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THURSDAY,
DECEMBER 8, 2022

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Bringing the Christmas story to life

The "From Everywhere to Bethlehem" living nativity play took over Winkler Park last weekend to share the Christmas story. For more photos, see Pg. 16.

PHOTO BY RICK HIEBERT/VOICE

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Western SD seeking proposals for new school build

By Lorne Stelmach

The new school in Morden is moving another step closer to becoming a reality.

Western School Division last week announced that proposals for construction of the new Kindergarten to Grade 8 school and child care centre are now being accepted by MCM Architects.

Construction is anticipated to start in the early spring of 2023, so the facility is right on schedule for its target opening of September 2024. It will be located in the northwest corner of the city.

"This is an exciting next step in the journey to build our new school. This is a build for the whole community," said board of trustees chair Brian Fransen.

"Not only is it providing much needed space for our students and staff, but there is additional day care space and community recreational space in the plans," he said. "And the design of the school is intentionally set up to facilitate community use of its space.

"It will be great to show some more of the details of what is going in the



SUPPLIED IMAGE

Western School Division is now accepting construction proposals for Morden's new K-8 school, which is expected to open in fall of 2024.

school," added Fransen.

The school is expected to have space for up to 600 students and the ability to expand in the future to 800 students.

Key features of the facility include:

- Standard classrooms for K-8 students.
- Two science classrooms.
- A STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) room.
- Art and band classrooms.

- A human ecology/nutrition / textiles classroom.
- An industrial arts/woodworking shop.
- A life skills suite.
- A spacious two-station gymnasium.
- A library and learning commons area.
- A large, flexible multi-purpose room.
- Guidance and resource centres.

- Before and after school child care rooms with space for 40 children.
- A child care facility with 74 spaces.
- Energy-conserving features including rainwater harvesting, water conserving features and sustainable and green design.

The division is also costing out the possibility of a locally-funded soccer field and full-sized running track on the site.



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Kaleb Dahlgren shares his story of gratitude, healing

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Humboldt Broncos bus crash survivor Kaleb Dahlgren was in Winkler last week to share his story of resilience and healing.

The crash that killed 16 of his teammates in 2018 was a crossroads moment in his life, reflected Dahlgren, who attributed the challenges he grew up with to helping create a mindset that allowed him to work through the pain and loss.

Dahlgren was diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes at the age of four. It meant

a childhood filled with frequent glucose monitoring, carbs counting, and countless needles.

He came to a powerful realization at a very young age:

"I really figured out to find the positive over the negative. Because living with a disease is difficult, but having a negative mindset makes it twice as hard."

Finding silver linings wasn't always easy, Dahlgren noted as he shared some of the difficulties he faced as

Continued on page 4



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Humboldt Broncos bus crash survivor Kaleb Dahlgren spoke at the Winkler concert hall last week.



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> DAHLGREN, FROM PG. 3

a teen: a father with medical issues who needed constant care, the loss of a friend in a car accident, the death of a mentor to cancer.

But he realized, during a “Challenge Day” exercise in high school, just how lucky he truly was.

He had a loving and supportive family, had never worried about where his next meal would come from, never felt unsafe in his home, never been discriminated against, and had the financial support to pursue his dreams, including his love of hockey.

He’d gotten a huge head start in life. “That was when it hit me that I was very, very privileged and I was fortunate enough to be in the position that I was,” Dahlgren said.

Feeling called to give back in some way for all these blessings, Dahlgren founded an advocacy program dubbed Dahlgren’s Diabeauties, which provides guidance and support for kids living with the disease.

Participants get to attend a hockey game, meet the players, drop the puck, and enjoy having hundreds of fans cheer them on.

“For me, that was something I really wanted was for my Diabeauties to feel special and beautiful for their differences, uplifted, rather than negative and sad and special in a bad way,” Dahlgren said.

That program began around the same time Dahlgren was traded to the Humboldt Broncos in 2017.

Reflecting on his season with the junior hockey team—one that ended prematurely during the spring playoffs when the team bus collided with a semi-truck that had run a stop sign at a rural Saskatchewan intersection—Dahlgren shared that they were very much a family.

“Humboldt was truly incredible. It was a bond that you don’t usually get.

It’s one of those special, rare bonds,” he said, recalling team bonding exercises and friendships forged between teammates and staff members alike. “We loved being around each other. I think that was something that was special about the team, about the organization. They brought in good people.”

April 6, 2018 was a day like any other, Dahlgren observed.

The team was heading to play a road game against the Nipawin Hawks, who were leading the playoff series three games to one.

Dahlgren recalled he was sitting in row 12, in the aisle seat. As was his custom, he was using the drive to get his head in the game.

“I like to visualize and get into my own head space ... I close my eyes, listen to music, put in my headphones. And boom—everything went black.”

Dahlgren has no memory of the crash itself or the carnage afterwards, though he was told he was up walking around, trying to help fellow victims, before emergency personnel arrived.

“I woke up in a hospital. Confused. I didn’t know what had happened.”

Fourteen of the 29 people on the bus that day died at the scene. Another two succumbed to their injuries in hospital. Thirteen others were injured, many severely, including Dahlgren.

He suffered a severe traumatic brain injury, a broken neck, broken back, fractured skull, nerve and muscle damage.

In the week after the accident, he was unable to retain short-term memories. His parents had to tell him again and again what had happened.

“The hardest thing wasn’t my injuries,” Dahlgren said. “The hardest thing and the most painful thing was

losing 16 people that I considered to be family.”

He struggled to understand why he survived while friends sitting right beside him perished.

As he worked to heal his body, Dahlgren found himself leaning on that positive mindset he’d always had to try and find a measure of peace and acceptance.

“I knew I had to focus on the things I could control,” he said, noting that didn’t include the crash itself or the damage it left behind. “What was in my control was how was I going to react to this?”

“I decided to focus on these things: how was I going to become the best version [of myself] I could be? Was I going to take a step forward or a step back ... do I want to continue living my life to the fullest? How was I going to continue to move forward?”

Above anything else, Dahlgren felt a keen sense of gratitude.

“I was grateful to even know those 29 on the bus, to know the community, to know the team, to be a part of that organization,” he said. “I was grateful I was here to see another day.”

“Gratitude is such a beautiful thing. A lot of people get mixed in the sauce of life and they miss that gratitude element ... there’s so much to be grateful for.”

That said, his gratitude was tempered with survivor’s guilt. While grappling with that, Dahlgren tried to put himself in the shoes of the people he had lost, including his best friend. What if the roles were reversed?

“How would I want him to react? How would I want him to think about this? Would I want him to be sad, angry, mad? No. Not at all I’d want him to pursue his dreams, his passions. To make the most of his life. To take this opportunity he’s got and run with it.”

Dahlgren has tried to do just that in the years since the crash.

Against the advice of his doctors and family, Dahlgren opted not to take a year off to heal at home but instead took York University up on their hockey scholarship offer, though it was likely he would have to spend the next few years with them on the bench due to his injuries.

He got a degree in commerce and today is studying to be a chiropractor, with dreams to work with professional athletes after graduation.

He’s also written a book about his experiences, *Crossroads: My Story of Tragedy and Resilience As a Humboldt Bronco*, one he hopes will inspire others to overcome whatever life might throw at them.

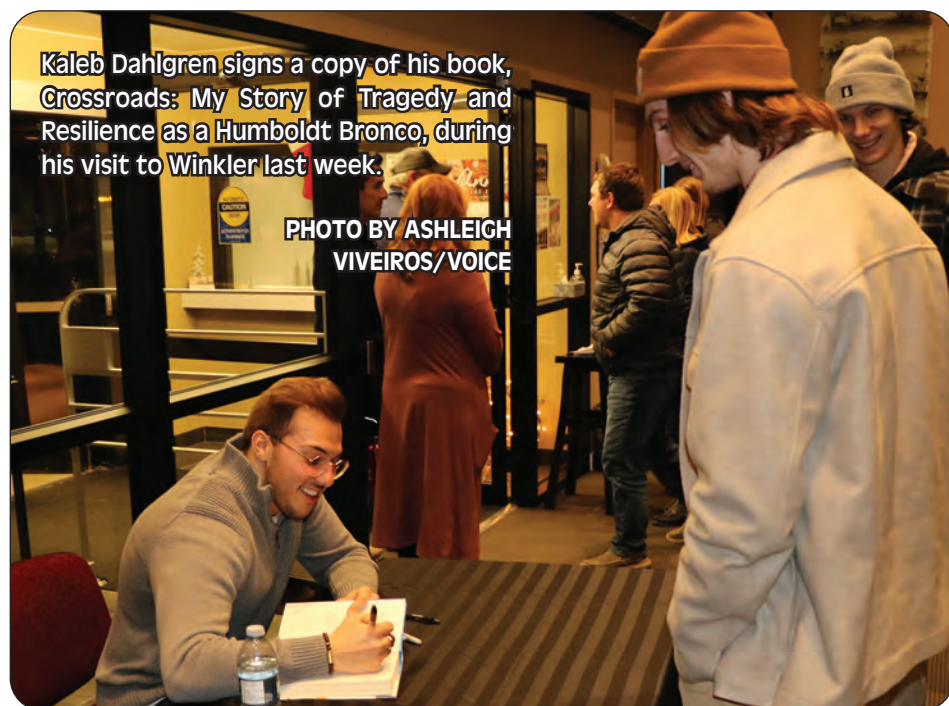
“The idea was to help other people,” he said, explaining the book grapples with topics that include grief, perception, resilience, mental health, community, and diabetes and brain injury awareness. “So many things that I think are so valuable and need to be discussed more in this world.”

Dahlgren has donated the proceeds from the book to the STARS air ambulance, which was on the scene that day helping to save lives.

Though he was never able to get back on the ice as a competitive player—his head injury made it far too dangerous—Dahlgren recalled the day he laced up his skates for the first time just two months after the accident.

As he glided around the ice, Dahlgren felt, somehow, that his teammates were there with him.

“When I actually went out there, it didn’t feel like myself. It felt like there was other people on the ice with me,” he said, noting he’s never been particularly religious, but this experience gave him goose bumps and made him feel closer to the teammates he’d lost. “It felt like there was more energy and a presence. I think that was something that’s truly beautiful.”



Kaleb Dahlgren signs a copy of his book, *Crossroads: My Story of Tragedy and Resilience as a Humboldt Bronco*, during his visit to Winkler last week.

PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Eden Fdn. hosting "Carolling for a Cause" on longest night of the year

By Ashleigh Viveiros

It’s the longest night of the year, but Eden Foundation is hoping to make this Dec. 21 a little brighter.

Foundation volunteers are planning to spread holiday cheer on the winter solstice by making the rounds in Winkler as carollers.

“Caroling for a Cause is a brand new initiative for Eden Foundation,” shares director of development Jayme Giesbrecht.

“Upon coming into my role here, knowing my history as a singer, I think it was expected that I would do

something musical,” she says with a chuckle. “Coming into December, as we’re seeing fewer hours of daylight and dark, long evenings, I just thought what better way to spread some cheer and some awareness for our local mental health programs than by going door to door and singing some songs?”

“It’s really just a way of spreading joy through carolling and also bringing back that tradition of carolling that we really don’t see as often anymore.”

