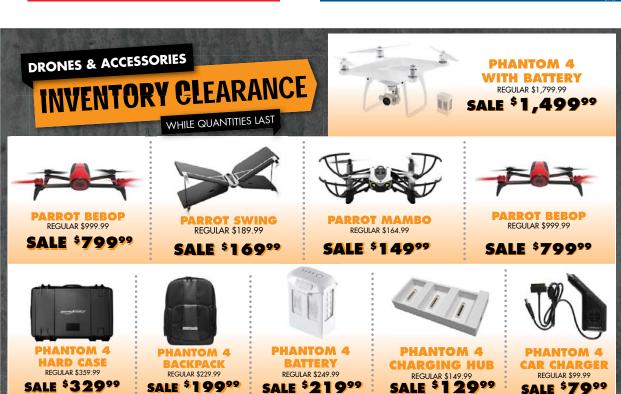




a 3chool Kee.
Name:
Partner's Name:
E-Mail Address:
CHECK ALL THAT APPLY:
□ I am a former student or graduate (Class of)
☐ I am a former or present teacher
☐ I am a former or present resident of Moosomin
☐ Other:
Cost to register for homecoming/reunion: \$20/person (dance extra)
registrations at \$20/person = \$
tickets for the Saturday night dance featuring the Back 40 Drifters at \$10/person = \$
Total: \$
(Dance tickets \$15.00 after June 15, 2017. Tickets will be available at registration desk or at the door.)
Advance registration will ensure that your reunion package will be ready for you when you check in.
Mail to: Box 1384, Moosomin, SK S0G 3N0 with a cheque made out to Moosomin School Alumni Association or drop off cheque at Kassie's Jewelry in Moosomin



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Lots to do at reunion and homecoming

BY KARA KINNA

Organizers are excited about the Moosomin Reunion and Homecoming this Thursday to Sunday.

A ton of planning has gone into the event, and over 340 people have reg-istered, with more expect-ed to register this week as the event nears.

Marg Tomlinson, one of the co-chairs of the reunion committee, says everyone should come take part in the celebration.

"This is not just a school reunion, this is a commu-nity-wide homecoming 150 celebration," she says.
"Please come out and see your old friends and neighbors that are com-ing back for it. It's going to be an awesome week-

end.
"Everyone is welcome. New people in town are welcome. People that moved here and were part of the community for years and are gone because their job transferred them or who transferred

them or whatever.

"We want people to come out and enjoy the weekend and all the fun things that are going to

go on."

Tomlinson savs a number of individual class reunions are being held that weekend, including reunions for students of the rural Orangeville and Ivanhoe schools. Tomlinson's own class is having a 50-year reunion with at

least 35 people attending. Individual classes are also being encouraged to enter the parade the Sat-urday of that weekend.

"Come and enjoy it come and see your old friends and neighbors, because I know what a thrill it's been for me to just talk to them on the phone. I can't wait to put my arms around them and welcome them back to Moosomin.
"You don't know what

you're going to miss if you don't come. You will miss seeing lots of people and enjoying the commu-

nity.

"A lot of people are very interested in seeing the town again and see-

ing the changes.
"I think people are excited about it."

The reunion starts this Thursday, July 6. Regis-tration is from 6-9 pm that night at the Conexus Convention Centre.

The event kicks off with the grand opening of the Tim Hortons Eventplex at Bradley Park on the Thursday night from 5-11

Centre.

On Friday, registration will be from 10 am to 9 pm at the Convention Centre.

There will be a homecoming dance and social evening at the Moosomin Convention Centre on Friday evening at 8 pm.

On Saturday registra-



ton High School at 3 pm that day. The ceremonies will include speeches by former notable Moosomin residents, and by visiting dignitaries, in-cluding Lieutenant Gov-ernor Vaughn Solomon Schofield. There will also be entertainment, and the ceremonies will wrap up with class photos at the

On Saturday night there will be a ham sup-per hosted by Bethel United Church from 5-7 United Church from 5-7 pm at the Convention Centre followed by a homecoming dance at the Moosomin Communiplex starting at 8 pm. The Back 40 Drifters, a local band, will perform at the dance

The Moosomin rodeo runs all weekend long in conjunction with the retors are encouraged to take in rodeo events as well on the weekend.

