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VOLUME 8 EDITION 48

THURSDAY,  
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# Feeding Fido

By Lorne Stelmach

The veterinary clinics in Morden and Winkler are sharing the Christmas spirit with their furry friends in the area.

They are taking part in the Manitoba Veterinary Medical Association's annual pet food drive by collecting donations until Dec. 21 in support of both the Pembina Valley Humane Society and Furever Friends Cat Rescue in Altona.

"We're definitely a giving clinic, and we like to be involved with our communities," said Dr. Stephani McLean at the Morden clinic last week.

"It made sense to give back to the humane society, as they're right on our doorstep and they adopt a lot of our pound animals who come through unclaimed," she said. "We've been working a lot with Furever Friends as well over the last number of years.

"We really want to help the animals in our area," McLean continued, noting that this time of year can be stressful, especially for families struggling with limited resources. The burden can even force some



Tracie Titchkosky offers a treat to Nicholas, a Rottweiler cross who is up for adoption. He was visiting at the Morden Vet Clinic with Pembina Valley Humane Society shelter manager Dave Bone and Dr. Stephani McLean to help promote the pet food drive underway at the Morden and Winkler clinics until Dec. 21.

PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

people with restricted or fixed incomes to give up much-loved pets to animal shelters. Such a loss truly affects a person's

Continued on page 3

news > sports > opinion > community > people > entertainment > events > classifieds > careers > everything you need to know

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# RBC helps United Way get \$1,100 closer to goal

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler and District United Way's 2017 campaign is hoping the business community will come through for them in the final weeks of the year.

The annual residential door-to-door canvass wrapped up earlier this month and brought the campaign about \$80,000 of the way to its goal of \$125,000.

Now, volunteers are hard at work reaching out to corporate supporters to help carry them through the home stretch.

That includes businesses like Royal Bank's Winkler branch, who present-

ed the United Way's Marilyn Martens with a donation of \$1,100 on Monday.

"RBC Foundation has been a proud sponsor of the United Ways across Canada, and so this is our annual donation to the Winkler and District United Way," explains branch manager Miranda Rowson. "It's a really important partnership for us. We recognize all of the great work that the United Way does in our communities and all of the great charities that they partner with and we're happy to be able to support them in what they do."

This donation goes above and beyond the support local RBC staffers give the United Way via payroll deduction donations throughout the



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Winkler United Way's Marilyn Martens (fourth from left) received a donation of \$1,100 from the Royal Bank's (from left) Janet Hoepfner, Curtis Sanjenko, Miranda Rowson, Sylvia Sanjenko, Tyler Schroeder, and Angela Dueck on Monday.

year, Rowson noted.

"We do have a program within our organization that allows staff members to make donations to charities of their choice, including the United Way," she said.

Martens said corporate donations are vital when it comes to the agency reaching its goal each year.

"It means lots to our community. We have 19 organizations that we

give money to and they really count on us," she said. "It's great to have businesses donate."

Donations can be mailed in to PO Box 1528 Winkler, MB, R6W 4B4. You can also give Martens a call at 204-325-9630

More information about the Winkler and District United Way can be found online at [www.unitedwaywinkler.com](http://www.unitedwaywinkler.com).

## > PET FOOD DRIVE, FROM PG. 1

quality of life, McLean said.

"Animals carry a special relationship with people. We know how important they are to the family dynamic."

Anyone can help by dropping off pet food at participating veterinary clinics throughout Manitoba and by spreading the word about the campaign.

Monetary donations are welcome as well, added McLean, noting that customers can put such donations on their accounts at the clinics.

Furever Friends is also looking for older carrying kennels, while donations of such things as cleaning supplies and toys are also welcome.

"If businesses want to participate ... we would be willing to drive

around on the deadline day and pick up from different businesses in Morden," McLean said.

Pembina Valley Humane Society shelter manager Dave Bone offered people some ideas.

"The things that are most in need are usually things like cat litter, dry cat food, dry dog food and cleaning supplies ... that's something that a lot of people don't think to donate," he said.

Bone added they appreciate the ongoing support they receive from the local clinics.

"It means a lot to us ... our partnership with the

vets and the vet clinic is invaluable," he said. "We have a great working relationship, and we do very much work as a team. We really appreciate all the help that we get."

"WE REALLY APPRECIATE ALL THE HELP THAT WE GET."



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# Local automotive tech. tops in the nation

By Lorne Stelmach

Pembina Valley Chrysler in Morden is home to the company's top automotive service staffer in Canada.

Chrysler honoured Mordenite Keith Bergen Nov. 22 as the winner of the Master Technician Competition for 2017.

A 10 year employee, Bergen came out on top from among 3,700 technicians who were eligible for the program.

"It's pretty exciting ... doesn't happen every day," said Bergen as local staff and family gathered to honour him and present him with the award, which also came with a \$1,000 cheque.

"It's kind of a once in a lifetime experience ... to be able to compete with the top techs with Chrysler in Canada is pretty awesome," he said.

The program among the 440 dealers across Canada is open to all of their technicians, but they pick 100 who did the best in online quizzes to move on to participate in a hands-on challenge.

In that challenge, a vehicle is

bugged, and the technicians have 12 minutes to correctly diagnose the issue. Four regional winners qualified to head to Toronto for a final quiz, and it was there that Bergen came out on top as the national winner.

Company officials said it was great for Pembina Chrysler to have one of their staff stand out.

Zane Strydom, service and parts manager for Pembina Valley Chrysler, said Bergen is "one of the smartest mechanics that we have here. He's one of our youngest fully trained technicians in our auto group. He does all sorts of stuff from electrical to engines to transmissions."

"I think it's a really major accomplish-

ment, major honour for Keith," added Bernie Clement, owner of the PembCorp Automotive Group. "To have someone who comes out on top and can diagnose a car in 12 minutes ... we're extremely excited and proud of him."

For Bergen, it is simply a matter of doing what he loves to do.

"I've always liked working on cars ... I started when I was young and I got

**"TO BE ABLE TO COMPETE WITH THE TOP TECHS WITH CHRYSLER IN CANADA IS PRETTY AWESOME."**



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

On hand to present the National Master Technician Award to Keith Bergen (centre) of Pembina Valley Chrysler were Chris Willsey, general manager, Rachel Mailloux, district parts and service manager and Bernie Clement, and Rob Leah of the PembCorp Automotive Group.

my first car and I wanted to build it up to what I wanted," he said.

"I loved working on it and basically put my passion to my occupation. I love working on cars ... get a thrill from diagnosing something that's difficult to figure out."

This was his second time at the provincial level for the competition, which helped him know what to expect.

"It wasn't quite as intimidating ... the first time, you're not quite sure what to expect going into it ... the way they bug the vehicle to diagnose it," said Bergen.

He gave much of the credit to the company for its commitment to training that helps staff like himself to ex-

cel.

"They do such an excellent job in training us on the vehicles and how to diagnose that you basically just follow the steps that they teach you," he said.

Clement agreed that training is an ongoing priority for the company.

"We're very fortunate here at Pembina Valley Chrysler in the number of years of experience that we have of technicians ... they clearly know their cars, know their customers," he said.

"It means a lot to us ... we put a lot of emphasis on training, so this isn't surprising to us because we believe training our employees is what will allow us to deliver superior customer service."

## New hire allows CFDC to expand language offerings

Museum tours now available in Russian, Ukrainian

By Lorne Stelmach

A new position will have a ripple effect at the Canadian Fossil Discovery Centre in Morden.

A new programs and volunteer coordinator will not only be a boost to that aspect of the centre, but also free up more time for the main staff to focus on their key duties.

"Hopefully in the future we'll be able to make it a full-time position," field and collections manger Victoria Markstrom said in announcing the hiring of Yevgeniya Tatarenko for the part-time position.

"It will allow us to really focus in more on our programs and make the experience much better for visitors and much better for volunteers as well," said Markstrom, explaining programming and volunteer co-ordination were areas that used to be a shared responsibility between herself and executive director Peter Canteleon.

"All of us in the office basically had components of that ... we are able to take that from everyone else's plate ... it's huge that we are now able to focus more on other responsibilities that we have."

Tatarenko said the position is a great opportunity for her to do the kinds of things that she most likes to do.

"I like to create and to work with

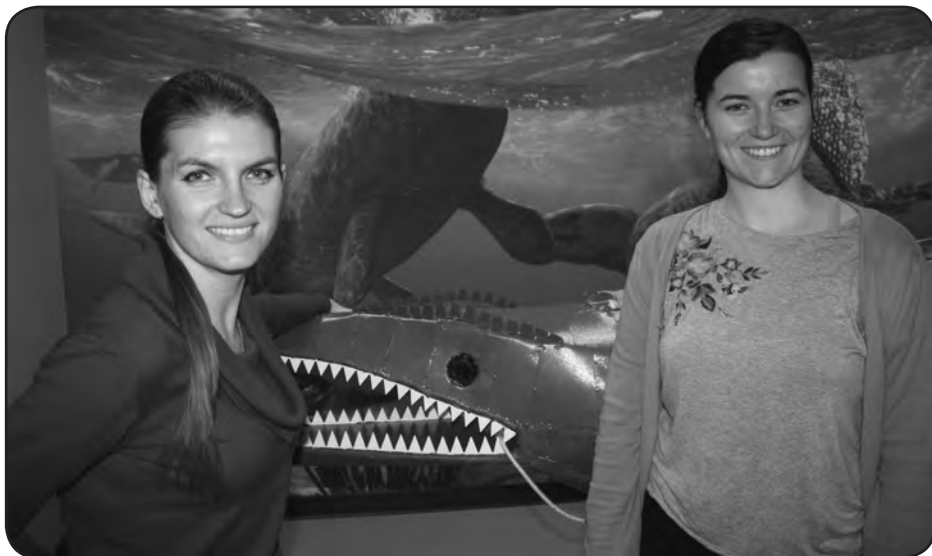


PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

From left: Yevgeniya Tatarenko, who recently joined the staff of the Canadian Fossil Discovery Centre as programs and volunteer co-ordinator, with field and collections manger Victoria Markstrom.

Continued on page 6



# Winkler celebrates new outdoor rink Dec. 13

By Ashleigh Viveiros

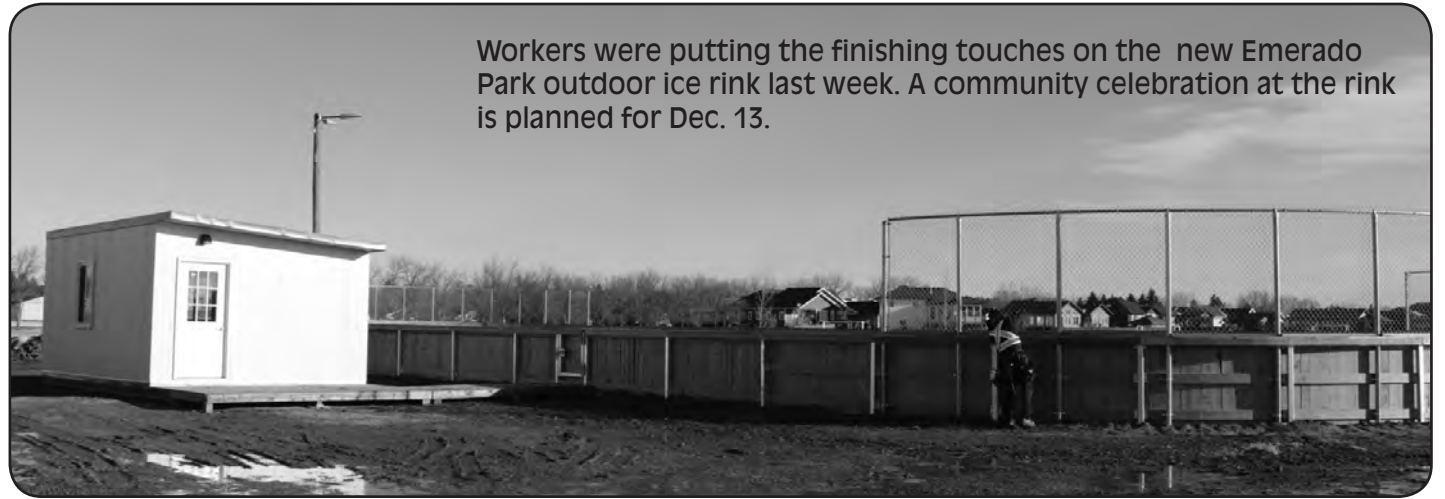
There's a party going on at Winkler's newest outdoor ice rink and everyone's invited.

On Wednesday, Dec. 13, the City of Winkler is hosting a celebration at the Emerado Park rink, which has been outfitted with boards and a warming hut.

The party will start at 4 p.m. The Winkler Flyers will be on hand to play a game of broomball with the kids. Cookies and hot chocolate will be provided.

Winkler received \$15,000 from the Canada 150 fund towards the creation of the rink (a funding total that the City matched), but there's still some fundraising left to do, says Mayor Martin Harder, which is why donations will be accepted at the celebration.

"Scotiabank has committed to contributing up to \$5,000 in matching dollars," he explained, noting if the



Workers were putting the finishing touches on the new Emerado Park outdoor ice rink last week. A community celebration at the rink is planned for Dec. 13.

event could raise \$10,000 that would take a fair-sized bite out of the approximately \$18,000 cost of the shack.

Harder expects this newest rink to be a busy place this winter.

"We wanted to create something in the south end

of town so people would have opportunities to enjoy it there," he says. "It's between the two schools, Emerado

and J.R. Walkof, and so we felt it was the perfect place for it to be."

## Province continuing to 'correct the course'

By Lorne Stelmach

Morden-Winkler MLA and provincial Finance Minister Cameron Friesen reiterated the theme of the government's message after the throne speech kicked off the third session of the 41st sitting of the Manitoba Legislature last week.

The Conservative administration of Premier Brian Pallister says it's correcting the course and aiming to make Manitoba the most improved province in Canada.

Continuing to fix the province's finances, improve services, and rebuild the economy will continue to not come easy, Friesen said.

"We are making tough decisions, and we are getting results through all of this change that is taking place," he said. "There's a lot of change going on right now in this province, but it's change for good reason. It is necessary change."

Friesen said the government has made progress on fixing the finances, with better than expected results in reducing the deficit.

They are targeting improvements in the key sectors like health care, he stressed, citing initiatives that have brought more physicians to rural Manitoba and reorganized paramedic services, although he acknowledged restructuring like that with emergency services in the capital do not happen easily.

"It's tough to convey to people why three ERs in the City of Winnipeg is actually better than six, but that is exactly what the research says, and it is exactly the experience of other provinces," Friesen said.

### RECYCLING IN MANITOBA

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The Manitoba government is reviewing three proposed new plans for the recycling and collection of designated products.

Under the Waste Reduction and Prevention Act regulations, Producer Responsibility Organizations have submitted three product stewardship plans for recycling and safe disposal of designated materials.

