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Artist colony fosters creative connections
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Antique tractor sale held in Elkhorn
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Plain & Valley

Covering Southeast Saskatchewan and Southwest Manitoba
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Becoming more diverse

Census figures show that the area is becoming more diverse, with 12 per cent of Moosomin's population having grown up speaking a language other than English. That diversity was on display at the Multicultural Celebration held in July in Moosomin. At top, Filipino children perform a dance and the East Indian community serves food, and Honduran dancers. Above, the Korean food booth and the crowd at the Multicultural Celebration.

Census figures show area is becoming more diverse

BY KEVIN WEEDMARK
Census figures confirm that southeast Saskatchewan is becoming increasingly ethnically diverse.

One community stands out in growing diversity. Figures from the 2016 census show that more than 12 per cent of Moosomin residents have a mother tongue (the language they grew up speaking) other than English.

That percentage has increased sharply from the 2011 census, when 6.8 per cent of Moosomin residents had a mother tongue other than English.

The most common languages Moosomin residents grew up speaking, other than English, are Tagalog (Filipino), Afrikaans (from South Africa), German, Spanish, Ukrainian, Russian, Hindi, Urdu, Korean, Chinese, and Farsi.

Census figures show that Moosomin is more diverse than surrounding areas. In Census Division 5, which Moosomin is part of, eight per cent of residents have a mother tongue other than English.

Most communities in the surrounding area have much smaller proportions of people with foreign native tongues.

In Wawota, for example, only two per cent of residents have a mother tongue other than French or English.

The number of Tagalog speakers increased greatly in Moosomin from the last census.

The 2016 census records 125 Moosomin residents whose mother tongue is Tagalog, the language of the Philippines. There were only five Tagalog speakers in Moosomin in the previous census, in 2011, and none in the census before that, in 2006.

Mayor says Moosomin a welcoming community

Moosomin Mayor Larry Tomlinson said he believes the census numbers reflect the fact that Moosomin is a welcoming community. "We've had a lot of immigrants in the last few years, and we've welcomed them to town," he said. "They're good, hardworking people and they're supporting themselves."

"When they first started coming, they were really welcomed into the community and I think word has got around that it's a good place to come."

He said he believes the newcomers have fit in well in the community. "They appear to be really happy," he said. "They're friendly, hardworking people. They're working in the community, they've become part of the community, and they donate back to the community."

Ilustrisimo says nowhere he would rather be

Leo Ilustrisimo came to Canada in 2009 to work in a hog barn near Fairlight, and now owns two businesses in Moosomin.

He says there is nowhere he would rather be.

He said employment and business opportunities are part of the reason Moosomin has seen a large and growing community of immigrants from the Philippines and elsewhere.

"There's stable work here in Moosomin," he said. "Dan at Red Barn has a lot of staff from the Philippines who have been with him a long time," he said. "They seem to enjoy working there. There are also a lot of Filipinos working at Tim Hortons and Dairy Queen and KFC."

Continued on page 3

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Diversity on the rise

Continued from front

"You've seen more people because the families started coming in 2012. Either parent—either the husband or wife—goes to Canada first, then they can bring their families, so in 2012 you saw the population start going up. One thing about Moosomin, there are jobs for both husband and wife, and people like that it's a small community and people are very friendly. In a smaller place like Wawota or Maryfield you will have a hard time getting the Filipinos to stay there just because of work."

He said the fact that there is a sizeable Filipino community makes it easier.

"It plays an important role," he said. "You have people here to help you find jobs, or if you need help."

"We in our culture, we stick together and help each other as much as we can."

"We're used to living in communities where most of the people there are your relatives, and you have extended family. Even if we're not related, we treat each other as family."

"If somebody needs help moving or if someone has passed away, the help is there."

"We have lots of small parties where we celebrate a birthday and everyone is invited. That helps, especially for the newcomers. It makes them welcome. It makes Moosomin like home."

"We've tried to make it as much like being in the Philippines as we can. The people have been friendly. It's just amazing how the community of Moosomin has helped us grow, too."

"There's the support from the businesses. They like to hire us. The bosses have been good. I very seldom hear of someone being laid off."

Filipinos have been putting down roots in Moosomin, buying houses and starting businesses.

"I think there's an interest in Filipinos having businesses," said Ilustrisimo.

"One Filipino family owns a restaurant in Moosomin, and there will be another restaurant opening on Main Street."

"Filipinos have always been into business. They have been working hard for a long time, and want to start opening a business to look after themselves."

"Always the hardest part is getting started. You don't know what goes on in the start up. You need a little boost to start."

"With more businesses being established, there's more of a support network."

Ilustrisimo said he is happy with his decision to move to Moosomin. "I'm very happy with my decision to come to Moosomin," he said. "I wouldn't want to be anywhere else than in Moosomin. I came to Maryfield. I came to work at hog barns in 2009, and we came to Moosomin in 2012. There wasn't a big Filipino community yet in 2012, but it started growing."

"A lot of Filipinos say they like Moosomin. A lot of them have started buying houses. That just shows they are going to be in Moosomin for the long term."

Ilustrisimo said he found Moosomin an easy place to get into business. "There are

a lot of people retiring, and there is always opportunity in that," he said. "We were lucky that we knew somebody who helped us out. If I didn't have that support from him I wouldn't have started a business."

"We opened the apparel and promotions business last March, and someone wanted to retire in October, so I bought the car wash."

"It's easier to establish a business here than in Brandon or Yorkton where there is more competition."

"In the bigger cities the Filipino businesses are Filipino stores and restaurants."

"In Moosomin, if they know where to look, who to ask, I think there are more opportunities here besides restaurants and Filipino stores."

He expects to see more immigration from the Philippines in coming years.

"I think there will be more Filipinos coming in the next few years," he said. "There are still some who don't have their families here. As long as the economy keeps going and the growth in Moosomin continues, you would expect more jobs and more opportunities."

Numbers rising

The number of Tagalog speakers in Saskatchewan rose 123 per cent in 2016 compared to 2011, Statistics Canada reports. By comparison, the number of Tagalog speakers in the rest of Canada rose 35 per cent. In 2016, 20,000 Saskatchewan residents named Tagalog as their mother tongue, and 11,350 reported it as the language they most often speak at home.

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Right: Sawyer getting poured on by the giant bucket.



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Young Isaac Vint with Spina Bifida will be special guest at Shriners event in Moosomin: Shriners plan fundraiser with Janovsky, Ray St. Germain

BY KEVIN WEEDMARK
The Moosomin Shrine Club is planning a fundraiser this fall with entertainers Martin Janovsky and Ray St. Germain.

But the star of the show may turn out not to be one of the headliners, but one of the youngest people there.

Young Isaac Vint, who the Moosomin Shrine Club helped secure treatment at the Montreal Shriners Hospital, will be at the fundraiser to provide an update.

Fourth annual

"This will be our fourth one," explains Bill Thorn of the Moosomin Shrine Club.

"The first year it was Ray St. Germain and Eli Barsi, then Brad Johner and Eli Barsi. Last year we went with a Buddy Holly tribute show. This year we thought we should bring Ray back because a lot of people really liked him—he's an amazing entertainer—and we heard a lot of good things about Martin Janovski."

The event is a fundraiser for the Moosomin Shrine Club and Wa Wa Shrine.

"We have a bit of a unique twist this year because Isaac will be our guest," says Thorn.

