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PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Winkler Arts and Culture executive director Wendy Loewen in front of one of artist Scott Bell's pieces that went up last week for the gallery's Heroes & Villains comic art exhibition. The show, which was done in partnership with the Winkler Comic Con taking place on Feb. 20, is on display at the Park St. gallery until month's end. For more on the show, see Pg. 4.

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Volunteers host sewing bee to help women worldwide

By Lorne Stelmach

Local volunteers came together in Morden Feb. 2 armed with their sewing supplies to help girls and women around the world.

Fifty volunteers gathered in the St. Paul's United Church hall in support of Days For Girls International.

The non-profit organization has a vision that every girl and woman around the globe could have ready feasible access to quality sustainable hygiene and health education by the year 2022.

The reality for women in many places is that not having proper sanitary supplies can mean days without school and in isolation, so volunteers used their skills to make kits with proper supplies for them to use.

"Currently they may go to school three weeks out of four because

they're not able to attend that one week," said Pat Gibson, who helped co-ordinate the local effort.

"By making the products that we're making here today and putting it in a lovely little kit ... they're able to go to school the whole time," she said.

"When girls go to school ... it can help break the cycle of poverty ... and it's just good for everyone's self esteem."

Days For Girls estimates that girls may miss out on up to two months of education and opportunity every year, so this effort can be a surprising but instrumental key to social change for women all over the world.

"When these girls get their kit, they also get education in regards to personal hygiene ... sexual information as well ... because in some of the developing countries, girls have no idea how they get pregnant ... and that's why they end up pregnant at 14," said



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

An army of 50 volunteers came together at St. Paul's United Church in Morden last Thursday for a day of sewing in support of Days For Girls International.

Gibson. "We're finding that through this education and the use of the kits, it has just produced excellent results."

Gibson said it's estimated around 400,000 kits have been distributed so far to developing countries.

She found out about the organization through a friend in Portage la Prairie and soon after set out to help organize a sewing drive in our area.

She had no trouble rounding up the

team of volunteers from eight different churches and community organizations.

"We had to turn people away because we simply didn't have enough room, sewing machines and such," Gibson noted, smiling as she glanced around the room that was abuzz with activity.

Continued on page 5



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Future of RRC dental assisting program is up in the air

Local dentists express concerns as Winkler campus looks at suspending program

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The potential loss of the dental assisting program at Red River College's Winkler campus has raised concerns in the community.

The college is currently awaiting approval from the province's Post-Secondary Education and Workforce Division to suspend the program for the 2017-2018 school year.

It's a move that will almost certainly negatively impact dental health care service in the region, stresses Dr. Samantha Klassen of Winkler Dental Clinic.

"It's a huge, huge concern. We already have such a shortage of certified phase two dental assistants in this area," she said, noting that filling vacant positions is a constant struggle. "We were already having that problem, and we're really going to have it when this program closes."

Her concerns are echoed by Dr. David Goertz of Care Dental Group in Morden, who also serves on the Manitoba Dental Association's board of directors.

"[Before this program] it was next to impossible to find rurally trained dental assistants," he said. "The local aspect of having the program here is huge. And not only for just dentists in the Morden-Winkler area, but there's dentists in Carman, Portage, Dauphin, Neepawa, Killarney that have trained staff from out here because it's local gals from the area that are getting trained and they're staying because they're rural people."

In Klassen's office alone, 14 of the 16 dental assistants she's hired over the past 11 years were graduates of RRC Winkler.

"You can't run without dental assistants. We need people who have those skills," she said. "And for us to attract dentists to this area, to stay in this area long-term, we need certified assistants."

"They're integral to and they work closely with the dentists," stressed Goertz. "We need this program."

Klassen, who works as supervising dentist for the program, believes it is so vital to the community that she's offered to fill that role as a volunteer moving forward.

"They haven't even responded one way or the other if that would be helpful to keep the program running," she said, expressing frustration at the college's lack of communication as this situation has unfolded.

'LACK OF INTEREST, TOO FEW JOBS'

Red River College representatives declined interview requests on this matter, but did issue a statement.

"The college regularly reviews all its programs to ensure that we are responding to the greatest labour market and community needs in the region and throughout all of our regional campuses," RRC said, pointing out it is, for example, looking at increasing early childhood education training in Winkler to meet growing demand in that field.

The "temporary cessation" of the Winkler dental assisting program, meanwhile, is the result of "declining enrolment, fewer job vacancies in the

region, and overall cost-effectiveness."

The program, which employs three full- and part-time faculty members, currently has 11 students enrolled, which is significantly less than the 24 students required for it to be viable, the college said.

It has not met its capacity requirements for the past five years, and enrolment for this fall's start date is at only at eight students thus far.

While enrolment may be down to date for the upcoming year, both Goertz and Klassen challenge the college's assertion that there are fewer jobs for graduates.

Goertz said that despite apparent

Continued on page 7



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Some of the artwork on display for Winkler Arts and Culture's Heroes and Villains comic book art exhibition.



Comic book art on display at Winkler arts centre

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Winkler Arts and Culture's new exhibit is equal parts heroic and villainous.

The Park St. gallery put up its February comic book art display last Friday.

Heroes and Villains includes over two dozen pieces of artwork from local adult and youth artists, says gallery director Wendy Loewen, and is being put on in conjunction with the Feb. 20 Winkler Comic Con.

"We have this here all month and on Feb. 20 we'll also have Lego building stations all day," Loewen said, adding they'll also host a fun photo backdrop for families to pose in front of that weekend. "For families with maybe younger kids, this is going to be the free, family-friendly venue."

The exhibition itself runs the gamut from paintings to sketches to digital artwork.

Garden Valley Collegiate art instructor Scott Bell submitted several pieces to the show, including a massive mural depicting 37 characters from the Marvel Comics universe.

"I started some of the drawings a year and a half ago," he said, explain-

ing he began work on it as part of an assignment he gave to his students when the latest *Avengers* movie came out.

"The initial idea wasn't to do a big mural like this. I was just drawing them because it was fun," Bell said. "It was in the back of my head to maybe someday put them together, but then when I caught word of the comic con and that there would be an art show attached to it—that made me want to get busy on it."

Each character was painted using watercolours and then assembled onto a backdrop to create the giant 3D piece.

Bell, who has always been a comic book fan, said the exhibition is an awesome opportunity to showcase the creativity and talent that goes into creating comic book worlds and characters.

"It's an interesting art form in and of itself because it demands a really good illustrative ability and imagination," he said.

Check out *Heroes and Villains* all this month at the Winkler Arts and Culture Centre. For more information or gallery hours, find them on Facebook or head to www.winklerarts.com.

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Provincial funding to rise slightly in GVSD, Western School Division

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Manitoba government announced a \$13.1 million boost to public schools funding last week.

Education Minister Ian Wishart kicked off I Love to Read Month Feb. 1 by increasing the overall budget for public schools in our province to \$1.3 billion annually.

"Students and families across Manitoba understand the importance of a quality education and so does our government," he said. "Education is a fundamental building block for personal growth and success in life. Our government is taking steps to equip our children and youth with the skills they need to succeed."

The announcement represents an overall one per cent increase in kindergarten to Gr. 12 funding for the 2017-18 school year.

That is, pointed out the Manitoba Teachers' Society later that same day, lower than the current rate of inflation.

"Manitoba's public schools have long been funded at the rate of economic growth. Today's announcement doesn't even meet the rate of inflation, let alone the economic growth of the province," said MTS president Norm Gould.

"A one per cent increase represents the lowest funding in years and sits at less than half the rate of inflation for the province at a time of rising enrolment throughout Manitoba—and at a time when school divisions are developing their budgets and priorities for 2017-18," he said.

Indeed, Winkler and Morden area school divisions Garden Valley and Western are in the midst of firming up their financial plans for the next school year.

For both divisions, the province's funding formulas actually translate into a slight increase in government dol-

lars for local schools.

GVSD expects to receive about one per cent, or \$275,000, more than it did last year due to increasing enrolment and projected increased expenditures.

"We are seeing a tiny increase, which is good, but that's due to our growth in students," said board chair Laurie Dyck, who points out the extra funds are needed to support the costs of all those new students. "Still, it was a relief to know we're not going with less dollars into the year."

"We will have to be diligent with what we have, but we always need to be because we are working with our taxpayer dollars," she added.

Provincial funding covers about 68 per cent of

the costs of educating a student in GVSD, with the remainder provided primarily through local taxes.

The fact that this year's funding announcement is the lowest in years—in comparison, last year's increase was 2.55 per cent—is a concern to the board as it looks to the future, Dyck said.

"When we know that we have a swelling population ... so it's definitely right in the forefront of our minds," she said, pointing out that the division will need provincial support, as well, for the new school they hope to one day build in the Pine Ridge area.

Continued on page 6

"IT WAS A RELIEF TO KNOW WE'RE NOT GOING WITH LESS DOLLARS INTO THE YEAR."



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Understanding your Heat Recovery Ventilator (HRV)

If you have a newer home, you may have a heat recovery ventilator (HRV). Under the Manitoba Building Code, these devices have been mandatory in new homes since April 2012. An HRV can improve indoor air quality and reduce your energy costs, provided you operate it properly.

What an HRV does

An HRV device uses fans to pull in fresh air and exhaust stale, humid air. This is essential in new, energy-efficient homes. Because these new homes are more airtight, they need additional help to remove odors and control humidity. The potential for problems can also be greater in newer homes because building materials are still drying out and giving off gases.

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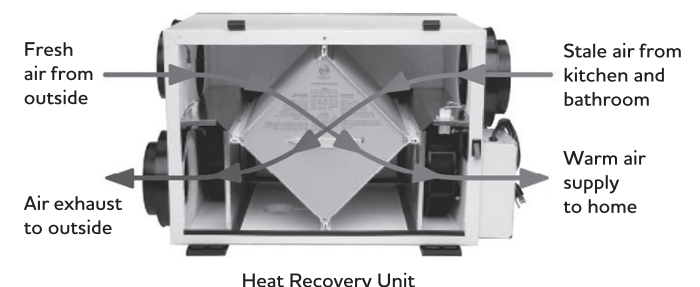
The two air streams never mix, but the heat is transferred from the outgoing air to the incoming cold fresh air. It's similar to the way the radiator in your car transfers heat to the outside air.

In a climate like ours, this heat exchange process can significantly reduce the cost of ventilating your home, but only if you run the HRV system properly. *Watch for HRV operating tips in our next column.*

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Volunteers created sanitary kits for women around the world who might otherwise have to miss school or be forced into isolation when they menstruate.

> SEWING BEE, FROM PG. 2

"They're just energized ... we're the City of Morden coming together for a celebration of women really," she said, adding it was heartwarming to see such a good response.

"Feeling good about it is an understatement. It is just phenomenal," Gibson said. "When you see all these different churches and organizations talking to one another and supporting one another, it just tells you that when you have a goal that's a worthwhile goal, people will come on board and people will support it."

The Winkler Morden
Voice



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getheard

EDITORIAL > VIEWPOINTS > LETTERS

Bringing joy with you, everywhere

On many an occasion I have encountered people in the workplace who do not seem happy to be there. It doesn't matter the industry or the place, there are always a reasonably large number of people discontent with their circumstances.

I have encountered this enough that perhaps I have become cynical in the sense that I often expect it in the people I deal with. Sometimes people can surprise you, however.

Such was the case when I was once greeted by the most enthusiastic and genuinely happy young man I may have ever encountered.

My equilibrium was thrown off for a few moments as I adjusted my expectations to this new experience.

You see, it's not unusual for me to find myself greeted by a worker

who seems surrounded by a cloud of despondence and indifference. A defeated pair of downcast eyes avoids looking at me directly while attempting to engage me in a somewhat monotone voice. That, or I get someone who makes me feel as if I just interrupted the most important conversation ever to be had between human beings.

So you can imagine my shock when this young man who, gauging from his eastern European accent, was a more recent arrival to our country and who seemed frighteningly happy to be doing his job.

He greeted us warmly, took our order with a genuine smile, and brought it out to us with that same bright attitude.

"If there's anything else you need, just come and get me. Enjoy your meal," he said in a way that made me believe he actually meant it.

It was as if I had landed in some sort of *Twilight Zone* episode where people actually enjoyed their jobs and expressed it in the way they dealt with folks.

Now, don't get me wrong. I understand the "pit of doom" feeling that can develop when you are working in a place that you may not enjoy. My first job was as a dish washer. WORST. JOB. EVER. This was back in the days when people still smoked in restaurants.

Bins of dishes mashed up with cig-

arette butts, half eaten steaks, and chocolate pudding would stream into the kitchen. No matter how hard I tried I could not keep up. I felt like Sisyphus trying to get that slippery, moss covered boulder to the top of the hill.

