



Tell-It-Gram

News from RM of Oakview

Vol. 3

November 2025

SURPRISE!!!

The TIG is back in your mailbox!

**I am not sure we will ever
understand Canada Post, but
here we are!**

**Healthcare in our RM, moving books
and lots of meetings!**

Lots to enjoy in this issue!

Nov. 13—Blanshard CDC AGM
Nov. 18—Council Meeting in OR
Nov. 19—RC Chamber meeting
Nov. 22—OR Legion Meet Draw
Nov. 28—RC Christmas Cheer Deadline
Dec. 2—RCES Food Drive
Dec. 6—RC Community Church Christmas Concert
Dec. 7—RC Old Fashioned Christmas



RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF OAKVIEW

Oak River - 204-566-2146

info@rmofoakview.ca

Rapid City - 204-826-2515 adminrc@rmofoakview.ca

Check out our website: rmofoakview.ca or our Facebook Page

PLEASE NOTE THAT WE DO NOT MODERATE Facebook. If you have legitimate concerns, please contact the office staff at one of the above numbers.

Minutes can be found on the R.M. of Oakview Website

Upcoming Council Meetings

November 18th—Oak River

December 16—Rapid City



RM of Oakview
Change of Hours for
Waste Management Sites

Winter Hours
 Effective October 15th to April 14th

Ward 3 (Oak River) Located on the NW 1/4 of 1-14-22W	Ward 1 & 2 (Rapid City) Located a 1/2 mile North on Highway 24
Tuesday: 9am - 12 (noon)	Wednesday: 1pm - 5pm
Thursday: 1pm - 4pm	Saturday: 10 am - 12 (noon) & 1pm - 5pm
Saturday: 10am - 2pm	

Closed on Statutory Holidays

FYI

The TIG is a monthly newsletter put together by the RM of Oakview and the Rapid City Regional Library. It is free to residents of the RM of Oakview and is available around the 10th of the month.

To contribute articles pertaining to your organization or community activities, please send it to: rclib@wcgwave.ca or drop it off at the RM Offices either in Oak River or Rapid City.

We would ask that you try to have your submissions in by the 1st of the month or by the 4th at the very latest!

Nurse Practitioner Michelle Weighell RN NP to Open Practice in Rapid City and Oak River

The Rural Municipality of Oakview is excited to announce the arrival of Nurse Practitioner Michelle Weighell, who will begin providing her services to both Rapid City and Oak River communities in November 2025. This important new local healthcare provider is the result of multiple meetings and productive discussions focused on enhancing medical care for all residents.

Meeting Community Needs

Michelle Weighell is no stranger to the area and brings with her a deep understanding of the unique needs of our residents. With extensive training and a wealth of experience, Michelle is well equipped to serve every age group within the community. From providing peace of mind to our seniors and offering prenatal care to soon to be parents. Her arrival will ensure that health services are more accessible and responsive to local needs.

Comprehensive Nurse Practitioner Services

As a fully qualified Nurse Practitioner, Michelle can prescribe medication and make referrals to other medical professionals as needed. This expansion of services will streamline care and reduce wait time for residents seeking medical attention, ensuring that everyone from children to seniors receives timely and effective support. Michelle has plans to expand this service over a period of time by utilizing her wide array of medical contacts within the industry.

Commitment to Community Well-being

The addition of Nurse Practitioner services in Rapid City and Oak River reflects councils' commitment to improving healthcare access and quality for all. We believe Michelle's expertise and familiarity with our community will help to create a healthier future for every resident.

We look forward to welcoming Michelle Weighell as our local Health Care Provider in the RM of Oakview. Please email Michelle and she will guide you with how to access her services. For any other questions or more information, contact the RM of Oakview office.

Rapid City November 10th Home Visits and Virtual Rapid City from 9:30 am -4:30 pm

Oak River November the 13th the doors will open at Oak Dale Seniors Center 9:30 am -4:30 pm

Appointments only please contact Michelle at 204-720-9944 or by email OakviewNPclinic@outlook.com





Want to post an ad, event, or announcement on the Rapid City & Area Lions digital billboard?

Scan this QR code to access the online info & request form. Fill out the form and submit it online to get started.



Soon you will also find links to the request form on Facebook and local websites.

Dog Guides Canada yearly \$500 donation. The check will be presented via the Parade of Green at the 5M13 Conference.

Request for donations- Rothnie Family re: Yellowhead Chiefs

Motion was passed that the club donate \$150.

Request for donation – Wheat City Lions – AED for Brandon Regional Search & Rescue Association (BRSARA)

Motion was passed that the club donate \$200 for purchase of an AED.

Lion president Art along with Lion Glenn and Lion Ken plan on attending the 5M13 Conference November 1st.

Rosburn Lions 65th Anniversary, Saturday November 8 Lion president Art plans on attending.

A BIG THANKS to all those who bought 200 club tickets. We have sold out again this year. 🙏

Thanks to the new owners of the Queens Hotel. The Lions meat draw continues to happen every Friday night with ticket sales starting at 1730.

To all those who attend we enjoy the presence of your friendly smile and fellowship. Come out have a meal, a few drinks and laughs while trying your luck at the meat draw. 🙏

We are also starting to book in the new year for local organizations to run the meat draw and raise a little money for their group. Please contact Dan Quennelle at kdquenn2@gmail.com if you have any questions.

We also have a small supply of walkers, wheelchairs, crutches and scooters that are donated to us that we lend out for those in need.

If you are interested in helping out your local community or want to be part of group that does. 🙏 Contact one of your local Lions members. We have meetings every second and fourth Wednesday of the month starting at 7 PM. Located at the Queens Hotel. We would be happy to hear from you and 🙏any ideas you may have.



DialMyCalls!!

