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# The Watrous Manitou

MONDAY, MAY 16, 2022

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## Celebrating the WHS graduating class of 2022

■ Daniel Bushman

With this year's Winston High School graduates joined by family, friends and guests who returned to the Watrous Curling Rink after a two year hiatus due to the COVID-19 pandemic, perhaps it was best stated during the graduation exercises by Winston High School Principal Terry Braman, "We are back!"

After navigating through the pandemic and holding smaller ceremonies outdoors and not during the typical first Friday of May, eager to return to a more normal in 2022, despite a power outage hitting parts of Watrous due to a damaged primary conductor on Friday, the festivities continued.

Not letting the outage derail the day for the graduates, after eating supper under candlelight at the Watrous Civic Centre, the grads and their families made their way to a fully illuminated curling rink May 6 to commence the graduation exercises.

Welcoming those in attendance, chairperson and teacher Wendi Collins commenced the graduation exercises as the 33 graduates took their turns walking to the

stage. After being seated, graduates Kaelin Hardy, Jocelyn Knouse, Jacee Mensch and Annaka Miettinen, accompanied by Penny Lounsbury sang O Canada in front of a full audience (pictured below right).

Following the national anthem, Collins welcomed Darrell Paproski who provided greetings on behalf of Horizon School



Darrell Paproski

Division. Thanking the graduates for inviting him, Paproski said while the students may have felt like the day took an eternity to arrive, for many parents, caregivers and teachers, it came too quickly.

Noting graduation is one of life's biggest milestones for the Gr. 12 group, Paproski understood that while some may know what their career may be, others may not. In whatever direction the graduates decide to go, he said how people are treated is what really counts. "How we are treated by people is what sticks with us. Remember you always make a difference just by the way you treat people."

Paproski concluded his greetings by stating how immensely proud he and

(continued on page nine: WHS)



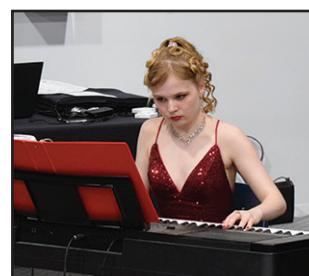
Wendi Collins



### A time to celebrate

► With an eager audience packing the Watrous Curling Rink, Winston High School's graduating class of 2022 were centre stage as they were recognized for their hard work and achievements. After not being able to hold the graduation ceremonies at the curling rink over the past two years due to the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions, the celebratory event returned May 6 (pictured) and for many, including the 33 graduates, it was one to remember.

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# Spring Engagement brings businesses together

■ Daniel Bushman

With an opportunity to gather, network and learn more about each other and the region, local businesses from Watrous and Manitou Beach were invited to attend the first-ever Spring Engagement put on by the Watrous Manitou Marketing Group (WMMG).

Organized by Community Development Officer Sarah McKen, the May 9 evening event was designed to share about the work WMMG is doing, how businesses are faring heading into an anticipated busy summer season while learning about efforts being made by Mid-Sask Municipal Alliance (MSMA) within the region.

"We had 27 people attend and I was really pleased to be able to connect with a few of our business owners and people involved in the community," shared McKen. "It wasn't everybody but with this busy time of year it was with as many people that could fit it into their schedules."

Held at Manitou Springs Resort, McKen opened the engagement with a few remarks

followed by Chairperson of the Watrous Manitou Marketing Group Lane Manson. A presentation from Mid-Sask Municipal Alliance Director of Operations Celine Favreau also gave a glimpse into what the MSMA is up to.

Following that, an opportunity was provided for business representatives to share with those in attendance as part of a 'moment at the mic' while networking with each other. Talented artist Janicka Grayston was then invited to play music, concluding the evening.

"The Spring Engagement was a networking opportunity for a number of reasons," explained McKen as to why it was held. "The event gave us a chance to share what the marketing group is doing, the marketing group a chance to hear what the businesses are doing and the businesses hearing each other before we face a busy summer season."

Recently taking on the role of community development officer, McKen said it also provided a chance for her to meet those within the business communities of Watrous and Manitou Beach. "There were also a few people who were

new to each other as well and some seasonal people working in the community who were happy to be able to connect. It was also really interesting to bring Watrous and Manitou Beach businesses together in the same room and have that opportunity to understand the challenges and advantages that we have."

With the topic of training frontline staff for summer being at the forefront for many of those in attendance, McKen said businesses were able to pass along their message. "We know there will be a bunch of visitors and active exploring in the community so this was an opportunity for people to step up to the mic and provide a few minute summary of information they wanted those frontline people to be able to share."

Hoping to see the communities and area grow, for those yet to sign up as a member of the WMMG, McKen said, "There is a standing invitation to join us in this building of community where we can work together to enhance our community. By being a member, we develop our presentation to the world and also build internally by helping each other and understanding what our

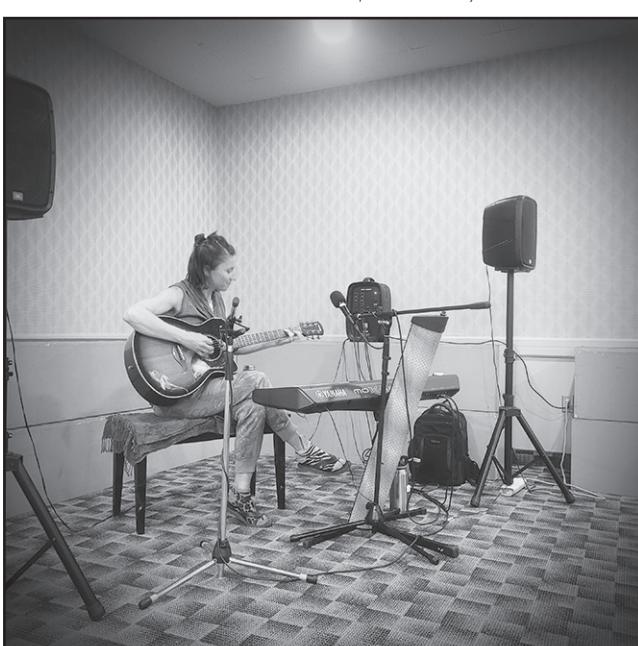


►With a number of local business owners from Watrous and Manitou Beach in attendance, the first ever Spring Engagement put on by the Watrous Manitou Marketing Group was held. Organized by Community Development Officer Sarah McKen (left), the May 9 event was designed to share about what is taking place within the area while listening to business owners and networking as a group. Also in attendance was Celine Favreau of Mid-Sask Municipal Alliance and artist Janicka Grayston (below) provided music.

© photos courtesy ToeBeanMedia

neighbours are trying to do. It is that goal of not cutting the pie into smaller pieces but making it a bigger pie. We can expand and bring in more resources to our community. Our strength is our diversity and working together. It is a really unique combo."

Following a successful inaugural Spring Engagement, McKen is planning to hold one in the fall and co-ordinate a public AGM during the winter.



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# Speaking up when it comes to mental health

■ Daniel Bushman

It has been a journey of ups and downs for Allan Kehler but for the mental health advocate who grew up in Drake, the motivational speaker and author knows when it comes to mental health, silence is not the answer.

Recently marking Mental Health Week in Canada, Kehler understands first-hand what it feels like to have lost his voice; however, he is also quick to point out that he knows what it feels like to have found it.

Dedicating his time and energy to strengthen the conversation around mental health so that others do not have to suffer in silence, Allan who now resides in Saskatoon was recently featured as part of a TEDx talk through Dalhousie University. The just over 13 minute video which can be found on YouTube takes direct aim at encouraging men to rise above stigmas and break the barriers of society.

