even talk about what they have lost.

"It's as if 28 years of my life has been erased," Peters says, and I suspect that what she is feeling will sound familiar to others who have lost their life partners. On their behalf, I am grateful to Peters for sharing her feelings. This shows others they are not alone, that the things they feel are normal. I'm not a psychologist, but I suspect being unable to talk about what affects us most profoundly is one of the most difficult burdens to carry.

Though she was born in Empress, Alberta, most of Gena Ferguson Peters' growing up years were spent in Saskatchewan. Since her parents' marriage didn't last very long, she and her mother, Helen, lived with her mother's parents first in Hardy (south of Regina) and later in Regina. In 1958, when Gena was eight years old, her mother, a practical nurse who also had a teaching certificate, joined the Regina Police Force.

"My mother was the third police-woman hired in Saskatchewan," says Peters.

In those days, policewomen wore skirts, nylons and high heels, she adds. Fortunately, they didn't have to walk the beat in those heels. Because she was also a teacher, Helen's first assignment was teaching trainees at the Regina Police College, where she herself had done her training, how to write reports.

Peters is very proud of her mother's achievements.

"She was with the Regina police for thirty years and retired as an inspector," she adds.

Peters also has good memories of living with her grandparents. Her grandmother, she recalls, was "Irish, and very creative," especially with her granddaughter, whom she entertained with Irish folk tales, full of banshees and other mystical creatures.

For four years, approximately 1962 to '66, Peters boarded at St. Chad's, the girls' school run by the Diocese of Qu'Appelle. All these years later, she still remembers some of the nuns of the Sisters of St. John the Divine – who told the corny jokes, who was strict and who was particularly kind.

Though her parents weren't together very long, Gena Peter's father didn't erase his daughter from his life. Every year on her birthday, he would show up with roses and take [her] to dinner at an expensive restaurant." When she was sixteen, she went to live with him and her stepmother, Lorna. She also met her four half-brothers (Dan, Ian, Sean and Will) and her adopted sister Darla.

Her father's second marriage didn't last either, and there eventually was another half-sister, Vivian, whom Peters has



Randy, Helen (Gena's mother) and Gena.

never met, and yet another adopted sister. In spite of his inability to settle down, Peters describes her father as "brilliant and funny" and values his achievements as well as the talents he passed down to his children.

"He wasn't afraid to live life large," she adds. "Every one of us had a different father – a different relationship with him."

Between them, his children have made careers as writers, composers, educators, playwrights and stage directors, etc. At the age of seventeen, Gena herself "had a brief stint" in Montreal and Toronto, working for the National Film Board as an assistant animator. After a number of adventures there – think FLQ crisis and Yorkville riots – she returned to Saskatchewan, wrote GED exams for her grade twelve credits and later trained as a library technician.

Following her practicum at the Saskatoon Public Library, she was offered a job. It was while she was working for the library that she met Ho Ching, her first husband, after spraining her back moving a film projector. She and Ho were together seven years, one of which she spent at university. Most memorable was a sculpture class with Bill Epp, "who taught the way to look," she says.

Gena was still living in Saskatoon in 1994, when she met Randall Peters, a friend of her next-door neighbour. Even before their introduction, they had almost met each other on several previous occasions, suggesting their relationship was "meant to be." From then on, they embarked on their adventures together, and eventually those adventures led them to Indian Head.

For them, the town had a number of things going for it. Not only was it close enough to Regina they could spend time with Gena's mother without being in each other's pockets – Gena's father had died in 2000 – but Gena had a couple of other connections in town. After they got themselves settled, Randy took a job at Sherwood Coop, where he got a reputation for "being able to figure out how to fix anything."

Randy Peters also heaved a sigh of relief when he encountered Ken Schmidt and his famous mutton chops. Up to that time, Gena had been "master of the

beard" and made sure she kept her husband neatly trimmed, but Schmidt's example gave him permission to set it free.

Gena explains: "Randy was from Dawson Creek, British Columbia. Full beards were a sign of manliness there."

Later, Gena worked at Golden Prairie Nursing Home. However, though they got along with co-workers, the couple didn't socialize a lot or join town organizations.

"We were complete in the two of us," says Gena.

They did have a few cats, and those cats sometimes brought friends home with them, including skunks. In fact, Randy was apparently the "only man in town who could trap skunks without getting sprayed."

The Peters' good fortune was about to change, however. In November of 2022, Randy had a biopsy, and on December 2, he was diagnosed with inoperable cancer. Two days later, he died.

As if his death wasn't enough, some regrettable misunderstandings took place at the funeral home, such as confusion over when Gena Peters could view the body, and she felt at one point that "[her] husband was being held hostage." It was also difficult for her to obtain a small piece of his beard as a memento, a difficulty she felt "stole the last intimate moment she could have had with her husband."

There have been many losses since then, including the deaths of her ex-husband less than a month after her husband; of her mother's brother, who had been a strong support for Peters at the time of Randy's death, in July of 2023; and of her mother, Helen, in September of 2023. Fortunately, her mother's funeral arrangements went more smoothly than those for her husband.

Now, 16 months after Randy's death, Peters is still coming to terms with the changes. "It can be so lonely," she says. "After so many years, you get used to having that body around."

However, it's not only loneliness one has to deal with. She has found her interactions with people are different, and at times she "no longer feels safe." She "has trouble trusting people" and, sometimes, "doesn't trust herself."

Furthermore, she no longer knows how to define herself.

"I don't know who I am anymore," she says. "For twenty-eight years I was half of a couple. Now, who am I? What are my goals?"

There have also been all the legal things to deal with, and she decided to put their house up for sale.

"I had to get out of the house," she explains. "Randy was superimposed on everything."

At first it seemed she wouldn't be able to get a fair price. When that worry was finally resolved, she was able to move into Sunbeam Lodge, but there were still bills to pay and other things to deal with.

Language has also been a stumbling block. Peters doesn't use euphemisms to speak about death. After all, she says, "he's not coming back to me. You have to recognize it for what it is."

She also thinks that talking about death "is one of those things that is still taboo." She wants to say, "It's not contagious," and yet, "as soon as that word comes out, people close up."

Neither does she like words like "widow" and "widower." She and a friend who is also bereaved are trying to think of ways to describe themselves, of words that "don't erase the person [they've] lost." One alternative they've come up with is "the left behind," or just "the L.B." Another friend says, "If you find the word, let me know."

Peters also suggests an alternative for "I'm sorry." "I'm sad for your loss," does a better job of validating the pain of the bereaved, she thinks.

Though there have been a lot of challenges, Peters "has had some strong friends to help," even if just to help her understand that what she has been going through is "completely normal."

Peters also mentions the kindness of people such as Melanie Roth, who helped her when she had to euthanize three of her four cats. "Melanie is so kind," she says. Roth came right to the house to save the cats the trauma of having to be moved.

There have also been unexpected moments of humour. She tells how Randy's riding lawnmower disappeared.

"You want to hold on to everything," she says. "He loved that lawnmower." She felt she had failed him when it disappeared. Had it been stolen? She called the police. Then it reappeared. Had someone borrowed and then returned it? She'll never know. She cried when it came back. When she apologized to the RCMP officer for crying, he said "As long as you stay hydrated," then went on to describe how his sister had used that phrase when there was a death in their family circle.

In fact, Peters says the following: "Nothing in life is so tragic you can't find something to laugh at." Sometimes laughter is also the only way to keep from crying.

Though she's not quite sure who she is anymore and finds it hard to identify goals, she still wants to go to Atlantic Canada and to meet her sister Vivian near Toronto. They have been communicating online and through e-mail for years, but she would like to see her in person. It's a beginning.

Gena Peters is grateful to remember that she kissed and hugged her husband in the hospital the night before he died. She also treasures the photo a dear friend managed to take of that moment.

"Randy was the love of my life," she says.

As always, contact akyddwrt@sasktel.net with comments or suggestions.

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Bringing communities together
grasslands
NEWS

Indian Head Mayor shares infrastructure plans with residents

By Sarah Pacio
Grasslands News



Mayor Steven Cole

Another project that Indian Head will undertake this year is flushing sediment build-up from some of the town's wells. This rehabilitation is expected to cost between \$25,000 and \$35,000.

Maintenance is also planned for recreational facilities this year. Flooring upgrades will be completed at the arena in partnership with user groups. Similar work will be done at the pool.

"Our beautiful new swimming pool is now operational and employs 14 young people during the summer," Mayor Cole stated. "This year we plan to turn our attention to the pool building with fresh paint, new fixtures and non-slip flooring throughout to improve safety."

Revenue for the projects described during the Mayor's Luncheon is ob-

tained from municipal taxes, revenue from recreational facilities, grants and government funding programs. For example, the provincial tax sharing program will distribute Indian Head with \$528,357 collected through PST. Utility fees charged to residents also create revenue which is allocated for utility infrastructure maintenance costs.

Mayor Cole reviewed

the town's communication plan, which uses multiple avenues to share information with residents. This includes notices on social media, the town website, email or mail drops, and in the local newspaper. The town will be installing a digital sign on the corner of Woodward and Grand Avenue this spring, in partnership with the Lions Club and RM of Indian Head. The town is

also preparing to launch a Voyant Alert system that can be used to notify residents about emergencies or other urgent information. Alerts can be sent via text, email, or phone calls.

In conclusion, the mayor expressed appreciation for municipal employees that bring many valuable qualifications to their work on behalf of residents and affirmed the importance of cooper-

ation.

"We have made significant strides over the past years on many projects," Mayor Cole said. "Our commitment to improving our community and quality of life for all our residents remains strong. Thank you for being here and your continued support. Let's continue working together to make Indian Head the very best place to call home."

IH Councillors discuss waste disposal, highways and baseball

By Sarah Pacio
Grasslands News



Indian Head town council held a regular meeting at 7 p.m. on April 22. Councillor Armand Palmer chaired the meeting in Mayor Cole's absence.

Landfill and Transfer Station

Administration submitted the town's landfill closure plan and annual monitoring report to the Ministry of Environment. Council reviewed the response, affirming that the closure plan and report were acceptable.

Council reviewed an amendment to the Bylaw to Regulate Waste and Recycling Collection. The amendment pertained particularly to the rates and fees outlined in Schedule C of the bylaw. The original bylaw was passed in 2019, with an update to fees in 2022. Administration prepared the newest amendment following council's discussions at a recent budget meeting, with fees adjusted to reflect transfer station operation costs.

The fees for household garbage and mixed loads were increased by \$10. For example, the rate for a carload of household waste will be \$30 instead of \$20. A similar \$10 increase was applied to loads of construction, dem-

olition and concrete material. A \$25 fee was added for large furniture such as couches and mattresses. Council approved the bylaw, and the new rates take effect immediately.

Transportation Committee

The South Central Transportation Planning Committee (SCTPC) advocates on behalf of communities regarding highway infrastructure and other transportation matters. CAO Cam Thauberger noted that the town has regular interactions with the Ministry of Highways regarding local infrastructure concerns, but it is also valuable to include SCTPC in discussions. Lee Finishen from Fort Qu'Appelle has served as the representative for the Indian Head area and would like to continue in the position. Council made a motion to nominate Finishen for another term.

Baseball

Indian Head Minor Ball executive submitted a letter to council requesting that the home run fence be reinstalled at Diamond 3 in Jimmy Robison Field. The town removed fence in 2008 to accommodate work on a nearby subdivision. A temporary fence was put in its place, but a more permanent fixture is needed to meet regulations for U18 and U15 teams that will be playing this season. Council approved the request and will arrange for the installation of the appropriate structure. Members of the U18 team will volunteer their time to remove the temporary fence.

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Melville Mayor's Corner

One of the benefits of an early budget approval process is the prompt response from interested contractors. It is our hope that we can get an early start on some of our major roadwork as well as attending to sidewalks, and repairing lift station #3, as well as our other 2024 projects.

Our city proclaimed April 7, 2024, as Green Shirt Day in support of organ donations. This organ donation campaign gained support and prominence when Humboldt Bronco, Logan Boulet became an organ donor. Logan died in the Humboldt Bronco Bus crash in 2018.

The Melville Millionaires, after a very successful season hosted their Spring Camp with a good response from prospective future Millionaires from many Saskatchewan and Alberta communities.

The Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association annual conference was held in Regina on April 14-17th with municipal representatives throughout the whole of our province in atten-

dance. After much discussion a new SUMA organizational structure was approved, resolutions were presented and debated, sector meetings took place, and many one-on-one delegate discussion opportunities occurred.

On Saturday, April 20th our city hosted the 4-H Provincial Youth Public Speaking competitions with representatives from many different areas of Saskatchewan. We commend our youth presenters for their most informative topics.

Every year we focus our Spring Clean-Up efforts on International Earth Day which occurs on April 22nd. While our clean-up efforts extend well beyond the 22nd it does serve as a reminder to tidy up our yards, boulevards, public spaces, and properties.

Did you know that in 1967 the Melville area had the highest livestock density in Saskatchewan?

Mayor Walter Streelasky

Grenfell council approves 2024 budget

By Sarah Pacio
Grasslands News

Grenfell town council held a regular meeting on April 18 at 7 p.m. with all members present. The meeting was moved from its regular Wednesday evening schedule to accommodate councillors and administration attending the SUMA Convention.

SUMA

Councillors Dwayne Stone and Dale Hardy and Mayor Rod Wolfe reported that they attended several informative sessions during the SUMA Convention that was held in Regina, April 14 to 17. Mayor Wolfe relayed information from an environmental presentation regarding efforts to establish a provincial recycling system. He said rollout of the cohesive system is not expected to commence until 2027. Other workshops provided information about disaster response assistance available from St. John's Ambulance and resources available for large fundraising efforts that might be useful in

relation to the new long-term care home.

Budget

Council approved the 2024 municipal budget with a mill rate of 7.65, increased from 7.15 in 2023. A base tax increase of \$320 was also approved to offset the town's portion of costs for the long-term care facility that will be constructed to replace the Grenfell Pioneer Home. The town has scheduled a public meeting on May 8 at 7 p.m. to speak with rate payers about budget details.

Discretionary Use

The owners of Highmark Plumbing and Heating submitted a discretionary use application to use a property on Assiniboia Avenue for constructing RTMs. The property is zoned high profile commercial so a discretionary use permit must be approved by council in order for the property owner to proceed with this type of business development. In accordance with discretionary use procedures, the town will send informational letters to residents of ad-

jacent properties prior to making a decision. A public hearing will also be held in the Lilac Room on May 1 at 6:30 p.m. to allow input from any Grenfell residents.

Paving

Council reviewed a tender package prepared by WSP for paving within the community. It includes local improvements for Lake Street, Alice Street, Anderson Avenue and Black Avenue as well patches for various locations. The tender will be publicized shortly, and work is to be completed this year.

Other matters

Council acknowledged the resignation of Public Works Superintendent Derek Diebel, effective April 19.

Council reviewed a request for permission to remove a tree from the front boulevard at 513 Pheasant Street. The tree is leaning significantly, and the resident is concerned it could fall on the house during a storm. Council agreed that proactive measures should be taken and approved the request.

Jack Garton ends Kipling Arts Council season

By Connie Schwalm
Grasslands News

The Kipling & District Arts Council ended its season with a concert on Saturday April 20 featuring Jack Garton and his Dream Band. Mona Lynn Stender (Kipling & District Arts Council) says that Garton and his band offered up a unique blend of musical genres for the audience.

"It was a fun-filled evening and we were very pleased with the turnout. Jack Garton is very talented. He plays guitar, keyboard, accordion and trumpet, and he's able to play the trumpet and accordion at the same time, which is very impressive to watch! He and his equally talented Dream Band performed music that drew from several different genres including

New date for Janz court case

By Alan Hustak
Grasslands News

The case against former Fort Qu'Appelle town councillor Brian Janz, who has been charged with publishing intimate images without consent, has been adjourned again.

