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

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

BY ASHLEY BOCHKE

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



people that will teach that.

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

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

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

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

Krista adds, "We have had someone from Redvers and there have been some Manitoba people. Lots from Rocanville.

We haven't kept much track of it yet."

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

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

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

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

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

"I think we will try and have a food vendor at the Makers Markets each time. We need some live music, we are not sure

about that yet, we are looking for people. Anybody, who makes anything, it could be food, crafts, anything really is welcome to come and get a table," Krista explains.

### Provincial recognition

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

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

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

Continued on page 27

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### Unique piece of art

The World-Spectator's Jacqui Harrison is a talented artist who can paint just about anything. She recently painted a piece for the World-Spectator office, left, based on a piece of digital art created by editor Kevin Weedmark, above.

**THE WORLD-Spectator**

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## Art Card Fundraiser for Moosomin Visual Art Centre



Moosomin artist Jacqui Beckett has begun a fundraiser to help support the Moosomin Visual Arts Centre. She will be selling her art cards printed from her original watercolour painting of a chickadee on spring blossoms.

**Each package includes four art cards (5 1/2' x 4 1/4") with envelopes and sells for \$20/package.**

She hopes to sell 100 sets of cards with all proceeds going to MVAC.

These beautiful cards can purchased at **The World-Spectator, Moosomin Pharmasave, Prairie Girl Gallery, Mane Tain Hair Lounge and Gift Shoppe in Rocanville, Southeast Regional Library in Moosomin** as well as from [jacquibeckett@gmail.com](mailto:jacquibeckett@gmail.com)

Thank you so much for supporting the Moosomin Visual Art Centre!

23.5c



## SECOND FLOOR COMMERCIAL SPACE FOR LEASE IN MOOSOMIN

As of **January 1, 2025**, space will be available for lease on the second floor of the World-Spectator building in Moosomin.

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**For information please contact  
Kevin Weedmark at [kevin@world-spectator.com](mailto:kevin@world-spectator.com)**





Community members enjoying breakfast hosted by the Maryfield District Lions.



Garry Radke and Grant Dunham dishing up their breakfast.

## Pancake breakfast benefit held for the Waldner family in Maryfield

BY BARB SWALLOW

On Saturday, May 4, approximately 50 people enjoyed a pancake breakfast hosted by the Maryfield District Lions. The pancake breakfast was a fundraiser for Debra, Brian and Jennifer Waldner.

Brian, Debra and Jennifer lost their home in British Columbia to a fire on February 13, 2024. Following the loss of their home, they headed to Regina to stay with family. With the help of a friend, they found a suite to rent in Maryfield.

As everyone can imagine, they are struggling to get insurance figured out and need a helping hand with expenses as they start over getting a new home orga-

nized.

Thanks to the generosity of the community of Maryfield, a total of \$1,500 was raised at the pancake breakfast. This type of a fundraiser depends on sponsors and a generous community.

Thank you to the Borderland Co-op for the donation of sausages, syrup and juice for the breakfast. Thank you to Parrish and Heimbecker for the pancake mix. Thanks to the Harmony Centre for the use of the hall, free of charge. Thanks to those who donated muffins. A huge thank you to everyone who came out to enjoy the breakfast, and most importantly, made a generous donation to help this family out.



Chuck Dodsworth and Betsy and Bob Darroch going through the buffet line. Rob Hill is flipping pancakes at the end.



Debra Waldner's daughter Jennifer and local Lion Tim Jantzi.

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## Rocanville Town Council

## Construction set to begin at Rocanville Pool

BY RYAN KIEDROWSKI  
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Progress on the pool refurbishment in Rocanville is moving along right on schedule, according to Town Administrator Tanya Strandlund. After demolition of the current structure, preparation work for the new building at the same location is set to begin soon.

"The pool is now completely demolished, so the steps going forward are to demolish the piles, grade beams and pool deck, build a crawl space around the pool with all the plumbing in it, which is anticipated to be completed in mid-June," she said.

One big factor in moving the project forward was a shift to wood construction from the original steel concept—something that means a huge cost savings both during construction and in the long-term maintenance of the rehabilitated facility.

"We hopefully are going to have new drawings completed here in May to show the new renderings and then materials will be ordered mid-to late-July," Strandlund said.

Weather will be a major factor on the project timeline as construction nears with the \$4 million project anticipated to be complete at year end.

"Everyone's pretty happy in how it's progressing," Strandlund remarked.

Fundraising efforts also continue with an estimated \$640,000 of a \$2.2 million goal already gathered.

The pool has benefitted from the Rocanville Lucky Lotto, receiving \$17,800 and a recent Nutrien grant match program that brought in \$9,786.25—to name a couple of examples.

An upcoming brisket cook-off on June 15 will be another exciting (and delicious) way to generate more funds for the Rocanville Aquatic Centre Fundraising Committee.

## Rocanville Rec Report

Andrea Logan, Recreation Director

## Rocanville Community Day

Mark your calendars for June 1, 2024, and get ready for an unforgettable day of fun, food and festivities at Rocanville Community Day. The day is jam-packed with events and entertainment!