Going through addiction while battling mental illness, with no money, no friends and given one month to live, as part of the talk, Kehler looks back at that point in his life to where he is today. "If someone from my past would have come up to me and said, "Hang on Al, one day, you will have a beautiful wife, four healthy kids, a career you love, and a home not a house," I would have never believed them. Even in my darkest moments, it became clear to me that if I wanted something different, I had to do something different."

Explaining how extremely hard the lesson was to learn, Kehler eventually understood the power of vulnerability. "I learned to put a voice to my pain, got rid of the victim mentality, surrounded myself with people who brought me up – not down, and ultimately embraced hope."

Already speaking at various events in 2022, and with Mental Health Week recently taking place May 2 to 8, Kehler graciously took some time out of his busy schedule

to share about his TEDx talk and the journey he has been on.

## Why did you decide to do a TEDx talk or how did it come about?

I actually had no intention of doing a TEDx talk. I received a random email request from Dalhousie University indicating that my topic of men and mental health fit their theme of 'Rising Above'.

Creating this TEDx talk really gave me an opportunity to reflect on my past experiences.

## Where can people find your TEDx talk online?

The easiest way to access the talk is to go to YouTube and just search 'Allan Kehler TEDx'.

## What are you hoping people will begin to understand from the talk?

I never grew up hoping to one day struggle with mental illness or become an addict. In the same way, my childhood never consisted of dreams to become a motivational speaker.

When my struggles with mental illness began at the age of 14, I was ill equipped to deal with such assaulting thoughts. Lacking the education and tools to deal with my internal battles I suffered in silence and hid behind my smile. However, just because someone's smiling, doesn't mean that they are happy.

## How important do you feel it is to share your mental health journey?

Statistics continue to show that men are far less likely to ask for help than women – and that was no different for me. It took me a long time to speak openly about my challenges with my mental health.

To my surprise, once I was able to put a voice to my pain I felt better. Over time I understood that the act of feeling is what leads to healing. I was able to get myself into various support groups and I started to hear my own story through their stories. Suddenly, I understood that I wasn't alone.

## How have some of your past experiences led you to open up about your journey?

It has become clear to me that there is nothing more powerful or more sacred than someone's story. What motivates me to tell my story is the next generation. Kids are always watching. As adults, we need have those difficult conversations about various topics related to mental health. If children can't see us being vulnerable, reaching out for help or shedding a tear then why would they?

Today, I am seeing more boys that are being taught to feel, to cry, and to reach out for help in times of

need. Boys are beginning to understand that asking for help is not a weakness but rather a strength. They are learning that it's okay to not be okay.

What's not okay is to fight your battles in silence. While the pressure to be strong still exists for boys, silence has never equalled strength.

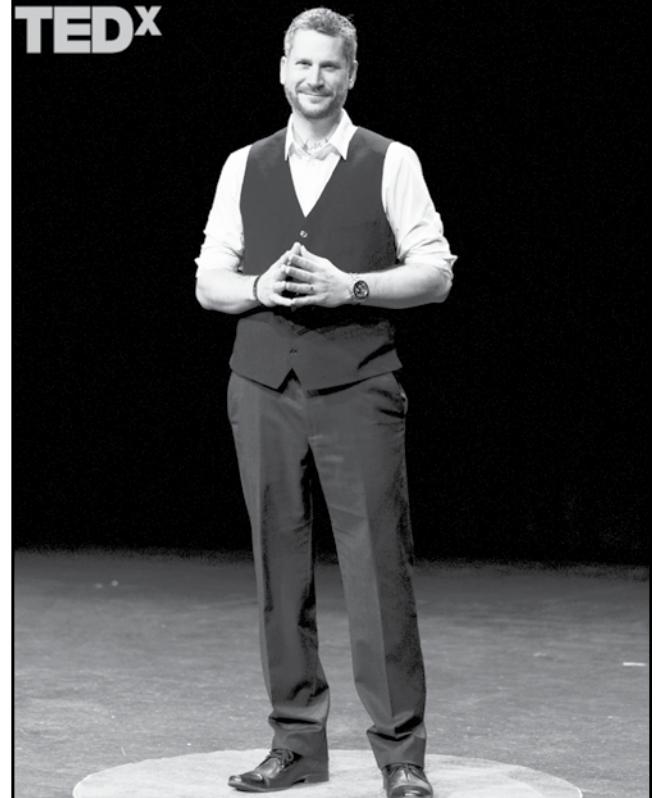
## Is there anything else you would like to share?

I have found my voice, and I speak in the hopes that boys and men recognize that they don't need to conform to the old stereotypes of masculinity. I represent a new and healthy form of masculinity, and passionately demonstrate that 'real men' can, and should, ask for help. I am done with the shame. I am done with the silence. There truly is nothing 'manly' about suffering in silence.

There's no logical explanation why I should still be alive after the destructive life that I led. I can only think that I am still here to carry a message. And I am so grateful to be in a position to do so.

To learn more about Allan and his journey, people can visit his website at [www.allankehler.com](http://www.allankehler.com). People can also purchase Kehler's book, 'MENTAL Health: It's Time to Talk' at The Watrous Manitou at 309 Main Street in Watrous.

TEDx



► Pictured: Allan Kehler during his TEDx talk for Dalhousie University. 

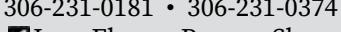


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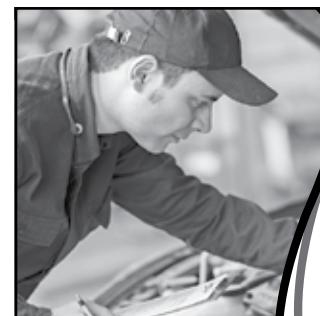


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# “RCMP Report”

Saskatchewan RCMP – Your Provincial Police Service - Weekly Report from May 2 to 8

## Investigative Recap

May 3: Rose Valley RCMP observed a suspicious vehicle and attempted a traffic stop. The vehicle did not stop and was later located, abandoned. It was seized by police, who located and seized approximately 200 grams of suspected methamphetamine, knives and drug paraphernalia within it. The investigation continues.

May 4: Charges laid in investigation stemming from Apr. 4, 2022. Punnichy RCMP and EMS responded to a report of an injured individual on George Gordon First Nation. An injured adult male was located outside a residence – he passed away on scene. Upon further investigation, his death was determined to be suspicious in nature and Saskatchewan RCMP Major Crimes became engaged.

As a result of investigation, two teen males – who cannot be identified as per the Youth Criminal Justice Act – have been charged with one count each of second degree murder, section 235 of the Criminal Code. They appeared in Wynyard Provincial Court on May 6.

Punnichy RCMP, Yorkton and Regina RCMP General Investigation Services, Yorkton RCMP Forensic Identification Services and Regina RCMP Police Dog Services and the Saskatchewan Coroner's Service also assisted with this investigation.

May 5: North Battleford RCMP received a report of an erratic driver on Hwy. 16. As a result of a subsequent traffic stop and search, officers located and seized a loaded handgun and approximately 112 grams of cocaine. Thirty-three-year-old Troy Amson from Maidstone, 33-year-old Devin Bonick from Lloydminster and 35-year-old Steven Vu from Maidstone are each charged with one count, possession for the purpose of trafficking, Section 5(2), Criminal Code, one count, possession of property obtained by crime less than \$5,000, Criminal Code, one count, possession of a weapon for a dangerous purpose, Section 88(2), Criminal Code, one count, authorized possession of a firearm, Section 91(3), Criminal Code, one count, possession of a firearm in a vehicle, Section 94(2), Criminal Code and one count, unsafe storage of a firearm, Section 86(2), Criminal Code. Vu also was charged with one count, resist/obstruct peace officer, Section 129(a), Criminal Code and one count, operation of a conveyance while prohibited, Section 320.18, Criminal Code.

