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Going to university . . in Moosomin Page 7





31 other prizes offered: Local businesses giving away \$15,000

Local businesses are getting together to give away \$15,000 to reward one lucky shopper for shopping locally this Christmas season.

The draw will be made on Dec. 20 and the winner will get the good news just before Christmas

There are also 31 other prizes valued at more than \$5,000 in total to be given away in the World-Spectator's 2017 Christmas Giveaway.

Shoppers can enter at 43 locations in nine communities across the area.

The 31 secondary prizes include: • A bottle of Fontanafredda Borolo 2013 and two wine glasses from the Up-town Bar and Downtown Liquor Store in Moosomin

 A Stay and Play package from Bear Claw Casino, including a two night stay, dinner for two and \$50 of free play · A 12-piece Paderno cookware set

from Pharmasave in Moosomin A beautiful piece of wall art from Za-

ylie Furniture in Moosomin • An LG GPad 2 with tempered glass

A \$400 furniture certificate from To-day's Electronics and Furniture in Red-

• A Total Home Holiday Video Deco-rating Kit from Borderland Co-op • Three decorative winter trees from

Right At Home Decor An Arctic Cat winter coat from Uni-

verse Satellite Sales in Rocanville · An Italian-crafted silver and rose

gold necklace from Kassie's Jewelry • A two-in-one tripod Halogen work light from Mullett's RONA

And many more. The \$15,000 Christmas Giveaway evolved from the World-Spectator's car draw. World-Spectator publisher Kevin Weedmark said he is proud of the local business community for stepping up and supporting the promotion.

This promotion has always been about rewarding local shoppers for supporting the local businesses, and the fact that so



World-Spectator Associate Publisher Kara Kinna with a few of the Christmas Giveaway prizes from the World-Spectator's Prize Vault.

many local retailers and other businesses buy into this promotion shows that they are working hard to serve their custom-

ers. "The first year we held the car draw, we had no idea if we could do it or not.



World-Spectator publisher Kevin Weedmark presents last year's \$15,000 grand prize to winner Tawna Bartley.

We threw the idea out there to businesses in the area, and the response was overwhelming. In no time we had enough support to be able to offer a substantial prize," Weedmark said. "The car draw was a success, but I

think this promotion is even better. The grand prize winner will receive a book of special cheques they can only use at the participating businesses. That will ensure that the money the winner receives will stay in the local area. There are all sorts of other prizes as well. It's really a great way of rewarding people for shopping lo-cally."

Shoppers can enter with a purchase at any participating business—there are 43 locations across the area in total where people can enter.

The winner can spend their \$15,000 any way they want at participating business es. They may choose to spend it at several different businesses, or spend the whole prize on a large ticket item like a quad, furniture, flooring for the whole house, or a lavish trip. "The possibilities are end-

"We asked our participating businesses what the winner could do with \$15,000 at their businesses, and there were some great ideas."



Plain and Valley

November 2017



Austin, Bonkowski starting their medical careers in Moosomin

by Kara Kinna

Two young doctors who grew up in Moosomin—Dr. Kristi Bonkowski and Dr. Diana Austin—have started their medical careers, and both are back practicing in Moosomin.

Dr. Bonkowski started practising in Moo-somin in July, and says it's likely that Moo-somin is where she will stay.

Bonkowski says her original plan was to become a pharmacist, but that all changed as she got further into her studies.

as she got further into her studies. "I initially wanted to be a pharmacist for quite a while and I did actually work at the local Pharmasave, and that was a good experience," she says. "Going through my first year of university, that's where I realized that pharmacy was interesting to me, and that I wanted to do something within the health care field but just a little bit dif-ferent, and I realized that maybe medicine

ferent, and I realized that maybe medicine instead was the right fit. "It was a number of factors that just kind of built and came together. Part of it was being in Regina in university, just realizing it was a possibility for me to go into medi-cine. Before that I thought maybe I couldn't do it, and being there I realized it was a very real possibility to go into medicine." Bonkowski says one of the perks of prac-ticing in Moosomin is that there are a lot of different things a doctor can do.

different things a doctor can do. "I like the variety. I like that I can be in "I like the variety. I like that I can be in clinic. I like that I can be in the hospital, and in the hospital you are doing all sorts of things, you are doing inpatient care, emer-gency department, different procedures, obstetrics, long-term care. I really like the variety and no day is really the same," she

Bonkowski says she didn't know for sure if she would come back to Moosomin to

if she would come back to Moosomin to practise but it was always in the back of her mind as a possibility. "It was definitely a thought, I just wasn't sure if it would happen or how I would feel about it as I got closer to practice," she says. "But certainly there's always that ap-peal to come back and to be around family and friends and provide that service to the and friends and provide that service to the

community as well. "As I progressed in my training and came



DR. DIANA AUSTIN

back here for a couple of summers (to work at the Moosomin Family Practice Centre) I realized that it would work and it made me come back.

After graduating from medical school Bonkowski did her residency in Swift Current for two years practising family medi-cine. She finished her residency at the end of June and started working in Moosomin in July.

She says her preference for family medi-cine is part of what led her to come back to Moosomin. "Part of it through medical school was the

decision if I wanted to do family medicine or not, and if I didn't do family medicine it would be very difficult to do anything else here," she says. "And I did realize going through medical school that I did want to do family medicine

'And then being able to come back here

DR. KRISTI BONKOWSKI for the summers and being able to spend time with the doctors here, I think the ex-

posure I gained here influenced my deciŝion.

"After my first year of med school I came back. It basically was kind of like an ob-servership. The second year I came back and got to do a little more hands-on and then I came back in clerkship and was able to do even more hands-on. And then I came back in residency as well and was able to do a lot of things a lot more independently." She says she enjoys practising in Mooso

min.

"It's basically very similar to what I thought it would be. I knew it would be busy here, and it is. I guess coming here every summer I kind of knew the routine.

I had a pretty good idea. It's what I envi-

"I like that it's a small town and small practice, but that for a small town we have a relatively good number of doctors, and so I have lots of colleagues and they are really supportive, and I feel comfortable going to them with questions. "I also like that it's my home town so I'm

close to family and friends and I just feel comfortable here.