Eventually I was fired from the job because I just could not bring myself to embrace the role with any enthusiasm.

Over time I learned that it is a waste of time to look for joy in things and circumstances. Rather, you must learn to cultivate and bring your joy with you wherever you go. This is, of course, easy to write but not so easy to do.

Now, the fellow who served me so enthusiastically may not necessarily find his place of employment to be a well-spring of joy. But it's clear he's learned to find that joy within and bring it wherever he goes, including work, where it then shines out on the people around him.

It's not that things and circumstances won't fuel your joy. A nice car, lots of money, great stuff ... these all put smiles on people's faces. The problem is when we depend on these things for the smiles. Things can be destroyed and taken away. Money comes and goes (sometimes it seems to just go). When this happens we want to be sure that our smiles don't go with them; that our joy comes from within.



By Peter Cantelon

> SCHOOL FUNDING, FROM PG. 5

"We have to keep our eye on what's going on ... dollars are tight and the government can chose to tighten up next year too, if they want, so we're going to have to just hold all of that in balance, not take things for granted."

In the Western School Division, meanwhile, Morden schools are also slated to receive a bit more from the province.

"Overall it was a fairly good announcement for us in the whole scheme of things," said secretary-treasurer Carl Pedersen. "We're looking at a 2.8 per cent increase over the current year in actual fund-

ing."

That works out to about \$278,000, he said, adding that, for WSD, the increase owes more to equalization support than to rising enrolment. (which is estimated to hit 1,795 kids this fall).

As with GVSD, over 30 per cent of Western's annual budget comes from local taxes. The board is currently crunching the numbers for this year's financial plan.

"It's coming together," Pedersen said. "Like any budget, there's always challenges. We continue to face increasing enrolments, which reflects in some increased needs for

staffing. Staffing is the biggest part of our budget, so it's always a little bit tricky with that.

"Like any year, it's going to be a tight budget."

Both divisions are hosting budget showcases on Wednesday, Feb. 22 from 7-8:30 p.m. GVSD's takes place at Garden Valley Collegiate while Western's is at Morden Collegiate.

The events will feature exhibits from schools and educational programs highlighting how local tax dollars are spent.

The budgets themselves will receive final approval sometime in March.

getinformed

NEWS > VIEWS > WINKLER > MORDEN > SURROUNDING AREAS

"We need this program"

From Pg. 3

claims from the college to the contrary, it appears none of the local dental practices were in fact surveyed about employment opportunities.

"Never saw [a survey]. When I heard that, I actually took an hour and I called Altona, Carman, the practices in Winkler, Morden, and nobody saw a survey," he said, adding that his own discussions with the other offices "identified at least 10 job opportunities locally in the next 18 months.

"So they are really off the mark in terms of why they're saying they're shutting it down," Goertz said. "It just doesn't

make sense. I think it's Red River College Winnipeg making decisions without proper knowledge of what's actually going on out here."

Klassen said the college needs to do a better job reaching out to potential students and raising awareness of the program before it gives up on it.

"I would be willing to volunteer to talk to high school students about career opportunities for dental assistants," she said, "and many of my staff members have volunteered to do this

as well."

Goertz said the provincial dental association has reached out to both the college and the province about this matter. They're still waiting to hear back from RRC.

Klassen, meanwhile, brought her concerns to Winkler Mayor Martin Harder, who had an opportunity to speak directly with Red River College president Paul Vogt on this issue.

"When I spoke to Mr. Vogt, he was taking the financial, responsible side of it," Harder said, noting Vogt pointed to decreased student interest and apparent lack of jobs in the area as the main reasons for the suspension.

While he understands the college's reluctance to run a program at a potential financial loss, the mayor worries that once it's gone it won't be easy to start up again.

"You cancel this program for a year and it's very difficult to bring it back," Harder said. "I can understand where they're coming from ... but sometimes you just have to suck it up and run it maybe at a half pace for a year."

Losing any program from the Winkler campus is a blow, he added.

"FOR US TO ATTRACT DENTISTS TO THIS AREA ... WE NEED CERTIFIED ASSISTANTS."



VOICE FILE PHOTO

An instructor with RRC Winkler's dental assisting program gives a demonstration at a recent career fair. The college has requested permission from the province to suspend the program for a year due in part to decreasing enrolment.

"Red River College is a very important piece of our education system in the Pembina Valley. The post-secondary education that they provide, they provide it to many people who otherwise would not get post-secondary education because they aren't able to go to Winnipeg for it.

"So it's critical for us to keep Red River College active and growing in the valley, and it's also critically important for the dental community to be able to have rural dental assis-

tants," Harder said. "It's a tough situation, and as a community we're disappointed to see any clawback of any program offered through Red River."

The college said there's no clear time frame for when it will hear back from the province on their request to suspend the program, but that the community will be notified when the decision is finalized.

Trudeau says feds won't tax health, dental benefits

The federal government won't be taxing private health and dental benefits in its upcoming budget.

After weeks of speculation that the Liberal government was considering making employer-sponsored plans a taxable benefit, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau asserted in the House of Commons last week that that is not the case.

Interim Conservative Leader Rona Ambrose put the question to Trudeau during the Feb. 1 question period.

"Millions of Canadian workers will be forced to pay the Liberal's new tax on health and dental benefits. Many will lose their coverage and find

themselves paying out of pocket for important expenses like life-saving medicines, mental health counseling, and their children's braces Why would the prime minister even consider doing this?" she asked of the rumored tax changes that, the Tories said, could have added over \$1,000 to the tax bills of Canadians with such benefits.

"We are committed to protecting the middle class from increased taxes and that's why we will not be raising the taxes the member opposite proposes us to do," Trudeau said in response, later stressing, in answer to a similar question from Conservative

MP Denis Lebel (Lac-Saint-Jean), that it was never part of the Liberal's plans in the first place.

It had been estimated that making employer-provided health and dental plans a taxable benefit could reap upwards of \$2.9 billion in tax revenue for the government.

But the idea—which the Liberals had earlier refused to comment on in advance of the budget—was met with widespread opposition across Canada, with many raising concerns that such a move would cause employers to stop offering health coverage to employees altogether.

The Winkler and Morden chambers

of commerce both sent notices out to their members outlining the issue and urging them to weigh in on the matter, as did the Manitoba Chambers of Commerce and the Canadian Chamber of Commerce.

** Ed. note: A story in last week's Voice called the health and dental benefits tax a "federal government proposal." We should have been clearer in stating that such an idea was, in fact, speculation from media and concerned parties outside the Liberal government, and one Liberal leaders had at that point declined to comment on. We apologize for any misunderstandings this may have caused.*

Parents for French chapter started up again in Morden

Local group hosts Bilingual Bop Family Dance

By Lorne Stelmach

A national organization that works to promote French language programs and opportunities has a local chapter once again.

The Morden chapter of the Manitoba branch of Canadian Parents for French was revived last spring. The previous group had dissolved in our area a few years earlier.

Sara Convery said a group of parents got together because they saw a need to organize events that will help support and encourage French language use in our community.

"Most of us are parents of students in French Immersion, so we have an interest in promoting it and having extra opportunities for our kids in French," she explained as the chapter held the Bilingual Bop Family Dance last Thursday at Maple Leaf School.

Convery said families here are fortunate to be in a community where there is not only French Immersion available but also basic French instruction starting as early as Kindergarten.

By having a local chapter of Canadian Parents for French, there are a number of additional resources available, she noted.

A large crowd packed the Maple Leaf School gymnasium last Thursday for the Bilingual Bop fun family dance organized by the local Canadian Parents for French chapter.

PHOTO BY
LORNE STELMACH/VOICE



"By having a local chapter, we get a lot of opportunities," she said. "We get access to educational resources that teachers can access ... parents can access also ... whether or not they're French Immersion teacher or not."

"We get access to French language entertainers at a discounted rate as well. We get to hold a summer camp for younger French Immersion students in the summer. We're actually going to be hosting that in August."

Cathy Boden, a parent of two children in French Immersion in grades one and three, said she appreciates that there is the opportunity here for kids to learn another language.

"It's an opportunity I didn't have as a kid," she noted, "so any benefits like that which we can give to our kids to help them grow is awesome."

She sees a benefit in having a local chapter of Canadian Parents for French because it is a way to be collectively working together to advance language development.

"I don't speak French at home," she said, so she is thankful that "the resources available here are really good."

"My kids have really enjoyed and hung on to their French," Boden said. "My daughter especially loves to come home and tell me all the cool

new words she's learnt. I actually find that when she reads me English stories that she's translating to some of the French words, adding some of her own little twists to it."

"Most of us in the group are interested in providing as many language opportunities to our kids or extra opportunities as we can," said Convery.

"Our kids get lots of French while they're at school, but in Morden it's predominantly English speaking," she said. "So if we can bring in more different events and opportunities for our kids to learn and use their French, I think that is a big benefit for us."

Power of the Purse luncheon set for March

By Lorne Stelmach

A fundraising event that is about women empowering women is again taking on the challenge of raising \$10,000 to benefit three local charitable causes.

The Power of the Purse luncheon is planned for Saturday, March 4 to benefit the Morden Area Foundation's Women's Giving Circle.

The goal is a simple one: 100 women bring \$100 for a donation that will benefit an organization of their choice from among three possible selections. Executive director Lynda MacLean said the positive feedback from the inaugural event last year leads her to believe it will be a success again this year.

"It became a bigger, better thing by what they learned, never mind where

their \$100 went. After that, there were many women who thought this is great, I'll do it again next year," she said.

The chosen charities, who will not be revealed until that day, will make presentations on projects for which they require funding. Each of the 100 women then can make a decision as to where they would like to donate their money, whether it be to one or all three causes.

Last year the Morden Parent Child Resource Centre received \$4,000 towards a facilitator while South Central Cancer Resource was awarded

\$3,000 to help offer a screening clinic and the Genesis House women's shelter got \$3,000 for a larger dining room table.

MacLean suggested other community charities are more interested now as well and would like to get involved in the future. She said for this year they were looking at the area of community mental health as a possible theme.

"We had about 80 women involved last year," MacLean said, noting that the foundation was able to make up the difference to meet the \$10,000 goal. "This year we want to get the full 100 women out."

"Many of the ones from last year will return," she suggested. "There were some women last year after hearing about how it went and how it worked ... wanted to come next year."

"Once people came there ... and listened to the charities ... some knew right away how they were going to vote," MacLean said, adding that the event proved to be a good opportunity for learning a little more about things happening in our community. "After listening to the three presentations, a lot of women started thinking more about it."

For more information about the event or to register, contact the foundation at 204-822-5614 or by e-mail at info@mordenfoundation.ca.

City sits down with food businesses to talk waste

By Lorne Stelmach

Morden hopes to see a further drop in waste going to the landfill by expanding composting into the commercial sector of the city.

The initiative aims to build upon the waste reduction which began with the residential three-stream waste collection system in 2016 by focusing firstly on key businesses which handle food, such as restaurants, grocery stores, and convenience stores.

Initial discussions happened last Thursday with local food-related businesses at a workshop hosted to get their feedback.

They are a key area to address, organizers said, as it is estimated about two-thirds of the waste going to landfill is the kind of organic material those businesses produce in significant quantities.

"We identified about 25 or 30 businesses that could have the potential to get the highest bang for our buck," said city manager John Scarce. "What we were trying to do today was try to find out what the impediments are, what is it that they see as business owners ... as roadblocks to be able to do this."

"WHEN YOU DON'T GET AHEAD WITH THESE THINGS, THAT'S WHEN IT STARTS TO COST."

It ties in with the 500 Challenge project which aims to divert an additional 500 tonnes of organic waste from the landfill in 2017.

Scarce noted the province is looking to ban organics from Manitoba landfills by 2020, so he sees it as being to the city's advantage to try to get on the forefront of this change, as he feels Morden did with the residential service.

"We got ahead with the residential ... what that enabled us to do is actually target a lot of grants ... a lot of the wheeled carts that we got was actually cost neutral to the city and ratepayers because we got them through grants," he said. "When you don't get ahead with these things, that's when it starts to cost."

There will be more discussions with businesses to help get them on board and move ahead with the effort.

"Is there any education that's needed for their staff or themselves?" said Scarce. "Is there anything that we need to put there to show that it's a change for the better to be able to get these organics out of the landfill?"

He reiterated their aim is to extend this into the community and keep it cost neutral.

Looking further ahead, they also



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Chaley Martens, marketing and communications director for the City of Morden, and city manager John Scarce address a Thursday workshop on expanding composting into the commercial sector of the community.

hope to one day expand their efforts to address other areas of waste, including from the construction sector.

