



THE Bearspaw BEAT

European Christmas
Village Market
Sneak A Peek
Nov. 30

Dec. 1-3 & Dec. 8-10

Remembrance
Day



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In Our Community

Article Submissions



In order to continue to feature locally focused stories of interest to your community, we need you, the readers, to send us articles and suggestions on The Bearspaw Beat.

Do you want to thank a neighbour or recognize a contribution to your community? Have you or someone you know done something exciting that you think others would like to read about—such as a great trip? Do you have an interesting story about growing up in Bearspaw? Then, we want to hear from you!

Article Guidelines:

- Articles must be e-mailed to: thebeat@bearspawlc.org by the 5th of each month for publication in the following month's issue;
- Articles should be between 200 to 450 words in Microsoft Word format; images in jpeg format at a resolution of at least 300 dpi;
- Articles cannot promote a particular company or product to the exclusion of others, or include logos or contact information;
- Article credit may include the contributor's name and general description of expertise; and
- The editor reserves the right to edit articles before publication without getting approvals from the author.

Thank you!

Karla Smit

Disclaimer:

The Editorial staff reserve the right to edit submissions to the Bearspaw Beat.

DID YOU KNOW??

Remembrance Day was first observed in 1919 throughout the British Commonwealth. It was originally called "Armistice Day" to commemorate armistice agreement that ended the First World War on Monday, November 11, 1918, at 11 a.m.



Bearspaw Lifestyle Centre Programs & Events

Valid Memberships are required to register for all programs. Please go to www.bearspawlc.org to purchase or renew memberships or call 403-239-1502 ext 101.



Become A Member Of The Bearspaw Community Association

Purchasing a BCA Membership is a great way to engage with your community. It is also a great way to give back. Membership dues and donations allow the Bearspaw Lifestyle Centre to support the community's needs through programs, events, workshops and markets.

Below are just a few of the benefits a BCA membership has to offer:

- Helps to offer affordable recreational, social, and educational programs, events, and workshops
- Helps to offer affordable rental rates
- Helps to offset operational expenses & capital expenditures to the facility
- Ability to participate in seasonal community special events
- Contributes to the cost of maintaining the community centre, playground and outdoor rink

MEMBERSHIP LEVELS

We are pleased to offer three membership levels.

Bearspaw Resident Individual

- \$25 per year
- Designed to accommodate one Adult aged 18 to 54. Membership access for programs and events will be restricted to the named person on the account.

Bearspaw Resident Family

- \$50 per year
- This level of membership covers all individuals residing in a common dwelling.
- Up to two adults and their dependents.

Bearspaw Resident Senior

- \$15 per year
- Designed to accommodate one senior aged 55+.

***Valid Memberships are need to register for all programs. Please go to www.bearspawlc.org to purchase or renew memberships.*

PROGRAMS

Adult Programs

Sit and Get Fit: Get your heart rate up, strengthen those muscles, and increase your flexibility while seated. You'll use your own body weight or light dumbbells as you're led

through a warm-up, cardiovascular activity, and resistance training followed by a refreshing stretch to end the class. This is a great exercise option for new exercisers, anyone with mobility or balance issues, and/or anyone living with or recovering from a lower-body injury.

Sept. 14-Dec. 14 (no class Oct. 19)

Thursdays 10:00 a.m. -10:45 a.m.

- 13 sessions (Thurs.) \$122.85

- \$10.50 to drop in

Adult Badminton: If you enjoy playing Badminton and would like to get together with others who share that same interest, then drop-in or register today!

Sept. 11-Dec. 13 (no session Oct. 9)

Mon., & Wed. 7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Bearspaw School Gymnasium

- (Mon. & Wed.) \$120.00

- (Mon. or Wed.) \$60.00

- \$7 to drop-in

Essential Fitness-Low Impact: The instructor will take you through low impact movements that are friendly for your joints while providing some cardiovascular work. We will utilize small weights for strength as well as incorporate abdominal work, balance and stretches. A great class for anyone not wanting a high intensity workout. All ages are welcome. Please bring a yoga mat, light weights and a water bottle.

Sept. 12-Dec. 14 (no class Oct. 19)

Tues. & Thu. 8:45 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

- 14 sessions (Tues.) \$132.30

- 13 sessions (Thurs.) \$122.85

- Multi-pass or drop-in available \$10.50 per session

Total Body Conditioning: This class uses resistance training principles, focusing on core strength, functional training, balance, flexibility and symmetry. This class is designed to burn calories and increase strength. Total Body Conditioning is a great workout for everyone.

