

# The Innisfree Informer



## Innisfree Mayor's *Message in a Minute*

I would like to thank Naomi for reviving The Innisfree Informer again. It also has a great fresh look. I look forward to reading our local news and upcoming events.

The Village Council have decided is in the best interests of our residents and staff to close the Village Office and public access to the public works. Our staff will continue to monitor essential services and work from home as much as possible. In case of emergency, Brooke can be contacted at: 780-581-3380.

Many meetings and public activities have been cancelled. It is best to contact someone in these areas before venturing out. By limiting these commitments, we will be following the social distancing to help end the spread of this virus.

With these uncertain times it is important to think about others. Limit contact with others to safe distances. Perhaps you can help a neighbor by picking up or sharing supplies. If you are feeling unwell, isolate yourself or seek medical help with a call to Health Link #811, for advice.

We are all in this together, and by cooperating and being considerate of each other, I believe we will come through these uncertain times healthier and stronger. Thank you for your support.

Respectfully, Debbie McMann, *Village of Innisfree Mayor*

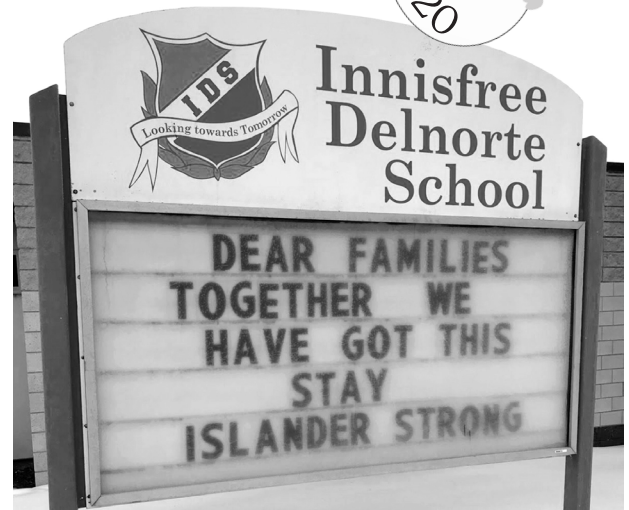
## Innisfree ECS News

The Innisfree ECS started their Spring fundraiser planting tomatoes and have gotten them transplanted! Due to the unforeseen circumstances of COVID-19 we will not be having our annual fundraiser. Instead each of the students are picking up a few tomatoes and get to care for them at home. We will still update the community at the great job the kids are doing taking care of their plants.

If you have a little one age 4 by Sept 30, 2020 or age 5 by Dec 31, 2020 email: [innisfreeecs@gmail.com](mailto:innisfreeecs@gmail.com) to enroll your child for pre school or kindergarten!

We plan to have our registration night on April 15, 2020 in the kindergarten room of the millennium building at 7 pm. Hope to see you and your little one there!

If the community is still practicing social distancing at this time we will do online registration. Our AGM is set to be held on June 1, 2020 at 7 pm for all new members to the Innisfree ECS.



## Love From Delnorte School *Families...*

Together we will work through this time, this event, this mess.... What is this anyways? We left on Friday playing Pi Day activities, laughing, thinking together, eating... and our next visit was for you to collect your bagged and boxed up belongings.

Many of our kids are ones who need/ want hugs and we couldn't. We tried to make jokes about everything that was happening to reassure you that we will ALL be okay. We saw your eyes. We felt your concern even though words were not spoken. Love to you all.

**Stay Islanders Strong.**

## News from the Innisfree Seniors

The Innisfree Seniors met March 10th and elected the executive for this year. President is Tom Johnman, Vice president is Robert Patterson, Secretary is Alice Sydora and Treasurer is Debbie McMann.

The coffee times on Monday, Wednesday and Friday morning have been well supported this past year. Thank you to our friends for their support.

With the requirement of social distancing, we have closed the seniors drop-in centre until things turn around and we will remain closed for some time. This includes coffee, bingo, pool and any rentals. Thanks for your understanding and we all look forward to things returning to healthy times.



Delnorte Innisfree school was the recipient of Corteva Community Futures Grant Program, the money will be used towards the Breakfast & Hot Lunch program in the school. Lisa Anderson, local Pioneer Hi Bred Rep made the presentation on February 28th. Thank you for your Donation Lisa!

