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The Watrous Manitou

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2023

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A look back at 2022 and a look ahead for Watrous in 2023

■ Daniel Bushman

With events resuming, construction on Main Street occurring and other work planned for 2023, a number of items have taken place in Watrous over the past year.

The Watrous Manitou reached out to Watrous Mayor John Gunderson and Watrous Town Administrator Orrin Redden to get their thoughts on 2022 and what 2023 could hold. Gunderson and Redden graciously took some time out of their busy schedules to share about the year, provide a few highlights, explain some of the work being done within the community and what could be in store for 2023.

How did 2022 go as a whole for Watrous as things began to improve through the pandemic and restrictions lifted?

Orrin: For the most part our recreation and cultural facilities were able to operate at pre-pandemic levels. The swimming pool and arena both had very busy seasons.

John: As we all are aware, the pandemic presented many challenges. Both the community as a whole and our Town of Watrous staff did our best to keep the community safe and at the same time keep restrictions to a minimum. Now with our new normal we look forward to providing all the services our community has been accustomed to. *Were there a few highlights within the community during 2022?*

Orrin: The veterans banner project was very successful. It had been discussed to some degree for a few years and Chelsea, John and their volunteer group finally put it all together this year and it will continue to grow over time.

There was significant tile work on the pool edge/water line this year and there are plans for some building repairs/upgrades before the 2023 pool season begins.

The water and sewer services were replaced to all properties on the #100, 200 and 300 blocks of Main Street following the watermain replacement two years ago. Council is hosting an information session with these business owners on Feb. 6 and the general public is welcome to attend as well. Council and our consulting engineers will review the plans for the final phase being concrete structures, lighting and the street rebuild and surfacing.

John: It certainly has been a busy year completing the projects that Orrin has mentioned and planning others for 2023 and beyond. Some of the projects that are in the planning stages are talked about further later on in this article.

(continued on page two: WATROUS)



►After enjoying some above-normal temperatures earlier in January, this past week not only included values hitting -30°C but extreme cold warnings were issued throughout Saskatchewan. The cold snap

which was quite the jolt was forecast to disappear and warmer values are to arrive during the first full week of February. That is welcome news for those enjoying the outdoors.

photos by Daniel Bushman

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(from front page: WATROUS)

Was there some work done when it came to infrastructure? Main Street work referred to earlier, there was about \$450,000 of

Orrin: Beyond the street work completed

including concrete curbs, asphalt, and general repairs and preventative maintenance.

A second columbarium and another granite bench were added to the cemetery. The concrete work and first columbarium were completed in 2018 and a lot of people seem to like this area we've developed.

Would you have a bit of an update with regards to Main Street and the work done?

John: The Main Street Revitalization project has been discussed over the past several years. As many will recall, we conducted a study with the assistance of Prairie Wild Consultants focusing on Main Street but also looking at the overall needs of our community going forward. With a number of major

infrastructure projects already committed to we delayed any serious planning until the past 12 to 18 months. We have taken a look at what other communities like ours has done and through the assistance of our consulting engineers we have come up with a plan to be reviewed with business owners on Feb. 6. This project will enhance our community's ability to attract new businesses to our Main Street and make it something to be proud of by the entire community.

Would you have an update on the hospital in Watrous?

Orrin: We certainly have not gotten the results we want in terms of ER coverage and other ongoing uncertainties at the health complex but

it hasn't been for lack of effort. Our mayor and some councillors have been working tirelessly behind the scenes trying to resolve these issues.

John: As Orrin mentioned we have been in constant communication with the SHA regarding the disruptions to services at our hospital. Progress to come up with a solution to this issue have been slower than anticipated but we continue to work hard. We recently met with surrounding municipalities and as a group have come up with an incentive package to attract registered nurses to work at the hospital. We are hopeful that this may help to once again reopen the hospital to full-time services.

With a new year now here, what does 2023 hold for Watrous?

Orrin: Hopefully completion of the three block Main Street project. We have our consulting engineers working on final designs for a lagoon outfall line twinning project that would assist greatly when we have significant rainfall events. This is the second time that we have applied for infrastructure funding assistance for this project.

Council is currently working through the budget process and this is certainly part of those discussions.

John: As you can see, 2023 will be a very busy year for the Town of Watrous with the outfall line twinning project and revitalization of Main Street. These are both very major projects with big price tags and will certainly improve the infrastructure of our community for many years to come.

Is there any projects or highlights you'd like to share for 2023?

Orrin: Health Haven Holdings Ltd. and the Town of Watrous have signed a Memorandum of Understanding to work collaboratively towards the development and construction of a multi-unit dwelling project geared to seniors in the Town of Watrous. We are excited to pursue this goal and we certainly recognize that there is a tremendous amount of work that needs to be done to see a project like this happen. We are committed to continuing to work with them and hope to continue moving forward and arrive at a positive end result.

John: As I mentioned in an earlier article about the Oasis project, this is something positive for the community of Watrous and surrounding area. I am sure there will be more on this as the planning developments take place.

Are you looking at the budget soon?

Orrin: Budget will be completed late February/early March.

Is there anything else you would like to add?

John: Council is planning to have curbside carts to replace the "tag a bag" process for collecting residential waste. This will likely be implemented this spring/summer and there will be more communicated to everyone in the near future.

In closing, we are very proud of what our community has to offer to residents and visitors. Our staff continue to do an excellent job to make this happen each and every year and as a council we want to extend a big thank you to all of them.

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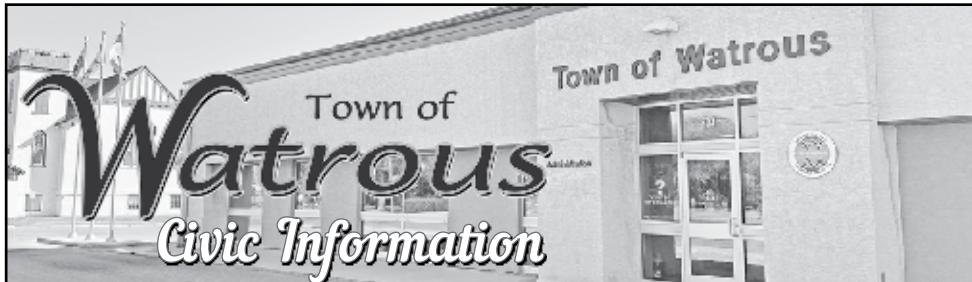
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This free program is designed to allow for safe indoor walking and began at the beginning of October.
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Upcoming Council Meeting Dates:
February 13

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mailed out in first week of November
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mailed out in first week of January

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Local hospitals facing challenges

■ Daniel Bushman

As temporary disruptions continue at Watrous and Lanigan hospitals, residents of both communities are hoping for some type of full resumption soon. However, according to Saskatchewan Health Authority (SHA), there is no definite timeline as to when that might be; indicating (as of Jan. 30) that emergency department operations in both Lanigan and Watrous remain unchanged from late last fall.

