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LOCALLY OWNED HISTORY BOOK FOR THE COMMUNITY



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



By Ashleigh Viveiros

Central Community Homes (CCH) in Winkler has broken ground on its first brand new affordable housing complex at the corner of North Railway Ave. and Main St.

The old single-family house on the site has been torn down to make room for a 28-unit apartment building CCH hopes to have up and running by the end of next year.

The project is a partnership between the non-profit organization, the City of Winkler, and K Block Developments, and it's been years in the making.

ing. "We still have some ways to go in terms of closing the gap and getting sufficient funding, but we're moving ahead in good faith," said CCH board chair James Friesen last week.

The complex comes with a price tag of approximately \$4 million. CCH acquired the land from a supportive local developer with funding from the Province of Manitoba, via the City of Winkler, to begin construction sooner rather than later.

Friesen estimates they're still about \$1 million shy of the funds needed to finish the build, but he's optimistic additional grant sources and community support will get the project across the finish line.

"As we move forward, we're hoping to qualify for any potential grants that may come up. We're doing our due diligence there," he said, noting they're also working with local partners to make this and other CCH housing complexes sustainable. "We know the community is generous, and we're working really hard to leverage the province and the federal governments to help pay for things as well."

They continue to have the support of the City of Winkler.

"While it's exciting to see the demolition work start, the sobering reality is that CCH is still almost \$1M short of what's needed to finish this build," said Mayor Henry Siemens. "They are now looking to the community to support the work they have started.

"We create a safer, healthier, more connected Winkler when we help people find the housing they need. We encourage the community to financially support this important addition to our affordable housing inventory." The building will have two studio apartments, 18 one-bedroom units,





SUPPLIED PHOTOS

The old house at the corner of North Railway Ave. and Main Street in Winkler (below) came down last month to make room for a 28-unit affordable housing complex (above) being built by Central Community Homes and K Block Developments.



and eight two-bedroom units. Most of the apartments will be used for social housing, though some will also be open to those not on social assistance.

"The folks we are trying to house here are individuals who are among the most vulnerable in the community in terms of their housing," Friesen said. "It's an integrated model, so some individuals would be employed and there would also be some on social assistance—that's the range we're trying to house here."

The site is the perfect spot for a project like this, being within easy walking distance of area schools, shopping, parks, the medical clinic, and other services.

It's also a stone's throw from the Central Station Community Centre, providing easy access for residents to the many social supports and community-building programs there.

"Through the work that we do in partnership with Central Community Homes, we can help connect people with more than just offering affordable places to live," said Central Station executive director Anita Wiebe. The community centre manages CCH's housing units throughout the city. "Once we can get them into appropriate housing, we are able to provide tenants with the support that will help them to be successful in their tenancy and to be the bridge to other resources they may need. This project signifies so much more than just another block of apartments, but rather the opportunity for tenants to thrive on many levels."

The building will help meet the ever-growing demand for affordable housing in Winkler, but more is needed. There is currently a wait list over 200 families/individuals awaiting placement in social housing.

"On a weekly basis we have people coming through our doors desperate for places to live," Wiebe shared. "We would love to be able to connect them to housing, but we aren't able to give them something that we don't have.

"We know there is a need for housing across the spectrum, but those who are in need of social and affordable housing are pushed even further to the fringes with the crisis we are currently experiencing. We believe that everyone has the basic right to safe and affordable housing and so we will continue our advocacy efforts."

Baseball Hall of Fame unveils new feature display

By Lorne Stelmach

A new display at the Manitoba Baseball Hall of Fame in Morden is helping attract attention and draw in visitors.

The museum recently unveiled a feature display that offers a detailed scale miniature scene.

Administrative manager Jim Mutcheson said they felt it was time for a refresh of the cabinet which sits front and center when you visit the museum.

The cabinet itself has a very unique shape and design, and Mutcheson's wife Loretta had the thought to use it for a miniature scene after reading about a similar display at the Winnipeg Art Gallery.

They wanted the display to evoke memories or emotions for anyone that viewed it, said Mutcheson, and they hoped the setting would replicate a scene that could be found anywhere in Manitoba from back in the day.

"I think it will engage people," he said. "You can see it from a distance ... people are coming in ... they're taking a turn and looking at this first, so it's attracting people."

The museum was led to Jason Golebioski of Winnipeg, who agreed to take on the project.

The display features a baseball field



SUPPLIED PHOTO

From left: Loretta Mutcheson, Jim Mutcheson, Jason Golebioski, Joe Wiwchar, and Dan Giesbrecht with the new miniature display recently unveiled at the Manitoba Baseball Hall of Fame in Morden.

with a league game in progress as well as a parking lot with beautiful retro cars, food trucks, and a playground area with a scrub game in progress.

No sooner was the display unveiled then they had a line of viewers both big and small. The detail of the display is what really makes it stand out, Mutcheson suggested.

"Several people who I've met ... they go back and see different things ... it's got so much detail to it that I don't think you can take it all in in one glance.

"Jason's attention to detail and creativity is amazing and something to be seen," said Mutcheson, who lauded "the time and effort that Jason put into this display."

The outer area of the Manitoba Baseball Hall of Fame can be accessed anytime the Access Event Centre is open, but museum hours otherwise are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. during the week.

Mutcheson noted his goal is to keep looking for ways to further improve the museum.

"We're hoping we can add more stuff as we go along in displays so that it will kind of encase the whole area a little bit more and attract people to see what's actually there," he said. "We want to keep on updating and upgrading ... now I've gone to different museums and seen how they present their stuff to the public ... technology is great as long as we can use it."

Work to begin soon on Winkler arena renos

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Winklerites will very soon see work getting started on the major renovation project at the Winkler Centennial Arena.

At its Aug. 29 meeting, city council gave final reading to a Local Improvement Bylaw that outlines its intent to borrow \$7.5 million for the estimated \$23.75 million project.

Winkler is also dipping into its recreational reserve fund to the tune of \$5.15M, and making use of \$7.97M in federal funding and \$3.13M in pro-

vincial dollars to pay for the project.

The borrowed \$7.5M will be paid back over a 15-year period. A local improvement tax will show up on Winkler taxpayers' bills as a result. A homeowner with a house worth \$300,000 can expect to pay about \$104 a year.

The bylaw received first reading by council earlier this year and then went to the Municipal Board for approval before getting second and third reading last week. It passed unanimously. Mayor Henry Siemens shared that they are also in the process of drafting a letter of intent to secure the services of Bockstael Construction out of Winnipeg for the project.

"Ultimately, we received two formal proposals" for the renovations, he said, explaining that, after an extensive review, the Bockstael proposal was the one that got the thumbs up. "We are now dotting the I's and crossing the T's to enter into a contract with them.

"But in the meantime, because this is a renovation, there's a significant amount of remediation that needs to happen, and deconstruction before

INNO AIR Industrial we get there, and we don't want to lose too much more time. So together with Bockstael, we've agreed that we're going to move forward with a letter of intent to negotiate that final contract. In the meantime, it will allow them to start the demolition."

The scope of the project includes demolishing much of the building's existing interior and redeveloping it into an approximately 1,300-seat rink, with a new main entrance from the Meridian Exhibition Centre at the southwest corner.

Continued on page 5

From Argon To Xenon We Have You Covered

Welding Gases For The Altona Area

We are pleased to announce JNM Custom Steel as the new distributor for Innovair welding gases & supplies in the Altona area.



getinformed

Presentation spotlights the Manitoba landscape, past and present

By Lorne Stelmach

A new initiative has been not only



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

DNS chair Paul Goossen spoke about the natural landscape of historical Manitoba at the Winkler Senior Centre last week.

helping introduce local seniors to nature but also helping make connections in the community.

A variety of speakers have been involved in four sessions this spring as part of an intergenerational nature discovery project that has involved the Winkler Senior Centre, the Buhler Active Living Centre, and volunteers connected to the Discovery Nature Sanctuary.

Sessions took seniors and youth out to the refuge on the eastern outskirts of Winkler for a series of presentations that concluded last Wednesday with a final educational talk at the centre downtown.

"That interaction for the seniors is so neat and so valuable," said Paul Goossen, who spoke on the theme of prairie wildlife past and present and connected it to the nature sanctuary. "Some of them will not be able to get out, so this can bring it a bit to their front door."

In his presentation, Goossen talked about what kind of wildlife has been in southern Manitoba both past and present. He touched on what the landscape was like and what animals

The Board of Directors of **Child & Family Services** of Central Manitoba Inc.

Would like to invite you to attend the

90th Annual General Meeting

of Child & Family Services of Central Manitoba Inc.

Wednesday, September 11, 2023 at 6:30 pm

Child & Family Services of Central Manitoba Inc. 25 – 3rd St. South East Portage la Prairie, Manitoba

Guest Speakers

Membership is not required for attendance.

Please RSVP to Christine.bergen@gov.mb.ca or 204-239-3839 by September 5, 2024.

