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# The Watrous Manitou

MONDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2022

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## EMS building being constructed in Watrous

■ Daniel Bushman

With a need for more space and an opportunity to include a training and administration area and staffing quarters, construction is underway on a state-of-the-art EMS facility in Watrous. With a price tag of approximately \$1.7 million and covered through Saskatchewan Health Authority's (SHA) funded capital projects, the new building will be situated on the current Watrous District Health Complex grounds near Manitou Lodge.

Following years of sharing an essential services building that houses equipment and vehicles belonging to the Watrous Fire Department, SHA indicated it was approached by the Town of Watrous a few years ago about the potential of relocating the ambulances to free up space for the fire department as it continues to expand its services.

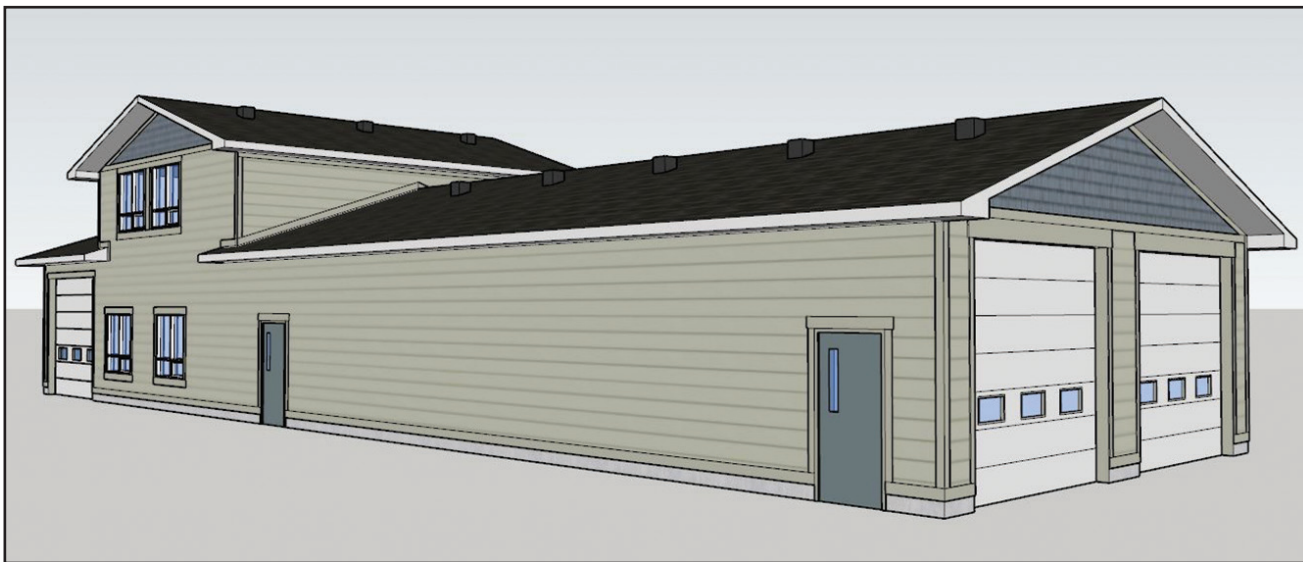
Reviewing its current and future EMS needs in Watrous, SHA determined construction of a new facility would be the best way to proceed. Director of EMS Central for SHA, Krista Remeshylo said they completed a design consultation process a few years ago to design an EMS station comparing needs of rural services similar in size to Watrous EMS. Looking at the similar size and workload to Watrous EMS, the new space near Manitou Lodge will contain three functional areas:

- ambulance/vehicle storage;
- an administration and training area; and
- a residence for staff that are on EMS standby.

Housing two ambulance units for emergency response with additional storage for a spare ambulance unit used for mechanical back up, SHA stated the extra unit will be used in Watrous or any of the surrounding EMS services as needed. A small administrative area, a training space as well as crew quarters for staff on standby that live outside of the Watrous community are also being incorporated into the project.

With a tender approved and construction underway since the end of November, the new facility is anticipated to be completed in spring of 2023. "We are expecting around that May date," said EMS Operations Manager for SHA Central Jody Lundy. "We feel it is very important for the future of EMS as recruitment and retention remains a challenge across the province. This will definitely support the recruitment and retention piece by providing a space for the crew initially and also the crew quarters which are definitely required in this location and many locations across the province. Crews are coming in for an eight-hour shift and then there is a 16-hour on call component attached to it. It is not like we can have the crews come in, do their work and go home. They are required to remain in the community for that 24-hour period when they are covering that shift."

There is no plan to immediately increase EMS



Work is underway in Watrous on a brand new EMS facility. With an approximate cost of \$1.7 million, the facility which is being covered through Saskatchewan Health Authority's funded capital projects is being built on the current Watrous District Health Complex grounds. Once complete, the new building will house two ambulance units along with a spare for mechanical back up. An administrative area, a training space and crew quarters will also be included. Construction is expected to be completed by spring 2023.

Image submitted by SHA and rendering by Kreate Architecture and Design Ltd. Photo by Daniel Bushman

staffing in Watrous but as the SHA continues to build its multi-year EMS stabilization plan in the province, adjustments to the EMS staffing in Watrous may occur.

As members of the local EMS team eagerly await the completion of the new facility, Lundy said the local hospital has been gracious in having the EMS staff working in the health complex. She added once the new place is ready, staff will still have a presence at the hospital but will also be able to reduce response times to patients as well. "Right now with the facility being off-site where the ambulances are being stored, it can lead to extended response times because if the staff are at the hospital and a call comes in they have to drive to the essential services building, get the ambulance and respond. In the future with the ambulance station being near the hospital on the grounds, they can respond with a shorter time when

they are staffed at the hospital."

