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Celebrating Canadian diversity

The Congolese Kids performed at Winkler's CultureFest last week, part of the community's Canada Day festivities. For more photos, see Pg. 8.
PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

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CCH splits \$20K prize pot with local winner

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Central Community Homes (CCH) presented the winner of its 50/50 raffle with a cool \$10,120 last week.

Winklerite Dah Blet had the winning ticket drawn Tuesday evening at the community's Canada Day festivities

The raffle in support of CCH's new affordable housing complex going up at the corner of North Railway Ave. and Main St. reached heights of \$20,240 thanks to an outpouring of community support.

"We didn't really know what to expect with this," said Dave Kasdorf, CCH vice-chair. "But we had lots of local support. Once people knew that it was going to the 28-unit apartment block we're building, we saw ticket sales really ramp up.

"We're super excited that our winner is a local and it's going to a young family," he added. "She was overjoyed when she picked up her cheque."

CCH's half of the funds takes a bite out of the cost of the apartment project, which is on budget and on schedule to welcome its first families this fall.

But Kasdorf shared they need to raise another \$500,000 or so to get this and future, much-needed housing projects off the ground.

"Fundraising will continue," he said. "If there are people willing to make a donation, they can always drop off a cheque at Central Station."

Donations can also be made online at centralcommunityhomes.ca.

The need for affordable housing in

"WE HAD LOTS OF LOCAL SUPPORT."



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Central Community Homes board members and staff presented Dah Blet and her family with their share of the 50/50 fundraising raffle, which reached \$20,240 by Canada Day.

Winkler continues to grow.

"Right now there's over 100 people on the wait list at Central Station for housing," Kasdorf noted. "The needs range from one-bedroom apartments for single seniors to three-bedrooms

for families.

"As the community continues to grow, the need continues to grow. So the 28-unit that we're building is great, but it really only kind of scratches the surface."

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10:30-1:30 Dunk Tank

10:30-2:30 Petting Zoo

11:30-2:30 Inflatables/Train

SATURDAY AFTERNOON



1:00-5:00 Gelly Ball

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Local handivan service gets a new set of wheels

By Lorne Stelmach

The Morden Community Handi-van service celebrated the recent arrival of its new vehicle last week with a thank-you to the sponsors who helped make it possible.

Brian Nedohin, who is chairperson of the handi-van board as well as one of the volunteer drivers, noted that it happened entirely through local support.

"There was no provincial money in here at all. This is all from local donors," he said as the new van was shown off on the grounds of the Morden research station. "I'm very happy with this community. They have supported us very well."

The vehicle came at a cost of about \$101,000, and it was all raised through sponsorships and donations. The sponsors include the Morden Elks Lodge, Morden Community Thrift Shop, United Way Pembina Valley, Decor Cabinets, RM of Stanley, and City of Winkler.

Names on the van also pay tribute to a few individual supporters and donors, including Lori Willcocks, a board member who passed away this past winter, and John H. Dyck

with funds from his estate along with funds from Bill and Colleen Lyne.

It is replacing an older vehicle that Nedohin said could no longer be kept up and maintained properly.

"We then started to work on this vehicle ... it's also a back load just like the other one was, so we have a ramp that comes down and then we can fasten the little strips that we have inside on to the front of the wheelchair," he explained.

Nedohin also noted they were fortunate to be able to have the van retrofitted here rather than in the United States.

"We are happy that it did stay in Canada because with the tariffs that were being employed, we thought, okay, that could add \$20,000 to the cost of the vehicle."

Nedohin commented on how well the service is used even with trips to and from Winkler, which has a public transportation service but it does not go outside Winkler aside from trips to Boundary Trails Health Centre.

"They do not offer their service on Sunday, so we still get calls from Winkler to go to various locations, and if people from Winkler want to go to other locations outside the area, not



PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Directors, drivers, and donors of the Morden Community Handi-van gathered last week to check out the service's new vehicle.

just the hospital but some place else, they'll call us because we are able to provide that service to them to any location," he said.

"For some ... it's the only way they can get from point A to point B," said Nedohin. "We only got this van about

three months ago, and it's now got 6,000 kilometres on it. We've done a number of trips to Winnipeg in the last three weeks ... so not only locally but also taking patients to hospitals and various other locations. This is definitely a vital service."



Board chair Brian Nedohin says the \$101,000 cost was all raised through community sponsorships and donations. Sponsor logos have been placed on the van in thanks.

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Life with Parkinson's

Wilma Derksen grapples with her diagnosis

By Lorne Stelmach

Wilma Derksen is accustomed to being in the spotlight, especially as the mother of Candace Derksen, who was murdered in 1984 at the age of 13.

It has been a large part of her journey that has seen her become not only the mother of a murdered child but also a writer, coach/therapist, accidental artist, forgiveness practitioner, responsive life writing teacher, and spiritual pilgrim.

Those roles all continue now as she grapples with her diagnosis of Parkinson's disease and seeks to help others walking a similar path.

"In some ways, I'm known ... I'm not known here as much," noted Derksen, who today calls Winkler home. "I guess, with all of this that has happened to me ... I just resolved that if anybody was going to ask me ... I don't have answers, but I don't mind people being part of my journey."

Derksen has been struggling to come to terms with her Parkinson's diagnosis, as there are so many unknowns, fears, and anxieties. Despite that and admittedly being in denial, she is working to understand the disease better and realize her life is not over.

She is quick to respond when asked for her thoughts on facing yet another major challenge in her life.

"Why me? Why not me, though," she said.

"I guess in some ways, in my journey, I've encountered so many people who have been through so much, and in fact, I haven't met anyone who isn't going through something," she observed. "I look at their lives ... and I always find I think that's the worst thing that could happen to them, and

the worst thing that could happen to me has happened to me. It has happened to everybody, the worst thing, and we are all tested at a horrible place.

"It's kind of like what do I do with it ... each one does that, and then it's, okay, it's going to prepare me somehow for the next one, and it doesn't."

Her husband Cliff died about four years ago, and it was soon after that when she learned she had Parkinson's.

Coming to terms with the illness is a lonely, isolating experience, and it's so important to reach out to others for support, Derksen observes, so it was through Tim Hague—who is known as an *Amazing Race* participant but who also started the U-Turn program for Parkinson's patients—that she recently connected with local resident Barb Toews, who has a firsthand understanding of the disease through being a caregiver for her husband and having taken part in the programs offered by U-Turn.

"I don't have the tools yet for Parkinson's. I don't know how to do this," admitted Derksen, but accessing the supports available is a start.

Derksen recalled being diagnosed in 2022.

"Just before that, I had a big party at my place, and I had noticed a bit of a tremor ... and I noticed my handwriting—I couldn't read my own handwriting."

She immediately suspected what might be happening, as her mother and aunt both had the disease.

She suddenly started to feel more of the impact of the condition and knew that she needed to make a change in her life, and that led to the move to



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Wilma Derksen (left) with Barb Toews in Winkler last week. The two have gotten to know each other in connection with Derksen's Parkinson's diagnosis.

Winkler to be closer to family.

"I broke. I just stopped ... and I had moved from my house to an apartment in Winnipeg," she said. "I just couldn't function ... I can function very well with my daughter now ... but I was just broken."

She is thankful she met Toews here, leaning on her for support as she continues to learn how to live with this diagnosis.

"I've seen her get better and better each time I've met with her ... getting a bit stronger and stronger," said Toews. "Anybody with Parkinson's will deal with it in some different way to some degree."

In the meantime, Derksen intends to continue writing. She already has a number of books under her belt, including *Impossible: Forgiveness To The Power Of Five—Body, Heart, Mind, Spirit and Collective*, which details her choice to forgive her daughter's killer.

"People thought it would be impossible for me to forgive," she said. "There was so much controversy and so much misunderstanding around

my forgiveness that I thought I've never been able to explain it. I was determined to do it.

"I think what has helped me is that, after 40 years of coming to understand what forgiveness was all about, I kind of came up with this idea ... the power of five," she continued. "How do we organize forgiveness? It's just so huge, and nobody really seems to have an answer. I was thinking I've talked about forgiveness for 40 years but not really gotten a handle on it. So finally I was able to put it down in an organized way."

"And now my challenge is I think I want to put Parkinson's into that too," Derksen said. "I think I'm writing as a coach as to how you can deal with this too."

"She can still help other people who are struggling with things like Parkinson's and other things," noted Toews.

Learn more about the programs and support available to those living with Parkinson's disease online at uturnparkinsons.org or parkinson.ca.

Measles exposure at BTHC, Winkler Medical Clinic

By Voice staff

Public health officials with Manitoba Health, Seniors and Long-Term Care are warning the public of three more measles exposure sites, including two in our area:

- Winkler Medical Clinic, Unit 2, 344 First St. on July 2 from 12:45 p.m. to 3:15 p.m. Anyone who was there at

this date and time is asked to monitor for symptoms until July 24

- Boundary Trails Health Centre emergency department between Morden and Winkler on July 1 from 10:20 p.m. to 1:35 a.m. July 2. Anyone who was at this location at this time is asked to monitor for symptoms until July 24.