Modified exercises are offered.

Sept. 11-Dec. 13 (no class Oct. 9)

Mon., & Wed. 8:45 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.

- 13 sessions (Mon.) \$150.15

- 14 sessions (Wed.) \$161.70

- Multi-pass or drop-in available \$12.60 per session

Yoga at Dusk: This All Levels evening class allows you to unwind from your busy day. The class is designed to help you build strength, increase stability, flexibility and functional range of motion. Yoga helps you to reduce

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stress while promoting relaxation and mindfulness as you learn to combine the breath and movement. It is a journey of self- discovery enabling you to work at your own pace, slow down and dwell in the present moment. We encourage you to bring a willingness to explore and a sense of humor. Everyone is welcome.

Sept. 12-Dec. 12

Tue. 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

- 14 sessions \$242.48
- Multi- pass available \$18.37 per session

Hatha Yoga: The class is designed to help you build strength, increase stability, flexibility and functional range of motion. Yoga helps you to reduce stress while promoting relaxation and mindfulness as you learn to combine the breath and movement. It is a journey of self- discovery enabling you to work at your own pace, slow down and dwell in the present moment. We encourage you to bring a willingness to explore and a sense of humor. Everyone is welcome.

Sept. 13-Dec. 14

(no class Oct. 19, Nov. 30, Dec. 7)

- Wed. & Thurs.
- 14 sessions (Wed.) 9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. \$242.48
- 11 sessions (Thurs.) 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. \$127.05
- Multipass available \$18.37 per session (Wed.)
- Multipass available \$12.60 per session (Thurs.)

Zumba: We take the “work” out of workout, by mixing low-intensity and high-intensity moves for an interval-style, calorie-burning dance fitness-party! A total workout, combining all elements of fitness – cardio, muscle conditioning, balance, and flexibility, boosted energy, and a serious dose of awesome each time you leave class. This class is for ALL AGES!

Sept. 11-Dec. 15 (no class Oct. 9, 20 & 27)

Mon., Wed. & Fri. 9:15 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.

- 39 classes for \$165.00
- Multi-pass/drop-in available \$12.60 per session

Youth Programs

Drone Club (Ages 10-14): Drop-in's Welcome!! New to our programs! Come out for a fun and exciting class where you can race small Holy Stone HS210 Quadcopters around an obstacle course (we supply the drones). Competitors build a different course each class and can even choose to run glow-in-the-dark! Challenge each other with a friendly competition of speed and tricks! Easy to fly and no need to be an ace. Beginners welcome!

Sept. 19-Dec. 14

Tues. & Thu. 3:15 – 4:15 p.m.

- 10 sessions (Tues.) \$187.50
(no class Oct. 31, Nov. 28, Dec. 5)
- 10 sessions (Thurs.) \$187.50
(no class Oct. 19, Nov. 30, Dec. 7)
- Drop-in \$18.75

Youth Pickleball: Pickleball is a paddle sport that combines elements of tennis, badminton, and ping-pong using a paddle and plastic ball with holes. It is a game that is appropriate for players of all ages and skill levels. Rules for pickleball are simple, making it a great introductory sport.

Ages 6-13

Oct. 25-Nov. 22

Wed. 3:15-4:15

- 5 sessions \$125.00

Girls Group (Ages 8-11): Activities and projects designed to enhance self-esteem, self-expression, confidence and friendship.

Sept. 14-Dec. 14 (no class Oct. 19, Nov. 30, Dec. 7)

Thurs. 3:15pm – 4:15pm

- 11 sessions \$99.00

Sportball Afterschool Sports: Sportball helps children develop socially as well as physically, through a curriculum designed to reinforce self-confidence free from the pressure of competition. Programs are carefully designed to focus on the development of balance, strength, coordination, stamina, and timing through professional instruction and positive encouragement, using child-sized equipment.