"I can't really imagine myself living in a city or practicing in a city. Some docs, when they do live in a city, they find their niches and that may be obstetrics or something like that, but I think I would have difficulty limiting myself at this point in the term to live. limiting myself at this point in time to just one niche. "I also like that we get to be much more

hands-on here. We do a lot of procedures. It's not so easy to send someone to the city all the time, whereas in the city you might refer to a specialist a little bit sooner or a little bit easier."

little bit easier." Bonkowski says the community has been supportive of her decision to return. "I get lots of patients and just people on the street saying they are happy to see me back, and it seems like the town is very re-ceptive and welcoming," she says. Dr. Diana Austin is currently working as a locum in Moosomin spreading her time

a locum in Moosomin, spreading her time between Moosomin, Saskatoon, and Île-à-la-Crosse in northern Saskatchewan. She says for the next few years she will be prac-tising as a locum in Moosomin off and on,

tising as a locum in Moosomin off and on, on a regular basis. Austin says, despite her love of science, she took her undergrad degree not know-ing if she would end up being a doctor. "I thought I would be something more creative," she says. "All through my un-dergrad I tried to convince myself I didn't want to do medicine. I fought it a little bit then realized that no, that's what I want to do. I think all alone I knew that's what I want to do. I think all along I knew that's what I wanted but kept trying to convince myself otherwise."

Continued on page 21 🖙

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Chase The Ace Fundraiser • Eli Barsi concert Maryfield Auditorium fundraising for a new kitchen

BY KARA KINNA Hundreds of meals—from fowl suppers to wedding dinnumers—have been cooked and served out of the Maryfield Auditorium's kitchen over the years, but the kitchen— which was put in in the early 1970s—has had its day, and the Maryfield Auditorium has started fundraising for a new

"We're fundraising to redo the kitchen in the lower audi-torium. It hasn't had anything done to it since it was built in the early '70s," says Lorraine Fidelak with the Maryfield Auditorium Committee. "So it needs a major renovation, in-cluding a commercial dishwasher and new appliances. "We are looking in the neighborhood of at least \$55,000 that we need to fundraise to do it the way we want to do it."

that we need to fundraise to do it the way we want to do it." Fidelak says the current kitchen is functional but is old

Tidelak says the current kitchen is functional but is old and lacks many of the modern amenities needed to host large events, including a dishwasher. "Inside the cupboards are decent because they are built out of sturdy wood, but cosmetically they are very tattered and worn," she says. "We will gut it and redo it and we are going to have to redo drywall, plumbing and electrical. We are also looking at putting an accordion folding sound bar-rier wall from counter to ceiling that we could roll across to close it off so that the cleaning can be done while a function is going on in there and soundprooffing it." Fidelak says the committee also plans to put in a com-mercial gas range and stovetop with double ovens, a large freezer, a large cooler and warming trays. "We just think it would be so much better to get it all cleaned up and new counter tops and plumbing and every-thing," she says. "It's all in a state of disrepair, it's not an attractive kitchen at all any more. Back in the '70s it was probably top of the line but it needs to be moved into the

probably top of the line but it needs to be moved into the 21st century for sure." Fidelak says replacing the kitchen would make a huge

"I'm sure we would rent the place more if people knew that those facilities were there," she says. "I'm sure it would bring in more people and be used more because people wouldn't have to worry about doing hours and hours of

dishwashing." The kitchen is well used but Fidelak says it would likely be used a lot more.

"It's used for wedding receptions, it's used for funeral luncheons, it's used a lot by the Lions for their various func-Twice the one of the second of



Eli Barsi will be performing Nov. 25 as a fundraiser for the Maryfield Auditorium.

Chase the Ace

A number of fundraisers are planned to help raise the money for the new kitchen.

Money for the new Kitchen. One of those fundraisers, a chase the ace lottery, has al-ready started. Chase the Ace is being held every Sunday from 4:30 - 6:30 pm at the Arlington Hotel in Maryfield. The lottery started on October 22 and will run until October 14, 2018

"We're hoping that the Chase the Ace will provide us with the most funding," says Fidelak. Arlington Hotel donated the \$500 pot to get the lottery charted

started

Eli Barsi concert The Maryfield Auditorium Committee is also planning a concert with Eli Barsi on Saturday, Nov. 25. The concert will also feature John Cunningham and fiddler Bruce Hoffman. "Somebody had heard her and thought she was good and we figured we'd go with her," says Fidelak. "She is local tal-ent and we just figured it was worth a shot as a fundraiser.

5

We are hoping we can draw people in. "She's an award winning artist and that has to stand for something. She has worked her way up, so we are hoping it goes over well.'

Hypnotist show The Maryfield Auditorium Committee is planning a third fundraiser, dinner and a show with hypnotist Jesse Lewis

"We're going to promote as a Valentine's couples night," says Fidelak.

Some funds raised already

Fidelak says the plan is to have the funds raised and the new kitchen in by fall of next year. The committee already has some funds raised. A two-week online auction was held, ending October 6 and raising

%6,000. "We canvassed the communities and got a lot of donated

items and people bid on them," says Fidelak. "We had ev-erything from baking packages to patio heaters and everything in between."

committee also received a \$12,200 bequest from a former Maryfield resident as part of his estate and will use that money to help cover some of the cost of the new kitchen.



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Online auction planned for families in need

An online auction will take place next week—No-vember 20 to 25—to raise money for families in need through Caring Communi

ties. "We've been working with local families around with local families around Christmas time for the last few years with Caring Communities," said Rolna Pranke, one of the organiz-ers. "We had been known as Adopt-A-Family at first, as we paired with people with families they could held Lettman uncern an help. Last year we set up an actual non-profit organiza-

tion, Caring Communities, so people cand donate. "We help peeople at Christmastime who need a hand with gifts for their kids or a food hamper, that sort of thing. "This year we're having

an online Facebook auction We have over 85 items do nated so far and there are still more items coming in. An online fundraising auction is a simple way to raise money at no cost. All of the money that's raised goes to

moneý that's raised goes to help people. "We're hoping to use some of the money from the auction and other donations that come in to purchase necessities for families— anything they need. There are also needs that come up throughout the year—for example if there's a family that has come upon a bard that has come upon a hard time, maybe lost a job, once we get word of that we can in and help. Some of the funds raised can be kept in reserve and we can use them as needed."



Some of the items donated for the Caring Communities online auction.

Manor

Just a few of the items donated so far include Three hours at the

Sportsplex • A decorative wagon wheel

A 9 x 13 pan of fudge
Daily Inspiration cards and book

 A Kids Healthy Lunchbox cookbook

· Denim purse and notebook · A set of hardcover chil-

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aprons A barn board picture frame/chalkboard • 10 dozen homemade

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lamp • A cookie a day for 20

days • Four hours of housecleaning
10 pounds of hamburg-

er • A set of two snowman

decorations

 A photoshoot
 A birthday party package valued at \$260 "We're trying to hit all inwe re trying to nit all in-terests," says Darcy Baczuk, another organizer. "There are some guy things, some girl things, some things for kids,"

The women are hoping to raise around \$4,000 to \$5,000. People can still donate items once the auction

starts running. "I'm very grateful to ev-eryone who has donated," said Rolna.

