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May 2024 • Volume 17 Number 5

Covering Southeast Saskatchewan and Southwest Manitoba

White Bear artist Michael Lonechild receives King Charles III Medal

BY RYAN KIEDROWSKI
 LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

The first people in Saskatchewan to receive King Charles II Coronation Medals were honoured last week in Regina. Lieutenant Governor Russ Mirasty hosted the event on May 6 to mark the first anniversary of the King's Coronation with 22 prominent citizens awarded medals. The list included former premiers and lieutenant governors, environmental conversationalists, police officers, military members and artists.

On that list was one of the province's most accomplished artists, Michael Lonechild of the White Bear First Nation.

"It's a special thing for me that I got chosen to be one of the recipients of the Medal because it's a unique medal," Lonechild told the World-Spectator.

"To be one of the first ones to receive a medal, it's a big honour for me."

Lonechild was actually nominated by Mirasty, Saskatchewan's first indigenous Lieutenant-Governor, to be a recipient, making the award extra special for the Cree artist.

To be eligible for the King Charles III Coronation Medal, a person must have made a significant contribution to Canada or to a particular province, territory, region, or community; or attained an outstanding achievement abroad that brings credit to the country. They also had to be alive on that date of the King's Coronation.

"I want to thank Lieutenant Governor Russ Mirasty for nominating me," Lonechild said. "It's an honour to be recognized for being an artist. There are a lot of great artists in Saskatchewan, those are the ones I am representing."

Lonechild gained an interest in art at a young age, inspired by his father and uncle sketching.

"The way I started taking up art was because I watched my dad. He didn't



Lieutenant Governor Russell Mirasty presents Michael Lonechild with a King Charles III Coronation Medal at Government House in Regina.

actually paint, but he was always sketching. From there, I sketched until I was good enough, too. It got boring after, so I had to start colouring them somehow," Lonechild said with a laugh. "It's telling a story of my people. It's not only my people that had horses and wagons, it was the pioneers—that's where we got the wagons from; trading with the local farmers."

"I started painting when I was 15, so that's a long, long time ago!"

His work is widely known for its focus on Cree traditions, the realities and struggles facing his people, and scenes of life on the prairies. Lonechild's work has been featured in shows across the country including Estevan, Saskatoon, Toronto, Vancouver, Calgary, and Kelowna. South of the border, he's had shows in Denver, Colorado and was even invited by Pan Canadian to show his work at the Canadian Embassy in Washington, DC.

"My art takes me all over the place," he humbly admitted. "I don't know if I'll ever retire. Art to me is not a job, it's more like a really well-paying hobby!"

Another source of pride for Lonechild was his work with the Treaty Four Education Alliance based in Fort Qu'Appelle, which allowed him to share his passion for art with the next generation.

"They're mandate was to come up with a curriculum to teach the First Nations kids on the reserve that have schools to give them a different idea on how to approach education and one of them was art," Lonechild explained. "I was very fortunate to travel to all the First Nation schools on Treaty Four and teach them art. I learned a lot of stuff there, too. I learned that I like to have respect for teachers—you got to have a good attitude if you want to be a teacher!"

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Provincial honor for local youth: Levi Jamieson named Junior Citizen of the Year

BY ASHLEY BOCHEK

Moosomin's Levi Jamieson is one of four young people from across Saskatchewan being honored as Saskatchewan's Junior Citizens of the Year.

This is the second year in a row someone from Moosomin has been honored as a Junior Citizen of the Year—last year Victor Santos-Carodoza was given the honor.

The interview follows:

Can you explain your accident and the impact it has had on your life?

It was October 18, 2020. I was in an ATV accident. I lost the use of my legs. It changed my life, but you just have to find a way to do something and get it done. There is always another way to do it, it just might take you longer to find it. There is so many different ways to do something and you have to figure out what works for you until you find what works for you, like getting into my truck, the tractors, working the cows. There is always another way. It has made things more difficult, but I have equipment that helps me get around things. I still get out on the farm and do what I love.

Do you think of yourself as someone who has overcome adversity?

Yes. I think I have overcome challenges that I have had to adapt different ways of doing on the farm or everyday life.

Did you know you were being nominated for the Junior Citizen of the Year award?

I did not until I was informed I had won it. I believe that June Van der Kerkhoff nominated me and a couple more people. Then, mom had sent me an email saying I had won it. It's good, very nice and I am honoured to be awarded it.



Ashley Bochek photo

Levi Jamieson will be presented with the Saskatchewan Junior Citizen of the Year award by Lieutenant-Governor Russ Mirasty on May 30 at Government House in Regina.

How do you feel to win this award?

I am happy and honoured. It means a lot to me that I was chosen to be recognized for this award. I am not sure how many people get nominated. I am definitely honoured that people nominated me and that I won.

How does it feel knowing a group of people who don't know you personally, out of many accomplished kids in Saskatchewan, think you should be given this award?

It is amazing. It is nice to know they looked at me and all the other nomina-

tions and thought I should win.

Who will all be going into Regina to accept the award?

My immediate family and couple of my buddies will be coming with me. Whoever wants to. I am unsure if there is a limit. I am excited to go.

Do you think it is important to recognize young people like yourself with awards like this?

I think so. It shows that hard work pays off in a way. It also encourages them to keep going.

How do you see the challenges you have since your accident?

You see there are roadblocks in the way, but you think of a different way to do it and adapt to it and just do it. Equipment wise, lots of the newer stuff has come out with hand clutches, but everything else you have to put a pipe on to it so you can make it hand controls. Mostly, just adapting farm equipment to my use.

How supportive have your family and friends been through everything?

Very supportive. If they notice there is something I can't do, they will step in and see how they can make it easier for me. It's helpful and good.

The other three Junior Citizens honourees this year are Cassidy Evans of Saskatoon, Emmanuella McDougal of Regina and Obiajulu Udemgba of Saskatoon.

On Thursday, May 30 Lieutenant Governor Russ Mirasty will present the Junior Citizen of the Year Award to the four recipients at Government House in Regina.

The award was established 48 years ago and has been presented to over 180 Saskatchewan youth. The Junior Citizen of the Year Award is

sponsored by the Saskatchewan Weekly Newspapers Association in partnership with SaskPower and the Office of the Lieutenant Governor.

Junior Citizen of the Year Award recipients must:

- have overcome personal challenges
- have a positive lifestyle
- be dedicated to community and school
- have a strong sense of caring and responsibility, and
- inspire others

Each award recipient receives a \$3,000 bursary.

STEAK SUPPER & SILENT AUCTION FOR Sam Burroughs

On the Weekend of April 19th, 2024 Sam lost his home to a fire. Thankfully he and his dog Harley were unharmed in the blaze! Many know Sam but if you don't, he is a community guy. He is on the local fire department, has been a Kinsmen and is an all-around great guy! He would give you a shirt off his back so come out for some Food & drink in support of this local hero!

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Fire destroys home of firefighter Sam Burroughs

After fighting many fires as part of the Moosomin Volunteer Fire Department, Burroughs sees the overwhelming community support that comes after a fire

BY ASHLEY BOCHEK
As a member of the Moosomin Volunteer Fire Department, Sam Burroughs has often rushed to the scene of a fire in the middle of the night to help a family.

Now he knows what it feels like to be on the receiving end of that help.

Just after midnight Friday night, April 19, Burroughs woke up to the sight of his house on fire.

Burroughs says it was the construction heater in his garage that caused the fire.

"It was a construction heater that I had installed in the garage when I bought the house eight and a half years ago. Eventually, it just failed that night. That is what the investigator came up with there. It's unfortunate because I had wondered about putting a gas furnace in there and just procrastinated and never got it done. Now, here we are.

"If you are using construction heaters and space heaters make sure you turn them off when you're not around. Hopefully, people can learn from this. I had installed a couple years ago and had intentions of changing it and never did. If people can at least be a little bit more educated



On them then maybe we can save someone's house down the road.

Home destroyed

The home of Sam Burroughs was destroyed by fire on the night of Friday, April 19. Sam says he has seen outstanding support from the community since the blaze.

Thankful for neighbors

He says he was home at

the time of the fire and is thankful for his neighbours and dog for waking him up.

"I was home at the time. So, I am on the fire department and the call came in around 12:22. I was out of

the house by then. My dog I don't know what she heard whether it was people talking or some banging or whatever, but she did some growling and barking and that woke me up. I heard some commotion in the ga-

rage. I threw my pants on and looked out my room and I have a direct view of the garage and that is when I noticed. It took me a bit to figure out what was going on. Then, I finished getting dressed, grabbed my phone, and dog and got out of the house.
"I am thankful for my dog and my neighbours. I can't thank my neighbours enough for it. They saw what was happening and started banging on the windows. They were alerted by Tait Sunderland, who phoned Ava, the daughter of Tyler and Angie. She woke up her parents and that is when they saw the fire out the window and sprung into action. I'm thankful for the dog and the neighbours.

Continued on Page 7

Steven Bonk, MLA for Moosomin Constituency

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Students are finding there is lots to learn and create at the variety of classes offered at the Moosomin Visual Arts Centre, seen above.

Moosomin Visual Arts Centre recognized as part of Arts of Celebration MVAC recognized provincially

BY ASHLEY BOCHEK

The Moosomin Visual Arts Centre just opened earlier this year and is already receiving provincial recognition.

The arts centre is being recognized as part of the Arts of Celebration night held by Sask Arts at Darke Hall in Regina May 27.

Krista Crellin and Terry Grant of the Visual Arts Centre explain how the centre developed from an idea to an operating arts facility within a year.

The arts centre was submitted to the Economic Development Committee in 2023 as an idea that the community was missing.

Krista explains, "The Economic Development Committee (EDC) had sent out a poll asking businesses in town what they thought would help the economy in Moosomin and what they thought maybe was missing. I sent a letter back saying I thought that an arts centre would be really valuable to the town and that it was needed."

"Then, Casey took it to the EDC and they agreed. So, I came and talked to them and then from there, we established a board, got non-profit status, talked to the town, and found a building."

"I'm surprised it went as quickly as it did. It has come together quickly and smoothly, considering all that we have done."

The arts centre has been busy with hosting a variety of classes.

"About three nights or days a week we try to have something going on. Then there are the kids classes that are three times a week as well. Classes are about ten people on average, each class."

Terry lists the different classes offered since opening the arts centre. "We have hosted acrylic painting, oil painting, pasta making, linocut, bun making, kids cooking, alcohol ink, and Easter egg decorating."

Krista adds, "We have done knitting, there will be crochet, we've done macrame, photography, and drawing. Painting classes have been the easiest to fill. People like acrylic and oil painting and we have offered those the most. There is a lot of people that will teach that."

"The kids' classes have been very popular too—anything we do for kids usually fills up pretty quick."

Terry says the painting and cooking classes have been good for the centre. "We have upcoming watercolor painting so we will see how that goes, all other painting classes have been good. Cooking classes have been really good too. Bun making went over really well."

Krista adds they will be offering a sourdough class soon, "We got sourdough coming up and I believe there are already six people in that class."

Terry explains they are working on reaching different areas to attract more people and artists to the centre. "Something we have been discussing lately is how to attract more people from different areas. That is a tricky statistic to come up with."

Krista adds, "We have had someone from Redvers and there have been some Manitoba people. Lots from Rocanville. We haven't kept much track of it yet."

"Even Maryfield we have had a few people come from." Terry said.

Krista says they have lots of ideas for future classes to offer at the arts centre.

"There are so many ideas. We are really open to anything. I know we want to get the pottery up and going. We have glass studio coming, in which classes will start at the end of the month. We have a room set aside for Darlene Strong to set it all up."

Terry says, "That will be downstairs in one of the rooms. It is starting to take shape."

The arts centre has exciting events planned for the summer. "We have three Makers Markets planned. In the middle of June we are partnering with CARFAC and Sask Art to do a travelling mentorship program. That is in the works right now. That will be open to the public."

Continued on page 6



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Above left: Spring live moss bulb arrangements led by Dana Crosson.

Above right: Alcohol ink class.

Bottom left: Pasta making class.

Left: Mother's Day paintings for kids.

Moosomin Visual Arts Centre recognized as part of Arts of Celebration MVAC recognized provincially

Continued from page 5

"I think we will try and have a food vendor at the Makers Markets each time. We need some live music, we are not sure about that yet, we are looking for people. Anybody, who makes anything, it could be food, crafts, anything really is welcome to come and get a table." Krista explains.

Provincial recognition

The Moosomin Visual Arts Centre has been recognized for creating an arts program in our area.

Terry says, "It feels pretty cool being nominated. We are not even sure what that is going to look like moving forward. We think we are doing a good job and to see the industry recognizes that as well is really cool. We had heard we were being nominated."

Krista explains, "They sent an email explaining there is an Arts of Celebration at Darke Hall and that we were recognized and we can come. It is a good chance to network and get our name out there and also be visible to Sask Arts who give a lot of money to arts organizations and artists in the province.

"It is a good opportunity for us. Sask Arts will give out grants, but usually you have to be established for about a year, but if they know us and talk to somebody then they know of us.

Terry says, "When we had our Omenum arts display here already, Sask Arts came and toured our space as well, but that is only one division of it. There are different divisions and we just have to get known by all the divisions.

"MADAC has booked two of the arts displays for this season so this was the first one and the next one happens in January. So, in the meantime I would like to do local art. I would like to see a monthly display."

Arts centre has come a long way

"I think it is surreal to look back on how far we have come." Krista said.

Terry says it is amazing seeing the people experience the classes.

"It's so awesome. When you can see people that have been through the classes and come out and they're pumped because they can't wait for the next one, it's really good."

They have had many suggestions for classes and are open to developing some of the ideas into classes.

"Lots of people have suggested their ideas, probably more than we can handle, there are lots of suggestions. All we need is a teacher attached to each suggestion.



That would make it easier."

Krista adds, "There is a lot of people messaging us saying they would love to see classes like this, I have always wanted to learn this. So, we are taking suggestions."

They are hoping to get their pottery classes going soon.

"Money is the thing. We have one wheel, one kiln, the wiring and the other things we need done to run the kiln should be done by the end of the week. We will see how that plays out, but then it is to purchase the remainder of the equipment. Sponsorship that is always a big part of that." Terry said.

Krista adds, "We think about \$30,000 will get our clay up and running with everything that we want. That is a big expense on the list of wants, the pottery. It is just taking a bit of time. I think for pottery we should be able to do hand-building classes (which don't require a pottery wheel) right away."

Terry says they have been working on supplying other tools for a variety of different arts. "We have been trying to buy some supplies a little bit here and there. Amongst that we have gone ahead and gotten a longarm, a quilting machine, to appeal to the people who are quilting. We are trying to diversify a little bit, not just focus on one area. If is coming, the pottery seems to feel a little bit slow, but it is partly because so many other things have been going on."

Hopes for the future

Krista and Terry have high hopes for the future of the arts centre.

Terry says, "I think we are just touching the tip of the iceberg on people that know about, it because there are still a lot of other people who don't know and meeting those people's needs. There is a lot of room to grow yet, hopefully we just keep rolling."

Terry adds, "Or view. I really see a dedicated gallery space being something that is important. Also, the adequate staffing would allow that to be a possibility. I can see that meeting peoples needs for getting some exposure."

Krista states, "I hope we are well known enough and established enough that we can attract International artists who come and teach here and host classes or do a residence, stuff like that would be amazing, not just for the centre, but for the town. I am proud of what we have accomplished so far. We are doing what we set out to do."

Terry explains they have heard lots of positive feedback from the community for its variety of arts classes.

"We have heard positive feedback for the most part. I know I have heard a number of times, lots of people never would have thought they would have been able to do certain arts in Moosomin or take classes in Moosomin. One thing I hear all the time is people who say they aren't creative, but once they take a class and try it, they realize they can be creative. I know some of those people who were drawing with Devon Taylor had skills they didn't even know they had. Like everything else, it is not just inherent ability, you have to practice."



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Fire destroys home of firefighter Sam Burroughs

Continued from Page 4

"I think my dog would have been growling and barking no matter what, but I can't say for sure. It is one of those things that you think 'what if?' I think I would have been alright, but there is still that chance I might not have been. It could have been a completely different outcome. Either way thankful for good neighbours and good dogs."

It took Sam a few seconds to realize what happened before he started gathering clothes, his phone and dog and getting outside.

"I looked up and it took me awhile— maybe five seconds—to wake up and gather myself. I looked in the garage and I could see half of the window was smoke and half was glowing orange, and I heard glass breaking. Then I realized this is actually happening."

"I am not on the receiving end of these fire calls—it is usually the other way around. Once I realized what was happening, I just thought I had to just get out. There are lots of people like me who have a game plan an escape route. I have a window that I've always thought in case something happens that is where I am going out. I thought about that, but then I looked and could get out through the main entrance of the house. I ran by my shoes and scooped those up and I didn't even put them on. I got outside and thought what am I doing just holding these? So, then I put them on at least."

"There wasn't a whole lot of smoke in the basement that I can remember, but I do remember going through quite a bit on the main floor. So, I think looking back now I probably should have gone out my bedroom window, but I did what I did. At least it is a favourable outcome."

Training helped

Burroughs says his firefighter training was helpful. "I think my training as a firefighter helped me in some ways. It's still all panic mode. I got outside and Tyler was there yelling for me. He's on the phone and I straight up said 'I will call them I have a straight line to them instead of being transferred' and he was already on the line with the department. Then, I ran around back to try to get the garden hose on to try and spray the side of his house, but the tap was frozen. Then, Tyler ran up to me and told me to get going so I went to jump in my car, but I didn't have any keys for that because they were in the house. So, then Ava ended up getting a ride from the neighbour there to the fire hall. It seemed like a long wait. I feel for everyone now. I don't know what the response time was, but it feels like a long wait. It was weird being on the receiving end of that calls. As soon as I got back there I jumped in and helped. I wasn't just going to watch my house on fire."

Overwhelming support

Burroughs has received overwhelming support since the fire, and says he is proud to be from small town Saskatchewan.

"It's overwhelming support. We all know how awesome this town is. You know, that small town Saskatchewan mentality and I just can't say enough about everyone. I don't even know where to start on who to thank. Just when you get your feet knocked out from underneath you the town is right there to pick you up. It is amazing. From my neighbours, the Thorns have been really good whether it is cash donations, clothes, lending a vehicle. I am staying at Tyler and Angela's house right now. The support from everyone else whether it is clothes, gift cards, or even just reaching out, it has been overwhelming. There is a lot going on and you get a little emotional talking and just thinking about it. You're glad to have the kind of support from this town here and makes you proud to be from small town Saskatchewan. I don't typically take handouts that well, but Bill Thorn said it's not a handout it's payback. It's quite humbling."

Sam's next steps are communicating with his insurance company and sifting through his home.

"I'm just dealing with the insurance end of things which is thankfully going smooth so far. I was a little worried about the insurance. I didn't think I had enough contents insurance, but thankfully the girls at Westland Insurance took care of that for me a few years ago. We're in the process of that now. Sifting through everything. The tough part is making a list of everything that was in there. That is what I am doing right now."

Sam says the impact from the house fire is huge and he is looking forward to getting back to a normal routine.

"It's huge. I am taking some time off work. Work has been pretty good about it, too. I'm taking some time off because of everything I have to do. Having to find a home and restart and figure out if we are going to rebuild or buy somewhere else, but that is for another day. The in-

"Most of all, I have learned what I already knew—that this town is amazing."

—Sam Burroughs

surance has been really good. They say it is my choice on rebuilding or not, so I can decide on what to do. In the meantime, I will have to find a rental and get that furnished and get back to my normal everyday routine. Probably the biggest thing is to get back to your routine."

Appreciates being a firefighter

"It makes me appreciate being a firefighter and I'm seeing it in a different way now. I can't thank the fire department enough. I am proud to be a part of it. Being on the opposite end you say 'at least you got out. Everything is replaceable' but now going through everything, you think you are a pretty tough guy, but then you're going through your home and all of your belongings and you realize you're not as tough as you thought. It brings you down quite a bit. So, I can feel for them on a personal level now. Whether that is a good thing or bad thing I don't know, but at least I know what they are going through on those calls now."

Toughest loss

Sam says the sentimental things are the hardest to lose. "The sentimental things that aren't replaceable. I lost both of my grandparents. We lost grandma last year, March 4. Then, grandpa this year March 7. Losing things connected to them is tough. I can salvage some of those things that were there, but there is still a lot of damage. Everything is replaceable, but those sentimental things you will never get back. That's probably the toughest, but we will rebuild. Grandpa and grandma wouldn't want me to dwell on it too much."

