

Vale's access to federal program to retain employees

By Sarah Pacio
Grasslands News

Since Pieter and Kendra Cruson took over operations at Vale Industries in 2020, they have seen a steady flow of business. Yet, current economic and political trends are having an unusually strong impact on the company so they are grateful for a federal program that will enable the company to retain skilled employees.

Vale Industries is located in Indian Head and produces hopper cones and Grain Giant field bins for large-scale farming. The company also designs and manufactures custom-made equipment for aggregate and mining corporations. These are primarily sold to customers in western Canada and the northern United States, but some products are also used further abroad in Papua New Guinea.

Vale's products are used for mining gold, coal, potash and even for moving bark mulch.

"On the aggregate and mining side we make every kind of piece of equipment that you'd need in a quarry or a gravel pit for crushing, sizing, washing, conveying – anything at all you'd need for bulk material handling. A lot of that equipment is customized; we tailor it to exactly what the product is that they're moving," Kendra Cruson told Grasslands News.

Vale Industries has a strong customer base which has led to a long queue of quotes for various products and this is typically a peak time for the manufacturer; however, economic uncertainty has recently made customers hesitant to proceed beyond obtaining a quote.

Poor seasons in the agriculture sector, coupled with President-elect Donald Trump's threat of imposing tariffs on Canadian products, appear to be causing the customers' reluctance to purchase.

"Politics doesn't usually have a direct impact, but both Canada and the U.S. are a little unstable at the moment and it's making people who would typically be spending money at this time of year on these products that we offer, just hang onto their dollars a little longer than usual," Cruson explained.



SARAH PACIO | GRASSLANDS NEWS

Minor Hockey Day

Coaches from Indian Head's minor hockey teams faced off in a scrimmage at A.J.M. Davies Arena on Saturday evening. The game was part of the Chiefs' Minor Hockey Day activities. See story on page 10.

She said the company's sales to the United States are currently down to 15 per cent from a previous 25 per cent. She also noted that since this is an unusual situation for the company, she anticipates normal production will resume in the near future.

In the meantime, Vale is accessing a Work-Sharing Program that will provide short-term assistance. According to the Government of Canada website, the program is designed to help "employers and employees avoid layoffs, when there is a temporary decrease in the normal level of business activity that is beyond the control of the employer." Under this program, employees agree to reduce their work hours by 10 to 60 per cent and then access Employment Insurance (EI) benefits to partially compensate for the lost hours.

"It helps companies like ours to bridge the gap be-

tween where we are now and where we know we're going to be when things pick up again and allows everybody to stay working and come back quickly because everything is still in place," Cruson stated.

Vale employees have agreed to reduce their hours to 50 per cent and are scheduled to begin Work-Sharing on Feb. 3. This will continue for a minimum of six weeks; the duration could be extended to 26 weeks if necessary, but Cruson believes that is unlikely.

Although this is the first time that Vale has participated in the program, some staff members had positive work-sharing experiences with other employers.

Cruson is grateful for the program since it will enable Vale Industries to retain staff during the current slow period and she would encourage businesses in similar situations to consider accessing the program.

Proroguing of Parliament being challenged

By Alan Hustak
Grasslands News

The Federal Court of Canada is expected to decide in February whether Prime Minister Trudeau had the right to shut down Parliament for eleven weeks.

A lawsuit filed on Jan. 7 by the Justice Centre for Constitutional Freedoms claims that Trudeau was "incorrect and unreasonable" because he has impeded Parliament's right to respond to President Trump's "grave threats" to this country.

The lawsuit, which was filed on behalf of Nova Scotians David MacKinnon and Aris Lavranos, cites concerns about the negative impacts of that de-

cision on democracy, the rule of law, and the ability of Parliament to respond to "the grave challenge" of President-elect Trump's foreign policy.

In a rare weekend ruling on Jan. 18, Chief Justice Paul S. Crampton granted the motion for an expedited hearing. He stated the hearing will be held on Feb. 13 and 14 in Ottawa.

In granting the motion to expedite the legal challenge federal court judge Paul Crampton says the matter needs to be settled as soon as possible because if it drags on there would be no time for Members of Parliament to debate Canada's economic response to Trump's threatened tariffs. In his ruling, Crampton said "the core relief sought

will become moot" if the ruling waited until a new prime minister takes office in March.

On the day Trump was inaugurated he sent out signals that he would wait until April until a review of trade relationships is completed before making a decision. Then after he was sworn in, he contradicted himself by saying the tariffs could come as early as February 1.

Conservative House Leader Andrew Scheer who is the Member for Regina-Qu'Appelle did not respond to a requests from Grasslands News for comment but he is on record as saying that Justin Trudeau needs to be called out for what he has done. At a media scrum earlier this month Scheer told reporters

that Canadians don't need this kind of uncertainty and chaos.

"Canadians are angry at this government because of the misery that Canadians are experiencing. It is clear that Justin Trudeau has been personally very weak in dealing with the U.S administration, both parties. (He) had to capitulate to Donald Trump the first time he was president; he then backed down to President Biden." So far the conservative opposition has not said what it would do in response to Trumps threats if it was in power.

In spite of the uncertainty constitutional experts agree that any prospects of the court challenge succeeding are very low. "You cannot rely on what

the opposition players are saying. It is easy for them to say whatever they want to," says Phillippe Lagasse, an associate professor of constitutional law at Carleton University. "The governor general has to base her decision on what has happened in the Chamber up until this point. We may think that the prime minister was dishonourable or unethical, but constitutionally it is up to the governor general to consider whether Trudeau, in theory had the confidence of the house when he asked for (prorogation) and he did. That's what the governor general has to decide, and under the constitutional rules, and it was."



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Wrestling with social media in school

Psychologist offers advice to parents

By Alan Hustak
Grasslands News

A psychologist who has been studying the way youngsters use social media has been invited by the Prairie Valley School Division to help parents better understand both the positive and negative impacts that downloading apps, secret apps, and twitters and tweets have on their kids.

Madison Cameron is scheduled to give two talks to parents at Bert Fox Community High School on Feb. 10 and 11 about the emotional behavioural aspects that social media can have on their children..

"We have a love hate relationship with social media, 100 per cent," Cameron told Grasslands News in a telephone interview. "Youngsters

don't use these devices the same way adults do. Adults don't have the same point of reference that their kids do."

In his final address as U.S. President, Joe Biden warned of the need to protect children "and our very democracy" from the abuse of social media. It can be used to spread an avalanche of misinformation and for bullying he warned. Cameron agrees that "For some young individuals, social media has intensified mental health problems." But says at the same time it can also be a lifeline for children."

Cameron, who is completing a degree in psychology with a concentration on social media, is also a basketball coach at the University of Lethbridge. She has worked with a num-

ber of youth agencies throughout Canada and the United States and has also conducted surveys with youngsters to better understand the relationship they have with cell phones, computers and iPads.

"I can't tell you the number of kids I have talked to who take smiling selfies who aren't very happy," she says. "We have been misusing these devices. Adults who grew up without them don't have the same point of reference."

Cameron says she is undecided about whether cell phones should be banned from high school, but she is convinced that limiting the use of cell phones when it comes to the classroom is a good idea.

"Cell phone policies look different in different jurisdictions but restrict-

ing their use in class, is I think a step in the right direction. The kids themselves have a lot of cool ideas of how adults can engage with them. They are worth listening to. I do hope and think that moving forward we can equip young people to use them properly by having phone policies that empower them."

Cameron says navigating the perils of social media "has everything to do with connection, connection, connection. With building trust between adults and children. Adults cannot protect kids from the real world," she explained. "This is about helping adults, especially those who don't have a point of reference, to relate to and better understand and appreciate the way their kids use social media.

"We need to let young-



Madison Cameron wants to empower youngsters in the use of social media.

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sters know that there are people, teachers, adults who want to help them. We need to understand what these kids are going through and the worlds they are living in."

NDP's Beck calls on federal leaders to commit to making equalization fairer

By Provincial
Grasslands News

With a federal election looming, Saskatchewan NDP Leader Carla Beck called on federal party leaders to commit to changing the unfair equalization formula.

Saskatchewan has received zero equalization dollars over the past 17 years while Quebec has received over \$100 billion.

"Saskatchewan is ranked last place in Canada on healthcare and education, yet equalization is unfairly bankrolling new hospitals, schools and roads in Toronto and Quebec. That makes zero sense," said Beck.

"Fixing equalization will make Saskatchewan, and Canadian Confederation, stronger."

Beck and Trent Wotherspoon, Saskatchewan NDP Finance Shadow Minister, sent letters to Pierre Poilievre, Jagmeet Singh, Yves-François Blanchet, and those running to lead the Liberal Party of Can-

ada, urging all to take a public stance on equalization.

Beck and Wotherspoon called on federal leaders to commit to fixing this formula and to ensure equitable treatment of all natural resource revenues — renewable and non-renewable, including hydroelectric power — to make it fairer and constitutional, something the previous Saskatchewan NDP government took Ottawa to court over.

The Sask. Party's decision to scrap the Saskatchewan NDP's court challenge — calling it "the elephant in the room" — has resulted in billions of Saskatchewan resource dollars flowing out of province since 2008.

"Equalization is an important issue for our province and anyone putting their name forward as Prime Minister needs to be crystal clear about where they stand on it," Beck said.



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FCL pauses projects related to proposed Integrated Agriculture Complex

Submitted
Grasslands News

Federated Co-operatives Limited (FCL) announced last Friday that it has paused the two main projects related to its proposed Integrated Agriculture Complex in Regina.

Due to regulatory and political uncertainty, potential shifts in low-carbon public policy, and escalating costs, FCL's proposed renewable diesel facility and joint venture canola crush projects, as originally conceived, are paused for the foreseeable future.

"The decision to press pause on these two projects is not one we took lightly," said Heather Ryan, FCL CEO. "When making this decision, we undertook a robust due-diligence process, that carefully considered our best pathway to meet compliance obligations, while ensuring investments are appropriate, provide value and benefit to the Co-operative Retailing System and support our short and long-term sustainability goals."

As indicated, FCL and joint venture (JV) partner AGT Foods, have paused their proposed JV canola crush facility, which would have supplied feed-stock to FCL's wholly-owned renewable diesel facility.

While two major projects have been paused, FCL said they continue to pursue pathways to compliance with the Federal Government's Clean Fuel Regulations. FCL is making important investments in carbon capture projects at the Co-op Refinery Complex (CRC) and Co-op Ethanol Complex; to ensure it is maximizing its current fuel producing assets, as the company proceeds with plans involving co-processing and blending of renewable fuels at CRC.

The Saskatchewan NDP was quick to criticize the provincial government in the days following FCL's announcement, saying Saskatchewan has lost billions of dollars in value-added investment in just a week while the Sask. Party Government remains in hiding and has offered no plans to protect jobs or investment and to recover from this \$4.5 billion loss under Scott Moe.

FCL's announcement to indefinitely pause its renewable diesel facility and joint venture canola crush proj-

ects came just days after the future of Viterra's canola crushing plant was put in jeopardy following the merger with Bunge. The Agricultural Producers Association of Saskatchewan, Grain Growers of Canada, and others, strongly oppose the merger while the Sask. Party government has said nothing.

"Where are these guys?" said Saskatchewan NDP Leader Carla Beck. "The Sask. Party is the first to show up with golden shovels for a photo-op but as the province loses billions, they're missing in action."

The FCL project was supposed to bring 2,500 construction jobs, 300 permanent jobs, and \$4.5 billion in economic benefits to Saskatchewan.

The Sask. NDP said Premier Moe has not made a single comment standing up for the province's agriculture producers. The University of Saskatchewan estimates the Viterra-Bunge merger alone will cost crop producers \$770 million in annual revenue.

Premier Moe and Sask. Party Agriculture Minister

Daryl Harrison's sudden silence coincides with lobbying efforts by a Calgary-based political insider and Sask. Party donor on behalf of Bunge.

"There hasn't been a single crop producer I've talked to who has said that this merger will increase competition and increase revenue here in Saskatchewan," Beck said. "It's just shipping the profits of grain farmers out of the country. This is once again the Sask. Party putting the profits of out-of-country international companies over the livelihoods of Saskatchewan producers."

Beck and Saskatchewan New Democrats have been advocating for the removal of PST on construction of value-added projects like the canola crushing plants to build more made-in-Saskatchewan products right here in Saskatchewan, addressing cost concerns raised by FCL.

"It's time we had a government that actually stands up and focuses on those working hard to put food on tables rather than c-suite executives in the United States," said Beck.



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Rusty medal piques curiosity

Found by a railway siding new Muscow

By Alan Hustak
Grasslands News



Keith James found the medal by accident two years ago.

A rare medallion depicting Prince Charles Alexander of Lorraine who commanded the Austrian Army during its 18th century war of succession from Prussia has turned up in a field at the edge of Pasqua First Nation. Fort Qu'Appelle resident Keith James spotted the medal by the CN railway siding in what used to be known as Muscow and turned it over to the museum in Fort Qu'Appelle where it was kept in a filing cabinet for the past two years.

