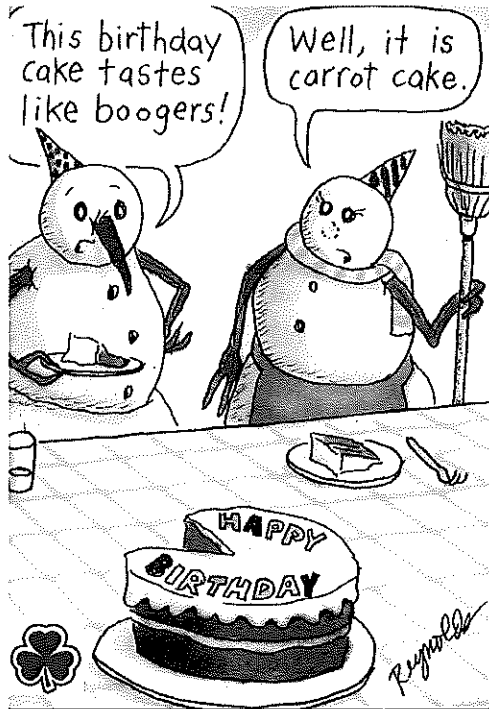




## WORD CLOUDS

The speech bubble on this page is a word cloud created by feeding 12 months of the Informer into a program that creates your desired shape based on the frequency of your words. It's fun to do!

Try it at [www.wordclouds.com](http://www.wordclouds.com)



Happy Birthday!

Feb 28: Kayla Poirta

March 1: Cole Nott

March 3: Kevin Zaplachinski

March 5: Betty Saik

March 6: Bobbi Bouchier

March 7: Lillie Petrowski

March 8: Bobbi Jo Jackson

March 9: Susan Cannan

March 8: Ken Newton

March 13: Yvonne Parasynchuk

March 16: Abby Tarapaski

March 24: Jaxen Nott

March 25: Cameron & Cara Gizowski

March 31: Maryann Fortier

March 31: Cecil Paranych

Happy Anniversary!

March 10: Tom & Shirley Nott

March 14: Bobbi & Ryan Bouchier



## February 2021 Village of Innisfree Regular Council Meeting Highlights

Mayor and Council met on February 16, 2021 for their Regular Council meeting via in-person & Electronic attendance.

Council discussed numerous items, which included:

### Delegations:

#### **Alberta Online Initiative Program:**

• Representative's from Alberta Online made a brief presentation to Mayor and Council regarding the Alberta Online Initiative Program that is currently being offered to Municipalities across the province of Alberta. Alberta Online is partnering with Alberta towns and cities to ensure that all the businesses, in the Village of Innisfree and surrounding area, have an additional resource for promoting their business to consumers. Alberta Online is a province-wide super directory that is consolidating directories for every town and city into one accurate source for finding Alberta businesses, products, and services. After much discussion mayor and Council passed a motion to approve the Alberta Online Initiative Program as presented. Further that Council direct administration to contact Alberta Online to inform them of Council's decision to partner with Alberta Online to ensure that all the Village of Innisfree's businesses have additional resources for promoting their business to consumers as presented in email and letter dated December 4, 2020.

#### **VM Systems – Internet/WIFI at Birch Lake Campground:**

• VM systems made a brief presentation to Mayor and Council regarding the installation and cost to install internet/Wi-Fi at Birch Lake Campground. After much discussion, council passed a motion directing Administration to conduct further research bring forward more information regarding to the installation and cost to install internet/WIFI at the Birch Lake Campground to the March 16, 2021 Council meeting for further discussion.

### Business Arising:

• **Bylaw No. 662-20 – Regional Emergency Management:** After reviewing "Draft" Bylaw 662-20 – Regional Emergency Management, Mayor and Council passed a motion to table this item to the March 16, 2021 Council Meeting for further discussion.

• **Regional Emergency Management Mutual Aid Agreement:** After reviewing "Draft" Regional Emergency Management Mutual Aid Agreement, Mayor and Council passed a motion to table this item to the March 16, 2021 Council Meeting for further discussion.

#### **New Business:**

• **CAO Evaluation Policy 1900-14:** Council approved this item as presented.

• **Memorandum of Understanding: Emergency Management – Region of Minburn School Division Facilities:** Council approved this item as presented.

• **2021 Strategic & Tactical Plan – 1st Quarter Update:** Council directed administration to bring this item forward to the March 16, 2021 Council meeting for further discussion.

• **2021 Utility Rates:** Council directed administration to bring this item forward at a future council meeting, once the 2020 Municipal Audit is complete.

