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**RM of Francis No. 127
Public Notice**

Pursuant to Section 55 of The Planning and Development Act, 2007, the Council of the RM of Francis No. 127 gives notice that one (1) subdivision application that falls under discretionary use application of Zoning Bylaw 2012-03 has been received where the developers, Darcy & Dwayne Deck, intend to subdivide for residential purposes at NW 16-16-15 W2.

Council will hold a public hearing to receive submissions on the discretionary use application between 10:00am - 10:15am on Thursday, November 9th, 2017 in the Council Chambers of the RM of Francis at 127 Main Street, Francis, SK. All submissions regarding the discretionary use application will be heard or read at the public hearing. Any questions can be directed to Megan Macomber, Administrator for the RM of Francis, at (306) 245-3256.

Dated at the Town of Francis, in the Province of Saskatchewan, this 2nd day of November, 2017.

Megan Macomber
ADMINISTRATOR

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Big read: N.B. woman recalls rescue by former Odessa mayor, 60 years later

Norm Park
quadtownforum@sasktel.net

The late Phil Selinger could not have known it on that fateful day in October of 1957, but he would quickly become part of an ad hoc band of brothers with a common cause ... to save the life of a tiny two-year-old girl.

Selinger's story that dates back 60 years still resonates with the words "we were no heroes, we did what we knew we had to do."

That kind of Saskatchewan logic permeated the story told by the likes of Selinger, who died in 2012, but whose memory of the rescue remains alive through people like his son Paul, or Al Bens of Regina who was on the accidental rescue crew with Selinger.

Bens, naturally, still dismisses the concept of being a hero, as did Larry Pruden, a back hoe operator, and Irving Opdahl, another member of the 15-man pipeline crew who responded instantly to a frantic plea for help on the outskirts of the community of Kapuskasing, Ont. in mid-October, 1957.

That little girl, Johanne Morneau does not remember the vivid details of her rescue from a 5.5 metre well, but does not refute them since the heroic rescue operations were well documented through the media methods and standards used at that time.

What makes the story extra heart-warming is the fact that five of the rescuers and the rescued, made a point of getting together in more recent years near the anniversary date of the event to further deepen the bond that had drawn them together under a life and death circumstance.

Morneault, a mother of three and long-time accountant for a poultry business in Edmundson, N.B., referred to her rescuers as her heroes, as she spoke with the Forum from her desk shortly after a lunch break earlier this month.

"I've been to all the reunions. We had one in Saskatchewan, another in Calgary, another one in Toronto and we took an Alaskan cruise together with our spouses one year," she said. "I am always willing to see these guys, always, because I appreciate so much what they did that day," she said.

Her husband, Roland, a retired pulp mill welder, had attempted to make connection with some of the pipeline crew members many years after the event, using an investigation company, albeit with negative results.

It was ultimately Tupper Bens, son of Al Bens,

who kept the hope of a reconnection alive and eventually, in the 1990s, his countless phone calls and follow-up explorations, led him to Johanne and the Saskatchewan men who were part of the pipeline crew. Most of the crew members were eventually tracked down.

The pipeline crew, working for a company that ceased operations many years ago, had been working near Kapuskasing that eventful day. They vacated their work site to rush to the accident scene seconds after being hailed by an unknown person yelling and asking for help.

When they arrived at the scene, they spotted the little girl, down the narrow well that had been dug earlier in a neighbour's property. Johanne and the neighbour's little girl had defied parental instructions to stay away from the open hole, and Johanne had fallen in. Her head, and arms were visible and she was sobbing. Her grandfather had dropped a rope down and had told her to grab hold but the muddy water and gumbo were sucking her back with water reaching up to her chin. All she got were rope burns on her tiny hands.

The well casing had been removed as the first people on the scene had set to work trying to widen the hole in an attempt to reach her. When the pipeline crew, arrived on the site they quickly came to the conclusion that this was not a good idea and Larry Pruden, using a backhoe, started to dig a parallel hole a few feet away from the well containing the girl. He got a few metres down before hitting rock, so the crew's jackhammer had to be put into use.

The work continued for several hours and eventually the rescue team got to a point where their hole was adjacent to the well's depth. From that point, they clawed and dug away at the gumbo with their hands until one of them, Peter Marshall, they believed, managed to grasp Johanne by her legs to pull her up.

"By that time, I think I was only semi-conscious," said Morneau (Nobert), who was told she had turned blue due to hypothermia by this time with only a short time to live.

Al Bens recalled his role in the rescue operation. He did some early shovelling to move the dug-out gumbo well away from the rescue excavation and eventually his brother James (now deceased) grabbed the heels of the guy who went down further into the hole to grab Johanne. He was part of that chain.

"We were all kind of upside down," he said with a mild chuckle.

Earlier in the rescue operation, he took on the responsibility of gathering materials and equipment for the operation. They needed planks to shore up the rescue well and he spotted some in a rail car on the nearby tracks.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

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'MORNEAULT'
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

"I broke into the rail car and took the planks. My brother told me later that this was a criminal act, but I figured the railway would have forgiven me under the circumstances," he added.

"When she was lifted out, with all the mud, it sort of made a popping sound like uncorking a champagne bottle."

Johanne said she has no lasting nightmares from the ordeal, but does admit "when I find myself in a confined space, I do get a little freaked out."

The other little girl and her family, who were leasing the property the well was on, moved away from Kapuskasing shortly after the ordeal.

Paul Selinger said his father not only downplayed the rescue and his part in it, but hadn't even told him anything about it, until the eve of the first reunion, "when he told me he was going to see this woman who he had helped rescue years ago."