Continued on page 5

Local vet clinics collecting donations for humane society

By Lorne Stelmach

The veterinary clinics in Morden and Winkler are once again calling on their communities to help them support the Pembina Valley Humane Society this holiday season.

They are part of the Manitoba Veterinary Medical Association campaign dubbed the "Season Fur Everyone" where vet clinics across Manitoba collect donations of pet food and supplies to support a shelter, rescue, or even a local food bank.

"The aim is to get all the vet clinics in Manitoba to sign up and to get people donating to a rescue of their choice," said Morden vet tech Taryn Friesen. "We're trying to promote it a bit more now again."

Friesen said they feel the annual

campaign has been well received and supported in the region in past years.

"It has been successful. We have been able to reach out to some of the companies that we deal with for our products, and we have been able to get them to donate as well. That brings in a large portion of what we collect."

"It's also just having an opportunity available for people to drop off stuff that they don't necessarily need or they've purchased ... it has made it a really good fundraiser for the humane society."

Friesen sees it as a good opportunity to give back to the humane society, given the important role it plays in the area.

"The humane society does so much for animals in our community, so we figured we may as well try to do a little bit to give back to them," she said.

"It can make it a little bit easier for them because the intakes have been really crazy in the last number of years, so we want to do anything we can to alleviate that stress," Friesen



Taryn Friesen with Duke, who belongs to a receptionist at the Morden Vet Clinic and was adopted from the humane society three years ago, and some of the goodies the clinic has collected for PVHS so far this month.

PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

added, noting rising intake numbers at the shelter impacts the clinic as well. "We work closely with the humane society here. We have a weekly visit to the shelter and surgery day that we do for them."

"We are incredibly thankful for the support of the vet clinics," said Holly

Thorne, public relations chairperson for the humane society. "We have a strong partnership, and we're happy to have them on our side as we continue our mission to help unwanted and stray animals in the Pembina Valley."

> CAROLLING, FROM PG. 4

To have the carollers stop by your house or to nominate a friend's home for a visit, simply make a donation to Eden Foundation and then send in the address via email to foundation@edenhealthcare.ca or by calling 204-325-5355.

Giesbrecht says they've already amassed a number of addresses but welcome more.

She's also fielded a lot of calls from people wanting to get involved as carollers.

"I've received countless messages of people asking if they can come carolling with us. The answer is yes, you absolutely can."

If you'd like to take part as a singer, just be at the Eden Health Care Services offices on Main St. at 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 21. Volunteers will then be split up into a few smaller groups and given their address assignments.

Dress warm, Giesbrecht advises, and if you have anything that might qualify as traditional carolling attire (a top hat or vintage muffler, perhaps), feel free to dress up in it.

If the weather is truly nasty that day, the in-person carolling might have to be changed to a virtual video. Check out Eden's social media pages or contact the foundation to confirm.





Merry Christmas





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The stigma of charity

December in Canada, particularly in our region, is a month of giving. The charitable spirit is fueled by a culture still heavily influenced by faith-based holidays like Christmas.

In combination with this season, we are also approaching the end of the year, which puts a certain pressure on certain people of certain levels of income to figure out where their charitable donations are going to ensure tax receipts are collect-



By Peter Cantelon

ed in time.

This is not to suggest the spirit is not willing ... simply that multiple factors combine in December to make it a season of giving.

This also means that it is a season of receiving. For some people receiving is not a very easy thing to do. Why? If there is need many of us are told in a multitude of ways that we should ask—the proverbial “ask and you shall receive.”

Still, difficulties related to receiving what some might call charity do not rise up out of a vacuum. One is not genetically pre-disposed to negative feelings related to charity. This comes through a lifetime of experiences (or sometimes just one).

My mum had an uncanny ability to know what people were thinking when it came to the charitable season. Every year we received Christmas hampers from the church. We

received all kinds of assistance all of the time.

When the hamper would come, Mum would usually not let people into the house. Sometimes she would rather take the bus to the church, pick up the hamper, and lug it back to the house, frozen turkey and all.

Why? She didn't want people looking into the house.

It wasn't that it was a great house. I mean, it was provincial housing and obviously so. But Mum was a miracle worker when it came to taking inexpensive thrift items, donations, or simply garbage other people had discarded and repurposing it to look either new or as if it had been created by a designer.

“They probably think we don't need this,” she would say in a voice dripping with scorn. Mum felt that if we

Continued on page 7

• DON'T MIND THE MESS

The gift that keeps on giving

As the countdown to Christmas begins, you'll see a lot of people traipsing aimlessly through malls and store aisles for hours, musically accompanied by Burl Ives, Mariah Carey and Alvin and the Chipmunks.

They'll be wishing and hoping that just the right idea will pop out, and

they'll find that perfect gift for that special someone who: a) doesn't really need anything, b) doesn't really want anything, or c) refuses to tell you what they need or want.

I returned from yet another futile search and threw myself despondently on the couch.

“Every year, it just gets harder,” I tell my family.



By Lori Penner

“It was easier when all you wanted was Barbies and Lego. Next Christmas, it's gift certificates all around!”

But they all shrug, knowing the only thing different next year will be my age. I'm in full Santa mode, and, as always, I'll be the last shopper in the store when it finally closes on Christmas Eve.

I'm not sure why we knock ourselves out like this. I like to think it's motivated by love and not by obligation or the need for validation.

Continued on page 7

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• GUEST COMMENTARY

Changes to Manitoba Hydro will keep rates low

The Manitoba Government recently made important changes to help Manitoba Hydro address its high debt, and keep rates low for Manitobans.

Like all publicly-owned energy utilities, Manitoba Hydro makes certain payments to the government. In Manitoba, two of those payments are the water power rental fee and the debt guarantee



Cameron Friesen, MLA

fee. What Manitobans may not know is that the former NDP government doubled those payments. Our government is lowering these payments by 50% at this time, allowing Hydro to retain nearly \$190 million more for 2022 alone.

These fee reductions are great news for all Manitobans. They allow Hydro to begin paying down its \$24-billion debt, which in turn decreases debt service charges. Debt reduction is key to keeping rate increases low and ensuring Hydro has cash to maintain reliable service for customers.

Earlier this fall, our government passed Bill 36, The Manitoba Hydro Amendment and Public Utilities Board Amendment Act. The primary objectives of the bill are to keep rates low for ratepayers, enhance the oversight of major capital spending by

Hydro, increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the regulatory process as well as create role clarity for Government, Hydro and the Public Utilities Board. This legislation strikes the right balance of putting Hydro on a path to stability, protecting ratepayers from sudden rate increases, and maintaining the independence and effectiveness of the PUB.

The former NDP government mismanaged the construction of the Keeyask generating station and Bipole III transmission line, hid escalating project costs from the public, and went around the approval processes that were designed to determine if the assets were truly needed. They saddled Hydro with a record debt of \$24 billion, while telling Manitobans that the new assets would pay for themselves from US energy contracts

(which they did not).

The opposition party says that the situation will correct itself, but this is clearly not the case. Our government is taking the necessary action to stabilize Manitoba Hydro and protect the low rate advantage enjoyed by ratepayers across our province.

Manitoba Hydro will be essential in shaping our province's economic future. We will continue to work with Hydro to provide clean hydro-electric power to Manitobans and their businesses, while keeping rates among the lowest in North America for years to come.

Cameron Friesen is the MLA for Morden-Winkler

> PENNER, FROM PG. 6

Sometimes, it just means so much when you can make a certain person crack a smile once in a while. Or that look of sheer delight on a child's face—before they realize some assembly is required or you forgot to buy the right batteries.

Some people wail about the commercialism of the season. They balk at all the shopping and the fuss. They despair over all the spending. Yet those same complainers are usually moved to tears when you give them something that speaks from your heart to theirs.

Gifts matter. They don't need to break the bank or take weeks to make, but they should be thoughtful. They represent love, sacrifice and concern. They are a free offering. They are little gestures that say, "I know who you are, I appreciate you and I love you."

I read somewhere that in order for a gift to be considered "perfect" it must meet three specific criteria: Number one, the gift should reflect the one

who gives it. Number two, it should fulfill the needs and desires of the one who receives it. And number three, the gift should be of the nature and quality that it will hold its value as time goes on.

When I think back on some of the doozies I've given and received over the years, there haven't been many gifts that have fit that "perfect" category.

Some were purchased in last-minute desperation. And even when they were items that were truly needed or desired, they rarely stood the test of time. We've got plenty of broken toys and electronics at our house to prove that. And the only reason some lingered for a while is they weren't really wanted and were never used.

It won't be the end of the world if I don't find that perfect gift. Life will go on, and I'm sure the receiver will forgive me. Again.

This is the time of year when we honour—and hopefully receive—the

one perfect gift: Jesus Christ.

He fits all the criteria. One, He reflects the kind, loving Father who gave Him. Two, He meets all our deepest needs and desires. And three, what He offers will hold its value forever, because it is eternal.

And we don't need to feel guilty or unworthy to receive it.

This gift is priceless, comes without conditions and satisfaction is guaranteed.

> CANTELON, FROM PG. 6

did not live in absolute squalor people would assume we were taking advantage of the system.

"Mum, they haven't said anything, why would you think they would think this?" I would say, frustrated.

"I know what they're thinking," she would reply confidently.

Mum always felt judged. If we got a cheap colour television she would immediately parrot some judgemental voice asking why we even had a television at all—did this mean we also had cable? And I see a telephone too—I suppose you pay for the service for that as well? If she wore nice clothing she got at the thrift she would feel exposed. Like she was not allowed to look decent. She was supposed to look poor.

Later in life I came to understand this attitude of always assuming everyone judged her was her armour. She coated herself in defensiveness so that if patronizing judgement came (and it did often enough), she could deflect it with anger and avoid being hurt.

ted.

The perfect gift didn't arrive in a fancy package. He wasn't well received, and the Giver got nothing in return. Not even a thank-you.

In our desperate, self-seeking, people-pleasing way, we can't wrap our minds around that kind of generosity. But there it is, anyway.

It's the gift that keeps on giving. And all we have to do is receive it.

Letter policy

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

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

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

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getinformed

Morden council welcomes new youth member

By Lorne Stelmach

The role of youth councillor for the City of Morden is more than just an honorary title.

Selected on an annual basis from among senior students in the community, the youth councillor has much to contribute, Mayor Brandon Burley said last week as the new youth member was welcomed for her first council meeting.

And, Burley added, what he has already heard from Maja Piekarska is more than encouraging to him.

"She came with not just problems that she wanted to solve but solutions to those problems as well," the mayor said following the Nov. 28 council meeting. "So we're excited to have her and look forward to a good year with her."

For Piekarska, who is a Gr. 12 student at Morden Collegiate, it was a great chance to not only have another experience to learn something new but also to learn more about herself.

"I'm just trying to experience every-

thing I can right now," said Piekarska, who is a member of her school's debate and culture clubs and has also been involved in student theatre productions.

"What really attracted me the most was the idea that I'm still in the process of exploring myself and finding out what I like and what I don't like, and I definitely feel that youth need experiences," she said. "We need to have more experiences so that we can understand ourselves a little bit more."