That means, according to SHA's media releases, 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 during this disruption 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.

Unfortunately Watrous and Lanigan are not alone in this situation as other locations provincially and nationally are also facing challenges when it comes to staffing levels. On Jan. 26, SHA released a statement that effective Feb. 1, emergency rooms in nearby Wadena and Wynyard began rotating temporary closures due to challenges with the recruitment and retention of Combined Laboratory and X-Ray Technologists (CLXTs) resulting in an inability to provide regular after-hours and weekend lab and X-ray services.

With temporary closures in Watrous and Lanigan and now in Wadena and Wynyard, SEIU-West President Barbara Cape shared the union is frustrated that there is little evidence of work being done to bring in more staff. "We have identified issues with labs, nursing, support services to government officials and to the SHA - but we are seeing no real improvement in the current situation for front line health care workers and their patients, clients, and residents."

Cape said the union which represents LPNs, continuing care aides, support services in nutrition, environmental services, building and maintenance, administrative and lab staff, is collecting evidence and information from its members and sharing those examples with SHA. "It's important to note that these issues being raised by our members are not simply complaints, but they come with solutions as well. Our members are focused and ready to work on fixing the issues."

Knowing there are challenges, SHA indicated the Government of Saskatchewan's Health Human Resources Action Plan is assisting with addressing staffing issues and according to Health Minister Paul Merriman, sustained work is helping. "As we start a new year, I look forward to more actions to build on the successes we have had so far. It's important we continue to spread the word

that Saskatchewan is an outstanding place to build and grow your health care career."

The provincial government noted Registered Nurses (RNs) from the Philippines who received conditional offers have begun working their way through the RN Pathway which includes language, bridging education and licensing. A full staff complement of health recruitment and retention navigators are now in place and have sent a survey to over 1,000 participants who attended in-person sessions in Manila to learn more about their experience. The navigators will assist all potential international recruits with the steps and processes needed to gain employment in Saskatchewan's health care system.

The provincial government added progress continues in creating more permanent full-time positions and attracting health professionals to high priority positions in rural and remote areas across Saskatchewan. "SHA has hired more than half of the new full-time and enhanced part-time to full-time permanent positions posted, with over 90 of those positions now filled."

While that is encouraging, Cape said every health care facility across the province continues to face challenges with not enough staff to provide short term relief "and in the midst of flu season and an on-going pandemic, that pressure relief option of casual staff is key."

Specifically addressing the situation in Watrous, Cape shared, "The problem in Watrous is the domino effect of not enough RNs to open the emergency room, which impacts the lab services, which impacts long-term care, which impacts the remaining members of the nursing team. The cascading effect we are seeing truly challenges the ability to provide skilled quality health care to the people of Watrous and the surrounding area."

With the shortages experienced in Watrous and Lanigan, SHA noted it is committed to fully restoring emergency services, acute care beds and admissions as soon as staffing levels are addressed in those communities. Through the action plan which was introduced last fall, the provincial government is hoping incentives within it will bring more help.

So far, the government said progress has been made in approving a total of 31 Saskatchewan Rural and Remote Recruitment Incentive packages to a variety of professionals including Registered Nurses, Medical Lab Technologists, and Combined Lab and X-Ray Technologists in North Battleford, Wilkie, Indian Head, Moose Jaw, Redvers, Outlook, Lloydminster, Prince Albert, Meadow Lake, La Ronge, Leader, Kamsack, Estevan, Swift Current and Weyburn. While Lanigan and Watrous were not noted, the one-time incentive packages are also available in those communities along with 50 others for up to \$50,000 for a three-year return-of-service agreement for nine eligible health professions.

"It's encouraging to see our competitive Rural and

Remote Recruitment Incentive financial packages are generating interest and we are making progress in attracting health care candidates in rural and northern communities throughout Saskatchewan," Rural and Remote Health Minister Everett Hindley said.

Building on its action plan, on Jan. 31 the provincial government announced it is increasing educational opportunities for Saskatchewan students and young adults interested in health careers through an immediate initial investment of more than \$5.5 million to create over 550 new post-secondary training seats across 18 health care training programs.

Advanced Education Minister Gordon Wyant said, "The scale of this unprecedented expansion of Saskatchewan's health training capacity demonstrates our government's commitment to strengthening our health care workforce. We are grateful for the support of our partners across the post-secondary education and health sectors."

The training programs being expanded in fall 2023 include Medical Laboratory Assistant, Continuing Care Assistant, Primary Care Paramedic, Licensed Practical Nurse, Pharmacy Technician, Clinical Psychologist, Physical Therapist and Mental Health and Addictions Counsellor.

The government said it will also purchase more seats for Saskatchewan students at institutions outside the province for specialized programs not available in Saskatchewan. More seats will be available in programs including Respiratory Therapy, Magnetic Resonance Imaging Technology, Diagnostic Medical Sonography, Occupational Therapy, Electro-Neurophysiology, and Cardiovascular Perfusion. For the first time, seats will also be reserved for Saskatchewan students in Speech Language Pathology and Environmental Public Health.

As the provincial government unveiled the plan, during the same week, Official Opposition Health Critics began travelling across Saskatchewan to consult with health care professionals, patients and local leaders as part of their Healthcare Solutions Tour. With stops in Cupar, Southey and Saskatoon on Feb. 1, Official Opposition Health Critic Vicki Mowat said, "Saskatchewan's health system is in a short-staffing crisis and Moe's Health Minister is missing in action. That's why we're speaking to the people on the front line who know firsthand what's wrong in our health system and how best to fix it."