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Manitoba Sustainable Development wants to hear what you have to say about the stewardship plans for the following programs:

- Recycle Everywhere (empty beverage containers recycling program)
- Used Oil and Antifreeze Products Stewardship Program
- Recycle My Cell (cellular phones recycling program)

You can review the plans at: [www.manitoba.ca/sd/wastewise/stewardship-plans.html](http://www.manitoba.ca/sd/wastewise/stewardship-plans.html) or [www.manitoba.ca/sd/eal/registries/index.html](http://www.manitoba.ca/sd/eal/registries/index.html). You may request printed copies by calling 204-945-0331 or sending a fax to 204-945-4552.

**The deadline for providing comments on the plans is January 20, 2018.**

Please provide feedback via email to [stewardship-plans@gov.mb.ca](mailto:stewardship-plans@gov.mb.ca), or in writing to:

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Manitoba Sustainable Development  
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Winnipeg, MB R3J 3W3





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## The world's most disgusting veggie

**F**or some time now friends, family and associates having been trying to get me to eat the world's most disgusting vegetable.

Of course I'm talking about the lowly, purple, demonic beet.

Where this terrible taproot came from I'm not sure, but I will wager it involved secret government labs studying how to get the most amount of people to throw up at one time. Why? Only their devious scientists know for sure.

My hatred for the revolting root goes all the way back to my wee years when Mum seemed bent on killing me with cuisine. Aside from the filthy beet, other horrible regulars on the dinner plate were things like liver (cooked to shoe leather consistency), Brussel sprouts, cabbage, mushy peas and carrots, and spinach.



**By Peter Cantelon**

Somehow I have managed, as an adult, to acquire a taste for spinach and cabbage (uncooked), but the rest still cause me to heave at their mere mention.

"You aren't leaving the table until you finish EVERYTHING on your plate," Mum would command.

She meant it. I was often found, cold and alone, still sitting at the kitchen table well after 8 p.m. staring at the gross, cold, red-purple remnants of the evil enemy. Eventually I would learn to cram them into the rib cage of my chicken or other such inedibles and thus forge my escape.

Still, the unholy king of all of these vermin remains the beet.

It is difficult to describe what happens inside of me when I am near these evil round devils. I can tell you I find the taste most foul. I am also not a fan of how they stain everything else on the plate like some kind of infectious plague moving from the source only to be soaked up by my poor, innocent potatoes.

Heck, they're even dangerous when not being eaten. Have you ever driven the highways and backroads of North Dakota after beet harvest? Don't get behind a beet truck. These giant earthy red terrors with the consistency of something between a ball bearing and a golf ball are constantly

bouncing out of the truck and threatening to rocket through your windshield at any moment.

When I first moved to the region I quickly sought out a recipe for some borscht seeing as the soup is perhaps the greatest culinary gift Menonites have given us.

Part of the recipe I found included beet greens. These were actually fine, but I stopped using them in favour of kale because I was always throwing away the beets and it felt wasteful.

"You just haven't had them cooked properly," people say. To which I respond: "Trying to cook the flavour from a beet is like trying to squeeze water from a rock ... it cannot be done."

Still they persist and I believe I have been more than patient; I have tried pickled beets, steamed beets, beet chips, beets in stew and soups, dried beets, beet pasta and more ... only to find every one of them causes me to want to turn my stomach inside out.

Now, I will say I appreciate the sugar I get from the cousin of our familiar red plate ravage the sugar beet and like to imagine to torturous rendering process they must go through to become white, crystalline gold.

What, you ask, will it take for me to come to like this most awful adversary? Beets me!

> Got something you want to get off your chest? How about an act of kindness to share?

Send your letters to the editor or acts of kindness to [news@winklermordenvoice.ca](mailto:news@winklermordenvoice.ca). Please include your name, address, and phone number for confirmation purposes.

### > CFDC, FROM PG. 4

different events and with people ... so this is everything all together for me," she said, adding she hopes to be able to help the centre expand on their programs.

One new initiative that is happening immediately is taking advantage of her language abilities, with Tatarenko able to offer guided museum tours and help with fossil digs in Russian and Ukrainian.

"They are both my native tongues," she said.

"I've talked to a lot of people before who like this museum ... but it could be hard for them to under-

stand all these terms in English," she continued. "The advantage for us is to bring in more people ... not just from our region but from other places ... and we have a lot of newcomers here from different countries ... many of them are Russian speakers."

"Part of our mandate is to educate the public on Manitoba's unique fossil and geological history," noted Cantelon. "With the addition of Yevgeniya, we are now able to be providing greater opportunity and access to new Canadians and recent arrivals."

Markstrom added that they will soon be getting to work on reviewing their existing programming and planning new ideas for the year ahead.

"We're going to be going through our different programming and trying to develop our programs a little bit more," she said. "This winter, we're really going to work on developing new programming to implement this coming summer. So we're really looking forward to developing that, and this new language addition is just the first component."



# Diversitas series explores the tenants of Buddhism

By Lorne Stelmach

There are some simple ideas at the heart of Buddhism behind the basic tenets of its teaching, including the idea that nothing is permanent.

It makes sense, then, to Maththumagala Chandananda Thero, resident monk of the Manitoba Buddhist Vihara and Cultural Association, that more and more people are being drawn to the philosophies of Buddhism.

"Real happiness is to be found within us ... real happiness, real freedom is to be found within us," he said following his address in Morden Nov. 22 as part of the Diversitas speaker series.

"Some people get that message and that is why now there is a demand ... the mindfulness meditation is incorporated into health system ... even in the United Kingdom, we hear that some politicians also practice that in the Parliament," noted Chandananda Thero.

"Unfortunately, not all people are benefitting from that ... if you are not open minded, you will not be benefitted."

One estimate puts Buddhism as the world's fourth-largest religion with over 520 million followers. That said, some may not see it as a religion in the Western sense, as Buddhism does not include the idea of worshipping a creator god.

People follow different forms of Buddhism, but many of the traditions are characterized by things like non-violence, lack of dogma, tolerance of differences, and the practice of meditation.

A long-time monk and scholar, Chandananda Thero was eminently qualified to offer the introduction to Buddhism, which attracted one of the Diversitas series' largest crowds yet.

Chandananda Thero appreciated the level of interest shown.

"People placed many questions ... so that means they are interested and also they have some inclination to inquire and practice," he said.

In his presentation, Chandananda Thero traced the life story of the Buddha from his birth in Nepal and the queen's dream in which a white elephant descended from heaven and entered her, conceiving a child who was a pure and powerful being.

He went on to explain the two branches of

Buddhism and some of its principles, such as the four noble truths that Buddha came to understand during his meditation: the truth of suffering (Dukkha), truth of the origin of suffering (Samuda), truth of the cessation of suffering (Nirodha), and truth of the path to the cessation of suffering (Magga).

Chandananda Thero said the problems in the world today and the stress and anxiety of our lives trigger people to search for something, but too many of us look in the wrong places.

"Various shops are sort of replete with various toys, more gadgets than ever, and we have many sorts of medicine than any other time of the history," he observed. "But people have very many diseases, and there are many abnormal behaviours in the world ... and people have many psychological problems.

"If you can convince people that spirituality is the way to better understanding of yourself and also others ... spiritual practice is the way to lasting, fulfilling kind of happiness," he said.

"Some people are inclined to dig deeper, finding more fulfilling sorts of happiness ... but unfortunately some people we see that they have some very narrow viewpoint with regard to the world ... they do not take this opportunity to explore this spiritual practice as a key to liberation and also as an answer to various problems of life.

"People try to control others ... and they want to find happiness in that direction ... according to the ancient wisdom, rather than regulating others ... in any circumstance, we can have some emotional freedom, and this is a way to have a good spiritual personality."

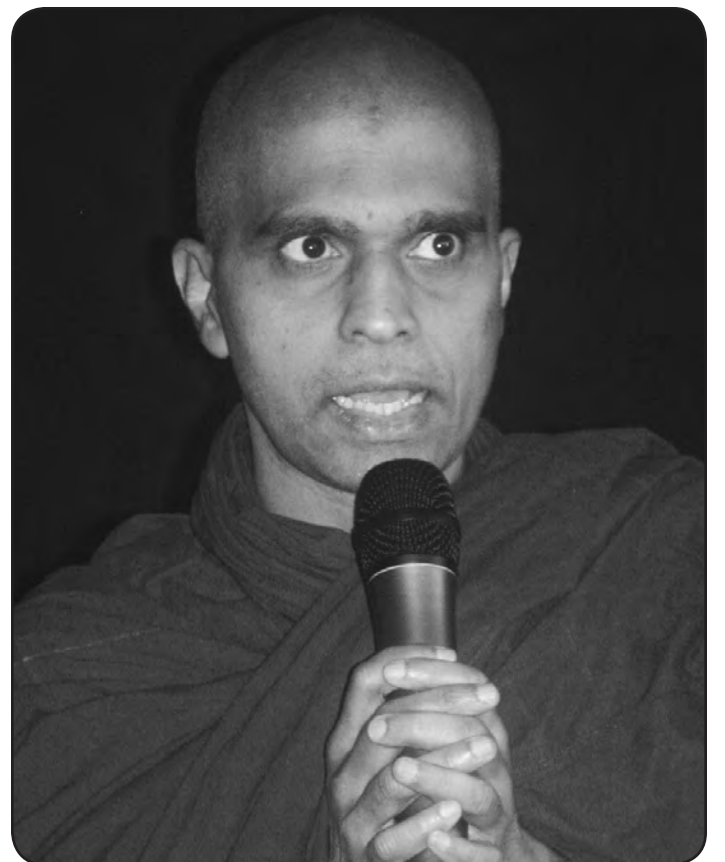
Event organizer Peter Cantelon observed that many people may think they have some idea of Buddhism, but this session got more to the roots of it beyond the context of our basic understanding of things like yoga.

"There are things going on in our own personal practices and our culture that are rooted in Buddhism, and we aren't even aware of it," he said.

"This is one of the larger more well attended events," Cantelon noted. "I could tell early on, just based on some of the social media chatter, that this was going to be something that people were interested in, and so the questions kind of bore that out.

"There were clearly people here who had studied Buddhism or were familiar with some of its content," he said. "It was nice to see there were some questions coming out of a place of knowledge."

Last week's talk was the final one for 2017. The 2018 lineup of speakers will include Dr. Idris Elbakri talking about growing up Palestinian in Israel; federal NDP leader Jagmeet Singh on Sikhs and Sikhism; Belle Jarniewski, president of the Manitoba Multifaith Council, on anti-Semitism; Christine Baronins, director of public affairs for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints; and former assistant director of Indigenous Studies for University of Manitoba and provincial NDP leader Wab Kinew on the impact of residential schools in Canada.



**PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE**  
Maththumagala Chandananda Thero, resident monk of the Manitoba Buddhist Vihara and Cultural Association, shared some of the beliefs of Buddhism with a full house at the Nov. 22 Diversitas talk.



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## Our mistake

In our Nov. 16 edition, a story on Winkler Central Station's new Better Access to Groceries Program incorrectly stated that Southern Potato was one of the grocery partners for the program.

In fact, it's The Potato Store who is involved with the program.

We sincerely regret the error and any confusion it may have caused.



# SCCR looks back on year of growth

By Lorne Stelmach

It is a time of growth for the South Central Cancer Resource.

The organization's annual meeting last Thursday night offered a positive picture overall.

SCCR is in a strong financial position that is allowing it to do more for their clients, members and supporters heard.

"We need to expand our programs and keep growing so that we can help more clients," said president June Letkeman. "That's our job, and it's because of all the donations that we can do our job.

"We have done extremely well with our donations. People have been so generous. This whole area is just amazing when it comes to donating and supporting us."

SCCR saw its expenses rise about \$75,000 to just over \$275,000 for the year ending Sept. 30, but its revenue also increased to around \$282,000.

The \$6,800 surplus is a better bottom line than the 2017 budget that had forecast a deficit of about \$56,000, and directors attributed it largely to the increase in donations to over \$135,000 from around \$124,000 a year earlier.

The other highlight for the organization was being able to initiate three new programs this past year, including a beauty program in partnership with Pure Anada, an art program with the Pembina Hills Arts Council, and a yoga course.

"That's just very exciting for me," said clinical resource co-ordinator

Deb Thiessen. "It was my dream actually when I took over this position that we would be able to do more for our clients than just take them to their appointments."

She hopes these programs will "carry them through their cancer journey, helping them heal and reassess where they belong maybe ... or how the next step of their journey is going to be.

"Seeing from the art program, it definitely was that ... those women just connected. And that's another step ... that people can connect with each other who are in the same boat," Thiessen continued. "We're hoping the yoga will do the same thing, just help them relax a bit, reassess where they're at.

"It's just exciting to me the donations that our communities bring in to us. Just these sporadic type of donations that just come into our office that we're not even expecting ... that's the joy of working in a community like we serve."

The increase in support is very much needed, stressed Thiessen, with the centre on average seeing one new client every day.

"I don't think that cancer has grown, I just think people are really becoming more aware in the community," she suggested.

"People are finding us now more at the beginning of their journey," she said. "That was our goal this year, that we could reach out to more people and that they would know about us."

The organization has also seen in-



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Linda Menzies of the Morden Massage Therapy Centre presented a \$1,000 donation last Thursday at the annual meeting of South Central Cancer Resource, represented here by board members Rachel Dell and June Letkeman. The contribution came from the proceeds of the practical work done by therapy students in Morden.

creased interest in its lymphedema program, where it provides \$500 a year for clients to spend wherever needed.

Linda Menzies of the Morden Massage Therapy Centre addressed the meeting on services they are able to provide as certified lymphedema therapists. She also presented a \$1,000 donation from the proceeds of student therapists doing their practical training at the centre.

Letkeman and Thiessen hoped that they would be able to perhaps look at expanding their support in this area.

"It was a gap that really needs to be filled. We're really happy that we can do that," said Letkeman. "Maybe we'll have to increase it? It depends on our donations and our financial situation ... maybe we'll have to increase that number."

She added as well that there could be a role for them to play in pressing

the province and Southern Health to provide coverage for lymphedema patients.

"We are going to work on that ... see if we can help get that changed."

Meanwhile, Letkeman noted for the year ahead they are also looking at cutting back on other fundraisers to focus more on their spring fashion show.

"That's our main fundraiser for the year. It's extremely well supported. We're going to be having one again in April and it's going to be even better than last year, we hope," she said, noting the last show brought in about \$24,000.

"We're a volunteer board, and it takes a lot of work to get these fundraisers off and running. We just felt that we are better off putting our efforts into one rather than spreading ourselves too thin."

## > THRONE SPEECH, FROM PG. 5

"By locating those professionals in larger centres, we're actually able to get to a better quality of care," he added. "Our motto is better care sooner."

Meanwhile, changes to how government operates is also going beyond just reductions in the civil service, stressed Friesen, saying they need to modernize and find areas of greater efficiency at all levels.

"This is a big change. It will take time to change the culture ... change is coming," he said. "We need a civil service that is professional and autonomous and motivated, and we are getting there."

