



**RESORT VILLAGE OF THODE**  
*...your community*  
**JANUARY 2012**

# **BEST WISHES FOR 2012**



*Council and your administration extend greetings and hope that all enjoyed a very Merry Christmas, very best of the season and Happy New Year. Our sincerest wishes to all of you, to your families and friends and we offer our sincerest wishes for good health and happiness in the New Year*

**RESORT VILLAGE OF THODE**  
**P.O. Box 202, DUNDURN, SK S0K 1K0**  
**PHONE 492-2259 FAX 492-2068**  
**EMAIL: THODE@XPLORNET.CA**

**SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR COMMUNITY**

*...we keep looking better and we've only started*

Mayor and Council for the Resort Village of Thode wishes to thank all of you that have helped make our community better. All of Council seeks what is best for our community and while some might feel that we don't adequately address their individual concerns we are always reminded that we must always act in the best interests of the community.

While we have seen some changes in recent years and some that required more adjustment than others, many of those changes are bearing fruit.

- Little things like adding lights and stairs at the Village Centre make public services more accessible and safer.
- More use of the Storage Site makes roads more accessible and cleared the south access and Crown lands so that egress in an emergency is available.

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**Speed Limit in our Village**

# 20 KPH

**Please drive carefully**

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**GET CONNECTED!!**

*Currently about 80% of the village is registered to receive Council minutes, updates and info by email. If you would like to receive this information and your newsletter electronically, please forward your email address to Jessie at*

[THODE@XPLORNET.CA](mailto:THODE@XPLORNET.CA)

**NOTES FROM OUR ADMINISTRATOR**

*Jessie Williams*

Please note that all 2011 taxes and fees are due. If you have outstanding taxes or fees please consult your tax notice for the amount due or call Jessie to confirm. Reminders of all accounts that were due have been sent out.

Also all 2011 utility arrears and other fees such as dock permits and storage fees will be transferred to the tax roll as of January 1, 2012. If you do not own the property that the utility arrears apply to, small claims action may be initiated by the municipality to collect the arrears.

**Outstanding tax accounts will accrue a 10% penalty effective January 1, 2012.**

**Property taxes and utility payments are due for water, septic as well as water and sewer project payments. Per prior notices the sewer levy is \$681.79 and payments were due by December 31/11**

**Septic Service Now Terminated**

*Effective January 1, 2012 residents of Thode no longer have septic pumping service coordinated by the Village. Accounts not paid by January 31, 2012 will be transferred to the tax roll. Before coordinating your own septic pump outs please contact the office to confirm that your hauler has a permit to transport sewage in our Village.*

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Please continue to help and keep our streets clear of all vehicles and obstructions to provide ample clearance for snow and garbage removal as well as the school bus access. Cooperation from the community in this regard has been exemplary.

**Thank you from the Staff and Council**

**STORAGE & DOCK SITES, BOAT LAUNCH ACCESS AND NEW SECURITY UPGRADES**

*...compliance and community support overwhelming surpassing 80%*

**BOAT SLIP FEES** – At this point we are in the process of confirming the actual number of slips available, but early indications suggest that compliance with the new program has exceeded 75% and may in fact be as high as 85%. We are grateful to all of those residents that have worked with our community and extended your cooperation to the village office as we implement this program. The hope was that this fair system would give relief to a few residents that didn't have docks or use the launch at all. Please support your local community, and submit payment for your dock fees. Payment secures your slip and reserves right of first refusal for future use.

**NEW LAUNCH SECURITY COMING THIS SPRING** – This spring a new gate will be installed at the launch site and all users with valid permits that have paid in full for 2011 and 2012 will receive a new key for the locking system. We will change the gate and key system and issue new secure keys free of charge to permitted dock owners. Residents requiring a key for the launch access that don't have a dock site will pay the same \$100.00 for their key each year. Boathouse owners will not be charged for a key.

If it is your intent to continue to place a dock in Blackstrap Lake and you have not paid the annual fee and/or filed a current dock site application form, please be advised that as per Section 405 of the Municipalities Act, *"the amount due with respect to any work or services performed by a municipality by agreement with any person is a lien against any land owned by the person for whom the work or service was performed. At the end of the year in which the work or services were performed, the municipality may add any unpaid amounts to the taxes."*

Failure to comply with Municipal policy could result in loss of your dock site and boat launch access. The unpaid fees will be added to the property taxes for the specified property owners pursuant to Provincial Legislation. If there any questions regarding the above please call Jessie Williams at (306) 492-2259.

