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Basketball team nominated for philanthropy award

By Sarah Pacio
Grasslands News

A basketball team from Indian Head has been nominated for an award recognizing its contribution to cancer research efforts.

Every February, the Sr. Girls Basketball team at Indian Head High School hosts a tournament called the Heartbreaker Classic. The tradition stemmed from the team's participation in a Pink Game initiative started by Coach Al Wandler in Assiniboia. After his father passed away from cancer, Wandler hosted a fundraising game where the home team wore pink uniforms, and proceeds were directed toward cancer research. The Indian Head coach and players embraced the concept and have incorporated the Pink Game into a two-day home tournament since 2011.

Local businesses, organizations and individuals donate items for raffle prizes and a silent auction during the tournament. There is also a 50/50 raffle and commemorative t-shirts are sold. Proceeds from the weekend are directed to organizations like the Cancer Foundation of Saskatchewan or to individuals battling cancer. More than $15,000 was raised during the last two years alone.

Team members Jovi Warnez and Chloe Clark have played basketball at IHHS since Grade 9. Now in their final year of high school, the Heartbreaker Classic has been a highlight of their extra-curricular experience. Nearly every weekend during a regular season, the team participates in tournaments, but the event in February is their favourite.

Players canvas the community for donations, set up for the event, and assist with collecting admission or keeping score. They decorate the school gym with pink streamers and balloons and hang posters with slogans like "We break hearts… so cancer doesn't." During the tournament, one game is designated as the Pink Game when the home team will wear carnation-coloured uniforms. Fans, coaches, visiting teams and referees demonstrate their solidarity by wearing pink bandanas, shoes, socks, or shirts. The Indian Head players enjoy hosting and appreciate the exuberance of the spectators who attend the games.

"Our school loves it, everyone comes out; it's definitely our biggest tournament," Jovi commented. "Everyone's wearing pink, and the other teams even will come wearing pink socks."

Chloe agreed, "Everyone involved goes all in."

For Jovi, Chloe, and many others, there is a very personal aspect to the fundraising event.

"My mom had breast cancer, so it's just kind of cool to be able to play for her, and she gets to watch the whole thing, so that's nice," Jovi said.

Chloe shared a similar perspective.

"My grandma has had skin cancer on and off for a long time, and I feel like for a lot of players it's really close to home," she said.

Along with wearing pink uniforms, players may even use a marker to write the name of the person they are playing for on their leg.

The Cancer Foundation of Saskatchewan recognized the positive impact of the Heartbreaker Classic and nominated the Indian Head team for the annual Outstanding Youth Philanthropist award administered by the Association of Fundraising Professionals South Saskatchewan Chapter. Jovi and Chloe agreed that the nomination was unexpected but said they felt honoured and excited to be recognized.

Along with the Indian Head nomination, AFP announced that its 2026 Outstanding Philanthropist award winner is Dr. Audrey Duthie who grew up near Wolseley. Dr. Duthie is a retired university Professor of Mathematics who has provided tremendous support to STARS air ambulance over the past several decades. Her donations have sustained general operations and provided for specific equipment purchases. With her ongoing assistance, STARS obtained a heli-tow cart, an infant mannequin for use in training, a laryngoscope, a handheld ultrasound and other valuable tools. Dr. Duthie has also regularly contributed to the Regina Hospital Foundation, Regina Humane Society and provided funding for university scholarships.

Dr. Duthie will be honoured and additional award recipients will be announced at a luncheon in Regina on Nov. 10.

RYAN KIEDROWSKI | GRASSLANDS NEWS

Protective Services medal

Lieutenant Governor Bernadette McIntyre bestowed a Saskatchewan Protective Services Medal to Superintendent of EMS services in Indian Head Ron Ball during a ceremony at Government House in Regina on Sept. 29. It was the second honour he received from McIntyre in as many days, having been presented the day previous with the Governor General's Emergency Medical Services Exemplary Service Medal.

Protective Services and Governor General's EMS Exemplary Service medals

Indian Head paramedic Ron Bell honoured

By Ryan Kiedrowski
Grasslands News

Ron Ball has spent more than a quarter-century answering calls when people need help most. This week, that service earned him two medals – and left the veteran Indian Head paramedic reflecting on the people who helped him get there.

Ball, superintendent of EMS services in Indian Head and Whitewood, received the Saskatchewan Protective Services Medal Tuesday, Sept. 29 in Regina, recognizing 25 or more years of exemplary service. The honour came one day after he received the Governor General's Emergency Medical Services Exemplary Service Medal for 20 years of exemplary service.

The back-to-back recognition has been humbling for Ball, who said he has spent much of the past two days trying to absorb what the honours mean.

"I was on a bit of a high this morning," he told Grasslands News moments after receiving the SPS medal. "Just trying to reevaluate yesterday, most of the day, and absorb that a little bit, and then today's quite overwhelming."

The SPS Medal was presented to 204 recipients this year, with honourees representing police, fire, corrections, border services, the RCMP, Canadian Armed Forces, and other protective-service professions.

The medal recognizes at least 25 years of service. Ball has reached 26 years in EMS and will mark 27 years on April 1.

Ball's career began in April 2000 as an emergency medical responder with Pipestone Health.

He subsequently advanced his education and qualifications, becoming an emergency medical technician, primary care paramedic, and intermediate care paramedic.

But EMS was not necessarily the career Ball had envisioned when he started out.

"I was a lumberman for 15 years, and my predecessor, Mike Lang, reached out to me one day and said, 'Hey, are you interested in driving an ambulance?'" Ball recalls.

He was already a volunteer firefighter at the time, but EMS quickly became his calling.

"I got the bug right away and just continued to progress up to my intermediate care level," he said. "And I find it to be probably my most gratifying career. I love people. I love my clients. Every walk of life, they're my true educators in life."

The nomination for Ball's provincial medal points to more than his clinical experience.

The Paramedic Services Chiefs of Saskatchewan citation recognizes his administrative leadership, mentoring of younger paramedics and commitment to employee safety and mental health.

Ball said that support works both ways in a profession where crews regularly encounter people on some of the worst days of their lives.

"One of my coworkers actually reached out and texted - she probably said it best where 'it's our job to lift each other up,'" he said. "I think it's important for the community to do that, and that's where our structure is."

His work has also extended beyond emergency calls - Ball has promoted health and safety in the community, including speaking at a senior safety seminar in Indian Head last year. He provided advice to seniors and caregivers about mobility and other concerns, while highlighting resources such as My Life Capsule and My Yellow Sleeve, which can provide important information to emergency responders.

Rural EMS service certainly has it's differences from what counterparts in the big city might encounter.

"I find it the most gratifying to see a person after the fact; the transition, just to have that conversation of 'nice to see you again,'" he said.

The rural nature of the job also means paramedics frequently respond to calls involving people they know. That feeling of a close-knit community is also prevalent in the EMS world also.

- SEE RON BELL, 14

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Province honours over 200 protective services veterans

By Ryan Kiedrowski
Grasslands News

Twenty-five years is a long time to spend at any job.

It is even longer when that job means answering calls in the middle of the night, walking toward danger, missing family celebrations, and being there when someone else is having the worst day of their life.

That quarter-century commitment was recognized Sept. 29 as Saskatchewan honoured 204 protective services personnel with the Saskatchewan Protective Services Medal.

The medal recognizes at least 25 years of exemplary service in protective services, including police, fire, corrections, border services, the military, RCMP, plus crisis and family violence outreach workers.

During a morning ceremony at Government House in Regina, Lieutenant-Governor Bernadette McIntyre presented medals to 17 recipients — all police officers or RCMP members. In the afternoon, 37 further medals were presented to a group of mostly EMS and fire department members.

Some recipients from the readership included Superintendent Ron Ball, Indian Head EMS; Bryce Burns, Esterhazy Ambulance; Deputy Fire Chief Mel Chorney, Pilot Butte Fire Department; Captain Wayne Coderre, Stoughton/Tecumseh Fire and Rescue; Douglas Hanley and Deputy Fire Chief James Shaw, Melville Fire and Rescue; and S/Sgt. Drew Wagner, Fort Qu'Appelle RCMP.

"When I was 21, I wanted to do a little bit for my community," explained Hanley, who began his firefighting career at Indian Head, then Pontiex, St. Walburg, and finally Melville. "I hadn't been in any clubs or anything like that, so a friend and myself joined the fire department."

Hanley retired back in December with 37 years of firefighting experience in total, adding there's always room for more recruits on Melville Fire and Rescue.

Another local hero Grasslands News spoke with pointed to the importance of fellow protective services personnel throughout one's career.

"It's who you surround yourself with," said Ball, who's coming up on 27 years of service with EMS. "My wife's supportive, my family's supportive, my work family's supportive, the nurses, the lab techs and the doctors - that's my circle, you know, and it just keeps me going."

"Every day is a different day," he continues. "It's really exciting to embrace those opportunities when you can."

A day previous, Ball also received a Governor General's EMS Exemplary Service Medal.

For Marlo Pritchard - president and fire commissioner of the Saskatchewan Public Safety Agency and chair of the medal's advisory committee - the ceremony was about much more than the symbolism behind the medal.

"It's always an honour to be part of this, the dedication of the women and men that meet the 25-year milestone for the Protective Services Medal," Pritchard told Grasslands News. "It's always an honour to be part of it, to see the culmination of years and years of dedication to communities across this province."

Doug Hanley from Melville Fire and Rescue receives his Saskatchewan Protective Services Medal from Lt. Gov Bernadette McIntyre . RYAN KIEDROWSKI

Pritchard knows many of the recipients personally, having worked with them during his own policing career.

"It's great to see how they've continued with their commitment to the community that I saw decades ago," he said.

The SPS Medal was established in 2003 and has now been awarded to more than 3,100 people through 83 ceremonies.

This year's recipients were recognized for careers that often involved personal risk, difficult calls, and sacrifices that extended well beyond the workplace.

"It's not just the members that do it, it's the family that supports them," Pritchard said.

"There's holidays that are missed, there's families, there's anniversaries. It truly is a commitment to the calling of policing or fire or first responders."

McIntyre also made a point of recognizing those family members during Tuesday's ceremony.

"I know they miss many family celebrations and events while on duty," she said. "Your care and support enable these outstanding professionals to continue their essential and vital work."

The timing of this year's awards also carried some extra weight as just days earlier, a new memorial was unveiled near the legislature honouring protective services personnel who died while serving.

Community Safety Minister Blaine McLeod attended that ceremony and said it was a moving reminder of the risks that come with the job.

"I was moved," McLeod said. "The act of remembrance that we participated in there, it's so stirring in the heart, but especially this time, knowing that there's a spot now there for those that serve in those protective services, that their names will be remembered and honoured."

McLeod said the memorial and medal ceremony provided two sides of the same story — remembering those who made the ultimate sacrifice while recognizing those who have spent decades serving.

"Twenty-five years is very, very significant," McLeod said. "We need to make sure we honor that and make sure that they recognize that the people of Saskatchewan don't take it for granted."

Provincial Secretary Jamie Martens said the work of protective services personnel often happens without much public attention.

"While your service is carried out, quietly and away from the spotlight, it has had profound impact on people, families, and communities in this province," Martens said.

"You have responded to emergencies, supported people during crisis, and provided a steady, reassuring presence that makes Saskatchewan stronger."

Opposition House Leader Nicole Sarauer, speaking on behalf of the NDP, said that is precisely why the recognition matters.

"In careers like these, you don't do the work expecting recognition," she said. "You do it because you believe in your community and you believe in people."

The medal bears the Latin motto Qui civitatem tuentur, meaning "who guard the citizenry."

McIntyre told recipients to take pride in what they had accomplished — and to remember that their health and well-being matter, too.

"Please continue to maintain your health and well-being and know that assistance is available if needed," she said.

Report from the Legislature

The world is uncertain, Saskatchewan is not. There is no place better positioned to help meet the world's demand for food, fuel, fertilizer and critical minerals than Saskatchewan. Premier Scott Moe brought this message to the Canada Investment Summit in Toronto where he promoted investment opportunities in Saskatchewan's energy, critical mineral, defence and agriculture sectors. The event brings together prominent investors, CEOs, entrepreneurs and business leaders from around the world. Saskatchewan's competitive business environment has attracted record investment, with private capital investment in Saskatchewan increasing last year by 12 per cent to $13.6 billion, ranking first in Canada.

The Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation reported housing starts in Saskatchewan grew 65.5 per cent in August 2026 compared to August 2025. This surge reflects strong private investment and the confidence people have in Saskatchewan as a place to live, work and raise a family. Our construction sector continues to build housing at a rapid pace, supporting population growth and protecting Saskatchewan and its people.

This strong and steady economy and business environment is reflected in metrics such as our provincial credit rating. Once again, Saskatchewan has maintained the highest credit rating among the provinces when the ratings from all three major credit rating agencies are considered (Moody's Investors Service, Morningstar DBRS (MDBRS) and S&P Global).

A strong economy is what allows us to deliver affordability relief by cutting taxes while making key investments in health care, education and protecting communities. Investments such as the School Playground Equipment Grant. Schools can once again apply for funding through this grant as applications for the second year of the program are **now open until January 29, 2027**. Schools can receive up to $50,000 in matched funding to build new playgrounds or update existing equipment. The government is providing $3.75 million each year for four years to the program, which has already helped 94 schools throughout the province. To learn how to apply for this grant visit, ***www.spra.sk.ca/funding/spra-grants/***. Our government is pleased to continue this investment and look forward to seeing more projects take shape in communities across Saskatchewan.

If you would like to share your thoughts or have any questions about a provincial program or service, please contact us. We look forward to hearing from you.

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Memorial pays tribute to protective service members

By Ryan Kiedrowski
Grasslands News

For the families left behind, a name carved into stone is not enough to replace the person who should still be standing beside them. But on Sept. 26, those names became part of a permanent reminder that the people they lost mattered — not only to their families, but to an entire province.

The Saskatchewan Protective Services Memorial was unveiled on Memorial Way southwest of the Saskatchewan Legislative Building, recognizing 66 people who died in the line of duty while serving in protective services across the province.

The memorial honours firefighters, police officers, paramedics, corrections workers, emergency communications personnel, conservation officers and others whose service dates back more than a century.

For Candace Curle, whose brother Robbie's death was recognized through the memorial, the occasion carried both pride and pain.

"I think everyone will agree when I say that the true honor and privilege lie in being the family members of these brave and selfless souls," Curle told those gathered for the ceremony. "We stand here today with broken hearts and immense pride, remembering those who gave so much in service to others."

Curle's brother died following an occupational stress injury, after spending more than a decade trying to have his illness heard and recognized.

"I watched my brother struggle for over a decade to fight to have his illness heard and recognized," she said in an interview following the ceremony. "Unfortunately he died before that happened, but to have his occupational stress injury recognized as a line of service duty and be honored in that way means so much to my dad and I."

The memorial's 66 names include people from a broad range of protective services, including provincial and federal corrections, victim services, mobile crisis services, and the Canadian Armed Forces.

David Reed, A regional sergeant major for Emergency Medical Services in Regina, had been advocating for years on the creation of a medal to honour fallen first responders that have died in the line of duty or from work-related injuries.

Candace Curle

"Every time that we go to a police memorial - be it RCMP, be it Saskatchewan Police Memorial, and other memorials, as we congregated across Canada to remember fallen from the Canadian Forces - it always strikes me so importantly that we recognize service and we recognize the families and their sacrifices that they gave to the people of Saskatchewan so we can always stay protected and move forward," he said back on Nov. 4, 2025 – the same day plans for the memorial were announced.

The $900,000 memorial was developed by the Saskatchewan Public Safety Agency, with $100,000 contributed by WorkSafe Saskatchewan. It features an image of the Saskatchewan Protective Services Medal, a "helping hands" structure and a commemorative message, with room for additional names in the future.

Saskatchewan Lieutenant-Governor Bernadette McIntyre said the province had waited too long for a permanent memorial recognizing those who died serving its communities. During her remarks, McIntyre said the people represented at the memorial understood the risks of their work but continued to answer the call.

"They understand the risks and yet they are called to serve," she said. "They want to contribute in a meaningful way to their communities, to help people in need, to provide support to those in crisis, and to uphold our laws."

The memorial, she said, gives families and the broader public a place to remember.

"I think it says to all the families and friends of the fallen is that we will never forget," McIntyre said. "We are so grateful for their service and everything they gave for our protection."

Colonel Jason Quilliam, Saskatchewan's chief of protocol and a longtime military police officer, described the memorial as both a tribute to the dead and a reminder of the cost associated with public safety.

"This memorial stands as a permanent place of remembrance," Quilliam said. "It honours lives of service, courage, and sacrifice."

Marlo Pritchard, president of the Saskatchewan Public Safety Agency and Saskatchewan's fire commissioner, said the memorial represents a common bond among professions that can look very different from one another.

"Police officers, firefighters, paramedics, corrections personnel, emergency communicators, search and rescue volunteers, victim services workers, crisis support teams, and many others - they all play a vital role in protecting and caring for the people of Saskatchewan," he said. "While their responsibilities may differ, they are united by common purpose, that is helping others often in difficult circumstances, and working to make our communities safer, stronger, and more resilient."

Pritchard, who has spent much of his adult life as a first responder, said memorial ceremonies are familiar to him — but Saturday's event was different.

"Today is especially meaningful because we are unveiling Saskatchewan's Protective Services Memorial, a permanent tribute to the women and men who dedicated their lives to public safety and whose loss continues to be felt by families, friends, colleagues, and the people whose lives they touched and the communities they served," he said.

WorkSafe Saskatchewan contributed to the project, with Chris Clemett saying the memorial should not simply look backward.

"The greatest way we can honour those who we have lost is not only to remember them, but to do everything within our power to prevent others from being added to this memorial," Clemett said. "Every worker deserves to return home safely. Every family deserves the peace of mind knowing their loved one will come home at the end of their shift."

That message resonated with Curle, who said the risks of protective service work extend beyond the physical dangers that are easiest for the public to see.

"I come from generations of protective service. My dad was a police officer, my brother a paramedic, and my son's a firefighter," she said. "And there is a toll, a physical and emotional toll. And I think that, you know, the emotional toll is often overlooked and not seen. This memorial won't replace what's lost, but it will continue the conversation. It will give us a place to see that our loved one's lives valued, and their legacy will last for years and years to come."

She has established a scholarship in her brother's memory for an advanced-care paramedic continuing their education. Recipients must demonstrate how they will proactively tend to their mental health.

For Curle, the memorial's significance also comes from the fact that it recognizes occupational stress injuries as part of the broader reality of protective service work.

"I think it's really poignant," she told Grasslands News of the timing of the unveiling during Suicide Prevention Month. "Suicide loss is a loss that's often really misunderstood and stigmatized, and having this memorial unveiled and having occupational stress injuries recognized as a workplace-related fatality really speaks volumes to how far we've come in society to destigmatizing our homes."

- SEE MEMORIAL, 5

Protective Services Memorial RYAN KIEDROWSKI I GRASSLANDS NEWS

The Saskatchewan Protective Services Memorial was officially unveiled Sept. 26 near the Legislative Building in Regina. The memorial honours first responders, protective services professionals, and crisis support personnel from across Saskatchewan who gave their lives in service to others.

Reading the names RYAN KIEDROWSKI I GRASSLANDS NEWS

Krista Bull, Deputy Chief with the White City Fire Department was one of three people who read the list of 66 names of the fallen, from 1905 to 2021.

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NDP steps up push for Weedmark jet receipts

By Ryan Kiedrowski
Grasslands News

Saskatchewan's Opposition is turning up the pressure on Moosomin-Montmartre MLA Kevin Weedmark to release receipts for private jet travel he has said he paid for himself, arguing the public deserves to know exactly what the flights cost.

NDP health critic Meara Conway said Sept. 24 her party has written to Weedmark, Premier Scott Moe, the finance and health ministers, and now the president of the company that provided the aircraft, seeking details about a multi-stop trip Weedmark took while carrying out public duties.

The government maintains Weedmark personally paid for the flights and that no taxpayer money was used.

"As Mr. Weedmark has already confirmed, he paid for the flights personally and no taxpayers' dollars were used," the government said in a written response to Grasslands News.

Conway said the NDP is seeking receipts or other proof of payment to settle questions surrounding the Aug. 27 trip, which involved stops in Lloydminster, Saskatoon, and Regina before returning to Moosomin.

"The minute that Mr. Weedmark undertook this travel while doing government business, this became a public issue," Conway told reporters Sept. 24. "He has a responsibility to clarify these questions."

The issue has centred on a Cessna Citation 560 used by Weedmark during the trip and why an employee of the newspaper he owns – Ashley Bochek – was along for the trip, recording a 'day in the life' video for social media. Conway said the NDP has been unable to obtain documentation showing what the flight actually cost despite repeated requests.

