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The Watrous Manitou

2020 Mining Edition
See pages 10-13

MONDAY, JUNE 1, 2020

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VOL. 87 NO. 23 • WATROUS, SASKATCHEWAN • \$1.25



Local campgrounds set for shortened season

■ Daniel Bushman

With the weather getting warmer as the summer season approaches, local area campgrounds are looking forward to returning to a more normal. As parks and campgrounds have been listed under Phase Two of the Re-Open Saskatchewan plan and with COVID-19 cases remaining low in the province, many local sites are able to reopen June 1 with a few changes.

Following guidelines listed in the Re-open Saskatchewan plan, Manitou and District Regional Park's Kathy Bergen said staff have been doing their best in anticipation of reopening June 1. "All reservations for May were cancelled and refunds were provided. All out of province bookings were contacted and also cancelled. Following that there were approximately 1,000 other reservations who had to be called to inform them of the re-open guidelines and moved to non-adjacent sites if needed. Most of the group bookings have been cancelled for now and individuals who felt they were higher risk when it came to health issues have also cancelled."

Despite the inconvenience and for some, not being able to camp at the park this summer, Bergen said everyone has been understanding and cooperative. "One of the most challenging guidelines is to rent out every other site so camping sites are not adjacent to each other. This limits us to approximately 85 short term sites to rent. As all parks in Saskatchewan are subject to 50 percent capacity, the demand for sites is high. A further guideline currently in place is the closure of shower houses (and washrooms if attached), thus all camping units have to be self-contained for washrooms. Manitou and District Regional Park has a larger percentage of sites with sewer than many other parks so this is a benefit which draws inquiries here at this time."

With the new guidelines being put in place, Bergen outlined further measures which include: the closure of the playground, camp kitchens, gazebo, and washrooms; payment in full is required at the time of booking; campers may visit other campers, but no more than 10 people at a site and those who do visit must still practice physical distancing; and sites will be sanitized between campers, so there cannot be check-ins before 2 p.m.

To minimize exposure of staff to customers, the office at the main entrance is also closed to the public and Plexiglas shields have been installed over the windows. "As all camping fees have now been collected from people, contactless transactions are reduced upon check-in. No cash will be handled for the sale of passes or firewood, etc."

Being one of the larger regional parks in the province and usually very busy in July and August, to help monitor those who are coming into the park, during the day all traffic will use the check-in lane. "That means a bit of waiting from time to time, so we ask for people's patience. At night the keypad lane will be used for entrance, and campers are equipped with a code."

Despite the changes and added guidelines as part of the province's Re-open Saskatchewan plan, Bergen said the



► Like so many others, local area campgrounds have had to adjust during the COVID-19 pandemic. In anticipation for the remainder of the season, places like Manitou and District Regional Park (pictured) can welcome campers June 1. While they have to operate at 50 percent capacity, demand has been high for the Manitou Beach destination. Other places that have campsites like Etters Beach, Painted Rock Campground near Colonsay, the Lanigan Lions Campground and LeRoy Leisureland are also eager for the summer.

photos by Daniel Bushman

park itself looks wonderful and will remain a nice setting for people to enjoy. "Many campers have said how much they are looking forward to just getting out of the house and enjoying the outdoors. Even if some beach amenities cannot open until later, people are not deterred from enjoying the lovely park. Unfortunately, this year non-camping visitors are not allowed into the park. In previous years it was a nice outing for people who would go for ice cream and then drive through the park, or who would come to have supper with someone camping here. These activities are suspended for now."

Like the Manitou and District Regional Park, the Resort Village of Etters Beach is also expecting an influx of campers over the next few months. Falling under provincial jurisdiction as a provincial park, the Etters Beach recreation site campground consists of 14 serviced daily rental sites, 28 seasonal campsites along with 36 non-serviced sites for camping.

Clerk at the Resort Village of Etters Beach, Denise Brecht, said their seasonal sites opened when they were allowed to under the Re-open Saskatchewan plan. As of June 1, those using nightly sites will not be placed adjacent to each other and only 50 percent of the overall num-

ber of sites will be occupied.

"We are mandated by the provincial park guidelines because we rent space from the province so we have to follow those guidelines," said Brecht. "As part of that there are other regulations that we need to adhere to. The beach area has to be closed but people are allowed to swim in the water. You can't just sit and suntan and play on the beach but you can swim. Our showers have to be closed but our bathrooms can be open because they are separate units. Our boat launch can be open but our fish cleaning station is closed. Our playgrounds are closed off and our hall at the village is also closed. This year we also can't offer swimming lessons as of right now and there are no kids programs at the park like there normally is. We have placed signage up around the area and ask that people continue to follow the recommended guidelines when it comes to social distancing and proper hand washing."

In an effort to try and accommodate those who booked campsites early on at Etters Beach, Brecht said they had to suspend their booking site. "That allowed us to close every second site and then contact those who booked sites

(continued on back page: CAMPING)

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Seeding ahead of five-year average

■ media release

Favourable weather in the province meant substantial seeding progress in all regions. For the period of May 19 to 25, a total of 80 percent of the crop is now seeded in Saskatchewan, slightly ahead of the five-year average of 78 percent for this time of year.

That is according to Saskatchewan Agriculture's weekly Crop Report as crops have started to emerge in many areas of the province. The southwest is the farthest along, with 92 percent of the crop seeded in the region. There is 84 percent seeded in the southeast, 80 per-

cent seeded in the west-central, 75 percent seeded in the northwest, 73 percent seeded in the northeast and 69 percent seeded in the east-central.

Many parts of the province received some rainfall with the western regions receiving the most. The Cando area received the highest amount of rain with 100 mm. While rain delayed seeding for some farmers in the west-central and northwest regions, it was welcome to help support crop and pasture growth. Windy conditions throughout the province have continued to dry the topsoil, but rain showers helped maintain moisture conditions.

Cropland topsoil moisture is rated as three percent surplus, 78 percent adequate, 17 percent short and two percent very short. Hay and pasture



►With nice weather, farmers have been able to wrap up harvest and for some, have finished seeding. Overall in Saskatchewan, according to Saskatchewan Agriculture's weekly Crop Report, 80 percent of the crop is in the ground (for the period of May 19 to 25). photo by Jamie Regier

land topsoil moisture is rated as three percent surplus, 71 percent adequate, 23 percent short and three percent very short. Pasture conditions are rated

as five percent excellent, 52 percent good, 33 percent fair, nine percent poor and one percent very poor. Earlier seeded crops have started to show good emergence, but cool overnight temperatures have slowed growth in some areas. Farmers are starting post-emergence weed control in earlier seeded fields that could not be sprayed previously due to the wind. In general, crops are in line with nor-

mal development stages for this time of year. Windy conditions in some areas have reduced topsoil moisture, resulting in delayed emergence of some oilseeds.

Most of the crop damage was due to strong winds, light frosts, limited moisture and flea beetles.

Farmers have been busy seeding, moving livestock to pasture, calving and spraying pre-emergence and post-emergence herbicides.



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ALC site emergency departments to gradually reopen

■ Daniel Bushman

On a day where there were no new COVID-19 cases in the province and on the 16th consecutive day where Saskatchewan had more recoveries than new confirmed cases, it was announced emergency departments from Alternate Level of Care (ALC) sites including in Lanigan would gradually reopen. While the hospital in Lanigan first has to secure another physician before it can resume its emergency services, government officials ensured the move to halt the services in the first place was only temporary.

With current capacity at ALC sites not required at the moment for a potential COVID-19 surge, Saskatchewan Health Authority (SHA) stated as part of its COVID-19 Readiness Plan that Arcola will be the first hospital to reopen in mid-June with others like Kerrobert, Herbert, Preeceville, Davidson, Wolseley, Biggar, Leader and Oxbow to follow.

In the case of Lanigan, Broadview and Radville hospitals, SHA stated they require additional time before reopening. In the coming weeks the health authority will be working with those hospitals to help update them on progress and work toward resumption of previous emergency department service levels as soon as it is safe to do so.

Lanigan Mayor Andrew Cebryk said the reason the community's hospital will not be resuming its emergency services immediately is because there are not enough physicians on staff. "We need to have a complement of at least two and right now we only have one. We have secured the services of locums in the past; however, with the current COVID-19 pandemic, the roster of locums has been depleted as those phys-

icians have been relocated to other facilities. If there were an emergency situation and we needed to replace a physician, we would be able to bring someone in for a few days but that would be it. We are currently working with SHA to find a full-time physician and we are hopeful that by July or August we can have that person in place and resume our emergency services."

In the meantime, with emergency services temporarily disrupted and not available in Lanigan, Cebryk said in case of an emergency people are asked to call 911. "Our local EMS will assess the patient, initiate treatment and transport them to the most appropriate facility to provide further care. That might mean taking them to Humboldt or Saskatoon, depending on the care they need. For non-urgent health related questions, people can use HealthLine 811. This is the same process that would be in place in the case of a regular emergency services disruption at a community hospi-

tal."

While the emergency department is closed, the mayor noted the Lanigan Medical Clinic has reopened with its regular hours except for Wednesdays when the clinic closes at 3 p.m. "That early closure is to allow our physician to further carry out his duties assigned by SHA. Because of that he is unable to see patients during the latter part of the afternoon on Wednesdays."

With the service disruption lasting longer in Lanigan than in some of the other communities who have ALC conversion sites, the SHA noted outside of its COVID-19 Readiness Plan, "it is critical to remember that ongoing recruitment and retention of key health care personnel can always affect service delivery in smaller rural sites. This is being continuously monitored in each of these communities to ensure appropriate personnel are in place to safely resume services."

Leading up to the May 26 announcement that rural ALC sites would grad-

ually resume emergency services, residents from communities expressed their concerns that services would end up being suspended permanently. During the May 26 announcement, Saskatchewan Premier Scott Moe addressed the issue. "This was a very challenging decision with many sensitivities around it but it was a temporary decision and we will be moving forward with the full implementation of services in these communities starting on June 15."

