



Shields News – *Winter*

editor: Debbie Heidt

Mayor's Message

As we close in on this special time of year a pause to reflect upon our good fortune to live in a community, province and country that may be the envy of so many others in our ever-changing world. Our situation in Canada is not one that should be taken for granted as our country requires the positive input of all who chose to live here in order to maintain the dream of our forefathers. Indeed, our decisions and direction to achieve the greater good for all could be termed 'living the dream'. Thank you to all that have volunteered in the many community projects; in addition, we thank our staff for their dedication and good work.

It is very reassuring to hear our new residents give praise to what attracts them to our community and to offer to help in shaping the place that they chose to live. This gives inspiration to listening and communicating through an initiative that our leader group has embarked upon over the past year. We will experience an ongoing, updated communications protocol as we move forward in 2020.

Our village communities form an integral part of our Blackstrap region as we implement new technologies. Our Dundurn Rural Water utility is using solar power to assist in reduction of costs. This initiative has proven to be a positive model that will expand the use of that technology within that utility as well as the potential adoption of solar energy in our waste water utility. In addition, the success of our joint operations team with Thode has proven to be a model that is viewed by other communities in sharing capital resources as our communities grow. The operational assets of our potable water, waste water and maintenance systems operate under the increasing regulatory legislation in order to secure safe and assured infrastructure which has added greater dependence upon qualified human resources.

At the recent Remembrance Day ceremony at 'The Base', we were reminded of the street names in our community branching from the west boundary road - Memorial Drive. The street names are those of veterans who gave their lives for the defense of our nation. Our special project this 50th year of our community was celebrated by the new street signs; there are a few more to install in the Spring.

We continue our negotiations regarding the access to pavement at #211. This venture has been influenced by pending activity at the causeway crossing and the current negotiations with the province regarding the Thode access to #211; there will be more to come!

At this time of year, Christmas concerts at our schools, kids Christmas gatherings in our communities, families making ready for Christmas hosting or Christmas travels, and the last-minute shopping for gifts is symbolic of our quest to share the joys of the season. In addition, many will acknowledge their religious beliefs and customs through attending their places of worship. To all we sincerely wish you health, happiness and safety this season and in the coming new year.

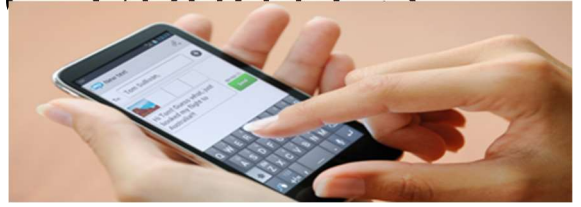
To you and yours . . .

*Season's Greetings and Happy Holidays
from Eldon and Alice Mackay*

Shields Implements 'Text Messaging'

Village Project Updates

As part of Council's commitment to keep the citizens of Shields informed and your response to the Communication Survey completed earlier this year, the Village is implementing 'text messaging' to residents who wish to receive notices and updates on operational activities via a text to their phone or device. This service works similar to text messaging used by other organizations such as the RCMP Saskatchewan Crime Watch and many retail businesses. Once you sign up for the service, you can always opt out at any time.



To subscribe and 'opt in' to receive Shields Operational Notices, follow these instructions:

- Create a new text message to **306-400-5594** (*do not include a 1*)
- Text the word **shields** (*nothing else*)
- Shortly you will receive a response text to confirm subscription, follow the instructions and reply **YES**
- You will then receive a confirmation text, no further action is required.
- You are now ready to receive text notices from the Village of Shields.

To unsubscribe at any time: Text the word STOP

Note: The texting service only recognizes the words: shields, Yes, Stop and Help. The messaging is a one-way communication from the Village to residents and does not allow for two-way communication. Do not send any messages to this number other than what has been described.

Suggestion: To easily identify incoming texts from the Village, **add a new contact** called 'Shields Text Notices' with the unique number of 306-400-5594. This number is not a phone number and is only used as the texting number for this service. Do not phone this number – no one is at the other end!

Shields Potlucks

Potlucks are back for the winter!

Who: Residents of Shields and surrounding area

When: October – March

*Every **third Saturday** of each month*

Doors open at 5:00, Supper at 5:30

Where: Shields Community Hall

Bring potluck dish, serving utensils, own plate, bowls, utensils and your choice of beverage.

Next Potluck is Saturday, Dec 21st

Hope to see you there!

Parks, Culture & Recreation Board

Children's Annual Christmas Party

The Children's Christmas Party was held on Sunday, December 16th and was a great success!! The children and parents had a fun time with crafts, games and visiting until Santa arrived. Watching the reactions and expressions from over thirty children when Santa visits with them is so special and heartwarming – it is one of the things that makes this time of year so special! Thanks to the volunteers and Santa's helpers that make this happen for the children of our Village!