"In the months to come, I'll definitely have more in store for me," said Piekarska, who hopes to bring a valuable youth perspective to council. "It's a very exciting opportunity, and I'm excited and very honoured to be the new youth council member."

Burley noted how council has been fortunate to have some strong youth candidates over the years, including Mollie Wheeler and, more recently, Bijan Salimi, who was instrumental in bringing forward the idea that led to the development of the basketball



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Morden Collegiate Gr. 12 student Maja Piekarska is the new youth member of city council. Mayor Brandon Burley says he looks forward to hearing her perspective.

court at the BSI skate park.

"It was exciting for council to see that role take a real useful role in actually identifying issues and helping council solve problems that we might not otherwise be able to identify," he said.

"We've been very lucky to have had excellent youth councillors in the past, so we had a very high bar when it came to selecting a council-

lor this time," Burley added. "Maya came with an energy and excitement and also a very creative take on some problems she wanted to solve and things she wanted to get done."

"With council wanting to involve that role in a deeper and more inclusive way, we felt some of the ideas she was bringing forward were things we could resource and could bring to fruition."

Area residents voice concerns on proposed condo development

By Lorne Stelmach

Morden council is weighing its decision on a proposed rezoning to allow for a new condo development near what is likely the busiest intersection in the city.

The impact on what is already heavy traffic in the area of First Street and Victoria Street/Hwy. 3 was among the concerns cited by a few area residents who spoke in opposition at a hearing before council Nov. 28.

They also cited a number of other concerns, including the loss of privacy and the potential impact on their property values, while also suggest-

ing there are better locations in the city for this kind of development.

"It's good to see people come out ... you get nervous and wonder if nobody really cares or they're expecting us to make a certain decision, so they don't involve themselves in the process," Mayor Brandon Burley said following the meeting.

"There's nothing precluded on this tonight," he stressed. "There's a good number of steps ahead before anything is concluded here."

The proposal is to rezone the properties at 20 Victoria Street and 227 First Street from residential two-family to residential multi-family to allow for

the development of three buildings that would be three stories with 16 units per building for a total of 48 overall.

They would be similar to the development at the corner of 15th Street and Hwy. 14 in Winkler, and the proposal brought forward by developer K Block Developments has received strong interest from Morden, council was told. Residents, however, noted the Winkler development does not have single-family residential directly adjacent to it.

The issues that were brought up by area residents were expected, noted Burley.

"Any time you change densities, there's always questions about privacy and traffic. Those are typically the two most serious concerns that residents will raise."

"We expected that here in this case as well. It's a significant change in density," he continued. "Densification does happen and has to happen ... not necessarily specific to this site, but that's just the nature of densities in urban centres."

Council did not make a decision on the rezoning in order to give the matter further consideration.

The **Voice**

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RRTVA welding programs get funding for new safety gear

By Lorne Stelmach

It's a vote of confidence in the quality of the training happening in the vocational program in the region that the welding industry is supporting it with funding.

Grants were recently received for the welding programs in both Morden and Morris that are part of the Red River Technical Vocational Area (RRTVA).

The Canadian Welding Bureau (CWB) Foundation provided the money for 20 personal protective equipment (PPE) kits, with each one valued at \$750 for a total \$15,000 to each location.

"With this, it really helps us alleviate the cost for PPE," said Riaan Strydom, welding instructor in Morden.

"Like everything, costs are going up, and the grants and the funding coming in isn't always going up, so it's hard to keep pace," noted Lane Curry, director of the RRTVA.

"It's very exciting for us," added Curry, who thanked Strydom for his initiative in pursuing these opportunities. "He's been a strong participant with the CWB, so it was nice to get some back in the form of some supplies from them."

The funding opportunity came in large part with the Morden shop being a CWB certified test centre, and Strydom keeping up to date on its programs and initiatives.

The cost of PPE for welders is very expensive, and things like welding jackets, safety glasses, and other items need to be replaced on a regular basis, he noted, so receiving these 20 kits is great for the program.



PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Staff and students of the RRTVA welding program in Morden with some of the new safety gear a grant from the Canadian Welding Bureau Foundation provided.

"We were fortunate to get these kits ... it's all personal protective equipment for the students," Strydom said. "In the current market, personal protective equipment is all very expensive, so we are very fortunate to receive this from the CWB Foundation. "It's all very vital. These jackets and stuff don't last forever, so it's often we have to change them," he added. "We spend a lot of money on safety equipment. It's important that students wear all their safety equipment, and we've never had an accident in 18 years here, so we take safety very seriously."

Each WeldSafe kit contains such PPE items as a carry bag, welding helmet, earplugs, eye wear, glasses, anti-fog coating, a respirator, jacket and gloves.

There are 14 students enrolled in Morden, and the costs add up when a helmet is \$300 to \$400, a jacket is \$100, and a respirator is another \$100.

"We are very fortunate we can apply for some grants," said Strydom. "It's always good to get the new technology. Since we started this program, the machines have changed quite a bit, so there's a lot newer machines and better machines out there."



Winkler Police welcome two new members

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler Police Service has added two new members to its roster.

The department welcomed constables Brendon Ginter and Thomas Froese at the end of October upon their completion of training, which included several months with the Winnipeg Police Service followed by field training here in Winkler.

They bring the department to 21 officers, including the chief and deputy chief, though that number will drop to 20 at the end of next week with the retirement of longtime officer Arnie Klassen.

"I think we're in pretty good shape when it comes to our numbers," says

Chief Ryan Hunt. "Right now we're kind of working through some of the retirements that are coming up."

Several of Winkler's veteran officers joined the force around the same time two decades ago and have now either retired or are about to retire.

"Those retirements are all starting to come up so we're trying to stay ahead of that so we don't end up being short-handed," Hunt says, noting they bid farewell to one veteran last year (Cst. Pak Au), Klassen this year, and have the potential to see two more retire in 2024 and another couple in 2025.

These veteran officers take with them a lot of experience, Hunt reflects.

"Knowledge of the community and

policing in general. There's just so much experience that we've grown over the years, we'll be losing that," he says. "But then as they go out there's other guys who have been here for five, 10 years, and they've also got some of that experience as well that they can pass on to the new members."

Hunt says they've been preparing for this time for a few years now, adding three new officers in the past five years, two this year, and hopefully two more in mid-2023.

"We're looking forward to having new members come on, new faces," Hunt says, adding that new officers train for the better part of a year before they're able to go out on their

own in the community.

Hunt says Ginter and Froese are great fits for the department. Both are no strangers to the community.

Ginter grew up on a farm near Plum Coulee and attended school in Winkler. He left the area for a time after graduation but found himself drawn back here with a desire to serve.

"I enjoy helping people," he says, explaining he was previously working as a corrections officer in Brandon when he decided to make a career change. "I felt like I'd be a good fit working in the community instead of working inside [a corrections facility]."

Continued on page 12

La Riviere railway station makes its move to Manitou

By Lorne Stelmach

The first major step in giving the former La Riviere train station a new lease on life came last month with the building's relocation to Manitou.

The historic station that had long been part of the former Archibald Museum west of Manitou is now on a new foundation at the north end of Main Street near where the town's own train station once stood. It provides a historic bookend to the Nellie McClung Heritage Site at the south end of town along with the opera house in between the two sites.

There is much more work to be done yet to restore the building, but the community volunteers behind the Station on Main committee are happy to have gotten past this first hurdle.

"It's been quite a process ... it's been a long journey, especially for the Wallcraft museum group because they had been close several times to seeing the station moved, only to see those projects kind of come apart," said Travis Long, who is also involved with Boundary Trail Railway Company, the short line railway formed by local farmers in 2008 and which owns and operates 23 miles of the former CP La Riviere subdivision from Morden to Binney Corner west of Manitou.

"They weren't sure that the building

would be saved, so it's pretty gratifying that we have been able to pull this off so far," Long said. "We've got a long ways to go yet, but the group is kind of re-energized now. We're a small committee, but the five of us that are involved are amazed how dedicated the fellows are to this project."

"In our community, our local history is very important. It's always been important to the community," said Al Thorleifson, an historian and archivist who is a driving force behind the Pembina Manitou Archive and has done a lot of research into the history of the station and the rail line.

"If it hadn't been for the Wallcrafts and the Archibald Museum, the station would have been lost. We can't forget that, and we need to keep thanking them. I think that's really important," he noted.

"We're very lucky that we still have a functioning rail line through Manitou, so that makes it kind of cool," Thorleifson added. "A lot of people are really appreciating the fact it's in a prominent place in town."

Completed in 1898, the La Riviere train station has been widely regarded as historically significant for such features as its French Canadian design with a mansard roof.



SUPPLIED PHOTOS BY CURRIE COUNTRY LIVING

The La Riviere train station, formerly located at the Archibald Museum, made the move to Manitou last month. It now sits on the Boundary Trail Railway Company line as a monument to local history.

It was moved to the Archibald Museum in 1986 and remained on that site after the museum closed a few years ago. There had been some discussions back at that point about finding a new home for the train station as well as the two Nellie McClung homes, which have since been relocated and opened as a heritage site in Manitou.

The impetus to pursue the station again more seriously in recent years stemmed from the deterioration of the building, which had also incurred some damage from vandalism over the summer. And given that the railway company has a section of land adjacent to the line, there was the unique opportunity to locate the station alongside a functioning railway line.

The station was moved to a temporary location just over a year ago, and a minor bit of work was done to stabilize the building.

"We made a quick decision to do a temporary move and then we at least bought ourselves a bit more time to come up with some financing and do

some initial stabilization work to the building," said Long, noting that included repairing some floor joists and removing old plaster.

"Now the real work kind of begins," he said, explaining they'll start by repairing or replacing roofing and windows and doing exterior landscaping before tackling interior restorations.

Long estimates the project so far costs has seen \$150,000 to \$175,000 committed to it from a number of sources, including heritage grants.

"We expect we'll need probably anywhere between \$80,000 to \$120,000 to get the building to where we want and to have it open to the public," Long suggested. "We haven't really done a grassroots community fundraising campaign. We've tried to bring in as much money as we can from other sources ... but I suspect sometime next year we will likely do a bit of a local fundraising drive just to top things off."

The project has a strong supporter in Greg Currie of Currie Country Liv-

Continued on page 11



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Braun, Heinrichs appointed deputy reeves in Rhineland

By Lori Penner

Returning Municipality of Rhineland councillors Archie Heinrichs and Brad Braun were named co-deputy reeves last month.

The two were joined on council after this fall's election by fellow veteran members John Dueck, Jake Heppner, and Reeve Don Wiebe alongside newcomers Hank Froese and Brad Wiebe.

Heinrichs brings years of experience to the role and says one of his biggest areas of focus will be the Priority Grain Roads project. Work began on the \$4.8 million initiative last August.

Phase 1 of the project involves building about a half-mile of concrete roads in both municipalities' industrial parks. Phase 2 will see drain tile

installed along the entire 32-mile priority grain network to help maintain the road surfaces.

"It's definitely been a big concern," says Heinrichs. "These high usage roads need to be stabilized. But we're in full swing and I'd like to see that finished."

Development and community growth are also high on Heinrichs' priority list.

"But without ensuring we have enough potable water in our region, development isn't possible. We need to look at our future capacity and ability to reserve water, whether it's on the Red River, in the aquifers, or the escarpment.

