**Exhibition Game vs Elrose** Saturday October 29

8:00 pm



# ICE HAWKS

Games at the Jim Kook Rec Plex Home Opener/Rib Night sponsored by John Bob Farm Equipment

vs Rosetown **Friday** 



November 4 at 8:00 pm



OUTLOOK, SASKATCHEWAN

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2016 • VOL. 101, ISSUE 41

\$1.25 GST included

### ver Stands Out in Project Stu

By Derek Ruttle | The Outlook

A decades-long study of the South Saskatchewan River is showing that Outlook's most famous neighboring body of water may be among the most unique in the world, according to geoscientists who have been visiting Outlook every year to continue their research on the river.

The study involves research as to what a sandy braided river looks like - one that has multiple sand islands and channels - and how it behaves. Research into the South Saskatchewan River - which was first made public with the release of a study in the late 1970's by two Canadian academics - has included a focus on trying to gain a better understanding of how the river changes through the course of time, and what elements end up producing that change.

Greg Sambrook Smith of the University of Birmingham is one of the researchers on the project, and he says it's a study that has included multiple scientists over the course of its long timeframe.

"We have been working on the South Saskatchewan River for many years, and the research has involved numerous academics, postgraduates and undergraduate students," explained Smith, in an email to The Outlook. "The work began back in 1999-2000 when myself and two other UK academics, Jim Best and Phil Ashworth (both formerly at the University of Leeds now at Urbana-Champaign in America and Brighton, UK respectively) were awarded a grant from a UK Research Council called NERC (Natural Environment Research Council). We have had a specially-commissioned aerial photograph sortie flown every year from 2000 to present (for about 20 km of the river up and downstream of the Outlook road bridge)."

One of the things that people may be interested to know is that the South Saskatchewan River, at least in scientific research circles, is more famous than people may believe.

"For river scientists around the globe, the South Saskatchewan River at Outlook is very famous!" said Greg. "Back in and what geomorphological and geological processes drive that change," explained Greg. "The current project is more focussed on collecting data sets of flow

to predict how sandy braided rivers respond to environmental change (such as climate change) and in rare big floods."

One of the most telling

Aerial photography shows what the river looks like from an entirely different perspective.

1978 a 'classic' study was done on the river by two academics (Cant & Walker). The work they did soon was adopted as THE definitive example of what a sandy braided river looks like and how it behaves. Students in Geography and Geology departments at universities are all taught about the river in lectures to this day!"

The research group's initial work on the river project involved adding on to the work done by earlier scientists, bringing the study into the new millennium and discovering how the South Saskatchewan River changes itself through time. Today, the study is putting a focus on being able to one day predict how a river such as Outlook's may respond to climate change.

"The focus of our early projects was on updating the work of those earlier academics by using new geophysical and remote-sensing techniques to gain a deeper understanding of how the river changes through time

processes and channel change at very high resolution, with which to develop new numerical models capable of simulating how any braided river may evolve and change over time. If successful, we may be able

findings in the group's research was after a flooding event that happened eleven years ago, in which there was a noticeable change to the top layer of the South Saskatchewan River.

"One of the most exciting

aspects of the work was when the very large flood event in 2005 occurred, an event that we would expect to happen only once in every 40 years," said Greg. "We had been surveying the river immediately prior to this large flood, so were able to characterize how the flood changed the pattern and size of sandy islands and channels of the river. Interestingly, while the aerial photographs showed significant change to the surface of the river, our geophysics data of the sediments below the surface showed that parts of the river had experienced almost no erosion beyond the top few 10's of centimeters!"

For the research group, the South Saskatchewan River definitely stands out among the province's many other lakes, rivers and large bodies of water.

"The most exciting aspect of the river, from the perspective of us as researchers, is that due to the dam upstream of Outlook, the water is very clear so you can see right down to the bed," said Greg. "This means we can capture what the river is doing at extraordinarily high resolution using specially commissioned digital aerial photographs."

Smith says that the results of

See River Project, Page 2

### **Advance Poll Has High Turnout**

By Derek Ruttle The Outlook

he official results of the 2016 civic election won't be known until voters in Outlook and communities around the region go to the polls to cast their ballot today (Wednesday), but we can tell you that voter turnout for Outlook's advance poll last week was nothing short of encouraging.

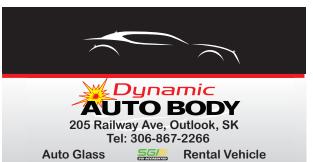
Held on Thursday, October 20 at the Outlook town offices building, a total of 140 people exercised their democratic right

and cast their vote to determine who will be the next Mayor of Outlook and town councillors. The incredible turnout of advance poll voters didn't go unnoticed by local officials. with town administrator Trent Michelman calling the number "extraordinary". To give a little perspective on that number, there have been local elections in the past where overall voter turnout wasn't even at 140 ballots cast. For the advance polling number to be that high, it may speak to the importance of this election, arguably more

historically significant than any other in the past, as well as the issues and candidate views that have found a way to resonate with voters in Outlook.