If you are unable to attend the meeting, but wish to view the 2023-2024 Annual Report, it will be available on our website at <u>https://cfsofcentral.mb.ca</u> after September 11, 2024

"I WANTED TO GIVE A PICTURE OF WHAT LIFE ON THE PRAIRIE WAS HERE MAYBE TWO OR THREE HUNDRED YEARS AGO ... IT WAS VERY, VERY DIFFERENT FROM WHAT IT IS TODAY."

lived here at one tim, e including bison, grizzly bears, and elk, for example.

"I wanted to give a picture of what life on the prairie was here maybe two or three hundred years ago ... it was very, very different from what it is today," he said.

"Then I talk a little bit about the impact of some of the changes that have caused the change in the landscape and in terms of wildlife," Goossen continued. "I use the Discovery Nature Sanctuary as a focal point for what we see today and what's being done in terms of conservation there."

Goossen said it is interesting to try to imagine what it once was like here in this area of southern Manitoba.

"To see an ocean of prairie, tall-grass prairie or shortgrass prairie, it's phenomenal, and to think that there were bison that roamed here, and not just a few but thousands of bison," he said. "It sort of boggles the mind ... we're used to an urban environment with small villages, agricultural fields, highways ... we don't think about historically what it was like here."

Goossen offered his thoughts on what he hoped people would have

Our mistake

The Aug. 29 article on the Morden-Winkler Parkinson Canada SuperWalk coming up Sept. 7 contained an error.

When Winkler resident George Braun was speaking on the impact that Parkinson's has had on him, it was misinterpreted as himself having



been getting from his and the other presentations this summer, which shone a spotlight on local birds, plants, and butterflies.

"I think what the three previous presentations had done was give people a chance to see what variety we have, like even just the birds we have in the area ... Discovery Nature Sanctuary has I think something like 140 species that have been recorded there, which is pretty substantial," he suggested.

And the plants will have given people an appreciation for the variety of plants that maybe they don't normally see," he said. "And the monarch butterfly presentation will have given people an appreciation for a species that is I think listed as a special concern ... it's facing a lot of challenges in terms of habitat protection. There's lots of people who are trying to help the butterfly and to increase its numbers, so that may spur some people as well.

"I hope it gives people a little bit of appreciation for what it was like here and how things have changed and the need we have now to ensure that some of that we can restore or protect."

the disease. In fact, he was speaking from the perspective of how his wife and other loved ones having Parkinson's has impacted him and his family.

We apologize for this error and for any confusion it may have caused.

> Get in touch 204-325-6888



HANDS Canada concert benefits Congo school

By Ashleigh Viveiros

HANDS Canada hosts its fall fundraising concert in Winkler next weekend.

The Glencross Quartet, the Peters Family, George Braun and Abe Friesen perform a benefit concert at the Winkler EMMC (600 Southview Dr.) on Saturday, Sept. 14 at 7 p.m.

Admission is free, but donations will be gratefully accepted in support of the HANDS school in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

The importance of that support cannot be overstated, stresses HANDS Canada founder and program director Assani Muhanuzi.

"It helps us to be able to pay the teachers, maintain the school, keep the school running," he says, adding international donations have also allowed them to set up a porridge program to ensure students aren't going to class with empty bellies. "So donations from the Winkler community go for that, help us sustain the school and keep feeding the hungry children." The school is expecting over 400 children to attend classes there this fall. Muhanuzi shares that they've seen an enrolment bump in the Gr. 1 age group, necessitating the construction of an additional classroom.

Another room is also needed to expand the school to cater to the high school students wishing to continue their education into Gr. 10.

"So we need classrooms to be built," Muhanuzi says. "And we need to buy desks and equipment, supplies for those new classes."

The school's growth from about 120 Gr. 1-5 students when it opened in 2016 to today has been exciting for Muhanuzi and the other local people involved in making the facility a reality.

"But also there are challenges," he says. "Parents struggling to support us so we can achieve the sustainability that we always expected."

The school is for families with limited resources. They are asked to pay a tuition of \$2.50 a month for their child to attend classes, with other costs off-



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Donations from supporters in the Pembina Valley made HANDS Canada's Congo school possible. The non-profit invites people to a benefit concert in Winkler Sept. 14 to help them add additional classrooms to the building.

set by donations raised by HANDS here in Canada.

The non-profit also operates a small pig farm, a garden, and a sewing operation in Congo to generate income for the school while also helping to feed and support local families.

"We just keep praying God will help us to be able to do what we can," Muhanuzi says. "So far at least, we are bringing young children back to school, helping them learn to read and to write. That was always our main goal, and we thank God that it has been going very well."

You can learn more about HANDS Canada at the concert or online at handscanada.com.

> WINKLER COUNCIL, FROM PG. 3

The plan, according to the city's overview of the project, is to "redevelop and modernize the existing arena by implementing energy efficient systems, constructing extensive code upgrades, and providing safe spectator viewing and inclusive public amenities."

The link between the MEC and the Centennial Arena will also be expanded to provide more room for concessions, concession seating, and a staff room.

Work will also be done on the building's exterior to improve energy efficiencies, while the aging mechanical and electrical systems inside will be fully replaced.

The hope is the renos will be complete by December 31, 2025. Between then and now, all arena user groups will be making use of the ice surface in the Meridian Exhibition Centre.

Siemens says they expect to have some design concepts to share with the community in the coming weeks.

"My genuine hope is that sometime in the next 30 days we're going to be at a place that we can at least show a visual of what is being proposed and will be moved forward with."

FINDING THE DOG PARK A HOME

Last Tuesday's council meeting also saw a petition presented to council from community members frustrated at the closure of the Winkler Dog Park.

Previously located in the north end of the city beside the water treatment plant, the fenced-in, off-leash dog park was closed earlier this year as work on the plant's major expansion got underway.

Initially, it was announced the park would move to green space in Scotia Park in south Winkler, but then the City, responding to complaints from nearby residents, cancelled those plans. No alternative site has been found thus far for the park.

It's been a source of frustration for the community that has been built up at the park over the years, shared Leah Nel as she presented a petition with 200 signatures to council.

"Dog parks are an amenity. They're not a necessity, but they are also a sign of a healthy city culture that values young families and fosters community," she said. "When I first moved here three years ago, some of the first people that I met and connected with were at the dog park. There are many dog owners in Winkler, and we truly value having a space to take our dogs off leash. Without a dog park we're missing something important and valuable."

Nel questioned the process by which the city attempted to find a new location for the park, announced it with no wider public consultation, and then cancelled it, also without letting the broader community weigh-in for or against the site.

"Unfortunately, there wasn't a lot of dialogue facilitated about the dog park," she said. "The project was kind of announced and then abandoned, and I don't think it was very respectful to the citizens of Winkler. Those who were in favour of it and those who might have been opposed to it didn't have the opportunity to speak."

She urged council to reconsider this matter and try to find a solution.

"My request is that you please make it a priority to build a dog park as soon as possible in an accessible space."

Mayor Siemens noted the city spent the years leading up to the treatment plant expansion getting underway trying to find a suitable location for the dog park. They weren't expecting it to be such a challenge to find a spot.

"We ultimately ended up looking at 24 different locations, and, for any number of reasons, each one of them didn't work," he said, noting they initially thought Scotia Park was the ticket, but negative feedback from some in that neighbourhood "caused us to pause and reconsider.

"I recognize that the people who would like to use an off-leash dog park are frustrated and would like to see an answer, but it is a little bit more difficult to put one into a built out community," Siemens said.

There will be space back beside the water treatment plant once construction is complete, and right now that is the plan for the permanent location of the dog park.

"We'll be able to put it back there," Siemens said. "That's an existing spot that it already was and it's a spot people were already used to going to."

The problem is, the construction project is still 12-18 months away from completion.

Siemens said city council and staff have not given up on finding a new home for the dog park in the interim.

"We're researching every option," he said, noting Nel's presentation was heard loud and clear by council. "We left that meeting committed to seeing if we can find anything in the meantime. Whether it's a permanent location or a temporary one, we do want to find something."







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OUR SISTER PUBLICATIONS





striking features of Morden is its tree canopy.

My kingdom for a canopy

Before I moved here in 2005, I was convinced I would not be staying because being a typical, egocentric Ontarian why would I want to?

But then as I drove south from Winnipeg toward Morden for a visit and then west at the hospital corner there it was, rising up before me like an oasis of trees in the

midst of the beautiful surrounding flatlands: the city I now call home.

Even its core main drag, Stephen St., was covered trees. A beautiful, green umbrella that stretched all the way to the end.

Thornhill, Gilmour, Wardrop and all the streets connecting them were literal tunnels of emerald at the height of summer.

Sadly, most of those trees are ash and elm. Both of which are highly susceptible to devastation between the emerald ash borer and Dutch elm disease. With this in mind the city has been carefully removing at-risk trees and replacing them as best they can.

Unfortunately, one street that seems to be struggling is our core: Stephen Street.

Have you noticed lately that when a tree comes down the small square it was growing in is immediately filled in with concrete?

Where is the Lorax when you need

him? Heck, I'd even take an Ent or two right now.

Call me silly, but once you fill in those spots with concrete it seems unlikely a new tree is going to be put in the old one's place.

While cities like Singapore and Oslo are actively working to creatively increase the density of trees in their highly urban environments, Morden's Stephen Street seems to be heading in the wrong direction.

