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Santa Day

Layla and Olivia Jones pose for a photo with Santa during the Moosomin Kinettes Santa Day on December 7.



Nicole Taylor photo

RM of Moosomin commits \$80,000 to new daycare

BY NICOLE TAYLOR
 On Dec. 6, the RM of Moosomin announced their commitment to donate \$80,000 over the next five years to Play Fair Daycare towards the construction of a second daycare building in Moosomin.

"The impact the new daycare will have on the rural community will be substantial," said Jeff McMullen with the RM of Moosomin council. "If you want to community to thrive, you need growth to make things work."

"We recognize that to maintain and retain RM employees coming forward that they do have to have some place for their children to go, and that growth is important,"

said Kendra Lawrence, administrator with the RM of Moosomin.

"The daycare had given us a presentation and documents with different rates of commitment, and it seemed to be a very simple decision around the table that they chose the sponsorship with \$80,000."

The RM says this the construction of the new daycare will impact the entire region.

"The daycare impacts a large region, the entire area will benefit from the daycare, not just those living directly in town," said McMullen.

Herb Doll with the RM of Moosomin council says it's

important that the RM help support the local region in any way they can.

"We've always committed to supporting our region and whoever needs funding," he says. "We might not give a big amount like we are today, but we would give something to an organization in the region that has requested it and justifies the safety, health and welfare of our residents. We know a new daycare will be a benefit to all residents in the area, like parents coming from Rocanville and Wapella."

Continued on page 2

YEAR END BLITZ!

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The RM of Moosomin has committed \$80,000 over five years to Playfair Daycare for the construction of a second daycare in Moosomin. From left are Terri Lowe, Jill Jones and Jalisa Miller with the daycare fundraising committee, and Jeff McMullen, Herb Doll and Kendra Lawrence with the RM of Moosomin. Nicole Taylor photo

RM of Moosomin commits \$80,000 to new day care

Continued from front

To date, the daycare has received approximately \$150,000 in donations, and are looking to fundraise about \$1.5 million—approximately one-third of the cost of the \$4.4 million project. The daycare has received \$1 million from the government as a startup grant for the project.

"This donation will go into the capital that we need to actually build the building, so this is a huge contribu-

tion. Hopefully it spurs some other organizations or businesses in the area when they see how it can benefit the community," says Jill Jones with the daycare fundraising committee.

"We have been really happy with the response so far," said Jalisa Miller with the daycare fundraising committee. "We've had a number of donations come forward. This is definitely our biggest donation and our first one in the

\$80,000 category so far. We hope more businesses start to come forward once they see this donation."

Play Fair Daycare has been approved for a second building with 90 new spots. The new daycare building will be located on the south side of the MacLeod School grounds, on Gertie Street.

"Probably we'll start tendering in spring and then in early summer see some construction," she says.

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LH Bradley & Son donates \$15,000 to daycare

BY NICOLE TAYLOR
On Dec. 6, L.H. Bradley & Son presented a \$15,000 cheque to the Playfair Daycare fundraising committee for the construction of a second daycare in Moosomin.

"When we got the presentation from the daycare, they had the donation options organized into different tiers," said Rob Bradley with L.H. Bradley & Son.

"We looked at all the tiers and thought we would make a larger donation to this because we believe it's a significant project for Moosomin."

Rob says he's seen firsthand the effect that a lack of childcare spaces has had in Moosomin.

"Obviously there is a lack of daycare space right now, and we actually had one of our employees who ran into a situation where she couldn't get her kids into daycare, so she was unable to come back from maternity leave," he says. "It was a situation where I thought this is a definite need for this town. I think it's a great project, and this town is growing very fast. There's a lot of great things going on in the community, and we just knew it was a great project to support."

"Child-care is a very important thing to have in a town," says Don Bradley with L.H. Bradley & Son. "There's so many qualified professionals who have to stay home. They are forced to make the decision to either stay home with the children, or go to work. I



From left are Don Bradley with LH Bradley & Son, Jalisa Miller, Jill Jones and Terri Lowe with Playfair Daycare, and Rob Bradley with LH Bradley & Son.

am sure there are lots of women and men that want to go to work, and look after their families too, but they don't have anywhere to drop their children off." Rob says they wanted to make a donation sooner

rather than later, in hopes to inspiring others to consider donating.

"The fundraising committee have a very good plan, I think the funds they have set for their goals seem very strategic. We

decided we could get in on it early, maybe it will help everybody else decide maybe they should donate," said Rob.

Rob says a new daycare is important for retaining young families in Moosomin.

min. "Another benefit of the daycare is it will draw younger families and younger people to the community, which will make the community grow even more. We need to always have the younger generations coming in rather than leaving. In a lot of smaller towns, the young generations are leaving, but here, the younger ones are coming into Moosomin."

Don says that Bradley's takes pride in supporting the community.

"We are part of the town, the Bradley family has been in Moosomin a long time," he says.

"The town supports us, so we would like to give back to the town and area," adds Rob. "It's not just Moosomin, it's the whole area. Moosomin draws a lot of people to the town from other smaller communities for everything—services, groceries, shopping—there is a lot of people driving into this community to support local."

"Everything in town is growing, the economic development is wonderful," says Don. "Businesses will follow if you have the essential services available, and childcare is an essential service."

Chamber meeting Wednesday

The Moosomin Chamber of Commerce December meeting will be **Wednesday, December 18** at 11:45 am at the Canalta Hotel meeting room in Moosomin.

Fireworks weekend

There will be discussion on plans for the return of the Living Skies Come Alive Fireworks Competition at Moosomin Regional Park August 2-3, 2025.

Holiday Smile Cookie Cheque presentation

There will be a presentation from Tim Hortons Moosomin to McNaughton High School of the proceeds of the Holiday Smile Cookie campaign.

There will be an update from McNaughton High School on the renovation project, which was supported by local businesses and the Holiday Smile

Cookie Campaign. Renovations in the Home Ec Room have recently been completed.

Entrepreneurship

Newly elected Moosomin Town Council members Heather Truman and Victor Santos Cardoza will speak about their plans

for encouraging entrepreneurship in Moosomin.

Mayor's report

New Moosomin Mayor Murray Gray will give an update to Chamber members on his plans for the town moving forward, and his priorities for the community.

MLA's report

Moosomin-Montmartre MLA Kevin Weedmark will give an update on his experience so far representing the constituency in the Legislature.

The meeting begins at 11:45 am Wednesday, lunch is served and everyone is welcome.

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Moosomin Carol Festival

The Moosomin Carol Festival was held on Sunday, December 8 at Bethel United Church. There were two shows—one in the afternoon and one in the evening.

Top centre: MC Layne McFarlane introduces the next performance.

Top right: Sharon McCarthy, Deb Heathcote, Nancy Apskrum and Ingrid Rudd sing a carol.

Above left: Choir group "Friends" sing a song together. The group has been singing together for 42 years.

Above middle: Sandra Poole playing the piano at the festival.

Right: Zelda Myberg performing a song at the festival.

Nicole Taylor photos



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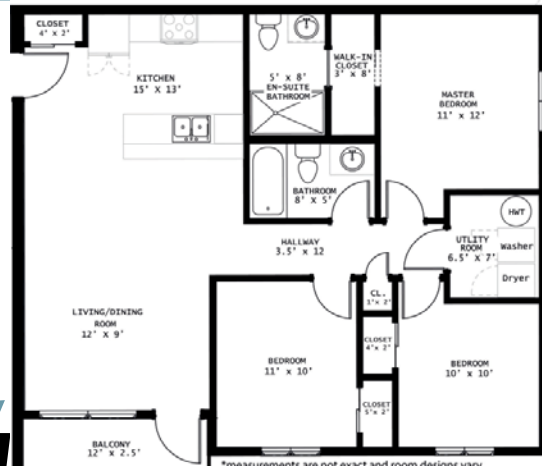
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Rangers sin bin fundraiser and Hall of Fame awards this Friday

BY RYAN KIEDROWSKI

LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

This Friday, December 20, the Moosomin Rangers are hosting their Sin Bin Fundraiser and Hall of Fame Awards during their Moosomin vs Oxbow home game at the Mike Schwean arena.

The event is a fundraiser for the new daycare in Moosomin, and a first for the Senior Rangers, who are bundling the fundraiser in with their hall of fame awards that night.

A minimum donation of \$50 lands someone in the Sin Bin, and that person then needs to raise at least twice the initial amount in order to get out. Some of the offences that might land one up in the Sin Bin include skating too slow, impersonating a Zamboni driver, and too much chat, but officials (those nominating someone for the sin bin) can come up with their own penalties in good humour and taste.

Bribing an official lands a 'get out early' fee set at twice the original dollar amount, and mug shots will be taken for social media.

Even before the game, there's a way to get someone locked in the bin. Phone in the person you'd like to send to the Sin Bin along with your donation. The Rangers will give that person a complimentary ticket to the Dec. 20 game, but once they get through the doors, it's straight to the Bin! To toss someone in the Bin before the



The Rangers goalie pouncing on a puck.

game, call the Rec Office at (306) 435-3622 or the Economic Development Office at (306) 435-2988.

"I think it's a really good opportunity for the daycare to promote the project in front of 500, 600, 700 people, so there's benefits far beyond the amount of money we raise," said Moosomin Rec Director Mike Schwean.

In addition to the Sin Bin Fundraiser, the Dec. 20 home game will be a busy event. The Ranger Hall of Fame inductions and Minor Hockey Awards will happen in the Blue Moose Lounge pre-game. Prior to the game, Jess Moskaluke, will sing O Canada.