While SHA and the provincial government try and

(continued on page seven: HOSPITALS)

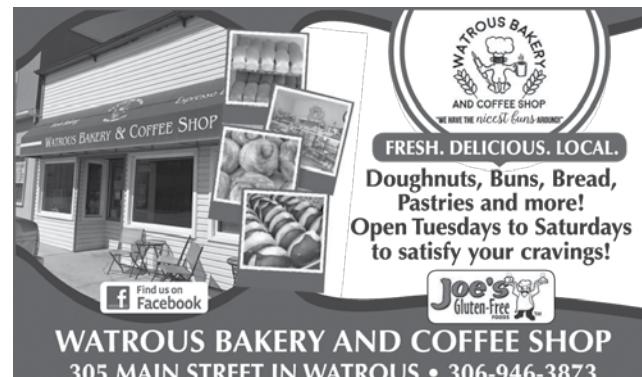
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Opinion

Look What's Cooking by Laura Novecosky

Homemade Dry Onion Soup Mix

Ingredients:

2/3 cup dried minced onion
3 tsp. dried parsley flakes
2 tsp. onion powder
2 tsp. turmeric powder
1 tsp. celery salt
1 tsp. sea salt
1 tsp. sugar
1/2 tsp. ground pepper

Directions:

Mix all ingredients in a jar. Use four tbsp. of this mix in place of one package of purchased onion soup mix. Keep this stored in a jar with a tight fitting lid.



Tips from Reena Nerbas

Dear Reena,
We used Poo Be Gone and sprayed it into the toilet bowl. While I was scrubbing the toilet bowl, there was a gritty layer on it that I could not get out with my regular toilet bowl cleaner. I used an S.O.S pad to scrub it and got rid of the grittiness, but now have a blue ring at the water line and streaks where the water comes in from the water tank and I cannot get it out. Any suggestions? Really enjoy your columns and thanks for your help. Jennie

Dear Jennie,

Pour one cup of household ammonia into the toilet. Leave it for one hour, scrub with a green scrubby pad. Note: never mix ammonia with other products as this may create a dangerous combination.

Hi Reena,

I placed a cup of tea on my antique piano stool, so sad. There is a white mark on it. How can I remove the mark without refinishing the whole thing? Please help me. Thanks, Heather

Dear Heather,

Place a tea towel onto the area and press the mark with a warm iron. Observe whether the stain is gone. Next smear mayonnaise over the spot, leave for one hour and wipe. If the stain remains, sand and refinish the table. Unfortunately, if the water stripped the finish, the table will need refinishing.

Dear Reena,

My husband and I remodelled our kitchen about three years ago and we love it. However, we do have one complaint, and that is that the outside of our cabinets always looks dirty. The kitchen cabinets are a dark espresso brown colour and the material they are made out of shows fingerprints, smudges, and any water that may have accidentally landed on them. Is there anything that we can use to help keep them looking clean or perhaps a

Dear Reena,

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special sealant that we could use? Thank you, Kris

Dear Kris,

When you speak to most kitchen experts, they typically recommend that people should avoid using any product other than dish soap and water to regularly clean wooden cupboards. Another option is to visit your local Home Hardware stores where they carry thin plastic adhesive, which adheres to cupboards and is intended to reduce unsightly marks and fingerprints.

Contributor's share tips

- To store cheese for as long as you could possibly ever want, wrap it well in Glad Press 'n Seal. Dianne

- The easiest way to make your bathroom smell great is to add a few drops of your favourite essential oil onto the toilet paper roll. Wesley

- I never purchase toilet bowl cleaners, instead I apply toothpaste to a damp, abrasive sponge and scrub the inside of the toilet bowl. Wesley

- Never throw out a flat bottle of old pop. Instead, pour the remainder into the toilet and scrub with a non-scratching scrubby pad. You will not believe how well this cleans. Macey

- To freshen up my son's disgusting carpet, I sprinkle a teaspoon of cinnamon into the palm of my hand. Next I vacuum the cinnamon in my hand. When I turn on the vacuum, the entire room smells fresh. Alex

- To prevent my eyeglasses from sliding down my nose, I wrap the ends of both handles with rubber bands. The elastics prevent the glasses from moving when I am wearing them. DW

- Save dried up highlighters and bring them back to life. Remove the plug at the end of the highlighter. Add coloured water to the inside and recap. Alex

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

Solutions and Substitutions



Neighbourly advice according to Ed

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

Ed, my old neighbour in Saskatchewan, calls some folks by animal names. For example, he might depict specific individuals as a turkey, a dumb bunny, a scaredy-cat, a pit bull, a bird brain, bull-headed, and a particular nephew as a pig at the dinner table. These names are common but judgemental and hurtful. Ed only offers these words when those defined by them are absent. He uses them as common expressions, but they do hurt the reputation of those they describe.

How we talk about other people is a choice we often make daily. Hopefully, most folks honour the commandment, "You shall not give false testimony against your neighbour." Often, we slander another person by labelling them negatively as a bird brain or with other animal names. Sometimes we

treat pets better than we treat other people by the way we demean people. Saying good words about others may make people suspicious of your motives. We may be speechless when it comes to sharing how excellent Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord, is outside of a church service.

Not so the case with John the Baptist in the Bible, as he was a great advocate of Jesus, who he saw as ranking above himself as the Son of God. John the Baptist preached in the Desert of Judea. He saw himself as preparing the way for the Lord. So he called the people to repent, for the kingdom of heaven

was near.

People went out to John from Jerusalem, Judea and the whole region of Jordan. They confessed their sins to John and were baptized by him in the Jordan River. (Bible Reference: Matthew 3:1-6) Jesus also came to John to be baptized by John.

John told the religious authorities from Jerusalem that he was not the Christ, Elijah or the Prophet. John explained he was one sent to prepare the way for the Christ. The reason John came baptizing with water was so that he could reveal the Christ among the people. (John 1:31)

John gave this testimony about Jesus concerning Jesus' baptism by John. "I saw the Spirit come down from heaven as a dove and remain on Jesus. I would not have known him, except that the one who sent me to baptize with water told me that the man on whom you see the Spirit come down and remain is who will baptize with the Holy Spirit. I have seen, and I testify, that this is the Son of God." (John 1:32-34)

The day after John baptized Jesus, John saw Jesus coming toward him and said to those with him, "Look the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world."