## Rocanville Minor Ball

## Home games schedule

May 14 - U11 VS Kipling 1  
May 15 - U9A VS Moosomin 1  
May 16 - U11 VS Whitewood  
May 22 - U9A VS Moosomin 2  
May 29 - U9B VS Moosomin 1  
May 30 - U 11 VS Moosomin 2  
June 5 - U9A VS Kipling  
June 11 - U11 VS Grenfell  
June 12 - U9B VS Kipling  
June 17 U9B VS Langenburg

## Rocanville Minor Soccer

Game schedule to come. Games start on May 14 with the season-end soccer tournament on June 22 in Langenburg

## Rocanville Town and Country Golf Course

Rocanville Town and Country Golf Club has an exciting lineup of tournaments and events for golf enthusiasts. Here are the key dates to mark on your calendars:

**Secundo Cinquo de Mayo** – Get dressed up and join in the fun on May 25 at 5 pm! The evening includes Mexican dining, Talavera flowerpot craft, costume prizes, drink specials, door prizes and karaoke.

- **Spring Swing** – Swing into action on June 8.
- **Clubhouse Fundraiser** – Join us for a great cause on July 6.
- **Ladies Tournament** – Ladies, get ready for some friendly competition on August 24.

In addition to these tournaments, there are regular themed nights at the golf course:

- **Men's Night** – Every Monday evening.
- **Ladies Night** – Every Thursday evening.
- **Couples' Night** – the second Friday of each month.

For more details and to participate, feel free to reach out to the clubhouse at 306-645-2640.

## Slo Pitch

Our slo-pitch league is kicking off in May. Here are the detail:

**When:** Starting in May, every Wednesday

**Entry Fee:** \$300 per team

**Requirements:** Each team must include at least three female players.

**Contact:** To register your team please contact Jen at 434-7812.

## Rocanville Rec Centre

The Rocanville Recreation Centre is buzzing with activities for all ages. Here's what you can look forward to:

## Rocanville Kids Group

With the weather warming up, we will take a break from Kids Group. See you in the fall.

## Walking Sessions for Everyone

If you prefer walking at your own pace, the Rec Centre welcomes everyone on Mondays and Wednesdays from 1-3 pm, as well as Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 am to 3 pm.

## Pickle Ball

Join in the fun of Pickleball every Tuesday evening from 7-9 pm. It's a great way to stay active and enjoy some friendly competition.

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## Puzzle and Book Swap

Engage your mind with puzzles and books at the Rocanville Rec Centre from Monday to Thursday, 9 am to 3 pm. It's a fantastic opportunity to exchange puzzles and discover new reads.

## Rocanville Library

The Rocanville Library provides convenient access to the library's resources, including books, and digital materials.

## Open Hours:

Wednesday: 9 am–12 pm and 1:30–5:30 pm

Thursday: 1:30–5:30 pm

Friday: 1:30–5:30 pm

## Programming Highlights:

**Advanced Games Kit** – Werewolf – Month of May  
**Dinosaur Take 'N' Make** – Month of May (while supplies last)

**Kids Crafters** – Come out for an afternoon of crafting at the library – May 15 from 2-4 pm.

**Stitch 'n' chat Night** – May 16 at 7 pm – Come on out for an evening of knitting, crocheting, drawing, embroidery, or any other project you would like to bring to work on.

**Rocanville  
Community Centre**  
Formerly the Senior Centre  
219 Ellice Street, Rocanville

All events held here are open to the public (except rentals). All ages welcome!

**Coffee** – Rise and shine. Start your day right with a cup of coffee and friendly conversations at the Rise and Shine coffee mornings, held Monday to Friday from 8-9:30 am.

## Cards

Join in for card games every Thursday afternoon from 1-3 pm. It's a great way to socialize and enjoy some friendly competition.

## Potluck supper

On the last Monday of every month, the community comes together for a potluck supper. Bring your favorite dish to share or contribute \$15 per person if you're unable to bring something. Supper is served at 6 pm, and everyone, regardless of age, is welcome to attend. It's an excellent opportunity to enjoy a meal with friends and neighbors.

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# It's time to ditch the whiteout in Winnipeg

Hey, Winnipeg Jets fans, it's time to lose the 'whiteout' approach to your team's National Hockey League playoffs. It's not working. In fact, it seems to be more of a jinx than anything else.

The idea of the 'whiteout'—having all 15,000 fans wear white garb to home games to create some sort of powerful mystique to help their team defeat the opposition—has been about as successful as someone trying to sell broccoli-flavoured bubblegum. White is associated with pale; pale is associated with death; dying in the playoffs is what the Jets have done far too often lately.

How about a red-out? A black-out? Even a green-out might work. Green suggests vibrancy and growth, and the Jets definitely need a growing number of playoff wins. During his decade or more of pro golf dominance, Tiger Woods wore red on Sunday because psychologists suggested red is an aggressive colour and opponents could be intimidated. White is blah. What colour is the flag one waves when surrendering? White, of course.

Face it, Jets' fans. White is not working. The whiteout approach to playoff games began as a marketing ploy in 1987 but to say it's getting as stale as white bread left out overnight is an understatement. And while we're talking about white this and white that, can the NHL powers-that-be not arrange for the Jets to wear their white sweaters while their fans are coated and sweated in white up in the pews? When the Jets bowed out of this year's playoffs, they wore blue jerseys in their 6-3 loss to Colorado while the Avalanche wore white. Seemed inappropriate.

While the Jets played at a .695 percentage pace on home ice during the regular season, they have not come close to that kind of success in the post-season. Blame it on the white. Since 2015, when the whiteout fad started to reach its zenith, the Jets are a horrendous 6-15 on home ice in



Bruce Penton

playoff games. They were 1-2 this year, which snapped a seven-game home-ice losing streak. You'd think with that kind of failure, some marketing expert would say, 'hey, maybe we should lose the white.'