Sportball Basketball Skills

Sept. 11-Dec. 11 (no class Oct. 9, Nov. 27, Dec. 4)

- Mon. 3:15pm – 4:15pm (6 - 11 yrs.)
- \$220.00 for 11 sessions

Sportball Indoor Soccer Skills

Sept. 12-Dec. 12 (no class Nov. 28, Dec. 5)

- Tues. 3:15pm – 4:15pm (6 - 11 yrs.)
- \$240.00 for 12 sessions

Sportball Floor Hockey Skills

Sept. 14-Dec. 14 (no class Oct. 19, Nov. 30, Dec. 7)

- Thurs. 3:15pm – 4:15pm (6 - 11 yrs.)
- \$220.00 for 11 sessions

Young Children

Sportball Multi-Sport (Ages 3-5) Skills: Multi-Sport

Bearspaw Lifestyle Centre Programs & Events

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classes are the heart of Sportball programming. Coaches focus on the basic skills common to all sports, like balance, coordination, stamina and timing in a fun, supportive, non-competitive setting that emphasizes teamwork. Each class focuses on one of eight popular sports: hockey, soccer, football, baseball, basketball, volleyball, golf, and tennis.

Sept. 11-Dec. 18

- Mondays 11:35 am-12:20 pm
- 11 sessions for \$220.00
(no class Oct. 9, Nov. 27, Dec 4, Dec 11)
- Thursdays 11:00 am-11:45 am
- 10 sessions for \$200.00
(no classes Oct. 19, Nov. 16 & 30, Dec. 7)
- Thursdays 2:30 pm-3:15 pm
- 11 sessions for \$220.00
(no classes Oct. 19, Nov. 30, Dec. 7)

Wiggle and Giggle: A FREE drop-in program offered by BLC in partnership with FCSS. Join us for active fun in the gym! A great way for tots to burn off some energy & for parents to meet others in the area. Please note: parents are required to attend with their children and be in the gym at all times.

Sept. 13-Dec. 15 (excluding Sept. 29, Oct. 20, Nov. 29, Dec. 1, 6 & 8)

- Wednesdays & Fridays 12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Teens

Drop-in Multi-Sports 12+: Come out and join us for a combination of basketball, volleyball, badminton and more! Work on skills led by our instructor, or just come and have fun playing! Located at the Bearspaw School Gymnasium

Sept. 12-Dec. 13

Tues. & Thurs. 7:00pm-10:00pm

- Register for both Tues. & Thurs \$140.00
- 28 sessions
- Drop-in \$7.00

Art Hive at Bearspaw

The Art Hive is a drop-in program for our members to come get creative and messy. Choose from a daily offering of projects, or bring in your own ideas; we will have basic art and craft supplies on hand for you to use to create your own masterpieces. This is open to all ages and we are really looking forward to seeing you!

Sept. 13-June. 22

NEW DAYS AND TIMES

Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 11:00 am-5:00pm

- \$2 to drop-in
- \$20 "Busy Bee" 10x stamp card
- \$200 "Hardcore Hiver" pass valid for 10 months-can be purchased anytime and straddle the summer months.

Please go to www.bearspawlc.org to purchase your passes or just stop by and drop-in!

How Can I Support the Art Hive?

- Register for our workshops
- Donate recyclables and other household items
- Make a monetary donation
- Help us fundraise
- Tell your friends about us!
- Give us your feedback

Art Workshops

MONDAY MASTERPIECES at THE ART HIVE: A series of fun art workshops for 6-13 year olds! Check out this series of delightful classes that will inspire the inner artist. Sign up for one or two workshops (\$30 each) or save \$15 when you register for all three (\$75). All art materials are included...just bring your creativity!

PRINTMAKING CITYSCAPES: Using a combination of watercolor painting and printmaking, kids will create these beautiful city landscapes! Learn about warm and cool colors, printmaking techniques and composition while you design a city skyline. All paints and other materials included in cost. Ages 6-13
Monday, November 6th, 3:15-4:30pm
• \$30.00

WANDS AND QUILLS! Calling all wizards and witches! Join us in the Art Hive to create your very own wand and feather writing quill! This is a fun and magical workshop...what powers will your wand have? All materials included in cost. Ages 6-13
Monday, November 13th, 3:15-4:30pm
• \$30.00

WINTER WONDERLAND! Our European Village Christmas market will soon be upon us, and it's beginning to look a lot like Christmas at the BLC! In this workshop, kids can get into the spirit by painting festive winter landscapes. To make it extra special, we will print these masterpieces and each participant will receive a pack of Christmas cards/envelopes to share with family and friends! Please note: cards will be ready for pick up the week AFTER the workshop. All paints

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and materials included in cost. Ages 6-13
Monday, November 27th, 3:15-4:30pm
• \$30.00

GNOMES! GNOMES! GNOMES! Who doesn't love gnomes? Join us in the Art Hive to make some adorable gnome Christmas ornaments...grown-ups, you are welcome to register for this workshop too! All materials included in cost. Ages 6-13
Monday, December 11th, 3:15-4:30pm
• \$30.00

NEW AT THE ART HIVE! Introducing our "MESSY HANDS!" Workshops especially for preschoolers! Join us for these fun, short and sweet art workshops created just for the 3-5 year old! Please note that these are PARENTED workshops...we ask that a grown up accompany the child. Create something unique and special together! Register for one workshop for \$15, or mix and match any 3 workshops for \$40.