"It's amazing the support we have from this area," says Darcy. "Every time we do something like this, I panic, and every time we come out with more than I ever, ever dreamt we could do. The community sup-ports us. They just give." "The same is true when

needs come up through the year," adds Rolna. "There's year, adds koina. There's a family we helped from a nearby town. We just said this is what we need, and the support that came in was incredible. I had a truckload that I took. I was met with smiles and tears

and hugs." "People appreciate it, people need it," adds Dar-

cy. "Everything is kept anon-ymous," says Rolna. "If someone knows of someone i mod they can contact us." someone knows of someone in need they can contact us." "Last year we had about 30 families." says Darcy. "This year we're at 18 but we could get more." In some cases, families that once received support



donate to the program. Support provided to the families in the program is tailored to the individual needs of each family.

needs of each tamily. Darcy says she started the program after participating in Santas Anonymous in Regina. "When my son and were first on our own I were first on our own, we were in need, and people helped us," she said. "It was like okay, we can give back now. I started with just my family supporting it, and we helped 13 families. It ex-panded from there. The first year I did it, I just did Moo-somin and now I do Flem-ing, Welwyn, Rocanville, Moosomin and Wapella. We took the idea from Regina and tailored it for our area. Why do the women put

in the time to organize this? "Because we needed it once, and now it's our chance to give back," says

"I was involved with Operation Christmas Child for seven years and you're helping someone on the other side of the world," says Rolna. "Through this we're helping people right here. The hugs and the tears are enough."

"There are usually a few tears when we make a drop off," says Darcy. "The im-portant thing for people is knowing that someone has their back. That somebody cares.

Look for Caring Commu-nities on Facebook to par-ticipate in the auction.

Local businesses are also helping with Caring Com-

munities. When people buy a mini-mum \$10 Borderland Co-op mum \$10 Borderland Co-op gift card to donate to Caring Communities, Co-op will donate another \$5 gift card. RONA is collecting dona-tions for Caring Communi-

ties. On the night of Moon-light Madness, November 29, the Flaman Train will be giving rides around down-town Moosomin and will collect non-perishable food items and unwrapped toys to be distributed through Caring Communities







From left, Tyson Nobert, Thunderbird Bowering, Shelby McGonigal, and Kelly Brown taking a University of Regina class via Skype at the Southeast College campus in Moosomin.

Going to university . . . in Moosomin

First year U of R classes offered at Southeast College

in Moosomin a major benefit for local people looking to further their education

BY KARA KINNA

BY KARA KINNA Southeast College is offering students a chance to take first-year University of Regina courses at their lo-cal Southeast College campuses, and a number of local students in the Moosomin campus area are taking advan-tage of these classes for a number of reasons. Moosomin's Shelby McGonigal is currently taking English and Sociology classes through the U of R at the Southeast College campus in Moosomin. McGonigal says she plans to go to hair school next year as a back up trade before pursuing a degree in either business or social work. She says she wouldn't be taking university courses at all if they hadn't been offered locally. "Tim going to hair school next year and it's really ex-pensive, so I decided I'd save my money for hair school and then I don't have to pay rent this year," she says. "I want to get a degree in business or social work."

"I want toor trave to bay ten turs year, site says. "I want toor trave to bay ten turs year, site says." The university classes at Southeast College are being taught via Skype, with one professor teaching a class to all of the Southeast College campus locations, and stu-dents turning in from each location. Some of the courses or a close of the order where are also offered online.

McGonigal says she's enjoying the small classes. "In my one class there's only two of us and in the other one there is only four," she says. "It's easier to ask a direct question to a classmate without having people talk.

"We watch it over Skype. If we have a question we can just turn on the microphone and ask the teacher because their classes are also small. The prof is in Weyburn.

"I like it better because if I don't understand something I don't have to raise my hand or wait, I can just ask. And I don't have to raise my hand or wait, I can just ask. And we get the power points, the notes, and I like that better because if I need to go back to something I can. I like hav-ing a small group of people and if I need to ask a question I can just talk through the mic to talk to talk to the prof." McGonigal says there are also significant cost savings to taking her first year at home. "It's way cheaper than going away. There's less ex-penses and the classes aren't as expensive online. It's definitely cheaper and easier because you're at home and the people at the university can help you somewhat. It's just a way cheaper route if you're wanting to go on to further schooline."

further schooling." McGonigal is also able to work while taking classes. She says if classes weren't offered she would not be in "I wouldn't have went away to school this year. I want-

"I wouldn't have went away to school this year. I want-ed to keep my job and keep working to earn my money to go away next year." She says she would recommend the first year univer-sity classes at Southeast College to others. "I would recommend taking your first year here if you can because you save a lot of money and it's just a chance that not a lot of people would get, but if you have it in your community why not benefit from it?" Kelly Brown, who lives near Whitewood, says having first year U of R classes available in Moosomin means she bas an opportunity to further her career that she would

has an opportunity to further her career that she would

otherwise not have. Brown is taking English, Indigenous Studies, and Kinesiology. "I'm currently a licensed practical nurse so now I'm

working towards my Bachelors degree in nursing to be an RN," she says. "I have a three-year-old at home and I just had a baby

four months ago, so not having to move to the city and being able to stay at home and have family support makes this way more possible for me right now.

"The best thing about it is being able to stay at home and be with my kids and still be on the farm. We have animals to take care of so it's just a lot easier on my hus-band and I to be home right now. Plus I have the family support. My mom and dad live in Moosomin."

Brown says two of her classes are via Skype and one is entirely online. She says it's tough taking classes with small children to take care of, but she's happy she has the

"It's definitely a lot heavier than I thought it would be just with the two kids, but it's definitely a lot nicer than having to move away," she says. "It's just kind of com-

'I don't think I could make it work. I couldn't move to Regina with a newborn. I don't know how I could do it if I didn't have these classes in Moosomin.

—Kelly Brown

fortable and there are some familiar faces around cam-

"It's definitely an interesting way to learn because I've never learned that way. I've always had in instruc-tor teaching me. But it's amazing and I can't believe that they've set it up."

they ve set it up." Brown says there is no way she could take university courses if they weren't offered locally. "I don't think I could make it work. I couldn't move to Regina with a newborn," she says." I don't know how I could do it if I didn't have these classes in Moosomin." Brown place to take how ontire forst way locally them

Brown plans to take her entire first year locally then see if she can drive into Regina a few days a week for her second year classes.

"I'll be taking two more classes towards my degree starting in January and then after that I'd have to go to Regina in the fall, but one class a semester is offered online through the U of R as well." Why further her education?

"I've always wanted to do it," she says. "I did the LPN program because it was local and the LPN program was through Southeast College as well. And the more I worked in it, the more I wanted more. I work in long term care right now, but I want more, I want to do more, I want to work in the hospital. I feel like I need more out of my career

'And my long term goal is to go for my masters degree to be a nurse practitioner. So I need to do the RN program

before I can even think about that."