Next year, Jets' fans, let's go red. A bullfighter uses a red flag to get the bull supercharged and snorting. Maybe red throughout the Canada Life Centre will add a level of aggressiveness and speed to the Jets that will make them unstoppable. The people in the stands who shell out big bucks to watch their loveable Jets should be reminded that a heart—the symbol of love—is almost always shown as bright red. If you really love your Jets, ditch the white. Leave white for the bride's wedding day dress and for the colour of the rice on your next Chinese food takeout order. It's not working as a winning hockey gimmick.

• Super 70s Sports: "The NCAA transfer rules are insane. I used to think 'one and done' was stupid but 'one here, one there, one there, and one there' is infinitely worse. These kids are moving around more often than a left-handed relief pitcher."

• Phil Mushnick of the New York Post: "How'd you like to be a CBS News-Tokyo employee, recently laid off in order to cut costs while CBS pays Tony Romo \$180 mil-

lion to call half-a-year's NFL games?"

• Bob Molinaro of pilotonline.com (Hampton, Va.): "The NBA may survive the absence of LeBron James, Kevin Durant and Steph Curry from the remainder of the playoffs as long as Charles Barkley makes it to the studio on time."

• Vancouver comedy guy Torben Rolfsen: "Ferrari signed a massive title sponsorship deal with HP. So expect to start seeing their race cars constantly overheating."

• Canadian satirical website The Beaver, before Game 7: "Hardworking Leafs tie up series, maximize how sad fans will be when they still lose."

• Another one from the Beaver: "Loblaws promises to lower grocery prices as soon as Leafs win three rounds in the playoffs."

• Bob Molinaro again: "Virtually every TV highlight from baseball's spring training is a long ball, as if that's all the game is about. That would be like daily NBA highlights of nothing but dunks and three-pointers. Uh, never mind."

• RJ Currie of sportsdeke.com: "The Canucks won the final two games against Nashville by scores of 2-1 and 1-0. I tuned in to some hockey games and two soccer matches broke out."

• Another one from Currie: "How can you tell it's springtime in Canada? The snow has melted and the Leafs have been falling."

• Headline at fark.com: "Falcons tried to get back in top 10 after drafting Penix, perhaps to grab J.J. McCarthy."

• fark.com again: "LeBron is starting to concede that the only way he'll play basketball with his son is at a local rec league at the Y."

Care to comment? Email [brucepenton2003@yahoo.ca](mailto:brucepenton2003@yahoo.ca)

## Welwyn News

Phyllis Harper

306-733-2155

Jesse Johnston has returned home from European travels. Jesse visited a family friend in Croatia who toured him around, showing him historic sights, and enjoying Croatian culture and cuisine. Jesse also touched base in Germany, Poland and Italy.

Visitors with Deane and Murray Lewis on the weekend and since were David and Judie Lewis of Virden; Darren Lewis of High River, Alberta; Leanne Williams

of Cold Lake, Alberta; Frieda and Terry Lewis of Killarney, Manitoba; and Bob and Donna Vanmackelbergh of Virden, Manitoba.

The Nutrien mine held their Mine Rescue Competition at the rink on Friday, with four teams competing. Several people attended the competition and enjoyed dinner and desserts at noon.

Hope to hear that Murray Lewis is home from the hospital soon!

## Wawota News

Myrna Olson

306-739-2519 • [molsons\\_40@hotmail.com](mailto:molsons_40@hotmail.com)

Sympathy to Keith and Gail Knelsen and family on the passing of Gail's sister Delphy Duke (Colleen) of Indian Head. She passed away on April 28 and she was 65 years old. She is survived by her husband Raymond and her daughters Jacelyn and Marissa. She was predeceased by daughter Chantal.

Last Saturday, April 27, the annual Gala was held at the Wawota Town Hall. This event includes a meal, Disney show, photos, face painting and silent auction. The Ford family are the organizers of this event, and it, along with an online auction, raised money for childhood cancer. Several members of the Ford family will travel to Toronto to take part in Meagan's Hug. This is a 5 km walk with a final hug around the hospital where Meagan was treated. This

is the 23rd year for this event to take place.

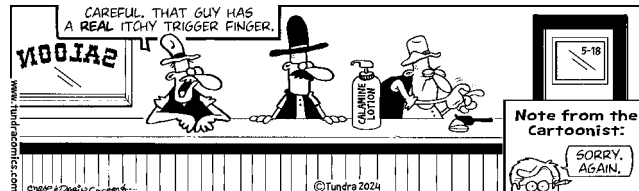
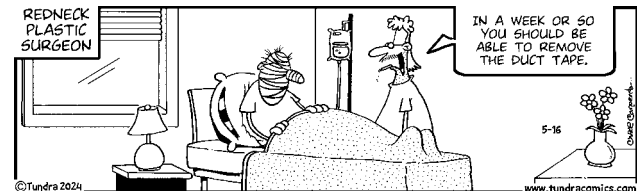
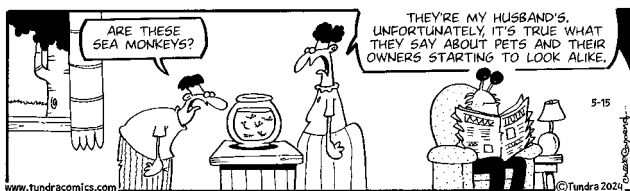
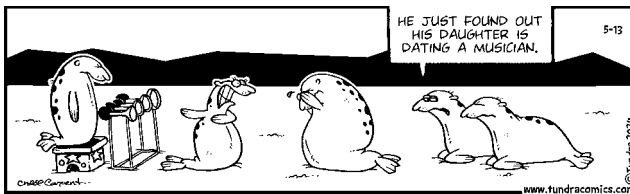
Born to Ryan and Heather Mowbray of Regina, a daughter on May 1. She weighed 7 lbs. 10 oz. and has been named Edith Marie Margaret. She is a sister for Bowie, Lemmy and Link and a granddaughter for Ron Mowbray and Mandy Mowbray and Alvin and Barb Bishop.

