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Habitat breaks ground on duplex

PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

The Winkler-Morden chapter of Habitat for Humanity broke ground on its second house in Morden on Saturday. The duplex—a first for the chapter—will be home to two families next spring and is made possible thanks to funding support from the City of Morden, the Province of Manitoba, and local donors. For the full story, see Pg. 2.

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Habitat's first local duplex project is underway

By Lorne Stelmach

The next build for the local chapter of Habitat for Humanity is extra special for both the organization and those who will call it home.

A sod-turning ceremony Saturday marked the start of construction on a duplex, so it is exciting for all involved that they are making home ownership become a reality for two families with this one project.

"This is a really unique project—first time our chapter has done a duplex. Duplexes are common in other chapters in Manitoba, but this is our first," said Christina Falk, who handles public relations for the Winkler-Morden chapter.

"We get to get two families in at once ... we're really excited to get going," she said. "These families are just super excited to get going."

The families now anxiously looking forward to having a home include Peter and Rosella and their children Monique, Viola, Penelope, and Juni-

per, and Zephyr and Dayna and their children Mekai, Azalia, and Mila (last names withheld at the request of Habitat).

Both families are currently living in Winkler and look forward to being able to have a place they can call their own in Morden.

"We're very excited. It's still surreal ... it's like, yes, I know it's real, but my mind isn't grasping that yet," said Peter.

"This is our first house ... so it's something big. I've always dreamed to have a house, and now it's finally here, so I'm very excited," he said. "It's a big thing because now I know we have stability. We have a community of our own. We can actually call this our home."

"It means the world to us ... we've been trying to save up for a down payment for a house," said Zephyr. "It's a blessing. This is going to help our family grow financially, spiritually ... this community is beautiful and I'm sure that we will meet a whole



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Habitat for Humanity Winkler-Morden chapter rep Christina Falk (far right) said that government funding and generous local donors have made the latest Morden build possible. They aim to have the duplex finished by next spring.

lot of new friends here. Our kids are very excited to meet their new friends and have their school years at the new school that's going to be going up."

The two families are also very much looking forward to putting in some of their 500 hours of sweat equity on the construction of the building.

"I don't mind hard work, so I might as well help here with my own house," said Peter.

"I'm always willing to learn and to put my hands where they can be helpful," agreed Zephyr.

Falk noted the organization was able to get going on this project sooner than expected in large part thanks to additional funding from the Province of Manitoba and the City of Morden.

"Because of those grant funds, we were able to get this house off the ground," she said. "We had an incredible anonymous donor donate the full funds to purchase this lot, as well as our lot in Winkler that we're working on this year."

It is also a good example of how people have really bought into the vision of Habitat for Humanity, Falk suggested.

"People have seen this working now. This is our fourth and fifth house now in a very short amount of time. I think they see that it works for families ... it's an option for a lot of people here who are struggling with housing right now.

"It's a program that keeps giving," she continued. "These families move in, they pay their mortgage and those payments help to pay for the next house build ... so everybody is working together to do it, and I think people just realize that works."

Habitat mortgages require no down payment and are interest-free, making them more accessible to families who might otherwise struggle to become homeowners.

Falk noted there will be a bit of a tighter turnaround than usual for this project.

"There is a bit of a timeline on this project because the grant funds are only available if we are able to finish by spring of 2023," she explained. "We're going to get digging in the next couple weeks here. We will have a lot more trades working on this house. We generally do a lot of it with volunteers; this time around we're going to have more trades because of the timeline, but we will have some opportunity for volunteers."

"Our families for this home as well ... the husbands come from construction sort of backgrounds, so they're going to get a lot of their volunteer hours building this house, which is great for them."

Meanwhile, the Winkler-Morden chapter is now also looking forward to what comes next.

"We are hoping for late 2023 for another house in Winkler," Falk said. "We do have things in the works for that one, but again we have to raise the funds in order to build that."

Morden Mayor Brandon Burley lauded the chapter for all the work it's doing locally.

"The fact that you are able and willing to take this project on after just finishing the other builds you had speaks to the commitment and dedication of the volunteers who work tirelessly to see the goal of home ownership become a reality for many families in our region," he said.

Burley touched on the great importance of housing in providing people with a sense of security and noted the city is now having an affordable housing strategy done for Morden.

"This is a first step in the direction of trying to make housing affordable for people who live and work and enjoy our community."

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MP Candice Bergen will not seek re-election

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Portage-Lisgar MP Candice Bergen will not seek re-election in the next federal election.

Bergen, who was first elected in 2008, last week announced her intention to step back from politics at the end of her current term in office.

"I knew when I got into politics that it would be smart for me to leave on my own terms and leave at the right time," she said on what led her to this decision. "And I think a good time to leave is when you've accomplished a lot and you're in a good position."

Bergen has spent the past several months as the interim Leader of the Official Opposition, a role which ended with the election of Pierre Poilievre as the new leader of the Conservative Party of Canada on Saturday.

"It's really been amazing over the last seven months to have been the leader of the party," Bergen said. "I was able to bring healing and unity back during a very difficult time earlier this year."

Her five terms in office have also in-

cluded serving under Prime Minister Stephen Harper as Parliamentary Secretary and Minister of State and, more recently, as the Opposition House Leader.

"I feel after 14 years, five elections, I've done a lot in my career, both in government and in Opposition," Bergen said. "I just felt it was the time to not put my name forward again and still serve in the short-term."

"I'm still serving my constituents and I want to help the new leader get off on the right foot, but I think it's time to see what other opportunities and interests I can pursue."

Spending more time with family is one of the things Bergen is most looking forward to. When the time comes, she intends to take a

few months off to relax and explore what might come next.

She says she has no other political aspirations at the moment.

"Right now my thought is I'm not leaving to get involved in any other way politically, but I would never say never," Bergen said when asked if she might explore getting involved in other levels of government in the years

ahead. "But, no, I'm making this decision so that I can see what might be available in the private sector, maybe not-for-profit, other areas where there might be some interesting things as well as gratifying things where I can give back."

Looking back on her career, Bergen said she never imagined she'd be able to accomplish as much as she has.

"When I won the nomination and I knew there was a very good chance

Continued on page 5

VOICE FILE PHOTO

Portage-Lisgar MP Candice Bergen has announced she will not seek a sixth term in office.



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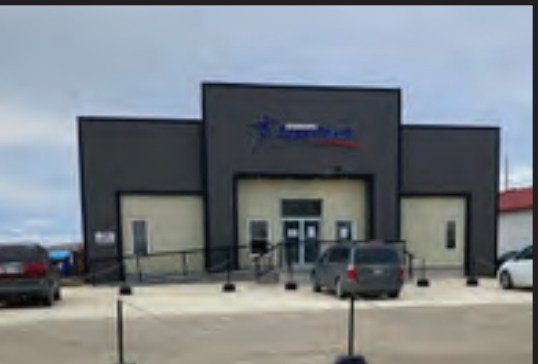
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Remembering the late Queen Elizabeth

By Lorne Stelmach

The world has been mourning the passing of Queen Elizabeth, but it perhaps feels like even more of a loss to those who have remained dedicated Brits like Maurice Butler.

The longtime Morden resident was about 11 years old when he was among children at his school selected to go to the queen's coronation in 1952.

It was the first of many moments and memories which the former Morden police chief still cherishes and

recalled following the queen's death last week at the age of 96.

"That was the first time I had the opportunity to recognize and acknowledge the fact that she was our queen. That stuck with me for the rest of my life. I always remember that day," said Butler, who is proud to have been a recipient of both the queen's Gold and Diamond Jubilee medals.

"I've been away from the United Kingdom for over 60 years now, but I still have that strong affiliation and that knowledge and understanding of the queen.

"As the years went by, she had done so much as our monarch," he said. "There's lots of memories, and I admire her and respect her for what she has shown us as individuals and citizens of our countries ... what it means to be strong and open minded and to be able to bring everything together as a country and as individuals in communities."

Now succeeded by her eldest son Charles III, Queen Elizabeth II reigned for 70 years and 214 days, which is the longest of any British monarch and the longest recorded of any female head of state in history.

Support for the monarchy—especially in the United Kingdom but also in other Commonwealth nations—has long remained consistently high, and it has likely been in large part due to Queen Elizabeth's personal popularity.

Originally from Scotland but today calling the Altona area home, Callum Morrison gathered a few people together last Thursday to reminisce in the wake of the queen's death.

"It was very shocking. I honestly almost felt we could perhaps have another decade of her as queen, seeing as her mother lived until she was 101," he said, noting he called his parents back in Scotland as soon as he heard the news.

"I think, for me, I've always valued service and self-sacrifice, which she exemplified, and really it's almost impossible to think of anyone who has so little scandal surrounding them personally," Morrison suggested.

"Right until the end, she was still serving the public. The last public statement she made was related to the stabbings in Saskatchewan. To the very end, she was still swearing in the prime minister," he added. "She put service above all things else, even above her own well-being. I think that's what was quite emotional for me ... this is a lady who never asked for this job, never really wanted this job ... she decided she would do it to the best of her ability, and she honestly

believed that she was doing God's work, and she honestly believed that she was doing something for her people."

Morrison has many memories connected to the queen, such as being involved in firing the gun salute from Edinburgh Castle in 2015 for the her

89th birthday and being in London for her Diamond Jubilee celebrations.

"I remember her and her husband stood in the rain all the way through," he recalled of the latter event.

He shared a story about the king of Saudia Arabia coming to the U.K. for a visit. At that time, women were not allowed to drive in the Arab country, so the queen offered to give him a look around the estate, and the she apparently gladly took the driver's seat.

"I think it's that soft kind of diplomacy that the queen always had," said Morrison. "She did also have a wealth of knowledge. I do think she was one of the wisest people on earth."

He sees her as having had great humility and being gracious and able to put people at ease.

"She was also able to talk to people genuinely. She was able to interact with people in a way that I think a lot of people can't simply when they are in high office," suggested Morrison. "Whatever you think of the institution of the monarchy ... Queen Elizabeth, as

Continued on page 5

Mordenite Maurice Butler snapped this shot of his kids, Jason and Claire, presenting Queen Elizabeth with flowers when she visited Winnipeg in 1984.

SUPPLIED PHOTO



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Callum Morrison with the royal portraits he found at the MCC Thrift Store in Altona awhile back. Queen Elizabeth died last week at the age of 96.