Pleased to see the new project going forward after having discussions with SHA for a few years regarding the current space, Watrous Mayor John Gunderson said to have the new EMS facility located right on the hospital grounds is an ideal situation. "The design of the building is such to be able to accommodate the people they want to have there. If we can draw individuals who work in the EMS area, it is a great thing for the town and it is a service we absolutely need. I am happy that it is going ahead and will be a great plus for the community."

Lundy agreed adding SHA is really excited about the project and what it means for the stability of Watrous EMS going forward. "We do feel it is really important and we are really happy to see the project moving forward."

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# Local resident presented with prestigious medal

■ Daniel Bushman

With years of contributing to community and performing charitable work in Canada and abroad, a resident of Watrous has been awarded with a Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee Medal.

At the October medal ceremony in Regina, Keith Busch along with other recipients in attendance were bestowed with the medal from the Honourable Tim McLeod, MLA for Moose Jaw North and the Honourable Laura Ross, MLA for Regina Rochdale and Minister of Parks, Culture and Sport.

Sharing the honour was

humbling and unexpected, Busch who is the Chief Financial Officer of Blair's Crop Solutions and also on the SK Arts Board said the ceremony noting his contributions was special. "In the three years since I've returned home to Canada, my work has focused on long-term economic growth – in the Yukon, NWT, and now here in Saskatchewan. Around the same time, I was appointed to the SK Arts Board to contribute knowledge and experience from this perspective."

Currently serving his first term with the SK Arts Board, Busch settled in Watrous after spending 2021 in the NWT, 2020 in Yukon and prior to that, 13 years working overseas. Able to share a wealth of

knowledge not only with like-minded people on the Board but also in his role as Chief Financial Officer of Blair's Crop Solutions, Busch explained the value of investing in community.

"We get the community that we, ourselves, are willing to build. I want to live in a prosperous, successful community, and I'm willing to contribute to that end."

Previously directing corporate finance and accounting practices in East and Southeast Asia and administering government finances in Canada's northern territories, the recipient of the Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee Medal noted he feels fortunate to be with a company in Saskatchewan who has a



► Pictured above receiving his medal is Keith Busch (middle). Busch was joined by the Hon. Tim McLeod, MLA from Moose Jaw North (left), and Hon. Laura Ross, MLA for Regina Rochdale and Minister of Parks, Culture and Sport (right).

photo courtesy Keith Busch

long history of economic vibrant arts community innovation. Add to that a and Busch, who grew up

in a small Niagara town on the Lake Erie shore explained the value the impact that Arts and innovation can have.

"Art funding – and grant funding more broadly – is often expensed not invested. When we treat our collective wealth as an expense rather than an investment, we forego the opportunity to benefit from

(continued on page six: MEDAL)

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### Season's Greetings from the Ministry of Agriculture

Wishing you all a safe and happy holiday season. Did you know the Ministry has 10 regional offices around the province? Contact the Agriculture Knowledge Centre (AKC), toll-free at **1-866-457-2377** to connect with a specialist to learn about our programs and services.



Merry Christmas from the Moose Jaw regional office staff

[saskatchewan.ca/agriculture](https://saskatchewan.ca/agriculture)

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#### Ranch Management Forum

• February 17-18, 2023, Kindersley

Thank you to all the producers who let surveyors collect pest monitoring data in 2022. We need your help again for the 2023 growing season. Scan the code to learn more.



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**Saskatchewan**



# Local authors release latest book Runaway Cow

■ Daniel Bushman

It is a mooving tail that has been herd by animals throughout the land. Utterly funny and shared from the perspective of Cow 1422B, the latest book from local authors Emily and Konn Hawkes is surely to cause a stampede as people try and corral a copy of it following the popularity of their last one.

After writing and illustrating 'Flowman and the Magic Mullet', the pair of Watrous area residents were

thrilled to be able to release 'Runaway Cow' just in time for Christmas.

Graciously taking time out of their busy schedules, Emily and Konn shared about the book, Runaway Cow and how it came to be.

## How exciting is it to have this book released?

We are very happy to have this new book released. Our goal was to have it ready in time for Christmas so we are happy we were able to complete the project just in time.

## Can you share a bit about what it is about?

The story of Runaway Cow is told from the cow's perspective. Cow 1422B, or 'the Great Moodini' as her friends like to call her, was quite the escape artist. She found herself in trouble for fence crawling and pushing boundaries on more than one occasion. But then one day, what seemed like an ordinary day on the farm soon turned into one extraordinary story. After realizing that her owners were taking her to the vet at the local animal

(continued on page six: BOOK)

## RCMP Report

### Break and enter in Lanigan

On Nov. 19, 2022 at approximately 12:39 a.m. a male broke into a building on Munster Street in Lanigan. Damage was done inside the building and a theft occurred. If you have information about this or any other crime, please contact Humboldt RCMP at 306-682-2535 or you may contact Saskatchewan Crime Stoppers anonymously at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or

submit a tip online at [www.saskcrimestoppers.com](http://www.saskcrimestoppers.com).

### Mischief to business in Lanigan

Between Nov. 18 and 20, 2022 an unknown person entered a business on Downing Drive in Lanigan and damaged part of the inside of the building. If you have information about this or any other crime, please contact Humboldt RCMP at 306-682-2535 or you may contact Saskatchewan Crime Stoppers anonymously

at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or submit a tip online at [www.saskcrimestoppers.com](http://www.saskcrimestoppers.com).

