

Plain & Valley

Covering Southeast Saskatchewan and Southwest Manitoba

May 2010 • Volume 3, Number 5

Internet Café brings the world to Ochapowace

BY MONIQUE MCKAY

Hip-hop music reverberates throughout the vividly coloured room as half a dozen faces stare intently at incandescent screens. There are a couple of adults in the room, but mostly it's teenagers on Facebook or checking their Hotmail accounts. This could be any internet café in the city.

Except it isn't. This is the Ochapowace Cyber Café, the first—and so far the only—high-speed internet café on a First Nation community in Canada.

The project began in 2002 in partnership with Industry Canada. It won an award in 2003 for Innovation and Technology. During the past few years, the café has struggled with funding—there is no reliable, continuous source of operating funds for the café, which people access free of charge—but somehow, thanks to determined community support and funds that seem to eventually come together, the café is still up and running.

Located in the Ochapowace Education Mall, the café is wedged between the daycare centre and the seniors' drop-in centre. "It's a bit of a joke," says facilitator Justin Bear, smiling. "You start out at the daycare, you hang out at the café, and you end up at the drop-in centre. You just move down the line!"

The café is usually open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and after hours there is a focus on youth and young adult programs. There are movie nights and pool tournaments. "Some of the kids are really good; they can get quite competitive," Justin says proudly. Gym nights hosted by the café at Kakisiwew School, where kids play volleyball, basketball, and floor hockey, can draw a crowd of up to fifty youth during the long winter months.

Justin teaches a music program, instructing interested people in guitar, drums, and bass. The youth learn modern music, and elders teach traditional music as well.

Although Ochapowace youth take



Monique McKay photos

Above: Joanna Isaac accesses high-speed Internet on Ochapowace First Nation, the only Canadian reserve with an internet café.

Below from left: 9-year-old Payton Isaac frequents the café "every day." The program is facilitated by Justin Bear, who also teaches youth music after hours. Little Ronnie Fayant is "my youngest drum student," jokes Bear.

computer classes as part of their education at the school, you "can't do the fun stuff" there, as Justin puts it.

Robert Cote usually teaches information processing, computer science, and indigenous studies at Kakisiwew. He has taught in two other first nations communities and sees a drastic difference in the students on Ochapowace.

"Usually at the places I've taught the students never had the internet at home—these guys are far more advanced in their computer literacy, their ability to research; they know how to access and use what's on the net."

"The Cyber Café is very beneficial for students because when I closed my computer lab the kids would run for the café," Cote continues. "Computers are always changing; it was amazing to me what the students were learning; as an educator I was learning from them. Technology can be positive and can be negative too, but the technology and the knowledge that comes with it, the positive far outweighs the negative. What they learn at the Cyber Café comes back to the school." Cote is proud of the high quality projects the students at Kakisiwew are producing, especially the multi-media projects.

The café was originally created because only dial-up connections or pricey satellite connections are available on Ochapowace. "Two hundred dollars a month is a heavy price for an individual" Justin says of the cost of bringing high-speed internet into a home.

People living on reserve are often at a disadvantage technologically. The isolation and the cost serve to cut young aboriginal people off from the evolving global culture that is based around technology and media, and is becoming so important culturally and socially to youth world-wide. Thanks to the Ochapowace Cyber Café, which has enjoyed strong endorsement from the Chief and council, the youth on this reserve can participate fully in that emerging global culture.

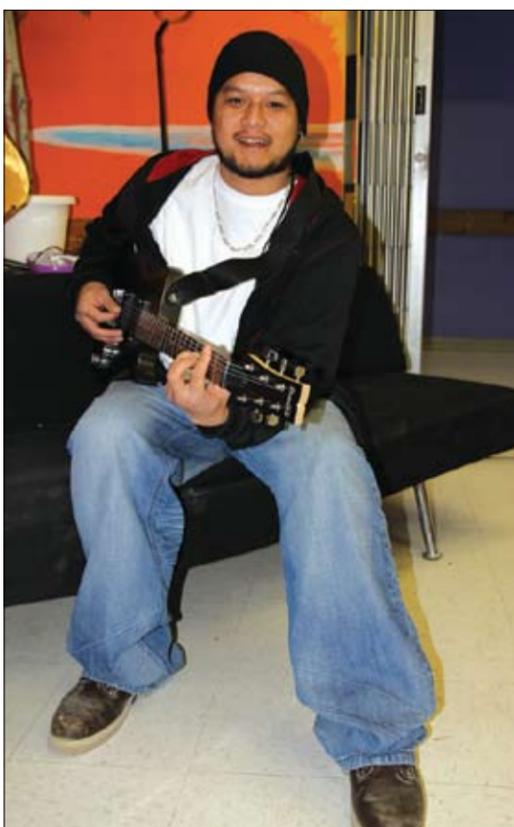
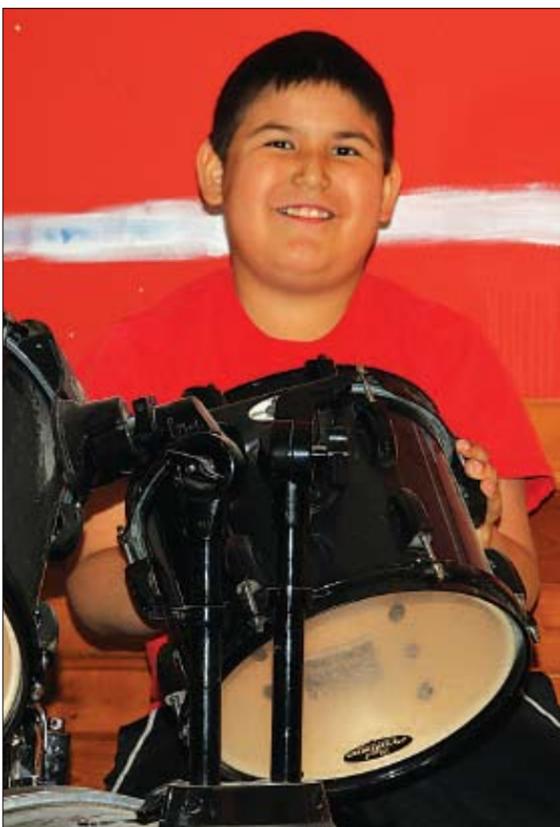
People usually access the café for "job resources and social networking" says Justin. "We train and get people hired from here; computer skills, administrative skills, resumé's, cover letters."

"Basically, it's about exposing our people to technology that they wouldn't be able to access otherwise."

Heather Bear holds the education portfolio on council. "It's definitely has a positive impact," she said of the technology people on Ochapowace can access freely. "Not only for our young people, but for our parents and elders." Heather pointed out that while the kids get some computer education in school, the café educates people of all ages. She also is excited about a Virtual Cree program. The Café recently acquired an LCD projector and a smartboard. They plan to use the equipment to hold after-hours language classes for people who want to learn Cree.

A program will be accessed online, and elders will come in to help with pronunciation and context. "Accessing technology is letting us maximize our abilities to get our language back. You have technology and oral tradition embracing each other to fortify our culture."

Continued on page 2



Cyber café helps with computer literacy

Continued from front

Heather talked about the community's plans for the future of the café. "We want to become more advanced digitally; we have our own editing suite, and we want to do more production." Hopefully a digital video camera will soon be added to the café's assets, and the groundwork has been laid

for a community radio station. "We're gathering the equipment and training our youth," said Heather. "We want to engage them in multimedia and communication; when they consider their career paths I believe this will really help."

Heather grew serious. "We have a lot of awareness about the dangers around

the Internet; cyber-bullying, the negative aspects of Facebook and Twitter. We teach strategies to use the Internet in a respectful manner." Although Heather acknowledged the café isn't fully funded, she said, "Bear Claw Community Development Corporation and the Marieval Enterprise Centre have been

really good friends of the program. Enough to keep the community access going."

Since the café opened, Justin estimates 30,000 people have walked through its doors. Visitors from other First Nations communities always make a point of dropping in at the café. "Post-secondary students who are on the reserve and have to get a report in will use our services," said Bear.

School gets out, and within minutes every computer bay is occupied. "This is actually a pretty quiet day," observes Bear.

During the interview he's buzzing around the small café. He helps one young man find what he's looking for online, and procures an ipod cord for a young woman. One of the four or five children playing in the café asks for drumsticks, and a pool game starts up.

"This is an awesome place to work. I love working here," grins Justin, who took a year of computer science at university.

Sometimes the café actually serves coffee. The space is equipped with a small commercial kitchen, which Justin and the café clients would love to see up and running again. However, because of patchy funding, the kitchen is currently closed.

"Sometimes we have funding for two or three part-time positions, for say six months. And then no funding for a month or two. And right now, it's just me and the volunteers." Justin shrugs it off good-naturedly. "It'd be nice to have a reliable funding source, then maybe the restaurant could actually generate a little money for the café."

For now, the little kitchen hosts the occasional baking class.