• **Other items discussed:** Alberta Municipal Affairs Letter February 9, 2021 – Detailed Assessment Audit, Birch Lake Campground – 2021 Update, listed items under Councilor Reports, Listed item under CAO Report & Action List and listed items under correspondence.

*The meeting was then adjourned.*

## MOCHA COCOA WHIPPED CREAM

*(Thank you to Gayle Foyster for this recipe)*

### INGREDIENTS:

1/2 cup Sugar

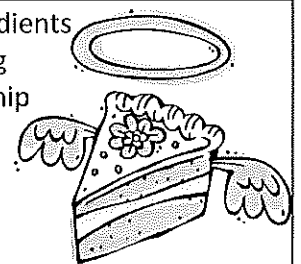
1/3 cup Cocoa powder

1 tbsp Instant Coffee powder

1 tsp Vanilla

1 ½ cups Whipping Cream (or 1 pint)

Put all ingredients into a mixing bowl and whip until thick.



*This is a delicious icing for  
Angel Food Cake!*

**KASSIAN, Sophie November 12, 1939 – February 17, 2021**

On Wednesday, February 17, 2021, Sophie Kassian of Innisfree, Alberta passed away peacefully at the age of 81 years. Sophie is survived by her loving family, children Roy (Shannon), Robert (Patricia), Kelly (Laura) and Kevin (Carmen); grandchildren Trevor (Renee), Sheldon (Melanie), Kyle (Kaitlyn), Kari (Rod) Cameron, Kristi, Dylan, Jayna, Carson and Camille; great-grandchildren Keegan, Payton, Mason, Karenza, Kassidy, Koyier, Charli and Maggie; two sisters-in-law Eleanor Gordey and Stella Gordey;

along with numerous nieces, nephews, relatives and friends. Sophie was predeceased by her husband Walter; her parents Mike and Annie Gordey; siblings John (Emily), Nick (Helen), Steve, Eva Nakonechny and Peter; Marika, George and Elana in infancy.

A private Funeral Service was held on Monday, February 22, 2021 at the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of St. Vladimir in Vegreville, Alberta, with Rt. Rev. Fr. Slawomir Lomaszkiewicz officiating followed by the interment in the Innisfree Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the "Innisfree and District Recreational and Cultural Society" (c/o Box 146, Innisfree, AB, T0B 2G0) or "Vegreville Care Centre – Patient Comfort Society" (c/o Box 295, Vegreville, AB, T9C 1R2).



**CARD OF THANKS  
KASSIAN**

The family of Sophie Kassian would like to thank everyone for their messages of sympathy, through phone calls, email, text, social media, cards, food, flowers, donations in Sophie's name and those who viewed the service online. We would also like to thank the staff at Vegreville Long Term Care for their excellent care of Sophie for the last few years.

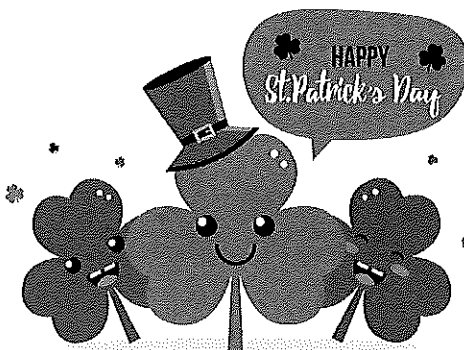
Thank you to Father Slawomir Lomaszkiewicz for the meaningful church service. Thank you to the team at RiSpekt Media for their professional video services. Thank you to Gordon, Patty and Victoria at Autumn Rose Funeral Home for their professional and caring support and guidance.

The family appreciates everyone's thoughts during these challenging times. Anyone who knew Sophie, knows that she would have wanted us all to gather, celebrate her life and enjoy a big meal. Hopefully we can do that one day soon. Rest in peace Mom.

The Kassian Families

# What to do with empty notebooks:

- |                         |                           |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| One sentence a day      | Address book              |
| Vision or mood boards   | Password book             |
| Music journal           | Budget or savings tracker |
| Sketchbook              | Foreign language practice |
| Bullet journal          | Dream home journal        |
| Personal diary          | Fashion journal           |
| Daily idea list         | Wedding planner           |
| Affirmations            | Pregnancy journal         |
| Goal tracker            | Habit tracker             |
| Date ideas diary        | Therapy journal           |
| Travel journal          | Astrology journal         |
| Gratitude journal       | Quote journal             |
| Morning Pages           | Creative writing prompts  |
| Prayer journal          | Mind maps                 |
| Fitness tracker         | Write a novel             |
| Diet or calorie log     | Hand lettering practice   |
| Recipes & meal planning | Reading list & notes      |
| To do list              | Blog post planner         |
| Current events          | Side hustle journal       |
| Bucket list             | Movie or TV show list     |
| Sticker collection      | Dream journal             |
| Garden ideas            | Scrapbook                 |



Do you have a tried and true recipe you want to share?

