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Ringging in 2017

PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Children sang, danced and dressed in costumes as part of a traditional Russian New Year's celebration last Friday at the Morden 55 Plus Activity Centre. For the full story, see Pg. 12.

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GVC teacher Iraq-bound for second tour of duty

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Winkler teacher Mark Wilson is trading in his schoolbooks for army boots this month.

The Garden Valley Collegiate instructor is headed to Iraq to serve his second tour of duty with the Canadian Armed Forces.

Wilson, who previously did a seven month stint in Afghanistan in 2007, has been promoted from captain to major for this latest tour, which will see him stationed in Baghdad until August.

While his first time in the Middle East saw him helping train Afghan soldiers for battle, this time around Wilson's job will revolve much more around operational planning than front-line combat in the war against ISIS.

"It's like most things—after a while

you're more into the planning end of things than you are into the doing end," Wilson says.

"I'll be a civil affairs officer at headquarters," he explains. "So I advise the commander on the effects of military operations on the civilian environment, and then the effects that the civilian environment will have on military operations."

"I'M JUST A COG IN THE MACHINE, TRYING TO DO MY PART."

"You have lots of different sensors, whether that be people or equipment, like drones, that kind of stuff, to help keep track of and be informed and then help plan and direct our forces."

"I'm just a cog in the machine, trying to do my part."

For some, one tour of duty would have been enough, but not so for this long-time reservist.

"It might sound corny, but it's about duty. A sense of service to the Crown. That's a real thing and that's actually

Mark Wilson is taking a leave of absence from his job as a teacher at GVC to serve with the Canadian Armed Forces in Baghdad, Iraq until August.

PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE



what motivates me," Wilson says. "It's always convenient to say someone else's son should go, but I honestly do believe I have a skillset that I perhaps can contribute in a very small manner, and I'd like to have that opportunity."

That sense of duty, though, does mean leaving behind his wife, Deana, and their two sons, Luke, 12, and Max, 10, for the bulk of the year.

The boys were too young to understand where their father was during his first tour a decade ago, but that's certainly not the case today.

"They're processing it in a 12-year-old and a 10-year-old way," Wilson says. "They're definitely wanting to learn more about it."

Continued on page 4

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get informed

NEWS > VIEWS > WINKLER > MORDEN > SURROUNDING AREAS

Bergen talks shop at holiday teas in Morden, Portage

By Lorne Stelmach

Getting an extended break from her duties in Ottawa over the Christmas season was still a bit of a working holiday for Portage-Lisgar MP Candice Bergen.

The time provided a good opportunity for her to touch base with her constituents, including holding her annual Christmas and New Year's teas in Morden and Portage la Prairie.

With the increased duties and responsibilities that come with serving as Opposition House Leader, events like this are important, she stressed.

"I've been doing them now for eight years, so people come to expect them ... it's just a nice time ... and an important time to be able to connect with people," Bergen said. "It really makes the Christmas break and summer breaks that much more important for me because it gives me that chance."

Bergen said she's been hearing concerns about a number of issues from residents in her riding, including about the Liberal government's plans for a carbon tax and how it might impact the economy and business climate in Canada.

"Competition is going to become stiffer than ever in terms of investment and business ... whether it's the agricultural sector, manufacturing, natural resources ... our competitors are going to be even more competitive," she said.

"I heard a lot about that ... it's something that I'm opposed to, but I was quite surprised at how many people brought it up with me," she added. "People are concerned about that ... they recognize that we're in bit of a vulnerable situation as well because we have such a large deficit."

Bergen suggested people are also concerned about the federal government raising taxes and introducing policies that are stalling job growth in the country.

"There's talk about the economy and how it's going to look going forward," she said.

She touched on some good eco-

"IT'S AN IMPORTANT TIME TO BE ABLE TO CONNECT WITH PEOPLE."

conomic news as well, noting the approval of a new pipeline that will be coming through the riding will help create employment, while the Canada-European Union Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) will also be an economic boost.

"CETA is also something that is very important to the riding, so we're looking forward to that being implemented," said Bergen. "We know our agricultural producers always need better access and greater access to markets."

Continued on page 6



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

MP Candice Bergen met with constituents at holiday teas hosted in Morden (above) and Portage la Prairie over the past few weeks.



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Military family grateful for community's support

From Pg. 2

A social studies teacher by trade, Wilson has enjoyed showing his sons where he'll be on the map and discussing a bit about the culture and customs of that part of the world.

It lessens the fear of the unknown for the boys, but doesn't erase it entirely.

Max admits to being "kind of scared" to see his father go.

"Because he's in danger and I don't want him to get hurt," he says, adding, however, that he's proud his dad

is serving his country.

His older brother is looking forward to the midpoint of his father's tour, when the entire family will get a few weeks away together on vacation, possibly in Hawaii.

"We get to go on a big trip," Luke says, shrugging when asked for his thoughts. "I don't know. He'll be gone for a long time."

The vacation is a way to break up that months-long separation and give them all something to look forward to, Wilson says.

"The idea is to decompress a little bit," he says, adding the military

would fly him home for his leave, but it's often less emotionally jarring to spend those weeks on holiday instead. "It's hard to go from Iraq to Winkler."

'IT'S ALWAYS BEEN A LITTLE ITCH'

Wilson's decision to volunteer for another tour of duty came as no great shock to his wife.

"I knew it was something he wanted and he's been kind of preparing for it for the past few years," says Deana. "It's always been a little itch, so I wasn't surprised."

"I'm excited for him. He's challenging himself and helping the country," she adds. "but it's also hard to be home alone, so it's kind of mixed emotions."

"We do a lot of stuff together as a family, so I think that will be the hardest is just missing those memories together."

That's a given, admits Wilson, though he hopes this tour will, overall, be a less stressful experience for the family than the last one was.

"Last time, we were brand new to town. I had just gotten this job and all of the sudden, boom, I'm gone. That's a tough time to go," he says. "I left a wife with a three-year-old and a one-year-old in a town she didn't know."

But the community welcomed the

newcomers with open arms, and they were very grateful for the outpouring of support they were on the receiving end of, says Deana.

"I was surprised, pleasantly surprised," she says. "I remember once someone anonymously left me a bouquet of flowers and a gift certificate for a pedicure ... people helped shovel the driveway. There was just lots of little things that people did to help out that made a big difference."

This time around, the boys are old enough to help out more at home and Deana says she has a big local support network of friends and family to lean on, which is certainly a load off Wilson's mind.

"That makes it easier so I can kind of focus on the work," he says.

"People have made a big effort to support me. Not

necessarily what I'm doing, but support me and my family," Wilson adds, noting he's sensitive to the pacifist history of this community, but hopes people respect he's doing what he feels is right.

"I do appreciate that there is another side of looking at this. But I just hope people realize that, ultimately, I'm hoping for the same goal that they are. Which is peace. That's the whole point of all this."

"PEOPLE HAVE MADE A BIG EFFORT TO SUPPORT ME. NOT NECESSARILY WHAT I'M DOING, BUT SUPPORT ME AND MY FAMILY."



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Mark Wilson with his wife Deana and sons Luke and Max. The family hopes advancements in communication technology will make it easier to stay in touch with Wilson during his tour of duty in Iraq than it was during his time in Afghanistan a decade ago.

Community pulls together for holiday dinner

By Lorne Stelmach

Mordenites came together again to celebrate Christmas as a community

Despite the beginnings of a blizzard, the Morden Community Christmas Dinner attracted over 160 people, with another 10 meals delivered to those who couldn't make it.

"I am thrilled with how it turned out," said Kim Klassen, spokesperson for the organizing committee, after the holidays. "Many of those who attended loved the food and meeting people. I had many comments of people being thankful for the event."

Klassen said the dinner drew a

range of people for a variety of reasons.

"Many people new to this country came and connections were made with residents of Morden," she said.

"I did notice many new families ... many widows ... friends bringing friends so they were not alone," Klassen added, "which was the purpose of this supper ... bringing people together."

Klassen noted that many individuals, groups and businesses got involved to make the dinner happen.

"What seemed the most amazing was that for every person that called in to say they couldn't come due to

the weather, we had volunteers walk in ready to help," she said. "We had an amazing crew, including a family of 12 who as a team organized the entire kitchen cleanup."

Klassen said they were thankful for the Morden Alliance Church, which hosted the festivities, as well as the many other church partners, including St. John's Roman Catholic, Westside Community, and the Christian Life Centre.

Decor Cabinets and the Morden Thrift Shop provided financial donations, while Graham's Groves supplied pies and Winkler Bible Camp helped with the turkeys.

3M was involved with a toy drive, while Donate Love helped organize the gifts and also provided potatoes. Other food, including carrots and onions, came through Morden Christmas Cheer, with bread donated by Cal Bergen.

"Lenore Penner, our cook, worked tirelessly ... Cat Murray made amazing decorations," added Klassen.

"Thanks to all the fantastic community members who said yes to support this event," she said. "It shows when this community pulls together, all things are possible."

Scotiabank presents Winkler Cheer with matching donation

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler and Christmas Cheer Board put a pin in its 2016 campaign with a few final donations late last month.

Scotiabank staff presented the charity with a donation of \$4,790 to match the funds raised at the annual Holly Jolly Breakfast.

"We've done this for three years now," explains branch manager Kerri Leroux. "It's a time of need for a lot of people and we can touch a lot of lives with this.

We like to be involved in community events and this is one that is very special to us."

The bank's donation, when coupled with the funds raised at the breakfast itself, gave the Cheer Board nearly \$9,600 toward the Christmas care hampers for area families in need.

That number has been growing every year since the first Holly Jolly

Breakfast in 2013, Leroux says.

"I think the first year it was almost \$2,000 and last year we were around the \$4,000 mark," she says.

Every single one of those dollars is stretched by the Cheer Board as far as it can go, says board member Marilyn Dyck.

Local business, organizations, and individuals were all very generous with their donations this winter, she says, estimating they received upwards of \$55,000 toward the campaign, which distributed 325 hampers filled with food and gifts just before the

holidays.

All through the Christmas season Dyck fields calls from countless organizations who take it upon themselves to raise funds for the cause.

"We don't even expect it and all of a sudden along comes another group who says, 'Hey, we did this and we'd like to give you this money,'" she said, pointing to recent donations from

"WE CAN TOUCH A LOT OF LIVES WITH THIS."



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Scotiabank's Kerri Leroux (far left) and Peter Becker presented the Winkler and District Christmas Cheer Board's Marilyn Dyck (centre, left) and Tracy Engel with a donation of \$4,790 to match the funds raised by the 2016 Holly Jolly Breakfast.

the Winkler Library, who collected "Fines for Food" in lieu of late fees, and the Winkler chamber of commerce, which, with the help of Tim Hortons, sold and decorated TimBits at its business expo. "Everybody just pulls together to make this possible."

Dyck notes that any donations that came in after the hampers went out and the bills were paid help them get a head start on the 2017 campaign.

"We always make sure that we've got a reserve for the coming year," she says.

