

To inform constituents of The Resort Village of Manitou Beach

# Manitou Matters

## Your Council Team

Mayor:

Poppy Petersen: [pgill@sasktel.net](mailto:pgill@sasktel.net)

Councillors:

Vince Armstrong: [vincentlaurencearmstrong@gmail.com](mailto:vincentlaurencearmstrong@gmail.com)

Robb LaRochelle: [manitouapis@gmail.com](mailto:manitouapis@gmail.com)

Bill Mattick: [b.mattick@sasktel.net](mailto:b.mattick@sasktel.net)

**Village Office Closed  
Monday, Feb. 20th  
for Family Day**



Facebook: Resort Village of Manitou Beach, SK-Municipal Government  
Instagram: @manitoubeachmunicipalgov

## Next Council Meeting

February 27 at 2 pm  
In gallery or via Zoom  
email office for link:  
[admin@manitoubeach.ca](mailto:admin@manitoubeach.ca)

Village Office Hours:

Mon, Tue, Fri: 9-4

**Closed to the public;**

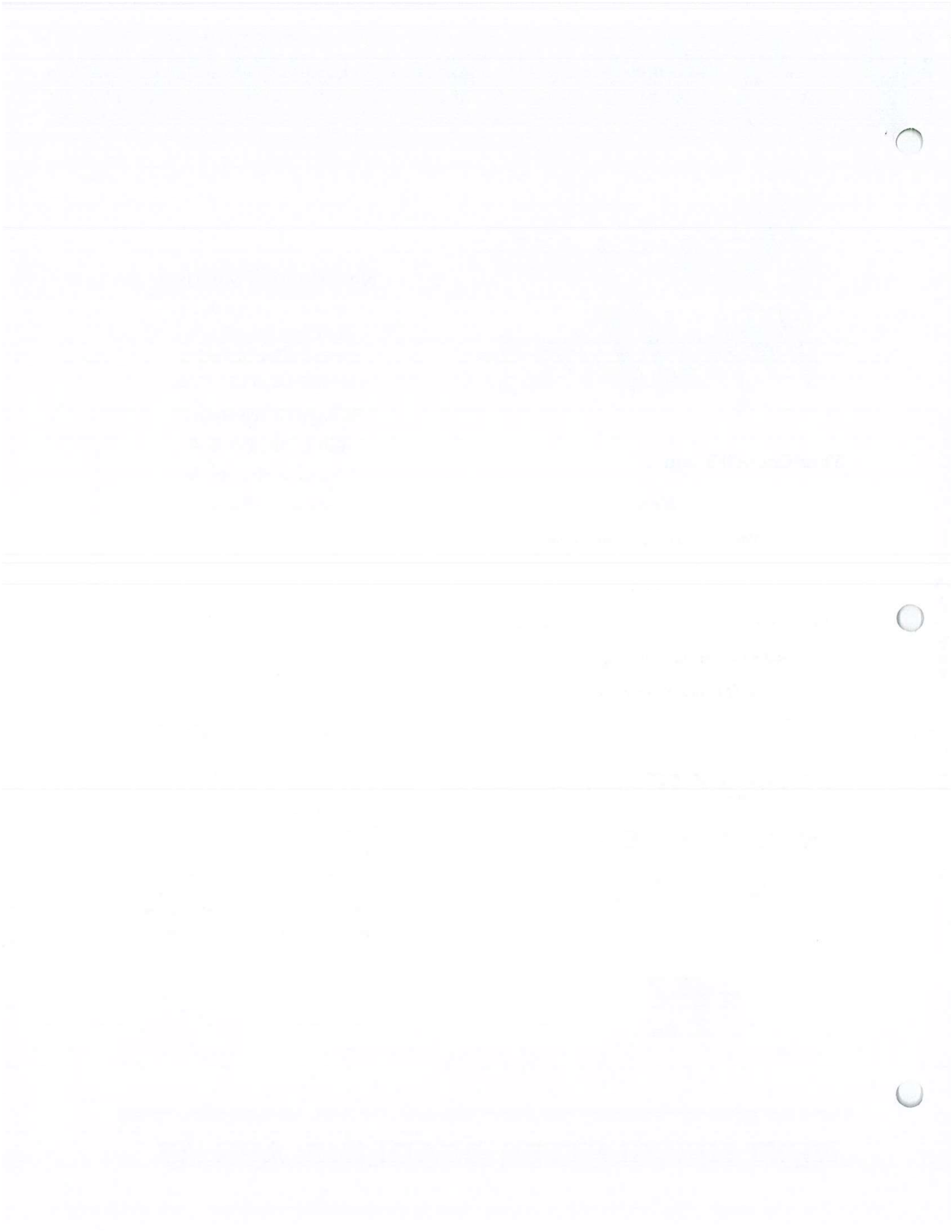
**Wed. & Thurs.**

## Your Village Office Team

CAO: Elise Dale  
Planning & Development Officer:  
David McVicar  
Foreman: Wayne Vielhauer  
Assist. Foreman: Dean Kupchenko  
Administrative Assistant: Linda Hilts  
General Labourer: Matt Somers