Research indicates the weather worn medallion was minted in 1744 to commemorate Austria's capture of Prague with the support of the British during the long forgotten Silesian wars between Catholics and Protestants in Eastern Europe.

On one side of the medal is an engraving of Prince Charles of Lorraine mounted on

horseback with the latin inscription Car Lor Pr Perfidororim, (avenge the treachery). On the other side is a battle scene with the latin inscription Subsidio Britannie/Praga Recapta which acknowledges Britain's financial support in the endeavour.

James said he never would have spotted the medallion if his tractor hadn't broken down. "I

was working in the field, and because of troubles I was having with the tractor I had to drive it for repairs in low gear. I was creeping along and saw what looked like a coin along the roadway, but I didn't want to stop and pick it up in case I couldn't get the tractor going again," he told Grasslands News. "I returned later in the day and realized that it wasn't a coin but a medallion. I have no idea how it got there."

Initially he thought the medal might have been one struck for the English monarch Charles II, who was in exile in France during the nine years when Oliver Cromwell ruled as protector of England. The medal has holes in it to suggest it was once attached to a belt or a leather strap.

Although some guess that it might have belonged to an early fur trader with the Hudson Bay Company, others speculate it was probably worn by a Galacian immigrant who lost it in 1911 while laying tracks through the valley for the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway.

"You would be surprised what shows up in the fields, especially around old forts in Saskatchewan," said Re-



ALAN HUSTAK | GRASSLANDS NEWS

Old medallion

One side of the token found by Keith Jones depicts a battle scene fought 280 years ago.

gina numismatic dealer and coin collector Jim Smalley. "People coming in on the railroad, immigrants came with foreign coins and tokens but nothing of real significant value. The taking of Prague may have been significant to some who came from that region of Europe but is hardly all that significant in Canada."

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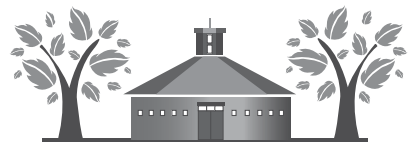
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2025 Sask Lotteries Community Grant Applications are Available

Applications are now being accepted from local organizations in support of sport, culture and recreation programs in Indian Head. Organizations requesting funds must fill out and return an application to Indian Head Community Development before Friday, February 14, 2025.

Application forms can be found online or picked up from the Town Office. Eligible programs must take place between April 1, 2025 and December 31, 2025.

Community Volunteer Workshop – February 6

Join us for our Second Volunteer Workshop on Thursday, February 6, 2025, at 7 p.m. in Memorial Hall.

Our facilitator for this session is Shelley Thoen-Chaykoski. Shelley has worked for 33 years in municipal recreation, and has also served as Mayor of Foam Lake. Shelley now shares her knowledge with other communities as a consultant, specializing in recreation work in rural communities.

Workshop Focus:

- Explore trends in today's volunteer environment
- Discover effective tools for recruiting and managing volunteers
- Share your challenges and successes with others
- Identify opportunities for collaboration to achieve your goals

Why Attend?

This is a fantastic chance to gain insights, exchange ideas, and strengthen connections in our community. Thanks to funding from the Southeast District for Sport, Culture & Recreation, there's no cost to attend. Contact Meagan at indianheadcdc@sasktel.net to secure your spot!

Register for VoyentAlert to receive Town Notifications

The Town of Indian Head is encouraging residents to sign up for Voyent Alert!; a new mass-communication system designed to keep residents, businesses, and visitors informed during critical events and day-to-day situations. Whether it's extreme weather alerts, snow removal updates, planned maintenance, or water advisories, Voyent Alert! ensures timely, efficient and relevant communication for everyone. You choose which communications you receive, on which devices, and for as many locations as you need.

Registration is free, simple, and anonymous. For mobile app alerts, download the Voyent Alert! app from the Apple or Google Play stores. To receive alerts via email, text message, or voice call, register online by visiting: register.voyent-alert.com You can also register in person at the Town Office.

Be Ready for 72 Hours

With the recent cold weather, the Emergency Measures Organization would like to remind residents to prepare a 72-hour emergency kit. In an emergency or disaster, electricity, water, internet or telephone services may not work. Everyone should have basic supplies to be self-sufficient for at least 72-hours. Include things like: • Water, • Flashlight, • Radio, • Batteries, • First Aid Kit

Make sure your kit is easy to carry and everyone in the household knows where it is.

You can buy an emergency kit or assemble your own. For a full list of items to build your kit, or for more information, visit getprepared.gc.ca

Time to Renew your Business License

Businesses operated out of commercial property in the Town of Indian Head have their business taxes included in the property tax. All other businesses including temporary vendors, travelling vendors, mobile and home-based businesses that carry on trade within the Town limits of Indian Head are required to obtain a business license.

Properly registering your business offers multiple benefits. Licensing gives legitimacy and credibility to a business, and as a licensed business you will be listed in our Business Directory on the town website. Applications for business licenses can also be obtained from the Town Office. A fee of \$100.00 per year is charged for each business license.

Upcoming Community Events

- Jan. 25 – Sr. Chiefs vs Ituna
- Jan. 25 – Heather's Crafting Class at the Library
- Jan. 25 – UCW Robbie Burns Day Tea & Bake Sale
- Jan. 29 – Grand Theatre Weekly Chase the Ace Draw
- Feb. 4 – Bad Apples Comedy Show
- Feb. 6 – Community Volunteer Workshop
- Feb. 22 – Indian Head Snow Drags

Do you have a great community event coming up? Let us know about it! You can have your event featured on our Community Events webpage by emailing your details and poster to indianheadcdc@sasktel.net. Don't forget to schedule your community event on our sign at least one week before your event date.

www.townofindianhead.com



Merger between Bunge-Viterra approved by Federal government

APAS, Sask Wheat and Ag Shadow Minister concerned about implications

By Jacob Miller
Grasslands News

The merger between Viterra Limited and Bunge Global SA that was approved by the Government of Canada has Saskatchewan industry groups and organizations concerned.

The Government of Canada announced on Jan. 14, 2025, that the merger would be approved, but will have to follow specific terms and conditions to help ensure that the acquisition will not have a negative impact on competition. The terms and conditions of the deal include, Bunge's divestiture of six grain elevators in Western Canada to maintain competitive options for farmers in the region; strict and legally binding controls on Bunge's minority ownership stake in G3, another important grain company, to ensure Bunge cannot influence G3's pricing or investment decisions; a price protection program for certain purchasers of canola oil in Central and Atlantic Canada to safeguard fair pricing and market stability; retaining Viterra's head office in Regina for at least five years to protect Canadian jobs; a binding commitment from Bunge to invest at least \$520 million in Canada within the next five years, which will foster economic growth, productivity and job creation; and over 20 other conditions intended to enhance the public interest benefits of the acquisition.

APAS says more focused action is needed

The Agricultural Producers Association of Saskatchewan (APAS) said in a release that more focused action is needed to address their original concerns

regarding industry competitiveness and sustainability.

APAS President, Bill Prybylski, expressed cautious optimism, saying, "While we acknowledge the government's efforts in addressing the concerns raised by Saskatchewan farmers in its decision, it is essential that these conditions are more than just words on paper. Farmers need real action that translate into enhanced competitiveness and sustainability in the grain industry."

"The government's decision has begun to address critical issues we've raised, particularly around the need for enhanced competitiveness and sustainability for farmers. However, achieving real progress requires these policies to move beyond initial promises towards practical and impactful outcomes," said Prybylski.

APAS said in the release that the decision does not directly tackle the projected \$800 million financial loss to farmers or control over 45% of Vancouver Port's capacity, and instead opts for conditions like independent director nominations to mitigate anti-competitive risks.

APAS also highlighted that key details about Bunge's involvement in the Regina canola crush project were omitted and that by implementing strategies to enhance competition in the canola sector and limit Bunge's dominance in grain operations in G3, the decision indirectly seeks to safeguard farmers against fluctuating margins, high input costs, and ensure a competitive, transparent supply chain.

Sask Wheat says producers lose out

The Saskatchewan Wheat Develop-



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Viterra to be taken over by Bunge

Bunge Global SA may soon be taking over Viterra Limited's grain elevators like this one near Fort Qu'Appelle. The Government of Canada approved the merger on Jan. 14, 2025.

ment Commission (Sask Wheat) said in a statement that they are "extremely disappointed" in the acquisition approval. Sask Wheat says that the conditions around the approval of the merger fail to address concerns regarding competition and consolidation of grain-handling industry that producers and researchers have raised repeatedly to the government.

"In a report completed by the University of Saskatchewan (U of S), it estimated that the merger would create significant financial losses for grain producers to the amount of \$770 million annually," said Sask Wheat board chair Jake Leguee. "With the lack of existing competition within the grain handling industry, further consolidation through this merger will only harm producers."

Sask Wheat said that the terms and conditions outlined in the merger approval do not go far enough to protect farmers' interests and competition within the grain-handling industry.

Sask Wheat sees a requirement for Bunge to divest their 25 per cent ownership stake in G3 the most straightforward solution to prevent Bunge from influencing G3's activities.

Sask Wheat also said that the requirements for Bunge to spend at least \$500 million on capital expenditures within five years of closing, is significantly below the potential annual losses producers could face because of the merger and that requiring the divestment of two grain elevators in Saskatchewan will not alleviate concerns producers have regarding market concentration.

Beck says Sask Govt not listening to producers

Leader of the Sask NDP and Agriculture and Rural Affairs Shadow Minister Carla Beck said in an interview with Grasslands News that there are still unanswered questions about the merger that producers have.

"There's just a lot of frustration, and I think that that's really compounded by the fact that there are very few answers," said Beck. "There was a press release, there were some measures that are reported to be there to mitigate some of the risks that were brought up last year, but a lot of questions, something as basic as what's the enforcement mechanism? Will this actually have teeth? What about understanding concerns about the impact on the Port of Vancouver, for example? There are so many questions that remain unanswered, and we really haven't heard anything from the federal government on this, but not from the provincial government on this as well."

Beck also added that concerns were raised in committee and there have been no answers to them, or to producers and industry members in the province. "There's a level of frustration that I think really needs the federal government and the provincial government to be willing to sit down with those impacted and really answer those questions," said Beck.

"It's another thing at an uncertain time with looming tariffs, at a time when it seems like the federal government can't tie its shoes, we see this report slide off and slide through."

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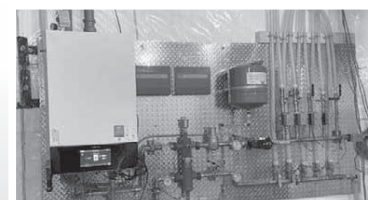
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OPINION

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

Will rural and urban municipal amalgamations in Sask. become reality

By Jan Derwores
Guest column

I have heard it said that Saskatchewan may be one of the best Canadian provinces in which to live, if not thee best.

With wide open spaces, clean air, abundant fresh water and unparalleled natural beauty, Saskatchewan is a jewel in the crown of Canada.

People in this province are "Saskatchewan tough," resilient, capable and hard-working. The province is known for periods of harsh weather, strong winds and brutal summer hailstorms, all of which contribute to the hardy constitution of its citizens.

For those who are born and raised here and call this province "home" it is hard to leave and not return for holidays, homecoming celebrations and family gatherings to reconnect with one's roots.

Saskatchewan is a large land mass with a relatively small population base yet has always pulled its own weight on the Canadian stage. Employers worldwide have welcomed Saskatchewan raised individuals with open arms because of their strong work ethic which is a trademark of sorts.

Of late Canada and the world have perceptively changed. Change is inevitable and ongoing.

Although Ontario and Quebec are two provinces which have always been granted the lion's share of the Canadian spotlight,

Saskatchewan has been a thriving province with the "slow and steady wins the race" mentality. But the current Federal Liberal government in Ottawa has made some questionable policy decisions which have negatively impacted the entire country.

Out of control spending and mismanagement by Ottawa has resulted in high inflation in Canada. The desire to streamline operations in every sector of the economy to help mitigate high costs, promote efficiency and reduce duplication of effort has led to such measures as amalgamations.

Ottawa, and especially Minister of Environment Steven Guilbeault, has made no secret of repeating that the policy of a Carbon Tax is being enforced in order to change behaviour, not to make a beneficial difference to the climate. Yet the "Carbon Tax" as it is known to most Canadians, contributes greatly to inflation in this country, causing the price of all goods and services to rise. Life has become expensive in urban and rural areas. It is felt more in rural areas where the cost of living has traditionally been higher.

In December, newly re-elected Saskatchewan Premier Scott Moe's Sask Party government released a very limited time survey asking for input into its proposed updates to the basic legislation around Municipalities.

Not surprisingly, one of the critical issues that the provincial government is

looking at is amalgamating municipalities. Merging urban and rural municipalities. Typically, urban municipalities are more socialist and have higher service costs since every person must be provided with water, sewer, garbage removal and other services. Alternatively, rural folks are more self-sufficient, providing their own water, sewer management, often their own heating systems and they have plenty of space to walk around so they have little need for public parks and exercise facilities.