Send it our way to be featured in the Informer!  
Email: [innisfreeinformer@gmail.com](mailto:innisfreeinformer@gmail.com)

Please note that masks are now mandatory when in the following places. Thank you for your consideration.



**Village of Innisfree Town Office/ATB  
Innisfree Post Office  
Village of Innisfree Library**

Fun Facts: A cloud can weigh more than a million pounds. A "moonbow" is a rainbow that happens at night.



**Mannville – Minburn – Innisfree  
Family & Community Support Services  
Yellowhead Community Support Society  
M-M-I Family Resource Network**

Please continue to watch our Facebook page for updates.  
Mannville-Minburn-Innisfree Family & Community Support  
Services @FCSSmannvilleminburninnisfree  
Website: <https://mmifcss.wixsite.com/mmifcss>  
For more information about programs and services,  
780-763-3005 Email: [mmifcss@mannville.com](mailto:mmifcss@mannville.com)

M-M-I F.C.S.S. remains committed to "helping people help themselves".  
We will continue to offer information, referrals, guidance and assistance  
by PHONE, EMAIL, MAIL and ZOOM. In person inquiries will be screened  
and when possible, will be set by appointment only. Covid-19 has changed  
the way we do programming; we have found innovative ways via Facebook,  
Website, Canada Post etc to keep connected while social distancing.



Join the challenge! Monthly themes and Prizes!  
Text: 780-581-4149 or 780-853-0112

Each month the stories & pictures will be compiled in a  
community scrapbook that can be viewed around town!

**Family Resource Network**

FRN delivers high quality prevention & early intervention services &  
supports for families with children 0-18 years old. Variety of programs &  
service, modified program style due to COVID-19.

**For Program Information**

Call or text Alicia @ 780-581-4149 & check our Facebook  
Page MMI Family Resource Network

**Friendly Phone Visiting Program**

FCSS Staff provide social connections through phone calls. If  
you have not received a call and would like to join this program,  
please call us to be added to our call out list.  
What can you expect? a friendly voice, a listening ear,  
information sharing & referral to other services. We look forward to  
connecting with you.

**S.M.I.L.E. Program**

[Seniors Maintaining Independent Living Experiences]  
This program is designed for adults/seniors to stay active & live  
independently in their communities. An inviting, friendly atmosphere to  
socialize, participate in activities, connect with others!

Join us via **ZOOM** 10:30 a.m. ...just contact us with your  
phone number and email address to join in.

**Mannville Date:**

- : March 4 Music with Bea Hartt
- : March 11 Games with Val
- : March 25 Games with Val

**Innisfree Dates:**

- : March 5, Music with Bea Hartt

**LET'S TALK PRESENTATION via ZOOM - FOR ALL AGES:**

: March 16 "Reasons to be Grateful" with a music  
component by: Bonnie & Stan Bauer  
**LOG INTO THE FOLLOWING LINK:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88234450276?pwd=ZTkYTVhGd11UYjMxZVpwYlgyc05mQT09>

**Meals on Wheels Program** A delicious hot noon meal is  
served right to your kitchen table Monday to Friday by friendly  
volunteers.



Rate \$10 per meal.  
Call & sign up to receive your first meal  
**complimentary**

**NEWCOMER WELCOME:** Packages are available. Let us  
know if you are new to the area! Stop by and pick one up! We  
look forward to welcoming you!

**VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION WEEK**

April 18-24<sup>th</sup>

"Showcase The Impact of Volunteerism in our Communities".  
FCSS will be connecting with members of our communities for  
input into the this year's project.

**PET WASTE  
TRANSMITS DISEASE**

**LEASH AND CLEAN  
UP AFTER  
YOUR PET**



**PLEASE KEEP  
THIS AREA  
CLEAN**

**Pet Waste**

The Delnorte School would like  
to urge dog owners to clean up  
after their pets on the school  
grounds, including the soccer  
field, playground and surrounding  
areas. Our Principal is out there  
cleaning this up daily, and as the  
snow melts she is finding more!  
This is extremely unsanitary for  
our students, and needs to stop.  
Pet owners – do your DOO-TY  
please!



**Interactive CAT Play** by Dr. Mikel Delgado



Toys that are left lying on the floor are "dead". They are boring.  
Fun toys are like prey! They are usually small and quiet, and they move!

