

The Citizen

Niverville, Manitoba

VOLUME 1 - ISSUE 1

SEPTEMBER, 2015

www.nivervillecitizen.com



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LOCAL NEWS

Niverville Splash Pad Breaks Ground

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SPORTS

Slo-Pitch Baseball Playoffs

■ Filler Text will go here. Just a little teaser from the story to get people interested. Follows with page number to direct readers.

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The Citizen Makes Summer Debut



The Niverville Citizen owners from left: Dustin Krahn, Ray Dowse, Cara Dowse and Evan Braun. ■ THE NIVERVILLE CITIZEN

Evan Braun

✉ editor@nivervillecitizen.com

If you're reading this, it means that the long wait is over. Niverville finally has a local newspaper: the newly minted Niverville Citizen.

Niverville has for many years been one of the fastest growing communities in Manitoba, and its residents have been hungry for outlets to connect with each other and share relevant local news. Facebook groups have sprung up

to fill the void, but they don't reach everyone. Niverville, with its population of nearly five thousand people, has needed a print publication to call its own.

Last year, the Talk of the Town news magazine was well-received, but unfortunately it

only stayed in print a short time. When its final issue came out this past spring, it became clear that Niverville needed a fresh voice to fill the gap.

The Citizen is a monthly newspaper serving Niverville and its surrounding area. We're thrilled to bring you this paper, beginning a new era in the way we talk about our town and interact with each other as fellow Nivervilleans.

Who are we, you might ask? Earlier this year, after nearly twenty years in the insurance industry, local businessman Ray Dowse stepped down from his position as a senior executive of BSI Insurance, enabling him to focus more time and effort on the affairs of his hometown. Together with his wife Cara, who has over fifteen years in business herself, including a recent tenure as administrator for the Niverville Chamber of Commerce, they hatched the idea of a 100% locally owned, locally operated newspaper.

Four people make up the

paper's ownership group, and all are involved in The Citizen in hands-on roles: Evan Braun, Dustin Krahn, Cara Dowse, and Ray Dowse.

Evan Braun serves as the paper's managing editor. Braun holds a diploma from Red River College's Creative Communications program, and has worked as a freelance book editor for the last eight years. He has also published three novels.

Dustin Krahn served as production manager for Talk of the Town, and he continues in that capacity for The Citizen. Owner and operator of Niverville-based Excel Graphics, a full-service graphic design and print shop serving southeast Manitoba, Krahn has a passion for getting involved in community endeavours. He also sits on the executive committees of the Niverville Olde Tyme Country Fair and the Niverville Curling Club.

Cara Dowse has taken the role of operations manager, keeping the workflows and

lines of communication moving behind the scenes. Ray Dowse rounds out the team as sales manager, the main contact for advertisers.

In order to bring you a broad range of stories, we have recruited two contributors to join our news team. Chantel Gadiant, the town's Community Services Director, is responsible for our Sports & Recreation section, and local writer comedian Matt Falk produces our monthly look at Arts & Entertainment.

In the coming months, The Citizen will strive to bring together diverse voices to lend their expertise and points of view. This venture is all about building something that the residents and businesses of Niverville will value—a community paper run by community people.

The Niverville Citizen will publish a new issue on the last Thursday of every month. See you in October!

Nice to meet you.

Jason Thompson CIP
jthompson@brioinsurance.ca
204.918.9011

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Are you an amateur (or professional) journalist?

The Citizen is committed to featuring a diverse pool of community-based writers from Niverville and the surrounding area. Do you have writing experience or a passion for local news? Do you have story ideas you'd like to see featured in the paper? Are you interested in becoming a regular contributor?

If so, we want to hear from you.

For more information, contact Evan Braun at editor@nivervillecitizen.com

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Presents cheque to Niverville Fire Dept. Deputy Chief Brad Wasilinchuk

NIVERVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Department Fundraising a Success

By Evan Braun

✉ editor@nivervillecitizen.com

For the past five years, Niverville's Fire Department has dreamed of purchasing an air bottle fill station. This summer, due to a surge of local support, that dream has become a reality.

The purpose of an air bottle fill station is to fill Self-Contained Breathing Apparatuses (SCBA), something Niverville's volunteer firefighters have never before been able to do on-site. In fact, the current arrangement had them driving all the way to La Broquerie to get their tanks filled.

Until now, efforts to raise the necessary \$40,000 have fallen short. At the start of 2015, the department was still only halfway to their goal.

However, the funds began to flow in the spring.

The fire department was selected to be the beneficiary of this year's annual Niverville Community Health Foundation banquet on April 30. At the event, the Health Foundation donated \$5,000.

After this, the floodgates opened. BSI Insurance also

came forward in April with a \$2,000 donation of their own. Country Snacks stepped up next, hosting a May fundraiser that netted another \$2,000.

In June, the department was given the opportunity to purchase the air bottle fill station at a discounted rate. With the help of a loan from the Health Foundation, the fire department ordered the compressor.

In the coming weeks, the community continued to come through. Wm Dyck & Sons held a fundraiser event on June 27, with the staff cooking hot dogs and hamburgers and selling raffle tickets. Niverville Bigway generously donated all food for the event. The final haul was in excess of \$9,000.

In July, the staff and board of the Niverville Credit Union presented the fire department with an additional \$5,000 gift.

The department is pleased to announce that air bottle fill station has now been paid in full, several years earlier than originally expected. They wish to extend their gratitude to everyone in the community who has contributed to this important project.

IN BRIEF

Mary Beth Dolin Meritorious Service Award



On April 30, at the Niverville Community Health Foundation banquet, local volunteer firefighter Gary Macdonald was presented with the Mary Beth Dolin Meritorious Service Award. Macdonald has served for 37 years with the St. James, Winnipeg, and Niverville fire departments. He has also been an instructor, examiner, and member of the Critical Incident Stress Debriefing (CISM) team for the Manitoba Office of the Fire Commissioner. Macdonald is a current board member and founding member of the Firefighters Burn Fund of Manitoba.

Local Farmers Harvesting for Food Bank

By Evan Braun

✉ editor@nivervillecitizen.com

This fall, local farmers have once again committed to donating their time and property to grow crops for the Canadian Foodgrains Bank (CFGB). The Niverville Growing Project Committee is comprised of Ken Krahn, Paul Loeppky, Scott Rempel, and Marc Loeppky. Many other farmers and input dealers have pitched in to the effort.

Two fields have been cultivated this year. The committee has planted 140 acres of corn off Crown Valley Road a half-mile west of the railway tracks, and 75 acres of soybeans off Highway 305, also west of the tracks.

In mid-September, the committee will host an on-site picnic to draw attention to the local effort. "It's important to have these events, so non-farmers can get involved and understand what these projects are about," says Marc Loeppky.

Loeppky says that he expects to have twenty to thirty volunteer farmers on hand to bring in this year's harvest.

Earlier this year, Loeppky travelled to Ethiopia as part of a tour with twelve other Canadian producers affiliated with the CFGB.

"It was phenomenal," he says. "They're trying to take some of the younger guys—in the farming world, at 38 you're still young—across the world to see things. The idea behind it is to promote the project and keep it going. What an eye-opener!"

The tour lasted from two weeks between late January and early February and proved to be a life-changing experience. "I think in general it was just seeing that what we're doing is actually making a difference. When people recognize that [the aid] is coming from the Canadian food bank, they're just so grateful. It just makes you excited about what's happening on this end."

The Canadian Foodgrains Bank has been operating continuously since 1983, formed from 15 church agencies across the country representing 30 different denominations. Their mission is to end global hunger.

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Recreation Multiplex on the Way

Evan Braun

✉ editor@nivervillecitizen.com

Earlier this year, a committee of volunteers, now known as Friends of the Plex, joined forces with Niverville's town council to assess our community's recreation needs. It can now be confirmed that a year-round recreation multiplex is on the way.

