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# The *Winkler Morden* **Voice**

VOLUME 8 EDITION 36

THURSDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 7, 2017

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## Living history

The Pembina Threshermen's Museum hosted Reunion Days last weekend. The daily tractor parade was a big draw, with some participants dressing the part of early pioneers. For more on this story, see Pg. 2.

PHOTO BY LORNE  
STELMACH/VOICE



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# PTM hosts Reunion Days

By Lorne Stelmach

The Pembina Threshermen's Museum's 2017 Reunion Days were a real family affair for Linda Peters.

Making the rounds with her in period costume as volunteers at the pioneer museum were granddaughters Shannon Buhler, Alyssa Peters, and Kristy Peters.

"We've been volunteering in the [PTM] school ... my sister and I were teachers," said Peters. "And grandpa is pulling a threshing machine with a

tractor in the parade, so we're all involved."

The Reunion Days festivities last Friday and Saturday serve as a highlight of the museum's summer season, which continues through to month's end.

The heritage buildings themselves are always a big attraction for visitors, as are the hands-on activities such as rope making and corn grinding, and the demonstrations of everything from old-fashioned threshing to flour milling (complete with fresh bread

and flour available for purchase).

The weekend also included antique tractor parades, a tractor pull, musical entertainment, and plenty of home cooked food.

Peters was glad to be there again with her granddaughters, who had last taken part a few years ago.

"They were quite a bit smaller ... but they were here as volunteers," she said, laughing.

"It is very special for us," Peters added, going on to note connections the family has with the pioneer village's buildings. "When we were growing up, we lived across the street from the Haskett store. Our dad had a store too ... it was across the street from this one. So that also helped get us interested in coming to volunteer some more. And I have a part of my doll collection in the store as well."

The museum plays a vital role in preserving and presenting our community's past in fun and informative ways, Peters stressed.

"I think it's very important because how are these young children supposed to know what happened years ago?"

Linda Peters and granddaughters Shannon Buhler, Alyssa Peters, and Kristy Peters got all gussied up for Reunion Days. The PTM celebration included a host of demonstrations and hands-on activities last Friday and Saturday.



PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

*Morden*  
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city of discovery

Keeping you informed

The City of Morden has made applications to erect a 122 foot emergency communications tower adjacent to the Morden Police Service garage, located at 195 Stephen Street.

A public information session will be held at the City of Morden council chambers on September 25th at 7 p.m. This tower will support communication activities for the Morden Emergency Operations Centre. Further information may be obtained from the City of Morden office:

Phone: 204 822-4434

-or-

email Chris Kalansky (emergency coordinator with SERC):  
serc.mec@gmail.com

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# Winkler Horticulture sets sights on 2018

## Volunteers needed for fall cleanup Oct. 10

By Ashleigh Viveiros

As the summer begins to wind down, the Winkler Horticulture Society already has its sights set on next season.

The volunteer-run organization that brings floral beauty to our city has announced its planting colours for 2018.

"It's going to be pinks, purples, white, and silver," said member Betty Klassen.

"We want to do something different to give a different impact," added president Margaret Penner, noting the 2017 colour scheme was red and white in honour of Canada's 150th.

While it may seem a bit early to be thinking about spring planting, Penner noted there are avid gardeners in Winkler who match up their own flower gardens to the city's official theme each year, and they want to give them plenty of time to plan.

"And the greenhouse is on board, too," she noted. "They're aware of our plans."

Also in looking ahead to next summer, the society has put a call out for donations.

"We're still wanting to develop this space more with perennials rather than annual plants," said Penner, speaking at the Parkside Pioneer

Patch just off Hwy. 14. "We'd welcome any perennials people might be willing to donate."

Similarly, Penner and her team hope to rework the rest stop a bit next year, possibly adding more antiques to complement the vintage vehicles and farm equipment currently on display.

"We want to actually put some smaller antique type items in there ... bring some of the bigger things in a little closer and put smaller ones in between," Penner said.

"Wagon wheels, wheelbarrows, an old water pump, a gate—stuff like that," Klassen added.

If you'd like to donate plants or other items to these projects, contact Penner at 204-362-2552.

### CLEANUP VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The society plans to get its various floral displays cleaned up for the winter next month.

On Tuesday, Oct. 10, volunteers will pull out the thousands of flowers they painstakingly put in at public spaces all over the city in spring.

"We plan to do it all in one day," Penner said. "The more people we have, the faster it gets done."



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Margaret Penner and Betty Klassen of the Winkler Horticulture Society are already hard at work on plans for 2018. They invite anyone interested in gardening to consider joining the society in its community beautification efforts.

Klassen noted that volunteers are needed simply to pull out and pile up the discarded plants. City staff take care of the collecting and disposing

of the piles.

If you'd like to help out, simply show

Continued on page 6



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The Winkler Morden

# Voice

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# Hunt is on for new location for second Morden daycare

By Lorne Stelmach

Plans for a second daycare facility in Morden are suddenly up in the air after the loss of its expected location.

It's a disappointing turn of events, said Shuana Richards, executive director of the Pembina Valley Child Care Centre, because they had been looking forward to moving in sometime this fall.

"We are no longer able to go to Boundary Trails Place," Richards confirmed last week. "So we are now back at the board level trying to find another location in Morden for the facility."

It's unclear why the space at Boundary Trails Place is no longer available. Representatives for the facility could not be reached

for comment as of press time.

Work on transforming space in the facility into the child care centre's third location (joining its existing daycares in Morden and Manitou) had been expected to get underway this past spring.

"At this point, we are back to the drawing board, trying to figure out where we can go, what we can do," said Richards. "The City is actively

seeking something for us. They are still 100 per cent behind it ... trying to help figure out what we're going to do."

The new daycare has been a long-awaited project to help address the shortage of child care spaces in the community. The existing child care centre in Morden has 112 spaces and at one point had over 120 kids on its waiting list.

Provincial funding of \$240,000 was awarded back in 2015 under the NDP government toward renovations for a daycare with 52 spaces. The 2016 election delayed that funding, but the Conservative government earlier this year confirmed Morden as one of 15 community-based capital projects that would receive a part of over \$6.1 million in child care funds.

Also contributing to the project were the City of Morden and the Morden Community Development Corporation to the tune of \$300,000. The Morden Elks also donated \$10,000 to build a playground for the facility

"The city is still at the table ... but we understand we have to reapply to the province," said Cheryl Digby, community development officer for the City of Morden,

**"WE ARE NO LONGER ABLE TO GO TO BOUNDARY TRAILS PLACE."**



Plans to install Morden's newest daycare in Boundary Trails Place have fallen through.

PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Digby noted she had little understanding of the situation other than "it's the landlord that has decided it isn't feasible there."

"The city is still committed to helping. We're hopeful ... but we're disappointed," she said.

"We're looking at other options ... what we may end up with is an even better solution. We might have a nice new build," said Digby, who stressed the urgency of pressing forward with the search. "This is going to mean another year or more delay maybe in order to pull everything together again. Morden is in desperate need of daycare. We needed more daycare yesterday."

Richards said much now hinges on what new location they're able to secure, including whether it would need to be a renovation of an existing space or a new building entirely, the latter being a much more costly proposition.

She believes that the funding com-

mitments for the project will remain in place, though there could likely be some revisions to the original plans. The number of spaces in the facility, for example, would depend on the location.

"It's all based on square footage ... you need so much per child ... so that's why this all depends on where we might be able to go."

There's no telling now when the facility will be up and running, but project planners are still hard at work preparing for the new space, despite the uncertainty.

As part of that prep work, Richards toured a new facility in Winnipeg last week to gain some insight on its operation and even perhaps learn from things like their floor plan.

"We're looking at things like how they got things built and how they progressed," she said.

## Winkler hosts Giveaway Weekend Fri., Sat.

By Ashleigh Viveiros

If you've got unwanted items laying around the house you'd rather see put to good use than trashed, this is the weekend to get rid of them.

Winkler hosts its annual Giveaway Weekend this Friday, Sept. 8, and Saturday, Sept. 9.

To take part, simply haul the stuff taking up room in your basement or garage to the curb, mark it clearly

with a "free" sign, and then head out to hunt for goodies your neighbours may have put out.

"All of us accumulate things we don't need and there's always someone else who could maybe use those things productively," says Mayor Martin Harder. "It helps keeps things out of the landfill.

"It's really an exchange program and I think it's vital for us to have it," he added. "I think people should jump on board."

The city has hosted several Giveaway Weekends over the past few years, with varying degrees of success.

"We struggle a little bit to get the word out," Harder said. Some years have seen a great deal of participation, while other years there's been very little put out to discover.

Harder hopes that by expanding the program to twice a year—once in fall and again in spring—people will get used to the idea and really embrace it.

"Hopefully we can get some buzz going about it," he said.

Harder reminds residents that anything left out on the curb at the end of the day Saturday needs to be cleaned up.

That said, that task may be taken care of for you.

"I have never needed to take anything back in the house. It's always been gone," said Harder. "The idea isn't to put out stuff that is actually junk, but things that could be reused by others."

The mayor also advises people to put any items they don't want mistakenly taken well away from the side of the road this weekend.

## Our mistake

A photo cutline in last week's *Voice* on the new swing set at Salem Home incorrectly identified therapeutic recreation attendant Helen Friesen as Helen Thiessen.