The speech from the throne deliv-

ered Nov. 21 by Lt. Governor Janice Filmon covered a number of priority areas, including what it called a public service transformation strategy to deliver better outcomes, implementing mechanisms to ensure government spends smarter, and reducing overlap and duplication in government services.

The speech highlighted services will be improved through initiatives such as the recently unveiled reform of the province's children in care program, including proposed legislation to remove barriers to guardianship to move children from government care to loving homes.

Improvement in the delivery of

health services continues, as well, with governance reforms designed to reduce senior management and trim at the top to ensure resources are dedicated to front-line care.

The speech noted the province will improve self and family managed home care and highlighted the new Priority Home program to shorten hospital stays. The province will also develop a comprehensive approach to chronic disease prevention.

Other initiatives highlighted in the speech include:

- developing a new early learning and child care strategy.
- introducing a new provincial housing strategy for affordable and

social housing.

- reforming the family law system to better protect both parents and children.

- rebuilding the economy by restructuring economic development efforts to better attract new investments, continuing work to unlock the economic potential of northern Manitoba, re-introducing legislation to fully implement the new Canadian Free Trade Agreement, and reducing red tape and investing in agriculture.

- continuing work on advancing relationships with indigenous peoples through the development of a reconciliation strategy.



# Holiday concert raising funds for Central Station

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The *Bowen Presents A Merry Little Christmas* concert has a philanthropic flair to it this year.

For its third seasonal outing on Dec. 8, the show is raising funds for Winkler's Central Station Community Centre.

"This is the first year that we've partnered with a charity to make the concert a benefit concert," said organizer and performing artist Bowen Wiebe.

"The show originally started as a way to provide another platform for local artists to perform," he said, "and to provide a place for the community to come together at Christmas time and celebrate the holiday season with music."

After the success of the first two shows, Wiebe decided to broaden the evening's scope a bit more.

"The idea came across to add a charity to the event and make this concert really mean something, instead of just a night of singing, which is great ... but to just add something to it."

Central Station immediately came to mind as a charity doing a lot of great work in our community.

"They just seemed like the perfect fit," Wiebe said. "Encompassing this whole idea of bringing the community together for a night to celebrate

the holiday season—that's what they do on a regular basis. They provide a place to bring the community together, a place where everybody is welcome, and that's what the show is for me."

As always, Wiebe has tried to bring together an eclectic mix of performers to share new music and holiday favourites.

"I want there to be a little bit of everything so that everybody can enjoy the music," he said.

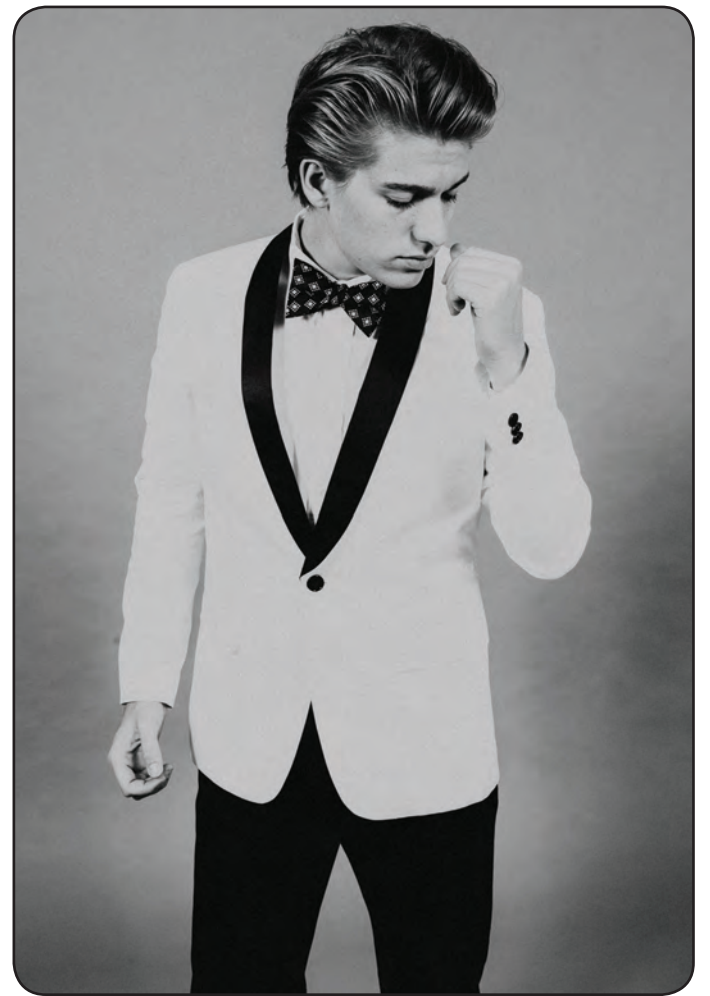
Joining Wiebe on stage will be Leora Hamm, Warren Friesen, Byron Falk, Henry Abrams, Dale Wiebe, An Unexpected End, Mikaela Rae, and Florian Lassnig.

The show takes place on Friday, Dec. 8 starting at 7:30 p.m. at the P.W. Enns Centennial Concert Hall.

Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for kids and are available at the concert hall box office at City Hall and online at [winklerconcerthall.ca](http://winklerconcerthall.ca) and [bowenmusic.org](http://bowenmusic.org).

Bowen will be joined by fellow local musicians Leora Hamm, Warren Friesen, Byron Falk, Henry Abrams, Dale Wiebe, An Unexpected End, Mikaela Rae, and Florian Lassnig at his A Merry Little Christmas concert Dec. 8.

SUPPLIED PHOTO



## Police investigating identity theft fraud

Winkler police are investigating after a resident may have become a victim of an identity theft fraud.

Police were contacted Nov. 20 after a resident received a phone call from someone who claimed to represent the Canada Pension Plan and that \$250 needed to be added to their pension plan.

The resident was asked to provide his date of birth, address, and the name of his bank but refused when asked for his social insurance number.

Police advised the victim to contact his bank, Canada Post, and Equifax Canada in order to have identity theft flags placed on his accounts. They also warned him he may receive contact from other fraudsters and to contact police if that happened.

Other items of note in the Morden and Winkler weekly police reports include:

- Morden police responded to a Nov. 13 accident at Loren Drive and La Verendrye Boulevard.

A vehicle going east was stopped

at a stop sign on Loren Dr. when a second vehicle failed to see it had stopped and ran into the back end.

The occupants of the first vehicle were transported to Boundary Trails Health Centre for observation complaining of sore necks. Both vehicles required towing.

- A resident of Albert St. in Winkler reported Nov. 20 that a vehicle on his property had been broken into and four license plates stolen from inside. The vehicle was locked at the time.

- A vehicle was damaged while parked on 11th St. in Morden overnight Nov. 15. The owner of the 2008 red Honda Civic returned in the morning to find someone had keyed the rear door on the driver's side.

- Morden police responded Nov. 17 to Tim Hortons about a man believed to be drunk and sleeping in one of the booths.

As police spoke to him, the man stood up to walk home. Officers tried to take hold of him, but he slapped

Continued on page 13

Holiday Schedule <small>The Winkler Morden Voice</small>	
<b>December 14th</b>	<b>Christmas Greetings</b>
	Greeting Deadline – Mon., Dec. 4th, 4 pm Regular Paper Deadline – Mon., Dec. 11th, 4 pm
<b>December 21st</b>	
	Regular Paper Deadline – Mon., Dec. 18th, 4 pm
<b>December 28th</b>	
	Display Ads, Classified Ads or Announcements <b>EARLY Deadline</b> – Tues., Dec. 19th, NOON
<b>January 4th</b>	<b>Year in Review</b>
	Display Ads, Classified Ads or Announcements <b>EARLY Deadline</b> – Thurs., Dec. 21st, 4 pm
	<b>Offices will be closed</b> <b>December 23rd through January 2nd.</b> <b>Offices will reopen</b> <b>Wednesday, January 3rd</b>

*Happy Holidays!*



# Imagination Library hosting 'Diamond Forever'

## Neil Diamond tribute show Jan. 27 to raise funds for early childhood literacy program

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Got a Neil Diamond fan in the family? The Winkler Imagination Library has a Christmas gift idea for you.

The early childhood literacy program is hosting a fundraising concert in the new year entitled *Diamond Forever: A Celebration of Neil Diamond*.

The Jan. 27 show features musician Jason

Scott paying homage to Diamond's distinguished musical career.

"Neil Diamond has recorded his music so many times, and changed it so much, that interpreting that music can in itself be an art," says Scott. "When you look at Neil Diamond's history and career of six decades, you realize the music and the possibilities of that music are unlimited."

In the show, Scott, who has won awards for his work as a tribute artist in Las Vegas, aims to personify and deliver the look, sound, moves, and music of Diamond.

"The show itself is structured but also spontaneous, loose, and huge fun," he says. "It's very audience connected: there's clap-a-long songs, a dance contest with prizes, a huge follow the bouncing ball style sing-a-long ... the show is one big 'Neil Diamond' party."

By all accounts, the concert is a blast, says Imagination Library chair Joyce Sawatzky.

"Some of our committee members have seen him perform and they say he is just excellent," she says.

Tickets are \$25 (plus taxes and fees) and are available now at the P.W. Enns Centennial Concert box office in Winkler's City Hall or online at [winklerconcerthall.ca](http://winklerconcerthall.ca).

### 'WE ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE'

This show is a bit of a departure from past benefit concerts for the Imagination Library.

"We've done the A Little Bit Of Country, A Little Bit Of Rock 'n Roll show for two years and there seems to be a lot of those type of concerts in the area," says Sawatzky. "So we thought, let's change it up a little bit."

The annual concert is one of the program's biggest fundraisers, taking a big bite out of their annual operating costs, which come in at about \$48,000.

"The community support has been awesome. When people have seen the value of the project, that really makes a huge difference ... it's not just us working constantly [for

Continued on page 12

Viterra Championship, January 31 to February 4



winkler 2018



# VOLUNTEER SIGN UP



Date: Tuesday, December 5  
Place: Winkler Curling Club  
Time: 7:00-9:00 pm

Jordan Driedger  
[jdriedger@cityofwinkler.ca](mailto:jdriedger@cityofwinkler.ca)

Leanne Traynor  
[leanne.traynor@sportmanitoba.ca](mailto:leanne.traynor@sportmanitoba.ca)



Musician Jason Scott aims to personify the look and sound of music legend Neil Diamond in his tribute show *Diamond Forever*, which is coming to the Winkler concert hall Jan. 27.



# DKSM students set to perform in Winkler Sat.

Students from the Douglas Kuhl School of Music dropped by Homestead South in Morden last week to share their music with residents.

Performing to a full activity room at the seniors housing complex were DKSM's Allegro Strings, led by conductor Rochelle Drudge, and Da Capo Strings, led by Natalie Dawe. Several students also performed solo pieces.

"Providing opportunities for our student musicians to bring music to the community is an important aspect of our vision as a music school," said Drudge. "It's such a joy for so many people to watch kids making music and to see different generations making music together. It's also significant for the students to know that their music can have such a positive effect on people."

If you missed the show, DKSM's students take to the stage once again this Saturday, Dec. 2, at 7 p.m. at the Emmanuel Mennonite Church in



SUBMITTED PHOTOS BY LAURA THIESSEN



Winkler (750 15th St.).

The *Wind, String & Song* concert features the Homeschool Harmony Kids and Youth choirs, the Encore Strings, Post Road Strings, and, as special guests, the newly formed Pembina

Valley Band, which is made up of local high school students and other community members.

Admission to the concert is free, though an offering will be taken.

**News or sports tip? E-mail [news@winklermordenvoice.ca](mailto:news@winklermordenvoice.ca) or call 325-6888**

**TAKE ACTION ON RADON** **RADON ACTION MONTH**  
 November has been established as Radon Action Month in Canada.

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A certified radon mitigation contractor will make sure your home's radon level is lowered and your home is a healthier place to live.

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If radon levels in your home are above the Canadian guideline, Health Canada recommends that you hire a professional certified under the Canadian National Radon Proficiency Program (C-NRPP). Lowering radon levels in a home requires specific technical knowledge and skills to ensure the job is done properly.

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**TAKE ACTION ON RADON**

# RADON

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Radon gas is invisible, odourless and tasteless and enters your home through any opening where the house contacts the soil.



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Call or come in and see me for more information or help with testing or mitigation.



660 Norquay Drive, Winkler

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# Artist borrows Winkler's name for eco-comics

By Lorne Stelmach

Winkler will play a starring role in the new work by an award winning Canadian cartoonist and illustrator.

Ontario-based freelance cartoonist Marvin Terry is developing a set of cartoons related to the environment.

It reflects his interest in issues around eliminating one's carbon footprint and innovations to decrease the production of greenhouse gases.

How Winkler comes into play is largely happenstance from Terry having grown up in Winnipeg and remembering being intrigued by our city's name.

"I've always been fascinated by the name Winkler," Terry said, noting he's been to the city before and likes the idea of bringing some fun attention to the community. "Instead of making up a fictitious town, I have decided to use Winkler as my progressive town moving forward."

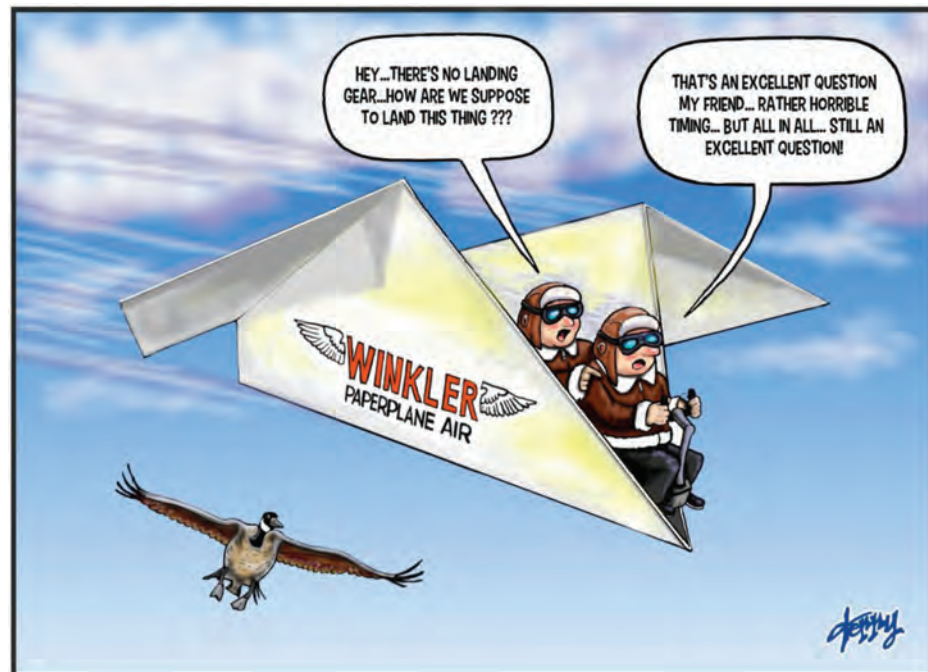
For his cartoons, Terry envisions a scenario where perhaps a couple of Winkler brothers will be dreaming up a range of surreal eco-friendly ideas in their barn.

