Innistree Informer

Deb's Message in a Minute

August has been filled with fairs and visiting and Casinos! Thanks to the group who travelled to Camrose for the Innisfree Senior Citizens and then the group that headed for Fort McMurray for the Innisfree & District Agricultural Society.

I am happy to report that the Birch Lake Campground will remain open until the end of Sept. Drop by for a stroll along the walking paths or bring your tent or trailer for an overnight stay. As fall approaches the trees have their beautiful fall colors on.

The Innisfree Prairie Bank of Commerce Museum will be closing September 4th (last day) but can be seen by appointment there after. Thanks to Norah Melnyk as she has set up some new displays and has been catching up on the cataloguing of the artifacts. We have been glad to have her great ideas and appreciate her hard work.

The Innisfree Library continues to be a warm and welcoming place to visit and look for a good book. The library has much to offer along with the books, magazines, and DVD's and access to the public computers there.

The school parking lot maybe empty today but come September 5th the place will look more like a beehive of activities. Drivers, please remember to slow down at the school and watch out for the youngsters as they excitedly rush to see their friends and teachers.

Innisfree's 43rd Fair, August 9 was a good time. Its was good to see such good local support for the bench show and the parade. It proved to be a busy day.

The Village staff have been busy getting things back to normal after the break in. The Village office will again be open 5 days a week. Arrangements are being made to repair the damage done. Also, rate payers, remember that taxes must be paid by September 29 to avoid any late charges.

Finally, I hope your harvest will be plentiful and your days by filled with sunshine. Check for updates as they are posted on the Village of Innisfree web site, www.innisfree.ca. See the Mannville-Minburn-Innisfree FCSS Facebook page for up-to-date information available.

Respectfully submitted by Deb McMann

WELCOME BACK STUDENTS!

We are excited to welcome students back on September 5th. Our staff will be working the week before to get prepared for a great year ahead and here to answer your questions or register any new students.

Our school days begin with the 8:55 bell and supervision begins at 8:40. Please be aware that there is no supervision before this on the school grounds. Our lunch period runs from 11:50-12:32. Our end of day bell rings at 3:27 and supervision is available for 10 minutes after school.

This year we will once again be focusing on providing exciting learning opportunities to our students and look forward to sharing those with you throughout the year.

For information about school happenings, you can visit our website at:

<u>delnorte.btps.ca</u>, join our school Facebook Group, or follow our Instagram page. Participating in our School Council is also another way to become involved. Our first meeting (and AGM) is on September 26th at 7:00 pm in the school gymnasium. Looking forward to a wonderful, learning filled school year!



Rachel Miller, Principal
"Together We Learn and Lead"
Innisfree Delnorte School

Innisfree Terry Fox Run



Sunday Sept 17, 2023 9:00 am Innisfree Recreation Park donations: https://run.terryfox.ca/28992

September 30, 2023 is the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation



Innisfree & District Agricultural Society Scholarship

Award: The Innisfree & District Agricultural Society will award one \$500.00 scholarship annually, weighted equally between academic achievement and community involvement.

Eligibility: The scholarship **s**hall be available to any post-secondary student in any year of an accredited program in any accredited post-secondary institution in Canada. Preference will be given to applicants 25 years of age and under. A student is only eligible to receive one Innisfree & District Agricultural Scholarship in his or her lifetime.

Selection Criteria: This scholarship is open to any person who meets the eligibility requirements. Academic achievement and community involvement will be determining factors.

Requirements:

Candidates are to submit the following information:

- A 300-500 word essay on volunteering and its impact in the community
- List of volunteer experience
- List of community involvement.
- A letter of acceptance from the educational institution
- A copy of the most recent Department of Education transcript
- Two reference letters pertaining to the two main areas of consideration (academic achievement & community involvement)
- Candidates may be called for a personal interview.

Deadline: Completed application with all areas completed, acceptance letter, reference letters, essays and copy of transcript are to be submitted by mail or email to the Innisfree & District Agricultural Society Box 269 Innisfree, AB TOB 2G0 innisfreeagsociety@gmail.com prior to the **Application Deadline September 30**.

Applications are available at the Village of Innisfree Office, Innisfree Delnorte School, and the Village of Innisfree Library.





Hey Kids! Are you an artist, writer, inventor, or creative kid?

The Informer wants to hear from you!

Email your submissions or your creations to be featured in future issues! innisfreeinformer@gmail.com

PLEASE! SLOW DOWN WHEN PASSING OUR SCHOOL

Per Alberta.ca: When you approach a school or play-ground sign, with a maximum speed posted with it, you are entering a school and/or playground zone. You must not exceed the posted speed when the zone is in effect.