"We went through a really dry spell, and we do not have enough water to be able to function, especially in spring when the land is being seeded and sprayed. A lot of today's farming chemistry needs quality water to work, so we do need good pure water."

Braun says being appointed as deputy reeve is a vote of confidence from his fellow council members.

"I've been on council for six years now, so I know the drill. Things always keep changing, including our constituents' expectations, so we need to go with that."

He agrees that guaranteeing a water supply should be one of council's first pursuits.

"Increasing our water processing capacity at the Letellier plant should be our main objective right now, since



RM OF RHINELAND PHOTO

it's vital to the region's commercial and residential growth."

For that to be possible, he says there needs to be cooperation on every level of government.

Ensuring there are enough doctors and nurses in the municipality is also top of mind.

"A vital growing community needs to be assured of that," Braun stresses. "Adequate childcare is also important, so people can feel comfortable about moving here and working here. Meeting these needs is a big part of supporting the future of our communities and keeping our constituents healthy and happy."

> STATION, FROM PG. 12

ing. He not only used his media skills to document the recent move but also has a personal connection to the station.

Currie recalls being friends as a child with the youngest of the five children of the station master at the time, Jack Tessier, during the 1960s into the '70s.

"There's lots of great memories about the trains coming in, and as we got older, he would let us do a little bit of maintenance," he said. "They were diesel engines and he would let us go out and let the air off so it wouldn't freeze at night."

"CPR is the reason why La Riviere is where it's at," suggested Currie, who also recalled how on cold mornings "the diesel fog would actually settle in the valley ... looking back, it's a neat memory, seeing that haze in the morning."

He very much appreciates how the station will serve as another historical monument in Manitou.

"As you get older, you become more aware of how important history is to a community."

"We really want to honour the connection to La Riviere," noted Long. "It's perhaps a bit odd that we're putting the La Riviere train station in Manitou, but anyone we've talked to in La Riviere about it really like the fact that are repatriating the station alongside a functioning rail line."

"It's one of those things that people are really passionate about," he added. "It was an integral part of the fabric of society in the early years in this area."

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PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Jolly old St. Nick was the star attraction Sunday as United Way Pembina Valley hosted its annual Skate With Santa at the Access Event Centre in Morden. It was also an opportunity for people to make a donation to the agency's fundraising campaign. If you missed it, the United Way will dropping the puck at the Winkler Flyers afternoon game Dec. 18 and then following that up with a second Skate With Santa event that evening.

> NEW OFFICERS, FROM PG. 9

When the opportunity in Winkler came up he jumped at it.

"It was always a goal to come back to Winkler and start my family here," Ginter shares. "I've been everywhere across Canada. I took Winkler for granted, at first. Everyone wants to get away from the small town they grew up in, but then as you get older you realize what it has to offer. I appreciate it now."

Ginter feels his knowledge of the area will hold him in good stead as he begins his career here.

"I think it makes me a better police officer," he says, noting he's eager to see where this job might take him when it comes to ongoing skills development and training. "I'm always up for a challenge. I'm not sure where I fit in this organization yet, but I'm excited to find out where I fit the best and try, to the best of my ability, to be a piece of that puzzle."

Froese also grew up on a farm, just outside of Winkler. He says a few things drew him to the job of police officer.

"One, I just enjoy the dynamic workplace. No day is ever really the same. You get to meet people from

all walks of life and I enjoy just getting to know people, talking, problem-solving—that's unique each day.

"The second part of it is being part of a team. It's a great team environment and a good community, a good workplace to be a part of."

Froese comes to the role with a degree in criminology and time spent working at the Central Station Community Centre as a community development coordinator.

"I've always been looking for a job where I can give back to the community," he says, explaining his role at Central Station revolved around helping people "connect to services that they might need and help build a support team around them for people going through a crisis."

Like Ginter, Froese feels his knowledge of and relationship with the community will be a benefit as he embarks on his new career.

"I'm a local," he says, noting Winkler is always where he envisioned himself working as an officer. "Policing is a pretty competitive career to get into. I applied at different places, but Winkler was always the end goal."

Apprenticeship Support Project

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The Apprenticeship Support Project benefits both employers and apprentices.

Employers with 499 employees or fewer are eligible for a hiring incentive of \$5,000. An additional \$5,000 is available for hiring from Equity Deserving Groups (women, Indigenous people, newcomers, persons with disabilities, members of the LGBTQ2+ communities, and visible minorities) An employer who hires 2 first-year apprentices is eligible for up to \$20,000.

First-year apprentices will get the hands-on experience they need for a career in trades. The 39 Red Seal trades eligible for funding are listed on the FPD Inc website.

The project provides support for employers to navigate the apprenticeship system.

Join in success stories like Highland Electric; owner Ben Bruce said "after hearing through word of mouth" and doing a little digging he discovered FPD Inc. The organization "falls right in line with the beliefs and values of my company. FPD Inc helped me find the financial help and the information to find a great team member."

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getinformed

Charity garage sale looking for donations

By Lorne Stelmach

They missed out for two years during the pandemic, but this year's Gr. 2 class of Jennifer Stein at Maple Leaf School get to make a comeback with the school's annual garage sale.

The event set for Dec. 16 for students and staff of the school is not only a good learning experience for the kids but also supports worthy charities.

"It becomes a long day; it's kind of crazy ... it's busy, but everyone has fun with it," Stein said of the event that raised over \$1,100 in 2018 and just over \$1,300 in 2019.

The garage sale was first done in 2008 after Stein observed that École Morden Middle School had done something similar.

"I just thought this would be a really cool idea to try with the younger children," she recalled. "We can see where there is need, people who need our help, so this was something that we could do about it."

"Over the years, we've always wanted to support Morden Christmas Cheer with half of the money that we raise, and then we look around for another place to donate the other

half."

That other charity in the past has been everything from the Ladybug Foundation to an overseas mission, but the focus has mostly been on local organizations like the Pembina Valley Humane Society. This year the second charity to benefit from the sale will be Genesis House.

"We really want to help families ... things have not been easy for the last couple of years, so we just really want to support families who need our help to have a nice Christmas," Stein said.

She encouraged people to consider donating items to support the sale as well as gift bags, boxes, bows, ribbon and wrapping paper.

"Community members, if they are interested in donations to our sale, we would gladly accept it, and they can be dropped off at the school office."

"It can be anything that a child could give as a gift to perhaps a brother, a sister, grandparents or mother or father, just someone special," Stein explained. "It will be wrapped with love at the school. All of the presents that get purchased at our sale will



VOICE FILE PHOTO

Maple Leaf School is accepting donations towards its charity garage sale taking place Dec. 16.

be wrapped up or prepared in a special way.

"If you would like to make a donation to the silent auction, we would gladly accept that too," added Stein, who noted that has included everything from trays of dainties to a night's stay at the local Best Western.

She especially likes seeing the students getting involved in every aspect of the project.

"We've had to do lots of planning already ... and they have been busy at home looking around and trying to gather some items that they maybe are not using anymore," she said. "Our classroom was already starting to get quite a few boxes of items."

Manitoba Hydro reduces rate increase request

By Voice staff

Manitoba Hydro is revising its request for a rate hike over the next few years.

Instead of the 3.5 per cent rate increase it had earlier requested of the Public Utilities Board (PUB), Manitoba Hydro last week announced it is now asking for a 2 per cent increase over the next two fiscal years (2023-24, 2024-25). The Crown utility is also still requesting confirmation of the interim 3.6 per cent rate increase approved by the PUB that took effect in January 2022 and was meant to offset income losses tied to last year's drought (totalling \$248 million).

The decrease for the years ahead comes after the provincial government reduced the fees it collects from Manitoba Hydro annually in provincial debt guarantee and water rental payments. This reduction is expected to save the agency approximately \$190 million in the 2022-23 fiscal year.

"The reduction announced by the government will help keep rates low for customers, and that's great news when we know many customers are

struggling with the cost of living," said Manitoba Hydro president and CEO Jay Grewal said. "It also gives Manitoba Hydro the ability to start to reduce our debt while making investments in our system so our customers get the service they demand."

"The reduction also helps ensure that Manitoba Hydro will have the financial resources available to handle risks created by factors out of our control like fluctuating interest rates, prices on the export market, and drought like we saw last year."

Because the savings from the reduced payments to government are compounding, Manitoba Hydro now forecasts annual rate increases of only two per cent for the next 19 years, starting in the 2023-24 fiscal year, as part of its long-term financial trajectory.

For a residential customer without electric heat (using an average of 1,000 kilowatt-hours (kWh) per month), the average impact of the lower two per cent increase is approximately \$2 per month after September 1, 2023, and a further increase of approximately \$2 per month after April 1, 2024.

For a residential customer with electric heat (using an average of 2,000 kilowatt-hours (kWh) per month), the average impact is approximately \$4 per month after September 1, 2023,

and further bill increase of approximately \$4 per month after April 1, 2024.

Appelt's Diamonds celebrates new location for Morden store

By Lorne Stelmach

A business with a long history and connection to the community is celebrating its new location in downtown Morden.

Appelt's Diamonds officially opened last week at the corner of Eighth and Stephen Street, and it reflects the continued commitment of the business, now overseen by a third generation of the Appelt family, to rural Manitoba and specifically Morden.

"We're really still small town guys, and that's why we have wanted to stay in rural Manitoba," said Bert Appelt, who took the business over from his father and in 2013 turned it over to his son, Jeff.

"I think we are the oldest business here ... certainly in retail, there's no one who has been here this long," said Jeff. "Some people still like to shop in smaller communities, and this store is drawing from far west, to the east ... we're drawing from a really large area to this store."

The history of the business goes back to when Bert's father moved from Al-bertha to Morden in 1938.

"He came with a box full of tools on a train and a train full of faith and hope," Bert said. "He set up in a little

wee store, and now four moves later we are in the building where we are now."

Bert stepped in after his father had a stroke in 1964.

"So I took over temporarily, and now temporarily is 54 years later," said Bert, who has since handed the reins to Jeff. Jeff's own kids are also now involved in the business, which has three locations in Winnipeg in addition to the one in Morden.

The move to the new Morden location in what had long been the Bank of Montreal downtown came about rather unexpectedly.

"We had started drawings for renovations in our former building ... our drawings were completed," explained Bert. "I had a dream that night, and I dreamt that we were moving our store into a bank building."

He told his wife and son, who noted that they had already spent a fair bit of money on the plans but gave his blessing to search it out, and a real estate agent directed them to the building.

"So it was a God-given gift," said Bert.

The new location gives them a much better and more open space with a



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

From left: Appelt's Diamonds Morden store manager Heather McKenzie and owners Bert Appelt and Jeff Appelt cut the ribbon on the new location.

wider layout, as well as just being a more modern building.

"We could also move into this building, and we were only shut down for two days. If we had done a renovation, we would have been shut down for three months, so there were a lot of benefits," said Bert.

"The shape and the location is much better now," he suggested. "And we can do in the Morden store now what people dream of doing in the jewelry industry."

"We have state of the art with everything in here. We've increased the brands that we have in here as well ... and these are brands that you would find in New York, London. We have

those in Morden now."

They are now especially promoting the fact that they have a full-time goldsmith on site.