Janz was not present in the Fort Qu'Appelle courtroom to answer to the charge last Wednesday, but his lawyer Lynh Pham requested the delay until May 8th.

The Crown has chosen to proceed by summary conviction in the case which means if Janz is found guilty he could face up to three years in prison. He also charged with conveying false information with the intent of alarming a person.

Janz was a town councillor between 2012 and 2016.

The charges against him have yet to be proven in court.



The season finale

Jack Garton and his Dream Band were featured in Kipling & District Arts Council's final show for this season, drawing from a variety of musical genres to deliver a unique, high-energy performance.

folk, blues, pop and even a bit of country. So, there was something for everyone, and it was a perfect way to end the season."

She adds that Garton also enjoyed entertaining his audience.

"Jack is a very high-energy performer. All of his songs were very upbeat. And Jack had also done his research about Kipling's Red Paperclip. He even did a trade of his own - offering his guitar pick for an audience member's wrist watch!"

Stender notes that the concert also served as the launch for the new season, which will see three differ-

ent groups of performers take the stage in Kipling.

"As usual, this was also the launch for the upcoming season, featuring The Wardens, Munro & Patrick and Rumour Mill. Several people have already purchased their Season Tickets, which is wonderful to see. It wouldn't be possible to bring such talented performers to our community without this support from our patrons. We are so grateful for that continued support and hope that we will be able to continue hosting live events like this well into the future."



Assessment Roll Notice

RM of North Qu'Appelle No. 187

Notice is hereby given that the assessment roll for the Rural Municipality of North Qu'Appelle No. 187 for the year 2024 has been prepared and is open to inspection in the office of the assessor on the following days, Monday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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 by a \$75.00 appeal fee by May 29, 2024, to:

The Secretary of the Board of Revision
Aileen Swenson
c/o P.O. Box 99
Fort Qu'Appelle, SK. S0G 1S0

Dated this 26th day of April 2024.

Gwen Lowe, Assessor

Family dance in Kenosee April 27

By Connie Schwalm
Grasslands News

This Saturday, both young and old will be taking to the Dance Floor at the Kenosee Fiddle Concert & Family Dance featuring Emily Dubois.

Emily, who is originally from Langbank, has long delighted audiences with her talent on the fiddle. She opened her own fiddle studio in Regina called the Flatland Fiddling Studio last September and has a full roster of private students. Emily also began a "Youth Performance Group" which has been working up unique arrangements of fiddle tunes since her studio opened. Emily was inspired to start this performance group based on her own experience playing with "Coastline" out of Victoria, B.C.

Her upcoming performances in May include a feature fiddle performance in Saskatoon (Fiddles on Fire) on May 12, as well as a performance at the Highland Games in Regina (May 18), and an Old Time Dance at the Cathedral Arts Festival (May 25). She is also teaching at the Kenosee Lake Kitchen Party in August where she will perform in the Kitchen

Fest Nightly concerts.

Emily's mother Cherly Dubois says that this weekend's event came about due to a special request by one of Emily's long-time fans.

"The event is a fundraiser for the Four Seasons Centre in Kenosee. It came about because one of their members, Stu Lawrence (who is originally from Kennedy), just loved Emily's music and kept asking them to get her in to play for a dance.

So, the board decided that they would have her perform at an event that was intended for the entire family, as a lot of their events are licenced, which means that children are not allowed to attend. Dessert will be served (because every good old-time dance includes some food!) And Emily's dad Ben Dubois will be accompanying her that evening."

The Kenosee Fiddle Concert & Family Dance takes place on April 27 from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Four Seasons Centre, located on Waseca Avenue in the Village of Kenosee.

Adults \$10. Children free when accompanied by an adult.

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<p>43 Jubilee Cres. 3-BDM, 1-BATH, 1,256 SQ.FT. MLS®SK965357</p>  <p>NEW LISTING \$200,000</p>	<p>126 - 4th Ave. W. 3-BDM, 3-BATH, 1,024 SQ.FT. MLS®SK949998</p>  <p>\$219,000</p>	<p>799 - 1st St. E. Commercial, 7,980 SQ.FT. MLS®SK955008</p>  <p>\$240,000</p>	<p>776 - 8th Ave. W. 4-BDM, 3-BATH, 1,276 SQ.FT. MLS®SK962354</p>  <p>SOLD</p>	<p>171 Northern Road E. 3-BDM, 3-BATH, 2,385 SQ.FT. MLS®SK963509</p>  <p>\$548,000</p>

Rural Listings

<p>305 Louis St. 1-BDM, 1-BATH, 704 SQ.FT. MLS®SK962712</p> <p>Neudorf</p>  <p>\$49,000</p>	<p>Land & Buildings 2-BDM, 1-BATH, 1,072 SQ.FT. 273.68 acres MLS®SK963348</p> <p>RM of Cana</p>  <p>\$325,000</p>	<p>Land & Buildings 3-BDM, 4-BATH, 1,482 SQ.FT. 138.98 acres MLS®SK964969</p> <p>RM of Cana</p>  <p>\$775,000</p>	<p>241 Moose Road 3-BDM, 3-BATH, 2,400 SQ.FT. MLS®SK961608</p> <p>Crooked Lake</p>  <p>\$689,000</p>
<p>Land 478.52 Acres</p> <p>RM of Churchbridge</p>  <p>MLS®SK959933</p> <p>\$499,000</p>	<p>Land & Buildings 2-BDM, 1-BATH, 768 SQ.FT. 157.92 Acres MLS®SK965827</p> <p>RM of Cana</p>  <p>NEW LISTING \$425,000</p>	<p>Land & Buildings Grain Farm w/Storage 2,300.33 Acres MLS®SK966280</p> <p>RM of McLeod</p>  <p>NEW LISTING \$9,729,000</p>	<p>Acreage 2-BDM, 1-BATH, 1,036 SQ.FT. 34.65 Acres MLS®SK956543</p> <p>RM of Stanley</p>  <p>\$125,000</p>

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Dysart, SK.

Elevator demolished

By Alan Hustak
Grasslands News

The last of four so called "prairie skyscrapers" that once dominated the farming community

of Dysart 35 km northwest of Fort Qu'Appelle was demolished last Saturday.

The grain elevators in Dysart were built by Searle, Pool and United Grain Growers between

1906 and 1912. Three of them were torn down 20 years ago. At one time there were 3,000 of these community landmarks which soared 80 feet above the Saskatchewan prairie landscape. The last elevator in Dysart was visible on the horizon for miles along highway 22 no matter from which direction you approached the town.

With the demolition of this Saskatchewan Wheat Pool Elevator there are now fewer than 180 still standing in the province. Five years ago, the elevator in the nearby community of Punnichy was also torn down.

"It is something that had to happen, it was a fire hazard," said Dysart Mayor Randy Christie. "As emotional as it was to see it come down you have to accept that things have to change."

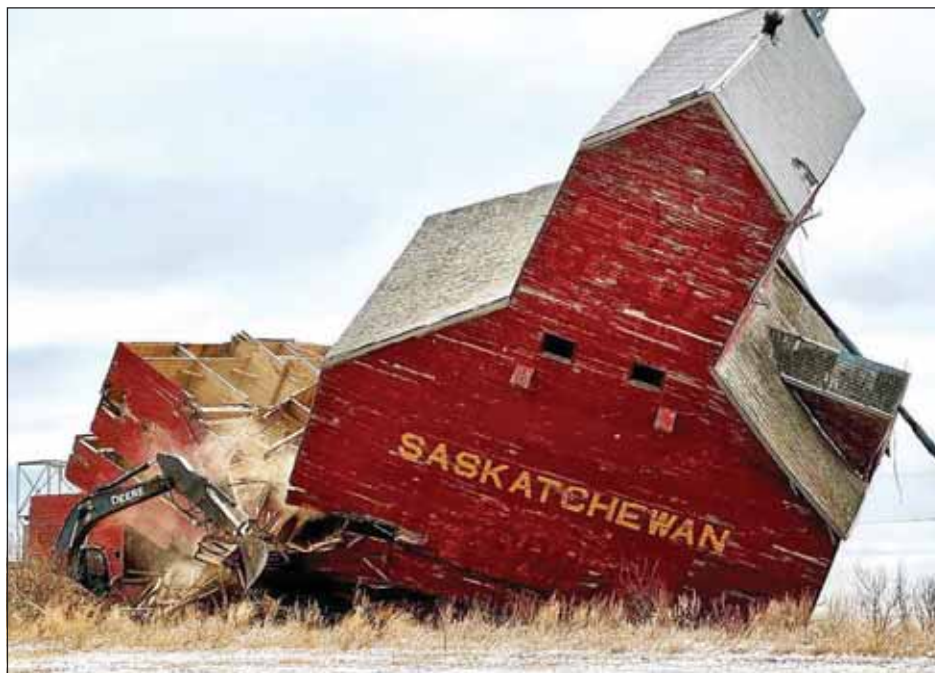
A few remaining grain elevators have been rescued from the wrecking ball by corporate farms or turned into heritage sites or museums. Photographer Chris Attrell has published a photographic record of many of these disappearing grain elevators in a coffee table book, 'Beacons of the Prairies.'



YOUTUBE | GRASSLANDS NEWS

Demolition work

A track hoe digs at the base of the last standing wooden elevator in Dysart to force the structure to fall over as part of its demolition.



JANET BRADSHAW | GRASSLANDS NEWS

Going... going.. gone...

They last of four wooden elevator that once stood in Dysart falls to the ground after demolition crews use a track hoe to knock the structure over. There are now fewer than 180 elevators remaining in the province.

Out of province farmland ownership criticized

Submitted
Grasslands News

Progressive Conservative Party of Saskatchewan under Leader Rose Buscholl rejects the ruling Saskatchewan Party's apparent hands-off approach to ever increasing ownership of provincial farmland for out of province entities.

"Our land and our people are our greatest resources and should be protected," stated Buscholl. "In 2012 Premier Wall came out strongly in favour of workers and our resource of potash when both were being threatened. But now, for our provincial land and farmers.... crickets."

Over the course of the last 17 years of

Saskatchewan Party governance, untold millions of acres of farmland have been bought up by out of province and out of country private entities. While this has been occurring, many local farmers have either sold their land and gotten out of farming altogether or have been subjected to renting land from these large entities to make ends meet in the industry.

"This government has sold out the backbone of this province, our farmers," Buscholl asserted. "This practice is doing more than turning farms into big business, it is also destroying a way of life for many people in Saskatchewan. Many proud farm families have been reduced to tenant farmers."



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DELIVERY AVAILABLE

Canadian Western Agribition elects 2024/2025 Board of Directors

Local residents to sit on board and as past-president

By Brad Brown
Grasslands News

The next Canadian Western Agribition will be presented once again this fall with a distinctly local flavour after its 2024-25 leadership team was set during the organization's annual general meeting April 17.

Board members for the coming year will include Sedley's Levi Jackson, who was elected vice-president at the AGM, and Kim Hextall of Grenfell who will also serve on executive committee as Agribition's past-president.

Members-at-large will include Karl Sauter of Wawota, serving the back half of his inaugural two-year term, and Pilot Butte's Glenn Lipsett, who was elected to his first two-year term.

Jackson was first elected to the Agribition board in 2018. Carol Poole

of White City departs the board after serving a pair of two-year terms.

Hextall, who has been an Agribition board member since 2014, will be succeeded as president by Michael Latimer of Olds, Alta. The CWA said in a news release that Latimer has served on the board since 2015.

Along with Agribition CEO Shaun Kindopp, the board will be tasked with following up on a 2023 event that reported a \$75,000 profit on record revenues of approximately \$4.6 million. That profit was down 10.1 per cent from the \$83,450 net that was realized in 2022, though Kindopp also emphasized 2023 saw Agribition record all-time highs in sponsorship revenue and rodeo attendance.

The back-to-back years in the black follow a 2021 event — held during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic in Saskatche-

wan — that turned a loss of \$321,000. By contrast the last pre-pandemic Agribition, in 2019, turned a profit of \$325,462.

Overall attendance for 2023 meanwhile was reported at 142,807 — the highest figure since 2005.

The Canadian Animal AgTech Awards made their debut last year as well, with Vibank's Katlin Lang taking home the event's rising star award on behalf of his company Farm Simple and its Herd Hand technology that helps monitor livestock water supplies.

"The new team we have, all the emphasis is still looking around making sure we have processes in place to ensure we are fiscally responsible but also looking to our processes and our efficiencies," Kindopp said in a news release.

This year's dates for the 53rd running of the livestock showcase and

agricultural trade show are scheduled for Nov. 25-30.

Other elected board members for 2024-25 include Kelsey Ashworth of Oungre, Courtney MacDougall (Regina), Garth Newell (Carlyle), Cynthia

Beck (Lumsden), Christina Ewert Hill (Redvers), Mona Taylor (Regina), Kelly Howe (Moose Jaw), Blak MacMillan (Nokomis) and Grant McLellan (Regina).

Angela Hall with the Saskatchewan Ministry of

Agriculture, Dana Hicks with Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, and Chad Jedlic with the City of Regina will also serve as appointed directors on behalf of their respective organizations.

Horse and tack sale returns to Whitewood

Longtime tradition will be held again

By Elaine Ashfield
Grasslands News

In an area of ranchers and cowboys, a longtime tradition at Whitewood Livestock will be welcomed back on Saturday, May 11, 2024.

The horse sale in Whitewood was a yearly tradition for many years when the Francis family ran the auction mart along highway number one in Whitewood. Horses of all sizes, colors and ages were put up for auction and always drew a large crowd of bidders and sellers. This continued following the sale of Francis

Auction to the new owners that changed the sale site to Whitewood Livestock where Rhett Parks is the auctioneer.

After a couple of years without any horse sales, Whitewood Livestock decided they will host a horse and tack sale again this year.

All horses must be consigned by calling the office at 1-306-735-2822 and EID forms and entry information forms can be found on their website at whitewood-livestock.ca.

New from sales of the past, modern technology also allows the sale to be broadcast on DLMS.ca for online bidding.




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SK invests in AG equipment manufacturing mobile lab

Province Commits \$300,000 to Agricultural Manufacturers of Canada to Grow the Workforce

Provincial News

Grasslands News

The Government of Saskatchewan recently announced a \$300,000 investment into Agricultural Manufacturers of Canada (AMC) to create a mobile, virtual-reality skills lab.

The mobile skills lab will visit school campuses and community events across Saskatchewan to promote career opportunities within the agricultural manufacturing industry. This investment will allow individuals to fully experience what an in-demand career in the industry looks like through the assistance of virtual reality.

“Agricultural manufacturers play an important role in driving our provincial economy and employ people in communities across Saskatchewan,” Immigration and Career Training Minister Jeremy Harrison said. “Saskatchewan is a leader in innovative agriculture and this investment ensures that agricultural equipment manufacturers will continue to attract the talent needed to support their growth.”

Over the past five years, Saskatchewan’s agriculture manufacturing exports have increased by 129 per cent, from \$364.2 million in 2019, to an all-time high of \$853 million in 2023.

“Our provincial agriculture manufacturers are some

of the most competitive and innovative businesses you will find anywhere,” Agriculture Minister David Marit said. “When dollars are spent in markets around the world on dry land agriculture equipment, the Saskatchewan brand is in demand. This investment ensures people can connect with rewarding careers in the ag sector and keep our international reputation growing.”

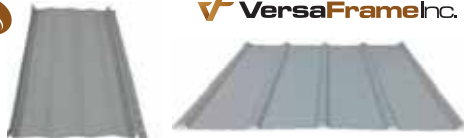
The mobile skills lab will travel across the province this summer and promote agricultural manufacturing industry careers to students, parents, teachers and communities. In addition to growing the workforce, the mobile skills lab will showcase professional development opportunities to those already working in the agricultural manufacturing industry.