### Nokomis Post Office and rink broken into

In the early morning hours of Dec. 3, 2022, culprit(s) broke into the Nokomis Post Office and the Nokomis Arena. At the post office, a safe was damaged as culprit(s) tried to cut into it while at the arena, popcorn chicken and burgers were stolen from the kitchen.

If you have information about these or any other crimes, please call the Watrous RCMP at 306-946-3316 or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477), through SaskTel Mobility at \*8477, text TIP206 plus your message to

CRIMES (274637) or submit a tip online at [www.saskcrimestoppers.com](http://www.saskcrimestoppers.com) where you can also view information on other unsolved crimes.

### Thefts from vehicles in Chamberlain

In the early hours of Dec. 4, 2022 two males were observed on surveillance cameras trying to get into vehicles in Chamberlain. The males tried several vehicles door handles but were unsuccessful due to the vehicles being locked. A large set of keys which had a door key for a Hummer 2 among them were found at one of the attempted theft scenes. Police are continuing this investigation and are asking the public if they

have any other incidents to report or if they are missing or know who is missing the large set of keys, please contact Craik RCMP.

If you have information related to this advisory please call 310-RCMP for immediate response, or you can call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477).

### Charges laid after vehicle stuck in ditch

On Nov. 29, 2022 after responding to an initial report of an assault at a residence, officers located the male suspect in a vehicle stuck in a ditch approximately 15 kilometres west of Pierceland. The male suspect was arrested. During a subsequent

(continued on page eight: RCMP)

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Contact us by Dec. 14th if you'd like to include a greeting or thank you from your business or organization!

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**Sunday, Dec. 18**  
Church Service and Carols - Hot Dog Lunch  
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**The Board of Directors of Manitou Beach Golf Club is inviting interested parties to submit Tenders for the lease of the Manitou Beach Golf Course Restaurant.**

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- Operating food and beverage golf cart including during events and otherwise as proposed.
- Obtaining and maintaining all necessary licensing, including liquor licence.
- Obtaining and maintaining general liability insurance.

**Interested parties can contact Ryan Collins by email at [r\\_collins15@hotmail.com](mailto:r_collins15@hotmail.com)**  
**The deadline to submit tenders is JANUARY 15, 2023.**

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**Jan. 24-26 • Provincial Senior Stick**  
**Feb. 3 • Two-person Fun Spiel**  
**Feb. 17 & 18 • Senior Spiel**  
**Mar. 2 - 4 • High School Mixed Regionals**  
**Mar. 10 & 11 • Ladies Bonspiel**  
**Mar. 17 & 18 • Kinette Rock N' Rye**

**Watrous & District Food Bank Christmas Hampers**

**Thank You**

**We are so grateful to all who gave food. We would still welcome cash/food donations for Christmas hampers this year.**

- Financial donations can be e-transferred to [watrousfoodbank@gmail.com](mailto:watrousfoodbank@gmail.com) (Please include a mailing address in the message box)  
**OR** you can mail them to  
Box 794, Watrous, SK S0K 4T0
- OR** contact the Watrous and District Food Bank at 306-946-3785 for more information.
- Toys can still be purchased at The Bargain Shop or dropped off at Integra Tire.

Thanks to all of the individuals who make the work of the local food bank possible. *Merry Christmas!!*



# Opinion

## Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

**Liberal Semi-Auto Ban added to Bill C-21**

The Liberals have mounted an all-out attack on all fire-arms owners from every aspect of the sport, by adding the G4 amendment to Bill C-21. With this amendment, the Liberal NDP coalition are banning semi-automatic rifles and shotguns that are used for legal hunting and sport-ing purposes. This is nothing more than a shifting of the narrative away from what is really going on. Justin Trudeau’s Liberals have been taking heat in the trucker convoy inquiry, the implementation of the emergency measures act and their apparent political interference at the Nova Scotia Mass Casualty Commission.

It also demonstrates without a shadow of a doubt that the agenda of the Liberal Party was never public safety, but rather the suppression of civil rights, the confisca-tion of property, and the craven abusement for nothing more than their ideological enjoyment of the Rights and Freedoms of millions of Canadians who did nothing to deserve such treatment.

Further, this strikes at the Rights, Freedoms and Prop-erty of all Canadians. What Rights, Freedoms and Prop-erty will be targeted next by this government? There is no doubt that the Liberals have a multitiered plan to eventually seize every firearm in Canada. What is next? Hunting knives, optics on firearms or just taking away our right to hunt or go to the range? Enough is enough.

One thing that they are not addressing in this bill are the illegal firearms that are being smuggled into Cana-da, these illegal guns are being used by gangs, organ-ized crime, or common criminals. The Liberals answer to smuggled firearms, that are used in a commission of an offence, is to lower mandatory minimum sentences and keep the real criminals on the street.

Canada’s National Firearms Association is in discus-sions with our legal team. We will use all available re-sources to challenge this latest Liberal attack which is nothing more than using responsible law-abiding fire-arms owners as scapegoats.

The NFA in Unity with all Organizations and Can-adians who believe in Rights and Freedoms will fight to defeat this government with all political and legal means possible.

Greg Brkich  
Bladworth, Sask.



Tips from  
Reena Nerbas

Your best bet is to wash the sticky residue with a non-scratching abrasive cloth, hot water and dish soap. The hot water will loosen the glue. Clean your windows as normal after the residue is gone.

