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Health tour shines light on need for a local voice

■ Daniel Bushman

As temporary disruptions and staff shortages remain at hospitals across the province including in Watrous and Lanigan, communities are just hoping to be heard as they wait for help. Earlier this month, members of Saskatchewan's official opposition began a Healthcare Solutions Tour, stopping in communities to hear concerns, meet with leaders and understand firsthand the severity of the situation.

In Watrous and Lanigan Feb. 7, Saskatchewan New Democrats MLA for Saskatoon Eastview Matt Love (Critic for Rural and Remote Health) was joined by colleague and Deputy Leader (and Critic for Health) Vicki Mowat. Speaking about the visits, Love said it was very positive and he was grateful to be able to listen to the concerns shared by local people.


Spending time in Lanigan chatting with the mayor and councillors of Lanigan and LeRoy, the Reeve of the RM of Wolverine and a nurse practitioner, Love and Mowat then made a stop in Watrous to visit with councillors there. Love said, "These are communities that we have been hearing from for quite some time due to disruptions in services, closed hospitals, reduced hours for ER and acute care. It wasn't our first visit to either location but we were invited back to help, number one, to ensure that those local voices are heard and valued when it comes to finding solutions in healthcare and take their input to help us propose solutions for our province."

Right now, due to staff shortages, according to media releases from SHA, emergency services are only available in Watrous from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., seven days per week. Inpatient services however are not available while primary health care, lab, X-ray, and long-term care services in Watrous have not been affected. In Lanigan, emergency services are available between 8 a.m. and 7 p.m. Monday through Friday while lab and X-ray services are available Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The temporary closures mean that people seeking emergency care before or after those hours have been forced to go elsewhere, adding pressure to other centres like Humboldt and Saskatoon.

Love was not surprised to learn about the situations, noting there has been a common theme with systemic problems around the province with disruptions and closures. Trying to bring the issues to light while meeting with local residents, Love said one of the themes that has emerged is the need for local voices at the decision making table. "Most of the folks we have spoken with absolutely feel they have been ignored and have valuable insight to offer that is not being considered."

Proposing the restoration of local voices in healthcare by bringing back Community Health Advisory Networks that were dismantled when health regions were amalgamated into one, Mowat said, "It's clear health region amalgamation and the centralizing of healthcare decisions has failed to deliver reliable, high-quality care for people who need it. Local people and community leaders know what their communities need – it's time to bring



► Meeting with representatives from Watrous (left) and Lanigan, LeRoy, and the RM of Wolverine (below), members of the Saskatchewan New Democrats have been conducting a Healthcare Solutions Tour across the province. Following the meetings Feb. 7, a call was issued by the Saskatchewan New Democrats proposing to restore local voices in healthcare by bringing back the Community Health Advisory Network.
 photos used with permission



those voices back to the table."

The NDP stated in addition to municipal leaders calling for a greater say in healthcare delivery, SUMA adopted a resolution in 2020 calling for "the Minister of Health to ensure direct municipal input and involvement in the health system by requiring Community Health Advisory Networks to be established throughout the province."

Wanting to be heard and have a voice at the table, Lanigan Mayor Tony Mycock met with Love and Mowat during the morning of their visit. Joined by councillors from Lanigan along with representatives with the Town of Leroy and the RM of Wolverine, Mycock said the meeting went well and felt it was nice to have someone listen to their concerns. "We do not get this from the Sask. Party government and it was great to be able to meet with the NDP. They are doing a tour and collecting all the concerns of all communities in the province. It will be good to see what they produce as we know we are not the only community with these concerns."

Citing the current situation in his community is frustrating, Mycock shared nothing has changed with the hospital in Lanigan since it reopened some of its services last year. "We are still only open Monday to Friday 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. and it is all to do with being short nurses. The current recruitment that the government is doing is great but it is not going to fix the problem anytime soon. Increased training for nurses will be at least four years before we will see any new nurses. Seeing nurses come here from other countries is great but it will not happen overnight. And what guarantees are there to have nurses move to our rural centres? The \$50,000 incentive is not doing anything that we can see."

Hoping the current government will have similar

meetings like the official opposition, Mycock would like those in power to understand firsthand the frustrations rural residents are facing. As for those living in his community and the surrounding area, Mycock wants them to know he is just as frustrated as they are. "We will keep doing everything we can to get our hospital fully open. It is a scary situation with all that is going on in the area, especially because there are major construction projects happening in the area and if there was a major accident, what would happen?"

Echoing similar frustrations in Watrous, councillors Taylor Engele, representing the community when it comes to healthcare and Lane Manson, who had family in healthcare met with Love and Mowat. The pair were encouraged to hear that the Saskatchewan New Democrats were wanting change for rural health.

"We were pleased to be able to meet with Vicki and Matt to discuss our situation and share our frustration with the reduced services in Watrous," Engele said. "We know this is very frustrating for our community and we want to make sure these concerns are heard."

Engele added since the announcement of reduced services, council from the Town of Watrous have been

(continued on page three: TOUR)

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Feb. 2 - Mar. 8

Helping in a time of desperate need

■ Daniel Bushman

The images are unfathomable and the devastation beyond comprehension as a pair of massive earthquakes and dozens of aftershocks decimated parts of southern Turkey and neighbouring northern Syria earlier this month. After the deadly quakes Feb. 6 and the many aftershocks that followed, it has been estimated by international news outlets that over 37,000 people had perished as of Feb. 13 and millions more left homeless (it is estimated that 13 million people in Turkey alone were in cities

affected with the majority left homeless).

With those figures expected to grow, buildings and infrastructure destroyed, and cold temperatures and winter storms hampering rescue efforts, people and organizations from around the globe have been trying to provide aid by any means possible. Right after the large 7.8 magnitude quake struck, one of those people immediately lending a hand was Josh Muller.

Muller who lived in Lanigan before moving to Turkey in 2014, has been involved in a range of church ministries and social justice programs over the years, including working with a church in Turkey to provide aid

to refugees who fled from ISIS and the Syrian Civil War in 2015-16. Sharing the earthquakes were the worst the region has experienced in several hundred years, Muller explained on his YouTube channel there were buildings that had been levelled 550 kms in each direction.

"Think of fairly densely populated areas from Saskatoon to Calgary or from Toronto to Montreal and buildings flattened all along that way," Muller said. "The scale of damage, the scale of loss of life, the scale of all of this is absolutely devastating and mind blowing."

The destruction and aftershocks also prevented responders and aid from being immediately



► Josh Muller (third from left) along with a team have been providing aid to residents of Turkey following devastating earthquakes earlier this month. Muller who is from Lanigan but has lived in Turkey since 2014 said there is desperate need for help as over 37,000 people have perished and millions more left homeless. With that number expected to increase, Muller said the scale of damage has been devastating.

photo courtesy Josh Muller

delivered to a number of locations across the region. Able to receive permission from local government to provide aid in one of those cities, Muller along with two others from his team rented a vehicle and loaded it with aid. Filling up with gas before embarking on a 900 km drive to the Turkish city, Josh explained the situation: "The roads in the area are completely closed because it is in the middle of winter and a big snow storm was rolling through the area. The city we are trying to get to is very difficult to access because of the snow."