The local community has received over \$10,000 in funds from Corteva/Pioneer Hi Bred over the last few years, through the Community Investment Fund facilitated by local Pioneer Hi Bred Rep. Recipients' include Delnorte Innisfree School, Mannville School, Innisfree ECS & Millennium Build Kitchen upgrade.



Thank you to Thomas Johnman, president of the Innisfree Senior Citizen Association for thinking of us! Your team of seniors felt a \$1000 donation was exactly what we needed and you weren't wrong! BIG thumbs up! Thank you from all of us!

## Innisfree 4-H Multi-Club Report

We are postponing all upcoming meetings and activities for the time being. We are sad that we may not get to finish the year but we had a lot of fun.

We did some fun crafts and had fun fieldtrips, such as Glow in St. Albert. We also planned the Hollywood themed District Dance. We made Chicken and Dumpling Soup in Foods for one of our meetings.

We held our Club Communications in February with Kim Feschuk and Madison Isley as our MC's. Everyone did a good job and we had Travis Feschuk, Cameron Mercer, Boe Myshaniuk and Tristan Neil move onto Districts.

We will keep everyone updated.

## Egg Hunt Planned *Submitted by Bobbi Bouchier*

I found an idea online that sounded fun: a clover hunt! On March 17 I enlisted the help of my sister in law Skylier to post some clover posters around town.

We posted 15 clovers (had 4 casualties never saw those 4 again!) My children and I set off searching all over town looking to spot the clovers. They were all so engaged and really enjoyed it so it's great fun for all ages!

We decided on April 13 we will do the same thing but with Easter eggs instead of clovers. This will be posted to Facebook and would we love to see pictures of your children doing the hunt and letting us know how many they find!

All the egg posters will be placed in view of the roads or back alleys so if people want to do it from their vehicles they can. Please remember we are doing this as a fun activity for social distancing - so - doing it with friends and touching the papers would defeat the purpose.



## Library News

PLEASE BE ADVISED The Government has issued a notice to all Public Libraries in Alberta that we are to close our doors to the public. Effective immediately, we will be closed until further notice. This includes postponing any planned programming. Our headquarters has also suspended our van run delivery.

Due dates on all items taken out have been reset to May 31 and there will be no late fines accrued during this closure period.

This is a great opportunity to use some of the free online resources we have available that are included in your membership. You can visit our website at:

[www.innisfreelibrary.ca](http://www.innisfreelibrary.ca) to see what there is. Magazines, books, movies, curriculum study guides and kids 'live' books are only a few of the great resources available.

I will be periodically checking voicemail and email so please contact me with any questions. 780-592-2122 or [librarian@innisfreelibrary.ca](mailto:librarian@innisfreelibrary.ca)

We will keep you updated as we get more information. Thank you for your understanding.

Thank you, Marilyn Newton, *Library Manager*

## Chudovyi Ukrainian Dancers of Innisfree

*Submitted by Marilyn Newton, President*

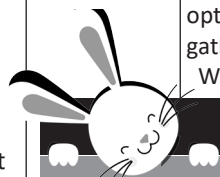
The Chudovyi Dancers attended the Culture Fuze festival in Camrose at the beginning of March, where our dancers had a lot of fun and were able to show off their hard work. All of our groups did very well and went on stage trying their hardest and having fun. It was wonderful to see our dancers shine on stage and for the dancers and parents to experience so many styles of Ukrainian Dance and see a variety of costumes and choreography.

Our dancers scored a variety of medals and personal bests, with our Intermediates bringing home a Bukovinian gold and our Baba's with Brooms a gold and once again a Best Performance ribbon. We are extremely proud of all of our dancers and our instructor.

With the recent outbreak of Covid-19, we have decided to cancel our upcoming classes. As of now, the Year End Concert set for April 19 is on hold. We are looking into other date options, but unfortunately there may not be one this year, depending on the social gathering restrictions as we move into Spring.

Watch the May Informer for any Year End Concert information.

