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Moose Mountain Pro Rodeo coming up July 20-21  
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More information on Living Skies Come Alive inside!  
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# Plain & Valley

Covering Southeast Saskatchewan and Southwest Manitoba

July 2019 • Volume 12, Number 7



Kim Poole photo

August long weekend at Moosomin Lake:

## Canada versus Philippines for Fireworks Competition

BY KEVIN WEEDMARK

Organizers are counting down the days until the 2019 Living Skies Come Alive Fireworks Competition August 3 and 4 at Moosomin Lake.

Every August long weekend, the skies come alive over Moosomin Lake. For the last several years the Living Skies Come Alive Fireworks Competition has pitted two fireworks companies against one another.

Each competitor puts on their best show—one on Saturday night, one on Sunday night—and a panel of judges selects the winner.

The fireworks shows are unlike anything else on the Prairies. Timed to music and carefully choreographed, the fireworks shows are a different calibre of show than anything else on the Prairies. The fireworks are shot off across the lake



from the main beach, so they are reflected in the water of Moosomin Lake.

The fireworks weekend has grown over the years, with thousands of people taking in the shows each night.

The two-day fireworks competition long pitted Saskatchewan against Manitoba, but for the last two years it has gone international, as Canada took on China and the United States over the last two years.

It will be Canada versus the Philippines at the 2019 Living Skies Come Alive Inter-

national Fireworks Competition at Moosomin Regional Park August 3 and 4.

### Moosomin, Esterhazy Filipino communities involved

The Moosomin and Esterhazy Filipino communities will be involved in the weekend, serving Filipino food and performing. "We will have a cultural presentation," said Leo Ilustrisimo, a member of Moosomin's Filipino community. "We will be

performing 4-5 pm on the Sunday, the day the Philippines will be doing the fireworks. We will have a food booth both days, Saturday and Sunday, with the help of the Esterhazy Filipino community."

He said members of the local Filipino community are excited about taking part in the weekend. "Everybody is really excited, not just here in Moosomin but in all the towns around," he said. "It will be something new for everyone. They want to see what the Filipino fireworks team can do. We have been talking to a few Filipino communities from surrounding towns and they are really excited about it."

"We're setting up a tent and will be playing a video on a big-screen TV all about the Philippines so people can learn more about the Philippines. It will be set up close to the food booth."

Continued on page 3

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**August long weekend at Moosomin Lake:**

# Canada versus Philippines for Fireworks Competition

*Continued from front*

Ilustrisimo said he is looking forward to the fireworks weekend. "We were busy with the Philippines National Heritage Month, and then getting ready for the parade weekend (the local Filipino community participates in Moosomin's Chamber of Commerce Parade and in a Multicultural Celebration on the Moosomin Rodeo weekend). Now that the rodeo weekend is over we are already in preparation for the fireworks weekend. We're going to be busy preparing for the show the next few weeks. It's going to be something else. We're really happy that the committee chose a team from the Philippines to participate. It's exciting."

## Organizers excited to host the Philippines

"We're really excited about having the Philippines come this year," says Laurie Renneberg of the organizing committee. Layne McFarlane, another member of the committee, said he hopes members of the Filipino community across the Prairies come out to see the Canada vs. Philippines competition. "The Filipino community is really quite large between Winnipeg and Regina. We hope a lot of them come out," he says.

The organizers are hoping to replicate the excitement of the Canada vs China competition two years ago with the competition with the Philippines. "There was a lot of excitement with China coming, not quite as much with the States because they're maybe too familiar," said Renneberg. "I think the Philippines will create that same level of excitement we had with China again."

The weekend also includes music both nights. This year, the live bands are Stuck on Red and The Firm from Langenburg.

The fireworks weekend has become a very successful fundraiser for Moosomin Regional Park. "Last year it raised a little over \$100,000," says McFarlane. "The year before that, with China, it was \$130,000. So it's huge, but at the same time, our overhead cost going into it is like \$130,000, so most of all you hope for good weather. I feel a little like a farmer—the costs of the fireworks and the entertainment coming in and the security and the porta-potties and the tents for the beer gardens are committed costs. You've put everything on the line, and you see how it goes. Have we been fortunate? Yes, we've been fortunate with the weather each year.

"Our new water plant at the park cost in the range of \$630,000. A rough guess as to how much has been raised over the years by the fireworks is about \$450,000. As a public park, if we could make another significant bite into the



cost of the water plant and help pay off some of our loan, that would be wonderful."

The organizers are hopeful they will get a good crowd again this year. The Canada vs. U.S. weekend attracted 9,500 spectators and the Canada vs. China weekend attracted 12,500.

"We have a cap of 7,000 tickets a night," says Renneberg. "We're hoping with the Philippines it will have that international draw like we had with China."

She says she is looking forward to the August long weekend. "I am truly looking forward to it, because our Filipino community has been so involved in our community, and this is like we're giving something back to them by having the Philippines come."

"Having the Philippines come is really special because of the community both locally and regionally," adds McFarlane. "This should be special for them."

Anyone interested in volunteering can contact laurie.renneberg@hotmail.com or lh.mcfarlane@sasktel.net or call Laurie at 306-435-7746 or Layne at 306-435-9662.

Canada will be represented in the competition by Canfire

of Winnipeg, which has represented Canada at the Living Skies Come Alive International Fireworks Competition and other competitions. The Philippines will be represented by Platinum Fireworks. Platinum Fireworks provides fireworks shows for the Enchanted Kingdom theme park in Santa Rosa, Philippines, and has competed in several international fireworks competitions.



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## Steven Bonk, MLA for Moosomin Constituency



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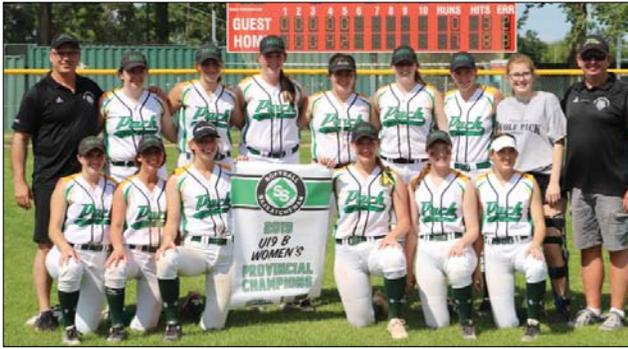


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The Southeast Wolfpack with the provincial championship banner. In back, from left are Trevor Hudym (Coach), Delaney Hickie (Rocanville), Brooklyn Lowenberger (Lemberg), Sidney Hertlein (Langenburg), Alexis Thompson (Carlyle), Kailyn Wilson (Kenosee Lake), Chelsey Lawrence (Fleming), Justine Wolf (Wapella), and Warren Hickie (Coach). In front are Cheyenne Jamieson (Moosomin), Bree Walchuk (Melville), Ally Hayhurst (Wapella), Tori Stelmachowich (Melville), Chelsea Sauve (Wapella), and April Cook (Melville). Missing due to injuries are Brooklyn Davidson (Moosomin) and Tess Desnomie (Duff).

## SE Wolfpack goes undefeated at provincials, moves on to Westerns

BY KARA KINNA

For their second year in a row, the Southeast Wolfpack U19 softball team will be going to Westerns.

The team went undefeated, winning gold out of 14 teams at the U19 B Women's Provincial Championships in Saskatoon from July 5-7, earning a spot at Western Canadian Championships in Red Deer, Alberta on the August long weekend.

The team consists of players from around Southeast Saskatchewan, including six local players—Cheyenne Jamieson and Brooklyn

Davidson from Moosomin, Chelsey Lawrence from Fleming, Chelsea Sauve, Allison Hayhurst, and Justine Wolf from Wapella, and Delaney Hickie from Rocanville.

While Westerns didn't go well for the team last year (the team got bronze in provincials to qualify for Westerns where they lost all their games), their undefeated showing at provincials has the team feeling more confident heading into Westerns this year. The team is also older this year, and more experienced.

Continued on page 6

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# Kicking back with the joys of lake life

My husband and I were happily enjoying the lake scene from our comfy chairs on the beach when a blood-curdling scream sounded from out on the water. We knew instantly it was our seven-year-old granddaughter who was out tubing with her 'other' grandparents. It was our first day at the beach where we had come to enjoy peace and quiet and yes, to take a break from the farm.

Once the screams died down and my palpitating heart, I prepared the big towel for the wee wet one I knew would be sitting on my lap with her big eyes and tear-stained cheeks. And soon I heard the whole story: "Grandma, I knew I was gonna fall off so I let go and plugged my nose so I wouldn't get water up my nose." Ahhh, I thought, 'letting go' was very likely the moment of her undoing.

Our camping season is generally rather extended in that it begins on the farm and ends on the farm. We set up in early May during seeding, use our cabin on wheels for meal-making and for spending a few nights a week, then pull out to the lake for a month or two before once again settling the camper back at the farm for harvest season.

This year, four days before we were set to pull the camper to the lake, we decided, well more like 'I' decided, we ought to upgrade our camper by a few years. As a dedicated camper who does not believe you can actually justify the cost of them, I am pretty savvy when it comes to spending money on an RV. And that's probably why, when I inquired about a 2015 half-ton pullable fifth wheel, I came away spitting and sputtering at the \$50,000 price tag.