“Our industry has seen exponential growth and the demand for talent is unprecedented,” AMC President Donna Boyd said. “A career in agriculture offers the op-

portunity to be one of the most successful industries in Canada—one which protects the environment, ensures global food security and fuels the future of food through innovation. AMC is directly addressing the needs of our members and our industry through the Careers in Ag initiative and we are proud that the Government of Saskatchewan supports the quest to attract and incentivize people into our sector through the investment in our Mobile Skills Lab.”

The Government of Saskatchewan works with partners like AMC to help address labour shortages and promote careers in growing industries. Targeted investments support the recently released Saskatchewan Labour Market Strategy, which outlines how the province is developing the workforce to meet employer demand and ensuring Saskatchewan people benefit from the province’s growing economy.

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SK boasts year of record exports

Goods Reached Over 160 Countries in 2023

Provincial News
Grasslands News

Earlier this week the Government of Saskatchewan and the Saskatchewan Trade and Export Partnership (STEP) released the province's annual State of Trade report. According to the report, the total value of Saskatchewan exports to the world reached \$49.3 billion in 2023. Saskatchewan goods reached 163 countries, with 32 of those countries receiving over \$100 million in provincial exports.

Saskatchewan broke multiple export records for 2023. Total agri-food exports reached over \$20.2 billion, surpassing one of the goals of the Saskatchewan Growth Plan, and agricultural equipment exports reached nearly \$835 million, representing record investments in both categories. Exports

to Latin American countries reached a record \$5.4 billion. The province ranked first in Canada for per capita exports, at over double the national average, totaling \$40,425, while the Canadian average was \$18,925.

"Another record-breaking year of exports further demonstrates that Saskatchewan is open for business and continues to be a reliable, sustainable supplier of products that the world needs," Trade and Export Development Minister Jeremy Harrison said. "Today's report is a testament to the incredible work being done by our exporters, producers and industry leaders. The continuous work of our network of nine international offices to showcase Saskatchewan's story abroad is clearly having an impact on international markets. As the province with the largest per capita exports

in the nation, and double the national average, this export growth is leading to the creation of new jobs and opportunities in communities across Saskatchewan."

"Total exports in 2023 reached \$49.3 billion, our second-best year on record," STEP CEO Chris Dekker said. "It takes solid management, strategic marketing, and nerves of steel to be successful in international markets dominated by global uncertainty."

According to the report, volumes of most major exports increased from 2022 levels. The top export products for the province include crude petroleum oil, potash, wheat, canola seeds and oil, lentils, uranium, dried peas and barley. Saskatchewan's international agri-food exports were led by record exports of wheat and canola oil.



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Top up on the way for eligible livestock producers in Sask.

By Provincial
Grasslands News

Canada's Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food Lawrence MacAulay and Saskatchewan Agriculture Minister David Marit announced additional payments will be provided to eligible livestock producers already enrolled in the 2023 Canada-Saskatchewan Feed Program. The Program, introduced on October 20, 2023, was put in place to help maintain the breeding herd in drought impacted regions of the province.

"Drought conditions are having a serious impact on livestock producers right across Saskatchewan," MacAulay said. "We will continue working closely with the province to ensure affected producers have access to the financial tools they need to protect their operations."

"These additional payments will assist livestock producers who have felt the impact of drought throughout the province," Marit said. "The Program provides additional relief measures to offset extraordinary costs to secure feed for livestock. This is a government that will always stand up for the needs of

producers and the industry as a whole."

Initial payments were prorated to a maximum of 75 per cent of the total payment based on the application from producers. This prorated approach ensured that all eligible producers could receive support. The current outstanding total program budget allows for the remaining 25 per cent to complement the initial payments issued to producers who applied and were deemed eligible before the deadline. Producers within the designated regions, as originally guided by the Canadian Drought Monitor map will receive a top up of up to \$50 per head. Applicants that were in the provincial-only area will receive a top up of up to \$20 per head.

"The last couple of years have been a struggle for cattle producers in the province," Saskatchewan Cattlemen's Association Vice-Chair Chad Ross said. "Minister Marit and the Saskatchewan government were quick to respond to the challenge through the Canada-Saskatchewan feed program. We appreciate the investment in our industry made by both levels of gov-

ernment and thank you for the additional support announced today."

Applicants were required to submit receipts or appropriate documents for the extraordinary expenses. The deadline to submit applications to the Canada-Saskatchewan Feed Program ended March 15, 2024. Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation's Feed Team will automatically reprocess all applications for producers who previously submitted applications before the deadline for funding through the Canada-Saskatchewan Feed Program. Producers should expect to receive funds in the coming weeks.

"SARM appreciates the top up funding to the Canada-Saskatchewan Feed program which will help livestock producers who are experiencing extra costs associated with drought," Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities President Ray Orb said. "SARM values the ongoing commitment from both levels of senior government to Saskatchewan agriculture."

"Producers greatly appreciate this additional drought assistance that will bring the per head assistance up to 2021 support

levels in the hardest hit regions of the province." Saskatchewan Stock Growers Association President Garner Deobald said.

The Canada-Saskatchewan Feed Program received 3,486 applications.

Saskatchewan's AgriRecovery Program has been referred to as the Canada-Saskatchewan Feed Program since October 2023. AgriRecovery is a federal-provincial-territorial disaster relief framework to help agricultural producers with the extraordinary costs associated with recovering from disaster situations. AgriRecovery initiatives are cost-shared on a 60:40 basis between the federal government and participating provinces or territories, as outlined under the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership (Sustainable CAP).

Producers also have access to a comprehensive suite of business risk management (BRM) programs that are the first line of defense for producers facing disasters, including AgriStability, AgriInsurance and AgriInvest. With joint funding from the federal government and provinces, these BRM programs provide protection against different types of income and production losses.

Letter to Editor: Dementia support

Dear Editor,

On Saturday, May 25, 2024, the Moosomin Dementia Support Group will be supporting a Walk for Alzheimers.

The walk will begin at the new and beautiful Cobblestone Building, 118 Wright Road in Moosomin at 10 a.m. with registration, 10:15 a.m. start walking. Refreshments and visiting will be available. Length of walking will be at the walker's discretion (some ole timers like me will do more visiting than walking) but all walkers are encouraged to be back to the starting point at 11:30 a.m. for refreshments.

Fortunately, greater recognition has been given to all mental challenges including cognitive ones. All cognitive challenges are classified under the Dementia Umbrella of which Alzheimers is a part (Alzheimers is 90 per cent of the Dementia total).

The disease of Alzheimers is where the brain cells are attacked and killed or damaged.

Alzheimers is not currently curable, thus the main thrust is prevention, slowing its progress and creating an environment of awareness where all those affected can live as well as possible.

Ten per cent, or one in 10 of those age 65 years have some level of Alzheimers and that percentage doubles every five years of age.

Alzheimers is among the main diseases disabling and claims lives in North America. You are invited to support Alzheimers by joining us on May 25th, walk as you are able, visit and fellowship, and raise funds among your family and friends.

All cheques should be made payable to: Alzheimer Society of Saskatchewan.

Be sure to bring your children, you will be helping the next generation to be more aware and supportive.

Also we would like all who are affected in any way by Dementia (Alzheimers) to be aware that you are welcome to attend any and all of our support group meetings. Every second Tuesday of the month at 1 p.m. at the Moosomin Bethel United Church.

As a current attender, I predict that you will be glad that you did.

Glen McMillan,
Kipling, SK



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Residents reminded to take precautions against Hantavirus exposure

By Provincial
Grasslands News

Saskatchewan residents are being reminded to take precautions against hantavirus as they start their spring cleanup.

Hantavirus infection is caused by breathing in contaminated airborne particles from the droppings, urine or saliva of infected deer mice. It can cause a rare, but potentially fatal lung disease known as hantavirus pulmonary syndrome.

"Exposure to hantavirus most often occurs when cleaning enclosed buildings, or equipment and vehicles after winter," Saskatchewan's Deputy Chief Medical Health Officer Dr. Julie Kryzanowski said. "Particles can become airborne after sweeping, but it's also possible to get the virus by touching something that has been contaminated, and then touching your nose, mouth or eyes."

The following precautions should be taken

when cleaning outbuildings such as sheds, and unoccupied dwellings such as cabins where evidence of rodent infestation is found:

- ventilate the building by opening doors and windows, and then leave the area for at least 30 minutes before cleaning;

- avoid using dry cleaning methods such as dusting, sweeping, vacuuming or air-hosing;

- use wet mopping methods and wear rubber or plastic gloves;

- wear goggles and a well-fitting N-95 type filter mask when cleaning areas contaminated by droppings;

- dampen areas contaminated with rodent droppings with bleach disinfectant and remove droppings with a damp mop or cloth;

- steam clean, shampoo or spray upholstered furniture with a detergent, disinfectant or a mixture of bleach and water; and

- wash exposed clothes and bedding with deter-

gent in hot water.

Throughout the year, minimize the presence of all rodents by reducing the availability of food sources or nesting materials, and by preventing rodents from entering the home and other buildings. Store human and animal food, water and garbage in pest resistant containers with tightly fitted lids; and move woodpiles or other potential hiding places for mice away from your home.

Hantavirus infections are rare but are serious. Between 1994 and 2023, 38 cases of hantavirus pulmonary syndrome were reported in Saskatchewan; 13 of those cases were fatal. Case numbers include preliminary data for 2023 and are subject to change.

The virus can affect anyone who comes into contact with mouse droppings. Symptoms usually start within one to six weeks of exposure and include fever, muscle aches, cough, headaches, nau-

sea and vomiting. Some people develop severe symptoms that can be life threatening. Seek medical attention immediately if you have a cough, fever

and shortness of breath.

For more information on hantavirus, visit: <https://www.saskatchewan.ca/residents/health/diseases-and-conditions/>

hantavirus and HealthLine Online at www.healthlineonline.ca.

For advice on symptoms or when to seek care, call HealthLine 811.

312 suspensions, 142 criminal charges laid for impaired driving in March

Saskatchewan RCMP
Grasslands News

Police across Saskatchewan reported 312 drivers were issued licence suspensions for exceeding provincial limits for alcohol and/or drugs, while 142 were charged with a Criminal Code impaired driving offence.

In March, SGI teamed up with the Regina Police Service to bring more awareness to mandatory alcohol screening (MAS). Under federal legislation passed in 2018, police have the legal authority to demand a quick roadside breath test of any driver they stop. Drivers who refuse to provide a roadside breath test face consequences equal to being caught driving impaired, which is why SGI's friendly advice to drivers was: if you're asked, take the test.

The Regina Police Service announced that any driver stopped during the month of March would be required to take the brief roadside test. On March 21, the Saskatchewan RCMP notified the public that its members

would be conducting roadside mandatory alcohol screenings as part of all lawful traffic stops on an ongoing basis.

Police say that mandatory alcohol screening catches impaired drivers who would have otherwise gone undetected. The Regina Police Service said mandatory alcohol screening caught nine drivers exceeding the .08 blood alcohol concentration (BAC) Criminal Code limit, while another six were issued suspensions for exceeding the provincial limit (.04 BAC).

Stopping impaired driving makes everyone safer. While enforcement can reduce the number of impaired drivers, the better option would be for everyone to make the decision to never get behind the wheel under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

Other results from March reported by law enforcement:

- 548 tickets for distracted driving, including 446 for using a cellphone;
- 375 tickets for seatbelt and car seat offences; and
- 4,473 tickets for speeding and aggressive driving offences.

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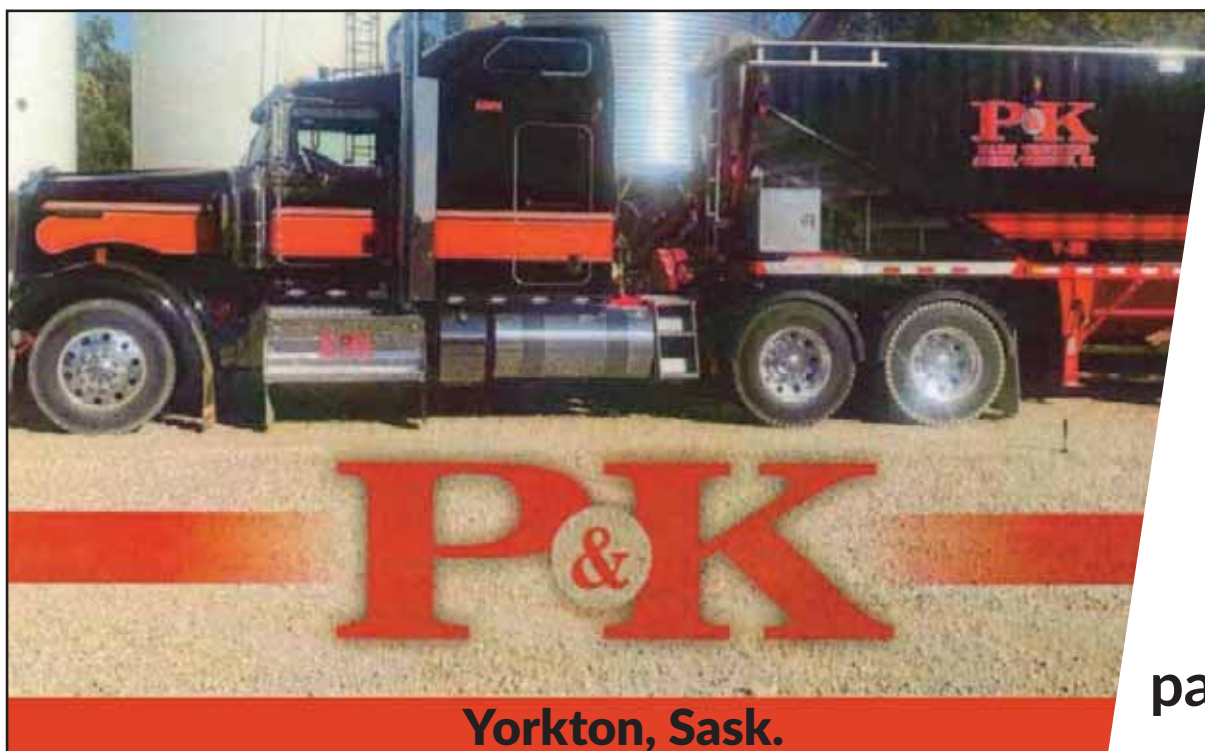
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SPORTS

Chris Amyotte shares passion for golf with youth while pursuing professional career

By Sarah Pacio
Grasslands News

Chris Amyotte from Indian Head has been sober nearly four years and feels that golf has played a crucial role in his recovery from addiction.

Amyotte was born and raised in Indian Head. He lives in Regina now where he is employed, but he still has family who reside in Indian Head. His dad Charm Amyotte introduced him to golf at a young age.

"I was about 6 and my dad got me a little set and then I just started golfing with my dad," he recalled.

Others also nurtured his love for golf including Duff McDonald, Peter Davies and Amyotte's neighbour Ken (Scoop) McCabe. However, Amyotte stopped playing golf around 2015 because of alcohol addiction. He recalls that those in his home community at the time "knew how I was, and I made quite the mess."

In 2021, Amyotte started a new chapter in his life. He stopped drinking, remembered how much he enjoyed playing golf and decided to resume his involvement with the sport. His first visit back to the driving range revealed that his skills were very rusty, but he was willing to put in the effort and now he is pursuing the career in golf that he dreamed of as a boy.

"When I first started

back, I went to the driving range and I couldn't hit a ball. I lost my swing and everything. It took me a couple months to actually start hitting the ball pretty good again," he said. "I just keep practicing and practicing all the time now. I like getting out there and golfing, it's so peaceful."

