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MONDAY, APRIL 13, 2020

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SHA releases COVID-19 response plan

■ Daniel Bushman

Implementing key strategies with hopes of mitigating the spread of COVID-19 in the province, the Saskatchewan Health Authority (SHA) released the next phase of its COVID-19 response plan which specifically noted Watrous and Lanigan facilities.

The details of the report were released as SHA aims to be transparent with the public. As part of that, if required due to patient demand and safety, SHA stated Watrous has been designated as a COVID-19 hospital while Lanigan has been designated a temporary conversion to alternate level of care patients.

If the need arrives, Watrous will have staged stand up based on demand and would receive COVID-19 patients only. Emergency services would remain open according to the report. Lanigan would see stand up starting immediately and phased over four to six weeks with a temporary suspension of emergency services.

SHA said these changes are not immediate but the health authority proactively identified 20 out of its 65 hospitals that would be designated COVID-19 hospitals. COVID-19 hospitals will initially act as mixed hospitals but as the COVID-19 patient census increases, non-COVID patients may be relocated from the facility to non-COVID or mixed hospitals.

The staged responses related to integrated rural health stems from a potential increased demand through a combination of COVID and non-COVID facilities. That includes no facility closures and temporarily converting some hospitals like Lanigan to support alternative level of care patients over the next four to six weeks. That would mean alternate level of care patients will flow from tertiary and regional hospitals to create capacity in those locations. There would also be a temporary suspension of emergency department services to support reallocation of staff to higher need sites. SHA said no field hospitals for the local area have been contemplated as capacity in the rural area exists.

"Our job as a health care system is to provide care for those in need and to be ready for any scenario," SHA CEO Scott Livingstone said. "While we understand

Canadian data is starting to show some hopeful signs about flattening the curve on COVID-19, it is critical to remember not to be complacent. We need to continue to escalate our response to ensure we are prepared for the worst case scenarios and we need the public to help us avoid those scenarios.

"We wanted to be transparent with the plan going forward so the public is aware of the escalated measures we will put into place if needed, but it is critical to remember that many of the changes proposed in this plan will be implemented only in response to anticipated surges in patient demand that start to exceed our capacity," Livingstone continued. "Changes like conversion to COVID-19 dedicated hospitals will only occur where it is absolutely required to ensure safety and maintain access for patients who need our care."

Also in the Health System Readiness report for COVID-19 released Apr. 8 was dynamic modelling to help assess the impact of various 'what if' scenarios. The modelling data indicates that the key variable for saving lives and protecting health care workers during the COVID-19 pandemic is public compliance with prescribed isolation measures, physical distancing, effective hand washing and staying home, whenever and wherever possible. It also indicates that current interventions are making a difference.

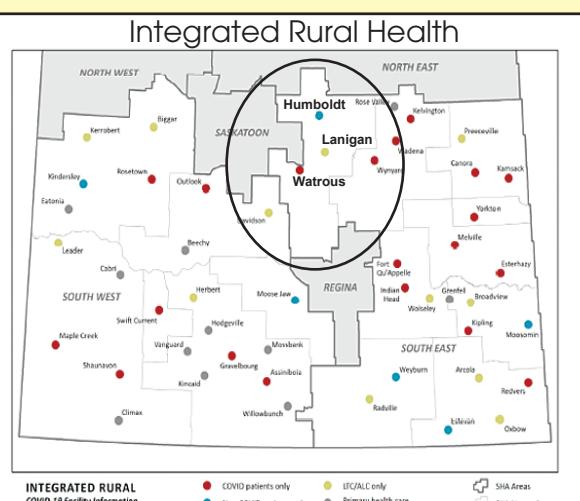
SHA stated the models continuously update and provide estimated scenarios about the transmission of COVID-19 in a population, the impact of various public health interventions, and impact on acute care demand.

Presenting three scenarios (high-range, mid-range, and low-range) Apr. 8 with estimates in addition to the non-COVID-19 hospital capacity, SHA noted each have key variables which are the basic reproductive constant (R0): the average number of people one person with COVID-19 would infect.

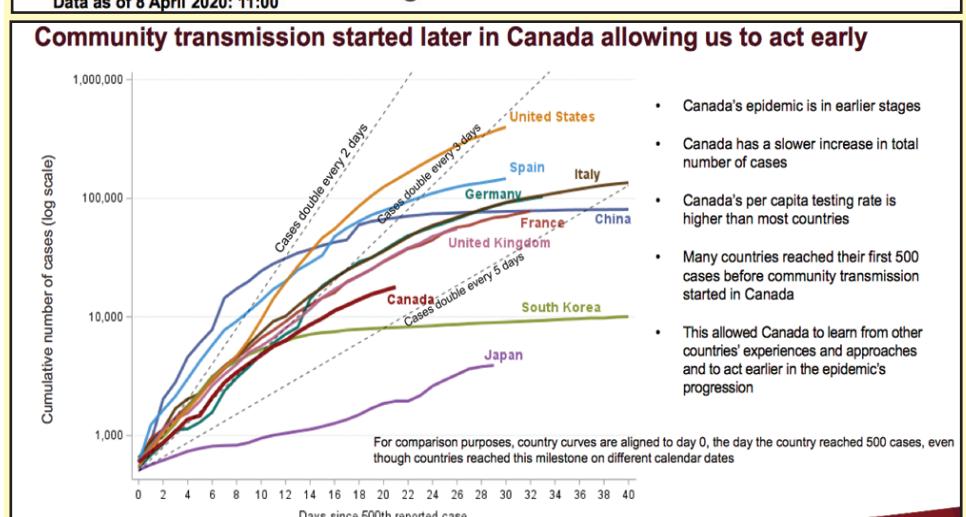
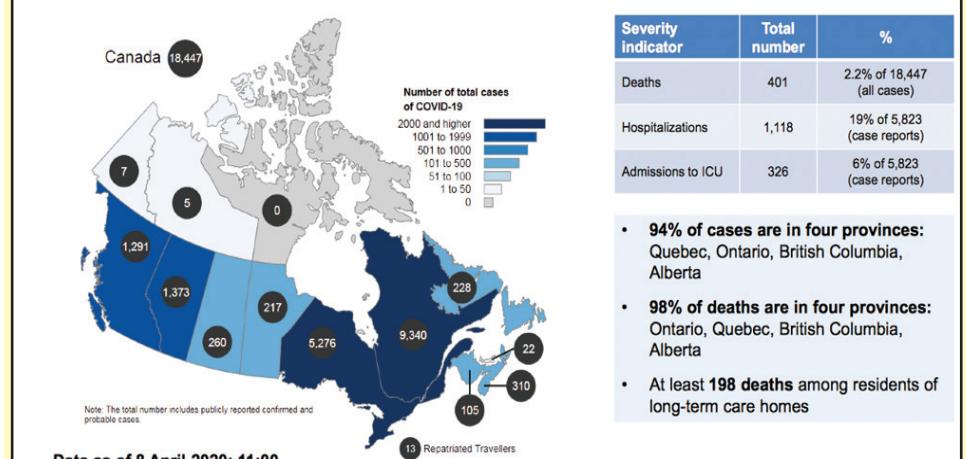
From that data, the modelling analysis includes: Scenario 1 – high-range - R0 = 4.0; Scenario 2 – mid-range - R0 = 2.76; and Scenario 3 – low-range - R0 = 2.4.

(continued on page two: COVID-19)

Facility	Services
●	COVID-19 hospital - Staged stand up based on demand - COVID patients only - Emergency services open
●	Non-COVID hospital - Staged stand up based on demand - Non-COVID patients admitted - Emergency services open
●	Temporary conversion to alternate level of care patients - Stand up starts immediately and phased over 4-6 weeks - Temporary suspension of emergency services
●	Primary health care services reduced - Care provided through alternate means such as virtual care



The situation today – a snapshot



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(from front page:
COVID-19)

For scenario 1 (4.0 - high-range from early Canadian estimates), assuming Saskatchewan continues with current levels of COVID-19 measures including testing, tracing and physical distancing, modelling estimates showed at the peak, 4,265 COVID-19 patients will require to be in an acute care hospital simultaneously. Of those hospitalized, 1,280 COVID-19 patients will be in the ICU with 90 to 95 percent requiring ventilation.

