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The *Winkler* *Morden* **Voice**

VOLUME 9 EDITION 5

THURSDAY,
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Celebrating C.J.'s legacy

PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

The family of C.J. Dyck cut the ribbon on the newly renovated Plum Coulee arena, now called the C.J. Dyck Arena, on Friday. Dyck left a significant portion of his estate to the community after his passing, allowing for the arena, which was severely damaged by a fire two years ago, to be restored. For more, see Pg. 15.

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City preparing to battle ash tree threat

By Lorne Stelmach

The City of Morden is prepared for a looming threat that could potentially impact a third of all city-owned trees.

With a strategy in place to deal with the emerald ash borer, Morden is well positioned should the wood-boring insect find its way here, suggests parks manager Shawn Dias.

Playing a significant role in it is having a forest management plan, he said.

"It's proved invaluable ... we know exactly now how many ash trees we have, where they are located, and come up with an overall plan of how to manage it," Dias said last week while looking out at the canopy of Morden Park.

"I truly believe that Morden is leading the way outside of larger centres," he said in advance of a public information session scheduled for Tuesday, Feb. 6 at 7 p.m. at the Access Event Centre in the Morden Chiropractic meeting room.

"Morden takes pride in its treed landscape, and definitely they have supported what we've been doing," Dias said. "Knowing that our trees provide the community with so many benefits, it is our responsibility to identify, maintain and enhance the city's urban forest now and into the future."

This comes as the city prepares for the potential arrival of the emerald ash borer, which was introduced into

Canada and the U.S. from China and was recently found in Winnipeg.

Once detected, it cannot be eradicated and will destroy all ash species regardless of health and condition.

Morden has just under 2,000 ash trees on public property, making up 37 per cent of city-owned trees. Should the insect be found here, it's estimated it will destroy all ash trees in the city within a decade.

Ash was the primary species planted after the discovery of Dutch Elm Disease, Dias explained.

"Green ash were utilized because they're a hardy species and they grow in different soil conditions, and they're very tolerant of some of the urban environment that we have," he said. "They grow well in a variety of sites."

So far, no sign of the insect has been found in Morden, but the city has been anticipating its arrival and taken precautions by planting non-ash species over the last five years.

"It's making sure that we are somewhat protected ... so if we do get an insect or disease that we only lose maybe one out of five trees," Dias said.

"Right now we have just under 2,000 trees ... we intend to target and retain at least 750 good condition, good quality ash trees for protection."

The City of Morden as well as federal and provincial agencies have deployed green prism traps to monitor for adult insects, and the parks and urban forestry department started



Morden parks manager Shawn Dias sees the city's forest management plan as being an invaluable tool in protecting the ash tree population.

PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

working on a plan for Morden.

Dias said the city has adopted a hybrid approach that includes not only tree removals but treatment to retain desirable ash trees and renewal by the replanting of non-ash species.

The ash strategy also outlines additional steps to monitor and assess, educate the public, and deal with wood waste disposal while continuing to monitor for the emerald ash borer.

"They have sampled 14 trees so far with no sign of larva or larval galleries and plan on sampling 36 more trees this winter," said Dias.

Meanwhile, he also noted the importance of having the forest management strategy in place.

The process to identify trees started in 2016 with an inventory of all public trees.

To date, the inventory contains the location, species, height, diameter and condition information for over 5,000 trees.

The inventory also includes a category for "action required" where maintenance activities such as planting, pruning, removing and stump grinding are needed, and this information can be immediately accessed through ArcGIS mapping program.

Upon completion of the inventory in 2017, the next step was to develop a written plan that would analyze the data, provide details of tree benefits, review the current state of Morden's urban forest, calculate the tree canopy cover, outline future urban forest activities, and provide an appraised tree value (currently estimated at over \$7.4 million).

Mayor Ken Wiebe sees the plan as providing a huge benefit to the city.

"The plan will help to guide the city's urban forestry related activities and provide information to the public. It will assist us with future decisions on the urban forest and tree related decisions," he said.

Todd Monster hired as GVSD superintendent

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Garden Valley School Division will have a familiar face at the helm when longtime superintendent Vern Reimer retires this summer.

The GVSD board of trustees announced Monday that current assistant superintendent of programs and curriculum Todd Monster will step into the division's top administrative role effective Aug. 1.

In a statement, the board said it "looks forward to working with Mr. Monster in fulfilling Garden Valley's mission to facilitate excellent education for children to become good neighbours, workers and citizens."

For his part, Monster is eager to take

on this new challenge.

"I went into education because I love working with students and kids, but over the years my life has gone into the administration side of it," he reflected.

"I've really enjoyed working with the school division, so when this opportunity became available I just felt that it was a different way to serve the students, staff, and families of the school division."

Monster has worked for GVSD for nineteen years, including eleven as the assistant superintendent and eight as the principal of the Plum Coulee administration unit.

He looks forward to leading the division as it continues to grow.

"Working with the board of trustees and the school administrators in Winkler, we want to prepare for the opening of the new Pine Ridge Elementary School," he said when asked what his focus will be when he picks up the torch from Reimer this summer. "And we want to continue our focus on literacy, numeracy, and professional learning communities, which continues as part of the school division's strategic plan."

"Right now, I look at things in the school division and I feel that all the right ingredients are already in place: we have a caring and committed board, great staff and wonderful students, and supportive families."



Todd Monster

Shoppers Drug Mart raises \$7K for Eden

Funds earmarked for Enns Courts playground

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Winkler Shoppers Drug Mart's staff and customers stepped up for Eden Foundation in a big way last fall.

Thanks to the community's support and a corporate donation from Shoppers, the store was able Jan. 25 to donate \$7,337 to the foundation in support of women's mental health projects.

That's more than twice what they donated to Eden last year, noted Shoppers' Zahid Zehri.

"With the efforts of the community and the efforts of the staff and the patients and the clientele, we collected around \$3,800," he said, going on to explain that for the first time they received an additional \$3,500 matching grant from the company to hit the record-breaking total.

Eden Foundation intends to use the funds to build a play area between the two Enns Courts buildings on Pembina Ave. in Winkler.

"There are a number of people there with young children and especially those who are pre-school age, and there's really no place for them to engage in creative play," said the foun-

ation's Earl Reimer. "This will provide an opportunity for creative play directly outside the doors.

"It's something that has been missing from the time of the construction of the property back in the early '90s. So this is a big deal for us.

"It also fulfils Shoppers Drug Mart's concern for the well-being of women and women's health," Reimer added. "Not only is this beneficial for the children who will have a space to play ... but it will also be a help for young moms."

The project, which Eden hopes to get off the ground this summer, is expected to cost around \$12,000.

"So, as you've seen from the amount that Zahid has donated here, that makes up a huge portion of that project and we are extremely grateful for the participation that he and the staff here have made for this project," Reimer said.

The store was happy to help.

"The main purpose of it is to engage the community to help the local charities, local communities," Zehri said of the campaign, now in its 16th year nationally. "I'm really glad that we have been doing it in Winkler for the last 10 years and it's been very successful.

"I appreciate the community who stood up and supported," he added. "For the last 10 years we have collected thousands of dollars."

This donation comes on the tail end of a hugely successful fiscal year for Eden Foundation.



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Shoppers Drug Mart staff presented Earl Reimer (centre) of Eden Foundation with a donation of \$7,337 last week.

"2017 has been an incredible year for us as an organization," said Reimer. "We have been the beneficiaries of a very generous community, including this donation.

"It is our pleasure as a foundation to be able to return that to the community in a number of different ways," he said. "This year we've been able to give well over \$300,000 in gifting

away.

Eden Health Care Services programs who benefited from those grants include Career Options and Pathways Community Mental Health as well as the Eden Mental Health Centre, which used the money for a variety of refurbishments, including the development of a wellness library.

"NOT ONLY IS THIS BENEFICIAL FOR THE CHILDREN WHO WILL HAVE A SPACE TO PLAY ... BUT IT WILL ALSO BE A HELP FOR YOUNG MOMS."



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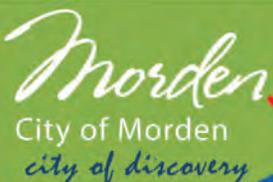
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T-Rex researcher to be honoured at CFDC gala

By Lorne Stelmach

It is fitting that the inaugural award named in honour of a woman who played a pivotal role in the development of the Canadian Fossil Discovery Centre is going to another wom-



an doing pioneer work in the field. Paleontologist Dr. Mary Higby Schweitzer will be the keynote speaker at the CFDC's third annual Dig Deep gala April 28 and also the first recipient of the Dr. Elizabeth 'Betsy' Nicholls Award for Excellence in Paleontology.

Schweitzer, who works as a professor of molecular paleontology at North Carolina State University, said she was deeply honored to receive the award.

"Although I did not know Betsy personally, her reputation certainly preceded her," she said.

"At a time when women

Dr. Mary Higby Schweitzer, whose discovery of soft tissue inside a 68-million-year-old T-Rex fossil rocked the world of paleontology, will be the keynote speaker at the CFDC's third annual Dig Deep gala April 28. She'll also be presented with an award for excellence in her field.

SUPPLIED PHOTO

were few and far between in paleontology, Betsy stood out for her contributions, more than holding her own in a male dominated field," said Schweitzer. "Betsy was known for her insatiable curiosity, and that is something we share.

"It is my honor indeed to be named a recipient of this award. She left some pretty big footprints to walk in."

The CFDC launched the award last year as a way of recognizing Dr. Nicholls' significant contributions to the field of paleontology and particularly to the CFDC.

The work of Nicholls, who passed away from cancer in 2004 at age 58, established the significance of the CFDC collection as the largest marine reptile collection in Canada.

She had a major impact on paleontology in general but especially in Canada through her work on the Morden collection.

Dr. Schweitzer has also had a significant impact on the paleontology world.

In 2007, she made a major discovery of soft tissue inside of a 68 million

year old T-Rex fossil, forever changing the way scientists think about soft tissue preservation and fossilization.

"We are incredibly excited to have a paleontologist of the stature of Dr. Schweitzer come to Manitoba," said Peter Cantelon, executive director of the CFDC.

"Her discovery and research is arguably the most significant in modern paleontology and this is a rare opportunity for people to meet her and hear her speak about that incredible find."

Gala proceeds go towards the Morden Area Foundation's CFDC endowment fund.

Tickets for the gala event are \$75 and are available by contacting the CFDC at 204-822-3406 or info@discoverfossils.com.

This year's gala host is Travel Manitoba president and CEO Colin Ferguson, who will oversee an evening also featuring live entertainment, dinner, and a rainbow auction.

For more information, visit www.discoverfossils.com/gala.

"HER DISCOVERY AND RESEARCH IS ARGUABLY THE MOST SIGNIFICANT IN MODERN PALEONTOLOGY ..."

Stanley council approves \$6.8 million budget

By Lorne Stelmach

The RM of Stanley is only spending slightly more this year than last, which translates to good news for some taxpayers.

Council approved a \$6.8 million budget for 2018 at its meeting last Thursday that increases expenditures by 2.17 per cent.

"I was very pleased with the way things turned out," said Reeve Morris Olafson. "You try to save money where you can, but you spend where you have to ... and I think we spent the money in the proper places.

"If we increase our budget by two per cent ... I think that's very prudent ... and with the growth that we've had over the last year all over the place, you have to spend money with growth," he continued. "In essence, we could have made it a zero budget ... there's no way in the world you can do that without growing. When you're growing, you have to spend money."

The financial plan sees the municipal mill rate decrease from 10.074 to 9.218, but the impact on taxes will vary depending in large part on property assessments.

Farmland assessed at \$633,100 in 2017 with a 19 per cent increase to \$751,500 will see the municipal portion of its taxes increase by \$143 to \$1,801. Another example cites farmland with an assessment that increases by 11 per cent from \$226,400 to \$252,100 having its municipal taxes rise \$11 to \$604.

Residential properties on the other hand could be seeing a reduction in their municipal taxes.

A property seeing a four per cent increase from \$279,500 to \$289,900 would see its municipal tax decrease \$64 to \$1,203, while a property with a one per cent increase from \$209,500 to \$210,900 would be paying \$875 or \$75 less in municipal tax.

"For the residential side, they're getting a bit of a break," said Olafson.

"Right now, the farmland, yes, they are taking the brunt of this. They are paying a very good share of the tax burden ... the businesses will be paying a little bit more as well."

Property tax revenue pays for 80 per cent of the municipal budget at about \$5.47 million. The remaining 20 per cent comes from other revenue sources.

The largest portion of the budget comes under transportation such as road work. It represents 42 per cent of the overall spending and increases this year 1.5 per cent to over \$2.8 million.

"We are putting on more gravel, and the gravel is costing us more to process and haul ... our usage has gone up," Olafson noted as an example, observing that "when you talk about an RM, well, you think roads. That's number one."

Another 18 per cent of overall spending is funds being transferred to reserve with an increase of 16 per

cent to \$1.2 million. Another 13 per cent comes under general government services, where the budget remains at about \$900,000.

Protective services take up nine per cent of the budget with a slight increase to \$631,800, and another nine per cent comes under fiscal services with a four per cent rise to just under \$630,000.

Four per cent goes toward environmental services, which increase five per cent to \$258,000, and another three per cent is for recreation and culture, which sees a 13 per cent increase to just over \$180,000.

Major projects being pursued in 2018 include not only working towards the regional wastewater treatment project but extending water and sewer service into the highway corridor between Morden and Winkler.

To that end, Olafson noted that equally or more important to roads is

Continued on page 5

Winkler Cricket Club has big plans for year ahead

By Lorne Stelmach

The Winkler Cricket Club is looking forward to taking the sport to the next level in the year ahead.