Other highlights throughout the game include the Team Spirit Award which will fetter the most spirited minor hockey team in attendance with a pizza party at the Sportsplex. During the first intermission, the 2024 Rangers Hall of Fame inductees will be announced, and the 2024 Minor Hockey award winner.

The second intermission will see the Rocky Mountain Equipment shootout that has an estimated pot of \$1,000. Post-game action includes the Rangers shootout Calcutta with guest announcer The Alberta Clipper.

Everything will wrap up that night with the Rangers Christmas Cabaret at the Moosomin Convention Centre with music courtesy of DJ Megan Sparkle.

Kipling Town Council

RTM to replace Main Street Kipling home lost to fire

BY RYAN KIEDROWSKI

LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

A special public hearing to address rebuilding on a Main Street property was held prior to the Dec. 9 regular meeting of Kipling Town Council. While no public were in attendance, council heard information regarding a zoning bylaw amendment and accepted a development application for a property at 401 Main Street.

The zoning amendment was linked to the development application, following a house fire at that address earlier this year. The amendment sought was for the property to be zoned as a single detached dwelling as a discretionary use.

"The reason for that is that a house burned in the spring, and the owners just want to replace that which was there," explained Mayor Pat Jackson, who chaired the special meeting.

No comment rose from the floor, and a motion on the application was referred to the regular meeting of council that immediately followed the special meeting.

As for the development application, Acting Administrator Andrew Rygh noted that residents around the property in question were contacted, with no concerns raised.

"We sent a letter out to all of the adjacent properties, and we had one email that came back," he said. "They were happy to have the residential building go back up, and everything else that I received was verbal from all surrounding residents. Everyone was happy to have the building be rebuilt."

The owners are planning to place an RTM home on the site, which Rygh informed council does fit within zoning bylaws. Mayor Jackson then closed the special meeting, five minutes after calling it to order.

Wind farm up and running

Mayor Jackson was pleased to report that most of the turbines at the Bekevar Yotin Wind Project are in operation.

"The wind farm is up and running," she confirmed. "In fact, I talked with Duane Leicht (Renewable Energy Systems) yesterday, and he said they had 30 of the 36 fully functioning. The other six they're working on."

Proclamation declined

Mayor Jackson also brought forward some correspondence she received from a group called the Christian Heritage Festival, who were asking municipalities across Canada to proclaim December as Christian Heritage Month.

More than three dozen centres in Canada have already made such proclamations, including Saskatchewan centres of Saskatoon, Regina, Prince Albert. The multi-denominational organization is a Christian music festival that celebrates the contributions of Canadians who identify as Christian, an estimated 53.3 per cent.

"Personally, for me, it's Christian Heritage Month, but that's within me," Mayor Jackson said. "I've got friends—

some of them in town—who are not Christian, and we've got to walk a fine line here, we can't be leaning too far any direction."

Council ultimately decided to decline making the proclamation.

Council appointments

Members of Council were officially appointed to various committees, as follows:

Budget Committee – Council of the Whole. Joint Community Centre Committee – Devin Draper and Tara Carter. SE Library Rep – Maria Hill. Veterinary Board – James Gallagher. Joint Airport Committee – Draper and Darren Szakacs. SE Transportation Committee – Mayor Pat Jackson. Joint Road Committee – Draper and Colby Sproat. Police Commissioner – Mayor Jackson. Joint Fire Committee Reps – Sproat and Szakacs. Health Foundation Rep – Maria Hill. Leisure Services Committee – Tara Carter, Gallagher and Sproat. Communities Lotteries Grant – Council of the Whole. KidSport Committee – Carter, Hill, and Gallagher. Joint Leisure Service Committee – Sproat and Gallagher. Human Resource Committee – Council of the Whole. Planning and Development Committee – Draper, Sproat and Szakacs. Utilities Committee – Draper, Sproat and Szakacs.

Moose Mountain Pipestone Creek Watershed Association (MMP/CWA) – Sproat and Draper. School Community Council – Hill. Age Friendly Committee – Carter. Museum Committee – Gallagher.

Property tax payments coming in

There's been a bustle of activity at Town Office lately as residents hurry in to pay their taxes by year end. The last time Rygh checked, about 30 per cent of taxes in Kipling have been paid.

"It actually moved up drastically," he said, admitting that while not pulling the actual numbers in advance of the meeting, "it's starting to flow in."

"Today, in fact, was quite a busy day for Christina with a lot of people coming in to pay off their taxes," Rygh said, estimating two to three people per hour coming in on Dec 9, during what it typically a busy month for paying taxes.

The deadline for 2024 property taxes is Dec. 31, after which a 12 per cent penalty will be applied. With the ongoing Canada Post strike, payments are accepted online through the Credit Union or via e-transfer, or in person at the town office by cash, cheque, debit, or credit card.

Acting Administrator's last day

Dec. 12 was Acting Administrator Andrew Rygh's last day at Town Office as he returns to the banking world.

"I start on Dec. 16 at the Credit Union, so I've told Christina and Kelly that if they need help finding anything, I'm a phone call away," he said.

Workplace violence policy passed

A policy that was being worked on during the transition of the Administrator position between Gail Daku

and Rygh came before council for consideration.

"There is a requirement by the Saskatchewan government to have a workplace violence policy and prevention plan in place," Rygh explained. "This was right in that transition where Gail was still here and I came on, and it just got overlooked. Gail and I worked to build the policy, and then we just didn't put it into the agenda to read through."

The policy was approved by council as presented.

Town office Christmas hours

A motion before Council suggested that the Town Office close at 3 pm on Dec. 24, plus closed entirely on the 25th and 26th. Council unanimously approved the decision.

Deputy Mayor appointed

Councillor Colby Sproat was appointed Deputy Mayor, with unanimous consent from council.

Kipling's revenue share

The total revenue share that the Town of Kipling is set to receive this year is \$299,782, of which \$187,363.75 has already been received. One requirement was for a resolution to come before council stating that eligibility requirements have been met by the town.

In 2024-25, the provincial government will distribute over \$340 million to various municipalities through Municipal Revenue Sharing, equal to 0.75 of one full point of the Provincial Sales Tax. The amount received varies, with cities gaining 47.9 per cent (\$162.974 million); towns, villages, and resort villages receiving 16.2 per cent (\$55.118 million); rural municipalities get 28.5 per cent (\$96.967 million); and northern communities receive 7.4 per cent (\$25.177 million).

Lower voter turnout

Council received the official returning officer declaration, which also included the number of voters who cast a ballot during the municipal election last month. A total of 206 residents voted in Kipling, down from the 2020 election that noted well over 300 voters.

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Esterhazy Town Council

Esterhazy to test live video feed at arena

BY RYAN KIEDROWSKI
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Many rinks these days have their hockey games streaming live for fans to enjoy, and the Town of Esterhazy is considering exactly how to make that happen at the Dana Antal Arena.

The topic of having a live video feed at the arena was on the agenda of last week's regular Town Council meeting on Dec. 11, with a few options on the table to consider.

The idea is not a new one, as Mayor Randy Bot pointed out, but is something he feels is important as a way of giving back to the community.

"Michelle (Fuhr, Community Development & Recreation Director) has been working diligently on this for probably 18 months already, trying to find out the best options for us," he said.

Before council was the option to purchase cameras to stream events to a YouTube channel. The second choice was to have LiveBarn set up the equipment and broadcast games, and a third option would be to go with HomeTeam to also livestream events.

For the first option, the town would need to invest \$5,825.28 for cameras and have staff manually turn the recording on and off. Staff also noted that they would plan to ask 501 Audio to install all the necessary components. Since it would be broadcast over YouTube, there would be no cost for people to watch the games while the other two options would require a subscription to view.

Mayor Bot noted he was in favour of the first option, especially since it involved working with a local business that can respond quickly, and that games would be free to enjoy.

"It's something that we're giving back," he said. "We don't have to charge people, they don't have to get a subscription."

Councillor Maggie Rowland made the motion to try the first option—broadcasting via YouTube—but to keep the town's name on the list for HomeTeam as a backup op-

tion. The rest of council voted in favour of her motion, which was carried.

Daycare zoning bylaw amended

A zoning bylaw regarding the height of a proposed fence around the site of Little Miners Community Daycare was amended during last week's meeting. The daycare is currently renovating a space in the Esterhazy High School, and came to council previously with a request to place a higher fence around the future outdoor play area, at that time, seeking a six-foot tall chain link fence. Previously council had decided on a five-foot fence and with the amendment passing last week, there will be a 17-foot setback.

The next step in the process is a public awareness component, sending out letters to residents within a 100 meter radius of the facility, advertising the amendment and a public hearing to be held prior to the Jan. 9 regular meeting of council at 6:15 p.m.

One of the concerns brought forward was visual line of sight where the fence was going.

Janitorial contract

Unlike the last time the town requested tenders for janitorial services, only one company submitted a tender to the Town of Esterhazy.

"Two years ago, we put it out, and I think we had four people put their name in," said CAO Tammy MacDonald. This year—as with the last round of tenders—Squeaky Cleaners of Esterhazy submitted a tender.

"Squeaky Cleaners was awarded it two years ago in 2024 to 2025, so this tender is from 2025 to Dec. 31, 2026," MacDonald said.

Auditor named

Prairie Strong Chartered Professional Accountants was named as this year's auditor.

Snow Angels policy

Initially an item brought to the attention of Mayor Bot from a taxpayer, and then delegated to Planning & Development Director Crystal Sabo to work on, the idea of having Snow Angels in Esterhazy came to council's attention.