Name: _____

Phone #: _____

Email: _____

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS



**SIGN UP FOR THE NEW
NOTIFICATION SYSTEM
- RECEIVE IMPORTANT
TEXTS/VOICE
MESSAGES/EMAILS
FROM THE RM OF
OAKVIEW!!**



Updates On:

**Utilities, Roads,
Weather, Closures
and so much more.**

**Visit our website: www.rmofOakview.ca, call
204-566-2146 or stop by the office to sign up!!**

Hockey Season Registration Info

The 2025/2026 hockey season is here and registration has started! If you are interested in signing your child up please send an email to rapidcityhockey@gmail.com for a registration form or to find out more info. We're hoping to have 4-5 teams this year, with hockey practices on Wednesday and Friday evenings. Fees are \$85 or \$150/ player, depending on the age, and guaranteed two practices per week, plus games and tournaments. We can make arrangements for payment plans to help offset the cost of fees, and the rink does have some hockey equipment available to anyone looking. On that note, donations of equipment are always much appreciated if you're looking to pass along items your player has outgrown.



MICHELLE WEIGHELL NURSE PRACTITIONER

PHONE: 204-720-9944

EMAIL: OAKVIEWNPCLINIC@OUTLOOK.COM

OPENING MONDAY NOVEMBER 10, 2025

RAPID CITY – MONDAYS 9:30AM – 4:30PM

HOME VISITS AND VIRTUAL/TELEPHONE CONSULTATION

BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

OAK RIVER – THURSDAYS 930 AM – 4:30PM

OAK DALE SENIORS LODGE

BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

At present time, Nurse Practitioners are unable to bill Manitoba Health directly which necessitates payment of fees at time of service. There is no GST or PST on health services. Receipts may be submitted for claims to health spending accounts from private insurers such as Blue Cross. All receipts are claimable on your annual income tax return for medical expenses.

Visits for Workers Compensation or Manitoba Public Insurance are covered through those insurance companies within an active claim.

Fees: \$60 for short appointments (approximately 15 minutes)

\$120 for long appointments (approximately 30 minutes)

Payments can be made via debit card, credit card and cash.

Please complete a patient intake form prior to your appointment to ensure the assistance you require is available through this clinic.



Meet Jodi Baker, Foot Care Nurse

Hi! I'm Jodi Baker, and I'm excited to share that I've started my own foot care nursing business right here in the area where I was born and raised. After more than 10 years as a nurse, I've seen firsthand how important proper foot care is to overall health, comfort, and quality of life.

My goal is to provide compassionate, professional foot care for those who may find it difficult to care for their feet themselves—or who simply prefer to have it done for them. Whether it's regular maintenance or specialized diabetic foot care, I strive to make each visit comfortable, safe, and tailored to your needs.

I offer services such as nail trimming and filing, thickened toenail reduction, callus removal, and diabetic foot care. For your convenience, I provide home visits and mobile clinics, allowing you to receive care where it's most comfortable for you. My services can also be direct billed to most medical benefit plans.

I'm also happy to offer gift cards — a thoughtful and practical gift for those hard-to-shop-for seniors or loved ones who could benefit from a little extra care.

Contact Information:

Call or text: 204 901 1392

Email: bakerfootcare@gmail.com



I'm truly looking forward to serving our communities and helping you stay comfortable and confident on your feet!



Newdale Orange Lodge #1533

Main Street Newdale

Is

LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS

If interested or for more information

PLEASE CALL

Jeff Suski Brandon Area 204-720-0754

William Wilson Rapid City Area 204-303-0055

Darrell Barr Sandy Lake/Newdale 204-848-0662



Rapid City Legion Ladies Auxiliary's Major Milestone

90 years ago this month, the first meeting of what is now the Rapid City Legion Ladies Auxiliary, was held. In November, 1935, thirteen interested ladies, who were mostly wives of WW1 veterans decided to form an Auxiliary to work alongside the Branch. In February, 1936 the Charter was received. It is currently in storage, and we hope that displayed within the hall. We are one of the earliest known Auxiliaries in the region and went on to assist neighbouring communities start their Auxiliaries. Their mandate was to assist the Branch in fundraising and hosting social events for Veterans and the community. Just four years later they are faced with yet another World War. Care packages were gathered and sent overseas. Quilts made to raffle for Red Cross, POW, Milk for Britain, Relief for Bombed Areas and Victory Bundles. After the War, the Welcome Home celebrations were held for all returning soldiers and showers for the War Brides who followed.

Since those days, our Auxiliary continues to fundraise. The monies go back into keeping the hall viable. We have donated time and money raised for upgrades within the kitchen and main hall, including the much needed air conditioning. As well, the Auxiliary will donate to organizations or projects within the community and surrounding area.

It is estimated about 400 wives, sisters, mothers, daughters, nieces and granddaughters and great granddaughters of our Veterans and Veterans from other countries, have been part the Auxiliary at one time. Currently we have members. One member, Faye Cornish is the grand daughter of one of the original group who formed the Auxiliary - Mrs. Emily Barber.



We were delighted to receive a Certificate of 90 years from our District Commander, Margaret James.

It was also a special night for one of our long time members. Joanne Bos received her 25 years of service pin from President Wendy Loewen. Congratulations Joanne!

Shelley Meakin



News From The Federation of Canadian Municipalities

The RM of Oakview highlights the need for strong local infrastructure to support nation-building projects

The federal government's plan to restore housing affordability by building 500,000 homes annually and to grow the economy by boosting and securing supply chains depends on strong local infrastructure. For nation-building to be a success, municipalities need serious investment.

The RM of Oakview as a member of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) joins municipal leaders from across the country in calling for action to fix local infrastructure, tackle homelessness and make housing more affordable, all things that communities need to help Canada move forward.

