



# SMEATON & DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2017 ~ 146TH ISSUE

MASTHEAD PHOTO: Old sled looking for a hill and some kids.



\*CANADA 150\*\*



## SMEATON SNOWMOBILE RALLY

**Saturday March 11, 2017**

Smeaton Recreation Center  
Rally starts @ 10 am; Last Run @  
1pm; Riders to be in by 5pm  
\$10 Poker Hands \* 50/50 Cash  
Payouts \* Great Prizes \*  
Non-Riders Welcome \*  
Food Served all Day \*  
Social to follow Rally

And we'll be hosting a...  
**CRIBBAGE TOURNAMENT**  
Contact Sonia @ 306-426-2313  
to enter / details \* \$10 / Person

**WHITESWAN  
SNOW**

**HAWKS**

**Northern**

**Exposure Snowmobile Rally**

**SATURDAY FEBRUARY 11TH**

Eagle Bay Resort—East Trout Lake  
80 Mile Ride \* Trails run on SSA  
System \* Sleds must be regis-  
tered \* Prizes / Draws

More info:

Bob Tullis (306 426-2726); Bob  
Moore (306 426-2093); Bill Neu-  
feld (306 426-2099); Dwain Doer-  
ing (306 426-2767); Doug Gent  
(306 764-0100).



## THE BEST CINNAMON BUNS YOU'LL EVER EAT

\*\*CANADA 150\*\*

### CHALLENGE

Canada is 150 years old  
this year and we should be  
celebrating! We should all  
be flying a flag and being  
happy to be Canadian. We  
give you a number of ways  
to express your love of  
Canada throughout this  
newsletter. For example,  
you could plant an apple  
or cherry tree (plant two of  
each if they require cross-  
pollination). Have faith  
that you will be around to  
enjoy the fruit from your  
trees.

Crystal Pocha, above, has  
opened Crystal's Café in the  
Smeaton Curling Rink, serving  
up all-day breakfasts, burgers,  
fries and more. The buns are  
all homemade and the cinna-  
mon buns are very special and  
big enough to be "shared".  
Specials such as chili, meat-  
balls and so on will be adver-  
tized on Facebook. There is a  
Kids Menu and lots more to  
choose from. Open Tuesday  
through Sunday from 10am till  
7pm (open till 8pm on days  
when Skating Lessons take  
place, usually Friday).  
Only operating till April 1st  
2017, better take advantage of  
Crystal's Café while you can.



**SMEATON LEGION # 319**

**CRIB TOURNAMENT**

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26<sup>TH</sup>**

**At Smeaton Legion \*\* 2 pm**

\$10 Entry fee \* CASH BAR \*\* For  
information call Lyle (306) 426-  
7773 or Joe at (306) 426-2208

**SNOWDEN !!!! Winter Fun**

**BONSPIEL FEB 5-12**

**KIDS' SPIEL FEB. 20**

**POKER RALLY: FEB 18**

**Annual Bonspiel**  
**Feb 5th to 12th**  
**Kids Spiel**  
**Feb 20th**

Daryl 428-2056  
Bob 428-2021  
James 428-2161



## SMEATON SPRING FAIR

Smeaton Rec Center

April 8th, 2017

Time to sign up for tables  
\$10 per table. Contact Esther 306  
426 2409 or Margo 306 426 2001

## TELEMIRACLE FUNDRAISER

Smeaton Legion

February 23rd \*\* 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
Chili and bun \* hotdogs \* juice, tea,  
coffee

More information: Eunice 306 426  
2213 or Esther 306 426 2409  
Come out to support TELEMIRACLE!

## CHOICELAND ANNUAL BONSPIEL



February 26th—March 05th

**ENTRY FEE \$100 PER TEAM**

Phone entries in to: Marg Whitrow  
306 276-7471; Bob Walker 306  
428-2780; Kimberly Walker 306  
276-0770

Banquet / Smoker Friday March 4th

## Valentine Tea and Bake Sale.

February 11th from 2-4

Come for Coffee and Dessert  
Sponsored by Choiceland Royal  
Purple.