On Saturday, April 20, a pre-wedding social and bridal shower was in Wawona, Minnesota. This was in honor of Braida Lenouil and Dawson Cullen who will be married on August 10. Local attendees were Anne Prince, Cimarron and Jenn Prince, Hailey and Ryley, Stacy and Tamara Schill, Cheryl Deroo, Neena Johnson, Austin Johnson Dracy and Tammy Stewart, Devon Stewart and Jordan McHattie.

## The World-Spectator's deadline is noon on Thursdays

## Tundra

Chad Carpenter





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Phone: 306.435.3622

Mike Schwan - Rec Director  
306-435-7578 (cell)

Angela Thorn - Assistant Rec Director



**RECYCLING CALENDAR**

**ROUTE A:**  
Homes on Broadway Avenue and North: MAY 20 & JUNE 3

**ROUTE B:**  
Homes south of Broadway Avenue: MAY 27 & JUNE 10

**LANDFILL HOURS**

**JANUARY 1 - APRIL 30**  
TUES. - SAT. 12 Noon - 3:45 p.m.  
SUN. & MON. CLOSED

**MAY 1 - MAY 30**  
TUES. - SAT. 12 Noon - 6:45 p.m.  
SUN. 12 Noon - 5 p.m.  
MON. CLOSED

**JUNE 1 - SEPTEMBER 30**  
TUES. - SAT. 12 Noon - 6:45 p.m.  
SUN. & MON. CLOSED

**OCTOBER 1 - OCTOBER 31**  
TUES. - SAT. 12 Noon - 6:45 p.m.  
SUN. 12 Noon - 5 p.m.  
MON. CLOSED

**NOVEMBER 1 - DECEMBER 31**  
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SUN. & MON. CLOSED

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**Moosomin Senior Rangers Annual General Meeting**

**Tuesday May 14th, 2024**

Meeting will be held at 7pm at the MS Arena Lobby. The Rangers would like to encourage all Executive, Players, Volunteers, Sponsors and fans to attend.

**Moosomin Senior Rangers Alumni 2024 Annual Golf Tournament**

**Saturday, June 15th.**

Teams of 6. Cost per golfer is just \$20 (Thanks to our Pipestone Hills Golf Club Sponsorship). Includes 18 holes of golf along with a Saturday Supper.

**To enter you can:**

Text 306-435-7578  
Phone 306-435-3622  
Email msmn.rec.brd@sasktel.net

**Community Gardens Opportunity**

Town of Moosomin is currently accepting bookings for their 2024 Community Garden Program.

**Prices include:**

10x15 plots . . . . . \$30  
10x30 plots . . . . . \$60  
Garden boxes . . . . . \$20

If you are interested in booking a plot or would like further information please contact:  
**s.krygertownofmoosomin@sasktel.net**



**Swimming Lessons 2024**



If you would like to register for swimming lessons you can now pop into the pool and speak with our staff.



**Dates include:**

Set #	Session	Dates
Set # 1	2-week session	June 3 - June 14
Set # 2	1-week session	June 24 - June 28
Set # 3	1-week session	July 8 - July 12
Set # 4	1-week session	July 22 - July 26
Set # 5	1-week session	August 5 - August 9
Set # 6	2-week session	August 12 - August 23

**PRIVATE SETS (ALL 1 WEEK SETS)**

Set # 1	June 17 - June 21
Set # 2	July 15 - July 19
Set # 3	July 29 - August 2

**2024 Borderland Co-op Aquaplex News**



We are excited about the 2024 Summer Pool season and with that we have some upgrades we expect to have in place for 2024!!

- 90 Ft of Pergolas on the West deck for Sun Shade
- New Off-Line Chlorinator for our Hot Tub
- New Filter Cartridges for the Pool
- New Filter Cartridges for the Hot Tub
- New Diving Board
- Wash sink in BBQ area
- Replacement of Doors / Windows
- New Kids Toys
- New Exercise equipment
- Gemstones
- New Trees on West boulevard



**Welcome to our Borderland Co-op Aquaplex 2024 Staff**



We are excited about our 2024 Aquaplex Staff - the most experienced staff in Rural Saskatchewan!!

**Our list includes a staff with 60 years combined experience!!**

<b>Ava Metzger, Manager</b>	. . . . . 6 year staff member
<b>Abby Boutin, Assistant Manager</b>	. . . . . 6 year staff member
<b>Kyrie Meredith, Assistant Manager</b>	. . . . . 4 year staff member
<b>Chloe Szafron</b>	. . . . . 5 year staff member
<b>Rooen Locke</b>	. . . . . 5 year staff member
<b>Regan McConnell</b>	. . . . . 4 year staff member
<b>Shaughny Fingas</b>	. . . . . 3 year staff member
<b>Gab Mactal</b>	. . . . . 2 year staff member
<b>Gabe Fingas</b>	. . . . . 2 year staff member
<b>Blake Bruce</b>	. . . . . 2 year staff member
<b>Julia McConnell</b>	. . . . . 2 year staff member
<b>Amiyah Spencer</b>	. . . . . 1 <sup>st</sup> year staff member
<b>Aullie Skulmoski</b>	. . . . . 1 year staff member
<b>Jory Schwan, Water Chemistry</b>	. . . . . 14 year staff member



**2024 Badgers Men's Baseball**

*Home Opener*

**Thursday, May 16th, 2024**

**Badgers vs Elkhorn Express**





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

**Above right:** Alcohol ink class.

**Bottom left:** Pasta making class.

**Left:** Mother's Day paintings for kids.



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

*Continued from page 21*

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

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

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

### Arts centre has come a long way

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

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

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

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

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

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

They are hoping to get their pottery classes going soon.

