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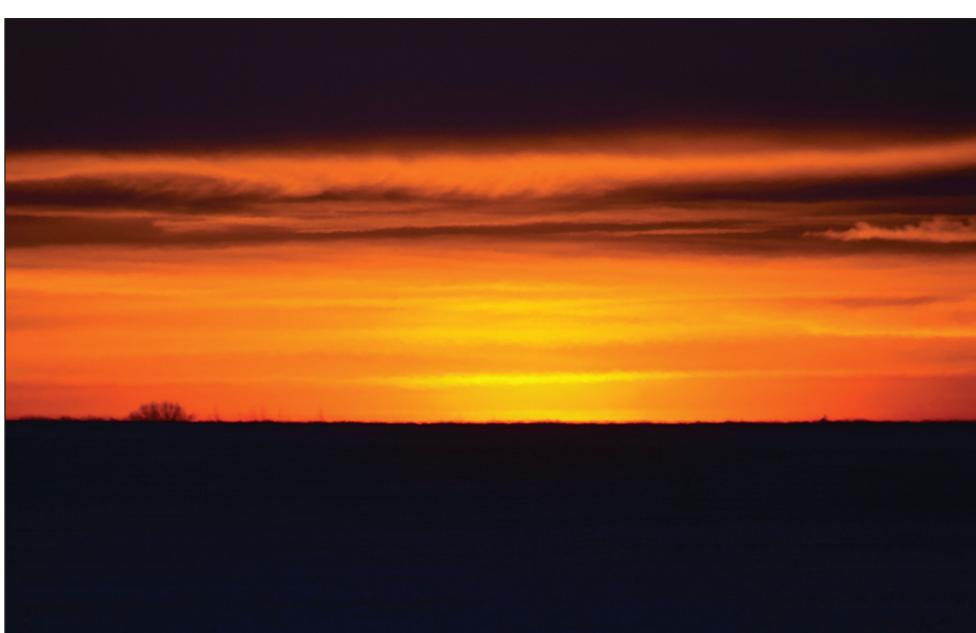
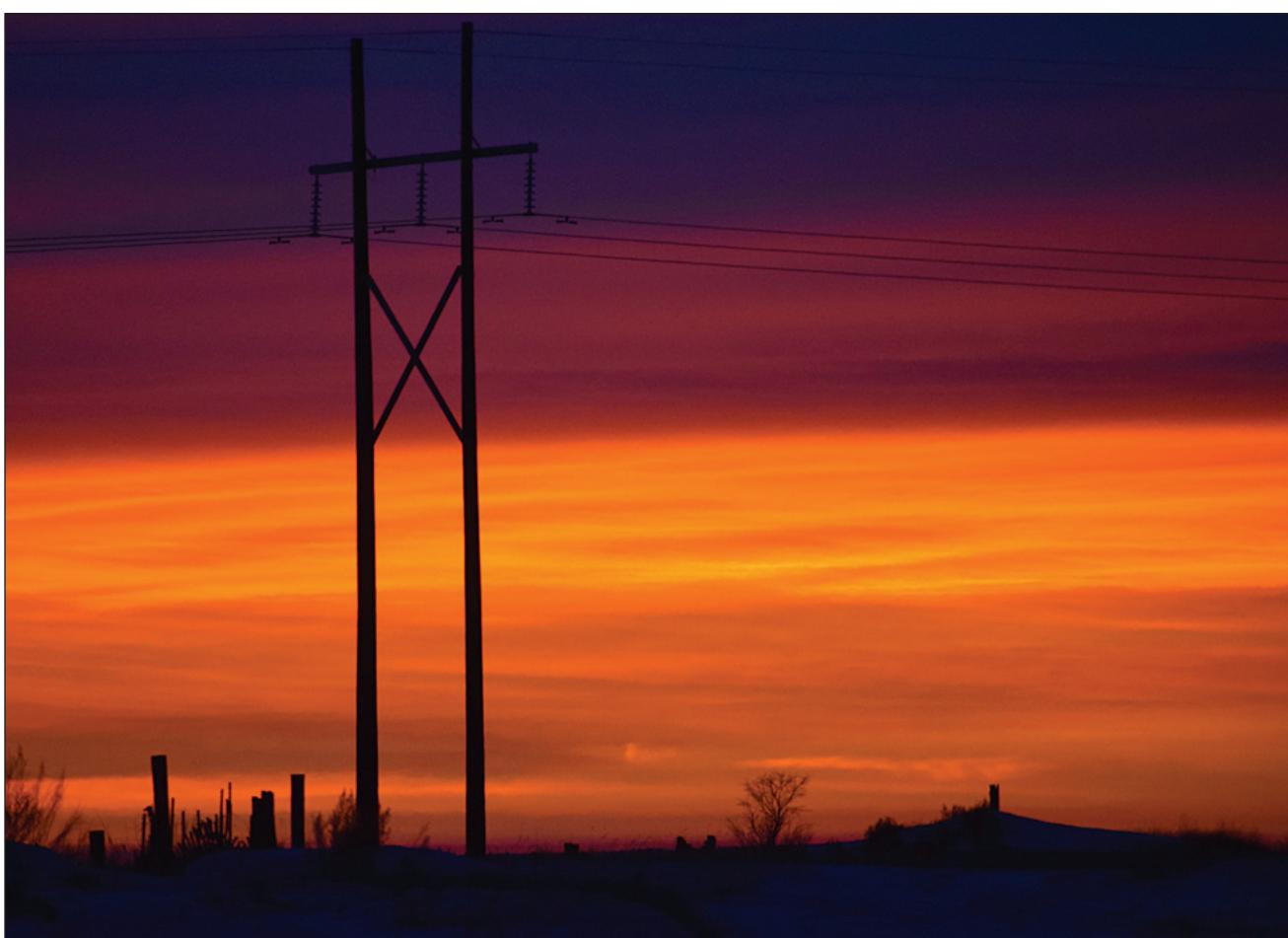
Vol. 42 No. 5

