



INDIAN HEAD-WOLSELEY

NEWS

\$2 PER COPY
(GST included)



Friday, December 19, 2025

Proudly serving Indian Head, Wolseley and area • www.southsasknews.ca

Vol. 113 • Issue 32

IHHS Drama Club

Super-sleuths solves mystery at High School performance

By Sarah Pacio
Grasslands News

Ominous music played as five murder mystery superfans arrived onstage for Indian Head High School

Drama Club's presentation of "Too Many Detectives at the Murder Mansion." Two dessert theatre performances were recently given at the high school, a matinee on Dec. 14 and an evening show on Dec. 17.

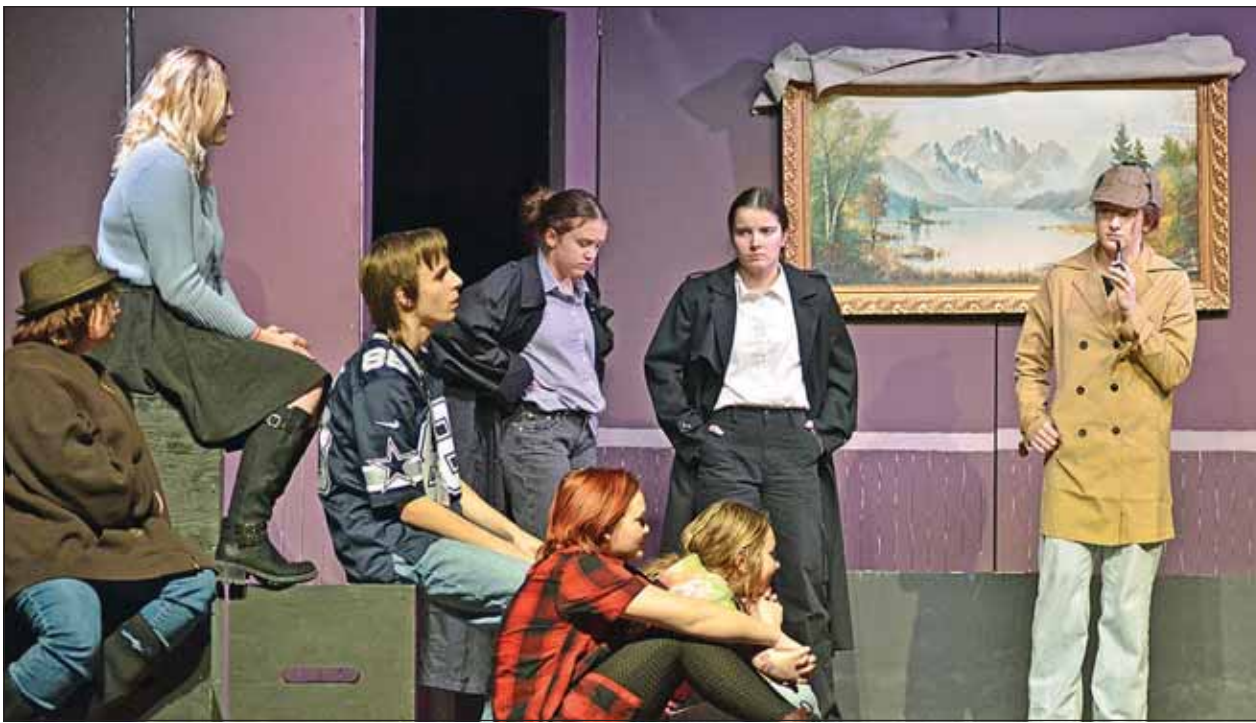
As the play continued, a student portrayed hostess Madame Doyle who welcomed the enthusiastic group

of mystery fans to a fundraiser gala at the Doyle Museum for Crime and Justice, also known as the Murder Mansion. She then introduced them to several special guests including Sherlock Holmes (Grace Clark), Sam Spade (Amelia Eckel), Batman (Abigail Klein), Nancy Drew (Sophie Haaland), Frank and Joe Hardy (Joni Lamb and Brooklyn Turner). Additional cast members were introduced as Miss Marple and characters from the Scooby Doo show.

Suddenly, Madame Doyle collapsed – the apparent victim of a murder! Two police detectives arrived, played by Eva Clark and Kyra Nelson, and declared that everyone present was a suspect. They began interrogating the famous sleuths while the mystery superfans started their own investigation, hoping to gain followers and sponsors for a true crime podcast.

Initially it appeared that Sherlock Holmes was guilty of the murder but shortly afterward he, too, was poisoned. One by one, the guests accused each other of committing the crime and multiple theories were tested. The audience was kept on the edge of their seats, thinking the mystery was nearly solved every time a scenario was explored. Yet every theory was found lacking and had to be rejected until members of the Scooby Doo gang insisted that they be given an opportunity to speak. They revealed that Batman was really Madame Doyle in-disguise and the hostess confirmed that she had faked her own death because she wanted the insurance money to pay off her debts. Another member of the Scooby Doo gang suggested they celebrate solving the case and the play ended happily with the everyone joining a dance party.

Directors Julie Watchman, Tara Heslip and Jesse Simpson provided leadership for the cast of twenty students and the technical crew. The performances this month served as fundraisers for the IHHS Drama Club. After school holidays, the group will begin preparing another production for the spring drama festivals.



SARAH PACIO | GRASSLANDS NEWS

IHHS Drama Mystery

A group of murder mystery superfans (seated) and Detectives Kane and Christie, played by Eva Clark and Kyra Nelson (standing) consider whether Sherlock Holmes, played by Grace Clark (far right), could be guilty of murder.

NDP slams EMS dismissal; sends chilling message

Sask. opposition alleges whistleblowing concerns

By Ryan Kiedrowski
Grasslands News

The dismissal of a longtime emergency medical services chief following a candid discussion with Whitewood town council has raised concerns about transparency, whistleblower protections and the state of rural EMS in Saskatchewan.

Glen Perchie, former EMS director and chief for the South Zone, departed the Saskatchewan Health Authority on Dec. 2, weeks after addressing Whitewood council about staffing shortages and service pressures during a Nov. 4 meeting. The SHA has not confirmed whether the meeting played any role in the decision.

In an email to EMS staff, Jon Antal, manager and deputy chief of EMS for South Central — who attended the White-

wood meeting — confirmed Perchie's departure.

"Glen's career in EMS spanned over 40-plus years and was the definition of exemplary service and leadership," Antal wrote. "We wish him well in his next endeavour."

Opposition health critic Meara Conway said the circumstances surrounding Perchie's dismissal are troubling and risk discouraging frontline workers from speaking openly about public safety concerns.

"I would remind healthcare workers that they are generally protected under whistleblower legislation," Conway said in an interview. "I would like to see a commitment from the government that it will stop these kinds of reprisals and engage openly and honestly with people on the front line who understand the is-

su-
sues."

Conway sent letters to Health Minister Jeremy Cockrill and Remote Health Minister Lori Carr requesting responses by 6 p.m. on Dec. 16.

"I was shocked to read reports that your government has dismissed longtime EMS Chief Glen Perchie after he spoke candidly with municipal leaders about staffing shortages and the state of emergency medical services (EMS) in Whitewood and across Saskatchewan," she said in the letter. "Mr. Perchie warned that EMS in Saskatchewan is in 'the worst shape we've been in for years ... one sprained ankle away from being down an ambulance.' That is an alarming public safety concern, and one Saskatchewan people deserve to hear."

In the letter, Conway pressed the ministers on whether Perchie was dismissed

for speaking candidly to council, why the government has not been more transparent about the state of EMS, and how staffing and service gaps are being addressed.

"We are in the middle of a staffing crisis," she said. "Reports that an experienced EMS leader was dismissed for honestly answering questions from municipal officials about healthcare are deeply troubling."

During the Nov. 4 meeting, Perchie told council he was responsible for overseeing 38 ambulance services across southern Saskatchewan, many of which rely on on-call staffing models.

"We've been working with the government for the last four years on stabilizing rural EMS," Perchie said at the time. "We're trying to move those services to eight hours on and 16 on-call."

- SEE EMS DISMISSAL 18

happy holidays

Friendly reminder, Grasslands News will be closed for the holidays with no publications Friday, December 26, 2024 and Friday, January 2, 2025. The first publication for the new year will be Friday, January 9, 2026.

2025 MARKED 80 YEARS AS A TUBMAN FAMILY BUSINESS



www.summit-memorials.com 306-698-2557 | 800-667-8962

One dead after incident at Mosaic Esterhazy K3

By Ryan Kiedrowski
Grasslands News

A fall of ground incident at the K3 underground mine near Esterhazy has claimed the life of one employee. The Mosaic Company noted that the incident occurred during the early morning of Dec. 15, resulting in a fatal injury to one employee with no further injuries being reported.

"Mosaic's Emergency Response Team was acti-

vated following the incident," the company said in a statement Monday morning. "The site has now been secured and all mining activity has been temporarily halted. A full investigation is underway and Mosaic is working closely with all regulatory authorities. Support services are being provided through the company's Employee and Family Assistance Program."

The name of the victim was announced the following day through social

media posts. He was identified as Tyrone Mclead.

The K3 operation is the world's largest potash mine, capable of producing almost eight million tonnes per year. While the K1 and K2 mines have previously been mined for decades, the new K3 mine was completed in 2022. Earlier this year, Mosaic invested \$35 million during their turnaround at their K2 and K3 facilities through May and June. The company also recently announced a \$4

million education investment toward the Esterhazy Suncrest College campus, Churchbridge High School, and Saskatchewan Polytech in Moose Jaw.

"The safety and wellbeing of our people remain Mosaic's highest priority," the company said. "Our thoughts go out to our colleague's family and friends, all employees, and the broader community. We ask that the family be given privacy at this difficult time."

The Town of Esterhazy also shared its condolences via social media.

"Our hearts are with everyone impacted during this incredibly difficult time," the Town said. "Mosaic is an integral part of our community, and we recognize the profound loss being felt by employees, families, and the wider Esterhazy area. We offer our thoughts, prayers, and sincere support to all those grieving. Please take care of one another and know that our community stands together in compassion and solidarity."



MOSAIC | GRASSLANDS NEWS

Mine fatality

One person was killed Monday morning in a "fall of ground" incident at the Mosaic K3 site in Esterhazy. An investigation is underway into the death.

Esterhazy Minor Hockey theft case is moved to new year

By Ryan Kiedrowski
Grasslands News

A man accused of stealing more than \$46,000 from the Esterhazy Minor Hockey Association will next appear in court at the start of the new year.

The theft was reported to Esterhazy RCMP back on July 30 after the discovery of around \$43,000 in e-transfers and \$3,000 in cash was stolen. After an investigation, Cory Smith of Esterhazy was arrested and charged with a single count of theft over \$5,000.

Smith appeared in provincial court on Dec. 9, and the case has been adjourned to Jan. 13, 2026 for the purpose of reviewing disclosure.

Smith was serving on the association's executive as Treasurer at the time of the thefts, and according to the minutes of the EMHA's annual general meeting held Aug. 21, he had paid back \$20,000 of the stolen funds. Smith was removed as treasurer after the missing funds came to light and was no longer listed as part of the executive on the EMHA at the AGM. He had served on the board for two

hockey seasons, the latter as treasurer.

The hockey association board began investigating the theft in early July before involving the RCMP later that same month.

The EMHA is strict with regards to what happens to individuals found guilty of criminal activity. Theft, fraud, and related offences while in a position of trust is one part of the activities listed in their constitution with a consequence of a lifetime ban.

As a result of the fraud, the hockey association also ended the practice of board members using e-transfers, reverting back to the use of cheques and dual signatures to prevent similar incidents in the future.

2026 DAY PLANNERS & CALENDARS AVAILABLE NOW

MELVILLE STATIONERY
The Melville Advance
218 - 3rd Ave. W. Melville, SK
3060-728-5448



Merry Christmas to our families, friends & customers. Thank you for your support.



Holiday Hours:
Dec. 24 - 9 am - 4 pm
Dec. 25 CLOSED
Dec. 26 - 11 am - 3 pm
Dec. 31 - 9 am - 4 pm
Jan. 1 CLOSED

135 - 3rd Ave. E. Melville, SK 306-728-5625

Warmest wishes for a joyful holiday season, and a successful New Year, from all of us at Celebration Ford

CELEBRATION FORD SALES

CALL: 306-435-3313 | TOLL FREE: 1-800-880-4533 Moosomin, SK
www.celebrationford.com

Sask introduces new addictions treatment legislation

By GNG News Staff
Grasslands News

The Government of Saskatchewan has unveiled new legislation aimed at helping people with severe addictions who are unable to seek treatment on their own, marking a significant shift in the province's approach to mental health and addictions care.

Announced December 5, the proposed Compassionate Intervention Act would, for the first time, allow for involuntary addictions treatment under specific and tightly regulated circumstances. The legislation is designed to support individuals whose substance use has created serious health and safety risks for themselves or others.

"Individuals struggling with addiction need our support on their path to recovery," Mental Health and Addictions Minister Lori Carr said. "They need a safe space, support and compassionate intervention. We are focused on meaningful long-term recovery for Saskatchewan residents."

Justice Minister and Attorney General Tim McLeod, K.C., said the legislation is part of a broader effort to

strengthen communities by addressing addiction at its most critical points.

"By investing in compassionate care for those struggling with severe addiction, we are not only saving lives, but we are strengthening families, communities, and the future of our province," McLeod said. "Every person deserves the chance to heal, rebuild and thrive."

How compassionate intervention would work

Under current law, all adult addictions treatment in Saskatchewan requires voluntary participation, meaning families and front-line responders have limited options when someone's substance use becomes life-threatening. The new legislation aims to close that gap.

The Compassionate Intervention Act would allow a family member to petition the court to have a loved one entered into treatment, while law enforcement may also intervene in situations where a person's substance use is putting themselves or others at significant risk.

Individuals could only be taken to a Compassionate Intervention Assessment Centre by police or a peace officer, referred by a medical professional, or brought in under a judge's warrant. The province says strict criteria will govern when involuntary treatment can be used, en-

suring safeguards are in place.

Saskatoon Tribal Chief Mark Arcand said he is optimistic the act will help save lives and provide much-needed support to individuals who have lost the capacity to seek help.

"I am hopeful that the new legislation will change lives and get people on the road to recovery," Arcand said. "This is about treating the addiction, the illness, for those who are struggling and can't ask for help. I appreciate that involuntary treatment will be done in a culturally responsive way to support individuals on their health journey."

Public input to shape rollout

The government says the legislation is grounded in its commitment to a Recovery-Oriented System of Care, emphasizing long-term stabilization and support rather than short-term intervention alone. Officials will now begin seeking input from stakeholders, health-care partners, Indigenous organizations, and the public on how the system should be implemented.

Details on the consultation process and background information about the proposed act are available at saskatchewan.ca/compassionate-intervention.

May you have a
wonderful
Holiday Season!



From the Council and Staff

RM of

Willowdale

Ph: 306-735-2344



NOTICE OF HOLIDAY CLOSURE

We will be closing for the holidays and our last newspaper publication will be Friday, December 19, 2025.

The first newspaper for the new year will be Friday, January 9, 2026.

MELVILLE OFFICE HOURS

The office will be CLOSED at 4 PM on Tuesday, December 23, 2025 and will resume normal hours on Monday, January 5, 2026.

WHITEWOOD OFFICE HOURS

The office will be CLOSED at 5 PM on Thursday, December 18, 2025 and will resume normal hours on Monday, January 5, 2026.

BIG
or small
WE PRINT IT ALL!

From business cards to banners we're here for all your print needs.

grasslands
NEWS | PRINTING

218 - 3rd Ave. W. • Melville, SK.
Email: production@grasslandsnews.ca
Toll Free: 1-844-GNG-NEWS

Bringing communities together
grasslands NEWS

Melville Advance | Whitewood-Grenfell Herald Sun | Fort Qu'Appelle Times
Kipling Clipper | Indian Head-Wolseley News | Quad Town Forum

Highway work continues in the 'off season'

By Ryan Kiedrowski
Grasslands News

Expect the Orange Zone to be seen along Highway 10 this summer as work on passing lanes between Fort Qu'Appelle and Melville continues.

"A project that we announced that's going to be done next year is the passing lanes between Fort Qu'Appelle and Melville, which will give us passing lanes all the way from Regina right up to Canora, which is important," said the now former provincial Highways Minister, David Marit in an interview with Grasslands News a day prior to the provincial cabinet shuffle. "We work with the municipalities to make sure that it doesn't intrude on what may be their major intersections across the highway for the farming sector or the mining industry, whatever the case may be. We just want to make sure that everybody's on side in the line where we put them."

Some work also occurred last summer on the stretch of Highway 10 from Balgonie to the Fort, however, the intersection near Edgeley continues to prove especially incident-prone.

"We're always looking at intersection improvements," Marit said, acknowledging the intersection. "We actually have a designated fund where we look at highway access and things that improvements we can make. We always look at intersection improvements and things we can do there."

Highway upgrades remain a costly undertaking. Rebuilding a primary highway can cost roughly \$1.5 million per kilometre, a reality that forces the ministry to prioritize carefully. Since 2007, Saskatchewan has invested more than \$13 billion in highways, upgrading roughly 1,000 kilometres per year across a network that spans about 26,000 kilometres.

"We have a very serious look, because we want to make sure if it's a lighting situation, can we do something; are the accidents happening at night or daytime?" he explained. "Or, is it human error, is it something we can improve on? We always look at things that we can do to improve the intersection just to make this highway safer for everybody."

From winter driving tools to long-term interchange planning, Saskatchewan's highways program is stretching well beyond the familiar Orange Zone, with the province leaning heavily on information, planning studies and local industry to keep traffic moving and improve safety.

Marit says real-time tools such as the Saskatchewan Highway Hotline are becoming increasingly central to how drivers navigate the province, particularly during fast-changing winter conditions.

"That's exactly the intent of it — check before you leave," he said. "In this province, it could be snowing in Moosomin and raining in Swift Current. You just never know."

Upgrades to the hotline, including the locations of snowplows in real time, have received strong public uptake, he said. While new technology brought early challenges as users learned how to navigate the system, Marit said feedback has been largely positive.

Planning ahead has also been a major focus during construction season, with the ministry launching Weekly Orange Zone Construction Updates to give drivers advance notice of delays and detours. The updates were rolled out this past summer and will return next year.

"The feedback's been pretty good," Marit said. "Communities like it, we found that it really worked well this year and people really were appreciative of it."

The updates, he said, help drivers understand that construction zones exist to protect both road users and workers — not to inconvenience motorists.

"We want to protect the people doing the work and the driving public," Marit said. "Equipment working alongside, you never know if they're going to turn onto the road or which way they're going. I know sometimes some people lose patience with it, but it's there for a

reason."

Beyond safety, construction continues to inject money into local economies. Marit said more than 95 per cent of Saskatchewan's highway work is done by in-province companies, a source of pride for the ministry.

"That is a real testament to the industry, and I've noticed that in just about every community that I've seen where projects are done, those companies are actually spending money in those communities," he said. "They're buying tires, they buy their fuel, they'll stay in the hotels, they're buying food. Some cases they're using their regional parks, which really helps their revenue as well. I'm very appreciative of our industry here and their contribution back to the communities where they're working."

That ripple effect continues year-round, even outside peak paving season. While summer brings visible highway work, planning and preparation continue through fall and winter. About 60 per cent of next year's construction work is tendered in the fall, allowing companies to crush aggregate and haul materials during winter when heavier loads cause less damage to roads.

"They're staying in the hotels in some of those communities that during the wintertime, they're not that busy," Marit said. "It really helps their business, too. It's just a good, relationship we have with the industry here, and we want to continue to build on that."

Long-term planning is particularly evident in the Moosomin area, where the province is investing more than \$21 million in highway construction and related infrastructure. A functional planning study is underway for Highways 1 and 8 to identify land needed for a future interchange and a potential Highway 8 bypass.

The study, which recently completed its public survey phase, outlines four options that aim to improve access to Moosomin, reduce collision severity, and limit

truck traffic through the town. Highway 8 serves Moosomin, the RM of Moosomin and surrounding communities, making it a critical corridor for local traffic and commercial transport.

Marit acknowledged the balancing act between moving traffic efficiently and supporting local businesses.

"You put the truck stop east of Moosomin and then the community says, 'well, they're not stopping here,'" he said. "Some of those double reefers, it's just difficult for them to maneuver, so the rest area really helps them."

These recent improvements to the rest area and airport infrastructure are projects Marit said could influence designs elsewhere in the province. Similar long-term safety planning is ongoing at other high-risk intersections and corridors. Marit said the ministry routinely assesses collision data to determine whether lighting, signage or geometric changes can reduce accidents.

As winter settles in, Marit said safety once again becomes the dominant concern. Highway crews are often deployed in the worst conditions — storms, drifting snow and freezing rain — and he urged motorists to show patience and respect.

"They'll pull over every 10 or 15 kilometres to let traffic pass," he said. "They're just trying to do their job and make highways as safe as possible. They all have families too."

With holiday travel approaching and weather patterns increasingly unpredictable, Marit said tools like the Highway Hotline, advance construction updates and long-range planning studies all play a role in supporting safe travel across Saskatchewan.

"The weather can change in a matter of hours," he said. "Planning ahead and respecting conditions — that's the name of the game in this province."

MERRY Christmas & HAPPY NEW YEAR

Wholesale Transmission & Differential
144 North Service Road, Melville, SK
306-728-2730

WTD

Our entire team wishes you a wonderful holiday season and a successful 2025. Cheers to health, happiness and prosperity!

Merry Christmas & Season's Greetings

From the Team at **Calling Lakes Dental**

Wishing You Good Health In The New Year!

CALLING LAKES DENTAL
121 Company Ave. S. Fort Qu'Appelle

(306) 332-5302
callinglakesdental.ca

Wishing you and your family a wonderful holiday season!

Kathleen Kezama
REALTOR®
306-331-0550
kathleen@ccrealty.ca

C&C REALTY
Moving You Home



Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

It has been a privilege to serve our constituents this past year as your MLA.

We would like to wish you and your family a holiday season full of peace and joy as well as a safe new year.

**Hon. Warren Kaeding***MLA for Melville-Saltcoats*

(306) 728-3881

warrenkaedingmla@sasktel.net

Hon. Travis Keisig*MLA for Last Mountain-Touchwood*

(306) 334-3444

mla@traviskeisig.ca

Kevin Weedmark*MLA for Moosomin-Montmartre*

(306) 435-4005

office@kevinweedmark.ca

Brad Crassweller*MLA for White City-Qu'Appelle*

(306) 520-5018

mla@wc-q.ca

HAPPY
Holidays and New Year's
from the Staff and Council of the
RM of Kingsley
No. 124

Kipling, SK
306-736-2272

We would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone peace and happiness at Christmas and throughout the New Year.

Stacey, Terami, Megan & Taylor
options
accounting solutions
143 - 4th Ave. East, Melville
306-728-4810

Premier Moe takes stock of 2025

By Ryan Kiedrowski
Grasslands News

Premier Scott Moe says Saskatchewan is entering what he describes as an exciting but demanding period, with his government focused on health care reform, education infrastructure and community safety as the province prepares for the year ahead.

In a wide-ranging year-end interview, Moe reflected on what he sees as major accomplishments over the past year, the evolution of the Sask Party after nearly two decades in government, and his hopes for 2026 amid global economic and political uncertainty.

At the top of the list is health care.

“Our focus is getting, on the strategic side, down to a few things with respect to where the government is going,” he said. “One is to drastically improve health care, whether it’s access to a health-care professional, a provider, or access to a timely surgery.”

Moe acknowledged results are not arriving as quickly as many residents would like, but said the groundwork is being laid.

“We’re starting to see the basis come together so that we’re going to be able to achieve that,” he said.

A key example is the urgent care centre model first introduced in Regina. Designed to divert non-emergent but urgent cases away from hospital emergency rooms, the centre also provides an option for patients who might otherwise wait days to see a primary care provider.

“It was a pilot project and a very innovative way to deliver health care,” Moe said. “It’s working well enough that we’ve taken that pilot project and said we’re going to build another one in Regina, two in Saskatoon, one in Prince Albert, one in Moose Jaw and one in North Battleford.”

Health care remains the largest spending item in the provincial budget, Moe said, and he believes it is time for continued innovation in how services are delivered, with patients kept at the center of decision-making.

Education was another area Moe highlighted, pointing to a record pace of school construction.

“We opened seven new schools this summer,” he said. “That’s the norm now and the expectation. It isn’t that long ago that it would take 20 years to build and open seven schools. We did that in one year.”

He said another 16 schools are in planning or early construction stages, reflecting population growth in urban



centres and the need to replace aging infrastructure.