May 6: Indian Head RCMP asks for public assistance in investigation of fatal collision on Hwy.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

SaskWater's District Operations will be treating the water in the Saskatoon Southeast Water Supply System (SSEWS) canal to control the growth of weeds and algae during the 2022 irrigation season.

These treatments will take place approximately every two weeks until September 23rd, 2022.

The chemical used in these treatments is called Magnacide "H". It is a registered aquatic herbicide that has been approved by the Water Security Agency for use in the SSEWS canal system.

It will remain active in the water for approximately 24 hours after each treatment and will diminish to non-detectable levels prior to treated water entering the reservoirs. Treated water may also be harmful to the skin, causing irritation to exposed areas.

This water treatment helps to prevent irrigation intakes from clogging and ensures adequate flows are maintained in this multi-use system.

Dosages will be maintained at a level where the water can safely be used for irrigation with no damage to field crops.

Please ensure that people are reminded that swimming, canoeing and fishing in the canal at any time is STRICTLY PROHIBITED.

### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Cam Arnold  
SaskWater  
#5, 1925 1st Avenue North, Saskatoon, SK, S7K 6W1  
Phone: 306-221-6702



SaskWater

1 near Sintaluta.

May 6: Thirty-one-year-old Matthew Barker from Swan River, Man. was arrested in Winnipeg on warrants from the Nipawin RCMP, Tisdale RCMP, Hudson Bay RCMP and Swan River RCMP.

May 6: As a result of a traffic stop and subsequent search around 11 a.m., Pinehouse RCMP located quantities of crack cocaine, crystal methamphetamine, a large machete, a shotgun, ammunition and various drug paraphernalia. Twenty-five-year-old Bryson Ratt from Pinehouse is charged with impaired driving, possession for the purpose of trafficking, possession of a firearm in a vehicle, possession of a weapon dangerous to the public x 2 and unauthorized possession of a firearm.

May 6: Punnichy RCMP received a report of an assault on Kawacatoose First Nation. An adult male was transported to hospital with injuries described as non-life-threatening. Twenty-year-old Talon Worme from Kawacatoose First Nation was arrested and charged with one count, Robbery, Section 344, Criminal Code, one count, aggravated assault, Section 268(2), Criminal Code and one count, fail to comply with probation order, Section 733.1(1), Criminal Code. Twenty-eight-year-old Jesse Worme from Kawacatoose First Nation was arrested and charged with one count, Robbery, Section 344, Criminal Code, one count, aggravated assault, Section 268(2), Criminal Code, one count, fail to comply with probation order, Section 733.1(1), Criminal Code and one count, fail to comply with release order condition, Section 145(5)(a), Criminal Code.

May 7: Big River RCMP received a report of an injured adult male at a residence on Big River First Nation. The male was transported to hospital with injuries described as serious. A 19-year-old female from Big River First Nation was arrested on scene and charged with one count of aggravated assault, Section 268(2), Criminal Code and one count, possession of a weapon for a dangerous purpose, Section 88(2), Criminal Code. She will appear in court on Big River First Nation on June 14, 2022.

### Catalytic converter thefts up so far in 2022

Saskatchewan RCMP has received more than 100 reports of catalytic converter thefts in RCMP jurisdiction so far in 2022. RCMP received 30 in the same time period in 2021. In some cases, owners reported starting vehicles that had been stored over the winter, only to find the catalytic converter had been stolen sometime over the past few months. It takes only a couple of minutes to remove a catalytic converter and virtually all vehicle types are potential targets. Whenever possible, park your vehicle(s) inside a locked garage or in a well-lit area to deter thefts.

### More than 150 Report Impaired Drivers (RID) calls received in two weeks

From Apr. 25 to May 8, Saskatchewan RCMP's Divisional Operational Communications Centre received 153 reports of potentially impaired drivers (does not include calls for service by the public directly to local RCMP detachments). If you see a suspected impaired driver, pull over and call 911. Your call is all it takes to help increase road safety in Saskatchewan.

**Report Tips and Information:** If you have information about any of the above crimes or other criminal activity, please report it to your nearest RCMP Detachment or police service, call 310-RCMP

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Please note: the statistics below are representative of reports received within the Saskatchewan RCMP jurisdiction. They are from the RCMP records management system and are accurate as the day they are collected. Crime statistics are regularly updated due to changes in reporting procedures and changes in ongoing investigations, etc. As a result, the statistics below may differ from previous or future published reports.

### Divisional Operational Communications Centre (does not include calls for service by the public directly to local RCMP detachments)

Calls for service total: 6,202; highest volume of calls for service was on May 7, 2022: 1,066; Reports of Impaired Drivers (RID calls): 65;

### Persons Offences (number of incidents, not victims)

Homicide: one; homicides year to date (January, 2022 to last day encompassed in this report): seven; sexual assaults: 17; sexual crime - other (invitation to sexual touching, sexual interference): eight.

### Assaults

Aggravated assault: six; assault: 183; assault with weapon or causing bodily harm: 52; robbery: three; firearms (use of in the commission of an offence, discharge with intent, pointing a firearm): seven; kidnapping/forcible confinement: two; harassment/uttering threats: 119; other persons offences (domestic or family dispute, criminal negligence causing bodily harm, extortion with firearm, mischief – danger to life, etc.): 24.

### Property Offences

Break and enter total: 103; number of break and enters to a business: 15; number of break and enters to a residence: 22; number of other break and enters (encompasses sheds, storage containers, unattached garages, etc.): 66;

Theft total: 211; other theft over \$5,000: 38; theft \$5,000 or under: 139; number of theft of motor vehicle: 34;

Mischief: 536; number of mischief - damage to property: 143; number of mischief - obstruct enjoyment of property (example: unwanted, intoxicated person at a residence): 393;

### Other Criminal Code Offences

Bail violations: 118; breach of probation: 33; failure to appear/comply: 15; disturbing the peace: 136

### Reports of intimate partner and family violence

Time period reported is quarterly. Data represents number of victims, as there may be more than one victim on a specific investigative file. An individual victimized more than once in a timeframe would be counted more than once. Due to common relationship types in intimate and family violence categories, totals should not be combined. Intimate partner refers to violence committed by spouses (legally married, separated, divorced and common-law), current and former dating partner, or someone with whom the victim was in another type of intimate relationship. Family violence refers to violence committed by spouses (legally married, separated, divorced and common-law), parents (biological, step, adoptive and foster), children (biological, step, adopted and foster), siblings (biological, step, half, adopted and foster) and extended family members (grandparents, uncles, aunts, cousins and in-laws).

Total intimate partner violence October to December, 2021: 1,150; and total family violence October to December, 2021: 1,088

### Traffic

Impaired-related offences: 92; number of roadside suspensions: three; dangerous operation of a motor vehicle: 22; speeding (this does not include automated speed enforcement fines issued): 1,630; fines issued: 1,027; warnings issued (education-focused interaction between police and public): 603; collisions: 119; dangerous driving: four; Fatal collisions (number of incidents, not victims): one.