For scenario 2 (2.76 - low Italy range), if Saskatchewan were to continue with current levels of COVID-19 measures including testing, tracing and physical distancing, at the peak, 1,265 COVID-19 patients will require to be in an acute care hospital simultaneously. Of those hospitalized, 380

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COVID-19 patients will be in the ICU with 90 to 95 percent requiring ventilation.

4,265, 215 ICU admissions per day, an ICU census of 1,280, 1,230 patients requiring ventilation and a cumulative total of 8,370 deaths.

Mid-range analysis (scenario 2) would see 262,000 cumulative total cases, 205 hospital admissions per day, a hospital census of 1,265, 60 ICU admissions per day, an ICU census of 380, 370 patients requiring ventilation and a cumulative total of 5,260 deaths.

Low-range analysis (scenario 3) would see 153,000 cumulative total cases, 60 hospital admissions per day, a hospital census of 390, 20 ICU admissions per day, an ICU census of 120, 120 patients requiring ventilation and a cumulative total of 3,075 deaths.

In its report, SHA said the dynamic modelling is not a prediction but rather an effort to provide a range of 'what if' scenarios. "Cur-

rent interventions have made a difference. The most important variable to save lives and protect health care workers is public compliance with isolation measures, physical distancing and washing your hands."

With models showing Saskatchewan is not immune to the spread of COVID-19, SHA warns people can expect more cases and deaths. "We are learning from the experience of other provinces and around the world - modelling scenarios are based on our best knowledge at this time and will continue to be updated with Saskatchewan data."

In an effort to implement key strategies and prevent the spread of COVID-19, SHA has increased access to testing through the creation of 38 testing sites around the province and tripled the staff available for contact tracing efforts to detect and prevent community transmission.

The provincial health authority noted as public health measures and capacity for community care services continues to increase, the acute care system has also been planning to add capacity. Up to 57 percent more acute care capacity will be phased in as needed over the next several weeks in anticipation of increased hospitalization rates. They also stated that none of the major changes

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Notice is hereby given that the assessment roll for the Town of Colonsay for the year 2020 has been prepared and is open to inspection to be viewed **by appointment only** in the office of the Assessor from 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. on the following days: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, and from 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Thursdays, April 13 to May 18, 2020.

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 with:

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in this plan are immediate.

As of Apr. 5, 43 percent of Saskatchewan's acute care beds were available for use, largely as a result of the slow down and preparation for the surge.

Looking at the bigger picture, SHA indicated it is implementing other key strategies including: increasing testing (over 14,000 tests performed); identifying cases early; expanding contact tracing capacity (over 300 percent increase in staff); enforcing Chief Medical Health Officer orders; data tools to manage cases, clusters and outbreaks; expanding HealthLine 811 (more than 250 staff trained); delivering more services through virtual care models (more than 750 clinicians set up); testing and assessment centres (38 SHA operated testing sites across the province and five assessment sites in operation with 21 planned to open in the coming weeks); prioritizing testing; protecting health care workers and first responders; screening in Long-Term Care; partnering with communities and across sectors; and messaging for health education, health promotion and health equity.

In addition to the measures being taken by SHA they said despite the pandemic the goal is to sustain essential and urgent health services for non-COVID patients. Also in the report the health authority noted there will be disruptions to "normal" health services delivery. "This may mean alternate service delivery methods such as virtual

care; the response will be staged according to increases in demand; cohorting of COVID-19 positive patients as much as possible. Field hospitals will be used where demand exceeds facility based on capacity; Ethical decision making will occur throughout all aspects and phases of the pandemic based on the SHA Ethical Framework; SHA will need to deploy staff and physicians to other facilities to support care; Safety and Infection Prevention and Control will guide SHA's work; and centralized bed flow coordination service to better serve all patients.

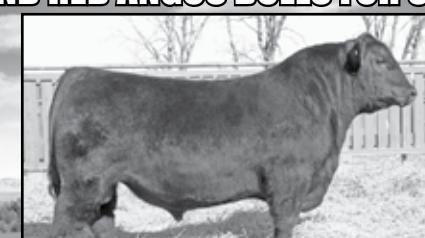
With the ongoing implementation of a province-wide slow down of non-essential/non-urgent services, SHA explained what they have been able to do:

- freed up more than 1,000 beds so far;
- staged expansion of acute care capacity;
- phase in 57 percent more acute beds as needed;
- increase intensive care beds from 98 ICU beds to 963 beds as needed;
- preservation of supplies;
- labour pool strategy;
- dedicated spaces for cohorting COVID-19 patients;
- creation of designated COVID-19, non-COVID-19 and mixed hospitals as needed;
- creation of additional community treatment capacity;

Also in the report the health authority noted there will be disruptions to "normal" health services delivery. "This may mean alternate service delivery methods such as virtual

(continued on back page:
COVID-19)

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Local RCMP busy with break, enter and thefts

■ Daniel Bushman

A rash of recent break, enter and thefts within the local area over the past month or so have RCMP encouraging residents, farmers and business owners to remain vigilant and to call their local detachment if they notice things out of the ordinary.

As spring officially arrived, Watrous RCMP Sergeant Jeffrey Friedenstab said the season can also bring with it more break, enter and thefts. Add the COVID-19 pandemic which has businesses temporarily closing or adjusting their hours and Friedenstab said local RCMP have been spending more time keeping watch for unusual activity.

"Unfortunately spring can mean an increase for break, enter and thefts to property, farm yards and businesses. While we are fortunate that our crime rate is one of the lowest in the central region of the province that does not mean thieves will avoid the area."

Not avoiding the area has been evident by going back through local RCMP reports submitted by both Watrous and Humboldt/Lanigan RCMP to the paper over the past month.

Starting between 5 p.m. Mar. 6 and 7 a.m. Mar. 7, a

business on Hwy. 761 east of Lanigan was broken into where suspect(s) made off with over \$11,000 worth of pharmaceuticals for cattle. From there, between Friday, Mar. 6 at 6 p.m. and Saturday, Mar. 7 at 12 p.m. a wind turbine, solar panels, electric fencer, battery, and a regulator were stolen off a trailer parked in a field northwest of Lockwood in the RM of Usborne. On Mar. 7 suspect(s) broke into a garage at a farmyard southwest of Lockwood and stole a generator, toolbox and a chainsaw. Then between Mar. 7 and 8, there was a theft from a mobile office at a cleanup site just west of Guernsey on Hwy. 16 where suspect(s) stole a laser level, gas air monitor and a laptop computer. In total over \$5,000 worth of equipment was stolen.

Fast forward to the early morning hours of Mar. 15 and a break, enter and theft occurred at the Lanigan Esso along Hwy. 16 in Lanigan. Suspects forced entry into the store, stole cigarettes and attempted to move the ATM.

Further west from Lanigan, sometime between 9:30 p.m. Mar. 16 and 7:45 a.m. Mar. 17 suspect(s) broke into an unoccupied farmyard shop in the RM of Morris (just east of Zelma). While the suspect(s) did not take anything from inside,

Friedenstab said it acted as a reminder to notify RCMP if people see any suspicious activity in their area. "If a vehicle is involved get a description and licence plate number if possible without endangering yourself or anyone else."

A few days after the incident east of Zelma, Watrous RCMP indicated a SaskEnergy truck was broken into between 5 p.m. Mar. 20 and 7:30 a.m. Mar. 21 on 4th Ave. East in Watrous. Two black tool bags with yellow straps were stolen and the tools included pipe wrenches and fittings. Also on Mar. 21, Watrous RCMP were called to the service station in Nokomis to investigate an overnight break, enter and theft. A door had been pried open to gain entry and a battery charger and small trailer were discovered to have been stolen.