Moe cited examples in Saskatoon and Regina, where joint-use facilities are being built to serve rapidly expanding neighbourhoods. One east-side Saskatoon school, he noted, is designed for approximately 3,400 students, making it the largest in the province.

“I can remember when I was first elected and we started building joint-use school facilities that were in that 1,500-person student range, which I thought was tremendously large,” he said. “That’s about the size of the community where I live. The school that is being built today on the east side of Saskatoon - and I would say that this is the exception, not the norm - but it’s going to be ready for about 3,400 students. It’ll be the largest school in the province, a significant size joint-use school facility. I think it’s just an indication of how much has changed in this province.”

Beyond bricks and mortar, Moe said early learning outcomes are increasingly important.

“This government’s focus on supporting those K-to-3 outcomes for our students — our children and grandchildren — is increasingly important as we look ahead to the achievements of our youth, who very quickly will be in this office and be the leaders of the province,” he said.

Moe also pointed to mental health, addictions and community safety as interconnected challenges demanding sustained attention. He said the government is focused

- SEE PREMIER MOE, 9

*Cherish family.
Cherish friends.
Cherish memories.*

*May you find peace,
love and comfort this Christmas season.*

MATTHEWS FUNERAL HOME
Melville and Whitewood

*Gaylene and Mark Matthews
Doug Hanley
Neal Goebel
Leanne Hollinger
Joan Oucharek
Brent Wagner
Heather McEwen
Sage Manko*

Dear valued customers and friends,

This Christmas, we wish you and your family a cozy and bright season. May your home be a haven of warmth, your water be hot, and your drains stay clear!

We appreciate your business and are always here to handle any winter worries that may come your way.

Have a wonderful Christmas!
Bryan, Michelle and Kenley

Krueger's Plumbing & Heating
1-306-697-3504
505 Pacific Street Grenfell, SK

SOUTH COUNTRY
EQUIPMENT

Merry Christmas!

Wishing our friends, family and devoted customer a safe and happy holiday season!

Emerald Park
306.721.5050

Montmartre
306.424.2212

SOUTHCOUNTRY.CA

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.”

Is the writing on the wall for Pierre Poilievre?

To take liberties with something Oscar Wilde once said, the loss of one Conservative MP to the Liberals may be considered to be misfortune. To lose another through resignation is sheer carelessness, but to have yet another one cross the floor and become a Liberal, one month before opposition leader Pierre Poilievre's leadership review is catastrophic.

Even the most dyed-in-the-wool Conservative has to come to terms with the fact that the writing for Poilievre is on the wall.

Mark Carney is now one seat short of a full five-year majority government and for the moment has the confidence of the Canadian electorate. For better or worse, Carney has usurped much of the Conservative playbook and changed the political dynamic in Canada.

Poilievre may well win the endorsement of his party's membership in January, but recent public opinion polls indicate that one in three Conservatives want him replaced. His strongest support appears to be in Saskatchewan and Alberta where the party holds 47 seats.

Last week rookie MP Michael Ma, who won Ontario's Markham-Unionville constituency by around 2,000 votes and with 50 per cent of the vote, turned up at the Liberal Christmas party to join Carney's team because Ma explained he is more interested in “building up others, not dividing people.”

The Prime Minister welcomed him saying that Ma will have “a much better time spending Christmas with (the Liberals) than with the Kranks” a reference to Poilievre's abrasive leadership style.

Ma is the second conservative to defect, Maritime MP Chris d'Entremont quit in frustration with Poilievre's leadership and another MP Matt Jeneroux resigned his Edmonton seat.

Mark Carney is now one seat shy of a majority government. Insiders say another two or perhaps three Conservatives may cross the floor either before or after Poilievre wins the leadership review.

Federal MPs can't be recalled. All parties have had their turncoats: Alberta MP rancher “Cactus” Jack Horner left the conservatives to accept an appointment as Industry Minister in Pierre Trudeau's cabinet. Jean Charest quit the Progressive-Conservatives to run provincially as a Liberal and became Premier of Quebec. David Emerson left the Liberals to accept a cabinet appointment in Stephen Harper's Conservative government and Leona Alles left the Liberals to run as a Tory.

Many argue that those who change sides should instead resign their seat in Parliament forcing a by-election and attempt to regain it by sporting their new political stripes. Constituents who elect a Conservative are betrayed if the candidate turns into a Liberal and vice versa. But often the question that remains unanswered is did voters elect a popular individual to represent them, or did they vote along partisan lines? The most obvious example is Winston Churchill who was elected as a Conservative and crossed the house to become a Liberal and went on to become Britain's Prime Minister.

While some believe such floor crossings and political chess play are an insult to the democratic process, voters in the next election will make up their own minds as to whether to confirm or reject their MP's choices there by sparing the expense of individual by-elections.

Poilievre and some of his cohorts continue to blame



the mainstream media for creating the party's troubles, making him more and more each day sound like a hollow man.

The party membership who will attend the leadership review will have to come to grips with the fact that

Poilievre blew a 20-point lead in the polls, lost his own seat in the last election and nothing he has said or done since has led Canadians to believe he would make a better Prime Minister than the one they already have.

- Alan Hustak, Grasslands

Why Christmas still matters in an uncertain world

Christmas arrives again with its familiar glow — lights against long nights, carols carried through cold air, and tables set for family and friends. Yet like every year, this season does not exist apart from the world around it. Christmas 2025 finds us reflective, weary in places, hopeful in others, and searching — perhaps more than usual — for reassurance that kindness still matters.

The past year has been a complicated one. Canadians have navigated continued economic pressure, uncertainty in global affairs, and deep divisions over issues that once seemed distant or abstract. For many families, the cost of living has changed how Christmas looks — fewer gifts, simpler meals, quieter gatherings. For others, the season is marked by absence: loved ones lost, relationships strained, or traditions that no longer fit the lives we are living.

And yet, Christmas persists. It persists because its meaning has never depended on abundance. The Christmas story itself is not one of comfort or security, but of vulnerability — a child born amid uncertainty, welcomed by those with little

power or privilege, carried forward by hope rather than certainty. That message feels particularly relevant in 2025, when so many are asking what kind of future we are building and who gets included in it.

Across our communities this year, generosity has shown itself in small but powerful ways. Food banks have seen volunteers step forward even as demand rises. Neighbours have checked in on neighbours during bitter cold snaps. Fundraisers, toy drives, and community meals have been quietly stitched together by people who know that compassion is not seasonal — but Christmas reminds us to practice it anyway.

This season also invites us to slow down, something that feels increasingly difficult in a world driven by constant reaction. Christmas offers a pause — a chance to listen instead of argue, to sit with discomfort rather than rush past it, to remember that disagreement does not have to erase decency. In a year marked by polarization, that may be the most radical act of all.

For rural communities, small towns, and farms across the Prairies and beyond, Christmas has always

been about resilience. It's about getting through winter together. It's about traditions that anchor us when markets fluctuate, weather turns harsh, or headlines feel heavy. The values that sustain these communities — hard work, mutual support, and quiet generosity — are the very values Christmas calls us back to.

As we look toward 2026, there is no shortage of challenges waiting on the other side of the holidays. But Christmas is not about pretending those challenges don't exist. It is about choosing, even briefly, to believe that empathy can outlast fear, that community can outshine division, and that the future is shaped as much by our smallest actions as by the loudest voices.

This Christmas, may we give what we can — patience, time, understanding, or help — and accept grace where we need it. May we remember that hope is not naive; it is necessary. And may the spirit of this season linger long after the lights come down and the calendar turns.

From all of us to all of you, Merry Christmas — and peace, in all the ways it truly matters.

- Grasslands News

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

grasslands
NEWS | PRINTING

Fort Qu'Appelle Times • Indian Head-Wolseley News • Kipling Clipper
Melville Advance • Whitewood-Grenfell Herald Sun • Quad Town Forum

Issued Fridays by Grasslands News Group from the office
at 218 - 3rd Ave. West, P.O. Box 1420 Melville, SK., S0A 2P0
Ph: 306-728-5448 • Fax 306-728-4004 • Whitewood: 306-735-2230

Toll Free: 1-844-GNG-NEWS
www.grasslandsnews.ca • contact@gngnews.ca

 Chris Ashfield Publisher	 Ryan Kiedrowski Editor	 Michelle Walz Advertising	 Lloyd Schmidt Production	 Tammy Oryschak Accounts	 Melanie Delorme Subscriptions	 Pat Gattinger Classifieds/Obits
 Alan Hustak Fort Qu'Appelle	 Sarah Pacio Indian Head Grenfell	 Connie Schwalm Kipling	 Jacob Miller Melville	 Ashley Scarfe Quad Town	 Elaine Ashfield Whitewood	

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

Prices shown are based on one full year.
Prices include GST.

Pick-Up Boxes*:
\$45.00 per year
(*Available in limited communities)

Mailed in Saskatchewan:
\$55.00 per year

Mailed in Canada:
\$75.00 per year

Electronic Edition:
\$40.00 per year

Make cheques payable to
Grasslands News Group
Send e-transfers to accounts@grasslandsnews.ca

Interac MasterCard VISA

© Copyright (c) 2025
News and advertising content of this newspaper are protected by copyright.
There may be no reproduction of content without permission of the publisher.

LANE REALTY

For all of your buying or selling needs....Contact:

JASON BEUTLER
306-735-7811

LANE REALTY CORP.
Saskatchewan's Farm & Ranch Specialists™

WITH OVER 40 YEARS IN THE BUSINESS
PH: 306-569-3380 EMAIL: lanerealtycorp@sasktel.net

www.lanerealty.com 3rd Week

LANDFILL
FORT QU'APPELLE

WINTER HOURS
• Dec. 1 to March 31 •
Monday to Friday 9:00 to 4:30
Saturday and Sunday Closed
Closed Statutory Holidays

SUMMER HOURS
• April 1 to Nov. 30 •
Monday to Saturday
8:00 to 4:30
Sunday Closed
Closed Statutory Holidays

ACCEPTING: Used oil, filters and containers;
Used Antifreeze; Batteries; Select household
chemicals; Grain Bags & Twine; Concrete;
Asphalt.

Info: northvalleywaste.ca



Tracey Hotomani

Sheldon Quewezance

Shauna Fay

Terry Jack

Better Information. Better Access. Better Care.

The Saskatchewan Health Authority is strengthening access to emergency services and ensuring clear communication when temporary disruptions occur.

For service information or health advice, call HealthLine 811 anytime. In any life-threatening emergency, call 911.

For daily 4 p.m. updates about emergency service disruptions, visit www.saskhealthauthority.ca/servicedisruptions



Third person charged in Carry the Kettle murders

By Ryan Kiedrowski
Grasslands News

A third person has been charged in connection with the February deaths of four people on Carry the Kettle Nakoda Nation.

Police said a 17-year-old boy was arrested Dec. 10 after officers with the RCMP Major Crimes Unit and Indian Head detachment executed a search warrant at a home on the First Nation. The File Hills First Nations Police Service assisted. The teen cannot be identified under the Youth Criminal Justice Act.

He is charged with four counts of first-degree murder in the deaths of Tracey Hotomani, Sheldon Quewezance, Shauna Fay and Terry Jack. He also faces one count of attempted murder, after investigators determined an altercation occurred between the youth and a fifth individual inside the residence.

The teen made a first appearance in Regina Provincial Court Dec. 11 with his matters ultimately moved to Dec. 19. He was remanded into custody with a no-contact order for seven individuals.

"This investigation didn't end when the initial charges were laid," said Insp. Ashley St. Germaine, Senior Investigative Officer with the Saskatchewan RCMP's Major Crimes Branch. "For the past 10 months, our investigators have kept working to provide answers to the victims' families, and to the community of Carry the Kettle Nakoda Nation."

The arrests stem from a call on Feb. 4, when File Hills First Nations Police Service received a report of sudden deaths

at a home on the First Nation at about 11:15 a.m. Responding officers found four people dead inside. RCMP Major Crimes took over the investigation and quickly determined the deaths were homicides.

Eighteen-year-old Darrius Racette was taken into custody in Yorkton, while a 15-year-old boy was arrested on Carry the Kettle on the same day - Feb. 18. Both are charged with four counts of first-degree murder in the same four deaths. The younger teen appeared in Regina provincial court on Dec. 3. Racette's trial is set for five weeks beginning Feb. 22, 2027.

The investigation has involved multiple police agencies, including File Hills First Nations Police Service, Regina Police Service, the RCMP General Investigation Section, Forensic Identification Services, the Historical Case Unit, Saskatchewan Enforcement Response Teams, Indigenous Policing Services and several local RCMP detachments.

RCMP have released few details about the circumstances surrounding the homicides, citing the ongoing court processes involving all three accused.

"Through this ongoing and complex investigation, the Saskatchewan RCMP constantly assessed risks to public safety," St. Germaine said. "As the investigation progressed, officers identified a third person involved. After consulting with Crown prosecutors, investigators developed a plan to safely arrest the youth and proceed with charges. This result reflects the commitment of Saskatchewan RCMP officers across the province, whose hard work and expertise kept this case moving forward."

PROFESSIONALS DIRECTORY

Baran & Company

CPA Professional Corporation (Accountants)

1850 McAra Street
Regina, Saskatchewan
S4N 6C4

Tel: 306-352-2522
Fax: 306-352-2886
Email: baran@lbaran.com

HUB

Phone 306-332-4666 1-800-563-4608

122 Company Ave. S., Fort Qu'Appelle, SK

For all your Insurance needs!

- Representing: • SGI Canada
- Wawanesa • SMI • Wynward Insurance Company
- Germania Mutual • Aviva • Oasis • Intact
- HUB Life and Financial Services
- Portage Mutual • Group Medical Services
- Red River Mutual and Many More.
- Saskatchewan Blue Cross
- SGI Motor License Issuer

Balcarres Agencies Ltd.

Offering a wide selection of products and expertise

- Personal Insurance • Commercial Insurance
- Specialty Products • Agri-Business

216 Main St. Balcarres, SK
Phone: 306-334-2401 Fax: 306-334-2705
Email: balcarresagencies@sasktel.net
www.balcarresagencies.saskbrokers.com

BOCK & COMPANY LAW OFFICE

LYNNETTE BOCK, B.A., J.D.

500 Maple Street, P.O. Box 220
Esterhazy, SK S0A 0X0

PHONE: (306) 745-3952

FAX: (306) 745-6119

E-mail: bocklaw@sasktel.net

Branch Office:
Rocanville, Friday Afternoons
Phone: (306) 645-4552

HALFORD LAW OFFICE PROF. CORP.

Barrister and Solicitor

Nicholas Smiatek, B.Sc., J.D.

181-B Broadway Street East
P.O. Box 817
Fort Qu'Appelle, SK S0G 1S0
Phone 306-332-5661
Fax 306-332-4293

Fisher Law Office

128 - 4th Ave. East, Melville, SK

* Garnet Fisher B.A., (Hons.) LL.B
Collaborative Lawyer

306-728-4581
Melville and Esterhazy
fisherlaw@sasktel.net

IG WEALTH MANAGEMENT

A plan for living



BRODIE FLIS QAFP
Consultant
Investors Group Financial Services Inc.
Tel: (306) 502-6821
Brodie.Flis@ig.ca



PATTY WELCH RRC, EPC
Senior Financial Consultant
Investors Group Financial Services Inc.
Tel: (306) 728-4998
Patty.Welch@ig.ca

*Trademarks owned by IGM Financial Inc. and licensed to its subsidiary corporations.

PS PRAIRIE STRONG

Chartered Professional Accountants

Melville 306-728-4525	Esterhazy 306-745-6611	Grenfell 306-697-3558	Whitewood 306-735-2385
--------------------------	---------------------------	--------------------------	---------------------------

Balcarres 306-334-2923	Indian Head 306-695-2303	Fort Qu'Appelle 306-332-6651	Ituna 306-795-3190
---------------------------	-----------------------------	---------------------------------	-----------------------

www.prairiestrong.ca

Directory Advertising

Starting at \$10*/week *Must be prepaid, plus GST,
based on 12 months advertising. \$480 plus GST

Call 1-844-464-6397 ext. 2
or email to michelle@gngnews.ca

Premier Moe looks back at 2025

- continued from page 6

on two parallel approaches: expanding recovery-oriented systems of care and increasing investment in enforcement. "This government is focused in two areas - one is to provide that recovery opportunity, and two is to increase our investments in enforcement, to keep our communities safe, and to remove the drugs from our communities," he explained. "And hopefully remove the drugs so that they can quit killing our friends, our community members, and all too often our family members."

When asked if the excitement and enthusiasm of the Sask Party's first decade in existence - then forming government in 2007 - remains, Moe was clear.

"I think more than ever, but it's different today," he said, noting the party recently hosted the largest convention in its history, something he called "a testament to the fact" that the fundamental reasons the party was a desire to make communities and the province a little bit better.

He said the party's consistency has helped provide stability during a period of global uncertainty, including trade disruptions and tariff disputes.

"There's a lot going on in the world today," Moe said. "We're making every effort to provide a steady hand and be somewhat unflappable in what is the talked-about issue or the most recent initiative that was put forward by someone in the world or in Canada. That strong, secure governance is less the norm than maybe we realize in this province."

That stability, he said, is key to attracting investment, particularly in sectors such as mining, nuclear energy, potash and value-added agriculture.

"Saskatchewan people are some of the most resilient, innovative, honest, hard-working people that you're going to find on earth," Moe said. "And they, in the last number

of years, have just been presented by their own vote with an environment where, that innovation can really come to light and start to monetize it. You coincide that with some of the investment attraction opportunities and some of the fruits of that labor that are happening with the expansion in the mining sector, the expansion in the value-added agriculture sector. All of that is creating jobs and creating certainty for the markets that are today in a very uncertain world."

Of course, one would be remiss to not talk about the big Grey Cup win, and the Riders' parade culminating at the Legislative Building.

"I was glad to see the Legislature was still standing after that!" he joked. "But credit to each and every one of the players that was so disciplined, gave their heart and soul to one another, and to this province to win what is likely the most impactful trophy to this province as a whole, by the most impactful team that we have. To win it as a team, it was admirable."

He suggested the Riders' broad support reflects something deeper about Saskatchewan identity.

"Rider gear is perfectly acceptable attire for any event in the province," Moe said with a laugh. "It's an organization Saskatchewan people support without question, and one that has supported Saskatchewan people."

On a more personal note, Moe shared a childhood Christmas memory of secretly opening a long-awaited pair of skates early — and scrambling to rewrap them before his parents returned.

"I think it was six years old, I was going to start hockey," he recalled. "Back in those days, you didn't have skates with plastic blades, they all had the metal blades. There's a few kids that had the plastic blades, but I did not, so that was my Christmas wish."

Spying what looked suspiciously like a pair of skates under the tree with his name on them, opening the gift early was a major temptation.

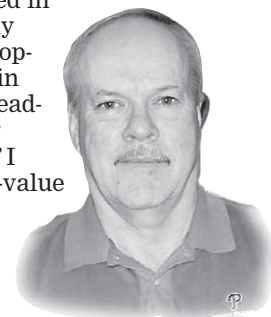
"I was shaking it and doing everything you could to peek in the corners," Moe said. "One day, mom and dad were outside. We lived on the farm, and I was in the house alone and there's just no way I could wait any longer. So, I hid behind the couch and I opened it, and of course it was Orbit skates."

However, moments after opening the package, Moe could hear his parents coming back in the house — with no time to rewrap the skates.

"They almost got returned, but I was able to preserve the opportunity to utilize those skates," he said. "That's the only gift I ever opened early without permission."

Gene Hauta It's a Strange World

I have never participated in a Black Friday sale, mainly because I don't care for shopping crowds, or shopping in general! Now I read this headline, "**For Thieves, Black Friday Is 'Super Bowl.'**" I guess this is because high-value items are out on display while big crowds provide cover for shoplifters to just walk away; it is also significant that sales staff are distracted. Former detective Patrick Brosnan, who now runs a security consulting firm, warns that organized retail theft is now a "multibillion-dollar business" and for those looking to steal, "Black Friday is their Super Bowl." He describes crowded stores, stretched staff, high-value items on display, and chaos to cover a quick getaway. These pro theft rings invade stores "so coordinated, so focused, so knowledgeable" about what they want and how to get it. And, of course, the cost of theft ultimately falls on the consumer, as retailers raise prices to restock stolen inventory.



Atria Senior Living in Falmouth, Mass., emailed Bradford Kelley to demand his father's October 2024 rent. Kelley's father did not live in the facility that month, mainly because **he had died in September**. Atria explained that the lease that had been signed requires 30 days' notice to quit. "Atria does not expect residents to predict when they will pass, so when someone does, they are not required to give written notice because the date of passing pushes the notice automatically," its business director finally concluded. Kelley eventually reached out to a TV station, which forced the company to decide it didn't need to be paid the \$8,036.77 after all.

A **fourth teen has been charged** with first-degree murder in the death of a 16-year-old boy in Calgary. The victim, Carter Spivak-Villeneuve, was found dead on Aug. 1. Four accused (three 15-year-olds and the latest at 16) have been charged. This kind of stuff sickens me, and, while it doesn't happen as often in Canada, it does happen. I never did see the reason for the tragic dispute.

In what Randy Cassingham title "**Flying Pussy Alert II**," the weird story was told of a woman whose vehicle was disabled when a cat crashed through the windshield. It is surmised that a bald eagle mishandled the cat, dropping it through the windshield on a highway near the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. The driver was not injured as the cat hit on the passenger side, and authorities figure that the cat had likely been scavenged after its death.

An elderly woman had been unresponsive for two days so it was assumed she was dead. As she was in line for a scheduled cremation at Wat Rat Prakhong Tham temple in Thailand, she apparently **began knocking on her coffin**. Obviously, she hadn't died. When the coffin was opened, she showed slight movement. The woman's brother said that his sister had been bedridden for about two years and that she appeared to stop breathing two days earlier. The brother then placed her in a coffin and made the 300-mile journey to a hospital in Bangkok, to which the woman had previously expressed a wish to donate her organs. Incomplete paperwork was the only reason she was not stripped of her organs and cremated.

A Maryland man is facing charges over his allegedly jaw-dropping reaction to **young Christmas carolers**: Police say he brandished a gun at three 12-year-old girls who were singing outside his home. Authorities say Paul Susie, 58, was arrested in Annapolis after the girls knocked on his door twice and announced they were caroling. Susie and his wife were watching television when the girls knocked, and police described him as intoxicated and "belligerent". Sounds like he could use a little Christmas spirit! Susie is charged with first- and second-degree assault.

A Washington state woman is facing manslaughter charges after authorities say she failed to get medical help for her 10-year-old daughter, who died on a summer road trip. Lloydina Shnea McAllister, 42, was arrested after the death of her daughter, owing to complications from Type 1 diabetes. Prosecutors say McAllister had been trained by medical professionals on how to manage her daughter's diabetes. Anyway, McAllister set out on the road trip with her boyfriend, 12-year-old daughter, 10-year-old daughter, and 1-year-old son. The girl fell ill but the group drove for more than 700 miles, passing 31 hospitals, without seeking medical treatment. McAllister told police she didn't seek care due to concerns about violating a parenting plan with the girl's father, which restricted her ability to take the girl out of state. McAllister had instead carried out cellphone searches for how to lower blood sugar.

I asked my wife what she wanted for Christmas. She told me, "Nothing would make her happier than a diamond necklace." So, I bought her nothing. Merry Christmas or Happy Holidays to all my readers. Glad you're still with me...

Happy Holidays

As we throw another yule log on the fire, our thoughts are with the many fine folk we've had the privilege to know and serve this past year.

May contentment and joy warm your heart this holiday season.

Hilderman Construction Ltd.

Fort Qu'Appelle
306-332-4440

Peace on Earth

Wishing you and your family much peace, love and joy this holiday season and beyond.

From the Council and Staff of the Village of Neudorf

Phone 306-748-2551

FlatLand Plumbing & Heating

SaskEnergy Network Member

LENNOX



FULL-SERVICE PLUMBING & HEATING

712 Lalonde St., Whitewood, SK – 306-735-4328

515 Main Street, Kipling, SK – 306-736-5328

Moosomin, SK – 306-434-9323

admin@flatlandplumbing.ca

Drunk driver found in ditch after reported to RCMP

Broadview and Moosomin Detachment S/Sgt. Dallyn Holmstrom

Reporting period: Dec. 4 to Dec. 11

Cst. Transfers to La Loche

This week we say farewell to a valuable member of our Broadview/Moosomin RCMP. Cst. Lyons has accepted a transfer to La Loche RCMP. Cst. Lyons has been a part of the Broadview/Moosomin RCMP since she graduated Depot four years ago. We'll miss our colleague and friend, but we sincerely wish her all the success throughout her career. The Broadview/Moosomin RCMP and community are losing a great member.

