

LANIGAN ADVISOR

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Frigid February gives way to milder March

■ *Daniel Bushman*

While people living within the local region can certainly vouch for how cold it was during February, Environment and Climate Canada's David Phillips confirmed just how bad it got before receiving a reprieve from the deep freeze as the end of the month arrived.

Thinking that perhaps it was going to be a milder type of winter after December came in at two and a half degrees warmer than normal and January was almost four degrees warmer than normal, February arrived and quashed the whole idea.

"We had February, which is the shortest month become the longest month," said Phillips adding, "We saw a long spell of just brutally cold weather."

Even with the mild spell, for the month of February, Phillips said locally the numbers averaged out to about -18.8°C (all of the highs and the lows put together) which was about 6.8°C colder than it should have been.

Up until that mild spell arrived to end the month, Phillips indicated the average temperature was around -21.4°C . "That would equate to an afternoon temperature of about -16.4°C and a minimum at night of -26.4°C ."

Throw in a night where it hit -41.5°C Feb. 13 and Phillips said, "In many ways it just shows you what two weeks can do to undo what had been a rather balmy and open and soft kind of winter."

Despite forecasts suggesting a cold winter, when November, December and January arrived, the values proved otherwise. However once February barrelled through it brought along a polar vortex with quite a stretch of colder than normal conditions. "There were 32 days in a row from about Jan. 20 to Feb. 20 where the temperature did not get above freezing."

While there were just a few days with above freezing values in February, when it came to days getting below -30°C , Phillips said there were 10 for the month when normally there would be two or three.

"When you look at the total for winter, there were 16 days where the temperature got below -30°C and you would normally see 10 or 11 of those. It just shows you what a two week period can do to skew the numbers and to just almost erase a winter that would have been warm, balmy and soft."

Add to the fact that there were daytime highs that did not get above -30°C and Phillips said it was a really frigid time for people in Saskatchewan. "That is a cold low but for a daytime high when the temperature should be closer to -3°C , -4°C or -5°C for a high, it was like -30°C . It was tough to take."



After dealing with a polar vortex for a large chunk of February, people in Saskatchewan were treated to warmer weather as the month came to an end. Not only were people able to enjoy the nicer temperatures but it appeared as though numerous wildlife also did not mind the sunshine.
- photos by Daniel Bushman

cal region it does not look like flooding will be an issue but rather the lack of moisture.

"If March is what we say it is, normal to milder, that will ease away any snow that does come. The problem is where you have lots of snow and you delay the melting of it and it rushes out at once. The ground is still frozen and you are dealing with a lot of melt water and maybe some spring rains and you end up with flooding situations. (As of now though) I think that fields won't be flooded and ditches won't be full of water and one hopes that you get some good late April, May and June rains to provide the crop with a needed water."

But as the polar vortex finally left and February neared an end, Phillips hinted the cold air may be over. While it could try and return for one last blast, Phillips said the sun is now higher in the sky and shines for three minutes longer each day. That also provides more heat compared to late December and early January. "Going forward, we see the forecast for March to be normal to milder than normal for most of Saskatchewan. It is not as if the punishing weather won't come back but I don't think it will come back to the brutality it was because it is hard to do that when you are later in the season."

As for the spring season, Phillips suggested that for the lo-

Co-ops are a different kind of business where profits all stay local right in the community. Humboldt Co-op sells seed and crop inputs directly to local farms. The farmer uses Co-op premium diesel to plant and harvest their crops. Then we sell the end product at our food stores. We are truly a farm to fork operation.

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WE ARE

MEMBERS
OWNERS
CO-OP

A Q and A with Lanigan's CAO

■ **Daniel Bushman**

In her new role as Lanigan's Chief Administrative Officer, Kelli Timmerman has not only been getting to know more about the community during her time as CAO but is looking forward to what is ahead.

The Lanigan Advisor reached out to Timmerman about being the CAO in Lanigan and Kelli graciously took some time out of her busy schedule to share about

herself and her job.

When did you take on the role of CAO for Lanigan?

I officially signed the employment agreement on Dec. 22, 2020, but had verbally accepted the offer of employment on Dec. 17. My first day in the office was Jan. 18, 2021.

How has it gone so far?

It has been terrific! I am fortunate to have such experienced and knowledgeable office staff to assist with transitioning into

my new role. I appreciate that the Public Works guys make themselves available when I call on them for anything, including having the sidewalk cleared when I arrived to work on those snowy days. Mayor Tony Mycock and the rest of Town Council has been super to work with as well. They have been very open to my ideas and patient with the processes as we learn together. We have a really great team here!

Are you looking forward to the opportunity and getting to know those within the community?

Absolutely! Right from the start I have admitted that the biggest challenge will be getting to know all of the residents and the various relationships within the community. With COVID restrictions and the weather having been so drastic, there hasn't been a lot of traffic at the counter so the opportunities to meet

the residents haven't been many as of yet. I suspect that once the weather warms up and restrictions gradually lift, there will be plenty of opportunities for me to get out into the community to introduce myself at local events and activities. I encourage you all to introduce yourselves to me as well.