Isaac's story

Last summer, the Go Cart Patrol of the Moosomin Shrine Club participated

in the parade at Wasagaming (Clear Lake) in Riding Mountain National Park. As the parade wound its way through the streets, Moosomin Shrine Club member Don Middleton noticed a group of young boys cheering and waving from the sidewalk.

Being the last cart going by, Don took a few moments to stop and greet the youngsters who were thrilled to see the cart close up and to talk with the friendly Shriner.

Later on the grandparents of one of the boys stopped by Don and Colleen's cottage at Clear Lake. They thanked Don for stopping and chatting with the boys, one of whom was their grandson, six-year-old Isaac.

The grandparents shared that Isaac has spina bifida which was the cause for him to be in a wheelchair. Don suggested they send Isaac's parents over to see if Shriners' Hospitals could possibly be of assistance.

The parents did come over and Don obtained their contact information. As the family lives in Winnipeg, Don contacted a Shrine Club in the Manitoba capital and told them Isaac's story, providing the family's information.

Afterwards the Middletons received a note from Isaac's parents to thank them and to share the good news that their son had an appointment for an exami-



Ray St. Germain

nation at the Shriners' hospital in Montreal.

Transportation from Winnipeg to Montreal, return for Isaac and one parent was provided at no charge by the Shrine, in cooperation with WestJet.

Montreal Shriners met them at the airport and provided all transportation for trips between the hospital, hotel (also provided at

no charge) and the airport.

This was an example of what the money raised by Shrine Clubs achieves.

The Shriners have since received word from Isaac's father, who emailed Don.

"I couldn't be happier with the Shriners. It's been a real relief," he wrote. "Isaac is doing well. (We are) focusing on getting him on his feet with some

standing, then hopefully a little walking."

"He's a Shrine kid now, and they're really excited with his progress," says Thorn. "He is going to be our guest speaker, so people can come and get a bit of an update on Isaac's story. The story gives people an idea of some of the good work the Shriners do."

Sellout every year

The event, held at the Conexus Convention Centre in Moosomin, has sold out every year it's been held.

The Shriners will buy a round of drinks for every table of eight purchased before the end of August.

"We've always sold out, and we're hoping to sell out again," said Thorn.

The proceeds are split 50-50 between Wa Wa and the local club. Mostly it supports the transportation of the kids to the hos-

pitals.

"Over the last few years, WestJet has given us 150 round-trip flights to hospitals, so it's really helped with the transportation costs.

"Locally, our club tries to do a lot for the community. We paid for the walking track at the PotashCorp Sportsplex, and we put some into the MCC Centre."

To contact Plain and Valley call 306-435-2445 or email world_spectator@sasktel.net

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As part of Wolverine Supplies' annual Open House and Range Event held in June every year, the Virden business also runs a corresponding "patch promo" where a limited edition Morale Patch is sold as an entry ticket into a draw for various prize items that change every year. All proceeds from this promo are donated to a chosen charitable organization.

Due to the success this promotion has seen in previous years, Wolverine decided to double their goal and try to raise \$10,000 for two separate organizations this year. With the support of their dedicated customers and generous manufacturer sponsors—B&T AG and Bushnell—who donated some very valuable and attractive prizes, their goal was met and we were able to donate \$10,000 each to both Courageous Companions and Ronald McDonald House Canada organizations.

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Artist Colony fosters creative connections



Left: Ken Frederickson of Wawota working on one of his sculptures. **Center:** Eli Barsi of Moosomin with one of her painted teapots. **Right:** One of the artist cabins.

BY KARA KINNA
Tucked along the north shore of Kenosee Lake, nestled snugly along a tree-lined path at Moose Mountain Provincial Park are four small cabins. But these cabins are not for staying in or sleeping in. Every summer they harbour artists from around Saskatchewan and Canada, making up the Artists Colony of Moose Mountain Provincial Park.

Three of the cabins have resident artists all summer long, while one is rotating, featuring new artists throughout the summer. "During 1930, the small cabins were built for the workers while they were building the chalet (at Moose Mountain Provincial Park) and then they turned into rental cabins for any visitors coming to the park," explains Perry Woloshin who is the provincial park program coordinator for Southeast Saskatchewan.

"And then over time as they started to fall apart and into disrepair, they started to get taken down. But there were the last four that were left and they said 'let's turn this into an artist area where they can use this for artists to come in and work within the park and work within nature.' The artist colony has been open for over a decade now and has been a success ever since. "We have four cabins

and three are resident artists and you have to apply for it if a cabin becomes available," says Woloshin. "The last cabin is a rotating cabin. So every two weeks we have a new artist coming through." The colony is open from the May long weekend to the September long weekend each year.

This year there are eight artists being featured through the season. The three resident artists are sculptor Ken Frederickson of Wawota, painter Shirley Rumble of Windhorst and painter Margaret Delainey from Regina.

While anyone in Canada can apply, Woloshin says the artists tend to be from around Saskatchewan.

"You are offering that creativity and that art in nature," he says. "All the subject matter deals with something that exists within nature itself, which is in the park. It gives the visitor an experience that they can do, and it's that creativity that you can do once you are in the park. It's a good offering for that visitor to enjoy."

The artists are there seven days a week, and while they may not all be there at once there is always someone to drop in on.

"It's a casual visit. You can chat with the artist or visit. They can show you their artwork. Some of their artwork is for sale. It's all original artwork," says

Woloshin.

"We've had visitors from all over the world, from Australia to England to you name it, and all across Canada.

Woloshin says the impact has been a positive one for the park.

"It's been quite the bright spot and people thoroughly enjoy it," he says. "It just adds more to the park itself. When you are enjoying yourself or relaxing or on your holidays, it gives you that extra thing to see and do.

"Over the last two or three years it's grown immensely. We're full now. All the time slots are booked. People are constantly getting ahold of me for bookings or looking for future bookings. The number of people coming to visit there is constantly going up."

As an offshoot of the artists colony, Woloshin says an artist retreat has been started as well. The retreat will be held from August 27-31 this year and culminates with an art show on August 31.

This is the seventh year that Shirley Rumble from Windhorst has been a resident artist at the Moose Mountain Artist Colony. Rumble says she loves it. Rumble paints mostly acrylic on canvas. She says her subject matter consists of anything and everything.

"That is one thing that

people enjoy when they come in. They say 'oh my Lord you paint everything.' Waterfalls, animals, old houses, old buildings, just about anything," she says.

"It's fun meeting people. I had 1,400 visitors both last year and the year before.

"It's wonderful. You've got all these wonderful people stopping in from all over the world. I've had them there from China, Japan, Australia, New Zealand, England, France, the United States, Mexico, South America. People are holidaying and they stop by. It's really interesting to interact with all these different people."

Rumble says the reaction from visitors is always one of delight.

"They like to see your art, they like to see you work on it, and the odd one comes down and they work with me and paint with me.

It's something for people to go and see. It's another attraction at the park and they get to see all different kinds of art. We have quilters, we have sculptors, we have just about anything and everything.

"People enjoy that. The never know what they are going to see next time."

Rumble says she plans to continue painting at the colony as long as she can.

Continued on page 18

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Provinces should compare highway closure policies

Now that we're in the middle of the most beautiful part of summer on the prairies, with clear blue skies and wonderful warm temperatures, it seems like an odd time to be thinking about winter blizzards.