Monday, January 18, 2021

Lanigan, Saskatchewan

www.laniganadvisor.com

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The start of 2021 has certainly been a mixed bag of weather. While temperatures have been mostly above-normal for this time of year, after a beautiful Jan. 9 of hoar frost (pictured back page) and an incredible sunrise a few days later (above and left), high winds mixed with freezing rain and snow arrived Jan. 13 (right). The storm created zero visibility and forced the closure of some highways in Saskatchewan. Power outages, people stranded in their vehicles and debris strewn about was also reported. As people woke up Jan. 14, vehicles were spotted in ditches, power remained out in some areas, and items had been blown about. According to Environment and Climate Change



Canada, wind gusts reached as high as 143 km/h. at Brarts Lake and 133 km/h. at Yellowgrass. In Saskatoon it hit 102 km/h. Meanwhile, Environment and Climate Change Canada said there were at least 14 records broken on Jan. 13 for daytime highs including in the Watrous area where it hit 5°C (the previous record of 3.5°C was set in 1986). In the Last Mountain Lake area a new record of 5.2°C was set, edging the previous record of 4°C from 1989. And in the Wynyard area, it reached 6°C with the old record of 5°C set in 1987.

- photos by Daniel Bushman
top photo submitted



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You may think that Humboldt Co-op is just another Large Company where the profits go to some Millionaire but in fact, Co-ops are a different kind of business where all profits stay local right in the community.

WE ARE CO-OP

Local food bank sees decline in numbers; receives tremendous support

■ **Daniel Bushman**

With numerous donations, both financially and through food items, the Lanigan and District Food Bank was not only able to successfully navigate through a pandemic in 2020 but also the year itself. Chairperson for the Lanigan and District Food Bank Jeanette Warrian said despite the COVID-19 pandemic forcing temporary and permanent closures to businesses and people having to stay home from work, local usage of the food bank did not increase throughout the year.

During the Lanigan and District Food Bank's annual meeting in November, Warrian noted from Nov. 1, 2019 to Oct. 31, 2020 they did not see an expected jump in the number of clients. "That is a positive sign during the pandemic and actually our numbers reflected a significant decrease. During that time period, overall there were 347 total hampers distributed to 585 adults and 392 children who accessed the food bank. We had 17 new clients and in total, 13,290.7 pounds of food were given out."

In addition to the regular hamper distribution, as this past December approached, Warrian indicated the local area stepped up as part of the food bank's annual Christmas

hampers. Distributed on the regular monthly hamper day Dec. 16, a total of 37 hampers were provided to clients. In addition, gifts were placed in the special hampers that were sent to families with children 18 and under.

"We sincerely appreciated the Jansen and District Kinettes who organized gifts for every child 18 and under. In addition the Kinettes donated a Co-op gift card for each hamper as well. The churches in our local ministerial area also donated an extra item like mandarin oranges, chocolates, buns, etc. through a rotation cycle. The Humboldt/Lanigan Co-op helped us out by donating the chickens and turkeys for the Christmas hampers and the Town of Lanigan donated the use of the Lanigan Town Hall to pack and distribute the hampers."

Grateful for the organizations, churches and businesses who stepped up to help, Warrian added residents also were a big contributor as well. "The donations allow us to purchase pasta sauce, canned beans, canned vegetables, canned meat, pasta, cereal, macaroni and cheese, and peanut butter. We purchase monthly perishables like potatoes, carrots, fresh fruit, eggs, milk, and bread. Our ground beef was donated by local producers like Poundmaker's Farmland Legacies. We also received ground pork from James and Rhoda Hein

and Grovenland Farms included items in our hampers every month."

In addition to those generous donations, Warrian noted they also received a substantial hand from corporate funds including from Nutrien, BHP and K&S Potash. As a member of Food Banks of Saskatchewan and Food Bank Canada, during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Lanigan and District Food Bank was able to receive funds through a federal government subsidy.

"Because of all of these generous donations in 2020, our bank balance will now allow us to move from the back of the building we are currently using on Main Street in Lanigan to now be able to use the entire facility. The Board has also decided to purchase a cell phone for client intake and other contact information. As we enter 2021, on behalf of the Board, I wanted to extend my appreciation to the new volunteers who attended our annual meeting and have taken over some of the administrative duties. We are looking forward to a safe and healthy 2021. For those who would like to be a member of our food bank or who would like to donate items, they can contact myself at 306-365-2416 or mail funds to Lanigan and District Food Bank P.O. Box 307 Lanigan SK S0K 2M0."

RCMP Report

Break and enters in LeRoy and Lanigan

At approximately 1:50 a.m. Dec. 22, 2020 a business in LeRoy was broken into. Video footage from nearby businesses show a small car and a pickup truck were involved (pictured right).

Approximately one hour

later, the same persons broke into a restaurant in Lanigan (pictured right). The suspects used the pickup truck to ram the building and gain entry, causing significant damage.

Police believe that the pickup truck was stolen from Insinger on the same

night. The truck used was recovered near Colonay and the suspects are still at large.

The Humboldt RCMP and Crime Stoppers are seeking assistance from the public in identifying any suspects that may have been involved with this incident.

If you have information about this or any other crime, please contact Humboldt RCMP at 306-682-2535 or you may contact Saskatchewan Crime Stoppers anonymously at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or submit a tip online at www.sask-crimestoppers.com.

RCMP respond to single plane crash

On Saturday, Jan. 9, just before 10 a.m., Greenwater

RCMP received the report of a single plane crash approximately nine km west and six km north of Archerwill, Sask.

Initial investigation revealed two occupants were trapped inside the plane. The extent of their injuries were unknown prior to police arrival. Weather conditions consisted of extreme fog and frost at the time of takeoff.

Tisdale Fire Department, Archerwill First Responders, Rose Valley and Naicam EMS, the Shamrock Ambulance ACP Rover from Wadena and STARS air ambulance were the responding agencies along with Greenwater RCMP.

Two males, ages 58 and

52-years-old, were safely extracted from the plane and were taken to hospital for what were described as being serious injuries.