Brown doesn't hesitate when asked what she'd tell oth-ers about taking the university classes at Southeast Col-

ers about taking the university classes at Southeast College. "Do it," she says. "Because the first year will save you a whole year in whatever city you are going to. You can still work. You can still live with mom and dad if you are just out of high school. You can save up more money. It would probably save you around \$10,000 doing it in Moosomin rather than going to Regina. Do it." Tyson Nobert from Rocanville is taking first year classes at Southeast College with the aim of getting his Bachelor degree in Business Administration. He is cur-rently taking Indigenous Studies, Sociology, Biology and English.

The already working towards a specific degree. I'm working towards a BBA, which is a Bachelor in Business Administration, and I am an admitted member to the faculty already," he says.

why take his first year at home? "I live in Rocanville. It's nice and convenient. And it was cheaper. It saves a lot of money. I did the math. It was about \$10,000 by the time you figure in food, living costs, gas or transportation costs, just the standard living stuff, it's expensive."

Nobert, 25, decided it was time to go back to school

and get a post-secondary education. "I was already looking at going to university just be-cause of the momentum I've built up to this point, and I was probably going to go anyway, but the fact that I was in Moosomin just confirmed it all the more that I'm doing this." he says

this," he says. All of Nobert's classes are via Skype. "I enjoy them, they are interesting," he says. "In Eng-lish I've learned I've been doing it wrong sometimes and I've fixed that, and in sociology you learn how we inter-act with each other. In biology we get to learn about anat-omy. Myself, I'm a medical first responder so it's a little bit of review in some areas, and in some other areas it's more interesting stuff like learning about call division". more interesting stuff, like learning about cell division." He says he's comfortable with the classes being taught via Skype

"It's a great program, you get your first year, it's great will be added to any out the say of the many of the say of the



Borderland Moosomin Home CENTRE



Aaron Pritchett performing in Rocanville Concert is fundraiser for Rocanville hall, fire department

BY KARA KINNA On Saturday, Dec. 16, people are being encour-aged to don their ugly Christmas sweaters and party to the music of Aar-on Pritchett at a cabaret being held at the Potash-Corp Rocanville Commu-nity Hall. The cabaret is a fund-

nity Hall. The cabaret is a fund-raiser for the new hall in Rocanville, as well as the Rocanville Fire Depart-ment. This is the second annual Ugly Christmas Sweater Party. Last year Jess Moskaluke performed to a sold-out crowd of 700 of people at the hall. The concert raised over

\$25,000. Wen Wilson, with the Rocanville Hall Committee, says that after the suc-cess of the first Christmas cess of the first Christmas cabaret, it was decided to do something similar again this year. "Jess and I were chat-ting back and forth and

ting back and forth and going through a bunch of different performers and I threw Aaron's name out there just as a shot in the dark," says Wilson. "I didn't think he'd be anywhere near our bud-get and she said that he would be, and so I got in contact with his booking agent and things worked out. out.

"In the last year I've noticed him more on the radio. I know I enjoy his music and I know I chipy his few people that do. I think it should be a good crowd. "We're hoping it will

be the same as last year. We're hoping it will be a sellout, with 700 people." Wilson says he consid-ers last year's cabaret a

ers last year's cabaret a huge success. "It was kind of hard to judge how it was going to go because we'd never done anything like that before. It has set the bar pretty high. Last year I definitely rated that as a huge success This year huge success. This year hopefully it will be just as

good. "There were lots of comments about how great everything was. People were pretty impressed. There were quite a few people who had never been in the hall yet. It was kind of the first big event for that fa-cility too. Hopefully peo-ple come out again this

year. "Raising anything above \$20,000 would be considered a huge success again." anything

Wilson says it's worth it to host big events like this one now that the new hall is built. The hall opened its doors just over a year

"It's a lot of work but it's also a lot of work but it's also a lot of entertain-ment as well," he says. "It shows off our facility, and it kind of puts Rocanville on the map when you have some bigger name performers coming in and doing a show."

Aaron Pritchett is a Canadian country singer who has charted anthems like "Dirt Road In Em,"



Aaron Pritchett will be performing Dec. 16.

'Let's Get Rowdy," and "Let's Get Kowdy," and "Hold My Beer." In 2017, Pritchett earned a Juno nomination for Country Album of the Year, as well as multiple CCMA Award

including nominations, Male Artist of the Year. Pritchett's current single "VW Bus" was the most added single at radio its week of release.

Pritchett says his career has been going well lately. "I've been lucky enough to have several top 10 hits over the last year and a half. I'm quite happy about it," he says.

"My music ranges from all kinds of things. I'm kind of known for the kind of known for the anthem sort of songs like 'Hold My Beer,' 'Light It Up,' 'Lef's Get Rowdy.' Songs like that are huge for my career to get people singing along at shows. But I also have songs like 'Warm Safe Place,' or even my biogest bit over the my biggest hit over the last 12 years called 'When a Momma's Boy Meets a Daddy's Girl,' kind of touches some heart strings in people. I've been known to be that up tempo in your face kind of show, but we also have that softer side that we try and portray and let people get a little sentimental." Pritchett says his show in Rocanville should be a

fun one. "It's going to be a full band, we're pulling out all the stops for this show," he says. "This one has the full band, the full crew. This show starts off with a bang and ends with a big-ger bang. And hopefully it will leave people wanting more.

"I always change it up too. I don't have the same show every time. Usually I've got new tunes to add, but I also try to add some humor. I like to be funny. "I'm already in the

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SHOPPING IN EVERY **DIRECTION!** Christmas mood right now. I'm feeling pretty fes-tive and looking forward to adding some Christmas flavor.

Pritchett says he likes erforming in small communities.

"You go to shows in the city and you get big crowds, but it seems to crowds, but it seems to mean more to people when you come to a smaller town and put on a show," he says. "You always seem to get the comment that it's amazing you're even here, nobody thought you'd come to a thought you'd come to a town like this. But I think town like thus. But I think it's most special to me to be able go to a smaller town and put on a show for people that might be a little too far away to go to Regina or Saskatoon or even Winnipeg for a big-ger show. It's really im-portant for me to be able portant for me to be able to go out to all of these communities and put on shows."

Around \$370,000 still needs to be raised for the new hall in Rocanville.

Tickets for the Aaron Tickets for the Aaron Pritchett cabaret are be-ing sold in advance and can be purchased at the Rocanville Town Office, Deckers H20, and the World-Spectator office, or by calling Owen Wil-son at 306-435-9596, Steve Footbace 4206 (47 770) Fortney at 306-435-7703, or Kevin Kingdon at 306-434-7252. Tickets are \$50 and only 700 tickets will be sold. No minors are allowed at the event.



