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The Watrous Manitou

MONDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2021

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2021 Christmas Edition

Finance minister reflects on 2021 while looking ahead to 2022

■ Daniel Bushman

Navigating through the COVID-19 pandemic while trying to make decisions that are in the best interests of the people of Saskatchewan, Deputy Premier, provincial Finance Minister and local MLA for the Humboldt - Watrous constituency Donna Harpauer has had a busy 2021.

Raised on a farm near Guernsey and completing high school at Lanigan Central High, Harpauer has served the local area as MLA since 1999. Now a grandmother and currently residing in Humboldt, with a busy December and looking forward to spending some time with her family over Christmas, Harpauer set aside a few minutes to share about this past year and what 2022 could hold.

How did this year go from a finance perspective amidst the pandemic?

There is always pressures when we are in a pandemic, financially for sure. There is pressure on the health care system, in particular the fourth wave hit our province particularly hard. There is pressures on that health care system but there are also so many positive indicators throughout the year.

We have had over \$10 billion of outside investment committed to our province which is very exciting. I think we are going to see a lot of construction in the upcoming year both in mining, at the BHP site and also with canola crushing plants. There has been a number that have been announced. We have exciting progress in helium, lithium and a number of areas in our province that really does demonstrate the outside confidence in our province in what we have to offer.

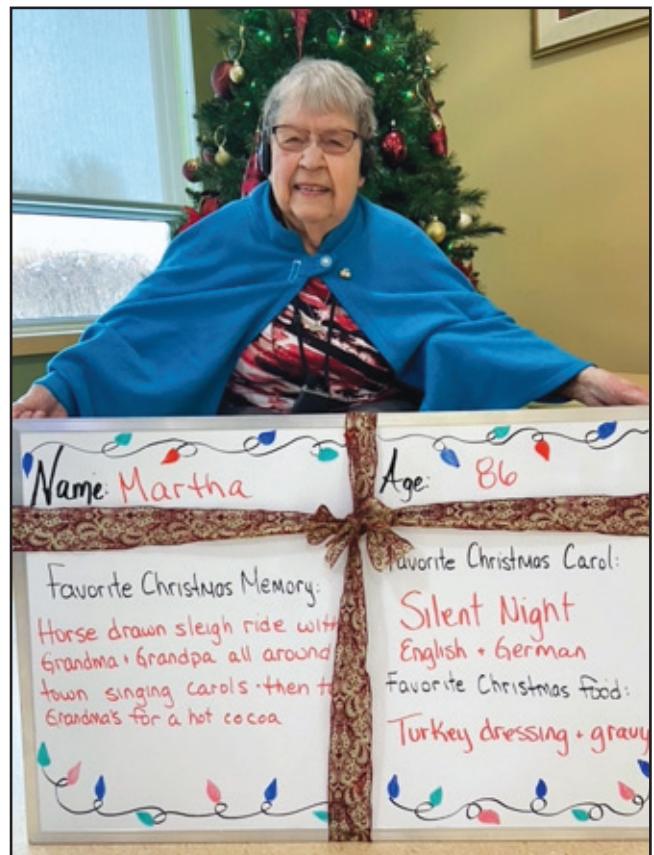
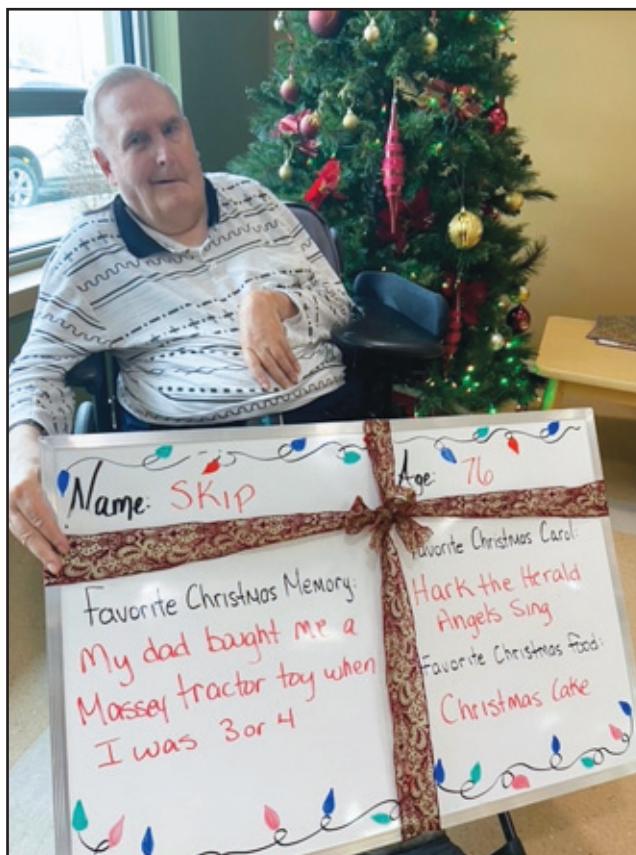
Our employment numbers have recovered to over 98 percent of our pre-pandemic level which is also a very positive indicator of the future of our province and it is looking very bright in the future.

After going through the pandemic in 2020, did you expect it to be what it has been in 2021?

I was definitely hopeful that we wouldn't still be talking about a pandemic 20 months later but here we are. Hopefully we are seeing the downside of it going forward. Time will tell and it is an unprecedented challenge we are facing not only as a province but as a country and as a world. **Has it been a tough year for you sitting in the Saskatchewan Finance Minister's chair?**

When we introduced our second quarter report, it was a

(continued on page three: HARPAUER)



► Some residents of Manitou Lodge in Watrous graciously lent a few moments to spread some Christmas joy as they posed for photos, sharing a few memories from Christmas over the years. Thanks to Manitou Lodge for helping us out. You can find more photos throughout this year's Christmas Edition.

photos submitted





“RCMP Report”

RCMP charge impaired drivers

Saskatchewan RCMP officers removed three impaired drivers from the roads in the Maidstone area – in just two-and-a-half hours overnight.

From 11:30 p.m. on Dec. 9 to 2 a.m. Dec. 10, officers located and charged three impaired drivers. Their vehicles were also impounded for 30 days and their driver's licences were suspended indefinitely.

One of the drivers had a pack of hard iced tea and empty cans in the passenger seat beside him.

Officers from the Maidstone RCMP and the Saskatchewan RCMP's Roving Traffic Unit were conducting a cooperative "Safer Roads, Safer Communities" enforcement blitz in the area.

"This initiative focused on ensuring the roads in the Maidstone area were safe for everyone travelling on them. Despite constant messaging about the dangers

of driving while impaired, these incidents show there are still people making poor choices that endanger not only themselves, but others around them," said Cpl. Bryce Pender from the Roving Traffic Unit. "That's why the Saskatchewan RCMP is committed to locating and removing these drivers from the road – just like we did last night."

He reminds everyone, particularly as people celebrate during the holidays, to plan ahead if you are consuming alcohol or cannabis. Appoint a designated driver, take transit or a cab, or stay the night if there is no safe ride home.