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

I come from Lanigan's hockey rival, the Town of LeRoy, and over my years in school, I have competed against some incredible Lanigan athletes in various other sports as well. But relax, I come in peace! I have actually cheered on the Lanigan Pirates in the past when my son played here in the Pee Wee division and it wasn't so bad. Of course, I say that in fun and anticipate some casual innocent banter regarding my roots being reciprocated.



Lanigan CAO Kelli Timmerman.

- photo submitted

him from the "gallery" that follows behind. When I am not watching Carter compete in golf tournaments, I enjoy having coffee with friends, barbecues with family, participating in community events and taking hot holidays when life permits. **What are you looking forward to from a CAO role for Lanigan in 2021?**

I am looking forward to learning about the foundation of the Town of Lanigan. When it comes to functionality, each municipality is very unique in what works for them, and what doesn't. These intricacies are largely the basis of decisions that the elected officials will make on behalf of the residents. It is important for me to understand what makes the Town of Lanigan "tick" in order to distinguish the priorities of the community. **Are there some big projects or jobs coming up for this year in Lanigan?**

Yes! Lanigan has made some great improvements over the past number of years and this year will be no exception. On the immediate radar is the installation of two new playground structures. The larger of the two will be installed at RCMP Park on Downing Drive and the other at Lion's Park on Baun Street. The goal is to have these new playground additions ready for use by the middle of May. Aside from that, we have discussed a few other projects but until the budget is passed in April they are pending approval, so I can't say for sure that those are going ahead just yet.

Is there anything else you would like to add?

Yes... GO PIRATES!

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RED CROSS BABYSITTING for WATROUS STUDENTS

WATROUS: March 14, 2021; 9 am - 3 pm; \$30*

*This course is normally \$60; however, the Watrous Kinette Club is generously sponsoring half of the registration fee for students enrolled at the Watrous Elementary School or Winston High School.

RED CROSS BABYSITTING

WATROUS: April 24, 2021; 9 am - 3 pm; \$60

FOODSAFE

WATROUS: March 20, 2021; 9 - 4 pm; \$99

CANADIAN RESTRICTED FIREARMS SAFETY COURSE (CRFSC)

WATROUS: March 27, 2021; 9 - 6 pm; \$130

For details or to register, contact:

WATROUS - 306.946.2094

1.800.667.2623

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AAC Starbuck VB CWRS
AAC Brandon CWRS
CDC Inca Peas
CS Camden Oats
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The Village of Drake invites applications for FOREMAN FOR PUBLIC WORKS

This full-time, year-round foreman is responsible to the council through the Administrator and/or Mayor.

The successful candidate will meet the following criteria:

- Have a willingness and aptitude to operate various municipal medium and heavy equipment.
- Have knowledge of servicing and maintaining various equipment.
- Good communication skills with council, staff and ratepayers.
- Organizational and record keeping skills.
- Ability to work without supervision and with other employees.
- Be competent, self-motivated with a strong work ethic.
- Must possess a valid Class 5 driver's licence; Class 1A would be an asset.
- Previous municipal experience would be an asset.
- Knowledge of environmental permitting requirements would be an asset.
- Criminal Record Check and Driver's Abstract required prior to hiring.
- Prepared to perform various duties as required or assigned by the Administrator or Mayor with strong values rooted in health and safety.
- **Must be willing to receive training and acquire certificates as needed;** such as, but not limited to: The Power Mobile Training Certification, Water and Wastewater Operator Certification Program.

Duties to include, but are not limited to:

- Mowing, snow-blowing, clearing sidewalks.
- Sign installation and maintenance.
- Providing monthly reports to council.
- Equipment maintenance and record keeping (equipment logs/maintenance forms).
- Maintaining proper occupational health and safety requirements.
- Operation of all equipment.
- Ensure proper training of employees and all equipment.
- Supervise day-to-day operations of public works.
- Oversee the activities of contractors.
- All other duties as assigned by the Administrator or Mayor.

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Manager
Seasonal Full-Time
& Part-Time
Guards/Instructors

POSITIONS TO COMMENCE

May/June, 2021

MANAGER

Responsible for pool operation including development and implementation of various pool programs and activities. Responsible for pool start-up. **Qualifications:** Standard First Aid, CPR Level "C", WSI, NLS or Red Cross Lifeguard, Aquatic Emergency Care, Pool Operator (Level 1). Experience and/or additional qualifications preferred.

FULL & PART-TIME GUARDS/INSTRUCTORS

Qualifications: WSI, NLS or Red Cross Lifeguard, Standard First Aid, CPR Level "C". Experience and/or additional qualifications preferred.

Please provide a detailed resume with copies of **ALL** certifications held. Please indicate position(s) desired. Applications will be received until

March 17th, 2021

Address to:

Town of Lanigan

Box 280, Lanigan SK, S0K 2M0

For more information call

306-365-2809

Or email

town.lanigan@sasktel.net

Interested individuals should submit their resume including driver's abstract, qualifications, work experience, three work references and wage expectations by March 5, 2021 to:

Pierrette Woynarski, Administrator
117 Francis Street, Drake, SK S0H 1K0
Email: villageofdrake@sasktel.net

Thank you to all for applying, however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.