The only thing left for me to do was drop a few years and try again. And that's when I found it! The perfect one for us. Big enough kitchen. Lots of sleeping space in the event of visiting grandchildren, and an electric awning. Oh how sweet life was going to be at the lake this season!

And so it was that on the second day before 'lake day' my husband and I were madly cleaning and emptying the 'old' camper and putting it into the 'new.' Might I mention it that this all took place on that one 35-degree mid-June day in the parking lot of the RV dealership where no power could run either A/C unit.

Knowing we would be meeting our youngest (very financially-minded) daughter and her family at the lake that first weekend, I quickly snapped a few pics of the interior of the new-to-us RV and sent them to her.



"Mom?" she text back. "Mom, what is this?"  
 "It's the new camper," I tell her. "You like it?"  
 "But Mom, you love your old camper," she responds.  
 "Yes, but I love this one more," I send back.  
 "How much?" she asks.

For the duration of our camper exchange, I can't answer, but when I finish the task at hand, I check my messages: "Mom!?" "Mom, where are you?" "Mom, are you really buying a new camper?" "Mom?!!!"  
 I finally respond: "Done deal dear!"  
 "How much?" comes the question again.  
 "\$80,000. It's beautiful," I send back.

Pause.  
 "LOL," is her response.

Pause.  
 "Mom?" she says.

Then she continues: "Are you serious?"  
 I have a good laugh and tell her not to worry. I haven't taken a sizable chunk out of our retirement fund and that her spend-thrift mother hasn't lost her marbles—well not totally anyhow.

And so, on my first solo trip to the lake, I decide solo could be boring and I pick up the two youngest grandchildren, five and three years old, to accompany me for a day or two.

And here's where that rest and relaxation I was telling you about come in. The two little ones were asleep by 8 pm and I spent a good three or four hours reading my

book (a rarity in my world). The first week at the lake, I just know, is going to be beyond awesome.

At 6:32 am the next morning, I awaken to a very high, screechy voice saying: "Cock-a-doodle-do! Cock-a-doodle-do!" I get out to the living room where two smiling faces greet me, the youngest saying: "Grandma! Hayden didn't know why you wasn't wakin' up so he was cock-a-doodle-dooing!" Ahhhhh, I see, I think to myself as I contemplate how best to approach the 'no cock-a-doodle-dooing' rule at my camper.

Since that first trip out to the lake, grandchildren and friends and family have come and gone and sometimes come again. Some grandchildren sleep in in the morning—now that's a sweet treat; the twins, now eight, would not be part of that category.

On the first morning with the twins, I got up at 6:30 am just to check on everyone but alas, my husband and the twins have left the RV. I open the door and see my husband standing at the grill making breakfast, "Where are the boys?" He points to the boat a mere 10 feet away where the boys are sitting with their fishing rods discussing what hooks they will be using that day and asking Grandpa when their bacon and eggs will be ready. Doesn't anybody sleep in on holidays, I wonder before getting dressed and getting everyone's life jackets ready.

After a great morning out on the boat, all the kids (well, most) are excited about the fish fry we will be having for supper. "What else do you want with the fish?" I ask them (five at the time). "Salad? Cucumbers? BBQ potatoes?" And their answer is much like it would be at home: "K.D."

Since that first morning, it's been a glorious place to be—at the lake—where the fish are biting, the weekly market gardens ensure we get fresh jams and buns, where life is way laid back, the total opposite of our usual crazy farm life. And many, many times, I think to myself, what a wonderful world! I know we will treasure these special lake memories forever, and with any luck, so will the little ones!

## SE Wolfpack going to Westerns

Continued from page 5

"The last several years we've just been one medal away from winning provincials," says Andrea Wolf, who has assisted with the team since its inception. "It's nice to finally come through and beat all the other teams that have been beating us."

"I think it was the experience from Westerns last year, just a little maturity from that, and knowing we have lots of barriers against us because we don't play in a league, we just play the odd exhibition game here and there, and all those other teams play in leagues full time."

"We just practiced a little bit harder and a little bit better than everyone else. And I think after the experience at Westerns last year, we just took away that we needed to put a little extra effort into it. And knowing the athletic talent that we have, the experience that the girls have, I think they knew going into it that it was there, we just needed to dig in a little bit harder and go for it a little bit more."

Wolf says for the first time, the majority of their players are 18 years old, which also helps the team be more competitive in the U19 category.

"We were always competing every year with a young team in the older age group. This year, finally, all of them except one is an actual U19 player, so that makes a difference. In the past, the core of the team was a younger team competing in an older age group."

Wolf says the team won handily at provincials, and were given an extra boost when they ousted Unity, which is always a tough team for the Wolfpack. The win against Unity in the semifinal moved the team straight in to the final against Assiniboia, who they defeated for the gold medal.

"They were pretty excited because they've gotten so close for so many years and they've only just been one or two away from it," says Wolf. "This year, for them to come in and beat out one of the main competitors over the years, which has always been back and forth with Unity, that was

a big game changer for us to beat them in. In the bottom of the seventh, with two out, and the go ahead run on third, that was a pretty big win to knock them out and I think it just sort of took some pressure off them."

"They were excited. All of them have been waiting for this for so long that it's just kind of the icing on the cake for them."

Wolf says the team now needs to figure out what their goal is heading into Westerns.

"I think right now they are just coming off the high of provincials. So it's just a matter of regrouping and setting some goals towards where we can compete at Westerns."

She says B.C. and Manitoba in particular always put up tough teams at Westerns, but the Wolfpack has been working on upping their skills this season, especially when it comes to handling some faster pitching.

"Coach Trevor Hudym pitches to them a lot, and we need to do more of that where they are seeing faster, harder pitching," she says. "They just play errorless. There were only a few errors they made (at provincials). They just have to keep doing that. It's just all the simple things they just need to do well and not make errors. And I think with the hitting they are a little more confident this year because they have had Trevor pitching to them and I think some of them have been seeing better pitching now that they are getting older."

"The other teams are seeing that more consistently where we are not, so we just have to find ways to do it and bring in some of the men to pitch or some of the older players to pitch to us, and that will help."

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42/1p

Moosomin RCMP, Saskatchewan ICE make arrest:

# Two arrested, two children rescued after child porn investigation

BY KEVIN WEEDMARK  
A joint investigation involving the Saskatchewan Internet Child Exploitation Unit (Sask ICE) and the Alberta Law Enforcement Response Teams Internet Child Exploitation Unit (ALERT ICE) resulted in the rapid capture of two men and the rescue of two children in Saskatchewan and Alberta.

One of the arrests was made in Rocanville by the Moosomin RCMP.

On June 24, 2019, Sask ICE received information regarding two men accessing cloud-based child pornography, sharing child pornography and discussing, via a popular social media application, sexually assaulting children. Sask ICE started an investigation and shared its findings with ALERT ICE to further the investigation.

On June 26, 2019, Sask ICE and ALERT ICE respectively executed search warrants in Rocanville and in Red Deer, Alberta. Numerous electronic devices were seized at several locations and the two men were arrested.

The two children are safe.

The Alberta children's services department are involved in the care of the child rescued in Alberta.

The child rescued in Saskatchewan during this investigation was turned over to family members to ensure their care and well-being. At no point in the investigation was the Saskatchewan Ministry of

Social Services involved as was stated in an initial media release from the RCMP. In Rocanville, Sask ICE arrested 35-year-old Robert Gaasenbeek and charged him with:

Three counts of Sexual interference – Section 151 of the Criminal Code;

Agreement to commit a sexual offence against a child – Section 172.2(1)(b) of the Criminal Code;

Making child pornography – Section 163.1(2) of the Criminal Code;

Possessing child pornography – Section 163.1(4) of the Criminal Code;

Accessing child pornography – Section 163.1(4.1) of the Criminal Code;

Distributing child pornography – Section 163.1(3) of the Criminal Code.

In Red Deer, ALERT ICE arrested a 40-year-old man and charged him with:

Making arrangements to commit a sexual offence against a child (x2) – Section 172.2 of the Criminal Code;

Sexual assault – Section 271 of the Criminal Code;

Sexual interference – Section 151 of the Criminal Code;

Sexual exploitation – Section 153 of the Criminal Code;

Making child pornography – Section 163.1(2) of the Criminal Code;

Possessing child pornography – Section 163.1(4) of the Criminal Code;

Accessing child pornography – Section 163.1(4.1) of the Criminal Code;

Distributing child por-

nography – Section 163.1(3) of the Criminal Code;

Making child pornography available – Section 163.1(3) of the Criminal Code;

Incest – Section 155 of the Criminal Code

The 35-year-old man arrested in Rocanville was held in custody at the Regina Police Service headquarters.

The 40-year-old man was arrested in Red Deer with the assistance of the Red Deer RCMP and held in custody. His next court appearance will be at Red Deer Provincial Court on July 17, 2019.

Anyone with informa-

tion about this case or any child exploitation situation is asked to contact their local police or to report their concern anonymously at [www.cybertip.ca](http://www.cybertip.ca).

Sask ICE and ALERT ICE units would like to thank the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, the Regina Police Service, Red Deer RCMP, and Moosomin RCMP for their valuable assistance during this investigation.

