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COURIER

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CUT KNIFE, SK

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Federal election on Oct 14

With 20 days remaining until the federal election, our Battlefords-Lloydminster riding has 5 declared candidates running for the seat. Incumbent Gerry Ritz is once again running for the Conservative Party. Others running are Gregory Nyholt for the Liberal Party, Norbert Kratchmer for the Green Party, Harold Stephan for the Christian Heritage Party and Bob Woloshyn is running for the New Democratic Party.

The parties have been busy campaigning, making announcements about their election platforms. Read

the literature that arrives in the mail, consult the party websites, ask questions of the candidates that come to your door. Find out where the parties stand on the issues that matter to you. That way you can make an informed choice when it comes time to mark your "X" on the ballot on October 14.

Voters looking for information on voting should read the enumeration card they received in the mail, phone 1-800-INFO-VOTE, or consult the Elections Canada website: www.elections.ca.

Val Hilliker delights Elementary School children



The children at CKES were treated to a fabulous ventriloquist performance by Val Hilliker.

2008 Donors' Choice Campaign to begin

- Submitted by: Cheryl Rowswell

The Cut Knife & District Donors' Choice has completed arrangements for its 32nd annual campaign. The month of October is again the target month as it has been from the time of inception.

Donors' Choice is a community-wide, annual campaign. For most of our 20 charities on the list, this should be the only drive they will have in this area.

The list of charities, which we review at each annual meeting, is arranged in alphabetical order and appears on **PAGE 6** of this paper. Please use it to plan your donation. Charities other than those listed should be handled on a personal basis and NOT through Donors' Choice.

At the annual meeting held in February of 2008, the board discussed the issue of rural canvassing. With rising fuel prices and canvassers experiencing some difficulty finding donors at home, it was decided to try a mail out canvass to our rural donors. As such, you can expect to find a letter in

your mailbox in early October requesting your generous support of a charity (or charities) of your choice. It is our hope this method of canvass is successful and can be used in years to come.

For our urban donors, you can expect a visit from one of our loyal canvassers sometime during the month of October. The canvass is to be done at your dwelling place and not at your place of business unless by mutual agreement.

Should anyone wish to be a canvasser and you have not been asked please contact Orval Ens (chairman), Alphonse Dupuis (vice-chairman) or Cheryl Rowswell (secretary).

Canvassers may pick up their materials at the Royal Bank. If this is not convenient, please contact Orval Ens and alternate arrangements can be made.

In a community where the bounty is abundant, we look forward to another successful campaign. Support of these charities provides service and relief for many people within our community and our financial support is required to carry on such service.

Crop Report for week ending
September 21

Sunday night rain stalls the harvest

Warm, dry conditions helped boost prairie harvest progress to two-thirds complete last week. Sixty-six per cent of the 2008 crop has been harvested, up from 39 per cent last week, according to Saskatchewan Agriculture's weekly crop report. The five-year (2003-07) average is 63 per cent harvested. Harvesting is furthest advanced in the southwest where 73 per cent of operations are complete, and is least advanced in the northwest where 47 per cent of the crop is off. Most areas of the province experienced warm, dry weather the past week enabling producers to make significant progress.

Rainfall came Sunday night to bring a halt to harvest in the local area. The wet conditions continued Monday but the forecast for the rest of the week called for dryer weather. Hopefully harvest will get going again soon.

Harvesting progress varies between the major crops. Spring wheat is at 64 per cent complete, durum at 67 per cent, canola at 57 per cent and lentils and peas are at 96 per cent complete. According to crop reporters, producers were pleased with the amount of harvest progress they achieved over the past seven days.

In addition to harvesting, some producers were busy seeding the last of the winter wheat and fall rye. Others were busy with post-harvest spraying and getting their winter feed supply baled and hauled. There were reports of ergot damage in some of the crops harvested across the east side of the province.



- by Lyn Tarr

On Tuesday, Sept. 10th, the children and staff at the Cut Knife Elementary School were treated to an entertaining and informative performance by Val Hilliker, a comedy ventriloquist and Master Facilitator from Calgary, Alberta. Val's daughter, Julia, helped with the presentation. Val talked with the children about "Chillin" a way for children to assert themselves in a non-aggressive way, quietly demanding respect or finally just walking away.

She and her puppet, Lilli the Frog (who wore a duck suit), taught the children about empathy and compassion, as she had them interact with her, shouting at Lilli, "You're a Duck!" when the little puppet insisted she was a frog. As she talked, the real Lilli appeared - from a zipper opening in the back of the duck suit - to the delight of the audience, students and teachers alike.

With Lilli and Val's other puppets, she gave some positive ideas to empower the children to stand up for themselves and others. From the beginning to the very end of the program, she had the kids' undivided attention as she made her puppets move and talk. The audience giggled and laughed out loud, enjoying every moment of the performance, and learning all the while. Great combination, don't you think?

Above, left, ventriloquist Val Hilliker poses for the camera with one of her puppets while sitting on her travelling trunk.

Left - Val's puppet, Lilli the Frog appears to the children in her duck suit.