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- images courtesy RCMP

Former Plunkett resident bestows funds to Humboldt SPCA

■ reprinted with permission by Bonnie Hepp/Humboldt SPCA Board Member

The Humboldt SPCA is in great gratitude to the late Carol Lee Streeton of Calgary, Alta. who surprised them with a will bequest to the tune of \$377,000. It was the wish of this former Plunkett resident that cats live in freedom but that the population be somewhat controlled as wild/feral cats often end up suffering from a lack of food, shelter or necessary health care.

In consultation with Carol's family, the Humboldt SPCA graciously accepted the

money which will be used to create (collaboratively with the community of Plunkett) a spay/neuter program for feral/stray cats in their community.

Being aware that Plunkett was within the jurisdiction of the SPCA organization in Humboldt, Carol visited the shelter several years ago where she realized that the Humboldt organization aligned with her wish that animals be spayed/neutered and rehomed. She was also aware that the shelter does not euthanize for space and was often at capacity with their cat population. Farm families looking for cats were deterred by the costs involved

in having them fixed, knowing that a farm cat often has a shorter life span. Being at capacity also results in the harsh reality that animals sometimes get turned away.

Carol's family acknowledges that this sum of money would be significantly more than was needed to develop and maintain a program in Plunkett and felt that Carol's wish to care for cats was broader based. They agreed that, while maintaining a program for Plunkett, funds could also be utilized towards Humboldt's building project as without a decent facility, the feasibility of continuing an

SPCA in Humboldt would be questionable.

Humboldt has been renting their current facility since 2007. The building has been renovated but lacks proper water plumbing for grooming animals and general cleaning. A new facility would allow for the organization to provide pet services that would provide income, as well as fulfill the needs that are lacking in their current building. A new building, named after Carol, would ensure that her legacy and wishes would be carried far into the future.

Hats off to one of cats' best friends: Carol Lee Streeton!



- photo used with permission

Viscount

Sandra Reid • 306-227-1193

I was out walking and came across this fantastic snowman in front of our local restaurant, Saskitalia.

School in Viscount resumed Jan. 4, 2021. Photo retakes were to be done and



- photo submitted by Sandra Reid

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Plunkett

Deloris Wilson (Sutherland) • 306-944-4852

Happy New Year to everyone.

I hope everyone had a quiet and safe Christmas.

The weatherman is bringing us great weather.

Everyone is hoping COVID-19 goes away soon. It is very scary. During hunting time several hunters saw a herd of around 150 elk in a field southeast of Plunkett. They were probably headed for the community pasture.

Folks who enjoy country music were sorry to hear Charlie Pride passed away.

There is not much news around town. So it is very hard trying to write anything.

A large afghan made by my neighbour Myrna Fleischacker was donated to the town. Tickets are being sold now.

Anyone has any news, please phone me at 306-944-4852. Thank you kindly.

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Jansen

Louise Shannon

Congratulations to Dustin and Brenna Lynch on the birth of a daughter, Kaycee Marion Lynch on Jan. 9, 2021.

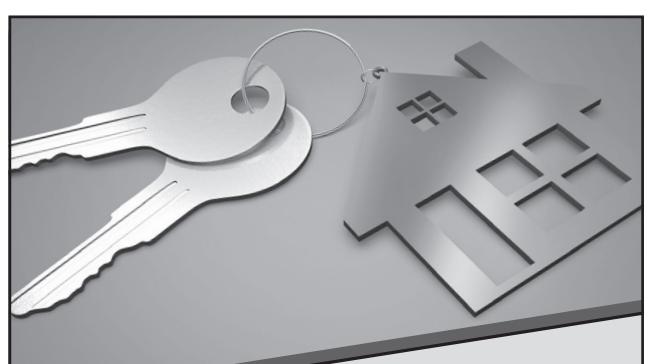
Condolences to Don Renz and the Renz family on the passing of Don's wife Kathy. Uncle Bob lives in Jansen.

I want to thank relatives and friends for my fabulous birthday. Thank you for all the cards, phone calls and gifts. Also thank you to Terri

Ann, Loreen and Lorraine for taking me to Saskatoon to see the BHP light show. It was so beautiful and well worth the trip. Then neighbours brought over birthday cake. I am truly thankful.

Happy birthday this week to Donna Gorski, Ken Manyk, Linda Kinzel, Leslie Krieger and David Arnst.

A vote of appreciation to the people working tirelessly at Central Parkland Lodge in Lanigan.



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OPINIONS

4 • MONDAY, JANUARY 18, 2021 • THE LANIGAN ADVISOR

Solutions and Substitutions



— tips from Reena Nerbas

Dear Reena,
I enjoy a bowl of oat cereal for breakfast and like to sprinkle it with brown sugar. My problem is the sugar is always lumpy and no amount of shaking makes the sugar finer for sprinkling. Thanks. Gordo

Dear Gordo,

Brown sugar hardens when moisture inside the container evaporates; all you need to do is replenish the moisture with one of these easy solutions! Place a cut up apple or slice of bread into an airtight container with the sugar; softening will take about a day. You can also drape a damp towel over the

un-lidded bowl and leave overnight or put the sugar into the microwave with a separate bowl of water. Turn the microwave on and check every 30 seconds to observe if the sugar is soft. A long-term fix is to purchase a piece of food safe clay; these are available at most grocery stores. Soak the clay in water for a few hours and then store it inside the brown sugar container to keep it moist.

Dear Reena,

I sprayed my copper tea set and my silver plated set with hair spray a few years ago to avoid cleaning frequently. I used silver cleaner but it did not work on the copper or on the silver plated articles and now they are looking worse. Do you have suggestions on how to restore these items? Thank you for your wonderful column, I enjoy it very much and I am using many of your hints for my daily life. Eugenia

Dear Eugenia,

Before cleaning the copper and silver, wipe the metal with rubbing alcohol to remove the hair spray (test on an inconspicuous area first). The best way to clean copper is to either spray and polish the copper with WD-40 or combine one-half cup vinegar with one tablespoon salt and one tablespoon flour. Apply to metal and leave for 15 minutes then rinse with warm water and polish (always test first).