Using funds from their own bank accounts, Muller said the need to help is tremendous. "We need money to help with this . . . we are dipping into our

savings to be able to do what we can so far. There are some donations that have come in and we are so thankful for that but we need a lot more. The region is absolutely devastated right now."

Navigating through the mountains and dealing with winter conditions, the 19 passenger vehicle filled with food, diapers, blankets and supplies arrived at its destination. With no one effectively on the ground in Elbistan, the city where Muller and his team drove to, and with no sleep, Muller gave a report at 6 a.m. once the aid was unloaded. "It is -16°C and nobody can stay in their buildings. Apartments are collapsed all over the city. There are people still under those apartments. There are still earthquakes

happening. There was two earthquakes yesterday and more happening nonstop so staying in buildings is not safe right now so people are staying outside for the moment."

With nonstop need and every school in the country closed, Muller and the friends he travelled with heard there was desire among bus drivers to help bring aid and evacuate people. "But the thing they are missing right now is money. Money to pay for the gasoline, money to pay for the blankets and money to pay for resources they are bringing. We need your help."

Following the update, Muller sent an email to his mom Shirley back in Lanigan Feb. 10 explaining no one from the team had gotten more than three hours of sleep over the past 72 hours. "We should at least get four to five hours uninterrupted sleep tonight, which is sorely needed. We're really grateful. The church network we are working with has deployed another team with more hands and supplies. We'll meet them when they arrive in a few

(continued on page nine: HELP)

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The RM of Prairie Rose is a predominantly agricultural municipality located in east central Saskatchewan. The municipality is a progressive employer that offers employees a quality work environment and excellent wages and benefits.

The position includes leading an outside workforce of 2-3 employees in the day-to-day operations of the municipality, municipal contact for Contractors and the Municipal Engineer in capital projects and liason with the reeve, council and administration staff.

Key responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Provide hands-on leadership by establishing clear expectations
- Demonstrate high standards of work practices
- Co-ordination of day-to-day operations of the municipality
- Schedule workloads to maximize productivity and efficiency and quality of work
- Lead by positive example and encourage improvement in shop operations and practices
- Manage training needs, performance evaluations and guidance sessions
- Time card management
- Promote and participate in workplace safety and best practices

The candidate must possess:

- A valid class 5 driver's licence, Class 1A would be an asset
- Mechanical skills - heavy duty mechanic experience would be an asset
- Knowledge of and ability to operate graders, scrapers, tractors and other light, medium and heavy equipment
- Self-motivation and the ability to manage multiple projects over the construction season
- Leadership, supervisory, organizational, communication and record-keeping skills

Applicants are invited to submit a resume including:

- Past and present work experience
- Education and skills
- Years of experience in construction/ municipal fields
- Current driver's abstract
- Three references
- Salary expectations

Qualified applicants are invited to submit a resume prior to 4 p.m. on March 7, 2023 to:
RM of Prairie Rose No. 309, Box 89, Jansen, SK S0K 2B0
Email: rm309@jansen.ca

Transfer Station

WINTER HOURS

OCTOBER 1 TO MARCH 31

Tuesday & Thursday 12 noon to 4 p.m.
Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

REACT Garbage Pickup: Monday
(excluding statutory holidays, then pickup will be Tuesday)

Fitness Centre

f watrousfitness

Memberships are available to purchase at the Town Office.

DAY PASS: \$7.50

2 WEEK WEEKEND PASS: \$27.50

MONTHLY PASS: \$42.50

Free Walking Program

This free program is designed to allow for safe indoor walking and began at the beginning of October.

Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Watrous Civic Centre 404 Main St.
Subject to facility availability.

Animal Control Information

CAT & DOG LICENCES

\$10: Neutered • \$15: Non-neutered

*NOTE Price increase effective March 1, 2023

Please note that the Town of Watrous has an Animal Control Bylaw that prohibits dogs/cats from running at large. In accordance with the Bylaw any dog/cat caught running at large will be impounded and a fine will be issued to the owner. It is your responsibility to clean up any defecation on public or private property. Full bylaw is posted here:

www.townofwatrous.com/Bylaws.php

Council Meetings

Upcoming Council Meeting Dates:

March 6 & 20

Watrous Library Hours

Tuesday to Thursday:

11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Saturday: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Water Bill Schedule

JANUARY/FEBRUARY

mailed out in first week of March

MARCH/APRIL:

mailed out in first week of May

MAY/JUNE

mailed out in first week of July

JULY/AUGUST

mailed out in first week of September

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER

mailed out in first week of November

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER

mailed out in first week of January

Email Consent...

...FOR MUNICIPAL NOTICES

The Town of Watrous offers municipal notices to be sent via email. Watch for a consent form in your next water bill. This consent form must be signed and returned to the Town Office in order to receive notices by email.

www.townofwatrous.com/office/PDF/
Email%20Consent%20Form.pdf

RCMP Report

(from front page: TOUR)

meeting regularly with the SHA. “We have been disappointed that the situation has not improved. We have expressed our concerns both to the SHA and the Ministry of Health in hopes that something can be done to restore full services in Watrous.”

Manson also shared “the community used to have a say when it came to input for our local healthcare system” but no longer have that after the health regions were amalgamated into one. “We would just like to see the services that our community deserves and want to know what we can do to help get them reopen.”

Love understands the frustration that has been growing in both centres, specifically mentioning Watrous. “We heard from folks in Watrous for them to make an appointment and to be seen by a family doctor is a four to six month wait which is completely unacceptable to think that somebody would know what their health needs are going to be six months down the road from when they are making an appointment.”

Seeing the frustration fall to local municipal leaders and healthcare workers, Love said, “Folks see the hospital sign on the highway and they pull in looking for help only to get to the door and to find out that the facility is closed. There is no way of knowing before they got there in many cases. This is a dangerous situation. They go further down the road only to find out that that location is

Motor vehicle accident between Watrous and Manitou Beach
On Friday, Feb. 10, Watrous emergency services responded to a call of a motor vehicle accident that happened on Hwy. 365, two miles north of Watrous, between Watrous and Manitou Beach, involving one male being trapped in his vehicle. On scene, first

responders saw a grey Audi with severe damage to the driver side door with the male still trapped in the vehicle. The occupant of a black Kia Soul was taken by another motorist in his vehicle with light injuries. Due to the extent of injuries to the driver trapped in the grey car, (continued on page eight: RCMP)

closed too. Then we have the same thing happening with ambulances who are responding to calls, driving past hospitals who are on bypass, getting into the city only to wait in a hallway for eight to 16 hours in some cases to off load a patient in a crowded city ER. All of these problems are connected.”

When asked about the importance of current staff and the work that they have done during a trying time, Love shared they have served the province incredibly well. “We are definitely hearing frustration and I think that part of that is the government has rolled out a plan for recruitment for healthcare workers but they have really let folks down on retaining those who have given so much for our province who are already working in our healthcare system but are not feeling the respect and the values that they should for the work that they continue to put in.”