Friesen was photographed enjoying the new swing set with her mother, Salem Home resident Lena Zacharias.

In the same edition, a story on the new giant turtle statue at the western entrance to Morden misspelled the scientific name of the creature. The correct name is Archelon turtle.

The *Voice* sincerely regrets these errors and any confusion they may have caused.

# Supporting Tabor Home

By Lorne Stelmach

Morden's new personal care facility has received a generous gift from a long time local family.

Roy and Evelyne Holenski recently presented a \$50,000 donation to Tabor Home.

"It was kind of close to our hearts," said Roy, who has lived in Winnipeg for some time now but grew up in Morden. He explained they have had many family connections to Tabor over the years.

"My mother and father were both at the Tabor Home years back," he said. "My sister-in-law was there ... my wife's father was in there for a little while ... and my wife's brother was also there in the Tabor units."

His brother Kola, now 95, still lives in the community and "he keeps saying that he's going to end up at the Tabor Home some day too yet," said Roy.

"We are happy to give to a good cause and especially to the community where we both grew up," he added.

noting the money is for Tabor Home "to use at their discretion."

Having grown up in the Icelandic community of the 1-6 area southwest of Morden, Evelyne also knows how important a project like this is for Morden.

"We just felt that this would be a very good way for both of us to give back to our community ... to help so many people who are in need," she said of the donation. "We need more of these homes actually because people struggle when they can't find a location."

Tabor board chair Wilf Warkentin thanked the Holenskis for their generosity.

"You don't get that many people giving that kind of money. We're really happy with it," he said. "We'll have no trouble spending it on the new Tabor Home because there's lots of things we need."

The gift comes as the new \$38 million, 100-bed personal care facility prepares for its moving day, which is



SUBMITTED PHOTO

From left: Roy and Evelyne Holenski recently presented Tabor Home CEO Sherry Hildebrand and board chair Wilf Warkentin with a donation of \$50,000. "We are happy to give to a good cause and especially to the community where we both grew up," they said.

expected to take place next month.

The new care home on the city's eastern end is over 77,000 square feet,

putting it at more than twice the size of the existing 60-bed facility built in 1968 on Ninth Street South.

# GVSD looking to the future as new school year begins

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Garden Valley School Division's student population continues to grow.

The Winkler area division is projecting 4,466 students will begin classes this week, an increase of about 90 students from last school year.

That number could fluctuate somewhat over the next few weeks, but the division feels confident in having based its staffing on it.

"When people move into the area they contact us because they want to know where their kids are going to school, but when people move out they often forget to tell the school that they're leaving," said superintendent Vern Reimer in explaining that firmer enrolment numbers won't be available until early next month.

Last year's projections were about 60 students short, necessitating the hiring of a few extra staff midway through the school year.

"At this point it does look like—based on the registrations in the schools that we know about—we will be beyond the 4,466, but we can't say by how much yet," Reimer said, explaining that additional staff may only be needed if one particular school or grade saw an especially high unexpected increase.

Two schools that are certainly seeing high enrolment numbers are J.R.

Walkof and Parkland in Winkler. To help ease congestion there, Parkland has two new portable classrooms this fall (bringing its tally to nine in all) while J.R. Walkof adds one more to its village of 16 portables.

"The good news is with the new school announced and construction supposed to start in February of 2018 and we're supposed to move in September 2019, we know that it's just two more school years," Reimer said.

"We've been saying for a number of years that if we get a new school awarded that becomes the light at the end of the tunnel. Now we know how long the tunnel is ... and that gives us a pretty solid framework as far as what we have to do by when."

To that end, planning work for the new K-8 school—slated to go up in the Pine Ridge development at the northwest end of the city—is moving ahead full force.

Architectural schematics for the school have been completed by the same firm that drew up plans for Parkland, Emerado Centennial, and Prairie Dale schools. The project is now moving into the design development phase to fine-tune those plans.

The division will also be revising the catchment lines for its schools.

Residents living in Winkler won't see much of a change in which school their kids go to, but the division will

"WE'VE BEEN SAYING FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS THAT IF WE GET A NEW SCHOOL AWARDED THAT BECOMES THE LIGHT AT THE END OF THE TUNNEL ..."

be rethinking where rural students from the surrounding communities attend classes.

"We will have to revisit the catchments in the city of Winkler," Reimer said. "That will take place this fall in preparation for next year's budget as that will have implications for next year's transportation budget ... 75 per cent of our students are transported via bus.

"If you're living in that neighbourhood and your kids could walk to school, you'll keep going there. If you're being transported then you may, with your neighbours, be going to the new school."

## SUMMER PROJECTS

GVSD staff kept busy this summer on a number of school improvement projects, including a few unexpected ones.

Over the course of two days in August, both Winkler Elementary and J.R. Walkof schools suffered damage

due to water main breaks.

Corroded piping was the culprit in both cases, with W.E.S. taking the most damage as water flooded the industrial arts shop, band room, and choir pit. J.R. Walkof's water was contained to the school's crawl space.

Reimer said the rusty pipes were replaced and they hoped the other repair work—including new carpet in the affected rooms at W.E.S.—would be completed by the time school began this week.

Other planned-for projects this summer included redoing the front sidewalk area at Garden Valley Collegiate to make it more accessible, reshingling portable classrooms at Southwood School, putting a fresh coat of paint on one of the older hallways and the choir pit at Winkler Elementary, and converting part of GVC TEC's shipping and receiving area into classroom space for the diesel technology program.

The *Winkler Morden*  
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# get heard

EDITORIAL > VIEWPOINTS > LETTERS

## Appealing to the base

**T**hroughout elementary school and into high school, university, and beyond, I have found myself, on occasion, lured into circumstances where I would appeal to the base.

When you hear the phrase “appealing to the base” these days it is loaded with political overtones. It generally refers to times when politicians will look to the core of their supporters for assistance or a little cheerleading.

These days however it has taken on a bit of a double meaning, as appealing to the base can also mean appealing to the base nature of your base supporters.

It is one thing for a politician or leader to speak to their crowd of the issues and concerns that they have. It is a wholly other thing for them to seek to drive them into an emotional

fervor by leaning heavily on fear, uncertainty and doubt while speaking about these concerns. This is what I mean by appealing to the base.

It is in many ways an animal instinct. Some terrible second nature survival mechanism we fall back on in times of panic and peer pressure (perceived or otherwise).

Running for a leadership role in a mock parliament one year at a leadership camp as an elementary school student I fell victim to slandering my competitors: how they looked, how they dressed. I fell into this shameful behaviour because I was rewarded with laughter and cheers from my base. I ran from the issues of substance and the more challenging the race the more base I became.

You get the idea.

It is easy to fall victim to appealing to the base. It is easy, in moments of stress and anxiety, self-doubt and loss, to find the raucous support of a crowd intoxicating. We can fall victim to the belief that because they are loud, because they respond most fervently to attempts to slander and demean the other, that that is what we should do.

While it is easiest these days to point at someone like American President Donald Trump and his constant appealing to the base, this is done at peril.

Those who spend a great deal of time in mocking someone like Trump (or, in the Canadian context, mocking Trudeau or Harper before him) miss the great point by a mile: that these people, like them or not, represent a great many of your friends and neighbours.

Sixty-three million people voted for Donald Trump in the last American election. When anti-Trump types appeal to their base and call him things like moron and idiot they are contributing to the great and noxious divide that is growing between the false notions of left and right in the western world.

Our cat-calling and our name calling is simply the thin edge of the wedge forcing us further and further apart. It shows we have nothing of substance to say anymore and the possibility of intelligent governance and leadership is lost in favour of seeking accolades from our fans.

If you want this to stop it starts with you. No more cheering the base and tasteless. No more laughing when a leader makes fun of an opponent's appearance or the socks they wear. Have the courage to raise legitimate concerns and call out those who would stoop to such a level as to appeal to the base.

It starts with us.



**By Peter Cantelon**

### > WINKLER HORTICULTURE, FROM PG. 3

up at the Winkler arena at 9:30 a.m. that morning for an assignment, or call Penner at the number above for more information.

A few extra sets of hands are also welcome later this month when they top up the wood chip surfaces at the Parkside Pioneer Patch and the garden patch near Canadian Tire facing the Hwy. 32 and Hwy. 14 intersection. Call the number above to sign-up to help.

One-time volunteers are always welcome, but so too are people looking to get more involved with the society.

“People often don’t stop to think that all this is being done by volun-

teers,” Penner said, adding that while the City of Winkler is a key player in both funding and ongoing maintenance, the society also relies on its Adopt-a-Plot volunteers to tend to public floral displays throughout Winkler all summer long.

“The community support is just so amazing and I think it is because people see that this is for the community,” she said. “They take pride in it and they take ownership of it.”

### SOCIETY PLANNING CHRISTMAS FUNDRAISER

The horticulture society's season won't be over once the flowers are

out of the ground next month.

Plans are in the works to host the society's very first Christmas fundraiser.

“We’re going to be pre-selling Christmas arrangements and we’re going to put them together and then deliver them to people’s businesses and homes,” Penner said.

They’ll be canvassing the community for orders in early November and will deliver the arrangements later that month.

Further details on ordering arrangements will be released closer to November.

# Party in Manitou this weekend

By Lorne Stelmach

With an event like this weekend's Honey, Garlic and Maple Syrup Festival, it's obvious what draws people.

Aside from the festival's namesake foods, though, organizers feel it offers a good time in many respects.