The weekend will wrap up with a non-denomina tional cowboy church seron Sunday at 10:30 am. The service will be moved to the Legion hall if it's

raining.

People can register in advance for the reunion by picking up a registration form at Kassie's Jewelry in Moosomin, going online at www. world-spectator.com/ canada-150 or by searching for Moosomin School Reunion and Homecom-ing on Facebook. They can also register at the event.

For a full schedule of all of the events from Thursday to Sunday, in-cluding the rodeo events, turn to pages C6-7.



We wish every success to the Rodeo and Homecoming Weekend organizers!



Welcome to all the reunion visitors and rodeo contestants!







lot behind the Moosomin Family Practice Centre,

and a multi-cultural luncheon at the Moosomin Armoury Hall from 11:30 am to 2:30 pm. The official reunion cer-

emonies are at McNaugh-

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Moosomin, SK

THE KING IS ON HIS WAY! How many can say they opened a new facility with the King himself Elvis Pres-ley! Well we can, sort of!

The Adam T. Elvis show is arriving July 6 to help open the Tim Hortons Outdoor

the 11m Flores.
Eventplex.
This is an outstanding act who play three sets over two hours of different times in the

The Good Rockin' Tonite Band is one of the best Elvis tribute bands in Canada. The band consists of four very seasoned musicians who have been playing music for over 40 years.

On lead guitar is Jack Palace with over 30 years of playing experience. Jack masplaying experience. Jack mas-ters the original guitar licks of Scotty Moore and James Burton (Elvis' guitar play-ers) with a hint of his own personal touches, making it sound like you're listening to the original records. On bass, Rockn' Rick Wo-iolik is the powest member of

joik is the newest member of the Adam T. Elvis Show. Since Rick has started, he has given Rick has started, he has given the band a new sound as he also masters the exact bass lines of all the original songs. "I've personally never heard any other bass player play all the Elvis Songs with such accuracy" says Adam T. Elvis.

On keys and backup vocals, Brian Louko strives to play the songs the way they originally were, both with piano licks and filling in on all the other instrumentation

on his keyboard that helped create the Elvis sound such as horns, strings, tympani, flute, accordion and any other in-struments that were used in

struments that were used in Elvis' songs.
On drums and backup vocals Craig "Stix" Fraser is the only original member of the Good Rockn' tonite band. Craig keeps the band together on and off the stage. With 40 years of drumming experience, Craig perfects all the various beats of Elvis' music and

keeps the band sounding tight and on beat. This is a fantastic tribute

band. You can check them out on Youtube. If you are an El-vis fan you will not want to on the massive deck over-looking the centre stage.

Show runs from 9 pm to

311 pm following our awards ceremonies. Tickets are available at the Recreation Office in Moosomin or you can call 435-3622 for will call.





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Congratulations to the Rodeo & Homecoming Committees for all their work towards a fantastic weekend!

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mûn R

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Hats off to the Rodeo Committee! Welcome all Homecoming Attendees





Rolna Pranke (306) 435-7343 rpranke@remax-yorkton.ca

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Welcome Reunion Visitors and Rodeo Contestants!

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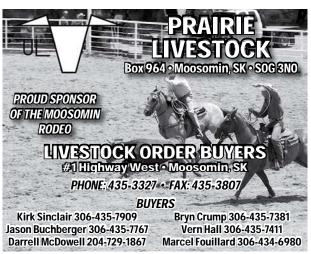


Above: The crowd at Moosomin's 1982 School Reunion. More than 340 people had registered for the 2017 School Reunion by last week.

Right: the Filipino community serves up lunch at the Multicultural Celebration last year in Moosomin. This year's event is slated for Saturday, July 8 at the Armoury Hall, starting at 11:30 am.

Below: The Honduran community serves up lunch at Moosomin's Multicultural Celebration last year.