Parks Culture and Recreation Board would love to hear from you and encourages you to contact any of the following:

Council Rep: Grace Strasser 306-492-3665
Golf Committee Chair: Garry Hovland 306-492-2600
Community Centre Committee Chair: Judy Rathie 306-492-4955
Parks, Beach, Playground and Ball Diamond Committee and
Sport Court Chair: Amanda Thiessen 306-361-7478
Co-Chair and Secretary Terri Pasitney 306 717-2303

Beach, Playgrounds & Sport Court Committee

Sport Court Fundraising

I cannot thank all those who have graciously given donations, helped with fundraisers, joined in fundraisers or given words of encouragement towards the Sport Court Campaign. We raised \$984 at our last sign night and thank those that could join in the fun.

Sport Court To date funds are...

Donations:	\$6,044.75
Grants:	\$10,000.00
Fundraisers:	\$23,939.60
In-kind:	\$7,000.00
Village Recreational Reserve:	\$30,000.00 (once we have raised \$60-\$70,000)
Total funds to date:	\$76,984.35
Funds needed:	\$13,230.65

Upcoming events...

- Feb 29, 2020 Blackstrap Fish Derby
- March 1-10, 2020 Go Out and Play Challenge (we can join again as we got second place and maybe secure another \$5000 or \$10000!)

What can you do to help?!

- make a donation and receive a tax deductible receipt
- ask your company for a donation (we have campaign sheets available to give out)
- come to events and show support
- help recruit for the Go Out and Play event (contact Amanda if you would like to be a team lead in this)
- log minutes for you and your family for the Go Out and Play event
- give anyone in the Sport Court Committee a high five to help encourage us to finish up the project!

Parks, Beaches and Playground

Thank you to Mike Kristoff who has volunteered to maintain ski trails once we have enough snow!

Have a wonderful holiday season. Please contact me with any questions.

Amanda Thiessen, Committee Chair
306 361 7478
amoseson@yahoo.com

Golf Committee

The golf course officially closed with greens being covered on October 19th. Food and refreshments were provided after for all the volunteers that came out. We also held a very successful work 'B' on October 24 cutting down dead trees along the #2 cart path. This has opened things up a bit and we plan to continue doing this every year as trees get older with a plan to replace them going forward.

Season passes were down this year after a record number issued last year but our course remains attractive to both residents and non-residents. It is nice to see new residents with younger families now making Shields their home and seeing them out on our golf course. The Family evening golf once a week this year was well received. Men's and ladies golf nights continue to be popular with burger/steak nights throughout the season for men and special occasion burger/steak nights for the ladies.

This was Brian Cooke's first year as greenskeeper and on behalf of the Golf Committee, would like to say thank you for a job well done as you transitioned into managing and keeping our golf course in great shape. As well, to Fred Fehr who helped us with #3 green development and also helped Brian get up and running in keeping our course ecstatically great to play.

I also have to thank Del Davies for his continued work and the dedication he has shown on beautifying our course. For those of you that do not golf you should someday plan to spend a bit of time to come down to the golf course and see the work Del has done on #3 men's T-Box, not to mention many other areas he has worked on.

He has turned our #3 t-box and #3 green into now one of our signature holes. Thank you Del for your vision and inspiration.

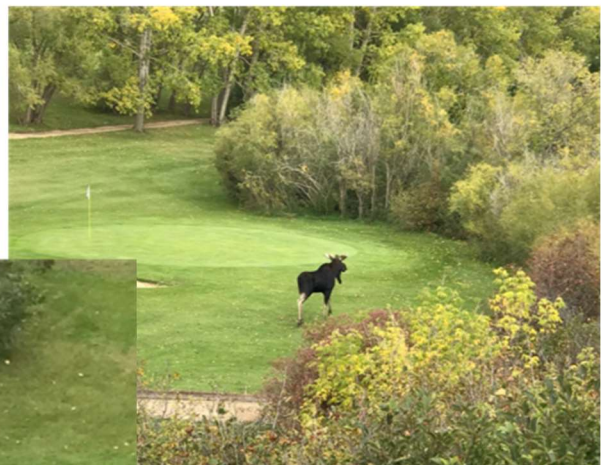
Happy Holidays and safe travels over the holiday season.

*Garry Hovland
Golf Committee Chair*

We had a few unexpected visitors this year on the Golf Course



*Just out
for
a morning
stroll!*



*Busy day at
Shields Golf,
Moose in the morning
and
Excabar the Bull in
the afternoon –
a fun day in Shields!*



*Must know the golf etiquette, was
very respectful and stayed off the
number one green!*

Wishes from your Council, Village Administration and Staff

*May the season fill your home with joy, your heart with love and your life with laughter.
Best Wishes from Jessie, Fred, Kaija, Ken and Brian*



On behalf of Norman and I, our kids, grandkids and kitties, I wish everyone the happiest of holiday seasons. As the newest council member, I am still learning every day from the other council members, volunteers, and village staff. I have very much enjoyed the past few months on council and meeting many of you. Please say hi to me when you see me and let me know how council can do the best job possible for you. While 2019 was a great year for Shields, may 2020 be even better!

*Sincerely
Lorna Ledoux*

Warmest thoughts and best wishes for a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Grace and Ernie Strasser

From our family to yours, we wish you the very best this Christmas season and that 2020 brings you continued joy, happiness, good health and prosperity!

Dwayne and Debbie Heidt

We wish you a Merry Christmas filled with family, friends, fun and a very joyous New Year.

Ryan and Terri-Lyn Pasitney and family