Firearms seized and men charged

On Dec. 8, 2021, Saskatchewan RCMP officers searched a vehicle and residence in Asquith in relation to an ongoing investigation into illegal activity in the area.

This investigation is being led by Saskatchewan RCMP's Saskatoon Crime Reduction Team (CRT), with the assistance of the Federal Serious and Organized Crime unit, the National Weapons Enforcement Support Team, Digital Forensic Services and the Warman Detachment.

Officers located and seized drug trafficking paraphernalia, two firearms (one loaded) and a replica firearm. Two males were arrested in connection to these searches.

Gregory Friesen of Asquith is charged with: four

counts, failure to comply with firearms prohibition, Section 117.01(1), Criminal Code; one count, possession of a stolen firearm, Section 96(a), Criminal Code; one count, unauthorized possession of a restricted firearm, Section 92(1), Criminal Code; one count, unauthorized possession of a restricted firearm with ammunition, Section 95, Criminal Code; one count, unsafe storage of a firearm, Section 86(2), Criminal Code; one count, possession of property obtained by crime, Section 354(1)(a), Criminal Code; and four counts, failure to comply with release order, Section 145(5)(a), Criminal Code.

Austin Derkatz of Red Deer is charged with single counts of: unauthorized possession of a prohibited firearm, Section 91(1), Criminal Code; unauthorized possession of a restricted firearm with ammunition, Section 95, Criminal Code; unsafe storage of a firearm, Section 86(2), Criminal Code; and possession of property obtained by crime, Section 354(1)(a), Criminal Code.

"The Saskatoon CRT is committed to disrupting criminal activity and making our communities safer," said Sgt. Kory Davidsen of the Saskatoon CRT. "Illegally-possessed firearms have no place in our communities. I'm pleased that, in partnership with other Saskatchewan RCMP resources, we were able to take these firearms off the streets."

Long-term care inspections program launched

■ media release

The first inspections under Saskatchewan's new long-term care homes

inspections program are underway across the province.

Ministry of Health inspectors will begin

by inspecting about 20 homes, selected to reflect an urban-rural balance, and a range of small, medium and larger homes.

"We are committed to the safety and well-being of residents and staff in our long-term care homes," Mental Health and Addictions, Seniors and Rural and Remote Health Minister Everett Hindley said. "Along

with the Saskatchewan Health Authority, we have enhanced our oversight of long-term care homes over the years. This inspections program is one more step in our efforts to help ensure that our seniors live safely and comfortably in their communities."

The initial series of inspections started Dec. 14 and will be completed by the end of March

2022. After that, all long-term care homes will be regularly inspected on a three-year cycle.

Saskatchewan's long-term care homes have always been required to comply with the regulations and Program Guidelines for Special Care Homes, which outline the standards that facilities must meet in order to provide safe and effective care.

Building on a number of initiatives that monitor homes' performance, the inspections will assess their compliance with these guidelines and any related regulations and policies focusing mainly on the resident care and resident-centred work within the home.

Saskatchewan has 151 long-term care homes and 10 other facilities with long-term care beds.

Watrous hosts Davidson in LLHL

■ Daniel Bushman

Looking to secure a victory on home ice, the Watrous Winterhawks

took aim at the Davidson Cyclones Dec. 11. With the Saturday evening contest getting underway and both clubs hitting the ice for a

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much needed two points in the Long Lake Hockey League standings, it was Davidson who got on the board first.

With a goal less than six minutes into period one, the Cyclones then added another later in the frame before the home team tallied to make it 2-1. With 3:23 to go, Michael Korol scored the team's first of the night to get his club to within one. However, Davidson regained its two goal advantage as the visitors notched a third marker with 1:58 remaining

in period one.

Down by a pair after the opening 20 minutes, Watrous tried to get to within one but the visitors were able to collect a fourth goal as the Cyclones made it 4-1 with 15:37 left. Davidson would add three more in the middle stanza including a shorthanded goal and through 40 minutes, the visitors led 7-1 and outshot the Winterhawks by a two period total of 31-22.

Looking to add a few goals in the final frame, Watrous fought back to begin period three and less than 40 seconds after the puck dropped, Clay Frey made it 7-2 with Korol and Andrew Lewis collecting the assists. While Davidson

notched three more in the third, Watrous replied later in the period with two of its own as Korol nabbed his second of the game followed by James Farmer, who scored with 5:49 left. However it would not be enough as Davidson skated away with a 10-4 win.

Watrous was scheduled to be back on the ice Dec. 18 in Foam Lake.

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(from front page: HARPAUER)

very surprising report. The second quarter gives us more solid data. As you introduce your budget you are using projections of what you think the year expenses and income will be. In the second quarter, you have got a half a year's data in which to draw from to know if you are correct in your projections.

In fact, all of our economic revenue sources were considerably stronger than what we thought they would be. In particular in potash, oil and gas they were much stronger than what we thought. All of our taxation numbers were up which indicates that the economy is recovering faster and stronger than we anticipated.

Are you pleased with where Saskatchewan is compared to other provinces?

Yes, very much so. I think that we have demonstrated how resilient the people of Saskatchewan are.

Many of those in health care have stepped up tremendously during the pandemic. What do they mean to the province?

There is no doubt that our health care workers have stepped up for a long period of time now. I want to thank them very much from the bottom of my heart. It has been extremely difficult for them.

Our strategy and our responsibility as government now going forward is to recognize where we had shortfalls and that is in our ICU capacity. We are going to have to expand it on a permanent basis. We are going to have to attract more health care workers that should another event like this happen, not as catastrophic as this one I hope, we do need more workers in our health care system. We are going to be looking at recruiting more in a challenging time when of course every province is trying to do the same.

We can never say enough about the great work they have done throughout this in looking after the citizens of Saskatchewan.

With such a big impact to the health care sector during the pandemic, could there be more dollars allocated in the upcoming budget for that area?

In a couple of areas I believe we need to make a larger financial commitment. One is recruiting more workers in expanding our critical care capacity. The other is because of the slowdown with surgeries. The health minister has announced a very aggressive surgical strategy where we are going to step up our surgeries not just to the capacity of where it was at but an accelerated capacity in order to deal with the backlog of surgeries that accumulated over the pandemic.

There have been a few highlights for the local area like a new school for Lanigan and the announcement of BHP moving forward. Are you optimistic for more in 2022?

Those are two big infrastructure highlights and of

course with BHP that will translate into employment in our area which is great. And optimism for our agriculture sector. It took an unprecedented hit and it was somewhat felt in our area because drought is not something that is in anybody's control. But I have a lot of optimism in our agriculture sector. It has been a shining light in our economy year after year and this year it had a very stressful year. We can never underestimate how important it is to Saskatchewan's economy.

On a personal level, is there a highlight for you that sticks out for 2021?

I am looking forward to Christmas. Last year I couldn't have the family together and I always do each and every year. So this year I am really looking forward to Christmas once again with my family. I wish that for everyone. Spend time with your friends and family, be respectful to one another, bring our communities back together and appreciate what we have in Saskatchewan. We really are living in a great province.

Looking ahead to the start of 2022, what will you be busy with?