"The federal government's plan to build, more homes, stronger trade, better roads, hinges on strong, local infrastructure. Nation-building should start here in rural municipalities," said CAO Mark Humphries

FCM's requests to the federal government, including at the organization's Advocacy Days in Ottawa, focuses on three key areas:

- Upgrading core infrastructure through a stronger Canada Community-Building Fund that grows with the economy.
- Launching a new infrastructure program to follow the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program, which ends in 2028.
- Protecting and growing essential programs that help communities tackle housing, support newcomers, and keep people moving, including Reaching Home, the Interim Housing Assistance Program, and the Canada Public Transit Fund.

Local governments own more than 60 percent of Canada's core public infrastructure, roads, bridges, water systems, and transit yet only receive just 8 to 10 cents of every tax dollar. With a national infrastructure deficit estimated at \$270 billion, municipalities are calling for urgent federal action to modernize the systems Canadians rely on every day.

Municipalities aren't just delivering services; they're helping build Canada's future. When local and federal governments work together, big things are possible.

The Federation of Canadian Municipalities is the national voice of municipal governments, with over 2,000 members representing more than 90 per cent of the Canadian population.

NOTICE

The Annual General Meeting of the Blanshard CDC is to be held at 9:30 am on Thursday, Nov. 13. It will take place at the Oak River Oakview office. Anyone who is interested is invited to attend this meeting.



Rapid City Library Report

Well, October was a pretty crazy month for us here at the library—but boy did things happen!! The week before we had our big move, we closed and packed and prepared for the big day. We had that library packed in no time thanks to so many who came out and helped put books in boxes!

October 18th arrived and we started the day off with an author visit. After all, if we didn't have authors, we wouldn't have books and then what would fill the library!!! Barry Finlay came for a visit and it was a fantastic presentation. I really appreciate Barry coming back to see us and for putting up with boxes everywhere! If you haven't read any of Barry's books, then you really need to check it out, because he has really developed his skills as an author and his books are very entertaining. His newest book, *Shadows of Truth* is another in the Jake Scott series and Jake's vacation takes a turn when a dead body is found on the balcony next door! You won't want to miss this newest instalment!

Once we had said our good-byes to Barry, it was final prep before everyone arrived for the 1:00pm move. Now, things got a little crazy and a lot of things happened according to plan and a few things didn't go quite according to plan—but the end result was that the most wonderful group of volunteers, approximately 35, rolled up their sleeves and started moving shelves and then 430 boxes of books—just books and then moved all the office furniture and equipment and boxes. Did it take all day or two days? No, it took two hours. It took us another hour at the library to figure out exactly where the steel shelves should go and how to put them together again, but all together it was astounding teamwork!! We celebrated with a delicious meal provided by the library and cooked by our Chairperson Donna Anderson.

It took a steady team of volunteers and staff two weeks to get all the shelves filled again with books, get computers hooked up again, get a bathroom working and wi-fi working, but we did it and Monday, Nov. 3rd we opened for the public. Our community is amazing and we want to thank everyone who came out and helped pack, move and unpack. We would like to thank the following people:

Wilma Currie, Rowena Martin, Rylee Martin, Terry Gill, Jacqui Lepp, Ruth Paul, Ann Rothnie, Sheila Sharp, Faye Cornish, Raeleen Vassart, Diane Brown, Diane Kuculym, Aysia Warkentin, Vivian Evans, Bob Christie, Daryl Andrew, Trace Houle, Lincoln Kolewar, Grant Gill, Duncan Martin, Chris Martin, Marggo Eckberg, Arnie Eckberg, Bonnie Wright, Kristie Wright, Shelly Meekin, Jim Meekin, Cor Van Meijl, Hannie Van Meijl, Frans Van Meijl, Jolanda Van Meijl, Gillian Common, Ewan Common, Sue Belcher, Morgan Belcher, Josh Belcher, Eric Belcher, Bill Aaroe, Lloyd Evans, Sue Parker, Michelle Anderson Jamar Cooke, Oliver Marshall, Wallace Anderson, Diana Dyck, Tom Pearson, Michelle Weighell, Liam Weighell, Jacquie Esplin, Rob Adams, Vera Kolesar, Charley Harness and Sharon Hyndman. If I have missed anyone, you have my sincere apologies, and please let me know as I will add your name to our list for our annual report!

A quick update on the rest of the library renovation. Cancade is busy mudding and taping the basement and it really is starting to look like a room again. It hopefully won't be long till we are picking paint colors! There is still some electrical work and plumbing that needs to be done and flooring, so it has a ways to go, but fingers crossed the nursery school will also get to return home soon! We are missing them!

Something else we are missing is Story Time, but due to circumstances—my back is not healing as quickly as I would like, and we need our basement—we will start Story Time, hopefully in the new year. I have wrote to Santa and asked if he would come and visit us in December, so maybe we can have one story telling time in December. Stay tuned for details on that!!!

In the meantime—please come in and see the new look at the library! There is still a bit of chaos, but we are home!!! Enjoy the pictures on the next page from packing to moving to unpacking!



Last books
put on the
shelf Oct. 31!

Ruth Paul be-
side one of
many stacks of
emptied boxes! So many
boxes!!!



Rapid City Chamber of Commerce

Rapid City Chamber of Commerce held their first fall meeting on October 15th at the Queen's Hotel. Members attending were Doug and Bernice Finlay, Ken Hyndman, Michelle Weighell, Theresa Blaauwijkl, Gavin Reynolds and John Dalglish. Doug called the meeting to order at 7:30pm. He started by welcoming Mallisa MacDonald (Queen's Hotel) as a new member, and Alexandria Grace (the R.M. of Oakview rec. director).

Bernice read the minutes of the last meeting. John and Thersea moved and seconded the acceptance of these minutes. C. Doug reported we have about \$9198.92 in the bank. As there are some errors that the bank has made in deposits made, Doug is working to get this corrected.

Doug is planning to attend a workshop hosted by Brandon Chamber of Commerce at the Victoria Inn on Friday. This is a meeting to inform small business people of how AI could affect their businesses.