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All decked out

This deck has been built on the back of the PotashCorp Sportsplex, overlooking the Tim Hortons Outdoor Eventplex. A grand opening will be held for the Outdoor Eventplex this Thursday. An outdoor stage has been built at the north end of the Eventplex, which can be seen in the background. The Adam T. Elvis Show will break in the stage with their performance Thursday



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Rodeo action coming up this weekend

BY KARA KINNA
This Friday and Saturday is the 24th annual Moosomin Rodeo.
There is a full line-up of events planned

for the weekend.

On Friday, at 4 pm, the beer gardens (Swayze's Saloon) will open and the concession at the rodeo grounds will open from 4:30 to 10 pm. Rodeo action on the Friday night starts

at 6:30 pm. There will be wild pony races at intermission.

After the rodeo, Quinton Blair, the two-time Manitoba Country Music Association Roots Artist of the Year, will be

sociation Roots Artist of the Pear, will be performing at Swayze's Saloon.

Saturday kicks off with pancake breakfast hosted by the Moosomin Fire Deartment at the fire hall from 7-9 am.

At 9 am there will be rodeo slack.

At 10 pm, there will be a parade, hosted by the Moosomin Chamber of Com-

merce, followed by a pingpong ball drop. A bucking bull futurity will be held at 1 pm that day, and from 1-5 pm there will be a kids carnival.

be a kids carnival.

The beer gardens will open at 2 pm.
At 2:30 pm, people will have the chance to see some local talent with the Moosomin Rodeo Idol contest, which will be held in Swayze's Saloon. Each year the Idol contest grows and features some great local talent voted on by a panel of local judges.

Rodeo action on Saturday starts at 6:30 pm with wild pony races at intermission.

pm with wild pony races at intermission. Quinton Blair will be performing in Swayze's Saloon after the rodeo again on

The weekend wraps up with a non-de-nominational cowboy church service on nominational cowbóy church service on Sunday at 10:30 am at the rodeo grounds. The service will feature music by Anthony Kelly, a local country music singer and songwriter. The Moosomin Association of Churches is hosting the service.

Rodeo president Derek Smart says there have been some improvements to the rodeo grounds this year—something that the committee is proud of.

"We've got new bleachers, so that's an exciting thing, and we have a new an-

exciting thing, and we have a new announcer's booth being built.
"We're only one weekend of the year



A calf roper at last year's Moosomin Rodeo.

so it's important so that we get the facilities so that other people can use them.

"It's nice to have permanent bleachers there so at least when people are using it they have some seating." He says there will be lots to do on the

weekend, and the rodeo will see some additional events and more contestants

additional events and more contestants this year.

"We have kids events going on this year. We'll have the bucking bull futurity and Moosomin Idol and then the rodeos are at 6:30 each night.

"We have quite a few barrel racers signed up this year and the rough stock

is always a thing that is a little more exciting. We've tried to entice more into that ing. We've tried to entice more much and we've added money to some of the prizes and we've gotten more bull riders. We have 20 bull riders this year, so that's nice to see, and then some saddle bronc and bareback. There is also some junior bull riding.

"It's important to try and bring up the young people that want to do it or else there won't be a future in the industry.

"We have also added in a bull riding championship. We have the top bullrid-er in the CCA and MRCA, and the best ride of each night gets on a second bull, and this year the pot should be \$3,000. The last few years we've done it and no-body's won. That's exciting and I think that brings out a few extra bullriders if there's more money

What is the highlight for many people?

What is the inginging to many people:
"I think just everything happening on
the weekend—the rodeo, and then obviously the beer gardens and the dance and
music is always a highlight," says Smart.
"We've got a live band, Quinton Blair,
both nights, and that should help to bring

out some people."

Smart says rodeo attendance can fluctuate depending on the weather but the Moosomin Rodeo has been lucky to see some pretty large crowds.

"We've seen anywhere from 400 to 700 on the Friday night and upwards of over 1,000 to 1,100 on Saturday night," he says.

He says it's not uncommon for people to plan other events to coincide with the weekend of the rodeo.

weekend of the rodeo.

"It and the fireworks are kind of the two big events that happen in Moosomin that people like to coincide with," he says. "Next year is our 25th, so we are hoping to see if we can make it a little more special."