He has been able to salvage very few of his belongings. "I was able to salvage the barbecue, the propane tank, and a snow shovel that were on the front deck," he says. "There was some stuff inside that I am going to salvage. I built the table a few years ago and I am going to restore that. I built a clock back in high school and I am going to see if I can restore that and actually a picture of the firefighters I had hanging up above the fireplace. It is pretty beat up, but I am going to do what I can to restore that. A dream catcher grandma made me, I will see if I can get somebody to refinish that for me and the funeral home papers for grandma and grandpa are charred and wet, but you can sort of make those out. Other than that there is not a whole lot and when I say salvaging it, it should be thrown out, but I am holding on to it for sentimental reasons."

Fundraiser planned

Sam's friends are fundraising to support Burroughs as he begins to rebuild his life.

"I don't know much about it. Honestly, I don't want one, but I have been told I have no say in it. With insurance I am covered, but this town is awesome and I have no say in that, so they'll put it on anyway."

"It makes me feel great, though. It's good knowing people care for you. Everyone is stopping and talking to me and it gets you very emotional. People care for you. They keep saying I have done so much and it is time they do something for me. It does drain your bank account pretty quick so the cash donations from people have really helped me out. The Fire Department has been supportive, the Metis group as well, just everyone."

"I can't wait to get out on my own again and get my independence back, not that it hasn't been good living with Tyler and Ang, but I am used to having my own place and they're used to not having me there."

For now he is sifting through the house to recover what he can.

"They're going to look at getting the house demolished as soon as possible so I will go through whatever I can. For insurance I'm working on a list of all the contents of the house. A lot of it will be off memory. I might not be able to remember everything, I had thousands of dollars worth of tools in my garage there."

Learning experience

What has Burroughs learned through the whole experience?

"I learned the danger of construction heaters and space heaters. I had heard the warnings, but now that it actually happened no more of those. I learned that people should honestly take pictures and videos and make lists of contents of your house. It helps, and I mean take pictures and list like everything. That is a big process that I am going through right now. Make a list and keep it in a fireproof safe in the basement where it won't get hot, your passport too. Another thing is to make sure everything is insured. We don't have insurance on that quad. So, we are taking a hit on that, but we'll deal with that. A lot of learning curves there."

"Most of all, I have learned what I already knew—that this town is amazing."

Turn to Pages 9 & 28 for information on the Sam Burroughs fundraiser being planned for June 1.

CAREER OPPORTUNITY

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

The Council of the Rural Municipality of Pipestone, with the support of Way To Go Consulting Inc., is seeking an individual that will bring strong leadership skills to this position. Information on the position is available at www.rmofpipestone.com

Individuals interested in this position should send a resume and cover letter by email to Ernie Epp, Way To Go Consulting Inc., at ernie.epp@waytogoconsultinginc.ca indicating "Pipestone" in the subject line.

The selection committee intends to review applications as received, with applications continuing to be accepted until the right candidate is found.

We thank all who apply and advise that only those selected for further consideration will be contacted.



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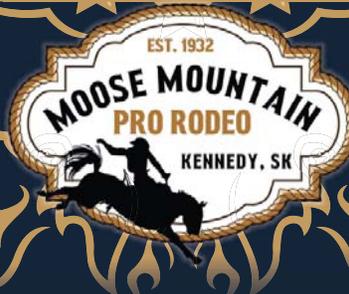


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Charlie Leslie, Nancy Apskrum want to spread awareness of disease: Living with Crohn's and Colitis a constant challenge

BY ASHLEY BOCHEK

Charlie Leslie is only 16 and says it is a constant challenge living with a chronic disease, Ulcerative Colitis. She just wants people to understand the challenges she faces.

Nancy Apskrum has seen Crohn's and Colitis from a different perspective, as a mother and a Registered Nurse.

Both women will participate in the Gutsy Walk to raise awareness of Crohn's and Colitis in Regina June 2.

"For me, the Gutsy Walk is letting other people know what the disease is about, and trying to spread awareness as much as we can," says Charlie. "It is definitely not about the money for me. I want people to understand it is an everyday occurrence in lots of people's lives and it is hard to live with. Lots of people don't see that because it is a disease on the inside and not the outside."

Nancy says it's hard for people to understand just how much of an impact the diseases can have on people. "Crohn's and Colitis Canada deals with the two big ones. Crohn's and Ulcerative Colitis, but I find in the work that I've been doing the various types of irritable bowel disease all have a big impact. I've seen it as a mother and as a nurse, but I have never lived with it. I think until you do, you really won't understand."

"I call it spoons. You can only have so many spoons throughout the day for like certain tasks you have to have so many spoons for everything," says Charlie. "So, going to school is like six spoons and you have 12. Then, going to work is three spoons and then how many spoons do you have left to do what you want, because then by the time you are done work you feel sick. You wake up in the morning and have zero spoons and then by the time you get out of bed and get ready for school you have two or three spoons. You keep getting them until lunch I feel and then by that time you

are losing spoons again because you are just tired of the sitting there all day and communicating with everyone. It drains you, especially when having to leave classes because you don't feel good and then work. A lady at the last Gutsy Walk shared the spoons idea with me," Charlie says.

Nancy adds, "It hits your immune system. If it takes a big hit you don't have a lot of an immune system left to deal with normal activities of daily living that the rest of us don't even understand."

"When we do the Gutsy Walk you walk with others that have active disease and for me that is like winning the lottery to walk with others and hear their stories."

Charlie said, "I love getting to hear the stories at Gutsy Walks. When I was the Honorary Chair I was 14, but I didn't really understand what it was about. I had to write how it impacted my life and mine was a very short story, but last year there was a lady and I thought her story was very close to me because she danced and talked about sports that I played and she talked about how hard it was having the disease and having to quit dance because of it and I just felt like I was in the same shoes as her. It's so hard to find someone your age that has the disease and understands."

Progress is being made

Nancy says there has been improvement in treatment for Crohn's and Colitis thanks to fundraising and research efforts.

"When my son, was diagnosed at age 12 there was very little treatment for him so really that is why I got started because I live in Moosomin and I had to see what I could do from here. The only way to get a better quality of life for people with active disease was to raise money to fund research, so now what is

available for Charlie and the treatment regimen that she has, compared to what was available for my son when he was diagnosed. It is like another world. That is why I can't quit and give up—because Charlie and my son are walking examples of living with this disease. There is no cause, no cure, and no one treatment that works for everybody."

Charlie adds, "They try the one treatment that they think will work for everyone. It works for 98 percent of the people which is called Remicade which is what most people are on, but for that two percent of people it doesn't work, and I am one of those two percent."

Continued on Page 36 ^{ESP}



Charlie Leslie and Nancy Apskrum proudly supporting Gutsy Walk and bringing awareness to the Crohn's and Colitis disease. The event will be held in Regina June 2.



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Moosomin first in Saskatchewan, sixth in Canada: Smile Cookie campaign raises \$45,000

BY ASHLEY BOCHEK

More Smile Cookies were sold in Moosomin this year than ever before, with \$45,000 worth of Smile Cookies sold. That's more than \$10,000 higher than the previous record sales for Moosomin, \$34,335 last year.

Moosomin's sales were the highest in Saskatchewan this year, for the third year in a row, and sixth nation wide. Moosomin has also had the highest Holiday Smile Cookie sales for the last two years.

Moosomin Tim Hortons owner Greg Crisanti says the community's support makes the Smile Cookie fundraiser successful.

"We are absolutely thrilled and beyond

joyful with the results again this year. It just shows the amazing community support we have in Moosomin," he said.

"To claim top spot in Saskatchewan for the third year in a row for our regular campaign, and we did it twice, in our holiday cookie campaign. It is just an unbelievable honour for us to have and to say thanks to the community is just unbelievable.

"The total fundraising dollars that we had come in is \$44,999.10 for Moosomin. That is top first place in Saskatchewan and sixth place across Canada and the US. It is extraordinary and unbelievable, especially, for a community our size to have that much support and that amount of numbers come out of the one single Tims,

I definitely can't say thank you enough to our community sponsors, the staff, as well as everyone who purchased a smile cookie

for our day care is terrific."

Continued on page 38



McNaughton High Grade 6 students Aubree Easton and Blakeley Hintz decorating Smile Cookies during Moosomin's Smile Cookie Week.



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Sask Volunteer Medal presented to Suzanne Eisler

BY KEVIN WEEDMARK

Wawota's Suzanne Eisler, who started the Little Dresses group that makes clothing for children in developing countries, was honored with the Saskatchewan Volunteer Medal at Government House Tuesday.

The following was read out about her as she was presented with her medal:

"Suzanne Eisler, a lifelong farmer in Wawota, has passionately served her community. In 2014 she established Wawota's Little Dresses for Africa, crafting over 13,000 garments for children in developing regions in Africa, South America, the Caribbean, and Mexico.

"During the pandemic they pivoted to producing masks, headbands, scrub hats and bags for Saskatchewan's healthcare workers.

"Suzanne's dedication to volunteerism spans locally and globally, making a significant impact on those in need."

'Celebration of people who have chosen to be positive, productive, and collaborative'

Lieutenant-Governor Russ Mirasty paid tribute to all of the volunteers honored that day.

"Today's event is a celebration of people who have chosen to be positive, productive and collaborative," he said. "You, the recipients, are kind and caring for those around you, for your community, and really by extension, our province.

"Many volunteers are uncomfortable receiving public recognition, but it is important to acknowledge those citizens whose hard work and dedication benefits our communities, both to thank them and to inspire others to become actively involved.

"Today's medal recipients donate their time and talents in a wide range of various ways. Each one has worn many different volunteer hats as a board member, fundraiser, coach, mechanic, crafts person and organizer and the list goes on. These recipients have contributed to diverse fields but they share a common interest in, quite simply, lending a hand wherever it is needed.

"They are not afraid of getting their hands dirty. These honorees have been involved in projects and take on whatever challenges and responsibility comes with tremendous leadership.

"I've always believed that everyone can contribute to create the communities we want to live in through our efforts and these honorees have proved that each of us has the power to make a positive change and that together we can accomplish great things.

"I congratulate the recipients on this well deserved honor. Thank you for what each of you have done and will continue to do for your community and your province.



Honored with Saskatchewan Volunteer Medal

Wawota's Suzanne Eisler was presented with the Saskatchewan Volunteer Medal at Government House Tuesday. She was presented with the medal by Lieutenant Governor Russ Mirasty.

Kevin Weedmark photo

Thank you for your exceptional example of service."

'Long history of volunteerism'

Premier Scott Moe also paid tribute to the medal recipients.

"Saskatchewan residents have a long history of volunteerism and dedication to serving others and I would say that is unmatched across the nation," he said.

"Currently our province has over 300,000 active volunteers. From volunteering, to coaching a child's sports team, to chairing a large non-profit—all volunteers are vital to their own community, whether that be a community by geography or community by the sector that they are volunteering in.

"Every person decides to take time away from themselves or their family to volunteer, no matter how big or how small that commitment may be, and they're making a positive change. They're an inspiration to so many others.

"Volunteerism is also a huge part of our province's collective history. Our province is well known for a community-minded approach, for looking after our neighbors and looking after those who may be facing challenges, not just here at home but abroad. The thousands of hours that vol-

unteers devote to Saskatchewan citizens and causes, certainly doesn't go unnoticed, and this is why we're all here today to recognize and to celebrate 10 outstanding volunteers.

"As I look at today's recipients, I feel great pride for everyone—for all of the people across the province. You've dedicated so much of yourselves over the years for the betterment of your particular organization, your particular community—the organization or community that you have touched—and touched so dearly.

"You are our honored guests here today and you are numbered among 261 recipients of the Saskatchewan Volunteer Medal ever. You have given decades, and some over 60 years, of volunteering in service of your community and your organizations that you're passionate about.

"Your collective work is a shining example of our provincial motto which is 'From Many Peoples Strength.' You've inspired countless other individuals to also take up the mantle of your volunteering effort and the influence that you provide, I would say won't be forgotten for so many years to come. Never underestimate the inspiration that you bring when you step forward to volunteer in your community.

"It brings others to that same table whether it be by recognizing and supporting the Canadian Armed Forces both past and present, whether it be by making personal protective equipment for healthcare workers during the Covid pandemic, whether it be by raising funds for the Ronald McDonald House, promoting the province's arts and sports, educating the youth about the province's agricultural history, helping Ukrainian refugees settle here in Saskatchewan, or supporting mental health initiatives that we are so very, very thankful for."

Continued on page 35

unteers devote to Saskatchewan citizens and causes, certainly doesn't go unnoticed, and this is why we're all here today to recognize and to celebrate 10 outstanding volunteers.



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Living with Alzheimer's Disease a heart-wrenching journey: One family's experience with Alzheimer's Disease

BY ASHLEY BOCHEK

Bill Thorn says he has learned a lot as he, his wife Phyllis, and their family have lived with Phyllis's Alzheimer's diagnosis over the last decade, but the most important lesson he has learned is the true value of friendship.

"What I have really learned from the experience is the value of friendship. So many people—Phyllis's friends—they ask me every day of how she is doing, and people come to me and my kids and they really care about us and what we are going through.

"I have learned how valuable it is to have good friends. It's so important to have friends and I even think in some ways it is a reflection of this community as to everybody looks out for each other and we seem to bond together when we need to.

"It sure helps to get through the days. Knowing that they are there or somebody there that will give you a hug or squeeze your hand. Knowing that you have somebody that just cares in your life."

He has also learned the importance of support from people going through the same thing. There is a local support group in Moosomin for families dealing



Supportive family

Phyllis Thorn has a supportive family behind her as she lives with Alzheimer's Disease. She is a resident of Cobblestone House in Moosomin, which opened just last year.

with Alzheimer's and other forms of Dementia.

"People don't understand what it's like unless you live with it, and this group helps you by bringing together people who all understand.

"It is different than talking to your friends about it

because these people have lived through it, and we all have similar experiences. With Alzheimer's, every case is different, but there are similarities between the individual cases. It helps prepare people on what to expect down the road to hear from people who have

been through it. In my case, it was making the decision to put my wife Phyllis into a care home that was difficult. It was a very tough decision and that group helped us as a family to do that."

"It can be pretty depressing if you don't have some-

body to lean on. That depression leads to so many other elements if you just let that get away on you. Depression can lead to a lot of other illnesses. If it helps keep somebody relatively healthy by trying to find something positive every day. That is what we try to

do, because a lot of people are living in unfriendly ways of life. I think the ones that come on a regular basis appreciate that we are available. They know what you are going through.

"A lot of your friends feel sorry for you and they care, but people that have lived through it seem to understand it a little better as compared to somebody who hasn't. It has been good for us. That key group of about half a dozen or so have really enjoyed what we have got out of it."

Facing Alzheimer's for a decade

He said Phyllis was first diagnosed with Alzheimer's a decade ago.

"My wife was showing signs probably 10 years ago of memory and struggling with basic duties like cooking, driving a car, she would get lost uptown. One of the first things I noticed was how she couldn't keep track of her golf score. She didn't have the right score. She was having trouble remembering how many shots she took and I could see her struggling with that at least 10 years ago."

He said it is difficult to see the cognitive decline in a loved one.

"You see them daily and from one month to the next you think how much they have declined from what they could do a month ago and they can't do it today. Sometimes it levels off and goes pretty good for maybe six months and then all of a sudden it'll just spiral.

"I remember very early talking to Dr. Van about it and I remember him telling me some people decline steadily and others in steps, but about 10 years from now they will all end up about the same level of cognitive abilities. Some people go a lot quicker than others, but at the end they all seem to be at the same level.

"In our case, we are very lucky. Phyllis has never been violent and never gets upset, but some of them get very vocal. The pod they have there at Cobblestone House is for people with Dementia issues. They try to keep them all in the same group."

Cobblestone a godsend

Thorn said having the care available at Cobblestone House for people with Dementia makes it easier on families.

"Having Cobblestone in our town is a godsend for us, it makes it way easier to be part of Phyllis's life without having to be two hours away. The staff is just so caring. They really care about her and she cares about them. She has bonded well with them. Sometimes I will be sitting there and the girls will be over somewhere and she will say 'well I am going to go now' and she will leave me to go sit with the girls because she has made friends with them."

Continued on Page 31

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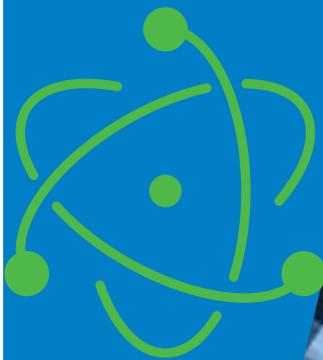
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Kitchens: Spotlight on 3 key trends in 2024

Are you thinking about renovating your kitchen? Are you building a new home and designing your kitchen from scratch? Here's a look at some of this year's latest trends to inspire you.

1. Create a spa-like atmosphere. Melt away the stresses of everyday life by creating a relaxing, warm and uncluttered space. This means doing away with bright, clinical lighting (think low lighting!). Fill the space with soft, organic colours like sandy brown and warm grey. Ideally, the cupboards should have no handles and focus on natural materials.
2. Curate a space for social interaction. Modern kitchens are designed to be a space for cooking together or breaking bread with loved ones. Spacious islands with rounded corners, along with stools or benches and other types of dining areas, are all the rage. The focus is on creating a convivial atmosphere where family and friends can gather and enjoy each other's company.
3. Make eco-responsible choices a priority. Incorporate sustainable practices into every aspect of the space. This includes using recycled materials, VOC-free paint and wood from sustainably managed forests. You can also choose intelligent or ENERGY STAR-certified electrical appliances, such as the refrigerator and dishwasher, to reduce your carbon footprint further.

Creating the kitchen of your dreams requires careful planning. Otherwise, you could exceed your budget or run into other unpleasant surprises. Call on the services of a kitchen design specialist in your area to ensure your project goes off without a hitch.

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HOME & GARDEN

Lighting options to brighten your yard!

There are endless options when it comes to outdoor lighting. Halogen or LED? Electric or solar? Here are a few ideas to help you make the right choice.

BULBS

Each type of bulb has its advantages. LED bulbs are renowned for their durability. Plus, you'll end up saving on replacement costs. They also consume up to 75 per cent less electricity than halogen bulbs. However, halogen bulbs give off more heat, which can melt the snow around your trees in winter and save you some time and effort shovelling.

POWER

One big question remains: is it better to opt for lights that run on electricity or solar energy? Here's a quick comparison:

- Electric lights are affordable and reliable. However, they require more equipment, and it can be hard to hide the cables.
- Solar lights are practical, removable and low maintenance. However, the light's intensity is weak and limited to the amount of sunlight the fixture receives during the day.

You'll also need to consider the characteristics of your yard, the slope and the visual effect you want to achieve. Not sure which product to choose? Talk to a landscaping professional for enlightenment.



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HOME & GARDEN

3 landscaping trends for 2024

LET YOURSELF BE INSPIRED!

Do you want to add some flair to your yard? Here are a few trends that'll be everywhere in 2024.

1. ZEN SPACES

It's essential to make time to escape from the hustle and bustle of everyday life and recharge your batteries. That's why many homeowners are creating Zen gardens on their property. These gardens are distinguished by their stunning rock arrangements, flagstone paths, minimalist plants,

soothing sculptures and water features like pools, waterfalls and fountains.

2. PERGOLAS

Often made of wood, vinyl or aluminum, these structures are a must for elegantly defining your outdoor space and creating a casual shaded area. Depending on your preferences, you can install yours on a paved surface or your deck. With some well-placed furniture and decorative elements, it'll become your favourite place to enjoy

the summer!

3. ROCK GARDENS

Rock gardens are ideal for creating a modern-looking landscape, featuring a few well-chosen plants that require very little maintenance. If mowing the lawn and

weeding aren't your go-to pastimes, a rock garden is the way to go.

Visit your local nurseries and garden centres to find everything you need to enhance the beauty of your yard this year.



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HOME & GARDEN

7 chores kids can do in the garden



Gardening is an ideal opportunity to learn, observe nature and develop a sense of responsibility. Include your children in your gardening activities by having them take care of these seven tasks.

1. Planting seeds. From designing the plot to planting the seeds, these steps can be the beginning of a great adventure.
2. Digging holes. This task is an opportunity for your kids to learn how to use gardening tools. They can also just use their hands.
3. Composting. Although it's recommended to keep dead leaves on the ground to make the most of their benefits, adding them to a compost pile is also an excellent initiative for your kids.
4. Harvesting. Harvesting helps your children understand where their food comes from and teaches them to recognize when a fruit or vegetable is ripe enough to be picked.
5. Weeding. Using gardening gloves or a tool

to pull weeds can be a fun activity. You can add to their enthusiasm by rewarding them for each weed they remove.