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

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

Terry says they have been working on supplying other tools for a variety of different arts. "We have been trying to buy some supplies a little bit here and there. Amongst that we have gone ahead and gotten a longarm, a quilting machine, to appeal to the people who are quilting. We are trying to diversify a little bit, not just

focus on one area. It is coming, the pottery seems to feel a little bit slow, but it is partly because so many other things have been going on."

### Hopes for the future

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

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

Krista says, "I hope it grows and I hope people use it and we create a bunch of artists here that start when they're young. Then, they keep using our space to create.

"In the future, I would hope that we have a couple more employees just to help make it run a little bit easier and faster. I would hope that from the time it is open to the time it is closed for the day that there is somebody there creating.

"I hope we have enough spaces, mediums of art available, and equipment there that people can just come in and work and create."

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

Krista states, "I hope we are well known enough and established enough that we can attract international artists who come and teach here and host classes or do a residence, stuff like that would be amazing,

not just for the centre, but for the town. I am proud of what we have accomplished so far. We are doing what we set out to do."

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

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



Never underestimate the difference each and every one of you made! I will always be grateful for the opportunity I was given to work with these, and so many more, over the past 40 years. Grateful, for all of the members I had the pleasure to meet and the privilege to serve.

To my family, thank you for your support and love - for allowing me to pursue my career, to challenge myself, to learn and to grow. - Cheers! Valerie





George Chopping relaxes in his sitting room, sharing stories of a lifetime of collecting prairie treasure.

## Old George shares a lifetime of collecting in Whitewood

BY RYAN KIEDROWSKI  
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

It's one of those roadside attractions one always means to visit someday when time permits. Well, last week, I found myself turning the well-travelled van into George Chopping's yard, ready for adventure.

Chopping and his museum are famous in Whitewood, and he's just the type of person you'd picture having thousands of treasures under his belt. We began the visit—nay, adventure—with a tour of his saloon, complete with an old Western style bar Chopping built himself from scraps collected “here and there.” Entering the Wild West saloon, one expects a rag-tag group of gamblers at the table in the midst of a high-stakes poker game. Maybe we just missed ‘em.

“There’s 30 buildings back there,” says Chopping as we exit the saloon and travel to a fork in the path, a rustic wooden sign reading “welcome to my dream.”

“You go snoop and have fun. I’ll be in the house when you get back.”

Like a mysterious oracle, the long haired, bearded man

wearing a buckskin jacket and well-worn cowboy hat vanishes; I’m left to my own devices—navigating the Hidden Village with sunny rays and birdsong as my guide.

The trail is scattered with all types of furnished buildings, sometimes appearing unassuming at first glance until you open an ancient door to peer inside. Motion-sensing lights pop on, revealing staged rooms chock full of character and antiques harkening back to a simpler time.

After an hour or so spent exploring the village (one could spend days back there and still not see it all), I meet with Chopping once more in the confines of his 1885 brick home.

I explain my tour was rapid, expressing a desire to return with a friend who would like to meet Chopping, that I’d reserve a more in-depth tour for a future date.

“Different people come two or three times and they still say you can’t see everything,” he advises. “I call it the Little Hidden Village, it’s like the Wild West and it’s abandoned!”

He then sends me on the next errand—explore the house, then return to the sitting room for a chat. Again, even a quick look around easily consumes an hour with

one wishing for nine pairs of eyes to fully take everything in. I could spend countless paragraphs documenting the amazing contents of the house, but one simply needs to see it for themselves.

Chopping tells me the collecting bug bit him at the age of eight, beginning with a stamp collection. He recalls fondly discovering a 10 cent piece in a Chesterfield his father was pulling apart when Chopping was a couple years older. From there, Old George as he’s affectionately known, was hooked on the hunt for prairie treasures.

Back in 1985, he purchased the Limoges brick house just off Highway 1 near Whitewood. Benjamin Limoges was a French merchant, constructing the massive house in 1885, then adding onto the main building in 1908 as his daughter Marie-Louise married French aristocrat Count d’Etchegoyen. The west wing was built to accommodate the newlyweds in the 9,000-square-foot home nestled on 12 acres of land.

Chopping is the fourth owner of the grand home, which perfectly suited his collecting desires while working full time at the potash mine.

“I was collecting and I always wanted a place to show off my stuff,” he said. “I asked the guy if he’d consider selling the place. He had a German Shepherd and a Doberman, and none of them ever let anybody come up or knock on the door. I knocked on the door and he was totally shocked!”

Indeed, a long-haired, bearded guy on one’s doorstep unannounced might be cause for concern, but Chopping was eventually able to convince the man to sell the property. When asked about the key to his success, Chopping narrowed it down to one thing: “When you work at something, and you really work at it, things turn out.”

“I’ve worked extremely hard on it and have some very nice honours,” he said of the museum project, pointing to some 17 features on his place, including mention in National Geographic’s ‘Drives of a Lifetime: 500 of the World’s Greatest Road Trips’.