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A man in a red and white plaid shirt is smiling and standing in a field of yellow flowers. He has his arms crossed.

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Celebrating Mennonite Heritage Week



PHOTOS BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

The Winkler Heritage Society hosted its second annual crokinole tournament at the Winkler Heritage Museum in the Southland Mall Saturday morning. The event, which saw a dozen people hit the tables at the start of the day, celebrated Mennonite Heritage Week with the quintessential Mennonite board game.



"It's the only monarch that most of us have known"

From Pg. 4

an individual, did her job well, and I honestly do not think we could have found anyone else who would do the job better than her."

Butler was also quite taken aback and saddened when he heard the

> BERGEN, FROM PG. 3

I would win the election, I was just blown away," she recalled of her first run for office in 2008. "I thought, 'Here I am, this girl from Morden, Manitoba, and I'm going to be a Member of Parliament.'"

"So to have been able to rise in the way that I did ... culminating in earning the trust of my colleagues" to be named interim leader, "I never imagined I'd be able to accomplish as much as I have, but I'm grateful and blessed."

Day-to-day, Bergen expects she will miss the face-paced world of politics when she leaves office.

"There's never a dull moment.

news about the queen's death.

"There were very, very strong feelings ... I associated it with the loss of my wife four years ago, and I'm still trying to get my head around the fact that they're both gone," he said. "It was not unexpected, but it was not wanted."

"It's the only monarch that most

There's always something going on. There's always something that needs to be done, a call that needs to be made, a meeting that needs to be had."

She'll also miss connecting with the people she serves.

"It's the relationships," Bergen said. "I hope to maintain the friendships and the relationships that I've built both in Ottawa and in my riding."

"The people of Portage-Lisgar have trusted me, they've encouraged me, even when there were tough times ... I'm just so grateful for the people of Portage-Lisgar for trusting me and letting me represent them."

of us have known. She was always there."

He recalled having a sense of her ongoing and lasting impact when he was asked to speak at a Morden celebration back in 2015 to acknowledge that she was then the longest serving monarch in history.

"It was a large contingent of people who came out to it, and it showed their thoughts and their awareness of our monarch and what she stood for," Butler suggested.

"I always admired what she did and what she stood for and how she always represented herself and her family," he said. "She showed us how we can people who work together, stick together and can get on with life

together.

"It was something we could all take a page from her book and say to ourselves today, when we are going through so many difficult and arduous times, we can stand up and be counted, and she knew how to demonstrate it and pass it on to her people."

As King Charles III steps up to fill his mother's shoes, Morrison sees there being a continued role that the monarchy can play with our nation.

"I think that the Crown still has a future in Canada," he suggested. "I think a lot of that is because the Crown has always been a part of life in Canada since its inception."



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• DON'T MIND THE MESS

Her work here is done

After living on this good Earth for a while, you realize life is about constant change.

Some of these changes are welcomed and planned. Others arrive despite us, hitting us gradually or with a hard punch. Even our connections here are fleeting—people come and sadly, people go. I've lost so many dear ones in the last while, and it just never seems to get easier.

Life is relentless, but through it all, there's always been a constant, quiet presence that I simply took for granted: There was always a Queen Elizabeth.

Her face is on my money, postal stamps and on the wall of every government and public office and class-

room I've ever entered. Her royal crest is on my passport. While posing for a photo a few years ago, one dignitary made sure that he didn't block the familiar royal image above his desk. "Got to make sure we don't forget about Lizzy," he told me.

I grew up revering all things royal, but I came by that honestly. My mother, and her mother before her followed every move at Buckingham Palace. Boxes and scrapbooks were filled with magazine and newspaper clippings featuring the opulent ceremonies and carefree family outings. After all, my mom was practically twins with Elizabeth—same name, born just one year apart—and her antics, milestones, and fashion choices fed her girlish dreams of a beautiful princess finding her prince, becoming a queen, and living happily ever after.

She watched the newsreel of her coronation, along with millions of other starry-eyed young girls.

I grew up singing her anthem, and for 96 years, God did indeed save the queen. And then, just like that, she was gone.

And I think the world is just beginning to realize what we've lost.

She was the epitome of dignity, duty, dedication, and decorum—qualities that have become almost old school in an era of self-gratification. Nothing and nobody have ever epitomized these qualities more than Queen Elizabeth. She wore that heavy crown for 70 years, and like a clock that keeps ticking through a storm, was a calm, consistent presence through every crisis.

She was the Queen of England, but she was also the Queen of Canada. For us, the monarchy is more than an institution; it's an identity. As a Commonwealth country, it's a part of who we are.

And whatever your views of the royal family, you will always remember this time in history: the day Queen Elizabeth died.

This tough little lady was more than just our longest surviving monarch, reigning for nearly half of our country's history. She was there through

Continued on page 7



By Lori Penner

letters

A THANK-YOU

Thanks is extended to hospital lead Kevin Hamilton for investing in our local Altona Health Centre staff.

Through your collaborative and affirmative leadership, you changed the workplace where staff once

again felt safe and looked forward to going to work. Staff felt empowered to do their best, often working under extreme short staffed situations beyond your and their control. Teamwork, problem solving, transparency and open communication were the order of the day.

While we are sorry to see you leave our community Kevin, we wish you all the best in your new position.

Mary Ann & Art Wiebe, Rosenfeld

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Morden Legion, Co-op supporting refugee families

By Lorne Stelmach

A donation last week from the Morden Legion supported local efforts to assist Ukrainian newcomers here.

The legion worked with the Morden Co-op to host a recent fundraising barbecue, and the proceeds of just over \$1,000 went to Regional Connection to support efforts to help Ukrainian families settling in the area.

"Co-op was a great supporter for us. They donated everything and we provided the manpower to raise the money for this cause," said Legion president Tammy Petkau. "It's a great cause ... it's a great thing for the Legion. This is what we're about, giving back to the community and helping others in the community."

"It's really great to see this kind of support from the community," said Steve Reynolds, executive director of Regional Connections.

"In order to welcome and support newcomers and especially respond to the Ukrainian crisis, the whole community pulling together really helps that happen," he said. "There's services we can provide, but there's needs that come up too that need to be addressed, and we need the sup-



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Connie Bailey of Co-op, Morden Legion president Tammy Petkau, Regional Connections executive director Steve Reynolds, Pembina Valley Local Immigration Partnership co-ordinator Elaine Burton-Saindon, and Legion member Harvey Kinsman at a cheque presentation last week in support of local efforts to help Ukrainian refugee families.

port."

"We're about raising awareness of the needs and gaps in the communities," added Elaine Burton-Saindon,

co-ordinator for the Pembina Valley Local Immigration Partnership.

"Partnerships in the community have really strengthened and have re-

ally developed and are just showing how the connections to our newcomer families is really getting great support."

> DON'T MIND THE MESS, FROM PG. 6

some of our darkest times, and her stoicism kept us focused. While other empires and ideals were crumbling, she represented something timeless that we assumed would always be there.

We thought she was invincible because there was always some headline, announcement, or tabloid story reminding us she was still there. Her annual Christmas message encouraged us all to stay calm and carry on. Whether it was time for celebration or a time for mourning, her reflections and response were always a part of it.

She was a lady in the truest sense and one of the last threads that con-

nected us to old world values. As one British commentator noted, "When Queen Elizabeth died last week, a little piece of all of us died with her."

Queen Elizabeth represented a chunk of history that shaped who we are, and a standard of leadership that we may never see again.

Today, though the gates of Buckingham palace are crowded with flowers and tributes, church bells are ringing and flags wave at half mast, I picture a smiling young girl walking across some heavenly moor, hand-in-hand with her beloved Philip, a gang of corgis running at their feet.

Her work here is done.

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.

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Head for the Hills raises \$100K+ for Eden Fdn.

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The 20th annual Head for the Hills raised over \$100,000 last weekend for local mental health programs and services.

Organized by the Eden Foundation, the fundraising arm of Eden Health Care Services, the bike ride saw 202 participants in the saddle on Saturday.

"I want to say thanks to all the cyclists who were involved, all of the people who put forward pledges to support the cyclists," said Jayme Giesbrecht, director of development for the foundation.

The amount of donations and the number of riders fluctuates year to year, Giesbrecht noted. The 2021 ride's totals were bolstered by an anonymous donor who matched up to \$130,000 in pledges, resulting in a record-setting \$290,000 raised.

"We knew we wouldn't be in that neighbourhood again, but we were very happy to be anywhere above \$100,000, so it looks like we have hit our goal," Giesbrecht said on Monday, adding they expect to have the final fundraising numbers later this week.

The ride once again offered two routes for participants, both beginning and ending at the grounds of the Cripple Creek Music Festival: a 38 kilometre gravel route winding its way through the rural roads south of Morden and a 29 km trail route utilizing the TransCanada Trail and some



SUPPLIED PHOTO BY RAY PETERS

Just over 200 cyclists hit the gravel roads and bike trails south of Morden Saturday to take part in Eden Foundation's Head for the Hills, which collected over \$100,000 in pledges for local mental health programs and services.

of the more challenging biking trails in the area.

"We saw a lot of familiar faces," Giesbrecht said. "There was a lot of participation by Hutterite colonies in our area. I think there were eight colonies that were represented and we were really glad to see that."

"We hope that more people come together in the future to make it the biggest cycling event we can possibly

have."

While a day of cycling is certainly a big draw for many participants, Giesbrecht noted Head for the Hills has also become an opportunity to not only raise funds for Eden but also get people talking about mental health.

"A lot of the cyclists are connected to Eden Health Care Services and the work that we've done, whether through a family member that has

stayed at the mental health centre or someone who's received counselling," she said. "There are many connections in our community that maybe aren't as talked about publicly, but when you're one-on-one with people they share those stories."

All donations made to Head for the Hills will be used to support Eden's programs and facilities.

The foundation receives grant requests every year from the various Eden departments, Giesbrecht explained.

"Then we as the foundation and the board decide where the money needs to go," she said. "Historically we have helped to support the Recovery of Hope counselling sessions and their sliding fee scale. We help to offset those costs for people who maybe aren't able to pay the full amount for counselling ... that is an ongoing effort and there's always funds needed for that, especially as the need for counselling services grows."

Funds in the past have also gone to fund the Segue Career Options' supportive employment service and Eden's residential care program.

"We have apartments in Steinbach and Winkler and Winnipeg, and they all need upgrades," Giesbrecht said, noting as well that the psychiatric hospital in Winkler is currently undergoing repairs due to water damage, so some of the funds may end up supporting that project.