At the meeting last week, Lisa Zacharias of Coffee Culture said they have seen positive results from their efforts to compost so far.

"It was amazing how quickly we found more and more ... we want to continue to do even more. We can do more ... I know that we can."

Chicken Chef's Chris Krushel said it's a great initiative for the community.

"I think the majority of our waste

... I'm sure 90 per cent of it ... is compostable. So I think it would cut our waste back dramatically ... so I'm all for it," he said. "I can't think of anything wrong with the idea. I think it could be implemented easily enough without any problem."

There are a few questions that need to be addressed, Krushel noted, such as the size of the containers, space for storage of the compost, and the frequency of pickup.

"How long will it sit in the back of the restaurant?" he wondered.

Winkler Community Fdn. to distribute \$77K in scholarships

Young adults looking into higher education urged to apply

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler Community Foundation is making a final push to get the word out about its new scholarship program in the lead up to the application deadline.

The late Gordon Wiebe left \$2.2 million to the foundation in 2015, directing the organization to use the interest from the newly created education endowment fund to help local youth pay for higher learning.

Thanks to his generosity, the foundation is able to distribute about \$77,000 this year, says project manager Karina Cardona.

"It's quite a bit of money," she says. "For these awards to be targeted to local students is a really an incredible opportunity."

This is one of the largest scholarship programs to be developed by a com-

munity foundation in rural Manitoba, Cardona notes. There will be over 20 awards handed out each year, ranging in value from \$2,000 to \$20,000.

The scholarships are broken into three streams. The first are the Make It a Reality Awards valued at \$20,000 towards tuition over four years.

These scholarships are meant to offer recipients a "game-changing opportunity to launch their career."

"We're really hoping that that's something where if somebody wasn't going to be able to attend university without it, this will allow them that opportunity," says Cardona. "It's meant to be a transformative for its recipient."

Next up are the Ongoing Education Support Awards, which are for \$6,000 over three years.

There are nine of these scholarships available for mature students

(30 years old or under) who are either already enrolled in their first undergraduate program or who will be returning to pursue education after a break following high school.

Former Winkler area residents are encouraged to apply, even if they are currently living or studying elsewhere in Canada.

Finally, the scholarship program will issue 16 Garden Valley School Division Awards of \$2,000 each.

These scholarships will be awarded to Garden Valley Collegiate and Northlands Parkway Collegiate graduating students, who can apply through their schools.

While the guidance offices at the high schools have been working with students on their applications for the GVSD Awards, Cardona says they're hoping word of mouth will help get information about the other awards

out to the young adults eligible for them.

She stresses that the awards committee is focusing more on community involvement and leadership than grades when it comes to finding the right recipient for all these scholarships.

Applicants are asked to "take the time to think about what community means to you and what your education will help you to achieve," says Cardona. "Let us know how you reach beyond yourself to build relationships, build community."

Applications for the Gordon Wiebe Post-Secondary Scholarships are due in by Feb. 28.

Detailed application information is available online at winklercommunityfoundation.com. You can also reach the foundation at 204-362-9292 or via email at admin@winklercommunityfoundation.com.



Shoes for Less celebrates

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Winkler's newest shoe store aims to offer a varied selection of footwear for the whole family at affordable prices.

Shoes for Less cut the ribbon at their store at B-344 1st. St. last Friday as part of their day-long grand opening celebrations.

The store, which opened for business in October, is owned and operated by husband-wife duo Marc and Sadena Morin.

The couple say they saw a real need for a new, family-orientated shoe store in the Winkler area.

"Something affordable at a good quality," said Sadena. "Especially for kids ... when you need two pairs of shoes for school you don't want to be spending \$100-\$150."

Shoes for Less also offers an array of shoes and boots for men and women.

"We've been listening to what the customers want," said Sadena, noting that because they're not a franchise



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Mayor Martin Harder cut the ribbon on the new Shoes for Less store on Winkler's 1st St. last week. The family-run store offers a wide selection of affordable footwear for the whole family.

they have much more flexibility in what products they can offer.

"We thought about the franchise route, but we actually thought that we would like to sell what people want in the community and not what somebody in Toronto was telling you you have to sell," added Marc.

The 2,100 sq. ft. retail space gives Shoes for Less plenty of room for

stock and wide, wheelchair accessible aisles. Their knowledgeable staff are always standing by to help you find the perfect shoe for any occasion.

"Our key is customer service," said Sadena.

Check out Shoes for Less online at shoesforlesswinkler.com

Western SD on province's radar for new school

By Lorne Stelmach

Western School Division officials came away from a Jan. 26 meeting with the Manitoba Public Schools Finance Board feeling pretty good about the community's chances of getting a long awaited for new school.

"We know that we are probably in that top group of places in the province that are on the list for new schools," said superintendent Stephen Ross.

"It's nice to be affirmed that we're in that group, though," he said. "You never know for sure until you have that validated, but we did get some confirmation that they certainly recognize that we're in that quite needy group in the province ... and that our numbers support that."

Those numbers include enrolment and growth projections that back up the division's case, and the meeting offered a chance to present those hard facts to the province.

"We're very accurate actually in our projections usually, and they really appreciate having good valid information for them to make their decisions," said Ross.

"We're certainly encouraged to start thinking about the type of school and things that we would like to see when we get to the stage where there is an announcement."

At this point, though, there is no certain timeline as to how soon the division may be able to move ahead with its planning for the new school.

"It's going to be out there somewhere ... it could be anywhere from a month to three years," Ross said. "We don't really know when that is, but we do know that we are much closer to the very top of that list."

He also noted specifics of the project, such as what grades the school will include, also remain up in the air at the moment.

"We'll keep talking to the community about that," said Ross. "When we look historically at where we are and where we've grown ... there is the idea that a K-8 school initially would help meet our needs ... because we do have two schools in our five-year capital plan."

The thought is that the first new school could be K-8 and then transition to a middle school when a second

new school, which could be an early years facility, comes along.

Another consideration for the division is programming.

"We also know that our French Immersion program has really grown," Ross said. "We know one of the reasons our program has grown is that we haven't completely separated our French Immersion students from our regular track English students. A new dual track school could make much more sense ... that would give us more flexibility as well."

Division showcasing its budget Feb. 22

By Lorne Stelmach

It's an opportunity to get a feel for what around \$20 million will get you in the local education system.

Western School Division will introduce its proposed financial plan for the next year at a public budget exhibition Feb. 22.

The evening, which goes from 7-8:30 p.m. at Morden Collegiate, will again

follow a tradeshow format with a variety of displays on key programs and initiatives that will be supported through the 2017 budget.

Superintendent Stephen Ross said they had very favorable feedback from the community when they introduced the new format last year.

"It certainly was a good highlight for us ... an opportunity to show the community where the tax dollars are

going and what's happening in the schools today," he said.

He suggested it is important to get the engagement and interest of the community, especially given how the education system has continued to grow and evolve.

"The things we are trying to achieve in schools today are somewhat differ-

Continued on page 12

Winterfest has packed full line-up Feb. 18

By Lorne Stelmach

Organizers of Morden's Winterfest next weekend are promising something for everyone.

"I just encourage everyone to come and enjoy the afternoon," Lynette Froese said as final preparations were made for the afternoon of activities and entertainment Saturday, Feb. 18.

"I know that there are lots of people in the community in Morden and the wider community around us who haven't attended Winterfest before ... I encourage them to come out and experience it," she said. "For everybody who has come in the past, I think there will be something new for you to see and experience."

The 2017 Winterfest runs that Saturday from 12:30-4:30 p.m. with plenty happening both indoors and out at the Access Event Centre.

In addition to making the most of the winter season with outdoor hockey matches and horse-drawn sleigh rides, the festival also celebrates our community's diversity with dozens of cultural displays and vendors in the community hall.

"We'll have some craft tables and all of our cultural displays from different countries. We have a couple of new ones: Colombia and Pakistan," noted Froese. "We'll have our ethnic snacks, which we are still finalizing ... but there will be free snacks from a variety of the countries."

The stage entertainment will include a number of dance displays, including an aboriginal dance troupe from Roseau River as well as Filipino and Mexican dance groups.

Other acts will range from a Low German musical group and line dancers to fire dancing and African drumming.

Another new feature will be a free photo booth, while the new city's free skate lending program will be available for the indoor skating.

New outside this year will be quinzee building led by A Rocha Prairie Canada.

Also braving the cold that day will be the participants in the second annual Morden Polar Plunge, who will be taking an icy dip in support of Special Olympics.

"It's going to be a good day. We just



VOICE FILE PHOTO

Cultural displays will once again fill the Access Event Centre's community hall for the annual Morden's Multicultural Winterfest Feb. 18.

hope the weather co-operates," Froese said.

For updates on the Morden Multicultural Winterfest schedule, check

out the City of Morden website (mordenmb.com) or the festival's Facebook page.

Volunteers needed for Esso Cup this April

By Lorne Stelmach

Preparations are ramping up for Morden to host the national female midget hockey championship this spring.

Local organizers for the 2017 Esso Cup tournament April 23-29 have been busy finishing up the sponsorship drive, which has brought close to 30 businesses on board. Now their attention is turning to other aspects, including getting volunteers in place.

"We feel really good about the support from the community ... and we feel confident that we'll get enough people," said Clare Agnew, organizing committee chair.

This is the first time the Esso Cup has been held in Manitoba, and 2012 winners the Pembina Valley Hawks would love to become the first host team to win the title.

The tournament brings together the best young female hockey players in the country and will feature the host Hawks alongside champions from the Atlantic, Ontario, Pacific, Quebec, and Western regions.

The schedule recently released for the tournament has Pembina Valley

facing off against the Western champions in the opening game April 23.

"The battle of the west is always good hockey, and our team is excited start the week off with a great game," said Hawks coach Dana Bell.

VOLUNTEER DRIVE ON NOW

Agnew said the host organizing committee is putting a call out for volunteers in all areas— from game operations and special events to transportation and ticket sales.

She estimates they will need anywhere from 150 to 200 people depending on how many shifts volunteers are able and willing to take.

"A lot of the responsibilities revolve around the actual game times ... so things like ushers and ticket sales ... merchandise sales and 50/50 ticket sales," she said. "There's available shifts during the day and the evening. We do need people to do stats and stuff like that ... but there's lots of op-

portunities just for the general volunteer."

Agnew also stressed that they want the involvement of more than just the local hockey community.

"We really want it to be a community event, she said. "We're trying to get different groups involved, not just the hockey community. It is a national event, so we want the community to welcome these athletes and these people to our community."

"Our tagline is 'Leave Your Mark' ... so how will you leave your mark on the event ... as an athlete, a volunteer or a sponsor?" Agnew asked. "Come and cheer for these girls who aren't necessarily going to have anybody in the stands ... come cheer on these players even if it's not our local team ... that's what we're hoping for."

There will be some extra events around the tournament as well to draw the community in, ranging from fireworks the first night to a tailgate

"WE REALLY WANT IT TO BE A COMMUNITY EVENT."

party between the bronze and gold medal games the final day.

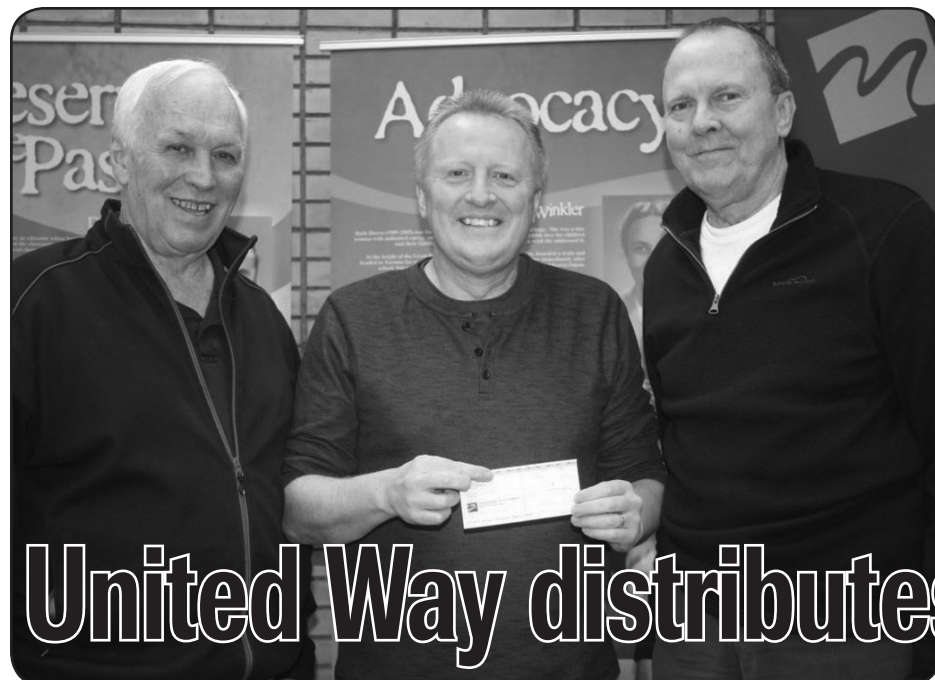
"We want the community to come to these events ... it's not for the players, it's more for the community," said Agnew.