Expressing his thanks to those willing to meet, share their concerns and frustrations and to build a relationship, Love said, “We value it greatly and we would

invite anyone who also has concerns to reach out to us to share those with us.”

After the visits by the NDP in Lanigan and Watrous, The Watrous Manitou reached out to the Ministry of Health to see if they would be able to provide any comments or updates. The ministry issued the following statement:

The Government of Saskatchewan is committed to stabilizing and strengthening the important healthcare services that people living in communities across the province rely on. That is why we have a four-point Health Human Resources Action Plan to recruit, train, incentivize, and retain over 1,000 more health care workers to communities across the province, including Watrous, Lanigan, and other communities in the region. Key initiatives under our HHR Action Plan include a

(continued on back page: TOUR)

HIRING

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Any questions, please contact Brenda: 306-227-3676

APPLICATION DEADLINE FEB. 28, 2023

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PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE
Public notice is hereby given that the Resort Village of Manitou Beach intends to adapt a bylaw pursuant to Section 13 of the The Municipality Act, to close roads and portions of roads within the Wellington Park Boundary.

INTENT
The proposed bylaw will close to close roads and portions of roads within the Wellington Park Boundary.

AFFECTED LAND
The road closures are described as:

- Close a portion of the lane St/L 2-Plan G500 Ext 0 between the NE corner of Lot 13-Blk/ Par D-Plan G500 Ext 0 and the NE corner of Lot 18-Blk/Par D-Plan G500 Ext 0.
- Close a portion of the lane St/L 2-Plan G500 Ext 0 between the NE corner of Lot 18-Blk/ Par D-Plan G500 Ext 0 and the SE corner of Lot 18-Blk/Par D-Plan G500 Ext 0.
- Close a portion of the lane St/L 3-Plan G500 Ext 0 from its western end to the NE corner of Lot 23-Blk/Par E-Plan G500 Ext 0.
- Close a portion of the street St/L 60-Plan G19 Ext 0 from its western end to the SE corner of Lot 25-Blk/Par E-Plan G500 Ext 0.
- Close a portion of the lane St/L 30-Plan G19 Ext 0 from its western end to the SW corner of Lot 20-Blk/Par 30-Plan G19 Ext 0.
- Close a portion of the street St/L 59-Plan G19 Ext 0 from its western end to the NE corner of Lot 36-Blk/Par 10-Plan G19 Ext 0.
- Close a portion of the lane St/L 25-Plan G19 Ext 0 from its western end to the NE corner of Lot 15-Blk/Par 10-Plan G19 Ext 0.
- Close a portion of the street St/L 58-Plan G19 Ext 0 from its western end to the NE corner of Lot 8-Blk/Par 10-Plan G19 Ext 0.
- Close a portion of the lane St/L 24-Plan G19 Ext 0 from its western end to the SE corner of Lot 8-Blk/Par 9-Plan G19 Ext 0.

Removed closure at request of council on second reading.

RESORT VILLAGE OF MANITOU BEACH CLOSURE OF ROADS WITHIN WELLINGTON PARK

- Close the street segment St/L 53-Plan G19 Ext 0.
- Close the street segment St/L 15-Plan G19 Ext 0.
- Close the street segment St/L 55-Plan G19 Ext 0.
- Close the street segment St/L 3-Plan G19 Ext 0.
- Close the street segment St/L 54-Plan G19 Ext 0.
- Close the street segment St/L 9-Plan G19 Ext 0.
- Close a portion of the street the street segment St/L 52-Plan G19 Ext 0 from its northern end to the SW, corner of Lot 13-Blk/Par 9-Plan G19 Ext 0.
- Close the street segment St/L 50-Plan G19 Ext 0.

REASON
A proposed Wellington Park boundary was given to the Village's Council by the Parks Committee. With recommendations from both Council and Community Planning a Wellington Park Boundary has been established. The proposed bylaw will provide a path for the creation of two land surface parcels that will formally define Wellington Park.

PUBLIC INSPECTION
Any person may inspect the bylaw at the municipal office at 701 Lakeview Avenue, Manitou Beach between 8:30 AM and 4:00 PM on Monday, Tuesday or Friday, excluding statutory holidays. Copies are available at cost.

PUBLIC HEARING
Council will hold a public hearing on 27th February, 2023, at 2:00 PM at 701 Lakeview Avenue, Manitou Beach to hear any person or group that wants to comment on the proposed bylaw. Council will also consider written comments received at the hearing or delivered to the undersigned at the municipal office before the hearing.

Issued at the Resort Village of Manitou Beach, this 10th day of February, 2023 • David McVicar, Planning and Development Officer

Opinion

Look What's Cooking by Laura Novecosky

Peanut Butter Cool Whip Cups

Ingredients:

½ cup peanut butter
1 large tub of thawed Cool Whip
Chocolate ice cream sundae syrup

Directions:

Mix this together thoroughly. Spoon into mini muffin liners (foil ones work best). Drizzle with chocolate syrup. Refreeze these. Once frozen, store in covered container in single layer. Once frozen you can store in multiple layers with parchment paper between the layers.



Tips from
Reena Nerbas

my iron back to looking like new? Thanks, Lorraine

Dear Lorraine,

Into a bowl, mix together one tablespoon toothpaste, one teaspoon baking soda and one teaspoon vinegar. Dip a non-scratching abrasive cloth in the solution. Scrub the metal plate until the scorch marks disappear. Your iron will look brand new.

Dear Reena,

How do you get brown sugar to stay soft? Mine is hard as a rock. Thank you, Alice

Dear Alice,

Brown sugar hardens when moisture inside the container evaporates; all you need to do is replenish the moisture with one of these easy solutions! Place a cut up apple or slice of bread into an airtight container with the sugar, softening will take about a day or drape a damp towel over the unlidded bowl and leave overnight. You can also put the sugar into the microwave with a separate bowl of water. Turn the microwave on and check every 30 seconds to observe if the sugar is soft. A long-term fix is to purchase a piece of food safe clay; these are available at most grocery stores. Soak the clay in water for a few hours and then store it inside the brown sugar container to keep it moist.

Dear Reena,

I want to know if there is an easier way to maintain a 100-year-old wooden floor. It has been oiled yearly with linseed oil and mopped with Murphy's Oil Soap every couple of weeks and swept in between. The trouble is it is a large area (1,800 sq. ft.) and is in a rural General Store/Coffee Shop setting so it is constantly walked on with dirty and muddy boots. Cleaning is a big job to try to

Solutions and Substitutions

Dear Reena,

I have been working on a small sewing project; little did I know that I have scorched the soleplate of my iron as I applied fused interfacing to the fabric I was working with. Can you tell me how I can remove these scorch marks to get

keep it in good shape. Over the years the oil and dirt have accumulated around the edges. Basically, I am exhausted trying to keep it up. What, if anything, can make it easier to care for? Bradley

Dear Bradley,

Be cautious and use minimal water on the floor, the mop should be damp and not wet; 50/50 water and vinegar are also an option. Murphy's Oil tends to leave an oily residue and is therefore not always suitable for beautiful old wooden floors. Bona is a popular product sold in large home hardware stores. Bona leaves no residual oil on the floor, mist the floor and apply the product with a microfibre mop. If this is unsuccessful perhaps it is time for a coating of urethane.

