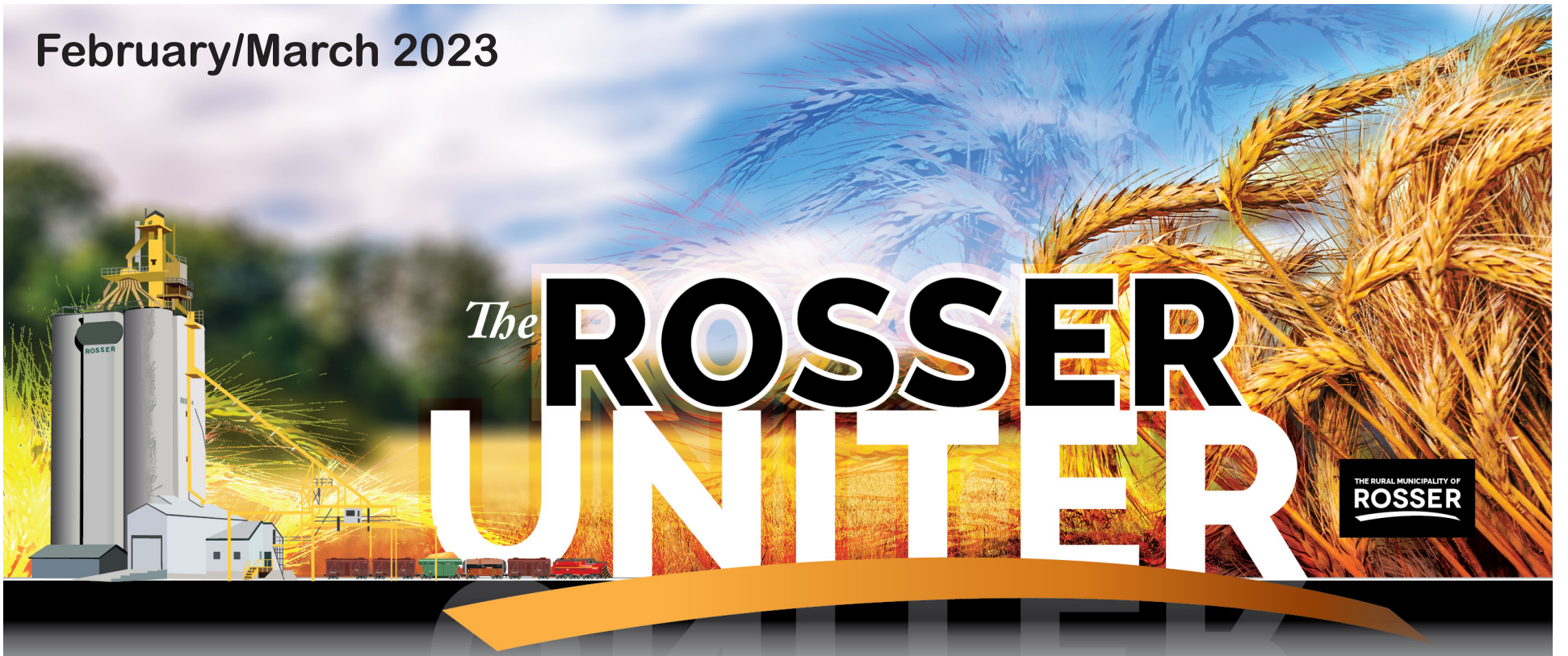


February/March 2023



An evening of appreciation comes together

On Nov. 26th, the Municipality acknowledged and celebrated the volunteer firefighters, community volunteers and municipal staff with an appreciation dinner.

Originally planned for January 2020, the dinner was postponed to March 2020 due to a snow storm, and postponed again due to the pandemic.

At the much anticipated event, held at the Grosse Isle Recreation Centre, volunteers and staff were recognized for their years of service.

One staff member in particular, Randy Slatcher, was celebrated for his 40-plus years with the municipality. Randy has recently retired from his role as the Public Works Foreman. Congratulations Randy on your retirement!!



Above, volunteer members of the Rosser Fire Department. Below right, staff with Years of Service Awards ranging from five to 35 years, left to right, Ed Appleyard, Darryl Armstrong, Michelle Manchulenko, Kim King, Ashley Campbell, Lori Sheldon, Susan Manchulenko and Randy Slatcher. Citizen members, below left, left to right, Gord Grenkow, Cheryl McClure, Carol Nichol and Murray Slagerman. At right, Public Works Foreman Randy Slatcher, who retired last year, with his award.