- Health Sciences Centre Winnipeg

Children's Hospital emergency department waiting room on June 30 at 11:10 p.m. until July 1 at 1:25 a.m. Anyone who was at this location is asked to monitor for symptoms until July 23.

Public health is asking anyone who was in these locations during this time to check their immunization records and ensure they are up to date with

measles vaccine (MMR or MMRV).

If symptoms occur, contact your health care provider. You're urged to call ahead so medical staff can take steps to reduce the exposure of other people to the virus.

A full list of exposure sites and further information about measles is available at gov.mb.ca/health/public-health/diseases/measles.html

The **Voice**

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What's *your* story?

Eden's Tractor Trek parade, BBQ is this Saturday

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The 18th annual Eden Tractor Trek will raise funds and awareness for mental health services this Saturday, and the community is invited to come out to show their support.

"This is a long-standing event that's well established in the community and beyond," reflects Dave Sawatsky, Eden Foundation director of development, sharing that they had 40 tractors signed up as of last week and anticipate many more will join the parade by Saturday.

"In truth, it's never too late to register," he says. "You can show up on the day and we'll find a place for you, or call us the day ahead and we can register you over the phone."

For the first time, they're welcoming tractors of all ages, not just the vintage wheels of years past. Organizers are also offering first-time trekkers a deal on registration: \$75 versus the regular \$135 entry fee.

"We love to have the vintage tractors—they are the foundation of this event and people love to see and hear them, so that's always going to be a cornerstone of the event," Sawatsky says. "But we wanted to remove as many barriers [to participation] as possible ... and thought there's people who want to participate, but they don't have that vintage tractor. So

bring whatever tractor you've got."

The change has already yielded a number of new drivers eager to show off their rides alongside the many returning participants, some of whom have been supporters of this event from the beginning.

"There's a great recognition of Eden in the community—they have heard about us and know about us, and they know the good work we are doing and are committed to," Sawatsky says.

"When I talk to people about Eden, most times they are only one step removed from a family member who has taken advantage of Eden's services when they were in a time of crisis or a down time ... it's something that's helped their aunt, their uncle, their sister, a very close rela-

ative within their lifetime. And so they connect to it on that level almost across the board.

"The community support for Eden has always been very strong, and we're so thankful for that."

Funds raised this weekend will go to support programs like Recovery of Hope, which offers counselling services on a sliding fee scale to ensure they're accessible to everyone, and Segue Career Options, which helps people with barriers to employment find meaningful work.

Some of the funds will also go to

"THE COMMUNITY SUPPORT FOR EDEN HAS ALWAYS BEEN VERY STRONG, AND WE'RE SO THANKFUL FOR THAT."



VOICE FILE PHOTO

You can cheer on the participants of the 18th Eden Tractor Trek this Saturday as they make their way through Winkler, Morden, Chortitz, and Schanzenfeld.

Eden's housing program and to the volunteer program at its acute care centre in Winkler, which has so many volunteers that a coordinator is needed on staff to organize them all.

"So there's lots of good targets for the money that goes to the programs that are serving people right here in the community," Sawatsky says.

COME JOIN THE FUN

The participating tractors will be on display at the Eden Health Care Centre grounds at 1500 Pembina Ave. in Winkler from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. for a Tractors Through the Ages Show & Shine in conjunction with a barbecue fundraiser hosted by Gardenland Co-op. Both events are open to the community at large. Lunch is by donation.

"Come and take a look at the tractors, take part in the barbecue, donate what you can," Sawatsky says. "Talk to the drivers and owners—they love to talk about their tractors."

Trekkers will then hop on their tractors at 1:15 p.m. to embark on a route that will take them north up 15th St., east down Mountain Ave., south down 8th St., and then west out of town down Pembina Ave. all the way down Road 12N to Morden.

They'll then head north up Road 28W to Hwy. 3, travelling on the shoulder down to Greenvale Equipment for coffee around 2:45 p.m. before continuing on at 3:45 p.m. to pass through Chortitz and Schanzenfeld en route to heading back to Eden for supper and awards.

If you can't make the trek, you can still support the cause by making a donation online at edenhealthcare.ca/events/eden-foundations-18th-annual-tractor-trek/.

That's also the page to go for more Tractor Trek information, including the complete route map and registration details.

Altona council commits to upgrades at aging cemetery

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The cemetery at the corner of 6th St NE and 4th Ave NE in Altona will be getting some much-needed sprucing up next summer.

The Town of Altona announced last week it intends to hire specialists to come in and restore the aging site to its former beauty.

"It was originally planned to take place in 2025, but with municipal budgeting not everything can happen all at once," explained communications officer Sarah Cail, noting estimates put the cost of the project between \$50,000 to \$60,000. "So council did determine that they were going

to move this project off of the 2025 budget and spend some time communicating more clearly to the residents what's going to happen there."

The cemetery is decades old—some of the birth dates on the earliest gravestones are from the 1800s—and some of the plots have become structurally damaged or overgrown over the years.

A monument restoration expert was brought in to assess the site and determined some of the grave covers and cribbing—features which were commonly used in the past to outline a burial plot—cannot be repaired due to their age and state of disrepair. In

some cases, the most respectful way to deal with them is to remove them entirely.

"Some of those are damaged to the point that any attempts to repair or level them would likely result in further damage," Cail said, stressing, though, that they will not be removing any memorials. "We will not be removing headstones or plaques—it's just the grave covers."

"Most of the work that's going to take place is the cleaning of the monuments, and realigning them if they've shifted," she added, noting they'll also repair monuments where needed.

They also plan to remove various plant overgrowth where needed, and to do some landscaping.

The goal is to ensure the entire site is a dignified and well-maintained one for people to come visit their late loved ones.

Cail notes that once this project is done the Town can then turn its attention to the potentially needed restoration of some of the older areas of the Altona Cemetery off Hwy. 30.

"We're going to start with this one ... because when we walk past it, we look at it and say, you know, we need to be doing better here," she said.

Check out the Voice online at www.winklormordenvoice.ca or altonavoice.ca

The Voice



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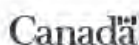
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EDITORIAL > VIEWPOINTS > LETTERS

It's all about mindset

As you know, if you read my last column, we travelled recently to vacation in Toronto.

Like a lot of Canadians, when we start thinking of vacationing we tend to think of leaving the country (unless it's a ski vacation) and not staying within it.

We love travelling. We have been fortunate enough to go many places, enjoy many cultures, and stand in awe of the good diversity that is humankind.

This time around the trigger to vacation thinking was a conference I was attending about social finance in Toronto.

Now, over the years we have been to Toronto MANY times. But we've never actually vacationed there. Toronto was simply the crossroad along the way to elsewhere.

This time around the thought came to mind as follows:

"What if we treated Toronto as if we were visiting Rome, Lisbon, London or the like?"

"What do you mean?"

"I mean, what if Toronto was a destination instead? What if we vacationed there?"

After much back and forth the idea began to gain momentum and before we knew it booking began to happen.

We stayed in a hotel right downtown within walking distance of loads of local attractions and a block

from the subway. We spent some time researching, put a loose schedule together, and away we went.

It is shocking how much your perspective can change with a simple shift of your mindset. Everything we saw, everything we did, felt new and compelling.

We went to the Royal Ontario Museum, spending time in the special Auschwitz exhibit. Powerful. We spent the better part of a day wandering the halls of Casa Loma somewhat shocked that this giant urban castle was essentially a two-person home.

Eventually we wandered the communities of Kensington and Chinatown, sampling various types of food along the way.

Renting bikes from the local bike share program we made our way via a 90-second ferry ride to the islands just across the water from the CN Tower and spent the morning exploring wildlife in the shadow of the most urban setting in Canada.

My wife joked that we, as two rural folks, managed to travel to Toronto and find all the rural things to do.

It was true we were astounded by how much wildlife, park infrastructure, and natural beauty could be found along the lakeshore of Toronto.

to. There were amazing beaches and public art installations, flanked by spectacular parks and restaurants.

We spent a good 30 minutes sitting on a rock at the water's edge in a sheltered bay watching mallard ducks swim around and the only clue that we weren't in the middle of nowhere was a glimpse of high rises through the trees.

Eventually we abandoned our ducks and wandered over to a sushi restaurant for dinner ahead of seeing Cirque de Soleil's amazing show Ovo.

Over the course of seven days, we biked 15 km and our step count almost reached 100,000, or more than 75 km of walking. Toronto is definitely a great city for pedestrians.

We easily enjoyed ourselves as much as we did in Rome or Lisbon ... the key was all in our mindset. We went into the vacation believing that Toronto was more than just a stopover along the way to somewhere else.

Canada is amazing. There is much to see and do, far more than we realize because we often adopt the "we have to leave home to have fun" mindset when planning a trip.

The next time you plan a vacation consider a Canadian destination—you might be surprised at how much fun you have.

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Please keep your letters short (excessively long letters are less likely to be published), on-topic, and respectful.

The *Voice* reserves the right to edit, condense, or reject any submission.

Please include your full name, address, and phone number for verification purposes. Your name and city will be published with your letter. We do not print anonymous letters.