*Stay Salty*

**NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: APR .17**

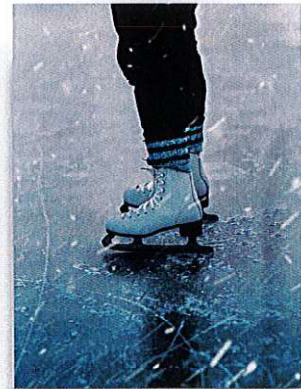


# Mayor's Message

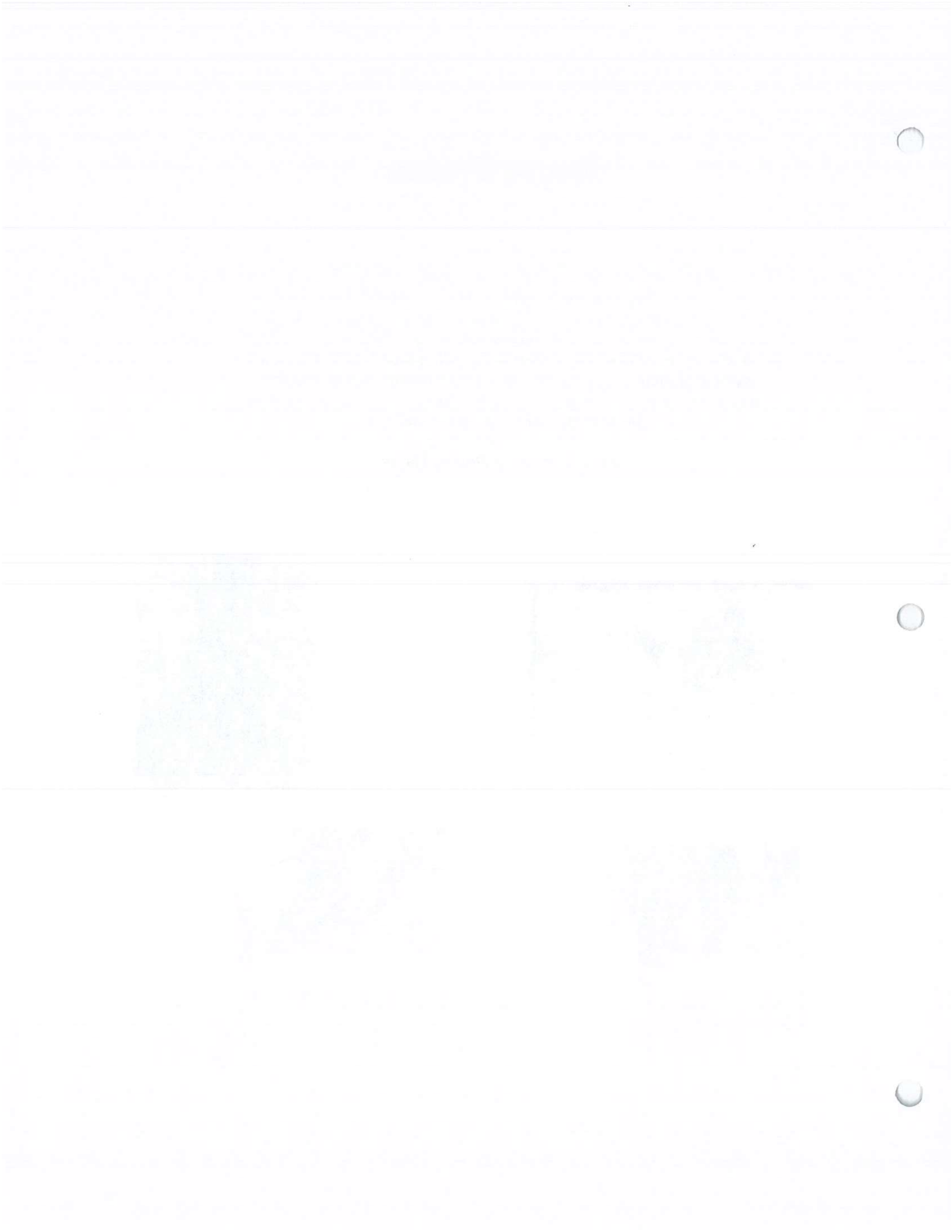
Hello to all the folks of Manitou Beach.  
We are enjoying wonderful weather for February after a very cold  
January.

I wish to thank our village staff for keeping the streets clean and  
systems functioning properly during these prairie winter months.  
From all of council, I wish for good health for all and safe journeys  
through the winter weeks remaining.

*Vince Armstrong, Deputy Mayor*



*Stay  
Salty*



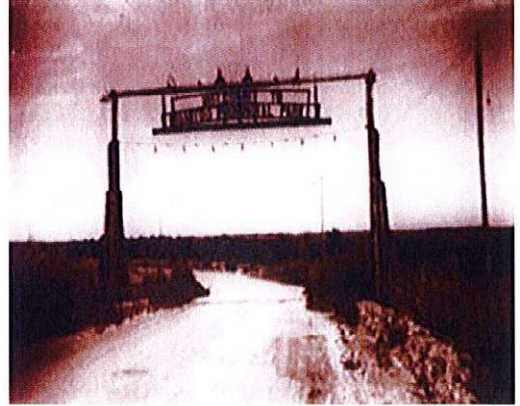
## Little Manitou Provincial Park/Camp Easter Seal

During the Great Depression, in 1931, the Province of Saskatchewan established Little Manitou Provincial Park on the west end of the village.

As a relief project to provide employment, the province hired men to construct the Chalet building, 15 stone cottages, and some campsites. In 1932, the dining hall was built. The fieldstone used in the construction was locally collected, as was the thatch for the original roof material. This project provided work for 500 men.

The chalet and cottages operated as a commercial hotel and resort. Reminisces of this era include nights of elegant balls and happy days of family holidays.

The first camp for disabled children was held in 1954, and by 1956, the Park was handed over to the Saskatchewan Abilities Council. The Provincial Park status was dropped and the camp was named Camp Easter Seal. The facilities have expanded over the years and it has provided meaningful camping experiences for many persons with disabilities, and is still in operation.



CAMP EASTER SEAL SITS ON 100 ACRES OF PROPERTY AND INCLUDES A GRAND CHALET AND DINING HALL, 14 CABINS ALL WITH HEAT AND A/C, NEWLY RENOVATED AQUATIC CENTRE, WATERFRONT AND BOATING EQUIPMENT, BUILDINGS TO HOUSE ART, SPORTS AND GAME PROGRAMMING, A MEDICAL BUILDING FONDLY KNOWN AS THE "PILLBOX" AND AN ACCESSIBLE TREEHOUSE.

Submitted by: Kathy Bergen, Watrous-Manitou Beach Heritage Centre, 403 Main Street, Watrous, SK (306-946-1177) Hours of Operation: Friday & Saturday (1:00 – 5:00 p.m.)

Paula

Stay  
Salty





# Manitou Matters chats with Debbie Farago



MM: Congratulations on being named Watrous Citizen of the Year 2022.