**STORAGE COMPOUND ACCESS UPDATE** – Council has approved a program to allow paid users of the storage compound to have key access. New locks and 'do not copy' keys are being ordered and you will be contacted when the keys are in. Administration is updating the storage site use agreements and will be requiring a security deposit for the keys. We hope this will offer more convenience for the users of the storage site.

We are also planning for a treed shelter belt and improved fencing around the storage area. It might be possible to begin transplanting trees that we have in our nursery as they had been donated with such needs in mind. Thank you to all the users that have been assisting in keeping the storage and recycling area clean.

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**VILLAGE CENTRE IMPROVEMENTS, SECURITY, SAFE ACCESS AND LIGHTING**

*...accessibility and safety key among the Mayor's concerns*

Since 2009, the Mayor and this Council sought to add improvements to the Angel Park area. Parking was added along with two sets of stairs and area lighting. This was intended to allow better access for families and children, parents with strollers and wheelchairs. Obviously, the lighting was intended to enhance the safety of the area. Administration and the Mayor have received a complaint about the lights in the park being left on, and our Facilities Coordinator has noticed there has been unauthorised access to the Centre. We have changed the locks to the Centre and are asking our electrician to ensure that there are no faults with breakers or sensors on the new lights. If there are concerns in the future, residents are asked to forward these concerns to Jessie Williams at 306.492.2259 or to [thode@xplornet.ca](mailto:thode@xplornet.ca)

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## **WILDLIFE ALERT!!**

The mild winter to date is wonderful but certainly has some downsides. Predators are not only more abundant in their numbers but they now are roaming further and in many cases very close to populated areas such as our own community in search of food. Remember that these predators travel in packs and are a danger to the most vulnerable among us.

While pets are not supposed to be off leash in the community please be mindful of these risks when they are left outside, whether on or off leash. Even a large pet may fall prey to an attack. Please advise our office if you spot any wildlife in the Village so that we can keep such incidents under control and much more importantly keep our community safe for our residents, our children and our pets.

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## **WASTE WATER PROJECT UPDATE**

Many residents are still planning to connect to the sewer system. However, if the curb stop valves are inaccessible due to freeze or snow the work will need to be postponed until the spring.

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## **WATER SYSTEM LINES SHOWING AGE**

Our water distribution system had recorded consumption of nearly a million gallons of water that is unaccounted for. We repaired some significant leaks in the system this past year, expect more repairs ahead and we continue to monitor consumption data. If you currently have grey water lines please disconnect them. The Village, Sask Ministry of Environment and Saskatoon District Health are using this data to find leaks and/or grey water lines and will be advising of further inspections planned for spring of 2012.

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***PLEASE DO NOT PUSH YOUR SNOW ONTO THE ROAD. OFTEN THIS IS OCCURRING AFTER WE HAVE FINISHED PLOWING. THIS RESTRICTS MOBILITY FOR PEDESTRIANS, CHILDREN AND STROLLERS***

## **COMMUNITY PLANNING CONTINUES**

*Building Fund donations continue to come in*

The work to develop the entire recreational area in the vicinity of the Village Centre has moved from ideas to actual planning. The concept being presented will take in the range of three to seven years to complete all phases. Council has reviewed concept drawings and is awaiting final changes to the plan.

Some of the plans under review include:

- all season Sport Courts north of the Village Centre for basketball, skating, hockey, badminton and tennis
- tiered decking north and lakeside up to the Village Centre with deck lighting and natural gas heat supply for outdoor events and private functions,
- Washroom facility upgrades and change rooms in the area of the Sport Courts equipped with heat, power and washing services.
- upgraded children's Water Park to be relocated to the southwest of the Village Centre
- Improved, landscaped and expanded beach area with larger swim area Covered band shell adjacent to the beach area and children's Waterpark for seating and shading
- Improvements to lighting, landscaping, stairways and accessibility for strollers and wheelchair access.

We are hoping to make this a better community with more amenities for our families to enjoy and we have established a Community Building Fund and will form a Committee to manage the fundraising and the implementation of the plan without relying on taxes from our community. To date we have raised over \$37,000 and are applying for various matching grants.

