





Talk of the Town

Important Dates

... Check the following pages for more important dates and details!

- October 31—Happy Halloween! 
- November 1—Compost Pickup
- November 8—Council Meeting @ 6:15 p.m.
- November 11—Remembrance Day—Office Closed 
- November 22—Council Meeting @ 6:15 p.m.

2021 Garbage and Recycling Pickup

Garbage Pickup	Recycling Pickup
Tuesday, October 26, 2021	Tuesday, November 2, 2021
Tuesday, November 9, 2021	Tuesday, November 16, 2021
Tuesday, November 23, 2021	Tuesday, November 30, 2021
Starting November 1, 2021, compost will be picked up the <u>first</u> Monday of every month.	
PLEASE REMEMBER TO HAVE YOUR BINS TO THE CURB BY 7:00 A.M.	

OUTSTANDING UTILITIES

This is a friendly reminder that if there is a balance owing on your utility bill on November 29, 2021, a registered letter will be sent indicating the outstanding balance. If they remain unpaid on December 31, 2021, the balance of your utility bill and the cost of the registered letter will be added to your taxes.

To remit a payment to the Town Office, you may do so through online banking, cheque, debit or cash. Credit Card payments are accepted on the Town of Balgonie’s website. Please see page 20 of this newsletter for further instructions.

FROM THE TOWN

Mailing and Civic Address:
PO Box 310, 129 Railway St.

Phone: 306-771-2284

Fax: 306-771-2899

Office E-mail:
townofbalgonie@sasktel.net

Recreation E-mail:
balgonieparkrec@sasktel.net

Newsletter E-mail:
balgonienewsletter@sasktel.net

Emergency Number/After Hours: 306-535-4235

REGULAR OFFICE HOURS

9:00 a.m. to noon and 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday to Friday.

NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

All information must be received by the 20th of each month in order for it to be included in the following issue of the Talk of the Town.

Prices for advertising a business:
\$10—Business Card Size
\$30—1/9 Page Advertisement
\$60—Half Page Advertisement
\$120—Full Page Advertisement

Local programs and announcements are not charged; however, you must have a Balgonie post office box.

Please send all items to:
balgonienewsletter@sasktel.net

Cribbage Tournaments

Starting in November, Cribbage Tournaments will be held on the second Saturday of every month at the Balgonie 50+ Club. To register, please contact Bart Eliasson at elias@sasktel.net or 306-771-0024.



Boulevards

Whether we like it or not, the snow is fast approaching! We would like to kindly remind residents that the Town boulevard portion at the front of each property is approximately 12-20 feet (with the exception of the bays). Although our residents care for the boulevards, it is the Town's property and therefore that is where snow is placed. Soft landscaping, such as sprinklers, rocks, gardens, etc. are placed on the boulevard at your own risk. As always, thank you for understanding.

Balgonie's Facebook Page

For updates on what's happening in the community, please visit:

<https://www.facebook.com/balgonies-talk-of-the-town>

If you would like to advertise local events, please call 306-771-2284 or e-mail townofbalgonie@sasktel.net



Have you updated your contact information recently? Please notify the Town Office if any changes have been made to your mailing address and/or phone number.

There are many homes that no longer have land lines, and we have no way of contacting residents should there ever be an emergency.

The information is intended for office use only.

Parked Vehicles

Vehicles are not to be parked on the street for more than 24 hours, except weekends and holidays. If your vehicle is not used regularly, you must park it on your own property.

Pickelball Update

The Balgonie Pickleball Club continues to meet Thursdays at the Balgonie Elementary School from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. The club is still open to new members. If interested, come out and give it a try. Wear your mask when entering the building. Being double vaccinated makes it a safe environment for everyone. Please have a pair of indoor footwear.

There will be NO pickleball on November 11th.

Take care, stay safe!



The Town of Balgonie has thoroughly reviewed the water and sewer rates and expenses for provision of these utilities. Bylaw # 427/2021 A Bylaw to Fix the Rates for Water and Sewer is scheduled to be adopted at the November 8, 2021 Council Meeting.

The scheduled changes to the Water and Sewer rates will aid the Town in moving away from subsidizing the water and sewer utilities with the General Tax Levy. Overall, the billing has been redistributed to assign capital infrastructure fees for capital projects, though the average property owner will see only moderate increases to minimum bills. Consumers with higher water consumption will see larger increases. The changes to the current rates will become effective January 1, 2022.

