



Resort Village of Shields

Summer Newsletter

Available on Shields Website – check out www.shields.ca

Editor: Debbie Heidt (email – dd.heidt@explornet.com)

AUGUST 2013

Message from the Mayor's Office

Although summer got off to a wet, cool start, we are now able to enjoy some great lake weather . . . are we ever fortunate to be able to have our homes at this Lake!

An update on activities that the 2013 Council has to date:

- 2013 Development Permits approved to date - 20
- 2013 Building Permits approved to date - 11
- Budgeted drainage project for 2013 is complete
- Rebuild of Waters Ave. - complete
- Irrigation connection junction to Sunterra - complete
- Golf course drainage and site clean up along #9 fairway and #1 green – complete
- Irrigation connection routing ready for South properties – complete
- Stabilization of embankment by pump house and maintenance shed – complete

Activities currently underway in preparation for future budgets:

- Mawson Drive planning and discussions regarding drainage and roadway infrastructure
- Shelterbelt and irrigation initiation and planning for South Property enhancement
- Research into road dust control, road signage, parks signage
- The Oktoberfest celebration is coming soon – see the poster in this newsletter

Our community has become a busy place in a busy regional environment, it is truly exciting and brings on great opportunity to those willing to embrace it. There remains more to do this year in preparation of budget considerations for next year. Council warmly welcomes those who wish to come forward with ideas to move our community forward.

We have heard much from those new to our community as to what they found desirable about the Resort Village of Shields. Many have expressed their willingness to join in with our various volunteer projects. One suggestion spoke to a concept of '*partners with our parks*' to help with irrigation, trimming, etc., which allows them to "beautify and thus, take pride" in a park close by.

This Fall we plan to relocate a number of trees and bring in donated trees for planting through out the village. A designated few have come forward to get this project underway within the next weeks; thus bringing a new dynamic to the look of the planned areas.

In the best interest of all living in this community, we find it necessary to bring forward and mention bylaw issues, infractions, etc., in this Newsletter. In future, we may consider a separate 'Administration Challenge Publication' from time to time, to create awareness and seek help in how we may deal with challenging instances such as infrastructure maintenance, water, wastewater, seasonal irrigation, roads, emergency services, traffic and other bylaw infractions which confront not only our Council, but each of us.

Your Council is a very committed group of individuals (including their families) that extend their days to help build this great place we call home. We thank all residents for their continued support and commitment to our Village!

Eldon Mackay, Mayor

NEWS FROM THE GOLF COMMITTEE

Submitted by Gary Hovland

Shields Golf Course hosted 20 junior golfers with lessons and a barbecue on August 19th. Kam Barteski made all the arrangements with funding coming from Dakota Dunes.

A thank you to all the volunteers for supervising and the barbecue; also to John Hill for applying for the grant to Dakota Dunes for this event.



The course will be closed to the public for the following upcoming tournaments:

- Sunday Sept 8 1:00-6:00 PM
- Saturday Sept 14 2:00 –4:00 PM
- Sunday Sept.15 12:00 -2:00 PM
- Sunday Sept 22 1:00-3:00 PM

The Golf Bench plaques that were purchased as part of the Fundraiser Project this year will be placed on the benches by mid September.

Watch for the 'golf questions' that will be sent out with the town survey in the near future. Your feedback is important to us!

2013 CANADA DAY THANK YOU

Submitted by Pat Jarvis and John Hill event co-chairs

The theme this year was opening up the West which was reflected in the floats, the number of horses, the choo choo bouncer, the menu of hamburgers, hotdogs, salads and cake and the Saloon. Del Davies, a dedicated volunteer for the golf course and his wife Noreen were honoured and rode in Linda's fancy convertible. Thank you to all who participated in the parade. Special mention to the children, the Dundurn volunteer Fire Department, all of the horses and floats from Shields and Dundurn. Thank you Dwayne Heidt for marshaling the parade.

A touching moment as mayor Eldon raised our flag and we sang O'Canada with the sun shining over the hills of the golf course. It was too hot for canoe racing or beach volleyball, but the little ones cooled off in Bob's water slide and the bouncy choo choo. Thank you Sean Haynes for supervising and to Les Wintringham for the use of his generator.

