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December 2019

MONTHLY REMINDERS

Holiday Office Hours

The RM of Piney office will be closed for the Holiday Season from Tuesday, December 24th, 2019 to Wednesday, January 1st, 2020. The office will re-open to the public on Thursday, January 2nd, 2020.



Woodridge Dump Holiday Hours

Woodridge dump will be closed for Christmas on Wednesday, December 25th, 2019 and will re-open Thursday, December 26th, 2019 from 9:00am – 5:00pm.

Woodridge dump will also be closed for New Years on Wednesday, January 1st, 2020 and will re-open Thursday, January 2nd, 2020 from 9:00am – 5:00pm.

Council Meeting Changes

The Council Meeting scheduled for December 24th, 2019 has been moved to December 19th, 2019 at 6:00pm.

The Committee of the Whole Meeting scheduled for January 1st, 2020 has been rescheduled to January 8th, 2020 at 1:00pm.

Speed By-Law

On September 10th, 2019 the RM of Piney passed our Municipal Speed By-Law in an effort to increase safety on our municipal roads.

You may have noticed some of the new speed signs that the RM has posted on municipal roads. Please be aware of changing speed limits on our roads and follow those limits.

Drive carefully!

To view the by-law please visit our website:

<https://rmofpiney.mb.ca/by-law-132-2019-maximum-speed-limit/>

Snow Clearing Reminder



Message from RM Public Works

A reminder to all landowners, that when removing snow from your driveway to please make sure no excess snow is left on municipal roads or road allowances. When this occurs, the ice and snow become traffic hazards and make it difficult for the snow plows to clear properly.

Thank you for your cooperation!

2020 Community Grants

Event Grants: Deadline is January 10th, 2020

Large Recreation Grant:

Sprague Community Center Inc. - \$6,000.00

Cultural and Community Identity Grant:

Vassar Community Recreation Centre Inc. - \$1,000.00

Sprague & District Historical Museum - \$2,013.38

Recreation Grants for District 1:

Middlebro Parks & Recreation - \$2,034.00

South Junction Community Club - \$2,284.00

Sprague & Area Community Arena - \$3,982.00

Sprague Community Center Inc. - \$9,200.00

Recreation Grants for District 2:

Vassar Community Recreation Centre Inc. - \$8,750.00

Piney Community Centre - \$8,750.00

Recreation Grants for District 3:

Sandilands Community Organization - \$3,088.00

St. Labre 200 Inc. - \$4,250.00

Carrick Community Club Inc. - \$3,489.00

Woodridge Community Club Inc. - \$6,673.00



Municipal Emergency Coordinator

Let me introduce myself...

My name is Richard Gamble and I am the new Municipal Emergency Coordinator for the RM of Piney.

I have hit the ground running and will be working hard to familiarize myself with our current emergency measures and protocols. I can then organize and update our emergency measures to reflect our ever-changing community.

In the coming months, I will be holding public open houses to meet with the residents, to show you what we are doing and planning to ensure the protection of our community. These open houses can also be your opportunity to determine how you can become involved in the protection of our community. By working together we can overcome any obstacle. I look forward to meeting you and hearing your ideas.

As the winter season is upon us, it's a good time to review your personal Emergency Checklist to ensure you are ready for all weather conditions.

To view the Emergency Preparedness Guide, and for more information please visit the sites below:

<https://www.getprepared.gc.ca/cnt/rsrscs/pblctns/yprprdnssgd/index-eng.aspx>

https://www.hydro.mb.ca/safety/pdfs/emergency_preparedness_handbook.pdf

Are you 72 hour ready?

Here's a glance at some of the info you'll find on the 'getprepared' website...

If an emergency happens in your community, it may take emergency workers some time to reach you. You should be prepared to take care of yourself and your family for a minimum of 72 hours.

Learn how quick and easy it is to become better prepared to face a range of emergencies – anytime, anywhere. Use the guide to create your own emergency plan. Use the checklists to build a 72-hour emergency kit. These basic steps will help you take care of yourself and your loved ones during an emergency.



