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FEATURE INSIDE

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Bulls and Broncs this Saturday in Moosomin

BY RYAN KIEDROWSKI
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Building on three decades of stellar events, the Moosomin Rodeo will host the 31st edition of the annual Bulls and Broncs event this Saturday at Bradley Park.

This year, events are going to look a little different, but Bulls and Broncs continues to promise excitement.

"There's only one horse riding event this year, which is saddle bronc and not bareback," explained Chelan Beckett, vice-president of the Moosomin Rodeo.

"Last year, we had both events plus the bull riding riding and some junior events. The horse riding numbers just weren't quite there where we want them to be for a performance."

"We took out one to try and get more guys to go into saddle bronc; to make it more of an entertainment thing and really fill up the chutes," she continued.

Junior steer riding will remain in the lineup alongside the saddle bronc and bull riding.

Last year there were a large number of bull riding entries, and by the response Beckett has seen so far, this year's numbers will surpass those of 2023.

"This year, we had even more, so we kind of need to make room for those guys," she said, estimating at least 20 bull riders entered to date.

"That's what we figured would make things flow the best."

This year also features a live Calcutta during the short round bull riding with Livestock Markets Association of Canada 'Rookie of the Year' Ty Cutler as auctioneer.

"People can bid on the bull rider they think will win the event, or they can bid on the bullpen to win," Beckett said.

"With that, a portion of our proceeds from the Calcutta we're going to donate to Playfair Daycare."

Continued on page 5

Long weekend at the lake

O'Fia Crossley in the sandcastle building contest at Moosomin Regional Park on the July long weekend. There were a lot of events across the area that weekend—see inside for photos.

Ashley Bochek photo

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Good Spirit School Division Director of Education: Robertson says there is no need for cellphones in the classroom

BY ASHLEY BOCHEK

Quintin Robertson, Good Spirit School Division Director of Education, says there is no need for cellphones to be used during instructional time as other technology is accessible for students in the classroom. The interview is below:

With cellphones being a topic of issue in the classroom right now—have cellphones in classrooms been discussed as an issue before?

It has been discussed at the board table and the administrative table. We're in the process of reviewing our administrative procedure about cellphones in the classroom—trying to anticipate what might be coming from the province. There has been a foreshadowing that there might be some direction coming.

The stance that we are taking is cellphones will not be utilized during instructional periods both by staff and students. We will likely be introducing that depending on what might be coming from the province. In the new year the administrative procedure is up for review, so we develop it, put it up to review to our schools, then we get feedback and try to revise. We're looking at the new year in that we will be at a 1-to-1 ratio for chromebooks. Every student from grades 4-12 will have their own chromebook in the fall and every child in Kindergarten-grade 3 there will be a 2-to-1 ratio for ipads so that the instructional need for cellphones is basically zero.

Have cellphones in the classroom been an issue in your schools?

It doesn't surface as a massive issue. Honestly, it is not something that comes up from our administrators frequently—

vaping would probably be our biggest issue at our schools. I think it is because we have such a high prevalence of technology. The kids using their cellphones isn't as problematic, but we will have a division-wide cellphone ban during instructional periods. Students will not be using their cellphones—they will need to be put away or handed in, depending on the school and what their approach is and we would have the same expectations for our staff, that we aren't on our cellphones. Of course there are provisions if, for instance, we have staff members that use their cellphone for tracking insulin levels or students that have epilepsy and their cellphones are used as a safety measure.

Why do you think—with the premier talking about possibly banning cellphones—is it starting to be an issue that is addressed now?

I think there is lots of evidence that suggests to having cellphones out use of distraction. I am sure the premier is responding to that and trying to put measures in place to keep students from being distracted in schools. I think there is good intent and we'll all follow the lead of the province if it is more stringent than what we have—I highly expect it will be very similar—that during instructional time students aren't to have their cellphones out, but during recess time and lunch that might be more permissible.

If the province decides cellphones aren't to be used during class time, will that be enforced by the teacher or by the school administrators?

Both would have to enforce that. At the school division level you operate on policies. We have 20 board policies and then from that we have about 300 administra-

tive procedures. We have developed an overall administrative procedure and then schools need to follow that. They will all have their own little nuance—maybe one teacher has a classroom that makes kids put their cellphones in a door pocket. As long as it is not out and in use during class time that will be fine.

What are your thoughts on a provincial ban on cellphones?

Of course we will follow the premier's direction and if it is a ministerial order then we follow it. Of course we adhere to those guidelines. I think cellphones can be a distraction and with the technology we have in place and available to students there really is no need for a cellphone to be out for instruction—it would just be a distraction at that point. There really is no need for it and if a student needs to get in touch with a parent those things can be made available during break or other periods, just like in the old days when we had a phone on the wall and contacted our moms and dads.

Has the province reached out to school divisions for input on this issue?

No. We would have received something

a few months back. This is forthcoming and to anticipate the direction we already had a cellphone policy that was quite out of date so we needed to update it which we have done, and aligned it with our technology use in classrooms so, we are ready in the event that something comes out and if it doesn't I think we are also ready to have our procedure in place and be supported by students. I have spoken to many students, and they're comfortable with the approach we have taken and I am certain we will have support from our communities.

Over the years has the cellphone policy changed?

Ours was very out of date and probably hadn't been reviewed in the last 10 years. We review administrative procedures every week, but that one for whatever reason just hadn't been reviewed so I think that is a reflection that it really wasn't a big problem—schools were managing it on their own and for the most part schools were having students not using their phones during instructional time so I think we have adjusted our procedure to match what was already happening.



Ashley Bocek photo

Keller Developments is building two new apartment buildings on South Front street in Moosomin and they're coming along fast.

Correction

There was an error in the Moosomin Town Council report in the July 1 issue of the World-Spectator. It was reported that the town passed a motion to hire Hogarth's Lawn and Garden for stump grinding, and that the town will be paying \$3,025 per tree, with the exception of Dutch Elm infected trees which are \$3,950. That quote is actually for 10 trees, not for each tree. We apologize for the error.

41:2c



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Southeast Cornerstone School Division Director of Education: Keating says there have been issues with cellphones in classrooms

BY ASHLEY BOCHEK

Southeast Cornerstone School Division Director of Education, Keith Keating, says cellphones are a distraction during class time.

The Premier of Saskatchewan has been recently speaking for this issue of cellphones being a distraction within the classrooms with talks of a provincial ban on cellphones allowed during instructional periods.

The interview follows:

Have cellphones in classrooms been an issue that has been discussed within the education sector?

It is something we have talked about over time. Right now, individual schools within the division manage that in different ways. We allow schools to set their own rules and decide how they want to manage cellphones in the classroom.

Why do you think—with the premier of Saskatchewan starting to talk about possibly banning cellphones from schools—it is an issue starting to be addressed now?

I think teachers have been addressing it for a long time as well as schools. There are some positives to not having them in the classroom as they can be a distraction, but I think there are some positives to being able to teach students how to use the technology responsibly too.

What have you heard from teachers about this issue?

I would say in general teachers have a policy in their classroom that seems to work for them in this moment—that there hasn't been issues at different points in time with cellphone use in the classroom. I think enforce-

ment will be the tough piece around that.

What are your thoughts on cellphones being distracting in the classroom?

I think they can be quite a distraction in classrooms and quite a distraction in people's lives. There is a time and place for them.

Has the province reached out to school divisions for input on this issue?

They had reached out to the division a little awhile ago to get feedback to see what divisions were thinking. So, we gave our feedback so we will see what the province comes up with.

What do you think is the ideal solution to help with cellphones being a distraction in the classroom?

I think it really depends on the age level or grade level in terms of whether or not they are able to use them responsibly. I think they can become a distraction in the classroom if not managed in the right way.

It is really important regardless whether it is a provincial ban or a school ban—the teachers have the abilities to manage those in the right ways in the classroom. There are some opportunities for example, in some classes to be able to utilize those devices for educational purposes. I am hoping any ban right now would be measured in a way that would allow us to teach students how to use that technology appropriately.

Does every teacher and school set their own policy on how they are used?

Yes. Every school right now has a different policy on how they're used within school. Some schools have an

outright ban during class time depending on grade levels, and some manage that with the individual teacher depending on what subject they teach.