Debbie: Thank you 😊

MM: Your work with Interlake was very meaningful. How are you finding retirement after serving in such a powerful way?

Debbie: I've had a few health issues that hasn't helped any. I'm not overly impressed with retirement yet and I kind of expected that but I'm working on it. My health just wouldn't let me go any further and I miss going to work. But on this very cold morning I don't miss having to start the car and go out.

MM: How long have you lived at Manitou Beach and what do you reflect on in a nostalgic way?

Debbie: My parents bought a cabin in 1958 and I've only missed two summers since then. Then we retired and moved a permanent building on the site where the cabin was. I've always liked the beach, like always loved it here. So many things but I guess you can't dwell in the past. Camp Easter Seal used to have a dance in the afternoon at Danceland and all us kids would go. They had Christmas in the summer.

I've always loved loved the water. I remember getting up in the morning and sitting on the raft to watch the boats go out from the brine shrimp plant. But it was really more the guys in the boats we were interested in. We'd get ourselves set up as good looking as we could, get on our raft, while they headed out to work. Lots and lots of good memories. I loved Wellington and I still do. I think I was six when I remember having picnic lunches in the park with the Masons. We would race leaves down the stream and climb the hills.

MM: What do you most value about living at Manitou Beach?

Debbie: I most value the water. I value, by and large, our sense of community down here. I still value Wellington although it's harder for me to get in to Wellington now with walking.

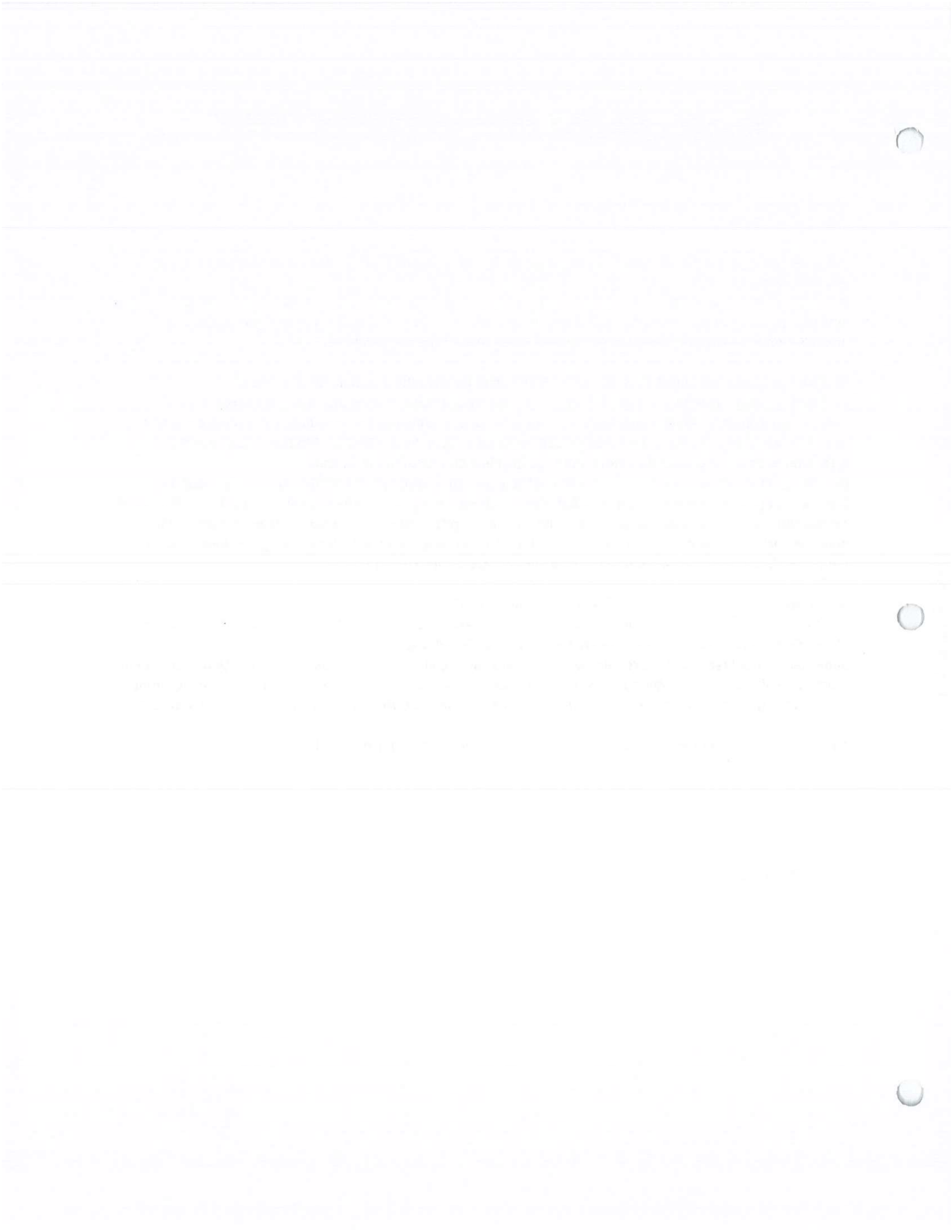
Some new things I really value are Lockwood Sourdough Bread, mmm. I love the deck at Lane's (Odas) on a sunny morning. And Sarah's at the gallery. That is like the best secret place to have a drink on a warm sunny afternoon. Going to the golf course in the golf cart is something else I really love. And the fireworks on July 1st. So special.

MM: Thanks Debbie. I love your stories. Thanks for your time and love for the beach.



Robb

Stay  
Salty





# Water Connects/Disconnects



## What's new with water connects and disconnects?

### Q. What is different this year when I get my seasonal water connected?

A. This year the village staff will no longer be connecting your water meter. You will be able to make this happen according to your schedule. It is suggested you hire a plumber, but if you are confident of your abilities you can connect it yourself.

### Q. What is this going to cost me?

A. Previously a connect or disconnect was 75\$ and included the curb stop turned on. The fee for the curb stop will be 35\$ and of course no other charge because you are taking care of the meter install.

