

to us - Community Counts



a North Norfolk-MacGregor Foundation

NEWSLETTER

Winter

2006

*Looking
for
that unique
gift idea
for Christmas?
A gift to your
community
foundation
is a gift that
keeps growing.*

*May Christmas
bring you the
blessing of
Peace, Hope,
and Joy*

*From the Board of Directors
of the North Norfolk-MacGregor
Foundation, our warmest
holiday wishes and thanks to all
for your support and generosity.*

*Vivian McGregor – Chair
Arlene Jarema – Treasurer
Darwin Crabbe – Secretary
Danny Rintoul, Janice Kelly,
Antoinette Blankvoort, & Malcolm Burt*

Foundation Movement Growing

In communities that are involved, the Foundation movement is growing and making a difference. Manitoba, with more community foundations than any other province, is fertile ground for this area of philanthropy. The strength of foundations comes from the commitment and support of local donors and volunteers and community partnerships. North Norfolk/MacGregor Community Foundation appreciates the generous support in this community which has enabled our assets to grow to more than 3/4 million dollars. Our next step is to involve youth to encourage volunteerism and build the leadership that will ensure continued growth.

North Norfolk-MacGregor Foundation Board



Back row l to r: Malcolm Burt, Antoinette Blankvoort, Janice Kelly, Danny Rintoul
Front row l to r: Arlene Jarema, Vivian McGregor, Darwin Crabbe.

**YOUR GIFT IS AN EXPRESSION OF APPRECIATION TO OUR COMMUNITY
AND YOUR DESIRE TO SUPPORT THE NEEDS OF FUTURE GENERATIONS.**

Letting Go

Anyone who has lived in one house forever, or so it seems, has accumulated many treasures! Anyone who has moved from one home to another and has been faced with downsizing knows how difficult it is to part with decades worth of possessions! Somehow the task is easier if those valuables can be put to use by someone else and still be valued.

Those of us who are people who love to knit or crochet, sew, quilt or embroider always need just a few more balls of wool or cotton, a few meters of that beautiful fabric or a few more colours of thread plus patterns and notions. Conveniently, as the children grow up and move out, there are more empty shelves to fill! Suddenly, there are more materials than there is time or energy or the desire to start or finish all those

projects that at one time seemed so exciting. And so the piles of goods remain untouched.

Well here is an opportunity to get down to bare shelves. The restoration of Eadie's House, so generously given as a Heritage House, will require some fundraising. What could be more fitting than a sale for those who love to sew, knit or quilt a "sew-a-bration".

Here's a chance to clear your storage spots of reminders of what you meant to do, providing dreams for someone new and perhaps an exchange for you for something more inspiring. You get the picture?

You recognize yourself in this story, call Vivian 685-2854. Your donations will be gratefully accepted and this bazaar of unfinished dreams will be held in the New Year!

Rainbow Splash Pad

The Rainbow Splash Pad saw lots of use this summer thanks to the hot weather. The Committee would like to thank those volunteers who came out to help us raise funds by working an evening Bingo in Winnipeg. We were awarded this Bingo through the Manitoba Community Services Council. Our hard work earned us \$3,000.00 so it was well worth the effort. Although these funds were initially targeted to pay for the 2nd water cannon, this plan has been

changed. The Committee met with Village Council to discuss concerns regarding hours of operation and notification of closure of the park.

Some changes have now been made in this regard to make hours and availability more user friendly. Due to the possible changes in accessibility of water for the park and concerns voiced by the Village in regards to costs, it was decided by the Committee to redirect these funds. *Consideration* is being given to purchasing more picnic tables and park benches and setting them on concrete slabs to make mowing easier. Another possibility is interlocking brick for the stepping stone pathway.

The Splash Pad painters were hard at work again this year repairing some of the stepping stones that have deteriorated. We are doing our very best to maintain them and although we have made many phone calls and inquiries to cement companies and paint companies, there seems to be no solution to our problem of stones flaking. A **BIG THANK YOU** goes out to those painters who again donated their time to help repair the stones.



RAINBOW SPRAY PARK

Growing Our Funds

2005 marked the launch of a Scholarship and Bursary Building Incentive Program by the Province of Manitoba. This half-million dollar matching funds program, administered by the Winnipeg Foundation, recognizes the additional costs of relocating that rural students experience as they pursue post-secondary education.