The Sask ICE Unit is comprised of investigators from the Saskatchewan RCMP, Regina Police Service, Saskatoon Police Service and Prince Albert Police Service.



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 2015 Hyundai Sonata Limited 2.4L FWD <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 99,957 kms</li> <li>• Dual Zone Climate Control</li> </ul> <b>\$18,900</b> or \$169 B/W OAC STK# TU9-094AT	 2017 Mitsubishi Lancer ES FWD <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 43,940 kms</li> <li>• Heated Seats</li> </ul> <b>\$17,900</b> or \$145 B/W STK# U18-061	 2019 Dodge Durango GT 3.6L AWD <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 37,460 kms</li> <li>• 7-Passenger</li> </ul> <b>\$42,900</b> or \$300 B/W OAC STK# U19-021	
 2018 Dodge Charger GT 3.6L AWD <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LOW KMS!</li> <li>• 46,396 kms</li> </ul> <b>\$30,900</b> or \$217 B/W OAC STK# U19-029	 2018 Dodge Grand Caravan GT 3.6L FWD <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 45,352 kms</li> <li>• 7-Passenger</li> </ul> <b>\$27,900</b> or \$196 B/W OAC STK# U19-024	 2015 Hyundai Santa Fe Sport 2.0T Limited AWD <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 77,421 kms</li> <li>• Factory Warranty Remaining</li> </ul> <b>\$25,900</b> or \$198 B/W OAC STK# SF9-172AT	
 2013 Nissan Pathfinder Platinum 3.5L AWD <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 170,055 kms</li> <li>• 7-Passenger</li> </ul> <b>\$16,900</b> or \$183 B/W OAC STK# SX8-187AT	<p><b>All Payments \$0 Down Taxes Included</b></p> 		 2017 Jeep Cherokee Latitude North 2.4L 4x4 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LOW KMS!</li> <li>• 9,088 kms</li> </ul> <b>\$33,900</b> or \$252 B/W OAC STK# U18-067



The staff at Universe Satellite Sales. From left are Gary Birkenshaw, Kayla Stanhope, Connor Logan, Ian Langley, owner Stan Langley, Randy Stanhope, and Tanis Stanhope. Missing is Dawna Kingdon.

## Universe Satellite Sales named top snowmobile dealer in Canada

BY KARA KINNA

Universe Satellite Sales in Rocanville has been named the top snowmobile dealer in Canada out of all Canadian dealerships and all brands of snowmobiles.

On June 22, Universe Satellite sales received the Canadian Council of Snowmobile Organizations 2019 Outstanding Excellence Award for Dealer of the Year. The awards ceremony was held at an international conference in Michigan where the Saskatchewan Snowmobile Association accepted it on Universe Satellite's behalf, and the award was presented afterwards to Universe Satellite Sales owner Stan Langley in Saskatoon.

This particular award is not based on sales, but is based on involvement.

Universe Satellite Sales has been operating in Rocanville for over 25 years, and in that time the dealership has been lauded for its customer service, as well as its involvement with the local Tri Valley Trails snowmobile system, the Saskatchewan Snowmobile Association, and Manitoba's Snowman trails.

Langley says they were nominated for the award by the Saskatchewan Snowmobile Association. Universe Satellite won dealer of the year for Saskatchewan last year, and each province entered their top dealer for the award. He says SSA nominated Universe Satellite for the award.

"It all hinged on customer service, and everything we do for the customers," says Langley.

"I was pretty pumped. I was thinking 'where do we go from here?'"

"It goes with having such a great staff to do it. This wasn't an award for me, it was an award for Universe Satellite and our staff."

"I guess we are doing the right thing and our customers are seeing it and the Snowmobile Association is seeing it as well. We are involved with the Manitoba Snowmobile Association because we are right on the border, so we do lots of things with them and sponsor events that they put on. We are fairly active in both."

"When you have the snowmobile dealerships behind the clubs, then that's going to help the clubs grow. It keeps them going, because we have to keep our trail system going."

"I'm the president of Tri-Valley Trails right now. We've got a fairly good active group now, we have a few younger people involved in it now. We should be on good footing. Some of the people who have done it for years have stepped down. It's a lot of work. Donna and I spent a lot of nights out on the trail putting up signs this year, but at least we were snowmobiling."

"When you show involvement, and you are out there with your demo sleds and you are letting people ride them on the trails, it makes a big difference. When you are involved in it, people see you out there, you are talking to them. If you are out signing the trails and someone stops to talk to you, maybe you sell them something."

"With the trails, it just opens up so much more. The trail goes right by the shop so people can stop here. It's a lot safer riding on the trails than it is across and open field. And with the trespassing laws the way they are coming it's going to be very nice to have trails to ride on."

A video was played at the international convention where the award was announced.

"Customer service is important to this dealership and customers are treated as extended family," said the video about Universe Satellite Sales. "The owner and staff go above and beyond in servicing their customers, from the initial sale, emergency repairs, and courtesy deliveries. Customer appreciation events with free food and special deals are always a huge success."

"This dealership has earned numerous awards for the Circle of Excellence, Diamond Dealer awards, as well as being named the number one Arctic Cat dealer in all of Canada last year in one of their product divisions."

"The owner of this dealership has been a member of the local snowmobile club since its inception and is currently the club's president. Trail signs and club snowmobiles are stored at the dealership and during winter months, the groomer is based there as well."

"This dealership is also an active sponsor of the neighboring Snowman trail in Manitoba."

Langley says it means a lot to him to receive this award.

"As soon as you can post something like this and put it on Facebook and your website and use that in your advertising, people are going to notice that and say these people are doing something right," he says.

"We'll keep on going and I guess as long as we keep on doing what we are doing, we will see what happens."

Last year Schraders in Yorkton was the winner of the Canadian award.

"To have two Saskatchewan dealers win it two years in a row is a good testament as to how involved the snowmobile dealers in Saskatchewan are with the Saskatchewan Snowmobile Association," adds Langley.



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# 10th Annual Living Skies Come Alive International Fireworks Competition

## Canadian competitor says Living Skies a world-class event

BY KEVIN WEEDMARK

The Canadian competitor in the 2019 Living Skies Come Alive International Fireworks Competition says the event at Moosomin Lake has become a truly world-class competition.

"It's international level fireworks," said Peter Palmer of Canfire Pyrotechnics.

"The pinnacle of fireworks for people around the world is Montreal. They have a long legacy of 30-40 years of teams from around the world.

"Moosomin just switched over to an international level over the last three years, and it looks like we're going to maintain that. As the budgets go up at Moosomin, we're able to attract bigger companies, more countries, and more talent. The level of the show is now on par with international competitions you would see in other parts of the world, whether it's Hanover Germany, Montreal, even English Bay in Vancouver.

"Here it's a little different than English Bay where they're limited to 12-16 people on the barge. And those teams are helping out whereas our teams work for us, so there's a pride factor and a passion going into the shows here.

"It's a win for the visiting team such as the Philippines, it's a win for Canada, and it's also a win for the audience and the regional

park. Everyone benefits, because everyone wants to put their best foot forward."

He said there is a lot of preparation for the show, and there are no second chances.

"We don't get a second chance to do this," he said. "We can't go back on the following weekend and say 'Let's do a do-over.' You have to do everything right, right here, right now. There's a lot of pressure. There are a lot of specialty fireworks that Ottawa approves one time for the show that we can't use any other time or for any other shows."

He said Living Skies is unlike any of the other shows Canfire does.

"Moosomin is a highlight and a feature show for us. It's something the crew looks forward to. It's not an issue of 'how much money can I make?' It's an issue of 'how well can I do this?'"

"I don't think we've ever made a profit on these shows because it's not about that, we're always trying to up our game and bring new equipment. Last year we invested at least \$20,000 into equipment just for Moosomin, beyond the fireworks, beyond the travel, beyond the crew. That's in hardware, and we upgraded our firing system for Moosomin last year by \$15,000 to handle the larger capacity of the show.

"It's not like other shows, because we know a year ahead of time we're going to

be doing this, which makes it easy for us to plan. We're not wondering if this is going to happen or not. I told the board I'm on board for the next 10 years if they want to do this."

Canfire Pyrotechnics has been around since 2002, and Palmer has offices in both Canada and China, which gives him insight into the fireworks world. "I was able to be at the Liu Yang International Fireworks Festival. I was a judge this year in May. I worked with six other judges and we judged entrants from around the world. The judging was so close, Italy vs Japan vs Holland, for the top three places. There was less than two points between first, second and third. I was able to meet the teams, see their setup, talk to them afterwards and debrief on what they could have done different or better. It was a great experience."

Palmer is looking forward to Living Skies. "I'm absolutely looking forward to it, the crew is motivated. Canada is up Saturday night, and the Philippines is up Sunday night. We're happy to be the first up at bat."

He said the two shows will be very different.

"I know the Philippine team is doing a very traditional show using Filipino music, it will have the national flavor of the Philippines," he said.

"Ours is called 'Ignite the pyro machine.'"

"We want to create that energy—here we go. Bring it in, and it's going to come in there, and then we create our magic. It's not a traditional Canada theme, a national patriotic theme, it's more for those fireworks enthusiasts—here we go and we want you to be completely enthralled with the energy and what we bring forward from Team Canada, so it's a little different approach than the last two years.