Playing is an interactive experience; a simulated hunting experience  
that gives cats physical exercise and stimulates their brains. We tailor our play  
to our individual cat's needs. Are they a generalist or a specialist?

Playing is also a way to bond with our cat. Not all cats like to be cuddled.

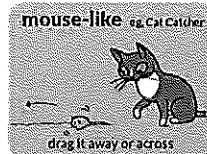
Make play a daily habit or activity, eg. before their dinner or bedtime, and  
whenever they have the zoomies! Just as dogs need to go out for walks and  
to sniff, cats need enrichment and shouldn't be sleeping all day.

**Prey Types**

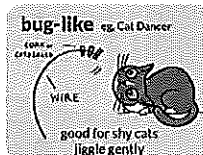
for the SPECIALIST HUNTER



**feathers** eg. Da Bird



**mouse-like** eg. Cat Catcher



**bug-like** eg. Cat Dancer



**snake-like** eg. Bamboozler



**food puzzles**  
Introduce as a choice and never  
force. Many cats enjoy these.  
[foodpuzzlesforcats.com](http://foodpuzzlesforcats.com)



**laser toys**

...can be frustrating because cats  
can't catch them. Best use for  
short periods as a warm-up, then  
switch to a real toy.



**NOVELTY:** Rotate the toys to  
keep things interesting!

**Play Tips**

- **ALTERNATE SPEED OF MOVEMENT.**  
Try slow movements. Barely moving.
- **MOVE AWAY** from your cat  
or along a L-R plane.
- **MOVE UNDER SOMETHING.**  
FABRIC/TISSUE
- Sounds of **RUSTLING** or **CRUNCHINESS**  
are exciting!
- **LET THEM WAIT.**  
Don't make it too easy  
or it will be boring.
- **NOT TOO CLOSE.**  
Cats can see the toy best when  
it is a few feet away.
- Give the **FULL HUNTING EXPERIENCE**  
- paws, mouth, and whiskers!
- Most importantly, **HAVE FUN** playing  
with your little hunter!

Have you played with your cat TODAY?

[whatyourcatwants.com](http://whatyourcatwants.com)

Illustrated by Lili Chin 2021

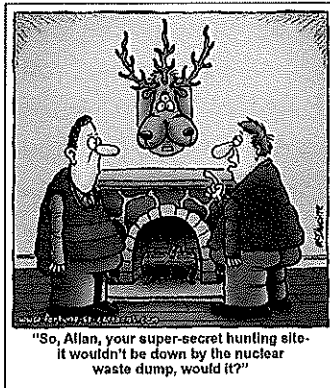
**THE MAIN FUNCTION OF THE LITTLE  
TOE ON YOUR FOOT IS TO MAKE  
SURE THAT ALL THE FURNITURE IN  
YOUR HOUSE IS IN PLACE**



**C** **THE VOICE** An ice fisherman drills a hole in the ice. Suddenly, a loud voice from above says, "There are no fish down there."  
**OUTDOOR** The angler moves a few yards away and drills another hole. Again the voice says, louder this time,  
**R** "There are no fish down there." He moves even farther away and drills  
**N** one more hole, but the voice booms,  
**E** "THERE ARE NO FISH DOWN THERE."  
**R** The fisherman looks up. "God, is that you?"  
 "No," says the voice, "it's the rink manager."



Three ancient fishermen are walking to the river to fish off the bridge. First one says, "Windy, isn't it?" Second one says, "No, it's Thursday!" Third one says, "So am I. Let's go get a beer."



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

Submissions for the Outdoor Corner are welcome. Hunting, fishing and outdoor stories, facts or jokes!  
 Email: [innisfreeinformer@gmail.com](mailto:innisfreeinformer@gmail.com)



Is someone special celebrating in April?

Send in your  
**APRIL Birthdays & Anniversaries!**

Please send birthday or anniversary names and dates by March 25 to wish your loved ones a special day!  
 Email to: [innisfreeinformer@gmail.com](mailto:innisfreeinformer@gmail.com)

**SUBDIVISION AND DEVELOPMENT APPEAL BOARD  
 REQUEST FOR MEMBERS OF PUBLIC AT LARGE**

The Village of Innisfree requires two (2) members of public at large for the Subdivision and Development Appeal Board. This quasi-judicial body, appointed by Council, makes impartial and unbiased decisions on challenges of subdivision or development authority decisions and stop work orders. Deliberations are based on the municipal planning documents such as the Land Use Bylaw and Municipal Development Plans, provincial statute and information presented by hearing participants.

Subdivision and Development Appeal Board hearings are scheduled as required. Board members are appointed for a one (1) year term with an option to be reappointed for a second term.

