

TOWN OF BREDENBURY

NEWSLETTER APRIL 2017

Season Draws to a Close for the Bredenburg Cougars

Although falling just short of both the Triangle hockey League and the Provincial D finals is still stinging, the past season for the Cougars will be remembered as a good one. Despite a slow start and losing the first three games the cougars finished the regular season with 10 wins, 7 losses and one overtime loss for 21 points and third in the league standing.

The team started the league playoffs defeating the Whitewood Orioles 3 game to none and in provincials defeated Cupar Canucks in a two game total point series. They then faced off against a strong Craik Warriors team and after two hard fought game came away with a slim 1 goal series victory. With both playoffs and provincials running simultaneously the Cougars were forced to play a lot of hockey against very good hockey teams and the injuries started taking their toll on the teams impressive run. The Cougars entered the league semifinals vs. Theodore and the south provincial finals against Wilcox with key players out of the lineup or playing hurt, and despite a strong effort were unable to advance.

This year the Cougars iced a hockey team that was for most part hometown comprised mainly of local players that lived or had roots in Bredenburg, Churchbridge and Saltcoats. Two highlights that need mentioned are that the team finishing the season with the lowest goals against average, and Chris Korchinski winning league MVP.

It takes a lot of work off the ice to keep a senior hockey team going year after year with fundraising, and workers for the games. The Team would like to thank all those who worked in and for the kitchen, the door, the bar, and the game workers. Last but not least thanks to the fans, the support this year was great (as always). Without you we would not be able to keep a hockey team going in our small town. Thank you all.

The Cougars will be holding their annual windup banquet on Saturday April 22 with cocktails starting at 5pm, Supper at 6pm and dance at 9 pm. The cost of the supper will be \$20 for adults, with preschoolers getting in for free. There will be no charge for the dance, instead we will be having a silver collection for Halle Thompson to help with her ongoing medical costs.

Tickets for the supper will be in advance only to reserve please contact Perry Janett 898-2354 or cell 740-7034. Please come out to support the Cougars and enjoy a great meal with friends and family.

See you there!!

Bredenbury Arena:

The season for the Bredenbury Arena has come to an end. It was a very long season for everyone. There were some ups and some downs. Some of the ups were a very successful season for the Cougars and some very profitable tournaments. The rink got a newer Olympia ice machine as well that seems to be working very good. A negative was the compressor losing the Freon costing an unexpected \$10,000.

Hundreds of hours are spent by volunteers at our rink to make it viable to keep the rink open. If we do not have volunteers for the rink and the rink kitchen it would not be able to open and operate. The kitchen subsidizes the rink general operation. Even though the Rink Board has been dismantled, that does not mean that the town can operate the rink financially without volunteers.

We thank all the volunteers over the years that helped our rink. You all know who you are and we thank you! To mention a few key jobs: kitchen cleaning; cleaning cooking appliances; kitchen ordering; making burgers; food preparation; candy bag preparation; making desserts and soups as extra income for the kitchen; scheduling kitchen workers; scheduling ice time; serving on the board; washing aprons and tea towels; handling cash box, floats and deposits; and working games in all other aspects.

The financial statement later in the month will show all costs but the major costs are the Ice Plant Maintenance and Materials for Ice Surface which normally is approximately \$2000-\$5,000 per year; this year it was approximately \$20,000 because of the Freon leak.

The Power and Gas Bills; they are \$4000-\$7000 during the operating season and approximately \$500-\$3000 when the rink is closed. The caretaking and ice maintenance for the rink is approximately \$2300 a month.

Our income from ice rentals per month was approximately \$3000-\$4000 during the busy months. The income for ad board was approximately \$3500 for the year.

We anticipate SGI Canada to continue to give us a grant for \$5000 in April of each year; however this season we never received it because of a change to their fiscal year end.

We used to get a grant from Parks & Recreation for \$2500 for artificial ice; however the government scrapped that program and we did not receive those funds.

The Town of Bredenbury budgets \$10,000 for capital costs at the arena; but this year they gave the rink more than the budgeted amount.

There is no other income for the rink directly other than the kitchen. When hockey games are played the hockey teams get the money for the door, 50-50, square and bar, etc. to help them fund their teams.

Bredenbury Market:

Open up your cook book; put those needles to work and dust off the work bench! The Bredenbury market wants to see YOU on Saturday, April 8 from 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. at the Bredenbury Community Hall.

Whether you have a product or a craft, baking or a service that you want to sell or even advertising, call now to reserve your space. Young entrepreneurs welcomed.

Looking to buy that little something special? Curious to know who sells your favourite product close by? Are you hungry for homemade baking? Maybe you're restless and need a reason to go for a drive? Come and discover Bredenbury market where you can enjoy a coffee and a visit while browsing local crafters, bakers and home-based businesses in our area.

Check out the Facebook page for "The Bredenbury Market" or for more information and reservations; call Naomi at 306-621-0143.

Library Board:

The Bredenbury Library has been a part of our community for many years. We are one of the branches of the Parkland Regional Library system. In addition to the traditional books and magazines the library now offers the use of computers during library hours as well as access to music, games and e-readers.

In order to have a branch library we must have a local library board to oversee the library within our community.

In the fall one of our dedicated library board members resigned. Paulette Walker was our local board chairperson and we will miss her on our board.

The library board is now in need of some new members.