6. Watering. It only takes a quick lesson to teach a child how to correctly water various plants.

7. Spreading mulch. Your youngest will have a great time spreading mulch with their hands. It's also an excellent opportunity for your older children to learn to use a rake.

There are loads of ways for your children to help you in the garden. Just be sure to assign them age-appropriate responsibilities.

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HOME & GARDEN

'Which lawnmower should I choose?'



During the summer, mowing your lawn is a must. It can be a moment of relaxation for some, while others may see it as a chore. Whatever your perspective, having the right equipment

is essential. If you're looking to buy a lawnmower but can't make sense of the numerous options available, these tips can help you make an informed decision.

Consider the size and type of lawn

The larger your lawn, the more energy it takes to maintain it. If your yard is less than 15,000 square feet, an electric mower will generally be quite efficient. However, the power cable could make it challenging to manoeuvre in hard-to-reach areas. In this case, a battery-powered mower could be a better option. A self-propelled gas-powered model might be suitable if your lawn is steeply sloped.

Keep maintenance costs in mind

Different types of mowers require different levels of care. Unlike their battery-powered counterparts, gas-powered models must be regularly refuelled and topped up with oil. However, electric models can lose their charging capacity over time, forcing you to replace the batteries. This can end up costing up to half of the original price of the mower.

Weigh the pros and cons Remember that an ad-

vantage can hide a disadvantage. Electric and battery-powered mowers are lighter but less robust than gas-powered mowers. Plug-in models are less polluting, but the cable can easily get tangled. Manual reel mowers are still the most environmentally friendly option but require more physical effort.

What's the most critical feature for you? Durability? Ease of use? Low emissions?

Make sure your choice matches your preferences, and don't hesitate to ask a salesperson for advice before you buy.

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A second living room outside? Of course!



There's nothing better than enjoying a refreshing iced coffee or lemonade in your backyard. An inviting patio, deck or courtyard will encourage you to spend more time outdoors and make the most of the season. Here's a quick guide to creating an ideal outdoor living room where you can entertain and relax.

Aim for comfort

Is the outdoor sofa set you have your eye on comfortable? It's always a good idea to try out furniture before buying it. Remember that if you're comfortable, your guests will be too.

Add some greenery

Plants can breathe life into your space. There are many easy-to-maintain and affordable options, such as succulents, pansies and herbs. You can also use potted plants to mark pathways and high-traffic areas.

Evening lighting

String lights or electric lanterns are an excellent choice as they're affordable and durable and add a warm ambience to your decor.

Whether you're reading a book or having a cocktail party with friends, your outdoor living space should be a place where you want to spend many hours. One final tip: choose weather-resistant materials to ensure your backyard oasis is charming and inviting all summer.

Is it time to replace your toilet?

Is your toilet showing its age? Are you thinking about investing in a new one? Are you renovating your bathroom and want to update this essential fixture? Beyond aesthetic considerations, here are some telltale signs it might be time for a new commode:

- The toilet leaks or is frequently clogged.
- The flush mechanism works erratically despite attempts at repairing it.
- There are cracks in the porcelain bowl or tank.
- The water tank runs continuously.
- The toilet is unstable and moves when you sit on it.
- The seat is uncomfortable. Modern models feature elongated bowls, which provide more support and comfort than round seats.
- The plumber visits so often that you've become friends.

If your toilet is past its prime, you may want to consider swapping it for a low-flow model to reduce your water consumption. Has your water bill recently increased? A faulty toilet could be to blame. It may be wise and cost-effective to replace it.

When shopping for a new toilet, it's essential to consider the size and shape of the bowl, as well as the rough-in distance, to ensure you make the right choice.



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HOME & GARDEN



How to plant a windbreak

Windbreaks are commonly used in the agricultural industry to protect crops and reduce soil erosion. However, they're becoming increasingly popular on residential properties. For instance, a windbreak can help protect your home from strong winds if you live in an area with few buildings and sparse tree cover.

CRITERIA

Planting a windbreak requires careful planning. To ensure its effectiveness, you must consider the following:

- The plant's growth, including its mature height, width and thickness
- The plant's orientation in relation to the wind
- The plant's permeability



Before starting your project, consult your municipality's bylaws. For instance, you may need to plant your windbreak a certain distance from buildings, ditches, waterways and electrical wires.

SPECIES

If you want to get the most out of your investment, take the time to carefully select trees or shrubs that will block the wind while also beautifying your property. Avoid invasive exotic species at all costs. Instead, choose native species that are easy to maintain and can withstand temperature variations.

Popular windbreak trees include spruce, pine, hemlock, cedar, elder, crab-apple and poplar. If you want to attract birds and pollinating insects, plant tree or shrub varieties they like. Need advice on planting and maintaining your windbreak? Consult your local nursery or contact a landscaping company in your area.

Are you itching to buy an air fryer? Read this first!



commodate an air fryer. These appliances can be bulky, so ensure you have enough counter or cupboard space. If necessary, declutter by getting rid of items you no longer need.

CAPACITY

Next, consider the capacity of the air fryer. If you cook large quantities of food or have a big family, it's best to opt for a model with a capacity of at least five litres. A smaller model will require you to cook in batches, which can be time-consuming.

ming.

MAINTENANCE

Some air fryers are easier to clean than others because of a non-stick coating. If you hate handwashing and prefer to put items like the basket or grate in the dishwasher, ensure the air fryer you choose has dishwasher-safe parts.

Many advantages

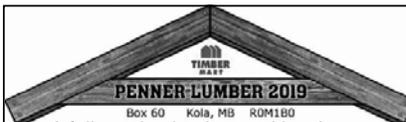
Air fryers use less electricity and produce less heat than conventional ovens. This makes them perfect for summer! They can cook all kinds of food quickly, including meat, French fries and desserts. Depending on the model, you also use little to no oil.

Happy shopping!



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Have some of your friends or family members bought an air fryer and swear by this versatile appliance? If their enthusiasm has convinced you to get one for yourself or you want to get on board with the trend, keep these points in mind.

SPACE

Before you start shopping, ensure you have enough space in your kitchen to accommodate an air fryer.

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The importance of inspecting your roof: how to avoid unpleasant surprises

Every spring, it's a good idea to inspect your roof to see if it withstood the winter months. This will help you identify any problems and take necessary action. Here's what you need to know when doing a thorough visual inspection of your roof.

SAFETY FIRST

Climbing onto your roof can be risky, so use appropriate safety equipment, including closed-toe, non-slip shoes, a sturdy ladder and a safety harness. Having someone help you stabilize the ladder and be available in an emergency is also a good idea.

Additionally, ensure the roof is dry before inspecting it. Choose a day with minimal wind and cool temperatures to avoid working on a screaming hot surface.

THINGS TO CHECK

First, remove any debris, such as leaves. Then, inspect all accessible parts of the roof to

identify problems such as:

- Standing water
- A damaged or deformed membrane
- An uneven gravel layer
- Cracked sealing joints
- Rusted or flimsy flashing
- Protruding nails
- Missing, broken or lifted shingles
- Mould

It's also a good idea to examine your attic, walls and ceilings while you're at it. Check for signs of water infiltration or poor ventilation. Unpleasant odours, mould, excessive moisture and peeling paint are telltale signs that something's amiss.

If you notice an issue, don't wait for it to worsen. Seek professional help. If you're uncomfortable inspecting your roof, call a local roofing professional to get the most accurate assessment of your roof's condition.



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HOME & GARDEN



Buying a hot tub: avoid these faux pas

Are you dreaming of owning a hot tub? Before you go shopping, be aware of these three common mistakes:

1. **Miscalculating your budget.** Do you have enough money to buy a hot tub? Don't forget the cost of installation, electricity and maintenance. Carefully evaluate your budget to avoid going into debt.
2. **Not trying it out.** Imagine getting in your hot tub for the first time and real-

izing it's uncomfortable or the water doesn't cover your entire body when you sit down.

3. **Paying for unnecessary extras.** Having a hot tub with the latest stereo system, for example, can be costly. Why consider flashy extras if you have no intention of using them?

Visit your local hot tub retailers to find one you can enjoy year-round!



5 golden rules for a productive vegetable garden



Do you want to start your very first vegetable garden? Did your last attempt go differently than planned? Put on your gardening gloves and follow these five tried-and-tested tips.

1. Choose the right spot

A healthy garden needs at least six hours of sunshine a day. Choose a bright spot sheltered from the wind to minimize the risk of damaging your plants. Pro tip: don't plant anything within five metres of a tree to prevent the roots from interfering with the growth of your vegetables.

2. Fertilize the soil

Give your garden soil a helping hand to yield a good harvest. Add compost to the soil when planting your seeds and seedlings, and use a natural, commercial fertilizer every three or four weeks.

3. Sow reliable plants

Before getting your hands in the soil, select plants that are easy to care for and produce a lot of veggies. Tomatoes, carrots, radishes, cucumbers and zucchini typically guarantee success.

4. Water regularly

This may seem obvious, but you must water your garden often. If you water in the morning, the foliage will have time to dry out during the day, reducing the risk of disease and fungus.

5. Harvest with care

When harvesting vegetables, use garden shears or clippers to avoid breaking the plant. This allows the plant to continue producing.

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HOME & GARDEN

Factors to consider when planting the right tree in the right place

Are you thinking of planting a tree or multiple trees on your property? Whether you select the location or the tree first, there are certain factors you need to consider to ensure the tree survives and thrives. Here are a few:

- **Soil type.** Different tree species have specific soil preferences. You must determine if your soil is dry, damp, sandy or loamy and choose a tree that will grow well in those conditions.
- **Sunlight.** The amount of sunlight your planting site receives and the amount required by the tree species is another important factor.
- **Hardiness zone.** Choose a species that can survive in your region's hardiness zone, or it may not make it through the winter.
- **Tree characteristics.** You must consider various aspects of the tree, including its height, width, shape, type, colour of the leaves, flowering habits and other characteristics that suit the available space and match your preferences.
- **Surroundings.** If your yard has a swimming pool, vegetable garden, parking area or power lines, it will influence your choice of tree species and location. For example, you

don't want a tree whose fruit will fall on your car or the neighbour's property or that will eventually shade your vegetable garden.

- **Local regulations.** Some cities and towns have specific

requirements regarding the species planted and the location.

Don't hesitate to consult your local plant nursery to make an informed decision.

Good to know

Developed by scientists and policymakers at Natural Resources Canada (NRCAN), the My Tree app helps you choose the right tree for your backyard. It includes over 180 native and introduced tree species and their colour-coded hardiness zones.



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Plain & Valley

May 2024 • Page 25

Covering Southeast Saskatchewan and Southwest Manitoba



Redvers Mayor Brad Bulbuck officially cut to the ribbon at the grand opening of the new Redvers Ag Kubota dealership on Thursday, April 18.

From left are Jenna Dangstorp, Mayor Brad Bulbuck, Talaya Dangstorp, Adele Dangstorp, and Perry Dangstorp holding Kepler Dangstorp.

700 attend grand opening for new Redvers Ag Kubota dealership

BY KARA KINNA

Around 700 people packed into the building and lined up for lunch on April 18 when Redvers Ag held the grand opening for their new Kubota dealership at the corner of Highways 8 and 13.

On hand to help make presentations and cut the ribbon that day were Redvers Mayor Brad Bulbuck, as well as Kubota's Saskatchewan rep Bruce Nordick, and Andrew Marshall with Kubota Canada. There were also reps from Degelman, Macdon, and Versatile-Ag on site.

The day consisted of a free catered lunch by Weir's Catering, and a draw for a free Kubota zero turn mower.

Perry Dangstorp, the owner of Redvers Ag, says it was inspiring to see so many people come out to congratulate their family on the new dealership.

"There were lots of people from Carlyle, Alameda, Ox-bow, Gainborough, there were a few from Moosomin and Rocanville. I was very happy with the distance that people were travelling," says Dangstorp.

"It felt really good. You kind of feel validated for what you've done.

"The Kubota guys were all from Toronto and usually

they'd want a dealership to be in the hub of the area. And one of the Kubota guys was like 'is there another town under the town of Redvers? Where are all these people coming from?' " adds Dangstorp with a laugh.

Dangstorp says it was important to build a new dealership in Redvers.

"It's important just so that everyone in the community knows that you are committed and you are going to be in it for the long term," he says. "And our old facility was outdated a long time ago and it was overdue."

The staff at Redvers Ag have been working out of the new facility for three months now. The new facility is 6,000 square feet.

"It has the same parts storage as the old building, a bigger parts display, so we are able to better advertise all of our parts, and more offices for office staff, and a showroom to show the equipment all year instead of fighting the weather," says Dangstorp. "The staff have been very positive. It's nice. It's a lot more appealing in terms of going there to buy something or work there."

Dangstorp hopes the new facility has a positive impact on the community.

"First would be jobs in Redvers, for the community. And second, it's a reason for people to come to Redvers. It's a draw for Redvers because if they want that equipment they have to come to Redvers, there are no other dealers close by."

Why invest in Redvers?

"This is where I'm from," says Dangstorp. "We also have two other businesses. We have a farm and construction business that are both based out of Redvers. And we've always had good support locally, so there was no reason for us to even entertain not opening a business in Redvers. The community has never given us a reason why we shouldn't have a business in Redvers."

"There were a lot of manufacturers that came, and for them to see how many customers we have and how many people were willing to support us in such a small town was kind of eye opening for everyone, and they just got a good taste of what a rural community really is."

"It was also good for people to come and realize how many other customers there are and how many people we serve."

Continued on Page 33



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2023 farmland rental rates largely unchanged, yet cash flow advantage from renting grew

BY LYNE MICHAUD, É.A., SENIOR ANALYST, VALUATIONS AND JUSTIN SHEPHERD, SENIOR ECONOMIST, ECONOMICS
 The FCC Farmland values report reported farmland value increases for 2023 which raised land affordability challenges for farm operations. Generally, the cost to rent farmland is lower than financing, thus renting is a worthwhile alternative to explore in support of cash flow, while minimizing financial risk. Location is, as for any real estate decision, a key factor. With many rental agreements locked in for multiple years, recent increases in farmland values do not immediately impact the operations bottom line.

Rent to Price ratio analysis

While there are different kinds of rental agreements used in the agriculture sector; this analysis focuses on cash rental agreements.

$$\text{Rent to Price (RP) ratio (measured in \%)} = \frac{\text{Cash rental rate per acre}}{\text{Value of cultivated farmland per acre}}$$

The national RP ratio in 2023 was 2.52%, a slight decrease from 2022 (Table 1). No rates are published for British Columbia this year as data in multiple regions were deemed insufficient to provide an accurate average RP ratio.

The largest increase in farmland values in 2023 were in Saskatchewan, Manitoba, and Quebec. With rental rates rising at a similar pace overall in those provinces the RP ratio remained stable.

In 2022, Ontario saw the highest increase in farmland values with an average 19.4% increase, with a more modest increase of 10.7% in 2023. With the RP ratio decreasing this year this indicates that cash rental rates agreements have not evolved at the same pace as farmland values.

Similar results were observed in Atlantic provinces with the rate of increase in rental agreements being lower than the rate of farmland value appreciation in both New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island. These provinces experienced higher than average increases in farmland values in 2022.

As a risk mitigation practice for renters, cash rental agreements are often negotiated for longer periods, which encourages better land stewardship. It is also important to note that there is considerable fluctuation in each province's cash rental rates and farmland values; so only the weighted provincial and national average is disclosed here. The high-end RP ratio is usually seen on farmland with the lowest value per acre in the province. Specialty crops, like potatoes, are generally negotiated at higher prices than other crops.

Renting farmland can complement land purchases and is often part of long-term strategic growth plans. Let's look deeper at how producers can compare the annual cash flow outcomes of renting compared to purchasing.

Rent versus purchase decision

Renting may be part of the business strategic plan when an operation is looking to expand their land base and grow their operation. Buying land can tie up available capital and reduce cash flow, leaving fewer financing options for machinery, input needs or future expansion opportunities.

While there are obvious advantages of land ownership, cash flow should remain a key consideration for producers as this is tied to the ability to service debt and maintaining agility for capitalizing on opportunities. The difference in per acre profitability is generated by subtracting the cost of renting land from a newly purchased land cost, assuming a 25% downpayment and 25-year amortization length (Figures 1 and 2).

Since 2021, the three prairie provinces have seen an increased cash flow benefit from renting land compared to purchasing. In 2023 in Alberta, rented ground returned \$160 per acre more than newly purchased land. The same story holds true for Manitoba as the per acre difference in profitability due to renting has doubled since 2020. Saskatchewan has also seen the advantage grow for renting over owned as well but with smaller results.

Ontario and Quebec producers have also seen higher cash flow advantages when moving to rental agreements compared to newly purchased land. Ontario's rent advantage was 2.5 times higher in 2023 compared to 2020, while Quebec is 2.1 times higher. While the advantage of renting over financing is significant on cash flow, producers need to understand their cost of production before entering into a new land rental agreement to ensure it meets the needs of their operation.

Province	Rent/Price Ratio	Range		Rent/Price Ratio
		MIN	MAX	
BC	7%			7%
AB	2.40%	1.20%	4.80%	2.80%
SK	3.10%	1.40%	6.20%	3.10%
MB	2.40%	1.10%	4.40%	2.40%
ON	1.38%	0.90%	2.98%	1.40%
QC	1.60%	0.95%	3.00%	1.60%
NB	2.00%	1.25%	2.80%	2.40%
NS	1.80%	1.50%	2.50%	1.80%
PEI	4.30%	1.90%	6.70%	4.30%
Canada	2.82%			2.88%

Table 1: 2023 Rent to price ratio by province, with minimum and maximum range by province, including 2022 Rent to price ratio.

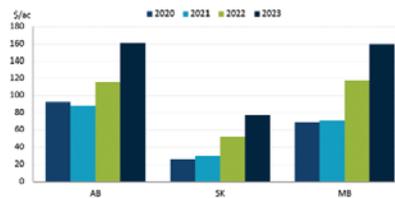


Figure 1: Per acre difference in profitability for renting vs newly purchased land in the Prairies

Note this analysis uses the province wide rent to price ratio, which means the cash flow advantage that renting has over newly purchased land may look significantly different across regions.

What to expect for farmland rental rates going forward

While the financial advantage has clearly swung from financing land to renting, overall profitability for an operation depends on many factors. Ownership vs. renting remains a decision that must meet the business's strategic objectives. Landlords also have a vested interest in seeing tenants committed to the land's long-term health. Sound risk management and collaboration between farmers and landowners are required for successful long-term partnerships.

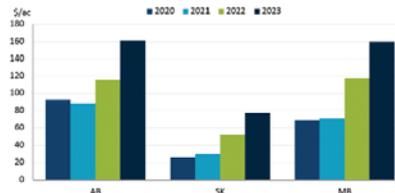


Figure 2: Per acre difference in profitability for renting vs newly purchased land in Ontario and Quebec

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Covering Southeast Saskatchewan and Southwest Manitoba

Government of Saskatchewan invests in veterinary programs at USask

The Government of Saskatchewan is supporting veterinary programs at the University of Saskatchewan (USask) by providing \$13.2 million to the Western College of Veterinary Medicine (WCVM) in 2024-25—an increase of \$667,000.

The provincial government's commitment to veterinary education, research and clinical service was reaffirmed on April 19 during an announcement at the regional veterinary college on the USask campus.

The funding will support high-quality veterinary medicine education in the province as well as the government's commitment to continue to support 25 seats for Saskatchewan students in the college's Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) program.

The additional five seats are designated for students who have background and experience in agriculture and plan to eventually work in rural or mixed animal practice following graduation. This designation will encourage more WCVM graduates to consider careers supporting Saskatchewan's diverse livestock industry, which is driven by cattle and swine production. The province has the second-largest beef cattle herd in Canada, exporting \$207 million worth of live cattle in 2023.

The provincial government's investment in-



From left are, Western Canadian Veterinary Students' Association president-elect Garret Beach, Agriculture Minister David Marit, WCVM Dean Dr. Gillian Muir, Advanced Education Minister Gordon Wyant, University of Saskatchewan President Peter Stoicheff and Provost Dr. Airini.

crease comes at a time of immense pressure on the veterinary community. Several factors—including

ing a rapid increase in pet ownership, a rise in veterinary professionals reaching retirement age, and a

limited number of graduates each year—have led to a shortage of veterinarians and registered veterinary

technologists (RVTs) across Canada. The shortage is especially apparent in rural communities where

veterinary clinics provide essential services for livestock producers and the agriculture industry.