Calls for Service

There were 91 calls for service in the Broadview/Moosomin Detachment area over the past week, with 18 traffic fines issued. The highest speeder of the week was issued to a male driving a Chevrolet Silverado travelling 147 km/hr on Highway #1 in a 110 km/hr zone near Broadview. This driver received a fine of \$546. The second-place speeder went to a female driving a Honda Civic on Highway #1 near Whitewood. The female was travelling 149 km/hr in a 110 km/hr zone, which resulted in a \$562 fine.

On Dec. 4, RCMP received a call from the Grenfell high school stating that someone had stolen a 20 lb. propane tank from their outdoor shed. RCMP is requesting anyone with information about this theft to contact the Broadview RCMP by calling 306-696-5200. Information can be submitted anonymously through CrimeStoppers by calling 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or submitting a tip online at www.saskcrimestoppers.com.

On Dec. 5, RCMP received several complaints of young

girl sending snap chats to other girls telling them to "kill themselves". RCMP attended the young girl's school and spoke with the parents and the teachers. Please take this as a reminder of one of the dangers of young people and social media and all parents to monitor their children's social media accounts very closely to ensure their safety.

On Dec. 5, RCMP attended a vehicle rollover on Highway #48 near Maryfield. A white Ford F-150 rolled causing injuries to three occupants inside. EMS attended and transported the occupants to hospital. RCMP also determined that the driver of the vehicle did not hold a valid driver's licence.

On Dec. 7, RCMP received a report of a missing eight-year-old boy on Zagime Anishinabek First Nations. The boy went into the forest with his dog and a BB gun to try to get a rabbit and had not returned. Shortly after RCMP received this call the boy returned home with his dog and a rabbit.

On Dec. 8 RCMP received a call advising four members of the Royal Canadian Air Force were forced to land their helicopter due to degrading weather and fog. The members of the RCAF were each provided a complimentary room in the Broadview RCMP Bed and Breakfast for which they were very thankful. The group was returned to their helicopter the following day when the weather had improved.

On Dec. 8, RCMP received a call in Grenfell where an intoxicated male had assaulted a male and a female at a residence. The male was arrested and charged for assault. The intoxicated male spent the night at the RCMP Bed and Breakfast and was released once he was sober.

On Dec. 8, RCMP received a 911 call stating that a car had driven into the back of a semi on Highway #1 near Moosomin. The semi was unaware that the collision occurred and was dragging the car that was hooked onto the back

of the semi trailer down the highway. The airbags in the vehicle had deployed. RCMP tracked the vehicle down at the weigh scales east of Moosomin and ensured everyone was okay.

On Dec. 8, RCMP were called to a collision on Highway #1 at Moosomin. A Ford F150 collided with the back of a semi just outside of Moosomin. The semi kept travelling eastbound and the Ford F-150 had significant damage. Luckily no one was hurt in the collision.

On Dec. 8, RCMP received a call advising that a senior male was in possession of a handgun in Rocanville. A female visited the male's residence and observed the gun on his nightstand; when she asked him about it, he casually told her not to worry about it. The RCMP checked and confirmed that the male did not have any type of possession licence. When RCMP attended and questioned the male he immediately showed the RCMP that the gun was an airsoft BB gun that he practices with for fun.

On Dec. 9, RCMP received a complaint of uttering threats. A female threatened a male by sending him a message threatening that she was going to send another male to his house to attack him. This threat's complaint is still under investigation, but no charges have been laid at this point.

On Dec. 9, RCMP received a call of an impaired driver at the Co-op gas station in Broadview. It was reported that the male was so intoxicated that it took him four attempts to use his debit card and that he lost his balance and fell over in the store. It was reported that the vehicle left Broadview travelling east on Highway #1. RCMP located the vehicle between Broadview and Whitewood and observed the vehicle drove into the ditch. RCMP arrested the driver for impaired driving and impounded his vehicle.

On Dec. 10, RCMP received a complaint of an impaired driver that hit the ditch with his white SUV on Kahkewistahaw First Nations. RCMP attended and the male driver attempted to fight the arresting officer. This resulted in the RCMP having to take the impaired driver to the hospital for injuries prior going to the RCMP bed and breakfast. It's not a good idea to drive drunk and not to fight the police.



**May 2026 bring you these gifts:
love, happiness and health.**

*All the best in
the new year!*

Stockholm Agencies Ltd.
306-793-2900

**Peace on Earth and
Goodwill to All.**



**Profile
TIRECRAFT®**

**Winter Tire
Safety Tips**

If you intend to drive in severe winter conditions, "Snow Tires" will help you control your vehicle safely in slippery conditions.


306-332-5444
202 boundary Ave. Fort Qu'Appelle

*Merry Christmas
&
Happy New Year*



*from the
Resort Village
of B-Say-Tah
Mayor, Council
& Administrator*

*For unto us a Child is born.
Unto us a Son is given.*

*May joy be your gift
at Christmas and may
Faith, Hope, and Love
be your treasures in
the New Year.*

*From the
"Christ the Teacher Catholic
School Division and the Students
and Staff of St. Henry's
Jr. and Sr. Schools in Melville"*




**Christmas
Blessings**

St. Peter's Hospital
Management and Staff,
Members of Local Council
& Hospital Foundation,
wishes you and yours
a very happy and
healthy holiday season.

**St. Peter's
Hospital**
Melville

**We wish you and your
loved ones an enchanted
CHRISTMAS and
a happy NEW YEAR!**



**QUEEN STREET
Plumbing & Heating Ltd.**
429 Main St. Melville, SK 306-728-5715
Mike, Tannis and Staff

Cabinet shuffle means changes for area MLAs

By Ryan Kiedrowski
Grasslands News

Premier Scott Moe introduced five rookie ministers and reshuffled several senior portfolios Dec. 11 in a mid-December cabinet overhaul he says is aimed at “building capacity” across government, while the Opposition NDP dismissed the changes as cosmetic and emblematic of a government “out of ideas.”

The shuffle was formalized at a swearing-in ceremony at Government House and brings the number of cabinet ministers back up to 18 — the size the Saskatchewan Party maintained for most of its 17 years in power before trimming it to 16 after the 2024 election.

“Nearly half of our government caucus was first elected in 2024, but I didn’t want to bring too many brand-new members into cabinet right after the election,” Premier Scott Moe said. “Those members now have more than a year of experience as MLAs and with today’s changes, one-third of cabinet will be new members. That will give our government a strong balance of experience and fresh perspectives.”

Those rookies are Mike Weger, Minister of Community Safety (previously called Corrections, Policing and Public Safety) and Minister responsible for Saskatchewan Public Safety Agency; Chris Beaudry, Minister of Energy and Resources; Darlene Rowden, Minister of Environment; Kim Gartner, Minister of Highways; and Sean Wilson, Minister

of SaskBuilds & Procurement.

Eight ministers remain in their current portfolios with Jim Reiter, Deputy Premier and Minister of Finance; Tim McLeod, Minister of Justice and Government House Leader; Jeremy Cockrill, Minister of Health; Lori Carr, Minister of Mental Health and Addictions, Seniors and Rural and Remote Health and Government Deputy House Leader; Everett Hindley, Minister of Education; Jeremy Harrison, Minister responsible for Crown Investment Corporation, Minister responsible for the Public Service Commission, and Minister responsible for Lotteries and Gaming Saskatchewan Corporation; Terry Jenson, Minister of Social Services; and Alana Ross, Minister of Parks, Culture and Sport, Tourism Saskatchewan and Status of Women.

Four ministers remain in Cabinet but take on different responsibilities as David Marit returns to the Minister of Agriculture position and Minister responsible for Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation; Ken Cheveldayoff remains Minister of Advanced Education and becomes Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety; Eric Schmalz remains Minister of Government Relations and Minister responsible for First Nations, Métis and Northern Affairs and becomes Minister of Immigration and Career Training; and Warren Kaeding, remains Minister of Trade and Export Development and becomes Minister re-

sponsible for the Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority.

The new cabinet was sworn in by Lieutenant Governor Bernadette McIntyre.

Travis Keisig, Daryl Harrison and Colleen Young are leaving cabinet. All three are expected to serve as chairs of legislative committee.

“It’s an honour to serve in cabinet,” Moe told reporters after the shuffle. “It’s not as fun when you’re asked to take some time out of that room. But we’ve had many over the years who left cabinet and later returned. That could be the case again.”

When asked whether the removal of certain ministers reflected performance concerns — including Harrison’s short stint in Agriculture and criticism surrounding his comments on foreign farmland ownership — Moe insisted the decisions were not punitive.

“This is one of the most difficult decisions that a leader has to make as to who is going to serve in the cabinet,” he said. “We’ve been fortunate and blessed that we have many that are capable. What we made a decision on with

this particular shuffle is we want to continue to bring people into cabinet, but then also have that broader experience across the governing caucus, which I think is good for the decisions that the governing caucus ultimately has to make.”

Moe also pointed out that MLAs taking a break from the Cabinet is not new, nor is making a return to the table.

“Certainly I would say thank you for their service and their continued service as caucus members,” he said. “We served the people of Saskatchewan very well and continue to serve them in the governing caucus.”

Being back in the saddle again as Ag minister, Marit was ‘honoured and humbled’ to return, paying compliments to Harrison for his work in the portfolio.

“Daryl was a great minister in this file,” Marit said, adding that he plans to seek the previous ag minister’s opinion on matters in the future. “He’s been a producer all his life as well, and I’ve known Daryl for over 20 years in the municipal world. The industry knows who I am, I’ve had a lot of text mes-

sages this morning saying, ‘thank you’ and ‘welcome back’. And I’ve always said my door has always been open - regardless of what ministry I was at - for the industry stakeholders to have those discussions on what changes might be needed and improvements we can make.”

The former ag minister and MLA for Cannington was not upset by the decision, pleased to see Marit return to the role.

“Cabinet shuffles are always a surprise. But this doesn’t represent any significant shift in the government’s direction. What it does do is provide an opportunity for some new MLAs to step into cabinet positions,” Harrison said. “And, having David Marit as Ag Minister will mean that Saskatchewan agriculture is well represented, as the important negotiations begin next

month that will have a huge impact on our trade relationship with the US and Mexico.”

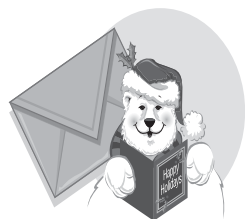
“I’ve been a goaltender all my life and always had to share ice time, been pulled from a game and put into the game, for the good of the team. That metaphor is the best way I have of describing my feelings on this,” he continued. “My priority will continue to be serving and representing the people who live in my constituency. I also remain on my current committees and expect there will be some additional responsibilities there as well.”

As for Kaeding, he’s embracing the additional responsibilities, noting how the two ministries blend.

“The Liquor and Gaming file, in Ministry of Trade, we do a lot of work

- SEE CABINET SHUFFLE, 12

GREETINGS TO YOU



May you and your family enjoy the holiday season and stay safe.

Melville Fish & Game League



Rejoice!

Wishing you much peace and joy during this holy season.

Merry Christmas

Bert's Mechanical

Melville, SK

Season's Greetings

From all of us at

KEVIN'S MARINE



Fort Qu'Appelle
306-332-5888

Nothing makes us prouder than knowing we serve good people like you!

We feel truly blessed by your confidence and trust.

Merry Christmas & Many Thanks!



Prairie Strong
Chartered Professional Accountants
www.prairiestrong.ca

To our members and surrounding communities:

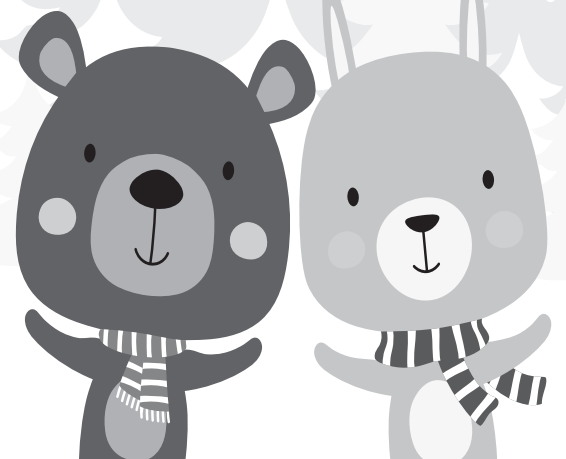
Merry Christmas

and have a safe, prosperous 2026!

Odessa



Call 306-957-2110 for Bulk Fuels.



MERRY Christmas!

Have a wonderful Holiday Season!

From your friends at the

FORT QU'APPELLE & DISTRICT FARMERS' MARKET

Merry Christmas

from the Member Charities of the Melville and District Donors Choice Appeal

Thank you to all for your ongoing support!

Donations can still be made by etransfer to
MelvilleDonorsChoiceAppeal@gmail.com

Cabinet shuffle benefits local area MLAs

- continued from page 11

certainly on the alcohol side," he explained. "We're actually taking the national lead in trying to establish a direct-to-consumer policy along the inter-provincial trade file. This actually works well with what we're trying to accomplish nationally."

"The Liquor and Gaming file certainly comes with a lot of unique interests and some unique stakeholders that are going to come to the table," Kaeding continued. "I've probably been introduced to a number of them already, but I'm looking forward to engaging with the rest. There's a lot of rural implications that come with this as well as some urban implications. One of them that was interesting that came

to mind was we'll be able to initiate the Tailgating Act. That's going to be a new opportunity for this province to embrace. I'm looking forward to just putting the final details on that and getting that launched in time for the new Rider season."

Moe also named eight Legislative Secretaries in James Thorsteinson, Legislative Secretary to the Minister of Agriculture; Travis Keisig, Legislative Secretary to the Minister responsible for Crown Investments Corporation; Blaine McLeod, Legislative Secretary to the Minister of Community Safety; Barret Kropf, Legislative Secretary to the Minister of Education; Kevin Weedmark, Legislative Secretary to the Min-

ister of Health; Megan Patterson, Legislative Secretary to the Minister of Social Services; Brad Crassweller, Legislative Secretary to the Minister of Parks, Culture and Sport and responsible for Saskatchewan-India Relations; and Jamie Martens, Legislative Secretary to the Minister of Trade and Export Development and responsible for Saskatchewan-Ukraine relations.

Legislative Secretaries will receive \$3,000 in annual remuneration for their additional responsibilities, below the full remuneration amount designated for Legislative Secretaries.

Jamie Martens will also continue to serve as Provincial Secretary while Blaine McLeod continues to serve as Military Liaison. Brad Crassweller becomes the Government Whip and Kevin Weedmark remains Deputy Whip.

When asked about the name change to the Community Safety portfolio, Moe noted it better explains what is happening within that realm.

"To reflect, I think, what the people of Saskatchewan want to see, which is safe communities," he told Grasslands

News. "It won't simply be about enforcement, but it will be about ensuring that our communities are safe. People that all too often are struggling with addictions and maybe entering a life of crime, that they are on the proper path. In some cases, they're going to be incarcerated, but more often than not, I would hope that they're able to enter one of the recovery opportunities that we're attempting to make available for everyone here in the province of Saskatchewan. The drugs that are in our communities, I've said this many times, they're nothing short of poison and they need to leave and we need to have it be our level goal to eradicate those drugs from our Saskatchewan communities. And that's what I've asked Minister Weger to look at."

One motivation for the new Minister of Community Safety is the future generations, especially as someone with children himself.

"The city's changed. We want our communities to be safe," Weger said. "Back home, I've got a 15-year-old son and a 12-year-old daughter. I want them to be able to play at the park and walk down the street with their friends and I don't want their parents to have to worry about their safety. We're going to take this seriously and I'm passionate about it."

With 17 years' experience as a lawyer combined with strong ties with law enforcement,



RYAN KIEDROWSKI | GRASSLANDS NEWS

Kaeding stays
Melville-Saltcoats MLA Warren Kaeding receives congratulations from Lt. Gov. Bernadette McIntyre during a recent swearing-in ceremony. Kaeding remains as Minister of Trade and Export Development, but has also been granted the Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority portfolio.

Weger brings a unique perspective to the portfolio.

"I've definitely seen different clientele come through the courtroom and through my office," he said. "I've been very engaged with police officers all my career. I have a good working relationship and nothing but the utmost respect for the women and men in law enforcement in our province."

Wilson is also excited about diving into his new portfolio, drawing from his experience as a former road builder, "infrastructure is in my blood."

"I've had a lot to do

with infrastructure and I'm looking forward to continuing the good work of the previous minister and digging into this file and just keeping the province strong, safe and secure," Wilson said. "I have a lot of reading and a lot of learning but looking forward to picking up on everything in the next few weeks."

- with files from Connie Schwalm

2S AUCTIONEERS LTD.
Brad Stenberg 306-551-9411
Nicole Smith 306-660-7377
www.2sauctioneers.ca
PL 333133

CARE AND WELLNESS + DIRECTORY

Rachelle Schill
Registered Nurse - Foot Care Nurse

Relief and maintenance of callusing, corns, ingrown, thickened toenails and hard to reach feet.
Member of NHPC and Now Offer Reflexology

Assessment and maintenance of diabetic feet.

307 Main St., Balcarres, SK
Call/Text 306-331-9946

Michael J. Litschko, RMT

- MASSAGE THERAPIST -

R.M. Office - Indian Head
SATURDAYS:
8:00 A.M. TO NOON
APPOINTMENTS:
Phone: 306-537-9454 (office)
Online: www.flexmt.ca

perSUNalized
By Tammy

Outshine the Rest!

Tammy Oryschak
306-720-0789
perSUNalizedbyTammy@gmail.com

SASKATCHEWAN HOUSING AUTHORITY
1-833-583-HOME (4663)

Housing Available
Melville, Yorkton, and Canora

goodspirit.ha@gov.sk.ca or
1-833-583-HOME for more info

Everyone deserves a home!

EXCELLENCE
OTTENBREITS family owned SINCE 1959

- Deli Meats
- Jerky
- Barbecue Needs
- Liquor Vendor
- Spirits & Wines

Grayson, SK
Phone: 306 794-2113

Business Hours
Tuesday - Friday 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Saturday 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Open Over Lunch

ABERNETHY CO-OP & CAFE

Groceries • Eatery • Hardware • Giftware
Party Trays • Gas • Diesel

GREAT SELECTION & PRICES! DAILY LUNCH SPECIALS!
Monday to Friday 7:30 am - 6:00 pm
Saturday 9:00 am - 6:00 pm
Sunday & Holidays Closed
306.333.2122

Follow us on Abernethy Co-op Store & Café

Merry Christmas
and
Happy New Year To All!

R.M. OF INDIAN HEAD
Reeve, Councillors and Staff

Best WISHES!

to you and yours for a happy and harmonious holiday season.

Melville Heritage Museum Inc.

ROCOCO CONSTRUCTION

Residential, Commercial & Agricultural Contracting!

Kenosee Park, SK
306-961-4118
Darren@rococoltd.com

For all your denture needs:

Tru-Fit Denture Clinic

2130B Broad Street, Regina, Saskatchewan S4P 1Y5
306-352-2552
CALL COLLECT

"Doing a smiling business for over a decade and a half"

BRANDED CONTENT

Building safety together: Free tools and training from WorkSafe Saskatchewan

A safe workplace doesn't happen by chance. It's built through awareness, education and action. Safety training gives workers and employers the tools they need to recognize hazards, prevent injuries and make smart decisions that protect everyone on the job.

WorkSafe Saskatchewan is here to help you build safer, healthier workplaces. WorkSafe Saskatchewan and its affiliates and partners provide training to more than 30,000 workers and employers on an annual basis. Monthly training sessions for Occupational Health Committee Level 1, Occupational Health Committee Level 2 and Supervision and Safety help workers and employers meet their legislative obligations.

WorkSafe Saskatchewan and its partners provide several training courses to equip everyone, from front-line workers to safety leaders with tools and resources to help prevent work-related injuries and make safety, health and well-being part of everyday work.

Learn with WorkSafe Saskatchewan

WorkSafe Saskatchewan offers a wide range of free and partner-provided courses designed for the needs of Saskatchewan workplaces. Topics include:

- Occupational health and safety committees
- Supervision and leadership
- Ergonomics
- New and young workers

- Psychological health and safety
- Return to work and disability management
- WHMIS and hazardous materials
- Workplace hazards and safety awareness

Courses are available online or in-person, making it easy for workers and employers across the province to participate. Each course is practical and designed so participants can act right away.

“Training equips individuals with the knowledge and skills to identify, assesses and mitigate workplace hazards. By investing in training, organizations can create a culture of safety that encourages continuous improvement.”

Kevin Mooney, vice-president of prevention and employer services at the WCB

A smart investment

Every year, approximately 2,700 Saskatchewan workers are seriously injured—many performing routine tasks that could have been done safely with the right training and preparation. From understanding how to lift and carry properly to identifying high-energy hazards or responding to an emergency, training helps equip workers with the skills to prevent harm.

For employers, investing in safety training helps reduce injuries, improve productivity and lower the costs associated with lost-time claims. Research consistently shows that for every dollar invested in effective safety programs, organizations can save several more in reduced injury costs and downtime. Educated workers are more confident, more engaged and better prepared to prevent incidents before they happen. Training protects not only your people, but also your bottom line.

Building a culture of safety

When everyone understands their role in keeping the workplace safe, it changes the culture of an organization. Workers feel more confident and valued when they know how to protect themselves and their co-workers. Supervisors and managers gain peace of mind knowing their teams have the training to make safe decisions.

A strong safety culture also boosts morale and retention. Employees who feel supported and protected are more engaged and motivated to contribute to a positive work environment. In short, training builds trust and trust helps build safer workplaces.

Accessible training for every workplace

In addition to its own training, WorkSafe Saskatchewan connects you with approved training partners who offer specialized programs—some free, others fee-based—that address unique industry needs. These partners provide expertise, certifications and skills development that complement WorkSafe Saskatchewan's core education offerings.

By training through WorkSafe Saskatchewan and its partners, you can be confident you're learning from credible, experienced safety educators who understand the realities of Saskatchewan workplaces.

Get started today

Safety training is one of the most effective ways to prevent injuries and improve well-being at work. Whether you're just beginning your safety journey or strengthening an existing program, WorkSafe Saskatchewan can help you find the right learning opportunities for your team.

Explore the full list of free and partner-provided courses, and register for training, at worksafesask.ca/training.

CLICK.
TRAIN.
WORKSAFE.



Work to live.

worksafesask.ca/training



Wishing you
a wonderful holiday season
with your loved ones.
Merry Christmas!



- Custom Grain and Fertilizer Hauling
 - Short and Long Distance
 - 24 Truck and Trailer Units

Call Bruce **306-531-4641**
pandktrucking@sasktel.net

Sending you our
warmest wishes for a
fabulous holiday season!



PHARMASAVE®

Ph: 306-728-4556
156 - 2nd Avenue East, Melville, SK





Grenfell school concert

CHRIS ASHFIELD | GRASSLANDS NEWS

Pre-kindergarten to grade 6 students from Grenfell Elementary Community School performed "A Tropical Christmas" on Dec. 12. Throughout the performance, students from each class sang various Christmas songs. There was an afternoon and evening performance.

Mom and Tot group gather for fun every month

Take a break! Let the kids run!

By GNG News Staff
Grasslands News

Winters can be long and the kids can drive you crazy some days! That's why Raelynne Oshowy has informed the Herald Sun that beginning the first Friday of every month, there will be a Mom and Tot Gathering Group.

That's right – the group is for moms and kids!

"All ages of adults and children are welcome," Oshowy stated. "There's no cost and we're inviting everyone to join

and get a break from the confinement of your four walls! Socialize, take a break and let the kids play."

"Get out of the house and come hang-out and let the kids run," she added. "It's a great time to visit, make new friends or share tips and tricks together. Just take a break!"

Juice and snacks are available when you gather at the Whitewood Evangelical Missionary Church, 915 Gambetta Street in Whitewood on the 1st Friday of every month from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

All moms and tots are welcome.

We wish you
a very
Merry Christmas
and a
Happy New Year.