How fortunate we were to be able to access the program! Through this initiative, the NNMF Community Education Fund was increased by \$4,286.48, the NNMF Haley Stewart Fund was increased by \$7,960.62, the NNMF MacGregor Emergency Fund was increased by \$3,372.24 and the NNMF Rumancik Memorial Scholarship Fund increased by \$3,061.77. Our contribution of \$30,507.00 was matched based on a 61.24% ratio and our added portion was the biggest in the province thanks to our generous donors.

The program is available until 2010. Some families have put their this year's donations into named scholarships and

others have added funds to the Foundation's Community Education Fund.

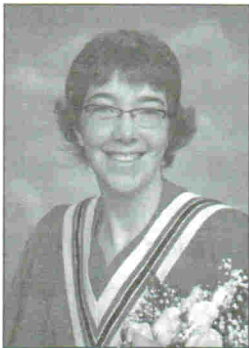
Alf and Allison Graham Memorial Bursary will be awarded to a well rounded graduating student demonstrating excellent academic performance and significant school and community involvement. Application is made to MCI with one reference letter.

Rumancik Memorial Scholarship goes to a graduating student who has achieved a high overall academic average in a grade 12 program which includes two English credits.

All above awards includes "to a student who faces the additional financial burden of relocating in order to pursue his or her academic studies".

There is still time to get into the matching program for this year with the deadline set for January 31, 2007. If you would like to contribute to education of young people, this window of opportunity to have your dollars matched is open. If you have questions, contact any Board member.

Scholarships / Bursary with North Norfolk-MacGregor Foundation - Managed by Winnipeg Foundation



North Norfolk-MacGregor Foundation Community Education Award – graduating student pursuing post-secondary education; community volunteerism.

This award went to Karen Hodge who is attending Brandon University.



Haley Stewart Memorial Award – graduating female student involved in extra-curricular activities in good academic standing and continuing her education at the post-secondary level.

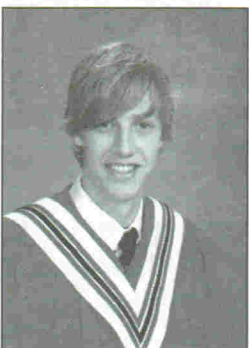
Brittany Thomsons received this award and is studying at the U of M in her first year.



MacGregor Emergency Services Award – graduating student pursuing post-secondary education in a health related / emergency services field.

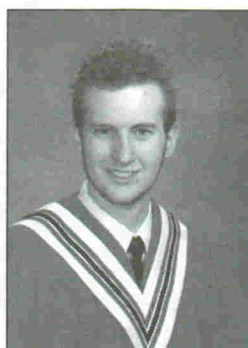
This year Jill Henry received this award and is working until her application is accepted for firefighting.

Awards with North Norfolk-MacGregor Foundation - Managed by the Foundation



Gothic Temple Lodge Bursary – to the most improved graduating student who is continuing his or her education.

This bursary went to Tyson Unrau who is attending Brandon University studying music.



Derek Bomak Memorial Award – graduating student, in good academic standing, involved in extra-curricular sports demonstrating sportsmanship and leadership who has been accepted into a post-secondary education institution.

Josh Loewen received this award and is attending Jamestown with a baseball scholarship.

What's New? Leadership Program

The NNMF is exploring the possibility of initiating a "Youth in Philanthropy" program. Representatives from the Community Foundation of Portage and District (CFPD) met with our Foundation and the principals of the local schools to explain the program.

Portage partnered with the Thomas Sill Foundation in a six-year program 2002 - 2007 where the TSF funded the program at \$3,500 per year per high school for the first three years and CFPD provides the funding and continues the program for the next three years. The intent of the program is to provide leadership development for participants. It is designed to give a deeper understanding of community volunteerism and public service. Young people become involved in philanthropy.

Guidelines are provided to help the school design the structure for a Youth Advisory Council (YAC). The Council develops a list of values, researches charitable organizations and selects the charities they would consider for grants. In pairs, the YAC members make presentations to the chosen charities and ask how they could be of help. Decisions are made by the YAC after presentations are made by the returning pairs. YAC recommendations are made to the CFPD Boards and the grants are presented (\$500 maximum).