I am already working on next year's budget and we are going to be putting a lot of priority into our health care system and building capacity within the health care system. The other priority that we had laid out in our throne speech at the beginning of our fall session is we are going to be putting in more resources into crime reduction across the province but with a particular focus in rural crime reduction.

The pandemic has created a lot of anxiety and uncertainty for many people. Will you be looking at adding to the mental health and addictions budget as well?

We have added significantly to our mental health and addictions budget over the last couple of budgets and I am sure we will be looking at that again this year but with a little more focus on our children. There has been a lot of concern of the stress on our kids through the pan-

demic just because there is more household anxiety than what would be normal. I think we have to do a reach out to ensure that our kids are fairing through this well.

Is there anything else you would like to add?

I just want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and I hope that people are able to bring their communities and family together, appreciate what we have, be respectful to each other and enjoy some down time.

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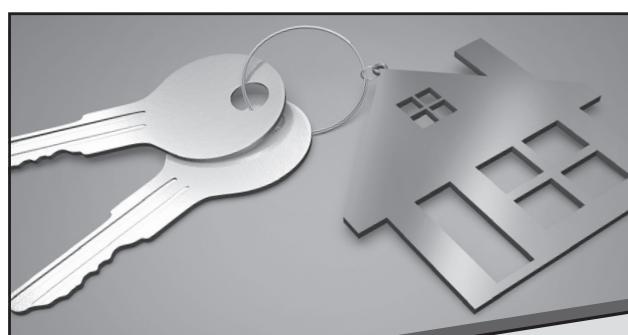
Happy Holidays

from the Board & Staff
at the Watrous Library

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Thank You!

I would like to send out a huge thank you to our community for all the support that I received for the "Santa for Seniors" project that ran this year. I feel like it is a worry for everyone, not just myself, that something that you are passionate about won't be as well received as you hope it will be. Boy, was I wrong!

I knew that Watrous was a generous community and it was proved in a big way in the last few weeks. Thank you so much to anyone who donated, or nominated someone to get a gift. I would not have known where to start without the help of the community and I am pleased to say that Santa for Seniors was a huge success! There is nothing like bringing a smile to someone's face, but I think it was even more rewarding after the past few years and all of the rules and restrictions that we have had to deal with.

Thank you again so much Watrous, you made the holidays a lot brighter for a lot of people, including me!

- Chelsea Murfitt, Director of Recreation - Town of Watrous

Watrous & District Food Bank

CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

THANK YOU!

Thank you to residents, businesses and organizations for all of your support towards our Christmas hampers this year.

We are constantly amazed by your generosity!

The Watrous and District Food Bank would also like to extend its thanks to all of the individuals who make the work of the food bank possible.

Merry Christmas!!

Thank You

Interlake Human Resources Corporation would like to say a very big THANK YOU to **Young's Equipment Watrous** for their generous donation. These funds will contribute to our kitchen renovation, which will enable more of our participants of all abilities to utilize the space as well as work together and contribute to our weekly lunch program. We are so grateful to Young's for their consideration.

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“Opinion”

PLUNKETT

Deloris Wilson (Sutherland) • 306-944-4852

I hope everyone has a merry Christmas with family and friends! Christmas will be here before we know it.

Winnipeg won the football game. It was an exciting Grey Cup.

Did a lot of folks see the sky when the comet was appearing?

I hope everyone is getting their booster to try and keep away from COVID.

One sure has to bundle up in this cold weather.

It was frosty Monday, Dec. 13 which means rain in six months.

Recently visiting Roger and Isabelle Langston in Watrous was their daughter Patty Dale of Warman as her dad was in Watrous hospital.

It was nice hearing from Anna-Mae Ryanne who now lives in Cutknife close to family.

COLONSAY

Irene Gray • 306-255-2775

Sympathy to Brenda Hennessey (Helmkay) and family on the passing of her husband Pete on Dec. 6 and to Bruce and Joanne Helmkay on the passing of their brother-in-law.

Vicki Wieler travelled to Colonsay to pick up her mother-in-law Beryl Wieler. They travelled to Swift Current to attend the fourth birthday party for twins Harrison and Sutton, children of Meagan Cuthbert. Beryl also spent the weekend with her sister Jewel Giesbrecht.

Joan Campbell spent the weekend with her cousin Norma Sparrow.

Colonsay United Church donated \$100 toward the Colonsay Food Bank.

Life is cheery at Christmas time,
Smiles are merry as the sleigh bells chime,
Hearts are singing as we march along,
Filled to overflowing with the Christmas song.
We wish you a merry Christmas, yes we do;
And a happy, happy new year too.
May the dear Lord bless you all along the way,
And give you all a happy, happy Christmas Day.

VISCOUNT

Sandra Reid • 306-227-1193

What a beautiful way to say Merry Christmas. This large card is displayed outside at the Viscount Wheatland Library.

Blankets for Canada meets at the Viscount library Wednesday afternoon between 1 and 4 p.m. On Dec. 8 there were five ladies who met to sew squares together. The snow and wind did not keep us away! We met

again Dec. 15 then take a break until the first week of January. We have many ready to be delivered blankets that will be distributed to various shelters before Christmas. Feel free to drop in and join us!

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, stay safe, travel safe and enjoy the holidays.

Merry Christmas and happy holidays to all!

**Wishing You a
Merry Christmas
And A Happy Holiday Season!**



**Thank you for your support in 2021.
Stay safe and all the best to you and yours in 2022!**



Neighbourly advice according to Ed

A spiritual column by contributor Raymond Maher
www.accordingtoed.com

Ed asked me yesterday (Dec. 7) if I had sent his Christmas gift yet. He reminded me of the deadline for getting parcels mailed so they arrive before Christmas. Then he asked me, "What did you get me for Christmas?"

I confessed that I had tested our friendship again because I did not get him any visible gift. So I asked Ed if he was ready for an invisible gift and he was not sure it would be better than no present at all. So then I told him to look forward to a one-of-a-kind

Giving an invisible and unique gift to another.

unseeable gift. He said, "It sounds to me that you are losing your marbles."

A unique gift means getting a gift wrapped in unexpectedness with the power to excite or depress you. Christmas often has a focus on gift-giving and receiving. Gifts often reflect both what others want or need. Sometimes gifts are a way of saying thank you to those we appreciate, such as work associates, mail carriers, doctors, teachers, helpful neighbours, caregivers, etc.

Yes, Ed is correct that most gifts are things you see, touch, smell, hear, or taste. They are visible. I believe the best gift you can give someone else is yourself. Giving yourself may not be the best as an in-person gift. Although we like other people, we do not want to see them at our door too often. What is the best way to give yourself as a gift to others?

I believe the best way to give myself to another

is through prayer for the person. The Bible speaks of prayer offered in faith as bringing the healing of the sick. Prayer is powerful and effective when we confess our sins and pray for each other. Prayer is powerful when we are patient and do not grumble against others. (James 5:8, 13-16)

The best gift I can give Ed and everyone is invisible prayer. As I pray to God to bless and help others, I better be praying for myself. I am always also in need of prayers, for God is our power and glory. It is God who knows us fully and what we need. His word directs us towards praying for our growth in His love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

Following are three prayers for your consideration.