But the issue has come up at the last couple of Moosomin town council meetings, as the town of Virden has started the discussion on how to solve the problem of dozens of vehicles becoming stranded in the snow on the highway at Virden when the highway is closed in Manitoba due to winter storms.

The current situation when highways are closed in Manitoba is ridiculous. A barricade goes across the highway on the outskirts of Virden and vehicles pile up along the highway.

What happened last winter, as the blizzards raged on, is that snow piled up between and around the trucks along the highway, so that before the highway can be opened, all those trucks have to be pulled out of the snowbanks and the snow that has piled on the road needs to be cleared.

Obviously turning the Trans-Canada Highway into a parking lot for trucks during a blizzard is not a smart policy.

The town of Virden assumes in the information it has sent out—and is correct in assuming—that making more information available to travellers about road conditions will not make a difference.

The town wrote in its letter to the Manitoba government of the matter, "We do not believe that more information being made available will change this situation as it is clear the very travellers who decided to drive into Manitoba on March 7 along the TCH would never avail themselves of that information." They are right. Any of the drivers caught in the lineup of trucks stopped on the outskirts of Virden could have checked highway conditions and found that the highway was closed in Manitoba. They have cell phones, they have radios, they can check weather and highway conditions and check for road closures if they want, and clearly many did not.

One trucker who was stuck in the line of trucks in Virden in one of the winter storms—and complained to CBC that Virden officials were not quick enough to bring him food and water once he got himself into that situation—had his rig



Kevin Weedmark

pulled out of the ditch at Indian Head earlier in the day. Anyone who will keep driving in a blizzard after hitting the ditch once without checking if the highways are open in Manitoba is only going to be stopped by one thing—a barricade across the highway, which is what it eventually stop him.

So what to do? It would be unsafe to stop traffic at the Manitoba-Saskatchewan border, as there are no services if people are stranded there.

Virden suggests "When we know we are closing the TCH at the Saskatchewan border, ask to arrange some form of check-stop at the next nearest community with full services within the province of Saskatchewan (in our case Moosomin). The travelling public will be made aware they need to find a hotel and take advantage of food services there. We are aware that a sign was placed by some entity on the TCH at Moosomin during the March storm."

The idea of crossing arms on the highway at Moosomin was thrown out as an idea the first time this came up for discussion at Moosomin town council.

The problem is, highways usually remain open in Saskatchewan when they are closed in Manitoba. I have an employee who lives a few miles east of town and has always been able to come in to work on the highway when Manitoba roads are closed. Likewise, business owners and farmers who live east of town, and Fleming residents, shouldn't be stopped from getting home from Moosomin because Manitoba has closed its highways farther east. If the highway is open in Saskatchewan and closed in Manitoba, the ambulance should be able to get from Moosomin to Fleming for an emergency with no barrier on the highway. So stopping all traffic at Moosomin isn't the solution. So what is?

There are three possible solutions to this problem.

One is the idea proposed by Virden of a checkstop on the highway at Moosomin to warn travellers going into Manitoba that the highway is closed at the border. Moosomin does have a lot of accommodations and food services to accommodate those who shouldn't be going on. Simply stopping travellers, letting them know the highway is closed ahead and there are services available in Moosomin would save some travellers some grief.

Another is for Manitoba Highways to buy a few acres on the edge of Virden, level and gravel it, so that when the highway is closed, they have a place to put all the trucks and travellers who forge ahead until they are stopped—ideally close to food and accommodation services. Not having those vehicles piled up on the highway would mean opening the highway would be much quicker—currently motorists wait long after the blizzard is over for the highway to be reopened because of the time it takes to clear the vehicles and snow from the highway at Virden.

Both have drawbacks. It's unclear what agency would be responsible for stopping traffic in Saskatchewan to warn about highway conditions in Manitoba, and would have available resources to staff a checkstop in the middle of a blizzard when other emergencies may be taking place. There would be a safety issue around stopping traffic on the highway in the middle of a blizzard while on the Saskatchewan side the highways crews are out trying to keep the highways open—parking emergency vehicles on the highway would immediately cause snow to build up and make it more difficult to clear snow, and anyone staffing a checkstop in a blizzard with poor visibility would be at risk.

The second solution would come at a high cost and would have its own logistical problems.

A third and perhaps more pragmatic solution is for the Manitoba and Saskatchewan governments to review their policies around road closures, take a look at the pros and cons of each, and try to better align their policies, using the best of each province's policy. Saskatchewan seems to be able to keep the roads open when Manitoba doesn't—perhaps sharing information on policies and procedures would help both highways departments.

SaskTel adds high speed internet to Tantalton, several other communities

On Wednesday, July 26, SaskTel announced that it has launched DSL High Speed Internet service in seven new rural communities throughout southern Saskatchewan.

The residents of Deer Valley, Goodeve, Guernsey, Macoun, Neville, Pennant, and Tantalton now will be able to enjoy the benefits of SaskTel High Speed Basic and Ad-

vanced Internet service.

"When I heard that the Village of Macoun was going to get High Speed Internet I was excited beyond words," said Glenys Baerg, Mayor of Macoun.

"As Mayor, I am sure this will help our small village grow economically and socially and I know that everyone in the community will be thrilled to get High Speed

Internet."

"Our government understands that having access to fast and reliable communication services is a necessity to compete in today's digital age," said Dustin Duncan, Minister Responsible for SaskTel.

"By bringing High Speed Internet to these rural communities, SaskTel is opening the door to new and exciting opportunities for the residents of these communities."

"Today's announcement marks a positive step forward in our efforts to expand our world-class Internet services throughout rural Saskatchewan and I'm confident that the residents of these communities will greatly enjoy and benefit from the new level of connectivity that our High Speed Internet services will bring to them," said Doug Burnett, SaskTel Acting President and CEO.

This expansion is part of SaskTel's commitment to invest over \$300 million in capital in Saskatchewan in 2017/18 and \$1.4 billion in

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Pipestone Hills tournament to raise money for new clubhouse

BY KEVIN WEEDMARK

The first annual Raise the Roof fundraiser for the Pipestone Hills Golf Club is coming up Saturday, August 12.

The fundraiser is planned to help cover the cost of moving a new clubhouse to the golf course.

The golf club has purchased the former Tourism Saskatchewan visitor centre on the Trans-Canada Highway at the Manitoba border, and plans to move it to the golf course this fall.

On Tuesday, August 8, the golf club will host a special meeting to discuss two options for the new clubhouse:

- At the current clubhouse location, remove the oldest part of the building, the south portion, and replace it with the former tourist centre on a new basement; or
- At a new location, place the former tourist centre on a new basement, and add a new seating area, creating a completely new clubhouse.

Under the first option, the



The Pipestone Hills Golf Club has purchased this building, the former Tourism Saskatchewan visitor reception centre at the Manitoba border, and plans to move it to the golf course this fall to serve as a new clubhouse.

work would be done this fall, starting after the Labor Day weekend.

Under the second option, the current clubhouse would be maintained until next season, and the new clubhouse

would hopefully be opened next summer.

"The reason why we are having this meeting prior to the tournament is because we want to explain the two different options and get

some direction," said golf club president Brandon Banga. "We want to make sure that there is support behind this, so we want people to come out and provide some input."

"Having that second option is the real change from the annual general meeting where we went to the membership and said we're going to take this building and attach it to the existing build-

ing," said Pat McDonald of the golf club executive.