Closer to Humboldt at approximately 6 a.m. Mar. 23 a trailer located at a commercial grain terminal off Hwy. 5 west of Humboldt was broken into. Humboldt/Lanigan RCMP indicated suspects forced entry into the trailer and made off with multiple tools and an amount of diesel fuel. Most of the tools were Milwaukee brand and the stolen tools and fuel was valued at approximately \$6,000. At ap-

proximately 12:45 p.m. the same suspects entered a commercial shop/yard six miles south of Humboldt on Hwy. 20. Suspects entered several vehicles and forced entry into the shop, causing severe damage.

RCMP were then dispatched to a break, enter and theft at an abandoned farm property southwest of Humboldt in the RM of Wolverine Mar. 28. Suspects forced entry into the empty home but it is unknown if anything was stolen. RCMP believe this incident also occurred Mar. 23 and involved the same suspects.

Surveillance footage captured the suspect truck and two of the three suspects. The truck is described as an early 2000 model Chevrolet Silverado extended cab, white in colour with a front push bar and bed rails. The three suspects are all believed to be male.

No one was injured during these events and the RCMP continue to investigate.

Back in Watrous on Mar. 23, Watrous RCMP were called to the scene of a break, enter theft at 409 Midway Street, a building used by Best Way Construction. A back door had been pried open and a number of hand tools including a jack hammer had been stolen. Video surveillance



►There has been a number of local area break, enter and thefts over the past month including a few that appear to be linked. After entering the Lanigan Esso Mar. 15 (above), Watrous RCMP Sergeant Jeff Friedenstab indicated the same suspects were in Watrous Apr. 5 where they broke into CIC Electric. Friedenstab said video footage from CIC Electric showed the similar model Ford from Lanigan adding the male and female suspect are linked to nine other break, enter and thefts in the Kyle, Lucky Lake, Dinsmore and Outlook areas. They also attempted a break and enter at the Foam Lake Husky gas bar the same morning they were in Lanigan.

photo submitted

from a nearby business identified a suspect vehicle as an older model 2000 white Chevrolet Tahoe with distinctive chrome rims and two occupants.

While Friedenstab indicated some of the previously mentioned instances may not be related, in some cases like a recent break and enter in Watrous, they can be.

In the early morning hours Sunday, Apr. 5 Watrous RCMP responded to an intrusion alarm at CIC Electric in Watrous. Officers were met at the business by the owner and after the shop was cleared it was determined a small office

(see back page: RCMP)

MANITOU BEACH

Sue Alcock

Danceland has a new purpose during these crazy COVID-19 times. The morning walking sessions have been postponed but the vintage hall is now being used as a centre to help compliment the Watrous & District Food Bank. This new project is headed by Bonnie Rawling and aided by Millie Strueby and local church groups.

With so many people being laid off from work they may potentially need assistance with obtaining food and other basic necessities to help keep them going until returning to work and a paycheque.

There is certainly information about this assistance project on Facebook and I hope I am providing accurate information – do check the online page for information about delivery of goods and collection by those who need the help. Danceland has a walk-in cooler so that will be very handy for produce etc. Drop off for donations is at the east door and of course social distancing of six feet needs to be followed.

The local food bank also requires assistance and financial donations can be made through the Watrous & District Food Bank.

Yesterday (Apr. 7) I had a sobering chat with my sister Christine who lives in the British Midlands. As she is over the age of 70 and has vulnerable health she is mandated to be self-isolating and order her groceries via the phone and a few days later the doorstep delivery is done. She even received a letter telling her about setting that all up. Thankfully she

does have good neighbours who will also pick up items for her. Then she went on to tell me that a person on the next street from her had died last week from COVID-19. Yes, the virus is really on her doorstep. That makes me nervous!

So what does a person do when being a good person and self-isolating? I am aware of people sharing their music, reading, baking and judging by the lack of flour, chocolate chips and yeast it would seem that everyone is making chocolate chip cookies with their kids! Stuck at home means time to create wonderful breads and buns. I am sure there are wonderful aromas circulating in many homes these days.

What else to do at home? Shovelling the forever snowfall, jigsaw puzzles are very absorbing and quite relaxing after all that arduous exercise. I hear of online yoga, binge watching Netflix movies or TV series – great if you have good reception, but we do not so Netflix is an exercise in frustration as yet again buffering happens. I do see solo folks out walking up and down our hill. Some will house-train a new pet. Anyone sewing face masks or creating face shields from page protectors and recyclable bags? I bet more than a few quilts will be on display when we resume our lives, maybe knitted garments and handmade jewelry will be viewable too. Artists will be painting up a storm – the list of creative projects is endless.

Some may even be delving into family history research and digging deep into Ancestry.com. Then there are the home decorating projects such as the bathroom rero that I have been working on – anything to avoid serious spring

cleaning though that needs to get done too. There are good folks who run errands for the housebound and other charitable work is going on too to help those who are newly or soon to be unemployed.

I remember an unexpected job loss in 1987 and having to rearrange life in order to survive. I was told this is all character building so here we all are, building more character! Meanwhile we have the wonderful folks who continue working their jobs so we can have medical care, food and other necessities and to those we tip our hats. I struggle to find the words of appreciation as thank you seems like such a tiny word.

Birdwatching, cannot forget that as even more migratory birds have returned to shiver. A very lovely surprise was seeing a purple finch at the feeder along with a huge army of juncos. Book club will not be meeting this month but that does not stop us from reading.

I have been hearing about a few break-ins and wonder if this is desperate times calling for desperate actions. Our informal neighbourhood watch can be more vigilant and we can pay extra attention to locking doors even though we seldom leave the house now. Stay home and stay safe.



The health and safety of our families, clients and the general public is our first priority. During the COVID-19 pandemic our team continues to work from home in our efforts to "flatten the curve". Please call us with any questions or concerns you have – we would love to hear from you.

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Opinion



Helping each other out.

— an opinion column
by TWM's editor Daniel Bushman

Now a month or so into these uncertain times and the question for a lot of people is where do we go from here? Not only has it felt like a long time but I don't think anyone here on earth has the answer as to when things will return to a more normal. However, as we safely take it one day at a time, hopefully that answer will come soon.

Deemed an essential service, we at the newspaper remain here to provide you with local news and want to continue to do that for the foreseeable future. As businesses and organizations who remain open rely on us to get their messages out through ways like advertising, we want to do our best to be there for them.

While events are cancelled and many businesses have closed or reduced their hours to help flatten the curve, we are all continuing to try and navigate through this time. As one of those small businesses who is doing its best to be there for you, I encourage people who have the means and are able, to please shop local. Maybe that means ordering take-out from a local restaurant, filling up with gas at a local station, getting your groceries and fresh baking locally, using a local realtor, buying a vehicle, getting it repaired or maintained locally, finding your supplies at the local hardware store, renting a movie at the local video store, and utilizing other local businesses who are open. If you can, making a point to help those local businesses who are an integral part of your community during this time is critical. Many of them have sponsored events, donated items for raffles or tournaments or have lent a hand in other ways as well. Now is the opportunity to say thanks at such a crucial time by shopping locally.

What does this whole situation mean for us? Like others we are trying to find different ways to remain open while trying to help flatten the curve. While our costs unfortunately are not changing when it comes to printing and mailing a paper, there are a few ways you can utilize our services. While we are closed to the public, we do still offer a variety of services other than publishing a paper. Some of those are creating business cards, printing photos, faxing, and selling regular paper, among other items. We can certainly arrange for pick up and with the way technology is, email has become vital in communicating (twmadvisornews@gmail.com).

Or perhaps you want to acknowledge the tremendous work being done by your local health care workers, EMS, RCMP, Fire Department, pharmacy, post office, essential service workers and small businesses in your community. Or maybe your neighbour has helped you out during this time and you want to acknowledge them. We are planning a Hometown Heroes salute in our Apr. 27 edition and that is an opportunity you might consider participating in by including a small display ad of thanks.