Hamburgers and hotdogs were grilled and served to more than 142 hungry cowboys and cowgirls. Thanks to Rose and John Hill, Lorraine Fraess, Lynn McArthur, Grace and Ernie Strasser, Wayne and Judy Rathie, Lindy Klassen, Ruth Glatt and Bill Jarvis, everyone was fed. Thank you Lorraine for donating 5 dozen homemade buns.

Murray McArthur and his team had a fun game of closet to the pin. I wonder who the winners were? For those who participated in the flotilla, thank you for a special sight as you crusaded down the lake at dusk. We hope to have more boats in the future. Thank you Grace Strasser and Eldon Mackay for organizing the flotilla.

Dwayne Heidt, Gary Hovland and Murray McArthur put on a spectacular fireworks display again this year. Thanks to all who donated for fireworks and thank you to the Dundurn volunteer Fire Department for attending.

Thanks to Shields Council and Dakota Dunes for sponsoring Canada Day 2013. We had a blast!

USE OF FIREWORKS IN THE VILLAGE

As you are aware Shields has not put a bylaw in place to prohibit the use of fireworks by individuals on their property. The Village does not condone the use of fireworks by individuals on municipal property. There is a long history of this privilege provided to the residents of the Village. Please help Council ensure fireworks can continue to be part of our celebrations at the lake by using fireworks responsibly.

Your responsibilities associated with use of fireworks are:

- fireworks should end at a reasonable time and no later than 11:00 p.m.,
- pick a location to set off fireworks which considers safety and respects both village and residents property,
- use fire works safely to ensure safety of persons setting off or viewing fireworks, and to ensure sparks and debris do not start fires or burn property.

RECREATION BOARD UPCOMING SURVEY

The Recreation Board is interested in your opinion and ideas on activities and projects for Shields. A short survey will be sent via email during September. We encourage you to take a few moments to complete the online survey.

ATVs and GOLF CARTS

Town Administration is receiving numerous complaints regarding the use of ATVs and Golf Carts within the village. Most of these complaints involve young children operating the vehicles. This is dangerous and the potential for an accident is great.

The municipality has enacted bylaws to provide for the operation of these vehicles on our municipal roadways. This provision applies ONLY if you hold a valid driver's license.

ATVs and Motor Bikes: While it is possible for youth to obtain certification to operate these vehicles with parental supervision, this does not pertain to our streets and alleys. The bylaw was enacted to allow our residents to operate within the municipality for convenience.

Golf Carts are to be operated to and from the golf course and may only be operated during the hours between sunrise and one half hour after sunset.

Please remember - Council members nor the Administrator are responsible to carry out the enforcement of our bylaws – this is clearly the responsibility of duly trained officials.

In the case of underage operators of motor vehicles, ATVs, motor bikes, and golf carts it is the parent's that are responsible. Should it be necessary, persons observing underage operators are required to take a photograph, note date and time of incident and forward a written complaint to the RCMP.

Oktoberfest  **2013**
Hosted by the 50+ Club

All proceeds to the Shields Community Center

**Saturday , October 5, 2013
Shield's Community Center**

**Social Hour 5:00pm
Supper 6:00pm
Dance to live music 8:00-11:00pm**

Tickets - \$15 under 7 yrs of age free

All tickets are Pre-Sale only by October 1
Purchase tickets from any of the 50+members

COMMUNITY CENTER

You may have noticed some construction activity at the Community Centre. We are renovating. So far we have removed the window on the north side of the building, dry walled and painted the wall in the golf room and placed a new fiberglass roof on the deck on the west side. Next up is to replace the shingles on the roof. Fifty percent of the project costs are being covered by a federal grant.

SHIELDS COMMUNITY YARD SALE

There will be a community yard Sale at the Hall on Saturday September 21st. Please donate your items for the sale to raise money for the hall, which can be dropped off on Thursday (19th) or Friday (20th). Please contact Lynn McArthur (492-2171) to organize a time for your drop off at the hall.