### Q. Do I have to be on site for the water to be turned on?

A. Yes. Because of the possibility of flooding or any other unexpected outcomes, you or your agent needs to be there when the water is turned on. Could be you, your plumber or a friend. They should have access to your cabin.

### Q. Will the village be storing meters still?

A. No. It makes more sense for you to have access to your meter since you're planning the connect. The new meters can be left to freeze if the back is loosened and drained.

### Q. How does billing begin?

A. The village staff can take a picture of your photo of the meter reading. Or you can send it within 2 days to the office so the office knows when to start billing.

### Q. Do I have to pay for my meter?

A. No. You already own the meter unless you're a new service. If your meter needs servicing the village or your plumber can help.

### Q. Is it still read the same way?

A. Yes. The black meter puck is still visited and read by staff. Is your puck not easily accessible? Please contact the village. Staff and resident can work together to make that change.

### Q. Can my plumber turn the curb stop on?

A. No. The curb stop is an asset of the village and is managed only by the village.

### Q. I heard water is going up this year?

A. Yes water will be going up less than a penny a gallon. Only large water users are going to notice this difference. The rest of your bill, base rates, sewer etc. will stay the same.

Robb

Stay  
Salty



# A Vision for Manitou Beach? You bet!!

In October of 2020, council began the very long process of readdressing our Official Community Plan (OCP) to replace the outdated plan of 2013 (still available for viewing on the website). A diverse committee of constituents was struck to bring a variety of perspectives to this process. Several meetings generated a list of assets of the village. These volunteers then proceeded to advance one of these assets each, for the OCP open house. It was known at this time that this did not, by all means, include every asset to be valued but we had to start somewhere. Over the winter the members created displays including basic information of the asset and possibilities of developing or addressing the asset. In May of 2021, we were ready to present this engagement to the community. Every effort to inform the public of the opportunity before them was made, using the newsletter, the Watrous-Manitou and the Melfort radio station. For two full weekends in May, the public was invited to attend the open house of displays at Danceland. 167 people visited and all during covid protocols at the time. These displays included examples from the office administration, Communities in Bloom, the Watrous Manitou Marketing Group and the assets selected by the volunteers that included the Dog Park (under construction at the time), the Drive-In, Wellington Park, Uhmman Park, the Gravel Pits, The Pond and Trails, Art and Culture, the Lake and Health Tourism. This was followed by a survey that could be done by pen and paper but most used the QR code and responded through survey monkey. Over 60 people gave feedback and there was lots of it. This info was collated and presented to the committee. From all this information, the group created 10 values on which to create a foundation for the new OCP. They are: our citizens, serenity, privacy, the view, tourism, green space, history, diversity, the healing water, culture and arts. The group continued to meet to refine these values and is still meeting to finish this work before spring. According to provincial legislation the OCP has to be written by a professional planner, so with the help of a grant from the MidSask Municipal Alliance (MSMA) the firm of Crosby Hannah was hired to construct this document (which is currently at 43 pages) with all the feedback and values of our community. The average lifespan of an OCP is between 10-15 years. This document will serve our community as we move forward with planning, development and creativity.

Robb

- **citizens**
- **serenity**
- **privacy**
- **the view**
- **tourism**
- **green space**
- **history**
- **diversity**
- **the healing water**
- **culture and arts**

Stay  
Salty





## *Renting the Parks*

This topic was originally presented in Jan 2022.

Why is there a bylaw to book parts of the parks?? This came out of several things. Firstly, many constituents (for years) wanted some mechanism to be able to protect their special function in the park (usually a wedding).

Secondly, an unscheduled wedding that occurred in Uhmann park in 2021 resulted in frantic phone calls to get the grass cut to their satisfaction and the neighbor ended up calling in the foreman on a weekend - an extra cost to the staff and The Village. The whole scenario made it clear this couldn't happen again. Thirdly, this opportunity provides peace of mind to the renter and a minimal source of revenue as a user fee so the village doesn't rely on the general tax base to provide these special services.

What is provided when booking? The village will inspect the site to ensure it is clean and groomed to satisfaction. They will put up small signs to indicate a private event is scheduled. Afterwards any cleanup or garbage is dealt with.

The area is indicated by small signs but people are not restricted from the park in general. It is a public space. Costs vary from half day to full day or eventing. Basically a full day rental is 200\$ + 100\$ event fee. A much larger event may cost more.

Don't want to pay or book the space?? No problem. It is still an option to have your wedding or function without any of this as an obligation. You are not allowed to sign off the space but it is very possible to take your chances and gain the satisfaction you want for your special event. This bylaw provides one option, not a legal obligation. This bylaw was researched for months and was based on Saskatoon and other municipalities that have higher rental rates and contracts to sign.



*Robb*

*Stay  
Salty*



# Transparency



*What are the mechanisms instituted for transparency of decision making and governance??*

## **Council meetings are broadcast on Zoom**

Manitou Beach has joined the growing number of municipalities who broadcast their council meetings. This especially facilitates our seasonal demographic who would never have an opportunity to attend in person because of distance. Council meetings are once a month. The schedule is in the newsletter and on the website. People can always attend in person and it's best to be a delegate when petitioning council. It usually creates a better outcome for the delegate.

## **The Minutes of Council**

The agendas and minutes of council are on the Website. They are produced and written in a way to make sense and explain the village business to the reader. You will see no decision is made, or lost, without a motion thanks to the chair, the mayor.

## **The Website**

The village is planning to make the website more user friendly. A simple google search should bring you directly to the information you require without having to read full documents. Stay tuned.

## **Committee Work**

Council and administration have made efforts to create new committees and to expand existing committees in order to provide more eyes on decision making and to create a diversely informed process. It is hoped that these members will not only contribute but also serve to pass on accurate information to others.

## **The Newsletter**

The newsletter is produced every two months and could be even more frequent with more help. We are a committee of elected constituents and staff. These perspectives help create the best product. Our newsletters are long. The last one had to be compressed to send out. Lots of information out the door.