In terms of the silver cleaner, place crumpled aluminum foil in a plastic bucket. Dissolve one-quarter cup washing soda in four quarts of hot water. Place silver on foil and let stand for a few seconds until the tarnish is gone. Remove the silver, rinse and dry. Also, corrosion caused by food can be repaired by mixing one tablespoon hot vinegar, two cups water and two teaspoons salt. Soak for five minutes and polish.

Note: Every user assumes all risks of injury or damage resulting from the implementation of any suggestions in this column. Test all products on an inconspicuous area first.

Reena Nerbas is a popular motivational presenter for large and small groups; check out her website: reena.ca. Ask a question or share a tip at reena.ca

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uncompliCATED - From zero to five, what a ride!



■ by Arlene Martin

It was a two-week wait after ordering a treadmill. It arrived by courier and it was heavy. It also was in many pieces. My contribution of helping Randy construct it consisted of removing the tight plastic wrap enveloping every big and little piece. Two hours later the treadmill was assembled. Larger than I anticipated - it became the white elephant in our small home.

South Paw asked if I wanted to take it for a spin. I insisted he go first. He shook his head telling me he already had a work out. Getting it off the delivery truck and into our home, then putting, quote, "the darn thing" unquote, together. So my feet became the first to set foot on our new white elephant. I didn't think I needed to read the instructions. The dashboard looked simple enough.

"Check this out," hubby exclaimed pushing a button. "It has a two-speed fan." I could feel the cool air stream from where I stood. "And this button," he explained, "lifts the deck so you are getting a good work out on an incline."

Wow, wow and wow, I thought, this is just beautiful! A vision of a slimmer and more toned me flashed through my mind. How easy is this going to be? Moving the hand bars for arm work-outs I thought of those unworn sleeveless tops I'd put away last summer and didn't wear because they exposed my flabby floppy upper arms. I couldn't wait to get started. I slipped into my Sketchers and climbed on.

Moderation has never been one of my notable attributes. As South Paw began collecting his tools and tidying, I glanced at the fancy dashboard and noticed two rows of buttons numbering one to ten. It was evident the bottom row was a short-cut to the elevation. I didn't know about the other, but I was excited to give it a go and the number five seemed a good number for starting out.

Beep. I hit number five and smiled as a little blue light flashed on. But then, before I could catch my breath or

regret what I'd done, the track started moving. I mean, really travelling. Relieved my hands were tightly gripping onto the bars, my legs shot straight out and my feet, suddenly were dancing at the far end of the tread, racing to keep up. I knew if I let go I'd do a belly-flop and fly straight off the end and crash into, and maybe even through the basement door. Just like in some movies I'd seen. I thought it was just an act to make viewers laugh. Not so.

Flub, flub, flub! I raised my head looking for the Stop button. I dared not let go the handles. Noticing it, I wasn't sure I could hang on at such a speed with only one hand. My outspread arthritic knees were starting to buckle. I couldn't remember when my feet moved so quickly. Kinking my neck to try spot hubby in the kitchen, I realized I was alone. He disappeared outside to his shop putting away his tools.

Flub, flub, flub. Lord have mercy. What to do? The white elephant in the room was ruthless and cruel. I speculated what would happen if I stopped moving my feet and just hung on till South Paw returned. Fearing my knees would get banged up, breathlessly and with great effort I kept scuttling and strutting my weary legs and feet. Hearing loud laughter, suddenly my strong former-farmer/diesel mechanic life partner was standing beside me. With a huge grin he glanced at the controls, then thankfully, BEEP, his finger hit the stop button. It halted instantly. I collapsed breathlessly on the rubber surface.

"What a show-off!" he exclaimed. "You were going five miles an hour!"

Now that was a revelation! The speed of our white elephant recorded in miles per hour!

Tossing scraps of packing material into the trash, he told me that eventually I'll get the hang of it. "But," he added, "I think it will work better next time if you stand up and have your feet under you." Flashing me a big grin, he added, "Well, at least that's how most people do it."

(FOOTNOTE: First published February 2015, three years before both my Total Knee Replacements. Yes, ultimately I did get the hang of it and I can happily report this old weebie wobbles but doesn't fall down! Unfortunately my upper arms never did quite match those expectations!)

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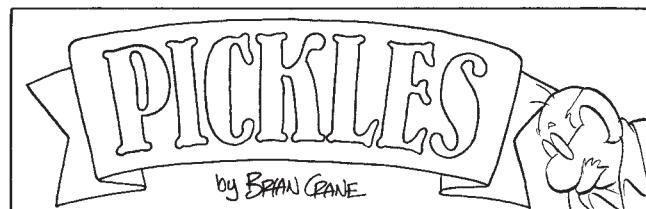
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Daniel and Kim Bushman, publishers and editors
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Watrous Office Contact Information:

Box 100, 309 Main Street, Watrous, Saskatchewan
S0K 4T0 Phone: 306-946-3343 Fax: 306-946-2026
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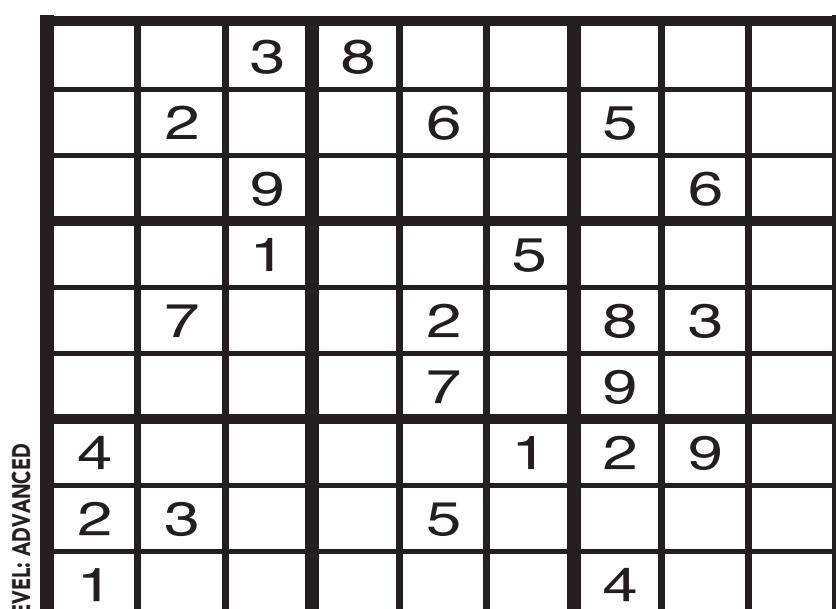
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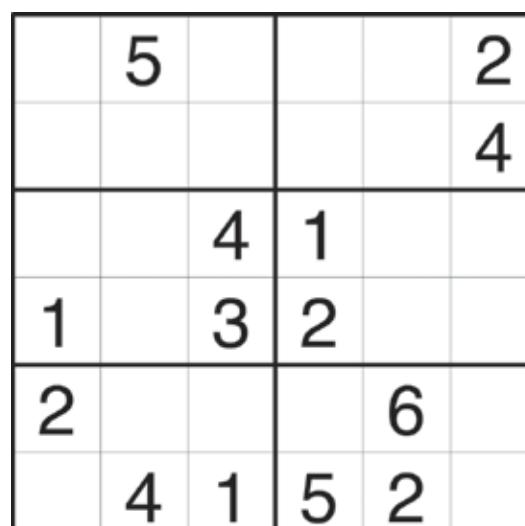
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SUDOKU