These Winklerites will be inventing and testing all kinds of machines in their quest to lead the world in becoming the first no-carbon footprint town in the world.

One fun comic idea he has already put to paper features paper passenger airplanes, and in this he sees another Pembina Valley community coming into play.

"This is where Pilot Mound comes in," said Terry. "I am working on this cartoon right now where how do you launch these paper airplanes? Well, obviously in Pilot Mound ... there's going to be a huge hand that gets this paper airplane going."

This is perhaps a bit more of a personal passion project for Terry, whose staple in his trade is cartoons lam-



pooning people like U.S. President Donald Trump.

He has done work in the past for both the *Winnipeg Free Press* and *Winnipeg Sun*, as well as numerous papers out east, including the *Toronto Sun*.

"I've just been doing this my whole life ... but recently, I've been doing some environmentally related cartoons," explained Terry. "I'm a fairly large advocate for environmentally

friendly things.

"It should be interesting, and it will probably even turn into a book. I think it does have potential," he said, noting as well he would like it if the project even helped draw more attention to Winkler.

"If, in the end, it also brings some positive attention to Winkler then that is a good upside, I would think."

# Mr Mikes launches Deeds Well Done campaign

Mr Mikes SteakhouseCasual is giving its customers the chance to make their communities a better place this holiday season.

Through to Dec. 31, the restaurant chain, which opened a location in Winkler earlier this year, is running its fifth annual Deeds Well Done campaign, in which one nominated charity in each of the company's 37 markets will receive a \$500 donation.

Customers are encouraged to nominate worthy registered charities for the funding, explains president Robin Chakrabarti.

"We're really passionate about giving back in the communities in which we operate in," he says. "We've found some great [charities] over the years and we're really excited about spreading the program as we continue to grow."

Since it launched in 2013, the Deeds Well Done

campaign has given back over \$40,000 to charities in B.C., Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba.

The 2017 campaign will result in over \$18,000 being donated to worthy causes across Canada.

Mr Mikes is sweetening the pot a bit this year by rewarding nominators with a \$25 gift certificate.

"We get pretty good response," Chakrabarti says of the nomination process. "But this year we've added the \$25 gift card incentive for people to nominate someone, so that will help to push that effort a little further."

Make your nomination today online at [www.deedswelldone.com](http://www.deedswelldone.com).

## > IMAGINATION LIBRARY, FROM PG. 10

funds]," Sawatzky says. "We've had some returning sponsors that have really stepped up to the plate and, of course, Garden Valley School Division always supports us very well. So that is huge for us."

Thanks to all that support, the Imagination Library is able to send out free monthly books to 750 kids in the Winkler and Plum Coulee area.

The program is open to all pre-school age children in the GVSD catchment area, though there is currently about a three to four month waiting list.

Sawatzky, who works as a school librarian, says that even though they've only been up and

running for three years now, the impact of getting books into the hands of children at a young age is already being seen in local schools.

"We know we are making a difference," she says. "We are definitely seeing an impact."

The board is always looking for new members to help keep this project going.

"To have somebody that is very tech-saavy would be really helpful," says Sawatzky. "We certainly could use some younger people on the committee ... it's a big job and we want to ensure the program is able to go on for years to come."

You can learn more by emailing [winklerimaginationlibrary@gmail.com](mailto:winklerimaginationlibrary@gmail.com).



# Winkler's living nativity returns this weekend

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Christmas story comes to life in Winkler Park this weekend.

The Winkler Evangelical Mennonite Mission Church is teaming up with the Bethel Bergthaler Mennonite Church to perform *From Everywhere to Bethlehem* Dec. 1-3.

Winkler EMMC has orchestrated the living nativity for the past 11 years, but this is the first time they've teamed up with another church to help lighten the workload, explains organizer Lois Hildebrand.

"We've talked about getting another church involved previously ... this year we decided to give it a shot," she said, noting that the show takes over 250 people working as actors and behind the scenes—nearly half of EMMC's entire congregation—so the extra hands are most welcome.

The show has become a holiday tradition for many families, but each year also brings hundreds of newcomers, as well.

"There are some people who live here and have never come," Hildebrand said. "We hope they do this year.

"It's a great way to start off your Christmas season," she added. "It just gives a whole new meaning to Christmas ... the real meaning of Christmas, seeing that story play out in front of you."

*From Everywhere to Bethlehem* begins at the gates of Bethlehem (the Winkler campground entrance by the



VOICE FILE PHOTO

Winkler EMMC and Bethel Bergthaler Mennonite Church brings the Christmas story to life with *From Everywhere to Bethlehem*, which runs in Winkler Park this Friday to Sunday.

pool) where visitors are greeted by the Roman townspeople or soldiers who will act as their guides through the city.

The journey includes visits with census-takers, prophets, shepherds, and King Herod himself, all of whom share rumours of the birth of a special child.

It all culminates at a small stable where a trio of wise men bring gifts to the Christ child.

Admission to the show is free, but you are asked to bring along a non-perishable food item for the Winkler

and District Food Cupboard.

There will also be a chance to purchase crafts and baked goods in the tent at the end of the show in support of MCC's Christmas Giving project.

Last year over 2,800 people enjoyed

the production, bringing along 2,100 pounds of food and donating over \$2,300 to MCC.

The show runs this Friday from 6-9 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 5-9 p.m.

## > POLICE REPORT, FROM PG. 9

the officer's hand away and swore.

The man was arrested under the Intoxicated Persons Detention Act and lodged in cells overnight.

- A vehicle was vandalized while parked at Rock's Bar & Grill Nov. 18. The owner of a 1990 black Mercedes Benz told police his front hood emblem had been broken off.

- Winkler police were called Nov. 21 to Superstore after a couple were caught stealing cosmetics. The 27-year-old Winkler woman was issued a verbal caution and released on scene, while the 27-year-old Winkler man was arrested for theft under \$5,000.

- Winkler police investigated a call Nov. 22 about puppies that were for sale that were thought to be un-

healthy and neglected.

Officers were shown by the owner where the puppies were being kept. They found the housing was sufficient in size, heated and well kept, and the animals were in good health. The homeowner also appeared to be well versed in caring for the animals.

- Winkler police were called to Superstore Nov. 23 about a woman who left without paying for about \$320 in groceries.

She was seen removing three reusable shopping bags from an unmanned cash register and then returning to an aisle and putting the groceries inside the bags before leaving.

The 25-year-old Homewood woman was arrested for theft under \$5,000.

## Attention Kids...

### What's *Your* Christmas story?

Pick one of the following themes and tell us your best story:

1. Who would you rather have as a friend: one of Santa's elves or a snowman that magically came to life? Why?
2. How do you know the holiday season has arrived?
3. Create a story that starts with the sentence: "I opened the front door to find a baby reindeer with a note from Santa around her neck that read: "Our reindeer stable is full! Please take care of her until I can pick her up next Christmas."
4. What is your earliest Christmas memory?

**We have TWO grand prizes again this year!**

**One K-4 student and one Gr. 5-8 student will each win a free movie party at the local theatre for them and five friends, complete with snacks.**

Please include your first and last name, age/grade, town, and full contact information on your entry.

Stories should be no longer than 700 words in length.  
Send your story to: [christmasstories@winklermordenvoice.ca](mailto:christmasstories@winklermordenvoice.ca)  
Box 185 Winkler, Manitoba R6W 4A5  
**DEADLINE: Wednesday, Dec. 6, 2017**



# Morden Festival of the Arts gearing up for stellar season

By Lorne Stelmach

The Morden Festival of the Arts is hoping to have one major change in

its upcoming 43rd season.

Organizers hope to kick off the schedule in February with a full fledged band session back in the line-



VOICE FILE PHOTOS

The 43rd annual Morden Festival of the Arts runs next February through April, giving youth the chance to share their love of the arts with the community. Registration forms are available on Dec. 11.

up this year.

The festival has had band almost every year, but last year it was just an informal session in the school with an adjudicator for the local bands, noted spokesperson Erika Dyck.

"We're hopeful that there will be bands from several towns ... we have invited schools from around the area," she said. "We really wanted to have a full one or two days of band outside of the school just because it's a more formal venue for them to perform in then."

Otherwise, it will be business as usual for one of rural Manitoba's largest arts festivals.

"We're expecting our numbers are going to be very close to what they have been in previous years ... around 500 entries," said Dyck.

The festival provides a venue for student performance, instruction and adjudication in the areas of band, strings, sacred, piano, vocal and choral, and French and English speech arts.

The aim is to foster and promote continued interest, growth and development of talent within the arts and to encourage all the children of our community to share their love of the arts.

The schedule kicks off with band Feb. 13-14 and continues with strings March 11-13, sacred evening March 18, piano March 19-22, vocal and choral sessions April 12-13, speech arts

April 17-19, and the finale Hilites Concert April 29.

The Morden Festival of the Arts uses the provincial syllabus 2015 edition for all class names and numbers, and copies can be found at all Morden school libraries as well as the Morden branch of the South Central Regional Library.


Copies of speech arts selections are also available at each of the school libraries, while the piano, sacred, and strings registrations are generally done through private music teachers.

Entry forms will be available at all Morden school offices, the Morden library, and online at [www.mordenfestivalofthearts.cfsites.org](http://www.mordenfestivalofthearts.cfsites.org) as of Dec. 11.

Jan. 18 is the post-marked deadline for submissions by mail. Festival volunteers will also be collecting entries at Maple Leaf School Jan. 24 and École Morden Middle School Jan. 25. Morden Collegiate students can hand their entries in at ÉMMS and Minnewasta School entries can be handed in to Mrs. Wirth by Jan. 25.

For more information about the Morden Festival of the Arts, contact Dyck at 204-822-6825. Anyone interested in assisting at individual sessions can call volunteer coordinator Marlene Britton at 204-822-5794.

"We're always looking for committee members. We are down a few right now, so we're hopeful we're going to be able to build up the committee again," said Dyck.



## Parts of a tree

Roots are the underground foundation of a tree. They absorb and transport water and minerals to the tree trunk. Dead heartwood, formerly its sapwood, forms the core of the trunk. It helps give strength and stability to the tree. Sapwood transports sap from the roots to the branches. Cambium helps to produce new layers of inner bark, which transports food made by the leaves back to the various parts of the tree. The outer bark protects the tree from insects, fire, diseases and animals.

- Excerpt from *Footprints of Hope* by Henry Martens. Illustrated by Raymond Klassen.

FOOTPRINTS of Hope

CANADA  
**A ROCHA**  
Environmental Stewardship



## RBC gives back

PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Royal Bank in Morden supported the 2017 campaign of the Morden and District United Way last week with a donation of \$1,100. In addition to this corporate gift, many of employees also contribute personally through payroll deductions throughout the year, noted manager Curtis Sanjenko. United Way director Terry Gibson said they are most thankful for the support that comes every year from RBC.



# Stanley Ag. Society looking to the future

By Lorne Stelmach

The Stanley Ag. Society is working to move forward while the issue of the expropriation of its land in Winkler remains unsettled.

The society held a two day strategic planning last Friday and Saturday facilitated by the Manitoba Association of Agricultural Societies. A variety of key stakeholders were brought together to help the agency figure out how it can better serve the community.

"I think as a board we're very excited about how we are going to move forward with the information that we received over the day and a half," suggested Toban Dyck, who was re-elected president at the society's annual meeting Monday night.

Dyck felt the session was positive and productive, with the issue of the expropriation of its land put to the back burner for the moment.

"We, of course, need to settle the land issue, but that wasn't really part of it. That was intentional. We didn't really want it to get bogged down in specifics of the expropriation and where the land is at," he said.

"We got some really great people out to take part in this and weigh in on what they think the ag society could be or should be for the community."

Dyck suggested the focus was very much on longer term planning, with a few key ideas coming forward from the session.

"Across the board, they felt the ag society should help facilitate agricultural education in the area, should help educate youth and adults who are unfamiliar with agriculture and rural living on those things," he said. "I think that's big. People seem to see a void there, and they want us to help fill it."

"There were some other comments about being a voice for agriculture in the region. That needs to be fleshed out a little bit."

Dyck acknowledged, however, that the issue of the land expropriation continues to lurk in the background.

The dispute between the City of Winkler and the society over the organization's land in the Parkland area remains unresolved. The city moved this spring to start on expropriation the land for its Meridian Exhibition Centre project, but the society filed an objection.

The key issue has been around the value of the land—the city maintains it had an assessment done and has based its offer on an amount above that value, but the society had another assessment done that offers a different value.

"Really, there isn't much to update,"

Toban Dyck was re-elected as president of the Stanley Ag. Society at the agency's annual general meeting Monday night.

PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE



said Dyck. "It's going on in the background ... we meet with the city periodically as an ag society in hopes of coming up with a solution, but nothing's happened yet."

"It's definitely a cloud that kind of hovers over the whole situation," he added, "but more so for me and the board than for the other participants in the planning session."

"It's one of those things where if we think of the ag society being displaced, that's one thing, but how are we going to be in another space?" he continued. "Everything would change for us. It's all different. Our programming would change."

"So we're kind of using this as an opportunity to figure out what that might look like and go from there," said Dyck.

"There's tonnes of unknowns, but so much of this is based on hope and optimism ... you want to get the community charged up about what ag so-

ciety could be now too."

In the meantime, Dyck suggested they are striving to carry on as best as they can with business as usual, adding he follows the idea that you have to work with what you have at any given time.

"I don't think any of us are really interested in dragging this out too much," he said.

"Right now, the ag society still owns land, we still have just under eight acres of land, we have a barn, we have people, we have volunteers, we have lots going for us. So I think the plan is to operate ... taking this strategic plan into account and working towards it."

"Wherever we are, that doesn't matter. We'll push forward with this no matter where we are," Dyck concluded. "We don't want to use this expropriation as an excuse ... we don't want to wait to become something until something happens, because I don't think that works."

# Wildlife Haven Rehab Centre in Morden Sat.

By Lorne Stelmach

A Morden business is marking a milestone with a free public event this weekend that will also support a passion for them.

Gallery Wealth Management is celebrating 30 years in Morden and the surrounding area Saturday afternoon by inviting the Wildlife Haven Rehabilitation Centre to share their work with the community.

"They are coming to our office with a Redtail Hawk, an American Kestrel, and a Hognose Snake," said operations manager Allison Braun.

She explained that she and husband Reg, company founder and financial advisor, wanted to say thank you to the community for the support they've received over the years by

holding an event that could be enjoyed by people of all ages.

"Reg and I both enjoy the outdoors. We love to watch and identify birds," she said, adding Reg is also an amateur outdoor photographer who has many of his photos on display at their office. "Nature is the best free entertainment available to everyone year-round. It is continuously changing, and there is always so much to learn."