### Non-offence Codes (generally, instances where Criminal Codes or Provincial/Federal Statutes aren't broken – for example abandoned vehicles, animal calls, school visits, property or wellbeing checks, etc.)

Assistance: 290; false alarms: 205; breach of peace: 132; 911 Act – other activities: 207; suspicious person/vehicle/property: 210; mental health act (generally, police officers responding to reports of persons thinking about suicide, or people with mental illness and requiring assistance): 179; and Non-suspicious sudden deaths/Coroner's Act (Every non-suspicious sudden death police officers respond to including reports of persons who died by suicide, natural, accident or undetermined. Specific breakdowns by cause of death are unavailable.): 20

## Crop Report

### ■ media release

Seeding progress is still slower than average but more producers were able to get out over the past week. That is according to the Ministry of Agriculture's weekly Crop Report for May 3 to 9. Provincially, 14 percent of crops are now seeded, up from one percent and behind the five-year average of 23 percent. Crops that were seeded over the past two weeks should be emerging if moisture conditions are favourable. In areas of the southwest and west-central regions where conditions are very dry, germination could be uneven.

The southwest region has 34 percent of their crop seeded, followed by 20 percent in the west-central, seven percent in the southeast, five percent in the northwest, three percent in the east-central and one percent in the northeast. Many fields in the eastern half of the province are still too wet to allow producers to seed, full-scale seeding is still a week away in some parts of

the province.

Various amounts of precipitation were received across the province; this rain is needed badly in some areas that are too dry for proper germination. However, it will likely lead to longer delays in areas of the eastern regions where moisture is already high. The most rain reported was in the Pelly area with 49 mm, followed by 46 mm in the Bienfait area. The Shaunavon area received 26 mm and the Hazenmore area received 18 mm, which is good to see in the southwest since much of the crop is already in the ground and moisture has been limited in the region.

Due to widespread precipitation across the province, topsoil moisture has slightly improved from last week's report. Cropland topsoil moisture is rated as six percent surplus, 58 percent adequate, 26 percent short and 10 percent very short. Hay and pastureland moisture is rated as two percent surplus, 56 percent adequate, 29 percent short and 13 percent very short.

This increase in moisture will help pastures grow rapidly.

Many livestock producers have reported that the recent rain helped fill their dugouts and they feel confident that, for the time-being, water quality shouldn't be an issue. However, producers in the southwest and west-central have concerns about water levels and are making plans to haul water if conditions do not improve. Heavy rains throughout the summer will be needed to ensure that water availability does not become a widespread concern.

Producers continue working in their fields seeding, harrowing, rock-picking and rolling. When the weather allows, producers are spraying and seeding. Producers are reminded to be safe during their field activities and when transporting equipment across or alongside roadways. When working in extremely dry areas, especially pastures, ensure sparks or any other fire starter is controlled and a water source is available.

## Local area student recognized for 2022 agriculture scholarship

### ■ media release

#### Student Scholarship.

Emily's video submission discussed the various ways that farmers and ranchers can effectively communicate with consumers in a transparent and honest manner. Emily will be furthering her education at the University of Saskatchewan at the College of Agriculture and Bioresources.

"The scholarship is a great way to express your ideas and gives you an opportunity to make a difference in the agriculture industry," Emily said. "More than that, though, it makes you think about what you can do to become more transparent about your, or

your family's operation."

Kristie's essay explored how communication and education is key to bridging the gap between the farm and the plate. She focused her transparency essay on the whole supply chain and the need for everyone to share their story. Kristie will be furthering her education in Moose Jaw where she will be studying in the Agriculture and Food Production Program at Saskatchewan Polytechnic.

Grace's essay highlighted the important role that agriculture plays in people's lives, whether they are directly connected to the industry or not. She spoke about the impact that social media influencers can have on

people and the importance of educating youth. Grace will be taking her post-secondary education at either the University of Saskatchewan or the University of Lethbridge.

Kate Axtens video submission focused on what transparency is and how farmers can be more transparent. Her video showcased the work that her family farm has done to improve transparency with their consumers. Kate will be attending Dalhousie University in the fall where she will be studying International Food Business in the Faculty of Agriculture.

"There is a wide variety of trades and careers associated with

the agriculture sector, from the farm to the lab to technology companies," said Federal Agriculture and Agri-Food Minister Marie-Claude Bibeau.

"Encouraging young people to pursue careers in agriculture will provide a strong foundation for the future of the industry. This scholarship program will help our young leaders pursue their studies and embark on rewarding careers in agriculture."

"We received many outstanding applications this year in the form of both essays and video," Saskatchewan Agriculture Minister David Marit said. "It's great to see Saskatchewan youth talk so passionately

about agriculture and transparency, and we're very proud to support them and their career plans. The future of our industry is in good hands."

The Agriculture Student Scholarship Program is funded through the Canadian Agricultural Partnership, a five-year, \$3 billion commitment by Canada's federal, provincial and territorial governments that supports Canada's agriculture, agri-food and agri-products sectors. This includes a \$2 billion commitment that is cost-shared 60 percent federally and 40 percent provincially/territorially for programs that are designed and delivered by provinces and territories.

## Horizon holds badminton events

### ■ Daniel Bushman

Athletes kept their eye on the birdie as Horizon pre-district and district badminton events recently took place. The junior contingent held pre-districts Apr. 28 and 29 and districts May 6 while the senior group competed in districts Apr. 30 in Humboldt.

The following are the results from Horizon Central Athletic Association of local athletes and the schools they represent from both junior and senior events. Any local athletes not listed were unintentionally missed.

#### Junior pre-districts results from Raymore

Boys Singles - Miles Williams of Imperial placed fourth. Girls Singles - Bailey Field of Imperial placed first and advanced to Districts. Olivia Tan of Winston High School in Watrous placed third and Hailee Woodhouse of Holdfast placed fourth. Mixed Doubles - Elizabeth Maerz and Curtis Dennis of Holdfast placed third and Danny Strauss and Amanda Martens of Imperial placed fourth. Boys Doubles - EJ Cortez and Mico Nieto of LeRoy placed second and will advance to Districts. Paul Allirilla and William Bendel of LeRoy placed third and Choc Gullacher and Riley Sinclair of Imperial placed fourth.

#### Junior pre-districts in Wynyard and Foam Lake

Boys Singles - Graydn Wilson of Lanigan Elementary placed fourth. Girls Singles - Geri Lon Valdesimo of LeRoy placed first and advanced to Districts. Reese Stroeder of Lanigan Central High School placed second. Mixed Doubles - Jaramae Tan and Regan Bilodeau of LeRoy placed first and Kash Elke and Kyrie Burton of Lanigan Elementary placed second with both teams advancing to Districts. Jeff Tan and Stefanie Angob of LeRoy placed fourth.

#### Junior pre-districts in Foam Lake and Lanigan Elementary

Boys Doubles - Carter Edwards and Jaxson Hendry from Nokomis were fourth. Girls Doubles - Marly Dumanski and Cally Morningstar of Lanigan Central High School were first. Hailey Burton and Sawyer Prouse of Lanigan Elementary were second and

advance to Districts. Hadley Braun and Kharington Kuntz of Nokomis were third and advance to Districts.

The HCAA Junior Badminton District Championship took place Friday, May 6 at Wynyard Composite.

#### Junior District results from Wynyard

Girls Singles - Geri Lon Valdesimo of LeRoy was first.

#### Senior District results from Humboldt

Boys Singles - Dexter Gusikoski of Viscount placed second and advanced to Regionals. Girls Doubles - Mica Baclan and Amielle Mangulabnan of LeRoy placed third.