"My understanding of it is it's more of a volunteer thing, that if there's somebody that is unable to clear their snow, we give them a snow angel sign that they put up in their driveway, and then, if somebody has free time, they can go help them out," mayor Bot said.

The volunteer program would require those in need of shovelling to fill out an application stating there's nobody in their residence able to remove snow and waiving liability in the event of damage, as Sabo explained to council. Once the application has been submitted, those needing snow removal by volunteers would receive a sign.

Council approved the policy.



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Canada Post strike has changed things for local businesses

BY RYAN KIEDROWSKI
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

As the Canada Post strike passed the one-month mark last week, businesses are feeling the effects. For some, the job action has been an inconvenience, forcing them to pivot and find alternate ways of ensuring that their needs—and those of customers—continue to be met. Others are finding the strike has prompted a more profitable change they may have not otherwise realized.

"I certainly think it has affected them in a couple of ways," said Moosomin Community Builders Alliance president Tyler Thorn of local businesses. "The first one that comes to mind is paying their bills and receiving their bills."

In many cases, people have turned to electronic fund transfers, or sending a cheque via courier bag, Thorn explained.

Parcel delivery and courier services have noted an uptick in business, some more-so than others. Matthew Pister is the owner of Rural Route Package Pick-Up—an idea that was spawned from limited shipping options outside major centres. His Main Street business opened earlier this spring, and Pister says deliveries through November have doubled over October, and are poised to follow that trend in December.

"The one part that really shows what happens when they go on strike is there's no backup to any of this," Pister said. "Look at all those passport letters—there's no backup. That just shows how fragile it really is."

As of Dec. 1, around 185,000 printed passports are being held by Service Canada until the Canada Post strike is resolved.

"I think that after this, we'll see probably a shift towards more like what I'm doing," Pister said. "The problem is they can't get the letter mail out."

While Pister's business initially began as serving customers with smart parcel lockers, the strike sped up plans to initiate a shipping service, further diversifying what he can offer.

"I was planning on rolling out a shipping service, and then this happens," he said of the strike. "Then I've had a lot of people ask me, 'hey, can you ship?' I've noticed an increase in shipping that I'm trying to do, too. So hopefully that creates a bit of a service for itself, too."

Shopping local thrives

Thorn took an optimistic view on how the temporary lack of a postal service may actually be increasing support of local businesses.

"There is some upside for local stores in that this time of year, people might be more likely to shop in town, in the stores, knowing that they can get the product right away," he said. "Particularly if it's a Christmas gift, knowing they can get it and have it under the Christmas tree in a couple of weeks, whereas if they need to order it online, there's zero guarantees right now. If you haven't ordered it by now, it's probably not coming by Christmas time."

Kari Kosior, owner of Kari's Kloset, used to walk down to the post office three to five times a day, depending on shipping volumes.



Kari Kosior has turned to an online shipping company to get her parcels out to customers since the Canada Post strike.

"This is a time of year that we actually don't ship out as much as we do, only because people often are usually quite organized when it comes to online ordering, that they kind of plan to do it earlier to make sure it's not going to get stuck in the mail during such a peak point of the season," she explained. "It's definitely had a bit of an impact, a very small impact right now, but if it were to continue longer into the New Year where people do have gift certificates and they're going to start shopping for themselves again, we do enough business that we ship out that we're missing getting to stay connected with our customers from far away."

A saving grace came to Kosior through a recommendation of a fellow small business owner and customer from Yorkton. She told Kosior about an online shipping solution called freight.com, which has so far been a game changer for Kari's Kloset. In fact, at this point, Kosior says she might not go back to Canada Post after the strike. An added bonus is the reduced fees incurred when shipping parcels through the online shipping company—a value Kosior can then pass along to her customers.

As to the point Thorn made about increased foot traffic in local stores, Kosior agrees, adding that some of her customers travel quite a fair distance to shop in Moosomin.

"I've definitely become a destination store," she said. "I have women that will drive as far as two hours out of their way to come here. It's quite remarkable."

These travellers typically make a day of the trip, supporting local restaurants and other businesses as well.

"We're known for our downtown retail district, and so that's really created Moosomin as a community, as a destination town to come shopping, to come spend the day in," Kosior said, noting the out-of-town sales are roughly equal to local shopping volumes in her store.

It will be difficult to tell if businesses will return to Canada Post once the strike is over, and the longer the dispute goes on, the more firmly entrenched new patterns will become.

"There will be some business go away from Canada Post that probably isn't coming back," Thorn predicts. "Once businesses figure out other ways to collect their money, they're not going to use the mail anymore."

Moosomin Multi 4-H Club

BY BENJAMIN FRANSON, CLUB REPORTER

Our General Meeting was on December 1, 2024. Our General Leader updated the club on a few policies from 4-H Saskatchewan and thanked all who signed up as adult volunteers.

We heard project reports from Light Horse, Sheep, Exploring 4-H, Wood Working, Travel and Rodeo. There have been some neat things going on.

We discussed the District 5 Winter Fun Day taking place in Whitehead on January 4, and will have a few members attending.

I gave my report on laying a wreath on November 11 at the Cenetaph on behalf of our club.

Parent co-ordinators gave a report on our bottle drive fundraiser. We will still accept donations at Sarcen for Moosomin Multi 4-H account 066100052.

We were challenged by the Fairmede 4-H Beef Club to collect food for the food bank. We accepted that challenge!

There was a speech writing review and then we had our Club Christmas Party. We decorated cookies and had hot chocolate.

Our next meeting day will be on February 9, 2025, and we will also do our public speaking that day.

Correction

On page 13 in the Dec. 9 World-Spectator, the outline under a photo of the Moosomin Elks making a donation to MOTOH said the money would be used for operating expenses. That is incorrect. The money will be used on booklets of tickets for rides in December for people who are unfortunate or who could use some financial help to pay for bus rides during the Christmas season.


Southeast 1975-2025
 COLLEGE 50 YEARS


50th ANNIVERSARY
 SCHOLARSHIP

For our 50th anniversary, we are giving away one (1) early application entrance scholarship valued at

\$5050.00

IF YOU APPLY EARLY FOR OUR FULL-TIME PROGRAMS, YOUR NAME WILL BE ENTERED IN A DRAW TO WIN \$5050.00. TO BE ELIGIBLE, APPLY BY

THURSDAY, MAY 15, 2025

***For domestic students only. Other conditions apply.**

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT OUR COMMUNICATION AND STRATEGIC ENROLLMENT DIVISION AT SCHOLARSHIPS@SOUTHEASTCOLLEGE.ORG. EXACT PAYMENT DETAILS CAN BE FOUND AT WWW.SOUTHEASTCOLLEGE.ORG.

THE WORLD-Spectator

Saskatchewan's largest, oldest,
and most award-winning community newspaper

Kevin Weedmark
Publisher
Kara Kinna
Editor

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In our opinion:

Ottawa's GST/HST holiday a short-term gift with long-term pain

It's official. Starting Dec. 14, Ottawa's two-month GST/HST holiday will temporarily reduce the tax to zero per cent, offering Canadians a reprieve until Feb. 15. While this initiative seems like a gift for consumers during the holiday season, it comes with unintended consequences that could harm consumers, retailers, and the broader economy.

Under the policy, provinces with standalone provincial sales taxes (PST)—such as British Columbia (seven per cent), Saskatchewan (six per cent), Manitoba (seven per cent), and Quebec (9.975 per cent)—will continue to apply these rates. Meanwhile, provinces using the harmonized sales tax (HST)—Newfoundland and Labrador, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Ontario—will see the total tax rate on eligible items drop to zero per cent. Alberta, which already lacks a PST, remains tax-free.

At first glance, this may seem like a win for Canadians. Grocery stores won't charge taxes on snacks and ready-to-eat items, and restaurant meals will also see a significant tax cut. However, the benefits are unevenly distributed, and the policy introduces complications that could outweigh its advantages.

Uneven savings and business strain

For most Canadians, the grocery store tax savings are minimal—an estimated \$5 over two months. While negligible for consumers, this creates significant logistical challenges for grocers, who must update systems to reflect the tax holiday for thousands of products. These updates, along with operational disruptions, will impose costs on an industry already operating on razor-thin margins.

Restaurants, in contrast, stand to benefit more. With Canadians spending an average of \$180 per month dining out, families could save between \$60 and \$90 during the tax holiday. This relief may help restaurants recover from recent economic challenges, but the benefits are uneven. Quebecers, for instance, might cross into Ontario or New Brunswick to dine tax-free, saving nearly 10 per cent. These cross-border dynamics disadvantage Quebec restaurant owners and could exacerbate regional tensions.

Inflationary risks and market instability

While the tax holiday offers temporary relief, it carries the risk of inflationary pressure. Retailers and restaurants, adjusting to the absence of tax revenue, may opportunistically raise prices. A similar phenomenon occurred when Prime Minister Stephen Harper reduced the GST by one per cent in 2006 and 2008 – prices initially spiked before stabilizing. This history suggests that short-term tax changes often lead to market instability.

Taxes tied to food are particularly volatile. Whether introduced or removed, they disrupt market dynamics in ways that often disadvantage consumers. The temporary nature of the GST/HST holiday increases the likelihood of opportunistic pricing, potentially leaving Canadians paying higher prices long after the tax is reinstated.