## Roast Beef Supper

Sunday, March 19th 4:30 - 6:30  
Roast beef, perogies, cabbage rolls  
and all the trimmings. Sponsored by  
Choiceland Royal Purple  
and Grade XII Graduating Class  
Adults \$14; Family \$40; Age 6-12  
\$7; Pre school free

## PANCAKE BREAKFAST

**MEATH PARK SENIORS HALL**

Sunday February 12th 9am to noon

"All you can eat!" \$8.00

EVERYONE WELCOME

## BINGO

**MEATH PARK SENIORS HALL**

2:00pm Sunday February 12th  
and Sunday February 26th

JACKPOT \$75.00

EVERYONE WELCOME

## COFFEE with WEIRDALE SENIORS

Monday, Wednesday and Friday  
Mornings from 9 till 11am  
Seniors Centre in Weirdale

**FOXFORD**  
**SNOWMOBILE RALLY**  
**SATURDAY, MARCH 4, 2017**  
BREAKFAST 8:30  
LUNCH SERVED ALL DAY  
CASH BAR  
POKER HANDS  
PRIZES, CASH PAYOUTS,  
SILENT AUCTION, DOLLAR  
DRAWS AND MORE!  
**ALL PROCEEDS**  
**TO**  
**FOXFORD REC CENTRE**  
FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT  
**CHRIS 306.961.7521**  
PROUDLY SPONSORED BY **RESORT REALTY**

**FOXFORD**  
**KAISER TOURNAMENT**  
**FEBRUARY 18TH, 2017**  
LOCATION: FOXFORD RECREATION CENTRE  
REGISTRATION AT 6PM  
GAME START AT 7PM  
\$25 ENTRY PER TEAM  
CASH PRIZES/CASH BAR/CANTEEN  
FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT  
**CHRIS 306.961.7521**  
ALL PROCEEDS TO FOXFORD REC CENTRE  
PROUDLY SPONSORED BY **RESORT REALTY** **DEBBIE MAUTHE**  
306-960-9774

**At Smeaton Legion \*\* 2 pm**  
\$10 Entry fee \* CASH BAR \*\* For  
information call Lyle (306) 426-  
7773 or Joe at (306) 426-2208  
**SNOWDEN !!!! Winter Fun**  
**BONSPIEL FEB 5-12**  
**KIDS' SPIEL FEB. 20**  
**POKER RALLY: FEB 18**  
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**Kids Spiel**  
**Feb 20th**  
Daryl 428-2056  
Bob 428-2021  
James 428-2161



### Wayne Glenn Pelech

March 1, 1967—January 12, 2017

Wayne Pelech passed away peacefully after a long battle with cancer at Victoria Hospital in Prince Albert. He was born in Prince Albert on March 1st, 1967 to Paul and Sue Pelech. He is survived by his life partner and wife, Wanda; his step-children Aliya (Fran), Adam, and Ashlee; he was Popee to grandchildren Delanie, Desirae, Daylon, Danessa and Dallas. He is survived by brothers David (Joan), Calvin (Yvette), and Mike (Kim), and by his sister Shirley. He will be missed by many nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, brothers and sisters-in-law and many, many friends he met during his life travels. His family and friends were very important to him. Service was held in Smeaton on January 19th, officiated by Pastor Cust. Eulogist was Jon Boulard.

### THANK YOU:

Thanks to family, old friends, and neighbours, who attended Hughie's funeral. Thanks for all the sympathy cards, flowers, hugs and prayers. Thank you to all who gave donations to North Haven in Hugh's memory.

A special thanks for the Smeaton Legion Honour Guard; to Pastor Gary Gilkinson for a very meaningful service; Kathie Norstrom for her special song selection; Leslie Einhorn for giving the eulogy; all who helped with the service.

We appreciated the delicious lunch provided by the Smeaton ladies, and the time to visit after.