At the SHSAA Regional Championship, in Boys Singles, Gusikoski finished with a record of 1-2. Winning this year's Regional title was Gerard from Sturgeon Lake who went 5-0.

## NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF ASSESSMENT ROLL TOWN OF ALLAN

Notice is hereby given that the assessment roll for the Town of Allan for the year 2022 has been prepared and is now open to inspection in the office of the Assessor from 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 5 p.m. on the following days: Monday to Friday, May 13 to June 13, 2022.

Any person who wishes to appeal against his or her assessment is required to file his or her notice of appeal with:

Saumya Vaidyanathan,  
Secretary of the Board of Revision,  
Box 149, Meota, SK S0M 1X0  
by the 13th day of June, 2022

Dated this 13<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2022  
Christine Dyck, Assessor

## NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF ASSESSMENT ROLL RM OF LOST RIVER NO. 313

Notice is hereby given that the assessment roll for the RM of Lost River No. 313 for the year 2022 has been prepared and is now open to inspection in the office of the Assessor from 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 5 p.m. on the following days: Monday to Friday, May 13 to June 13, 2022.

Any person who wishes to appeal against his or her assessment is required to file his or her notice of appeal with:

Saumya Vaidyanathan,  
Secretary of the Board of Revision,  
Box 149, Meota, SK S0M 1X0  
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# Opinion

## COLONSAY

Irene Gray • 306-255-2775

A belated 60th anniversary family supper was held May 7 for Barry and Merilyn Kirk. Joining them were Vern and Michelle Kirk, Scott Kirk and Emily, Michael Kirk, Bruce Kirk from Edmonton, Judy Graham and Tracey Folk.

Rev. Bill Pollock presided at the Colonsay United Church service May 8. A short meeting was held after the service. Rev. Janet Clarke will preside May 15 and 29.

Jim and Irene Gray celebrated their 56th anniversary May 7 with a visit to The Keg for supper. Joan Campbell and Allan Chamney joined them on their special anniversary.

Elsie Beggs visited her mother Beryl Wieler after Beryl came home from the hospital.

One of the greatest labour-saving inventions of today is tomorrow.



### Tips from Reena Nerbas

she wiped her face but switching toothpastes did not help. The spots have also appeared on the bath mat so I know it cannot just be the toothpaste. With copious amounts of bleach, the spots can be faded or erased, but this needs to be done constantly or they re-appear. I have changed laundry detergents as well to no avail. Any ideas? Angie

Dear Angie,

Since the spots are mainly apparent on hand towels; it makes sense that they may be the result of a product that your daughter uses. Bleach is found in cosmetic products other than toothpaste such as teeth whiteners and hair products. Benzoyl peroxide for example is found in several products i.e. acne treatments may be the culprit. Consider investigating all of the products that she uses to help you determine the cause of discolouration. Have you experimented by trading towels with her and observing whether discolouration is still an issue? To brighten towels, add a product such as washing soda to each load. Pour one-quarter cup to each load to brighten colours and whiten whites. Using washing soda with hot water will also clean out the hoses in your washing machine.

#### Feedback from wise contributor

I would like to share my mother's tips and tricks for perfect homemade pickles. When choosing pickles for pickling, pick fresh garden cucumbers early in the morning. Immediately submerge cucumbers in ice cold water until ready to use. Trim both ends of pickles. Use pickling vinegar not plain white vinegar. If the cucum-

## VISCOUNT

Sandra Reid • 306-227-1193

Wednesday, May 4, there were four lovely ladies who attended Blankets for Canada. We sewed a lot of squares together and just about finished two blankets. Only two more meetings until summer break May 18 and 25 then we will be off for the summer but still accepting squares, yarn, etc. Blankets for Canada ladies might break from meeting once a week, but they still find the time to make many blankets. If you are interested or anytime you might like to donate please contact Evelina at 306-944-4820. Every little or large donation of yarn, squares or blankets are greatly appreciated by us and those who receive the beautiful blankets.

Well, we survived our first camping trip of the year. The temperature was not even too bad, at least our water did not freeze in the camper this year. We did not have a fire, twas a little too windy.

Have a great week, stay warm (will love it when I can say stay cool), stay safe and enjoy all that you can. Thank you to all who helped make this week's Viscount news possible.

#### Submitted by Grand Knight Murray Phillips

Saturday, May 7, St. Alphonse Knights of Columbus council #6529 held its Super Supper Fundraiser. Fifty-five guests enjoyed a prime rib/Mediterranean chicken and potato bar meal. A 50/50 draw was held. The winner was Dave Starkell. A wine pull was won by Tiffany Paulsen. Successful bidders for the silent auction were Bill Comeault, Mike Pastor, Tammy Isaacson, Brian Desmarais, Murray Phillips, Anthony Koller, Rob Koller, Armand Clavelle, Christina Zarycki, Cindy Binsfeld and Justin Klein. We really appreciate those businesses and individuals who provided prizes as well as those who supported our fundraiser. Funds raised support local charities and groups.

Sunday morning after 9 a.m. mass, St. Alphonse Knights of Columbus put on a Mother's Day breakfast. Scrambled eggs, sausage, pancakes and coffee were served. Barb Dale provided cupcakes for the 28 in attendance. A goodwill offering was graciously accepted. Both events were held in the St. Alphonse church auditorium.



### Neighbourly advice according to Ed

A spiritual column by contributor Raymond Maher [www.accordingtoed.com](http://www.accordingtoed.com)

Do you feel you can overcome all obstacles and doubts? Michael Jordan has said that obstacles do not have to stop you. Do not turn around and give up if you run into a wall. Figure out how to climb it, go through it or work around it. Do you have the attitude of marines who claim to do the difficult immediately and then the impossible only takes a little longer? Do we overestimate our power and doubt the ability of God to accomplish His will in our weakness of sin and death?

## Solutions and Substitutions

### Dear Reena,

Last year I purchased new white towels for my remodelled bathroom. They are lovely, but a few washes in they started sprouting grey blob shaped spots, especially on the hand towels. At first, I thought it was my daughter's toothpaste staining the towels when

she wiped her face but switching toothpastes did not help. The spots have also appeared on the bath mat so I know it cannot just be the toothpaste. With copious amounts of bleach, the spots can be faded or erased, but this needs to be done constantly or they re-appear. I have changed laundry detergents as well to no avail. Any ideas? Angie

### Dear Angie,

Since the spots are mainly apparent on hand towels; it makes sense that they may be the result of a product that your daughter uses. Bleach is found in cosmetic products other than toothpaste such as teeth whiteners and hair products. Benzoyl peroxide for example is found in several products i.e. acne treatments may be the culprit. Consider investigating all of the products that she uses to help you determine the cause of discolouration. Have you experimented by trading towels with her and observing whether discolouration is still an issue? To brighten towels, add a product such as washing soda to each load. Pour one-quarter cup to each load to brighten colours and whiten whites. Using washing soda with hot water will also clean out the hoses in your washing machine.

### Fantastic tip of the week

Cut down on homemade lasagna preparation with this easy technique! The common way to layer lasagna: meat sauce, cooked noodles, cheese, repeat meat sauce, cooked noodles cheese, repeat . . . A faster way to make lasagna: prepare meat and cheese mixtures as normal. Combine all three layers (broken uncooked noodles, cheese and meat sauce) together in a bowl and gently toss. Grease your casserole dish and pour ingredients inside. Top with cheese and bake as normal. The sauce bakes the noodles and no layering required! You will have much more time for doing all the other things you love and lasagna will not be such a time-consuming project. Why not give it a try?