The speed limit for both urban and rural school zones and playground zones is 30 km/h unless otherwise posted.

> While school zone limits are in effect on school days only,

MAXIMUM

the entire stretch of road past the Delnorte School is also a playground zone.



Playground speed restrictions are in effect EVERY DAY from 8:30 am to 1 hour after sunset.

I go on youtube just to watch a music video and 5 hours later, there I am watching a tutorial on how to talk to a giraffe.

Students of Innisfree Return Home Name correction

In the August issue of the Informer issue, a name of an attendee of the class reunion was misspelled. Loretta **Kuper** was incorrectly identified as Loretta Cooper.

The Innisfree Seed Cleaning Plant would like to give our shareholders and local farmers an update on the scale from the lightening strike last year. The technician has been working on the scale, but has been on hold due to a parts issue.

The new system includes a keypad system which has been mounted but has not been activated yet. When the system is fully up and running, we will invite the shareholders and local farmers to come in and set up a new user ID and pin code. The scale is still operational while it is being repaired.

Happy Birthday!

Sept 2: Gunnar Cannan

Sept 2: Ruth Douglas

Sept 3: Doug Agate

Sept 3: Charlie Paranych Sept 27: Anita Dale

Sept 7: Kiera Comeau

Sept 12: Robert Paterson Sept 28: Lorna Usenik

Sept 16: Jason Forsey

Sept 17: Sam Barber

Sept 19: Holly Cependa

Sept 19: Katelyn Drury

Sept 20: Katie Anderson

Sept 21: Mary Kravetz

Sept 23: Clint Taylor

Sept 24: Ann Johnman

Sept 26: Jordi Sullivan

Sept 28: Jordana Saskiw

Sept 29: Tiffany Tomlinson

Happy Anniversary!

Sept 26: Linda & Ken Whitten



Innisfree Preschool & Kindergarten Registration 2022/23 Registration is open!

Kindergarten: Child must be 5 years old by

December 30, 2023

Preschool: Child must be 4 years old

December 30, 2023

To register please email: innisfreeecs@gmail.com or call Elise Nott: 780-603-1080

We have a wonderful privately run Kindergarten & Preschool now located in the Innisfree Delnorte School!



Some Boy Scouts from the city went camping. The mosguitoes were so fierce, the boys hid under their blankets to avoid being bitten. Then, one of the Scouts saw some lightning bugs. "We

might as well give up," he sighed. "They're coming after us

with flashlights."

E Three hunters find a set of tracks in the woods.

The first hunter says, "Hey guys, I think these are elk tracks!"

The second one says, "No, I'm pretty sure these are wolf tracks."

Before the third one can say anything, they're all hit by the train coming down the tracks.



OUTDOOR CORNER is sponsored by: PARANYCH CONSULTING 403-506-4667



Is someone special celebrating next month? Send in your OCTOBER Birthdays & Anniversaries for the October issue!

Please send birthday or anniversary names and dates by September 25 to wish your loved ones a special day! Email to: innisfreeinformer@gmail.com

INFORMER TRAVELS

Readers! Let's see how far our little newsletter can go. If you or a friend plan to do some travelling, send us a photo of you holding the Informer and tell us a little about where you went, what you saw and the adventures you had!

Odd Jobs Wanted

Strong motivated teenager willing to do odd jobs like mowing, weed wacking, heavy lifting, cleaning, windows,

sweeping, sidewalk clean up and other jobs you may need done around your farm or property.

Call or text Matt: 587-280-8977

The www.thebeachside.ca info.beachside.bed.breakfast@gmail.com (780) 592-3840

How do bees get to school? On the school buzz!

EVENTS CALENDAR

Here's What's Happening!

Sept 3: Pancake Breakfast in the Rec Centre

Sept 5: Back to School

Sept 6: Village of Innisfree Library **Board Meeting**

Sept 12: Innisfree Senior Citizens Meeting

Sept 17: Terry Fox Run

Sept 19: Village of Innisfree Council Meeting

Sept 29: Ranfurly Senior Citizens Meeting

Please send your event info (name, date, location) by Sept 25 to be included in the October Calendar of Events

TO RENT: The Minburn Hall, Seniors Centre or Curling Rink: Call Dawn 780-581-0592



Kids helpline # 1-800-668-6868 **Mental Health Helpline**

1-877-303-2642



Mannville – Minburn – Innisfree Family & Community Support Services And Yellowhead Community Support Society

