

## **2013 – Communities in Bloom- Community Turf Day – Avena Gardens**

**Wed. Sept. 4/13**

The day started very early. Five volunteers, two trucks and two trailers were on their way to Heshka Farms north of Yorkton to load sod at 8:00 am. More help was on the way to the sod farm from Orcadia Youth Centre. We were very fortunate to have these 4 students and their instructor helping us load the 500 square yards of turf and with their help, we were on our way back to Ituna at 9:30 am.

We asked for volunteers to be at the Avena Garden site at 1:00 pm if their schedules allowed. To our amazement, more than 50 volunteers were in attendance. This would be the second Hallmark moment in five days. Crop Production Services sent 5 employees to help and Mr. Ryan Bulych, Vice-Principal of Ituna School and the Grade 10 Wellness class (16 students) arrived in the Trojan bus willing and ready to get to work. The community residents of Ituna must be congratulated on their commitment to help when needed. The students, parents, grandparent, and CPS worked diligently carrying sod, laying sod, cutting sod and in less than one hour we had all the sod positioned.

In communicating with our grant sponsors and the representatives with Communities in Bloom, they commented we have a strong volunteer base shown by the number of people involved with these two projects and that our residents must be commended for all of their efforts. To all of you, congratulations on a job well done!

In the coming days, volunteers will be watering both sites to ensure all the trees, shrubs, perennials, and sod take root and flourish for years to come.