



Lorna Hamilton
Editor

Shop Local... It's what everyone talks about on a daily basis.

As you sit and drink coffee at a local business here in town, you can always hear members of our community, especially the elderly, talk about shopping locally in Vermilion instead of at some big box store in the other communities.

While small businesses in our community make up a large quantity of our economy, there are times when shopping locally just isn't a possibility. I fully believe in shopping locally when at all possible, however, living in a small town like Vermilion, that isn't

always an option. I for one, do find myself travelling outside to get items I just can't get here. Does that mean I am not a supporter of local shopping? Absolutely not!

If you look around main street it is made up of many small businesses from hair salons to chiropractors. I always try and find whatever I am looking for here in Vermilion first.

Let's take a look here for a minute, I can walk out of the office door, walk across the street to the pharmacy, walk two minutes east and have my hair done, walk two more minutes in either direction and have lunch, another couple minutes and see my doctor or have my back cracked at the local chiropractors office, if I so choose. We have two grocery stores which carry a wide variety of food and other items.

Shop Local

I am disappointed that the pet store in the mall is closed as it is harder now to get the things I need for my pets.

My car insurance is carried by a local insurance company as well. I am a big supporter of local shopping as it is important to support our local businesses as a community or one day we may not have any of these options, every place in town will eventually be belly up especially with our economy now in the toilet with this recession as they call it. Shopping locally is the best way to go for our economy, it will help our community prosper.

The point is, shop local. Support our local small businesses. Don't bash our local businesses on the Vermilion Rant and Rave page on Facebook. If you have an issue with a small business or any

business take the issue to the owners first. It's not a good idea to get on a social media site and bash a business without even trying to resolve the issue with the owner first; you are not solving anything that way.

This week is Small Business Week. It takes place every year during the third full week of October. So let's try our best to shop locally, help support our town's economy and maybe, if we do that, we will see Vermilion grow with more and more small businesses opening to meet all our needs. Just a thought.



Billi Jean Miller
Columnist

Community Comes Together To Honour A Local Family In Mourning

On Thursday, September 24th Lloyd FM and some amazing sponsors hosted a very special "Meal in the Field" south of Kitscoty. Volunteers and Sponsors from LloydFM, Sobey's, Diamond 7 Meats, the Tent Guys, Moonlight Photography and the Dirt Rich Band brought a meal to remember to a farming family during harvest. This wasn't just any farm family, however, and this wasn't just any Meal in the Field. This one was special, as it honored a man and local farmer who lost his life on Fathers Day.

Donald King, his wife Rebecca farm south of Kitscoty on their over 100-year old farm with their three daughters. It was started by Donald's grandfather, Leonard in 1910. Donald proudly continued that tradition with his hardworking wife Rebecca and his three daughters. The farm and their life on it had been Donald and Rebecca's heart and soul for their nearly 18 year marriage. His life was tragically cut short, at 42, when he was hit head on by another driver enroute to Calgary with his oldest daughter. Marti has healed physically from the accident, but their family struggles to cope with moving on without their husband, and father. They were joined at this special event by Donald's father Lyle, and two of his three sisters.

The community, along with fantastic sponsors, came together on September 24th in a field next to the original home-

stead. Hours ticked on, children played, neighbors visited, and a magical prairie sun set down over the horizon while the Dirt Rich band played, all to show the family that everyone's hearts are with them and they care. Newcap News was also there filming the beautiful and emotional night.

A Memorial Hockey game in honor of Donald King is being held at the Kitscoty Arena at 8pm on Saturday, October 24th. The family welcomes you. If you'd like to make a donation to the three girls futures: donations can be made to the "In Trust Fund for Don's Girls" at the Servus Credit Union.

Following the event.... this letter was submitted by Rebecca King to thank the community and sponsors for their kindness:

"On Fathers Day, our family chain was tragically torn apart. Our most awesome Dad and Husband was taken from us - we are now lost and broken. Farming is our way of life, our passion, and we are so proud to be farmers and to raise our kids there. Harvest has always been our favorite time of year, and this year it will be totally different for us.

We have always known that we belong to a great community. Great does not begin to describe how our communities have supported our little family.

We have had such overwhelming support, and for that we are absolutely grateful. It takes a community to raise a family, and I am so filled with gratitude and reassurance just knowing that I have the love and support from ours to help me with

our three beautiful girls.

Just having them witness how family, friends, neighbors and businesses come together in these times is a great life lesson. To learn that if we work together we can get through anything. The power of people is fabulous. The meal in the field last night was emotional, yet healing. Just seeing everyone together on our home quarter, visiting, reminiscing and enjoying the generosity of heartfelt others was tremendous. The setting was perfect, as was the sunset as it dropped down over a meal to remember. It was a breathtaking scene of caring people, and of nature. Donald was proud watching."

Thank you to everyone.
Tearfully, Rebecca King and girls.



Wife, Rebecca and daughter, Marti bow their heads in prayer before the meal in honor of Donald King on September 24, 2015. Photos Billi J. Miller

UPCOMING AUCTIONS

Sat, October 24, 2015 at 11:00 A.M.
COUNTY OF MINBURN

Sale Location: 5001 - 50th St., Minburn, AB.
REMINDER: 1200 sq. ft. Building* 2013 Ford F350* 2015 Kubota BX2670 Tractor* Attachments* Ag. & Construction Eq* Shop Tools, Office Eq. & Supplies. For more information, please call Graham Shell or Ian Uskiw at 780-632-3715.

Thurs, October 29, 2015 at 3:00 P.M.
ROBERT PROUD

Sale Location: 4812 - 48A Street, Vermilion
Generator, Snow Blower, Shop & Garden Tools, Household, 1000 C&W LP Records. For more information, please call Stewart Auctions.

List is subject to additions and deletions. This listing is only a guide and in no way a guarantee of size, description or year.

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Honouring Our Veterans

Submit your stories from the past with photos in person or to vermillionvoice@gmail.com before November 5th at 3pm to receive a feature in our Remembrance Day section in our November 9th paper



VERMILION VOICE

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