Website: https://mmifcss.wixsite.com/mmifcss

Location: 5004-49 Street Suite # 4 Mannville Phone: 780-763-3005

Email: mmifcss@mannville.com Instagram: @mmifcss

Facebook: Mannville-Minburn-Innisfree Family & Community Support Services

Kalyna MMI Family Resource Network:

Call or text Alicia Rutt at 780-581-4149 Facebook: MMI Family Resource Network

Volunteer Connector: https://www.volunteerconnector.org/

M-M-I F.C.S.S. would like to thank the residents of our service area for participating in our summer program: The ABCs of Summer 2023. We had a lot of fun with this idea and feel that we were able to successfully connect, engage and inclusively support all ages through a variety of unique presentations, self-led activities, in-person events, and information services. Please keep an eye out for our regularly scheduled programs to begin again this fall. We will continue to advertise on Facebook, Instagram, our website, the Community Calendar, by sending emails and positing on community boards. As always, if you have any suggestions or questions about future programs, please let us know.

... AND THEN I HEARD A LOUD BANG AND WHEN I TURNED BACK HE WAS GONE!

Village of Innisfree Council Highlights August 15, 2023

Bylaws

- Council passed Amending Land Use Bylaw 685-23.
- Council passed Revised Traffic Bylaw 687-23.

Policies

 Council endorsed Policy 3200-03 – Public Works – Traffic Control Devices (TCD) Schedule.

Business:

- Council endorsed a motion for the sponsorship of a Tourist Oriented Destination Sign for the Innisfree Prairie Bank of Commerce Museum and directed Administration to submit the application
- The "Crossroads Economic Development Alliance" name was endorsed by the Village Council for the new regional economic development alliance and Mayor Raycraft was appointed to the Alliance.
- Council approved the extension of the Innisfree Birch Lake Park & Campground season from Labour Day to September 30, 2023.
- Council directed Administration to proceed with the Public Auction of two specified properties acquired via the Tax Recovery process (Plan 4175R; Block 6; Lot 12 and Plan 4175R; Block 8, Lot 14.)

NOTE: Approved and Draft documents are available on the Village of Innisfree website: www. innisfree.ca



Fun Fact: The word pencil may have come from the Latin word penicilius, meaning little tail.

Worldwide more than 14 billion pencils are made every year. On average, a single pencil can be sharpened 17 times and write 45,000 words!

Women in Business Program

SUPPORTING THE COUNTY OF MINBURN

THE VILLAGE OF INNISFREE LIBRARY BOARD IS EXCITED TO SHARE A NEW PROGRAM FOR OUR COMMUNITY.

Earlier this year the Innisfree Library Board had the opportunity to submit an application for a grant being offered by the Public Library Grant for Skill Development in Rural Alberta, and we were successful in our bid! We received \$10,000 towards creating a Women in Business Program for our community.

WHO IS THIS PROGRAM FOR?

The Women in Business Program is open to all women in the Minburn County area who own/operate a business or are in the process of starting one.

This is a FREE program for Women in Business in our Community.

Members can own/operate businesses of all natures: brickand-mortar, online/virtual, pop-up shops, markets, and MLMs (multi-level marketing - for example, Scentsy, Tupperware, Avon, Young Living Oils, Epicure, Steepology, and any others not listed here).

The program will support members through networking, learning events, and providing resources to help grow their businesses. This will be done through; monthly meetings, training sessions, networking events, and showcasing our members where possible (for example - a Monthly Member Feature in the Innisfree Informer).



If you are a Woman in Business in Minburn County, We are hosting our first Women in Business Program Event!



WOMEN IN BUSINESS PROGRAM

New Member Welcome Event

Tuesday, September 26th at 7pm Innisfree Millenium Building 53 St, Innisfree

This event is an opportunity to bring the women in business in our area together, share more about the program, have refreshments, and get your input on how we can build this program to support you in the best way possible.

Please RSVP

to Marilyn Newton
In-person at the Innisfree Library,
by Phone: 780-592-2122
or by Email: mnewton@innisfreelibrary.ca

For more information, email us at wibprogram@gmail.com or reach out to one of our Program Co-ordinators

Marilyn Newton, Tel: 780-592-2122

Kristina Brummer, Tel: 604-315-5770

Innisfree walking club walks at the Innisfree Rec Centre. Please join us for a walk.

News from the Innisfree Walking Club

Hello Everyone! The walking club has taken the summer off so we are saying watch this space for further news regarding a walking schedule this fall.