"He can do certain things ... sometimes we would like something done on a rush, and now it's possible," said Jeff. "He's extremely good. He's got all the latest equipment and technology ... so we don't have to send stuff away. We can do it right here in the store, so that's something that's really major for us."

"As well, we have private diamond viewing rooms so it gives people privacy when they're looking for an engagement ring especially."

Morden Thunder Cheer game on this Friday

By Lorne Stelmach

It's more than just another game Friday when the Morden Thunder high school hockey team faces off here against the Mountain Mustangs.

It also serves as the annual fundraiser in support of the Morden Christmas Cheer Board, and it has become an important event for the team and the school community.

"It's become a real tradition at this point," said Doug Schellenberg, a Morden Collegiate teacher and assistant coach with the Thunder.

"It's a great community builder, especially in the school community. It's a place to hang out together on a game night ... and a lot of kids from the middle school come and watch the high school kids play, and some of them maybe can't wait to get to high school and play on the Thunder team as well."

The game is a chance for the Thunder to do its part to help spread some holiday joy. It was brought back last

year after a break at the start of the pandemic.

The gate fees and proceeds from a 50/50 and auction all go to support the cheer board. Past years have raised upwards of \$1,000.

"I think it's usually a sizeable contribution," said Schellenberg. "We usually get a really good haul of non-perishable food items and toys, and people donate money to the auction, and there's a 50/50 where people buy extra tickets, so it ends up pretty good."

"One of the things we try to do with the hockey team is we're not just trying to coach hockey players but also show them the value of contributing to your community and giving back to your community," he said. "If you bring a non-perishable food item, toy or book donation, you'll get your name put in for a prize."

"I think the boys really seem to buy into it. They usually get a lot of people out to the games, and that shows that a lot of people support them," Schel-



VOICE FILE PHOTO

The Morden Thunder's annual charity game takes place this Friday night.

lenberg concluded. "The community demonstrates to them the importance of showing support and giving back,

especially at this time of year."

The game starts at 7:45 p.m. at the Access Event Centre.

Honouring Dr. Marilyn Day

By Ashleigh Viveiros

A doctor in a rural community has the opportunity to touch a lot of lives, and Dr. Marilyn Day certainly did just that.

Friend and colleague Dr. Don Klassen estimates Day, in her lengthy career as a family physician in Winkler, cared for thousands of patients, many of them for decades and some right from birth.

"Just yesterday I was talking to an 86-year-old lady who was an 'always patient' of Marilyn's," he says. "Marilyn was here 35 years. She was a wonderful person. She's gone, but she leaves a legacy."

Day died last month in a hospice in Ontario. She had been diagnosed with ALS two years earlier, four years after hanging up her stethoscope and retiring to her family home in Stratford in 2016.

Because she's been out of the community these past few years, Klassen fears there are many who may not have learned of her passing. He and Dr. Margie Hesom, who shared an office with Day for years, reached out to the Voice to share some memories of the late physician.

Klassen recalls first encountering Day as he was finishing up his own residency training in 1978. She was applying for a spot in the family medicine program at the University of Manitoba, having completed the first phase of her training at McMaster University.

"She just struck all of us on the interview panel as a dynamic person," he recalls. "She wasn't always that way, but she could get very animated and descriptive ... of course she got accepted to the program."

Two years later, as Day was reaching the end of her studies, Klassen, now working in Winkler, reached out to her. The clinic at the time had just a handful of doctors on staff (a far cry from the 40+ there today).

"We needed doctors and I phoned Marilyn and said, 'When you're deciding where you want to practice, you can come here.'"

She did just that, joining the Winkler clinic in

the fall of 1980.

Adding a single physician to such a small medical team had a huge impact on the care the clinic was able to provide the growing community.

"When you add one to four, it's a 20 per cent factor ... Marilyn was just rock solid, steady practitioner," Klassen says, noting she was known for taking her time with patients.

"She didn't see people rapidly. She took a little more time. Part of her nature was to ask, 'Tell me about your family. So what's your Dad doing now?' Which a lot of us do, but she just took even more time with it ... she'd take patients up to the desk and make their next appointment. She kind of spoiled them."

"She was just interested in everybody," notes Hesom, who joined the Winkler clinic in 1998 and found herself sharing a workspace with Day for the next 18 years. "She was my mentor. She listened. She gave good advice. And nothing was ever too hard for her."

On the medical side of things, Day was a reliable, steady presence at the clinic and hospital (both the old Bethel and new Boundary Trails). She also took a leading role with the training program that started bringing more medical students to the area in the mid-'90s. Today that program is flourishing.

Medicine aside, she's remembered as well for the legendary skits she would organize for the annual clinic Christmas party. Day was an actor at heart, Hesom says.

"Marilyn was always in there," Klassen adds. "She would be an actor. She would be a spearheader. She would be going to the MCC store to get garbed up. That was Marilyn. She really lit up on those nights. Then you saw another side of Marilyn. That big smile you see in the picture, it didn't dim all night. That was her."

Prior to her ALS diagnosis, Hesom says Day was en-

"SHE'S GONE, BUT SHE LEAVES A LEGACY."



SUPPLIED PHOTOS

The late Dr. Marilyn Day (right) with Dr. Margie Hesom upon her retirement in 2016 after over three decades as a physician in Winkler.

joying her retirement, getting involved in her local theatre community and cheering on her favourite sports teams. She was able to be at home until this past spring, when hospice care became necessary.

She approached her illness in a way that was "so typically Marilyn," shares Klassen. "She was very optimistic."

Hesom was able to visit with Day one last time over Easter.

"The last time I saw her, she said she's going to be my cheerleader in heaven."

Day's family and friends will gather for a celebration of her life next week Thursday, Dec. 15 in Ontario. A link to the Youtube livestream of the event will be available at avondaleunitedstratford.com starting at 10:45 a.m.



Day (far left) and Hesom dressed up to cheer on the local doctors in a friendly Morden-Winkler hockey game a few years back. Hesom says Dr. Day was always a thespian at heart.

OUR OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED
December 22nd, 2022 - January 1st, 2023
Opening January 2nd, 2023

There will be NO newspaper printed December 29th,
but we will continue to distribute our flyers,
so please watch for them in your mail and distribution boxes.

*Merry Christmas &
A Happy New Year*

The **Winkler Morden**
Voice

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News Tips: news@winklermordenvoice.ca
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From Everywhere to Bethlehem



The Winkler EMM Church celebrated the return of its living nativity play in Winkler Park last weekend, guiding guests through the ancient town of Bethlehem, where rumours of a special birth abounded. Visitors were welcomed by Roman centurions and census-takers (who, in lieu of admission, were accepting donations to the local food bank) before making stops at stations featuring King Herod, a prophet, shepherds guarding their flocks by night, angels singing from on high, a bustling marketplace, and more, ending their journey in a manger where three wise men paid tribute to the Christ child.



PHOTOS BY RICK HIEBERT/VOICE



Take a seat on this farmhouse-style set. Dressed in a modern and relaxed linen-weave upholstery, it's a luxurious complement to rustic accents with its light and airy palette and elegantly turned feet. Adorned with the plaid and patterned toss pillows, it's a picture-perfect finish to any shabby chic or countryside living room.

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Winkler Christmas Market kicks off its second season



PHOTOS BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

The Winkler Christmas Market took over the New Leaf Garden Center last weekend. Above: Santa Claus was on hand to hear the Christmas wishes of kids like Remi and Memphis Enns. Photos with Santa—who is back this and next weekend—are by donation to the Winkler and District Christmas Cheer Board. The space was also filled with vendors showcasing their wares, many of them handcrafted, including those of Iris and Amanda Bergen (right, centre) of Tres Ositos and Shannon Wiebe of my.fathers.dotter (far right). The market continues for two more weeks, open Thursdays and Fridays from 9:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Saturdays from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Admission is free. Check out the market's social media pages for weekly vendor lists and special events.



Humane society puts call out for foster families

By Lorne Stelmach

The Pembina Valley Humane Society is putting out the call for more foster homes, with a need especially for a pregnant dog that has come into its care.

Meeka came to the shelter in Morden as a transfer from the Manitoba Underdogs rescue in Winnipeg. Her trip to the vet clinic for her spay surgery revealed she was pregnant.

She is currently in a foster home, but they are not in a position or equipped to care for both Meeka and her puppies, so the society is in search of a new temporary home for them.

"We are looking for a little more experienced foster that can handle that extra workload," said Alesha Unrau, animal care co-ordinator. "It takes a really special kind of person to come forward and want to take this all on, especially around the holidays."

"We're hoping in the next week or so we'll find out how many puppies she's going to be having, but at this point, it's going to be another surprise ... but we're thinking she will be due around Dec. 19 or so ... we're looking at some lovely Christmas puppies."

"It could be at least eight weeks of fostering just so the puppies can get proper socialization and all of the nutrients and such that they need from



PVHS PHOTO

Meeka is looking for a foster family for her and her soon-to-arrive puppies.

mom."

The society is also wanting to grow its number of foster families overall in part so that they don't have to scramble when they get an unexpected situation like this, said Unrau, who added there especially is a need for fosters who can provide a little extra time and attention.

Continued on page 19

A Rising Star in Pembina Valley

TDS congratulates our partner **Scott Hoepfner** on being named among **Lexpert Rising Stars 2022: Leading Lawyers Under 40 in Canada.**

The Lexpert Rising Stars Awards honours lawyers who are leaders in their legal practice and community. Scott's remarkable accomplishments are reflected in his diverse practice in the areas of labour and employment and business law. TDS is especially proud of Scott's achievement as the only lawyer in Manitoba to receive this award in 2022.

Congratulations to Scott and all of Canada's Leading Lawyers Under 40.



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Get to know Scott at
tdslaw.com/sjh

Korne family deck out their yard for the holidays

By Lorne Stelmach

By now, the Christmas season here in Morden would not be the same without having the large, extra-festive display put on by Debbie and Dennis Korne.

Holiday decor fills up and spreads all throughout the yard of their 353 12th Street home, and they always say all the reward they need is seeing the joy of the many people who take it in throughout the holiday season.

"Seeing the kids faces, the joy, there's nothing else like it," said Dennis, who also goes all-out for Halloween, which is his favorite holiday, while Debbie puts a lot into the display for Christmas, which is hers. "It draws people. We've had people from Crystal City come here with their eight kids just to walk them through, and people from Manitou come here.

"We've said for both of our displays, as long as we are having fun, we will continue," said Debbie, who noted they also usually keep adding things throughout the season.

One addition they first made a few years ago in the midst of the pandemic shutdown was a candy cane tree where people can help themselves to a treat, and it may be the biggest attraction for some of their visitors.

"It stuck. People just love it," Debbie said. "It just kind of stuck, so we've

just kept doing it.

"The neighbour was telling us there were two boys who would come every morning, grab a candy cane, walk through and go to school," added Dennis.

Christmas has always been a special time especially for Debbie, and her kids are aware of that so she usually gets something for her birthday in November to add to the display.

"Christmas has always been really important to our family," she said. "We're very family-oriented people, so Christmas has always been a special, magical time for our kids growing up.

"I never had the yard in Winnipeg to do as much as we do here, so I guess we've really taken advantage of it now," Debbie said. "We're actually about eight feet into the neighbours yard this year with their permission.