"So there are a lot of ways this money is helping," she stressed.

Morden affordable housing projects receive funding

By Lorne Stelmach

Provincial funding is helping the City of Morden begin to address its affordable housing needs.

Manitoba Housing has granted the city \$732,000 to support the development of affordable housing initiatives, including a consulting study that will develop an affordable housing strategy.

The \$42,000 for that report is in addition to \$500,000 going to Parkland Place and Tamarack Builders for eight new affordable housing units and \$190,000 going to Habi-

tat for Humanity for a duplex project that broke ground last weekend.

"This series of affordable housing initiatives is a great start in tackling affordable housing challenges in our community. The vision of making our city a welcoming place that anybody can call home is one which is shared by council," said Mayor Brandon Burley.

"We know there is a problem with affordability in relation to housing, in particular low income housing," continued Burley, who saw the first two initiatives as a promising start with "projects that would satisfy a range of needs. While not having that housing analysis done yet ... we know there is a shortage, so the multi-housing development especially is going to offer long term affordability for residents."

The housing strategy project is being done by Scatliff Miller Murray Consultants in Winnipeg. The hope is that it will provide a comprehensive overview of local housing needs, an assessment of the condition of current affordable housing units in Morden, and options for future support

"THIS ... IS A GREAT START IN TACKLING AFFORDABLE HOUSING CHALLENGES IN THE COMMUNITY."

at the municipal level.

No formal conversations have taken place regarding the city taking over any responsibility from Manitoba Housing, but the study could help inform that conversation in the future.

"There will be an assessment of options going forward that would potentially offer an opportunity to do something with affordable housing right now in terms of existing stock," Burley said. "That affordable housing strategy is going to be developed with this funding."

Continued on page 9

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Eden hopes to reopen care centre later this month

By Voice staff

The Eden Mental Health Centre is on track to reopen later this month.

The Winkler facility was forced to close in the wake of water damage from the Aug. 25 rain storm, which created air quality issues that necessitated the evacuation of patients and staff.

"Construction to isolate damaged areas is underway, and most of the treatment area in the hospital will be functional within two to three weeks," Eden said in an update last week. "Patients are expected to return

before the end of September."

Fully repairing the damage the water did to the patient rooms, kitchen, dining, and activities rooms is expected to take several months.

While the centre is closed, Eden's patients are receiving care at two temporary locations in the community.

"Our friends and partners at Southern Health-Sante Sud and Salem Home have been terrific," said Eden CEO Brad Unger in a statement. "Everyone is working non-stop to help us return to the hospital."

"We had a great team behind us that includes our regional and provincial



EDENHEALTHCARE.CA

Work continues to repair the damage caused at the Eden Mental Health Centre in Winkler by the Aug. 25 storm. Eden says it hopes to have staff and patients back in the facility by month's end.

health partners, the insurance provider and restoration experts, our local

community and church partners, and our Eden board and foundation."

"It should provide a very good foundation for further investment"

From Pg. 8

The Habitat for Humanity model (interest-free mortgages to eligible families) also offers a good path to ownership, the mayor observed, but that wouldn't necessarily be a feasible option in every instance.

"That path to ownership model is a very attractive one; it's not one that

will work with all individuals, but when it does exist, it's a great model to follow," said Burley.

"We're confident that the two projects announced so far are going to fall in line with what our needs assessment is going to tell us," he said. "The housing affordability study will show us where we're deficient. It will also project into the future ... so it takes a much broader view of the picture and

has a much wider lens ... it should provide a very good foundation for further investment over the years to come."

Christina Falk, secretary and public relations rep for Winkler-Morden Habitat for Humanity, welcomed the funding assistance.

"We greatly appreciate the support given to the Winkler-Morden Habitat for Humanity chapter through this

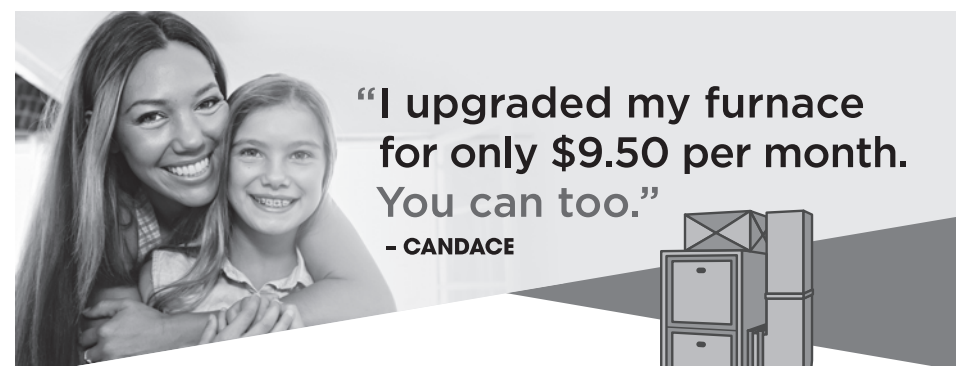
government grant program," she said. "Not only will these funds allow us to give a hand up to two families this year in Morden, but, as these families pay back their mortgages through our Habitat program, those funds will be used to build more homes, meaning this financial gift will keep giving for many, many years to come."

Superwalk raises nearly \$6K



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Nearly 30 supporters of Parkinson Canada turned out Saturday morning to take part in the SuperWalk in Morden. The two kilometre trek started and ended at the Morden Mennonite Church. At press time, the event had raised over \$5,800. Henry Friesen ranked as a top individual fundraiser with over \$1,800 in pledges, while top teams included Helen Back Again with over \$1,600 in donations and Walkabouts at almost \$1,500.



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September 18 to 24, 2022

National Farm Safety and Health Week

4 farm safety tips

Celebrated from September 18 to 24, 2022, National Farm Safety and Health Week is an annual occasion that focuses on promoting health and safety on farms. If you live or work on a farm, you share the responsibility of keeping yourself and others safe. In honor of this event, here are four things you can do to ensure neither you nor anyone you're working with is involved in a farming accident.

1. Keep your warning signals functioning

Ensure the warning lights and sounds on the machine you're using are functioning and that the labeling is clear and visible. These signals provide

essential warnings to their operators and those around them.

2. Be careful around power take-off (PTO) shafts

PTO shafts transfer power from a tractor to an attached implement. Although extremely useful, PTOs can be dangerous. Therefore, make sure to keep loose clothing and items away from the shaft and never reach or step over one while in operation.

3. Invest in rollover protection

If you don't already have one, consider investing in a rollover protective structure (ROPS) for your tractor. Every year, farmers are injured or killed in tractor rollovers.



4. Get plenty of sleep

If you're tired, you're more likely to make mistakes that could cost you or someone you're working with a limb or their life. Get the sleep you need and quit working if you're too tired to continue safely.

Safety and health are the responsibility of everyone working on a farm.

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The *Winkler Morden*
Voice



National Farm Safety and Health Week

September 18 to 24, 2022

20 farm-safety tip

The harvest can be a particularly busy and dangerous time for farmers, which is why National Farm Safety and Health Week is held every fall. This year, the campaign takes place from September 20 to 26 and promotes the theme Every Farmer Counts. To help you assess your habits, here are 20 tips for safer farming.

Personal

1. Learn basic first aid including CPR and emergency response skills.
2. Use personal protective equipment as needed including gloves, boots, hearing protection, face masks and respirators.
3. Teach everyone who lives and works on your farm, as well as visitors, the appropriate safety procedures.
4. Avoid wearing loose clothing when working in confined spaces such as grain bins, silos and hoppers.
5. Get plenty of rest, and be sure to stay hydrated and nourished throughout the day.

Tractors

6. Perform safety and maintenance checks on tractors and other machines before every use.
7. Install a rollover protection structure on each tractor.
8. Use a seatbelt when operating farm equipment.
9. Prohibit additional riders on tractors.
10. Drive safely both on and off the farm.

Chemicals

11. Be cautious around dangerous chemicals such as anhydrous ammonia, carbon monoxide, methane gas and hydrogen sulfide.
12. Store farm chemicals away from children and livestock.
13. Make a list of all chemicals on the premises for firefighters to reference in the event of an incident.

Livestock

14. Treat livestock with respect and caution.
15. Understand the flight zones of the animals you handle.
16. In confined spaces, make sure you have an exit strategy.

Grain

17. Keep bins, beds and wagons



- of grain safely covered and out of the reach of children and animals.
18. Make sure no grain is flowing before you enter a bin, and always have a rope, safety harness and two people with you.
 19. To prevent fires, make sure areas with grain dust are properly ventilated and limit potential ignition sources.
 20. If someone becomes submerged in grain, call 911, and don't attempt to go in after them.
- In addition to these 20 tips, be sure to have an emergency response plan specific to your operation. It should include shutdown procedures, emergency contact information (local fire department, police, etc.) and lockout procedures.

STAY SAFE THIS HARVEST SEASON

It is that time of year when crops and other vegetation can cause visibility issues and the farm equipment is out.

Have a conversation with your loved ones about road safety:

- Look twice before entering an intersection
- Let the dust clear – never follow someone in the dust
- Never enter an intersection unless you are certain it is clear
- Drive defensively
- Yield to large equipment
- Respect work crews along roads

“Road safety is everyone’s business – make it yours”

A message from the RM of Stanley

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PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

It was a festival of the senses this past weekend as Manitou welcomed visitors for the Honey, Garlic and Maple Syrup Festival. The market and gourmet alley were highlights along with a gala banquet Saturday evening. There was a Friday evening concert with Leaf Rapids as well as local tours and the Country Hicks Car Club show of classic cars, trucks and motorcycles.



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GVC unveils new logo

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Garden Valley Collegiate kicked off the new school year with a fresh new look.

The Winkler high school gathered its students together in the gymnasium on the first day of classes last week and unveiled a brand new school logo.

"We realized that when we googled GVC Zodiacs, so many different variations of our logo came up," said principal Carrie Friesen. "There was the classic zenith, there was the crest—so many different variations for the same organization."

GVC has had a few different logos in use since it opened its doors in the late 1960s. Some versions have continued to be utilized by different athletic and extracurricular groups, while others adorned the school website and social media pages.

It had all gotten to be a bit unwieldy, Friesen said, with some GVC groups even using slightly different shades of the school colours.