I say seems to be because what do I know, really? Maybe trees are incapable of growing on Stephen Street for some reason. Perhaps there is fear that a healthy tree could cause sidewalks to crack and streets to heave? Maybe there is an innovative plan in the works right now to double the tree canopy on Stephen Street and I simply missed the memo.

In these days when there is increasing competition for resources, people, economic development and more, a small city like Morden needs to protect its distinctives with everything it's got and frankly our trees are our most striking feature.

Another distinctive feature is our beautiful historic Stephen Street.

Did you know that when you measure the length of Stephen Street, North Railway and the connecting side streets Morden has the longest park-once-and-walk retail district in the province outside of Winnipeg?

It's true. This is one of the reasons the Corn and Apple festival can stretch 200 hundred vendor booths and tents in essentially a straight line and be one of the most popular festivals in Manitoba.

Between the trees and the historic buildings, Stephen Street is unique in the province. I would love to see an arch at each end of the street like the one stretching over Corydon at confusion corner in Winnipeg.

But I digress.

The heroic work that Morden's director of parks and urban Forestry Shawn Dias and his team have been doing cannot be applauded loudly enough. The plan that he has spearheaded will ensure that most of Morden's lost trees are replaced.

I just hope that Stephen Street, the heart of the city, is not forgotten along the way.

Letter policy

The Voice welcomes letters from readers on local and regional issues and concerns.

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.

Send your letters to us by e-mail at news@winklermordenvoice.ca.

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By Peter

in

letters

STORIES OF COMPASSION IN MORDEN

My name is Mariyam Tsygankova, and I am the executive director of Many Hands Resource Centre here in Morden. As many of you know, our community centre runs a food bank every Tuesday from 12 to 4 p.m. But what you may not know is that our work begins long before that day arrives.

Every Monday, our dedicated teams are hard at work preparing for Tuesday. There are no long weekends or days off for us. This is more than a job for our staff and volunteers—it's a commitment to our community.

Every Tuesday, I sit in my office and watch as people come through our doors. I see a single mother who is struggling to make ends meet after her husband left. I see an elderly person whose pension isn't enough to cover the cost of groceries. I see a newcomer experiencing culture shock, unable to find a job. I see a person with disabilities trying to navigate a world that often feels unkind.

But through my office window, I also see something beautiful: our volunteers welcoming everyone with open arms. They offer coffee, snacks, and conversation, making sure each person feels seen and valued, no matter their circumstances. In that moment, it's clear to me that people who come for a food hamper need more than just groceries—they need to feel like they belong. They need to know that they are part of our community.

Recently, our statistics showed that about 400 families are using our services. That's nearly 1,000 people, almost 10 per cent of Morden's population, and about 400 of them are children. Of these families, 71.43 per cent live in private rental housing, 10.65 per cent own their homes,

Our mistake

The headline on Pg. 10 of our Aug. 29 edition should have read "Immigrant Business Expo comes to Morden Sept. 20" not "Immigration Business Expo."

We regret the typo and any confusion it may have caused. The expo takes place at the Morden Access Event Centre on Friday, Sept. 20 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and will feature guest speakers, informational booths, and workshops aimed at newcomer business owners and entrepreneurial hopefuls, though all are welcome to attend.

You can reserve a free spot in advance at the Southern Manitoba Immigrant Business Expo page at Eventbrite.ca.

What's *Your* story?

We want to hear from you.

The Voice connects people through stories to build stronger communities. Do you know someone who has a unique hobby? Will be recognized by a local organization for volunteer service? A teacher that goes above and beyond? A hometown hero? A sports star? A business celebrating a milestone or expansion? A senior celebrating their 100th birthday? A young entrepreneur starting out?

Please share your story ideas via email to news@winklermordenvoice.ca or call 204-325-6888



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

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

and 13.35 per cent live in social housing or with someone else. These numbers reflect a crisis that is not unique to Morden; it's happening across Canada and requires a multifaceted response.

Despite these challenges, I am continually amazed by the people of Morden. Our community is wonderfully supportive. While we receive little help from governmental organizations, we are always lifted up by our neighbors who bring food, donate money, and volunteer their time.

Thank you, people of Morden, for standing by us and for each other. Together, we are more than a food bank—we are a community.

Mariyam Tsygankova, Many Hands Resource Centre



getinformed

Thanks for Giving Run adjusting route for Oct. 12 races

By Lorne Stelmach

Plans are in place for the annual Thanks For Giving Run in Winkler this fall, and it comes with a change in the route.

It was made necessary by the City of Winkler's plans to start work on renovations at the Winkler Centennial Arena.

"We had to rethink it and come up with a new start and finish area, and that's why we went to the west side of the Meridian Exhibition Centre," explained lead organizer Dwight Suderman.

Most of the rest of the course will be familiar to previous runners, with a few minor changes.

"We use a little more of Eighth Street on both the first and the second loop," Suderman noted.

"The course for the half-marathon will now be run over two almost identical loops with the main difference being an approximately one kilometer add-on in the middle of the second loop. It happens at the south end of the course and takes the runners down Road 22 towards Schanzenfeld.

Another change this year is that the kids' run has been expanded to in-

clude youth 12 and under instead of the previous 10 and under category.

Here are other key details for the 18th annual Thanks For Giving Run happening Saturday, Oct. 12:

• The gathering point and registration will be at the Meridian Exhibition Centre on the south side starting at 7:30 a.m.

• 5k, 10k and half marathon races begin at 9:30 a.m., and the kids' run starts at 9 a.m.

• 5k racers will have a surprise element in their race course, with details to be announced.

• Online registration can be done at RaceRoster.com, and the early registrant price ends Sept. 19, and runners are encouraged to make a donation when they register at Raceroster.com. Suderman was encouraged that they already had over 42 registrants as of early last week. The race last year hit new participation heights with around 240 runners.

The amount raised in support of the Winkler and District Food Cupboard also increased from a previous best of about \$13,000 to around \$20,000 in 2023.

"It kind of validates our event in that the end goal is to raise funds for



VOICE FILE PHOTO

Construction at the Winkler arena means organizers of the Thanks for Giving Run next month have had to tweak their run routes a bit. Registration for the event is now open.

and awareness of food insecurity in our area and how we can help with it," Suderman said. "They need lots of money to buy food."

All that remains now as far as planning is hoping for the best from Mother Mature come Oct. 12. "Hopefully we'll have good weather," Suderman said. "Who knows what we might get in October."

Those wishing to volunteer can do so by emailing thanksforgivingrun@ gmail.com.

Manitou Honey, Garlic, & Maple Syrup fest is Saturday

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The community of Manitou will be alive with the sights and sounds of its annual Honey, Garlic, and Maple Syrup Festival this weekend.

Set for Saturday, Sept. 7, the celebration offers something for everyone, says organizing committee chair Juanita Cobb, though food is certainly a big focus of the day.

"It's basically a food festival," she says.

To that end, there's no shortage of meals and vendors to check out: the Kinsmen Pancake Breakfast; honey, garlic,



and maple syrup vendor booths; a large farmers' market; Gourmet Alley vendors; adult beverages at the Pembina Valley Saloon; cooking demonstrations with Chef Devin Boulton; and, to top it all off, a gourmet buffet supper (tickets can be purchased that day or in advance at 204-242-4233).

"There's so many choices," Cobb says, noting the buffet especially is a hit every year. "We feed over 500 people at the supper."

The arena stage features free entertainment from 10:45 a.m. through to 5:30 p.m., including performances from Ceclia, Jonathan & Tracy, On the Edge, Ron Braun, and a very special tribute to the late Stew Clayton.

"He was our local musical celebrity," Cobb says, noting Clayton was a fixture at the festival for years, so honouring him this fall, nearly a year after his death, seemed fitting. "He came and he played for the festival at no charge when it was just trying to get launched and establish itself.

"So we have a tribute band that is doing Stew's original music. And then we also have his two

daughters—the Yodeling Farmers' Daughters with special guests Common Threads."

Also taking the stage is Fender Bender, who will play outdoors at the Show 'n Shine being put on by the Country Hicks Car Club all afternoon.

"The car show is typically over 100 cars," shares Cobb, noting gearheads young and old can also get their fix at the Mighty Machines displays along the west fence from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

There's also a craft show and sale, self-guided tours of the community, and children's tent activities.

The day wraps up with a performance from The Janzen Boys at the Manitou Opera House. Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$15 for youth.

If you've never ventured to Manitou for the festival before, this is the year to do it, Cobb says.

"I would say come for lunch so you can take in all the sights and then stay for supper to wrap up a great day of shopping and eating."

For the full schedule, head to hgmsfestival. com/schedule

WSD, GVSD ready and raring for new school year

By Lorne Stelmach

Students returned to class this week in both the Garden Valley and Western school divisions, and it came after a busy summer of work and preparations.

In Winkler, there were two key school renovation projects, while Morden of course was in the home stretch run to open the new École Discovery Trails.

"It's shocking how much they can do in a short period of time," Western School Division superintendent Stephen Ross said of the drive to get the school ready for opening.

"Some teachers had classrooms set up already; some were still working through that process," he said. "Things are coming along really nicely ... there will continue to be some interior things happening outside of school hours ... there will be some yard work to continue throughout the fall to continue to get everything in shape."