**Dear Reena,**

In order to meet the recycling standards, I was re-moving a large label from paper towel packaging. I got it off in one swift rip, which was fantastic, until it landed flat on the concrete floor. I finished unloading the paper towels and by the time I got to the label, it was flush. I was able to peel off a few bits, but they were coming off in bits. I stopped, as I felt this would not help. Now I am left with a foot-long mess on the concrete. Thoughts? Hoping to avoid heavy-duty chemicals. Thought maybe a rag soaked in vinegar might work? Kind regards, Lexi

**Dear Lexi,**

Hot water and a stiff plastic scraper should be all you need in order to remove the sticker. A hot hair dryer is another option or pour rubbing alcohol onto the area and gently scrape.

**Hi Reena,**

I would like to know how to clean a badly burned cer-amic stove top. My daughters have made eggs and not cleaned the stove top properly and it is impossible to clean. I have used the glass top cleaner and scraper but am unable to get the burned spots off. Thanks, Laurel

**Dear Laurel,**

Years ago, a contributor shared the same challenge. She sprayed the stove with oven cleaner and scrubbed.

## Solutions and Substitutions

She said the stove looked brand new (test on an incon-spicuous area first).

**Feedback from wise contributor**

Re: Peeling garlic

**Hi Reena,**

I was reading your column about a tip for remov-ing the peel from garlic cloves. I have the following tip - microwave a clove or two on high for about five seconds then cut off the end and the peel will just slide off! Thanks, Christine

**Use these tips with a grain of salt**

- Pour half a cup of table salt into your kitchen/ bathroom drain and garburator. Doing this quick exer-cise once a month will freshen the drain and get rid of stinky pipes. Submitted by: Mark
- To quickly chill a bottle of wine, place the bottle in an ice bucket. Add a layer of ice on the bottom and sprinkle it with a few tablespoons of table salt. Con-tinue to layer salt and ice until it reaches the neck of the bottle. Then add water to ice level. After 10 minutes, open and serve. Rinse the ice bucket thoroughly after use. Submitted by: Mark
- Before winter I maintain my metal tools and bi-cycle parts by cleaning them with a paste of salt and lemon juice. This prevents future rust buildup. Submit- ted by: Mark
- Get rid of bitter coffee by adding a pinch of table salt to the fresh coffee grounds before running coffee through the machine. Submitted by: Aileen
- Remove odours from hands and cutting boards by rubbing them with lemon juice and salt. Rinse with water. Submitted by: Aileen

*Note: Every user assumes all risks of injury or dam-age resulting from the implementation of any sugges-tions in this column. Test all products on an inconspicu-ous area first.*

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

For Community Connection news,  
see pages 11.

For Watrous Centre news,  
see page 11.

## Joy is the serious business of Christmas



Neighbourly advice  
according to Ed

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

It is the season to be jolly! The Holiday Season summons Christians to be joyous in the birth of the baby Jesus at Bethlehem. Yet, Christmas also belongs to those who are not religious but love

celebrating the holiday season.

There are three types of joy: pleasure, passion, and purpose. For many, pleasure and passion explode on Christmas Day or Eve with the exchanging of gifts. People love to give and get presents. Our own joy increases by giving a gift that provides another person with pleasure.

Christmas gifts often reflect the liking or passion of the recipient. Golf balls or a particular golf club for the golfer, a new novel by a favourite author for a reader or a specific kitchen appliance for the one who loves to

bake.

If gifts often reflect what people like or want, some gifts are what the person needs. Some gifts serve a purpose like new winter boots because the old ones have come apart at the sole. Some claim there is a fourth type of joy when you can find the ultimate thrill of seeing goodness, truth, beauty, and love beyond your ordinary pleasures, passions, and purposes.

There is a higher power than our own that enables us to find wonder and divine mystery in the circumstance of our lives. Only God can help us with gifts we get handed

but do not want to accept. For example, in the Bible, Joseph was pledged to marry Mary, but before they came together, Mary was pregnant. This was cause for a public disgrace since the baby was not Joseph’s, but rather than have that happen Joseph had in his mind to divorce Mary quietly.

Because Joseph was considering divorcing Mary, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. The angel told Joseph, “Do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son and you

are to give him the name Jesus because he will save his people from their sins.” (Luke 1:20-21)

When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. He gave the baby born of Mary the name Jesus. The baby was born in a stable in Bethlehem when Joseph and Mary went there to be counted in a census.

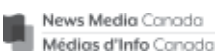
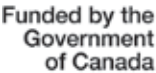
What joy for Joseph and Mary when shepherds visited them to see their baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger. The shepherds told them that an angel had told them their baby in the

manger was Christ, the Lord. Before Jesus was two years old, wise men came to worship and bring gifts to the one born King of the Jews, their baby Jesus. They gave the baby costly gifts of gold incense and myrrh. (Matthew 2:11)

The joy of Mary and Joseph was complete wonder and marvel at what people said about their Son Jesus. They and countless others have found the ultimate thrill of God in the love, beauty, goodness, and truth of Jesus Christ, the Lord. May you accept and enjoy the baby Jesus born to cure you of the sorrow of your sins. Merry Christmas! Amen.



