

Summer Village of Larkspur

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Administration Garth and Marion Bancroft (info in letterhead)

Fireban info: 1-866-394-3473 (1-866-FYI-3473) <http://www.albertafirebans.ca>. Larkspur follows the County of Westlock Fire bans

SUMMER VILLAGE OF LARKSPUR SPRING NEWSLETTER MAY 2014

GREETINGS FROM THE ADMINISTRATION AND COUNCIL OF OUR SUMMER VILLAGE

One of the highlights of every year is getting back to the lake in the spring when things are starting to come back to their summer glory after the winter. This year there are several interesting and exciting events that will be happening in our Summer Village.

But first, please remember that everything is very dry, at this time of the year and more caution, than normal, is required with respect to fire. As of this time there has not been a ban on campfires but the possibility of such bans is only a few hot, dry and windy days away. If there are **FIRE BANS** this spring – please be sure to observe them very carefully. And Please – Please be very careful with fire all of the time – we really do not want to see the alternative.

We have discussed and debated the suggestions that these newsletters be done by email and it has been decided to continue using the ink and paper format for the time being. There were two drawbacks to the email format that we were not able to overcome at this time. The first being, that some of our residents do not have internet access and therefore email addresses. The second consideration was that we use the Newsletter to provide some of the notices that we are required to provide under the Municipal Government Act. An example of such a notice was the one in last spring's Newsletter regarding Nomination Day and Election Day. The Municipal Government Act recognizes a notice mailed to every ratepayer as being legitimate, at this time it does not recognize email.

We expect that the Tax Notices will be mailed shortly, if you do not have yours by the end of June please contact Marion and she will see that you get looked after. The GOOD NEWS is that it appears Council has been able to avoid an overall Tax increase in 2014. However, the BAD NEWS is that the 2014 Assessment information has arrived and there are significant increases. Because not all of the increases are the same some properties will have an increase in their Taxes even with the total Tax collected remaining the same as last year. The Assessments are not controlled by our Summer Village; they are prepared by an independent Company for the Summer Village and are based on Market Value as of last summer.

Besides having a lot of fun at the lake this summer there are three things planned.

(OVER)

Very shortly, possibly by the time that you receive this Newsletter the Crescent roads will be rehabilitated to a similar standard used on Larkspur and Sunrise Drives two years ago. The contractor will be attempting to keep any disruption to as reasonable as possible level. **PLEASE AVOID PARKING ON THESE ROADS WHILE THE CONTRACTOR IS WORKING ON THEM.** Please plan to cooperate in any way possible to make the Contractor's live as easy as possible. The quicker he gets done the quicker that we can get back to normal.

Speaking of the Crescent roads, two or three of these roads are too narrow to accommodate parking. There have been concerns raised with respect to large trailers parked in places that make the passage of other vehicles difficult. **This could create a big problem in the event of an emergency.** If your neighbor has a problem getting his car or pickup past your truck or trailer – what hope does a Fire Truck or Ambulance have. Please consider your neighbours when parking.

REGATTA – Please see announcement on separate sheet.

LITTLE LIBRARY ANNOUNCEMENT

A “ Bring a book –take a book “ library has been built by a volunteer and will be up and running shortly. Mrs. Donna Boutin has volunteered to paint two murals for the front panels and they will be attached when ready. Ms. Nadia Scott volunteered to take on the task of librarian and the library will be parked on Beaver Crescent. Mrs. Donna Crozier will paint a ‘label’ on the structure. It is free to use and please donate any books that you have found enjoyable reading. Some of the materials for construction were donated by Tony and June Galiwoda and Elaine and Ken Schauenberg. Many thanks to all the volunteers that made this project happen. Enjoy this project all summer long.

Let's all plan our activities in and around our Summer Village with common sense, good judgment, respect and tolerance. Please have a safe and happy summer.