So a recipe... what do most gardeners have the most of at this time of the year? You guessed it ZUCHINNI and SQUASH! So I thought I could help with a recipe to use some up. Hope you will try it! Please try to send me some recipes for any category and I will fit them into a future issue: gaylefoyster@gmail.com

STUFFED ZUCCHINI, OR MARROW, OR SQUASH OF YOUR CHOICE

INGREDIENTS:

1 Box Prepared stuffing (I use Stovetop) or make your own stuffing. ½ to 1 lb of sausage meat

½ to 1 lb of sausage meat Medium to Large Zucchini, Marrow or Squash

DIRECTIONS:

- 1. Prepare stuffing mix. I also add fried onion and fried mush-rooms to this mix to add bulk and even more flavour.
- 2. Crumble and fry sausage meat then drain the fat off.
- 3. Mix stuffing mix and cooked sausage meat.
- 4. Wash then cut your zucchini or squash lengthwise and scoop out seeds etc. Season with salt and pepper or any spice you love the flavour of.
- 5. Stuff both halves and put together. Wrap in tin foil and put on baking sheet. Bake at 400 degrees for an hour or until vegetable is soft.

Note: It is best not to peel the skin from your zuchinni or squash as it prevents it from going mushy and falling apart. ENJOY!



IRIS

etnia O BARCELONA

VIP EVENT SEPTEMBER 19

Save the date!

You're invited to join us for a special event giving you access to the latest frames, exclusive offers and so much more!



YOUR EXCLUSIVE OFFERS

SAVE \$150*

on prescription glasses

SAVE 25%**

on non-prescription sunglasses

Vegreville — 4934 50 Avenue — 780.632.3474

'Applicable on a frame valued at \$199 or more with fully coated prescription lenses valued at \$250 or more. VIP event frames only. Limit of one offer per purchase. Cannot be combined with any other offer, promotion or IRIS Advantages. Offer valid during VIP event only.

"Before taxes. No minimum purchase required. VIP event frames only. Limit of one offer per purchase. Not applicable on any other offer, promotion or IRIS Advantages. Offer valid during VIP event only.

"How to Write Big Books" by Warren Peace

"The Lion Attacked" by Claude Yarmoff

"The Art of Archery" by Beau N. Arrow

"Songs for Children" by Barbara Blacksheep

"Irish Heart Surgery" by Angie O'Plasty

"Desert Crossing" by I. Rhoda Camel

"School Truancy" by Marcus Absent

"I Was a Cloakroom Attendant" by Mahatma Coate

"I Lost My Balance" by Eileen Dover and Phil Down

"Mystery in the Barnyard" by Hu Flung Dung

"Positive Reinforcement" by Wade Ago

"Shhh!" by Danielle Soloud

"The Philippine Post Office" by Imelda Letter

"Things to Do at a Party" by Bob Frapples

"Stop Arguing" by Xavier Breath

Fun Fact: The average backpack weighs 20% of the student's body weight.

Multisport Court Update

The basketball and pickleball courts officially opened for public use on August 3. What started out as community service clean up during the summer of 2020 turned into a much bigger project. Plans were made to turn the old abandoned tennis courts into a basketball court and three pickleball courts. Quotes were obtained, the Buffalo Trail Public School board was approached, and the go ahead was given for the project at the end of February 2022. Grants were applied for, community groups approached, and donations requested.

In July of 2022 we broke ground with Spectre Systems from Mundare removing the old asphalt, putting down a new gravel base, and laying new asphalt. Eagle Fencing from Edmonton then erected new fencing and was able to reuse the existing perimeter fence. In July 2023 Tomko Sport Systems surfaced the courts with a special plexipave coating. Eagle Fencing then finished up the last of the fencing on August 1 and the pickleball nets were installed.

There are a few pickleball paddles and balls at the courts for those who wish to try the game but who may not yet have the equipment. We ask that if you use the equipment, please return it to the bin where you found it so that others may also use it.

This project has provided our community and surrounding area with a unique outdoor recreation opportunity. All that is asked is that they are treated with respect so that they last for many years to come. Please note the following court rules: NO PETS, NO BICYCLES, NO SKATEBOARDS, NO ROLLER SKATES, NO SCOOTERS, NO HOCKEY, NO GLASS BOTTLES, AND NO SMOKING ALLOWED. Signs have been posted at the courts. These rules are in place to preserve the life of the surface.

Priority will be given to the school on school days for use. However, this is a community use area, and the public is invited and welcome to use the courts. Any feedback on the courts is also welcome and may be directed to the school or to Carmen Kassian. For example, we would like to know if players feel a windscreen would be necessary for the pickleball court area or if the area is sufficiently sheltered as is. If there are players willing to help others learn the game, please feel free to organize lessons.