Provincial Health Minister Jim Reiter reiterated the temporary suspension of emergency services was just for a period of time and not a permanent move. "There was concern that the closure of the ER would become permanent but that is not the case."

CEO of the SHA Scott Livingstone said as part of the COVID-19 Readiness Plan, non-COVID-19 facilities like the one in Lanigan along with COVID-19 designated hospitals like Watrous and mixed designated hospitals like Hum-

boldt would be created. Through those designations, SHA was working with other integrated facilities that had both acute and long-term care across the province to ensure staff were trained and cohorted in an effort to deal with a potential COVID surge.

Livingstone said the moves were also being done to protect residents in long-term care and to separate staff so there was no cross-contaminating if COVID or asymptomatic COVID

patients came into non-COVID-19 facilities.

Livingstone said because efforts to train and cohort staff were underway, "those temporary suspensions of services will be withdrawn and will occur over the next four to six weeks."

When asked about the timing of reopening rural emergency departments after concerns were raised,

(see page 14: ALC SITES)

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The Watrous Manitou

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Due to limited space, only two customers are allowed in our office at one time. Please stay home if you are experiencing flu like symptoms or symptoms related to COVID-19.

Thank you for your patience and understanding during this time as we strive to continue to keep you informed with local news in a safe manner.

RCMP Report

Further charges laid related to break, enter and theft in Watrous

Charges related to a break, enter and theft at CIC Electric in Watrous have been elevated after 37-year-old Cody Kemick originally faced three counts of Break and Enter, 10 counts of Possession of Stolen Property, one count of Theft and one count of Mischief.

Kemick now faces additional charges related to that break, enter and theft at CIC Electric of possession of stolen property and two charges of using a stolen credit card knowing it was stolen.

Between Feb. 4 and Apr. 26, Saskatchewan RCMP received reports of break, enters, thefts and property-related offences across central Saskatchewan including in Watrous. From that investigation Saskatoon Provincial GIS along with officers from Saskatoon, Outlook, Rosetown and Humboldt detachments executed a search warrant May 2 at Kemick's residence in Saskatoon. RCMP said Kemick and another occupant of the residence were arrested without incident.

Police then searched the residence and seized approximately \$35,000 worth of stolen property including tools, computers, electronic devices, ammunition, cheques, hair salon products, lottery tickets and clothing. RCMP said these items are believed to be from break and enters from Watrous, Lucky Lake, Dinsmore, Rosetown, Kerrobert, Aberdeen, Humboldt, Mildred, Conquest and Saskatoon.

Vandalism in Imperial and Simpson

Around 3 a.m. Saturday, May 23 an individual(s) destroyed street signs while leaving the road and creating more damage around the Town of Imperial. As the

vehicle became stuck on one of the signs by the Imperial School, the noise from the engine woke up residents nearby, alerting them of the damage being done.

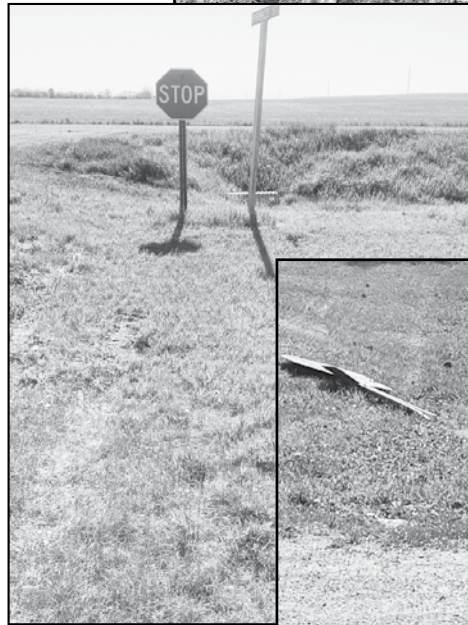
In addition to signs being knocked over and wrecked, the vehicle used in the incidents also drove over freshly seeded grass on Duke Street by the REACT recycling bins.

RCMP said there was also vandalism that took place in nearby Simpson.

If anyone has any information on these incidents in Imperial and Simpson, they can contact the Watrous RCMP or Crime Stoppers.



photos used with permission



Theft from garage in Nokomis

Between 1 p.m. May 22 and 4 p.m. May 23 an individual(s) broke into a garage at a home in Nokomis and stole a PlayStation Pro 4 with a controller and connecting cables, and a quiver of five hunting arrows.

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

CRIMES (274637) or submit a tip online at www.saskcrimestoppers.com where you can also view information on other unsolved crimes. Crime Stoppers is anonymous and does not subscribe to call display and calls are not traced or recorded. If your information leads to an arrest or charge you may be eligible for a cash award.

Theft of garden tractor and attachments

On May 28 Humboldt RCMP received a call of a theft of a John Deere garden tractor along with tiller, mower, front blade and snow blower attachments. The items were stolen from an acreage in the RM of Wolverine. This theft occurred sometime between May 24 and 28. Police continue to investigate this occurrence and are seeking the public's assistance.

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

Break and enters in Watson

Between May 22 and May 23, multiple businesses were broken into along Hwy. 6 in Watson. Suspect(s) forced entry into several businesses and made off with a small amount of cash. A heavier set male suspect in a high-visibility vest was captured on camera. The white van in the photo is not believed to be involved in these break and enters.

Humboldt and Lanigan RCMP continue to investigate.

If you have information about this or any other crime, please contact Humboldt RCMP at 306-682-2535 or you may contact Saskatchewan Crime Stoppers anonymous-



ly at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or submit a tip online at www.saskcrimestoppers.com.

COVID-19-related Sask. RCMP calls for service

Below is a summary of COVID-19-related calls for service in Saskatchewan RCMP jurisdiction.

From May 15 to May 21, 2020 there were 74 calls for service related to COVID-19:

- 25 complaints of social gatherings of over 10 people;
- 12 complaints of people failing to self-isolate when allegedly required to do so;
- 37 other COVID-19 related complaints; and
- one charge was also laid.

The Public Health Order is still in place and RCMP continue to work closely with Saskatchewan Health Authorities to investigate any potential violations of the Order.

The Saskatchewan RCMP continues to keep communities safe by responding to calls for service. With the opportunity to enjoy the warm spring weather, we must all continue to do our part to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and follow the Public Health Order, which is still in place.

For any non-health related inquiries related to COVID-19 or to report any Public Health Order violations please call the Government of Saskatchewan's 24-hour toll-free line: 1-855-559-5502.

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Inquiries may also be forwarded to the above email, ATTN: Mike Forget, Area Manager

NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF ASSESSMENT ROLL VILLAGE OF PLUNKETT

Notice is hereby given that the assessment roll for the Village of Plunkett for the year 2020 has been prepared and is open to inspection in the Office of the Assessor from 2 to 5:30 p.m. on Thursdays on the following days: June 5 to August 1, 2020.

Due to COVID-19, review of the assessment roll must follow regulations, please call the village office for an appointment. 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:

The Assessor, Village of Plunkett
Box 149, Plunkett, SK S0K 3J0
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Dated this 26th day of May, 2020
Helen Miller, Assessor

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Note:
Proposals must be signed and dated.
Any or all tenders may be rejected.



Sports

Gebhard: a hockey legacy

■ submitted

When Jaycee Gebhard first arrived to play Collegiate hockey at Robert Morris University, Pittsburgh, she wanted to make a difference.

In her four years Gebhard has certainly cemented her legacy at the Pittsburgh area university.

“It’s crazy to think how fast these four years have gone,” Gebhard said, “Coming in I just wanted to make an impact in whatever way I could. I wasn’t sure, obviously, at the beginning what that impact would be.”

As senior captain she wrote her name into the record books – breaking the all-time record career leading scorer in RMU program history. In 136 games, Jaycee totalled 70 goals, 121 assists for a 191 point career record.

Pre-RMU
Jaycee led the Notre Dame Hounds in scoring in 2013, 2014, and 2016 and was named assistant captain of U18 Team Canada in 2014-’15, she earned the 2014 JHWWL Player of the Year title as well as AAA Midget Rookie of the Year in 2011.

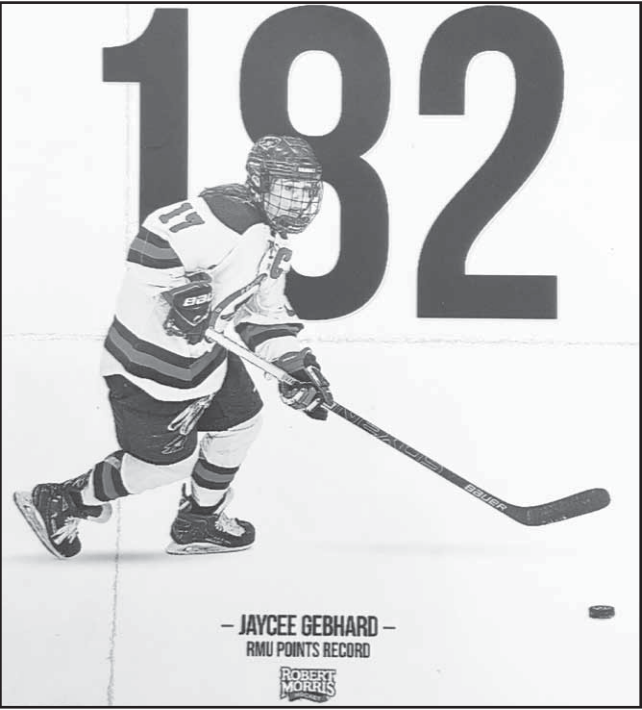
Four seasons ago the RMU’s Colonial Women Hockey Team had the most decorated rookie in College Hockey America. Jaycee was the most revered player altogether. The Colonials have been one of the nation’s strongest puck possession teams thanks to Gebhard’s 268 face-off wins.