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The *Voice* is published Thursdays and distributed as a free publication to 21,141 households. Republishing in whole or in part without permission is prohibited. Printed in Canada by Prolific Printing. The *Voice* received financial support from the Government of Canada in 2021.

View the *Voice* online at www.winklermordenvoice.ca or altonavoice.ca

Community mourns local journalist as family seeks support for final farewell

By Lana Meier

The family of a beloved local journalist is asking for the community's help following her sudden passing last month.

Lori Penner, a long-time writer for the *Altona Rhineland Morris Voice*, the *Winkler Morden Voice*, and previously the *Red River Valley Echo*, died June 25 at Boundary Trails Health Centre after suffering a stroke days earlier. She was 59.

Known for her compassionate storytelling and deep connection to the people of southern Manitoba, Penner built a career out of capturing the heart of small-town life. Her writing earned her respect across the region's newsrooms and communities.

"She believed even the quietest corners of a town

held stories worth telling," her family wrote. "She poured her heart into every article she wrote."

Penner was also a devoted mother to six children, a grandmother of four, and a cherished partner to Richie, her longtime companion.

In the wake of her death, the family has launched a GoFundMe campaign to help cover funeral costs and travel expenses so her loved ones from across Canada could attend the service and say goodbye.

"We were unprepared for the costs that come with saying goodbye," the family said. "Any support—financial or by sharing—means the world to us."

The fundraiser is available at: www.gofundme.com/f/in-loving-memory-of-lori-penner



GOFUNDME PHOTO

Lori Penner, a longtime community journalist, is remembered for her heartfelt storytelling and deep love for her family.

Concerts in the Parks kicks off this Wednesday

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Bethel Heritage Park in Winkler will be alive with the sounds of music for the next four Wednesday nights.

The city's popular Concerts in the Park series returns this week, July 9, with a performance from songwriter and multi-instrumentalist Scott Nolan.

Future weeks will feature local worship band King's Worship on July 16, oldies and classic rock from The Cracked Eggshell July 23, and tunes from animated movies courtesy of L Rae & J and A Country Princess on July 30.

"It's a great way to bring the community together through music, and we think we have a good variety that should reach almost every population out there," says Winkler community events coordinator Lucas Dyck, encouraging everyone to come celebrate the summer weather.

The evenings will also feature food from vendors such as Superior Smash,



VOICE FILE PHOTO

Winkler's Concerts in the Park series runs at Bethel Heritage Park for four weeks this month, with performances from Scott Nolan, King's Worship, The Cracked Eggshell, and L Rae & J and A Country Princess.

the Icecycle, and Swirl and Twirl Cotton Candy. And there will be cornhole games select weeks as well.

Dyck notes they also hope to have

information booths from local businesses and non-profits set up. If you'd like to book one, contact him at events@cityofwinkler.ca.

Concerts in the Park begins weekly at 7 p.m.

Corn & Apple Festival launches new 50/50

By Lorne Stelmach

The Morden Corn and Apple Festival has kicked off a new fundraising initiative to help support its long-standing tradition of being fun and free.

On July 1, the festival launched its new 50/50 raffle, which will run through to Sunday, Aug. 24, the final day of the festival, when one lucky winner's name will be drawn at 3 p.m.

The festival remains committed to its roots of offering free admission

and complimentary features such as fresh corn and live entertainment, and organizers hope the new raffle will generate the funds needed to keep the event accessible to all.

"As costs are increasing, unfortunately, even though its free, somebody has to pay for it all at the end of the day," said executive director Courtney Wall. "So we're just bringing in this initiative to help raise the extra funds ... it also gives back a little bit with one big winner at the end of the day."

Proceeds from the raffle will go di-

rectly toward festival expenses, upgrades, and future planning.

Key goals include enhancing the power supply infrastructure to accommodate more food trucks and increasing the entertainment budget to bring in higher-profile musical acts and artists.

Organizers also plan to invest in expanding the festival's most popular areas despite the space limitations of its downtown Morden location.

"If the festival has more funds, maybe we can get bigger bands and we can increase and do more of what

people want at the end of the day," said Wall. "I think when people understand we need a little bit of community assistance ... I think we will get the support."

Supporters can visit cornandapple.com or scan the QR codes posted on posters throughout Morden to purchase tickets. They are also available at the festival office at 13-379 Stephen Street. Additionally, the festival will host a number of pop-up ticket sales events throughout the summer.



Winkler celebrates Canada Day, CultureFest

Winkler's Canada Day festivities included musical entertainment and educational displays from 10 countries as part of this year's CultureFest, kid's activities inside the exhibition centre, a petting zoo, food trucks, and evening stage performances from Seven Pines and Brothers Keep. Top left: Jason Lepine and Lionel Desjarlias on the CultureFest stage. Right: Leo Sharma performs. Left: A few of the cultural display booths where visitors could get their passports stamped. Bottom, left: bubble soccer fun.

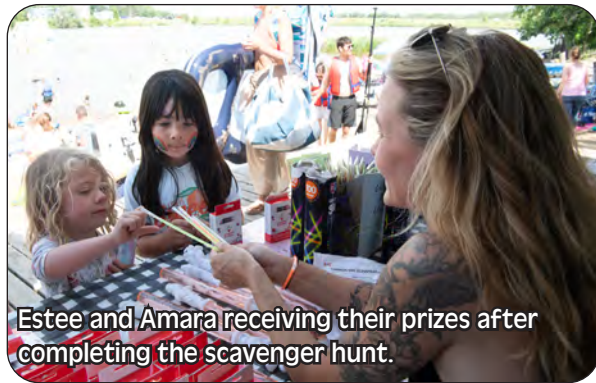


PHOTOS BY ASHLEIGH
VIVEIROS/VOICE





PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE



Estee and Amara receiving their prizes after completing the scavenger hunt.

PHOTOS BY RICK HIEBERT/VOICE
Colert Beach was packed July 1 for Morden's Canada Day Beach Blast, which included live stage entertainment, a sand castle contest, and fireworks to cap it all off. Despite a truly awe-inspiring lightning storm and heavy rain, the fireworks went off with a bang just a few minutes behind schedule after the storm system moved on.

Beach Blast at Lake Minnewasta



Sue Delorme and her kids Calan and Chloe enjoying the water.



Hayden, Aubree, Brooke, and Svana putting final touches on their sand castle entry, which won the contest.



M'Ladies on stage.



Malaya and Ella were kept busy in the face painting booth.

Winkler Arts & Culture sees visitor numbers double

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The past year was a busy one for Winkler Arts & Culture, filled with partnerships new and old, community engagement, and plenty of varied programming, the board of directors shared at their annual meeting last month.

Board chair Valerie Klassen said a highlight for 2024 was “definitely the growth in participants and attendees to our gallery—we’ve been seeing that really come up in a nice, gradual increase.”

In fact, a total of 3,715 people came through the gallery’s doors in 2024—more than double the year before. That number includes 1,759 general visitors and 1,956 people attending one of the 38 events or workshops held through the year.

Strengthening community ties continues to be a focus for the organization, and to that end another highlight was the gallery’s burgeoning partnership with the Winkler Heritage Society.

Klassen called it one of the arts centre’s most meaningful accomplishments of the year, as it resulted in the society preparing to move its museum and archives into unused space at the Park St. gallery.

“This collaboration has laid the groundwork for our future joint projects aimed at preserving and celebrating the cultural and historical narrative of our region,” she shared in her report. “It is our shared belief that the arts and heritage are deeply interconnected and vital to the Winkler com-



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Winkler Arts and Culture saw a huge increase in the number of people coming through the doors of its Park St. gallery in 2024.

munity identity.”

Welcoming the society to the arts centre will be financially beneficial to both non-profits, Klassen noted, as they can share operational costs while also hopefully drawing in even more visitors.

WAC also continued its collaborations with Regional Connections Immigrant Services, hosting monthly Newcomer Welcome evenings, and with numerous local businesses who have generously supported various programming, which ranged from workshops to ongoing arts classes to live music nights.

Looking to the future, the WAC board is currently working on its strategic planning, Klassen shared, and they’re leaning heavily on the feedback received from last year’s community survey.

“Doing the community survey was a good way to get the community’s

insights into what they’re looking for and hoping for from us,” she said. “Now we’ve started as a board to look at that and have conversations about how that structures us going forward.”

The gallery is committed to continuing to expand its arts education programming.

“In 2024, we increased our focus on education initiatives, partnering with local schools for tours that included an activity, summer kids arts camps, artist-led workshops, and new youth programming,” Klassen said, noting they intend to do more of that in 2025, and hopefully grow the number of classes aimed at adults as well. “We have done really well with the children’s programming, but we definitely see the need for more adult-friendly or adult-targeted classes.”

Shining a spotlight on local talent is another key element of WAC’s work.

Last year they hosted 10 exhibitions featuring hundreds of pieces of art, most of them made by southern Manitoban artists.

“We really want to promote local artists and creators of all disciplines,” Klassen stressed, encouraging artists to reach out to the gallery for information about getting their art up on the walls or in the gallery’s gift shop. “We’re working on filing up our calendar for 2026 and just want to make sure that emerging artists are aware that they can reach a wider audience by setting up in our shop.”