Thank you all,  
Audrey King and family

### MY BRIEF FLING AT RAILROADING by Maurice Kirby

I was thrilled to be asked to accompany Dave Forden on a trip to Nipawin with the short line railway, Torch River Rail out of Chociceland. We chugged out with the engine at a leisurely pace averaging ten miles per hour. On the 28-mile route to Nipawin we had time to view wildlife which amounted to two coveys of Hungarian partridges and three groups of whitetail deer (about twenty)

Crossing the trestle at Nipawin, 1907 feet long was pretty scary but there was no swaying. The river seemed a hundred feet below. This trestle bridge was completed in 1930 by Dominion Bridge and is a double decker, with a 16-foot wide roadway directly below the rails.

Dave picked up nine cars and we backed up and made our leisurely way back to Chociceland.



Left: Dave gets empty cars in Nipawin; above, crossing the river on the Crooked Bridge.



**Happy 80th Birthday  
Mom!  
(LEONA PEARSE)  
February 3rd**

**Love from your family  
"It took 80 years to  
look this good!"**



### THANK YOU:

The family of the late Edna Kosik would like to thank Parkland Place, Melfort, SK for the compassionate comfort care given to our mother. Many thanks to Coventry Funeral Home; Father Nick Ferreras for officiating the service; Organist, Diane Barber. Thank you to Smeaton Rec Board, and Steve Beal.

Thank you to all the ladies of the community for an excellent lunch; for Memorial donations made on our mother's behalf; Bouquets of flowers, items of food, words of condolences and cards to the family. Your thoughtfulness and acts of kindness were greatly appreciated at this time.

Sincerely,  
Jeanette and Bruce; Donna and Lyle;  
Diane and Jim; Marilyn and Jack;  
Loretta and Greg  
Our children and families

### A MOTHER'S PRAYER

Lord please hear  
a mother's prayer —  
Keep my family in your care.  
Help me know what I can do  
To guard and guide them  
All life through.  
Most of all, please let me be  
A blessing to my family —  
A gentle word,  
A caring friend,  
A source of love  
That has no end.

**\*\*CANADA 150 \*\***

### CHALLENGE

The Torch River Art group urges all artists to paint elevators (or other rural scenes such as farmsteads, churches etc). Painting below is an acrylic of one of Smeaton's elevators, by Annette Kirby. Send us a photo of your painting.



# NORTH HAVEN

*Manager's Report by Jeanette Waldner*

Thank you everyone, for respecting our visitor restrictions when residents and the community were hit with cold and flu. Everyone at North Haven has recovered and visitors are once more welcome.

Thank you to everyone who sent memorial donations in memory of Hugh King and Edna Kosik.

Our sincere condolences go out to Polly Johnson and extended family on the passing of Jim Johnson.

Many thanks to Esther and Terry Chamberlain, who entertained for Robbie Burns Day, an annual event we look forward to.

We at North Haven are looking for a hairdresser to work out of the room in the Health Unit, preferably someone willing to do perms and cuts. Could be once or twice a month. Call me at 306 426-2766 if you are interested.

Thank you to the Smeaton Health Unit's nurse, Peggy Bohmann, as she is available every weekday and is very caring to our residents.

Many thanks to our reliable and hard-

working staff. Thank you, Earl Onyskevitch, for clearing our yard of snow and for his other duties at North Haven.

Happy 99th birthday to Alice Elves whose birthday was on January 29th. Also happy birthday to Viola Scarf, who turned 94 on January 28th.

Thank you to George and Ellen Pickett, Amel Twarzynski, Evelyn's daughter, Hugh King family, and others, for the donation of baked goods and sandwiches.

We have got through the worst of winter. We look forward to spring.

## NORTH HAVEN BINGO LIST:

February 3rd Smeaton Walking Group  
February 10th Choiceland Seniors  
February 17th North Haven  
February 24th Smeaton Volunteer Group  
March 3rd Snowden Community Club  
March 10th Smeaton Seniors  
March 17th Smeaton walking Group  
March 24th Choiceland Seniors  
March 31st North Haven

THANK YOU to all volunteers, especially as some belong to more than one group. Residents really enjoy their bingo!