Looking on the positive side of COVID-19: Bea McGrath

■ reprinted with permission from SHA

Bea McGrath is the person we'd all want to be if we were blessed to live 99 years, and she feels grateful to have received the COVID-19 vaccine.

Born in Saskatoon, Bea has lived most of her life in Le-Roy, apart from spending a few years in Ottawa after signing up for the Air Force during WWII. Upon her return, Bea married her fiancé Gerald and together they raised seven boys and four girls. After Gerald passed, Bea moved to Trinity Manor in Saskatoon.

"My children couldn't have found a better place than Trinity Manor," she said. "Being a resident of Trinity Manor is also how I received the vaccine, and the young nurse who gave me the shot was so gentle I didn't even feel it." Bea further reflected, "I feel blessed and very lucky and grateful to the health authority for the care they have given to the seniors of our province."

Bea's interests and attitude toward life have been a great contributor to her longevity. "Besides gardening, playing cards, puzzles and fishing, I have always been an avid

sports person, both as a participant and fan. I love the arts, especially music and the theatre," she said.

Bea is also a published author, having penned the Le-Roy Hockey History book and tried her hand at acting at 89 years of age. However, her love of travel is unparalleled, having spent January and February in Maui the last nine years.

When asked how she felt about COVID-19 after having experienced so much in her rich life, Bea responded "Well, I always try to see the positive side in life, and with COVID I just had to adapt." She also noted that "a loving family, daily exercise, healthy eating and the odd Corona beverage keeps me going."

Bea, you're an inspiration. So, let's all wear our masks, wash our hands and physical distance to protect treasures like Bea.

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RCMP Report

Man charged with break, enter and theft from church

On Feb. 14, 2021, at approximately 10:25 a.m., Buffalo Narrows RCMP was advised the Church of St. Leo the Great in Buffalo Narrows had been broken into overnight.

A tabernacle, chalices, robes, crosses and other religious artifacts were stolen.

The same day, Buffalo Narrows RCMP officers located some of the stolen items near the Catholic cemetery and an adult male suspect near the church.

Further investigation led police to request and execute a search warrant at a residence in Buffalo Narrows on Feb. 15. Numerous stolen items were located inside the residence, including crosses, robes and other artifacts from the church.

Forty-nine-year-old Dean Chartier of Buffalo Narrows has been charged with Break, Enter and Theft as well as other charges.

Male charged for willful promotion of hate

In June 2019, Carlyle RCMP received the report from the Canadian Anti-Hate Network regarding an alleged Anti-

Semitic video on YouTube. The video features 29-year-old Travis Patron of Redvers who is the self-proclaimed leader of the Canadian Nationalist Party.

Carlyle RCMP Detachment launched an investigation with the assistance of the Saskatchewan RCMP Major Crimes Unit, the Saskatchewan RCMP National Security Section and the British Columbia RCMP Hate Crimes Unit.

All of the evidence gathered by police was reviewed and forwarded to the Saskatchewan Attorney General, which is a requirement for the charge of Willful Promotion of Hate, under Sec. 319 of the Criminal Code of Canada to be laid. (see page eight: **RCMP**)

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June: 306-365-7449
Karen: 306-365-7709

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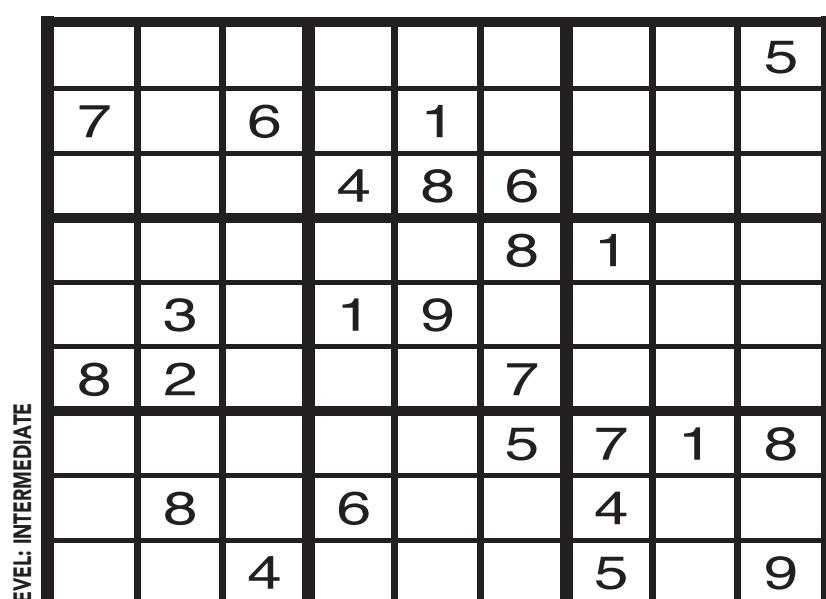
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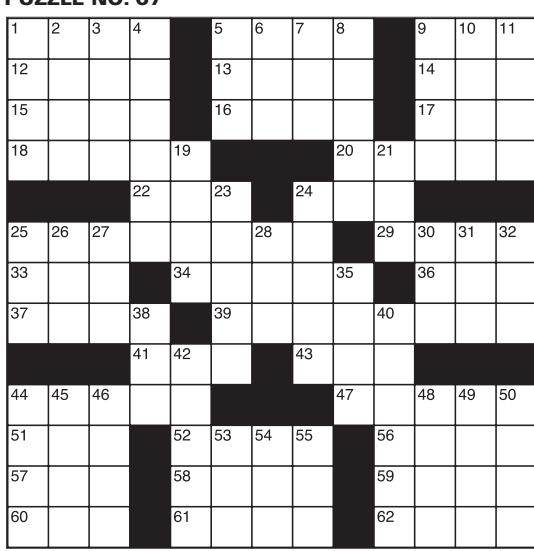