Changes to water and sewer rates:

Metered houses and businesses:	\$ 3.00 per quarter increase to minimum bill
Mobile homes:	\$ 1.70 per quarter increase to utility bill.
Commercial/Community Service:	\$ 12.73 per quarter increase to minimum bill 2022
	\$ 9.73 per quarter increase to minimum bill 2023
	\$ 9.73 per quarter increase minimum bill 2024

Minimum Commercial and Community Service sewer rates will no longer be the same as residential bills. They will be increased over 3 years from 75% of base water rate to 85% base water rate.

Quarterly overage rates increase 2022:

- \$ 1.10 per 1000 gallons for 9,990 to 19,980 gallons
- \$ 1.55 per 1000 gallons from 19,981 to 49,950 gallons
- \$ 4.05 per 1000 gallons from 49,951 and over

Quarterly overage rates increase per year 2023 and 2024:

- \$ 0.25 per 1000 gallons for 9,990 to 19,980 gallons
- \$ 1.00 per 1000 gallons from 19,981 to 49,950 gallons
- \$ 1.00 per 1000 gallons from 49,951 and over

Out-of-town utility direct consumers will be charged 10% higher rates than their in-town counterparts.

Kudos and a BIG Thank-you to:

- B.E.L.C.I. for the great donuts;
- The Yanko family for the wonderful Thanksgiving treats; and
- Megan Halwas for the tasty soup.

Your lovely gifts to us are truly appreciated!

Love your friends at Heritage Court.



Brandon Wright

June 23, 1978 – August 27, 2021

It is with deep sadness that David and Janet Wright share the sudden passing of their son, Brandon. He leaves behind his spouse Joanna and their three children David, Benjamin and Gabriella, sister Jody (Al) and their children Thomas and Daniel, and brother Andy (Bren) and their children Mason, Mya & Marie.

Brandon will be greatly missed by all of those who knew him.

Caitlyn and Jayson are excited to announce the birth of Octavia Fay Kowalyk on September 16, 2021 weighting 7lbs 7oz.

Proud grandparents: Robert and Angela McMillan of Balgonie and Jim and Lolanda Kowalyk of White City.




1st Balgonie Beavers, Cubs, and Scouts

Due to Covid 19 we will not be going door to door for a bottle drive this fall.

If you would like to donate bottles please contact Larry McIvor 306 771 7830 and he will arrange to pick them up.

Thank you for your support!

We are still looking for a cub leader, please contact Larry if you are interested.



REMEMBRANCE
DAY

Lest We Forget

The 11th hour on the 11th day of the 11th month.

In Flanders Fields

By John McCrae

*In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.*

*We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie,
In Flanders fields.*

*Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies
grow
In Flanders fields.*

The Churches of Balgonie

invite you to the Balgonie

Remembrance Day Service

10:45 a.m. – Thursday November 11th

Online:

stjosephbalgonie.ca and balgoniebaptist.org

By invitation only: 302 King St. (Fr. Chinh 306-771-2387)

Wreaths will be laid at the Balgonie Cenotaph following the service.

Hosted by: St Joseph Catholic Church

Recreation News

By Shaun McBain

Once again, with restrictions in place, we are in full swing with all winter sports. Dance, hockey, ringette, skating, broomball, public skating and stick and puck!

As soon as the temperature drops, the outdoor rink will open for outdoor skating and stick and puck.

As a friendly reminder, please respect our recreation facilities. Please pick up your garbage and leave the facilities in good condition.

Masks are now required in the Balgonie Arena for any Saskatchewan Hockey sanctioned event. This includes practices and games. Please do your part by sanitizing your hands upon entry of the facilities and maintain distance as best as possible. If you are feeling unwell, please refrain from entering the facilities.

CLIP AND SAVE.....

PUBLIC SKATING, STICK AND PUCK AND MOMS & TOTS TIMES FOR THE 2021-2022 SEASON

<u>Public Skating Times</u>		<u>Stick and Puck Times</u>		<u>Moms & Tots Times</u>
Tuesdays	3:30-4:45 p.m.	Mondays	3:30-4:45 p.m.	Wednesdays 9-11 a.m.
Thursdays	3:30-4:45 p.m.	Wednesdays	3:30-4:45 p.m.	
Sundays	12:30-1:45 p.m.	Fridays	3:30-4:45 p.m.	