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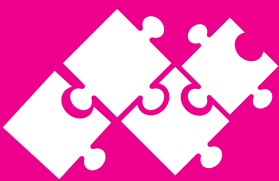
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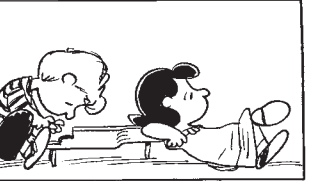
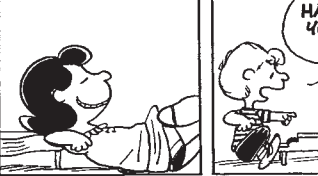
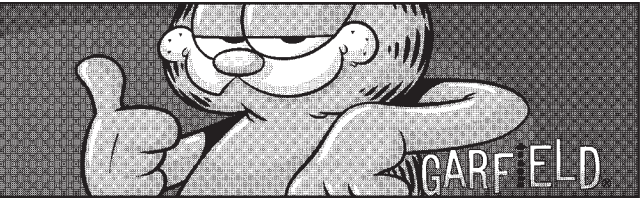
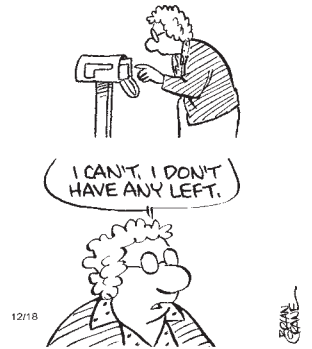
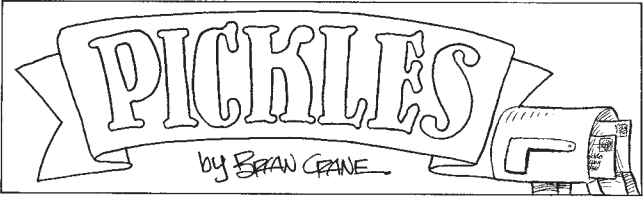
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(Prices include GST)





# Comics AND Puzzles



## UNIVERSAL Sudoku Puzzle

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

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

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

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### Universal Crossword

Edited by David Steinberg December 18, 2022

**ACROSS**

1 Didn't eat

7 Wall St. debut

10 Shapes of stories

14 "You've bested me"

16 Whitish sandwich spread, for short

17 Russian symbol of opulence

18 Xtra (cherry drink)

19 Name found in comedies?

20 Male sheep

21 Long part of an explosive

22 Juan, Puerto Rico

23 Cheese in spanakopita

24 Apartment building managers, informally

26 Get drunk

28 IRS form pro

29 Dominates, as in "Fortnite"

31 "Rats!"

32 Last full mo. of summer

33 Not be a bloc buster?

37 Female sheep

38 Single drop in a sad emoji

39 Otter's cousin

40 The "M" of MCAT: Abbr.

41 Tabby about town, say

44 Fussing at a mirror

46 Sacagawea dollar, e.g.

47 College sr.'s hurdle

50 "the Knife"

51 Word after "virtual" or "VIP"

52 Hunk of fudge

53 I as in Ithaca

54 When to pull an all-nighter

56 In the past

57 Bad boss?

58 Stereotypical bookworm

59 Elect (to)

60 Magnitude

**DOWN**

1 Flutes paired with drums

2 Carne (burrito filling)

3 Replace a teammate

4 One of 390 billion in the Amazon rainforest

5 Say 1 + 1 = 3, say

6 MFA or DDS

7 Jocular cry after losing a Scrabble game

8 Pieces in a classic Cracker Barrel game

9 End of Wikipedia's URL

10 Exhilarate, as a crowd

11 Create a ruckus

12 High-tech, dystopian genre

13 (Such a tragedy!)

15 "Gee whiz, that's cool!"

21 He's a riot

23 Glass home for a guppy

24 Bring to order?

25 Learned philosopher

26 Palindromic explosive

27 Floppy part of an elephant

29 Demonstration of dominance

30 Tool for trimming a lawn

33 Fill-in worker

34 Slithery swimmers

35 Good buddy

36 Illuminated

42 Like a whippersnapper

43 o

45 Digital holiday greeting

47 Be transported by the wind

48 Japanese noodle soup

49 "Two thumbs up" critic Roger

51 Activate, as an alarm's wire

52 "Without delay!"

53 Apt letters missing from "chem\_cal b\_d"

54 -Magnon

55 Wicked spell

FOR ANSWERS TO SUDOKU AND CROSSWORD, SEE PAGE 11

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12/18

**Themeless Sunday 20 by Jared Goudsmit**

1	2	3	4	5	6		7	8	9		10	11	12	13
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(from page three: BOOK)

hospital, the Great Moodini hatched a plan to escape and that's when the real adventure begins.

**What was the inspiration behind the book and how much fun was this project?**

This book was particularly fun for us because it is based on the true story of a cow that ran wild through Watrous after escaping from the local animal hospital quite a few years back. Given that it's a children's book, you'll see some liberties have been taken with the story writing to make it a bit more playful. For instance the cow ends up getting arrested and locked up behind bars, haha.

**Is this book similar to your previous one or is it a bit different as far as the writing and layout goes?**

We had a different format for this book than our last book, Flowman and the Magic Mullet. Runaway Cow does not rhyme. We felt it easier to tell the story without rhyming. But the overall layout, length and look of the book is very similar to the last.

**How long did the book take to do?**

The book took a little bit longer than anticipated. This is a hobby for us so we worked on this in our spare time.

(continued on page seven: BOOK)

(from page two: MEDAL)

its long-term appreciation – its growth. Grant funding should be economically purposeful: as an expression of our community's culture, the Arts are important because they help us make sense of our collective experiences; but as an investment of our

community's wealth, the Arts are important because they are a unique driver of growth and development. In these ways, the Arts are important to Saskatchewan's culture and economy."