"It's a visit back home for some people ... it's kind of the last event for the summer," said organizer Evelyn Lea.

Now in its 16th year, the festival was the inspiration of area resident Joe Kozak, who had the idea for an event to be built around the trio of easily available local foods.

"It was started to help with tourism to bring people to our area and show what we have to offer," said Lea.

"Some people maybe were kind of doubters, but we tried it and it has been really good. It's a nice little festival with lots to offer for all ages. I think it's the variety that it has to offer."

The 2017 edition includes a special event to kick things off on Friday at noon with the grand opening of the historic Nellie McClung homes at their new location at the highway entrance to town. There will be a barbe-

cue lunch, entertainment, and guided tours at the new Nellie McClung Heritage Site.

Then that evening at 7:30 p.m. is the headline concert at the Manitou Opera House featuring Jayme Giesbrecht and the Soul Revue Band as well as the local coffeehouse musicians. For tickets, call 204-242-2794.

There are a variety of activities at various times then throughout the day Saturday starting with an \$8 Kinsman pancake breakfast from 8 to 10 a.m.

Other activities include the Mighty Machines display, a craft show and sale, town tours, and children's entertainment.

The honey, garlic and maple syrup vendors and farmers market goes from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and there will be cooking demonstrations as well as the gourmet alley food vendors from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Also open from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. is the Pembina Valley Saloon.

Entertainment starts at noon and through the afternoon features In Case of Fire, Coffeehouse Friends, Harvey Allen Band, The Friesen Family, and Ed Wayne and the North Bor-



VOICE FILE PHOTO

The Manitou Honey, Garlic, and Maple Syrup festival's namesake products will be on full display this weekend.

der Band.

From 1-4:30 p.m. there will also be a show and shine by the Country Hicks Car Club.

It all concludes with the gourmet supper from 5:30 to 7 p.m. including slow roasted pork, honey glazed chicken, sweet and sour farmer sausage, garlic mashed potatoes, honey glazed carrots, pasta salad, corn on

the cob, honey coleslaw, and strawberry shortcake.

"It's always a great meal ... we've stuck with the same menu, but it's tried and true," said Lea.

Buffet tickets are \$17 for adults and \$7 for youth under 12 and can be purchased in Manitou at Sam's Foods, in Morden at the Pembina Hills Arts Centre, or call Pat at 1-204-242-2530.

# Winkler Handivan off to a successful start

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Things have gone pretty smoothly for the Winkler & District Handivan's first few weeks on the road.

Winkler Senior Centre executive director Nettie Dyck says they're still working out some of the kinks for the new program, which launched Aug. 14, but they've already been averaging about a ride or two a day.

"We knew it would be slower starting up, but people are calling," she says. "We're still tweaking the system."

"I think the biggest thing is we need a smaller van for in town. So that's our next step is looking at ways that we can make that happen."

The original 12-seat van, which features an accessibility lift and spaces to strap in wheelchairs, was gifted to the program by an anonymous donor

last year.

It serves as the service's gateway vehicle, Dyck explains.

"Initially when you start up a handivan service, you need one vehicle before you can really qualify for other grants," she says. "So this vehicle kind of paves the road for us. It was our initial foot in the door. From here on we qualify for more opportunities than we did before."

"This vehicle still has a lot of potential for groups and tours and things like that ... it's just that a smaller vehicle works better for those quick in-and-out kind of trips."

There's no firm timeline for when the program would like to expand its fleet, but one thing they'd definitely like to expand sooner rather than lat-

Continued on page 8



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# WSC workshop up and running once again

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The buzz saws are quiet no more at the Winkler Senior Centre.

The centre's popular woodworking workshop is once again operational after a hiatus of several years while the Buhler Active Living Centre was being built.

"We've had a lot of requests for it. People were anxious and wanting to get in here," said WSC executive director Nettie Dyck. "Since the doors opened we've had people lined up and ready to go."

Although the WSC has called the BALC home for over a year now, it's taken that long to get the new shop, located in the senior housing complex's parking garage, up and running.

"It was a huge project figuring out how all the machines and everything—the ventilation system and all that kind of stuff—would work," explained Dyck. "So that's all been ironed out and we've got all the right equipment in there now and it seems to be working well."

The shop offers all manner of tools and equipment needed for projects large and small.

"We had an inspector come in and take a look at all the old equipment and a lot of it we were able to continue to use," Dyck said. "And then some of the pieces we couldn't use we sold and raised money to buy new. So it's really worked out very well."

WSC board member Frank Unrau

**"THIS IS NOT JUST FOR THE PEOPLE IN THESE BUILDINGS—IT'S FOR THE COMMUNITY IN GENERAL."**

said the workshop has always been an integral part of the centre's programming and he's glad to see it back once again.

"We had it there before and for a number of people that was their hobby. It was a time for them to spend doing things that they enjoy, filling their days ... doing something different where they need the tools and a place to do it," he said, noting that some of the items coming out of the shop are being sold in the upstairs gift shop.

Unrau stressed the workshop is not just there for WSC members or BALC residents.

"This is not just for the people in these buildings—it's for the community in general," he said, adding, however, that use of the workshop is by annual fee, which is significantly cheaper if you're already a WSC member.

The workshop is open during the senior centre's regular business hours, weekdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For safety reasons, anyone who



PHOTOS BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Dave Friesen at work in the Winkler Senior Centre's new workshop, which finally opened its doors last month in the Buhler Active Living Centre.

wants to use the shop needs to take part in a half hour orientation session.

Also, due to its basement location away from the hustle and bustle of the main part of the facility, workshop users cannot be in the space alone.

"Our policy is that they have to work in groups of two. They can't be down here by themselves," Dyck said. "There was some concern about that, but there seems to be a group in here almost on a daily basis."

"So for anyone that wants to come in and maybe they don't have a partner, come on down because there's probably somebody here already working."

## 'GOOD TO BE DOING SOMETHING USEFUL'

Hard at work last Thursday making

wooden toy cars was Dave Friesen and John Harder.

The pair are among several seniors working to create upwards of 100 toys for the upcoming Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child campaign, which sends gifts to children in developing countries.

As a relative newcomer to woodworking, Friesen said it's been nice to have a space to learn in.

"It's good to be doing something useful," he said as he sanded down the edges of a toy truck.

Heading up the toy project is Harder, who gave the workshop the thumbs-up.

"The tools aren't bad at all ... though we're still getting things straightened out in there a little bit," he said, adding with a chuckle, "I'm in no hurry. I'm retired anyways."

## > HANDIVAN, FROM PG. 7

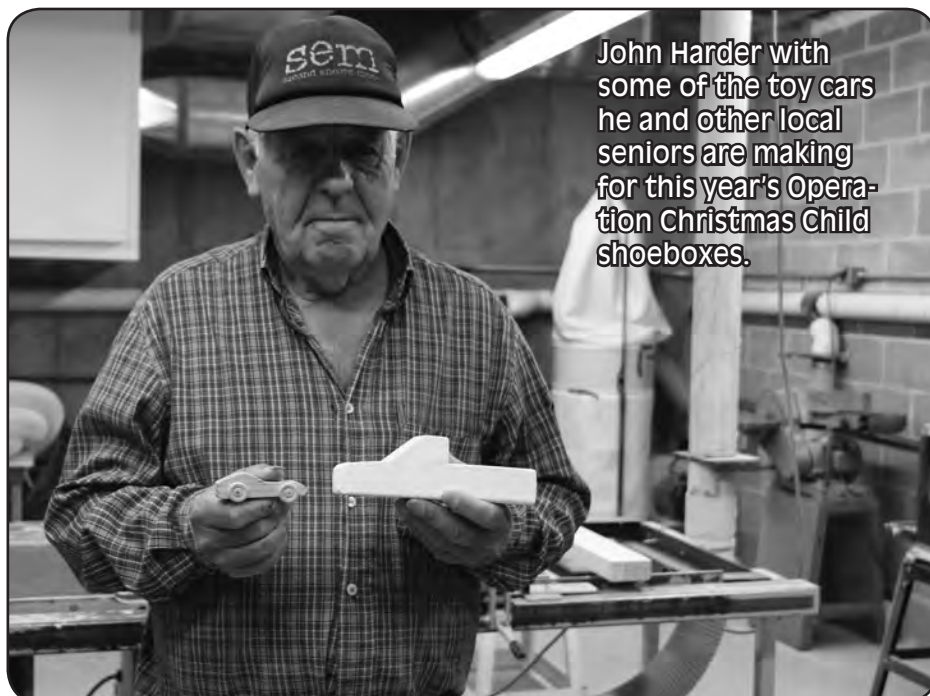
er is its volunteer roster.

"Our full-time driver is great, but definitely we need volunteer drivers as well," Dyck says, noting an orientation workshop is planned for Sept. 16 for those interested in getting involved.

"So if there are any other drivers out there that have not contacted us and they would like to get in on that, we would definitely like to hear from them," she says. You can reach Dyck at 204-325-8964.

The handivan services not just Winkler but also the RMs of Stanley and Rhineland. It offers rides to anyone who, due to illness, age, injury, or other permanent or temporary disability, is unable to easily utilize other available transportation services in the city.

Rides can be booked 24 hours in advance by calling 204-362-9252 or emailing [winklerhandivan@gmail.com](mailto:winklerhandivan@gmail.com).