Amalgamation of rural and urban municipalities will present no benefit for the rural municipalities. It may be a benefit to the urban municipalities which could benefit by scooping up the typically large cash reserves normally held by rural municipalities. However, an urban municipality which tries to fix itself by gobbling up the rural municipalities surrounding it is putting a Band-Aid on a festering sore. The sore must be cleaned up before a Band-Aid is applied.

This move to merge municipalities is no different than what we see and hear happening to our eastern neighbor as Winnipeg Metropolitan District (WMD) and Brandon districts are being set up. These endeavours which came about with a secretive abdication of the responsibilities of the rural municipalities over a convincing "sales pitch" extolling the virtues of efficiency by globalist socialists who value

citizens' freedoms far less than they value bureaucracy and heavy-handed government policy. Ask yourself, are you willing to relinquish the freedom to have an input in how your municipality is governed?

Saskatchewan has a limited opportunity to pay attention and heed the agenda that has already been largely exposed in Manitoba with the WMR. Ken Drysdale, Chris Riddell and the rest of the members of the Manitoba Stronger Together group have compiled an exposé about the WMR: <https://www.manitobastrongertogether.ca/wmr20-50>. This is ultimately what is intended by the socialist bureaucrats who are floating the idea of merging municipalities in Saskatchewan. The WMR 2050 plan legislates the closure of public streets, closure of private wells in rural areas, forces maximum number of "units" (dwellings) on private property, among other things.

The Sask Party government survey closed on December 14, 2024. The results of the survey are not available at this writing. Saskatchewan residents need to become involved by contacting their local municipal councillor or reeve and begin an important dialogue before it is too late to prevent The End of Your Municipality.

- This is a first installment of a series of educational and proactive articles and is an initiative of the people to support and develop good municipal government. The opportunity to become involved and speak out is now.

The tax is now axed; wind taken out of Poilievre's sail

By Alan Hustak
Grasslands News

The next prime minister of Canada, (whomever it may be) has already taken some of the wind out of Pierre Poilievre's sails. Whenever the next election rolls around it will not be the "Axe the Tax" election that the conservatives had hoped for. Poilievre and his deputy, Andrew Scheer, no longer control the political agenda. Both front runners in the race to replace Trudeau, Mark Carney and Chrystia Freeland plan to abandon the consumer carbon tax leaving the opposition without an issue. Trudeau will be gone. The carbon tax will be gone.

Mark Carney served as the governor of the Bank of Canada and the Bank of England where he earned an international

reputation as "the outstanding central banker of his generation." He is from Alberta. In his first political foray he comes across as an elitist with a quick mind and an engaging sense of humour. Unlike Poilievre, Carney's French is atrocious, and the Bloc Quebecois would make mincemeat of him in Quebec. Carney could however make gains in the rest of the country that would cut into the apparent Conservative strength and perhaps prevent Pierre Poilievre from winning a majority government.

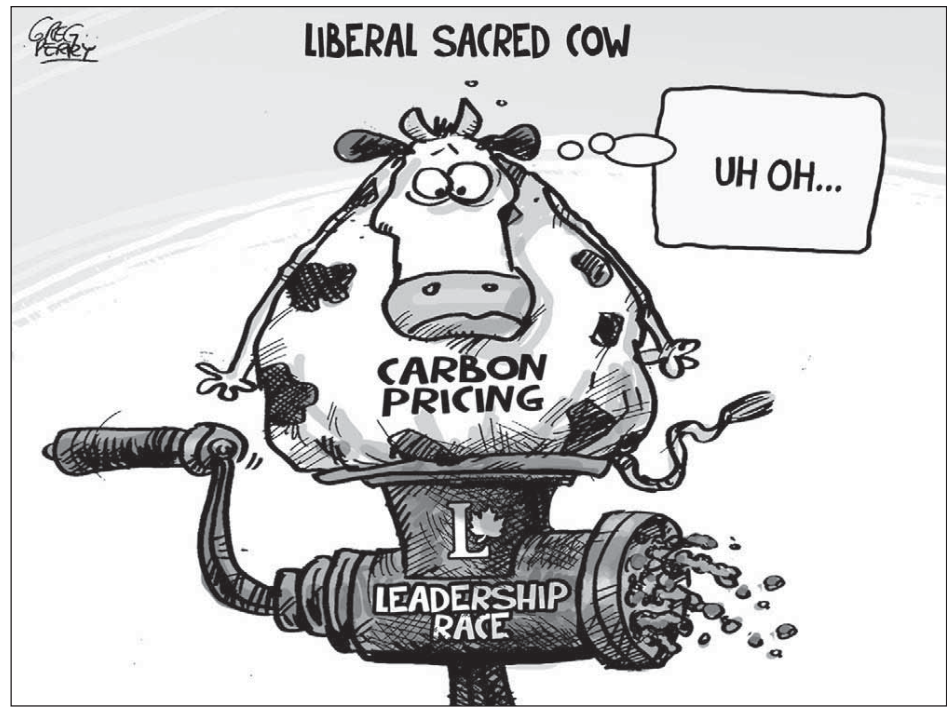
Don't count on the NDP forcing a spring election. The new prime minister will have at least six months to regroup and make a pitch to Canadians before they go to the polls.

By then Canada's relationship with the United

States will have taken on a degree of urgency and President Trump's divisiveness will set the stage for the next election.

The challenge now for Poilievre is to demonstrate that he would be the better candidate to deal with both external and domestic threats that threaten to destroy the country.

Chrystia Freeland is perhaps too close to Justin Trudeau to be a credible replacement as prime minister, but as our foreign affairs minister she successfully concluded the re-negotiation of the North American Free Trade Agreement that Trump now wants to scrap. She has already shown that as a negotiator she can hold her own against all comers and says she is prepared to fight. "(Trump) has spoken about redrawing



borders and threatened economic coercion to do so," she writes in the Toronto Star. "While it may be tempting to turn the other cheek, we must take President Trump at his word. Hope is not a strategy, and capitulation is not an option. Now is the time for us to be strong, united and smart."

Freeland because she

is strong and smart, to her credit he has referred to her as "totally toxic."

Mark Carney may not have Freeland's political experience, but he too has made his mark on the world stage. They are close friends; Carney is godfather to Freeland's son. If she wins the leadership and invites him to be her finance minister,

they would together be a formidable Team Canada. If he wins and appoints her to again be our foreign minister, even better.

Ultimately Canadians will then have a choice between self-interested mediocrity or a team of rivals with financial moxie and proven negotiating experience.

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RCMP deal with many accidents, assaults and impaired drivers

Broadview and Moosomin

Detachments
Sgt. Damien Grouchy

Reporting period: Jan. 10 to Jan. 16

Week at a Glance

Broadview and Moosomin RCMP responded to 73 calls for service, some of which include: four traffic collisions, 45 provincial offences including traffic, two impaired operation of a motor vehicle, two mischief, three person crimes, one break and enter and nine Mental Health Act calls.

Calls for Service

• **Assault with a weapon:** Jan. 10, members attended a residence located in Moosomin. The victim reported being struck with an object by the subject. The subject was arrested and subsequently charged with assault with a weapon.

• **Break and Enter:** Jan. 10, members received a report of a break and enter to a job site located in the RM of Moosomin; out buildings and vehicles had been rummaged through. RCMP continue their investigation.

• **Collision:** Jan. 10, members responded to a single vehicle roll over on the Ochapowace First Nation. Members learned the truck was unregistered and members were unable to determine who was operating the vehicle as the occupants left the scene and failed to report the incident.

• **Traffic complaint:** Jan. 11, members responded to a complaint of a semi swerving on Highway #1 traveling west of Moosomin. Patrols were made but the semi was not located. Members noted the weather conditions were poor with high winds.

• **Collision:** Jan. 11, members responded to a single vehicle roll over on Highway #1 near Grenfell. A motorhome lost control and rolled on its side after hitting a patch of ice. Fortunately, the occupants were not injured.

• **Collision:** Jan. 11, members responded to a single vehicle roll over in the RM of Martin. The vehicle driver was attempting to pass a semi during poor road conditions. Subsequently they lost control of their vehicle and rolled. Fortunately, they were not injured.

• **Structure Fire:** Jan. 11, members received a complaint of a tractor fire located in the RM of Rocanville. Rocanville Fire Department attended and extinguished the fire. There were no injuries. The fire was not suspicious.

• **Suspicious Person:** Members responded to a call of suspicious activity at a residence located in Grenfell. The caller reported seeing shadows outside their residence and people were banging on the house. Members cleared the residence and found nothing out of the ordinary.

• **Assault:** Jan. 12, members responded to a report of an assault at a residence located in Whitewood. The subject was later arrested and charged with assault.

• **Impaired Operation:** Jan. 12, members responded to report of a possible impaired driver, the vehicle was stuck in the ditch on Highway #48, near Windthorst. The driver was subsequently arrested and charged for impaired operation. When members obtained breath samples the driver had a blood alcohol concentration four times the legal limit.

• **Assault:** Jan. 13, members responded to a report of an assault at a residence located on Kahkewistahaw First Nation. The subject left the residence prior to members arriving. RCMP continue their investigation.

• **Impaired Operation:** Jan. 15, members responded to a report of a possible impaired driver on the Cowessess First Nation. Members located the driver, the driver refused to provide a breath sample, the driver was subsequently arrested and charged with refusal. Under the Criminal Code a refusal carries the same punishment as an impaired operation charge.

• **Assault:** Jan. 16, members responded to a report of an assault at a residence located in the RM of Maryfield. The subject left the residence prior to members arriving. RCMP continue their investigation.

Report Information and Tips

• If you have any information regarding the incidents above and would like to make an anonymous complaint, information can be submitted through CrimeStoppers by calling 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or submitting a tip online at www.saskcrimestoppers.com

• If you have information about any of the above incidents or have a crime to report, please contact Moosomin RCMP by calling 306-435-3361 or Broadview RCMP 306-696-5200 or call 9-1-1 in an emergency.

• Report some complaints such as damage/mischief to property under \$5,000, theft of bicycle under \$5,000, theft under \$5,000, theft from vehicle under \$5,000, lost or found property and damage/mischief to vehicle under \$5,000 online here: <https://ocre-sielc.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/saskatchewan/en>

Fraud Safety

Scammers evolve and new frauds and scams are always appearing. Some safe tips to protect yourself:

- Don't be afraid to say no
- Do your research
- Don't give out personal information
- Beware of upfront fees
- Protect your computer
- Be careful who you share images with
- Protect your online accounts
- Recognize spoofing

For a full list of steps to take in protecting yourself and to become familiar with past and present frauds/scams visit the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre website.

Joke of the Week

What do you get when you cross a tennis player and a police officer?

Someone who serves and protects!

Have a safe week and take care, from your friendly Broadview/Moosomin RCMP.

Gene Hauta

It's a Strange World

Tragedy in New Orleans on the first day of 2025, as 10 people were killed and 30 more injured after a truck drove into a Bourbon Street crowd. It was declared as a terrorist attack as a 42-year-old Texas man and Army veteran, Shamsud-Din Jabbar, deliberately drove his vehicle into a crowd on Bourbon Street during New Year's celebrations. The suspect, who was killed in a firefight with officers, had an ISIS flag in the vehicle at the time of the attack.

California has apparently seen its share of bears breaking into cars, but when it's luxury vehicles it's a little different. In what was dubbed "**Operation Bear Claw**," the California Insurance Department said four Los Angeles residents were arrested, accused of defrauding three insurance companies out of nearly \$142,000 by claiming a bear had caused damage to their vehicles. The investigation determined it was actually a person in a bear costume that showed up on the video.

The Oxfordshire County (England) Council admits it had to make some compromises for the commuter parking lot and bus stop it built to reduce traffic on the A40 carriageway. The new road was completed in January at a cost of US\$67 million. With 850 parking spaces, including many for electric vehicles, plus dedicated bicycle storage, 24-hour security, and green open spaces, it could now "provide regular and reliable public transport services into Oxford." However, there is one small problem. It's not open and the Council says it might be three years before it can be. The problem is **there are no roads connecting it to** any access points, and rising costs likely mean those roads can not be built any time soon! "And thanks to the slow traffic on the A40," said Randy Cassingham, "motorists get a long look at it as they go by."

Two suspected thieves were arrested in Washington's Jefferson County after trying to flee from police in a rowboat. They had started their escape in an SUV with covered license plates after a home owner called in a theft of about \$11,000 worth of gold and jewelry from a storage container. He told authorities that the perps were a man and woman dressed in black who left the scene in an SUV. The homeowner had even **hurled firewood at their vehicle** to get them to stop, perhaps shattering a window. They eventually crashed the SUV and fled on foot. A police drone quickly found them in a stolen rowboat on Port Gamble Bay, trying to row away **using makeshift paddles**, including a piece of plywood. The boat was quickly taking on water, forcing the suspects to swim back to land and right into the hands of deputies.