If a decision is made to pursue the program, application will be made to the Thomas Sill Foundation for partnership. In the first three years NNMF will accept donations toward the continuation of the program from people interested in the concept.

Stay tuned for an update.



*One of the banners
that adorned the
main street of Austin
this summer.*

*The North
Norfolk-MacGregor
Foundation helped
to purchase
the banners.*

A Message from the North Norfolk-MacGregor Healthy Communities Committee

Did you know that the main focus of the Healthy Communities Committee is not just "Health"?

The Healthy Community Committee is working with churches, schools, Inter-ridge recreation, service groups and other community stakeholders to make North Norfolk and MacGregor a better place to live.

The Committee has developed or supported such initiatives as the Progressive Agriculture Safety Day and Safe Kids week. A "Kids in the Kitchen" program, promoting healthy eating and meal preparation was very successful. Early literacy programs such as the START program targets preschoolers and their parents. An integrated community emergency assistance program is under development.

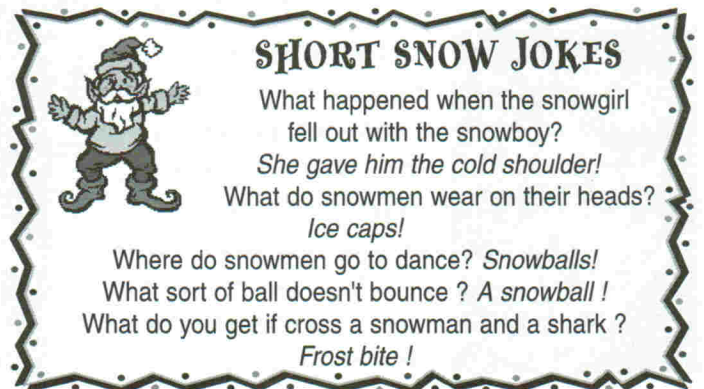
Recently community members and fourth year Health Studies students from Brandon University worked together on a Community needs assessment. As a result of those findings a *youth risk survey* was conducted with over 400 responses from eight public and private schools in the municipality of North Norfolk. A youth sub group was formed with representation from education, seniors, health, recreation and Youth for Christ. The next step will be to analyze the data and to hold youth focus groups.

Look for a Healthy Communities newsletter and future plans in the coming weeks. The committee welcomes your support and suggestions. For further information and how you can get involved contact:

Quentin Robinson – 685-2610

Sharon Stewart – 685-3850

Regan Manns – 685-2202



Cemetery Structure Up

The MacGregor and North Norfolk Archives would like to thank the Foundation for supporting us in our endeavours to preserve history for future generations.

We have put up the structure at the cemetery. It will house cemetery maps; to convenience people from out of the area and future generations looking for information on their ancestors. It will house information on the cemetery and names for easy access. We involved the high school industrial arts class to help us with this project. There is still a bit of work to do on this display case but all should be in order by next spring.

We have purchased an up-to-date computer system from MEGA. We had several meeting with AMA (provincial) and followed their lead on what we would need for software. All is progressing well.

We thank the Foundation for their support.



Never say that you have no time. On the whole, it is those who are busiest who can make time for yet more, and those who have more leisure time who refuse to do something when asked. What we lack is not time, but heart.

Henri Boulard, Egyptian Jesuit Priest – From *Patches of Godlight*

About Community Foundations

From "Community Roots"

– Manitoba Community Foundations 2006

Community foundations are independent charitable organizations that help facilitate community philanthropy, by working with both donors and local charities.

Community foundations:

- Pool the charitable gifts or many donors into

permanent, income-earning endowment funds that benefit local communities.

- Use the income from these funds to make grants supporting a wide variety of local initiatives, including: health, education, social services, arts, heritage, environment and recreation.
- Provide leadership to their communities by bringing people together from all sectors to identify and address local issues.