## **Town Hall Meetings**

The last two years have seen the first town hall meetings hosted at Manitou Beach. In 2021 the meeting was in the shop to help with Covid protocol. In 2022 it was at Danceland. These were well attended events. People valued being heard. **The next one is at the hall on May 6 at 7:00 pm.**

## **Staff and Council**

Not all information should be printed widely. Especially in a small community. But your staff and council can answer those difficult questions. Approach them and make your inquiry. Still not satisfied?? There's always The Local Authority Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. Transparency is big!! It's right before you.

## **Mainstream Media**

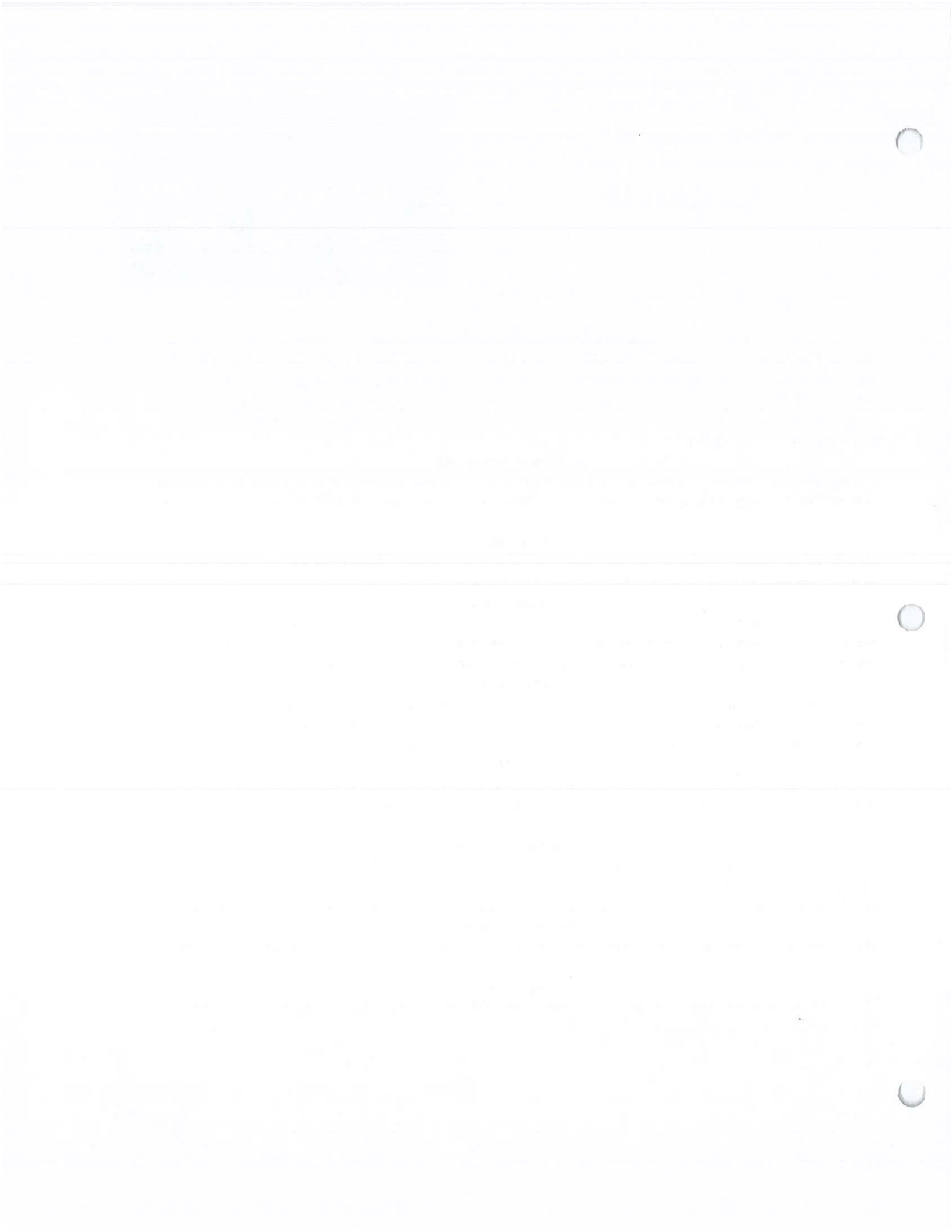
The village posts notices and other legal information in the Watrous-Manitou, radio interviews and other main stream media.

## **Social media??**

Municipalities will not engage through social media. These platforms are only used to dispatch time sensitive information like snow removal, boil water advisories, etc.

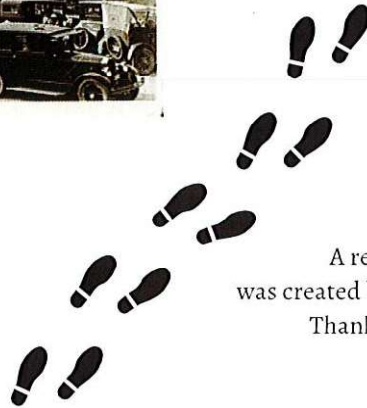
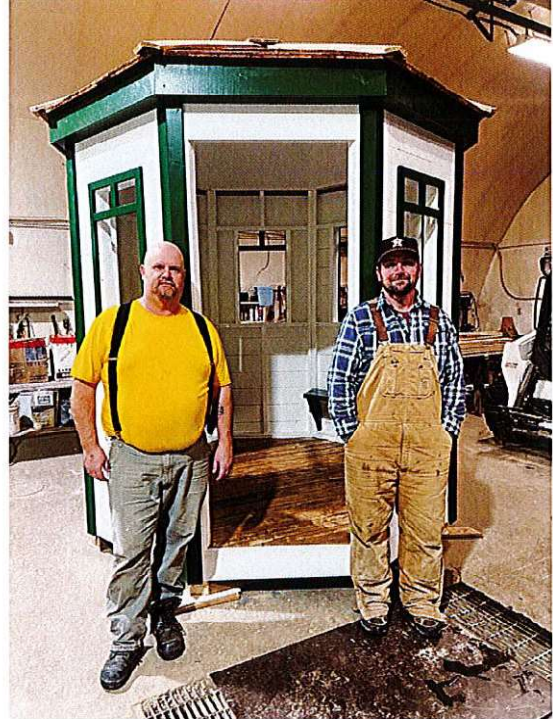
Robb

*Stay  
Salty*





*Did  
You  
Know*



A replica of the Cupola portion of the Arcade Pavilion was created by Ron, Melron Service as an addition to the walking trail. Thanks to Mike and Jason for the construction! Great job!

