

The 'Birch Hills Heartbeat' newsletter is printed bi-monthly and available at the following locations on the 1st and 15th of the month: Lake Country Co-op, Cornerstone Insurance, Grumpy's Confectionary, Quayles Pharmacy, and various other businesses downtown. Pick up your free copy and share with a friend. Send your email address and request to be added to newsletter emailing list to [birchhillsrec@sasktel.net](mailto:birchhillsrec@sasktel.net)

**December 15th, 2017**

**Issue 156**



Merry Christmas!

How lovely it is to drive around town in the evening and see all the beautiful lights and decorations on houses, the condo building and businesses. 'Tis the season to be cheery and bright, but for some this time can be sad and lonely. To those, I urge you to come to any of the community activities being offered. You will be glad you did! And to others, I encourage you to invite a new community member to celebrate with your friends and family. I'd bet you would be glad you did!

Wishing you all a safe & joyous holiday!!

*Laurie Berube, Rec Director*

**DECEMBER** issues of this Birch Hills activity news letter was sponsored by:

**TURQUOISE TREE COUNSELLING & WELLNESS INC**

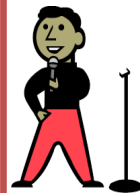
If you would like to be a sponsor of the 'Heartbeat' newsletter, contact Laurie at 306-749-7451/[birchhillsrec@sasktel.net](mailto:birchhillsrec@sasktel.net). The cost is \$100 by 3 sponsors (\$300/mos) for printing, advertising and ensuring that the newsletter stays free for everyone.

If you find yourself away from family on Christmas day, we invite you to come celebrate with us at the BH Community Church. (4th & Bellamy) We will be hosting a

**Christmas Day turkey & ham Dinner.**

Beginning at noon, with visiting and games to follow until 3:00pm. Dinner will be provided, but please feel free to bring games & potluck snacks.

No registration necessary, we will see you Christmas Day!



**Blackhawks Comedy Night**  
with Comedian,

**Jody Peters**

**Saturday, January 6th, 2018**

Tickets available from Birch Hills Senior Hockey Team Players

**\$25 each @ BH Civic Centre**

Dance to follow. No Minors Allowed

**CELEBRATE THE REASON FOR THE SEASON**

Everyone is welcome...

**Bethania Christmas Candle Light Service**

Saturday, December 23rd, 2017 7:30pm

Bethania Church Northern Light

Sunday, December 24th, 2017

**Birchview Home Christmas Eve Service**

At the home 6:30pm United Church hosts

**Candlelight Christmas Eve Service**

@ Lake Park Baptist Church

7:00pm

**Birch Hills Community Church**

**Christmas Eve Service**

7:30pm (Corner of 4th & Bellamy)



**BOXING DAY DANCE**

Tuesday, December 26th  
@ the Civic Centre in BH

Hosted by the BH Fire Department

**DJ TJAY** from St Louis

Midnight Lunch, door prizes, and friends

\$15 in advance / \$20 at the door

Contact your local firemen or tickets available at BH Coop

'FULL OF CHEER' Roughrider Cooler Raffle tickets  
available and will be drawn at the dance \$5ea or 3/\$10



## Anonymous Donation to Birch Hills School November 29, 2017

The principal of Birch Hills Public School received an amazing phone call a few weeks ago. Can you imagine a phone call out of the blue from someone who is interested in supporting children and youth with a significant donation? Birch Hills Public School, and the entire Saskatchewan Rivers School Division, are amazed and grateful at the generosity of a Birch Hills School alumni who recently made such a phone call. Jeff Court, the Principal of Birch Hills Public School, recently received this call and days later, a visitor stopped by the school with a check for \$100,000.

This is a private donation from a former student of the school. It is not a corporate gift. The donor, who prefers to remain anonymous, made it clear that the donation is unconditional and nothing is expected in return. His wishes are that the donation will encourage all alumni to come forward and remember the contribution they received from their public school experience. Alumni frequently donate to post-secondary institutions but rarely give financial support to their public school Pre-K to 12 education which has been equally influential in molding their future.

"We are honored and humbled by this generous donation to the Birch Hills Public School community," said Mr. Court. "We graciously accept the challenge to manage this gift wisely as we positively impact the current and future students of Birch Hills." It is an exciting opportunity to be privileged by this amazing gift.