Wolseley Service Ltd.
700 Front St, Wolseley, SK | 306-698-2344

Borderland

HOLIDAY HOURS

<p>MOOSOMIN HOME CENTRE Dec. 24: 8am - 4pm Dec. 25 & 26: CLOSED Jan. 1: CLOSED</p> <p>ROCANVILLE HOME CENTRE Dec. 24: 8am - 4pm Dec. 25 & 26: CLOSED Jan. 1: CLOSED</p> <p>WHITWOOD HOME CENTRE Dec. 24: 8am - 4pm Dec. 25 & 26: CLOSED Jan. 1: CLOSED</p> <p>BROADVIEW HOME CENTRE/LIQUOR Dec. 24: 9am - 4pm Dec. 25 & 26: CLOSED Jan. 1: CLOSED</p> <p>GRENFELL C-STORE, HOME CENTRE/LIQUOR Dec. 24: 8am - 6pm Dec. 25 & 26: 12pm - 6pm Jan. 1: 12pm - 6pm</p> <p><i>Have a Merry & Safe Holiday Season!</i></p>	<p>MOOSOMIN C-STORE OPEN REGULAR HOURS</p> <p>ROCANVILLE C-STORE Dec. 24: 7am - 6pm Dec. 25 & 26: 12pm - 6pm Jan. 1: 12pm - 6pm</p> <p>WHITWOOD C-STORE OPEN REGULAR HOURS</p> <p>BROADVIEW C-STORE OPEN REGULAR HOURS</p> <p>KIPLING C-STORE Dec. 24: 6am - 6pm Dec. 25 & 26: 10am - 8pm Jan. 1: 10am - 8pm</p> <p>MOOSOMIN LIQUOR Dec. 24: 11am - 7pm Dec. 25: CLOSED Dec. 26 & Jan. 1: 12pm - 8pm</p> <p>MOOSOMIN FOOD STORE Dec. 24: 9am - 4pm Dec. 25: CLOSED Dec. 26: 10am - 6pm Jan. 1: 10am - 6pm</p>	<p>ROCANVILLE, WHITEWOOD, BROADVIEW, GRENFELL & KIPLING FOOD STORE Dec. 24: 9am - 4pm Dec. 25 & 26: CLOSED Jan. 1: CLOSED</p> <p>WHITWOOD DAIRY QUEEN Dec. 24: 10am - 6pm Dec. 25: CLOSED Dec. 26: 11am - 8pm Dec. 31: 11am - 8pm Jan. 1: 11am - 8pm</p> <p>BROADVIEW AGRO Dec. 24: 8am - 4pm Dec. 25 & 26: CLOSED Jan. 1: CLOSED</p> <p>BULK PETROLEUM Dec. 24: 8am - 1:30pm Dec. 25 & 26: CLOSED Jan. 1: CLOSED</p> <p>MOOSOMIN & BROADVIEW ADMIN Dec. 24: 8am - 3pm Dec. 25 & 26: CLOSED Jan. 1: CLOSED</p>
---	---	--

New data shows youth unemployment remains high in Saskatchewan

By GNG Staff
Grasslands News

Newly released labour force data from Statistics Canada indicates that Saskatchewan's young workers are facing tougher job prospects than the general population, with unemployment among 15- to 24-year-olds nearly double the provincial rate.

According to the November report, 11.8 per cent of youth were unemployed, compared to 5.5 per cent across all age groups, representing an estimated 11,400 young people currently seeking work. The data also shows a decline in labour

force participation among youth year-over-year, suggesting more young people may be stepping back from the job market.

Opposition parties say the numbers reflect growing challenges for students and young graduates trying to establish themselves in the province. Saskatchewan NDP Advanced Education Critic Tajinder Grewal said the trend raises concerns about long-term retention.

"When young people can't find jobs, they leave — and Saskatchewan loses their talent and their hard work," Grewal said, adding that higher tuition, increased living

costs and limited employment options are influencing decisions about whether to remain in the province after graduation.

Nineteen-year-old University of Regina education student Lara Dixon said she applied for 30 part-time positions last spring without getting a single interview, leaving her and many friends discouraged. "To move to a city, which you expect to have a lot of opportunities, and to be rejected from every single one was just disheartening," she said. Dixon noted that without improvement in job availability, she is unsure whether she will

remain in Saskatchewan after completing her degree.

Saskatchewan NDP Jobs and Economy Critic Aleana Young said rising costs have added pressure on students and young adults. "Their costs are going up, job prospects are going down," she said, pointing to ongoing housing and food affordability concerns.

The provincial government has not yet responded directly to the latest youth employment figures, but has previously pointed to broader economic indicators — including high levels of capital investment, low overall unemployment, and strong performance in sectors such as agriculture, resources, and construction — as signs that Saskatchewan's labour market remains stable and competitive. Government officials have also argued that global economic pressures, inflation, and labour shortages in certain industries continue to influence employment trends across Canada, not only in Saskatchewan.

The report notes Saskatchewan's overall employment fell by roughly 1,400 positions in October, part of a fluctuating trend seen across several provinces this year.

Economists say youth employment tends to be

more volatile than the general labour market and can be affected by factors such as seasonal work availability, student schedules, and changes in service-sector hiring. They also note that declines in participation rates may reflect young people choosing to pursue education or training rather than immediately entering the workforce.

Despite the challenges, the province continues to promote initiatives aimed at retaining young residents, including scholarship programs, training incentives, and immigration pathways targeted at recent graduates — though youth advocates say more focused job-creation efforts may be needed to reverse the current trend.



From my family to yours,
wishing you all peace,
joy, and many blessings
during this joyous
holiday season.
Merry Christmas and
Happy New Year!

Steven Bonk M.P.
Souris - Moose Mountain

1-866-249-4697
steven.bonk@parl.gc.ca

UPCOMING EVENT

✉ ☎ @

CONTACT US

news@grasslandsnews.ca
1-844-GNG-NEWS
1-844-464-6397
www.grasslandsnews.ca

GRAIN MILLERS

Wishing you all the joys
of the season at this
special time of year!

*The management and
staff at Grain Millers
Yorkton wishes you all a
Merry Christmas and
Happy New Year!*

306.786.4682
www.grainmillers.com

**We wish you and your family a season
full of fun, celebration and great times!**

**Thank you for all the joy and happiness
you've brought to us this year.**

PLUMBING & HEATING
Laurie's Construction 2007 Inc. Collin Istace 306-735-7305
Licensed Plumber & Licensed & Bonded Gas Fitter

Whitewood, SK.
Ph: 306-735-7305

Students earn runner-up honours in holiday art contest

By Chris Ashfield
Grasslands News

Two students from Grasslands-area schools are being recognized for their creativity after earning runner-up honours in Prairie Valley School Division's Annual Holiday Card Art Contest.

Kenneth Natanauan, a Grade 12 student at Broadview School, and Gab Poblete, a Grade 8 student at Lipton School, were named Honourable Mentions among more than

50 submissions received from students across the division. The annual contest invites students to capture the spirit of the season through original artwork, with this year's entries reflecting strong imagination, technical skill, and local themes.

Natanauan's artwork features a detailed winter scene with a horse-drawn sleigh moving through a snowy forest decorated for the holidays. The piece stood out for its careful use of colour, depth, and seasonal atmosphere,

showcasing the artistic ability developed during his years at Broadview School.

Poblete's drawing highlights a classic prairie grain elevator set against a winter backdrop, a familiar and iconic image for many rural Saskatchewan communities. The bold use of red and clean lines gave the piece strong visual impact while reflecting the region's agricultural roots.

Both students will receive a small gift in recognition of their work and

were acknowledged alongside the contest's overall winner, Georgia Wilson, a Grade 5 student from Emerald Ridge Elementary School, whose artwork will appear on Prairie Valley's official holiday card.

Organizers say the contest continues to highlight the talent found throughout Prairie Valley schools and the important role arts education plays in encouraging creativity and self-expression. While only one piece can be selected for the division's holiday card, the runner-up submissions from Broadview and Lipton demonstrate the high level of skill coming out of Grasslands-area classrooms.

School division officials extended thanks to all students who participated, noting that the variety and quality of entries made judging especially challenging this year.



Runner Up Kenneth Natanauan Grade 12 Broadview School



Runner Up Gab Poblete Grade 8 Lipton School

We hope that joy and love will light up your home.

Merry Christmas

From Council & Staff
Village of Lipton

306-336-2505
lipton@villageoflipton.com
www.villageoflipton.com

Visit us online at
www.grasslandsnews.ca
or phone us at **306-728-5448**

SEASONS GREETINGS & HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Miyo manitowi-kisikânisik | Nehiyawewin
 Wanikiya Tunpi Anpétu Iyuskinpi | Lakota
 Mino manitowi-kizigan | Anishinaabemowin
 Wakan Tanka Micinksi Yuhabi Amba | Nakoda
 Wanikiya Tonpi Anpétu | Dakota

FROM THE LEADERSHIP AND STAFF OF THE
 FILE HILLS QU'APPELLE TRIBAL COUNCIL
 AND OUR ENTITIES

Christmas memories foster joy and gratitude

By Sarah Pacio
Grasslands News

Holidays are typically a time to gather with friends and family, share presents and celebrate the season. Community leaders from the Herald Sun News area reflected on their Christmas experiences and shared some of their favourite memories from past celebrations.

Chantelle Outhwaite, administrator for Broadview and the RM of Elcapo, fondly remembers gathering with community members for the annual Christmas show in Broadview. Although the old theatre on the corner of Main Street and 6th Avenue is no longer in business, Outhwaite recalled that it was once a very popular venue.

"We would get there early to get a seat as it would be packed," she said. "They would play classic Christmas movies, and at the end we could sit on Santa's lap and receive our annual bag of peanuts and, of course, a mandarin orange."

Kevin Weedmark, MLA for Moosomin-Montmartre, also enjoys gathering with local residents for holiday activities.

"One of the most special traditions for me each year is gathering at our small local church, St Alban's in Moosomin, for the Christmas Eve service," he said. "There is something magical about the familiar carols filling the sanctuary, children dressed in their Christmas best, and neighbours greeting one another with genuine warmth. In those moments — as candles are lit and the message of peace and hope is shared — we are reminded of how blessed we are to live in communities where people care so deeply for one another."

Sometimes, a slight change to traditions can have a lasting impact, creating memorable moments that are treasured

for many years. This was true for mayors in Broadview and Grenfell.

Broadview Mayor Colleen Umpherville cherishes her memory of a family gathering that was adapted to comply with pandemic protocols. It was Umpherville's turn to host her children and grandchildren for the holidays. Lock-down rules prevented them from meeting indoors, so they made plans for an alternative activity.

"We decided to go tobogganing, which definitely wasn't part of our usual Christmas plans, but it ended up being so much fun," Umpherville explained. "We spent the afternoon taking runs down the hill, laughing and making the best of a really unusual year."

Food and presents were not neglected either.

"Afterward, we set up lawn chairs spaced apart and had turkey buns and snacks outside. It was cold, but it felt good just to see everyone in person," Umpherville added. "We exchanged gifts from a distance, doing everything as safely as we could. Even though nothing about it was traditional, it turned into one of the most memorable and meaningful Christmases I've had: simple, a little improvised, but really special."

Grenfell Mayor Mark Steininger shared a holiday memory involving a Christmas tree, which demonstrated that simple acts of kindness and small gestures of thoughtfulness can be very meaningful, too. The decoration was particularly special because it symbolized joy in the midst of challenging circumstances.

Steininger and his family had faced some difficult experiences as the holiday season approached that year. One day while Steininger was at work, his son arrived home from school and decided their house needed a Christmas tree.

"He wrapped up a block of styrofoam like a present. Then he went outside, broke off a tree branch, stuck it in the styrofoam and put a single bow on it," Steininger recalled. "We didn't have much for Christmas that year, but that tree is one of my favourite memories."

Steven Bonk, MP for Souris-Moose Mountain, said his favourite memory did not involve decorations. However, just like Mayor Steininger's story emphasized joy, MP Bonk's family tradition taught him the importance of gratitude.

He grew up on a farm near Wolseley and noted that he and his siblings were required to care for the animals before opening Christmas presents.

"My dad always reminded us to give

them extra feed and fresh bedding on Christmas Day," he shared. "As a kid, I'll admit I wasn't thrilled — waiting to open gifts felt like torture. But as I got older, that small act became my favourite part of the season. There's something grounding and meaningful about starting Christmas by giving comfort to the animals that sustain your family."

The Member of Parliament learned valuable lessons from those Christmas chores.

"It taught us gratitude, responsibility, and that the greatest joy comes from giving, not receiving," he said. "To this day, that tradition still shapes how I see Christmas — and I'm grateful for it."



Enjoy the true gifts of Christmas
this year – family, friends,
health and love.

Balcarres Agencies Ltd.
216 Main St., Balcarres SK
306-334-2401
balcarresagencies.saskbrokers.com

Merry Christmas!

WISHING YOU JOY AND
WARMTH THIS HOLIDAY SEASON.



Jason, Laura
Nicole, Karen, Rebecca, Jadene

BJ HEINMILLER CPA PROF. CORP.
131 3RD AVE E.
MELVILLE, SK

Wishing you
every happiness
this Holiday Season
and throughout
the coming year!

**Town of
Broadview,
Council & Staff**



EMS dismissal sends message - raises concerns

continued from front

Even that is not as good as what we have here, with 12 hours on and 12 on-call."

Whitewood Mayor Chris Ashfield said Perchie's remarks reflected concerns already felt in the community.

"When your ambulance isn't available and another one has to come from another town 30 or 40 minutes away, that's not a small issue," Ashfield said. "That could be life and death. We asked the SHA to come speak to us because we needed straight answers, and Glen gave us those answers."

Perchie was often praised for his transparency.

"Here's someone who took the time, he's highly competent, he's on the ground, he knows the

issues," Conway said. "He meets with the local council to discuss both challenges and solutions. He's doing everything that we should expect from people running our healthcare system, he acknowledges that things are worse than ever, but he also points to the things that are being done that need to be done and he's fired. This is just madness."

The SHA said it remains committed to community engagement but would not comment on individual personnel matters.

"While we are unable to comment on individual human resource decisions, which are confidential, we are able to provide information about ongoing actions toward strengthening EMS

services," SHA chief operating officer Derek Miller said in a statement. "The SHA encourages leaders across the province to engage directly with municipal partners to share information, understand local needs and support collaborative planning. We value the partnership of community leaders in strengthening health and emergency medical services."

Miller acknowledged pressures within EMS and said SHA senior leadership planned to meet with Whitewood officials to address their concerns.

"Our commitment is to reliable health and EMS services, strong communication and ongoing collaboration with the communities we serve," he said.

Speaking to reporters



Glen Perchie

Tuesday, Conway reiterated her concerns, noting she had been unable to connect with Perchie directly.

"I want to be very clear," she said. "Firing a frontline leader in healthcare because they were honest with municipal leaders about the true state of healthcare, including risks to public safety, would be completely unacceptable."

Conway said she has spoken with between six and 10 EMS employees

across the province since the issue emerged.

"I think that's significant," she said.

The provincial government says it has made investments aimed at strengthening EMS. Since 2022-23, Saskatchewan has invested nearly \$18 million to add about 200 full-time equivalent paramedic positions across 68 rural EMS services. The province has also increased annual training seats for primary care paramedics from 152 to 252 and provided more than \$2.18 million in bursaries and licensing support.

On Dec. 16, Miller and SHA executive director Rod MacKenzie attended a Whitewood town council meeting as a delegation via Zoom. Miller spoke about the importance of communication with municipalities, but Ashfield said that appeared to be the very issue at the centre of Perchie's dismissal.

"I'm a little confused," Ashfield told council. "That's exactly what we did, and the person was terminated because of it."

Miller said the SHA would establish two points of contact for EMS-related questions going forward and emphasized the need for candid discussions.

"We are under pressures in EMS and other areas of healthcare," he said. "We need to be able to share what's happening with the current situation."

Miller also committed to rebuilding the relationship with Whitewood council and regaining trust, including a proposed in-person meeting early in the new year.

"We want to repair if there has been a breach in trust and you're feeling like that," Miller said, suggesting a future in-person meeting with Council next month. "We want to repair and get on better footing."

Miller added they would also strive to bring Tarr and Ulmer, hnthe present day contacts for the area, to that upcoming meeting.

"We'd be open to having you guys out, to meet face-to-face for sure in the New Year," Mayor Ashfield said. "There is some repair work that has to happen and I think that needs to happen fairly soon. We were all shocked by this and quite honestly, quite disappointed in it because we did have a good relationship with Mr. Perchie."

Calls grow for review of foreign farmland ownership in Saskatchewan

By GNG Staff
Grasslands News

The Saskatchewan NDP is calling for a public inquiry into foreign farmland ownership, arguing the issue has raised growing concern among producers, municipalities, and agricultural stakeholders across the province.

NDP Leader and Agriculture Shadow Minister Carla Beck said the party wants the province's new Agriculture Minister to demonstrate he is listening to producers by launching an immediate inquiry into the issue.

"We need to support our world-class agricultural producers — they feed the world," Beck said. "We have heard overwhelming support to crack down on illegal foreign farmland ownership from producers, major stakeholders and municipal leaders."

Beck questioned whether the former agriculture minister had been responding to those concerns, noting that producers have repeatedly raised the issue. Former minister Daryl Harrison was removed from cabinet last week and replaced by Dave Marit.

The Agricultural Producers Association of Saskatchewan (APAS) wrote to Harrison on Nov. 12 calling for what it described as "systematic changes" to farmland ownership rules and oversight.

On Monday, NDP Deputy Agriculture

Shadow Minister Trent Wotherspoon wrote to Marit urging the launch of a public inquiry into foreign entities purchasing Saskatchewan farmland. Wotherspoon said the inquiry should include audits of past land transactions and a review of current farmland ownership to ensure compliance with existing legislation.

Wotherspoon has previously called for increased resources and enforcement powers for the Farmland Security Board, along with stronger penalties for violations. He has also advocated for audits of farmland transactions and action to force the divestiture of land acquired illegally by foreign entities, including the forfeiture of profits gained in breach of the law.

Concerns about enforcement were highlighted by a finding from the Provincial Auditor, which reported that the Farmland Security Board requested statutory declarations of ownership in only about half of the land transactions reviewed where such declarations were required.

"The Sask. Party has insisted there's nothing to see here, that producers' concerns about illegal foreign farmland ownership are baseless," Wotherspoon said. "Well, let's get to the bottom of it."

He added that refusing to hold an inquiry would raise further questions about the government's handling of the issue.

Oshowy Auto & Glass

- Windshield Replacement & Chip Repair
- Mobile service available
- ADAS Calibrations Available

Whitewood Sk | 306 853-7935

HOME | AUTO | FARM | BUSINESS | LIFE & HEALTH



Trustmark.
INSURANCE BROKERS

Trust us with what matters most.

215 - 3rd Ave. W., Melville, SK 306.728.2165
www.trustmarkinsurance.ca



CUMBERLAND VILLAS

** Exceptional Seniors Living **

Offering Seniors a High Quality independent lifestyle!



Time Limited Offer!

Have Lunch on us!
Call for your tour.

One Month
FREE!!
Inquire Today!



www.cumberlandvillas.com

Melville: (306) 728-2035 Tisdale: (306) 873-5131

Studio, one and two bed suites • Full kitchens • Activities & entertainment
• In suite washer dryer • Transit service • Dining room, library, billiards,
TV room • Workshop, Craft Room • Security with 24-hour monitoring and
response • Balconies • Individual heat and air conditioning



Friends and Neighbours

New in Town: A Serial Novel - Installment 20

By Allison Kydd
Grasslands News

*The story so far: *While other residents of this particular small town carry on with their lives, librarian Millicent Harrison tries to make a few positive changes in order that she might be more supportive when her friend Sandra Devine comes out of hiding. Ironically, Millicent has a serious fall after her first visit to a Forever in Motion class. Meanwhile, the youth about town have their own issues to deal with.*

The letter was on the kitchen counter when Clayton Schultz came home from school. Personal letters were rare at their address, and a letter with Clayton's name on it rarer still. Fortunately, he saw it just in time to scoop it up before Cleo noticed, or so he hoped. If it had caught her eye, she would be bound to say something, since she seldom missed a chance to embarrass him.

Even before he reached the privacy of his room and could take it out of his pocket to see for certain, he had a pretty good idea who had sent it. When the Mackays' granddaughter, Samantha, was visiting in the summer, she had said she would write. In fact, he had promised he would do the same – once she had made the commitment, it would have been rude not to promise in turn.

But now it was December. Summer was long ago, and so much had happened since. He was in a whole new grade in school, he was getting more comfortable with small town life, and he had actually found a couple of guys to hang out with. Not only that, but dramatic things happened to other people as well – such as when the town librarian fell and broke her leg, and now there was all this worry that she might lose her job.

In fact, so much had happened lately that Clay had almost forgotten Samantha, even though it had been sort of nice having a girl look up to him for a change. Not like his twin sister and her friends, who treated him as if he were some kind of joke.

His mother, on the other hand, he knew he could trust. She might wonder about the letter, might even ask, but unlike Cleo, she would do it privately, to avoid embarrassing him.

For some reason, he didn't read the letter as soon as he was safely in his room but dropped it on the bed with his homework. The whole idea of exchanging letters with a girl made him nervous. It wasn't as if Samantha was his girlfriend or anything. She was only ten, going on eleven, two whole years younger than him, so much too young to be a girlfriend, even if she was kind of sweet.

On the other hand, Cleo kept telling him girls grew up faster than boys. It was his sister's excuse for trying to make his life miserable. She looked and acted like a teenager already, though their birthday wasn't until March.

Finally, he picked up the letter and looked closely at it. At least the writing on the envelope wasn't too girly. In their

school, cellphones went into a basket on the teacher's desk at the beginning of each period, so the only way students could communicate with each other was in writing. Therefore, the girls in his home room passed notes back and forth – notes written in big, loopy letters with hearts to dot the i's and j's. Even Cleo wrote in that girly way.

Naturally the guys stole the notes whenever they had the chance, which was probably what the girls expected. In fact, since most of the notes talked about guys and crushes, Clay figured they were probably written just to tease the boys into stealing them.

Knowing Samantha's letter was lying there on his bed waiting for him made it difficult to focus on his homework, so he finally quit pretending he wasn't interested. For some reason, maybe because he had never received a personal letter in the mail before, he didn't want to make a mess of the envelope. Fortunately, the sharp edge of his ruler made a pretty good letter opener.

Next, he pulled out two sheets of lined writing paper. Samantha must really like writing letters, he thought, as lines of black ink galloped back and forth from top to bottom of both sides of each page. He sat down at his desk, still feeling a little nervous, this time wondering if she would expect him to write just as much in return, and then concentrated on the pages in front of him.

Clay's mother did mention the letter, as he had thought she might. She brought it up while she was putting the leftovers from supper into containers. It was his turn to load the dishwasher, so they were alone in the kitchen. Though his mother was very casual about it, just wondered how Samantha was doing at school and if she was still taking piano lessons, Clay felt his face and neck heat up.

"She didn't say anything about that," he said. "Mostly she talked about her mother's wedding and how she might be coming to her grandparents' place again after Christmas."

"That would be nice," said his mother.

"I guess so."

"Her grandparents must be very happy about that."

Clay wasn't sure if Samantha's grandparents would be happy or not.

"Well, it's going to be a different sort of wedding," he said. "I mean, with two women getting married to each other."

His mother didn't comment on the last part of what he said.

"I meant about her coming to stay again," she said.

"It would only be for a week or so, while her mother and Frankie are away. She wouldn't miss any school."

"Even better," said his mother. "I guess it's as good a time as any for a honeymoon trip. Where are they going?"

"Skiing, I think. The Laurentians. They're both sort of outdoorsy."

"What does Samantha think about that?" asked his mother. "I mean about everything, the wedding, the honeymoon."

"She's okay with it. She thinks Frankie is sort of cool. She's going to be walking

her mother down the aisle – Samantha is, I mean."

"That is different, but there's nothing wrong with it. It's nice that she'll be part of the ceremony."

"I guess so."

"And it's nice that she likes her mother's – Frankie."

"Yeah. I guess."

His mother ruffled his hair affectionately. "Of course it is. Second marriages hardly ever work if children and new partners don't get along."

Second marriages? New partners? What was his mother talking about?

"So what was it like when you got married?" It suddenly seemed important to know this.

"What was what like? My wedding – to your father?"

"Yeah. Did you have bridesmaids and best men and everything and a fancy car and honeymoon trip?"

"We were very traditional, but not too big or fancy. Your dad and I had just finished university, so we didn't have a lot of money. I wore a white gown and your dad rented a tux. Two bridesmaids – your Aunt Isabelle was matron of honour and my sister Maria – remember her? And two best men. One of them was your Uncle Gerald. The other one I've forgotten."

"Do you remember the photo? Oh, perhaps not. I think it got knocked down when you and Cleo were small, and I guess we didn't get around to replacing the frame. I wonder where it is now..."

"I'd like to see it. Mom –"

"What is it, son?"

"Are you and dad happy together?"

"Oh, my, where did that come from?"

"Well, Samantha's parents got divorced."

"But that was different."

"Why? What makes it different?"

And that was when Cleo strolled into the kitchen.