Thank You Wade Hoffman

The Town of Balgonie and the Balgonie Parks & Recreation Board would like to take this opportunity to thank Wade Hoffman for his many years of service as the Balgonie Parks & Recreation Board President. His commitment and dedication to this volunteer board was excellent. Good luck in your future endeavors, Wade!

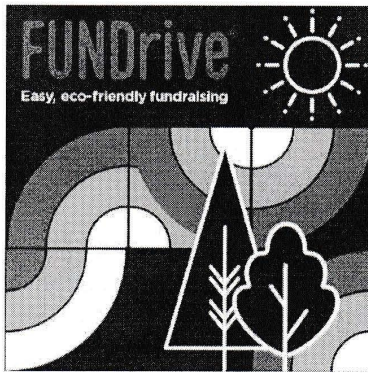
The Balgonie Parks & Recreation Board is now looking for a President. If you are interested in this volunteer role, we would ask you to contact Shaun McBain at (306) 771-4343. This group meets approximately three to four times a year. The Recreation Board manages and operates all recreational functions and grants within the Town. It also advises Council on projects to improve or extend any of the recreational facilities.

Thank-You from Balgonie Baptist Church

Thanks to your support, \$2,000.00 was raised to bring Syrian refugees to Saskatchewan. Our thanks go out to the Balgonie Diner for hosting a Steak Night on October 14th. We're also thankful for the many families who enjoyed supper and bid on Silent Auction items.

Mahmoud and his family escaped Syria and are now in Lebanon while their application to join his family in Regina is processed by the Canadian government. Just this year, the couple had their first child! As sponsors, \$25,000 needs to be raised by Balgonie Baptist Church. This fundraising event puts that fund at just over \$17,000.00.

Do you want to keep helping? Take your cans and bottles to Sarcans's Drop 'n Go and use the code "God is good" to designate your bottle refund to Mahmoud's support when he and his family arrive.



FUNDrive® Coordinator

Lisa Yanko
(306) 771-1222
ebs@accesscomm.ca

Our Goal: \$1000

290 Large Yard Bags
100 Medium boxes (household goods)

Fundraiser Dates:

10/20/2021 - 01/14/2022

Community Collection Days

November 13 12:00 PM - 03:00 PM
Balgonie Baptist Church
102 Griffin Road
Balgonie, SK SOG OEO

November 14 12:00 AM - 12:00 AM
drop off any day any time on the front deck at
333 Queen St
Balgonie, SK SOG OEO

Clean out your closets and cupboards for Balgonie Baptist Church!

Balgonie Baptist Church is raising funds for a Syrian refugee family who have suffered thru unthinkable tragedy in their escape to Canada. During their escape they had had one son killed and one permanently injured from bomb attacks in their home country. During their night time escape the family was separated and unfortunately one son was left behind in the chaos. This money will help reunite this family with their son.

We Are Collecting

Clothes

men's, women's and children's clothes, coats, shoes, scarves, handbags, wallets, fashion accessories, ties, belts, backpacks, etc.

Household Textiles

bedding, comforters, blankets, sheets, towels, linen, tablecloths, curtains, pillows, etc.

Small Household Goods

kitchen items (such as pots/pans, dishes, silverware, glasses, serving pieces and hand-held appliances), home decorative items, knick-knacks, toys, games, and small electronics

Please use bags for clothes and textiles and tightly packed boxes for small household goods.

All items must be clean and in sellable condition.

FUNDrive® is an eco-friendly fundraiser for nonprofit organizations. Collect gently-used items in your community and FUNDrive® will buy them.

Visit <https://FUNDrive.savers.com> to learn more.





Balgonie Early Learning Centre Inc.

Box 940
131 Main Street
Balgonie, Sask
S0G 0E0



WE ARE HIRING

Position Available: Early Childhood Educator

Job description

Must be able to supervise a group of 5-10 children

Must have a positive attitude and can work with a team

Work in accordance with the philosophy and policies of our organization

Understand the Play and Exploration Program Guide

Ability to program plan for a group of children of various ages

Understand and maintain Ministry of Education regulations

Fosters teamwork and open communication

Current CPR/First Aid an asset, training available

ECE Certification or willingness to obtain

Wage to be discussed and determined upon applicants experience and education

Job Types: Full-time, Permanent

Salary: To be discussed depending on experience.