Regressive and ineffective taxation

Taxes on food disproportionately affect low-income households, making them inherently regressive. Proponents of taxing "unhealthy" foods argue these measures encourage healthier choices, but evidence suggests otherwise. Newfoundland and Labrador's soda tax, introduced in 2022, provides a cautionary tale. While it generated \$6.1 million in its first year and is projected to double in 2023-24, it has not significantly reduced soda consumption or improved public health. Instead, it has become a revenue generator with little tangible benefit to consumers.

At grocery stores, taxes on food are often hidden, and only about 25 per cent of Canadians check their receipts regularly. Transparent policies, coupled with consumer education, are more effective than stealth taxes in promoting better health outcomes over time.

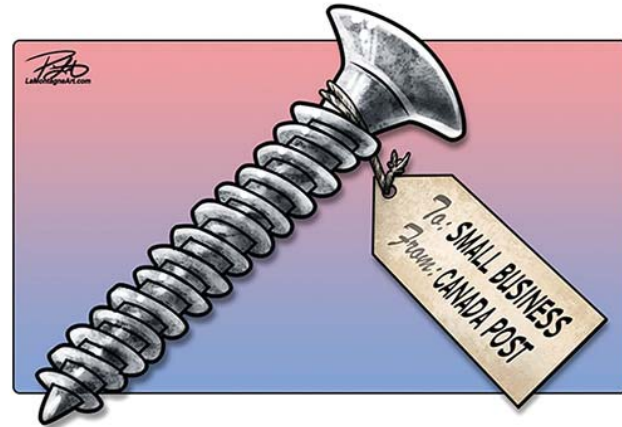
A missed opportunity for long-term reform

Rather than implementing a temporary tax holiday, Ottawa could have permanently eliminated the GST on food. Such a measure would shield consumers from market instability triggered by policy reversals and reinforce food affordability as a key component of Canada's social safety net. A permanent change would also eliminate the logistical burden on retailers and create a more predictable pricing environment for consumers.

The GST/HST holiday might seem like a timely relief, but its potential costs outweigh the benefits. Food pricing is a delicate balance, and policy shifts have ripple effects across the supply chain. For many Canadians, the long-term instability caused by this measure could leave them worse off.

By taking a longer-term view, Canada could better address the root causes of food insecurity and market volatility. A permanent solution—rather than a fleeting holiday—would offer lasting relief and stability for consumers and businesses alike.

This editorial was written by Dr. Sylvain Charlebois, a Canadian professor and researcher specializing in food distribution and policy, is a senior director of the Agri-Food Analytics Lab at Dalhousie University and co-host of The Food Professor Podcast. He is frequently cited in the media for his insights on food prices, agricultural trends, and the global food supply chain.



Last chance to get in on the Christmas Giveaway this week!

This week is your last chance to get in on the World-Spectator Christmas Giveaway by shopping locally for a chance to win \$15,000 and dozens of other small prizes contributed by local businesses around the region.

I can tell you that after running this Christmas shopping promotion for decades now, it is just as exciting as when it started years ago.

Every year we are asked about the draw as the draw date nears. People get excited and wonder when the winner will be announced. Lots of people hope that they are the winner of the \$15,000, and those who win the small prizes donated by all of the participating businesses are usually pretty thrilled.

For our grand prize winners, this draw really does make a difference. It's not uncommon for tears to be shed when the winner finds out. \$15,000 is a lot of money and can really give a big boost to someone, especially after going through such an expensive time of year.

For our local businesses, this draw is just one more way to encourage local shopping at their most crucial time of year for bringing in revenue. And for some of them, there's an extra bonus if the draw winner chooses to spend some of their winnings there. We've had some great winners over the years who have shopped around the region, spending their \$15,000 on everything from groceries, to building supplies, to clothing, food, furniture and jewelry.

While the draw itself is always lots of fun, and a great way to promote local shopping, there's another side of it that people don't always know about, and that's the way it puts our area on the map. Kevin and myself have taken dozens of calls over the years from other communities asking us how we do such a large promotion at Christmas time. I don't know what to tell them, really, other than we have a super supportive business community in this area, and that's why it works. Our region has always put a big focus on working together, and without that attitude, the Christmas Giveaway wouldn't be able to happen each year!

So get out and enjoy the last few days of shopping and entering the draw this week! We will be starting to pick up draw



Kara Kinna

boxes and pull names and call winners like mad later in the week, including our grand prize winner—which could be you!

Santa Parade needs floats!

The Moosomin Kinettes are holding their annual Santa Parade this Thursday, Dec. 19 and they could use a few more floats!

This annual parade is always a great way to cap off the Christmas season as the holiday nears, and lots of people—and especially kids—look forward to it every year!

It's also a way to collect food for the Moosomin Food Share, which the Kinettes do along the parade route!

If you think you can put a float together and participate in this parade, please do! Marshalling starts at 6:30 pm at Bradley Park, and the parade starts at 7 pm.

Daycare donations rolling in

The need for a second daycare in Moosomin is huge, and it's wonderful to see how donations to Playfair Daycare have started to roll in, in a big way.

The daycare needs to raise around \$1.5 million from donations, corporate commitments and the community, and this week the RM of Moosomin announced it would be putting \$80,000 toward a new daycare, recognizing how important it is for our area.

LH Bradley & Son also come forward with a \$15,000 donation, noting that one of their employees could not come back to work after a maternity leave due to a lack of daycare.

And last week, Mosaic made a massive commitment to the Little Miners Daycare in Esterhazy, stepping forward with \$100,000 for that project.

Daycare is an essential service for any community in moving forward, and our communities are definitely intent on moving forward, so I have no doubt that more major donations will be forthcoming in the months ahead.



Elkhorn holds annual Christmas Light Up

Elkhorn and Area Foundation celebrates 25 years

BY ED JAMES

The Elkhorn community Christmas Light Up on Dec. 7 was a perfect winter day for a wide range of events.

The day started off with a pancake breakfast at the local curling club and Early Education Learning Centre, catered by the daycare members. This was followed by free curling, with a few young people trying their luck out trying to throw some rocks that were almost as heavy as them!

At the local library branch, Tara Bajus hosted a children's arts and craft workshop where they made Christmas table placemats. In the afternoon the Elkhorn Legion Hall was the place to be with a Christmas arts and craft show by local and out-of-town vendors.

If you needed a break from shopping, the Legion Ladies Auxiliary had a hot light lunch on offer with a selection of home made soups, sandwiches and desserts.

Uptown there was a very busy horse team and wagon ride to view the Christmas decorations around the village, with a full load for every trip all day long. The team and horses came from the Kola area and later would be in the Christmas Light Up Parade.

The Elks Hall that drew in a large afternoon crowd for a community bingo event. They had lots of great prizes that included turkeys and gift cards. Many of the prizes were donated by local business and individuals.

At dusk a large crowd gathered at the Elkhorn and Area Foundation Christmas Memory Tree for the light up, ca-

roling and free Christmas treats. At the lightup ceremony, Elkhorn and Area Foundation chair Marcy Rowan welcomed everyone, saying this was the 25th anniversary of the Elkhorn and Area Foundation and its work.

"It is my great pleasure to stand here today as we celebrate a remarkable milestone for the Elkhorn and Area Foundation—our 25th anniversary!" she said. "For a quarter of a century, this foundation has been a cornerstone of our community, and none of this would have been possible without the vision and dedication of past board members, volunteers, and supporters. To all of them, we owe our deepest gratitude.

Continued on Page 14





MESSAGE FROM RANGERS' PRESIDENT:

On behalf of the Moosomin Rangers we are excited to welcome our fans to the Arena this Friday as we kick off the Holiday Celebrations!

First off, I would like to thank the Oxbow Huskies for agreeing to take part in our Holiday game! Huskies are a great young team who will give the Rangers and our fans a great game.

Next, we say Thank You to our Sponsors and fans for your amazing support again this season. We hope you enjoy the weekend.

All students are admitted to this Friday's game free of charge, we are hoping to see a great crowd.

We have a ton going on on Friday: The game, the Hall of Fame inductions, the Minor Hockey Awards, Annual Holiday Calcutta Shootout and the RME Score to Win and we are not done yet.

For the second year in a row we have the Ranger house band all game long with live music on top the Zamboni Room. If you missed 2023, do yourself a favour and don't miss 2024. They are fantastic!

Not done yet! We have our game night 50/50, Hat Pool Winners, Christmas Gift Pack Winner and our Giant TV Raffle.

Wouldn't be Christmas without socializing. Our Blue Moose Lounge will be open all game long and then after the game you can slide on over to the Conexus Convention Centre for our Rangers Annual Holiday Cabaret. Admission will be free to all (must be legal drinking age) where you can enjoy awesome tunes spun by our amazing DJ "Megan Sparkle".

Mike Schwean
2024/25 Rangers President



MOOSOMIN SENIOR RANGERS HALL OF FAME WEEKEND

Congratulations to the 2024 Moosomin Rangers Hall of Fame Inductees and Moosomin Minor Hockey Award winners!

Senior Rangers Hall of Fame Class of 2024 includes:

Peter Nabholz	Builder	Long time general manager producing North Central Hockey League and Triangle Senior hockey Champions
Murray Leslie	Player	2 x Big 6 League Champion
Todd Davidson	Player	Triangle & Big 6 League Champion
Wayne McGonigal	Player	Triangle League Champion
Mike Schwean	Player	Inter-Provincial Hockey League and Triangle League




"O-Canada"
Performed by
International Recording Artist
Jess Moskaluke

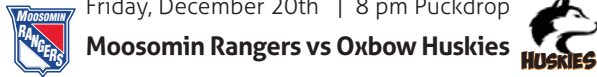


MOOSOMIN MINOR HOCKEY 2024 AWARDS

10 Year Builder Award	Murray Gray
Manager of the Year	Brittany Matichuk
Volunteer of the Year	Mike Sidoryk
Coach of the Year	Tim Skulmoski
Referee of the Year	Alex Beutler
Jr Official of the Year	Gabriel Fingas
Most Dedicated Official	Hudson Overand
Most Improved Official	Owen Lantz

MOOSOMIN RANGERS HALL OF FAME GAME

Friday, December 20th | 8 pm Puckdrop




FREE ADMISSION All students admitted free of charge! Elementary, High school, Tech and University.