About a year after he began playing golf again, Amyotte's personal passion for the sport motivated him to help others develop their skills. He earned the necessary certificate and has been instructing golfers for the past few years. Last summer he led successful training clinics for youth at the Indian Head Golf Course.

"I love to teach," Amyotte said. "When I'm teaching, that's the only thing I think about. It's kind of like my AA meeting, I don't think about anything [else]. I have a pretty good life now. It's just awesome when I'm out there."

Now he is taking the next step towards a professional golf career. He recently completed the initial requirements for registering with the PGA of Canada. This was a lengthy process that involved training and logging many hours on the golf course. He also had to obtain reference letters and acquire employment in the golf industry. To meet these requirements,

he has been working at Divots Indoor Golf in Regina during the offseason and will be employed at Green Acres Golf Course in Balgonie this summer.

Amyotte is also planning to take the Playing Ability Test (PAT) with the PGA this year. Successful completion of the PAT will qualify him to compete in larger tournaments. He is considering entering the amateur tournaments at Elk Ridge Golf Course in Prince Albert and at the Royal Golf Club in Regina.

While pursuing these professional golf goals, Amyotte will be working at the golf course in Balgonie this summer, but he is also looking forward to leading more Jr. Day Camp sessions at the Indian Head course.

"I want to give something back to my community now and I just want to show my town that I've changed," he told Grasslands News.



Putting in the effort

Chris Amyotte from Indian Head has left alcohol behind to pursue a professional golf career.

SUBMITTED | GRASSLANDS NEWS

Kipling to host track and field clinic

By Connie Schwalm
Grasslands News

Young athletes in Grades 6-12 who are eager to start preparing for the upcoming Track & Field season will have the opportunity to hone their skills at a Track & Field Clinic hosted by Centre 48 in Kipling on Sunday, May 5th from 10 a.m. - 3:30 p.m..

Courtney Melnychuk with Cen-

tre 48 says that those taking part in the clinic will receive instruction in several different events and adds that coaches can benefit from attending the clinic as well.

"We have some instructors coming out from the Saskatchewan Athletics Program to help participants learn more techniques for throwing events (discus, shot put) and jumping events (hurdles, high jump, long jump, triple jump). Track season is

short partially due to weather, so we are hoping that by putting on this clinic, it helps those interested in track & field get some more training time in. And coaches are also welcome to come out to grow their knowledge as well."

Deadline to sign up for the clinic is April 30th. Those wanting to register can by text to (306) 424 - 7048 or email to: centre48.southsask@gmail.com

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Sports Column – Darcy Gross

Gross Misconduct

You know how everyone always wants to go through life and have none or at least few regrets?

As I get older, I've realized that regrets are a burden, and to have to carry them around for many years only makes them worse, and probably heavier.

I have a few of my own, but none of them carry any life changing weight or keep me awake at night.

The one regret I have in life, that I always keep going back to, involves a piece of fruit.

A number of years back, my better half and I, travelled to British Columbia to see some sights, enjoy some great music and visit family.

After a week at Salmon Arm, having seen some great concerts and experiencing their Roots and Blues Festival, we packed up the old van and decided to come back home.

The last place in B.C. that we stopped in was Golden, to get some gas for the tank, some hot coffee and some road food.

We stopped at a really big gas station and while the boss was inside attending to one thing or another, I'd headed back to the vehicle and was sitting in it just looking around to see what I could see.

As I looked behind the expansive gas station, I saw what looked like an old farm, or more appropriately, the corner of two roads on what must have been some sort of agricultural operation, perhaps an orchard at one point.

When you looked to the corner, you could see wooden and wire remnants of an old fence and just inside where that fence sat, was a single, solitary peach tree.

Trust me, I'm far from being an arborist or botanist, but I knew that this was a peach tree, because about five and half feet off the ground, dangled one beautiful, perfect peach.

There are few things in life I enjoy more than a nice, fresh peach, not that I've ever taken one straight off a tree and ate it, just like that, but I have spilled more than my share of that fine juice on half of my wardrobe.

I looked at the peach and thought about walking down to where that lone tree was situated and grabbing it for the road.

For an entire week we'd all gorged ourselves on fresh apples and blackberries and even attended a garlic festival, but the highlight was the thin skinned, freestone peaches that you could purchase just about anywhere.

They were absolutely delicious and held more juice than it seemed possible, and we'd stowed a few in our cooler for the long trip home.

As I sat looking at that single lonesome peach on that solitary tree, my wonderful spouse returned to the vehicle and before I gave it another thought, we were back on the road.

I never gave that dangling piece of fruit another thought, until about 10 years later, as I was jonesing for peaches and they weren't quite ready for the grocery stores.

That peach came back to me in a thought bubble with all sorts of other activities I could have taken part in and then I wondered why I didn't go and pluck it from that branch and eat it that day and I realized, that it was a regret of mine to have not gotten that piece of fruit.

It reminded me of the things we all did as kids that no one ever took note of.

It was like not remembering the last time my gang of friends and acquaintances got together to play ball or football or even get the skates out and have a hockey game.

No one ever tells you when it's going to be your last chance to do something with a great group of friends, and we let that day and time in our life slip away and years later, we worried about whether our own children are going to make out alright when they're out on their own,

I often wonder when was the last time a gang of buddies got together before any of us could drive, and we all got to where we were going by bike or on foot.

Don't have regrets about those things, because I believe it's all about growing as people.

But, given that chance again, I know that I'd do something differently in life and I'd urge everyone to do the same.

Eat the peach.



Sports Heritage
Orioles' executive member Shane Thompson (left) presents a \$2,500 cheque to Colton MacPherson for the Whitewood Sports Heritage Project.

SUBMITTED | GRASSLANDS NEWS



Playground
Orioles' executive member Shane Thompson presents a \$2,500 cheque to Marnie Krupski for the Whitewood playground fund.

SUBMITTED | GRASSLANDS NEWS

Orioles disperse money after disbanding

By Chris Ashfield
Grasslands News

After several years of not icing a team, the Whitewood Orioles senior hockey club has decided to disperse left over funds to help two local sports related projects in the community.

The decision to donate funds was made by the Orioles's executive during a meeting last month where

it was decided that with it unlikely that a team will be iced in the near future, that money left over in their account should be donated.

According to figures from the Orioles, the team had approximately \$8,196 in their accounts and felt it was unnecessary to hold onto that money. So a decision was made to donate \$5,000 to two local projects in the community and to keep the remaining \$3,176 for a few more years as start-up money, in case the

senior team is revitalized.

The two groups selected to receive \$2,500 each was the Whitewood Sports Heritage Project, which honours local athletes, and to the Whitewood playground fund. The cheque to the Sports Heritage Project was presented during the Whitewood Falcons/Whalers NHL draft (former Orioles' draft) held on Apr. 19 while the cheque for the playground fund was presented the next day.

Sports Column

The NHL's best family affair: the Hughes brothers

By Bruce Penton
Sports Columnist

There have been some tremendously talented family combinations over the years in the National Hockey League — the Richards, the Sutters, the Tkachuks, the Hulls — but the current trio of Hughes brothers might be the best family act yet.

Only one of the three — likely Norris Trophy winner Quinn Hughes of Vancouver Canucks — will be skating in the playoffs this year, while the younger two, Jack and Luke, both ply their trade with New Jersey Devils, who finished a disappointing seventh in the Metropolitan Division and didn't come close to a post-season berth.

American-born and all products of the U.S. college system, the Hughes boys come by their hockey talent honestly. Their father, Jim, played college hockey, later becoming an assistant coach for the Toronto Marlies of the American Hockey League. He went on to play a key role in the Maple Leafs' player development program, retiring 10 years ago, so the boys spent most of their formative youth learning the game in Toronto. Their mother Ellen played for the U.S. national women's team in the world championships of 1992. As player 'developers', Jim and Ellen Hughes just might be the best ever.

"Whenever we got the chance to watch a game with mv dad. it was like

watching video with an NHL coach," Jack said in an ESPN.com story in 2018. He said the Hughes boys were getting hockey tutoring at the age of 10-14 that many others didn't get until turning professional at 19 or 20.

All three Hughes boys were first-round draft picks, which has no NHL precedence. Quinn is 24 and went No. 7 overall to the Canucks in 2018. He runs the Canucks' power play, finished second on the team in scoring with 93 points and will likely wind up winning numerous Norris trophies. Jack is 22, was the No. 1 overall selection in the 2019 draft and this year, despite missing the last two months of the season due to a shoulder injury and subsequent surgery, racked up 74 points in 62 games after amassing 99 points last season. Luke, at age 20, was the fourth overall selection in the 2021 draft and has established himself as the Devils' No. 1 blueliner. He finished fifth in team scoring this year and is a regular on the New Jersey power play. He, too, will garner a few Norris trophy votes.

Quinn and Luke both wear No. 43 for their respective teams, while Jack wears 86 for the Devils. Does the numbering mean Jack is twice as good? Hardly. If a poll were taken, Jack and Quinn would be 1 and 1A while Luke would be on the cusp of that talent level. Jack says Quinn is the best of the brothers; Quinn says it's Jack. Regardless, they're both all-

stars, soon to be joined by Luke, and likely en route to hoisting more than one Stanley Cup over the next dozen or so years.

Quinn hopes to start that Cup-hoisting this June.

• Super 70s Sports: "If they made Bull Durham today, Nuke LaLoosh would be on a pitch count and never see the fifth inning."

• Mike Bianchi of the Orlando Sentinel: "Deion Sanders got defensive recently when USA Today pointed out how Sanders doesn't make recruiting visits to high schools or do in-home visits with recruits and their parents. Maybe Primetime needs to change his name to Downtime!"

• Janice Hough of leftcoastsportsbabe.com: "Tom Brady says he's 'not opposed' to a late-season NFL return. What about as a captain for the Pro Bowl?"

• RJ Currie of sports-deke.com: "Ex-NASCAR driver Danica Patrick was among the first passengers to ride a new driverless bus in Las Vegas. To make her feel comfortable, they had it follow 33 cars."

• One more from Janice Hough: "At least two teams, the Las Vegas Aces and the Washington Mystics, have moved their games against (Caitlin Clark and) the Indiana Fever to larger arenas because of higher than expected crowds. Good for them. Now pay the women more."

• Canadian satirical website The Beaverton: "'Maybe this is the year the Leafs beat Boston,' says delusional idiot who doesn't

know (anything)."

• Another Beaverton offering: "NHL to expand to every city in North America except Quebec City."

• Former U.S. college basketball coach Al McGuire: "Winning is over-emphasized. The only time it is really important is in surgery and war."

• Headline at the onion.com: "Nobody In Entire Dodgers Organization Has Heart To Tell Ohtani What's Going On With Interpreter"

• Headline at fark.com: "Bring your family, bring your wives to see the new NHL team in Salt Lake City."

• Steve Simmons of the Toronto Sun, on uniforms for the new Utah NHL team: "Please don't hire whoever came up with these San Diego Padres uniforms that look like clown costumes."

Care to comment? Email brucepenton2003@yahoo.ca

Melville Bowl Arena Bowling Scores

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Melville Jins kick their way to success in debut Taekwondo Tournament

Submitted
Grasslands News

The Melville community is buzzing with pride and excitement as the Melville Taekwondo Jins Dominic Trollope, Kylan Jones, and Lennex Armstrong, made their debut appearance in a regional tournament held at Gallagher Centre in Yorkton April 20, 2024, showcasing their talent and determination on the mat.

Jones was awarded silver in Sparring and a silver in poomsae. Trollope was awarded bronze in Sparring, and Armstrong was awarded bronze in sparring at the 26th Prairie Wildfire Taekwondo Challenge in Yorkton.

In their first-ever competitive outing, the Melville Jins proved that they are a force to be reckoned with, impressing spectators and judges alike with their skillful techniques and unwavering spirit. Despite being newcomers to the tournament scene, the team demonstrated remarkable poise and determination, earning accolades and admiration from fellow competitors and coaches.

Led by their dedicated Melville Taekwondo coach, Chekoy, the Melville Jins have been diligently training

for months in preparation for this momentous occasion. Their hard work and commitment to excellence have undoubtedly paid off, as they showcased a level of skill and sportsmanship that belied their relative lack of experience.

"It's truly incredible to see how far these young athletes have come in such a short amount of time," remarked Coach Chekoy. "Their passion for Taekwondo and their dedication to improvement have been inspiring to witness. I couldn't be prouder of their performance today."

The Melville Jins' participation in the tournament not only serves as a testament to their individual talents but also highlights the growing popularity of Taekwondo within the local community. With each kick and punch, they have captured the hearts of their fellow Melville residents, igniting a newfound enthusiasm for the sport.

As the cheers and applause echo through the Melville gymnasium, the Melville Jins stand as shining examples of the power of perseverance and teamwork. Their journey is just beginning, but with their indomitable spirit and passion for taekwondo, the future looks bright for these talented young athletes.



Melville medalists

SUBMITTED | GRASSLANDS NEWS

Melville Jins Dominic Trollope, Kylan Jones, and Lennex Armstrong made their first appearance in a regional tournament on April 20, 2024.

Melville bowling league results



SUBMITTED | GRASSLANDS NEWS

League champs

Pictured are league champs, Team BCR members, Chris Cheveldae, Barb Cheveldae and Randy Ostlund. They were also Team High Triple 3898.



SUBMITTED | GRASSLANDS NEWS

A-side champs

Pictured are A-side roll off champs, Team Just 4 Fun members, Theresa Ostlund, Bernie Senft and Angela Morgan. They were also High Single 1353.



SUBMITTED | GRASSLANDS NEWS

Mens and ladies high

Pat Brown ladies high triple 693 and average 188, Randy Ostlund men's high single 350 triple 861 average 238, and Crystal Schofer ladies high single 280.



SUBMITTED | GRASSLANDS NEWS

B-side champs

Pictured are B-side roll off champs, team Drifters members, Dan Cheveldae, Crystal Schofer and Lawrence Kosedy.



SUBMITTED | GRASSLANDS NEWS

Most improved

Pictured are most improved, Chris Cheveldae with a +27 and Angela Morgan with a +8.

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Windthorst Pirates to host ball camp

By Connie Schwalm

Grasslands News

The Windthorst Pirates Baseball Team will be offering those young players who are yearning to be back out on the baseball field the opportunity to practice their skills at a Baseball Camp set to take place on May 11th at the Windthorst Baseball Diamond.

Rhett Larsen (Windthorst Pirates) says that the Camp will give kids the opportunity to have fun while preparing for the upcoming season.

"This is the first time that we've hosted a camp like this. Our main goal is to give kids a chance to practice and work on some of their baseball skills. I'm a dad and I have another dad (Landon Adelman) running this with me. Both of us have

young kids in baseball, and our baseball season is short.

So, we thought we'd take advantage of the baseball talent we have on our Pirates Baseball Team and hold a Baseball Camp. We're hoping to have a few of the other players on the Pirates to come and help out and be coaches out on the field that day.

It will be great to get out on the field with the kids, so that they can play some baseball, have some fun and perhaps be stronger players for their teams when they're done."

Larsen adds that some of the money raised from the Baseball Camp will be donated to the local service club that does so much to support the community.

"The Windthorst and District Lions contributed a substantial amount towards the purchase of

a score-clock for us, and we'd like to help give a little money back to them. So, we plan to donate some of the money we raise with this Baseball Camp back to the Lions Club. The rest of the money will go towards purchasing some of the gear that the Windthorst Pirates need for the upcoming season."

He adds that registration for the Baseball Camp is open now.