To apply, please submit your resume and cover letter to director@belci.ca

OH HEY THERE **BALGONIE,**

Elementary school collaborates with town on new dog park

Committee raising funds for 'ninja' style obstacle course in community

Council approves zoning application for new restaurant, car wash, gas station

Swimming pool closed for 2020 season due to COVID-19

Local church organizing clothing drive for area First Nations

Frustrations mount over closure of Highway 1 access point

Hextall named Hockey Sask's coach of the year

Remembering Canadian flight pioneer, ex-Balgonie resident Gibson

When local headlines were made



The Forum becomes a **paid newspaper** effective Nov. 18. Help ensure **your community's story** continues to be told by subscribing today. **Subscribe by Nov. 15** & enter to win Roughriders football tickets as well. Snail mail us the form below or visit www.forumnews.ca/subscribe.



SUBSCRIPTION FORM

Print only Digital only Print + Digital

- 1 year \$69.30 (\$5.50/month)
- 2 years \$126.00 (\$5.00/month)
- 3 years \$170.10 (\$4.50/month)

Gift a second subscription?

Yes

All annual subscription rates **include GST**. Purchase a second subscription as a gift at time of initial subscription, and **save 25%** off the price of the second subscription. Subscriptions must be pre-paid in full and, when due for renewal, will expire at the end of the month in which they are purchased. Subscriptions available in yearly increments only.

EARLY BIRD SUBSCRIBER GIVEAWAY



Subscribe by Nov. 15 and automatically enter to win 1 of 3 pairs of **SASKATCHEWAN ROUGHRIDERS** game tickets for 2022!!

(winners to be announced in November)

Subscriber 1

Subscriber 2 (if applicable)

First name:

Email (subscriber 1):

Last name:

Email (subscriber 2):

Mailing address:

Paying by:

Town + province:

Postal code:

Phone number:

- Cheque** *(cheques payable to Forum Media, Box 10, Vibank SK, S0G 4Y0)*
- Credit card** *(phone 306-529-5025)*
- E-transfer** *(forum.admin@sasktel.net)*



A **HUGE THANK YOU** to our community for your continued support, our fundraisers were both a success!

Our dancers appreciate your generosity and are looking forward to the season!



"Dance is the most fundamental form of art"

Twyla Tharp

School Community Council

next meeting is November 17, 2021

Virtual meetings held every third Wednesday of the month @ 6:30.

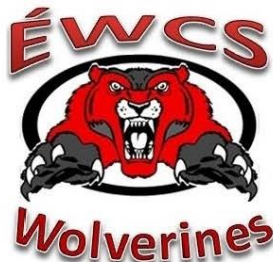
ALL PARENTS WELCOME - Please contact the school by email at ecolewhitcityschool@pvsd.ca to pre-register!

Watch Facebook for our November 50/50 Announcement!

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION 22/23:

Contact the school at ecolewhitcityschool@pvsd.ca or 306-781-2115 if you have a child turning 5 by December 31, 2022.

Working Together For Success | Travaillons Ensemble Pour Réussir



Don't forget
Wolverine
Wednesdays – dress
up in your school gear
or wear school
colours!

IMPORTANT DATES

Nov 11	Remembrance Day (School Closed)
Nov 12	Non-Student Day
Nov 19	Report Cards
Nov 23	Parent/Student/Teacher Interviews
Nov 24	Parent/Student/Teacher Interviews
Nov 26	School Closed (lieu day for teachers)



BALGONIE CURLING CLUB



★ UPCOMING EVENTS ★

2-6-4 spiel

Saturday November 20, 2021

Games Start at 2:00 PM

In person registration starts at 1:30
Text or Call Jackie @ 306-533-8079 to pre register.

2 people, 6 rocks, 4 ends, No Sweeping,
\$20.00/person entry fee, Cash payout.

Current Covid protocol will be in place.

WING NIGHT!!!

Saturday November 20, 2021

Join us for Wings and a Beverage

Combo a basket of 2LBS of wings
and a drink \$20.00

1 pound of Wings \$10.00

Starts at 4:00 PM

While supplies last



Balgonie Curling Club's U18 Bonspiel December 3-5 2021

\$120.00 per team

**3 Game guarantee
Cash prizes for top teams**

Register with Jackie @ 306-533-8079
Entry deadline Friday November 26th 2021

REGISTER TODAY - Ladies League
Monday Nights (January – March)
League Rep: Jackie Leibel (306-533-8079)
Email: balgoniecc@hotmail.com

Mandatory masking and proof of vaccination
required.