TEAM SPIRIT

THE MINOR HOCKEY TEAM SHOWING THE MOST RANGERS SPIRIT (Jersey's, chants etc)

Will win a team windup including Pizza at the Nutrien Sportsplex next Spring

2nd Intermission:
Rocky mountain Equipment Shoot to Win
Estimated Pot of **\$1,000!**



POST GAME SHOOTOUT CALCUTTA

Featuring the 2024/25 Rangers Along with the guest shooters

Ava Metzger - USPORTS Mount Royal College 2022/23 National Champions

Ashton Bender - USPORTS Grant MacEwen University

Your chance to buy your favourite player and **win some Big Bucks!!**

Visit our Senior Rangers Facebook site to see all the shooters and make your bids



RANGERS POST GAME CHRISTMAS CABARET

Conexus Convention Centre
Free Admission
Must be Legal Drinking Age

DJ Services by "Megan Sparkle"



Available all night




LIVE ON TOP THE ZAMBONI ROOM ALL GAME LONG





Moosomin Senior Rangers
SIN BIN
 Fundraiser

Friday, December 20, 2024

at the Moosomin vs Oxbow Rangers Game at Mike Schwean Arena

Did you ever want to put someone in the Sin Bin in front of 750 people and make them earn their way out?

On December 20th the Senior Rangers will be running their inaugural "Sin Bin" Promotion. For just \$20 you can put a person of your choice in the Sin Bin. You can pay any amount you like. And the person heading to the Sin Bin must raise double your donation to get out.

The Sin Bin will be located centre floor of the lobby at the Rangers vs Oxbow Christmas Game on December 20th . Just fill out the form below, email to msmn.rec.brd@sasktel.net and our Day Care Officials will look after the rest!

All funds raised go directly to the New Day Care Fund

Sheets can be returned anytime prior to the December 20th Game.



YOU HAVE BEEN ASSESSED A MAJOR PENALTY

MOOSOMIN SENIOR RANGERS "SIN BIN" FUNDRAISER

Friday , December 20th • Mike Schwean Arena
Oxbow Huskies vs Moosomin Rangers
 Hockey Game and XMAS Cabaret

A MAJOR PENALTY HAS BEEN ASSESSED



Guilty Party _____

Penalty For _____ Guilty Party Ph# _____

Tonight's Official _____ Your Donation Amount \$ _____
 (This is You) Min Fee is \$20.0

Note: Snitches (Officials are free to create their own phony penalties as long as they are in good humor and taste. This fundraiser is intended to be "fun" so please keep in the spirit of the game and keep the penalty calls in good humor and respectful as penalties will be announce, during gametime stoppages)

Examples: *Skating too slow *Impersonating a Zamboni Driver *Too much chatta *Oxbow fan *Fashion Felony ...illegal equipment * Illegal Stick

Once Gametime arrives "Daycare Representatives" will be in attendance in full Official's gear to escort Guilty Parties to the Sin Bin. Time Served – 30 Minutes.Those taken to the Sin Bin can get out on Good Behavior if they phone around and raise set funds for the Day Care. Beware Mug Shots will be taken and posted on Social Media. Bribing an Official (get out early Fee) will be set at twice the cost that originally sent you to the Sin Bin

ALL PROCEEDS TO THE NEW DAYCARE PROJECT IN MOOSOMIN

PLEASE EMAIL COMPLETED FORM TO MSMN.REC.BRD@SASKTEL.NET OR DROP OFF AT TOWN OFFICE

Light the Night in Esterhazy

As part of the annual Moonlight Magic event in Esterhazy, the town's Historical Park is lit up each Christmas. Moonlight Magic took place on Dec. 6 with lots of people coming out to the park for the light up event.



Shayna Zubko photos



Elkhorn holds annual Christmas Light Up

Continued from Page 9
"I want to say a special thank you to Brenda Orr, our outgoing president, for her dedication to the foundation serving on the board for 14 years, many of those as president. I would like to take this opportunity to introduce all our current Board members Vice Chairperson Jill Canart, Treasurer Alana Martin, Secretary Lana Bajus, Directors Steven Malcolm, Bill Bickerton, Tyler Mitchell, Brent Brennand and we welcome Rhonda Hanson on our Board.
"Today, we have even more to cel-

ebate. Thanks to the incredible generosity of donors like you, we have raised an amazing \$6,944.37 in donations during this Endow Manitoba campaign. On top of that, we received \$2,777.75 in stretch dollars, bringing our total to an outstanding \$9,722.12!
"This accomplishment is not just about the numbers—it's about the lasting impact we are creating for our community. Every dollar invested in our foundation strengthens the future of Elkhorn, ensuring we can continue to support the causes and projects that matter most to all of us.

"On behalf of the foundation, I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to each and every donor, supporter, and volunteer. Your belief in the power of community and your contributions, big and small, are what make this possible.
"As we reflect on 25 years of generosity and community spirit, let's look ahead with optimism and pride. Together, we are leaving a legacy for generations to come. Thank you for being part of this journey with us.
"Tonight, we will be lighting our memory tree, a cherished tradition that allows

us to honor the lives of loved ones who are no longer with us. Each light on the tree shines as a symbol of the love and memories that continue to live on in our hearts. It is a beautiful reminder of the enduring connection we share as a community, and with those who are no longer by our sides."
The large crowd then spread out along the main street to wait for the Light Up Night Parade, which was a very colorful event with lots of free candy thrown to the children and a drive-by Santa on a float.

2024-2025 Winter Full-time Programs

- Continuing Care Assistant Weyburn
- Electrician Moosomin
- Plumbing & Pipefitting Estevan

REGISTER NOW

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www.southeastcollege.org



Thank you

We would like to thank Dr. Roets, Dr. Woodside, Dr. McIntyre and the staff at the Southeast Integrated Care Centre for the wonderful care of Gil Gray and kindness shown to our family during his final days. We are also thankful for all the hugs, messages, cards, flowers, food and memorial donations from everyone since Dad's (Gil's) passing. To those who helped at his Celebration of Life...Rev. Cindy Gossling, Ron Dietrich, Terry Fletcher, Homer Ranson, Stanley Ranson and the Armoury Committee; thank you very much.

To all whom attended, thank you...it was heartwarming to see how many lives he has touched.

~ Maureen, Tammy (Terry), Cindy (Ed), Rick, Murray (Jennifer) and families

Moosomin Rec Report

Mike Schwean, Recreation Director

306-435-3622 • msmn.rec.brd@sasktel.net

Moosomin Senior Rangers Hall of Fame Weekend

The Rangers are so excited about the December 20 Hall of Fame weekend. This triples as our Alumni Weekend/Christmas Cabaret!! Here is a quick look at what is planned:

- 8 pm puck drop Oxbow Huskies vs Moosomin Rangers
- Students admitted free of charge (Elementary, High School, University and Tech)
- Pre-Game Inductions/Awards in Lounge Sr Rangers and Minor Hockey Award

Senior Rangers Hall of Fame Class of 2024 includes:

- Peter Nabholz - builder - long time general manager producing North Central Hockey League and Triangle Senior Hockey Champions
- Murray Leslie - player - 2 time Big Six League Champion
- Todd Davidson - player - Triangle and Big Six League Champion
- Wayne McGonigal - player - Manitoba Sr Provincial Champion and Triangle League Champion
- Mike Schwean - player - Interprovincial Hockey League and Triangle League Champion

Moosomin Minor Hockey 2024 Awards

10 Year Builder Award - Murray Gray
 Manager of the Year - Brittany Matichuk
 Volunteer of the Year - Mike Sidoryk
 Coach of the Year - Tim Skulmoski
 Referee of the Year - Alex Beutler Jr
 Official of the Year - Gabriel Fingas
 Most Dedicated Official - Hudson Overand
 Most Improved Official - Owen Lantz

Minor Hockey Team Spirit Award: Winning team receives a windup and pizza at the Sportsplex.

- International Recording Artist Jess Moskaluke - O Canada
- 2nd Annual Rangers House Band - All Game Live on the Zamboni Rooftop
- 1st Period intermissions Intro HAL/Minor Hockey Awards
- 2nd Period RME Shootout - Pot Guaranteed \$1,000 Payout
- Post Game Shootout Calcutta Featuring All Ranger Players

Guest Shooters

Ava Metzger - USports Mount Royal
 Ashton Bender - USports Grant MacEwan University

Sin Bin Promotion - all game

- Fundraiser for the new Daycare in Moosomin
- Your chance to put someone in the Sin Bin
- You make the call...they raise the money!!
- Post game Christmas Cabaret at the Conexus Convention Centre
- Featuring the amazing DJ Megan Sparkle
- Free Admission—must be legal drinking age

Moosomin Sr Rangers December 20 Shoot-Out Calcutta

This coming Friday night, after their game vs Oxbow, the Rangers will hold their Annual Shootout Calcutta. This is a chance for fans to bid on their favorite player and win some big cash!! We have a couple of celebrity shooters this year as well as Moosomin Minor Hockey Alumni Ava Metzger (Mount Royal College Ladies Hockey National Champions) and Ashton Bender (Grant MacEwan University Ladies Hockey) who will show their stuff. For more information, or to get in on the Calcutta, please visit the Moosomin Senior Rangers' Facebook site.