"We really found, after COVID in particular, the importance of community and that being one solid, unified voice was really important," she said. "We wanted a unified voice of who we are and what it is to be a Zodiac."

And so, last school year, committees were formed to discuss what that might look like and a design consultant was hired to put the new logo and style guide together.

The result is a logo that harkens back to GVC's storied past while also bringing it into the modern age.

It includes a bold letter "Z" with a shooting star in it meant to represent striving for improvement ("shooting for the stars"), as well as positivity and optimism.

The Z can stand on its own as a logo or be combined with other block letters to spell out "Zodiacs."

The new style guide also lays out the exact shade of red that makes up the school colours.

"The logo, the colours—all that stuff is now set in stone," Friesen said, "and everyone will follow that style guide when representing GVC."

The decades-old Zodiac mural in the gymnasium was painted over during the summer and the new logo went up in its place. Banners have also gone up around the school with the new branding.

"We're trying to really make sure that our story of who we are is visible both inside and outside of the building," Friesen said, noting

ing GVC is also planning on making some improvements to its front lawn, which borders Main St. "Our next goal is working on the yard and how do we make that something that the community can use after hours?"

GVC will be polling the community for ideas on how that mainly empty greenspace could be put to better use.

"It's all part of the big picture of making sure that people know who we are, can recognize our fonts and our colours, and then how do we ensure that the community feels like a big part of this school?" Friesen said.

The new logo has been very well-re-

"WE WANTED A UNIFIED VOICE OF WHO WE ARE AND WHAT IT IS TO BE A ZODIAC."



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

The old mural in the GVC gymnasium has been refreshed with the school's brand new logo.



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Garden Valley Collegiate principal Carrie Friesen and vice-principal Brendan Neufeld with the new school logo, which was unveiled last week.

ceived by staff and students alike.

"When the students saw it for the first time, it was a big surprise. You could hear an audible gasp of excitement," Friesen said, noting everyone in the school got a T-shirt with the logo on it to celebrate the start of the school year. "We've definitely heard lots of positive feedback."

The design committee had also reached out to GVC alumni to get their thoughts.

Vice-principal Brendan Neufeld, an alumni himself, said that while some may miss seeing whatever logo they were used to during their time at GVC, most agreed it was time for something new.

"We have a lot of history in the building ... and we had so many different logos out there," he said. "We really felt it was time to pull everyone together and create one new brand. It's a nice clean, sharp new logo."

Winkler Giveaway Days are on this Friday, Sat.

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Curbside Giveaway Days are back in Winkler this weekend.

This Friday, Sept. 16, and Saturday, Sept. 17, residents are invited to put out any unwanted items they may have on their curb for others to pick up and give a new home.

"It's an awesome opportunity to recycle items that still have some usefulness in them," said Mayor Martin Harder. "And it's chance to get rid of stuff you don't need that's just cluttering up your garage or basement or cupboards."

"Garage sales are always so much work," he observed, "but if the community does a thing like this it can be a great way to clean house."

Items can be put out starting at 8 a.m. Friday morning and must be brought back inside by dusk on Saturday.

You're encouraged to clearly mark items as "free" so people know

they're fair game. Bargain-hunters should think twice before picking up any unmarked items.

"I remember one year somebody had a ladder sitting outside and it disappeared on them," Harder said.

For the most part, though, people are pretty good about only taking items that are clearly out there to be given away, he said, encouraging residents to make sure items they want to keep are well back from the curb this weekend to avoid any confusion.

You can also snap a photo of your curbside offerings and post it on the City of Winkler's Curbside Giveaway event page on Facebook or share it elsewhere on social media using #winklercurbside.

The city has hosted this event for several years now to great success.

Harder hopes it can continue to be an annual thing, ideally held on the same weekend each year.



Interpretive signs are in at the Discovery Nature Sanctuary

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Visitors to the Discovery Nature Sanctuary these days have the chance not only to enjoy the wonders of nature but also learn a little more about them.

Ten interpretive signs have been installed in the Winkler sanctuary located in the northeast corner of the city.

"It's taken at least two years to get these together and up," noted sanctuary committee chair Paul Goossen. "What I'm hoping they'll do is to improve the visitor experience at the site and enhance their perceptions of the sanctuary as well."

The signs have been set up in strategic locations throughout the space to provide passersby with information about wildlife habitat, waterbirds,

bats, pollinators, species at risk, and more.

"One of the things that signage does is it helps provide a connection between people and their surroundings," noted Goossen. "It's an opportunity to help people see things that they maybe haven't seen before and also an opportunity for them to think about things they haven't thought about before or things they wondered about but didn't have an explanation."

This is of benefit not only to everyday users of the sanctuary but also the many school groups who visit to use the outdoor classroom and explore the site.

"Information on the signs will aid students' understanding of concepts learned in classroom settings," Goos-

The Discovery Nature Sanctuary in Winkler now has 10 interpretive signs set up throughout its trail system to educate visitors on the habitats and wildlife they might see while exploring the site.

sen said. "With the addition of these interpretative signs, the nature sanctuary becomes an even greater asset to schools which take the opportunity to visit the nature sanctuary as part of their curriculum studies."

The panels were designed and illustrated by Heather Hinam of Second Nature in association with Michele Buchanan of Bytesize Design. Capital Landscaping and Checker Signs both hand a hand in getting them installed.

The signs finally in, the sanctuary committee is now turning its attention to other improvements.

"We're hoping to get a couple of entrance kiosks up—one at the parking lot and the other at the west end of the sanctuary," Goossen said, explaining they will include an introduction to the site and a map. "We're hoping to have that up this fall."

And next year they'll be tackling the

grassland restoration project they've been working towards for quite some time.

"We'll be putting in native grasses into that area that's about six and a half acres just north of the pollinator garden, right adjacent to the highway," Goossen explained. "Next year is the big seeding year ... that is really exciting to be able to put in native grassland and give people a sense of what the Prairies were like before settlement."

The Discovery Nature Sanctuary is open from dawn to dusk year round. It can be accessed from Eastview Drive just before Highway 14.

The site includes a trail system that winds its way through the woodland, wetland, and grassland habitats.

Learn more online at www.discoverynaturesanctuary.ca.

Access CU in talks to merge with Carpathia CU

By Voice staff

Access Credit Union is in merger talks with yet another smaller credit union.

The financial institution announced last week it is exploring a joint future with Carpathia Credit Union. The news comes not long after Access announced its intention to merge with Amaranth Credit Union later this year.

These mergers follow a trend hap-

pening with credit unions across Canada, Access said, noting these discussions are based on the premise of amalgamations ensuring sustainability by taking advantage of size and economies of scale.

"Carpathia's history and commitment to their community are an important part of why we are exploring these discussions," said Kevin Beresford, board chair for Access Credit Union, in a statement. "We come with

a similar perspective; a deep respect for the people that set the stage for our success today and the communities that we have all served."

Carpathia currently has five branches, over 12,000 members, and more than \$600 million in assets.

Access (which in recent years has merged with Crosstown, Noventis, and Sunova credit unions) has 52 branches, more than 161,000 members, and \$10.4 billion in assets. It is

currently the largest credit union in the province.

If, after the due diligence process, the two organizations decide to move forward with the idea, Carpathia members will be asked to vote on the amalgamation proposal. Access members are not required to vote since Access' portion of assets represents more than 90% of the proposed new entity's asset size.

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

arts&culture

Pembina Valley Studio Tour showcases 28 local artists

By Becca Myskiw

Last weekend, the Pembina Valley Studio Tour brought people from all over to explore studios across the region.

Almost 30 locations in Carman, Miami, Pilot Mound, Darlingford, Morden, Winkler, Horndean, and Altona had artists showcasing their work Sept. 10-11. The tour had mediums of all kinds—everything from metal sculptures, pastels, acrylic paintings, oil paintings, and ink to enhanced prints, clay, pottery, quilts, and more.

Some stops on the tour were in community spaces, while others were in artists' personal studios. Tye Dandridge-Evancio, programs outreach and exhibition coordinator at the Pembina Hills Art Council in Morden, noted the annual tour is an opportunity to learn more about the "talented individuals that make up the art community."

"It's a really amazing opportunity where a bunch of the artists are essentially opening up their studios for the weekend and allowing members of the public to come into their space,"

he said. "It's also a networking opportunity for aspiring artists."

Getting to go into artists' studios, he said, lets people see the unfinished art pieces and the process the artists go through to get their curated versions—a rare glimpse behind the creative curtain.

Jennifer Lawson had her art set up in the Miami Railways Station Museum on the weekend. She's a watercolour artist, getting her inspiration and start from a teacher in Grade 4.

On Saturday, Lawson sat in the parlour of the museum, painting a sunflower. She said some of the paints she still uses are from her university days.

She typically paints nature and landscapes, pulling much of her inspiration from flowers she's seen and Scotland, where she's from.

The Pembina Valley Studio Tour had some new participants this year and some returning ones who couldn't showcase during COVID-19. It is free for all who go on the self-guided tour, with participating artists paying a registration fee.



PHOTO BY BECCA MYSKIW/VOICE

Artist Jennifer Lawson had some of her art on display at the Miami Railway Station Museum as part of the Pembina Valley Studio Tour last weekend.

From the park to the hall



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Brian Jacobs kicks off Concerts in the Hall this week Wednesday, Sept. 14.

Concerts in the Hall series begins at the PW

By Ashleigh Viveiros

If you've been missing the weekly Concerts in the Park series now that summer is over, the P.W. Enns Centennial Concert Hall has got you covered.

The Winkler venue is launching its new Concerts in the Hall series this week Wednesday with a performance from the Brian Jacobs Band.

"I know how much people enjoyed the Concerts in the Park; that's where I got this idea from," said Nicole Enns, community events coordinator. "And I wanted to invite people into our concert hall—it's a wonderful place—and also showcase all the local talent that we have in this area."

The Brian Jacobs Band kicks things off Sept. 14 followed by BK and the Bad Habits Sept. 21, Quonset Brothers Oct. 5, The Beerjammers Nov. 9, and the Bare Yogis Dec. 7. Shows start at 7 p.m.

"It's only on Wednesdays," Enns noted. "It's not every single week, but it's every Wednesday that was available."

Enns said they already have a lineup of performers for after Christmas as well.

"Coming up in the New Year we have bands from January to May booked in and ready to go," she said, adding she didn't have to work too hard to convince performers to be part of this series. "They're really excited. When I brought the idea to a few of the artists they thought it was just such a great idea to continue on from the summer series, to get people out of their houses in the colder months to enjoy some local talent."