Or maybe your subscription isn't due for a few months but you have the means to renew now. You can certainly do that instead of later and we will just add that on to your current subscription. Maybe you know someone who doesn't have a paper but might like one. With local newspapers being relied upon now more than ever to deliver factual news, now is the perfect time to subscribe.

With a tremendous need for monetary and non-perishable food donations, the local food bank is also in need. For the month of April we will be donating \$5 from each new subscription or renewal we receive to the local food bank. We are all in this together and we also want to try to help. If you do feel like you would like to subscribe or renew, there is information on this week's back page on how to do that.

I have been overwhelmed by the kindness and encouragement from so many as we try our utmost to provide you with a newspaper and I want to thank you for that. These times are tough for us all. We are all in this together and we will get through this together.

TWM

Est. 1933

Daniel and Kim Bushman, publishers and editors
Laurie Regier, typesetter/production • Vanessa Manz, customer service
Alexandra Goodrich, advertising

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Founded in 1933 by J.A. McGowan



Tips from Reena Nerbas

One of our bedrooms collects a lot of lint kitties, far more than any other room of our house. Do you know why this might be and what we can do to reduce them? WEK

Even the most meticulous cleaner battles the dreaded dust bunnies or lint kitties. The easiest way to reduce them is by regularly changing the air filter, cleaning vents, and regularly vacuuming and dusting. Some rooms have more dust bunnies than other rooms because of air flow and the storage contents. Rooms with upholstered furniture, ceiling fans, silk plants, pillows, bedding, mattresses, drapes and clothing tend to accumulate the most dust. Another factor is the direction that your house faces and whether the windows are open. May you catch the kitties!

Dear Reena,

I have always baked my own homemade buns. I would now like to make my own hamburger buns; how can I shape the dough to look like a hamburger bun? Nathalia

Dear Nathalia,

Form your dough into a ball, the same way you would when making regular buns. Next flatten the dough to a half-inch high disc, about three to four inches round in diameter. Let rise for one hour. Beat together one egg with one teaspoon milk. Gently brush the tops of each bun and sprinkle sesame seeds on top. Bake at 375° for 15 to 20 minutes.

Dear Reena,

What is the best way to clean a cell phone? Brian

Dear Brian,

Some people use pre-moistened lens wipes to clean their phone; however, these can strip the finish of the screen. According to the Apple website, use only a clean, soft, dry lint-free cloth. Avoid spray cleaners, liquids, and anything abrasive, as it may scratch the phone, i.e. baking

soda and toothpaste.

Dear Reena,

Is it important to wash raspberries before eating them? Ricky

Dear Ricky,

Raspberries are one of life's special gifts to us! They are high in Vitamin C and A, iron, potassium, calcium, folic acid and ellagic acid. They contain no fat, cholesterol or sodium and if that is not enough, they are high in fibre. While some people oppose the practice of washing raspberries because they are such delicate little creatures, the majority of experts agree that giving raspberries a water rinse just prior to consumption is a great idea.

Extra tip: If you are planning to freeze raspberries; rinse them with cold water and pat dry. Place them on a cookie sheet and put them in the freezer. Once frozen, transfer the berries to a freezable container and store them in the freezer. Great for ice cream toppings, jam, or smoothies.

Dear Reena,

I have an Under Armour athletic garment that has bad body odour smell in the armpits. I wash it after every use; however, I cannot get the foul smell out. Any suggestions? Chloe

Dear Chloe,

Soak Under Armour in 50/50 white vinegar and water for a few hours before tossing the entire contents into the washing machine. Wash with hot water and machine dry, so that the fabric dries quickly. I also contacted the Under Armour Company and they recommend soaking the gear thoroughly for 30 to 60 minutes in a solution of half a cup of baking soda mixed with two quarts of water.

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.



Neighbourly advice according to Ed

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

"I hear you're having lots of cases of COVID-19 confirmed in British Columbia," Ed, my old neighbour from Saskatchewan, said yesterday when we skyped.

"More than we want," I answered. "Even our curling has been cancelled, when my team was winning our games," I grumbled. The wife and I are not going out unless it is very needful, so after 52 years of marriage, we have the opportunity to get to know each other better. It is a

There is a time for self-isolation

stay-at-home time here in B.C. with your family but not with any friends or neighbours visiting. We are thankful that we are not sick and we are gaining patience in going nowhere and doing nothing. Many of us are in a willing house arrest here.

It is strange to isolate ourselves from others as a safety measure. Our province is a destination for tourists and travellers. It is a province that is home to many ethnic groups from around the world. We have many international connections that make the threat of exposure to the virus higher than some other regions of Canada. All provinces have reported cases of COVID-19 and the virus keeps spreading around the world so that no country or province can be guaranteed of avoiding it.

Ed claims hearing about COVID-19 is like hearing gossip. Gossip changes day

by day depending on who you are talking to and what it is about. Like gossip, folks believe what they want to think. My old neighbour is certain that COVID-19 is only a threat in B.C. and Ontario and it will have little effect in Saskatchewan.

I sure hope he is right.

Ed challenged me to explain God's part in this pandemic and the plagues of the past. I asked Ed if he was blaming God for COVID-19 or asking why God could not deliver a vaccination to prevent it.

I told Ed that I cannot speak for God. My experience as a pastor is that folks who had no time for God or his word when they were healthy, become open to God when in a hospital bed. Being sick, or hospitalized, or facing death, motivates individuals to look for a higher power to give them hope and peace.

God can encourage us when things seem very

pessimistic. When we are isolated, we are more willing to speak with God. In isolation, television, computer, video games and cell phones can become boring day after day. Stuck at home is the perfect time for God to speak through His word to us. Have we forgotten that God's thoughts are not our thoughts and His ways, not our ways? We fear but He says, "Fear not!"

Even in attending church services, we may be anxious and not ready to hear God's word to us to trust Him in all things. At all times, we have an opportunity to seek the Lord who loves us. Perhaps only in the real threat of danger and death do we forsake our evil thoughts and wicked ways. God promises if we turn to Him, He will have mercy on us and freely pardon us. "We know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him ... Romans 8:28"

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Stay-at-Home Fun!



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If you are interested in sponsoring an upcoming colouring page, contact us at 306-946-3343 or at the email address above to book your spot.



► People are doing their best to have a little fun during these uneasy times. Watrous resident Logan Rohatyn spread some cheer around his community last week as he ventured out and played a few tunes (above left). With all of the fresh snow early last week, the Smith family on 8th Ave. W. in Watrous had fun making a snowman (top photo). Dianne Thebeau took part in the Easter social distancing Easter egg hunt window painting (top right) while the Whitfield family kept busy with a number of activities. Candace did a virtual paint event with her sister (above right) while Cannan and Easton packed a lunch and did a virtual field trip to the zoo, played games and made boats for the puddles (above and right). The Bushman crew attempted a pair of fun family projects for Easter, first decorating Easter eggs and then purchasing spring kits created by Green Acres Greenhouse (left).  photos submitted and by Daniel Bushman



IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR RESIDENTS OF WATROUS

During this uncertain time, the Town of Watrous has sincerely appreciated the local businesses who are able to continue offering goods and services essential to our community. We also extend our empathy to those businesses unable to function during these difficult times.

The Town of Watrous remains committed to providing critical and essential municipal services (water/sewer, waste collection and transfer station, protective services, road maintenance, administrative functions and other essential duties).

While our office remains closed to the public, residents can contact us by phone during office hours at 306-946-3369. Payment options for residents include the use of online payments for taxes and utilities (water/sewer) and regular mail. The main entrance at the Town Office is also open during office hours only for people to leave envelopes. Thank you for your understanding during this time as we remain committed to staying healthy and safe.