We appreciate your ongoing understanding,
cooperation, and support.

November 2021



Balgonie Public Library Program & Events Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Craft in a Bag	2 Craft in a Bag	3 Craft in a Bag	4 Craft in a Bag	5 Craft in a Bag	6 Craft in a Bag
7	8 Craft in a Bag	9 Craft in a Bag	10 Craft in a Bag	11 Closed for Remembrance Day 	12 Craft in a Bag	13 Craft in a Bag
14	15 7:00 Board Meeting	16 Craft in a Bag	17 Craft in a Bag	18 Craft in a Bag	19 Craft in a Bag	20 Craft in a Bag
21	22 Craft in a Bag	23 Craft in a Bag	24 Craft in a Bag	25 Craft in a Bag	26 Craft in a Bag	27 Craft in a Bag
28	29 Craft in a Bag	30 Craft in a Bag				



Craft in a Bag!

Each week we prepare a new themed craft for your little one(s) to take home and make! Pick-up a book and have your own story hour at home!

Button Makers are Back!

Create your own buttons with our easy to use button maker! You can make your own design, use a picture, or use one of our templates! Available to use at the library from November 2nd – 24th.



Pokemon Search!

Do you love pokemon and trying to catch them all? We have several pokemon cards hidden throughout the library... find the correct Pokemon for a prize!



Library Hours

Monday	3:30 – 7:00
Tuesday	3:30 – 8:00
Wednesday	9:00 – 1:30
Thursday	3:30 – 8:00
Friday	1:00 – 5:30
Saturday	10:00 – 1:30
Sunday	Closed

Can't visit us in person? Check out these great e-resources, all FREE with your library card!

Libby
eBooks, audiobooks & magazines

hoopla
Movies, music, TV Shows, audiobooks, eBooks & comics

AudioBookCloud
Audiobooks

Creativebug
Thousands of online arts & craft classes

PressReader
Newspapers & magazines

Tumble Books-
Interactive children's books

Contact us at 306.771.2332 or balgonie@southeastlibrary.ca

WWW.SOUTHEASTLIBRARY.CA



The Balgonie Playschool Thanks You! The Community Initiative Fund (CIF)

Thank you for your generosity and continued support.
Your community grant will enable us to continue to provide early learning programming and opportunities for preschool aged children to learn through play.

- The Balgonie Playschool Board Members

Make your trip to SARCAN really count!



You can help fund the BES Family FUNscape Ninja Course!!!

Drop & Go is a new service that is available at all SARCAN depots Saskatchewan.

It allows customers to skip lineups by leaving their order at the depot and getting their refunds transferred electronically.

Your order will still be counted by our same great staff!

**Donate your cans & bottles to:
Balgonie Elementary School Family FUNscape Ninja Course 😊**

Use the group phrase: BES Ninja

(need your donation in Balgonie picked up? Call or text 306.529.3437)

Follow these easy steps:

1. At home, separate your recycling - put plastics, cartons and aluminum cans into bags, put glass beverage containers into boxes. Don't forget to include milk containers!
2. Visit a SARCAN Depot and look for Drop & Go
3. Follow instructions on the screen. Type **BES Ninja** when prompted to enter the group phrase. It is simple!
4. The amount of your order will be processed and paid directly to the Balgonie Bobcats Fundraising Committee Inc.

WE HAVE NEWS!!



AND WE NEED YOUR HELP!!

It's official!! We are enhancing our Balgonie Elementary School ground by adding a new ninja obstacle course!

This course, plus new seating, will turn our school ground into a **Family FUNspace** to be enjoyed by the whole community!! It will also be a special area for our senior elementary students to access during the school day. Our current play-structure is reserved for junior students only.



1

HERE IS THE PLAN:

The proposed course components.

warped wall! spider climber! monkey swinger! and more!
(Exact final course configuration to be determined)

2

HERE IS THE COST

\$70,000

A HUGE thank you to ALL of our sponsors so far!!!!

We are almost halfway there!!! . . .help finish it off!!!!!!

\$38,166

\$70,000

3

HERE IS WHERE WE NEED YOUR HELP!!!

Be A FUNscape FUNder!!!

- *Ain't No Wall High Enough* to stand in your way'?
- Maybe you are more of an *Aiming High Trapeze* Challenger?
- How about a *Go With The Flow* Hang Boarder?
- Which obstacle course component resonates with you??! Don't miss out on your chance to pick one (or several) to help fund! See attached info.