Sudoku 6x6



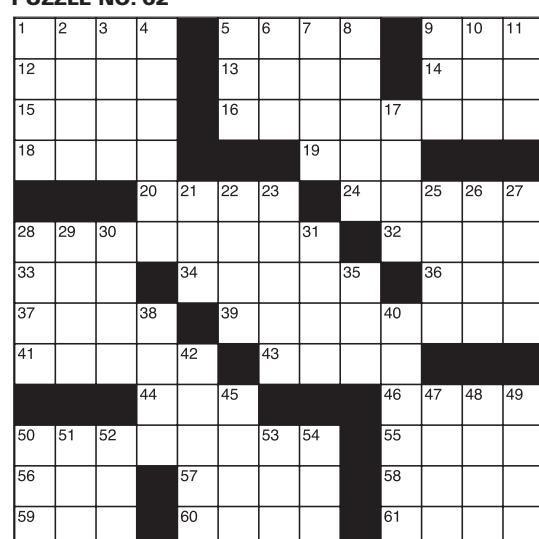
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5	2	4	1	3	6
3	1	2	6	5	4
4	5	6	3	1	2

CROSSWORD

PUZZLE NO. 62



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ACROSS

- 1. Listening organs
- 5. Brats
- 9. Verbalize
- 12. Ink spot
- 13. Field cover
- 14. Purpose
- 15. Grizzly, e.g.
- 16. Plumpest
- 18. 18-wheeler
- 19. To's partner
- 20. Football throw
- 24. Entice
- 28. Received
- 32. Farm tower
- 33. Guy's date
- 34. Roof overhangs
- 36. Anti's answer
- 37. Legend
- 39. Wiggly desserts
- 41. Bus terminal
- 43. Fishermen's tools
- 44. Soft toss
- 46. Gap
- 50. Donations
- 55. Favorite star
- 56. Pasture mom
- 57. The Stooges, e.g.
- 58. Curtain holders
- 59. Sunday seat
- 60. Song of worship
- 61. Coatrack

DOWN

- 17. Foot parts
- 21. Chimpanzee
- 22. Bachelor party
- 23. VII
- 25. Kind of skirt
- 26. Think ahead
- 27. Playthings
- 28. Matured
- 29. Cloak
- 30. Paper holder
- 31. Printer's term
- 35. Was located
- 38. Chilly Conway
- 40. Pullover
- 42. Molar, e.g.
- 45. Hide underground
- 47. Fragrance
- 48. Rich deposit
- 49. Or (threat)
- 50. In the know
- 51. Great respect
- 52. Hot off the press
- 53. Actor/comedian Conway
- 54. Daddy's boy

FOR ANSWERS
TO SUDOKU AND
CROSSWORD,
SEE PAGE 9

CROSSWORD PUZZLE ANSWERS
USE AMERICAN SPELLING

“Look What's Cooking by Laura Novecosky”

Lemon Bread

Ingredients:

- 1/2 cup shortening
- 1 cup sugar
- 2 eggs
- 1 1/2 cups flour
- 1 tsp. baking powder
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 3/4 cup milk
- Glaze**
- 1/2 cup icing sugar
- 2 tsp. grated lemon peel
- 3 tbsp. lemon juice

Directions:

Cream shortening and sugar. Add eggs one at a time, beating after each one. Combine flour, baking powder and salt, add to creamed mixture alternating with milk. Pour batter into greased loaf pan. Bake at 350°F for about 55 minutes. Place pan on rack to cool. Combine glaze ingredients, pour over warm loaf. Cool completely before removing from pan.

Unique repair shop on wheels rolling in local region

■ Daniel Bushman

With years of knowledge as a Journeyman Technician and operating a mobile repair shop, Robert Martin along with his wife Kassy have been taking their business on the road.

Servicing the local region, Pro Mobile Agriculture Truck and Auto Services Ltd. has been in operation since the summer. Travelling near and far, Martin graciously shared about his unique service and why he decided to give it a try.

What is Pro Mobile Agriculture Truck and Auto Services Ltd. all about?

Pro Mobile Agriculture Truck and Auto Services Ltd. is essentially a service truck for agricultural, semi truck and trailer and automotive repairs. We do mechanical, electrical and a/c work.

The truck is equipped with up-to-date diagnostics and you don't have to drive into a shop to figure out what is wrong. We will come to you. We do ATV, snowmobile, small engine and pump repair work as well. Right now we are offering special pricing on labour and parts for snowmobiles and ATVs. We will even come pick up your snowblower or lawn and garden equipment, fix it, and deliver it to your home again. In addition to our service truck we offer in shop services at our farm as well as a courtesy car.

What is unique about your services?

We come to you. Often times when machinery breaks down, a farmer needs it to be fixed where it stands or they have to somehow get the equipment to the shop. Pro

Mobile meets that need and will travel to the customer.