The new school has been a main focus of the division this summer.

"That is really where the bulk of the energy has been ... everything for this summer has been towards getting Discovery Trails ready for fall," said Ross, who noted the division is planning to hold an official opening event in early October.

Meanwhile, Ross said there has also been a significant impact on staffing levels as well.

"With a new school opening, having more sites just requires more personnel," he said, sharing that there has been more than 20 new teachers hired for the school year.

"Then on top of that there is the increased student population, and then the third driving factor for the increase in staff was the board supported a lot of things that they had heard in budget surveys from the community which was more support for kids with exceptional needs and mental health needs."

Ross estimated that enrolment overall was around 2,300 students, or an increase in the range of five per cent.

A lot of the pressure is at Morden Collegiate, where he noted enrolment had been around 660 in January but is now closing in around 740.

"That's why we're going to continue to push for that second high school, which we certainly feel the need for, in the next few years."

Finally, Ross noted there has been

some adjustments being made as a result of the recent announcement by the provincial government to ban use of cell phones in schools.

"That has caused us fair bit of legwork to get that organized and ready to go," he said, noting however that the high school had already been following procedure where students turned their phones in or off when they are in class.

"The high school really is not going to have any significant change to what they have had for the last couple of years," he said. "The other big change is a clear direction to staff that they are also not to be on their cell phones when they are supervising kids.

"The goal is really just for people to be present ... I think it's good for the adults to be modelling for the kids."

GVSD TACKLES RENO PROJECTS

Meanwhile in Winkler, GVSD has been hard at work on improvements at multiple school buildings.

"It's been a fairly busy summer with some renovation projects," observed superintendent Dan Ward.

At Winkler Elementary School, the administration office was moved from the centre of the school to the east entrance.

"We're moving it there because it will have much better sight lines and it will be much more welcoming for students and parents to come in and see the office," said Ward, noting it would also be better for safety reasons. "School staff are better able to monitor the comings and goings ... that's been a conversation we have had over the last few years, and we were able to set up a capital reserve this year and put some money away to complete that project. We are near completion, but it will go later into September."

At J.R. Walkof School, the link connecting the modular classrooms to the main building also been spruced up.

"That linkage has really been in need of major repair over the last couple of years," Ward said, noting there has been water damage and some heaving as well.

Ward sees enrolment in the Winkler area school division overall remaining fairly steady.

"We ended the school year off with just shy of 4,300 students, and right now it's looking like the numbers should be relatively similar," he said. "We're not anticipating any major



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Morden's first new school in years is just about complete, and will be ready to receive students for the first days of classes this week.

changes to enrolment ... our best prediction right now is an increase but a fairly modest increase of students."

A key new initiative for this school year is having a home school liaison worker in place.

"What we're hoping to accomplish is to provide a support for families that may wish to know more about

working with schools and possibly having their children attend school programs or within the division but also as a resource," said Ward. "We know in our community we do have a lot of home school families, and we wanted to do some outreach to the home school community. "We've been also very busy

with hiring ... we welcomed this past week to our orientation 28 new teachers to the division," Ward shared,, adding as well that there were 60 new hires in terms of various support staff. Looking at the longer term, there is nothing

longer term, there is nothing needed right now in terms of new facilities, but Ward sees that eventually

par-

changing,

ticularly with the growth in areas like the northern limits of Winkler.

"We don't have an active proposal right now for an additional school ... our schools, in terms of space, still have a fair degree of capacity. We are well positioned to take more students as there is growth."

Manitoba's Controlled Crop Residue Burning Program

Always Call Before You Burn **1-800-265-1233**

Stubble burning restrictions

Manitoba's crop residue burning regulation restricts daytime burning between August 1 and November 15. Burning at night is illegal. Burning within Burning Permit Areas requires a permit issued by Manitoba Economic Development, Investment, Trade and Natural Resources.

If you do not comply, you may be fined as much as \$50,000.

If you must burn, be responsible

Before you burn straw, stubble or chaff this fall, call 1-800-265-1233 or visit manitoba.ca to find out whether burning is allowed in your area that day.

Burning is permitted only on days when the weather conditions allow for effective smoke dispersion.

It is essential that you make sure appropriate fireguards are in place during a burn and you must supervise your fires at all times.

Consider the alternatives

In most years, crop residue management practices can reduce or eliminate the need to burn. For more information, contact your local Manitoba Agriculture office or visit manitoba.ca.



Reunion Days is on this weekend at PTM

By Lorne Stelmach

The Pembina Threshermen's Museum are welcoming people this weekend to enjoy its annual Reunion Days celebration.

This activities Friday and Saturday offer a good chance for people to get a taste of "life in the past lane" at the museum off Hwy. 3 between Morden and Winkler.

A large part of the appeal is just good food and the overall atmosphere of the pioneer village museum, said president Ike Elias.

"It's a very homey feeling around here with lots of good food, and we put a lot of effort into putting on a good event on the well-kept grounds," he said.

The entire museum comes alive with tons of great old-fashioned fun like threshing, sawmill, blacksmith, rope making and spinning demonstrations, antique tractor parades, and children's activities including barrel train rides, hands-on interactive stations like corn grinding, and the kids zone activity centre. All the buildings are open, including the 4,000 sq. ft. indoor Brimberly Village and the general store with ice cream and treats for sale. Lunch is available for purchase in the dining hall, and there is entertainment and music in the evenings.

A few of the regular features are always main highlights.

"The parade is a big thing ... and I'm trying to change it up a little bit every year to keep it interesting," said Elias.

"I see very few changes from our regular event," he added. "Last year, the comeback of the tractor pull and the spark show were big hits, and it should be improved a bit. The ladies in the hall are actually already working hard at prepping for lots of good food as always."

Another feature that will be back after being introduced last year is a surplus inventory sales booth featuring items that they have too much of.

"There should be more antiques and surplus available for sale," Elias said. "We have more than we can properly display, so we want to make select



VOICE FILE PHOTO

The Pembina Threshermen's Museum's Reunion Days festivities take place this Friday and Saturday at the pioneer heritage museum between Morden and Winkler.

items available for the public."

Overall, Elias says this summer season has been "very much the same, with a couple of little improvements. We get a lot of good feedback from the public, so we don't make a lot of major changes.

"We've had artifacts coming in ... so we can dress the buildings up a little bit better every year. We try to have some new old stuff in the buildings." He added they are grateful for the support of the many volunteers who get involved and make it happen each year.

"It takes a lot of time and volunteers, and we are always looking for more volunteers. We could do more here if we had more people. That is what holds us back from adding even more to the event," said Elias. "I do believe most of the event day volunteers are in place, so we're looking forward to a great event."

Winkler Giveaway Days coming up Sept. 13-14

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Winkler's annual Giveaway Days return next weekend, giving you the chance to unload unwanted stuff from around the house while simultaneously hitting the streets to look for treasures to replace it with.

This year's Giveaway Weekend takes place Friday, Sept. 13 through Saturday, Sept. 14.

To take part, simply put items that still have some life left in them on the

curb in front of your home starting at 8 a.m. on the Friday. Anything still there by Saturday at dusk needs to be brought back inside.

"We do remind people each time we do this to make sure they're labeling things as free," stresses city manager Jody Penner, "and for others to not take things that aren't labeled as free. We don't want things disappearing from yards that were meant to stay there."

While the City hasn't fielded too

many complaints of stolen property after past Giveaway Weekends, it has happened. So it's definitely not the weekend for your kids to leave their bikes on the front lawn; and if you're a treasure hunter, don't just assume that unmarked garden gnome ornament is fair game.

Winkler has hosted Giveaway Weekend for several years now, to much success.

"We often get questions about when #winklerd it's happening," Penner says. "So it dia posts.

does seem to be something that's really effective to get rid of some unused items, especially if they were otherwise going to end up in landfill, to get them to where they might be useful to other people."

If you want to drum up interest in the goodies you're putting out, snap a photo of them and share them on the City of Winkler's Curbside Giveaway event page on Facebook or use #winklercurbside on your social media posts.

Manitoba advises rent guideline set at 1.7 percent for 2025

By Lana Meier

According to Manitoba Consumer Protection and Government Services, the rent guideline for 2025 has been established at 1.7 percent, taking effect on Jan. 1, 2025.

Each year, the guideline is determined through a transparent formula utilizing Manitoba's consumer price index (CPI). It applies to various types of rental properties such as apartments, single rooms, houses, and duplexes. The current 2025 guideline is lower than the previous year's guideline, which had increased by three percent in 2024.

The guideline does not apply to:

- rental units renting for \$1,640 or more per month;

- various types of social housing;

- rental units owned and operated by, or for, provincial, municipal or federal governments;

- rental units in buildings first occupied after March 2005;

- not-for-profit life lease units;
- co-operative units; and

- approved rehabilitated rental units.

Tenants must receive written notice of a rent increase at least three months before the increase takes effect. For example, for a rent increase to take effect Jan. 1, 2025, tenants must receive notice by Sept. 30, 2024. With few exceptions, rent can only be increased once a year.