Through the years, Chopping estimates hosting around 27,000 curious visitors, with about 20 per cent of those being ‘repeat customers.’

“I have specialized in items pertaining to the three Prairie provinces quite seriously; 80 per cent of my stuff I’ve collected up here in Saskatchewan, 15 per cent from Manitoba, and five per cent in Alberta,” he explains. “I got a jug downstairs that’s got ‘Moosomin, Northwest Territories’ on it, and another one from Fleming—a crock—and that’s the Northwest Territories, too.”

It’s the passion to preserve prairie history and share that vast knowledge that nudges Chopping along; something evident as he explains in detail how First Nations people would have used some of the objects featured in his main sitting room.

“I’m getting to be quite the motermouth, as you noticed, but that’s how we learn,” says Chopping. “You learn from each other and that’s how we go along in life.”

Continued on Page 29



Inside the saloon is a bar Chopping assembled from scrap pieces of wood and brass.



Returning to a project he first began in the late 1970s, George Chopping explains the process of identifying various bottles from a glass factory in Manitoba.



## Old George shares a lifetime of collecting in Whitewood

Continued from Page 28

### Return to the bottle collection

One area where Chopping has long been considered an expert is the topic of bottles in Western Canada. He literally wrote the book on the subject, authoring "Bottles of the Canadian Prairies" back in 1978. Only running one printing, the book is considered as rare to find as some of the clues Chopping is hunting down with his decades-long project on the Manitoba Glass Works that once reigned in Beausejour, Man. At its peak, the glassworks employed 350 people, but today only ruins of the place remain—save for a commemorative plaque placed there in 1989 designating it a provincial historic site.

"There was nothing, no records of what was made there, and it was operational in 1906," Chopping said.

Back in 1979, he began excavating the site; returning home with some intact bottles, but also thousands of pieces that he vowed to one day meticulously re-assemble.

"I spent 120 days—on average 10 hours a day—digging up the site and screening through shards to try and prove what was made there because there's no records, no books or anything. So when I moved here, I boxed it all up, and just here in December, we cleaned out a building and now I got that on display and I'm sorting through it."

From those boxes, there are literally thousands of pieces to rummage through, bottles that Chopping knows were handmade. He walked me through the process, how cast iron molds for the bottles would need to be pre-heated before workers would begin the process of blowing the glass bottles.

"Those were made from the 1880s up to 1920, then that technique phased out because of the new techniques of making bottles," explains Chopping, referring to a particular piece in his collection.



A crock found in the basement of Old George's Museum is marked Fleming, NWT.

Another mystery he's doggedly working on involves the link between the Beausejour manufacturer and the Silver Spring Brewery in Victoria, B.C. that operated from 1902 until amalgamation with Coast Breweries Ltd. in 1928. Chopping believes he's found evidence of bottles made in Manitoba for the B.C. operation.

"I suspect 260 were made at the factory," he said. "I'm up to 143 that I got 100 per cent proof they were made there."

### Old George's future

Surrounded by items of a bygone era, it's quite easy to be transported back in time while visiting Old George's Museum and Pioneer Hidden Village. That's the whole point, really, to immerse one's self in those nostalgic days of yesteryear and pay homage to the dedicated people before us that built this land.

"If it wasn't for the hardship of the pioneers of the past, we—the generation now—have the great luxury of living," Chopping told me. "It is from collectors like ourselves that collect the history from the past that will make the future museums."

On self-reflection, Chopping realizes that his time operating his home/museum may be drawing to a close. After a heart attack that led to bypass surgery in 2014, he's slowed down a bit. That also means Chopping is finding it increasingly difficult to perform all the maintenance work required to keep his dream in tip-top shape.

"I'm 81, and I can't go anymore," he said, regaling me with one more story that also serves as a cautionary tale.

Chopping managed to acquire a 20,000 piece arrowhead collection from a man in Regina over a 10-year period. He recounted that collector's wise words upon receiving the last portion of those historic arrowheads.

"Here's the words he said: 'now, George, you own one of the largest arrowhead collections in Saskatchewan. Someday, George, you got to learn to have the enjoyment of disposing as well as collecting and don't ever get too big!' and I'm too big," he said modestly.

There will be a future for the Whitewood-area landmark as Chopping confirmed working on a plan to pass the torch, but preferred to not divulge details just yet.

Perhaps during my next visit, I'll learn the plan about Old George's march 'onward to yesterday.'



An inviting barber's chair resides in the entrance to George's saloon.



# Political donations a Sask problem no one wants to fix

Premier Scott Moe is surprisingly unbothered that the party he indirectly cites as his biggest rival is getting six-figure donation cheques.

"It isn't money that ultimately translates into votes," Moe told reporters at last week's second annual Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce Food, Fuel and Fertilizer Global Summit. "What it takes is people ultimately supporting your party."

It's a valid enough point—especially, in the context of today's big money politics. One has to be impressed by the sheer number of donations received by Moe's Saskatchewan Party in 2023 Elections Saskatchewan—\$3.6 million or two and half times the \$1.4-million raised by the NDP last year.

Moe noted to reporters last week that his Sask Party has collected from eight times as many donors as the NDP.

It's both the reason and the explanation why the Sask Party is likely to be re-elected for a fifth consecutive term this fall.

Given that the NDP is obviously less tapped into well-heeled individuals and companies, the fact that it has significantly less donors than the Sask Party speaks volumes to the levels of support and commitment between that of the province's two biggest rivals.

Successful political parties do need a wide base of support if they aspire to form government.