Having a cricket ground in place this summer is a priority for the club.

"The talent is here, the potential is here ... once we have the cricket ground, definitely we can develop that potential," club president Zahid Zehri said in offering an update to Winkler city council last week.

The plan is to install a cricket pitch on land north of Northlands Parkway Collegiate this spring.

"Once we have a cricket ground and we have everything set to go ... probably by mid-August ... I'm hoping that we have a better future in Winkler for cricket," Zehri said, adding they see developing the site as a major step that is needed for them to promote the sport not just in Winkler but in the wider Pembina Valley region.

Regional players started up the Winkler team about five years ago, but they have had to go to Winnipeg to compete.



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Last week, representatives of the Winkler Cricket Club proudly showed off their trophy from a tournament victory last fall to Winkler city council.

They have found success in the Winnipeg tournaments and look forward to hosting one of their own soon, Zehri said.

"Our plan is that in the future, once we have this pitch, then we will bring the elite tournaments. We can bring some matches here," he said.

"We also have a plan to introduce a mini-cricket ... just like mini-soccer.

We can do it for the youth," Zehri added, noting they want to continue working closely with Garden Valley School Division. "We can recruit more youth to teach them."

Zehri said they are looking to offer programs at both the competitive and recreational levels.

The latter would be more for "people who have leisure time and just

want to have fun, want to keep active and want to learn or have a passion for cricket," he explained.

He added that they appreciate the support of the community and particularly of Winkler council.

"You guys have been supporting us from day one ... this encouragement is giving the team good support and also the moral support."

Summer jobs funding rules discriminatory: Bergen

By Lorne Stelmach

Some area faith-based organizations are questioning a change that ties federal funding for summer jobs to an organization's stance on abortion.

The changes introduced by the Liberal government require Canada Summer Jobs funding applicants not only to affirm that they will respect individual human rights in Canada, but also reproductive rights, including a women's right to a legal abortion.

The government has insisted this change was made simply to remain consistent with Canada's commitment to human rights, which include women's reproductive rights and LG-BTQ2 rights, but many opponents see it as infringing on religious freedoms.

"Trudeau talks about diversity, but I guess he doesn't like diversity of opinion ... diversity is only all right if it's diversity that he has okayed, and that's dangerous," suggested Portage-Lisgar Conservative MP Candice Bergen.

The controversy revolves around a new stipulation in the application form for funding to support summer

employment that requires applicants to attest to the following:

"The government recognizes that women's rights are human rights. This includes sexual and reproductive rights—and the right to access safe and legal abortions. These rights are at the core of the Government of Canada's foreign and domestic policies," the application now states.

The changes came about after it was revealed that anti-abortion organizations across the nation had received tens of thousands of dollars in summer job funding in 2016.

"The objective of the change is to prevent Government of Canada funding from flowing to organizations whose mandates or projects may not respect individual human rights, the values underlying the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, and associated case law," the government has said.

Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Labour Patty Hajdu told reporters in Ottawa last month these are fundamental rights of our nation and these changes are a way to "ensure that the money we disperse on behalf of Canadians is not used in a way that violates those

hard-won rights."

Bergen, meanwhile, called it disconcerting that worthwhile faith-based organizations could be excluded from receiving taxpayer funded resources just because they disagree with the ruling government's view.

She maintained a government should never be telling its citizens what they should and should not believe.

"What we're seeing when it comes to this Liberal government is that

if you don't share exactly the same views that they do, you are likely to be left out in the cold.

"If the Canada Summer Jobs program has to go through the Liberal's litmus test or values test, what next has to go through their test?" Bergen asked. "No one is exempt if the Liberals want you to attest to believe what they believe ... everybody's freedoms are being eroded."

Continued on page 7

> STANLEY BUDGET, FROM PG. 4

the other infrastructure such as water and sewer.

"These are as important as any road ... if we don't have the water, don't have the sewer, we won't have the growth," he said.

Other projects planned for this year include paving in Schanzenfeld, asphalt overlay in Hochfeld, pathway paving in Reinfeld and restoration work on the Reinland drain, while ongoing annual work ranges from drainage and dust

proofing to upgrading public works equipment and improving field access roads.

The municipality also makes contributions to a number of organizations and services, including over \$78,400 for libraries, \$42,500 for conservation, \$35,000 to the Winkler medical clinic, \$15,000 to the Morden medical clinic, \$10,800 for veterinary services, and \$16,500 for various community centres and rinks.

The *Winkler Morden*
Voice



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getheard

EDITORIAL > VIEWPOINTS > LETTERS

To everything turn, turn, turn

To everything there is a season. Things seem to run in cycles ... or in this case in circles. Things that were old become new again, fashions that fall out of fashion (as it were) come back and lessons learned are often forgotten and re-learned.

So it is with musical styles as well. Or at least, it seems, musical delivery systems.

I am of an age where I remember music being delivered via vinyl albums. I am also of an age where I remember making fun of my mum and other adults for having music on eight track tapes, maybe one of the worst vehicles for music ever invented.

Sure, you could skip from song to song, but not to the beginning of the

next song—just wherever the tape happened to be positioned. And as the name inferred, they featured just eight songs of no more than a collective 80 minutes.

No, the album was the way to go. The sound quality was fantastic, cover art was important, liner notes, backwards messages—we had it all on vinyl.

Of course it was not very portable. That was what cassette tapes were for. Record your albums onto cassettes to bring with you. No one ever thought cassette recordings were better quality, just convenient.

Then came the evil age of the Compact Disk. It was like the vinyl album but portable and weathered poor treatment better. You could play it in portable players and claims were made the audio quality was as good as or even better than vinyl. Heresy.

Vast collections of vinyl were sold off, cassettes were forgotten about, music stores (we had those once) started focusing on CDs and it seemed as if “the next big thing” was here.

Don't get me wrong, CDs lasted a long time. A good 30 years, give or take. Still, vinyl stumbled along in the background, almost invisible. After all, by 2018 the noble record is now more than 130 years old ... not an easy feat in the age of technology.

My own album collection went into boxes for many years in favour of CDs and tapes. I had even thought about getting rid of my nice German Dual turntable and selling the records.

Then something odd occurred. I started noticing odd albums again in stores and online.

Slowly the old classics started getting re-released. Then rumours of new releases coming out on vinyl started coming out. Now vinyl is popping up everywhere; Work in Winkler just launched a vinyl corner.

Last year vinyl sales globally reached half a billion dollars U.S., the highest level since 1988. In 2007 vinyl sales were a mere \$55 million globally.

In 2017, Sony Records announced they were re-launching the vinyl division they closed in 1989. Crazy, right?

Maybe not. In a digital age where it seems you cannot get any content without a slew of ads maybe it makes sense. Also, vinyl stands the test of time, literally. Tapes and CDs have proven to degrade but you can still put a 100-year-old record on a turntable and hear the original quality.

Everything old is new again. Now please excuse me, I have to go put some albums between Pink Floyd's *The Wall* and Taylor Swift's 1989—they should never touch.



By Peter Cantelon

Letters

Gov't seeks to reduce admin. costs, not cut funding

I am responding to last week's article titled “Local charities lament MCSC funding cuts” to clear up some misunderstandings.

Grants to non-profit and community-based organizations continue to be a priority for this government, and these organizations remain eligible for funding.

Last week's article implied that there would be less available funding for these organizations and

their valuable work in communities across Manitoba; in fact, the action our government took was to reduce the administrative costs attached to granting programs, ensuring that more than \$20 million remains available to support community development and initiatives.

Our priority is delivering as much grant money as possible for services that benefit members of the community by reducing administration and

duplication. This ensures—first and foremost—that government funding supports citizens.

As an example, just last week the Manitoba government announced \$1.4 million in new funding for local organizations including \$25,000 to the MCDC for a retail business incubator.

Our government believes that we

Continued on page 7

Morden United Way grateful for 3M's support

By Lorne Stelmach

The Morden and District United Way is grateful for all of its supporters, but it is especially thankful for the continued generosity of 3M.

The Morden manufacturer is a major donor to the United Way campaign each year, and recently it presented its annual gift to the organization.

The \$14,000 is significant, representing about 20 per cent of the \$70,500 raised in the 2017 campaign, noted United Way directors.

"Every year, 3M is probably our most generous donor, and we really appreciate what they do for us," said president Alex Fedorchuk. "Every year we've got a couple dozen agencies [to support] and some of them exist because of the United Way. 3M really makes it a lot easier."

Not only does 3M support the campaign corporately, but many of its employees also support it individually through payroll deduction.

Human resources manager Doug Treichel said they appreciate that the United Way assists non-profit orga-

Andrew Plett, Alex Fedorchuk and Harvey Kinsmen of the Morden and District United Way last week received a \$14,000 contribution for the fundraising campaign from Doug Treichel on behalf of 3M in Morden.

PHOTO BY
LORNE STELMACH/
VOICE



nizations in the community in their work.

"The United Way inspires others to join them in providing hope and opportunities to individuals in need and strengthening our communities," he

said.

"We're really fortunate here at 3M to have great jobs and opportunities and the ability to live in some great communities and provide for our children and families," he added. "But

not everyone in our community is so fortunate, and that's why we believe that it is our responsibility to donate and to help create lasting change in our community."

Thompson man killed in crash near Carman

A man was killed and two others injured in a two-vehicle collision south of Carman Sunday evening.

Emergency crews were called to the crash at Road 32N and Road 28W in the RM of Dufferin at approximately 5 p.m.

Police say their initial investigation show that a semi-trailer and a pickup truck collided at the uncontrolled in-

tersection.

The driver of the pickup truck, a 47-year-old man, was declared dead at the scene.

A 15-year-old female passenger of the pickup truck was transported to hospital with serious injuries and is now stable. A second passenger, a 16-year-old female, sustained non-life threatening injuries.

All of the occupants of the pickup truck are from the RM of Thompson.

The 35-year-old driver of the semi from the RM of Portage la Prairie was uninjured.

Alcohol is not considered a factor in the collision.

A RCMP Forensic Collision Reconstructionist is assisting with the ongoing investigation.

> LETTERS, FROM PG. 6

have a duty to deliver services to Manitobans in a more cost-effective way. Spending tax dollars wisely and fixing the finances in our province was part of our election commitment after years of overspending by the previous NDP government.

At the same time, we are making it easier for organizations to access provincial grants by creating a "single window" point of access for grant funding across government. This will simplify the process for organizations seeking assistance and reduce backroom costs.

Manitobans can be assured our government will continue to focus on making investments directly to grassroots organizations in our community.

**Cameron Friesen, MLA for
Morden-Winkler,
Minister of Finance**

Ed. note: Minister Friesen was not quoted in the original article because he did not return requests for comment on this matter before the story went to press.

"It steps on religious rights and freedoms"

From Pg. 5

"It is extremely troubling and un-Canadian," she stressed "My Conservative colleagues and I will continue to stand up for Canadians' right to hold contrary beliefs and for their right to be free to express them without fear of being discriminated against by their government."

Bergen's sentiments were echoed by representatives of a few local faith-based agencies last week.

"It kind of steps on those religious rights and freedoms ... how does it even really relate to a student getting a job?" wondered Ron Falk, director of spiritual care at Eden Health Care Services.

While Eden doesn't apply for summer student funding, Falk finds it

"ANY TIME YOU'RE FORCED TO AGREE TO SOMETHING IN ORDER FOR THE GOVERNMENT TO FUND YOU ... THAT IN ITSELF IS A MORAL DILEMMA."

concerning one's beliefs should come into play at all in this way.

"Of course, we would certainly support that people need to be free from discrimination," he stressed, adding, however, "it kind of is putting organizations and students to agree with a very specific set of values."

Chris Harms, executive director of the Pembina Valley Bible Camp, said the measure also has no direct ef-

fect on them funding-wise, but it is a matter of principle that concerns him greatly.

"For us, it doesn't necessarily have a personal impact," he said, while adding that "there are some concerns ... probably more so just on principle ... I think any time you're forced to agree to something in order for the government to fund you ... that in itself is a moral dilemma."

Harmony the goal in Israel-Palestine conflict: Elbakri

By Lorne Stelmach

Idris Elbakri's perspective on being Palestinian isn't necessarily about being right or wrong or taking sides.

Addressing the roots of the conflict with Israel as well as his own experience in growing up Palestinian, Elbakri told a packed gathering for the Diversitas speaker series last Wednesday that ideally they should be able to live side-by-side in harmony again as they once did in the past.

"I stand for the right to return and the right to stay," said Elbakri, who nevertheless reflected on the two state solution in observing that "what we have today from the Palestinian perspective is a zero state solution."

A past president of the Manitoba Islamic Association, the Winnipegger who emigrated from Jerusalem as a young adult returned for a second time to Diversitas.

His first presentation touched on aspects as the core beliefs of Islam and the pillars of the faith, but this time his address followed a more personal path.

Elbakri related some of his own family roots in the region, noting how his grandfather and his family fled originally for Lebanon and then Syria.

He has early memories of, while living under occupation, crossing the West Bank border and being subjected to strip searches. He also recalled getting history books in school that were censored with Palestine erased from the maps.

The day-to-day reality is severe restrictions on your movement and having some people say there is no such thing as Palestinians or that they are an invented people.

"It's amazing to me that the Palestinians have not become more violent and more extreme than what we have seen so far," said Elbakri.

"To be Palestinian today, living under Israeli occupation, is to live life



Idris Elbakri addressed a full-house at the latest Diversitas session in Morden last week, providing a personal view on the Israel-Palestinian conflict.

where circumstances are ever eroding ... you just feel your humanity being taken away," he said.