John Harder with some of the toy cars he and other local seniors are making for this year's Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes.



# Western SD bursting at the seams

By Lorne Stelmach

Western School Division is already pressed to capacity and, as the new school year begins, is feeling the pressure of even more enrolment growth.

Early registration estimates suggest the division is facing a five per cent increase. That could mean one out of every three early years students this fall will start school in a portable classroom.

"We feel it's becoming urgent," said superintendent Stephen Ross. "We know our kids do well ... can we do better? Absolutely, but we do well. We are worried, though, that how well our kids are doing is going to suffer because of things that are kind of beyond our control."

The pressure is particularly being felt at the 750-student strong early years and in the middle years, which has 550 students.

With the schools full to bursting, the division has had to take additional steps to alleviate crowding, including converting another computer lab (the third in recent years) into a classroom at École Morden Middle School.

It is also awaiting the delivery of two more portable classrooms, one each at Minnewasta and Maple Leaf schools. They will not be available

until late September, so that means some classes will begin the year in alternative spaces.

"At some point that snowball starts to get bigger and unmanageable ... we're in that time right now where things are more challenging," said Ross.

"The end result is that kids don't have a home to go to in September," he continued. "It means two early year schools are going to have classes in the library, so that doesn't only affect those kids that are actually going to school in the library, that means that every other student in that building has reduced access to a library."

He stressed that they would rather not end up like Garden Valley School Division, which at one point had as many as 40 portable classrooms to accommodate booming growth.

"It is a bit frustrating for us," he said, likening Western to "that quiet kid in the back of the class who keeps his head down and does his work. But if they keep ignoring our well thought out, concerned approaches, then eventually we're going to be there too."

"We have some of the smallest square footage per student in Manitoba ... and we don't have control over that. This has been an issue of contin-



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Workers prepare to install one of the four new portable classrooms needed to accommodate growth in the Western School Division. Two portables each are going in at Minnewasta and Maple Leaf schools.

ued growth. The fact that it was more now than we projected is just adding more to it."

That consistent growth has resulted in 15 additional classroom spaces in the last few years, and it has heightened the need for a new school eyed for the northwest corner of Morden.

In 2014, with the encouragement of the Public Schools Finance Board, the division purchased 10 acres for

a new school on Parkhill Drive, but they continue to wait for that much needed school announcement.

"The continued population growth in the region is pushing the limits," said board chair Brian Fransen, who went on to praise the "creativity, perseverance and great spirit" of the division staff for working with dedication in challenging circumstances.

# Coulee arena set to be completed this fall

By Lorne Stelmach

Renovations and upgrades to the Plum Coulee arena and community hall are nearing completion.

A fire in May 2016 damaged the building but also offered a chance to make some beneficial changes to the overall facility, and officials with the RM of Rhineland believe residents will be pleased with the finished product.

"You will see the marked improvements that are there. We're quite excited about it," said Reeve Don Wiebe. "We can hardly wait to start showing it off ... not quite yet ... but that's coming pretty soon."

With the structural repairs completed, work has progressed to a number of other aspects of the project including finishing the arena floor

as well as new dressing rooms and renovations to the hall, including new paint and kitchen cabinets.

"They've been at it pretty steadily," said Wiebe, noting it became a substantial project that involved repositioning the kitchen and redoing the heating system.

They see the new acoustics of the hall being better and believe reconfiguring the interior will make the space more user-friendly, including a redesign of the entrance area and stairway.

With cost considerations in mind, the municipality restricted the project to working within the existing footprint of the building.

"It actually is a complete rebuild within the same outside envelope, but it's completely rebuilt inside," said Wiebe. "It's really quite a lot nic-



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Work continues on the Plum Coulee arena, which was damaged by fire last year. Plans are for it to be open later this fall.

er, and the space overall is being better utilized."

He noted they hope to wrap up work in the next few months. A few ice bookings have already been taken for November.

An early estimate had been that the project might cost the municipality about \$300,000 above and beyond the insurance coverage. Wiebe said the

final price tag will come in higher than that, but not by much.

"Hopefully, we'll get a bit more money from some places yet ... so it'll cost the community and the municipality as little as possible," he said.

"We're quite happy with it," Wiebe concluded, noting it is an important facility not only to the community but to the surrounding area.



VOICE FILE PHOTOS

Winkler's annual Culture Fest on Saturday will fill Bethel Heritage Park with the sights and sounds of 20 different cultures from around the world.

# Winkler hosts Culture Fest Sat.

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Winkler's fourth annual Culture Fest takes over Bethel Heritage Park this weekend.

The community celebrates its diversity with a party in the downtown park this Saturday, Sept. 9, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

"We have 20 cultural booths that cover five continents. It's a great way to check out the world," says organizer Elaine Burton of Regional Connections.

Each booth will be manned by a local—some new to the area, others who immigrated here years ago—eager to share a little bit about their home country and traditions.

"They have such a great amount of gratitude for their lives here in Winkler ... they've been able to just feel the positive impact that this move has made in their lives and so it's their desire to give back, in their way, to the community," Burton says. "To say, 'Yes, we're proud to be here, but we're also proud of where we came from.'"

Southern Manitoba has welcomed thousands of newcomers from all over the world in recent years and Culture Fest is a chance to experience that diversity first hand.

"We have 30 languages represented in the Pembina Valley through [Regional Connections], and those are just the people we've worked with" Burton says. "We have 125 countries represented in the region. We've served 14,000 newcomers since this organization was created.

"It's kind of like the hidden treasure and I think people are often still shocked to realize there's so much variety and diversity here. It is a huge eye-opener for a lot of people."

About half of the booths this weekend will be offering free samples of favourite foods and treats from back home, while others will host demonstrations on everything from Henna tattoos to limbo dancing.

The day will also include performances under the pavilion starting with the opening ceremonies at 11 a.m., music from Ugandan singer Busiisi at 11:20 a.m., the Chinese Lion Dance performed by the Flying Lions at noon, local Ukrainian dancers at 12:30 p.m., a demonstration of a traditional Indian dance and wedding at 1 p.m., Iron Fist Martial Arts Studio demonstration at 1:30 p.m., and Polynesian dance and music from Island Breeze at 2 p.m. to wrap up the day.

"They're very colourful, very engaging," Burton said of Island Breeze, which represents the Pacific Islands of Hawaii, Tahiti, Fiji, Samoa, and New Zealand. "They'll be our closing act and I think they're going to be phenomenal."

Lunch will be available for purchase from several food trucks, including Filipino food from D23, Indian cuisine from Rosa Indo, and German fare from The Bratwagon.

In case of rain, the festivities will be moved inside to the Winkler arena.

"WE HAVE 20 CULTURAL BOOTHS ... IT'S A GREAT WAY TO CHECK OUT THE WORLD."

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# Outdoor yoga wraps up



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Participants gathered at the Morden Research Station last Wednesday for the final karma yoga class of the season. Participation in the Harmony Tree Studio classes, which ran twice a week since early July, was by donation. Over \$350 was raised to support research into ovarian cancer.



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# KEEP ON TRUCKIN'

## NATIONAL TRUCKING WEEK SEPTEMBER 3-9, 2017



Every day, millions of truck drivers take to our highways to deliver the nation's goods (food, fuel, medicine, clothing, etc.) in a safe and timely manner. National Truck Driver Appreciation Week (September 10-16, 2017) recognizes these road pilots for their skill, positive impact on the economy and overall contributions to society.

Contrary to popular belief, life on the open road isn't all about comfy drives across the countryside. Truck driving is a demanding occupation that requires numerous skills beyond, well, driving. In light of National Truck Driver Appreciation Week, here's a brief overview of what it takes to be a great truck driver.

### INDEPENDENCE

Truck drivers spend long stretches of time driving alone and must therefore be able to assume sole responsibility for the truck and the goods it carries.

### KNOWLEDGE OF MECHANICS

Truck drivers abide by strict pick-up and delivery times and must therefore be able to perform the necessary maintenance or repairs in unexpected situations such as engine trouble.

### ALERTNESS

Truck drivers spend long hours on the road overnight and must therefore be able to withstand fatigue and remain alert to changing road conditions.

### EXPERT DRIVING

Truck drivers operate tractor-trailers up to 73 feet long and must therefore be able to maneuver these road giants in tight spaces and bustling city streets.

### BRAWN

Truck drivers are often tasked with loading and unloading freight and must therefore have the physical stamina to safely handle heavy loads.

During this National Truck Driver Appreciation Week, take a moment to be thankful for the commitment and hard work carried out by the nation's 3.5 million truck drivers. Remember: without them, your local supermarkets, pharmacies and hardware stores, among other places of business, would be considerably more empty.

Here's to the men and women who form the backbone of our nations economy!

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### How trucking keeps up with the times

Emerging technology is a blessing — not just for the trucking industry, but for all us consumers too. As regulations evolve and trucks change, everyday Canadians can enjoy knowing that the goods they use every day were brought to them safely and with less cost to the environment. As the Canadian Trucking Alliance (CTA) celebrates National Trucking Week this September 3 through 9, we honour all the people who make these improvements possible.

David Bradley, CEO of the Canadian Trucking Alliance, says an increased focus on environmental mandates and safety technologies for drivers are "game changers" for the industry. While there are some challenges on the environmental front, what with the Canadian industry and climate often requiring heavier and tougher equipment, the outcome is expected to feature increased productivity and road safety.