Bernice gave a report on how the Framers Market went this summer. For the main part things went well, we would welcome more vendors. Customers would appreciate more produce and baking. Ken told us the new wind break curtains are here and will be put up next spring.

We started plans for the Old Fashioned Christmas. Bernice is stepping down as the organizer of the craft sale, Theresa is taking on this roll and will be doing a lot of it through the internet. If you are wishing to contact her you can call her at 727-4641. Theresa will talk to Peter about brining the horses, Gavin will bring in light, Doug will talk to Eddy about carol singing. Michelle will help with kid activities, Alexandria will assist with this. Doug is going to check out and see what we have for lights for the Memories Tree as some were damaged last year. Bernice will look after getting the permit for this event. Bernda King will do the noon lunch again this year.

OLD FASHIONED CHRISTMAS WILL TAKE PLACE ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2025.

Dout is hoping to get a speaker from Manitoba Chamber to come and talk about the insurance and other benefits that are available to Chamber members.

Next meeting is set for Nov. 19, 2025 at 7:30pm at the Queen's Hotel.

John and Gavin adjourned the meeting.

Grade 3 & 4 Halloween Trick or Treat Huge Success

The grade 3 and 4 class did their annual trick or treating for non-perishable treats. The weather turned out to be perfect for going around town and Lion Daryl was helping transport and collect the items. When the class got back to the school they weighed the food and had a total of 250 pounds of food to donate. What a wonderful way to teach kids about caring for others. The class would like to thank the community for their generous donation and continued support and the Lion's club for all their help.



IMPORTANT NOTICE FROM CHRISTMAS CHEER BOARD

The Rapid City and Area Christmas Cheer Hamper Applications are now open.

This year you must apply for a hamper by filling in an application form.



This is different from past years and filling the form is mandatory.

You can receive the application at the Rapid City Regional Library.

Deadline for application filing is Friday November 28th at 5:00pm.

Hampers will be delivered on Thursday, December 18th in the evening.

If you have any questions, please call 204-826-2732 or 204-570-3156.

Any donations for Christmas Cheer can be dropped off at the Library or the RM of Oakview Rapid City Office

Christmas Cheer Campaign is done through the Cadurcis Community United Church



Rapid City Emergency Services Christmas Cheer Food Hamper Drive is coming!

Santa along with the firefighters will be collecting non-perishable food items around town on **TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2ND** starting at 6:30pm. Please help us and others to make their Christmas a special one by donating any non-perishable food items. We will have our trucks out and lights and sirens going on this very important evening. Come out and say HI to Santa as we come by collecting.

Santa, the Firefighters and the Cadurcis Community United Church thank you for helping our local Christmas Cheer Board!

Rapid City Community Church Update

As the warm breezes of summer fade, we are faced with the stark reality that the fall cool winds foretell that winter is on its way.

At Rapid City Community Church, we continued to have services all summer.

Things got back to a regular schedule for Children's church after Labour day with the Youth Group starting a little later.

Our youth group started on October 6th and is meeting every 2 weeks on Monday evenings from 7 – 9 p.m. under the capable leadership of Linda Jager. Everyone from grades 4 to 10 is welcome to attend. If you are in grades 11 or 12, we also have the option for you to become a helper for the youth group, where you will be in charge of small groups or tasks.

So far, they have had a fall supper and Bible study. The next meeting will be on November 3rd, where the fun activity will be a nerf gun battle. Activities will continue until Dec 15th to reconvene after Christmas break on January 12th.

The Mom's Connect group met for the last time this calendar year in mid October for the clothing exchange between moms who have younger children who bring in items no longer fitting to exchange for larger sizes.

Since the retirement of Pastor Cliff, we have been blessed with a variety of visiting speakers who bring the Word every Sunday. But two weeks ago, the congregation in a unanimous vote selected Terry Baker from Newdale to be our Pastor. Terry is a well-know drywall journeyman as well as a rancher raising longhorn cattle. He is also the President of the Canadian Christian Cowboys Association as well as the president of the Manitoba chapter of the same organization. He will preach one Sunday per month as we will continue to receive visiting speakers for the time being. Terry also baptized 3 new attenders at the beach on a rainy Sunday in August!

We will continue to present our annual Christmas Concert along with the nativity story. This year it is on Saturday, Dec. 6th at 7 p.m. and the theme is "He Is The Gift". Circle the date as it is always a great time to get together to usher in the start of the Christmas season just before the Old Fashioned Christmas in Rapid City held the next day.



Oak River Legion News

the Oak River Legion No. 150 Meat draw is going to be held on Sat. Nov. 22nd at 8 pm at the Blanchard Hotel. Please enjoy us for a fun evening.

Rapid City & District
Chamber presents:
The 2025

Old Fashioned Family Christmas

Sunday DECEMBER 7th!

Rapid City Legion Hall

Craft Sale, Kids Activities,
Hay Ride & Bonfire, Tree
Lighting, Christmas Carols &
More!!

Celebrate the holiday season with us!!

Rapid City Wastewater Lagoon Project Progresses with Cost-Saving Solution

RM Announces Steps to Address Licensing Requirements, Minimize Resident Impact

Announcement of Lagoon Project Solution

The Rural Municipality of Oakview is pleased to announce significant progress on a practical and cost-effective solution for the Rapid City Wastewater Lagoon, ensuring compliance with provincial regulations while minimizing financial impact on residents in and around Rapid City.

Background: Addressing Licensing Contraventions and Potential Costs

Following inspections and notices from the Manitoba provincial government, the Rapid City Wastewater Lagoon was found to be in contravention of licensing requirements. These circumstances raised concerns about the possibility of a multi-million-dollar lagoon cell rebuild, which could have resulted in substantial debenture costs for residents and ratepayers of Rapid City.