SUDOKU



CROSSWORD

PUZZLE NO. 67



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ACROSS

- Swine food
- Soothing medicine
- Not young
- Grandma
- On the briny
- Sorrow
- Superior to
- "___ Might Be Giants"
- North-Pole helper
- Aromatic herb
- Strangely
- Bro's sib
- To's associate
- Fine wool

- Crack and roughen
- Yuck!
- Prize medal
- Bother
- Not shallow
- More nutritious
- Zeppelin
- Affirmative vote
- Record-album material
- Oklahoma city
- Bad humor
- Prickly feeling
- Window part
- Boar's mate
- Accurate
- Send out
- Carpenter or army
- Ogler
- Audition tape
- Snooky person
- Volcano's output
- Small bills
- Church district
- Club
- Powdery residue
- "Malcolm X" director
- Municipal official

FOR ANSWERS
TO SUDOKU AND
CROSSWORD,
SEE PAGE 9

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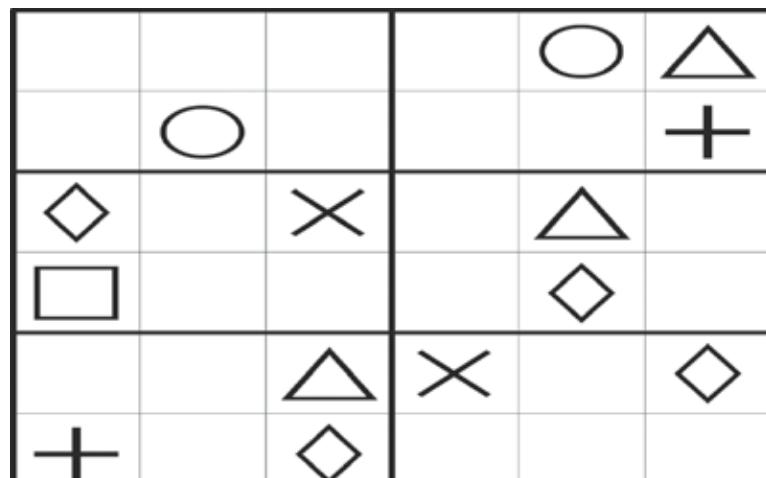
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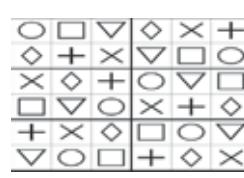


Sudoku 6x6



COMPLETE EACH GRID WITH THESE SIX SYMBOLS.

Symbols can only appear once in each line, once in each column and once in each box of six squares. Each box of six squares is marked by darker lines. Some symbols are already included in each box to help you get started. Don't forget: a symbol can't be repeated in the same line, column or box.



“Look What's Cooking by Laura Novecosky”

Marinated Steak

Ingredients:

1/3 cup soy sauce
1/4 cup oil
1/4 cup brown sugar
2 tsp. ground mustard powder
2 tsp. ground ginger
1 tsp. garlic powder
1 and a half pounds boneless beef sirloin steak

Directions:

In large resealable bag, combine the first six ingredients. Cut the steak into serving sized pieces. Seal in bag with marinade, best if refrigerated overnight (or at least 6-8 hours). Drain well, discard marinade and bbq to your desired doneness. I sometimes also add Frank's Hot Sauce (about 2 tbsp.) or sweet chili sauce (2 tbsp.) or both to the marinade.

Positive COVID-19 cases confirmed in Watrous; first vaccinations arrive

■ Daniel Bushman

As the number of positive COVID-19 cases started to drop in parts of Saskatchewan, a reminder of how quickly the situation can turn hit the local area last week. Multiple cases of COVID-19 were confirmed in Watrous this past week and because of it, many within the community rallied in an effort to curb the spread.

Saskatchewan Health Authority (SHA) issued a release early last week confirming that in fact there was increased COVID-19 in Watrous. That was followed by notification of a drive-thru COVID-19 testing site which was made

available to the public Feb. 23. Held outside of the Watrous Curling Rink starting at 10:30 a.m., a line of vehicles stretching at least two blocks to the Watrous District Health Complex provided a steady stream for health care providers as they administered the tests to those in vehicles.

Two lines in the curling rink's parking lot allowed for quicker testing at the site although at times there was a waiting period of about two hours. That line subsided by the time the afternoon arrived.

While SHA is unable to confirm how many positive cases there were at the drive-thru due to privacy reasons,

providing services to the area, Medical Health Officer Dr. Jasmine Hasselback said in total, 359 swabs were taken.