MARBLE PAINTING! Make colourful, unique and abstract art in this fun painting workshop! All materials included in registration. Ages 3-5 (parented)
Monday, November 13, 1:30-2:15pm
• \$15.00

BALLOON PAINTING! Let's use balloons instead of brushes to paint some cute, googly-eyed monsters!
Ages 3-5 (parented)
Monday, November 27, 1:30-2:15pm
• \$15.00

ORNAMENTS! We're making sweet and easy Christmas tree ornaments today! All materials included in registration. Ages 3-5 (parented)
Monday, December 11, 1:30-2:15pm
• \$15.00

Events

Lunch and Learn: Little Bear Bakeshop
Join us for lunch and learn about The Sweetest Time of the Year. Little Bear Bakeshop will take us on a journey of holiday cookies and how to make sweet memories this holiday season by decorating cookies with loved ones. This reintroduction to a beloved pastime touches on everything from cookie bases to decorating tricks and tips. Come sit in and ensure your Christmas cookies are the talk of the table.
Wednesday, Nov 15th, 11:30am-1:30pm
• \$15.00

Movie Matinee: Soul (PG)
Friday, November 24th, 2:15pm
• \$5.00 includes popcorn and a juice box
• Cash concession

Canadian Red Cross Babysitters Course
Saturday, November 18th, 9:00-4:30pm
• Ages 11-15 years
• \$30

Paint, Sip & Create Bearspaw! Come join for a fun filled evening full of laughs, painting and cocktails if you choose! No experience necessary! You will be led in a step by step painting class that will be in a relaxed fun atmosphere!
Friday, November 17th, 7:00-9:30pm
• \$65.00+GST (includes all required painting supplies & wood plank)
Please note acrylic paint does not come out of clothing, so please wear appropriate clothing for the evening

Markets

European Christmas Village Market at Bearspaw:
Plans are underway for our second European Christmas Village Market. Our first year exceeded expectations with over 12,000 people attending. And, we expect an even better turn out for 2023, as we grow community spirit. December 1, 2, 3 and 8, 9, 10, 2023

Community Donors

Your donations and funds raised by this annual Christmas market will be used to support our year-around Children and Youth focused programming. PLUS, we are working to create an outdoor family focused activity park to the east of the Bearspaw Lifestyle Centre. Your support will help us bring this vision to life, as we build more family friendly recreation opportunities in our community.

Your name, should you agree, will appear in the event program and on the wall by the Volunteer Centre for 2023/24. With your donation you will receive a tax receipt from Bearspaw Community Association.

Use the QR code to donate or, if more convenient for you, make out a cheque to: Bearspaw Community Association





Bears paw Historical Society News

Eight Former Students of the One Room Bears paw School Served in the Second World War



We will Remember Them

The Bears paw Historical Society will place six white crosses at the 1920 school site to remember those who served in WW1 and WW11 from our area and did not return. The crosses will be there from November 1 until Remembrance Day November 11.



1926 photo. Copyright Glenbow Archives NA-5162-2

"How important it is for us to recognize and celebrate our heroes and she-roes!"