Dear Reena,

Is there any way to prevent mites from invading my poinsettia so it will stay healthy longer? G.G.

Dear G.G.,

You can either purchase plant soap at your local garden store or you can make your own mite deterrent. Combine four tablespoons mild dish soap in one gallon of water. Pour into a spray bottle and spray the poinsettia.

Don't worry, be happy

- Next time you make fajitas add cooked pork, peppers, onions and seasoning to your baking pan. Next cook powdered onion soup and water on the stove. Thicken soup with cornstarch (the way that you would gravy). Add this to the fajita pan for great flavour and texture. Bake to heat.

- Wax paper taped inside slatted closet doors will help to keep out moths and dust.

- Save all the cookie crumbs in the bottom of cookie boxes. Use your food processor to grind them into fine crumbs. Perfect for all kinds of cake and cookie recipes.

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

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

**For Community Connection news,
see page eight.**

**For Watrous Centre news,
see page 11.**

**The Watrous Manitou
is closed during
the week
of Feb. 20.**

How rich and famous are you aiming to become?



Neighbourly advice according to Ed

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

Want to take a small step backward to 1984? From 1984 to 1995, there was an American television series called Lifestyles of the Rich and Famous. This television series showcased the lavish lifestyles of the rich and

famous individuals at that time. Thirty-nine years ago, in 1984, I was not rich or famous, and now in 2023, I am still not either of them. The program may have inspired some viewers to fulfill their champagne wishes and caviar dreams, but champagne and caviar do not motivate me on any level.

The type of life we live as adults significantly reflects what is important to us. Doug Murren and Barb Sharin tell of the rich and famous Swedish chemist Alfred Nobel. In 1867, Nobel awoke one morning and was startled to read his own obituary in the local newspaper. He read in the

paper, "Alfred Nobel, the inventor of dynamite, who died yesterday, devised a way for more people to be killed in a war than ever before. He died a very rich man."

The story of his death in the paper profoundly affected Alfred, even though it was a mistake. The reporter had confused Alfred with his older brother. It was his brother who had actually died. Yet, Nobel became determined that he would be known for something better than developing a means to kill people handily and amassing a fortune. So, Nobel initiated the Nobel Prize for scientists

and writers who foster peace. Today his name is associated with peace rather than dynamite and money.

How do you sum up your life? What style of life do you live? There are obvious and easy things to say about who you are or your identity that are common to everyone. You are recognized by birth, parents and siblings, schooling, work/career, marriage, children, hobbies, residence, unique experiences, illness, etc.

Christians are to live as those who seek to set their hearts on Jesus and the example and directions that he gave us. Jesus was

a travelling rabbi with a group of disciples. He had no regular place to lay his head. He was not born in a palace but in a stable. His stepfather Joseph was a carpenter, as was Jesus, until he became a rabbi.

Jesus as a rabbi from Nazareth made it clear he came to serve, not to be served. His lifestyle was one of preaching, teaching, and miraculously healing the sick, blind, deaf, diseased, crippled, and dead. He was on a mission to overcome evil with good and save all sinners by his loving sacrifice on the cross for their sins. His lifestyle was one of compassion, kindness, humility,

gentleness, and patience. He was one with God the Father in heaven daily by prayer and obedience. He exhibited grace that is undeserved love and forgiveness towards all.

Jesus demonstrated a lifestyle of sacrificial love for the good of others. Consider Jesus lived for God the Father in Heaven, not for his comfort here on earth. He served, believed, loved, and obeyed God rather than Satan, the deceiver. He did not love the world's enticements to become rich and famous. Instead, he feared or revered God more than men. His lifestyle is our example to follow.

TWM
Est. 1933

Daniel and Kim Bushman, publishers and editors
Laurie Regier, typesetter/customer service
Alexandra Goodrich-Dengler, advertising/creative

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Comics AND Puzzles

PICKLES
by BRIAN CRANE

UH HUH.

EARL, DO YOU HAVE A PEN?

NO, BUT I HAVE A HANDKERCHIEF.

A HANDKERCHIEF?! WHAT GOOD IS THAT GOING TO DO ME?! I NEED A PEN!!

HEY, LOOK! I DID HAVE A PEN!

HERE YOU GO. THANK YOU.

I THINK IT'S OUT OF INK, THOUGH.

HOLD ON. LET ME GET A PEN.

SORRY, NO NEED TO GET SNIPPY. I WAS JUST TRYIN' TO HELP.

HMM...IT LOOKS LIKE I DON'T HAVE A HANDKERCHIEF AFTER ALL. I THOUGHT I DID.

2/26

Garfield

SIGH SIGH

DING!

ZIP! ZIP!

GOOD NEWS, BOYS!

THE OVEN'S NOW PREHEATED. THE PIZZA WILL BE READY IN 20 MINUTES!

SIGH SIGH

2-19

PEANUTS
featuring "Good ol' Charlie Brown"
by SCHULZ

MASS

UNIVERSAL Sudoku Puzzle

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

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

1/29

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DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

CO-OP

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GAS BAR
104 - 1st Ave. W., Hwy. #2

FARM AND HARDWARE
410 - 1st Ave. W., Hwy. #2

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Universal Crossword

ACROSS

1 Hits the mall
6 "If you ask me ..." in a text
9 Elects (to)
13 Big name in skin care
14 Browser subwindows
16 Vicinity
17 Egg-producing organ
18 *Personal motive (note the first word in each starred clue's answer)
20 John of the original "SNL" cast
22 Alex Morgan's Olympic soccer team
23 Peter Parker's best friend
24 Reroutes
26 Interpersonal sensitivity
28 *Miner's warning cry
32 The ___ less traveled
33 Crop with lab-altered DNA
34 Blank out?
36 "Si," in French
37 Hollywood icon West
38 Notes after mis
39 Tommy Pickles' dad on "Rugrats"
41 Villainous smile
43 Noodle topper?
44 Commotions
45 "Is that hard to fathom or what?!"