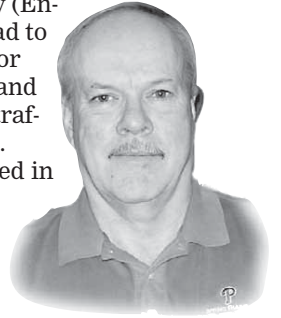
A group of **Satanists in Ohio have turned the tables** on a "religious release" program in public schools that allows for students to be taken off campus for religious education in the middle of the school day. So now, some students at the Edgewood Elementary School in Marysville, Ohio will be allowed to take time off during the school day to attend the Hellion Academy of Independent Learning (HAIL), which is sponsored by the Satanic Temple. A parent of a student at Edgewood put in a request for HAIL as an alternative to the LifeWise Academy that offers Bible lessons in 200 different schools across Ohio.

"We are not devil worshipers and we're not teaching children to be evil," June Everett, a local minister at the Satanic Temple, explained. "Different Satanists across the United States will give you different answers depending on how they personally believe. But as a whole, we are non-theistic, meaning we don't believe in any supernatural deities and that includes, you know, God or Satan."

A pair of vessels that attracted the wrong kind of attention in Spain led to a **hefty drug bust** on a nearby farm. After two speedboats were spotted at the mouth of the Guadalquivir River, suspicious officials from the nation's Civil Guard started an investigation. They followed the boats to a rural farm in Coria del Rio, where they found 7 tons of cocaine hidden in cargo ship containers buried underground. Besides the pile of drugs, there were two stolen vehicles and three weapon, including an assault rifle. Spain is "one of the main gateways" into Europe for international drug smugglers.

In another case, in the Spanish city of Guadalajara, more than 400 pounds of coke and 2 1/2 tons of hashish were found **hidden in a shipment of frozen broccoli**, bound for the UK. Nine Brits were arrested in that raid.

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Wapella Fire Department holding fundraiser for former firefighter that's battling cancer

By Ryan Kiedrowski

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

There's going to be a pancake breakfast fundraiser at the Wapella Rink this weekend, supporting a former firefighter with the Wapella & District Fire Department.

Abigail Korth was a firefighter while living in Wapella, and was diagnosed on July 4 with Stage 4 Ewing Sarcoma, an aggressive and rare form of cancer.

"She was keen, engaged, and energetic," recalls Wapella Fire Chief Jim McGinty. "She would turn up as much as she

could."

McGinty explained that Korth's condition has become worse over Christmas as tumors on her spine have led to the collapse of one vertebrae, confining Korth to a wheelchair.

"She's now basically paraplegic," McGinty said. "With her being an ex-member of the department we thought it would be a nice thing to try and raise awareness for her, she needs as much help as she can get right now."

Korth and her fiancé Seth Kennedy live in Winnipeg, and a GoFundMe has been established to

help cover medical costs, mobility equipment, and day-to-day essentials.

"Her partner has had to take time off work indefinitely to look after her because she needs 24-hour care now," McGinty said.

Currently, the online fundraiser titled Help Abigail Beat Bone Cancer has surpassed its original goal, amassing \$11,401 in donations.

McGinty also remembers Korth's assistance around the hall, drawing on her welding skills that helped immensely behind the scenes.

"It's a different kind of group that's not like a

hockey team or a curling team, because you have to put your life in your colleagues' hands," he described of the unique bond shared between firefighters. "She stepped up to serve our community and put her life and well being on the line. It's nice if the community can support her back."

From 8-10 am on Saturday, Jan. 25, the Wapella & District Fire Department will be hosting the pancake breakfast at a cost of \$10 per plate, with proceeds going to Korth as she continues her fight.



Abigail Korth

Saskatchewan RCMP

SERT makes 827 arrests and lay more than 1,000 charges in 2024

Saskatchewan RCMP

Grasslands News

Saskatchewan RCMP data shows there are more victims of violent crime in the province and those victims are experiencing more severe forms of violence. To help keep residents across the province safe, Saskatchewan RCMP's Saskatchewan Enforcement Response Teams (SERT) work with RCMP detachments and frontline officers to suppress criminal activity.

Saskatchewan RCMP's SERT – which includes Crime Reduction Teams (CRT), the Human Trafficking and Counter Exploitation Unit (HTCEU), Offender Management Unit (OMU), Saskatchewan Trafficking Response Teams (STRT) and Warrant Enforcement and Suppression Teams (WEST) – targets criminal groups and offenders who threaten the well-being of Saskatchewan people.

As a result of criminal investigations across the province last year, Saskatchewan RCMP's SERT:

- made 827 arrests;
- executed 392 judicial authorizations and search warrants; and
- laid 1,015 Criminal Code and Controlled Drug and Substances Act charges in 2024.

Aiming to curb criminal activity, Saskatchewan RCMP's SERT conducts targeted enforcement activities informed by intelligence, evidence-based policing, analysis of community crime trends and consultation with local leadership. Saskatchewan RCMP's SERT also works hand-in-hand with front-line RCMP officers at detachments to combat crime in the communities they serve.

Investigation uncovers firearm trafficking in Hudson Bay area

Early in 2024, RCMP officers with the Prince Albert CRT, in collaboration with Hudson Bay Detachment, began an investigation into firearms trafficking in the Hudson Bay area.

As a result of continued investigation, Prince Albert CRT and Saskatchewan RCMP's Critical Incident Response Team executed a search warrant at a residence in the Veillardville, SK area in March

2024.

Officers located and seized:

- 40 rifles;
- two handguns;
- approximately 20 additional firearms in various states of disassemble;
- more than 10,000 rounds of ammunition;
- powder and rifle casings used to reload shells;
- boxes of prohibited high capacity rifle magazines;
- two crates of illegal cigarettes;
- mint coins and gold jewelry investigators believe are stolen;
- small amounts of cocaine and methamphetamine, and other drug trafficking paraphernalia.

An individual was arrested and charged with multiple firearms offences including trafficking and possession of prohibited firearms. The suspect was also charged with possession of stolen property and possession for the purpose of trafficking cocaine and methamphetamine.

Saskatchewan RCMP teamwork keeps communities safe

"By removing dozens of firearms and thousands of rounds of ammunition from the illicit market, our teams prevented these weapons from potentially falling into the hands of criminals and gang members who could use them to harm and intimidate community members," says Insp. Jeff Smoliak, Saskatchewan RCMP's SERT Senior Investigative Officer.

"This is a prime example of how Saskatchewan RCMP SERT and local detachments work together as the provincial police force to enhance community safety in Saskatchewan."

What is SERT?

Saskatchewan RCMP SERT is made up of 108 RCMP officers and 31 civilian support staff. With different teams located in 10 Saskatchewan communities, SERT is readily mobile and able to quickly deploy to surrounding areas. Teams are also assisted every single day by over 1,500 RCMP employees, including more than 1,000 sworn officers at 80 plus detachments across the province.

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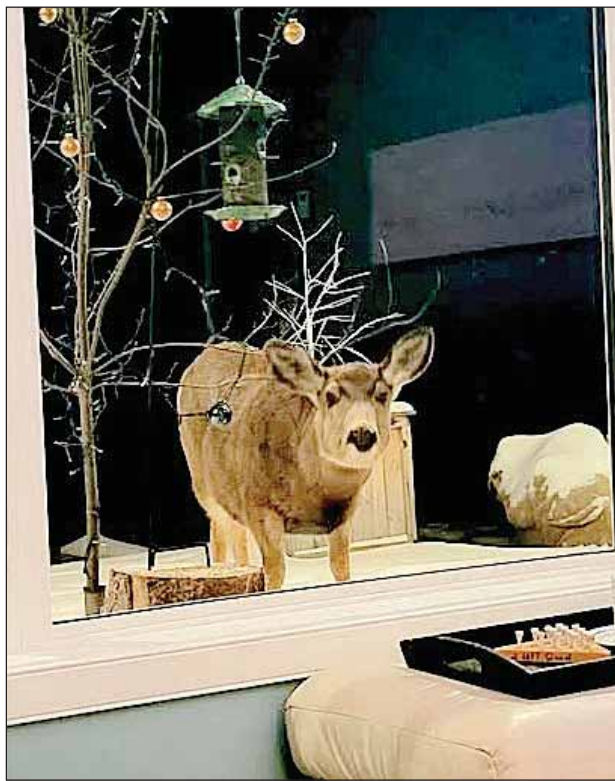
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Oh deer, look who's here

By Alan Hustak
Grasslands News

The number of deer coming out of the woods and foraging for food in urban areas appears to be on the increase this winter. Deer are being frequently spotted after dark on the streets of communities such as Fort Qu'Appelle, in back yards of lake front properties and wandering through back alleys and public parks.

Julie Bedel and her husband Larry were sitting down to watch the news on television last week when a deer peered through their living room window. "We've had that happen before. We have a bird feeder that attracts them, but we have never had one come so close," said Julie Bedel. "We thought if we turned the outdoor lights on, he'd run away but, no, he just stood there. No fear. They must be very hungry."



Nosey neighbour JULIE BEDEL | GRASSLANDS NEWS

Deer like this one, photographed looking through a living room window, are becoming increasingly adventurous.

idents can take to deter wildlife, so they don't overstay their welcome," a representative for Environment Minister Travis Keisig told Grasslands News. "When there is an increase of deer in urban areas it is not the result of an increase in the overall wildlife population but an increase in the number looking for food and shelter."

While it may be natural to feel sorry for hungry does and fawns left out in the bitter cold do not feed them. They are wild animals, and their digestive systems adjust to their feeding routines in winter. Giving deer nutri-

ent rich food can spread chronic wasting disease among them and in some instances kill them.

The deer leap out of the bush unexpectedly and their behaviour as they cross a highway is unpredictable. Most of the traffic accidents involving wildlife occur at dusk or in the early morning hours of late autumn or winter during mating season. The most recent statistics reveal that about 9,000 motor vehicle accidents each year in Saskatchewan involve collisions with deer or moose.

In 2024 three people died as a result.

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Indian Head Lions Club presents raffle winner and service awards

Submitted
Grasslands News

Indian Head Lions Club announced the winner of its annual Trip Raffle, as well as to recognize two club members for their dedicated service.

Trip Raffle

Andrea Frost of Indian Head won the Indian Head Lions Club Trip Raffle for 2024. She received her prize from Lions Club President Jack Norman.

The Lions Club would like to extend a huge "Thank You"

to everyone who supported the club by purchasing tickets to help make the 44th year of running this raffle a huge success! Partial proceeds of the ticket

sales last year went towards assisting the Town of Indian Head in the purchase of the new electronic sign at Grand Ave. and Woodward Ave.

Award Recipients

Lions District Governor Heather Vermeersch recently presented awards to two members of the Indian Head Lions

Club.

Darren Pollock, a longtime member of the club and a past president, received the Garnet Davis Fellowship Award. This fellowship is presented to a Lions Club member to honour them for long term, outstanding service with a Lions Club in their community.

Darcy Gares has been a member of the Indian Head Lions Club for many years. He has held many positions in the club, including being president for several years. Vermeersch presented Gares with the Melvin Jones Fellow Award. This award is the highest form of recognition and embodies humanitarian ideas consistent with the nature and purpose of Lions Clubs. The recipient of this award is a model of exemplary service to his club and the community it serves.



Trip Raffle winner, Andrea Frost presented by Jack Norman, (left photo). Garnet Davis Fellowship Award presented to Darren Pollock by Heather Vermeersch (centre photo) and the Melvin Jones Fellow Award presented to Darcy Gares by Heather Vermeersch (right photo).

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Indian Head Minor Hockey Day held

By Sarah Pacio
Grasslands News

The Indian Head Chiefs held their annual Minor Hockey Day at A.J.M. Davies Arena on Jan. 18. The schedule included a full day of games for players of all ages.

Indian Head has two teams each in the U7, U9 and U11 categories so these started the day. This was followed by a U13 game versus Moosomin, a U15 game against Prairie Storm and later a U18 game against Whitewood.

The two oldest teams wore purple jerseys in honour of Kim Thauberger who passed away from cancer last January. Those teams include Thauberger's two

sons along with her husband as coach, so players have been wearing purple jerseys at home games this month to show their support for the family.

In addition to the regular games, coaches from Indian Head's minor hockey teams faced off in a scrimmage on Saturday evening. Roles were reversed during the short game and young players from the various minor hockey teams were excited for the opportunity to stand in as "coaches" for the adults. The score ended in a tie and was followed by a brief shoot-out competition before the U18 teams from Indian Head and Whitewood took the ice for the final game of the day.

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Friends and Neighbours

New in Town: A Serial Novel - Installment One

By Allison Kydd
Grasslands News

Because of a last minute delay this week that makes it impossible to produce my regular column focusing on actual people and events taking place in Indian Head and/or surrounding communities, I am submitting the first installment of a serial novel. Though this is fiction, it also takes place in a small town somewhat like ours. I hope you enjoy it.