**\*\*CANADA 150 \*\***

## CHALLENGE

...Collect the recipes that our mothers and grandmothers knew from memory. Revive Sunday afternoon dinners with family.

...Rescue and preserve kitchen gadgets we never see any more. For example above are: a nut crusher, loose tea ball, boiled egg slicer and a device for taking kernels of corn off the cob.

**THANK YOU:** I would like to thank the community of Smeaton and surrounding area for five wonderful years of being able to serve you as postmaster. The chats and experiences I have had with each of you will never be forgotten. I have enjoyed every minute of it and have many great memories.

My retirement party on January 6th was so overwhelming. I did not expect such a huge turnout. Thank you everyone for coming out to say goodbye. I appreciate it so much and wish to thank Esther Chamberlain for organizing it, as well as baking a cake and serving coffee. Great job, Esther. Also thank you to Anne Fedellech for filling in for me that afternoon so I could visit with all my friends. It was such a wonderful day.

Thank you to my supervisor, Annemarie Tarry for coming out and bringing a cake.

I could go on and on but now I will say each of you have a special place in my heart. Jerry and I want you to know our door is always open. Stop in at our home in Rosthern for coffee any time.

Hazel (and Jerry) Johnson



Above and below: Two aerial views of Smeaton, from "The Bird in the Sky"



**CHOICELAND MUSEUM  
OPEN HOUSE  
FEBRUARY 5th**

**1:00 to 4:00 pm**

**Your chance to browse  
through the exhibits.**

**SNOWDEN  
SPORTS DAY:  
July 8th 2017**

## ...This is my story

Everyone has a story. Tell us yours by sending to Smeaton Newsletter, Box 28, Smeaton SK, S0J 2J0

**TERRY CHAMBERLAIN** grew up in the Bedard Creek area north of Snowden, the oldest of three boys. When teachers were scarce, he became a student supervisor, starting at Guideme School south of Shipman. Terry spent a year at Teacher's College then went on to teach at Kelvington and on to Naicam where he taught until retiring at the age of fifty.

He has since authored three books (*The ABC's of Farming*, *The ABC's of Retirement*, and *Stories in the Dirt*) as well as 700 or so newspaper articles. He is a very witty fellow and happily he has agreed to tell us his story. Here is the first of hopefully three stories by Terry Chamberlain. In photo he is entertaining at North Haven with wife Esther and brother Jim.

### CONFESSIONS OF AN EAGER SCRIBBLER: Terry Chamberlain

My love affair with words began at the breakfast table at the age of about four.

I was curious about all the markings on the cereal box in front of me, even more fascinated when my parents explained that those marks made up words. Soon they were showing me how each letter had a sound and in combination could describe events and tell stories.

My imagination was fired, and I couldn't wait to decode—i.e. “read”—what others had written and to form words and stories of my own. That's how it all began. (Of course if I'd been sitting on the other side of the box or I'd be telling you this a la francais.)

I became a voracious reader as a child, not greatly remarkable, as almost everyone I knew read considerably in those days, partly I suppose because we lived in a semi-isolated—particularly in winter—rural area long before television or electronic devices, and the written word was the main way of accessing entertainment and information through novels, comic books, newspapers and magazines.

We did have radio and got occasionally—very rarely—to a movie; I became a big fan of those as well, and developed a yearning to be a producer, not just a consumer, of mass media, to have hundreds, thousands or millions of people reading, listening or watching what

I had to show or say. A rather self-centred and conceited desire? Yes, absolutely, that's me, but without a disposition to show off one's cherished creations in hopes of impressing multitudes of people there would be no books, poetry, movies, TV shows, art or music.