"The building we were going to attach it to is about 30 years old now. The whole structure has been add-ons. The real fear is that if we go with Plan A, which was attaching this building onto the existing building, what are we going to uncover? We budgeted \$25,000 to upgrade the portion of the building we were going to leave, which is 30-plus years old, and what we fear is that we might be throwing good money after bad to try and salvage that."

"We got a quote on replacing the existing seating area. We got a base line quote for how much it is to replace this building with no frills. The first quote we got was over \$120,000 and you have got to add some contingency onto that. Since we decided we wanted to look at that option we got another quote from the Co-op for just the material to build it and we have that quote in place and then we are going to meet with the builder to see what the cost of labour would be to do this. Normally it doubles up. So it looks like for under \$150,000 we can add a new attachment onto this building."

Brandon Banga adds, "So if we save the \$25,000 to renovate and take that off the cost of building a new addition, we are looking at potentially \$100,000-\$120,000 above and beyond what we initially talked about, to give us a brand new building and potentially a slightly new location so we can do this construction while using the current clubhouse, and not interfere with the operation of the golf course."

Pat McDonald adds, "Plan B eliminates any risks that we have trying to attach an old building to a new building, and the difficulties that we may have with that. It is just an estimate at \$25,000. It would be terrible if it ended up costing us \$75,000 to attach to plus having to do upgrades in lieu to upgrading to a new building."

McDonald said the fundraising tournament came about because the golf club does not want to increase membership fees or green fees to cover the cost of the new clubhouse.

"We want the golf fees to go to maintaining the course and pay wages," McDonald said. "We didn't want to bump that regular fee up to do a clubhouse. We want to raise the money separately rather than raise the fees. At the time of the annual meeting we were looking at \$250,000 total cost, and we thought we could raise \$25,000 a year for 10 years to pay for it. Plan B bumps this up to \$35,000 a year."

"We need to offset those costs," adds Brandon Banga. "We hope to kick off the whole fundraising effort with this tournament, so we're hoping this is a big start to the fundraising."

The tournament would be an annual event to help pay down the costs of the new clubhouse.

"The Pipestone Hills Golf Club doesn't have a home tournament so we're hoping that this can be that one and get support behind it," says Brandon Banga. "We are looking for the membership to come out and put some support behind it."

Continued on page 37

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Construction to start on Enbridge Line 3 replacement

Construction will start this summer on Enbridge's 1,700-kilometre Line 3 replacement pipeline, the largest project the company has ever undertaken.

Several pipeline projects have been proposed to pass through the Prairies, though this will be the first to proceed.

The \$7.5-billion Line 3 replacement from Hardisty, Alta., to Superior, Wis., was approved by Justin Trudeau's Liberal government last fall, at the same time as the Trans Mountain expansion.

The replacement project will be built in phases.

Two stretches—from Hardisty to Luseland, Sask., and from Rosetown, Sask., to Regina—will be built this year. The second phase, which will include the rest of the Canadian construction, will happen next year.

Enbridge representatives have been travelling to the towns near the construction sites, said company spokesperson Suzanne Wilton.

"We've been really encouraged by the excitement and support that people have in these small towns," Wilton said.

Enbridge is targeting 2019 completion, but is still waiting on U.S. regulatory approvals for the small portion of the pipeline that will run through Minnesota and Wisconsin.

"We have worked hard to engage with all of our stakeholders on this project," Wilton said.

"We recognize there are different points of view on the energy that we all use and we'll continue to engage with communities and that dialogue and work with stakeholders to address their concerns as we move forward."

The company is still working to fulfil the conditions that were attached to the Canadian approvals, but Wilton said she is confident they will be met before construction starts.

Replacing the existing 34-inch pipeline with a 36-inch pipeline will bring the volume of oil passing through back up to 760,000 barrels per day after years of operating at half capacity.

The existing Line 3 pipeline will continue to operate until the replacement is completed, then will be decommissioned.

Pipe is already stacked at Fairlight for the Eastern Saskatchewan portion of the replacement.

Enbridge says the cost of its Line 3 replacement project has risen nine per cent from its original estimate when it was sanctioned in 2014.

The company now estimates it will cost \$5.3-billion for the portion in Canada and \$2.9-billion (U.S.) in the United States

to replace the pipeline that runs from Hardisty, Alta., to Superior, Wis.

It attributed the higher cost to delays in the regulatory process and route modifications, among other changes.

However, the company said the impact of the increased costs on project returns are expected to be offset by lower operating costs and a strong U.S. dollar.

The pipe for the project is coming from Evraz in Regina.

Pipe being stacked. Work is beginning on the Enbridge Line 3 replacement, and work will reach southeast Saskatchewan next year. The Enbridge right-of-way extends through Langbank, Maryfield and Cromer.



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Above, artist Jacqui Beckett displays a commission painting of a canola field she made for the office of Moosomin MLA Steven Bonk. Below, some of the art on display.



Constituency office doubles as art gallery

BY KEVIN WEEDMARK
Moosomin hasn't had a public art gallery for many years, but the office of MLA Steven Bonk will now do double duty, hosting art shows by local artists.

The town used to have an art gallery in the back of the library before the new library was built as part of the town office. The original plan was to have a bi-level library/art gallery on the south side of the building, but the art gallery portion was eliminated as a cost-cutting measure.

Travelling art shows were displayed on a curved wall in the library until the shows became too large to host in the library.

Tim Hovdestad, constituency assistant for MLA Steven Bonk, says the idea to show art in the MLA office came about due to some recent renovations.

"We just did the renovation, and we had all these white walls, and I decided we needed some color," he explains. "I initially contacted Jacqui to see if she would do a painting for us and if she would be interested in displaying some of her artwork in the office here."

"Shortly after my contact with Jacqui, Vi McKay contacted me on behalf of the Arts Council to say there may be other local artists that were looking for a place to display their artwork as well."

"There are many wonderful artists in the Moosomin Constituency and if any of them are interested in displaying art in our office they are welcome to give me a call."

Renovations are still ongoing at the MLA office, and Hovdestad is hoping to have more room to dis-

play art in a conference room that is still being finished.

"I did a commissioned work for Steven Bonk, and just chatting, we thought maybe the walls need some artwork," said Jacqui Beckett, who put up some of her own art in the MLA's office last week.

"Jacqui's art will be up until the first week of September, then we will make it available to other artists," said Hovdestad.

"Tim's going to work on a hanging system so we can put more pieces up," said Beckett.

"I think it's great to have a place to display local art. There are a lot of amazing artists in the area, and no gallery, which hopefully can be changed, but this is a start."

Beckett said she chose recent works to include in the first show in the MLA's office. It includes the commission piece she did for the MLA.

Vi McKay said she is hoping the location can also host touring art shows once a year organized by the Organization of Saskatchewan Arts Councils.

She said she is happy there is a place for local artists to showcase their work.

"You have to have a location that is staffed every day, and it's an ideal spot at the MLA's office since someone is there every day," she said.

"This is a start. Hopefully we could have a permanent art gallery at some point, but for now Steven's office is a good location."

The artwork is available for viewing at the MLA office on Main Street in Moosomin Monday to Thursday 9 am to noon and 1-4 pm.