GROWING STRENGTH

OUTSIDE WINNIPEG			IN WINNIPEG		
	Assets	Grants		Assets	Grants
2003	\$19,981,047	\$1,050,152	2003	\$307,577,586	\$13,584,031
2005	\$24,979,352	\$1,157,522	2005	\$383,358,548	\$16,207,942
2 year % increase	25.4%	10.2%	2 year % increase	24.6%	19.3%



North Norfolk-MacGregor Donations

FRIENDS – \$100 - \$999

Elsmith School Historical Group
 MacGregor Collegiate Graduating Class of 2001
 MacGregor and District Rodeo
 Women and Wellness
 Annie Thompson
 Elsie Sims
 Netta Butterfield
 MacGregor-Austin Cubs
 MacGregor Jr. Rifle Club
 Manitoba Pool Elevator (Austin/MacGregor)
 Inez Ardagh
 Harry & Antoinette Blankvoort
 Jay & Millie Boschman
 Leonard & Melissa Boschman
 Louise Bovet
 Mabel Butterfield
 Mildred Cairns
 Robert & Lorraine Chant
 Clarke's Funeral Services
 Denver & Anne Collins
 Community Insurance
 Lucille Cox
 Galloway, Lapchuk, Nicoll
 Stacey & Sherry Giesbrecht
 Lillian Gilbert
 Ted Hay
 Florence Hay
 Bruce N. Hay
 Mr. & Mrs. Jake Hoepfner MP
 James Houston
 J&J Consumers Ltd.
 Arlene Jarema
 Ralph & Margaret Jonasson
 Ronald & Mary Kalberg
 Ella Kowalchuk
 Nick Kowalchuk
 Ben & Marjorie Lapchuk
 Eleanor Leckie
 George & Ethel Lintott
 Stan Lintott
 Harold Livingstone
 Walter Livingstone
 Jolene MacDonald
 MacGregor Chamber of Commerce
 MacGregor Collegiate Graduating Class of 1998
 MacGregor Men's Fastball Club
 Glenn & Donna Morris
 Miriam Nichol
 Omega Funeral Home
 Portage Co-op
 Portage Delta Broadcasting Ltd.
 Portage la Prairie Mutual Ins. Co.
 Reunion Community Church Service
 Dorothy Rodgers
 W. J. Saunders
 Ron & Charlene Sawatzky

George & Florence Snaith
 Lyn & Linda Snaith
 Bryan & Georgette Stewart
 Clare Tarr
 Keith & Joyce Thompson
 Brent & Shelley Zander
 Wayne & Audrey Klippensteijn
 Brochures – Austin Credit Union

FRIENDS IN MEMORY – \$100 - \$999

Bob McKelvy	Mabel Butterfield
Florence Hay	Lyla Lamb (Marcia)
Doug Lamb	Audrey Hay (Betty Jean)
Clare Tarr	Alf Graham
Fern Catt	Harvey Gilbert
Herma Kelly	Ethel Lintott
Phyllis Pennell	Robert Sims
Margaret Irwin (Glenna Cobbe)	
Bob & Anne Barber (Don Barber)	
Sheryl Beasley (Denver & Anne Collins)	
Herb & Louise Borton (Marion & Elaine)	
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Carrothers (King T. Enta)	
Ed & Mamie Chant (Marion McGregor)	
Ed & Mamie Chant (Muriel & Fred Snaith)	
Roy & Lil Glover (Bev & Don MacDonald)	
George & Janet Hay (Ted Hay)	
Sid Hay (Shirley Lowe)	
Russell & Martha Hay (Ken & Marjorie Hay)	
Dan & Nellie McDougall (Viola Beach)	
Doug McGregor (Marion McGregor)	
Joe & Annie Morris (Glenn & Donna Morris)	
Joe & Mae Nelson (The Family)	
Martha McKelvey Scott (Winnifred Gordon)	
Lawrence Smith (Audrey Smith)	
Mr. & Mrs. W. J. Turner (David Turner)	
John P. & Margaret Wiebe (J. P. Wiebe & Sons)	
Mr. & Mrs. J. Willot (David Turner)	

FOUNDERS – \$1,000 - \$4,999

ABJO Trucking – Abe & Pearl Thiessen
 Austin & Area Lions Club
 Carl & Gladys Bergquist
 Arthur Butterfield
 Robert & Lorraine Chant
 Christianson & Christianson
 Joyce Clark
 Jack Clark
 Hope Collier
 Darwin & Arlene Crabbe
 Alda Critchlow
 Olive & The Late Robert Edgar
 Sandi Gilbert
 Audrey Hay
 Eadie Henderson
 Albert & Joyce Jaeger
 Doug & Dorothy Lamb
 Roy & Annie Leckie

MacGregor Foundation Inc.