A Love prayer: Lord, I search for love in the wrong places and faces, hopes, and dreams. Break

into my self-centeredness. Please open my eyes to see your loving forgiveness, for me a sinner, in Jesus Christ your Son. Please help me to be bear-hugged by your undeserved forgiveness through faith in Jesus.

A Joy prayer: Lord, your success, good fortune and well-being are more than events and feelings that come and go. Please help me to see the self-control of Jesus when mocked, his gentleness, patience, and kindness, as his forgiveness was extended to those crucifying him.

Help me find your peace in the joy of sacrificing so others can discover God's love in Christ here on earth, which lasts eternally.

An Old Age prayer: Keep me from becoming a sour older person but instead help me see good things in familiar places and faces and be thankful for the talents and blessings of those around me.



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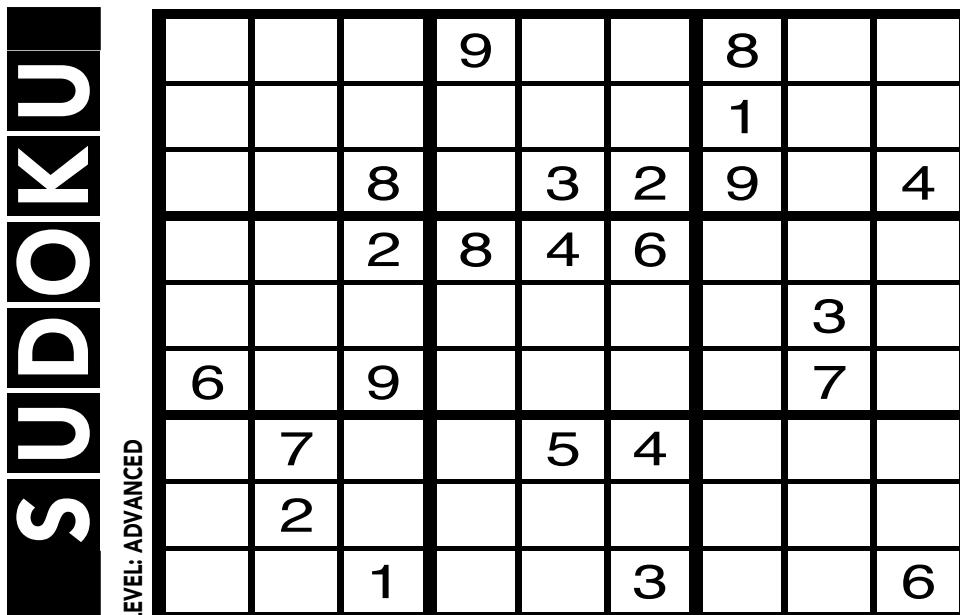
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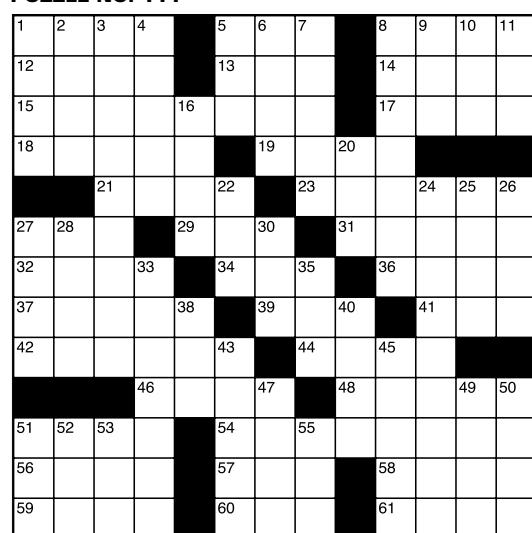


Comics AND Puzzles



CROSSWORD

PUZZLE NO. 111



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ACROSS

- 1. Baths
- 5. Busy activity
- 8. Melt
- 12. Corridor
- 13. Do wrong
- 14. Paper or pudding
- 15. Solar or lunar events
- 17. Exploited
- 18. Slalom competitor
- 19. Mets, e.g.
- 21. Get bigger
- 23. Excellent
- 27. Scarf
- 29. Drink
- 31. Join together
- 32. Sedan, e.g.
- 34. Lump or mass
- 36. Like some tales
- 37. Make a touchdown
- 39. Faulty item
- 41. Circus safeguard
- 42. Scream
- 44. Talk back
- 46. Gooey stuff
- 48. Warm
- 51. Stereo: hyph.
- 53. Seed container
- 59. Whiskies
- 60. Positive answer
- 61. Leading performer

DOWN

- 1. " _____ So Cold"
- 2. Fill tightly
- 3. Crocodile's relative
- 4. Trickier
- 5. Stubborn animal
- 6. Eating plan
- 7. Start
- 8. Brass instrument
- 54. Part of a phone number: 2 wds.
- 56. Fifty-fifty
- 57. _____ an egg
- 58. Maple, e.g.

FOR ANSWERS
TO SUDOKU AND
CROSSWORD,
SEE PAGES NINE AND 11

Holiday Hours

FOOD STORE	GAS BAR	AG CENTRE
Fri. Dec. 24: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.	Fri. Dec. 24: 6 a.m. - 6 p.m.	Fri. Dec 24: 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Sat. Dec. 25: Closed	Sat. Dec. 25: Closed	Sat. Dec 25: Closed
Sun. Dec. 26: Closed	Sun. Dec. 26: 8 a.m. - 9 p.m.	Sun. Dec. 26: Closed
Fri. Dec. 31: 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.	Fri. Dec. 31: 6 a.m. - 9 p.m.	Mon. Dec 27: 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Sat. Jan. 1: Closed	Sat. Jan. 1: 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.	Fri. Dec 31: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Wishing you all the best
this holiday season!

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At the Watrous Centre

Whist winners at the Senior Centre Thursday, Dec. 9 were: first - Fred Kahlert, 148; second - Rod Degenstein, 146; third - Kathleen Paul, 144; fourth - Bob Wignes, Betty Carlson, Olive Sundquist, Lorne Bradbeer (tied), 140. Travelling - Peter Sundquist and Fred Kahlert. Home-steader was Peter Sundquist, nine times at same table.

Kaiser winners at the Senior Centre Monday, Dec. 13 were: first - Sylvia Falkowsky, 216; second - Bob Wignes, 206; third - Earle Amendt - 196; fourth - Lorelei Stewart - 175.

Anyone interested in submitting local Watrous news can do so by faxing 306-946-2026, emailing watrous.manitou@sasktel.net or stopping by the office.

"Look What's Cooking by Laura Novecosky

Holiday Edition

Stuffing for a large turkey**Sauté the following ingredients:****2 large chopped onions****4 to 5 cups finely chopped celery****2 cups grated carrots****1 cup oil****Add:****4 loaves of cubed bread****Stir in:****2 tsp. salt****1/2 tsp. pepper****2 tsp. sage****4 tsp. poultry seasoning**

Mix well. Add chicken broth one cup at a time until you can form a ball with the mixture. You don't want it dripping wet, just that it sticks together. You can either stuff your turkey with this or you can bake it separately covered for one hour at 350°F.