Cellphones have been around for years—why do you think people are talking about it so much now and other provinces putting bans in?

I'm not really sure other than they're becoming a lot more prevalent in everyday life. More kids are having them at a younger age. We do a lot more with cellphones even in the elementary schools at a certain time which ten years ago you wouldn't see that, you see it more now.

Across the country have school boards gotten together and talked about best practices around this?

I know within Saskatchewan there has been a bit of feedback to the provincial government from the school boards regarding cellphone use and cellphone use in the classroom. I know different provinces have taken different tacks on that. A couple different provinces have completely banned cellphones within the classroom time and some have different rules around them as well. At certain grades they were allowed them and some grades weren't allowed to use them at all at school.

Have there been any issues in our school division where the principal has had to get involved because cellphones were creating a distraction or has it usually been able to be handled by the teacher?

I wouldn't say there has been no issues. There has been some individual issues here and there. It's mostly dealt with at the classroom or school level though.

What do you think of the fact that the province thinks they might have to be involved?

I think there will be some positives to not allowing them within classrooms, but I think there are some positives to being able to teach students how to use that technology appropriately—it will be a part of their lives eventually. You see that a lot in the workforce—there is an appropriate time to be on your cellphone and there is a time you need to be off them.



Ashley Bochek photo

Moosomin's town crew did extensive work on Poplar Street last week. The street has been rebuilt after infrastructure work.



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Ashley Bocek photos



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Some mayors still undecided for fall election

BY RYAN KIEDROWSKI
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

It's difficult to think of November with summer heat finally hitting the south-east, but since this is an election year, it's always a good idea to check the pulse of municipal politics.

Every four years, elections are held in Saskatchewan for mayors and councillors in villages, towns, and cities. This year, Nov. 13 is voting day, with an exception for those in resort villages as July 27 is the big day to elect mayor and council.

Rural municipalities will also see elections this year, with even-numbered divisions holding the vote on Nov. 9, and odd-numbered divisions on Nov. 13.

So who's running for mayor in and around Moosomin? We know some mayors are still considering whether or not to let their name stand, while others were firm on their position to either run or retire.

"I still don't have a definite decision," said Moosomin Mayor Larry Tomlinson, when posed the question last week. "Not definite for either way, at this point. I haven't thought about it much."

Dedicating one's self to four years of public service is a big ask, and a serious question anyone contemplating joining Council must consider. Tomlinson has already served 11 years as mayor with seven years on Council previous.

"It's a big commitment, and now that it's four years, that's even a bigger commitment," he said.

"There's something absolutely every day. If I was working full time, I'm not sure how that would work."

"I'm getting a little older, so I got to think about that, too," Tomlinson continued. "In Town, we're busy and growing, and I get fairly involved in the Hospital Foundation and what's happening with the doctors, too. So it's a lot of work."

Also undecided is Mayor Gale Matheison in Wapella, who recently returned to Council last December when he answered a call for nominations.

"I'm on the fence right now," he said. "I can't honestly say one way or the other what I'm going to do."

Brad Bulbuck, Mayor of Redvers, is also undecided as to what fall will bring, but

seems to be leaning on the side of letting his name stand.

"I haven't fully decided yet, but my intent is to see the water treatment through to completion," he said. "We're not going to be finished by the time elections come around here, so I want to see it through."

Similarly, Wawota's Mayor Kevin Kay hasn't decided to pursue another term as mayor.

"For me, it's way too early yet," he said. "People aren't in that mode at all to be thinking about it yet."

Over in Esterhazy, Mayor Grant Forster noted a strong desire to run for mayor once more.

"My intention was to run for another term," Forster - who has been mayor since 2018 - confirmed.

"We've got the hospital project, it was announced during my term, so I want to see it through. That's my goal is to have that hospital up and running before I voluntarily step down. My intention is to run another term for sure."

An added bonus for Esterhazy is the prospect of a junior councillor joining the table in September, just before the election - giving that young person a unique perspective.

"It will give that person an opportunity to see what it's all about and bring them along," Forster said. "It's nice to have that impressionable person maybe around to see what to do or what not to do."

Rocanville's Mayor Ron Reed also intends to run again, having been on Council since 2008.

"I definitely would consider staying on council, whether that's the mayor position, or as a councillor," he said. "I'm open to both. I want to see the town succeed, I've planted roots here and raised my kids here, and I have full intentions of making this my forever home."

In Kennedy, Mayor Brendan Dayle is anticipated to also remain in the position, according to sources.

One leader who has been open about her decision to retire is Mayor of Kipling, Pat Jackson. With 20 years of experience on council over 36 years, Jackson figured "the time is right."

"I am feeling that it is time for some people who are a little younger, to step up to the plate and do a stint," she said. "I'm really hoping we get someone who's got a bit of experience, because stepping in as mayor - it's not a wise thing to do without having been on council previous."

Jackson's decision to retire from the Mayor's seat is not recent, and she's been firm on that choice for the past few years.

"I actually made the decision almost four years ago, and I have been quite open with my Council and with the community," she said.

"I've had a lot of people asking me to run again, because there are only two of us with a fair bit of experience, but I'm also getting very long in the tooth. My hope is that we're going to have someone who - I know they all love the community - but someone who is prepared to put the time and effort into continuing to build on what the councils of the past have done."

Joining Jackson in the 'not returning' camp is Rhett Parks, Mayor of Whitewood.

"At this point, I don't believe I will be running," he said, noting higher work demands at Whitewood Livestock where he is the manager. "This year, we saw a very significant increase in business."

Overall, Parks says he enjoyed being on Council and

recommended the experience to anyone considering getting involved at the municipal level.

"I've enjoyed my time serving the Town and the community and I do truly believe that the Town's in a better place than it was coming on four years ago," Parks said.

For anyone entering the world of municipal politics, Parks is more than willing to share his experience and offer some advice. After all, the best place to affect the greatest change is at the municipal level.

"If anybody's got any questions, I'll tell you the best of my ability," he said. "It has been a good experience. I've been happy with the job that our Council has done here in the last four years."

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Turning your savings into retirement income

Where will your income come from when you retire?

Your income during retirement will typically come from three main sources:

- the Canada Pension Plan (CPP) or Quebec Pension Plan (QPP)
- the Old Age Security (OAS)
- employer-sponsored pension plans and personal savings and investments

Your retirement savings and investments may come from sources such as:

- Registered Retirement Savings Plans (RRSPs)
- Tax-Free Savings Accounts (TFSA)
- real estate
- employer pension plans
- non-registered investments and savings accounts

You'll need to know how much money you may get from these sources to be able to plan for your retirement. You'll also need to consider what to do with your personal savings at certain stages in your life.

You should start thinking about all of these things before you retire. This will help you figure out when you can comfortably retire, and how much money you can expect to have when you do.

Speak with a financial or investment professional to learn more about what options are available to you and what will work best for your financial situation when you retire.

Converting your RRSP or lump-sum benefit from a pension plan

Generally, you will need to convert your RRSP into some form of income by the end of the year you turn age 71.

Your options typically include:

- buying an annuity
- converting your RRSP into a Registered Retirement Income Fund (RRIF)
- taking the money out as a lump sum

What to consider when planning your sources of income

There are a number of things you should consider when figuring out how to make the most of your savings when you retire.

When you will need retirement income and how much money you will need will depend on your lifestyle and personal circumstances.

For example, you may want more income earlier in your retirement if you want to take up new hobbies or travel. You may also want extra income if you retire before 65 and aren't yet eligible to collect your Old Age Security (OAS) pension.

You may want to give money to a friend or family member when you retire. For example, you may want to set up a Registered Education Savings Plan (RESP) for a grandchild. You may also want to leave money to a loved one or donate to charity when you die.

This choice will impact not only when you need retirement income, but also the financial products you buy when you retire. For example, some annuities will make a payment to your estate when you die while others will not.

Unexpected events can also have a big impact on your retirement income.

For example, you may have:

- major unplanned expenses such as home or car repairs
- health emergencies for you or your spouse or partner

to move or make changes to your home because of a change in your health or the health of your spouse or partner

You should have a plan to cover these expenses, such as extended health benefits or an emergency savings fund. You may want to consider planning to have more retirement income later in life in case your benefits or emergency savings are not high enough to cover unexpected expenses.