to May, 2006



Keith & Kathy Lloyd
 MacGregor & District Kinsmen
 MacGregor Collegiate Founders Club
 MacGregor & District Lions Club
 Vivian McGregor
 Bob & Donna McKelvy
 Vernon & Margaret McKelvy
 Munro Farm Supply Ltd.
 Norfolk Transport Ltd.
 Edith Peck
 Ed & Helena Penner
 Pine Creek Farms – John & Sally Letkeman
 R.M. of North Norfolk
 Danny & Louise Rintoul
 Henry & Gertrude Sawatzky
 Glen & Tena Sawatzky
 Sawatzky Enterprises Ltd.
 Grace Scora
 Bob & Florence Sims
 Elsie Sims
 Laurie Smith
 Village of MacGregor
 Jacob & Susie Wiebe
 REDI Grand – Province of Manitoba

FOUNDERS – IN MEMORY

– \$1,000 - \$4,999

Peter & Lilian Pearson
 Nelson & Jessie Smith
 George Ardagh (Inez Ardagh)
 John & Jean Gilmour (Barbara & Don Craig)
 Lyle Kelly (Tom & Janice Kelly)
 Keith Lamb (H. Joy Lamb)
 Keith Lamb (Merlin & Audrey Lamb)
 Mr. & Mrs. G. Peter (David Turner)
 Mr. & Mrs. D. B. Turner (David Turner)

BENEFACTORS – \$1,000 - \$4,999

Elsie Shaw
 Dunc & Bev Lamb
 Robert Murray Estate
 Doug Lamb Estate
 Alf Graham (100th Birthday)
 Bagot Community Club
 North Norfolk-MacGregor History Book
 Anonymous
 Dorothy Birkett
 Ronald & Mary Kalberg
 Portage la Prairie Consumers' Co-op

BENEFACTORS – IN MEMORY

– \$1,000 - \$4,999

Dorothy Rodgers
 Harry & Helen Dankesreiter (Donna & Carol)
 Garth Anderson (The Family)

BUILDERS – \$5,000 - \$9,999

Don & Isobelle Wright
 Bob & Donna McKelvy
 Carl Bergquist
 Tom & Janice Kelly
 MacGregor Fire Brigade
 North Norfolk-MacGregor History Book Committee

BUILDERS – IN MEMORY \$5,000 - \$9,999

Ralph & Kathleen Lye

PATRONS – \$10,000 +

Carl McGregor
 James Price Estate
 Carl McGregor Estate
 MacGregor and District Centennial Foundation
 Don & Isobelle Wright

DESIGNATED/SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

MacGregor Cemetery Fund –
 for MacGregor Cemetery Upkeep
 Gothic Temple Lodge #49 – MCI Bursary
 Derek Bomak Memorial Fund
 Haley Stewart Memorial
 NNMF Community Education Fund
 MacGregor Emergency Services Fund
 Rumanick Memorial Scholarship Fund
 Alf & Allison Graham Memorial Bursary

Legacy Clubs

**You can help us reach our new goal of
 \$1,000,000 by December 2010.**

Three categories – Friends, Builders and Patrons – will continue.

Founder has been replaced by Benefactor. You can be one of the first members of the new Benefactor category by donating a gift of \$1,000 or more.

If you are a member of one of the standing clubs, you can change category by adding to your previous gift.

Your new gift can be made a part of the new scholarship program.



For more information, contact the
 R.M. of North Norfolk office at 685-2211
 for the names and phone numbers of the Board of Directors.