Gingerbread People**1/2 cup shortening or butter****1/2 cup brown sugar****1 egg****1/2 cup molasses****1/4 cup water****2 3/4 cups flour****1/2 tsp. baking soda****1/2 tsp. salt****2 to 3 tsp. ginger (more ginger makes these better)****1 tsp. cinnamon****1/2 tsp. allspice**

Cream shortening and sugar. Beat in egg, then molasses and water. Add combined dry ingredients. Chill about one hour (makes rolling much easier). Roll on lightly floured surface about 1/8 inch thick. Decorate with candy or raisins or leave plain and decorate with icing sugar once they have cooled. Bake at 350°F for eight to 10 minutes.

WES Holiday Fun

December 1, 2021

Dear Mom and Dad,

Have you ever had a ugly Christmas sweater that plays music and pops out to me? That's the best Christmas sweater in the world.

First of all, I want this ugly Christmas sweater

because it looks fantastic. There are red-green, and white stripes across the sweater that flashes. This sweater also plays "Let It Snow."

Next, Santa is on the front of the sweater, drinking a Coke. Santa's body inches out of the

sweater so it looks like he's popping out. Santa is the main character of Christmas.

Lastly this sweater will put you in the Christmas spirit and mood. It also will make family and friends laugh. So I could participate in Christmas

spirit days at school. So that is why you should buy me this sweater!

As you can see, I want this sweater for school spirit days, to make family and friends laugh and this sweater will be joyful and has a lot of Christmas spirit. Mom and Dad jump in your car, head to Saskatoon and get me this ugly Christmas sweater from Walmart. Please!

Love,
Owen
Gr. 5T, WES

December 5, 2021

Dear Mom and Dad,

Have you ever seen someone with an ugly Christmas sweater that makes you laugh out loud? Well I think you should get me this sweater because it is warm, it gets people in the Christmas spirit and the smell and appearance is fantastic!

First of all the heat on this sweater is so amazing you would never want to take it off. It is made of cotton and wool and it would help warm you up in less than a minute. This sweater is like wearing a warm marshmallow around and will help you get a better sleep.

Second of all, the lights on this sweater are so bright you could probably see them from Russia. The smell would make you wanna go to Co-op and buy fresh baked sugar cookies. The elf on the front is so hilarious it would probably make people laugh out loud when you walk past them.

Lastly, if you had a

spirit day/competition for ugliest Christmas sweater you would win first place. It would also help people get in the holiday spirit. This sweater would make my Christmas ten times better.

So please go buy me this sweater because it is warm, it gets people in the holiday spirit, and it would be perfect for spirit days. So go to the closest Walmart and buy me this ugly Christmas sweater.

Love,
Luke M
Gr. 5T, WES

think we should all get a Christmas sweater this year for all of us! So let's all go to the city and get my holly jolly Christmas sweater!

Love,
Harper
Gr. 5T, WES

December 3, 2021

Dear Mom and Pete,

Have you ever got an ugly Christmas sweater that was so ugly that it was beautiful? Well here are three beautiful reasons to get me that ugly Christmas sweater. In my opinion, I think you should get me an ugly Christmas sweater because it makes people laugh, I could wear it on cold days and it puts me in the Christmas spirit.

Firstly, it makes people laugh when we have Christmas get-togethers at my farm. Bells are ringing when walking down the road and lights are surrounding you. Cool characters pop out at you even when it pops out I start breaking out in laughter.

Secondly, it puts me and the people around me in the Christmas spirit. The sweater has Santas and Reindeers on it plus cool characters like TOM HOLLAND:) I would be rolling into school in style.

Lastly, it is warm and cozy. I could wear it on cold days to school. And when I get cold, I could put on a hot pack if I am cold in the stocking. All my friends will be jelly of my Christmas sweater.

In conclusion, I think you should buy me that ugly Christmas sweater

because on cold day days I can wear it, it plays Christmas music, has funny characters, and more so go to your local Walmart and get it today.

Love,
Jaylynn
Gr. 5T, WES

December 24, 2021

Dear Mom and Dad,

Do you like the holidays? Should you buy me another ugly Christmas sweater? Yes, yes you should buy me

(see page seven: WES)

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spirit day/competition for ugliest Christmas sweater you would win first place. It would also help people get in the holiday spirit. This sweater would make my Christmas ten times better.

So please go buy me this sweater because it is warm, it gets people in the holiday spirit, and it would be perfect for spirit days. So go to the closest Walmart and buy me this ugly Christmas sweater.

Love,
Owen
Gr. 5T, WES

December 8, 2021

Dear Mom and Dad,

Can you imagine sitting with our whole family beside our beautifully decorated Christmas tree? While you and dad are all cozy and comfy with your precious kids? Well, that's why I think that we should all get matching sweaters for this year's Christmas.

Firstly, getting the whole family matching Christmas sweaters would mean you don't have to worry about what to get me for Christmas. I both need and want matching Christmas sweaters. This sweater will show my 'festive' Christmas spirit. I believe that Carson, Collyns, and I would have more holiday fun with matching outfits. We also would be able to mark Christmas 2021 as most memorable in matching sweaters. We could keep the house temperature low because our sweaters would keep us warm and mom would save money.

Secondly, it gets so cold up here in Canada! It's a very fashionable outfit for Christmas and for all of us! It's gonna be sooo CUTE! ;)

Thirdly, Christmas is coming up so there is no better time to get one! They are probably all on sale! Who wouldn't want to buy a Christmas sweater that's ON SALE!

Lastly, imagine the Christmas photos we will all take! They will be so ADORABLE. And Mom, imagine Carson in a little Christmas sweater! LOL!

In conclusion, I really



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(from page six: WES)

another ugly Christmas sweater! I think you should because of many reasons.

To begin with, it looks cheerful, fun, funny, Christmassy, bright, and joyful. For instance, it has green, red, and white pompoms. Also, it has lights that turn off and on with a remote.

Secondly, it's cozy and warm inside and out. For example, this sweater has a warm turtle neck and fur inside it. It's so cozy I will boil in it.

Finally, I need it for school spirit day at school. In other words, we have a school spirit day called ugly Christmas sweater day, so I need it. Also, there is a red and green day so I want to participate.

As you can see it is cheerful, warm, and I need it for school. Like I said at the start, a lot of reasons. So please buy it for me for Christmas and I will pretend it's not my Christmas present.

Love,
Beth P
Gr. 5T, WES

December 3, 2021

Dear Mom,

In my opinion, I should get an ugly Christmas sweater. They keep you warm. Plus they're cheerful and if there is a spirit day I can wear it. It can just be very very funny.

First of all, if there is a spirit day at school I can wear it and there could be prizes for the best ugly Christmas sweater and I could get the prizes.

Next, if you don't know what to get someone get them an ugly Christmas sweater. If you get them an ugly Christmas sweater is it red and white.