"These community volunteers have been working tirelessly on everyone's behalf," says Niverville Mayor Myron Dyck, "and I thank them immensely for spearheading the planning and construction of these important investments in the future of our community."

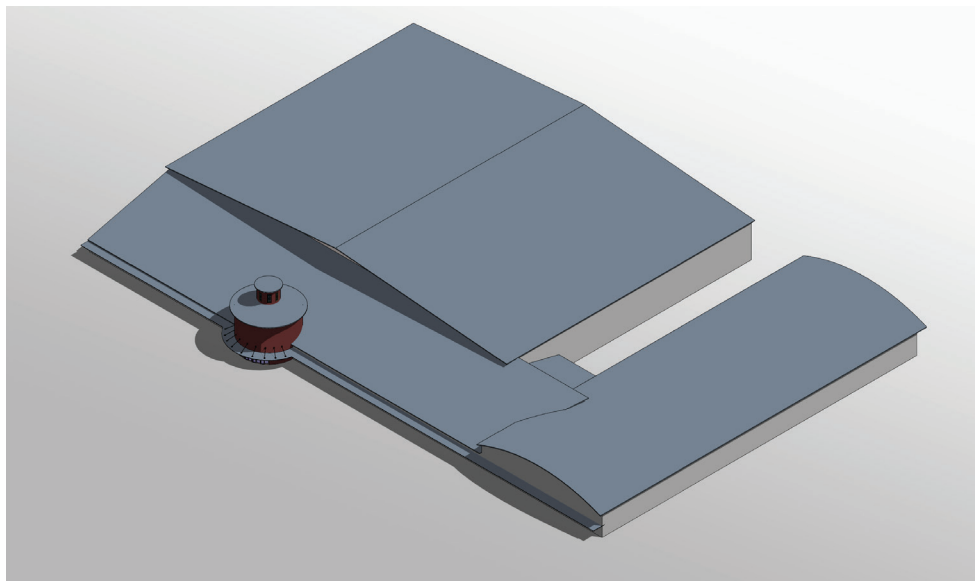
A telephone survey was conducted May 5–12 by NRG Research Group of Winnipeg. According to the data collected, Niverville residents identified three top priorities: a year-round multi-use recreation complex, a new splash pad, and a new arena. A full-scale

outdoor pool and new curling rink ranked amongst the lowest priority projects.

98 percent of respondents indicated that the year-round complex will be an important investment in the health and well-being of the next generation. New facilities such as this one are badly needed to help Niverville, one of the province's fastest growing communities, keep pace with surrounding towns of similar size.

"We've listened extensively to the community," says Friends of the Plex spokesperson Kerry Church. "We have put together a master plan that will feature a trio of year-round recreation facilities—two new and one renovated. Once completed, these public spaces will offer residents of all ages access to a blend of recreation, sport, cultural, and community amenities to meet the needs of our growing community."

The master plan remains under lock and key, but the



Proposed Niverville Multiplex Site Layout

▣ FRIENDS OF THE PLEX

Friends of the Plex have offered The Citizen a sneak peek. On the front page of this month's paper is the first artist's rendering of the complex.

Full details of the master plan will be unveiled at a

community event on Wednesday, September 16 at Hespeler Park at 7:00 p.m. That announcement will include drawings and the specific list of facilities to be housed in the complex.

All levels of government will

be asked to contribute financial support toward the project, which will also depend on private donations.

Please Join Us

As the 'Friends of the Plex' and the Town of Niverville unveil the Recreational Facilities Master Plan and break ground on the new Splash Pad.

DATE:

Wednesday, September 16, 2015

TIME:

7:00 - 7:30 p.m.

LOCATION:

Picnic Shelter
Hespeler Park Drive off of
5th Avenue South

Your attendance will be greatly appreciated!



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Weather, Competition Impact Fair Turnout

By Evan Braun

✉ editor@nivervillecitizen.com

Niverville's Olde Tyme Country Fair, held June 12-13, is always a highlight on the town's social calendar, drawing visitors from the entire southeast region.

"This year's turnout was around 7,500," says Dustin Krahn, who serves as Promotions and Sponsorship Coordinator for the Fair Committee. "Down from what we consider to be a great year, although we were happy with the attendance considering all of the competing events on the same weekend."

This year's competition came from the Red River Ex, the FIFA Women's World Cup, and Winnipeg's annual Pride Parade. In addition, a bout of rain delayed some of Saturday's marquee events, including performances by Jordan McIntosh and headliner Brett Kissell.

"Considering the gloomy forecast and the torrential downpour on Saturday, we thought the turnout was pretty good," Krahn says. "It is challenging comparing year to year, as there are always a handful of factors that are out of our control. If Mother Nature doesn't cooperate, then people don't come. It's as plain as that."

As a non-profit endeavour, the fair is considered a success if the committee is able to pay all its bills. "The fair isn't looking to make a profit, but rather recover costs. Indications are that we will fall a bit short this year. However, we aren't certain of our final numbers as of yet."

The fair is also 100 percent volunteer-driven. Many of its members work the equivalent of full-time hours to keep the Olde Tyme Country Fair one of the most anticipated events in southeastern Manitoba.

More than three hundred volunteers took to the streets this year to make the fair a success and show off our town. "We would like to thank all of our volunteers," Krahn emphasizes. "Every bit helps make it happen. It is truly amazing to see how quickly Main Street transforms into a bustling fair. I find it equally impressive how quickly it is then cleaned up and returned to normal as if nothing happened."

There are varied committee positions to be filled this year. If you are interested in helping with financial, sponsorship, entertainment, kids entertainment, or volunteer coordination, send an email to info@niverville-fair.com.

Proposed Niverville Multiplex Site Layout

FRIENDS OF THE PLEX

Imagine Run: People Making a Difference

September 26, 2015 marks the eighth annual Imagine Run to support mental health awareness.



September 26, 2015 marks the eighth annual Imagine Run to support mental health awareness. The event will kick off with a pyrotechnics display at 4:30 p.m. at Hespeler Park in Niverville, setting in motion hundreds of runners and walkers through the 5k or 10k courses. The park will host a full lineup of live entertainment, bouncy castles, a \$5 barbecue, a Chinese lantern release, and an outdoor family movie. The purpose of the event is to erase the stigma surrounding mental health issues and suicide through public awareness.

Behind this worthy cause is a group of passionate volunteers, each touched in their own way by the suffering and tragedy of mental illness and suicide.

"Imagine for me is bittersweet," says Mona Stott, co-founder of Imagine. "The process of saving lives is a constant reminder

der of my loss. It chose me. I didn't choose it."

Mona is no stranger to the pain and heartbreak of loving someone with a mental illness. Her mother battled depression through most of her adult years, as well as her husband, Jeff, in the early years of their marriage. It eventually took the life of their only son, Joey, just shy of his 25th birthday. This tragic loss finally brought the silence to an end.

Mona now talks openly about the veil that shadows depression and suicide. Mona was never told why her mother cried regularly, couldn't function normally, and was in and out of institutions. Later, too, as Jeff struggled, depression was spoken of in hushed tones. "We couldn't talk about it," Mona says. "There was nowhere to turn for help."

Until 1972, suicide was considered a criminal offence under Canadian law. The Roman Catholic Church also held a strict position on the matter, recognizing it as a mortal sin. They forbade funerals of suicide victims within their walls, and headstones were placed backwards, away from the rising sun. These ideals had a far-reaching effect, resulting in public shunning and marginalization for those affected by mental illness.

The term "committed suicide" still reflects that ignorance, bringing to mind people in healthy states of mind making choices to do harm, like committing a crime. "Died of suicide," Mona says, "is a phrase that places the emphasis where it belongs, along with dying of other forms of illness like diabetes or heart disease."