The rodeo wouldn't exist without dedicated volunteers and Smart says they

icated volunteers and Smart says they have started recognizing those volunteers every year now during the rodeo

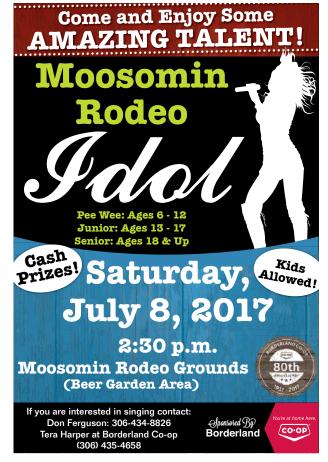
action. "There are a lot of people who have put a lot of work in to get the rodeo to where it is today, so every year we want to honor a volunteer or a couple who have been instrumental in getting the rodeo to where it is. And we will be doing that on Friday night, offering a volunteer buckle and a bit of an award to those who got us to where we are."

Why go to the rodeo? Smart says it's just plain fun.
"If you're looking for something to do,

a family outing or even just hanging out with some friends, it's a good time," he says. "And hopefully the weather co-operates. Whether it does or not, we go rain or shine.

"It's just an opportunity to see some good rodeo action and be a part of the events in Moosomin on the weekend."





Weekend schedule

Thursday, July 6

5 pm Baseball game on Borderland Co-op's Murray Newman Field 5-6 pm Happy Hour at PotashCorp Sportsplex 5:30-7 pm Barbecue supper at PotashCorp Sportsplex 6-9 pm Homecoming Registration at Conexus Convention Centre. Visi-

tors who have pre-registered will be able to pick up their packages and those who have not yet registered will be able to do so.

7 pm Grand Opening of Tim Hortons Outdoor Eventplex and Grand Re-opening of Borderland Co-op's Murray Newman Field 7:30-9 nm 2017 Parks and Recreation Awards and 2017

Induction to Wall of Fame at the Tim Hortons Outdoor 9-11 pm Adam T Elvis Show on the stage at the Tim Hor

tons Outdoor Eventplex
11 pm-midnight Taped music on the deck



Friday, July 7

10 am - 9 pm: Registration at the Moosomin Convention Centre.

12 noon: Town barbecue at Tim Hortons Outdoor Eventplex. This is

sponsored by the town of Moosomin, and proceeds will go to the reunion

4 pm: Beer Gardens open at Rodeo Grounds 6:30 pm: Rodeo events with music to follow in the beer gardens by two-

Saturday, July 8

time Manitoba Country Music Association Roots Artist of the Year Quin-

7-9 am: Firemen's Pancake Breakfast at the Moosomin Fire Hall

of Commerce Parade

ton Diar.

8 pm: Reunion/Homecoming Dance and Social Evening at Moosomin
Convention Centre. Music provided by DJ Doug Hull from Freedom Recording Inc. Bar will be run by the Moosomin Elks.

Sunday, July 9

10:30 am: Cowboy church service at the Rodeo Grounds. (Service will be moved to the Legion Hall if raining). This service is being organized by the Moosomin Association of Churches, and will feature music by well known

Please join us for the Moosomin Chamber Saturday, July 8

During the Moosomin Rodeo Weekend!

Marshalling behind **McNaughton High School** at 9 a.m.

Parade starts at 10 a.m.



For more information contact parade co-ordinator Andrea Dunn at a.dunn@borderlandcoop.com

10 am: Moosomin Chamber of Commerce Parade begins. 11 am - 2 pm: Reunion registration at the Moosomin Convention Centre 11:30 am: Moosomin Chamber of Commerce Pingpong ball drop in the parking lot behind the doctor's office. One pingpong ball is worth \$1,000 in Moosomin Bucks. Dozens more can be exchanged for prizes or discounts

11:30 am - 2 pm: Multicultural Luncheon and Entertainment at the Moosomin Armoury, put on by Moosomin's international community. The event will feature meals and entertainment prepared by the Filipino, Honduran, Korean, and East Indian communities.