"We're looking forward to it. We've been building fireworks for 6-8 months for this show. We have half a shipping container full of fireworks for Moosomin.

"The Philippines team has the advantage of seeing what we did last year, what the Americans did last year, and what the China team did two years ago—everything's on YouTube—and I believe they've definitely upped their game. The Moosomin organizers have increased the budget over the last two years, so we have a healthier budget and we can put on a bigger show.

"The intensity and the complexity is increasing drastically. We're spending more prep time ahead of time with the fireworks selections, organizing the angles, the pieces.

"Each show involves over 2,000 pieces, so that involves a lot more pre-work. We're like elves in the workshop sorting all the pieces out. It's going to be an amazing show."

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# 10th Annual Living Skies Come Alive International Fireworks Competition



## Saturday, August 3 Schedule

### Breakfast at the Store

7:30 - 11:30 am  
Come on down to the Park Store and start your day with a good cup of coffee and breakfast.

### Sandcastle Building Contest

11 am - 12 noon  
Bring your own sand toys and build whatever inspires you in the sand. You have one hour to create your masterpiece. No limit to number of people in a group. Simply arrive at the main beach at 11:00 A.M., pick a spot and start building. Good luck! Treats for everyone!

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11 am - 1 pm, Saturday and Sunday  
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### Kids Games

1 - 3 pm, Saturday and Sunday

Kids games on Saturday and Sunday from 1 - 3 pm. Send the kids down to wear off some energy. Meet on the grassy area by the store and playground equipment. Prizes for everyone!!

### Pontoon Boat Rides

1 pm - 4 pm, Saturday and Sunday  
Come on out and cruise the lake. No Charge! Rides last approximately 30 minutes. Boats leave from the dock down by the main stage area. Signs will be posted.

### Kids Face Tattoos

4 - 5 pm, Saturday and Sunday  
Come on down by the main store area and there will be a booth where you can get a tattoo of your choice.

### Food Booths and Park Store

11 am - 9 pm  
Food booths will be set up in the grassy area across from the store. There will be a wide variety of foods to choose from. The Park Store will be serving Chicken Wings as well as a Deep Fried Basket with

your choice of Pickles, Mushrooms, Mozza Sticks or Avocados. You may also like to try their delicious Butter Chicken and Samosas.

### 11 am - 11 pm

Saturday and Sunday  
Have a blast at our tennis courts where you can ride on the bumper cars (\$5.00 per ride), jump on bouncy toys (\$10 day pass includes one bumper car ride) and visit with T-Rex and other characters.

### Celebration Ford Lumberjax Axe Throwing

1 - 7 pm - Cost is \$5  
Come on out and give Axe Throwing a try. \$5 per person. Prizes awarded for Best Male and Female adults as well as best youth. The Celebration Ford Axe Throwing will be located by the tennis courts.

### Fusion Audio Visual

Saturday and Sunday  
Our returning DJ will be our MC for the 10th annual fireworks and provide music in the afternoons and as well in the evenings.

So bring a blanket or a chair and enjoy!

### Beer Gardens

4 pm - Midnight  
Saturday and Sunday  
When it is hot out there is nothing like a cold beer. Our volunteers will be happy to serve you that refreshing drink. Beer gardens are located south of the store on the grassy area both days.

### 50/50 Draw

Saturday and Sunday  
\$500 minimum each day. Tickets are 4 for \$5 and can be purchased by the store. As well sellers will be walking amongst the crowd. Don't miss out!

### 7:30 pm - 1 am

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# 10th Annual Living Skies Come Alive International Fireworks Competition



## Sunday, August 4 Schedule

**Pancake Breakfast**  
7:30 - 11:30 am  
Come on down to the Park Store and start your day with a delicious pancake breakfast.

**Kids Beach Games**  
11 am - 1 pm, Saturday and Sunday  
Cool off by the water with some beach games down at the main beach from 11 - 1 pm both days.

**Kids Games**  
1 - 3 pm, Saturday and Sunday  
Kids games on Saturday and Sunday from 1 - 3 pm. Send the kids down to wear off some energy. Meet on the grassy area by the store and playground equipment. Prizes for everyone!!

**Pontoon Boat Rides**  
1 - 4 pm, Saturday and Sunday  
Come on out and cruise the lake. No Charge! Rides last approximately 30 minutes. Boats leave from the dock down by the main stage area. Signs will be posted.

**Kids Face Tattoos**  
4 - 5 pm, Saturday and Sunday  
Come on down by the main store area and there will be a booth where you can get a tattoo of your choice.

**Food Booths and Park Store**  
11 am - 9 pm  
Food booths will be set up in the grassy area across from the store. There will be a wide variety of foods to choose from. The Park Store will be serving Chicken Wings as well as a Deep Fried Basket with your choice of Pickles, Mushrooms, Mozza Sticks or Avocados. You may also like to try their delicious Butter Chicken and Samosas.

**11 am - 11 pm**  
Saturday and Sunday  
Have a blast at our tennis courts where you can ride on the bumper cars, jump on bouncy toys and other special attractions. Tickets can be purchased at the tennis courts.

**Filipino Community Entertainment**  
4 - 5 pm  
The main stage will be the center of attention as our local Filipino community entertains us.

**Fusion Audio Visual**  
Saturday and Sunday  
Our returning DJ will be our MC for the 10th annual fireworks and provide music in the afternoons and as well in the evenings. So bring a blanket or a chair and enjoy!

**Beer Gardens**  
4 pm - Midnight  
Saturday and Sunday  
When it is hot out there is nothing like a cold beer. Our volunteers will be happy to serve you that refreshing drink. Beer gardens are located south of the store on the grassy area both days.

**50/50 Draw**  
Saturday and Sunday  
\$500 minimum each day. Tickets are 4 for \$5 and can be purchased by the store. As well sellers will be walking amongst the crowd. Don't miss out!

**5 - 10 pm**  
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# 10th Annual Living Skies Come Alive International Fireworks Competition

## Filipino competitor has lots of international experience

Representing the Philippines in this year's Living Skies Come Alive is Platinum Pyrotechnics, co-owned by Patrice Guy.

"I am originally from Montreal," says Guy. "I started in fireworks 33 years ago. In 2000, I started doing international gigs and I eventually ended up in Hong Kong. I met my wife in Hong Kong, my wife happens to be Filipino, and three years ago we moved to the Philippines and I became co-owner of a company there, Platinum Fireworks."

"We do a lot of shows in the Philippines, we also organize the Philippines International Pyromusical Competition, so we do have our own competition where we invite companies from all over the world to come to the Philippines to compete, and we also compete abroad."

"In the past two years we have done shows in Poland, Macau, China, Australia, all over the place."

"What differentiates the Philippines is there are not high budgets for some of the shows, so we have to be very inventive, we need to work with not a lot and turn it into a show. That forces you to be inventive."

Peak fireworks season in the Philippines is the Holiday season, with the summer being a slacker time.

"Fireworks are very, very popular with everyone in the Philippines except the government," Guy says with a laugh. "We start getting really busy around mid-November and that carries on until New Year's Eve, which is the busiest night of the year, and right after that we get into the hosting of our competition,



A show by Platinum Pyrotechnics

which keeps us busy until May, and then summer is the low season, so summer is when we do the international shows."

He said he has a very special show planned for Moosomin. "We have quite a show for Moosomin. We are well aware of the Filipino community in that part of Canada, and we went all out. The soundtrack is 100 per cent Filipino music. They are all-time favorites. Filipino people who come and watch the show, you will see a big smile on their face because they will totally relate to the soundtrack."

"It's a very complex show, we have well over 2,500 ignitions, so technically it's a very complicated show. The Philippines is my adopted country now, and we aim to do them proud."

The show is planned to take advantage of the reflections from Moosomin Lake, since the fireworks

are set off across the lake from the main beach.

"We plan for the reflections, we plan for the size of the site. The venue affects the design of the show," said Guy.

Guy said he often doesn't see his company's fireworks shows, since he has crews in different areas putting on shows, but he plans to be at Moosomin Regional Park for Living Skies Come Alive.

"The show was designed in the Philippines by our designer, and usually I don't go to all of the productions, I try to give the chance to our employees to travel and see the world, so usually I stay back at the office and they go and do the productions. But since this one is in my home country, I took the opportunity to tag along and be present for the show."

"Every device has a position in the field, has an angle, has timing, so we have a very detailed list that has over 3,000 lines to implement the show."

Guy says work on the Moosomin show began in the spring. "We started the choreography in April," he said. "We started by working on the soundtrack. That took about a week. Once that was done, the soundtrack was handed over to our designer, and our designer takes about three weeks to design the show. When that is done, we contract all of our suppliers all over the world to produce the material. Then it boils down to logistics, to ship everything to Saskatchewan."

"I'm absolutely looking forward to coming to Moosomin. Personally, it's going to be the highlight of my year. I'm really looking forward to it. It's going to be a blast."

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# 10th Annual Living Skies Come Alive International Fireworks Competition

## Scenes from previous Fireworks weekends



Fireworks competitors with the Ring of Fire



Kids playing on the beach before the fireworks.



The Lion Dance before the Chinese fireworks.



Sask Express at the 2018 Fireworks Competition



Above: Shifty Morgan at the 2018 competition  
Right: A family from Brandon enjoyed the LED balloons at the 2018 competition.