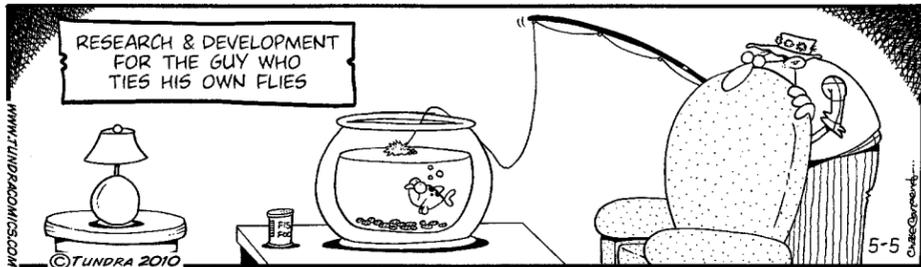
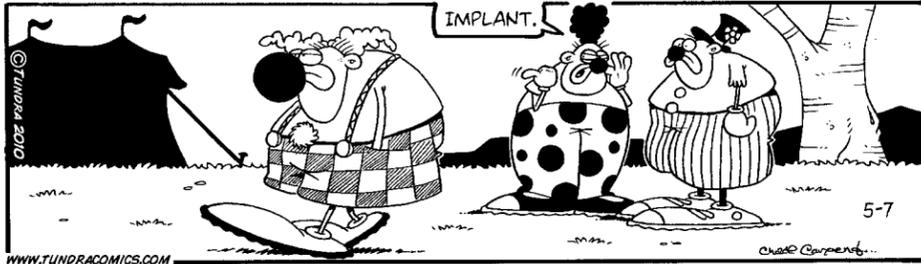
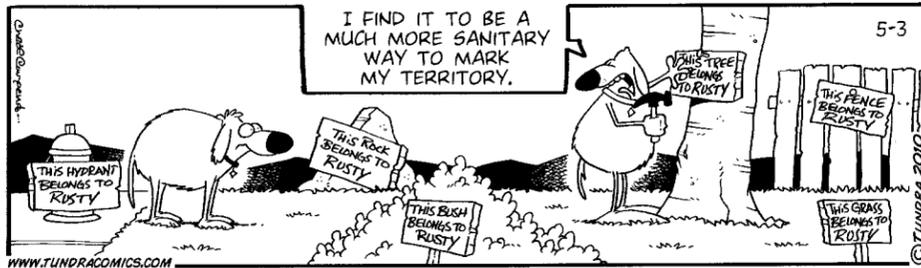
Justin considers himself a youth advocate. "I try to keep them busy. Run events for them as often as possible." Justin grew up on the reserve and knows first-hand about some of the challenges facing young people. Through music and education, he has overcome some of the obstacles he's had to face, and now it's important to him to act as a resource to other young people in his community. "This gives them a location that's theirs," Justin says of the café.

"A sense of ownership; a place that's theirs."

Of course, it isn't only teenagers on Facebook at the café. Orval Bear runs an auto-wrecking business, and is cruising SGI's website for parts. "Before they started this up I spent a lot of time on the phone," the man said. "Since they started this up, it's been a lot easier."

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Blake Berglund (above) from Kennedy, Sask., and singer/songwriter Kerri Senkow will be two of the performers at Montmartre's All Folk'd Up Festival July 16-18.



Montmartre gearing up for All Folk'd Up

Montmartre's first annual All Folk'd Up Festival promises to be an entertainment-packed weekend, as 14 professional acts from throughout Canada have been booked.

Organizer Marie Anne Fournier says this year's festival will feature a wide range of musical styles, so there will be something for everyone.

"We've used the term 'folk' rather loosely, so we have some acts on the rock and alternative side, while others have more of a country sound," said Fournier. "What we've done is focus on Saskatchewan talent, so we believe festival goers will be able to relate to all of the musicians who will be in Montmartre on July 16-18."

The All Folk'd Up Festival, being held in Mont-

martre's Kemoca Park, will kick off on Friday night with a cabaret by Harder Faster, a Regina-based rock band. Saturday will feature music all day, starting at 11 a.m. and ending at midnight. Sunday's entertainment runs from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Children's activities will also be part of the festival, with things like crafts, singing parties and face painting keeping the young and young-at-heart engaged.

One featured group will be Darrel and Saskia, a Canadian musical duo who sing and play contemporary and original folk songs. Darrel is a veteran performer and sought-after studio musician, whose debut album "Family Tree" features guest appearances by Darby Mills and Daniel Powter. Saskia has shared

a stage with such notables as Valdy and Ian Tyson. While touring throughout Europe, Western Canada, the United States and Mexico, she turned out four albums.

Singer/songwriter Kerri Senkow also joins the folk festival lineup, bringing her heartfelt vocals to the Kemoca Park stage. She is currently producing her debut CD which is set to be released this summer. To hear Senkow before the festival, people can visit

the Rock Creek bar and grill in Regina for the "Live At Rock Creek Acoustic Jam" on the first Thursday of every month.

Blake Berglund from Kennedy, Sask. is coming to the Montmartre folk festival stage as well. Berglund has shared the stage with such famous acts as Emerson Drive and Trooper.

Berglund's self-published song "Jesus Christ and Johnny Cash" was recorded and released by

Canadian Idol runner-up, Tyler Lewis.

"It's really so inspiring to see all of the talent that is headed to Montmartre, and we're sure the performers will love the atmosphere that will be created by our welcoming community," said Fournier.

The deadline for early bird tickets has been extended to May 15, with weekend passes being set at \$45 for adults (\$55 after May 15), \$20 for children ages six to 12 and five-and-

under free. Ticket sales have been capped at 1,000.

"We'd be thrilled if we could sell out this year, and then we'd work at growing the festival in the future," said Fournier.

Other acts performing at the All Folk'd Up Festival will be: Cheyne Kohl, Tyler Gilbert, Ariel Mura, Jayne Galloway, The Relative, Let There Be Thermin, Lorri Solomon, Winoski and Horn, Ingrid Gratin, children's performer Side-show Sid, and more.

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Seventh annual Perogy Run set for May 29

It's all about rural hospitality at Centre 48's Perogy Run.

With Saturday, May 29 marking the seventh annual Perogy Run, organizers say their main goal is to make the 1K/5K/10K walk, bike and run as welcoming and friendly as possible.

"Our secret weapon is our food," said Centre 48 chairperson Christalee Froese. "We start off the morning with homemade cinnamon buns and coffee and we end the event with a homemade perogy lunch—that's our way of showing the runners, walkers and bikers how much we appreciate their efforts."

For the past three years, Simon Kostic of Regina has been attending the Perogy Run which is held in Montmartre annually to raise funds for the region's arts and education centre.

"I first ran three years ago . . . we enjoyed every minute of it, from the start of the race right through to the last delicious bite of gourmet perogies and sausages. The organizers even gave us the leftovers to take home. One of my running buddies was happily eating his leftovers for a few days afterward," said the Regina runner, who is registered for this year's Perogy Run again.

"We were so impressed that we talked about the event for months."

Shauna Hoffart, a high school science teacher at

Montmartre School, has been the key ingredient in keeping the Perogy Run participants happy. Hoffart bakes all of the homemade cinnamon buns which are served hot while people register for the race.

"I contribute the home baking because that is one way I can help and put smiles on peoples' faces," said Hoffart, who is only in her 20s, but has mastered the fine art of cinnamon-bun making. "Bought cinnamon buns just aren't as tasty as my grandma's recipe. I'm making about 200 cinnamon buns this year, but I'll be helped by my loving boyfriend Brian Perras, so it should go smoothly."

The Perogy Run has become a family affair for many. One farming couple has been training together regularly so they can complete the 5K, while their Grade 4 daughter will bike, and their Grade 11 daughter will lead runners through the course on her horse.

"It's important as parents that we model regular exercise for our kids, so the Perogy Run is perfect for showing our kids what a great experience being part of a fitness event can be."

The Perogy Run is Centre 48's only fundraiser, with all money from the event being used to bring in music instructors and to pay for the coordination of classes like yoga, piano, guitar, sewing, wood



Last year, runner Ted Jaleta raced a horse as part of Centre 48's Perogy run.

working, painting, and of course, running.

"Right now we have 30 kids taking music lessons and they come from various towns in the region (Wolseley, Odessa, Fillmore, Kipling and Montmartre). Without this run,

classes like piano, guitar, voice, flute and kinderkids music could not happen. Everyone who participates in the Perogy Run should know that they're making a huge difference in the lives of these kids," said Froese.

To register for the Perogy

Run, or to order pledge forms to raise money for the run, people can call Centre 48 at 424-2166. Online registration takes place at: www.events.runningroom.com/site/?raceId=5294

"Without the funds raised at the run, Centre

48 could not operate, so we're asking everyone to consider the \$40 registration fee (which includes homemade cinnamon buns for breakfast and a perogy lunch) as their contribution to keeping Centre 48 financially strong," said Froese.

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Using wood to repair bones

It's easy to not think very much about your bones. After all, they're securely hidden away inside your body, not visible, except as hard lumps beneath your skin.

Funny thing, though: once you break one, it's hard to think about anything else.

When first I wrote about bones back in a 1993 instalment of this column, I told the story of my own broken-bone experience, for which I blame my big brother, Dwight (mainly because it was his fault).

I was seven years old and he was 12. We were both inside a big cardboard box that had held a refrigerator. For some reason, we'd decided it was fun to roll down the back steps inside this box. And it was fun, right up until Dwight's friend from down the street jumped on top of the box. Inside, my brother was on top of my arm, which was up against the steps, and I was suddenly the startled owner of an L-shaped wrist.