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According to Statistics Canada: Income growth in Moosomin five times national rate

Ten-Year Growth in Median Income

BY KEVIN WEEDMARK Recently released income data from the 2016 census show that Saskatchewan had the stronges wage growth in Canada in the decade between 2005 and 2015. Statistics show that the median income in Saskatchewan increased by 36.5 per cent. "Thanks to you Saskatchewan,

median, or typical, incomes have grown faster here than in any other province in Canada during a decade of growth," Premier Brad Wall said in announcing the provincial statistics.

Income growth in the town of Moosomin has been even more impressive than the provincial growth rate. Median income in Moosomin

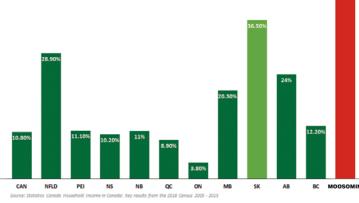
increased by 54.46 per cent between 2005 and 2015, according to census figures— about five times the national rate.

Most communities in the area also had median income increases at or above the

saskatchewan Minister of the Saskatchewan Minister of the Economy and Moosomin MLA Steven Bonk said he was happy to see that the Moosomin area is doing well in terms of earnings growth.

"I was very pleased, very happy to see that," he said. "Moosomin is definitely blessed with very good resources—the potash mine and the mature oilfield right there, but Moosomin also right there, but Moosomin also has a very entrepreneurial spirit and a strong and active Chamber of Commerce. The town and the business community promote Moosomin and you can see the fruits of their labor in these results." results.

What does he believe has made the difference for the province coming out on top in terms of



income growth? "Just being open for business," he says. "Our government has made the conscious decision to be open and friendly to private business. "We have a competitive tax structure, for one thing, we limit the amount of interventionist the amount of interventionist policies, especially when you're influencing the private markets. We try to create legislation that's necessary but limited, and then get out of the way. Let private industries do what they do best. That's what our government has done, and you can see it in the remember of the sense with in the results. Our economy is flourishing.

"We try to create an open and inviting environment for investment and business for investment and business attraction. We try to keep taxes low, we try to be business friendly, we try to attract as much foreign capital to our markets as possible, and you can see what has happened. "There's been \$147 billion invested in Saskatchewan in the lost 10 years. That's burg If's

last 10 years. That's huge. It's unprecedented in the history of our province. And that's due to policies that make it easy for business to thrive here."

What does the government need to do to continue the

success?

"We need to keep promoting the province and the resources that we have," says Bonk. "And we need to get out and tell the Saskatchewan story, because it's a good story to tell." Bonk said he is enjoying his

role as Minister of the Economy. "I can't stop smiling. Honestly, I'm enjoying it so much. I really do enjoy the foreign investment attraction side of things," he said.

really enjoy trade promotion.

What is the most important component to that?

"One thing that's really important is the regulatory system here," says Bonk. "It's consistent. It's stable. There's nothing more important to someone who's going to invest money than a stable regulatory system."

Mayor Larry Tomlinson said he believes the proximity of PotashCorp Rocanville impacts salaries and wages in the

salaries and wages in the community. "We have the mine jobs, local businesses have to be competitive with the mine for employment, and we are becoming hub for the area with a lot of professional people in town," he said. "Wo are drawing in more

"We are drawing in more doctors and dentists and other professionals, and we've got some pretty successful businesses in town and they're good people. "Our local economy is

doing well and our economic development committee has done a pretty darn good job. They have a few businesses on the radar right now that could what we need to attract is a small industry—I think that would be awesome." What does Tomlinson think

what does forminson trink sets Moosomin apart? "Some of the other towns relied on the oil so much, then when oil dropped, they didn't have the diversified economy have the diversified economy we had to keep things going. We don't just rely on oil. We've got oil potash farming. Look at the agriculture dealerships we have, and now we have all three major car dealerships. Diversification is the one big thing."





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November 2017

Plain and Valley



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for the Saturday, December 2 matinee of "Despicable Me 3" (2 p.m. show only) at Moosomin Community Theatre



All five Sask Party leadership candidates to meet for forum at Wolseley

The next Premier of Saskatchewan will visit Wolseley on Wednesday, December 6

All five candidates for the Sas-katchewan Party leadership—one of whom will be the next premier of the province—will be in Wolseley for a candidate forum that will be held as part of the Moosomin Constituency Saskatchewan Party annual meeting.

The five candidates are Scott Moe, Alanna Koch, Ken Cheveldayoff, Tina Beaudry-Mellor and Gord Wyant.

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The evening will include a sup-per, candidate forum with opportunity for questions, and the annual meeting. The format will be a five-minute

opening statement from each can-didate, followed by questions from people in attendance.

Individuals can write out ques-tions which will be presented to the candidates by moderator Tyler Tomlinson.

Tickets are \$50 each, which includes supper

The event will be held at the Wol-

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seley Town Hall/Opera House. Supper will be at 6 pm, with the foto start at 7 pm and the AGM run to follow.

Advance tickets can be purchased until December 1. Tickets are available by contact-

• Tyler Tomlinson of Grenfell,

306-697-8729, tyler.t@sasktel.net • Joe Widdup of Kipling, 306-736-7982, jwiddup@sasktel.net • Secretary Jeffery Beren of Wol-seley, 306-209-1166, jeffreytberen@

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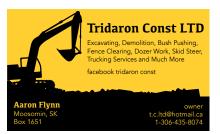
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Carlyle, Saskatchewan December 1st & December 2nd, 2017 Schedule of Events

> -English Market Craft Sale-Located at The Happy Gang Club. Friday from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 6.p.m.

-Free Entertaiment-At Fezziwig's Pub, both days, from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

> -High Tea-Both days from 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

> -Tiny Tim's Taste Tour-Both days from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

-Food Vendors-On Main St. both evenings from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

> -Lighted Parade-Both evenings at 6:00 p.m.

Parade Route: start at Nursing Home, then east on Railway Avenue to Main Street. Down Main Street to 1st Street E., back to Railway Avenue and back down Main Street.

-Santa Visit-Come have a visit with Santa on Saturday, December 2!

> -Carriage Rides-Both days from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

-Christmas Decorating Competition-For Residents and Businesses Judging Tuesday, November 28 from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

- Contact 306-453-2363 or 306-453-2878 for more information. Check out agenda updates and photos at www.townofcarlyle.com

November 2017



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November 2017

\$26,500 raised at fundraiser for Miguel Tremblay

BY KARA KINNA After a tragic accident on July 22 left 24-year-old Miguel Tremblay a quadriple-gic, the community of St. Lazare rallied together to raise \$26,500 for Miguel at a fundraising social on October 7. Miguel was out with family and friends

near Tantallon on July 22 when he rolled his side by side.

Miguel was air lifted by STARS air ambulance to Regina and had surgery for a broken neck.