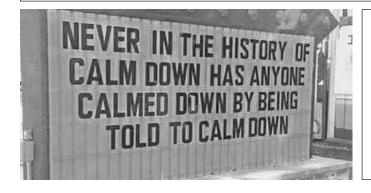
For more information on pickleball you may go to the following websites: https://pickleballalberta.org/
https://pickleballcanada.org/

Once again, we wish to thank all donors to this project for helping to make this a reality.

- Government of Alberta CFEP Grant
- Buffalo Trail Public School Division
- County of Minburn No. 27
- Innisfree & District Ag Society
- Ranfurly Ag Society
- Mannville Minburn Innisfree Rural Crime Watch Association
- Lavoy Action Society

- Canada's Farmers Grow Communities
- Minburn & District Ag Society
- Village of Innisfree
- Innisfree Senior Citizen's Association
- Robert & Genevieve Weder
- Howard Austin
- Kassian Family
- Bob & Lily Ann Logan
- Myshaniuk Family
- Anonymous Donors

THANK YOU!





therapy where we sit and eat pasta and talk about our trauma, called Penne for Your Thoughts

The Daffodil Principle

Several times my daughter had telephoned to say, "Mother, you must come to see the daffodils before they are over." I wanted to go, but it was a two-hour drive from Laguna to Lake Arrowhead. "I will come next Tuesday," I promised a little reluctantly on her third call.

Next Tuesday dawned cold and rainy. Still, I had promised, and reluctantly I drove there. When I finally walked into Carolyn's house I was welcomed by the joyful sounds of happy children. I delightedly hugged and greeted my grandchildren.

"Forget the daffodils, Carolyn I said! The road is invisible in these clouds and fog, and there is nothing in the world except you and these children that I want to see badly enough to drive another inch!"

My daughter smiled calmly and said, "We drive in this all the time, Mother." "Well, you won't get me back on the road until it clears, and then I'm heading for home!" I assured her.

"But first we're going to see the daffodils. It's just a few blocks," Carolyn said. "I'll drive. I'm used to this." "Carolyn," I said sternly, "please turn around." "It's all right, Mother, I promise. You will never forgive yourself if you miss this experience."

After about twenty minutes, we turned onto a small gravel road and I saw a mall church. On the far

side of the church, I saw a hand lettered sign with an arrow that read, "Daffodil Garden." We got out of the car, each took a child's hand, and I followed Carolyn down the path. Then, as we turned a corner, I looked up and gasped. Before me lay the most glorious sight.

It looked as though someone had taken a great vat of gold and poured it over the mountain peak and its surrounding slopes. The flowers were planted in majestic, swirling patterns, great ribbons and swaths of deep orange, creamy white, lemon yellow, salmon pink, and saffron and butter yellow. Each different-colored variety was planted in large groups so that it swirled and flowed like its own river with its own unique hue. There were five acres of flowers.

"Who did this?" I asked Carolyn. "Just one woman," Carolyn answered. "She lives on the property. That's her home." Carolyn pointed to a well-kept A-frame house, small and modestly sitting in the midst of all that glory. We walked up to the house.



On the patio, we saw a poster. "Answers to the Questions I Know You Are Asking", was the headline. The first answer was a simple one. "50,000 bulbs," it read. The second answer was, "One at a time, by one woman. Two hands, two feet, and one brain." The third answer was, "Began in 1958."

For me, that moment was a life-changing experience. I thought of this woman whom I had never met, who, more than forty years before, had begun, one bulb at a time, to bring her vision of beauty and joy to an obscure mountaintop. Planting one bulb at a time, year after year, this unknown woman had forever changed the world in which she lived. One day at a time, she had created something of extraordinary magnificence, beauty, and inspiration. The principle her daffodil garden taught is one of the greatest principles of celebration.

That is, learning to move toward our goals and desires one step at a time--often just one baby-step at time--and learning to love the doing, learning to use the accumulation of time. When we multiply tiny pieces of time with small increments of daily effort, we too will find we can accomplish magnificent things. We can change the world ...

"It makes me sad in a way," I admitted to Carolyn. "What might I have accomplished if I had thought of a wonderful goal thirty-five or forty years ago and had worked away at it 'one bulb at a time' through all those years? Just think what I might have been able to achieve!"

My daughter summed up the message of the day in her usual direct way. "Start tomorrow," she said. She was right. It's so pointless to think of the lost hours of yesterdays. The way to make learning a lesson of celebration instead of a cause for regret is to only ask, "How can I put this to use today?"