"It's early yet, teams are just getting started. So, registrations are still coming in. But we are expecting that all the spots we have will fill up. We'll have the kids split into two groups of 20, with the U9 - U11 players in the morning and the U13 - U15 players in the afternoon."

Cost is \$40 /player. Those wanting to register can email: rhett.larsen1@gmail.com

Record numbers for Quad Town ball's 10th season



BRAD BROWN | GRASSLANDS NEWS

Ball season begins

Quad Town Steelers under-18 baseball team evaluations took place April 13 in Vibank, among several Quad Town Minor Ball baseball and softball teams that did the same over the course of the weekend.

By Brad Brown
Grasslands News

As the current iteration of Quad Town Minor Ball enters its 10th season, president Crystal Petersen says it's doing so with both a record number of players and an ever-expanding geographical footprint.

In an interview with Grasslands News, Petersen said the organization saw 233 players register for the 2024 season, up from the previous high of 220 players that was set last year.

Those players, she added, will populate 22 baseball and softball teams ranging in age from under-5 to U18.

"It's a huge group effort," Petersen said, noting that 45 coaches and

managers were also in place as of mid-April, with more volunteer positions still to be filled. "And those players and coaches now come from all over."

"When we first got the program going again in 2015 it was almost all kids from just Vibank, Odessa, Sedley and Francis but now we've also ventured out into Kendal, Montmartre and Glenavon because there's not really any associations out there especially for the older kids."

Quad Town players in the U11-U18 age groups will all once again play in their respective Baseball Regina or Regina Minor Softball League divisions, while younger players will play modified games as per Baseball Saskatchewan regulations.

Two local softball tour-

naments are also planned for the year – featuring U11 and U13 teams June 1-2, and the U9 girls June 15 – along with the annual minor ball day June 9. That day will see every local team play a home game at the diamonds in Odessa.

Local teams will also be encouraged to participate in their respective provincial championship tournaments beyond league playoffs at the end of the season.

Looking beyond that, Petersen added that the 2025 season may also see the return of a U17 Quad Town softball team for the first time in approximately two decades.

"It's a testament honestly to all the folks and the board members who have really been so committed and dedicated to building the program," said Petersen. "But at the beginning stages ... we were just trying to get kids back and garner some interest in the communities."

"I'm just proud to see it rebuilt, because I grew up here and ball – that's all we did in May and June. Basically every kid played ball so it's just really great to see those numbers back up here."

Leagues taking shape

Baseball Regina's 18U A league is a 15-team circuit that includes two Quad Town Steelers squads and one each from Indian Head, Balcarres and White Butte.

Two Quad Town teams along with Balcarres and Indian Head will also be among 10 teams in Baseball Regina's 15U A league this season, while White Butte will field a team in the 15U AA division.

White Butte will further have 13U teams at the AAA, AA and A levels, along with a U11 AAA team and three U11 AA clubs, while Balcarres will suit up in the U13 AA league as well.

Regina Minor Softball League divisions had not been posted publicly as of April 18.



ALAN HUSTAK | GRASSLANDS NEWS

Minor Ball gets Lions support

The Fort Qu'Appelle and district Lions club is supporting Minor Ball U9, U11 and U13, with a \$4,000 grant for new equipment. Lions Club President Lyle Smulan presented the cheque to Junior Ball's co-president Paige Strandlund on Tuesday, April 23. The club has six teams of youngsters between the ages of 5 and 16.

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PUBLIC NOTICE Village of Montmartre

Public notice is hereby given that the Council of the Village of Montmartre intends to adopt a bylaw under The Planning and Development Act, 2007 to amend Bylaw No. 102/64, known as the Zoning Bylaw.

INTENT

The proposed bylaw amendment will:

- Add definitions of Veterinary Hospitals for Large and Small Animal Clinics
- Add Discretionary Use, Veterinary Hospital - Small Animal Clinic section to the C - Commercial District

AFFECTED AREA

The proposed bylaw will affect C - Commercial District land.

REASON

The amendment is to accommodate the request to establish a Veterinary Hospital - Small Animal Clinic on Lots 8 & 9 Block 25, Plan No. AD717.

PUBLIC INSPECTION

Any person may inspect the bylaw at the Municipal Office, located at 136 Central Avenue, in the Village of Montmartre, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Monday to Friday excluding statutory holidays. Copies of the proposed bylaw are available at the Village Office free of charge.

PUBLIC HEARING

Council will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, May 8, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. (local time) in the Council Chambers of the Village of Montmartre, 136 Central Avenue in Montmartre, Sask, to hear any person or group who wants to comment on the proposed bylaw. Council will also consider written comments received at the hearing or delivered to the undersigned at the municipal office before the hearing.

Issued at the Village of Montmartre, this 19th day of April, 2024.

Dale Brenner
Village Administrator



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Scott, Herolds honoured for conservation efforts

Over 300 attended Save-A-Goose awards dinner in Odessa

By Brad Brown
Grasslands News

A lifetime devoted to environmental preservation was recognized April 13 at the new Odessa Community Hall as Lorne Scott was named the Save-A-Goose Wildlife Branch conservationist of the year.

Scott was honoured following supper at the organization's annual awards banquet, where over 30 awards were also handed out to local hunters and fishers in assorted big game categories.

In announcing Scott as this year's winner, emcee Denny Curts called Scott "a true conservationist and naturalist."

Curts noted Scott's role in founding the Save-A-Goose branch in 1981 as well as the Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation's first-ever provincial fundraising dinner, which he said was held at Odessa in November 1982.

Curts added that Scott "has devoted his life to habitat for wildlife, and preservation of native land for conservation in Saskatchewan." That work has included the construction of "well over 2,000 birdhouses," the banding of thousands of birds, and maintaining a detailed record of first sightings as various species of birds return to the area each spring.

Scott's resume also includes tenures as SWF president (1986-87), the provincial government's environment minister (1995-99) and SWF executive director (2000-03).

The work, however, is far from over he says.

"Our biggest challenge is preserving the natural landscape," Scott said in an interview with Grasslands News. "At least 85 per cent of the aspens and wetlands have been destroyed, largely for agriculture – and I farm too so I certainly know about that – along with urban development, roads, oil and gas. And it all contributes to the demise of our native landscape.

"People sometimes view natural areas as waste land because they're not growing canola and wheat, yet these areas are critically important for our native plants and animals. And with all these changes, we now live in one of the most altered landscapes in the world, if you look at parts of the American Midwest and Canadian prairies.

"The trend now is to buy every acre to get the most economic gain and society as a whole so far has not recognized the value of maintaining and preserving some of these natural areas as well."

Easement does it

Conservation easements, Scott added, are one option that can help strike a better balance between economic and environmental realities, protecting land from future development.

Scott received his award from Montmartre-area grain farmers Russell and Raelene Herold, who presented this year's plaque in memory of their late son Adam. The Conservationist of the Year Award had pre-



BRAD BROWN | GRASSLANDS NEWS

Scott honoured

Russell and Raelene Herold, left, present Lorne Scott, right, with the Conservationist of the Year Award, dedicated to the Herolds' late son Adam, at this year's Save-A-Goose Wildlife Branch awards banquet which was held April 13 in Odessa.

viously been presented in Scott's name but was re-dedicated this year at Scott's suggestion.

"(Adam) was a great young man who enjoyed and appreciated wildlife, and it's a real tribute to his mom and dad to preserve that land in perpetuity," said Scott. "They've been great community supporters and long-time members of the wildlife federation, hunters and birdwatchers, and now securing this land and planting trees so it will be a lasting tribute."

Minutes earlier the Herolds themselves had been recognized with the SWF's Gordon Lund Memorial Award for "outstanding contributions towards the conservation of Saskatchewan's renewable resources."

That award was bestowed in part for their decision to place approximately 190 acres of land under a conservation easement in partnership with Ducks Unlimited Canada. Those lands are known as the Adam Herold Project and also saw the Herold family named the Save-A-Goose conservationists of the year for 2021.

In a 2023 interview, Russ Herold described Adam's love of the outdoors, including time spent snowmobiling, quadding and hunting.

"It wasn't always about the hunt or getting something," he said. "It was about being outside. Being out there on a goose hunt in the morning, being out there at first light and hearing those geese honk and seeing them come in to land. Or being out in Cypress Hills and walking around in the hills and hearing an elk bugle or seeing a herd of elk or a mule deer. He just loved the outdoors."

The winner is ...

Ty Muhr bagged the largest typical mule deer of 2023, the total rack measuring in at 153 and six-eighths

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Notice of Preparation of Assessment Roll

Rural Municipality of Francis No. 127

Notice is hereby given that the assessment roll for the Rural Municipality of Francis No. 127 for the year 2024 has been prepared and is open to inspection in the office of the assessor, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the following days:

Monday to Friday

April 26th, 2024 to May 27th, 2024

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

By accessing the (SAMA) Saskatchewan Assessment Management Agency website at www.SAMA.sk.ca and using the SAMAVIEW feature, ratepayers will be able to search property assessment details.

Any person wishing to discuss the notice of assessment or potential appeal may contact the assessor at the RM of Francis No. 127, P.O. Box 36, Francis, SK S0G 1V0. A notice of appeal, accompanied by a \$400 appeal fee which will be returned if the appeal is successful, must be filed with;

The Secretary of the Board of Revision, Aileen Swenson
100 Hutchehne Road.,
Emerald Park, SK
S4L 1C6

By the 27th day of May, 2024.

Dated this 26th day of April, 2024.

Shala Kanasevich
Assessor

inches.

The largest non-typical mule deer belonged to a bow-season catch by Linden Lang (203 1/8) and the winning typical white tail deer was shot by Glen Todd (155 7/8).

New Save-A-Goose president Travis Schaeffer caught the branch's largest fish of the year, a northern pike weighing in at 17 pounds 13 ounces.

And the largest bird of the year was a 13-pound Canada Goose shot by Cody Reid.

John Dornstauder received the group's award for the most membership sales in 2023.

Scott told Grasslands News over 300 people attended the Save-A-Goose dinner and helped raise over \$10,000 for the organization's conservation efforts and development of opportunities for youth.

Notice of Preparation of Assessment Roll

RM of Indian Head No. 156

Notice is hereby given that the assessment roll for the R.M. of Indian Head No. 156 for the year 2024 has been prepared and is open to inspection in the office of the assessor from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 1 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. on the following days: Monday to Friday, April 24, 2024 to May 27, 2024.

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 accompanied by a \$100.00 appeal fee, which will be returned if the appeal is successful, with:

The Secretary of the Board of Revisions, Saumya Vaidyanathan, Western Municipal Consulting Ltd., P.O. Box 149, Meota, SK S0M 1X0, by the 27 day of May 2024

Dated this 23 day of April 2024.

Tracy Luscombe,
Assessor

PUBLIC NOTICE Calling Lakes Planning District

Public notice is hereby given that the Calling Lakes Planning Commission intends to amend our District Official Community Plan under the Planning and Development Act, 2007, to accommodate the Flood Map in Village of Lebret's Zoning Bylaw.

Intent: To amend the Calling Lakes District Plan to accommodate the Flood Map in the Village of Lebret's Zoning Bylaw.

REASON: the accommodate the Village of Lebret's a new flood map included in their Zoning Bylaw.

AFFECTED AREA: the proposed amendment will apply generally to all member municipalities of the Calling Lakes Planning District Commission, specifically the members surrounding Mission Lake.

PUBLIC INSPECTION: Any person may inspect the amended District Plan at the B-Say-Tah Village office 842 Broadway Street, Fort Qu'Appelle from 9:00 PM to 5:30 PM Monday to Friday excluding statutory holidays, or request a copy by email, or review on the website www.4callinglakes.ca, copies of the District Plan are also available at cost. The Village of Lebret Zoning Bylaw may be inspected at their village office 12 Place D'Eglise, from 12:30PM-4:00PM Monday to Friday excluding statutory holidays or request a copy by email or review on their website www.lebret.ca.

PUBLIC HEARING: the Calling Lakes Planning District Commission will hold a public hearing on May 14th, 2024, at 6:30 PM in the Town of Fort Qu'Appelle council chambers to hear any person or group that want to comment on the proposed amendment. The Commission will also consider written comments received at the hearing or delivered to the undersigned at the office before the hearing. The Commission will consider all comments received.

Issued at the Town of Fort on April 26, 2024.

Richelle Haanstra,
Administrator

RM of Hazelwood No. 94

NOTICE OF ASSESSMENT

Notice is hereby given that the assessment roll for the RM of Hazelwood No. 94 for the year of 2024 has been prepared and is open to inspection in the office of the assessor from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. on the following days: Monday to Friday, April 26 to May 28, 2024.

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

Any person wishing to discuss the notice of assessment or potential appeal may contact the assessor at the RM of Hazelwood No. 94, P.O. Box 270, Kipling, SK S0G 2S0, 306-736-8121 or rm94@sasktel.net. A notice of appeal, accompanied by a \$100 appeal fee which will be returned if the appeal is successful, must be filed with the Secretary of the Board of Revision, Marlene Hassard, Western Municipal Consulting, P.O. Box 149, Meota, SK S0M 1X0 by the 28th day of May, 2024.

Dated this 26th day of April, 2024.

Tracy Joorisity,
Assessor

Kronau woman raises over \$11,600 for MS Walk

Keith Borkowsky
Grasslands News

Caitlyn Stenberg can legitimately tell people in a New York tone, 'I'm walking here' after a successful fundraising year earned her a trip to the Big Apple for a 1,700-participant walk to find a cure for Multiple Sclerosis.

The 32-year-old woman from Kronau, who was diagnosed with MS in 2018, needed to raise more than \$10,000 in order to join Team Canada for the walk on April 14 along the Hudson River piers on New York's West Side. She did better than that, collecting \$11,631.20 over the past year.

"We walked for three miles along the Hudson River on the piers, starting at Pier 76, and it was one of the coolest things I've ever done," Stenberg said. "There was 47 of us total on Team Canada, and MS Canada made sure we had bright red shirts on, and we walked as a team. Everyone was so amazed by what Team Canada had brought. They were very welcoming."

Aside from the river views, Stenberg found herself walking close to

the downtown area of the metropolis.

"We were eight blocks from Times Square, which was kind of cool," Stenberg said. "There was a welcome event on (April 13) where I got to meet the other champions and their friends and family. We talked about why we walk. I talked about doing it to help find a cure for myself as well as for everyone else, and how my diagnosis has been. Everyone became good friends and we are all raising money for the same thing. I found 47 new friends and I found people where I knew of them from hearing of other fundraising efforts across Canada and the stories they share."

Along with the annual MS walk in Regina, Stenberg organizes the Bronc Bash at the Pilot Butte Rodeo, a combination of the Saddle Bronc and Bareback riding events where competitors can earn some prize money while raising money for the cause.

"It's donation based, so everyone is welcome to come down to the rodeo grounds," Stenberg said. "They get a little slack to compete in the timed events. After that, we do the bronc riding. It is not



SUBMITTED | GRASSLANDS NEWS

Walking for a cause

Caitlyn Stenberg, right, who earned the right to participate in an MS walk which took place in New York City on April 14 poses with her mother, left, Annette John.

an invitational event. Anyone who wants to enter can enter. They compete for money and I have some custom knives made for the champions."

Over the past year, she added some online 50-50 fundraisers on Facebook, where people can buy a number, and the winner gets half the pot. There were draws for prizes, which included such items as a customized couch resembling the back seat of a 1959 Mercury, and a garage sale.

Having reached an elite-level target, Stenberg has increased her goal for this year. She is seeking to

top the \$15,000 mark.

Stenberg's drive to raise money for an MS cure came after being diagnosed with the disease at the age of 26.