How did you come up with the idea of having a fully equipped shop on wheels?

We wanted to offer a high quality mobile service at an affordable price. Although we have to travel to your location and pay for fuel and insurance, our mobile shop doesn't have the high overhead of operating a large shop. Without these high costs, we can pass the savings on to our clients.

When did you start operating your business and what area do you service?

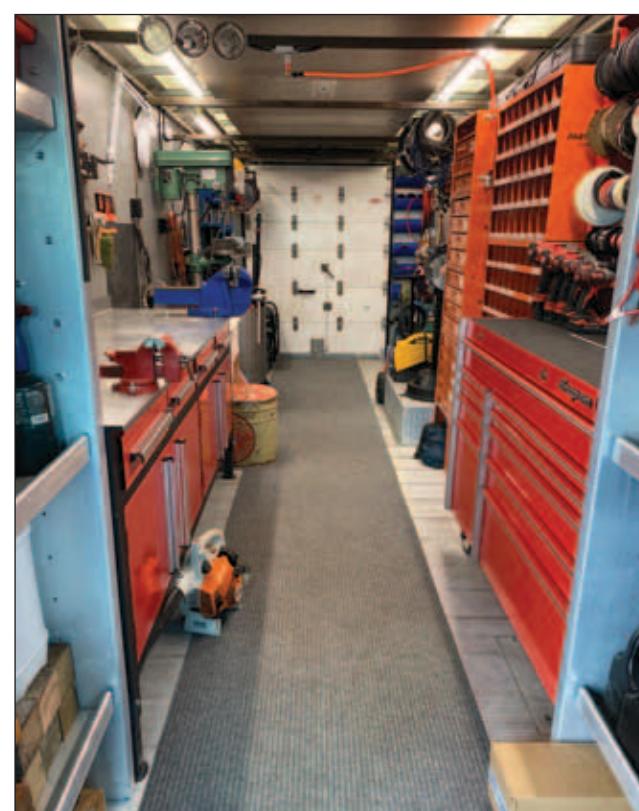
We started our business this past July; however, the service truck was not quite complete so our customers brought their equipment and trucks to us. We have a shop at our farm and can do work in the yard there. Our service area is rather broad as we will travel to where you need us to go, near or far, and we are always on call, 24/7.

For those who may not know you, tell me a bit about yourself.

My wife, Kassy and I operate the business. She is more behind the scenes in the office. I'm the guy out front as the Journeyman Technician with over 25 years of experience in ag, semi truck/trailer and automotive industries with a background in farming and long haul trucking. We are both local to Watrous, "born and raised" so to speak.

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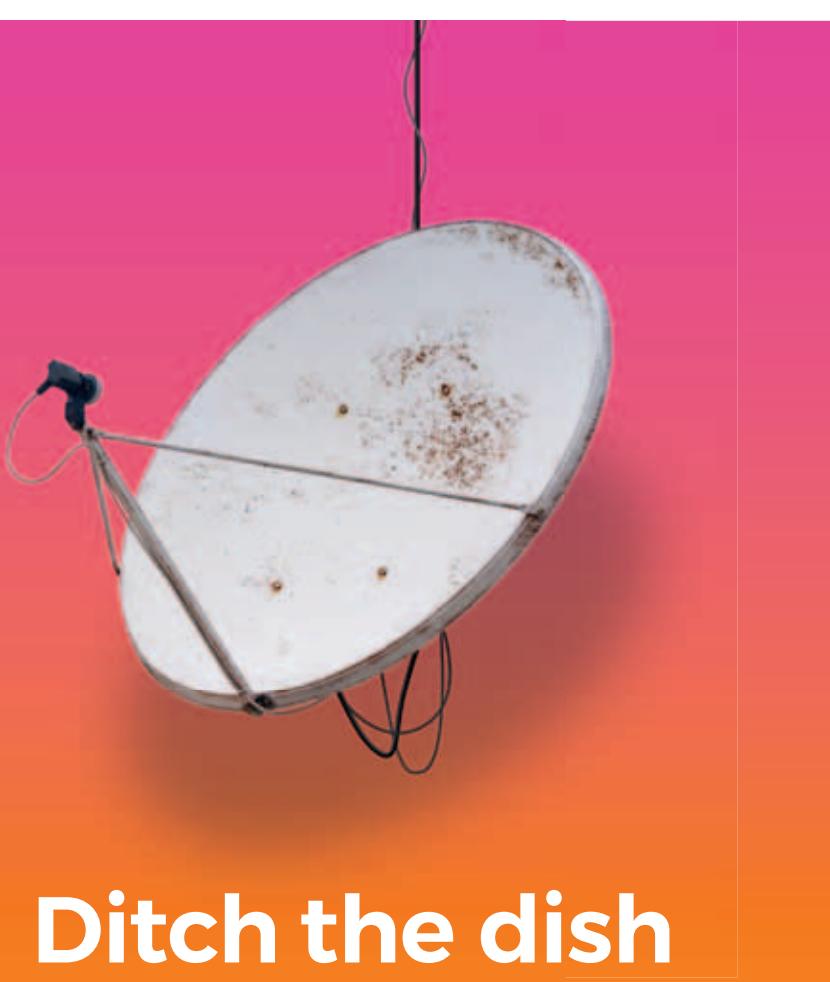
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Discovering a woolly mammoth at Manitou Beach

■ Daniel Bushman

While it probably would not have been that hard to spot a woolly mammoth sauntering through our area thousands of years ago, finding fossils of the extinct group of elephants can be. But just over 60 years ago, a pair of boys exploring a gravel pit at Manitou Beach stumbled upon just that. Now, decades later, the artifact has been donated to the Watrous-Manitou Beach Heritage Centre, preserving the unique piece of history.

For a few weeks each summer, Gary Robins would look forward to making the trek from his home in Ontario out to Watrous to stay with his grandparents. It was during the summer of 1959 that 10-year-old Gary and his 12-year-old friend John Hunt came across the mammoth molar.