Now except for informal softball or soccer games—usually without adult supervision—during the school year there were no organized activities whatever for kids in the Bedard Creek district where we lived; the difficulty of travel due to road conditions year round prevented us from taking part in recreation facilities in nearby towns. This didn't stop us from being physically active, but we were on our own, wandering the countryside by bike or foot, swimming in the creeks, climbing trees, building huts in the poplar bluffs, inventing games of all kinds. And that left us time for individual pursuits as well.

We had farm chores to do as we grew older of course, but on our small farm my father wasn't much of a taskmaster, and I still had plenty of time to indulge myself in my media obsessions: drawing and writing comic books (I loved comics); making up little magazines complete with fiction, non-fiction and humour, and even tiny newspapers with headlines and local news (two copies, one for each of my brothers who were goaded into reading them); playing the voices in my made-up radio plays and forcing my bored brothers to listen; dreaming up cowboy stories (cowboys dominated fiction media then) which my brothers, a cousin and I acted out with the whole outdoors for our stage.

But as my childhood began to give way to adulthood a long pause occurred in my literary journey. More on that later.

## ...This is my story

**DAVE “The Price is Right” PRICE** from Weirsdale agreed to give us his story, beginning when he arrived in Canada from Wales. We are hoping he will continue with further installments. He and his dog Toby are a familiar sight in the district especially as his wife Bev has become disabled by Parkinson's and can no longer live at home.



I grew up in Monmouth (pronounced Mow-mth) in Wales, one of five kids. When I turned seventeen in 1956 I decided it was a bit crowded in the house and in Wales. I saw a poster which said “Come to Canada: Farm Workers Needed” and decided to go for it. I spoke to the local minister and the mayor,

each of which gave me letters of introduction. I closed my eyes and stuck a pin into a map which is how I chose Melville in Saskatchewan. My contacts in Wales put me in touch with the mayor in Melville, Mr. Bailey, and a farmer called Haylock who agreed to sponsor me. Six weeks later I boarded a ship in Liverpool and arrived at my destination with \$34 in my pocket.

The Haylocks were farming grain and I was paid \$.75 an hour but also got room and board. They lived in a three-storey Eaton house that came as a kit from the States in 1913 at the cost of \$700. My accent and foreignness



made me popular with the girls but I was warned off the farmer's daughter.

I worked for the Haylocks for two years and found myself a wife among the 4-H crowd that gathered at the house.

Bev and I have been married over 50 years and have a son and a daughter.

Photo above is typical of Monmouth in Wales.





## AND THE WINNERS ARE... Page 5

At left, Audrey Reid and Tracy Lubyk, members of Smeaton Legion #319, attended an assembly at William Mason School to present certificates to the winners of the Remembrance Day Poster and Literary contest on January 9th. Congratulations and we wish them luck as their entries advance to Zone competition!

## SMEATON FIRE AND RESCUE

Our December 50/50 winner came home for the holidays and left with some extra \$\$\$!! Congratulations to Katie Lubyk - she bought her winning ticket from her dad SDFR Captain Peter Lubyk when she came out for Christmas. December's pot was \$97, so Katie received a cheque for \$48.50. Thanks to all the businesses in our area who promote our monthly draw - Smeaton Co-op, Smeaton Hotel, Smeaton Post Office and Snowden Star Hotel. Next draw date is January 31st.

## FIREFIIGHTERS UPGRADE THEIR SKILLS

Twelve members of the Smeaton and District Fire and Rescue and Choiceland Fire Department successfully completed courses in Basic Fire Behaviour, ICS 100, and Wildland Fire Suppression on Jan 13 and 14th.

Thank you to Scott Ackerman, Crystal Fajt, and Connie Bradburn from Wildfire Management Branch for instructing this weekend course.



## EVENING GROSBEAKS:

This photo on the left of Evening Grosbeaks enjoying a bath was submitted by Kathy Matieyshen. The warmer January temperatures melted the snow on a metal shed roof, enabling the birds to enjoy paddling around and cleaning themselves up. They had a ball!