Tickets for the tournament are already on sale, with a complete 19-game pass coming in at \$60.

For more information on the 2017 Esso Cup, check out www.hockey-canada.ca/essocup or follow along through social media at www.facebook.com/essocup.

The Winkler Morden Voice

Send news items to: news@winklermordenvoice.ca
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United Way distributes funds

PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

The Morden and District United Way distributed some of the funds from the \$77,500 raised in its 2016 campaign this week. Left: Terry Gibson and Alex Fedorchuk presented Youth for Christ director John Rempel (centre) with a donation of \$8,400, which he says will be used for various training programs, including YFC's supper club and junior volunteer program. Right: Gibson and Fedorchuk also presented Deb Thiessen, clinical resource co-ordinator for South Central Cancer Resource, with a cheque for \$3,300. The funds will support two new programs, Thiessen explained, including lymphedema support services.

Winkler, Morden FD taking part in sledge hockey match

Exhibition game raising funds for Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus Assoc. of MB

By Lorne Stelmach

An upcoming exhibition game will pit area firefighters against a more experienced sledge hockey team in support of a worthy cause.

The Feb. 20 event at the Winkler Rec. Complex from 3-6 p.m. will support the Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus Association of Manitoba.

"It should be a fun evening. We're going to have both the Winkler and Morden fire departments participating in it," said organizer Nancy Spenst.

As well as serving as a fundraiser, the goal is also to raise awareness, said Spenst, who was born with spina bifida and also has hydrocephalus. "We're very much realizing there is a need within southern Manitoba to bring awareness to spina bifida.

"There's a lot of people out here who do have spina bifida ... a lot of families who are dealing with it," said Spenst, who is on the provincial board as a vice-president working alongside president Connie Hesom of Morden, who has a son who was born with spina bifida. "There are people who have it but don't necessarily know what help is available out there."

Spina bifida is the incomplete formation of the spine and spinal cord that occurs during the first few weeks of pregnancy. It results in paralysis and loss of sensation of the legs and affects the functioning of the bladder and bowel. It may also affect hand skills, visual, hearing and learning abilities.

Hydrocephalus, meanwhile, is an increased collection of cerebrospinal fluid in the brain due to a blockage. Some people are born with hydrocephalus, while others may develop it after a brain injury, infection or brain

tumor.

Sledge hockey was designed to allow participants who have a physical disability to play hockey, making it a great fit for the association.

Spenst said they hope to have more events in the region to get the word out. Last March they hosted a craft sale where they connected with a family from Carman who were looking for support.

"Just having even one person come to us and say I need help ... and didn't know what help was available ... made it totally worth it for us to continue on," she said.

"We're just trying to gear up in the area," she added. "And we're trying to take some of these activities outside of Winnipeg ... so that people don't

always have to drive outside of the area."

Funds raised at the sledge hockey game will go to help the association, provide financial support to families living with these conditions.

In addition to the game itself, a skills competition will also be held during intermission.

"As well, we will have an opportunity for people if they want to try it out ... see what it's like for somebody who doesn't have full body mobility ... you can still have the opportunities," said Spenst. "I'm actually very much looking forward to doing it myself."

Tickets are \$5 at the door or \$20 for a family.

> BUDGET SHOWCASE, FROM PG. 10

ent than perhaps when some of us went to school," said Ross.

"It seemed to be really well received by the community generally ... also even by our staff ... they were able to talk to the community about what some of the work is that they do," Ross continued.

"Some of the new programs and some of the new technology that are happening now, people aren't always aware of it all," he added, noting in particular they will be able

to showcase the new piping trades program as well as the welding program.

"There's always new things that are coming," he said, pointing, for example, that a key priority for the division now is project-based learning. "There's some really neat things that are happening now with projects as learning ... we're just finding that both students and staff are far more engaged in the whole process when it's relevant to them ... when

they're doing something that has real context."

Ross said they will also provide a rundown of the division's proposed financial plan.

"There will be a bit more detailed budget information for those people who really want to get into the finances. There will be a little breakout detailed budget session for people who are interested."

arts&culture

LGBT+ art exhibition promoting acceptance

By Lorne Stelmach

The featured exhibit at the Pembina Hills Arts Centre this month is about more than just the art itself.

The organizer of *In Love: The Lives of Small Town LGBT+ People and Allies* is also wanting the show to provide a glimpse into the lives of the contributing artists.

The hope is that then may help make and build connections in the community, said Demian Vaisius.

"It's a way for us all to meet and talk about things that we're experiencing ... and hopefully be able to move forward in a more cohesive way."

The exhibit grew from the Grey Elephant Awareness Campaign aimed at raising awareness and support for LGBT+ people living in Morden and the surrounding area.

Developing an art exhibit was one of

the first ideas they had upon starting up, Vaisius said.

"[The gallery] book their exhibits very far in advance," so it has been in the planning since last spring, he said. "It's been a long time coming ... it's been really exciting."

The exhibit features the work of about a dozen artists, each contributing photos depicting the lives of LGBT+ people and allies.

As well, they were encouraged to write a little something on their identity in the LGBT+ community, whether it be as a supporter or about experiences of intolerance or struggle.

Vaisius said the exhibit is a good way to build on the campaign's aims to promote acceptance and diversity, raise awareness of issues and different identities within the LGBT+ community, and also provide education and resources and promote ally support.

"I REALLY, REALLY HOPE THAT IT WILL ENGAGE PEOPLE ... ENCOURAGE PEOPLE TO THINK ABOUT LGBT PEOPLE IN A DIFFERENT WAY."



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Lauren Penner and Demian Vaisius are part of the 'In Love: The Lives of Small Town LGBT+ People and Allies' art exhibit, which officially opened Friday evening at the Pembina Hills Gallery in Morden.

"It started as a 'take action' project for a global issues class that I was in at the adult education centre," Vaisius explained. "In its beginning stages, it was mostly just about kind of starting a conversation in this area about LGBT+ people here and their experiences ... the concerns people were having around what it was like to be LGBT here."

Since starting up a year ago, Vaisius suggested it has already been making an impact in the community.

"It was going quite kind of gently for the first little bit ... that was the

idea ... to just be here and test the waters a little bit."

Vaisius said they hope people will come away from seeing the art exhibit with some more empathy and greater understanding.

"I really, really hope that it will engage people ... I really want people to walk in there ... have it say something to them ... encourage people to think about LGBT people in a different way," he said. "I hope the LGBT people become more integrated into the community."

Showcasing beauty of the Prairie skies

By Lorne Stelmach

Garnie Ross considers himself lucky to live where the sky meets the horizon.

It's that love especially for that prairie sky that not only makes him want to call Manitoba home but also remains the focus of his photography.

He hopes that displays of his work like the exhibit on this month at the Pembina Hills Arts Centre could help people gain more of an appreciation for the beauty of this corner of the world.

"To me, this is one of the most beautiful areas there is in all of Canada, and people just don't have enough of an appreciation for it," said the Cartwright resident.



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SLT MODEL SHOWN

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Local artists taking to the stage at The Bunker

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Morden native Paige Drobot is excited to be coming home next week for an acoustic performance in support of her upcoming solo album.

Drobot, who many may recognize as one half of the singer-songwriter duo The Psychics who played at the Corn and Apple Festival last summer, performs at The Bunker in Winkler on Friday, Feb. 17. Also taking the stage that evening is local punk rock band Threw. The show starts at 7:30 p.m.

"We're doing an acoustic show, which we've actually never done before out in this area," says Drobot. "We usually are such a loud band, kind of a crazy freak show, but for this we're kind of bringing the toned-down version out there, which could be more accessible for some, I think."

"We're just trying to let the songs stand up for themselves," she adds.

The show is a chance for Drobot, who recently finished work on her first studio solo album, *Zero Thought*, to showcase some of her new work.

"With The Psychics, we're kind of a progressive rock band, so when you

start to listen to one song you kind of have to prepare yourself for five songs in a row ... it's a bunch of kinds of songs all stacked on top of each other," she explains. "For my solo record, the songs are shorter ... it's a more concise version of my writing, more pop."

It's a different kind of outlet for the prolific songwriter, who, in addition to The Psychics, also plays with no less than three other Winnipeg and Winkler-based bands.

"It's fun because I write a lot of songs every day and now that I'm playing with lots of different kinds of groups and doing the solo projects, I just kind of filter them off to where they fit best," she says. "I love challenging myself to play different styles."

Music is her life, says Drobot, who makes a living as a musician and music teacher.

"All I do is music," she laughs, adding she was bitten by the musical bug as a child and grew up expressing herself musically whenever she could, which included learning how to play multiple instruments.

Her new album, in fact, includes



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Morden's Paige Drobot performs an acoustic show at The Bunker in Winkler next week Friday. Also on stage will be punk rockers Threw.

much more than just her vocal talents.

"I brought in a drummer and a flute player, but other than that I played all the instruments," says Drobot. "Organ, piano, guitars, bass, percussion, everything ... and I also mixed it. I did

it all myself on this one."

Drobot hopes to release *Zero Thought* sometime in the next year.

Admission to next Friday's show is by donation (\$10 suggested). Doors open at 7 p.m.

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Tips for a stress-free tax season

Filing your taxes can be a busy and time-consuming experience, but a little planning and these top three tips will go a long way toward ensuring a much smoother process.

1. Get organized. Mark your calendar for a quiet time of day when your brain is usually in peak form to get to work. If you're not a morning person, schedule filing time for the evening. Collect all your receipts, slips, proof of income, and other paperwork you may need ahead of time. Research your eligibility for a variety of tax credits, for everything from child care to energy efficient home renovations.

2. Ask for help. Doing your taxes can be hard, so don't be afraid to seek assistance. Ask a trusted relative or friend, hire a tax expert, contact the Canada Revenue Agency, or explore tax clinics in your neighbourhood.

3. Sign up for direct deposit. Enroll for direct deposit now to ensure that you get your payments faster when you file. Get your income tax refund, GST/HST credit and other tax-related payments deposited

straight into your bank account by signing up for direct deposit. It's the fastest, safest and greenest way to get your payments. Sign up by visiting your financial institution or go to directdeposit.gc.ca for more information.

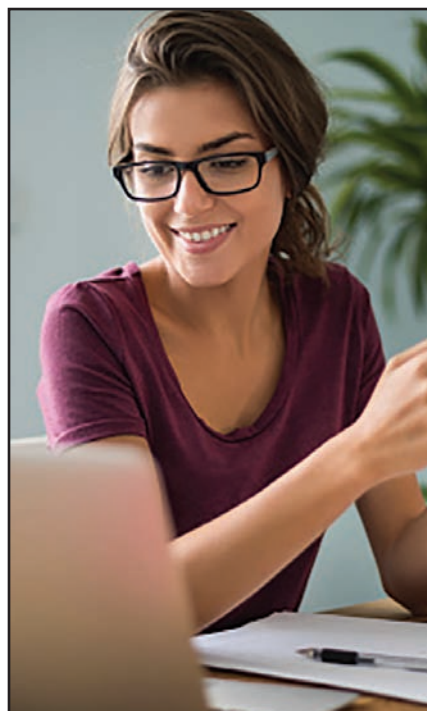


PHOTO BY GARNIE ROSS

The photographs of Garnie Ross are on display at the Pembina Hills art gallery this month.

> ROSS, FROM PG. 13

"They always want to go somewhere else to see a beautiful spot. All they have to do is walk out the door here," he continued. "It's all right there ... big skies, wonderful sunrises and sunsets. You don't see them like this anywhere else really."

Ross described himself as a repatriated Manitoban, having left Cartwright 40 years ago.

"I am retired and very happy to be back in paradise," he said. "I always knew I would be back."

"I have lived all over Canada and still think my hometown is pretty special. I love this area, and the wonderful thing is that most people have no idea it's here."

He grew up as a hunter and outdoor enthusiast and also worked as

a licensed guide for many years in northern Manitoba, so those experiences have helped drive his love for the outdoors as well.

Ross said he has basically always been a photography nut.

"I never leave home without my camera as there is always something incredible to shoot," he said.

"Most of my shots I go with the big sky ... I love big sky ... with my landscapes, that's what I really get into," said Ross, while noting he is also looking to expand his repertoire as well.