It is recommended for both landlords and tenants to reach out to the Residential Tenancies Branch at 204-945-2476 in Winnipeg or 1-800-782-8403 (toll-free in Manitoba) for information regarding rent increases and their respective rights and duties.

More information is also available at www.manitoba.ca/rtb.

arts&culture

A Tribute to the BeeGees coming to Winkler Sept. 22

By Lorne Stelmach

One of the most successful and adored acts in musical history is recreated with a tribute show that comes to Winkler later this month.

The Australian Bee Gees Show – A Tribute to the Bee Gees is a live multimedia concert event that arrives at the P.W. Enns Centennial Concert Hall the afternoon of Sunday, Sept. 22.

It's an act that has its roots as far back as the early 1990s and has grown to be a global phenomenon that draws on the talents of a cast of performers who have been a staple in Las Vegas.

"Over the years, they've made a reputation of having a variety of shows under the same umbrella," said show promoter Pete Paquette.

"They've been performing in Vegas for many, many years now doing their show at the Excalibur hotel, and they've made a great name for themselves as a great tribute to the Bee Gees," he said. "Their uncanny resemblance to the original Bee Gees was so amazing, and I guess that is what put them apart from the rest."

The three original founding members shared a passion for the music of the Bee Gees.

Two of the founders—Michael Clift as Barry Gibb and Wayne Hosking as Maurice Gibb—continue to perform

while the third original member who played Robin Gibb has since retired from the show.

"There is a roster of other performers who also step in and perform in some of the shows," said Paquette, who noted the two remaining original members will be on stage in Winkler. "When they do go on tour, there's a select cast members who will do a lot of the touring."

The show's authentic take on the trio's clothes, style and moves showcase five decades of the Brothers Gibb's success as rock and disco legends, while audiences groove to their memorable music and are immersed in the disco era.

"Visually, there's a lot of videos that play a part in the show. It helps create a theme and an emotional connection with the songs as well," said Paquette.

And he noted the show covers the entire spectrum of the band's music beyond just their most famous hits from the '70s.

"The first set of the show actually takes you back to the '50s and '60s and how the brothers harmonized with acoustics and where it all started ... it's not until the second half that people can expect more of that disco era that the Bee Gees were most known for.



The Australian Bee Gees Show - A Tribute to the Bee Gees comes to the P.W. Enns Centennial Concert Hall later this month.

"It's amazing the influence they had in all genres, and little did they know that they were going to be known for when they broke out with Saturday Night Fever ... it's quite remarkable in terms of how that happened."

Paquette sees a few things coming into play in terms of the lasting appeal of the music.

"The melody lines are just the most beautiful things," he suggested. "I find that their music encompasses a lot of great instrumentation for the songs. It's beautifully written, and the melody lines are just memorable and beautiful for so many of the songs.

"They also wrote a lot of songs for other artists, which gave them a lot of credibility as songwriters," he added. "So the Bee Gees are responsible for a lot of great music and that they shared with other artists.

"The music goes through a spectrum of styles ... it showcases a good deal of what you can expect in Vegas."

Tickets are available online at www.winklerconcerthall.ca/comingevents/bee-gees-show.

News or sports tip? E-mail news@winklermordenvoice.ca or call 204-325-6888



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Pembina Valley Studio Tour returns Sept. 14-15

By Lorne Stelmach

An annual showcase of the arts across the region is back with a full slate of artists' homes, studios, and galleries to visit.

The Pembina Valley Studio Tour is now in its 20th year, and it has become a good chance for artists to be able to show their work and the spaces that they create and find inspiration in across the region.

There are usually at least a few new artists along with some of the familiar faces who are there most years with new work to show, organizers noted in advance of the tour weekend set for Sept. 14-15.

"I'm always happy when we get some new additions ... some of the old guard bow out for a year or maybe just need a break ... and a few new people come in," said Margie Hildebrand.

There will be many familiar faces and places but also some new highlights for the self-guided tour.

There are 20 locations overall this year, going as far east as potter Joanne Graydon in Emerson and as far west as Pilot Mound with the United Community Arts. To the north, Carman has a presence with not only the Golden Prairie Arts Council but also artist Barb Murray.

Altona stops include not only the Gallery in the Park but also artists

Ken Loewen and Olga Krahn, and then there is also Jake Goertzen in Horndean.

In Winkler, there is not only the Winkler Arts and Culture centre stop but also artists Nina Sawazki as well as new additions Jodie Rietze and Marcy Penner along with a group exhibit at the Trinity Lutheran Church.

Herb Kuhl has been part of the tour in the past but not in recent years, and he is back this year at his location northeast of the Boundary Trails Health Centre.

In Morden, the tour features not only the Pembina Hills Gallery but artists George Fieber Laverne Lovatt, while the area from Darlingford to Manitou and La Riviere includes participating artists Susan Crawford Young along with Jennifer Smirl. The Miami Arts Association is also involved with a group show.

"It covers a really big area ... there's not as many sites, but they are pretty far flung if you want to hit them all," said Hildebrand, who has often been a stop on the tour but this year is part of a group exhibit on display at the Pembina Hills Gallery.

"I'm hoping to get some of us there to do demonstrations there," she noted. "I'm not on it this year, so I hope to get to some of these new places and check some of it out.

"There's such a wide variety from sculptures like metal sculptures to fi-



VOICE FILE PHOTO

The Sept. 14-15 Pembina Valley Studio Tour gives art lovers a glimpse at the studios, galleries, and work spaces creatives across the region call home.

bre arts and pottery to painting and other new things. There's lots to see," said Hildebrand.

The variety of galleries, studios, and homes will be open that Saturday between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. and the Sunday between noon and 5 p.m. Brochures are available at various locations including Gallery in the Park in Altona, Winkler Arts and Culture and the Pembina Hills Arts Council in Morden. You can also head to www. pembinavalleystudiotour.com for more information.

Truth and Action group has a busy September of events

By Lorne Stelmach

The local Truth and Action Working Group is holding a couple events this month as a lead-up to Truth and Reconciliation Day.

It kicks off this Saturday afternoon with a tour and book launch for *The Secret Treaty*, which is a book project involving David Scott of Swan Lake First Nation and artist-illustrator Johnathan Dyck.

It will be an afternoon of Ojibwe stories from the land that Mennonites came to call the west reserve and stories of early encounters between European newcomers and Indigenous peoples.

"It speaks specifically to the handshake treaty that is part of the Indigenous tradition and not something we knew about," said group member Dianne Hildebrand, suggesting the presentation may be of particular interest to the Mennonite community.

Scott is a well-known knowledge keeper, and he teamed up with Dyck, who is originally from Winkler and has done a number of graphic novels and other similar projects

The afternoon tour will stop at a couple significant locations on the escarpment and near the Dead Horse Creek, and Hildebrand said it will be interesting to make the direct connection to some specific sites connected to the history

"It brings it right down to earth," she suggested.

The tour space is limited, so people needed to register online at mennochurch.mb.ca/get-involved/mcis for the tour, which gets underway at 1 p.m. and includes faspa at 4:30 p.m.

It will be followed by the book pre-

sentation at 5 p.m. with Scott and Dyck. That portion of the day is open to all without registering in advance.

The next event then is Tuesday, Sept. 24 at 7 p.m. at St. Paul's United Church in Morden. It will feature author Sandra Hayes Gardener presenting on her book *Crossing the River*, which is based on her time living in The Pas.

Her book was influenced by those early years and growing up in the community that was divided by the river in the '50s and '60s.

While she lived on what in her book is referred to as the white privileged side, she grew up knowing very little about the Cree people on the other side.

She would go on to work in the Indigenous communities as a psychotherapist and social worker, so the book is based on those experiences including as a social worker who was apprehending some children.

"It's a different perspective from what we've had at some of our other events," said Hildebrand. "I think it's a way for people to maybe recognize themselves in the story perhaps ... sometimes we still want to keep it at a distance."

The month then concludes with a Truth and Reconciliation Day ceremony and healing walk Sept. 30 that will start at 10 a.m. at the Access Event Centre.

"It really has been a good way for people to connect ... and we can maybe add some volunteers to our group," said Hildebrand.

You can keep up to date with the Truth and Action Working Group through its Facebook page.

Sports&recreation

New Flyers head coach hits the ground running

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Matthew Melo arrived in Winkler last week ready to hit the ground running.

He started his new role as the Winkler Flyers' head coach and general manager during a week that saw the team hosting its annual youth hockey school followed by Main Camp over the weekend in which over 70 junior hockey players competed for a spot on the roster.

A busy starting week, to be sure, but Melo relished every minute of it.

"I'm embracing the joy of this incredible opportunity," he said. "It's such a privilege and an honour, specifically when you think about where this program is right now and what's been established."

The Flyers head into the 2024-25 season as the defending MJHL champions, having won the Turnbull Cup for the first time in 26 years last spring.

Melo, who has spent the past two years as an assistant coach at the University of Western Ontario (USports), said the chance to take the reins from outgoing head coach and GM Justin Falk was one he couldn't pass up.

"It's always been a dream to be a head coach and general manager. I've been working towards that goal for many years," he said, noting he started out as a junior hockey player himself before serving as head coach of the North Middlesex Stars (PJCHL) and then assistant coach at Briercrest College (ACAC) before moving on to his university position.