Did you know? The word lasagna originally referred to the pot in which the dish was cooked rather than the food itself as it does today.

*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](http://reena.ca). Ask a question or share a tip at [reena.ca](http://reena.ca)*

## God's power is alive in strong and weak people

Timothy Keller (in his book Encounters with Jesus) warns, "So many systems of thought appeal to strong, successful people because they play directly into their belief that if you are strong and hardworking enough, you will prevail. Christianity is for people who have the particular kind of strength to admit that their flaws are not superficial, their hearts are deeply disordered, and they are incapable of rectifying themselves. It is for those who can see that they need a saviour. They need Jesus Christ dying on the cross to put them right with God."

The Easter Season focuses on obstacles, especially believing what would seem to be impossible, the resurrection of Jesus from the dead. Of course, God does the impossible regularly, but that does not mean people do not doubt His power and trip over what is possible for God specially raising Jesus

from death.

It is not that God has not always shown his power to accomplish the impossible. The prophet Ezekiel understood God could take a valley full of dry bones and make them live. When God asked Ezekiel can these bones live, the prophet said, O Sovereign Lord, you alone know. Ezekiel knew God could do the impossible. God brought the dead bones to life by having Ezekiel prophesy to the bones. The Old Testament has countless examples of God accomplishing what would be impossible for people to do.

In the New Testament in the book of Acts, a man crippled from birth was carried to the temple gate called Beautiful and put there every day to beg from the people going into the temple courts. Begging each day was a way for the crippled man to survive.

When the beggar asked Peter and John for money, he did not receive silver or gold but the ability to walk in the power of Jesus Christ of Nazareth.

Everyone recognized the cripple was made strong and able to walk, run and jump. Peter and John were not afraid to explain, "The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of our fathers has glorified his servant Jesus. You disowned him, the Holy and Righteous One. You killed the author of life, but God raised him from the dead. We are witnesses of this. It is Jesus' name and faith that comes through him that this beggar was given this complete healing, as you can all see." (Acts 3:13-16)

Let us not be complacent about the power of God to do the impossible in us. Easter confirms that Jesus is alive. Will we welcome Him to make his power and will live in us? His grace is sufficient for us and his power is made perfect in our weakness. (2 Cor. 12:9)



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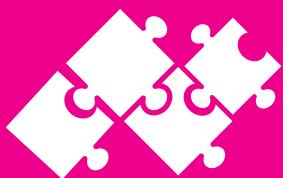
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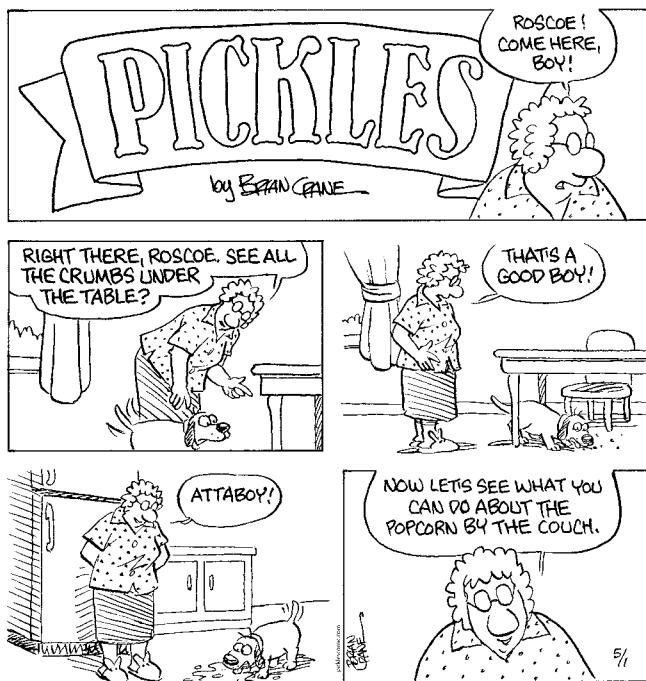
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# 66 Comics AND Puzzles 99



I'VE GOT A LITTLE JOB FOR YOU.

ROSCOE! COME HERE, BOY!

RIGHT THERE, ROSCOE. SEE ALL THE CRUMBS UNDER THE TABLE?

THAT'S A GOOD BOY!

NOW FOLLOW ME, THERE'S SOME MILK SPILLED OVER BY THE FRIDGE.

NOW LET'S SEE WHAT YOU CAN DO ABOUT THE POPCORN BY THE COUCH.

GOOD DOG!

HEY, IT'S A LIVING!

ATTABOY!

GOOD DOG!

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- Agate Black

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- Keyless Entry • Reverse Sensing
- SYNC • Atlas Blue

**0.99%** Financing Available #22F028

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- Trailer Tow Package • Agate Black

**COMING SOON!**

**0.99%** Financing Available #22F013

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- Keyless Entry • Remote Start • Reverse Sensing
- SYNC • NAV • Trailer Tow Package • Atlas Blue

(from front page: WHS)

the division are of the graduates.

After bringing remarks on behalf of Horizon, Paproski was followed by WHS Principal Terry Braman. After trying to provide the previous two Gr. 12 classes with proper recognition and graduation ceremonies during the pandemic, returning to the curling rink in Watrous after a two year hiatus, Braman said, "We are back!"



Terry Braman

Thankful and fortunate to have the exercises with the larger Wildcat family, Braman remarked how the pandemic has taught him to be grateful for what he has and the people around him. Extending his appreciation to the teachers and staff at the high school for their hard work and dedication, Braman shared some rapid fire memories of the Gr. 12 class. Following the humorous recollections, Braman thanked the class for who they were over the past two years during the pandemic and uncertain times. "I couldn't be more proud of you. Once a Wildcat, always a Wildcat."

After reminding the students to be safe and that he would see them in class Monday, Braman left the stage and was followed by graduate Pearce Bartko who gave the Tribute to Education.



Pearce Bartko

Sharing about being mentored and taught by a supportive teaching staff, Bartko added they "never failed to be there for us." Explaining how the teachers always found ways to keep the Gr. 12 class interested over the years, Bartko said they also brought the students closer together as a group.

Citing the bottom of Braman's email signature line from Aristotle: "Educating the mind without educating the heart is no education at all." Bartko said it embodies the teachers as they inspired the graduates. "The things the teachers have taught us will serve us well."

Adding how he got a firsthand look at the tremendous work and



►The Winston High School graduating class of 2022 along with WHS staff. WHS staff pictured back row (left to right): Priscilla Stratton, Cindy Cantelon, Tina Edwards, Lindsay Crittenden, Lori Bartko, Evan Libke, Kristin Carlson, Jarvis Engele, Terry Braman, Doug Thomas, Steve Armstrong, Lee Bells, Wendi Collins, Denise Lucas, Joanne Andrews, and Barbie Vanthuynne. Graduates pictured third row (left to right): Dakota Boldt, Cooper Isherwood, Aidan Barnes, Braxton Martin, Richard Mehlmann, Gabriel Nicholls, Caiden Hendry, Noah L'Hirondelle, Tucker Klisowsky, Owen Edwards, and

Cohen Sundquist. Pictured second row (left to right): Hannah Allman, Kaelin Hardy, Matthew Porter, Tyler Walker, Blake Martin, Camden McNichol, Dominic Harding, Pearce Bartko, Luke Davidson, Naomi Schmidt, and Marasia Brockman. Pictured front row (left to right): Syla Mercado, Mae Liu, Jade Langston, Chantel Hilts, Jacee Mensch, Annaka Miettinen, Tori Masich, Karlee Bedard, Haiven Thomas, Jocelyn Knouse, and Penny Lounsbury.