IS YOUR FAMILY PREPARED?



Economic Development Update

The Piney Stuartburn Economic Development Board, a joint initiative of the RM of Piney and the RM of Stuartburn, welcomes Monique Chenier as Economic Development & Tourism Manager starting November 18th, 2019.

Monique joins the team with more than 25 years of experience in marketing, communications, business development and community building with dozens of organizations in a variety of industries as both employee and consultant. She is accredited in public relations through the Canadian Public Relations Society, earned a marketing management certificate at the University of Calgary, and holds a degree from the University of Manitoba.

Monique grew up in South Junction and is a proud graduate of Ross L. Gray School in Sprague. She looks forward to relocating back to the area and working to develop the RMs of Piney and Stuartburn while still maintaining the charming rural lifestyle that is so valued by both residents and visitors.

Join us as we welcome Monique to the team!

A Message by Monique Chenier

Hello everyone, I'm the new Economic Development & Tourism Manager for the RMs of Piney and Stuartburn and excited to be moving back to my hometown of South Junction. You'll be seeing regular updates from me as we work through this new initiative.

To start, what exactly is economic development? Simply put, it is the improvement of the economic well-being and quality of life for communities, by creating jobs and supporting or growing incomes and the tax base.

To realize those big-picture goals for residents, the two municipalities teamed up to create the Piney Stuartburn Economic Development District. The PSEDD Board is comprised of two councillors of each of the two RMs – Konrad Narth and Jerry Lubiansky of the RM of Stuartburn and Mel Parent and Ken Prociw of the RM of Piney.

In my first week in the new role, I've been energized to learn about all the good work that has already been accomplished in the region. Kudos to the reeves, councillors, and municipal staff, as well as local business owners and volunteers who have made such progress to date. I will be supporting and building upon all the partnerships already created with organizations like Eastman Tourism, Triple R Community Futures, and Piney Regional Chamber of Commerce, among others.

In the coming weeks and months, the PSEDD Board and I will be working through a strategic planning process to create an economic development plan and set priorities for the coming year. Initially, we will be structuring our efforts around four pillars: tourism; existing business expansion; agriculture, forestry and industrial; and entrepreneurial activity. I look forward to meeting with local businesses and residents to continue building the area's capacity to take advantage of new opportunities while maintaining the wonderful rural quality of life we all love.

As the holiday season gets underway, let's each make an effort to invite family and friends to visit our area and rediscover the stunning natural beauty we thankfully get to enjoy every day.



CHRISTMAS
POT LUCK DINNER
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 08, 2019
VASSAR HALL – 11:30 A.M.



Everybody Welcome



Bring a pot of your favorite dish and enjoy a terrific meal. Get together with your friends and neighbours and enjoy the spirit of Christmas!

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SANTA'S ARRIVAL

1:30 P.M.



Santa will be arriving shortly after the pot luck dinner.

If you want your child to receive a gift from Santa, please have his or her gift under the tree prior to his arrival.

Santa will be distributing bags of goodies to all the children and adults present and later to the seniors.

A Special "Thank You" to the VCRC, Pine, Needles and Cones, Vassar CWL and to everyone who helped make this a very special day.

Many thanks to all who supported the Vassar Sacred Heart Church throughout the Year 2019.



**Middlebro Seniors
Traditional Christmas Dinner**

December 9th, 2019 @ 5:30 pm

To all our seniors, please feel free to invite family and friends!
Cost \$12.00 per person

To reserve your place, you must call 204-437-2378 by December 2nd

We will be having a 50/50 draw ...maximum of 300 tickets
There will be a Christmas Basket to be raffled.

Please bring one non-perishable item for our food bank!

The RM of Piney Community Christmas Hampers will be done again this year.

If you or someone you know are in need of a little help this Christmas, please contact
Vic & Shawny Prevost:
204-437-2600
vsprevo@mts.net

We are also accepting donations of non-perishable food items and monetary donations.