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Artist Colony fosters creative connections

Continued from page 8

"I'm 81 years old so we've got to play it as we go," she says with a laugh. "I'll do it for as long as we can." Moosomin's Eli Barsi spent 10 days at the colony this summer. This is her second year as a rotating artist. Barsi says her love of the artist colony and of Moose Mountain Park stems back to when she was a child.

"I have always loved coming and looking at the art here and have been just so intrigued by it, and it's just part of our visit every time we come through Kenosee in the summers. We have to go to the artist colony, and see all the beautiful work and visit with the artists," she says.

"Little did I know that I would end up doing it as well. I've always painted but I haven't in years and years and years. And then I just got this inspiration that I should try some landscapes again. I was happy with how they turned out and I thought 'well I could really put a boost in my painting if I applied for the artist cabin, and if I got it then I have to paint lots.' Because I'd have to have a lot of art to put in there to start with."

"I thought I will apply and if I get accepted then that's my indication I better get working on it. That's what I did last year, and I brought in a lot of pieces and I paint every day when I'm here as well."

Barsi paints mostly landscape scenes with a strong preference for the prairie home she loves. However this year she decided to add into the mix a series of paintings called O Canada celebrating 150 years. The paintings are painted on paint can stir sticks that are glued together to create a canvass. There is one painting for each province.

Barsi has also painted on suitcases, a cattle skull and on teapots.

Her daughter Katy Syrota is sharing the cabin with her this year making lino cut prints.

What does Barsi love about it all? "It's just so lovely," she says. "We have a nice view of the lake and all the birch trees in front and there is a new arena and we are right next to the beautiful historic chalet, which is always so lovely, and their gardens are looking extra nice this year."

"It's just a beautiful spot and we get a lot of people walking by that didn't even know we were here and they just stroll in. And people deliberately come as well that have known about it."

"So far people have been really liking it, they think it's interesting and they say it's different. That's kind of my focus, to do things that are a little bit different like painting on those paint sticks and skulls and stuff like that."

"It's just so peaceful. We've been coming to Kenosee ever since I was a little girl from the farm at Kennedy. So part of my heritage, my history is coming to the lake, and just being here. I just love it. It's just peaceful and it brings back tons and tons of memories, family memories, being with friends and cousins. It's nice to be here. It's peaceful and quiet but yet there's lots going on at the same time."

"It's preserving these beautiful little cabins that are next to the chalet, and it's always nice to have art included anywhere. An art gallery is so interesting and it's great for a community to have that art aspect, especially here. It's one more thing to do when you come to the lake. There's going to the beach and boating and eating out and camping and all that fun stuff, but going and looking at art is kind of a cool aspect of coming to Moose Mountain Provincial Park."

Ken Frederickson from Wawota, who makes bronze sculptures, is a resident artist at the retreat for his second year in a row.

"It's important for exposure," he says. "There are so many people who came through the cabins from all over the world, it was a chance to meet some people and show off some art. It's kind of like public art. It's something for people to enjoy and do when on holidays."

"It kind of makes you dedicate some time to the art and that is as important as showing the art off."

"It's neat for people to actually see the progression of a piece from start to finish. There are people coming back this year to see the pieces that were clay last year in finished bronze this year. You find that there is a bit of a following and they are bringing their friends back to see the art as well."

"It's a beautiful environment there. It's a very serene place to be. It's a pretty nice office to work in. I love it down there. It's great and I totally enjoy interacting with the people that come through there."

Frederickson says the reaction to his art is often one of surprise.

"Most of them are not familiar with seeing many bronzes but they are blown away. 'Oh my God,' that's the one you hear the most. It's breathtaking for some," he says. "And they will be looking at a piece and then realize that there is something in the piece they haven't seen and they will just gasp, so it will be a huge reaction out of them. It's fun to watch people's reaction to them."

He says people enjoy watching him work, and seeing his pieces take shape.

"If I'm at the lake I'm sculpting on multiple pieces at all times. I usually have five or six that I'm working on

at all times. Not only do they see finished bronzes but they get to see new pieces being created."

Frederickson says it's not uncommon for people to come back to the colony more than once hoping to see the finished product after seeing him work on a piece.

He says on a long weekend as many as 200 people can come through the colony to visit the artists.

Is it inspiring for him to be at the lake with other artists?

"You love the art that all artists create so it's something that's a wonderful thing," he says. "It's kind of a beautiful part of life. If they have the ability to create art it's a great thing. Just interacting with the other artists is neat too. Some want to push themselves and some just want to create some art. Where others are challenged to get better and better and better all the time."

"There's growth by interacting with other artists and you always learn technique or something from them. If you're receptive to learning the opportunities are endless."

Why does he think the artists colony is important?

"It's going to be up to us to make sure the future generations still do art and create art," he says. "It's too easy to get hung up on a computer or other things rather than spend the time creating art. Because it's something that's driven from within. You can teach technique but they have to have the art within them."

"So I think it's important to future generations to have access to the learning curve, to get them inspired. That's why I'll always have time in the day to visit with a little kid about art."

Frederickson says on numerous occasions he has helped interested children do a bit of sculpting when they visit him in hopes of kindling their creative spark.

He says the other great thing about the colony is that artist from around the world are attracted to it.

"It draws artists from all over the world. That is the coolest part about the artist colony at the lake," he says. "Artists tend to be drawn to an artist colony. They will make time to visit an artist colony if they know one's there for the same reason it's good to go and do art retreats, because you interact with other artists. The people you meet is just amazing."

Frederickson says he has met amazing artists from all over Canada and the world, and has fostered a number of connections through the artist colony.

He has also picked up some commissioned work. He says he intends to make the colony a regular part of his summer as long as he can.

"As long as I can I intend on doing it," he says. "It's just part of who you are now."



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“A band has to evolve with its audience to keep their interest,” explains bassist

Brad Merritt. “We make records based on where we're at, at that time. So it's kind of like a time capsule.”

The Northern Pikes were formed in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan in early 1984. After a decade of intense road life and non-stop travelling, 8 Juno awards, 4 Gold records and 1 Platinum record, the band elected to go on an indefinite hiatus, the Pikes played their final concert on July 2, 1993 in Fort Frances, Ontario. Six years later, all original members reunited to assemble a greatest hits package for Virgin Records. This meeting saw the release of a collection of old favorites and buried treasures, entitled Hits and Assorted Secrets. It also led to a hugely successful Canadian tour in early 2000.

Merl would announce his departure from the group a few short years later, but Jay, Bryan and Don, still experiencing the passion and joy of performance, have continued touring as a power trio until the present.

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Complementing the separation of public funding from delivery, new performance and cost measurement systems made public services more transparent. Government began to focus on outcomes and outputs rather than process, rules and red tape, and posted simpler, lower administrative overheads. The separation made politicians' jobs easier by depoliticizing public services and shifting their focus back to the consumers they serve. New technology and vast service improvements followed as service providers rapidly added value to their offerings to attract and retain customers.

By ending the sluggish public monopolies and moving to a system of competing public and private providers, a transformed health-care system became the province's largest export industry and a hotbed for research and value-added activity. Consumers used the internet to choose the facilities with the best quality and shortest waiting lists, diverting demand to under used facilities in smaller centres.