How much risk you are willing to take with your money

Different savings and investment products come with different levels of risk. Generally, the more money you could earn from a product, the higher the risk. Ask yourself if you could afford to lose money from your investment and still be able to cover your expenses.

You may want to consider speaking with a financial or investment professional to help you figure out what products best meet your needs and risk tolerance.

The cost of investment fees

Most financial and investment professionals will charge a fee for their services. This may be a flat rate, or a percentage of the money that you invest. You may also pay different fees depending on the type of investments you have.

Some examples of investment fees include:

- costs to buy an investment
 - costs to sell an investment
 - investment management fees
 - financial advisor fees
 - administration fees for registered plans
- Investment funds, including mutual funds, charge a fee for managing the fund.

The fees are called the management expense ratio (MER).

The MER:

- may include an ongoing commission paid to advisors who sell the fund (also known as a trailer fee)
- is paid regardless of whether the fund makes money
- is deducted before calculating your return

• is set as a percentage of the fund's value

Your MER is typically a percentage of the total value of your investment. The percentage varies depending on the investment product and where you buy it from. For example, it can be less than 1%, over 3% or somewhere in between.

High fees can result in a lower net return from your investments. For example, if you have a \$50,000 investment with an MER of 1%, you would pay \$500 a year in fees. However, if you had a \$50,000 investment with an MER of 3%, you would pay \$1,500 in fees. Paying more in fees will mean that you will have less money for yourself each year.

Make sure you ask about any up-front or ongoing fees before working with a financial or investment professional.

Implication on your taxes and benefits

Some sources of retirement income, such as money withdrawn from an RRSP or an RRIF, are considered taxable. This means that you may have to pay tax on them.

Your net income during retirement can impact the amount of money you get from federal government benefits that are based on your income, such as the Old Age Security pension (OAS) and the Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS).

For example, if your income is higher than a certain amount then you may have to pay a recovery tax on your OAS payments. This means you would have to pay back some or all of your OAS pension by having to pay the OAS recovery tax. You may hear this called an OAS clawback.

As another example, if you are a GIS recipient and your retirement income is higher than a certain amount in a given year, then you may receive less money from the GIS during the following year. If you take too much money out of an RRSP, you might not receive any money from the GIS in the next year.

Speak to a financial professional to get help with the options that are available for you.

Financial Consumer Agency of Canada



Tanner Lewis
Financial Advisor
Keystone Wealth | Aviso Wealth

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF A DIVERSIFIED INVESTMENT

Having a diversified investment portfolio is crucial for retirees who want to ensure their financial stability and minimize risk. A well-diversified portfolio can provide a balance between growth and stability, and help retirees weather the ups and downs of the market. Here are some reasons why having a diversified investment portfolio is important in retirement:

Minimizing risk: Diversification can help minimize risk by spreading your investments across different asset classes, industries, and sectors. This means that if one area experiences a downturn, your portfolio won't be completely wiped out.

Providing consistent returns: A diversified portfolio can provide consistent returns over the long term, even in a volatile market. This can help ensure that retirees have a stable source of income throughout their retirement years.

Accommodating different goals: A diversified portfolio can be tailored to suit different goals, such as generating income, preserving capital, or achieving long-term growth.

Reducing taxes: A well-diversified portfolio can also help reduce taxes. By investing in tax-efficient assets and spreading investments across different accounts, retirees can minimize their tax liability.

Providing peace of mind: A diversified portfolio can help retirees feel more secure about their financial future, knowing that their investments are spread out and not dependent on any single holding.

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By spreading investments across various asset classes, industries, and sectors, retirees can minimize risk and maintain a balance between growth and stability. This approach not only helps in weathering market fluctuations but also provides consistent returns over the long term, ensuring a stable income throughout retirement.

Moreover, a diversified portfolio can be customized to meet specific goals such as income generation, capital preservation, or long-term growth. By investing in tax-efficient assets and utilizing different accounts, retirees can also minimize their tax liability, enhancing their overall returns. Prioritizing diversification, retirees can safeguard their financial well-being and navigate the complexities of the market with confidence. Embracing a diversified investment strategy offers peace of mind by spreading out investments and avoiding reliance on any single holding.

Overall, having a diversified investment portfolio is essential for retirees who want to ensure their financial stability and minimize risk. Working with a financial advisor to develop a diversified portfolio that is tailored to your individual needs and goals can help ensure a comfortable retirement.

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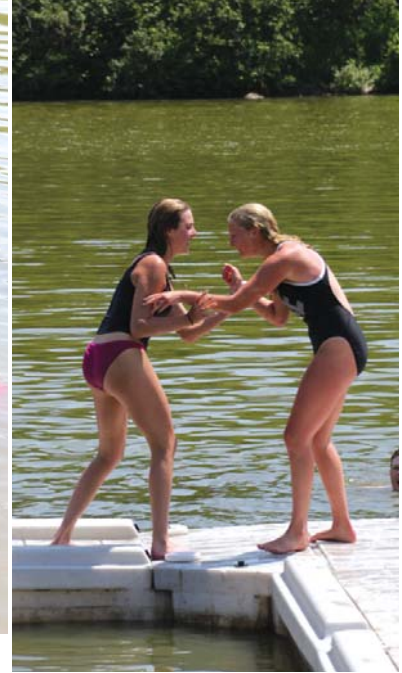
Swimming at Welwyn Lake

Welwyn Lake held their annual swimming lessons July 1-5. Kids enjoyed the warm weather and beautiful lake Friday with playing in the water for the last day of swimming lessons.

Sunnette Kamffer and Ashley Bochek photos



Nathan, Emma, and Clara Green hanging out in the cool water on a sunny day at Welwyn Lake Friday.



Benjamin Bachman posing in the lake for a picture.



THE WORLD-Spectator

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Weedmark
Editor
and Publisher**

Saskatchewan's largest, oldest,
and most award-winning community newspaper

In our opinion:

The last thing farmers need is more tax

The capital gains tax changes will make it just about impossible to pass on farms to new generations

Pity the family farmer. Once—many years ago—a shining centrepiece of Canada's economic growth, our farmers are little more than an afterthought in our urban-focused world.

And the federal government, which once supported small farms through a cornucopia of helpful policies, is landing a new and devastating blow through federal capital gains tax changes.

The planned tax changes, which I'll explain in a minute, will make it costlier and harder to sell or pass on farms to new generations, grain growers say.

Abandoned grain elevators and near-empty prairie towns provide stark testimony to the decades-long decline of what we know as the traditional single-family farmer.

Between 1941 and 2021 the number of farms in Canada fell by approximately 75 percent. Like many others, I left the family farm for the comfort, prosperity, and opportunity of big cities.

People have left farms because the workdays are long and hard, the capital investment is ever-larger and the margins are narrow. Most people could make more money by taking the cash they have tied up in land and equipment and playing the market instead.

Even as mid to small farms fade, large farms have come to dominate. Just 10 percent of all farms now generate more than two-thirds of the sales in Canada. These farms are large-scale businesses with multiple employees, many thousands of acres of land and many millions of dollars in equipment. Some are still owned by family groups but more and more of them are owned by corporations.

The Trudeau government is not helping those families; in fact, it's hurting them. The new capital gains tax, which took effect this week, introduces significant changes to how capital gains are taxed in Canada. Now, capital gains over \$250,000 are subject to a new 66.67 percent inclusion rate for individuals, and all capital gains generated through a corporation are also subject to this rate. Although the lifetime capital gains exemption for eligible property has increased from \$1 million to \$1.25 million, the benefit of this exemption is largely negated by the sharp rise in property values.

"With over 40 percent of farmers nearing retirement over the next decade, this tax increase introduces substantial uncertainty into their retirement planning," said Andre Harpe, Chair of the Grain Growers of Canada (GCC) and an Alberta-based grain grower. The changes "will actually burden the next generation of farmers, who are already grappling with costly transfers."

The GCC has done a deep dive into what the federal tax changes will mean to farmers. It's an eye-opener. It calculates that an 800-acre farm purchased in 1996 in Ontario would incur nearly \$1.2 million in additional taxes if sold today. A 4,000-acre farm in Saskatchewan would face an increase of more than \$900,000. That's a 30 percent spike in capital gains taxes on family-run grain farms.