Back in the late 1950s, Blyth Construction Company, operating in the hills along Little Manitou Lake, was contracted to supply 500,000 tons of rock to the CNR. Gary's grandparents, Morley and Josephine Crawford, owned and operated the Jubilee Drive-In, and there was a gravel pit right behind it. One day, Robins and Hunt decided to go exploring and headed for the pit.

"I'm not sure what we were doing there, just sort of playing or going to get sand for something," said Robins, speaking from his home in Regina. "We both spent a lot of time at the drive-in that summer. My grandparents built it in 1955 for Saskatchewan's 50th Anniversary Jubilee, so it would have been open for four years at that point."

"It seemed like a funny shaped rock with soft sand around it, and I think it was only because it was in a gravel pit that it had been uncovered. It was probably 10 or 12 feet below the surface and we only noticed it because a lot of sand and gravel had been dug away. We had no idea what it was, but it was certainly unusual."

Fascinated by their find, Robins and Hunt began to pull the mammoth tooth out of the pit, but it started to fall apart. "It didn't crumble but it split almost into layers, and it was the weirdest thing. It was darker and hard on the outside edges, but lighter towards the centre. We didn't know what it was, but it seemed very old and we later figured out it was probably a fossil."

Cemented together with sand and clay, the section of the tooth measured five and a half inches long by three inches wide and it was six tiers deep. While Gary had to return home to Ontario soon afterward, leaving the find behind with his friend, he noted it was pretty exciting and a very cool thing to find as a 10 year old boy.

While John Hunt has since passed away, his younger brother Burt, who was seven at the time and now lives in Alberta, recalled the day when the discovery was made. "I remember them bringing it home, and it was a scratch your head mystery as to what this thing was."

Hoping to reveal the mystery or at least find a few answers, the boys employed the services of Bill Mollard, considered a local amateur geologist. Hunt said, "Nobody knew what that thing was but in those days Bill Mollard went back and forth to his brother's place in Regina. We asked Bill to deliver the tooth to the Museum of Natural History in Regina and they confirmed that it was indeed the tooth of a woolly mammoth."

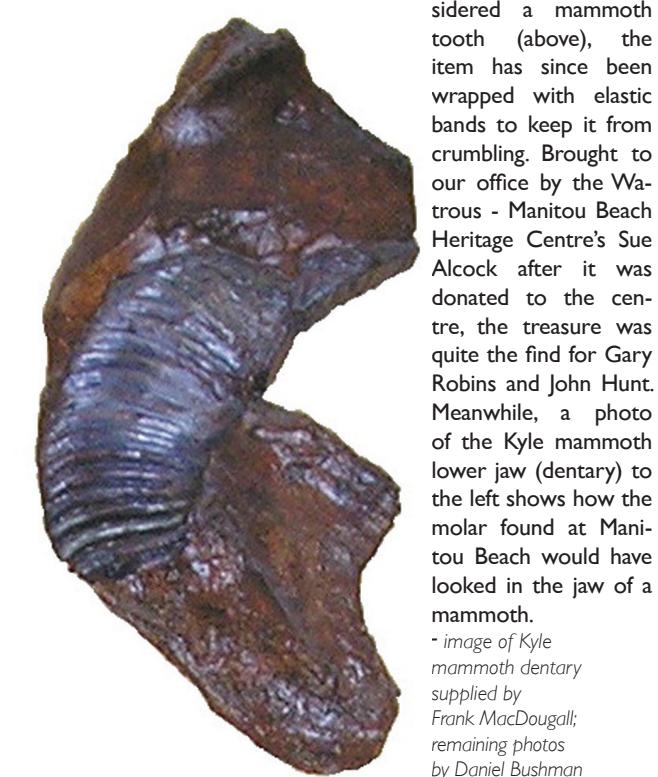
After receiving some answers about the tooth, it was returned to the Hunts, as the Museum of Natural History already had one on display at the time. Burt said once word got out about what his brother and Gary had found, the tooth made its rounds in town including to school and to The Watrous Manitou office where it was put on display for all to see.

Royal Saskatchewan Museum Paleontologist Emily Bamforth works out of the T. rex Discovery Centre in Eastend, Sask. and said to her knowledge the woolly mammoth (*Mammuthus primigenius*) is the species that definitely lived here. While she suspects that the larger Columbian mammoth (*Mammuthus columbi*) also may have made it this far north, Bamforth said they have also discovered mastodons in Saskatchewan, which are often mistaken for mammoths. "Mastodons were also pachyderms, but they had very different diets and life habits from mammoths."

As for how rare the Manitou Beach discovery was, there



Just over six decades ago, a pair of boys stumbled upon a rather unique item at Manitou Beach. Discovering what has been considered a mammoth tooth (above), the item has since been wrapped with elastic bands to keep it from crumbling. Brought to our office by the Watrous - Manitou Beach Heritage Centre's Sue Alcock after it was donated to the centre, the treasure was quite the find for Gary Robins and John Hunt. Meanwhile, a photo of the Kyle mammoth lower jaw (dentary) to the left shows how the molar found at Manitou Beach would have looked in the jaw of a mammoth.



- image of Kyle mammoth dentary supplied by Frank MacDougall; remaining photos by Daniel Bushman

have been others in the province, although Bamforth noted they are largely restricted to molars, and less commonly, tusks. "The fact that the Watrous specimen is a tooth is not surprising. As you likely are aware, teeth are made from enamel, which is a far more robust material than bone. Teeth fossilize well and don't tend to break up and disintegrate as easily as bone. While there may have been more material associated with the Watrous find, it is equally likely the specimen was isolated."

The most famous discovery though is the Kyle mammoth, the only complete mammoth skeleton unearthed in Saskatchewan. "It was found in 1964 near the town of Kyle by a municipal grader operator. The Kyle mammoth is a woolly mammoth. Mammoth fossils are often found in gravels, and sometimes turn up in commercial gravel pits. We recently received a mammoth tusk from a gravel pit operator near Saskatoon. More recently, two mammoth tusks were recovered near Regina by a company digging a rail spur. People also sometimes come across them while digging dugouts. Though mammoth ivory preserves well in places like the Yukon, specimens in Saskatchewan tend to come from waterlogged sediments and are therefore prone to desiccation and are very fragile."