However, all they need to make a little noise is a little money. And that donation money and new support seems to be flowing from the right. Or at least, that's where Moe's



Murray Mandryk

concern has lied.

First it was the Buffalo Party that did surprisingly well in the 2020 election by getting more votes than either the Green Party or the Liberal Party and finished second in four ridings, despite running only 17 candidates.

It was also the Buffalo Party—a provincial offshoot of the sovereignist-leaning federal Maverick Party—that appeared to push the government towards the Saskatchewan First Act and other policies. In fact, Moe co-opted one-time Reform/Canadian Alliance MP and Sask Party MLA Allan Kerpan to help chair his economic sovereignty meetings after Kerpan became involved in the Maverick Party and Wexit movement.

But while the Buffalo Party is still out there roaming the political wilderness, where right-wing dissidents seem to be coalescing these days is around the Saskatchewan United Party.

Gaining momentum by tying itself to the anti-vaccine/Covid-19 movement and seizing on Freedom convoy and former Sask Party MLA Nadine Wilson becoming its lead-

er, Sask United has shown few signs of political support or organization. However, it does have some money.

And much of that Sask United's fundraising support has come in the form of massive donations from individuals or their companies. This is where we are again reminded of our donation problems.

According to the donation filing for 2023, Sask United raised \$500,000—40 per cent or \$200,000 came from a company owned by deputy leader and Lumsden-Morse byelection candidate Jon Hromek.

Asked about this, Moe downplayed the notion that there might be a problem.

"Folks will make a one-time donation to an upstart party. I think we saw that 25 years ago when our party started," Moe said, adding that undue influence that might be associated with a candidate bankrolling his own campaign is only a problem "if they were ever successful."

Hromek did lose in Lumsden-Morse last August. But, in what seems no small coincidence, the Sask Party passed the pronoun bill, Bill 137 in the fall after the Sask United byelection ran on parental rights in schools.

Would the Sask Party have gone in this direction anyway? Possibly. But it's also possible government reacted after seeing a rival making waves.

And how he was able to make waves seems directly attributable to the reality that, in this province, you can donate as much as you want to your party.

It's another reason why the rules need to change.



## Signs of spring

Robert Johnson of RJ Game Farm submitted these photos of a crop of crocuses growing this spring in his bison pastures near Fairlight.



## Westman RCMP Report

### 65 calls for service

During the week of April 28 to May 4, Westman RCMP received a total of 65 calls for service. Of the 65 calls, 14 were traffic related including six moving traffic/speeding violations, 11 suspicious person/vehicle/property files, and five assault files.

### Speeding and expired registration

On May 2, during a routine traffic patrol in the RM of Wallace-Woodworth, RCMP observed a vehicle travelling at a high rate of speed. Radar confirmed a speed of 129 km/hr in a 100 km/hr zone. RCMP conducted a traffic stop with the vehicle. The driver produced a copy of his registration that appeared to be expired. The driver was issued violation tickets for speeding and driving an unregistered vehicle. The total fines received for these two tickets was \$727.

### Stolen car tracked by owner

On April 29, RCMP received information regarding a stolen vehicle that was being tracked by the owner and

was currently en route to the Virden area. RCMP members responded and located the vehicle with the driver in the RM of Ellice-Archie. The driver of the vehicle was arrested without incident and released on an appearance notice for possession of property obtained by crime over \$5,000. The driver also received a violation ticket for removing a number plate without authority, which carries a fine of \$298. He will be appearing in court in July.

### Showed signs of impairment

On May 4, RCMP were in the community of Sioux Valley Dakota Nation attending to an unrelated matter in a parking lot. While on scene a 29-year-old male pulled into the parking lot, exhibiting signs of impairment. The driver was administered an ASD test, which he failed. During this time police were informed by witnesses that the male had also assaulted his spouse earlier that day. He was placed under arrest and subsequently charged with criminal code charges of operation while impaired (alcohol) of motor vehicle, operation while over 80 mg per cent (alcohol) of motor vehicle, and assault. He was

also charged under the provincial offences act for driving while disqualified. The driver was released on an undertaking and will be appearing in court in July.

### Male travelling by foot on Hwy 1

Between the days of April 28 and May 2, RCMP received multiple reports of a male travelling by foot along Highway 1 with a shopping cart. Numerous wellbeing checks were conducted by police on the subject during his time in our area. It was confirmed that he was okay and was making his way across the country. The male did not commit any known offences during this time and appears to have since moved on from the Virden area.

### Numbers to call

If you are reporting an emergency please call 911. To report a complaint or non-emergent incident please call 204-748-2135. For general inquiries or administrative requests including criminal record checks please call the administration line at 204-748-2046.



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## COMING EVENTS

### MARYFIELD

**AUDITORIUM MOVIES**  
This week's movie at the Maryfield Auditorium, Friday, May 17 & Saturday, May 18 at 7:00 p.m. **Monkey Man**. Doors open 30 minutes before showtime. Adults \$7, Students \$6, Children \$4. 48:tf

### MOOSOMIN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Next Chamber of Commerce meeting will be Tuesday, May 28, 2024 at 11:45 am at the Canalta. Guest Speaker will be the SK Education Minister Jeremy Cockrill. Lunch is served and everyone is welcome! 15:tf

## FOR RENT

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## FEED & SEED

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### CONSTRUCTION LABOURER HELPER

Mario Z Construction is currently looking for a construction labourer, helper to join our team. If you have a passion for the construction industry and are ready to take your career to the next level, we encourage you to send your resume to [nyl\\_zuproc08@yahoo.com](mailto:nyl_zuproc08@yahoo.com) today! 33:2p