Finally, it is going to have to have Santa on it or reindeer or elves. If your friend is having a bad day an ugly Christmas sweater can cheer them up. If it has lights you can cheer them up. If it has lights and it has Santa and reindeer and there could be lights that go with the music.

All in all, if you get me this sweater I could cheer my friends up if they're having a bad day. Go to a Walmart today to get an ugly Christmas sweater.

Love,
Tucker
Gr. 5T, WES

December 3rd, 2021

Dear Mom and Dad,

Do you ever imagine yourself wearing the happiest sweater in your class? That's why I think you should buy me an ugly Christmas sweater that's unique in its own way. If you do buy it for me just remember to not get the green one!

To start with, it has the most fascinating music you will ever hear! For example, the music never ends, and there are so many versions of just one song. For instance, "Jingle Bells" is played in country, pop, and rock!

Secondly, it's so fuzzy! It will keep me super warm in the winter! Additionally, in

the winter I'll be scalding hot as cookies baking in an oven! I won't even need a jacket it is so warm.

Finally, the fabric is not stiff. In fact, it will last a long time. In other words, it's a decent price and lasts twice as long as a regular Christmas sweater. I don't have to wear it outside if you are worried about it getting dirty. (Mom).

As you can see, I really need that Christmas sweater because, the music is awesome, it's super warm, and the fabric stretches. So start shopping and get my ugly Christmas sweater today!

Love,
Amy
Gr. 5T, WES

December 3, 2021
Dear Mom and Dad,

Have you ever wanted to get me the best ugly Christmas sweater? In my opinion, you should get me a Christmas sweater with lights and lots of music.

First of all, it will come in handy on SRC days so we don't have to buy it last minute. Who knows, what if there is an Ugly Christmas Sweater Contest and I could get a prize? Also, it's so ugly it's hilarious. When people see me wearing this sweater, it will help them get into the holiday mood.

Secondly, there could be lights, music, and lots more! But if I had one, I'd want it to be fluffy, warm and cozy. For example, on a cold day in December, I could be as snug as a bug in a rug. Also, the reindeer could be dancing around the glowing Christmas tree. :D

Finally, it could be so ugly, it's beautiful! It could have a reindeer, pompoms, Christmas music and phrases on it. For example, it could be a holly jolly funny sweater. Everyone would say, "Wow", "So cool", and "I wish I had that on my sweater this year".

To conclude, this sweater will keep me warm, come in handy for SRC days, and look extraordinary! So please buy me a funny jolly Christmas sweater for Christmas today!

Love,
Caleb
Gr. 5T, WES

Wednesday, November 24, 2021

Dear Mom and Dad,

I have always wanted a super fuzzy Christmas sweater for a present. In my opinion, I think that you should buy me a soft Christmas sweater for my present because I can use it when we go somewhere for Christmas and for an extra layer of warmth and for school spirit days.

Firstly, I won't be cold when I go to play with my friends on all those cold days of winter. For example, I'm always cold when I'm playing outside. And it would help for another layer of warmth when outside.

Another reason is, when we go somewhere for Christmas I can dress up in my ugly Christmas sweater. Also, I would look amazing in my new ugly

Christmas sweater with Santa, reindeer, elves, pompoms, bells, and lights on it for when we go somewhere for Christmas like our grandparent's farm.

Lastly, I can dress up for school spirit days in my awesome ugly Christmas sweater. Also, the school has a spirit day almost every year so I want to be able to dress up in my ugly Christmas sweater for the school spirit days and it can help my class earn prizes for the school spirit day.

In conclusion, I think you should buy me this sweater for a Christmas present so I won't be cold, I can dress up for the holidays and so I can participate in school spirit days. So go to the local clothing store and buy this sweater for me for Christmas.

Sincerely,
Keaton
Gr. 5T, WES

December 3, 2021
Dear Mom and Dad,

Are you in the mood to wear an ugly Christmas sweater that is beautiful, has pompoms and shining lights? In my opinion, I think you should buy this ugly Christmas sweater for me today.

Firstly, I could wear this ugly sweater to a school spirit day. If I even wear this for a school spirit day all the kids would be so jealous of me! For example, if the teachers or kids buy one of these ugly Christmas sweaters and wear it to school, all the kids would be rocking the new sweater. Plus, I'll be such a cool kid!

Secondly, the light-up comfy, ugly Christmas sweater with music and pompoms would make people want to buy one for themselves. Also if they don't think that the sweater has enough pompoms on it they could add more. For example, if you don't think you like it you could change it up a little by adding stuff you actually like. Such as sparkling marvellous lights, and stickers.

Thirdly, I could also wear this for Christmas because it has all the stuff you can imagine! Also, you can get it for me as a present from you. For example, if you have always been wanting this marvellous wonderful sweater your family could get you one of them.

In conclusion, this super duper cool ugly Christmas sweater has lights, music, pompoms, and it's super comfy too. So if you want to buy this for me, mom and dad, you can always get it at our mall.

Love,
Lauren
Gr. 5T, WES

December 3, 2021
Dear Mom and Dad,

Imagine an ugly Christmas sweater with a 3D Santa Claus and a reindeer that moves if you press a button. In my opinion, you should buy me this sweater to wear for SRC days, to keep me warm in the winter, and because it looks amazing.

First of all, I would be able to wear it for school spirit days. I would get a chance to win a prize. That's not all, because even if I don't win at least I was warm but if I don't get it I won't be able to win a prize.

Secondly, it would keep me warm. If it was winter and I didn't have the sweater I would be really cold and it would be another layer of clothing. If I don't have this sweater I will be cold all day long.

Finally, it looks wonderful. It has reindeer that moves when you press a button and a Santa Claus that is 3D. It also has all the Christmas colours. Did you think that was all? It also smells like a candy cane.

All in all, you should buy me this sweater I can win a prize from school. It would keep me warm in the winter, and it looks amazing. So go to Walmart and buy this sweater for me, please.

Love,
Jayce
Gr. 5T, WES

December 3, 2021
Dear Mom and Dad,

Have you ever worn a Christmas sweater that everyone wants? In my opinion, you should buy me a Christmas sweater with lights, to make people laugh, and to get me in the Christmas spirit.

First, I want this sweater because it has Christmas lights on it. The lights shine bright and twinkle red, white, and green.

(see page nine: WES)

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Obituary



CAMERON, Ewen Gavin

Ewen Cameron of Watrous passed away unexpectedly on December 2, 2021 at the age of 69.

Ewen was a loving father, grandfather and husband who leaves behind a legacy of friendly smiles, back-road talks, and an eccentric taste in coffee. He lived his life as an easy-going, hard-working farmer and instrument technician open-mindedly dedicated to the happiness of seemingly anyone who crossed his path.

His highest dedication was to his family. He leaves behind his loving wife, Lois Elaine (Mattson), children: Nita (Curtis), William John (Dee), and Anna Maureen (Sanjoy), sister Ellen (Henri), brother Thomas (Dolores), grandchildren Danica, Marcus, and McKay, nieces and nephews, and many more.

He was predeceased by his father, William John, mother, Ruth, mother-in-law, Irene, father-in-law, Arne, and brother-in-law Henri.