She said the party has now contacted Air Andrew president and CEO Scott Andrew after he was quoted publicly as saying the Lloydminster trip would cost far less than the NDP initially estimated.

"If I did it today, it would be less than 20,000 bucks," Andrew was quoted as saying.

Conway said the figure does not match estimates the NDP obtained from other charter companies for a comparable itinerary.

"We also got a quote for a turbo jet, which is a less luxurious jet at 38,000," Conway said, noting another estimate for a similar aircraft was closer to $60,000. "There's quite a bit of discrepancy there between what Mr. Andrew says that this kind of itinerary could go for and what we've learned elsewhere."

The political dispute comes as the NDP attempts to frame the travel as an issue of transparency and optics rather than simply the cost of a flight.

"It leads people understandably to ask, 'what is he hiding?' What is so dark and murky here that he can't just produce the receipts and put these questions to bed?" Conway told Grasslands News. "Why is it so hard? People deserve these answers as a bare minimum."

Weedmark has been less visible publicly since questions about the flights emerged.

"He says he did nothing wrong, he paid for it out of pocket, he was doing a great service to the people of Saskatchewan," Conway continued. "It's not a crime to be rich, just show the receipts. Put these questions to rest."

The dispute is likely to follow Weedmark back to the legislature when MLAs return to the Legislative assembly on Oct. 27.

"Kevin Weedmark cannot hide forever," she said. "He's going to be back in this building in about a month."

RYAN KIEDROWSKI I GRASSLANDS NEWS

Reluctant pen-pals

NDP Health critic Meara Conway met with reporters Sept. 24, noting no response from various government officials regarding Moosomin-Montmartre MLA Kevin Weedmark's use of a private jet in his duties. Conway said they've written to Weedmark, Premier Scott Moe, Finance Minister Jim Reiter, and Health Minister Jeremy Cockrill with no response to their queries.

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CHRIS ASHFIELD I GRASSLANDS NEWS

Multiple vehicle accidents

Whitewood Fire Department responded to two vehicle accidents this week including a collision between an SUV and deer (left) on Monday night and a vehicle that went off the end of a T-intersection and crashed into the bushes (right) on Wednesday.

Vehicle crashes keep Whitewood Fire Department busy during the past week

By Chris Ashfield
Grasslands News

Whitewood firefighters responded to two separate vehicle incidents on Highway 9 within less than two days, with both resulting in significant vehicle damage but no reported injuries.

The first call came at approximately 8:35 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 28, while members of the Whitewood Fire Department were at the fire hall for a training night.

Firefighters were dispatched to Highway 9 south of Whitewood for a vehicle-versus-wildlife collision.

Upon arrival, members found a northbound SUV had struck a large buck deer. The impact caused extensive damage to the vehicle, which came to rest in the northbound driving lane.

The driver was assessed and was not injured. The deer did not survive the collision.

Firefighters provided traffic control, cleared debris from the highway and assisted with removing the damaged vehicle before returning to the fire hall. WFD was back in service at 9:45 p.m.

Two days later, at approximately 7:30 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 30, WFD and Whitewood EMS were dispatched to another incident on Highway #9, this time north of town.

Emergency crews arrived to find a heavily damaged SUV in the trees near a T-intersection.

The vehicle had apparently travelled through the end of the intersecting road, crossed Highway #9 and continued into the trees on the opposite side.

No occupants were found at the scene when emergency crews arrived. It was later reported that the collision had occurred sometime earlier and those in the vehicle had already left the area.

With no patients requiring treatment, emergency personnel secured the area around the damaged SUV. The scene was taped off before firefighters and EMS cleared the location.

Memorial honours fallen Protective Services

- continued from page 3

During the ceremony, Curle spoke directly about the families behind each of the 66 names.

"To the public, they were protective service professionals, but to us, they were the ones who cheered us on," she said. "They were the steady presence we counted on. the wisdom we relied on, the love that made us feel whole, the smile that made everything better, the laughter that lifted our spirits, and most importantly, the people who simply made our lives better just by being a part of it."

"This memorial can't replace what was lost, and every single one of us would give this moment back to have our family standing beside us today," she continued. "One of the most valuable things for people who've lost somebody is to know that their loved one mattered and won't be forgotten," Curle said. "And this memorial serves to do just that."

The memorial's inscription of 66 names is intended to provide a place where future generations can learn about the people behind them.

For McIntyre, the location among other memorials on the legislative grounds is fitting.

"It is so wonderful the memorials that we have on these legislative grounds that we honor our veterans, we honor our nurses, we honor all of our Saskatchewan Protective Services personnel now in the most beautiful place in the capital city of Saskatchewan," she said.

Curle said the families who gathered Saturday did not choose the community they now share.

"We did not choose to become members of this community of loss," she said. "But we are grateful to be part of a community of remembrance."

And for those still working in protective services, she offered a message of her own.

"To the protective service members still serving, thank you for your commitment, bravery and dedication to serving the people of this province," Curle said. "Your service is valued, your courage is admired and your commitment to others is deeply appreciated."

The memorial is intended to ensure the names of Saskatchewan's fallen remain part of the province's public memory.

Curle ended her remarks with a message to those whose names now appear there.

"To our fallen loved ones, you are deeply missed, forever loved, and will never be forgotten," she said. "Your watch has ended, but we carry your memory forward with love, remembrance, and pride."

Melville Friends of the Library
and the Melville Public Library

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OPINION

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Service and sacrifice deserve our thanks and our respect

Most of us hope we never have to make the call, but when a vehicle leaves the highway, a house catches fire, someone suddenly becomes seriously ill or any number of other emergencies happen, we expect someone to answer. Across Saskatchewan, and particularly in our smaller communities, firefighters, paramedics, police officers and other emergency personnel are there on what can be the worst day of someone else's life.

This week, Saskatchewan offered two reminders of what that service can mean. The Saskatchewan Protective Services Memorial was unveiled near the Legislative Building, permanently recognizing 66 people who lost their lives in the line of duty while serving others, and just days later more than 200 people were recognized with Saskatchewan Protective Services Medals for at least 25 years of exemplary service. One honours those whose service ultimately cost them their lives, while the other honours those who have spent a quarter-century or more answering the call. Together, they should cause all of us to think about what service really means.

We tend to notice emergency personnel when something has gone wrong. We see the ambulance heading down the highway, the fire trucks leaving the hall or the flashing lights at the side of the road, but we don't see all the hours behind those flashing lights. There are training nights, courses and certifications, evenings and weekends spent preparing for emergencies everyone hopes will never happen, calls at 2 a.m., meals left unfinished and family gatherings interrupted. For many volunteer firefighters in rural Saskatchewan, the call may also come after they have already put in a full day at another job, yet when the pager sounds they leave whatever they are doing and respond because somebody needs them.

There is another reality to emergency service in smaller communities that can easily be overlooked. The person requiring help may not be a stranger. It could be a neighbour, a friend, a coworker, a relative or simply someone the responder knows from around town. When the emergency is over, those responders do not disappear into the anonymity of a large city; they return to the same streets and communities, carrying with them what they have seen and experienced. Rural emergency personnel are called upon to care for their own communities, and sometimes that means helping people they know through circumstances none of them will easily forget.

The sacrifice involved in emergency service, therefore, cannot be measured simply by the hours spent at a scene. It can be physical and emotional, and it extends to spouses, children and families who accept that plans can change instantly when a pager sounds or a phone rings. Holidays, birthdays and anniversaries can be interrupted, and a family meal can quickly become an empty chair at the table while someone heads out the door to help another family in crisis. Those sacrifices rarely make headlines, but over 10, 20, 25 or 40 years they add up to an enormous commitment.

That kind of commitment can also become something a community simply expects, and it shouldn't. When an ambulance is needed, we expect it to arrive. When there is a fire, we expect firefighters to respond. When there is a serious collision, we expect emergency personnel to be there regardless of the hour, the weather or the conditions. Because they so consistently answer, it becomes easy to forget that behind every uniform is a person who has made a choice to serve and, behind many of them, a family that has accepted the sacrifices that come with that choice.

The new Saskatchewan Protective Services Memorial is an important reminder of the greatest price that can accompany that service. Its 66 names represent people who had families, friends and communities waiting for them to come home, and it also recognizes that the dangers faced by emergency personnel are not always immediately visible. Physical injuries are obvious, but years spent dealing with tragedy and trauma can leave other wounds that are every bit as real.

The medals presented this week tell another side of the same story. Twenty-five years of emergency service is rarely defined by one extraordinary act; rather, it is made up of thousands of ordinary acts of commitment. It is getting up when the pager sounds, attending another training night, responding during another storm, helping another stranger and returning home before doing it all over again. Most of those moments will never be recognized publicly, and many of the people who were helped may never know the names of those who came to their aid.

That is why weeks such as this matter. Memorials and medals cannot repay sacrifice, nor can they adequately capture what decades of service mean to the people who provide it or to the families who support them, but they make the rest of us stop for a moment and recognize something that is far too easy to take for granted. When we need help, someone answers, and when it is the middle of the night, the weather is terrible or the circumstances are difficult, dangerous or heartbreaking, someone still answers.

We should not wait until a name is carved into stone, or until 25 years have passed and a medal is presented, to appreciate that. To the firefighters, paramedics, police officers and all of the other emergency and protective service personnel across our communities who continue to answer the call, and to the families who make it possible for them to do so, thank you. Your service matters, your sacrifices matter, and both deserve to be recognized and remembered.

To all of Saskatchewan's protective services personnel, we offer our thanks: to those who made the ultimate sacrifice and whose service and memory we honour; to those who have completed their years of service after giving so much of themselves to their communities; and to those who continue to answer the call today. We owe each of them, and the families who have stood beside them, a debt of gratitude that no medal, memorial or words can fully repay. The best we can do is remember those we have lost, honour those who have served and never take for granted those who continue to be there when we need them most.

- Chris Ashfield, GNG News

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NDP vows to rebuild Highway #22 after residents blast troubled project

By Ryan Kiedrowski
Grasslands News

The province's deputy agriculture critic says his party would rebuild portions of Highway #22 if it forms government, as residents along the troubled route accuse the province of wasting millions of dollars on a project they say has left the highway worse than before.

NDP MLA Trent Wotherspoon renewed the party's call Sept. 29 for the provincial government to scrap its current approach and properly rebuild the highway between Southey and Kelliher-area communities, saying residents have spent the summer warning that the work was inadequate.

"This Highway #22 project is a mess," Wotherspoon said during a news conference near Markinch.

"Rebuild Highway #22 properly. Listen to the people who actually rely on this road. Make sure the proper engineering and testing is done and deliver a highway that is safe and built to last."

Wotherspoon said he attended a packed town hall in July where residents raised concerns about the condition of the highway, the underlying road base and the province's testing and engineering work. Residents told local MLA Travis Keisig that the resurfacing project was inadequate, but their concerns were dismissed.

"People told their local MLA Travis Kiesig directly that the Sask Party's resurfacing project was wholly inadequate," Wotherspoon said. "They raised serious concerns about the existing failed base of this highway. They raised concerns that there hadn't been proper pilot testing holes before the project commenced."

The concerns have continued as the construction season winds down and winter approaches. Highway #22 is also an important route for emergency services, school buses, families, and agricultural producers moving grain to terminals and processing facilities.

"Most importantly, it matters to the safety of the people standing with us here today and everyone who travels this road," Wotherspoon said. "If the Sask Party government continues to refuse to do the right thing, Carla Beck and our team fully commit that we will properly fix and rebuild these portions of Highway #22 if we form government as the next provincial government," he said.

For residents living along the highway, the frustration is not limited to the condition of the road.

Amy Barriger, who spoke on behalf of residents between Kelliher and Southey, said communication from the Ministry of Highways has been inadequate.

"There has been no communication to let us know when their properties will be directly affected, blocked, noise or graded," Barriger said. "This driveway specifically, we've had to grade it three times ourselves at our cost."

Barriger said residents have watched construction disrupt their summer while leaving them questioning whether the finished road will withstand winter.

"It can be extremely frustrating to have your summer of peace interrupted with constant noise and construction with little to no consultation with nothing to show for it after months of disruption," she said. "Cupar Ambulance uses this as a direct route to Regina. The delay and the rocky ride affect patient care and health status as well as standard of care."

Residents have also reported vehicle damage, including chipped windshields, damaged tires, and the need for wheel alignments.

"We didn't ask for the road to be ripped up, then to have subpar repairs, and now we're the ones paying for it," Barriger said.

Jeff Lorenz, a resident who has documented the highway's condition in videos that have circulated online, said he has also been concerned about traffic control and signage in construction zones.

"You get a little further down the road and we'd end up with vehicle and truck traffic that's not really being controlled the way it would be today with a pilot vehicle," Lorenz said. "So what happens in frustration? Next thing you know, you have people passing in no passing zones because this is aggravating."

SUBMITTED I GRASSLANDS NEWS

Rough roads

Deputy Ag Critic Trent Wotherspoon stands with local residents who live along Highway #22. Gathered near Markinch on Sept. 29, the group shared their concerns on how the roadway has deteriorated to the point of being dangerous.

Lorenz also questioned how traffic data was used in determining the scope of the work.

"They determined the traffic volume by taking a reading on a Sunday," he said. "Well, it's Tuesday, you see a lot of cars going down this road, Sunday, not as much."

The section between Markinch and Southey was previously in relatively good condition compared with other portions of Highway 22. Lorenz said residents were surprised when construction equipment arrived to tear into the roadway.

The result has been a road surface that continues to develop potholes and deteriorate.

"It's like they patch 10 feet and 30 feet is damaged," Lorenz explained. "So it seems to be evolving but not progressing."

Charity Abel, another resident, said the concerns extend beyond one highway project.

"Accountability shouldn't be an electoral consideration to be revisited in years in the future," Abel said.

"It is an ongoing responsibility that accompanies public office and citizens shouldn't have to wait until next election cycles to have that legitimate concerns acknowledged, investigated and addressed."

The residents' concerns centre on whether the province's approach can provide a long-term solution rather than another temporary repair.

Wotherspoon said the government needs to acknowledge the concerns and return to the drawing board before winter.

"The people of this region deserve better," he said. "They shouldn't have to fight this hard just to get their government to listen."

Muscowpetung Saulteaux Nation

Threats shut school; youth charged

By Ryan Kiedrowski
Grasslands News

The Muscowpetung Education Centre was closed Sept. 23 after threats against students and staff prompted an RCMP response and the arrest of a youth.

Fort Qu'Appelle RCMP were called to the MEC on Muscowpetung Saulteaux Nation at about 3:50 p.m. Sept. 22 after receiving a report of threatening comments involving the school.

Police located a male youth believed to have made the initial threats.

"After police arrival, the youth made threats towards the school, other individuals, and responding officers," RCMP said.

The situation escalated when the youth threw rocks at police vehicles and resisted arrest, according to RCMP.

The youth has been charged with five counts of uttering threats, two counts of mischief under $5,000, and one count of resisting or obstructing a peace officer.

The youth appeared in court Sept. 23, where the matter was adjourned to seek counsel.

The youth cannot be identified under the Youth Criminal Justice Act.

The incident prompted Muscowpetung Chief and Council to close the school the following day as officials worked with police and school administration to determine how to proceed.

Chief and Council described the incident as serious and said the threats were directed toward school staff and students.

"Out of an abundance of caution and with the safety of our children, staff, and families as the highest priority, the decision was made to close the school today," Chief and Council said in a community notice.

The closure is expected to remain in place while officials develop a plan for safely bringing students and staff back.

Leadership said it is working with the school, RCMP, and other agencies to review security measures, procedures and supports.

"This includes reviewing appropriate security measures, procedures and supports to ensure that everyone can return to a safe and secure learning environment," Chief and Council said. "We ask community members to please refrain from speculation or spreading unconfirmed information regarding the incident."

Because the investigation involves a youth and threats toward a school, some information cannot be publicly released at this time.

The council also said the community's MEC will remain open, but with additional security measures in place.

Anyone with information about the threats or circumstances surrounding the incident is being asked to contact authorities.

Chief and Council said further information about reopening the school and any additional safety measures will be provided once those details are confirmed.

"We also ask our community to support one another, particularly our children and youth, during this time," they said.

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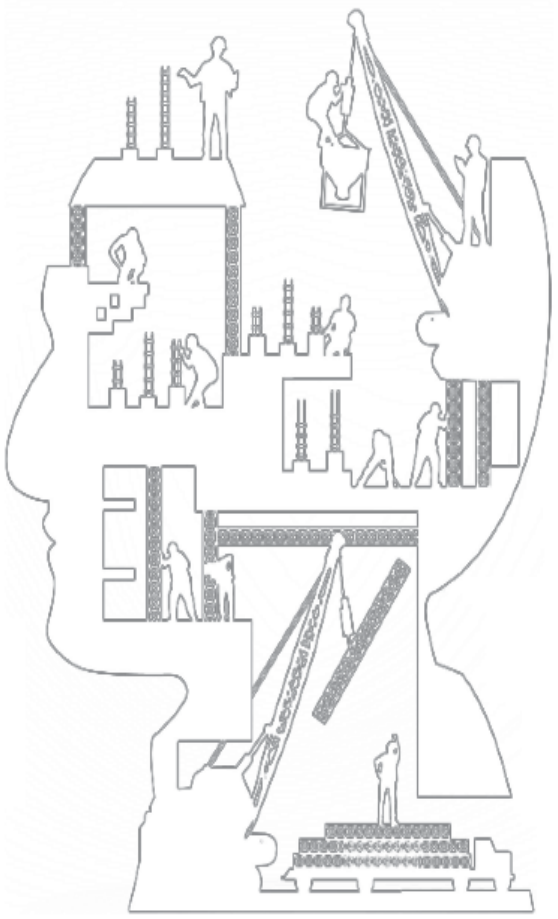

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Former YFF staffer set to chase Saskatchewan birds

By Calvin Daniels
Grasslands News

Mitch Doll – locals may remember him as he worked with the Yorkton Film Festival from 2008-2012 as a coordinator — is on a journey to become one of Saskatchewan's top birders.

Doll has set out on a big year, hoping to see as many species of birds as possible in the province within one calendar year; and documenting it all in a long-form video series called *Big Skies, Big Year*, found on Tourism Saskatchewan's YouTube channel.

"This project is about more than chasing checklists," Doll said in a release. "It's about showing off Saskatchewan and the birds that thrive here. It also gives me a reason to push myself and explore new places."

In an interview with Grasslands News, Doll expanded on how his journey into birding took flight.

"Tourism Saskatchewan had done research into tourism markets that set Saskatchewan apart as a destination. Birding, astro-tourism (dark skies), and snowmobiling were a few that were identified (in addition to our already strong hunting & fishing, and agricultural tourism markets)," he explained.

"Some things that make Saskatchewan great for birding are that we are located at the intersection of two major North American flyways. Our diverse landscapes like our boreal forest, grasslands, and saline lakes support a wide variety of species and over 400 species have been observed in the province, creating a long list of potential bird species one could see throughout a calendar year.

"In my role as a content creator, I started producing videos which highlighted birding hotspots, birding tours and some uniquely Saskatchewan birding experiences. I started developing a real interest in birding, getting excited about these projects and seeing new birds."

Getting out in nature to go birdwatching, otherwise known as 'birding', is one of the great recreational activities available in abundance in Saskatchewan, explained the release announcing the effort. Located at the intersection of two major North American flyways, over 400 species have been observed in the province, creating a long list of potential bird species one could see throughout a calendar year.

It is a story that should resonate locally as Doll said Yorkton is a fine locale for bird watching.

"The Yorkton area is a fantastic place for birding. I counted a handful of new species for my list this summer when I came home to celebrate my grandparents 65th anniversary," he said.

TOURISM SASKATCHEWAN

Chasing birds

Mitch Doll who formerly worked with the Yorkton Film Festival from 2008-2012 as a coordinator is now on a quest to see the varied bird species of Saskatchewan and chronicle the journey in a long-form video series called *Big Skies, Big Year*, found on Tourism Saskatchewan's YouTube channel.

"Even in the city there are some great birding hotspots like Ravine Ecological Reserve. The parkland region hosts a great number of birds, and it's a short drive to gain access to the boreal forest in Duck Mountain Provincial Park. That's an opportunity to see or hear a lot of different species, and it's a great place to listen for songbirds. There are some species that could be found in that area you won't find anywhere else in the province.

"There are so many amazing birding locations to explore across the province, I'm trying to fit as many as I can in one year, but that's certainly a challenge. I've been hoping to spend more time in the Yorkton area birding and to connect with the Kelsey Ecological Society to explore the area with experienced birders. If I don't fit that in this year, I'll be adding it as something to do on my birding life list."

That said, birds abound generally in the province.