"Now I'm getting more into doing night shots, stars, the Milky Way, northern lights ... all that kind of stuff."

Ross' work is on display at the Morden gallery all this month.

Free entry to all prov'l parks

Manitobans get a free pass into our provincial parks this month.

The provincial government announced last week that there will be free entry to all Manitoba parks for the entire month of February.

"Winter is a wondrous time to visit our provincial parks," said Sustainable Development Minister Cathy Cox. "Our parks offer countless opportunities to take part in winter activities or to simply enjoy the splendor of nature in a beautiful snowy setting. We encourage everyone to take a moment this winter to get outside and enjoy a walk in the park or blaze a trail with skis or snowshoes."

Vehicle permits are not required in any provincial park this month, but SnoPasses are still required for snowmobiles using groomed park trails.

There are groomed trails in 12 provincial parks across the province for cross-country skiing, snowmobiling, snowshoeing and hiking. Spruce Woods and Turtle Mountain provincial parks also offer outdoor skating areas, hockey rinks and toboggan hills while fat biking is welcome at Birds Hill Provincial Park on the Oak Ridge Mountain Bike Trail.

Maps of winter trails and updated trail condition reports can be found at www.manitobaparks.com.

Several parks have free interpretive programs scheduled this month, including a guided ski trip in Whiteshell Provincial Park on Feb. 18, a learn to ice fish session in Spruce Woods on Feb. 19, and a winter safari in Birds Hill Provincial Park on Feb. 26.

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Valentine's show takes over Kenmor, opera house

By Lorne Stelmach

The Candlewick Players are returning again to the British farce genre for a fun Valentine's night at the theatre.

They present *I'll Get My Man* by playwright Phillip King in Morden this weekend and then as a dinner theatre production in Manitou the following weekend.

Director Richard Klassen noted they had done another of King's plays, *See How They Run*, a few years ago and it was a bit hit with the cast and audience alike.

"We really enjoyed the ins and outs of the characters ... and we were looking for some ideas for this Valentine's ... and came across this script," said Klassen.

"It has similar characters, so it's almost like a prequel to *See How They Run*. So there's this connection ... similar characters, similar types of scenarios ... there's a bit of romance in the piece for the Valentine's theme.

"There's still lots of shenanigans that go on ... and we were looking for something that would be light and silly and fun."

The play is set in the 1960s at a vicarage where Peter Graham, a television series hero and heartthrob, seeks refuge at the country rectory with his mild clerical Uncle Humphrey from

all the females who continually chase after him.

Meanwhile, Humphrey is horrified by the threatened loss of his housekeeper who has been dismissed by his formidable sister, so he advertises for a wife but absentmindedly omits the important word marriage.

These two occurrences resoundingly shatter the peace of the village as answers to the ad pour in, with the arrival of the dignified Bishop of Lax only adding to the confusion.

As they prepared for more rehearsals this past week, Klassen said the show is already proving to be lots of fun for the cast and crew.

"A number of them several times have said this piece is going to be a keeper ... we're quite confident the audience will enjoy themselves," he said.

He added a bonus is that the shows are also helping support both of

the venues. Funds from the Morden shows will go towards continued renovations of the Kenmor Theatre.

"We're eventually wanting to get curtains for the front of the stage. That's a project that we're working towards," said Klassen, adding proceeds from the Manitou dinner theatre will go towards the opera house's renovation project.

"It's kind of exciting to have some fun and raise some funds for the local



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Cast of the Candlewick Players production of *I'll Get My Man* were in character for rehearsals this past week for the fun British farce. It takes the stage at the Kenmor Theatre in Morden this weekend and then will have the added attraction of a dinner theatre at the Manitou Opera House Feb. 17-19.

theatres at the same time," he said.

Show times at the Kenmor are 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday. Advanced tickets are available until the day before a performance for \$20 and then are \$25 at the door. Get your tickets at the Pembina Hills Art Gallery, Kenmor Theatre (204-822-7469), or Candlewick (204-825-8406).

The show moves on to the Manitou Opera House for Friday, Feb. 17 and Saturday, Feb. 18 at 6:30 p.m. and Sunday, Feb. 19 at 5:30 p.m.

Tickets for the dinner and show are \$37 by reservation only by calling Candlewick at 204-825-8406.

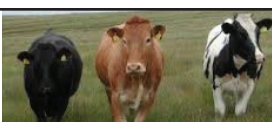
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New home for 17N Quilt Shop



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Owner Shari Dyck cut the ribbon alongside husband Leroy and Winkler Mayor Martin Harder (far right) at the grand opening of Road 17N Quilt Shop's new home last Friday. Dyck said she has been overwhelmed and humbled by the support of the community as the business grew from its humble beginnings on the family farm to a 3,000 sq. ft. location before finally moving into their new building on Diamond Dr. that offers double the space. In addition to quilting supplies, the shop offers classes and retreats as well as custom quilting and machine service. Road 17N is also a sewing machine dealer for Husqvarna Viking.

Winkler man arrested twice in one week

A Winkler man was arrested and charged twice in two days this past week.

The 23-year-old is not only facing one charge for an assault on his 44-year-old father but now also for a breach after returning to his father's home the next day despite orders to stay away.

It started Feb. 3 when police were called to a home on Orion Lane around 10:30 p.m. The father told officers his son had punched him in the mouth and briefly choked him until another family member was able to intervene.

The son was found trying to hide inside the home and was arrested. He was later released with the condition he was not come within 100 meters of his father's home.

Officers were then called back to the home around 9 a.m. the next day because the son had returned. He was again arrested and charged, this time for breaching the conditions of his

undertaking.

The man was released pending a court appearance in March.

A few other items of note in the most recent Winkler Police Service weekly report include:

- Police were called Feb. 2 about an attempted break-in to a home on Elm Bay sometime between Jan. 21 and that day.

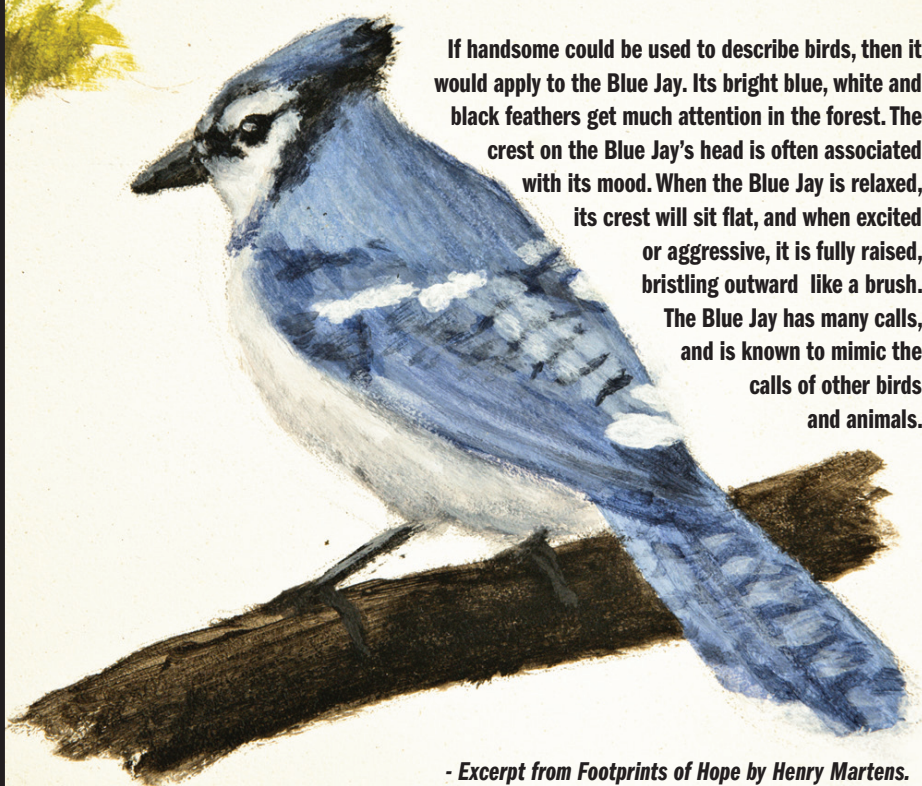
Police were told the homeowner had noticed damage that appeared to be from someone attempting to force their way into the home.

The incident remains under investigation.

- Officers responded to Boundary Trails Heath Centre Feb. 4 after RCMP arrested a man for assaulting a 19-year-old female. The assault occurred in Winkler, and the victim was taken to BTHC for treatment for minor injuries.

The 20-year-old male was charged with assault causing bodily harm, assault, uttering threats and mischief.

On the Oak Woods Trail



If handsome could be used to describe birds, then it would apply to the Blue Jay. Its bright blue, white and black feathers get much attention in the forest. The crest on the Blue Jay's head is often associated with its mood. When the Blue Jay is relaxed, its crest will sit flat, and when excited or aggressive, it is fully raised, bristling outward like a brush. The Blue Jay has many calls, and is known to mimic the calls of other birds and animals.

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

FOOTPRINTS
of Hope

CANADA
A ROCHA
Environmental Stewardship

FCC supports Winkler 4H



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Farm Credit Canada recently donated \$500 to the Winkler 4H Beef Club, with head leader Laura Penner receiving the cheque from Shawn Roulette, senior relationship manager. The club is using the funds for its public speaking evening this month. "We're very proud to support the youth and the leadership that 4H provides," said Roulette. "We feel that it is a very worthy cause."

sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

Flyers hang on in second place

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler Flyers wrapped up January with a major win.

On Jan. 31, the second place Flyers welcomed the third place Selkirk Steelers to town, heading into the match just three points ahead of the visitors in the standings.

Gino Lucia opened scoring with his 14th of the season on the powerplay 6:15 into the game.

That was followed by two goals from Braden Billaney in the 12th minute.

Selkirk finally got on the board a few minutes later, scoring two of their own before the first intermission.

A hard-fought second period saw Selkirk draw even with a powerplay goal at 9:39. Seconds later, Tanner Lewis scored to retake the lead for Winkler, with Mitch Dyck following that up at 11:17 to send the game into the final period 5-3 for the home team.

There, the Steelers got one more and than yanked their goalie in the dying seconds of the game to try and get the tying point, but all that accomplished was a wide open net for Billaney to score his third of the night. The win went to Winkler 6-4.

Cole Weaver was between the posts for Winkler, making 32 saves as the Steelers outshot the Flyers 36-30.

The pendulum swung the other way three nights later as Winkler hosted the Swan Valley Stampede on Feb. 3.

Goals from Billaney and Tyler Jubenvill had the Flyers up 2-0 before the Stampede scored their first of the night 17 minutes into the second period.

The visitors went on to tie the game three minutes into the final period, and while Colton Bates gave Winkler a 3-2 lead with eight minutes left on the clock, Swan Valley managed to score on a powerplay at 18:12, forcing extra time.

There, it was the Stampede who got the game-winner 33 seconds in.



PHOTO BY RICK HIEBERT

Winkler's Gino Lucia and Tanner Lewis team up to take the puck from the Stampede's Trevor Mann. Swan Valley got the win 4-3 in overtime.

In net for Winkler in the 4-3 loss was Troy Martyniuk, who made 19 saves as the Flyers outshot the Stampede 37-23.

The team bounced back the very next night against the Dauphin Kings, once again playing in front of an enthusiastic hometown crowd.

This lopsided match saw Winkler's Lawson McDonald, Matt Christian, and Bates all score first period goals,

while Dauphin got just one past Weaver in net.

Brett Opperman made it 4-1 in the second period. Dauphin managed one more goal midway through the third, which was answered with goals from Bates and Tanner Lewis for a 6-2 Winkler win.

Weaver made 34 saves in all as the Flyers outshot Dauphin 52-36.

The Flyers remain in second place

in the MJHL standings with a 35-12-3 record and 73 points. That puts them eight back of the first place Steinbach Pistons and four ahead of the third place Steelers.

This week, the boys took on the Steelers in Selkirk on Tuesday. Results were not available at press time.

Coming up, Winkler plays at Steinbach Friday and then hosts Waywayseecappo Saturday.

Lady Hawks 1-1-3 in Calgary

By Lorne Stelmach

A tournament in Calgary on the weekend offered the female Pembina Valley Hawks a good tune-up as the playoffs approach back at home.

The Hawks came away from the five games in Calgary with a win and a tie along with three losses against strong opponents.

The Hawks came back from 3-1 and 5-3 period deficits in game one of the

tournament for a 5-5 draw against Manitoba's Yellowhead Chiefs.

Makenzie McCallum led the way with a pair of goals while single

Continued on page 22

Redskins down Royals 4-3 in OT

By Ashleigh Viveiros

As the South Eastern Manitoba Hockey League regular season winds down, the Winkler and Morden teams squared off against one another one last time.