WATROUS PRIMARY HEALTH CENTRE IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Deemed an essential service, as of Mar. 23, 2020 the Watrous Primary Health Centre have made the following changes to its operations in order to minimize exposure/transmission of COVID-19 and to help ensure staff stay healthy in order to continue serving the community:

- All non-essential primary care appointments have been cancelled/postponed and will be rebooked in the future;
- The Watrous Primary Health Centre have moved to mostly telephone visits, where the doctor or nurse practitioner will call the patient for their appointment;
- The doctor or nurse practitioner will determine if a patient must be seen in the health centre. If yes, they will screen the patient for COVID symptoms and exposure first; and
- Some providers may begin exploring audio-visual options for a patient's visit.

The Watrous Primary Health Centre has locked its doors to prevent walk-ins and requires everyone to call the health centre first at 306-946-1241. Everyone who visits the health centre in person will have been screened first and all precautions will be taken.

If you believe you have COVID-19, and are NOT in medical distress, complete the online self-assessment to determine if you should be screened for testing. If you are directed to call 811, you are welcome instead to call the Watrous Primary Health Centre to book a phone appointment for COVID screening. Please do not come to the health centre without calling first if you think you may have COVID-19 or have been in close contact with someone who has it or who has travelled out of country in the past two weeks. Thank you for your understanding during this time.

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“YourCommunity”

Business of the Week

Realty Executives Watrous

Realty Executives Watrous has its office located at 108 Main Street in Watrous but can operate from anywhere with cell or internet service. First licensed July 1, 2003 Avril Reifferscheid purchased Watrous Realty Inc. in 2010 and joined Realty Executives in 2012.

A fully licensed real estate brokerage, Avril said Realty Executives Watrous can represent sellers and buyers in all real estate categories including residential, commercial, and farm. "Most of our business is in residential listings and sales. We are like matchmakers - bringing buyers and sellers together. The purchase/sale of property can be the biggest financial transactions you will do in your lifetime. It pays to use a professional to help you navigate the process."

Working alongside Avril are two REALTORS®, Stefani Block who serves Lanigan, Humboldt and surrounding areas, and Charlene Mattick, who shares her time between Manitou Beach and Regina. Charlene covers those areas and the area surrounding Watrous/Manitou. Avril is also a licensed REALTOR® and Melanie Coward is her part time office administrator.

Having the unique ability to serve Watrous, Manitou Beach, Lanigan, Humboldt, LeRoy, Jansen, Drake, Nokomis, Govan, Simpson, Imperial, Young, Stalwart, Liberty, Etter's Beach, Colonsay and the surrounding rural municipalities, Avril said, "Our office hours are by appointment at the moment, but our office number (306-946-1010) reaches any of us at any time. We can also be contacted by email (watrousrealty@sasktel.net), through listing links on REALTOR.ca or watrousrealty.com."

Not only does Realty Executives Watrous put the people of its communities first, as the only real estate brokerage within a 50 mile radius Avril has also been recognized for her hard work and dedication to the area. "Of the awards I've received over the last few years, the ones that have meant the most to me were being ranked the #12 agent in Canada for Realty Executives in 2018 and being nominated to the SRA Board of Directors."

Noting that people and building relationships are integral to her business, Avril said it is also community members and businesses coming together to support each other in good times and bad that make the area a good place to do business in. "We are full members of the SRA (our provincial association) and CREA (our national association), providing us with the same tools that any agent in the province has, but we have the local knowledge of what is happening right here and how it affects your property. I'm incredibly thankful for the communities we live and work in, and the team I have the privilege of working with."

If you would like to have your business featured as a Business of the Week, email twmadvisorsales@gmail.com or contact The Watrous Manitou at 306-946-3343 for more information.

PLUNKETT

Deloris Wilson (Sutherland) • 306.944.4852

Spring is bringing back our early birds. Crows, robins and geese are back.

Recently three moose were walking by the yard of Stanley and Irene Giddings.

It is nice hearing the trains running again and keeping busy hauling grain and oil.

Plunkett folks send their deepest sympathy to the family of Mervin Millsap on his passing.

Visiting Stanley and Irene Giddings was his cousin Mervin Ford of Humboldt.

Folks are busy housecleaning and doing yard work, which keeps folks at home.

Congratulations to Judy Shoemaker on becoming a great-grandma recently.

Anyone having any news please phone me at 306-944-4852.

Cartoon by Frank Wilson



"Yeah, he's pretty depressed. Somebody spilled the beans to him about the proposed six-foot-separation rule and he's not amused..."

SUDOKU

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

LEVEL: BEGINNER

For more Comics and Puzzles, see page 8.

COVID-19 support for businesses and workers

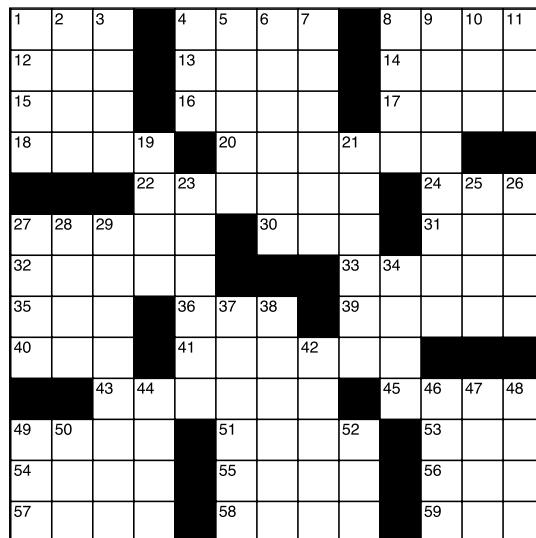
For the most recent and accurate information, visit: saskatchewan.ca/covid19-businesses

As well, the Business Response Team is available to help. Call: 1-844-800-8688 or email: supportforbusiness@gov.sk.ca

saskatchewan.ca

Saskatchewan

CROSSWORD

PUZZLE NO. 24


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ACROSS

1. Certain trains
4. _____ up to (admits)
8. Abide by
12. Cauldron
13. "My Left _____"
14. Roast
15. Flightless bird
16. Brass horn
17. Till bills
18. Zola novel
20. Pruned
22. Confuse
24. Snacked
27. Recital pieces
30. Craving
31. Veto
32. Attentive
33. Explorer _____ de Leon
35. Topaz, e.g.
36. Groupie
39. Pile up
40. Deadly reptile
41. No can do
43. Civil
45. " _____ but the Brave"
49. Proceed slowly
51. Coffee cups
53. Unburden
54. Levitate
55. Opera show-stopper
56. Omelet need
57. Picks
58. Pre-Easter time
59. Meek

DOWN

1. Divisible by two
2. Tibetan holy man
3. Amaze
4. Frequently, to poets
5. Was willing to
6. Nary a soul
7. Paper fastener
8. Reed instrument
9. Large handkerchief
10. Increase

**FOR ANSWERS
TO SUDOKU AND
CROSSWORD,
SEE PAGE 11**

CROSSWORD PUZZLE ANSWERS
USE AMERICAN SPELLING

11. Approval word
19. Berserk
21. Friend by mail
23. Practical
25. Spasms
26. Former spouses
27. Heroic narrative
28. Is obligated to
29. Outdoor light source
34. Sign of the future
37. Beast
38. Personality
42. Start
44. Works by Keats
46. Metals
47. Near
48. Irritable
49. Expert, for short
50. Pitcher spout
52. Was located

Saskatoon Co-op - Watrous Grocery Store

is taking precautionary steps to protect our staff and customers and implementing the following changes effective immediately.