He also recalls Bens coming to their home in Odessa and visiting with his father, and he (Paul) didn't know why. Now he does.

Al Bens worked on pipelines for a few more years, also farmed and drove a cab in Regina and eventually went into the electrical contracting business, joined by

his son who continues to operate it.

"I know a little bit of what it means to be rescued. I was four and didn't know how to swim and we were at one of the lakes in the Qu'Appelle Valley. I was playing with some other kids, and jumped off a pier and I just remember seeing some legs underwater and that was it. Then a lifeguard scooped me up and took me up on the beach and I was coughing and spitting up water and not really knowing what had actually happened."

He figures he and Morneault share a similar inability to recollect details of rescue.

"Dad really liked the guys in the crew. I know that much," Paul Bens said of his father, a long time town councillor and one-term mayor who was also a driving force behind developing a first-responders/fire department and equipment project for the community.

"Ya, Dad was pretty modest and I've met Al Bens and Irving Ophdahl (another member of the rescue team) and they are really nice guys, so I know why he liked them and Johanne too, of course."

One of the rescuers, Larry Pruden, who made it to the reunions as well, paid a visit to Johanne while she was in the hospital, recovering from the ordeal. He placed, what he referred to as "his lucky silver dollar" coin into her little fist and told her to keep it. He had kept it with him during his Second World War activities in Italy.

"I still have that coin," Morneault said. "Then he gave me another silver dollar to mark the 50th anniversary, and I have that one too."

She said her children, a 43-year-old daughter and a son and daughter, 39-year-old twins, have had two children each and all her family is well-versed in the story now, complete with a scrap book and photographs, including one of her in the arms of a doctor who was at the scene when she was brought to the surface and whisked away to the hospital.

An additional twist to the story was the fact that when the pipeline crew boss arrived at the work site to discover all the men gone, he fired the whole lot of them but once the news of their heroic exploits hit the local and national newspapers, the order was rescinded and the men were all re-hired and went back to work as if nothing much had happened.

So in spite of what they might tell you, Johanne Morneault will confirm that "yes, these guys are heroes."

It may not have been by design or training, but they all did the right thing at the right time to save a little girl's life and that little girl grew up to embrace a husband, three children, six grandchildren and, soon, a great grandchild.

A true life in full.

RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF MONTMARTRE NO. 126
PUBLIC NOTICE

Public notice is hereby given that the Council of the Rural Municipality of Montmartre No. 126 intends to adopt a bylaw under The Planning and Development Act, 2007 to amend Bylaw No. 50/78, known as the Zoning Bylaw.

INTENT

The proposed bylaw amendment will:

- Update the development standards for Wind Turbine siting to reflect the Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment's "Wildlife Siting Guidelines for Saskatchewan Wind Energy Projects".
- Update development standards for Wind Turbine siting to ensure sound power level limits for non-participating noise receptors comply with the standards set by the Ministry of Environment and SaskPower.
- Require a Detailed Noise Assessment to be undertaken by the proponent of any wind turbine proposal.
- Increase the maximum height for wind turbines to 250 metres.
- Clarify that the required setback for wind turbines from public road rights of way and railway rights of ways is measured from the edge of any public road right of way or railway right of way.

REASON

The reason for the amendment is to:

- Update the development standards for wind turbines to reflect current provincial guidelines and industry best practices.
- Provide for more clarity in the bylaw.

PUBLIC INSPECTION

Any person may inspect the bylaw at the Rural Municipal Office, located at 136 Central Avenue, in the Village of Montmartre, between the hours of 9:00AM to 12:00PM and 1:00PM to 5:00 PM on Monday to Friday excluding statutory holidays. Copies of the proposed bylaw are available at the R.M. office free of charge.

PUBLIC HEARING

Council will hold a public hearing on November 2, 2017 at 8:00PM at the Montmartre Senior Citizen's Centre (125 Central Avenue, Montmartre SK) to hear any person or group who wants to comment on the proposed bylaw. Council will also consider written comments received at the hearing, or delivered to the undersigned at the R.M. office before the hearing.

Issued at the Rural Municipality of Montmartre No. 126, this 19th day of October, 2017.

Dale Brenner, Rural Municipal Administrator

PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSION

**DEVELOPMENT OF
THE MONTMARTRE
WIND POWER PROJECT**

WestSource Energy Inc and Kruger Energy Inc will be proposing their Montmartre Wind Power Project in response to SaskPower's current Wind Power Procurement Process. The Project is located in the RM of Montmartre, No 126.

Members of the public are invited to attend an information session to present the details of the ongoing development of the Montmartre Wind Power Project by WestSource Energy and Kruger Energy. Representatives of WestSource and Kruger will be in attendance to answer questions.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2017

6:30PM: DOORS OPEN / REVIEW OF INFO BOARDS

7:00PM: PRESENTATION

7:30PM: QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

MONTMARTRE SENIOR CITIZEN'S CENTRE
125 CENTRAL AVENUE, MONTMARTRE SK

For further information, contact Lyle Weichel at lyle.weichel@westsource.ca or 306.790.7542.



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Publisher/Editor: Brad Brown

Accounts/Circulation Manager: Tracy Brown

Contributors: Cheyenne Geysen-Chartrand, Matthew Gourlie, Darren Steinke, Marilyn Pomeroy, Glennys Vevang, Bill Greenwood, Carter Haydu, Christalee Froese, Lexie O'Connor, Tyler Karwandy, Helen Waller, Carly Schatz, Ashley Scarfe



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by Forum Media**

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