The GCC has asked the government to exempt intergenerational transfers and allow them to be taxed at the original capital gains inclusion rate. "This will ensure that ... the next generation can afford to take over, enabling family farms to continue being the backbone of Canada's agriculture sector," said Kyle Larkin, the GCC's executive director.

So, why should an urbanite care about the fate of family farms? The best reasons can be found in your local grocery stores and farmers' markets. If you've noticed that the tomatoes and carrots imported from massive U.S. agribusinesses don't taste as good as locally grown ones, it's not your imagination.

National Geographic reports that small-scale farmers use sustainable agricultural techniques and are best poised to meet global food supply challenges. Study after study has found that food grown in healthy soil actually tastes better and has more nutrients.

The Food Tank report, which drew on data from the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and other sources, concluded that small-holder farms "are not only feeding the world, but also nourishing the planet." That's because small-scale farmers tend to forego chemical fertilizers that deplete the soil and rely on organic practices that improve soil conditions instead.

There are other important reasons why family farms deserve our support. The rural lifestyle is a positive social alternative to the urban experience. And, in a world of ever-growing insecurity, it makes absolute sense to ensure we avoid becoming overreliant on food imports, lest those suppliers one day decide—for whatever reason—to cut us off.

Which brings us back to federal policy. Most farmers will tell you that, while the loss of rail subsidies and other incentives has hurt, they know how to make a living. Today, many of Canada's big farms are run by corporations composed of family members educated in best agricultural and business practices.

What they don't need is a cash-squandering federal government imposing new levels of taxation that hobble the transition to the next generation of family farmers. They need the feds to get out of the way and let the farmers operate as efficiently as possible in a narrow-margin business.

Finance Minister Chrystia Freeland grew up on an Alberta farm and should know that. But then, she serves a government that has allowed spending to run so far amok it has to tax citizens more and more just to stay afloat.

Farmers would go broke if they spent like the federal government does. Fortunately, they don't. To turn things around, maybe Freeland can pick up some tips from her dad, Don, and his neighbours, who still run family farms in Alberta's Peace Country.

This editorial was written by Doug Firby, an award-winning editorial writer with over four decades of experience working for newspapers, magazines and online publications in Ontario and Western Canada. Previously, he served as Editorial Page Editor at the Calgary Herald.



Federal bureaucracy needs an overhaul

I recently had the pleasure of speaking with the Honourable Preston Manning about the ever-growing size of Canada's federal bureaucracy. Manning, a seasoned politician with an impressive legacy of public service, recently wrote a compelling column urging the next government to rein in the federal bureaucracy.

Our conversation highlighted the need for a strategic approach to managing the state's size and ensuring efficient and effective government operations and democratic accountability. This issue is relevant to Canadians as the size of government in Canada continues to increase at historic levels and acts as a major impediment to our nation's productivity, standard of living and quality of life.

The size of the state has also led to a change in our culture. Some assume that the government will do everything, which, of course, has never worked.

During our conversation, Manning highlighted the dramatic growth of the federal civil service, which has nearly doubled during the Trudeau years. This expansion, he said, poses a significant challenge for any new government trying to control this vast machinery by elected representatives. His central argument was clear: a new government must be prepared with a solid plan to manage and, where necessary, reduce the federal bureaucracy's size to ensure its effectiveness and that it serves the needs of Canadians.

One of his primary suggestions was a return to merit-based hiring. The current emphasis on diversity, equity, and inclusion, he pointed out, sometimes comes at the expense of efficiency and effectiveness. While acknowledging the importance of a diverse workforce, Manning stressed that competence and capability, not ideology, should be the core criteria for hiring civil servants. This approach, he said, would ensure that the government is staffed by professionals who can deliver high-quality public services.

Privatization also came up as a key theme in our conversation. Manning pointed out that certain government functions could be better managed by the private sector. He said that by contracting out services that the private sector can deliver more cost-effectively, the government can reduce its size and focus on its core responsibilities. This shift would not only decrease public expenditure but also enhance the efficiency of service delivery to the public.

We also discussed the issue of federal encroachment into provincial jurisdictions and the need for it to focus on its own responsibilities, many of which are underperforming. The Trudeau government has been overstepping its constitutional boundaries in areas like healthcare, natural resources, and municipal governance. By respecting provincial jurisdictions, the federal government could reduce its role and the size of its bureaucracy while empowering those levels of government closer to the people. This decentralization would enable the provincial governments to manage their affairs more effectively, leading to a more balanced and efficient federation.

Building public support for reducing the size of the government was another crucial point in our conversation as Canadians struggle with high taxation and affordability. Survey after survey suggests a low level of trust in government as they witness



David Leis

high levels of deficits and debt as their standard of living continues to fall. Manning pointed out that, during the formation of the Reform Party, there was initially little public support for balancing the budget. However, through persistent efforts, public awareness and support for fiscal responsibility significantly increased. Similar efforts are needed today, he said, to educate the public about the importance of controlling government size and spending to serve Canadians better.

Our conversation also delved into the rule of law and the need for greater transparency to the public to ensure stronger accountability.

Canada has one of the most secretive approaches to handling government documents in the Western world. Many documents are held indefinitely when they should be released publicly. Ironically, this secrecy has created a challenge for historians who seek to research past government decisions and can find few original documents because they are not public.

Manning also recommended periodically reviewing programs and either renewing or discontinuing them based on their effectiveness. This approach, he said, would enhance accountability and prevent the perpetuation of ineffective programs that no longer serve any purpose.

A particularly striking part of our discussion was the concept of a vertical political culture, where an elite class wields significant power, often at the expense of ordinary citizens. Manning argued that this description of elites and power is more relevant today than the traditional left-right political spectrum. The public must elect representatives committed to empowering citizens rather than perpetuating elite control, particularly within a massive, complex state bureaucracy.

Manning urged voters to ask candidates specific questions about how they plan to reduce the size of the federal civil service and manage public spending. By holding elected officials accountable, citizens can ensure that their concerns are addressed and that the government remains responsive to their needs, he said.

My discussion with Preston Manning highlighted the urgent need for strategic planning and public engagement in managing the size of Canada's federal bureaucracy to ensure democratic control.

His call for a return to merit-based hiring, increased privatization, respect for provincial jurisdictions, and greater transparency offers a roadmap for a more efficient and effective government.

As Canada faces increasing fiscal challenges and public dissatisfaction, his insights provide a timely reminder of the importance of prudent governance and active citizenship.

David Leis is the Frontier Centre for Public Policy's vice president for development and engagement and host of the Leaders on the Frontier podcast.



Kelsey Selby photos

Grand reopening at Rocanville grocery store

A grand reopening was held at the Borderland Co-op grocery store in Rocanville on June 27. The store saw some changes that included increasing the amount of fresh product being carried, including expanding the fresh produce and bakery, and adding a deli. Some refrigeration was also moved around to make the store more appealing.

Left: Co-op employees and helpers serving the free hamburger lunch provided by Borderland Co-op.



Bud Holloway and Jeff Cole, Borderland Co-op employees, taking a quick break from chatting to have a bite to eat.



Local kids starting off their summer break right by enjoying a burger in the sun.



Rhose and Angela posing for a photo at the free sample desk.

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WADO Field Day & Bus Tour

Thursday July 25, 2024

Check-in at 9:15 **Bus Leaves 10:00 a.m. Sharp** & runs until 3:00 p.m.
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Bus Tour, Snacks, Refreshments and Washrooms

What to see:

- Pulse Variety Trials & Agronomy Update
- Intro to Hybrid Hemp
- Pea Fungicide Trial
- Flax Seed Treatment Trial
- Sunflower Varieties, Row Spacing Population Trial
- Greenhouse Gas Experiments with Nitrification Inhibitors
- Soybean Protein Irrigation Study
- Winter Cereals Fertility Trials & Legume Companion Crops

Free Lunch at Noon

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Shown here are three-year-old twins Kezia and Zuri Griffith from Brandon at the Elkhorn Canada Day museum event.



Lynn Tutthill operating the bush saw mill at the museum during Canada Day. The saw blade is operated by a pulley belt from a vintage steam engine tractor.



Shown here at the Elkhorn Canada Day pancake breakfast from left are, Tyler Mitchell, Garth Mitchell, MP Larry Mcquire, Reeve Clayton Canart and Reilly Bernand.