Admission to these shows is \$5 in advance at winklerconcerthall.ca or the ticket office in the Meridian Exhibition Centre or, if space allows, at the door.

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

getinformed

Lake Minnewasta community clean-up taking place Sept. 23

Volunteers needed to spruce up the hiking trails, beach area

By Lorne Stelmach

The end result has been better each time the City of Morden has held its Love Your Lake cleanup.

It is encouraging to beach and campground manager Brian Thiessen that less trash has had to be collected in each instance that the community has been called on to help be stewards of the landscape to ensure Lake Minnewasta is clean and welcoming for all.

"I've noticed probably less litter each time since we started doing it. It has been better, and that is a good thing," said Thiessen. "It's more people being aware of what's happening and that people take more care and

take ownership of it."

Residents are invited to again join in a joint effort of beautifying the lake and trails Friday, Sept. 23 from 5-7 p.m. The cleanup will be followed by a free hot dog barbecue.

People are asked to register in advance online at www.mymorden.ca/community-events/loveyourlake.

Thiessen said a majority of lake users are responsible visitors, but some items blow away into the bush or are left behind. Garbage left on the landscape or disposed of improperly can even threaten wildlife as well as reduce the enjoyment of other users.

"We've been really pleased with the community support every time," he noted. "It seems to be bringing out more and more people every time, so that just makes the time that it takes to do the tidying up a lot less, which is kind of nice."

"We could maybe have our staff do it, I suppose, but I think when the



VOICE FILE PHOTO

Volunteers at work at the last lake cleanup day.

community does it, it's making it more of a community thing. It helps people realize that littering happens;

as much as it shouldn't happen, it still does, and the community can be there to back it up and to help clean up."

Final Suncatch Sounds



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

The Crocus Suncatch Sounds concert series wrapped up for the year with the final evening Friday night in downtown Morden. Silas Presley opened with an hourlong set followed by Lakes and Pines for the next two hours. The concerts were organized by the City of Morden, with the Pembina Hills Arts Council running the bar to raise funds for local arts programming.

Manitoba Apprenticeship and Certification Board seeks input

Public meeting to be held in Winkler Sept. 28

By Voice staff

The Manitoba Apprenticeship and Certification Board (ACB) is looking for public input as it works to create a five-year strategic plan.

Public meetings are being held across the province this month, including in Winkler Sept. 28 from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Quality Inn & Suites.

"Our government recognizes the importance of effective apprenticeship and certification processes, so we welcome public input on how we can best provide a system that ensures a smoother path to employment for individuals and a stronger workforce for all Manitobans," said Advanced Education, Skills and Immigration Minister Jon Reyes. "The anticipated insights will be invaluable as we continue to develop a five-year strategic plan for 2023 to 2028 on the key areas of training, employment and professional development."

The meetings will give ACB the chance to inform the public while also getting feedback.

"The ACB provides leadership in the development and co-ordination of a relevant, accessible and responsive apprenticeship and certification system in Manitoba," said board chair Harvey Miller. "We are listening to stakeholders and adapting to industry needs to deliver training that meets the evolving needs of employers and apprentices to ensure we attract and retain workers for the skilled trades in Manitoba."

In addition to the in-person meetings in Winkler, Winnipeg, Brandon, and Thompson, there's also a virtual meeting scheduled for Sept. 29.

To register to attend, head to <https://engagemb.ca/apprenticeship-certification-board-strategic-plan-consultation>.

Manitobans can also weigh-in on the matter by completing a survey at the website above until Sept. 30.

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sports & recreation



PHOTO BY RICK HIEBERT/VOICE

Josh Hiebert (far right) tries to knock the puck off the stick of Cohen Pilkington in one of the Pembina Valley Hawks' intersquad games last week. The U18 team held tryouts a few days before in the lead-up to their 2022-2023 season.

Male U18 Hawks welcome new head coach

By Lorne Stelmach

A new coach takes the helm of the male U18 Pembina Valley Hawks this season.

Coming to the team with over 20 years of coaching experience, Dorian Miller was anxious to get going on a campaign he hopes will end better than last year.

The post-season hopes for the Hawks were dashed in the final week of the regular season last spring as Pembina Valley finished in ninth place at 15-23-2-0 for 32 points—just shy of the final playoff spot.

“I think the goal would be to be al-

ways climbing throughout the year ... if you peak at the right time, it doesn't matter which teams on paper are the best,” Miller suggested last week in the wake of weekend tryouts. “And I think you look at it and you say, at the end of the year, are they walking away saying that was a great year of hockey? I think that's kind of the main goal.”

Miller is joined on the staff by associate coach Brendan Edie and assistant coach Morgan Wall.

Miller's playing career began in the U18 AAA league with Eastman followed by years of junior hockey in Selkirk, Victoria, and Penticton before

ending with the University of Manitoba Bisons.

He went on to coach the Westwood high school hockey team in Winnipeg for 10 years, and they were ranked top five in the province every year.

His strengths lie in developing skills, hockey sense, and creativity, all while developing a culture that instills the importance of hard work, dedication, and being a great teammate.

“I'm pretty excited ... the juices start flowing again and you're happy to be back in the rink,” said Miller. “We spent all summer talking to kids, trying to get as many kids out as possible.

“We had a really great turnout [at tryouts]. There were a couple pleasant surprises and a whole bunch of great kids that we're looking forward to working with this season.”

The potential roster is still somewhat uncertain, but it will have likely a greater degree of turnover with at least five players having aged out and a few others perhaps not returning.

“It's still really up in the air ... we just had four defencemen trickle back from junior camps. We had two veteran defencemen who were eligible to return who signed with junior teams,” said Miller.

Continued on page 20

Flyers 1-3 in pre-season, kick off regular season this weekend

Home opener against the Winnipeg Blues on Saturday

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler Flyers wrapped up their pre-season exhibition games this past week with a 1-3 record. The junior hockey team kicked things off by splitting a pair of games with the Steinbach Pistons Sept. 7 and 9th.

Winkler rookie Rhett Marchant drew first blood late in the opening frame, only to have the Pistons draw even the next minute.

Period two saw the Pistons pull ahead midway through, but Marchant scored his second of the night to right the ship for Winkler five minutes later.

No such luck in the final period, where Steinbach scored two more in the last handful of minutes to take victory 4-2.

Overall, the Pistons outshot the Flyers 36-14. Winkler netminder Aidan Comeau made 24 saves off the 26 shots he faced in his 40 minutes in net. Jacob Armstrong played 20 minutes and saved eight out of the 10 shots that came his way.

The Flyers got their revenge two nights later in front of a hometown crowd.

After a scoreless opening frame, Winkler ended the second period up 4-0 thanks to goals from Sully Ross, Marchant, Trent Penner, and Kyle Crew.

Nicolas McKee and Dayton Kiesman added two more to that tally in the third, while the Pistons continued to be stonewalled by the Flyers' defense. Winkler got the win 6-0.

Splitting goaltending duties for Winkler was Malachi Klassen, who saved all 18 shots that came his way through two periods, and Tucker St. John, who did the same for the eight shots he faced. Winkler outshot Steinbach 34-26 overall.

The Flyers went on to face the Selkirk Steelers in two very close games Sept. 10-11. Both needed overtime for a decision.

Game one in Selkirk saw the Flyers up 3-2 after 40 minutes, with goals coming in from Lucas Ens, Xyon Kiemeney, and Dalton Andrew.

With six minutes to go in the final period, the Steelers managed to tie

things up and force the extra period. There, Steinbach got the game-winner nearly four minutes in.

Aidan Comeau went the distance in net for Winkler, making 26 saves as off 30 shots. The Flyers fired 34 shots the other way.

Playing in Winkler the next day, both teams scarcely gave an inch. Selkirk managed to score in the second period's second minute. They looked poised to take the win with that lone goal until Winkler's Cole Mackenzie tied it up with 13 seconds left on the clock in the third.

Continued on page 20



Sport & Leisure Expo

PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Morden residents headed to the Access Event Centre last Wednesday for the annual Morden Sport and Leisure Expo. It provided an opportunity to find out more about some of the recreation opportunities in Morden, with a number of local sports and recreation groups on hand to provide information and in some cases even take registrations. If you missed out, you can also view the Morden activity guide for additional recreation opportunities online at www.mymorden.ca/activity-guide.

Salem Foundation & Salem Ladies Auxiliary presents

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Winkler Mennonite Church, 31 Willowdale Crescent, Winkler

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"We want to bring a winning mentality"

Addie Miles, Jenai Buchanan coaching female Hawks this season

By Lorne Stelmach

The new coach for the female U18 Pembina Valley Hawks is coming into the role with an attitude that the sky is the limit for the team.

Anything can be possible if they come to the rink with the right attitude, suggested Addie Miles.

"I believe in truly bringing a championship mindset to this team literally from day one," Miles said last week as the Hawks prepared to get their first pre-season action over the weekend. "We want to bring a winning mentality. We want the girls to win every single night regardless ... it's bringing that winning mentality to the program by setting that standard and expectation for these girls.

Taking the helm from Dana Bell, Miles comes to the team with a solid resume including being an HP1 certified coach and a certified Hockey Canada skills coach.

Her playing career saw her selected to be part of the University of Manitoba hockey hall of fame and also the university's female athlete of the year in 2012. She was also selected to participate in Team Canada development camps along with representing Canada at the FISU games in 2011.

Alongside her on the bench will be former Hawks player Jenai Buchanan, who will return as assistant coach. Buchanan was a member of the Hawks program from 2012-2016 and captained the team in the 2015-2016 season before going on to play with the University of Manitoba Bison women's hockey team for the next five years. While with the Bisons, Buchanan helped the team earn a Can-West conference championship.

Miles had taken a year off from coaching but lives in the region and saw a couple Hawks games last season, so that got her interest.

"I just felt like it would be a good fit for me, and they reached out to see if I would be interested ... it just worked out," she said.

"I've just continued coaching and being a part of hockey, so it's continued to be a huge part of my life," Miles said. "I'm excited to kind of bring some new energy to the Pembina Valley. The girls are fantastic, so I'm excited for this year."

Miles was anxious to see the team in its first pre-season game against Yellowhead on Sunday. It ended up being a 5-2 loss for the Hawks. They'll get another crack at the Chiefs, this time in Morden, on Sept. 25.