My indignant initial reaction (I tried to say, "Now look what you've done," but it came out more like "Glub-leulp!") gave way to an intensely personal curiosity about bones. "Someday," I vowed, "I will write science columns about them!"

This particular vow-fulfillment column was prompted by the report of a new procedure to turn blocks of wood, of all things, into artificial bones.

Developed by scientists at the Instituto di Scienza e Tecnologia dei Materiali Ceramici in Faenza, near Bologna, Italy, the wood-derived bone substitute promises to allow live bones to heal faster and more securely after a break than the metal and ceramic implants that are currently used.

It makes sense, because if you've ever seen a cross-section of a bone—there's one at the Saskatchewan Science Centre, if you'd like to run down and have a look—you will have noticed that, far from being solid, it's quite porous.

As I noted in that original column all those years ago,



Edward Willett

"We think of bones as hard, dead matter, like hair or fingernails, but they're actually organs consisting of living cells embedded in a matrix of calcium phosphate and other calcium minerals, held together by collagen, the tough fibrous protein we also use to make ligaments, tendons and skin. Bone tissue constantly renews itself . . . dissolving old tissue and . . . depositing new tissue."

That's why broken bones can heal themselves. But when titanium is used as a bone implant, bone can't interact with it. Instead, the titanium is simply encapsulated in fibrous tissue. Nor is it practical to introduce pores into the titanium: that weakens it to the point where it could break, inflicting more damage.

Wood, however, like bone, is porous. Bone tissue can interact with the new wood-based substitute bone, growing right into it, along with blood vessels, nerves and more.

Titanium and ceramic implants can also damage bone simply because they're so much harder than it. Whereas natural bone flexes slightly (and that stress actually strengthens the bone), the harder, less flexible implants can apply so much stress to a particular area that the bone

snaps.

So how do you go about turning wood into something approximating bone?

The process begins with a block of wood (rattan works best). It's heated until nothing remains of it but pure carbon (i.e., charcoal). The charcoal is then sprayed with calcium, which creates calcium carbide, then heated further under intense pressure and treated with a phosphate solution. After about 10 days, the wood has become a bone-like material.

The cost? About \$850 per block, which provides enough material, on average, for one bone implant. Virtually any size or shape can be created.

Dr. Anna Tampiere, leader of the research team, says the new material is strong enough to take the heavy loads bodies place on it, and durable enough that, unlike existing bone substitutes, it will never need replacing.

The bone substitute has been implanted into a flock of sheep. X-rays show that, indeed, the sheep's bones have migrated into the wood substitute. With time, says Tampiere, "you don't even see the join."

Human tests are probably still about five years away, but so far there has been no sign of the sheep's bodies rejecting the new material, raising hope that this new process could give us a natural, cheap and effective replacement for bones.

Bonus: these implants won't set off metal detectors at airports.

Edward Willett is a freelance writer in Regina, Saskatchewan.

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Evergreens, Cedars, Junipers

TIP: Mulch around cedars, junipers and evergreens helps maintain moisture and keep soil cool, especially during warm stretches in summer.

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Rather than wrapping evergreens to protect them from winter sun and drying winds, install a burlap wall on either side of the plant. Ensure adequate air circulation. The burlap should not touch the foliage.

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Ed James photo

Some of the abstract colored backgrounds scanned from original painting by Vivian Paschke of Elkhorn that have a butterfly placed over the top of it to create a 3-D effect.



Ed James photo

People take in some of the over 100 pieces of art at the Virden Art Club Spring Show, Tea and Bake Sale.

Virden-area artists display their talents

BY ED JAMES
Twenty-three members of the Virden Art Club recently put on a display of their work at their annual Spring Show, Tea and Bake Sale.

The event brought in over 100 people to view the variety of mixed mediums of art, from classic/traditional styles to modern computer assisted designs. The crowd of all ages came to view the display

and to enjoy light refreshments, with the chance to take home some fresh baking that was on sale as a club fundraiser. Art club president Ardith Duffield said that the spring

show was a showcase of the wonderful talent in the community and area. "We meet every Tuesday afternoon at the Virden Youth Centre from October to May, learning from each

other," she says. "We paint and create in many mediums, such as oil, acrylics, and watercolors. New this year was web spray on watercolor paper. "Art is important to each

of us to be creative, to enjoy and to share the company of other talented people." She was very pleased with the turnout for the show they had all worked so hard to present.

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Living Skies Come Alive

Park board planning second fireworks competition

BY KEVIN WEEDMARK

The Moosomin Regional Park will host the second annual Living Skies Come Alive Fireworks Competition at Moosomin Lake this summer.

The fireworks competition attracted more than 8,000 people to the park last summer, and organizers have an even bigger show planned for this year.

Janice Walker of the park board said she is still hearing positive comments about last year's show.

"I'm still getting comments," she said. "I had a fellow call from the Mainprize park (near Estevan). He said he's hearing comments over there and he's wondering what we did and how we did it. They had heard that the fireworks were just fantastic and they want to do something like it for their 100th anniversary."

She said a lot of people have been asking about the plans for this year.

"I have had emails and phone calls already," she said. "People are planning their family holidays around the fireworks, inquiring when they are."

The event attracted a large number of spectators last year.

"We had approximately 8,000 people through the gate last year," said Walker. "There were 4,000 to 4,500 a day coming through the gate, and that doesn't include people camping, those were just people coming through for the fireworks."

"We had people from Saskatoon staying at the bed and breakfast in Wolseley because they couldn't get rooms any closer."

She said the feedback from last year's event was all positive.

"The feedback was fantastic," she said. "Everybody thought it was very well organized."

The committee had a shuttle bus running from a parking area at the top of the

hill down to the viewing area at the beach. As well, Taylor Charters ran buses from town both nights.

"We've learned a few things. We learned that we need a few more volunteers, probably 100 volunteers in total."

She said the event was a lot easier to coordinate thanks to the help of a large number of sponsors.

"We feel we could not do this without the support of all the sponsors," she said.

In addition to the two nights of fireworks, there will be races, games, and sandcastle building for the kids, an inflatable midway, barbecue suppers both nights, a pancake breakfast Sunday morning, and a Living Skies Idol contest one night.

"The idol contest went really well last year," said Walker. "We did very well. We have a lot of talent in this area."

The budget for the fireworks competi-

tors will be increased this year.

"Last year, we let them have \$20,000, and we're increasing it to \$35,000 this year, so it will be bigger and better."

The fireworks competition will again feature Ruggieri Fireworks of Regina and Archangels of Winnipeg.

Regional Park board member Bruce Easton said the first fireworks competition went even better than expected last year, which is why the board decided to run the competition again this year and would like to make it an annual event.

"It's an appreciation weekend," he said. "It is our only fundraiser, and it worked out as a good fundraiser last year. It was kind of a trial and error thing, and it was a success so that's why we're going ahead with it again this year."

"It is a lot of work; it takes a lot of organization. We're open for volunteers of any kind."

Living Skies Come Alive

Second annual fireworks competition

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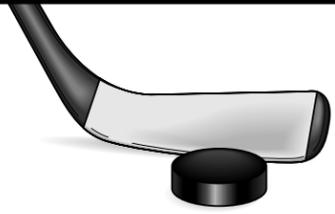
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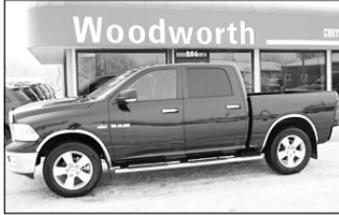
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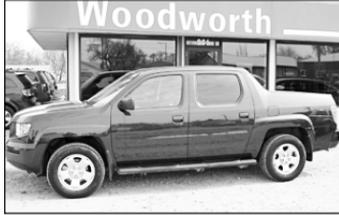
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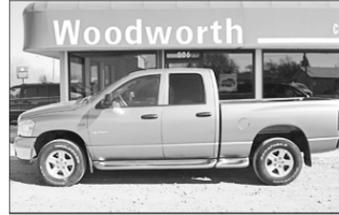
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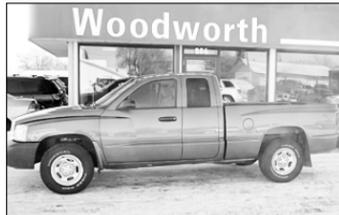
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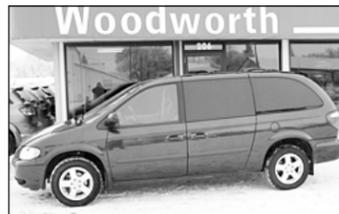
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Looking to the future while preserving the past

BY MONIQUE MCKAY

The sunlight streams into Michele Amy and Will Elliot's kitchen. "It's pretty crazy, actually," Amy says, shaking her head. The Kenosee Lake Kitchen Party will be held for the fifth consecutive summer, and it has grown beyond some people's wildest dreams.

But not Amy's. "I had a pretty clear vision when we started—I had seen what had happened with other music camps, and I knew that by bringing all of this amazing musical talent into our area, and giving people an opportunity to see what real quality traditional music sounds like . . . Let's say this. Five years ago I had three fiddle students. Now I have over a hundred. I saw this coming."