TWM
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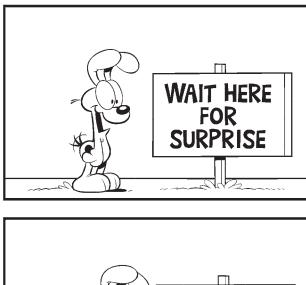
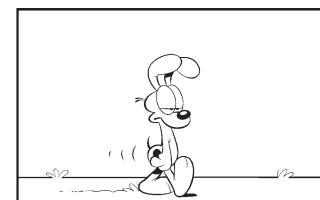
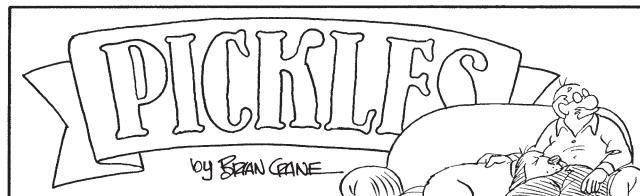
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66 Comics AND Puzzles 99



UNIVERSAL Sudoku Puzzle

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6			9									
			5		2							
			1				8	9	3			
7												
5	3		6									
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DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

1/15

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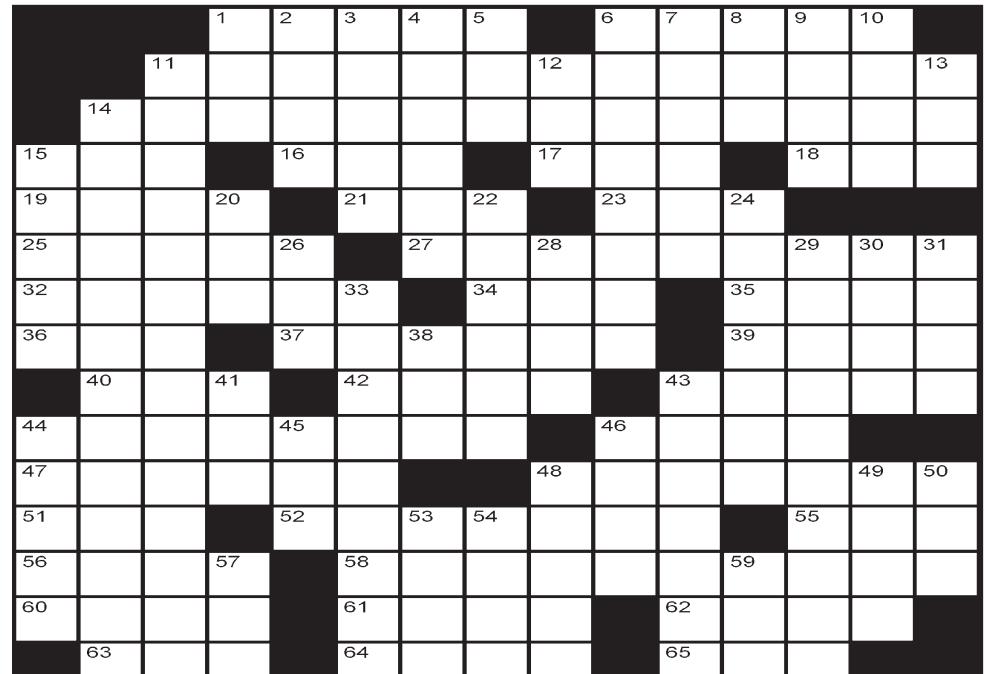
ACROSS

- 1 Ecstasy
- 6 Old-timey exclamation of contempt
- 11 Spooky attractions
- 14 Regimen that might alternate cardio and strength training
- 15 Yoga surface
- 16 al-Fitr (Muslim holiday)
- 17 Motor oil brand
- 18 Approving online initialism
- 19 Idris of "Thor: Love and Thunder"
- 21 Tell a fib
- 23 "Yes, madame!"
- 25 Crossbones' partner
- 27 Walking surreptitiously, maybe
- 32 Hang tight
- 34 Common fish-and-chips fish
- 35 Mope
- 36 Thus far
- 37 Decorative blankets
- 39 Long, fancy ride
- 40 _____ and Jerry
- 42 Merit
- 43 College concentration
- 44 Question before offering a bite
- 46 Word after "raw" or "big"
- 47 Tapenade ingredients
- 48 Aid in taking a cab somewhere?
- 51 Green-lights
- 52 Electric vehicles, e.g.
- 55 Be in the red
- 56 Speech therapy focus
- 58 Too prideful to get involved
- 60 Long-standing dispute
- 61 "All roads lead to _____"
- 62 Rowing implements
- 63 _____ shanty (sailors' song)
- 64 Plant-to-be
- 65 Agree nonverbally
- 66 DOWN
- 1 Establish-ment with a liquor license
- 2 "_____, I am your father" ("Star Wars" misquote)
- 3 How canned fish is often packed
- 4 Artist's workspace
- 5 Tennis match subdivision
- 6 Face cards?
- 7 Improve, as an engine
- 8 Pizza _____ (fast-food chain)
- 9 "You wish!"
- 10 Took one's turn
- 11 Politically charged topic
- 12 ENTs and OB-GYNs
- 13 Do some darning
- 14 Devices for "over"-hearing?
- 15 Like some bedrooms and breakups
- 20 Mont Blanc, for one
- 22 "Play another song!"
- 24 "Wow, look, at the time!"
- 26 Back muscle, for short
- 28 Paint the _____ red
- 29 Spooky means of communication
- 30 Muppet whose birthday is February 3
- 31 Toffee bar brand
- 33 Ceremony with Art Deco statuettes
- 38 Male sheep
- 41 Channel whose M originally stood for "Music"
- 43 Big digs?
- 44 Author Virginia
- 45 "Nothing to _____ here"
- 46 Terribly urgent
- 48 Greeted someone nonverbally
- 49 Hole-punching tools
- 50 Hairstyling goo
- 53 Clarinet relative
- 54 "Follow me"
- 57 Cuddling on a park bench, e.g.
- 59 Mathematician Terence

FOR ANSWERS
TO SUDOKU AND
CROSSWORD,
SEE PAGE 11

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Themeless Sunday 26 by Rafael Musa



2/5



BINGO!

► With a packed Watrous Civic Centre full of smiles, bingo dabbers and generosity, people took part in the Watrous Elementary School's Family Bingo night hosted by WES staff and SCC. With the Town of Watrous, businesses and farm family sponsors contributing prizes and in-kind donations to the Jan. 25 event, those in attendance helped to raise \$4,838 which will be used to help purchase iPads and fund field trips.