Here are some of the changes coming about for the trucking industry:

- Speed limiters that govern maximum vehicle speeds
- Mandatory entry-level training for new drivers
- Electronic logging devices for drivers doing trips that have hours-of-service limits
- Driverless automated trucks for certain suitable resource extraction industries in remote locations

### Jobs and more jobs

David Bradley speculates that even with Alberta's oil economy having taken a dip this past year, truck driver jobs will remain a hot commodity in Canada. That's a clear and promising sign that the trucking industry is thriving. It's also a great excuse to rally a cheer for National Trucking Week and thank all the drivers who keep our economy rolling.

National Trucking Week honours Canada's 400,000 trucking industry stakeholders.

### Sharing the road with tractor-trailers

There's a big difference between driving a car and driving a tractor-trailer. A heavy commercial truck carrying 40 tons of cargo doesn't have the same handling capacity and visibility as a car. To help avoid hazards and serious accidents while on the road, we've come up with a few driving tips to help motorists better understand these rolling behemoths.

1. Watch out for blind spots. Big rigs have several blind spots — or No-Zones — where cars can disappear from the driver's field of vision. Keep your distance and change lanes quickly and safely when in front, behind or next to tractor-trailers
2. Respect turn signals. A trucker signalling a right turn will go into the left-hand lane. This is because large commercial trucks need to make wide turns to avoid going over curbs and sidewalks. Trying to overtake the truck on the right is dangerous, so be patient and wait your turn.
3. Overtake with care. Passing a tractor-trailer requires you to drive in the driver's blind spot, so signal your intention early on and pass it quickly. Make sure there's enough distance between you and the truck before pulling in front of it.
4. Maintain your speed. Always maintain a stable cruising speed while driving in front of a tractor-trailer. A vehicle of that size that's forced to suddenly slow down will need about three kilometres to get back up to its initial speed.

And as always, try to be courteous behind the wheel. Angry and aggressive driving doesn't benefit anyone.

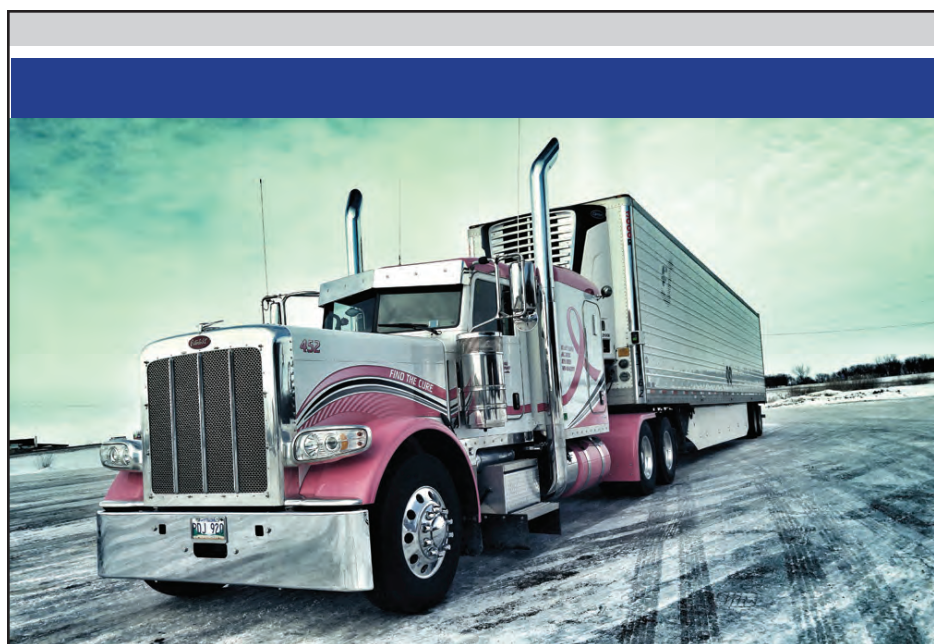
### Keeping our truck drivers safe while on the job!

Canada is gearing up for another round of National Trucking Week (September 3-9, 2017)! Sponsored by the Canadian Trucking Alliance (CTA) in conjunction with the country's provincial trucking associations, this annual event honours the 400,000 Canadians who work hard to keep the nation's freight moving and raises awareness of common challenges truck drivers face that compromise their safety.

For example, a hazard alert issued by Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC) noted the prevalence of fatal or serious injuries to truck drivers resulting from unstable freight at worksites not under the control of the driver's employer. Site operators have a responsibility to ensure their premises are safe and secure. Does your place of business meet the following criteria?

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  - Protection from harsh weather conditions (high winds, heavy rain, etc.) is available
  - Dock operators are well trained to assist in the safe handling of freight
  - Clear communication channels between the driver and staff are maintained at all times
  - Staff members direct traffic during forklift operations, if necessary

This National Trucking Week, help put an end to accidents that compromise truck drivers' health and safety by ensuring a safe working environment and enforcing regulated workplace practices.



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# Local artists team up for Neubergthal show

By Lorne Stelmach

An upcoming gig offers two exciting opportunities for a Morden band.

Not only is Lakes and Pines sharing the stage Sept. 14 with another great band, but member Patrick Simoens looks forward to the setting for the

**SUPPLIED PHOTOS**  
Local band Lakes and Pines (above) teams up with The Wooden Sky (left) to perform at the Krahn Barn in Neubergthal on Sept. 14.

show.

The concert that also features Toronto-based The Wooden Sky takes place at the Krahn Barn in Neubergthal.

"It's going to be a cool experience," said Simoens, recalling that the Brothers Landreth have played there before, among many others. "I've heard a lot of great things about the Krahn Barn, and the pictures of this place look beautiful."

It continues what has been a busy summer for Lakes and Pines, who just recently played the Corn and Apple Festival as they continue to promote their debut album *Peace Comes At Last*.

With influences as diverse as the members themselves, Lakes and Pines bring a wide array of sounds to the table while staying true to their folk roots.

The Wooden Sky, meanwhile, include Gavin Gardiner, who grew up

in Morden.

Also an indie folk band, The Wooden Sky originated after lead singer Gardiner wrote songs for a school project while attending Ryerson University.

They originally formed as Friday Morning's Regret, releasing a song "The Wooden Sky" on a compilation record. They opted to change the band's name for their 2007 debut *When Lost at Sea*. In 2014 the band started their own label, Chelsea Records, as a more artist-driven label.

"They'll be in the province for the Harvest Moon Festival in Clearwater, so we put together this show," said Simoens, who added that "Gavin and I have done a solo show before, but the prospect of sharing a full band show is pretty exciting."

Seating is limited. Call 204-324-1612 to reserve your ticket.

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# Regional weather radio broadcast launched

By Lorne Stelmach

A local weather radio service is now available for the Winkler-Morden-Stanley area.

The Southern Emergency Response Committee announced last week that Environment Canada has activated a weather radio broadcast site for the region.

It can be heard on channel seven of a weather radio or at 162.55 MHz.

The Weatheradio network utilizes radio transmitters that provide continuous broadcasts of weather information, but the service is especially vital for providing instant updates when bad weather threatens.

"It also has an emergency feature where if there's a weather emergency alert, it activates the radio ... and starts broadcasting the alert," said SERC emergency co-ordinator Chris Kalansky.

"For us, from an emergency preparedness standpoint, it's basically another tool in the toolbox. It's another method of people being alerted to

an imminent hazard."

Environment Canada estimates that over 90 per cent of Canadians can access a Weatheradio signal.

A basic Weatheradio receiver uses warning tones as the trigger that activates the alarm features. Users will receive the weather audio broadcast and will also be alerted to severe weather warnings for events like tornadoes and thunderstorms.

Recent technological advances make it possible for listeners to program Weatheradio receivers to deliver only certain types of warnings for their specific locations.

A Weatheradio receiver is not just for emergencies but can be a dependable, constant source of weather information, and it is recommended to be standard equipment in places like hospitals, schools and manufacturing plants.

"This is a good standby option to have," Kalansky suggested.

More information on weather radios can be found online at [www.ec.gc.ca/meteo-weather/default.asp](http://www.ec.gc.ca/meteo-weather/default.asp).

Special thank you to Corn + Apple Festival Committee, Corn + Apple Festival Board of Directors, All the Volunteers, All the Sponsors, Vendors, Administrative Staff, And All those who attended the Festival. Morden Corn + Apple Festival's success is because of all of you!  
 Jocelyne Durand, Chairperson



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# sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

## Black beats Orange

Team Black manages to get a puck past Team Orange goalie Aaron Brunn in the annual Winkler Flyers intrasquad game on Saturday. The match, which was won by Team Black 5-4, wrapped up the junior club's fall training camp, which saw nearly 70 Flyers hopefuls take to the ice. The survivors of the first rounds of cuts went up against the Winnipeg Blues Tuesday in the Flyers' first exhibition game of the preseason. This weekend they host the Norskies Friday and then head to Thief River Falls Saturday for game two of the Goose Cup. All pre-season home games have free admission thanks to Crocus Real Estate. Donations for Katie Cares will be accepted in lieu of admission.

PHOTO BY RICK HIEBERT/VOICE



## Male Hawks gearing up for tryouts this weekend

By Lorne Stelmach

After becoming a playoff team again last year, the male Pembina Valley Hawks hope to advance further this season.