The Kenosee Lake Kitchen Party is a week-long traditional music camp where musicians of all ages and levels gather in a welcoming, nurturing environment to mingle with some of Canada's top traditional music performers. A portion of the day is spent in formal lessons on the fiddle, piano, guitar, banjo, or violin, a portion is spent in a variety of workshops, and each evening there are feature instructor concerts and a fireside jam. Each of the two week-long camps culminates in a camp-wide revue concert, which is created and planned throughout the week. The Kenosee Lake Kitchen Party is known for more than just good music; Father Banga and his staff at the Kenosee Lake Boys and Girls Camp, where the Kitchen Party is hosted, cook and serve homemade meals for the participants, to rave reviews. There are plenty of leisure activities as well; swimming, canoeing, and exploring the surrounding boreal forest.

Each year the Kitchen Party features a different traditional music styling, with feature instructors specializing in that particular vein. This year there will be a spotlight on the Ottawa Valley style, which Amy describes as "Highly ornamental; it's showy with a lot of double bowing and double stops." Troy McGillivray has been described as one of the best Celtic traditional pianists of the day and is an award-winning fiddle-player; he will be on hand to instruct beginners and advanced students alike in the East Coast style.

New this year is a kids camp for youth aged nine to twelve. Limited to just forty kids, it will precede the all-ages camps and take place from July 1 to Aug. 3.

"It's going to be really interesting. It's going to be great," said Amy. "It's also going to be a teacher-training program. We've identified the top up-and-coming performers who are just graduating high school, just beginning their lives. We're bringing them together with the top musicians and instructors; we're training the next generation."

Amy went on to explain that there has been a gap in traditional music instruction. "The problem during the last one hundred years is that there have been great players, but no great teachers. We have to invest in the youth."

The program the the facilitators at the Kitchen Party are hoping to institute

starting this year with the kids camp is as follows; youth would have been students at the Kitchen Party. Then they would become counsellors and cabin leaders at the kids camp, where they will also be instructed in the psychology of teaching—"how to be good teachers," said Amy, who is a school teacher as well—so they could return the following year as junior instructors at the kids camp. Eventually they would advance to senior instructors at the main Kitchen Party, and thus continually refresh and give back to the Saskatchewan talent pool.

Emily Klatt is fourteen years old and has been to the Kitchen Party for three years—this year will be her fourth. "For the first year I went for piano, and after that for fiddle," the young musician explained. This year she'll also be a counsellor at the kids' camp.

"A week at camp is like a year of lessons, because you're playing music all of the time, and you're surrounded by all of these amazing people you can learn from," said Klatt. "There's a big difference between my playing at the start of the summer and at the end of the summer."

Music camp is about more than just the music, though.

"I've met probably 75 per cent of my friends at camp, so many amazing people from all over the country."

Klatt has played a few gigs with the group she jams with regularly, but says, "I play for fun first and foremost, because I love it. But I get to take my own students this year. Teaching is a good skill."

To people who are thinking about coming out to the Kenosee Lake Kitchen Party for the first time, Klatt had this to say: "You should come. You could have never picked up a musical instrument in your life. We have adult beginner groups, everything. It's fun and supportive; amazing. We just jam and dance and play."

To Amy, the accessibility of the music and the approachability of the musicians are key to the Kitchen Party's success.

"If Ken Jefferson (award-winning pianist with over forty-five years experience) is showing you where middle C is . . . he's so excited to be doing that, to see you beginning your journey," Amy said. "I pick my musicians because they're real folk. It's no big deal; it's cool."

Amy believes that most people have the desire to be musical.

"People want to play," she said, "It's about the urge. Often that gets crushed—people can be naysayers. But not at the Kitchen Party. People come and see what's possible, and what seemed intimidating at home, or on the Internet, is suddenly possible."

Amy also believes it's never too late learn how to play.

"My favorite student is in her seventies. She's been playing for three years now. She can play a couple hundred tunes now."

Learn more about the Kenosee Lake Kitchen Party at www.kenoseekitchenparty.ca or by calling Michele Amy at (306) 453-6366.



Above: Renowned fiddler John Arcand and KLKP facilitator Michele Amy tune their fiddles.

Right: Happy Campers! From left: Kristian Wenaus, Malcolm McLeod, Brooke, Roberta Wallace, Ameena Koulack, Kyle St. Goddard, Mairi Rankin, Gillian Maher and Catharine LeFebre.

Below: Evenings at the Kenosee Lake Kitchen Party usually end up in a lively jam around the campfire.



We want to hear from you!

If you have an event going on in your community, or some news you think we should know about, we'd love to include it in our next issue of Plain and Valley.

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Montmartre out to prove the best things in life are free

One rural Saskatchewan community is proving that the best things in life really are free.

With the economic downturn impacting some families, the community of Montmartre is doing what it can to ease the financial burden by hosting a 'Best Things in Life are Free' day on Saturday, June 26.

"All of the amenities in town, from the swimming pool, to the regional park, to our great golf course can be used absolutely free all day on June 26," said organizer Christalee Froese. "We not only wanted to make this 'day in the country' affordable, but we wanted to provide a space in people's lives where they can slow down and say, 'hey, I don't have to spend money to play hide-and-seek with my kids, or picnic in a park, or go for a rural walk and watch the clouds go by.'"

This rural town of 500, which is known as Saskatchewan's Paris of the Prairies, will be offering swimming, golf, bike riding, Frisbee golf, ball diamonds, soccer fields and sand volleyball courts for free. Many special touches like—wagon rides around the mini Eiffel Tower, art, music, a treasure hunt and a list of 100 things to do for free—are being added as well.

"We're going to have free wagon rides because that's such a relaxing way to experience a community, and we'll also have free iced tea for all visitors when they arrive," said Froese. "Several local musicians and artists have volunteered their talents, which we believe will create a calming, restful atmosphere as visitors can watch a painting come to life while having our local musicians serenade them."

A picnic lunch in Kemo-ca Park will feature flutists Kim Bircher and Laura McNish, both whom are Montmartre teachers.

"I can't wait to play in the park because there's nothing like being surrounded by green grass, a blue sky and the pure sound of a flute," said Bircher. "Flute music is very peaceful, so we're hoping people will take the time to just sit, eat their picnic lunches and let their cares float away on the breeze."

The local restaurants in town have joined forces to offer take-out picnic lunches that will include such foods as pizza, fig-feta croissants, chocolate brownies and homemade carrot cake.

"There's just something about eating in a park that makes you feel like you're a million miles away," said Susan Sebastian, owner of the Trackside Inn. "We're happy to package up something great, like a whole pizza and a pan of brownies, for our visiting families so that they can concentrate on more important things like playing eye-spy, throwing a Frisbee around and just enjoying each other's company."

Montmartre's many businesses have also jumped on board, embrac-

ing the idea that visitors shouldn't have to spend a lot of money to experience the hospitality of a town.

Coffee, drinks, pens, calendars, environmentally friendly shopping bags, and discount coupons are some of the items being offered for free on Saturday, June 26.

"I firmly believe that shopping should be a fun and rejuvenating experience . . . and what's more fun than knowing you're getting a once-in-a-lifetime deal," said Jolene Dusyk of JoJo Beads, a glass jewelry studio.

"We hope people will just stroll around town, stop in at our boutique to try on some neat spring hats, sandals and clothing and just experience a slower-pace of shopping," said Marie Anne Fournier, owner of Sisters' Boutique and Bistro.

The Montmartre swimming pool will open its doors for free on Saturday, June 26, with swimmers of all ages being able to enjoy the solar-heated waters of the pool and the new aqua climbing wall from 1 - 5

p.m. and 6 - 8 p.m.

For more information on the 'Best Things in Life are Free' day, or to order

a picnic basket lunch, call Christalee Froese at 424-2728. Picnic baskets must be pre-ordered by June 18.



Montmartre, Saskatchewan has a day of free activities planned for June 26

26

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Please order your picnic baskets by June 18 - call Christalee at 424-2728

Fleming elevator fire still being investigated

BY KARA KINNA AND KEVIN WEEDMARK
Moosomin RCMP say that the Fleming elevator fire is still under investigation, and is still being treated as suspicious, and Fleming's mayor hopes charges are laid to give the community a sense of closure.

The historic Fleming Lake of the Woods elevator burned down in the early morning hours on Feb. 9.

Moosomin RCMP Sergeant Gord Stewart says that the RCMP have received a number of tips and have been investigating those tips.

"We're actively getting tips and we're following up on those tips," he said.

"We need people to come forward. We're still encouraging people to please contact us.

"It's a solvable case—we just need the public's help."

The Fleming elevator was considered a important local heritage site, and had national and provincial heritage designation. It was considered the oldest wooden grain elevator in Canada still standing on its original foundation.

Fleming Mayor Phil Hamm says there is still a lot of anger about the elevator fire in the community, and said he is hoping RCMP eventually lay charges so the community can gain a sense of closure.

"There is still a lot of anger," he said. "We had some great weather there in April and our contractor would have had the cupola finished and we would have been making plans for our grand opening in May. When you see the ruins of

"I think people deserve to know who did it and why . . . It would be nice if we could find out what happened and turn the page."

—Fleming Mayor Phil Hamm

the elevator it's a pretty hard pill to swallow."

"We are hopeful the RCMP eventually lay charges," Hamm said. "There are people who know who did it. We need those people to come forward and give their evidence.

"Not knowing is preventing the community from having some measure of closure. We need to know who did it and why they did it.