1 pm: Bull Futurity at the Rodeo Grounds
2:30 pm: Rodeo Idol Contest in the Beer Gardens on the

Rodeo Grounds
3 pm: Moosomin Homecoming and School Reunion
Program at McNaughton High School. Saskatchewan
Leutenant-Governor Vaughn Solomon Schoffield will
speak and present an award. Souris-Moose Mountain MP
Robert Kitchen, Moosomin MLA Steven Bonk, and Moosomin Mayor Larry Tomlinson will speak. Former public chool teacher Marion Donald will speak, as will former high school teacher Hank Reis. Guest speakers will be for-mer students Diana Austin—now a physician who runs a charity in Ghana—and Russ Parker, former owner of the

Calgary Cannons and the Regina Pats.

Calgary Cannons and the Regina Pats.

5-7 pm: Ham supper at the Moosomin Convention Centre. This is a fundraiser for Bethel United Church.

6:30 pm: Rodeo events at the rodeo grounds, with wild pony race at in-termission. Entertainment in the Beer Gardens following the rodeo by twotime Manitoba Country Music Association Roots Artist of the Year Quinton Blair.

8 pm - 1 am: Moosomin Homecoming Dance at the Moosomin Com-muniplex. Music provided by the Back 40 Drifters. Bar will be run by the



Thank you to Flaman in Moosomin for use of the man lift!







The Moosomin International Community invites you to our

Multicultural

Celebration

Saturday, July 8th

11:30 a.m.- 2:00 p.m.

following the parade and pingpong ball drop

Moosomin Armoury Hall

Mark Avenue and Birtle Street

Come experience a taste of our cultures!

We will have participation from the following communities:

East Indian Community

Filipino Community

Honduran Community

Korean Community

We will have entertainment by and booths set up by

each of the communities!

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events have been added to the weekend, and the weekend will also include a School Reunion and Homecoming July 6-9 to help mark Canada 150!





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Moosomin reunion and homecoming:

Diana Austin has gone far since graduating

One of two guest speakers at the 2017 Moosomin home-coming is Diana Austin, who has gone far in the 14 years since she graduated.

since she graduated.

Diana graduated from McNaughton High School in 2003, and has gone on to begin a career in medicine, and at the same time as studying medicine, developed her own charity to help out some young people in Ghana she met while volunteering in the African nation.

Diana earned her Bachelor of Arts and Sciences (major-

Diana earned ner Bachelor of Arts and Sciences (majoring in Biomedical Sciences and Humanistic Studies) from McGill University in 2008.

She earned her Medical Degree from the University of Saskatchewan in 2014. She completed her Family Residency Program in Terrace, B.C. with University of British

Columbia in 2016.

Diana is now working as a locum in rural Saskatchewan and British Columbia. She has a particular interest in

First Nations, women's, and international health

In March of this year, she returned to Zimbabwe for the third time to work at a rural hospital in the African coun-

The Kids in Ghana project started when Diana went to Ghana after high school, to volunteer at an orphanage.

This was the first of numerous trips to Ghana and seeds

for the sponsorship program that Diana now runs with her family.

In 2009 Diana was working at Ashan Children's Home in Ghana when she found out that the home was ordered by the government to reduce the number of children by

This meant that half of the children had to be sent away. Some returned to where they came from and others went to live with extended family. These four were identified as being those who would most benefit from sponsorship based on their personal aptitudes and the conditions that they would be return-

ing to.

The four have now become five, and the plan is for the project to continue until the kids in Ghana become selfsufficient

The Kids in Ghana project has become a personal mission for Diana, who has ensured that the kids in the project's care have a place to call home and a chance to finish their education.

Diana says she is honored to have been asked to speak at the 2017 homecoming and reunion, and is looking forward to returning home for the reunion. She will speak at the official ceremonies at 3 pm Saturday at McNaughton High School.



Diana Austin and Victoria, one of five young people in Ghana she has helped support through her charity Kids in Ghana since 2009.



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WELCOME HOME!

On behalf of the Town of Moosomin Council & Staff, WELCOME HOME this coming weekend!

We hope you enjoy your visit and all the amenities in town!