Twin Valley Co-op's staff throwing candy for the excited kids in the Canada Day Parade.



Above: Shown here are saw mill volunteers helping to stack the newly cut timber planks.

Left: Logan Roy, from Binscarth, Manitoba, helping to load wheat sheaves into the museum's vintage threshing machine.



Elkhorn celebrates Canada Day

by Ed JAMES

Canada Day this year in Elkhorn almost never happened due to the reports of a rainy day. However, after some debate by the organizers, the decision was made to go ahead and the community never looked back!

As in past years, there was a pancake breakfast at the community seniors centre with lots of people showing up, old friends meeting up, and lots of colorful Canada outfits on the younger children.

MP Larry Maguire was on hand to visit with many in the warm morning sunshine. Elsewhere in the village the parade was being organized at the fairgrounds, and at the Elkhorn Auto Museum, the staff and volunteers were getting ready for a busy day of visitors and events. At the back of the museum grounds, the few faithful volunteers of The Restoration Club were busy putting life into some of the museum's famous car collection.

Soon it was noon and Kevin Tutthill, who was the parade announcer, waited on the steps of the modern renovation of the community's historic Main Street bank building.

The parade is a reflection of the community's lifestyle and history, and Main Street was crowded with people on lawn chairs or blankets on the wide, green, grassy boulevards. Of course, the most excited ones along the parade route were the many children, ready to make a dash for the treats thrown for the parade vehicles. As the parade moved along Main Street, it took a slight detour to pass by the local seniors home, to their great enjoyment. The parade ended up at the Elkhorn Automobile Museum located along the Trans-Canada Highway.

At the museum, the sunny weather brought out a large crowd, and a barbecue lunch was being served up by the local RM council members, with both hamburgers and hot dogs.

All over the large museum grounds, people were visiting the large and unique collection of vintage cars and trucks and the display of antique tractors in the outdoor display area. Elsewhere at the museum people



Gracie Thorkelson in her Canada Day outfit at the Elkhorn Auto Museum.

stopped by to visit the three historic buildings on site. Many of the visitors tried out the aged double wooden school desk in the old one room school house.

Of special interest this year was the almost completely restored St. John's Anglican Church from the community of Kirkella. It is hoped soon that a period organ



A truck from Elkhorn business Third Dimension Industries in the Canada Day Parade.

will be moved in and the return of the original baptismal font, which is in safe storage in a nearby barn.

At 1 pm the beer gardens, operated by the local day-care group, opened and was a busy place throughout the day and evening.

All afternoon on the museum grounds, there were chances to take part in an old fashioned threshing bee where people were climbing onto the hay rack and feeding bundles of wheat into the vintage grain threshing machine as it rattled and shook the grain heads from the stocks.

Behind the machine a golden pile straw began to build up and from another pipe the grain kernels filled up a waiting grain truck. There was no shortage of volunteers of all ages wanting to fork some sheaves into the machine, as a new experience, or a few older people who perhaps want to remember days gone by on the farms of their youth.

Later in the day, the blast of the steam whistle on the huge steam farm tractor started the pulley belt that ran the antique log saw mill with its four foot wide spinning blade.

The mill team worked the logs into place on the conveyor belt with a lot of brute strength. As the log moved through the blade, the log was shaped to the point where planks and boards were coming off the rail. The logs were still green and you could smell the pine sap and see that the boards were still damp and very flexible. Below the spinning blade was a growing pile of fresh aromatic sawdust!

The events of the day were not without something for the children. There were two very active bounce castles filled with laughing children. However, it was the museum's barrel train that was busy all day, with both young and old riders.

At 5:30 pm Kliever Catering provided a delicious cold plate supper with lots of side dishes and the beer gardens were turned into a dining room.

Due to pending rain and dampness in the air, some events were cancelled, but overall it was a great community Canada Day event with great weather!



Above: Shown here is longtime Elkhorn resident Ed Clayton helping to put sheaves in the antique threshing machine.

Right: The Elkhorn Fire Department cooling off the crowd during the Canada Day Parade.



From left is MP Larry Mcquire with Seth, Marshall, and Helene Nolan of Elkhorn.



The Elkhorn Auto Museum barrel train in the Canada Day parade.





The Canada Day parade wrapped around several blocks wowing spectators.



Redvers Homecoming & Canada Day Celebration

BY ANGELA ULRICH

Redvers celebrated its 120th anniversary with a Homecoming and Canada Day long weekend celebration from June 29 to July 1 packed with activities, sights and sounds for all ages.

Hometown history came alive as volunteer Janet Dauvin hosted town tours to learn more about the history of residents and their homes past and present. The curling rink was packed with a trade show and the skating rink was busy with a kids mini tractor derby as well as the volunteer fire department rodeo for the young and the young at heart.

The ball diamonds were buzzing with 14 teams registered in the slow pitch tournament. The classic car and motorcycle show had over 60 entries each with participants sharing their stories and history as each is a true labor of love. The Redvers Arts Council hosted

an Art Show and sale showcasing impressive work from local artisans.

The Ranch Rodeo held over two days was a first for the community and hopefully not the last. Spectators packed the stands as all were entertained by cowboy teams participating in wild cow milking, steer doctoring, team penning, the wild horse race and the gritty rescue relay.

Canada Day Monday homecoming attendees were entertained by the Truco Trick Riders, a team of fearless talented riders all from southeast Saskatchewan putting on a heart stopping show!

Food trucks were busy all weekend, a catered supper was available and the Knights of Columbus hosted a pancake breakfast.

The Canada Day Parade was so very entertaining with floats, horses, dancers, tractors, classic cars, lo-

cal businesses and more. An amazing fireworks show was put on by the Redvers volunteer fire department. Quinton Blair Music put on an amazing show Sunday night with almost 300 attendees dancing the night away.

A very special presentation of new hometown history signs was initiated and sponsored by local community members Bill and Jan Murray honoring three well respected past residents of Redvers that were influential in the community's growth, with each being commemorated for their significant achievements. Family, friends and community members gathered and spoke in honor of their accomplishments.

The Redvers Homecoming celebration was made possible by many local donations and countless volunteer hours with a tentative date set for a future homecoming from June 27-29, 2025. Mark your calendars!



Harper Zander enjoying the mini tractor derby



An epic race for glory in the hilarious obstacle horse race



Above Left: Jim Lewthwaite's family along with CWA past and present board of directors

Above Center: The Sutter family with the Hometown history sign honoring Christian T. Sutter

Above Right: Wright family members with the hometown history sign celebrating the past achievements of Howard Wright



Above left: Ranch Rodeo contestant roping a steer.



Above Right: Truco Trick Rider Jordana White of Carnduff.



Above: Ranch Rodeo Rescue relay race was a definite fan favorite.

Right: Trick rider Bailey Steeves from Carnduff.



McNaughton holds Middle School Awards Ceremony

McNaughton High School held its first Middle School Awards Ceremony on June 26. The awards included academic, attendance, school spirit, drama, athletic, and participation awards. Certificates and medallions were presented. McNaughton High School would like to thank Nutrien Rocville for sponsoring all of the award medallions. Their support and commitment to the students' education is very much appreciated.



Grade 6 Honour Roll: Madelaina Bromm, Kaydence Crump, Blayne Doane, Camryn Fingas, Jasmine Glass, Jayda Hales, Blakeley Hintz, Johanna Holman, Dakota May, Hadley Miller, McKinley O'Rourke, Hayden McTavish, Surrie Payette, Claire Russell, Lexi Towler, and Lauren Vantomme.



Grade 7 Honour Roll: Brianne Almuete, Olivia Brooks, Hayden Doka, Nate Greenbank, Vanna Haines, Corben Lepine, Tucker Matichuk, Lexi Schneider, Eden Skulmoski, and Reise Wushke.



Grade 8 Honour Roll: Yann Ayala, Vanessa Easton, Madelyn Holman, Krienne Juliano, Owen Lantz, Cassie Martinez, Kaitlyn MacPherson, Laisha Pacantes, and Taige Payette.