Mr. Court, along with the students, staff and the parents are in progress with plans for how to best use this donation. There are a number of possible ideas, but as Mr. Court indicated, they will take the time to plan for the best possible current and long range benefits to students. The students and families will certainly express gratitude in a number of ways, but perhaps the best way to say thanks is to ensure that his gift is well-used to support students. The Birch Hills school community will certainly make sure that happens.

For further information contact:  
Robert Bratvold, Director of Education

THANK YOU!



THANK YOU!

## CRYSTAL SPRINGS COMMUNITY EVENTS

**Crystal Poker Rally:** Saturday, Feb 3rd (2018)

**Coffee Row:** Crystal Springs Rec Co-op Once a Month  
Coffee Row 2:00 to 4:00 P.M. Crystal Springs Hall  
Everyone is Welcome!  
Next Date is: Wednesday December 6th



## Birchview Nursing Home Dec Activities

All are welcome to attend. 2:30pm start,  
unless otherwise noted

Dec 15th	Step Out Dancers
20th	Job Mates Band "Santa visit"
21st	Piano Recital 3:30pm
24th	Christmas Eve Service 6:30pm
29th	New Years Party w/ Salt Water Joy Band



If you have a talent to entertain, contact Shelley to set a date

## BIRCH HILLS SCHOOL NEWS

Dec 15-16th	Sr Boys Basketball Tournament
18th - 22nd	<i>SPIRIT WEEK</i>
Mon 18th	Canadian Tuxedo Day (all jean)
Tues 19th	Meme / Emoji Day
	Christmas Concert 1:30 & 7:00
Wed 20th	Christmas Symbol Day
20th & 21st	Bake Sale & Candy Grams (must pre-order)
Thurs 21st	Ugly Christmas Sweater & Pizza Sale
Fri 22nd	Formal Day, Christmas Dinner and Formal Dance

December 23-Jan 7th, 2018

**Christmas Break!!**



Jan. 8 - First day of classes 2018

Birch Hills Public School Fundraiser

## "Food For Thought" Cookbook

The cookbook consists of 110 pages with 186 recipes submitted from our Kindergarten to Grade 12 families and Birch Hills community members. We are expecting the books to arrive the week of **December 18th** and will send home with your child.

If you do not have a child attending school, we will call you and you can pick the books up at the office. If you would like to purchase a cookbook (\$15/book), please contact Angie Laroche at alaroche@srsd119.ca or (306) 749-3301.



## BIRCH HILLS & AREA BUSINESS HIGHLIGHTS and NEWSLETTER SPONSOR

### TURQUOISE TREE COUNSELLING & WELLNESS INC

www.turquoisetreecounselling.com

turquoisetree@sasktel.net



turquoisetree  
counselling & wellness inc.

Erin McLeod and Tiffany Olson are registered clinical Social Workers who share a vision of working with people that seek to improve themselves and lives.

Turquoise Tree Counselling and Wellness Inc. offers a wide variety of counselling and coaching services in all areas of relationships, grief & loss, self esteem/confidence, stress management, anxiety, depression and overall mental health wellness using a variety of types of therapy that are tailored to our clients needs. Each individual is on their own unique journey in life. We believe that education and self-determination are key elements of the journey.

Counselling services may be covered through the client's employee insurance plans.

**Two offices you can find us at:** 2040- 2387 10th Ave W Prince Albert 306-922-2777  
OR #6-102 McKendry Ave Melfort, SK 306-752-1020

**CREATING HEALTHY BOUNDARIES WORKSHOPS in** Prince Albert Thursday, Jan 18th Victoria Square 6-9pm / Melfort Monday, Jan 22nd McKendry Ave Office 6:00 — 9:00pm  
\$60 Fee Snacks, refreshments and door prizes.



A BOUQUET of THANKS to the BH Dance Centre and helpers of the Haunted Arena that was held in October. The proceeds were donated to the Skating Arena. Your donation towards the arena is very much appreciated

### ST MARY'S ANGLICAN CHURCH NEWS

**Community Lunches:** 11:30-1:00pm

All community residents are welcome to join us for soup & bun Friday, December 15th, 2017

Next Date December 29, 2017



Sun, Dec 17th **Lessons & Carols** 5:00pm  
w/ Potluck Supper

**FAMILY SERVICES** continues on the 4th Sunday of each month. Next Date **December 24th**, 10:30 am  
All are welcome for an interactive service at the Hovdebo Family Farm. Contact Father Chris 306-930-0748 for more information. Come for an interactive church service



### COME AND GO TEA

90th Birthday Celebration for  
*Jewel Cochrane*

Sunday December 17th 2-4pm

at the Birch Hills Lutheran Church 48 Bellamy Ave  
Please join us in celebrating our Mom on her special day. All are welcome for birthday cake, coffee and visiting time!