"For years, when our kids were little, we would drive around the city looking at Christmas lights, and I remember how much they enjoyed it, so now we have the opportunity to give back and do it for others."

Dennis noted it is always nice that their children and grandchildren get involved to help out, and they have already been enjoying seeing a lot of people come by including the foot traffic with school close by to their home.



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Dennis and Debbie Korne always go all-out for the holidays when it comes to decorations, including offering treats from a candy cane tree on the yard of their 12th St. home in Morden.

"You see the kids every day, and they walk through, and they're very respectful," added Debbie. "They just really enjoy it ... even the school bus driver, he might purposely stop before the stop sign in front of the yards so that the kids can look."

"I hear about it all the time ... I go to Giant Tiger, and right away someone is saying hey, I know you, you have that house on the corner ... we love your Christmas display. It's nice to

hear it," said Dennis.

"We've been adding to the yard every year. It keeps growing every year," said Debbie. "I'll always make room for something ... we try to make it a little bit different every year."

You can find their home right at the corner of 12th Street and Gilmour Street in Morden, and if you come around on Dec. 17 with your phone or camera, you will also be able to get a photo with Santa Claus.

> FOSTERS NEEDED, FROM PG. 18

"We have a lot more requests for dogs that need that little bit of extra training, attention and socialization," she said. "They're going to get more of that one on one personal attention, more of a home environment and a stable routine. That sometimes is enough to correct or at least see some change in their behaviour."

Fosters are needed for both short and long term commitments.

"And we're here to offer resources and support," Unrau noted. "We have trainers that we often work with who will sometimes partner with the fosters as well to give them that extra support, so they are not in it alone.

"We would always like the shelter to be a temporary place," she stressed.

Along those lines, the Christmas season means they are promoting their "Home for the Holidays" initiative.

"Our goal is to get as many animals out of the shelter as possible into foster homes," Unrau explained. "Last year we got all but one dog out and

all but three cats out, so we're hoping this year will be even more successful.

"We generally don't do adoptions over the holidays just to discourage unwanted pets as gifts, so we offer the option of fostering over the holidays just to kind of get a feel for what's best for that family, what's best for the dog or the cat."

Another ongoing need the society is looking to address is volunteers.

"Our volunteers have done so much for us as the shelter and have done so much for the animals, so we appreciate any applications," said Jennifer Young, PVHS volunteer and community outreach co-ordinator.

"We definitely are in need of some more volunteers. We have some great volunteers, but I would like to be able to fill some of the spots that we have," she said. "Right now, what we are in urgent need of are people for morning chores."

For more information, head to pvhsociety.ca.

A Christmas Musical Drama

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Craig is haunted by his past, and once again finds himself in the courtroom where only a miracle can save him.

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Kate Tykhonova with a display of Ukrainian books at the bake sale hosted by the Ukrainian Catholic Church in Morden last weekend.
PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Bake sale raises funds for Ukraine

By Lorne Stelmach

A Ukrainian church community in Morden held a Christmas bake sale this past Saturday in support of their homeland.

The community has gathered at least twice a year for sales, which were held this year at Easter and Christmas, to raise money to provide humanitarian aid to the people of Ukraine.

"Each of us has some relatives or some volunteers we know in Ukraine,

so we are directly in contact with them and we ask about their needs," said Kate Tykhonova, parish council president with the Ukrainian Catholic Church in Morden.

"It won't be used for weapons or things like that," she stressed, noting it might perhaps be for gear for protection.

"With the Easter sale, we did just slightly above \$2,000," noted Tykhonova, who added a big draw is the sale

of homemade perogies.

"All spring long they were making perogies here," she said, noting they appreciate the support of St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church. "They share their space with us ... and they have allowed us to pinch perogies, and they were pinching perogies all spring long here, and they were selling them with all proceeds going to Ukraine."

It continues to be an important connection for the growing Ukrainian

community in the Morden area.

"Our parish has really grown in the last few months. We used to be a very small congregation of let's say 15 families; now we have 50 families," Tykhonova said.

"It's a nice way for the community to be together because all these newcomers feel very lonely and detached ... they need a place to come, to be together, to feel united and to feel needed ... they feel welcomed and needed here."



PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Five teams put their creative caps on this past Saturday to try to come up with the most interesting ideas for the Christmas tree decorating contest. It was hosted by the Pembina Hills Arts Council together with the City of Morden and St. Pauls United Church with the support of the Morden Community Thrift Store, which donated eight trees to be decorated. Voting for the best tree continues to Dec. 15 in person at the church (353 Thornhill St.) and online at www.mymorden.ca/events. The winners will receive a grand prize package courtesy of a number of businesses including Pharmasave, Pure Anada, Fringe Salon & Spa, The Brick and more.

sports & recreation

Flyers best Kings

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler Flyers made short work of the Dauphin Kings both at home and on the road last week.

The team won Friday night's home game 3-1 and then took Saturday's road game 5-2.

On Friday, goals from Trent Penner and Dalton Andrew in the first period had the home team up 2-0 after 20 minutes.

Neither side made any headway in the second, despite the Kings outshooting the Flyers 17-1.

Winkler got the upper hand once again in the third, winning the shots battle 16-12 and making good on one courtesy of Mike Svenson in the final minute. Dauphin had scored their lone goal of the night at the start of the period.

Malachi Klassen made 35 saves in net as the Kings outshot the Flyers by one overall: 36-35.

A strong second period carried the Flyers to victory the next night in Dauphin.

Winkler was up 1-0 heading into the second thanks to a goal from Svenson early in the first.

Dauphin tied it up a few seconds after the first face-off, but goals from Zach Nicolas, Trent Sambrook, and Jayce Legaarden gave Winkler a comfortable lead heading into the final 20 minutes.

Both teams scored once more, Winkler's coming courtesy of Xyon



PHOTO BY RICK HIEBERT/VOICE

Flyers captain Trent Sambrook fights to keep Dauphin's Mathew Gough from interfering with goalie Malachi Klassen in Friday's game, which Winkler took 3-1. Klassen was one of the game stars, stopping 35 of 36 shots on net. The Flyers also beat the Kings in Dauphin the next night 5-2.

Kiemeney to cement victory.

Winkler outshot Dauphin 33-21 this time around, with Aidan Comeau manning the net and making 19 saves.

The Flyers are currently in fourth place in the MGEU East Division

standings with a record of 18-5-4-1 and 41 points.

Ahead of them are Steinbach in first (22-4, 45 points) and Portage in second place (20-5-1, 41 points). Well behind them in fourth place is the Niverville

Nighthawks (14-11-0-1, 29 points).

This week Winkler heads to Winnipeg to face the Blues on Tuesday and then hosts Portage on Friday.

Hawks pick up two points against Interlake

By Lorne Stelmach

They needed a shootout to get it done, but the male U18 Pembina Valley Hawks picked up the two points Friday in Morden.

Sebastian Hicks and Cedrik Robidoux connected in the shootout round, while Bryson Yaschyshyn

stopped two Interlake shooters to earn the 2-1 victory over the Lightnig.

It was the lone game of the week for the Hawks with the postponement of their Saturday game in Winnipeg against the Thrashers.

Ty Love opened scoring for Pembina Valley just 17 seconds into the third

period, and Yaschyshyn had the shut-out going right up until the last five minutes of regulation. Shots on goal were 42-37 in favour of the Hawks.

The win helped the Hawks maintain their hold on fourth place at 14-5-3 for 31 points, which is three back of the Thrashers and four up on the Winnipeg Wild.

It sets up a key encounter with the Thrashers in Morden Wednesday before the Hawks head west this weekend. They are in Souris Friday to face the Southwest Cougars then in Brandon Sunday to take on the Wheat Kings.

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

Dunstone and Ackland rinks win DEKALB Superspiel



PHOTO BY BRETT MITCHELL

Selkirk hosted a Manitoba Junior Curling Tour event last weekend. Altona's Dayna Wahl went 2-1 in the round robin. Dayna Wahl releases a rock while Anna Ginters and Gillian Hildebrand take on sweeping duties.

By Ty Dilello

The Matt Dunstone rink based out of Winnipeg and featuring Gimli's B.J. Neufeld and Colton Lott were the champions of the 2022 DEKALB Superspiel in Morris this past weekend.

Team Dunstone earned \$10,000 in prize money after dismantling Reid Carruthers of Morris 7-2 in five ends in Monday afternoon's championship final. To get to the final, Dunstone defeated Ryan Wiebe of Fort Rouge, while Carruthers knocked off USA's John Shuster.

Dunstone and Carruthers are now off to Oakville, Ontario, this week to take part in a Grand Slam of Curling event that will be broadcast on Sportsnet.

On the women's side, it was Abby

Ackland and her Assiniboine Memorial rink of Meghan Walter, Mackenzie Elias and Sara Oliver (from Marquette) who were victorious at the Superspiel.

In the final, Ackland defeated Saskatchewan's Nancy Martin 7-3. To get to the final, Ackland knocked off Vancouver's Clancy Grandy, while Martin defeated Winnipeg's Jennifer Jones (featuring Altona's Emily and Mackenzie Zacharias).

There was also a Manitoba Junior Curling Tour event last weekend at the Selkirk Curling Club that featured many of the top junior curlers in the province.

On the girls' side, Winnipeg's Katy Lukowich defeated Manitou's Cheyenne Ehnes 11-1 in the championship final. Altona's Dayna Wahl went 2-1

the only goals of the third period to temper the Mercs' lead and eventual win.

Cole Kehler and Brady Klassen both played 30 minutes in net for the Maroons, Kehler making 28 saves and giving up five goals while Klassen stopped 22 shots on net and gave up two goals.

On Saturday, the Winkler Royals lost to the Ste Anne Aces 5-2 and the Morden Bombers were defeated by the Mercs 4-3.



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

The Matt Dunstone rink including Matt Dunstone, B.J. Neufeld, Colton Lott, Ryan and Harnden was victorious at the 2022 DEKALB Superspiel in Morris, winning a cool \$10,000.



The Abby Ackland rink of Meghan Walter, Abby Ackland, Sara Oliver and Mackenzie Elias won the women's side and \$10,000 of the Superspiel.

in the round robin and qualified for the playoffs, where they fell to Ehnes in the quarterfinal.

In the boys' event, Virden's Jace Freeman took home the Selkirk MJCT

after defeating Winnipeg's Luke Robins 8-2 in the final. Zach Norris of the Morris Curling Club went 3-0 in the round robin but fell to Robins in the semifinal.

Local teams all post losses in SEMHL action

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Our local SEMHL teams had a challenging week, all three recording losses.

First, the Altona Maroons fell to the Warren Mercs 7-3 Thursday night.

Warren was up 4-0 before Adam Henry got the Maroons up on the board in the second period. The Mercs scored three more that period to head into the final frame up 7-1.

Justin Voth and Tristen Dueck scored

Winkler's game saw the Aces ahead 3-0 before Jordan Peters scored Winkler's first goal three minutes into the second period.

Mitch Doell then scored the team's second and last goal of the night, while the Aces added two more to their tally. The third period was a scoreless one.

In net for Winkler was Jayme Janzen, who made 38 saves as the Aces outshot the Royals 43-33.