DOWN

1 Hoity-toity type
2 Bee's home
3 Oblong circle
4 Looked over carefully
5 Verbally greets someone
6 "Ya got the wrong guy!"
7 Apt-sounding name for an Apple salesman?
8 Dense, in a way
9 Rowboat propeller
10 William and Harry's mom, familiarly
11 Basic belief
12 Org. that helps adolescents make wise choices

15 What a flare may mean
19 They might be mistaken for crocs
21 Budapest's country
25 However briefly?
27 In the style of
28 Natural hairstyle, for short
29 Outstanding papers?
30 What might be issued to fair-weather fans?
31 Data analyst's colorful diagram
35 English prep school
37 Relating to the mind
38 Bias-free opportunity
40 Put to good ___

42 Yves' drops?
43 "What?"
44 Wrinkle, e.g.
46 Who's on first?
47 Russian-American sci-fi great
48 "... seven ___ a swimming ..."
50 "Don't waste a second!"
52 Mean dog
54 City sewer, for the Ninja Turtles
55 "That's my cue!"
56 Pitchfork prong
58 Barbie's "Euphoria" character
59 Tax prep pro

FOR ANSWERS TO SUDOKU AND CROSSWORD, SEE PAGE 11

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www.upuzzles.com

2/19

Terminator Series by Jake Halperin

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8		9	10	11	12
13						14			15		16		
17						18				19			
20						21			22			23	
			24				25			26	27		
28	29	30							31				
32					33				34			35	
36					37			38			39		40
	41		42				43			44			
		45				46				47			
	48					49							
50				51	52			53			54	55	56
57			58				59			60			
61					62					63			
64						65				66			

Oval Racing Debuts in Watrous - Heating up the ice

■ submitted by Rhonda Cooper

After a hiatus of three years, the inaugural race at Watrous for the Saskatchewan Vintage Oval Racers Alliance (SVORA) on Feb. 4 and 5 was an opportunity for racers to dust off the rust and once again hit the race track.

"We have made history," commented SVORA president Shawn Dale, as the registrations closed on the Saturday, Feb. 4 race day in Watrous. "This is the first time ever we have had this number of racers registered in so many classes."

Because of the incredible response, the start time for the first race was a bit behind schedule due to the inputting of all the relevant information into the computer program which set the race schedule. With the schedule generated, racers hit the track to once again experience the thrill of oval racing. For many of the competitors not only was it their first time back on their snowmobiles in a significant period of time but also the first time to don the racing suits and numbers!

Under a somewhat cloudy sky on Saturday, the first to hit the track were the junior competitors. Junior riders ranged in age from seven to 16 years. The clean run set the day up well. Unfortunately, race four, the Sportsman 600cc IFS, had a crash between two sleds in corner two, near the

entrance to the pits. While one driver escaped basically unscathed, the second driver needed to be transported by ambulance to a hospital in Saskatoon. Once the injured driver was safely removed from the site, the vintage snowmobiles were back on the track putting down laps.

Intermissions are needed to do track maintenance and that is when possibly the most popular races take place. Onto the smaller track, located inside the oval, the next generation of racers in the Kitty Kat/120cc/200cc fan-cooled races demonstrated their driving abilities. From a high of six tiny racers on the track during an intermission down to just a pair of racers, it was hard to know who enjoyed the experience more, the drivers or the spectators. Saturday, a wonderful display of sportsmanship was enjoyed when two novice racers were on the track and the race leader on a larger model snowmobile had a commanding lead when the driver decided to stop and wait for the littlest competitor to catch up. They proceeded to the finish line, with the smaller sled taking the checkered flag!

Fans took the opportunity to support the Venn Hall through the purchase of 50/50 tickets of which the lucky winners took home \$760 on Saturday and \$650 on Sunday. Also on-site was a concession stand which was well supported.

The feature race Saturday was the five-lap Wahl Bros



►The first race of the two day weekend was kicked off by the junior racers. While running together, there were two age groups on the track, Junior 1 (ages seven to 11) and Junior 2 (ages 12 to 16).

photo by Rhonda Cooper

Racing Super Series Championship which closed out the first day of competition.

"It is super good and very entertaining," said Taylor Van De Wiele, first time oval racing spectator. "It is more exciting than the drag races I have seen at Fort Qu'Appelle. Here you have more participants competing at the same time. They actually have to turn instead of simply driving in a straight line." Van De Wiele was back at the track on Sunday to see more great racing.

During the distribution of Saturday's prize money, the Watrous track builders received a shout out of "Great Track!" from the drivers, followed by a round of applause!

Sunday, the conditions for racing were improved as the sun was out in full force, making for improved visibility. While not a record, Sunday's line up was down only slightly from the previous day. Some competitors chose to race only one day, while others entered a few less races, as the toll of a full day of racing after a long hiatus translated into some physical aches and pains, and as is the case in any sport, some snowmobiles had technical issues keeping them in the pits.

(continued on page seven: RACES)

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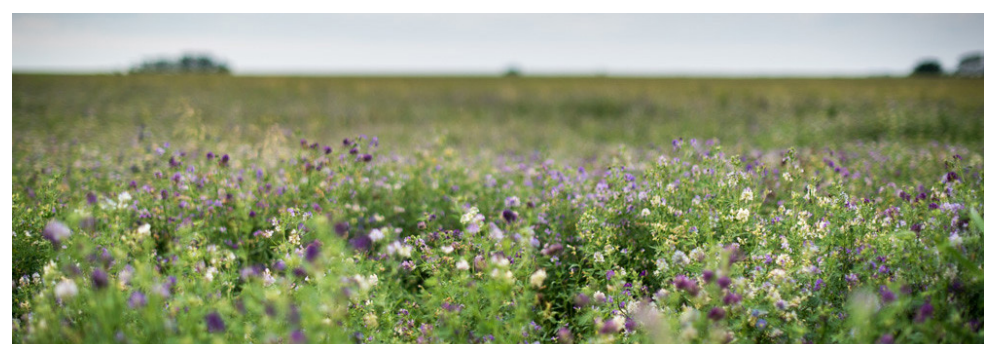


Lending a hand

► Members of the Carlton Trail 4-H Beef Club were all smiles as they accepted a donation for just over \$1,100 (pictured). In 2022, Nutrien Ag Solutions Watrous and Nutrien Ag Solutions Drake donated \$1,140 to the local area 4-H club based on the company's forage seed sales at its two lo-

cations. Accepting the funds from Patrick Bartko of Nutrien Ag Solutions Drake and Nutrien Ag Solutions Watrous were Carlton Trail 4H Club members Cade, Kaylin and Mesa Bartel, all from Watrous.

photo and information courtesy Patrick Bartko



(from page six: RACES)

Creating the race schedule was a much faster process as racers were already entered into the system, allowing for a more timely start to the day. Sunday's races went incident free and like Saturday there were some very close one-two finishes as well as last minute passes to claim the checkered flag. The popular novice racers had the opportunity to go around the big track during a couple of the intermissions. Sunday the 10-lap VICON Classic wrapped

up a successful weekend of racing. While the majority of the competitors sported Saskatchewan addresses, three Albertans and a single Manitoban made up the complement of racers. Racers collect points for wins and placing in each class from every race to determine the Hergott Points Series Champion and the KMK Saskatchewan Champion Series. Racers are allowed studded tracks and shorter skis among other modifications as a means of obtaining the perfect traction to maneuver the slick oval track.