Financially, WAC ended the fiscal year in the black with a surplus of just over \$7,000—a welcome change from the \$13,000 deficit of the year before owing to increases in both grants and rental income.

“We’ve seen an increase in rentals,” Klassen said, sharing that they hope to grow that further by promoting themselves as a venue for small weddings or other social gatherings. “We definitely want to take a look at that and how do we get that out to our community.”

Klassen voiced thanks for the gallery’s staff and team of dedicated volunteers who keep everything running so smoothly.

“We have so many volunteers helping us out, and we need them all,” she said, encouraging people interested in getting involved to reach out. “We could certainly use more volunteers, both staffing the gallery and even on the board of directors as well.”

Chalk the City is back

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Winkler Arts and Culture (WAC) is gearing up for Chalk the City 2025, and they need your help to make it a success.

The art gallery is once again inviting Winklerites to bring some colour to the community with their sidewalk art creations.

“This year we’re doing it for four weeks instead of eight, and we’ll have a prize draw every week,” says program assistant Jane Unruh Thiesen.

Prizes will include gift cards or vouchers to the gallery and local restaurants and retailers. Each submission will also get a coupon for a free Big Cool slushie at Gardenland Co-op.

The campaign has been a big hit the past few years.

“We really love that it gets people outside and creating art however they want,” says Unruh Thiesen. “You can do it at home, you can do it in the park—all you need is a piece of chalk. We love seeing people get creative with it.”

The campaign will run July 14-18, July 21-25, July 28 to Aug. 1, and Aug. 4-8. You are welcome to enter chalk art in multiple weeks for a chance to win. All ages and skill levels are encouraged to take part; winners are selected randomly.

To enter, simply send a photo of your work to WAC through their website (winklerarts.com/chalk-the-city-2025) so they can share it on social media.

“Every day we’ll be posting stories and photos featuring the submissions



FILE PHOTO

Some of the entries in last summer’s Chalk the City event, which launches next week and runs until Aug. 8.

we’re getting,” Unruh Thiesen says. “And then at the end of the week, before announcing the winners, we’ll

post a big round up of all the photos we received for that week.”

Winkler Main Street restoration is underway



The long-awaited resurfacing work on Winkler's Main St. got underway last week Thursday. Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure, which has responsibility for the provincial road, are replacing the aging asphalt from Hwy. 14 all the way down to Stanley Ave. Main St. will remain open to local traffic as work continues, but residents are encouraged find alternate routes to avoid delays and give the construction crews space to work safely. The project is expected to be completed in three to four weeks.

PHOTOS BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE



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Morden Area Foundation celebrates spring grants, bursaries

By Lorne Stelmach

The reward for its efforts was on display last week as the Morden Area Foundation presented several new grants along with other previously announced ones.

It included the next series of Learn and Return Health Care Bursaries as well as Morden Collegiate Youth in Philanthropy grants along with funds from the most recent Power of the Purse event.

All of the grants and contributions combined meant the foundation has given away over \$311,000 this year, noted chairperson Sue Nelson.

"So that's pretty impressive that all that money is going into the community," she said, noting investing in the community this way is what the foundation is all about.

"We don't do the doing. We have the endowment fund that provides the funds every year ... and we have the wonderful opportunity to give out money to the organizations that are doing such wonderful work, and we have incredible organizations in this community."

One highlight of the evening was the new spring grant recipients; there were seven recipients who are receiving a portion of \$42,376 in funding (see sidebar at right for details).

In addition, the foundation also announced 19 recipients of the health care bursary receiving a share of \$26,500. The Youth in Philanthropy grants and the Bill and Linda Fehr scholarship recipients were also recognized.

Nelson said the foundation was pleased to add a second round of annual grants this year.

"This is the first time that we've had a spring granting session, so that's exciting for us," she said. "Usually

we just do a fall granting session and award all our grants at Christmas-time, but we have two intakes now.

"We decided to pair it with the Learn and Return Health Care Bursaries too. This is the second year for them," she noted. "And Youth in Philanthropy is a program for the school where the kids learn about philanthropy and how to assess organizations and how to go out and find organizations for grants.

"We give them \$5,000 and they decide where they want to give their money," she explained. "That's really wonderful. We're excited to have the Youth in Philanthropy back in the high school. We did have it a number of years ago, but it had been dormant for some time."

Nelson noted presenting the Learn and Return bursaries feels especially meaningful.

"It was a homegrown response to a need, so that's fabulous that a small group—Pat Gibson and Marilyn Skubovius—talked about how are we going to meet our need for more health care providers," she said. "The foundation is the perfect vehicle and perfect format to enable that to happen.

"The fund is approaching \$600,000, which means we will be able to give away around \$30,000 every year ... we would really love it to be a million dollars."

Nelson now looks forward to when the foundation can hand out further grants later this year.

"We always have lots of grant applications and lots of people are doing wonderful things, so we're really, really happy to support them. We are trying to get a diverse group of support across the community ... we are always looking for what the community feels that it need."



PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

The Morden Area Foundation presented a total of \$26,500 in Learn and Return Health Care bursaries to 19 recipients last week.

• GRANT RECIPIENTS

The Morden Area Foundation presented a variety of new grants and payments and acknowledged a number of previously announced donations last week. Here is a summary of the presentations:

- Richard and Emma Krueger scholarship - \$306.
- Fehr Family Fund - \$1,529.

SPRING GRANTS

Total of \$44,000 including the following:

- Morden Farmers' Market: signage - \$1,000.
- Regional Connections: leasehold improvements for new building project - \$10,000.
- Morden fire and police rink committee: renewal of the outdoor facility - \$18,000.
- Central Manitoba Choral Association: Central Manitoba youth choir - \$5,000.
- City of Morden: basketball court - \$4,000.
- Morden Christmas Cheer Board: food and gift packs - \$5,000.
- Pembina Valley Pregnancy Care Centre: baby care basics - \$1,000.

In addition, there was a separate \$25,000 contribution as a matching grant for the Stanley Trails Community Pathway project.

LEARN AND RETURN

There were 19 recipients of bursaries, and the \$26,500 total included \$12,287 from the foundation fund and \$11,443 in investment income from the bursary fund.

The foundation also highlighted a number of other contributions:

- Morden Masonic Lodge nursing scholarship - \$935.

YOUTH IN PHILANTHROPY

- Youth for Christ: commercial espresso coffee machine - \$1,400.
- Morden Collegiate Youth in Philanthropy: school garden - \$1,881.67.
- Pembina Valley Humane Society: improvement of dogs backyard play area - \$1,718.33.

POWER OF THE PURSE

The foundation also formally presented the grants from the annual Power of the Purse held this past spring. The recipients included:

- Douglas Kuhl School of Music: string orchestra programs for students - \$5,200.
- Pembina Hills Arts Council: free drop-in art open studio program - \$6,000.
- Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Pembina Valley: GROW (guidance, resilience, opportunity and wellness) youth workshops - \$5,500.
- Child & Family Services of Central Manitoba Foundation - Chance 2 Camp/ Chance 2 Grow - \$6,000.

The foundation also highlighted \$77,752.48 presented as part of its fall granting program in late 2024 as well as \$92,441 in monies generated in the first quarter of 2025 as investment and interest income on various targeted funds under the umbrella of the Morden Area Foundation.



The Youth in Philanthropy program gave back \$5,000 to worthy local projects and non-profits.

Morden community centre welcomes new executive director

By Lorne Stelmach

It was having some exposure to how much was happening at 500 Stephen Community Centre that led Kevin Driedger to go for the executive director role at the Morden facility.

While serving with the Pembina Valley Local Immigration Partnership (PVLIP), the Winkler native worked one day a week at 500 Stephen.

"I really liked what was going on here, and I really liked this organization, so when the director position came open, I immediately jumped at it," he shared.

"It's something I wasn't really anticipating," Driedger said of his return to Morden-Winkler, but he is excited about doing "the work of hospitality, providing a space for individuals and organizations, that work is really meaningful for me ... and supporting all the other non-profit agencies and groups that make use of this space and how we can provide a good supportive space and resources for

them."

Driedger grew up in Winkler, but later moved to the U.S. and built a life there for 30 years.

During his time south of the border, he worked for a large library and was later the director of a retreat centre.

"I was director of a non-profit retreat centre for four years ... and I had been on the board for non-profits as well, so I bring some leadership experience into this kind of work," said Driedger, who noted he returned to the Pembina Valley to be closer to family.

He was then at PVLIP and had the opportunity to get to know and work with many of the organizations that use 500 Stephen.

"I come with a lot of connections already then," Driedger said. "As well I've worked with some of the other community centres like Central Station in Winkler and The Community Exchange in Altona."

Driedger especially values that there is so much community-building happening at the centre on a daily basis,

making the role of executive director both interesting and challenging, especially on busy days such as when the Many Hands Resource Centre is running its food bank.

"So there's challenges, but there's also a lot of excitement to see who all can be served in this space and how this space can work for people."

Driedger stressed he has a deep appreciation for the role of this place in the community and for all the work of supporting other organizations and individuals that support the people of Morden. He wants to continue to make 500 Stephen a welcoming and supportive place for all who come through the doors.