Tables can also be rented to sell your own items; contact Lynn for more details.

Hot Dog Lunch will be available.

POTLUCK SUPPERS

Summer is coming to a close and with that brings back the Pot Luck Suppers. Come and join in friendship, fellowship and awesome food at the September 21st Pot Luck. Hope to see you there!

ACTIVITIES IN SHIELDS SOUTH SUBDIVISION

Take a drive through the south Subdivision and you will notice the grass has been cut to highlight the properties, residents are working on landscaping, one new build is in progress and an additional property has sold. Soon a fence will be installed on the south border of the public reserve. This fence will protect the public reserve from unwanted traffic.

Marketing of the lots continues with the placement by realtor Jordan Bird of the "Blackstrap Shields" billboard on the West side of Highway 11. Thank you to Doug Steele for your support in providing a location for the sign. "**Shields First**" describes what makes Shields such a great place. It is provided to all prospective lot purchasers. Check it out on the Shields website – www.shields.ca.

Activities are underway to contact builders interested in building a "spec" home in the south subdivision. Discussions are currently underway with several builders. If you know of a builder that might be interested let us know.

BYLAW #8/10 – DWELLINGS FIT FOR HUMAN OCCUPANCY

It has come to Council's attention that not all dwelling units in our village are fit for human occupancy. Bylaw # 8/10 clearly states that all buildings being used as dwelling units in Shields must have water & sewer facilities. The Health Department will be notified of all suspect buildings – our bylaw outlines the consequences.

All wastewater coming from properties must go into your holding tank and be trucked away – this includes bathwater, laundry water and kitchen sink water. Shields is an urban municipality and contraventions of our water & sewer bylaws will not be tolerated. Someone may think that it is okay for their "clean" water to go onto your trees or lawn, but it reaches the lake and adds to issues like the blue green algae. If you are a property owner with cheater lines, please take the initiative to remove them. You live on the lake – it's health is your responsibility.

YEAR-ROUND ACCESS TO WATER CURB STOP

Fall and winter are around the corner and this is a reminder that all curb stops must be accessible to municipal staff and marked for easy access. If a situation results where municipal staff cannot determine the location of your curb stop, you will be invoiced for the time spent locating the stop. In the past year we have had three houses that have flooded, so please ensure that you are prepared for the winter and curb stops are protected and will be free of snow, ice and debris and readily available for the Town Maintenance to shut off at any time of the year if needed.

Scientists Studying Blackstrap Lake Winter 2012 – 2013

Submitted by Karl Lindenschmidt, Village of Thode

This past winter, scientists from the University of Saskatchewan (U of S) and Saskatchewan Water Security Agency (WSA) carried out a study on Blackstrap Lake to better understand the lake's ecosystem during winter conditions. Ice and snow covers create conditions fundamentally different from other seasons, with low light penetration and low temperatures. The cover also acts as a barrier to light penetration and exchange of gases with the atmosphere, which can reduce dissolved oxygen levels in the water over the course of winter. Sensors were placed at different locations and depths in the lake at the beginning of the winter season, to continuously measure dissolved oxygen, water temperature, light and salinity throughout the winter. These measurements are being used to develop a computer model that simulates the physical, biological and chemical processes important in the lake's aquatic environment. A second experiment is planned for next winter, to hopefully capture conditions under different ice cover conditions (e.g. less snow, thinner ice, shorter ice period) than the previous winter. The models can then be used to run climate change scenarios to help us understand how these lake systems may change with changing ice-cover conditions in the future.

The team carrying out this research consists of:

- Helen Baulch (Assistant Professor, Global Institute for Water Security, U of S)
- John-Mark Davies (Water Quality Scientist, WSA)
- Jeff Hudson (Associate Professor, Department of Biology, U of S)
- Karl-Erich Lindenschmidt (Associate Professor, Global Institute for Water Security, U of S; resident of Thode)
- Rebecca North (Post-Doctoral fellow, Department of Biology, U of S)
- Jeff Sereda (Fish Biologist, WSA)