*Brenda*

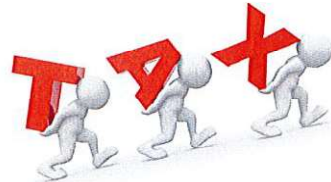
If you have a modest income and a simple tax situation for your 2022 tax return or haven't filed previous years tax returns Check the CRA website with search words "Free Tax Clinics"

or

Contact the Town of Watrous @ 306.946.3369

or

Chris @ 306.917.7866



*Stay  
Salty*



# Watrous Manitou Marketing Group

For those that are not yet aware, my name is Angie Rolheiser and I am very excited to be the new Community Development Officer for the Watrous Manitou Marketing Group.

I have met and have had the chance to have conversations with a few of the community members so far and I look forward to getting to know you all as the months go on.

I am stepping into the CDO role after a 10-year career in radio broadcasting, most recently I was working at CJVR and Beach Radio out of Melfort. Most of my time in broadcasting was spent doing news where my focus was always on community. Watrous and Manitou Beach have always been part of my coverage area and were always some of my most favourite to write about whether it was an event, featuring a local artist, or a community organization. Maybe I have even interviewed you before or met you at an event in previous years?

Promoting Watrous and Manitou Beach was already on my radar so continuing that work in a more focused way is something that really gravitated me toward this position. I have always believed Watrous Manitou to be a real gem of the province and I am thrilled to be part of the work that goes into facilitating and promoting community tourism and economic development.

There are several things that excite me about my new role and being able to connect with the community, residents, and business owners at Manitou Beach is at the top of that list. I know that the people and businesses within any community is truly what makes them tick.

I am excited to get engrained into the community as I have done in my time in Melfort. My community involvement over the years includes being part of the Melfort Kinette Club, Chase the Ace committee, Melfort Curling Club board, Melfort Arts Council, and volunteering my time wherever possible. Most recently, I graduated recruit training and joined the Melfort Fire Department.

I am no stranger to the area having grown up in the little village of Bradwell and attended school in Allan – neither of which are too far away from Manitou and I still have many family members around.

I am learning about the tremendous projects that are underway and I am eager to be part of them and as equally eager for summer at the beach and all the great events that are set to happen. My husband Jeremy, and our two children Paisley (9) and Teddy (6) are also very excited for what lies ahead for our family.

I hope that absolutely everyone feels free to reach out to me at anytime.

Angie Rolheiser

Community Development Officer

Watrous Manitou Marketing Group

Box 730, 404 Main St.