"One of my big goals is as a space to make this as welcoming and hospitable a place as possible where people will really feel like this space was prepared for them."

Driedger said he will be "looking at how we can better support all the other non-profits and agencies in this community because we're all living



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Kevin Driedger is the new executive director of 500 Stephen.

on threads and trying to make do with a little, so how can we help build a network and just provide some supports that individual organizations by themselves can't manage."

Car show raises \$1,000 for 500 Stephen



PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

500 Stephen Community Centre brought the community together for a car show Saturday at Morden Plaza. There was complementary food and drink samples from area restaurants along with other food and music, and a raffle helped contribute to the event raising in the area of \$1,000 for the centre's programming.



sports & recreation

Orioles split games with Sultans



PHOTO BY RICK HIEBERT/VOICE

Carillon's Cody Wielgosh barely beats the tag by Orioles Jaren Hildebrand at second base in Sunday's MJBL double-header, which the two teams split.

By Lorne Stelmach

The Altona Bisons' woes continued into the final week of the regular season.

They first dropped both ends of a Canada Day doubleheader in falling 15-0 and 12-5 to the Carillon Sultans, and then a July 6 doubleheader ended with losses of 12-2 and 7-0 to Interlake.

In game one against Carillon, the Sultans put runs on the board in every inning concluding with seven runs on six hits in the fifth inning. Hits were 10-1 in favour of Carillon.

Altona was more competitive in the second game, as Carillon only had a 7-6 edge in hits, but the Sultans sealed the deal with five runs on three hits in the top of the sixth inning.

In game one with Interlake, it was six runs in the

bottom of the fourth inning that did in the Bisons followed by four more in the bottom of the sixth. Hits overall were 12-5 in favour of the Blue Jays.

Then in game two, Interlake sealed the deal with seven runs in the bottom of the first inning.

Meanwhile, the Pembina Valley Orioles kicked off their stretch run last Tuesday with an 11-7 win over Winnipeg South. They followed that up by edging St. Boniface 7-5 Friday evening.

A Sunday doubleheader then saw Carillon take game one 10-7, but the Orioles rebounded with a 12-2 victory in game two.

Against Winnipeg South, the Orioles broke the game wide open with nine runs on just two hits including a grand slam home run by Owen Goertzen, who led the way with five RBIs on his two hits.

The game against St. Boniface was tied until Mike

Heppner singled to score the winning run in the bottom of the seventh inning. The Legionaires had the edge in hits at 12-8.

The Orioles out-hit Carillon 11-9 in game one but the Sultans scored five runs on two hits in the top of the seventh. Karsten Peters went three for four at the plate, including a solo home run.

In game two, Pembina Valley collected 14 hits and drove home all 12 of their runs in the first inning for the victory. The Orioles had five players collect two hits.

The Orioles and Bisons both had one regular season game remaining at press time, with Pembina Valley set to face Carillon Tuesday and Altona to meet St. Boniface Wednesday.

The Orioles were in third place at 13-10 while the Bisons were in the cellar at 0-23.

Winkler Storm trounce visiting Winnipeg FC

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler Storm added a second win to their record in a resounding way last weekend.

The team won their game against

the visiting Winnipeg FC 5-0 Sunday evening.

Amery Roberts had a two-goal night while Emil Rhode, Marcelo Froese, and Tobias Morasch each contributed singles en route to victory. Deny-

ing all comers in net for Winkler was keeper Sam Fast.

With that, Winkler is at 2-2-1 for the summer so far, good for seven points and a spot in the middle of the pack amongst the 10 teams in the Manitoba

Major Soccer League's Division 1.

This weekend the Storm host UDM Sunday at 5 p.m. at the 15th St. field in Winkler. They then play SWB in Winnipeg next Tuesday night.

Whips in first as Border Baseball League season winds down

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The final game of the Border Baseball League regular season took place this week Tuesday, with local teams the Winkler Whips and the Morden

Mud Hens squaring off in Morden.

Results were not available at press time Monday, but the outcome will finalize the league's East Division standings, which right now has the Whips in first place at 9-4, the Altona

Bisons in second at 6-5-2, Morden in third at 6-6-1, and the Carman Cardinals in last place at 5-8-1.

The Bisons closed out the regular season with a 6-1 victory over Morden Friday night and a 7-0 rout against the

Pilot Mound Pilots Sunday.

Winkler, meanwhile, crushed the Holland A's 14-4 Thursday night and then beat the Carman Cardinals 11-5 on Friday.

Sweeping changes to World Curling broom standards

By Siobhan Maas

Effective June 20th, World Curling (WC) has adjusted their compliance regulations for curling brooms in WC competitions—which includes the Olympics—based on sweep testing that took place at the Morris Cargill Curling Training Centre (CCTC) in May.

For three days, the CCTC was centre ice for broom manufacturers from around the world, world-class curling ice makers Greg Ewasko of Beausejour, current chief ice technician for Curling Canada, and former Olympic chief ice technician Hans Wuthrich of Gimli, as well as several athletes from across the country, including Brett Gallant and Kates Lawes, who acted as test sweepers.

“The world was in Morris to test existing brooms already on market in use by various companies,” explained Level 4 NCCP Olympic coach and host Lorne Hamblin. Together with wife Chris, the Hamblins hosted the event organized by WC director Jill Officer and designed by former WC vice-president Graham Prouse. “Broom performance was compared against each other, with the manufac-

turers watching.”

Many curling brooms currently on the market are made using multiple components, including sleeves or covers over moulded foam, bringing into question the accuracy of the different foams used.

“There is science to the testing,” said Hamblin. “With the CTCC’s Canadian rock thrower, we have achieved accuracy of 99.9 per cent on every throw.”

Throw consistency eliminates variability from the throw itself, allowing the broom’s impact to be the primary focus. Only two curling rocks were used in the testing—one control rock and one sweeping rock—to contain and control the results.

“After each throw, we weren’t allowed to push the rock down the ice,” Hamblin explained. “Instead, we dragged the rock back on a plastic board because even slight wear between throws can affect performance.”

To maintain a high level of consistency, “we threw over 2,000 rocks,” Hamblin noted.

The outcome of the testing has prompted changes to World Curling standards. Several broom models are



SUPPLIED PHOTO

The results of sweep testing at the Morris Cargill Curling Training Centre this spring has led the World Curling organization to make changes to what brooms are allowed in its competitions, which includes the Olympics.

now disqualified from competitions, including BalancePlus RS with Firm 2.0 foam, Goldline Impact with Evader foam, Hardline Ice Pad with Competitive foam, and SmartBroom by Curling Tools with its current foam.

The updated regulations require component-style brooms to use softer, less-firm foams, ensuring greater minimum compression and promoting fairer play.

While this was an interim step to move the sport of curling forward from processes established in 2016, the

game continues to modernize alongside elite performance. Longer-term testing processes will continue.

“Fast forward to 2025, any new product needs to be sent for testing,” said Hamblin. “This testing is about what athletes want to try and is unique because it brings everyone together in a cooperative atmosphere.”

Full details of the regulation changes can be found at worldcurling.org.

Central Energy to host national fastpitch championships in Winkler and Morden

By Lana Meier

Two southern Manitoba cities will welcome the country’s top young softball players this summer, as the Central Energy U15 AAA female team prepares to host the 2025 Canadian Fastpitch Championships.

From Aug. 13 to 17, Winkler and Morden will jointly host the Softball Canada 15U AAA Female and Male National Championships — marking the first time both tournaments will take place in the same location on the same dates.

“This is the first time in any fastpitch category the female and male national championships will be held at the same location on the same dates,” said Gilles LeBlanc, manager of operations with Softball Canada.

The combined event will see 31 teams from across the country compete at local diamonds, with up to 500 athletes and officials expected to attend. Organizers say the tournament will have a major economic impact and help grow the game regionally.

“Softball has given our families so

many great experiences and we are thrilled to be able to give back to the sport and the region,” said national co-chairs Kristi Guilford and Tara Pettinger.

The host team — Central Energy U15 AAA female — is made up of 12 athletes and a coaching staff from the Central Manitoba region. Assistant coach and team manager Kevin Convery said the players are looking forward to competing in front of family, friends and the next generation of minor ball athletes.

“They are really looking forward to having minor ball players of all ages come cheer them on,” Convery said. “They hope to inspire a whole new generation of fastpitch athletes who will love the game as much as they do.”

Softball Canada and Softball Manitoba extended thanks to the host communities and the many volunteers and sponsors who are helping make the event possible. Organizers are still seeking local volunteers and sponsors, with more information available at www.softball.ca/u15womens.



PHOTO SUBMITTED

The Central Energy U15 AAA female team will serve as host for the 2025 Canadian Fastpitch Championships, taking place Aug. 13–17 in Winkler and Morden. Back row (from left): Shayanne Goertzen, Blaine Wiebe, Shayna Driedger, Hailey Baldwin, Kylie Wiebe, Ella Conrad. Front row (from left): Amelia Wytinck, Sinead Convery, Kelsey Dyck, Payton Manness, Bree Pearce and Zoey Shantz.