Administrative Actions: Research and Solution-Seeking

Under the direction of Council, municipal administration has prioritized finding innovative solutions aimed at avoiding extra utility costs for the community. Intensive research and consultation were conducted to identify approaches that would address regulatory requirements without imposing undue financial strain on residents.

Project Details: WSP Engagement and Sludge Extraction Plan

To guide and oversee the project, the RM has engaged Darren Keam of WSP as project manager. The primary initiative involves extracting sludge from the lagoon, with the material to be responsibly spread on agricultural land. This strategy will increase the lagoon's capacity and delay the need for expensive infrastructure expansion.

Funding: Manitoba Water Services Board Grant

This important project is supported by a partnership grant from the Manitoba Water Services Board, which will cover 50% of the overall cost. The grant has made it possible to pursue a sustainable solution that aligns with both regulatory standards and community interests.

Cost Impact: Significant Savings for Residents

Due to the chosen approach and successful grant application, the cost of the project will be considerably lower than initial estimates. This outcome directly reduces the potential financial impact on residents, helping to avoid increased utility rates for local ratepayers.

Current Status: Testing and Evaluation Progress

Testing and evaluation of lagoon sludge, conducted by Assiniboine Injections has been completed to ensure the suitability of the material for agricultural use. These assessments are an important step in the responsible execution of the project.

Next Steps: Licensing and Agricultural Partnerships

WSP will now work closely with provincial authorities to establish the necessary licenses and develop partnerships with local agricultural operators for the environmentally sound application of lagoon sludge. These steps will ensure full compliance and ongoing community benefit. Any local farmer who is willing to work in partnership with the RM should contact the Oak River office for more information on 204-566-2146

Commitment to Community and Transparency

The RM of Oakview remains committed to transparency, environmental responsibility, and the well-being of its residents. Ongoing communication and updates on the project's progress will be provided, and the RM encourages residents to reach out with questions or concerns as work continues.

HISTORY HOOKS

-Canadian History You May Not Know About by Yool Sharp

TWO VICTORIA CROSSES IN THE SAME BATTLE

The awarding of two Victoria Crosses in a single battle is not unprecedented but happens rarely. The Dieppe raid, on 19th Aug., 1942 was a short battle, about ten hours, but was brutal and required exceptional courage by the Canadian troops involved. The raid has been well documented and need not be explained in this article.

REV. JOHN FOOTE VC

John Foote was born in Madoc, Ontario, a small community (2,500 population) north of Lake Ontario, on May 5th, 1904. After high school he was educated at the University of Western Ontario at London, Queens University in Kingston, and at Presbyterian College and McGill University in Montreal. He entered the Presbyterian ministry in 1934, serving in Fort-Coulonge, Quebec, and Port Hope, Ontario.

In December 1939, after the outbreak of the Second World War, he enlisted in the Canadian Army. He was posted to The Royal Hamilton Light Infantry, nicknamed the "Rileys". He became their regimental Chaplain with the rank of Honorary Captain.

The Rileys went on active service on 1st September, 1939 and embarked for Britain on the 22nd July 1940. With other Canadian army units they first defended Britain against possible invasion and over the next eighteen months refined their skills to become a proficient combat unit. In 1942 they were assigned one of the central roles in the 6,000 plus man allied raid on the French Port of Dieppe. Some 4,963 Canadian soldiers—of the 2nd Canadian Division, reinforced by tank and machine gun battalions formed the bulk of the assaulting force. Another 1,075 British commandos and 50 American Rangers were attached to assault flanking coastal batteries. Foote was 38 years old and serving as padre of the Rileys. He had been refused permission to join the raid, but stowed away in one of the ships so he could be with the troops.

The Rileys assaulted a section of shoreline code-named White Beach, on the right side of the main Dieppe beaches, where a large Casino sprawled across the town's Esplanade. The battalion landed after dawn at 5:30am, with the German defenders alerted by earlier landings to the east and west of Dieppe. Although some Rileys were able to fight room-by-room through the casino into the town, they eventually had to return to the beach due to their small numbers and hope to be evacuated.

Upon landing on the beach under heavy fire Foote attached himself to the Regimental Aid Post that had been set up in a slight depression on the beach, but was only sufficient to give cover to men lying down. During the subsequent period of approximately eight hours, while the action continued, he assisted the Regimental Medical Officer in ministering to the wounded. Time and again he left this sheltered area to inject morphine, give first aid and carrying wounded from the open beach to the command post. On these occasions, with utter disregard for his personal safety, Foote exposed himself to an inferno of fire and saved many lives by his gallant efforts. As the tide went out, the command post was moved to the shelter of a stranded landing craft. Foote continued tirelessly and courageously to carry wounded from the exposed beach to the cover of the landing craft through very heavy fire. He also moved wounded from inside the landing craft when the ammunition had been set on fire by enemy shells.

On several occasions he had the opportunity to embark but climbed from the landing craft that would have taken him to safety and deliberately walked into the German position in order to be taken prisoner, choosing to suffer the same fate of the men he had ministered to for over three years.

Several of the Rileys who made it safely back to England, remembered how Honorary Captain Foote personally saved many lives by his efforts and his example inspired all around him. Those who observed him state that the calmness of this heroic officer, as he walked about, collecting the wounded on the fire-swept beach will

Cont.

never be forgotten.

After the war ended , on 14th February, 1946, his award of the Victoria Cross was gazette, the first ever awarded to a Canadian Military chaplain.

Post war, in 1948 he became a Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP) and held two cabinet positions until poor health forced him to resign in 1959. He returned to the Rileys in 1964, serving as Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel until 1973. He died at Coburg, Ontario, 2nd May, 1988.

CHARLES CECIL MERRITT VC

Cecil Merritt was born in Vancouver on 19th November, 1908. In April 1915 he entered the Royal Military College of Canada, at the age of 16 and graduated with honours. He was commissioned into the Seaforth Highlanders of Canada (a Militia regiment) in 1929. He became a barrister and practiced law in Vancouver until mobilized at the outbreak of World War II.