With payment based on the volume of service instead of last year's budget, marginal facilities closed down or turned to other uses. Many were sold to former public employees and private companies, who converted them into specialized clinics. Prestige health service providers moved in with the latest technologies to service thousands of Americans, capitalizing on our remaining currency advantage and the presence of research talent, with local customers accessing them dur-



Peter Holle

ing off-peak hours at rock-bottom rates charged to the public system. Waiting lists disappeared, while productivity gains and innovations, absent in the old monopoly model, dramatically reduced costs.

Public education similarly changed. Instead of a politicized cost centre, it became a thriving economic driver. The province consolidated funding by dumping property taxes, simply sending money to schools based on enrolment. Quality control was assured by widespread testing and publicizing of results.

Parent-teacher councils at schools replaced school boards, which removed expensive, multiple layers of administration. Individual schools and organizations negotiated their own contracts with teachers, but the profession prospered. It came to resemble the accounting, engineering and legal professions, with star or master teachers earning up to \$250,000 a year. Entrepreneurial teachers formed their own schools and school chains. Under-used or closed facilities re-opened province-wide as the teaching industry aggressively marketed its services to thousands of foreign students.

Impressive new efficiencies in these two industries helped pay for carefully planned, but dramatic, tax reductions that made Manitoba Canada's most attractive place for investment and job creation. To maximize economic growth, the top personal income tax rate fell more than half, to a flat eight per cent from 17.4 per cent over a three-year period, and corporate rates went to the same level. Payroll taxes ended immediately. The provincial sales tax was reduced by one per cent and then harmonized with the GST to simplify administration and pump up private investment by private business, which benefited from expanding input tax credits on purchases of new plant and equipment. By keeping the same rate over a larger base, the province raised \$200 million more in sales tax revenues by 2020. One per cent of the combined rate was transferred to municipal governments on a per capita basis.

The provincial government chose to regulate the services provided by Manitoba Public Insurance, the workers' compensation board, Manitoba Liquor and Lotteries and Manitoba Hydro (other than the transmission network) rather than run them. Citizens ben-

efited greatly when the government broke up the public monopolies by selling their assets and operational licences to the private sector, ending the domination of government-zoned-and-run services. The private sector firms that took over what had been government-run services were joined by competitors, and corporate taxes soared and exceeded the levies government had previously laid on the former Crowns.

Manitoba Hydro's Keeyask and Bipole investment fully precipitated massive reform of the province's energy monopoly. Before selling off what had been Hydro's generation and distribution assets and responsibilities, the then-new Progressive Conservative government recognized a \$7-billion loss from unneeded and uneconomic generation and transmission assets. The loss was moved to the province's books and amortized with interest for 25 years, allowing electricity rates to be kept affordable for consumers and industry.

A particularly important reform restructured transmission, generation and retailing of the monopoly into separate operating entities. Ownership of transmission assets was transferred to consumers and managed through elected local government trusts across the province, in ways similar to the co-ops of today.

Generation and retail were opened up to competition, enjoying, for the first time, much enhanced transparency and accountability. Competing natural gas and electricity operations were separated before privatization. Due to sharply accelerating population growth and new and expanded industries—and also to the major policy reform across the economy and government—another good result was that the Keeyask Dam's capacity was serving the domestic market some 20 years earlier than expected.

Dozens of other reforms lifted barriers to growth throughout the economy, two of them especially important. Targeted housing supplements for low-income earners replaced the remaining vestiges of rent control. This revitalized Winnipeg's historic downtown and set off a boom that eventually created 100,000 new housing units. A unilateral withdrawal from supply management allowed the egg, poultry and dairy industries to expand rapidly at the base of a diversified food processing sector, creating tens of thousands of new jobs.

Young people scratch their heads when the old-timers talk about Manitoba's once "have-not" economy.

Does this sound too good to be true? With some vision and a lot of leadership it could happen.

Peter Holle is president of the Frontier Centre for Public Policy, a Manitoba-based think-tank.

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Social to aid Lamontagne in recovering from craniotomy

BY MICHAELA SOLOMON
THE BRANDON SUN

Janelle Lamontagne is your typical 29-year-old Saskatchewanian-turned-Brandonite. She has a job at the hospital in Brandon where she works as a medical speech-language pathologist, and loves spending time with her family, friends and dog.

She has also been living with an asymptomatic brain tumour the size of a golf ball.

Lamontagne, who is from Wawota, Sask., is recovering from a nine-hour awake craniotomy she underwent on June 29. The procedure removed 99 per cent of a grade three anaplastic astrocytoma, a cancerous brain tumour.

Since the discovery of her tumour, Lamontagne has undergone an awake craniotomy at the Health and Sciences Centre in Winnipeg, where 99.99 per cent of the tumour was removed, according to her neurosurgeon.

"My tumour was discovered in a very random but fortunate chain of events," Lamontagne said.

She suffers from a rare bleeding disorder, called acquired von Willebrand's disease, which caused a vein in her arm to rupture. After reacting badly to a treatment called intrave-

nous Immunoglobulin (IVIG), Lamontagne ended up back in the emergency room with a severe migraine. As a result of a CT scan that was ordered to rule out a brain bleed, a tumour was discovered.

"It was the size of a golf ball," Lamontagne said. "And I didn't and continue to show no symptoms whatsoever."

At the time of discovery, an MRI was ordered to investigate what neurologists hoped was a cyst. After determining that it was, in fact, a tumour, Lamontagne was referred to a neurosurgeon in Winnipeg who speculated that her tumour was a grade two oligodendroglioma, which is commonly found in men and women ages 20 to 40.

"It's never good to have a brain tumour, but that's definitely a better one to have," Lamontagne said.

An awake craniotomy was recommended to remove the tumour, which Lamontagne underwent on June 29.

When the pathology result came back, it was confirmed that the tumour was actually a grade three anaplastic astrocytoma, a cancerous tumour.

"I know there's a lot of stuff in the news about John McCain and his grade four glioblastoma. Gord Downie, same thing,"



Janelle Lamontagne is recovering from a nine-hour awake craniotomy she underwent on June 29. The procedure removed 99 per cent of a grade three anaplastic astrocytoma, a cancerous brain tumour.

Lamontagne said. "I would describe this as the little sibling of those. The anaplastic astrocytomas, they do actually transition

and become more aggressive and turn into glioblastomas."

She said the tumour has tentacle-like parts that connected to nearby tissue. For that reason, her neurosurgeon said it would be impossible to remove the entire tumour.

Lamontagne will undergo chemotherapy seven days a week, and radiation five days a week for six weeks at Winnipeg's Health Sciences Centre, followed by another full year of chemotherapy five days of the week in Brandon.

Luckily, Lamontagne has the option to take chemotherapy in pill form.

"It's been very overwhelming," Lamontagne said. "The hardest part, I think, is that I feel completely normal. I have no symptoms, so it's hard to understand why I went through a craniotomy and I'm going to start chemo and radiation when I feel perfectly fine."

She said the experience has been particularly hard on her loved ones, which has in turn been hard for her.

"I work with the adult population in acute care," Lamontagne said. "I've actually worked with a lot of patients with brain tumours ... I hope this gives me a chance to better relate to my patients when I can finally return

to my job."

She said she's still in the process of learning how to cope by documenting her personal thoughts in a private blog. Lamontagne also said she took part in the Winnipeg Brain Tumour Walk 2017 on June 23 and got to meet other people who were going on the same journey she was struggling with.

"In a way it kind of normalized it because I was able to talk to other people going through the same thing," Lamontagne said.