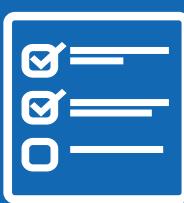
© photos by Daniel Bushman



In the final

► Taking on the Humboldt St. Augustine Eights, the Winston High School junior boys basketball team competed in its final regular season game at home Jan. 31. In the West Central League within Horizon School Division, the Watrous contingent came away with a 44-42 victory to secure a first place finish. The team was scheduled to host second place Humboldt Public Feb. 6 for the league final.

© photos by Daniel Bushman



“RCMP Report”

Male faces numerous charges

At approximately 2:35 p.m. Jan. 25, Kamsack RCMP received a report of an armed male at a residence on The Key First Nation. Officers immediately responded. The male had already left the residence when they arrived and further investigation determined he was in another residence in the community. With the assistance of Saskatchewan RCMP's Critical Incident

Response Team, officers contained the residence and negotiated with the male, who surrendered to police without incident at approximately 8:40 p.m. Officers executed a search warrant at the residence and located and seized a firearm. As a result of investigation, 60-year-old Lyman Papequash from The Key First Nation is charged with: one count, possession of a weapon for a dangerous purpose, Section 88, Criminal Code;

one count, enter a dwelling with intent to commit an indictable offence, Section 349(1), Criminal Code; one count, resist/obstruct peace officer, Section 129(a), Criminal Code; one count, unlicensed possession of a firearm, Section 92(1), Criminal Code; one count, possession of a firearm while prohibited, Section 117.01(1), Criminal Code; and one count, fail to comply with release order condition, Section 145(5), Criminal Code.

Drug trafficking investigation

As part of an ongoing investigation into

drug trafficking in the Stanley Mission area, La Ronge RCMP's General Investigation Section planned to execute a search warrant at a residence on Settee Street in Stanley Mission. As they approached the residence Jan. 26, two individuals attempted to leave the property in a vehicle. The vehicle sideswiped a police vehicle, then got stuck in the snow. The occupants were then arrested. A third individual was located in a shed on the property and arrested. During subsequent investigation, officers located and seized

approximately six grams of cocaine, a small amount of psilocybin, a sum of cash, drug trafficking paraphernalia, two firearms, three replica firearms, and a number of machetes and knives.

As a result of the investigation, 44-year-old Tom Cook from La Ronge is charged with: one count, possession for the purpose of trafficking, Section 5(2), Controlled Drugs and Substances Act; one count, possession of property obtained by crime less than \$5,000, Section 354(1)(a), Criminal Code; one count, unauthorized possession of a firearm, Section 91(1), Criminal Code; and two counts, possession of a weapon for a dangerous purpose, Section 88(2), Criminal Code.

Forty-eight-year-old Joseph Cook from Stanley Mission and 38-year-old Gail Bradfield from La Ronge are each charged with: one count, possession for the purpose of trafficking, Section 5(2), Controlled Drugs and Substances Act; one count, unauthorized possession of a firearm, Section 91(1), Criminal Code; two counts, possession of a weapon for a dangerous purpose, Section 88(2), Criminal Code; and one count, unsafe storage of a firearm, Section 86(2), Criminal Code.

Criminal Code.
Driver charged after traffic stop

At approximately 11:40 p.m. Jan. 27, an officer from the Saskatchewan RCMP's Roving Traffic Unit stopped a truck in Cut Knife. Investigation determined the adult male driver was impaired and he was arrested. There were three passengers in the vehicle, including a six-year-old child. The back seat of the truck was folded up and the child was sitting on a toolbox and folded-up clothing, and was not wearing a seatbelt. Officers arranged for the child to be picked up by another adult.

"This was a very dangerous situation – an impaired driver and a small child not properly secured in a car seat or with a seatbelt. By conducting this traffic stop, the officer removed a huge risk from the road – and was able to ensure this little one was safe," said S/Sgt. Chad McLeod, North District commander of Saskatchewan RCMP's Combined Traffic Services Saskatchewan.

The 34-year-old driver was charged with impaired operation of a conveyance and operation of a conveyance over 80 mg%. The vehicle was also impounded for 30 days.

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NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF ASSESSMENT ROLL TOWN OF IMPERIAL

Notice is hereby given that the assessment roll of the Town of Imperial for the year 2023 has been prepared and is open to inspection in the office of the Assessor from:

8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Monday to Friday, February 3 to March 17, 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 who wishes to appeal against his or her assessment is required to file his or her notice of appeal, accompanied with the applicable appeal fee, with:

The Assessor, Town of Imperial, Box 90, Imperial, SK S0K 2J0, by the 17th day of March, 2023.

Dated this 3rd day of February, 2023,
Joslin Freeman, Assessor



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VISCOUNT

Sandra Reid • 306-227-1193

Welcome to the month of February. Hopefully it is a warm and comfortable month. It is so nice on days where the sun is so bright in our beautiful blue skies.

I just came across the first annual town wide garage sales paper. It was held in May of 1993. We had 27 homes that held sales and quite a few of them had doubled up with friends or relatives. Hard to believe that this May long 2023 will be 30 years of garage sales and my husband and I have had one every year. This year we will as well! We enjoy seeing the shoppers come through even if it is just for a quick browse or a little visit. It is always nice to chat with each and everyone. So hopefully we will see you stop by.

Four Blankets for Canada ladies braved the cold Jan. 30 to meet at the Viscount library. We were busy working on three

beautiful blankets, one of each size. Our three hours together is so pleasurable. The time goes quickly while we sit and sew, chat and sip tea. In 2022, the Viscount Chapter delivered 91 blankets to four different shelters in Saskatoon and one in Regina. We are always happy for drop-ins or anyone who would like to be a regular (it is a come-as-you-want meet). We happily accept synthetic yarn of all colours as well as donations of 8"x 8" squares (also made of synthetic yarn). Need more info? Call or text Evelina at 306-281-8196.

With exams over, Viscount Central School will be starting with the last semester for the year. There is now a before and after school program right in the school. This is such an awesome program.

The seniors are still enjoying coffee Monday

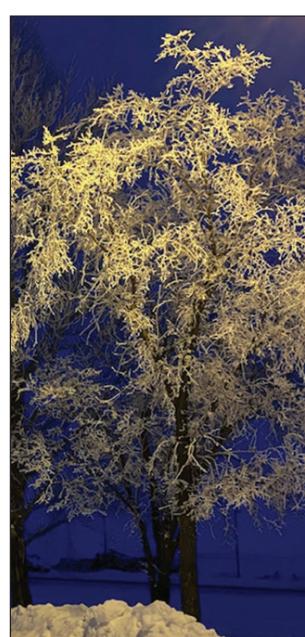
until Thursdays in the mornings. Mondays are afternoon games and coffee.