He was promoted to the rank of major and in December sailed for England. In the next two years he held a variety of staff positions and attended the War Staff course at Camberly in Surrey. In March 1942 he was GS02 (General Staff Officer) of the 3rd Canadian Division, then promoted to command the South Saskatchewan Regiment (Canadian Infantry Corp). Two months later they moved to the Isle of Wight to train for the Dieppe raid.

Two experienced British Commando units were assigned to land before dawn to destroy German heavy gun positions on promontories east and west of the Port of Dieppe. A task that was largely successful. Two Canadian battalions (525 troops) were scheduled to land at the same time to the immediate east and west of Dieppe to give land support to the attacks on the guns and to form a secure perimeter for the main force to land.

The right flank Canadian battalion assigned to Green Beach was the South Saskatchewan Regiment commanded by Merritt. His objective were Pourville, west of the port, then the cliffs above the village. But the main part of the battalion was landed on the wrong side of the River Scie estuary. This forced them to cross a narrow bridge through Pourville in order to approach their objectives on the cliffs. By then alert to the situation, the German defenders targeted the bridge with machine-gun and mortar fire, leaving it covered with dead and wounded.

Merritt lead the next rush forward, waving his helmet with the rallying shout, "Come on over. There is nothing to it". His audacity took the enemy by surprise! Merritt walked calmly across the bridge at least four times under a storm of fire to conduct parties of his men to the eastern side. He soon had most of his surviving men on the far bank, but shortage of mortar ammunition and lack of communication to the destroyers to call for supporting fire made any further advance impossible. He then organized and led successful uphill assaults on several concrete pillboxes and other enemy positions overlooking the bridge and village. When the last enemy strong point had been silenced, Merritt had been wounded twice and his Battalion reduced to less than 300 men.

He held on to an improvised perimeter nevertheless, and kept contact with his section positions after his two runners had been killed. When the time came to move back to the beach, Merritt gave instructions for an orderly withdrawal and announced his intention to hold off the enemy from a rearguard position in a small bandstand near the beach to cover the re-embarkation. One returning to England a fellow officer was asked if he knew what had happened to Merritt—he replied, "The last time I saw him he was collecting Bren and Tommy

Cont.

guns and preparing a defensive position”.

The South Saskatchewan battalion left 84 dead on Green Beach and 89 more, including Merritt and eight other officers, were taken prisoner. Merritt was sent to a prison camp in Bavaria. Here with 64 others he escaped but was soon recaptured. He was then sent to Colditz Castle, a notorious secure prison where he remained till the war ended.

Merritt was awarded the Victoria Cross for his heroic actions at Green Beach. The citation for the award concluded in part “To the commanding officers personal during the success of his unit’s operations and the safe re-embarkation of a large portion of it were chiefly due”. He died at Vancouver on 12th July, 2000.

VICTORIA CROSS

The Victoria Cross was introduced in 1856 by Queen Victoria for British troops. In 1867 it extended to all Commonwealth troops. Since that time it has been awarded on 1,358 occasions, 99 being Canadian, with 16 awarded in WWII (six posthumously).

The criteria to receive this award is for:

“The most conspicuous bravery, of daring or pre-eminent act of valour or self-sacrifice or extreme devotion to duty, in the presence of the enemy”.

In 1972 Pierre Trudeau’s Liberal Government suspended the award being presented to Canadians. The Decorations of Bravery were created (Cross of Valour, Star of Courage, Medal of Bravery). In 1987 Brian Mulroney’s Conservative Government asked the Chancellery of Orders and Decorations to consider its reinstatement. In 1993 Queen Elizabeth II authorized the design of a Canadian Victoria Cross. The inscription on the cross was changed from “for valour” to “pro-valore” (mediaeval Latin). To date no Canadian Victoria Cross has been awarded.



Rev. John Foote



Charles Cecil Merritt

AROUND THE HOUSE AND THROUGH THE YARD WITH ME

Hello again everyone. Isn't this weather great? It's really hard to believe that we are actually into November. Some years, we have had a foot of snow or more by now. I'll take these warm temperatures any day as opposed to the minus 10's and 20's.

The garden is all cleaned up and ready for a great winter rest. I've planted about three dozen Siberian garlic cloves, and I'm wondering if this warm fall will have them sprouting soon. The ground is not frozen so I'm guessing they just might begin to grow. However, our temperatures during the overnights will be going down considerably within the next few weeks, so maybe I shouldn't worry about them freezing solid before they get a chance to set some roots.

Have you noticed all the geese resting and eating in the fields? It seems like there are always more Canada geese than snow geese or so it seems. Many times I can hear them while I'm out in the yard, but I don't see them. If the windows are open during the night I can hear them as the flocks fly over. It definitely indicates that fall is here.

We've had an abundance of robins here in the yard eating from the crab apple trees. Some of the strong west winds have taken all the leaves off the trees, and now all those small apples seem to be calling the robins in for a feast. If I am lucky, I can see the cedar waxwings arriving at the same time to get part of the feast. If they eat too much of the fermented fruit they can actually become intoxicated. Apparently this state is called "drunken bird syndrome". I've seen robins in this state, and so has my cat. It's does not end well for the bird.

Our racoon family has made their yearly fall appearance and are once again eating or scrounging for acorns. They seem to know when the oak has all the acorns ready for feasting. During the evening, we hear this family out on the deck at the pail of water. Everyone must wash their dirty paws umpteen times during this evening ritual. You can always tell when they've been here by how dirty the pail of water is in the morning. They love to come over to the oak trees and dig and scrounge for any acorns the deer have left behind. I do not grow corn anymore because of how destructive the racoon family has become while having their fill of corn.