Town of Moosomin's Canada 150 Celebration



NIGHT ICEBREAKER

Thursday, July 6, 2017

Grand Opening
of Tim Hortons Outdoor
Eventplex & Grand
Re-Opening of Borderland
Co-op's Murray
Newman Field

2017 Parks & Recreation Awards 2017
Wall of Fame
Induction
Ceremony

EVENING AGENDA:

4:00 p.m. Registration Opens at PotashCorp Sportsplex for the weekend

5:00 p.m. Baseball Game on Diamond #1

5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Happy Hour at

PotashCorp Sportsplex

5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Barbecue Supper at

PotashCorp Sportsplex

7 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Grand Opening of

Tim Hortons Outdoor Eventplex and Grand

Re-Opening of Borderland Co-op's Murray Newman Field

7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. 2017 Wall of Fame

Induction Ceremony

7:30 p.m. - 9 p.m. 2017 Parks & Recreation

Awards

The Adam T.

9 p.m. - 11 p.m.

ADAM T. ELVIS SHOW

(5-MAN BAND)

11 p.m. - Midnight
TAPED MUSIC
ON THE DECK



HOMECOMING WEEKEND - THURSDAY NIGHT ICEBREAKER TICKETS:

We have tickets available for the Thursday Night Icebreaker evening. Tickets are \$20 each or \$30 for couples. Student prices are reduced. Ticket price includes: Drink Ticket(s), Entry to Award Ceremonies, 5-Man Elvis Presley Tribute Band, Recorded music on the deck. Contact Catherine at the Recreation Office for tickets: 306-435-3622







Chamber ball drop 11:30 am Saturday

Following the Moosomin Volunteer Fire Department's pancake breakfast and the Moosomin Chamber of Commerce Parade on Saturday morning, the Moosomin Chamber of Commerce will be holding a ball drop in the parking lot of the Moosomin Family Practice Centre on Gordon Street south of Broadway.

One of the pingpong balls dropped from a lift will be worth \$1,000 in Moosomin Bucks courtesy of the Moosomin Chamber of Com-

Borderland Co-op has one pingpong ball that can be redeemed for a \$150 gift card and is also giving away many more gift cards and prizes

There are dozens more offers and specials being offered by local businesses—whoever catches the ball wins the prize!

Organizers are asking people not to use bags to try to catch the balls — just use your hands and give everyone a chance!

Enjoy your time during the Moosomin Rodeo & Homecoming Weekendl



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Enjoy the Rodeo & Homecoming Weekend!

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Enjoy the Rodeo and the Homecoming Festivities!



Thursday night icebreaker and grand opening of Tim Hortons Eventplex

The Moosmin Parks and Recreation

The Moosmin Parks and Recreation Department is excited to have the opportunity to host the Thursday Night Homecoming Weekend Icebreaker/ Registration on Thursday, July 6. Making this extra special is that the evening will double as the grand opening of Moosomin's new Tim Hortons Outdoor Eventplex and the re-opening of Borderland Co-op's Murray Newman Field.

It will also be a chance to host the 2017 Parks and Recreation Awards along with the 2017 Communiplex Wall of Fame induction ceremony.

A COMPLETE THURSDAY NIGHT SCHEDULE INCLUDES:

5 pm: Baseball game on diamond one

5-6 pm: Happy Hour at Sportsplex

5:30-7 pm: BBQ supper at Sportsplex

- 7-8:30 pm:
 Words from the Weekend Event Chair.
- · Introduction of our Master of Cer-
- · Introductions of our weekend event co-chairs Mr. Sinclair Harrison and Mrs. Marg Tomlinson.
 • Introductions of our weekend guest
- speaker Mr. Russ Parker.



The stage at the Outdoor Eventplex

7-7:30 pm: Grand opening of Tim Hortons Outdoor Eventplex.