"That is really, really amazing. That level of engagement from the community is phenomenal and applauded across the province. I am really glad to see that many people who saw the value of knowing the status in such a tumultuous time."

Hasselback noted that right now it is a critical time in Saskatchewan where there has been multiple sacrifices made over the past number of months but added that it doesn't take much for a lot of people to become infected

from a flare up of COVID-19.

With access to testing being a huge part of keeping a pulse on the virus and how quickly it can spread, Hasselback said with Watrous, there was a commitment to make sure there was an easier way to get to the tests.

"It is so valuable because knowing your status for COVID is a game changer."

Hasselback continued by noting, "This sort of event, and bringing in drive-thru testing will become more and more just part of a routine way of being. That commitment to bringing the tests closer to you, and easier to have access to it really makes sure

the more people get tested the better we have the understanding of what is going on.

"It has been beautiful to see the response in Watrous and the commitment to each other and coming out to get tested is the most measurable. But we have seen it in a lot of stories in the human side as well in the commitment and co-operation and the checking on each other virtually. There has been a lot of commitment to keep each other safe and we have seen that presented in a lot of ways."

With multiple confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Watrous, mayor John Gundersen said, "First and foremost, we will assist in whatever way possible to ensure Watrous continues to be a safe community for its residents. It is unfortunate that we are being faced with a number of positive COVID-19 cases and this is a sign to everyone to never let your guard down. For anyone who has tested positive we wish them a speedy recovery. Until we have all been vaccinated, we as a community must continue to be diligent in wearing masks and staying home as much as possible."

With a speedy response to the multiple cases, Gundersen was appreciative of SHA for organizing a drive-thru COVID-19 testing site so quickly. "We also cannot thank the front-line workers in health care and all the other people in essential services enough who have helped us

get through this over the past 11 months. Our hats go off to the local business community as well. Over the course of the pandemic, they have made sure that measures were taken to ensure the safety of their customers and employees. With the recent outbreak, a number of them have voluntarily taken the initiative to temporarily close their doors. This is a sacrifice on their part, and we acknowledge this."

"Watrous is a community of resilient people and we are confident that we will bounce back from this even stronger on the other side."

Despite speculation of how many confirmed positive cases are in Watrous, SHA does not share specific numbers due to privacy reasons. So as cases began to pop up in the local area, they were within the Central East 1 zone, a zone that includes places like Watrous, Simpson, Manitou Beach, Drake, Etters Beach, Holdfast, Imperial, Jansen, Lanigan, LeRoy, Humboldt, Nokomis, Young, and Zelma.

While not being able to confirm if all the new cases were from Watrous, there was an increase in the Central East 1 zone this past week. After less than 10 active cases heading into the middle portion of February, as of Feb. 21 there were 11 active cases with seven new ones. A day later the number for the Central East 1 zone went to 21 active cases with 10 new ones. On Tuesday, Feb. 23 there were 26 active cases with five new ones and a day later, just one new case. On Feb. 25 there were 30 active cases and three new ones.

In an effort to stay safe, Hasselback said people should be adhering to instructions from public health. "If you are someone who has been told you should get tested, then please do. If you are someone who has been told to self-isolate then please do and do until they say you are free to go. If you do have symptoms and you are not connected to either of those pathways immediately self-isolate and arrange for testing."

She also reiterated to keep socializing to the absolute minimum and adhere to the public health restrictions. "That will make a big difference if heaven forbid when a person does get it to make sure it doesn't affect as many folks. I think Watrous is a good example of just how connected we all are even when we are trying to stay disconnected physically. That regular hand washing, checking everyday how you are feeling in terms

(see page seven: COVID)

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— Joan Carriere, Paddockwood, SK

WELCOME TO PADDOCKWOOD
BUILT ON CORDWOOD AND COURAGE



(from page six: **COVID**)

of symptoms (is important).

Hasselback also suggested that masks fit properly when they are worn. "If you feel the airs are blowing up to your eyes or ears or below your chin, you don't have that seal. You want that air going through the mask and the mask alone. A good check for that is to take a few deep breaths when you put your mask on and try to figure out where the leaks may be. If there are no leaks that is good and it means you are breathing through the mask."

The following are locally confirmed cases and updates that occurred throughout this past week. While there may be additional cases amidst speculation, the following cases and updates were obtained from officials:

Schools

On Feb. 17, Horizon School Division was made aware of a COVID-19 diagnosis in an individual at Winston High School. Families in Watrous were informed of the case by the division and Horizon noted it was working closely with Public Health to assist in the contact tracing process.

Then on Feb. 21, Horizon School Division was made aware of a COVID-19 diagnosis in an individual at Watrous Elementary School. That number was later adjusted to two on the provincial government's website. Families at Watrous Elementary were informed as the division worked closely with Public Health to assist in the contact tracing process.

As students and staff at both schools returned from the February break, the schools remained open unless families were directed otherwise.

On Feb. 25, Horizon School Division was then made aware of a COVID-19 diagnosis in an individual at

Imperial School. Families at Imperial School were being informed of this case. As of last week, Imperial School remained open to students and staff.

In a statement, Horizon School Division said, "We all have a shared responsibility to limit the spread of COVID-19. We thank Horizon's staff, students, and families for all their efforts to help mitigate the risks during this pandemic. We continue to require students and staff to stay home if they are experiencing symptoms associated with COVID-19."