Once we have our project fully funded, all FUNscape FUNders will be permanently recognized on our Board of FUNders which will stand proudly alongside our completed obstacle course.

Let your FUN side shine!!

Need more info? phone: 306.737.0693 **email:** balgoniebobcatsfundraising@gmail.com

How to be a FUNscape FUNder!!

- Which obstacle course component(s) most resonates with you? Which would you most like to sponsor?
ALL FUNders will be proudly recognized on our Board of FUNders which will stand beside the course!!!
- Each 'sponsorship' is a minimum \$100. Donate as much as you would like! (ie. \$1000 = 10 sponsorships for an obstacle. . .have some fun & pick the one that you feel best 'describes' you, your family, your group or your business :)
- size of name on Board of FUNders will be listed with each obstacle in proportion to amount sponsored

NAME (for our Board of FUNders) _____

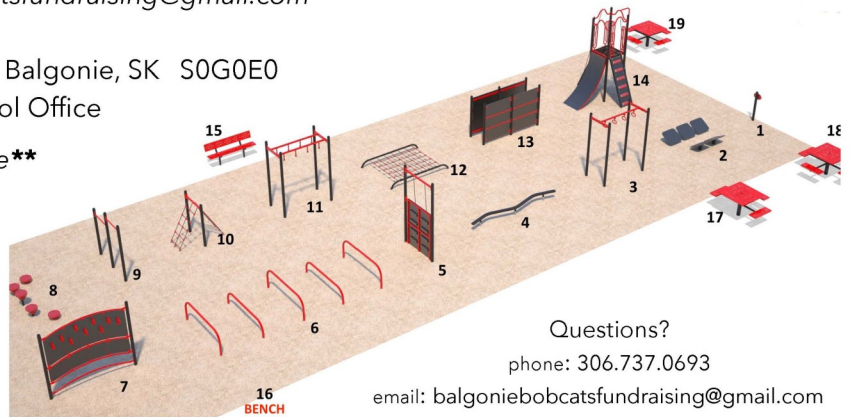
ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ **EMAIL:** _____

- Make your cheque payable to: *Balgonie Elementary School* **
- E-transfer can be sent to: *balgoniebobcatsfundraising@gmail.com*
- Return this form and payment to:
 - by mail : FUNscape FUNder Box 881, Balgonie, SK S0G0E0
 - by person: Balgonie Elementary School Office

YES, I'd like a charitable tax receipt please**
 (available for donations \$25 or more)

**** To get a receipt, donation MUST be paid
 by cash or cheque only ****



Questions?
 phone: 306.737.0693
 email: balgoniebobcatsfundraising@gmail.com

LET YOUR FUN SIDE SHINE!!

1 'sponsorship' = \$100

1. <i>Born Ready</i> STARTING LINE SIGN	\$700
2. <i>Fast Moving</i> QUINTUPLE STEPS	\$2700
3. <i>Aiming High</i> TRAPEZE CHALLENGE	\$600 \$1800
4. <i>It's A Balancing Act</i> BENT BALANCE BEAM	SPONSORED!!! \$720
5. <i>Ain't No Wall High Enough</i> WALL PULL	\$200 \$4200
6. <i>Deft & Dextrous</i> OVER/UNDER HURDLES	\$1800
7. <i>Go With the Flow</i> HANG BOARD	SPONSORED!!! \$5000
8. <i>Just Keep Moving</i> STEPPING STONES	\$1100
9. <i>Keep your</i> CHIN UP BARS	SPONSORED!!! \$800
10. <i>Up & At Em'</i> ROPE PYRAMID	\$2500
11. <i>All Fun & Games</i> MONKEY SWING	SPONSORED!!! \$2000
12. <i>It's Complicated</i> GRID STEPS	\$2600
13. <i>Webbed Warrior</i> SPIDER CLIMBER	\$200 \$8500
14. <i>Just Do It!</i> WARPED WALL	\$200 \$10,000
<i>Free Spirit FUNDER</i> there's no obstacle :) I'd just like to donate \$ _____	\$16,345

15. Sit Back & Relax
BENCH \$1000 = name or logo plaque mounted directly on bench
 SPONSORED!!!
1 available: first come first

16. Just Chillin' BENCH
 \$1000 = name or logo plaque mounted directly on bench
 SPONSORED!!!
1 available: first come first