Grade 9 Honour Roll: Damien Coutts, Kane Dodds, Gabriel Fingas, Zavery Hollingshead, Vaida Maas, Phoemela Mactal, Donovan Matichuk, Maya McMullen, Tess Nagy, Ella Newton, Via Obligar, Jack Robinson, Madison Sebree, Aulie Skulmoski, Austin Stacey, Makayla Szafron, and Dane Thorn.



Grade 7 School Spirit Awards: Reise Wushke and Shayanne Stacey.



Middle Year Marquis Awards: Grade 6 – Surrie Payette, Grade 7 – Tucker Matichuk, Grade 8 – Olivia Silverthorn, and Grade 9 – Vaida Maas.



Top Junior Male and Female Athlete of the Year Award: Vaida Maas and Brody Young (missing).



Grade 9 Attendance Awards: Damien Coutts, Via Obligar and Nikolas Dearle.



Top Participant of the Year Award: Kane Dodds

Moosomin Rec Report

Mike Schwean, Recreation Director

306-435-3622 • msmn.rec.brd@sasktel.net

Moosomin Senior Rangers Hockey Team

They say working on next year begins the day your season ends—well that is not much different than our Big Six Champion Senior Rangers Hockey Club. We can confirm Big Six Scoring Champion Bud Holloway will be back for 2024/25 and all-star defenseman Josh Elmes will be back for another season. As well we have come to terms with a couple new Rangers with Junior Hockey experience. That said we are always on the search for players. If you are interested we would love to hear from you! Simply give Mike a call at 435-7578 or email msmn.rec.brd@sasktel.net

2024 NHL Playoff Draft

2024 NHL playoffs have come and gone with a first time champion crowned in the Florida Panthers. At the same time our 2024 Rangers Alumni Draft comes to an end and appropriately another first-time winner as Flatland Plumbing's Derek Eckland takes home \$5,000 as well as his name on our Stanley Cup and embroidered on the Blue Jacket! Congratulations to Derek and thank you to all who made our draft this year another huge success!

Communities in Bloom - 2024

Jasmine Davidson and her committee have so much going on this summer as they look to make it a second straight provincial championship, hopefully moving onto the national event. We hope the community continues to rally. Below is a very quick snapshot of things going on with regards to the contest!

Development of Website Explore Moosomin: Ongoing
Communities in Bloom Movie Night: Friday, July 12
Various contests: Ongoing
Best Gardens contest: Ongoing
Judges visit August 7: Town of Moosomin
Multicultural supper/event: Sportsplex August 7
Moosomin Pipestone Hills Golf Club: August 8
Moosomin Regional Park: August 8

Flag Garden at Bradley Park

We are just in the process of putting up our flags for the 2024 summer season. It is so amazing to see so many wonderful communities represented! For those who have not seen them, they are located at Bradley Park in our main camping spots. Also, if we missed a country that you feel should be represented...and are willing to sponsor...please let us know at msmn.rec.brd@sasktel.net

Sports Field Clinic

Moosomin Parks and Recreation Department are thrilled to offer a Sports Field Clinic featuring one of the leading authorities in all of North America. The clinic will be held July 15-16 at Bradley Park in Moosomin. If you are interested in registering for this course (out of town are more than welcome) or you would like more information please contact Mike at 435-3622 or by email at msmn.rec.brd@sasktel.net

Upcoming Community BBQ's

We have a couple of Public BBQs coming up this summer for your enjoyment! Those include:

- Town of Moosomin Rodeo BBQ on July 11
- Access Communications Summer BBQ on August 21

Provincial Baseball returns to Bradley Park

Always exciting...coming up on July 26-28, Moosomin Lloyd Bradley Park will host the U13 Provincial Baseball Championships. Should be a fantastic week at Bradley Park and for the community of Moosomin.

Labyrinth News: Looking for Tree Sponsors

Carol Adair and her group of volunteers have really got things looking great at the Labyrinth. If you would like to plant a Memorial Tree in the Labyrinth Park please contact Carol at 434-8843 or Murray at 435-9062.

Borderland Co-op Aquaplex Public Swimming Hours

We are now into our summer hours. Those include:

Monday
Aqua-size 6:30 to 7 am
Lane Swim 7 to 8 am
Public Swimming 1 to 5 pm
Public Swimming 7 to 8:30 pm

Tuesday
Aqua to size 6:30 to 7 am
Public Swimming 1 to 5 pm
Public Swimming 7 to 8:30 pm
Aqua to size 8:30 to 9:30 pm

Wednesday
Aqua to size 6:30 to 7 am
Lane Swim 7 to 8 am
Public Swimming 1 to 5 pm
Public Swimming 7 to 8:30 pm

Thursday
Aqua to size 6:30 to 7 am
Public Swimming 1 to 5 pm
Public Swimming 7 to 8:30 pm
Aqua to size 8:30 to 9:30 pm

Friday
Lane Swim 7 to 8 am
Public Swimming 1 to 5 pm
Public Swimming 7 to 8:30 pm

Saturday
Public Swimming 1 to 5 pm
Public Swimming 7 to 8:30 pm

Sunday
Public Swimming 1 to 5 pm
Family Swim Night 7 to 8:30 pm

Borderland Co-op Aquaplex Private Parties

If you are interested in booking in for a Pool Party we would love to have you! Our facility includes Jr. Olympic pool, 50 foot water slide, spray park, hot-tub, covered facility with picnic tables, bbq/wash bay, surround sound - sound system and inflatables. If you are interested in details or bookings, please contact a staff member at 435-2346.

Swimming Lessons 2024

If you would like to register for swimming lessons you can visit either our Borderland Co-op Aquaplex Facebook site or our Parks and Rec Facebook site where you will find our registration form. Follow the instructions and you're set! You can also stop in at the Aquaplex and talk to a staff member in person.

Remaining dates include:

Public Sets
Set # 4 - 1 week session from July 22 to July 26
Set # 5 - 1 week session from August 5 to August 9
Set # 6 - 2 week session from August 12 to August 23
Private Sets (All 1-week sets)
Set # 2 from July 15 to July 19
Set # 3 from July 29 to August 2

2024 Mini British Open Charity Golf Tournament

Excited about the 2024 Mini Brit? This year's tournament goes Friday and Saturday, July 19-20 at the Pipestone Hills Golf Club. Proceeds from 2024 will be for an all new charity as funds will go towards a new outdoor Pickleball facility in Moosomin. This will sell out so if you want to play book in early! Once again this will be an open event (guys or gals) with teams of six. To enter, you can call 435-3622 and speak to Mike or email msmn.rec.brd@sasktel.net

2024 Friday Night Uptown Slo Pitch League

The 2024 Slo Pitch League will be the most participated in, in years, as 14 teams are set to take the field with action this Friday. Games on all diamonds including two each Friday night under the lights.

Games for Friday, July 12:

Dusty Mitts versus Magic Mitts on Murray Newman Co-op at 6:15 pm
King and His Court versus McMashers on the Elks Field at 6:15 pm
Plattypussies versus Snap Crackle Pop on the Guinness Field at 6:15 pm
Flyer Electric versus Guzzlers on the Guinness Field at 8:15 pm
Booze Cannons versus Rasmussian Rippers on the Kin Field at 6:15 pm
Lepine's Roofing versus Kinsmen on the Kin Field at 8:15 pm
Red Hot Oompaloompas versus Bat Attitude on the Legacy Field at 6:15 pm

Terry Lynd Basketball Court

Leo, Jeff and all those behind the fundraising for the Terry Lynd Basketball Court have done such an amazing job over the past year. They are getting really close to what is required to cover the project costs...but I know they are looking for a final fundraising push! With that in mind, I know they would be thrilled with further donations or possibly fundraising ideas from the public! If you have any ideas please email Leo at leoluistrisimo15@gmail.com or Jeff at jskulmoski@icloud.com

Camping Spots Open

Those looking for camping spaces at Bradley Park in 2024 are reminded spots our now open to book. To book please go online to "Letscamp.ca" and follow along with their instructions.

Mike Schwean Arena Winter Ice Bookings and Rates
Moosomin Parks and Recreation Department are now

accepting ice bookings for the 2024/2025 winter season. You can phone 435-7578 or email msmn.rec.brd@sasktel.net to book.

Parks and Rec 2024/2025 ice rates are set and those include:

Minor Usage \$120 plus tax
Adult \$145 plus tax
Seasonal \$3,050
Minor Hockey Tournaments/special events \$95/hr to max of \$950.