Charges pending in violent altercation

By Lorne Stelmach

Charges are pending against a local man as a result of a past dispute that escalated and became violent.

Morden Police were called Dec. 19 by a resident saying his vehicle was damaged the day before by someone known to him.

They learned the victim was in his vehicle when he saw the suspect approach, upset and yelling over a past incident. The victim continued to drive away but was followed by the suspect, who continued to yell and swear and began punching the driver's side of the vehicle.

The victim again drove away but was followed to the next intersection, where the suspect continued to yell and swear at him and strike the vehicle.

There were numerous dents on both sides of the vehicle. Police got a formal statement from the victim and charges are expected.

Other items in the most recent Morden Police weekly report (Winkler's report was not available at press time):

- A local woman contacted po-

lice Dec. 29 after being contacted by someone against whom she had a protection order.

The accused had told her he would be at her residence shortly, contrary to conditions that he not come to Morden and not contact the victim.

Police at first were unable to find the accused, but while officers were speaking with the woman, he called again, and the officers took the phone and were able to recognize his voice.

The next day the accused was located by police on the same street as the victim. He was arrested. The 53-year-old is charged with breaching probation and breaching a protection order and was remanded into custody to Winnipeg to await a court appearance.

- Police are investigating a theft from a Morden business that occurred sometime between noon and 12:30 p.m. Dec. 30.

The victim told police they had heard someone enter the business but did not notice anything missing until a short time later when it was discovered a brown brief case and a black iPad mini were gone.

A person of interest in this matter is

described as a short woman approximately 40 years old who was wearing a white jacket at the time.

- Officers were called Dec. 31 by a woman saying she had been assaulted by a male suspect.

The victim reported she had gone to sleep with her boyfriend and awoke to a male acquaintance who was touching her in a sexual manner.

The suspect was confronted by the boyfriend and fled the home.

Police later in the day arrested a 49-year-old Winkler resident who has been charged with sexual assault and breaching the conditions of his undertaking.

The accused was released on more

conditions and will be appearing in court in February.

- Morden police are investigating an attempted break-in to a local home that took place on Jan. 1.

They were called to the residence in the 100 block of 9th Street and saw extensive damage to a rear door that opens into an attached garage. It is believed a suspect tried to pry open this door but was unable to get in the home. The homeowners had left the evening prior and returned the next day.

Anyone with information regarding this crime is asked to call the Morden Police Service at 204-822-4900 or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477.

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The two faces of January

January is named for the Roman god Janus who had two faces—one that looked back and one that looked forward. Depending on where you look, it might also be named after the Latin word for door: *lanua*.

Either way, January has traditionally been seen as a month of both reflection and new beginnings. It is a time to look back on what was and a time to look ahead.

The point of it being both is that one does not simply look back and one should not simply look forward—we should take a look at the road we have travelled and adjust our future travel plans accordingly. It is a time to learn from our (and other's) failures as well as successes.

By most accounts these days 2016 was not an awesome year. But that depends on who you talk to, really. Perspective is a matter of, well, per-

spective.

One could look at the goings-on in Syria, the American election, the climate, and *Batman vs. Superman* and say, "Wow! What a terrible year." However, sadly, there are lots of people out there who could look at all of these things and say, "Wow! What an awesome year."

Perspective.

Personally, 2016 has been a mixed bag. I have been blessed with having spent the year in our new house and my work has also achieved some great milestones, and these have been awesome. On the flipside, my mother, the most influential person in my life, passed away.

How does a person take a year worth of the good, the bad, and the ugly and average it into anything? You really can't ... you can only hope to learn something.

What have I learned from the past year? Well, for one thing, I have learned that life happens. It happens to you and it happens around you. This is not meant to sound defeatist—it is meant to sound obvious.

No matter how much power or wealth I amass (not a lot so far), no matter my status in the world and how much influence I seek to apply to my life, things happen that are well outside of my power and control. This is the nature of life.

One thing I have learned is that what I do control is my response to

what or who happens to me.

How should I respond to 2016 and what life has done to and around me? My response determines how I will act and these things reinforce my future responses and actions. If I respond to the negative things in anger and lash out, this will only serve to reinforce a pattern of anger and lashing out in the future which will in turn do the same ad nauseam. Such responses are uncreative, unhelpful and, frankly, self-destructive.

That said, it takes work to not respond negatively to negative things. It's easy to respond to the good things. You can do it with almost no thought whatsoever. Not so with the dark stuff. You have to be very intentional about not responding negatively to negative things.

You also have to be thoughtful. By this I mean you have to take time and actually think about the things that have happened and how we have responded.

My encouragement to you is to take time in January to reflect on what life has done to and around you. Think about how you have responded to this. Think about it with the knowledge that life will continue to happen to and around you in 2017, guaranteed.

Most importantly, think about how you will respond to things in the coming year. That response is one of your greatest powers. Use it wisely.



By Peter Cantelon

Holding Liberals to account

From Pg. 3

In their opposition role, the Conservatives are aiming to be "the voice of the taxpayer and be very consistent in our advocating for hard-working Canadians ... I think we've done that very well," said Bergen.

"We're seeing [the Liberal government] spending money recklessly ... we're not seeing a lot of that infrastructure money coming into rural areas. They've actually cut funding

for rural infrastructure, and that really, really concerns me. They really are ignoring a lot of rural Canada," she continued.

"I think overall Justin Trudeau has had a lot of fun in the last year ... he's seen being prime minister as more of a fun time ... doing lots of kind of celebrity work ... I think in 2017 it's going to be time for him to get down to the serious work of being the prime minister."

Bergen said she feels positive about the direction of the Conserva-

tive party and has enjoyed her new role as Opposition House Leader.

"It's given me a chance to work together very closely with Rona Ambrose and our leadership team ... to hold the Liberals to account," she said.

"We've got a good optimistic outlook for the future. We're going to be selecting a permanent leader in May ... there's lots of names on the ballot ... that shows there's a real strong interest, and our party definitely is strong and growing."

Local birders take part in international count

By Lorne Stelmach

A group of local bird enthusiasts spent a day during the Christmas holidays keeping track of their feathered friends.

The Morden-Winkler area residents participated in the annual Christmas Bird Count on Dec. 28. Now in its 12th year in the region, the count is part of an international project that began in 1900 and today has counts take place annually in about 2,000 locations across the western hemisphere.

"They call it citizen science," said Abe Friesen, local count co-ordinator. "It's an intersection between nature and science ... and I also think that long term the stats might be useful to someone doing studies on bird populations ... whether they increase or decrease."

The Christmas Bird Count is an all-day census of early-winter bird populations sponsored by Bird Studies Canada in partnership with the Audubon Society.

Counts are carried out within a 24 kilometre diameter area that stays the same from year to year.

The information collected by thou-

sands of volunteer participants forms one of the world's largest sets of wildlife survey data, which is used by conservation biologists and naturalists to assess the population trends and distribution of birds.

Friesen has co-ordinated the local count for the past four years in addition to being a participant for five years before that.

"When I participated, I enjoyed it and I wanted to keep it going," he said.

There can be a social aspect to it, Friesen said, in being able to get out with friends who also enjoy birds as a hobby.

"Even as a small boy, I watched birds in the back yard."

The number of participants has varied from year to year, but this time 13 people took part. Though it is mostly the same core group each time, Friesen said they would love to have more people get involved next year.

"We're open to new people joining in who like bird watching," he said, noting it doesn't have to involve a lot of effort or even necessarily going outside.

"They make allowance for people who just want to watch their feeders

and record what they see over time," he said. "And then they can enter that data as well, so people who want to do that it's also an option.

"Watching a single feeder for a period of time ... you see a lot more birds."

As for what was spotted this year, Friesen said there were seven robins, which is more than usual especially for this time of year in this climate.

"There are increasing numbers that seem to be staying all winter or at least part of the winter."

He also noted there were two red bellied woodpeckers.

"It's somewhat out of its usual range," he suggested, adding other interesting sightings included two wild turkeys, while adding he had also heard about a ring-necked pheasant in the Winkler area.

"This year, it seemed we didn't have as many unusual sightings."

You can learn more about these counts by visiting Bird Studies Canada and Audubon Society online.

PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

The Christmas Bird Count took place locally on Dec. 28.



Humane society looking for new board members

By Lorne Stelmach

The Pembina Valley Humane Society is looking for some new members for its board of directors.

With its annual meeting coming up

in February, the humane society is looking to fill a couple of key committee positions as well as adding members-at-large.

As well as a building maintenance representative, the organization is

also seeking a new fundraising chair and co-chair as current co-chair Megan Rodgers moves into the public relations role on the board.

Fundraising is of primary importance to the society as a non-profit organization, Rodgers stressed

"It is a huge part of our budget," she said. "All of the animals that come out of our shelter are spayed or neutered ... they have their tattoos and shots. We have to be able to cover our vet costs all throughout the year."

The fundraising committee positions involve helping oversee events such as the Thaw Your Paws social, steak night fundraisers, the Raise The Woof comedy night, and regional Steps for Pets walkathons.

"We need somebody to head up the fundraising committee ... to help plan and ensure these events go smoothly," said Rodgers, adding the fundraising chair will have an experienced committee working with them. "The fundraising committee is a really good

group of people. They always work together well and make sure our events go off without a hitch."

Rodgers encouraged anyone who is interested in the humane society and enthusiastic and creative to consider getting involved.

"We want to keep our events fresh and interesting," she said. "Even though we do them every year, we're always looking for new ideas and creative ways to make them better."

"Anybody who enjoys event planning and working with people ... we would encourage them to look at the job description and see if they might be a good fit."

A date for the annual meeting has not yet been finalized but is expected to be set for sometime in February.

Anyone interested can go the humane society website at www.pvhhsociety.ca for more information, including detailed board job descriptions.

"WE NEED SOMEBODY TO HEAD UP THE FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE."



VOICE FILE PHOTO

The Pembina Valley Humane Society is looking for new board members to help organize events like their popular Steps for Pets walkathons.

Outdoor rinks, ski trails up and running

By Lorne Stelmach

The recent cold weather didn't dissuade Summer and Hunter Davison from lacing up their skates and getting outside over the holidays.

The two Morden kids also have the advantage, though, of having one of the city's outdoor rinks very close by home.

"We're here quite regularly," said their mother Courtney Davison, as she watched her children enjoying the rink that is right across from their backyard in Lions Park in the north-west corner of Morden.

"We love it. This is part of the reason why we moved to this area ... the park and the rink," said Davison.

The city got the Lions Park rink as well as another outdoor surface at the Access Event Centre ready for use over the holidays.

Both of the outdoor rinks have lighting available from 5-11 p.m., and although city staff do maintenance of the rinks, residents should bring a snow shovel to clear snow just in case.

Meanwhile, the rink overseen by the Morden fire department west of the courthouse was also ready to go late last month.

"They've been making use of it already," said Chief Andy Thiessen, noting, however, they are still doing some work on the rink to make it more usable. That rink can also be used until 11 p.m. each evening.

