

# A queen amongst queens

By Roger Metz

Helping to keep Southern Alberta's heritage alive, this 63-year-old ex-stockcar driver says she only feels 30 and isn't near ready to "sit at home and watch soap operas."

Laurie Sharland, 63, was born in Trail BC but moved shortly after to Medicine Hat. She attributes her youthfulness to involvement with young people and to having a blessed life.

Her office at Intra Kabet Travel, located below the Medicine Hat Greyhound station, isn't the usual travel agency office covered with majestic views of faraway lands or coastal waters. The photos and posters that nearly devour the walls depict a lifetime of dedication toward upholding our western heritage and lifestyle. Walls are covered with memories of past rodeo queens, trips, family members and autographed posters - one from Garth Brooks.

Sharland says she has met some high profile athletes and entertainers, including Garth Brooks, because of her active role and position with a travel agency, but says more important in her life are the young people she helps.

"When you are actively involved with young people, it's very good for the young people but it's also very good for you because it keeps you thinking on their levels."

Sharland has been using some of her spare time working with Medicine Hat's first chuckwagon races and is currently coaching the Medicine Hat Stampede grand entry, which is 20 cowgirls who perform the opening of the Medicine Hat Exhibition and Stampede Rodeo. She is also right in the middle of the Stampede Queen contest which runs from July 11 and concludes with the crowning of a new queen on July 17 and is working at her full time job with Intra Kabet Travel. Even after all this she still finds time to spend with her family, volunteer with the United Way and Veiner Centre.

%Sharland says her involvement keeps her "busy, out of mischief and having a lot of fun."

In retrospect, Sharland believes one of her greatest accomplishments has been her involvement with kids. "When I look back over the years these kids have grown up to be fine citizens. They have been kids who have grown up to care about others and give."

Sharland has always been involved in the community, whether playing a sport or giving her attention to those who need a little caring.

She has been on the Medicine Hat Exhibition & Stampede committee for 2

29 years and been chairperson of Miss Rodeo Canada national board for 16 years.

There have been many high moments in her life, but she says the highest was when she became involved on the national level with Miss Rodeo Canada and Medicine Hat had its first Miss Rodeo Canada crowned (Susan Hargrave). "I was so proud."

"We've had hundreds of girls go through, and I know the contest has helped round them into vibrant, lovely young ladies."

"Some are mothers and grandmothers already."

"The day I don't have fun doing it anymore will be the day I won't do it anymore, and that time isn't here yet."

Sharland has worked for Intra Kabet Travel for 22 years, and still loves her work.

From working with the United Way to driving a stockcar, Sharland compliments her dedication with the fact that working at Intra Kabet Travel hasn't in anyway impeded her community involvement. "Sometimes I've needed to take a few days off for meetings in Calgary or Edmonton, and Bert (owner) has always been there."

But Sharland says there is a stronger influence behind her success. "The reason I've been able to take part and do everything I would like to do is because of the wonderful husband I have."

"Len has been absolutely most supportive in everything I have ever been involved in." "He's been my gopher and my 'honey-do' - honey do this, honey do that, honey go here, honey go there."



Laurie Sharland is a deeply involved person.

## The friendly, professional staff at Sears Vacation Store will give you the world.

You can explore it at our new location in the Medicine Hat Mall. Just visit us in Sears near the catalogue department and you'll discover a whole world of travel that awaits you with our:

COMPLIMENTARY PASSPORT PHOTOS with your booking

SEARS CLUB POINTS with your booking

BONUS SEARS CLUB POINTS at selected times of the year

The option to DEFER YOUR PAYMENT two different times a year

GREAT last minute departure PRICING

Our R&R TRAVEL COMMITMENT - your guarantee to a worry-free vacation

A WIDE SELECTION of vacation choices

**SEARS Vacation Store**

Medicine Hat Mall (403) 504-2630

If From Out of Town, Please Call Collect.

Open 7 days a week!

10088502

The Lethbridge & District Exhibition Presents

# Whoop-Up Days

## July 21 - 25 '99

Parade July 21 - 10:00am

RCMP Musical Ride July 21st

Pro Rodeo July 21-24 7:00pm



LETHBRIDGE & DISTRICT EXHIBITION

For more information call 328-4491

10088499

## Enid Altstedter

Step into *anything goes by Enid* and you will find exquisite handmade and tree-free papers from around the world including cotton papers from India, textured mulberry papers with flower embedments from Phillipines, delicate lace papers from Japan and wonderful lokta papers from Nepal. Excellent custom work, with attention to detail, is our specialty, and this is where you will find one-of-a-kind invitations, guestbooks and albums designed and created to suit your special occasion or event. In addition, an array of journals, albums, luscious ribbons, rubber stamps, greeting cards, sealing wax, stationery and gifts are presented in spacious, inviting and relaxed surroundings. Since the shop opened in 1996, *anything goes by Enid* continues to offer distinctive and exciting designs and a welcoming attitude which are enjoyed by both regular and new customers. Visit *anything goes by Enid* to see what we can do for you.

Whatever the season, we're devoted to the extraordinary.

*anything goes by enid*

Fax: (403) 329-9371

e-mail: mseja@mail.telusplanet.net

10088456



## Sassy Looks



Connie and Marcie opened Sassy Looks March 1/96.

Connie has been a Nail Technician over 3 years. She enjoys her job, which enables her to meet a variety of people - many who have become very good friends.

Angela has been with the Sassy Looks team for 3 years. She has found this shop with its ideal location and its personable co-workers to have been an enormous asset for the Foundation and expansion for her career. Angela is skilled in all areas of Hair Design, but attributes most of her creativity and imagination to updos and formal styles. She welcomes all new and current customers to see her for that special do.

Crystal has been a Hair Stylist for 10 years. She joined Sassy Looks in 1997. She enjoys all aspects of her job, and specializes in Design Hair Cutting.

Jodie has been a Professional Hair Stylist for the past 4 years. She enjoys her career which enables her to meet and share her creative ideas with new people. She especially enjoys sharing her extensive training in colouring, highlighting and minking.

Denise is one of our most recent new comers. Like the other Stylist, she enjoys all aspects of Hair Styling.

Walk ins Welcome

181 Carry Drive S.E.,  
Medicine Hat, AB T1B 3T2

(403) 526-2424



Marcie, Connie, Jodie, Crystal, Denise, Angela

10088458