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# Dr. Gatrell named optometrist of the year

By DONNA BEUTLER  
Dr. Shannon Gatrell, who is from the Broadview area, has been named Optometrist of the Year by the Saskatchewan Association of Optometrists (SAO) in recognition of her efforts to assist with vision care in rural and remote communities.

Dr. Gatrell has been providing mobile optometric services to her home reserve, Ochapowace First Nation, northwest of Whitehead, Cowesses First Nation north of Broadview, Carry the Kettle First Nation, Nakoda First Nation south of Sintaluta, and Pasqua First Nation west of Fort Qu'Appelle.

"To be given this award by my peers is such an honour," Dr. Gatrell said, "and I am very humbled to be the recipient."

Dr. Gatrell went on to say that it was a little over a year ago that the SAO put out a call for optometrists who would be interested in providing mobile optometric services to a couple of reserves in the southern part of Saskatchewan.

"I indicated my interest," Dr. Gatrell said, adding that some equipment was purchased in order to be able to provide full eye care services at remote sites. "Initially I just went out to two reserves (Carry the Kettle and Pasqua) to see how things would work, and then expanded services to my home reserve of Ochapowace First Nation and Cowesses First Nation which are both back 'home' to me," she said.

Back home for Dr. Gatrell, the daughter of Stan and Lynda Gatrell, is the Broadview area where she grew up on a farm just outside of that community. She spent her school years from Kindergarten to Grade 12 at Broadview School. Her three brothers, Brian, Tom and Dick, are all of the Broadview/Whitehead area. Stan Gatrell is a long-time farmer on the family homestead and still resides there; her mom, who passed away in 2004, was from Ochapowace First Nation and was a Parenting Plus Program support worker, a program with a mandate to support young mothers.



**Above left:** Dr. Shannon Gatrell with her award for Optometrist of the Year.



**Above right:** Dr. Gatrell with a patient at the Pasqua First Nation, one of the places where she provides her mobile optometric services.

**Right:** Dr. Gatrell and Chief Cadmus Delorme at Cowesses First Nation.

"I loved growing up on the farm and doing all of the regular farm kid things," Dr. Gatrell said of her early years. "Dad would throw me on the tractor when he needed help and I rode my horse and helped with the

cars. I grew up on the ski hill and also spent a lot of time going to rodeos with my mom and brothers as that side of my family is a very big rodeo family."

Dr. Gatrell said she has always had a very supportive family and that she still goes out to the farm from Moose Jaw where she presently lives every chance she gets.

"It is still my happy place," Dr. Gatrell says of the farm at Broadview.

Looking back at her early years on the farm, she says she really didn't know what she wanted to do after high school, so she started her post-secondary education off by taking some general arts classes at the University of Regina.

"After my first year, I still wasn't sure what I wanted to do and I guess instead of learning what I 'did' want to do, you could say I learned what I 'didn't' want to do," Dr.

Gatrell explained. "After a semester off, I went back to university, took some more science classes and ultimately decided to aim towards optometry. I had always had an interest in the health sciences and I myself have always been very nearsighted, so I had spent a lot of time at the eye doctor growing up."

"My optometrist was the only doctor I wasn't afraid to go to when I was young because I knew he wasn't ever going to poke me with a needle," Dr. Gatrell said with a chuckle. "But jokes aside, it was always a good experience and I was always amazed at how well I could see when I got new glasses. It was a profession that was always in the back of my mind as one I could see myself pursuing."

Dr. Gatrell obtained her Bachelor of Science in Chemistry from the U of R in 2002 and then was



accepted into Optometry School at Pacific University College of Optometry in Forest Grove, Oregon (basically a suburb of Portland, Oregon). In 2006, Dr. Gatrell graduated from Pacific University with her Doctor of Optometry degree.

For two years following her graduation, Dr. Gatrell worked in Washington. In 2008 she decided it was time to move back to Saskatchewan. She joined Primary Eye Care in Moose Jaw, eventually becoming part owner.

*Continued on page 21*

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# Mini golf course opens in Moosomin

BY KARA KINNA

Moosomin now has a mini golf course.

Thanks to Kim Setrum, a local real estate agent with Royal Lepage, a new nine-hole mini golf course has been opened at the Tim Hortons Outdoor Eventplex at Bradley Park in Moosomin. The course is located just south of the Outdoor Eventplex main lawn, beside the ball diamonds.

Setrum sponsored the course, spending around \$4,000 to develop it, and spent time building the greens and obstacles along with her family members. The course officially opened on Sunday with a free barbecue for Father's Day.

"I felt it would be fun for kids and families using the ball diamonds, or even just using the camping spots here," says Setrum. "I always kind of wondered why Moosomin didn't have something like this."

Setrum says she thought the golf course would be a nice addition to the community.

"I just thought it would be a nice donation to town, seeing that there isn't anything like it, and since this is such a busy area with

ball games and tournaments and rodeos going on, it's kind of nice to have people just walk over here," she says. "If kids are watching their siblings play ball, they can grab a putter and come over and play. It's kind of nice that it's all fenced in for them too so that parents don't have to be worrying about them."

"I just figured it was a way to give back to the town. It's something that everyone can use. I've never met a person that doesn't like mini golf!"

The course is free to use, but will have a donation box available. Any donations will be donated back to the community, says Setrum.

There will also be score cards and a few putters available for use. There are also a few picnic tables on site.

"I figured it would be a nice thing to do and have some kids enjoy it and it doesn't cost anything. Kids can come over with their putters after school," says Setrum.

"We have a donation box as well, and if people want to donate they can, and whatever we get, we will donate it back to town

events."

Setrum says she will be doing all of the upkeep at the course as well.

She says if the mini golf course is popular, some day she may consider adding another nine holes to make it an 18-hole course.

"It's kind of trial and error for the first little while, and if lots of people use it it would be nice to get another nine and do an 18-hole course," she says.

She says the community seems excited about the course.

"A lot of people have sent out really positive comments and people are saying they can't wait for it to open and their kids are counting down days," she said last week right before the course opened.

"I just want it to be as much fun as possible."



Kim Setrum stands behind one of the greens at her mini golf course while George Miller and Ryan Kitchen install one of the obstacles.

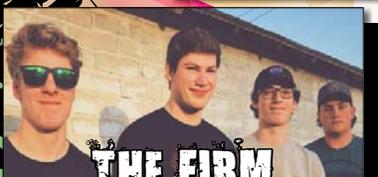


Above: A little bridge is one of the obstacles at the course.

# ROCKIN' THE PARK



## SATURDAY, AUGUST 31 ESTERHAZY REGIONAL PARK



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# A good reason why our little area is doing so well

A few recent happenings have made me wonder what it is about our little corner of the world that makes it so resilient.

Number one, I attended a recent economics seminar where, talking to people from across the country, it appeared that economic conditions are not ideal in a lot of places.

Number two, I spoke to a few people who dropped by from out of the area in the last while and commented on how Moosomin has grown and how well it seems to be doing. (One of those was my former boss and former owner of this paper, Bruce Penton, who was especially impressed by the new clubhouse at the Pipestone Hills Golf Club).

Number three, I put together the annual development section of Plain and Valley last week and wrote some articles that made it clear that this area is doing better than many. Looking at the major new commercial buildings that opened in Moosomin in the last year—the new Mazergroup building, the new Dodge dealership, the new Jack assembly plant and the new SaskPower maintenance building—it's hard to imagine another town of a similar size in Saskatchewan or Manitoba with that kind of investment.

Looking at communities like Moosomin, Esterhazy and Virden, and other communities around the region now compared to 10 years ago, the growth, the new commercial development along the highways, has been incredible.

So, what is it that makes the difference? I know my business has done well, but I attribute it entirely to luck, and very supportive communities.

But there must be more than luck driving the success of our communities in this area.

I think there is, and it's all around us.

Look at the list of what Statistics Canada considers to be the industries that add the most value per hour of labor. StatsCan looks at the value added by companies, divides by the number of paid hours and comes up with a list of the most productive industries.

Here are the top 10 for 2018:

Other non-profit institutions serving households	\$1,600.20
Non-conventional oil extraction	\$775.00
Petroleum refineries	\$730.70
Oil and gas extraction	\$643.60
Crude oil and other pipeline transportation	\$558.50



Kevin Weedmark

Potash mining	\$550.20
Pipeline transportation	\$512.00
Conventional oil and gas extraction	\$506.80
Iron ore mining	\$488.60
Pipeline transportation of natural gas	\$470.30

Now that first one probably threw you for a loop, but the others make perfect sense.

Just to explain, "Other non-profit institutions serving households" means charitable groups, minor sports and recreation groups—basically community service groups other than religious institutions.

I'll tell you a little secret—some economists are absolutely baffled by the massive "productivity" shown by these non-profit groups in the statistics.

But you and I, living in small communities, know exactly why that figure is as high as it is—because these groups run 95-100 per cent on volunteer labor, and the amount of value created per hour of labor is going to be high for that reason.

If you run a minor football team, and you take in \$50,000 in contributions and fundraising in a year, and your coaches and executive all volunteer their time, but you pay someone with some accounting expertise on the board for

ten hours of work to fill in the end of year paperwork for Canada Revenue Agency, and the other government paperwork that needs to be filed, your organization has taken in \$5,000 for every hour worked. Don't tell the economists. Let them be confused.