Local snowmobile enthusiast Bryan Axman was the driving force behind the Watrous SVORA event. "I wanted there to be more than just one race," he said. Axman pitched the idea back in November and he and a core group of volunteers including Lorne Axman, Garrett Benell, Grant Fisher, Keenan Gauley, Tyler McGrath, Dan Vickaryous and Sheldon Yanoshewski put in countless hours to bring the idea to fruition. The construction of the incredible track located on Freshwater Lake east

of Watrous was initially plowed by B. Axman with his two-wheeled drive tractor. After approximately a week of efforts by both B. and L. Axman and Tyler McGrath, the track was ready. At the conclusion of the weekend, while teams were packing up SVORA vice-president Heather

Kreutzer caught up with B. Axman to inform him, many of the drivers asked that he be told that this was the best track they had ever raced on. Excellent fan support, the contributions of approximately 15 behind the scenes volunteers, and the announcing talents of

Blair Stenberg all added to the successful inaugural SVORA event in Watrous. Race fans can access the individual results from the weekend on the SVORA website and many of the same racers will be competing at the Plunkett Oval Races on the February long weekend.

► Sunday the novice racers in the Kitty Kat/120cc/200cc fan cooled class hit the big track just like the full sized snowmobiles (pictured right). It took them a little bit longer to make the laps, but they were just as focused as the junior and adult drivers!

photo by James Cooper



► Pictured above: Fast off the line and into corner one seconds after the green flag dropped, were the senior class drivers! The sleds may be vintage but they can still fly! Pictured above right: Saskatchewan racer Albert Ratti dominated at the Watrous oval races. Running two snowmobiles, Ratti finished first in all but one of his entered races.

above photo by James Cooper/above right photo by Rhonda Cooper



Taking the title

► After going undefeated in Horizon senior mixed curling pre-districts, the Winston High School contingent of Nick Lawrence, Kade Thomas and Erika and Sarah Oakes continued their momentum in district draws. In Wadena Feb. 10 and 11, coach of the team Dawn Lee said on Friday they played Strasbourg at 11:15 a.m., winning 11-0 after six ends. Following a break where the team headed to the local bakery, Lee said they faced Humboldt at 3:45 p.m. and won 7-1 after five ends.

"That made us the winner of the A side and we needed to play the B side winner, Humboldt, on Saturday morning at 10 a.m. We won that game 10-3 after seven but were tied 3-3 at the fourth end break!" Following an undefeated run to claim the district title, the rink returns home to familiar surroundings as they will be competing at mixed regionals at the Watrous Curling Club Mar. 3 and 4.

photo used with permission



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MARCH 3 & 4

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THE FOLLOWING LAND IS OFFERED FOR SALE BY TENDER ON THE TERMS SET OUT BELOW

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LEGAL DESCRIPTION	
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NW Sec 18 Twp 31 Rge 25 W2 Ext. 0	Property Taxes - \$702. ³⁴
SW Sec 18 Twp 31 Rge 25 W2 Ext. 0	Property Taxes - \$693. ⁷⁷
LOCATION	RM of Morris No. 312
TOTAL # OF ACRES	480 Acres (160 Acres per ¼ section)
TOTAL # OF CULTIVATED ACRES	450 Acres (150 cultivated acres per ¼ section)
TAXABLE ASSESSMENT	
Bidders must rely on their own research of the property	
• The buyer is responsible for all 2023 taxes.	
• The land is not serviced.	
• There are no buildings, wells or fences.	
• The highest, or any bid, is not necessarily accepted.	
• Bids on all 3 quarters will be considered first; however, the owner will consider separate bids.	
RESERVE BID: \$325,000 per ¼ section	
All offers must be sent to TODD MARTIN by the tender deadline of 4 p.m., March 8, 2023. The offers may be sent by email or regular mail, to be received by the deadline to: Todd Martin, P.O. Box 82, Watrous, SK S0K 4T0 Email: toddmartin2253@gmail.com	

Note: Terms and conditions of the tender will be sent to all offers.

NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF ASSESSMENT ROLL VILLAGE OF SIMPSON

Notice is hereby given that the assessment roll for the Village of Simpson for the year 2023 has been prepared and is open to inspection in the office of the assessor from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the following days: Monday to Friday, February 24 to March 27, 2023. A bylaw pursuant to section 214 of *The Municipalities Act* has been passed and the assessment notices have been sent as required. Any person wishing to discuss the notice of assessment or potential appeal may contact the assessor at the: Village of Simpson, Box 10, Simpson, SK S0G 4M0 A notice of appeal, accompanied by a \$200 appeal fee which will be returned if the appeal is successful, must be filed with: The Secretary of the Board of Revision, Kristen Tokaryk, Western Municipal Consulting Ltd., Box 149, Meota, SK S0M 1X0 by the 27th day of March, 2023.

Dated this 24th day of February, 2023, Darlene Mann, Assessor

TAX ENFORCEMENT LIST Village of Meacham Province of Saskatchewan

Notice is hereby given under *The Tax Enforcement Act* that unless the arrears and costs appearing opposite the land and title number described in the following list are fully paid before April 25, 2023, an interest based on a tax lien will be registered against the land.

Note: A sum for costs in an amount required by subsection 4(3) of *The Tax Enforcement Act* is included in the amount shown against each parcel.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY	TITLE NUMBER	TOTAL ARREARS	COSTS	TOTAL ARREARS AND COSTS
LOT 15, 16, 17 BLK 11 PLAN G283	144792490 144792502 144792513	3,136.40	15.00	3,151.40
LOT 18 & 19 BLK 1 PLAN G262	151917206 151917240	2,356.90	15.00	2,371.90
LOT 4, 5, 6 BLK 3 PLAN G262	153151512 153151523 153151534	1,691.31	15.00	1,695.31
LOT 19, 20, 21 BLK 8 PLAN G283	123651727 123651738 123651749	1,543.62	15.00	1,558.62
LOT 13 BLK 10 PLAN G283	154942106	1,518.74	15.00	1,533.74
LOT 11 BLK 10 PLAN G283	154942117	1,517.43	15.00	1532.43

Dated this 9th day of February, 2023 Karen Cox, Treasurer

YOUNG

Pat Bryson • 306-259-4860

The community of Young offers their sincere sympathy to the family and friends of Jean (Gino) Raymond on his passing. Many will miss their chats with him at the Co-op, Napa or downtown getting the mail. Bless you, Lynn-d and Amanda, as you navigate life without your Dad.

Our hearts go out to the people of Syria and Turkey after the devastating earthquake there Feb. 6. The level of destruction is overwhelming. There have been small glimmers of hope; one being a little boy pulled out of the rubble after more than 78 hours. A disaster of this magnitude makes our problems seem so small, does it not?

I am sure the village has doubled in population with our winter visitors, the herds of deer. They are quiet guests and do not ask for much, except for a hearty lunch now and then.

Our trusty, rusty dog alerted us to a herd of deer, 31 of them, parading single file down the grid road. I wonder where they were going - perhaps into Young to meet up with deer friends there.

The saying “you don’t know what you have until it’s gone” sure holds true when the power goes off. It was a blustery morning Feb. 9 when SaskPower servicemen were doing repairs near our yard and we were without power for the duration. We extend our gratitude to these repairmen who work in all kinds of weather, including our crazy cold Saskatchewan winters. It was not long before the power came on and we were toasty warm, enjoying a cup of hot coffee. Enjoy your week!




photo by Pat Bryson

(from page three: RCMP)

STARS was called to assist emergency services and took the male to hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.

The road was closed for investigation before it reopened about two hours later.