As a result of those past roles, Melo is well-versed in the national junior hockey world.

"Both in USport and the ACAC where I coached previously, we're recruiting right across Canada, and these are the leagues that you're very directly recruiting from," he said. "So I'm really familiar with the MJHL and other leagues across Canada, but ultimately it will take time to learn the [Flyers] organization.

"I'll be taking some time to get to know the board here ... what's important to them as an organization," Melo continued, noting what he's seen so far "directly aligns with who I want to be as a head coach and general manager. I can really be myself in this role and invest into a program the way I would desire to do it. It felt like an incredible fit."

Melo says the behind-the-scenes team the club has put together in recent years is a credit to the organization.

"Just recognizing the people here and how well supported and well established things are in terms of an incredible board, incredible coaching staff. You've got Coltyn Bates, Eric Fehr, Ryan White—and that's just the coaching staff. Then you look at the other roles that are already established in the organization and incredibly gifted in what they do ... it means I can focus on getting up to speed, getting to know the players, acclimatizing myself to the responsibilities of this role.

"I think a lot of people would dream of being in this position. It's been incredible."

Looking back on his career, Melo feels he's learned and grown a lot since his first time behind the bench in the southern Ontario junior league.

"I would say though those opportunities have really prepared me for stepping into this role and being effective and successful and building upon the momentum that's been established here."

He characterizes his coaching style as "transformational."

"What's important to me is investing into lives and coming alongside people for whatever goals they have in life and career and community, but also in the sport," he said. "Really investing in a way that they feel supported and encouraged.

"I really desire to be consistent with guys and see them as more than just hockey players and treat them with incredible care," Melo said, noting junior hockey is a formative time in a young player's life. "They all have aspirations, individual goals to go in hockey as far as they can, so caring well isn't just being soft with them.



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Matthew Melo started in his new role as the head coach and general manager for the Winkler Flyers last week, just days before Main Camp over the weekend.







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PHOTOS BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/ VOICE The Winkler Flyers High Performance Hockey School took over the Meridian Exhibition Centre

last week.



Youth hockey players hone their skills

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Nearly 100 kids took part in the Winkler Flyers High Performance Hockey School last week, spending the final days of their summer vacation honing their skills alongside the junior hockey team's players and coaching staff.

The week focused on getting the U9, U11, and U13 kids fine-tuning their core skating, passing, and shooting abilities ahead of the upcoming season, says Flyers assistant coach Coltyn Bates.

"It's really cool seeing the kids develop, seeing how much better they get year to year," he said, noting

> FLYERS, FROM PG. 13

It's also telling them the truth, being direct with guys, calling them up to the standard that they collaborate in establishing.

"That's a huge part of what I love to do as well—seeing potential in people, being able to draw out strength, and calling them up to that potential."

In the weeks ahead, Melo says he'll focus on getting to know the returning players and hopeful rookies while also diving into the framework that got the Flyers to their championship win last season.

"I don't need to come in elbows swinging and changing a whole bunch. There's an opportunity to make little tweaks here and there, and obviously we've got some roster decisions to make, but in terms of strategy, the guys are familiar with what's been successful.

"Obviously teams are going to change, they're going to adapt,

they've seen many returning young players the last four years.

There were also personalized workouts for each age group and plenty of non-hockey fun—an afternoon at the pool, movies, and more—to make for a well-rounded week.

As much as the kids love hanging out with the Flyers, the team's players and staff have just as much fun with this program each year as well, Bates says.

"It's great for us too to get to see the kids, get to build some relationships, get to know some of the faces you see around the rinks throughout the season."

they're going do things differently, so throughout the course of a year you're making a ton of adjustments, but to start, no, it's just kind of moving forward with the standard, the framework. Really coming in and making sure guys are aware of who we are as the Winkler Flyers and what we want to be as a culture and what our standard is."

Defending the championship title is obviously a goal for the season ahead, but Melo has his sights set even higher.

"They won a Turnbull championship here ... but there's also more. There's winning a Centennial Cup [the national junior hockey championship]. So being able to cast vision for continued growth—there's still more for us to accomplish."

The community, as always, will be a

Continued on page 15

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Twins down Bisons for Border Baseball League championship

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Cartwright Twins are the Border Baseball League champions.

Up by two games heading into last week, the Twins had their hopes of a championship series sweep foiled by the Altona Bisons, who took games three (9-5) and four (10-6) to force the decisive game five Monday afternoon in Cartwright.

There, the Bisons tied the game at the top of the seventh to force extra innings. The Twins' Andrew Lochead then hit a three-run walk-off in the bottom of the eighth to earn his team the title 7-4.

The Twins last won the championship in 2022, ending a 20-year drought.

Hwy. 14 pursuit ends in arrest

By Voice staff

A Stephenfield man is facing multiple charges after fleeing from police and colliding with a pursuing police cruiser.

Winkler Police Service officers were called to a reported theft at the 7-11 on Main St. just before 11 p.m. Friday night.

Witnesses directed police to a suspect who was in a vehicle in the area. When police approached, the suspect fled the scene.

Police briefly pursued the vehicle westbound on Highway 14, during which time the suspect intentionally collided with a police vehicle a number of times.

As a result, the man lost control of his vehicle and came to a stop in the

north ditch of Hwy. 14, west of Road 23 West.

He was taken into custody by Winkler and Morden police officers.

During the incident, police noted the suspect to be exhibiting signs of impairment by alcohol. A breath sample showed readings of 90 mg%, above the legal blood alcohol concentration limit while operating a vehicle.

The man has been charged with two counts of possessing property obtained by crime, failing to stop a motor vehicle while pursued by a peace officer, dangerous operation of a motor vehicle, assaulting a peace officer with a weapon, and impaired driving. There were no injuries to any officer or the suspect as a result of this incident.



PHOTO BY EDWARD VINCENT ARCENAL/VOICE

The Bisons downed the Twins 10-6 last Thursday night in Altona to take game four and tie the championship series at two games each. Game five then went Cartwright's way 7-4 Monday night to give them the Border Baseball League title.

> FLYERS, FROM PG. 14

big part of the Flyers' success again this year, Melo noted.

"I know how important the community is to this program," he said. "Even just getting here, I'm hearing from the people within this organization how incredible the community is in their support, the way they pack the rink and the way they give us the opportunity to have everything that we need at our disposal to invest into these guys and their futures—not just in the game, but as men of character.

"I'm so excited to get into the community, to get our guys into the community to start meeting people. That's going to be such a huge part of our year."

The Flyers have pre-season exhibition games this Friday in Winkler against the Steinbach Pistons and then next week Friday, Sept. 13, in Steinbach.

The regular season begins Sept. 20 in Winkler against the Pistons.



PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

The Morden air cadet squadron was among a variety of community organizations and programs represented as the City of Morden hosted its annual Sport and Leisure Expo last Wednesday at the Access Event Centre. The event, which serves as a one-stop shop to find out about a variety of recreational opportunities in Morden, also had the Morden Hawks minor hockey program on hand (right) taking registrations for the season ahead, among numerous other local rec. groups.

A one-stop shop for sport & leisure programming



Mark World Suicide Prevention Day with "living room conversations": RHA

By Lorne Stelmach

People are being encouraged to have conversations about a difficult topic next week.

For World Suicide Prevention Day, the Southern Health-Santé Sud health region is promoting the idea of having "living room conversations" about it on or around Sept. 10.

The hope is that these conversations could help people move from a culture of silence and misunderstanding to openness, empathy, and support.

"It's promoting people having conversations about suicide and mental health to kind of reduce some of those barriers that kind of stop people from reaching out for help," said Lindsay Hainsworth, a community mental health worker with the mental health and addictions program.

"I thought this was well suited to the theme for this year's World Suicide Prevention Day, which basically involves changing the narrative on suicide," she said. "It gives people an opportunity to engage in conversation about topics that maybe we normally wouldn't talk about ... it uses a guide that really helps people set up that conversation."

Living room conversations can involve a group of four to six people gathering in a private space and using a structured conversation guide to help people, build understanding on a specific topic. It is not a debate, and the goal is not to change one another's opinion. The questions are designed to draw out personal experiences rather than opinions around the topic.

You don't require a trained facilitator to take part, and there are conversation agreements like "listen and be curious" and "show respect and suspend judgement" that create the framework for diving into the provided questions.

If a group or organization is interested in hosting a living room conversation, you can contact Hainsworth via email at lhainsworth@southernhealth.ca

Hosts will receive a hosting tool kit with a resource list of mental health services specific to your area. The first five organizations to register will receive a \$25 gift card to use for snacks/ refreshments, and there will be a grand prize entry for each participant.

"It really helps that we are creating a safe space for people to have these conversations and recognizing that everyone is going to come with different perspectives and experiences with it, and it's more just to build that understanding," said Hainsworth.

"I hope too that it inspires maybe individuals to be more aware of what role they can play in supporting people around them who may be struggling ... there are lots of programs out there to help people become more comfortable in doing that."