"I was diagnosed in August that year; I started working on fundraisers in January (2019)," Stenberg said. "I was sitting at home, healing up from a relapse, and I was looking for that sense of community in what I was going to do with that new diagnosis. I was pretty depressed and sad, thinking that my life was over. Then I realized it wasn't and that I could make a change by sharing my story. I started

raising money and I've been doing it ever since."

Living with MS has meant making adjustments to her life.

"I struggle with fatigue quite a bit — that brain fog fatigue feeling," Stenberg said. "I have a lot of numbness in my legs so walking can be a little bit of a challenge if I am not careful. But other than that, I'm very lucky that the medication I'm on works and I know my limits. I say no when I can't do something and go from there."

From her discussions in New York with her Canadian teammates, she may be bringing a unique event to the local calen-

dar.

"There's a gentleman in Alberta who does an event where there is someone on horseback pulling someone on skis or a snowboard," Stenberg said. "It's cool to watch. We may look at doing that in March, to add to our October bronc matches because those events work well together."

Should Stenberg meet her fundraising goal this year, she could qualify to be part of Team Canada once again at a large MS walk in the United States. The date and location have not yet been announced.

NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF ASSESSMENT ROLL

RM of Grayson No. 184

Notice is hereby given that the Assessment Roll for the RM of Grayson No. 184 for the year 2024 has been prepared and is open to inspection in the office of the assessor from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. on the following days: Monday to Friday, April 26, 2024 to May 28, 2024.

A Bylaw pursuant to section 214 of *The Municipalities Act* has been passed and the Assessment Notices have been sent as required.

Any person wishing to discuss the notice of assessment or potential appeal may contact the assessor at the R. of Grayson No. 184, P.O. Box 69, 131 Taylor Street Grayson, SK S0A 1E0. A notice of appeal, accompanied by a \$200 appeal fee which will be returned if the appeal is successful, must be filed with the Secretary of the Board of Revision, Marlene Hassard with Western Municipal Consulting Ltd., P.O. Box 149, Meota, SK S0M 1X0, by the 28th day of May, 2024.

Dated this 26th day of April, 2024.

Sarah Dietrich,
Assessor

NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF ASSESSMENT ROLL

Resort Village of West End

Notice is hereby given that the assessment roll for the Resort Village of West End for the year 2024 has been prepared and is open for inspection at the office of the assessor, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. on the following days: Monday and Tuesday, April 26th to May 28th, 2024.

A Bylaw 5-83 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, including applicable assessment appeal fee of \$50 by May 28, 2024 to:

Western Municipal Consulting
P.O. Box 149,
Meota, SK S0M 1X0
By May 28, 2024

Dated this 22nd day of April, 2024.

Noelle Ottenbreit, Assessor
Resort Village of West End,
Round Lake, SK

306-740-8624 – resortwestend@sasktel.net
Office Hours: Monday & Tuesdays 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

ASSESSMENT ROLL NOTICE

Rural Municipality of McLeod No. 185

Notice is hereby given that the assessment roll for the RM of McLeod No. 185 for the year 2024 has been prepared and is open to inspection in the office of the assessor from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. during regular office hours on the following days: Tuesday to Friday, April 26 to May 28, 2024.

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: \$100.00 per alternate number
- Agricultural: \$100.00 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, Marlene Hassard, with Western Municipal Consulting Ltd. P.O. Box 149, Meota, SK S0M 1X0 or the Assessor, RM of McLeod No. 185, P.O. Box 130 Neudorf, SK S0A 2T0 by the 28th day of May, 2024.

Dated this 26th day of April, 2024.

Chantelle Ottenbreit, Assessor

Notice of Preparation of ASSESSMENT ROLL 2024 Village of McLean

Notice is hereby given that the assessment roll for the Village of McLean for the year 2024 has been prepared and is open for inspection in the office of the Assessor, 127 Main Street, McLean, SK on Tuesday to Thursday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. April 18, 2024 to May 20, 2024.

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 with: The Assessor, Village of McLean, Box 56, McLean, SK S0G 3E0, by the 20th day of May, 2024.

Dated this 18th day of April, 2024.

Melody Temrick
Assessor

ASSESSMENT NOTICE

RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF ABERNETHY NO. 186

Notice is hereby given that the assessment roll of the Rural Municipality of Abernethy No. 186 for the year 2024 has been prepared and is now open for inspection in the office of the assessor located at the RM of Abernethy No. 186 Office, 201 Main Street, Abernethy, SK on the following days: Monday to Friday, April 22, 2024 to May 28, 2024 from 9 am to noon and 1 pm to 3 pm.

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

Any person wishing to appeal against their assessment is required to file their notice of appeal in writing accompanied by a \$100 per parcel appeal fee by May 28, 2024 to:

The Secretary of the Board of Revision
Kristen Tokaryk, Western Municipal Consulting
P.O. Box 149, Meota, SK S0M 1X0

Dated at Abernethy, Saskatchewan, this 26th day of April, 2024.

Karissa Lingelbach,
Assessor

Notice of Preparation of Assessment Roll

Village of Neudorf

Notice is hereby given that the Assessment Roll for the Village of Neudorf for the year 2024 has been prepared and is open for inspection in the office of the assessor located at 102 Main Street, Neudorf, Saskatchewan from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on the following days: Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, April 26, 2024 to May 27, 2024.

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 their assessment is required to file their notice of appeal in writing, accompanied by a \$100.00 appeal fee by May 27, 2024 to:

The Secretary of the Board of Revision
c/o Marlene Hassard, Municipal Western Consulting
P.O. Box 149, Meota, Saskatchewan, S0M 1X0

Dated this 26th day of April, 2024.

Linda Jansen, Assessor

ASSESSMENT ROLL 2024 VILLAGE OF ABERNETHY

Notice is hereby given that the assessment roll for the Village of Abernethy for the year 2024 has been prepared and is now open for inspection at the office of the assessor from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on the following days: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, April 26, 2024 to May 28, 2024.

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 with: The Secretary of the Revision Board, Kristen Tokaryk, P.O. Box 149, Meota, Sask. S0A 0A0. By the 28th day of May, 2024

Dated this 18th day of April, 2024.

Lisa Fayant
Assessor

Melville Chamber of Commerce

Second Annual Spring Spritzer set for April 27

By Jacob Miller
Grasslands News

The 2nd Annual Melville and District Chamber of Commerce Spring Spritzer is occurring this weekend, April 27, 2024.

The beer, wine and spirit tasting festival runs from 7 to 11 p.m. at the CN Community Centre with tickets costing \$25 at

the door.

The event will feature 11 different vendors including Over the Hill Orchards, Cypress Hills Winery, Paddock Wood Brewing Co., Dobrowody Distillery, Last Mountain Distillery, LB Distillers, Outlaw Trail Spirits Distillery, Prairie Bee Meadery, Rebellion Brewing Co, District 1 Brewing Company and the Melville and

District Chamber of Commerce.

This year's event features The Crosby Harle Band as entertainment, more seating in the lobby with chairs and tables, DLB Catering's Wood Fire Pizza, a Hot Shots vendor ran by the Chamber that will feature shots, and a pallet cleansing vendor that will serve crackers and club soda for free. The event is open to those 19 years old and over.

UPCOMING EVENT



CONTACT US

news@grasslandsnews.ca

1-844-GNG-NEWS

1-844-464-6397

www.grasslandsnews.ca

– Wawota community happenings –

By Myrna Olson
for Grasslands News

Kevin and Jenniene Greenbank and Brent and Connie Pryce enjoyed a holiday to the Dominican.

Brett and Kim Westphal of Wrentham, AB visited with Brett's mother Carol Westphal at Deer View Lodge.

Dex Nathan Oliver was born on April 6th. He weighed 7 lbs 2 oz. He is another sweet baby boy for Jessica Oliver of Fillmore and a little brother for Baz.

Joan Gartner accompanied her mother, Suzanne Eisler to the awards ceremony at Government House last

Tuesday. Suzanne was awarded one of the 10 medals given to Saskatchewan Volunteers. She was recognized for her idea of making little dresses for children in African countries.

Word has been received of the passing of Grant Silvius of Maryfield. He passed away on April 1st at the age of 77 years. He is survived by his wife, Elaine and family of daughters Dallas (Cairns) and Terri and son, Dee. A celebration of his life will be held at a later date.

The 4 on 4 Hockey Team raised \$715 over the weekend with their 50/50 and their Calcutta Shoot Out. They matched this fund (total-\$1500) and donated it to the Food Pantry at Wawota.

Notice of 2024 Assessment Roll RESORT VILLAGE OF PASQUA LAKE

Notice is hereby given that the assessment roll for the Resort Village of Pasqua Lake for the year 2024 has been prepared and is open to inspection in the office of the assessor at 160 Broadway Street West, Fort Qu'Appelle from:

9:00 AM – 4:00 PM Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday
April 23 – May 23, 2024

Pursuant to section 214 of *The Municipalities Act*, assessment notices have been sent as required.

Any person who wishes to appeal against their assessment or classification is required to file a notice of appeal by May 23, 2024 to the Secretary of the Board of Revision at the address below.

Secretary of the Board of Revision
Box 149
Meota SK S0M 1X0
secretary@westernmunicipal.ca

An appeal fee of \$200 must be supplied to the Resort Village of Pasqua Lake, which will be returned if the appeal is successful.

Issued at Fort Qu'Appelle this 23rd day of April, 2024

Caroline MacMurchy,
Assessor

NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF ASSESSMENT ROLL

TOWN OF FRANCIS

Notice is hereby given that the assessment roll for the Town of Francis for the year 2024 has been prepared and is open to inspection in the office of the Assessor, 113 Main Street, Francis, SK Wednesdays from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm from April 17, 2024 to May 29, 2024.

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 with: The Assessor, Town of Francis, Box 128, Francis, SK S0G 1V0, by the 29th day of May 2024.

Dated this 17th day of April, 2024.

Melody Dixon-Lye,
Assessor

NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF ASSESSMENT ROLL

VILLAGE OF ODESSA

Notice is hereby given that the Assessment Roll for the Village of Odessa for the year 2024 has been prepared and is open to inspection in the Office of the Assessor from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Mondays, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Wednesdays and Thursdays from April 18th to May 22nd, 2024.

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

Kristen Tokaryk Board of Revisions Secretary
Village of Odessa, 406 First Ave Odessa Saskatchewan
Box 91, S0G 3S0

Dated this 18th day of April 2024.

Leticia Gould,
Assessor

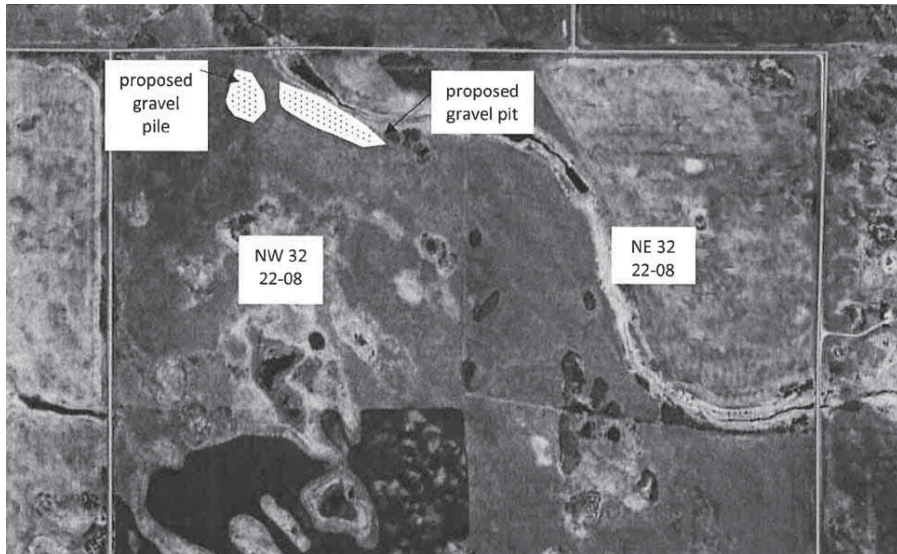
PUBLIC NOTICE

RM of Stanley No. 215

Public notice is hereby given that the Council of the RM of Stanley No. 215 intends to review and make a decision on a **DISCRETIONARY USE DEVELOPMENT PERMIT APPLICATION** as per the regulations of the RM of Stanley No. 215 Zoning Bylaw No. 2-2019.

INTENT The proposed discretionary use within the Agricultural-Resource District (A-R) is for the development of a **gravel pit**.

AFFECTED LANDS The proposed gravel pit on lands legally described as **NW 32-22-08 W2** is shown on the map below.



REASON The reason for this notice is to allow any members of the public to review and comment on the discretionary use development permit application prior to Council deciding.

PUBLIC INSPECTION Any person may inspect the proposed discretionary use development permit application at the RM of Stanley No. 215 office located in Melville during regular office hours.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION Council will provide the public with an opportunity to comment on the discretionary use development permit on May 7, 2024 at 1 p.m. at the RM of Stanley No. 215 office.

Issued at the RM of Stanley No. 215 on April 9, 2024.

Rhonda Schmalz, Administrator



PUBLIC NOTICE Village of Lebret

Public notice is hereby given that the Council of the Village of Lebret intends to adopt a by-law under *The Planning & Development Act, 2007* to repeal Bylaw 107 known as the Zoning Bylaw and introduce Bylaw 232-17 - The Zoning Bylaw.

INTENT: The proposed bylaw includes the following:

- Add municipal recreation facilities as a permitted use in the R1 - Residential District
- Renaming the Commercial District 2 to Highway Commercial District 2
- Renaming the Urban Reserve District to the Future Urban Development District
- Rezone Parcel G from Community Service to Residential
- All for the determination of safe building elevations in flood hazard areas for properties which may be susceptible to wave run up.
- To adopt the new flood hazard map which allows the differentiation of the approximate locations of the flood plain, flood fringe and flood way on the zoning map
- To establish required minimum setbacks for properties in the residential and residential mobile home districts.

REASON: The new bylaw will add clarity, and will include considerations of regulations and feedback since the proposed bylaw was introduced.

AFFECTED AREA: The proposed bylaw will apply generally to all property in the Village of Lebret.

PUBLIC INSPECTION: Any person may inspect the proposed bylaw at the Village Office, 12 Place D'Eglise, from 12:30 p.m. to 4 p.m., Monday to Friday excluding statutory holidays, or request a copy by e-mail, or review the draft bylaw on the website www.lebret.ca. Copies of the bylaw are available at a cost.

PUBLIC HEARING: Council will hold a public hearing on May 16th, 2024 at 1:30 p.m. in the Senior's Room in the Lebret Village Office Complex to hear any person or group that want to comment on the proposed bylaw. Council will also consider written comments received at the hearing or delivered to the undersigned at the municipal office before the hearing. Council will consider all comments received.

Issued at the Village of Lebret on April 8th, 2024.

Samantha Gillies, Administrator

Grenfell Museum planning for summer activities

By Sarah Pacio
Grasslands News

Grenfell Museum is preparing for another season at the Adare House and annex on Wolseley Avenue.

The annual meeting was held April 13 and the new executive includes: president Mike Shiplack; vice-president Crystal Marshall; treasurer Kylee Maurer and secretary Megan McCann.

The museum board is comprised of some executive members, along with members at large: Lynn Reeves, Ron Wolfe, Lucille Wolfe and Scott McGregor.

Committees were established at the annual meeting with responsibilities delegated for the catalogue and collection, grounds, annex display case and other aspects of the organization.

The board is considering a variety of special

events that may be hosted in the coming months. These will be further discussed at the next meeting which is scheduled for May 11 and is open to the community.

Grenfell Museum has also renewed its membership with the Museums Association of Saskatchewan (MAS), which will provide access to workshops and other useful resources.

As a new president of the museum, Shiplack is

enthusiastic about ensuring it remains a vibrant and sustainable amenity.