She helped RMU win three straight CHA regular seasons titles (2017-’19) as well as four consecutive trips to the CHA championship and winning it all in 2017. Jaycee led the conference in goals, assists, and points, and player of the month awards. She led the NCAA in power play goals and assists.

She was named the WHCA Women Hockey Commissioner’s Association National Player; three times Gebhard was honoured on a national level during her career. She was named Rookie of the Year and won CHA Conference Player of the Month five times. To top off the 2018-’19 year, she received the MVP award at the Colonials banquet.

Coach Colontino commented that her track record in all areas is uncanny. Her academic, mental and physical success has had a huge impact on the team.

Gebhard recently completed one of the most brilliant careers ever for a Colonial leading the CHA in scoring for the second straight season and becoming the all-time leading scorer in RMU history, en-route to a First Team



photos submitted

All CHA award in her senior year. Jaycee who will forever have a place in history as the first draft pick of the NWHL’s Toronto franchise, has signed with Brynäs IF of the SDHL (Sweden).

Jaycee graduated with a 3.96 grade average and earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration & Marketing.

Jaycee was named to the 2020 Academic All District 2 Hockey Team by the College Sports Information Directors of America (COSIDA). This recognition includes student athletes that play for institutions from the states



of Delaware, Kentucky, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, West Virginia as well as the District of Columbia.

Gebhard finished the 2019-’20 season as the highest-scoring senior in NCAA DI Hockey. Gebhard’s decision to begin her post-collegiate hockey overseas is a big loss for both Toronto and the NWHL. For the past four years she has been one of the most productive and talented players in college hockey.

“I looked around a bit and Brynäs had a good season last year and has some very good players on the team, so I look forward to playing with them and am happy to have that opportunity,” Gebhard said in the team’s release. “I have some friends who have played in Sweden and they just said good things about it and about the league, so in the end it was a pretty easy decision.”

At the moment, Gebhard is the only North American on Brynäs’ roster for the 2020-’21 season. Brynäs IF of the SDHL is the highest tier of professional hockey in Sweden.

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 2020 irrigation season.

Treatments will take place approximately every two weeks until September 19th, 2020.

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:

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The Watrous Manitou



Opinion



A shoebox of memories.

— an opinion column

by TWM's editor Daniel Bushman

I like history, especially when it comes to my own roots and after reading Gordon McIntyre's shoebox packed with the past story (you can find it on page seven of this week's paper), it had me thinking about some older photos of my own.

My parents have photo albums at their place with images of our family, myself as a youngster and my siblings which I enjoy going through every now and again. One time as I was flipping through the pages I snapped a couple of photos and I now have those images on my computer at work. I also had a couple of other memorable images I've taken over the years that have found their way on my computer at the office as well. Every time I look at them, it brings a smile to my face and at times like these, we could all use a smile or two to brighten our days. So I went scouring through my photos and came up with a few below - some are older and some are just for a smile. To me, family is so important and there are a lot of great memories of growing up in this area. Like Gordon who still returns to Manitou Beach in the summer, spending time in the Watrous area is something I will always cherish.

So here is my 'shoebox packed with the past':

The first picture includes a familiar face to many.



Bob McGrath who was on Sesame Street and of course Telemiracle for many years visited Watrous when myself and my sister were younger. I want to say he came during Mrs. Reid's preschool held at the United Church. My grandparents had given us the Ernie and Big Bird stuffies so along with my mom, Tanya and I brought them to meet Mr. McGrath. I didn't realize it then but looking back that was pretty cool.

Picture two is from the Bushman farm with my grandparents. My brother is rocking the ninja turtle shirt and we were celebrating a birthday on that occasion. That is just a small number of Bushmans as our extended family has now grown to over 100. We had lots of fun on the farm as kids.



Picture three makes me smile. That is me on the left and my son who at that time was about the same age as I was in that picture. Like father, like son.

The fourth picture is a favourite. I have it hanging in my office. My grandpa Driediger dropping the 'ceremonial puck' one Christmas with the boys before we played a game of



hockey. Such great memories and ones that I will always cherish.



Tips from Reena Nerbas

Dear Reena,

In a recent issue of the paper, you shared a recipe for laundry stain remover. At the end you specified not to combine the recipe with any bleach products. My question is: Why not include bleach products? What is caused by this mixture? If I make my own soap, would not including bleach products stand true for this as well? Again, why? Thanks, K.

Dear K.,

The problem with combining bleach with other products, especially ammonia is that it creates a toxic gas called chloramine gas which can be fatal. Once when I was speaking at a show, a woman told me a story about how her daughter was planning to wash the floor. She saw a bucket filled with what she thought was water, so she added bleach. The water turned out to be ammonia, and when she added the bleach, she ended up paralyzed for three days. Some chemicals are safe to combine such as baking soda and vinegar.

Dear Reena,

How can I reduce the fat in the ground beef I buy without buying the expensive lean and extra lean cuts? Candace

Dear Candace,

The answer is a snap! Cook your beef until crumbly and brown. Pour it into a strainer in the sink and rinse with hot water. Blot with paper towels or a clean cooking rag and move onto the next step of your recipe.

Say . . . why are hamburgers called hamburgers when they do not contain any ham? Answer: Because Hamburg, Germany made the first hamburgers.

Contributors share

Re: Keeping brown sugar soft

In order to keep brown sugar soft, I advise that we go back to the old method, which really works. Put a whole slice of bread (I had regular brown whole wheat) broke

Solutions and Substitutions

it in four and put it in with the hardened brown sugar in a large square plastic Tupperware container and the result was very soft, just like new brown sugar. Sincerely, Arlene and Fred

Re: Potluck labelling

Hi, since I have been self-isolating I have been going through articles you have written over the years. Yesterday I came across a question where someone was asking how to label their dishes for a potluck. I have found that when I use my address labels they stick to the dishes very well, even after being washed. I peel the label off and put it on my lid, and if the food is in a slow cooker I also label this. I find that way there is no confusion when there are a bunch of lids that are similar and people automatically put everything together and I can find my pieces with ease. Hope you find this helpful. I have been doing this for years. Safe and healthy, Brenda

Fantastic tips of the week

- You would not believe how often people come up to me at the end of one of my shows and share the following tip that they learnt from their grandmother. When someone in your home is sick, cut an onion in half and put it on a plate beside their bed. The onion is said to draw out the bad germs in the room and turns black within a short period of time. If you can stand the smell of onions, why not give it a shot?

- When choosing healthy bread in the store reach for whole grain not whole wheat. Whole wheat flour is put through a refining process that removes some of the nutritional value of the end product, but whole grain flour does not go through that refining process and therefore has oodles more nutrition (how is that for a run-on sentence?).

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

We're not going to take it anymore!



Neighbourly advice according to Ed

A spiritual column

by contributor

Raymond Maher

www.accordingtoed.com

COVID-19 has altered Mother's Day and Father's Day to the honouring of one's mother or father from a distance of six feet or two metres. The virus is a killer of heartfelt hugs and kisses between family members and friends. Ed, my old neighbour, says that it is like everyone is guilty of having such bad breath and body odour that they must be kept at a distance.

I told Ed, my old neighbour in Saskatchewan, that here in our area of British

Columbia, more and more, the patience of folks is being replaced with impatience. A growing number of people are fed up with COVID-19 regulations and they do not want to take it anymore. Protesters seeing themselves as 'Silent Sufferers' are uniting! They demonstrate concerning their individual rights, which have been trampled long enough. They are demanding an end to the COVID-19 shut down of normal life and to the end of governmental oppression. There is a real sentiment that the government has abused its power because of COVID-19.

"Governmental control is never popular," Ed offered. He says that folks either feel the government is too bossy or too indifferent to the needs of the people. Truth is no one pays much attention to the government unless they are unhappy about something the government is doing or not doing. Most folks are

content to ignore the authority of the government when it is not disturbing the flow of their daily life.

Ed remembers when he resented the authority of his mother who put him and his brother to work cleaning out the chicken house one Saturday. In Ed's 10-year-old mind, cleaning out the chicken house was an abuse of parental authority. Forking out chicken manure was so distasteful that he told his mom that he wished he had never been born. She replied that she was glad that he was born and that he could not change being born. What he could change was how he felt about shovelling manure. She suggested he might think more about how quickly he and his brother could have the job done if they worked hard and fast. Ed said that parental authority does eventually give way as children become adults. One never outgrows all authority.

Some adults deal with governmental authority without great resentment or complaint. Others detest all and any authority other than their own. As Christians, one of the Ten Commandments calls us to honour our father and mother. As babies in the womb, we do not have a say as to who our parents will be. Most people know that they as parents will determine if their baby is loved, fed, cared for, protected and taught as their baby grows from being an infant to an adult. It is a big job that lasts for roughly 18 to 20 years. Parents are under God's authority who entrusts them with their baby for a lifetime of care.

God gives authority to our governments to protect and care for us and teach us of threats. Certainly, the COVID-19 virus threatens us. Titus 3:1 instructs us: "Remind the people to be subject to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready to do whatever is good."

TWM

Est. 1933

Daniel and Kim Bushman, publishers and editors

Laurie Regier, typesetter/production • Vanessa Manz, customer service

Alexandra Goodrich, advertising

The Watrous Manitou • Box 100 • Watrous, Sask. • S0K 4T0

Ph: 306-946-3343 E: watrous.manitou@sasktel.net

Founded in 1933 by J.A. McGowan

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Published Monday • 48 issues per year

S0 postal codes:

1 yr: \$43 2 yr: \$76

3 yr: \$109

Canada:

1 yr: \$53 2 yr: \$96

3 yr: \$139

Online:

1 yr: \$35 2 yr: \$60

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Shoebox packed with the past helps ease present isolation of our COVID times

■ written by Gordon McIntyre
and reprinted with writer's permission

I came to call it the Eclectic Shoebox.