Suicide is far from the only aspect of mental health needing to be addressed. A member of the Imagine team, Deryk Loeppky diagnosed with bipolar disorder, has years of experience with a medical system ill-equipped to deal with the vast numbers of mental health sufferers. He tells of treatment centres with consistently full waiting rooms, patients being rushed through "revolving door" treatments designed to make beds available, and a lack of follow-up programs. It's not that the numbers of mental health sufferers have increased, Loeppky says, but that people are finally stepping out of the shadows.

A new billboard graces the city of Winnipeg with Imagine's simple message: "We're crazy not to talk about mental health."

On the cusp of Mental Health Awareness week and World Suicide Prevention Day, Mona, Jeff, and the Imagine team ask for this community's

help in supporting and promoting mental health.

"People make the difference," Jeff says, adding that the collective mobilization of numbers brings change, and that we must give sufferers a voice. "It begins with a ripple, and eventually every ripple reaches a shore."

How can you get involved? Help raise money for the cause, volunteer at the run, be a cheerleader for the runners along the route, and bring your family and friends to the many events planned for September 26. Throughout the year, you can talk to your children about mental health and suicide, reach out to a struggling neighbour, or offer a stranger hope.

Jeff has witnessed the impact of lives changed on a personal level. Among the handful of stories he tells is that of a father who approached him on the street after Imagine put down roots. "He told me, 'Had it not been for Imagine, my son would be dead.'"

Let's all make a decision for change by joining Jeff, Mona, and the Imagine team on September 26 at Hespeler Park.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

■ www.imaginementalhealth.com

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From Niverville to Nurburgring

By Evan Braun

✉ editor@nivervillecitizen.com

For all those who nurse seemingly impossible dreams, local race car driver David Richert is an inspiration. It's hard to imagine more unlikely beginnings for a world-class driver than growing up on a family farm in southern Manitoba, not even discovering the world of racing until his late teens. Against such odds, Richert stands tall as one of Niverville's greatest success stories.

Richert's 2015 season is drawing to a close, with just two racing weekends, and five individual races, remaining

on the schedule—at Nürburgring and Hockenheimring, both Formula One race circuits in Germany. So far Richert has claimed a first place finish in Hockenheim, Germany, taking home the Formula Renault Austrian Championship. He then placed second a week later at the Tor Poznan circuit in Poland.

Making it onto these historic tracks has required a mixture of hard work, determination, and business savvy.

"Cars and racing wasn't part of my life," Richert says. "I didn't discover driving until I was seventeen. I was all about hockey, like everyone el-



Caption text.

WWW.RICHERTRACING.COM

se. While watching television one day, I watched the Formula One Grand Prix, the pinnacle level of motorsports, and it really intrigued me. That was the

first point that really ignited something in me."

Soon after, Richert trekked down to Indianapolis to watch a race with a group of friends from Niverville. "From the upper deck, looking down at cars moving at 330 kilometres per hour, I thought it would be a heck of a lot more fun to be in those cars driving than to be in the stands watching."

The long road ahead began with a year of go-karting with the Manitoba Karting Associa-

tion based out of Gimli. "I thought it would be a stepping stone," he says. "I wanted to make it to Formula One. That was the dream I had."

Not long after attending a car racing school in Montreal, Richert was invited to participate in a test session with a professional team in the United States. In the span of a year of a half, he went from never having raced anything to driving a very quick professional racing car.

"The team owner pulled me aside and said, 'David, of those here, you have the most talent and ability.' So I'm thinking, great! I'm going to get a chance to drive." That's when Richert learned a hard lesson about the economics of the sport. He saw that without money and sponsorships, talent alone wouldn't be enough to get where he wanted to be.

"At that point, I totally turned my life around. I dropped by Blue Bomber season tickets. I stopped going golfing,

even though I loved it. I stopped going for dinner with friends. I put every last dime I had into my racing career to make it succeed."

The results speak for themselves. This year alone, Richert has raced in Italy, Belgium, Austria, the United Kingdom, Poland, Germany, and Holland. "If you want to play hockey, you play in Canada. If you want to race cars, Europe is the place to be. The best of the best drivers are there."

Compared to the big races he still aspires to, such as the Monaco Grand Prix, the crown jewel of motorsports, some of his current victories may seem small-scale. But characteristically, Richert maintains perspective. "At the end of the day, whether it's a big race or a small race, the champagne tastes the same."

For More Information

■ www.richerttracing.com



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Old Drovers Run: Relying on Town Support

It's been a long road getting here, but Old Drovers Run will soon be open for business.

By Evan Braun

✉ editor@nivervillecitizen.com

Over the last seven years, a one-hundred-acre land development project has been rising just south of the 311 Highway on the west side of Niverville. For many, it has been rising too slowly and quietly for comfort, and rumors and cynicism have abounded. But under new management, the Old Drovers Run golf course is about to come into its own.

"We actually purchased the whole thing towards the end of 2011," says Len Peters, Vice President of Sunset Estates Ltd. "This past spring, we hired a team of superintendents. They're experienced guys in golf course maintenance, and turf growing, so we can work on the most important things on the course—the greens, tees, and fairways. That's been the focus throughout the most part of the summer. And to finish out the first nine holes."

Designed by Graham Cooke International Golf Course Architects, the course has been described as being "very high in links flavour." Seven holes have been completed, and work on two additional holes is well underway.

"[Nine holes] will be playable next year," Peters says. "We had hoped to be a lot further on them than we are, because of all the rain we've had. So with good weather throughout the next two months, and one or two months into next spring, we should be starting to play the whole nine holes, hopefully by the end of June."

While the existing seven



Aerial view looking south over Old Drovers Run and The Highlands residential development.

OLD DROVERS RUN

holes were playable last year, it wasn't a finished product. The emphasis right now is on finishing them.

"With the seven that we have, we're trying to really groom them. We want the greens to be really nice, we want the fairways to be in great shape. The long grass that's growing there is native grass and just wild... The actual design of the golf course was never meant to be so punishing. The grass that we want to have growing there is going to be thin, wispy fescue. It's managed so that it's going to stay a certain height, so there's a good chance you can find your ball and hit it out of there."

Despite changes in management along the way, the overall plan for Old Drovers Run remains largely similar to when it was first begun by Kerry Church. The links are designed to be reminiscent of some of Scotland's most historic courses.

"Understand that most of the shaping of the golf course is already finished," Peters says, responding to a comment that so little of the golf course is vi-

sible from the highway. "How they're shaped and the length of them, the amount of bunkers, that's more or less cast in stone. Straight to the back. It's all done."

In addition to the golf course itself, The Highlands residential development includes 160 single-family lots and 40 that are zoned R2, meaning they're intended for duplexes. Of these, 35 lots are newly available in Phase 2 this year. When all is said and done, there will be up to 102 townhouses in the Highlands Village development, at the corner of Krahn Road and Highway 311.

"The whole province kind of slowed down a little bit, residentially, but I think we've picked up some steam from where we were last year. We've sold several lots in the second phase of The Highlands this year. We've also sold a few more townhouses. So things are picking up."

In recent years, news about the development has come out at a trickle, but Peters insists this is about to change. "We do want to be in communication with residents, with people wanting to know what's going on with the course. So we're going to be upda-

ting our Facebook and Twitter feed. We're going to be doing more posts. Like today we're seeding, so I'm going to snap a couple of pics. We want to be more community-oriented in that regard."

Peters acknowledges that in recent years communication with the town has been thin. "It hasn't been us not wanting to communicate. That's been us being a little bit apprehensive about promising one thing and then not delivering. We don't want to be liars."