Mailing Address: Box 696, MacGregor, MB R0H 0R0

Website:
www.manitobacommunityfoundations.ca/northnorfolk/

Austin-Sidney Nursery School

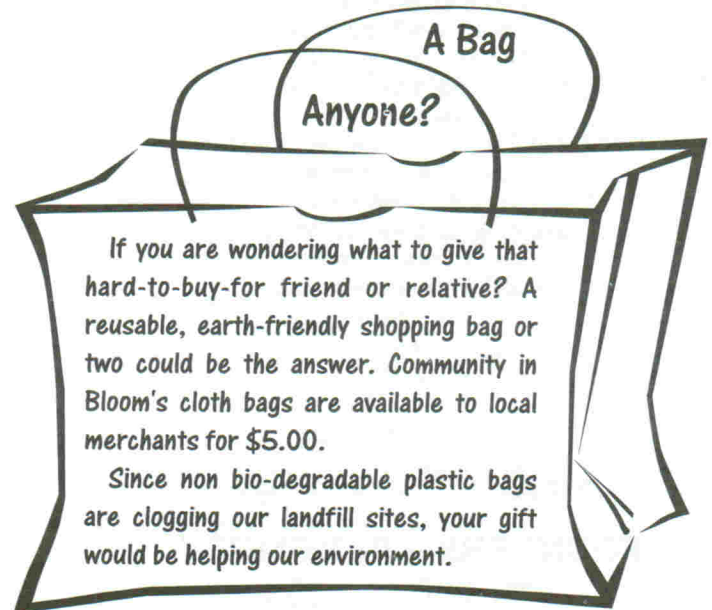
The Austin-Sidney Nursery School is in full swing for another year. Sessions are held Mondays and Wednesdays 9:00 to 11:30 a.m. in the Austin Elementary School. Loretta Zacharias and Sherry Lee are the instructors.

The Foundation was able to help this fall with the purchase of chairs for the Nursery School.



Austin Elementary School Park

If any parents are interested in placing their child (3-5 years of age) in the Nursery School please contact President Kryta Giesbrecht at 637-3034; Debbie Zacharias - Treasurer or Donna Thiessen - Secretary. Your child may start at any time. Nursery School gives your child a jump start for Kindergarten.



Austin Hall Building Fund Update

WOW! As of the end of October the Austin Hall Building Fund is at almost \$360,000, all this in 20 months.

Although the Committee was unable to secure any provincial funding in '06, they were encouraged to re-apply in 2007. The Thomas Sill Foundation of Winnipeg did however bring their spirits up when they committed \$25,000 to the Fund.

Fundraising over the summer included a BBQ in July where the Playhouse was drawn, selling ice and running a booth at the Thresherman's Reunion, and a Pickerel Fish Fry in early October. The second year for the "Ag Project" was deemed a great success this year. Winter wheat, oats and canola were harvested with great support from the community. The Committee would like to give a big THANK-YOU to all who supported and helped with this years projects.

A new draw is underway. Look for tickets on a draw for a John Deere 4-Wheeler; John Deere lawnmower and a Stihl Weedeater.

Building of the new hall will not begin until more funding is secured.



"After the Harvest" – August 24, 2006 – 80 acres of the Austin Building Fund Oat crop was completed in minimum time.

New Rules For Charitable Donations

Published in the "Good Times" December 2006

Retirees are among the most generous people in Canada when it comes to making charitable donations, but it's best to plan your giving to maximize the tax benefits. And some new rules introduced this past summer make certain types of donations more attractive than ever before.

Any charitable donations up to \$200 you make in a given year are credited at the bottom marginal rate - about 20 per cent, depending on the province. Any additional amounts, however, are credited at the top marginal rate, up to 50 percent, depending on your province.

As a result, while the generally recommended strategy would be to contribute before each year-end to get the tax breaks as soon as possible, you may want to hold off claiming your credit and claim two or more years' donations in a single year instead. That way, you increase the amount eligible for the higher credit rate.

You can carry charitable donation credits forward as long as five years. This is particularly beneficial if you are in the habit of donating relatively small amounts - under \$1,000 or so. Say, for example, that you are in the habit of giving \$500 a year to charity. Each year you would get a tax credit equal to about \$40 on the first \$200, and as much as \$150 on the remaining \$300, for a total credit of \$190 each year.

Now say you were to give \$1,000 every other year instead.

You would get the same \$40 on the first \$200, and up to \$400 on the remainder, for a total of \$440 over two years. That's \$60 more than if you got those credits of \$190 each year ($2 \times \$190 = \380).

As for that rule change, in the past you were allowed to give investments directly to charity, rather than selling them and then giving cash. You still had to pay capital gains tax on this "deemed disposition," but at

only half the normal rate. Since only half of your capital gains are normally taxable anyway, you would have to include only one-quarter of the gain in your income for the year.

So if, for example, you gave securities that had grown in value by \$1,000 and your marginal tax rate were in the 30 per cent range, you normally would pay \$150 in tax (30 per cent of \$500); if you gave the securities to charity instead, you'd have to pay only \$75.

Under new rules introduced this past summer, however, if you give securities as a gift to charity, you don't have to pay any tax at all on the gain. This strategy can be a very cost-effective way to donate.

