



Your *Village* Voice

The Village of Bawlf Newsletter
Volume 6, Issue #8 (August, 2009)

Next Council meeting:

Wednesday, August
19th at the Village
Office, 7 PM

The public is welcome
to attend all Council
meetings. If you
would like to address
Council, please contact
the Village Office by
noon on August 13th to
arrange a time.

Mayor's message



If you've never been to the theatre in Rosebud, AB, I suggest you clear a spot on your calendar to do exactly that. Rosebud Theatre bills itself as "Alberta's largest rural professional theatre" and it is truly a rural Alberta success story like no other. If you're ever wondering what the potential of small-town life in Alberta is, look no further than Rosebud.

The hamlet of Rosebud is located approximately 30 minutes WSW of Drumheller. My wife and I recently had the pleasure of attending the timeless "Man of La Mancha" there and I can tell you that it was a wonderful experience from start to finish. Dinner is served at the Mercantile Dining Room, where you can dine either on the patio or in one of the interesting theme rooms (we ate in "The Greenhouse", named such because that's what the room once was) inside. Musicians wander from room to room to provide ambience and the service is absolutely excellent. Afterwards, there's enough time between dinner and the show for patrons to stroll around town to visit the gift shops and art galleries.

Then, the show then begins at 8:30 PM in the first-class theatre complex and the full-time actors/actresses (most of whom have attended the **Rosebud School of the Arts** – *yes, you read that correctly*) are of equal calibre to those found on the stages of Edmonton and Calgary. Shows run from March to December and cover every type of theme and situation (visit www.rosebudtheatre.com).

Yes, Rosebud is a *hamlet* (i.e., no local Council or Administration), with a population of less than 100 and with a mission stating that it is "an inspiring community dedicated to aesthetic integrity and environmental sustainability". *Amazingly, it attracts more than 40,000 visitors per year.* It all began in 1973, when LaVerne Erickson, a music and art teacher in Calgary, started Rosebud Camp of the Arts as a summer outreach program for Calgary youth. Now, Rosebud, Rosebud Theatre, and the Rosebud School of the Arts are at the absolute pinnacle of what they are trying to accomplish.

There's a saying that says, "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever does." Rosebud is indeed a living, breathing example of that. Too often, we in small towns wait for "someone else" to take that difficult first step in fulfilling our limitless potential. What amazing things could we do in Bawlf if we simply put our minds to it? Think what Rosebud would be now if that small group of people hadn't dared to put their vision into action. I can promise you that it wouldn't be a destination that attracts 40,000 visitors per year.



Note that the new Village Office is now open for business. Thanks to everyone who helped with the move. The Village will be holding a grand opening sometime in the fall: watch this newsletter and the Village website for further details.

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Speaking of taking personal initiative, a huge **THANK YOU to Elaine Heck**, who purchased flowers and planted them at the Village entrance sign. True communities are built on the basis of small actions taken by individuals, such as Elaine, of their own accord. Much appreciated, Elaine!

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Regional Children's Centre Update

Still no official announcement. Keep watching this space or check the Village website.

Questions? Contact Tammy Albers at 780-373-2421 or Christine Ginther at 780-672-8262.

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Hey, kids! Summer in the Park in Bawlf continues!

Thursdays: August 6th & 13th. 10 AM to 2 PM. Come to the Park for arts & crafts, games, leadership activities, and so much more. The program is FREE. Children must be 5 by June 30, 2009; there is no upper age limit. For further information, call 780-672-0141. Registration continues throughout the summer program (please have child's AHC#). **CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS ARE WELCOME.**

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By-laws that have been given first reading at the July 15th Council meeting:

None.

The Village invites comments on proposed by-laws after first reading. Copies of these by-laws are available on the Village's website at www.bawlf.com or at the Village Office.

August, 2009 Calendar

Aug 3: Civic holiday

Aug 6: Summer in the Park

Aug 13: Summer in the Park

Aug 19: Village Council, 7:00 PM

Aug 31: first day of school for students

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"Almost always, the creative dedicated minority has made the world better."

Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Village of Bawlf Council Members

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