"If it's not a firebug but someone who just had a grievance against the community or the committee that would allay people's fears that their property may be targeted. I think people deserve to know who did it and why."

Hamm said the Fleming Historical Preservation Society is looking at ways to preserve the memory of the elevator.

"We had a regular meet-

ing on Monday night. We decided we were going to continue on with a committee and try to come up with another way to promote the community," he said.

"We want to have something to mark the site. Dale Fraser, a graphic artist, wants to do an etching in plexiglass, and we want to have that at the site."

The community will receive \$3,000 that was raised at the Emergency Services

ball earlier this spring.

"We will have a painting on the wall in the coffee shop, and will acknowledge people who contributed to the elevator restoration project.

"Gus Froese has done the painting. He did it on home made paper—it's a large painting and it looks really good.

"Bill Dixon got donations to cover the cost of it." Fleming's committee

will take a page from the Bell Barn Society's book and approach Frank Korvemaker for his advice.

Korvemaker has taken the lead on rebuilding the round Bell Barn near Indian Head, a project that is being completed with a lot of federal and provincial funding.

"We have some other things we can promote," said Hamm. "A resident in town has found a caboose we might be able to relocate to the site, the CPR has a vintage railcar we were wanting to acquire.

"We had some people suggest we try to build a replica of the elevator. We have the flour shed that was beside the elevator still available to be moved in. A number of items are being donated to the museum. Also it was suggested we try to move in another building of heritage significance that needed restoration."

Whatever direction the project takes, Hamm says the committee won't even think about giving up.

"The spirit of the committee is we're moving ahead," said Hamm.

"When we were discussing this, Ted Frape said 'We're Fleming, we can't quit—we don't know what quit means,'" Hamm said. "Things like that give you a lift."

Questions about the fire still hang over the community, however.

"Everybody would like to be able to turn the page on the elevator experience," the mayor said. "It would be nice if we could find out what happened and turn the page."



Kevin Weedmark photo

This is all that remains of the Lake of the Woods Elevator, which was destroyed by fire earlier this year.

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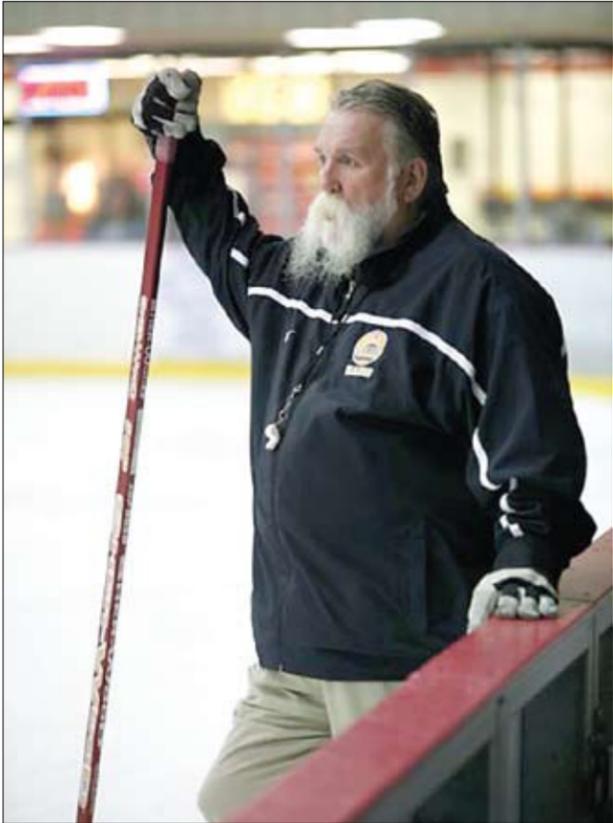
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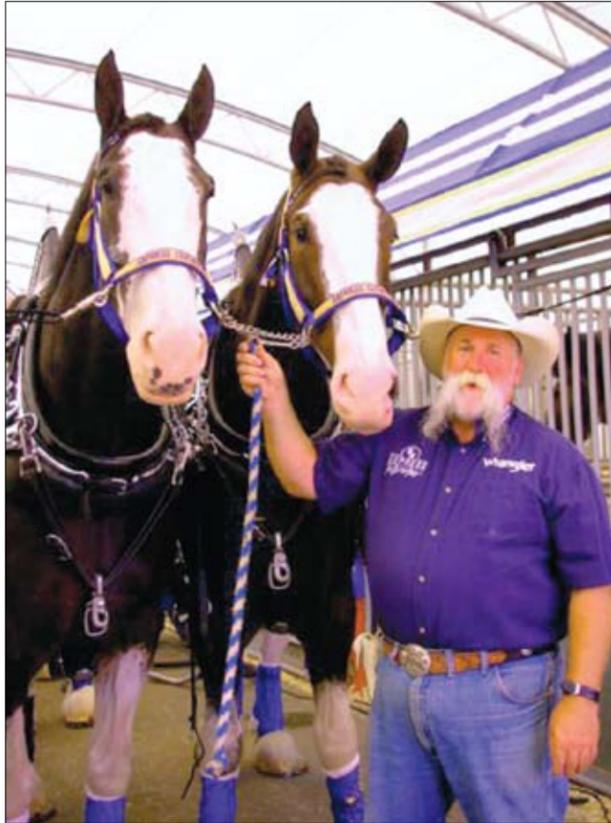
Covering Southeast Saskatchewan and Southwest Manitoba

May 2010 • Page 17



Steve Christy photo

Sauter watching hockey practice at the Ford Center in downtown Oklahoma City, 2007.



Doug Sauter with a team of Express Clydesdales.



Steve Christy photo

Sauter discussing the finer points of a game with OKC Blazers player Erick Lizon—originally from Kitchener, Ontario

Sauter a big name in hockey and horses

BY TRACEY FEIST

No matter where he finds himself, Doug Sauter always has time to talk to you. This farm boy from Fairlight, Saskatchewan, is one of the most tenured head coaches in professional junior hockey in North America with more than 1,200 career wins, second only to Scotty Bowman. But he never lets success get in the way of a good gab, or a chance to meet someone new.

Maybe that's why he's such a good fit as the front man for Express Clydesdales of Yukon, Oklahoma.

Sauter's hockey experience first brought him to Oklahoma in 1995 to coach its Central Hockey League team, the Oklahoma City Blazers. In 1999, the team was purchased by Express Personnel Services and Express Ranches owner Bob Funk. The two became fast friends. Although the Blazers recently closed their doors, Sauter continues on as senior vice-president for ExpressSports, Head Coach and Director of Hockey Operations. What Funk might not have known when he hired Sauter was that he also got himself a jack-of-all-trades.

"Or a master-of-none," Sauter fires back, quickly dismissing his lofty title for one he says suits him better.

"I just call myself . . . ambassador. I like that title," says Sauter. "I'm very proud to be on the ground

level of Express. I just kind of help. If there's a stall that needs to be cleaned, I can clean it. If there's a horse that needs to be trucked, I can truck it. If there's a horse to be rode, I can ride it."

Sauter's philosophy in life has revolved around diversification. "In my hockey career that's what I wanted. I didn't want to be known as just a hockey guy that had no other interests. Look at all the things I'm able to do."

From having a television golf show to even dabbling in rodeo rough stock, Sauter says he's always been versatile, thanks to the solid foundation he got growing up with agriculture and sports.

He also learned a lot from purebred Jersey breeder Fred Thompson. By age 10, Sauter was travelling across Canada showing cattle for Thompson's Grafton Farms.

"He had a very, very big impact on me—especially when it came to competitiveness." In the seven years he worked for Thompson, Sauter says he made lifelong friends and connections.

"Hockey is what got him to where he is, but really it's his interpersonal skills that have kept him where he is," says Sauter's cousin, Bill Aulie, of Aulie Farms at Rouleau, Sask. "He can remember everybody's name, who their parents are and if he doesn't know them, he'll know some-



body that knows them. He's just a tremendous personality."

Sauter first introduced Aulie to Bob Funk at the 1996 Canadian Western Agribition. Aulie finds and green-breaks a lot of the signature black Clydesdales that ultimately become part of the now-famous Express parade and show hitches. After 10 years of competition at the Calgary Stampede, Express Ranches

won the World Champion six-horse hitch in 2009.

Horses have always proved an equal rival to hockey in the heart of this Canadian cowboy. Little did Sauter know that his connection with horses would one day help save his life. In December, 1989, Sauter was diagnosed with Guillain-Barre Syndrome, an uncommon disorder in which the body's immune system attacks its nerves.

Sauter was left learning how to walk and talk. "I was in pretty tough shape for a while. It just paralyzed me. It was like I had a stroke. The horses have been therapy for me and that's what I love about them. (My hero) Will Rogers once said: 'The best thing for the inside of a man is the outside of a horse.' What I get from my horses is that inner spiritual thing."

Now in remission, Sauter says he's lost a lot of his physical strength and has a thyroid condition because of disorder.

However, an event at the 2007 Oklahoma State Fair may have proved otherwise. Sauter had just finished with the Express Clydesdales when a team of Belgians, about to enter the ring, spooked. While the driver managed to get the horses turned in a circle, it was Sauter who averted disaster by "earring" the wheel horse that had fallen to keep it down while the others straightened out the rest of the hitch.