"This, along with the matrix of checkpoints, fences, walls, towers ... it's objective is to maintain control, is to ensure supremacy, and it truly does dehumanize the Palestinians. This largely keeps Palestinians out of sight of most Israelis."

Above all else, what he wanted to get across was a message "to humanize the Palestinian experience, to help people understand that people are suffering through no fault of their own ... and to try to share with them some firsthand experiences of what I have seen and my family has gone through living there.

"History sort of gave them the raw end of the deal," Elbakri said, observing that Canada and Palestine have a shared history of European colonialism.

"Our way of life, our traditions, our culture was also disrupted by the arrival of European settlers," he said, adding as well that "Palestine is not a

conflict that has raged for millennia ... we haven't been fighting over there for centuries. It's a modern conflict that has its roots in European colonialism and the rise of nationalism.

"This is not a religious conflict, it's not a centuries old conflict but a modern conflict rooted in modern phenomena of globalism and nationalism.

"With understanding we can sort of imagine how we can get past this conflict and resolve it in a way that enables both peoples to live in peace.

"I'm honestly not very optimistic in the short term. I think things will get a lot worse before they get better," Elbakri said, while adding, though, that "Martin Luther King said the arch of history will eventually point to justice."

He encouraged people to at least not remain "trapped in neutrality.

"We have a role to play. We have a government that does have some say in world affairs," he suggested. "Even if you can do small things to help people, we shouldn't hold back."

MCC AT WORK IN REGION

In addition to hearing from Elbakri, representatives of the Mennonite Central Committee addressed the meeting on some of that organization's initiatives in the region, including its A Cry For Home advocacy campaign.

They encouraged people to educate themselves on the realities of this conflict, and Manitoba executive director Darryl Loewen touched on his own visit to the region where he saw the destruction of Palestinian homes firsthand.

Observing how Jerusalem and Bethlehem are as far apart as Winkler and Morden, Loewen said he was struck though by "the stark separation of people, the stark separation of the systems that could connect them."

Diversitas co-ordinator Peter Cantelon felt the evening offered a very important message.

"It's really important to have these kinds of opportunities to hear from someone who's been experiencing it, continues to experience it through his family, and it's overwhelming.

"I hope they get a better understanding of the state of things between Palestinians and Israelis today. I hope they get an understanding of the imbalance of power for one thing," Cantelon concluded. "In typical Canadian fashion, we don't like to take too strong a stance on something because we're afraid of offending, but in this instance, we need to educate ourselves."

Elbakri encouraged people to not shy away from discussion and debate on the issue.

"I hope that those who have other points of view will also come forward because unless we have a vigorous debate, we won't get very far."

Morden police investigating storage locker break-ins

Morden police are investigating multiple break-ins to local storage lockers, though nothing appeared to have been taken.

The first report came Jan. 24 that a locker at 339 Mountain St. South had its lock cut, though nothing was taken from inside. Police aren't sure when the incident might have occurred.

On Jan. 26, police received a report of a second locker at that same location being broken into. Once again,

the lock was cut but nothing appeared to be stolen.

The second incident is known to have occurred sometime within the past two weeks.

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

Other items of note in the weekly police reports include:

- Jan. 23: Sometime between 4 p.m. and 12 a.m., several vehicles were rummaged through while parked in the Décor Cabinets parking lot on Route 100 in Morden.

When workers returned to their vehicles after shift, they noticed items moved around inside. In one case, an iPod was stolen.

Police are asking anyone with information to contact them.

- Jan. 23: At approximately 1:30 a.m.

Winkler police were dispatched to a residence on Victoria St. regarding a break and enter and assault in progress.

Police learned that one of the two suspects was the son of the homeowners and that both suspects were heavily intoxicated by alcohol and drugs.

Are you brave enough to take the plunge?

By Lorne Stelmach

Brave souls will again take on the challenge of jumping into a tank of ice cold water in support of a good cause.

Morden's third annual Polar Plunge in support of Special Olympics takes place Saturday, Feb. 17 in conjunction with the Winterfest celebrations.

The event has raised around \$25,000 a year and attracted upwards of 40 plungers in 2017. Organizer Cst. Scott Edwards of the Morden Police Service would love to see it top those totals this year.

"It's definitely something memorable once you get involved. This has kind of become the hallmark event for the Law Enforcement Torch Run as far as fundraising and awareness," said Edwards.

"I think our first year we actually had more jumpers, but last year our participants raised a good amount of money," he said. "Last year we had some really nice weather. The year before, not so much ... we'll take anything in between or even nicer.

"It would be great to bring in some more people. A lot of the people last year were returnees, so it's kind of one of those things you do once and you get hooked."

Edwards was pleased that the Polar Plunge has grown from the two in Winnipeg and Morden to four this year with new events in Portage and Dauphin.

That was their hope last year when a tank was made for the Polar Plunge locally by Maverick Industries with a design to make it quite portable.

"There was a big commitment with the fabrication of the mobile plunge tank that we unveiled in Morden last year. That was kind of the hope behind it ... that we could bring it to other communities and do more," said Edwards.

He also sees both the Polar Plunge and Winterfest benefitting from having the events coincide.

"The organizers have been gracious enough to let us continue to come back," he said. "We kind of piggyback off of them, and people who are al-

The third annual Morden Polar Plunge is looking for hearty individuals to join in on the fun in support of Special Olympics Manitoba.

VOICE
FILE
PHOTO



ready visiting the festival will stop in and watch some brave souls jump into ice cold water."

Above all else, Edwards said they want to get involved whether by participating, supporting others, or just showing up that day to cheer everyone on as they take the plunge.

"We want to make it a fun event and encourage people to dress up,"

he said.

"To partner with Special Olympics and for it to be for a great cause makes it definitely worthwhile ... and now for there to be programs here makes it extra special."

To register as a participant or make a donation, head online to specialolympics.mb.ca and follow the Law Enforcement Torch Run link.

Natural gas project receives \$43K for study

By Lorne Stelmach

A study will examine the feasibility of a project to extend natural gas service into the greater Pembina Valley region.

A recent \$43,590 grant from the Partner 4 Growth Fund will support the development of the economic impact analysis for the South Central Natural Gas Project.

Representatives of the Growth and Prosperity Stakeholders Group that is driving the project say they see this as a hopeful sign that there is potential for the plan.

"We're more optimistic every day. It's been a long process, but things like this take a long time, something this large especially," said chairperson Doug Collins. "I don't think they would be putting this money forward if they didn't think this project had some merit."

The group has been working with Manitoba Hydro to examine the feasibility of extending natural gas service to 13 communities and surrounding rural areas in the municipi-

palities of Norfolk Treherne, Victoria, Glenboro South Cypress, Lorne, Louise, and Thompson.

They see information from the analysis helping set out the potential economic benefits even directly related to the construction phase as well as a strategic path for attracting investment in industry in the area that could benefit with access to natural gas.

"We're very optimistic at this point. It's another step forward," said Collins, calling this a major long-term investment for the communities and surrounding area to provide the infrastructure needed for economic growth.

They are eager to have the results of the study, Collins said, stressing it is vital to gather this information because "it is important to make informed decisions and to have that information available for the public."

"We want to give everybody the opportunity to participate ... we couldn't go to that process until we had the information," he said, suggesting they could start holding public hear-

ings across the region in February or March.

He noted there have been some questions and concerns around the project, and with a growing focus on green energy, some have the perspective of wanting to get away from the reliance on fossil fuels. Collins said they also want to promote things like solar and wind energy.

"In our climate ... we need alternate sources of energy," he said. "In the Morden-Winkler area, where would you be without natural gas?"

"We realize the necessity of green energy ... but also we realize that this all can work hand in hand. We don't live in a climate where we can do that ... we've got to focus on everything."

"This is just one of the tools that we need," said Collins, stressing the need to involve the public because "this is huge for the region ... and it's a big geographic area ... we need to get every community and municipality involved."

The project would bring natural gas service to rural communities including the public facilities, commercial

business, and residential sectors as well as surrounding Hutterite colonies and agricultural consumers that are currently using coal or propane for intensive heating.

The proposed route would serve 13 communities and 11 Hutterite colonies as well as approximately 78 rural customers along the way involving a network of over 500 kilometres of pipeline.

The current estimated cost of the capital infrastructure is \$49.6 million, with Manitoba Hydro able to contribute a \$2.6 million revenue credit (as of October 2017).

The plan for funding the project is to raise one-third from local contributions from customer fees, new tax revenue and municipal debentures with the remaining two-thirds from the provincial and federal governments.

Once funding is secured, it is estimated gas could potentially be available in three years. The approval process would include an environmental assessment, and it will need to be reviewed by the Public Utilities Board.

The silent killer in our homes

By Lorne Stelmach

Manitoba has some of the highest levels of radon in the country, and this region in particular is a hot spot for the dangerous gas believed to be the second-leading cause of lung cancer after smoking.

Raising awareness here in particular is a high priority then, with Health Canada linking 16 per cent of lung cancer cases to radon exposure.

"There are homes in Morden that have tested high ... we want 200 or less (becquerels per cubic metre) and we've had 3,000, so 15 times the limit that is recommended," noted Tami Thiessen, southern Manitoba representative for the Canadian Cancer Society.

"That's scary, so I would say the Pembina Valley area is the highest in Manitoba right now, and it's probably among the highest in all of Canada. So it's really important that we test our homes and make sure that we're staying safe."

With that aim in mind, there will be a special radon display setup at the Southland Mall in Winkler Saturday, Feb. 10 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

It offers a good opportunity for people to get better informed about the dangers of radon, whether they may be at risk, and what can be done about it.

"We just want to get the word out there that it's really important to test

your home because there's no way to know if you have high levels of radon in your home. You can't smell it, you can't taste it, you can't see it," said Thiessen.

A radioactive gas that occurs naturally when the uranium in soil and rock decays, radon is invisible, odourless, and tasteless.

When radon is released from the ground outside it mixes with fresh air and gets diluted resulting in concentrations too low to be of concern. However, in enclosed spaces like homes, it can reach high levels and become a health risk.

Radon enters enclosed spaces through any opening where the house contacts the soil including cracks in foundation walls and in floor slabs, gaps around service pipes, window casements, floor drains or cavities inside walls.

All homes and buildings have some radon, so the question is how much?

Based on a Health Canada 2012 survey, 19.4 per cent of homes in Manitoba are estimated to be above the radon guideline of 200 becquerels per cubic metre (200 Bq/m³), while the Canadian average is seven per cent.

Radon testing devices, which can be purchased from Thiessen at 204-822-6870 or by calling 1-888-532-6982, are placed in the lowest level of a home that is occupied for at least four hours per day. Testing for a minimum of three months is considered long-term



Tami Thiessen, southern Manitoba representative for the Canadian Cancer Society, with a radon test device and information that will be made available to residents at a display that will be in the Southland Mall in Winkler Feb. 10.

PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

and will better represent your annual average exposure.

You can also hire a certified radon measurement professional to complete the test.

There are a number of ways to reduce radon in your home, but the most common and effective way is by installing an active soil depressurization system, which uses a pipe in contact with the soil and a radon fan to

move the gas outside before it forces its way into your home.

Airtight seals on exposed soil, sump pits, floor drains, floor-to-wall joints and other openings in contact with the soil are important steps to an effective system.

Head online to www.cancer.ca/radonmb or contact Thiessen for more information.

Minnewasta School hosts guest filmmaker

By Lorne Stelmach

Filmmaker Randy Guest focusses less on the product and more on the process when he's working with children, as he did last week in Morden.

With over 25 years of experience including 15 as an educator with the Manitoba Arts Council, Guest above all else wants to stir the creative passion within budding artists.

"I find sometimes too much technology circumvents the creative process ... kids have wild and amazing imaginations," said Guest, who worked this past week with Gr. 3-4 students at Minnewasta School through the Artist in the School program. "I don't want children to rely so much on the technology with what's going on in their brains. It's just too awesome to

not harness it."

Guest spent the week teaching the kids some of the basic aspects of making films.

The students came away from the sessions with a range of mini-film scenes, but Guest was less concerned with the technical skills as he was with the thought that went into them.

"They kind of feel like pros, at least a little bit ... that's what I hope. I'm teaching them the grassroots fundamentals of filmmaking," he said.

"I teach them how to connect frames and what the concept of a frame is to your environment ... and how to treat things inside of the frame to make this part of the room look like any part of the world that they want it to be.

"I teach them crew positions, what they mean and assign them crew po-



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Filmmaker Randy Guest reviews some of the previous day's movie scenes filmed with Morden students at Minnewasta School, where he spent the week working with Gr. 3-4 students through the Artist in the School program.

sitions and teach them to run their own little mini-film sets," he contin-

Continued on page 12



Celebrating family literacy

PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Local Special Olympian Chrissy Peters (left) drew a crowd Friday as a guest reader at the Morden Parent and Child Resource Centre's annual Literacy Day carnival at Minnewasta School. The evening also included a variety of games and activities (above), as well as prizes. The event sought to provide a fun way promote literacy and early childhood education.

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



Gislason Targownik Peters Chartered Professional Accountants is pleased to announce Dwight Suderman, CPA, CA, CFP will be joining the GTP team. Dwight brings with him a wealth of experience in personal and small business income tax, accounting and financial planning. Dwight has served clients in our community with excellence. We welcome Dwight and his clients to the GTP family!

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BTHC Fdn. hosting benefit concert

By Lorne Stelmach

The pride of Plum Coulee is returning home for a show in support of the regional hospital.

Rosemary Siemens and The Sweet Sound Revival will perform Friday, Feb. 23 in Winkler as a Boundary Trails Health Centre Foundation fundraiser in support of palliative care.

Show time is 7 p.m. at the P.W. Enns Centennial Concert Hall with tickets available for \$25 plus fees online at www.winklerconcerthall.ca or at the Winkler civic centre box office.