"We soon learned with an assessment that he was a quadriplegic because his four limbs were affected," says Miguel's

that he was a quadrippenc because his four limbs were affected," says Miguel's mother Lynne. While Miguel has use of his arms, he is now wheelchair bound. Lynne says the accident turned their family's world upside down, but now it is their new reality to support and help Miguel heal. Miguel is currently at the Wascana Rehabilitation Centre in Regina. "We were all devastated at first and shocked but it was a great relief when he had his surgery and everything went well," she says. "Just knowing he was go-ing to the Wascana Rehabilitation Centre put our mind at ease because we knew that he would get the help needed there, and for this we are truly thankful to the therapy staff, the Wascana team, the nurs-es, and of course the staff at the General es, and of course the staff at the General Hospital.

"He's doing really well. He has occupais able to do things more independently. And that's their goal is to get him to be as independent as possible when he leaves the centre."

Lynne says Miguel will be at the Was-cana Rehab Centre for at least a few months still

"It all depends on how much he pro-gresses," she says. "He has progressed a lot. I think they are hoping by the end of the year or into the new year he will be need to see how capable he is of being in-dependent. But he is learning and doing

dependent. But he is learning and doing things in leaps and bounds for sure." Lynne says their family was touched when they found out that St. Lazare was holding a benefit social. Miguel lives in Gerald, Sask. and worked as an electrician at the Mosaic mine Esterhazy, but he grew up in St. Lazare. "We are very emotional, very touched



Miguel Tremblay with his parents Donnie and Lynne.

that they are all pulling together and root-ing for us," says Lynne. "We didn't feel alone at all since the beginning of this ac-cident. There has been so much support Everybody has been very supportive. And not just our community but surrounding communities as well."

Over 400 people came to the benefit social which was held in the rink at St. Lazare. The social included a Chinese and silent auction as well.

"It was quite awesome, it was very big it was a huge success," says Lynne. "There were over 400 people there. It was held in the rink because there were so many

"With the ticket sales, auction items, and donations, it brought in \$26,500. "Everything was donated. People were

wonderful, very kind and generous." Lynne says the benefit will be a big help

to Miguel.

"It will help Miguel out very much for his new lifestyle and house modifications and renovations."

Lynne says the family is doing well. "We're all coping really well, especially Miguel," she says. "He works really hard at therapy because he's really determined and he's taking this on really determined and he's taking this on really well, be-cause he wants to advance as quickly as possible. He's always been a strong willed young man."

The Wascana Re-

habilitation Centre in

Regina, where Miguel is receiving treatment.

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Lynne says the accident has changed their lives but their family is making the

their lives but their family is making the best of it. "It's changed his lifestyle and his fami-ly's for sure. But we're 100 per cent behind him and we're always there to support him and encourage him," she says. "It's a whole new world. But it's become Miguel's new lifestyle and our new life. U'c what it is.

It's what it is

"We are forever grateful for everybody who had any part to do with the social. And not just the social, but since Miguel's accident, everybody has been super supportive. We've never felt alone since the

beginning and it's a wonderful feeling." The benefit was organized by four of Lynne's friends—Marianne Hayden, Kar-en Fouillard, Racquel Fouillard, and Me-

Inda Haney. Racquel says she knows Miguel well and knew they needed to do something. "He used to work for us and Lynne is a very good friend of mine so we decided to do it brogene use know that those use good

do it because we knew that there was go-

do it because we knew that there was go-ing to be a lot of expense that was going to come along with this," she says. "Miguel worked for us for three years when he was in high school. We remain close because I'm close with his mom."

She says she was shocked by the out-

She says she was shocked by the out-pouring of support. Over 400 people showed up and the benefit netted \$26,500. Donations to help put on the social also poured in. "That's pretty good in a small commu-nity. I expected to raise about \$15,000 go-ing into it, but about two weeks before I realized we were going to do much better than that. than that.

"It was really incredible how everybody came together. It felt good to be able to do something. You felt like you're helping a little bit.

"People were incredible. People were "People were incredible. People were phoning with donations. We started off going door to door for prizes and other things and people were just phoning with donations, and saying 'we can't come but we are sending money.' It went really well. "And everything was donated. The mu-sic was donated, including the music and the rink Almost everything was donated

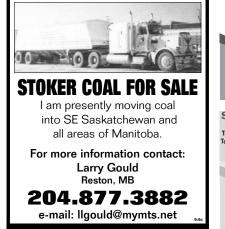
the rink. Almost everything was donated. We had very little expense—even the por-tapotties were donated as well as the heaters from Russell to heat the rink," says

"All in all we couldn't be happier with the outcome," adds Lynne. "It was an incredible success for Miguel, for everyone.





To contact Plain and Valley call 306-435-2445 or email world_spectator@sasktel.net





Alanna Koch says she's in it to win

World-Spectator Editor Kevin Weedmark in-terviewed Saskatchewan Party leadership can-didate Alanna Koch when she dropped by the World-Spectator office last week. Following is the full interview.

How have you been conducting your campaign? It has been a combination of things. I have

made a commitment to get out to every constituency. Sometimes people have gather-ings in their home, sometimes they will have it in a community facility, sometimes we will on on our own and organize it. We are also contacting people by email, the standard kind of campaigning email, direct mail, lots had some constituency associations orga-nize events and I have been to lots of those. mize events and i have been to lots of those. Sometimes it has been industry association or interest groups and I have been attending those. It has been any and all avenues. If I am invited I'll be there. I think I have put on 23,000 km now and been to 57 constituen-cies—close to 80 communities.

How do you gauge how a campaign like this is going? Do you have a sense of who the front runners are, or of how you are do-ing compared to the other candidates? We did a poll with a third party provid-er. It was a poll of the members and . . . it showed the top three contenders were my-self. Scott Moe and Ken Cheveldayoff. It also chourd or the key halled curvetion of who is showed on the key ballot question of who is the best to win the election in 2020 and my name rose to the top of that question. I view that as the question that people should be thinking about.

At the convention we just had . . . we had an opportunity to give a major presentation and have our third of six debates and I had a lot of positive feedback after that and the sense that I have a great deal of momen-tum behind my campaign. A lot of the un-decided (voters) decided this weekend, and they have decided to support me. You don't know until the ballots are in, but the sense I have is that things are really picking up and I started strong but am getting stronge

You are the only candidate who is not an MLA—tell me a bit about your background.

I have two bookends of government expe rince. I had a position on the political side of the government many years ago in a pre-vious government and have had several political roles, including deputy chief of staff to the premier, and then the last 10 years I have been in the professional public service side, ture and one year as the deputy minister of agricul-ture and one year as the deputy minister to the premier and cabinet secretary. And then I have a whole bunch of private sector experi-ence between those bookends—a non-profit

ence between those bookends—a non-profit farm organization, a publicly traded grain company, lots of international experience. I went on trade missions, I was a school trust-ee, ran my own consulting businees. The reason I am running is I had so many people approach me and say that the really diverse background and depth of experience I have really had made a big difference in all the other roles I had, really made a difference for Saskatchewan people, and they felt now for Saskatchewan people, and they felt now this was the next step, to be able to continue to make a positive difference and build on what we have seen in the last 10 years with Brad Wall.