A benefit social is being held for Lamontagne, on Sept. 22 at the Victoria Inn Hotel and Convention Centre in Brandon.

"To assist her in accomplishing her treatment her mother needs to take off work to care for Janelle through this time. Her original hope was to return to work within a few months but now her new diagnosis changes that plan," Lamontagne's friend Kristin Guild said. "To help offset costs for Janelle, we are putting on a benefit social and are hopeful our community will help us raise money by contributing gifts that can be auctioned off or sponsor the food or booze depending on our venue."

Those interested in attending or contributing can contact Kristin Guild at 204-730-0882.

Littlechief making waves with 'Scar on my Heart'

BY MONICA BRAINE

Last year was a great year for Teagan Littlechief (Saulteaux and Cree) as an SCMA Aboriginal Artist of the Year Nominee and a Top Ten Bull's Eye Emerging Indigenous Musical Talent competitor. All this while her song, Scar on My Heart, has been receiving considerable airplay on Canadian country music stations.

She first discovered the song written by songwriter David Joseph during Canadian Country Music Week in London, Ontario in 2016. Littlechief eventually selected Scar on My Heart due to its Faith Hill/Martina McBride vibe and emotionally-connected lyrics by David Joseph who had written it for his infant daughter who was in the hospital.

When she recorded Scar on My Heart, Littlechief was facing her own sense of loss. She had lost her father Russell Standingley, and was thinking of the missing and murdered women in Canada.

Littlechief, who lives on the White Bear First Nation, says the song illustrates a universal pain all of us feel from one heartbreak to another, but allows for healing from those heartbreaks.

Her album, Rising Above, came out in 2008, and features songs about both hope and heartbreak such as Bring it On and Rise Above.

The 30-year-old took some time out of her busy life as a singer, mom and casino cashier to talk about her passion for singing and music:

How long have you been singing?

Oh, probably for the last 20-ish years. I didn't really start competing until I was about seven or eight and then bigger competitions didn't start until I was 13. It started when I was in preschool. I was always singing the Little Mermaid song, Part of Your World. And my teacher talked to my mom, who then got me into music lessons. My mom was one of the strongest people who kept me going all these years.

Describe the first time that you performed for a live audience

It was in 2001 at Voices of the North in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan. I was so scared. I'd never performed for such a big crowd. The very first time I walked off the stage after my very first live performance, I remember thinking, "I don't want this to end ... I can't believe it's over!"

Do you write music?

I co-wrote Hell Bent & Heaven Bound with Terry Fernihough. It was based on my ex-husband and the feelings of be-



TEAGAN LITTLECHIEF

ing stuck in something that wasn't going anywhere. Since then, I really started to dabble in songwriting and now I carry a notebook with me wherever I go or I make sure I have enough battery on my phone so that I can record a voice clip. I have three phones right now with about 20 voice clips of random songs.

It could be even driving down the road and I'll have the music turned up and then all of a sudden it's like bang! I got something in my head and I turn the radio off and then my son will stay quiet while I'm writing, which is kind of awesome ... He'll say, "Oh that's very nice, Mom."

What inspires you the most?

My son. I want to give him a life without worries. I know he's going to have worries, but it's him that keeps me going. He's my number one fan. I could take him to a live taping of a show and he'll sit there quietly and wait until I'm done.

Why country music?

Well, it has not always been country. I was brought up in rock and roll, like Guns N' Roses, AC/DC, CCR, Rolling Stones. I didn't know country until I was 13. I entered a competition and I was going to sing Sweet Child of Mine. When I got in, they said, "Can you sing something country?" I'm like, "Yeah!" It was Breathe by Faith Hill that I got into the competition with.

What advice would you have for young

Native women who wants to pursue a career singing?

It takes hard work, it takes a lot of commitment, but never give up. There were times when, to be honest, I was suicidal because of being bullied and I was told, don't let that interfere, because you have something. You have a gift. Don't ruin your gift over someone smaller. So get out

there, keep going, keep going. It's a tough road but, hard work gets you places rather than just sitting and not doing anything.

What are your hopes for the future?

I just jumped on this ride and I'm going wherever it takes me, and if it takes me to stardom, well, I better pray to God that I'm ready for it.



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Tornado, hail causes damage near Wapella

BY KARA KINNA

Some properties and crops between Rocanville and Wapella, Sask. suffered extensive damage during a storm that moved through the area on Friday, July 21. The storm dropped a tornado that cut a swath between Wapella and Rocanville, causing damage, along with large hail. The storm also caused a three hour power outage.

Eugene and Debbie Ikert, who own a farm between Rocanville and Wapella, were some of the people who were hit the hardest. The tornado came through their yard. It tore the doors off of the Ikerts' quonset and wrapped one of them around their grain dryer. It also flipped some of their grain bins upside down and snapped trees.

"The shop doors are gone, a couple of bins are upside down, it destroyed all the trees, it wrecked the grain dryer, and wrapped the (quonset) door around the grain dryer," says Eugene, who adds that his crops also suffered some hail damage.

The Ikerts were waiting for the insurance adjusters to come out and take a look at their property.

Eugene says he's never had damage from a tornado like that.

"We've had them close but one has never hit us," he says.

Debbie was in the house when she heard on the TV that a tornado was in their area. She went outside to see what was going on.

"It came from behind the house. I was headed for the road to see what they were talking about and where it was," she says. "It really didn't give me much time."

Debbie never saw the tornado. She headed for the basement of her house.

"I just heard mainly the wind and the whistle but



Above: One of their quonset doors wrapped around the Ikerts' grain dryer.

Below: One of the Ikerts' small bins flipped upside down.



I didn't see the tornado," she says.

Another farmer who farms between Wapella and Rocanville says his crops suffered extensive damage from tennis-ball-sized hail.

He says the hail actually put holes in the roof of one of his steel

buildings. It also damaged the siding on his house. He estimates that he lost about half of his crop, and says after the storm his crops looked like they had been combined.

He estimates that around 1,500 acres of crop were damaged.

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20	Wed.	Regular Sale	9am
21	Thurs.	Sheep, Horse Sale	12pm
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Antique tractor sale held in Elkhorn



Above Left: The long green line of vintage John Deere tractors, the night before the sale. The tractors had been collected and restored over a ten year period by Bill Mulligan.

Above Right: Bill Mulligan shutting down a vintage tractor after demonstrating its engine to the large crowd that came out for the unique sale. Every one of the vintage tractors had working engines.

BY ED JAMES

For the second time in two weeks, the Elkhorn fair grounds were a very busy place. This time it was not the annual ag fair; instead it was a very unique tractor and farm equipment sale by long-time local farmer Bill Mulligan and his wife.

The unique part of the day-long event, held July 21, was the sale of the Mulligan's collection of vintage and restored John Deere tractors. There were over 20 tractors dating from the '40s to the '60s.

The night before the sale the tractors were brought down to the fair grounds and it was an impressive sight to see the long line of restored green and yellow tractors in the field. On the day of the sale there were over 200 on-site bidding cards given out and there were over 150 online bidders. The auction was handled by Fraser Auction Service of Brandon, who had everything well laid out and ran the auction smoothly.

The crowd was actually bigger than 200 as many people of all ages came out just to admire the collection one more time and to see what prices they would bring.

The collection and restoration work had been a labour of love for Bill, who had assembled the collection in just over 10 years. For the last several years tractors from the collection were featured in local parades and in the media. Whenever there was an opportunity to show some of the collection, Bill's biggest problem was finding enough drivers!