News or sports tip? E-mail news@winklermordenvoice.ca or call 204-325-6888

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PUBLIC NOTICE

CITY OF WINKLER

PUBLIC NOTICE

REGARDING SPECIAL SERVICE PROPOSAL NO. 47 -

BY-LAW NO. 2325-24 FOR THE PROVISION OF

HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE, STREET LIGHTING

AND SNOW REMOVAL SERVICES

The Council of the City of Winkler has scheduled a public hearing at Winkler City

Hall, 185 Main Street, Winkler, MB on the 24th day of September 2024 at 6:30 p.m.

to present the following special service proposal:

Up to \$1,704,921

Up to \$1,798,094

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF SPECIAL SERVICES PLAN NO. 47

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LEARN HOW TO KEEP THEM IN TOP SHAPE

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Don't miss the big annual Fall Junk Wagon Antiques & Collectibles Sale. Everything from old toys, vintage clothing, comics, re-

cords, jewelry, rustic, retro, glassware, old advertising, old signs, upcycled and so much more. Saturday, Sept 7. Doors open 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. 980 Winakwa Rd. in Winnipeg. \$5.00 per

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Iody Penner

City Manager City of Winkler

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News Tips? call the Voice

PUBLIC NOTICE

CARMAN MEDICAL GROUP Drs Clayden, Kruk and Engel are pleased to announce that DR AIMAN DABLOUK has joined the Carman Medical Group and is now accepting new patients. He is a family physician with an interest in babies and children, and he is also offering office based prenatal care. He speaks Arabic, Russian and Ukrainian as well as English. Please phone 204-745-2024 for an appointment. **182 Main Street South** Carman MB R0G 0J0

FARMLAND TENDER

FARMLAND FOR SALE BY TENDER

- RM of Stanley/Reinfeld NE 1/4 36-2-4W Prime farmland and potential future
- development land of 60.39 acres 1. Tender deadline is Sept. 23/24 by 5pm.
- 2. Possession date to be Nov. 29/24.
- 3. Minimum \$20,000 deposit.
- 4. Highest or best offer not necessarily
- accepted.
- 5. Buyer is responsible for GST.
- 6. Buyers are responsible to do their own due diligence regarding the future development potential of the property.

For crop history, additional information or to submit a tender, contact The Property Brokers Real Estate Group Inc. at 204-325-8325 or visit online at thepropertybrokers.ca

PR THE PROPERTY BROKERS REAL ESTATE GROUP INC.

Council is proposing to replace Special Service By-Law No. 2220-18, dated February 12, 2019, to provide for highway maintenance services, street lighting services, and snow removal services. The proposed special service levy will not be a new tax, but will be a separate levy to transparently reflect the costs of highway maintenance, street lighting, and snow removal, and will be levied on all rateable property including otherwise exempt properties within the City of Winkler limits, at estimated costs as follows: 2028 Up to \$2,000,338 Up to \$2,110,022 2029 Up to \$1,896,467 2030 Up to \$2,225,851 The method of taxation to be applied shall be based on the portioned value of assessable property. The assessed property is all rateable properties, including otherwise exempt properties, within the City of Winkler. The mill rate shall be determined by Council annually, based on the annual highway maintenance services, street lighting

services, and snow removal services budgets set out in the City of Winkler's Financial Plan, to a maximum annual levy as per the estimated costs above. The actual assessed values of the properties will be supplied annually by the Department of Local Government (final 2024 - \$1,133,548,560). Estimated budget for 2025: \$1,704,921.00 / (\$1,133,548,560 / 1000) = 1.504 mills. Calculated on a residential property valued at \$300,000 (portioned value of \$135,000) and based on 2025 estimated budget and assessment, a \$203.04 special service tax will be levied.

A written objection may be filed with the City Manager, at 185 main Street, Winkler, Manitoba, prior to the commencement of the hearing. At the hearing, Council will hear any potential ratepayer who wishes to make a presentation, ask questions or register an objection to the special service proposal.

All objections, written or verbal, must be filed prior to the adjournment of the hearing and must include the name, address and property description of the person filing the objection and the grounds of their objection.

Copies of the Special Services Plan No. 47 are available at the City of Winkler office at 185 Main Street, Winkler, MB, and on the municipal website at www.cityofwinkler.ca.

Dated at the City of Winkler this 16th day of August, 2024, and issued pursuant to Section 318 of The Municipal Act.



THE POSITION with an

EMPLOYMENT/CAREERS AD in



Jody Penner

City Manager

204-325-9524

City of Winkler



person. News Tips? call the Voice

CITY OF WINKLER PUBLIC NOTICE REGARDING SPECIAL SERVICE PROPOSAL NO. 48 - BY-LAW NO. 2326-24 FOR THE PROVISION OF POLICE AND FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES

The Council of the City of Winkler has scheduled a public hearing at Winkler City Hall, 185 Main Street, Winkler, MB on the 24th day of September 2024 at 6:30 p.m. to present the following special service proposal:

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF SPECIAL SERVICES PLAN NO. 48 Council is proposing to replace Special Service By-Law No. 2221-18, dated February 12, 2019, to modify the properties that are subject to the special service tax for police and fire protection services to more equitably reflect those properties receiving and paying for the services. The proposed special service levy will not be a new tax, but will be a separate levy to transparently reflect the costs for police and fire protection services, and will be levied on all rateable property including otherwise exempt properties within the City of Winkler limits, at estimated costs as follows:

2025	Up to \$5,317,263	2028	Up to \$6,155,397
2026	Up to \$5,583,126	2029	Up to \$6,463,166
2027	Up to \$5,862,282	2030	Up to \$6,786,325

The method of taxation to be applied shall be based on the portioned value of assessable property. The assessed property is all rateable properties, including otherwise exempt properties, within the City of Winkler. The mill rate shall be determined by Council annually, based on the annual police protection and fire protection budgets set out in the City of Winkler's Financial Plan, to a maximum annual levy as per the estimated costs above. The actual assessed values of the properties will be supplied annually by the Department of Local Government (final 2024 - \$1,133,548,560). Estimated budget for 2025: \$5,317,263.00 / (\$1,133,548,560 / 1000) = 4.69 mills. Calculated on a residential property valued at \$300,000 (portioned value of \$135,000) and based on 2025 estimated budget and assessment, a \$633.15 special service tax

kler, Manitoba, prior to the commencement of the hearing. At the hearing, Council will hear any potential ratepayer who wishes to make a presentation, ask questions or register an objection to the special service proposal.

All objections, written or verbal, must be filed prior to the adjournment of the hearing and must include the name, address and property description of the person filing the objection and the grounds of their objection.

Copies of the Special Services Plan No. 48 are available at the City of Winkler office at 185 Main Street, Winkler, MB, and on the municipal website at www.cityofwinkler.ca.

Dated at the City of Winkler this 16th day of August, 2024, and issued pursuant to Section 318 of *The Municipal Act*.

PUBLIC NOTICE

2025	Up to \$5,317,263	2028	Up to \$6,155,397
2026	Up to \$5,583,126	2029	Up to \$6,463,166
2027	Up to \$5,862,282	2030	Up to \$6,786,325

will be levied for police and fire protection services.

A written objection may be filed with the City Manager, at 185 main Street, Win-

18 *The Voice* Thursday, September 5, 2024

CAREERS

BŪNG **MAINTENANCE MECHANIC/MILLWRIGHT**

Bunge Altona has an opening for a Maintenance Mechanic/Millwright. Work involves process equipment installation, maintenance and repair, lubrication, steel fabrication and welding.

Preference will be given to those candidates holding a valid provincial Millwright or Industrial Mechanic ticket. Candidates who do not hold a valid ticket will be expected to enrol in the apprenticeship program to obtain their ticket as soon as possible. Overtime and on-call duties are required. The successful applicant will possess excellent written and verbal communication skills, trouble shooting skills, and be a team player.

- The following would be considered an asset for this position: Experience in grain handling, processing, or manufacturing facility
- Experience in industrial equipment maintenance and repair
- Ability to read blueprints and technical documents

 Pressure or structural welding tickets and related experience This is a regular full time position providing an excellent wage and benefits package. Bunge is committed to providing a safe, healthy, and rewarding workplace for all employees. Starting Wages:

- Mechanic S32.70/hour
- Red Seal Millwright: \$38.08/hour

A job description for this position can be found online on the Bunge website: https://obs.bunge.com/.enter "Altona" in the field "Search by Location". Click on "Maintenance Mechanic/Millwright" to read the description. Applications should be made online with an attached resume.

Bunge Canada is an equal opportunity employer.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE PLANNING ACT NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

On the date and at the time and location shown below, a PUBLIC HEARING will be held to receive representations from any person(s) who wish to make them in respect to the following matter:

CITY OF MORDEN BY-LAW 10-2024 Being an AMENDMENT to the CITY OF MORDEN ZONING BY-LAW 08-2017

HEARING: Morden Civic Centre

LOCATION: 195 Stephen St., Morden, MB

DATE: September 23rd, 2024

TIME: 7:00 pm

From: "CR" Community Reserve, "CH" Commercial Highway and "RT" Residential Two Family

To: "RS-L" Residential Single Family

To provide new area for housing growth

AREA:

Lots 1-24 Block 6, Lot1-2 Block 7, Lot 7-8 Block 8, Plan 1854, and Lot 40 Plan 58126 Morden, MB As outlined in red lines on the map attached hereto as Schedule "A" and forming part of this by-law.