As well, Morden has cross-country ski trails with both classic tracks and corduroy paths groomed and ready for use at the Minnewasta Golf and Country Club.

This is the second year for the trail, which offers a two kilometre route that is good for novice skiers. It can be accessed either from the golf club or Maple Street. Residents are asked not to walk, snowshoe, or bike on these trails, which will be maintained by the parks department, weather permitting.

Winkler also offers its fair share of outdoor rinks to enjoy.

The city has rinks at locations including Scotia Park, Linden Park, Gemstone Drive, and behind the Winkler Rec. Complex.

Peter Froese, director of works and operations, said the rinks had been needing some more work yet, but were already getting plenty of use over the Christmas break.

"We're certainly working on the ice.



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Summer and Hunter Davison bundled up over the Christmas break along with their mother Courtney to enjoy some skating time at Lions Park, where the City of Morden maintains one of its two outdoor rinks.

We were hoping to get them up and running and in good shape for Christmas holidays," he said. "They started flooding those during that cold snap

that we had, and now they're hoping that the weather will hold so we can continue to maintain them."

• HEALTH CORNER

Has life got you feeling stressed?

F Feeling overwhelmed? Not coping? This is a common feeling felt by many; you are not alone!

Why is it that day-to-day life can become too much to handle? Stress develops when we feel the demands of life outweigh our capabilities to meet them, and, let's face it, in this 21st century demands are quite high.

From children being encouraged to participate in every activity possible with hopes that they will excel to their highest potential, to teenagers who are paving their path of independence and making important life decisions, to adults facing new transitions such as marriage and parenthood and even retirement.

Some common signs of stress in-

clude feeling worried, angry and depressed. People lose confidence and have a more negative perspective. Some describe poor concentration or having difficulty making decisions. Others note changes in behaviours like withdrawing from loved ones, avoiding stressful situations or resorting to illicit substances. Physical symptoms could include muscle tension, changes in appetite, increased respirations and heart rate, headaches, difficulty sleeping and fatigue.

If all this sounds familiar, here are some helpful tips to manage stress:

- Identify your stressors and concentrate on what you do have control over, as a common temptation is

to run away, avoid, or give up. Fight this urge, as this isn't helpful in the end.

- For the situations where you may not have control, practice acceptance. Pushing feelings away or ignoring them seems like a quick solution because, after all, who wants to feel sad, grumpy, or worried? Unfortunately, this is not a helpful solution as these feelings will continue to resurface. Instead, try acknowledging emotions and expressing them to a friend or family member or by writing them out.

- Seek out support from those you trust and ask for their advice or get help with decision making. Accept help and remind yourself that this doesn't mean you are weak or have failed.

- Focus on the positives. When we are stressed, it's easy to dwell on the negative, which is less likely to lead to positive action.

- Pay attention to your self-care

such as eating habits, exercise and sleep. What about relaxation exercises? There is evidence that suggests belly breathing activates our body's natural relaxation system! Have you heard about mindfulness? This can be a helpful discipline to learn to let go of worries and uncertainties. Take a yoga class or spend time in nature.

- Evaluate your work-home-life balance and try problem solving to make some adjustments. For some, spirituality is an important way of coping. Distraction can be useful for coping with stress that is out of your control. Some examples are leisure activities, hobbies, housework, gardening, or movies.

There are times when we need to seek out professional support to build our toolbox of coping. Speak with your physician about potential options.

Some of the information obtained for this article can be further explored online at heretohelp.bc.ca.



By Lindsay Hainsworth, RPN



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South Central Cancer Resource

The South Central Cancer Resource (SCCR) came into existence on April 14th, 2003, serving Morden/Winkler and surrounding areas. It was created by a group of people in south central Manitoba who saw the need for cancer related support services that rural people could access without having to travel a great distance. SCCR is a registered non-profit charitable organization administered by an elected Board of Directors whose members live throughout the area. The office in Morden is staffed by a Clinical Coordinator and an Administrative Coordinator. The organization is funded entirely by the communities that it serves, in the form of grants, memorials, donations and fundraising initiatives by groups and individuals. SCCR does not receive financial assistance from government, or from organizations such as CancerCare Manitoba or the Canadian Cancer Society, although these organizations provide assistance to SCCR in areas of resource and education material.

SCCR provides support to cancer patients who live in the RM's of Montcalm, Morris, Roland, Dufferin, Thompson, Rhineland, Stanley, Pembina, Louise and

Roblin. Services include individual support, a very active transportation program, a loan banks of wigs, head coverings, prostheses and bras, a resource library and educational displays and programs.



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Touring the lights of Morden



About a dozen participants braved the outdoors to take part in the first Bike-Fest Tour of Lights Dec. 21. The event took cyclists on a ride to see some of Morden's homes lit up for the Christmas season, and it also promoted a Jan. 14 workshop on winter cycling that will be led by Peter Loewen of Country Cycle. Left: Heather Janzen won the prize for best decorated bike.



PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

MPI unveils top insurance frauds of 2016

A fake hit-and-run, a wannabe Manitoban, and other bogus claims make up Manitoba Public Insurance's list of the top five frauds of 2016.

The agency's special investigation unit closed nearly 2,100 cases last year, relying on methods ranging from good old-fashioned investigative skills to acting on tips from the general public to catch fraudsters in the act.

MPI estimates SIU saved rate payers \$8.2 million in fraud savings in 2016.

Anyone knowing someone who is involved in auto insurance fraud is encouraged to call 1-877-985-8477. All calls are anonymous.

No. 1: Smile! You're on Camera

Thanks to the keen investigative skills of an SIU investigator, a fraudulent bodily injury claim was discovered, saving MPI and its ratepayers more than \$15,000.

The pedestrian said he was hit by a car and injured, unable to work. The driver adamantly insisted there was no incident. With the two conflicting statements, the SIU investigator went to the scene and observed that several businesses had security cameras mounted on their buildings.

After viewing footage from one of the cameras, the investigator was able to see the pedestrian approaching the parking lot. Clearly, there had

been no collision between the vehicle and pedestrian.

A seasoned collision re-constructionist, who examined the footage and location, also confirmed there could not have been any contact between pedestrian and vehicle.

The claim was subsequently denied.

No. 2: Luxury Porsche Actually a Lemon

The owner of a Porsche told his adjuster that the vehicle had been stolen from his apartment block parking lot in Winnipeg.

A theft claim was opened. The story quickly unravelled after the RCMP notified MPI that a badly damaged/vandalized Porsche had been located in a rural area—a full day before the owner claimed his car had been stolen.

During examination of the Porsche, it was discovered that the vehicle was in need of major mechanical repairs, which would have cost the owner several thousand dollars.

Based on the police information and pre-existing mechanical condition of the vehicle, the theft claim—valued at over \$20,000—was denied.

No. 3: Wannabe Manitoban

A man was severely injured in the

Continued on page 13

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CANADA'S GARAGE

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Russian families share their New Year's traditions

By Lorne Stelmach

A traditional Russian celebration marked the year's end last Friday in Morden.

The city's Cultural and Educational Centre celebrated the new year with a special event at the Morden 55-Plus Activity Centre.

Program director Olga Vorobyeva said the celebration is important to the local Russian families whose children are involved with the cultural centre because they want to carry on their traditions in their new Canadian homes.

"We hope that our children will remember our traditions," said Vorobyeva, noting the new year is a very special holiday in Russia. The celebrations with family and friends last from Dec. 31 to Jan. 2.

"Traditionally, community organizations put on holiday parties for children. The children gather around the New Year tree dressed in costumes of their favorite story character or animal," Vorobyeva explained.

"They are visited by the traditional New Year fairy tale characters Grandfather Frost and his granddaughter

Snow Maiden. Children show Grandfather Frost what they have learned during the year ... they can sing, dance or recite poems ... and Grandfather Frost rewards their efforts and good behavior with a present."

At the local party, over 50 youth ranging in age from three to 17 were involved in presenting a performance

revolving around the fairy tale character Kolobok, with Vorobyeva noting Canadians would see similarities with the story of the gingerbread boy.

"In our adaptation, Kolobok faces many dangers when he tries to bring a special gift to Grandfather Frost," she explained.

"During this adventure, all the children along with the main characters sing, dance, recite poems and participate in various games. The celebration ends with a dance around the tree, a parade of costumes and, of course, holiday gifts from Grandfather Frost."

Carrying on these stories and traditions makes for a memorable evening for everyone involved, said Vorobyeva.

"It's fun for the parents ... fun for the children."

PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

About 50 kids took part in a traditional Russian New Year's celebration last week that included a story involving a visit by Grandfather Frost, who serves as a cultural equivalent to Santa Claus. Other stories, songs, and dancing rounded out the evening.



Snow mountain



While most adults had a less than favourable reaction to all the snow Mother Nature graced our area with these past few weeks, kids like Owen and Rylan Dueck were making the most of it. Mount Falcon Bay in Winkler first rose up in the middle of the street after the snow plows came through to clean-up from the winter's first blizzard in early December, and then grew to new heights with each subsequent dump of the white stuff over the holidays. Carefully keeping an eye out for the odd vehicle, the neighbourhood's kids turned it and the other, smaller peaks on the surrounding yards into their own private sled hills and snow fortresses over the Christmas break.

PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

> TOP FRAUDS, FROM PG. 11

United States after being involved in a crash. His family claimed he had been visiting the U.S. and opened an injury claim with MPI under the agency's Personal Injury Protection Plan (PIPP).

While processing the claim, the case

manager received information from a number of agencies which confirmed the man had not lived in Manitoba for several years, making him ineligible for PIPP benefits.

Presented with this information, the man's family withdrew their claim.

Savings were estimated to be in excess of \$500,000.

No. 4: Case of a Guilty Conscience

After a number of unusual details came to surface, a father and son were asked to give a statement to an SIU investigator about the theft of a

pick-up truck.

During the interview the son made a surprising offer: to write a promissory note to MPI for nearly \$11,000 (damage costs). The son then declined

Continued on page 19

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Much more than just a job

Family owned and operated, Morden's TJ Auto Service represents much more than just a business for the Bueckert family.

"Cars isn't just a job for us, it's a passion. We do this in our spare time as well ... so it's our life," said Tony Bueckert, who runs the enterprise alongside his parents, Jake and Helen.

TJ Auto Service, which started out in an incubator mall on Jefferson St. over 15 years ago, has been in its current shop on Thornhill St. for about five years now.

"It's been an awesome move for us ... obviously the highway exposure has been great for us. People just see us now," said Bueckert.

"We do have a lot more room," he noted, adding, though, that they've kept to the five staff who work alongside the three of them because they feel it's a good, manageable size for the company.

"It's hard for me and Jake to be up front here and doing as much as we do already. People want to see us when they come in ... so that's what we want to keep as much as possible ... and I think the bigger we get, the harder that is to do."

They offer a full range of automotive repair and parts services.