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EMPLOYMENT



Career Opportunity - Job Posting Watershed District Manager



The Pembina Valley Watershed District (PVWD) is seeking a highly motivated individual to fill the full-time (40 hours/week) permanent position of District Manager. The position start date is flexible, with an approximate start date of September 2, 2025. The district currently has three offices throughout the district, the head office in Manitou, MB and satellite offices in both Altona, MB and Killarney, MB. The Manager position is based out of Manitou, but some work from home and/or other offices is acceptable and can be negotiated at time of hire.

Reporting to a local Board of Directors, the District Manager is responsible for:

- Reporting to, representing, and acting on behalf of the Board on all aspects of District activities
- Overseeing day-to-day activities, provide guidance and leadership to staff
- Maintaining communication/liaison with staff, board, stakeholders, partners, municipalities, government
- Actively pursuing funding opportunities
- Providing technical information and advice on natural resource management issues
- Formulate Board programs/policies for Board approval, delivery, and administration
- Promotion of overall Pembina Valley Watershed District objectives

General Qualifications:

- Supervisory, leadership, human resource training and experience
- Experience managing a diverse team performing a wide variety of tasks
- Excellent organizational skills to manage multiple work files, prioritize and manage time
- Project management and budgeting experience
- Strong problem solving, analytical and decision-making skills
- Strong people skills with the ability to collaborate with diverse stakeholder groups
- Strong verbal communication skills with experience giving presentations to a variety of audiences
- Strong written communication skills with experience authoring technical reports, business correspondence and grant writing
- Digital organization working with databases, spreadsheets and documents organizing information such as budgets, project management, outcomes, and monitoring.
- Communication experience with various media including websites, social media, print and radio.
- Graduate from a recognized post-secondary institution with specialization in environmental studies, natural resources management, a related discipline or an equivalent combination of education and experience
- Understanding of environmental issues on the landscape and agricultural best management practices
- Experience related to ecosystem function and/or landscape ecology
- Understanding of Watershed Management Planning, Source Water Protection Assessments and Surface Water Management Planning
- Experience using Microsoft Office Suite applications including Outlook, Word, PowerPoint, Excel, Teams, or equivalent software applications
- Understanding of GIS and GPS technologies
- Must be legally entitled to work in Canada and have a valid Class 5 Driver's license
- Must be willing and able to work variable hours as needed
- Must be willing and able to travel within Manitoba, including overnight stays as needed

Your cover letter and resumé must clearly exhibit how you meet the qualifications.

Please send your resume, 3 references & salary expectations to:

Bill Howatt, PVWD Chairman
Email: administrator@pvwd.ca
261 Main St, Box 659, Manitou, MB R0G 1G0

Application Deadline: Thursday July 31, 2025 @ 4:00pm

PVWD would like to thank all applicants; however, only applicants selected for an interview will be contacted. A more detailed job description can be found at www.pvwd.ca

PUBLIC NOTICE



PUBLIC NOTICE TOWN OF ALTONA

In accordance with Section 194 of The Municipal Act of Manitoba, PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that the audit report and audited financial statements for the Town of Altona for the year 2024 have been deposited with the undersigned and are available for inspection on the Town of Altona website or at the Administration Office, 111 Centre Avenue during regular office hours.

Terry Fehr, CMMA
Manager of Finance

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take a break > GAMES

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

Sudoku Answer

V	A	R	E	S	S	H	S	V	S
V	A	R	E	S	S	H	S	V	S
E	B	A	S	V	W	V	I	L	E
T	S	O	W	T	U	B	I	N	B
				V	I	N	V	I	U
G	N	I	D	T	V	B	E	O	S
G	N	I	D	T	E	B	U	T	
E	V	X	O	C		V	C	E	V
				O	R	S	T	I	O
		S	E	N	E	N	E	R	E
		S	E	Z	I	G	O	T	O
W	O	L	V		N	N	I	V	A
E	Z	A	T	V	N	V	T	E	E
E	U	L	B	R	V	V	E	R	I
N	O	E	A	G	E	C	E	F	A

Crossword Answer

take a break

> GAMES

SUDOKU

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

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!

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!

X CROSSWORD

5. Electronic communication
6. Artilleries
7. "Strangers on a Train" actor Farley
8. Burning
9. Makes ecstatically happy
10. Greek liqueurs
11. Tropical Old World tree
13. Someone who takes vengeance
17. Style of cuisine
24. Select
25. Immunized against disease
26. Old world, new
27. Honorable title (Turkish)
28. Court case: ___ v. Wade
29. Supervises interstate commerce
35. Not divisible by two
36. Twelve
37. Commentator Coulter
38. Encourage
40. Plumbing fixtures
41. Early
42. One point north of due east
43. King of Thebes
44. Short-tailed martens
45. Impose a penalty on
47. Consort of Poseidon
48. A way to lessen
49. Brooklyn hoops team
52. Female of a horse
53. Do as one is told
54. A way to prepare meat
55. Unit of measurement

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
56						57			58				
59						60				61			
62						63					64		

X CROSSWORD

CLUES ACROSS

1. 50 percent
5. Records electric currents
8. Charlize Theron flick "___ Flux"
12. More frosty
14. Disfigure
15. Sky color
16. A thoroughfare in a town or city
18. Actress de Armas
19. Spend time in a relaxed way
20. California peak
21. Lodging option
22. Small amount of a thing
23. Expresses sorrow
26. Keeps an ear warm
30. Babies (Spanish)
31. A conceited and self-centered person
32. No seats available
33. Pouches
34. Hip joints
39. A place to bathe
42. Evading
44. Minute, one-celled unit
46. Losing one's hair
47. A country in W Africa
49. One point north of northeast
50. Pointed end of a pen
51. Extreme
56. Norse personification of old age
57. Doctors' group
58. Member of U.S. Navy
59. Mens' fashion accessories
60. A way to allow
61. Gloomy
62. Grads wear one
63. Between south and southeast
64. Jaguarundi cat

CLUES DOWN

1. Snakes do it

2. Hormone
3. The standard monetary unit of Turkey
4. Fixed charges

COMING EVENTS



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Tractors Through the Ages Show & Shine

BBQ Lunch Fundraiser by Gardenland Co-op

1:15 PM
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Scan the QR code or visit edenhealthcare.ca to donate or register to ride, or call 204-325-5355 for more information.



CAREERS

Morris Multiplex



TOWN OF MORRIS Invites applications for the position of Facilities Manager

The Town of Morris is seeking a highly organized and enthusiastic individual who, under the direction of the CAO, will be responsible for overseeing the comprehensive planning, organization, coordination, scheduling, upkeep, and management of the Town of Morris' recreation facilities and related departments.

Facilities and areas of responsibility include the Morris Multiplex, Morris Community Pool, Morris Splash Park, Morris Baseball Diamonds, Willow Park, Stagecoach Park, Morris Area Recreation, and the Morris Daycare Centre.

Qualifications and skills necessary include:

- Post-secondary education in Recreation Management or a related field and/or a suitable combination of education and experience. Experience in a municipal environment would be considered an asset.
- Demonstrated experience in the development, implementation, and delivery of a wide range of recreation services.
- Proven budgeting and financial management experience.
- Experience managing recreation facilities with an understanding of local recreation, culture, and tourism is considered an asset.
- Demonstrated experience in leadership, staff supervision, and training.
- Strong communication skills with the ability to interact effectively with the public, staff, and stakeholders.
- Ability to problem solve, make decisions, demonstrate initiative, and work as a flexible team player.
- Experience with facility maintenance, including HVAC and outdoor grounds upkeep, is considered an asset.

Job Details:

Full-time (70 hours biweekly. Salary based on qualifications. A municipal benefits package is available after a 6-month probation period. The primary job location will be the Morris Multiplex, located at 380 Stampede Grounds.

A full job description is available at www.townofmorris.ca
Please submit your application by 5:00 PM on July 4, 2025, to:
Arien Peterson, Facilities Manager
Email: facilitiesmanager@townofmorris.ca
Phone: 204-746-2531

Thank you to all who apply. Only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

GRADUATION



Congratulations Hailey
We are very proud of your academic achievements.
- Grandma T., Grandma and Grandpa R. and Dad..

THANK YOU

Mark's family would like to thank you for sharing in the celebration of his life. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for helping us through this difficult time. Your presence, your condolences, your shared memories all truly comforted us. The trees planted in Mark's memory will be a living tribute to him. We hope the donations made in Mark's memory to the Bruce & Anne Oake Recovery Centre will support and encourage others.

-The Ching Family

IN MEMORIAM



Kenton Harder
1986 - 2019

My boys together in heaven, I never would have thought. Byron your body was so tired, and when asked "I feel like a rough old bear", and if I should die, don't worry, I will be in heaven with Kenton and Jesus. So off you went to Heaven, no time to say good bye, you missed your brother, so you had to go. Visions of you both, as happy as can be, you boys know the mystery, the rest of wait to see. So many there to greet you, to love you without cease, meeting Saint's and prophets, with life battles all deceased. Kenton, it's been six years' since you went to your heavenly home and how your children have grown. Isabelle is graduating, a moment to behold. Chase and Kitt drive motorcycle like the wind, some accidents do occur, so grandpa preaches Safety like an officer surely would! Keziah is a trickster, a trap she waits to set, waiting for you to turn, so coffee she can sip. Leah such a big heart, drawing is her thing, driving the quad too fast, having a blast. Byron, your mama is looking after your cats, a reminder of you every day, oh how we miss your presence on our yard every day. Your room has a peace, like no other in the house, so we go there to visit, as a reminder of the Godly man you were. So boy's, our lives are forever changed without you here, your names cross our lips every day as if you were here. We see you in our memories, that no one can take away, and continue to love you like no words could ever say. So cheer us on from Heaven, as we toil day to day, waiting for the day we get to see you both again.