"This rule doesn't apply just to stocks," says Warren Baldwin, vice-president of T.E. Wealth in Toronto. "It also applies to mutual fund

units, or just about anything that attracts capital gains tax. It's a wonderful way to give, but if you intend to do this, you should get on it right away.

"For starters," Baldwin explains, "you need some time to figure out exactly what you're going to give. You have to contact the charity and get the necessary documentation in order, and the transfer itself can take a few days. So don't wait until the last minute, or you might miss the year-end."

As for what you should give, Baldwin advises that you give whatever assets have accrued the largest gain. "You might have some U.S. or foreign mutual funds that have gone up a little bit, and some Canadian funds that have gone up a lot. So give the Canadian funds, because that will give you the biggest tax savings."

Finally, if you've blown all your cash on Christmas, don't fret; you can still donate by charging it on your credit card. Provided you pay off the loan within the grace period - typically 20 to 30 days - you won't have to pay any interest charges.

The best advice - consult your chartered accountant.



MacGregor Health Foundation Inc. Quiet Room Project

The MacGregor Health Centre staff and residents wish to thank community donors for your ongoing support of the MacGregor Health Foundation Inc. Quiet Room project.

The MacGregor Health Foundation Inc. has over the years given financial support to community health related projects in the Rural Municipality of North Norfolk and the Village of MacGregor such as farm safety services for senior's foot clinics, and Healthy Mondays. The Foundation has supported projects that enhance the care and comfort of individuals and

families who need the services provided by the MacGregor Health Centre.

The Health Foundation assists with purchases of equipment, furnishing and capital expenditures not funded by the Regional Health Authority. The Quiet Room project received financial assistance from the Health Foundation and the NNMF and that assistance has brought the quiet room project closer to reality.

For information on how you can support the work of the MacGregor Health Foundation Inc., contact Laura Burke at 685-2850.

Clubhouse Building Committee Update

To date our committee has raised over \$150,000!! We want to increase that number in the coming months. We have had some successful fundraisers, but we are still looking for more individuals and businesses to step up and believe in our project and our community. We are going to be taking this project one step further.

It has been a lengthy process, but our committee has been in discussion with the golf board, as well as the Village of MacGregor and the RM of North Norfolk,

in lending their support to a multi-use facility so that it can be used for more than just a clubhouse. This has been accomplished in principal, and we look forward to working out all of the details! We are also awaiting word of the acquisition of land. Everything does take time; however, it is still good to have a vision and a plan. Plans will start to be drawn up in the coming weeks and months, and soon the whole plan will come together . . . but to achieve this we really need the community's support.

"LIGHT UP THE TOWN"

The MacGregor and District Kinette Club would like to "LIGHT UP THE TOWN" for the upcoming Christmas season. In past years the Kinette and Kinsmen Clubs have had lights on their "Kin Tree". This year the Kinettes decided to undertake lighting up the Kinette Gazebo located in the Fred Coates Memorial Park and also adding additional lights to the park located east of the MCC store on MacGregor's Main Street.

To date we have received funding support from MacGregor North Norfolk Foundation and the MacGregor Chamber of Commerce. If any individuals would like to contribute to help purchase lights you can leave your donation with Gail Coates or Marion Butterfield.

Beautification Efforts Continue

The beautification of downtown MacGregor was greatly enhanced by the creation of a community park adjacent to the new Co-op Farm and Building Supply. Portage la Prairie Consumers Cooperative Limited had the vision to purchase and develop the property. They worked with the village, Kinettes, the Community in Bloom committee and Prairie Blossom to make the park a reality. The park was dedicated to the memory of Fred Coates, Branch Manager 1983 - 2003.

The Coop's partnering and commitment to our community was noted and commended by the C.B. judges in their report.

The gazebo, a Kinette project, with help from the Foundation, the Province and donations is a focal point for the park. During the summer it was adorned with floral baskets and well used for festivities. In this winter season, its Christmas light twinkle a welcome.

MacGregor Lions Club

This past season has continued to be an active one for the Lions Club members.

We expanded the Lions Campground facility by adding several more serviced sites. Our campground is very well received by summer travelers and is also utilized by various workers who stay when in our area. With the inclusion of the Rainbow Spray Park, comments left by campers are very complimentary. Many folks return to stay and make MacGregor a scheduled stop on their trips on a regular basis.