## \*\*CANADA 150\*\*

## CHALLENGE

...Fly the Canadian Flag. Tell us your Canadian story and we may find a flag to send you for your efforts.

...Plant a red and white flower garden. If you are really ambitious, make the flowers depict the flag.

...Get a sense of history by wandering around a cemetery.

## SMEATON LEGION

The Smeaton Legion hall was full all weekend with crib tournaments! On Saturday, January 28th, we hosted the annual Zone Crib Playoffs. Legion crib players, from Prince Albert, Christopher Lake and Paddockwood, travelled to Smeaton to match up against our local Legion members to determine who would advance to Districts in Nipawin. Smeaton players were very successful and advance in the following categories:

- CLOSED TEAM: Lyle White, Joe Bernhard, Ed Salthammer, and Wayne Krasko.

- CLOSED DOUBLES: Lyle White and Tracy Lubyk.

- CLOSED SINGLES: Tracy Lubyk. Congratulations and we wish them luck in District play in Nipawin on February 25th!

Sunday, January 29th, was our second local crib tournament this "winter" - temperatures on the plus side of freezing made for a fantastic turnout! Thirty-two players vied for prizes. First place winners Val Rein and Beth Whitford each received a \$15 gift certificate to Snowden Star Hotel, donated by Northern Fire Training. Second place winners Marlene Ahle and Delores Clarke each received a hat donated by Snowden Star Hotel.

Thank you to everyone who donated towards lunches for these crib tournaments: Lyle & Donna White, Joe & Mavis Bernhard,

Sue Pelech, and Tracy Lubyk. Special thank you to Sonia Fidyk for handling registration and scorekeeping both days.



PHOTO: Winners of Smeaton Legion #319's crib tournament held January 29th (left-right): First place team Val Rein and Beth Whitford, and second place Marlene Ahle and Delores Clarke.



## QUILT & CRAFT GROUP



Pictured here are some of the participants of the Quilt and Craft Group who gathered on January 14th at the Smeaton Health Unit. Clockwise from left, Sonia was using leftover fabric to put together a nine-patch; Jean was settled at the Singer she bought in the mid 1950's; Shona was putting together a quilt for her niece; Beth and Margo were working on quilts for special people in their lives; Shirley was crocheting away on her "Scrubbies" made from netting. This work keeps her hands nimble. Shirley thinks she has made upwards of 2000 of them. This group meets every second Saturday and is planning a project weekend. Contact Margo Marshall for more information.



**\*\*CANADA 150 \*\***

### CHALLENGE

If you craft or quilt, consider creating a hanging, quilt, garment etc that has a Canada theme. Use red and white, or a landscape or an animal such as a moose, goose or killer whale to express your admiration for your country.



**BIRD IN THE SKY PHOTOS:** Above and below are two views of the Greek Orthodox Church in Weirdale. Below right is an overview of the community of Weirdale. These photos were obtained by a skilled operator of a drone (thing that flies, takes pictures).

### ....SOME THOUGHTS from Tony Rudnicki NURSES AND DOCTORS

My wife was in the hospital for two months and I drove every day to Prince Albert to see her, 100 miles round trip from the farm. One day a nurse came into the room and said, "you are not looking good". She went away and came back with a wheelchair. She told me to get in. "I am taking you to admitting". She got me signed in and I was seen right away. I had left my jacket in Elsie's room and she didn't know where I had gone. I was hospitalized for two days. There are some very good nurses and doctors and I thank that nurse from Weirdale for looking after me.

I am still angry about the way my father died 48 years ago, I went to see him in hospital at 6:00pm and he was gone by midnight.

He told me he was given the wrong pills and if he ever got out he would never come back. Three weeks later I asked the doctor what happened and was treated very rudely.

Although there are great nurses and doctors, there are also the bad ones, like the nurse in Ontario charged in the deaths of several patients.

We have always got the flu shot to protect us from the worst flu out there, but remember this: Doorknobs and dollar bills are the worst for spreading germs.