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[peaceofmindhw@hotmail.com](mailto:peaceofmindhw@hotmail.com)  
Peace of Mind Health and Wellness

**Village of Innisfree Library**

## Library Hours

Wednesday  
1:00pm - 7:00pm

Thursday  
12:00pm - 6:00pm

Friday  
10:00am - 3:00pm

**780-592-2122**





## Happy Birthday!

March 6: Bobbi Bouchier  
 March 31: Cecil Paranych  
 April 1: Conna Warrilow  
 April 5: Garth Broadhead  
 April 11: Julie Warrilow  
 April 12: Catalina Mercer  
 April 12: Doug McEwen  
 April 14: Kurt Hennig  
 April 16: Shaelynn Boere 18th!  
 April 17: Katrina Hennig  
 April 21: Lisa Anderson  
 April 22: Teagan Axten  
 April 22: Dorathy Hennig  
 April 22: Shirley Nott  
 April 22: Leighton Phillips  
 April 26: Calvin Broadhead

## Happy Anniversary!

March 14: Bobbi & Ryan Bouchier  
 April 26: Kurt & Shirley Hennig  
 April 29: Gayle & Doug Foyster  
 April 29: Mike & Shelly Nott



Is someone special  
celebrating in May?

Send in your  
MAY Birthdays & Anniversaries!

Please send birthday or anniversary  
names and dates by April 22 to wish  
your loved ones a special day!

Email to:  
innisfreeinformer@gmail.com

## Innisfree-Minburn 4-H Beef Club Report

Submitted by Brad McLaughlin, Club Reporter

The Innisfree-Minburn 4-H Beef Club held its March meeting on March 4, 2020 at the Minburn Curling Rink. After the meeting we were shown how to make a rope halter and one of the better methods of tying a calf to a post. We each got to make out own rope halter.

The Minburn district held the District Public Speaking on February 29, 2020 at the Innisfree Rec Center. 3 of our members spoke at the competition; Tyson Rudolf, Camille Kassian and Brad McLaughlin. Camille and Tyson both moved on to the Regional Public Speaking competition which was to be held in Portage College in St. Paul on March 21, but was cancelled due to the Covid-19 virus.

Also cancelled was the District Curling which was to be held on March 22nd in Innisfree, and District Dodgeball on March 28th in Vegreville. We were really looking forward to those fun activities.

On April 17 our club is going to visit the Lakeland Animal Health Center and Vermilion Packers for a behind-the-scenes look at their operations for our club field trip.

Our next meeting will be held at the Innisfree Millennium Building on April 15, 2020.

## M.M.I.F.C.S.S. Programming Updates

Mannville Minburn-Innisfree Family and Community Support Services along with its connected programs Yellowhead Community Support Society and Parent Link Program is following the direction of Alberta Health Services and Health Canada, which is the authority on COVID-19 [novel coronavirus].  
[www.alberta.ca/covid19](http://www.alberta.ca/covid19)

Although necessary precautions can take place, recommendations relating to social distancing and numbers of participants may be more difficult. It is in the best interests of our community that programs be postponed until further notice.

This includes but is not limited to:

- Seniors SMILE -Community Ageism Workshop -Parent Link/VIBE
- Inspire+You- -Parent Link-Red Wagon Play Group
- In-school programs: Babysitters Course, Money Mentors;
- Risk Awareness - It Can't Happen To You
- Distribution of Volunteer "Notices" Thanking Volunteers for Chip 'In

**Seniors Income Tax Day** – April 1st FCSS will be in contact with those of you who have been scheduled for an appointment, to make alternate arrangements.

**Meals on Wheels** – will continue for those already on our list. Any new requests will be screened prior to delivery. This is subject to change with any new recommendations from Alberta Health Services.

Please email [mmifcss@mannville.com](mailto:mmifcss@mannville.com) or call our office @ 780-763-3005, should you have questions regarding our programs and services. Please continue to watch our facebook page for updates. FCSS encourages you to follow Covid-19 prevention procedures and self-isolation guidelines.

## EVENTS CALENDAR

Please send your event info (name, date, location) by April 22 to be included in the May Calendar of Events

# ATB

**ATB INNISFREE**  
*has temporarily*  
*reduced hours:*  
**10:00 to 3:30**  
**Monday to Friday**

*Thank you*

**Ranfurly Happy Days Playgroup** had a great group of families attending this year. We had a Christmas concert and celebrated Valentine's Day. Unfortunately playgroup is cancelled until further notice due to the current situation.