But look at the rest of the list—petroleum, oil and gas, potash mining, pipelines. Other than iron ore mining and refineries, we have most of those right here. That explains a little of the prosperity in southeast Saskatchewan and southwest Manitoba.

No doubt you knew those industries contribute massively to our prosperity. You may not have known that pipelines, oil and gas, and potash mining are among the absolute most productive elements of our economy. By contrast, the lowest productivity is in industries like taxi and limousine services (\$10 per hour of labor), personal services and food services.

Of course, those top industries have massive investments in infrastructure and equipment so, like those local charities, labor is a relatively small cost—in other words, workers can be productive in these industries because of the massive investments in infrastructure and equipment.

But look again at the list and think about how those industries will be impacted by Bills C-69 (which impacts the development of new mines, not just pipelines) and C-48.

Current federal policies are not helping any of these industries. If Canada is to remain a prosperous country, it must support and develop its most productive industries, not hamstring them.

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Moosomin Chamber of Commerce

# Chamber supports daylight savings time idea



The Chamber supported Todd Davidson in his idea to put Moosomin on Daylight Savings Time.

BY KARA KINNA

At the Moosomin Chamber of Commerce meeting in June, Todd Davidson, the owner of Davidson Truck and Tractor, spoke about his proposal to look into moving Moosomin

onto Daylight Savings Time.

Davidson says he was inspired to get serious about the idea at one of his kid's ball games. He says his son was benched after two strikes and he was told by the umpire it was because they needed to speed up the games before they run into darkness.

"I wondered why are we doing this? Why can't we have four balls and three strikes," says Davidson.

Davidson said instead of wasting daylight at 4 am, if Moosomin were to go on daylight savings time there would be more time in the evening for things like recreation.

"It's a big part of everyone's lives—the golf course, ball. You'd have more time to do it. Usually when the sun sets that's when that stuff quits and you call it a day. We aren't getting up at 4 in the morning to play ball. If we started and ended our work

day a little earlier we'd have more time to spend in the evening. We have great rec facilities here and they'd be used a lot more. There is money to be generated with this as well.

"We're so close to Manitoba, and they do it. There is only one province and one state in North America that doesn't change their time. We are losing a lot of time and revenue.

"I grew up in Manitoba and worked my whole life in this town and it's always been a struggle with the time. If you work here and travel back to Manitoba you are losing two hours every day. We have lots of customers who come from that side of Manitoba, and they don't come here (in the summer).

"There are a lot of individuals in this room that run businesses and have ideas we could put forth. I don't know what the best way to do this is, but if we could get the doctors

and school division to do it, I think a lot of good would come from it."

Chamber member Bill Thorn pointed out that Creighton and Lloydminster are on Manitoba time and Kindersley is on Alberta time.

Moosomin MLA Steven Bonk was at the chamber meeting. He was asked his opinion about Daylight Savings Time.

"I know that provincially there is not a huge appetite for it," he said. "They aren't overly excited to bring that up. It's not at the top of the list of things they are looking at."

Chamber member Angie Turpie said she'd worry about people driving from other towns, like Rocanville, for services in Moosomin.

Davidson said he's talked to business owners in the surrounding towns and found they are just as frustrated by the time change, and find customers from

the Manitoba side of the border trying to do business with them when they aren't open.

"Working for Mazer-group, as a Manitoba-based company, we get that all the time, people calling here and the store isn't open," said Mike Sidoryk.

Kari Kosier, with Kari's Kloset, added that she finds the time change inconvenient when dealing with her suppliers out east.

Bill Thorn suggested a motion be made to support the idea of looking into the

option of moving Moosomin and area onto Daylight Savings Time, and the motion was carried.

Chamber secretary Kevin Weedmark said he'd get the word out about the motion and see if a committee could be formed. Todd Davidson said he would sit on the committee, if formed. Sinc Harrison also volunteered to be on the committee. Anyone interested in helping on the committee can contact Todd Davidson, Sinc Harrison or Kevin Weedmark.

# Whitewood will soon be home to large curling broom

BY DONNA BEUTLER

Whitewood will soon be home to a large curling broom—a very large curling broom, one that will be very visible from the Trans-Canada Highway on the west side of town and one that could very well put Whitewood into the Guinness Book of World Records as being home to the biggest curling broom in the world.

The proposed curling broom stick, to be constructed of metal, will measure 60 feet in length with a broom head eight feet in length. The curling broom will be mounted on two metal I-beams and will be 30 feet off the ground at one end and eight feet off the ground towards the other end.

The idea for the curling broom came about when five Whitewood and area people, including Whitewood Curling Club president Chad Kelly, got talking about the idea of having something that would symbolize the town, one that has been hosting the very successful 64-team Farmers and Friends Curling Bonspiel over the last few years.

"Kipling has the red paper clip," Kelly said, "and Rocanville has the oil can, so we thought it would be good to have something as a symbol of our town."

"What about a large curling broom," Riley Jordans, a Vaderstad employee, said to the others during an informal chat at the curling club a few months ago. Vaderstad, located about 15 miles south of Whitewood, is a manufacturer of high performance farm machinery.

From that discussion, the small committee pursued a manufacturer—Vaderstad—and a metal supplier, JK Metals of Broadview, a Farmers and Friends sponsor. Once that

was in place, the committee looked at five or six major broom companies and when Hardline Curling out of Quebec said they wanted in, everything began to fall in place.

"When we contacted Hardline, they told us to call back in one hour and asked us not to talk to anyone else," Kelly said. And one hour later, the committee had their sponsor and the name that will be printed on the broom. "Hardline is like the Nike of curling," Kelly explained, saying that once they had that commitment from Hardline, the next step was contacting Guinness Book of World Records.

It was about eight weeks ago that the curling broom committee sent a submission to Guinness and, according to Kelly, it takes between six and 12 weeks to receive official confirmation.

"We hope to have the broom up by September," Kelly said, saying that the location that has been chosen and which was given approval by the council of the town of Whitewood last week, is unique in that it will be very visible from the Trans-Canada Highway.

"The broom will be placed at the Flag Garden location on the north end of Whitewood's main street and adjacent to the off-ramp into Whitewood from the westbound lane of the #1. There's a restaurant located right across the street and it's a great place for travellers to stop," Kelly said, adding that the broom will be lighted so it's visible at night as well.

Preparation for the project will include graveling the grounds and cementing the two I-beams into the ground. As for signage, Kelly said the story of how the 'world's largest curling

broom' came to be will be told as well as appreciation for sponsors and those who have supported the annual 64-team bonspiel held in Whitewood each spring.

"The background is nice," Kelly said of the location, referring to the flags that represent the countries the early settlers came from, "and we want it to be a nice place for people to stop and rest."

Though there are no firm plans in place at the present time, Kelly said there has been some discussion

about building a gazebo and making the area a nice little rest stop.

The official opening will likely be held in September, but in the meantime, engineers are working on figuring out the strength needed for the I-beams. And though it's a busy production season for Vaderstad, weekends will be used for the manufacturing of the broom over the next few weeks.

The "broom" committee includes Kelly, Jordans, Rhett Parks, Warren Delmage and Mathew Balm.

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**DAY 2 FEATURED ITEMS:**

Clear vision, single visible pump, original; Mobiloil Gargoyle oil cabinet w/ original signs & lubrication chart; Gold Crown globe, original; Peerless Blue 88 globe, original; Red Indian – wide profile globe, reproduction; mini toy tankers incl. North Star, White Rose, & BA, all original; Pedal tractors and cars; Buffalo oil tins; BA tins; White Rose/En-ar-co double-sided porcelain sign, original; jukebox; Radio Oil Co. Products sign, original; homemade bear trap; musical instruments; REGA oil tin; En-ar-co oil bottles; assorted head vases & glassware; hanging lamps; MB license plates – 1912-1960; Dominion Automobile Assoc. sign; gramophone parts; RCA Nipper store display dog; much more

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# Expanding Community Cancer Care Crop of Hope

The Expanding Community Cancer Care committee was formed in September 2014 and the money from a drink fund at the Russell Hospital was used totalling \$50 to start a bank account and the first cheque they wrote bounced.

Well they have come a long way since then. The Expanding Community Cancer Care (ECCC) committee has 28 members from 14 different communities and meet approximately once a month at the Fusion Credit Union in Russell.

At present the Chemotherapy unit at the Russell Health Centre (which is grandfathered in) does not meet the needs and wants of the Doctors, Nurses, patients and their families that are using the facility.

The present nursing station is very crowded and can only accommodate one computer. At present there are two doctors one full-time RN, a part-time RN, and a part-time ward clerk working in this area. There are four treatment chairs in a very crowded space, no privacy whatsoever, very limited storage space, only one small bathroom for patients (non wheelchair accessible), waiting room is in the hall with chairs along the wall, only one small room for doctors to share for patient consultation. In 2015-2016 there were 506 outpatients for chemotherapy and other treatments administered and 237 IV treatments.

In 2016-2017, there were 472 outpatients with 225 IV treatments and in 2017-2018 the numbers were much the same. An interesting but scary statistic from Cancer Care Manitoba is that there will be an increase of 50 percent in number of people diagnosed with cancer in the next decade. Seeing these statistics and realizing the issues raised regarding safety, infection control and privacy the ECCC committee therefore decided that it was absolutely essential to either upgrade or build a new building for the chemotherapy unit in the Russell Health Centre.