Charges laid

At approximately 11:15 a.m., Feb. 7, a male

(from page two: HELP)

hours. We have been able to deploy some school buses! Thank God. Many of the most vulnerable people are starting to be evacuated from this city.”

Muller went on to indicate there were dozens of villages in the region that they did not have information about and if relief had arrived. “We’re still getting reports from inaccessible villages of babies dying from cold exposure (homes destroyed, no heat/blankets, and no aid able to get there due to road closures). Things are still really bad.”

Following their delivery of aid to Elbistan, Josh said more help finally arrived. “Large shipments of food, clothes, and water have made their way here and are being distributed. Many basic needs, at least temporarily, are starting to be met. And we’ve heard reports from at least one other city that was hit extremely hard had started to have many of the most pressing emergency needs taken care of.”

Despite the help, countless bodies remained under the rubble and were being dug out every hour. “There’s still insane amounts of need. There’s been so, so, so much loss. But, in the midst of that, help is getting out. Basic needs are starting to be met.”

Standing on one of the city streets in Elbistan Feb. 12, Muller shared images of buildings that had collapsed while a few others remained standing. “We have been really busy the last few days doing our best to serve the people here and doing our best to figure out how to get people out of here.”

Able to mobilize a number of school buses, filling them up with blankets and ready made food, he said aid was being distributed as quickly as possible. Since the school buses were being utilized, government also approved large transit buses for use and had been brought in to help evacuate people. Because of the extra resources, Josh said his team began shifting its focus, putting a lot more effort into caring for people who were still in the city and had not been evacuated.

“Lot of bodies remain in these buildings and family members who know that their loved ones are in these buildings don’t want to leave until they can properly bury them. There is a lot of people who won’t be leaving

VISCOUNT

Sandra Reid • 306-227-1193

So sorry to hear about Deloris Sutherland retiring as Plunkett’s correspondent for the paper. Her continued writing over the years was always enjoyed. Hopefully you enjoy your retirement Deloris!

February break and Family Day are upon us right now. If you are one of the lucky ones to enjoy a get-away or to spend some time with family, enjoy.

We enjoyed an evening at the Viscount school playing pickleball. We are looking forward to many more.

Viscount Wildlife Federation held its annual horn score Jan. 22, 2023. Over 40 people attended with 33 memberships sold. Members brought in 21 sets of antlers from the 2022 hunting season as well as many others from the previous two years. This was our first horn score since 2019. Pat Clavelle had the largest moose scoring 146 2/8” typical. Brent Dopko had the only pronghorn with a score of 59 4/8”. Jason Dieno’s archery elk scored 272” typical and Josh Volk’s elk taken with a rifle scored 266 3/8” typical. Mitch Gusikoski had the highest scoring whitetail out of 10 with a score of 145 5/8” typical. Largest typical mule deer went to Bernie Vossen with a score of 165 7/8” and Kendra Hendrick’s had the largest non-typical mule deer with a score of 134 5/8”. Everyone had a great time and we were happy to have this event again. If anyone is interested in a membership please contact Cameron Bentley.

Blankets for Canada will not be meeting Monday, Feb. 20, but will resume the following Monday, Feb. 27. Everyone is welcome to have a cup of tea with us and see how we put together these blankets. We really appreciate all who contribute their time, yarn and squares. The shelters are also appreciative for each and every blanket that they receive from us. Because of your generosity we will be able to continue to supply our blankets. Twenty-six blankets were delivered to two shelters last week. There were 14 adult ones and 12 baby blankets. The baby blankets are each given with a small, hand crafted teddy bear.

That big ball of yellow in the sky is so nice to see. Some days; however, you might think with the bright sunshine that it is a beautiful warm day, until you step outside and find it a little on the chilly side.

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



photo submitted by Sandra Reid

COLONSAY

Irene Gray • 306-255-2775

Congratulations to our niece Debbie O’Krainetz who has received word that she will be receiving the Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee Medal for her work in the health field at Vermillion, Alta.

Joan Campbell spent the weekend with her cousin Norma Sparrow. Sunday, Feb. 12, they attended a family supper with Ed and Dorothy Tymcatyn.

The Colonsay Seniors are enjoying getting together Mondays playing cards. They also got together Thursday afternoon and played crib and Big Two. They hope to continue this twice a week.

The weather sure has been nice. It is great for all the farmers that have started calving.

Get well wishes to those suffering from covid after effects and to anyone that is just not feeling well.

Sympathy to the Patti Pfeifer and Stanford families on her passing Feb. 9 in Saskatoon. Her funeral service was held at Hillcrest Funeral Home Feb. 13. Patti grew up on the farm at Colonsay.

Never attempt to bear more than one kind of trouble at once. Some people bear three kinds - all they have had, all they have and all they expect to have.

The 25-year-old man was charged with one count, mischief, Section 430(4) Criminal Code; one count, possession of a weapon for a dangerous purpose, Section 88(2), Criminal Code; one count, carry a concealed weapon, Section 90(2), Criminal Code; and one count, fail to comply with probation order, Section 733.1(1), Criminal Code.

who are moving into the area and will be helping nearby villages for the next few months. They are bringing in temporary housing and storage and will be living there and serving about 100 families within the area.”

Planning to head back to his home for a few days before returning to Elbistan to help, Muller said moving forward a number of places will need proper sanitation, water filtration and as global aid dries up, more food for those residing in camps. “We are going to continue working with all the networks and government and police officials to help. We figured out for \$45 we can get someone from the city that we are in to anywhere in the country and get them to warmth, food, shelter, safety and whatever medical resources that are available. If you want to help us get more people out, we would love if you would partner and support us to get those people out and to safety.”

For those who would like to donate to help Muller and his team provide aid, he has partnered with the charity ACOP Canada to help manage donations, and to help make sure that every dollar possible gets to those who are displaced by and suffering from these earthquakes. Donations can be sent to <https://myacop.ca/acop-helps>

According to ACOP Canada, the organization accepting the funds stated, “We are able to forward donated funds to our team on the ground as quick as the needs arise, usually within minutes of them informing us of needs. Because they are on the ground and either in or very close to the affected areas, they are usually able to make purchases or get the funds into the hands of front line agencies within just a few hours of donations being received. We have reduced our administrative costs as low as possible to seven percent to help facilitate this effort.”

Reflecting back on the past week and a half, Josh took time to share how grateful he is to those back in Saskatchewan. “We are so, so thankful for you guys for how much you have been praying for us, for how much you have been donating and supporting and just being behind us in what is going to be a really hard road for a really long time. We are in this for the long haul. We are not going to be able to keep going and keep helping people without your support financially, prayerfully and all other ways. We are going to keep helping as many people as we can.”

this city for a while. It is going to take a long time to get through this mess.”

A nearby Mosque was also being used as a main distribution centre and a makeshift morgue. “The bodies keep coming and the funeral cars keep coming and that is going to be the case for a while.”

Helping out wherever he can, nearly a week after the earthquakes hit, Muller added things remained really chaotic. “Part of the problem is a lot of the stuff changes on a minute by minute basis. There is a lot of consideration of how to get people out and where to get them to. We are working with local authorities and we are working with local charities. We have connections with aid organizations and a logistics company and are doing everything we can to best love and take care of people here.”