"We went from a championship season to a bottom of the barrel season to a mediocre season last year, and I'm looking to keep going forward," said coach Rylan Price in advance of the midget AAA team's tryouts this weekend for the 2017-18 campaign.

"I know last year was an early exit from the playoffs, and that would probably be a goal for myself is to make sure we get ourselves into round two this year, and then anything can happen after that."

Pembina Valley finished fourth in the 12 team league last winter with 28 wins, 16 losses for 57 points and then lost their best-of-five first round playoff series in four games to fifth place Brandon.

After this Friday and Saturday's tryouts, the Hawks play an intersquad game next Tuesday before heading into a trio of exhibition games against the league's Winnipeg teams, which expand this year to include the Bruins in addition to the Thrashers and defending champion Wild.

Price hopes to have up to 60 kids for the tryouts and is expecting a good number to be back from last year, including five forwards, five defencemen, and one goaltender.

"Any time you can get some returning players, you don't have to work as hard to establish that culture that you created last year," he said. "It's a little bit easier on the new guys coming in when there's a bunch of older guys as well."

There are a good number of local players looking to take the next step up to the midget level, including

some who are back to tryout for a second time.

"So it looks like it could be quite a competitive tryout," said Price. "There will be a lot of guys competing for spots."

To get one, they'll need to demonstrate a heads-up approach and an ability to make plays.

"I'm going to be looking for the playmakers out there," said Price, who added that "being able to work together and support each other is important."

Establishing the team chemistry in the end will be the key.

"If you can gel together at the right moments and play with confidence ... we'll have a good chance."

"THERE WILL BE A LOT OF GUYS COMPETING FOR SPOTS."

# Mutcheson scholarships awarded to local students

By Lorne Stelmach

A family long synonymous with sports in Morden is helping young Mordenites pursue their academic and athletic careers.

Three students from Morden, where he grew up, as well as two from Milton, Ontario, where he also lived, each received \$3,000 scholarships recently from the Michael Mutcheson Memorial Foundation.

The annual scholarships this year went to Morden students Jordan Parker, Erin Doherty and Rylan McCallum.

"These students exhibited the qualities that Michael stood for," said foundation spokesperson Ray Mutcheson. "Michael lived life to the fullest. He loved the athletic pursuits of the many sports that he played," he said. "He knew what it was to struggle to excel. He was resourceful and worked hard for all his accomplishments."

"It was a great honor to be chosen," Parker said by e-mail. "Due to the generosity of the Mutcheson Family, the financial burden placed on me to pursue my education will be reduced. I will be able to spend more time concentrating on learning, maintaining a

high grade point average as well as, continuing to help in my community."

"It's a huge honour for me," agreed Doherty, who noted "a lot of my family members have also received this scholarship."

She added it is especially gratifying having the scholarship coming under the Mutcheson name.

"The Mutchesons really do a lot for this community," she said. "They have had a lot of involvement with sports ... I have looked to them for some help with some of my sports as well ... so they've been a big help to me in my athletic career."

"I'm greatly humbled by the scholarship's generosity and the support that it gives me," said McCallum. "It means a lot to me ... especially being in memory of Michael Mutcheson. It's a great honour."

The Michael Mutcheson Memorial Foundation has handed out over \$235,000 in scholarships to graduating students since 1996 as well as \$690,000 to children's charities, including \$50,000 to the children's ward at the Boundary Trails Health Centre.

This year it presented a \$40,000 grant to Ontario Track 3 Ski Association, which is a volunteer, non-profit



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Michael Mutcheson memorial scholarship recipients from Morden this year included Rylan McCallum and Jordan Parker, here with Sylvia Mutcheson, as well as Erin Doherty.

charitable organization that teaches children and youth with disabilities to downhill ski and snowboard.

"I know Michael would be very pleased with this year's selection," said Mutcheson. "He was all about supporting underprivileged children. He had an uncompromising empathy for children and drew strength from supporting their future."

He said that their hope through

the foundation is that "each recipient lives their lives to the fullest and in turn pass on their good fortune to others."

"We have received cards from many of the students over the years, not only expressing their gratitude but how this support had made a difference in achieving their goals."

# Pembina Valley Hawks roster shaping up

## Lady Hawks hopefuls put through their paces at tryouts

By Lorne Stelmach

Coming off a provincial title and then a run at the Esso Cup national championship, the female Pembina Valley Hawks could feel some pressure to repeat that success this winter.

Coming away from tryouts this past weekend, coach Dana Bell remained cautious but optimistic without putting too high expectations out there.

"I never look that far ahead ... but for me, I'd like to finish in the top two ... then go into the playoffs and work our way from there," said Bell.

It was another banner year for the AAA midget team last season, finishing second in the regular season with 20 wins, eight losses, their 42 points second only to the Westman Wildcats.

They then went on an undefeated playoff run that began with a three game sweep of Central Plains fol-

lowed by downing the Winnipeg Avros and then taming the Wildcats with a dramatic 2-1 double overtime victory that sealed the league title.

On home ice then for the Esso Cup, they finished fourth after dropping their semi-final game to Quebec and falling to Ontario in the bronze medal match.

Tryouts last weekend began with a focus on skills and competitive drills Friday followed by two intersquad games Saturday and another one Sunday.

Bell anticipated narrowing down the potential roster before heading into a tournament this weekend in Swift Current. He'll then be selecting their final roster next Tuesday.

"We've been running some conditioning skates since the first week of August," noted Bell, who appreciates that the players are motivated on

their own.

"The girls are looking like they're in shape ... we've got young girls out who are working hard and looking at cracking the lineup. They're all looking really good, and they're working really hard at these conditioning skates," he said.

"I'm feeling very confident again this year. It looks like we could have a really competitive team again," Bell added, noting while eight players from last year have graduated, they have another seven returning. "So we've got a good core there, and both goalies are returning, so that's a bonus."

Bell said he always approaches the tryouts with a few key factors in mind.

"I think the biggest thing is that we've always been able to ice competitive teams, so we're going to be looking at that compete level," he

said. "We're looking for girls who want to go for a full 60 minutes, and they want to work hard ... and team players for sure."

"We're looking to add some speed to the lineup this year too," he added.

## HAWKS FIND SUCCESS

Meanwhile, it has been a busy off season for a few members of the Hawks.

Makenzie McCallum, Halle Oswald and Cora Fijala were all selected to the Manitoba Top 27 U18 and U16 Program of Excellence camps in July.

Fijala was then named to the U16 Team Manitoba roster to compete at the Central Plains midget AAA tournament in Portage September 22 to 24.

Oswald was also selected by Hockey Canada to attend Canada's national women's U18 series against the US U18 national team in Lake Placid, NY last month.



# Agriculture

## Manitoba, Saskatchewan producers optimistic about yields

By Harry Siemens

Jake Thiessen of Thiessen Acres Ltd of Morden said the lack of moisture will cut into the yields of his corn and soybeans.

"Last year the low spots drowned out and the high places produce well," said Thiessen at his farm last Thursday. "This year the low spots look good, but most of the crop on the hills have dried off."

In variable there are much more areas on the hills than in the low spots, so only time will tell exactly how much the crops yield this year on the Thiessen farm.

He remains optimistic, though, that this year's crop will still do reasonably well.

Anne Kirk of Manitoba Agriculture said the later season crops in much of the province are still in need of rain.

Kirk, a cereal crop specialist, said the winter grain and pea harvest is complete in most areas, while harvest continues in spring cereals and canola is just starting in some regions.

"Winter wheat yields are ranging from 50 to 80 bushels per acre and fall rye 75 to 110 bushels per acre, and the quality is good in both crops," she said. "We didn't see much regarding fusarium head blight in the winter wheat, so that's one of the reasons the quality is good, due to those dry conditions around flowering time."

"We did have some winter kill especially in the eastern region of the province for winter wheat, so we didn't harvest as many acres as were seeded and some of the yields for winter wheat were a little bit lower than people would have liked due to some of the winter kill and harsh winter conditions."

Kirk said spring wheat is yielding 50 to 95 bushels per acre, barley 75 to 120 bushels per acre, and oats at 100 to 180 bushels per acre.

"Quality is excellent, and we're not seeing a lot of issues with things like fusarium head blight in spring cereal crops. Canola so far is yielding 40 to 60 bushels per acre, but we do have limited yield reports from across the province as canola harvest is just starting."

Kirk said while rain fell through most of the province recently, most areas received insufficient amounts,

so late season crops and pasture still needs moisture. Those plants would benefit from rain because they are still filling and they see some premature leaf drop and ripening of some crops in many areas due to the dry conditions.

Over in Saskatchewan, Brent Flaten, an integrated pest management specialist with Saskatchewan Agriculture, said crop yields this year are turning out to be higher than expected and crop quality is much better than last year.

Flaten said the dry week of Aug. 22-27 helped the harvest move along and

26 per cent of the crop is now in the bin, compared to the five year average of 16 per cent.

"Crop quality is a lot better than last year with all the disease and rain and bleaching and fusarium that we had last year in the cereals, so the quality is up a lot so far at least," he said. "There are some issues in the south with the kernels not filling, for example, light durum or wheat depending on how it filled. Yields are pretty good out there. We've got some yield estimates, but they vary a lot from the south to the north."

"There is some average to above

average yields out there right now, and even in some areas in the southern part of the province where it was a dry summer, the yields are better than they were expecting.

"It's still below average in those areas but better than what some people were thinking."