Use the Daffodil Principle. Stop waiting... Until your car or home is paid off Until you get a new car or home Until your kids leave the house Until you go back to school Until you finish school Until you clean the house Until you organize the garage Until you clean off your desk Until you lose 10 lbs. Until you gain 10 lbs. Until you get married Until you get a divorce Until you have kids Until the kids go to school Until you retire Until summer Until spring Until winter Until fall Until vou die... There is no better time than right now to

Happiness is a journey, not a destination. Wishing you a beautiful, daffodil day!

be happy.

Village of Innisfree Library News

Summer has gone by so fast. With school starting soon, don't forget to stop in for your free membership! We have public computers to use for homework and studying, as well as many online resources to help students with schoolwork. You can find our online resources on our website at www.innisfreelibrary.ca

The Summer Reading Program will end on August 31. Please have all reading minutes entered online at www.nllsreadingprograms.ca or to me by September 8th for you chance to be entered to win a prize draw.

Our Early Literacy Program will start again this month. Please join us on Thursday, September 7th from 10-11:30am for a day all about Farm Animals! This Program is a free for families and their preschool age children to come and enjoy books, crafts, songs, and snacks in an encouraging and educational environment. It is an interactive way for parents to engage their children in Early Literacy Practices!

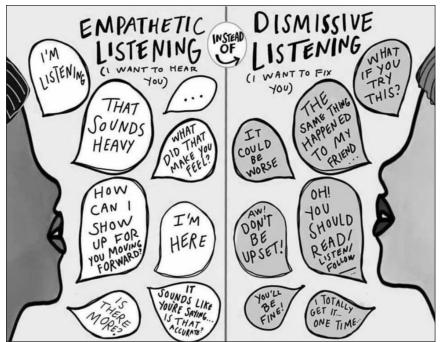
Starting this month, look for our new full-page feature on our upcoming Women In Business Program. We are vey excited to start this program and have been working hard on it for the last few months!

IMAGINE THE OLYMPICS BUT INSTEAD OF IT BEING WORLD CLASS ATHLETES IT'S JUST RANDOM PEOPLE WHO GET SELECTED.

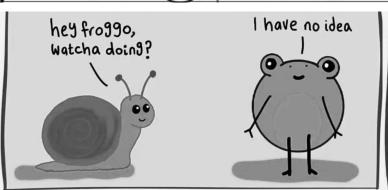
LIKE YOU GET A LETTER IN-FORMING YOU YOU'VE BEEN SELECTED FOR THE NATION-AL GYMNASTICS TEAM AND YOU JUST HAVE TO DO IT.

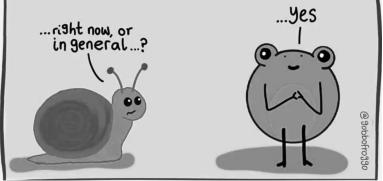
IT'D BE SO MUCH MORE ENTERTAINING.





I love using a measuring cup for only water. it's like, you're still clean bud. you get to skip the wash. go right back to the cabinet.





Innisfree Dance Club News

The Innisfree Dance Club will start regular classes September 11th. We will be running two days a week this year with our same instructor Kendra Korth. We added 10 dancers to our club this year which is so awe-some. We added a few more dances this year as well. We are looking forward to see what this year has in store for us.

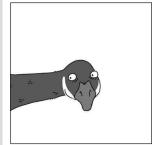
Do you want your cake to taste like it came from a bakery?

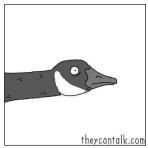
Follow these steps...

- Read the directions on the cake mix
- Add 1 more egg (or 2 for an even richer cake)
- Replace the oil with melted butter and double the amount.
- Replace the water with an equal amount of milk.
- Mix and bake according to package directions









The Innisfree Prairie Bank of Commerce Museum & Art Gallery would like to thank the community

for participating in and supporting our fundraising efforts this summer!

Southern Sweet ?



Labour Day Pancake Breakfast

50/50 Raffle



The Innisfree Prairie Bank of Commerce Welcome to the

Museum & Art Gallery

About an Artifact

September 2023

Museum's forum: About an Artifact, where you can find just a taste of addictive knowledge about some of the wondrous an beautiful items within the walls of our unique museum, echoing with days of old.

Innisfree Prairie

Bank of Commerce

As we draw our 2023 open-season to a close, history continues to demand our attention, modest artifacts hidden in plain sight reveal themselves along with the stories they hold. For the last edition of About an Artifact (for now), I was drawn to one such book that, previously,

I hadn't been able to find until looking behind a collection of books displayed in front to see it peeking out: the art scribbler of a schoolgirl, loaned to the museum in 1999 by Maybell Pierce.