"Saskatchewan is rich in bird species, offering both variety and abundance thanks to the diversity of its landscapes and habitats," said The Wild View Tours Founder and Operator Jenn Smith Nelson in the release. "It makes seeing a lot of different species easy - from waterfowl and shorebirds to songbirds, raptors and more. From your backyard to conservation areas and parks, birds are everywhere, including urban environments, making birdwatching easily accessible to everyone willing to slow down and look."

Asked what his coolest bird story was, Doll replied, "This is a hard question."

"There is such a diversity of birds here in Saskatchewan that it's difficult to narrow down favourite species or experiences.

"Some highlights include seeing our provincial bird, the Sharp-tailed Grouse perform its mating dance. I think everyone in Saskatchewan should get out early in the morning during spring to see this event. It's amazing.

"Spring migration in places like Chaplin Lake are truly a spectacle, to see thousands of birds flying together is breathtaking. Or it's interesting to see the whooping cranes during fall migration. This species nearly went extinct, dropping to only 21 birds. They are now up to over 800 birds and about 550 of those spend a few weeks in Saskatchewan each fall. In one day, I've seen about 80 whooping cranes, it's thrilling to go out looking for something so rare and see that many, right here in Saskatchewan."

Doll has some tough competition for a big year, as Saskatchewan's highest ranked birders on eBird are sitting at almost 300 species seen so far. Each episode of Big Skies, Big Year features an experienced birder, helping Doll spot different species and increase his birding knowledge.

"Like the name implies, attempting a big year is no small feat," Avian Ecologist and Saskwatch Birding Tours guide Katelyn Luff said in the release. "Similar to the migrations of the birds we aim to see, a big year is a marathon of effort. Participating in Big Skies, Big Year has allowed me to share a small piece of that appreciation with Mitch and all who tune in to follow his journey. We are lucky to experience birds at their best here in Saskatchewan."

Big Skies, Big Year features various Saskatchewan locations, many of which are hotspots for birding. The latest episode is about Doll's search for shorebirds during the spring migration.

For Doll the show is a huge component of his effort.

"I wanted to create Big Skies, Big Year because I was fascinated by the idea of following someone attempting a big year," he told Grasslands News. "A big year in birding is when someone sets out to see as many species as they can in a set region within one calendar year. A seemingly simple challenge that could take them all over Saskatchewan and into some pretty unexpected adventures.

"But as I started developing the idea, I realized that following someone on this journey might not be feasible. Then it dawned on me that I wanted to take on the challenge myself. The only problem was that I was a complete novice. I didn't know the birds, I didn't know where to find them, and I had no idea what I was getting myself into.

"That became the story I wanted to tell. So, I pitched the idea, began development, and started to realize just how over my head I was getting!"

So what bird is Doll most excited to see?

"Another hard question! I'm really looking forward to fall right now and while I've seen them in past years, I'm really excited to add whooping cranes and sandhill cranes to my list," he said.

"I'm around 170 species so far going into fall migration. I'm hoping to at least see 200 by the end of the year. There's a few I'm expecting to see during migration, but a golden eagle, pileated woodpecker, and a few owls are some I've been hoping to see for a while now that I haven't yet seen this year.

"I should add that much of my success in getting to 170 this year as an amateur has been because of the great birding guides across the province. Having their expertise in the field has been invaluable. I would have missed seeing so many birds and they have really made it a fun experience."

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Inquest finds death in police custody was accidental

Young person lost life tragically

By Ryan Kiedrowski
Grasslands News

Vincent Lee Tuckanow walked into Regina Police Service headquarters on Aug. 21, 2023, to turn himself in on outstanding warrants. Less than 12 hours later, the 23-year-old was fighting for his life in an RPS cell after ingesting a potentially fatal amount of methamphetamine.

More than three years after Tuckanow died following the medical emergency in RPS custody, a coroner's inquest was held in Regina. The Saskatchewan Coroners Service describes such an inquest as a public hearing and fact-finding process, not a fault-finding process. The jury determines on certain facts about the person's death and can make recommendations intended to prevent similar incidents.

Coroner William Davern presided, assembling a six-person jury on Sept. 21, comprising an equal number of Indigenous and non-Indigenous members, four men and two women. A total of 12 witnesses were scheduled to be called, including RPS officers, paramedics, and medical professionals.

Tuckanow's mother and sister were granted standing to question witnesses, along with representatives of RPS and Calian Group, which contracts Primary Care Paramedics to work at the RPS Detention Management Unit.

Cst. Lorinda Power, the first witness called, described Tuckanow as polite and respectful. "He approached the front desk and advised he was there to turn himself in for warrants," Power said, adding a subsequent check revealed Tuckanow – who had ties to Okanese First Nation - had two warrants from the File Hills First Nations Police Service with various firearms charges.

The plan was to hold Tuckanow overnight in cells at RPS before transporting him to the Regina Provincial Correctional Centre the next day.

Cst. Power said Tuckanow did not display signs of impairment by alcohol or drugs, nor did officers find any such substances on his person during a search.

When Sgt. Jodi Boers performed a routine check at about 3:40 a.m., she observed condensation on the window of Tuckanow's cell. Boers had been on a scheduled break prior to the 3:40 a.m. check, but she had not noticed any signs to cause concern for his wellbeing.

"When I left, everything seemed fine," she said. "I'm not sure when he began to deteriorate."

The condensation was the first indication something was wrong, and once the door was opened, Boers said Tuckanow was lying on his back and appeared to be sweating. He wasn't responding to communication, and his whole body was shaking. At the time, there were three officers and an onsite paramedic who responded. Boers explained that Tuckanow's condition worsened, he stopped breathing, and chest compressions were started until EMS arrived a few minutes later.

Boers also explained that cell checks are performed every 15 minutes, and at the time cells did not feature current biometric technology that monitors heart rate and temperature.

Biometric monitoring came to RPS cells in March 2024, initiated by a review of detainee care practices in the wake of Tuckanow's death. The system includes immediate alerts to detention staff when anomalies that may indicate medical distress are detected. Currently, RPS has 20 such cells with biometric monitoring.

Stephen Brown was working as a paramedic in the detention unit on the evening Tuckanow came to cells and was participating in regular checks as well. He noticed a change in Tuckanow around 2:35 a.m. and provided the man with some Tylenol. He testified that Tuckanow told him he was going through withdrawals from methamphetamine.

"He directly told me that he was withdrawing from meth," Brown said during his testimony Sept. 23, adding Tuckanow was not seeking help from the paramedic despite several offers to help. "I distinctly remember him yelling 'I'm fine.'"

About an hour later, Brown was one of eight people trying to stabilize Tuckanow for transport to Regina General Hospital by EMS. The inquest heard once the ambulance arrived, Tuckanow was intubated and given epinephrine to stabilize him, arriving at the hospital at 4:25 a.m. Approximately 12 hours later, his family made the difficult decision to take him off life support and Tuckanow was pronounced deceased at 4:49 p.m.

A pair of medical experts confirmed Tuckanow had died from acute toxicity from "extremely high" amounts of methamphetamine in his body. Forensic toxicologist Dr. Jennifer Billinsky examined blood samples from Tuckanow, revealing methamphetamine levels of 16,450 and 22,270 ng/mL. She testified that concentrations in methamphetamine users commonly range from about 1,000 to 3,000 ng/mL, depending on factors including tolerance.

Five packets suspected to contain illicit drugs were found in Tuckanow's small intestine, with a sixth discovered during autopsy. Evidence presented at the inquest indicated Tuckanow had swallowed the packages before arriving at RPS, apparently intending to bring them with him to the Regina Provincial Correctional Centre. The evidence indicated at least one package ruptured, resulting in the toxic exposure that ultimately killed him.

Davern told the jury before it began deliberations that he did not believe Tuckanow intended to harm himself or end his life. "He made a very risky choice that went incredibly bad."

After 1.5 hours in deliberation on Sept. 23, the jury returned with their findings on the facts of Tuckanow's death. They concluded that Tuckanow died at 4:49 p.m. on Aug. 22, 2023, at the Regina General Hospital from acute methamphetamine toxicity, and that his death was accidental. They had no recommendations arising from testimony they heard over the three days.

"I'm very sorry for your loss. I can't help but feel how tragic this is, and it pains me that a young person lost his life so tragically," Davern told family members present. "I know that doesn't make it easier, but I am very sorry. I hope that these findings somehow bring you some closure."

SUBMITTED I GRASSLANDS NEWS

Author David Bouchard at school

Author David Bouchard visited McLean School on Sept. 25 where he spoke to students from McLean, Qu'Appelle, and Edenwold. Bouchard is a Canadian Metis author and recipient of the Order of Canada whose books have won multiple awards. During his presentation, Bouchard read from *Seven Sacred Teachings* and other books. After each reading, he asked questions about the story and the student who answered correctly received a copy of Bouchard's book.

UPCOMING EVENT

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Presort - Angus Influence 10 AM
Wednesday, October 21st
Presort - Charolais Influence 10 AM
Wednesday, October 28th
Presort - Simmental Influence 10 AM

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ASHLEY SCARFE I GRASSLANDS NEWS

Harvest Moon Festival

Last Saturday, the Town of Pilot Butte welcomed families to the Harvest Moon Festival outside the Pilot Butte Horizon Mall. Hosted in partnership by the Pilot Butte Economic Development Committee and New Horizon Business Centre, the event offered something for all ages, including a bouncy castle, face painting, a farmers' market, hot dog sale, crafts and presentations by Pilot Butte first responders.

Rural ER disruptions hit three local communities

By Grasslands News
Grasslands News

Residents in Melville, Kipling and Wolseley were among those affected by emergency department service disruptions over the weekend, as rural health-care availability again became the focus of political criticism in Saskatchewan.

The three communities were among a dozen locations the Saskatchewan NDP said experienced emergency room disruptions between Friday, Sept. 25 and Sunday, Sept. 27. Other communities identified by the Opposition included Preeceville, Kamsack, Wilkie, Herbert, Lanigan and Maidstone.

The disruptions came during the fall harvest, a time when thousands of farmers and agricultural workers are working long hours with heavy machinery and often considerable distances from larger centres.

NDP Associate Shadow Minister for Health Keith Jorgenson raised concerns about the number of rural emergency departments affected during the weekend, arguing the closures left residents without immediate access to emergency care close to home.

"Thousands of people across the province did not have immediate access to emergency rooms this weekend," Jorgenson said in a Sept. 28 statement.

The Saskatchewan Health Authority maintains a public list of temporary emergency service disruptions, which it updates twice daily at 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. The SHA says disruptions can result from staff or physician vacancies, unplanned absences, scheduled vacations or facility and equipment upgrades, and are implemented only as a last resort.

For communities in the Grasslands News coverage area, the weekend disruptions add to continuing concerns about reliable access to emergency care in rural Saskatchewan.

Wolseley has already been operating with reduced emergency department hours for an extended period. The emergency department at Wolseley Memorial Integrated Care Centre is currently available from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday and is closed evenings, weekends and statutory holidays.

Emergency services there were gradually restored beginning in February 2024 after an earlier disruption, with the SHA saying further expansion of service would depend on securing stable physician and staff resources.

Melville's St. Peter's Hospital serves the city and a large surrounding rural and agricultural area, while Kipling provides health services to residents across another broad portion of southeast Saskatchewan. The weekend disruptions meant some residents who normally depend on those communities for health care had to look elsewhere when emergency services were unavailable.

The NDP used the weekend disruptions to criticize the provincial government's handling of rural health care, pointing to what it says has been a continuing pattern of temporary emergency room closures across Saskatchewan.

Jorgenson also questioned the government's description of its health-care strategy as ambitious.

"What is ambitious about people dying because they can't access health care in an emergency?" he said.

The Saskatchewan Health Authority says it makes every effort to secure staff and physician coverage before temporarily disrupting emergency services. It has introduced measures aimed at maintaining rural emergency care, including virtual physician services and point-of-care testing. The latter allows trained local staff to perform certain diagnostic tests when laboratory professionals are unavailable. The SHA reported earlier this month that point-of-care testing had prevented 860 potential service disruptions in rural Saskatchewan since the program began in 2023.

The SHA advises residents to call 811 to confirm emergency service availability because conditions can change on short notice. In a life-threatening emergency, residents should call 911, with paramedics able to assess and treat patients and transport them to the nearest available emergency department.

TAX ENFORCEMENT LIST

RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF MONTMARTRE NO. 126

PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN

Notice is hereby given under *The Tax Enforcement Act* that unless the arrears and costs appearing opposite the land and title number described in the following list are fully paid before December 1, 2026, an interest based on a tax lien will be registered against the land.

Note: A sum for costs in an amount required by subsection 4(3) of *The Tax Enforcement Act* is included in the amount shown against each parcel.

Description of Property	Title Number	Total Arrears*	Cost	Total Arrears and Costs
BLK/PAR A-PLAN 102367380 EXT 0	157909540	$1,238.31	$480.00	$1,718.31
LOT 2-BLK/PAR 2-PLAN AO2182 EXT 0	103730284	$5.11	$371.00	$376.11
LOT 16-BLK/PAR 2-PLAN AO2182 EXT 0	103730295	$6.44	$371.00	$377.44
LOT 17-BLK/PAR 2-PLAN AO2182 EXT 0	103730307			

* Penalty is calculated to the date of the Notice and will continue to accrue as applicable.

Dated this 28th day of September, 2026. **Dale Brenner, Administrator**

NOTICE OF CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Town of Grenfell
Municipal Elections

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that nomination of candidates for the office(s) of:

Councillors, Town of Grenfell
Number to be elected: 1

will be received by the undersigned on the 14th day of October 2026, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Grenfell Town Office, and during regular business hours on October 1, 2026 to October 13th, 2026 at Grenfell Town Office - 800 Desmond Street, Grenfell, SK, S0G 2B0

Nomination forms may be obtained at the following location:

Grenfell Town Office
800 Desmond Street,
Grenfell, Saskatchewan

Dated this 29th of September 2026.

Jennifer Tait,
Returning Officer

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PVSD identifies $1.18 million in student needs, receives $246K

By GNG Staff
Grasslands News

Prairie Valley School Division says federal funding will cover only about 21 per cent of the services identified for 48 First Nations students with high-cost special education needs this school year.

The division and its First Nations partners identified nearly $1.183 million in services and supports for the students for 2026-27, according to a report going before the Prairie Valley Board of Education on Sept. 16.

Indigenous Services Canada has approved $245,760 through its High-Cost Special Education Program, leaving a difference of approximately $937,236 between the cost of identified services and funding provided through the program.

The 48 students are from 10 First Nations and were included in 11 submissions developed collaboratively by PVSD and its First Nations partners.

The federal program provides additional funding for eligible First Nations students who ordinarily live on reserve and have moderate to profound special education needs that cannot be met through resources available to the general student population.

Eligible services can include student services teachers, educational assistants, psychology, counselling and social work, speech-language services, occupational therapy, instructional resources and assistive technology and equipment.

PVSD will receive $5,120 for each of the 48 students this year.

That amount has declined considerably over the past two years. The allocation was $6,235 per student in 2025-26 and $6,788 in 2024-25.

PVSD calculates the per-student funding has fallen approximately 24.6 per cent over the two-year period despite what the division describes as continued significant support needs.

The $245,760 allocation represents 20.8 per cent of the $1.183 million in planned services identified by PVSD and its First Nations partners.

The division cautions, however, that the $937,236 difference does not mean PVSD will necessarily incur that amount as an additional expense.

Student Services will review individual needs along with existing staffing, specialized services, equipment and other resources to determine how services can be delivered with the funding available.

PVSD says the larger concern is the difficulty of planning when student needs can be identified in detail but the amount of federal funding available to address those needs is less predictable.

According to the division, the funding shortfall creates challenges for annual budgeting, staffing and service-delivery planning.

Indigenous Services Canada's guidelines state that meeting the program's criteria does not guarantee full funding. Funding is subject to available national and regional allocations.

The federal program allows a maximum contribution of up to $155,000 per student annually, depending on available funding and the high-cost needs identified in the student's individual education plan.

PVSD says the latest allocation reinforces concerns previously raised by the board and administration with Indigenous Services Canada and elected representatives over the adequacy, predictability and sustainability of funding for students requiring intensive supports.

The division says it will continue working with First Nations partners and reviewing how available resources can be used to meet student needs. It may also continue advocacy with First Nations partners, Indigenous Services Canada and other government representatives over the difference between identified needs and available funding.

The report was scheduled to be discussed when the Prairie Valley Board of Education met Sept. 16.

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Gene Hauta

It's a Strange World

Yellowstone National Park staff perform many essential duties across the park's 2.2 million acres, including collecting litter people lose in its sensitive hydrothermal areas. Naturally, with 4.5 million annual visitors, litter will happen… a lot! Unfortunately, some people intentionally leave trash behind, but other times people accidentally drop items into sensitive areas where they cannot safely retrieve them, or the wind takes something away before the visitor can pick it up. Foreign material of any kind can damage or permanently alter a hydrothermal feature, whether from clogging its water supply, blocking or diverting its runoff channel, or polluting it with chemicals and sediment. They actually keep record of what they salvage, such as, more than 280 hats, 5 airpods, 54 lens caps, 36 sunglasses and various other stuff. **All in all, about 20,100 pieces of trash**.

Canada's southernmost point, Middle Island in Lake Erie, sits at a latitude of 41°41'N. This geographic quirk places parts of Canada further south than 27 US states, including the northern borders of California and Nevada. That's really surprising! There are other geographical oddities like Point Roberts, Washington, which is completely landlocked by Canada and sits south of the 49th parallel, but it remains entirely on American soil.

An Arizona real estate agent who had to be duct-taped to his first-class seat after ***an alleged racist and homophobic outburst*** on an American Airlines flight is now out of a job. Long Realty immediately cut ties with 67-year-old Arthur Layne Lundeen after he was identified as the passenger who allegedly yelled the N-word at a flight attendant and used anti-gay slurs on a flight from Dallas to Newark, which was forced to make an emergency landing in Baltimore. Passengers reported that on top of his speech, Lundeen allegedly bit a man and put his hands around another man's neck. He's facing charges of disorderly conduct and second-degree assault.

Donald Trump Jr.'s fairy-tale island wedding in the Bahamas had a powerful and little-known patron, Russian oligarch Umar Kremlev, a close ally of Vladimir Putin. It was revealed that Kremlev, who leads the International Boxing Association, covered hundreds of thousands of dollars in costs — including renting a private island, guest lodging, and a barge-launched fireworks show. The guest list of about 50 included Jared Kushner and Eric Trump, as well as a ***sizable* Russian contingent** that puzzled some attendees. National security experts feel that the arrangement raises red-flag questions about influence and access, given Kremlev's ties to the Kremlin, Ukrainian sanctions against him, and his organization's opaque funding. Of course, ***Daddy Donald saw nothing wrong*** with the optics of that arrangement.

The outdoor gear company ***Patagonia has sued Trump again***, this time over his move to dramatically cut the size of Bears Ears National Monument in Utah. The company teamed up with conservation and tribal groups in a federal lawsuit filed in Washington, DC, arguing that Trump exceeded his authority in July by slashing more than 1.2 million acres—about 91% of the preservation—from the red-rock landscape rich in Native American cultural sites. The complaint contends that the Antiquities Act lets presidents create monuments, not shrink them, and says Patagonia has standing because its staff and customers use the area for recreation and product testing. Of course, the Trump move also opened land in the area to oil and uranium development.

Many taxpayers in the USA questioned the excessiveness of ***Trump's trip to Ireland***, where he was heckled as a target by protesters. These same tax payers covered the cost for Trump to fly 24 vehicles, 19 motorcycles "and one Natalie Harp" to Ireland for a 48-hour visit so he could attend a golf tournament while voters are unable to afford health care, food, gas, utilities or rent.

The McNugget stunt may have racked up clicks, but it also got one roller coaster rider kicked out of every Six Flags park for life. Influencer Allen Ferrell accepted a ***challenge to down a 10-piece Chicken McNuggets meal*** while riding Millennium Force at Cedar Point in Sandusky, Ohio. Park officials were not amused, viewing eating on a high-speed coaster as a serious safety risk, noting that the park "strictly prohibits all loose articles on rides, including food, which can become a choking hazard." Millennium Force, which opened in 2000 and was the first coaster to break the 300-foot mark, reaches 310 feet and speeds up to 93 mph. Ferrell accepted and respected the decision, adding, "I never expected chicken nuggets on Millennium Force to become national news."

Keep reading between the lines…

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City of Yorkton

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City News

Oct. 2 - Oct. 8, 2026
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Get Your Yard Winter-Ready

Avoid accumulating car parts, building supplies and garbage in your yard. Keep your household furniture such as couches and beds indoors.

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TAKE THE SURVEY AND HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF

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The City of Yorkton is seeking public input to help inform planning and design for Jaycee Beach. Tell us about your experiences, priorities for potential improvements, and ideas for future uses and amenities.