We have been approached by the Good Sam Club to provide the camping facilities for a convention that would bring 400 people to our community in May of 2008. Members are meeting with the Normac Center Board and the Village Council to ascertain the feasibility of this venture and to see if we are able to provide what is requested.

The third annual MacGregor Lion Memorial Golf Tournament was a success once again. The support of the community is very much appreciated. This year we made a donation to the new golf clubhouse committee from the proceeds.

Folks may have noticed that the play structure at the Lions Play Park has had the finishing touches put on it. Cement was poured, and members spent a day completing this project.

Our annual canvass for the C.N.I.B. took place on October 24th. Because of the generosity of the community, we were able to contribute over \$2,500.00 to this worthy cause.

The Lions Manor committee is again investigating the feasibility of renovating the bachelor suites on the North side of the Manor into one bedroom units. The

demand is for apartments that provide a bedroom. We would like to make the living places for our seniors comfortable and functional for them. The success of the renovations on the South side makes this a good idea!

We would like to take this opportunity to invite everyone to our annual Christmas Soup and Dessert luncheon on December 10th at the Memorial Hall from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Admission will be by donation.

Keeping to the the Christmas theme, Lions members look forward to helping the Christmas Cheer Board by, once again, assisting in the delivery of the Christmas hampers.

These are some of the activities that have taken our attention this past summer. We are currently involved in a drive to seek new members. Our numbers have been depleted recently by the loss of some very valuable and loyal individuals. It is our hope and wish to continue being an active and effective service club for our community. We would like to invite anyone – male or female – who may be interested in joining us and helping to continue the fine tradition of this organization to a supper meeting on Tuesday, December 12th. If you are interested, please contact Do Flynn or any Lions member. It would be our pleasure to welcome you.

We are hopeful that the legacy the MacGregor Lions Club has left will not only continue, but will expand in the future.

JoAnne Hoyak
MacGregor Lions Club

A Hundred Years From Now

It will not matter what my bank account was, or the kind of car I drove, but the world may be different because I was important in the life of a child.

The statement clearly states what most of us know and have experienced. The Foundation can help us to continue to make a difference. Grants to education and youth are a part of the Foundation's mandate. Your gifts have helped to make good things happen. Thank you!

Secrets to Staying Happy

Author Unknown

- Throw out non-essential numbers. This includes age, weight and height. Let the doctor worry about them.
- Keep only cheerful friends. The grouches pull you down.
- Keep learning. Learn more about the computer, crafts, gardening, whatever. Never let the brain idle.
- Enjoy simple things.
- Laugh often, long and loud. Laugh until you gasp for breath.
- The tears happen. Endure, grieve and move on. The only persons who are with us our entire life are ourselves. Be alive while you are alive.
- Surround yourself with what you love, whether it is family, pets, keepsakes, music, plants, hobbies, whatever. Your home is your refuge.
- Cherish your health. If it's good, preserve it. If it's unstable, improve it. If it's beyond what you can improve, get help.
- Tell the people you love, that you love them, at every opportunity.
- Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take but by the moments that take our breath away.

The North Norfolk-MacGregor Foundation Has Given \$26,513.00 In Grants In 2006!

Austin Hall Building Fund	\$5,000.00
MacGregor Golf Clubhouse Fund	\$5,000.00
Sprucedale Industries (ventilation system)	\$3,000.00
MacGregor Kinettes (gazebo)	\$2,750.00
Austin Community Centre (zamboni shed).....	\$2,000.00
North Norfolk-MacGregor Archives (info sign, computer)	\$1,750.00
Manitoba Agriculture Museum (shelter)	\$1,000.00
Normac Centre (chairs)	\$1,000.00
MCI (sound system)	\$1,000.00
Austin Elementary School (sitting area)	\$1,000.00
LUD of Austin (banners)	\$800.00
Inter Ridge Recreation (soccer equipment)	\$425.00
MacGregor Golf & Country Club (spreader)	\$400.00
Austin Sidney Nursery School (chairs).....	\$388.00
NorMac Minor Ball (uniforms)	\$300.00
Austin Chamber of Commerce (signage)	\$250.00
Student's Leadership (4)	\$250.00
MacGregor Cemetery Designated Fund	\$1,141.00

“Building for Our Future”