Best wishes to anyone who is under the weather. I hope you feel better soon. Have a great week!
submitted by Heather Polischuk (H.P. Bayne)

There is a shelf in my bedroom on the farm where I grew up near Meacham where I keep a collection of spiral notebooks and binders. These things have been in here for years, and although the writing contained within them is not great, I have held onto them anyway.

These are the notebooks and binders I used as a teenager, back when I first started writing mystery novels. Back then, I wrote about a trio of university students solving crimes as amateur sleuths. The stories are pretty bad, but what I love about these old notebooks is what they represent.

Back when I was scribbling page after page inside these things,



► Pictured above: taken on our way home from Saskatoon Jan. 29 around noon. Pictured left: my husband Evan took this picture one early morning in January.

photos submitted by Sandra Reid

I used to dream I might one day be able to do it as a real full-time job. At the time, it was nothing more than a pipe dream, no way I could see to make it happen. Instead, I used my writing ability by beginning my career in journalism — a path which, it turned out, was absolutely meant to be for me and one I loved so much about.

But I never stopped

thinking about my books.

I wrote novels in my spare time, graduating to better stories and a laptop with time and experience. But whenever I was back on the farm, these notebooks formed a reminder for me of a dream which, as time passed, I more and more wanted to make real.

Now when I look at these notebooks, it is not with some wistful desire for a life I wish I had. It is with amazement at having achieved it and

with gratitude for the support of the people I love — and to all the readers who have allowed me to do what, for me, is the best job in the world.

I have now got close to 20 books published in two series — the Sullivan Gray Series and the Braddock & Gray Case Files. And who knows? Maybe one day I will pull all these old notebooks off the shelves and rewrite those stories as well.

COLONSAY

Irene Gray • 306-255-2775

Grant and Kathleen Haughn treated Judy Dieno to a weekend at the spa Jan. 20 to 22 at Manitou Beach. It was a nice break for them.

Gail McVicar visited Marg Kirk in Saskatoon Jan. 25.

Colonsay United Church will resume Sunday service Feb. 19.

Vern and Michelle Kirk travelled to Cranbrook, B.C. to visit their son Luc and take in some skiing.

Thursday, Jan. 26 at approximately 10:30 a.m. Colonsay Fire and Rescue responded to a single vehicle rollover on Hwy. 16 east of Elstow with no entrapment and injuries. They were assisted by Allan first responders

and Saskatoon paramedics along with RCMP. The driver was treated for minor injuries and taken home to rest. Colonsay Fire and Rescue are proud to serve Colonsay and the surrounding area. Remember seatbelts do save lives.

Sympathy to the Jack Hay family on his passing Jan. 20. Jack and his wife Marilyn were well-known in the Colonsay area. You saw them often about town.

Congratulations to Maggie and Lynn Brochu on the opening of their Lit Garden Virtual Wellness Shop for people to find health and wellness services across Saskatchewan. Maggie taught school at Viscount and

Lynn took her schooling at Colonsay. Between them they have been in the wellness industry for approximately 35 years.

What a change in the weather. Rain Jan. 26 to colder weather Jan. 28. One never knows what it will be like any morning. I saw some nice sun dogs in the sky when we travelled to Watrous.

Valentine's Day will soon be here. It is not so much the world outside that makes us sigh or smile. It's more the thoughts within our hearts that makes life seem worthwhile. And often on a day like this, I wonder if you guess, how many times the thought of you has brought us happiness.

(from page two: HOSPITALS)

address the challenges within health care, Cape feels it is coming too late. "The current state of the health care system is precarious at best. There are hundreds of unfilled vacancies; there are staff who feel like they've come through a war and are suffering from mental health issues and burnout because there simply aren't enough of us to do the work and we don't feel like we're working to our full potential; there are promises of more staff, but the current staff are not seeing any real support or recognition and that really contributes to the state of their mental health: of not feeling valued or part of a team."

In an effort to rectify the situation, Cape suggests the government work with health care unions to develop a retention incentive to keep people working in health care who are currently there. "We need to invest real health care dollars towards improving the care of our seniors and most vulnerable. This means improved staffing levels - let's fill the vacancies that exist but also incentivize our current workforce to stay. And that is the real challenge because

health care workers are being poached by other provinces or simply retiring."

Speaking bluntly, the president of the union feels the government is just not doing enough to address the issues. "A junket to the Philippines, where everyone across the globe is descending on, only to offer 150 jobs, that is not a recruitment strategy; especially in light of the fact that we need so many more. This work is not 'one and done' we need to be looking at our current staff to create a retention bonus, we need to build partnerships with the First Nations education institutions, and there is real value in developing a health human resource round table with the health care unions, the employers and education facilities to look at all strategies and opportunities."

Facing pressures from the union to aid the health care system, the provincial government implementing its action plan and pleas from residents for help to restore levels and operations in both Watrous and Lanigan, SHA stated it will continue to update the communities with further information when it becomes available.



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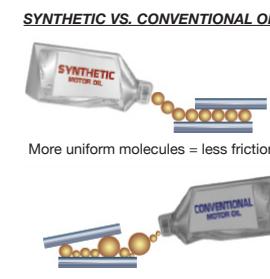
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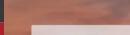
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Saskatchewan



“Notices AND Classifieds”

Obituary



**KOWALYSHYN,
Claire Clemence**
**May 14, 1926 -
Jan. 30, 2023**

Claire Kowalyshyn, aged 96 years, passed away at Central Parkland Lodge, Lanigan, Sask. on Monday, January 30, 2023.

Claire was born on May 14, 1926 to Bruno and Bertha Godin on the family farm near Domremy, Sask.

She attended Golden Rod School and completed her education by correspondence, then attended school in Prince Albert and Teacher's College in Saskatoon. She began teaching at the age of 17 and taught for 18 years in various communities. Mom married Michael Kowalyshyn on August 3, 1948. They lived in various communities in Saskatchewan as well as in Toronto for a short time where Mike worked for Texaco and Mom worked for the Department of Highways. When they returned to Saskatchewan, Dad became a grain buyer for the Pool. They lived in many small towns including Leross, Jasmin, Tate, Hansen and Young. They retired in Young, where they enjoyed small community life. Mom's pride and joy was her enormous flower garden and Dad spent many hours repairing motors in his garage.