The things in it have little in common other than they were shoved inside a box from Browns Shoes until a rainy day, when I could sort through them. Ha! There've been plenty of rainy days over the years; it took a pandemic for me to blow the dust off and look inside.

It was like finding a pirate's buried chest: The sweetest Father's Day cards from my son; photos of him and me when he was a baby and toddler; a cartoon by former Province political doodler Bob Krieger of my then-wife Lynn and our boy.

There was an outstanding folder of 1930s postcards from Washington D.C.; dozens of press passes, from the 1991 Molson Indy Vancouver to the 2019 election-night reception for federal NDP Leader Jagmeet Singh.

But it was the old photos of my folks that were the treasure in this cardboard chest.

Many I was familiar with, especially the photos of the wedding of my parents, Don and Marg, in 1957 at the Watrous, Sask., United Church.

There were some rarer ones of my mom's mom Mabel, who died before I was born, and mom's dad Sandy, who died soon after I was born.

Sandy had been a homesteader before he accidentally shot his thumb and two fingers off his left hand while reaching for his shotgun. He went back to school, became a lawyer, then became mayor of Watrous, a bustling railway hub three miles from the popular saltwater-lake resort of Manitou Beach.

Sandy's farmhouse became Gordon's Inn after he pulled it by horse and sled across the frozen lake one winter around 1904 and set it down beachfront at Manitou. It was the cottage in which I spent pretty much every single summer day of my boyhood.

Photos of Fannie, my dad's mom who died when I was four, and whom I recollect visiting at her Avenue D home in Saskatoon; dad's dad Harry, from whom I get my middle name, and who died when I was 10.

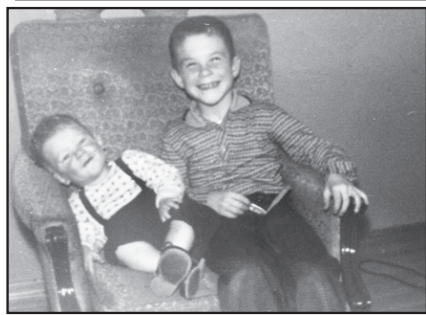
But that's all nostalgia.

What was new, what made me do a double-take and say 'Wow!' was a portrait of my dad I'd never seen in my life until I pulled a yellowed envelope out of that shoebox.

"He belongs in a Fellini movie," Lynn said when I texted her the image.

Styling glasses, cigarette held like he's James Bond at the baccarat table, Clark Gable stache. Could my dad have once been cool?

He had a pharmacy, Action Drugs, in Saskatoon's blue-collar Mount Royal neighbourhood. It seemed every Christmas Day he'd get a phone call from someone who'd forgotten to get their prescrip-



► From times at the cabin to family gatherings and a wedding, Gordon McIntyre who now resides in B.C. and still visits Manitou Beach in the summer came across some hidden gems inside a shoebox. The photos (pictured) which he re-discovered during the current COVID-19 pandemic included images of his parents, Don and Marg, their wedding at the Watrous United Church (above right), Margie and Ken Gordon (left), Gordon with his cousin Murray (below left), a family gathering at their cabin called Gordon's Inn (right) and another photo of Gordon's mom Marg (below right). Gordon who is also pictured standing at the cabin as a youngster enjoyed writing the adjacent piece for the Vancouver Sun and The Province in B.C.

photos courtesy
Gordon McIntyre



tion filled, throw on his winter coat and overshoes, head to the store and then deliver the pills.

"I loved your dad," a stranger wrote me a few days ago on a Facebook page for people who grew up in Saskatoon. "He was our family pharmacist for decades.

"Every time we had to get a prescription filled it would take an hour: 20 minutes to get it filled and 40 minutes of our dads shooting the breeze with each other... lol."

It's one of many tender notes I've received after posting something about my dad on social media. He touched a lot of lives.

I'd once seen a photo of dad in his early 20s, when he was serving in Sicily: It was photographed from behind while he did a handstand, muscles rippling across his back and shoulders. That was a surprise because, like me now, he was pudgy in middle age.

This 'Fellini' photo, though, was a shocker. I'd only ever known dad to dress like a pharmacist and a Rotarian. But then, what would my son make of those photos of me from the 1970s and '80s that were also in that box?

Growing up, I took dad for granted, I think, as perhaps sons tend to: An ash-tray or Mennen aftershave for Father's Day; I had trouble remembering if his birthday was the 20th or 22nd. Or maybe the 23rd.

I got to know more about him after my own son was born, asked my dad more

questions. But always through the lens of being his son.

It's nice to see these photos, especially the 'Fellini,' and it's nice to hear from those people who knew him.

It's nice to remember the sacrifices he made, and to be reminded he was more than 'just' my dad.

(The writer's mother was diagnosed with Alzheimer's when he was in his 20s and died in 1991; his father died in 2013 at

age 90. Before his father's passing, Gordon's dad spent many summers at his cabin at Manitou Beach, Wee Should Worry, next to Gordon's Inn.)

Gordon McIntyre is a journalist at the Vancouver Sun and The Province and enjoys coming back to Manitou Beach each summer.

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twitter.com/gordmcintyre

Look What's Cooking by Laura Novecosky

Easy Chocolate Caramel Bars

Ingredients:

2 1/4 cup flour
2 cups quick cooking oats
1 1/2 cups brown sugar
1 tsp. baking soda
1/2 tsp. salt
1 1/2 cups cold butter or margarine
2 cups semi sweet chocolate chips
1 cup chopped pecans
1 jar of caramel ice cream topping (about 1 1/2 cups)

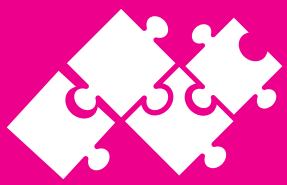
Directions:

Combine 2 cups flour, oats, brown sugar, baking soda and salt. Cut in butter until crumbly. Set aside half for topping. Press the remaining mixture in a greased 9 x 13 pan, bake at 375°F for 15 minutes. Sprinkle with the chocolate chips and pecans. Whisk the caramel topping and remaining 1/4 cup flour until smooth, drizzle over top. Sprinkle with reserved crumb mixture. Return to oven and bake for 18-20 minutes or until golden brown. Cool for about two hours before cutting to serve.

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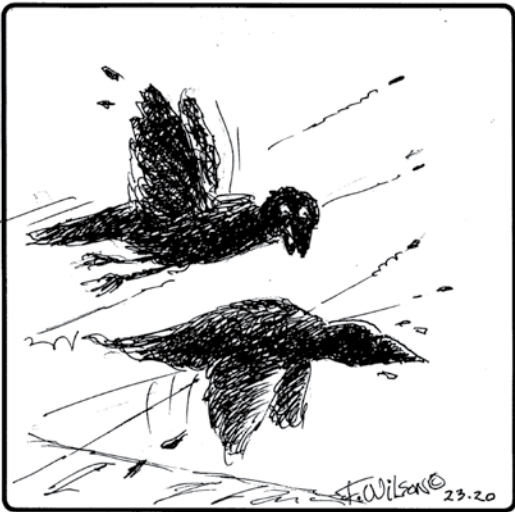


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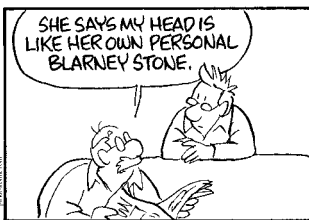
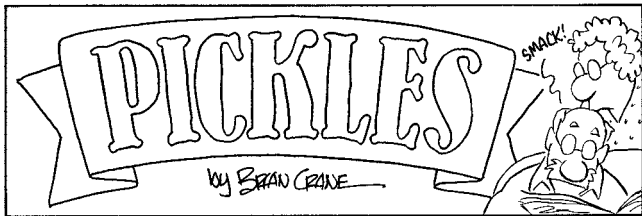


Comics AND Puzzles

Cartoon by Frank Wilson



"Apparently they don't like our song ..."



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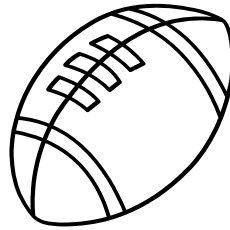
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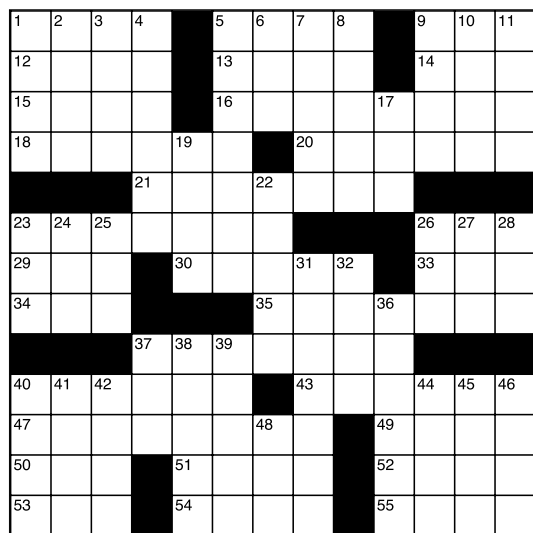
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CROSSWORD

PUZZLE NO. 32



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ACROSS

1. Glided
5. Small insect
9. Lump
12. Compassion
13. Hurry
14. Epoch
15. Prayer finale
16. Musical group
18. Mexican dish
20. Pencil end
21. Horror-movie star
23. Rifle attachment
26. Broom's relative
29. Needle aperture

DOWN

30. Dirt
33. "Much ____ About Nothing"
34. Obtain
35. Fastened
37. Estimated
40. Applaud
43. Floats
47. Women's sleepwear
49. Larry, Curly, and Moe
50. Pick
51. Chinese staple
52. Profit
53. Casual shirt
54. Plant beginning

DOWN

1. Petty dispute
2. Certain bean
3. Part of a list
4. Energetic person
5. More lush
6. Convent dweller
7. Investment
8. Neither here nor ____
9. Chews the fat
10. Peer
11. Pub drink
17. Damage

19. Yearn
22. Moves
23. Ask earnestly
24. Pro vote
25. Up to this time
26. Small rug
27. Poem
28. Seed coat
31. Offense
32. Eternally

36. Revised copy
37. Band booking
38. Consumers
39. Bizarre
40. Parcel
41. Full-grown
42. Poker word
44. Ravel
45. Exhaust
46. Male heirs
48. Drink chiller

FOR ANSWERS
TO SUDOKU AND
CROSSWORD,
SEE PAGE 18

CROSSWORD PUZZLE ANSWERS
USE AMERICAN SPELLING

SUDOKU

LEVEL: BEGINNER

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



“YourCommunity”



TWM’s Faces in the Community

Ervin Gross

Ervin Gross was born in March of 1940 and grew up on a farm west of Simpson. When he was 13 years old, Ervin moved to Watrous with his family and attended school in the community.