"I always love coming home. It's such a warm audience," Siemens said by phone Monday after having won the Southern Gospel/Country Album of the Year Covenant Award for *Plum Coulee, My Home* over the weekend.

"Back home, they just have been so supportive. I always have people

coming up to me and saying they're praying for me," she said.

"I think it's pretty rare to have that kind of support system. A lot of people don't have that, so coming from a small town like that, I just feel very blessed," said Siemens, adding that it has been very meaningful to her and her career.

"It's really powerful to have people like that around you ... they're kind of on the journey with you," she said.

"So to go back and give back and share some music with them is a really wonderful thing. And I'm thinking if I could do something while I'm there ... I love doing little musical acts of kindness ... just playing for people. Giving back in that way is a powerful thing, and to do something for the hospital ... I'm very excited."

Shannon Samatte-Folkett, executive director of the Boundary Trails Health

Centre Foundation, noted the palliative care team has had the idea of an event like this for some time, and they are thrilled to have Siemens taking part.

"She's local and she is excited to help us out and support this," she said.

If the concert sells out, Samatte-Folkett estimated it could potentially bring in around \$10,000.

Fundraising like this is vital for the palliative care program to "support going above and beyond, like having the extra nurses on hand for family and patients," she explained, adding it also helps provide for a volunteer co-ordinator.

"We've averaging about 12 palliative patients, but we only have nine rooms," said Samatte-Folkett. "We are always fundraising for our palliative program. It's our biggest program in the hospital."



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Rosemary Siemens and The Sweet Sound Revival perform in support of the BTHC Foundation Feb. 23.

Kids have a blast learning ins and outs of filmmaking

From Pg. 10

ued. "I try, as much as possible, to teach the organic processes of film ... processes over product ... and teach sustainable skills that can allow them to be movie makers with the technology that they and their parents can go get at Wal-mart."

He always enjoys working with youth because their imaginations are much more unfiltered by life's experiences.

"Their imaginations are completely open, and they tend, yes, to be unfiltered in some ways, but their frame of reference is completely different than mine was at their age," Guest said, noting there has been such astounding technological changes in the last couple decades that "kids don't even know what I mean when I say film."

"I find that we, as adults, have ten times the filter as we grow older than kids do. Being around kid as much as I have over the last 20 years keeps my filter sort of three quarters open because I see them just going for it."

He added that he gains as much from the experience as well.

"As my career in arts educating has progressed, I've found more and more that kids actually feed the filmmaker inside of me. I find myself more creative when I'm making films having been around all those little sponges and brains and imaginations," he suggested. "When I get to become a filmmaker again, which only hap-

pens certain times of the year, that the sustainability of my imagination is greater.

"I also feel because I'm a purist as a filmmaker that as we go along in time ... I feel compelled to teach kids and young people that filmmaking is not exclusively about technology and devices. I want them to know that filmmaking is about imagination."

Gr. 4 student Emma Suderman seemed to appreciate that aspect of it, observing how they were able to make things appear different than what it may first appear.

"I like acting in it. It's fun to act ... I also like helping other people in it

while we're filming," she said, adding she was surprised how much can be involved in making films and how it involves so many different jobs. "It's really fun to do ... learning how to make movie."

Principal Andrew Volk said it was interesting "for students to see that instant product ... they get to see that video they made two minutes after they shoot ... it's instant feedback with that mini-scene."

"Students walk away really engaged ... it is interesting to watch that process, that approach," he continued. "This is definitely a unique opportunity to have students getting to learn

some of this process.

"And I think it's really good timing ... there's a lot of apps and special effects out there connected to the idea of filmmaking, but a lot of times that technical knowledge is secondary."

"We can do it the same way now that we could do it in 1920 before any of these things existed," Guest agreed. "They can shoot their environment to be whatever they want it to be."

"Them getting excited about that gets me excited too," he concluded. "There's a lot of imaginations here, there's a lot of personality here, and there's kids here who are invested in having fun and learning."

Enbridge supports Katie's Cottage

Bert Dow (centre) of Enbridge Pipelines presented Dennis Kehler (left) and Randy Reimer of Katie Cares with a donation of \$2,500 last week. The company expressed a deep connection with Katie Cares and the Katie's Cottage respite home and applauded the difference they make for hospital patients and their families.

SUBMITTED PHOTO



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New income tax changes for your 2017 returns

With the income tax deadline approaching, there are some significant changes that have rolled out this year that will affect many Canadians. Here are some that can help make filing quicker and easier.

Public transit reimbursement. Early last year, the government announced the elimination of the public transit reimbursement, citing the credit wasn't effective enough in encouraging the use of public transportation and reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Instead of the individual tax credit, the federal government has announced that it will invest \$20 billion over the next 11 years to improve transit across the country.

"Though the credit ended mid-year, you can still claim a 15 per cent non-refundable tax credit for transit passes purchased between January 1 and June 30 on your 2017 income tax and benefit return," says Lisa Gittens, senior tax professional at H&R Block.

Children's activities. The Children's Arts and Fitness tax credits, including the special supplement for disabled children, will no longer be available. In previous years, parents and guardians were able to receive credits for such activities as art classes, piano lessons, hockey and soccer.

Small business. Good news for small business owners – the government is moving forward with a plan to lower small business taxes from the current 10.5 per cent to 9 per cent.



Military credit. In recognition of the commitment and sacrifice members of the Canadian Armed Forces make, it was announced that military salaries of all deployed personnel would be exempt from federal income taxes.

Education. Back in 2016, the federal government eliminated the federal education and textbook tax credits, to come into effect January 1, 2017. This means 2016 was the last year students were able to make these claims.

"The silver lining here is that the carry-forward rules apply, so any unused education tax credits that arose prior to 2017 are still available to be claimed either this year or subsequent years moving forward," explains Gittens. Depending on where you live, you may also still be able to claim a provincial credit.

If you have questions about changes to tax laws, contact a local tax expert to ensure you're getting the greatest return possible.

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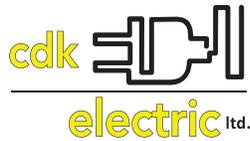
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Plum Coulee arena rises from the ashes

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Plum Coulee came together Friday to celebrate the legacy of Cornelius "C.J." Dyck by way of the town's newly restored arena and community hall.

The facility was severely damaged by fire two years ago but was able to rise from the ashes thanks to a significant bequest from Dyck, who passed away in 2015.

"We were so devastated the day of the fire. It was horrible for us," said June Letkeman, chair of the Plum Coulee Local Urban District committee. "But now when I look at it, I think it was the best thing that ever happened. There's good in everything."

The building was gutted and then restored to include an ice surface with a concrete base that will allow for year-round use of the rink, larger dressing rooms, and a more user-friendly layout to the community hall upstairs.

Some of the costs of the approximately \$1.2 million project were covered by insurance and funds from the RM of Rhineland, but Dyck's donation of \$300,000 and counting (the estate is still being processed) is what

made many of the bigger upgrades possible.

"Never in my wildest dreams would I have thought we would have got this much money from him," said Letkeman "I knew that he'd farmed his whole life and that he had made a good living, but he left us a lot of money.

"He would be so proud of us that we used it in this way, because we're leaving a legacy, and he left the legacy."

Dyck is remembered in the community as a man who helped tie the skates of generations of Plum Coulee kids, made sure there was free public skating for everyone, and bought more than a few children in need ice skates to ensure they could join in on the fun.

"He was just the most generous and loving kind of guy," said Letkeman.

His memory will be forever honoured with the rink's new name: the C.J. Dyck Arena.

"So many things Cornie did for this whole organization, a lot of it wasn't seen because it was behind the scenes," noted Plum Coulee councillor Archie Heinrichs. "He did so much and then now to have left us this. I'm



PHOTOS BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

On Friday, dignitaries and the family of CJ Dyck (left) cut the ribbon on the newly restored Plum Coulee arena, which is now called the C.J. Dyck Arena in memory of the avid community supporter. Below: The community hall upstairs at the arena complex was also renovated, creating a new, more user-friendly layout.



very proud we can name this arena after him now ... it's so deserving."

Seeing her brother's name up on the arena came as a welcome surprise to Agatha Gerbrandt.

"I was surprised but very glad," she said, noting she spoke with Dyck at great length before he died about his desire to give back to the community. "He was always very supportive of the hockey rink and children skating."

Dyck's friend Art Hiebert called him a man of great generosity who

had a passion for children.

"I believe he would be humbled to see how his donations towards this project will now benefit all those who enjoy this newly renovated arena," he said. "To ensure that children can have a safe place to skate would put a smile on his face."

"He would be overwhelmed. He really would be," agreed Letkeman. "He would be so happy."

"As a matter of fact, I can just see him smiling down on us."



The exterior of the newly named C.J. Dyck Arena in Plum Coulee may look the same as it did before the fire, but inside the building has been transformed.

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Getting Down to Business

No shortage of services, events at Morden Library

There is always a lot going on at the Morden branch of the South Central Regional Library. Aside from the regular day to day use of the library, there are always a range of programs on the go, whether it is something like the morning pre-school story time, a meeting of the Lego club, or a special event like the recent family literacy night PJ party. "It's a busy place. We are just running all day long," said Morden branch librarian Kim Van Vliet.

The past year has been a time of growth for the SCRL with the addition of a branch in Manitou joining Winkler, Morden, Miami, and Altona.

"We had quite a few people who come from the west come regularly to Morden ... so it's kind of a natural expansion for us," said Van Vliet.

"With Manitou coming on, the Pembina people are so thrilled to be able to use any of our libraries," added Cathy Ching, director of library services.

All of the library's branches were busy places in 2017.

"We had about 326,000 checkouts in the past year over the four branches ... not even including Manitou," Ching said. "Just the gate count alone for Morden branch is probably about 43,000 people walking through the door in the past year."

Ching suggested there are a number of factors driving the library's growth in the area.

"Our collections are getting stronger ... our branches are ordering what they know people are reading," said Ching.

"The programs we're offering now are what we've been doing for a while ... our hope is to improve on what we're offering and see what we can do to have more outreach to our new Canadians."

Van Vliet pointed out they offer a number of online services such as downloading audio or e-books, movie streaming, and a language education program. People doing exams for



Morden branch librarian Kim Van Vliet and South Central Regional Library director of branch services Cathy Ching say there are big plans ahead for local libraries in 2018.

online courses can also have them overseen at their local library.

SCRL is also part of the Canadian Equitable Library Association with the aim of providing services for people with visual impairments.

"It's about meeting the literacy and educational needs of our communities and being accessible to everyone," said Ching, who added there may be more in store for the year ahead. "We have big plans for 2018 ... we want to make sure that what we are doing we're doing really well."

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Winkler talks wastewater plans

By Lorne Stelmach

The City of Winkler laid out its plans Monday for what its regional wastewater treatment plant project might look like and could potentially cost.

A small crowd was on hand at Winkler City Hall to take in the information meeting for what the city currently estimates could be a \$40 million project.

"We want to be open with the public and let them know what this looks like," said Mayor Martin Harder. "I wish we had a full house ... there's not a lot of feedback yet ... but when you're in a situation where you know you have to do it ... really, there's no alternatives."

Information presented at the meeting estimated the tax implications for the project could see the average resident see an increase of \$42 on a current bill of \$1,866, while a water and sewer utility bill of \$573 might rise by \$275 to \$848.

It is a major project, which is what drew Garry Bueckert to the meeting. He wanted to get a clearer idea of what it would mean financially and understand why it's needed.

"I heard a number of explanations and some good information," he said. "I just wanted to get some information about what's happening."

"It sounds to me like it's a good proposal if we can get some provincial dollars and some federal dollars to

help pay the bill," Bueckert added. "I assume in order to do this kind of project it's going to cost each of us something."

Harder stressed that it is a significant commitment but one that is very much necessary.

"It's a very ambitious project. It's the biggest one that we have ever undertaken as far as the City of Winkler, and I think it's the biggest one that the region has even undertaken," he said.

"We feel that it's important to engage the public so they can understand, first of all, the reason why



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

A small group of residents came out to a public meeting Monday to ask questions of city staff about the proposed wastewater treatment plant project.

we're needing to do the wastewater treatment facility. Secondly, how is it going to be funded, how much of it is coming off the tax base, how much is coming off the increase in utility rates."

The project is integral to the future growth of both the city and the region, the mayor stressed.

"Our lagoons are up to capacity. We have had a stoppage of subdivisions previously because we reached our capacity," he said. "We've made some changes so we are currently actually under the levels ... so we're managing our water better, and we have the capacity. We are in a situation where we are starting to climb again as far as water usage is concerned because of the growth of the city ... so we need to do the next step."

"Lagoons are not the answer, a wastewater treatment facility is the answer, and the province is preferring that as well," Harder continued. "If we want to continue to grow, this is an absolute must that we do this."

The city is hoping the federal and

provincial governments will come on board with more than just one third portions of the cost, and Harder suggested there has been some indication at least from the federal level that it is being considered.

"They've tentatively made a commitment in general that they would look at 40 per cent funding for something like this ... we're hoping that the province will step up with 40 per cent, leaving us with 20 per cent."

In the meantime, Harder said the city is holding off on making its commitment to what could be a 20 year borrowing term to cover its portion.

"We want to wait a little bit until we get a closer look at what the funding is going to look like from the federal and provincial governments ... so we have a better understanding of what the borrowing bylaw needs to be," he said. "We don't want to unnecessarily go and scare anybody with the debt load we are taking on ... we're hoping to stay on the high side and bring it down rather than getting estimates on the low side and bringing it up."