The Morden Redskins hosted the Winkler Royals on Sunday for a tight match that had to be decided in overtime.

After 10 scoreless minutes, Morden's Tyler Peers drew first blood and then was followed by a goal from Derek Holenski four minutes later.

Winkler returned the favour, though, with Logan McGuire and Mark Hildebrand tying the game at 2-2 in the final three minutes.

Period two saw the Redskins' Nick Doyle pull his team back into the lead

at the 2:00 mark. Winkler spent the next 15 minutes trying catch up, eventually succeeding with Hildebrand's second goal of the night at 17:44.

A scoreless third period decided nothing. It took Peers scoring his second of the evening 1:44 into the extra frame to end the game 4-3 for Morden.

In net for Winkler this game was Matt Krahn, who went the distance in 62 minutes and made 41 saves. Across the ice, Reed Peters guarded Morden's net, making 38 saves.

Morden and Winkler are tied in points with Altona at 15, putting them in a three-way tie for fifth place.

Both teams have a couple more games with which to bolster their 7-11-1 records.

The Royals travel to play Altona



PHOTO BY RICK HIEBERT

Winkler's Brett Harder and Blake Forsyth team up to stop Morden's Tyler Peers in Saturday's game, which went Morden's way 4-3 in OT.

Thursday and the last place Stonewall Jets on Saturday, while the Redskins play away games against sec-

ond place Carman and fourth place Warren Saturday and Sunday.

Hawks extend winning streak to four

By Lorne Stelmach

Winning four during a five game homestand has helped the Pembina Valley Hawks keep pace in the battle in the standings.

They extended their current streak to four wins on the weekend with a pair of 6-2 victories over the Kenora Thistles to help maintain their hold on fifth place.

A strong start powered Pembina Valley in the first game with goals just 36 seconds and 3:37 in on their way to a 3-0 lead at the intermission.

Aaron Brunn made 27 saves in goal, while Cade Kowalski scored a pair, including a shorthanded marker. Noah Goertzen had a powerplay goal, and also scoring were Elijah Carels, Kolton Shindle and Wyatt Cobb. Shots were 33 to 29 in favour of the Hawks.

The second game featured a busy first period, with the Hawks scoring two pairs of goals each a couple minutes apart for a 4-2 lead. They shut down the Thistles the rest of the way with a couple more goals in the final frame.

The Hawks' powerplay connected twice, including one in the third by Shindle, who then added a shorthanded marker into an empty Ke-

nora net with over a minute left. Also scoring were Carels, Kowalski, Jayden McCarthy and Everett Bestland.

Brunn stopped 27 of 29 shots on goal to boost his league leading wins total to 18, while the Hawks had 34 shots on goal. And their weekend produc-

tion had Carels still leading in goals with 37 and Kowalski leading in assists with 42 helpers.

Pembina Valley improved their record to 25-13-0-0-1 for 51 points, putting them one back of the Winnipeg Thrashers and Brandon Wheat Kings,

two up on the Eastman Selects, and four ahead of Central Plains Capitals.

The Hawks head to the Interlake to take on the Lightning Saturday in Teulon and then have a big game with Brandon home in Morden Sunday afternoon.

> HAWKS, FROM PG. 21

markers came from Alyssa Alderson, Karsty Nicolajsen and Kelly-Rae Zdan. Kadynce Romijn was lifted about six minutes into the second after having given up five goals on 18 shots, and Halle Oswald stopped all 21 she faced.

Game two saw the Hawks take on the Northern Alberta Xtreme, a prep school program in Edmonton.

Toni Conrad got the Hawks on the board in the first period and held that lead until late in the second when the Xtreme got two quick goals 36 seconds apart.

In the third, the Hawks were outshot 16-6 and gave up a late empty net goal for the 3-1 loss. Oswald kept the Hawks in the game with 30 saves.

Next up in game three were the Rocky Mountain Raiders, another

high level AAA hockey program in Alberta.

Oswald again did her best in goal with a 39-save performance, but a Raiders goal 8:26 in the first would be all they needed, though they added two more in the third including a powerplay marker for the 3-0 shut-out. Shots were 42-26 in favour of the Raiders.

Pembina Valley picked up their lone win in game four with Mackenzie Hutchinson sparking the attack with a pair of goals and a four point effort in the 5-4 win over the Edmonton Pandas.

Romijn made 31 saves for the win in goal, while other goals came from Katelyn Heppner, Brooklyn Platt and Zdan as the Hawks grabbed the momentum with three second pe-

riod goals.

The Hawks made a game of it in the final match, firing two quick goals 26 seconds and 1:27 into the third period to tie it 2-2 against the host Edge School, but the Mountaineers got the winner at 14:38 for the 3-2 win. Oswald turned in another strong performance in goal with 40 saves.

Pembina Valley closes out their regular season schedule with a northern road trip for two games against the Norman Wild Friday and Saturday.

They could finish the season in anywhere from fourth to second place, as they come into these games tied with the Winnipeg Avros and Yellowhead Chiefs at 38 points each, while the Westman Wildcats had top spot locked up at 45 points.

Agriculture

Manitoba Pork GM says it may be a break-even year

By Harry Siemens

Optimism radiated from the hog industry last week for two days in Winnipeg as part of the Manitoba Swine Seminar.

That's despite some ominous clouds on the horizon involving trade deals and hog prices lower than anticipated because of the United States hog industry increasing production dramatically,

"Prices seem to be holding but profits in the U.S. will be slim in 2017," said Andrew Dickson, general manager of Manitoba Pork. "But because of the Canadian exchange rate, our producers should be able to break even, and in some cases might even make some money, depending how they price their inputs and how they price their pig sales when they sell it off the farm."

In addressing producers at the seminar, Dickson said this year, as it always should be, it will be very critical how hog producers tend to both ends of their business—inputs and sales, and, of course, management from sow to finish, depending at when they sell their pigs.

In an interview, he said producers must make sure they have a margin in there so they can service the fixed costs, which is about 93 per cent of the pig.

"The good news is that by the end of 2017 or early 2018 there is new processing capacity coming into play in the U.S., and hopefully that will peel off some of the pressure that is on the existing processing capacity and increasing demand from producers," he said.

"The thing we have to worry about is pork exports because if you want the price in the North American market to go up, you have to get the pork out of North America and that will pull up the U.S. domestic price.

"Exports are critical because the U.S. exports 25 to 30 percent of their production. There are some unknowns about the American dollar going up or down relative to the other currencies."

Dickson said, more importantly, tearing up the Trans-Pacific Partnership was not good news for the pig business.

"It was going to open up markets

for Canadians and Americans in profitable markets like Japan, Vietnam and so on," he said. "Then this discussion about NAFTA and maybe having to renegotiate NAFTA is very worrisome for us both in Canada and the U.S. It has been good for the two industries. Both industries have grown. In fact, trade has been so good where the Americans have captured something like 20 to 25 per cent of our domestic market at the same time we may have capture three, four, or five per cent of their domestic market—of course, their market is ten times bigger than ours."

Dickson said NAFTA is good for the industries on both sides of the border. They have meat cuts Canada is short of, and Canada has cuts that they may be short of.

On the other hand, Premier Brian Pallister's new government has provided a new atmosphere where they want to see the industry grow, to see

more barns built, produce more pigs to fill up the processing plants and what can they do to help.

The hog industry is happy to see government announce them making changes to the Farm Building Code and moving away from this white commercial standard that the industry somehow got tied up in.

"To a more sensible Farm Building Code that we can maybe reduce some of the costs to replace the barn infrastructure, maybe five to 10 per cent but it is helpful. Every little bit helps," Dickson said. "We're also looking at some changes to the Environment Act, getting rid of the anaerobic digester ideas and streamlining this municipal planning process, still allowing for public input to where the industry will place these barns, but at the same time a more rational approach to developments."

"It can't be a tossup every time as to whether they'll permit a development

or not. If you stand back and look at the industry over the next ten years, we need to replace all of our buildings because most are getting 18 to 19 years old. They were designed for a lifespan of 25 years," he said. "At some point, we have to replace them and we're looking at a \$1.7 billion challenge."

Dickson agrees it isn't as simple as ripping up the moratorium the previous government legislated—there must be some common sense planning going forward.

"You don't amend legislation lightly, we're encouraging the government to not do it piecemeal, but part of a bigger package so that it all makes sense," he said. "They understand that as well, not wanting to go back opening up pieces of legislation every time you find something that doesn't quite work."



By Harry Siemens

There was a time when all you had was dial up internet, slow, steady but it worked. Since then, high speed internet has come of age, at a higher cost, and that is okay.

However, it isn't okay when you live two minutes away from the MTS office in Winkler and the upload speed appears slower than the what the dial-up upload speed used to be.

Yes, I know there are some areas of Winkler that have much higher speed up and downloads because they have access to fibre optics instead of wire. Yes, MTS tells me I can get it, but at a hefty installation cost and hundreds of dollars in monthly fees.

If a small operator like myself, a freelance journalist who writes for a living and sends pictures across the country many times a week, has to take a coffee break so that picture can upload, it is hard to imagine how some of the big manufacturers and large companies in Winkler manage

We need high-speed internet that works

with a snail's pace high speed internet service.

There are certain parts of the city where the Internet drops and the bars on my MTS cell phone all but disappear, not to mention driving north on No. 3 highway, or east on No. 23.

I recall at the AGM of Manitoba Agricultural Producers one year ago, delegates passed two resolutions addressing poor rural cellphone service. Rural Manitobans, said many delegates, pay the same price for cell service as others in the province, but receive substandard service due to a lack of towers or poor signals.

That is what I'm talking about. I'm sure my MTS 'plan' is the same for the next guy in Winnipeg who gets great service most of the time, and I can't imagine them putting up with the kind of poor to poorer internet service I get in the city of Winkler.

In talking to farmers who live a distance from any decent service, and having to put up with the whims of an even poorer system, I don't even

want to go there.

Some days I can't believe my eyes, it's actually working quite well. And then low and behold it drops off, freezing my testy iMac Apple computer, especially as it pertains to my Google Documents Drive where I write my articles, store my interview notes, giving me access whether we are in the Chaco, Paraguay, Banff, AB attending another pork seminar, or in Vancouver, visiting our daughter.

The advantages of being a freelance writer using today's advanced technology is being able to work from just about anywhere, as long as—yes, you guessed it—there's reliable high speed internet.

I can't remember it failing me in a family-run motel in Loma Plata, Paraguay or on the beach in Florida some years back, but in Winkler, MB it fails me far too often.

Delegates to that KAP meeting a year ago also called for Manitoba

Continued on page 25

Updating the public's image of modern agriculture

By Harry Siemens

Speaking at the Manitoba Swine Seminar in Winnipeg last week Dr. Frank Mitloehner, a professor and air quality specialist with the Department of Animal Science at the University of California, Davis says the persistent red barn image of agriculture is misleading the public and needs dispelling if modern agriculture is to be free to meet the challenge of feeding the world.

In only 40 years, the world's population has doubled and it's on pace to increase by another 50 per cent in the next four decades.

Mitloehner says to feed that growing population, agriculture must become and be allowed to become as efficient as possible.

"I think we are on the right track with respect to how we produce livestock today, but we're not on the right track on how we communicate as to how we do it and why," he says. "One of the stories that you hear out there is that in the 1950s and 1960s we had a much better agricultural production then. Everything was greener and therefore less environmentally harmful. The opposite is true."

Mitloehner says farmers then needed three to four times more animals to produce the same amount of food under conditions that were not welfare enhancing.

"We had to tie animals onto equipment. We had to hand milk or hand raise animals. We had to, or we did put manure straight into the next

stream to get rid of it. All of these things are unthinkable today," he says. "We are a much more sustainable animal agriculture today than we were in the 1950s and 1960s, but this red barn idyllic picture is in the heads of people. They think that's what they want, but I don't think they know what that entails."

Mitloehner says the animal agriculture field needs to step out of their cave and really engage with the public who increasingly often want to know how farmers produce animal protein and why. He stresses they need to be proud of their story and to share it others if they want to stay in business.

MORE EFFICIENCIES NEEDED

At the same conference, Dr. Candido Pomar, a research scientist with

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, says that as the human demand for protein grows, it will become increasingly important for livestock producers to make more efficient use of the nutrients fed to livestock.

As part of research being conducted in partnership with Swine Innovation Porc, scientists are developing precision feeding strategies designed to provide each pig with the exact amount of nutrients necessary to optimize growth.

Pomar says by tailoring rations to meet the specific nutritional needs of each pig, farmers will be able to reduce the total amount of nutrients provided to the herd by about 25 per cent.

