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The **Voice** Winkler Morden

VOLUME 6 EDITION 49

THURSDAY,
DECEMBER 10, 2015

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PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

The Gr. 8 class at Border Valley School in Reinland handed over a mountain of food items on behalf of their school to Winkler Christmas Cheer Board reps Chris Hildebrand (far left) and Marilyn Dyck (right) on Monday. The Cheer Board received thousands of donations of tin cans from local schools as they put together the care hampers this week for distribution to families in need on Wednesday night.

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Meeting their "Tin for the Bin" goal this year wasn't enough for Border Valley School in Reinland—the kids

set out to decimate it.

The K-8 school south of Winkler had initially aimed to bring in 400 cans—about two cans per student—for the Winkler and District Christmas

Cheer Board, which filled and distributed its hampers this week.

But after just a few days of collecting, principal Renae Hildebrand had to make a quick adjustment to the

challenge, increasing the goal to 550.

"The first goal was met within the first week," Hildebrand said, "and so

Continued on page 5

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United Way \$30K from goal

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The clock is winding down on the Morden United Way campaign.

Since kicking off its fundraising campaign on Oct. 1, the agency has raised just under \$60,000, leaving them with ways to go toward their goal of \$90,000.

"We're always cautiously optimistic that we'll get there," says board member Alex Fedorchuk, who

stresses that the United Way is grateful to every individual and business who has so generously supported the campaign thus far.

The money will go to support upwards of 30 different non-profit organizations and groups who cater to the Morden area.

It's not too late to make a donation, but the Dec. 31 deadline is fast approaching.

"If there's anybody who still wants to donate, now's the time," says Fedorchuk, noting the end of the month is the cut-off for tax receipts for 2015.

If you'd like to make a donation, call 822-6992 or mail it in to United Way of Morden and District, Box 758, Morden, MB, R6M 1A7.

You can also learn more online at www.unitedwaymorden.com.



PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Over 175 kids came out for the Morden and District United Way's annual Skate with Santa celebration at the arena Sunday afternoon. The United Way sponsors the free public skating event every year in thanks to the community for all its support. This year's campaign is about \$60,000 of the way to its \$90,000 goal.

Rhineland woman killed in crash

A 25-year-old woman from the RM of Rhineland died as a result of a single vehicle accident near Jordan Corner on Dec. 2.

Morden RCMP were on patrol around 10 p.m. travelling south on Hwy. 3 just south of Jordan Corner when they came upon an accident scene.

They saw a person sitting on the west shoulder of the highway while a sport utility vehicle with the lights on was seen about 200 metres in the field on the west side of the highway. When officers approached the woman, they immediately noticed she was injured and called for an ambulance.

She was the lone occupant of the vehicle and was transported to hos-

pital where she later succumbed to her injuries.

RCMP said they believe that alcohol was a factor in the collision, but their

investigation is still ongoing and no further details were available at press time.

The driver's name was not released.



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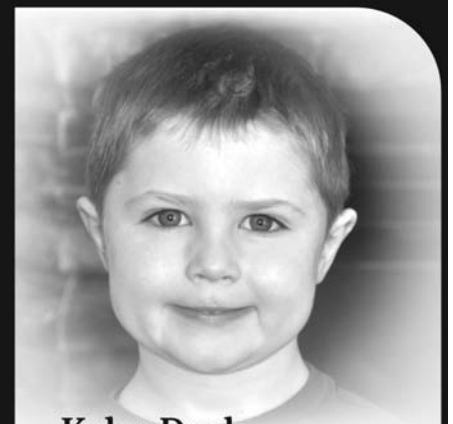
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NEWS > VIEWS > WINKLER > MORDEN > SURROUNDING AREAS

'Man-Up Against Suicide' exhibit on display at Eden

By Ashleigh Viveiros

An exhibit on display at Eden Health Care Services seeks to raise awareness about men's mental health.

Through to Dec. 16, the hallway adjacent to Eden's offices in the A.L.G. Professional Centre in downtown Winkler will be home to several photographs and captions from the Man-Up Against Suicide project.

The exhibition, explains University of Manitoba research coordinator Mary Anne Nurmi, was launched by Dr. John Oliffe, a men's health expert from the University of British Columbia.

"It's part of what's called a photo voice project ... people who took part in the research project were either men who had experienced thoughts of suicide or women who had been affected by male suicide," she says.

"All of the participants, to take part in this study, they took photographs to represent their experience and then they were interviewed to talk about what those photographs mean for them."

The result is over 60 photos—11 of which are now on display in Winkler—meant to get people talking about the causes and impact of suicide.

"The reason it's being displayed in Eden and many different places around Canada is just to open up spaces to reduce stigma around talking about men's mental health," Nurmi says.

While depression affects both men and women, men are much less likely to re-



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Researcher Mary Anne Nurmi and Eden's James Friesen in front of one of the pieces now on display in Winkler from the Man-Up Against Suicide art exhibition. The exhibit features photos and captions from people touched by male suicide.



ceive a diagnoses. Men's suicide rates, meanwhile, are over three times higher than women.