With no help from the Government (not in the budget) ECCC set out on their own to raise the funds for an upgrade, renovation or a new build. As we were told by PMH that we could not have a new build we went for the renovation idea. After a costly feasibility study was done and it was going to be a cost of \$1.4 million dollars to renovate a space of about 1472 sq. ft. which was not going to meet the demands of the people using the department, ECCC did not accept the proposal of the renovation. Instead ECCC opted to contact government to approve a new build which would be approximately 2000 sq. ft. and would be built on the hospital property owned by Prairie Mountain Health (PMH). Once completed it would belong to PMH. It would be built at the south west corner of the hospital and attached to the hospital via a vestibule. The amount of space will provide a private entrance, a waiting room with a wheelchair accessible washroom, and ample room for patients and families. The area will provide two Doctor's examination rooms, a wheelchair accessible bathroom for patients and ample storage areas. Four sites for treatment station chairs and a glass door enclosed room equipped with a bed. The staff will have a small locker room to store personal items and a place to have a coffee or meal break. There will be a washroom for staff only. Cancer care Manitoba has guidelines about care that is required to be followed and building guidelines are also in place for building codes of health care facilities. This involves things like privacy, infection control, standards of care, and waiting room codes. At present, ECCC is still waiting for approval from the minister to go ahead with the project.

## Crop of Hope

In September of 2018 a sub-committee, namely "The Crop of Hope" was formed from members of the agricultural community that were committed to the project itself, either through personal experience or recognizing the need for the expansion to the Chemotherapy unit. There are two quarter sections that have been donated for the Crop of Hope.

Keith Popp and Sandra Berry donated one quarter which is located approximately two miles north of Birtle on the west side of Highway 83. The second quarter has been donated by Glenn and Terry Jackson and is located one mile west of Birtle on the south side of PR 366.

The Birtle field—which the group refers to as the south field, had 155 acres seeded to Pioneer Hybrid P501L Liberty Link



A scene from the ECCC's Walk of Hope last year

Canola and the Inglis field, referred to as the "north" field had 150 acres seeded to BASF L233P Liberty Link Canola.

The "direction" designations of the fields are representative of the north and south borders, but not limited to, of the community at large, that are served by the Chemotherapy Unit at the Russell Health Centre. Both crops are, at this time, looking good. It is the hope of the committee that 2020 will find two more fields, one in the "east" of the region and one in the "west".

It is the hope of the committee that they would be in a position to, after paying for those supplies/services that are not donated, provide the ECCC group with between \$75,000 and \$100,000 for the expansion. To date, they have ten people assisting/helping on the Crop of Hope committee. In addition, they have four agricultural manufacturers' representatives help secure seed and crop protection products for them. They have had two fertilizer dealers supply fertilizer as well as eight local businesses donate service/product to the project.

They have had about 15 local producers help them in terms of supplying cash to buy crop inputs that have not been donated. Also, they have had numerous offers from the Ag community to help with the harvesting operations and with the delivery of the crop to Bunge Harrowby, where it is going to be marketed.

The committee wants to thank all those from both the Ag community and the urban community, who have participated through the "Buy an Acre" opportunity at the cost of \$250 an acre. This has provided them with cash to pay for costs such as their crop insurance coverage. We also must mention Mark Pawluk and Glenn Jackson who have both taken on the task of "managing" the two fields to ensure the crops are being attended to in a timely manner.

## More than 40 volunteers

The number of actual volunteers to date is in excess of 40 people and still counting! Ideally, the committee would like to have two quarters in production each year until the project is completed. They are open to any crop. It just so happened the two fields that were donated this year were both due to a canola crop. They will work with the landowner with regard to crop preference and land stewardship.

The members of the committee are all involved in farming and are very cognizant of the need for sound farming practices. They encourage another landowner to step forward. Sometimes as local producers, we have to invest in our own community and its' facilities in order to ensure the preservation and improvement of services. Health care is something we all use and expect to be there when we need it. We never know when it may be (or has been for many) necessary to someone in our family to need the services of this facility.

The support from the farming and Ag service community has been outstanding.

## \$850,000 raised

As of today ECCC has raised approximately \$850,000 through fundraising and general donations.

Also to date The Crop of Hope has had

fundraisers ECCC has had 50/50 draws, dances, pie sales, slow pitch tournament and social, Tim Horton's smile cookie campaign, golf night—you name it the committee has done it. As well as ECCC putting on events and fundraisers the 14 surrounding communities have a so pitched in with some events of their own and as there are so many ECCC does not want to name them in fear of missing one. ECCC thanks you all.

## Book signing July 27

ECCC was approached by Gerald Keating of Russell to sell a book he has written and published called *85 Years of Prairie Living*.

All proceeds from the sale of these books (\$30 each) will go directly to ECCC. Gerald will be having a book signing day at Bin 22 in Russell at the Russell sidewalk sales on July 27th.

## Fundraising continues

As well as fundraising, the ECCC committee has received numerous donations from all communities involved. The support has been fantastic and ECCC will continue to fundraise until this project is completed.

It is very frustrating as a committee to have this project move so slowly, and yet very rewarding to see the support of the communities towards the chemotherapy unit in Russell.

It's also rewarding to see communities be so supportive of ECCC's mission to improve the care and preserve the dignity that all chemotherapy clients deserve even when we do not know for sure what the timeline will be to complete the project.

Please spread the word that support is needed for this cause as in July, 2018 it was quoted by PMH a new build would cost between \$800 and \$1,400 a square foot.

Therefore, ECCC is taking the highest cost and you all know with each passing year the cost goes up.

So please help ECCC make this small portion of the province provide our communities with a most updated, secure, and functional facility to deliver chemotherapy to the people who will require this service. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts!

## CROP OF HOPE



Expanding Community Cancer Care

### Support Expanding Community Cancer Care!

As of March 6, 2019 the Expanding Community Cancer Care have their own registered charity number and will issue income tax receipts for donations over \$20.

Donations over \$500 receive a bronze leaf on the TREE OF HONOR which is displayed at the Russell Health Centre, donations over \$2,000 receive a silver leaf, over \$5,000 receive a gold leaf and anything over \$10,000 will receive a plaque that will be displayed.

If someone wants to **become involved** in the "Crop of Hope" project please call Terry Jackson at 204-937-0170 or Gloria Tibbatts at 204-847-2162.

If anyone is interested in **donating money** to the "Crop of Hope" project, cheques can be made payable to **Expanding Community Cancer Care**, ear tagged "The Crop of Hope", and can be mailed to Box 196, Angusville, Man. R0J 0A0. If it is a general donation cheques can be made payable to **Expanding Community Cancer Care** and can be mailed to Bag Service #2, Russell, Man. R0J 1W0 or Box 56, Foxwarren, Man. R0J 0R0. All donations are gratefully accepted!

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All proceeds to be donated to the  
ECCC Chemotherapy Expansion Russell District Health Centre

# Dr. Gatrell named optometrist of the year

**Continued from page 16**  
 Dr. Gatrell says her days mostly consist of conducting routine eye exams for patients of all ages, noting that a baby's first eye exam is recommended at between six months and one year of age, and then again by age three.

"Saskatchewan Health covers the cost of eye exams for children under the age of 18," Dr. Gatrell said. "Diabetics are also covered by Sask Health for yearly eye exams, so we do a lot of diabetic eye examinations," she said. "We also reserve spots for same day appointments for ocular emergencies such as red eyes, foreign bodies, symptoms of flashers/floaters, or broken glasses." Primary Eye Care also provides low vision services, binocular vision testing and laser surgery co-management.

Dr. Gatrell says the goal of the mobile clinics is to make sure that children on First Nations are having

their eyes checked.

"One of the pediatricians who provides services to the reserves had found that a lot of the children he was seeing had never had their eyes checked," says Dr. Gatrell. "So, the mobile clinic has mainly been geared towards making sure that any children who have never had eye examinations have easier access to vision care."

Dr. Gatrell explained how the process works: "A consent form is distributed to parents through either the school or the health clinic, and permission received to do the eye exams and the option is given to pick out glasses if they are needed. Children who are already under the care of an optometrist are encouraged to continue care with their regular eye doctor."

Dr. Gatrell will also do adult or diabetic eye examinations if time allows. This means taking one of her staff and an ophthalmic dispenser with her, and taking frames for patients to choose from for anyone who needs glasses.

"We then get the prescription glasses ordered through our office in Moose Jaw," Dr. Gatrell went on to explain, "and we mail them out."

"After a year of providing services on reserve, it is apparent that the need for vision services on reserve exists. It has been a very rewarding experience to be able to provide these services. As a First Nation person, I also feel it is important to be able to give back to my community and I look forward to continuing to do so."

With Dr. Gatrell's goal to

take vision care to those in rural and remote areas, including reserves that she considers home to her, it is clear that she is dedicated

and determined to continue helping others by using her talents to give back and make a difference in the lives of others.