Bradley Park Rodeo Grounds

Groups are reminded they are asked to pre-book the rodeo grounds for events. You can do so by phoning 435-3622 or by email to msmn.rec.brd@sasktel.net.

Mike Schwean Arena summer season dry ice

If you would like to book the facility please call us at 435-3622 or email msmn.rec.brd@sasktel.net

Outdoor Pickle Ball Court Committee

If you would be interested in joining a fundraising committee with the intention of Building Outdoor Pickleball Courts at Bradley Park then we would love to hear from you. We do have a few Fundraisers lined up and a few potential grant opportunities. Regardless we would like to form a committee, make a plan, and meet the demand for this ever-growing sport. If you are interested in helping with the committee please email Mike at msmn.rec.brd@sasktel.net

Pickle Ball

Pickle Ball continues at the Conexus Convention Centre. The club has dedicated times which includes:

Monday 1-3 pm Recreational Pickleball
Tuesday 6-8 pm Recreational Pickleball
Wednesday 7-9 pm Competitive Pickleball
Thursday 1-3 pm Recreation Pickleball

Outdoor Pickle Ball Court Meeting

A meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday, July 10 at 10 am at our Town Office. If you interested in attending, you are more than welcome!

Disc Golf Club

Are you interested in joining a local Disc Golf Club? If so please email Mike at msmn.rec.brd@sasktel.net

Our hope is to get the course set up in time for summer fun and exercise! We will be supplying entry level discs for those individuals wanting to try the sport out!!

Community Donations

As summer season is now here Moosomin Parks and Recreation would also like to extend a request to the community for donations towards the Sports Equipment Loaner Building. Maybe you have an old ball glove, an old pair of skates, an old cornhole game, an old set of disc golf discs, an old set of golf clubs, an old bike...whatever! Keep in mind that all this equipment is available to both in town and out of town residents. As such we would also be excited for out of town donations to the inventory.

Parks and Rec would be more than happy to pick up any donations both in and out of town. If you would be willing to donate to this amazing program please email Mike at msmn.rec.brd@sasktel.net or phone at 435-7578.

Funworld at Bradley Park we need your help!!

2024 is a big year for us with our fun world project as things will start to come together. Included in this area will be (also note area will be lit up for evening use):

- Two Golf Driving Nets
- One Golf Chipping Net
- Two Golf Putting Greens
- One Sand Bunker
- Beach Volleyball
- Basketball Hoop
- Horseshoes
- Disc Golf
- Croquet
- More activities to be added

With that in mind it would be wonderful to have some community volunteers help with the final push. Things like seeding, raking, installing items etc. If you would be willing to help please email us at msmn.rec.brd@sasktel.net

Upcoming Event Listing

If you are looking for information as to what is coming up in our community over the coming months we encourage you to visit our Moosomin Parks and Recreation web page. At the top banner you will find a "Coming Events" header...click that and there you go! As well, if you are interested in including an event, you are more than welcome to do so free of charge...you can just email Angela at a.thorntownofmoosomin@sasktel.net and she will be glad to help you out!

Stanley Cup drought: Thirty years and counting

When the Florida Panthers beat the Edmonton Oilers in Game 7 to win this year's Stanley Cup, it marked the 30th consecutive season that a team based in the United States has paraded around the ice holding Lord Stanley's mug.

When will this Canadian national nightmare come to an end?

It wasn't always like this, you know. For a period in the 1980s and early 1990s, the opposite was true. Canadian teams exhibited domination of the Stanley Cup final, winning eight titles in the space of 10 years. The Oilers won twice to kick off the streak in 1984 and 1985, and Montreal followed by hoisting the Cup in 1986. The Oilers then won in 1987 and 1988, with Calgary Flames winning the Cup in 1989. After Edmonton won for the fifth time in 1990, Pittsburgh Penguins snapped the Canadian streak by winning two in a row in 1991 and 1992 before the Canadiens brought the Cup back north of the 49th parallel in 1993.

Since then, zip. Nada. Nothing. No cups. It's been a championship drought which many thought might end this year with the McDavid- and Draisaitl-led Oilers. But it wasn't to be, and now we're looking at the possibility of 31 years in a row without a Cup as the 2024-25 season gets underway in October.

Since the Habs won the cup in 1993, Canada has experienced two professional sports' titles — the 1993 Blue Jays won the World Series a few months after the Canadiens' victory parade, and the 1919 Toronto Raptors captured the National Basketball Association championship. But hockey? Our national sport? Nothing for 30 years.

Some of our country's teams have come close in that 30-year window. Calgary Flames won three rounds in 2003-04 before losing to Tampa Bay Lightning in the final. Vancouver Canucks almost got to the finish line in the spring of 2011, losing Game 7 on home ice to the Boston



Bruce Penton

Bruins, leading to post-game municipal unrest that created more headlines than the hockey itself. The Canadiens got back to the Cup final in the 2020-21 season, but lost to Tampa Bay. Even Ottawa Senators, generally regarded as Canada's weak link, advanced to the Stanley Cup final in 2006-07 but lost to the Anaheim Mighty Ducks.

Not so lucky in the playoffs have been the Toronto Maple Leafs, who made it to the conference final a couple of times but still hang on to the glory year of 1967, the last time they won the cup. In that same boat are the Winnipeg Jets, whose best playoff result was 2017-18 when they beat Minnesota and Nashville before losing to Vegas in the West final.

The Oilers are certainly Canada's best hope in the immediate future, but with rumblings of major personnel changes (can they keep BOTH McDavid and Draisaitl?), perhaps Edmonton's best chance at Cup success has passed them by.

Oh, for the glory days of the six-team NHL. Canadian teams' odds were much more favourable back then.

• Bob Molinaro of pilotonline.com (Hampton, Va.): "Scott Boras, agent of Yankees free agent Juan Soto, said that no price is too high for the next team that signs his client because they'll be getting a 'centurion.' Yeah, I don't

know what that's supposed to mean either."

• Canadian parody website The Beaverton: "Oilers fans not sure what's worse: Losing Cup or realizing Leafs fans were right about how good Atlantic Division is."

• Steve Simmons of the Toronto Sun, on players not necessarily loving their coaches: "Steve Shutt once said it best when he said players on the Montreal Canadiens hated Scotty Bowman 364 days a year but loved him on the day they got their Stanley Cup rings."

• Daniel Nugent-Bowman, on Leon Draisaitl's future in Edmonton (sign extension or depart): "As much as he and McDavid are good friends, he could feel like it's time to stop being the Sergei Fedorov to McDavid's Steve Yzerman or the Evgeni Malkin to No. 97's Sidney Crosby."

• Comedy guy Torben Rolfson of Vancouver: "Lots of American friends asking me tonight how hard it is to get Canadian citizenship. Learn the hockey rulebook and name three Stompin' Tom Connors' songs."

• Vancouver humorist Steve Burgess: "Great series, Oilers. If you'd like us to break a few Vancouver windows for you, just say the word."

• Super 70s Sports: "I bought an autographed Warren Spahn baseball at 3 a.m. last night. My bad decisions after midnight are a lot better now than they were when I was in my 20s."

• Headline at The Beaverton.com: "You should root for the Oilers because they're Canadian," says man who has confused this with the Olympics."

• RJ Currie of sportsdeke.com: "Just wondering: Why aren't right-handed pitchers called northpaws?"

• Headline at fark.com: "The Lakers pick Bronny in the second round, plan to change from the Lakers to The James Gang."

Care to comment? Email brucepenton2003@yahoo.ca



Esterhazy/Langenburg RCMP Report

BY SGT. MEAGAN STRINGFELLOW

The following took place in the Esterhazy/Langenburg RCMP detachment area from June 15-30:

ATV rollover

On June 15, Esterhazy RCMP responded with EMS to an ATV rollover. Patients were taken to the hospital with minor injuries. Please remember to always wear a helmet and driver your ATVs responsibly.

Spray planes shot at

On June 17, Esterhazy RCMP responded to a complaint where three high clearance sprayers were shot at from the road. There were bullet holes in the windshields of each sprayer. If you have any information into this incident, please call the Esterhazy RCMP or Crimestoppers.

