



Resort Village of Shields Winter Newsletter

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

December 2013

Message from the Mayor's Office

As we approach Christmas 2013, it seems only appropriate to pause our busy lives and allow time to reflect on the importance of this time of year. For many, it means the gathering of family, friends and religious recognition; for others it means travel to a warmer destination; and for some it means a provision of services deemed essential to all. It is a time of year or season that we, as Prairie People witness the land at rest, the hibernation of many activities, and the opportunity to plan for next Spring / Summer, whether it be for planting, building, or charting a new course in our life's direction. And so it goes with the life journey in an ongoing quest to work, enjoy, and perhaps leave a mark or deed that makes a difference to generations that follow.

We, as a community have chosen our Resort Village to call our home. There are many scenarios that have brought us here – near Blackstrap Lake – a recreation spot close to where we work, a quiet spot to retreat from a hectic, rapidly growing city, an opportunity spot to return to or experience living in a smaller community. Whatever the case, there exists an excitement that allows for creation, participation or simply 'getting away from it all'.

There are many highlights that we have experienced this year.

- Blackstrap Provincial Park is the focus of rejuvenation, with rental cabins to be built, expanded campsites in 2014 and beyond, creation of walking trails and ski trails, and a marina.
- Brightenview, a large wholesale / retail facility ripe with the promise of amenities never thought possible for our region.
- The Cove – a café and convenience outlet long talked about in our community – congratulations and thank you to the owner group.
- The Hole in the Wall – our famous dining hot spot.
- The new homes built or being constructed within our village – welcome to our new residents.
- The new ski trail – groomed – at the Shields Golf Course
- The new and expanded families that come to join us . . . did you know that Santa visited some 54 children at our Christmas for kids event.

Council is dealing with many and increasing situations both locally and regionally. I certainly thank our Administrator, Councillors, and our staff for their dedication, and willingness to carry out and facilitate the plans and aspirations of our community. As we move forward there will be calls for input in the decision making process of various projects – we trust that this effort allows for a more clear vision for our future.

From Alice, our family and I, we wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season

Merry Christmas –

Eldon Mackay

Thank You from the Hall Committee

"Thank you to those who supported the Community garage sale on Sat. Sept. 21st. The group made \$711 which will go towards the hall kitchen improvements. We would like to extend a big thank-you to Lynn McArthur for organizing and running this fundraiser and all others that assisted.

Submitted by Judy Rathie, Hall Committee

Thank You to Dakota Dunes Community Development

A special thank you to Dakota Dunes Community Development Corporation for the special funding and grants that they have given to the Resort Village of Shields for projects this past year. It is very much appreciated. Their funding has helped in allowing the Village to host or develop the following projects or activities:

<u>Function Description</u>	<u>Funding Amount</u>
Canada Day Roundup	\$ 800
Junior Golf Lesson (Youth Golf Memberships)	\$ 600
Cross Country Ski Trail (Groomer)	\$3,000
Children's Christmas Grant	\$ 250
Total	\$4,650

The funding has assisted the Resort Village to spearhead activities, which help to lead in the building of community and physical activities for youth, senior and families within our community. Funding from Sask Lotteries was used to provide golf lessons for the Ladies.

Submitted by John Hill, Rec Board Funding Chair

News from the Golf Committee

A cross country ski groomer has been purchased for use on our golf course. Watch for updates as to when the trails will be up and running.

Don't forget golf memberships make excellent Christmas gifts. Please contact Jessie at 492-2259 or email shields@xplornet.ca to purchase. Cost is \$125.

A special thank you to all who have bought bench plaques, all golf course volunteers, committee members, golfers and Linda Ellerington who helped us with another successful year in 2013 and we look forward to another great year in 2014!

Submitted by Gary Hovland, Golf Committee

Minister Yelich Visits Shields

On January 16, 2014 at 9:30 a.m. Minister Lynne Yelich will be attending at The Cove in Shields to make some remarks about our CIIF grant funding which was used for the hall reroof and wall repair. All residents of Shields are encouraged to attend.