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Hawks sweep trio of games

By Lorne Stelmach

A three game weekend sweep and a six game win streak overall puts the female Pembina Valley Hawks in a good position going into their final regular season match-ups this weekend.

Following up a 4-1 win over Interlake Friday, Pembina Valley then picked up key victories over the two teams pursuing them in the standings by edging the Westman Wildcats 1-0 Saturday and overpowering the Yellowhead Chiefs 7-1 Sunday.

Improving to 18-8-1 for 37 points, the Hawks have some breathing room with a four point lead on third place Westman and a six point edge on Yellowhead while still trailing first place Winnipeg by five points.

"Every player contributed this weekend. We kept getting better as the weekend went on," said coach Dana Bell in praising his team's efforts.

"We had a team goal and that was to win all three, and the girls completed their task," he said. "Our goal for the weekend was to be a first pass team

Continued on page 20



PHOTO BY RICK HIEBERT/VOICE

Pembina Valley Hawks goalie Halle Oswald stops a point blank shot in Sunday's match against Yellowhead, which the Hawks won 7-1.

Hawks shake off losing streak with pair of wins

By Lorne Stelmach

The male Pembina Valley Hawks snapped a two game skid with a pair of weekend wins in a doubleheader with the Kenora Thistles.

Pembina Valley rebounded from a 4-1 loss to the Winnipeg Bruins last Wednesday by beating Kenora 6-1 Saturday and 7-5 Sunday on their home ice in Morden.

Pembina Valley scored first Wednesday but then gave up four unanswered goals to fall to the Bruins.

Spencer Kaminsky was the lone Hawk to score at 10:03 of the second period. Winnipeg took control from there, including a couple powerplay goals.

Shots were 34-33 for the Bruins as Brock Moroz took the loss in goal for the Hawks with 30 saves.

On Saturday, Pembina Valley picked up a powerplay goal and shutdown Kenora with a 31-16 edge in shots on goal.

Scoring for the Hawks were Kaminsky as well as Tristan Day, Sven Sche-

fer, Carter Wall, Kolton Shindle and Travis Penner, while Martin Gagnon only needed 15 saves to pick up the win.

Kenora opened scoring Sunday before the Hawks took control with three unanswered goals as they took period leads of 3-1 and 5-3.

Gagnon made 21 saves with the shots ending up 35-26 for the Hawks, who were led by hat tricks from both Jayden McCarthy and Shindle, putting the game away with a pair that included an empty netter in the final

minute and a half. Schefer got the other goal for the Hawks, who got one power play marker while also giving up three to Kenora.

With the victories, the Hawks inched up into fifth place at 21-14-0-2-2 for 46 points, which leaves them one up on the Winnipeg Thrashers and two back of the East Selects.

Pembina Valley is on the road this weekend to face the Yellowhead Chiefs in Shoal Lake Saturday and the Parkland Rangers in Dauphin Sunday.

Flyers beat Steelers, fall to Pistons & Terriers

By Ashleigh Viveiros

It was a lopsided week for the Winkler Flyers, who dropped two out of three games.

Things started off on a high note Jan. 23 when the Selkirk Steelers came to town.

The Flyers were the only ones doing any scoring for 53 minutes, with Erik Dahl starting things off in the first, Lucas Barker and Weiland Parrish contributing in the second, and Griffin Leonard and Mitchell Dyck making it a 5-0 game in the third.

Selkirk finally got one past Winkler netminder Troy Martyniuk (who would make 30 saves off of 31 shots overall) midway through the final period. But that was it for either side, giving the win to Winkler 5-1.

Things did not go so well for the Flyers as they hit the road to play Steinbach Jan. 24 and Portage Jan. 26.

The Tuesday night game against the Pistons was a massacre, with the only Winkler goal coming courtesy of CJ Corazzin five minutes into the second period, while Steinbach scored again and again, twice in the first, six times in the second, and twice more in the third for a 10-1 victory.

Winkler's goal was guarded by Martyniuk for 40 minutes, in which time he gave up eight goals off of 33 shots. Aaron Brunn stepped in for the last 20, giving up two more goals off of

seven shots.

The Flyers played a more even game two nights later against the Terriers, but still went home with a 4-2 loss.

Griffin Leonard scored the first period's lone goal, putting Winkler up 1-0. It was a score that held all the way until the final minutes of the second period, when Portage scored in quick succession to take the lead 2-1.

Brett Opperman evened things out just minutes into the final period,

but that was the last time a Winkler shooter would find the back of the net, while Portage added two more to their tally for the win.

Martyniuk took the loss in net, making 29 saves as Portage outshot Winkler 33-15.

Winkler hangs on to fourth place in the MJHL standings with a 28-18 record for 56 points, tying them with OCN (15-5-1).

Rounding out the top three are

Steinbach (76 points), Portage (63 points) and Virden (62 points).

Winkler hits the road this week to play in Swan Valley Friday, OCN Saturday, and Waywayseecappo on Sunday.

They'll also play in Winnipeg Feb. 7 before returning for a two game home stand against OCN Feb. 9-10.

Redskins best Maroons 5-4 OT

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Morden Redskins eked out a 5-4 win in overtime against the Altona Maroons over the weekend.

The Saturday game in Morden saw the home team trailing by 3-0 before getting on the scoreboard with a goal from Steven Mullin in the final minutes of the second period.

Morden came to life in the third as Tyler Peers and Jordan Valentino fired home the tying goals and Edward Tabler pulled the Redskins into the lead. The Maroons forced overtime, though, with a goal with six minutes left on the clock.

The extra minutes swung Morden's way as well, with Mullin adding his

second of the night to win the game.

Reed Peters stood tall in net, making 49 saves as Altona outshot Morden 53-32.

The Winkler Royals didn't have such a great week, falling to the Carman Beavers 5-1 on Jan. 23.

That match saw the Royals' lone goal coming from Phil Letkeman midway through the first period, while the Beavers fired home three goals in the first and singles in the remaining frames for the win.

Matt Krahn was in net for the loss,

making 27 saves as Carman outshot Morden 32-25.

With that, Morden is in third place in the SEMHL standings with a 9-7 record for 18 points. They trail the first place Notre Dame by eight points and Warren in second by four points.

Winkler, meanwhile, remains in seventh and last place with eight points and a record of 4-13.

This weekend Morden hosts Winkler Saturday at 8 p.m. The Redskins also play in Portage on Sunday.

> HAWKS, FROM PG. 19

and get pucks to the net, run some traffic to create scoring opportunities, and we did a great job at that."

The Hawks took control Friday with a three goal second period, and Kadynce Romijn made 22 saves with the shots ending up 40-23 in favour of Pembina Valley.

Hannah Petrie scored a pair and picked up an assist, while Makenzie McCallum scored one and assisted on another for the Hawks with the other goal coming from Maiya Aschberg.

Halle Oswald earned the shutout Saturday with 34 saves, while the Hawks managed 24 shots and got all they needed in the third period when Sage McElroy-Scott connected on an assist by McCallum.

Kicking off a four game homestand Sunday, the Hawks broke open a 1-1 game after one with three unanswered goals in the second on their way to the rout over the Chiefs.

Aschberg had a pair and three

points, while McCallum, Petrie, Kaila Powell and Tessa Odell each had a goal and an assist with the other marker coming from Abbi Conrad. Oswald made 31 saves with the shots 49-32 for Pembina Valley.

Pembina Valley now faces another three game weekend with their regular season schedule concluding with a three game homestand starting with Westman Friday, Winnipeg Saturday, and Yellowhead Sunday.

MCCALLUM HONOURED

Mackenzie McCallum earned player of the week honours for the period ending Jan. 21.

The third year Hawk, who was second in league scoring, contributed a goal and two assists in the Hawks 3-2 win over Interlake before picking up a goal and an assist and the shootout winner to lead the Hawks to another 3-2 win over Eastman.

Manitoba Hockey Standings

MANITOBA JUNIOR HOCKEY LEAGUE										
	GP	W	L	OTL	PTS	GF	GA			
Steinbach Pistons	47	37	8	1	76	231	102			
Portage Terriers	45	30	12	1	63	186	116			
Virden Oil Capitals	47	30	15	2	62	204	147			
Winkler Flyers	46	28	18	0	56	155	127			
OCN Blizzard	46	25	15	5	56	166	147			
Selkirk Steelers	46	24	18	3	52	155	157			
Winnipeg Blues	46	23	17	4	52	166	171			
Nee-pawa Natives	46	20	23	2	43	168	187			
Swan Valley Stampeders	43	18	20	5	41	131	151			
Dauphin Kings	47	11	34	1	24	112	217			
Waywayseecappo Wolverines	47	7	36	3	18	113	265			
MANITOBA MAJOR JUNIOR HOCKEY LEAGUE										
	GP	W	L	OTL	PTS	GF	GA			
Raiders Jr. Hockey Club	36	28	3	5	61	148	69			
Charleswood Hawks	35	26	6	3	55	102	64			
Transcona Railer Express	35	24	8	3	51	143	94			
Stonewall Jets	36	20	14	2	42	121	105			
St. James Canucks	35	17	14	4	38	117	104			
Ft. Garry/Ft. Rouge Twins	35	17	16	2	36	108	93			
St. Vital Victorias	35	17	18	0	34	122	141			
Pembina Valley Twisters	35	13	18	4	30	139	153			
St. Boniface Riels	36	13	20	3	29	109	135			
River East Royal Knights	36	2	33	1	5	52	203			
SOUTH EASTERN MANITOBA HOCKEY LEAGUE										
	GP	W	L	OTL	PTS	GF	GA			
Notre Dame	16	12	2	1	26	81	57			
Warren	15	11	4	0	22	73	42			
Morden	16	9	7	0	18	63	52			
Carman	17	8	8	0	17	73	73			
Portage	16	7	8	0	15	51	56			
Altona	15	5	8	1	12	53	66			
Winkler	17	4	13	0	8	52	100			
MANITOBA AAA MIDGET HOCKEY LEAGUE										
	GP	W	L	OTL	PTS	GF	GA			
Wild	39	34	3	1	70	253	83			
Brandon	40	34	4	0	70	216	97			
Bruins	39	27	9	2	57	171	115			
Eastman	40	22	14	2	48	158	135			
Pembina Valley	39	21	14	2	46	161	151			
THRASHERS										
	GP	W	L	OTL	PTS	GF	GA			
Thrashers	40	22	17	1	45	152	160			
Yellowhead	38	20	16	2	42	134	119			
Southwest	38	19	18	1	39	129	128			
Central Plains	38	15	17	2	36	150	162			
Parkland	39	14	22	1	31	129	178			
Kenora	39	13	22	0	30	127	156			
Interlake	38	9	26	2	21	94	193			
Norman	39	3	35	0	7	104	301			
MANITOBA AAA BANTAM HOCKEY LEAGUE										
	GP	W	L	OTL	PTS	GF	GA			
Cougars	30	21	6	0	45	164	95			
Chiefs	29	19	9	0	39	141	92			
Rangers	30	17	10	2	37	129	120			
Hawks	31	15	13	1	33	123	116			
Capitals	33	7	24	1	16	103	200			
Wheat Kings	32	7	24	0	15	83	153			
Wolves	34	6	26	0	14	122	277			
MANITOBA FEMALE MIDGET AAA HOCKEY LEAGUE										
	GP	Reg W	Reg L	T	OTW	OTL	PTS			
Winnipeg Avros	26	15	5	-	6	-	42			
PV Hawks	27	16	8	-	2	1	37			
Westman Wildcats	26	13	8	-	2	3	33			
Yellowhead Chiefs	27	10	9	-	3	5	31			
Eastman Selects	26	12	10	-	-	4	28			
Central Plains	28	8	15	-	2	3	23			
Interlake Lightning	26	2	21	-	2	1	9			
HIGH SCHOOL HOCKEY										
	GP	W	L	OTL	PTS	GF	GA			
W.C. Miller Aces (Altona)	20	17	3	0	34	140	44			
Morris Mavericks	19	15	4	0	30	98	67			
Northlands Parkway Collegiate										
Nighthawks (Winkler)	18	12	6	0	24	81	65			
Prairie Mountain Mustangs	18	11	6	0	23	91	82			
Morden Thunder	19	10	9	0	20	85	64			
Cartwright/Nellie McClung/Pilot Mound Tigers	18	9	9	0	18	64	72			
Carman Cougars	20	5	13	2	12	63	81			
Garden Valley Collegiate										
Zodiacs (Winkler)	21	4	14	1	11	59	129			
Portage Collegiate										
Institute Trojans	19	3	15	0	7	61	138			

STATS AS OF TUESDAY, JANUARY 30

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

The Pembina Pizazz synchronized skating teams skated in their first competition of the year Jan. 20 in Beausejour. The elementary team composed of 11 skaters from Morden, Altona, and Carman and the pre-novice team with 10 skaters from Morden, Pilot Mound, and Swan Lake both had fantastic skates and came home with gold medals in their respective categories. Both teams are coached by Pam Parker, Brooklyn Parker, and Jordan Parker.

SUBMITTED PHOTO



Showing some Pizzazz

Pembina Valley Twisters losing streak extends to six

By Lorne Stelmach

The Pembina Valley Twisters are now mired in a six game losing streak after dropping a pair on the weekend.

Sitting in the eighth and final playoff spot, the Twisters fell 7-4 to the ninth place St. Boniface Riels Saturday and then dropped a 6-5 shootout decision Sunday to the Charleswood Hawks.

The first period against the Riels cost them, as they trailed 4-0 after one period and then 6-1 after two before making it a closer game in the final period.

James Van De Velde, Elijah Carels, Jeremie Goderis and Braeden Beernaerts scored for Pembina Valley, who

outshot St. Boniface 39-29.