"Boy, you're sure taking a long time to stack the dishwasher," she said, handing him a cup. "Here's something you forgot."

"Thanks, dear," said their mother. "Do you mind giving us a little space? Your brother and I were having a private conversation."

"Is he telling you all about the letter and his little girlfriend?"

So she had seen it after all. He should have known.

"Cleo. Did you hear what I said? I asked for a little space so your brother and I can finish our conversation. We won't be long."

Cleo made a face and flounced out, but not without taking a swipe at her brother.

"Cleo," said their mother.

When his sister was gone, Clay sort of wished he hadn't brought up the subject of his parents' marriage. Grownups always wanted to talk, but he wasn't convinced talking ever made things better.

It was too late now, however. His mother sat down on one of the kitchen chairs and pulled out another chair for him.

"Please sit down," she said.

"It's all right," he said. "I was just being dumb."

"Clay. Sit down."

He sat. He thought how pretty his mother was with her dark hair and eyes. No wonder his father had wanted to marry her. But what about his mother? What made her want to marry his father? Was it possible there was someone in his mother's life that she liked better? Someone who had lots of money and didn't do crazy things like decide to quit his job so he could be a farmer.

"I can tell that something is really bothering you," his mother was saying. "Can you tell me about it?"

"It's okay."

"Clayton, if you don't tell me, I can't help. Don't you trust me, son?"

When she put it that way, what could he do but pour it all out?

(To be continued)

May your Christmas be filled with love, laughter and precious moments shared with the ones you hold dear.

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!

BIGWAY FOODS
444 Grand Ave Indian Head, SK

OPEN: Mon. - Sat. 8:30 a.m. - 6:30 p.m., Sun. 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Call: 306-695-3766 | Toll Free: 1-877-791-7441

On behalf of the mayor, councillors, and staff, we wish you a MERRY Christmas & HAPPY NEW YEAR

THE TOWN OF Indian Head SASKATCHEWAN

Weyburn to host 2028 Sask. Summer Games

By GNG Staff
Grasslands News

Weyburn will once again welcome athletes from across the province after being selected to host the 2028 Saskatchewan Summer Games, marking the city's first time hosting the event since 2004.

The Saskatchewan Games Council made the announcement Monday, saying the week-long multi-sport event is expected to draw up to 1,800 participants and as many as 5,000 spectators from every corner of Saskatchewan.

Organizers estimate the Games will generate up to \$7 million in economic benefits for Weyburn and the surrounding region through tourism spending, capital investment and upgrades to local sport facilities and equipment. More than 1,000 community volunteers are expected to support the event.

"The City of Weyburn is honoured to welcome athletes,

coaches, families and fans from across Saskatchewan back to our community for the 2028 Saskatchewan Summer Games," Mayor Jeff Richards said in a statement. "Hosting these Games is not only a celebration of sport; it will bring visitors from across the province, driving an economic boost for our community and creating real opportunities for local businesses to grow."

The 2028 Games will feature competition in 13 sports, including archery, athletics, baseball, basketball, canoe kayak, soccer, softball, swimming, tennis, triathlon, volleyball and Special Olympics bocce. Rowing will also return to the Saskatchewan Games program for the first time since 1996.

Weyburn will receive a \$550,000 hosting grant from the Saskatchewan Games Council, which oversees the biennial Games program. The city is also expected to benefit from up to \$500,000 in additional investment through the council's matching Games Legacy Grant, aimed at funding new and upgraded sport facilities and equipment.

The city last hosted the Saskatchewan Summer Games in 2004, an event that left a lasting mark on the community. A major legacy from those Games was the construction of new athletics track adjacent to Weyburn Comprehensive School, a facility that has since drawn athletics competitions and events to the city.

Several athletes who went on to compete at the highest levels of sport also took part in the 2004 Games, including Olympians Marsha Hudey and Chelsea Valois, and Paralympians Erica Gavel and Miranda Biletski.

Greg Perreault, executive director of the Saskatchewan Games Council, said Weyburn stood out for its experience and community support.

"With Weyburn's strong event-hosting background, excellent facilities and engaged volunteer base, we know that these will be an exceptional, athlete-centred Games," Perreault said. He added the Games align well with the city's goals for economic diversification, infrastructure investment and tourism growth.

The Saskatchewan Games, first established in 1972, are held every two years and are designed to support the development of athletes, coaches and officials across the province. The Games are often a stepping stone toward higher levels of competition, including the Canada Games and the North American Indigenous Games.

While Weyburn looks ahead to 2028, preparations are continuing for the 2026 Saskatchewan Winter Games, which will be hosted jointly by Flying Dust First Nation and the City of Meadow Lake from Feb. 15 to 21. It will mark the first time in the program's 53-year history that a First Nation and city have partnered to host the Games.

Volunteer registration and athlete tryouts for the 2026 Winter Games are already underway across Saskatchewan.



From all of us!

*We're filled with joy this holiday season,
And your kind patronage is the reason -
for one thing that we know is true,
We owe our success to each one of you!*

BUNGE

Grenfell, SK

For all your grain and oilseed marketing
needs including on-farm service

Toll Free : 1-877-768-4546
306-697-3209

You're at home here.



**Wishing you a beautiful
holiday season
and a new year filled
with peace and happiness.**

Happy holidays!

Prairie Co-op Ltd.

Melville • Fort Qu'Appelle
Lipton • Cupar • Strasbourg AG
Ituna • Kelliher • McLean AG



Merry Christmas

from

Melville Arts
Council/
Community Works

**Thank you to the community for
your support and sponsorship!**



HAPPY HOLIDAYS
TO YOU AND YOUR FAMILY

FROM EVERYONE AT



GRANITE, MARBLE, BRONZE MONUMENTS
Second Inscriptions Vases, Cremation Urns
Licensed and Bonded

306-332-1335 or 306-728-8197

Thank you
for your
continued
support.

Merry Christmas
and happy new
year to you and
your family,
from the
management
and staff at

Modern Propane



MODERN PROPANE LTD.



306-332-4401

Sioux, Ave., Fort Qu'Appelle, SK

Keeping Your Flame Lit!

*The most cherished gifts of
Christmas are memories.
Carefully made to last a lifetime,
they can be ours to treasure,
growing more precious with
each passing year.*



BAILEY'S
FUNERAL AND CREMATION CARE

101 Fifth Avenue West • Melville, SK S0A 2P0 • www.baileysfuneralhome.com
Telephone 306-728-5488 • Email: baileysfuneralhome@sasktel.net

Don Klus, Ron Wilson and Len Varga; Ray and Crystal Bailey



Artwork donated

Residents of Echo Lodge received an early Christmas present from the Qu'Appelle Valley Arts Guild. Members took turns painting a reproduction of Young Tommy Six Gun, a work by John Felter, a graphic New York artist who illustrated covers for the Saturday Evening Post in the 1950's. The collective work was done during the 2024 Lebret Art sale. Guild members Debbie Dewar (center) and Darlene Clarke (right) presented the painting to Tammy Watchman (left) for the enjoyment of the residents.

ALAN HUSTAK | GRASSLANDS NEWS

KEEP IT LOCAL



Your trusted source for local news in print, online and on the go!

grasslands NEWS
Local News, Events & Advertising
1-844-GNG-NEWS
www.grasslandsnews.ca



Jamie & Vanessa would like to send out a huge Thank You to all of our customers for all of your continued support!!

We would also like to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Healthy, Happy & Prosperous 2026!

J&V ELECTRIC | Fort Qu'Appelle, SK
306-332-4178
306-331-8827

Chief Scott Eashappie hearing pushed to January

By Ryan Kiedrowski
Grasslands News

over \$5,000, theft over \$5,000, money laundering, and breach of trust.

None of the allegations have been tested in court.

The File Hills First Nations Police Service arrested Eashappie back on March 5 in relation to an extensive ongoing financial crime investigation. Effective April 1, he returned to office after conditions constricting Eashappie were lifted.

After a scheduled appearance at Indian Head Circuit Court, charges against Carry the Kettle Nakota Nation Chief Schott Eashappie have been adjourned to Jan. 6.

Eashappie is facing charges of fraud

Happy Holidays

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!
Thank you to all past and future customers for your support
May you have a prosperous 2026!

Tim and Shelly Beres
306-730-9933
Melville, SK

FAIRLAND SEEDS LTD.
Your Canola Seed Specialist



Rejoice

For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given,
and the government will be on his shoulders.
And he will be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Isaiah 9:6

THE RIVER CHRISTIAN CENTER

Melville Community Works Auditorium, 800 Prince Edward St., Melville, SK

THANK YOU to all the volunteers and supporters of our Annual Agape Meal, held Dec. 6.
Special THANK YOU Ottenbreit Meats, Nellie's Bakery, Queen Street Plumbing & Heating and the Melville Air Cadets.

Celebrate the Wonder and the Joy of the Festive Season

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

-Ron Kaban & the Staff at Yorkton Hyundai

Teams set for 2026 SaskTel Tankard and Bunge Prairie Pinnacle in Melville

By Jacob Miller
Grasslands News

The best curling teams in the province descend in Melville early next month for the 2026 SaskTel Tankard and Bunge Prairie Pinnacle.

The provincial curling championships are set for Jan. 5 to 11 at the CN Community Centre in Melville and will feature nine teams on both the men's and women's side.

On the men's side, six teams pre-qualified for the 2026 SaskTel Tankard through tour play and the Canadian Team Ranking System (CTRS). Pre-qualified rinks include Team Knapp of Re-

gina's Highland Curling Club, Team DeConinck Smith of Fox Valley, Team Laycock of Swift Current, Team Kalthoff



SASKTEL TANKARD
MELVILLE 2026



BUNGE
Prairie Pinnacle
MELVILLE 2026



and Team Kleiter of Saskatoon's Nutana Curling Club, and Team Moser of Martensville.

The final three spots were decided during the Last Chance Event in Humboldt which took place Dec. 11 to 14. The final men's teams include Team Cars of Saskatoon, Team Tyler Hartung of Langenburg, and Team Josh Bryden of Regina.

The Tankard winner will go on and represent Saskatchewan at the 2026 Montana's Brier in St. John's Newfoundland

and Labrador.

On the women's side, six teams also pre-qualified for the 2026 Bunge Prairie Pinnacle. Rinks include Team Miller and Team Campbell of Regina's Highland Curling Club, Team Barker of Moose Jaw, Team Martin and Team Thevenot of Martensville, and Team Just of Esterhazy.

Teams who advanced at the Last Chance event in Weyburn include Team Selzer of Balgonie, along with Regina-based Team Tisdale and Team Orsted. The Prairie Pinnacle champion will advance to the 2026 Scotties Tournament of Hearts in Mississauga.


Tickets for the Tankard and Prairie Pinnacle are available at tickets.curl-sask.ca.

Ticket Sales Online at curlsask.ca or scan this QR code



Melville CHEVROLET

CHEVROLET BUICK® GMC

 21 Columbia St., Melville, SK
306-728-4567

As this time of year rolls around, we always enjoy looking back and being thankful for all the great people we have had the good fortune of coming through our doors. We are truly blessed to be in Melville, a wonderful community that offers everything for a fantastic lifestyle and way of living. We are very proud of our TEAM and the fact that our business employs 20 individuals that work together to make us who we are.

All of us here at Melville Chevrolet Buick GMC, say Happy Holidays. Enjoy your families and may you all have a safe, healthy, and prosperous 2026.

www.melvillechevrolet.com

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

Thank you for your support in 2025.

Best wishes to you and your family,
Rob, Rachael,
Savannah & staff.



Ph: 306-728-4565
1231 Queen St., Melville, Sask.

Village of Grayson mayor's message

I am pleased to extend warm wishes to all residents of Grayson and the surrounding area for a magical, safe, and joyous Christmas, and a Happy New Year!

In 2025, the Village of Grayson continued to advance several important community initiatives. One of the year's major milestones was the municipality's purchase and operation of the Grayson General Store and the annual Party in the Park 2025.

I would like to thank Grayson Public Library, Grayson Community Day Care and Council, for the meaningful contributions they make in our community. Their valuable programs and services continue to have a real and positive impact on the lives of our residents.

We would like to thank our many local community groups, including the Grayson Parks and Recreation Board,

the Grayson Skating Rink Committee, the Grayson Volunteer Firefighters, Grayson in Bloom, the Crooked Lake Classic, the Grayson Community Development Co-operative, Hwy 22 Dance Association and the Grayson General Store Board, for their important contributions throughout 2025.

Community volunteers make a tremendous difference in Grayson. Their dedication helps beautify our village, expand services, deliver community programming, community fundraising and support a diverse range of improvements that keep our community safe, vibrant, and enjoyable for everyone.

I wish everyone a very merry Christmas with family, friends and the great outdoors

Cheers, Mayor Riley Ottenbreit

Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year from the Village of Grayson!

Wishing you and your family all the best during the Holiday Season.

Riley Ottenbreit,
Mayor

Sandy Kuntz,
Deputy Mayor
and Councillor

Ian Stecyk, Councillor
and

Colleen Stinson, Administrator



To our customers near and far, thank you for your business.
* From Logan & Charlotte, Terry & Lisa and the staff *
Mark, Barry, Jason, Keith, Lyle, Justin, Janelle, Darryl, Mike, James, Warren, Allan and Joe (missing), we want to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a healthy, Happy New Year.

N&R Concrete Ltd.
Melville, SK. 728-5433



Lisa Kirkwood
Residential Specialist
306-728-6789
lkirkwood@remax.net



REMAX

Blue Chip Realty

SERVING MELVILLE AND AREA

32 Smith Street, Yorkton, SK – Phone: 306-783-6666

Each Office is Independently Owned & Operated

www.remaxbluechip.ca



Shawn Pryhitka
Agriculture Specialist
306-621-9798
sprhyitka@remax-yorkton.ca

There's No Place Like Home
for the **HOLIDAYS**

Melville Listings

Cumberland Villas
#209 - 680 - 7th Ave. E.
1-BDM, 1-BATH, 473 SQ.FT.
MLS*SK021549



\$110,000

573 - 4th Ave. W.
1-BDM, 1-BATH, 672 SQ.FT.
MLS*SK020168



\$70,000

470 - 2nd Ave. W.
2-BDM, 1-BATH, 846 SQ.FT.
MLS*SK025460



NEW LISTING
SOLD

368 - 3rd Ave. E.
2-BDM, 1-BATH, 931 SQ.FT.
MLS*SK010551



\$120,000

325 Manitoba Street
3-BDM, 1-BATH, 955 SQ.FT.
MLS*SK024135



\$105,000

359 - 4th Ave. W.
2-BDM, 1-BATH, 912 SQ.FT.
MLS*SK022377



↓ \$142,000 ↓

140 - 3rd Ave. W.
C1, 3,100 SQ.FT.
MLS*SK019063



\$215,000

26 Jubilee Cres.
4-BDM, 2-BATH, 1,340 SQ.FT.
MLS*SK024967



SOLD

Rural Listings

18 Lakeview Lane.
3-BDM, 2-BATH, 1,470 SQ.FT.
MLS*SK021655

Melville Beach



\$647,000

YOUR ADDRESS
Lisa 306-728-6789
Shawn 306-621-9798

**CALL US
AND WE CAN
LIST YOUR
PROPERTY
TODAY!**

\$YOUR PRICE

152 Criddle Ave.
4-BDM, 3-BATH, 1,920 SQ.FT.
MLS*SK024296

Crooked Lake



\$720,000

110 Henderson St.
2-BDM, 1-BATH, 660 SQ.FT.
MLS*SK011112

Grayson



\$50,000

101 Young St.
2-BDM, 2-BATH, 896 SQ.FT.
MLS*SK021764

Neudorf



\$98,000

215 Louis St.
3-BDM, 2-BATH, 1,440 SQ.FT.
MLS*SK017383


Neudorf



↓ \$99,000 ↓

Land
478.52 Acres

RM of Churchbridge



MLS*SK996513

\$499,000

Land
159.36 Acres
MLS*SK021083

RM of Sliding Hills



\$675,000



REMAX

Blue Chip Realty

SPORTS

Senior hockey heats up as local teams battle toward the break

By GNG Staff
Grasslands News

Men's senior hockey delivered another busy and physical week across southeast Saskatchewan, with action spanning the Prairie Men's Hockey League, Big 6 Hockey League, Qu'Appelle Valley Hockey League, and Sask East Hockey League. From tightly contested battles to high-scoring nights, local teams were tested as the season pushes toward the Christmas break and the standings begin to take shape.

Prairie Men's Hockey League

Indian Head Chiefs were in action on December 12

and fell 4-2 on the road to the Cupar Canucks after a strong start. Indian Head scored twice in the opening period through Jackson Baran and Graydon Allcock, but Cupar responded with four unanswered goals, including two from Dane Bonish, to take control of the game. Indian Head will look to bounce back when they travel to Strasbourg on Friday, Dec. 19 before returning home for additional league play later in the schedule.

Cupar Canucks used home ice to their advantage against Indian Head, capitalizing on a disciplined second period to earn the win and strengthen their position in the league standings. Cupar faces a demanding stretch ahead with road games against Strasbourg on December 20 and Ituna on December 21

Valley Warriors were in action on Sunday, Dec. 7 and dropped a 10-5 decision to the Strasbourg Maroons in Fort Qu'Appelle. Despite generating offense, Valley was unable to slow Strasbourg's attack, which pulled away as the game progressed. The Warriors will look to regroup when they host the Indian Head Chiefs on January 3 before returning to league play later in January.

Sask East Hockey League

Wapella Blackhawks delivered a dominant performance on Friday, Dec. 12, cruising to a 14-2 victory over the Preeceville Pats at the Whitewood Community Centre. Wapella built a 3-0 first-period lead and exploded for eight goals in the second, with Riley Holloway scoring four times and Keigan Callander posting six points in the win. The Blackhawks now sit fourth in the Sask East South Division with a 3-4 record and six points, remaining firmly in the playoff hunt. Wapella is back in action Saturday, Dec. 20 on the road against the Rocanville Tigers.

Big 6 Hockey

In Big 6 play, the KW Oil Kings and Wawota Flyers continued to battle through a challenging stretch of the schedule. Wawota earned an 8-3 win over KW on Saturday, Dec. 13, while the Oil Kings followed with a 3-1 loss to Carlyle the next night. KW currently sits seventh in the standings with two points, while Wawota is sixth with five points as both teams remain within reach of mid-table movement before Christmas. The Oil Kings and Flyers are set to meet again on Tuesday, Dec. 23 in Wawota.

Qu'Appelle Valley Hockey League

In QVHHL action, Balcarres Broncs, Balgonie Bisons, and Grenfell Spitfires all saw meaningful results. Balcarres was edged 4-3 in overtime by Raymore but remains third in the standings with 11 points, while Balgonie dropped a close 5-4 decision to Southey and continues to look for consistency. Grenfell earned a key road win over Bethune and sits fifth, staying within striking distance of the playoff cut line. Grenfell travels to Southey on Friday, Dec. 19, while Balgonie and Balcarres meet on Saturday, Dec. 20.



CHRIS ASHFIELD | GRASSLANDS NEWS

Senior men's hockey

The Wapella Blackhawks and Preeceville Pats played an South East Hockey League match in Whitewood on Dec. 12 where the Blackhawks skated away with a crushing 14-2 victory. Riley Holloway scored four of the goals for Wapella.

Vibank surges, Grenfell tests depth in PWHL hockey match-ups

By Chris Ashfield
Grasslands News

The Prairie Women's Hockey League delivered plenty of excitement in recent action involving both Vibank and Grenfell, with both teams showcasing effort, skill, and competitive spirit in front of their home crowds.

Vibank Bruins were firing on all cylinders on Dec. 14, rolling to a 7-2 victory over the Rouleau Reign in an energetic contest at the Rouleau Skating and Curling Club. The Bruins set the tone early and never let up, scoring in every period while controlling the pace of play. Santana Blomquist opened

the scoring in the first period and was a constant playmaker throughout the night, while Kate Fisher turned in a dominant offensive performance with goals in all three periods to finish with a multi-goal night. Vibank continued to build its lead with goals from Lilla Carpenter-Boesch and Peyton Malory, along with contributions from across the lineup, as the Bruins capitalized on sustained pressure and strong puck movement. Rouleau responded with goals from Raea Gilroy and Paige Hubbard, keeping the game competitive and pushing back late, while penalties on both sides added to the intensity of the matchup.

The Bruins now turn their attention to

upcoming league play, hosting the Southeast Saints on Dec. 20 at 3 p.m. at the Harry O Memorial Arena before heading into the holiday break. Vibank will return to action in the new year on Jan. 4 when they travel to Rouleau to face the Gull Lake Falcons.

Grenfell Prairie Fire were back on home ice on Dec. 13, where they battled the Gull Lake Falcons in a lively Prairie Women's Hockey League contest that ended in a 6-1 win for the visitors. Gull Lake jumped out quickly, scoring three first-period goals from Baylee Stevenson, Brooklyn Johnston, and Tori Seiferling to seize early momentum. The Falcons added to their lead as the game progressed, with Kali Williams finding

the net twice and Johnston adding another marker to round out the scoring. Grenfell's lone goal came courtesy of Brooklynn Mckenna, who converted with assists from Hannah Pennell and Jenaya Haylock, providing a highlight for the home side. The game featured several penalties and a midgame goaltending change for Grenfell, as Cyanna Callfas took over in net after Marieve Elliott was relieved, with both teams continuing to compete hard through to the final whistle.

Grenfell will close out its 2025 schedule on the road on Dec. 20, traveling to Rouleau to take on the Rouleau Reign as the Prairie Fire look to finish the calendar year on a strong note.

Sask
Battery
Distributors

1444-A LORNE ST
REGINA, SK.
306.791.9844



\$0.44

EACH

SAVE MORE

WHEN YOU BUY
A PACK OF
AA OR AAA

24

SASKBATTERY.COM

Millionaires win, lose against Bruins in home-and-home

By Darcy Gross
Grasslands News

Injuries and illness seemed to catch up to the SJHL's Melville Millionaires in their most recent contest.

Estevan Bruins 6 at Melville Millionaires 3 (Dec. 13)

Reeling from a number of injuries as well as the flu bug running through the roster, the Millionaires played a couple of good periods before running out of gas in the final frame.

The Millionaires led 1-0 after the first period and the game was knotted at 2-2 after 40 minutes, with the Bruins erupting for four third-period markers to secure the second game of a two-game weekend set.

The home side outshot the Bruins 35-26 with Noah Sinagowitz taking the loss in the Millionaires' crease.

Kale Margolis and Boston Harkness were the main point-getters for the Millionaires, registering a pair of assists each.

Wesley Golden, with his third of the season, Hudson Binder with his second tally since joining the Millionaires and Rylan Oatman with his ninth goal of the campaign, took care of Melville's scoring.

Each club was handed four minor penalties.

Melville Millionaires 5 at Estevan Bruins 1 (Dec. 12)

Sinagowitz kicked out 26 of 27 shots and Yibin Yoo had a Gordie Howe hat trick – a goal, an assist, and a fight – to lead the Millionaires to the road triumph.

Yoo had his second goal of the season, Matthew Edwards picked up his fourth and Louis Nadeau sniped his first, and all three players added an assist for a two-point night.

Harkness and Margolis were each credited with a couple of helpers with Binder firing his first goal as a Millionaire with Wesley Olson denting the twine for the fourth time this season.

Brodie Hicks and Preston Baerwald

each had an assist to round out Melville's point-getters.

The Millionaires had 30 shots on the Estevan cage and led 2-0 after the first period and held a 4-0 advantage after two stanzas.

The visitors were whistled for five of nine minor penalties, and the teams split two fighting majors and two game misconducts.

The Millionaires have two games remaining prior to the holiday break, and they're both on the road.

On Dec. 17 the Millionaires will take on the Mustangs in Melfort and on the 19th, they'll face off in Weyburn with the Red Wings.

On Jan. 2, the Millionaires visit Yorkton for a 7 p.m. tilt with the Terriers.

With provincial curling taking over the CN Community Centre early in Jan-

uary, the Millionaires aren't back on home ice until the 16th when the Red Wings are in town.

Ice Chips

Millionaires captain Boston Harkness has been selected to play in the 2026 Viking Cup in Camrose, AB from Dec. 27 to Jan. 4, as a member of the SJHL All-Stars.

The Viking Cup features teams from around the globe, including Czechia University Selects, SAIT Trojans, Augustana Vikings and Midland University Warriors.

Harkness' four points in two games earned him Weekly SJHL honours as the Saskatchewan Player of the Week.

The rangy defenceman had a pair of assists in each game the Millionaires had with the Estevan Bruins.