Morden's game against Warren was

a much closer affair, the two teams trading goal for goal throughout the first two periods.

The Mercs drew first blood with two minutes to go in the first, only to have Morden's Mike Rey even things up with just three seconds left on the clock.

Period two saw an early pair of goals from Adam Hughesman pull the Bombers into the lead, but then

Continued on page 23

arts&culture

More than just a children's fantasy: Zendayne the Wizard a magical experience

By Autumn Fehr

If you head east of Carman along Hwy. 3, you will find a magical experience of an epic tale that comes to life in an art gallery in Sperling.

The Sperling Gallery, co-owner and author Kenneth Potter recently released a new book that will take you through a chronicle for all ages.

Zendayne the Wizard is a children's fantasy storybook filled with Potter's own exquisite artwork and handwritten by himself in an easy-to-read gothic font.

"It started off as a cartoon script. It wasn't anything, but then I kept writing, and six years later, I got this 347-page book, and it's all illustrated and handwritten," said Potter.

The story unravels the tale of twin boys who were separated at birth. The narrative follows their journey of finding each other when they have grown up, navigating through human nature and the personal feelings that arise from it.

The thick, black, hardcover, one-of-a-kind book was inspired by Potter's grandkids and started when they were eight. It was crafted by the time they spent playing and telling the tales of Wilbur the dinosaur and Zendayne the wizard.

"We started writing back and forth, and they would add to the story, and it was about the adventures of Zendayne the wizard and his sidekick Wilbur, the dinosaur," said Potter.

To accompany his spectacular hardcover, Potter hand-crafted and built a tabletop village of miniatures featuring the setting and characters of the fantasy story.

By applying his skills as a visual art-

ist, Potter was able to bring the world that his story lived in, to life, in tangible form for his readers to engage with and get the full experience.

The diorama includes charming houses crafted from old wood stumps and furnished inside to the smallest details such as tiny framed photos adorning the walls and a little fireplace that actually lights up.

Guests can explore the village on display at Sperling Gallery and discover the intricacies of the world Potter created.

Before Potter recently released the story, he had been working on perfecting the epic tale for the past six to seven years.

After finishing the book in March 2021, he needed help finding a publisher.

"Nobody wanted to do anything. I guess it's because of COVID or something; nobody wanted to work," said Potter.

Potter took it to himself to do it on his own. So now he can call himself an author and the publisher of his book.

After going through the process, Potter printed 100 copies of his creation and placed them in his gallery on display.

So far, he has sold half of his copies.

A limited number of limited-edition books are available for sale by contacting Potter at Sperling Gallery at 204-626-3260 or by coming down to the gallery to explore the world of Zendayne the Wizard for yourself.

The books are sold at \$100 apiece.

Next time you are passing through Sperling, stop by to see the limited-time display. It's the only way to immerse yourself in the story and get the full experience.

"IT WASN'T ANYTHING, BUT THEN I KEPT WRITING, AND SIX YEARS LATER, I GOT THIS 347-PAGE BOOK."



PHOTOS BY LORRAINE STEVENSON

Artist and co-owner of Sperling Gallery Ken Potter has just published a spectacular children's storybook titled *Zendayne the Wizard*, featuring his own exquisite artwork and handwritten in an easy-to-read Gothic font. The limited edition books are available for sale by contacting Potter at Sperling Gallery.



In tandem with writing the book, Ken Potter applied his considerable skills as a visual artist, building a table-top display of miniatures that feature the setting and characters of his epic tale.

> SEMHL, FROM PG. 22

Warren got those two back in the back half of the period.

The game tied at 3-3, it was the Merces who ultimately got the game-winning midway through the final frame.

Reed Peters was in net for Morden,

making 52 saves off the 56 shots he faced. Morden had 46 shots on goal.

With that, Winkler is in fourth place with nine points (4-3-1), trailing Ile des Chenes, Ste Anne, and Portage in the top three.

Morden is in seventh place with seven points (3-2-0-1) and Altona remains in 10th and last place with two points (1-7).

This week Altona plays in Notre Dame Wednesday and then hosts

the Hawks Saturday night. Morden hosts Ile des Chenes Thursday and Carman on Saturday. Winkler is in Warren Saturday night.

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

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30th Floor - 360 Main Street
Winnipeg, MB R3C 4G1
Attn: Jilian P. Stefanson
Ph: 204-957-4713 Fax: 204-957-0840
Email:jstefanson@mltaikins.com

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(approximately 317.41 acres) all as more particularly described in the Real Estate Tender Form. To obtain a Tender Form or more information, contact Jilian P. Stefanson of MLT Aikins LLP at the address above.

Conditions of Tender

1. Interested parties must rely on their own inspection and knowledge of the property.
2. Tenders must be in the form prepared by MLT Aikins LLP and must be delivered by the Deadline.
3. Each Tender must be accompanied by a certified cheque, payable to MLT Aikins LLP (in trust), in the amount of \$20,000.00.
4. Deposits for Tenders not accepted will be returned to the bidders.
5. The possession date and the due date of the balance of tender price shall be February 15, 2023 (the "Due Date").
6. If the balance of the accepted tender is not paid on the Due Date, the deposit paid may be forfeited as liquidated damages.
7. Successful bidders shall be responsible for payment of the GST or shall self-assess GST.
8. Successful bidders will be responsible for the payment of property taxes commencing January 1, 2023.
9. **Highest Tender or any Tender will not necessarily be accepted. The Vendors are not obligated to sell any of the land, or to accept any Tender.**

FARMLAND TENDER

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(Approximately 125 cultivated acres)

CONDITIONS OF TENDER

1. Interested parties must rely on their own inspection and knowledge of the property.
2. Tenders must be placed and accepted on the entire above described parcel of land.
3. Tenders must be received on or before 3:00 p.m. on December 22, 2022.
4. A deposit cheque in the amount of \$20,000.00, payable to McCulloch Mooney Johnston Selby Trust, must accompany each Tender. Deposit cheques accompanying unacceptable bids will be returned.
5. Highest or any tender not necessarily accepted.
6. The land is not subject to a first right of refusal.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SALE

1. The bidder whose tender is accepted will be required to complete an agreement covering terms and conditions of sale.
2. In addition to the deposit, the balance of the accepted tender must be paid on or before the date of closing which shall be January 20, 2023, or evidence provided that the purchase funds will be available under conditions acceptable to the Vendor. If the balance of the accepted tender is not paid within the set time limit the deposit may be forfeited as liquidated damages and not as a penalty.
3. Possession is not authorized until acceptable arrangements for full payment are made following acceptance of tender. Once arrangements acceptable to the vendor have been made, the successful bidder may have access to the property for seeding and other farming purposes.
4. Successful bidder will be responsible for real property taxes commencing January 1, 2023.
5. The purchaser shall be responsible for payment of GST or shall self-assess for GST.

For further information, contact Chris H. Bowler

Phone: 204-723-2777

Fax: 204-723-2416

Email: chris@mmjlaw.com

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Morden CITY OF MORDEN PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that the audited Financial Report of the City of Morden for the year ending December 31st, 2021, together with the related financial statements have been deposited in the office of the Director of Finance & Administration and are available for inspection by any person or his/her agent during regular business hours of Monday to Friday 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and that any person or his/her agent at their own expense may make a copy thereof or extracts therefrom.

Nicole Reidle, CMMA, CMML
City Manager
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- Able to work both independently and as a team on a flexible work schedule including both evenings and weekends to meet our weekly editorial deadline
- Experience covering council and school board meetings
- Knowledge of CP Style and about the Interlake and its surrounding communities would be an asset

Please forward your resumé along with three writing and photography samples to:

Lana Meier
Email: news@stonewallteulontribune.ca

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Competition # 39-22/23

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Be Passionate. You will be an engaging and forward-thinking Instructor, ready to share your passion and knowledge of the nursing profession with students in our Practical Nursing program. Enthusiasm that can be applied to classroom management, student evaluation, academic advising and related administrative duties will be essential. You will be well-informed about the role of the CLPNM, the Practical Nurse entry-level competencies, scope of practice and other regulatory requirement of our students and the Licensed Practical Nurse in Manitoba.

Take Initiative. We are looking for someone who loves to communicate, wants to share their knowledge and is committed to creating exceptional learning experiences for our students. With your relevant post-secondary nursing education and significant industry experience, particularly in the areas of acute medicine and surgery, you will be able to contribute to an unparalleled student experience for our nursing students. Teaching experience in an adult environment is highly desirable, experience using Moodle an asset.

Deliver Results. As an instructor in the Practical Nursing program, you will have the appropriate nursing credential and other relevant post-secondary education, be registered and in good standing with CRNM, CRPNM or CLPNM, and have relevant experience in teaching (theory, lab, and clinical). You will have a solid understanding of program and curriculum development, Indigenization and decolonization of curriculum, classroom instruction, assessment and evaluation, student advising and group facilitation. You will also have well-developed technical skills, particularly in Microsoft Word, have highly developed communication skills, strong organizational skills, and be able to work effectively as part of the Practical Nursing team.

This competition will remain open until filled.

Assiniboine Community College is committed to reconciliation and ensuring that its policies, practices, and systems are free of barriers. Assiniboine values diversity and promote full participation to ensure dignity, respect, and equal access for all employees.

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If you are interested in this career opportunity, please send your resume and cover letter to the address/email/fax information found at the bottom of this page. Requests for accommodations can be made at any point during the recruitment process through the same contacts.

Assiniboine Community College
c/o Human Resources
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Brandon, Manitoba R7A 2A9
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OBITUARY



Edward Elmer Loutchan 1937 – 2022

On Wednesday, November 30, 2022 Ed Loutchan, 85 of Morden, MB passed away.

He was predeceased by his parents, Walter Loutchan and Mary (Noheil) Loutchan; his father-in-law, Otto Kube; mother-in-law, Pearl (Turick) Kube; sisters, Florence, Lydia and Ruby; granddaughter, Emily and numerous nieces and nephews.

Dad is survived by his wife of 54 years, Ruth Loutchan (nee Kube); son, Chuck (Kelly) Loutchan; daughter, Kris Loutchan; grandchildren, Mykayla, Cullen, Jonathan and Lachlan.

The most important thing to Dad was his family; his loving wife, son, daughter and grandchildren were his whole life. The love extended to his daughter-in-law, Kelly when she joined the family.

Funeral service was held at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, December 6, 2022 at Wiebe Funeral Chapel in Morden with interment at the Southside Cemetery.

If friends so desire, donations may be made in Ed's memory to the Dream Factory.

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



OBITUARY



Kenneth Abram "Sam" Braun 1942 - 2022

Ken "Sam" Braun passed away at the Altona Community Memorial Health Centre on November 28, 2022.

He is survived by his wife Marianne (Kaethler); his daughter Monica Harder of Winkler and her children Zachary, Gabriel, Rahab; his daughter Teresa of Montreal; his sister Rosella Schroeder (Herman) of Almonte, Ontario; his brother Ronald "Joe" (Lois Nickel) of Altona; his sister Viola Braun-Fox (Derek) of Vegreville, Alberta and their children; and his sister-in-law Marlene (Epp) Braun of Winnipeg and her children.