TO COMPLETE THE SURVEY, SCAN THE QR CODE OR VISIT:

- www.yorkton.ca/JCSurvey
- 5–7 minutes
- Open until October 6, 2026
- Responses are confidential

WHO MAKES YORKTON BETTER?

Nominate them for the Civic Recognition Awards

The City of Yorkton's 2026 Civic Recognition Awards celebrate individuals and groups whose contributions help make Yorkton a better place.

Nominations are open in three categories:

- **Adult Civic Recognition Award** — for outstanding contributions to the community.
- **Youth Civic Recognition Award** — for a Yorkton resident under 18 whose contributions benefit the community.
- **Group Civic Recognition Award** — for an organized group of two or more people contributing to the betterment of Yorkton.

Nominations are open October 1–31, 2026 and can be submitted online, by email, or in person.

Recipients will be recognized in January 2027 and honoured on the Civic Recognition Awards plaque at City Hall, with a framed Council photo and sponsor-supplied gift certificates.

TO LEARN MORE SCAN THE QR CODE OR VISIT:
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Beading workshop to celebrate Culture Days

By Sarah Pacio
Grasslands News

Tiny red and black beads gradually came together to form vibrant poppies as the individuals seated at tables in the library carefully followed Tania Nault's instructions. The artist was invited to lead the beading workshop on Sept. 26 as part of the Culture Days programing in Indian Head.

Nault is a Métis artist who resides in Vibank. She previously shared her talents with community members in Indian Head during programs offered by Métis Nation – Saskatchewan and The Grand Theatre. The session last Saturday coordinated with Saskatchewan Culture Days that is held from Sept. 18 to Oct. 4. During Culture Days, organizations host a variety of creative and engaging activities to celebrate the diversity represented in the province.

Over the course of the three-hour workshop at Indian Head Library, ten individuals created beaded poppies. Space was limited, but the librarian said the event was very popular, with an extensive waitlist. Funding from the Saskatchewan Library Association's Culture Days grant program, the Sask Lotteries grant program and a donation from Indian Head Legion enabled the workshop to be offered at no cost to participants.

Beading workshop
??? | ???
Indian Head Library hosted a Culture Days beading workshop on Sept. 26.

Ron Bell honoured for career in EMS

- continued from front page

"It's not just my community of Indian Head. I think most of us in the EMS profession have a very wide network in surrounding communities," Ball explained. "It's definitely a big community."

The two medals have also given Ball an opportunity to reconnect with people who helped shape his career, running into friends at the social events. He said some of his early preceptors were receiving the same award, while one of the first people who helped him move into a higher scope of practice was seated just two seats away from him at the ceremony.

"It is nice to really get back into those networks," he said. "It takes you back to the beginning."

Ball was aware that both awards were coming after receiving emails about the honours, but said the reality of standing among other recipients was different.

"It's exciting. Definitely, there's that adrenaline rush of, 'wow, this is going to be pretty cool,'" he said. "It's an award that's humbling. The more I think about it, it's really not just about me, it's about my circle. To be successful in life or have foundation, it's who you surround yourself with."

Ball credited his wife, family, and work colleagues, along with nurses, lab technicians and doctors.

"That's my circle, you know, and it just keeps me going," he said.

The recognition has not convinced Ball that it is time to walk away from EMS.

Whether he will spend another 26 years in the profession is another question, but he said retirement does not necessarily come naturally to someone who enjoys being around people.

"I really do consider myself to be a bit of a social butterfly and a people person," Ball said.

For those considering a career in emergency services, Ball has a simple message.

"Ownership, investment, commitment to community, and just a want to make it about others and not yourself," he advised. "And you're going to be very successful."

Two medals in two days are recognition of a career built around that principle — but Ball remains quick to pass the credit along.

"Again, it's not about me," he said. "I'm only present because of who my circle is."

- With files from Sarah Pacio

SARAH PACIO | GRASSLANDS NEWS

Symbolism on sidewalk honours history

Teacher Dave Clark and his daughter Chloe painted a symbolic tribute on the sidewalk at Indian Head High School in honour of the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation and Orange Shirt Day.

History matters!
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Council reviews speed study and public works assets

By Sarah Pacio
Grasslands News

Indian Head council held a regular meeting at 7 p.m. on Sept. 28.

Speed Study

Residents had raised concerns about speeding within town limits and council relayed this to the Indian Head RCMP detachment. The RCMP conducted covert speed studies at Woodward Avenue and Otterloo Street. Officers monitored west and east sections of Woodward Avenue, as well as the east end of Otterloo Street.

They recorded the speed of more than 3,300 vehicles travelling along the west end of Woodward Avenue. When the data was assessed, it was determined that 74 percent of drivers were in compliance with the 40 km/hr speed limit. An additional 22 per cent were recorded at speeds between 41 and 50 km/hr. The percentage of drivers who exceeded these thresholds was minimal. Statistics for the other locations indicated similar trends, and no further action was recommended by the RCMP. However, Mayor Steven Cole noted that the detachment is fully staffed now, so continued presence in the community will be more feasible than it was previously.

Transportation Donation

In 2025, the town provided a $2,000 donation to assist Wheels for Wellness with start-up costs. The town has also supported the organization by issuing tax receipts for donors, assisting with advertising, and providing facilities for meetings. Wheels for Wellness submitted a letter to council asking the town to consider further sponsorship. Council reviewed the request and declined to provide ongoing financial support but agreed the town would continue to assist with in-kind services.

Asset Management

Indian Head's budget for this year included the purchase of a 2026 CF Moto Side-by-Side with a fully enclosed cab at a cost of $34,605. This was intended to replace a 2012 John Deer Gator that could be sold for $10,000 to offset the cost of the Side-by-Side. Administration informed council that the new machine is fulfilling its purpose and is a valuable asset for the Public Works staff, but employees continued to also utilize the Gator during the summer. As a result, Council reconsidered its plan to sell the older machine. They agreed to postpone the sale until after winter in order to accurately assess whether both machines are necessary.

Committee Report

During committee reports, Councillor Nathan Longeau shared that more than $2,000 was donated to the Indian Head and District Hospital Foundation during the Penny Parade in June. The community support was greatly appreciated.

Pottery Studio

Council held a public hearing for a homebased business application in a residential area. The applicant intends to provide pottery and other classes from a home studio on Water Street. No members of the public attended the hearing, and there were no written objections to the proposed business.

Daycare and tariffs discussed by business owners

Indian Head & District Chamber of Commerce

By Sarah Pacio
Grasslands News

Daycare fundraising efforts and tariff impacts on local businesses were topics of discussion at the September meeting for Indian Head and District Chamber of Commerce.

Members met at The Gallery Coffee House on Sept. 23, where Chair Susie Hilton introduced guest Gabriele Freyer. She spoke on behalf of Little Castle Childcare Centre and shared information relating to a proposed expansion project. The licensed daycare is currently housed in St. Andrew's United Church in Indian Head and provides services for 56 children, with a waitlist of 34. The board is seeking to construct a new, dedicated daycare facility at 107 Eberts St. that would accommodate up to 90 children. A government grant was approved, but the daycare has encountered a gap in funding because the grant only applies to the proposed expansion (34 spaces). Support has been raised through various avenues - and a design has been completed - but an additional $500,000 is still required to move forward with the project. Freyer informed the chamber that fundraising efforts continue and a sponsorship package can be viewed on the daycare's website at littlecastle.ca. A few ideas were shared regarding funding opportunities and chamber members commended the daycare board for their efforts.

After the presentation, chamber members discussed the trade war between the U.S. and Canada. Hilton asked business owners whether they were noticing any effects from the tariffs and counter-tariffs. Janelle Norman said that Indian Head Chrysler has not encountered any problems yet but anticipates that future orders could be impacted. Sharon McPhie from Scot's Printing acknowledged that a significant portion of the business's paper products are obtained from the U.S. and this has presented challenges. Dan Shiplack from Co-op noted that he has focused on sourcing agricultural products from within Saskatchewan or Canada to avoid tariffs. Hilton agreed that this was likely the best solution.

"Since our last meeting, we have had a big explosion of counter tariffs for the U.S. and that will affect all of us at one point or another, whether we're an artist who needs supplies that come from the U.S. or we're a business who does a whole lot of business with U.S. companies," Hilton stated. "I think in a nutshell, the best way to manage the new tariff impacts is to try to find local, try to find Canadian, try to find other sources. The onus is on the business owner to figure out what tariff is going to be affecting you, and hopefully you can do that before it hits your door."

Hilton then distributed informational pamphlets on resources that could assist business owners in navigating the evolving situation around imports and exports.

The chamber's next meeting will be on Oct. 21 in the Legion's rooms at Memorial Hall. Legion members will share information about the organization's centenary activities and upcoming poppy campaign. Business owners and anyone interested in commercial activities within Indian Head and the surrounding area are encouraged to attend.

THE TOWN OF Indian Head SASKATCHEWAN

Town Page

For more information call the Town Office: 306-695-3344
or Indian Head Community Development: 306-695-2742

Free Yard Waste Weekend at the Transfer Station

The Town has declared October 17 & 18, 2026 "Free Yard Waste Weekend" at the Waste Transfer Station. There will be no charge at the Transfer Station for yard waste loads. Please note: demolition loads do not qualify for free yard waste weekend. Hours of operation will be Saturday from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. & 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.
If there is inclement weather, please check the Town's Facebook to ensure the Transfer Station is open. You can also check the Transfer Station sign west of Highway 56 to ensure it is open before driving out.

Stay Connected with the Chamber of Commerce

The Indian Head & District Chamber of Commerce is a great way for local business owners and entrepreneurs to stay informed, connected, and involved in our community. The Chamber meets monthly, with discussions covering topics that matter to local businesses. Meetings may include updates on local projects and their progress, important issues affecting businesses—including tariffs and other economic changes—and information about programs, resources, and opportunities available to support local businesses. Memberships are available year-round, and you don't have to be a member to find out what the Chamber is all about. Come check out a meeting and see what's happening! Meetings are the third Wednesday of Each month. Times and locations are posted on the Facebook page.

Stay Informed with Voyent Alert

Make sure you're in the know by signing up for Voyent Alert, the Town of Indian Head's notification system. Voyent Alert provides timely information about emergencies, severe weather, road closures, community events and other important local updates directly to your phone or other devices. Signing up is quick and free, and you can choose how you receive notifications and the types of information you're interested in. Don't wait until an emergency happens to find out how the system works. Sign up for Voyent Alert today and stay connected to what's happening in Indian Head.

Upcoming Community Events

September 29 - October 10 – Halloween Costume Swap
September 29 - October 3 – UCW Clothing Sale
October 7 & 21 – Sherwood Coop Job Fair
October 17 – Harvest Hoedown Craft Show & Sale
October 18 – Band Parent's Bottle Drive
October 24 – Newcomer Tea Party
October 24 – Wildlife Federation Fundraiser Dinner
November 7 – Horticulture Society 100 Anniversary Banquet

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

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SPORTS

Broncs and Bison go head-to-head in Indian Head

SARAH PACIO I GRASSLANDS NEWS

Pre-game ceremony

IHHS Vice-Principal Mallory Klein (left) introduced the Red Dog Singers drum group (centre) during a pre-game Truth & Reconciliation ceremony at McCall Field in Indian Head on Thursday, Sept. 24. Bert Fox Bison's Jaxon Schaeffer (right) attempts to dodge his Indian Head Broncs' opponents during a game.

By Sarah Pacio
Grasslands News

Indian Head High School (IHHS) hosted the Bert Fox Community High School football team for a regular season game on Sept. 24. The evening started with a pre-game ceremony in recognition of the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. Players lined up along their 40-yard lines for "O Canada" and remained standing respectfully while IHHS Vice-Principal Mallory Klein shared a few words. Klein wore an orange shirt and Broncs players wore orange socks to mark the occasion.

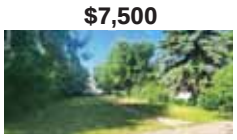
"We take a moment to remember the Indigenous children and families whose lives were deeply impacted by the residential school system. Children were taken from their families, cultures, languages and communities, and the effects of that history continue to be felt today. We honor the survivors, we remember the children who never returned home, and we recognize the strength and resilience of Indigenous people and communities," Klein stated. "We at Indian Head High School commit to learning the truth, listening with respect and building relationships based on understanding and reconciliation."

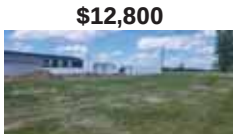
Klein then introduced the Red Dog Singers from Star Blanket Cree Nation who played flag and victory songs.

Play commenced shortly afterwards and the Indian Head Broncs were the first to score, followed soon after by their opponent. With less than two minutes remaining in the second quarter, the Bert Fox Bison scored again with a successful conversion, making the score 12 to 14 at half-time.

When play resumed, a fumble after the kickoff resulted in a turnover to the Bison. The Broncs' defensive line pushed the Bison back, but then a penalty in the Bison's favour moved the ball up 15 yards. The Bison soon made another touchdown, bringing their score up to 20. Late in the third quarter, Indian Head answered with their own touchdown, but the conversion was no good, so the score was 18 to 20. The two rivals continued to answer one another score for score until late in the fourth quarter when the Bison remained ahead, 26 to 24. They neared their end zone but ran down the last 20 seconds on the clock and then celebrated their victory.

Indian Head will host its final home game of the regular season against Vanier at 7 p.m. on Oct. 13. Fort Qu'Appelle's next home game will be against Lumsden at 2 p.m. on Oct. 15.

$7,500

131 5th Ave. W, Melville
MLS# SK039939
Vacant Land

$12,800

102 Montreal ST, Melville
MLS# SK047947
Vacant Land

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318 Alberta ST, Melville
MLS# SK047948
Vacant Land

$49,900

105 Piller Rd, Melville
MLS# SK025480
Vacant Lot

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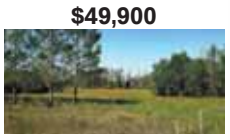
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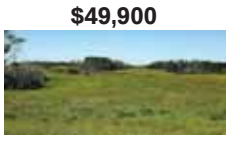
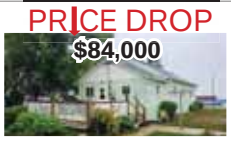
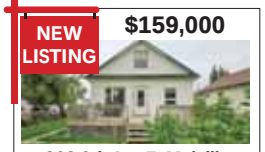
MLS# SK025479
Vacant Lot

$49,900

249 Agri-Park Rd, Melville
MLS# SK025481
Vacant Lot

$55,000

221 - 680 7th Ave. E, Melville
MLS# SK046111
Condo | 1 bd, 1 bth

PRICE DROP
$84,000

424 1st Ave. E, Melville
MLS# SK045817
House | 3 bds, 1 bth

NEW LISTING
$159,000

202 6th Ave E, Melville
MLS# SK049972
House | 4 bds, 2 bths

$139,000

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MLS# SK047261
House | 2 bds, 2 bths

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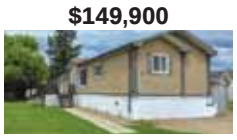
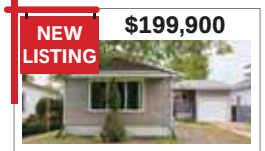
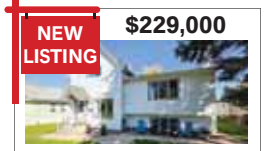
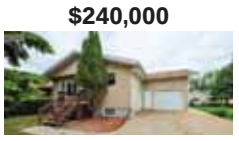
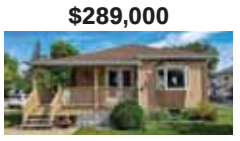
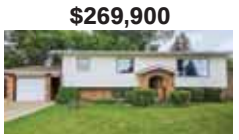

38-555, Dielschneider Drive
Melville Trailer Court MLS# SK038944
House | 3 bds, 2 bths

NEW LISTING
$199,900

138 6th Ave E, Melville
MLS# SK048991
House | 4 bds, 3 bths

NEW LISTING
$229,000

242 6th Ave E, Melville
MLS# SK049830
House | 5 bds, 3 bths

$240,000

618 4th Ave W, Melville
MLS# SK041412
House | 3 bds, 2 bths

$289,000

278 9th Ave W, Melville
MLS# SK046622
House | 3 bds, 2 bths

$269,900

860 Montreal ST, Melville
MLS# SK048022
House | 5 bds, 3 bths

PRICE DROP
$279,900

820 Scotia St, Melville
MLS# SK034321
House |3 bds, 2 bths

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Visiting Panthers bite Saints 23-0 in Yorkton

By Calvin Daniels
Grasslands News

The Sacred Heart Saints gridiron nine took to their home field Thursday, Sept. 24, hosting Foam Lake Panthers in nine player action.

The game unfortunately ended in a loss for the home side as the Panthers roared to a 23-0 victory.

The Saints' defense played well, only allowing one touchdown to be scored. Senior Joah Jansen Van Rensburg led the team on defense as well as senior teammates Issac Forester and Edan Sheppard covering the field and held Foam Lake's offense at bay. Rookie Cole Barton stood out for his defensive prowess and gritty determination.

"Moving forward we need to stay positive and get to work for our next game," said Saints' manager Nick Jonassen. "We want to rebound and finish the season strong. We have upcoming games against Broadview, Melville and Esterhazy."

The game against Esterhazy will be on Thursday, Oct. 22 in Yorkton. This will be a 7 p.m. start; the first night game for Sacred Heart in many years. The game will be held at Sacred Heart's home field. The lights are being donated for the evening by Flaman Rentals.

CALVIN DANIELS I GRASSLANDS NEWS

Heading for open field

Sacred Heart Saints blockers clear a path for a ball carrier during nine-player football action against the Foam Lake Panthers on Thursday, Sept. 24 in Yorkton. The Panthers defeated the Saints 23-0.

Raider Gridders were back under the lights for action Sept. 25

By Calvin Daniels
Grasslands News

The wind might have cooled things a little for fans, but the grass of Century Field in Yorkton was still very much to the liking of the Yorkton Regional High School Raider Gridders.

On a night where the game was marked as the 'Terry Fox Foundation Game' and CN was on hand to highlight Rail Safety Week; a game did take place with Swift Current Comprehensive High School Colts.

The Raider Gridders scored TDs twice early in the first quarter on their way to a 31-14 win.

The visiting Colts rushed for 77 yards and threw for 130 for 207 yards in total offence in the loss.

On the flipside, the Raider Gridders rumbled for 209 yards on the ground – led by Eli Beatty with 150 – while adding 75-yards through the air on only five receptions for 284 total yards in the win.

The Raider Gridders are back at Century Field in Yorkton on Friday, Oct. 2 hosting the Moose Jaw Peacock Tornadoes, in a game where the team has put out a call for all YRHS alumni to turn out in school gear. Kick-off will be 6 p.m.

CALVIN DANIELS I GRASSLANDS NEWS

Quick feet

Eli Beatty rumbles with the football in action under the lights Friday, Sept. 25, as the Raider Gridders' runner picked up some of his 150 yards rushing in the game over the visiting Swift Current Comprehensive High School Colts.

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Broadview Bandits dig deep for home-court tourney gold

CALVIN DANIELS I GRASSLANDS NEWS

Too high to block

Kipling Magyars defenders go up for a block against the Broadview Bandits during senior girl volleyball action. Broadview went on to capture the home tournament championship Sept. 26 in the eight-team event.

By Ryan Kiedrowski
Grasslands News

The Sacred Heart Saints boys' soccer teaThe Broadview Bandits needed every ounce of their home-court advantage to finish on top at their own senior girls' volleyball tournament Sept. 26.

Broadview battled through a nail-biter against Kahkewistahâw to claim the championship, capping a weekend that coach Jessica Priest described simply as a lot of good volleyball.

"It was really close. It was neck and neck there for a while," Priest said.

The Bandits went the distance against the Kahkewistahâw Hurricanes, dropping the second set after winning the opener before regrouping to take the deciding third set.

"We did end up taking our game against Kahkewistahâw to three sets," Priest said. "We won against some in the first set and then they took us in the second and then we beat them again in the third to win the game."

The tournament featured eight teams playing across two pools, with Broadview, Cowessess, Kipling, and Churchbridge in one pool and Grenfell, Kahkewistahâw, Montmartre, and Wawota in the other.

Broadview's run ended with the Bandits atop the podium, followed by the Hurricanes in second and Churchbridge placing third.

The home tournament also provided a chance for the Broadview community to rally behind its senior girls, with the gym packed for the weekend.

"There was a lot of good volleyball this weekend," Priest said.

For Priest, one of the biggest strengths of this year's Bandits is the familiarity and chemistry within the roster.

The team has five Grade 12 players, all of whom have played together for several years. The roster also includes a Grade 10 player and a Grade 9 call-up.

"They've all played together for at least four or five years together," Priest said of the seniors on the team.

That experience showed on the court, particularly when the Bandits were pushed to the limit against the Hurricanes.