"We can do any kind of mechanical fix that you need ... any kind of servicing ... we can get specialty items as well," said Bueckert, stressing the importance of their customer



TJ Auto Service's Tony and Jake Bueckert say the family-run shop prides itself on customer service and a passion for the work.

service. "It's about trying to be consistently as good as we can be to everyone."

For him, maintaining that feel of a local family business remains important.

"I've been here most of my life, and that's how I like it," said Bueckert. "I would love to offer the same thing to my daughter and my son if they want to do it. We want to be around for as long as we can."

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INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

Redskins 1-1, Royals best Beavers

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Morden Redskins wrapped up 2016 with mixed results last week.

First, the South Eastern Manitoba Hockey League team added a loss to their record, narrowly falling to the Stonewall Flyers 4-3 on Dec. 29.

That match saw Morden take the lead again and again, only to have Stonewall draw even each time. Cole Penner drew first blood just 2:27 into the first period, while Jay Fehr retook the lead 2-1 nearly five minutes into the second, and Tyler Peers made it 3-2 27 seconds into the third.

Stonewall tied things up just minutes later and then took their first lead 4-3. That score held through to the end, giving the visitors the win to take back home with them.

Reed Peters took the loss in net, making 47 saves as the two teams were tied in shots 51-51.

The Redskins bounced back to finish 2016 on a high note by downing the Portage Islanders 4-3 on New Year's Eve.

Down 2-0 after two periods, Morden began chipping away at Portage's lead with a goal from Peers four minutes into the final period.



PHOTO BY RICK HIEBERT

The Morden Redskins' Jessi Freund breaks out of the Morden end in their match against the Stonewall Flyers Dec. 29. Stonewall got the win 4-3. Morden bounced back two nights later to best Portage 4-3.

The Islanders got that one back a few minutes later on a powerplay, but after that it was all Morden, with Graham Leiding and then Yuha Kienanen

scoring in the final minutes to tie the game at three apiece.

The extra frame solved nothing, but the shootout went Morden's way for a

4-3 victory.

Continued on page 17

Pembina Valley Hawks start 2017 in fifth place

By Lorne Stelmach

The male AAA Pembina Valley Hawks were riding a five game winning streak coming into the new year.

They had extended the run with a 3-0 shutout of the Southwest Cougars Dec. 21 that lifted them into fifth place going into the mid-season break.

Aaron Brunn earned the shutout as the Hawks played a strong defensive game that limited Southwest to just 18 shots on net while Pembina Valley had 29 shots on Cougars goalie Riley Wallace.

Quade Froese would score the only goal the Hawks needed about six minutes into the first period, but Wyatt Cobb scored shorthanded 9:17 into

the third and then Travis Penner added another insurance goal into the empty net with 42 seconds remaining.

Pembina Valley climbed into the number five spot in the standings with a record of 17-10-0-0-1 for 35 points, putting them in a tight battle with the Winnipeg Thrashers, who also have 35 points. They are chasing the Central Plains Capitals at 39 points, the Brandon Wheat Kings at 40, and both the Yellowhead Chiefs and Winnipeg Wild at 41 points.

The Hawks kick off 2017 with a bit of a challenge as they host the top two teams their first week back. On Wednesday they welcomed the Winnipeg Wild (results were not available at press time) and then on Saturday they take on Yellowhead in Shoal Lake.

On Sunday they play the 10th place Parkland Rangers in Dauphin.

TOP SCORERS

As of press time, the Hawks' top two scorers were leading the league in goals and assists.

Elijah Carels was tops with 26 goals while his 39 points had him fourth overall in scoring, while Cade Kowalski led in assists with 28 while his 38 points put him fifth overall in scoring.

As well, Brunn led all goaltenders with 13 wins while ranking among the top netminders overall with 2.43 goals against average and a .921 save percentage to go with three shutouts.

Hawks hoping to bust out of standings deadlock

By Lorne Stelmach

The female Pembina Valley Hawks were back on the ice this week with the challenge of two other teams in the thick of a tight battle at the top of the Manitoba Female Midget Hockey League standings.

The second place Hawks were on the road to meet the fourth place Yellowhead Chiefs in Shoal Lake Wednesday and then are at home in Manitou Friday to take on the first place Westman Wildcats.

Heading into their first game of 2017, Pembina Valley had a solid 13-2-2 record for 28 points, but that left them one point back of the Wildcats, who are at 14-2-1 for 29 points.

Chasing both of them are the Winnipeg Avros at 13-6-0 for 26 points and Yellowhead at 12-5-0 for 24 points. The Eastman Selects were fifth at 20 points while bringing up the rear of the standings are the Norman Wild, Central Plains Capitals, and Interlake

Lightning.

The Hawks have had close, hard-fought games with Westman so far this winter, having won an early season contest 2-1 before losing a 4-3 overtime game just before Christmas. The Hawks' only game with the

Twisters face Raiders, Vics this weekend

By Lorne Stelmach

The Pembina Valley Twisters were looking to build on a three game winning streak that closed out 2016 and had them in first place.

The Manitoba Major Junior Hockey League team had ended the year with an important 1-0 shootout win Dec. 20 over the Charleswood Hawks, who were one of five teams in a logjam at the top of the standings.

The Twisters were tied with both the Hawks and St. James Canucks at 35

Chiefs so far was a 5-1 win in October.

The Hawks had five players in the top ten in scoring coming into the new year.

Second overall in the league was Sage McElroy-Scott with 12 goals and 29 points, which left her behind only

Westman star Ashton Bell with 27 goals and 37 points.

Halle Oswald was second among netminders with a 1.31 goals against average and .940 save percentage.

points but had first place with a 16-5-3 record, while the Hawks had one less win and the Canucks had played two more games than both of them.

The standings remain tight further down the ranks with the Stonewall Jets at 34 points, while at 32 points were the Raiders, who had a Dec. 23 game with the Twisters postponed.

In the Dec. 20 game, Matt Kohlmann came up with a big 40 save shutout against Charleswood, with the Hawks outshooting Pembina Valley 40-31.

The game went scoreless through

regulation and overtime and was then decided in the shootout with Michael Wirth connecting in the second round and Fraser Mirrlees sealing the deal in the third round, while Kohlmann stymied the two shooters he faced.

Pembina Valley was on the road to start the new year beginning with the Fort Garry Fort Rouge Twins on Wednesday. On Friday, the Twisters take on the Raiders and then face the seventh place St. Vital Victorias Sunday.

Winkler looking to start up dodgeball league

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Winkler Parks and Recreation is hoping to attract the young at heart with a new recreation program starting up this winter.

The department is looking to start a weekly community dodgeball league.

"I figured I'd open up registration and we'll see how much interest there is," says recreation programmer Jor-

dan Driedger, who notes dodgeball leagues for adults have been gaining popularity all over in recent years. "It's very popular in Winnipeg already ... and I have had a few people ask me about starting it up here.

"Hopefully there's enough interest here for us to start the league in February ... ideally, we hope to have eight teams."

Registration is open until mid-Jan-

uary at \$250 per team (8-10 players).

"We are accepting individual registrations, too, so that if people want to sign-up on their own we'll build a team for them," noted Driedger.

"It's a low-maintenance sport that doesn't require a lot of equipment and, really, anyone can play it," he added. "There's no skill level required, except being able to throw a ball."

It's also a great workout, he added, and still as much fun as it was when you were a kid.

Though the details are still being worked out, it looks likely the league's two-hour game night will be Sunday evening.

If you're interested or would simply like more information, contact Driedger at 204-325-8333 or JDriedger@cityofwinkler.ca.



Mini-stick tourney champs

Caleb Hildebrandt, Rhett Peters, Tyson Wiebe, and Philip Franz were the top team at the third annual Mini-Stick Tournament that took place at the Winkler arena on Dec. 23. About 30 kids in Gr. 3-6 came out to enjoy an afternoon of competition, with the Teemu Selanne Trophy on the line.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

The *Winkler Morden*
Voice
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Winkler curlers shine at youth bonspiel



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

The Winkler Junior Curling Club sent four teams to the CurlManitoba Youth Winter Bonspiel Dec. 27-29, and they all did our community proud. Team Heide (above, made up of Brooke Heide, Chloe Dyck, Reagan Doell, and Kate Heide) won the Fair Play Award for the 13U division. Team Hamm (left, top, made up of Ryan Zapotochny, John Trinke, Reece Hamm, and Brennan Kezema) were champions in the "C" event for the 16U division. Earning runner-up nods were Team Zacharias (left, bottom, made up of coach Conan Kezema, Janae Zacharias, Katelyn Wall, Carley Penner, and Kacie Hiebert) in the "B" 13U event and Team Krahn (below, Landon Krahn, Luke Trinke, Jace Zacharias, and Jared Bueckert) in the "D" 13U event.



Redskins in fifth place, Royals in eighth

From Pg. 15

Peters was in net for Morden once again, making 45 saves.

The Winkler Royals, meanwhile, played a hard-fought match against the visiting Carman Beavers on Dec. 30.

The two teams traded goals in each period, with Winkler's Scott Toews, Jared Unrau, and Phil Letkeman scoring to give the Royals the lead only to have the Beavers match their efforts point for point.

After a scoreless overtime, the game went to a shootout that broke Winkler's way for the 4-3 win.

Guarding the Royals' net through-

out was Matt Krahn, who made 53 saves in 65 minutes of play.

With that, Winkler bolstered its record to 3-9, though they remain in last place with six points. Holding steady in fifth are the Redskins, who are 5-8 so far this season for 10 points. They trail the sixth place Merces by two points and the third place Beavers by five.

Coming up, Morden hosts Notre Dame on Thursday and Altona on Saturday. Both games begin at 8 p.m. Next week they travel to play Warren and Stonewall.

Winkler, meanwhile, hosts Carman Friday at 7:30 p.m. and Stonewall Saturday at 8 p.m.