### COME CELEBRATE

75th birthday Celebration for

**Larry Evans**

Saturday,

Dec 23rd, 2017

2:00 - 4:00pm

at the Civic Centre



### Christmas Tree Drop off

Will be beside the Post Office downtown, at the back alley... These will be used for the Winter Festival Bonfire & Tobogganing Night on February 3rd



### BIRCH HILLS UNITED CHURCH NEWS:

Thank you to everyone who has supported the United Church over the past year. We are pleased to announce that the Quiet Room at Birchview is part of our local outreach ministry and was funded with money donated to our Memorial Fund over the years. When all is completed we hope that it provides families of very ill residents a place to get away from the everyday activities and even a space to rest or stay overnight if necessary.

The draw for the homemade "Choir Gown Quilt" and "Choir Gown Apron" was made at the Ladies' Luncheon on Dec. 8. Winner of the quilt was Chelsea Lussier and winner of the apron was Rosalind Doderai. Huge thanks to Verna Unger for all the time and work spent on the quilt and to Brenda Getz for sewing the apron.

We hope you can join us at one or both of our special Christmas Eve services. We plan to hold our regular service at 9:30 a.m. and then will have an *evening service at 6:30 p.m. with the residents at Birchview.*





## News from the Birch Hills Sno-Posse

Local snowmobile club hosts

### 23rd Annual Rally

**February 10th, 2018**

Registration starts 8-1pm at Civic Centre  
Pancake Breakfast, BBQ lunch, Prizes

#### FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITY

The Birch Hills Sno-Posse Club is seeking out an organization/club that is willing to look after the kitchen at the 2018 Rally. The commitment will entail providing breakfast, lunch and supper starting at 8 am and ending at approx. 8/9 pm, located at the Birch Hills Civic Centre. Please email, message or text me why your club wishes to commit to this. Those that show interest will be selected by December 31, 2017.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask. Email [g.forsyth@sasktel.net](mailto:g.forsyth@sasktel.net) or text/call 960.9246. Please submit by December 22nd, 2017.

## Birch Hills PUBLIC LIBRARY News

### KIDS CHRISTMAS CRAFT

for ages 5-12yrs

Thursday, December 21st 3:30 pm

FREE, thanks to Sask Lotteries Community Fund. Only 10 spots available, pls register at 306-749-3281



**STORY TIME** with Mrs Joanne Thursdays @ 1:30pm  
Join us for Story Time now on For pre-schoolers

### New Library Hours - Started in November

Tues 11-4, 5-8 ; and Thurs 9-12, 1-6

### Buy Local or Bye Bye Local..

When shopping for the upcoming holiday season, keep in mind decorations, gifts, spirits, food, gas and more can be purchased right here in town.. Other ideas for stocking stuffers that also help to support local businesses & groups:

**Gifts or Certificates** from: BH Golf Course, Quayles Pharmacy, Wong's Restaurant, Birch Tree Cafe, KG Bar & Grill, Post Office, Grumpy's Confectionary, LakeCountry Coop, Pash Yoga  
**Raffle Tickets** from local groups: Skating Club Progressive 50/50, Curling Rink Annual Vacation Getaway raffle and a Curling Rink Christmas Basket of Cheer raffle. Minor Sports Elimination Draw

**Tickets & Gifts:** Blackhawks Comedy Night tix, Firemens Boxing Day Dance tix, BH School home cooking cook book

## Annual Christmas Hamper Appeal



Every year at this time, the Ministerial gives Christmas hampers to local families in need. In recent years, we have seen an increased demand for these hampers.

This program depends on the generosity of the local congregations and the entire community. We are most grateful for your support in years past.

The churches and the Co-op will soon begin to receive donations of non-perishable food items. Cheques can be made payable to the 'Birch Hills & District Ministerial Association.' You may give them to any of the local pastors.

Thank you very much for your support. We wish you and your families a blessed Advent and Christmas.