Driving erratically

On June 18, Esterhazy RCMP responded to a complaint of a vehicle driving erratically around Esterhazy. Police located the vehicle in the ditch near Kaposvar Creek. The driver admitted to drinking alcohol and was charged with impaired operation of a motor vehicle.

Theft of tools

On June 21, Esterhazy RCMP responded to a theft of tools worth \$900 at a rural location near Spy Hill. There were quad tracks in the back yard but no cameras or evidence left behind. If you have any information into this incident, please call Esterhazy RCMP or Crimestoppers.

911 hangup

On June 22, Esterhazy RCMP responded to a 911 hang up call at Westend. Luckily, this ended up being kids playing with the phone and no emergency.

Alarm at Esso

On June 23, Esterhazy RCMP responded to an alarm at the Esso in Esterhazy. The building was secure and there were no signs of a break in.

Accident on Highway 22

On June 25, Esterhazy RCMP responded to a vehicle collision on Highway 22. One vehicle stopped to avoid hitting wildlife and another vehicle hit the first one. Thankfully, no one was injured and the deer will live to see another day.

B&E at Tantallon Village Office

On June 26, Esterhazy RCMP responded to a break and enter at the Tantallon Village Office. The window was broken and the door was smashed. Police cleared the building. The investigation is ongoing.

Man scares daycare staff

On June 28, the Esterhazy daycare reported a male pulling on the door. Police attended right away and located a male who was paranoid and terrified people were after him. The male was taken to the hospital for treatment.

Yelling and crying on the street

On June 29, Esterhazy RCMP responded to a complaint

of two people yelling and one person crying on the street in Esterhazy. The RCMP made patrols but did not locate the individuals.

Young boy found safe

On June 29, a young boy was found walking on the road. Police attended immediately. A short time later, the mother of the young boy called and reported him missing. Thankfully, the boy was safe and returned to his mother.

Rowdy kids

There were several complaints this month regarding teenagers playing loud music and yelling at the SN Boreen Center in Esterhazy. There has also been complaints of teenagers cutting donuts in the parking lot. Police have attended to these complaints and spoke to the teenagers involved. Please call and let the RCMP know if these issues continue.

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Rural Municipality of Ellice - Archie

NOTICE OF NOMINATIONS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that between July 18, 2024 and July 24, 2024 between the hours of

9:00 a.m. and noon and 12:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m.
at the RM of Ellice-Archie municipal office at
318 Railway Avenue, McAuley, MB. Or
331 Main Street, St. Lazare, MB

I will receive nominations for the offices of

1 COUNCILLOR – WARD 1
of the aforesaid Local Authority.

The nomination deadline is Wednesday, July 24th, 2024 at 4:30 p.m. local time. Nominations cannot be accepted after this day.

All nominations shall be made in writing and shall be signed by at least twenty-five voters, or NOT less than 1% of the voters (whichever is the lesser) of the authority or ward (as the case may be), but in all cases by at least two voters. Each nomination shall also be accompanied by the candidate's declaration of qualification.

Nominations may be filed in person at the above location, on the date and hours specified, by an agent, or by fax. To obtain a nomination paper, and / or candidate's declaration of qualification, contact the S.E.O. at the telephone number listed below.

Nomination papers not accompanied by the required documents and not properly filed shall be rejected.

Dated at McAuley in the Province of Manitoba, this 18th day of June, 2024.

Constance Tanguay
Senior Election Official
Rural Municipality of Ellice-Archie
Phone: (204) 683-2241 | Fax: (204) 683-2317



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UPCOMING EVENTS

at Moosomin Borderland Co-op Aquaplex

PUBLIC SWIMMING
Monday - Saturday
1:00pm - 5:00pm
7:00pm - 8:30pm
Sunday
1:00pm - 5:00pm

UPCOMING LESSONS
July 8th - 12th
Public Lessons Set 3,
July 15th - 19th
Private Lessons Set 2

LANE SWIM
Monday - Friday
7:00pm - 8:00pm
12:00pm - 1:00pm

AQUACIZE
Monday - Thursday
6:30pm - 7:00pm
Tuesdays & Thursdays
8:30pm - 9:30pm

FAMILY SWIM NIGHT
Sunday
7:00pm - 8:30pm

POOL PARTIES
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JULY 12, 13, 14 & 15

FRIDAY - MONDAY
JULY 26, 27, 28 & 29

INSIDE OUT 2

FRIDAY - MONDAY
JULY 12, 13, 14 & 15

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Looking Back

Five years ago, 2019

The Fleming Jets fastball team took on the New Zealand ISA Under 19 team in a game at Green Acres Ball Park in Fleming. The game between the Jets and New Zealand became an annual tradition, with the New Zealand team attending a number of tournaments while in Canada, and getting a chance to see a new country. New Zealand won by one run in extra innings. At the start of the game, the New Zealand team performed a traditional dance called the Haka, which is a ceremonial dance performed before sporting events in New Zealand. The dance has its roots in Maori culture.

Ten years ago, 2014:

The entire Southeast corner of Saskatchewan and Southwest corner of Manitoba was pummeled by intense rain, leading to widespread flooding, sewage back-up, felled trees, and washed out roads. The floodwater even closed the TransCanada Highway by Wolseley. 96 communities in Saskatchewan and Manitoba declared a state of emergency and as the water flowed into Manitoba, that number rose.

Fifteen years ago, 2009:

A customer appreciation barbecue was hosted by RBC to celebrate 100 years of service in the community of Maryfield. RBC also made donations to various projects in the community to a total of \$5,000. They donated \$2,000 for improvements to the Maryfield School Playground, \$1,500 to the Maryfield Auditorium Committee for the lift fund and \$1,500 was presented to the Maryfield Beautification Committee.

Twenty years ago, 2004:

The Moosomin Kinsmen club presented a cheque for \$1,600 to the South East Regional Gators to help the competitive swim club get established; Restoration was under way on the Symons Building, one of Rocanville's most historic buildings.

One hundred years ago, 1924

British Columbia lumber orders were reviving from Japan and about two million feet were ordered within a few days. In addition, there was a full cargo of ties ordered for Port Sudan delivery, and new orders that came from China. Within one week around ten million feet of lumber was ordered from British Columbia mills.



THE MOOSOMIN ARTISTS RETREAT

Art Show and Sale

THURSDAY, JULY 11, 2024
7-9 PM
MOOSOMIN CONEXUS CENTRE MCC

Refreshments • Door Prize • Free Admission

20 ARTISTS FROM SASKATCHEWAN & MANITOBA

Silent auction proceeds from the artists collaborative painting go to the Moosomin Visual Arts Centre



The Bobby Vargo Tournament Committee making a \$125,000 donation to the Town of Kipling for a new building at the ball park to be used for the beer gardens.



Kingston Midstream (Jeff Lees, Denna Bachorick, and Tammy Davies) donated \$45,000.00 to the Bobby Vargo committee which enabled them to build the new structure at the ball diamond.

The 12th annual Bobby Vargo Memorial Slo Pitch tournament was held from June 28-30. There were 16 teams in attendance this year. The tournament is held annually in memory of Bobby Vargo, a Kipling resident who passed away and loved supporting his community and recreation. The event consists of slo pitch games, kids activities, a home run derby and calcutta, silent action, a cabaret, fireworks, a pancake breakfast, and a 50/50. The tournament brings old friends and family back together for a weekend of fun each year.



Kids enjoying the Sand Pile Dig



Lorne Sproat threw the ceremonial first pitch at this year's tournament. Lorne has been a tireless supporter of sport and recreation in and around Kipling for decades. The catcher for the first pitch was Rhett Caouette.



The 2024 Bobby Vargo Memorial Cup Champions—Saved by The Balls!



Kids having fun on a rock climbing wall



Teams hauling in coolers as they arrive for the tournament.



Left: A run to first base. Right: Porter Kemp with his face painted.



Above and below right: Batters during one of the slo pitch games



Pitching during one of the slo pitch games.



Bobby's dad, Glen Vargo, with specially made Bobby Vargo sunglasses and a hat. Every year Bobby Vargo paraphernalia is given to the teams.



Left: Kids having fun on the bounce tents.



PINOY LUNCH FOR A CAUSE

**Saturday, July 13 at 11:15 & 12:45
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