QVJHL

Mustangs ground Aviators 3-0

By Stephen Scriver
Grasslands News

The Wolseley Mustangs, tied for top spot in the QVJHL, hosted the improving Caronport Aviators last Saturday, Dec. 13, and had to be aware

that the Aviators boasted the top two scorers in the league, Cooper Erickson and Burkeley Mclellan. But the Mustangs put on a good defensive effort, and with some brilliant saves by their goalie, Ty Muhr, shut out the visitors 3-0.

The Mustangs scored a goal in each period, and this task wasn't easy, as Wolseley players were banished to the penalty box six times before the Aviators even took their turn in the sin bin. Caronport may have felt that the hockey gods were against them, as they had ample opportunities to score, but were frustrated by Muhr's stalwart effort in the pipes.

Jackson Baran, Kye Englot and Blake Robertson lit the light for the home team, Blake's into an empty net near the game's end. Blue line mates Ty Nagy and Tyler Powell each had two assists. The Mustangs had a few good rushing efforts, but the 10 minor penalties they were assessed seemed to interrupt their offensive flow. The Aviators took six minors.

It was a good night for Wolseley's food bank, not only from the abundant non-perishables supplied by local fans, but also the donation of the Mustangs' share of the 50/50 pot.



DARCY GROSS | GRASSLANDS NEWS

Puck scramble

Melville Millionaires' forward Matthew Edwards battles for a loose puck when the Estevan Bruins came to town on Dec. 14. It wasn't a great night for the Mills as the Bruins doubled them up 6-3.

From Everyone at



Season's Greetings



With our thanks for your valued patronage at this special time of year. It's been both a privilege and a pleasure serving you.

Fort Qu'Appelle 306-332-3888

Wishing all our clients and friends a Merry Christmas! May this special time of year bring you only the best!

Fisher Law Office

128 - 4th Ave. East, Melville, SK

Michael Fisher K.C. (In Memory) and
Garnet M. Fisher B.A., (Hons.) LL.B. - Collaborative Lawyer
Ethan G. Fisher B.Comm, MBA, JD (Student-at-Law)

Garnet M. Fisher

306-728-4581

Melville and Esterhazy

fisherlaw@sasktel.net

Bring Your Ideas to Life



We Can Help

Equipment and Tools For Your Next Project



FIREFLY
RENTALS

(306) 695-3535 | WWW.FIREFLY-RENTALS.CA

Sports Column

Looking back at the best from 2025 (Part 1)

By Bruce Penton
Sports Columnist

The best quips, quotes and anecdotes from January through June, 2025 (Part 1):

- Stewart Mandel of The Athletic, on UNC hiring Bill Belichick as head football coach: “Unless Belichick can magically restore eligibility for Tom Brady, I fail to see how this will end well.”

- Mike Bianchi of the Orlando Sentinel: “Spoiled Alabama fans whining about their three-loss team not getting an invitation to the College Football Playoff is like listening to Warren Buffett complain about not getting a senior discount.”

- Headline at the onion.com: “More Parents Say Allowing Child to Play Football Not Worth Risk of Being Drafted

Sports column – Darcy Gross

Gross Misconduct

Twas the week prior to holidays and all through the city,

Gifts were getting wrapped, both large and itty-bitty.

*The stockings were hung, the egg nog was chillin',
Christmas was coming with Santa and the Grinch,
that old villain.*

*The lists were made early, long before the snow,
Some people will be travelling, and can't wait to go.*

*To warmer climes with fancy drinks, excursions
and sunburns, are all on the menu
Some will go south twice, I can't, but can you?*

*Others stay home, waiting for family and friends,
They aren't interested in scuba diving, they're not
slaves to the trends.*

*It's time to get down to what we all need this season,
Some ideas come weirdly, no rhyme and no reason.*

*For minor hockey players I hope Santa brings
sticks.
Who can afford one, the price must give parents fits.*

*For those playing school sports, for every Bob, Suzy
and Tim,
How about squeakless runners, for their time in the
gym?*

*We want them to jump high, to soar over their peers,
To win when they're able, to listen to their school
cheers.*

*For the couch potato in your life, we've asked Santa
for quiet,
To enjoy the World Juniors without some preschool-
er's riot.*

*We all know kids will be playing, and I'd like to
think,
They'll be banging a puck off the boards at an open
air rink.*

*It's one of the sounds from my youth that I rarely
hear,
On those frosty nights filled with Christmas and
holiday cheer.*

*For our Melville Millionaires, no dancer or piper,
But it would be okay, if we got a sniper.*

*Someone who could score, at the drop of a hat
And to perk up a powerplay that some nights can
be flat.*

*And I yelled up to Santa, wind blowing and snow
twirling,
How about some attendance, for the provincial curl-
ing?*

*For local volunteers, there's always demand,
Maybe this year, we can give them a hand*

*The red-suited fellow has been one busy guy,
With cookie crumbs in his beard and a gleam in his
eye.*

*I waved to Santa, as he rode out of sight,
He leaned down and waved, and flew off into the
night.*

*But before he was gone, he said this to me,
It was one true statement, not a query or plea.*

*He said, "I know your playing days have come to a
close,
So, no fun for you, just more socks and some
clothes."*

*So once again, I've claimed this rhyme for my own,
And I'll never get tired of this classic old poem.*

*To all of you readers, I hope your Christmas is
grand,
And you can get together with your entire clan.*

*When you go outside and see all those shimmering
lights.
It's Merry Christmas to all and to all a good night!*

by Jets”

- Lizzie F. in a Chicago Bears’ mailbag: “What legal action can I take against my parents for raising me as a Bears fan? When does this become cruel and unusual punishment?”

- RJ Currie of sportsdeke.com: “Joe Polo, fifth on the U.S. gold-medal curling team, named his daughter Ailsa after a Scottish island that produces the stone for curling rocks. The kid already feels taken for granite.”

- Columnist Norman Chad, on Twitter: “ESPN’s Dan Orlovsky talks more in a three-man booth than the late Vin Scully talked in a one-man booth.”

- Scott Lincicome, a business trade scholar at the Cato Institute, on Donald Trump’s proposed tariffs: “I can’t imagine the president tariffing guacamole right before the Super Bowl.”

- From The Athletic’s story quoting the beloved baseball announcer/actor Bob Uecker, who died Jan. 16, on getting into baseball: “I signed with the Braves in 1954 for \$3,000. That bothered my dad at the time because he didn’t have that kind of dough to pay out. But eventually, he scraped it up.”

- Headline at fark.com: “Unlike a good neighbour, State Farm won’t be there. The insurance company decides that maybe, just maybe, spending millions on a Super Bowl ad wasn’t a good look for them after cancelling all those homeowners’ policies in California.”

- Comedy guy Torben Rolfsen of Vancouver: “I love watching Wild games on TV. They do the announcements in both English and Minnesotan.”

- Rolfsen again: “Mark Davis of the Las Vegas Raiders fired his general manager. I thought if he was going to fire anyone, it would be his hairstylist.”

- Hall-of-Famer Ichiro Suzuki on his least-favourite place to play baseball: “To tell the truth, I’m not excited to go to Cleveland, but we have to. If I ever saw myself saying I’m excited going to Cleveland, I’d punch myself in the face, because I’m lying.”

- Janice Hough of leftcoastsportsbabe.com: “Max Scherzer, who turns 41 this summer, just signed a one-year contract valued at \$15.5 million with the Toronto Blue Jays. Well, the way the U.S.A. is going maybe Max wanted to

Wolseley Mustangs
Game Schedule

DECEMBER:

20– Kelliher at Wolseley 8:00

21– Wolseley at Yellowgrass 4:00

JANUARY:

03– Wolseley at Strasbourg 5:30

10– Wolseley at Kelliher 8:00

Prairie Men’s HL
Game Schedule

Home/Away Games

DECEMBER:

19– Indian H. Chiefs at Strasbourg 8 pm

20– Cupar at Strasbourg 8 pm

Valley Warriors (Fort) at Ituna 8pm

21– Cupar at Ituna Avalanche 2 pm

JANUARY:

03– IH Chiefs at V.Warriors (Fort) 7:30

Cupar at Strasbourg 8 pm

10– V.Warriors (Fort) at Strasbourg 8 pm

Cupar at Ituna Avalanche 8 pm

Fort Knox Hockey
Game Schedule

Home/Away Games

DECEMBER:

18– Regina SF at Fort Knox 7:30

20– Moosomin SH at Fort Knox 5:00

JANUARY:

03– Fort Knox at Pilot B. Storm 7:45

04– ExH Regina Caps at Fort Knox 3 pm

10– RPS Rebels at Fort Knox 7:00

Pilot Butte Storm
Game Schedule

Home/Away Games

DECEMBER:

17– PB Storm at Steelhawks 8:00

20– Rebels at PB Storm 7:45

JANUARY:

03– Fort Knox at PB Storm 7:45

07– Silver Foxes at PB Storm 8:00

09– PB Storm at Rebels 7:30

Melville Millionaires
Jr. A Hockey
Game Schedule

Home/Away Games

All Games 7 p.m.

unless otherwise stated

DECEMBER:

17– Melville at Melfort 7:30

19– Melville at Weyburn

JANUARY:

02– Melville at Yorkton

08– Melville at Kindersley 7:30

09– Melville at Kindersley 7:30

Bowling Scores, Standings - Melville Bowl Arena

MONDAY P.M. Dec. 8	Professional Amateurs	34	THURSDAY YBC Dec. 11
Ladies' High Single, Linda Bender, 197. Ladies' High Triple, Mary Lou Janiskewich, 568. Ladies' High Average, Angela Dobson, 164.	Pinheads	34	Girls High Single and Triple, Emmi Hollinger, 158, 426.
Men's High Single, Triple and Average, Joe Wu, 274, 633, 193.	New	24	Boys High Single and Triple, Blaine Curylo, 221, 556.
Team High Single and Triple, Stephens, 836, 2322.	ST. HENRY'S Dec. 9		Team High Single and Triple, Curylo, 899, 2503.
Team	Ladies' High Single, Linda Bender, 303. Ladies' High Triple and Average, Pat Brown, 595, 167.		Team
Pts.	Men's High Single, Triple and Average, Chris Cheveldae, 260, 645, 191.		Pts.
Ostlund 29.5	Team High Single and Triple, A Team, 1347, 3776.		Curylo 30.5
Dobson 31	Team		Kohlenberg 28
Bender 27.5	Just 4 Fun		Wurts 27.5
Stephens 22	CCJ		Hollinger 26
	A Team		
	Drifters		
	TUESDAY YBC Dec. 9		SATURDAY YBC Dec. 13
	Girls High Single and Triple, Amzlee Patterson, 171, 388		Girls High Single and Triple, Ashyah Davies, 129, 295.
	Boys High Single and Triple, Jakob Unterschute, 125, 339.		Boys High Single and Triple, Reid Morgan, 245, 560.
	Team High Single, Squishmellows, 801. Team High Triple, Bowl Kings, 2320.		Team High Single and Triple, The Enders, 879, 2479.
	Team		Team
	Gutter Girls		Pts.
	Blame it on Garry		The Enders 34
			Bravehearts 34
			Everything 22
			Bowling Superstars 22

AUTOMOTIVE DIRECTORY

TnT

Autobody &
Customizing

- Indian Head -

- SGI Accredited
 - Minor Dents & Scratches to Complete Restorations
 - Courtesy Car
 - Glass Replacement & Complete Frame Repair
 - Free Estimates & Workmanship Warranty
- 306-695-3575**

Stop In and See Us at

Neudorf



- Full Service Gas Pumps
- Diesel Dye Pumps
- Tire Repair & Tires • Full Line of Hardware & Automotive Supplies
- Minor Automotive Repairs • Feed
- Bulk Petroleum
- Liquor and Cold Beer • Tobacco Products

Open Monday - Saturday (Closed Sunday)
Phone 306-748-2474

Wholesale Transmission
& Differential

Wholesale Prices

Imports & Domestic, Overhauls, Free Road Tests

All Makes & Models Rebuilt in Our Own Shop

★ Differential ★ CVA Joints ★ Clutches ★
★ Universal Joints ★ Drive Shafts ★ 4X4 Transfer Cases ★

“The Price We Quote” is the Price You Pay

Hwy. 10 E., Melville, SK
Phone 306-728-2730

PJHL action heats up heading into Christmas break

By Chris Ashfield
Grasslands News

Teams across the Prairie Junior Hockey League (PJHL) continued to jockey for position as

the calendar edges toward the Christmas break, with the Fort Knox, Moosomin Steelhawks, and Pilot Butte Storm all seeing action in a stretch that featured high-scoring

wins, hard lessons against elite opponents, and tight games decided late. With several key match-ups still to come before year's end, each club remains focused on closing out December on a positive note.

Fort Knox

Fort Knox showed both resilience and offensive firepower over their latest two games. On Dec. 13, Knox dropped an 8-4 decision to the Saskatoon Royals, with goals coming from Madden Wallis, Josh Heistad, Cooper Buhay, and Spencer Copeland. Special teams proved to be the difference, as the Royals capitalized on multiple power-play opportunities.

The following afternoon, Fort Knox rebounded in convincing fashion, rolling to a 7-1 victory over the Richardson Pioneer Southern Rebels. After surrendering an early short-handed goal, Knox took control with a five-goal second period. Jonah Pinel led the charge with a hat trick, while Taye Shukin added two goals and Kale Gorski turned aside 34 shots in net.

Fort Knox currently sits second in the Bill Johnston Division with a 15-8 record and 30 points, firmly in the hunt near the top where the Regina Capitals sit with 38 points.

Knox will be back in action on Dec. 18 when they host the Regina Silver Foxes, before closing out the pre-Christmas schedule at home on Dec. 20 against the Moosomin Steelhawks.

Moosomin Steelhawks

It was a challenging stretch for the Moosomin Steelhawks as they faced two of the league's top teams in back-to-back road games. On Dec. 12, Moosomin was shut out 13-0 by the Saskatoon Quakers, who controlled play throughout and limited the

Steelhawks to single-digit shots.

The following night in Martensville, the Steelhawks endured another tough outing, falling 23-0 to the Chiefs. Martensville struck early and often, scoring eight times in the opening period and continuing to apply pressure through all three frames.

Moosomin currently sits fifth in the Bill Johnston Division with a 5-19-2 record and 12 points as they continue to work through a building season.

The Steelhawks were looking to regroup on Dec. 17 when they travelled to Pilot Butte (game played after press time), followed by a home matchup against the Extreme Hockey Re-

gina Capitals on Dec. 19. Moosomin then wraps up the pre-holiday schedule on Dec. 20 with a road game in Fort Knox.

Pilot Butte Storm

The Pilot Butte Storm were competitive in a pair of close contests despite coming away empty-handed. On Dec. 10, the Storm dropped a narrow 6-5 decision to the Martensville Chiefs. Kayden Reeder scored twice in the loss, while Austin Kozakewich contributed four points as Pilot Butte pushed one of the league's top teams to the final minutes.

Three nights later, the Storm took on the league-leading Extreme

Hockey Regina Capitals and outshot them 45-14, but fell 3-2 after Regina scored twice on the power play in the third period. Goaltender Kaden Peron was strong between the pipes and earned second-star honours in the loss.

Pilot Butte currently sits fourth in the Bill Johnston Division with an 8-13-2 record and 18 points, remaining firmly in the playoff picture.

The Storm will host Moosomin on Dec. 17 before returning home again on Dec. 20 to face the Richardson Pioneer Southern Rebels in their final game before the Christmas break.



Digging along the boards ALAN HUSTAK | GRASSLANDS NEWS
The Saskatoon Royals scored the first goal against Fort Knox three minutes into the game and never looked back. The Royals went on to defeat Knox 8-4 on Dec. 13 in Fort Qu'Appelle.

CONTRACTORS + HOME DIRECTORY

Mike's Small Engine REPAIR

Lawn Mower & Snow Blower
Tune-ups & Repair

Melville, SK
306-607-5460

J&V ELECTRIC

Jamie Sebastian
Owner/Journeyman
Box 2388, Fort Qu'Appelle, SK S0G 1S0
jsebastian@sasktel.net
306-332-4178 Office
306-331-8827 Cell

Serving Fort Qu'Appelle and area for over 25 years

Have A Blessed Christmas

Our Heartfelt Appreciation!

BARAN & COMPANY
CPA Professional Corporation
Regina

grasslands
NEWS | PRINTING

218 - 3rd Ave. W. • Melville, SK.
Email: production@grasslandsnews.ca
Toll Free: 1-844-GNG-NEWS

Jim's Roofing

Hot Roofing, Shingling & Snow Removal from Roofs
FREE Estimates -

Jim Anderson
Cell: 1-306-621-6372
jimsroofing@live.ca

CARPET ONE FLOOR & HOME

Home - Kitchen - Bath

Everything for your home under one roof.
• HARDWOOD • CARPET • LAMINATE • LUXURY VINYL
• TILE • AREA RUGS & MORE

CARPET ONE FLOOR & HOME
12 Livingstone St., Yorkton, SK
306.782.6556 | 1.888.782.6556
carpet1yorkton.com

OUT OF THE BOX Store

117 - 3rd Ave. West, Melville, SK
306-728-5493

With This Ad Receive
20% Off
Any Regular Priced Clothing or Accessory.

Monday to Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

DIRECTORY ADVERTISING

for only \$10* / week
*Must be prepaid, plus GST.
Regular rate is \$480 plus GST per year.

Grasslands News Group
1-844-GNG-NEWS



Season's Greetings

Goodwill and good faith to all.
We hope your holiday is warmed by the spirit of friendship.

On behalf of the
BALCARRES TOWN COUNCIL and STAFF

Mayor Kirby Korchinski

Mr T's Plumbing and Heating

Todd Throssell
Journeyman Plumber
Licensed Gas Fitter

813 Desmond St., P.O. Box 296, Grenfell, SK S0G 2B0
Ph.: 1-306-697-2727
Cell: 1-306-697-7749
mrtsp@sasktel.net

FlatLand
Plumbing & Heating

LENNOX

Whitewood, SK.
Phone: 306-735-4328
flatlandplumbing@hotmail.ca

PLUMBING HEATING

Whitewood, SK
Laurie's Construction 2007 Inc.
Collin Istace 306-735-7305
Licensed Plumber & Licensed & Bonded Gas Fitter

● FURNACE/DUCT CLEANING
● SEWER AUGER

PHONE 306-735-7305

LC INDOOR Golf

Call
735-7305

Favorite Christmas memory: Mayor Pat Jackson

By **Connie Schwalm**
Grasslands News

Mayor Pat Jackson points out that the Christmas memories that come to mind most readily may not always involve particularly festive circumstances.

"It was not my favorite Christmas by far," Jackson says. "But it was certainly memorable! The

four of us were on our way down to Killarney, Manitoba for Christmas, when we hit a patch of black ice on the highway near Minnedosa – a spot that was apparently noted for being dreadful for black ice. We spun out and hit a truck. Fortunately, nobody was hurt except me. I was driving and got quite a black eye from the steering wheel. We left the kids with Larry's

uncle and went down to the RCMP to report what had happened. Then, my brother came and picked us up. We ended up having a nice Christmas, but it sure didn't start the way we'd wanted it to!"

"Of course, we had some wonderful, much less dramatic Christmas celebrations too," she continues. "When the kids were little, we lived in Manitoba, and because we lived close to the bush we'd always go out and cut our own Christmas tree.

It was the kids who were supposed to pick it out, so it usually ended up being a whole-day event! Then we'd bring it home and set it up, Larry would put up the lights, and the kids and I would decorate."

Jackson says that her husband Larry remembers large Christmas gatherings with extended family.


"Larry remembers going to his grandparent's house after Midnight Mass for Christmas, and there was one Christmas

that he remembers climbing a tree and cutting the top off so that they could have a perfect Christmas tree," she says with a laugh. "But every Christmas at his grandparents, there would be food to no end and relatives. As it got later, the kids would lie down wherever they powered out, which sometimes meant they were sleeping under the table. But they were all given a coat to sleep on, and they fell asleep warm, happy and full! Christmas was

about family, and everyone was there."

One other Christmas that stands out in Jackson's mind also involved a gathering with family.

"When I was a teenager, we went to visit my aunt (my mom's sister). My aunt was married to a Riel; he was actually Louis's great-nephew I believe. And we ended up going to Grandma Riel's for Christmas. I remember that she was a remarkable woman, and that was a fascinating evening."



May the magic and wonder of the holiday season stay with you throughout the coming year.

Baber's Pharmasave
1-306-334-2650

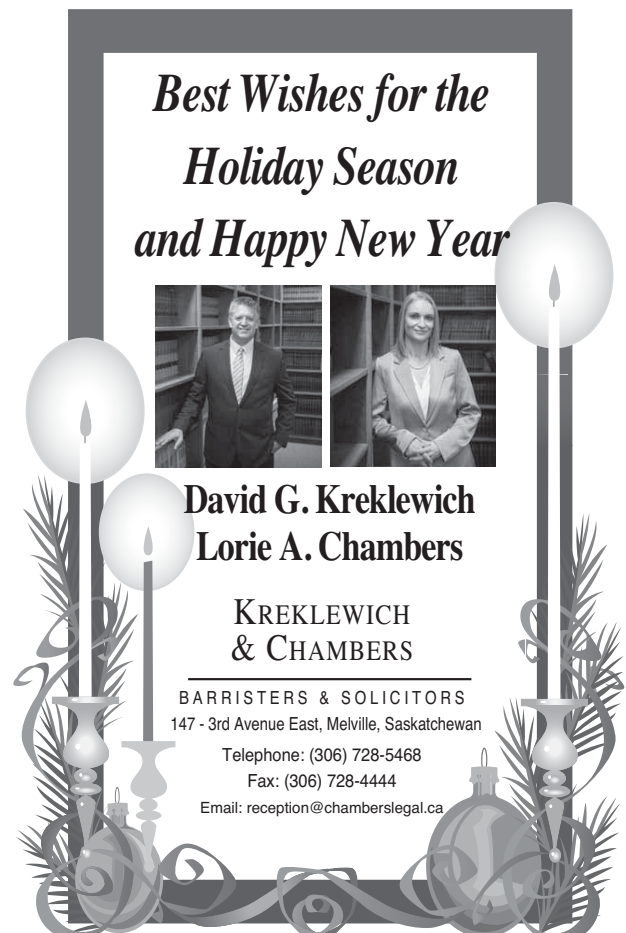
Balcarres, SK




Merry Christmas

Wishing you a very Merry Christmas and all the best for the New Year!

SCIC
SASKATCHEWAN CROP INSURANCE CORPORATION



Best Wishes for the Holiday Season and Happy New Year




David G. Kreklewich
Lorie A. Chambers

KREKLEWICH & CHAMBERS
BARRISTERS & SOLICITORS
147 - 3rd Avenue East, Melville, Saskatchewan
Telephone: (306) 728-5468
Fax: (306) 728-4444
Email: reception@chamberslegal.ca

History matters! Help keep your community's history alive.

SUBSCRIBE TO YOUR LOCAL NEWSPAPER!

Call Toll Free: 1-844-GNG-NEWS
subscribe@grasslandsnews.ca

Bringing communities together
grasslands NEWS

- The Clipper**
- Fort Times**
- ihNEWS** INDIAN HEAD-WOLSELEY
- HERALD SUN**
- FORUM** QUAD TOWN
- Advance** THE MELVILLE



GET EXCLUSIVE ACCESS!
\$55 For 1 year mailed Subscription

SUBSCRIBE ONLINE

www.grasslandsnews.ca/subscribe

Questions contact us here

1-844-GNG-NEWS



SCAN ME

Blue Christmas Service and Twinkle Tour in Grenfell

Holiday special events

By GNG Staff
Grasslands News

For those finding the Christmas season especially difficult, a Blue Christmas Service will be held Saturday, Dec. 20 at 2 p.m. at the Grenfell Apostolic Church, located at 916 Garnet Street.

Hosted by the Grenfell Ministerial, the service is intended to provide a quiet, reflective space for individuals and families coping with grief, loss, loneliness, or other chal-

lenges that can feel heightened during the holidays.

Organizers say the gathering offers an opportunity for comfort, prayer, and community support during a season that is not always joyful for everyone.

"If the Christmas season is feeling heavy this year due to the loss of a loved one, loneliness, or grief, we invite you to attend," the organizers said.

"Our prayer is that this service will bring comfort as people walk through

challenging times."

The Blue Christmas Service is open to the public, and all are welcome to attend, regardless of church affiliation.

Another event to brighten the spirit of Christmas is the Grenfell Twinkle Tour.

Enjoy the beauty of the season on a tour of the community's Christmas lights by signing up for a tour on the 23rd of December. Contact Alvin at 306-697-7606.

Holiday get-together at Whitewood Community Health Centre

Celebrating the spirit of the season

By GNG Staff
Grasslands News

The Whitewood Community Health Centre is inviting their residents, along with their family and friends, to come together for a festive holiday gathering celebrating the spirit of the season.