Village residents with an interest or experience in planning or development activities are invited to submit a resume including a statement on your interest and abilities in serving in this capacity.

Mandatory training is required upon appointment.

**Positions will remain open until suitable candidates are found.**

Please mail, fax, email or drop off resumes to:

Subdivision and Development Appeal Board  
 Attn: Brooke Magosse, Clerk  
 Box 69, 5116 50 Avenue  
 Innisfree, AB T0B 2G0  
 F: 780-592-3729  
 E: [cao@innisfree.ca](mailto:cao@innisfree.ca)

**I was recently asked who my favorite vampire was. I said, "the muppet from Sesame Street."  
 They told me, "he doesn't count!" I replied, "I assure you, he does."**

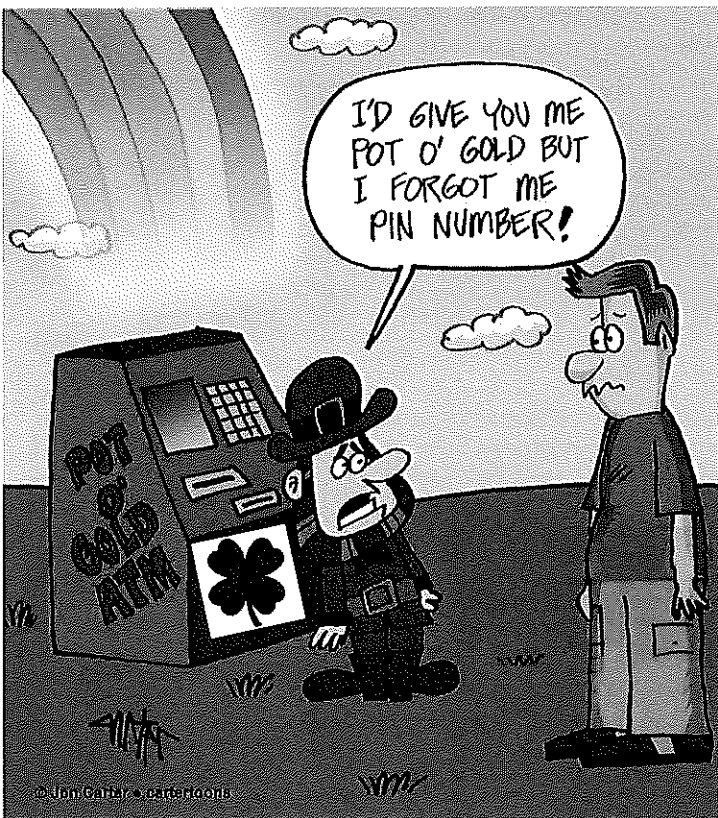
Kids helpline # 1-800-668-6868  
 Mental Health Helpline # 1-877-303-2642

**EVENTS CALENDAR**

*Here's What's Happening!*

- Mar 3: Village of Innisfree Library Board Meeting & AGM
- Mar 4: Innisfree & District Agricultural Society Meeting
- Mar 16: Village Council Meeting (Virtually)
- See our web page and Facebook page for more information
- Mar 23: Innisfree Delnorte Parent Council Meeting

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



I went to the dentist the other day...  
 she said "you need a crown"

I said... "FINALLY!!!! Someone who gets me"



## Library News

Congratulations to Naomi on your 1st Year Anniversary with the Informer!! We are so happy to have this amazing Newsletter in our community.

On Wednesday, March 3, 2021 the Village of Innisfree Library Board (VILB) will be hosting their AGM via Zoom at 6:30pm. This will be followed by our regular board meeting. If you would like to join us, please email Holly at info@thebeachside.ca for a link to the meeting. Everyone is welcome and we hope to 'see' you there!

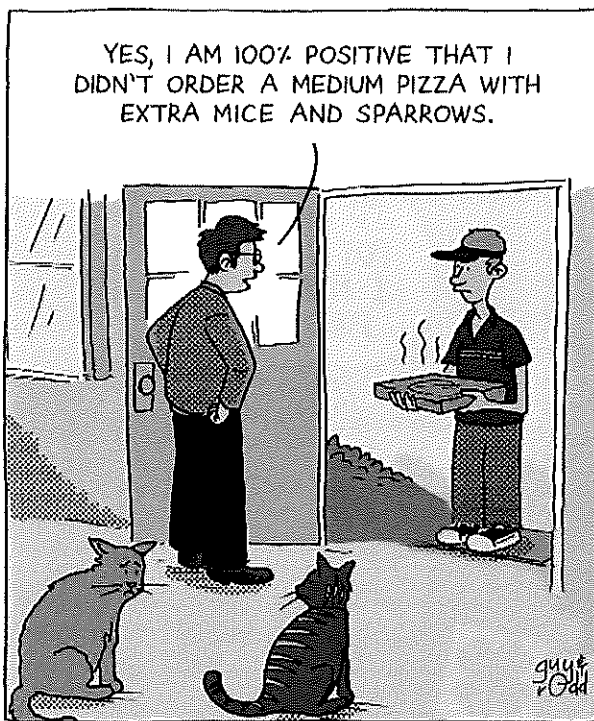
Currently, we are only offering curbside pickup and drop off for our patrons. Our weekly van run is still going, delivering new items to our patrons. We are hoping to be able to open with the next round of the Government's Path Forward Plan. Until then, keep updated via our Facebook page, Twitter, and our website.