"We are expecting, in the coming years, that we are going to be competing with human nutrition because the

human population is growing more and more and also meat consumption is growing, particularly driven by China," he says. "China's consumption per capita is increasing very fast so it is not going to be too long that available protein has to be used for humans and animals so improving the efficiency is an essential element because otherwise we are going to be in competition with human nutrition and we can not be there."

By tailoring the nutritional content of rations to provide each pig with exactly what it needs to maximize growth, farmers will be able to cut production costs while also reducing the amount of nutrients excreted into the environment, says Pomar.

> SIEMENS SAYS, FROM PG. 24

Hydro upgrades that will meet the needs of modern agriculture—at a reasonable cost. Some used the example of a farmer who couldn't use his welder to fix farm equipment while his children had the computer turned on.

Oh boy, and I wonder which one got the priority on that one.

My electrical power works well, and let me say that the snow removal people in the City of Winkler do a first class job and timely as well. One only needs to go to some other communities, or even in Winnipeg, and realize that service here is about as good as it

gets. And the mayor lives on the other side of town.

At the time of this writing, I had just received an invite from my friend Bob Kleinsasser of the Suncrest Colony near Steinbach. If you recall, I reported on this the first new hog barn in the last seven years holding an Open House on March 4, 2016 just off the intersection of highways 59 and 52 near Steinbach, MB.

Kleinsasser described it as an 800 sow farrow to 80 pounds finishing using open group housing with 125 sows per group at 28 square feet per sow.

"Our sow barn is shot, 50 years old, and we are 500 sows, farrow to finish right now," he said. "We'll finish as many as we can and the rest we're selling as Isoweans. Once we get this new barn a little bit paid down, it is not cheap to build, we'll build a new finisher barn, too."

At the open house, there were no pigs. On Tuesday of this week if all goes well, I will do a follow up visit, but I get to see the pigs. If you want to see modern and even some advanced technology in action, stay tuned because this barn has the best and I believe it works all the time.

Scotiabank marking Cdn. Ag Day with luncheon

Scotiabank in Winkler is hosting an event later this month to mark Canada's first Agriculture Day.

The bank invites agricultural producers to a special luncheon at the Winkler Centennial Library on Friday, Feb. 24 starting at noon.

"We are Celebrating Canada's Agriculture Day with a farmers lunch and guest speakers discussing agricultural businesses and their meaningful role to our local and national economy," said Scotiabank small business advisor Peter Becker.

Some of the topics on the agenda include reducing operating expenses, increasing operational profitability, and the agricultural business climate in Manitoba and locally.

"The goal of the event is to have a informative discussion on farming topics that can help farmers in their

day-to-day operations while showing our appreciation for all that they do," Becker said.

Guest speakers include Winkler Mayor Martin Harder, commercial agriculture expert Gerry Brennenstuh, and University of Manitoba

farm management instructor Garrett Sawatsky.

Scotiabank representatives will also be on hand to answer questions about the services they can offer producers.

Lunch will be provided, so guests need to RSVP if they wish to attend.

"The space only holds 50 people," notes Becker, "so seats are limited."

For more information or to book a seat, contact Becker at 204-325-1480 ext. 4300 or email peterd.becker@scotiabank.com.

> TWISTERS, FROM PG. 23

urday over the Raiders in the Manitoba Major Junior Hockey League.

It was Pembina Valley goaltender Matt Kohlman, however, who really saved the day as he turned in a stellar 52 save performance with the Twisters being outshot 56-26 in their only game of the week.

Fraser Mirrlees also scored a pair

of goals for the Twisters, as the two teams traded goals throughout the game, with Brendan Keck tying things up at 4-4 with just over three minutes left to send it to overtime.

The Twisters maintained their hold on third place at 21-9-4 for 46 points, which had them two up on the St. James Canucks and five back of both

the Stonewall Jets and Charleswood Hawks.

This week, Pembina Valley hosted the Transcona Railer Express Tuesday. Results were not available at press time.

Coming up, the team hosts the St. Vital Victorias Friday and the Fort Garry Fort Rouge Twins Sunday.



SUPPLIED PHOTO BY RYAN SAWATZKY

At a recent Winkler Flyers hockey game, Winkler Royal Bank employees presented Big Brothers Big Sisters of Morden-Winkler's executive director Michael Penner and two of the agency's Little Brothers with a cheque for \$5,000 from the RBC Learn to Play grant program. The funding is going toward the operation of the local Kicks for Kids program, which has 20 kids getting active and learning respect and self-control through martial arts.

Hwy. 32 improvements make province's to-do list

The provincial government has committed cost-sharing funding for six new projects in Manitoba, including Hwy. 32.

Infrastructure Minister Blaine Pedersen announced intersection improvements on PTH 32 at Hespler Ave. and upgrades to portions of the highway, shoulders, and driveway access.

"We are proud to work with our municipal partners on improving the safety and quality of our roadways in communities across the province," he said.

Other projects receiving funding

include:

- reconstruction of PTH 1A in Brandon from 34th Street to west of 38th Street;
- intersection improvements on PTH 3 at McCreary Road;
- intersection improvements on PR 334 and Taylor Farm Road;
- drainage improvements and utility relocation on PR 332 in the vicinity of Starbuck; and
- paving provincial roads in Pilot Mound on PA 658 from Victoria Avenue to Mound Avenue and Broadway Avenue between Frazer Avenue and PTH 3.

take a break > GAMES

SUDOKU

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

Fun By The Numbers

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

Level: Intermediate

Here's How It Works:

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

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

Sudoku Answer

T	P	K	S	O	H	T	V	B	
D	E	T	A	N	E	T	I	C	N
E	T	A	R	E	T	I	P	I	H
S	T	I	D	A	V	S	D	I	W

Crossword Answer



CROSSWORD

CLUES ACROSS

1. Unruly groups
5. Colorful flowers
11. December 25
14. Final stages of insects' development
15. Breadmakers
18. Spanish man
19. In the middle
21. Bill
23. Noted editor Alexander
24. Swollen
28. Paddles
29. Cirrus
30. Seeped into
32. Skeletal muscle
33. Japanese traditional drama
35. Licensed practical nurse
36. Sibiu Airport
39. Rebuff
41. Sun God
42. Astringent
44. Feeling of humiliation
46. A device attached to a workbench
47. Wood sorrel
49. Among
52. Horizontal passages
56. Father of Alexander the Great
58. Utter repeatedly
60. Linked together
62. Literary effect
63. Held onto

CLUES DOWN

1. One-time phone company
2. Units of electrical resistance
3. Hillside
4. Omen

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

5. Repetitions
6. Royal Mail Ship
7. Farm state
8. Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)
9. Dutch cheese
10. Japanese alcoholic beverage
12. Black powdery substance
13. Tokyo's former name
16. Monetary unit
17. Bones
20. To avoid the risk of
22. Dry goods unit of volume (abbr.)
25. Megabyte
26. Unwell
27. Expresses disapproval of
29. Central nervous system
31. We all have it

34. Expression of bafflement
36. Tributary of the Danube
37. Flies over sporting events
38. Chinese city
40. College degree
43. Dispenser of first aid
45. Momentum (slang)
48. Red Sea port
50. Sloven
51. __ Turner, rock singer
53. Asian nation (alt. sp.)
54. Manson victim
55. Go forward
57. Primary Care Trust
58. Simpson trial judge
59. Sun up in New York
61. Exclamation of surprise

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PrairieSky Royalty Ltd. is a publicly-traded company in Calgary that acquires oil & gas fee title and royalty interests at fair market value. To receive a cash offer, call 587-293-4055 or visit www.prairiesky.com/Selling-Your-Royalties

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.

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.

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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!

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Free sweets for a cause. Countertop profit centers - all cash high profits, plus raises money for breast cancer research across Canada. Full details call now 1-866-668-6629 website www.vendingforhope.com

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COMING EVENTS

Thousand Oaks Ministries Inc.
GOSPEL MUSIC NIGHT
Sat., Feb. 18, 2017
7:30 pm at the
P.W. Enns Centennial Concert Hall Winkler, MB
Featuring: **James & Kathy Wollmann** (Steinbach, MB)
1000 Oaks Jam Session
(Bring your instruments)
Everyone Welcome! Free will Offering
1000 Oaks Info Line (204) 822-1253
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NOTICES

The Rural Municipality of Stanley
Invites applications for a Career Opportunity Position

Assistant Utility Operator

This is an exciting new position which will assist in the daily operational aspects of the municipal utilities department.

Duties would include:

- Assisting in daily operations of water treatment plant, various water stations and reservoirs
- Involvement in construction and maintenance of water/wastewater networks and systems
- Assist in collection of information pertaining to information management and mapping systems
- Installation and maintenance of water meters and associated components
- Assist the public works department in a variety of duties
- Working together with various agencies and contractors to ensure the safe operation of all utility systems within the municipality
- Some weekend and call-out hours will be required

This individual will have:

- Valid Class 5 Manitoba driver's license.
- Grade 12/GED 12
- Completed or willing to complete the required water treatment/distribution and wastewater treatment/collection certifications
- Willingness and desire to work towards advancement of water and wastewater system accreditation and continuing education units required by provincial regulation and the municipality
- Proven aptitude for diligence and safety in performance of work duties
- Demonstrated analytical skills and creativity in problem solving
- High degree of professional judgment, organizational and time management skills
- Appreciation for the significance and importance of ensuring safety and viability of utility systems
- Strong public relations and interpersonal skills with the ability to communicate with tact and diplomacy both verbally and in writing
- Strong aptitude for public service
- Experience and/or training in plumbing/electrical would be considered an asset.

Interested applicants should forward their resume and cover letter to the undersigned.

The RM of Stanley offers a competitive compensation and health benefits package and pension plan.

Please note that only those applicants selected for interviews will be contacted.

Ken Thiessen
Public Works Supervisor
RM of Stanley
Box 1600 - Winkler MB R6W 4B5

Phone: (204) 325-4101
publicworks@rmofstanley.ca
www.rmofstanley.ca

COMING EVENTS

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2017

Thursday, March 2 @ 7 pm
At Manitou Opera House
Theme: "Starting Over"

Featuring Francine Meeches,
Chair of The Assembly of MB's Chiefs First Nation's Women's Committee and Swan Lake First Nation Chief. There will also be selections of Monologues by Sarasvati Productions. Wear the fanciest, craziest, or most creative hat to win a prize!

Tickets \$15 includes
coffee/tea & choice of dessert

Wednesday, March 8 at 11:30 am
in Winkler

Lunch & Learn Presentation
Managing Personalities

Tickets \$35 includes lunch

To reserve tickets for either event
call 204-325-9957 ext 2221 or
email sccfv1@genesis-house.ca

CAREERS



Winkler Police Service

POLICE CONSTABLE

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The Winkler Police Service is currently inviting applications to fill one full time Constable position.

Includes an excellent benefits package and tuition paid training, etc.

For complete details on salaries, eligibility, minimum stds, and required documents, visit our website under Recruiting.

To apply, applicants MUST obtain an informative application package from the Winkler Police Service. Completed packages must be received by April 13th, 2017 @ 4:00 pm.

Packages may be obtained in person, by mail (phone 325-0829) or from our website at

www.winklerpolice.ca

LIQUOR LICENCE APPLICATION PUBLIC NOTICE

WINKLER ARTS AND CULTURE INC. operating as
CULTURE CENTRE at
547 PARK STREET, WINKLER, MANITOBA

has applied for
ENTERTAINMENT FACILITY LIQUOR SERVICE LICENCE
to serve liquor from 9:00 A.M. to 2:00 A.M. Monday to Sunday
1:00 P.M. to 2:00 A.M. Remembrance Day

Citizen and community input is an important part of the application process.

If you have questions about this application, please call the Liquor and Gaming Authority of Manitoba at 204-474-5619.

If you have questions about zoning by-laws and requirements, please contact your municipality.

If you want to make a formal objection to this application, please send us your objection in writing by 4:00 p.m.

14 DAYS FOLLOWING THE PUBLICATION OF THIS ADVERTISEMENT

You can email, mail or fax your objection. Please include contact information.

Email: licinspect@LGAmanitoba.ca

Mail: Liquor and Gaming Authority of Manitoba
P.O. Box 1023, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 2X1

Fax: 204-453-5254

- We respond to all formal objections and will work to resolve objections before issuing a licence
- A copy of the objection will be provided to the licence applicant
- Each person who submits an objection will be advise in writing of the outcome to the licence application.

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NOTICES

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

The Council of the City of Winkler, under the authority of The Planning Act, will hold a Public Hearing, at the Winkler Council Chamber, 185 Main Street, Winkler, Manitoba, on Tuesday, February 28th, 2017 at 7:00 PM, at which time and place the Council will receive representations and objections from any persons who wish to make them in respect of By-Law No. 2172-17, of the City of Winkler.