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Approving the design

of the medal in May 2022 before Her Majesty The Queen's passing, permission was also sought from the Office of the Governor General of Canada to have the medal included in the Order of Precedence with the other commemorative medals of the Canadian Honours System.

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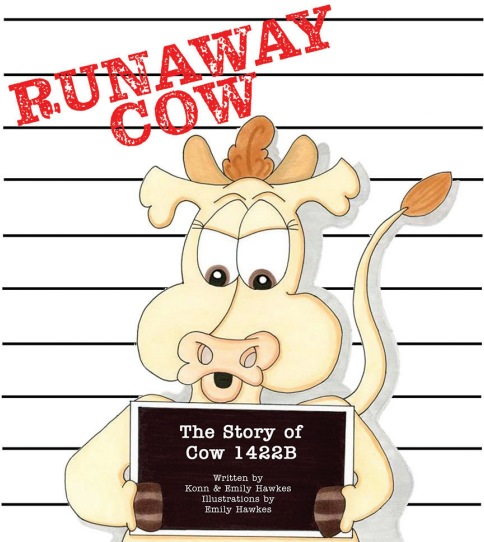
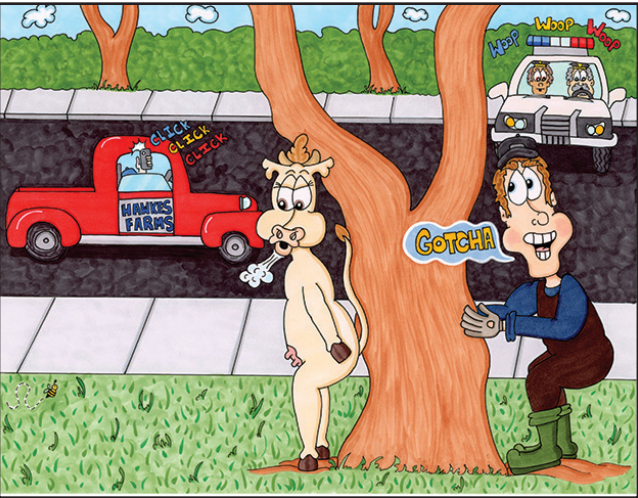


(from page six: BOOK)

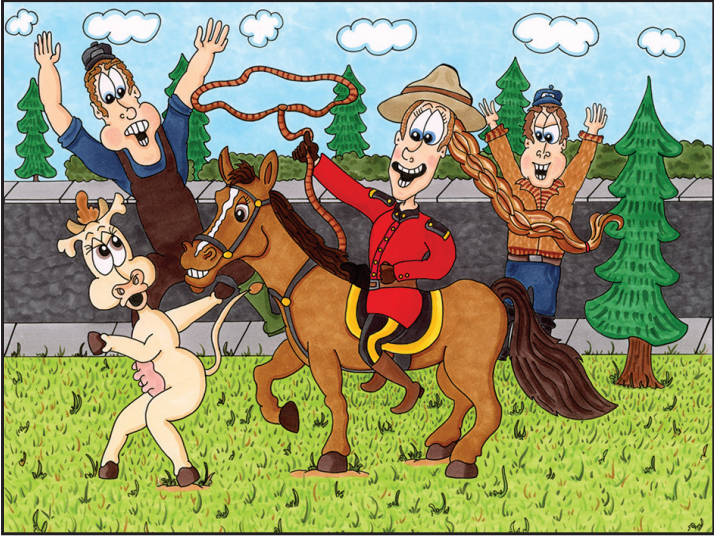
We wanted to make sure we had the details just right too, so from start to finish it was probably just over a year to complete.

Where can people buy the book?

The paperback books are available on Amazon marketplace, and at SaskBooks, the hardcover books were recently ordered and have arrived. The Watrous Manitou is also selling the hardcover copies.



► Pictured: images from Runaway Cow, the latest book created by Emily and Konn Hawkes and based on true events.  
📷 images used with permission



► Braving the elements early last week, Watrous Recreation Director Chelsea Murfitt snapped this picture in Watrous during the morning with the temperature sitting at -31°C.  
📷 photo by Chelsea Murfitt



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# “Notices Classified”

## Obituary



**RITCHIE, Ellen**  
**July 19, 1922 - Dec. 1, 2022**

It is with sadness that we announce the passing of Ellen Flora Ritchie, formerly of Imperial, on December 1, 2022 in Saskatoon. Ellen moved to Chilliwack, B.C. in 2018 and returned to Saskatoon in 2021.

Ellen was blessed to celebrate her 100th birthday with family and friends in Saskatoon in July 2022. She enjoyed good health until age 95, when surgery for Trigeminal Neuralgia left her unable to live on her own in Imperial, Sask.

Ellen was born on July 19, 1922 in Strasbourg, Sask. to William and Mary Morcom. She was raised, along with eight siblings, on a farm near Strasbourg. After completing high school she attended Normal in Regina. She started her teaching career in Nipawin and then Rouse school, outside of Imperial. She met James (Jim) Ritchie and married on January 4, 1944 in Regina. They had two daughters - Marian and Maureen.

Ellen enjoyed teaching and was an active member of the UCW and Eastern Star. She enjoyed playing golf, crafting with friends and volunteering for community events. She was known for her delicious baked pies and tarts.

Ellen will be missed by her daughters: Marian Svenson of Chilliwack, B.C. and Maureen Harder (Arnold) of Saskatoon; her four grandchildren: Pam Hildebrand (Bruce), Mark Svenson (Brandy), Jennifer Johnson, and Rob Harder; six great-grandchildren: Dylan and Skylar Hildebrand, Ella and Erik Svenson, and James and Thomas Johnson and numerous nieces, nephews and friends.

