

# VILLAGE OF VILNA NEWSLETTER September, 2015

## COUNCIL NOTES

**The resignation of Councillor Stephen Klassen required the implementation of the bi-election process.**

1 nomination for was received. **Roy Dyck** has been acclaimed and will sit on Council to complete the term.

## HAPPY THANKSGIVING!!

### MUSHROOM PARK

- WOW!! We have some real go-getters in our Village who just DO to get things done - People who just see a need and really step up. Not for thanks or recognition, just for the kids, for the community..... Just Because.....

With the help, and on behalf, of the Vilna Fire Department, Kay gave up her garage and time; Jen rounded up collections (unsung heroes helped out, too) and gave of her vehicle and time. They spread the word that they were raising funds for the Park and held a garage sale every weekend for 7 weeks. By the truckload people were donating items and cash to help.

And for their **very hard** work and selfless efforts, their accomplishments so far are: Enough funds to have the Mushrooms painted (Done!!), purchasing replacement boards for the benches (not delivered yet). Still to come for next year, work on the playground equipment.

Honestly, *how* do you THANK people who just do, just because? We don't think there are enough Thank You's to pull it off, but we are SO APPRECIATIVE of their contributions to the Village as a whole.

The Vilna Fire Department purchased material to the build a gorgeous skate shack for the ice rink area in Mushroom Park. A really great job by Steph and Angie!! THANK YOU for your contributions to our community, our children, our home - and you do it.... Just Because. How awesome is it that we still have some of that old-fashioned GIVING spirit in our Village!!! Rare indeed!!

And to all of those who silently and unseen go about giving of themselves and their random acts of significance to Vilna and its folks, THANK YOU!!

**YOU ARE ALL SO APPRECIATED!!**

## REMEMBER

**Fireworks** - require a permit EVERY time.

**Burning** - No burning of garbage or yard refuse is permitted within the Village.

**Owners, whose dogs** are loose, not cleaned up after, bite, or bark excessively risk losing their cash and/or their pet. Please have consideration for your neighbors and your animal.

## WATER METER READINGS

Until the previous billing, ATCO Electric was providing water meter readings from some meters. Now, they are no longer providing that service to the Village.

**Those who are phoning in their water**



**readings are seeing a difference on their billing** (and we thank you!). We encourage you to take a water meter reading monthly to baseline your consumption of water. Otherwise an estimate will be used, or a physical reading will be taken by Village staff. An estimate can cause your bill to be higher than if a reading is called in or taken.

**Please call in a meter reading by the 28<sup>th</sup> of each month. We will need to know your name/address and the reading. Note that the black dial does not need to be read, just the white dials. Leave a message at the Village office 780-636-3620. Thank you.**

## SEWER SYSTEM

The sewer system is not for diapers, baby wipes, rubber gloves, golf balls, t-shirts, cooking fats, bottle caps, toys, pop cans, bars of soap, stuffed animals, feminine hygiene products, rocks, etc.

THESE ARE NOT MEANT TO BE FLUSHED DOWN THE TOILET OR POURED DOWN THE SINK OR INTO A DRAIN.

**All of these items have been found in the Village sewer system.**

Folks, "It" doesn't just disappear because you flushed it. You could be damaging *your* own sewer lines if you are flushing the items mentioned above - this will cost *YOU* thousands of dollars to fix. Also, if we can identify that the residents of your property are abusing the system, the landowner will be charged the costs.

Most recently, a whole avenue's sewer line was plugged with a wad of diapers and cooking fats. This cost the Village about \$10,000.00 just to clear the blockage.

Then, just a couple of days later, a diaper wound its way around the shaft of the sewer lift station pump. This destroyed the shaft of the pump. Baby wipes and rubber/latex gloves can also do this damage. This has cost the Village close to \$20,000.00 so far. Last year a similar incident cost over \$40,000.00. These are operating costs all paid by property taxes!

An upgrade of the sewer lift station will be costing approximately \$200,000.00, and should be underway shortly. This will be funded by grants.

Very expensive for something you can't even see, right?? If everyone shows responsibility and ownership for the infrastructure, it will last years longer and cost A LOT less.