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In wake of devastating house fire:

Fundraiser planned for Sam Burroughs

BY ASHLEY BOCHER

A fundraiser is being planned for June 1 in Moosomin to help out Sam Burroughs, who lost almost everything in a recent house fire.

Ed Blondeau and Angela Thorn are helping organize the event.

"We've had a couple meetings now so everything seems to be going good," Ed says. "Right now, the fundraiser is June 1. There will be a steak supper at the MCC. We're all in the planning stage right now. We have got lots of response already from people willing to donate their time."

Angela adds, "The Moosomin Fire Department, the Local Métis Group, the Kinsmen, and Kinettes are involved with planning the fundraiser."

"I am part of the fire department too so there is that connection plus he is a Métis so there is that connection as well," Ed said. "The family came around and wondered if there was anything that we can do to help, along with the Métis group. He is part of the Kinsmen also. He does a lot for the community, that is the thing. Lots of it is behind the scenes."

Angela adds, "There is insurance of course, but you know there is always catches. There is still places where he is losing money and he's not going to be able to rebuild right away still going to have to live, stuff like that."

Huge volunteer

She says if anyone deserves the community's support, it's Sam.

"He is a huge volunteer in the community and he is always the first person there if you need help with something. He has been my neighbor for many years. He's helped us with letting our dog out or giving our daughter a ride to and from work. He would give you the shirt of your back. He is a great guy so I just feel like he deserves it."

Feels good to help

Ed says it feels good to be able to help. "It's making me feel really good and even the response we are getting from people—it's good. We are expecting to raise a lot. We don't have a target. It will be what it will be. We are hoping it will be very successful. We did think about the silent auction and are thinking about

"He would give you the shirt of your back. He is a great guy so I just feel like he deserves it."

— Angela Thorn

a 50/50, but everything is still all in the planning stages."

Angela adds, "We will sell tickets for the supper. Then after we will have drinks and music and the silent auction. The supper will be \$40 and if people want to come after it will be \$20 cover and you can come have a drink and bid on the silent auction items. The tickets will be available at Home Hardware, the Town Office, any of the fire department members or the Kinsmen, the World-Spectator, or Ed. I will also make up a Facebook post for people to share and find information in the next few days."

Organizers are hoping for 400 people at the fundraiser.

"The Firemen are going to be cooking the steak supper. You will die for our steak!" Ed said.

"We're thinking probably steak, potatoes, and a salad and maybe some dessert. Of course, we would accept it if people wanted to donate any desserts," Angela says.

Ed says once the family contacted the Fire Department the fundraiser it was decided to go forward with it. "After a fire we will meet at the Fire Hall, where we talk and we really didn't push it until the family got involved. Once the family was involved then we decided to do it. I think it will be good."

Angela said that Sam likes to help others, but isn't used to being on the receiving end.

"Sam is pretty proud. It would have been tough to convince him to let us do it, but because his family and community groups wanted to do it, we just decided to. He is staying at our house and when I got home last night he said 'Well you will just have to prerecord me because if I have to get up and do some speech I am not going to be able to talk'. He is pretty overwhelmed right now, it is a lot."

Feeling the love

Angela says Burroughs is overwhelmed by the communities support and can't be-

lieve the amount of love he is feeling from everyone in the community.

"Sam just said already he can't believe the support," says Angela. "My dad showed up and gave him some money, the local clothing stores reached out and have given him credits there, and the Red Barn the other night he went to get his supper and Melinda wouldn't let him pay, just stuff like that. He is just overwhelmed by that. He feels the love from the community and he deserves it."

"We've got a great town here. We also have a great fire department. I know I can't stop saying that, but it was right next door to my house and when they all rolled in there, I said it was just like watching Chicago Fire."

"The vehicles were barely stopped and guys were running out with hoses and

they looked like professionals. They were there so fast. We are so lucky to have a good fire department."

"It probably was only 10 minutes until they got there, but it felt like longer—when we were watching it spread it was terrifying. I get why people get PTSD and nothing bad really happened—Sam lost his home, but he's fine the dog is fine."

She said she credits her daughter and her friend for alerting everyone to the fire.

"Our daughter, she is 15 and it was her and her friend that woke us up and thank God for them. They are very overwhelmed by the whole thing. It's just a lot for their young minds. People keep saying 'oh, we heard that you guys were the heroes' and I keep saying 'no, these 15-year-old girls were the heroes because they did the right thing."

If anyone would like to contribute to the silent auction they can contact Angela Thorn at 306-434-9286, Sharen Hogarth at 306-434-9689 or Ed Blondeau at 306-435-4350.

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Whitewood's 7th annual Farmers and Friends Bonspiel raised \$177,000

BY DONNA BEUTLER

The 7th Annual Whitewood Farmers & Friends Curling Bonspiel has just released its totals for the fundraising event that has become such a huge success over the past several years. The 64-rink bonspiel, under one roof, had an additional 11 teams this year as part of their junior and senior youth portion of the bonspiel.

"An amazing \$177,000 in total was raised this year," committee member Jennalee Beutler told the Moosomin World-Spectator. "We could not have ever imagined the success this event would become and look forward to continuing to host the yearly spiel which draws hundreds of curlers and spectators to our curling rink."

The committee will be retaining \$10,000 of the total for operating expenses for the Whitewood Curling Club and an additional \$5,000 for Whitewood's Youth Curling program.

Another \$10,000 will be put towards the World's Largest Curling Broom project which has been in the works for a few years now. Unfortunately the project had to be halted when the pandemic hit, however, the planning continued and will hopefully be completed before the year is done.

Facility rental fees cost \$17,000 and \$9,886 was paid to volunteer groups who ran the 50/50, worked shifts in the bar and kitchen and catered suppers. These groups included the Whitewood Figure Skating Club, the Whitewood 4-H Beef Club, the Whitewood Grad Class, the Whitewood Fire Fighters, the Wiggles & Giggles Daycare of Whitewood and the Grenfell Curling Club.

An additional \$4,686 in profits was raised in the kitchen by the arena facility and \$118,000 is being held in the grant program fund and will be disbursed following the consideration of grant applications over the next month or so. The deadline for the grant program is May 30, 2024.

According to Beutler, the remainder of the money raised will be held as seed money for next year's bonspiel.



The Whitewood Farmers & Friends Bonspiel committee is shown above with the amount they raised at this year's event. Pictured from left are Jennalee Beutler, Braeden Restau, Scott Mannle, Chad Kelly, Jason Krupski and Warren Delmage.

Saskatchewan boasts year of record exports in 2023

Saskatchewan goods reached over 160 countries in 2023

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

Saskatchewan broke multiple export records for 2023. Total agri-food exports reached over \$20.2 billion, surpassing one of the goals of the Saskatchewan Growth Plan, and agricultural equipment exports reached nearly \$835 million, representing record investments in both categories. Exports to Latin American countries reached a record \$5.4 billion. The province ranked first in Canada for per capita exports, at over double the national average, totaling \$40,425, while the Canadian average was \$18,925.

"Another record-breaking year of exports further demonstrates that Saskatchewan is open for business and continues to

be a reliable, sustainable supplier of products that the world needs," Trade and Export Development Minister Jeremy Harrison said. "Today's report is a testament to the incredible work being done by our exporters, producers and industry leaders. The continuous work of our network of nine international offices to showcase Saskatchewan's story abroad is clearly having an impact on international markets. As the province with the largest per capita exports in the nation, and double the national average, this export growth is leading to the creation of new jobs and opportunities in communities across Saskatchewan."

"Total exports in 2023 reached \$49.3 billion, our second-best year on record," STEP CEO Chris Dekker said. "It takes solid management, strate-

gic marketing, and nerves of steel to be successful in international markets dominated by global uncertainty."

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

STEP is a membership driven, government/industry partnership, designed to promote the growth of Saskatchewan's export industry. For more information, read the Saskatchewan State of Trade Report 2023.

For more information on opportunities in Saskatchewan, visit: investSK.ca.

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LAW FIRM

Organized by local Dementia Support Group: Alzheimer's Walk coming up in Moosomin May 25

BY ASHLEY BOCHEK

A fundraising walk is coming up in Moosomin to raise money for the Alzheimer's Society and awareness of the Moosomin Dementia Support Group.

"We have a support group here. It is the Moosomin Dementia Support Group and we were talking one day about driving into Regina to participate in the Walk for Alzheimer's there, but then thought maybe we should just do one here instead of all of us going into Regina we would do one in Moosomin and see if we can generate a response from the community," said organizer Bill Thorn.

"I was just thinking this morning wouldn't it be a nice feeling at the end of the day if we can say about \$10,000 was raised in the Moosomin Walk-a-thon. It's a good fit for the community that was my thought. I think if we can do a successful one it is a community builder. All of us the people in our group have family and it would be great to see all of them taking part and building community."

While the funds raised will go to the Alzheimer's Society, all forms of dementia are reflected in the local support group, and all will be represented in the walk.

"The Alzheimer's Society is the recognized body, caregivers for people with different forms of dementia are in our group. Alzheimer's is just one part of Dementia, even Parkinson's is a form of Dementia—there is a relationship to the brain function there are several diseases, but Alzheimer's is the best known related to Dementia."

He said the idea for the fundraising walk came from the support group.



"We had our meeting two weeks ago when we started talking about hosting it in town instead of going out of town. We meet the second Tuesday of each month. The group has been around for about four or five years. Over the years we probably have 20 people come and go through the group. There are about eight of us who will go all the time, but people come and go through the group. Sometimes when people's loved ones pass away they don't need the support like they did before, but we still help people who are still grieving over the loss of their person and still come to the group and help out."

"This is the first time the group has done a type of fundraiser in the community and we are hoping that this will let people know there is a support group available if they need support or help."

"It's the first time we are doing this. I think it is going to be good. We are only walking for a couple hours because it is graduation day. We are just going

to walk from 10 until noon because we know families have other things going on that day. We think if it is promoted properly it'll be good. We lived in Portage and born in the Neepawa area and lived in Weyburn. We have friends that I know will be supportive. Tyler is going to reach out to the Ford dealer group and contact all those guys because the dealer group most guys who are dealers now their dads were dealers, so we know the families. I was with Kinsman for many years and Shriner's mak-

ing connections. So, we are going to reach out to them and I am sure everybody else has connections they are going to reach out to. I would be disappointed if we don't make \$10,000. That is just a number that comes to mind, but I think we should be able to come up with a nice number for the Moosomin area to support. In fact, earlier today I had a phone call with the Alzheimer's Society and if people donate because of the efforts we've made here they can tag it to the Moosomin Solicitation

program. Like if some of my friends in Weyburn donate and they go online to donate they then can say it is because of the Moosomin Solicitation program.

"Rene Whelpton in our group is very good with computers and she is reaching out to businesses for sponsoring. Tim Hortons is going to set out some coffee and Co-op is going to do water and cookies. We aren't going to have a lot of speeches, we are just planning on thanking everybody and have some literature to hand out. If we get a day like today it will be good. We are going to meet on the lawn at Cobblestone. That is going to be our rally point. Everybody will meet there at 10 and we are going to have drinks and cookies at 11:30. We think that there will be people there that will come and make donations at that time, but I think most of it will be from our online advertising and stuff like that. There will be a QR code thing so I don't fully understand that, but there will be a QR code that you can use as part of the Moosomin Solicitation and they will track it in Regina and let us know. There will probably be cash

and cheques that we will collect too. The funds go toward the Alzheimer's Society and used for research. They have staff in there that give us information, they help us with keeping us in the know with the technology and anything they're finding trying to keep everybody positive about the future."

The Moosomin Walk for Alzheimer's is set for Saturday, May 25.

The walk will begin at Cobblestone House on Wright Road, with Registration at 10 am and the walk starting at 10:15.

Anyone who is affected in any way by Dementia is welcome to attend support group meetings every second Tuesday of the month at 1 pm at Bethel United Church in Moosomin.

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Living with Alzheimer's Disease a heart-wrenching journey: One family's experience with Alzheimer's Disease

Continued from Page 12

Despite living with Alzheimer's, Phyllis still remembers her family.

"She knows me and has never forgotten who I am. Actually one day, I was there at the home and Phyllis was out in the hall with a new girl who was there so I said, 'Oh, hi I am Bill' and she said back 'Oh you're Bill. She talks about you all the time' So this new girl already knew who I was.

"She remembers the boys and she refers the whole female staff as Angela. She'll say things like 'Angela did my hair today or Angela did my nails' and I know Angela wasn't there, but I think whenever the girls give her a hand she relates them to Angela."

The hardest part

Thorn says that, for him, the hardest part for him is leaving Cobblestone House after a visit with his wife.

"The hardest part for me every day is when I go to visit her and I leave and walk out of the building, I just feel frustrated, I feel angry, I feel guilty.

"I feel all those emotions, but I get to my vehicle and I am so happy we've got that facility here. Every day I feel those emotions, but you can't do anything about it. We are getting through it."

He said it's important to try to stay positive.

"I am really working on seeing the sunshine every day. That is important and that is what we try and talk about in our group, is to try and be positive. You want to think of good things, wake up to good things, because there are so many good things.

"Phyllis's family is all here and she has friends here and some of them will go up and visit her.

"The weather is still something she will talk about, a sunny day, windy day, or snowy day. She gets joy out of a sunny day. One of the girls there teases her a little bit too and she always laughs.

"They're really good to her at Cobblestone. It is a little different than the care at the hospital because there is only about seen in each pod and a little more staff available. They help set the table, clear the dishes off, sweep the floor. The idea is to keep it like your home as if that's your family. For us, the timing of opening Cobblestone was perfect. Within a month after they opened it was time for her to go there. It's been great and that facility is going to be more and more important as time goes on. Each generation is going to need more and more care. Each generation is going to keep growing and people are living longer so we need more care. Less healthcare workers and helpers will be our biggest problem in the future. That whole baby boomer group we came up with medicare and financed it off the ground and now we need it. We're really feeling the pressure because we are not prepared to handle all the needs.

More facilities needed

Thorn said he believes more facilities like Cobblestone House are needed.

"I know we have families that don't have their loved ones in a home close to them so we need more facilities like this," he said.

"They would send them to Regina where they don't know anybody so I think people are going to stay in the community longer and their golden years will be more appreciated with their family in their community."

Research has not led to any breakthroughs in Alzheimer's treatment yet.

"There really hasn't been any success in anything yet, but I know they are making little gains. About three years ago my sister-in-law had a relative in England who had found an Alzheimer's drug there so I took it to Dr. Kerkhoff and he agreed to try it. I thought it worked real well for Phyllis for about six to eight months and I thought it stabilized her quite a bit, but it was temporary and he said that is what it would do."

"We also went to Montreal, Phyllis and I because there was supposedly a silver bullet at a clinic there. There was a program there on exercise and diet. There was this Keto diet of just protein, fiber, and no carbs, which really seem to have some merit to it except you need a certain amount of other stuff in your system and we both went on it and lost weight, but also lost muscle mass. Phyllis never regained her muscle, but I worked out and regained most of it back. We went on that for a bit and I thought it stabilized her for a bit. It was too restrictive we found."

He said there are a range of ages of people impacted by Alzheimer's Disease.

"There are some pretty young ones. Some people get diagnosed in their fifties. Gordon Grant was diagnosed at 58."

Learning experience

Thorn said he has learned a lot from his experience with a loved one facing down Alzheimer's

"I think I have learned to appreciate what there is out there. I keep reminding myself it could be a lot worse. You meet people who have lost loved ones. Having a loss, they call it an ambiguous loss because you grieve, but it is not an end. You lose a very important part of your life, but it doesn't completely go away. That is a hard thing to deal with. I always think it could be a lot worse. You see people suffer from some terrible cancers those diseases there is

no positives in those ones and there is no positive in this one either.

"One thing you learn is you got a lot of friends, and it makes you a stronger person. You learn to look at things a little differently. You realize that people complain about things that aren't really that important.

"You learn to take life a little less seriously, be glad you are healthy, find ways to be happy, and stay involved in all the other things in life.

"I liked to be involved. Learning to sit at home by yourself, that takes a little bit of work too, having nobody else in the house. Phyllis and I we started going together when we were teenagers. We were fourteen and fifteen years old. She worked at the dealership with me for 25 out of the 28 years I was there. We've been a long time together. Fifty-four years we were married, but we were together for six or seven years before that."

He visits Phyllis at Cobblestone House every day.

Excited about local Walk for Alzheimer's

Thorn said he is excited for the Moosomin Walk for Alzheimer's.

"I am pretty enthused about it," he said. "I was just going to jump in a car to go to Regina which is the same day. But to have one right here in Moosomin I think will be very good. There are walks in Prince Albert, Lloydminster, Regina, Saskatoon, and Swift Current."

"I think we will see how it goes, but I would like to see it go for a few years. Lots of other places have done this walk for several years. It is the first time in Moosomin though. I think it will be a good event.

"It's nice to be involved in an event like this where you can make a difference."



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Farmland rental rates keeping pace with farmland value appreciation: FCC analysis

There is alignment between farmland rental rates and the appreciating value of farmland across Canada according to a new analysis from Farm Credit Canada (FCC).

The farmland rental rate analysis presents the rent-to-price ratio for cultivated farmland in Canada. The ratio leverages insights from data sets on cash rental rates and the Farmland Values Report. A ratio trending lower suggests cash rental rates are appreciating at a slower pace than land values. Conversely, an increase in the ratio indicates that rental rates are increasing faster than land values.

The national rent-to-price ratio in 2023 was 2.52%, reflecting a negligible decline from the previous year. Notably, the three provinces that recorded the highest farmland value increases in 2023, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, and Quebec, also saw increases in rental rates, maintaining stability in rent-to-price ratios.

"There are challenges that come with buying land amid increasing land values and elevated interest rates," said J.P. Gervais, FCC's chief economist. "Renting land can

Province	2023 Rental Rates			2022 Rental Rates
	Rent/Price Ratio	Range		Rent/Price Ratio
		MIN	MAX	
BC	n/a			n/a
AB	2.40%	1.20%	4.85%	2.60%
SK	3.10%	1.40%	5.20%	3.10%
MB	2.40%	1.10%	4.40%	2.40%
ON	1.25%	0.50%	2.35%	1.40%
QC	1.50%	0.55%	3.00%	1.50%
NB	2.00%	1.25%	2.50%	2.40%
NS	1.80%	1.50%	2.90%	1.25%
PEI	4.35%	1.90%	6.70%	4.35%
Canada	2.52%			2.55%

Table 1: 2023 Rent-to-price ratio by province, with minimum and maximum range, including 2022 data

serve as a strategic way for new entrants to get established or grow their operations without being burdened with all the upfront costs that come with land purchases."

The analysis provides a detailed breakdown of rent-to-price ratios by province, highlighting variations in rental rates

and farmland appreciation across different regions. Notably, provinces like Ontario and select Atlantic provinces have witnessed divergent trends, with rental price agreements evolving at a slower pace compared to farmland values.

"In regions where farmland values have outpaced rental rates, renting land emerges as a suitable option for producers seeking to optimize their cash flow and operational flexibility," Gervais adds.

"Producers must carefully evaluate the trade-offs between renting and purchasing land, considering factors such as cash flow, financing options and growth potential," advises Gervais. "Ultimately, the decision should align with their long-term strategic objectives, financial capabilities and risk tolerance."




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Above is the packed dealership during the grand opening. **Below:** There was a huge lineup as people came out for the grand opening lunch.

Redvers Ag grand opening

Continued from page 25
Mayor says great to see support

Redvers mayor Brad Bulbuck says it was exciting to see the support for the new dealership.

"It's great to see support from the community and surrounding area for a business like that in town," he said after the grand opening.

"Our economy here is still agriculture based. When you see that many people supporting a business in the agriculture industry, it really says how committed the people are to making sure their businesses are well supported in the area. And that's what we really enjoy seeing."

He says the new dealership will be a major benefit

to the community of Redvers. The next nearest Kubota dealerships in the region are in Yorkton, Estevan, Regina and Brandon.

"He's expanded an existing business, and he did make a significant investment not only in the premises, but I assume there's a lot more inventory that he's carrying now as well," says Bulbuck.

"When people are looking for Kubota products, it's going to bring people to the area that typically we don't see here.

"So we're attracting people from a fair ways away to the dealership who are specifically looking for Kubota products.

"Perry also has a line of other equipment as well. So this not only compliments but it also showcases the current lines that he has.

"Whenever you have investment in the town, obviously the investor has confidence in the community.

"The town of Redvers feels that we're trying to do things to make things attractive for people to invest in the community.