Claire was predeceased by her parents, Bruno and Bertha Godin, husband Michael, sister Armande, sister

Marie (in infancy), brother Raymond, daughter Louise Ireland and grandson Cory.

She is survived by her brother Lawrence (Luisa) Godin of Saskatoon, sister Helen (Gene) Dizy of Sidney, B.C., brother Rene (Irene) Godin of Calgary, Alta., daughter Dorothy (Kelvin) Smale of Lanigan, Sask., daughter Grace (Gerald) Whitehead of Kelvington as well as granddaughter Angela (Chad) Pighin and their children Dylan and Porter of Water Valley, Alta., granddaughter Christine (Rick) Blyth and their children Evan, Jake and Bryce of Wynyard, Sask., and granddaughter Laurie Ireland (Derek Meyers) of Regina and their children Dayne, Sebastian and Eisley.

We are eternally grateful for the loving care provided to Mom by all of the staff at Central Parkland Lodge. While she was able, she loved all of the activities there.

There will be a private family service and burial of her ashes at a later date.

Memorial donations directed to Central Parkland Lodge or St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Cemetery Fund in Young, Sask. would be appreciated.

To leave online condolences, tributes or to make a donation, please visit <https://fotheringham-mcdougall.com/>



Obituary



**STOKKE,
Kimberly Dawn
(Crawford)**
**Nov. 25, 1972 -
Jan. 21, 2023**

Kimberly Dawn Stokke (Kim), aged 50 years, of Watrous, Sask. passed away peacefully at St. Paul's Hospital Palliative Care Unit in Saskatoon on January 21, 2023.

Kim was born at Watrous Hospital in Watrous, Sask. on November 25, 1972 to Jim and Gail Crawford. Kim's older brother Mark was there to welcome her into the family. Kim grew up in Watrous, Sask. where she attended elementary and high school. Growing up, Kim enjoyed riding horseback and was a skillful curler. Kim was a member of the Lighthorse 4H Club, enjoyed music, playing both the piano and the clarinet, and was a talented athlete participating in volleyball and track and field. After graduating high school in 1990, Kim studied briefly at the University of Saskatchewan in the College of Agriculture before she studied Nursing at Grant MacEwan Community College in Edmonton, Alta. Kim's calm and compassionate demeanour made her an excellent nurse. Kim practiced nursing in Lubbock, Texas for one year, then Swift Current, and finally as a Home Care nurse in Saskatoon until 2015. Kim and her husband Greg were the best of friends growing up. They started dating once they were both pursuing their post-secondary education and were married on April 19, 1997. Kim and Greg had over 25 beautiful years together. During this time, they raised a wonderful family, built a farm, and travelled extensively. After living in Swift Current, then Saskatoon, they moved back to Watrous and started a family. Together they have two sons: Spencer (19) and Preston (16). Kim was a devoted mom who would do anything for her boys. She created the perfect environment to raise a family and passed along her most important values: love, honesty, hard work and togetherness. Kim's acts of love and nurturing have moulded Spencer and Preston into the happy young adults they are. Kim's priority and greatest pleasures came from spending time with her family. She enjoyed camping, boating, skiing, and snowmobiling with them. It also seemed like they spent a lot of time planting trees at the farm! She was an avid animal lover and was seldom found without one of her little dogs by her side - first Shelby, then Daisy, Wyatt,

and most recently Copper. Kim enjoyed her daily trips to the farm to feed the cats and take Copper for a walk. A few years ago, Kim and Greg purchased a vacation property at Elk Ridge. Kim enjoyed spending time renovating and decorating, creating the perfect getaway and legacy for her family. She loved watching and supporting the boys at their swim meets and, of course, hockey games. Kim's favourite team was always the team that Spencer and Preston were on, but the Edmonton Oilers were a close second. Kim has always been quick-witted and extremely funny. Her smile, resilience, and positive attitude left no clues of any health burden. Her humour never faded, even on her most challenging days. Kim was a much beloved wife, mom, daughter and friend; in her final days, she was surrounded by those closest to her. The family is very grateful to all who have reached out with words of love and support and the many tangible acts of care.

She is survived by her loving husband, Greg and their two sons, Spencer and Preston. She is also survived by her parents, Jim and Gail Crawford of Watrous and older brother Mark Crawford (Marianne, niece Isabelle and nephew Andrew) of Lacombe, Alta., father and mother-in-law Bob and Bonnie Stokke, brothers-in-law Cam Stokke (Terilee, nieces Meagan and Jessica) and Brad Stokke, all of Watrous, along with many uncles, aunts and cousins.

Funeral service was held at Watrous Civic Centre on January 27 conducted by Pastor Darren Holland.

Pallbearers were Mike Edwards, Shannon Meyers, Brad Hanmer, Colin Steen, Mike Merryfield and Derek Vanthuynne. Lynn Martin, Paula Hadland, Jo-Ann Borsa, Shannon Jennett, Lori Bartko and Marni Hicks were register attendants. Ushers were Pat Borsa, Mike Jennett, Bill Hicks and Fraser Mark. Greg Stokke, Paula Kessler, Colin Steen and Shannon Sawatzky gave the eulogy and tributes. Scripture readers were Penny McCall and Kristie Pilling. Terilee Stokke, Meagan Stokke, Jessica Stokke and Karen Schroeder-Mark provided special music. Pianists were Shannon Sawatzky and Rhonda Hardy.

Private family interment followed at Venn Cemetery. Memorial donations directed to Cancer Foundation of Saskatchewan would be appreciated.