Brad wall. So what I am planning to do is to really build on that path we have been on and bring my own perspective, my own expe-rience, which is quite different, but bring it to the table so we can stay on this path for Saskatchewan

You were the deputy minister to the pre-mier, what exactly does that entail? I would break it into three roles. Firstly you are the head of public service. I have 11,000 public servants that were my respon-sibility, to make sure that they had the direc-tion that they needed to get their job done, that they understood what their mandate was, that we were making sure that we were values they the tool to get the idea. whether that be information or skills or training or the right office space.

training or the right office space. The second part of my job was as the cabi-net secretary. In that role I helped set cabinet agendas, I ensured that cabinet ministers had the materials they needed to make informed decisions, and then once decisions were made I provided direction to get the job done on the achieved decisions that eas made

made i provided direction to get the job done on the cabinet decisions that are made. Thirdly in that role of deputy minister of the premier, you are the senior public ser-vice advisor to the premier, so you're there to provide that advice, to make sure he has the information that he needs to get the job decay or these varied he he he here provide that done, so those would be the three roles that I would say that are part of that title.



World-Spectator editor Kevin Weedmark interviews Saskatchewan Party leadership candidate Alanna Koch at the World-Spectator office last week.

Do you believe your experience at that level will help you greatly if you do win the leadership? Yes. I am a very different candidate be-

cause of my background and experience and that role that I have had in the senior public service. I know the operations of government. I know when a government's decision is made, what it takes to actually execute on that decision, and I also know that sometimes you can fine tune your deci-sion to ensure that you get it implemented. Sometimes decisions may have been good

Sometimes decisions may have been good ones, but they may have been very difficult to actually implement. So this way I bring the best of both worlds to the table. I would be in this role as the head of the government in the premier's role working with a strong team of cabinet ministers and caucus members but I would understand exactly how to get the job done on the public service side, having being in the public service sector myself, so that we can execute on the plan. That experience that I bring to the table. I think it would make a I bring to the table. I think it would make a big difference.

big difference. Brad Wall is a very popular premier, especially in rural Saskatchewan, especially in this region. How big of a job is it going to be for the next premier to follow up on what Brad Wall has done? We just had a big celebration, a tribute and farewell for the premier this past week at convention and the comment was made that Brad Wall has been the brand for the Saskatchewan Party, and that is the opportunity and challenge for all of us. He has really set a great brand for the party and the argent province, being very popular, really changing the way we thought about ourselves—it's much more positive, and everybody else's view of us is much more positive. I think the opportunity for the next leader is to build on that legacy and stay on that strong path of growth and prosperity for Saskatchewan. The challenge is that he is a very big per-sonality with this huge popularity, so I think they is none of us are Brad Wall, we can't even expect to replace him. We are different scale. Me bring different skills to the table, and I think in that way we will be successful. We should absolutely be proud of where we come from and what has been accomplianded by Brad Wall, but here is who I and the solutely be provided where we proved for the brand Wall we will be successful.

we snould absolutely be proud of where we come from and what has been accom-plished by Brad Wall, but here is who I am, here is what I bring to the table, here is the path that I am going to be on and the style that I bring to the table and the skills that I barro have.

There is no way that you are going to fill his shoes. I always say that I have a com-pletely different pair of shoes but I walk on a very similar path as Brad Wall

How do your policies differentiate you from the other candidates?

from the other candidates? We are all from the same party so you would expect a lot of our general policies would be quite similar, but I have differen-tiated myself by putting out what I would say is the most comprehensive policy plat-form in my document, which is building on a legacy, a vision for 2030, and in there I have said some key things which I think are quite different than the other candidates.

I have talked about having a four-year rolling infrastructure plan and maintenance

plan, so that plans drive budgets. That is a bit different than the other candidates. I've talked about taking an extra year to balance the budget so that we could ensure that the restraint measures that we had to do because of our tighter economic and fiscal times, that we make sure that we have compassion and that we understand that those consequences can be sometimes too difficult for people. So that extra year gives us some time to make sure that we hold back on some of the changes and make sure we are taking care of people the way we should.

On the human services side I focused on wraparound services—that's a bit of a dif-ferent thing that other candidates don't talk about. Health, education, social services, justice, even some of our community partners in mental health and addictions, that we co-They have a got a really good model in PA and Yorkton. We want to have that everywhere

The key thing that I think differentiates me from the other candidates is how I would govern. I am going to establish a premier's council, bring a lot more outside advice in, that is how I have operated every organiza-tion I've been in—bringing in expertise from outside, being a little bit more open, having changes operations are open stronger communication, being more open and transparent than I think any of the other candidates have promised to do. With my mandate letter, which again is unique. I put that out as a promise to the membership and the Saskatchewan people on how I would lead. lead

You said you've been to most of the con-stituencies already. What are you hearing out there? What do people seem to be con-

out there? What do people seem to be con-cerned about? I've heard that people do think we are on a good path. They are excited to see the change in Saskatchewan over the last 10 years so. They want to stay on that path of growth and prosperity. But what I have heard also is that maybe

we weren't as connected and engaged with our public as we started out to be, that may-be we need to get back to that—being open to ideas, being a little bit more willing to get out and have conversations with people about what could be better, what might not be quite right be quite right.

be quite right. But I also have heard a great deal of en-thusiasm for the future, that they really see that this is an opportunity for the party to have that renewal and have that re-engage-ment with membership, and they are ex-cited about this race and what it means for it the party and what it means to win the next election in 2020. The leadership race has re-ally reignited the membership. Lots of times people have been Sask Party supporters but have never had a reason to have a membership and now they do because they have one of five people to vote for, and we had over 800 people watch the debate in Saskatoon in the convention. It was a full room and it was electric with energy and excitement about the future.

With the leadership race do you think there is increasing interest in Regina and Saskatoon? In the cities as opposed to rural

I wouldn't say there is any difference at all in the interest right across the province.

I would say small towns, big cities, farmers, business people, no matter where they have been, citizens, mons, even youth, we have seen a lot of youth be very interested in this race. Their views have not really differed across the province.

across the province. I would say people are really interested in this race. How they can have their voice heard, how they can bring their opinions forward, the influence they can have on the leadership candidates really hasn't dif-fered. We've had tremendous response right across the province. Like I said the conven-tion was huge. We had huge turnouts from cities and rural I really wouldn't have seen a difference. Every constituency was well a difference. Every constituency was well represented.