Flaten said there are some wrecks out there due to the dry conditions, but it's extremely variable—in one spot they may have gotten rain but a farm a few miles down didn't, and their yields reflect that.



## Taking with retiring Gerry Ritz

By Harry Siemens

Former federal ag minister Gerry Ritz, noted for his courageous work in giving farmers in Western Canada marketing freedom, is retiring as a Member of Parliament.

In my last official interview with my friend as an MP: "Gerry, I just thoroughly congratulate you on the work you've done. I wish you well in your future endeavors. I know you're going to be around but at the same time, tell me your initial feelings of finally stepping down and retiring from being a Member of Parliament."

"Well, thank you, Harry. Of course, all the work that got done I didn't do it alone. I had great people around me, from my own to staff in other departments, the civil service, a tremendous amount of great people there. The work with my colleagues in trade and health, in industry and so on that put the whole package together. We got to quarterback and can take some of the bows, but at the end of the day there's a lot of players that made these things happen," said Ritz.

Next, my obvious question: what are the highlights?

"Everybody points to the marketing freedom," Ritz said. "The changes from the old mandatory conscription that we called the Canadian Wheat Board.

"The logistics that went along with that, a few bumps, but in the end it is moving smoother than it ever has before. More tonnage is going out than we've ever seen before, a tremendous expansion in both the footprints across the prairies and at port capacity."

"Those are the obvious things that you see. The one thing that I'm most proud of is the actual value chain round tables that we put together industry by industry. Funded them that way so that the results were what industry was looking for not what government wanted to deliver. "Bringing in butchers and marketers and so on from around the world to centers of excellence to find out exactly what they wanted, not what we had so that we could streamline into some of these Pacific Rim markets, which are very important."

"Just bringing a business attitude to government, I think, was the biggest thing: working to get results not just process."

When you look at the agriculture system as a whole that the federal Liberals are looking at, working on a national food policy, where do you think it is going?

"Well, around in circles. We're chasing our tail in a lot of cases," Ritz said. "As I said, we always focused on results, not on process. The Lib-

erals tend to work the opposite way. They will worry everything to death like a cat with a mouse as opposed to just setting a trap and getting the job done."

"I wish them well," he added. "People have something around a food policy for years. It's a left-wing strategy system that there is no answer to. Canada is so diverse, with many variables and vagaries in Canadian agriculture and there is no easy way to do any of this. It's a distraction at best."

"I know I've seen the results of some of their so called discussions and all they're doing is alienating people and again, splitting up those value chains as opposed to bringing everybody together to build a stronger system."

You know, that's one of my biggest concerns, too—that we've got bureaucrats and politicians deciding how we're going to farm.

"The problem too, Harry, is the diversity between what we consume domestically, what we import to consume locally, and of course what we export," Ritz said. "You can't have a one size fits all. You can't even have provincial programs that are the same across the country."

"We built into Growing Forward

# Harvest is going well for St. Jean area farmer

By Harry Siemens

Harvest 2017 continues on most fronts with reports of yields almost as variable as the great weather of Manitoba.

Earlier last week, Gilbert Sabourin, who farms with his family at St. Jean, said, "Yesterday [Aug. 29] we finished up the canola. So we've harvested our oats and our canola, which represents a third of our acres. Now we're waiting for soybeans, which will be another third of our acres. I have corn and sunflowers which are another third of our acres. So as of last night we are caught up waiting to do soybeans.

"Oats is probably the heaviest bushel weight we've ever had, and yield is good. And the canola yields are good as well. I don't want the markets to know how good it is."

Reports are coming in with extra bushel weight in wheat and now in canola, too.

"I think with the canola as well, we haven't checked yet, but I think the bushel weight is up there as well," said Sabourin. "That's what's giving us the extra bushels, and the same thing holds true for my oats."

Many farmers are commenting on the growing season this year for many somewhat erratic and how

last year's heavy rains and significant subsoil moisture helped produce this year's crops.

"For rainfall, we've had almost nothing all year. We're just living off last year way above excess moisture levels, which have now depleted," Sabourin said. "But I think the soybeans have lost a lot of yields already due to lack of moisture. The earlier varieties in the area, I believe that it's too late for rain to help. There are lots of fields turning yellow already. It would still be beneficial for the late maturing varieties which are still green. But with the heat and the lack of moisture, all the top pods and flowers dried out. That's what gave us the extra yield last year, with the August rains the plants filled our soybean plants right to the top. Won't happen this year."

When driving through the countryside, corn looks great, but what does it look like down and dirty?

Sabourin said the corn is still green and, checking a few cobs, it seems to have good kernels but it would benefit from rain, too.

While there's not that many acres of sunflowers in Manitoba, Sabourin said they are doing well.

"They look outstanding as well. But I think that's probably the plant that can go down the deepest to go find its moisture," he said.

Sabourin markets and trucks his grain, making contracts with various elevator and grain companies, some right off the combine, other crops after binning then during harvest to save time, and then waiting for the rest for when the company contract-

ing needs the supply.

He mentioned the weight on the oats this year and how he never had to worry about being overweight when hauling oats of the field to the yard because oats are much lighter in bushel weight than wheat or canola.

"Usually, filling the semis with the grain cart in the field, you never have to worry about being overweight," said Sabourin. "And this is the first time off the field that you have to watch the weight on the trucks. Usually, that's not an issue at all."

He contracted the oats with five different companies and places. His goal is to make sure at least two or three firms will accept the oats right off the combine, saving him unloading it into a bin and the back of the truck later to move it to market.

## > SIEMENS SAYS, FROM PG. 18

suites of applications the ability for the provinces to make changes within a particular set of parameters so no one was more strikingly different than the province next door, but at the same time, everybody had parameters to work within, and that made the biggest change," he said. "Certainly every province has the right to do things differently. Cattle insurance,

livestock insurance began in Alberta and is slowly creeping across the rest of the country. Those insurance-based programs are so much more timely than any program that government can come up with. It takes a year of your tax records before you see any money."

I asked Ritz what he thinks will happen now that he's stepped back from

politics.

"I've projects that have lined up around my yard here that need looking after," he said. "Get reacquainted with my family, with my friends here, and then start to look at what challenges I want to take on next."

"I'm done as a politician but not done with the agricultural sector for sure."



## One last summer bash



Access Credit Union hosted its annual Movie in the Park celebration last week, with showings of the animated film Sing taking place in Winkler, Morden, Altona, and Morris. The evenings also included bounce houses, face painting, and other fun and games.

PHOTOS BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS & LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

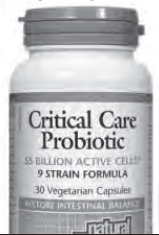


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pvcanvas@mts.net**

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### NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

*Morden*  
City of Morden

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION SALE OF LANDS FOR ARREARS OF TAXES CITY OF MORDEN

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 **28th** day of **September, 2017**, at the hour of **2:00 PM**, at City of Morden Council Chambers, 100-195 Stephen Street, Morden, Manitoba, 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 |
|-------------|--|-----------------------------|--|
| 154900      | LOT 6 PLAN 1311 MLTO EXC ALL MINES AND MINERALS AS SET FORTH IN TRANSFER 102183 MLTO IN SW 1/4 5-3-5 WPM - 337 9TH ST S  | L -\$40,000<br>B -\$161,500 | \$11,135.05  |
| 333175      | UNIT 27 CONDOMINIUM PLAN 44284 MLTO TOGETHER WITH AN UNDIVIDED 3.4482% INTEREST IN THE COMMON ELEMENTS AS APPURTENANT THERETO. SUBJECT TO ALL ENTRIES SET OUT ON THE TITLE OF MORDEN CONDOMINIUM CORPORATION NO. 37 - 70 WOODRIDGE BAY | L -\$53,000<br>B -\$252,400 | \$14,129.96  |

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 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 Morden as follows:
  - i) 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.
- 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.
- The purchaser will be responsible for registering the transfer of title in the land titles office, including the registration costs.

Dated this 24<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2017.

Managed by:



John Scarce  
City Manager  
City of Morden  
Phone: (204) 822-4434  
Fax: (204) 822-6494

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION SALE OF LANDS FOR ARREARS OF TAXES RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF STANLEY

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 **5th** day of **October, 2017**, at the hour of **1:00 PM**, at Rural Municipality of Stanley, 23111 PTH 14, Winkler Manitoba, 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 |
|-------------|---|-----------------------------|--|
| 119730      | LOT 2 BLOCK 4 PLAN 42828 MLTO IN W 1/2 OF NE 1/4 21-2-4 WPM - 8 MOLINE DR E | L -\$51,600<br>B -\$183,500 | \$4,908.18   |

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 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 Rural Municipality of Stanley as follows:
  - i) 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.
- 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
- The purchaser will be responsible for registering the transfer of title in the land titles office, including the registration costs.

Dated this 29<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2017.