Manitoba Hockey Standings

| MANITOBA JUNIOR HOCKEY LEAGUE | GP | W | L | OTL | PTS | GF | GA |
|---------------------------------------------|----|----|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Steinbach Pistons | 34 | 28 | 5 | 1 | 57 | 144 | 66 |
| Winkler Flyers | 35 | 25 | 10 | 0 | 50 | 130 | 82 |
| Selkirk Steelers | 36 | 24 | 10 | 2 | 50 | 124 | 104 |
| Portage Terriers | 35 | 24 | 11 | 0 | 48 | 152 | 113 |
| OCN Blizzard | 36 | 22 | 11 | 3 | 47 | 113 | 94 |
| Virden Oil Capitals | 38 | 18 | 14 | 6 | 42 | 103 | 112 |
| Winnipeg Blues | 37 | 18 | 14 | 5 | 41 | 133 | 118 |
| Swan Valley Stampeders | 34 | 12 | 19 | 3 | 27 | 94 | 133 |
| Dauphin Kings | 35 | 9 | 21 | 5 | 23 | 83 | 134 |
| Neepawa Natives | 34 | 10 | 22 | 2 | 22 | 91 | 137 |
| Waywayseecappo Wolverines | 36 | 5 | 27 | 4 | 14 | 95 | 169 |
| MANITOBA MAJOR JUNIOR HOCKEY LEAGUE | GP | W | L | OTL | PTS | GF | GA |
| Pembina Valley Twisters | 24 | 16 | 5 | 3 | 35 | 106 | 70 |
| Charleswood Hawks | 24 | 15 | 4 | 5 | 35 | 79 | 58 |
| St. James Canucks | 26 | 17 | 8 | 1 | 35 | 97 | 85 |
| Stonewall Jets | 24 | 17 | 7 | 0 | 34 | 114 | 78 |
| Raiders Jr. Hockey Club | 25 | 15 | 8 | 2 | 32 | 107 | 72 |
| Ft.Garry/Ft.Rouge Twins | 26 | 11 | 12 | 3 | 25 | 96 | 109 |
| St. Vital Victorias | 26 | 11 | 12 | 3 | 25 | 95 | 107 |
| St. Boniface Riels | 26 | 10 | 12 | 4 | 24 | 87 | 102 |
| Transcona Railer Express | 27 | 11 | 15 | 1 | 23 | 94 | 111 |
| River East Royal Knights | 26 | 4 | 22 | 0 | 8 | 65 | 148 |
| SOUTH EASTERN MANITOBA HOCKEY LEAGUE | GP | W | L | OTL | PTS | GF | GA |
| Notre Dame | 12 | 10 | 1 | 1 | 21 | 54 | 29 |
| Portage | 11 | 9 | 1 | 0 | 19 | 56 | 28 |
| Carman | 11 | 7 | 3 | 0 | 15 | 62 | 37 |
| Warren | 12 | 5 | 5 | 2 | 12 | 55 | 52 |
| Morden | 13 | 5 | 8 | 0 | 10 | 40 | 66 |
| Altona | 11 | 4 | 7 | 0 | 8 | 43 | 55 |
| Stonewall | 12 | 4 | 8 | 0 | 8 | 51 | 75 |
| Winkler | 12 | 3 | 9 | 0 | 6 | 34 | 53 |
| MANITOBA AAA MIDGET HOCKEY LEAGUE | GP | W | L | OTL | PTS | GF | GA |
| Wild | 26 | 19 | 4 | 0 | 41 | 135 | 54 |
| Yellowhead | 28 | 17 | 4 | 2 | 41 | 123 | 86 |
| Brandon | 27 | 19 | 6 | 1 | 40 | 116 | 75 |
| Central Plains | 30 | 19 | 10 | 1 | 39 | 125 | 100 |
| Pembina Valley | 28 | 17 | 10 | 0 | 35 | 102 | 75 |
| Thrashers | 25 | 16 | 6 | 1 | 35 | 115 | 56 |
| Southwest | 26 | 13 | 13 | 0 | 26 | 84 | 100 |
| Eastman | 27 | 12 | 13 | 2 | 26 | 88 | 86 |
| Kenora | 27 | 10 | 13 | 0 | 24 | 79 | 117 |
| Parkland | 26 | 8 | 15 | 1 | 19 | 78 | 126 |
| Interlake | 26 | 7 | 17 | 0 | 16 | 67 | 119 |
| Norman | 30 | 5 | 24 | 0 | 11 | 74 | 192 |
| AAA BANTAM HOCKEY LEAGUE | GP | W | L | OTL | PTS | GF | GA |
| Yellowhead Chiefs | 21 | 16 | 3 | 1 | 34 | 92 | 44 |
| Pembina Valley PV Hawks | 22 | 16 | 5 | 0 | 33 | 139 | 49 |
| Brandon Wheat Kings | 21 | 14 | 5 | 2 | 30 | 109 | 58 |
| Southwest Cougars | 21 | 11 | 6 | 2 | 26 | 103 | 78 |
| Central Plains Capitals | 22 | 10 | 12 | 0 | 20 | 81 | 102 |
| Parkland Rangers | 20 | 3 | 17 | 0 | 6 | 40 | 133 |
| Norman Wolves | 25 | 1 | 24 | 0 | 2 | 27 | 218 |
| MANITOBA FEMALE MIDGET AAA HOCKEY LEAGUE | GP | W | L | T | OTW | OTL | Pts |
| Westman Wildcats | 17 | 12 | 2 | - | 2 | 1 | 29 |
| PV Hawks | 17 | 12 | 2 | - | 1 | 2 | 28 |
| Winnipeg Avros | 19 | 9 | 6 | - | 4 | - | 26 |
| Yellowhead Chiefs | 17 | 11 | 5 | - | 1 | - | 24 |
| Eastman Selects | 18 | 8 | 5 | - | 1 | 4 | 22 |
| Norman Wild | 18 | 3 | 13 | - | 2 | - | 10 |
| Central Plains | 15 | 3 | 9 | - | - | 3 | 9 |
| Interlake Lightning | 19 | - | 16 | - | 1 | 2 | 4 |
| HIGH SCHOOL HOCKEY | GP | W | L | OTL | PTS | GF | GA |
| Morden Thunder | 15 | 13 | 1 | 0 | 27 | 75 | 30 |
| Carman Cougars | 14 | 12 | 2 | 0 | 24 | 72 | 29 |
| Morris Mavericks | 15 | 10 | 5 | 0 | 20 | 78 | 53 |
| W.C. Miller Aces (Altona) | 16 | 9 | 7 | 0 | 18 | 76 | 69 |
| Northlands Parkway Collegiate | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Nighthawks (Winkler) | 15 | 8 | 6 | 0 | 17 | 65 | 45 |
| Portage Collegiate Institute Trojans | 16 | 7 | 8 | 0 | 15 | 46 | 46 |
| Prairie Mountain Mustangs | 14 | 5 | 9 | 0 | 10 | 58 | 77 |
| Carwright/Nellie McClung/Pilot Mound Tigers | 15 | 4 | 9 | 2 | 10 | 57 | 72 |
| Garden Valley Collegiate | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Zodiacs (Winkler) | 16 | 0 | 16 | 0 | 0 | 18 | 124 |

STATS AS OF TUESDAY, JANUARY 6

Agriculture

G3 elevator's loop track creating efficiencies

By Harry Siemens

Canada G3 Global Holdings CEO Karl Gerrand says the company's fourth loop track elevator provides for much more efficient handling of grain coming through the terminal.

"A couple of things we are really pleased with is the investment we made in the high-speed elevation legs and the high capacity drags," he said at the elevator's grand opening last fall. "We can unload trucks [Super-B's] in under five minutes."

Gerrand says a loop track elevator is one that can take a full unit train from the rail company—complete with locomotive. The train continues to move around the track and load as it moves, allowing for a lot more efficiencies from the railroad's perspective.

"For them to power up a unit train takes many hours, so when we can leave a locomotive on or keep the air on, so to speak, on the train, it really does make it much more efficient," he says.

"Our long term plans are to tie that together with a proposed terminal from our affiliate company in Vancouver, G3 Global Grain Group, and when we can get that terminal up and running we will have a loop to loop system where the trains will stay intact in the country, will load in the country, and will ship in one complete unit train to the port and will be able to unload in the same sort of loop around system in the port as well," Gerrand explains. "That is an industry changer from an efficiency perspective."

G3 announced the construction of that Vancouver terminal on Dec. 21.

Even with these efficiencies, the company knows it needs to be competitive to attract producers.

"Part of our value proposition to the farmer is that we have good competitive prices for the grain and the grading of that grain from the time they deliver a sample to the time they deliver the load is consistent," Gerrand says. "We think that long lineups take up valuable time of the farmers, so

we are trying to address that too.

"At the end of the day, we have a very unique program that G3 offers which is our farmers' equity trust unit. So for every tonne of grain they deliver to G3, they get \$5 worth of trust units in a farmers' equity trust. This allows the farmers to enjoy the success of G3 going forward from an ownership perspective."

There was a time not that many years ago when grain companies were just as happy to keep the grain in the elevator because the CWB paid them storage and elevation fees.

"As farmers invested more and more money in on-farm storage, the elevators have a much different role to play in the country now," says Gerrand. "It is about moving the grain, creating opportunities for farmers, and to be able to move their grain at the right time of the year. It is less about storage and more about throughput."

Gerrand says it is in their best in-



VOICE FILE PHOTO

G3's loop track elevator at Glenlea at its official opening last fall.

terests to get the grain moving, get it off the farmers' fields and give them marketing opportunities.

G3 has loaded and shipped many 135-car unit trains in 2016, and at full capacity with their four inland terminals, the company will be averaging about one of those large trains per week per terminal; each 130-plus car trains hold about 14,000 tonnes of

grain.

"The idea of this model is sort of site to site movement from one inland terminal we'll have dedicated trains that will go from Glenlee to our port location," says Gerrand. "We'll turn around and come back and go to the one in Pasqua, and the other two and averaging about one per week per terminal."



Looking forward

It's just one of those things, you know what I mean, another year goes by, and a new one begins.

Well, we are so blessed here in southern Manitoba, and sometimes I think people take that for granted. I know I do.

On Christmas Day, I asked my brother two things: will he farm another year and, after saying yes, I asked him what he would plant in 2017.

You see, Jack has farmed for more than 60 years, closer to 65 I think. So, the question wasn't totally irrelevant, but I also was pretty sure of what the answer would be.

I often talk about my 45 years in

journalism, before that 10 years farming if I don't count the days my father or my brother would pick me up in the old country school called Grossweide, especially during spring seeding time.

When I asked Jack what he will be seeding in 2017, his first quick response was not peas, that's for sure. The peas didn't handle the wet very well. In fact, I believe they had to burn them after the seed rotted in the pod. However, there won't be too many changes on the Siemens farm—basically back to the three-crop rotation, canola, winter wheat, and soybeans. I remember when we grew triple the numbers of varieties, and then varieties within varieties for seed grain purposes.

It appears that most farmers are making it much simpler and there is even proof, I'm told, that fewer

crops makes it a little easier to make a profit.

Input costs, carbon taxes, land prices, rotations, escalating land taxes because of escalating land prices, marketing, weather, soil conditions, moisture all affect the farmer's profit and loss statements.

Also, many eyes are turned south and at the time of this writing on Jan. 2, President-elect Donald Trump had not yet picked a secretary of agriculture, something that farm organizations in Canada are waiting for to see what direction farm and trade policy will take in the U.S.

As my good friend Lynn Ketelsen, a farm broadcaster in Minnesota, tweeted, Trump needs to select a farmer, plain and simple, from the midwest, not some quota filler from

Continued on page 19

Producers hoping to attract soybean processing facility

By Harry Siemens

With soybeans hitting 1.7 million acres in Manitoba in 2016 with great yields and good prices shooting to break that two million acres in 2017, there's thinking that a world class soybean processing plant would help the pig industry develop faster and create even better returns for farmers.

The Westman Leadership Group is in the early stages of assessing the potential opportunity to attract a soybean crushing facility to southwest Manitoba. The Leadership Group consists of volunteers from regional business, farm, and civic leaders.