This event will give people the opportunity to get up close and personal and have their photo taken with a selection of the creatures who have been helped by the Wildlife Haven Rehabilitation Centre. The centre has been rehabilitating injured, sick, and orphaned wildlife for their return to the wild since 1984. It is a volunteer-



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

The Wildlife Haven Rehabilitation Centre will have three of its animal ambassadors in Morden this Saturday at an event hosted by Gallery Wealth Management.

driven charitable organization that has cared for over 35,000 wildlife.

A Rocha will also be on hand with molded animal foot prints to show how to identify prints in the snow or out on trails.

"They also have events throughout

the year to help us enjoy the amazing environment that surrounds us," Braun noted.

The community is invited to stop by Gallery Wealth Management at 6-75 Thornhill St. from 1-3 p.m. on Dec. 2.



# sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

## Redskins down Royals

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Morden Redskins remain in second place in the South Eastern Manitoba Hockey League after a week of mixed results.

On Nov. 23, the Redskins decimated the visiting Winkler Royals 7-0.

After a scoreless opening frame, Jordan Cameron, Nick Doyle, and Tyler Peers got the Redskins on the board.

Doyle would score once more in the third period, as would Jared Leiding and, with two, Matt Sibbald.

Manning the net in the shutout was Reed Peters, who turned away 41 shots as Winkler outshot Morden by five shots.

It was a very different story a few nights later in Portage against the Islanders.

This time, after another scoreless opening 20 minutes, Portage managed to get three unanswered goals past Morden netminder Morgan Wall in the second.

The Islanders would score twice more in the third period, while Morden managed just two goals—from Jessi Freund and Jay Fehr—to take the game 5-2.

That brings the Redskins' record to 3-2 for six points, putting them four points behind the 5-0 Altona Maroons and tied in points with the 3-3 Warren Mercs.

The Winkler Royals, meanwhile, find themselves further down in the standings at 2-4 for four points, put-



PHOTO BY RICK HIEBERT

Redskins forward Tyler Peers chases the loose puck between Royals Chad Unrau and Matt Krahn in last Thursday's 7-0 Redskins victory.

ting them in a three-way tie with Carman and Portage for fifth place (Carman has a game in hand).

In addition to losing to Morden last week, the Royals also bowed to Altona 4-3 Saturday evening.

Phil Letkeman drew first blood midway through the opening frame, but it was all Altona after that. The Maroons

headed into period two up 3-1.

Caleb Unrau and Cody Friesen made short work of that lead in the first five minutes of the period, but Altona's Dana Crowley scored what ended being the game winner at 6:33, the final period seeing no scoring action at all from either side.

Matt Krahn took the loss in net for

Winkler, making 47 saves as the Maroons outshot the Royals 51-33.

This week, Winkler was scheduled to play Notre Dame on Wednesday. Results were not available at press time.

Over the weekend, Morden plays in Carman on Saturday while Winkler hosts Portage on Sunday.

## Trio of wins boost Flyers into first place

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler Flyers are standing tall in first place in the Manitoba Major Junior Hockey League.

Winkler won their last three games in a row to bolster their record to 20-8 for 40 points, one point ahead of the second place Steinbach Pistons and

two better than the OCN Blizzard in third.

Following on the heels of a frustrating 6-3 loss to Portage Nov. 21, the Flyers headed north last Friday intent on righting the ship.

They got things off to a fine start with a 5-2 win over the Neepawa Natives.

Brady Pupp, Weiland Parrish, and Brett Opperman got Winkler on the board and in the lead in the second period, while netminder Troy Martyniuk, who ultimately made 26 saves this game, gave up two goals to put the Flyers up 3-2 heading into the final 20 minutes.

There, Cole Kirkup and Parrish

bookended the period for the win.

Winkler went on to crush the Dauphin Kings 7-2 the next night.

The Kings were outclassed throughout, with Winkler firing 67 shots on goal to Dauphin's 28.

Coltyn Bates scored a hat trick for

Continued on page 18



# Aces sweep Thunder tourney

The W.C. Miller Aces clinched the Morden Thunder High School Hockey Tournament last weekend.

The Altona team was undefeated in the two-day competition, first beating the Carman Cougars 5-1 and then the QED Warriors 7-1 in the round robin before downing the Sanford Sabres 2-1 in the playoffs to earn a spot at the finals against the Warriors, which they won 3-1.

Morden, meanwhile, were 0-2 in the round robin, falling to the Tigers 4-0 and then the Sabres 7-0. They went on to lose the third place match to Sanford 3-0.

In Zone 4 regular season action, the NPC Nighthawks bested the Garden Valley Collegiate Zodiacs 4-3 Nov. 23 and then downed the Mountain Mustangs 3-1 on Nov. 24. The Zodiacs also lost to the Tigers 4-2 on Monday.



PHOTO BY RICK HIEBERT

The Morden Thunder's Justin Hobbs fights for a scoring opportunity in Saturday's third place game against the Sanford Sabres, which Morden lost 3-0. Altona won the Thunder tournament with five straight wins.

# Lady Hawks win pair to tie for third place

By Lorne Stelmach

The female Pembina Valley Hawks are right back in the thick of the battle after picking up another pair of wins this weekend.

The Hawks have rattled off four wins in a row after having dropped five straight.

That puts them into a three way third place tie at 15 points after having bested Central Plains 4-1 Saturday and Eastman 2-0 Sunday.

Coach Dana Bell said the four points are big for the Hawks right now, but even more important for him was seeing them really on their game.

"As a coach, it's nice to see everyone working as one unit. We keep telling them over and over play like you can and great things will happen," he said. "The girls bought in early against Central, using our aggressive forecheck. We had the Capitals on the run for a solid 60 minutes. Defence first and pucks to the net was our key."

"When everyone is buying into our

systems and play two-way hockey, things go well," he added. "They carried this same style of play over to Sunday against Eastman. Midway through the second and into the third, we really stepped it up."

Halle Oswald stopped 18 of 19 shots Saturday to backstop the Hawks, who led 2-0 after one and then put it away with two more in the third. Scoring were Maiya Aschberg, McKenzie McCallum, Sage McElroy-Scott, and Kaila Powell. The Hawks fired 35 shots in all on goal.

Oswald kept the door shut Sunday until Pembina Valley finally broke through with third period goals by McCallum and McElroy-Scott. IN the end, Oswald earned the shutout with a 28 save performance.

The Hawks have improved to 7-5-0-1 for 15 points, leaving them tied with Yellowhead, who have two games in hand, and Eastman, who have played one more than the Hawks. They are chasing the Winnipeg Avros and Westman Wildcats at 18 points.

Pembina Valley has a rematch with

Central Plains this Saturday, this time in Morden. They then head into Winnipeg Sunday to face the Avros.

## Manitoba Hockey Standings

MANITOBA JUNIOR HOCKEY LEAGUE							
GP	W	L	OTL	PTS	GF	GA	
Winkler Flyers	28	20	8	0	40	109	68
Steinbach Pistons	26	19	6	1	39	133	68
OCN Blizzard	26	18	6	2	38	98	77
Portage Terriers	26	17	7	1	36	106	63
Virdean Oil Capitals	24	15	9	0	30	105	71
Neepawa Natives	28	14	12	2	30	106	100
Selkirk Steelers	25	13	9	2	29	92	87
Winnipeg Blues	27	12	12	3	27	90	99
Swan Valley Stampeders	23	9	11	3	21	62	78
Dauphin Kings	27	5	20	1	12	57	125
Waywayseecappo Wolverines	28	2	24	1	6	52	174

MANITOBA MAJOR JUNIOR HOCKEY LEAGUE							
GP	W	L	OTL	PTS	GF	GA	
Raiders Jr. Hockey Club	20	16	1	3	35	80	39
Charleswood Hawks	19	12	4	3	27	46	34
Stonewall Jets	19	13	6	0	26	64	47
Transcona Railer Express	20	12	6	2	26	72	57
St. Vital Victorias	20	11	9	0	22	69	75
St. James Canucks	20	10	9	1	21	62	56
Pembina Valley Twisters	19	9	10	0	18	76	75
Ft. Garry/Ft. Rouge Twins	20	9	11	0	18	59	57
St. Boniface Riels	21	6	12	3	15	61	76
River East Royal Knights	20	1	18	1	3	29	102

SOUTH EASTERN MANITOBA HOCKEY LEAGUE							
GP	W	L	OTL	PTS	GF	GA	
Altona	5	5	0	0	10	26	16
Morden	5	3	2	0	6	22	12
Warren	6	3	3	0	6	26	25
Notre Dame	5	2	2	1	5	19	20
Carman	5	2	3	0	4	20	20
Portage	6	2	4	0	4	16	26
Winkler	6	2	4	0	4	21	31

MANITOBA AAA MIDGET HOCKEY LEAGUE							
GP	W	L	OTL	PTS	GF	GA	
Wild	20	18	2	0	36	119	39
Brandon	20	18	2	0	36	112	47
Eastman	21	16	4	1	33	96	62
Bruins	19	14	4	1	29	79	60
Thrashers	24	13	10	1	27	86	93

Pembina Valley	20	10	8	1	22	63	69
Yellowhead	20	10	10	0	20	65	64
Southwest	20	9	10	1	19	65	68
Parkland	20	8	10	0	18	64	77
Central Plains	20	6	11	1	15	61	77
Kenora	21	6	13	0	14	60	77
Interlake	19	5	14	0	10	49	94
Norman	22	0	21	0	1	56	148

MANITOBA AAA BANTAM HOCKEY LEAGUE							
GP	W	L	OTL	PTS	GF	GA	
Cougars	16	12	3	0	25	97	44
Chiefs	17	9	7	0	19	56	55
Rangers	14	8	5	1	17	62	58
Hawks	15	7	8	0	14	56	69
Wheat Kings	14	3	11	0	6	37	60
Wolves	16	3	13	0	6	60	138
Capitals	17	2	13	1	6	49	127

MANITOBA FEMALE MIDGET AAA HOCKEY LEAGUE									
GP	Reg W	Reg L	T	OTW	OTL	PTS			
Winnipeg Avros	12	6	3	-	3	-	18		
Westman Wildcats	13	7	3	-	1	2	18		
Yellowhead Chiefs	11	7	3	-	-	1	15		
PV Hawks	13	7	5	-	-	1	15		
Eastman Selects	14	7	6	-	-	1	15		
Central Plains	12	5	6	-	1	-	12		
Interlake Lightning	13	-	13	-	-	-	-		

HIGH SCHOOL HOCKEY							
GP	W	L	OTL	PTS	GF	GA	
W.C. Miller Aces (Altona)	9	7	2	0	14	55	19
Cartwright/Nellie McClung/Pilot Mount Tigers	9	6	3	0	12	34	34
Prairie Mountain Mustangs	9	5	3	0	11	47	38
Morris Mavericks	6	5	1	0	10	33	19
Morden Thunder	8	5	3	0	10	37	27
Northlands Parkway Collegiate							
Nighthawks (Winkler)	7	4	3	0	8	29	22
Carman Cougars	9	2	5	2	6	29	39
Garden Valley Collegiate							
Zodiacs (Winkler)	10	2	6	1	6	27	54
Portage Collegiate Institute							
Trojans	9	2	7	0	4	21	60

STATS AS OF TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28

The Winkler Morden Voice What's Your story? Call 325-6888



# Hawks looking to bounce back after rocky week

By Lorne Stelmach

The male Pembina Valley Hawks had a reversal of fortunes this past weekend.

Having recently rattled off five wins in a row, the AAA midget team has now dropped three straight and four of their last five games

"It was a tough weekend," coach Rylan Price summarized after Pembina Valley got hammered 9-2 by the Brandon Wheat Kings Saturday and then were edged 2-1 by the Yellowhead Chiefs Sunday.

"It felt like we got punched in the stomach against Brandon. Our game plan went astray 32 seconds into the game," said Price. "The game against Yellowhead was a good game. We just couldn't score when we needed to ... lots of chances but only one found the back of the net."

Penalties proved costly against Brandon as the Wheat Kings capitalized on four man advantages as they took period leads of 4-0 and 7-2. The downhill slide started a half minute in when Ethan Carels took a major for checking from behind and a game

misconduct.

Kolton Shindle and Svan Bazin scored for the Hawks, who also gave up a shorthanded goal to Brandon.

Martin Gagnon started in goal, allowing four goals on 15 shots before being replaced by Brock Moroz, who gave up five more on 24 shots with the final tally 39 to 25 for Brandon.

The play was much more even Sun-

day with the Hawks and Chiefs trading first period goals as Riley Goertzen opened scoring for Pembina Valley, which gave up the winner to Yellowhead 8:31 into the third. Gagnon helped keep the Hawks in the game with a 32 save performance.

The Hawks slipped to sixth place at 10-8-0-1-1 for 22 points, which has them two up on Yellowhead and five

back of the Winnipeg Thrashers.

Pembina Valley heads to Souris Friday to meet the Southwest Cougars then returns home to host the Interlake Lightning Saturday. The Hawks edged Southwest 3-1 in their first meeting this season, while they split their first two meetings with Interlake in losing 4-3 then winning 5-3.

## Twisters fall to Canucks 5-3

By Lorne Stelmach

A three goal outburst in the third period did in the Pembina Valley Twisters in their lone game of the week Friday.

The St. James Canucks broke open a 2-2 game in the final frame starting with two goals a minute apart. They then held on for the 5-3 win.

Fraser Mirrlees opened scoring for the Twisters in the first period with his team-leading 13th goal of the season. That also puts him fifth overall in

the league with 28 points.

After giving up a pair of second period goals, the Twisters pulled even just 34 seconds into the third on Alex Tetrault's seventh of the season. Keane Boucher later pulled Pembina Valley back within two with just under four minutes to go, but that was as close as the Twisters could get.

Travis Klassen made 38 saves in goal as Pembina Valley was outshot 43-34 by St. James.

The Twisters sit in seventh place at 9-10-0-0 for 18 points, which has them

tied with Fort Garry/Fort Rouge and two back of St. Vital and three behind St. James.

Pembina Valley had hosted the River East Royal Knights this past Tuesday. Results were not available at press time. The Twisters had won their two earlier meetings this season.

Coming up, the Twisters play at the Transcona Railer Express on Friday and host St. Vital in Morris next Tuesday.

# Winkler Flyers coaches to lead Showcase team

From Pg. 16

Winkler, while Matt Christian scored twice and Collin Caulfield and Nolan McGuire rounded things out with singles.

Aaron Brunn got the win in net, making 26 saves.

The Flyers wrapped up their road trip with a 4-2 win over the Swan Valley Stampede Sunday.

Winkler once again outshot their opponents, this time 40-22, with Martyniuk back between the posts.

Scoring for Winkler were Opper-

man, Parrish, Christian, and McGuire with an empty-netter to seal the deal.

Winkler kicks off December with an away game in Selkirk this Friday followed by home games against Dauphin Saturday and Winnipeg next Tuesday.

In other MJHL news, Winkler Flyers head coach Ken Pearson and assistant coach Steve Mullin will be behind the bench for the SJHL/MJHL Player Showcase in Regina in the new year.