The large crowd brought out lots of stories from older farmers about what it was like to use these tractors back in the day. A spinoff effect of the auction was that the Elkhorn Ag Society was willing to operate an on-site canteen to feed the crowd.

The first part of the auction was a mixture of miscellaneous farm equipment and household items, but the big event was the sale of the 20 green tractors gleaming in the hot July sun. As they prepared to start on the vintage tractor sales,

Bill went down the long row and started every one and left them running so the customers could not only see but hear the tractor they were buying.

During the day most of Bill's family and many of his friends were on hand to help out any way they could. When the engines started many of the old-timers got even more excited as they remembered days of crops and farms long ago.

The first one on the block was a John Deere model 420, which is a rare collector's model as around only 330 were ever made! As fate would have it, the buyer was one of Bill's farming neighbours, not far from Bill's farm. Bill sold the farm where he was born at recently and he and his wife have moved into the village.

The bidding was all over the place on the tractors and it did not take long before they were all sold. The buyers were from Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, and before the day was over some of the buyers, after they paid their bills, were loading the tractors onto flat bed trailers for new homes and to add to collections.

After the sale Bill said he knew that the antique tractor market and other antique items were down and said he hoped that he would make enough to gain a return on his financial investment. He went on to say that those he thought would go high were a bit down and those that were worth less went higher than expected.

However, while he was building the collection it was both work and fun. In fact he kept two of his favorites, a John Deere model R and another of the rare 420 models, and said he will always be looking for something else that might show up.

"Overall I am pleased with the sale and was very happy with the large number of friends and supporters who came out for the auction," he said. "It was sad in one way, but it was also a celebration with long-time friends and with family members."



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John and Jacqui Harrison in their quinoa crop east of Moosomin.



The head of one of Harrison's quinoa plants.

Harrisons growing quinoa crop near Moosomin

BY KARA KINNA
It's a crop that has its origins in South America, but in the last few years a number of farmers on the Canadian Prairies have decided to try their hand at growing quinoa.

While it's still uncommon for a Prairie crop, one farmer trying the crop for the first time is John Harrison, who is growing 60 acres of quinoa just east of Moosomin.

He says he decided to

grow it "just for something different in the rotation."

"You get tired of going to just wheat and canola. It's better for the land I think," he says.

Harrison says he knows he's taking a bit of a risk with the quinoa.

"If it gets real hot it will abort the flowers and they won't set any seed," he says. "You can end up with nothing. If it gets a heat blast,—sterilization is what they call it—it won't set

any seed and you can end up with zero. But I think it's sort of past where it's really going to damage it now."

Why take that risk? "If it does turn out it's higher reward," he says. "It's a high risk, high reward type of crop. It's contracted for around 60 cents a pound which is \$30 a bushel. Depending on the yield the potential is there for a lot more income if it pans out. That's why you

don't want to sow your whole farm to it. You just want to do a little bit and see if it pans out."

Harrison says quinoa is grown in Saskatchewan, but it is not common in this area.

"There is a field at Wa-

wota but other than that they grow it more north of here—around the Yellowhead Highway area," he says.

He says the quinoa can be harvested with the equipment he has but takes a bit of extra work.

"You can just straight cut it with your combine," he says. "And the only bad part is you have to pick the volunteer canola out by hand. Whatever spray kills canola will kill this too so, it's a bit more work than other crops."

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Pipestone Hills tournament to raise money for new clubhouse

Continued from page 11
 McDonald says he's hoping both golf club members and others in the community support the fundraising efforts.
 "We have 150 members give or take, and we definitely want the members' support. The course is also good for the community and we hope to get some support from the community. When we run tournaments and events it is good for businesses in town. They buy prizes to give away at the tournaments. There is a spin off effect when we have a good and very viable golf course in town. We have reached out to some of the businesses and the community as a whole to say 'would you like to sponsor as well.' We have sent out a lot of letters."

"The golf course is busy all summer," adds Brandon Banga. "There are tournaments throughout the summer, and we are getting into that really busy time where there are tournaments continually going on, and there are private functions being held at the golf course."
 How much of a difference will a new building make?
 "We are hoping that a new facility will attract some more people to the tournaments that are going on, and also attract more private functions," says Brandon Banga.
 Jolene Banga says it's important for people to come out to the meeting to help determine the direction of the golf club.
 "This meeting will very much deter-

mine what we do—if we do what we can with what we have financially, or if we get some people to come out and put support behind it and look at doing the more expensive option."
 "There are lots of ideas and opinions on it and this is a time where you can express thoughts and say 'this is what I would like to see and here's how I'm going to support it,'" adds Brandon Banga.
 "The course and the clubhouse go hand in hand," says McDonald. "The clubhouse generates a lot of revenue and it's great for tournaments, but we have to have a viable facility to be able to host big events. Whether or not this building came available, we were going to have to spend a lot of money to upgrade."
 "People have been working on this for a long time, so we're excited to see it come to this point," says Brandon Banga.
 "Nervous, too," adds Jolene Banga, "because it's a big financial commitment."
 "We want to make sure that what we do is right for the golf course and for the members," said Brandon Banga.
 He said it's vital to get the fundraising off on the right foot with a successful tournament. "How successful this first tournament is and this first call for support and donations is really will dictate what we can do. We have to see what kind of support we can get."
 "A good thing we have going for us is that the course is in incredible condition," says Jolene Banga.
 "I shared a post about this meeting coming up and Golf Saskatchewan shared it and replied, and said 'the course is in great shape! We had someone out there just yesterday.'"
 "You have to go a long way to find another nine-hole course that good," says Ferrel Horn of the golf club executive.
 "Each year it's been getting better and better," adds Brandon Banga. "That's reflected in our financial situation. We feel we are doing well, and we feel that an improved clubhouse would add to that."

"When you start hosting 100, 150 people golfing on a tournament day, you need some facilities," said Ferrel Horn.
 Horn said the golf club first started thinking about the building after news reports came out about the closure of the visitor centre.
 "We heard through news reports that they were going to close the centres. Larry the mayor, Mike of the rec board and us on the board on the golf course began talking about whether we could use the building at the golf course."
 "Letters went back and forth, we made a proposal, and it was accepted."
 Horn says the new building will be a step up for the golf club.
 "It's roughly 60x30, about 1800 sq feet," he said. "The bathrooms are way nicer, the roof is perfect. It has power doors, it has a full cathedral ceiling with windows up top—it is gorgeous. The new building has air and a furnace which the old building doesn't, so it's a full upgrade."
 Horn said the golf club had a couple of different building movers look at the building.
 "It will be quite a move but nothing that hasn't been done before," he said. "They have moved bigger buildings than that."
 The former tourist centre is a wood frame building with brick veneer. The golf club is hoping to be able to move the building with the brick facing intact.
 Horn said he's looking forward to the new building. "Having that furnace, you will be able to have an event out there in the winter. That was the downfall of the old building—there was never a furnace, so then everything deteriorates. Now we can leave the furnace on low in the winter and keep it in much better shape."
 Brandon Banga said he hopes the community gets behind the project. "We are asking for the support of the business community. We are looking for some corporate donations, some business donations. If everyone gets behind it, we can do this, and it will be a big improvement."



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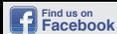
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