## SERVICES

J.B. Tree Trimming. Tree trimming and removal and sewer services. Jim Barry c-306-434-7371 or h-306-435-2982. 56:tf

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In the Estate of Frank Wozniak, late of Windthorst, Sask., deceased. All claims against the above estate, duly verified by statutory declaration and with particulars and valuation of security held, if any, must be sent to the undersigned before the 3rd of June, 2024. Jennifer Kernahan, Executor, Box 113, Combing, Sask. S0G 0T0 32:2c

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31:3C

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33:1c

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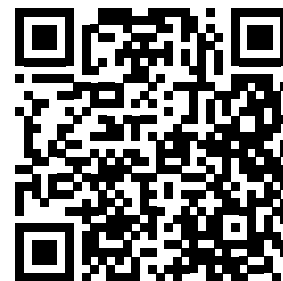
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### Contact us

We want to hear from you! Email [world\\_spectator@sasktel.net](mailto:world_spectator@sasktel.net), call (306) 435-2445, fax (306) 435-3969, or write to us at Box 250, Moosomin, Sask, S0G 3N0.

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# CHURCH DIRECTORY

## St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church

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Office: 306-435-2155

Sunday Worship Services at the Church  
**Sunday Morning - 10:00 a.m.**

All are welcome!

Watch us on Facebook live stream  
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also be provided at the same times.



## BETHEL UNITED CHURCH

Seeking God's Way as Community

### Sunday Worship Services at 10:30 am

Office Open Mon-Fri 9am-11am  
Website: <http://bethel-united.ca/>  
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Church: 306-435-2731  
Email: [bethelmoosomin.2@sasktel.net](mailto:bethelmoosomin.2@sasktel.net)

## CATHOLIC COMMUNITIES OF ST MARY'S, MOOSOMIN ST ALPHONSUS, ROCANVILLE & ST ANDREW'S, WAPELLA

Father Franklin Emereuwa: 306-435-2993  
[www.facebook.com/StMarysCatholicChurchMoosomin](http://www.facebook.com/StMarysCatholicChurchMoosomin)

### Sunday, May 19, 2024 PENTECOST SUNDAY

Moosomin St. Mary's  
11:00 a.m.

Rocanville St. Alphonsus  
9:00 a.m.

Wapella Happy-Go-Lucky  
1:00 p.m.



## SASK GATEWAY ANGLICAN PARISH

St. Alban's, Moosomin  
St. Thomas, Rocanville

### Sunday, May 19, 2024

Moosomin  
11:00 am Morning Prayer

Rocanville  
11:00 am Morning Prayer &  
Sunday School



## MOOSOMIN RIVER OF LIFE CHURCH

Pastor:  
Allan Lautamus  
1501 Broadway Ave.  
(306) 435-2798 (Church)  
Leave message

**Sunday**  
Children's Sunday School during service  
Pre-Service Prayer 10:00 a.m.  
Sunday Service 11:00 a.m.  
*Everyone Welcome!*

## MOOSOMIN BAPTIST CHURCH



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or Facebook page: Moosomin Baptist Church  
or email us at [secretary@moosominbaptist.com](mailto:secretary@moosominbaptist.com)

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## TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

501 Mark Ave. Phone 306-435-9035

### Saturday, May 18, 2024

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### **Pancake Breakfast**

- Hosted by RAC Fundraising

8:00-10:00 am - Nutrien Community Hall

### **Darsart Studio & Gallery-Student Art Show**

9:00-2:00 at the Nutrien Community Hall

### **Beer Gardens and BBQ Lunch**

Hosted by the Golf Course

- Ball Diamonds - Time to be announced

### **Pie Eating Contest**

12:30 behind the Rec Centre

- Contact the Town to challenge a Councillor/Mayor, who's faster?! - 645-2022

### **Fiddler, Jason Lepine along with Metis Jiggers will be providing an interactive performance**

Provided by Metis Local #135

1:00-2:00 pm- Nutrien Community Hall

*Silver collection at the door*

### **Entertainment by the Neville Family and friends**

5:00-6:00 pm - Nutrien Community Hall

*Silver collection at the door*

### **Entertainment by Megan Kelly**

6:00-7:00 - Nutrien Community Hall

*Silver collection at the door*

### **Sausage and Perogies Supper**

hosted by Knights of Columbus

-4:00-8:00- Nutrien Community Hall

### **Slow Pitch & Home Run Derby**

- please contact Jen Gawryluk 434-7812

### **Kid Zone - Rec Centre**

Hosted by Minor Ball

-10:00-2:00 at the Rocanville Rec Centre

### **Team Roping - Haryung acreage**

**Saturday @ 1:00 pm and Sunday at 10:0 am**

### **Pinoy Street Foods**

- 319 Ellice Street - 11:00 am Onwards

### **Car Show**

11:00-3:00 pm - Main Street Rocanville.

### **Happening at the Museum**

**-Starting at 11:00 am:**

- Welcome / Open doors of Metis home

-Unveiling of Metis Red River Cart

-Raising the Metis flag

-Fiddle performance by Jason Lepine

-Guest speaker - Elder Norman Fleury

-Flag presentation - Marg Friesen

-Metis Tipi - on site

-Metis registry will be set up at the Tipi

or Metis Home for renewing old and

new metis citizenship (11:00-3:00)

-The Wandering Metis, Jason McKay will

be hanging out all day.



Join us for a fun  
filled day with  
activities for  
everyone!