We are still making our Early Literacy Program kits for families to take home each month. These kits are full of tools to help with gross and fine motor skills, numerical and literacy skills; as well as crafts, snack ideas, games and other fun activities.

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.

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.

Marilyn Newton, Library Manager, Phone: 780-592-2122, Email: [librarian@innisfreelibrary.ca](mailto:librarian@innisfreelibrary.ca)



By the end of the month of February, the sun won't set until 6:01 pm

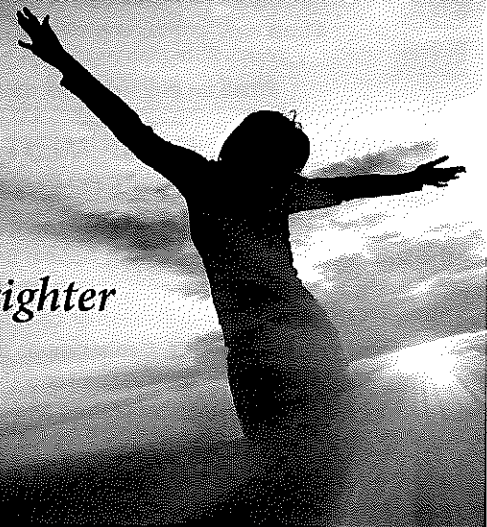
By the end of March it will be 7:58 pm

April: 8:52 pm

May: 9:41 pm

June: 9:55 pm

*There are brighter days ahead.*



### ANOTHER THING

#### TO DO WITH POTATOES

(when you're tired of the same old mashed!)

#### You'll need:

Yellow Flesh Potatoes & Fresh Tomatoes  
Oil, salt & pepper  
(Onions & Mushrooms optional)

#### Directions:

Wash and slice potatoes about 1 cm thick, then boil for approx 10 mins in salted water. (Should still be firm)

Cut a cross into soft end of tomatoes, then drop tomatoes into boiling water for a few minutes. Remove tomato skins.

*Toss par boiled potatoes with a little oil and salt and pepper to your taste.*

*Arrange potatoes in baking dish and squish tomatoes over them.*

*Bake in 400 degree oven for 20 mins. Turn over potatoes and tomatoes then bake a further 20 mins or until you start to get crispy bits!*

*Note: You can add chopped fried onions and fried mushrooms to this dish if you wish. Also add spices of your choice.*

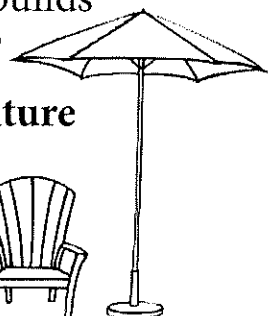
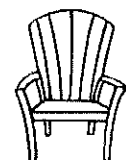
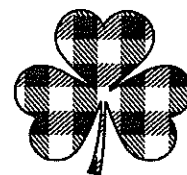
*The amount you make depends on how much you like potatoes!*

*(Thanks to Gayle Foyster for this recipe)*

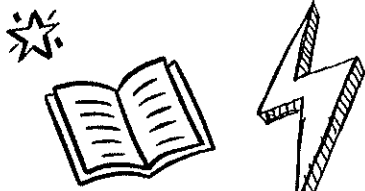


What do you call an Irishman who builds outdoor chairs?

**Paddy O'Furniture**



Fun Fact: The word "fizzle" started as a type of fart. In the 1400s, it meant to "break wind quietly," according to English Oxford Living Dictionaries.