To leave online condolences, tributes or to make a donation, please visit <https://fotheringham-mcdougall.com/>



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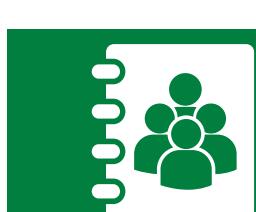
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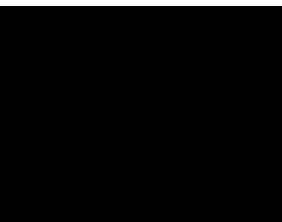
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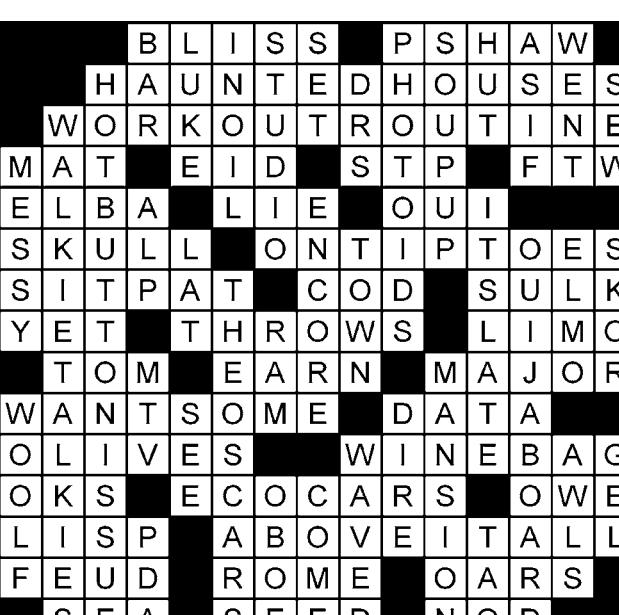
Call Joe: 306-946-2222

At the Watrous Centre

Whist winners at the Senior Centre Thursday, Jan. 26 were: first - Fred Kahlert, 161; second - Marilyn Crawford, 153; third - Daryl Nedjelski, 145; fourth - Earle Amendt, 140. Travelling - Arlene Gegner and Kathleen Paul. Home-steader was Marilyn Wignes, six times at same table.

Kaiser winners at the Senior Centre Monday, Jan. 30 were: first - Colleen Hunt, 182; second - Sherwin Petersen, 174; third - Earle Amendt, 173; fourth - Lorelei Stewart, 170.

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.



FEBRUARY

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

THE WATROUS MANITOU IMPORTANT DATES

The Watrous Manitou will be on holidays Monday, Feb. 20 to Friday, Feb. 24. There will be papers Feb. 20 and Mar. 6. No paper Feb. 27.



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YOUNG

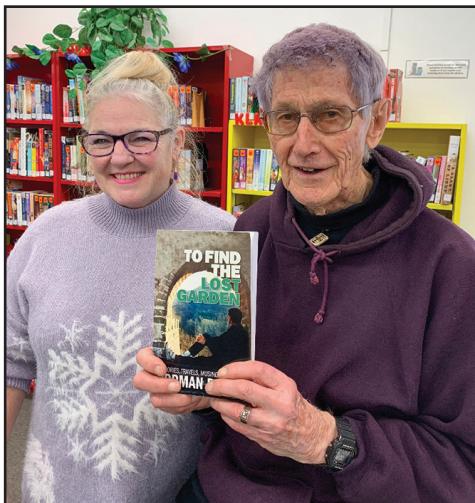
Pat Bryson • 306-259-4860

The community hall in Young is looking spiffy! Recent renovations in the basement and upstairs have changed its look significantly. Remember the brown panelling on the walls downstairs? It has been painted a light cream colour. Durable plank board flooring has replaced the rug and new LED lighting will be installed shortly. The upstairs is sporting new flooring as well, from the entrance to the dance floor. Also, there is the welcomed addition of a wheelchair accessible bathroom. Recognition goes to Young Parks and Recreation for fundraising, plus obtaining a grant, to make these upgrades possible and to the many volunteers who lent a hand to get the work done.

Family Literacy Day takes place every Jan. 27 to raise awareness about the importance of reading and engaging in other literacy-related activities as a family. To celebrate, the library hosted an author, Norman Duerr of Manitou Beach, the afternoon of Jan. 26. Norman's book, To Find The Lost Garden, is filled with adventures and anecdotes from his life. The story that the audience chuckled at the most was Norman's tale of his first day as a teacher, an 18-year-old in charge of a classroom. Norman shared the journey of how his stories were written and printed into the book he has today. What an interesting and entertaining afternoon!

Local artist Arlette Seib, daughter of Arnold and Sylvia Wilderman, had the most amazing art display called The Felted Flock Jan. 7 to 28 at The Gallery on 3rd in Watrous. Imagine creating 172 figures, most approximately five inches long by six inches high, each one hand felted to a life-likeness of a sheep, guard dog, coyote or a shepherd. This project took Arlette 26 months to complete and visually tells the story of the life and seasons of her own flock of sheep. The bulk of the wool she used was from her sheep, with additions of naturally coloured wools from other flocks. The Felted Flock was displayed in April 2022 at the Juried Art Show in Watrous, hosted by the Watrous and Area Arts Council, and was awarded Overall Select Winner of the show. Arlette's felted fold of sheep has been displayed at two fibre festivals - Biggar Fibre Fair and the Manitoba Fibre Fair, as well as at a provincial association sheep show - Grasslands Sheep Show and Sale. Arlette is also passionate about photography and drawing; her artistic eye capturing her sheep in their daily activities.

Enjoy your week!



► Pictured above right: local area author Norman Duerr. Pictured below: local artist Arlette Seib's art display, The Felted Flock. ☐ photos courtesy Pat Bryson



IN THE FAMILY

It is pretty unique and quite the recognition as a grandfather and grandson each received a prestigious medal for their contributions within the area, but decades apart. In the early 1950s, John Ediger (above left) was awarded the Queen's Coronation medal while just recently his grandson, Ron Ediger (above right in middle), was bestowed with the Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee medal.

In an article submitted by Ron dating back to 1952, it stated the Lockwood community was almost as proud as Reeve John Ediger himself to hear that he received the Queen's Coronation medal. Ediger whose ancestors were Dutch and immigrated to Canada from the Ukraine landed at Quebec in 1911. "He was put in jail for two days, because his immigration papers had been lost and he spoke no English to explain." Ron's grandfather would eventually reach Regina and then Drake where he resided before moving to the Lockwood district. Accepting the customs and language of his adopted land, the farmer was involved within the area through community work and worthwhile projects, much like his grandson.

Ron, who resided in Nokomis before moving to Watrous a number of years ago has been a big supporter of Watrous and the surrounding area. Along with operating his company Melron Services Ltd. he has been named as a Watrous Citizen of the Year, lent his support through projects and also created a walking trail, running from Watrous to Manitou Beach.



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