Further details cannot be provided to maintain the privacy of the individuals involved.

Local businesses

Working with the Saskatchewan Health Authority, Saskatoon Co-op indicated that staff from both the Watrous Food Store and the Farm and Agro stores had tested positive for COVID-19. On its website, the Co-op noted team members were self-isolating along with other employees who had close contact.

The confirmed cases were reported Feb. 20 and 21 at the Watrous Food Store and Feb. 21 at the Farm and Agro Store.

Saskatoon Co-op stated it will follow the direction of the SHA and will continue with the health and safety measures that were put in place in response to the pandemic: increasing already high standards for cleaning and sanitization; practicing physical distancing measures (including one-way aisles and plexi-glass barriers at counters); employees wearing masks to protect others; and team members are asked to stay home if feeling unwell, and the Co-op continues to encourage all team members to seek testing and undergo self-isolation if they feel any potential COVID-19

symptoms.

"We wish a quick and safe recovery to each of the individuals who have been affected by this virus. Our priority remains to keep our team members and customers safe and healthy while serving our friends and neighbours. We care greatly for the communities we work and live in and as a local, member-owned business, we take the responsibility to protect our communities seriously."

At Model Meats, SHA declared an outbreak at the local business Feb. 22. According to the provincial government, a confirmed outbreak is when two or more people test positive for COVID-19 and are all linked to a specific non-household setting or event within a specific time period. In an effort to curb the spread of COVID-19 and putting safety at the forefront, Model Meats temporarily closed its doors until further notice.

A number of other local businesses also made the decision to close temporarily out of an abundance of caution as they tried to help curb the spread of COVID-19. Some remained open but changed how they offered services like providing take out options or offering curb side pick up.

Under the direction of Watrous Library Board, due to the increased number of cases, the library in Watrous made the precautionary decision to not accept in person appointments to check out library materials and only offer curb side pick up until further notice.

The Town of Watrous office also closed temporarily and the community's fitness centre and arena also shut down until further notice.

Manitou Lodge

In order to keep everyone in SHA facilities and care homes safe during the increase of COVID-19 in Watrous, family presence/visitation is being limited to

compassionate reasons only at Manitou Lodge.

SHA noted the decision to restrict family presence is not taken lightly. "These measures are in place to keep you, your loved ones, and health care workers safe. The Saskatchewan Health Authority is asking the public for their support and co-operation in order to contain the spread of the virus."

Compassionate care reasons may include, but are not limited to, family or support persons during end-of-life care, major surgery, intensive care/critical care, maternal/pediatrics, long-term care residents whose quality of life or care needs are unmet or those inpatients and outpatients with specific challenges.

SHA said no other visitors are allowed into the specified facilities or homes at this time and these limitations will remain in place until it is safe to return to the previous level of family presence.

Nutrien Mine - Allan

While not in the Central East 1 zone, west of Watrous an outbreak was declared by SHA at Nutrien Mine Allan Feb. 17. Larry Long, Senior VP, Potash Operations said, "At Nutrien, caring for the health and safety of our people and communities is a top priority. We are aware of the positive cases at our Allan site and will continue to work closely with the Saskatchewan Health Authority to investigate, maintain our protocols

and take all actions necessary to reduce the spread of COVID-19."

Vaccinations

While multiple positive cases of COVID-19 began showing up in Watrous, earlier in February, local health care workers, Manitou Lodge residents, and others were able to receive their first COVID-19 vaccinations.

As part of Phase 1, just over 150 people in Watrous - a combination of health care workers, long-term care residents and community members over age 70 - received their first doses of the vaccine as part of a total of 1,379 given on that day for the Central zone. In total, as of Feb. 21, the Central East zone had received 5,973 first doses given with 111 second doses given. In total, 41,933 first doses had been given in the province with 18,810 second doses administered as of Feb. 21.

With local residents receiving their first doses including those at Manitou Lodge, Phase 1 of the province's COVID-19 vaccine distribution

plan continued throughout Saskatchewan. Phase 1 of vaccine delivery is aimed at targeting residents and staff of long-term and personal-care homes, identified health care providers, residents 70 years and older and residents aged 50 and older in remote/Northern Saskatchewan.

As of Feb. 24, the provincial government noted 81 percent of residents in long-term care homes across Saskatchewan had received one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine. In addition to 81 percent of long-term care residents having received their first dose, 46 percent of long-term care residents received both their first and second doses. Along with that, 76 percent of Saskatchewan's personal care homes received their first dose and 24 percent have received both doses.

"Our health care workers are doing an excellent job of administering vaccines quickly, safely and efficiently in long-term care facilities across the province," Health (see page eight: **COVID**)

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(from page three: **RCMP**)

From April 2020 to July 2020, Carlyle RCMP received four additional reports of new alleged Anti-Semitic videos and hate speech by Travis Patron. Police are still investigating each of these reports.

On Feb. 15, 2021, Carlyle RCMP were given direction from the Attorney General of Saskatchewan to arrest and charge Travis Patron under Sec. 319(2) of the Criminal Code of Canada for Willfully Promoting Hatred to an Identifiable Group. Travis Patron was arrested by Carlyle RCMP that day.