MAKE UP A REASON  
OR GO OUT AND FIND ONE  
BORROW A REASON  
OR BURROW AND MINE ONE  
BUILD ONE FROM REASONS  
LEFTOVER AND BROKEN  
FROM REASONS TOO QUIET  
OR REASONS WELL SPOKEN  
OR ONES THAT WERE SPOKEN  
OR ONES THAT WERE WRITTEN  
ON WALLS IN SMALL LETTERS  
THAT WERE MEANT TO BE HIDDEN

INVENT A NEW REASON  
TO GET OUT OF BED  
LIKE A BOLT OF LIGHTNING  
STRUCK YOUR HEAD  
LIKE A PISTOL FIRED  
AND YOU'RE OFF TO THE RACES  
LIKE IT'S DOWN TO THE WIRE  
AND YOU'RE HOLDING ACES  
LIKE EVERY DAY  
IS A BREAND NEW PAGE  
OR A PERFECT WAVE  
OR A WELL-LIT STAGE



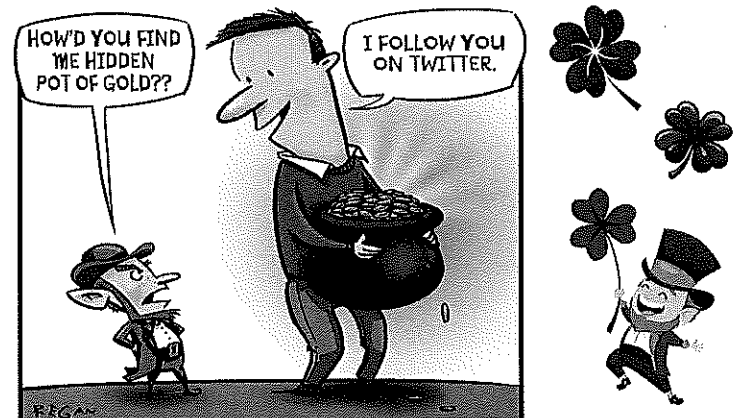
IMAGINE A REASON  
ONE REASON MY DEAR  
AND YOU'LL FIND  
THAT THE REASON'S  
THE REASON YOU'RE HERE!

COBBLE A REASON  
AND CALL IT YOUR OWN  
OR SHARE WITH THOSE  
WHO'VE BEEN LEFT ALL ALONE  
OR SCREAM IT OR DREAM IT  
AS LOUD AS CAN BE  
OR WHISPER IT SOFTLY  
TO ALL THAT YOU SEE

### WORD SEARCH: St. Paddy's Day!

D	L	E	P	R	E	C	H	A	U	N	A	O	S
B	R	E	C	L	M	K	C	O	R	M	A	H	S
L	A	E	O	C	E	F	R	E	L	E	C	F	D
A	K	F	R	K	R	M	A	I	P	M	L	A	O
R	C	F	N	C	A	A	I	E	R	E	S	H	P
N	I	O	E	U	L	R	R	R	G	R	G	R	A
E	R	C	D	L	D	C	R	I	E	A	O	H	R
Y	T	H	B	D	I	H	A	P	D	L	C	A	A
S	A	S	E	O	S	N	E	D	L	D	A	D	D
T	P	I	E	O	L	D	A	P	A	G	S	N	E
O	T	R	F	G	E	L	E	S	A	R	R	E	D
N	S	I	D	N	C	A	E	O	A	E	T	R	A
E	P	O	T	O	F	G	O	L	D	E	O	N	D
R	A	I	N	B	O	W	I	E	E	N	C	G	S

GOOD LUCK PARADE IRELAND BLARNEY STONE SHAMROCK  
EMERALD GREEN CORNED BEEF CLADDAGH ST. PATRICK EMERALD ISLE  
LEPRECHAUN POT OF GOLD IRISH COFFEE RAINBOW MARCH



## Happy 80th Birthday

March 7, 2021!

To our Rockin' Mama  
**Lillie Petrowski!**

Love Always from Rena (Ed), Jackie (Rob),  
Charlotte (Troy), Bobbi (Kent),  
Laine (Alana, Carter & Zachary), Robert (Nicole)

### BUSINESS DIRECTORY

**Village of Inland Library**  
780-592-2122

**Library Hours**  
Wednesday 1:00pm - 7:00pm  
Thursday 12:00pm - 6:00pm  
Friday 10:00am - 3:00pm

**lanovaz**  
PROFESSIONAL CORP.

-Accounting Services -Personal Tax  
-Corporate Tax -Commissioner for Oaths

Phone: 780-995-5235  
Email: jo@lanovaz.com

780-592-2443  
**The Cutting Edge**  
Family Hair Care

Tues, Thurs, Fri & Sat  
Appointments only at this time

Linda Dobler  
Stylist/Pedicure  
See you soon!