One of them is a new water treatment plant. We're working on town beautification. And all of the other things that we're doing with grants and upgrading our infrastructure, our equipment with respect to the handivan—we have received a grant for that—we're also looking to upgrade our fire truck so that the fire department is fully compliant under the guidelines. So we are doing the right things to be aggressive and stay ahead of the curve rather than just say we can't find the money to do it. We have to find a way to make it work.

"And one of the things we've been successful at doing is leveraging grants for investment in the community and we hope that locals and people from outside the area see the money we are spending in the community and feel that same confidence to invest in the community.

"Redvers Ag is a fourth generation business, we're happy to see that the business has been in Redvers for 73 years, and like I said when I made my speech at the grand opening, we hope they are here for another 73 years."



Talaya Dangstorp on top of one of the side-by-sides in the show room.



The Dangstorp family after the ribbon cutting. In back are Jenna and Perry Dangstorp holding Kepler. In front are Talaya and Adele Dangstorp.





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Stand up to flea beetles

BY KEITH GABERT

When we asked canola farmers what the greatest economic risk to their canola production was, they ranked flea beetles #1. Scenarios that require multiple in-season foliar sprays are often the result of a slow-establishing non-competitive crop. Strong stand establishment can help reduce flea beetle risk – here are tips to achieve this objective.

Target 5-8 plants per square foot

Canola crops that establish quickly and have five to eight plants per square foot usually face minimal risk from flea beetle feeding. A plant population at the high end of that range will mean more plants for a fixed number of flea beetles. That means fewer beetles per plant, a situation more likely to keep leaf area loss below the threshold of 25 per cent. The graphic below is a visual representation of this point.

Seed shallow into warm, moist soil

These soil conditions are ideal. A later seeding date may reduce the flea beetle risk if it means warmer soils and faster growth. Like most agronomy decisions, delayed seeding comes with trade offs: it may reduce flea beetle risk but may not be ideal to avoid summer heat on flowers and limit fall frost risk. If soils are dry, seeding down into moisture may allow for seed germination, but often results in poor emergence and an extended emergence period. With any delays, seed treatment protection may not last through the at-risk period.

Use safe rates of seed-placed fertilizer

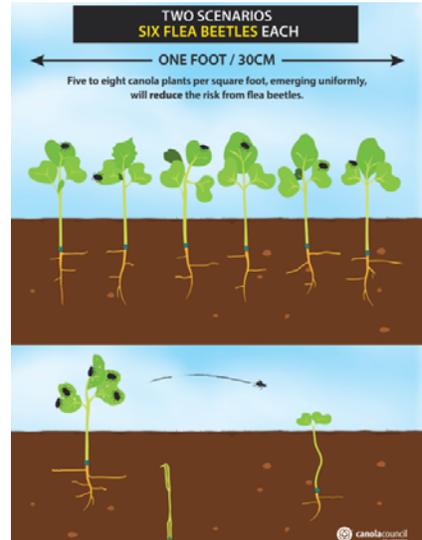
The recommendation is to use only phosphorus in the seed row and no more than 20 lb./ac. of actual phosphate. Higher rates of seed-placed fertilizer add more stress, slow the

pace of growth and reduce the stand. Flea beetles will emerge from hibernation hungry and increase their activity once air temperatures reach 15°C. Regular scouting for flea beetle damage is essential and should be done until your crop is well established.

For more on flea beetle management tips, how to make the spray decision and how to improve foliar spray results, check out these Canola Watch articles available at canolawatch.org/fundamentals: Flea beetles: Management tips and The flea beetle spray decision: 8 steps. While there, please sign up to receive the weekly Canola Watch e-newsletter, answering the top canola agronomy questions from across the Prairies.

*Canola Council of Canada 2022 survey results

Keith Gabert is an agronomy specialist with the Canola Council of Canada. Email gabertk@canolacouncil.org



Province invests in agricultural equipment manufacturing mobile skills lab

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

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

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

Over the past five years, Saskatchewan's

agriculture manufacturing exports have increased by 129 per cent, from \$364.2 million in 2019, to an all-time high of \$853 million in 2023.

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

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

"Our industry has seen exponential growth and the demand for talent is unprecedented," AMC President Donna Boyd said. "A career in agriculture offers the opportunity to be one of the most successful industries in Canada—one which protects the environment, ensures global food security and fuels the future of food through innovation. AMC is directly addressing the needs of our members and our industry through the Careers in Ag initiative and we are proud that the Government of Saskatchewan supports the quest

to attract and incentivize people into our sector through the investment in our Mobile Skills Lab."

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

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The Lieutenant-Governor, Suzanne Eisler, and the Premier at the Saskatchewan Volunteer Medal presentation in Regina last week

Sask Volunteer Medal presented to Suzanne Eisler

Continued from page 11

The premier spoke of the humility volunteers demonstrate.

"Another admirable quality shared by volunteers like you, and we see this year-in and year-out, is your humility—one is your inspiration to us, two is your humility."

"No one volunteers for recognition like we're seeing today. You're willing to show up and serve without expectation—to show up and serve without the expectation of recognition or accolades and to actively put others in your community first. Through your volunteerism, you have made long lasting impacts on so many people across Saskatchewan, and today I'd like to take the time to say thank you. To say thank you for everything that you've done, on behalf of the people of Saskatchewan."

"This honour is so very well deserved. Every day, in each of our lives, is busy and we know that. We have competing responsibilities pulling us in so many directions and it's hard for us to take time for ourselves, let alone, like these 10 individuals, step forward and find some time to donate back to our community and organizations through rain, sunshine or snow."

"On good days or bad days you get up and put smiles on the faces of the people that you serve day in, day out. Though you do not work for this recognition, know that this recognition that you're receiving today is so very well deserved."

"Volunteers help our communities grow and thrive and I would say to volunteers that made our communities, built our communities from the ground up in Saskatchewan, the volunteers that show up in times of prosperity and that show up in times of challenge, that I and the people of Saskatchewan are so very grateful for what you do. It's important to take time to recognize you today for all of your hard work and endless commitment. You are role models for so many others and you inspire so many others to follow in your footsteps. Decades of hard work have gone into your collective volunteering efforts and I'm confident that they will remain a wonderful legacy for the organizations and communities that you have blessed your time and your efforts with. Thank you for your dedication towards your community. Thank you for your dedication towards our province and our nation. On behalf of the Province of Saskatchewan, I extend my sincere appreciation to each of you. Thank you."

'Time and care'

"The time and care these volunteers have given to causes ranging from youth, veterans' and women's issues to arts and culture, does not go unnoticed." Mirasty said following the ceremony. "I am honoured to have been able to meet these recipients and to recognize their exceptional contributions."

In addition to Eisler, the other recipients of the 2023 Sas-

katchewan Volunteer Medal are:

- Jyotsna (Jo) Custead
- Major Brad Hrycyna, C.D.
- Jim Meikle
- Douglas Osborn
- Jeanette Tonita
- Pat Tymchatyn
- Hazel Urbanoski
- Dr. Judy White
- Helga Wold

Since its establishment in 1995, the Saskatchewan Vol-

unteer Medal has been awarded to extraordinary citizens across the province for their outstanding contributions to Saskatchewan. Tuesday's recipients join the ranks of 261 exemplary volunteers recognized in previous years.

Nominations are now open for the 2024 Saskatchewan Volunteer Medal.

Individuals and organizations are encouraged to nominate current or former long-term residents of Saskatchewan who go above and beyond for their community through acts of volunteerism.

Nominations are open until October 31, 2024.

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Charlie Leslie, Nancy Apshkrum want to spread awareness of disease:

Living with Crohn's and Colitis a constant challenge

Continued from Page 9

"You have to find different alternatives and they mix certain types of drugs so it works for you better," Charlie said.

Nancy explains, "Those are superdrugs they start at the bottom of the line and you work through all the bumps until you qualify for a superdrug."

Road to a diagnosis

Charlie says, "When it first started we went to Regina first and they diagnosed me there and gave me pills first to see if it was Irritable Bowel Syndrome (IBS) type thing. Then, they found out later it was Ulcerative Colitis then I was switched to the hospital in Saskatoon for infusions every two weeks. Remicade usually lasted about six hours in the hospital and then you have to spend two hours for observation afterwards. Here, they referred me to somebody in Regina, then they referred me to someone in Saskatoon. I think for about a year of going back and forth to Saskatoon we found a drug that was working then it stopped working. So, then we went back again for another scope. They found another drug called Entyvio which I am on right now. That infusion was every four weeks and then they actually developed the auto-inject a few months later. It's like an epipen which I was really excited for because then I could start doing it at home instead of driving there all the time which is really nice and I am still on it."

Symptoms started at age 11

"It was really bad in the beginning and it continued to keep getting worse. It started when I was 11 years old, but I wasn't diagnosed until I was 12. It was the beginning of the summer and I went to a dance camp and I lost about 20 pounds when I was there in a span of a week. I was calling my mom every night crying because I was so sick."

"When she came to pick me up she saw I was very pale and had lost a lot of weight so we went to the doctor and then they diagnosed me when I was 12. I am definitely a lot better than I was, but I am still not great and they're still trying to figure out what else to add to the drug to get it better. I am busy all week because I have to go to Regina to get a tube shoved down my throat for them to look and see what else is wrong. It is frustrating."

The number of Crohn's and Colitis cases is increasing. "The numbers are still increasing, Saskatchewan has 10,600 diagnosed cases of Crohn's and Ulcerative Colitis. The increase in numbers is being driven by diagnoses in children. Particularly those under the age of six. Canada has one of the highest rates of pediatric Crohn's and Colitis in the world. Traditionally Crohn's and Colitis is diagnosed in adolescence or early childhood, because now they have better methods of diagnosing it. So therefore, you don't go through 10 years of fighting it before you have a diagnosis. They're finding it sooner. That is why I am caring on because I think there has been lots of suffering in the younger age group before it was diagnosed. I thought that was real interesting."

'No one else can understand unless they have the disease'

"I always compare to other people because I think I could have it so much worse, but then when you look at yourself you just need to stop doing that because no one else can understand unless they have the disease. You can try and I like that my friends do try to understand. It's hard when you have no one to talk to your age that goes through what you go through. I find that it is harder for a teenage girl than it is a teenage boys because boys are allowed to be gross and go to the washroom and no one thinks anything of it, but girls can't. Women can't, it's not ladylike."

Nancy says it's encouraging that researchers are still looking for a cure.

"It kills me because there are so many brilliant people out there how they can't figure it out."

Charlie says she is very limited in what she can eat. "Lettuce, carrots, anything with seeds, milk, alcohol, and spices. Lots of meat like steak I love it I just can't eat it. They just don't digest. Lots of times when I go places people will ask me 'Oh, can you eat that?' and I just say it is fine. I should be a little better with it and I was at one point, but now I either eat it or I starve. There is not really anything else there for me. I can't eat a salad or meat. I can eat chicken and rice—those are good."

Charlie says the disease impacts her life in other ways, too. "It just makes everything so much worse. Like my acne is from my medication and I can't get rid of it because I can't get rid of my medication. It sucks."

"When I was in Grade 7, I missed a full two months of school. I was really, really sick. I was in the hospital in Saskatoon for two weeks and then they sent me home because there really was nothing else they could do, but the pain from the disease back then when I didn't have the meds that I do now for the pain was really bad. I would cry on the floor cradled in a ball. That is why I wouldn't go to school." Charlie said.

"Your immune system is affected and the drugs affect it. So these kids have to stay well," Nancy adds.

Charlie contracted COVID, which was dangerous because of her compromised immunity. "I wasn't allowed friends over later during COVID and then I got it any-



Crohn's and Colitis has a big impact

Charlie Leslie and Nancy Apshkrum describe their experiences of the impact Crohn's and Colitis can have on people's lives to reporter Ashley Bochek.

way. I was in the hospital for that for about a week because you have no immune system you can't fight it."

"It's like your body doesn't understand that that part of your stomach isn't healthy. It's like it is attacking itself. That is why there is no cure because it doesn't recognize that is your body."

Gutsy Walk important to spread awareness

Charlie says the Gutsy Walk is an important way to spread awareness of the disease. "I think it is important because no one here in my town that I know of has what I have. Some people may have IBS or Crohn's disease, but not like me that I know of. I like getting to go to the walk and talk to people about their experience with it and hearing what tips and tricks they have about how to get through the day better, living with this disease. It is really nice going and being with people who really understand you and understand what you are going through. I would love to find someone my age who is a girl I could talk to," Charlie explains.

Nancy has raised more than \$200,000 in the walk over the years and hopes to add \$10,000 to that this year.

"My goal for this year and has been for the last several is \$10,000. I started in 1999. My first donation was \$411 and last year I think I had \$15,000. In total, I have raised \$205,153. When I saw that total, I actually had to cry because it is not about the money. I never think of it or kept track of it but it feels good to make a difference."

Charlie says, "I think it is important for young people to participate in the walk to meet new people and learn about the disease. Even for myself, when I was younger I didn't know why my body was hurting itself or understand why, but now that I am older I understand more and how hard it is."

Nancy says, "I can't get over how smart Charlie has become on this disease herself. She could be much benefit to anybody she talks to at the Gutsy Walk. Like she has become very smart. I love the way she communicates it and I think that is great for Ulcerative Colitis and Gutsy Walk."

"When I was younger I would ask the doctors a lot of questions and it was scary at first. I absolutely hated needles and I had to get them all the time and then the IV's really suck I have scars from them." Charlie explains.

Awareness is improving

Charlie says people are becoming more aware of Crohn's and Colitis because of the Gutsy Walk and the efforts of people with the disease sharing their stories.

"I think it is getting better that people know or have heard more about this disease, but years ago, even when I was younger it was never really something that was talked about."

"When I told my friends what it was they didn't know and I didn't really know. When you google what are the symptoms it was scary for me. It listed weight loss, but then also gaining weight in your face, puking and nausea."

Charlie says she is excited to meet others affected by the disease at the Gutsy Walk.

"I am excited to meet new people and hearing the Honorary Chair story is probably my favourite part. I always cry."

Nancy says the Gutsy Walk is a family affair for many. "My husband walks with me every year he has never missed a year. Regina is where Charlie and I walk. Charlie has lots of friends and her family with her, so the last couple of years we've worn Charlie's Team t-shirt and we are proud to be part of Charlie's team. It is a bonding thing."

"Last year I think we had 15 people on the team," says

Charlie, "including Wayne's family, my moms friends and their kids, then my friends and Nancy and Greg."

Charlie believes the Gutsy Walk makes a difference for those who want to learn more about Crohn's and Colitis and helps fund research.

"I think Gutsy Walk makes a difference and raises awareness. For my friends, they get to hear more and understand it a little bit better every time they come."

"This is important," says Nancy. "Charlie's truths and this story with the paper brings more awareness than the Gutsy Walk. Awareness is hard to get out, but this helps people to come forward and say they have bowel disease or Ulcerative Colitis."

Gutsy Walk makes a difference

"Because of the fundraising I was able to stop driving to Saskatoon for treatments and get an auto-inject," says Charlie. "It is so much easier because we don't have to drive six hours to Saskatoon—it's six when you have someone with a bowel disease and you have to stop everywhere," Charlie said.

But more improvements are needed, she says. "One thing I wish our world did a little better was have more accessible washrooms everywhere. That is my biggest fear when going somewhere that there is not going to be a bathroom." Charlie says.

"Now, we do have the Go Here app which is nice, and it is all over Canada," adds Nancy. "It shows you all the available washrooms for wherever you are."

Charlie also hopes people learn to become more understanding of the disease.

"I wish that people would have a little bit more common courtesy about it. Be nicer about it. It is hard to deal with as a kid and especially as a teenager. It is something I deal with everyday. It still bothers me sometimes depending on how someone may say it. You never know what someone is going through. I feel like I am an inconvenience because I have to make them stop to use the washroom multiple times and I feel bad about it. That is a hard thing for me, but for the most part they do understand."

How can you help?

To support Charlie and Nancy for raising awareness for Crohn's and Colitis disease you can donate by contacting them directly, or on the Crohn's and Colitis website at crohnsandcolitis.ca

"You can go online and donate on a website or cash or cheque. You can donate on my page online by following the QR code below and cheques can be dropped off at Zaylie's, if you are interested in donating," says Charlie.

Nancy adds, "People can just call or text me on my cell phone number at 306-435-6767."



Enjoying spring adventures with the 'grands'

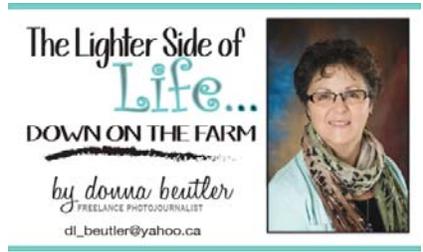
"If we work together, we can get all these steers butchered," is what I hear through the window knowing there's no butchering happening in this backyard on this particular day. It is after all, a lovely spring day in northwest Regina and my youngest grands (7 and 10) have been joined by their twin cousins and backyard play is all that's happening today.

The steers are actually pine cones, fenced into their appropriate pens—steers, pregnant cows, cows with calves on the ground and another one for the yearlings (all pine cones). The corral panels are scrap pieces of wood or brick stuck in the sand of the play area. There's a grain bin, roof off, only 10 inches high and made of plastic, filled with what appears to be shredded pine cones to replicate cattle feed. Upside down frisbees with water are the watering bowls for the animals to drink from and large holes in the sand that won't actually hold real water are the dugouts on this particular 'farm'.

Is it any wonder farm kids' play is often mirroring what's going on on their real-life farms, minus of course, the mass butchering of steers? While the twins live full time on a cattle/grain farm, the younger cousins live in the city but spend weekends at 'the farm' where their parents also cattle/grain farm. The city home though tells me the farm is very close to the hearts of this next generation of farmers as I can see a pretty good line of 'tiny' machinery along the back fence and way more 'cattle' than I could possibly count, thanks to the city evergreen trees along the edge of the property.

Is there anything that could stop these youngsters dead in their tracks of such deep 'farm-play' I wondered. Perhaps ice cream or snacks. But no, that didn't make a dent on their day until I heard my son say, "Anyone wanna go to Cabela's?" And poof! Just like that, they were off. Who knew that fishing rods and fish hooks (and fudge I am sure) had a bigger draw than the make-believe farmyard? True farmers in the making!

Once the 'farm' grands headed for home, I am commandeered by my 'city' grandson to assist him in some unknown project. "Do you know how to use video on your phone, Grandma?" is what he asks. "Yup, sure do," I respond. "Okay," he says, "just give me a few minutes to make myself a mustache." I have no idea if this 10-year-old is using a felt marker on his face or what he is planning to do. And I don't ask. In just a few minutes he comes up to me with a black paper mustache taped on above his lips, telling me to go outside with him and be sure to have



my phone with me. "Ahhhhhh," I think to myself, "He is likely going to 'become' a farmer, a 'grown up' sporting a mustache, working out on his backyard 'farm'."

Alas, I am wrong. He gives me the cue and counts 1-2-3 along with the thumbs up sign to begin recording. I hear this very deep voice resonate as he speaks into a mini hockey stick. "Back to world news," comes the low voice, "where I am using a mini stock cause I can't find my microphone. But whatever. Here to show you the world's largest farming and butchering operation..." and on he goes, pointing out the various cattle pens, the area where the steers are shot and 'the meat scraped off' and where the new calves and their mommas are penned. A crudely-built wooden house (think 8" high and 16" long perhaps) sits on a 'hill' of sand. It's the farm home of none other than Hayden (his true self). He is acutely attuned to my, "Oops, I accidentally hit stop," when I somehow stop recording but gives me the 1-2-3 sign again to start up and continues in the deepest of voices, "Sorry about that folks, my camera-woman (that being me) blew it (he is shaking his head as he says this) but we are back on the air now to continue the tour..."

I have to wonder if his Grade 4 class is taking drama as an elective, but no, there are no electives and he isn't taking any kind of acting classes. This amazing impromptu and improvised 'acting' is something his parents have never quite seen him do before. And while my filming abilities may be a little less than perfect (I somehow had a shot of my feet as I zeroed in on the 'house on the hill') I am guessing this young fellow's ability to imagine and create and act are going to be pretty awesome! It was all

I could do to keep from laughing as I continued in my assigned role of videographer, though the "camera-woman" comment nearly did me in.

Meanwhile back on the 'real' farm, while I do some 'city' babysitting, hubby is prepping for the seeding season, mostly on his back, checking the air drill over from his underneath vantage point, repairing, replacing and retorquing whatever it is that needs retorquing, if that even describes it at all. The twins, nearly 13, are, at times, Grandpa's extra arm when he is trying to reach into tight spaces. And he appreciates the extra hand, let me tell you!