As he got older, his love for hockey also grew and making his own mask, Ervin was a goaltender for the senior hockey team in town for many years.

Ervin is the youngest of six (four boys and two girls) and is married to Carol. The couple have a son Troy; three daughters, Geneen, Treena and Gennifer; nine grandkids; and three great-grandchildren.

Turning 80 years old in March, Ervin is a big fan of the Montreal Canadiens and has a passion for cutting hair. Purchasing his barber shop from Bill Dreger in 1962, Ervin started Gross' Barber Shop at 108 2nd Ave. E. in Watrous. "In those days a haircut cost 75 cents," said Ervin whose first customer was Ed Kirkham of Kirkham's Hardware in Watrous.

Sharing space with Watrous Klip and Kurl, Ervin cut hair from 1962 until 2014 when he decided to rent out his barber shop. Then in May of 2019, Ervin dusted off his clippers and returned to a profession he has thoroughly enjoyed. Hoping to keep cutting hair for as long as he is healthy, Ervin said, "I really like cutting hair. It has been a great way to meet people. Over that time I have been able to cut hair for a few generations of several families."

In fact Ervin has cut four generations of hair for the Engele, Martin and Westby families, among others. "When you look back on it, it is pretty neat to have been able to do that."

When he is not in the barber shop, Ervin enjoys gardening and being outside. "I also like fishing and used to do that a lot. Hockey and baseball are my favourite sports and I enjoyed playing those for a number of years."

Living, working, competing and watching sports in Watrous for decades, Ervin said the community is a really good small town. "There are a lot of stores here that offer almost every kind of item that you need. It is a good town, the location is perfect and the community of Watrous has been great to my family. There are some tremendous people who live in this area and I have really enjoyed being able to serve and get to know them over the years."



“Photo of the Week”



- photo by Daniel Bushman
Have a picture you would like to share? Email it to dan.twm@sasktel.net and it could appear in a future edition of TWM

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Tele-remote project aims towards safety and increased production

■ Daniel Bushman

With safety imperative at Nutrien Lanigan along with an opportunity to increase production using new technology, a very unique project is being developed for underground use at the potash mine.

With Nutrien Lanigan's tele-remote project commencing in early 2017, Mine General Superintendent Mark Lodewyk said his team has utilized the technology available to them and recently developed a working proof of concept. With that, the team has been able to operate and mine with a borer from several hundred feet back from the mining face with minimal interruptions. "We have also had some recent breakthroughs using new sensor and robotics technology to sense the surroundings of the borer and conveyance equipment in three dimensions, even in challenging and dusty mining conditions."

Lodewyk said by maximizing the opportunity to use the technology it further enables Nutrien Lanigan to operate equipment from a distance. "These milestones truly have been a group effort. As the technical team, we have been able to heavily rely on the wealth of knowledge and experience of our operators to provide feedback and guide the development of the tele-remote system. We have also been able to rely on our talented tradespeople, who have a wealth of practical experience with making multiple systems work together, and importantly, last in a rough, mining environment. This talent and teamwork, combined with the overwhelming support from management has been the key to the success this project has seen so far."

In order to reach the stage of using the new tele-remote technology and equipment, the superintendent said safety and increased production were two huge factors in seeing the project move forward.

With the key objective being safety and typically having the most hazardous place for operators being near the active mining face, Lodewyk said there is a big advantage to being able to completely remove operators from



photos courtesy Nutrien Lanigan



that area. "While there are currently many good practices and procedures being followed to ensure this area is safe for workers, by being able to operate the boring machinery from a distance, many hazards such as ground falls and moving equipment can be completely eliminated, reducing the potential for harm to employees."

A second benefit to the project is an increase in production. With Nutrien mines including the Nutrien Lanigan mine continually growing, travel distances for workers from the mine's shaft also lengthens underground. Lodewyk hopes that the new technology would one day allow workers to operate machines from a central location underground, close to the shaft or from the surface. By doing that, it would eliminate operator travel time at the start and end of each shift.

"By enabling this remote operation and ultimately some automation, we hope to mine more tonnes during this currently unproductive shift change period, which in turn could improve the productivity of Nutrien's fleet of borers across the province and reduce overall cost per tonne produced."

Seeing a new application of technology, Lodewyk said a lot of planning, design and trial and error have gone into the tele-remote project process. "The only reason this project has been successful so far is because of the support and motivation from multiple teams, from upper management and right down to the operators and tradespeople installing and testing components."

While Lodewyk said similar projects have been undertaken in the past, this is really the first time in more recent years significant resources have been allocated. "The work has really gained traction recently and there have been efforts from multiple Nutrien mines toward this end."

However, at the end of the day, it all comes down to safety. "Safety is a huge focus for Lanigan and all of Nutrien. We have made huge strides in safety over the years of operation in Lanigan, but we are always looking for ways to improve towards the goal of no harm to people. In addition, there have been many new technologies emerge in the mining industry in the past few years allowing companies to increase production and lower costs. At Nutrien we not only want to learn from what other companies are doing, but also be at the forefront of technological advancement in order to position ourselves to be among the most competitive potash producers in the world."

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Nutrien Lanigan feeding the future while staying safe

■ Daniel Bushman

With all of the uncertainty across the globe during the COVID-19 pandemic, it has been a trying and uneasy time for many. Understanding the situation and hoping to continue to help feed the world, Nutrien Lanigan has not only remained committed to producing potash but has also been doing so in a safe manner.

Over the years safety has always been a priority for Nutrien Lanigan and keeping that at the forefront, Nutrien Lanigan General Manager Rob Jackson said as Saskatchewan began seeing cases of COVID-19, the local area mine made sure to have protocols in place.

Deemed an essential service, throughout the pandemic's presence in the wheat province, Nutrien Lanigan has continued to be an integral part of supporting food supply. "This meant we needed to do everything we could on site to make it safe for our employees to produce potash needed domestically and globally," said Jackson. "We have been able to operate at our normal rates while instituting numerous changes to either meet or exceed the Saskatchewan Health Authority orders around physical distancing."

Right from the outset, Jackson said Nutrien Lanigan formed pandemic plans in early March. There were also plans drawn up for the potash business unit and also a specific Lanigan plan. "Keeping up with the current situation, those plans continue to change as new information is available or as we get suggestions from our employees for improvements."

Like so many other businesses and organizations having to immediately adapt to the COVID-19 situation, Jackson said Nutrien Lanigan quickly implemented its pandemic plans throughout its operations. Jackson shared the following protocols and updates which have occurred to make everyone safe:

- early on we stopped having non-essential vendors and visitors on site. Also Nutrien corporate teams stopped travelling between sites;
- we reviewed operations and many site groups changed their routines and started to work remotely either full time or part time. This included people from HR, IT, finance, procurement, engineering and planning. IT did an excellent job in

a short period of time to get the right equipment and access for people to work from home;

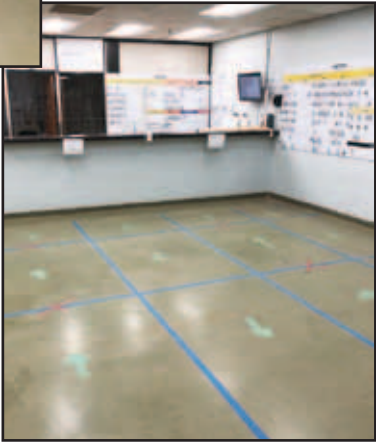
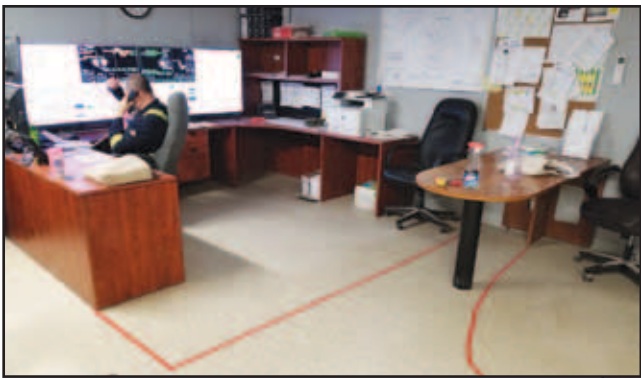
- employees have been encouraged to stay home if they have any symptoms. Our site nurse has been instrumental in assisting site management and employees throughout the ever-changing public health orders;
- we worked with our site Occupational Health Committee and our mines inspector as the site team made changes including reducing the number of people that can ride in the cage and surface elevators. We also installed barriers in underground vehicles, barriers at counters for security, the warehouse and the mine wicket area. We then placed barriers at some underground lunch tables and we also had crews change start times to reduce people in the change area at the same time. To maintain six foot social distancing we marked floors for line ups, created space in certain rooms, and reduced the number of people at breaks together;
- early on there were some issues getting some necessary supplies such as hand sanitizer and disinfectant. Our purchasing group at site and across Nutrien stepped up and found the required

supplies for all sites. As an intermediate step our site lab was able to make our own hand sanitizer and get bottles out into the field where employees needed them. This really assisted in making sure our employees could clean their hands regularly when there was not water readily available;