Some of the photos reflect the aftermath of losing a loved one to suicide—a mother holding up a sign that says, "He was my son"—while other share the thoughts of those who considered ending their lives: "I was afraid of who I was and what I was capable of doing."

It's a poignant reminder that there are people behind the statistics, Nurmi says.

The response to the exhibit

as it travels across Canada has been overwhelmingly positive, she adds.

"The act of just going to the exhibit seems to give people a sense of permission to just have little conversations about their own experiences, so in that way it's been really positive."

Generating discussion is exactly why Eden was so eager to host the photos, says CEO James Friesen.

"It's another way to help all of us have this conversation about some of the things around mental illness that we tend to not want to talk about," he says. "I think the stigma is reducing slowly over time and it's through these kinds of efforts, I think, that that's happening."

If you'd like to learn more about the exhibit, visit www.manupagainstsui-cide.ca.

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> CHEER, FROM PG. 1

then we went to 550 because we only had another week to go and I figured the beginning usually starts strong, so ..."

That new number still proved to be too low, though, as the kids went on to bring in a whopping 1,293 food tins, which they presented to the Cheer Board on Monday.

To help drum up interest in the campaign this year, the Cheer Board offered a pizza party to the class in each participating school who brought in the most tins.

At Border Valley, that proved to be the Gr. 8 students, who brought in 458 tins in all.

But rather than enjoy the free pizza they had earned, the kids had other plans.

"We thought it would be a better idea to use that money to keep giv-

ing and to help more people," said 13-year-old Lexie Fehr.

And so, last week the class headed to Superstore to spend the \$150 the Cheer Board had gifted them for their party on yet more tins for the cause.

"We're still going to have our own little pizza party with a movie and we're going to bring pizza from home," Fehr explained. "We can always make that happen like that, but this is \$150 that we can spend on giving back more."

The students' generosity brought Cheer Board representative Marilyn Dyck to tears.

"It absolutely made me cry ... I couldn't believe it," she said.

Dyck said all the schools who collected food for the hampers

this year went above and beyond.

"I have absolutely been overwhelmed with the responses from the schools," she said, adding that the pizza party prize served as a great motivator for the kids.

"For sure the number of tins has been amazing and just the heart of kids for wanting to give," Dyck said. "It's never too soon for kids to learn that there are people that they rub shoulders with every day that may be people who have a need. For them to respond in this way is just fabulous."

With each of the schools bringing in hundreds of tins—not to mention the donations that poured in from the community at large—the Cheer Board was able to distribute over 300 hampers Wednesday evening, delivered by volunteer drivers to families

in need all over the area.

The deliveries capped off three days of food sorting, gift wrapping, and hamper packing that was also done by an army of volunteers.

While the hampers were being put together on Tuesday, the Border Valley Gr. 8s held their pizza party. They didn't have to bring it from home, though—DJ's Family Restaurant donated pizzas to the kids in recognition of their generosity.

The Gr. 1s at the school also demonstrated their generosity. Upon learning they had won the school's second place prize of an ice cream party for bringing in nearly 200 tins, the kids asked if they could share that party with the entire student body, which the school was able to accommodate by handing out icy treats on Monday.

Parkinson's benefit concert tickets on sale now

'Tis the Season ... To Find a Cure' at concert hall Dec. 19

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The fourth annual 'Tis the Season ... To Find a Cure' benefit concert takes over the P.W. Enns Centennial Concert Hall next week.

The Dec. 19 show features a lengthy line-up of local artists taking to the stage to raise funds for the Parkinson Society of Canada.

"We've tried to have a lot of variety to provide something for just about everybody," says organizer Karen Doell, a member of the Bare Yogis group.

Doell has spearheaded fundraisers for the Parkinson's Society ever since she herself was diagnosed with the disease over a decade ago.

It's her way of helping others to battle the illness, she says, and the annual concert is also a great way to get people in the holiday spirit.

"We'll all be performing Christmas songs ... it's always a really fun night," Doell says. "It's a chance to bring people in to not only to enjoy the talent in the area but also to contribute to a good cause."

Joining the Bare Yogis in the line-up is Jayme Giesbrecht and her Soul Revue band, Hey Zeus Marimba, Rick Wiebe, Linda Hiebert, Julie Myers, and Joel Nickel.

Sponsoring this year's event is Winkler Co-op, Triple E, and Alexa Media.

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PUBLISHER
Rick Reimer



ADMINISTRATION
Lana Meier



EDITOR
Ashleigh Viveiros



REPORTER
Lorne Stelmach



SALES
Gwen Keller



AGRICULTURE REPORTER
Harry Siemens



PRODUCTION
Tara Cionet



PRODUCTION
Nicole Kapusta

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EDITORIAL > VIEWPOINTS > LETTERS

> GUEST COMMENTARY

Time to put the brakes on spending spree

Manitoba's NDP government recently pledged, if re-elected, to embark on a spending spree designed to entice Manitoba voters in the lead up to the April provincial election.