She was predeceased by her parents, her husband Jim, and eight siblings.

Marian and Maureen extend heartfelt thanks to the staff at Glengarda Hospice in Saskatoon for the wonderful care given in the final days of Ellen's life.

## In memory



**ENGLE** - In loving memory of Duane, Dec. 13, 2018:

Time passes, memories stay  
Loved and remembered every day.  
- Forever in our hearts, Katie, Keith and Shelley, Kirby and Kathleen and grandchildren.

## Thank you

The family of Leonard Mattson would like to thank everyone for the cards, food, flowers, phone calls and kind words in this difficult time. Special thanks to Fotheringham-McDougall Funeral Service for all their compassion and care, Dr. Adebayo, the Watrous hospital, Watrous Pharmacy, Watrous Ambulance, RUH and St. Paul's Hospital for their amazing care, Pastor Doug Gregory for the service, Brian and Terry Sme-thurst for serving lunch and also those who gave donations to the Lung Association. These past few weeks have proven what a great community we live in. Thank you.

- Veronica and family

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# Local MP fights for answers for Canadian Veterans

■ media release

Moose Jaw-Lake Centre-Lanigan MP Fraser Tolmie has been fighting for answers and results for the countless Veterans in Canada suffering under poor service standards at the department of Veterans Affairs (VA).

Committee testimony from Canadian Veteran Mark Meincke in late October served as a catalyst

for the Veterans Affairs Committee to look deeper into how VA employees have inappropriately suggested Medical Assistance in Dying (MAID) as a solution to mental illness.

“My Conservative colleagues and I have been working hard to get to the bottom of why VA employees are suggesting MAID to Veterans as a treatment for mental illness. Exploring any use

of MAID must only be a conversation between a patient and their doctor, and we are demanding answers for why this happened in the first place.”

Questioning Veterans Affairs Minister Lawrence MacAulay during a committee hearing, MP Tolmie had this to say about new information suggesting multiple instances of VA Department employees

offering MAID to Veterans suffering from mental illness.

“The ombud report, the Auditor General report, PBO and our own committee said that we’re failing in delivering service. Now we’re actually analyzing how this service is being delivered and what we’re actually doing is offering MAID. Is it in Veterans Affairs’ mandate to help members win court

cases in MAID instead of helping vets deal with PTSD and become integrated into Canadian society?”

While Meincke’s testimony has been the focus of great scrutiny in Veterans Affairs Committee and international media alike, new evidence suggests it was not an isolated incident.

“[Minister MacAulay] first stated that it was one

employee and one incident, and then it changed from one employee to two incidents. Now we’re at one employee and five incidents.”

MP Tolmie and the Conservative Party will continue to demand answers, transparency, and action from the department of Veterans Affairs, and fight for higher service standards for Veterans across Canada.

(from page three: RCMP)

search of the vehicle, officers located and seized approximately 900 grams of suspected crystal methamphetamine and drug trafficking paraphernalia.

As a result of this investigation, Justin Skulte, 33, of Cold Lake, Alta. was charged with one count, possession for the purpose of trafficking a controlled substance, Section 5(2), Controlled Drugs and Substances Act. He is currently remanded and appeared in court in Meadow Lake on Dec. 1st. Through further investigation, 30-year-old Tessa Urlacher has also been charged with one count, possession for the purpose of trafficking a controlled substance, Section 5(2), Controlled Drugs and Substances Act. The investigation is ongoing.

**Stolen vehicle**

At approximately 12:30 p.m., Dec. 2 Maple Creek RCMP received a report from Medicine Hat Police Service (MHPS) that a stolen vehicle was in their detachment area. MHPS investigation determined an

orange Chevrolet Sonic hatchback/car, reported stolen from the City of Medicine Hat, was travelling northeast of Maple Creek with two occupants. Maple Creek RCMP immediately began looking for the vehicle and also sent a notification through the Saskatchewan Crime Watch Advisory Network to local residents.

A rural resident received the notification and soon after, observed the vehicle enter his yard. He called the police, who responded and arrested the occupants without incident. A 30-year-old male from Regina and a 36-year-old male from Cupar are each charged with one count, possession of property obtained by crime over \$5,000, Section 354(1)(a), Criminal Code; and one count, fail to comply with release order condition, Section 145(5)(a), Criminal Code. The 36-year-old is also charged with one count, fail to comply with probation order, Section 733.1(1), Criminal Code; and one count, uttering threats, Section 264.1(1)(a), Criminal Code. They are

scheduled to appear in Maple Creek Provincial Court on Jan. 12, 2023.

**Train and vehicle collision on Hwy. 16**

At approximately 7:40 a.m., Dec. 4 Saskatoon RCMP received the report of a serious collision approximately 1.6 kilometres west of Elstow, Sask. on Hwy. 16. Initial investigation determined an SUV was travelling east on Hwy. 16 before the collision with a CP Rail train occurred. The driver, a 43-year-old female from Warman, Sask. passed away. Her next of kin have been notified. No injuries to the CP crew were reported to police. Emergency responders in attendance included the CP police, local fire department and EMS, and an RCMP Traffic Collision Reconstructionist. The Saskatchewan Coroners Service also attended and ordered an autopsy. The highway was closed and traffic was rerouted from approximately 7:45 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The investigation is ongoing.