MON - FRI:	9 - 10 am	Senior & vulnerable persons shopping
	10 am - 6 pm	Public shopping (shop alone if possible)
	6 - 7 pm	Pick-up service for orders called in or emailed
SATURDAY:	9 am - 10 am	Senior & vulnerable persons shopping
	10 am - 6 pm	Public shopping (shop alone if possible)
SUNDAY:	10 - 11 am	Senior & vulnerable persons shopping
	11 am - 5 pm	Public shopping (shop alone if possible)

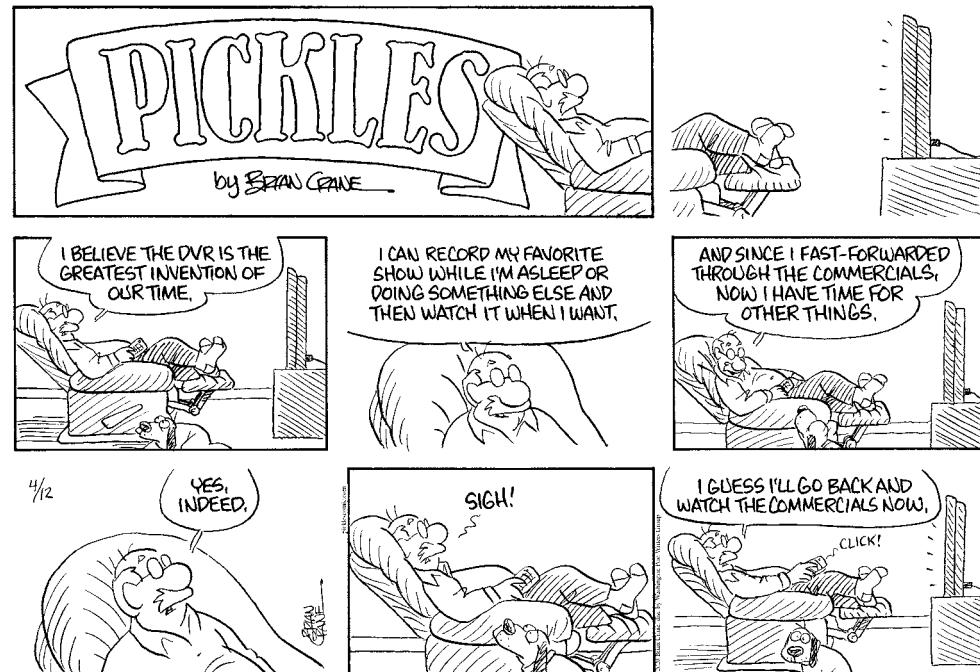
Please contact the store before 1 pm on the day of pickup to make arrangements for pickup service. Include your Co-op Member number and contact information.

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BUSBY, CERVEZA,
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CDC MAVERICK, SUNDRE

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YES, INDEED.

SIGH!

CLICK!

■ submitted by Watrous Director of Recreation Stesha Beischer

It has been a very different month for sure with the closing of all of our facilities. We have followed the guidelines from the federal and provincial governments to ensure the safety and well-being of our citizens. All the facilities have had a good once over and are sanitized and we are looking forward to the day we are able to reopen.

Arena – most of the teams had wrapped up their seasons when we closed the doors Mar. 20.

The Winterhawks were in the middle of the Senior A Provincial North Final and Long Lake Hockey League Final against the Drake Canucks.

The Peewees meanwhile were leading 1-0 in the Northern Provincial Final against Watson. Too bad they didn't get a chance at the title.

Both Bantam and Midget teams were done in playoffs and provincials as each lost out to Wynyard in league action.

I am already looking forward to next season and I think you will be pleased with the upgrades both in the lobby and a couple of the dressing rooms.

The Fitness Centre – we installed new flooring in the cardio room. Good bye carpet! We also purchased a new treadmill. The suggestion box has been very positive and I enjoy getting feedback on the facility and the equipment.

We will look into having an open

house in the future once we are able to open the doors to attract more users. If you haven't been to the fitness centre in Watrous lately I highly suggest you take advantage of that! Make sure to follow us on Facebook and while there you can take a "virtual tour" and check out the pictures of all of the equipment available for everyone.

It is that time of year to start thinking about the Sask Lotteries Community Grant. The Sask Lotteries Community Grant Program helps volunteer-operated, non-profit community organizations develop sport, culture and recreation programs. The program is a partnership involving the Government of Saskatchewan, Sask Sport Inc., SaskCulture Inc. and the Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association Inc.

The goal of the program is to enable communities to create sport, culture and recreation programs that are unique to the needs of local residents. We are accepting applications for funding for the 2020-21 season. For how to receive an application you can call the office for more information and you can visit Sask Lotteries Grant online to see if your organization would qualify.

Along with the arena and fitness centre, the Senior Centre, Gallery on 3rd, library, curling rink, Watrous Manitou Beach Heritage Centre, Civic Centre and Heritage Room are all closed at this time with no events planned for the month of April.

Watrous Recreation Report



“Notices AND Classifieds”

Obituary



BAKER, Jean

Jean died in her sleep, surrounded by her family, on March 22, 2020 at the age of 103.

She was born Edith Jean McIntyre on October 21, 1916, the youngest of six children. Her early years were spent on the family farm near Peterson, Sask. Jean attended the Red Willow Country School until grade 8; this was followed

by high school in Meacham. Post-high school, Jean took a hairdressing course in Saskatoon, after which she spent some time in Bladworth taking care of the twin children of her brother following the untimely death of the twins' mother at a young age. It was here that she met her future husband, Jeffrey Milburn Baker. Jean and Jeff were married in 1942 while Jeff was serving in the RCAF. Following the war, Jeff obtained his journeyman carpenter licence and the two of them moved to Watrous. Jeff had a construction company, and also established a shop for carpentry and cabinet making, which was his main interest. While in Watrous, Jean taught Sunday School for many years and also took part in the activities of the United Church Women (UCW) and other organizations such as the Watrous Art Guild and the Horticultural Society. After Jeff's death in 1977, Jean continued to live in Watrous in the home that Jeff had built. An exceptional gardener, Jean spent summer days, from early morning to evening, tending her yard and flower garden. She also kept an extensive vegetable garden and a raspberry patch that kept family and friends well supplied with fresh produce and jam. During "non-gardening" months, Jean spent her time socializing with her many friends, reading, rug making and knitting. She was an avid fan of curling and of the Toronto Blue Jays. She spent her 80th birthday cheering on the Blue Jays at the Sky Dome in Toronto. In 2014, shortly after her 98th birthday, Jean moved from the home she had lived in for almost 70 years to Precious Memories Villa in Regina to be closer to her family.

Jean is survived by her daughter Margaret (Lorne Boyle), grandchildren Stephanie and Spencer Boyle and son Glen Baker (Judith).

A celebration of her life will be held in Watrous at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, the family would appreciate donations to the CNIB or Watrous United Church.

For updated information regarding the date and time for the service please check www.fotheringham-mcdougall.com



DAHMS, Laurie Elizabeth 1953 - 2020

Laurie Elizabeth Dahms (nee Lane), late of Terrace B.C., was born in Watrous, Sask. in 1953. She passed away in Alberta on March 27, 2020 in a motor vehicle accident.

Laurie is survived by her husband Ken Dahms, sons Michael (Lori); Andrew (Tera); grandchildren Kella Douglas, Taylor, Harrison and Liam Dahms; mother-in-law Doris Dahms; sister-in-law Debra (Mo Naquib); sister Marilyn (Ed) Mol; brother Eric Lane Jr.; brother-in-law Milton Prokopetz as well as numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Laurie was predeceased by her parents, Eric and Dorothy Lane; her sister Patricia Prokopetz, and her father-in-law Chester Dahms.

She was a loving wife, mother and nana to her grandchildren. Laurie was a nurse from 1975 until retirement. She was also a Scout leader, skeet shooter, crafter extraordinaire who quilted, knit and crocheted. She and Ken loved their vintage cars, attending car shows, and travelling together in their motorhome all over North America.

A Celebration of Life will be held at a future date.

Obituary



SATHER, Dorothy Jean (Mellesmoen)

Jan. 2, 1927 -

Apr. 2, 2020

Jean Sather, aged 93 years, passed away peacefully at the Watrous District Health Complex on Thursday, April 2, 2020.