Donations can be dropped off at
Clearview CO-OP in South Junction

Applications will be accepted until December 12th, 2019.

Woodridge Community Centre Presents

Toy Story 4

December 15th 1:00 PM Showtime

Snacks and Drinks Included!

MOVIE NIGHT

In support of the Hall, we ask that you bring a donation of TWO DOLLARS per visitor

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT



St. Labre



Homesteading in St. Labre began in the early 1900's by French people coming from Quebec and France. Settlers made a living by logging wood for the CN railway, farming or trapping. In 1900 a sawmill was built and called "Mill of the North", which employed many people. Cream from the farms was also shipped to the Woodridge creamery via train.

The church in St. Labre was built in 1928 and still runs services. St. Labre also had one store (that closed in 1968), a post office, school, and a privately run Credit Union. In 1966 the school closed and children went to La Broquerie or Woodridge.

Baseball used to be a major sport in St. Labre. There were tournaments and teams. However, as St. Labre got bigger, the small-time community fun faded into larger-scale events. St. Labre 200, the 'award winning' go-kart building and racing competition which takes place every July at Moonshadow Holsteins farm. This event is the biggest in the RM, and perhaps the biggest of its kind in southeastern Manitoba. In September of 2019 at the 21st Manitoba Tourism Awards presentation, the event was declared the most innovative tourist attraction in the province.

Farming also employs most of the people in St. Labre today. There are close to 4000 acres being farmed, and Moonshadow Holsteins produces 2.6% of Manitoba's milk. Those living in St. Labre for the peace and quiet enjoy snowmobiling, ATV'ing, and trapping.

Jeannine Brandt and the Greniers



Monthly Meeting



WHEN: DEC 12TH, 2019 @7PM
WHERE: RM OFFICE - VASSAR, MB

Holiday RECYCLING TIPS

String Lights - Light displays are a great way to decorate and get into the holiday spirit. If you're replacing any of your lights this year, a reminder that lights do NOT belong in your blue bags. If they are still in good condition, consider donating them to a second-hand store.

Styrofoam - Over the holidays, there is going to be a lot of foam packaging (Styrofoam) with all those new purchases. In Manitoba, foam packaging is NOT accepted for recycling in your blue bags. Try to avoid using it if possible and look for recyclable alternatives when sending gifts.

Plastic Cutlery - A friendly reminder that single-use plastic plates and cutlery are NOT accepted in the blue bags for recycling. Try to avoid using them over the holiday season and try to use real dishes to serve food instead. It may take more time but the environment will thank you!

Wrapping Paper - Remember that not all wrapping paper is accepted in the blue bags. Wrapping paper that comes from a tree is accepted, but foil-lined wrapping paper and cellophane are NOT accepted. When you're wrapping gifts, keep some recyclable options in mind. Try wrapping gifts in a reusable material, such as newspaper, flyers, or cloth bags. Or, put your gift in a reusable bag so they can reuse the bag later.

One tip to see if your wrapping paper is recyclable is to crush your paper into a ball. If it stays bunched up, then it's probably recyclable!

For more recycling tips please visit: <http://simplyrecycle.ca/>

MORE EVENTS IN DECEMBER:

- Community Christmas Concert
December 1st, 2019 – Sprague Community Center
- Pine Grove Seniors Club Annual General Meeting
December 3rd, 2019 – South Junction
- Christmas Craft & Bake Sale and Christmas Supper
December 7th, 2019 – Woodridge Community Centre
- Southeast Farmer's Market
December 7th, 2019 – S.J. Pine Grove Seniors
- Wampum Lutheran Church Christmas Program
11:00am December 15th, 2019 – Wampum
- Ross L Gray School Christmas Program
December 17th, 2019 – RLG Gymnasium
- Ross L Gray School Turkey Dinner
December 19th, 2019 – RLG Gymnasium
- Sprague & Area Arena
December Opening Date TBD - Weather Permitting

UPCOMING EVENTS IN JANUARY:

- Piney Regional Chamber of Commerce
January 9th, 2020 – Council Chambers in Vassar