*"For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sake He became poor, so that you by His poverty might become rich." (2 Cor. 8:9)*

Birch Hills & District Ministerial Association



### Cross Country Skiers

Trails are being set at the golf course. If you would like to try x-country skiing, there are some skis available at the Rec Office. Contact Laurie 306-749-7451 for more info. Follow updates on Facebook "Birch Hills Cross Country Ski Club" Feel free to share ski trail information and partner up and try new trails around Sask.

## A BOUQUET OF THANKS



The Birch Hills & District Combined Appeal committee would like to express their sincere appreciation to all who so generously contributed to another successful campaign. Thank you to those who sat at the B.H. Credit Union, thank you to the Birch Hills Credit union for allowing us to have our table set up there and for all the services they provide to us each year.

*The 2017 Birch Hills & District Combined Appeal donations totaled \$9,660.00.*



### RECYCLE

Please Share Newsletter with a friend Send request to [birchhillsrec@sasktel.net](mailto:birchhillsrec@sasktel.net) to receive the news letter online

## BIRCH HILLS SKATING ARENA NEWS

**Public Skating** is FREE this season. Thanks to funding from the Community Sask Lotteries grant funding

### Public Skate times are

Tuesdays and Fridays 3:30 - 5:30pm.  
Saturday and Sunday Family Skate 2:00 - 4:00pm

Membership Fees are \$30 for individuals or families of Minor Hockey/Skate Club. Family membership \$60.  
*Thank you for supporting your local skating arena*

Pls pay at the canteen. Kitchen will be open Monday-Friday 4pm and until the last period of the last game of the evening.

If you are interested in joining a rec hockey team, contact:  
Men's Rec Hockey: Hawkeyes Thurs Elston 961-2842  
Goosers Wed Mitch 749-7978  
Ladies Rec hockey: Barracudas Carole 749-7446

**Book Private Ice for extra practice for you or with friends, for family gatherings, birthday parties or teams.  
Ice Rentals call/text Justine 749-7989**

### **BH Skate Club Progressive 50/50**

**Draw date Jan 11/18 @ 6pm  
at the Skating Arena.  
Tickets are \$3 each, 2 for \$5.00**



Proceeds will go towards the purchase of fabric to go around the rink boards for the carnival to use for years to come. Any left over funds will be used to off set the cost of the carnival, ie decorations, costumes, etc. You can purchase tickets from our local businesses in town or from one of the skating families.

*The BH Skating Club would like to thank  
your in advance for your support*

### **7th Annual Brrrr Chills Winter Festival**

February 1 to ...., 2018

So far, we have planned..

Thursday School Carnival, Birchview Home Carnival  
Friday St Anne's Luncheon, Sr Hockey Home Game  
Saturday Community Art Class & Showcase  
SnowPitch (teams play ball in the snow!)  
Sliding Hill, Weiner Roast and Fireworks

There is still room for more activities if your group is wanting to join in. Contact the Rec Office before the new year with your ideas.

Thanks to the businesses that have already expressed interest in donations or financial support and to those that are helping to plan for another fun festival.



### **BLACKHAWKS SENIOR HOCKEY**

Dec 15th Home Game vs Clavet  
Collecting for Community Food Hamper  
(1 draw ticket for ea food donation)

Dec 17th Away vs Clavet  
Dec 29th Away vs St Louis



Dec 30th Home Game vs St Louis  
Guaranteed \$500 50/50 courtesy  
of Carter's Custom Ag PLUS Calcutta Shot-out  
after the game

W/L/OL - 5/1/1 GO HAWKS!



### **MINOR HOCKEY Home Games**

Dec 19	Bantam vs Red Earth	6:45pm
Jan 9	PeeWee vs Tisdale White	7:00pm
10	Midget vs Shoal Lake	6:45pm
12	Atom vs Carrot River	6:30pm
21	PeeWee vs Red Earth	4:15pm

Birch Hills Barracudas hosting

### **5th Ladies Hockey Tournament**

Saturday, January 6th

Contact Rec Office

for more info 749-7451



Community Funding Assists our Rec Activities in Birch Hills

### **Cans, Bottles & Milk Jugs Piling Up?**

Youth Center Always Appreciated Donations of the following **BEVERAGE CONTAINERS**

Aluminum/Tin Cans  
Plastic Bottles & Jugs **INCLUDING MILK**  
(please rinse milk containers)  
Glass Bottles, Clear & Colored (Wine, Juice)  
Juice Boxes and Cartons  
Refillable Beer Bottles