Moosomin Senior Rangers Sin Bin Promotion

The Senior Rangers are excited to give back to the community. With that we are thrilled to proceed with our first ever "Sin Bin" Promotion. This is our twist on Jail and Bail where you will have the opportunity to put both friends and foe into the Sin Bin (located in arena lobby) and they will have to fundraise for the new daycare...or spend the rest of their lives in the penalty box!

We will be running this promotion at our December 20 game, shootout and cabaret.

Here is how it works. You pay a given amount to put someone in jail (minimum is \$50). Let's say Kara pays \$50 to put MLA Weedmark in jail. Kevin must then phone around and raise a minimum of twice that amount to get back out.

You also have the opportunity to send someone to the Sin Bin in advance of the game. You phone in your person to send to the Sin Bin with your amount. The Rangers will then get that individual a complimentary ticket to the game and then when they walk in...BAM...straight to the sin bin! To pre-penalize someone, you can phone the Rec Office at 435-3622 or the Economic Development Office at 435-2988.

Rocky Mountain Equipment Shoot To Win Contest

For those attending Sr. Rangers Games you have an opportunity to buy a ticket, have it drawn, and shoot to win big cash prizes. On December 20, the pot should be up around \$1,000!

Nutrien Sportsplex

Christmas Stocking Stuffers

Moosomin Parks and Recreation Department are currently selling our Christmas stocking stuffer cards. These are always a big hit. Cards cost \$40 and are to be used by January 10, 2025. The \$40 card allows you access to \$80 in programming, so for instance, two hours of simulator time. To purchase, you can stop in at the Town Office or the Nutrien Sportsplex.

Christmas Stuffers Option 2!

If you are looking for a great Christmas present with an option to pay at a later date consider a gift certificate for the 2025 season at the Borderland Co-op Aquaplex!! You can buy family passes...individual passes...lesson passes or party passes. All gift certificates come with 2024 pricing and you can postdate cheques/payment for May 1, 2025.

If you are interested please contact the Recreation Office at 435-3622 or email Angela at a.thorntownofmoosomin@sasktel.net.

Need some holiday cash?

Thursday Night Golf has a Hole in 1 prize presently valued at close to \$4,000! Various skins games at your option, however the Hole in 1 game is just \$2 to enter! If you would like to register for Thursday night golf (we have 4 pm and 6:15 pm tee times) you can email Dave Towler at dtowler@sasktel.net

Moosomin Curling Club

This is the last week for Set 1 Curling...schedule includes:

Monday Night Super League Curling
 (Until Christmas) 6:30 pm

Tuesday Night Red Barn Men's Curling
 Team R Frappe vs Team McMullen Sheet 1 6:30 pm
 Team Meredith vs Team Rambold Sheet 2 6:30 pm
 Team Turpie vs Team Sully Sheet 3 6:30 pm
 Team Stewart vs Team Glasser Sheet 4 6:30 pm
 Team Stanhope vs Team O Frappe Sheet 4 9 pm

Wednesday Afternoon Borderland Co-op Farmers League

Team Lee vs Team Thorn Sheet 2 1 pm
 Team McMullen vs Team Turpie Sheet 3 1 pm

Thursday Night Celebration Ford League

Team Hebert vs Team Woods Sheet 1 7 pm
 Team Lindsay vs Team Yeske Sheet 2 7 pm
 Team Bender vs Team Wallin Sheet 3 7 pm

Mike Schwean Arena Public Skating/Shinny this week

Thursday: Parents and Tots 11 am to 12 pm
 Public Shinny 12 to 1 pm
 Public Skating 1 pm to 2 pm
Friday: Parents and Tots 11 am to 12 pm
 Public Shinny 12 to 1 pm
 Public Skating 1 pm to 2 pm

Mike Schwean Arena Open Ice Times

Regular users at our MS Arena know we don't have a lot of open ice times...and when there are times they tend to get booked up quickly. Below is a list of what is open from now until March. If you would like to book ice we accept bookings on a first come, first serve basis. To book please contact Mike at 435-3622 or email msmn.rec.brd@sasktel.net.

Saturday	December 21	11 am to 1 pm
Sunday	December 22	8 am to 1 pm

VARIOUS HOLIDAY ICE TIMES AVAILABLE

Saturday	January 4	7:15 pm to close
Sunday	January 5	8 am to 11 am
Sunday	January 5	5 pm to 7 pm
Saturday	January 25	8 am to 10:45 am
Sunday	January 26	8 am to 10:45 am
Saturday	February 8	8 am to 10:45 am
Monday	February 17	5 pm to 6 pm
Saturday	February 22	7:15 pm to close
Sunday	February 23	3:15 pm to close

Moosomin Senior Rangers Provincial News

First provincial news of the season comes from the Senior Rangers. They have entered the Provincial B draw. Last year Provincial B only had three entries and was not run... this year there are six entries including the 2024 Provincial A Champions from Kenaston. The six team draw will include:

Moosomin Rangers 6-1-0 In the Big Six Hockey League
 Langenburg Warriors 5-0-1 In the South East Hockey League
 Biggar Nationals 1-3-1 In the South West Hockey League
 Kindersley Sr Klippers 2-1-0 In the South West Hockey League
 Kenaston Blizzards 5-3-0 In the Sask Valley Hockey

League

Davidson Cyclones 7-0-0 In the Sask Valley Hockey League

B division reads like a who's who in Senior Hockey... especially north of the South Sask River. The six teams combine for a 26-8-2 record in four very good senior hockey leagues. Should be some fantastic hockey!!

This week at the MS Arena

Christmas time and the holidays are drawing closer but that doesn't cut into the action this week at the MS Arena.

Make sure you get out of the house and catch some great hockey action!!

Thursday: Rocanville Tigers @ U11 NAPA Rangers 6 pm

Friday: Oxbow Huskies @ Sr Rangers 8 pm

Saturday: Wawota Flyers @ U7 Rangers 9 am

Indian Head Chiefs @ U13 Celebration Ford 1 pm

Whitewood Orioles @ U11 NAPA Rangers 3 pm

Grenfell Spitfires @ U13 Tridaron Rangers 5 pm

Canora Renegades @ U15 Kim Setrum 7:30 pm

Sunday: Fort Knox @ U15 Easton's Autobody 1 pm

Langenburg Warriors @ U11 NAPA Rangers 3 pm

Cote @ U15 Kim Setrum 5 pm

Fort Knox @ U18 RAHD Rangers 7:30 pm

Moosomin Rangers Schedule

Rangers took the sour end of the stick last week falling to the always tough Oxbow Huskies. They don't have to wait long to look for revenge as the Huskies are in Moosomin this Friday night. The immortal Scotty Bowman said it best, "Good teams lose to good teams but good teams don't lose to that same team back-to-back." We shall see!!

Moosomin Rangers schedule includes:

Home

Oxbow Huskies @ Moosomin Rangers

Friday, December 20 at 8 pm

Carlyle Cougars @ Moosomin Rangers

Friday, January 3 at 8 pm

Redvers Rockets @ Moosomin Rangers

Friday, January 10 at 8 pm

Wawota Flyers @ Moosomin Rangers

Friday, January 17 at 8 pm

Carnduff Red Devils @ Moosomin Rangers

Friday, January 24 at 8 pm

Away

Moosomin Rangers @ Midale Mustangs

Saturday, January 4 at 8 pm

Moosomin Rangers @ KW Oil Kings

Sunday, January 12 at 6 pm

Moosomin Rangers @ Oxbow Huskies

Saturday, January 18 at 8 pm

Moosomin U11 Carded Nutrien Cup Tournament

Moosomin Rangers will be hosting their Annual Carded U11 Hockey Tournament coming up on February 15 and 16. This will include both boys and girls divisions. Entry fee for the first eight teams is set at \$800. To register or for further information please contact the Recreation Office at 435-3622.

Moosomin Cross Country Ski Trails

Another amazing volunteer is Mr. Adrian Gaudet. He is the master at getting our local Cross Country Ski Trails up and running. Parks and Rec are digging our Skidoo out and getting it tuned up and then Adrian will have the trails in place for the holidays. For those unfamiliar with our trails, they are novice trails that leave and return to Bradley Park by our outdoor rink. Great way for families to get out and about!

Curling Club's Skins Bonspiel

Coming up this Saturday will be the Annual Moosomin Curling Club's Skins Game. This one day event is always a hit around Christmas time! To enter you can add your name to the sign up sheet at the rink or contact Event Chair Jeff Warkinton at 434-0474.

Moosomin Curling Club Schedule

Moosomin Curling Club has scheduled three of their Annual Bonspiels for this Upcoming season.

Dates include:

Ladies Bonspiel: Friday-Saturday on January 10 and 11

Farmers & Friends: January 29 to February 2

Teams can register at the Club or contract the Rec Office at 435-3622.

Parks and Rec

Our Biggest Leisure Guide Ever!!

Early in 2025, Moosomin Parks and Recreation will be undertaking the biggest leisure guide we have ever put together. Facilities, programs and contacts will headline the booklet, along with wonderful pictures of all our community has to offer. Our booklet will focus on sport, culture and recreation with a pinch of heritage. If you have a group or a facility you would like to see included, please contact the Recreation Office. This project has been made possible by grant funding from the Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association.