"We are a very small team," Priest said. "But they really communicate well on the court, and they pull together when they need to."

Priest said the group has been a pleasure to coach.

"They're just a great group of girls to coach," she said. "I really enjoy my time with them."

The Bandits won't have much time to savour their championship.

Broadview is back on the court this weekend for Whitewood's home tournament, with more tournaments against Wawota and Kahkewistahâw scheduled later in October.

"This is just the start of it," Priest said.

With the senior girls already showing they can stay composed in a three-set battle, Broadview's tournament victory could be an early sign of what's ahead.

The Bandits now take their championship momentum on the road, hoping to keep the wins – and the tight-knit team chemistry – rolling.

Yorkton Terriers play three SJHL games on the road, winning one

By Calvin Daniels
Grasslands News

After opening the SJHL regular season with a win at home, the Yorkton Terriers went on the road for three.

Yorkton Terriers 4 at Warman Wolverines 5 OT – Sept. 22

It was certainly a topsy turvy affair in Warman Sept. 22 as the Terriers visited the Wolverines.

Trey Markus scored 50 seconds into the contest for the home side, and Peyton Allard made it 2-0 at 4:48, a lead the Wolverines carried to the dressing room after 20-minutes.

In the second period the proverbial worm turned.

Nathan Ramos, Jake Briltz, Alex Morrison and Aidan Vallance scored a quartet of unanswered goals for the Terriers who led 4-2 through 40 minutes of play.

But the worm was being fickle that night and twisted back in the favour of Warman in the third period, thanks to Trey Markus.

With the Wolverine goaltender on the bench Markus scored at 19:35 to give the Wolverine fans hope making it 4-3, then completed his hat trick 15 seconds later to knot things 4-4, and ultimately sending the game to overtime.

The Wolverines completed things for their fans when Theron Bensler scored at 2:43 (Markus drew an assist) for a 5-4 win.

Callum Creig faced 29-shots in the Terriers' net and was tagged with the loss.

Luke Bruen earned the win facing 25-shots for Warman.

Yorkton Terriers 4 at Kindersley Klippers 1 Sept. 25

The Terriers were back on the bus headed to Kindersley Friday and Saturday.

In Friday's encounter, the Klippers started things as Cobe Perlinger scored a powerplay mark 4:06 into the contest.

At 8:09 Yorkton used its own man advantage to tie the contest with a goal by Jake Briltz.

The knotted contest would last until the third period, when the Terriers salted away a road win with three unanswered goals. Austin Horbachewsky scored the eventual game-winner at 8:49, with Mathys Morrissette and Dylan Brass adding the insurance markers.

Callum Creig earned the win in the Terriers' net facing 22 shots, while Mattias Radke faced 33 shots protecting the pipes in the loss for the Klippers.

Yorkton Terriers 3 at Kindersley Klippers 7 Sept. 26

The teams tangled again Saturday with the Klippers again starting things as Charlie Hay scored 3:09 into the game.

Xavier Madore tied things for Yorkton at 7:21.

A goal by Austin Bruce gave the home side a 2-1 lead through 20-minutes of play.

The middle stanza was all Kindersley.

Pryce Thiessen and Talen Lewis scored powerplay goals, and Cooper Flath and Bruce with his second of the game scored even strength as the Klippers took a 6-1 lead to the dressing room after 40 minutes of play.

Austin Schafer added a short-handed effort early in the third period to make it 7-1.

Yorkton added two late – Thomas Ries and Madore with his second of the contest – to round out a 7-3 Kindersley win.

Creig started in net, but was relieved after allowing five goals, with Brady Low finishing in the Terriers' net.

Ethan Suhr faced 31-shots in securing the Klipper win in net.

The Terriers will host Flin Flon Bombers at the Westland Insurance Arena Saturday, before heading to Weyburn for action Sunday, Oct. 4.

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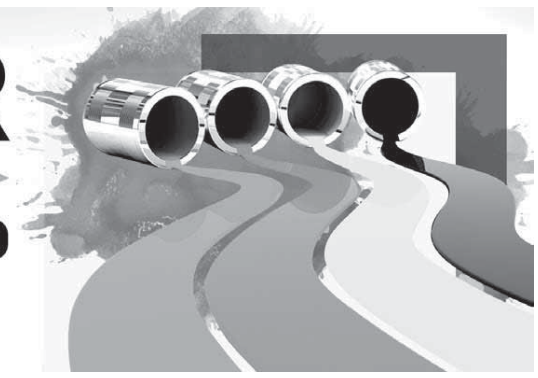
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Sports column – Darcy Gross

Gross Misconduct

After a World Series appearance last season, fans had high hopes for the Toronto Blue Jays.

When you break it all down, the Jays had too many injuries and too little hitting to get back to the big dance.

After an exhilarating run through last year's post-season, the Jays looked as if they had forgotten how to manufacture runs.

There were far too few times when most of the lineup would get hits and move base-runners around. More often, they'd get a couple of guys on base, only to follow it with a weak pop-up or a perfectly executed double-play dribbler.

The team finished near the bottom of baseball in home runs and slugging, while Vladimir Guerrero Jr. – the Jays' $500-million hitter – had an extremely disappointing offensive season.

When you build your lineup around a guy and he hits only nine home runs and drives in 56 runs, you're already in a mess of trouble. And when you sign him to a long-term deal worth half a billion dollars, you'd like to see a little more damage.

A team can survive injuries if its stars perform.

Toronto didn't get that.

Guerrero's season was the biggest example, but several other hitters also failed to provide the production expected of them. The Jays needed their core players to compensate for the inevitable injuries of a 162-game season.

Instead, the injuries just kept coming.

Addison Barger missed time with injuries to both ankles. Alejandro Kirk broke his thumb. George Springer fractured his toe. Guerrero dealt with nagging injuries, while Andrés Giménez battled leg problems and Daulton Varsho dealt with wrist issues.

That was a lot of missing man-games from a team that couldn't afford to lose many.

It wasn't any better on the mound.

Toronto lost José Berríos and Bowden Francis for the season, while Shane Bieber and Trey Yesavage also spent significant time injured. Max Scherzer repeatedly dealt with injuries as well.

Suddenly, a rotation that looked capable of carrying Toronto through a playoff race was constantly being rebuilt on the fly.

Dylan Cease was the bright spot. For most of the season, he was outstanding and looked like exactly the kind of ace Toronto had hoped to acquire.

But even Cease couldn't provide a clean finish. His velocity dipped dramatically in September, and the Jays had to manage a shoulder-fatigue issue.

Offensively, Anthony Santander was supposed to provide another major power bat, but he never played after his shoulder injury. Kazuma Okamoto provided the power Toronto needed, but there wasn't enough production around him.

How good can you be when your lineup can put runners on base but, all too often, can't bring them home?

Apparently, not good enough.

The injuries exposed Toronto's lack of depth, while the weak play of some of last season's big guns removed whatever margin for error the team had left.

Last year's Jays had multiple hitters performing simultaneously, creating momentum throughout the lineup. This time around, they didn't just lose one or two players – they lost players at multiple positions.

The lineup was missing bats. The rotation was missing starters. The bullpen had to cover more innings. And the replacements simply weren't able to reproduce the production of the players they replaced.

Because the offence was already struggling to score, every pitching injury became magnified.

The Jays repeatedly had one or two guys going well while several others couldn't hit sand if they fell off a camel.

Toronto's hitting coach described it as never getting four, five or six hitters going at the same time. Injuries and poor starts created pressure, which compounded the offensive struggles.

The frustrating part is that the division and Wild Card races remained within reach for much of the season. Toronto wasn't miles away from contention.

But every time the team needed someone to step up, another problem appeared.

A key hitter got hurt. A starter went down. The offence went cold. Guerrero didn't provide the expected production. The rotation got thinner.

Eventually, all those cracks became one big problem, and the Jays simply couldn't recover.

Last year, Toronto gave its fans a thrilling ride all the way to the World Series.

This year, the ride ended before the playoffs even started.

Maybe that's baseball's way of reminding us there is no such thing as a guaranteed encore.

Or perhaps, after giving Toronto fans one unforgettable October last year, the Jays decided we were getting a little too comfortable.

So, they did what any considerate baseball team would do.

They gave us 162 games of frustration instead.

Mils drop two at home, win on the road

By Darcy Gross
Grasslands News

The Melville Millionaires played a trio of games last week and came up with two huge victories.

The SJHL Mils split a home-and-home series with the Melfort Mustangs before returning home, where they knocked off last season's league champs, the Flin Flon Bombers.

Flin Flon Bombers 2 at Melville Millionaires 4 (Sept. 29)

After a slow start, the Millionaires seemed to get better as the game went on.

The score was 1-1 after the opening frame, with the Blue and White taking a 3-2 lead after two periods.

The Bombers looked as if they'd dominate early, outshooting the Millionaires 12-4 in the first frame. The home side got on track over the next two periods, with the Bombers holding a 32-25 shots-on-goal advantage.

Noah Kraus was outstanding between the pipes for the Millionaires, making 30 saves to earn the win in front of 779 fans at the CN Community Centre.

Keil Schmalz led the way for the Millionaires, with a power-play tally in the first period and a helper on the game winner, scored by Wesley Olson late in the second.

Ryland McConnell and Isaiah Bagri rounded out the Melville scoring with singles, while Cole Brown, Louis Nadeau and Grady Carmichael each registered a single assist.

The teams split eight minor penalties.

Melfort Mustangs 1 at Melville Millionaires 0 (Sept. 26)

The Millionaires had plenty of chances but just couldn't slide a puck past Mustangs goaltender Luke McKechnie, despite outshooting the Hawks 44-22.

Kaleb Page got his first regular-season start for the Millionaires and was solid, allowing just a single goal late in the middle stanza.

It was a rough-and-tumble affair, with the Mustangs getting the gate for seven of the contest's 12 minors, two of four fighting majors and two of four game misconducts.

Melville Millionaires 2 at Melfort Mustangs 1 (Sept. 25)

All the scoring in this one came in the first period, with goalies Kraus and McKechnie slamming the door over the next two frames.

Jaden Kokosha and Olson each lit the lamp for the visitors, with assists coming off the sticks of Kale Margolis, Cohen Champagne, Parker Salisbury and Carmichael.

The Mustangs had 31 shots on Kraus, who collected the win, while Melville skaters tested the Melfort netminder 24 times.

The Millionaires were whistled for seven of the game's 11 minor infractions.

The Humboldt Broncos will host the Millionaires on Oct. 2, with the two squads going at it again in Melville on Oct. 3.

Game time at the CNCC is 7 p.m.

Melville Millionaires Jr. A Hockey Game Schedule

Home/Away Games
All Games 7 p.m.
unless otherwise stated
Regular Season
OCTOBER:
02– Melville at Humboldt 7:30
03– Humboldt at Melville
09– Melville at Yorkton
10– Yorkton at Melville
16– Melville at Warman
17– Melville at Kindersley 7:30
18– Melville at Kindersley 4:00
23– Battlefords at Melville
30– Nipawin at Melville

Yorkton Terriers Jr. A Hockey Game Schedule

Home/Away Games
All Games 7 p.m.
unless otherwise stated
Regular Season
OCTOBER:
03– Flin Flon at Yorkton
04– Yorkton at Weyburn 6:00
09– Melville at Yorkton
10– Yorkton at Melville
16– Yorkton at Nipawin
17– Yorkton at Flin Flon 7:30
24– Battlefords at Yorkton
30– Estevan at Yorkton
31– Yorkton at Estevan

Fort Knox Hockey Game Schedule

Home/Away Games
Regular season
OCTOBER:
03– S'toon Westleys at Fort Knox 7:00
09– S'toon Royals at Fort Knox 7:30
14– Fort Knox at RPS Rebels 7:30
17– Pilot Butte at Fort Knox 7:00
18– Fort Knox at Regina Caps 6:45
24– Fort Knox at PA Timberjaks 7:30
25– Fort Knox at Carrot River OT 4:00
27– RPS Rebels at Fort Knox 7:30
30– Fort Knox at Reg Silver Foxes 7:45

Pilot Butte Storm Game Schedule

Home/Away Games
Regular Season
OCTOBER:
03– RPS Rebels at Pilot Butte 7:45
04– S'toon Westleys at Pilot Butte 3:45
07– Reg Silver Foxes at Pilot Butte 8:00
15– Pilot Butte at Reg Silver Foxes 7:45
17– Pilot Butte at Fort Knox 7:00
20– Pilot Butte at RPS Rebels 7:30
23– Pilot Butte at Reg Silver Foxes 7:45
25– Martensville Chiefs at PB Storm 3:45
30– PB Storm at Regina Caps 7:45

Bowling Scores, Standings - Yorkton Bowling

MONDAY GA

Men's High Single and Triple, Nolan Bucsis, 247, 597.

Ladies' High Single and Triple, Violet Woychesko, 200, 520.

Most pins over average, Nolan Bucsis +84.

TUESDAY YBC

Men's High Single and Triple, Liam Hutchings, 181, 512.

Ladies' High Single and Triple, Rylee Krochak, 94, 261.

Most pins over average, Austin Jasper +36.

STS

Men's High Single and Triple, Cam Louttit, 235, 626.

Ladies' High Single and Triple, Adella Kopp McKay, 157, 448.

Most pins over average, Juanita, Brown +47.

WEDNESDAY GA

Men's High Single and Triple, Cam Louttit, 292, 786.

Ladies' High Single, Betty/Karen, 177. Ladies' High Triple, Karen Mehling, 468.

Most pins over average, Nolan Bucsis +120.

TUESDAY NIGHT

Men's High Single and Triple, Todd Vogan, 306, 789.

Ladies' High Single and Triple, Jennifer Haas, 238, 551.

Most pins over average, Jennifer Haas +56.

LEGION

Men's High Single and Triple, Nolan Bucsis, 222, 554.

Ladies' High Single and Triple, Brenda Blommaert, 198, 479.

Most pins over average, Brenda Blommaert +60.

HANCOCK PLUMBING

Men's High Single, Devon Cross, 348. Men's High Triple, Cole Krochak, 867.

Ladies' High Single and Triple, Sharla Schrader, 214, 570.

Most pins over average, Devon Cross +129.

SATURDAY YBC

Men's High Single and Triple, Emry Lorenski gage, 237, 562.

Ladies' High Single and Triple, Gayl Romyn, 178, 468.

Most pins over average, Ryker Balabuk +108.

Bowling Scores, Standings - Melville Bowl Arena

MONDAY P.M.
Sept. 21

Ladies' High Single, Triple and Average, Angela Dobson, 186, 522, 165.

Men's High Single, Triple and Average, Gordon Ostlund 173, 456, 167.

Team High Single and Triple, Bender, 758, 2215.

Team	Pts.
Ostlund	7
Bender	5

MONDAY COMMERCIAL
Sept. 21

Ladies' High Single, Triple and Average, Brandy Lechner, 288, 691, 238.

Men's High Single, Triple and Average, Destin Kohlenberg, 288, 694, 234.

Team High Single and Triple, Split Happens, 1280, 3782.

Team	Pts.
Split Happens	7
That Was Close	6
Pinheads	5
Professional Amateurs	2

ST. HENRY'S
Sept. 22

Ladies' High Single and Triple, Linda Bender, 172, 484. Ladies High Average, Pat Brown, 158.

Men's High Single, Triple and Average, Chris Cheveldae, 266, 715, 197.

Team High Single and Triple, CKJ, 1303, 3850.

Team	Pts.
Just 4 Fun	6.5
CCJ	5.5
A Team	4

THURSDAY YBC
Sept. 24

Girls High Single and Triple, Emmi Hollinger, 165, 481.

Boys High Single and Triple, Braxton Hollinger, 208, 511.

Team High Single and Triple, Rydzik, 855, 2509.

Team	Pts.
Kohlenberg	8.5
Curylo	8
Patterson	6.5
Hollinger	5
Rydzik	4.5
Nelson	1.5

SATURDAY YBC
Sept. 26

Girls High Single, Laura Smidt, 160. Girls High Triple, Ashyah Davies, 394.

Boys High Single, Rowan Morgan, 183, 468.

Team High Single, Herbert, 853. Team High Triple, Davies, 2479.

Team	Pts.
Herbert	9
Faye	7
Davies	5
Smidt	3

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Sacred Heart Saints in trio of soccer matches last week

CALVIN DANIELS I GRASSLANDS NEWS

Loose puck in front

In recent Sacred Heart Saints' soccer action, hosting the Yorkton Regional High School Raiders, Saints' Phillip Quinto is on the ball, beside him are teammates Keagan Keshane, and hidden in the back is Enoch Erhaze.

By Calvin Daniels
Grasslands News

The Sacred Heart Saints boys' soccer team was in action against the Yorkton Regional High School Raiders Sept. 22.

The contest on the Saints field was part of Rural Saskatchewan High School Soccer League play.

It was a windy afternoon which saw the Raiders dominate play in the first half with the Saints struggling to push into their opponent's half.

"If we spent a combined two minutes in our opponent's half over the course of the first 45 minutes I would be surprised," offered Saints coach Sebastian Prost. "We just couldn't build up any play to get out of our own end. The windy conditions didn't help."

After 45 minutes the score was 0-0, though the Raiders did have several chances that were expertly handled by the Saints' defence and goalkeeper Nazar Usan.

A change of sides had the Saints with the wind at their backs, and the team was able to take advantage of that.

Phillip Quinto dribbled into the Raiders' penalty area and was taken down by the Raiders' defence, drawing a penalty kick for the Saints, which Mathew Haug expertly converted for a 1-0 SHHS lead.

From that point, the Saints continued to press for a second insurance goal but were repeatedly thwarted by the Raiders defensive efforts.

With only a few minutes remaining in the half the Saints were poised to walk away as winners in the afternoon's contest.

However, a breakdown in the defensive midfield and a poor clearance effort by the Saints saw the Raiders break through for a shot on net that ended with the ball in the back of the Saints' goal to draw even at 1-1.

The remaining time yielded no further threatening offensive efforts by either team with the match score remaining unchanged 1-1 at the final whistle.

Both the Saints and Raiders travelled to Moose Jaw Sept. 26, for away games as part of the fall two Rural Saskatchewan High School Soccer League campaign.

It was a gorgeous and warm September day as the Saints played their first game against Central Collegiate Institute, where they struggled for most of the first half to find their rhythm.

Unable to take control of the game or build up any threatening play of their own, the Saints saw themselves down by four goals before long.

"We saw that the initial tactical set-up was not taking hold in a way that we wanted," said Proust. "We weren't controlling play and any long balls that we played yielded turnovers rather than threatening our opponents in their end. So, we made the decision to change our formation and player positions and saw positive results quickly.

"We ended the first half down four goals but with a spark in our play."

The spark did not last long, with the Saints conceding a fifth goal only a few minutes into the second half.

Nonetheless, better play by the Saints saw them building chances and posing a much more significant offensive threat to CCI in the second half. The team would eventually be rewarded with a goal, scored by Ire Obafemi.

"The final scoreline against CCI was disappointing, but there were many really positive developments in the second half. Some of our call-up players from the junior squad really shined in their play today," said Proust.

Baking in the afternoon sun, the Saints faced off against Peacock Collegiate for their second game.

Maintaining some of the tactical changes made by the Saints earlier in the day, the team came firing out of the gate. Taking a much more aggressive approach to their play, the Saints were able to generate more offensive opportunities and several shots on target.

Nonetheless, the Saints would find themselves down by a goal at halftime after a communications error caught the team off guard on a long-range Peacock free kick that landed in the back of the Saints' goal.

"We had such a strong first half against Peacock that it was really disappointing to concede that goal on what was a dramatic lapse in focus on our part," said Proust. "To work so hard and not reward ourselves with a goal or two in the first half was difficult."

Despite the setback, the Saints continued to press their opponent in the second half. A grossly negligent tackle five-minutes into the second had a Peacock midfielder see red, and the sending off by the official had the Saints' up by a player.

Though even as the Saints continued to press their opponent, it would be Peacock who would add a second goal to the scoreboard, not the Saints.

A second red card, this time to a Peacock defender, saw the Saints up by two players late into the second half, but the team from Yorkton was unable to crack the defensive line regardless of how often they came knocking.

"Being up by two players should have handed us an easy advantage to capitalize on, but the heat of the afternoon really exhausted us," said Proust. "Our smaller bench depth meant we were unable to rotate as many players through the pitch and towards the end of the second game this showed. We had two players cramp up from the hot conditions and the overall exhaustion experienced by the players was etched into their faces. A disappointing day overall and not the results we wanted or are capable of. But there were also many bright spots on individual efforts and the overall teamwork and chemistry we were able to continue to build on today."

The Saints are now on a break and return to RSHSSL play Oct. 17, before heading to Regional Playoffs on Oct. 23-24.