Installment One

Betty Mackay and Susan Schultz weren't part of the coffee group that met at the hotel cafe every day but Sunday – which was after all a day reserved for family visits or – for those who were that way inclined – for going to church. In fact, both Betty and Susan frequently mentioned the fact they weren't "coffee group" types. Nonetheless, each regularly found herself nursing a cup of dark roast at the other's kitchen table or, in summer, iced tea or another cold drink on the other's back deck. After all, they had been friends since childhood, and when both the Mackays and the Schultzes had moved into town twenty or so years ago, after retiring from their respective farms, it had been a pleasure to reclaim that early friendship. It wasn't as if they lived in each other's pockets; they simply knew each other well and always had a lot to talk about.

Their husbands, Murray and Elmer – both were fortunate to have their husbands still with them, especially as so many farmers tended to go downhill after they moved into town – weren't quite as choosy. The guys happily went off for coffee at least once a day, either at the bakery or at the chain restaurant next door to the service station. There they met a collection of their buddies, most of them retired or semi-retired farmers and local businessmen. They even had a name for themselves, the "really old guys."

Their wives, however, had more exclusive tastes, and this morning, Susan was keen to tell Betty about the woman who had apparently bought the Hennessey house, just down the block from Susan's place.

"Single it seems, at least no husband or other 'spousal arrangement' in evidence. That's a lot of house and yard for one person."

"I'll say. Children?"

"Hard to say – again, not in evidence. Grown up anyway, if she has any."

Both the Mackays and the Schultzes had raised their own children long ago and had seen them go off to the city to study

and work. The fact none of their offspring had stayed with farming was a disappointment, but not a surprise. One had to be a millionaire to get into farming these days – a multi-millionaire, in fact, judging from the price of farm machinery.

For a while it had seemed Trevor Schultz might be headed in that direction, since he took a degree in agriculture, but it hadn't worked out that way. Oh, well, he had a good job, one with a future, and that's what mattered. He and his family lived close enough that his parents still saw him quite often. The same was true of his sister, Isabelle, and the three Mackay offspring. It was just another way Susan and Betty knew they were fortunate. There was a time in the middle of the oil boom when half the young people in town seemed to be heading to Fort MacMurray or even further away. One young fellow – one of Trevor's former classmates and some kind of engineer – had gone as far as Saudi Arabia. These were strange times and that's for sure.

"Could be she's divorced," suggested Betty.

"Could be." Susan resolved to try to get closer than a wave and greeting next time. That way she could check for a wedding ring. These days, some married women didn't wear rings, while some unmarried women made a point of wearing them, so it wasn't a fail proof plan; still, it was a place to start.

Maybe she'd invite the woman over or drop by her house with a casserole. Too bad they didn't have a Hi Neighbour program in town anymore. That had been a good way to get to know newcomers. So far all she knew about this woman was that she had once ventured downtown in shorts and gardening shoes and that she didn't dye her hair. A "free spirit" it seemed.

Of course it was best not to judge. Could be she was a perfectly nice woman that would be a pleasant addition to the town. It's just that the Schultzes and the Mackays socialized primarily with other married couples – singles (especially single women) created a bit of a problem when one wanted to entertain. And if one needed an extra, there were already more than enough widows and divorcees on their invi-

tation lists. Still, it didn't hurt to be friendly.

It seemed as if Betty had read her mind.

"Why don't we pop over for a visit sometime next week? I could take over some of my buns. Murray's been throwing hints, so it's time I made another batch."

"Just what I was thinking – about visiting, I mean. As far as I can see she hasn't got a day job, must be retired."

"Or works from home."

"That's right. Lots of people are working online these days. That could be it. Which reminds me, I have some new photos of Trevor and Selina's twins." (Selina had switched to working from home after the twins were born. Susan was always a little unsure what kind of work it was that her daughter-in-law did online, but apparently the change had been good for the family.)

"Maybe next time. Don't forget to remind me. We're off to the city today – shopping for a new microwave – I think I told you –."

"Oh, right. I'll show you the photos tomorrow then, if I don't forget. And how about Thursday to pop over and visit my new neighbour? I always figure it's best not to put things off."

"Sounds good. I could pick up some buns from the bakery, in case I don't have time to bake before then."

"My place tomorrow then?"

"Sure thing."

So the arrangement was made, and it would have worked perfectly if the woman in question hadn't taken herself off somewhere on Thursday. Betty and Susan did take the precaution of wandering through the back garden to make sure the woman wasn't working in a part of the yard that was hidden from view. As they did this, they were actually rather impressed by the tidiness of the flowerbeds, considering that the woman had only taken residence a couple of weeks ago. It would be a pleasure to have another gardener in their midst again.

On the other hand, the raspberry patch was in a sorry state. She'd have to do something about that. Perhaps they could think of someone to recommend – someone to help her with the heavy work. There were always their hus-

bands, of course, but that might be awkward. Murray and Elmer were both rather shy and wouldn't know how to deal with a strange woman. There it was again, the problem of her apparently being single.

Susan was tempted to leave her casserole by the back door, since she had carried it all this way; however, Betty talked her out of the idea. She certainly wasn't going to leave perfectly good buns alone on a doorstep – she had baked a batch of her own after all – not when there were all those stray cats in the neighbourhood. Better to try again in a couple of days.

Susan agreed and they strolled back to Susan's, where she made a fresh pot of coffee. This time Betty had time to admire the photos of Trevor's family, though she secretly thought Susan shared rather too many photographs of the twins. Not being their grandmother herself, she didn't really see anything that remarkable about them other than the fact they looked alike – not like her own ten-year-old granddaughter who was already taking grade-five piano – through the Royal Conservatory in Toronto, of course.

In fact, Murray often said he hoped their granddaughter didn't turn out to be some kind of genius. Betty, for her part, didn't see why that would be a problem. Imagine having

an Angela Hewitt in the family. Certainly something to brag about anyway, though for the time being she tried not to say too much about Samantha's many accomplishments. After all, part of being good friends for this long had to do with being careful of each other's feelings and avoiding competition. Betty had tried to explain this necessity to Murray, but he had no idea what she was "going on about." It seemed that the men had no such concerns.

Men always had it easier somehow.

As always, please contact me at akyddwrt@sasktel.net with comments or suggestions. I'd especially like to know whether you enjoyed the first installment of "New in Town", as I'd like to continue the story in future issues. For the most part, however, I will continue telling your stories in my column, with fiction instalments about once a month.

Omission - our apologies

By Sarah Pacio
Grasslands News

In a front-page article of the *Indian Head-Wolseley News* for Jan. 17, it should have been noted that Bigway Foods also provided significant holiday support to the local food hamper program. The grocery store organized a Giving Tree collection in which TGP agreed to matched community members' donations made at the store on "Giving Tuesday" (Dec. 3). A total of \$2,978.98 was raised. This support is greatly appreciated and Grasslands News apologizes for the omission in last weeks' newspaper.



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SPORTS

Mils Iyogun accepts scholarship to Tennessee State University

By Darcy Gross
Grasslands News

Melville Millionaires forward Jadon Iyogun has received a scholarship.

Iyogun, who currently leads the Millionaires in scoring, has committed to head to Tennessee State University in Nashville to play for the Tigers, following the conclusion of the 2025-2026 SJHL season.

"I'm honoured to announce my commitment to play division 1 hockey at Tennessee State University," Iyogun said in a release on the Melville Millionaires' Facebook account. "I'd like to thank God, my family, my coaches, my teammates and everyone who made this possible."

Melville Millionaires' head coach and GM Doug Johnson was ecstatic to see Iyogun get the call.

"I'm really excited for him. He's an incredibly skilled player that has worked for his accomplishment," Johnson said. "He knows how fortunate he is to get this opportunity and is working hard to get better every day."

After losing a few roster players who thought they'd have a better chance of securing a scholarship outside the SJHL, Johnson is pleased that Iyogun stuck around.

"It's nice to see a young man who stayed loyal to his team get rewarded with a scholarship," Johnson admitted. "The best part is he has another season

to really hone his skills and become even more prepared to step in and be an impact player for TSU right away."

While a number of SJHL players joined the rogue BCHL in order to obtain a scholarship, rule changes that allow players from major junior to get scholarships may have taken the knees out of the BCHL advantage.

"It just shows everyone that you don't need to leave to get a deal," Johnson added. "Schools or scouts will see you wherever you are and with few exceptions, the guys that leave are never rewarded."

The Mils' bench boss thinks that the BCHL, that has many players committed to college deals, may have shot itself in the foot to some degree.

"In my opinion the B.C. league is irrelevant right now and any advisor worth his salt knew this was coming, like everyone else in the hockey world, so pushing kids that way is ridiculous," he stated. "Better to be comfortable where you are so you can play uncomfortable."

With the new NCAA recruiting rules taking effect, it seems like a matter of time before the BCHL has to change some of its own policies when it comes to getting players.

"Right now, the BCHL has lost 50-plus kids – that doesn't sound like a stable environment. If Hockey Canada imposes sanctions like we are pushing for, I think you will see the demise of the BCHL."



DARCY GROSS | GRASSLANDS NEWS

Break-away

Melville Millionaires' forward Jadon Iyogun, #18, breaks away from an Estevan defender during the Millionaires recent 5-1 victory. Iyogun has secured a scholarship for Tennessee State University.

Mustangs and Maroons ends in a tie, defeats Wheat Kings 4-2

By Braedyn Woziak
Grasslands News

A week after the Wolseley Mustangs worked the Strasbourg Maroons to the tune of an 8-1 victory, the two teams ended with a 3-3 tie in the rematch in Strasbourg on Jan. 17.

Strasbourg played a much faster game this time around, pressuring the Mustangs early and looking like the better team. Still, Wolseley jumped out to an early lead on a goal from Tyler Powell nine minutes in.

But Ryker Wilker would even the score before the end of the 1st on a nice finish in the slot.

The Mustangs decided to wake up in the 2nd period, generating a lot of scoring chances and controlling the play, but

would only score once on a sneaky five-hole shot from Landon Obleman to go up by one.

It wouldn't take long for the Maroons to find their groove again in the 3rd, as goals by Marko Tkatchuk and Kayden Dutka had Strasbourg leading by one with 12 minutes of action left to play.

Powell quickly evened the score on a shorthanded goal after Jackson Baran and Will Noble forced a turnover by Strasbourg in their own end.

Noble, Eric Bruce, Conner Webster and Riley Chambers each picked up an apple for the Mustangs, with Baran grabbing two on the night.

Tkatchuk had an assist to pair with his goal, while Benicio Dejaegher had two assists for the Maroons. Landon Smith and Connor Flahr had the other two points.

Goalies Terrance Thomson and Cohen

Lipinski both had great performances, making a combined 62 saves on the evening.

The Mustangs took care of business on the road in Yellowgrass Saturday night, beating their rival Wheat Kings 4-2.

Yellowgrass started hot and took a one-goal lead into the 2nd period on a power-play goal by Keegan Merriman.

Wolseley finally broke through in the 2nd on a goal from veteran Eric Bruce, then two more in quick succession by standout rookie Connor Webster.

Dylan Johanson would pot another in the 3rd to make it 4-1 Mustangs. Jack Bobier would score for Yellowgrass with about five minutes remaining, but it was too little, too late.

This was the first meeting between the Mustangs and the reigning champions, but there was no love lost between these

two teams.

The Mustangs took eight penalties to the Wheat Kings five, but it was the Wheat Kings that amassed 74 of the 90 total penalty minutes on the night.

Webster stuffed the stat sheet with two goals and two assists, while his linemate Johanson had two assists on top of his goal as well. Tyler Powell and Mitchell Sexsmith chipped in an apple each.

Kael Dillon had two assists for the Yellowgrass side. Trent Benning had one.

The win over Yellowgrass brings Wolseley's record to 8-3-2 on the season, moving them ahead of the Wheat Kings at 7-5-2 for 3rd place in the QVJHL standings.

Next up for the Mustangs is a road matchup against the Lumsden Jaxx on Jan. 24.



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Senior hockey teams struggle in the standings

By Chris Ashfield
Grasslands News



The regular season is winding down in the local senior hockey leagues and it's looking like every team throughout the area should be making it to at least the first round of play-offs.

QVHHL

In the Qu'Appelle Valley Highway Hockey League (QVHHL) the Balcarres Broncs are currently sitting in third place in the standings with the Balgonie Bisons holding onto fifth spot.

Balcarres struggled last week on the road with the team losing in both their contests. The team was in Raymore on Jan. 17 to face-off against the Rockets who blasted off with a 5-1 win. The following night, Jan. 18, in Milestone, Balcarres lost their second game in as many nights when the Flyers clenched an 8-5 win. Meanwhile the Balgonie Bisons had mixed results in their two games last week, beating out the Milestone Flyers 5-1 on Jan. 17 but then getting pummeled 12-0 against the Lumsden Monarchs on Jan. 19. Game sheets were not available for any of the matches.

Balcarres has three games remaining until the end of the regular season with the team playing the Bethune Bulldogs on Jan. 14 in Holdfast. The game is a rescheduled match from Dec. 18. The Broncs will then host their last regular season home game on Jan. 25 against Milestone before ending the season off with a road game in Balgonie on Jan. 31. Along with their match against Balcarres, Balgonie will also play in Bethune on Jan. 22.