INFORMATION CONTACT:

Jose Yanez, Planning and **Development Officer** 133 7th Street, Morden, MB. R6M 1V3 Phone: (204) 822-4434 ext. 1106

A copy of the above proposal and supporting material may be inspected at the location noted above during office hours, Monday to Friday. Copies may be made, and extracts taken therefrom, upon request.





NOTICES

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September 18 @ 7:00 PM **Consignment Auction**

Equip, Tractor, Lathe, Tools September 19 @ 7:00 PM

12 Patterson Dr. Stonewall, MB 204-467-1858 or 204-886-7027 McSherrvAuction.com

NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION SALE OF LANDS FOR ARREARS OF TAXES CITY OF WINKLER

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to subsection 367(7) of The Municipal Act, notice is hereby given that unless the tax arrears for the designated year and costs in respect of the hereinafter described properties are paid in full to the Municipality prior to the commencement of the auction, the Municipality will on the 10th day of October, 2024, at the hour of 2:00 PM, at City of Winkler, 185 Main Street, Winkler, MB, proceed to sell by public auction the following described properties:

Roll Number	Description	Assessed Value	Amount of Arrears & Costs for Which Property May be Offered for Sale
87800	LOT 23 BLOCK 3 SS PLAN 716 MLTO EXC THE WLY 50 FEET IN SW 1/4 4-3-4 WPM - 1131 PEMBINA AVE	L -\$58,500 B -\$169,300	\$10,942.07

The tax sale is subject to the following terms and conditions with respect to each property:

- The purchaser of the property will be responsible for any unpaid municipal utilities and any property taxes not yet due.
- The Municipality may exercise its right to set a reserve bid in the amount of the arrears and costs. If the purchaser intends to bid by proxy, a letter of authorization form must be presented prior to
- the start of the auction The Municipality makes no representations or warranties whatsoever concerning the properties
- being sold. The successful purchaser must, at the time of the sale, make payment in cash, certified cheque or
 - **bank draft** to the CITY OF WINKLER as follows:
 - The full purchase price if it is \$10,000 or less; OR
 - ii) If the purchase price is greater than \$10,000, the purchaser must provide a non-refundable deposit in the amount of \$10,000 and the balance of the purchase price must be paid within 20 days of the sale; AND
 - iii) A fee in the amount \$500.85 (\$477 + GST) for preparation of the transfer of title documents. The purchaser will be responsible for registering the transfer of title documents
- in the land titles office, including the registration costs. The risk for the property lies with the purchaser immediately following the auction.
- The purchaser is responsible for obtaining vacant possession.
- If the property is non-residential property, the purchaser must pay GST to the Municipality or, if a GST registrant, provide a GST Declaration

Dated this 27th day of August, 2024.

Managed by:

TAXervice

Jody Penner City Manager CITY OF WINKLER Phone: (204) 325-9524 Fax: (204) 325-5915





Recipe courtesy of Parker's Plate on behalf of the Georgia Peanut Commission

Prep time: 25 minutes Cook time: 2 hours Servings: 8 (1 slice each) Crust: 2 cups pretzels 11/2 cups vanilla-flavored waferstyle cookies 1/2 cup peanuts 12 tablespoons unsalted butter nonstick cooking spray Filling 1/2 cup cottage cheese 1 cup heavy whipping cream

3 tablespoons sugar

FamilyFoods Phone 467-5553 **Peanut Butter Cottage Cheese Cheesecake**

3 tablespoons creamy peanut butter 1/2 cup roughly chopped dark chocolate

1/2 cup roughly chopped peanuts 1 pinch sea salt

To make crust: In food processor, pulse pretzels, wafer-style cookies and peanuts until chopped but not powdery.

mixture until combined with butter.

spray and spread mixture on bottom of pan and slightly up sides; press down

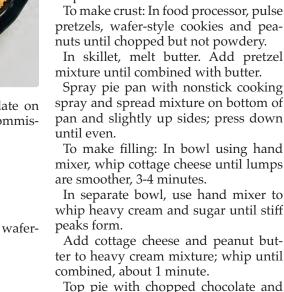
To make filling: In bowl using hand mixer, whip cottage cheese until lumps

In separate bowl, use hand mixer to whip heavy cream and sugar until stiff

Add cottage cheese and peanut butter to heavy cream mixture; whip until

peanuts and freeze 2 hours. Remove from freezer 15 minutes before ready to serve.

Before serving, sprinkle with sea salt.



Top pie with chopped chocolate and

The Voice Thursday, September 5, 2024 **19 Expert patient here to help!**



Susie Schwartz

By Susie Schwartz

Today, I aim to convince you that building a strong relationship with your doctor is worth the effort. Let's see if I'm any good at this, yes?

When I moved to the U.K. from Stonewall, I had to start from scratch with my medical team. Of course, the priority was a new General Practitioner (G.P.), as they are the 'in' to every other specialty.

The first GP I saw had to decipher the 600+ page manual that is my medical history. I packed it as precious cargo on the plane. I liked Dr. D, but I found him a bit hot and cold, rushing some days and relaxing others. At least I had his fascination with Canada going for me. Then, he got ill and left.

I switched to Dr. Jones, whom I still see eight years later. I won't lie; she seemed a bit guarded at first, and I had come from a G.P. in Canada who comforted me with hugs. I realize now that Dr. Jones needed to grow

to trust me, trust that my file was not a manuscript of hypochondria and that I took my health seriously.

Slowly, as I always attended appointments, showed up on time, went in prepared, and proved I was in tune with my body and symptoms, I earned her trust. (The positive bad test results helped her belief, too.)

Here's where the proof in the sugarfree pudding comes in. At my last appointment, I had a list of four minor talking points – blood results, etc., and we celebrated my great diabetes results and much-improved cholesterol together as she gave a cheer. Then, as I stood to go, she said, "But how is your gastroparesis doing?'

I hadn't needed to burden her with more of the same bad news as the last time I saw her since, with drastic measures, I was managing. She looked sad and asked if my gastroenterologist had been replaced yet since he moved to the U.S., and I said, "No, not yet."

"Well, maybe it will help if I send a letter saying you need attention." We then went on to discuss a few possible improvements to my regime.

So yeah, the time it took to build our relationship is worth it. I have a doctor willing to run over my schedule and go the extra mile to get me the care I need.

So how'd I do? Do you believe me yet?

Less health stress, yes? A published author and musician, Susie currently lives in the UK. Find her on Instagram @medicalmiss_stress, and at www.lesshealthstress.com . (Email: info@lesshealthstress. com) If you like her writing, find more on her Substack page: The Quest For Less Health Stress



Prep time: 5 minutes Cook time: 15 minutes

- Servings: 4
- 2 pounds boneless skinless pork chops
- 4 tablespoons Italian seasoning
- 2 tablespoons canola oil
- 1 red onion

1 bag (9.3 ounces) Fresh Express Twisted Caesar Creamy Truffle Caesar Chopped Salad Kit

4 long sandwich rolls

Preheat pan on stove over mediumhigh heat. Season pork chops with Italian seasoning.

When pan is hot, add oil and pork

Creamy Truffle Caesar Pork Sandwiches

chops. Cook pork chops, turning halfway through, until they reach minimum internal temperature of 145 F, 6-8 minutes per side (depending on thickness).

Once pork chops are cooked through, remove from pan and let rest a few minutes

Peel and slice onion. After resting, slice pork into strips; set aside.

In same pan, saute onion until translucent, about 5 minutes. Set aside.

In large bowl, combine lettuce, dressing, croutons and cheese from salad kit.

In separate pan, toast buns until golden brown; set aside.

To build sandwiches, place sliced pork on bottom halves of toasted buns. Top with prepared salad mixture and sauteed onions. Finish with top halves of buns.



Prep time: 10 minutes Cook time: 20 minutes Servings: 4 3 eggs 3 cups all-purpose flour 1 packet taco seasoning

2 chicken breasts, sliced in half horizontally

3 cups neutral oil

1 bag (9.4 ounces) Fresh Express Caesar Chopped Salad Kit

In shallow bowl, beat eggs. In separate bowl, combine flour and half packet of taco seasoning.

Place chicken in resealable bag and, using meat tenderizer, pound to 1/4-

Chicken Caesar Tacos

inch thickness.

In medium saute pan, heat oil over medium heat

Season chicken breasts with remaining taco seasoning.

Coat chicken in flour mixture, dip into beaten eggs then coat chicken in flour mixture again, pressing firmly to adhere.

In pan with hot oil, cook battered chicken until golden brown, flipping halfway through, until chicken reaches minimum internal temperature of 165 F, 4-5 minutes per side (depending on thickness). Fry in batches to avoid overcrowding pan, if necessary.

Once fully cooked, fold chicken over to create taco shell-shape. Place sheet pan on top to hold shape, 3-4 minutes.

In large bowl, combine lettuce, dressing, croutons and cheese from salad kit. Once chicken taco shells set, carefully remove sheet pan. Fill each taco shell with prepared salad mixture.