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VILLAGE OF ABERNETHY

PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN

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LOT 9-BLK/PAR 1-PLAN 61948 EXT 0 LOT 10-BLK/PAR 1-PLAN 61948 EXT 0	148785137 148785193	$13,965.68	$447.00	$14,412.68
LOT 22-BLK/PAR 2-PLAN 61948 EXT 0 LOT 23-BLK/PAR 2-PLAN 61948 EXT 0 LOT 24-BLK/PAR 2-PLAN 61948 EXT 0	153004407 153004418 153004429	$9,463.70	$447.00	$9,910.70
LOT 9-BLK/PAR 3-PLAN 61948 EXT 0 LOT 10-BLK/PAR 3-PLAN 61948 EXT 0	151128985 151129043	$13,017.70	$447.00	$13,464.70
LOT 8-BLK/PAR 4-PLAN 61948 EXT 0	141752583	$15,551.60	$447.00	$15,998.60
LOT 9-BLK/PAR 4-PLAN 61948 EXT 0 LOT 10-BLK/PAR 4-PLAN 61948 EXT 0	141752561 141752550	$13,111.11	$447.00	$13,558.11
LOT 11-BLK/PAR 4-PLAN 61948 EXT 0	140242520	$12,951.19	$447.00	$13,398.19
LOT 13-BLK/PAR 4-PLAN 61948 EXT 0 LOT 14-BLK/PAR 4-PLAN 61948 EXT 0	143860079 143860091	$8,217.38	$447.00	$8,664.38
LOT 15-BLK/PAR 4-PLAN 61948 EXT 0 LOT 16-BLK/PAR 4-PLAN 61948 EXT 0 LOT 17-BLK/PAR 4-PLAN 61948 EXT 0	151700903 151700914 151700925	$2,587.93	$388.00	$2,975.93
LOT 21-BLK/PAR 4-PLAN 61948 EXT 0 LOT 22-BLK/PAR 4-PLAN 61948 EXT 41 LOT 25-BLK/PAR 4-PLAN 101245171 EXT 40	127389695 127389662 127389684	$4,148.00	$447.00	$4,595.00
LOT 9-BLK/PAR 5-PLAN 61948 EXT 0 LOT 10-BLK/PAR 5-PLAN 61948 EXT 0	151700936 151700947	$2,350.04	$388.00	$2,738.04
LOT 11-BLK/PAR 5-PLAN 61948 EXT 0 LOT 12-BLK/PAR 5-PLAN 61948 EXT 0	136522166 136522133	$18,651.94	$447.00	$19,098.94
LOT 23-BLK/PAR 6-PLAN 61948 EXT 0 LOT 24-BLK/PAR 6-PLAN 61948 EXT 0 LOT 25-BLK/PAR 6-PLAN 61948 EXT 0	129277277 129277233 129277255	$4,425.49	$447.00	$4,872.49
LOT 2-BLK/PAR 7-PLAN 61948 EXT 0	150403104	$3,188.54	$447.00	$3,635.54
LOT 4-BLK/PAR 8-PLAN 61948 EXT 0 LOT 5-BLK/PAR 8-PLAN 61948 EXT 0	157043437 157043493	$2,412.75	$447.00	$2,859.75
LOT 1-BLK/PAR 12-PLAN C4566 EXT 0	149443072	$10,513.39	$447.00	$10,960.39
LOT 14-BLK/PAR 12-PLAN C4566 EXT 0	152871868	$5,862.27	$447.00	$6,309.27
LOT 14-BLK/PAR 2-PLAN F3744 EXT 0 LOT 21-BLK/PAR 2-PLAN 101245452 EXT 12	149612812 149612823	$1,737.74	$447.00	$2,184.74
LOT 5-BLK/PAR 3-PLAN F3744 EXT 0	155955101	$1,336.72	$447.00	$1,783.72
LOT 1-BLK/PAR 5-PLAN P4120 EXT 0 LOT 2-BLK/PAR 5-PLAN P4120 EXT 0 LOT 3-BLK/PAR 5-PLAN P4120 EXT 0 LOT 4-BLK/PAR 5-PLAN P4120 EXT 0 LOT 5-BLK/PAR 5-PLAN P4120 EXT 0	128890255 128890277 128890299 128890446 128890468	$18,368.24	$447.00	$18,815.24
LOT 7-BLK/PAR 6-PLAN P4120 EXT 0 LOT 8-BLK/PAR 6-PLAN P4120 EXT 0	149877691 149877714	$8,339.18	$447.00	$8,786.18
LOT 2-BLK/PAR 7-PLAN P4120 EXT 0 LOT 3-BLK/PAR 7-PLAN P4120 EXT 0 LOT 4-BLK/PAR 7-PLAN P4120 EXT 0	143860147 143860125 143860181	$20,656.50	$447.00	$21,103.50
BLK/PAR F-PLAN 101245250 EXT 9	138262608	$2,101.08	$447.00	$2,548.08
LOT 7-BLK/PAR 4-PLAN 61948 EXT 0	142000131	$12,817.35	$447.00	$13,264.35
LOT 2-BLK/PAR 12-PLAN C4566 EXT 0	149446424	$10,513.34	$447.00	$10,960.34
LOT 3-BLK/PAR 12-PLAN C4566 EXT 0 LOT 3-BLK/PAR 12-PLAN C4566 EXT 0	103234889 103234890	$6,051.28	$447.00	$6,498.28
LOT 4-BLK/PAR 12-PLAN C4566 EXT 0 LOT 4-BLK/PAR 12-PLAN C4566 EXT 0	103234924 103234935	$6,051.28	$447.00	$6,498.28
LOT 5-BLK/PAR 12-PLAN C4566 EXT 0 LOT 5-BLK/PAR 12-PLAN C4566 EXT 0	103234968 103234979	$6,051.28	$447.00	$6,498.28
LOT 13-BLK/PAR 12-PLAN C4566 EXT 0	151976032	$537.33	$383.00	$920.33
LOT 1-BLK/PAR 5-PLAN 61948 EXT 0 LOT 2-BLK/PAR 5-PLAN 61948 EXT 0 LOT 3-BLK/PAR 5-PLAN 61948 EXT 0 LOT 4-BLK/PAR 5-PLAN 61948 EXT 0 LOT 5-BLK/PAR 5-PLAN 61948 EXT 0	151470143 152054423 152054434 152054456 152054467	$9,059.34	$447.00	$9,506.34
LOT 16-BLK/PAR 3-PLAN F3744 EXT 0	155955088	$1,646.64	$447.00	$2,093.64
LOT 7-BLK/PAR 12-PLAN C4566 EXT 0	152871857	$72.92	$305.07	$377.99
LOT 11-BLK/PAR 12-PLAN C4566 EXT 0	151976133	$54.02	$383.00	$437.02
LOT 12-BLK/PAR 12-PLAN C4566 EXT 0	151976111	$54.08	$383.00	$437.08
LOT 15-BLK/PAR 12-PLAN C4566 EXT 0	152871891	$14.04	$363.95	$377.99
LOT 16-BLK/PAR 12-PLAN C4566 EXT 0	152871903	$14.04	$363.95	$377.99

*Penalty is calculated to the date of the Notice and will continue to accrue as applicable.

Dated this 28th day of September, 2026. Travis Blanchard, Administrator

TAX ENFORCEMENT LIST

VILLAGE OF LEBRET

PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN

Notice is hereby given under *The Tax Enforcement Act* that unless the arrears and costs appearing opposite the land and title number described in the following list are fully paid before December 1, 2026, an interest based on a tax lien will be registered against the land.

Note: A sum for costs in an amount required by subsection 4(3) of *The Tax Enforcement Act is included in the amount shown against each parcel.*

Description of Property	Title No.	Total Arrears*	Costs	Total Arrears and Costs
LOT 5-BLK/PAR D-PLAN S3794 EXT 2	147140399	$2,438.54	$394.00	$2,832.54
LOT 6-BLK/PAR D-PLAN S3794 EXT 2	147140412	$5,056.61	$453.00	$5,509.61
LOT 9-BLK/PAR D-PLAN S3794 EXT 2	128179121	$4,364.79	$453.00	$4,817.79
LOT 47-BLK/PAR D-PLAN S3794 EXT 0	146260177	$3,873.31	$453.00	$4,326.31
LOT 53-BLK/PAR D-PLAN S3794 EXT 0 LOT 54-BLK/PAR D-PLAN S3794 EXT 0 LOT 55-BLK/PAR D-PLAN S3794 EXT 0	140679209 140679210 140679232	$2,273.30	$453.00	$2,726.30
LOT 15-BLK/PAR 4-PLAN BI3055 EXT 0	158781437	$1,443.30	$453.00	$1,896.30
LOT 24-BLK/PAR 4-PLAN BI3055 EXT 0	155218260	$2,151.18	$389.00	$2,540.18
LOT 23-BLK/PAR 4-PLAN BI3055 EXT 0	153968743	$2,151.17	$389.00	$2,540.17
LOT 22-BLK/PAR 4-PLAN BI3055 EXT 0	153968721	$2,151.18	$389.00	$2,540.18

* Penalty is calculated to the date of the Notice and will continue to accrue as applicable.

Dated this 29th day of September, 2026. Charissa Amyotte, Acting Administrator

Maulers start regular season with big changes and two games

By Calvin Daniels
Grasslands News

The Yorkton Kinsmen Maulers are continuing to reshape the team for the future.

The latest change comes in an organization decision to open the doors wide by offering free admission for the regular season.

General Manager and Associate Coach Jeremy Palanuik said some senior teams in the region – he cited on in Balcarres as an example – have gone the free admission route and have had "a lot of success."

Realizing the team has struggled in recent seasons, Palanuik said the team wants to reestablish itself with fans, and free admission is a step in doing that.

"That's our end goal, to put more bums in the seats," he said, adding once people are at a game they'll hopefully buy some 50/50 tickets, but the key is drawing fans back to supporting the team.

In a sense it's a tear down and rebuild for fans which sort of mimics what the team did during the off season with the teams' dressing rooms at the Westland Insurance Arena.

"We completed gutted the whole dressing room top to bottom," said Palanuik, who added it was the first major upgrade in years. "... It had been just paint over paint over paint. There were six or seven layers on some of the stuff we ripped off the walls."

With NL Construction overseeing the project and various businesses offering support alongside team fundraising, it was a complete rebuild.

"It was a full transformation to a top end WHL dressing room scaled down to triple 'A'," said Palanuik.

And the regular season also got under way for the team.

After four straight preseason wins the Maulers started things for real over the weekend.

Swift Current Legionnaires 3 at Yorkton Kinsmen Maulers 1 (Sept. 25)

Things started on the friendly confines of the Westland Insurance Arena with Swift Current Legionnaires visiting.

It would be the Legionnaires who opened the Saskatchewan Male AAA Hockey League regular season scoring ledger as Kade Baert scored the lone goal of the first period in Friday's encounter.

Kasey Gleim would score 6:18 into the second to make it 2-0.

The home side finally got on the board as Corban Friesen scored at 13:13.

In the third Swift Current rounded out the scoring as Kyler Bilokreli made it 3-1.

Cade Mitchell was the winning netminder facing 22-shots, while Jaxson Schleper took the loss in the Mauler net facing 28-shots.

Swift Current Legionnaires 2 at Yorkton Kinsmen Maulers 1 (Sept. 26)

The teams met again Saturday afternoon on Yorkton ice with Swift Current again scoring first on a goal by Liam VanCaeseele 4:28 in.

The Maulers tied things up with a short-handed effort from Corban Friesen at 5:45.

Kade Baert scored 15:40 into the second, a goal which proved the game-winner as the game was scoreless the rest of the way.

Schleper took the loss facing 39-shots while Swift Current countered with Josh Benjamin who faced 36-shots in earning the win.

CALVIN DANIELS I GRASSLANDS NEWS

Loose puck in front

The Yorkton Kinsmen Maulers hosted Swift Current Legionnaires for a pair of weekend games. Here Yorkton netminder Jaxon Schleper keeps an eye on the puck as players from both teams tie up in front of him.

Pilot Butte Storm comeback comes up short against Fort Knox

By Ryan Kiedrowski
Grasslands News

The Pilot Butte Storm kept coming, but Fort Knox had just enough left in the tank.

The Storm scored twice in the final 15 seconds, but the comeback bid came up short Saturday night Sept 26 as Fort Knox held on for a 4-3 win at the Pilot Butte Recreation Centre.

It was a see-saw affair from the opening faceoff, with the teams' trading chances and momentum before Fort Knox pulled away in the third period.

The visitors opened the scoring with just 1:14 left in the first when Hudson Earnshaw buried his first of the season.

Pilot Butte wasted little time answering – and waited until almost the last possible second.

Kyle McLellan snapped one home with just two seconds left in the opening frame, with Tavyn Boychuk picking up the helper to send the teams to the dressing room knotted 1-1.

Fort Knox regained the lead early in the second as Memphis Runns cashed in on the power play at 2:55, with Bryden Cochrane and Holden Wasacase setting him up.

That one-goal cushion held through the rest of the period, despite the Storm pushing for the equalizer.

Pilot Butte finally broke through in the third, and it was a late one. Jaxon Skiftun lit the lamp, tying the game with just 15 seconds remaining in the period, Carter Hirsch feeding him the puck.

At 2-2, the Storm had the momentum — but Fort Knox quickly took it right back.

Jake Morrison scored 6:02 into the third to put the visitors ahead once again.

The Storm kept grinding, but Fort Knox netminder Reid Schweitzer stood tall when called upon, finishing with 31 saves.

Fort Knox appeared to put the game on ice when Wasacase scored into an empty net with 36 seconds remaining.

But the Storm refused to fold.

Tristan Brownridge cut the deficit to one with just 11 seconds on the clock, with Skiftun and Hirsch picking up assists and suddenly, Pilot Butte had one last chance.

The Storm couldn't find the tying goal, however, as Fort Knox survived the frantic finish and escaped with the win.

Skiftun led the Storm attack with a goal and an assist, while Hirsch chipped in two assists. McLellan and Brownridge also found the twine.

Kaden Perron turned aside 34 of 37 shots for Pilot Butte.

Fort Knox fired 38 shots on goal, while the Storm countered with 34.

The special teams battle went the visitors' way, with Fort Knox going 1-for-4 on the power play. Pilot Butte went 0-for-3 with the man advantage.

Fort Knox has their home opener Oct. 3 when the reigning league champs Saskatoon Westleys come to town. Puck drops at 7 p.m. to what's sure to be a packed Co-op Rexentre.

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Area high school golfers compete at Sask. Provincials

By Elaine Ashfield
Grasslands News

High school golfers from across the Grasslands News coverage area were among the competitors at the 2026 Saskatchewan High School Provincial Golf Championships, held Sept. 25 and 26 at the Humboldt Golf Club.

The two-day competition brought together 60 junior male golfers and 49 junior female golfers from across Saskatchewan, with several athletes from southeastern Saskatchewan earning strong finishes.

Melville's Keaton Kreklewich recorded one of the top performances among area competitors, finishing tied for second in the junior men's division. Kreklewich opened the tournament with a round of five over par, placing him in a tie for sixth after the first day. He improved his position by four places during the second round to finish the championship at four over pars overall.

Whitewood's Addison Hamilton also had a strong showing in the junior women's division, moving up seven positions during the second round to finish 19th overall. Hamilton was tied for 26th after the opening round and completed the tournament at 67 over par.

Hamilton was one of several golfers representing the Qu'Appelle Valley district in the junior women's competition.

Rori Gardypie of Cowessess finished tied for 31st, improving two positions during the second round to finish at 89 over par. Kipling's Gillian Meszaros also moved up the standings, finishing tied for 36th at 100 over par.

Lumsden's Eva Piller finished 46th with a tournament total of 134 over par.

The junior women's championship was won by Grace Odnokon representing Estey of Saskatoon, who recorded rounds of 86 and 74 for a combined gross score of 160, finishing 16 over par.

In the junior men's division, several other golfers from the Grasslands News area represented their schools and districts.

Shae Maunula from Battle West, NB John Paul II moved up three positions to take first in the mens' with rounds of 76 and 67 for a combined gross score of 143 and -1 under par

Ryker Schmidt of Lumsden finished tied for 17th at 19 over par after opening the tournament in 15th place.

Esterhazy's Gavin Gilchuk improved two positions during the second round to finish 26th at 24 over par, while Isaac Frei of the Qu'Appelle Valley district made one of the largest moves among area competitors. Frei climbed 17 positions, moving from a tie for 44th after the opening round to finish 27th overall at 26 over par.

Whitewood's Evan Kang maintained his position in the standings, finishing tied for 33rd at 29 over par. Kang had opened the tournament with a round of 17 over par.

Wawota's Brock Dorrance finished tied for 35th at 31 over par. Dorrance was tied for 28th after the opening round before dropping seven positions on the final day.

Yorkton Regional's Zac Hall improved four positions to finish tied for 40th at 38 over par, while Esterhazy's Axel Anderson finished tied for 45th at 41 over par.

Rio Gardypie of Cowessess, representing the Qu'Appelle Valley district, finished 51st with a tournament total of 48 over par.

The provincial championships provided an opportunity for high school golfers from smaller communities to compete against athletes from across Saskatchewan.

With competitors representing Whitewood, Wawota, Melville, Esterhazy, Kipling, Cowessess, Yorkton, and other communities in the region, southeastern Saskatchewan was well represented at the two-day event.

Kreklewich's second-place tie and Hamilton's seven-position improvement highlighted the performances of area athletes at this year's provincial championships as well as the many young players representing their districts showing their advancements in the sport of golf.

CALVIN DANIELS | GRASSLANDS NEWS

On the soccer pitch

The Sacred Heart High School girls' soccer team played a pair of games last Saturday, Sept. 25 facing a pair of opponents hailing from Moose Jaw. Against Moose Jaw Central the Sacred Heart team won 2-1. Goal scorers on the weekend were Natalie St. Mars and Ally Wiome. Moose Jaw Peacock would regain some soccer pride for the southern city with a 5-0 win over the home side. Pictured are Sacred Hearts' Star Starblanket and Ally Wiome.

Lady Gridders visit Estevan for PGFL gridiron action

By Calvin Daniels
Grasslands News

The Yorkton Lady Gridders headed south for football action Saturday, Sept. 26, in a game that would put the undefeated Gridders against equally flawless Estevan Southeast Viragos.

"We went into the game with both teams 3-0," Yorkton coach Mel Ricketson told Grasslands News.

Ricketson said Estevan was on a definite high going in given the team's history.

"Estevan had not won a game in the history of them being in the league and had won three so far this season," she said.

But Yorkton hit the field prepared.

"We worked hard prepping for what we knew was going to be a challenging game," said Ricketson.

The Lady Gridders were up 21-0 at half time.

"The Viragos came out after the half and managed to close up the gap a little bit," offered Ricketson. "Our offence was on fire, and touchdowns were scored by Nicole Griffin, Tally Shipp, Makayla Winters, Lexi Wise and Chayce Becker. The Virago defence did not make their job easy!"

On the other side of the ball the Gridders were stalwart too.

"Our defence was relentless and did not make it easy for the Viragos to score," said Ricketson.

"As a whole, this was the best game played by all the Lady Gridders. Our blocking was on point and the tackling and pursuit on defence was very well done."

The final score of the game was 57-34 for the Lady Gridders.

Yorkton is now first in the PGFL (Prairie Girls Football League). The Lady Gridders have a bye week this week and will be facing Moosomin Generals at home on Oct. 11, at 2 p.m.

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Sunny Side Up

Got some skeletons in your closets? Let them teach you

By Kathleen Gibson
Grasslands News

Our family closets, perhaps yours too, are stuffed with musty old skeletons – proverbially speaking.

We started talking about family over supper the other night, just the Preacher and I.

As we traced the generational lines on both sides, right up to ourselves, we recalled a few stories we rarely mention anymore. Perhaps the conversational door opened too wide, but suddenly, there they were – glowering over our garden-fresh tomatoes, carrot sticks and cabbage. (We eat light at supper.) Generations of skeletons, some at least a century old.

Your skeletons may have different names. There are many. Adultery. Abandonment. Abuse. Addiction. Betrayal. Crime. Incest. Immorality. Forbidden secrets. Hypocrisy. Neglect. Actions and attitudes that have, each in their own way, resonated through the years, influencing the generations that follow.

We discussed somewhat slowly, chewing our food longer than necessary before speaking. Asking unanswerable questions, skirting with caution those with answers we know, but hate. Because who really wants to talk about skeletons anyway? Back and forth between us they skulked, our unintended dinner guests, rattling their marrowless bones and leering. Sightless eyes, vacant and black. Stealing our appetites.

What do you do with skeletons? Hushed tales of disrepute that follow a family for decades, dragged like burlap-wrapped bodies behind a weary horse. Could there be any benefit to unwrapping those burdens, inspecting them, then stuffing them back into their closets? Never forgotten, never gone. Often taking up too much space in our minds.