Big Six League

In the Big Six League, the KW Oil

Kings appear to be heading into the post-season despite struggling on the ice this season. The team, who is currently in sixth place in the standings, is just one point ahead of the Midale Mustangs but is four points ahead of the Wawota Flyers who have gone winless this season. With only one game remaining for Wawota, it is impossible for them to gain enough ground to make the play-off cut.

The KW Oil Kings hosted their final regular season home game on Jan. 15 where the Carlyle Cougars mauled the team 9-3 at the Kipling Arena. All three Oil Kings' goals came in the first half of the second period with credit going to Derek Toth, Peyton Balon and Jordan Andres. Carlyle scored twice in the first, one in the second and six times in the third including two short-handed goals. Riley Niven got a hat-trick with three goals with Brett Turgeon and Josh Romanyk each adding a pair. Singles came from Ben Johnstone and Connor Hewitt.

The Oil Kings will end their regular season on the road in Redvers on Jan. 25 when they take on the first place Rockets.

SEHL

The South East Hockey League (SEHL) has the Wapella Blackhawks sitting in fourth place in the South Division with the Rocanville Tigers leading the pack and the Churchbridge Imperials sitting in the basement four points back

of Wapella.

Wapella added to their winning column on Jan. 18 when the team hosted the Cote Selects and skated away with an 11-8 victory in a game that saw six power-play and two short-handed goals scored.

The Blackhawks' Chase Schaber scored three goals and assisted on one other in the game with Ryland Maier, Colton Yellow Horn and Riley Holloway each scoring twice. Singles came from Cole Hayhurst and Rory Poole. Poole also had four assists giving him a five-point night. Cote's goals were scored by

Tristan Keshane and Terrain Cote both with a pair and singles from Wenden Singoose, Brennan Watson, Braedon Boschman and Kalium Gervais.

Wapella will finish their regular season with three home games when they host the Rocanville Tigers on Jan. 24, the Esterhazy Flyers on Jan. 25 and the Churchbridge Imperials on Feb. 1. All games begin at 8 p.m.

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Bowling Scores, Standings - Melville Bowl Arena

MONDAY P.M. Jan. 20			THURSDAY YBC Jan. 16		
Ladies' High Single, Triple, and Average, Shaleen Kruger 235, 653, 205.			Girls High Single and Triple, Emmi Hollinger 186, 535.		
Men's High Single, Doug Brewer, 197. Men's High Triple and Average, Gordon Ostlund 483, 181.			Boys High Single and Triple, Lukas Matchim, 233, 607.		
Team High Single, Brewer, 812. Team High Triple, Dobson, 2332.			Team High Single and Triple, Nameless, 8u81, 2569.		
Team Pts.			Team Pts.		
Dobson 45			Cobras 46		
Stuckey 34.5			Hollinger 42		
Brewer 32.5			Nameless 39		
Gelowitz 32			Head Pins 17		
MONDAY COMMERCIAL Jan. 20			SATURDAY YBC Jan. 18		
Ladies' High Single, Branda Brooks, 252. Ladies' High Triple and Average, Brandy Lechner, 621, 223.			Girls High Single and Triple, Laura Smidt, 139, 297.		
Men's High Single, Paul Ward, 273. Men's High Triple, Zander Hollinger. Men's High Average, Isaac Hollinger, 219.			Boys High Single and Triple, Aiden Laverge, 172, 505.		
Team High Single, Professional Amateurs, 36. Team High Triple, Pin Heads, 3720.			Team High Single and Triple, Everythings, 833, 2406.		
Team Pts.			Team Pts.		
Pin Heads 56.5			Bravehearts 54.5		
			The Enders 37.5		
			Bowling Superstars 32		
			Everythings 16		
TUESDAY YBC Jan. 14			ST. HENRY'S Jan. 14		
Girls High Single and Triple, Lindsay Unterschute 129, 363.			Ladies' High Single, Triple and Average, Pat Brown 184, 504, 179.		
Boys High Single and Triple, Jakob Unterschute 154, 364.			Men's High Single, Triple and Average, Mike Hickie, 225, 635, 203.		
Team High Single and Triple, Bowl Kings, 865, 2448.			Team High Single and Triple, Drifters, 1244, 3680.		
Team Pts.			Team Pts.		
Bowl Kings 51			CCJ 44.5		
Squishmellows 21			Drifters 39		
			Just 4 Fun 35.5		
			A Team 21		

Pilot Butte Storm Game Schedule

Home/Away Games
JANUARY:
 24- PB Storm at S'toon Quakers 8:00
 26- PB Storm at Fort Knox 3:00
 29- RP South. Rebels at PB Storm 8:00
 31- PB Storm at S'toon Royals 8:00
FEBRUARY:
 01- PB Storm at S'toon Westleys 4:30
 06- PB Storm at Regina Caps 7:30
 12- Reg. Silver Foxes at PB Storm 8:00
 15- S'toon Quakers at PB Storm 7:45

Melville Millionaires Game Schedule

Home/Away Games
JANUARY:
 23- Melville at Battlefords 7:30 p.m.
 24- Melville at Battlefords 7:30 p.m.
FEBRUARY:
 01- Melville at Nipawin 7 p.m.
 02- Nipawin at Melville 6 p.m.
 08- Notre Dame at Melville 7 p.m.
 14- Kindersley at Melville 7 p.m.
 15- Kindersley at Melville 7 p.m.
 21- La Ronge at Melville 7 p.m.
 22- Fiin Flor at Melville 7 p.m.
 28- Melville at Weyburn 7 p.m.

Fort Knox Game Schedule

Home/Away Games
JANUARY:
 23- Richardson Pioneer S Rebels at Fort Knox 7:30 pm
 26- Pilot Butte Storm at Fort Knox 3 pm
 30- Reg. S.Foxes at Fort Knox 7:30 pm
FEBRUARY:
 01- Extreme Hockey Regina Caps at Fort Knox 7 pm
 08- S'toon Quakers at Fort Knox 7 pm
 13- Fort Knox at Extreme Hockey Regina Caps 7:30 pm
 15- Regina S.Foxes at Fort Knox 3 pm
 17- Fort Knox at Regina SFox 7:45 pm

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Sports column – Darcy Gross

Gross Misconduct

What once looked coincidental has now become shockingly obvious.

The NFL and the powers that be that control the league have some explaining to do when it comes to their reverence for Patrick Mahomes and the Kansas City Chiefs.

At no point in the history of the NFL, has a team been allowed to seemingly do whatever it wants, because they know at some point, the officiating crew will bail them out.

I'm not saying that as a hater either, since these calls have gone from silly to ridiculous, especially when it comes to getting the Chiefs another down or a scoring play.

Earlier in the year, I'd written a similar column with the same type of sentiment with hopes that the problem would be corrected at some point, however, the bias in the league has not improved, rather, it's become glaringly obvious.

In the past few weeks, fans of the four-downs league have seen the Chiefs get away with holding, illegal motion, pass interference and passing while over the line of scrimmage.

Most of the time, when these calls are missed – or other calls are made against the opposition – it's a huge benefit to the Chiefs, keeping drives alive or giving them scoring plays they didn't earn or deserve and it's not just a handful of fans mentioning it these days.

During a game, there are always a few pivotal plays that you need to go your way for your team to earn a victory, and these plays have almost always proved to benefit the Kansas City Chiefs.

On the weekend, during the Chiefs home playoff game, the opposition Houston Texans were called for a couple of 15-yard roughing the passer penalties, and when the replays were shown, it was easily revealed that neither play was dirty and neither should have given the Chiefs a key first down, yet they both did.

On one of the plays, Mahomes didn't get so much as some breath in his ear, as two Texans collided while trying to make a play.

Both players may have had bad intentions when they attempted to tackle Mahomes, but as far as I understand, penalties aren't called on appearances, they're called on fouls.

It's gotten to the point where the guys in the booth are getting sick and tired of the lack of consistency when it comes to Chiefs' football games, and Troy Aikman, a guy who knows his way around a football field, was questioning some of the calls.

"Aw, come on!" was Aikman's response on a third quarter roughing the quarterback penalty that gave the Chiefs a fresh set of downs.

The response was probably similar in millions of homes as the Chiefs continue to get call after call, during a season that saw them lose only a single game.

Even the NFL official in the broadcasting booth admitted his brothers of the stripes had made the wrong call, and it usually takes quite a lot to get ex-officials to say that the play calls are unjustified, but here we had a fellow go after his own people for calling a nothing penalty in what amounted to the biggest game of the year for both teams, at least up until that point in time.

That's not to say that the Chiefs aren't a great football team.

The Chiefs aren't at the top solely because of the calls of a couple of officials, they have good, if not great, players in every position.

The problem is, if there was any margin for error for opponents before, that margin has shrunk down somewhere between teeny-tiny and non-existent.

A team that's going to defeat the Kansas City Chiefs this season, not only has to play a flawless game, but now, they aren't allowed to touch Mahomes, who has emerged as the 'chosen one' as far as NFL players and quarterbacks in particular are concerned.

With only the Chiefs, the Washington Commanders, the Philadelphia Eagles and the Buffalo Bills remaining, it's going to be interesting to see if the officials have been reminded of their bias in league meetings, or whether somehow, they've been encouraged to aid the Chiefs in their pursuit of another Super Bowl title.

Currently, fans are going to be watching to see if the Chiefs are going to get any more help from the officials, or if they're going to have to earn wins as they go forward.

Bad calls, like we've seen all season, are what causes fans to abandon a sport and at the end of the day, it's the fans who pay the bills.

It's time for them all to get it right.

Sports Column

Best athletes have strong mind games

By Bruce Penton
Sports Columnist

The world's best athletes make it look so easy. They are young, strong, agile and have a special talent and love for their specific sport. In most cases, they've concentrated on their primary athletic endeavour from a young age, been instructed by the best coaches, received proper nutrition advice and spent their youth perfecting their specialty. Or maybe they're just prodigies, fulfilling their destinies.

Summer McIntosh is a Toronto swimmer who covers 400 metres in the pool in less than four minutes. It might take the average adult that long to run 400 metres.

It's generally accepted that Connor McDavid stands out as the best all-around player in hockey. His skating speed is incomparable, as is his ability to control the puck in a tight group, and to spot an open team-mate, threading him a pass that often leads to a goal.

Denis Shapovalov is somehow able to blast a tennis serve more 140 miles per hour and have it land in a 21x14-ft rectangular square, probably with a lot of spin that makes it extremely challenging for his opponent to make a solid return.

Why do these athletes, and hundreds more like them, stand out in a crowd of millions? Are they smarter? Faster? Just plain more skilful? Better able to handle pressure? In many cases, it's having a strong mind. Today, an athlete having a mental coach is just as important as having a

strength and conditioning coach.

"Sports psychology is sometimes criticized as a phoney science," said a narrator on a YouTube video studying the concept. "But many sports teams and personalities now use psychologists and there's a growing acceptance that this boosts performances. A mental edge can bring a winning one," the report concluded.

Shapovalov, ranked No. 56 in the world of men's tennis, is quick to credit his mental coach for on-court successes. "He's definitely given me a lot of exercises and things to do that just kind of bring my focus away from mistakes and stuff like that," he said. "He has given me ways to get rid of the anger or emotions I have inside of me, I think it's just been amazing and obviously I'm really happy that it happened and that we are working together."

Strength and technique are important in the pool, says McIntosh, "but "mental almost tops physical in some ways," she said. "It's super important because the body does what the mind believes, for sure."

George Mumford is a sports psychologist who has worked with many top athletes, including McDavid and his Oilers teammates, basketball superstars Michael Jordan and Kobe Bryant. Mumford, 72, played an important role in the Oilers' run to the Stanley Cup final last year. "He was brought in for this reason — to help in these big moments," said McDavid. "He's done a great job of being there for guys, talking about the mindset in these pressure situations."

Mind over matter can often be the winning edge.

Storm and Fort Knox drop recent set of games

By Jacob Miller
Grasslands News

The Pilot Butte Storm went on a three-game losing streak and Fort Knox went on a two-game losing streak in Prairie Junior Hockey League action, with Fort Knox maintaining their lead in the Bill Johnston Division.

Pilot Butte Storm 3 at Extreme Hockey Regina Capitals 5

The Pilot Butte Storm lost on the road on Jan. 16 against the Extreme Hockey Regina Capitals at Al Ritchie Arena.