The carrot patch was awesome this year, and I did manage to harvest lots of carrots for winter storage. I've made carrot cake, carrot loaf, carrot muffins, and we've eaten plenty of roasted carrots with our meals and just plain old raw carrots.

Now it might be time for carrot pudding, mmgood.

During this time of library disorder our trusty librarian has managed to keep the bookclub going. We've met a few times in the Legion hall and now that the majority of books are back on the shelves in the library, we are still reading and enjoying the discussions. We generally try and have supper meetings but our reading corner is not yet ready for us. So we have met in the Queen's hotel for supper and book discussions. It's a great change of scene and we often get carried away with discussions. Our librarian is very patient with us.

Our cat number has dwindled down then abruptly bounced back up again. Lucy, who was ten this year, was slowly but surely going down hill. Then one day she just did not come home to the shop that she shared with her other five furry friends. She came to us one fall day in 2018, thin as a rail and crying because she was cold and hungry. We took her in and wrapped her in towels warm out of the dryer. Within a few days she was feeling better and in time she adjusted to Max and he took her under his big paw and began to wash her face. She loved him, he was her protector. They played together and slept together. As the other strays began to arrive she managed to eventually make friends with all, except for Harry. In time she and Harry settled their differences and she began to like

Cont.

him, a bit. She was fixed and tattooed by a vet clinic in Brandon and upon Minnedosa vet clinic calling the owners, the owners did not want to pay her vaccination bill and declined to take her back. So she became our cat and went for regular check-ups every year. We keep thinking she may show up and we will welcome her home if she has just been away looking for something. In the meantime another cat has found us. He's not fixed and will have to have a visit to our vet in the very near future. He is a tabby/bengal mix with plenty of stripes and spots. He looks quite young, he's got very long legs and is tame. Again he showed up for breakfast about three weeks ago crying and very very thin. He's tame so someone has handled him. We have no idea who had him and if they just dropped him off because they didn't want another cat. Regardless we now have one house cat who showed up four years ago, Max who showed up ten years ago, two that showed up four years ago, another one who came three years ago and the newest one who has just arrived. Needless to say there are no mice in the shop, and everyone has their own bed/spot to call their own and two meals a day.

Here's a cat joke

Why was the cat afraid of the tree?

Because of its Bark

Here are a few household tips just in case.

When baking you may need fresh eggs, but how to tell which ones are fresh and which one aren't?

An old egg will float in a glass of water and a fresh egg will sink to the bottom of the glass.

You can add some lemon juice to a load of laundry to brighten the whites

When you boil eggs, add some salt to keep the shells from doing that annoying cracking thing

Put a slice of bread or a piece of apple into your hard brown sugar bag. Check it in a few days and it should have absorbed the moisture and the sugar should be soft once again.

Apparently we consumers are still tossing away food that is still good despite the best before date. What does Best Before actually mean?

Best Before dates relate to food quality and have nothing to do with food safety. Best before dates focus on peak flavour. A container of yogurt that has been in your fridge and has passed its Best before date may still be eaten. Don't throw it out yet however, if it looks bad, if it smells bad, chances are it's bad, throw it out. Remember don't throw out your common sense.

Due to an abundance of potatoes this fall, we've been eating plenty any which way I can think of.

Here's a Crispy Potato dish. Serves 4

1/3 c all purpose flour or gluten free

1/8 tsp pepper

3/4 tsp salt

5 med potatoes peeled and cut into 1" cubes

1/2 tsp dried thyme

1/4 c melted butter

1/2 tsp dried marjoram optional

1 clove garlic, minced

In large re-sealable plastic bag, combine the flour, salt, thyme, marjoram and pepper. Add potatoes and shake to coat

Pour the butter into a 9X13 cake pan and stir in the garlic, then add potatoes. Cover and bake at 450 for 20 minutes. Then uncover and stir then bake for another 15-20 minutes or longer until potatoes are lightly browned and tender.

Scalloped Potatoes

4 tbsp butter

4 tbsp flour

1 1/2 tsp salt

1/8 tsp pepper

2 cups hot milk

6-8 medium potatoes, thinly sliced

1 large onion thinly sliced



In large saucepan, melt butter. Stir in flour, salt and pepper. Add hot milk stirring constantly, until this sauce boils. Remove from heat.

Layer 1/2 of potatoes and onions in a 2 quart greased casserole. Cover with half of the sauce. Layer the rest of the potatoes and onions then cover with the remaining sauce. Bake, covered at 350 for 1 hour. Uncover and bake for 15 minutes more, until potatoes are tender.

Well that's it for this month. Get outside and enjoy the great weather before the snow arrives, and it will arrive.

Margo

ATTENTION!

Next month is the December (Christmas) issue for the TIG. We would like to make a really special edition of the TIG full of Christmas greetings and good cheer.

If you would like to put in a Christmas greeting, please drop off what you would like to say at either RM Office or at the Rapid City Library by December 4th. This is open to businesses and citizens of the RM of Oakview. The cost for the greeting is \$2.00. An example is:

We wish you a fantastic holiday season full of
hope for more books,
joy in new books,
peace to read all the books
and a never ending
love of reading!!
Merry Christmas
The Gang at
The Library



Tell us what your greeting is, and we will add a cute picture to go with it. We can always make a generic greeting if you can't think of what to say.

We know how busy December can get, so please have your greetings in the sooner the better and remember, deadline is December 4th. Let's make the December issue something special!

Whoops? - Not Again!

Hello everyone; firstly I do apologize for not getting an article in on time last month. There were a couple of reasons – firstly I was distracted and appalled at the assassination of Charlie Kirk on Sept 10th and started an article about a Biblical response to the kind of political hatred that led to Charlie's death. I'd written most of it and then got a sense that this was not the article that I should be writing. And then on September 23rd I started seeing some things on television that shocked me as well. Firstly, a news anchor said “Well, we've dodged another rapture date”. Then on tv the next day I started seeing bits from Tik Tok of young people discussing the rapture that was going to happen that day or the next and they had to figure out how to sell their car or house! That's not how we should approach the rapture.