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<sup>1</sup>Offer is available until July 31, 2019 for new customers only where available. Limited time offer. Taxes apply on all plans. Offer is a 3 month discount of \$20/month off the LTE 10 plan (regular \$79.99/month) or \$40/month off the LTE 25 plan (regular \$99.99/month). Monthly service fee includes rental cost of equipment, except Xplornet Wi-Fi router, if desired. A router is required for multiple users. <sup>2</sup>Plans are subject to network availability at your location. Site check fee may apply. If installation requirements go beyond the scope of a basic installation, additional fees apply. See dealer for details. Speed online may vary based on Internet traffic, servers, computer/router configurations and other factors. Internet Traffic Management Policies apply, please see [xplornet.com/legal](http://xplornet.com/legal). Xplornet® is a trade-mark of Xplornet Communications Inc. © 2019 Xplornet Communications Inc.



Kim Poole photo

Rocanville Community Days was held Friday, June 21 and Saturday, June 22, and as part of the Friday night celebrations there were pow wow dancers from Ochapowace. Here, a young pow wow dancer performs in stunning regalia.



## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

In a partnership between the Town of Moosomin and R.M. of Moosomin No. 121, the Moosomin Economic Development Committee is now accepting resumes for the position of "Economic Development Officer" (EDO).

Reporting to the Economic Development Committee, the EDO is responsible for overall function of economic development. In general, this includes office duties, attending and facilitating meetings, budgeting and financial reporting, identifying and pursuing opportunities for economic development, assisting individuals and/or businesses with developing business plans, and promotional activities, with the complete job description available online at [www.moosomin.com](http://www.moosomin.com).

The desired candidate will have relevant post-secondary education with a minimum of 2 years of administrative experience in a related economic or business development position. This experience shall include related aspects of budget control and demonstrate effective communication skills, ability to analyze financial statements and business plans, and knowledge of municipal (zoning regulations), provincial and federal legislation (*ie. codes, etc.*), as it pertains to development of property.

A valid Saskatchewan Class 5 drivers license is required, and applicant must also provide a Criminal Records check from the R.C.M.P., acceptable to the committee.

Interested persons are asked to submit a complete and current resume with references, and expected salary, until September 6th, 2019, however, this time period may be extended until such time as a suitable applicant is chosen.

Applications may be mailed, delivered, faxed, or e-mailed to the Town of Moosomin at the following address:

TOWN OF MOOSOMIN  
701 MAIN STREET  
BOX 730, MOOSOMIN, SASKATCHEWAN, S0G 3N0  
Phone: (306) 435-2988 Fax: (306) 435-3343  
e-mail: [twm.moosomin@sasktel.net](mailto:twm.moosomin@sasktel.net)

7:2c

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Around 200 ping pong balls were dropped in the Moosomin Chamber of Commerce Ball Drop the Saturday of the Moosomin rodeo weekend. Hundreds of people came out with the hopes of catching one of the balls and winning a prize or a special from the local businesses and the Chamber of Commerce, which was giving away Moosomin Bucks. The Moosomin Fire Department provided use of their aerial platform truck for the ball drop.



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 <p><b>PANASONIC 40" LED TV</b> 4K Pro with Media Player USB/HDMI Inputs</p> <p><b>IN-STOCK ONLY!</b> WAS \$799.99  <b>\$599.99</b> + EPRA FEE</p>	 <p><b>PANASONIC 40" 1080P LED TV</b> Smart Panel TV</p> <p>WAS \$699.99  <b>\$499.99</b> + EPRA FEE <b>ONLY 3 IN-STOCK!</b></p>
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 <p><b>PANASONIC 58" SLIM 1080P LED TV</b> Smart Panel TV</p> <p><b>IN-STOCK ONLY!</b> WAS \$2099.99  <b>\$1399.99</b> + EPRA FEE</p>	 <p><b>PANASONIC 1.0 CU. FT. MICROWAVE</b> Convection/Inventor Grilling Elements</p> <p>WAS \$699.99  <b>\$499.99</b> + EPRA FEE <b>ONLY 1 LEFT!</b></p>
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 <p><b>STURDY METAL DINING CHAIR</b></p> <p><b>ONLY 2 LEFT!</b></p> <p>WAS \$269.99  <b>\$179.99</b> EACH</p>	 <p><b>UPHOLSTERED SIDE CHAIR</b></p> <p><b>IN-STOCK ONLY!</b></p> <p>WAS \$199.99  <b>\$109.99</b> EACH</p>
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<p><b>QUEEN MATTRESS</b> Medium Firmness 700 Coil Count for Support Euro Pillow Top <b>ONLY 5 LEFT!</b></p>  <p>WAS \$999.99  <b>\$599.99</b></p> <p><b>SAVE \$400!</b></p>	<p><b>STATIONARY SOFA</b> Durable Polyester Cover <b>IN-STOCK ONLY!</b></p>  <p>WAS \$999.99  <b>\$649.99</b></p>
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<p><b>PALLISER OVERSIZE STATIONARY CHAIR</b></p>  <p>Leather <b>ONLY 1 LEFT!</b></p> <p>WAS \$1999.99  <b>\$999.99</b></p> <p><b>SAVE 50%</b></p>	<p><b>PALLISER STATIONARY CHAIR</b></p>  <p><b>ONLY 1 LEFT!</b></p> <p>WAS \$1099.99  <b>\$869.99</b></p>
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# Virden Draft Horse Show

**JULY, 27 & 28, 2019**  
 - VIRDEN FAIRGROUNDS -

**Free Admission!**  
 Chore Teams  
 Youth Classes

For more information contact Crystal Chisholm:  
 204-567-3522 or 204-851-2069

- 1:30 p.m. - Saturday Ronald McDonald House Charity Class
- 9:30 a.m. Halter Classes
- 1:30 p.m. Hitch Classes
- Pork Floyd Food Truck on Grounds!




**Find us on Facebook! Virden Draft Horse Show**

**87<sup>th</sup> Annual** SANCTIONED BY CPRA/PRCA/WPRA

# Moose Mountain PRO RODEO

Kennedy, SK

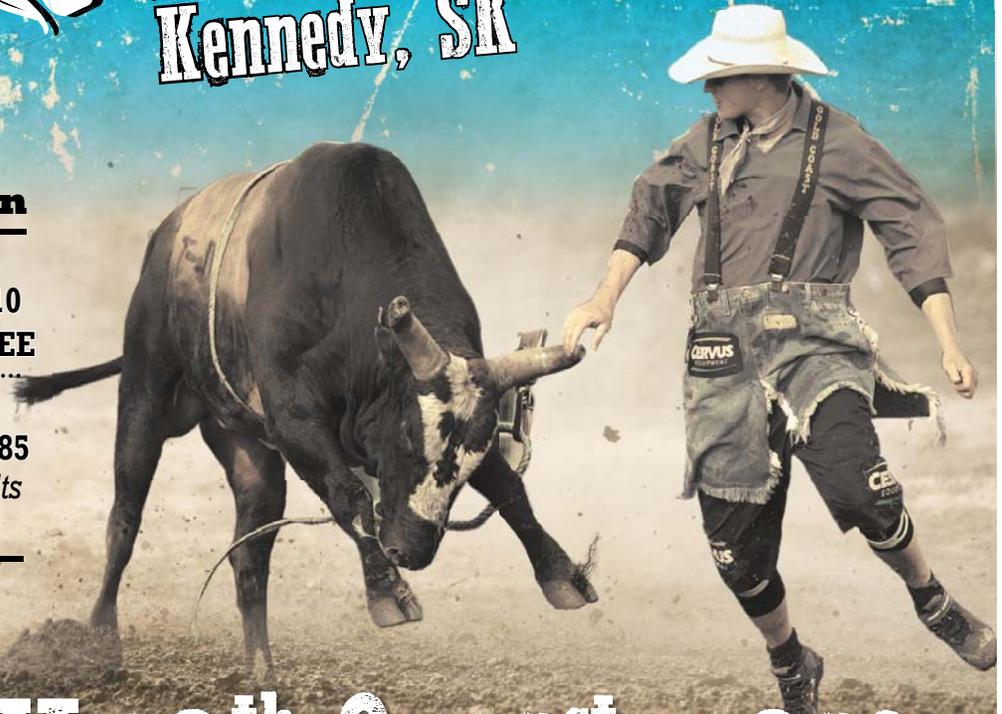
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**Admission**

Adults: \$20  
17 & Under: \$10  
Pre-School: FREE

Weekend  
Family Pass: \$85  
Includes 2 Adults  
& Children



# JULY 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>, 2019

FOOD VENDORS & CONCESSIONS • TRUCK DEMOLITION DERBY • KIDS BOUNCERS

**Saturday, July 20**

- 9 a.m.: Rodeo Slack
- 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Beef on a Bun Lunch at the Friendship Centre
- 12 p.m.: Parade on Main St.
- Demo Derby to follow parade
- 12 p.m. - 8 p.m.: Trade Show
- 5 p.m.: Rodeo Grand Entry
- 2 p.m. - 2 a.m.: Beer Gardens with Entertainment after rodeo

**Sunday, July 21**

- 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. Pancake Breakfast at the Friendship Centre
- 11 a.m.: Cowboy Church Service at Rodeo Grounds
- 2 p.m.: Rodeo Grand Entry
- 1 p.m. - 1 a.m.: Beer Gardens
- Following the Rodeo Performance*
- Roast Beef Supper
- Demo Derby

For more information contact Tye Cancade (President): 306-495-7334