Dorothy Jean Mellesmoen was born January 2, 1927 to Sigvald and Rose Grace (Hill) Mellesmoen on the farm located west of Renown. Jean was the middle child of six who all lived in a tiny two bedroom house. Life revolved around family (siblings, parents, cousins, aunts, uncles, grandparents), neighbours, church, farming and school. Her formal education was obtained from Hawkshaw School, which was in walking distance. As a young girl she worked for the Forsyth family at the bakery in Watrous. She helped with the family's children as well as the bakery business. Jean moved to Saskatoon to live with her half-sister Sylvia and worked at the Bessborough Hotel for a few months before returning back home. Jean met her future husband, Melvin Edward Sather at a dance in the old Mainline building in Watrous. They were married October 9, 1947. Melvin's parents Sverre and Marie (Lilleby) Sather moved to Watrous so that Melvin and Jean could take over the family farm located three miles south of Renown, which is now farmed by Milton and Calvin. Melvin and Jean worked hard on the farm. They were grain farmers and had cattle, pigs, chickens and of course had a large garden. Jean took a great interest in preserving and canning fruits and vegetables. She was an amazing cook and baker and passed this on to her daughters. They raised a family of five children: Milton (1951), Judy (1954), Alan (1956), Calvin (1958) and Laurie (1964). The three boys grew up farming. As soon as they were able to drive, there was a job for them. Over the years more land was bought and various hired men helped with the daily chores. In 1960, they purchased Jean's mom and dad's homestead, which is now operated by Milton and Calvin. Jean was active in the Renown Ladies Club and later the Watrous Senior Citizens Club when they retired to town. Jean was an avid hockey mom for many years, attending regular games plus chaperoning weekend tournaments in Yorkton and Weyburn. Friendships developed and flourished. Later in life she enjoyed watching sports on TV. In the summer she enjoyed watching the Toronto Blue Jays, the Riders and a few years ago began cheering for the Winnipeg Blue Bombers. In the winter she liked watching hockey and she was glued to the TV during curling season always cheering for team Kevin Koe. In 1982, Melvin and Jean decided to build a retirement home in Watrous. Now Jean was busy building and furnishing a new home. Many hours were spent planning and developing flower beds, garden spaces and planting trees. They were avid participants at the horticultural show receiving many ribbons each year. Their life now revolved around family and friends, playing cards, bingo, bowling and going on casino bus trips, and of course babysitting their grandchildren and attending their activities as they grew up. The grandchildren loved grandma's specialty of soup and sandwiches for a quick lunch. To this day this is one of everyone's specialties. They took many memorable trips: Mediterranean cruise and Panama cruise, Norway and Sweden, Hawaii, Niagara Falls, farm bus tour to the United States, and New Orleans. Jean loved her crafts: making wood fiber flowers which she learned from her mother, tatting, crocheting, knitting, sewing, cross-stitch and liquid embroidery. Her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren have many pieces of her fine handy work. Melvin and Jean celebrated 70 wonderful years of marriage October 9, 2017. Mom was very strong and determined, patient, kind, hardworking, had a great sense of humour and a heart of gold. She was a caregiver, always looking out for everyone before herself. She was always interested in how and what her family were doing. Mom's greatest treasure was her family and enjoyed spending quality time with everyone. She especially loved her grandchildren and great-grandchildren and her face lit up when she saw each one of them. Mom was so amazed with today's technology. She was given a tablet as a gift from Calvin and was able to stay connected with the kids. She received many, many pictures of her grandchildren and great-grandchildren by email and she even felt confident enough to reply back! Mom was determined to live in her own house until the end and this is what she did.

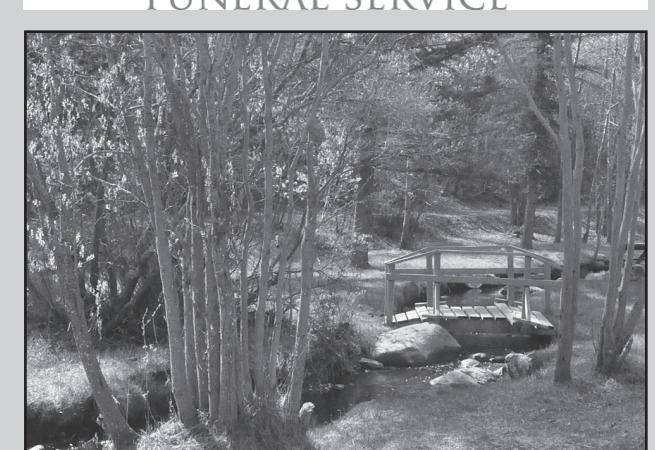
Jean is survived by five children and their spouses, 14 grandchildren, 22 great-grandchildren. Milton (Cathie), daughter Wendy (Yda), granddaughter Jenna, son Jason (Fehr), grandchildren Caleb, Addyson, Landen and Avery, son David (Kelly), grandchildren Natalie, Lexi, and Kylie; Judy and Gerald Schmid, daughter Christina (Joe) Steen, son Curtis (Trina), grandchildren Amelia and Oliver, son Brad (Karen), grandchildren Avery and Ethan, daughter Carolyn (Clayton) Shular, grandchildren Cohen and Keira; Alan and Kathy, son Collin (Ellen), son Craig and grandchildren Chloe and Lucas, son Jameson; Calvin and Cathy, son Brent (Catherine), grandchildren Brielle, Ellisa, twins Weston and Brooklyn, daughter Paula (Patrick); Laurie and Larry Regier, son Jamie, daughter Janelle (Cole) Neufeld, grandchildren James and Colt. Jean is also survived by sister Irene Van Loo, Langley, B.C., sisters-in-law Mildred Paquin, Saskatoon, Thelma Sather, Saskatoon and Leona Sather, Watrous, brother-in-law Don Roberds, Langley, B.C. as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

She was predeceased by her husband Melvin (2018), her father Sigvald (1968), her mother Rose Grace (1977), father-in-law Sverre (1952) and mother-in-law Marie (1985), step-sister Sylvia Levers, sisters Kathleen Swanson and Evelyn Roberds, brothers George and Gordon, brothers-in-law George Levers, Raymond Swanson, Henry Van Loo, Harold Sather, Palmer Sather, Clarence Sather, Ed Dewey, Don McKenzie, Harold Sundquist, sisters-in-law Sophie Dewey, Mabel McKenzie, Anna Sundquist, Lavina Mellesmoen and several nieces and nephews.

A private family service was held at the Watrous Cemetery on April 8 conducted by Pastor Darren Holland. Interment at Watrous Cemetery.

Memorial donations directed to the Watrous Palliative Care Unit, Box 130, Watrous, Sask. S0K 4T0 would be appreciated.

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



In memory

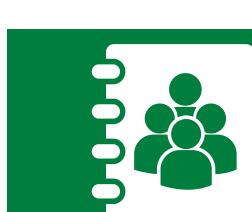
SCHROEDER - In loving memory of our mom and nana, Joan, who passed away last Apr. 17. We have loved and missed her every single day over the past year.

"My mother . . . she [was] beautiful, softened at the edges and tempered with a spine of steel. I want to grow old and be like her."

(Jodi Picoult)

- Karen, Keith, Blair, Lesley and families.

For more classifieds, see page 11



Business AND Community Directory

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4-48p

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The Watrous Manitou

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Pastor Darren Holland
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306-946-3785
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Worship Service 11 a.m.
pmbchurch.wordpress.com

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Watrous
306-231-6574
Worship Service
Apr. 19 & 26 9:30 a.m.
All Saints' Anglican Church
May 3 & 10 9:30 a.m.
Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church

WATROUS BAPTIST CHURCH
201 - 2nd Ave. W.
Phone 306-946-2996 - Watrous
Worship Service 10:30 a.m.