"That's how you stymie a horse," he says. "You bit as hard as you can, and it won't move." Sauter is quick to recognize he had lots of help in getting the team stopped and is quick to make a joke of it: "Make sure you say ear, and not rear," he laughs.

It's his sense of humor and approachable nature that makes Doug Sauter unique, says Max Fritz, senior agriculture manager

for the Calgary Stampede.

"Doug's a great ambassador for the western lifestyle and the values that lifestyle portrays," says Fritz of Sauter's integrity, honesty and hard work. "He leaves a lasting impression with you forever."

Clearly his hockey fans in both Wheeling, West Virginia, (where Sauter first moved to coach in the U.S.) and Oklahoma City feel the same way. When Sauter was inducted into the Wheeling Nailers' Hockey Hall of Fame in January 2010, the first 2,500 fans got a Doug Sauter bobblehead. While the Blazers also have a bobblehead, they one-upped Wheeling with a full-sized Doug Sauter mascot.

"Doug's a great guy with a heart of gold. He can talk to the President of the United States and to the beggar on the corner and he'd give each one the shirt off his back," Aulie says fondly of the man who sees the person, not the pedigree.

"He's like meeting an old friend for the very first time. That's the contagious charm of Doug Sauter."

This article appeared in the April/May issue of Canadian Cowboy Country magazine.

Fourth-generation Alberta ranch girl Tracey Feist grew up south of Cochrane on the Elbow River. She's an award-winning writer who now lives with her family near a small cowboy town south of Denver, Colorado.



There was a lot going on at the Moosomin Chamber of Commerce 2010 Home, Farm, and Leisure Show.



Above: Lenora (on the left) and Madi Griemann introduce their hedgehog Reggie at the pet show.



Below left: Joan and Casey Tse of Rocanville selling cookies to raise money for the Children's Wish Foundation. They successfully raised more than \$1,000 at the show.



Above right: Kari DeCorby (on the left) explains the outfit that her model Breanne Beckett is wearing during the fashion show put on by Kari's Kloset

Below right: Tera Harper paints faces at the Borderland Co-op Kids Club children's area set up in the Communiplex

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Knowing when to step back or move on

Remember the devastating wind storm of April 9 that caused Regina SGI employees to evacuate, that left several areas of the province without power, and that overturned more than one semi and dozens of vehicles?



Helen Solmes

The high winds of April 9 were particularly devastating to a friend who, while driving home from Yorkton, witnessed an oncoming semi-trailer overturn. She was first on the scene. She pulled off the road, and ran to the truck in time to see the driver lift open the driver's door, like the hatch on a submarine, and crawl out. As far as she could determine the driver was unharmed. He flung up his arms then crouched to the ground, mumbling something incoherent about his jacket and wallet. He was obviously in shock, but there were no signs of injury.

My friend ran back to her car, placed a call to 911, and then returned to the driver. Within minutes a second person arrived on the scene. My friend asked if the second person had anything warm with which to cover the driver. In time, others stopped to offer help, including a nurse who tended to the driver.

That's when my friend backed away, leaving a more qualified person in

command. Hours later, while listening to her relate the story, I could see that she was suffering from her own form of shock. She was shaking and her lips were purple. She was grateful that the driver was not hurt in ways more serious than she might not have been able to handle. I tried to comfort her by saying that even the most seasoned first-responder suffers post-traumatic shock. I reassured her that she had done everything right. She had assessed the situation. She had placed the call. She had delegated, and, when someone with more first-aid training arrived, she bowed out.

What upset her most was the throng of onlookers that gathered at the scene—so many, she told me, that she feared that the traffic congestion would cause problems for the emergency vehicles.

There's perhaps a message in this for all of us. None of us, I would hope, would hesitate to stop and offer help when trag-

edy strikes. But we have to keep in mind the larger picture. I say this with less than a clear conscience. As a journalist, I have been close to the action on a few occasions—closer perhaps than I would otherwise have been, but hopefully never too close to be a hindrance.

If stopping to help means endangering others, best that we move out of the way. If we stop to assess the situation, like she did, but find everything under control, then we should move on and leave matters alone.

Ask any police officer or first-responder. Onlookers can complicate an accident scene and create additional problems. It is too often the case that a valuable resource person at the scene of an accident is delegated to traffic control when he or she could be better utilized attending to the accident victim(s).

So, a word of advice: If we are not part of the solution, then best that we not be part of the problem.

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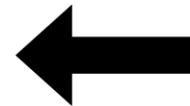
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37:1c

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6 - Student Cashier

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37:2c

Goose makes nest in farmyard year after year

BY HELEN SOLMES

The return of a delicate-looking Canada goose in spring to a farmyard north of Esterhazy has always brought a tear of joy to Albert Abdai's eyes.

Each year for the past 10 years, a Canada goose and her mate have returned, and, as Abdai says, "Each year she carries on badly until I place the wooden crate on the roof of the shed where she has hatched a total of 37 eggs in the past."

The goose is one of four geese that Abdai found in 1999 when he came across four abandoned eggs. He incubated the eggs and raised the foursome until, one day in late September that year, the four orphans answered the call of the wild and flew off to join a flock of geese heading south for the winter. A year later, as Abdai stood watching a flock of 50 or more Canada geese flying overhead, he instinctively called out, "Come on. Come on." To his delight, his four orphans separated from the flock and circled low.

Two of the orphans returned the following spring and lingered in Abdai's farmyard among the award-winning miniature horses and assortment of fowl that he and Dave Frisbie raise on what can only be described as Esterhazy's version of Old MacDonald's farm.



Albert Abdai reaches to pet a Canada goose that he raised as an orphan in 1999. The goose returns each year to lay her eggs in a wooden crate that Abdai lines with fresh straw and places atop a shed on his farm north of Esterhazy.

In 2001, one male goose stopped only long enough to say hello, then flew off with his mate. One of the female geese, however, stayed, and has returned

each year since. She and her mate have come to regard Abdai's farmyard as their nesting grounds, laying their eggs each year atop one of his sheds.

The goose has never shied from Abdai. Only with time has the gander come to accept and to tolerate Abdai—to the extent that, when the goslings

have hatched, the gander has stood watch as Abdai has scooped the goslings into a bucket and lowered them gently to the ground where goose and gander

have rushed their brood across the farmyard to a nearby pond and introduced them to water.

Like an expectant father, Abdai is watching and waiting for some indication that this year's brood—six in total—have hatched. Any day now he will be called on to lower the goslings to the ground. His time with this year's goslings will be short, as usual for, within a few days, the goose and gander will then march their young cross-country to a slough where the adults will teach their young what they need to know to survive in the wild. If all goes well, the goose and gander will lead their brood back to Abdai's farmyard for a few short days in the fall, for a final rendezvous before they begin their journey south.

Abdai has raised animals long enough to know just how thrilling new life can be and to know too how precarious it can be. As anxious as he is to see this year's goslings appear from under his prodigy, he can only wonder what might be their fate once they leave the safety of the wooden crate. Will they survive the summer and return to say their good-byes in the fall before flying off? Will his orphan goose and her partner, as they have time and time again, return next spring? Only time will tell.

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Archery, canoeing and first aid were among the subjects covered during Operation Mudroller at Moosomin Regional Park May 7-9. Air cadet squadrons from Moosomin, Indian Head, Carlyle and Oxbow took part.



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YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	DESCRIPTION	PRICE
2010	Versatile	435	435hp, ps, metrics, loaded	Call
2006	Valtra	T190	210hp, fwa, duals front and rear, front 3pt, 1,250 hrs	\$109,500
2006	MF	7495	175hp, fwa, CVT, front susp., fully loaded, 1,300 hrs	\$105,900
2007	MF	7480	140hp, fwa, CVT	\$104,900
2005	Fendt	818	180hp, 730 hrs, front 3pt/pto, 755 loader/grapple, loaded	Call
2003	Fendt	926	260hp, 750 hrs, 855 loader, loaded	Call
1986	JD	4450	140hp, powershift	Sold
1989	Deutz Allis	9130	135hp, fwa, 18 sp ps	\$18,000
1978	Case	885	72hp, 3pth, new rubber	\$6,500
2007	MF	1560	60hp, fwa, cab, loader, 400 hrs	\$34,500

COMBINES				
0% FOR 12 months on selected units - OAC				
YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	DESCRIPTION	PRICE
2009	MF	9895	duals, MAV, autolube, leather, 16' swathmaster, loaded, warranty to 2011	\$349,000
1999	Caselh	2388	chopper, spreaders, swathmaster	\$109,500
1997	NH	TX66	Chopper, pu	\$64,500
1994	MF	8570	Chopper, cs, swathmaster	\$48,000
1986	Gleaner	R50	PU, chopper, spreaders	\$22,500
1983	MF	852	Chopper, pu	\$2,500

COMBINE HEADERS				
YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	DESCRIPTION	PRICE
1995	Case IH	1020	30', flex, PUR, fore/aft	\$14,900
1996	NH	973	30', flex, PUR	\$12,500
1994	MF	9700	30' PUR	\$11,000
1991	MacDon	960	25' PUR	\$10,000
1994	Gleaner	400	25', PUR	\$9,500
1987	Gleaner	330	30', batt & air reel	\$7,500
1983	Gleaner	324	24', batt reel, fits L3	\$2,500