It's been one of those springs that almost had the appearance of being early, at least as far as seeding goes, but every time we (meaning hubby) started prepping, it would either snow or rain or the wind and cold temps would make things miserable. It appears we are getting to the point where we can count on better days for outdoor machinery work and that means I need to switch gears from my better half taking care of the cooking to me taking it back on. Oh woe is me!

This time of year also has me excited about a couple of other things besides the fact that the farm financials are done and the income tax filing is complete. It's time to open the camper and start stocking the fridge. Nothing speaks spring more to me than a move to the RV on the farm. Of course, we need the nighttime temps to be a tad warmer because there is also nothing more aggravating than listening to the camper furnace cut in the middle of the night.

This time of year offers the greatest opportunities to get out on the ATV, especially with the grands, and watch as our part of the world greens up. There is something about being out in God's wonderful creation that I just love (more so in the non-winter months lol). And so the time has come and I can't wait to get to the creek via side-by-side as opposed to by snowmobile—bonfire time, here we come!

For right now though, or at least when I return home from the city tomorrow, it is spring seeding meal preparation time (aka freeze ahead meals) and though I hate spending time in the kitchen (any time of the year), I will do my part because I know our guys will be spending their spring days doing the heavy labour kind of things. So until next time, here's hoping your spring is warm and wonderful and that each day out on the farm (or wherever you may be) brings a smile to your face and joy to your heart!

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Moosomin first in Saskatchewan, sixth in Canada: Smile Cookie campaign raises \$45,000

Continued from Page 10

Community Support makes the difference

"I really throw it back on our community how well everyone comes together," says Crisanti.

"Everybody is familiar in Moosomin now on how the campaign goes.

"Of course we try to get our pre-orders out there as early as possible in order to make it a little easier for ordering and on our bakery as well. The community just pulls together as one. It is unbelievable."

Moosomin being noticed

Crisanti says Moosomin has exceeded expectations for Tim Hortons Franchisees.

"It definitely puts Moosomin on the map. At our conventions and head office, they are asking where is Moosomin, Saskatchewan. They see it on the leader board all the time. We are getting praise during the week of the campaign.

"Our numbers are well above normal and going above extraordinary for a community this size. It really is just magical and terrific. I can't take all the thanks for sure. It has a very little part on me. It is the community that are purchasing the cookies, and sponsoring, as well as the volunteers of our staff and charity like our day care and the amount of work they have put into it. It takes a group to get the results and we seem to hit it out of the park every year."

Exciting week

Crisanti says everyone gets excited about the Smile Cookie campaign. "The excitement during the week is amazing. We do start the weekend before, decorating and getting the restaurant prepped, moving tables around and getting our posters ready, it does take quite a bit of work just prepping. If you can imagine the size of cookie orders that we are receiving every year so trying to find room juggling cookie dough in our freezers as well as getting everything ready for the fondant and boxes to put them in. It is really exciting and the staff really enjoy it. They love seeing it. There is some friendly competition of course with other restaurants as well as our own group, we tend to have some fun with it. We definitely love having the title of the Cookie Capital of Saskatchewan and to be in the top 10 in Canada at sixth place is remarkable."



Kevin Weedmark photo
McNaughton High School students (from left) Surrie Payette, Brynne Lantz, and Lexie Towler decorate Smile Cookies in Moosomin.

Getting involved in community

Crisanti says the Smile Cookie campaign is all about giving back to the community. "It's really getting into the community and making sure everyone is aware 100% of our proceeds are staying in our community. We push it really hard because it

is our time to give back to the community that has been so good to us.

"A community like Moosomin has been fantastic for us and it is just one small part that we can do to give back to the community is with the Smile Cookie campaign. As fun as it is, it is truly remarkable to see the dollars come in. I have heard great positives over the years, we have been able to help a lot of different organizations in our

community. It really is about giving back to the community that has been so good to us.

"Definitely the Smile Cookie campaigns as well as our Camp Day campaigns, the Holiday Smile Cookie campaign, and Orange Sprinkle Donut, we try to get involved as owner and franchisee as much as we can. All these campaigns, they have them about every 90 days through our restaurant so there is a good break in between them.

"It really is about giving back and getting into the community. We are very positive. It is really important as much as we do good in this, but we are doing these community programs as best as we can and above and beyond. That is truly what we strive for as owners."

He says they will be looking for their next charity for Smile Cookie week in May 2025 soon.

"I don't think we would change anything right now. We are definitely open to ideas if anybody has ideas to make it better. We are open to friendly competition. Our goal every year is to always beat the year before. That is a little fun for us. Right now, we are just looking ahead. Our Holiday Smile Cookie campaign is coming up in November with a 50/50 split with our Tim's Camp Organization and then May 2025 is when the Smile Cookie campaign will come back again. We are open to charities. If we know about a non-profit organization in our community that wants to jump on board and see what it is all about. Definitely have to do some work as far as the organization goes it makes the campaign go a lot more successful if we have their partnership in the program, but we will be looking for our next charity right away soon to start planning!"



World-Spectator staff decorating Smile Cookies.

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Plain & Valley DEVELOPMENT ISSUE

Plain & Valley • Page B1 • May 2024



Moosomin is one of the communities in the area that is growing because of development in southeast Saskatchewan. Moosomin is the fastest growing community in rural Saskatchewan and is projected to grow by a further 15 per cent by 2032. There is \$55 million worth of construction under way in Moosomin right now. Above is an overview aerial shot of the community, and inset is a view of some of the new businesses that have developed along Lake Avenue, facing the Trans-Canada Highway, in recent years.

Moosomin an example of rural growth

BY KEVIN WEEDMARK

Development in Moosomin and the immediate surrounding area has taken off, with \$55 million worth of construction under way.

There has been a lot of commercial development over the last few years, a \$10.6 million airport expansion is under way, and now there is more residential development under way with two new apartment buildings currently

being built by Keller Developments, and more residential development on the horizon.

Economic Development Officer Casey McCormack says Moosomin is getting a lot of attention because of all the growth.

"I think it's crazy," she says. "It's really blown up and when I talk to anyone from around the province they always know about everything that's going on in Moosomin."

I was at a meeting with a bunch of Economic Development Officers from around here on Wednesday and they're all so impressed with what's happening in Moosomin because we have all of the new businesses coming, now we have the new daycare, and we're working on housing. It's just like everything is falling into place, which is really exciting."

Continued on page B3



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The town of Moosomin is a progressive community of 3,300 people in southeast Saskatchewan. Moosomin is surrounded by potash mining, rich farmland, oil, pipelines, and manufacturing industries, which make our economy vibrant.

Moosomin is on the Trans-Canada Highway and the CP Main Line, and has become a regional service centre with a wide variety of professional services, a business sector that ranges from unique retailers to major farm equipment dealers and vehicle dealers, and has a strong and active Chamber of Commerce. The town's economic development committee aims to help local entrepreneurs develop their businesses, as well as recruit outside businesses to locate in our community.

The town has a *tax incentive program* providing a year free of taxes on new Commercial construction valued at \$150,000 and over.

Our health care and recreation facilities are second to none! The Southeast Integrated Care Centre and Moosomin Family Practice Centre serve a wide area of southeast Saskatchewan and southwest Manitoba. We offer a full range of recreation. The Nutrien Sportsplex offers indoor activities from sports simulators to glow bowling.

For visitors we offer three new hotels perfect for hosting sports teams or conferences, a museum, rodeo, and Moosomin Regional Park, which hosts an annual fireworks competition, camping, boating, swimming and fishing in the summer, and ice fishing in the winter.

"This is the place to do business in Saskatchewan."

—Josef Tesar, Owner of Motel 6

"It's a good place to build and develop a dealership."

—Bob Mazer, MazerGroup



Some of the new businesses opened in Moosomin in recent years

New and expanded businesses in recent years

- Anytime Fitness
- Iron Prairie Strength Lab
- Third Avenue on Main
- New Borderland Co-op Liquor Store
- New Broadway Commons Professional Building
- New Hearing Clinic and Sleep Clinic
- New Private Home Care Service
- New Borderland Co-op head office
- New South Prairie Design office
- New Dodge Dealership
- New SaskPower building
- New IJack manufacturing plant
- 25,000 square foot MazerGroup Dealership
- NAPA Auto Parts dealership
- 25,000 square foot Co-op Home Centre
- Three new hotels on Highway 1
- Pipestone Villas Phase I and II
- Eastgate Business Park
- Flaman Sales and Rentals
- New restaurants: Cork and Bone Bistro, The Crate House, Ukrainian Buffet
- EECOL
- New assisted Living Facility
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Casey McCormac



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kevin@world-spectator.com
Kevin Weedmark, President
Janelle Davidson, Treasurer



Moosomin an example of rural growth

Continued from front
McCormac said the 90 new daycare spaces coming to Moosomin will help further development.

"The daycare is incredibly important because I know that there are a lot of families that would like to move to Moosomin and lots of professionals and working parents that want to move to Moosomin but can't because they have nowhere for their children to go. If they don't have family here to look after their kids, they can't work. I know that there are a lot of nurses right now that are working on reduced hours because their kids can't be in daycare."

She said housing is the next piece of the puzzle to fill in.

"We have those two apartment buildings under construction and I think it will make a huge difference because I think there's a lot of people who would like to live in Moosomin but just can't find a place to live. Some of them are living in other communities around the area until they can find a place to live in Moosomin."

"The biggest thing is the mine. There are lots of employees there that have to live elsewhere because there's not enough housing in Moosomin."

"Their first choice is Moosomin but they can't get a house, so they end up living in another town. So I think the new apartments will help. Once they move to Moosomin, they spend their money here buying

Two new 12-unit apartment buildings being built by Keller Developments in Moosomin.



groceries, going shopping and whatever else. That, all in turn, helps the economy of Moosomin."

She said the town's discussion of a housing incentive plan should make an impact as well.

"The town is discussing an incentive plan to get new housing units built, and I think it's a big, important thing that council does need to do, because right now everything is so expensive and so putting in those incentives can help people a little bit. For the people who were thinking of building but thought maybe not, this might push them over the edge to build that house now and I think it will help get more doors in Moosomin."

She said on the commercial side there has been a lot of development over

the last couple of years. She says the whole community working together has helped bring those projects together.

"The community support in Moosomin and how well the town and the RM and the Community Builders Alliance all work together makes a huge difference," she said. "It's something you don't see in a lot of communities. I always like to say there is that small town feel in Moosomin but you get the amenities of the big city with more safety and knowing your neighbors, that you don't get in the city."

"People in Moosomin are very positive and entrepreneurial. Sometimes you see small towns that are dying because the people living there have a very

negative mindset and they don't want the growth and they are not looking for it. Whereas in Moosomin everyone is pushing toward that common goal of growth and they all have that entrepreneurial mindset and collaboration to make it happen."

What does Moosomin need to do to keep the ball rolling? McCormac has a few ideas.

"I think keeping an open mind as to any type of development that we get and just continuing to support the community and bringing good ideas to the table and whatever else we need—putting those

ideas out there. You never know what someone might have for an idea that someone else may have never thought of."

She said she keeps hearing good things about Moosomin from people around the province.

"A lot of people have heard how supportive the community is and that it's definitely growing and putting itself out on the map. Our location is really great too, so a lot of business owners like that. It's always difficult to convince the bigger companies that Moosomin can support businesses because our population right in town isn't huge, but the fact is we have a very large population in the surrounding area."

"I think that will get easier as we get more and more businesses. We've got some great store in Moosomin and I think we would

be able to support a couple more stores like that, and then that helps promote all of the boutique shopping you can do in town, because people will drive for that."
McCormac finds it easy to promote Moosomin, because she chose to live in the community.
"I grew up in Moosomin, and I did eight months in Saskatoon for university and I didn't like living in the city. I just found that it's so much harder to get around with all the traffic and you don't know anyone there, and I just loved where I had grown up."
"My parents are here and my friends are here. It's a small town and I feel safe here. I felt that was a big thing in Saskatoon was that I didn't feel safe all the time walking places, and I can walk anywhere in Moosomin and feel completely safe. I love it here."



Steven Bonk, MLA
for Moosomin Constituency

Economic development is of crucial importance to our region. I salute all of the communities in Southeast Saskatchewan for their efforts.

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Plain & Valley DEVELOPMENT ISSUE



From long-term care to independent living: Cobblestone House offers care at your level

Guest suite and respite care now available

BY KARA KINNA

The newly-built Cobblestone House in Moosomin is approaching one year of operation, and with more and more residents calling it home, it has become clear that it's filling a need for people who are looking for flexibility as they age.

With long-term care on the first floor, assisted living on the second floor, and a combination of assisted living and independent living on the third floor, one of the big benefits of choosing Cobblestone House is that residents don't have to be uprooted and move as their level of care changes.

"When we originally opened the doors we had it set up so that all of our Level 3 and 4—our higher care need residents—they are all best suited for our Floor 1. It's more like a long-term care home where all care is included in your rent. We do everything from just helping them get up and moving around right through to palliative care. We have full lifts, we have large tubs, we have everything we need to care for our Level 3s and Level 4s," says Cobblestone House Manager Amber Hintz.

"Then as we go up in the building, the second floor we designated as our assisted living floor. So on that floor, everything as far as meals, once a week housekeeping, a little assistance with tough articles of clothing, assistance in and out of the shower, maybe some medication assistance, it's for people that are struggling a little bit living on their own. We have some people living in assisted living who just need the meals. They aren't able to cook or don't want to cook for themselves.

"And then as we move up to the third floor, that is our independent living floor. On that floor the only thing that is included in their monthly rent is their suite and their meals and their once-a-week housekeeping.

"As we saw right away, the need in the Moosomin area is the assisted living. That's the little niche that is not filled in this area. So we now offer assisted living on both floors—the third floor and the second floor.

"How that helps our residents is they can move into the third floor for independent living, and as their care needs heighten or their health decreases, they can stay living where they are, but still get that assisted living. They don't have to move.

"The suites are laid out exactly the same on the second and third floor, so that's what made it really easy for us to make that transition and say we are going to offer assisted living on the third floor as well. So it's been very beneficial for some of the residents who did move into that third floor as independent living if they now say 'I think I'm ready for assisted living.' Twice now we've had residents who have had a health crisis—a fall or whatever it might be—and they have needed assisted living for a very short period of time. So whether it be a month or two months or three months, they can easily revert back to that independent living.

"It's amazing because for instance we had a resident who had fallen, and she had a lot of soft tissue damage and that soft tissue damage takes a lot of time to heal. Had she been in her own home or in another home that didn't offer extended care, she probably would have been uprooted for six to eight weeks of her life. Whereas in this case she went and had a quick emergency visit and then was able to come home and receive care in her home.

"We've seen that happen twice actually. So it's huge for them that they can receive this care right here and are not uprooted. And one of those residents is now back to independent living."

Not having to move

Hintz says continuity of care, and not having to move to different residences as your needs change, is a big deal for people as they age.



Residents and staff having a visit at Cobblestone House.

"You know how exhausting it is for us at our age to have to pack a bag and go stay somewhere for a weekend or a month—how exhausting would that be for someone older?" she says. "Also confusion can play a role. When you get older you are more easily confused, you're out of sorts when you just wake up, so through the night getting up and going to the bathroom in a strange place can heighten the risk for falls. So it's huge just having them be in their own surroundings, and with familiar people as well who already know their history. And they can keep their own doctor as well living here, whereas in the hospital they might have an on-call doctor on the weekend and then back to the regular doctor on Monday. Continuity of care is big.

"I think it is very unique. I personally can't think of anything that has all of this under one roof in this area.

"I've given so many tours over the last few months of people who didn't choose to move in but are also just looking for the future, and that is one of the big things that they say—at their age they feel like they are a burden on their family having to move. So this is an option that allows them to move once and stay. They don't ever have to worry about packing up all their belongings and moving again. Or if two months down the road, if a spouse passes away or their health declines, we just don't know what the future holds. So this is a little bit of security for them in their life, and a little bit of control as well, in a world where at that age they don't have a whole lot of control over that type of thing."

Suites still available

"We do have availability on every floor. We don't have a lot of availability when it comes to choice of suites on the second and third floor, but we have multiple suites on each floor," says Hintz.

"Another misconception is that it's too expensive. But it is not overpriced. If you take a look at what you are paying for your mortgage, your house insurance, your property taxes, your bills, your groceries—sit down and price all that out and come and see what our prices are. You would be floored. I would live here in a heartbeat."

The social benefits

Hintz says another big factor in quality of life for people who move to Cobblestone House is socialization. She uses Independent Living resident Ina van der Merwe as an example of that.

"I have known her for quite some time outside of Cobblestone House, and the complete turn around in her because of the lack of socialization—it was all based on that," says Hintz. "Because she is independent living, we don't give her a lot of care, so it's all the socialization that has

made the difference.

"And she's not the only one. Because I worked in primary health care, I knew a lot of these people before I took this position, and I saw a lot of them in their own homes. After they moved here, it's unbelievable how they perked right up. It's kind of cool to see it from that aspect."

Interested?

Hintz says anyone wanting to check out Cobblestone House simply needs to start the conversation.

"Give me a call, email, text. Start the conversation. There are lots of different



Manager Amber Hintz

avenues we can take," she says. "A lot of people say 'I think I need more than the assisted living but I'm not ready for the first floor.' We can bring you in, set you up on assisted living, and if you need more care than what we offer on assisted living, there are other ways you can get that care and still live here, whether that be home care or private care. So just start the conversation with me and find something that fits for each individual."

Continued on Page B5 ^{63P}

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Plain & Valley DEVELOPMENT ISSUE



Lil Klinger in Long-Term Care



Frances McCarthy in Assisted Living



Ina van der Merwe in Independent Living

Cobblestone House offers care at your level

Continued from Page B4

Guest Suite and Respite Care now available

New to Cobblestone House as of this spring are a guest suite for family and friends to rent, and the offer of respite care.

"We have transitioned one of our studio apartments on the third floor into a guest suite. It's fully furnished. So families of the Gemstone Villas and Sandstone Villas as well as our home can rent that suite for \$110 a night," says Hintz. "It's cheaper than getting a hotel and also they have access to meals here if they want. It's \$10 a meal. They can sit and eat here or have it in their room if they prefer."

"It allows them to be in the building with their loved ones. It's helpful because we do have a lot of residents where the family doesn't live here. They all live in Regina or other communities. So it's kind of nice that they can come and stay, not impede on the resident's living space, yet still be here."

She says this is also a nice option to offer for guests visiting from afar who might not want to brave bad weather such as a snowstorm on their return home.

"The respite care is something that's always kind of been on the back burner since we opened the doors," she continues. "But now with the change at long-term care at the hospital in Moosomin, we decided it was time that we really started promoting it. You used to be able to book a room in long-term care at the hospital. If someone was caring for their loved one at home, they could say 'I need a little bit of respite or I'm going away for a week,' you could book them in and they could stay for a week or two weeks while you went away or had a break."

"You can no longer do that at the long-term care. So with us, we have open rooms and we have medical beds, and you can just give us a call. Say your loved one had hip surgery, or any kind of post op, or you're just going away for a holiday and you're a primary care giver or you just need a break. Call us up and we will admit them for as long as you want on our first floor and we will look after them for a daily fee."

Full-time activity director

Another benefit of Cobblestone House is that residents have every option of keeping busy if they want to.

"We have a full time activity director—Leanne Wall—she's amazing," adds Hintz. "Usually this place is bustling. She has exercises three times a week, music in the afternoon, church service every Thursday, they've planted tomatoes already, and we're picking up a garden box this afternoon. Lots of things are happening here!"

Residents' stories

Lil Klinger - Long-term Care

No one can talk about Cobblestone House more honestly than the residents—and they seem to have nothing but good to say about their new home.

Lil Klinger lives on the first floor in long-term care.

"I've been up and down the line," she says. "Last year I was in Grenfell for a whole year waiting to get in here."

Now Lil has been at Cobblestone House, back near her family, for seven months.

"It's good. They've got me in a suite I can see out the windows. I like this. I never wanted to move and I'm happy here."

What does she like the best about her new home?

"This window and the food and the staff, or the other way around, it doesn't matter!" she says. "They do everything for me. There are lots of people who come and visit. I get some time in with the activities, and then I'm able to go on my own as well."

"I get to have friends and I can go to all the activities that are here. I have put flowers in vases and planted tomatoes, and have made a few crafts."

"Everybody here is friendly and the food is good. And if there's something on the other floors that the activity director has for us, I don't mind going there to do that too."

"The biggest part is I know a lot of people around here,

and they can come here to see me."