17. All Together Now - ACCESSIBLE TABLE: \$2500
 = name or logo plaque mounted directly on table
 SPONSORED!!!
1 available: first come first serve

18. In the Here & Now PICNIC TABLE: \$2500
 = name or logo plaque mounted directly on table
 SPONSORED!!!
1 available: first come first serve

19. Friendly Competition CHECKERBOARD GAME TABLE: \$2500
 = name or logo plaque mounted directly on table
 SPONSORED!!!
1 available: first come first serve

Greenall Griffins Update

October in Review | 2021



Greenall students and staff are working hard on the musical production already. Students are often in the library after school working on choreography or reading through script lines. Stay tuned for more announcements regarding the show production All Shook Up!!



Greenall High School Student Equity Group is gathering non-perishable food items during Period 3. The class that gathers the most items for the Food Bank will win cinnamon buns from the Griffin's Nest Canteen! Information below on how to contribute!



Griffins had another successful Cross-Country season with students breaking many personal bests and many students making it to Provincials! While at Provincials all athletes placed well in their categories and Reese Sommer placed 11th overall in her age category! Congratulations to all the Greenall Cross Country athletes!



Grade 10 student Ariana has published her own book! Ariana's book, Pieces of Truth is available for sale on Amazon. This is an amazing accomplishment for Ariana!

The Greenall Football team remains undefeated with a record of 5 and 0! The next game is at Leibel field on Thursday, October 21 against Martin Luther.

Pilot Butte Arts "GIVE ART A TRY" Classes

Click on photo or class title for more info if you are viewing this online!

Adult Classes Ages 18+		Kids Classes Ages 6+	
	Class		Class
	<p><u>Double Sided Wooden Porch Sign</u> Tuesday November 16, 2021 6:00pm - 9:00pm \$106.25</p> <p>All supplies included.</p>		<p><u>Kids String Art</u> Tuesday November 9, 2021 6:00pm - 8:00pm \$42.50</p> <p>All supplies included.</p>
	<p><u>Christmas Ornaments</u> Thursday November 30, 2021 6:30pm - 8:30pm</p> <p>All supplies included.</p>		<p><u>Yarn Wrapped Letters</u> Tuesday November 23, 2021 6:00pm - 8:00pm \$34</p> <p>All supplies included.</p>
	<p><u>Glass Snowman</u> Thursday December 9, 2021 6:30pm - 8:30pm 3 Bowl Snowman - \$76.50 2 Bowl Snowman - \$55.25</p> <p>All supplies included.</p>		<p><u>Oil Marker Mugs</u> Tuesday December 14, 2021 6:00pm - 8:00pm \$34</p> <p style="text-align: right;">All supplies included.</p>
	<p><u>String Art on Stained or Painted Wood</u> Tuesday December 7, 2021 7:00pm - 9:00pm \$42.50</p> <p>All supplies included.</p>	<p>PILOT BUTTE</p>  LET'S CREATE	

How To Register for Classes:

Website: www.pilotbutte-arts.ca

Facebook: www.facebook.com/pilotbutteart - registration link in events

All events take place at the Pilot Butte Community Centre

Masks and proof of vaccine are required for all events.

Thanks to the Town of Pilot Butte and Sask Lotteries for their support



We are always looking for new instructors or ideas for classes.
 Get in touch at pilotbuttearts@gmail.com



By Keith Comstock

Executive in Residence – JSGS (Lead MD Consultant)

The councils of the RM of Edenwold and the Village of Edenwold have decided to work together on exploring the idea of coming together to form a “Municipal District”. What does this mean from a practical perspective and how might this initiative affect the lives of citizens?

First – what is a municipal district anyway? Very simply, a municipal district is formed when two (or more) municipalities (at least one urban and one rural) decide to consolidate and make application to the Minister of Government Relations to be incorporated as one entity. In this regard, a municipal district is just another type of municipality along with cities, RM’s, towns and villages etc. The legislative provisions allowing the formation of a municipal district were added about 8 years ago but to date, there are no official municipal districts in Saskatchewan although there are a couple of communities that use the word “district” in their name.