Speak to your children, flush only bio-degradables, cap your drains, have back-up preventers installed in your floor drains, and STORE IT DON'T POUR IT (*no oils or lards in the drain!!*)

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION & COOPERATION**

**DID YOU KNOW?** – If there is a streetlight burned out on your street call ATCO at 1-800-668-2248 or report online at <http://www.atcoelectric.com/Services/StreetLight-Repair-Form>

### **VILNA LIBRARY**

For **Culture Days**, the Library would love to showcase your local artwork during the month of October. Please drop in Tues/Thurs 3:30-7pm and Saturdays 12:00 to 4:30pm.

**Adult Mental Health Colouring Day** is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month – This is really becoming a very popular event at the Library! Come join for a very relaxing and fun afternoon!

FROM NOON TO 4PM: Oct. 10  
Nov. 14  
Dec. 12

Beautiful Colouring Books are available at the Library.

**Lego Club** is the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of each month:

Sept 26  
Oct 24  
Nov 28  
Dec 19 FROM NOON TO 4PM

Kits are provided for the fun!



**Senior's Computer Courses** are offered regularly. Come on in and sign up. Easy to learn and fun with your peers!!

**CONGRATULATIONS!!** - TO THE VILNA AG SOCIETY AND THEIR COMMITTEES FOR THEIR OUTSTANDING WORK IN PUTTING ON TWO GREAT EVENTS – COWBOY FEST AND THE FAIR. FUN WAS HAD BY ALL

**PERMITS** – If you plan to upgrade or build on your property you must have the appropriate permits. First you will need a Development Permit approved by the Village as per the Land Use Bylaw, and then perhaps you will also need a Building, Electrical, Gas and/or Plumbing permit through The Inspections Group (our Safety Codes contractor).

If you do not have approved permits and start or complete work on your property, any work you have done may have to be changed or reversed to comply with the Bylaw or with the Safety Code, at your own cost. So, please ensure that either you have permits or confirm that you do not need them BEFORE you begin the work.

Should you do work on your property that is not under permit, it may also prevent you from selling your property because you have illegal improvements.

### **SMOKY LAKE COUNTY COMMUNITY LEARNING**

**COUNCIL** – The Fall Course and Program Guide is available at several locations in the Village, including the Village office. The Learning Council offers a very wide variety of courses throughout the County, including some in Vilna.

If someone paid you ten cents for every kind word you said about people, and collected five cents for every unkind word, would you be rich or poor?

HENRY N. FERGUSON

## **Carmen's "Scraps from the Dump"**



**Harvest season is here** and I hope that your yields are good. Garden scraps along with recyclables and burnable items are picked up each Monday until October 26<sup>th</sup>. After that, recycle pick-up will go to every 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday.

Thank you to all residents that take part in this program, but I still see lots of recyclables in the garbage on Wednesday. I would ask residents who recycle to encourage their neighbours to get with the program.

**Garbage** pick-up is on **Wednesday**. There are quite a few residents who still don't tie their bags. Please **tie** garbage bags securely before placing them **in** garbage cans. Also, the weight of the bags is usually too much for the bag and it breaks when being removed from the can. *I will not clean up the mess.* It is better to have two bags than have one that is so heavy that it breaks.

All I ask for is co-operation. Place recyclables **beside** the garbage container for **Monday** pick-up. Make garbage bags a manageable weight. Together we can make Vilna beautiful.

### **RECYCLING PICKUP –**

SUMMER – May to October = Every Monday

WINTER – November to May = Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday

\*\*\*Recycling will not be picked up on Wednesday, nor garbage on Monday.\*\*\*

**ALL GARBAGE BAGS MUST BE SECURELY TIED WITHIN CANS WITH SECURE LIDS.**

**LOOSE GARBAGE IN CANS OR CONTAINERS WILL NOT BE PICKED UP UNTIL IT IS BAGGED.**

The Vilna Transfer Station is open on Tuesdays and Saturdays from 9am to 5pm.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

*Spedden Harvest Supper – Saturday October 10<sup>th</sup>*

*Stry Ukrainian Catholic Parish at the Stry Hall -*

*November 7 - 5-7pm*

*Christmas Craft Fair November 14<sup>th</sup>*

*Vilna Veselka Dance Club Perogy Supper upcoming in November*

*Village of Vilna*

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