After allowing four goals on 13 shots in the first period, Travis Klassen was replaced by Griffin Dyck, who allowed three more goals on 16 shots.

The Twisters trailed 2-0 and 4-3 against the Hawks before taking a 5-4 third period lead, only to then give up the tying goal with 20 seconds remaining. After overtime solved nothing, the Hawks won the shootout with

the lone goal in the second round.

Carels and Goderis scored for the Twisters along with Alex Tetrault, Michael Wirth, and Quade Froese.

Klassen had a solid rebound game with 53 saves overall as the shots ended up heavily in the Hawks' favour at 58-31.

The Twisters' record has slipped to 13-18-4 for 30 points, which puts them just three up on St. Boniface and four

back of the St. Vital Victorias and five behind the Fort Garry Fort Rouge Twins.

Pembina Valley hosts the St. James Canucks Saturday night for their lone game this week. They then start a three game road swing next Tuesday with the Fort Garry Fort Rouge Twins followed by weekend games against the Transcona Railer Express and River East Royal Knights.

High school sports round-up

In Zone 4 high school hockey action last week, the NPC Nighthawks, downed the Morris Mavericks 2-1 and then bowed to the Mountain Mustangs 8-7 in overtime. Morden, meanwhile, posted a 5-3 win over the Pembina Tigers.

On the Zone 4 basketball court, the GVC Zodiacs varsity teams both defeated Sanford Jan. 25, the boys 90-53 and the girls 72-11.

The Morden Thunder teams split their games against Altona that same night. The boys lost their match 77-58 while the girls won 55-41.

In the South Central Athletic Conference, NPC's varsity boys fell to Glenlawn 106-27 Jan. 24 while the girls lost 51-32.

> POLICE REPORTS, FROM PG. 8

The homeowners managed to remove the suspects from the home, however the son broke back into the residence using a snow shovel, causing damage to the house.

The accused then assaulted his mother before fleeing the scene.

Both suspects were located a short distance away and placed under arrest.

The first male, a 16-year-old resident of Winkler, was arrested for assault, mischief, and breaching a probation order. The second man, an 18-year-old from Winkler, was arrested under the Intoxicated Persons Detention Act and released with a verbal caution the following morning.

• Jan. 24: Winkler police received a report of a break-in to a tool trailer parked at a business on Roblin Blvd. East.

The padlock securing the trailer was found to be cut and several tools were stolen.

While investigating this incident police were also informed of a near-

by vehicle that was found with the trunk and doors ajar and its stereo stolen.

A nearby shed and two other trailers on the property were also found with open doors, however nothing was noted to be missing.

• Jan. 25: Morden police received a 911 call to a residence regarding a domestic dispute.

Officers attended and spoke with the female who advised that her husband had since left the home. Both had been drinking and got into a dispute but denied any physical assaults took place.

While police were dealing with the situation, the husband returned to the residence and was subsequently arrested under the Intoxicated Persons Detention Act.

He was lodged in cells overnight until sober and released in the morning without charges.

• Jan. 26: Winkler police received a report of several tools that were stolen from a job site on Merlin Drive between Jan. 17-24.

Police were also advised of a break-in to a residence on 3rd St. South that resulted in the theft of multiple items from the home.

The renters previously living in the home had recently been evicted and the locks were changed. This file is still under investigation.

• Jan. 27: Morden officers were dispatched to a residence around 3:25 a.m. regarding an intoxicated male that came to the door.

The owner of the home had the male waiting inside the residence and did not know who he was.

Police attended and arrested the 22-year-old male under the Intoxicated Persons Detention Act.

A family member was located and the male was turned over to them.

• Winkler police are investigating two separate disclosures of historic sexual assaults involving children. The suspect in each assault was known to the victims' family.

Agriculture

Drones fast becoming a valuable tool for producers

By Harry Siemens

M3 Aerial Productions uses Unmanned Aerial Vehicles to provide various aerial services and UAV Pilot Ground School Courses across the country.

Owner and president Matthew Johnson said they currently hold active Transport Canada Special Flight Operations Certificates for drone operations in Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, all three territories, Ontario, and Atlantic Canada.

Johnson started off focusing on services, mostly for agricultural imaging such as crop health and elevation.

"In 2016, in November, we launched our UAV ground school course and 162 pilots have come through our program since February of 2017," he said. "Transport Canada requires that anybody who's will use a drone for any work or research whether flying your crops, or crop scouting, or if you're doing some crop health analysis using the near infrared and NDVI algorithm, anything like that, it requires UAV ground school training."

Johnson's course is two full days—16 hours in person with an online component—takes participants through everything Transport Canada says a drone pilot needs to know.

Johnson also shares from the experience he's gathered over the years to help the participant avoid the hard knocks and fast-track the operation to collect, process, analyze, and deal with the data overall.

"Whereas a lot of other training options focus 100 per cent on what Transport Canada says you need to know, and just leave the rest up to you, where we feel that the data collection is really what people want to know, and so we tell you what you need to know, and what you want to know," he said.

"Within the last couple of years, drones are becoming more mainstream. Farmers and agronomists are incorporating them into their operations, but there are a lot of drones that are sitting collecting dust on people's shelves because the data collection part of using drones is the most important piece of getting the value out of them. If you're just going up to take a couple of pictures here

and there, yeah, there's value in that."

Johnson said there is a tremendous amount of value for a farmer in getting an aerial perspective on his crops.

"Collecting data, mapping, analyzing, and making some management decisions about what sort of products you're going to apply, how much, and when, these decisions can manifest in real savings that you can create yourself by just getting the experience and using the equipment to its full potential," he said.

One of the significant bottlenecks in rural areas of using drones is the data ends up being too much to process, Johnson said.

"A lot of data processing companies rely on internet upload speeds to get the data up to a website, so that the website can process it for you, to get

"DRONES ARE BECOMING MORE MAINSTREAM. FARMERS AND AGRONOMISTS ARE INCORPORATING THEM INTO THEIR OPERATIONS ..."

the end product," he said. "However, to do that, you need to have a good upload speed, and that just doesn't exist in a lot of rural communities, and then the other option is processing it on your computer, which is also very resource intensive. I think a lot of people have run into that problem, and give up thinking that there's no solution."

To help tackle this problem M3

Aerial created a spin-off company called Snail Mail Data for farmers and agronomists in rural communities who are collecting data and can't process it. They can put it in the mail in specialized envelopes he sends them and return for processing and upload it for accessing online.

For more on Johnson's course, check out his website at www.m3aerial.com.

NAFTA is important on both sides of border

By Harry Siemens

Navel gazing continues as it pertains to NAFTA and President Donald Trump's quest to make sure it works best for everyone, including the United States. It appears Canada's attitude is changing a little as a note to the wrap-up news conference in Montreal Monday morning.

To the point, the Canadian Federation of Independent Business (CFIB) is encouraged by the renewed sense of optimism following the latest round of NAFTA negotiations.

Foreign Affairs Minister Chrystia Freeland along with her American and Mexican counterparts announced the conclusion of a new chapter on anti-corruption and signaled significant progress on sections relating to telecommunications and digital trade.

The seventh and eighth round of talks will take place February and March in Mexico and Washington.

"While it's clear that the trade partners still have some difficult issues to work through, it is encouraging to see some positive developments over the past week," said Dan Kelly, president at CFIB. "We're especially

pleased that talks to revamp the NAFTA trade deal will continue."

That is the crucial part in these negotiations.

Small and medium-sized enterprises in Canada are critical stakeholders in the trilateral pact which helps to facilitate approximately US\$1 trillion in trade between Canada, the United States, and Mexico. Data from Industry Canada shows that, of all the exporting firms in Canada, more than 90 per cent are small businesses.

Andrew Dickson, the general manager of Manitoba Pork, said elected U.S. state officials and agricultural leaders he spoke with want to see NAFTA improved in a way that will increase the volumes of trade among the U.S., Canada, and Mexico.

Recently in Missouri, state agriculture and rural leaders hosted the 2018 Legislative Agriculture Chairs Summit.

Dickson, who attended on behalf of the province's pork sector, said he found friends in the U.S. who are looking for allies and they want people to reach out and talk to their compatriots about the benefits of free trade and how it impacts back

at the state level and the benefits it brings.

"People I met indicated that they were very supportive of free trade and would like to see it enhanced and see an even more free trade occur," he said. "They recognize Canada invests in the United States and creates jobs and activities and services for their people the same way America invests and trades with Canadian companies and markets directly to Canadian consumers.

"We play to each other's strengths in these areas. It was apparent to me, from the people I talked to, they look to Canada as a partner in growing business both in agriculture and in other industries. I didn't run into anybody who was entirely against Canada and wanted to see NAFTA wrecked. In fact, it was the exact opposite."

They want NAFTA to stay in place and fix some of its quirks so that the two countries can increase the volume of trade that goes between them, Dickson said, adding that, from Manitoba's perspective, free trade is critical.

Classifieds

The Winkler Morden Voice

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SEASONAL EMPLOYMENT



is now accepting applications for the 2018 season:

INTERPRETIVE GUIDE & ASSISTANT

We are seeking a dynamic and energetic student for the position of Interpretive Guide & Assistant. In this position, you will work under the direct supervision of the Assistant Manager and be responsible for helping with the day-to-day tasks at McClung House, Hazel Cottage and the Log House in Manitou. Tasks would include but not be limited to:

- Collecting admission;
- Answering questions and promoting the area;
- Giving Tours (Training provided);
- Grounds maintenance, cleaning.

The successful applicants must:

- Have a genuine interest in Nellie McClung and promoting local attractions;
- Be 16 years or older;
- Be available to work some weekends (Tues - Sun);
- Possess entry level knowledge of Nellie McClung;
- Be comfortable with computers, especially Microsoft Word & Excel;
- Be willing to learn Google Docs and Accounting software;
- Be willing to occasionally dress in period appropriate attire (provided);
- Drama experience an asset.

Part Time Position (25-35 hours per week), competitive wages. To apply, please forward resume and photocopies of documents verifying qualifications no later than **February 9TH, 2018** to

Nellie McClung Heritage Site
Box 189, 360 PTH 3,
Manitou, Manitoba R0G 1G0
Fax: 204-242-2798
Phone: 204-242-2838
E-mail: admin@pembina.ca
Only those being interviewed will be contacted.

SEASONAL EMPLOYMENT



is now accepting applications for the 2018 swim season:

LIFEGUARD/INSTRUCTOR

JOB DESCRIPTION

We are looking for enthusiastic and responsible instructors and lifeguards to supervise the safety of swimmers, and provide excellent customer service, high quality learn-to-swim instruction and fun and interactive public swim programming.

As a lifeguard instructor you will:

- Teach high-quality swim lesson programs for all ages
- Provide safety supervision for all swimmers
- Provide a clean and safe swimming environment
- Perform water tests to ensure adequate water quality and will occasionally work with Chlorine and other chemicals related to pool operations.

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

- At least 16 years of age
- Evening & Weekend availability
- Current Lifesaving Society National Lifeguard Certification
- Current Standard First Aid with CPR-C Certification
- Current Canadian Red Cross Water Safety Instructor Certification
- Current Lifesaving and First Aid Instructor Certification - Optional

Wages will be based on the combination of training and experience. Full time, part time and casual positions available. Recertification incentives for returning employees.

To apply, please forward resume and photocopies of documents verifying qualifications no later than **February 9TH, 2018** to

Municipality of Pembina, Box 189, 360 PTH 3
Manitou, Manitoba R0G 1G0
Fax: 204-242-2798 Phone: 204-242-2838
E-mail: admin@pembina.ca
Only those being interviewed will be contacted.

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.



Call 325-6888

SEASONAL EMPLOYMENT



is now accepting applications for the 2018 swim season:

LIFESAVING & FIRST AID INSTRUCTOR

JOB DESCRIPTION

We are looking for an enthusiastic and responsible individual to teach the Bronze Medal Award classes at least once from June-September 2018.

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

- Current Lifesaving & First Aid Instructor Certification
- Current Lifesaving Society National Lifeguard Certification
- Current Standard First Aid with CPR-C Certification
- Current Canadian Red Cross Water Safety Instruction Certification

To apply, please forward resume and photocopies of documents verifying qualifications no later than **February 9TH, 2018** to

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Fax: 204-242-2798
Phone: 204-242-2838
E-mail: admin@pembina.ca
Only those being interviewed will be contacted.

SEASONAL EMPLOYMENT



is now accepting applications for the 2018 season:

ASSISTANT MANAGER

JOB DESCRIPTION

We are seeking a dynamic and energetic student for the position of Assistant Manager / Interpretive Guide at the Nellie McClung Heritage Site in Manitou.

As the Assistant Manager, you would be responsible for overseeing the day-to-day responsibilities for McClung House, Hazel Cottage and the Log House. Tasks would include but not be limited to:

- Opening and closing each house;
- Collecting admission;
- Over seeing gift shop operation;
- Answering questions and promoting the area;
- Grounds maintenance;
- Cleaning.

The successful applicants must:

- Have a genuine interest in Nellie McClung and promoting local attractions;
- Be 18 years or over;
- Be available to work some weekends (Tues - Sunday);
- Possess entry level knowledge of Nellie McClung;
- Be comfortable with computers, especially Microsoft Word & Excel;
- Be willing to learn Google Docs and Accounting software;
- Be willing to occasionally dress in period appropriate attire (provided);
- Conduct brief tours.

Full Time Position (35-40 hours weekly) offering competitive wages. To apply, please forward resume and photocopies of documents verifying qualifications no later than **February 9TH, 2018** to

Nellie McClung Heritage Site
Box 189, 360 PTH 3,
Manitou, Manitoba R0G 1G0
Fax: 204-242-2798
Phone: 204-242-2838
E-mail: admin@pembina.ca
Only those being interviewed will be contacted.