SWATHERS				
0% FOR 24 months on selected units - OAC				
YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	DESCRIPTION	PRICE
2007	MF	9435	36', U2, skid shoes, gauge wheels	\$94,900
2005	Hesston	9240	30', U2, gauge wheels	\$74,900
2000	MF	220 II	30', p/u reel, gauge wheels, sch drive	\$48,500
1999	MF	220 II	26' DS, PU reel, sch drive	\$46,500

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1999 SEED HAWK 357 44', 12" spacing, onboard seed and fertilizer, shedded \$72,500

SPRAYERS				
YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	DESCRIPTION	PRICE
2010	Versatile	SX275	275 hp, 90' boom	Sold
2001	Brandt	QF1000	1200 gal, 100' boom	\$12,500

HAY TOOLS				
0% FOR 12 months on selected units - OAC				
YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	DESCRIPTION	PRICE
2008	MF	1756	5x6, auto tie, demo	BLOWOUT
2002	Hesston	856A	5x6, full auto Mesh wrap	\$22,900
2001	Hesston	856A	5x6, Full Auto	\$19,900
1999	Hesston	565A	5x6	\$13,900
1999	Hesston	565A	5x6, auto tie	\$14,900
2000	NH	688	5x6 baler	\$15,500
2006	Hesston	9040	16' hay hdr, advanced double	\$19,900
2007	MF	1476	16', s/s rollers	\$26,900
2002	Hesston	1275	16' s/s, reverser	\$20,900
2004	Frontier	MC1216	16' s/s same as MacDon 5020	\$19,900
1999	MacDon	5000	16', s/s rollers	\$12,500
2005	Bale King	3100	rh discharge, fine cut	\$10,900
2004	Morris	1400	Hay Hiker	\$21,000

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MISCELLANEOUS				
YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	DESCRIPTION	PRICE
2010	Farm King	1050	10" x 50' swing auger	\$4,800
2010	Sakundiak	TL10-1200	10" x 39', 35 hp, SP kit, loaded	Call
2010	Sakundiak	HD8-1400	8" x 46' auger, 27hp, SP kit, loaded	In Stock
2009	Spray Air	4385	13" x 85' swing away	In Stock
2009	Farm King (Conveyair)	6640	grain vac	Demo



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Tried and True Recipes

by Sandra Johnson



Taco Salad

- 1 lb hamburger
- 1 pkg taco seasoning
- 1/2 cup green onions chopped
- 1/2 head lettuce, shredded
- 1 tomato, chopped
- 1/2 cup cheddar cheese, shredded
- 1 small jar mild salsa
- 1 cucumber, chopped (optional)
- 1 can kidney beans, drained and rinsed (optional)

Cook hamburger and taco seasoning according to package directions. Stir fry together until fully cooked.

Combine onions, lettuce, tomato, cheddar cheese and optional ingredients. Toss. Just before serving, add hamburger and toss lightly. Pass around salsa for dressing.

Dale's Pizza Dough

- 8 cups lukewarm water
- 1/4 cup sugar
- 1/4 cup yeast
- 3/8 cup oil
- 1 egg
- 1 heaping Tbsp baking powder
- 1/2 cup salt
- 20+ cups flour
- Sauce:**
- 1 small can tomato paste
- 1 small can tomato sauce
- 1 tsp Italian seasoning
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 1/4 tsp pepper
- 1/2 to 1 tsp garlic powder or to taste

Combine first three ingredients and let stand for 10 to 15 minutes.

Take 15 cups flour, mix with baking powder and salt. Make a well. Add oil, egg and yeast mixture. Mix until firm but slightly sticky, adding more flour. Do not let rise. Divide into 12 equal portions. Keep out what you need and immediately freeze remaining dough. Grease pizza pans. Using margarine on hands, spread dough in pizza pans. Put on the sauce and add in layers meat, vegetables, and cheese. Bake at 400° F. for 20 to 30 minutes. While first one is baking, put second one in fridge so it does not over rise, and so on, if making more pizzas.

Sauce: Mix together. Can freeze any remaining sauce.

Partially Baked Crust: Prepare dough. Press in greased 12 inch pizza pan, forming a rim around edge. If using a yeast crust, poke holes all over with a fork. Bake on bottom rack at 425° F. for 4 to 5 minutes. Press down any bulges. Remember topping will have less time to cook on partially baked crust. Cool completely. Freeze in plastic bag, placing waxed paper in between each crust if freezing several at a time.

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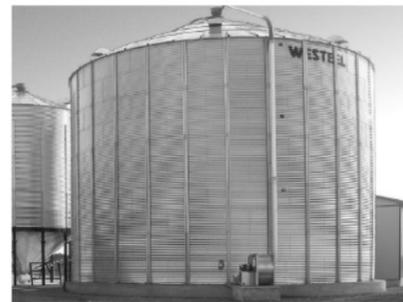


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Designer fashions on display in Montmartre

BY CHRISTALEE FROESE
Fuschia suits, floral dresses and fabulous footwear hit the runway in Montmartre last weekend, revealing that spring has sprung on Saskatchewan's fashion scene. Sisters' Boutique and Bistro hosted the sold-out spring fashion show, welcoming 155 women from Regina and the southeast

region to see what the designer clothing store has to offer. "The designer fashions we carry look great on the hanger, but when you see them on real people who come in every shape and size, you see just how flattering well-made clothing can be," said Marie Anne Fournier, one of two sisters who started their unique boutique and bistro in Montmartre last summer. The fashion show high-

lighted the many Canadian-made clothing lines carried by Sisters' Boutique, as well as featuring area jewelry designers and local purse and belt creators. One of the highlights of the show was the one-of-a-kind Fly London footwear which sold like hotcakes once the show was over. "What we tried to do is put outfits together from top to bottom, so while the clothes themselves are spectacular, they look even

better when you pair them with a funky hat, a fantastic pair of shoes, a colorful bag and the perfect jewelry," said Jeannine Bujaczek, co-owner of Sisters' Boutique and Bistro. "We've also brought in several new designers who make 'everyday' clothes that are affordable and versatile, so the crowd really loved those outfits too." Sisters' Boutique is planning to host fashion shows twice each year, with this

fall's show scheduled for the end of September. "It was such a smashing success," said Marie Anne, adding that women of all ages and from all walks of life were at the show. "Our

local models had so much fun and the huge crowd was cheering and applauding, so we know we have to do this every spring and fall—it's just too much fun not to."



Some of the designer fashions on display during the spring fashion show in Montmartre.

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Colleges take interest in Langenburg's Wallin

BY CHRIS JASTER
Although she still has one more year of high school left, Nicole Wallin has grabbed the attention of colleges.

Both NAIT and Dickinson State—a Montana college that competes in the NAIA—have expressed interest in the Langenburg volleyball player, and Rocanville Brash head coach Cathy Johnston understands why.

"She's a big impact and when she puts the ball away, she puts it away so hard it stops the other team dead," said Johnston. "It's intimidating."

That power hitting is what Wallin brought to the Brash this season. Wallin, who plays on the left side of the court, played in Langenburg in previous club volleyball seasons, but she was left without a team after the coach decided not to coach the under-18 girls' team. Johnston made an offer to Wallin, who has played volleyball since she was in Grade 5, and Wallin agreed to join the Brash team.

"Cathy is just a really good coach and I just had a lot more fun in volleyball with her," said Wallin, who helped lead the Brash to a first place finish in Tier

2 at the provincial U-18 women's club volleyball championship at the end of April.

Wallin was somewhat surprised when she learned some colleges were interested in her. She knew she was good, but it wasn't something she was expecting.

Johnston, however, believed Wallin would generate a little bit of interest among colleges during the club volleyball season and at a camp she attended in Assiniboia.

"She has a great vertical and she has brought a great work ethic," said Johnston.

"I think if you watch her jump and you watch her put the ball down as hard as she does, you're going to be impressed. Then they just have to spend some time watching her play the game and see her intensity and they'll know she'll do well wherever she goes if she decides to choose that route."

But that's a decision the Grade 11 student hasn't made yet. Wallin isn't sure what she wants to do after high school and she knows that decision will impact what happens with her volleyball in the future.

"It's kind of iffy," she said. "I would like to play

in university, but I'm not quite sure if I want to yet. It's still a decision I have to make yet.

"I don't know what I want to do yet when I graduate, so it's hard to decide."