The general intent of the above By-Law No. 2172-17, is to zone the land described below, Namely:

**Lot 3, Block 1, & Lots 1 to 6, Block 5,
Plan 59073 MLTO in the NW ¼ 2-3-4 WPM**

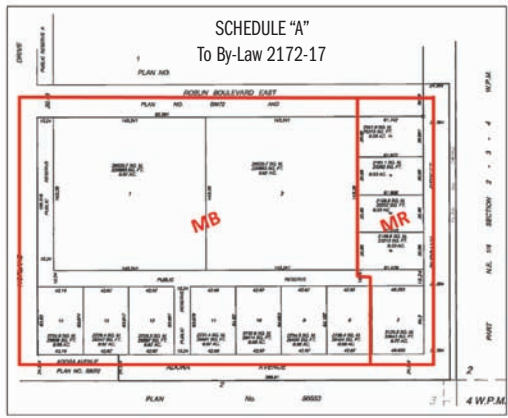
as shown outlined in a heavy solid line on the map attached hereto as Schedule "A", and forming part of this by-law, be rezoned

FROM: "CR" COMMUNITY RESERVE ZONE
TO: "MB" INDUSTRIAL BUSINESS ZONE, AND
"MR" INDUSTRIAL RESTRICTED ZONE



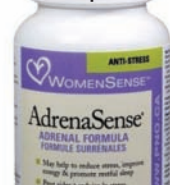
A copy of the above By-Law No. 2172-17, and supporting material may be inspected by any persons between the hours of 9:00 AM and 5:00 PM, Monday to Friday, in the City Office.

DATED at Winkler, in Manitoba, this 16th day of January, 2017.
Designated Officer
City of Winkler



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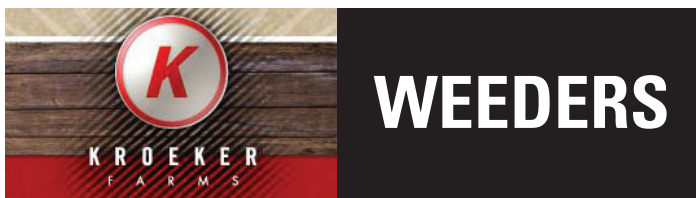


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skylineautobody.ca

CAREERS



Kroeker Farms Limited, a Winkler MB. based agribusiness will have part-time openings in our organic department beginning early June to mid - August to pull weeds in our organic crops, including onions, potatoes and other field crops.

Desired Requirements:

- Enthusiastic persons willing to take responsibility
- Positive team players
- Ability to focus

Wage rate is \$11.00/hour

**Please send or email your resume to,
drop off your application attention to:**

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

**Deadline for applications -
February 17, 2017**



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

PUBLIC NOTICE



WESTERN
School Division
Morden, Manitoba

"Rooted In Caring;
Committed to Learning"



Budget Exhibition

Morden Collegiate Gymnasium February 22 • Time: 7:00-8:30 PM

You are invited to a casual and informative evening
showcasing some of the amazing students, staff & key

programs, that our \$20,000,000
budget supports. The Budget
Exhibition (think tradeshow), is
your chance to see how
education is changing!

**We hope to
see you there!**



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SERVICES

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

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SEASONAL EMPLOYMENT



CITY OF WINKLER PARKS & RECREATION

Invites applications for the following seasonal positions:

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.

Above positions may require some weekend and evening work.

Forward Resumes by February 17, 2017 to:

City of Winkler Parks & Recreation

Attn: Mr. Rick Denison

185 Main Street Winkler, MB R6W 1B4

E-mail: rdenison@cityofwinkler.ca

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

CAREERS

Equipment Maintenance Technician

The CITY OF MORDEN invites applications for the position of Equipment Maintenance Technician in its Public Works Department. This is a full-time position with a requirement to work on-call and after regular hours, as necessary.

Reporting to the Public Works Supervisor, this individual will be required to:

- Maintain and repair City of Morden vehicles and equipment
- Weld and fabricate equipment and fixtures
- Work effectively with minimal supervision
- Communicate well with the general public and other staff

The preferred candidate will have the following qualifications:

- Five years of experience in repair of vehicles, trucks and heavy equipment
- High level of skill in welding steel and cast iron
- Reasonably proficient in computer data entry
- A valid Class 5 Manitoba driver's license; Class 3A is preferred
- Grade 12 or equivalent education
- Enjoys working both independently and in support of a diverse team
- Proficient in English terminology (oral and written)

The successful candidate will have demonstrated a high level of initiative and enthusiasm in their approach toward fulfilling responsibilities in previous roles.

The rate of pay for this position ranges from \$19.84 to \$23.29 per hour, dependent on experience and qualifications. The City of Morden offers a comprehensive benefits package.

Interested applicants are invited to submit a detailed resume complete with three references by sending applications to:

Human Resources Officer

CITY OF MORDEN

100-195 Stephen Street, Morden, Manitoba R6M 1V3

FAX: 1-204-822-6494

mneufeld@mordenmb.com

We thank all for applying, but advise that only those considered for an interview will be contacted. A condition of employment is agreement by the applicant to disclose criminal record information to the City of Morden.

Morden

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Estimator (Rural) – (Winkler)

As a Rural Estimator, you will perform damage estimates on all types of vehicles at service or claim centres, off-site body shops, tow yards, compounds and other locations. Under the general supervision of the Estimating Supervisor, you will also review repair work done by repair shops across the province and validate supplement repairs that are requested by body shops.

Responsibilities

- Confirm damage and prepare vehicle damage estimates using an automated estimating system in accordance with MPI Estimating Standards and OEM repair procedures.
- Review initial and supplemental estimates submitted by body shops to ensure accuracy.
- Approve additional repairs in accordance with MPI's Estimating Standards and OEM repair procedures.
- Conduct Quality of Repair inspections and report the findings to Quality Control.
- Work in collaboration with repair shops to ensure overall claim repair times are mitigated to provide exceptional customer service.
- Build and maintain strong working relationships with the auto body trade.

Education & Experience

- High school diploma or equivalent.
- Journeyman status in Autobody repair.
- Completion of current I-Car Programs and willing to pursue and maintain I-CAR Platinum recognition.
- Five years of experience in Autobody repair of which one year of experience is in a customer service capacity.

OR

- High school diploma or equivalent.
- 10 years of related experience in the Autobody repair industry, of which year of experience is in a customer service capacity.
- Completion of current I-Car Programs and willing to pursue and maintain I-CAR Platinum recognition.

Special skills

- Working knowledge of applicable legislation, regulations and OEM requirements.
- Strong organizational, decision making, conflict resolution and customer service skills.
- Good mechanical aptitude.

Interested? Apply with your resumé at www.mpi.mb.ca/en/Careers/ on or before **February 13, 2017.**

We believe diversity strengthens us. As a workplace that reflects our communities, we encourage all those qualified to apply. Thank you to all applicants. We will contact those we're considering for an interview.

Please note, a satisfactory criminal record check and education verification will be required for all successful candidates. Applicants must be legally eligible to work in Canada.

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ANNIVERSARY



Abram and Helena Wiebe
Happy 70th Anniversary
Mom and Dad
on February 9, 2017!

-With love from,
your family

**Remember Your
Loved Ones**
with an Announcement in the
**The Winkler Morden
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IN MEMORIAM



Jack Wiebe
August 5, 1936 - February 14, 2016
God has you in His keeping,
We have you in our hearts.
-Forever loved and sadly missed
by your children

OBITUARY

Denis Robert Joseph Boille 1960 – 2017

Denis Robert Joseph Boille, 56 passed away unexpectedly on Saturday, January 28, 2017 at his home in Plum Coulee, MB. He was born in Saint Claude, MB on November 24, 1960 to George Boille and Garbrielle Philippe. He was predeceased by his parents as well as two brothers, Rene and Louis and his sister, Rose. He is survived by his brother, Marcel, Roland and his sister, Emilie. Denis was raised by his loving foster parents, Neil and Lynda Macdonald in Clearwater, MB. He is also survived by them as well as his brothers, Chad, Troy, Blake and his sister, Becky.

Denis was the loving father of four children, Leslie Donaldson, Ryan Boille, Kyle Boille and Michael Boille. He was a caring and proud father who was always prepared to provide a helping hand or an ear to listen when you needed to talk. As his children grew, so did his family when he became a grandfather with the arrival of his daughter's three children and the announcement of his eldest son's first child. Denis beamed with pride whenever the talk of his children or grandchildren came up and was always excited to share an anecdote about their lives or brag about their accomplishments.

He is survived by his beloved wife and partner, Mary-Ann Klassen, whom he met in 2002. They were a team, taking on new projects together like their coffee shop. The J&M Diner was not only a business but a gathering spot where they could talk with friends and serve up delicious meals for their community. When Denis moved in with Mary-Ann, his family grew again as he became a stepfather to Mary-Ann's five children and 11 grandchildren. He treated them like his own and never flinched at an opportunity to be a father to them. Denis was a persistent and hard working man who always tried his best to provide for his family. Along with helping to run a business with his partner, Mary-Ann, he also held down a fulltime job at North Star Fibre in Morden, MB. At North Star, he was a regular Macgyver, keeping the machinery going longer than it should have. In his free time, he enjoyed fishing the local lakes and rivers. Come summer or winter he would make time to go fishing. Denis was never afraid to make a joke at his own expense if only to make someone smile and lighten their day. He was generous with both his time and love. We are all thankful to have had an opportunity to know him. He will be missed by family and friends and neighbors. God bless.

Funeral service was held at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 4, 2017 at the Winkler Bergthaler Mennonite Church with interment at Rosenbach Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to assist the family with expenses.

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



OBITUARY

Alfred (Fred) Frank Landry 1958 – 2017



Fred Landry of Morden, Manitoba peacefully passed into his eternal resting home surrounded by family at the St. Boniface Hospital, on Friday, January 27, 2017 at age 58.

Fred was born in Winnipeg to Alfred and Elizabeth Landry on June 5, 1958. Fred grew up in Aubigny on the farm. In 1978 he married his wife, Wanda. Fred and Wanda had five children that they lovingly raised. Fred loved his family and when not on the road driving for Greyhound he could almost always be found with his children and grandchildren. Fred also loved getting out and riding motorcycle, quadding and going fishing.

Fred was predeceased by his loving wife, Wanda Landry (nee Giesbrecht); father, Alfred Landry; sister, Laura Lynne Landry in infancy; nephew, Jeremy Giesbrecht and nephew, Derek Giesbrecht. He is survived by and lovingly remembered by daughter, Carla Krawetz of Morris and husband, Ken with their children, Adrianna, Alexandria, Allanah, Jordan and Roman; daughter, Tanya Doell of Winkler and husband, Chris with their children Hunter, Chase and Wyatt; daughter, Krista Enns of Winkler and husband, Terry with their children, Kaylyn, Morgan and Emma; son, Seth Landry of Morden and wife, Betty and their children, Delilah and Isaiah; son, Ryan Landry and wife, Candace with their children, Saphira, Corbin and Abigail. He is also survived by his mother, Elizabeth Landry (née Waters); sisters, Gisele and Janice (Louis) and brother, Douglas (Belinda) and their families.

His celebration of life was held on Thursday, February 2, 2017 at the Winkler Mennonite Brethren Church with interment at Westridge Memorial Gardens.

In lieu of flowers, the family is requesting donations be made in Fred's memory to the Manitoba Heart and Stroke Foundation.

We would like to thank the staff at Boundary Trails Health Centre, Health Science Centre and St. Boniface Hospital for the care and support they provided.

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



OBITUARY

Eric Thomas Hornung

February 22, 1980 - January 29, 2017

With deep love, affection and sadness, we announce Eric's passing into the arms of his loving Lord on Sunday, January 19, 2017 after a brief illness.

Keeping his memory alive are his parents, Gary and Bonnie; his brother, Mark (Allyson, niece, Alexis and nephew, Cole); grandfather, Frank Hornung and the extended Levandosky and Hornung families.

Eric was born, raised, and lived in Morden, MB. He was a member of the Gateway Resources family and lived in Morden's Westmount Home with Andrea and Matthew, his housemates.

We thank the Boundary Trails Health Centre Medical Team led by Dr. Lane for their efforts on Eric's behalf. We, also, thank the many Gateway staff for their care and compassion towards Eric over the years.

In lieu of flowers, we ask that you donate to the charity of your choice in Eric's name.

We celebrated Eric's life with his Funeral Liturgy at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, February 7, 2017 at St. Bernadette's R.C. Parish, 820 Cottonwood Rd, in Winnipeg. Love You Forever and Ever and Always. Amen.

Wiebe Funeral Chapel, Morden
In care of arrangements
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