— Maya Angelou



1937 Photo Courtesy of Ellen Buckler

- Agnes Hawkwood (1914-1961) trained as a nurse in England and returned to Canada after the war. Seventh student from left in back row.
 - John Hawkwood (1927-1991) was Agnes' brother but to date we have no information about his service. Third from left in front row.
 - Nicol Hamilton (1913-1972) arrived in Alberta from Scotland in 1924 . Nicol worked on his uncle Nicol's farm in Bears paw before serving. Third student from left in back row.
 - Kathleen Mary McNeill (1917-2001) served as a Registered Nurse during the war. Third student from left in middle row.
 - John Gordon McNeill (Distinguished Flying Cross) (1919-1944) student of the school from 1925 until 1934. John served as Wng Comd in the RCAF. He died overseas on August 21,1944. There is a white cross for him in the Field of Crosses on Memorial Drive. First student on left front row.
 - Robert Stanley McNeill (1916-2001) served in the Royal Canadian Signals Corp. First on left in middle row.
 - Norman Edward Newsome (1916 -2011) served as a Chief Petty Officer in Canadian Navy. Norman is fourth from left in back row.
 - Sidney Ernest Norris (1921-2012) served in the UK, Italy, North Africa and the Netherlands from 1941 until 1945. Sidney is 4th from the left in 1937 photo.
- *Identification of students from Taming the Prairie Wool for 1926 photo
Names of students were taken from Bears paw Lions and Glendale Women's Institute Roll of Honour

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Volunteer for the European Christmas Village Market

Is there anything better than the wonder and magic of Christmas? Why not come and share in the creation of that magic this year at our 2nd Annual European Christmas Village Market at the BLC. We were blessed to have nearly 350 volunteers last year and we would love to have you there with us! This year there will be something for everyone! Seven full days of fireworks, horse drawn carriage rides, bonfires, visits from Santa, live entertainment, food, and most importantly vendors. There will be lasting memories made at this market. So come on out, meet your community and share in the spirit of the season.



Use the QR code to volunteer:

Santa Needed

The Bearspaw Lifestyle Centre is looking for a member of the community to take on the legendary role of Santa Claus for our European Village Christmas Market in December 2023 at the Bearspaw Lifestyle Centre. Applicants must be good with children of all ages, be willing to submit a criminal record check, and must be available both the first and second weekend of December. Specifically, we are looking for a Santa Claus on Saturdays Dec. 2 & 9 as well as Sundays Dec. 3 & 10 from 1 - 5pm. If a person can only do one or two of these shifts, please still apply, as we may need several Santas to cover for this period of time. All applicants please email Kathleen de Jong at katedej@shaw.ca

Donate A Tree

We need your old Christmas tree, any size or colour. Ho Ho Hold off throwing away your old tree, make Santa's nice list this year by donating to your local Community Association.

Are you getting a new artificial tree this year? We would love to take your old one off your hands. To create the most magical winter wonderland again this year at the European Village Christmas Market we are reaching out to our local residents to ask for donations of Christmas trees, decorations, wreaths, garland etc. Please bring them along any donations to the Bearspaw Lifestyle Centre before November 20th and help create the most incredible Christmas experience for our community.

Book Your Event

Rental space available at the BLC for weddings, family reunions, corporate events, birthdays and other events. Our facility hosts three studio rooms, a 7000 sq. ft. gym equipped with cross court and end court basketball nets, and a 2400 sq. ft. Banquet Hall. Contact Tara @ (403)239-1502 x: 101 to reserve your space. Rental prices below:

- Banquet Hall: \$105/hour or \$1050 full day
- Dance Studio: \$45/hour
- Gymnasium: \$95/hour
- Homestead Room: \$45/hour
- Meeting Room: \$30/hour
- Upstairs Studio: \$45/hour



Book Review

Recipe For A Perfect Wife by Karma Brown

The title of this book is deceptive. In 2018 New Yorker, Alice, moves into a suburban house. There she discovers, hidden, never-mailed letters written by its previous owner, Nelly, back in 1956. Now deceased, Nelly's letters contained only gardening stories and recipes her mother had given her long ago. This story is of both women during the early years of their marriages. What they had in common was husbands who fervently wanted children; wanted their wives to become pregnant.

Neither Nelly nor Alice was ready to bring children into the world. Alice wanted only the time and freedom to write her first novel and Sally, suffering with a violent

husband, could not bring a child into that environment. Yet Nelly's letters never mentioned the horrible abuse she was living with. Day-by-day she was the dutiful wife typical of the 1950's except that, hidden in the recipes, was her untold story; the story Alice was certain was fodder for a novel. Alice, meanwhile, kept secret from her husband the method she was using to prevent pregnancy. Secrecy and lies became a way-of-life for both women regardless of their 62 years apart. Choice and control over their bodies was, still, as much a struggle in 2018 as it was in 1956.

In this book, her fifth, Karma Brown has captured, with extreme subtlety, how, in some ways, women's lives have not changed regardless of the times. It is suspenseful and definitely a page-turner.

Anna Koutis, Reader's Book Club of Bearspaw

Book Review

From the Ashes by Jesse Thistle

From abandonment, confusion and drugs, Jesse tells his life as it was – not is.