"I really don't want to see that area of town fail, so I'll try my best to keep it alive," he told Grasslands News.

"We're going to try and promote as much activity as possible to raise some donations because that place needs some lovin' and it all costs money."

In addition to planning events, the museum board and members will be arranging displays and coordinating building repairs over the next several weeks in preparation for opening the museum

to visitors on July 1.

The museum will likely be open on weekends as in previous summers, though hours could be extended if there is sufficient interest.

The board is currently seeking student employees for the season; grant money is available so this would be a paid position. Any students interested in summer employment at the museum should send their resume to grenfellmuseum@gmail.com before the end of April.

The museum continues to welcome new memberships to support the preservation of Grenfell's

history. This can be done by purchasing an annual membership for \$10, and by attending meetings and getting involved with various activities to promote the museum.



SARAH PACIO | GRASSLANDS NEWS

Special events planned

Executive will be busy planning special events to ensure the museum remains a vibrant and sustainable amenity.

What's happening in your area?

Send your events to: ads@grasslandsnews.ca or production@grasslandsnews.ca

306-728-5448

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- MASSAGE THERAPIST -
R.M. Office - Indian Head
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CHURCH DIRECTORY

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238 - 3rd Ave. E.
Office Ph. 306-728-2551
Office Hours: Mondays
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Clergy: Deacon Kevin Prouten
www.stpaulsmelville.ca
Saturday, April 27:
7 p.m. Communion Worship at Trinity, Lemberg
Sunday, April 28:
11 a.m. St. Paul's Worship and Sunday School
9 a.m. Worship w/Communion at Christ, Neudorf
April 29: 6:30 p.m. Confirmation

FIRST UNITED CHURCH
5th Ave. E. & King St.
Rev. Brian Mee, 306-335-7611
website: firstunitedmelville.org
April 28: 11 a.m. Worship 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
Sundays:
9:55 a.m. Pre-service Prayer
10:00 a.m. Coffee and Welcome
10:30 a.m. Worship Service
www.melvillechristiancenter.org
Facebook @melvillechristiancenter
Recorded messages posted online

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
258 - 10th Ave. W.
Ph. 306-728-3971
Pastor Ronald Shumba
facebook.com/gslcmelville
April 26: 7 p.m. Youth Group
April 27: 10:30 a.m. Bible Study
April 28: 10:30 a.m. Worship Service
May 3: 5:30 p.m. Youth Volunteer CMHA

ST. GEORGE'S UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
Corner of 3rd Ave. E. & Manitoba St.
Fr. Basil Malowany
basimalowany@gmail.com
306-540-5102
Sunday, April 28:
4 p.m. Divine Liturgy
Sunday, May 5:
4:00 p.m. Divine Liturgy

MELVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH
473 - 8th Ave. W.
Office Ph. 306-728-5022
Pastor Jon Pettinger
Associate Pastor: Jesse Darby
Sunday:
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
11 a.m. Worship Service
Online services can be found at: www.melvillebaptist.com

ST. HENRY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
729 Main St. - Office
Ph. 306-728-5702
Res. Ph. 306-728-2305
111 - 8th Ave. W.
Father Michal Pajak
Saturday Mass: 5:00 p.m.
Sunday Mass: 10:00 a.m.

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Melville Churches Welcome You

BETHANY EVANGELICAL MISSIONARY CHURCH
5th Ave. W. & Queen St.
Church Office Ph. 306-728-5001
April 28:
Worship at 10:30 a.m.

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH
(Lutheran Church - Canada)
502 - 4th Ave. W. - Church Office
Ph. 306-728-5689
Email: zlcpcastor@myaccess.ca
www.zionlutheranmelville.com
Sunday, April 28:
11 a.m. Divine Service
Church of the Lutheran Hour heard Sundays at 9:00 a.m. on 940 CJGX Radio, Yorkton

Whitewood & Area Churches Welcome You

NEW LIFE COMMUNITY CHURCH
Worship Service ~ 10:30 a.m.
Thursday - Prayer Meeting 7 p.m.
Wednesday Kids Club - 3:30 p.m.

EVANGELICAL MISSIONARY
Sunday School - 10:30 a.m.
Sunday Service - 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday Youth Group - 7 p.m.
Rev. Dr. James R. Graham

ST. JOSEPH'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
Father Nestor Gregoire
Sunday, April 28:
11:00 a.m. Mass
Followed by a Farewell and Potluck Lunch for Father Nestor

ST. MARY'S ANGLICAN CHURCH
Sunday, April 28: 10:30 a.m.
Rev. Cheryl Johnson

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, WAPELLA
April 28:
No Worship Service

WHITEWOOD UNITED CHURCH
April 28:
10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Indian Head Church Welcomes You

ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH
801 Buxton St. - Indian Head, SK
306-695-3838
Sunday Services 11 a.m.
*Family Play Group - Mondays, 10 a.m. to 12 Noon
*Living with Cancer Support Group 2nd Tuesday of the Month



Kipling Churches Welcome You

KIPLING CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
417 3rd Street South
Office: 306-736-8268
Sunday Services 10 a.m.
email: pipestoneparish@sasktel.net

KIPLING UNITED CHURCH
102 Nelson Ave. - 306-736-2237
email: kwpc@sasktel.net
Services Held 1st and 3rd Sundays at 9:30 a.m. Minister will vary

KIPLING PEOPLES CHURCH
701 3rd Street - 306-736-8992
Website: kiplingpeopleschurch.com
Pastors: Kevin & Merodee Hassler
10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship and Children's Ministry

ST. ANNE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
418 First St., Kipling
Pastor: Father Joseph Villamartin
306-538-2163
Sunday, April 28:
Mass 9:00 a.m.

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH
400 3rd St. South, Kipling
306-736-2447, Doris
306-424-2604, George
Worship Service 11:00 a.m.

BEKEVAR PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
102 Nelson Ave.
(in Kipling United Church)
Sunday Worship in person 11:30 a.m.
Rev. Devon Pattermore
Lay Person/Service Leader
306-736-2479
bkbarnat@gmail.com

PARKLAND BIBLE CHURCH
309 3rd. St. South, Kipling
306-736-2421
parklandagc@sasktel.net

Sunday: 10 a.m. Sunday School
11 a.m. Worship Service
Thursday: 9 a.m. - 12 noon
Coffee with Pastor
Wednesday: 10 a.m. Mom's Group

Fort Qu'Appelle Churches Welcome You

VALLEY ALLIANCE CHURCH Fort Qu'Appelle
Sunday service 10:30 a.m.
Service is also available on YouTube and will be livestreamed. Please call the church at 306-900-0600 for information regarding COVID-19 regulations or check our website: valleyalliance.ca

ST. JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH
Sunday Worship 11 a.m.
202 Bay Ave. S.,
Phone - 306-551-6213
Hall Contact - 306-331-6720

ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH
194 Bay St., Fort Qu'Appelle
Rev. Jo Mader, 306-332-4455
Sunday School & Service 10:30
Hear the Gospel, sing the faith, feel the family fellowship. Facebook Live.

CLASSIFIEDS



ONE AD, SIX NEWSPAPERS: All classified ads appear in the Fort Qu'Appelle Times, Indian Head-Wolseley News, Kipling Clipper, Melville Advance, Whitewood-Grenfell Herald Sun and Quad Town Forum

Obituary Margaret Magdeline Baczuk

Nov. 11, 1928 - April 1, 2024

Margaret Magdeline Baczuk (Mezaros) was born on the farm south of Kipling, Sask. on Nov. 11, 1928. Margaret passed away peacefully in the Kipling Integrated Long Term Care Home on Monday, April 1, 2024 at the age of 95.

Margaret grew up on the family farm. In November of 1951, Margaret married Andrew Baczuk and they settled onto their own farm in the District of Bender, Sask.

Margaret thoroughly enjoyed her years of working at the Kipling Bakery and the Kipling Motor Inn. She proudly baked and decorated many cakes and truly was the best cook of Hungarian and traditional foods. She loved every minute of it and more recently, when her physical health became a barrier, she offered her supervisory skills.

In June of 2003, Margaret and Andy retired from the farm and moved into town.

Margaret was predeceased by her husband Andrew Baczuk; son Bart Baczuk; parents Andrew and Louisa Mezaros; mother-in-law and father-in-law, Andrew and Elizabeth Baczuk; sister and brother-in-law, Ethel and Benny Balog; sister-in-law and brother-in-law, Mary and Harold Suthans; sister-in-law and brother-in-law, Helen and Chester Bodnar and Les and Mary Baczuk; brother-in-law Alec Harsanny; and other close relatives.

Margaret is survived by her children: Darlene Baczuk, Debora (Bill) King, Bob (Darcy) Baczuk and Barry (Cindy) Baczuk; her sister, Dorothy (Wallace) Heaton; sister-in-law and brother-in-law, Isabel and Donald McCoy; sister-in-law Emma Harsanny; her grandchildren: Kelly (Greg) Valentine, Ashley (Brock) Rybotycki, Bill King Jr, Tracy King, Rachael (Dan) Henry, Kalub (Brienne) King, Jake Volk, Paige Volk and Justin (Bekkie) Duarte; and her great-grandchildren: Nicholas, Isabella, Adelynn, Luca, Alan, Kyler, Karter, Kooper, Emilian, Wylee, Oskar and Kabrey. Margaret is also survived by many nieces and nephews.

Our family expresses a heartfelt thank you to all of the staff of the Kipling Integrated Health Care/Long Term Care for the exceptional care and friendships provided to Mom during her residency.

The funeral service will be held in Kipling United Church on Friday, May 3, 2024 at 1:00 p.m. with Wayne Lewis officiating.

In lieu of flowers, Margaret requested donations be made to the KIHC Recreation & Activities Department. If you wish to donate, a collection box will be made available at the luncheon on the day of the service.

Online condolences may be made at www.tubmanfh.com



Obituary James "Morris" Farquhar

April 4, 2024

On Thursday, April 4, 2024, James "Morris" Farquhar passed away unexpectedly at his home in Regina. He was predeceased by the love of his life, his wife Beth; a beloved grandson; his parents; and mother and father-in-law.

Left to mourn his passing are his children: Deena (Blair Benedik) and their children of Saskatoon, Kerry (Trish) and their children of Prince George, Jonathan (Crystal) and their children also of Prince George, and Elisa (Jeff Mertick) and their children of Regina. He also leaves to mourn, step-grandson Branden (Chelsea) and their children. He also leaves to mourn his brothers, Murray (Irene) and Richard (Elizabeth) and their families; sister, Denise (Todd) Gabler and their family; as well as brother-in-law, Steve Listmayer and sisters-in-law, Anne Friesen, and Sylvia (Clive) Mason; as well as many nieces, nephews and dear friends.

Morris was born in Brandon, the oldest of Arnold and Jennie Farquhar's four children. While school age, both he and his brother, Murray, started studying the Bible with Jehovah's Witnesses. During this time, at age 17, he began his employment with Canadian National Railways as a telegrapher. His work took him across the prairie provinces and from Churchill Manitoba into northern Ontario and the lake head area. All the while, he kept actively studying the Bible and was baptized as one of Jehovah's Witnesses in 1961. In 1963, Morris tried farming, but he went back to CNR in 1964, however, this time on the running crew as a brakeman/conductor until his retirement.

Morris met Elizabeth Listmayer in September 1962 and married her on Aug. 24, 1963, and together they shared their faith with their four children, friends and neighbours. They lived in three provinces, making lifelong friendships along the way. While he was known to have many a story about his time on the railway, he enjoyed hiking, camping, and loved nature, sharing his interests with his children and grandchildren. He was always willing to lend a hand, the type of person to give the shirt off his back and offer his jacket too. He never went anywhere empty handed and did not believe in uncomfortable silences. He took his spiritual responsibility seriously and did what he could to educate many and offer guidance from God's Word in a way that many respected.

While we will miss him dearly, we look forward to the promise that we will see Dad and Mom reunited and enjoying life as Jesus, Our Ransomer, promised at John 5:28, 29; "Do not be amazed at this, for the hour is coming in which all those in the memorial tombs, will hear his voice and come out... to a resurrection of life."

A Memorial Service will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 27, 2024 at Assembly Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses, 2020 Van Egmond Place, Regina, SK. For those unable to attend, a livestream will be held via Zoom, ID: 848 2997 9093 Password: 101268.



Memoriam



JASON BASIL CURRIE
April 27, 2010 - 2023

Time speeds on,
14 years have passed,
Since death its gloom,
its shadows cast.
Within our home,
where all seemed bright,
And took from us a shining light.
We miss that light and ever will,
His vacant place there's none to fill.
Down here we mourn but not in vain,
For up in heaven we will meet again.
Our family circle has been broken,
A link gone from our chain;
But though we're parted for a while,
We know we'll meet again.
Some day, we know not when,
We shall meet in a better land
And never part again.
We shall meet with many
a loved one
That was born from our embrace,
We shall listen to their voices,
And behold them face to face.
Sunshine passes, shadows fall,
Love's remembrance outlasts all.
-Missed by mother, Pat Hilderman
and Murray; his son, Cole; all family
members and friends forever.

12-1p

In Loving Memory Elfrieda Elsa Potoroka



They say there is a reason
They say time will heal,
Neither time or reason
Will change the way we feel.
Gone are the days
We used to share,
But in our hearts
You are always there.
The gates of memories
Will never close,
We miss you more
Than anybody knows.

-Love and miss you every day,
Till we meet again.
Bonnie, Mike and Mickey.

Alcoholics Anonymous

If you want to drink,
that's your business.
If you want to stop,
that's ours.
Call Alcoholics Anonymous
306-545-9300

Card of Thanks

The family of the late Clara Keller would like to express a heartfelt thank you to family and friends who were a part of her life and came to say a loving farewell to her on April 9, 2024 at St. Paul's Lutheran Church.

A sincere thank you to Deacon Kevin Prouten and organist Gaylene Matthews for the beautiful service, to the ushers, pallbearers and the ladies for a lovely lunch and for all the cards, floral tributes and memorial donations.

We thank Matthews Funeral Home for their assistance and careful attention during this time.

Thank you to all caregivers at St. Paul Lutheran Home who took such good care of Clara as she prepared to reach her heavenly home. God bless you all.
-The family of Clara Keller 1p

Land Tender

FOR SALE or FOR RENT By TENDER

8 Quarters
RM 217, RM 218, RM 247
SE 30-24-14-W2
NW 18-24-14-W2
SW 18-24-14-W2
NW 07-24-14-W2
NE 12-24-15-W2
NE 24-24-16-W2
NE 16-26-15-W2
SE 16-26-15-W2

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Tenders close April 25, 2024
Please send tenders to:
farmlands.sask@gmail.com

For Rent

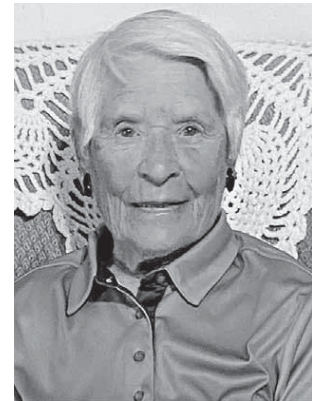
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99th Birthday



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Rose Braden
May 3, 2024
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Indian Head Library OPEN HOURS

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WEDNESDAY
1 - 4 p.m.; 5 - 8 p.m.
THURSDAY - New Hours
1 - 4 p.m.; 5 - 8 p.m.
FRIDAY
10 a.m. - 2 p.m. - 2:30 - 5:30 p.m.
SATURDAY
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
CLOSED Monday and Sunday
Phone: 306-695-3922

ttc

CLASSIFIED RATES

(based on 25 words or less)

Obituary Deadline Tuesdays 12 Noon



1 week: \$15.00 • 2 weeks: \$20.00 • 3 weeks: \$25.00 • 4 weeks: \$30.00
Additional weeks: \$7.50 • Deadline: Tuesdays at 12 noon

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Province Wide

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Notice to Creditors

NOTICE TO CREDITORS In the Estate of **Bernice Eva Stradeski**, late of Grayson, 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 30th day of April, 2024.