The MJHL has selected the duo to head up the league's Team #2 at the Jan. 15-16 competition.

The Showcase will feature the top 60 players from each league playing on three teams.

"The league coaches as a group decided in June that the head coaches for this event should be appointed based on seniority and interest in the opportunity," MJHL commissioner Kim Davis said of the selection process. "The same approach was taken when selecting the assistant coaches for the event.

"This is the first event of this nature and it's expected that it will be done annually in Saskatchewan," he said.

"The purpose of the event is to highlight the players with another Player Showcase event so that scouts can get a first-hand look at players in a highly competitive environment."

The participating players will be announced at a later date.

Heading up the league's other teams are OCN head coach Doug Hedley and Neepawa assistant coach Dustin Howden and Steinbach head coach Paul Dyck and Virden assistant coach Troy Leslie

## MONTGOMERY TRADED TO DAUPHIN

The Flyers announced Monday that they have traded 20-year-old defenseman Brock Montgomery ('97) to the Dauphin Kings for a PDF.

The Grand Forks product has contributed eight points (one goal, seven assists) in 12 games played for Winkler this season.

The Flyers have until Dec. 1 to get their rosters trimmed down to 25, while at the same time leaving a few spots open to be used before the Jan. 10 trading deadline.

After the trade, the Flyers have 24 players on the roster.

The **Winkler Morden**  
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for their accomplishments  
- athletic, academic  
or community service.



# Agriculture

## Soybeans acres are here to stay

By Harry Siemens

Mr. Bean, a.k.a. Dennis Lange, provincial pulse specialist with Manitoba Agriculture, shared with a Westman Opportunities Leadership Group workshop in Brandon recently the history and potential future of soybean production in Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

Lange said it is one thing to say Manitoba growers will hit three million acres by such a date, but often those same people don't consider the challenges. That might drop those acres back.

Back in 2000, Manitoba grew around 20,000 acres of soybeans; most were conventional soybeans because the Roundup Ready technology didn't come into play until about 2003 when growers first planted the first Roundup Ready soybean varieties suited to their growing region.

"Those varieties a little bit too short for North Dakota, but a little bit too long for Manitoba, and didn't have a great fit," said Lange. "We could grow them. Fields were okay. We were looking, roughly, in that 30-bushel range, so still okay, but tiny acres."

Then 2004 was a challenging year for soybean production in Manitoba, with no heat and very few heat units. Adding in the frost in late August, the average yield only eight bushels an acre.

The next year featured a very similar spring but a better growing season and yields of 21 bushels per acre range—still not high, but starting to move up.

The year 2011 proved a daunting year with July and August very dry and yields of 26 bushels an acre.

Then the significant milestone reached in 2013 of one million acres in Manitoba breaking a record for yield at 39 bushels an acre that year.

That was followed two years later by a very similar return in 2015, which saw lots more acres and again 39 bushels an acre.

"We move into 2016, lots of rainfall in July and August and the soybean yield last year 42 bushels an acre," said Lange. "If you look at a 10-year average, and a 10-year average is sitting at about 35 bushels an acre. We got rid of the '04, '05 in that 10-year

average, so it makes those numbers look a little better. And the five-year average is sitting at 38 bushels an acre."

In 2017, based on just over 2.26 million acres planted in Manitoba, Lange's projection right now is for about 34 bushels an acre. Less than last year, just because of how dry it was. There's quite a range.

"Pretty much every grower I talk to, whether it's out west or in the valley, you ask them what their yields were like, and the same growers will say it's anywhere from, say, 25 to 45 bushels an acre. So, again, still a pretty good number, but with the dry conditions that we saw last year, if it wasn't for the fact that we had a lot of moisture last year, this number might be even lower," he said. "For 2016, roughly about 1.8 million metric ton production of soybeans in Manitoba."

While farmers in the Red River Valley grew most of the soybeans several years ago, the area keeps growing and even shifting.

Lange divided Manitoba into traditional non-traditional soybean-growing area, drawing a line from Portage la Prairie down to Morden, across the

Ontario border. In 2016, that represented about 55 per cent of the soybean acres in Manitoba. That would mean, roughly, 45 per cent for the rest of Manitoba.

In 2011, that traditional area was 95 per cent of the acres and only five per cent out west, and he expects 2017 to be an even 50-50 split thanks in large part to the development of the new varieties. The early maturing varieties have helped growers in the western side of the province grow soybeans successfully and no killing frost in seven years and that also plays into it.

Lange said one challenge is with only two per cent non-GMO soybeans, new growers have run into the volunteer Roundup Ready issue is here. So, they have to make changes to their cropping plans to some degree, and others, have to watch rotation and chemical history.

"If you know you have a Roundup Ready problem in your field from past growing canola, you're going to have to take care of that with new chemistry," he said. "So, that's been a bit of a challenge for some growers."

Various diseases that are only now starting to show up can also slow

the soybean acres, especially for new growers excited about what they see across the road.

When expanding into non-traditional areas, maturity can also be an issue.

"That can be a concern. Maybe they're not quite familiar with the varieties they need to grow. But keep on talking of the varieties to make sure that what you're choosing for your region is suited and you're not going to run into a problem like this where you get all these immature beans in there," Lange said.

Based on mass harvest production numbers, Manitoba's are typically in the 9.5-9.6 million acre range.

"If we have three million acres of canola, three million acres of soybeans, and 2.5, three million acres of wheat, it doesn't leave a lot of room for much else, does it?" Lange said.

Combine three million acres in Manitoba and a million acres in Saskatchewan means about four million acres of soybeans in these two provinces, with more increase potential in Saskatchewan.



By Harry Siemens

Through the years I've seen many what people thought were good projects come and go.

Some would even get to the point of taking a government grant, building a building, but when that money and credit at the banking institution ran out, the doors would shut just as quickly as they opened.

Of course, you have the ones that took it at an even keel, meaning a great idea, moved it forward with the proper background and legwork, and today are flourishing, or maybe sold out to a larger firm.

That is why when the group Westman Opportunities Leadership Group contacted me more than a year ago, I took notice.

First I looked at the concept, the

goals, and the validity of the project.

Any proposed plan or new concept has only as much merit as the people involved.

When almost a hundred movers and shakers showed up at the recent workshop co-hosted by the WOLG and the University of Brandon to discuss the merits of a drafting a plan to attract investment to build a world-class soybean processing plant in Manitoba, I took the time to attend the meeting.

In 2000, Manitoba farmers grew only 20,000 acres of soybeans. That's jumped to 2.3 million in 2017 and since a 2,500 tonne/day soybean plant will require just under a million acres every year, the idea excites me.

In Saskatchewan, farmers grew 800,000 acres of soybeans in 2017,

and with ever increasing and improving seed varieties, what they called fringe areas several years back for growing soybeans, are no longer.

A consultant from Cincinnati, Ohio had some thoughts in an interview that sounded pretty reasonable, especially with the provincial government for some reason not being too keen right now on this proposed project.

Bob Stroup said, "If they listen to the various factors that I brought up, which are, one, control of the soybean supply, which in my opinion requires the formation of at least a co-op or some organization who pledge a percentage of their soybean

## Soybean plant has merit in MB.

Continued on page 20



# High hopes for future of soybean processing plant

By Harry Siemens

Westman Opportunities Leadership Group and Brandon University recently co-hosted a workshop to discuss Manitoba's emerging opportunity to attract a soybean processing facility to the province.

The focus on Nov. 16 in Brandon was to discuss the opportunity, learn more about the soybean value chain, and understand the benefits a facility like this could bring to Manitoba's economy.

Dr. Allan Preston, vice president for the WOLG and a former chief veterinarian officer in Manitoba, a deputy minister of agriculture, and president of Preston Stock Farms in Hamiota, was pleased with the response to the workshop.

"I was blown away, as were most of my counterparts with the quantity and quality of attendees," he said. "We had over 90 people there, representing a wide swath of local government, provincial and federal government, private producers of organizations like Manitoba Pork Council and Canada Soy.

"I don't want to sound too knowing about it, but it was an outstanding conference and certainly achieved the results beyond what we had anticipated."

Preston shared some of the behind-the-scenes feedback and feeling he received from the meeting participants:

"I think people feel the timing is right, that there is a need right now within both the soybean production sector and the consumer sector, primarily the pork industry," he said. "The timing is right to take advantage of the expanding soybean acres and retain some of this processing capacity at home.

"I think everyone is a little bit nervous these days as to trade negotiations with our good friends and neighbors to the south, and if we can keep some of our processing at home here and keep our soybean meal here at home, that takes away some of the potential trade here, in terms of moving raw product south and process product back north.

"The opportunity exists," said Preston. "Let's get our act together and see if we can encourage some of the big players to come to town and consider setting up a mill."

Preston said the next step is following up on the interest expressed by representatives of some municipal governments to see if they can find a way to support the WOLG process

financially.

"And the second step: we've have lots of moral support coming to us from both the province and the federal government—we need to work at translating some of that moral support into some dollars to keep us moving forward," he said. "We're all volunteers, but we do have some consultants working for us and we need some dollars coming in the door to keep this process moving so that interaction with government is step number two."

Preston is at the forefront of this movement because he feels it's integral to Manitoba's farming communities, including his own.

"I think that we need to continue to push for economic development

## > SIEMENS SAYS, FROM PG. 19

production. They need to have that.

"The other thing they need is the driver that I know of here, is the desire on the part of the government of Manitoba to accelerate the growth of the swine industry."

You see, the reason for a soybean processing plant, and it had merit in Manitoba as a successful entity, is the fact Manitoba pig producers need to buy the processed meal from this proposed plant instead of trucking it in from the United States.

We even have soybean producers in the Red River Valley that may not have interest either. Well, here is what I told the group to help wrap up the meeting in Brandon:

"When this project started, when I was alerted to it, and I saw the names of the people involved in the original organization, I knew that these guys

across the region, in our case, most specifically in western Manitoba," he said. "I'm involved because I see some of these opportunities slipping away from us if we don't dig in and push to have them located in our backyards. So, I'm in it for the long haul for my community, for communities that my kids could live in and work in for years to come.

"I think it's important that we take this kind of an active role. If we don't, we'll see the same thing happen as with the canola processing—it might move west into Saskatchewan or might move south into the Minot area of South Dakota, so I'm kind of jealous of keeping it here at home."

Preston said several speakers at the conference carried significant weight,

and probably take away from this internal politicking in Manitoba.

The first was the Soy Canada representative Ron Davidson, who made it abundantly clear that processing capacity in western Canada was a must, and that they were fully supportive of that.

The second was Andrew Dickson of the Manitoba Pork Council, the organization that's going to consume this product. As one of their board members said when the WOLG first met with them: it is a no-brainer.

"We should have that processing capacity in western Canada. So the Province of Manitoba, and more specifically the Department of Agriculture, either join on now or later, but the train has left the station."

weren't just doing this for fun.

"And so I congratulate, first of all, you, [president] Ray Redfern, and all the rest of the people, because I don't know all of you, but I know most of you. Just because all in the Red River Valley aren't entirely on board with this project at this point, I am. For soybean growers in the Valley, it may not be as urgent because we're so much closer to some of those markets in the south.

"So, I would just encourage you to keep plugging along with this one brick at a time, because this isn't just something to sniff at, something to smile at, because you people are giving your time, and for many of you it's a labour of love.

"Having watched the agricultural industry for all these years here in Manitoba, we are the most blessed

people in the entire world. I think we need to take it forward to make sure that all of the areas that are talking about are going to be involved. Whether we will all benefit, we don't know, but at least have us all included so that we have no secrets and we can move this thing forward. Good luck, guys, and gals."

Ray Redfern responded: "Thank you for that. Of course, Siemens has said many things over the years, and most of them have had some grounding in background understanding, and he does a little more research than maybe some of us realized.

"And so, some of these things that he's been able to recognize, of course, have been pretty valuable and understanding of the rest of us."

## get inspired

> MEAL IDEAS

### Pull-Apart Rosemary Sausage Rolls

Prep time: 10 minutes  
Cook time: 15 minutes  
Servings: 20 biscuits  
1 pound Smithfield Hometown Original Fresh Sausage Roll  
2 teaspoons finely chopped rosemary leaves, plus sprigs for garnish (optional)  
1/2 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper

1 egg  
1 teaspoon water  
2 cans (12 ounces each) refrigerated small biscuits (20 biscuits total)  
Heat oven to 400 F. In bowl, unpackage sausage and lightly mix with rosemary and pepper. Divide into 20 pieces, rolling into little balls; refrigerate until needed.  
In small bowl, whisk egg and water until frothy. Remove biscuits from packaging and carefully dimple centers with thumbs. Insert sausage balls in centers and place biscuits close together on lightly sprayed or greased cookie sheet. Brush exposed



biscuit dough with egg wash and top with rosemary sprigs, if desired. Bake 12-15 minutes, or until biscuits are golden and sausage is cooked through. Serve warm.  
Substitution: Smithfield Hot Fresh Sausage Roll or Sausage Patties can be substituted for Original Fresh Sausage Roll.



# Winkler Heritage hosts Old Tyme Christmas

The Winkler Heritage Society invites everyone down to the mall next week for an old-fashioned Christmas celebration.

The society hosts its annual Old Tyme Christmas at the Winkler Heri-

tage Museum in the Southland Mall on Thursday, Dec. 7 at 7 p.m.

The evening will include Christmas stories, carols, and free peppernuts, oranges and coffee.



VOICE FILE PHOTO

Christmas carols, stories, and treats are on tap for the Winkler Heritage Society's Old Tyme Christmas at the mall Dec. 7.

The *Winkler Morden*  
**Voice**

What's *Your* story? Call 325-6888

## take a break > GAMES

### SUDOKU

								7
4	6	1		3				
							5	1
6								
		4	2	1			7	
	7		6				8	
8				6				3
3					1	4		8
			5			6		

Level: Intermediate

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!