Why would two (or more) normally functioning municipalities decide to join forces and become one? There is no one imperative – and the decision is of course highly dependent on local circumstances, but in general terms the following benefits can potentially be realized through the formation of a municipal district:

- harmonized bylaws creating a simpler and more streamlined local regulatory environment;
- administrative efficiencies and more flexibility and/or chance for advancement for employees;
- consistent planning and development goals and requirements for economic opportunities;
- savings through economies of scale;
- service level improvements gained through the sharing of equipment and assets;
- opportunities to explore options to broaden and enhance services and operations; and
- flexibility to operate in a way that meets both local regional interests more efficiently
- Prominence and visibility – being part of a strong, reputable, and distinct entity

The decision to form a municipal district is an important one – the participating councils and administrations must work diligently to ensure that these sorts of benefits are realized. In addition the planning for the municipal district must also take into account a wide variety of other questions and issues that are of importance to citizens. For example:

- Will property taxes go up? Down? Stay about the same? Many proponents of municipal amalgamation use the potential for reduced expenditures as a key reason to take action. However, in other jurisdictions where large scale municipal amalgamation initiatives have been completed, huge cost savings just haven’t materialized. Theoretically, there are savings to be had – but decision makers and citizens should concentrate instead on getting better value for the money they are

Spending instead of pinning their hopes on big cost reductions. On the tax side, legislation allows for different tax rates for different areas of a municipal district, allowing the council to structure the property tax levy accordingly.

- What about our representation? Who will we go to if we don't like how things are going? Luckily, the legislation for municipal districts leaves decisions about how the council will be structured, and what electoral system to use (rural vs urban) up to the municipalities forming the municipal district. This allows for very careful consideration and the opportunity to "custom design" a council that will ensure fair and equitable representation and decision making.
- What about our community identity? We've worked long and hard to make this community what it is! This is often a red-herring argument that, particularly in Saskatchewan, just never seems to be an issue. First, the agreement between/ among the participating municipalities can include whatever measures they feel are necessary to ensure people feel that sense of community and belonging they want. Second – the fact of the matter is that the governance/administrative structure of a community has little to do with where people feel like they are from. I grew up on a farm south of Moose Jaw – and the little town close by hasn't been around for decades – but when asked where I am from I always answer "Mitchellton" ...and that community is still alive and well despite not being a stand alone municipality.
- What about their/our debt and outstanding projects and other obligations? Assets, liabilities and other financial or infrastructure project related discussions are a key part of the planning process for a municipal district. The participating councils have the responsibility and flexibility to ensure that a fair and reasonable approach is taken. As well, part of the "approval process" undertaken by the province includes an analysis of this area, with the ability for the Minister to appoint someone to resolve any issues that might appear or be outstanding.

There is potentially a sort of "if you build it, they will come" aspect to the idea of forming a municipal district. If you take the Hollywood out of it, when looking at the benefits and risks of any proposition like this, there are three sorts of considerations that decision makers can keep in mind:

1. If we do this – what are the IMMEDIATE benefits and risks that must be considered?
2. If we do this – what are the MID TERM or INCREMENTAL benefits and risks that we should work towards and/or mitigate as the case may be?
3. If we do this – how can we ensure that we are well positioned to attract and take advantage of other opportunities that may be out there but aren't part of our current thinking – whether those be economic, social or otherwise.

To their credit, the two councils have approached this initiative with a very practical and pragmatic attitude. Municipal officials have developed a comprehensive project plan with a variety of task groups dedicated to looking at all aspects of the operations of the two municipalities with a view to designing a new structure that will provide the best of both worlds. Finally, the councils have made a joint commitment to taking training in governance essentials and following that up with collaborative work to put in place a governance framework that will serve the municipal district and its citizens very well.

There are two final points I need to make:

First – public input and engagement are critical to the success of the project. I would encourage all residents to familiarize themselves with this project and not to hesitate to raise issues, ideas, questions and suggestions to the members of council and the planning team.

Second – to their very great credit, the councils of the RM of Edenwold and the Village of Edenwold have decided to take this project on because they care about the future of their community. They have demonstrated their willingness to think about new ways of doing things and to not letting fear of the unknown or comfort with the status quo hamper their vision. Nor are they taking anything for granted – all involved are doing the right work to enable an informed final decision to be made. This is what local government and governance is all about – and I commend them for their resolve and commitment.

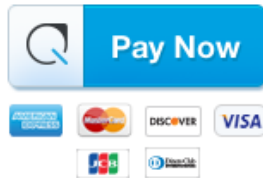
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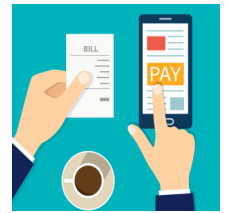


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