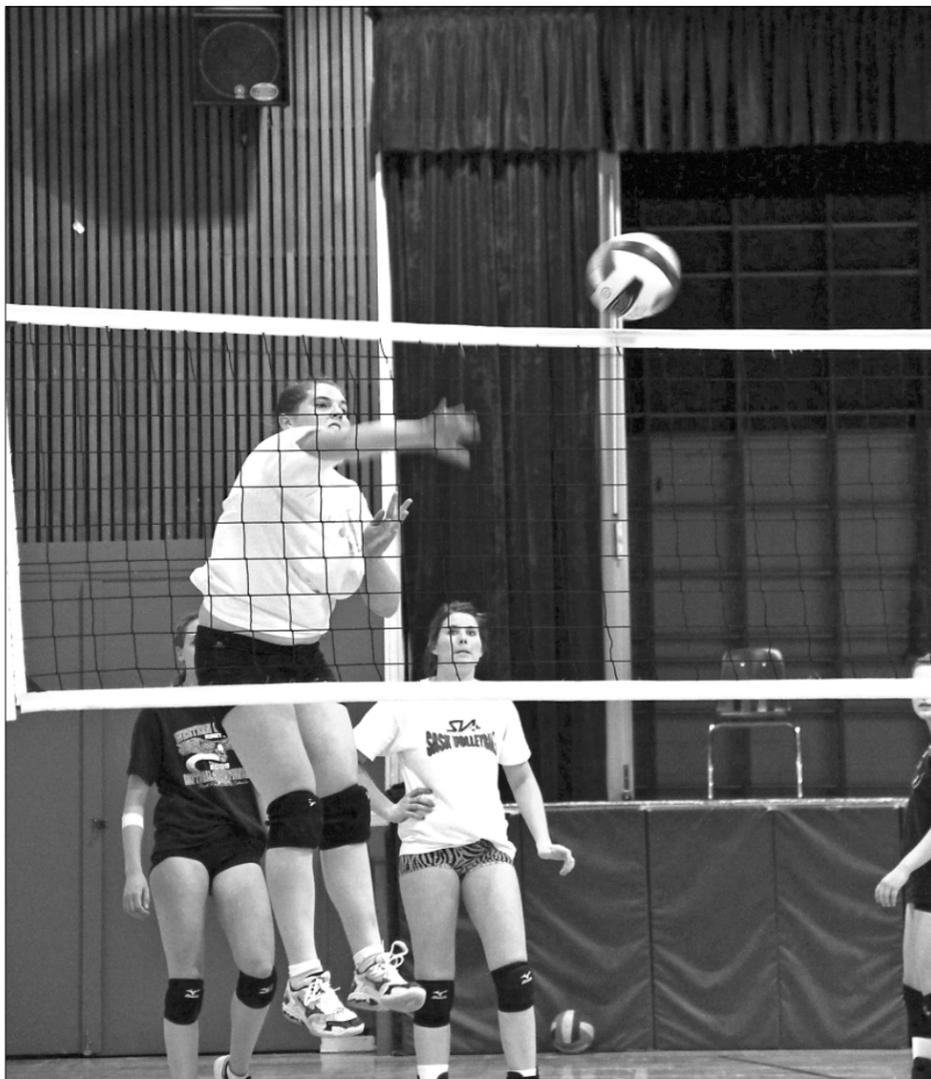
Johnston believes Wallin will succeed in a college volleyball program, but she knows it's not an easy thing to do.

"It's hard for any kid leaving home that first year and having to go and play on that team," she said. "I think the first year you have to hang on by your fingernails and get through it. Then you have to decide if you want to play the sport or go for the academics, and sometimes when you go for the academics, you can't hang on to the sport, and those are decisions she'll have to make."

"I watched my daughter go through it. It's pretty hard. It takes time to adjust."

Wallin said she plans to continue playing as hard as she can during her last year of high school, and that has Johnston pleased.

"She's a great kid and a good kid to coach," said Johnston. "I really enjoyed having her on the team and I hope she comes back next year."



Chris Jaster photo

Nicole Wallin spikes a ball during a Brash practice.

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Canalta Hotel now open

The brand new Canalta Hotel in Moosomin has opened its doors, even though some work remains to be finished on the building and parking lot. The building was still undergoing some finishing touches last week. The hotel is located on the Trans-Canada Highway in Moosomin and is three stories high with a waterslide and pool.

Dusyk, Giroux helped in Haiti

"How did this all begin?" has been the most frequently asked question," said Gina Dusyk of Montmartre, who left for Haiti on April 26.

Since high school, Gina's daughter Mandy Giroux has had an interest in Haiti

and the children there. In the last five years, Mandy followed God's Littlest Angels Orphanage on a daily basis, with the hope of one day being able to volunteer in Haiti.

The Catholic orphanage is privately owned and is lo-

cated in the Kenscoff Mountains, about an hour and a half from Port au Prince. After the earthquake, Mandy inquired about the orphanage's need for volunteers. They stated that they were short and could use Mandy and Gina's services

as soon as possible.

It was a hectic three weeks preparing, but the pair headed off to Haiti. They planned on keeping a journal and taking many pictures in order to share their experience. They arrived back on May 12.

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**Russ & Brenda Champion
Melita, MB**

Farm Retirement Auction

**Thursday June 3rd, 2010 10:30am DST
(From the South junc. of #83 & #3, 2 mi. east)**

1981 JD 8440 4wd tractor, 1000 PTO, triple hyd, 8540 hrs; 1983 JD 4440 tractor, 3pt, dual hydraulics w/ JD 725 ldr & grapple, duals; 1973 White Cockshutt 1655 tractor, 540 pto; Thomas 203HD Skid loader w/ Kubota diesel engine; 1975 GMC 6500 3 ton grain truck w/ 15' Cancade box, roll tarp, 65,000 mi. possibly Saftied; 1947 Studebaker 2T grain truck, w/ 12' box, running; 1980 GMC 4x4 ¾ ton truck for parts; WW 16' bumper hitch cattle trailer; 1997 Hurst hay wagon; 1981 John Deere Turbo 7720 Combine, hydrostatic, air foil sieve, chaff spreader, 4978 hrs; John Deere #105 self-propelled combine; CIH 8220 PT swather; NH 273 square baler; NH 1012 Stackliner w/ single bale unload; NH 357 Mix mill w/ bale feeder; Belarus 6T No. 27 manure spreader w/ gravel gate; 130 bu. Cypress Industries creep feeder; 42' CIH hoe drill, rubber press pans, factory transport; 30' IHC disc press drill, rubber press pans w/ Hillcrest Industries drill transport; JD 7000 8 row crop planter, 30" spacing; 36' JD #1010 filed cultivator, w/ 3 row harrows; Co-op #204- 25' deep tiller w/ walking main axles; Melroe #911 5 bottom plow w/ 16" coulters; 63' Summers harrow, dual cylinder lift w/ good teeth; Polaris 250 2x4 four wheeler; Yamaha 80 motorcycle; Farm King rotary screener; Water Master floating pump;

Partial listing only! Information contact Russ @ 204-522-3503 or 204-522-0860
visit mrankinauctions.com Murray Rankin Auctions / Downey & Crowe Auctions, Killarney & Deloraine, MB
Peter@ 204-522-5883, Murray @ 204-534-7401, Brent @ 204-522-6224

Brian & Phyllis Mullan, Melita, MB.

Farm Retirement Auction,

**Wednesday June 2, 2010. 10:30 AM. DST.
6 miles west of Melita on #445 to
#252, then 1 ¼ miles south.**

Premium 2007 New Holland HW325 SP 30'windrower w/ NH30' draper header,p/u reel& transport, 890 hrs; NH 2300 series, 16' haybine header; Easy Guide GPS, w/Auto Steer; 1980 Versatile 875, 4WD, quad hyd., 2134 hrs. on engine, aprox 7200 hrs; Case 4690 4WD, quad hyd. 1000 PTO, narrow inside tires for spraying, p/shift & engine rebuilt @ 4800 hrs now 5186 hrs w/ 9' dozer blade; Versatile 256 Bi-Directional tractor, loader & bucket, 3 pt, 1000hrs.on engine, 4780hrs; 2004 GMC Yukon, 4x4, loaded, cloth interior, 187,000km one owner, Saftied; 2000 F250 XLT, 4x4 super duty ¾ ton truck, auto, 7.3L diesel, ext cab, short box, 164,000 miles, Saftied; 1976 Ford 8000 tandem grain truck, 13spd w/ Midland 19'box, Cat V8, pintle hitch, roll tarp, saftied; 1975 IH Fleetstar grain truck, 13 spd, tandem, gas w/ Midland 20' box, roll tarp, saftied; 1971 GMC 5500 3 ton grain truck w/ Cancade 15' box, roll tarp, box lifted, 72,000mi, saftied; 1996 40' Bourgault 8800 air seeder w/ mounted poly packers & harrows, Haukus markers, single spring trip, 2nd air kit for granular w/ Bourgault 2155 air tank, 155bus. 60/40 split, shedded; Ag Shield p/t sprayer, suspended boom w/ red ball system, wind screens, 1000 US gal; Flexi-Coil Force V Air tank, 160 bus; 48' Delmar Medium harrow, auto fold; CIH 36'4700 Vibra tiller, w/ 3 row mounted harrows; LeTourneau 12 cu/yd. Scraper, fully hydraulic; IH 24' 645 Deep tiller; 10' Haylock 3 shank Sub Soiler : Westfield 130-71 Grain auger, mechanical drive, low profile hopper; Brandt 840 grain auger w/ Honda 24 hp. V twin w/ Brandt tracker hyd. mover & Wheatheart bin sweep; Buhler 360 rotary Grain screener; 990 gal Westeel fuel tank on skid w/ fill rite FR 700 pump; snowmobiles; Suzuki Quad Runner 4x4; Haban tow behind mower; 7' Woods 3pt. Rotary mower; Farm King 960 Twin auger snow blower; Peloquin grapple for Bi-Di.

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April
7, 8, 21, 22

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May
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September
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September
3, 17

September
10, 24

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Maryfield 9am
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Pickup Times
Weyburn 9am
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Pickup Times
Estevan 9am
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Pickup Times
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Pickup Times
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