© above photo courtesy Visual Arts by Brittney Meyer/remaining by Daniel Bushman



time given up by teachers for their students with his mom being a teacher, Pearce said the graduates would not be the people they are today without that selfless dedication. "As we prepare to take the leap of faith from Winston High School, remember those who educated us and be grateful for the journey along the way."

Honoured to respond to her son's remarks, Winston High School teacher Lori Bartko followed Pearce by sharing how much of an impact Aristotle's quote used by Braman was to her. "That quote resonates with me when I think of this group."

(continued on page 10:  
WHS)

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(from page nine: WHS)

While admitting sometimes teachers can take things too seriously, Bartko added the responsibility of a teacher is also to make sure students leave with as much knowledge as possible.



Lori Bartko

Explaining how there are published authors, students creating captivating videos, mechanics, artists, designers and athletes in the Gr. 12 class, Lori said they have also shown the teachers how to be there for each other. "This class always shows up for each other . . . when this group came through the doors in September 2021 as Gr. 12s, they made our school welcoming, positive and an inclusive place to be.

You are a special and an amazing group of kids. Thank you for also teaching us."

"When life throws you a curve ball, home is where you can plan your next move . . . Just know when you fall, we will be here to lift you back up. And when you achieve greatness, we will be here for you."

Following John's response, graduates Owen Edwards, Penny Lounsbury, Jacee Mensch, and Haiven Thomas shared a PowerPoint Presentation of the 2022 graduating class.

Growing up in Watrous, graduate Kaelin Hardy gave the Tribute to the Community. "Beyond grateful" to be able to celebrate with her fellow graduates and the community, Hardy shared how growing up in a small town taught her a lot. Impacted by friendly faces around town, in school sports and other activities, Hardy said people played a big role in many of the lives of those graduating.



Kaelin Hardy

"Community members have been our biggest cheerleaders and we have received so much support. The generosity of businesses in Watrous and the surrounding areas is second to none . . . even during the tough times we have benefitted from their generosity."

Talking to her fellow graduates, as they embark on their next chapter, Hardy reminded them to carry the lessons and support from back home while engaging in whatever community they move to while giving more than they take.

After Kaelin, former business owner in Watrous and WHS Senior Boys basketball coach John Koupantsis gave the



John Koupantsis

response. Honoured to speak on behalf of the community, Koupantsis shared about the importance of community with the word 'home' resonating with him. With home being a place to grow and a place of joy, Koupantsis shared with the graduates that community is a place of celebrating their accomplishments while watching them blossom into young adults. "You will always have your home to come back to."

Following John's response, graduates Owen Edwards, Penny Lounsbury, Jacee Mensch, and Haiven Thomas shared a PowerPoint Presentation of the 2022 graduating class.



Owen Edwards, Jacee Mensch, Penny Lounsbury, and Haiven Thomas

Collins then welcomed teacher and longtime WHS grad adviser Lee Bells as this year's guest speaker. Featuring his comedic humour, Bells was both honoured and sarcastically disappointed to be chosen as this year's guest speaker. As a grad adviser for over 22 years, Bells shared with the students that nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm. Utilizing puns in his English class, Bells remarked how unsure he was whether his students could tell how valuable enthusiasm actually is. Emphasizing the



Lee Bells

importance of enthusiasm and bringing the art of poetry into his speech, the teacher imparted advice through the use of an acrostic poem entitled E-N-T-H-U-S-I-A-S-M.

With advice ranging from entertaining the idea of following your passion as far as it can take you to taking the high road and embracing life in doing the right thing to holding other people accountable and approaching your future with oomph, Bells then wrapped up with the final two letters: 'S'howing that actions speak louder than words and 'M'aking up your mind by embracing your interests and pursuing your dreams with enthusiasm.

Weaving through his acrostic poem while holding up a letter for each, Bells generated laughs and imparted advice to the graduates. Wishing the grads well, Bells was followed up with the Valedictorian speech.

Explaining he was "not an obvious choice" or a "likely one," graduate Tyler Walker not only delivered a tremendous speech but had everyone in the rink giving him a standing ovation at the conclusion. Sharing how



Tyler Walker

he had no athletic ability, was socially awkward at best and annoying during his class subjects, Walker said he was accepted for what he had to offer.

Acknowledging the

teachers from Watrous and Nokomis, the school he attended up until Gr. 9 before joining other graduates from Nokomis on daily bus rides to Watrous, he said, "We make up a big part of the class and are grateful to attend Winston High School."

Sharing how bus rides to and from Nokomis would reach upwards of three hours daily, Walker also thanked the bus drivers for giving of their time.

Touching on the pandemic and how it loomed over a large part of schooling during his high school years, Tyler said despite it all, the class was able to have a lot of fun and work as a team. Explaining to a packed curling rink how the 2022 graduates are comprised of a great group of talented achievers, sports athletes, artists, musicians, authors and adventurers, Walker said it will be exciting to see where new adventures will take the graduates during their next chapter of life.

Providing guidance from his mom after losing his father at a young age, Walker imparted that wisdom to all of those in the curling rink. Explaining how he too had to work hard to overcome some of life's challenges, Tyler said, "Hard work opens doors . . . there will be hard times but they will always pass . . . you can control the aftermath that follows. The choice is ours and ours alone."

With life being full of choices, Walker encouraged his peers to stand up and take their place in history. "We get to choose the outcome."

Reading from the Dr.



Seuss book, Oh! The places you'll go! given to him from his dad before he passed away, Tyler concluded by telling his class they will move mountains, leaving Gr. 12 with great memories made and lessons learned.

Following the Valedictorian speech, Walker's class, teachers and those in the arena stood to applaud him for the words he shared and the journey he himself took to get to that night. After the standing ovation, Collins then welcomed Pearce Bartko to take the torch and pass it along to Gr. 11 students, Charlie Pilling and Matthew Schroeder.

Braman then presented each graduate with their scroll and the graduates left the stage to conclude

the 2022 graduation exercises.

This year's WHS graduates include: Dakota Boldt, Cooper Isherwood, Aidan Barnes, Braxton Martin, Richard Mehlmann, Gabriel Nicholls, Caiden Hendry, Noah L'Hirondelle, Tucker Klisowsky, Owen Edwards, Cohen Sundquist, Hannah Allman, Kaelin Hardy, Matthew Porter, Tyler Walker, Blake Martin, Camden McNichol, Dominic Harding, Pearce Bartko, Luke Davidson, Naomi Schmidt, Marasia Brockman, Syla Mercado, Mae Liu, Jade Langston, Chantel Hilts, Jacee Mensch, Annaka Miettinen, Tori Masich, Karlee Bedard, Haiven Thomas, Jocelyn Knouse, and Penny Lounsbury.



Passing of the torch from Pearce Bartko to Charlie Pilling and Matthew Schroeder (pictured above).

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**The Watrous Manitou will be closed Monday, May 23 for the Victoria Day holiday.**

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## ICU capacity expanded in Sask.

### ■ media release

The Government of Saskatchewan has added six new Intensive Care Unit (ICU) beds in three provincial hospital locations to address overcapacity and high occupancy rates.