Senior Hockey Roundup

Sask East Hockey League

Flyers deliver Warriors first loss

BY RYAN KIEDROWSKI
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

The Esterhazy Flyers gained two at-home wins during the first weekend in December, the first one marring the Langenburg Warriors' pristine season in a raucous overtime decision on Dec. 6. First period action looked like the Warriors were going to walk away with a shutout, firing off three unanswered goals, but Esterhazy came alive in the middle frame to take a 4-3 lead.

Third period action saw fans on the edge of their seat with Esterhazy building on their lead to 6-4 at one point, only to have the Warriors tidy things up 6-6 as time ran out. Langenburg fired off the two goals to tie the contest thanks in part to a match penalty that saw Esterhazy's Eli Halcrow suspended for five games (eligible to return Dec. 21) for checking to the head.

The Flyers would recover, tossing a black biscuit in the basket 26 seconds into the extra frame, courtesy a solo power-play goal from Jayden Isaac for the 7-6 win.

Dec. 7 was a busy night with the Rocanville Tigers edging out the visiting Theodore Buffalos 11-9. The Warriors played host to the Wapella Blackhawks, shaking off the OT loss in Esterhazy with a 9-5 at-home win.

Esterhazy hosted a second at-home contest with the Churchbridge Imperials coming to town, which saw five unanswered goals after 40 minutes. Late in the third period, Churchbridge Imperial captain Cole Cusitar took a blade to his neck, causing a deep cut. He was rushed to



hospital, receiving 80 stitches as a result of the injury.

Initially, Churchbridge players wanted to complete the game, but after hearing STARS air ambulance had been called, it was decided to end the game with 6:55 left on the clock. Ultimately, STARS was not needed, but the cut on Cusitar's neck was just over half an inch from his jugular vein. He continues to make a strong recovery, and many in the SEHL community have sent wishes for a speedy return.

Completing the weekend, Rocanville roared with a second win on home turf, dropping the visiting Blackhawks

9-1.

Standings across the south at press time, Langenburg still top of the SEHL with a 5-0-1 record followed by the 5-0 Tigers. The Flyers sit at the halfway mark with a 3-2 record, while Wapella is 1-4 and Churchbridge continues to find their first win with an 0-4 record.

HOCKEY LEAGUE STANDINGS AS OF DEC. 12, 2024

BIG 6 BIG SIX HOCKEY LEAGUE STANDINGS

TEAM	GP	W	L	OTL	PTS
Redvers Rockets	8	6	0	2	14
Moosomin Rangers	7	6	1	0	12
Carlyle Cougars	8	5	2	1	11
Carnduff Red Devils	7	5	2	0	10
Oxbow Huskies	6	4	2	0	8
Midale Mustangs	8	2	5	1	5
KW Oil Kings	8	1	6	1	3
Wawota Flyers	6	0	6	0	0

LEAGUE TOP SCORERS

TOP PLAYER	TEAM	GP	G	A	PTS
Bud Holloway	Moosomin Rangers	7	14	11	25
Kenton Miller	Redvers Rockets	8	11	12	23
Carter Sawchuk	Moosomin Rangers	7	9	13	22
Ben Johnstone	Carlyle Cougars	8	8	13	21
Jordan Miller	Redvers Rockets	8	8	13	21
Presten Kopeck	Redvers Rockets	8	8	10	18
Austin Fleck	KW Oil Kings	8	6	12	18
Taylor Sanheim	Moosomin Rangers	6	8	8	16
Naton Miller	Redvers Rockets	8	7	9	16
Tayson Holt	Carlyle Cougars	8	5	10	15

TOP GOALIES	TEAM	GP	W-L-OTL	GAA
Drew Fenwick	Oxbow Huskies	1	1 - 0 - 0	2.00
Kyler Beckett	Moosomin Rangers	3	3 - 0 - 0	2.32
Thomas Bauche	Redvers Rockets	4	2 - 0 - 2	2.68
Cody Matthewson	Redvers Rockets	1	1 - 0 - 0	3.00
Levi Horn	Moosomin Rangers	4	3 - 1 - 0	2.99

SEHL SASK EAST HOCKEY LEAGUE STANDINGS NORTH STANDINGS

TEAM	GP	W	L	OTL	PTS
Canora Cobras	4	3	0	1	7
Swan Valley Axemen	5	3	2	0	6
Theodore Buffalos	5	3	2	0	6
Preeceville Pats	4	1	3	0	2
Cote Selects	7	1	6	0	2

SOUTH STANDINGS

TEAM	GP	W	L	OTL	PTS
Rocanville Tigers	5	5	0	0	10
Langenburg Warriors	6	5	0	1	11
Esterhazy Flyers	5	3	2	0	6
Wapella Blackhawks	5	1	4	0	2
Churchbridge Imperials	4	0	4	0	0

LEAGUE TOP SCORERS

TOP PLAYER	TEAM	GP	G	A	PTS
Hayden Wiebe	Langenburg Warriors	6	10	9	19
Jordan Robertson	Rocanville Tigers	5	11	5	16
Rylee Zimmer	Langenburg Warriors	6	7	8	15
Dylan Johnson	Theodore Buffalos	5	6	8	14
Mike Rogoschewsky	Langenburg Warriors	5	7	6	13
Josh Thompson	Langenburg Warriors	5	5	8	13
Carter Cockburn	SV Axemen	5	7	5	12
Ashley Howie	Rocanville Tigers	5	3	9	12
Troy Hamilton	Rocanville Tigers	5	7	4	11
Ryan Regel	Rocanville Tigers	3	4	7	11

GOALIE	TEAM	GP	W-L-OTL	GAA
Ben Fouillard	Rocanville Tigers	1	1 - 0 - 0	0.00
Logan Frank	SV Axemen	1	1 - 0 - 0	1.00
Carter Olson	Langenburg Warriors	3	2 - 0 - 0	2.63
Ryan Patchewich	Canora Cobras	2	1 - 0 - 1	2.96
Adam Stokes	Theodore Buffalos	1	1 - 0 - 0	3.00

Imperials captain recovering after near-fatal accident

BY RYAN KIEDROWSKI
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Cole Cusitar is a name synonymous with hockey in Churchbridge, not only for his prowess as a captain with the SEHL Imperials (he was also feted with the Most Dedicated Imperial earlier this year during the teams' awards night), but also as a coach for the younger set in town. Cusitar was even instrumental in getting the senior level Imperials back on the ice in Churchbridge last season after a nine-season hiatus.

In a recent meeting with the Esterhazy Flyers on Dec. 7 (who also recently returned to the SEHL), Cusitar found himself at the centre of a very serious incident that left him with a deep cut to his neck running from ear to chin.

"There was a face off in the Esterhazy end with the Imperials on a 5-on-3 power play," described Mike Stackhouse in an update on Cusitar's condition. "Off the draw, an Esterhazy player skated up the ice with the puck and the Imperials goaltender made a save, resulting in a stoppage. At the other end of the ice was a

Churchbridge player down (Cole Cusitar) and an Esterhazy player frantically waving his arms and screaming for help."

Cusitar was quickly taken off the ice and rushed to hospital in Yorkton by ambulance. By Sunday morning, he was reported to be in stable condition, recovering from his injuries. According to SEHL staff, Cusitar received 80 stitches inside and outside of the area where he was cut. Response on social media noted dozens of messages wishing Cusitar a speedy recovery, from fans and opposing teams in the SEHL alike.

The accident has prompted Imperials players to all wear neck guards, and while the protective equipment is not mandatory, the SEHL encourages all on-ice players and officials to wear such protective gear as 'one incident like this is one too many.'

"Any mandates on neck guards would come from Sask Hockey, but we are strongly suggesting players and officials in our league to start wearing them if not already," Stackhouse told the World-Spectator.

Big 6 Hockey League

Redvers Rockets take top spot in Big 6 first loss

BY RYAN KIEDROWSKI
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

A mid-week win in Kipling saw the Redvers Rockets take the number one position in the Big 6 Hockey League with a 6-0-2 record for the year thus far. The Rockets started the scoring race strong, firing five unanswered goals in the first 20 minutes to take a healthy lead. The middle frame noted a comeback from the KW Oil Kings, taking the game 8-4 after 40 minutes, but the powerhouse Rockets would simply prove too hot to handle, posting a doubled up 12-6 final over the host Oil Kings.

Earlier in the month, the Moosomin Rangers had a roller-coaster weekend that noted their first loss of the season.

The first game of December saw Moosomin lay a thumping on the KW Oil Kings at home on Dec. 6. In fact, the Rangers shut out the visiting Oil Kings 14-0, and will all those lamp-lighters, only one hat trick, courtesy Carter Sawchuk. Taylor Sanheim, Bud Holloway, and Koby Morrisseau would each add braces, plus singles from Jayden Bender, Kyle McGonigal, Ryker Cole, Chad Hebert, and Justin Lamontagne.

The next evening saw Moosomin hit the road for a first



meeting with the Oxbow Huskies, which would prove to tarnish the Rangers' perfect season.

Sanheim wasn't done wracking up goals for the weekend, starting off the scoring race early in the first period, but Oxbow's Cody Davis answered the call to tie the game 1-1 after the first 20 minutes.

The middle frame would see Oxbow take a 3-2 lead after a Holloway goal from the Rangers. The final period noted the Huskies building on their lead with two more quick goals in the first two minutes for a 5-2 score. Moosomin's Cole and Sanheim would contribute two more, but could not catch up. As the buzzer sounded, Oxbow took a 5-4 win, leaving the Rangers 6-1 for the season at press time, second in the league to the Rockets.