In the local history book, *Prairie Reflections*, Bill and Jack Mollard detailed the geological history of the landscape around the Watrous and Manitou Beach area which suggests this could potentially be a spot for other unique items from the past. The Mollards stated the last glacier to bury the Canadian Prairies below a thick sheet of ice began to melt back toward the northeast more than 20,000 years ago. As it retreated, it deposited a mixture of clay, silt, sand, gravel and boulders, similar to the soil mix where the local mammoth molar was found six decades ago.

As the glacier melted and ice-marginal lakes filled, overflowed and drained away, the running water eroded deep spillway channels with two located in the area (the Watrous Spillway east of Young and north of Watrous and the Lewis Spillway west of Renown). Since Little Manitou Lake, Freshwater Lake and Boulder Lake occupied low-lying parts of one of those former spillways, the old river channel carried a substantial amount of water from the glacial lake then sitting over the Saskatoon area. The Mollards estimated Little Manitou Lake was formed about 12,000 years ago, the same time frame that the mammoth molar dates back to, according to an article in the Aug. 20, 1959 edition of *The Watrous Manitou*.

Bamforth said without being able to date the actual specimen, there is no way to accurately determine the age of the Manitou Beach mammoth molar. "Using radiocarbon dating, the Kyle mammoth was dated to 12,200 +/- 200 years

soon after it was found in the 1960s. Southern Saskatchewan (with the exception of the Cypress Hills region) was covered by glaciers until about 15,000 years ago, and mammoths were extinct by 10,000 years ago. Therefore ultimately, the age range of the Watrous mammoth must be between 15,000 and 10,000 years old. I would suggest that the date of 12,000 years, speculated back in 1959, was surprisingly accurate."

Since its discovery in 1959, the tooth had remained in John Hunt's possession. "My brother had it but passed away in 2011," said Burt. "His wife had a whole bunch of stuff that had meaning for him and us and so she gave it back to me after they had it for decades."

After learning that a Heritage Centre was being established in Watrous, Burt and his wife Wilma (nee van Schaffelaar) decided to donate the item back to the local area. "It shouldn't be anywhere else," he said. "Something that amazes me is that nobody has really found anything else like it around there. As far as I know nobody has found such a thing at the beach before or since then."

Reminiscing about that day when he and John found the tooth, Gary was pleased to learn it had been donated to the Heritage Centre. "That's great to hear. I am really thrilled to hear that. It was so unusual when we found it, and so different from anything I had ever seen before. I'm glad it's found a permanent home at the Heritage Centre."

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OBITUARY



MULLET,
Leah "Belle"
October 5, 1927 -
January 6, 2021

The family of Leah "Belle" Mullet is sad to announce her passing on Wednesday, January 6, 2021 at her residence in Mennonite Nursing Home in Rosthern, Sask. She was 93 years of age. The family will gather for a Private Graveside Service. Donations in memory of Belle can be directed to the Mennonite Nursing Home, (P.O. Box 370, Rosthern, Sask. S0K 3R0), or visit <https://mennonitenursinghome.com/donate/>

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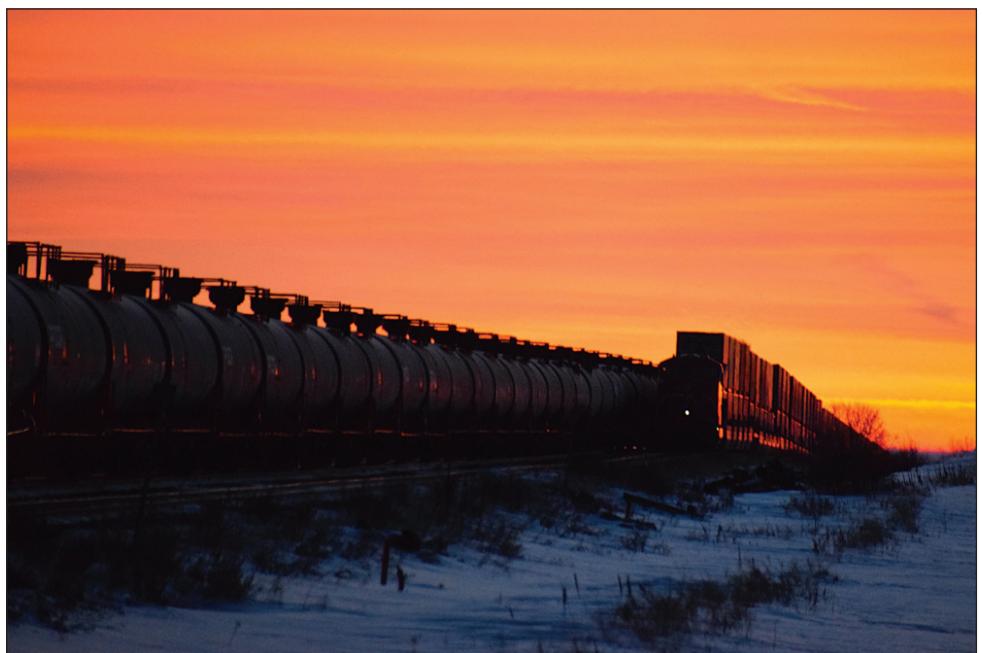
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- photos by Daniel Bushman



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LANIGAN ADVISOR



Junior Citizen of the Year Scholarship

For over the past four decades The Saskatchewan Weekly Newspapers Association, in partnership with SaskPower and with the Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan, have recognized the youth of Saskatchewan through the Junior Citizen of the Year Award.

These prestigious awards are given to youth who:

- Have a positive lifestyle
- Have had the ability to overcome life's challenges
- Have a strong sense of caring and responsibility
- Are dedicated to community and school
- Inspire others
- Are between the ages of 8 to 18



This year four deserving youth will receive \$3000 bursaries to use towards their post-secondary education. Nominate someone from your community today.

Visit www.swna.com for further information
and nomination forms

Nominations close March 31, 2021