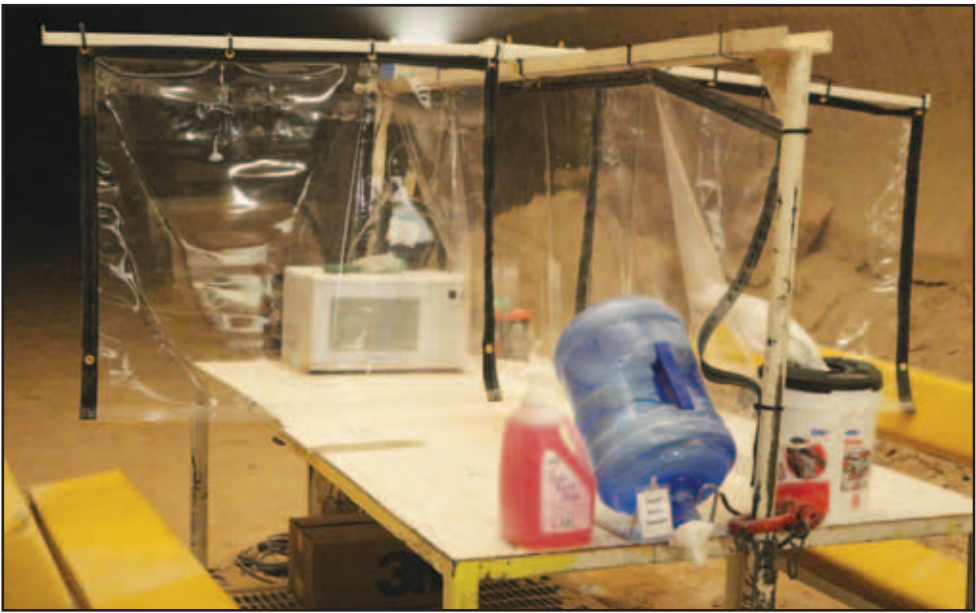
- we also reviewed all our site cleaning protocols especially in common areas on site and increased both the amount of cleaning and the frequency. This included our dry/change facilities, main entrance and underground cage;
- all contractors have had to provide us with their pandemic plans to ensure it is at least as robust with our plans to keep their employees and Nutrien employees safe; and
- in early April we started temperature scanning for all employees and contractors coming to site each shift to ensure if anyone has a fever that they stay home.

Jackson gives a lot of credit to the employees at the Nutrien Lanigan site as they have been patient while the new procedures were put in place. "Many employees have given us

(continued on page 13: NUTRIEN)



►With safety and the health of its employees paramount, Nutrien Lanigan has been implementing a number of different initiatives in an effort to prevent the spread of COVID-19 during the global pandemic.
photos courtesy Nutrien Lanigan



COVID-19 ENHANCED SAFETY MEASURES FOR SASKATCHEWAN MINING INDUSTRY

PHYSICAL DISTANCING

2M SPACING

INCREASED HANDWASHING

INCREASED HANDWASHING

PPE

PPE

REDUCED PERSONNEL ON SITE

REDUCED PERSONNEL ON SITE

INCREASED SANITATION OF HIGH TOUCH AREAS

INCREASED SANITATION OF HIGH TOUCH AREAS

REDUCED PERSONNEL IN ELEVATORS

REDUCED PERSONNEL IN ELEVATORS

REDUCED PERSONNEL IN VEHICLES

REDUCED PERSONNEL IN VEHICLES

STAGGERED BREAKS AND SHIFTS

STAGGERED BREAKS AND SHIFTS

FLOOR MARKER LINES FOR PHYSICAL DISTANCING

FLOOR MARKER LINES FOR PHYSICAL DISTANCING

BODY TEMPERATURE SCREENING

BODY TEMPERATURE SCREENING

SCREENING QUESTIONNAIRE FOR EACH WORKER

SCREENING QUESTIONNAIRE FOR EACH WORKER

STAGGERED SEATING ON FLIGHTS AND BUSES

STAGGERED SEATING ON FLIGHTS AND BUSES

INCREASED COMMUNICATION

INCREASED COMMUNICATION

INCREASED FOCUS ON MENTAL HEALTH

INCREASED FOCUS ON MENTAL HEALTH

IF SICK STAY AT HOME

IF SICK STAY AT HOME



SMA
Saskatchewan
Mining Association

saskmining.ca
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BHP

Ensuring that our office and Jansen site continues to be a safe place to work during the COVID-19 pandemic has been our top priority.

We are only successful because we are #InThisTogether.

Find out more about our response to the COVID-19 pandemic at bhp.com.



bhp.com

Q & A with BHP’s Ken Smith

■ Daniel Bushman

With hopes of one day becoming operational at its Jansen Potash Project, BHP continues to make progress. The global company which has had a presence within the local area for more than a decade has also been lending its support to others around the region and world during the COVID-19 pandemic.

As part of this year’s Mining Edition, BHP Canada’s Ken Smith graciously provided some time to answer a few questions related to the progress being made at BHP’s Jansen site, how the company has been implementing safety measures during the COVID-19 pandemic and how BHP has been helping out local communities during this unprecedented time.

The following is a question and answer with Ken Smith:

How are things going at BHP’s Jansen site this year?

Things are progressing well at our Jansen Potash Project as we are continuing work to install the final shaft liners. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, in late March, we reduced our sub-surface activities to focus on one shaft at a time. This resulted in the reduction of our site personnel levels. There are currently about 200-230 people accommodated at our Discovery Lodge camp at any given time with an additional estimated 50 people commuting locally to and from the Jansen Project on a daily basis.

What is the goal for the site for 2020?

Continued work on the final lining and progress on our permitting of a potential port facility on the Pacific West Coast is the focus of our activities this calendar year. BHP

is continuing to work through the longer term impacts of the temporary reduction in activity at Jansen and of COVID-19 generally, and will provide an update in due course.

With COVID-19 cases being confirmed in the province, what are some things BHP has been doing at its Jansen site to remain safe while continuing to operate?

The health and safety of our employees and surrounding communities is our top priority while we continue a level of activity at Jansen and in our Saskatoon office. As a result, substantial measures have been put in place such as physical distancing and increased sanitization at our offices, workplaces and buses, and temperature screening and symptom monitoring for those entering and departing the Jansen Project site.

Continuing to operate, even at this reduced level, enables BHP to provide a level of employment for our workforce, our business partners and communities at a time when many job prospects and business revenue has been substantially reduced. As COVID-19 restrictions are eased we will reassess our activities. We always strive to comply with applicable laws and health orders, and this case would be no different.

BHP has been a tremendous supporter of the local area over the years. With the COVID-19 pandemic, what types of things has BHP been doing to help people out?

We recognize that this pandemic has been challenging for our local communities and we were eager to look for

ways to assist. In late March, we announced expedited payment terms for local and Indigenous businesses to immediate payment of outstanding invoices and reduction in payment terms from <30 days to <7 days. This delivered approximately \$3 million into the hands of our Indigenous and Local Community Business partners.

We have also contributed almost \$400,000 in financial donations and in-kind assistance specifically related to COVID-19 since March. This has included over \$100,000 to food banks in Saskatchewan, including \$10,000 to Humboldt, and \$5,000 each to Lanigan and Wynyard Food Banks. We have donated \$10,000 to the Humboldt Community Soup Kitchen, \$25,000 to Partners Family Services and \$10,000 to assist Evergreen Country Home here in LeRoy. We are pleased to deliver just over \$90,000 worth of in-kind donations to our local communities including 20 litre pails of hand sanitizer and surface cleaners and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) such as masks and gloves.

Is there anything else you would like to add?

BHP is pleased to be in a position where we can work with such great local organizations near our Jansen Project as we continue to work through this pandemic together. We would just like to encourage people to follow our Facebook page and local media for further updates on what we are doing. The deadline for our Jansen Project Scholarship was Friday, May 29th and through that scholarship administered by Carlton Trail College on BHP’s behalf (www.CarltonTrailCollege.com) there is a total of \$75,000 available for local and Indigenous students!

BHP donates \$65,000 to Humboldt District Hospital Foundation

■ media release

BHP has made a donation of \$65,000 to the Humboldt District Hospital Foundation (HDHF) towards the purchase of a Chemistry Analyzer.

When purchased, the Chemistry Analyzer will be used in the Humboldt District Health Complex, which is located in the

City of Humboldt, Sask. The Chemistry Analyzer is an essential piece of laboratory equipment used for analyzing blood and body fluids for both community and acute care patients.

“We are beyond overwhelmed with BHP’s gift to assist in the purchase of the analyzer and funding of the interface,” stated

Lorrie Bunko, Executive Director for HDHF. “The analyzer has been on our radar for a couple of years and this is the year that it is needed as it has become outdated.”

“We are excited to be able to assist in the purchase of a key piece of equipment for the Humboldt District Hospital Foundation,” said Giles

Hellyer, President Potash for BHP. “It is important the communities that surround our projects and offices have access to leading medical services for the overall health and well-being of local residents.”

BHP is a leading global resources company with its headquarters located in Melbourne, Australia and its Canadian head-

quarters in Saskatoon, Sask. BHP is among the world’s top producers of major commodities including iron ore, metallurgical coal, copper and petroleum. BHP extracts and processes minerals, oil and gas from production operations located primarily in Australia and North and South America and its products are sold world-

wide. BHP believes in the long-term fundamentals of the potash market and its Jansen Potash Project, located approximately 60 kilometres to the south-east of Humboldt, provides an entry option into this new commodity. Further information on the company can be located at its corporate website at www.bhp.com

(from page 11: NUTRIEN)

great ideas such as installing touch free taps where we can for example.”