- Missing You & Loving you Always

CONDOLENCES



Lori Penner
It is with great sadness that the Manitoba Community Newspaper Association (MCNA) offers our deepest condolences to the family, friends and co-workers of Lori Penner upon her sudden and unexpected passing. Lori was kind and well loved in her community. She was also a dedicated and award-winning journalist to a few of our MCNA newspapers. We extend our deepest sympathy to all those who knew her in the community and who will miss her dearly, as well as to all of those who had the honour of working with her. Rest in Peace.



Byron Harder
1988 - 2024

OBITUARY



Lorna Lawson
On June 25, 2025, Lorna Lee Lawson (nee Brown) of Miami, MB passed away at Health Sciences Center after a short but aggressive battle with cancer.
She leaves behind her husband Glenn, who she was married to for 46 years, as well as her daughter Arvel (Brian) of Mannville, AB and son Paul (Theresa) of Altamont, MB. She also leaves behind her two sisters, Emily (Terry) Hunter of Winnipeg, MB and Burna (Jim) Wilton of Guelph, ON and her sister-in-law Linda Griffin of Moose Jaw, SK and her brother-in-law Grant (Joan) Lawson of Brandon, MB. She will be missed by her grandchildren and great-grandchildren, along with many cousins and dear friends.
Lorna was predeceased by her parents, Harry and Edith Brown and her in-laws John and Myrtle Lawson.
Lorna grew up on a farm outside of Roland, MB where she developed her love of trees, animals, birds and open spaces. She loved horse back riding with her Dad and often shared memories of their long talks during these rides. Once she graduated high school, Lorna completed her medical secretary training before working in this field in Southern Manitoba and then Haida Gwaii, British Columbia. Though Haida Gwaii captured her heart, she decided to move back to Manitoba and went on to marry Glenn in 1979. While raising her family, Lorna worked as a Public Servant for the RCMP for thirty-six and a half years. She received the Queen's Jubilee Award in 2002 for her professional and community work in 'D' Division. Lorna loved her family and could often be found sewing uniforms or costumes into the wee hours of the morning, attending her children's sporting events, supporting her parents, volunteering in the community and baking her famous flax buns for gatherings.
Lorna will be remembered for her beautiful smile, generous spirit and kind disposition. To know Lorna, was to know love. She was so proud of her children and loved her family and friends. She was an avid sports fan, enthusiastically cheering on the Winnipeg Jets each season. She enjoyed curling and travelled to many Briers, Scotties and World Qualifiers. She shared a love of music with her husband Glenn, attending many concerts over the years. She also loved time at Pelican Lake, Gimli (Willow Island) and Steep Rock with her family. Being a night owl, you could count on her to visit into the early hours of the morning, while watching the stars, Northern Lights and Meteor Showers. Her happy place at home was her backyard firepit, where she grew flowers, enjoyed bird watching, cuddled her cats and dogs and hosted many gatherings for family and friends. In her retirement, she discovered Parksville, BC and absolutely loved walking amongst the big trees of Rath Trevor Park and on the ocean floor when the tide was out. Lorna was an active member of her book club and recently published a book of memoirs for her family.
Lorna was fortunate to take a trip back in time in the summer of 2023, when she travelled back to Haida Gwaii after 50 years away. These Islands held a special place in her heart and returning gave her the chance to re-connect with old friends, meet the children of old friends and show her daughter and son-in-law the magic of Haida Culture and Art.
Lorna accepted her cancer diagnosis with courage, remaining hopeful, staying strong and making her own decisions until the very end. A special thanks to all those who supported Lorna since her diagnosis at the end of April. In her final days, she was surrounded by the love of family and friends and was deeply appreciative of everyone's presence. She received tremendous care from her paramedics, Joel and Ryan, and from the teams at Boundary Trails, STARS and Health Sciences; you will never know how much she appreciated your care.
At Lorna's request, cremation has taken place. Her Celebration of Life will be on July 19, 2025 at the Roland United Church at 1:30 p.m. Burial to follow at the Miami Cemetery.
In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Lorna's name to STARS, the South Central Cancer Resource or the Nature Conservancy of Canada.
Doyle's Funeral Home
in care of arrangements
www.doylesfuneralhome.ca

OBITUARY



Marguerite Lecoq (nee Stevens)
February 20, 1926 - June 30, 2025
It is with sad hearts that we announce the passing of our dear mother and friend, Marguerite Lecoq (nee Stevens). She passed on peacefully on June 30, 2025 at Tabor Home in Morden, MB.
Marguerite Lecoq was born on February 20, 1926 to Arthur and Clementine Stevens (nee Rosier) in St. Alphonse, MB.
Mom was predeceased by her beloved husband Raymond in 2002, her son-in-law Larry in 2022, her sisters and brothers-in-law: Madeline and Maurice Cabernel, Evelyn and Andre Timmerman, Cecile and Lucien Geirnaert.
Mom is survived by her two daughters, Rita and Linda, her brother George (Diane) Stevens, and numerous nieces and nephews.
She is also survived by her good friend Jeannette Warnock, who provided care and companionship when we couldn't be there for Mom.
We would like to thank the Tabor Home staff for the kindness and care they provided to Mom, especially over the last few weeks.
In lieu of flowers, please make donations in memory of Marguerite to Tabor Home in Morden, MB.
A Memorial Service will be held on Friday, July 11, 2025, at 1 pm at the Wiebe Funeral Chapel in Morden, MB.
Wiebe Funeral Chapel, Morden
in care of arrangements
wiebefuneralhomes.com



Classifieds Announcements

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OBITUARY



**Alma Ruth Enns
(nee Giesbrecht)**

This obituary honours Alma Ruth Enns, 98, of Saskatoon, Saskatchewan whose BIG, beautiful smile made us feel special and loved. Ruth died on Wednesday, July 2nd just weeks after settling into her new home in Warman Special Care Home in Warman, Saskatchewan. Four of her eight children were with her at the time of her passing on Wednesday.

As the oldest daughter of Elizabeth and Jacob T. Giesbrecht, in a family of 8 children on a dairy farm in Myrtle, Manitoba, Ruth was born into the role of organizer and caregiver on February 13, 1927. In that busy family, Ruth became skilled at bossing her 5 brothers (George, Johnny, David (all deceased), Art and Len) and looking after her 2 sisters (Betty (deceased) and Adelaide), building the skills and personality that later underpinned her career as a

teacher, and her life's role as a mother.

Shortly after beginning her teaching career in Myrtle in the late 1940s, Ruth moved to Altona to teach children in Grade 5. Lifelong friendships grew from rooming with her fellow teachers, and it was not long before her big, beautiful smile attracted the attention of John Enns (who predeceased her 35 years ago in 1990). Ruth and John were married August 9th, 1952, the start of another chapter in Ruth's life...motherhood.

"New babies" were an almost annual event in the first 10 or so years of the Ruth-John household on 6th Avenue NE in Altona. Those Ruth-John babies are now mostly seniors, including David (Carolyn) and Carol (Terry) in Altona, Manitoba; Libby (Gord) in Victoria, BC; Cathy (Elmer) in Rosthern, Saskatchewan; Bruce (Katherine) in Castlegar, BC; Judy in Winnipeg, MB; Margo in Rosthern, SK, and Steve (Patty) in Saskatoon, SK. One baby, Lorraine, a twin to Judy, died in infancy. Ruth mothered and managed this busy household with her positive outlook and organizing skills.

Ruth was a "foodie" long before it was popular to post plate pictures on Instagram. Daily meals were healthy and hardy, and the 10-member family sat down together for dinner every day. Cookies and cakes were part of the weekly routine, and special cakes were Mom's signature pieces....chiffon cakes, angel food cakes, and chocolate cakes with caramel icing.

In the midst of this busy family life, Ruth made time for volunteer work outside of her home. She was a key member of the local Women's Institute in Altona, the Bergthaler Church Women's Group, and then the many organizing committees around her kids' activities (Altona Figure Skating Club, Home and School). In 1971, building on her commitment to both education and community, Ruth became the first woman to be elected to the local school board.

Ruth moved from Altona to Saskatoon with her husband John and the schoolage children in 1975. She looked forward to life in a city, and embraced the many opportunities to become involved in the community there. Church became a pillar in Ruth's life, and she thoroughly enjoyed the people and community at Nutana Park Mennonite Church. She took on the role of secretary for the Conference of Mennonites of Canada as part of her contribution to church life.