Continuing to push ahead, from a nearby city in Turkey, one not as affected from the quake as Elbistan, Muller shared it had been a draining and intense nine days. “It has been obviously so devastating and insane but there are also some cool things to be hopeful for. There has been so many countries from around the world who have been sending support to Turkey to try and help and one of the things has been countries that are actively at war with each other have come to Turkey to help side by side to save lives and to help walk Turkey through some of the things going on.”

Watching countries come together, other good news arrived as people were being found alive from under the rubble over 200 hours since the first earthquake hit. “There are still people being rescued which is mind blowing . . . on the other side of the scale there is still a lot of hurt, devastation and continued earthquakes in the area. I have felt them as we have been working here today (Feb. 14) and the aftershocks have been terrifying and endangering teams as they continue to do the work.”

Still able to send buses to people ready to get out of Elbistan and the area, Muller added there are others who want to stay. “Many are farmers and whose families have lived here for generations or who simply have no place to go. They don’t want to leave a place where their family has called home for generations. In response to that, with the network I am connected with, there are two couples

“Notices Classifieds”

Thank you

Special thanks to Alex and Debbie Parker, Gordie and Loretta Lamont, Bruce McMillian and Harvey and Bev McLane for helping me in any way possible on the passing of my husband Bill Rodman on Jan. 19, 2023. Also the ladies auxiliary for the lunch and all who helped serve drinks and set up and put away the tables and chairs. Harvey, Gordie and Alex did a great job on the tribute to Bill. A great job was done by Debbie and Loretta for the wonderful display on the stage. Thanks for the many donations, food, cards and flowers. You are all wonderful people.
- Lorna Rodman

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Coming Events

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- SIMPSON FIRST INVITATIONAL Crokinole Tournament held every Saturday in March from 1 to 5 p.m. at the Simpson Hotel and Grill. Demonstrations, fun practice and qualifying games Mar. 4, 11 and 18. Tournament, trophies and prizes Mar. 25. This is a fundraiser to support the new community fire hall. Boards, pucks and rules provided. Pre-registration is encouraged. Contact 306-836-2088 to register. \$10 per person per day./10-4c

MARCH

- HALIBURTON COMMUNITY Club Poker Derby, Sun., Mar. 5. Haliburton Hall (12 miles south of Jansen or 10 miles east of Lockwood). Registration 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. No starts after 1 p.m. All riders must be in by 4 p.m. Hands: 1/\$5; 3/\$10; 7/\$20. 50% payout. 4 prizes plus Mystery Hand. Door prizes and raffles. Lunch and refreshments available. For more information contact: Dustin Lynch 306-365-7351 or Jack Robson 306-365-2004 or Darin Pederesen 306-528-7997./7-4c

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Next paper Mar. 6.

COMMUNITY MEETINGS

- AL-ANON MEETING THURSDAYS 8 p.m. Ph. 306-946-2466, 306-946-7802./22-48p
- ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS meetings: Watrous, Thurs., 8 p.m. Anglican Church Hall on Main Street in Watrous. (306-946-2466)/.8tfc

COMMUNITY MEETINGS

- WATROUS ROTARY CLUB meets alternating Tuesday evenings at the lower level of Watrous United Church. Call 306-946-3535 for more information./8tfc

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At the Watrous Centre

Whist winners at the Senior Centre Thursday, Feb. 9 were: first - Fred Kahlert, 146; second - Gena Amendt, 145; third - Arlene Gegner, 144; fourth - Doug Gregory, 136. Travelling - Fred Kahlert and Lorne Bradbeer. Home-steadier was Lorne Bradbeer and Allan Wilson.
Kaiser winners at the Senior Centre Monday, Feb. 13 were: first - Lorne Bradbeer, 210; second - Rod Degenstein, 197; third - Gail Shirley, 146; fourth - Bob Wignes, 131.
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.

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A	N	K	A		R	E	P	O		O	N	I	O	N
P	S	S	T			R	A	T		V	E	R	N	E

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(from page three: TOUR)

recruitment incentive of up to \$50,000 to help attract the staff we need to fill vacant positions at the Lanigan Hospital and Watrous District Health Complex. In addition to the existing staff compliment, more positions have been added including RNs, LPNs, CCAs, lab and scan technicians to further strengthen the staff complement at these facilities once they have been recruited.

We look forward to announcing placement of additional physicians for communities in the region through the Saskatchewan International Physician Practice Assessment (SIPPA) program in late March once program requirements and final placement details have been confirmed.

During the same week as the official opposition made stops in Watrous and Lanigan, federally, the Government of Canada announced an investment of \$196.1 billion

over 10 years, including \$46.2 billion in new funding, for provinces and territories to improve healthcare services for Canadians.

This funding will be distributed partly through the Canada Health Transfer (CHT) and partly through bilateral agreements with provinces and territories that allow for flexibility for jurisdictional health care system needs. In addition, it will invest \$2.5 billion over 10 years to support Indigenous priorities and complementary federal support, for a total of \$198.6 billion over 10 years.

The Government also proposed to provide further support though the Canada Health Transfer (CHT) with: an immediate unconditional \$2 billion CHT top-up to address pressures on the health care system, especially in pediatric hospitals, emergency rooms and surgical and diagnostic backlogs; and guaranteed five percent growth to the CHT for the next five years (expected value of \$17.3 billion over 10 years), to be paid through annual top-up payments as required. The last top-up payment

would be rolled into the CHT base at the end of the five years to ensure a permanent funding increase, providing certainty and sustainability to provinces and territories.

To access their share of the federal funding, including the guaranteed five percent growth top-up payments to the CHT, for the next five years, provincial and territorial governments were asked to commit to improve how health information is collected, shared, used and reported to Canadians to promote greater transparency on results, and to help manage public health emergencies.

The Government of Canada also announced that it would provide \$25 billion over 10 years to provinces and territories to support shared health priorities through tailored bilateral agreements.

As part of these agreements, provincial and territorial governments are asked to develop action plans that will describe how funds will be spent (incremental to existing spending) and how progress will be measured.



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The Virgil 3340 sq-ft

Step inside this two-storey modern farmhouse design and prepare to be amazed. With its minimalist yet impressive design, The Virgil is sure to be a showstopper. The sprawling open-concept layout features a generous mudroom / family entry. Upon the well thought out family entry, is a large kitchen complete with walk-through pantry. The open concept staircase with floor-to-ceiling windows, just off the two-storey great room is the prominent feature of this model.

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Ribeye, Baked Spud, Caesar



Specifications

Mud room: 7'-2" x 16'-2"

Kitchen/Dining Room: 22'-1" x 16'-4"

Living Room: 20'-0" x 16'-4"

Primary bedroom: 14'-1" x 16'-0"

Den: 14'-1" x 12'-3"

Bedroom 2: 14'-1" x 12'-0"

Bedroom 3: 14'-1" x 12'-0"

Loft: 17'-10" x 14'-2"





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