"In 2011, soybeans accounted for only about five per cent of the planted acreage. Today its widespread and growing," says group chair Ray Redfern. "The regional benefits and economic synergies are huge."

Here is where the benefits to increasing the returns to hog farmers comes in: soy meal is an important component of most hog rations, and the region produces lots of hogs for the Maple Leaf plant in Brandon and the Hylife processing plant in Neepawa, with more growth anticipated.

"Today we import significant amounts of soybean meal," explains Redfern. "A local plant could reduce

feed ration costs and provide a significant boost to the local hog industry. This is an added benefit to the anticipated financial gains that farmers would receive from having a local market for their soybeans."

Redfern and his peer hopes to build on the findings of the Manitoba Soybean Crush Feasibility Study commissioned by Soy 20/20 and the Westman Leadership Group in partnership with the Brandon Economic Development Corporation.

This preliminary work—which should be completed by month's end—is aimed at establishing project leadership, building a detailed work plan centred around a strategic approach to assessing and, if applicable,

pursuing the potential opportunity along with identifying funding sources for these efforts.

"Ongoing small group discussions related to the possibility of a soybean crushing facility occurred frequently across many communities in southwest Manitoba, prompting members of the Westman Leadership Group to undertake exploratory work in an effort to kick start a regional approach to investigating the potential soybean opportunity," says Redfern. "We recognized the work required to fully explore the potential opportunity was extensive and best undertaken in a strategic manner with the collective knowledge and energy of many."

In mid-November, provincial, re-

gional and civic stakeholders met to share information, define collective interests and establish work plan priorities. During the week of Dec. 14, the Westman Leadership Group held a series of meetings to discuss the project with regional groups.

In a meeting with with community and RM leaders to discuss the opportunity, Redfern says there is solid support for the initiative from representatives throughout the region.

Next steps in exploring the potential of attracting a soybean crushing facility to southwest Manitoba will be determined once they finish and review the preliminary report.

> SIEMENS SAYS, FROM PG. 18

a less important state when it comes to where they produce the beans and corn.

A huge crop in the United States, over four billion bushels of soybeans and over 14 billion bushels of corn. Not only does the U.S. have to market it, much of course remains at home, but logistics come into play and who with what hauls that bulk commodity from combine to storage, to the processor, and end user.

The latest was a man from Georgia,

so why it is taking so long for Trump to name a secretary of agriculture is anyone's guess. I think it probably is the one that may well be the most difficult for his team to pick, or at least his top advisors to assist him on.

Just days after the election I spoke to two of his agricultural advisors, a former secretary of ag under President Reagan, John R. Block, and another one, Gary Baise, senior counsel to the Trump team, and both told me it would take much longer. In fact, Baise

said it would be in the third tier. Mr. Trump has two left to pick, veteran affairs, and the secretary of agriculture. Here's hoping he picks the best to represent, and I'm biased of course, the most important department in the whole U.S. government because we feed the world.

From our house to your house, my wife Judith and myself, a happy and blessed new year.

get inspired

> MEAL IDEAS

Servings: 15
 Prep time: 20 minutes
 Cook time: 15 minutes
 2 tablespoons butter
 1 cup turkey, diced into 1/2-inch cubes
 2 tablespoons dried figs, diced into 1/2-inch cubes
 1 cup button mushrooms, minced
 3 tablespoons caramelized onions
 2 tablespoons Holland House Marsala Cooking Wine
 salt, to taste
 pepper, to taste
 Empanada Dough (recipe below)
 1 egg, beaten
 Cranberry Dipping Sauce (recipe below)
 Heat oven to 350 F.
 In pan, heat butter; add turkey, figs, mushrooms and caramelized onions.
 Deglaze pan with cooking wine; season with salt and pepper, and cool.
 Roll out dough 1/8- to 1/4-inch thick and cut into 15 3-inch circles.
 Brush egg on entire disc of dough, eliminating any air bubbles, and place 1 tablespoon filling in center of each circle.
 Fold dough in half and crimp with fork; prick top with toothpick to let steam out.

Turkey and Caramelized Onion Jam Stuffed Empanadas



Place empanada on greased sheet tray and brush with remaining egg; bake 15 minutes until golden brown.

Empanada Dough

Servings: 15
 Cook time: 5 minutes
 2 1/4 cups all-purpose flour
 1 1/2 teaspoons salt
 4 ounces butter
 1 egg

1/3 cup ice water
 1 tablespoon apple cider vinegar
 Sift flour and salt.
 Cut butter into small cubes and blend into flour. Whisk together egg, ice water and vinegar. Add egg mixture to flour and mix until just incorporated.
 On table, knead dough; wrap and chill 1 hour.

Cranberry Orange Marsala Dipping Sauce

Servings: 15
 Cook time: 5 minutes
 1 1/2 cups whole cranberry sauce
 2 tablespoons whole unpeeled orange, finely chopped
 3 tablespoons Holland House Marsala Cooking wine
 Mix all ingredients thoroughly.

> TOP FRAUDS, FROM PG. 13

to discuss his financial generosity. However, the facts spoke volumes: the father, who was the registered owner, stated the truck had been stolen from his residence. One day after the reported theft, the same truck rear-ended another vehicle and fled the scene with several people witnessing the crash.

No. 5: The Accident That Wasn't
 Two vehicles collide and are badly

damaged. This happens every day in Manitoba. But a number of unusual details surfaced during the investigation of this specific collision. It was discovered these two individuals knew each other and their vehicles were both in poor running condition. A seasoned traffic re-constructionist testified that this crash was no accident, but a staged collision.

One driver pleaded guilty to fraud over \$5,000. He received a two-year suspended sentence with supervised probation, 100 hours of community service work and a restitution order of \$17,000 to repay MPI. The second driver, who was also charged with fraud over \$5,000, did not appear in court. A warrant for his arrest has since been issued.

Old-school carolling

Pembina Threshermen's Museum staff and volunteers got gussied up for the seventh annual Morden Christmas Walk just before the holidays. General manager Kim Striemer was joined by volunteers Alyce Klassen, Betty Warkentin, and Alyssa Froese in strolling up and down Stephen St. on Dec. 22, stopping in to wish businesses and their customers a merry Christmas. "We didn't originally 'carol' but the last few years we have sung 'We Wish You A Merry Christmas' at each shop that is open for us to visit," said Striemer, who noted the walk has missed just one year due to weather conditions since it first began in 2009.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

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take a break > GAMES

SUDOKU

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | | 8 | | | | | | 6 | |
| | | | | 3 | | | | 9 | 2 |
| | | 9 | | | | | | | 7 |
| 9 | 3 | | | | 2 | | | | |
| | 5 | 7 | | | 3 | 8 | 2 | | |
| | | | | | 5 | | | | 6 |
| | | 5 | | 4 | | | | | |
| | | | | 7 | | | | | 1 |
| 4 | 8 | | | | | | | | |

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Level: Intermediate

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5 | 7 | 9 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 6 | 8 | 4 |
| 2 | 9 | 6 | 8 | 7 | 3 | 5 | 1 | 4 |
| 7 | 1 | 5 | 4 | 6 | 9 | 3 | 8 | 2 |
| 8 | 3 | 2 | 6 | 4 | 7 | 5 | 1 | 3 |
| 9 | 4 | 2 | 7 | 9 | 5 | 3 | 1 | 6 |
| 6 | 5 | 7 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 8 | 2 | 9 |
| 9 | 3 | 1 | 6 | 8 | 2 | 7 | 5 | 4 |
| 3 | 2 | 9 | 1 | 6 | 4 | 5 | 8 | 7 |
| 5 | 6 | 4 | 8 | 3 | 7 | 1 | 9 | 2 |
| 1 | 7 | 8 | 2 | 5 | 9 | 4 | 6 | 3 |

Sudoku Answer

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| S | W | D | E | S | E | K | D | |
| O | E | V | C | L | T | S | E | V |
| S | O | E | R | I | N | V | U | B |
| N | I | N | A | S | V | A | R | V |
| | | | | | | | | |
| O | V | D | I | V | N | V | S | |
| R | T | V | L | V | L | I | O | N |
| S | O | E | R | E | O | L | O | N |
| T | S | R | E | N | T | A | O | N |
| | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| S | S | S | N | E | M | O | C | A |
| V | A | B | A | V | I | R | A | V |
| U | L | P | A | R | O | N | P | E |
| P | A | C | F | T | A | C | H | E |

Crossword Answer

X CROSSWORD

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Pain
- 5. Near the stern of a ship
- 8. Certified public accountant
- 11. External appearance
- 13. Neither
- 14. He played with Peter & Mary
- 15. Maximum
- 16. Irish republican organization
- 17. Swedish rock group
- 18. Source of chocolate
- 20. Counterparts to women
- 21. Type of levy
- 22. More tasteless
- 25. "Use Somebody" rockers
- 30. Burst
- 31. Flightless, fast bird
- 32. Type of salami
- 33. Charges to live somewhere
- 38. Ji dynasty's ancestral home
- 41. They play music
- 43. One who cancels
- 45. Resin from an African tree
- 47. Shellfish
- 49. Notre Dame coach Parseghian
- 50. Thoroughbred horse race: ___ Stakes
- 55. Empire in pre-colonial C. Africa
- 56. Small piece of caramel
- 57. Hillsides
- 59. Does great
- 60. Israeli city ___ Aviv
- 61. Brief appearance
- 62. Danish krone (abbr.)
- 63. Midway between east and southeast
- 64. Database mgmt. system

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Sign language

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | | 5 | 6 | 7 | | 8 | 9 | 10 | | |
| 11 | | | | 12 | | 13 | | | 14 | | | | |
| 15 | | | | | | 16 | | | 17 | | | | |
| | 18 | | | | 19 | 20 | | | 21 | | | | |
| | | | | | 22 | 23 | | | 24 | | | | |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | | | | | | | | | |
| 30 | | | | | | | 31 | | | | | | |
| 32 | | | | | | | | | 33 | 34 | 35 | 36 | 37 |
| | | | | | 38 | 39 | 40 | | 41 | 42 | | | |
| | | | | | 43 | | | 44 | | | | | |
| | | | | | 45 | 46 | | | | | | | |
| 47 | 48 | | | | 49 | | | | 50 | 51 | 52 | 53 | 54 |
| 55 | | | | | 56 | | | | 57 | | | | 58 |
| 59 | | | | | 60 | | | | 61 | | | | |
| 62 | | | | | 63 | | | | | 64 | | | |

- 2. In style
- 3. Syrian city
- 4. A long narrative poem
- 5. Living thing
- 6. Envision
- 7. Flat surface on a vessel's stern
- 8. Scottish sport
- 9. They serve beer
- 10. Expression of sorrow or pity
- 12. When you expect to get there
- 14. Bullfighting maneuver
- 19. Double-reed instrument
- 23. Rural Free Delivery (abbr.)
- 24. Hardened
- 25. Small cask or barrel
- 26. Anger
- 27. Female religious figure
- 28. Central mail bureau
- 29. Ruled Russia
- 34. Geological time
- 35. Catches fish
- 36. As well
- 37. Soviet Socialist Republic
- 39. A moderately slow tempo
- 40. Female reproductive organs
- 41. Patti Hearst's captors
- 42. Twitchings
- 44. Suitable for crops
- 45. Cavalry-sword
- 46. Greek sophist
- 47. Dressed
- 48. Tight crowd of people
- 51. Basics
- 52. "Raymond" actor Garrett
- 53. Unstressed-stressed
- 54. Old World tree
- 58. Distress signal

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MISCELLANEOUS

Batteries for everything. Automotive, farm, construction, ATV, marine, motorcycle, golf carts, phones, tools, radios, computers etc. Reconditioned, obsolete and hard-to-find batteries. SOLAR equipment. The Battery Man. Winnipeg. 1-877-775-8271 www.batteryman.ca

Hardy tree, shrub, and berry seedlings delivered. Order online at www.treetime.ca or call 1-866-873-3846. New growth guaranteed.