Scoring for the Storm started in the first period with a goal coming from Jaxon Skiftun followed by a goal from Dryden Jeannot. The Capitals answered before the end of the period with a goal from Kayden McBeath making it 2-1 at the end of the first. Capitals' scoring picked up in the second with four goals attributed to Cohen Godlien on the power play, Kayden Wiebe, Nolan Pankratz, and another for Wiebe on the power play, making it 2-5 at the end of the second. The Storm tried to come back in the third but the power play goal from Zach Reeder was not enough, ending the game 3-5. Pilot Butte goaltender Ty Fehrenbach saw 42 shots on goal while Capitals had Keegen Dansereau who saw 33 shot attempts. There was 113 penalty minutes handed out throughout the game with six 10-minute penalties being handed out. A fight broke out at the end of the game resulting in a majority of the 10-minute penalties. Receivers of 10-minute penalties are Pilot Butte's Tyler Council, Tate Olsen, Blaze Gutzke and Tyson Herron, and are the Capitals' Emmett McCarthy and Carter Marchand.

Fort Knox 1 at Saskatoon Royals 6

Fort Knox lost 1-6 against the Saskatoon Royals on Jan. 17 at the Rod Hamm Arena.

The Royals opened scoring in the first with a goal from Daniel Ganert. Fort Knox answered shortly after with their only goal of the night from Castor Berezuik tying it up. Second period goal scorers for the Royals were Cole German on the powerplay and Rhys Osicki making it 1-3 at the end of the second. Third period goal scorers for the Royals were Mathew Ripplinger and Keenan Bender with two, making it 1-6 for the Royals at the end of the game. Winning goalie Nic Jensen saw 34 shots on net while Zane Winter saw 40 shots on net for Fort Knox. There was a total of 68-minutes of penalties handed out during the game with 10-minute misconducts being handed out to Spencer Copeland of Fort Knox and Kyl Lardner for the Royals.

Richardson Pioneer Southern Rebels 6 at Pilot Butte Storm 1

The Storm lost their second game against the Richardson Pioneer Southern Rebels 1-6 at home on Jan. 18.

The Rebels gained the early and maintained lead in the first period with two goals from Nikolas Smolinski and Zach Svenson making it 0-2 in the first. The Rebels

continued scoring in the second with a goal from Evhan Allan; 0-3 at the end of the second. Rebels opened scoring in the second with a goal from Carter Skarbon. The Storms Austin Kozakewich managed to get in a powerplay goal but that was not enough as it was followed by a goal from Rebel's Svenson and Boone Bender making it 1-6 at the end. Goalie Matthew Stephens faced 23 shots while in goal from the Rebels, while Storm goalie Ty Fehrenbach saw 42 shots. There was a total of 48-minutes of penalties handed out with two 10-minute game misconducts being handed out to Roman Markin of the Rebels and Tate Olson of the Storm.

Saskatoon Westleys 5 at Pilot Butte Storm 2

Pilot Butte lost their next game 2-5 against the Saskatoon Westleys on Jan. 19 at home.

The Storm opened scoring with a powerplay goal from Sutter Baily. The Westleys made it a tie game with a goal from Carter Walter but a goal from Kaiyl Kniaz gave the Storm a 2-1 lead. In the second period the Westleys scored twice with goals coming from Tayden Cousins and Braxon Kabrud on the powerplay making it 2-3 at the end of the second. Westleys scoring continued into the third with a goal from Kabrud and Dario Tabacu making it 2-5 at the end of the game. Game winning goalie Luke Hampton saw 38 shots while Kellen Bojic who was in net for the Storm saw 35 shots. Penalties were low with only 12-minutes being handed out.

Delisle Chiefs 7 at Fort Knox 5

Fort Knox played host to the Delisle Chiefs on Jan. 19 where they lost 5-7.

Fort Knox opened scoring early in the first period with a goal from Madden Wallis. The Chiefs followed up with three goals from Luc Fortier, Dylan Prince and Josh Herzog making it 1-3 at the end of the first. In the second Wallis opened scoring with a powerplay goal which was followed by a short-handed goal from Chiefs' Jesse Borschneck. Wallis scored a hat-trick followed by a goal from Spencer Copeland tying the game for Fort Knox. Dylan Prince for the Chiefs made it a one goal game (4-5) at the end of the second. In the third Jack Puckett scored on the powerplay for the Chiefs, which was followed by a goal from Austin Davis for Fort Knox. In the final seconds of the game Chiefs' Luc Fortier scored an empty net goal making it 5-7. Knox' goalie Jackson Miller saw 30 shots while Chiefs' goalie Rhett Harkot saw 33 shots. There was a total of 32 penalty minutes handed out during the game with one 10-minute misconduct going to Fortier of the Chiefs.

Upcoming Games

There are three games that will occur that miss press time: Fort Knox at Pilot Butte (Jan. 22), Richardson Pioneer Southern Rebels at Fort Knox (Jan. 23), and Pilot Putte Storm at Saskatoon Quakers (Jan. 24) that will appear in the next issue. On Jan. 26 Fort Knox plays host to the Pilot Butte Storm with a 3 p.m. game time.

sion items to make their day even more enjoyable.

Whitewood will host their Minor Hockey Day this Saturday, Jan. 25. Game times are:

9 to 10 a.m. - Ochapowace vs Whitewood Elks

10:15 to 11:45 a.m. - U9 Elks

12 to 2 p.m. - U11 Elks

2:15 to 4:15 p.m. - U13 Elks

4:30 to 6:45 p.m. - Fort Qu'Appelle vs Whitewood Elks.

A Goalie Camp has also been scheduled for Sunday, Jan. 26 from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Another date to note is for the Whitewood Elk U18 team who have entered Provincials! They'll be playing a provincial home game against the Carlyle Cougars on Wednesday, Jan. 29th, from 7 to 10 p.m.

Whitewood Minor Hockey Day set

By Elaine Ashfield
Grasslands News

An annual tradition in many communities is the Minor Hockey Day(s) where teams from every age group play against opposition in a home game giving local fans a chance to watch. Family members and friends from other communities often travel to take part in the celebration of hockey for all ages in the local arenas. Players could be included in draws, giveaways and free conces-

Kipling Arts Council presents final show

Submitted
Grasslands News

Together they create music that resonates globally as they push genre and social norms. Their four-piece band live show highlights songs from their album, *What She Said*, showcasing a sound akin to Brandi Carlile, Sheryl Crow and First Aid Kit.

Anna Katarina, an indie Canadian-American singer-songwriter and

multi-instrumentalist (vocals, keys, guitars), is celebrated for her authentic voice, bold lyrics, and diverse compositions.

Aline Deanna aims to capture the present moment with poeticism and humour all wrapped up in a bow of timeless country melodies. She is original and cunning in her song writing which draws you in with her candid lyrics.

ics. She can tell an entire story in one sentence with her unique voice.

This show is dynamic and engaging with rotating lead vocals, three-part harmonies and varied instrumentation blending traditional fiddle and mandolin with electric guitar and keyboards.

Rumour Mill's goal is to connect with audiences, making each performance enjoyable and relatable through humour and meaningful lyrics. These ladies will sweep you off your feet and leave you wanting more.

The show is on Tuesday, Feb. 4, at 7:30 p.m. at the Kipling Community Centre. This is the last show of the concert sea-

son, so patrons are urged to use up their season tickets.

Advance tickets are available at www.ticketpro.ca or at Balfour Pharmacy or Kipling Home Hardware for \$30. Price at the door is \$35. Students (13-18) admitted for \$10. Children 12 and under are admitted FREE when accompanied by an adult.

Tickets will be on sale that evening for next year's series of concerts (three shows for \$80). Season tickets may also be purchased at www.ticketpro.ca

Buy your tickets before April 1 and you will be eligible for the early bird draw for a chance to "win your ticket money back."

Get those kids out of the house!

Pop-Up fun event for early learners

By Elaine Ashfield
Grasslands News

Whitewood Library on Monday, Jan. 27.

From 10:30 a.m. to 12 noon families with children three to five years of age can take part in the fun interactive stations.

Parents/caregivers must be in attendance and will enjoy this Mobile

Early Learning Event at the library.

Snacks are provided and there are free books for every child.

If you wish more information, contact Southeast Regional Library librarian Erica in Whitewood at 306-735-4233.

The weather is warmer, and it is time to get the kids out of the house!

Regional Kids First has planned a Pop-Up Early Learning fun morning at



SUBMITTED | GRASSLANDS NEWS

New positions

Dylan Breland and Chaplain Jesse Darby were installed to new positions at the Melville R.G. Combe VC Legion 61's annual meeting held recently. Dylan was installed as Sargeant at Arms and Chaplain Jesse was installed as Service Officer. Performing the installation was past President Trevor Bancarz. From the left are Dylan Breland, Jesse Darby, and Trevor Bancarz.

RCMP seize cocaine in Balgonie

Two Esterhazy residents arrested

Saskatchewan RCMP
Grasslands News

Saskatchewan RCMP arrested three individuals in Balgonie as part of an ongoing investigation into drug trafficking.

On Jan. 10, 2025, officers from the Saskatchewan RCMP's Yorkton Saskatchewan Trafficking Response Team (STRT) located two suspects in a drug trafficking investigation – an adult male and adult female – at a business at the intersection of Highway #1 and Highway #46. The suspects were arrested along with a third individual.

During searches of the suspects and the suspect vehicle, officers from Yorkton STRT and White Butte Detachment located and seized 58 grams of cocaine, a small amount of fentanyl, a sum of cash

and other evidence of drug trafficking.

As a result of investigation, Christopher Haines, a 49-year-old man from Esterhazy, SK is charged with one count, possession for the purpose of trafficking – cocaine, Section 5(2), Controlled Drugs and Substances Act.

Additionally, Christine Duchek, a 49-year-old woman from Esterhazy, SK, is charged with one count, possession for the purpose of trafficking – cocaine, Section 5(2), Controlled Drugs and Substances Act; and one count, possession (fentanyl), Section 4(1), Controlled Drugs and Substances Act.

The third individual was released without charges.

Christopher Haines and Christine Duchek made their first appearance in Regina Provincial Court on Jan. 13, 2025.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

Melville Churches Welcome You

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
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

Sunday, Jan. 26:
11 a.m. Worship with Communion and Sunday School

ALL SAINTS' ANGLICAN CHURCH
Corner 6th Ave. E. & Main St.
Church Office 306-728-5764;
306-720-0589

Jan. 26: 10:30 a.m.
Service with Holy Communion

FIRST UNITED CHURCH
5th Ave. E. & King St.
Rev. Brian Mee, 306-335-7611
website: firstunitedmelville.org

Jan. 26: 11 a.m. Worship with Kerry Bartake and Jane Halyk

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.melvillechurch.org
Facebook @melvillechurch
Recorded messages posted online

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
258 - 10th Ave. W.
Ph. 306-728-3971
Pastor Ronald Shumba
facebook.com/gslcmelville

Jan. 23: 7 p.m. Bible Study
Jan. 24: 7 p.m. Youth
Jan. 26: 10:30 a.m. Worship
Jan. 30: 7 p.m. Bible Study

ST. GEORGE'S UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
Corner of 3rd Ave. E. & Manitoba St.
Fr. Basil Malowany
basilmalowany@gmail.com
306-540-5102
Sunday, Jan. 26:
4:00 p.m. Divine Liturgy
Sunday, Feb. 2:
11:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy
Followed by Annual General Meet

MELVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH
473 - 8th Ave. W.
Office Ph. 306-728-5022
Pastor Jon Pettinger
Associate Pastor: Jesse Darby
Sunday:
Connections at 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School at 9:45 a.m.
Worship Service at 11 a.m.
Online services can be found at:
www.melvillebaptist.com

BETHANY EVANGELICAL MISSIONARY CHURCH
5th Ave. W. & Queen St.
Church Office Ph. 306-728-5001

Jan. 26: Worship 10:30 a.m.

Growing in Faith Together

Visit a Church of Your Choice

Melville Churches Welcome You

ST. HENRY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
729 Main St. - Office
Ph. 306-728-5702
Res. Ph. 306-728-2305
111 - 8th Ave. W.
Father Melchor Samonte

Saturday Mass: 5:00 p.m.
Sunday Mass: 10:00 a.m.

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

Sunday, Jan. 26:
11:00 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 Tomy Mandapathil

Saturday, Jan. 25
5:30 p.m. Mass Service

ST. MARY'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

Sunday, Jan. 26:
10:30 a.m.
Rev. Cheryl Johnson

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, WAPELLA

Jan. 26: No Service

WHITWOOD UNITED CHURCH

Jan. 26:
10:00 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



GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

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January 20 - April 14
Valley Alliance Church
760 Bay Avenue South
valleyalliancechurch.ca
For more info contact
Brian Fink, 306-333-4861

GRIEF SHARE

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 PEOPLE'S 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
Saturday, Jan. 25:
Mass 5:00 p.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 Pattimore
Lay Person/Service Leader
306-736-2479
bkbernat@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
306-900-0600
Fort Qu'Appelle - 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

Sharon Dianne Lutz
Feb. 25, 1947 - Jan. 12, 2025

With great sadness, we announce the sudden passing of Sharon Dianne Lutz (nee Large) on Sunday, Jan. 12, 2025, at the age of 77 years.

Sharon was predeceased by her parents Frank and Hilda Large and her beloved husband Larry Lutz.