**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!

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

Sudoku Answer

D	E	R		D	E	L	S	
S	N	V	S	S	E	Z	V	D
S	I	B	O	S	P	I	C	A
I	O	C	H	A	S	L	V	N
O	S	S	B	A	S	I	L	O
N	O	N	I	A	T	I	O	N

Crossword Answer

## X CROSSWORD

- CLUES ACROSS
- 1. Female deer
  - 4. Unfashionable people
  - 8. Entranceway
  - 10. Courteous
  - 11. Level
  - 12. Deli meat
  - 13. Details
  - 15. Stole
  - 16. A genus of bee
  - 17. Expressed as digits
  - 18. Your child's daughter
  - 21. \_\_\_ and flow
  - 22. Small amount
  - 23. Revolutions per minute
  - 24. Criticize
  - 25. Snake-like fish
  - 26. Cooling mechanism
  - 27. Inquiry
  - 34. Engage in political activity
  - 35. The lowest adult male singing voice
  - 36. Endings
  - 37. Irises
  - 38. The highest parts
  - 39. Kimono sashes
  - 40. Bewilders
  - 41. Mentally healthy
  - 42. Used to traverse snow
  - 43. Inflamed
- CLUES DOWN
- 1. Adventurous
  - 2. Deliverer of speeches
  - 3. Skin condition
  - 4. Widened
  - 5. James Cameron film
  - 6. The 3rd letter of the Hebrew alphabet
  - 7. Moved along a surface
  - 9. Pharmacological agent
  - 10. Charity
  - 12. Seeing someone famous
  - 14. Not happy
  - 15. Farm animal
  - 17. Give a nickname to
  - 19. Uses up
  - 20. Type of missile (abbr.)
  - 23. Criticizes
  - 24. Midwife
  - 25. Entwined
  - 26. Supervises interstate commerce
  - 27. A way to convert
  - 28. Female sibling
  - 29. TV network
  - 30. Tropical Asian plant
  - 31. Line on a map
  - 32. Denotes songbirds
  - 33. Made publicly known
  - 34. He devised mud cleats for football
  - 36. Trends

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		



# Classifieds The *Winkler Morden* Voice

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**STEEL BUILDINGS**  
Steel Building Sale... "Fall Clearance Sale On Now!" 20X21 \$5,990 front & back walls included. 25x25 \$6,896 one end wall included. 32x33 \$8,199 no ends included. Check out [www.pioneersteel.ca](http://www.pioneersteel.ca) for more prices. Pioneer Steel 1-855-212-7036.

**HOUSES FOR SALE**  
Homes for Students. Why pay rent when you can buy a home and build equity. Lets talk. Brian McMillan Realtor 204-612-6575 [brian@judylindsay.com](mailto:brian@judylindsay.com)

**APARTMENT FOR RENT**  
Large condo-style apartments, 1 bedroom plus utility room, between Winkler & Carman, \$ 425 per month. Best deal in Southern Manitoba. Clint 204-421-8785 or Isabel 204-343-2363.

**WORK WANTED**  
Available to do renos, repairs, maintenance, painting, siding, roofs, fix-ups. Residential or commercial. Call Bill at 204-362-2645 or leave a message at 204-822-3582.

**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](http://www.batteryman.ca)

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Kitchen renovation! (Do it now) In-stock cabinets or decor factory orders! Province-wide service. Low overhead = you save! Fehr's Cabinet Warehouse 1-800-758-6924 office@feh-rscabinets.com

**HEALTH**  
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](mailto:stonewoodelk@hotmail.com)

**UPCOMING EVENTS**  
Last Chance Craft Sale! 2 floors, up to 100 crafters! Sunday, Dec. 10th, 11-5. Canad Inns, Club Regent Hotel, 1415 Regent Ave W. Winnipeg, Admission \$3. [katherinebielek@gmail.com](mailto:katherinebielek@gmail.com)

**CHRISTMAS IDEAS**  
**CHRISTMAS IDEAS**  
Essential Oil Diffusers  
Essential Oils  
Salt lamps  
Fair Trade Dark Chocolate Bar  
*Feelin' Good*  
372 Stephen St. Morden  
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**GLUTEN FREE PRODUCTS**  
**GLUTEN FREE FOODS**  
Lorenzo's Baking Mix  
Shar Multigrain Bread  
Gluten-Lactose-GMO Free  
*Feelin' Good*  
372 Stephen St. Morden  
204-822-6707

**COMING EVENTS**  
*Thousand Oaks Ministries Inc.*  
**ANNUAL CHRISTMAS MUSIC NIGHT**  
Sat., Dec. 9, 2017  
7:30 pm at the P.W. Enns Centennial Concert Hall Winkler, MB  
Featuring: *Reinland Menn. Church Choir* (Winkler)  
*Boundless Love* (Grunthal Area)  
Everyone Welcome! Freewill Offering  
1000 Oaks Info Line (204) 822-1253  
[www.ThousandOaksInc.org](http://www.ThousandOaksInc.org)

Do-it-yourself project gone bad? Need help to start or finish? I can help. Call 204-362-2645 or lve. message at 204-822-3582.

**HELP WANTED**  
Medical Transcription! In-demand career! Employers have work-at-home positions available. Get online training you need from an employer-trusted program. Visit: [CareerStep.ca/MT](http://CareerStep.ca/MT) or 1-855-768-3362 to start training for your work-at-home career today!

Parts & full trailer repair, trailer safeties & Autopac trailer repair. Sales, Leasing & Financing of flat-deck, dumpbox, cargo, gooseneck & utility trailers & truck beds. Kaldeck Truck & Trailer, Hwy #1 MacGregor, Mb. 1-888-685-3127.

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Powertec Solar, Consumer Choice Award winner, "Top Solar Company," contact us for a free estimate and let us explain the - Powertec advantage: [www.powertecsolar.ca](http://www.powertecsolar.ca) (204) 809-8703.

**PERSONAL**  
Nice woman in her 60's would like to meet a smart, kind, active man. 204-744-2062.

Nice 60 year old man would like to meet a smart, kind, active woman. 204-526-7665.



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Emergency Device For Seniors - Free equipment, monitored 24/7. Stay safe in your home for less than \$1 a day. For free information guide call toll free 1-888-865-5001 or [www.LifeAssure.com](http://www.LifeAssure.com)

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**NOTICES**

**CITY OF WINKLER NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING UNDER THE PLANNING ACT**

The Council of the City of Winkler, under the authority of The Planning Act, will hold a Public Hearing, at the Winkler Council Chamber, 185 Main Street, Winkler, Manitoba, on Tuesday, December 12th, 2017 at 7:00 PM, at which time and place the Council will receive representations and objections from any persons who wish to make them in respect of By-Law No. 2193-17, of the City of Winkler.

The general intent of the above By-Law No. 2193-17, is to zone the land described below, Namely: **Lot 1, Plan No. (Deposit 897/2017) MLTO in the SW ¼ 3-3-4 WPM** as shown outlined in a heavy solid line on the map attached hereto as Schedule "A", and forming part of this by-law, be rezoned

**FROM:** "RT" RESIDENTIAL TWO FAMILY ZONE  
**TO:** "CL" COMMERCIAL LINEAR ZONE

A copy of the above By-Law No. 2193-17, and supporting material may be inspected by any persons between the hours of 9:00 AM and 5:00 PM, Monday to Friday, in the City Office.

DATED at Winkler, in Manitoba, this 2nd day of November, 2017.

Designated Officer  
City of Winkler



**COMING EVENTS**

The St. John's Catholic Parish and the CWL invite everyone to our **ANNUAL Christmas Tea and Bake Sale**  
**SAT., DEC. 2 • 1:30 PM. - 3:30 PM.**  
**2 ACADEMY DRIVE, MORDEN**  
(across the street from Minnewasta School)  
Baking, Door Prizes (Christmas Baking Tray), Rainbow Auction (donations to BTHC Palliative Care)  
Come and enjoy a cup of coffee or tea and dessert!

**McSherry Auction**

12 Patterson Dr. Stonewall, MB  
**Estate & Moving**  
Sat Dec 2 @ 10 AM  
**Estate & Moving**  
Sat Dec 9 @ 10 AM  
Call to Consign - Go to Web For Listings!  
(204) 467-1858 or (204) 886-7027  
[www.mcsherryauction.com](http://www.mcsherryauction.com)

**CAREERS**

**Committed to Excellence: Learning Today - Building for Tomorrow**  
Garden Valley School Division (Winkler MB) Has a job opening for the following:  
**MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR**  
100% Permanent, Garden Valley School Division (Division Office)  
Posting # 01-MS-17  
Start Date: December 2017  
Please visit our website at [www.gvsd.ca](http://www.gvsd.ca) for additional Information regarding this employment opportunity or contact:  
Human Resources, Garden Valley School Division  
Box 1330, 750 Triple E Boulevard Winkler, MB R6W 4B3  
Tel: (204) 325-8335; Fax: (204) 325-4132; **E-mail: [hr@gvsd.ca](mailto:hr@gvsd.ca)**

**SENIOR LIFE LEASE**

**Morden Elks Park Place**  
Non-Profit (Life Lease) 55+ Building  
100-9th street Morden, Mb.  
2 Bedroom Suite - 900 sq. ft.  
Available January 01, 2018  
Includes Fridge, Stove, Hydro, Water  
**For more information call: Rick at 204-822-9324**

**CAREERS**

**WESTERN School Division**  
Morden, Manitoba  
*"Rooted In Caring; Committed to Learning"*  
invites applications for the following position:  
**Itinerant Substitute Teacher**  
(2017WSD062)

More detailed information is available online at [www.westernsd.mb.ca](http://www.westernsd.mb.ca) at the schools, or at Western School Division Office, 204-822-4448.

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# Announcements

The Winkler Morden Voice

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## CARD OF THANKS

We would like to thank our family and friends that helped us celebrate our 50th Anniversary, especially our daughter for organizing the tea and supper and anyone that helped in any way. It was fun. Thank you for the generous donations, \$500 will be split between Cancer Care and Stars.

-Jack and Roseanne Pearson

## BIRTHDAY



Wishing Susie Fehr Peters  
a Happy 75th Birthday  
on December 3rd

-With love from your family

## OBITUARY

### Herman Larke

1914 - 2017

With heavy hearts we announce the passing of our beloved father, grandfather and great-grandfather on Tuesday, November 21, 2017 at Boundary Trails Health Center.

He will be lovingly remembered by his children, David, Brenda (Steve); his granddaughter, Melanie (Kent) and great-grandson, Weston. He was predeceased by his wife, Marea in 2014; and daughter-in-law, Paulette Larke.

Herman was born on July 8, 1914 in Winnipeg. He married Marea Kristjansson on February 18th, 1943.



Herman worked hard all his life, he drove a creamery truck in the 1-6 area for several years, before enlisting in the military on July 29th, 1942. He served in Winnipeg, Ontario and Germany. Most of his time in the army was spent working in quartermaster stores, outfitting soldiers, and as a staff sergeant in Germany. In 1953 he served with the peacekeeping force in Korea after the armistice was signed. He retired from the military in 1965 and moved to Morden. He worked for a short time at the Legion, until starting work at Livingstons Furniture. He worked at Livingstons Furniture until 1985 when he retired. Once he retired he became a member of the Hospital Auxiliary with Marea.

Herman enjoyed working in the garden in the spring and summer. He loved reading, specifically books on the military or politics. His cars were his prize possession, he took great care of any car he owned, making sure it was always clean and running perfectly.

We as a family were truly blessed to have had him in our lives for such an incredibly long time. His zest for life will not be forgotten. A big thank you to all of the Health Care Workers at Boundary Trails Health Center in Morden, Manitoba for the fabulous care they provided.

Cremation has taken place and a private burial was held Wednesday, November 29, 2017 at Chapel Cemetery Columbarium.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Herman's memory to the Boundary Trails Health Center Foundation (Box 2000 Winkler, MB R6W 1H8).

Wiebe Funeral Chapel, Morden  
In care of arrangements  
wiebefuneralhomes.com



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## OBITUARY

### William (Bill) George Van Wyck

Bill was born September 29, 1931 and passed away peacefully in his sleep, November 24, 2017 with his wife Loreen and family by his side.

He married Loreen Laycock, November 14th, 1953 and celebrated their 64th wedding anniversary.

Bill leaves to mourn his loving wife Loreen and four children, David (Nancy), Gregory (Carol), Rhonda Friesen (Ron), and Caroline Stepler (Dale). He also leaves to mourn numerous grandchildren, great children and many other children who referred to him as Grandpa Bill.

He also leaves to mourn his three sisters, Donna Iliffe (Barry), Eleanor Bond, Maureen Van Wyck, sister-in-law Edith Fraser and their families.



Bill was predeceased by his parents, Edgar and Jean Van Wyck, brother-in-law John Vernon Bond, Wilson Fraser and many other lifelong friends.

Bill was born on the family farm in Roland. Bill's passion of farming started at 11 years of age when his father left to go overseas during WWII. He continued his love of the land and actively farmed for over 70 years.

Commitment to family and community were the roots which grounded Bill. He was actively involved in church, 4-H, Roland Rink, cemetery board, a founding member of the Roland Pumpkin Fair and he remained keenly interested. Bill selflessly gave of his time, love and support. He truly valued the relationships he had with all his family. He generously led by example. Bill enthusiastically welcomed anyone and everyone with open arms, turning any occasion into a celebration.

Bill loved, was loved and made a difference. His work on earth is complete. He will be in our hearts forever.

The celebration of Bill's life will be held at Roland United Church on Saturday, December 2, 2017 at 2:00 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Roland United Church, building fund. Box 119 Roland, Manitoba ROG1T0.

Doyle's Funeral Home  
in care of arrangements  
www.doylesfuneralhome.ca



# WINKLER AUTO DEALERS

HOMETOWN



SERVICE

JANZEN



CHEVROLET BUICK  
GMC

Southland



HONDA

[www.winklerautodealers.com](http://www.winklerautodealers.com)

## 2015 F250 XLT 4X4 CREW CAB DIESEL

- WESTERN EDITION
- 6.7L POWER STROKE V8 DIESEL
- POWER SEAT
- REMOTE START
- REAR VIEW CAMERA
- TAILGATE STEP
- FX4 PKG.
- 5TH WHEEL PREP PKG.
- 44,000 KMS



#17U177

**\$46,900** PLUS GST/PST

## 2017 ESCAPE SE ALL WHEEL DRIVE

- 2.0 L ECOBOOST
- HEATED CLOTH SEATS
- VOICE ACTIVATED NAVIGATION
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#17U170

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- BLIND SPOT MONITORING
- NAVIGATION
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#17U093

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## 2010 CHEVY IMPALA LT

HERE'S A CLEAN, LOCAL TRADE THATS AFFORDABLE, AND IN VERY NICE CONDITION. PERFECT FOR A MAIN OR A SECOND FAMILY VEHICLE. ONLY 137,000 KMS



#17U048

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STK# W6684A

## 2009 PONTIAC G8 GT V8

6.0L V8, AUTO, A/C, TILT, CRUISE, POWER WINDOWS & POWER DOOR LOCKS, CLOTH INTERIOR, BUCKET SEATS, LEATHER-WRAPPED STEERING WHEEL, REMOTE KEYLESS ENTRY, REMOTE VEHICLE START, 18" ALUM WHEELS, ETC

**INQUIRE FOR PRICE**



ONLY 14,500 KM

STK# W7325A

## 2017 CHEVROLET EQUINOX LT TRUE NORTH AWD

2.4L I4, AUTO, A/C, TILT, CRUISE, POWER WINDOWS & POWER DOOR LOCKS, CLOTH INTERIOR, BUCKET SEATS, REMOTE KEYLESS ENTRY, REMOTE VEHICLE START, HEATED FRONT SEATS, 17" ALUM WHEELS, REAR VISION CAMERA, NAVIGATION, ROOF SIDE RAILS, ETC

**INQUIRE FOR PRICE**



STK# W7313A

## 2016 GMC SIERRA 2500 CREW SLT Z71

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Feel like  
a kid  
again



MODEL SHOWN: CIVIC TOURING

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- DISPLAY AUDIO SYSTEM WITH HONDALINK™ NEXT GENERATION
- MULTI-ANGLE REARVIEW CAMERA WITH DYNAMIC GUIDELINES
- AUTOMATIC CLIMATE CONTROL WITH AIR-FILTRATION SYSTEM

\*#£ Limited time lease offer from Honda Canada Finance Inc. (HCFI), On Approved Credit. Weekly lease offer applies to a new 2018 Civic 4D LX 6MT, model FC2E5JE for a 60-month period, for a total of 260 payments of \$63 leased at 3.99% APR. 120,000 kilometre allowance (12 cents/km excess charge applies). Consumers may pre-purchase up to a maximum of 16,000 extra km/year at \$0.08/km at the time of entering into the lease agreement. Total lease obligation is \$16,380. Lease obligation includes freight and PDI of \$1,595, Federal air conditioning charge, tire levy and other applicable fees except PPSA lien registration fee of \$52.76 and lien registering agent's fee of \$5.25, which are both due at time of delivery. No down-payment required. Taxes, license, insurance and registration are extra. Dealer may lease for less. #/£ Offers valid from November 1, 2017 through November 30, 2017 at participating Honda retailers. Offers valid only for Manitoba residents at Honda Dealers of Manitoba locations. Weekly leasing available on terms of 36 months or greater. Offers subject to change or cancellation without prior notice. Offers only valid on new in-stock 2018 vehicles. While quantities last. Dealer order or trade may be necessary. Visit HondaManitoba.com or your Manitoba Honda dealer for details. \*None of the features described are intended to replace the driver's responsibility to exercise due care while driving. Drivers should not use handheld devices or operate certain vehicle features unless it is safe and legal to do so. Some features have technological limitations. For additional feature information, limitations and restrictions, please visit [www.honda.ca/disclaimers](http://www.honda.ca/disclaimers) or refer to the vehicle's owner's manual.