**Farm Fresh** \$3 dozen  
BROWN EGGS FOR SALE

Chantal Laforest  
780-592-3946 or 780-721-9685

Give Lisa Anderson a call for all your Ag Retail needs

**All In FARM SERVICES**

780-593-3794

"The Little Convenience Store... with a whole lot more"

**Confectionery 881**  
CONVENIENCE STORE + MORE

780-853-7306 info@confectionery881.ca  
Find us on Facebook/confectionery881

**Sipology**  
by Steeped Tea

Tamara Kitt 780-646-3797  
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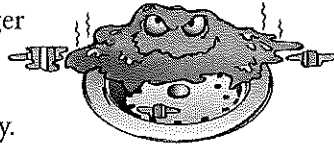
# Farm Wife Diaries... Real Men Don't use Drains... by Deb Barber

Well apparently 'my' Farmer Hubby doesn't use it; he goes for the heavy guns which I accidentally referred to as "Doctor Plumber" and with a roll of his eyes and a sarcastic bite to his tone he informed me it is "Mister Plumber". I say 'tomahto', 'tomayto' who really cares what the brand name is as long as it clears out the clog! This discussion all came about a few weeks back when the kitchen sink started to regurgitate its contents back up into the adjoining sink.

When my kitchen sink started to back up into the second sink for the umpteenth time, I knew we had to take adverse action and as much as I dreaded bringing Farmer Hubby into the situation yet again, I realized I really had no other choice as it's relatively hard to sneak a plumber into your house (if they even make COVID house calls) when your husband is lurking in the shadows 24/7! After his usual tirade of curse words, he dug out his bottle of Mister Plumber and following the directions poured it down the drain to 'attack' whatever must be the culprit behind the blockage! Letting it sit for the required time frame he then flushed the drain with warm water and walked away brushing his hands off in satisfaction.

So, about a week later when the symptoms returned, I was reluctant to advise him that his fix was short term and instead turned to my trusty friend Google to see what light they could possibly shed on the situation. After discounting several suggestions, I settled on the one that said to block the one drain with the drain cap and

using a plunger attempt to open up the clogged artery.



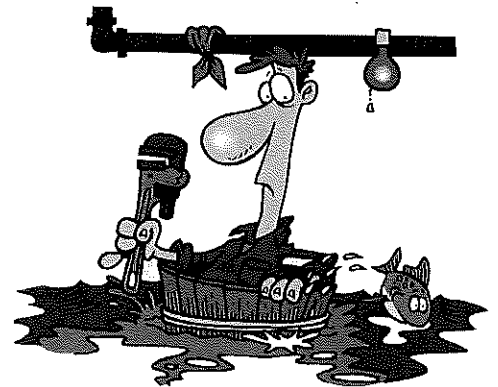
I shared this information with Farmer Hubby, and he set out to locate the elusive plunger; it was one of those items you say to yourself I don't use this often so I'll put it here, knowing for certain one would not forget where 'here' was. He discovered that over time the plunger had aged (as we all do) and the rubber was no longer supple and had hardened significantly so that it had lost its flexibility. However, a good application of hot water seemed to revive it somewhat and we set out to attack the clog.

Farmer Hubby had me hold the other drain cap in place while he flexed his muscles and applied the plunging action. I have to confess the entire sink was heaving so badly I was wondering if I would have a kitchen left after the process. At first not much happened and he gave me his special look indicating he does not think highly of my Google resource. Eventually some very unpleasant water came gurgling up along with an offensive smell. Thinking perhaps we had resolved the issue we attempted to fill the sink only to discover the problem still persisted.

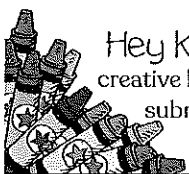
Now Farmer Hubby decided to bring out the 'big' guns and shouldering his crescent wrench, a pail and a couple of small ladders we descended into the bowls of the basement to what I will refer to as the 'sewer' hatch. Can you picture me precariously perched on one ladder holding a pail against the wall (as this said hatch was in the cold

storage room just below the ceiling) and Farmer Hubby, crescent wrench in hand removing the 'cap'. I was prepared for the most disgusting smell along with putrid water pouring down the walls. But alas nothing was there, and nothing occurred (which was wonderful and frustrating at the same time).

I left Farmer Hubby examining the 'hole' with his trusty flashlight and returned to the scene of the crime. I started running hot water and low and behold after a huge burping sound the drain gurgled happily and the water whisked away! I yelled down to him that whatever he had done the matter was now cleared up. He hollered back that he hadn't done one thing! So, we don't know what worked, if the Mister Plumber had sat long enough it chewed through the blockage, if attacking the poor sink with the plunger was the trick or the house just wanted to add some excitement to our COVID boring lives but whatever the answer was it has worked like a charm since (touch wood).



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