MISCELLANEOUS

Building new home? Have high quality cabinets, latest colours, for entire home from cancelled custom orders. Retail from \$65,000 - \$78,000 each. Build to fit & save 75% off retail! 204-746-2223

COMING EVENTS

Manitoba Riding for the Disabled Association 18th Annual Super Flea Market 2017. February 4th & 5th at Assiniboia Downs-Winnipeg. Vendor spots available- 80 vendors in the show! www.mrda.ca.

HEALTH

Canada Benefit Group - Do you or someone you know suffer from a disability? Get up to \$40,000 from the Canadian Government. Toll-free 1-888-511-2250 or www.canadabenefit.ca/free-assessment

Are you suffering from joint or arthritic pain? If so, you owe it to yourself to try elk velvet antler capsules. Hundreds have found relief. Benefits humans and pets. EVA is composed of proteins, amino acids, minerals, lipids and water. Key compounds that work to stimulate red blood cell production & cartilage cell regeneration & development. Stonewall Elk Products Ltd., 204-467-8428 or e-mail stonewoodelk@hotmail.com

FLYER SALE

UPCOMING Natural Factors Flyer Jan. 11 - 29 2017

3 weeks Only 25%-40% Savings

Feelin' Good
372 Stephen St. Morden 204-822-6707

COMING EVENTS

Thousand Oaks Ministries Inc.
GOSPEL MUSIC NIGHT
Sat., Jan. 7, 2017
7:30 pm at the P.W. Enns Centennial Concert Hall Winkler, MB
Featuring:
Dave Hiebert (Steinbach, MB) **Backwoods Gospel** (Miami, MB)
Everyone Welcome! Freewill Offering
1000 Oaks Info Line (204) 822-1253
www.ThousandOaksInc.org

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CALL: 325-6888 *The Winkler Morden Voice*

NOTICES

PUBLIC CONSULTATION MEETING
WINKLER CITY HALL
JANUARY 16, 2017,
4:00 - 6:00 PM

The Citizens of Winkler are invited to a Public Consultation meeting at City Hall to view and provide feedback to Council on the capital plans being proposed for 2017 budget. Come and join us for coffee Monday, January 16th, at City Hall, 185 Main Street, from 4:00 to 6:00 pm. Mayor & Council City of Winkler

COMING EVENTS

SOUP & DESSERT LUNCH
Fri., Jan. 13/17

Zion Lutheran Church
144 7th St., Morden, MB
11:30 am - 1:00 pm
\$7.00 per person
Proceeds to missions

SUITE FOR RENT

1 bedroom suite for rent.
Utilities included.
Available immediately
Call Mike at 204-822-6228 for details.

NOTICES

City of Winkler

ANNUAL PUBLIC NOTICE

Additions to the Voters List and/or Personal Security Protection Requests

In accordance with Section 36 of The Municipal Councils and School Boards Election Act, the City of Winkler Voters List is open for changes or revisions.

Any person who is eligible to vote in municipal elections in the Local Authority of the City of Winkler can have his or her name added to the Voters List, or have any information about the voter on the Voters List corrected.

Any person can request to have his or her name and address obscured from the Voters List.

A person whose name has been obscured will receive a Personal Security Certificate and identification number. In a civic election, that person may only vote by Sealed Envelope Ballot and cannot vote in person at the regular or advance voting places.

To implement the above, a written request must be submitted to the Senior Election Official, in person, by e-mail, fax or mail to:

City of Winkler
185 Main Street, Winkler, MB R6W 1B4
Phone: 325-9524 Fax: 325-5915
E-mail: admin@cityofwinkler.ca

The next General Election takes place in October, 2018.

Barb Dyck, Senior Election Official

NOTICES



PUBLIC NOTICE

The City of Winkler purchases approximately 37% of its water from the Pembina Valley Water Cooperative (PVWC). The Public Utilities Board has approved a rate increase for PVWC in the amount of \$0.16/1000 gallons, effective January 1, 2017.

This rate increase reflects a "pass through" rate increase of .06/1000 gallons for Winkler consumers. Public notice is hereby given that the water rate increase will be .06/1000 gallons effective for the March 15, 2017 quarterly billing in the City of Winkler. That being, from the present water rate of \$9.38/1000 gallons to \$9.44/1000 gallons. The sewer rate will remain as it presently is, being \$6.42/1000 gallons.

FIND THE RIGHT PERSON FOR THE POSITION
with an **EMPLOYMENT/CAREERS AD** in



Call: 325-6888 or
Email: ads@winklermordenvoice.ca

NOTICES

RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF STANLEY ANNUAL PUBLIC NOTICE

Additions to the Voters List and/or Personal Security Protection Requests

In accordance with Section 36 of The Municipal Councils and School Boards Election Act (MCSBEA), the Rural Municipality of Stanley Voters List is open for changes or revisions.

- Any person who is eligible to vote in municipal elections in the Local Authority of Rural Municipality of Stanley can have his or her name added to the Voters List, or have any information about the voter on the Voters List corrected.

- Any person can request to have his or her name and address obscured from the Voters List.

A person whose name has been obscured will receive a Personal Security Certificate and identification number. In a civic election, that person may only vote by Sealed Envelope Ballot and cannot vote in person at the regular or advance voting places.

To implement the above, a written request must be submitted to the RM of Stanley, in person, by phone, fax or mail to:

Dale Toews, CAO
Box 1600
Winkler, MB.
R6W 4B5
Phone: (204) 325-4101
Fax: (204) 325-4008

The next General Municipal Election takes place in October, 2018.



NOTICES

R.M. OF STANLEY PUBLIC NOTICE REGARDING THE 2017 FINANCIAL PLAN

Public Notice is hereby given pursuant to Sub-section 162(2) of The Municipal Act that the Council of the R.M. of Stanley intends to present its Financial Plan for the fiscal year 2017 at a Public Hearing in the Council Chambers of the Municipality on Thursday, January 26, 2016 at 10:30 a.m. Council will hear any person who wishes to make a representation, ask questions, or register an objection to the Financial Plan, as provided. Copies of the 2017 Financial Plan will be available for review prior to the Hearing at the Municipal Office at 23111 PTH 14W in the Rural Municipality of Stanley.

Classifieds Announcements

Book Your Classified Ad Today - Call 325-6888 or Email ads@winklermordenvoice.ca

McSherry Auction

Estate & Moving Sale
Saturday, Jan. 7 10:00 AM
Saturday, Jan. 14 10:00 AM

Consignment Sale
Saturday, Jan. 21 10:00 AM
Bobcat 773 w 700 hrs *
JD 850 Utility Tractor *
Yard Items * Tools * Metal
Lathe * 3 PH Equip *

Consignments Welcome!
(204) 467-1858 or
(204) 886-7027
www.mcsherryauction.com

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BIRTHDAY

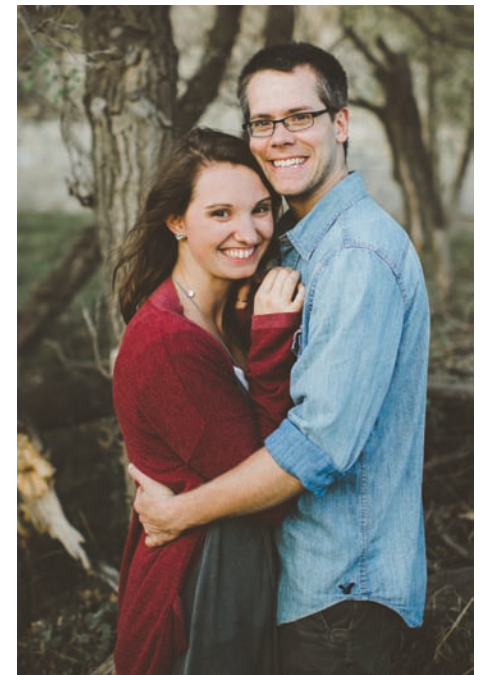
Come celebrate Mom's 90th Birthday with us!
You are invited to come and celebrate Mrs. Susan Elias's (wife of the late Rev. Jacob J. Elias), 90th birthday at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, January 15th at the Chortitz Old Colony Church
A short program starts at 3:00 and Faspa will be at 4:00
Everyone Welcome!

BIRTHDAY



January Fourteen
Isaac Braun would like to be seen By any and all Who him recall
At the Austin Community Hall.
All afternoon we'll celebrate 65 years that have been great!

WEDDING



Congratulations to **Steven Klassen** of Winkler and **Tanisha Ayer** of Moncton, New Brunswick, on their upcoming wedding, January 14th. We love you both and wish you all the best as you begin your life together.
-Love your family

NOTICES



WINKLER POLICE BOARD PUBLIC NOTICE

The Winkler Police Board quarterly meetings will be held on **April 12, July 12, October 11 & December 6 of 2017 at 12:45 p.m.**

Meetings are open to the public and will be held at Smitty's Restaurant, 777 Norquay Drive, Winkler, MB. Anyone wishing to come forward with a delegation is asked to contact the City Manager a minimum of 1 day prior to the meeting.



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E: order@klassenjrs.com
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The Winkler Morden
Voice
325-6888

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372 Stephen St.
Morden
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GARDEN PARK ESTATES IN WINKLER OFFERS:

The privacy of home within a caring and cheerful community. We have several sizes of suites available, all suites have open, spacious floor plans. Rent includes heat, a/c, water, personal patio, repairs and maintenance, yard maintenance. Options: meals 7 days per week, heated common garage, activities, & much more.

Call **Cindy at 1-866-449-0254** or **362-7151** for e mail cindyek@mts.net for more information, or check our website for floor plans at jacobmanagement.com.

FOR RENT

OAK WEST ESTATES

2 bedroom, 2 bathroom apartments available. 1205 sq. ft. and 1327 sq. ft. Rent includes: all utilities, yard care, snow removal, games room and more. All suites come with fridge, stove and dishwasher. Kitchens have a walk in pantry, master bedroom has a walk in closet. All suites have a utility room with laundry hook ups, tenant brings their own washer and dryer. Heated attached garage also available.