He was predeceased by his parents Aganetha "Nettie" Dyck (1906-1991) and Gerhard Abram "George" Braun (1908-1999), his brother Albert George Braun, and his niece Lori Schroeder.

Born in Winkler, Manitoba on January 6, 1942, he grew up on the family farm in the Kleinstadt school district, near Altona, where he participated fully in the day-to-day activities of farm life. After completing high school at Altona Collegiate, he studied at Bethel College, Newton, Kansas. For a few years, he spent the summers working on threshing crews in the US, and one winter he worked in the mines at Lynn Lake, Manitoba. He had many friends and enjoyed socializing and travel.

He also enjoyed singing, and throughout his adult life performed as a soloist at church services, sang in the church choir and the Southern Manitoba Choral Society, and eventually attended Conrad Grebel College at Waterloo, Ontario to study music. Upon his return to Manitoba to join his father and younger brother Joe on the farm, he had the opportunity to perform in the Manitoba Opera Association chorus, with his older brother Albert.

On July 11, 1982, he married Marianne Kaethler, who was a nurse in Altona. They both became faithful members of the Altona Mennonite Church. After living in Altona for a while, they moved to his parental home on the farm. There he continued to work with his brother, while he and Marianne raised their two daughters. He had an easy-going approach to farm life, and enjoyed putting around in the yard and gardens and creating small, artistic, sometimes bizarre landscapes and structures that reflected his personality. Soon after the Braun family sold the farmland, Ken and his family sold the farm home and moved to a house on Poplar Drive in Altona in 2001. He continued to work for Joe on the small market-garden acreage Joe ran on a different Kleinstadt farm—planting and weeding, then picking and packaging, meanwhile proceeding to fashion a colourful environment on the town property, both inside and outside the house.

Among his interests were Mennonite history and ancestry. He contributed to the Abram Braun/Anna Falk family history book, and also used his fluency in the German language to translate documents for the Altona and District Heritage Research Centre.

After the girls had grown up, Ken began experiencing health issues, and he and Marianne settled into a condo in Katharina Court. His health continued to deteriorate, and in 2016, being in need of personal care, he moved to Eastview Place.

A private funeral was held at the Altona Mennonite Church on December 4. Interment took place at Eigengrund Cemetery.

We the family, would like to thank the staff at Eastview Place for providing compassionate care for Ken over the last few years, appreciating his vivid imagination and engaging him in singing and conversation. We are also grateful for everyone who has shown support during this time; your prayers and calls and messages are greatly appreciated.

Wiebe Funeral Home, Altona
In care of arrangements

OBITUARY



Andrew Paul Plett

Andrew Paul Plett, age 46 years, passed away on Thursday, November 17, 2022.

Andrew is lovingly remembered by his wife Julie; children Lyla and Cohen; father Paul Plett; mother Joy Plett; sisters Leah (Jeff), Robyn (Jason) and Susan; many family and close friends.

Andrew was born in Brandon, MB on January 21, 1976. He grew up in Oak Lake, MB and went to high school in Virden, MB. He married Julie in 2008 in Brandon, MB and they started their family in 2010. In 2016 they moved to Morden, MB, where he resided with his family until his passing.

The Reception to Celebrate Andrew's Life will be held at the Victoria Inn - Grand Salon, 3550 Victoria Avenue, Brandon on Monday, December 12, 2022 from 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. with a time of reflection at 2:30 p.m.

Donations in memory of Andrew may be made to the United Way Pembina Valley, PO Box 758, Morden, MB R6M 1A7 or the John Howard Society of Brandon, 153 – 8th Street, Brandon, MB R7A 3W9.

Expressions of sympathy may be made at www.memorieschapel.com.

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> MEAL IDEAS



Classic Beef Wellington

Place same skillet used for roast over medium-high heat and heat remaining oil until hot. Add mushrooms and shallot; cook 4-6 minutes until tender and all liquid is evaporated, stirring often. Add wine; cook 2-3 minutes until all liquid is evaporated. Stir in mustard, thyme and remaining pepper. Cook 2-3 minutes. Remove from skillet to medium bowl; cool.

Line rimmed baking sheet with aluminum foil and place in oven. On lightly floured cutting board, unfold pastry dough. Roll pastry out to 12-by-9-inch rectangle; lay dough with shortest edge toward you. Spread mushroom mixture onto pastry dough, leaving 1/2-inch border around edges. Place roast in center of mushrooms. Fold pastry dough neatly around roast, stretching dough if necessary. Cut off excess pastry dough; press to seal overlapping edges.

Remove baking sheet from oven and dust lightly with flour. Place pastry-wrapped roast, seam-side down, on baking sheet. Cut four (2-inch) vents in top of pastry.

Bake 35-50 minutes, or until golden brown and instant-read thermometer inserted into center of roast registers 135 F for medium-rare or 150 F for medium. Transfer roast to carving board. Let stand 10 minutes. Temperature will rise about 10 F to reach 145 F for medium-rare or 160 F for medium.

Carve into slices and serve.

Recipe courtesy of Beef Loving Texans
Total time: 1 hour, 30 minutes
Servings: 4

- 1 teaspoon olive oil, divided
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon pepper, divided
- 1 chateaubriand tenderloin roast
- 8 ounces mushrooms
- 1 large shallot
- 2 tablespoons dry red wine
- 2 tablespoons Dijon mustard
- 1/2 teaspoon dried thyme leaves
- 1 sheet puff pastry

In large nonstick skillet over medium-high heat, heat 1/2 teaspoon oil until hot. Combine salt and 1/4 teaspoon pepper. Press evenly onto all surfaces of roast. Place roast in skillet; brown evenly. Remove roast from skillet.

Heat oven to 425 F.

In food processor, pulse mushrooms and shallot about 10 times until finely chopped. Do not overprocess.



Top Sirloin Roast with Herb Garlic Peppercorn Crust

Preheat oven to 350 F.

Rub roast with olive oil.

To make seasoning: In small bowl, combine salt, parsley, thyme, garlic and mixed peppercorns; press evenly into beef roast.

Place roast in roasting pan or baking dish with wire rack in bottom. Bake 40-60 minutes. Remove roast when meat thermometer registers 135 F for medium-rare or 150 F for medium.

Transfer roast to carving board; tent loosely with aluminum foil. Let stand 10-15 minutes. Temperature will rise about 10 F to reach 145 F for medium-rare or 160 F for medium.

Carve roast into slices by cutting against grain.

Recipe courtesy of Beef Loving Texans
Total time: 45 minutes
Servings: 8
1 center-cut sirloin beef roast (about 3 pounds)

- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- Seasoning:
- 2 teaspoons kosher salt
- 2 tablespoons fresh parsley, chopped
- 2 tablespoons fresh thyme, chopped
- 5 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 teaspoons coarsely ground mixed peppercorns (black, white, green and pink)

Five holiday diet busters

By Health Expert Julie Germaine Coram

Are you as excited for this wonderful season as I am? We've already been baking and gift wrapping up a storm, which has me thinking ahead to delicious traditional meals. Not to wreck it for you, but did you know that on average, people increase their meal sizes by up to 40% during special occasions? It's not uncommon to eat over 3,000 calories during an average holiday meal. (That's a lot!)

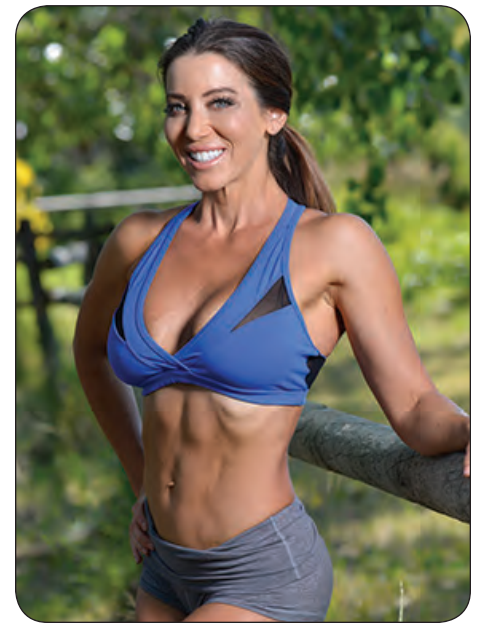
The solution certainly isn't to 'diet' from now until January. That would be sad and completely unrealistic. Instead, here are some tips to avoid looking like a cookie-eating Santa:

1. Do not create a list of 'naughty' foods. Restricting yourself from your favourites will lead to food cravings, and possibly bingeing. Instead, allow yourself to have a taste. Portion control is key. Rate foods from 1 to 10, only putting top choices into your mouth.

2. Steal one of the kiddie plates. You don't have to sit at the kids table, but opting to use a smaller dish will make it difficult to overload, and your Insta photo will still look indulgent, no one will be the wiser.

3. Eat the cake (and the chocolate)! If you know me, you know I eat the dessert. Or at least I always WANT to! Over the holidays, the odds are 100% that I enjoy a piece of my Mom's traditional English trifle. Pace yourself. A little something sweet that's only offered once a year won't ruin you.

4. Be social during dinner. Think ahead of some interesting stories you want to share with your family, and take advantage of everyone's chewing to gab! Slowing down how quickly you eat each meal by chatting and drinking water will give your stomach a chance to catch up and realize you are full.



Health and Wellness Fitness expert
Julie Germaine Coram

5. Keep the toasts to a minimum. A glass of wine is only about 125 calories, and it enables some to relax and better take in the holiday spirit, but too much alcohol leads to excessive food consumption and affects your body's ability to burn calories effectively.

Cheers to your having a healthier relationship with food this holiday season and ringing in the New Year with genuine enthusiasm that 2023 will be one for the books!

Coach Julie Germaine Coram is a Certified Nutrition Coach, Registered Personal Trainer, 2x International Pro Fitness Champion, Miss Fitness Manitoba, and just a regular fit Manitoban mom! She has helped tens of thousands of men and women improve their health since 2005. Check out her services at www.juliegermaine.com or book a FREE diet and fitness consultation directly with her by visiting this link: www.calendly.com/juliegermaine

Holiday Mini Beef Meatball Skewers with Cranberry Barbecue Sauce

Recipe courtesy of Beef Loving Texans

Total time: 50 minutes

Servings: 12

- 1 pound ground beef
- 1 cup fresh zucchini, grated
- 1 egg
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon pepper
- 1 small yellow onion, diced 1/2 inch
- 2 red bell peppers, diced 1/2 inch
- 2 green bell peppers, diced 1/2 inch
- 12 skewers (6 inches)

Cranberry Barbecue Sauce:

- 1 can (16 ounces) whole berry cranberry sauce
- 3 tablespoons barbecue sauce

Preheat oven to 400 F.

In medium bowl, lightly mix ground beef, zucchini, egg, salt and pepper until thoroughly combined. Shape into 24 1-inch meatballs. Alternately thread meatballs, onions, red peppers and green peppers onto skewers. Place skewers on shallow-rimmed baking sheet.

Bake 22-25 minutes, or until instant-read thermometer inserted into center of meatball registers 160 F.

To make cranberry barbecue sauce: In medium saucepan, combine cranberry sauce and barbecue sauce; simmer 5 minutes, or until flavors blend.

Drizzle sauce over skewers or serve as dipping sauce.

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