If you are interested in becoming a member of our board please contact Gladi Andrew (898-2324) or Pam Hall (898-2123). Thank you.

Bredenbury Golf Course:

Put away the hockey sticks and bring out the golf clubs. The Bredenbury Golf Club will be having their first season meeting on Tuesday, April 11 at 7:30 p.m. in the Lions Den. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

Church Luncheon:

The next Church Luncheon will be held on Wednesday, April 12 from 11:30 a.m. -1:00 p.m. Ham Lunch. Cost \$12. Pre-schoolers free. Delivery & Take out available call 306-898-2052.

Canada Day:

Canada Day 150th Birthday is scheduled for Saturday, June 24, 2017. A schedule of events has already been mailed out; another one will be mailed out closer to the date. See attached the Regina Science Children's Exhibition information that will be held that day from 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

There has been an event created on Facebook; if you are on social media please say if you are going on there so we have an estimated number.

The Town has received a \$5000 donation from South Saskatchewan Community Foundation to help with costs.

Also mailed out was a volunteer sign-up sheet, you can sign up on the sheet and drop it off at the town office, or you can call the office at 898-2055 or Pam at 898-2123 to say where and when you can help. The sign-up sheet will also be on Facebook and in the near future on the website at www.townofbredenbury.

We are eager to have a great community event.

Lions Bunny Drive & Used Glasses Collection:

The Lions will be doing their Annual Chocolate Bunny Drive, Tuesday, April 4 starting at 6:30 p.m. \$5.

The Lions will also be collecting used eye glasses at the same time. If you have used eye glasses at any time of the year you can drop them off at the town office and they will be delivered to the Lions.

Summer Student:

The Town of Bredenbury is currently looking for a summer student. The person must be a self-starter, motivated, and eager to learn. The applicant must be a student in school this year and attending school again in the fall. The applicant can either be attending high school or university.

Must be 16 years or older with a valid driver's licence.

Duties include but are not limited to: daily water & sewer testing, grass cutting, tree trimming, equipment general maintenance, cleaning shop and equipment, general plumbing duties, care taking duties, building maintenance, office duties, etc.

On the job training will be provided. The student will work with another public works staff member. Position will remain active until a student is hired.

Full Time Employee:

The Town of Bredenburg is currently looking for a full time public works person. This person must be able to work as a team player and independently. The person must be a self-starter and motivated.

The applicant must have a valid driver's licence (preference to Class 3 with A enforcement); and a Grade 12 or GED education. Ongoing education and safety training is a must for this position. Preference will be for someone with Power Mobile Equipment, WHIMS, Ground Disturbance, Confined Space training.

The position will be 40 hours per week. Various hours and days of work may be required. Overtime may be required occasionally. Person must be available for emergency call outs and available to do every other weekend water testing. Wage will depend on experience and qualifications.

The applicant will have to provide criminal record check, drivers abstract and Grade 12 Transcript and Diploma prior to acceptance of position.

Benefits include MEPP Pension, Life insurance, Short Term and Long Term Disability Insurance, Vision, Dental and Health

Preference will be given to individual who has experience running equipment such as: back hoe, grader, loader, tractor, and lawnmower. Preference will be given to individual who has Class 1 Water Treatment & Distribution and Class 1 Wastewater Certification.

Duties include but are not limited to: daily water & sewer testing, grass cutting, tree trimming, equipment general maintenance, cleaning shop and equipment, general plumbing duties, care taking duties, building maintenance, water & sewer installations, clearing snow, etc. On the job training will be provided for right applicant.

Winter duties may include Rink caretaking and other rink duties.

Position will remain active until right applicant is hired.

Spring Thaw:

Spring Thaw is overall pretty good this year. If you know of a problem area; please call the office at 306-898-2055 to have it looked at.

Assessments & Mill Rates & Base Taxes:

The Town met with SAMA prior to the mail out the Assessments, the meeting was very long. The town's main concerns with the assessments were for those assessments that impacted newer, larger homes; the assessments seemed to be way too high for our community even based on the January 1, 2015 base date.

SAMA explained that they use mass appraisal based on the sales that they have for the community from January 1, 2013 to January 1, 2015; from there they use formulas that show the statistical outcome for all properties in the town. There cannot be a cap to those assessments.

The assessment process is not ideal being every four years, especially when we have a declining economy; other provinces have tried every year or every couple years but some have found there was more room for error with such a short time span between assessments.

SAMA also told us that in order to win an appeal there must have been an error in assessment with proof. Example: your assessment says you have two garages but you only have one.

It is highly suggested before you appeal your assessment you go online to www.SAMAView.ca and search your alternate number to see what you are being assessed on because an appeal can go the other way for you. For example: if you are assessed on one garage but you have two garages your assessment would increase.

The Town of Bredenbury has decreased our Mill Rate as much as possible to still generate enough revenue to run the municipality.

With budget announcement it appears we will be getting approximately a total of \$12,000 less this year between grants in lieu and Revenue Sharing Grant; although there is no clear line on this yet.

The Education Mill rates are as follows: Residential 4.12; Agriculture 1.43; Commercial 6.27.

The Town of Bredenbury Mill rate will be 4 mills for all properties (last year 7 mills). The Base Tax for Residential will be \$850 (last year was \$700) and the Base Tax for Commercial will be \$950 (last year was \$700). The mill rate factor for commercial will be 5 (last year was 4.5).

Taxes will be mailed out in May. If you would like a tax estimate call the office.