The Residents Family & Friends Holiday Get-Together will take place on Sunday, Dec. 21 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Whitewood Community Health Centre.

The evening is designed to bring warmth, joy and connection during

the holiday season.

Guests will be treated to live entertainment by local entertainer Shaya Istace, adding festive cheer to the celebration. Coffee, tea and dainties will be available for attendees to enjoy throughout the evening.

The event offers an opportunity for residents

to celebrate the holidays alongside loved ones in a welcoming and joyful atmosphere.

For more information, residents and families are encouraged to contact the Whitewood Community Health Centre.

Christmas Mass times have changed

Roman Catholic parishioners who plan to attend Christmas Eve services in Fort Qu'Appelle and Lebreton on Dec. 24 should be aware that the Mass times as previously scheduled have been reversed.

The Mass at Our Lady of Sorrows in Fort Qu'Appelle will be at 7:30 p.m. and the Mass at Sacred Heart in Lebreton will be at 9:30 p.m.

There will be no Mass celebrated in Balcarres that evening.

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 - 306-563-7451

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.

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, Dec. 21:
9:00 a.m. Worship Service with Comm. No Sunday School
Wednesday, Dec. 24:
6:00 p.m. Candlelight Worship at St. Paul's w/Holy Comm
Sunday, Dec. 28: No Service
Sunday, Jan. 4:
2 p.m. Worship at St. Paul's
* * *
-- at Neudorf/Lemberg --
Sunday, Dec. 21:
*9 a.m. Lay Service at Christ Neud
*11 a.m. Worship at Trinity Lemb w/Holy Communion
Wednesday, Dec. 24:
*4 p.m. Candlelight at Christ Neud
*7:30 p.m. Candlelight at Trinity Lemb
Saturday, Dec. 27:
*7 p.m. Worship at Trinity Lemb
Sunday, Jan. 4:
*9 a.m. at Trinity Lemberg
*11 a.m. at Christ Neudorf

ALL SAINTS' ANGLICAN CHURCH
Corner 6th Ave. E. & Main St.
306-720-0589
*Services Every Second Sunday
Dec. 24: 7 p.m. Christmas Eve Service w/Eucharist
Dec. 28: 10:30 a.m. Eucharist
Jan. 4: 10:30 a.m. Morning Prayer

FIRST UNITED CHURCH
5th Ave. E. & King St.
Rev. Brian Mee, 306-335-7611
website: firstunitedmelville.org
Sunday, Dec. 21:
11:00 a.m. Worship Service with Rev. Brian Mee
Dec. 24: 7:30 p.m. Candlelight Service with Rev. B. Mee
Dec. 25: No Service
Dec. 28: No Service

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.melvillerverchurch.org
Facebook @melvillerverchurch
Recorded messages posted online

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
258 - 10th Ave. W.
Ph. 306-728-3971
Pastor Ronald Shumba
facebook.com/gslcmelville
Dec. 18: 7:00 p.m. Bible Study
Dec. 19: 7:00 p.m. Youth Christmas
Dec. 20: 10 a.m. Men and Mugs
Dec. 21: 9:15 a.m. Choir
10:30 a.m. Worship Service
Dec. 23: 9:30 a.m. Ladies Day
Dec. 24: 7 p.m. Christmas Eve Serv
Dec. 25: 9 a.m. Online Christmas Ser
Dec. 28: 9:15 a.m. Choir
10:30 a.m. Worship
Dec. 30: 9:30 a.m. Ladies Day
Jan. 3: 10:30 a.m. Worship

ST. GEORGE'S UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
Corner of 3rd Ave. E. & Manitoba St.
Fr. Basil Malowany
basilmalowany@gmail.com
306-540-5102
Sunday, Dec. 21:
11:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy
Wednesday, Dec. 24:
4:00 p.m. Christmas Service
Sunday, Dec. 28:
4:00 p.m. Divine Liturgy

Melville Churches Welcome You

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.
Sunday 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
Dec. 21: 10:30 a.m. Worship

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, Dec. 21:
11 a.m. Worship Service
Dec. 24: 6 p.m. Divine Service
Dec. 25: No Service
Sunday, Dec. 28:
11 a.m. Divine Service
Sunday, Jan. 4: No Service
Church of the Lutheran Hour heard Sundays at 9:00 a.m. on 940 C/JGX 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
Wednesday, Dec. 24: 7:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Mass (Whitewood)
3:30 p.m. at Broadview
5:30 p.m. at Stockholm
Dec. 25: 10 a.m. Stockholm
Dec. 31: 7 p.m. Whitewood
5 p.m. at Broadview
Jan. 1: 10 a.m. Stockholm

ST. MARY'S ANGLICAN CHURCH
Sunday, Dec. 21:
10:30 a.m. Lessons/Carols
4th Sunday of Advent
Wed., Dec. 24: 8 p.m. Christmas Eve Service with Rev. H. Kennedy
Dec. 28: No Service
Jan. 4: 10:30 a.m. Morning Prayer

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, WAPELLA
Sunday, Dec. 21:
10 a.m. Communion Worship Followed by Coffee
Wed., Dec. 24: 2:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Service

WHITWOOD UNITED CHURCH
Sunday, Dec. 21
10 a.m. Christmas Eve Service

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
Dec. 21: Advent Four Service with Monica Dayman
Dec. 24: 7:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Lay Service

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

ST. ANNE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
418 First St., Kipling
Priest: Father Joseph Villamartin
306-538-2163
Wednesday, Dec. 24:
Christmas Eve Mass 5:00 p.m.
Sun., Dec. 28: Mass 11:00 a.m.
Thurs., Jan. 1: New Year's Day Mass 11:00 a.m.
Sat., Jan. 3: 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 Pattemore
Lay Person/Service Leader
306-736-2479
bkbernat@gmail.com

PARKLAND BIBLE CHURCH
309 3rd. St. South, Kipling
306-736-2421
parklandagc@sasktel.net
Pastor Stephen Luff
Sunday: 10 a.m. Sunday School
11 a.m. Worship Service
Wednesday: 10 a.m. Mom's Group

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



*Celebrating the Christmas Season!
Growing in Faith Together
Visit a Church of Your Choice*

Fort Qu'Appelle Ministerial Invite you to join in Celebrating Jesus the Christ this Christmas Season



Community, Blue Christmas Service held at St Andrew's United Church

Wednesday Dec. 17 at 7 p.m. (a time to light a candle of memorial and hope).
Led by Qu'Appelle House of Prayer - St. Andrews United.

Our Saviour Lutheran Church

Sundays at 10 a.m.
Dec. 24 Christmas Eve at 7 p.m. and 11 p.m.
Dec. 25 Christmas Day at 10 a.m.

St John's Anglican Church

Sunday Services at 11 a.m.
Dec. 24 at 7p.m. Christmas Eve Service of Holy Communion

Valley Alliance Church

Dec. 21 at 10:30 a.m Sunday School Christmas Program
Dec. 24 at 7 p.m. Candlelight Christmas Eve Service

St Andrews United Church

Sundays at 10:30
Worship and Sunday School
Dec. 17 at 7 p.m. Community Blue Christmas Candle Service
Dec. 21 at 10:30 a.m. Worship and Sunday School Presentation
Dec. 24 at 7 p.m. Christmas Eve Candle Light Service
Dec. 31 New Years Eve 7-12 p.m. Family Social (bring finger food snacks & games)

Roman Catholic Church

Dec. 18, 10 a.m. Fort Qu'Appelle
Dec. 18 at 6 p.m. Advent Reconciliation, Lebreton
Dec. 24, Christmas Eve 5 p.m. at File Hills
7:30 p.m. at Fort Qu'Appelle
9:30 p.m. at Lebreton
Dec. 25, 10 a.m. at Balcarres
Dec. 31, 7:30 p.m. at Lebreton
Jan. 1, 9 a.m. at Fort Qu'Appelle
10:30 a.m. at Balcarres

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 Leslie Edward Hack

June 5, 1937 - Dec. 13, 2025

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Leslie Edward Hack of Grenfell, SK on Saturday, Dec. 13 at the age of 88 years.

Leslie was born on the family farm in the Weldon District, northwest of Grenfell, to Arnold and Alma Hack on June 5, 1937. He was the oldest of three children. Les was baptized and confirmed at Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church in the Weldon District. He attended Weldon School until he began working on the family farm. Les took on the family farm in 1959 and on July 22, 1960 he married Ingeborg Schlamp. They were blessed with three sons and a daughter. Les and Inge retired and they moved to Grenfell in 1997.

Les was an avid sportsman, playing hockey with the Grenfell Spitfires and Indian Head Chiefs and fastball for the Grenfell Gems for many years. After his playing days, he coached his children and others. Les enjoyed traveling to see his grandchildren and watching them take part in any of their numerous activities. He was a very dedicated church member at Peace Lutheran Church in Grenfell and served on the church council for many years. Les was a kind and generous person, always ready to help family, friends or neighbors.

Les is survived by his loving wife Inge of 65 years; three sons: Tim (Jacque), Brian (Kimberley) and Darren (Melissa); one daughter Andrea Wills (Trent); eight grandchildren: Parker Hack, Spencer Hack (Rob), Tegan Hack (Stephan), Josh Hack, Faith Hack (Josh), Travis Hack (Marlie), Noah Wills (Sydney) and Levi Wills; two great-grandchildren Eva Hack and Ember Hack; brother Larry Hack (Dorothy); sister-in-law Ursula Hack; brother-in-law Richard Schlamp (Gwen); and numerous nieces and nephews.

Les was predeceased by his brother Ken Hack; sisters-in-law Louise Waldbauer and Gertrude Geres; brothers-in-law Charlie Waldbauer and Jerry Geres; daughter-in-law JoAnne Hack and grandsons Logan Hack and Grady Wills.

The family would like to sincerely thank the wonderful staff at Indian Head Union Hospital and Wolseley Memorial Hospital for their compassionate care over the past two months. The family requests that, in lieu of flowers, a memorial donation may be made to Peace Lutheran Church, Box 520, Grenfell, SK S0G 2B0 or the Grenfell Athletic Association, Box 929, Grenfell, SK S0G 2B0.

Les's wishes were for no formal funeral service. A private family service will take place at a later date. The interment will take place in the Grenfell Cemetery.

Online condolences may be made at www.tubmanfh.com



Obituary Emily Steffan

Feb. 5, 1930 - Dec. 12, 2025

It is with great sadness that the family of Emily Steffan announces her passing on Friday, Dec. 12, 2025.

Emily was the first of seven children born to Mathias (Matt) and Philippina Ulmer on the family farm near Goodeve, SK. She attended Lake Mona School a few miles away. After her schooling was complete, she remained at home on the farm, helping with chores and to raise her siblings.

Emily met the love of her life while on the farm, a fuel delivery man named Fred Steffan. After a period of courtship, Emily and Fred were married in November 1954. This marriage was blessed with two children, Charleen and Rodney.

Emily had many health issues along her life's journey, but she fought hard to get through them and always managed to come out stronger than before. She managed to stay in her home until 2024 when she knew the basics were becoming too much for her to handle. She moved to Home Comfort care home and was there until June 2025, when she was able to move into St. Paul Lutheran Home where she resided at the time of her passing.

Emily was predeceased by her parents, Mathias (Matt 1983) and Philippina (1965) Ulmer; her sisters in infancy, Caroline (1934) and Phyllis (1935); her husband, Fred (2010); daughter-in-law Audrey (2022); brothers-in-law Gerald Schill and Art Volke; and sister-in-law Florence Ulmer. She is survived by her daughter, Charleen (Kim) Tubman, and son Rodney; grandchildren and great-grandchildren Landon (Abby) Tubman, Wagner and Maci; Braden (Sharlese) Tubman, Aurora and Kylie; Chandra (Tyler) Heise, Rowynn. She also leaves to mourn her passing her brothers Matt (Shirley) Ulmer and John Ulmer; sisters Lillian Volke and Florence Schill; and many nieces, nephews and friends.

Special thank you to the staff at St. Paul Lutheran Home for their care and compassion in caring for our mom while she was there. In mom's own handwritten words – "Many thanks to my children for caring for me all these long and lonely years. Thanks to my wonderful neighbours for their phone calls and many things they have done for me. Thanks to the good Lord that answered my prayers to keep me going on with my life and keeping me in his care." In accordance with her wishes, there will be no funeral service. A private family interment will take place at a later date.

Arrangements are entrusted to Matthews Funeral Home, Melville.

A long life well lived!



Obituary Roberta Margaret Rohr

Jan. 27, 1944 - Dec. 3, 2025

Roberta Margaret Rohr, 81 years, of Yorkton, SK, died peacefully in her sleep of heart failure on Wednesday, Dec. 3, 2025.

Roberta was born on Jan. 27, 1944, in Melville, SK, to Robert John Craft and Margaret Helen Bently. She was a loving mother and grandmother who dedicated her life to her family and God. She was well known for working as a hairdresser at Pete and Lil's in Melville, SK.

Roberta first married Richard of Melville, SK, in 1962, with whom she had two sons, Robert Craig and Clint. She lost Richard to cancer on Dec. 17, 2006. Roberta was blessed to find love a second time and married Robert Rohr on Nov. 13, 2010, sharing 15 wonderful years going on many travel adventures and exploring the world. She had a unique spirit that touched all those around her.

Roberta is survived by her devoted husband, Robert Rohr; stepson Evan Rohr and daughter Sena Rohr; stepdaughter Veronica Rohr and daughter Sloane Finn; her son, Clint (Alanna) Read, grandchildren Sherry Read, Cian Morrison, Parker Read, Spenser Read, Brian (now Autumn) Read, Mathew Read, William Read; brother-in-law David Burack; and many nieces, nephews, extended family and friends. She was predeceased by her parents; her first husband, Richard Read; son Robert Craig Read; sister Florence Burack; as well as some extended family.

A prayer service was held on Tuesday, Dec. 16, 2025, at Matthews Funeral Home, Melville, followed by the funeral service on Wednesday, Dec. 17, 2025, at St. Mark's Orthodox Church in Yorkton, with Rev. Fr. Rodian Luciuk and Rev. Fr. Andrew Piasta officiating. Moira Stoll was the cantor and John Bodnaryk was the cross bearer. Interment took place in the Holy Assumption of St. Mary Cemetery, near Rhein, SK, with Clint Read, Alanna Read, Evan Rohr, William Read, Parker Read and Spenser Read acting as pallbearers.

Funeral arrangements entrusted to Matthews Funeral Home, Melville.



Obituary Arlene Diane Toth

April 8, 1944 - Dec. 13, 2025

On Saturday, Dec. 13, 2025 Arlene Toth, widow of Robert Toth of Kipling, SK passed away peacefully at the age of 81 years.

A funeral service will be held at a later date.

Arlene was predeceased by her husband Robert in 2014; her son Trevor in 1987; parents Louise Weise and Alphonse Vandermeulen and three siblings: Lenard, Arthur and Emma Vandermeulen.

She is survived by two sons: Darrin and Lori and their family Jordan, Jared (Katie) and Derek (Karlee); Ryan and Kristine and their family Austin (Cassidy), Sydney (Noah) and daughters: Meela, Sophie and Rochelle; one daughter Pamela and Brian and their family Kelsey (Devin) and daughter Presley, Cheyanne (Curtis) and Brooke (Jordan); brother Eugene (Josie) Vandermeulen; as well as her sisters-in-law, brothers-in-law, nieces, nephews and cousins.

If friends so desire, contributions may be made as tokens of remembrance to the Kipling Integrated Health Centre, Box 420, Kipling, SK, S0G 2S0.

Online condolences may be made at www.tubmanfh.com



Published Fridays

grasslandsnews.ca 1-844-GNG-NEWS

No publications Friday, Dec. 26

and Friday, Jan. 2

Next issues of Grasslands News is

Friday, Jan. 9, 2026

Services

Indian Head Library

OPEN HOURS

TUESDAY

10 a.m. - 2 p.m. - 2:30 - 5:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

1 - 4 p.m.; 5 - 8 p.m.

THURSDAY - New Hours

1 - 4 p.m.; 5 - 8 p.m.

FRIDAY

10 a.m. - 2 p.m. - 2:30 - 5:30 p.m.

SATURDAY

10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

CLOSED Monday and Sunday

Phone: 306-695-3922

ttc

Place a Classified

and it will appear in
6 newspapers
at one cost

email:

production2@grasslandsnews.ca

CLASSIFIED RATES

(based on 25 words or less)



1 week: \$15.00 • 2 weeks: \$20.00 • 3 weeks: \$25.00 • 4 weeks: \$30.00

Additional weeks: \$7.50 • Deadline: Tuesdays at 12 noon

Obituary Deadline

Tuesdays 12 Noon



1-844-GNG-NEWS

Email: classifieds@grasslandsnews.ca

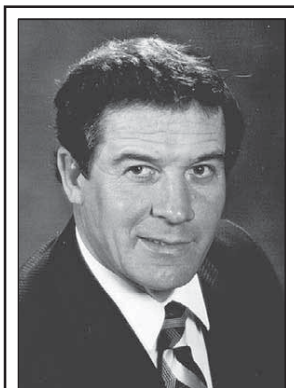


Memoriam



BURAK – In loving memory of Florence Burak, loving Wife, Mom and Baba, who joined the Angels Dec. 25, 2015. Those we love don't go away They walk beside us everyday. Unseen, unheard, but always near, Still loved, still missed and forever dear. –Lovingly remembered by her husband David, children Mike, Leanne, Jeff and their families.

Memoriam



In memory of Nelson Earl Ward April 26, 1942 - Jan. 3, 2022
Husband of Connie, Father of Nancy and Penny, Father-in-law of Brent and Bob and Grandpa of Emily, Claire, Sophie, Sadie and Bennett. *Death Changes Everything! Time Changes Nothing...* Each of us in our own way, Remember you with love today. Connie and Family

Alcoholics Anonymous

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

Memoriam



DAVIS – In loving memory of Violet, March 10, 1936 - Dec. 19, 2020. I thought of you today, but that is nothing new, I thought about you yesterday and days before that, too. I think of you in silence, I often speak your name, All I have are memories and your picture in a frame. –Love Allan and family.

Laundromat for Sale

BROADWAY Laundromat for Sale in Fort Qu'Appelle. \$195,000. Call or text, 306-501-7078.

For Rent

FOR RENT – 1- and 2-bedroom apartments in Squire's Court, Melville. Appliances included. Phone Steve at 306-730-7242. M29-2nc

FOR RENT – 2 bedroom apartment in Melville. Equipped with fridge, stove, AC, off-suite storage, plug-in parking and free laundry. 306-260-7447 for inquiries. M8/tnfc

Janitor Wanted

JANITOR WANTED at Broadway Laundromat in Fort Qu'Appelle. Evening cleanup. Call or text, 306-501-7078. F18-4p

\$ Payinig Cash \$

PAYING CASH for all firearms; one or many. Includes estates and collections. Executors welcome. Once and done. Please call 306-539-2543. M46-tfc

Call Toll Free:

1-844-GNG-NEWS
subscribe@grasslandsnews.ca

Province Wide

WARD'S & BUD HAYNES FIREARMS AUCTION, January 31 in Edmonton. Firearms, Ammo, Accessories. Call Brad Ward 780-940-8378 to consign your items or collection. FirearmsAuction.ca

ADVERTISEMENTS and statements contained herein are the sole responsibility of the persons or entities that post the advertisement, and the Saskatchewan Weekly Newspaper Association and membership do not make any warranty as to the accuracy, completeness, truthfulness or reliability of such advertisements. For greater information on advertising conditions, please consult the Association's Blanket Advertising Conditions on our website at www.swna.com

PROVINCE-WIDE CLASSIFIEDS. 51 local community newspapers, distributing to over 450 communities, including 14 cities. Reach over 550,000 readers weekly. Call 306-649-1405 or visit www.swna.com for details.

Find **QUALIFIED, LOCAL EMPLOYEES**, using the strength of community newspapers! Visit www.swna.com or call 306-649-1405 to find out how!

Notice to Creditors

NOTICE TO CREDITORS In the Estate of **Janis Elaine Richards**, late of Melville, Sask., deceased.

All claims against the above Estate, duly verified by statutory declaration and with particulars and valuation of security held, if any, must be sent to the undersigned before the 16th day of January, 2026.

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

Solicitors for the Estate.

Auctions

2S Auctioneers



"Online Timed Auctions Closing Weekly!"

Come in have a look! All items are on Display. Located at 506 Dewdney St, Indian Head, SK.

Brad 306-551-9411,
Nicole 306-660-7377

www.2sauctioneers.hibid.com
PL #333133
tfc

Dale's Painting

306-728-4392

602 - 8th Ave. W.

Melville



Royal Canadian Legion

Indian Head Branch No. 114

General Meeting 2nd Thursday at 2 p.m.

at the Indian Head Memorial Hall

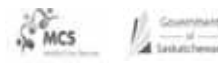
President - Lorne Scott

Contact Ken Turpin 250-661-8812 and Myrna Scott 306-727-3733

FARM STRESS LINE

IF YOU ARE EXPERIENCING SYMPTOMS OF STRESS, THE FARM STRESS LINE IS AVAILABLE 24/7 AT

1-800-667-4442



WALK-IN-TUBS SASKATCHEWAN



Quality Canadian Made Walk-In Bathtubs for Less!

Low step-up for easy access. Stay Independent and safe, in your home. Experienced installers & locally owned. Lifetime Warranty

Act now and save up to \$1000

Call today! **1-306-536-7660**
www.walkintubssask.ca



RM OF EDENWOLD No. 158



PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of Intent to Amend the Zoning Bylaw

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

Bylaw No. 2025-24 - Zoning Map Change: - To rezone 4.05 hectares (10.0 acres) in proposed Parcel A, NW ¼ 27-18-17 W2M (shown on the map below) from AR - Agricultural Resource District to CR1 – Country Residential 1 District.

Intent: To make the appropriate Zoning Bylaw amendment to accommodate the subdivision of an existing residential yard site from the rest of the quarter section.

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

Public Hearing: Council will hold a public hearing to receive submissions, written or verbal, on the proposed bylaw at 10 a.m. (local time) on Tuesday, January 13th, 2026, in the Council Chambers of the RM of Edenwold No. 158, 100 Hutchence Road, Emerald Park, Saskatchewan. Written submissions will be presented to Council and can be sent by mail or email. For further information, please contact Paige Boha, Manager of Planning and Development at 306-347-2967 or planning@edenwold-sk.ca.

Dated this 25th day of November at Emerald Park, in the Province of Saskatchewan.



Shauna Bzdel, Chief Administrative Officer

FUNERAL + MONUMENT DIRECTORY

TYMIAK'S MONUMENTS & GRAVE SURFACING CO.

Granite, Bronze, Marble Monuments, Vases, Cemetery Inscriptions and Cremation Urns.

FULLY GUARANTEED – LICENSED AND BONDED

See Our Large Display

529 Main St. South,
Box 476, Ituna, Sask. S0A 1N0
Ph. (306) 795-2428

Serving Surrounding Areas Since 1960

VALLEY VIEW MONUMENTS

GRANITE, MARBLE, BRONZE MONUMENTS
Second Inscriptions
Vases, Cremation Urns
Licensed and Bonded

Dennis Temple 306-332-1335
or 306-728-8197

REMCO MEMORIALS

• Monument Sales
• Lettering on Monuments & Markers

CAROLE ARMSTRONG
306-735-7148

BAILEY'S FUNERAL AND CREMATION CARE

Located at 5th Ave. W and Main St., Melville, SK

"Treating Your Family like a part of Ours for 4 Generations"

306.728.5488

Raymond and Crystal Bailey,
Don Klus and Len Varga

www.baileysfuneralhome.com

REMCO MEMORIALS

Cemetery Memorials • In Cemetery Lettering
Memorial Levelling • Memorial Restoration

Keith Hawken 306-695-2479
Michael Rey 306-901-7440
Laurie Rey 306-901-7000
mrey@sasktel.net

DIRECTORY ADVERTISING for only \$10* / week

*Must be prepaid, plus GST. Regular rate is \$480 plus GST per year.

Grasslands News Group
1-844-464-6397

CONLEY FUNERAL HOME

Check our pricing – You will be glad you did!
Family Owned and Operated

Did You Know? If you have a prearranged funeral plan with another funeral home you have the right, by law, to transfer that plan to any other funeral home in the province, often at no charge to you.

Call us for details!

Authorized agent for Canada Purple Shield / FamilySide.

Elden Conley LFD / LE / CCT - Owner / Manager

FORT QU'APPELLE – 306-332-0555
266 Boundary Ave. N.