Among their plans following next year's grand opening, the course will ha-

ve regular men and ladies nights, juniors events, as well as golf lessons. This fall, the course will offer free rounds of golf for town residents. "We want to introduce them to the course, in order to get positive, constructive feedback, understanding that it's not a finished product yet. But it's in pretty good shape, much better condition than it has been in the past."

In the meantime, Peters says that for all intents and purposes, it's already an operating golf course, and it needs to be treated that way. "We understand people's curiosity, of wanting to walk through there and that sort of thing. But we're having people take their dogs through, and they're digging holes in our greens and bunkers. Some dogs are making a mess. One guy drove his quad over our greens under construction."

It's been a long road getting here, but Old Drovers Run will soon be open for business. "We're trying to build a nice golf course for the town. We have no problem saying that we're going to be relying on the people in Niverville to support the course. We're not looking to Winnipeg. It needs to start from local."

FOR MORE INFORMATION

■ www.facebook.com/olddroversrun
■ www.twitter.com/olddrovers

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Niverville in Bloom

By Sylvia St.Cyr

✉ sstcyr@nivervillecitizen.com

2015 is the first year our town is taking part in the provincial initiative called Communities in Bloom.

This year's project has been headed up by our own Niverville in Bloom Committee, which includes Shirley Hoult, Annette Fast, Mona Bilodeau, and a very enthusiastic high school student, Lili Lai.

Communities in Bloom focuses on six key areas: sustainable best practices, environmental awareness, beautification, heritage presentation, education, and networking. This means that tidy lawns and a good-looking flowerbed are only part of the process.

People in Niverville of all ages have played a role. At the elementary school, students helped to build a raised garden, while the seniors at the Niverville Credit Union Manor have

created breathtaking patio gardens of their own.

Judging took place July 27. Two representatives from the Communities in Bloom committee came to Niverville to score the town overall between 1 to 5 blooms, 5 being the highest score. The judges' categories included tidiness, floral display, landscape, environmental, heritage conservation, and urban forestry.

"Once a town or city reaches 5 blooms and is deemed ready, it can compete at a national level," Hoult says.

The results won't be posted until September 12. Until then, the Town of Niverville will be giving Green Thumb recognition awards to individual residents and businesses. The winners are posted on the town's website, www.wheretheyoubelong.ca.

In the meantime, over the next few weeks, art created by the Junior Gardeners Club, the Personal Care Home, and



NEED CAPTION

✉ SYLVIA ST.CYR

Growing Minds Daycare will be displayed in the gardens behind the Heritage Centre. The art display is planned to stay up for the next two years. On your next walk around town, take a look at these creative displays.

The Niverville in Bloom Committee would like to extend their appreciation to Town Council and Niverville's residents for their support and participation in the program.

Niverville Joins the Partnership of the Manitoba Capital Region

By Natalie Batkis

✉ nbatkis@nivervillecitizen.com

In July, Niverville Town Council decided to join the Partnership of the Manitoba Capital Region. This partnership, which began in 1999, encourages communication and collaboration between Winnipeg and surrounding municipalities.

The most significant aspect of this partnership is the networking opportunities it creates between the municipalities, as well as directly with the City of Winnipeg. This open dialogue allows the Town of Niverville to learn from the successes and challenges of other municipalities in the region while working collaboratively to improve areas like tourism, environment and water quality, economic development, and transportation with other members within the capital region.

"Having a conduit to talk to the city of Winnipeg as well as with the other municipali-

ties that, should there be things that Niverville needs to have agreements with in the future as things progress, those relationships can start to build now," explains Mayor Myron Dyck.

Town Council was invited to sit in on the partnership's June meeting to assess whether joining would be of benefit to the town. The cost is about \$3,000 annually, but according to Dyck the benefits outweigh the fee.

"There are volume-buying opportunities," says Dyck. "Let's say your fire services need to buy fire department gear, for instance. Normally Niverville would place its own order, but if the capital region puts in an order, you can volume-buy, which is a cost savings to our residents."

The partnership meets six times per year. Mayor Dyck has been appointed to represent Niverville at these meetings, the first being this coming September.

More Floor in Store

By Sylvia St.Cyr

✉ sstcyr@nivervillecitizen.com

As of April 1, 2015, Wm Dyck and Sons have expanded their building center in Niverville to include a separate building solely for flooring.

What prompted an entire new center for flooring? "Our flooring division has grown extensively over the last five

or six years due to the market growth in Niverville," says Carl Fast, owner.

Carl's grandfather helped run the store all the way back to 1951, when Wm Dyck and Sons first opened. Back then, it was a small hardware store and hatchery. Twelve years ago, the store had a complete overhaul and renovations included expanding their original store.

With Niverville's incredible growth over the past couple years, stores have had to grow, too. To keep up with the demand of building new homes in the area, Wm Dycks has added a distribution yard and cabinet center in the past four years.

Flooring is a major product line for the company, and the new store allows room for mo-

re product to be displayed. This makes it easier to see what a floor might look like in your home, as the new building allows for more natural light through its many windows.

No matter how big the store gets, the store's number one concern remains their customers and always striving for excellent customer service.



Flooring store staff from left: Dan Fedoryshyn, Michele Harder, Lena Yachison, Jen MacPhee, Barb Dyck, Carolyn Turcotte, Joe Isiefson, and Lawrence Bergen.

✉ SYLVIA ST.CYR



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The Chamber Corner



Market to be part of Winterfest

Mark your calendar for Niverville's **first Winterfest & Market**, coming up on Saturday November 21st.

The chamber is currently accepting applications from vendors interested in participating in the market during Winterfest to be located in the Niverville High School gym from 10:00 am - 3:00 pm. Tables are filling up, so if you would like to book a table please contact us at nivervillechamber@gmail.com. We are seeking businesses that will have products available for visitors to take home from the market.

The chamber is planning the Winterfest & Market event along with several other community groups, including Niverville Recreation and Niverville Elementary School Parent Council. If you are a part of a community group who would like to participate in this exciting event, please contact chamber@niverville.com.

Welcome new chamber members

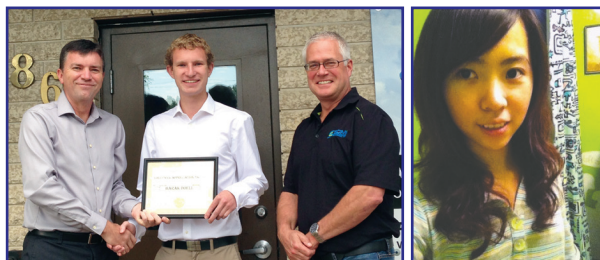
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- DONE Hair, Skin & Nails
- Niverville Pharmacy
- Peak Renovations
- 6777571 MB Ltd.
- Niverville Heritage Dental Centre
- The Chez Koop Corporation
- Soaring Heights Technology
- Brio Insurance - Jason Thompson
- Chem-Dry
- The Niverville Citizen
- Slice of Life Bakery
- Group Edge Business Solutions

Wine & cheese mixer

Business owners mark October 15 on your calendar for the chamber's wine and cheese mixer at Bronstone Event and Banquet Centre,

Volunteer of the month

Mayor Myron Dyck congratulates Barak Doell while chamber President Mel Buhler looks on. Barak was the recipient of the 2015 Grad Leadership Award and July's Volunteer of the Month.



Grade 12 graduate Lili Lai (far r) was August's volunteer of the month. She designed the logos for the Niverville Winterfest and Market and posters for A Bloomin Business and Green Thumb of the Week, as well as doing the design and layout of the Communities in Bloom booklet that was presented to the judges on their visit to Niverville. Thanks to Barak and Lili for volunteering their time to our community.

New chamber co-ordinator

Welcome to our new co-ordinator Dawn Harris. The Chamber would like to thank Cara for her many years of service to our executive board as she has gone above and beyond! We wish you the best, Cara, in your future endeavours.