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# Countdown to Christmas

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# 18 ideas for making holiday memories

Counting down to Christmas Day means many different things to people across the globe. Although families likely have several different traditions they anticipate each year, it can be fun to incorporate some new merrymakers into the festivities. Here are some festive ideas to include in the days leading up to Christmas - a special family calendar of fun finds.

1. Annual memento: Have the kids or adults make one new handmade ornament each year. This way the tree is always evolving, and everyone can track milestones.

2. Cookie day: Devote one day to making Christmas cookies. Invite friends or family members over. Distribute some cookies to elderly neighbors.

3. Holiday classic: Spend a night in and watch a classic Christmas flick you've never seen before. Streaming movie services often put classics and obscure titles into rotation during the holiday season.

4. Christmas concert: Host a gathering of children where they can sing or perform their favorite tunes for an audience. Take it on the road to a nearby nursing home.

5. Dine out: Take a break from cooking, shopping and hosting and stop into a restaurant you've been meaning to try. Keep it local to support nearby businesses.

6. Adopt a child/family: Volunteer with a charitable organization that provides for less fortunate families. Answer the Christmas desires of a needy child or family by purchasing an item on their wish lists.

7. See the sights: Pack the children into the family car to tour nearby areas and look at Christmas lights displays. Bring along cookies and hot chocolate.

8. Trim a tree: Get together with adult friends at a tree-trimming party. Rotate the hosting house each year.

9. Play dress-up: A gentleman can dress up as the man in red and pop into a friend's holiday gathering.

10. Wilderness walk: Enjoy the crisp air and snow and see a local park from a winter perspective.

11. Acts of kindness: Choose any act of kindness and make it happen this Christmas. It can include feeding the hungry or helping a disabled person shop for the season.

12. Kids' Secret Santa: Spread the joy of giving by having the kids choose a sibling or friend's name from a hat and purchasing or making a gift for that person.

13. Hand out hot chocolate: Make a big thermos of hot chocolate and give it out to shoppers or workers who have been out in the cold.

14. Read religious stories: Understand the true meaning of the season by reading Biblical passages.

15. Camp-in: The first night the tree is decorated, allow the kids to sleep beside it under the glow of Christmas lights.

16. Scavenger hunt: Plan holiday-themed trivia questions and hide small trinkets for children to find.

17. Surprise box: Put a gender and age nonspecific gift into a box. On Christmas Eve or Christmas Day, the person who finds a hidden gift tag under their chair at dinner gets to open the box.

18. Family portrait: Wear your holiday finery and pose for a portrait that actually will be printed and framed.





# During the Holidays: Teach your kids how to bake

Besides taste-testing baked goods and treats during the busy holiday baking season, children also love to get their hands dirty and participate in the baking and cookie making process. Whether it's helping mom frost her latest batch of red velvet cupcakes for her work holiday party or learning the family recipe for candy cane squares from dad, baking is a creative outlet that many children enjoy during the holiday season.

When working in the kitchen with children, holiday season or not, it is extremely important to discuss safety tips for everyone to keep in mind while whisking and rolling. Here, registered dietitian and baking enthusiast Cara Rosenbloom shares safety

tips that every parent should teach their little ones.

Wait 'til they're baked. It's important to teach your little ones exactly why they shouldn't taste test any uncooked baked goods. When baking for the holidays, it is likely that you're using raw ingredients, like eggs. Remember that flour is also a raw ingredient that has been minimally processed and should not be consumed unless baked or cooked.

Keep hands and counters clean. Good hygiene is very important in the kitchen. Before, during and after baking anything this holiday season, make sure everyone involved is washing their hands and properly cleaning any counter or table tops that



have come into contact with raw ingredients. This includes any surfaces where cookie dough has been rolled out and cut into snowflakes or snowmen shapes.

Supervise children. While your child might want some independence in the kitchen and bake their own ver-

sion of family-favourite gingerbread angel cookies, it's important that they understand some baking tasks are best left for adults. Whether it's dealing with a hot oven or plate or even a sharp knife, little hands should be kept away from these risky recipe steps.

## Five creative ways to celebrate Christmas

Is your family filled with children or elderly relatives, making late-night celebrations an impractical choice? Are you spending the holidays alone this year? Do you want to celebrate with your significant other, friends, family and in-laws, but are tired of running around from one party to the next? Perhaps you're just bored of the traditional family celebrations? Here are five creative ways to celebrate

Christmas a little differently this year:

1. Go for brunch. A Christmas brunch is a great way to celebrate with your family and friends without wearing out the grandparents and little tykes. What's more, you won't have to hop from one party to the next!
2. Organize an afternoon outdoors. Ice skating, snowshoeing, fort building — take advantage of the winter season to spend some quality time

with those you hold dear.

3. Volunteer as a family. Trade in the traditional Christmas dinner for a day of volunteering with the family, and bring a smile to the faces of those who need it most. There are plenty of local charities that would gladly accept the help!
4. Take some personal time. If you're alone for the holidays, or simply need some well-deserved downtime, treat

yourself to a special day tailored to your preferences. Go for a massage, enjoy a gourmet dinner or lie down with a good book — the choice is yours!

5. Escape. Take off to a sunny destination with your friends or rent a cottage with your family to unwind in the company of those you cherish most.

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# Countdown to Christmas



## Tips for a snag-free gift exchange

Are you in charge of organizing the annual gift exchange this year? Here are a few tips to ensure everything goes smoothly!

Ideally, you'll want to start planning the gift exchange at least one month in advance to give everybody enough time to shop. You'll also want to determine a price range (between \$15 and \$20, for example) to avoid any awkward situations the day of. Once done, decide on a format. Consider how you want to exchange gifts. Will you pick names or distribute the goodies at random? Are kids and adults included in the same exchange? Additionally, decide whether you want the gifts to relate to a specific theme (like something red or unusual, for example). Come up with a few ideas and discuss them with everyone involved.

### If picking names

Determine whether or not each participant should make a few suggestions. You can ask everyone to make a list of five gift ideas or outline things they like (sports, books, movies, etc.). Suggestions can be useful when people

don't know each other well; however, they do take away from the element of surprise. Next, jot down everybody's name on a piece of paper, and pick away! If you can't find a convenient time for everybody to meet, there are websites that allow you to pick names virtually.

### If exchanging freely

To avoid conflicts, make sure to clearly explain how the gift exchange will work before the big event. For example, will you choose to steal gifts before or after they've been unwrapped? (Note: stealing might not be the best way to play if kids are involved.) You can also get creative and organize a treasure hunt or have people complete a challenge to earn their gift.

And there you have it! Now all that's left is to find the perfect gift. Good luck!



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**BUY LOCAL**  
this  
**Christmas**

**Shop at home**  
**for the holidays**

Buying local not only makes your life easier, but also helps stimulate your region's economy. With the holiday season fast approaching, here are a few great reasons to do all of your Christmas shopping close to home.

- Less distance, greater fuel savings. Shopping at neighbourhood stores goes a long way toward minimizing greenhouse gas emissions. The holiday season is all about giving, so why not give back to the planet as well? Furthermore, try to do your Christmas shopping on foot as much as possible. After all, walking is excellent exercise!
- Local shops, unlimited selection. Clothing boutiques, art galleries, spas, candy stores, bookstores — you'll certainly find something to please everyone on your list by shopping local. Psst! If you've always wanted to check out that quaint little boutique at the corner of the street, now's the time to do so! Who knows, you might make some amazing discoveries.
- Local vendors, superior service. Take advantage of local business owners' expert knowledge when buying that perfect Christmas gift for your friend or family member. These friendly merchants are committed to offering the highest quality of service to their loyal customers. After all, your patronage is part of the reason they're still in business! What's more, keep in mind that returning and exchanging items is much simpler when you do business close to home. Bought the wrong size? Noticed a defect? Your local business owner can have the problem solved in a jiffy!
- Remember: when you support small businesses, you contribute to the local economy and generate positive change in your community. With time, new businesses will pop up, infrastructure will evolve and greener spaces will abound.





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# Countdown to Christmas



## Gift ideas to travel without leaving town

Do you want to offer a gift to someone who loves to travel but can't necessarily afford to venture too far? Here are a few great suggestions to help them discover new lands, no plane ticket required!

- A subscription to a travel magazine or a travel guide featuring the destination of their dreams, the most worthwhile cruises or the best places to visit in all four corners of the globe for food, fashion, outdoor adventures, etc.
- A book, movie or television series set in a foreign country, which audiences can enjoy discovering as the story unfolds.
- Traditional Russian, African or Chinese dance lessons, a CD featuring music from around the world or tickets to a Flamenco show.

- A gift card for a restaurant serving international cuisine or a cookbook/cooking class to learn how to concoct traditional dishes from around the globe.
- A travel-themed board game or one that focuses on geographical knowledge.
- A calendar with pictures of some of the most beautiful landscapes worldwide or a book featuring the greatest landmarks in the world.
- A beautiful atlas, an old-fashioned globe or a decorative world map.



## Seven gift ideas!

Are you looking for ideas for a gift exchange or a baby on the way whose sex remains a mystery? Perhaps you simply wish to avoid falling into stereotypical gender traps. In any case, here are seven suggestions that anyone can appreciate to help you get inspired!

### FOR ADULTS

1. A mouth-watering gift: fine chocolates, aromatic coffee, kettle corn, locally made jams — there's a tasty treat out there for every palate!

2. A practical gift: a travel mug, a set of knives, a cozy blanket, a calendar, a notebook — if you opt for neutral colours and motifs, there are tons of useful gadgets to choose from for every personality type!

3. A gift card: restaurants, movie theatres, bookstores, public markets, outdoor shops, gas stations — the possibilities are endless!

### FOR KIDS

4. A gender-neutral gift: a medical kit, a construction set, bath toys, a rattle, a stuffed animal, a ball — if you avoid gender-specific colours (like pink and blue), there are many toys available to please both girls and boys!

5. A book: not every book is about princesses and knights in shining armour! Choose a story that can be enjoyed by all children, regardless of gender.

6. A puzzle: animals, kids playing, cartoon characters — you'll find a plethora of puzzles featuring gender-neutral images.

### FOR EVERYONE

7. A board game: there are store shelves filled with board games for all ages, many of which are suitable for a large demographic, from kindergarteners to working adults.

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# Countdown to Christmas



## 12 days of fun Christmas activities for kids

The holiday season is the perfect time of year to spend quality time with those you hold dear. Are you looking to start some simple yet heartwarming traditions with your children? Our 12 Days of Christmas Fun checklist is full of budget-friendly ideas the whole family can enjoy:

**Day 1**  
Help your children write letters to Santa and drop their wish lists in the mail.

**Day 2**  
Build a gingerbread house and have your children decorate it with their favourite candies.

**Day 3**  
Go on a Christmas lights tour and vote for your favourite displays.

**Day 4**  
Make your own holiday cards and write a sweet note in each.

**Day 5**  
Make a holiday-themed craft — like a homemade ornament that you can add to your tree each year.

**Day 6**  
Go ice skating or tobogganing, then cozy up with a steaming cup of hot cocoa.

**Day 7**  
Watch a Christmas movie. The Polar Express, Elf and How the Grinch Stole Christmas are just a few holiday classics.

**Day 8**  
Make festive wreaths. Attach some evergreen branches and pinecones to a foam or wire ring, and have your children add ornaments and bows.

**Day 9**  
Rehearse a Christmas play to perform on Christmas Day. Opt for a classic like A Christmas Carol, or put on an original production.

**Day 10**  
Donate canned goods to a local charity or collect old toys and drop them off at a toy drive.

**Day 11**  
Organize a Christmas carol karaoke night featuring holiday hits like Jingle Bells, Silent Night and Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer, among other classics.

**Day 12**  
Have a Christmas PJ slumber party the night before Christmas.

Happy holidays!

## Recycling 101: a holiday guide

Ribbon, wrapping paper, tissue paper - are you always confused as to what can be recycled after the holidays? Read what follows!

**What can be recycled**  
Almost everything can be recycled! That being said, just because an item can be recycled doesn't mean it necessarily belongs in the recycling bin. Consult your municipality to find out which items go in the bin and which should be brought to a disposal facility. The following materials and products can usually be recycled:

- Regular wrapping paper
- Cardboard
- Tissue paper
- Batteries
- Glass containers (e.g. wine bottles & salsa jars)
- Electronic devices (e.g. TVs, computers & printers)
- Cans
- Plastic (with a few exceptions)

**What can't be recycled**  
The following items should be thrown out:

- Foil wrapping or other metalized paper
- Ribbons and bows
- Plastic utensils
- Garlands & ornaments
- Disposable tableware
- Cork stoppers and Styrofoam (although certain places do recycle these - find out where!) Since these materials can't be recycled, try to avoid using them altogether. Opt instead for regular wrapping paper and utensils made of metal. Likewise, try to reuse items as much as possible. Keep bows and ribbons for next year's gifts and use old cork stoppers in your DIY projects. Finally, donate old toys, clothes and Christmas decorations instead of throwing them out, and reduce food waste by freezing leftovers and sharing them with your family and friends.

**Here's to a green Christmas!**



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