“Our government has taken crucial steps forward to begin delivering on our commitment to provide more ICU beds to benefit our sickest patients, such as those requiring surgery and advanced procedures,” Health Minister Paul Merriman said. “The \$12.5 million investment in this budget is the first of a multi-year strategy to support the addition of ICU beds to the provincial system this year, which will improve patient flow and surgical capacity.

“These additions will also allow existing ICU beds to be

used to their full potential and will result in less service disruption and staff redeployment.”

Six new beds are now in operation: two at Regina General Hospital; three at St. Paul’s Hospital in Saskatoon; and one at Prince Albert Victoria Hospital.

Plans are underway to add the remaining five beds for a total of 11, which includes four ICU beds for Regina’s Pasqua Hospital and one at Yorkton Hospital. These beds will be operational later in 2022.

A total 108 full time equivalent positions, such as registered nurses and other health care providers will support the new beds.

“We are grateful for the province’s investment in strengthening critical care in our urban, rural and northern regional hospitals,” Saskatchewan Health

Authority’s (SHA) Executive Director for Provincial Programs - Tertiary Care Lori Garchinski said. “Our teams are continuing to build on the lessons learned from the pandemic and this ongoing expansion in ICU and high-acuity capacity is foundational in advancing connected care for Saskatchewan residents.”

This year’s ICU bed expansion is the first phase of a multi-year strategy to create 31 additional intensive care unit beds across the province for a total of 110 beds.

In addition to this expansion, a \$3 million increase in this year’s budget will fund 10 high-acuity beds at Regina General Hospital to reduce demands on the ICU and improve patient flow.

Saskatchewan currently has 85 adult ICU beds across nine regional and tertiary sites.

## SMA survey reveals impact of pandemic on Sask. physicians

### ■ media release

A majority of Saskatchewan physicians who responded to a Saskatchewan Medical Association (SMA) membership survey feel their mental health has worsened after two years of the pandemic, their jobs are less satisfying, and their voices have not been heard in the pandemic response.

Asked to rate their mental health now compared to before the pandemic, almost 49 percent said it was worse and 17 percent responded much worse, while 30 percent said it was about the same.

Meanwhile, 74 percent responded that medical practice is less satisfying than usual (21 percent said it is about as satisfying as

usual). Overall workload since the pandemic began had increased a great deal (26 percent) or increased somewhat (30 percent), respondents said, while 54 percent indicated they intend to reduce their clinical hours in the next two years.

“The survey reflects what I have been hearing from many physicians – that they have been working harder during the pandemic and their mental health has suffered,” said SMA president Dr. Eben Strydom. “The

results are worrisome. Physicians need supports now more than ever as the pandemic is still with us. Case numbers driven by COVID-19 variants continue to place strains on physicians and all health care workers. Those strains are reflected in the survey results.”

The survey asked physicians to indicate their level of concern about issues that may have arisen during the pandemic. The top concern of respondents is a lack of physician voice

in the pandemic response (76 percent), followed by concern for the health of patients with non-COVID needs (60 percent), concern for their own or their families’ safety and health (43 percent), poor communication (42 percent), and feelings of less connectivity to their colleagues (42 percent).

“Physicians feel their expertise and advice has not been valued during the pandemic,” Dr. Strydom said. “Health leaders should listen to physicians, implement

policies and procedures that provide optimal care for both their COVID and non-COVID patients, strengthen channels of communication, and foster collegiality among health care workers,” he said, adding he is grateful to physicians for expressing their opinions.

“Saskatchewan’s physicians have spoken, and they are saying that medicine has been affected by the duration and persistence of the pandemic, and its impacts on the health system.”

## Canadians continued to experience longer wait times for surgery during pandemic

### ■ media release

While wait times have improved since the beginning of the pandemic, patients in Canada continued to experience longer wait times for surgery in 2020–21 compared with before the pandemic. A new study from the Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI) looks at trends in wait times over the first 18 months of the pandemic (April 2020 to September 2021). The data shows that while wait times improved over this period, elective surgeries were delayed several times, resulting in longer wait times as health systems prioritized urgent procedures during the second and third waves of the pandemic.

According to CIHI’s data, about 600,000 fewer surgeries were performed across Canada since the beginning of the pandemic, with joint replacements and cataract surgeries accounting for about 25 percent of the total reduction in surgeries. Although wait times for some procedures remain longer than in the pre-pandemic period, lessons learned from early in the pandemic caused health systems

to shift resources where possible to minimize further backlogs in surgeries and diagnostic tests.

Some of the key findings from CIHI included:

- Between April and September 2021, cancer surgery volumes rebounded, coming close to their pre-pandemic levels. This contrasted with the first six months of the pandemic, which saw about 20 percent fewer cancer surgeries compared with the pre-pandemic period.

- Most people received care for urgent procedures like radiation therapy and hip fracture repair within recommended time frames. From April to September 2021, 85 percent of patients received hip fracture repair within the recommended 48 hours, while 97 percent of patients received radiation therapy within the recommended four weeks.

- Patients continued to experience longer wait times for joint replacements. About 59 percent of patients received knee replacements within the recommended time frame, compared with 70 percent in the pre-pandemic period. About 65 percent of patients received hip replacements

within the recommended time frame, compared with 75 percent in the pre-pandemic period.

- Cataract surgery wait times rebounded to pre-pandemic levels in most provinces, with about 66 percent of patients receiving cataract surgery within the recommended time frame (compared with 70 percent in the pre-pandemic period).

- Median wait times for magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) scans were shorter by about 5 to 6 days compared with pre-pandemic wait times, due in part to shifting resources, including increased staffing that allowed MRI machines to run extended hours in some settings.

*The Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI) is an independent, not-for-profit organization dedicated to providing essential health information to all Canadians.*

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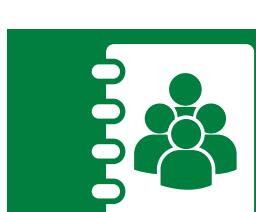
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**COUNCILLOR: Village of Simpson**

**NUMBER TO BE ELECTED: 1**

will be received by the undersigned on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of June, 2022, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the municipal office and during regular business hours on May 16, 2022 to May 31, 2022 at the municipal office. A Public Disclosure Statement must be submitted with nomination papers. Nomination forms and Public Disclosure forms may be obtained from the municipal office.

Dated this 16<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2022.  
Darlene Mann, Returning Officer

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

## NOTICE OF ABANDONMENT OF POLL

### VILLAGE OF VISCOUNT LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTION

Whereas a poll is not required pursuant to *The Local Government Election Act* for the offices of Mayor: Village of Viscount

I hereby give public notice that no voting for the said offices will take place and that the following persons are elected by acclamation:

**Mayor: Dustin Guskoski**

Dated at Viscount, SK this 12th day of May, 2022  
Cyla Quiring, Returning Officer





## TWM AROUND THE WORLD



► As people begin to travel again and enjoy an opportunity to explore the globe, make sure and take along an edition of The Watrous Manitou. Snap a photo with the paper and send it to us (twmadviseornews@gmail.com) or drop off a photo at our office and we will do our best to include it in the paper. Pictured is a map displayed at our office at 309 Main Street in Watrous of where people have gone with their TWM over the years. Thanks to those for thinking of us during your travels!

## Save More for Your Business



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May 28th Oda Take's Flight Launch  
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appointment

## “Photo of the Week”



This week's photo of a Turkey Vulture in Watrous was taken by Jack Isabelle. Have a picture you would like to share? Email it to: [twmadviseornews@gmail.com](mailto:twmadviseornews@gmail.com)



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