For more information call **Cindy at 362-7151**, or e mail cindyek@mts.net.
Check our website: jacobmanagement.com

CAREERS



OPERATORS

Kroeker Farms Limited, a progressive and growing agricultural business in Winkler, Manitoba has openings for **experienced operators** on their farm operation based in their Boyne River Farm at Stephenfield, Manitoba.

Desired Requirements:

- Enthusiastic person willing to take responsibility
- Familiar and experienced with modern potato equipment
- Basic mechanical knowledge
- The willingness to learn about and use technology
- The ability to communicate in English
- Demonstrating positive leadership in the workplace

Duties would include:

Taking responsibility for the basic field operations, minor equipment repairs and maintenance, and general farm work as required.

We offer competitive wages.

Please send or email your resume to, or for further information, contact

Ed Klassen, Human Resources Manager
(204) 325 - 4333
777 Circle K Drive, Winkler, MB R6W 0K7
Email: edwin@kroekers.com
Deadline for applications - **January 16, 2017**



We thank all applicants for their interest.
Only those candidates to be interviewed will be contacted.

CAREERS



FULL-TIME MECHANIC REQUIRED

Experience on half-ton to 1 ton 4WD trucks is necessary. Positive attitude and ability to work well with our great team is required. Excellent wage & benefits package to the successful candidate chosen for this position.

Please send resume to **Richard at richardpauls7@gmail.com**

CAREERS

Workplace Education Manitoba

If you're a creative and energized individual who knows how to spark learning and motivate adults to achieve their potential, then **Workplace Education Manitoba (WEM)** wants to meet you.

We are seeking **INSTRUCTORS** in the Winkler/Morden/Altona area that have expertise and experience in:

- Math Instruction for the Workplace
- Trades Math
- Basics of Bookkeeping / Accounting

Work is on a contract basis.

Please forward your resume to **info@wem.mb.ca** with the subject line: **"Resume ATTN: Central Region."**
Deadline is **January 20, 2017.**

IN MEMORIAM



In a blink of an eye you were gone.
You're forever missed by many.
-Love you forever,
Colleen, Shavaun (Denis), Pele (Nikki),
Grandpa and Chelsey

Announcements The Winkler Morden Voice

Book Your Classified Ad Today - Call 325-6888 or Email ads@winklermordenvoice.ca

OBITUARY

Peter Neufeld 1955 – 2016



Peacefully, on the evening of December 25, 2016, at home with his wife and children by his side, Peter Neufeld slipped away to spend his first Christmas in heaven.

He leaves behind to mourn his spouse, Helena; three daughters, Teresa Wiebe (Jeff), Michelle Neufeld, Jolene Rempel (Steve); one son, Kevin Neufeld; and four grandchildren, Madalyn, Ethan, Zachary and Bradley Wiebe. Also surviving him are two brothers, Arthur Neufeld (Linda), Edwin Neufeld (Gloria); two sisters, Mary Anne Neufeld, Martha Friesen (Leonard); many nieces and nephews; 13 Giesbrecht in-law siblings together with their spouses and families; numerous aunts and uncles; his church family and close friends. He was predeceased by his father, Cornelius P.

Neufeld, in 1969 and by his mother, Helen Neufeld, in 2011.

Peter was born on August 2, 1955 to Cornelius P. and Helen (Wolfe) Neufeld at the Bethel Hospital in Winkler. He was the oldest of five siblings. Upon completion of Grade 8, he left school to help his Mother, together with his brother, run their dairy and grain farm for a number of years, taking on responsibilities well beyond what any young boy of his age would normally assume. He gave his heart to the Lord at the age of 11 but as he expressed in his testimony to the church in later years "I did not always stay on course". A quote from Pete, "I am grateful to God for the many blessings he has bestowed on my life, even though I do not deserve them." He was so happy that his Dad and Mom were both ready to meet their Maker when they passed away. Peter was baptized upon confession of his faith by Bishop John A. Friesen in the Winkler Sommerfelder Mennonite Church on June 6, 1982. He married Helena Giesbrecht on April 5, 1981 at the EMM Church in Winkler. They were blessed with four children, Teresa, Michelle, Kevin and Jolene. Being a Dad for him was of the utmost priority and source of endless joy! He took great pride in his growing family and wholeheartedly welcomed the addition of two sons-in-law. Grandparenting was a true delight for him as he took time to teach his grandchildren of his hobbies and interests. Pete and Helena moved to the Neufeld family farm in 1986, which to this day is still their home.

A major workplace accident in 2002 at the age of 47 proved to be a major positive turning point in his life. He realized his life had been miraculously spared and consequently re-balanced his focus from spending too much time at work to spending more time growing relationships with his family and living for his Maker. Pete loved country living, the open space, trees, sunsets and going for long walks. Many memories were made and happy hours spent gardening, planting innumerable trees, sitting around campfires, fish fry's and garage bbq's. Over the years, cooking became a relaxing hobby for him, ensuring there was a huge breakfast in the morning and full course suppers late at night. Menu planning was a major delight to him and nothing was ever too much. He was a faithful supporter of Marathon Pizza for any type of celebration and was never short of volunteers eager to assist him with pizza pickup. His motto was "All the cooks get to sample". There always seemed to be several pieces missing by the time they reached home. Pete spent many fun hours with his children touring the countryside in his white Toyota. A feature destination included the Stanley nuisance ground searching for treasures and listening to the coyotes howling at the moon. Other adventures included camping and ice fishing or just simply driving around looking at fields, scouting for wildlife and hiking in the Pembina Hills. He was an avid hunter and fisherman for many years and was so thrilled when his children came to share this passion with him throughout their adolescent to adult years. As the children became more independent, Helena enjoyed more opportunities to share in his enjoyment of the outdoor living, spending precious time together in this way. Pete was a life-long learner spending endless hours reading books on a diverse range of topics including world history, geography, wildlife, hunting and fishing. He retained so much of this acquired knowledge so was able to speak of it in detail. Retirement plans for himself and Helena began several years back with the purchase of a permanent trailer site at Sioux Narrows, Ontario and a beautiful Lund fishing boat with which to explore Lake of the Woods. Travel to Belize, Jamaica, Bolivia, Mexico and Louisiana for an MDS trip together with Helena provided great opportunity for exploring new cultures, making many wonderful friendships and renewing relationships with relatives.

On October 5, 2015 after Pete was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer, his philosophy was "Thy will be done, Lord." He maintained this attitude throughout his illness, never complaining about his increasing weakness and discomfort, simply addressing each new phase with courage and dignity. Despite this, he persevered through a long list of projects and goals he set for himself, achieving most of the items and all the while continuing to be an inspiration to his family and friends who came to see him. Pete was so grateful for the never ceasing care of Helena during his last fourteen months of life. It was with her care that his prayer for him to take his last breath at home was answered. He also realized that it was not through his and Helena's own strength but through the power of God they could persevere. Together they read God's Word faithfully, reaching out for divine wisdom and guidance to show them their path for each day. His dearest wish and prayer was "to have everybody reunited in heaven someday ... As he said, "May the Circle be Unbroken".

Memorial service was held at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 29, 2016 at the Winkler EMM Church with interment prior at the Waldheim Cemetery.

Thank you to all of our family and friends for their prayers, encouragement and support over the past fourteen months. Very special thanks are extended to Pastor James Peters of the EMM Church for his home visits and support to Pete during his illness. A last communion Pastor James administered with Pete and his family was especially meaningful. Thank you also to Wiebe Funeral Home for the professional, caring service they provided.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Peter's memory may be made to Back to the Bible Canada.

I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.

2 Timothy 4:7

Wiebe Funeral Home, Winkler
In care of arrangements
wiebefuneralhomes.com



**Don't Forget
Your Loved Ones**
WITH AN ANNOUNCEMENT IN THE

The **Winkler Morden**
Voice

Call 325-6888 Email
ads@winklermordenvoice.ca



OBITUARY

Bernadette Syganiec (née Pilloud)



Peacefully at the Tabor Home in Morden, Manitoba on Tuesday, December 20, 2016, Mrs. Bernadette Syganiec formerly of St. Claude, MB passed away at the age of 85 years.

She leaves to mourn her passing one son Anthony (Irma) Syganiec of Morden, Manitoba and her two grandchildren, Meaghan and Aaren. Also mourning her passing are her brothers and sisters, Maurice, Noël, Arthur, Marguerite Painchaud, Alice Bernard and Rose (Lucien) Vaillant as well as numerous nieces, nephews, relatives and friends.

Bernadette was predeceased by her husband Walter in 1993; her brothers and sisters, Albertine (Pierre) Wanlin, Anne-Marie (André) Bibault, Philomène (Gustave) Chaperon, Joseph Pilloud,

Thérèse (Gabriel) Bernard and Cécile (Paul) Rey and in-laws, Yvette Pilloud, Florence Pilloud, Fred Spencer and Henri Painchaud.

Funeral Service was held in the St. Claude Roman Catholic Church on Saturday, December 24, 2016. Recitation of the Rosary, eulogy and poem was at 10 a.m. followed by Funeral Mass at 10:30 with Mgrs Roger Bazin officiating. Interment took place immediately after the Mass at the St. Claude Parish Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Tabor Home Inc, 230-9th Street South, Morden, MB R6M 1Y3.

Adam's Funeral Home of Notre Dame de Lourdes, Manitoba in care of arrangements. Phone 204-248-2201 or 1-888-400-2326. For more information and condolences, please visit www.afh.ca

OBITUARY

Helena (Lena) Dyck (nee Hildebrand) 1930 - 2016



On Monday, December 19, 2016, Lena Dyck aged 86 years formerly of Winkler, MB passed away at the Heritage Life Personal Care Home in Niverville, MB.

She leaves to mourn her passing one son, Ken and Elaine and four daughters, Lorraine and Wade Kehler, Shirley and Darryl Peters, Janet and Ernie Neufeld, Wendy and John Ferris as well as 12 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. She is also survived by three sisters, one brother and their families. She was predeceased by her husband, Abe Dyck in 2001; her parents, Henry A and Anna (nee Enns) Hildebrand; two sisters and one grandson.

Memorial service was held at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, December 23, 2016 at the Word of Life Mission Church in Niverville with interment prior at Winkler Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Lena's memory to the Heritage Life Personal Care Home in Niverville.

Wiebe Funeral Home, Winkler
In care of arrangements
wiebefuneralhomes.com



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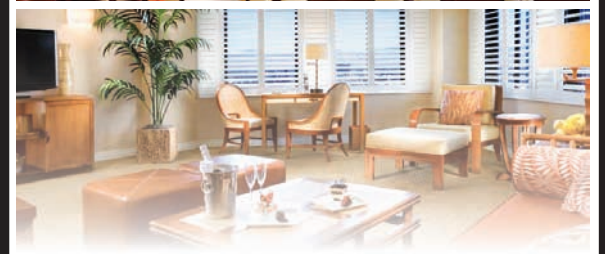


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