Frances McCarthy

At age 104, Frances McCarthy is receiving some help on Floor 2 in Assisted Living, but for the most part, she's still fairly independent. Frances was the second resident to move into Cobblestone House.

"I was at Broadview for a couple of months and I wanted to get back to Moosomin, of course. This is where my family is, and where I've always lived. So I wanted to get back to Moosomin, and here I am," she says.

"It's the best there is. I don't know of anything better. They look after me very well. I have family that come in. We get all our meals and I get my bath every week—I don't know what could be better. The staff are all very good. There's nothing I really need."

"I lived at the farm until I went to Broadview, and as soon as this place opened up I moved here. I don't know of anything better. The other places are okay if you can look after yourself, but I can't look after myself entirely. I don't think there's anything better around."

"If you can cook for yourself and look after yourself it's a different story, but here I get everything."

Ina van der Merwe

Ina van der Merwe says she was apprehensive about moving into Cobblestone House. Ina lives on the third floor, in Independent Living. And now that she's there, she says she is happy she made the move.

"Actually it wasn't my choice, it was my son's choice," she says. "He said you reach a stage in your life where you have to make a decision, and when he first mentioned it I said no. I'm not going. And we chatted about it, and the longer I thought about it, the more I realized that what he was saying was true. His argument was that if something happens to me, what then? I lived in my apartment, I loved my apartment, it was a dream apartment, but it was just time to make a move," says Ina.

"I moved in, I was the first one to move in, and that's it. I really think it's very good. We are being taken care of very well. They are very professional and very good."

For Ina, the socialization available at Cobblestone House really changed things.

"I like the fact that there is always somebody around. I lived for 12 years all by myself. And then all of a sudden, if I need something, I take my phone and I say I need someone to come and help me with whatever it is. So that is a plus point. Day and night there is always somebody around. And that's a very, very big comfort," she says.

"I only realized it when I started living here. Where I lived before, I was surrounded by people who were working, so you don't feel like visiting with somebody that comes home at 5 o'clock because the kids have to go to sports and all that. So I was actually very lonely. And then I came here and all of a sudden there are always people around me, and I like that."

"You don't know what you were missing until you have it. Whatever you need, they are here and they fulfill that need, it doesn't matter what it is. They clean in the apartment once a week. For the rest of the week I keep my apartment clean myself. Nothing is too much for them. And Amber is doing a fantastic job as the manager of the place, which I said from the beginning when they were looking for somebody, I said you can't find somebody better than Amber."

"It doesn't matter what the need is, if you ask they will do it."

"Leanne Wall, she is the activity co-ordinator, and she's doing an amazing job too, catering for everybody's likes and dislikes. There are activities every day. There are exercises in the morning and different activities in the afternoons, and whatever season it is, if it's St. Patrick's Day or Valentine's Day or Easter or whatever, she decorates to the season we are in."

The other big thing that surprised Ina was how nice it felt to fit in.

"When you are here and you walk with a cane or any kind of help, you're not the only one, there are always a lot more. I always laugh when we sit at the table in the morning, and everyone in that group has an ailment, one

or the other. For example, there might be an ailment in a shoulder, and someone might pass the sugar with two hands. You're not the only one, so that makes it feel like we are a community on our own. You're not standing out because you can't do things like you have done before."

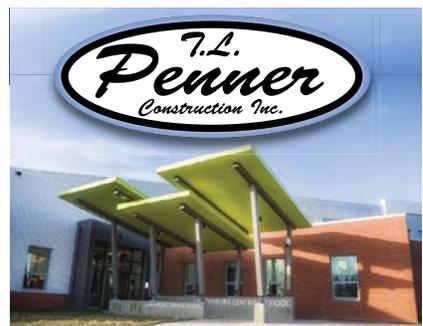
Ina says she would recommend the move to anyone thinking about it.

"I would recommend it because I don't know of any other place where they will get the care that they get here. It's emotionally, it's physically—everything is there. I've explored a little bit after I moved in here, and really there isn't a place close by that can offer the services that they do. We are very lucky to have them here."

"They have two apartments here where your family can stay. Your family can come and stay right here if they don't want to go to a hotel."

"If you don't have to move again, it's a benefit. As you grow weaker they will plan to move you to a different floor and it's not your problem any more."

"Also price-wise, I actually made a summary of my costs in my condo, and it basically came to the same, actually a little bit more. If you take into consideration what we pay, it's \$2,700 for Independent Living, and that is everything included. Everything. You can't do better. If you go to the second floor it's a little bit more expensive and the first floor is more expensive because it's 24 hours and it's full care, but you can't run a house or an apartment for \$2,700 including three meals a day, which are outstanding—the meals are outstanding here. There's a fridge you can open it any time of the day, there are fruit juices to die for, there is fruit always available, there's crackers, there is cheese, and you are free to go and take whatever you want. That is amazing. The meals are three course from breakfast to supper. It's like eating out in a restaurant, the meals are amazing."



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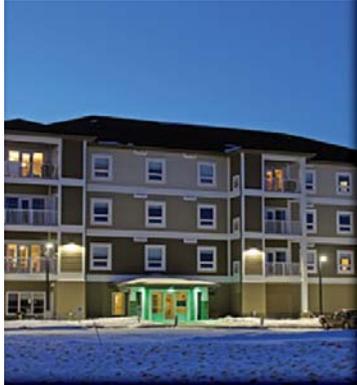
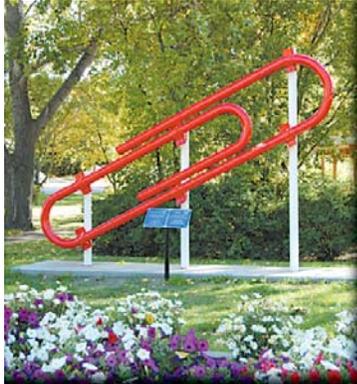
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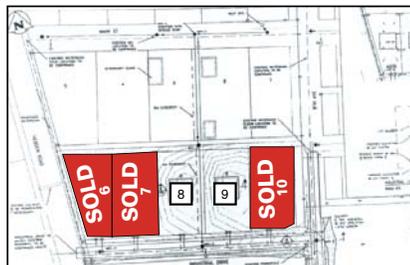
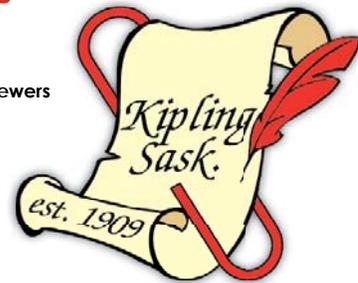


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- Street Lights

Kipling is conveniently located just one and a half hours drive from the cities of Yorkton, Regina, Estevan and Weyburn.

Serviced Light Industrial Lots

- Next to new integrated healthcare facility
- 30 m x 73 m
- Priced at \$39,000
- Eligible for Commercial Incentive Policy for New Business Construction





Plain & Valley DEVELOPMENT ISSUE

More development than ever in Moosomin area

I am very proud of our community. There's a lot going on in Moosomin and area right now that is the result of lots of hard work and teamwork behind the scenes.

Right at this very moment there is more than **\$55 million worth of construction** under way in Moosomin and the immediate area.

It's great to see all this construction taking place. It works out to about \$17,000 worth of construction per capita, compared with \$2,000 per capita in the cities.

I spoke with my friend Terry Jenson late last week about what the province can do to help communities accommodate growth and encourage further growth. Terry is a long-time publisher, is MLA for Martensville-Warman, and is Legislative Secretary to the Minister of Immigration and Career Training.

"It's so wonderful to hear so many positive things in terms of growth in the Moosomin area, with the new apartment buildings and the \$55 million worth of construction in Moosomin—like you said, it's never happened before," he said.

"Where I live, I come home from Regina each week and there's new basements being dug in the neighborhood that I live in. They weren't there when I left on Sunday and all of sudden there's new basements that have been dug when I get home on Thursday. That ongoing optimism about the province has so many people feeling so good about what is happening and we want to continue to do that well into the future."

Jenson said the provincial government has a role in creating policies that allow growing communities like Moosomin to continue to grow.

"You just have to look back to the budget that provides nine per cent more in education and ten per cent more in health care. There was 14 per cent more for the town of Moosomin to be able to allocate those extra funds into the areas in the town that they've identified as needed. So it's not so much the good ole days, you know back in the '90s, where there was no revenue sharing plan with municipalities. Everything was just done on a, 'Well come see us and we'll see what we can do' basis. What we've done is dedicate one per cent of the PST that's collected, that goes directly back to the municipalities in revenue sharing, because we believe that it's better that way. It goes back to the municipalities because they know where that money needs to be invested in their own community a lot better than we do."

With all the new development, we are going to need more places for people to live, and work has started on that. The



Kevin Weedmark

town of Moosomin has applied for a grant under the federal **Housing Accelerator Fund**, and is hoping to hear back soon on that.

Keller Developments is working on two new apartment buildings in Moosomin. The buildings will contain 24 apartments in total.

In **Rocanville**, work is moving ahead on rebuilding the community's **indoor pool**. The town signed a contract with Copper Ridge Construction for the building. The plan is to complete the building in 2024 and open the pool in 2025. The project is budgeted at \$4 million.

The provincial government is engaging with Moosomin on the **CT Scanner** that has been proposed for the community.

A lot of people worked very hard on this behind the scenes and it's great to see a plan coming to fruition. What's really great is that in the government's approach there is an opportunity for the Moosomin Region.

The CT Scanner will not be owned by the SHA but will be owned by a private entity, and could also offer private scans.

If people can pay for scans in Moosomin and avoid a lengthy wait for non-emergent scans by coming to Moosomin instead of going to one of the cities, it will be one more feather in the cap of Moosomin's incredible health care services.

Moosomin is the smallest community in Saskatchewan to offer chemotherapy, but it is not the least busy, so it is providing more chemotherapy than some larger centres.

Moosomin is the only community of 3,000 in Canada where a graduating physician can complete their medical residency.

We have 14 doctors in our community and the residency program is reinforcing the solid local group of doctors.

Adding a CT Scanner will only add to the local medical community, and doctors tell me it will be a literal life-saver.

Also thanks to the hard work of a lot of people behind the

scenes, we have a second **Play Fair Daycare** building on the way for Moosomin.

An additional 90 spaces, for a total of 161 spaces, will fill a real need in the community.

The fact that there are 37 children who would be in the daycare tomorrow if there was space tells you everything you need to know about how real the need is.

It was phenomenal that the provincial government approved 90 new spaces for Moosomin, more than doubling the daycare capacity in the community.

And it was even more phenomenal that in a town with little spare undeveloped land, the Southeast Cornerstone School Division offered land for the daycare on the MacLeod School grounds, so the daycare can be built close to the schools. It will be great to see work get started on that.

Then there's the **Moosomin Airport Expansion**. The province has covered about a quarter of the cost of the \$10 million expansion. Nutrien covered a quarter, local municipalities covered a quarter, and local businesses are being asked to come up with the final quarter.

There has been a phenomenal response to that campaign, with \$1.75 million donated in a few short weeks, including a \$500,000 donation from IJACK and a \$100,000 donation from Darcy Rambold.

Meanwhile in Esterhazy, work is continuing on planning for a new **Integrated health care facility**, and a new day care. The province recently announced an additional \$250,000 for planning the new health care facility.

And work will continue on the **Bekevar Wind Energy Project**—a 36 turbine wind farm. The new Renewable Energy Systems (RES) Canadian project—a partnership between Innagreen and Awasis Nehiyawewini Energy Development (a wholly owned Cowessess First Nation entity)—is located north of Moose Mountain Provincial Park in the RM of Hazelwood, the RM of Kingsley, and on Cowessess First Nation reserve land. The Bekevar Wind Energy Project will supply 200 megawatts (MW) of zero-emissions power, enough to serve up to 100,000 homes.

And I could go on. (Trust me, people tell me all the time I go on too much about this sort of thing!)

But it is amazing to see so much happening in our area, and exciting to think of what's coming next!

CELEBRATION HOLDINGS LTD. Commercial Property for Sale/Lease in Moosomin, SK

Serviced lots starting at \$125,900

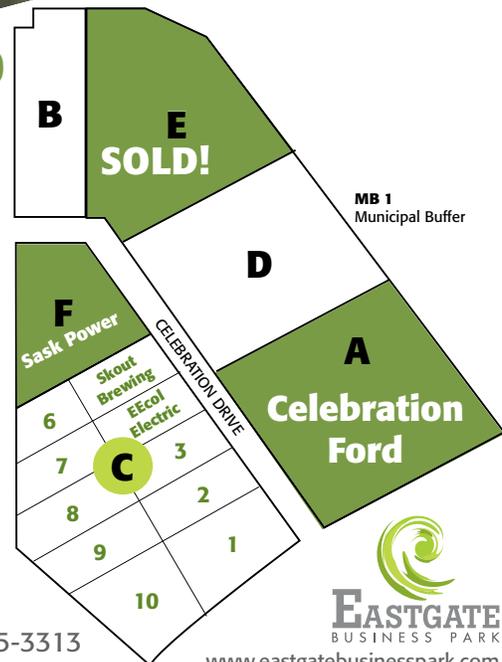
- Serviced Lots
- Developer can sub-divide
- Adjacent to Trans-Canada Highway, Borderland Co-op Gas Bar & C-Store, Tim Hortons and Celebration Ford

AVAILABLE LOTS

Parcel B: 2.53 Acres Parcel D: 5.0 Acres

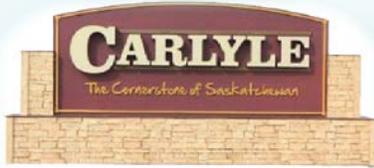
Parcel C: 9.1 Acres (Sub-Divided)

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Parcel C-1: 1.21 Acres | Parcel C-6: 0.56 Acres |
| Parcel C-2: 0.76 Acres | Parcel C-7: 0.78 Acres |
| Parcel C-3: 0.76 Acres | Parcel C-8: 0.97 Acres |
| Parcel C-4: 0.76 Acres | Parcel C-9: 0.93 Acres |
| Parcel C-5: 0.77 Acres | Parcel C-10: 1.63 Acres |



Contact Bill Thorn at 306-435-9790 or Tyler Thorn at 306-435-3313





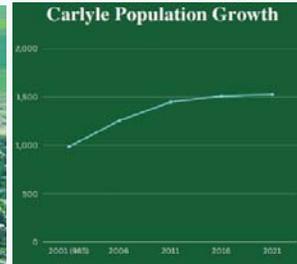
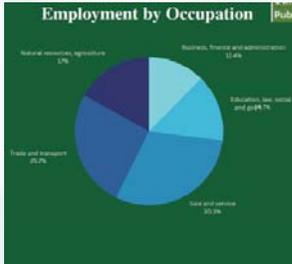
The Town of Carlyle HAS IT!!

Whether you are choosing a place to live, work, establish a business or visit - you will be pleased with everything Carlyle has to offer. Carlyle is nestled in the Southeast corner of SK, deep in the Bakken Formation, close to the Manitoba and North Dakota borders at the junction of Hwy 9 & Hwy 13. On average Carlyle experiences a daily traffic count of almost 4400 vehicles. Carlyle is located under the wide-open living skies of SE SK, in amongst some fabulous lakes. Moose Mountain Provincial Park and White Bear Lake Resort are both within a very short drive. The Rural Municipality of Moose Mountain #63



is the municipality that surrounds Carlyle and is home to some pretty great gems itself!

Although the beautiful original train station is now serving as Carlyle's Rusty Relics Museum and Tourist Information booth, the CNR still goes through Carlyle and carries such freight as oil and grains. Carlyle is also proud to boast it has an airport - CJQ3, with a 10-28 3155x75 asphalt runway, in operation since 1956.



Carlyle continues to see steady and continuous growth and has a population of 1524 according to the 2021 census. Our library hosts a monthly community night to help welcome these new families and cultures into our community. Carlyle and area have a strong, qualified and dynamic work force that continues to grow year after year. Carlyle's unemployment rate is low at 3.7. The average age is 38.8. The average income of households in 2020 was \$107,200. The average employment income in 2020 for a full-time, full-year worker is \$84,400. 67% of people in Carlyle own their own house and the average value of a home is \$266,000.

Carlyle is the largest town in the area and has a strong resilient economy that has a wide variety of diverse businesses that not only cater to local residents, nearby towns and tourists, but to people world-wide. The business directory on the town website has over 200 registered businesses offering some of the best shopping and services available anywhere! Carlyle's trading area includes over 33,000 people, which doesn't include any global or internet customers! Carlyle's slogan is #carlylehasit and our business community really helps support this with the huge variety of goods and services they provide. You can find anything from farm and agriculture suppliers and manufacturing, oil and gas companies and all of their supporting services and trades, auto and RV & Leisure dealerships, private health services such as: dental, optometry, chiropractic, therapy and counselling, and veterinary services to name a few. Our Main Street is already unique with its center parking, but it also offers so many exceptional retailers and destination businesses with an amazing selection of fabulous products and that special small-town service. Main Street also has some amazing smells with its selection of restaurants, florists and spas and the smell of cinnamon buns coming from the bakeries!! Carlyle is famous for its cinnamon buns!

Many Carlyle businesses are long-time, well-established companies with long term employees, but new businesses are added to the directory all the time. Doing business in Carlyle is easy and welcomed! Carlyle has a progressive, business and development - minded council and administration who want to see Carlyle grow and prosper even more than it already is. Carlyle's council vision statement is, "Carlyle is an inclusive and welcoming community which provides a dynamic and sustainable living environment for families and businesses to thrive." The Town of Carlyle offers a tax incentive for new development and as a personal touch, the Town of Carlyle also gives new plants to all our new businesses and residents as a way of saying Thank-You for putting down roots and helping our community grow.





Lot 3- 104 Ruckle Rd \$32,100
 Lot 15- 107 Hayward Dr. \$32,100



Mobile home lots for sale
 Lots 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36 \$38,000
 Lots 7, 8, 10, 34 \$25,000



Carlyle is perfectly situated, and offers many services and products, making it easier for many businesses to operate from here. Our infrastructure is well maintained, the majority of roads are paved, and our public works crew provide an excellent level of service. We have weekly curbside garbage collection and bi-weekly recycling collection, as well as a transfer station with designated hours. Carlyle has a modern water treatment plant that produces reverse osmosis water. Carlyle also has many options for high speed internet and fibre optic networks.

In 2021 the Town of Carlyle in partnership with the RM of Moose Mountain opened a new \$2.5 million fire hall which is run by an approximate 20 person on-call Volunteer Fire Department. Carlyle is also home to a 13 member RCMP detachment with an additional three members in Traffic Services, among other support staff. Supreme Ambulance operates out of Carlyle and offers 24hr ambulance care.

Carlyle has a 40 long-term care bed continuing care home: Moose Mountain Lodge, as well as independent senior apartments at Golden Heritage Court, and senior condos at Lions Pride Estates.

CARLYLE LOTS FOR SALE
 Call town office for more information 306-453-2363

The Town of Carlyle is also happy to provide public transit for seniors and disabled residents with our transit van and we have the Happy Gang Senior Centre that provides regularly scheduled events and activities. Carlyle Housing Authority provides many properties for low-income residents and seniors, and when available to the general population. Rentals are also available through private individuals that include apartments and family homes. The Town of Carlyle has residential and commercial properties and lots available for purchase. Please see our website for more information or give us a call! Carlyle also has real estate agents listed on our town website that would be more than happy to show you their available properties for sale.

The Town of Carlyle and our neighbouring RM of Moose Mountain together provide a grant program for our community's recreation and culture facilities to assist with upkeep and program development. Carlyle's community assets and quality of life keep improving every day. Council and administration have invested in long term planning and have made a strategic plan for Carlyle's future. Council's mission statement is, "As leaders, the purpose of the council of the Town of Carlyle is to create and manage sustainable programs and services for the betterment of our community." The Town of Carlyle has a Parks, Recreation and Culture Department with 4 staff that manage many of our town's recreation and culture facilities. There are lots of different programming options available for our residents and guests to enjoy as well, such as adult swim lessons, yoga in the park, snowshoes free for use on the walking trails, and the read-walk program are just a few! Carlyle has so many great recreation assets; Ball diamonds, 9-hole golf course, soccer fields, zero-entry pool with outdoor hot tub and water features, splash park, campground, moto-x track, off-leash dog park, drive-in, curling, hockey and figure skating, lacrosse, gymnastics, karate, book club at the library, walking trails, programs at the museum, CFY Family Centre and library - the list is endless! Not only are there so many things to do in Carlyle, but within a short drive the possibilities really are limitless, the quality of life in the cornerstone of Saskatchewan is amazing!