- Words from our sponsor–Baseball Diamond–Borderland Co-op–Tera/Ja-
- Words from our sponsor–Tim Hor-ons Outdoor Eventplex–Brandon/ Jolene
- Words from Parks and Recreation Chairperson Mr. Murray Gray
 Words from Mayor of Moosomin

 Mr. Lord Targeting
- Mr. Larry Tomlinson
- Declaration-Tim Hortons Outdoor

Eventplex now open and Borderland Co-op's Murray Newman Field re-

7:30-9 pm: Parks and Recreation Athletic Inductions into the Communiplex Wall

- Andrew Truman-Estevan Bruins
- Ryker Cole-Regina Pats
 Dakota Boutin-Prince Albert Mintos
- Dawson Davidson-Kamloops Blaz-
- Drayson Skulmoski-Virden Oil Cap-

- · Austin Johnston-Moose Jaw Gener-
- Chevy Schwean-Weyburn Red
- Wings
 Chelsey Wolfe-Jamestown Univer-
- Jason Schenn-Moosomin Generals
 Football Program
 2015/16 Moosomin Senior Rangers.

7:30-9 pm: 2017 Parks and Recreation Awards

- Mayor's Award of Distinction— Sport/culture/parks/recreation: Mr. Brian Rose. Awarded by Mr. Larry Tom-
- · Community Councilor's Achievement Award–Sport/culture/parks/recreation: Moosomin Moose Fraternity. Awarded by Mr. Garry Towler.
- Corporate Community Builder Award: Nixon's Electric–Mr. Dale Nix-
- On. Awarded by Mr. Murray Gray.

 Team/individual of the year:
 Chelsey Wolf. Awarded by Mr. Murray
- Gray.

 Legends Award: Fleming Gliders
 Fastball Club-Mr. Russ Parker. Awarded by Mr. Larry Tomlinson.
- 9 to 11 pm: Adam T Elvis Show with five-man band

11 pm to midnight: Taped music on the deck

Enjoy your time during the Moosomin Rodeo & Homecoming Weekendl



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participants!



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Cynthia Mathison 204-851-2910 Elkhorn, MB





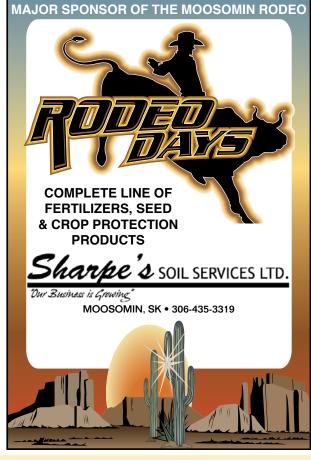
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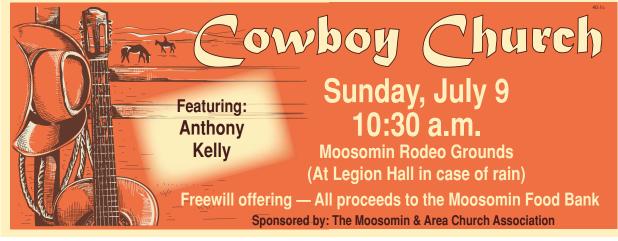
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Russ Parker will always remember his days as a Moosomin rink rat

Russ Parker says he feels honored to have been chosen to speak at Moosomin's 2017 Homecoming and Reunion this summer

"I am really deeply honored to be chosen by the commuto be a participant in the town's celebration of Cana-150th year of confederation," he said.

da's 150th year of confederation." he said.
"When I received the call there was no hesitation for me
to give a positive response. Growing up, sports was always
my number one interest. Because of that, my schooling was
not at the same level as it should have been, but I survived.
I always say growing up I remember so many of the activities that we participated in. There were lots of them that
we could do with baseball, high school sports, hockey. I
certainly will always remember our team winning the Saskatchewan Bantam championship in 1953 and 1954. Who
could ever forget that?

could ever forget that?
"There were some tough times of course. We had a very large family. It was difficult times for the family. We had a

large family. It was difficult times for the family. We had a family of thirteen. There was a family who had more—we were not the largest family in Moosomin, believe it or not.

"Back then, families were obviously larger than they are now. It was never easy in that regard. We never had a car but we always managed. We would walk to the rink often. We used to play ball hockey outside of the house where I lived. There were two bell rings for school. The first was one or two minutes before the next one rang, and by the next one you had to be in your class. We would make that mad dash to school with sweat dripping off our faces.