Our History

St. Michael's Anglican Church

The St. Michael's Anglican Church has long been a place of worship, a well-recognized landmark and a gathering place for our community. Construction of the church, located west of Grosse Isle, began in the fall of 1891. Consecration of the church and burial grounds was conducted by Bishop Robert Machray in August of 1892.

In the early days the only mode of transportation was by water or over prairie trails. The old trail from the red river settlement wound in a North westerly direction and passed by the present site of St. Michael's Anglican Church.

The first marriage occurred in 1894, George Phipps and Ellen Styles. Many prominent families were married in the church and had their final resting places in the St. Michael's cemetery. Over the years many renovations have been completed including a new foundation and more recently, in 2021 a fundraiser that resulted in money to cover new siding and a complete painting.

Currently a service is held the last Sunday in June. The St. Andrews Anglican Church assists



with this service by sending out a lay minister and some of their congregation.

Local families who have gathered at St. Michael's over the years include:

Attree, Allan, Anderson, Bailey, Baldwin, Barrett, Beachell, Bowler, Cather, Corbett, Doucette, Fargey, Fetterman, Grindey, Lefley, Harris, Hagerman, Harper, Hugh, James, Jull, Kellett, Miller, Palmer, Phipps, Ridgeway, Scott, Simpson, Smith, Steeves, Styles, Taylor, Walker, Wedge, Wright and Wooster.

It's a lovely site which has graced the prairie horizon hosting wild flowers and prairie grasses. The site has recently been deemed a municipal Heritage site.



St. Michael's Anglican Church.

Apply for dust control by May 19

The municipality is planning for the 2023 Dust Control Program. The deadline for applications for the program is Friday, May 19, 2023.

All residents who participated in the pro-

gram in 2022 will receive an application in the mail before the end of April.

The RM is waiting for final costs from the supplier but hope that any increase in the cost will be minimal.

Council is reviewing the dust control policy including the designation of market roads and expects to have it updated for 2023 at its March 14th meeting.

2022 Municipal Funding Contributions

The RM of Rosser supported many local groups and organizations in 2022. Below is a list of the amounts and the groups funded.

- Church of England/St. Michael's Cemetery - \$7,000 (Exterior Repairs Project)
- Community Re-Source Network - \$4,500
- Grosse Isle Heritage Site - \$6,000, and \$12,000 (Washroom/Canteen Project)
- Grosse Isle Memorial Park Recreation Club - \$18,250
- Marquette Curling Club - \$13,500
- Meadows Community Club - \$11,500
- Rosser Central Community Club - \$18,250, and \$25,000 (Gym Floor Project)
- Rosser Elementary School - \$10,000 (Playground Project)
- South Interlake 55 Plus - \$2,500 (Program Support)
- South Interlake Recreation Centre (Warren Arena)

- \$25,000 (Hot Water Replacement Project), and \$17,236 (towards insurance costs)

- South Interlake Seniors Resource Council Inc. - \$2,500 (Program Support)
- South West Palliative Care Inc. - \$1,000
- Stars Foundation - \$2,250
- Stony Mountain Community Association's Centennial Park Revitalization - \$1,500, and Family Festival and Canada Day Events - \$500
- Warren Collegiate Institute - \$5,000 (Weight Room Revamp Project)

Other Grants

Interlake Community Foundation - \$125 (Golf Donation), Kids Help Phone - \$250, MADD Canada - \$314, Southern Chiefs Economic Developments - \$800

NRC light show impressive; work inside is as well

If you've driven Inkster Boulevard when the sun is rising or setting, you've likely seen the light show it puts on at the National Research Council (NRC) building.

The north wall of the building, constructed in 2019, shimmers and creates an impressive show for passing motorists.

According to Robert Chercoe, Regional Site Operations Manager for the National Research Council Canada, a portion of the north exposure was fitted with a kinetic wall, made of small stainless steel tiles that are flexibly mounted to allow movement with airflow or wind.

"Since the tiles are reflective due to the stainless steel, as they move, light is reflected in a pattern synonymous with the wind," Chercoe said.

The sun is a natural source that has the potential to provide a twice-daily show, but LED lighting gives additional opportunities.

"The wall is lit by overhead LED lighting that can be changed to reflect seasonal themes or other colours that may be reflective of an event, something similar to what the City of Winnipeg has recently done with the lighting on the Provencher Bridge."

Chercoe says the tiles and lights look good but have a higher purpose.

"These things were done as an architectural feature to



The NRC building on Inkster Boulevard is impressive inside and out, providing a spectacular site for passersby while conducting research aimed at keeping Canadian manufacturing competitive.

help draw attention to the new building and aid in enhancing the visibility of the research being performed in the facility," he said.