"I think the biggest thing for us is just a new level of energy. The girls are excited," Miles said ahead of the match. "We've got a great senior class that's really looking to push the pace of the program, not only this year but looking ahead to pursue post secondary then as well.

"There's new energy, new excitement in the program," she continued. "The girls have been phenomenal so far, and they have kind of been helping me through with all of the Pembina Valley Hawks traditions and things like that as well."

She saw potential for a lineup grounded with some returning players as well as promising newcomers.

"Every girl that could return did return ... but we've also got a good rookie class coming in as well."

The Hawks finished in fifth place in the regular season last year with a record of 14-14-0 for 28 points and were just five points behind their playoff opponent.

However, the quarter-final series

> HAWKS, FROM PG. 18

"As far as forwards, we're still waiting for a couple key guys to figure out if they're going to be sticking around in junior," he said. "There's still some competition with the returning guys anyway, but there should be lots of new faces.

"If the boys do well, there should be turnover next year as well as they should be moving on," added Miller. "That's how it goes."

Miller said what he is looking for from the boys comes down to a couple key things.

"It's the top level of hockey for their

> FLYERS, FROM PG. 19

Once again, though, it was Selkirk who managed to score in overtime to win it 2-1.

Klassen was back in net for the Flyers, making 24 saves off 26 shots. His teammates fired back a whopping 54 shots on net in return.

The Flyers kick off the regular sea-



HAWKS PHOTO

Addie Miles is the new head coach of the Pembina Valley Hawks.

with the Winnipeg Ice did not go the local team's way—Pembina Valley went down in a three-game sweep in the best of five.

Despite that disappointing ending, Miles noted, the Hawks were very competitive all last season.

"They were in every single game ... so what are those small details that are going to push us in the other direction

age groups ... so the pace is quick ... it's a serious commitment playing triple A at this age.

"How do you get that instilled with the kids? You try to build a little atmosphere and a culture where each kid is enjoying coming to the rink, and they're buying into a team," he concluded. "You need to really instill in the beginning that the team comes first; you're cheering your teammates on ... good attitudes and building character for these kids, that's the goal."

son playing in Winnipeg against the Freeze Friday night before hosting the Winnipeg Blues Saturday night at the Centennial Arena.

They then have a home-and-away against Niverville next week Wednesday and Friday and host OCN Saturday, Sept. 24.

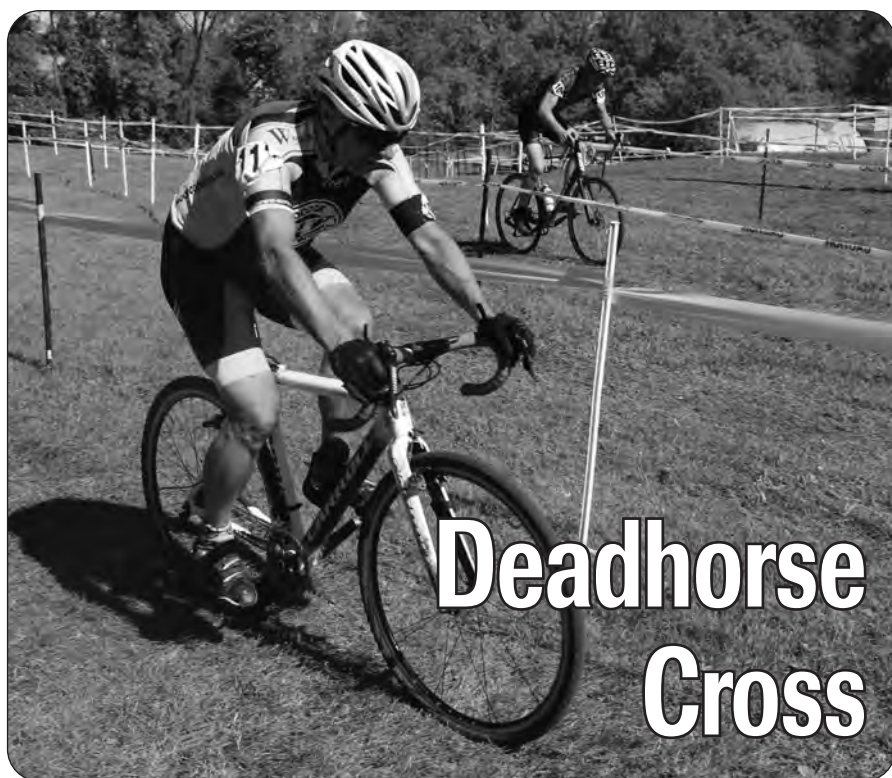


PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Competitive cyclists gathered in Morden Sunday for a cyclocross race dubbed the Deadhorse Cross. The race has been held since 2014, but it was moved this year from Stanley Park to Dogtown just south of Morden. It is one in a series of seven sanctioned fall races in Manitoba, and it drew 140 racers from all around the region but mostly from Winnipeg.

The **Voice**

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Locals represent Manitoba at Canada 55+ Games

By Lorne Stelmach

Participants from the Pembina Valley helped represent the province at the recent Canada 55+ Games.

They also had a familiar face along with them as Lois Dudgeon was there as well as manager for Team Manitoba.

The Morden resident has been involved with the 55+ Games for 20 years after first going in 2002 to Prince Edward Island. She's been a longtime local organizer of the Pembina Valley team that competes at the annual provincial competition.

"I've known a lot of the people over the years. I have my regulars," Dudgeon noted after returning home from Kamloops, which hosted the Games Aug. 23-26.

"Most of these people are role models for me," she said. "I'm going to say the average age would be up in the 70s ... so these older participants are role models for me to keep moving and keep active and doing all of the things I like to do as long as I can do them."

The Canada 55 Plus Games is a large multi-sport event with over 2,500 participants competing in 26 different events.

Although the very nature of the event is to declare a winner or winners, the aspect of winning is sec-

ondary to the social side, and that was a large part of the appeal for Martha Bergen, who earned a silver medal in her category for pickleball.

"I just love pickleball, first of all, and I'm a huge advocate of it locally and wherever I go," the 56-year-old Winklerite said.

She had earned her spot by winning provincially in Selkirk in June with Mordenite Peter Hildebrand, who then chose not to go to the national event. So Bergen teamed up with Ron Rogowsky of Arborg.

"I needed a vacation, so I was thinking let's do this," said Bergen. "I had an incredible time. There were 252 pickleball players registered in the various levels."

There were nearly 50 pickleball players from Manitoba alone, she noted, which is a clear indication of how much the game has taken off here. Bergen runs the social media for the Winkler pickleball association, which has about 80 registered participants in four different levels.

"It is a fast growing sport here in North America. Pickleball is especially so open to the 55+ group," Bergen suggested. "There are people around this area who are really good, really dedicated and really passionate about the game."

The Games are a great opportunity for the 55+ crowd, Bergen noted.



SUPPLIED PHOTOS

Winkler's Martha Bergen with partner Ron Rogowsky, of Arborg, and the silver medal they won in pickleball. Left: Team Manitoba marches in proudly at the opening ceremonies.



"It was an incredible experience," she said. "It really is incredible, the experience and the people and the connections that you make ... in two years, my plan is to go to the next games in Quebec."

Bev Atkins and her curling team from La Riviere as well as golfer Andre Dacquay from Notre Dame were also part of Team Manitoba,

which overall earned close to 50 medals.

"You know what I really am is I call myself a chief cheerleader," Dudgeon said in downplaying her role with the team.

"I go as team manager to make sure everybody gets to where they need to be ... I keep them informed during the games," she said. "I'm a co-ordinator for the team really."

She offered her praise for all of the participants who competed for Manitoba.

"You can't take the competitiveness out of older adults," she suggested. "These people all had to qualify initially at our Manitoba games in June, and they are there to qualify for the nationals ... and they all did really well."

Winkler Rec. kicking off ice and turf programs next week

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler Recreation Department is celebrating the kickoff of its fall/winter programming next week.

The community is invited to the Meridian Exhibition Centre to check out the various "skate and turf" programs on offer this year.

They're really trying to make the most of not just the ice surface in the MEC but the indoor soccer field as well, said recreation programmer Kaitlyn Dyck.

"This is a great facility and we want to use it to its full advantage and to see what we can host in here and what we are capable of doing," she said, stressing the importance of physical activity throughout the winter months when getting outside can

be a challenge.

The MEC hosted several popular drop-in times for the indoor field last winter and they intend to do so again, Dyck said, but they thought it would also be a great use of the space to combine field access with some of their long-running ice programs.

Every Tuesday morning from 8:30-10:30 a.m. will be the Senior Morning program for ages 55+.

"They will have access to the ice and the indoor turf," explained Dyck, noting people need to bring their own sticks and pucks. "We'll put nets out on the ice ... and on the turf we'll have bocce ball and soccer balls and things like that for them to use. Or they can walk around the turf, because it's a little bit softer to walk on than the track."

"We'll also have coffee and snacks

available for purchase," she said. "And we'll put out some card games on the tables if they need a break or want to hang out there all morning, which is totally fine—come hang out at the Meridian Exhibition Centre."

Parent & Tot this year runs Mondays and Wednesdays.

"From 9-10 a.m. the turf will be open and they can come play there," Dyck said. "And then from 10:15-11:15 a.m. the ice will be available for them."

Both these programs are free to attend and do not require registration—just drop in whenever it works for you.

For the non-senior/non-parent set, the MEC's 18+ program also runs Mondays and Wednesdays. People have access to the ice from 9-10 a.m. those days. Admission is \$5.

Homeschool Skate & Turf takes place Tuesdays from 1-3 p.m. at a weekly fee of \$2.50 (or sign up for the season for \$70). Participants will have access to both the ice and the field. The first hour will be skating only on the ice while the second hour will allow for sticks and pucks.

Finally, weekly Public Skating starts on Sunday, Sept. 25 and runs weekly from noon to 2 p.m. at either the Centennial Arena or the Icon Arena (head to themec.ca for the schedule).

All these programs start next week and will run until June.

"We're going to have muffins and doughnuts available and possibly some coffee" to mark the first week of programming, Dyck said. "So come on down and check out our ice programs and our turf programs."

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PUBLIC NOTICE



PUBLIC NOTICE

Rural Municipality of Stanley

NOTICE is hereby given that the Rural Municipality of Stanley's **2021 Audited Consolidated Financial Statements** are available for review in the office of the Rural Municipality of Stanley and may be viewed by any persons during regular business hours.