What is the biggest challenge the next premier will face? The biggest challenge will be staying on this path of growth. Despite the fact that we have seen a little bit tougher times in our economy the last two years. How do we keep growing? We are still having population growth. How do we provide the services that are required by our growing population? Again it is this balance of growth, but at the same time growing with compassion and making sure we have got the fiscal ca-pacity to meet the needs of our growing population. of our growing industries of our growing the services of the services of the services of the services of the service of the services of th

population, of our growing industries of our sectors that still require the services—all of the appetite for human services and some of the challenges that we see in health, educa-tion, mental health and addiction, some of

those things. So it's just that constant decision making of balance that governments need to have and continue of the path of growth, and I think that is a key challenge for a leader and connecting with their audience and being able to communicate that message with the vernment and how we're going to stay on that path of growth.

What have you learned personally from being involved in this leadership race? Well I have probably learned more about Saskatchewan. I lived here my whole life and I thought I knew a lot about the prov-ince a lot, but I have seen even more of the province than I have ever done before and I've learned a lot more about who we are I've learned a lot more about who we are and all the really interesting people we have in the industries and the companies and the businesses and how vibrant the main streets are in some of our smaller centres. I probably knew that, I just didn't know

the depth of it and how much richness and diversity we have in the province as well. I have just seen all of that since August 28. It has been a full immersion in Saskatchewan.

How will you judge your success in this race?

race? I'm in this race to win it and that is the measure of success. Am I going to be to elected as premier or not? Personally I've done a lot of great things, in my life and will go on to do great things,

but I'm very focused on winning this race and that will be the measurement of success or not. I've got to be victorious in this race so I can continue to make a difference for Saskatchewan people, that will be the true measure.

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Austin, Bonkowski starting their medical careers

Continued from page 3 What made the difference?

"I think it was different things, travelling and seeing how big of a difference health care can make," she says. "It hap-

big of a difference nealth care can make," she says. "It hap-pened in little pieces." Austin took her undergrad in biomedical sciences and hu-manities, then applied for medicine. She says she loves the way medicine balances problem solving and science with the ability to reach out to people and help them.

'You are doing science and problem solving but you are still able to bring joy to people and connect with people, and I think that is what attracted me to it," she says. "When I was in Ghana (Austin started a charity caring for young people in Ghana) with some of the kids, I'd put band-aids on and they'd all line up even for a small scratch. I think people want to be cared for and medicine gives you the tools to help in a deeper way

Austin says medical school was tough, but she relished the experience.

"There is a big community feel. Had there not been that sense of collegiality it would have been hard. There are a lot of late nights and a lot of times you sacrifice things, but you are with other people and it's a very social learning envi-ronment. Those friends that I made are some of my closest friends now. You're in the trenches with them, and being able to share that makes it a tolerable experience

After medical school. Austin did her residency in Terrace, B.C., finishing in June 2016. Afterwards she spent a year serving as a locum between B.C. and Saskatchewan.

"I've kind of been all over the place. Which has been nice because it kind of feels like a third year residency. You learn a lot," she says.

a lot," she says. Austin says the plan is to continue working as a locum for some time, as she enjoys the diversity. She says at some point Moosomin will likely become a permanent place to practice. She just got married to Chris Crossley, who farms in Moosomin. She is currently working as a locum off and on at the Moosomin Family Practice Centre. "I will be here one to two weeks per month and then I'll be working un porth and doing some obstetrics in Saka-

"I will be here one to two weeks per month and then I'll be working up north and doing some obstetrics in Saska-toon," she says. "I knew that for myself and my personality it would be an easier transition for me to kind of slowly wade in. Locum-ming you can come in and work but you don't necessarily have to take on a group of patients. Once you do, it's a big commitment and rightfully so. If patients get used to a doc-tor being there and all of a sudden the doctor's not there, then they't hard. Locumthen that's hard. I still wanted to do some international projects. I still have things I want to do, and taking on that patient population right now wasn't what I wanted. Eventually that is the goal, but right now I knew it would be easier

for me to slowly come back."

Austin says she enjoys working in Moosomin. "When I came back I worked all over the place with SMA (the Saskatchewan Medical Association). I was in Biggar and Outlook and Preceville and lots of different places. I have to say, I've really enjoyed working in Mossomin, it's a nice place, there's lots of volume, there's the emergency room and lots of stuff going on, and it has some obstetrics. "It's a really great practice. It's nice because you have that mentorship and you have the people who have added that experience. It's really well run.

experience. It's really well run. "The one thing about locumming is you see all these dif-ferent practices. You see things that are really dysfunctional and you see things that are super efficient. They have a really good setup here. It's nice to have emergency and obstetrics and house that reachility. Because in a lot of inlaces ware. and having that possibility. Because in a lot of places every-thing gets transferred out or you don't really see that much. As well, in a lot of places you're the only doctor in town, and that means for 24 hours a day for as long as you're there, you're the only one who's doing coverage. That's the nice thing about here is that it's a big enough practice that you're not there all the time." not there all the time."

not there all the time." Austin says practising in Moosomin differs a lot from practising in a place like lle-à-la-Crosse. "A sore throat is never a sore throat if you're in Île-à-la-Crosse or inner city Saskatoon," she says. "Here you tell someone 'here is your medication, this is what you should do,' and they are able to do it, where a lot of times up north, they are not even able to get access to services and life can be chaotic and there are different condi-tions because of the livine conditions they have Everything tions because of the living conditions they have. Everything is complex and very challenging because there is barrier after barrier.

"It's refreshing to have that balance. Here you have a pop ulation that can afford healthy food and can afford to get exercise and pay for a sitter so they can do lifestyle stuff. It's kind of nice because it's a heavy burden when you are work-ing in those populations. Working in some of these commu-nities as a physician is taxing, not because of the community, as they are wonderful. Rather it is just overwhelming trying to help patients through obstacle after obstacle.

to help patients through obstacle after obstacle. "On top of that, you know that at the end of the day it is social determinants of health, like housing and education, that are really going to make the difference for patients. "Not everyone likes the work but I do like the work, and the needs are great. I think I learn a lot from them as well and there is a certain amount of just knowing that the ser-vices I can provide they are so greatly needed. "Not di form clacemote up to a suitcorected in connecting"

"Not all of my classmates were as interested in connecting with some of those communities. They weren't as interested in the serving aboriginal communities, and that's just something I've been attracted to.

At the same time it's nice being back in Moosomin. I "At the same time it's nice being back in Moosomin. I think there's definitely lots of issues no matter where you are. I think that's the thing with family medicine is that usu-ally a sore throat is never just a sore throat, there are usually complexities. I think some people don't find family medi-cine as rewarding. I've always liked that humanity part, try-ing to find out what's really going on."









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