We are not able to accept Non Beverage Containers or Plastic Household Containers Such as Soap, Javex, Glass Jars from Jam, Pickles, etc or Soup Cans

Donations can be dropped off at back of Youth Ctr anytime or call 749-2478





Laurie Berube,  
Recreation Director  
Box 280, Birch Hills, Sk  
S0J 0G0

Office Located at: 146 Bellamy Ave  
Office Hours Mon, Wed, Thurs 9am-12pm  
General Hours M-F 9am-4pm text or call  
Cell: 306-749-7451 or  
E-mail: birchhillsrec@sasktel.net  
Facebook Page: 'Town of Birch Hills  
Community & Recreation'  
Town Website: www.birchhills.ca



Christmas Idea! Purchase a 2018 Golf membership (or gift certificate) for your loved one at 2017 prices. We also offer

**INSTALLMENT PAYMENTS OF ANNUAL GREEN FEES POLICY**  
**EARLY PAYMENT OF ANNUAL GREEN FEES MEMBERSHIPS**

*2017 prices: Adult: \$575.00*

*Junior (18 years and under): \$125.00 - includes a driving range pass*

*Family membership (2 adults 2 juniors): \$1275.00*

For gift certificates, installment payments or early purchase of green fees and more info. Contact Laurie Berube in the Recreation Office 306-749-7451 Or call Lorisa Ganes at 749 7756



**Braggin' about our Own!**

Kara Thevenot (Kilden), a curler that grew up in the Birch Hills area (Northern Lights) and curled in our local curling rink, is on one of the Saskatchewan teams that will compete at the 2018 Viterra Scotties Women's Provincial Curling Championship in Melfort on January 2 to 7th, 2018.

**Kara Thevenot**, lead, will compete with **Team Silvernagle** along with skip **Robyn Silvernagle**, third **Jolene Campbell** and second **Dayna Demers**. **GOOD LUCK LADIES!**



### Birch Hills Curling News



Weekly league curling

Tues/Fri afternoons 12:30pm

Wed night 2 Person Sponsored by Cervus Equipment

Thurs Night Super League Sponsored by Cornerstone Insurance

### Upcoming Bonspiels

Jan 22 - 26th Seniors Bonspiel Open  
Jan 27, 2018 Cattleman's Bonspiel (invitational)  
Feb 9/10 Ladies 80's Theme Bonspiel Open  
Mar 2 & 3 Open 4 Person Bonspiel  
Mar 23/24 2 Person Bonspiel & Season Wind Up

### *STOCKING GIFT IDEA....*

Annual **Weekend Getaway** Raffle tickets on sale now.

**Christmas Spirit** Basket Raffle tickets also available.

Thx for your support with these curling fundraisers!

### Upcoming Events

December 15 - St Mary's Community Luncheon  
- Sr Boys Basketball Tourney  
- Sr Hockey Home Game (vs Clavet)  
17 - Tea for Jewel Cochrane 90th bday  
19 - School Christmas Concert  
21 - Library Kids Christmas Craft  
23 - Bethania Candle Light Service  
- Larry Evans Bday Celebration  
24 - Community Church Christmas Eve Service  
- Anglican Family Services  
- Birchview Christmas Eve Service  
25 - BHCC Community Christmas Supper (pg 1)  
26 - Firemen's Boxing Day Dance  
29 - Sr Hockey Away Game (in St Louis)  
30 - Sr Hockey Home Game (vs St Louis)  
January 2-7th Provincial Women's Curling  
6 - Ladies Hockey Tourney  
- Sr Hockey Comedy Night  
22-26th - Seniors Open Bonspiel  
27/28 - Cattleman's Bonspiel  
February 1st wkend Brrr Chills Winter Festival  
3 - Crystal Springs Poker Rally  
9/10 - Ladies 80's theme Bonspiel  
9 - Wing Night @ Curling Rink  
- Minor Sports Elimination Draw & Dance  
10 - Sno Posse Annual Sno-Rally

### **Birch Hills Ladies Curling Bonspiel**

80's Theme

February 9 & 10, 2018

Join us Friday Night for our wing night  
from 6-8pm Non Curlers welcome

Register your team of 4 with Jackie Mickelson 306-961-1550



The Birch Hills Guiding Associations would like to thank all of the vendors and everyone who supported our fall trade show. Watch for details of a spring trade show. We would also like to thank those who supported our poinsettia fundraiser. **Thanks! BH Guiding Assoc**