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Coming Events

DECEMBER

- "CHRISTMAS BY THE BOOK" Sunday School Christmas program at Philadelphia Church, Sun., Dec. 18 at 7 p.m. All are welcome to attend./1-1c

COMMUNITY MEETINGS

- AL-ANON MEETING THURSDAYS 8 p.m. Ph. 306-946-2466, 306-946-7802./22-48p

COMMUNITY MEETINGS

- ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS meetings: Watrous, Thurs., 8 p.m. Anglican Church Hall on Main Street in Watrous. (306-946-2466)/.44tfc

COMMUNITY MEETINGS

- WATROUS ROTARY CLUB meets alternating Tuesday evenings at the lower level of Watrous United Church. Call 306-946-3535 for more information./44tfc

YOUNG

Pat Bryson • 306-259-4860

Dear Mother Nature,

Having received my free sample of winter I would like to cancel the remainder of my subscription. Thank you.

As I write this, it is -27! We will not talk about what the temperature is with the windchill! But we have a bright, sunny day with added sparkles

to the snow. Inside, looking outside, it is a beautiful winter scene.

We are very sorry Vancouver Island friends and family for your weather conditions. You did not sign up for snow at all!

It was a successful hunting season in the Bryson household. The Papa got both an elk and

a moose. I was drawn for mule deer and had visions of tag soup. Fortunately, I did harvest a nice buck. Adding to the excitement, I got scoped. Ouch! I \*may\* have cried. I feel I will stroke "hunting" off my to-do list next year.

Please be careful at all railway crossings, both marked and unmarked.

What a serious situation Dec. 4 near Elstow with the collision involving a train and a vehicle.

Are you nibbling on your favourite box of chocolates while watching Hallmark Christmas movies, cuddled under a cozy blanket? I think that sounds delightful.

Enjoy your week!

VISCOUNT

Sandra Reid • 306-227-1193

Wow on some of the temperatures we have been having! Hopefully with the new year upon us the weather will change for the better.

There is walking that has opened up at the Viscount Central School Mondays and Wednesdays, except the holidays. It is a lot warmer than walking outside. I truly have not made it there yet, thinking about it.

Dancing Sky Theatre's Christmas production of Jack and the End of the World proved to be a success once again. Thirty-some characters performed by five actors sang, played musical instruments and even used puppets of varying sizes to entertain the audience. This panto had the audience laughing and joining in throughout the entire show. Well worth the trip to

Meacham! (submitted by Evelina Talevi)

I have not been yet, but the show runs another two weekends, so I will need to pick one.

Dec. 5, five of us met at the Viscount library, enjoying our catch-up time while sewing together the knitted and crocheted 8" x 8" squares. We hope to have over 30 blankets ready to distribute before Christmas. For more information on what we do please call Evelina at 306-281-8196. With the Christmas season soon upon us, the Blankets for Canada ladies will be meeting just once more before taking a break until after the new year.

Best wishes to anyone who is under the weather. I hope you feel better soon. Have a great week and thank you to all who helped make this week's news possible.

At the Watrous Centre

Whist winners at the Senior Centre Thursday, Dec. 1 were: first - Betty Carlson, 151; second - Gena Amendt, 150; third - Earle Amendt, 147; fourth - Rod Degenstein, 145. Travelling - Arlene Gegner and Earle Amendt. Homesteader was Gail Shirley, seven times at same table.

Kaiser winners at the Senior Centre Monday, Dec. 5 were: first - Colleen Hunt, 180; second - Gail Shirley, 178; third - Arlene Gegner and Rod Degenstein (tied), 160.

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.

SOLUTION:

1	8	3	9	2	5	7	4	6
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5	9	4	7	3	6	2	1	8
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4	3	5	2	1	8	6	7	9
7	1	9	6	5	4	8	2	3
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Countdown to Christmas  
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# Fundraisers held at the Watrous Library



■ submitted by Lety Schalm/Watrous Library

The library had two fundraisers going on through the month of November. Numerous bundles of nearly new novels were circulated between the library and Affinity Credit Union, Watrous branch for silent auction. This project generated \$333 for the library and distributed a fair selection of titles among the local bidders.

Nov. 30 was the draw date for our raffle. The many raffle tickets sold were gathered together and one lucky winner was drawn. The prize was a book lovers basket donated by board member Avril Reifferscheid. It was valued

at \$250 and tickets were sold at the library and by library board members. Congratulations to the winner Michelle Fedrau. This fundraiser generated \$1,740 for the library.

Kids Christmas crafting times were offered on Saturday afternoons in December for various ages. We hope to see children taking advantage of this opportunity. We also hope you can make time through the holidays to read a good book, enjoy a magazine or put on an audio book while doing holiday preps! Visit the library for that much needed distraction through the holiday season.

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## Look What's Cooking by Laura Novecosky

### Eggnog Almond Cake

**Ingredients:**  
6 tbsp. butter, divided  
2/3 cup sliced almonds  
1 box yellow cake mix  
1 ½ cups eggnog  
2 eggs  
1 tsp. rum extract  
1/8. tsp nutmeg

**Directions:**  
Grease a 10 inch fluted tube pan with two tablespoons of the butter. Press almonds onto the bottom and up the sides of the pan. Melt remaining butter. Beat cake mix, eggnog, eggs, rum extract and melted butter on low for 30 seconds, then beat on medium for about two minutes until the batter is smooth. Pour into prepared pan. Bake at 350°F for about 40 to 50 minutes or until a toothpick inserted comes out clean. Cool for about 15 minutes before removing from pan to a wire rack to finish cooling. Great recipe for leftover eggnog.

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at

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