"I think back on all the activity that was available back then. You made a lot of your activity, because the town was not large enough where you could have enough in a group to compete always. The kids across town, we were all very active and I think that was one thing I will always remember—a lot of fun memories. I had paper routes, so I knew the town very well. I swear today I could walk my paper route, I remember it so well."

So what has stuck with Parker about growing up in Moo-

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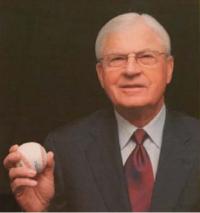
So what has stuck with Parker about growing up in Moo-somin?

"Friendships for sure," he says. "And I was always proud of the town in many ways. We were a larger town in the area. We had a sense of pride growing up in a town that had a little bit more to offer than the surrounding towns. "Even today, any time I see something mentioned about Moosomin I say 'hey, that's where I was born, that's where I was raised."

Parker left Moosomin for the bright lights of Calgary at

Parker left Moosomin for the bright lights of Calgary at

the age of 18.
"I moved to Calgary from Moosomin because I had family members that had already left and were living in Calgary so it was an easy location to move on in my life and get something started as an adult. I think probably because of what we didn't have in the town, it motivated me a great



Russ Parker today, above, and growing up in Moosomin, below.



"Ibrought professional baseball to Calgary in 1978, Class A level, and brought triple A baseball to Calgary in 1985. I had the team for 20 years before the weather man got the

best of us. "I started working for an office equipment company. I became a salesman and had some success there. I had a company offer to help me get started with my own business. That was 1970 when we became a Canon Office Equipment dealer and that was major for me and it took off from there. I always said that we hired good people and that is probably my strength—recognizing good people and looking after them. So we grew a company where there were three of us who started it before 1970, and when we sold it we had 260." had 260 "

of us who started it before 1970, and when we sold it we had 260."

Parker says hockey has always been part of his life.

"I played in Moosomin, and when I got to Calgary I played minor hockey, junior hockey, then I played senior hockey, and then my boys all played hockey, and naturally as a family we were very involved at every level of hockey. "At one time, from the success of the business, we had an opportunity to buy a professional hockey team in Kansas City, Missouri and we won the International Hockey League Championship there. I think this was our second year. We had that team and we had a junior club the same time in Kelowna, B.C. Junior Hockey League. And then my very good friend Ed Chynoweth, who has left us now, he was the architect of the Western Hockey League and he convinced me that I needed a team in his league. Regina wasn't on my mind, but interestingly enough, as a kid growing up in Moosomin, I used to listen to the Regina Pats hockey games on radio at that time. And it was ironic that he Pats were for sale and Mr. Chynoweth convinced me I should go to Regina and look over the operation, which I did. That was in 1995. That was where my hockey business went. As a family we were still very involved. I've got grandsons playing hockey now and so it was a big part of our lives—for sure a big part of mine. Like I said, going back, sports was always embedded in me somewhere. I loved it and I was very, very fortunate to have made a living being involved in sports."

Parker says he is looking forward to coming back to Moosomin for the reunion.

"I had no hesitation in responding when I got the call,"

Parker says he is looking forward to coming back to Moosomin for the reunion.

"I had no hesitation in responding when I got the call," he said. "I am really hopeful that a lot of the people from my era are still there or are coming back. I do hear from some of the guys I was close with from time to time. A few years ago we had a little reunion of our high school football team in Regina—actually the year when they hosted one of the Grey Cups. We got together and it was just a hoot talking about the old days. I am looking forward to hopefully seeing all of the friends I had growing up. The town is changing—the last time I was there, man I couldn't believe the growth taking place in Moosomin, and it's great to see."

When Russ Parker thinks back to his years growing up in Moosomin, many of the memories centre on the old town rink that was located on Broadway Avenue.

"The rink was the centre of all of our activities from No-

"The rink was the centre of all of our activities from November until March," he says.

vember until March," he says.
"I have such great memories of everything that transpired in the old rink. That to me was something I will never forget. For as far back as I can remember, that was the centre of our lives every winter. I was what they called a rink rat—I would always be there, and I would help clean the ice and flood it. It was a big part of my life.
"When I've gone back to Moosomin, I can't help but drive by there."





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