KREKLEWICH & CHAMBERS Barristers & Solicitors 147 - 3rd Avenue East P.O. Box 2000 Melville, SK S0A 2P0

Solicitors for the Estate.



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WANTED

Coins, Coin Collection, Old Jewelry, Bullion +!



Cash paid for silver coins, gold coins, rare coins, old coins & paper \$, Olympic coins, Royal Canadian Mint Coins, Franklin Mint, US Mint etc, unwanted jewelry, old Rolex & Omega watches, nuggets, sterling silver, Bullion, all Gold & Silver!

Wanted: USA, Canada, World Coin Sets & Coin Collections. Will buy entire collections & accumulations!

Todd 250-864-3521

RM of Silverwood No. 123 Invites applications for the position of FULL-TIME HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR

The R.M. of Silverwood No. 123 is now accepting applications for a full time heavy equipment operator to commence work starting June 1st, 2024 (can be flexible if needed).

Eligible applicants should have knowledge of road maintenance and construction, equipment operation, and have a basic mechanical aptitude. Additional duties may include culvert installation, equipment repairs, signage and shop work as well as others. The holding of a Class 1A license would be an asset. Salary will be negotiated based on experience and qualifications.

Please forward resumes stating experience, qualifications and references by April 30th to:

RM of Silverwood No. 123
P.O. Box 700
Whitewood, SK S0G 5C0
Phone: 306-735-2500
Email: rm123@sasktel.net

The RM wishes to thank all applicants for their interest, however only those selected or an interview will be contacted.

ASSESSMENT ROLL NOTICE

Rural Municipality of McLeod No. 185

Notice is hereby given that the assessment roll for the RM of McLeod No. 185 for the year 2024 has been prepared and is open to inspection in the office of the assessor from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. during regular office hours on the following days: Tuesday to Friday, April 26 to May 28, 2024.

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: \$100.00 per alternate number
- Agricultural: \$100.00 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, Marlene Hassard, with Western Municipal Consulting Ltd. P.O. Box 149, Meota, SK S0M 1X0 or the Assessor, RM of McLeod No. 185, P.O. Box 130 Neudorf, SK S0A 2T0 by the 28th day of May, 2024. Dated this 26th day of April, 2024.

Chantelle Ottenbreit, Assessor

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Melville hosts 4-H Provincial Public Speaking

By Jacob Miller
Grasslands News

The Melville Town 'N' Country 4-H Club was host to Provincial 4-H Public Speaking on April 20 at the Cornerstone Event Centre in the CN Community Centre.

The event saw 32 competitors from across the province compete in public speaking.

Grasslands spoke with Melville competitor Darian Beattie on the importance of public speaking events. Beattie placed third in the Junior category.

"Public Speaking is important to be able to speak properly," said Beattie. "It's really important to make sure that you're able to speak to large groups of people without freezing up or anything. It's important just in case in the future you'll need to speak to large amounts of people about something."

The event was also a fundraiser for the Saskatchewan 4-H Foundation, Paws & Claws Rescue and the Melville Food Bank.

Competitors were split into four different age groups of CloverBud ages 6 to 8, Junior ages 9 to 12, Intermediate ages 13 to 15 and Senior ages 16 to 21. Each group had different time limits as well with the Cloverbud speeches ranging from one to three minutes, Junior speeches ranging from two to four minutes, Intermediate speeches ranging from three to five minutes, and Senior speeches ranging from

four to eight minutes in length.

Participants were able to write and speak about anything.

Beattie's speech was titled 'The Right Decision' and was about how travelling to England was the right decision.

Other examples of speeches include 'You're Gonna Miss This' by Janelle Stolhandske-Dale, from the Burnham 4-H Community Club, which was about her travelling off to college and what she'll miss; 'Something That's Special to Me' by Junior Kate Hougham, from the Hillmond 4-H Club, which was about how special her freckles are, and 'Up North' by CloverBud Dawsyn Rissling, from the Missouri Coteau 4-H Multiple Club, whose speech was about how much fun she has up north.

Beattie explained that they would be judged on posture, how they were speaking, if the speech is memorized or on cards, mumbling or fidgeting while speaking.

Judges for the event were Kaitlyn Kitzan, Tammy Cooper and Kathleen Gibson for CloverBud, Jolene Tuschscherer, Paige Swan-Vibert and Taryn Dubreuil for Junior, Alecia Weinheimer, Jeniffer Stein and Cassidy Hruska for Intermediate, and Lori Chambers, Jean Dales and Terry Vanmackelberg for Senior.

"It doesn't really matter if you win or not, as long as you have fun and learn something that's what it's all about. Being able to speak to big groups of people and having fun," said Beattie.

Beattie said that public speaking is important to him because it teaches people how to speak up.

"It's important to me because you need people to learn how to speak up, because nowadays people just go on their screens and talk to people through a screen and don't know how to have a proper conversation," said Beattie.



CANADA
4-H Saskatchewan



JACOB MILLER | GRASSLANDS NEWS



JACOB MILLER | GRASSLANDS NEWS



JACOB MILLER | GRASSLANDS NEWS

CloverBud speech
CloverBud Dawsyn Rissling from the Missouri Coteau 4-H Multiple Club, presenting her speech 'Up North' during the 2024 Provincial 4-H Public Speaking Competition at the Cornerstone Event Centre in Melville on April 20.

Junior speech
Junior Kate Hougham from the Hillmond 4-H Club, presenting her speech 'Something That's Special to Me' during the 2024 Provincial 4-H Public Speaking Competition at the Cornerstone Event Centre in Melville on April 20.

Senior speech
Senior Janelle Stolhandske-Dale, from the Burnham 4-H Community Club, presenting her speech 'You're Gonna Miss This' during the 2024 Provincial 4-H Public Speaking Competition at the Cornerstone Event Centre in Melville on April 20.



Amazing quilt designs

The Melville & District Quilters Guild hosted their Spring Festival of Quilts at Melville Community Works on April 19 to 20, 2024. Quilts were spread throughout Community Works for guests to view and vote on.

JACOB MILLER | GRASSLANDS NEWS

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Wheatland Dance Recital April 28 in Balcarres

By Judy Hershmillier
Grasslands News

Coming Events

April 25, 26: Garage Sale at the Golden Age Center, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. both days. There will be lots of good, clean working order items to check out.

April 26: Registra-

tion for the Saskatchewan Common Ground Alliance Dig Safe Awareness Breakfast. This is a free event held in the Balcarres Lions Hall from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. Register at SCGA Free Dig Safe Awareness Breakfast.

April 28: Wheatland Dance annual recital, 2 p.m. at the Balcarres

Community School gymnasium.

Balcarres Lions

The Balcarres & District Lions celebrated their 70th Anniversary April 20 in style at their 25th Annual Dinner and Auction. The supper was prepared by the Lions and the Lioness members pre-

pared the desserts.

Brady Lang was the emcee for the evening. Lion Alf Cleggett was introduced, and he outlined an interesting history of the Balcarres Lions Club and Lion member Eric Hastie who has been with the Club since its inception.

A special presentation was made to Hastie by MLA Travis Keisig, on behalf of the Premier of Sask.

Following this address and presentation, a standing ovation took place for Hastie and the Lions Club.

A number of presentations took place including Lion Alvin Matechuk who made a presentation from the District Governor and Lions International, and a congratulatory letter was received from the Seeing Eye Dog Guides Associa-

tion.

Notable Lions service milestones include the following: **70 years** Eric Hastie; **47 years** Eric Sandercock; **40 years** Kevin Lang; **20-30 years**, Richard Barnsley, Dennis Bullivant, Floyd Dixon, Jay Dixon, Ron Rilling and Fred Stilborn; **10-19 years**, Les Cleggett, Jim DePourcq, Kent Esplin, Kirby Korchinski and Dan Sandercock; **1-9 years**, Scott Baber, Nathan Brodner, Luke Chatterson, Alf Cleggett, Andreus Delos Reyes, Barry Englot, Kelvin Lingelback, Alan Lye, Andy Methven, Kars Muller, Derk Muller, Ross Stilborn, Geoff Turtle and Dwayne Ireland.

Robert Ross from Double R Auctions auctioned off the 2025 corporate table going to Provincial Airways. He also auctioned

several items from the Live Auction table. Many items were also included for on-line customers to participate in. Appreciation to all the local and area businesses, clubs and individuals who made donations and everyone who supported the auction in many ways.

Entertainer for the evening was Kelly Taylor.

Appreciation was expressed to the Balcarres Minor Baseball Assoc. who assisted in the kitchen and Balcarres Broncs hockey club who assisted with bar duties. Appreciation was also expressed for the outstanding support of everyone who helped create a very successful, enjoyable and profitable evening.

All proceeds will go towards ongoing community projects.



SUBMITTED | GRASSLANDS NEWS

Litter for the Day

Grade 5 students from St. Henry's Senior School in Melville collected bags of litter for Earth Day 2024.

RM OF EDENWOLD No. 158

PUBLIC NOTICE



Notice of Intent to Amend the Zoning Bylaw

Pursuant to Section 207 of *The Planning and Development Act, 2007*, the Council of the RM of Edenwold No. 158 gives notice to amend Zoning Bylaw 2019-20 as follows:

Bylaw No. 2024-06 - Zoning Map Change: To rezone proposed Parcel A, NE 2-20-17 W2 (shown on the map below) from AR - Agricultural Resource District to CR1 - Country Residential 1 District.

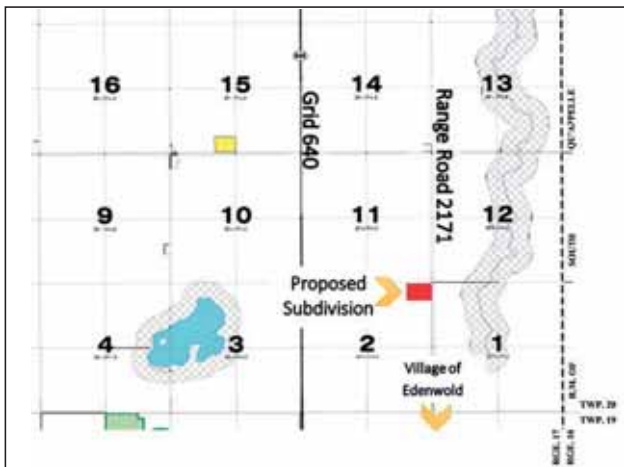
INTENT: To make the appropriate Zoning Bylaw amendment to accommodate one new residential yard site.

PUBLIC INSPECTION: Any person may inspect the bylaw online at www.rmedenwold.ca or at the RM of Edenwold No. 158's office, 100 Hutchence Road, Emerald Park, Saskatchewan between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. from Monday to Friday, excluding statutory holidays. Copies are available at cost.

PUBLIC HEARING: Council will hold a public hearing to receive submissions, written or verbal, on the proposed bylaws at 11 a.m. (local time) on Tuesday, May 14th, 2024, in the Council Chambers of the RM of Edenwold No. 158, 100 Hutchence Road, Emerald Park, Saskatchewan. Written submissions will be presented to Council and can be sent by mail or email. For further information please contact Jessica Mitchell, Senior Planner at 306-540-5600 or jessica.mitchell@edenwold-sk.ca.

Dated this 17th day of April 2024, at Emerald Park, in the Province of Saskatchewan.

Karen Zaharia,
Administrator



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*Finance offers available O.A.C. from Hyundai Financial Services based on new in-stock 2024 KONA N Line AWD models with an annual finance rate of 3.99% A.P.R. Cost of borrowing is \$1,540 (\$1,719). Selling price is \$38,834 (\$37,995). Monthly payments are \$379 (\$365) for 24 months. \$500 down payment required. Trade-in value may be applied to down payment amount. Finance offers include Delivery and Destination charge of \$1,500 (\$1,600) for 2024 KONA N Line AWD Ultimate and all applicable charges (including GST). Finance offers exclude registration, insurance, PPSA, license fees and dealer admin. Fees of up to \$599 (\$599) may vary by dealer. †Price of model shown 2024 KONA N Line AWD Ultimate with Ultimate package \$32,999. 2024 Tucson Ultimate Hybrid AWD \$32,999. 2024 ELANTRA N Line Ultimate \$24,999. \$44,999. \$29,999. Price includes Delivery and Destination charges of \$1,500 (\$1,600). Any dealer admin, fees, registration, insurance, PPSA, taxes, charges, license fees and all applicable taxes are excluded. Prices are not established for pre-production models. **Warranty available for a limited time and subject to change or cancellation without notice. Vehicle colour is subject to availability. Delivery and Destination charge includes freight, P.D.I. and a full tank of gas. Dealer may sell for less. Inventory is limited, dealer order may be required. Offer cannot be combined or used in conjunction with any other available offers. Offer is non-transferable and cannot be assigned. Visit www.hyundaicanada.com or see dealer for complete details. The Hyundai name, logo, product names, feature names, images and slogans are trademarks owned or licensed by Hyundai Auto Canada Corp. All other trademarks and trade names are the property of their respective owners. *Bonus price adjustments of \$500 available on select in-stock 2024 KONA items only, on lease. Finance and cash purchase from April 2, 2024 to July 2, 2024. Price adjustments are applied before taxes. Offer is non-transferable and cannot be assigned. Model inventory for which the price adjustments are applicable may vary from dealer to dealer and from region to region. See your local Hyundai dealer for further details and applicable model inventory.

Community hall opens

- continued from front page

the building and fund-raising committees, along with Brandon Schatz who served as architect and Olivia Schaeffer who shared her skills in interior design. It was also mentioned that Mayor Larry Lockert's retirement from Prairie Valley School Division was quite timely since it enabled him to invest more hours in the hall project. Contractors were hired as necessary, but many people volunteered their time to frame walls, hang metal siding or drywall, or install insulation and fixtures.

The new Odessa Community Hall is large and modern. A sizeable front entry is flanked by a coatroom on one side and washrooms on the other. There is a large plaque near the coatroom acknowledging the many sponsors who supported the project. The sign was created using boards sal-

vaged from the old hall floor. Photos on another wall document construction of the Parish Hall, its addition and the new hall. The large main room of the hall can comfortably accommodate place settings for more than 300 people beside a large dance floor overhung with chandeliers. A bar area is situated in one corner, with a stage in the opposite corner, and beyond the main room is a spacious kitchen.

MLA Don McMorris attended the supper on April 20 and shared a few comments prior to the ribbon cutting ceremony.

"What a beautiful facility!" McMorris said. "I have had the absolute pleasure over 25 years of representing this community and coming to many, many events. You deserve so much credit; community builds this place and the thousands of hours that your community has



SARAH PACIO | GRASSLANDS NEWS

Grand opening

A grand opening celebration was held in the new, spacious Odessa Community Hall on April 20. Odessa Mayor Larry Lockert (inset) was one of the speakers at the event.

put in to design a facility like this. This does not happen in a lot of communities, so congratulations! This is going to be the hub of the community for generations and decades and decades to come."

Later, Mayor Lockert assisted Odessa's most

senior residents Pauline Wild and Konrad Lang in cutting a ribbon to celebrate the opening of the new hall. The mayor agreed with McMorris' assessment of the finished project.

"I don't think there are too many communities of our size that could take on a project of this mag-

nitude and complete it in basically two years and be virtually debt-free," Mayor Lockert said. "This new hall will move us for-

ward as a community and serve our needs for the foreseeable future."

- With files from Brad Brown

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