She is survived by her daughter Tammy (Matthew) Chamberlin; grandson Jerid (Alana) Macza; great-grandchildren Gracen and Jackson; son Lyle (Tammy) Lutz; granddaughter Tayler; son Warren (Shannon); grandchildren Brady (Sydney) and Brooke. She is also survived by her brother Brian (Joan) Large; nieces Joey (Dean) and Wendy (Kelvin); brother Kevin (Shelly) Large; nephew Bryan and niece Danielle and sister-in-law Ledeen (Perry) Senft.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Lipton Volunteer Fire Department, c/o Lipton Village Office, Box 219, 201 Main Street, Lipton, Sask., S0G 3B0.

A graveside interment and celebration of Sharon's life will be held in Lipton, SK on Saturday, May 31, 2025. Online condolences may be made and further details will be posted closer to the celebration date on www.tubmanfh.com



Obituary

Kenneth "Albert" May
Nov. 1, 1942 - Jan. 14, 2025

It is with heavy hearts that we announce Kenneth "Albert" May passed away peacefully at the Regina General Hospital on Tuesday, Jan. 14, 2025, at the age of 82 years.

Albert was predeceased by his wife Viola; parents Bert and Gladys May; sisters Ellen Marwood and Jane Delroy; and grandson Michael.

Albert is survived by his stepchildren, Janice (Greg), Rhonda (Danny), Glenn (Tammy) and Lisa (Hugues); beloved grandchildren, Shawn, Craig, Heather (Justin), Jessica (Kevin), James (Emma), Jeremy (Shawna); and cherished great-grandchildren, Jase, Maddison, Allison, Paisley, James and Benjamin.

Albert was first and foremost a farmer and maintained his love for the land throughout his life. He also enjoyed his time driving ambulance (Indian Head) and being a commissioner (Regina). He had varied interests including travel, coin collecting and toy tractors. He joined the Indian Head Masonic Lodge in 1968 and progressed into the Indian Head Shrine Club in 1981 and the WaWa Shrine T-birds in Regina. He was also a past president of the Regina Shrine Club.

Celebration of Albert's Life will be held at Speers Family Centre, 2333 Cornwall Street, Regina, SK, on Saturday, Feb. 8, 2025 at 1:30 p.m. Flowers are gratefully declined. Donations may be made to the WaWa Shrine Patient Travel Fund, 2065 Hamilton Street, Regina, SK, S4P2E1.

To leave an online message of condolence or to view a livestream of the service, please visit www.speersfuneral-chapel.com



Obituary

Harvey Wilbur Moen
June 17, 1940 - Dec. 27, 2024

It is with great sadness that the family of Harvey Moen announces his passing on Friday, Dec. 27, 2024, in Winnipeg, MB.

Harvey will be sadly missed by his children Robert (Glenda), Darren (Tammy), Keith (Jodi) and grandchildren Amy, Terrance, Leif and Ruby, and great-granddaughter Breanna.

He is survived by his siblings Larry (Ann), Arlene (Don), their children and grandchildren, as well as our mother, Irene.

Harvey was born in Melville, SK on June 17, 1940, to Ernie and Dorothy Moen. At the age of 20 Harvey left the farm near Melville and took a two-day train ride up to Thompson, MB where he worked at the Inco Nickel Mine for 32 years until he retired in 1992. A challenging career in a purpose built town, Harv never shied away from hard work. Around the shift work hours at "Mother Inco" he raised a family amidst curling, hockey, hunting and fishing in the North.

Harv enjoyed his retirement in Winnipeg where he found great pleasure in gardening, yard work, his loon collection, and a strong connection to his A.A. community. Harvey also enjoyed Calgary for many years before returning to Winnipeg. Even through many years of dementia, Harvey kept his humour right to the end and passed peacefully at Riverview Health Center.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date. Rest in peace, Dad, and as you would sometimes say to us "See ya, kiddo!"



Obituary

Eileen Ruth Emma Smith
1929 - 2024

Eileen Ruth Emma Smith, beloved wife and mother of Sherwood Park, AB, passed away in Abbotsford, B.C. on Friday, Dec. 13, 2024, leaving a void in the lives of her family and friends.

Eileen was born Eileen Toth in Otthon, SK to John and Mary Toth and grew up in a close loving farm family. She became a teacher - a career choice that led her to Red Deer, AB where she met her life companion, William Smith. They were married on Dec. 23, 1953.

Eileen was mother to three daughters - Lee Ann, Terry Jean, and Jae Lynn. Her home was always a welcoming landing spot for family and friends from near and far and conversations around her table are treasured memories for all who shared in them.

Eileen found special joy in her life and relationships in the church. She also took real pleasure in trips and cruises to the US, the UK and Thailand with her husband Bill and her dear friends Peggy and Karen.

Eileen was preceded in death by her sisters Grace, Betty and Olga and her brother Calvin.

She is survived by her husband, three daughters, two sons-in-law, five grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren as well as an extended collection of nieces and nephews. Her time spent with her family will never be forgotten.

Details of a celebration of Eileen's life will be announced at a later date.



Obituary

Lawrence Donald Snider
May 13, 1941 - Jan. 2, 2025

Lawrence passed away in the evening hours of Thursday, Jan. 2, 2025, after a lengthy struggle with Parkinson's Disease. He was 83 years old.

He was predeceased by his parents, Joe Snider and Laura Snider (Schill); brother Alvin and sister Violet Lucyk; in-laws Tom and Josie Ivey; sisters-in-law Joan Borden and Marjory Wenaas; brothers-in-law Tom Ivey Jr., Wayne Ivey and Orland Wenaas.

Lawrence is survived by his wife Hazel; daughters Debra Wilkinson (Garry), Kelly Snider, Tammy Willerth (David) and Jamie Snider (Tom Hildebrand); grandchildren Hunter Booth (Craig), Jagar Hollerbaum, Hailey Willerth Loney (Austin) and Ross Willerth; brothers Mervyn (Myrna), Dwight (Gladys); sister Delores Goldstone (Jim); and sister-in-law Betty Snider. Hazel's family: Don Ivey, Al Ivey, Connie and Gerald Fisher and Bruce and Sherry Borden. Lawrence is also survived by many nieces and nephews, many of whom will have fond or funny memories of him while growing up.

Dad was born in Fort Qu'Appelle and never left the valley. He couldn't imagine living anywhere else. He married Hazel Ivey on June 9, 1962, and quickly gained more family as he was now a part of the Ivey clan.

As a young man, he worked in construction for the Regal Brothers, helping build numerous buildings throughout Saskatchewan. Early in married life with two young daughters, he completed his certification and became a journeyman mechanic. He commuted weekly to Moose Jaw returning home on Fridays, often with a different vehicle and often with a surprise for Deb and Kel. The surprises ranged from donuts to goldfish to a new red wagon.

After completing his training, he worked for Cockwill Motors and then Hertz Bus where he ran the shop for many years. He ran his own garage prior to his retirement at age 66. Dad loved his work and prided himself on being a good mechanic. His shop was meticulous. He worked hard and enjoyed a challenge. Lawrence could be counted on to be gruff and curmudgeonly. A trait that continued throughout his life. Those who knew him well had occasionally seen his softer side and knew him to be a concerned and thoughtful husband, Dad, Papa and friend.

He loved the outdoors, nature and loved to fish. Throughout his life he spent many days on the lakes, both in summer and winter. When the girls were young, summer holidays were spent camping and fishing in many Saskatchewan parks. In later years, he was happy to let his family do the driving but still enjoyed many road trips. Lawrence lived with Parkinson's Disease for many years and was able to live at home with mom until August 2024. His increasing medical needs necessitated a move to long term care. Cremation has taken place. A celebration of life will take place in the summer of 2025.

The family expresses their thanks to the many staff at the Balcarres Integrated Care Centre for the excellent care and support our husband, Dad and family received as he completed his life journey. We are forever grateful.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Lawrence's memory to the Balcarres Integrated Care Centre Long Term Care Department at 100 Elgin Street, Balcarres, SK S0G 0C0.

Arrangements entrusted to Conley Funeral Home, Fort Qu'Appelle, SK. 1-306-332-0555

Obituary/Classified Deadline

Tuesdays 12 Noon

email: production2@grasslandsnews.ca

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(based on 25 words or less)

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In the Estate of **JOHN MATT PACHOLKO**, late of Ituna, Saskatchewan, deceased.

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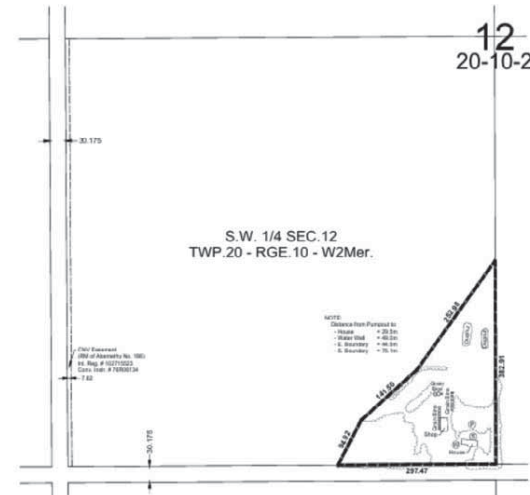
PUBLIC NOTICE

RM of Abernethy No. 186

Public Notice is hereby given that the Council of the RM of Abernethy No. 186 has received the following discretionary use application and subdivision application in accordance with Bylaws 2003-01 known as the Basic Planning Statement, 2003-02 known as the Zoning Bylaw and 2005-3 and 2017-04, bylaws to amend Bylaw 2003-02.

DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION:

1. Residential Subdivisions 5.72 ha at SW 12-20-10-2 pending subdivision approval.



PUBLIC HEARING:

Council will discuss the above noted subdivision application at 9:30 a.m. on Monday, February 10, 2025 in the Council Chambers of the RM of Abernethy No. 186, 201 Main Street, Abernethy, Saskatchewan. 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 RM of Abernethy this 13th day of January, 2025.
Karissa Lingelbach, Administrator
RM of Abernethy 186
P.O. Box 249, Abernethy, SK S0A 0A0

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Grenfell Friendship Club flips pancakes for Telemiracle 49

By Sarah Pacio
Grasslands News

benefit Saskatchewan residents.

Since its inception in 1977, the telethon has raised more than \$165 million for this cause.

During a meeting at the Grenfell Friendship Club, it was suggested the group organize a fundraiser to support Telemiracle.

Club president Alvin Speidelsbach agreed with the recommendation, noting that there were minimal local opportunities to support the telethon.

The group determined to host a breakfast on the second Friday of each month, with proceeds designated for Telemiracle.

For the past several months, members of the Grenfell Friendship Club have been serving breakfast to raise funds in support of the upcoming Telemiracle 49.

Telemiracle is an annual, 20-hour telethon featuring performances by locally and nationally known musicians and performers.

The program is broadcast live on CTV and raises funds administered by the Kinsmen Foundation for medical equipment and treatment that



Drawing from her experience as a caterer, Speidelsbach's wife Carol worked with other members of the club to prepare a monthly pancake breakfast at their venue on Wolseley Ave.

The first meal was served in April 2024 and the community responded with enthusiastic support. Over the next several months, organizers regularly served 30 to 50 people at each breakfast.

The group charges \$10 per person for a meal that includes pancakes, eggs, sausages or bacon and a cup of coffee or juice.

Not only is the club

grateful for support from all who have purchased a meal, they also appreciate the in-kind donation they received from Parrish & Heimbecker (P&H) in Glenavon, which supplied pancake mix for the fundraiser.

Following the most recent breakfast on Jan. 10, Speidelsbach said the total raised to date was approximately \$2,200. There will be one more opportunity to support the initiative on Friday, Feb. 14.

Proceeds from all the monthly breakfasts will be donated to Telemiracle 49, which is scheduled to air on March 1 and 2.

One man receives bail in charges of December death at White Bear

By Elaine Ashfield
Grasslands News

33-year-old Talon Lonethunder deceased. He was originally from White Bear and was residing in Coronach.

On Dec. 5, charges were announced. Both men were on the run.

Jeremy Whitebear was arrested two days later at White Bear First Nation. He appeared in Carlyle Provincial Court Jan. 15 and matters were adjourned to Feb. 12 in Carlyle. He is charged with second-degree murder in the death of Talon Lonethunder. Whitebear was remanded into custody.

The other man charged, Dwayne Maxie, was apprehended Dec. 12 in Regina and charged with manslaughter in Talon Lonethunder's death. He was granted bail for \$2,500 on Jan. 15 after a show-cause hearing at Carlyle Provincial Court.

As part of his release conditions, Maxie needs to be of good behaviour, and he will also need to have a surety who ensures Maxie follows the release terms. Maxie will also make a court appearance on Feb. 12 in Carlyle, the same day as Whitebear.

Two men charged in the death of a man at White Bear First Nations on Dec. 3 have been before the courts. One of the men was remanded in custody and the other received bail at the Jan. 15, 2025 court appearances.

At approximately 2:30 a.m. on Dec. 3, the Carlyle RCMP received a report of an injured individual at a residence on the White Bear First Nations. Officers immediately responded and located

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