"The research targets advanced manufacturing initiatives aimed to help Canadian manufacturing remain competitive in the global market while reducing costs and improving the quality of manufactured goods."



RM considering Story Walk

The RM of Rosser is considering partnering with the South Interlake Regional Library (SIRL) to bring a Story Walk to the municipality's walking trails.

Story Walk combines outdoor walking and reading at the same time. Laminated book pages are placed along the walking path about 40 feet apart and children can walk and read. When they finish one page, they're directed to the next one.

A pilot Story Walk project ran in Stonewall last summer and it was well received. It's estimated 1,700 people read the Story Walk books – which are changed regularly – and comments like "This is amazing! I loved it! Thank you for doing this for the town!" and "I loved the illustrations!" were received.

The RM and SIRL are looking into expanding the Story Walk into our community.



Young readers check out Stonewall's Story Walk.

THE RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF
ROSSER

Did You Know?

- ❑ We want to hear from you! This edition's history stories include Art Morrison's grain elevator and St. Michael's Anglican Church. If you have a history story you'd like to see in The Uniter, let us know!
- ❑ Rosser Connect - Stay up to date with all the latest news, events, weather and emergency alert messages for the RM of Rosser. Register for text or e-mail alerts today at www.rmofrosser.com

Trivia time
What year did the two freight trains collide in the RM?

Answer: 1957

Morrison elevator a labour of love, still standing today

The history of grain elevators in Canada is long and fascinating and most every one of a certain age can remember them defining the skyline, signalling a new community on travels across the prairie provinces.

The very first grain elevator ever built in Canada was in Niverville in 1878, but it wasn't of the design we're accustomed to – it was much shorter and round. The elevators most remember were known as standard plan elevators which came to be after 1910.

In Rosser, there were at one time five commercial wood grain elevators and two private. One of those was built by Art Morrison in 1962-63.

Art, a local farmer/mechanic/amateur engineer and builder, wanted to construct his own wood elevator on his farm in Gordon. According to his daughters, he painstakingly and with great detail built a miniature model before tackling the full-size version that still sits in the farmyard today. Art now resides in Selkirk.

The cost to build the elevator was \$6,448.66, and the Morrison family handwritten ledger, is seen below.

To get some of the materials required to build his elevator, in 1961 Art bid on a contract to tear down a CNR shed located in Fort Rouge. He purchased extra lumber that was left over from the elevator built at Bergen siding and he used lumber from old grain bins on his farm.

Being frugal, as most farmers then and now are, Art reused the old nails and had the kids restraighthen them all! What a job!

He still had to purchase some new nails, but it's estimated that two-and-a-half tons of nails were used to build the elevator.

The finished product was an 18,000 bushel elevator with three bins on each side, one middle bin and two corner bins.

A 2,000 bushel per hour leg (or conveyer) and pit were installed.

Art had help from his neighbours, Mike Husak, Les Wedge and John Morrison.

If you're interested in the history of grain elevators there's an interesting report online at https://www.gov.mb.ca/chc/hrb/internal_reports/pdfs/Grain_Elevators_architecture.pdf



Art Morrison's private grain elevator, built on his Gordon farm in the 1960s, is seen here during the construction phase. Note the handwritten ledger, below, and the scale model Art built before tackling the big one. Colour photos are from the Morrison farm's 100th anniversary in August 2019.



1963		Cost of Elevator	
1/2 galv + chains	7.00	15' piping motor	9
3 3/4" x 1/2" x 10' planks	77.65	18' lumber	10.
2 1/2" x 10' x 10' planks	15.85	19' Caproctone	5.
8 1/2" x 10' x 10' planks	50.00	21' over-haul motor	62
8 1/2" x 10' x 10' planks	116.10	steel stairs	23.5
7 8' boards	16.22	steel	19.1
9 1/2" x 10' x 10' planks	146		110.
9 1/2" x 10' x 10' planks	94.67		
9 1/2" x 10' x 10' planks	49.70		
9 1/2" x 10' x 10' planks	798.92		
15' cement	6.00		
9 steel bars	2.70		
8 steel	10.37		
15' 2x4s + planks	10.32		
22 1/2" x 10' x 10' planks	6.70		
22 1/2" x 10' x 10' planks	32.54		
22 1/2" x 10' x 10' planks	77		
26 1/2" x 10' x 10' planks	3.75		
1/2" x 10' x 10' planks	15.00		
1/2" x 10' x 10' planks	20.25		
1/2" x 10' x 10' planks	1.94		
1/2" x 10' x 10' planks	55.71		
1/2" x 10' x 10' planks	5.92		
	2107.87		
1/2" x 10' x 10' planks	6448.66		