Dale Toews, C.M.M.A.
Chief Administrative Officer
R.M. of Stanley

PUBLIC NOTICE



NOTICE OF APPLICATION

PEMBINA VALLEY WATER COOPERATIVE INC.

REVISED WATER RATES

September 1, 2022

The Pembina Valley Water Cooperative Inc. (PVWC) has applied to the Public Utilities Board (Board) for revised water rates as set out in the rate study submitted on June 28, 2022. Rates were last approved in 2018 in Board Order No. 172/18, with current rates coming into effect in January 1, 2022.

The current and proposed rates are as follows:

Year	Rate*
Current - 2022	\$9.53
2023	\$10.10
2024	\$10.70
2025	\$11.23
2026	\$11.79
2027	\$12.37

*per 1,000 gallons

The current customers for PVWC include:

Rural Municipality of Dufferin	Altona Rural Water Coop
Municipality of Emerson-Franklin	Town of Altona
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Rural Municipality of Rhineland	Town of Morris
Rural Municipality of Roland	City of Morden
Rural Municipality of Stanley	City of Winkler
Rural Municipality of Thompson	Roseau River First Nation

Details of the PVWC's application are available for review at the PVWC office or the Board's office. Any questions concerning the application for revised rates, or the operation of the Utility, should be sent directly to the PVWC.

If you have concerns/comments regarding the PVWCs application for water rates please go to www.pubmanitoba.ca and provide your comment. Please note all comments will be forwarded to the PVWC.

Questions or comments should be sent on or before **October 1, 2022**.

The Public Utilities Board is the provincial regulatory agency that reviews and approves rates for water and wastewater utilities in Manitoba, with the exception of the City of Winnipeg. The Board's review process involves:

- the Utility filing a rate application to the Board,
- a public notification of proposed rate changes,
- the Board's review of the application through a public hearing or paper review process, and
- the issuance of an Order which outlines the Board's decision on the rate application and the rates to be charged.

The Manitoba Ombudsman has privacy guidelines for administrative tribunals. The Board is mindful of its obligations under those guidelines. Its decisions in respect of the application being considered will be sensitive to the guidelines. Personal information will not be disclosed unless it is appropriate and necessary to do so. However, the Board advises participants that these proceedings are public and that as a result, personal information protections are reduced.

The Board will then decide whether any further notice is required and whether to proceed with a public hearing or paper review process. All concerns received by the Board will be considered in the Board's decision on rates to be charged.

PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT IN CONSIDERING THIS APPLICATION, THE PUBLIC UTILITIES BOARD MAY OR MAY NOT FIND IT NECESSARY TO DETERMINE RATES DIFFERENT FROM THOSE APPLIED FOR BY THE APPLICANT.

Note: All proceedings will be conducted in accordance with the Board's Rules of Practice and Procedure, which the Board may vary in order to constrain regulatory costs. The Rules are available at www.pubmanitoba.ca.

Frederick Mykytyshyn
Assistant Associate Secretary
Manitoba Public Utilities Board

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PKF Lawyers,
326 Stephen Street, Morden MB R6M 1T5
Attn: Stéphane Warnock / Kaitlyn Sutherland
Ph: 204-822-4463

Property for sale (Any of the following):

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CT #3201624/4 154.15 acres
2. THE ELY 1320 FEET PERP OF THE
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CT #3201636/4 (East 80)
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1. Financing must be pre-approved.
2. Tenders to be in the form prepared by PKF Lawyers. To obtain tender form or more info, contact Kaitlyn Sutherland @ PKF Lawyers.
3. Each Tender must be accompanied by a certified cheque, payable to PKF Lawyers (in trust), in the amount of \$10,000.00 per parcel. Deposits of tenders not accepted will be returned to the tenderers.
4. Highest Tender or any Tender will not necessarily be accepted.
5. The Possession date and the due date of the balance of Tender Price shall be October 21, 2022.
6. The maker of any Tender relies entirely upon his/her personal inspection and knowledge of the Land, independent of the representations made by the vendor or the solicitor and agent of the vendor. The Land will be sold "as is" and the bidder is solely responsible to determine the value and condition of the Land, Land quality, Land use, environmental condition and any other information pertaining to the Land.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE MATTER of the ESTATE of **EDYTHE MARION ARNOTT**, late of the City of Portage La Prairie, in Manitoba, deceased.

All claims against the above Estate, duly verified by Statutory Declaration, must be filed with the undersigned at 175 Broadway Street, Box 450, Treherne, Manitoba, R0G 2V0 within thirty (30) days of the date of this publication.

DATED at the Town of Treherne, in Manitoba, this 8th day of September, 2022.

McCULLOCH MOONEY JOHNSTON SELBY LLP
Attention: CHRISTOPHER H. BOWLER
Solicitor for the Executors

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF **GERALD DAVID NORMAN NICKEL**, late of the City of Brandon, in Manitoba, Deceased.

All Claims against the above estate, duly verified by Statutory Declaration, must be filed with the undersigned at their offices, Box 811, 164 Boyne Avenue, Morris, Manitoba, R0G 1K0, on or before the 10th day of November, 2022.

DATED at the Town of Morris, in Manitoba, this 12th day of September, 2022.

BRUCE D. GREGORY LAW CORPORATION
Box 811, 164 Boyne Avenue,
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- W.C. MILLER COLLEGIATE: FULL-TIME TERM (FOR THE 22-23 SCHOOL YEAR)

FOR DETAILS VISIT WWW.BLSD.CA

PUBLIC NOTICE



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:

THE TOWN OF ALTONA ZONING BY-LAW 1807/2022
Being an AMENDMENT to the TOWN OF ALTONA
ZONING BY-LAW 1792/2021, AS AMENDED

HEARING: ALTONA CIVIC OFFICE
LOCATION: 111 CENTRE AVENUE EAST, ALTONA, MB
DATE & TIME: September 27th, 2022 at 6:00 PM
GENERAL INTENT: To re-zone from "AR" "AGRICULTURAL RESTRICTED ZONE" to "RR" "RURAL RESIDENTIAL ZONE" in the PT.NE 1/4 7-2-1W and to amend text regarding accessory buildings shipping containers and trailer parks.

AREA: PT. NE 1/4 7-2-1W
FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: Susan Stein, General Manager
RPGA PLANNING DISTRICT
Box 270, Altona MB R0G 0B0
Phone: (204) 324-5357
manager@rpgamb.ca

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



Schedule "A"
Attached to and forming part of
By-Law No. 1807/2022

Amending Schedule "A" of the
Town of Altona
Zoning By-Law No. 1792/2021

LEGEND:

Portion to be rezoned
From:

"AR" Agriculture Reserve Zoned to "RR" Rural Residential Zone

Town of Altona

NE 1/4 7-2-1W

CAREERS

TABOR HOME INC. IS HIRING:

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TABOR HOME INC.

Attention: CEO

450 Loren Drive, Morden, MB R6M 0E2

Please visit our website at www.taborhome.ca for a detailed listing of the other available positions such as

Health Care Aides, LPN's, RN's, RPN's,

Visitation Hosts, Recreation and Dietary Aides,

Cooks and Housekeeping.

You will also find details on qualifications,

documentation required, how to apply

and access to the Tabor Home application form.

PUBLIC NOTICE



Prairie Rose School Division

ANNUAL PUBLIC NOTICE ADDITIONS TO THE VOTERS LIST AND/OR PERSONAL SECURITY PROTECTION REQUESTS

Notice is hereby given that a copy of the VOTERS LIST may be revised at: **45 Main St. S., Carman, MB** between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday - Friday

At this time the Senior Election Official (S.E.O.) will be available to update the voters list by:

1. adding the names of voters who are entitled to have their names on the list;
2. deleting the names of persons who are not entitled to have their names on the list;
3. making such other corrections of errors to the list as required.

VOTER ELIGIBILITY

A person is eligible to have his or her name added to the Voters List if they are:

- i. A Canadian citizen at least 18 years of age on election day; and
- ii. A resident of the Division for at least 6 months prior to election day, OR a registered owner of land in the municipality for at least six months prior to election day.

APPLICATION FOR PERSONAL SECURITY PROTECTION:

A voter may apply in writing to the S.E.O. (at the address/fax below) no later than **September 20, 2022**, to have their name and other personal information omitted or obscured from the voters list in order to protect the voter's personal security. The application may be submitted in person, by mail, or fax, and must include your name, address, and include proof of identity.

All changes to the voters list must be completed on or before September 20, 2022.

Dated at Carman in the Province of Manitoba, on August 30, 2022

Prairie Rose School Division

Rhonda Smith

Senior Election Official (S.E.O.)

Box 1510, 45 Main Street South

Carman, MB R0G 0J0

Phone: 204-745-2003 or Fax: 204-745-3699

The Next General Election takes place on October 26, 2022.

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SEPT/23/2022
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Meal
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SEPTEMBER 22, 6 PM CLOSING, TIMED ONLINE AUCTION FOR SHERRY PLETT. ACREAGE, SHOP TOOLS, CATTLE EQUIPMENT, HOUSEHOLD, ETC.

Large auction, features John Deere 2130 tractor, cab, 3pth, 143 loader, unused 36 in culverts, snowmobile, Ford Tractor 8N, Antique plow, cultivator, etc. Very good yard equipment including Ag Fan grass / leaf catcher with dump and self-contained fan blower, Cutting torch, lots of Name brand oil by the cases, in liter bottles, older vehicles {parts or scrap}. Inspection will be Sept 14 from 4 pm to 6 pm at the acreage, from west Morden, 3 miles west on Hwy 3 then one mile north on road 32 w and 3/4 mile west on mile 14 north. **SEE LISTING AND BID online at www.billklassen.com/nextlot**
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PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE BOARD OF REVISION THE MUNICIPALITY OF RHINELAND



PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that the 2023 Assessment Roll for the Municipality of Rhineland has been delivered to the Municipal Office at 109 3rd Ave NE, ALTONA, Manitoba and is open for public inspection during regular business hours. Applications for revisions may be made in accordance with Sections 42 & 43 of the Assessment Act.

APPLICATION FOR REVISION

Section 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 a lease to pay the taxes on the property, or the assessor may make application for the revision of an assessment roll with respect to:

- Liability to taxation;
- Amount of an assessed value;
- Classification of property; or
- A refusal by an assessor to amend the assessment roll under Subsection 13(2).

