

# VILLAGE VOICES

*It takes a village to raise a child*

Healthy Child Coalition – Central Region

September-October 2016

## Louise Playgroup

For approximately five years, parent-child programming in the Municipality of Louise, including the communities of Pilot Mound, Crystal City and Clearwater has been provided through Louise Recreation District with input from a community committee.

In recent years, a weekly play group had been held in Clearwater. But as attendance waned in that community, the sessions were moved to Pilot Mound. Recreation director Marcie Toupin says that response so far has been good.

The sessions are held in the former Town of Pilot Mound office. When the RM of Louise, the Town of Pilot Mound and the Village of Crystal City amalgamated in January 2015, space in the Pilot Mound office became available.

One of the nice things about the location, Marcie says, is that the building also houses the local library. Pre-school books from the library have been loaned to the parent-child program and are now kept in the room where sessions are held.

The two-hour sessions are jam-packed with activities for the parents and children who attend – circle time, reading, crafts, snacks, exercising, singing, free play and outdoor exploring. (continued on Page 4)



**Marcie Toupin and Shannon Clark read to preschool children at the Pilot Mound play group.**

Healthy Child Coalition  
Central Region



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**Next issue will be out**

**November 2016**

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<http://hcccentralregion.wordpress.com/>

Want something  
included in this  
newsletter?

Contact Sharron  
Arksey, coordinator

## Back to School Finger play

Two little houses all closed up tight  
**(make fists)**  
Open up the window and let in the light  
**(open fist)**  
Ten little finger people tall and straight  
**(ten fingers)**  
Ready for school at half past eight  
**(walk with fingers)**

### ONE ENORMOUS ELEPHANT

One enormous elephant marching down the street  
*(put one finger up and march in place)*  
Swinging his trunk to the marching band's beat  
*(swing your arm back and forth while marching in place)*  
He had two big ears and four big feet  
*(hold your ears and stomp your feet)*  
Swinging his trunk to the marching band's beat  
*(swing your arm back and forth and march in place)*  
(Repeat with more elephants)

### GOODBYE SONG

See you later, alligator.  
Bye Bye, butterfly.  
Give a hug, lady bug.  
Be sweet, parakeet.  
Blow a kiss, goldfish.  
See you soon, raccoon.  
Take care, polar bear.  
Out the door, dinosaur!

### I LOVE FALL!

I love fall! Fall is exciting.  
It's apples and cider.  
It's an airborne spider.  
It's pumpkins in bins.  
It's burrs on dog's chins.  
It's wind blowing leaves.  
It's chilly red knees.  
It's nuts on the ground.  
It's a crisp dry sound.  
It's green leaves turning  
And the smell of them burning.  
It's clouds in the sky.  
It's fall. That's why...  
I love fall.

## Apple Collage



### You will need:

Scraps of red paper (tissue, wrapping, junk mail, etc.)  
Small scrap of green paper  
Glue  
Paper plate

Cover the back of the paper plate with glue. Rip the scraps of red paper into small pieces and glue on. When the whole plate is covered, paint another layer of glue over the top to stick down any loose edges.

Cut out two leaves and a stalk from the green paper and glue to the edge of the plate.

## Water Bottle Pumpkin Jack-O-Lantern Craft

### Supplies:

- Small plastic bottle
- Orange construction paper or scraps
- Black paper scraps
- Scissors (if desired)
- Glue
- Green permanent marker

1) Tear the orange paper in small pieces and stuff in the bottle.

2) Tear (or cut) the black paper for a Jack-O-Lantern face. Glue.

3) Use a permanent marker to color the cap green.



With every book, you go back to school. You become a student. You become an investigative reporter. You spend a little time learning what it's like to live in someone else's shoes.

John Irving

# Grandparent Award

*The Grandparent Award is a great craft idea for toddlers (on up), you may need to cut the 'ribbons' and write on it, but they can stick on any decorations they'd like on their special homemade gift!*

## Level of Difficulty: Easy

### Here's what you'll need...

- Paper Plate
- Yellow paint and brush
- Red construction paper
- Scissors
- Marker
- Embellishments – stickers, pom poms, glitter glue, etc.
- Hole punch and yarn if you want to hang your award



### Here's how to make it...

1. Paint your paper plate yellow. When it's dry, write #1 Grandparents, or Grandma/Grandpa, in the middle of the plate. Stick on your embellishments, maybe grandpa's favorite things, or grandma's favorite colors.
2. Cut ribbons out of your construction paper. They should be about 2" wide, and as long, or short as you'd like them. Glue them onto the back of your plate.

If you'd like to hang your award, simply punch two holes on either side of the plate and string a piece of yarn through.



# Picture Puzzle

## Level of Difficulty: Moderate

### Here's what you'll need...

- Picture (4X6 size)
- 12 popsicle sticks
- Glue
- Scissors

### Here's how you make it...

1. Turn your picture over and glue the popsicle sticks on the back. They should be flush with the top of the picture and leave some stick hanging out at the bottom (that way you'll know what the 'bottom' of your puzzle is). Make sure you leave enough room between the sticks to allow a pair of scissors through (at least 1/8").
2. With your scissors, cut between each stick. You've just created a great personalized puzzle to give or keep.

## Louise Playgroup, continued

Twenty sessions were held in 2015-2016 and eighteen are planned for 2016-2017.

Funding for the programming comes from Healthy Child Coalition – Central Region.

In the summer months, the group also provides parent-child pool time at the local swimming pool.

Plans for the coming year include a survey of area families to determine what programs parents would like to see offered..

“It’s important for us to know what families are interested in,” Marcie says. “That way we can make sure our programming is meeting their needs.”

They are also working towards increasing the program’s supply of books, toys and furnishings. Any additional funds that come their way will go towards those purchases.



All together now!

### HCC-CR Annual General Meeting Thursday, September 22

Carman & District Community Hall 60 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue N.W.

1:00 p.m.

Email [hcc.centralregion@gmail.com](mailto:hcc.centralregion@gmail.com) for more details

### THOUGHT FOR THE SEASON



I like a teacher who gives you something to take home to think about besides homework.

**Lily Tomlin as “Edith Ann”**