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“Coming Events”

COMMUNITY MEETINGS

- AL-ANON MEETING THURSDAYS 8 p.m., Wat. Ele. School, staff room (east door). Ph. 306-946-2466, 306-946-7802./22-48p

COMMUNITY MEETINGS

- ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS meetings: Watrous, Thurs., 8 p.m. Anglican Church Hall on Main Street in Watrous. (306-946-2466)./7tfc

COMMUNITY MEETINGS

- WATROUS ROTARY CLUB meets alternating Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. at the Watrous United Church. 306-946-2572./19tfc

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MANITOU
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Classifieds continued from page 9

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LONG LAKE TRUCKING, Imperial, Sask. Custom hauling of hay. Ph. cell 306-567-7100./23tfc

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CUSTOM GRAIN AND FERTILIZER HAULING. McIntosh Trucking, Simpson. Ph. 306-836-2034, cell 306-567-7506./18-48p

HOPE FLOATS SERVICES. Field diagnostics in disease and insects; spray drift and hail insurance analysis; feed test probes and ration balancing; business planning and rotations. Please call 306-946-8107 (cell)./19tfc

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FIREWOOD FOR SALE. Jack pine cut and split. Ph. 306-365-2599./19tfc

HELP WANTED

FARM HELP REQUIRED. Looking for experienced seasonal farm help. Contact Tracy at 306-946-7737./15-4p

DANCELAND IS LOOKING FOR A BUFFET COOK on weekends. 6 hour position, apply to Danceland by phone 306-946-2743 or email danceland@sasktel.net./5tfc

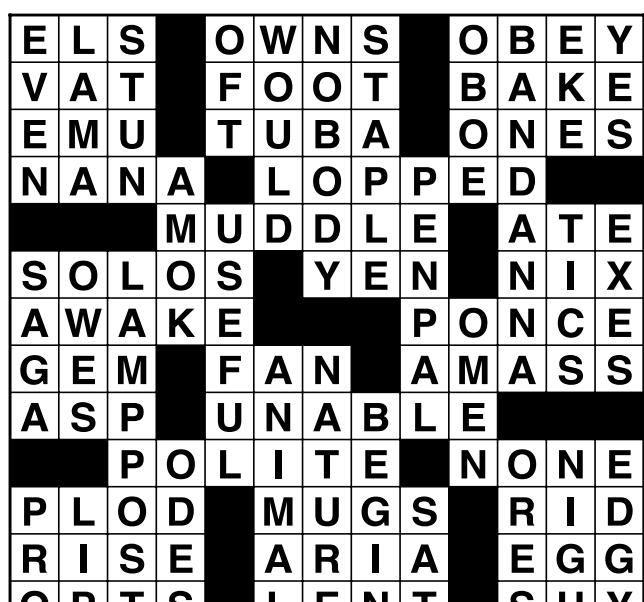
WANTED

WANTED: MF #36 discers, up to \$700 each; endgate drill fills; square balers John Deere, New Holland, MF; tub grinders; dead tractors; JD #655 and #665 air seeders. Ph. 306-946-7923./42-36c

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

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(from page two: COVID-19)

planned capacity ventilator requirement of 860 creates a gap of 410 ventilators; however, there are confirmed orders for 200 with 100 expected in the next two to three weeks; and

multiple orders for invasive and non-invasive ventilators have been placed and SHA and the ministry are working with vendors and the federal government to close this gap.

"No health system in the world can manage this challenge without the sustained help of the general public," SHA Chief Medical Officer Dr. Susan Shaw said. "To save lives, Saskatchewan residents need to do their best to stay healthy and strong and abide by the restrictions and guidelines for the general public around COVID-19. Demand will exceed our capacity as a health system if we are not diligent about these measures."

After Saskatchewan released its report, the Public Health Agency of Canada provided its modelled scenarios Apr. 9. Like the SHA, the Public Health Agency of Canada used a series of models to generate scenarios including 'no control,' 'weaker controls (delay and reduce the peak),' and 'stronger epidemic control.' Other interventions such as border controls and domestic travel restrictions were also explored in the modelling studies.

In the scenarios showing the impact of public health measures, where stronger epidemic controls were used like a high degree of social distancing and isolation, at the peak between one and 10 percent of Canada would be infected as summer approached. With weaker controls (delay and reduce the peak) like low degree of physical distancing and low percentage of cases and their contacts traced and isolated or quarantined, at the peak, between 25 to 50 percent of people would be infected as fall approached. With no control efforts, at the peak, between 70

and 80 percent of people would be infected in summer.

When viewing the chart of cumulative deaths under different scenarios over the course of the pandemic, the Public Health Agency of Canada provided numbers for two scenarios where 2.5 percent and five percent of the population was infected. For 2.5 percent, there would be 934,000 cases of COVID-19, 73,000 hospitalizations, 23,000 patients in ICU and 11,000 deaths. If five percent of the population becomes infected, there would be just over 1.8 million cases, 146,000 hospitalizations, 46,000 patients in ICU and 22,000 deaths. Those numbers which fall under stronger epidemic control pale in comparison to if weaker and no controls would be implemented. If half of the population became infected, over 200,000 deaths could occur. If 80 percent of the population became infected with no controls in place, more than 300,000 deaths could occur.

The Public Health Agency of Canada stated, "Models cannot predict what will happen, but rather can help us understand what might happen to ensure we can plan for worst cases and drive public health action to achieve the best possible outcome. Canada is at an earlier stage of the COVID-19 pandemic than some other countries. We have an opportunity now to control the epidemic and prepare the health system. Other countries have shown that this can be done. We know what needs to be done: keep up physical distancing, increase testing, self-isolate cases, and rapidly trace contacts. This is the best way for Canada to get out of the epidemic in the shortest time possible with the fewest number of deaths."

As both reports were released, Saskatchewan reported seven new, confirmed cases of COVID-19 Apr. 9, bringing the provincial total to 278. One hundred and sixty of the cases were considered active while 12 more people had recovered, bringing the provincial total to 115 recoveries.

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THE WATROUS MANITOU

(from page three: RCMP)

from the Outlook area show the same truck in full with grey lettering at the back of the truck box spelling XTR.

"With the way the economy is and the current situation involving COVID-19, we want to remind people about the potential for an increase in property crime. In my experience, crime trends are mostly driven by economic factors and with a poor economy right now that can equate to more substance abuse and then crime to feed that substance abuse. We just want to remind people that if they see something suspicious, please call the RCMP or Crimestoppers. We also encourage residents, farmers and business owners to make sure they lock their property and their vehicles."

Friedenstab said if people do have information about these or any other crimes to please call the Watrous RCMP at 306-946-3316 or the Humboldt/Lanigan RCMP at 306-682-2535 or Crimestoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477).

While the various incidents that occurred within the local area remain under investigation, Friedenstab was able to

provide some information regarding a few other cases that have now been resolved.

On June 29, 2019 a vehicle was stopped for speeding on Hwy. 2 between Watrous and Young. The driver displayed signs of impairment and was arrested for impaired driving. After obtaining two breath samples the driver was released for court. It was later discovered he had used a false identity to be released. As a result, a warrant was issued for Kelly Howard Crawford of Moose Jaw.

On July 19, 2019 a John Deere round bailer was stolen from Cervus Equipment in Watrous. Surveillance video and Crimestoppers tips identified Crawford as the main suspect. Acting on information from the Watrous RCMP and public tips, Crawford was arrested outside of Moose Jaw July 27 by the provincial crime reduction team and was remanded to a provincial correctional facility.

On Mar. 18, 2020 Crawford plead guilty to one count of impaired driving, one count of driving while prohibited, one count of possession of stolen property and one count of obstruction of a peace officer. Crawford

received a sentence of 351 days remand credit plus a further two years in custody and a 15 year driving prohibition.

In a separate incident which occurred this year, Friedenstab said, "On Jan. 21 Watrous RCMP responded to a break and enter call at the Boehr farm just off Hwy. 668. Shops and vehicles on the property had been entered and among other items, a wallet and debit card were stolen and used for a number of transactions between Saskatoon and North Battleford. As a result of the investigation which included assistance from Saskatoon Identification Services and the North Battleford General Investigation Section, a 17-year-old youth from North Battleford has been charged with the following offences: Break, Enter and Theft, Theft of a Credit Card, Fraudulent Use of a Credit Card, Breach of a Undertaking and Breach of Probation."

Friedenstab said the youth is currently on remand while also facing numerous charges out of North Battleford for break and enters, thefts, robbery with a firearm, and undertaking and breach of probation.

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