In addition, the site senior team has also been keeping track of various initiatives either completed or considered and over 40 items have since been implemented since the pandemic started.

“Communication has been key so site management can provide accurate and timely communications.”

While Jackson and the employees at Nutrien Lanigan continue to keep operations moving in a safe and healthy manner, away from the site, the local company has also been lending a hand.

“We have reached out to local food banks and soup kitchens to see if there were any needs for support. From that, Nutrien Lanigan has made donations to the Lanigan and District Food Bank, the Humboldt Food Bank and the Humboldt Soup Kitchen. We donated N95 masks early on to the Lanigan Fire Department. We have also advertised volunteer opportunities across site and are proud to be able to help during this time.”

Like Nutrien Lanigan, in an effort to ensure the future of food production does not become a long-term issue while some products normally found on store shelves are unavailable, Nutrien President and CEO Chuck Magro said the company has been doing its best at all of its locations.

“Nutrien is at the beginning of the food supply

chain, and our role as an essential service, is more critical than ever. We are proud to be part of a strong, sophisticated food system that’s committed to getting food to tables, even under the most difficult circumstances. We service the world. But it’s spring in the northern hemisphere, and we’re focused on providing farmers with the services and solutions they need to plant their crops, to ensure that grocery store shelves are full this fall, and beyond.”

As part of that, Magro said Nutrien is doing a number of things throughout its operations which are similar to what has been taking place at the Lanigan site:

- first and most importantly, Nutrien is focused on the health and safety of its employees, their families and their communities. Safety is always one of Nutrien’s core values and to them, nothing is more important;
- Nutrien is making every effort to minimize business interruption while keeping its employees safe. From implementing remote working for its employees who can, to limiting access to manufacturing facilities and branch locations, Nutrien is working hard to ensure continuity of its products and services for customers globally;
- Nutrien is empowering its supply chain and distribution teams to accelerate fertilizer, seed and other critical products into the market for customers now. Nutrien wants farmers to be able to start preparing

early for spring planting, in case they need to work with limited staffing resources later in the season;

- Nutrien is focused on providing customers with what they need, when they need it, using Nutrien’s leading online platform – including e-commerce and other digital capabilities – to facilitate efficient delivery of products, services and solutions; and
- Nutrien is also continuing to provide financial lending to growers: Nutrien understands that its scale and financial stability will be critical to helping farming businesses of all sizes weather this storm.

“From grower to grocery store, we are all an essential service,” said Magro. “We need to work together to ensure the stability of the global food supply chain to feed people now and into the future. Our immediate focus needs to be on getting farmers what they need from products to people. That means finding safe ways to support foreign temporary workers amid travel bans and border closures. Farmers depend on these people to support food production across North America. To keep the food supply chain going, governments also need to continue to allow the trade of goods and services, particularly in Canada as one of the top exporters globally.

“What we are going through right now transcends any one business or any one person. We are all in this together. Let’s take care of each other, and let’s keep talking about what we can do to help.”



Community Connection

VISCOUNT

Sandra Reid • 306-227-1193

Welcome to June. Hopefully everyone has a safe and happy summer as we enter the summer season.

We did make a trip to the lake this weekend. On the water spigot we have a “y” connector, one

branches off to the trailer and one branches off to the outside water hose. The turn on switches are yellow and I was surprised to find three different ticks on this. Seems like they like to sit on whatever. Tis the season!

Life sure is a lot different a year ago than it is now. I am sure we are all noticing this.

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

PLUNKETT

Deloris Wilson (Sutherland) • 306-944-4852

I hope everyone had a great long weekend on Victoria Day.

Several folks enjoyed the Snowbirds that flew over Saskatoon.

Linda and Trevor McDonald of Saskatoon brought me home from Royal University Hospital. I was taken by ambulance and had surgery right away. I am at home recuperating.

Vern Mattson who taught school in town is in a Saskatoon hospital.

The farmers are busy seeding and other folks are busy gardening.

On Mother’s Day Linda and Trevor brought out a beautiful bouquet of flowers that had been sent from New Zealand by my two granddaughters Erin and Lisa.

Get well wishes to anyone ill and in the hospital.

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

(from page three: ALC SITES)

Moe said, “We just haven’t been able to ascertain the time frames up until now because of the training that is happening, because of the transition into the cohorting of staff that is happening. It hasn’t been until now that we have been able to actually ascertain when we can actually start to reopen these facilities. And in that, I can see in hindsight that there is at times confusion. The onus is on me to communicate better that these are not being considered for permanent closures. These are temporary. These facilities will be reopened and this government will be making every effort to ensure that can occur.”

To make sure the SHA is balancing risks between resumption of regular service offerings at these facilities and the ability to surge to meet demand if there is an increase in COVID-19 cases, the health authority noted a process is being initiated to ensure these conversions occur for as short of a duration as possible.

“Some of the criteria being used to assess the safety and readiness for reopening emergency departments in each of these locations are training of staff and physicians, cohorting of staff, and minimal prevalence of COVID-19 in the community or surrounding communities.”

Reiter said if there is a potential surge in the future and the demand on the health care system was great, the emergency services could be temporarily suspended again but Moe added the way Saskatchewan has been able to flatten the curve, he felt that may not have to happen.

With testing, identifying, tracing and isolation efforts continuing the way they are, Moe felt the province will not have a provincial pandemic but rather regional outbreaks. Still stressing officials need to react and act quickly if regional outbreaks do occur, Moe said if they can continue to remain vigilant, services can resume.

Keeping safety and the well-being of residents and patients in long-term care facilities and in hospitals a priority, Moe was also asked about limited visitation. Currently visitors to hospitals and long-term care facilities are only permitted for compassionate reasons.

“We know these are difficult decisions and there has been some difficult decisions that have had to occur but we know across this province not only in hospitals but in long-term care centres much of the resulting fatalities due to COVID-19 have come from precisely those facilities. There are people in our hospitals, in our long-term

care facilities that are very vulnerable to the effects of COVID-19 and we have taken measures to ensure we are able to protect the most vulnerable in our society . . .”

Looking to find a way to keep residents and patients safe while allowing visitors, Livingstone said long-term care and acute care have recently established a family presence expert panel to provide some guidance on new recommendations on family presence during COVID-19.

Now meeting weekly, the family presence expert panel has provided input on the situation and amendments are being looked at to have visitors able to see loved ones. “The hope is that we will be bringing this forward to the ministers for a decision and will look for implementation of a phased-in strategy during the first week of June, starting June 1. We hope to see that lift some of the restrictions to go beyond compassionate care which is where we are today but also balance the safety of our long-term care residents and other patients throughout. We are still working on other ways to expand visitation as you know through virtual visits but we also know at this time that from the feedback we are getting across the province that simply is not enough and you will see some changes the week of June 1.”

Creative Corner

The prairie in me

The roots of us, as prairie people, run deep, deep into the very beginning of our lives. Something in us make us feel different - we are different - a tough bunch of individuals living on the prairies in the middle of Canada.

From my early childhood days, jogging along in a buggy with our horse “Fred” taking us back and forth to school along the side hills and around the sloughs, the prairie trail seemed to wind and bend into the unknown. The muddy trail in the spring, the sweet smell of the flowers and buffalo willows come summer; the strawy smell of threshing grain and oh! when winter arrived our buggy became a cutter and still old “Fred” took us over the snowy trails through some cold, snowy, stormy weather but always brought us home to the safety and warmth of our parents home. A prairie winter can be an unforgettable experience.

Over the years I have seen many areas of virgin prairie soil covered with poplar trees and willow bushes, cleared, dug up and cultivated making it into rich fertile soil, suitable for growing grain. My farmer husband spent many tireless hours clearing land, picking rocks and roots for more arable acres and easier for tractor farming. He was indeed changing the prairie landscape. I didn’t always agree when my favourite Saskatoon and Chokecherry bushes were gone. My pleasant time of berry picking was over - at least on our own land.

I’m convinced that only people like me, born and bred to prairie immigrants, could wait so anxiously for the sound of the first crow to “caw” in the spring or see the saucy gopher poke its head out of its winter hide away. To walk in the cattle pasture, over the rolling hills of Manitou Beach, among the fresh blades of new grass, the crocuses starting to show off their fuzzy purple heads, I know within a few days the pasture will be covered in a mass of purple beauty. The sun is beginning to get warmer. I can open my bedroom window allowing the fresh air to come pouring in and listen to the sound of the friendly meadowlark - LISTEN - it is singing to me, “I was here a year ago.” Its song drifts and echoes over the still morning air. What a beautiful wake up call! At the first sighting of a robin bobbing along on the lawn, word quickly passes from neighbour to neighbour that spring is here!

As I stood gazing across the vastness of this prairie landscape from one of the highest points in our area, what a wonderful view of prairie magnificence - the prairie sentinels and the traditional grain elevators - rising above the hazy skyline of distance. At one time five elevators and towns could be viewed from this vantage point. Grain fields like a patchwork quilt, rolling hills and deep valleys dotted here and there with trees and farm buildings as far as the eye can see. The beauty, the great distances and the shades of blue in the late afternoon sky stirs the prairie in me.

Where else could I view with “awe” the most vivid beautiful sunrises and sunsets? The Northern Lights change and dance, miraculous in the evening sky, the stars shining their brightest in the clear heavens above - yes - I can find the Big Dipper - no smog here!