Managed by:



Dale Toews  
Chief Administrative Officer  
Rural Municipality of Stanley  
Phone: (204) 325-4101  
Fax: (204) 325-4008

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### NOTICES

## THE RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF THOMPSON PUBLIC NOTICE - BOARD OF REVISION

Public Notice is hereby given that the 2018 assessment roll for the Rural Municipality of Thompson will be delivered to the Municipal Office at 530 Norton Avenue, Miami, Manitoba and is open for public inspection during regular business hours. Applications for revision may be made in accordance with sections 42 & 43 of The Municipal Assessment Act:

### APPLICATION FOR REVISION:

42 (1) A person in whose name property has been assessed, a mortgagee in possession of property under section 114 (1) of The Real Property Act, an occupier of premises who is required under the terms of lease to pay the taxes on the property, or the assessor may make application for the revision of an assessment roll with respect to the following matters:

- a) liability to taxation;
- b) amount of an assessed value;
- c) classification of property;
- d) a refusal by an assessor to amend the assessment roll under subsection 13 (2)

### APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:

- 43 (1) An application for revision must:
- a) be made in writing;
  - b) set out the roll number and legal description of the assessable property for which a revision is sought;
  - c) set out which of the matters referred to in subsection 42 (1) are at issue, and the grounds for each of those matters; and
  - d) be filed by
    - (i) delivering it or causing it to be delivered to the office indicated in the public notice given under subsection 41 (2), or
    - (ii) serving it upon the secretary, at least 15 days before the scheduled sitting date of the Board.

The Board of Revision will sit on **October 12, 2017 at 10:00 a.m.** in the Council Chamber of the Rural Municipality of Thompson to hear applications.

Applications must be received by the Secretary of the Board on or before **September 26, 2017**

Secretary, Board of Revision  
The Rural Municipality of Thompson  
530 Norton Avenue, P.O. Box 190, Miami, MB R0G 1H0

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SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10 at 10:30 AM

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*Cotton Candy & Kiddie Bouncers for the Children*

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**AUCTION**

**JIM AND DOREEN LENTON RETIREMENT AUCTION**  
**SAT., OCT. 7 • 10 AM**  
2 MILES NORTH OF MIAMI CEMETERY

Large amount of tools, yard equip., new merchandise from Plumbing shop, some household etc. 1995 Ford F-250 Diesel safetied, IHC B275 Diesel Tractor, Super WD6 W/Dual loader, JD 140 Yard Tractor with blower, mower, tiller, also JD Hydraulic drive Tiller only off 316, etc., lots of tools and misc. **Owners 204-745-6424**

See our [www.billklassen.com](http://www.billklassen.com) for pictures & partial listing

**Bill Klassen Auctions Ltd.**  
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Cell: (204) 325-6230  
Fax: (204) 325-4484

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**Southern Health Santé Sud**

You are invited to the **5<sup>th</sup> Annual Public Meeting** of Southern Health-Santé Sud

**Wednesday, October 4, 2017 at 7:00 pm**

Doors open at 6:30 pm  
**Mennonite Heritage Village Museum**  
231 Highway 12 N, Steinbach MB

**Talking about Mental Health & Addictions**  
PANEL: sharing personal experiences

Together leading the way for a healthier tomorrow.  
Ensemble vers un avenir plus sain.

For more information 800-742-6509 or visit [southernhealth.ca](http://southernhealth.ca)

**AUCTION**

**DYCK FAMILY 2 GENERATION ANTIQUE COLLECTORS AUCTION**  
**SAT., OCT. 14 • 10 AM**  
HOCHFELD VILLAGE  
7 MILES SOUTH OF WINKLER, MB.

Aprox. 30 stationary engines, set of 3 John Deeres, Fairbanks 7 HP, Fairbanks diesel elevator engine, etc. JD GP Running, Model D Seized, Eureka Crock # 8 butter churn, built in Woodstock, Ont.

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- THANK YOU'S
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# Announcements

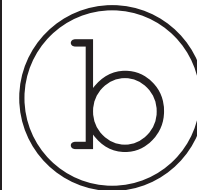
# The Winkler Morden Voice

## YOGA CLASSES

### Hatha Yoga



Fall Term Begins  
September 14



become•yoga

Thursdays @  
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Northlands  
Parkway  
Collegiate  
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become-yoga.ca  
become-yoga@  
outlook.com

## BIRTHDAY

90th Birthday Celebration  
for Peter A. Wiebe



Join us in celebrating  
this amazing milestone!  
Sunday, September 17th  
Come & Go  
2:30 - 4:30 p.m.  
Oak West Estates -  
55 Gaslight Drive, Morden  
Your presence is your gift!

## IN MEMORIAM



Sarah Froese  
June 1903 - September 1997

At the young age of 44, you became a widow and faced the daunting task of raising nine children.

Thank you for your love, dedication, guidance, hard work, faith and unending courage. We remember and honour you for your incredible strength and resilience.

Above all, thank you for giving us Jesus. Missing you Mom, and looking forward to sharing the joys of Heaven with you!

-Love,  
Your family

## IN MEMORIAM



Adam Daniel Pauls

November 10, 2003 - September 9, 2011

Our hearts long for the day when we see you again Adam. Six years is too long. You made everyone around you better, you loved unconditionally, we will always be thankful to know you and we look forward to someday seeing you again.

- Love Mom, Dad, David, Caleb

## OBITUARY

### Annie Dresler Holenski (nee Mikolasek) 1927 - 2017

On Tuesday, August 29, 2017 at Tabor Home in Morden, MB, Annie Holenski aged 90 years passed away peacefully surrounded by the love of her family.

Annie was predeceased by her husband, Tony Dresler in 1997. She is survived by her husband, Kola Holenski; her daughters, Maryjean Dresler and her partner, Patrick Belcher, Georgina Ungrin and her husband, Bob, her sons, Douglas Dresler and his wife, Elaine and Ron Dresler and his wife, Carol. She is also survived by six grandchildren, Ian (Jamie) and Spence (Chantal) Pentland, Jan Ungrin, Ashley (Justin) Martens, Monique (Chris) Tindale and Kory (Caitlin) Dresler as well as 10 great-grandchildren, Teya, Mason and Jackson Pentland, Salix, Ari and Axel Pentland, Jake and Taylor Martens, Elayna Tindale and Hannah Dresler. She is also survived by her siblings, Johnny, Tony, Mary Boyko and Alex.

Funeral service was held at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 2, 2017 at St. Paul's United Church with interment at Chapel Cemetery.

Special thank you to the staff at BTHC and Tabor Home as well as to Dr. Jackson.

If friends so desire, donations may be made in Annie's memory to either Katie's Cottage or to the Pembina Parish.

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



## AUCTION

### MOVING SALE FOR CONNIE JOHNSTON SEPT 9, 2017 @ 10:00 3.5 MILES N OF ROLAND RD 21W

1120 JD tractor (motor overhauled in 2002), 455 JD tractor 1829 Hrs, 4x2 JD Gator 513 hours (2002), 306 JD mower, 1988 Brandt sprayer 3 pth, 6' - 3 pt. hitch Leon blade, and many excellent shop power tools, 135 PSI air compressor, gas chain saw, shop vac, ladders and many yard and garden tools. **Household** Chesterfield, loveseats, recliners, beds, treadmill, coffee and end tables, lamps, cedar chest, patio set. **Many more items, subject to additions or deletions.**

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148.73 Acres NW 5-4-3W, RM of Roland

- Located 6 miles N, 4 miles E of Winkler
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## OBITUARY

### Maria (Mary) Penner (nee Thiessen) 1916 - 2017

Mary Penner, aged 101, passed away peacefully at Boundary Trails Health Centre on Wednesday, August 30, 2017.

She is survived by three daughters, Helen Kwan (Francis), Mary Zacharias (Otto) and Irene and four sons, John (Marilyn), Frank, Abe and Ed (Glenda) and one son-in-law, Joe Mikolasek. She was predeceased by her husband, Frank; daughter, Linda and great-granddaughter, Bailey.

She is also survived by 11 grandchildren, 19 great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren. She also leaves behind siblings, Abe, Peter, Susie, Anne and Betty.

Mary was born and educated in Chortitz and lived there her entire life. She enjoyed rural life as a farmer's wife. She loved her garden and flowers and as recently as a month ago made some pickles. She was always a hard worker who did not like to be idle. She enjoyed reading, kept up to date on current events and had a variety of interests. Her memory was amazing and she could recount many stories of the "good old days". She followed the progress of her grandchildren and never missed a birthday. Until her recent illness, she enjoyed meeting with friends and family for breakfast, coffee and supper. She was dearly loved and her passing leaves a big hole in our hearts. She was a quietly devout woman who was a faithful member of Zion Mennonite Church and attended church as much as she was able.

The funeral service was held at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, September 3, 2017 at the Zion Mennonite Church with burial at the Chortitz Community Cemetery.

The family wishes to thank the staff of Boundary Trails for the care given in her last days. If desired, donations may be made in Mary's memory to MCC or Siloam Mission.

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



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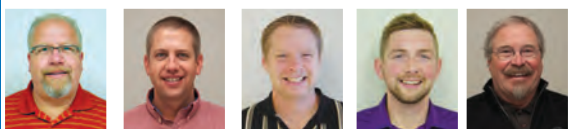
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**INQUIRE FOR PRICE**

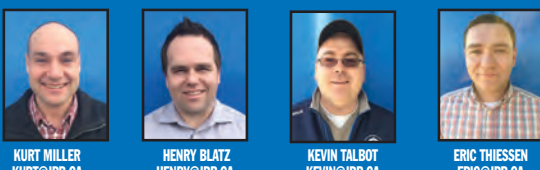


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TRUE NORTH CREW 4X4**  
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KEYLESS ENTRY, 8" COLOUR TOUCH SCREEN, 18" ALUM WHEELS, REAR  
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