



Your Community

The official newsletter of the R.M. of East St. Paul

December 2022



For more information, call: 204-668-8112
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Email: info@eaststpaul.com
Office: 1 - 3021 Birds Hill Rd. 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Holiday at the Plaza fun for everyone



Mayor and council with RM of East St. Paul staff members who were part of the team that made Holiday at the Plaza such a huge success. Front row, left, Rec Coordinator Melissa Larter, and from right, Darren Dudych in the red suit, and Public Services/Facilities staff Derrick Veinot, Taylor Brandt and Chris Pilat.



It was a beautiful night to be outside and when you throw in Santa, food and warm beverages and good company, Holiday at the Plaza was a big hit.

The Dec. 10 event drew a large crowd to Centennial Plaza for the annual Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony.

Free hot dogs and hot chocolate were enjoyed by the first 100 people, mini hockey kept young and old busy, and the fire truck lit up the plaza and thrilled many who got to sit inside.

Mayor Carla Devlin and Brooke Lund plugged in the lights around 6:30 and the RM tree flashed coloured lights.

"I want to thank everyone who came

out on this beautiful night and enjoyed the music and fires and the sense of community," Devlin said.

"The staff at the RM that put this night together deserve all the credit. The weather cooperated and people were able to enjoy some family time and maybe even get to meet some new neighbours. It was a really nice night."

Music was provided by Tim Butler & Friends and their mix of holiday music and classic tunes had people up on the dance floor throughout the night.

Santa spent the evening milling about through the crowd, posing for pictures and handing out cookies.

Hottest tickets about to get hotter

The Coolest curling tickets of 2023 are available now and they're about to become a hot commodity with interest across the province spiking upwards as the field becomes set.

Co-Chairs of the East St. Paul Scotties organizing committee – Kim Link and Deb Palson – say the teams will be confirmed following this weekend's regional competitions, and people from the teams' home communities will start to snap tickets up.

"Tickets have been on sale for a while and sales are going well," Link said.

"Most of the teams will qualify this coming weekend and we know that friends and families of the competing teams are going to be buying sooner rather than later."

Team Jennifer Jones and Team Kristy Watling (who is affiliated with East St. Paul Curling Club) were the first two teams confirmed.

Day passes and event passes are available now at eaststpaulcurlingclub.net

There's also a fundraiser elimination draw. The organizers are offering one lucky person a chance to win \$10,000! They are only selling 400 tickets at \$50 each. One of these would make the perfect gift or Stocking Stuffer for someone on your Christmas list.

Tickets are available at The Eight Ender Lounge and Grrumpy's in the East St. Paul Curling Club. Or from any of the board members. For more information visit eaststpaulcurlingclub.net

"Sometimes families do gift exchanges, and sometimes you get a lottery tree in that exchange. Your odds of winning money are much better here than with any scratch tickets."

Tickets to the event are also great Christmas gifts.

Community members, curlers and non-curlers, have really stepped up to volunteer for the event. Volunteers range in age



East St. Paul Scotties Co-Chairs Kim Link and Deb Palson says ticket sales are going well and about to ramp up once the field is set.

from about 12 years old to the sky's the limit.

"They've been outstanding in putting their hands up and saying they're going to volunteer," Palson said.

"It's going to be a fun filled experience for them all."

Sponsors have also been very generous, Link said. There are still opportunities for sponsors to come forward and help make this one of the best provincial Scotties, but they've had great support to date.

"The RM has given us fantastic support in the use of the Arena and have been very instrumen-

tal in our planning stage. They are our Community sponsor and they've been nothing but helpful," Link said.

"We really appreciate the RM's generosity and support of this event."

Icemaker for the event Greg Ewasko has visited the arena and is looking forward to transforming the hockey ice into world class curling ice.

"He goes everywhere, and he's got a ton of experience," Link said.

One of the fun features of Scotties ESP2023 will be the Buffalo Bar!

It's the perfect place to meet with fellow fans and curlers alike. John from Grrumpy's Cafe will be offering great food for lunch and dinner.

There's going to be fantastic live entertainment on Friday and Saturday evenings!

Be sure to Experience some true Manitoba atmosphere at the Buffalo Bar in the Arena!

For event tickets go to eaststpaulcurlingclub.net

To become a sponsor, contact Kim at kimlink22@outlook.com or Debbie at palsondebbie@gmail.com

Please stay safe this holiday season

Now that the winter season is upon us, members of the East St. Paul Fire Department would again like to remind residents to continue thinking about their safety. Following are some reminders:

- Most houses in the rural municipality have high efficiency furnaces. These have exhaust and fresh air stacks located near ground level that must be kept clear of snow and drifts. Failure to do so could lead to a buildup of carbon monoxide which is a colourless and odourless gas hazardous to your health.

- If you are using your fireplace, use only seasoned wood. Do not burn paper or other refuse. Crack open a nearby window to allow for fresh air to enter your home and keep your fires small. Do you have the fireplace cleaned annually by a

qualified professional?

- Hopefully you are checking your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors on a weekly basis. Did you change the batteries when the clocks were moved back?

- Use space heaters according to manufacturer's instructions. Keep all combustibles at least one metre away from the heater. Unplug your heater if you are leaving your home.

- Please do not drink and drive. Please do not use street or other drugs and drive. Unfortunately, we respond to many vehicle collisions and see the tragic results of impaired driving.

- NEVER leave live candles burning if no one is home.

- Darkness starts around supper time and we ask that you keep your outside lights on and make sure your address is clear-

ly visible in case you may need emergency services.

- Check your block heater cords for signs of fraying. We don't recommend using an interior car warmer or your block heater if you have parked your car inside of a garage. Remember that windchill does not affect a vehicle. A small car fire can lead to big problems especially if the garage is attached to your home.