WORK WANTED

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.

Hip or knee replacement?

Problems walking or getting dressed? The Canadian Government may owe you a:

\$2,500
Yearly Credit

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The Disability Credit Service. Lowest rate in the industry.

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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 or 1-855-768-3362 to start training for your work-at-home career today!

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

MISCELLANEOUS

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.

Colorado Blue Spruce: \$0.99/each for a box of 180 (\$178.20). Also full range of tree, shrub, and berry seedlings. Free shipping most of Canada. Growth guarantee. 1-866-873-3846 or TreeTime.ca.



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WANTED

Wanted - buying 1928 to 1970 cars and trucks, any condition, for cash. 204-870-2267.

PERSONAL

Elderly female (straight) lady seeking female companionship to live in my home rent free. Please call 204-641-0530 or 204-822-9360.

HEALTH

Get up to \$50,000 from the Government of Canada. Do you or someone you know have any of these conditions? ADHD, Anxiety, Arthritis, Asthma, Cancer, COPD, Depression, Diabetes, Difficulty Walking, Fibromyalgia, Irritable Bowels, overweight, trouble dressing...and hundreds more. All ages & medical conditions qualify. Call Manitoba Benefits 1- (800)-211-3550

SEASONAL EMPLOYMENT



Morden Community Services Department
SEASONAL EMPLOYMENT

The CITY OF MORDEN invites applications for the following seasonal employment opportunities within its Community Services department. **All positions may require availability for weekend and evening shifts.**

BEACH/CAMPGROUND

- Swim Instructors*** July - August
 - Current WSI Certificate - LSI preferred
- Beach Safety Officers*** July - August
 - Minimum 16 years of age
 - NLS required

*Standard First Aid with CPR/AED Level C required for all above positions. Please include photocopies of all applicable certificates with expiry dates. *Current Criminal Record Check and Child Abuse Registry Check required.

CAMPGROUND OFFICE ATTENDANTS

Requires mature individuals with good understanding of cash transactions, reservation programs, campground and convenience store administration and general cleaning duties.

FRONT GATE ATTENDANTS

Requires ability to handle cash, keep records, direct visitors and perform general cleaning duties.

CAMPGROUND MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL

Requires ability to operate small tools and power equipment. Assists with maintenance of campground facilities, beach and lake areas, landscaping, sanitation, general cleaning duties and general labor.

PARKS DEPARTMENT

PARKS/BOULEVARD MAINTENANCE

Experience in maintenance and equipment use for flower beds, green space, tree planting and landscaping. Requires ability to operate small tools and power equipment.

BALL DIAMOND MAINTENANCE WORKER

Knowledge of ball diamond field preparation and maintenance. Requires ability to operate small tools and power equipment.

RECREATION CENTRE

SUMMER PROGRAM ASSISTANTS

Assists summer programmer in delivering summer programs including Park Days and Sports Camp. Requires experience working with children and current Criminal Record Check and Child Abuse Registry Check.

Deadline for applications is February 28, 2018. Interested applicants are invited to submit a resume together with required certificates and two references by mailing, faxing, or emailing applications to:

Community Services Department
 City of Morden
 111-D Gilmour Street, Morden, Manitoba R6M 1N9
 FAX (204) 822-6619
 Email: sdueck@mordenmb.com

We thank all for applying, however only those considered for an interview will be contacted.

McSherry Auction

12 Patterson Dr. Stonewall, MB

Consignment Sale
 Sat Feb 3, 2018 @ 10AM

New Canopy Buildings * New Tire Machine & Balancer * Scaffolding * New 35 HP Kohler Engines * Tools & Hardware *

Estate & Moving
 Sat Feb 10, 2018 @ 10AM

Annual Spring Gun Auction
 Sat Mar 24, 2018 @ 9:30AM

Call to Consign - Pick Up / Trucking Available!
(204) 467-1858 or (204) 886-7027
 www.mcsherryauction.com



HIKE METAL, a busy ship and boat building company in Wheatley ON is seeking candidates with the following skill sets: Welders/Fitters/Fabricators (aluminum preferred), Outfitters/Millwrights/Riggers, Spray painters, Pipe Fitters & Plumbers

Attributes Required:
 Dexterity, Proficiency, Reliability, Aptitude, Initiative and Versatility

Employment Perks:
 Competitive wages, Benefits Pkg., Days, and a Creative Work Environment

To apply, please email: frank@hikemetal.com or call 519.825.4691

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The Winkler Morden Voice

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SEASONAL EMPLOYMENT



**CITY OF WINKLER
PARKS AND RECREATION,
CULTURE & TOURISM**

Invites applications for the following seasonal positions:

AQUATIC PROGRAMMER*

Preferred Qualifications:

- Current NLS/WSI/LSI Certificates
- Strong Administrative and Leadership Skills
- First Aid and/or AEC with CPR certification required

HEAD GUARDS*

- Current NLS, WSI
- LSI certificate recommended
- First Aid and/or AEC with CPR certification required

LIFEGUARDS / INSTRUCTORS*

- Minimum age 16
- Current NLS, WSI
- First Aid and/or AEC with CPR certification required

* Please include photocopies of all certifications for all above positions.

AQUATIC CENTRE TICKET CLERKS

- Mature individuals with good understanding of cash handling and record keeping. Must have good public relations skills.

AQUATIC CENTRE CLEANING STAFF

- Work period May – Sept.

PARKS & GROUNDS STAFF

- Work period May – Sept.

PARKS & BALL DIAMOND MAINTENANCE

- Work period May – Sept.

BEAUTIFICATION – FLOWER/PANTER MAINTENANCE

- Work period May – Sept.

Above positions may require some weekend and evening work.

Forward Resumes by February 17, 2018 to:

City of Winkler, Attn: Mr. Jordan Driedger,

185 Main Street Winkler, MB R6W 1B4

E-mail: : jdriedger@cityofwinkler.ca

We thank all that apply and advise that only those selected for further consideration will be contacted.

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

SEASONAL EMPLOYMENT



Is now accepting applications for the 2018 swim season:

HEAD LIFEGUARD

JOB DESCRIPTION

We are looking for an enthusiastic and responsible individual with great people and leadership skills to oversee lifeguards and instructors.

As head lifeguard you will:

- Create staff schedule
- Co-ordinate staff training schedules
- Teach high-quality swim lesson programs for all ages
- Provide Safety supervision for all swimmers
- Delegate duties to provide a clean and safe swimming environment
- Perform water tests to ensure adequate water quality and will occasionally work with Chlorine and other chemicals related to pool operation.
- Train fellow lifeguards and instructors
- Maintain adequate public relation skills and handle any complaints/concerns.

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

- 17 years of age or older
- Available evenings & weekends
- Comfortable taking money
- Current Lifesaving Society National Lifeguard Certification
- Current Standard First Aid with CPR-C Certification
- Current Canadian Red Cross Water Safety Instruction Certification
- Current Lifesaving & First Aid Instructor Certification - Optional
- Available to start in May 2018

Preference will be given to those candidates who hold the Red Cross Water Safety Instructor Certificate and Lifesaving Instructor Certificate.

Full Time Position - Recertification incentives for returning employees.

To apply, please forward resume and photocopies of documents verifying qualifications no later than **February 9TH, 2018** to

Municipality of Pembina

Box 189, 360 PTH 3

Manitou, Manitoba R0G 1G0

Fax: 204-242-2798

Phone: 204-242-2838

E-mail: admin@pembina.ca

Only those being interviewed will be contacted.

TENDER

FARM PROPERTY FOR SALE BY TENDER IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF DUFFERIN AND ROLAND

Sealed tenders in writing for the purchase of the property described below will be received by **McCulloch Mooney Johnston Selby LLP** as follows:

PROPERTY FOR SALE (owned by the Estate of Robert Findlay and Finn Farms Ltd.):

Title No. 2872843/4

NE ¼ 32-5-3 WPM

EXCEPTING - WATER CONTROL WORKS PLAN 1204 MLTO

(Approximately 159.74 acres)

TITLE NO. 2872841/4

W ½ OF SECTION 21-5-3 WPM

EXC FIRSTLY: OUT OF THE SW ¼ - DRAIN PLAN 117 MLTO AND

SECONDLY: OUT OF THE SW ¼ - WATER CONTROL WORKS PLAN 1578 MLTO

(Approximately 317.67 acres)

TITLE NO. 2872835/4

SE ¼ 32-5-3 WPM

(Approximately 160.00 acres)

TITLE NO. 2819556/4

THE NE ¼ AND THE E ½ OF THE NW ¼ OF SECTION 11-6-3 WPM

EXC FIRSTLY: THE NLY 1320 FEET PERP

AND SECONDLY: ALL MINES AND MINERALS AS RESERVED IN THE ORIGINAL GRANT FROM THE CROWN

(Approximately 120.00 acres)

CONDITIONS OF TENDER

1. Interested parties must rely on their own inspection and knowledge of the property.
2. Tenders must be delivered to **McCulloch Mooney Johnston Selby LLP** by **2:00 p.m., February 16, 2018.**
3. Tenders must be accompanied by a **\$25,000.00** deposit cheque payable to "McCulloch Mooney Johnston Selby". Deposit cheques accompanying unacceptable bids will be returned.
4. The highest or any tender will not necessarily be accepted.
5. Successful tender is subject to Court approval.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SALE

1. The bidder(s) whose tender is accepted will be required to complete an Agreement for Sale covering the terms and conditions of the sale.
2. Tenders may be placed on all or part of the lands
3. Purchaser shall be responsible for taxes beginning on January 1, 2018.
4. In addition to the deposit, the balance of the accepted tender must be paid on or before the date of closing, which shall be thirty days following Court approval of the sale or evidence provided that the purchase funds will be available under conditions acceptable to the Vendor. If the balance of the purchase price is not paid by the possession date or under such acceptable conditions, the deposit paid shall be forfeited as liquidated damages and not as a penalty.
5. The purchaser shall be responsible for payment of GST or shall self-assess for GST.

McCulloch Mooney Johnston Selby LLP

P.O. Box 1670

14 Main Street South

Carman, Manitoba R0G OJO

(204) 745-2546

Attention: Chris Bowler

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OBITUARY



Katharina (Tina) Braun (nee Dyck) 1928 – 2018

Tina Braun, of Winkler, MB died peacefully on Friday, January 19, 2018 in the Boundary Trails Health Centre at the age of 89. She was surrounded by family at the time of her passing.

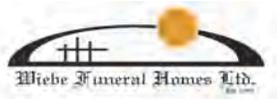
Loving wife and mother, Tina will be sadly missed by her husband, Ed Braun and her daughters, Sherilyn (Gerard) Braun McDonough, Joan (Vince) Limina, Bev (Ron) Braun-Allard. Also left to cherish her memory are her grandchildren, Susan Peters, Hilary McDonough (Justin), Kathleen Limina (Jamie), Brady McDonough and Meg Limina and one great grandchild, Clayton Peters. Mourning her loss are surviving siblings, Mary Janzen, Ella Zacharias (Dave), Marge Thiessen (Pete) and Abe Dyck (Hilda), as well as many sisters and brothers-in-law, and multiple nieces and nephews.

Tina was born on November 15, 1928 in Reinfeld, Manitoba. She was the third child born to Peter and Katharina Dyck (nee Bergen). On August 29, 1954, Tina married John (Ed) Braun at the Winkler Bergthaler Church. They made their home on the farm in Burwalde for many years, eventually moving into a new home in Winkler. Tina and Ed were among the first to move into Crocus Village, where she lived until the time of her death. Tina was known for her love of family, friends, baking, gardening and reading. In 1961, Tina and her husband were among the founding members of the Grace Mennonite Church. Active in her community, in addition to her commitment as wife, mother and grandmother, Tina is well known for her 47 years of tireless volunteerism at MCC in Winkler.

Memorial service was held at 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 25, 2018 at the Winkler Mennonite Brethren Church with private interment prior at the Winkler Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Tina's memory to the Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) 134 Plaza Dr. Winnipeg, MB R3T 5K9.

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



OBITUARY

Ernest Lawrence Eugene Towarnicki 1938 - 2018



Ernie was born November 4, 1938 in Winnipeg, MB to Lena and Michael Towarnicki and grew up in Winnipeg where he lived with his parents and took care of them in their aging years. Ernie loved life and was a very ambitious man. He had many interests and loved to get involved in community affairs. He was always interested in trying new things. Between ages 19-21 he played goalie in Industrial hockey and wound up losing his teeth. He took up wrestling and weight lifting in his early 20's. He even played one try out game with the Winnipeg Blue Bombers but decided it was too rough and he had other ways to enjoy life. He loved bowling and was secretary treasure of 5 pin bowling leagues. He was a trip Manager for fishing for 11 years and organized bus fishing trips for weekends. Ernie had several jobs in his life. He worked with McDonald Aircraft for 15 years and at Bristol Aero Space 28 years where he was a Standard Aero-on loan Quality Control Inspector. He was on the company union, chair of social welfare to members. He took cooking classes in the early 60's in Germany three years and Winnipeg two years to receive a Chef license. He worked on Dew Line (1972-1981) in the Northwest Territories, Yukon, Baffin Island, Iceland as Chef and shop steward for all culinary. He loved planting flowers in the house from seeds and had a few hundred plants. He had many hobbies and went to horticulture school in Winnipeg. He had a pin collector business at the Forks Market called Pin King Collection of Canada Ltd. and he was called Pin King because he had over 1 million pins. He also had a Winnipeg business, Mr. Chandelier; cleaning chandeliers for homes and business for three years. He cleaned chandeliers of Fort Gary Hotel. He was part owner and manager of Northgate Car wash, a Chef on trains CPR/CNR/BC rail from 1990 – 1994, owned several restaurants at different times in southern Manitoba; two in Winnipeg, Highway Park Inn and Balmoral Hotel and one in Manitou, the Family Inn. He also did lots of volunteer work and loved fundraising. He became a member of the horticulture society in Winnipeg. Was a member of Air Force Assoc. He had a security business for 10 years in the 80's. In 1995, he moved to Morden where he became President and a judge at the Morden Horticulture Society. He started the hanging baskets in Morden and fixed up Milne Park and started a town and country five-mile radius Best Yards competition. He ran Flea Markets in Morden, Winkler and Plum Coulee areas. Ernie also did Security for several businesses in Winkler and Morden. He started a youth club in Morden. He won an award for best yard in Morden and planted over 2,000 flowers from seed! Ernie participated in a 16-week diabetic leg ulcer study by the Health Sciences Centre Diabetic Foot and Complicated Wound clinic. He traveled to Winnipeg every day for 13 weeks. It was completely successful. Ernie wrote an article about the success and placed it in 120 papers throughout Manitoba in August 11, 1998 and on TV, Peter Warren interviewed Ernie on his last radio show to discuss the results.