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Section 43(1) An application for revision must:

- Be made in writing;
- Set out the roll number and legal description of the assessable property for which a revision is sought;
- State grounds on which the application is based; and
- Be filed by:
 - Delivering it or causing it to be delivered to the office indicated in the public notice given under Subsection 41(2), or
 - Serving it upon the secretary at least 15 days before the scheduled sitting date of the board as indicated in the public notice.

The Board of Revision for the Municipality of Rhineland will sit on Monday, the 17th day of October, 2022 at 10:00 am in the Council Chambers of The Municipality of Rhineland to hear the applications.

The final date on which applications must be received by the Secretary of the Board of Revision is October 3rd, 2022

Dated at ALTONA in the Province of Manitoba this 31st day of August, 2022, A.D.

Michael Rempel, Secretary
Board of Revision
Municipality of Rhineland
Box 270 ALTONA, MB R0G 0B0

Classifieds The Winkler Morden Voice Announcements

CARD OF THANKS

The family of Edythe Arnott wishes to express our heartfelt thanks for the many acts of kindness and expressions of sympathy extended to our family on the loss of our Mom. The emails, cards, gifts of food, flowers, donations, words of comfort and support, and attendance at her Celebration of Life are sincerely appreciated. Personal thanks go to Rev. Carrie Martens for the meaningful service, to Fay Carruthers for the lovely music, and to the choir and members of the Pembina Parish for their assistance at the service.



OBITUARY

James Leonard Giesbrecht 1945 - 2022



James Leonard Giesbrecht was born on March 25, 1945 in the Concordia Hospital in Winnipeg, Manitoba to parents, Katharina and Henry Giesbrecht. He was brought home to a small acreage in Fort Garry and welcomed by his two older sisters, Jeanne and Florence. He was three years old when the family moved to the country near Horndean and six years old when they settled in Morden. He went to school for 12 years in Morden and was involved in a variety of sports there making many lasting friends. After a year of basic accounting taken at Success College, Jim met and married Patricia (Pat) Marie Jarowslawski on August 3, 1969. Their oldest child, Kelly James, was born on October 9, 1973 and their second child, Jennifer Lynn-Marie was born on January 29, 1976. They moved from Winnipeg to Tisdale, Prince Albert and La Ronge before they moved back to Morden in 1985. During his early married life, Jim took correspondence courses in accounting until he graduated as a CMA in 1976. He opened his own office, Giesbrecht Financial Services in 1987. Here he served his clients faithfully for 33 years. His son, Kelly took over the firm in 2009 and Jim worked for him until his retirement in 2020.

Jim was predeceased by both his parents; his beloved wife, Pat; his dear sister, Jeanne; his step sister-in-law, Sandi and his brother-in-law, Ron.

He leaves to mourn his passing son, Kelly (Krista), daughter, Jennifer (Neil) and grandson, Bradley. Also missing him already are sisters, Deb (Ken), Florence, stepsister, Maria (Jack), stepbrother, Randy (Brenda) and many nieces and nephews.

Memorial service was held on Friday, September 2, 2022 at Wiebe Funeral Chapel, Morden with interment prior at Hillside Cemetery.

Donations may be made in Jim's memory to the Boundary Trails Health Centre Foundation designated to Cancer Care.

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



AUCTION

Live auction at the acreage of Cornell Martens

1.5 mile west of Plum Coulee, MB, yard # 15097B
on Hwy 14. Saturday, Sept 17, 2022 at 10 am,
lunch available on site.



Large Dewart roll away tool chest, 40 ft sea can container with side door and room partition.
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OBITUARY

Randy Richet

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Randy Richet on August 22, 2022. He is survived by his loving wife Marilyn of 45 years, his sister Bonnie (Robert), nephew Taylor and brother Alexander.

To see obituary or to leave condolences, please see: mapleridgefuneral.ca

OBITUARY

Richard Neufeld



Richard Warren was welcomed by Helen and Ben Neufeld on December 15, 1958 at the Altona Hospital. He was the fourth sibling after Donna, Janice and Bruce. He spent most of his years living in Altona with some short stops in Winnipeg and Vancouver Island. Jim Penner, the owner of Penner Foods, used to call him the Mayor of Altona because whenever he would visit Richard at the store he seemed to know everyone and had a pulse on what was going on in the community.

Richard went through the school system in Altona, graduating from high school in 1976. He had a few part time jobs in his teens and then started in the meat department at Penner Foods right out of high school. This was the beginning of the first half of his working life. He managed the produce departments in Altona and Winkler, was the assistant manager and manager in the Altona store. When Penners sold to Sobeys he went to Winnipeg for a year as a District Manager. The last 21 years, his work days were spent leading Blue Sky Opportunities in supporting and advocating for adults with intellectual disabilities.

Richard worked hard but also played hard. He followed his hobbies and passions with curiosity and persistence. These included: music - playing drums and singing in many different bands, photography, baseball, golfing, scuba diving, skydiving, drag racing, classic cars (especially his 1967 Nova), Legends Car Club, Airport Drag Races, motorcycles and fixing vintage Harley engines. He had a hard time saying no and when he got involved with something he could not be a bystander. He was a mover and shaker, an organizer, a list maker and a networker.

Richard and Andrea married in July of 1990. They spent five years developing their relationship. They did some traveling but mostly spent time together at home - cooking, reading, watching movies and making plans for the future. In 1995, Benjamin Riel joined the family. Named after Richard's dad, Benjamin was the apple of Richard's eye and now he proudly added the role of father to his list of responsibilities. William Reese came in 1998 and with the family complete, Richard worked at being the best dad he could be. Whether it was playing on the floor, going for bike rides, taking the Nova for ice cream, managing their baseball and hockey teams, driving to skate parks, helping to build a skate park, building choppers and sometimes picking the boys and their choppers up from the side of the road, he loved them completely and supported them unconditionally.

At the end of April this year, Richard retired from 21 years at Blue Sky Opportunities. He was very excited about this next chapter and had dreams of many motorcycle trips and hours in the garage fixing vintage engines for friends and acquaintances. Unfortunately, he received a diagnosis of colon cancer just a few weeks later. Even though this was devastating news, he handled this with grace and bounced back from surgery with determination and positivity. He got back on his motorcycle, took in his favorite Winnipeg Folk Festival and spent lots of time with family and friends.

He passed away at home on Friday, August 19th. Our hearts are broken.

He leaves his wife of 32 years, Andrea. Son Ben and partner Jordan. Son Will and partner Kelsey. Brother-in-law Harv Kehler and wife Jeanie, sister Janice and husband Denis, brother Bruce and wife Beth. Andrea's parents, Lloyd and Lynette Penner, sister Anissa and friend Dan and sister Amanda. Special nieces and nephews and their families. The many people he worked with over the years and so, so many friends.

He was predeceased by his parents Ben and Helen and sister Donna.

We have many thank you's. To the staff of: Altona Clinic, CW Wiebe Clinic, Cancer Care, Cancer Navigation, Altona Hospital and Boundary Trails Hospital. Every single doctor, nurse, receptionist, health care aide we encountered was thoughtful, caring and professional. To Constable Caitlyn Ginter and Sergeant Dan Defer for coming so quickly to help us. To the paramedics that came quickly and worked hard to give us a different outcome. To our families, our many friends and acquaintances, our colleagues from Parkside School, BorderLand School Division and Blue Sky Opportunities, our neighbors - everyone has been so kind and so generous with their time and support. To our neighbor and friend Rick for helping us honor him with the service. For Trevor and Abe at Wiebe's Funeral Home, you get things done in a way that would make our compulsive list maker happy.

A dear friend, Lesley Fox, said it all when she sent a message about his retirement... Well done, good and faithful servant.

Wiebe Funeral Home, Altona
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Explore Fort Dufferin on Heritage Day, Sept. 25

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Fort Dufferin near Emerson brings the past to life later this month with the return of its annual Heritage Day celebration.

Taking place at the Fort Dufferin Historical Site, Sunday, Sept. 25 will be filled with activities, said Marlyn Empson, president of the Post Road Heritage group, which oversees the 150-year-old fort site's upkeep.

"We're going to be starting with our church service at 9:30 a.m., which is an ecumenical service, and from there we have a few bands playing, we lunch being served out of the Sun Valley Co-op food truck," she said.

The day will also include free games for the kids and henna tattoos available for purchase starting at 10:30 a.m., opening ceremonies at 11 a.m., and a 50/50 draw at 3 p.m.

On the entertainment front, music will be provided by George and Denise Perron, the Scottish Highland Dancers will kick up their heels at 12:30 p.m., and the Roseau River Anishinabe First Nation Powwow Showcase will take place at 1:30 p.m.

"That's a big event for us," said Empson, noting it's always a highlight of the day. "It will be a traditional powwow showcase."

The site's interpretive centre will also be open for people to learn more about the history of the fort before they head out on a self-guided tour.

"We've added about 20 new signs to our trail and updated some of the old ones," Empson said. "We're also

rebuilding one of the buildings from 1872, the Officers' Mess Kitchen."

A grant from the provincial government's Building Sustainable Communities Program allowed for work to start on that project earlier this summer.

"With that, and some very generous donations from the public and local businesses, we've actually got enough to get that going," Empson said, noting the work is ongoing.

The addition of the replica building will help visitors get a better sense for what the fort looked like during its heyday. It joins the two original buildings that have survived over the years—a storage shed that today serves as the interpretive centre and the old latrine (no longer in use). The site also has a replica Red River ox cart on display.

From 1872-1874, Fort Dufferin was the headquarters for the International Boundary Commission as they mapped out the 49th parallel. It was also used as a staging ground for the North West Mounted Police prior to their march west into Alberta and an immigrant station for settlers before their own journey west.

"Within two years of the boundary commission arriving there, they had built 25 buildings," Empson said. "It was almost like a little town, in a sense. The locals used to come there ... it was a busy place."

More information and directions to the fort are available on the Fort Dufferin Facebook page. Admission to Heritage Day is free.



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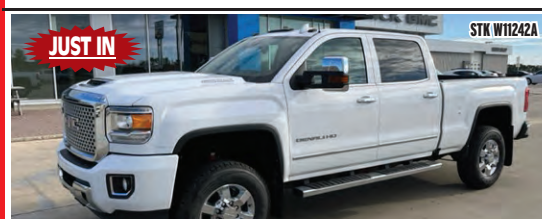
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