Then I started wondering whether my last article in September in which I discussed the resurrection that takes place at the end of the Bible (book of Revelation,) which is the true rapture, that perhaps our readers were thinking I was one of those saying that the rapture would take place in September 2025, a date coinciding with the Jewish feast of Rosh Hashanah. I was not – the September article was the last of a trio started last spring about the physical resurrections found throughout the Bible – its promise in Genesis, its fulfillment in Christ's resurrection in the gospels and its completion with our resurrection in Revelation. That final article was scheduled to be printed in the July edition of the Tellitgram, but I'm sure you remember why that edition didn't happen – our poor library was flooded.

Today I would like to shed some light on this unfortunate habit some Christians have of setting a specific day or time for the rapture to take place. To be completely honest this is a lesson that we learned way back in 1988 when a popular book was published called “88 Reasons that the Rapture will Be in 1988”. The author was a NASA scientist who had a seemingly credible argument for making that statement and many Christians fell for it. When nothing happened and we started looking into this problem it became a good lesson – don't set dates! Jesus Christ, Himself, told us not to do it – that only the Father in Heaven knew the day and the time. We could know the *season* because the Bible teaches us what to expect, but not the day or the time of day.

Rapture dating has a very long history – it began shortly after Jesus ascended into Heaven and continued through the early years of the church, through the Middle ages, then into more modern times and has obviously always failed. I looked up Rapture dating on Wikipedia and ended up printing out 24 pages of failed dates starting with 66 AD and on and on up to our century.

There is not enough room to go into all this sad history, but we can remind ourselves of what our Lord taught us about what to expect in these last days and our removal from the earth.

Matthew 24:36 “But about that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.”

Acts 1:7 “It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by His own authority.”

So now we understand that these failed predictions contradict the Bible. *While on earth* even Jesus did not know the date of His return.

While Israel had a series of feast dates given to them in Leviticus – a total of 6, 3 of which have already been fulfilled by Jesus when He was on earth and 3 remain to be filled in God's own time with His chosen people, Israel. God has never forgotten or dismissed the Jewish people. He has promised to save them and He will – in His own time. The Christian Church did not replace Israel as the apple of God's eye. We, mainly Gentiles, are a separate group from Israel. We are Christ's chosen Bride. Israel is called God's wife. We live in the Age of the Church, also called the Age of Grace. Israel is on a different timeline dating way back to Abraham and going forward until God deals with them again – as a nation. Individual Jewish men and women may recognize that Jesus Christ did come and if they put their faith in Him as their saviour then they become part of the Age of Grace and are called Messianic Jews.

The saddest thing about the efforts to set the date for our removal to Heaven is how it affects both believers and unbelievers. Believers may end up selling their goods or agonizing over their possessions. But why? If one truly believes that they will be taken in the Rapture, whenever it is, then let the goods stay where they are. Someone else can use them, because you won't need them! When nothing happens the daters are disappointed, disillusioned and open to scorn by the general public, online and even by the legacy press. This does nothing for the gospel of salvation and the truth of the Bible. How many non believers would be likely to source the Bible for just the two quotes I wrote on page 1 and learn the truth of this fallacy of setting a specific day or time for the Rapture? Not too many.

So, as believers, we should live in expectation that the Rapture *could* happen at any time – which theologians call “Imminent” - but don't set dates!

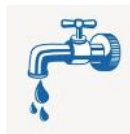
The gospel needs to be spread and shared, even to our western society which has turned to materialism as its source of happiness and mostly forgotten God or put Him on a shelf out of sight.

Study the Scriptures so that you will not be fooled.

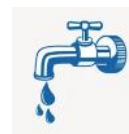
Remember that if a prophet states something and it doesn't come true then that person is a false prophet and his/her words should be taken with a large dose of salt. (Deuteronomy 18: 21-22)

Linda Rioux

views are those of the author and not necessarily those of the TIG This is a paid submission



DRIPS FROM THE TAP



To Our Friends in Rapid City

You gave us so many donations of fresh veggies! They were so delicious and was enjoyed by all of us! We also enjoyed all the lovely flowers which brightened our sitting room!

Many thanks and love from all of us at the Legion Gardens!



DON'T FORGET

If you are going hunting, make sure you have permission from the landowner!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

A big Happy 90th Birthday to Edie Evans of Rapid City. Edie is one very active senior, who will soon be heading down to Mexico for her annual vacation!

Happy Birthday Edie—you are a wonderful example of not letting age get in the way of fun!

Is Winter Here?

Well, the fall weather has been wonderful, but the geese are pretty much gone, so are the leaves and Halloween is over. I guess snow was inevitable! But is this just a preview or is it here to stay? The deer hunters would probably love to see it stick around, but only time will tell!

PUZZLE PAIRING

We puzzlers at the Legion Gardens have a great collection of used puzzles to exchange. We prefer 500 piece. At our age the larger ones take too long and our time is limited! Please look for Vern, Anna or Edie to trade

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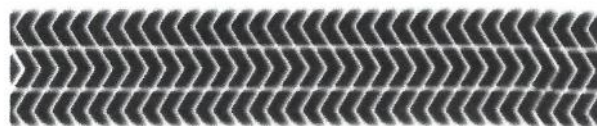
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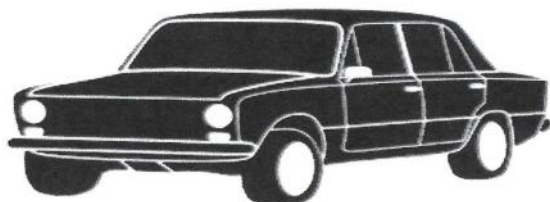


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