A candidates forum held last week and organized by The Outlook attracted a giant audience, and perhaps it was this platform that allowed voters to make up their minds and cast their early ballots. Judging from the impressive turnout at both the forum and the advance polls, hopefully the overall voter turnout on Election Day echoes this level of enthusiasm.







We're here to handle your professional accounting needs

216 McTavish Street 306-867-8485

### **Elbow Names Citizen of the Year**

The lakeside community of Elbow has been celebrating its residents since 2011 with the village's Citizen of the Year Award, and earlier this month, they recognized the sixth recipient of the honor at the annual ratepayers meeting.

Anne Wilson, known locally as a tireless and dedicated volunteer, is the 2016 Elbow Citizen of the Year. Wilson was presented with the award by village Mayor Rob Hundeby on Wednesday night, October 12 at the village's yearly ratepayers meeting, and along with her name on a community plaque, Anne will also receive an impressive aerial photo of the community; one that she has worked to promote and put in many volunteer hours in her efforts.

With this being the sixth year that Elbow has acknowledged its residents with an award that captures the kind of people who go beyond the call of average citizen duty in their community, Wilson is in good company with previous recipients of the award. She was one of three nominees for 2016; the others being Don Ector



and Meryl Joel, both recognized as very involved citizens of Elbow in their own right.

Voters nominated Anne for a number of reasons, mainly for her driven efforts in a number of volunteer duties, including organizing the recent Culture Days celebration in Elbow, recruiting the necessary help and participants to ensure the event ran smoothly.

As well, Wilson's contributions to events and fundraisers surrounding Elbow's museum didn't go unnoticed, helping to make sure the facility stays open. Wilson is also seen by many as a good spokesperson for the village, and supporters feel she is more than deserving of the accolade.

Congratulations to Anne Wilson on her notable achievement.

## **River Project**

the research group's study of the river could one day end up serving as something of a catalyst for understanding the river's effects on a global scale. It's possible that rivers such as the South Saskatchewan may hold secrets as to how water can be resourced for future generations.

'The application of the work relates to the classic concept of 'the present is the key to the past'," explained Greg. "For example, many of the world's largest groundwater reservoirs (i.e. for drinking water) are located in the rocks of ancient sandy braided rivers deposited millions of years ago. Likewise, such rocks are also thought to be good places to store carbon dioxide and so mitigate against the impacts of global warming. Understanding better how modern rivers such as the South Saskatchewan build up the sediment on their river beds allows us to make better interpretations of how water and gas will move around ancient rocks, helping water resource managers and the carbon capture and storage industries around the globe. We also should be able to demonstrate how and to what extent sandy braided rivers scour, and therefore, whether they pose a threat to infrastructure such as bridges and buried pipelines/cables."

As far as the river project reaching any conclusions that would call for

it to be completed, there doesn't seem to be any, at least for the time being. Greg and the research team plan to continue visiting Outlook each year, typically in the spring or summertime, and use the South Saskatchewan River as a basis in forming a clearer understanding of how rivers take shape and change over time, as well as what exactly they may end up changing in the surrounding environment. In their travels to Outlook, the research team has enjoyed hospitality from local residents, including Bob and Sandy Stephenson, Bill Vavra, and Vance Ylioja, to which they're grateful, and they're looking forward to seeing what

their studies. For this ever-curious

else the river tells them in

team of scientists, the future of the South Saskatchewan River continues to be written, and it's a tale that doesn't have any definitive ending in sight.

(continued from page one)

"The work has continued on and off ever since we first started back in 1999, with further research funds that allowed projects to be undertaken in 2004-2007, and most recently an ongoing project which began last year and led by another UK academic named Andrew Nicholas of the University of Exeter," said Greg. "In short, we are using the South Saskatchewan as the ultimate 'outdoor laboratory' to understand how rivers work. The story never ends, as we are definitely back next year and hopefully beyond!"

#### **Congratulations go out to** Andrew Bell Saskatchewan Apprenticeship Awards



Andrew received the Bruce Pearce Scholarship on October 21, 2016 for consistent highest marks attained in Saskatchewan for the duration and completion of his Automotive Technician Certificate



October 31st

**WHERE: Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran** Church (601 Ash St)

WHEN: Oct 31 from 4:00-5:00 pm

WHAT: Come Trick or Treating from car to car in the parking lot

We invite everyone to come to this fun event!

# Here's Help To Get Organized in 2017!

#### **NOW IN STOCK**

Daily PlannersWeekly Planners Desk Calendars



The Outlook

108 Saskatchewan Ave E **Outlook SK** Phone 306-867-8262



#### **Varsity Dental Group General Dentistry**

Dr. K. Gallagher Dr. R. Bhargava

Monday — Thursday 7-7pm Friday 7-5pm | Saturday 7-3pm

201 - 1414 8th Street East, Saskatoon, SK Corner of 8th St. & Cumberland Ave.



665-2400

New and Emergency Patients Welcome

www.varsitydentalsaskatoon.ca