Redvers also took two big wins over the Dec. 6/7 weekend, posting a shutout 4-0 over the Midale Mustangs on Dec. 6, and tripling up 9-3 over the third place Carlyle Cougars, who are sitting at 5-2-1.

Rounding out the bottom five are the 5-2 Carnduff Red Devils, the 4-2 Huskies, the Mustangs sit 2-5-1 while the Oil Kings are 1-6-1. The Wawota Flyers are still looking for their first win of the year, sitting at 0-6.



Moosomin Chamber
of Commerce

COUNTDOWN TO CHRISTMAS DRAW

DECEMBER 16TH - DECEMBER 21ST

GET YOUR COUNTDOWN TO CHRISTMAS CARDS
STAMPED AT FIVE MOOSOMIN BUSINESSES AND

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RECREATION OFFICE

E-mail: msmn.rec.brd@sasktel.net
Phone: 306.435.3622

Mike Schwean - Rec Director
306-435-7578 (cell)

Angela Thorn - Assistant Rec Director

RECYCLING CALENDAR

ROUTE A:
Homes on Broadway
Avenue and North:
DEC 30 &
JAN 13

ROUTE B:
Homes south of
Broadway Avenue:
DEC 23 &
JAN 6

LANDFILL HOURS

JANUARY 1 -
APRIL 30
TUES. - SAT.
12 Noon -
3:45 p.m.

MAY 1 - MAY 30
TUES. - SAT.
12 Noon -
6:45 p.m.

JUNE 1 -
SEPTEMBER 30
TUES. - SAT.
12 Noon -
6:45 p.m.

OCTOBER 1 -
OCTOBER 31
TUES. - SAT.
12 Noon -
6:45 p.m.

NOVEMBER 1 -
DECEMBER 31
TUES. - SAT.
12 Noon -
3:45 p.m.

701 MAIN ST. | BOX 730 | MOOSOMIN, SK | S0G 3N0 | E-MAIL: TWN.MOOSOMIN@SASKTEL.NET | WWW.MOOSOMIN.COM | PHONE: 306-435-2988 | FAX: 306-435-3343

Moosomin Sr Rangers Hall of Fame Weekend

Huge Game-night Planned

Friday Night at 8pm
Moosomin Rangers vs Oxbow

All Students Admitted to game



free of charge!
Please check the
Rangers ad on page
12-13 for details.

Moosomin Sr Rangers Sin Bin Promotion


Help the Rangers make some money for our much needed New Daycare facility and have some fun along the way!! Please check the Rangers ad on page 12-13 for details.



Moosomin Sr Rangers Shoot-Out Calcutta

December 20th

For more information or to get in on the Calcutta please visit the Moosomin Senior Rangers Facebook site.



Congratulations to the Sr Rangers - 2024 HOF Inductees

The Class of 2024 Includes:

Peter Nabholz	Builder
Murray Leslie	Player
Todd Davidson	Player
Wayne McGonigal	Player
Mike Schwean	Player

Rocky Mountain Equipment Shoot to win contest

For those attending Sr Rangers Games you have an opportunity to buy a ticket, get drawn and shoot to win big cash prizes. December 20th the Pot should be up in around \$1,000!!



Moosomin Cross Country Ski Trails

Our Cross Country Ski Trails are now open for the Holiday and winter season. Enjoy!!

Moosomin Outdoor Arena

Our Outdoor Arena is now open for the Holiday and winter season. Enjoy!!

Congratulations to the MMHA 2024 Award Winners



The Award Winners include


10 Year Builder Award	Murray Gray
Manager of the Year	Brittany Matichuk
Volunteer of the Year	Mike Sidoryk
Coach of the Year	Tim Skulmoski
Referee of the Year	Alex Beutler
Jr Official of the Year	Gabriel Fingas
Most Dedicated Official	Hudson Overand
Most Improved Official	Owen Lantz

Nutrien Sportsplex Christmas Stocking Stuffers

Moosomin Parks and Recreation Department are currently selling our Christmas Stocking Stuffer Cards! These are always a Big Hit. Cards cost \$40 and are to be used by January 10/25. The \$40 card allows you access to \$80 in programming so, for instance, 2 hours of simulator time. To purchase you can stop in at the Town Office or the Nutrien Sportsplex.



Christmas Stuffers Option #2



Looking for a great Christmas Present with an option to pay at a later date, consider a Gift Certificate for the 2025 season at the Borderland CO-OP Aquaplex!! You can buy Family Passes, Individual Passes, Lesson Passes or Party Passes. All Gift Certificates come with 2024 pricing AND you can post date cheques / payment for May 1 of 2025. If you are interested please contact the Recreation Office at 306-435-3622 or email Angela at a.thorntownofmoosomin@sasktel.net

Christmas Bookings at Nutrien Sportsplex

It's NEVER TOO LATE TO BOOK a Christmas Party - we book well into January!

2 Simulators	\$250	Bowling Alley Side Only	\$300
4 Simulators	\$500	Entire Building	\$600
2 Simulators & 3 Bowling Lanes	\$300		

If you are interested in getting in early and booking a great date for event, please give Angela a call at **(306) 435-3622**





Redvers School students performing "Hercules!" on Dec. 7.



Missoula Children's Theatre visits Redvers with 'Hercules!'

BY GRAHAM JAMES
Redvers School welcomed the Missoula Children's Theatre (MCT) production of "Hercules!" to town for a busy and fun-filled week from December 2 to December 7.

The MCT team of Audra Tibbit and Austin Plunkett arrived in town in their "little red truck" loaded with a set, costumes, props and everything it takes to put on a play... except the cast. The team held an open audition on Monday and cast over 45 local students to perform or assist in the production.

Rehearsals were held throughout the week with two public performances presented on Saturday, Dec. 7 at the Redvers School Gymnasium. It was a busy week with rehearsals creating a buzz after school daily. In addition, the fun crossed into school hours as the MCT tour directors also led several workshops during their residency in Redvers.

The Hercules! production was a fun one that focused on the Olympic Games. Competitors from all over Greece have come to compete. But the tournament cannot start with our hero, Hercules! Unfortunately, Hercules has a well-earned reputation for being late. The Mighty Titans expect to win at the Games, but not without some dishonest competition from the Cyclops—all three of them. Add all your favorite Greek heroes, more Olympians, social media influencers, a misplaced Roman and a lion and things get a bit



Redvers School students performing "Hercules!" on Dec. 7.

crazy for Zeus and these Olympics.

The cast and crew featured local students from Redvers, Bellegarde, and Manor. The title character of Hercules was played by Nikita Buydens while other featured performers included Ainsley Cowan as Androcles; Asia Jorgensen as Socrates; Kaycee Demas as Aristotle; Kourtney Mirandilla as Zeus; Rylee Garnier as Hera; Tatum Hoey as Helen of Troy; McKenna Richards-Moffatt as Pegasus; Eve Marsh as Archimedes; Nazryn Sabino as Homer; Talaya Dangstorp as Lion.

The Cyclops were Max Lamotte, Carter Hildebrandt, and Josiah Marsh. The Influencers were played by Emily Englot, Charleigh Fidiarchuk, Harlow Gervais, Emma Hutton, Feline Jurista, Elsie McIntyre, Olivia Pirlot, Whitney Purvis, Hayden Smith, and Sasha Toms. The Olympians featured Abby Ayre, Brandy Englot, Aubree Garnier, Lauren Hannah, Dawson James, Eithan James-Poirier, Kenna Gervais, Oliver Kyle, and Bailey Richards. The roles of the Titans were played by Madison Birch, Brooklyn Hannah,

Sophie Hutton, Emily Knelsen, Holly Matthewson, Iszack McCurry, Emma McIntyre, Grace Munro, Brylee Oakley, and Emma-Lee Sakal. Chloe Peters and Serenidee James served as Assistant Directors throughout the week, Bentley George and Hadley Garnier operated the lights, while Valen Keating returned as the musical accompanist. Students were under the direction of the tour's MCT directors: Audra Tibbit and Austin Plunkett (who also appeared on stage as Plato). Additional help was provided

throughout the week by Redvers students and staff and Redvers Arts Council member, Melissa Toms. The two performances were well received by the audience. The students did an excellent job of hiding their jitters and showed off the week's hard work. This is the second consecutive year that Missoula Children's Theatre has had a residency in Redvers. While admission fees helped recoup some of the costs of the MCT residency (including school workshops and performances), the residency was made

possible by organizational and financial assistance of the Redvers Arts Council and Redvers School with additional generous financial contributions by the Redvers Adult Drama Club and the Redvers Rockets Field of Dreams. A SaskLotteries grant this spring helped defray some of the costs of last season's production of King Arthur's Quest. Both the Redvers Arts Council and Redvers School are grateful for the assistance of all contributors, participants, and volunteers. It was great to see the kids shine on stage.

BOXING WEEK SALE



Wrap up this Holiday Season in amazing savings!

Leather Sofa & Love Seat



ALL SEATING SURFACES ARE LEATHER (TWO ONLY)



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\$1,999⁰⁰

Sealy Posturepedic Queen Mattress



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PLUS WE PAY THE TAXES

Concept ZZZ Queen Mattress

700 POCKET COILS (6 IN STOCK)



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(4 IN STOCK)

MSRP: **\$699⁰⁰**



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Built In Dishwasher

STAINLESS STEEL INTERIOR
MADE IN ITALY
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5 Piece Dining Set

TABLE & 4 CHAIRS
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MADE IN CANADA. SOLID TABLE, PINE LEGS, WIPEABLE CHAIR SEATS. (STOCK ONLY)

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