President: Mel Buhler Co-ordinator: Dawn Harris
Email: chamber@niverville.com www.niverville.com

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IN BRIEF

Vacation Bible School Program



Volunteers Laureen Nickel ("Rosie Rockclimber") and Darlene ("Trek"), who presented daily skits.

303 children were registered in this year's Vacation Bible School (VBS) program. More than 90 volunteers helped make the week-long event possible. As part of their goal to have children participate in hands-on service projects, this year the kids bagged firewood that was pre-split by Teen Challenge. The 240 bags of firewood will be sold, with all proceeds going to the Teen Challenge ministry.

Next year's VBS event will be held August 8-12. Save the date!

Splash Pad Set To Open: Summer 2016

By Chantel Gadiant

cgadiant@nivervillecitizen.com

This past spring, the Niverville Town Council approved a plan to build a community splash pad in Hespeler Park. After tendering out the project, companies were able to place bids. Numerous proposals were received in June.

The 3,500-square-foot splash pad will open in summer 2016. It is located on the southeast side of Hespeler Park, between Soccer Pitch A and Baseball Diamond 4. A lot of thought has gone into the location. The area has a shelter belt of trees on the north, and the south side will be sheltered by the maintenance building.

"We see construction and completion of the splash pad as a great way to jump into and lead off a new era of development for Niverville," says Mayor Myron Dyck.

The pad is designed to awaken the imagination, encourage outdoor play, and provide a comfortable and safe area for



parents and caregivers to bring their children. The design will be bright and colourful, and be inclusive for all ages and abilities. It will feature two distinct areas of play: a toddler water play area for ages 0-3, and a family area for ages 3-12.

Features included in the toddler area are three water hoops, a Spinny Squirt, and various in-ground jets and sprayers.

The family area will include a whale (four hoops and a whale tail), a Sky-brella, two water cannons, a Mix n' Match 5 (with a Sneaky Soaker, Sunny Flower, and variety of spouts), and further in-ground jets and sprayers.

On July 30, the Canada 150 Community Infrastructure Program announced that the Town of Niverville had received \$56,405 towards building an addition to the Niverville Community Splash Pad. This building will feature male and female washrooms and change rooms, along with a canteen to provide healthy snacks.

The addition will allow more town residents and visitors to enjoy the splash pad and surrounding park.

Niverville's Recreation Director, Chantel Gadiant, would like to thank the Niverville Youth Baseball Committee, Niverville Youth Soccer Committee, Adult Slopitch League, The Niverville Chamber of Commerce, and the many local residents who wrote letters of support for the Canada 150 application.



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EVENT GUIDE

- August 29 | 1:00 p.m.–2:00 p.m.**
Heaps of Dreeps, \$20. (See article for details.)
- August 30 | 8:30 p.m.**
Niverville Movie Night in the Park—Big Hero 6, Hespeler Park, Niverville. FREE.
- September 2 | 7:00 p.m.**
Old Time Country Band, Pat Porter Active Living Centre, Steinbach. \$1.
- September 4–6**
Journees Chemin Dawson Trail Days.
- September 5 | 8:00 p.m.**
Quinton Blair (country), 4th annual Tin for the Bin fundraising social, in support of Helping Hands, Friedensfeld Community Centre. \$15 advance; \$20 door.
- September 6 | 10:30 p.m.**
Julian Austin (country), Journees Chemin Dawson Trail Days, Ste. Anne Arena. FREE. (Opening band: Crazy Madness, 8:30 p.m.) \$10 adults; \$5 kids; 5 and under, FREE.
- September 7 | 10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.**
Fall on the Farm, Mennonite Heritage Village, Steinbach. \$10
- September 9 | 7:00 p.m.**
Old Time Country Band, Pat Porter Active Living Centre, Steinbach. \$1.
- September 12 | 9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.**
Living Proof Live Simulcast with Beth Moore, Steinbach Bible College, Steinbach. \$40.
- September 16 | 6:00–8:30 p.m.**
Games Night, Jake Epp Library, Steinbach. FREE.
- September 16 | 7:00 p.m.**
Old Time Country Band, Pat Porter Active Living Centre, Steinbach. \$1.
- September 19 | 6:00 p.m.**
Turnip the Music! With the Creative Youth Council, The Rustic Wedding Barn (Highway 52 between Steinbach and La Broquerie). FREE.
- September 23 | 7:00 p.m.**
Old Time Country Band, Pat Porter Active Living Centre, Steinbach. \$1.
- September 26**
Imagine Run, Niverville. (See article for details.)
- September 26 | 8:30 p.m.**
Niverville Movie Night in the Park—Hook, Hespeler Park, Niverville. FREE.
- September 30 | 7:00 p.m.**
Old Time Country Band, Pat Porter Active Living Centre, Steinbach. \$1.
- September 30 | 7:00 p.m.**
Old Time Country Band, Pat Porter Active Living Centre, Steinbach. \$1.

Register for Fall and Winter Activities: Rec. Showcase

By Chantel Gadiant
cgadiant@nivervillecitizen.com

The seventh annual Recreation and Wellness Showcase will be held on Thursday, September 10 at the Niverville Heritage Centre, from 5:00–8:00 p.m. Come on down to register for programs, get information, speak to health professionals, and pick up a leisure guide.

The Recreation and Wellness Showcase is organized by Niverville’s Recreation Director, Chantel Gadiant, and the goal of the showcase is to promote recreation activities and overall health and wellness in Niverville.

Local sport organizations and health professionals will be in attendance to accept registrations and answer your health questions.

All town residents are encouraged to come out and register for a large selection of diver-

se fall and winter activities, and also engage with local health professionals. The adult options will include boot camps, cardio kickboxing, yoga, Zumba, first aid and CPR courses, and the Learn to Knit course, among others.

Instructors include locals Noreen Fehr (yoga) and Pearl Hiebert (Learn to Knit). Other instructors from Steinbach and Winnipeg include Deryk Tufford (Tuff-n-up Bootcamp), Sarah Abraham (Zumba), and Wayne and Charleen Pokornik (cardio kickboxing).

Children’s activities include skating, ringette, hockey, dance, music lessons, CrossFit Kids, Lego camps, sewing classes, the Canadian Red Cross babysitting course, and much more. Also featured is the Home Alone Program, which teaches children ages 9–12 the necessary skills and knowledge to be safe and res-

ponsible when home alone for short periods of time. Instructors include Deidre Perron (Canadian Red Cross babysitting course), Tanya Gerbrandt (Lego camps), and Yvonne Harder (Home Alone Program).

Join Susan Watson, Niverville’s own registered dietitian, foodie, and owner of A Little Nutrition, for a free cooking demonstration of one of her upcoming Niverville cooking classes, “Beat the Clock Dinners.” Susan will be cooking at 6:30 p.m. at the Showcase. Be sure to stop by to get a sample and register for her classes.

If you register for any Niverville Community Services fitness programs at the Showcase, you will be entered to win a free drop-in pass for any fitness program, or you could win a free registration of \$150 value for Tuff-n-up Bootcamp.

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Arena Gets a Makeover

By Chantel Gadiant

cgadiant@nivervillecitizen.com

Over the summer, the Niverville Centennial Arena has undergone a bright makeover. The Town of Niverville Operations Department and summer staff spent a week painting the arena lobby and above and around the ice surface.

Inside the ice surface area, a

fresh coat of paint was applied to the rafters, all the walls, and the bleachers. The lobby area and all dressing rooms also received a new coat of blue.

These improvements will help to ensure that the arena is in top shape for the upcoming 2015-2016 season. The Niverville Centennial Arena will be open for the season on October 13.