Travis Patron made his first court appearance on Feb. 16 in Weyburn Provincial Court via telephone.

Man arrested for attempted murder

On Oct. 1, 2017, just before 9 a.m., Leader RCMP responded to the report of a fire at a mobile residence located in Lemsford Ferry Regional Park, Saskatchewan. The two occupants of the residence, an adult male and female, were taken to hospital for treatment of their injuries.

The mobile residence was completely destroyed by the fire and was investigated by the provincial fire scene examiner. Due

to the initial information available at the time, the cause of the fire was deemed to be inconclusive.

In February 2019, Leader RCMP received additional information reporting the fire was not accidental and the adult male who was an occupant of the mobile residence was allegedly responsible. The Saskatchewan RCMP Major Crimes Unit South (MCU-S) took carriage of the investigation and gathered the evidence required to lay charges.

On Feb. 16, 2021, 51-year-old Kirk Rudolph of Prince Albert was charged with attempted murder, aggravated assault, arson, obstructing justice and counselling to commit public mischief. Police also issued a warrant for his arrest. The next day, police had reason to believe Rudolph travelled to Whitehorse, Yukon. MCU-S requested assistance from Yukon RCMP to arrest Rudolph. He was arrested by Yukon RCMP without incident on Feb. 18, 2021.

Kirk Rudolph was transported back to Saskatchewan on Feb. 20, 2021.

Leader RCMP and the Saskatchewan RCMP Major Crime Unit South would

like to thank the Yukon RCMP for their coordination and assistance with the investigation that led to a safe arrest.

Eight break and enter investigations in Saskatchewan and Alberta leads to charges

Between December 2019 and February 2020, there was a series of eight break and enters throughout west central Saskatchewan and eastern Alberta.

The break and enters targeted small businesses with ATMs either inside the business or in the lobbies of the buildings. All the incidents were similar in the method of operation: suspects would use a vehicle to gain entry to the building causing extensive damage to property. Once inside the building's ATMs, cash registers and other small goods would be taken or damaged.

The Frenchman Butte Enhanced Policing Unit headed the investigation with the assistance of several affected RCMP Detachments in Saskatchewan and Alberta. Specialized units such as the Forensic Identification Section, Divisional Criminal Analytical Section, General Investigation Section and local detachments worked together to identify a suspect in the matter.

On July 22, 2020, police executed a search warrant at a residence in the RM of Britannia related to these investigations and found further evidence linking the suspect to these break and enters as well as a stolen firearm, 3.75 pounds of cannabis and 203 cannabis plants in various stages of growth.

As a result of the ongoing investigation, Daniel Dean of the RM of Britannia,

Saskatchewan, has been charged with the following:

- Four counts of break and enter, contrary to Sec. 348(1)(b) of the Criminal Code (CC);
- Possession of a stolen firearm, contrary to Sec. 96(1) of the CC;
- Careless storage of a firearm, contrary to Sec. 86(1) of the CC;
- Possession of a firearm without a license, contrary to Sec. 91(1) of the CC;
- Possession of cannabis for the purpose of trafficking, contrary to Sec. 10(2) of the Cannabis Act; and
- Possessing more than four plants Sec. 8(1) of the Cannabis Act.

Daniel Dean has also been charged from Alberta with four counts of break and enter.

Dean is scheduled to appear in Lloydminster, Saskatchewan provincial court on Mar. 9 and in Lloydminster, Alberta provincial court Mar. 16.

This investigation is ongoing and other suspects have not been identified. Anyone with information regarding this or any other incident is urged to call the St. Walburg RCMP at 306-248-6250. Information can also be submitted anonymously to Crime Stoppers by calling 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or submitting a tip online using the P3 App - <https://www.p3tips.com/206> or at www.saskcrimestoppers.com where you can also view other unsolved crimes. Saskatchewan Crime Stoppers will pay up to \$2,000 for information which leads to an arrest or charge of person(s) responsible for this offence or any other serious crime.

(from page seven: **COVID**)

Minister Paul Merriman said. "The only thing slowing them down is the shortage of vaccines from the federal government.

"When we get enough doses, we will be able to quickly finish vaccinating all the residents and staff in our long-term care homes. We look forward to having our seniors in long-term care fully vaccinated as soon as possible so they are protected from the threat of COVID-19."

For the remainder of the general public, Phase 2 is anticipated to begin in April, May or June of 2021, depending on available vaccine supplies. The second phase will focus on vaccinating the general population in 10-year increments. In an effort to offer the vaccination to all residents in Saskatchewan, SHA will operate 230 clinics in 180 communities.

Locally, for Watrous, Lanigan, and Nokomis, mass immunization clinics will be set up in those communities. In places like Humboldt, Saskatoon, Moose Jaw, Swift Current and Yorkton, drive-thru clinics will be created in addition to mass immunization clinics. Mobile clinics will be set up in communities like Ituna, Yorkton, Saskatoon and others further south.

In total, 43 mass immunization clinics will be set up in the Central region, five drive-thru clinics and seven mobile clinics.