Ewen's second-highest dedication was to farming. He was raised on his parents' homestead in Carievale, Sask. then raised his children with Elaine on his new family farm in Watrous. Though he eventually retired as an instrument technician, he could never retire from farming. There was nothing he enjoyed more than peacefully reflecting with a view of his cattle herd. He passed away

doing what he loved.

Celebration of life service was held at Fotheringham's Funeral Chapel, Watrous, Sask. on December 9 conducted by Rev. Jo-Ann Hills. Maureen Cameron and Nita Chester gave the eulogy.

Family interment will take place at a later date.

Memorial donations directed to Watrous & District Food Bank would be appreciated.

To leave online condolences, tributes or to make a donation, please visit www.fotheringham-mcdougall.com



Obituary



DIENO, Wade Douglas

It is with sadness we announce the passing of Wade Douglas Dieno at the age of 72 years. Our precious Lord took Wade by the hand and has led him home. Wade passed away on his mother's birthday with the love of his life Colleen, his family and close friend Ed by his side.

Wade loved fishing, hunting, singing, and playing his guitar, riding his Harley, coffee with neighbours on the deck and trips to their place in Mexico. Wade completed his school in Young, Sask., where he grew

up and went on to further his education to become a plumber/pipefitter. Wade had a plumbing business in Watrous, Sask. (Dieno's Plumbing). Wade also worked at the Potash Mine at Colonsay, Sask. and finally at Key Lake for Cameco, where he worked until 2019. Wade made his home at Chitek Lake in 1995 where he lived till his passing. This is where he met Colleen 17 years ago. She has been the love of his life. She supported and cared for him until his final hour. Wade had many friends and could strike up a conversation with anyone. Wade will be surely missed by all who came to know him and of course, his dog Tucker.

Wade is survived by his loving wife Colleen of Chitek Lake, his children Bobbie Jo (Brian) Clunas and children Dawson and Kolby of Russell, Man., Scott Hope of Mission, B.C., his stepson Sheldon Kirchner of Saskatoon, Sask., his siblings Sharon (Callen) McFadden of

Candle Lake, Sask., Brenda (Reg) Allen of Watrous, Sask., Donalee (Gerry) Lamontagne of Saskatoon, Sask., Shelley Dieno of Mission, B.C., his aunts and uncles Elmer Dieno of Saskatoon, Sask., Judy Dieno of Naniamo, B.C.

He was predeceased by his parents Egon and Irene Dieno, a brother Kelly Dieno, a brother-in-law Dwaine Dieno, and his godparents Max and Mona Dieno.

Donations in memory of Wade may be made to The Saskatchewan Cancer Society, 55 St. Clair Ave. West, Suite 300, Toronto, Ont. M4V 2Y7

Family and friends wishing to send online condolences are welcome to visit www.beaulacfuneralhome.com.

Arrangements have been entrusted to the care of Beau "Lac" Funeral Home and Crematorium, Delores Beaulac Funeral Director, Spiritwood, Sask.

Obituary



KOLLER, Alois Bernhard

It is with great sadness that the family of Alois Koller announce that he passed away in Calgary, Alta. on Saturday, November 20, 2021, at the age of 84 years.

Alois was born on December 18, 1936 in Oberwil-Lieli, Switzerland to Marie and Ferdinand Koller. He was the fourth of 11 children comprised of nine boys and two girls. Growing up in Switzerland on a small farm during World War II with very little instilled in Alois a strong work ethic, love of family, humility, gratefulness, and respect for others, not to mention becoming an expert in hillling potatoes. After completing grade school, as well as two years of agriculture school, all in Switzerland, Alois worked on various farms including one in Denmark where he learned to light his pipe in the strong North Sea winds. The man could light his pipe in a hurricane. At the age of 20, Alois completed his mandatory five months of training in the Swiss army where he won many medals for being the best marksman. Alois immigrated to Viscount, Sask. in 1960 at the age of 23 as an agriculture exchange student. At the time he only planned to stay in Canada for two years, but quickly fell in love with many people and Canada, although Switzerland always remained very close to his heart. In 1964 Alois bought the Viscount Flour Mill where he made flour, as well as sold bagged bulk goods, livestock supplies, fertilizer, and liquor. He had many great customers, loved to talk to them, and was very appreciative of them. Alois met the love of his life, Beate (nee Roback) in Humboldt, Sask. in 1964 and got married in 1969. They had two sons, Rob (1970) and Anthony (1972)

and raised the family in Viscount. Throughout the various years in Viscount, Alois was a trustee on the Catholic school board, a village councillor, and was active with both the Knights of Columbus and the Elks. In 2001 Alois retired and spent his time with Beate. He loved crop checking, woodworking, and yard work, but most of all he loved visiting with people. In December 2012 Beate passed away.

Alois is survived by his two sons Rob (of Calgary) and his wife Carleen along with their children Andrew (Tabitha), Madison, Sydney, Cassie, and Shea, and Anthony (of Switzerland) and his children Jana and Jamie.

He was predeceased by his wife Beate and we find peace in knowing that they are together once again. He was also predeceased by his parents Marie and Ferdinand and some of his brothers in Switzerland.

Mass of the Christian Burial was held at St. Alphonse Roman Catholic Church, Viscount, Sask. on December 15 conducted by Fr. Andrew Wychucki.

Honour guard was the Knights of Columbus. Bill Comeault, Moe Kirzinger, Armand Clavelle, Gerard Clavelle, Huey Holcomb, Gene Gebkenjans, Garth Kirzinger and Adrian Pratte were honorary pallbearers. Urn bearer was Anthony Koller. Valerie Udell and Carol Brown were register attendants. Ushers were Michael Kirzinger and Lyle Witkowicz. Rob Koller gave the eulogy. Readers were Shea Koller, Sydney Koller and Maddie Koller. Giselle Camm was organist accompanied by the St. Alphonse Choir.

Interment took place at St. Alphonse Roman Catholic Cemetery.

To leave online condolences, tributes or to make a donation, please visit www.fotheringham-mcdougall.com

Obituary



RONEY, Eva M. (Clark)

Apr. 12, 1920 -
Dec. 14, 2021

Eva Roney, aged 101 years, formerly of Simpson, Sask. passed away at Long Lake Valley Integrated Facility, Imperial, Sask. on Tuesday, December 14, 2021.

Eva was born west of Simpson on April 12, 1920 and attended Indian Hill School. One of six daughters of John Nelson Clark and Mildred Lois Clark. Eva married Lawrence Roney on Nov. 5, 1945. They lived on a farm west of Simpson until 1979 when they moved to town.

Eva is survived by son Lawrence Roney (Val Bilash), grandchildren Lindsey Sawatsky (Jeff) and Mike Roney, sister-in-law Norma Roney and several nieces and nephews.

She was predeceased by her husband Lawrence, her parents Nelson and Mildred Clark, a daughter Mildred Roney in infancy, sisters Mabel (Cecil) Yardley, Helen (Francis), Carroll, Lula (aged eight months), Lois (Robert) Goulet, Bertha (Gordon) O'Brien, Mildred (Archie) Lillco, brothers-in-law Jim Cordick, Don Webster, Dale Roney, Ross Roney, sisters-in-law Louise Cordick and June Webster.