There is a 30-seat licensed daycare facility in our community as well as many private day homes to aid in keeping our workforce strong. The Southeast Cornerstone School Division has a project underway to build a new Pre-K to Grade 12 School in our community and we are extremely happy to have this new school coming to our community.

If you would like any information on moving to Carlyle, opening a business, or what you should do for weekend trip, please call the Town of Carlyle office - we welcome the opportunity to assist you!



Town of Carlyle | (306) 453 - 2363
towncarlyle@sasktel.net





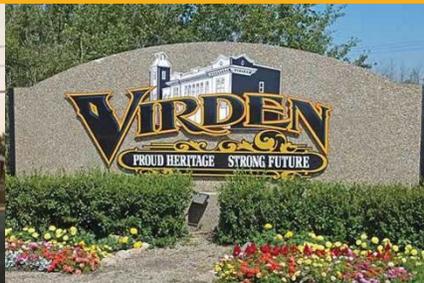

DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

HEAVY INDUSTRIAL COMMERCIAL RESIDENTIAL



For more information contact Candace Murray - Economic Development Manager

204-748-2440
 edm@virden.ca www.virden.ca



Build Your Future in Wallace-Woodworth

edo@wallace-woodworth.com | www.wallace-woodworth.com | 204-748-1239



Incentive Tax Credit

Construction or renovation of commercial properties can generate a rebate of new general municipal taxes.

Main Street Improvement Program

Upgrade the exterior of a commercial building to receive a 50/50 matching grant on eligible expense



Plain & Valley DEVELOPMENT ISSUE



Above left: The CP Station in Virden
Above right: The splash park in Elkhorn.
Right: Millennium Bed in Virden
Below left: The Virden pool.
Below right: Shopping at a local business.



The Town of Virden and the RM of Wallace-Woodworth: Collaboration, continued growth and success

Collaboration for continued growth and success is the forefront of Virden and RM of Wallace-Woodworth's priorities.

The communities are focused on revitalization and beautification with a store improvement program in Wallace-Woodworth and a major community revitalization project for the Town of Virden. The Town of Virden also has a storefront improvement grant, which supports projects that focus on upgrading business facade improvements within the Town of Virden.

Both the Town and RM adopted new tax incentive programs to provide reducing tax breaks on new construction for up to five years. We are pro-

moting these incentives and opportunities together to encourage expansion and growth for benefit of the entire region. The Town of Virden provides tax incentives for new multiple-unit residential development, and new, or expanding, commercial and industrial developments.

The Town of Virden and RM of Wallace-Woodworth are centered at the junction of the Trans-Canada Highway and Highway 83, placing it at the half-way point between the major cities of Winnipeg and Regina. Offering a vast business sector that ranges from unique retailers to agriculture/oil and gas support business, custom software technology and personal services, the area is the centre of it all.

Regional Partnerships

Prairie Gateway Tourism
2021 Marketing Project of the Year Award Winner
www.prairiegatewaytourism.ca

Southwest Business Expo
www.swbusinessexpo.com

Trans Canada West Planning District
devofficer@tcwprd.ca



Candace Murray
Economic Development Manager
Town of Virden
edm@virden.ca



Tiffany Cameron
Economic Development Contractor
RM of Wallace-Woodworth
edo@wallace-woodworth.com



Plain & Valley
DEVELOPMENT ISSUE



There was a lot of progress across the Moosomin Region over the last year

It's been a year since our last development issue, and the changes in the region since then have been profound, marking a chapter in the region's history defined by community collaboration, sustainable growth, and a commitment to embracing the future.

As a matter of fact, this region stood out so much that Premier Scott Moe used Moosomin as an example of growth in the province in his keynote address at the SUMA convention, speaking of several individuals who could work anywhere in the world but chose Moosomin—including Jarrod Slugoski of Cork and Bone Bistro, Dr. Cara Fallis who is doing her medical residency here, and Olha Volokh who came from Ukraine to work at the World-Spectator.

Infrastructure development emerged as a cornerstone of the Moosomin Region's progress over the last year. Strategic investments in assisted living, the Moosomin Airport Expansion, local highways, the Bekevar Wind Energy Project, the Esterhazy Regional Water Project, and the Moosomin Water Treatment plant laid the groundwork for economic prosperity. New developments coming up include new daycares for both Moosomin and Esterhazy, a new health care facility that will serve Esterhazy for decades, and a new CT scanner for Moosomin.

Probably the best example of regional co-operation over the last year was the Moosomin Airport Expansion. Last year, senior executives from Nutrien and the province's highways minister, Jeremy Cockrill, came to Moosomin to announce \$4 million in additional funding for the airport.

They both said what made all the difference was seeing local businesses, groups, and municipalities working together on the project and trying to find solutions.

Then in the fall local municipalities came through with additional funding for the project, with many municipalities committing to their share of the cost of the project.

And now in the last couple of months the final stage of fundraising has begun, and \$1.75 million was raised from local individuals and businesses in a short time.

Additional assisted living and long-term care



Kevin Weedmark

spaces became available in Moosomin with the opening of Cobblestone House last summer.

The 42-unit long-term care and assisted living facility serves a real need. Cobblestone House is a three-storey home located in a residential area across from Bradley Park. The main floor provides 14 suites that are designed to offer any care the residents may require. The second floor provides assisted living (level 1 and level 2) and the third floor provides meals, housekeeping, and activities, plus the added options of a "living plan" for independent residents that prefer more services.

The primary focus of Cobblestone House is to provide a comfortable and happy home that supports the "aging in place" concept.

Cobblestone House was built with investments by lots of local people. For all those investors who put money into the facility, myself included, the real payback is not financial, but seeing people able to get the care they need in their own community.

Work got under way on Moosomin's new water treatment plant last year. It's being built for the future, with the ability to serve 4,600 residents. A new raw water pipeline from the town wells next to Moosomin Lake was built, and work started on the building for the new water treatment plant.

Work continued on Esterhazy's \$29.9 million regional water project in 2023. The project is a huge step in the right direction, moving water infrastructure from a local service to a regional service.

Another big project for Esterhazy is its health care cen-

tre, and many years of hard work came to fruition when funding to start planning the facility was included in the provincial budget in the spring.

Rocanville's \$4 million pool refurbishment will benefit the entire region, as the indoor pool serves a wide area around Rocanville.

There was massive construction under way in the Kipling-Kennedy area beginning last year as work started on the Bekevar Wind Energy Project. SaskPower awarded the contract for its next utility-scale wind facility to Renewable Energy Systems (RES) Canada and Awasis Nehiyawewini Energy Development, a wholly owned Cowessess First Nation entity.

Set to be constructed north of Moose Mountain Provincial Park in the RM of Hazelwood, the RM of Kingsley and on Cowessess First Nation reserve land, the Bekevar Wind Energy Project will supply 200 megawatts (MW) of zero-emissions power, enough to serve up to 100,000 homes.

Local businesses played a pivotal role in the Moosomin Region's progress, contributing to the region's economic vitality.

EECOL Electric opened its new location in Moosomin last year, Moosomin Sports Excellence opened its doors and filled a real need, Hometown Liquor opened in Esterhazy, and Anytime Fitness and Skout Brewing opened recently in Moosomin. And something entirely new, the Moosomin Visual Arts Centre, went from a concept a year ago to a reality today.

And a few new initiatives are just getting started. Planning work has started for Moosomin and Esterhazy's new day cares, planning work is beginning on a CT Scanner for Moosomin, and a renovation is planned at McNaughton High School in Moosomin.

The region's progress is a reflection of the hard work, determination, and collaborative spirit of its residents.

As the Moosomin Region strides into the future, the accomplishments of the last year serve as a foundation for continued growth, sustainability, a region on the path to a brighter tomorrow.



SPRING SPECIAL

Month of June

\$5,000 credit at up to **three local businesses** in the Esterhazy or Fertile Belt region when you buy a lot in Brylee Developments!

(All businesses must have a business license within Esterhazy)



LOCATED 20 MINUTES FROM THE BEAUTIFUL QU'APPELLE VALLEY AND WALKING DISTANCE TO ESTERHAZY, SK

- Fully-serviced acreages
- 2 - 3 Acre walk out lots
- Private, quiet cul-de-sacs

➤ *In-House Financing available*
all acreage lots 3% OAC

CALL NOW!
306-580-4000

GO TO www.bryleedevelopments.com
FOR MORE INFORMATION ON OUR BEAUTIFUL LOCATION!



Plain & Valley DEVELOPMENT ISSUE



RM of Pipestone: Committed to development

The landscape of the RM of Pipestone has undergone significant changes in recent years, largely thanks to its innovative \$10 residential lot program initiated over 15 years ago. This program continues to ignite interest in development within the Municipality.

For those unfamiliar with the \$10 Municipal Sales Lot Program, here's a brief overview: Select the property you wish to purchase, make a \$1,000 deposit, and sign an offer agreement. You must construct your home within the terms of the agreement, and upon completion, you'll receive a refund of \$990.

Additionally, the RM of Pipestone offers a Home Purchase Grant Program, wherein the acquisition of an existing home can qualify you for 3% of the purchase price, up to \$4,000, while a new house can qualify for 3% of the building cost, up to \$6,000. This presents an enticing opportunity for prospective homeowners.

The Municipality is very excited to offer \$10 lots in Pipestone, Cromer, Sinclair, and Reston, extending a warm invitation to potential residents.

A new initiative introduced this year is the Health Care Aid Incentive Program, designed to support Health Care Aides employed at the Reston Health Care Centre. Participants have the opportunity to earn up to \$400 in community merchant dollars throughout 2024, incentivizing their valuable contributions to the community.

The RM of Pipestone is committed to encouraging and supporting the local business community. New businesses can benefit from a Business Real Property grant of up to \$32,000, whether they're purchasing an existing business or developing new property.

As a family-friendly tourist destination,



Reston Lake and Spray Park.

the RM of Pipestone offers a variety of recreational activities for both visitors and residents. From a scenic 9-hole golf course to a fully equipped campground surrounding Reston Lake and Spray Park, there's something to captivate ev-

eryone.

Dive into the region's vibrant history by exploring the Peanut Line Trail, which retraces the route of the steam engine that once connected Reston and Wolsley.

We invite you to consider the RM of

Pipestone for your next move or vacation.

For details, contact the RM of Pipestone office at 204-877-3327 or visit us online at www.rmofpipestone.com

WELCOME TO THE RM OF PIPESTONE



The RM of Pipestone in Manitoba's southwest corner offers a charming and peaceful rural lifestyle, with various recreational activities and amenities for residents and visitors alike. From golfing and nature trails, a spray park and lake, and winter activities at the rink. There is something for everyone to enjoy in the Rural Municipality of Pipestone!

Prime Land | Cash Incentives | Developers Welcome

Ask us about our:
\$10.00 Municipal Lot Sale Program
Home Purchase Grant Program
Health Care Aid Incentive Program
Business Real Property Grants

www.rmofpipestone.com
204-877-3327
accounts@rmofpipestone.com



Plain & Valley DEVELOPMENT ISSUE



Esterhazy: Dedicated to progress



The Town of Esterhazy is a lively community with diverse business sectors. It's a place where you will feel welcome and included. Our commercial, industrial, agricultural, and entrepreneurial sectors are not only growing, but they are also thriving. The development and activity in these areas are noticeable and designed to meet the specific needs of residents, which fosters a strong sense of community.

Esterhazy is a thriving community with a population of over 2,500 people. It is an industrial and agricultural hub that caters to a trading area of over 10,000 people. Moreover, it is a central service center that offers more than 80 categories of local and national franchise businesses.

What sets us apart is our unwavering commitment to future growth. In 2022 the Town of Esterhazy celebrated the start of construction on a \$29.9 million regional water system project funded in part by the federal, provincial, and municipal governments. This Regional Water Treatment Facility is projected to be complete in 2025.

Along with Federal, Provincial and Municipal funding for a new Regional Water Treatment Facility, the province of Saskatchewan has committed \$500,000 of planning dollars towards the development of a new Integrated Health Facility in Esterhazy.

These are clear demonstrations of our dedication to progress. This commitment to growth means

there are abundant opportunities for businesses and investors to thrive and succeed in Esterhazy.

Esterhazy is an excellent place for people and families of all ages to live,

grow and retire, offering a high quality of life. Due to the growing number of young families coming into the community, many businesses are developing to meet the needs of families,

including daycares, clothing/gift shops, pharmacies, grocery stores, fitness facilities, veterinary clinic and much more. Our community has three fantastic schools including, PJ Gilen Elementary School, Esterhazy High School, and Suncrest College.

Alongside excellent educational opportunities and medical resources, Esterhazy boasts a plethora of recreational activities for people of all ages. There's always something to do, whether it's skating and cross country skiing in the colder months, biking, hiking, swimming and golfing in the warmer months, or enjoying our community events throughout the year. This is just a glimpse of the many activities that make our community a vibrant place to live.

The Town of Esterhazy has two residential subdivisions offering a variety of lot sizes and building options. Developed by the town, Sylvite Subdivision provides affordable, attrac-

tive lots for single-family residences serviced with water and sewer, street lights, and paved roads. Spacious lots in Margaret Court Subdivision are available for owners of modular and mobile homes. Both subdivisions are priced to meet the needs of all home buyers.

Not only do we have residential lots for sale, but we also have commercial lots available right within view of Highway 22, a major transportation route. Our Broadview Road lots are a great location to expand, relocate or open a brand new business. These commercial lots are close to hotels, restaurants, and gas stations, ensuring easy access for customers and employees.

As time passes, the Town of Esterhazy continues to focus on the growth of our community and is currently working on developing more commercial and industrial land. We offer incentives to attract businesses to build.

Esterhazy is known as the Potash Capital due to the abundant and high-quality potash in the area. This has helped create a robust and stable economy, with increased activity allowing Esterhazy to grow and businesses to stay strong. As a whole, Esterhazy takes pride in its community and works together with every community in the region. We are also committed to environmental sustainability, implementing measures to minimize the impact of our industrial and commercial activities on the environment.

If you would like more information, please contact:

Crystal Sabo
 Planning & Economic Development Director
 Town of Esterhazy
 306-745-5405
 ecdev@esterhazysk.ca
 www.townofesterhazy.ca

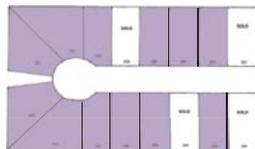


Esterhazy

a great place to call home!



MARGARET Court
 EACH LOT \$10,000



SYLVITE Subdivision
 LOTS starting at \$10,000



BROADVIEW ROAD Highway Commercial Lots
 EACH LOT \$50,000



New tax incentives for Commercial Business

- Affordable residential lots
- Quiet neighborhood
- Serviced with water and sewer
- Paved streets with curb and gutter
- Multiple, spacious C2 lots, high visibility
- Easy access from Highway 22
- Close to hotels and restaurants

Build your life in Esterhazy!

For information on zoning and permits please contact the Town Office
www.townofesterhazy.ca • town.esterhazy@sasktel.net • 306-745-3942



Nancy Johnson: 306-745-7578



Kevin Weedmark photos

Construction continues on Co-op Food Store

Construction is continuing on the new Borderland Co-op Food Store in Moosomin. The steel framing has been going up over the last couple of weeks. The front entrance of the store will be on the east side, facing Gordon Street. The original food store will be demolished and that area will become part of the parking lot.

Autumn Court

DEVELOPMENTS

FOR SALE IN ROCANVILLE, SK

Lots with Modular Homes



A 45	B 45	C 45	D 45	E 45	F 67.5	G 67.5	H 45	I 45	J 90	K 45
Autumn Court ROCANVILLE, SK										
■ SOLD LOTS					■ LOTS WITH SHOW HOMES					
L 90	M 45	N 45	O 67.5	P 67.5	Q 67.5	R 67.5	S 90	T 45		

Three different lot sizes to choose from:

- 45 ft.
- 67.5 ft.
- 90 ft.

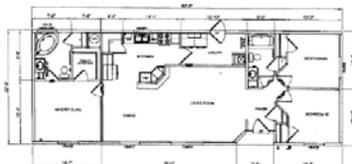
Want to be included in our 2025 Development Issue?

Give us a call!
 The Development Issue is an annual feature, and we can put you on our list for 2025!

306-435-2445
ads@world-spectator.com



Show Home
 Located on Lot F – 67.5 ft Lot
LOT & HOME:
\$252,459



Show Home
 Located on Lot L – 90 ft Lot
LOT & HOME:
\$265,610



ARC-FX5 22' x 76' 16725F

For more information call 306-645-2669 or 306-435-8018 and ask for Stan or e-mail universesat@sasktel.net



municipality of
Russell Binscarth

Building a sustainable Prairie Economy

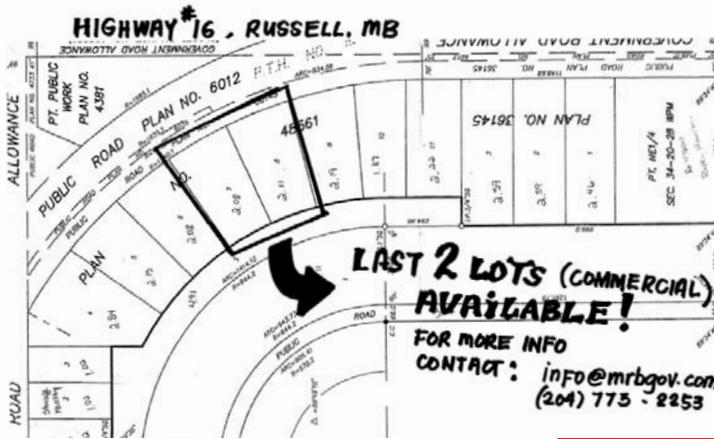


IT'S A BOOMING 2024 FOR OUR COMMUNITY!

A regional partnership between two picturesque municipalities fostering sustainable community and cultivating a resiliency through economic development initiatives.

THINKING OF ADVERTISING IN OUR COMMUNITY?

Contact edo@avrcdc.com or call (204)773-6146 for your economic development needs.



Own a lot in Russell's newest development for only \$37,500 R32 along 713 Kinney Way Russell, Manitoba. Total Land Size - 8260 sqft, Lot Sizes: 7,251 - 10,889 sqft. Fully serviced and ready to build on lots with the latest engineered infrastructure. Build in a private area of the town which offers many attractions and amenities.



CENTURY 21
Westman Realty Ltd.

VACANT LOTS FOR SALE

5 SILVER CRES, RUSSELL
MLS: 202303441 - \$49,665



328 GRAHAM ST, ANGUSVILLE
MLS: 202303272 - \$2,000



DARREN ZIPRICK REALTOR®
204.848.5131



SOON TO RISE!

12 Unit Rental Apartment Building. Each suite will have 2 bedrooms 2 bathrooms, laundry, dishwasher & a private balcony.

RYAN SOICE

204-430-7220 • soiceconstruction@gmail.com



Twin Valley

Twin Valley Co-op is proud to be locally invested in the communities we live and serve in!

Currently serving Russell & area with Fuel & EV Chargers, Home & Building supplies, Agro, and a Card Lock with washroom/shower facility.

In 2024, we will be adding 30-40 jobs to the community of Russell with our new Food Store.

Your local Co-op is here for you. We live where you live, work where you work and we are invested in helping grow the economy right here at home. We make sustainable investments in the communities we share and support the causes that matter to you, your community and neighboring communities.

RUSSELL FOOD STORE

Opening June 2024

205 Lawrence Street, Russell, MB



WWW.TWINVALLEYCO-OP.CRS



Cancer Unit Expansion at Russell Health Centre



We have all been touched by cancer in some way and this is the reason the committee was struck to help raise funds to improve the Cancer Care unit. Our goal is to give the patients accessing the services at the Russell Health Centre a place where they can have the privacy and comfort they deserve. Construction hopefully will be completed in June with 4+ chairs operational. We thank you for helping us to reach our goal!

DONATIONS CAN BE MADE IN THE FOLLOWING WAYS:

By Mail: ECCC c/o Russell Health Center
Bag Service #2, Russell, MB R0J 1W0
Cheques made out to: ECCC
or by etransfer to: donate@eccc2014.ca



ADVERTISE ON OUR DIGITAL SIGN!



Advertise on our 8-foot x 16-foot LED digital sign located at the junction of Highways 16 & 13 at the Visitor Information Center in Russell MB. The location and positioning of the sign allows for an average of 2000 impressions a day to view the ads featured on the sign.

Contact our office for more information on our annual ad packages.

204-773-2498

chamber@mrbgov.com

NEW STORE LOCATION! OPENING SOON!

**Hwy #16
Russell, MB**