WOLSELEY – 306-698-5000
900 Front Street



www.conleyfuneralhome.ca

RAYMORE – 306-746-1000
116 Main Street

Like and follow us on facebook for the latest obituary updates.

Matthews Funeral Home

Melville's only locally-owned funeral home. Branch office in Whitewood.

Burial and cremation services, grief support, cemetery memorials, notary public.

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

Mark and Gaylene Matthews and staff

matthewsfuneralhome.ca

Balcarres well repair project moving forward

By Judy Hershmillier
Grasslands News

Well Repair Project

The Balcarres town office is pleased to share that the well repair project is finally moving forward.

The East Well: Andrew & Sons Drilling was onsite last week flushing and rehabilitating the east well. This work is expected to reduce silt lev-

els and in turn decrease how often silt filters must be changed at the water plant. Next week, crews from Municipal Utilities and Tremblay Electric will be installing the replacement east well pump, new wiring to the pump, and a new water-level sensor to replace the failed unit. Wiring inside the plant was repaired and brought up to design standards earlier this summer, so the changeover to

the new pump should be straightforward.

The West Well: Once the east well work is complete, a similar process will begin on the west well; removal of the pump, well flushing/rehabilitation, replacement of the level sensor, and re-installation of the pump. At this time we do not anticipate the west well needing replacement. During this work, water for the community will be supplied

by the east well.

Council is also considering the future installation of a Variable Frequency Drive (VFD). A VFD would allow operators to adjust pump pressure to better match demand in the plant. This upgrade would not proceed until both wells are fully operational.

New Backup Power Supply: Separate from the well project, you will notice a new gas-fired generator outside the water plant. This will help ensure uninterrupted water supply during power outage.

Appreciation to town staff, Mike, Darcy and Pat for their continued efforts to keep the plant operating, maintain water levels in the distribution system and meet firefighting reserve requirements. The past 4-5 months since the east well pump failure have been challenging, and we appreciate their dedication.

We are optimistic that we have turned the corner on this project and will continue to share updates as work progresses.

Upcoming Sewer and Hydrant Work: Over the next one to two weeks, sewer repair work will take place on Earl Street, Argyle Street and Lily Street. A fire hydrant replacement is also planned for the corner of Charles and Dianne Street. Some short-term water shut-offs may be required in certain areas while this work is completed.

The Town of Balcar-

res office will be closed Dec. 24 noon through to Dec. 31. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year everyone.

BICC Recreation Update

Seasons greetings everyone! Residents were busy with a variety of programs and the following are some highlights from November – residents enjoyed the visit from John and his furry companion Gustav from the Amphibious Response Support Unit 1, as well as the visit from the Balcarres School Youth Drumming Group. Thank you for coming to share your stories and talent with the residents.

Appreciation to the Balcarres Legion Branch #84 for coming and providing a Remembrance Day service for the residents. The Balcarres Legion made a donation of \$785.60 to the Recreation Department from the collection they held at their town hall Remembrance Day service. Appreciation also to the community members who helped and contributed. Your ongoing support of the BICC and the residents is truly appreciated.

December, a fun filled month with Christmas cheer. This month is filled with a variety of seasonal programs and outings to meet everyone's interests and needs. Starting off with a new chimes program where residents can learn how to play some Christmas classics on the hand bells. Various Christmas crafts, baking, Christmas movies

with yummy snacks, and a visit from the Balcarres School Gr. 1-4 class. Residents had the opportunity to go to the Town of Balcarres Christmas event on Dec. 5 to enjoy the Twinkle Tour throughout the town. On Dec. 18 some residents planned to visit the Golden Age Centre for carols and coffee.

This time of year is all about spending time with family and friends. We celebrated the cheery season with a BICC family Christmas party on Dec. 13, and looking forward to Ugly Christmas Sweater Party on Dec. 24 at 2 p.m. and ringing in the New Year with a New Year's Eve party on Dec. 31 at 2 p.m.

A thank you to everyone who supported the BICC Winter Plant Fundraiser and to the Golden Age Centre for donating some Christmas stockings and baking for the residents.

Lastly, thank you to all our volunteers who dedicate their time in helping to support the recreation programs for the residents at the BICC.

Around the Community

Sincere sympathy to Anne Barnsley and family on the recent passing of Richard Barnsley. Richard and Anne had just recently moved to Hepburn, Sask.; prior to that living in the Abernethy area, Balcarres and Katepwa before their move. His memorial service was held in Balcarres on Dec. 17.

- SEE BALCARRES, 33

RM OF EDENWOLD No. 158

PUBLIC NOTICE



Notice of Intent to Amend the Zoning Bylaw

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

Bylaw No. 2025-12: Text Change

Intent: To amend several sections of the Zoning Bylaw to add "hydrovac waste disposal facilities" as a discretionary use in the AR – Agricultural Resource and EHI – Extractive Heavy Industrial zones, except in the following locations:

- within an area with high or extreme aquifer sensitivity;
- within 75 m of a private well, and
- within 75 m of a water course or water body.

Bylaw 2025-12 also includes amendments revising definitions to clarify that hydrovac waste is not considered clean fill, and adds development standards allowing the RM to request information about the source of the hydrovac waste, laboratory testing of materials brought to site, and any other environmental studies necessary to minimize the risk of contamination.

Purpose: To provide the opportunity to establish hydrovac waste disposal facilities in areas of the RM where risks can be minimized.

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

Public Hearing: Council will hold a public hearing to receive submissions, written or verbal, on the proposed bylaw at **10 a.m. (local time) on Tuesday, January 13, 2026**, in the Council Chambers of the RM of Edenwold No. 158, 100 Hutchence Road, Emerald Park, Saskatchewan. Written submissions will be presented to Council and can be sent by mail or email. For further information or to submit written comments, please contact Paige Boha, Manager of Planning and Development at 306-347-2967 or planning@edenwold-sk.ca.

Dated this 28th day of November at Emerald Park, in the Province of Saskatchewan.

Shauna Bzdel, Chief Administrative Officer

Town of White City Notice of Public Hearing

PROPOSED ZONING BYLAW AMENDMENT BYLAW NO. 720-25, THE ZONING BYLAW AMENDMENT BYLAW

INTENT OF THE BYLAW:

- Addition of a Residential 6 Contract District (R6-C) and rezoning the lands to accommodate a multi-unit medium density residential development in the Town Centre.

White City Town Council will consider an amendment to Bylaw No. 581-14, *The Zoning Bylaw*. By way of Bylaw No. 720-25, *The Zoning Bylaw Amendment Bylaw*.

Reason for the Amendment

- To establish a new Residential Contract District (R6-C) to allow for site-specific zoning regulations tailored to the proposed development.
- To update the Zoning District Map to reflect the proposed subdivision of Parcels X and Z.
- To rezone Parcels X and Z to Residential Contract District R6-C to enable medium-density multi-unit residential development.
- To rezone parcels MR2 and MR3 to Community Service in accordance with the proposed subdivision plan.
- To authorize the Town to enter into a Contract Zoning Agreement with the landowner to establish detailed development standards, permitted uses, site controls, and long-term land use regulations.
- To ensure the proposed zoning aligns with the Official Community Plan and supports the planned development of the Town Centre area.



Documents

Any persons may inspect the bylaw online at whitecity.ca or at the White City Town Office located at 14 Ramm Avenue East, White City from Monday to Friday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. excluding statutory holidays.

Public Hearing

A Public Hearing will be held **Monday, January 5, 2026 at 6:30 p.m.** at the White City Community Centre to receive submissions, written or verbal, on the proposed bylaw. If any person or group is unable to attend the public hearing they may send written comments to townoffice@whitecity.ca or Town of White City Box 220 Station Main White City, SK S4L 5B1.

Dated at the Town of White City this 9th day of December, 2025.

Town of White City
14 Ramm Avenue East, White City

† 306-781-2355 | e townoffice@whitecity.ca | www.whitecity.ca



Town of White City Notice of Public Hearing

PROPOSED OFFICIAL COMMUNITY PLAN MAP AMENDMENT BYLAW NO. 721-25, THE OFFICIAL COMMUNITY PLAN BYLAW AMENDMENT BYLAW

INTENT OF BYLAW:

- To accommodate a multi-unit medium density residential development in the Town Centre and accommodate future development of existing agricultural lands anticipated to be added to the municipal boundaries of the Town of White City.



White City Town Council will consider an amendment to Bylaw No. 580-14, *The Official Community Plan*. By way of Bylaw No. 721-25, *The Official Community Plan Amendment Bylaw*. The amendment will

- replace Figure 6.1 Housing Densities to add a designation for Multi-Unit Medium Density Residential.
- update the Town Centre Concept Plan Map to designate the land shown in red on the Town Centre Concept Map above as Mixed/Use Residential and Recreation.
- Update the Future Land Use Map to designate the land proposed for boundary alteration as Future Urban Residential, shown in red on the Future Land Use Map above. This intends to match the designation in the RM of Edenwold's Future Land Use Map for these lands which is designated as Residential.

Documents

Any persons may inspect the bylaw online at whitecity.ca or at the White City Town Office located at 14 Ramm Avenue East, White City from Monday to Friday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. excluding statutory holidays.

Public Hearing

A Public Hearing will be held **Monday, January 5, 2026 at 6:30 p.m.** at the White City Community Centre to receive submissions, written or verbal, on the proposed bylaw. If any person or group is unable to attend the public hearing they may send written comments to townoffice@whitecity.ca or Town of White City Box 220 Station Main White City, SK S4L 5B1.

Dated at the Town of White City this 9th day of December, 2025.

Town of White City
14 Ramm Avenue East, White City

† 306-781-2355 | e townoffice@whitecity.ca | www.whitecity.ca



Balcarres well repair project update

continued from 33

A very well attended sleigh ride evening with treats and crafts and photos with Santa that followed in the Lions Hall was held on Dec. 5 sponsored by the Balcarres Parks and Recreation Assoc. Appreciation to all who hosted, sponsored and supported this fun event and made donations of food items for the Fort Qu'Appelle Food Bank. Many rides were enjoyed throughout Balcarres to enjoy the Christmas lights and planned evening.

The Calling Lakes Choir concerts held recently in Lebret, Indian Head and Fort Qu'Appelle brought many people to the communities to listen to the 57 voice choir sing songs of the season. Local singers participating with the choir were Judy Hershmillier, Hun Kim, and Vicky and Stephanie

Paus. From counts from all centers, the choir sang to approx. 800 people, so a big thank you in sincere appreciation to all who braved the frosty temperatures to come and hear them sing.

The Balcarres Seniors held their Christmas supper and evening on Dec. 10. A catered supper followed by entertainment by Joey Theriault of Grenfell was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone.

In the afternoon of Dec. 18 the residents are looking forward to celebrating those members who had a birthday in November, as well as in December. Also on that day some residents of the BICC will be visiting, and will en-

ertain with Christmas carols played with their hand bells. The bells will be ringing in Balcarres.

Greetings from Judy

As this will be the last publication before Christmas, I would like to thank everyone who contributed with Balcarres' news items this past year. On behalf of my family I would like to wish everyone a wonderful holiday season, filled with happiness, peace and the love of family and friends. Have a Merry Christmas and Best wishes for 2026.

FARMLAND WANTED

I am currently PURCHASING single to large blocks of land.

NO FEES OR COMMISSIONS

Saskatchewan born and raised, I know farming and farmland and can help you every step of the way.

Doug Rue, for further information 306-716-2671 saskfarms@shaw.ca www.sellyourfarmland.com

EXPERIENCE THE ULTIMATE GETAWAY!

Extraordinary villa in Osoyoos, BC, with breathtaking lake views and just 3 minutes from town.

Vacation in Canada's warmest destination.

Or wanting warmer weather?

Two luxurious 5-star resort units in Phoenix, Arizona.

Doug 306-716-2671 osoyooslakevilla.com

Buying/Selling FEED GRAINS

heated / damaged CANOLA/FLAX

Top price paid FOB FARM

Western Commodities

877-695-6461

Visit our website @

www.westerncommodities.ca

Farm Acreage with buildings, for sale

No-reserve auction first week August 2026



- 11 acres surveyed subdivision
- Large Eaton House with attached garage also Eaton Barn
- 34' x 40' heated shop • 100' x 54' & 100' x 40' machine sheds
- one detached garage
- House: 4 bedrooms, 1 full bath, also one toilet
- Main floor 30' x 44' • Second floor 28' x 30'

2 miles South of Bechard, or 9 miles Southeast of Riceton. Search for "Schmeling Enterprises" on Google Maps

Please call or text Don Schmeling at 306-530 1052

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. Luke 2:11

MERRY Christmas & HAPPY NEW YEAR

From the management and staff at



VALLEY AMBULANCE CARE LTD.

FORT QU'APPELLE EMERGENCY DIAL 911

There's No Place Like Home for the HOLIDAYS

We are so grateful for the blessings of health, home, friends, and especially family. Wishing you the very best of love, health & friendship as we celebrate this joyous season!

Bill, Kathryn & Ryan BANBURY PLUMBING & HEATING

1-306-332-1234

INDOOR GOLF SIMULATORS

Echo Ridge Golf Course

FORT QU'APPELLE, SK 306.332.4653

OPEN WEDNESDAY TO SUNDAY

BOOK ONLINE: www.echoridgegolf.ca CALL US: 306.332.4653

- ✓ The market's best golf simulator technology
- ✓ Easy to use, and we are there to provide assistance if required
- ✓ The most realistic golf experience imaginable
- ✓ Over 100 golf courses and arcade games to choose from
- ✓ Full beverage service and delicious, unique appetizers
- ✓ Free use of rental clubs (all sizes) if needed

Only \$10/Person/Hour

Applies to 2+ players Minimum \$20/hr for singles

Green Card Discounts

Purchase pre-payment card and receive a 10% discount on simulator fees!

Echo Ridge Golf Course

FORT QU'APPELLE, SK



Community supports care home Christmas tree auction, bake sale

By Sarah Pacio
Grasslands News

Hayes Haven Personal Care Home in Indian Head hosted a Festival of Trees last week and, although it took an unexpected format, community support resulted in a successful fundraiser.

In November, Hayes Haven staff began preparing to host the third annual Festival of Trees on Dec. 10. For the last two years, donors have decorated Christmas trees that were then arranged in the care home gymnasium. Community members were invited to tour the festive display and enter a raffle to win their favourite tree.

The week before this year's event, an outbreak of Covid-19 at the facility forced staff to transition from an in-person raffle to a week-long, online auction.

Local businesses and community members contributed nearly twenty trees and wreaths for the auction. Since the public could not enter the care home, organizers posted a picture of each tree or wreath to a Facebook page, along with close-up

photos of the decorations. Participants selected their preferred tree and made bids in the comments section below each post.

Tree Festival photos could be viewed online starting Dec. 8, and by the following morning multiple bids were being placed for all the trees. Bidding closed on Dec. 12, and winners were announced online.

Creativity and thoughtfulness were displayed in the wide variety of décor on the trees. Hayes Haven residents prepared unique handmade ornaments for one tree. Others were decorated in a theme reflective of the donor. Gold and blue baubles adorned the tree donated by Royal Canadian Bank; a tree from Indian Head Bakery was decorated with ornaments shaped like donuts and macaroons.

The ornaments on a tree from Indian Head Sarcan were cleverly created from metal tabs and other up-cycled materials. Some trees came with edible elements: plastic bags filled with candy were tied to one tree, another had cookie cutters and sugar cookies for decorations. Snacks and drinks hung from a tree topped with a sign that read, "Eat, Drink and be Merry." Non-traditional Christmas trees were included in the festival as well. Vale Industries donated a black tree with purple feathers and large, teal ornaments.

There was also a seven-foot white, pencil tree and a hand-carved,



Tree festival
Indian Head businesses and community members donated uniquely decorated trees and wreaths for the third annual Tree Festival held at Hayes Haven Care Home last week.

SUBMITTED | GRASSLANDS NEWS

wooden tree that stood two-feet high. A few wreaths were donated for this year's festival, too.

The care home had planned to host a Cookie Walk Fundraiser in conjunction with the Tree Festival. Last year, cookies were donated, and community members purchased a container to fill as they walked alongside tables laid with sweet treats. This year's event proceeded on Wednesday evening, but was adapted to a drive-thru format. Participants drove up to the gym doors and pur-

chased pre-filled containers of cookies.

Hayes Haven staff and residents are grateful for the outpouring of support from the community which led to a successful Tree Festival and Cookie Fundraiser.

Proceeds will enable the care home to complete installation of a generator that was purchased with funds from last year's holiday event. Any remaining funds may be used for enhancements to the care home's backyard, such as sunshades for the deck and a gazebo.



AGPRO - BUYING: FEED BARLEY & HEATED CANOLA
For Bids, Call/Text: 306-873-0481 or visit: agproseeds.com
AGPRO MARKET REPORT: Farmers, call to sign up for **Free Today!**

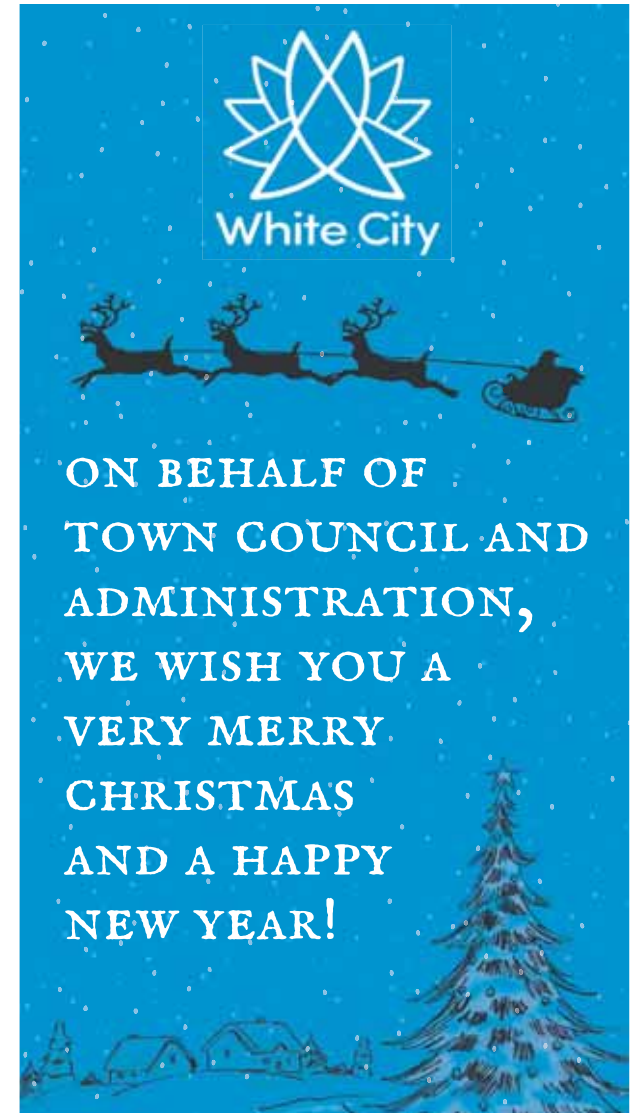


THE TOWN OF PILOT BUTTE & TOWN COUNCIL WISH EVERYONE A Merry Christmas

Holidays Hours

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 24TH	9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
THURSDAY DECEMBER 25TH	CLOSED
FRIDAY DECEMBER 26TH	CLOSED
WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 31TH	9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
THURSDAY JANUARY 1ST	CLOSED
FRIDAY JANUARY 2ND	9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Regular office hours:
Monday to Friday 9:00am - 12:00pm & 1:00pm - 5:00pm
Closed 12:00-1:00pm and Statutory holidays



Happy holidays!

From everyone at




Southeast College

Please note: our Campus will be closed
Dec. 25 to Jan. 4 inclusive.

1-866-999-7372 www.southeastcollege.org

Hyundai Boxing Month Bonus

December 5, 2025 to January 2, 2026.

Don't pay for 90 days
on all models*.
Based on monthly payments, finance purchases only. Restrictions apply**.

Up to: **\$1,000**
in additional bonus on select in-stock vehicles*.



 <p>T25-266 2025 TUCSON N-Line HEV</p> <p>\$ 126 weekly at 5.79% for 60 months</p>	 <p>K26-013 2026 KONA Preferred Trend</p> <p>\$ 119 weekly at 6.59% for 60 months</p>	 <p>EL25-210 2025 ELANTRA Luxury HEV</p> <p>\$ 109 weekly at 5.79% for 60 months</p>
--	---	--

YORKTON HYUNDAI PH: 306-783-8080 TF: 1-800-565-0002
115 Palliser Way, Yorkton, SK www.yorktonhyundai.com
Dealer License # 323917



*Finance offers available O.A.C. from Hyundai Financial Services based on new in-stock 2024 ELANTRA Essential/2024 VENUE Essential/2024 TUCSON Preferred AWD models with an annual finance rate of 4.49%/4.49%/4.49%. Cost of borrowing is \$1,072/\$2,389/\$3,340. Selling price is \$25,879/\$25,363/\$30,414. Weekly payments are \$10/\$10/\$15 for 48/48/48 months. \$2,095/\$2,395/\$2,095 down payment required. Trade-in value may be applied to down payment amount. Finance offers include Delivery and Destination charge of \$1,775/\$1,950/\$1,950, taxes and all applicable charges (including HST, GST/PTST). Finance offers exclude registration, insurance, PPSA, licence fees and dealer admin. fees of up to \$500. **Price of model shown: 2024 ELANTRA N-Line Ultimate/2024 VENUE Ultimate/2024 TUCSON Ultimate Hybrid AWD is \$33,856/\$28,331/\$46,931. Price includes Delivery and Destination charge of \$1,775/\$1,950/\$1,950, taxes and all applicable charges (excluding HST/GST/PTST). Prices exclude registration, insurance, PPSA, licence fees and dealer admin. fees of up to \$599. Fees may vary by dealer. Prices are not established for pre-production models.
*Bonus price adjustments of \$500 available on select in-stock 2024 KONA N-Line trims only, on lease, finance and cash purchase from July 3, 2024 to July 30, 2024. Price adjustments are applied before taxes. Offer is non-transferable and cannot be assigned. Model inventory for which the price adjustments are applicable may vary from dealer to dealer and from region to region. See your local Hyundai dealer for further details and applicable model inventory. **Offer available for a limited time and subject to change or cancellation without notice. Vehicle colour is subject to availability. Delivery and Destination charge includes freight, P.D.I. and a full tank of gas. Dealer may sell for less. Inventory is limited, dealer order may be required. Offer is non-transferable and cannot be assigned. No vehicle trade-in required. Visit www.hyundai.ca or see dealer for complete details. The Hyundai name, logo, product names, feature names, images and slogans are trademarks owned or licensed by Hyundai Auto Canada Corp. All other trademarks and trade names are the property of their respective owners.



Potash Mining Readiness Program

MINING TALENT, GROWING CAREERS

- 6 week training course designed specifically for Indigenous learners who want to explore entry-level roles in mining and gain the skills, confidence, and support to succeed
- Graduates are job-ready for entry-level roles at Mosaic
- Lodging, meals and \$1,000 post-grad bursary provided

Start Date:
February 9th, 2026
Mosaic Esterhazy Potash Complex

This Program prepares Indigenous learners for operations jobs that offer competitive pay, local opportunities, and job specific training!



APPLY NOW!



Delivered by:  **Morris Interactive**
it starts with people

SEND A FREE GIFT SUBSCRIPTION WITH SUBSCRIPTION PURCHASE

SUBSCRIBE OR RENEW



ONLINE

www.grasslandsnews.ca/subscribe

CALL THE OFFICE 1-844-GNG-NEWS

BY MAIL

2026 SUBSCRIPTION PRICES PICK-UP BOX - 1 Year \$45

Pick up boxes only available for:

Fort Times: Fort Qu'Appelle & Balcarres

Herald Sun: Grenfell, Broadview & Whitewood

Melville Advance: Melville

Kipling Clipper: Kipling

Indian Head-Wolseley News : Indian Head

MAILED IN SASKATCHEWAN

1 Year \$55 - 2 Years \$95

3 Years \$125 - 5 Years \$185

MAILED IN CANADA - 1 Year \$75

ONLINE EDITION - 1 Year \$40

SUBSCRIBE TO: Name of paper here.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Town/City: _____ Prov: _____

Postal Code: _____ Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Payment amount: _____ Credit Card Expiry _____

Payment by: Visa Mastercard _____ 3 digit code _____

Cheque or Money Order (enclosed) Signature _____

Please make cheques out to **Grasslands News Group**

Telephone Orders: 1-844-GNG-NEWS

Forms should be mailed to Grasslands News Group, Box 1420, Melville, SK, S0A 2P0

Etransfers can be made to: accounts@grasslandsnews.ca