Along with a multitude of other biblical characters, the apostle Paul had a few skeletons in his own closet. Murder, for one. As a converted follower of Jesus, he provides free lessons on what to do with ours. In 2 Corinthians 10:5, he instructs us to take our thoughts captive. In Romans, he tells believers to allow the mind of Jesus to shape their own minds. Those instructions include whatever our brains insist on dwelling on, including the skeletons we drag behind us.

I've learned to think about our skeletons differently. Rather than dismiss them without thought, even the most awful and shameful family secrets can become our teachers. Some show us better ways to live; warning of sinful traps to avoid and the consequences of not doing so.

Some help us understand, even forgive, that bitter old person we've never liked or understood (even when that person is oneself).

Others remind us to pay more attention to life's truly important things. Still others show us the necessity of loving rather than judging. And a few can help us understand ourselves and our family better. Make us sweeter people, capable, with God's help of intentionally walking better, higher roads than those which generated so many of those closet skeletons.

Got some skeletons in your closet? Perhaps it's time to allow them to teach you, rather than shame you.

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238 - 3rd Ave. E.
Office Ph. 306-728-2551
Office Hours: Mondays
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
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www.stpaulsmelville.ca
Sunday, Oct 4: 2 p.m. Worship at St. Paul's and Sunday School 12 noon and 5 p.m. Crafts
Tues., Oct 6: 4 p.m. Confirmation
Wed., Oct 7: SPCW Meets
Thursday, Oct 8:
11 a.m. Harvest Luncheon
Anniversary Fundraiser

–– at Neudorf/Lemberg --
Sunday, Oct. 4:
*9 a.m.Worship at Trinity Lemb
*11 a.m. Worship at Christ Neud

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306-720-0589
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Oct. 4: Morning Prayer

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5th Ave. E. & King St.
Rev. Brian Mee, 306-335-7611
website: firstunitedmelville.org
Sunday, Oct. 4:
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with Rev. Brian Mee
Brunch to Follow

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 a.m. Coffee and Welcome
10:30 a.m. Worship Service
www.melvilleriverchurch.org
Facebook @melvilleriverchurch
Recorded messages posted online

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
258 - 10th Ave. W.
Ph. 306-728-3971
Pastor Ronald Shumba
facebook.com/gslcmelville
Oct. 1: 7 p.m. Bible Study
Oct. 2: 7 p.m. Ignite Youth
Oct. 3: 10 a.m. Men's Coffee
Oct. 4: 10:30 a.m. Worship
Oct. 6: 9:30 a.m. Ladies Day

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

BETHANY EVANGELICAL MISSIONARY CHURCH
5th Ave. W. & Queen St.
Church Office Ph. 306-728-5001
Sunday, Oct. 4:
Worship 10:30 a.m.

Melville Churches Welcome You

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Father Melchor Samonte
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Sunday Mass: 10 a.m.

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Office Ph. 306-728-5022
Pastor Jon Pettinger
Associate Pastor: Jesse Darby
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Sunday School at 9:45 a.m.
Sunday Service at 11 a.m.
Online services can be found at: www.melvillebaptist.com

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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.
Friday Youth Group – 7 p.m.
Wednesday ALPHA with
Supper 6 p.m., Video/Discussion
Thursday Prayer Meeting - 7 p.m.
Rev. Dr. James R. Graham

ST. JOSEPH'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
Father Nimorious Kwabena Domanzing
Saturday, Oct. 3:
5:00 p.m. Mass

ST. MARY'S ANGLICAN CHURCH
Sunday, Oct. 4:
Morning Prayer

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, WAPELLA
Sunday, Oct. 4:
12 Noon: Communion Service
with lunch to follow

WHITEWOOD UNITED CHURCH
Sunday, Oct. 4:
10:00 a.m Worship 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 Sunday with Jennifer Yasinowski and
3rd Sunday with Monica Dayman
at 9:30 a.m.

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

ST. ANNE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
418 First St., Kipling
Priest: Father Joseph Villamartin
306-510-9793
Saturday, Oct. 3:
6:30 p.m. Mass

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

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.
Service Leaders
Don Jewitt
Jani Francis

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202 Bay Ave. S.,
Phone - 306-551-6213
Hall Contact - 306-563-7451

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Sunday, Oct. 4th - Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM
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The goal is to rise spiritually, not simply to avoid sin.

Holy Transfiguration Ukrainian Orthodox Church
89 Bradbrooke Drive, Yorkton, SK S3N 2Y2
306-782-2998
Father Roman Kocur • (226) 347-8226
Sunday, Oct. 4: Divine Lithurgy - 10:00AM - Ituna
Sunday, Oct. 4: Provody - 3:00PM - Yorkton

CLASSIFIEDS

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

Obituary

Margaret Rosenthal
Jan. 23, 1935 – Sept. 20, 2026

Margaret was born Jan. 23, 1935, to Jacob and Ottilia (nee Lutz) Goebel on the farm in Neudorf, SK. She was baptized Feb. 11, 1935, and confirmed May 29, 1949, at Christ Lutheran Church, Neudorf, SK.

Margaret received her education at Piller School. After school, she helped around the family farm, as she had no older brothers; she did many outside chores, as well as ones inside the home. She also helped some neighbours when time permitted.

On Feb. 11, 1956, 21 years after baptism, she was united in marriage to McDonald Rosenthal. This marriage was blessed with two sons, Timothy and Rodney, and four grandsons, Tyler, Randy, Curtis, and Joshua, and she later became grandma to two step-grandchildren, Sarah and Jacob.

Margaret and Donald farmed for the next eight years southeast of Neudorf, SK, working together both in and outside the home. In May 1964, they relocated to Virden, MB, and farmed with Donald's parents, Edward and Elizabeth Rosenthal, farming for the next two and a half years before returning to Neudorf in the fall of 1967. They purchased a place in town, and Margaret helped her parents and her Aunt Carrie.

Margaret had a big garden, and she did lots of sewing and quilting. One of her hobbies was collecting write-ups and pictures of the royal family; she also enjoyed doing jigsaw puzzles and baking for her family, mostly her grandchildren and great-grandchildren, whom she loved dearly. Margaret enjoyed going to the Senior Centre to meet up with friends and neighbours.

Margaret was a member of Christ Lutheran Church all her life and a member of the community hall board for five and a half years. She helped her husband at the rink for three seasons. She was also a member of the Senior Centre for 25 years.

Margaret was predeceased by her parents, Jacob and Ottilia Goebel; her husband, Donald Rosenthal; brothers Clarence (Lorraine), Bob (Elsie), Herb (Diane), and Don (Shan) Goebel; sisters Alice, Jean, and Eunice; and her in-laws, Edward and Elizabeth Rosenthal, Ed Steingart, Val Rathgeber, and great-niece Sarah.

She leaves to mourn her passing her sons, Tim (Candace) and Rodney (Heather); grandchildren Tyler (Brooklin), Josh (Suzette), Randy (Kaitlyn), Curtis (Amanda), Sarah (Coe), and Jacob (Ashley); great-grandchildren Aileyh, Cabrey, Gideon, Sadie, Scotty, Bryn Lee, and Remi; sisters Thelma Steingart and Susan (Dave) McInnes; sisters-in-law, Lorraine Goebel and Helen Rathgeber; nephews Glen (Eileen) Gabel, Terry (Sandie) Gabel, John Goebel, Russell Goebel, Ian Popowich, Dustin (Tanja) McInnes, and Bruce Rathgeber; nieces Charlotte (Aaron) Sluchenski, Serena Goebel, Lori (Wayne) Gabel Crone, and Amber McInnes; great-nieces and great-nephews Brittany (Ken), Thomas (Kas), Leah (Brad), Reagon, Colton, Jetta, Anikin, and Angelica; and special friend Grace Armbruster.

Margaret's funeral service took place Thursday, Sept. 24, 2026 at Matthews Funeral Home, Melville, with the Rev. Vivian Roberts officiating. Organist Gaylene Matthews led the congregation in the hymns. Candace Rosenthal delivered the eulogy, and the readings were done by Serena Goebel. Interment took place in Christ Lutheran Cemetery, Neudorf, SK, with Glenn Gabel, Bruce Rathgeber, Aaron Sluchenski, Charlotte Sluchenski, Randy Rosenthal, and Josh Rosenthal acting as pallbearers.

Funeral arrangements were entrusted to Matthews Funeral Home, Melville.

MATTHEWS Funeral Home

Obituary

Jessie Pollock
(neé Vickerton)
1923 – 2026

It is with deep sadness and heartfelt love that the family of Jessie Pollock (Vickerton) announces her peaceful passing at the remarkable age of 103.

Jessie was predeceased by her parents, George and Jessie Vickerton; her brothers Lawrence (Jessie) and Cecil; and her beloved husband, Ivan.

Born in the small village of Melmerby in North Yorkshire, England, Jessie grew up with a strong work ethic and a resilient spirit. She left school at 14 to begin working, and at 17 was conscripted during the war, moving to Newcastle to work in a munitions factory. Despite the long stretches away from home, she served with dedication for four years. During this time, she met a Canadian airman, Ivan Pollock, who would become the love of her life.

After the war, Jessie and Ivan married in Thirsk, England. Ivan returned to Canada, and Jessie soon followed as an English War Bride. They settled in Yorkton, SK, where they began their family. Life brought challenges, including a tuberculosis diagnosis for Jessie, Ivan, and their three children, leading to three years at Fort San. Their return home was a joyful milestone, marking a new beginning.

The family later moved to Melville, where Ivan managed Park's Jewelry Store before he and Jessie opened Pollock's Jewelry Store, which they proudly owned and operated together. After Ivan's passing, Jessie moved to St. Albert, AB, to be closer to family.

She cherished her time there, surrounded by her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, celebrating countless special moments. Jessie leaves behind a legacy of love and strength. She is lovingly remembered by her four children, Laurence (Joanne), Terry (Janet), Maureen (Dave), and Kevin; her 11 grandchildren; and her 20 great-grandchildren. She is also remembered by her niece Anne (Ralph) Button of England; many nieces and nephews; and her extended family, including Glenda Pollock (Ken) and Georgie Bromley, who provided Jessie with unwavering love and support.

Interment will be held on Friday, Oct. 9, 2026 at 1:00 p.m. in Melville Cemetery, Highway #47 South and 2 kilometers East on Cemetery Road.

A Celebration of Life will follow at 2:00 p.m. in the United Church, 148-5th Ave. E., Melville, SK with family and friends gathering to honour Jessie's remarkable life.

A further Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, Oct. 24, 2026 at 2:00 p.m. in St. Albert Funeral Home, 9 Muir Drive, St. Albert, AB.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Heart and Stroke Foundation.

To share photos, memories, and condolences, please visit www.connelly-mckinley.com

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Obituary

Marion Helene Fletcher
May 31, 1931 – Sept. 23, 2026

The family of Marion Helene Fletcher, with sadness and profound gratitude for a life well lived, announce her passing on Wednesday, Sept. 23, 2026.

Marion leaves to celebrate and remember the many family members that she loved. Daughters, Catherine Fletcher (Carey), Maureen Miller (David); son Bradley Fletcher; grandchildren: Kaitlan Tennant (Tyler), Andrew Bellavie, Evelyn Bellavie (Forbes), Nicole Appenrodt (Ryan), Skye Miller, and Jonathon Miller; great-grandchildren: Aiden Tennant, Keira Tennant, Isabella Tennant, Harper Simpson, Abigail, Ewen and Emily Bellavie. Nieces: Laurie Wilstermann, Joan Young (Ron), Karen Delahey (Dave), Cameron Fletcher (Debbie), Blair Fletcher, Carl Fletcher, Brian Dust, Dave Dust, Greg Dust.

Marion is predeceased by her parents, Ann (Cleary) and Orville Stone; sister Eileen Dust (Stone); mother and father-in-law, Katherine (O'Connor) and Carold Fletcher; brother and sister- in-law Gilbert and Lynne Fletcher (Phillips); husband Garry Fletcher and daughter Patricia Fletcher.

Marion was born on May 31,1931 in Lashburn, SK, a second daughter for Ann and Orville Stone. She had one sister, Eileen.

Her father was a banker and manager with the Canadian Bank of Commerce and during her early life moved to many locations across Saskatchewan (Paynton, Buchanan, Rouleau, Turtleford, Canora, Saskatoon and Humboldt) with her mother Ann, sister, Eileen, and many cats. Marion had a full and faith-filled childhood. Although there was not always a Catholic church nearby to attend, her mother ensured that the girls (along with the neighborhood children) were educated in their Catechism. Marion and Eileen both received the Sacraments of Baptism, First Communion, First Reconciliation and Confirmation. Marion took piano lessons, learned to curl and enjoyed summer vacations swimming and fishing at nearby lakes with her father. Entertainment included reading, kite flying, and listening to the radio, as there was no television.

Marion graduated from high school in Canora in 1949. There were 13 students in the class! Her wish to become a nurse was fulfilled when she graduated from Saint Paul's School of Nursing in Saskatoon in 1952, receiving the Paediatric Award. She worked at Melfort Union Hospital, then Sick Children's Hospital in Toronto. Later, she was employed with Trans Canada Airlines as a stewardess when only registered nurses were hired. She continued with her nursing career part-time at Saint Boniface Hospital in Winnipeg. Her vocation as a mother, however, was her longest and most committed career.

Marion and Garry were married on July 30, 1958. They settled in Yorkton opening Fletcher's Drug Store (1954-1998). Together they raised four children (Catherine, Maureen, Patricia, Bradley).

Through the years, Marion was actively involved in many Yorkton clubs and organizations: Yorkton Ladies' Curling Club, Deer Park Ladies' Golf Club (Past President), Yorkton Bridge Clubs, Kinette and K-ette Clubs (Past President), Girl Guides' Association (Badge Secretary), Yorkton Catholic School System (Advisory Board), Christ the Teacher Catholic School Board (Trustee 1988-2003), St. Gerard's Parish (Council/Hospitality Ministry/Music Ministry, Catholic Women's League) and Secretary at many of the annual Yorkton Music Festivals. Marion received recognition and lifetime memberships with the Kinette and K-ette Clubs, the Deer Park Ladies' Golf Club as well as recognition in the CWL: Maple Leaf Award (2012) and 55 year pin (2019). She was a great historian for many of these organizations creating scrapbooks and photo albums for the club archives.

Marion was known as a "woman of service"; respected in the Yorkton community for her intellect, generous spirit, kind heart and her gift of card giving and letter writing.

A funeral mass celebrating Marion's life will be held at St. Gerard's Parish on Saturday, Oct. 3, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. Following mass, lunch will be served in the parish hall. Interment will take place at 3:00 p.m. in the Garden of St. Luke, Yorkton Memorial Gardens.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to: Saint Gerard's Parish, Food Bank, STARS, Canadian Mental Health Association or the SPCA as gifts of remembrance.

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1-844-GNG-NEWS

Obituary

Paul Cherkas

Feb. 3, 1947 – Sept. 16, 2026

Paul Cherkas of Yorkton, SK passed away on Wednesday, Sept. 16, 2026. Paul was born Feb. 3, 1947 at the family farm in the Poplar Point District, south of Kamsack. He was the youngest of five sons born to William (Bill) and Katherine Cherkas.

At the young age of 11 "he was put on the tractor seat" after the passing of his father in 1958. He had a passion for all things farming! The fall of 2025 he completed his 67th Crop Year. Then on Dec. 1, 2025 he began his new phase of his farming career, as he said he was being "paid to be a farmer."

Paul Cherkas left behind a legacy shaped by hard work, genuine kindness, a belief of honesty, and a deep respect for the land. His life was not measured by his farming achievements, rather the work he accomplished and the many lives that were impacted along his way.

The Funeral Service will be held on Saturday, Oct. 10, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. from St. Mary's Cultural Centre, Yorkton, SK. As tribute to Paul please consider wearing a plaid shirt, and your best blue jeans. The interment will follow in the Garden of Gethsemane, Yorkton Memorial Gardens. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to The Health Foundation of East Central Saskatchewan in memory of Paul Cherkas.

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Card of Thanks

A **Big Thank You** to all the nurses, doctors and staff of the Melville hospital and Yorkton ICU for all the kindness and caring during my crisis in all of August. God bless you all.
–Larry Lewchuk

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SENIOR WOMAN looking for friendly companionship with sincere single male 65+ for friendship and fun outings. Movies, dinner, and Sunday drives. Please mail to Box LL c/o Yorkton This Week, Box 1300, Yorkton, SK S3N 2X3.

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Province Wide

THE KAMSACK TIMES is hiring a Local Journalism Initiative (LJI) Reporter to produce original civic journalism for Kamsack; Cote, Keeseekoose and The Key First Nations; and surrounding towns. Job is a term position until March 31, 2027. Apply with cover letter and three writing samples to Devan Tasa at dtasa@tasamedia.ca

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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

TOWN OF QU'APPELLE COUNCIL PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to Section 123(2) The Municipalities Act

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF QU'APPELLE WILL AT THEIR REGULAR MEETING BE DISCUSSING THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

1. Rezoning Parcel C, Plan 102019586

TO BE HELD ON Thursday, October 8th, 2026, at 5:45pm in COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Dated this 18th day of September 2026.

Michelle Williamson,
Chief Administrative Officer

Legal Notices

LEGAL NOTICE

Declaration of Assignees' Aceeptance of the Land Warrant

Land Warrant number 4814 - 4815, issued on the Sixth day of November, in the year of Our Lord one thousand nine hundred and three, by the Federal Crown, acting through the Minister of the Department of the Interior, the Privy Council, and Governor General in Council, of the Dominion of Canada.

Know all men and women by these present:

That we, Dwight-Kelvin: Eisner and Mildred-Merle: Eisner do certify and declare that we bring up this Land Warrant in our names. Land so sought to be patented, and lawfully described and referenced under Land Warrant number 4814-4815, provincial records being The North Half of Section Three in the Twenty-eighth Township in the Sixth Range, West of the Second Meridian in the Provisional District of Assiniboia, in the North-West Territories, in Our Dominion of Canada, specifically within the above; [NE-3-28-6-W2, Parcel# 143955614] (159.87 acres).

(Said property was previously listed under converted title number 93Y10326, which is herein noted under necessity, and use of said number shall not constitute express or implied Consent to any entity in any manner whatsoever.)

No claim is made herein that the assignees have been assigned the entire tract of land described in the original Crown Grant made patent. This assignment is inclusive only of the above legal description.

The filing of this Declaration of Assignees' Acceptance of the Crown Grant made patent shall not deny or infringe on any right, privilege, or immunity of any other assignee to any other portion of land covered in the above described Land Warrant number 4814-4815.

If this duly certified Land Warrant is not challenged by a lawfully qualified party, having lawful claim, lien, debt, or other equitable interest, in a court of law, within thirty (30) days from the date of posting this Declaration, then the Land Warrant for the above described property shall be considered henceforth perfected in our names, Dwight-Kelvin: Eisner and Mildred-Merle: Eisner, and all future claims against this land shall be forever waived.

We, Dwight-Kelvin: Eisner and Mildred-Merle: Eisner do swear and state that the above is true, or believed by us to be true and correct, to the best of our ability and knowledge.

Dwight-Kelvin: Eisner Assignee
Mildred-Merle:Eisner Assignee

Attestation:
I, the undersigned, bear witness this 24th day of September, in the year of our Lord, two thousand and twenty-six, that the ones known to me as Dwight-Kelvin: Eisner and Mildred-Merle: Eisner did appear before me and, upon their solemn Affirmation, acknowledge that they signed this Declaration of Assignees' Acceptance of the Land Warrant number 4814-4815 as their free and voluntary act.

Notary:
Michele Wiwchar
RR 2
Canora, SK S0A 0L0
306-620-3323

LEGAL NOTICE

Declaration of Assignees' Acceptance of the Crown Grant made Patent

Crown Grant made patent fiat number 72435, issued on the First day of March, in the year of Our Lord one thousand nine hundred, by the Under-Secretary of State and the Deputy Minister of the Interior, of the Dominion of Canada.

Know all men and women by these present:

That we, Dwight-Kelvin: Eisner and Mildred-Merle: Eisner do certify and declare that we bring up this Crown Grant made patent in our names. Land so sought to be patented, and lawfully described and referenced under patent fiat number 72435, listed in Liber 133, Folio 7, provincial records being The South-East quarter of Section Three in the Twenty-eighth Township in the Sixth Range, West of the Second Meridian in the Provisional District of Assiniboia, in the North-West Territories, in Our Dominion of Canada, specifically within the above; [SE-3-28-6-W2, Parcel# 143955580] (160.14 acres).

(Said property was previously listed under converted title number 93Y10325, which is herein noted under necessity, and use of said number shall not constitute express or implied Consent to any entity in any manner whatsoever.)