# HERITAGE HOMESTEADS IN THE CHOICELAND DISTRICT

## FRED FOWLER HOMESTEAD

On June 6th 1909, Fred Fowler was born in Brampton Ontario.

When Fred was nine years old, his father came to Saskatchewan to work as a farm hand. That same year, his father died at Govan SK from the flu epidemic of 1918 that killed so many people.

In December of 1925, at the age of 16, Fred came west to visit his father's grave. Fred returned to Toronto for a while but he had fallen in love with the west.

In 1927 at age 18, Fred left Toronto for good...on a bicycle! He biked 1275 miles to Winnipeg which took approximately three weeks. He then took the train to Saskatchewan.

On December 21 1927, Fred Fowler would lay his ten dollars on the table and filed on a homestead, SW32-51-17 W2 in the Blue Fox District. He would farm that land for 52 years.

In 1940 Fred joined the army and served in England, Holland, Germany and Belgium. In 1945 Fred was discharged from the army and returned to his



land.

Fred worked for Lloyd White setting up machinery. He dug many a basement in the community. He spend many hours working on restoring Model T's with Art Hidlebaugh.

Fred was known for always carrying around "a little black book".

Fred passed away at age 89 on August 9th, 1998. He was laid to rest in the Blue Fox Cemetery.

His land is today farmed by Ron Shymanski.



## Dan MacDonald

passed away in 2000, but his photographic record of homestead homes are a valuable reminder of past history in the Choiceland district. 35 of Dan's photos have been enlarged and are displayed in the foyer of the Choiceland Museum. Many thanks to Jan Misselbrook for preparing these stories every month.

## CLIFF HATTON HOMESTEAD

Cliff Hatton homesteaded on SW30-56-17-W2. Very little is known about this bachelor except it is stated in the Choiceland History book that Cliff played semi-pro baseball as a catcher for Minneapolis in the States. The how, when and why he came to Canada is not known. I went to the people around to tell me what their memory of him was and this is what they related:

Bob Nakonechny stated that the little house pictured was the teacherage from Purity I School.

Mort Seaman said he broke land for him and stayed with him while working for him and Cliff fed him a lot of canned blueberries.

Norma Seaman remembers Cliff walking by her parents' land and he would stop and buy bread from her mother, Davina Flanders. She said he seemed to be well educated.

Ellen Pickett said he was a small man that dressed very neatly and came to the post office almost every day and would ask, "Is there any mail for Cliff Hatton?" and then he would spell out HATTON.

Bob Robertson said that in 1955, Cliff Hatton sold a Massey 81 tractor to Bob's father. Bob got to drive it home!

Cliff Kelsey states that Cliff Hatton loved to play cribbage and never wanted to quit until he won a game and that could take a long time. Cliff Kelsey recalls a time after a long session of cribbage, Cliff Hatton made lunch and basically put everything from his fridge on the table. Cliff K told Cliff H: "I'm not that hungry you know". Cliff Hatton said, "I almost starved during the thirties and now I put the food out to share because I can." Cliff K believes that Cliff H worked on the building of the Nipawin Bridge and also worked as a cook.

Nobody seems to know what happened to Cliff Hatton. If he left Choiceland or if he didn't or where he is buried. Local cemeteries don't have any records of him. If anyone knows the answer please let us know. Cliff Hatton's land is owned by Fran Leyh.



## NEWS FLASH !!

...Mark your calendar: Saturday August 19th 2017, the Choiceland Museum will hold their **Annual heritage Day** to coincide with Canada's 150th birthday. It's going to be a big party. You will not want to miss this summer event.

...**50/50 Winner** for January 1st was Gerald Bilowus from Garrick. He took home \$515.00. Congratulations.

...**Betty Smith** visited the Museum in the fall. She was able to name some people in pictures we did not know. We were so happy to get her nod of approval on the work being done in the Museum.'