After John's sad and too-early passing in 1990, with children all grown and gone, Ruth entered the senior phase of her life. Through her church connections, she found and enjoyed a wonderful companion in Menno Nickel, whom she married in May of 1992, adding 2 more step-children Jim (Joanna) and Trish (Marcel) (and their children) to the long family list. Ruth and Menno enjoyed 18 years together before health issues forced them to move out of their condo, and then Menno passed away (February 13, 2010) and Ruth was on her own once more. These times on her own were hard for Ruth, who thrived on busy-ness and running her household. A major stroke in 2009 had left Ruth unable to live independently, unable to be who she had always been.

Ruth lived her life with charisma and style. Throughout her busy motherhood years and well into her senior years, she dressed and carried herself with aplomb. Her big, beautiful smile came with immaculate hairdo and make up, and a fashionable outfit, just right for whatever the occasion. When Ruth required help to get dressed these last few years, she remained quite particular. This last Christmas, a staff member at Bethany Manor (in Saskatoon, where she lived for 15 years), told some of us "children" at the Christmas party: "I had laid out some clothes, and your Mom looked at my choices and then at me and said kindly, but definitively: "I can't wear black with brown."

2024-25 was a difficult year for Ruth. With most of her hearing and short term memory gone, Ruth suffered a debilitating bout of COVID in November, and then another stroke in late February. After that, Ruth was moved out of Bethany Manor, her home for the last 15 years, and into the Warman Special Care Home. After a few weeks in Warman, Ruth experienced a final stroke in late June from which she did not recover. And so we say good-bye.

The family would like to thank the staff at Bethany Manor for their years of care for our Mom. As well, the care in these last weeks at the home in Warman was exceptional, and we are so very grateful for that too. Our lovely mom Ruth was a special woman with a big, beautiful smile, whose big love for all her children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren made us all feel special and will forever be missed.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to MCC (900-330 St. Mary Avenue, Winnipeg, MB R3C 3Z5)

Wiebe Funeral Home Altona
In care of arrangements
www.wiebefhaltona.com

OBITUARY



**John Mark Ching
September 2, 1959 - June 10, 2025**

Mark Ching, 65, of Darlingford passed away peacefully on Tuesday, June 10, 2025. He will be missed by Cathy (Holenski), his wife of twenty-six years, his sisters Terry (Larry), Pam, brother Hal, (Karen), many nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends. Mark was predeceased by his dad Murray in 2010, his mom Jean in 2023, and brother-in-law Bill in 2014.

Mark was born in Morden on September 2, 1959, and his adventures in life began. As a child he loved the outdoors and was always ready for action. Family camping trips were a highlight, and he would still talk about camping in South Dakota. Sleeping in the station wagon, Mark and Hal were lucky that the bear ate the butter dish and not them.

Mark attended Lorne School until grade two, and because the school was just across the road it was probably the only two years of his life that he attended school every day. When the school closed Mark went to school in Darlingford and Manitou. As school was not Mark's favourite pastime, he entered the workforce at a young age. He farmed with his dad and brother for ten years, and during that time he was married to Debbie Tack on the family farm.

Mark enjoyed entertaining the children of his friends and family. For those in his care, his babysitting skills are legendary and memorable.

He loved hunting and fishing and was always sharing stories of hunting mule deer in Montana with his dad and friends.

In 1991 Mark and Cathy started their life together. They shared a love of the valley, nature, and animals. They moved to their forever home in the valley where Mark always enjoyed coffee on the deck watching birds, deer, and other critters passing by.

Mark spent many years working on the pipeline which took him from Northern Alberta to Nova Scotia. Cathy shared a summer with him there and it was a place he always wanted to return to. Mark enjoyed spending time with family and friends, and many stories are told around a campfire about his epic adventures. He had a great sense of humour and would help anybody who needed it. He appreciated the help and support he got later in life as he struggled with his addiction.

"My life's journey ended early. The path I chose was short. You all tried your best to change it, But in the end it was for me to sort."

A celebration of Mark's life was held Saturday, June 21st.

Donations can be made in Mark's memory to: The Bruce Oake Recovery Centre, 255 Hamilton Ave., Winnipeg, MB R2Y 2C3

OBITUARY



**Martin James Moody
October 13, 1948 - June 30, 2025**

It is with profound sadness that we announce the sudden passing of Martin Moody, who died at Boundary Trails Hospital Monday, June 30th at the age of 76. He leaves behind his wife Jan, who he was married to for 55 years, as well as his daughter Jennifer, and grandsons Max, Felix and Fox Westphal of Hollister, CA and his son Scott Moody of Miami, MB. He also leaves behind his sister Iris (Gordon) Sapinski of Lake of the Prairies, MB and Sicamous, BC, and his brother Cameron (Denise) Moody of Calgary, AB. He is predeceased by his parents Jim and Anne Moody, his sister Marion (Ron) Horinek, and his brother Brent Moody.

Martin had a long career with Canada Post, starting as a letter carrier in Portage la Prairie, MB at the age of 16. He moved with Jan and Jennifer to Cranbrook, BC in 1979, then on to Prince Rupert, BC with Scott in tow for a management position in 1989. The family returned to Manitoba in 1991 where he managed the Raleigh Depot Letter Carrier Division in Winnipeg until his first retirement and relocation to Miami in 2006. Never one to sit around, Martin always had a side gig going whether it be window washing, limo driving, or car detailing at Carman Ford. He also delivered to the rural postal routes in Miami and Morden until his final retirement when COVID hit in 2020.

Martin embraced life in Miami, quickly making friends and becoming part of the community with his friendly, teasing nature and wry humor. He loved his time playing cards and crib at the Friendship Center, Collingwood, and The Station, eagerly teasing to win away his rivals quarters. He served as Board President to the Collingwood for ten years and always has a smile to greet the harness racing crowd and folks coming to Miami Agricultural Society events when he worked the gate.

Martin lived every day to the fullest; family camping trips, supporting his children's sporting endeavors, feeding the backyard birds, golfing, curling and so much more fun. He will be missed by all who knew him.

At Martin's request, cremation has taken place. His Celebration of Life will be on July 24th at the Miami Community Centre Hall at 2pm, preceded by a private family interment at the Miami Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Martin's name to the Miami Community Centre via the RM of Thompson, 530 Norton Ave, PO Box 190, Miami, MB R0G 1H0.

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

Your memory will live forever Engraved within our hearts

Glioblastoma Awareness Day

JULY 16, 2025



Join Us on July 16, 2025 as we shine a light on glioblastoma (GBM), the most common, complex, treatment-resistant, and deadliest type of brain cancer. National Brain Tumour Society spearheads this annual event to support survivors and their loved ones, to remember those who are no longer with us, and to honor leaders working toward a cure and better quality of life for those living with this devastating disease. The incidence of glioblastoma (GB), also known as glioblastoma multiforme, is 4 per 100,000 people in Canada according to the Brain Tumour Registry of Canada*. GB accounts for 12-15% of all intracranial tumours and 50-60% of astrocytic tumours. GBMs increase in frequency with age and affect more men than women. GBs may manifest at any age, but mostly affect adults with a peak incidence between 45 and 75 years of age. Only 3% of childhood brain tumours are glioblastomas.

TUMOUR CHARACTERISTICS

- GB is the most common and most

aggressive malignant primary brain tumour. These tumours contain various cell types, the most common being astrocytes.

- Most of these tumours occur in the cerebral hemispheres but can develop less commonly in other parts of the brain such as the cerebellum, brainstem or spinal cord. The cells of these tumours grow quickly, are not well defined, and can spread throughout the brain.

- Can develop directly or evolve from a lower grade glioma (secondary GB).

- Less common in children.

Common symptoms include, but are not necessarily limited to:

- Headache: The most common symptom, it's caused by an increased pressure in the brain
- Weakness in the arms or legs
- Decreased sensation
- Nausea and/or vomiting
- Unsteadiness
- Seizure
- Progressive memory decline
- Personality deficit
- Decreased level of consciousness

The kind of symptoms produced depends highly on the location of the tumour, more so than on its pathological properties. The tumour can start producing symptoms quickly, but occasionally is an asymptomatic condition until it reaches a larger size.

TREATMENT/STANDARD OF CARE

It is very difficult to treat glioblastoma due to several factors:

- The tumour cells are very resistant to conventional therapies
- The brain is susceptible to damage due to conventional therapy
- The brain has a very limited capacity to repair itself
- Many drugs cannot cross the blood-brain barrier to act on the tumour.

SURGERY

The first treatment step is surgery to remove as much tumour as possible.

Surgery is almost always followed by radiation. Glioblastoma's capacity to extensively invade and infil-

trate normal surrounding brain tissue makes complete resection impossible. The goal of surgery is to de-bulk — a surgical procedure with the goal of decreasing the mass effect of a tumour by removing dead tissue or a portion of the tumour.

However, improvements in neuroimaging have helped make better distinctions between tumour types and between tumour and normal tissue.

RADIATION

After surgery, radiation therapy is used to treat any residual visible tumour on imaging and any microscopic tumour cells in the surrounding region in an attempt to prevent recurrence.

CHEMOTHERAPY

Chemotherapy is often given at the same time as radiation, and often given alone after the combination of chemotherapy and radiotherapy is completed. In children, chemotherapy may be used to delay the need for radiotherapy.

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