Watrous, SK S0K 4T1

306.917.7300



*Stay  
Salty*



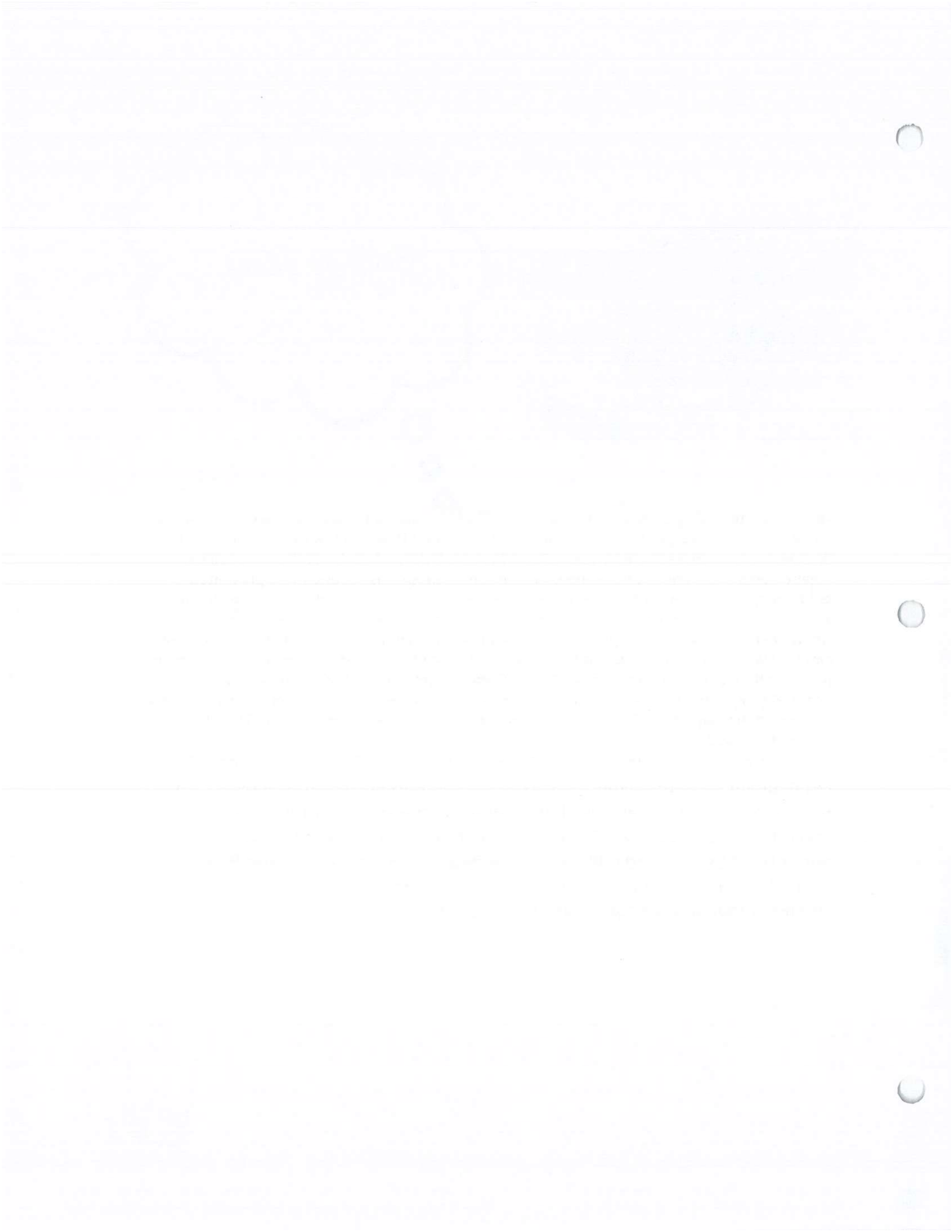


The bylaws the Village works within are from 2016. These are the laws set before us, and to follow. In many cases, it works, but one challenge is that there is little to no discretionary decision making to be made by council within these bylaws. In spite of that, council has legally approved many creative and non conforming proposals. Council was presented a building application of a container home a couple of years ago. The plans were professional and the applicant seemed competent. But we didn't hear from them after approval. Another situation was the approval of a combination commercial/residential on the row of empty lots across from the spa on Watrous street. The plan involved a commercial space on the main floor and residential above. Council was excited about it and couldn't say no especially since the feedback from the community plan meetings with residents had already generated the same idea. The applicants ended up buying a seasonal facility. Glad they're here in that capacity.

Another non conforming approval was a house to be built smaller than the legal minimum in the bylaw. It was a challenge to make it fit the bylaw. In the end the builder realized, that to increase the size to fit the minimum, served their purpose too. Administration is looking at potential changes to our current bylaws and will regard feedback from the Community Plan Committee and the public in general. Manitou Beach is a creative place and shouldn't look like a cookie cutter community.

Robb

*Stay  
Salty*



# Recipes

## Rhubarb Juice

6 cups Diced Rhubarb

12 Cups Water

1 Cup Sugar

Combine rhubarb and water.

Bring to boil;

reduce heat and simmer 10 Minutes or until rhubarb is soft.

Strain.

Return juice to saucepan add sugar.

Bring to boil. Stirring until sugar is dissolved.

Store in sterilized jars.

Mix with Sprite, orange juice or enjoy by itself.



Linda

## Council Meeting Dates for 2023

Join via Zoom  
Jan/Feb /Mar  
meetings will  
be exclusively  
on zoom

February 27, 2023

March 20, 2023

April 24, 2023

May 15, 2023

June 26, 2023

July 24, 2023

August 21, 2023

September 18, 2023

October 23, 2023

November 20, 2023

December 18, 2023



All are scheduled to start at 2:00 pm

If you wish to participate via Zoom, email  
admin@manitoubeach.ca the day of the meeting to receive  
a link.

Stay  
Salty







## *Horace's Coffee Shop In which Beach people gather for coffee for better or worse.*



---

Horace's Coffee Shop is an imaginary gathering place for sundry folks from all over the Beach and its environs. Some say that the coffee is very good indeed. Horace never has to look up to know who came in. He runs tabs willingly, posting the totals on an old fashioned blackboard on the wall near the WEAR EVER pot for all to see.

---

5.

In their customary spot next to the only window in Horace's Coffee Shop, Arnold, Buster and Iva were more animated than normal this morning, punctuating comments with pointed fingers and dramatic sighs meant to express impatience. Belinda was standing there too. Belinda Martel never wanted to miss out on a good disagreement. She had a coffee mug, brimming, in one hand and a bagel in the other.

Horace walked by just then with more bagels and mugs on the tray balanced near his ear. He was not sure he had heard Iva Prendergast right. Belinda took the opportunity to scoop another bagel.

"Who what? Somebody cursed in here?" Horace demanded.

"No, not cursed, cursive," Buster volunteered.

"Who did what?" Belinda asked.

"Nobody did anything," Arnold said.

"Not cursed, cursive," Iva said.

"Cursive what?" Belinda added, stumbling a bit over the word.

"The what is cursive?" Buster explained.

"Who's cursing?" Horace asked from behind the counter.

"No, not who, what. It's what we were talking about," said Iva.

"What?" Belinda repeated. She was getting into her second bagel now.

"Cursive. We're talking about cursive writing," Buster said impatiently.

"What about it?" Horace asked.

"Young people don't do it," Buster said.

"Young people can't do it," Iva declared.

"So what?" said Belinda.

"Why?" Arnold asked.

"Why what?" Horace asked, still behind the counter. He was marking down with chalk Belinda's second bagel.

"Who knows," Iva declared. "Probably computers."

"Who cares," Horace said, passing by them yet again on his way with a tray of coffees for four people sitting near Belinda near the door.

"Hard to say who cares," Buster suggested. "Certainly not young teachers," he added. "Why?" Iva asked.

"Can't close classroom doors these days," Buster said and then he got up to refill his cup from the always full pewter WEAR EVER pot near the counter.

Horace marked down Buster's third cup on the board.