Inscribed lightly at the top of the beautifully-illustrated front cover is (could be slightly misread): "Art. Annie McMechan" -our otherwise unknown artist. Printed on the back cover; 23 mostly-scientific random facts beneath the title "Do You Know?" one of such being: "Does a Person Walking Forward in a Moving Train Go Faster Than the Train? Yes. He is moving through space at the speed of the train plus his own speed."

The year 1933 is written immediately inside the cover above the first drawing, not a single page left empty. There are even full-sized sheets of paper folded and pasted into the scribbler with tabs reading "open" to



allow herself even more space! Though it is difficult to choose out of her many artworks, my favorite page of Annie's is entitled "Flowers."; royal blue morning glories in watercolor, emanating a serendipitous luminosity.

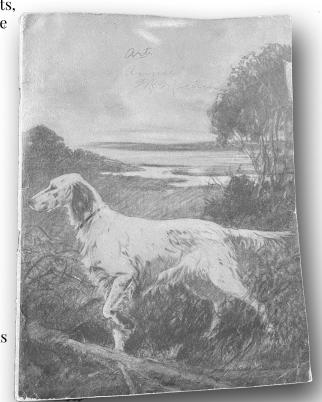
If it weren't for the yellowing of the pages, anybody would have trouble discerning it from the school scribbler of a child today. Many of the art techniques Annie practiced throughout her book are still taught in art classes today; perspective, color theory, still life, typography, watercolors, and more! This is one of my favorite

aspects of studying historical artifacts, people don't often see the abundance of similarities between those of the past and our modernity, we have more in common than we are divided.

To be further enriched with the wonders and realities of history, please consider visiting our local Prairie Bank Museum for a guided tour in summer 2024.

Donations allow our museum to remain open, thank you for your much appreciated ongoing support.

The Informer wishes to thank Norah Melnyk for creating the feature "About an Artifact" and for her interesting submissions this summer.



Comments made in the year 1957

- "I'll tell you one thing, if things keep going the way they are, it's going to be impossible to buy a week's groceries for \$20."
- "I'm afraid to send my kids to the movies any more. Ever since they let Clark Gable get by with saying 'damn' in 'Gone With The Wind,' it seems every new movie has either "hell" or "damn" in it.
- "Have you seen the new cars coming out next year? It won't be long before \$5000 will only buy a used one."
- "If cigarettes keep going up in price, I'm going to quit. A quarter a pack is ridiculous."
- "Did you hear the post office is thinking about charging a dime just to mail a letter?"
- "If they raise the minimum wage to \$1, nobody will be able to hire outside help at the store."
- "When I first started driving, who would have thought gas would someday cost 29 cents a gallon. Guess we'd be better off leaving the car in the garage."

- "Kids today are impossible. Those ducktail haircuts make it impossible to stay groomed. Next thing you know, boys will be wearing their hair as long as the girls."
- "If they think I'll pay 50 cents for a hair cut, forget it"
- "I read the other day where some scientist thinks it's possible to put a man on the moon by the end of the of the century. They even have some fellows they call astronauts preparing for it down in Texas."
- "Did you see where some baseball player just signed a contract for \$75,000 a year just to play ball? It wouldn't surprise me if someday they'll be making more than the president."
- "I never thought I'd see the day all our kitchen appliances would be electric.
 They are even making electric typewriters now."
- "It's too bad things are so tough nowadays. I see where a few married women are having to work to make ends meet."

- "It won't be long before young couples are going to have to hire someone to watch their kids so they can both work."
- "Marriage doesn't mean a thing any more; those Hollywood stars seem to be getting divorced at the drop of a hat."
- "I'm just afraid the Volkswagen car is going to open the door to a whole lot of foreign business."
- "Thank goodness I won't live to see the day when the Government takes half our income in taxes. I sometimes wonder if we are electing the best people to congress."
- "The drive-in restaurant is convenient in nice weather, but I seriously doubt they will ever catch on."
- "There is no sense going to Lincoln or Omaha anymore for a weekend. It costs nearly \$15 a night to stay in a hotel."
- "No one can afford to be sick any more; \$35 a day in the hospital is too rich for my blood."

Today I met Bruce Lee's vegetarian brother... Broco Lee

And his other brother who can't take a joke... Serious Lee

And his cousin who throws shade all the time...
Sarcastic Lee

The other cousin who is always making plans at the last minute... Sudden Lee

And the one that is always so sure of himself...
Definite Lee

Let's not forget the one who is always so predictable... Usual Lee



DEADLINE FOR VILLAGE OF INNISFREE PROPERTY TAXES:

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29TH AT 5 PM.