Public skating this year will be free for all community residents, as local businesses have sponsored the season. There will be five hours each week of public skating and Sticks n' Pucks for residents to enjoy.

Sticks n' Pucks is a program for those who want to pass a puck around or play a game of hockey. Skates, hockey sticks, and helmets are required.

For more information, including scheduled public skating hours, visit www.nivervilleleisure.com.

Whether it's for hockey, ringette, or skating, you're sure to notice the difference.

The Niverville Centennial Arena will be open for the season on October 13, 2015.

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Friday 9:30am - 5:30pm
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Sunday Closed



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Start Walking

By Chantel Gadiant

cgadiant@nivervillecitizen.com

Almost all of us have to walk a kilometre or two every day. Maybe it's just to get to your car to drive to work, or maybe you like to go for leisurely evening strolls. Whatever your level of activity, walking is a great way to keep in shape and feel better, both physically and mentally.

Let me start off by introducing myself. I'm Chantel Gadiant, the Recreation Director for the Town of Niverville's Community Services Department. I started the position in October 2014, having recently graduated from the University of Manitoba with a Bachelor of Recreation Management and Community Development. I am also a new resident of Niverville since

February 2015.

I have to say, this is my first desk job, and it has been a huge change for me. I have always been in positions that required a lot of walking with minimal sitting, and now it's the complete opposite. Over this past winter, I've noticed I've been feeling tired a lot, exhausted by 7:00 p.m.—and I don't even have children yet! So I decided I needed to start simple, and start walking.

Almost every evening during the weekday, I go for a stroll through town with my fiancé and my dog Bella. We walk the lakeside trails in Fifth Avenue Estates, gazing at the newly built houses and admiring those walkout basements. We then head to Hespeler Park... ahh, Hespeler Park! So beautiful and so big, what a view of the prairies! Our

"let's go for a quick walk" turns into an hour walk, exploring the town, greeting other walkers and joggers, and it's Bella's favourite activity!

I started to get curious with how many steps I was taking each day, so I started tracking my steps through an app on my iPhone called Moves. Now, it wasn't the greatest app, but it did the trick. In June, my friend won a Fitbit at a social she attended, and to my surprise she let me borrow it! This Fitbit has made my step count more accurate, and now I'm more aware of how many steps, kilometres, and active minutes I'm actually making in a day.

At first I averaged around 5000 steps, but I wanted to increase it to 10,000. So I made a vow to Bella that when I come home for lunch we would go for a fifteen-minute walk,

adding between 1000–1500 steps. Then I take another ten to fifteen minute walk when I get home from work to get the mail. This brought my step counts up to 8,500—still not what I wanted it to be.

Now I've been finding myself going for walks at 10:00 at night, for two reasons: I need 2000 more steps to reach my daily goal, and I actually have energy to go for another walk!

I encourage you all to start walking, use the trails and pathways, walk to the different parks, and walk to the mailbox. A ten-minute walk is better than no walk at all! What are you waiting for? Start walking.

NIVERVILLE RECREATION

Prairie Soul Dance Company Registration

Tuesday/Thursday, September 1, 3, 8, 10
10 Cedar Drive, 4:30–6:30 p.m.
info@elitefitnessanddance.com/204-388-6300

Recreation & Wellness Showcase

Thursday, September 10
Heritage Centre, 5:00–8:00 p.m.
Register for fall and winter activities

Rec Hockey Registration

Thursday, September 10
Heritage Centre, 5:00–8:00 p.m.

Niverville Skating Club Registration

Thursday, September 10
Heritage Centre, 5:00–8:00 p.m.

Red River Rage Ringette Registration

Thursday, September 10
Heritage Centre, 5:00–8:00 p.m.

Clipper Ice Sports Registration

Thursday, September 10
Heritage Centre 5:00–8:00 p.m.

Canning Workshop

Saturday, September 12
South End of Arena, 10:00 A.M.

Taekwondo

Mondays/Thursdays, 6:30 p.m.
Niverville Golden Friendship Centre
Contact: Master Funk, 204-803-5331

Dryland Training (Ages 10–14)

Starts Monday, September 14
South End of Arena, 5:30 p.m.

TUFF-N-UP Bootcamp

Starts Monday, September 14
South End of Arena, 6:30 p.m.

Cardio Kickboxing

Starts Tuesday, September 15
South End of Arena, 6:15 p.m.

Yoga

More info coming
Curling Rink, 7:00 p.m.

Learn to Knit

Starts Thursday, September 17
South End of Arena 7:00 p.m.

Canadian Red Cross Babysitting Course

(Ages 12+) Saturday, September 19
South End of Arena, 9:00 a.m.

Niverville Fall Community Garage Sale

Saturday, September 19. Register your address today:
204-388-4078 or recreation@wheretheyoubelong.ca

Home Alone Program (Ages 9–12)

Tuesday, September 22
6:00–8:00 p.m.

Cooking Class with Susan Watson

Tuesday, September 22, 6:30 p.m.
Niverville Community Fellowship
Contact: susan@alittlenutrition.com, 204-792-1893

Children's Cooking Camp (Ages 4–12)

Thursday, September 24; Thursday, October 1
South End of Arena, 6:30 p.m.

Zumba

Starts Tuesday, September 29
South End of Arena, 7:30 p.m.

Hunter Education

Saturday, October 3
South End of Arena, 9:00 a.m.

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Some Things are Best Left to the Professionals!



The Niverville Clippers (HTJHL) proudly don Imagine: Mental Health Matters! jersey patches for their 2014–2015 regular hockey season in support of Imagine's "Stop the Stigma" campaign.

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Top left to right: Andrew Neufeld (trainer), Jon Kasdorf, Colwyn Abgrall, Curtis Metzler, Joel Vermette, Colton Long, Adam Huberdeau, Dustin Carette, Zach Bembridge, Brett Rey, Dom Martens, Zach Long, Wes Fallis, and Alex Koop (GM). Bottom left to right: Mathieu Gagnon, Curtis Fallis, Josh Koop (assistant coach), Luke Toews, Denis Jeanson, Brad Wiens, Todd Anderson (head coach), David Williamson, and Travis Toews. Missing: Ashton Robert, Alex Robert, Pat Sorin, and Eric Huberdeau.

Slashing the Stigma

By Stephan Geissler

stephan@edenhealthcare.ca

The Niverville Junior Clippers hockey program is being recognized by Imagine Mental Health Matters for their contributions in raising awareness and sending the message across southeastern Manitoba to slash the negative stigma that is often attached to mental illness. The campaign has been largely successful, generating positive, open-minded discussions among players, staff, and the Hanover Tache Junior Hockey League (HTJHL) fanbase.

The partnership with the Niverville Clippers was a natural fit as it has been Imagine's goal to

reach a broader demographic, recognizing that de-stigmatizing mental health begins with educating young people.

Please join us in recognizing the Niverville Clippers for their volunteerism, patronage, and continued support of Imagine's mental health responsiveness initiatives.

The Town of Niverville is home to the annual Imagine Run where individuals race to draw attention to suicide prevention and concerns surrounding mental health. Proceeds from the event go to Imagine and Eden Health Care Services. This year, the Imagine Run will take place September 26, offering a 5K walk/run and a 10K run.

Junior Clippers Prepare for Upcoming Season

By Alex Koop

akoop@nivervillecitizen.com

The Niverville Junior Clippers would like to bid farewell to Todd Anderson as he steps

down after his fourth year as head coach. Todd won back-to-back Coach of the Year awards, guiding the team to consecutive top four finishes in his last two years.

Josh Koop has stepped in to take over head coach duties, with Alex Koop being promoted to general manager.

Tryouts for the team will start in early September. Pay

attention to the team's Twitter and Facebook accounts for more information. You need to be 17–20 years of age. If you are 21, you need to have played for the Junior Clippers as a

20-year-old to be eligible.