***Watch for future announcements as we will host a Town Hall Meeting this spring to discuss these and other exciting community opportunities and ideas with all of you***



# ANGEL PARK *Improvements*



**SPORT COURT AND ANGEL PARK UPGRADES**  
THE FIRST \$50,000 RAISED ALLOWS US TO APPLY FOR MATCHING FUNDING

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**MULTI USE SPORT COURT WILL INCLUDE HOCKEY AND SKATING RINK, BADMINTON, TENNIS AND BASKETBALL COURTS**

PLAYGROUND IMPROVEMENTS, A WADING POOL AND BEACH REVITALIZATION ARE ALSO BEING PROPOSED FOR ANGEL PARK ACCESS, STAIRS AND DECK IMPROVEMENTS ARE PLANNED AS WELL RECEIPTS FOR INCOME TAX PURPOSES WILL BE PROVIDED DONATIONS TO THE COMMUNITY BUILDING FUND ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE.

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 *Building a Better Community Together* 

**YOUR DONATION TO THE BUILDING FUND AND ANGEL PARK PROJECT IS TAX DEDUCTIBLE. PLEASE CALL 492-2259, AND HELP US BUILD A BETTER COMMUNITY FOR OUR FAMILIES**

**DO YOU WANT TO JOIN A WINNING TEAM THAT COMMITS TO BUILDING A BETTER COMMUNITY? THEN WE WANT YOU BE PART OF THE BUILDINGS AND PARKS DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE. PLEASE CALL US AT 492-2259 TO JOIN!**

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## Council Meetings

Village Centre at 7:00 pm the  
Fourth Thursday of each month unless  
otherwise notified pursuant to bylaws

**Next Meeting Thursday, January 19, 2012**

## Council Members

*Welcome to our new Councillor Tom Boehm, who won the recent by-election in November and was sworn in at the Council meeting, November 24. Congratulations also to Bert Wowchuk who was acclaimed in the most recent by-election. Bert will be sworn in at the next meeting of Council.*

Mayor:	Alan Thomarat	492-4637
Deputy:	Cheryl Reid	492-2235
Councillor:	Julie Pineault	492-4941
Councillor:	Tom Boehm	492-2324
Councillor:	<i>Pending Oath of Office</i>	

### **Administrative Officer:**

Jessie Williams 492-2259

### **Facilities & Operations Co-ordinator**

Michael Grant	492-2205
Mobile	717-3271

## VILLAGE CENTRE RENTAL INFORMATION:

**Resident Rental Fee** - \$100 Plus  
- \$250 damage deposit.  
Damage deposit will be refunded if the Centre is cleaned after use. Rental agreements available.

**FOR BOOKINGS CONTACT 492-2259**

**EMAIL:** [THODE@XPLORNET.CA](mailto:THODE@XPLORNET.CA)

**WEB:** [WWW.RESORTVILLAGEOFTHODE.CA](http://WWW.RESORTVILLAGEOFTHODE.CA)

**OFFICE HOURS – PART TIME  
MONDAY TO FRIDAY ONLY**

*To make an appointment please call  
Jessie Williams at 492-2259*

## Council Assignments

### **Finance and Administration**

Mayor Thomarat

- \* Planning and development
- \* Accounting/Treasurer
- \* Communications (external)
- \* Newsletter/Website support

Deputy Mayor Reid

- \* Dock Management/Fishing huts
- \* Committee liaison and recruitment
- \* Bylaw Review Coordinator
- \* Water and DRWU representative

### **Community Relations**

Councillor Pineault

- \* Public Safety, RCMP Liaison
- \* Social Committee
- \* Fire Department, BEST, EMO
- \* Emergency Measures

### **Utility Services and Facilities**

Councillor Boehm

- \* Village Centre and Playground
- \* Waste Water Management
- \* Snow Fence/Ice Rink
- \* Shore line preservation

### **Parks and Environment**

Councillor-elect Wowchuk

- \* Garbage and Recycling
- \* Parks Maintenance
- \* Greenscape Committee
- \* Animal Control
- \* Road Maintenance/Parking

*For information regarding Council, Committees,  
reports and financials as well as Council minutes*

*Please visit our website at  
[www.resortvillageofthode.ca](http://www.resortvillageofthode.ca)*