*Stay  
Salty*



**Rec Board  
Potluck on  
February 19th  
at 6 pm  
Community Hall**

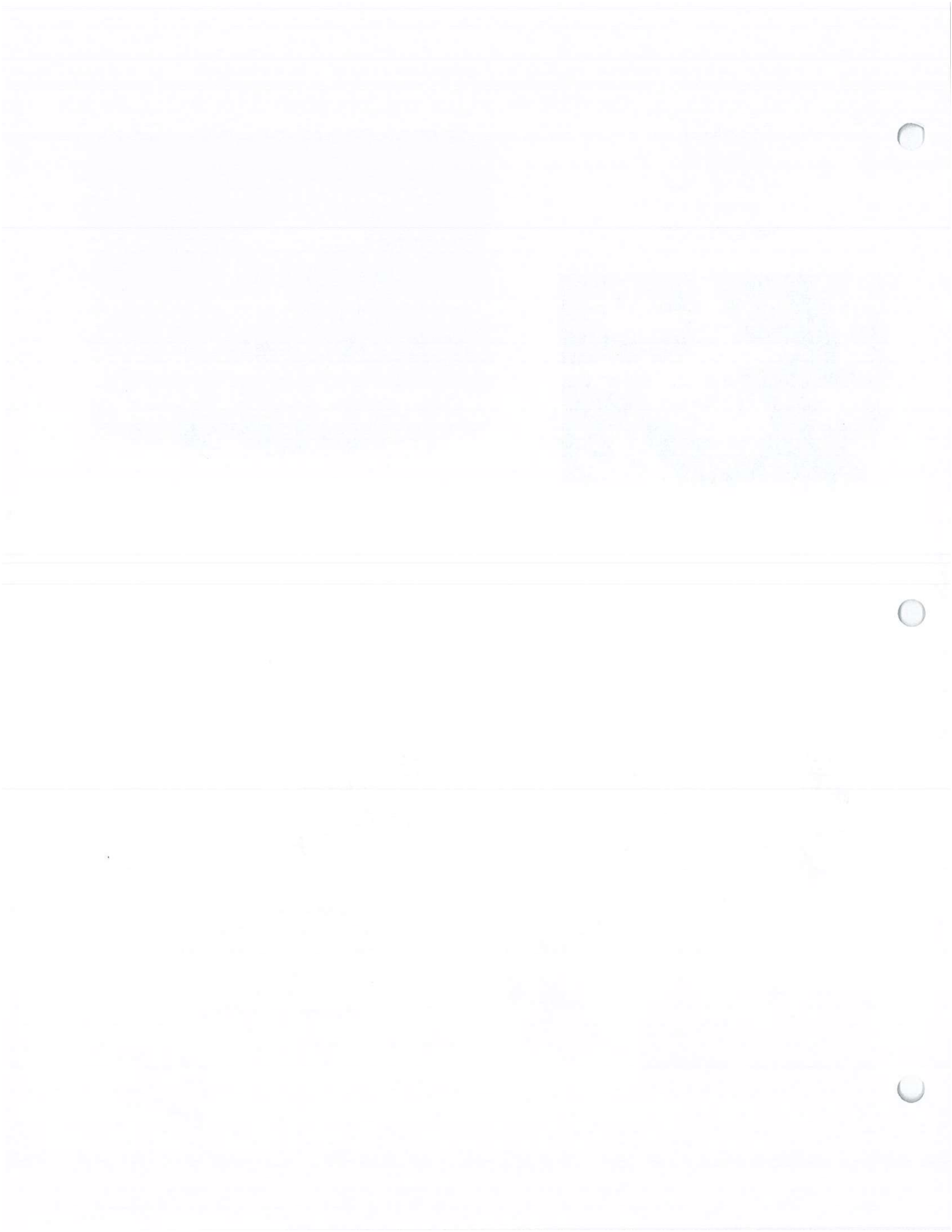


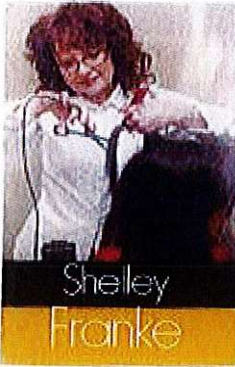
## *Newsletter Contributions*



We always welcome your articles, pictures and ideas for the newsletter. Write yourself into the story. Send any submissions to [admin@manitoubeach.ca](mailto:admin@manitoubeach.ca)

*Stay  
Salty*





## Shelley's Hair Studio

408 Elizabeth Ave. Manitou Beach

text or call  
306-757-7772

Unisex haircuts, perms, color  
on Facebook Hair Extensions by Shelley



Dr. Sussanna Czeranko, ND

- Naturopathic Medicine
- Health Education Centre
- Healing Retreats
- Art Studio & Classes

306-946-4266  
205 John St. Manitou Beach

info@manitouwaters.com www.manitouwaters.com

## Little Manitou Art Gallery

Sarah McKen

306-759-7889

Follow us on Facebook!  
LittleManitouArtGallery.com  
Sarah@LittleManitouArtGallery.com

204 Elizabeth Ave.  
Manitou Beach, SK  
S0K 4T1

## Art, Antiques & Things Unique at Beautiful Manitou Beach

Open May through October



We Buy-Sell-Trade & Appraise Year Round

Arnie Tiefenbach - 306-999-0429

Eric Uphill - 306-946-9922

96 MacLachlan Avenue, Manitou Beach, SK, CANADA S0K 4T1

## Manitou Taxi



SERVING WATROUS,  
MANITOU BEACH  
AND AREA

WARREN BRADLEY • 306-917-9998

## G-G's Gallery & Gifts

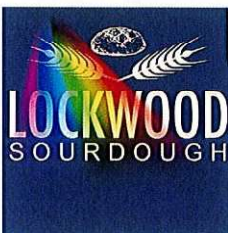
309 Evenson Ave  
Manitou Beach, SK.  
S0K 4T1  
Ph: 306-917-7719



Sharon Gibson  
Michael Gaudet  
Proprietors

Facebook.com/GGsGalleryandGifts

'A GR8 Place 2 B&C'



## Sisters Family Camp

Cabin Rentals



Vince: 306-419-9455

Dec: 306-419-9454

215 Watrous Street

Manitou Beach, SK

www.sistersfamilycamp.ca

sistersfamilycamp@gmail.com



SAMUEL J.  
BERGERMAN, J.D.  
Real Estate Business Personal

BERGERMAN  
SMITH  
LAWYERS

306.974.4990  
BERGERMANLAW.COM



## Supporting Local Businesses

The back page of the newsletter is dedicated to our local businesses. Submit a business card/business card size of print. Submission must be ready to print. No prep work provided. Let's see if this little support helps our local businesses.

Stay  
Salty



Faint, illegible text or markings located in the middle-right section of the page.



Faint, illegible text or markings located in the lower-left section of the page.

Faint, illegible text or markings located in the lower-right section of the page.

