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The Roblin

Review

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STREET FAIR A HIT

Most of Main Street was transformed into a pedestrian mall Saturday as the local chamber of commerce hosted its much-anticipated Street Fair and Summer Sidewalk Sale. The event featured plenty of attractions including craft vendors and artisans, a farmers' market, food vendors, plenty of activities for the kiddies, live music featuring just a small sampling of the community's wealth of talented performers, and plenty of bargains courtesy of Main Street merchants. The weather cooperated, even though it was a little on the cool side, and the event was well-attended although it was difficult to estimate numbers given that the attractions were spread out over four blocks. More photos next week.

REVIEW PHOTO BY ED DOERING

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Still time to register

PCDF hosting annual Field Day

BY JENNIFER LAVIOLETTE

A large gathering of farmers are expected to be out standing in the field tomorrow (July 27) as the Parkland Crop Diversification Foundation (PCDF) hosts its annual Field Day.

The day begins at 10:30 a.m. at the PCDF site south of town and this year's presentations cover a wide spectrum of agriculture topics to suit producers' needs in the area.

"Our goal is to diversify what we do regionally and look at ways we can do that," said PCDF manager James Frey. "We also want to have a goal that PCDF is relevant to all of the producers in our area. In addition to looking at field crops, we're adding in annual forages or perennial forage mixtures that can help livestock producers with the

decisions they make."

With that in mind, Frey says the topics the centre looked at for this year and last, focused a bit more on that balance between what people would think of as field crops and ways of producing forages for good feed for their animals.

"Another way we are looking at producing those things is in a sense blending the two. Can we have a field crop in one year and also establish a good forage crop for the next year in the same season? We want to make ourselves as well suited to everyone's needs in the Parkland region," he said.

"We're hoping that this line up of topics reflects and is suited to producer's needs."

There are many aspects in agriculture that change frequently and the field day is one way for producers to get informed about

those changes.

"There are updates and changes to the way things are happening in agriculture in general and one way to keep up with those changes is to get informed on them," said Frey.

"We have new varieties that some producers aren't familiar with as of yet. Another way that comes into play is coming up with different ways of using the same old crops in new ways. Part of what we've begun exploring as part of diversity isn't just coming up with the next big wonder crop for the area, but looking at some of the things we may have grown for 75 years in the region that we haven't necessarily done in a certain way."

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