As a very little boy, he experienced separation from his Metis-Cree mother and grandmother, neglect from his single parent father and an abusive foster home. Finally his caring, but non-indigenous, paternal grandparents raised him. Consequently, he knew little of his indigenous heritage and, in fact, rejected identity with it. Thus, feeling lost in many ways, he became rebellious. His turn to drugs led him down the garden path of thievery. The punishment to his emaciated body was the result of years of never having adequate food to eat or a bed to sleep on. At least prison gave him some respite. In the end, we finally see how Jesse, due to his own determination and the help of one who loved and believed in him, chose education and turned his life around. This memoir is an excruciating description of what life is like for those who live on the streets, of which there are many. They all have a story to tell.

Jesse Thistle is now an assistant professor of Metis Studies in the department of Humanities at York University in Toronto. He won a Governor General's Academic Medal in 2016, an Indigenous Voices Award

in 2020 for this book and is a Pierre Elliott Trudeau Scholar and a Vanier Scholar. His 2022 book, Scars and Stars, is a book of poems: his love letters to all those who helped and believed in him.

Anna Koutis, of Bearspaw Book Club

How Should The Poppy Be Worn?

The Royal Canadian Legion suggests that the poppy be worn on the left lapel of a garment and / or as close to the heart as possible.

The official start of the Poppy Campaign and the distribution of poppies to the general public begin on the last Friday in October and run until November 11.

The lapel poppy may be worn throughout the whole of the remembrance period and is removed at the end of Remembrance Day. Many people place their poppy at the base of the cenotaph, as a sign of respect, at the end of the Remembrance Day ceremony.

www.veterans.gc.ca

Bearspaw Preschool News

Full is in the air! The teachers and students are settling into the school year and things are off to an exciting start! The Junior Kindergarten students are busy starting their al-phabet train while the 3-year-old students will be focusing on shapes this month. The teachers have also been working with the students to make drawings which will be turned into Christmas Cards. Please stay tuned for more information regarding this special project.

On November 17th we will be hosting a Parent Meet & Greet in the Bearspaw Leisure Centre gymnasium from 11am-1pm. We will have a face painter on site, all the Wiggle & Giggle toys, bikes, bouncy castle, coffee and treats. This is an excellent opportunity to meet other families in your class, as well as learn more about our programs. All par-ents and siblings are welcome to attend. We hope to meet you there!

Our students have been enjoying our Music and Play program. We are happy that we can provide this program to both our Preschool and Junior Kindergarten students again this year on a monthly basis. Our students also LOVE their gym time in a full-sized gym! Thursdays and Fridays are extra special as the children get to ride tricycles and scooters.

Please note that there will be no classes on November 10th for Remembrance Day and November 20th for a Professional Day.

It's not too late to register, still! Bearspaw Preschool and Junior Kindergarten has lim-ited spots available for the 2023/2024 school year. Families from all neighborhoods are welcome. Please visit our website www.bearspawpreschool.com for more infor-mation regarding our programs and registration.

Prairie Winds 4-H Members Eagerly Start Off New Club Year

With the new 4-H year underway, the Prairie Winds 4-H Club has already done some exciting activities. From a business meeting to an engaging family social, the year started off on a great note.

At the registration meeting, many new members eagerly signed up and selected enticing projects. Returning projects include Explore 4-H, Health & Fitness, Canine, Photography, and Woodworking. New projects include Foods, Creative Options, and Growing My Career Choice. As members handed in forms, leaders and returning members were delighted to see many new, young faces.

During the meeting, a wide variety of topics were discussed. Leaders explained how meetings generally go and how the year will be. One in-depth discussion involved the decision of the club's t-shirt colour for this year. Another topic discussed was all the fun upcoming events for members and their families to participate in. Luckily the meeting was only a little over an hour, so that attendees didn't get too distracted.

After the business meeting, a short, but enjoyable family social took place. Activities included keeping a balloon in the air and a deserted island game. As the family social went on many new and existing bonds were formed.

A few days after the first meeting of the new 4-H year, some members participated in a lawn mower maintenance workshop. At this event attendees learned how to sharpen a lawn mower blade and clean it. This was done through intuitive hands-on activities and demonstrations. Members learned many useful skills that they will surely use later in life.

Exciting events have already occurred and members and leaders are looking forward to more in the future.

Emmett Donner, Club Reporter