Councillor Holiday Wishes

May the holidays bring joy to your home, which will last all year long.

Councillor Grace Strasser and Family

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As well as in my own life, with the addition of a beautiful baby girl to our family, my time on council has also been quite busy. It has been a dynamic year and I am looking forward to the exciting year ahead. As you may have noticed, it is not only our family that welcomed a new addition lately! We have many 'new' residents and many parents on leave right now. Thus, I would like to thank Carrie Hart for taking the initiative to set up a parent and tot group. This group meets on Wednesdays from 10:30-12:00 at the hall. If you would like more information please contact Carrie at 306-717-4356.

Another important item in my portfolio is the RCMP liaison. I attend regular meetings at the Saskatoon detachment, which allows me to communicate with the administration. If you have any concerns that you would like me to bring forward to them please email them to me.

We had a quiet year on the Parks Committee (Beach and Playground amalgamation), as far as projects are concerned... I think this speaks to the wonderful job and countless hours that our volunteers have put in over the last few years! You will see some new sand coming to the playground and the beach in the spring and the addition of a toy box at each location. Plans for next year include a revitalization of Friendship Field. We are currently looking for a few more resident volunteers for this committee. If you are interested please let me know.

One of the real joys of the holiday season is the opportunity to say thank you and wish everyone the very best. From my family to yours, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Councillor Kendra Bessey and Family

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I would like to take this opportunity to welcome all our new residents to our Village in the past year! Have a wonderful holiday season with lots of fun and happiness. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Councillor Cheryl Robson and Denis Robson

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This holiday season is a special time to celebrate our family, friends and the wonderful Community that we live in. To everyone in Shields I would like to express our sincerest best wishes at this special time of year – Merry Christmas and a very healthy, joyous and prosperous New Year to all in 2014.

Councillor Dwayne Heidt and Family

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Potluck Patter

In the interest of “spicing up” our Community Potluck Suppers we are incorporating a few innovations into the future gatherings.

The Potlucks will not be held every month but only on designated dates which will be posted on the Shields website and the Village message board. The Potlucks are held on Saturdays. To give a bit more flare to the “suppers” we would like to have a bit of a “social gathering” after the meals. It could take the form of just visiting, shuffleboard games, card games or any other activity that residents would like to suggest. Also a “theme” will be considered in choosing the dates that the Potlucks will take place i.e.: Valentines, St Patty’s Day, etc. In order to accomplish this, “volunteers” will be needed, so please consider coming out to join me and help with the arrangements for these Potlucks. Over the years I have collected a lot of décor for every event of the Year and have given it to the Village for future use, so there is no cost to anyone who wants to help. I am looking forward to seeing everyone come out and enjoy these events.

Please contact Cheryl Robson (cherbear_19@hotmail.com or 306-492-2250) if you are interested in volunteering for any of the following dates:

- Feb 15, 2014 Valentines Potluck (maybe the men can cook this day)
- Mar 15, 2014 St Patty’s Potluck
- April (Easter and possible Volunteer Event) so no potluck that month
- May 10, 2014 Spring Potluck (Sock Hop)
- June, July, August Summer Break – No Potlucks
- Sept 20, 2014 Fall Potluck
- Oct 25, 2014 Halloween Howl
- November – No Potluck
- Dec 20, 2014 Christmas Potluck
- December 31/2014 Our First New Years Gala (TBA)

Thank you.

Submitted by Cheryl Robson, Shields Social Coordinator

A Note from Jessie:

Our municipality is an exciting and busy place. I note all the “thank you”s that have been included in this newsletter and it is evident that Shields is very blessed with volunteerism. I would like to thank your Council members for being active and involved with the administration of Shields and I would also like to thank our residents for being considerate and respectful of the fact that the Village Office is located within my home. I hope you have a warm holiday season and take time to enjoy the quiet moments.

Please note that the Village Office will be closed from December 24 to 27 inclusive.