No claim is made herein that the assignees have been assigned the entire tract of land described in the original Crown Grant made patent. This assignment is inclusive only of the above legal description.

The filing of this Declaration of Assignees' Acceptance of the Crown Grant made patent shall not deny or infringe on any right, privilege, or immunity of any other assignee to any other portion of land covered in the above described Crown Grant made patent fiat number 72435.

If this duly certified Land Patent is not challenged by a lawfully qualified party, having lawful claim, lien, debt, or other equitable interest, in a court of law, within thirty (30) days from the date of posting this Declaration, then the Land Patent for the above described property shall be considered henceforth perfected in our names, Dwight-Kelvin: Eisner and Mildred-Merle: Eisner, and all future claims against this land shall be forever waived.

We, Dwight-Kelvin: Eisner and Mildred-Merle: Eisner do swear and state that the above is true, or believed by us to be true and correct, to the best of our ability and knowledge.

Dwight-Kelvin: Eisner Assignee
Mildred-Merle: Eisner Assignee

Attestation:
I, the undersigned, bear witness this 24th day of September, in the year of our Lord, two thousand and twenty-six, that the ones known to me as Dwight-Kelvin: Eisner and Mildred-Merle: Eisner did appear before me and, upon their solemn Affirmation, acknowledge that they signed this Declaration of Assignees' Acceptance of the Crown Grant made patent fiat number 72435 as their free and voluntary act.

Notary:
Michele Wiwchar
RR 2
Canora, SK S0A 0L0
306-620-3323

LEGAL NOTICE

Declaration of Assignees' Acceptance of the Crown Grant made Patent

Crown Grant made patent Homestead number 87103, issued on the Twelfth day of March, in the year of Our Lord one thousand nine hundred and nine, by the Under-Secretary of State and the Deputy Minister of the Interior, of the Dominion of Canada.

Know all men and women by these present:

That we, Dwight-Kelvin: Eisner and Mildred-Merle: Eisner do certify and declare that we bring up this Crown Grant made patent in our names. Land so sought to be patented, and lawfully described and referenced under patent Homestead number 87103, listed in Liber 353, Folio 223, provincial records being The North-East quarter of Section Thirty-four in the Twenty-seventh Township in the Sixth Range, West of the Second Meridian in the Province of Saskatchewan, in Our Dominion of Canada, specifically within the above; [NE-34-27-6-W2, Parcel# 143956389] (160.19 acres).

(Said property was previously listed under converted title number 91Y10023, which is herein noted under necessity, and use of said number shall not constitute express or implied Consent to any entity in any manner whatsoever.)

No claim is made herein that the assignees have been assigned the entire tract of land described in the original Crown Grant made patent. This assignment is inclusive only of the above legal description.

The filing of this Declaration of Assignees' Acceptance of the Crown Grant made patent shall not deny or infringe on any right, privilege, or immunity of any other assignee to any other portion of land covered in the above described Crown Grant made patent Homestead number 87103.

If this duly certified Land Patent is not challenged by a lawfully qualified party, having lawful claim, lien, debt, or other equitable interest, in a court of law, within thirty (30) days from the date of posting this Declaration, then the Land Patent for the above described property shall be considered henceforth perfected in our names, Dwight-Kelvin: Eisner and Mildred-Merle: Eisner, and all future claims against this land shall be forever waived.

We, Dwight-Kelvin: Eisner and Mildred-Merle: Eisner do swear and state that the above is true, or believed by us to be true and correct, to the best of our ability and knowledge.

Dwight-Kelvin: Eisner Assignee
Mildred-Merle: Eisner Assignee

Attestation :
1, the undersigned, bear witness this 24th day of September, in the year of our Lord, two thousand and twenty-six, that the ones known to me as Dwight-Kelvin: Eisner and Mildred-Merle: Eisner did appear before me and, upon their solemn Affirmation, acknowledge that they signed this Declaration of Assignees' Acceptance of the Crown Grant made patent Homestead number 87103 as their free and voluntary act.

Notary:
Michele Wiwchar
RR 2
Canora, SK S0A 0L0
306-620-3323

Gardener's Corner

Autum splendour in a container: combining survivor plants

By Debbie Hayward
Grasslands News

The Yorkton and District Horticultural Society has their next meeting in October, but this is a 'members only' meeting. Visit our website at yorktonhort.ca to see current information of upcoming activities.

Many of us have cleaned up out flowerbeds and emptied our containers. But if there are some containers that we just couldn't bear to empty out because the plants still look so nice, here's a thought.

If we have containers with a plant here and a plant there, why not combine them into one glorious container of survivor plants, and enjoy them as a big, bountiful display for as long as they last? As I sit here with you, having a cup of tea, we still have not had frost. This might change by the time you are reading our notes. But if not, let's go for it and make an autumn splendor container.

Doesn't the idea take us back to spring, when we were just planting up our containers? The same principles will apply here. First, let's choose a great container, one that is large enough to hold our end-of-season beauties. Fill it with soil, as per usual, or at least loosen up the existing soil in there, because it will be packed and condensed after a full summer of growing.

Next, let's go through our other containers and select which plants are going into our new container. We're looking for the most robust and the most colorful. This container isn't going to last long, so let's go for the 'wow' factor. We should make sure we choose a variety of plants: some that are taller, some that possibly trail over the edge, and good fillers with strong stems and lots of color for the middle.

When moving the plants, be careful not to disrupt the roots more than necessary. Yes, these plants are sturdier than they were in the spring, and their roots are more developed, but any handling will shock them to some degree. So, try and keep a good root ball intact.

Next, transplanting – put the tallest plants at the back or in the middle, then the medium sized filler plants in front, and the trailing plants at the very edge of the container. We can pack them in quite cozily, because they are not really going to be growing in size at this point of the season. (But skip down a few lines and see why we might want to leave a bit of space in our plantings).

After they are planted, water them well. If we have too many plants for one container, we can make a nice grouping of various sized containers, perhaps three: small, medium and large. This isn't like spring planting, so we don't need or want a whole plethora of containers. This planting is meant to make a statement of beauty at the end of the season, combining the best of what we have left.

Now, for some extra fun, we can add in a few finishing touches. This is what I meant by leaving a bit of space. Perhaps we might want to add in a pumpkin, or a collection of interesting gourds. Maybe a bundle of decorative corn, tied together with a wide 'ribbon' of burlap?

If we have corn in our gardens, we might want to bundle together a few dried stems and have them as the 'height' feature in our container? This would work best by putting a tall bamboo stick in first, then anchoring the corn stalks to that. Add in autumnal 'container jewellery' and we'll be delighted every time we look at our interesting container.

Have fun with that container and have a good week!

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PUBLIC NOTICE TOWN OF PILOT BUTTE
Notice to Review a Discretionary Use

Pursuant to Section 55 of The Planning and Development Act, 2007, the Council of the Town of Pilot Butte gives notice to review a Discretionary Use Application, and the details are as follows:

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT: A New Single-Detached Bungalow with a Legal Secondary Suite in the Basement.

Civic Address: 1250 Aaron Drive within the Willow Ridge Area, Pilot Butte

Legal Address: Lot 10, Block 43, Plan 102399150 Ext. 0.

The affected land is highlighted in red in the attached figure.

INTENTIONS
The applicant is proposing to construct a new Single-Detached Bungalow with a Legal Secondary Suite (self-contained dwelling unit) in the basement which is intended to accommodate visiting family members or relatives.

PUBLIC INSPECTION
Any person may inspect the proposed Discretionary Use Application at the Town Office, located at 222 Diamond Place, Town of Pilot Butte, during regular office hours: 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, excluding statutory holidays. Copies of the proposed Discretionary Use Application are available for inspection at the Town Office.

PUBLIC HEARING
Council will hold a public hearing on October 13, at 7:00 PM, in the Town's Council Chambers to hear any person or group that wants to comment on the proposed Discretionary Use Application. Council will also consider written comments received at the Public Hearing or delivered to the undersigned at the Town Office before the hearing. All written submission should be forwarded with your full name and address to the Town Office or email to planner@pilotbutte.ca no later than October 8, 2026, at 2:00 PM.

For further information, please contact the Town Planner at 306-781-6250.

Dated this September 21, 2026, at the Town of Pilot Butte, Saskatchewan.

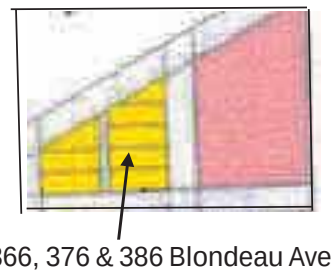
Felicia Opoku, Municipal Planner

Town of Fort Qu'Appelle
PUBLIC NOTICE

Public notice is herby given that the Council of the Town of Fort Qu'Appelle intends to adopt a bylaw under *The Planning and Development Act, 2007* to amend Bylaw No #18-2022 known as the Zoning Bylaw.

INTENT:
The proposed bylaw will re-zone Lots 1-5, Block 13, Plan AN4277 from R-Residential to C2-Highway Commercial.

AFFECTED LAND
The affected land is legal described as Lots 1-5, Block 13, Plan AN4277 shown in the image below:



356, 366, 376 & 386 Blondeau Ave S

REASON
The owner desires to building a shop building for his business.

PUBLIC INSPECTION
Any person may inspect the bylaw at the municipal office at 136 Boundary Avenue S, Fort Qu'Appelle, SK, between 8:00 AM and 12:00 PM and 12:30 PM and 4:00 PM, excluding statutory holidays. Copies are available at cost.

PUBLIC HEARING
Council will hold a public hearing on October 22nd at 7:00 PM at 136 Boundary Avenue S to hear any person or group that wants to comment on the proposed bylaw. Council will also consider written comments received at the hearing or delivered to the undersigned at the municipal office before the hearing.

Issued at Town of Fort Qu'Appelle on September 25, 2026

Don McLeod, CAO,
Town of Fort Qu'Appelle

Draft horse foal show coming to Melv. AgriPark

By GNG Staff
Grasslands News

Draft horse enthusiasts from across the region will have an opportunity to gather in Melville next weekend when the Saskatchewan Clydesdale Association hosts its annual Foal and Junior Showmanship Show.

The event will be held Saturday, Oct. 10 at the Melville AgriPark, with an all-breed draft foal show beginning at 2 p.m. Junior showmanship classes will follow, giving younger handlers an opportunity to take part in the event.

While organized by the Saskatchewan Clydesdale Association, the foal show is open to all breeds of draft horses.

Spectators are welcome to attend, with coffee and donuts provided during the event along with door prizes. A catered supper will follow the show.

Entries are $50 per foal and include two supper tickets. Those planning to attend the supper are asked to RSVP by Oct. 8. Entries and supper tickets can be arranged through Jared Martin at 306-795-7399 or by e-transfer to the association. Tickets for just the supper are $15.

The Saskatchewan Clydesdale Association's 2026 executive is led by President Jared Martin and vice-president Michelle Stein, with Amanda Van De Kerckhove serving as secretary-treasurer.

The board also includes regional directors Daryl Clark for Region 1, Mikhaela Thrasher for Region 2 and Bill Aulie for Region 3.

The annual event provides an opportunity to showcase young draft horses while also encouraging the next generation of exhibitors through the junior showmanship portion of the program.

Youth charged in Star Blanket CN homicide back in court

By Ryan Kiedrowski
Grasslands News

A youth charged with second-degree murder in connection with the death of an adult man on Star Blanket Cree Nation appeared in Fort Qu'Appelle Provincial Court on Sept. 17, where the matter was adjourned until Sept. 28.

The youth cannot be named because of restrictions under the Youth Criminal Justice Act.

The charge stems from the death of an adult male on the Star Blanket Cree Nation earlier this year. Just after 12:05 a.m. on Feb. 18, File Hills First Nations Police Service responded to a report of a homicide on Star Blanket Cree Nation.

"File Hills First Nations Police Service officers located a deceased adult male at a residence. They arrested a male teen at the scene," RCMP said in a release. "As File Hills First Nations Police Service does not have a Major Crimes branch, they engaged Saskatchewan RCMP to take full carriage of the investigation."

Police say the victim and accused are known to each other but did not provide further details on the relationship.

The youth was released from custody on June 25, following a bail hearing.

New court date for Saltcoats man accused of attempted murder of child

By Ryan Kiedrowski
Grasslands News

A 42-year-old Saltcoats man, facing an attempted murder charge in connection with an assault on a child, appeared in Yorkton King's Bench on Sept. 18. Frederick Stewart appeared in Yorkton King's Bench where his matter was adjourned to Oct. 9.

The charge stems from an incident on Feb. 1, 2025, when police received a report of a serious assault on Waterloo Road in Yorkton at 2:20 p.m.

"Officers and EMS responded. Investigation determined an adult male assaulted a child, who is under the age of six, who was transported to hospital with serious injuries," RCMP said in a release.

Stewart was arrested at the scene and faces charges of aggravated assault, assault by choking and failing to comply with a probation order.

The charges have not been proven in court, and Stewart is presumed innocent unless proven guilty.

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Friends and Neighbours

Taking a virtual walk around the neighbourhood

By Allison Kydd
Grasslands News

ALLISON KYDD | GRASSLANDS NEWS

Sharing their plants

The Indian Head annual plant exchange was held Saturday, Sept. 26 and saw lots of people coming to see what plants were available to spruce up their own flower beds next year.

This warm weather has been a boon for gardeners, a chance to tackle all those neglected outside jobs and for more produce to ripen on the vine. I also hope it means farmers can get back on schedule after that stretch of rainy days. Perhaps it helped put out the last of the forest fires, and that's a good thing, but the timing was unfortunate. It's sad when what might be good for some is hurting others, and it makes it difficult to know what to wish for. I do know that the warm weather, chittering birds and red-gold leaves are tempting me away from my desk. If I wait too long, today's lusty wind is likely to blow off more leaves, as it has with the Ohio Buckeye just outside my office window. So out I go – in my imagination at least.

As I start my virtual walk, I can't help noting two – no three – houses for sale on our block of Boyle Street. It reminds me of the year the Mallorys and the Wotherspoons both had "for sale" signs up at the same time. Many things have changed since then. Glen Wotherspoon's death was sudden, but Monica has remained in town, and the Mallorys have settled into their new, smaller and more manageable house. But just as we felt a little like orphans then, we are also anticipating the loss of these other neighbours. Somehow, my discovery over the last few years that I am not a very faithful neighbour makes departures even harder to take. If I haven't taken time to get to know someone and now they are contemplating leaving, the opportunity is gone. For sale signs also remind me that people's lives can change rather quickly, which makes it even more important to value our friends and neighbours while they are still available to us.

This time, all three houses are large heritage homes, though one is rather larger than the others and used to contain three or more suites. Daniel and Jill (then with two children) first moved in about three years ago. They had a housewarming complete with jazz singer and cello and were full of plans for the house. It was a large party in spite of the rain. Fortunately, there were lots of rooms and a large garage to escape into. Neither did the long tables of refreshments appear to suffer, though it may have been tricky for the musicians when they had to quickly get their equipment under cover.

Now these new neighbours are a family of five, and they have new plans. We hope they can still realize them in Indian Head, but whether they go or stay, we wish them well.

The sign on the Huntley house at 903 Boyle is also new, but the family has been here much longer, so it is doubly strange to think of them leaving. Their lovely Victorian-styled home was featured in the Heritage Tour booklet of 2011. Linda Kort, who wrote the entry, commented then on the connections between the various people who had lived or worked at the house.

The builder was A. M. Fraser, and the first owners were Henry George Wilberforce Wilson and Elizabeth Edwards Wilson. Mr. Wilson had a law office in downtown Indian Head. He and Elizabeth must have travelled quite a lot, as it is known that Martin and Elizabeth Marshall tended their grounds when they were away. These included the property next door (where the Royers' house now stands, presumably) and a carriage house.

In 1956, Mary and John Edward Glass bought the house, followed by Leonard S. (Sonny) and Edith Anne (Edie) Huntley in 1965. As it happened, Edie had once worked for the Glasses and Mary Glass, for the Wilsons.

After Sonny Huntley died in 2009 and then Edie moved to a nursing home in Wolseley, their daughters Maureen and Sherry continued in residence at 903 Boyle until Maureen's death in 2024.

The third house for sale on our block is the former Wotherspoon house, but it has been for sale for some time, so we're hoping the occupants don't really want to move.

If my walk takes me a couple of blocks past the Huntleys, and I then turn right, I might find my friend Sofia Lygouriatis at home. We have a lot of catching up to do, as she just returned three weeks ago from a four-month visit to Greece. Yiannis, her son, and his wife, Jennifer, were with her for part of the time, she says, but even after they left, she wasn't lonely, as she has nieces and nephews and cousins and lots of friends there as well.

"There were so many people to see," she says.

It was her first visit back to Greece in eight years. Judging from the photos I've seen of sparkling water, bougainvillea in bloom and white houses and ancient temples gleaming in the sun, I think we should feel fortunate she returned to Indian Head. It doesn't seem that long ago that she and her husband, Nikolaos, were raising their family here and running the very popular J. V. Restaurant on the site of what is now Trifon's Pizza.

If I had turned left on Eden instead of going further down Boyle, I would have come to St. Andrew's United Church on the corner of Buxton. The church's annual clothing sale is underway. It began on Tuesday afternoon, and will continue from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day until Saturday, October 3. Apparently opening day was "a zoo," but there are still bargains to be found.

I asked Irene Hilts – she and Lee Hrabia were hard at work putting donations on hangers when I peeked into the C. E. Centre – how long the church has been holding clothing sales and she guessed at least fifty years, though she asked me not to quote her. Sorry, Irene.

St. Andrew's Church is also holding a Newcomers Tea, on Saturday, Oct. 24, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Lynn Railton, the church administrator, is in charge of organizing the event and she reminded me that everyone is welcome, not just newcomers. It, like the clothing sale and the many other events hosted by the church, offers a chance to visit and share stories with neighbours and friends, both old and new.

A few blocks further south on Buxton – southeast if you want to be particular, but we all know directions are confusing in Indian Head, and it's all the fault of Major Bell – you won't be far from the Heritage Club, where fall programming has already started.

This year, Forever in Motion classes begin on Monday, October 5, from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Linda Orban and Linda Thorseth will again take turns leading the group, with sessions on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays, except on statutory holidays.

"The doors open at 9 a.m., and everyone is welcome," says Orban. She also reminds me the program is for both men and women and is offered free of charge. Participants are asked to take out a $25 membership in the Heritage Club, however.

The hour-long sessions include 20 to 25 minutes of cardio plus specific stretching and strengthening exercises that might make use of weights and exercise balls. As in any exercise regimen, participants can choose to avoid specific exercises if they cause pain; however, it is absolutely essential that participants enjoy themselves.

Speaking of enjoying ourselves, the plant exchange at the community garden on Saturday, Sept. 26 went well. I was one of those who arrived empty handed, but I certainly didn't go home that way. Neither was I the only one. In fact, one man skidded up and practically jumped out of his truck in his eagerness to check out the display.

"Is this where you get the free perennials?" he asked. He went on to explain that he was running late, but his wife had sent him on the errand and he didn't want to disappoint her. A few minutes later he was off again, and I'm sure his wife was grateful for his efforts.

Besides bringing home-grown pears for everyone to taste, Gord Howe had been commissioned to get precisely 10 perennials to plant in a flowerbed (beds?) at the Bell Barn. A little later, I noticed him loaded down with two of Hélène Stewart's fern-leafed peonies as well as phlox, daylilies and other treasures. I think Hélène brought about a dozen peonies as well as many other plants, and I too was a beneficiary of her generosity.

"Do you know how much these cost if you buy them at a nursery?" someone asked when they saw the peonies.

Everyone agreed that the peonies were a tremendous bargain. Not that we want to take business away from our two favourite plant places, U & K Greenhouses north of Indian Head and T & S Nursery and Greenhouse in Qu'Appelle – we'll all be shopping there as usual in the spring. However, sharing our bounty in the fall when we have to divide our perennials anyway simply makes sense.

Not far from the community garden is Golden Prairie, which I understand will be the scene of a hundredth birthday celebration on Friday, Oct. 2. I'm also told that there will be roses and a very special delivery man. Sarah Bray, recreation director at Golden Prairie, tells me Barb is a longtime resident whose actual birthday is on Saturday, Oct. 3.

As I return home on my virtual tour, I pass the home of Erin and Doug Lamb and family, and I regret again that I missed the Open Mic at The Gallery on Sunday, September 27. The multi-talented Joni Lamb was one of those featured this month, and seeing her on stage with her mother and the Gallery Gang would have been a treat.

As I go back to my desk, I reflect that whether one travels virtually or for real, the beautiful fall weather and the town's many activities are even better when shared.

As always, contact akyddwrt@sasktel.net if you have questions, corrections or suggestions for future columns.

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