...**The Don's**. Don Patton and Don Sussums are hard at work creating the Don Chow Store at the Museum. The Don's along with Ron Charbie are back at the Museum creating new display areas.

**AMATEUR HOUR Saturday April 8th 2017.**  
**MUSEUM OPEN HOUSE FEBRUARY 5th**  
**1:00 to 4:00 pm—Be sure to attend.**



PHOTOS: Betty Smith makes an appearance; the Don's happily at work.

With a rate increase every year,  
you're going to need a bigger net!



Find out how quickly your wealth can  
grow with a Rapid Rate RRSP or TFSA.

[diamondnorthcu.com/rapidrate](http://diamondnorthcu.com/rapidrate)



#### SMEATON REC USER FEES:

These additional fees have been paid since our last reporting. Thank you very much to the following:

**Marshall and Gail Hawthorne**  
**Grant and Carissa Schmidt**  
**Dave and Diana Willness;**  
**Grant and Kyla Lewis**  
**D/M Lessmeister**  
**Carman and Tracy Long**  
**Tim Pelech/Alecia MacIntosh**  
**Merle Chamberlain**  
**Marcel and Beth Whitford**  
**Larry and Eunice Bartle**  
**Ella Butterfield**  
**Tom and Diane Jensen**  
**Dave and Ida Forden**

#### GARBAGE / RECYCLE CYCLE

Put the BLACK BIN to the curb on February 3rd and 17th, also March 3rd, 17th and 31st. The BLUE BIN is emptied on February 10th and 24th, as well as March 10th and 24th.

#### Dog Catcher Wanted:

The Village of Smeaton is looking to hire a dog catcher. The successful candidate must be able to respond to notifications of dogs at large and complaints regarding dogs, have an outdoor kennel, provide protection to the dog from the weather while impounded, provide a heated shelter in the winter months, lodge and feed impounded dogs, enforce the animal control bylaw, issue fines in accordance with the animal control bylaw.

If interested or need more information please call Michelle at the Village Office. Deadline is February 28.



**SMEATON CO-OP** has been operating on seven day a week service since December of 2015. We appreciate the extra service and notice improvements to the store every time we shop. Thank you, Prince Albert Co-op Association; thank you Rose Stromme..

#### NUFFY'S HANDY DANDY Second Hand Store

(306) 426-2269

SMEATON, SK SOJ 2J0

CLEAN OUT YOUR BASEMENT,  
GARAGE OR SHEDS: Call me at  
306 426-2269 (leave a message).  
I will buy anything I need, and will  
haul the rest away!

#### ARCTIC REFRIGERATION INC.

306-314-7214

#### A Trueman Plumbing & Heating

For all your Plumbing, Gasfitting, HVAC Needs  
Serving Choiceland and area

**Darcy Trueman**

Journeyman Plumber/Gas Fitter

Po Box 483 Choiceland, SK

SOJ 0M0



**CELL (306) 862-1221**

#### Steve's Septic Service Smeaton SK 306 426-7553

[stevessepticsservices@hotmail.ca](mailto:stevessepticsservices@hotmail.ca)

tanks pumped \*\* floats & pumps  
replaced \*\* portable toilet rentals

\*\*sewer & water repairs

Drain cleaning with drain cleaner & high  
pressure water

**Steve Beal (owner - operator)**

FOR SALE:

#### LARGE ROUND BALES

48 Mixed timothy and alfalfa ,  
(from 2015)

CALL (306) 922-1619

#### DID YOU KNOW....?

You can reduce your water consumption by  
putting a brick or a two-litre plastic bottle of  
water in your toilet reservoir.

Water is a precious commodity, do not waste  
it. Front-loading washing machines use far  
less water than top-loading, and spin the load  
more vigorously, reducing drying time.

#### SMEATON & DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

**A. Kirby, Box 28, Smeaton SK SOJ 2J0**

<http://smeatondistrictnews.tripod.com>

**akirby@sasktel.net (306) 426-2447**

Editor: Annette Kirby

Contributors: Everyone else

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