Ernie lived in Plum Coulee from 2000-2010. It was his Plum Coulee friends that drew him to receive Christ as his saviour. He was always grateful to them for that. On June 3, 2001 Ernie was baptized upon his confession of faith in the Plum Coulee Bergthaler Mennonite Church. He did security for the Town of Plum Coulee and had a security business with four big box stores and Southland Mall. He was known as the hot dog man as he operated a hot dog stand at the Wholesale Club. He was on the board at the Plum Coulee Co-op Store, a board member and treasurer at the Plum Coulee Senior Centre and did Plum Coulee fundraising. Putting on a community meal was his greatest thrill. He enjoyed cooking. In 2002 with the help of Fred Dueck, he built a Choo Choo train. For 12 years he rode the train as Hobo the Clown giving children rides. This was his pride and joy. He went all over southern Manitoba with that train giving children rides, doing small town fairs, church and business picnics, even to Thompson once. In 2009, he survived a major colon cancer surgery. He was a cancer survivor. It was during this time that he met Verna and married her on May 29, 2010. Ernie always considered Verna his angel as she prayed and encouraged him through this time. After moving to Winkler, Ernie started Pembina Valley Collections and operated it for six years. He was a Board member of Salem Home, Gateway Resources Inc, and the Winkler Heritage Museum. He created a park of Hope at Gateway Resources with wife Verna planting and maintaining flowers, year after year.

Ernie was always grateful for all the friends he met in Winkler, Morden, Plum Coulee. He always talked about the area as the valley and was always thankful for the friendliness of the area. He was always grateful that he met the Lord through his Plum Coulee friends and was baptized. He also was so thankful for all the doctors that helped him through the colon cancer surgery. His last wish was to donate his body to the U of M for research but due to the results of the colon surgery they were unable to accept it. He wanted to help others.

After his cancer surgery, Verna helped him with the train several years until it became too difficult for him. In their time together they loved to travel, do some gardening, go biking and scootering together, following music concerts and getting together with their Bible study friends. In 2016, Ernie had a blood clot in his leg and it caused him to have a vascular bypass on his leg, October 31. After this he was hospitalized due to a bit of infection and while he was there he caught a bug which made him deathly sick. It took months for him to recover from it. In this time, he started losing weight and losing his appetite. It made him weaker and recovery was slow. In spring, along with much therapy he was almost well enough to go home when he fell in the hospital and fractured the same leg that he had surgery on. This delayed his home coming again. Then in September he was released and came home for three weeks but caught a cold which turned into pneumonia and then had a small heart attack which put him back in the hospital. After this it seemed that he was losing heart and it was difficult to gain back his health. On January 22, 2018 at the age of 79 with Verna by his side, he went home to be with Jesus. We will miss him.

Ernie was predeceased by his parents, Michael and Lena Towarnicki and his brothers and spouses, Dr. Marvin Towarnicki and Barbara, Walter and Wanda, Bill and Louise. He is survived by his wife, Verna and her children, Travis and Marilyn (Xander, Raiden, Zaide), Shannen and Jenn (Amber and Abe, Kinsley, Karsten and Autumn), Shelly and Ian (John, Victoria), Dwayne and Kara (Sarah, Ellen, Edith), Kelley and Lisa and many friends.

Memorial service was held at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, January 27, 2018 at the Plum Coulee Bergthaler Mennonite Church.

We would like to thank Wiebe Funeral Home for their helpfulness, Dr. Blignaut and the rehab staff and all the staff at BTHC for their loving care of Ernie as well as the Plum Coulee Bergthaler Church people and Pastor James Peters of the Winkler FMMC for all their help with the service.

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



OBITUARY

Kenneth Nathaniel Jensen

September 29, 1935 – January 19, 2018

It is with deep sadness that we announce the sudden passing of our dear Dad, Kenneth Nathaniel Jensen.

Ken was predeceased by his wife of 38 years, Nancy (Whitlow); his parents Harold and Mabel Jensen; and his siblings Delores, Clifford, and Duayne. Ken is survived by his three children, son Scott (Heather); daughters Sheila and Tracy (Steven); grandchildren Nicole, Stacey, Crystelle, Jay, Savannah, Brianna; and great-grandchildren Morgan, Alexandria, Thomas, and Lorenz; his sister-in-law Trenna; as well as numerous nieces and nephews. His dear friend Elizabeth Gibson will also sadly miss him.



Ken was born in Regina, Saskatchewan and was raised on the family farm near Bengough, Saskatchewan. He fulfilled his dream of becoming a member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police force in 1953. It was while stationed in Manitoba that Ken met his loving wife Nancy who was taken much too soon. Ken was a dedicated and hardworking officer within the R.C.M.P. He had a strong work ethic, was compassionate, kind, and understanding of others. Through the years Ken touched the lives of many young people as a Cub Scout leader and baseball coach. In 1984 he was awarded, "The Pukatawagan Outstanding Peoples Award," while stationed with the R.C.M.P. in Lynn Lake, Manitoba. Another of his proudest accomplishments was escorting Queen Elizabeth II through Manitoba during her Royal Visit in 1970. Ken moved up the ranks of the R.C.M.P. and retired in 1985 as a Staff Sergeant. Mom and Dad then moved to Morden, Manitoba where he accepted the position as Morden's Chief of Police. One of his most rewarding achievements was introducing the Air Force Cadet's program to Morden in 1990. He was the C.O. of the 179 Air Cadet Squadron. He enjoyed a very successful career in Morden and ultimately retired in 1997. Ken felt honoured to have served with his many fellow officers of the R.C.M.P. and the Morden Town Police. After retirement Ken moved to Winnipeg to be closer to his family.

Ken enjoyed curling, bowling, and walking. He was an avid sports fan who loved watching his beloved Saskatchewan Rough Riders. He enjoyed his many road trips to visit friends and family. He loved his dog Roxy and always had a mint candy to spare or an answer to a question.

The family would like to thank the attending paramedics and police officers for their support.

A private, closed family celebration of Ken's life will be held as per his request.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to be made to the Heart and Stroke Foundation or a charity of your choice.

For those who wish to sign the online Guest Book please visit www.chapellawn.ca

Announcements The Winkler Morden Voice

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OBITUARY



**Irene Wiebe (nee Braun)
1931 - 2018**

On Tuesday, January 23, 2018 at Boundary Trails Health Centre, Irene Wiebe aged 86 years of Morden, MB went to her eternal rest. She is survived by one daughter, Sandra and John Wiuff; three sons, Greg Wiebe, Reg and Sylvia Wiebe, Phil and Val Wiebe as well as eight grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, one sister and their families. She was predeceased by her husband Harold in 2015, daughter Bev in 2011, one brother and two sisters.

Funeral service was held at 2:00 on Saturday, January 27, 2018 at the Church of God in Morden with interment at Chapel Cemetery.

The family would like to thank the staff at BTHC for their care of Irene and Wiebe Funeral Chapel for their kind assistance with funeral arrangements.

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



OBITUARY



**Abram Jacob Petkau
1932 - 2018**

On Sunday, January 21, 2018 at Boundary Trails Health Centre, Abe Petkau age 85 years, of Winkler, MB formerly of Myrtle went to his eternal rest.

He leaves to mourn his passing three daughters: Elizabeth and husband, Robert Allen, Marjorie and husband, Pat Allen, Kathy Petkau; five sons, Marvin and wife, Janet Petkau, David Petkau, Brian Petkau, Arthur Petkau, Gary and wife, Monica Petkau as well as 13 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren, two sisters, two brothers and their families. He was predeceased by his wife, Mary (nee Penner) in 2003.

Funeral service was held at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 30, 2018 at Winkler Sommerfeld Mennonite Church with interment at

the Schoenweise Cemetery.

Donations may be made in Abe's memory to the Canadian Diabetes Association of Canada. The family wishes to extend a special thanks to the staff at Boundary Trails Health Centre.

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



OBITUARY

Beryl Smith

In loving memory of Beryl Smith, who passed away on January 2, 2018.

Beryl is survived by sister, Greta Davis (and family); sister, Audrey Gates (husband, George and family); daughter, Lorraine Preston (husband, Joe and family); daughter, Kim Striemer (husband, Steve); daughter, Michele Watson (husband, Ken and family) and in-laws, Verna Smitten (and family) and Dave and Barbara Steel (and family). She was predeceased by Lloyd Smith (husband), Hugh Smith (son) and Daniel Smith (son).

Cremation has taken place. A small service was held at Salem Personal Care Home in Winkler, MB.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made "In memory of Hugh Smith" to: St. James School, 7332 St. James Lane, RR #1, Tottenham, Ont. L0G1W0

OBITUARY

Lawrence (Laurie) Richards



Lawrence (Laurie) Richards, beloved husband, father and grandfather, passed away peacefully with his loving family by his side the evening of Wednesday, January 24th at Boundary Trails Hospital, Morden.

Laurie was born October 3rd, 1936 to Howard and Hazel Richards. He was predeceased by his parents and his sister, Joyce McKnight, brothers-in-law Arche McKnight, Goldie Davies, Herb Lange, sister-in-law Louise and her husband John Johnson. He will be sadly missed by his wife Shirley, children Mylia (Jason McLean) and their daughter Avery, Dean (Shuana) and their daughters Taylor and Hailley (Colton) and daughter Jodi. Also left to cherish his memory is his sister Pat Lange.

A heartfelt thankyou is extended to the wonderful staff of Boundary Trails Hospital, with a special thank you to the girls of the Chemo Department and Doctors Earl and Woelk.

A celebration of Laurie's life will be held on Friday, February 2nd at 1 p.m. at the Manitou Community Curling Club.

In lieu of flowers, a donation may be made to the South Central Cancer Resource (Chemo Department) or a charity of one's choice.

Wheatland Funeral Services, Pilot Mound
In care of arrangements

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If you have questions, please contact either Betty Peters at 822-6225 or Angie Boucher or Rosemary Zahn at 822-4425.

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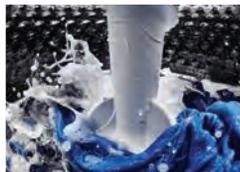


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WASHER - MVWB955W | DRYER - YMEDB955FW



POWERSPRAY

Helps treat difficult stains by recirculating water and detergent from the bottom of the wash basket back on top.



POWERDRY CYCLE

Add 60 or 120 minutes of extra tumbling following a regular drying cycle to help keep clothes looking great and ready to wear.

† Equivalent volume per I.E.C. International Standard, 5th Ed., based on 4.2 cu. ft. DOE measurement.



MAYTAG DEPENDABILITY
30 DAY WASH PERFORMANCE GUARANTEE**

\$1799
REG. PRICE \$2248

MAYTAG® 5.4 CU. FT. I.E.C.+ TOP LOAD WASHER AND 7.4 CU. FT. ELECTRIC DRYER

WASHER - MVWB765FW | DRYER - YMEDB765FW



POWERWASH® AGITATOR

Tackles any load size with both efficient, concentrated cleaning to fight stubborn stains and robust wash action to help break up messes.



EXTRA-LARGE CAPACITY

This 7.4 cu. ft. capacity dryer has plenty of space to dry 18 towels in a single load.

† Equivalent volume per I.E.C. International Standard, 5th Ed., based on 4.7 cu. ft. DOE measurement.

FINGERPRINT-RESISTANT STAINLESS STEEL NOW ON MAYTAG® KITCHEN APPLIANCES*



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MAYTAG® 36-INCH WIDE FRENCH-DOOR REFRIGERATOR MFF2558FEZ

- 25 Cu. Ft.
- BrightSeries™ LED Lighting
- Temperature-Controlled Wide-N-Fresh™ Deli Drawer



\$1699
REG. PRICE \$1999

MAYTAG® 30-INCH ELECTRIC DOUBLE OVEN RANGE YMET8800FZ

- True Convection With Fan & Third Element
- 6.7 Cu. Ft. Total Capacity
- Power Preheat



MOST POWERFUL MOTOR ON THE MARKET

\$899
REG. PRICE \$1149

MAYTAG® 47 dBA LARGE CAPACITY DISHWASHER MDB8959SFZ

- 5 Wash Cycles/5 Wash Options
- 14 Place Settings
- PowerBlast™ Cycle

* Among leading brands



\$599
REG. PRICE \$729

MAYTAG® 2.0 CU. FT. OVER-THE-RANGE MICROWAVE YMMV4206FZ

- Sensor Reheat
- Interior Cooking Rack
- Multiple Speed Exhaust Fan



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