Eva's family would like to thank the staff at Long Lake Valley Integrated Facility for the outstanding care she received there.

Because of COVID-19 there will be a private family graveside service held in the Simpson Cemetery at a later date.

Memorial donations directed to Simpson Cemetery Fund would be appreciated.

To leave online condolences, tributes or to make a donation, please visit www.fotheringham-mcdougall.com



Thank you

We would like to thank relatives, friends and businesses in Simpson and Imperial for all the help and kindness during our

difficult times. To acknowledge the generous help we received we are donating to the restoration of the Simpson rink.

- Ron and Martha Kennedy

(from page seven: WES)

The lights dance to Jingle Bells.

Secondly, it would make people laugh because there is a funny scene of Santa and Mrs. Claus tangled in lights and hooked to the roof with candy canes. There are gingerbread men under them who tied Santa and Mrs. Claus up to the roof. But the elves are still working in the workshop behind them.

Last, it would get me in the holiday spirit. On the sweater, it has Christmas characters, candy, and baking. So I can get excited about the Christmas break!

In conclusion, having a Christmas sweater with lights, one that makes people laugh, and gets me in the Christmas spirit would be an amazing sweater to have. Please get me this sweater from a Christmas store in Saskatoon today.

Love,
Everitt
Gr. 5T, WES

December 3, 2021

Dear Mom and Dad,

Are you tired of the same plain boring shoes? Well, you are in luck, you should get the new pizza shoes. In my opinion, we should get the new pizza shoes because they will keep my feet warm and cozy, it will be a good gift, and I will need it for PE.

To begin with, they will keep my feet warm and cozy because the classroom is cold. If there was a fire bell, my shoes would be on so I can get out quickly and be the first one outside.

Secondly, it would be a good gift because I like sports and I need good shoes for it. It would get me off of gaming and I can go for a walk to go to the store.

"And Mary said: 'My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior;'" Luke 1:46-47

Merry Christmas to all of you as dear friends and neighbours! While my words here will be brief, I hope my life abounds in the same chorus of Mary found in the scripture above.

Mary worships the Lord. Trembling at the presence of the angel Gabriel and the announcement that King Jesus is coming to Earth, she is in complete awe and wonder.

Mary rejoices in her Savior. The worship of God leads Mary to experience a great joy. This joy is found in the knowledge that God has come to Earth to save.

Over the past weeks of my life I have cared for my parents in the midst of significant health concerns. These experiences have brought me to my knees. Upon my knees, broken and trembling, I remember the song of Mary, "Glorify the Lord and Rejoice in your Savior".

So following her great example, I too will lift my voice to worship and rejoice this Christmas. I invite you also to add your voice to that great choir worshiping and rejoicing this Christmas. Merry Christmas!

Pastor Darren Holland
Philadelphia Mennonite Brethren Church

Lastly, we are doing basketball and I need good grip to go side to side, to stop and start, and for jumping up and down and deking everyone out so I can shoot.

As you can see, these are the best pizza shoes because they will keep my feet warm and cozy, it will be a good gift and I need it for PE. So what do you say? Call your local shoe store now.

Love,
Cole
Gr. 5T, WES

December 1, 2021

Dear Mom and Dad,

Are you tired of me wearing the same sweater? I think you should get me this sweater because it looks ugly, it smells spectacular and I could participate in school spirit days.

First of all, you should get me this sweater because it has the perfect shade of dark red and light green. It also has white sprinkles so it looks like it is snowing. Also, there is some fake snow on the bottom. The middle has a giant reindeer head smack in the middle.

Secondly, it has the scent of freshly made sugar cookies. It also has a magnificent minty monstrosity sort of smell. Both of them put together smells like a sugar cookie with mint icing. Also, there is another smell and it smells like candy canes. All of them put together makes a mint icing with little pieces of candy cane on a sugar cookie that makes me hungry.

Lastly, for school spirit days, I wouldn't be the only one without a sweater. I might win some prizes for SRC. It is important to dress for spirit days to show your school spirit I think. Another reason is it is funny. Also, it might cheer some people up.

God's Christmas Joy

Despite the numerous mishaps of our Christian tradition, one big gift it has given us is the witness and salvation in and through Jesus Christ, a divine reality within which we can place our own lives, and from which we draw unique strength and guidance, mercy and grace, meaning and depth and purpose. This crucial story of God in Jesus is hugely helpful in carrying the pain and hardship of life. Such a bigger story provides a sense of dignity, helping us to trust that, no matter what befalls us, we belong to a loving God who helps us draw meaning from life's turmoil.

I think that is why Advent begins in the dark, when the days are still getting shorter. The Advent Scriptures proclaimed on the four Sundays leading up to Christmas begin with dire warnings about end-times, far from consumer frenzy and glowing greeting cards, far from cozy lights and jolly Christmas carols. We hear harsh words from the prophets, and we meet John the Baptist who announced the coming of a saviour. Curiously, John the Baptist never makes it in school Christmas pageants. Despite appearing in all four Gospels, dear John is yet to be featured on a Hallmark Christmas card.

All in all, you should get me this sweater because it looks hideous, smells amazing, and it would be excellent for school spirit days. So please go get me this sweater at Walmart.

Love,
Darren
Gr. 5T, WES

December 3, 2021

Dear Mom,

Have you ever wanted something warm and cheerful? I have an idea of what's warm and cheerful - an ugly Christmas sweater. I believe that you should buy me an ugly Christmas sweater because it can be for spirit days, a gift and it gets you into a holiday mood.

First, it can be for a gift on Christmas if you ever run out of ideas. Another example is it's warm and fuzzy. In fact, it can be good if you don't have a sweater.

Secondly, it can be for spirit days. It will get family, friends, and staff into a holiday mood. For instance, it has bright green and red lights.

Lastly, it gets you into a holiday spirit. To begin with, it has colourful pom-poms. Also, it has a reindeer sticking out of it. One last reason it can change scent.

An ugly Christmas sweater can be for a gift or it can be for celebrations.

Let's go get the ugly Christmas sweater now.

Love,
Isabell
Gr. 5T, WES

For more WES Holiday Fun, see Section B and C

Ministerial Messages at Christmas

That's because he's weird. Indeed, Advent brings a reality check, rubbing us skip to the party before our noses into the fragile examining our hearts. nature of our existence.

(continued on page three of Section B: MINISTERIAL)

2	4	7	9	1	5	8	6	3
3	9	5	4	6	8	1	2	7
1	6	8	7	3	2	9	5	4
7	3	2	8	4	6	5	1	9
8	1	4	5	7	9	6	3	2
6	5	9	3	2	1	4	7	8
9	7	3	6	5	4	2	8	1
4	2	6	1	8	7	3	9	5
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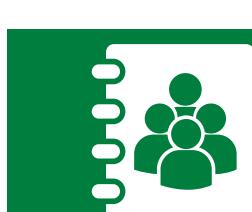
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