The team will be holding a three-on-three street hockey fundraiser on September 26 at Lucky Luc's in Ste. Agathe. Call 882-2245 with your four-man team (goalie included) to register. You must be 18 years or older to play, and the fee is \$60 per team.

In advance of the new season, the Junior Clippers are, for the first time, offering season tickets at a value of \$50 per ticket.

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Niverville, Born and Raised



Jordan St. Cyr

KEVIN BLAKE PHOTOGRAPHY

9 PROFILE | JORDAN ST. CYR

Jordan St. Cyr
Singer/Songwriter

Influences:
The Zac Brown Band,
NEEDTOBREATHE

By Matt Falk

✉ mfalk@nivervillecitizen.com

Jordan St. Cyr has had a lot of success as a musician, but he can't narrow down a highlight into a single achievement. "For me the highlight of choosing this career path has been meeting people who are on the same journey, along with feeling the constant support of friends and family at home," says St. Cyr. "It's these friendships I cherish and they are the reason I continue to pursue a livelihood in the music business."

St. Cyr says being born and

raised in Niverville was perfect for a kid who loved music. "The prairie winters were cruel and unforgiving at times. The days spent inside fostered a love for playing guitar and writing songs for hours at a time. There simply wasn't much else to do. I believe this is why so many great bands/artists have come out of this province and why Winnipeg and music are synonymous around North America."

Niverville may be St. Cyr's home, but Nashville has become like a second home for him—he's heading out there this month. While his career may lead him and his family there for a time, he says Niverville will always be his home. "We love the street we live on and the neighbors we share it with. You can't buy good neighbors these days, ya know?"

St. Cyr has created quite a wave in the music industry. He placed second in the great Canadian Song Search in Toronto and was named "one of three hot Manitoba music releases to watch out for" by the CBC.

He has a new album in the works but notes that the timing has to be right and a lot of factors play in to making it a success. "We'll have to wait and see when this will come to fruition, but I'd love to release something next year!"

These days, co-writing has been his main focus. "I've developed many relationships with artists and writers all over Canada and the U.S.," says St. Cyr. "Over the next couple months, I will be bolstering my catalogue with songs ranging from roots and country to pop and inspirational."

St. Cyr's songwriting pro-

cess always starts with a single idea. He tries to think of something that is fresh, unique, and universally understood. "I then unpack that idea and try and approach it from different perspectives. Somewhere along the line, I'll pair it with a sound and melody that I believe will suit the content." Sometimes the music will come first and inspire the words, but more times than not St. Cyr writes the other way around.

If you want to learn more about what St. Cyr is doing, you can check out his website: www.jordanstcyr.com. His latest album, "Anchors," is available on iTunes.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

■ www.jordanstcyr.com

Local Production Company Opens Doors

Matt Falk

✉ mfalk@nivervillecitizen.com

If you attended the Emergency Services Volunteer Appreciation Night last month, you may have noticed yourself tearing up because of a certain video. And if you didn't attend the event, you may have watched the video on YouTube (over a thousand people have) or seen it shared on Facebook.

The video is entitled "The Brave Ones." It was created by a local production company called Sea of Glass after they were commissioned by a Ni-

verville church to make a short video honoring local emergency services volunteers.

"We decided amongst ourselves that if we were going to do a video like this, we needed to do it right," says local filmmaker Josiah Speers. "So we went all out."

If you haven't seen the video, you might want to grab a box of tissues before you do. The eight-minute documentary-style piece showcases and honours the brave men and women who serve our community and the countless sacrifices they make.

"The biggest challenge with this project was taking all these conversations and stories, hours of footage, and making it into a complete piece," says Speers.

At the heart of every great film is a story, and that story needs an appropriate arc leading to a natural conclusion. In order to make this work, the team at Sea of Glass often needed to cut wonderful content that didn't fit into the finished piece. This can be tough. "There were some regrettably great stories and emotional moments on the cutting room floor," says Speers.

While making the project, there were several moments that took the team's breath away, some of which you can see in the final cut. "I think the experience that sent shivers down my spine as a filmmaker was getting the privilege of experiencing something with somebody for the first time," says Speers. "Walking alongside an individual as they find a piece of themselves they had never noticed before, and feel an emotion they didn't know was there." He notes it was exciting from a personal and artistic standpoint.

This film was one of the first ma-

jor projects the new production team has taken on. Through the process they learned a plethora of important lessons, well beyond movie-making technique. One of the biggest? "Learning to rely on each other and trusting the vision others on the team have," says Speers.

"You got me all sappy now!" he jokes. "It was a good experience."

The short film can be found on YouTube or on the Sea of Glass website: www.seaofglass.ca

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A Community of Belonging

Matt Falk

mfalk@nivervillecitizen.com

Last year's NCI drama, "The Beverly Hillbillies," was a huge success, drawing crowds and generating big laughs. But that doesn't happen overnight. It takes an entire school year to produce one weekend's worth of shows.

The performance is in May, rehearsals start in January, and auditions happen right before Christmas break. Even now, as the school year has barely begun, there's work being done to ensure that the NCI drama is building momentum.

Director Deanna Wiebe calls a meeting of all interested Grade 9-12 students in late September. It's at this meeting that she gets an idea of who she will be working with. "This helps me to choose the script," says Deanna.

Choosing which play to perform is one of the most critical decisions. Wiebe consistently tries to find a play that will showcase the students' strengths. It's always a

collaboration. "And once I have some ideas, I get the input from my oldest actors."

Sometimes Wiebe has an idea up to a year in advance for what show to put on. "And some years, like this year, I got nothing!"

It's not as simple as just picking a play from a pile. Wiebe works tirelessly to make sure as many students as possible can benefit from the program. "I try to never cut kids. Which is why I do huge cast plays."

There's a lot of pressure on Wiebe to continue with a program that is heavily underfunded and yet so important to the students. "Drama is without a doubt a highlight of the year for me!" says Hana Stott, one of the stars of past year's production. "It takes a lot of time to prepare a show, and despite all the obstacles that must be overcome throughout the process, it's always worth it!"

One of the obstacles the cast and crew must overcome every year is doing without the proper stage, light, and sound. "We have done amazing things with our little sta-

ge thanks to some talented set builders," says Wiebe, "but at the end of the day it's still just a hole in the wall."

There is no budget for drama at NCI. They are simply asked to function off the money they take in from ticket sales. "It's never enough," says Wiebe. "We are always in the hole." But making money is not what Wiebe is after. "The goal is to give as many kids a chance to participate as possible and to create a community of belonging where kids can feel a part of something special."

The actors are always thinking ahead too. "Next year I hope we do a comedy," says Stott. "There's nothing like hearing the audience... laughing right out of their seats."

"Kids always want to do the funny plays and get the laugh," says Wiebe. "But when we've done a more serious play and made people cry, it's been incredible."

Ultimately, Wiebe says the piece they perform is less important than the experience the kids have in creating something that commu-

nicates and connects with their audience.

The ultimate goal of the NCI drama is not just putting on top-notch performances. "I want them to walk away feeling proud and successful. And I also want the drama rehearsals to be a place where kids can connect with each other and feel good about themselves."

The students are learning a lot more than just theatrical talents. "I learned the importance of positivity, no matter what the circumstance," says Stott, "and how crucial it is to get outside of your comfort zone! That really makes the play personal for the audience."

Whatever the play Wiebe ends up choosing, we know it'll be another success, both onstage and off. If you wish to support the NCI drama program financially or otherwise, you can contact Deanna Wiebe at Niverville Collegiate Institute at 388-4731.

IN BRIEF

Heaps of Dreeps

In support of The Heart and Stroke Foundation

August 29 | 1:00 p.m.-2:00 a.m.