**ADVERTISING SPACE AVAILABLE**  
 starting @ \$5.00. Please email for  
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 non profit groups.  
[innisfreeinformer@gmail.com](mailto:innisfreeinformer@gmail.com)

# Farm Wife Diaries... What Can I Say?

by Deb Barber

I had something I wanted to chat about, but it seems to have fallen right out of my head! It could be that my mind is simply overwhelmed with all the data and information pouring in about the coronavirus and the minute to minute changes that are occurring in our lives.

We have been bombarded by massive amounts of information and it is a full-time job to weed our way through it to decide what is truth and what could be panic driven hearsay. Regardless, whatever the outcome we are faced with disconnecting from the life we have come to know and accept for an unknown period of time.

But is it all bad? Not to diminish anyone who is fighting their way through the virus, but for those of us who are simply self isolating in order to keep this monster at bay perhaps this is not a bad thing. Other than the fear driven tactics that have caused worldwide shortages of hygiene products (what are people thinking)?

We live in such a busy world and I mean busy to the maximum, between trying to fit 60 hours of work into 40 hour work weeks, the normal household and yard chores we've decided that we want to give our children (and grandchildren) the very best up bringing that we can! This includes such extra curricular activities like sports, 4H, music, swimming and dance to name a few. And within those activities each hosts practises, games and competitions. We now use daily planners to try to determine how we will take Peter here, pick up Paul and get Susie to the dentist on time! We have alarms, phone apps, calendars hanging on the fridge and at the end of the day each and everyone of us is exhausted.

Am I saying this is bad, certainly not! However, maybe we just needed something to slap us up the side of the head to remind us that in all the activities we are pursuing we are missing some of the fundamentals of family life.

When was the last time we sat down at a table together for a home cooked family meal? Or went on a hike, road trip or even snowmobile ride together with our loved ones? Could the coronavirus actually be the disconnect to reconnect virus? A simple reminder that every now and then we need to totally unplug from this busy world we live in and reconnect with family and friends?

Suddenly there is an outpouring from people reaching out to each other. The young asking the older generations "Can we do something for you?" Pick up groceries or a prescription? Maybe can we shovel your walk or take your dog for a walk? Can we go get your mail or mail something for you? Isn't it rather astonishing that while stepping away, we are better able to step up?

For anyone who is dealing with this disease either personally or via a family member my heart does reach out to you and I pray that you will be one of the patients who comes out on the other side. Over the centuries the world has seen it's fair share of plagues and yet somehow mankind seems to still remain standing once the pandemic has worked its way out.

If you are feeling overwhelmed then reach out...to a friend (via phone) or many of the mental health departments that are there to help us when we feel lost or anxious. No one will be critical or condemn you for just

needing some clarification or some comfort as the information pouring in is truly overwhelming and changing so quickly.

May I recommend if you can go outside even in colder or cooler weather, simply bundle up and find a sunny and sheltered place to just stand or sit and lift your face to the sun. Let the warmth of those golden rays trickle over your skin warming you from the outside in.

If you have pets; then take your dog for a walk or a play time in a doggy park! If you have a cat or I should say if you are the proud slave of a feline, then ask them permission to pet them or simply admire them from afar! If you are fortunate to own a horse or pony like I am head out with your curry comb and begin the arduous task of shedding them out! Or saddle them up and go for a ride or work in the round pen.

Read a book or a blog! Fill up your bird feeders! Bake cookies or a cake! Sit down and chat with your spouse about the next vacation/adventure you would like to take.... okay that might have to be an imaginary one now!

However, you are disconnecting to reconnect I believe once 2020 is over we all will be better off because we will have had to make time to step back and re-evaluate our priorities. That's all for now....



If you enjoy a weekly dose of Farm Wife humour please check out my new blog at <https://farmwifediary.blog>

Thank you to the Village of Innisfree and the Minburn Agricultural Society for thier help and support of the Innisfree Informer. Thank you to the community for their encouragement, kind words, submissions and offers to help with this project!

The  
**Innisfree  
Informer**

April 22, 2020 is the May Informer deadline for submissions.  
Email to: [innisfreeinformer@gmail.com](mailto:innisfreeinformer@gmail.com) or text 780-632-1585