- Did you have your furnace checked by a trained service person?

- During the Christmas season if you have a live evergreen tree, do not use real candles on your tree and keep the tree well-watered. If you are leaving your home, unplug the tree lights.

- Extension cords are a temporary measure and should not be used as a permanent wiring solution. Do not cover cords

with rugs etc. as this creates a fire hazard.

- Using propane barbecues inside or storing propane tanks in a building such as a garage is prohibited by the Manitoba fire code.

As the year winds down, we would like to thank all of the residents of the municipality and members of Council for their ongoing support. In addition, we would like to thank the RCMP, the Public Works Department and members of the Interlake-Eastern RHA for their assistance at a number of incidents they attended in conjunction with our fire department.

In closing, the members of the East St. Paul Fire Department would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a safe and healthy New Year.

ESP well represented at WEDO

There was a strong East St. Paul presence at the WEDO Canada Women's Entrepreneurship Day – Manitoba Summit last month with Mayor Carla Devlin in her role of Manitoba Ambassador and former Mayor Shelley Hart as a keynote speaker.

Also representing the RM as keynote speakers were former MP Joy Smith and current MP Raquel Dancho. Smith is also the founder of The Joy Smith Foundation that works to stop human trafficking.

WEDO is the world's largest grassroots movement dedicated to educating, supporting and empowering women entrepreneurs.

The conference, held Nov. 18 at the U of M, had a theme of Courage to Lead, and for Devlin, it was the perfect place to invite Emily Marshall.

"I met Emily at the East St. Paul Farmers Market and I was just taken by the fact that she was 17 years old and started a company when she was 15," Devlin said.

Her business – Sweet Treats by Emily – came about when, like the rest of us, she found herself with a lot of free Covid-related time.

"I started my business in the summer of 2020. Throughout the Covid-19 lockdown I had a lot of free time so I was able to try new recipes and create many baked goods," Marshall said.

"I had mentioned to my parents the idea of selling my baking at farmers markets. My business started as a hobby and I can't believe how much it has grown. In the last couple years of running



Emily with some tasty WEDO cookies at the Manitoba Summit where she participated in a panel discussion.

my business I have been able to meet so many new people and create so many connections."

With WEDO coming up in November, Devlin knew there was an opportunity to support this young entrepreneur.

"We invited her to be one of our panelists and she did really well," Devlin said.

For Marshall, who says she is a shy person, the conference was a challenge, but running her business had helped bring her out of her shell and she was thrilled with the opportunity to speak at WEDO.

"Being on the panel at WEDO was an amazing experience! I enjoyed the entire day I was there,

because I was surrounded by so many strong and empowered women. I had the pleasure of speaking about my experience as a young female entrepreneur. I truly feel that this event helped give me more confidence in myself and my business," she said.

Devlin had another surprise for Marshall when WEDO gave her a scholarship of \$1,500. They're typically reserved for people in post-secondary education, so it will be held in trust for Marshall until she's 18.

She's excited to continue pursuing her business dreams.

"It is certainly a challenge balancing my school and business. Over the years I have been able

to improve my time management so that I can accommodate both without having to miss out on anything. I also try and take breaks when I need them so I don't get burnt out," Marshall said.

"After high school I hope to continue growing my business, I also plan on taking some business courses to give myself some more background knowledge."

Devlin, who started her own business at 25, continues to be impressed by her young colleague and sees a bright future for her.

"She's young and she's doing really well and she's an amazing baker."

Meet Brooke Lund, Honourary tree lighter

Brooke Lund was Mayor Carla Devlin's special guest at Holiday at the Plaza on Dec. 10.

Brooke, who's 10 years old, met the Mayor while she was campaigning prior to the election.

When Devlin knocked on the Lund family door and asked if anyone had any questions for her, young Brooke announced that she did.

"She had lots of questions about the geese and the ponds and the wildlife," Devlin said.

"We had a great conversation and it led to Brooke helping out in the campaign. I think getting kids involved in elections or politics is a good thing."

Brooke and her mom handed out flyers and Brooke got to learn about elections.

Brooke said her school had just had class elections and she was intrigued.

"I was telling her that we had our own elections in our class," she said.

Brooke said she enjoyed going door-to-door and meeting people in the community.

"It was really fun," Brooke said.

Mom Melanie said it was a good experience for her daughter.

"I thought it was really great.



Mayor Carla Devlin, Brooke Lund and Santa after the official tree lighting.

When Carla came to the door Brooke was really interested and started asking questions. She ended up going door-door-with Carla and it was a great experience."

Brooke was a special guest when the new council was sworn in and then was given the honour of lighting the Christmas tree.

Devlin said each year she'll choose a young person from the community to be the honourary tree lighter.





Left to right, RM of East St. Paul Council: Brian Imhoff, Orest Horechko, Charles Posthumus, Mayor Carla Devlin, Brian Duval and Santa.

Seasons Greeting from East St. Paul

On behalf of the staff of the RM of East St. Paul and members of council, I want to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season. However you choose to celebrate this time of year, I wish you health and happiness and all the best in 2023.

East St. Paul Mayor
Carla Devlin

For the Love of Music

Coffee Open House

Friday, February 10/23 7pm

Abundant Life
Lutheran Church

3486 Raleigh St. East St. Paul
Admission: 16 & up – \$15
6-15 – \$5
5 & under – free

Zumba at the 55+ Centre

Jan. 10 – March 28
\$6 per class or \$72 for all (\$10 annual Centre
registration fee required as well)
Come have some fun, dance to great music and
meet new people!

REGISTER NOW

WINTER REGISTRATION



IS NOW OPEN

VISIT EASTSTPAUL.COM > RECREATION >
PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES
FOR MORE INFORMATION

Have a story idea? Email donna.maxwell@eaststpaul.com