In addition to SHA clinics, the provincial government noted there will also be many others including: participating pharmacies

(last year 385 pharmacies in 113 different communities participated in the flu immunization program); participating physicians' offices; First Nations clinics; community-based settings; and partnerships with large businesses/industries.

As local vaccination dates draw closer, information will be shared to let people know when they can be vaccinated. A central scheduling system for online access is being developed so appointments can be booked online through the Government of Saskatchewan website and a toll-free telephone line will also be established for residents to book appointments. Both are scheduled to be operational by March 2021.

On its website, the provincial government stated: "The timeline for Saskatchewan's COVID-19 Vaccination Delivery Strategy is dependent on vaccine supply and availability. The federal government is working to obtain as much vaccine as possible to distribute to provinces and territories. It's important to understand the timeline for each phase may change due to vaccine availability. You will not miss your chance to get the vaccine when a new phase starts. Once you become eligible, you are always eligible. If you are in Phase 1, you can still get the vaccine in Phase 2."

Phase 1 (the current phase) is expected to run until March 2021 with Phase 2 commencing April 2021 and running to Fall 2021.

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Notice is hereby given that the *assessment roll for the RM of Usborne No. 310* for the year of 2021 has been prepared and is open to inspection in the office of the assessor from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday to Friday inclusive.

Any person who desires to object to the assessment of himself/herself or of any other person must lodge his/her complaint in writing with the Administrator of the municipality by the 3rd day of May, 2021.

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Viscount

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Viscount Central School has an ice block structure that the staff and students started. It is a very colourful ice block creation outside of the school (pictured).

Thirty-nine blankets were delivered last week from the Viscount Chapter of Blankets for Canada. Twenty went to Humboldt and 19 went to two different places in Saskatoon. We are hoping to be of help during the frigid days. Although the ladies work on their own from home, many continue to carry on working on our knitted and crocheted squares. If you would like more information on how we make our blankets, please call Evelina at 306-944-4820.

Viscount Central School break was Feb. 15 until 19 with school resuming Feb. 22. Friday, Feb. 26 was the 100th day of school for this year at Viscount Central School.

Best wishes to anyone who is under the weather. I hope you feel better soon.

Thank you to all who helped make this week's Viscount news possible. Have a great week and try and stay safe.



- photos courtesy Sandra Reid



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Someone who can provide amazing customer service with a knowledge of building materials and a love for DIY projects. Please apply if you have some computer knowledge, are self-motivated and can work together with our team. The role will be mainly lumber counter sales, with flexibility to be tailored to your specific skills.

Drop off your resume in person to Ken Bushman or email it to watrous@homehardware.ca



Watrous Home Hardware
Building Centre

802 4th Ave. East 306.946.3325



Jansen

Louise Shannon

Feb. 22

I watched the online video of Terri Ann Hamilton's hair being shaved off. Then she shaved her brother Howard's hair and beard. They raised over \$12,000 for Telemiracle and the Kinsmen.

Congratulations to Beth Koshinsky Geisbrecht on receiving her teacher's certificate. That's the second teacher in that family.

Family Day was cold but that was a good time to play board games. My sister and I loved Monopoly. My younger sister played Go Fish with dad.

Happy birthday to Grayson Schindel, Ren-

ee Wolfe, Linda Paetsch and Ed Krieger.

Mar. 1

Condolences to the Manyk family on the passing of Harvey Manyk Feb. 22. Harvey was raised in Jansen and moved back some years ago to help out his mother with the house and yard.

Get well wishes to Dawson Block after his unfortunate accident. Dawson is the grandson of Scarlet Block who was raised in Jansen.

It got a lot warmer this week so I hope to see some children playing outside.

Happy birthday to Donna Torwalt and Melissa Klinger.

Plunkett

Deloris Wilson (Sutherland) • 306-944-4852

An afghan was donated by Myrna Fleischhacker of Plunkett and a sunflower stepping stone was donated by Clara Georgson of Humboldt (Myrna's sister). Winner of the afghan was Paisley Matsula of Meacham (Wendy Bishop's granddaughter) and winner of the stepping stone was Maddie Hamilton of Saskatoon (Dale and Helen Mil-

ler's great-granddaughter).

Plunkett and Glynfield folks send their deepest sympathy to the family of Mrs. Norman Wignes (Beryl) on her passing in Saskatoon. She had been a teacher years ago at Glynfield School.

The weather was great for a few days and then it turned bitterly cold for a while.

There are several deer

roaming around our town at night looking for food. We have had one sleeping under our apple tree in our back yard.

Plunkett folks send their get well wishes to anyone ill and in the hospital. We wish them a speedy recovery.

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

MANITOU MAINLINE CHRYSLER KING OF TRUCKS IS LOOKING FOR A: Wash-Bay/3M Applicator

- Duties to include detailing vehicles inside and out as well as installing 3M film.
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- Short and long-term disability is mandatory.
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- Vacation days are based on Provincial Labour standards.
- Enjoy working in a state-of-the-art facility with a positive atmosphere and opportunities to grow.



If this job sounds like the perfect opportunity for you, apply: via email to Ryan Campbell at rcampbell@watrouschrysler.ca or give Ryan a call at 306-946-4646 or stop by the dealership in person at 9 Campbell Road in Watrous.



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