23022 Prefontaine Road

2 miles east of the Highway 59 turnoff

In September 2013, Drew Cook passed away from a heart attack due to a rare heart condition. His close friends put on a fundraiser the next year in his honour, called Heaps of Dreeps, raising over \$7,000 for The Heart and Stroke Foundation.

This year's event promises to be even bigger, with live music from Whiskey Talks, Brady Dyck, Jordan St. Cyr, Plain as Ghosts, Elliot Kyle, Joe Ashwell and Evan St. Cyr, Ineffable, and special guest DJs. Tickets will be \$20, but kids are free (welcome until 6:00 p.m.).

There will be food trucks, games, face paint, bouncy castles, popcorn and cotton candy, bowling, golf, and more! Attendees are asked to bring one firework for the huge display at 10:00 p.m. Space will also be available for camping.

IN BRIEF

Imagine Run Entertainment Lineup

3:00: Royal Canadian Air Forces Band
3:30: Wynford Sound
4:00: Mel Bergen
4:30: Elite Fitness
4:45: National anthem by Mel Bergen
5:00: Al Andrusco
5:30: Corny Rempel (Elvis impersonator)
6:00: Matt Falk
6:10: Brady Dyck
6:50: Matt Falk
7:00: Smoke Box
8:30: Outdoor Movie: Hook

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Construction Starts On Life Lease Project in Niverville

Heritage Life Retirement Living will be a four storey, 46 suite complex, complete with two hotel style guest suites and medical clinic. The \$12.9 million dollar residence will be the culmination of their aging in place concept which began in 2007. The structure will take up about 80,000 square feet. Suite sizes will vary from 740 square feet to just over 2,000 square feet. "Aging in place" at the Niverville Heritage Centre includes an independent living component, an assisted living component, supportive housing, personal care home and a special care unit,"

WHY LIFE LEASE?

Life-lease projects cater mainly to senior adults. They particularly provide older homeowners with an opportunity to move into smaller, more manageable housing options than their existing homes. Qualifying homeowners typically are able to use the equity resulting from the sale of their homes for the entrance fee payment. Depending upon the project, the amount of that payment is affected by various factors, including their life expectancy



Heritage Life Retirement Living Official Sod Turning June 15, 2015

Sod Turning Participants (L-R): Terry Carruthers Director HLRL, Steve Fast Von Ast Construction, Dr. Chris Burnett Niverville Medical Clinic, Steve Neufeld CEO, Myron Dyck Mayor Town of Niverville, Tom Schmitke Director HLRL, Gordon Daman Director HLRL.

and the redemption value of the unit at the end of the lease. In many cases, financing is also available for some portion of the value of the life lease.

Essentially, life lease projects provide individuals and senior aged couples with an affordable housing option with a life time right to occupy a unit and have access to communal facilities and services with the assurance that their neighbours will be in the same age group.

Tell Your Friends, Family and Neighbours about Heritage Life Retirement Living!

We deeply appreciate the incredible support we have received for the Heritage Life

Retirement Living life lease project. Already 50% of the suites have been reserved.

As we build the community that will one day be known as Heritage Life Retirement Living, we invite all of our clients to encourage their family, friends and neighbours to consider this fantastic opportunity. Have them give us a call so we explore this opportunity with them.

Let them know that now is a great time to take advantage of current pricing, selection of suite size and location. As each life lease suite is reserved, the selection and options are reduced, so call today!

Thank you!



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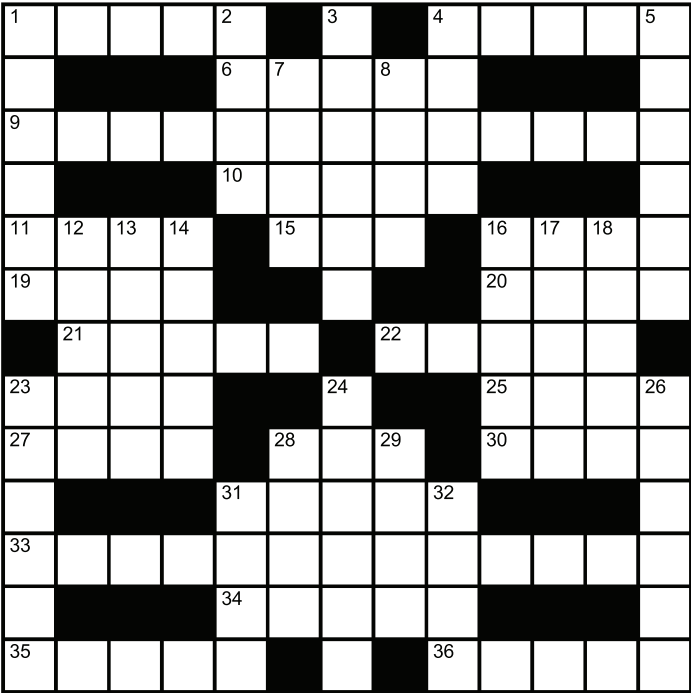
Steven Neufeld – Life Lease Representative
Email: steve.neufeld@heritagecentre.ca
Phone: (204) 388 5000 EXT 201

Life Lease Suite Pricing to go up September 1, 2015

After our recently completed appraisal for the life lease project concept, we have been alerted to the fact that our pricing structure on the Life Lease units are below market value. Because of our commitment to not to negatively affect current condo development in Niverville, as of September 1st all units will see a 5% increase on their base prices.

This is a great opportunity for those wanting to secure their suite before September 1st to take advantage of current pricing.

Tell your friends and neighbours who may be interested in Heritage Life Retirement Living to call us soon!



ACROSS
1. Examine thoroughly
4. Brushes
6. Inhabitant of Saudi Arabia
9. Self-confidence
10. Overturn
11. On the top
15. Become firm
16. Clenched hand
19. Easy stride
20. Social insects
21. Irish county
22. Friendship
23. Synchronize
25. Female name
27. Bouquet
28. Soft food for infants
30. Three at cards
31. Island in the Bay of Naples
33. Irregularly operated court
34. Rigid
35. Approaches
36. Destroy by immersion

DOWN
1. Pertaining to the post office
2. Son of Isaac and Rebekah
3. Former county in SE England
4. Grime
5. Perfumes
7. Serpents
8. Musical composition for two
12. Capital of Japan
13. Unfolds
14. Male name
16. Lacking brightness
17. Bury
18. Genre
23. Oral
24. U.S. gangster
26. California town
28. Whittle
29. Career golfers
31. Felines
32. Chilled

Recipe:
Tomato & Grilled Corn Chowder

- 4 ears corn, husked
- 1 tbsp olive oil
- 1 onion, chopped
- 2 cloves garlic, finely chopped
- 2 sweet red peppers, halved, seeded and diced
- pinch hot red pepper flakes
- 1 tsp ground cumin
- 3 c. vegetable or chicken stock
- 2 lbs tomatoes, cored, halved and chopped (about 8-10 or 796ml canned)
- 2 potatoes or sweet potatoes, peeled and diced
- salt & pepper to taste
- 2 tbsp chopped cilantro or parsley
- 2 oz grated smoked Cheddar or mozzarella

1. Cook corn directly on a hot barbecue until browned, turning to cook on all sides. Cool. Stand corn upright on a cutting board and carefully cut nobles off the cob from top to bottom. Reserve.
2. Place olive oil in a large saucepan and add onions, garlic and see red peppers. Cook on medium low heat until tender and fragrant, about 10 min. Add hot red pepper flakes and cumin. Cook 30-60 seconds. Add stock and tomatoes. ring to boil. Cook, uncovered about 15 min. Puree. Add pota-toes. Cook 15 min. Add corn and cook 5 min lover or until potatoes are tender.
3. Season soup with salt and pepper and garnish with chopped cilantro or parsley and cheese.



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