Gardening, my favourite pastime, is a challenge on the prairies, but that prairie person in me never gives up. I have been trying desperately to grow and winter over hybrid tea roses in our Zone Two for quite a few years but with some determination in me I say try one more prairie winter for success. In spite of our hot summer July sun and dry southern winds; either too much rain or not enough, some hail storms here and there, I sill manage to grow a first prize yard and garden. I find such great solace tending and caring for my plants.

Time passes and seems more precious as years roll by. Each day brings a fuller appreciation of life and all the precious memories that the prairie has contributed to my happiness.

Isobel Jones
Saskatoon, Sask.



“Notices Classifieds”

Obituary



TEAL, (Alcock)
Helen Irene
nee Borsheim
Dec. 1921 - May 2020

Helen was born in the farm home seven miles south of Venn on December 23, 1921 and passed away at Jubilee Court in Watrous on May 21st, 2020, her home for the last year.

Helen loved her family and friends. Throughout her life she enjoyed socializing and dancing - especially at Danceland on Manitou Beach, where she and her husband John were part-owners for a time and also with her second husband Kelly Teal. They also held big dinner parties and were avid bridge players. Helen was involved with the All Saints Anglican Church in Watrous where she also taught Sunday school. Helen was well-known for her wonderful sense of humour, coffee and cake in the afternoon, volunteering at church for the many activities involved there, love of travel, beautiful backyard with dozens of potted plants, her delicious meals for which there was rarely a recipe, her moves on the dance floor, and her love of sharing stories from her youth. Helen grew up on a farm south of Venn, Sask. At 17 when she finished school she took a hairdressing course in Yorkton with her friend Mary where they opened up their own hairdressing business. During WWII in 1942, both she and Mary volunteered to go east to work in the war effort where she worked as a Bomb Girl in the munitions factory in Ajax, Ont. She wasn't there long when she returned to the farm in 1943 to help her brother Leslie as their mother Anna Borsheim (nee Rorstrand) had died. She cooked and cleaned inside the house, and outside, she worked in the fields and milked the cows. At age 22 she married John Alcock, and they moved to what is now the Alcock farm just outside of Watrous. Over the next 10 years, they had four children before John died in a tragic accident in August 1953. Helen stayed on at the farm and raised four children on her own for the next 14 years. She made sure each child got to choir practice, Sunday school, hockey, dance, curling, birthday parties, and whatever else was going on - driving up and down the dusty country roads, rain or shine. In 1967 Helen married Harold Vernon "Kelly" Teal and moved to Saskatoon with Marci, Janie, Tom and Jim, and Kelly's two children, Joel and Terry - six teenagers! The following year, tragedy struck again when they lost Janie to cancer, a blow from which Helen never really recovered. In typical Helen style, she carried on busying herself with church, and got a job at Bonita Draperies, making many friends there. When Bonita closed, she found a position at Marguerite's, a lovely boutique in the Bessborough Hotel. At Marguerite's, she could indulge her flair for fashion. It was always a wonder to those at bridge, or church, or Marguerite's to see what she would be wearing that day. For many years she volunteered at Hands On Ministry providing meals for children. Helen was devoted to St. Stephen's Church, church activities and the many friends she made there over the years. Helen's warm spirit and love of life will be deeply missed by all her family and friends who love her dearly.

She is survived by her three children, Marci, Tom (Sue), Jim (Helen); her 11 grandchildren, Jordin (Kitty), Jonathan (Amanda), Belle (Vincent), Rose (Tetsu), Graham (Alysha), Mackenzie, Katie and Alexander; husband Kelly's children, Joel Teal (Doreen), Terry Wilson, and their children, Jeff (Lorena), Bradley, and Mark (Carrie) and 14 great-grand children.

Helen was predeceased by her husband John Alcock, daughter Janie, husband Kelly Teal, brother Leslie, sister Lenora, and son-in-law Bryan Wilson.

Memorial donations directed to All Saints Anglican Church, Watrous would be appreciated.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions a private family committal took place on Tuesday, May 26, 2020. A Memorial Service - Celebration of Life will be held at a later date.

For online condolences, tributes, memorial donations or updated information please visit www.fotheringham-mcdougall.com



In memory

GILLARD - Dad: Philip Trevor, 1896 - 1996; Mom: Alice May (Thompson), 1903 - 1993:

Rest eternal grant upon them,
O Lord and let light perpetual shine upon them. Amen.
(B.C.P.) "Ever kind and true."
- Always lovingly remembered by the family: Mrs. P. Rita B. Patry, M.M.M., C.D. (Capt. Ret'd. Canadian Forces) North Bay, Ont. The Rev. P. Reg. Thompson-Gillard, Priest Ret'd. Anglican Church of Canada.

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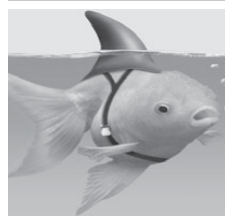
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“Coming Events”

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COMMUNITY MEETINGS

COMMUNITY MEETINGS

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

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306-917-7650

Treena:
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(from front page: CAMPING)

from out of province. Most of the people who had booked by that time, we were able to shift them to the same type of site but just in a different area. We did the best we could and there is still some space available but only using half the sites we will be affected this summer.”

While Brecht noted most people have been understanding through the process, she added that many do not realize Etters Beach is specifically mandated by the province because the resort village is located on provincial government land and the regulations must be enforced. “If someone came in and inspected us they can close us down if we are not following the guidelines set out by the province so we do appreciate everyone’s patience and understanding as we move forward. We do have people who live at Etters and it is their only home.

Keeping that community safe on their behalf is also part of what we have to look to try and do. They live here and for those who just go seasonally to camp, they can go home but if there was ever an outbreak at Etters there are people with no place to go because that is where they live.”

As the Manitou and District Regional Park and Etters Beach implement guidelines, with a June 1 reopening date, the Lanigan Lions Campground is also eagerly anticipating its season.

Lanigan Lions Campground Manager Brad Huculak said they have been undertaking the different requirements and like the regional park at Manitou Beach, there will not be showers or bathrooms open to the public. “Our only water we can have at the campground is at the sewer fill and washout stations. Everything else will

have to be isolated so people will have to use their own washrooms and so nothing will be able to be open for now.”

With 34 sites in Lanigan, Huculak said they will be at 50 percent capacity with no one camping adjacent to each other. Pending an inspection during the final week of May, if the campground received the green light, Huculak said they would be able to reopen June 1.

“There has been a few calls already about availability through the summer and we are looking forward to the season which we hope will run right through to the end of September. We will be opening and trying to do our best to give access to people and hope we can provide a service even though it is going to be fairly limited. If the phases enhance then maybe the bathrooms will be allowed to be open later in the summer but we will have to wait until the government gives the go ahead.”

Meanwhile at LeRoy Leisureland, the regional park has not only teed up another golf season like the courses at Manitou Beach and Lanigan but they too are hoping for a good year ahead.

General Manager of LeRoy Leisureland Mirelle Geyer said so far the weekends have been busy as people take advantage of their golf course. “It has been nice to see people coming out to enjoy the golf course, families sharing a laugh and couples coming to golf. I think everybody is eager to get out and enjoy the awesome weather we’ve been having.”

Also following the guidelines of the Re-open Saskatchewan plan, Geyer said they are only able to have 50 percent campground capacity with every second site allowed to have a camper.

“Our grounds staff has been hard at work getting the campground in tip-top shape. We have been remarking the camp-

sites, clearly lining out what sites will be allowed for use, making sure the hookups are ready and that the campgrounds are clean and ready for use once June 1 comes around.”

Recently adding 12 power sites with reverse osmosis water, LeRoy Leisureland has 10 seasonal sites and 26 non-seasonal sites which has meant people have been calling to book them over the past couple of weeks. “We are really filling up quickly, especially over the weekends. People are anxious to get out and enjoy the wonderful weather we’ve been having as well as getting out for a round of golf on our beautiful golf course.”

At Painted Rock Campground located just off Hwy. 16 and a few kilometres west of Colonsay, Bryan and Dawn Wall are excited to be able to open June 1. With 21 sites, the campground can reopen at 50 percent capacity and because of that the Walls have maximized their pull-through and full service sites.

“Unlike provincial campgrounds, we are allowed to accept out of province guests,” said Bryan. “We are excited about this change as it allows travellers and others relocating across the country a place to stay on their journey. We also offer long-term options for people working in the area.”

While water and power is available at all sites, plus a limited number of sites with sewer hook-up, Bryan highlighted a few other changes. “Washrooms will be available, following strict guidelines on cleaning and disinfecting procedures. Unfortunately, showers must remain closed. Our small store will also not open this year. Contactless payment and firewood delivery is available for all campers. As with everyone else in this resilient province, our priority is in the protection of our customers and our staff.”

COVID-19 Testing

Testing detects the COVID-19 virus.

That's why we've expanded COVID-19 testing criteria to include:



Those working outside the home or returning to work, including people working in industries, factories or in similar high volume settings.

Beginning June 5, testing criteria will be further expanded to include:



Those being admitted to acute care for more than 24 hours, including expectant mothers.



Immunocompromised individuals and their health care providers.

Testing for the COVID-19 virus is quick and safe.

Please get tested if you have symptoms. Public Health will contact you with test results. To prevent further spread, those who test positive will need to self-isolate for 14 days.

Get a referral to be tested by:



Calling HealthLine 811



Calling your physician or nurse practitioner

For more information, visit saskatchewan.ca/covid19



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Saskatchewan

Watrous
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STORE HOURS

Monday to Friday: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

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We have a limited supply of
**SNEEZE GUARDS
IN STOCK**

We have also been able
to acquire more
medical masks.

**We continue to experience delays on
deliveries from our warehouse.**
**Thank you for understanding while we
remain committed to doing our best.**

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WITH LANE MANSON

Evening of Saturday, June 6th

FEATURING HERITAGE ROAD'S RIESLING AND
BLOODSTONE SHIRAZ AND LA VIEILLE FERME'S
ROSE

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