O: What kind of tree does a math teacher climb? A: Geometry

Q: What kind of school do surfers go to? A: Boarding school.

Q: How can you make seven even? A: Take away the "s".

Q: Why did the boy go to school with his pants tucked into his socks? A: To protect himself from mathema-ticks.

Q: Why did the music teacher need a ladder? A: To reach the high notes.

O: Why was school easier for cave people? A: Because there was no history to study!

Q: What did the triangle say to the circle? A: You're pointless

Q: Why did the broom get a poor grade in school? A: Because it was always sweeping during class!

O: What flies around school at night? A: The alpha-bat.

Q: Why did the M&M go to school?

A: Because he really wanted to be a Smartie!



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Thursday 12:00pm - 6:00pm

Friday



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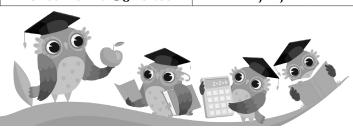
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The other night while I was setting the table for supper, I put a bowl of sliced cucumbers

beside a jar of dill pickles and as I did so I found myself wondering, is a cucumber still considered a vegetable once it becomes a pickle? I asked the closest reliable source; Alexa and she informed me that yes, it is still a vegetable just a pickled one! I am not totally sure how reliable she is, but we will go with that!

However, that sent me spiraling down a completely different rabbit hole! I started to wonder just how dill pickles came into existence, this time I turned to Google for a more informed answer (insert wink here!).

Apparently, dill pickles are as old a dirt! Pickling goes back as far as at least 2400 B.C. according to the New York Food Museum and it was perhaps several centuries later that the natives of the Tigris Valley were using cucumbers as pickles.

Rumour goes even further to say that Queen Cleopatra credited pickles for contributing to her health and fabled beauty! This might have influenced Julius Casear as well as other Roman emperors to supply their troops with pickles believing it enhanced their strength in battle.

Then let's set sail with Christopher Columbus in 1492 with ships stocked with pickles for their value in preventing scurvy caused by a deficiency of vitamin C. Somewhere deep in the

Is It a Veggie? by Deb Barber

pages of history it is said he even grew cucumbers on a lay over in Haiti to replenish his supply keeping himself and his crew as healthy as possible.

Skipping forward to the 1650's some New York Dutch bred farmers decided to expand on the cucumbers growing abundantly in the area and bought them up, pickling them in huge wooden barrels and selling them on the street right out of the barrels, starting up one of the largest pickle industries in the world.

And it didn't stop there! I was reading that in 1809 Napoleon Bonaparte offered up \$250,000 in today's currency to anyone who could devise a method to pickle and preserve food for his troops. French chef, Nicolas Appert stepped up to the challenge devising a method to pack food in sterilized jars and then removing the air, sealing the glass jars with cork and wax. Okay, I have to admit it is a bit of a stretch for me to visualize glass jars in a soldier's saddle bag as he heads into battle, but I am thinking they must have had a different method to cart them around!

Then in 1858, John Mason stepped up and bet you have guessed where this is going, designed a better heavy weight jar that was better able to withstand the heating process during canning! His patent sadly expired in 1879 but mason jars continue to be manufactured under the same name.

Not to be outdone at the 1893 Chicago World's Fair another well known name H.J. Heinze started giving out 'free' pickle pins, the beginning of an advertising campaign still used today!

He was a pretty crafty fellow as he lobbied for better food safety regulations which while improving the control of additives used in the pickling industry also moved his product into a frontline position in sales!

Pickles made another come back during World War Two again as a great means to provide troops with a way of staying healthy while at the front lines!

And one last interesting fact, in 2000 during a football game between the Philadelphia Eagles and the Dallas Cowboys during a heat wave with temperatures reaching a blistering 43 degrees C the winning team credited their win because they had been drinking pickle juice which allowed their muscles to recover from cramps faster giving them the advantage to victory. This claim was later backed up by research conducted at the Brigham Young University.

So, sounds like whether they are still veggies or just pickles you just can't go wrong adding one to your sandwich plate or in your Caesar drink!

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

Based on the amount of laundry I do each week, I'm beginning to think there are people who live here that I haven't met yet.



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Thank you to the Village of Innisfree and the Minburn Agricultural Society for their help and support of the Innisfree Informer. Sept 25, 2023 is the October Informer deadline for submissions. Email to: innisfreeinformer@gmail.com or text 780-632-1585