The NDP's recent throne speech promises massive spending to the tune of \$6.6 billion in new commitments. It is precisely this NDP high-tax, high-spend, high-debt approach that has resulted in a half billion dollar deficit that doesn't go down, a debt load that has doubled in just six years, and



Cameron Friesen, MLA

millions of dollars more in borrowing costs after Manitoba's first credit rating downgrade in 20 years.

Manitobans understand that more money going to service a ballooning debt means less money for frontline services like healthcare and education.

Overspending and deficits are nothing new for Selinger's NDP government. What is new this time is the absence of any commitment to move in the direction of balancing the books. The NDP remains silent on how it would pay for this latest massive, spending spree. This is dangerous and will not go unnoticed by bankers in Toronto and New York who monitor the financial performance of governments and set the rates at which those governments borrow money. As lenders lose confidence in Manitoba, Manitobans pay more.

This NDP broken financial record is strewn with promises to do better. In the 2012 budget, the NDP guaranteed they would eliminate the deficit by 2014. They broke that promise and promptly revised that balance date to 2016. As Manitoba's finance critic, I

can report that they are well on their way to breaking that promise. Just weeks ago, when Manitoba's annual financial reports were issued, it was revealed that the NDP overspent its planned budget yet again—this time by more than \$200 million.

The Manitoba Consumer Protection Office recently ran a series of newspaper ads suggesting consumers should ask the right questions when making major purchases to avoid being misled.

One of the suggested questions is: "Have you explained all the charges?" That's good advice for Manitobans considering the NDP's \$6 billion in new spending promises.

I recently put this same question to the Finance Minister during Question Period: has he explained all the charges to Manitobans? The Finance Minister declined to answer that question, but he should admit that this pre-election spending spree will come with hidden charges in the form of higher income taxes or the PST being applied to new items (the list of

Continued on page 8

Letters

Session meant to inform ... and it was clearly needed

This letter is in respect to the letter last week accusing Dr. Elbakri of "proof texting" the Qur'an.

The letter writer states the verse is speaking about the Children of Israel and not Muslims as if to say only the Children of Israel understand that to take a single life is as if to take all lives, while Muslims do not.

I would point out the verse the gentlemen (who, as he said, was not present at the presentation) quotes clearly states that it is a "decree" to

the Children of Israel and as a decree it is the opinion of the one decreeing to the one receiving ... a.k.a.: this verse is Muhammad speaking to the Children of Israel. The point being that Muslims like our speaker believe this to be a dictate of the Qur'an, as Dr. Elbakri presented it.

Beyond this, however, I will say the session was not "in defense" of Islam as the writer characterized it but simply an information session led by a person representative of the

Manitoba Islamic community and a practitioner of Islam.

The point of such events is to allow conversation and community to build. Antagonizing is not our goal, but simply informing.

Based on the gentleman's letter it is clear such a session was needed.

Peter Cantelon,
organizer of Diversitas

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

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

Bergmann named Journeyman of the Year

By Lorne Stelmach

It's become more than just being part of the family business for Mitchell Bergmann.

Mechanical service and contracting is his chosen career, and he even had to bypass a recent awards gala where he received an honour from Apprenticeship Manitoba due to work duties while his parents Rick and Senta Bergmann were going to be away.

"I had to close two tenders that week ... I was completely consumed with that," said Bergmann, who was recently named Rural Journeyperson of the Year for his work in the area of commercial refrigeration

and air conditioning mechanics for Morden-based Bergmann Plumbing and Heating Ltd.

It was part of the ninth annual awards gala held during the Apprenticeship Recognition Week last

month.

Bergmann said he felt very honoured and privileged to receive the recognition, but he added the honour should be shared with his parents and particularly with his father.

"My dad would throw everything at me that he could ... make me experience everything," he said.

"His way of teaching was to make me experience it. He was the one who definitely put me on the right path."

Bergmann said he has been in the trade for over seven years now after initially "just trying it out" when he was between jobs.

"Within the first year then I was hooked," he said, noting commercial refrigeration was the main area he started working in, but he has been learning a lot beyond that since then. "I wasn't going to take the easy route. I was looking to get into everything."

He said he has learned it is impor-

tant to be versatile so you can always adapt to better meet the needs of your customers.

It can be complex work that involves a lot of planning, but that is a large part of what appeals to him.

"It's the broad range of things ... I love problem solving ... I love figuring out a solution for the hardest thing."

Bergmann's parents noted he has

experience now as both a prime contractor and mechanical subcontractor while having the highest marks as he passed through the apprenticeship levels.

"His approach comes from a never say no mentality ... always a solution to every problem. He goes along with the evolution of the mechanical trade and understands it."



Mitchell Bergmann

Donate Love preparing to host community Christmas meal

By Lorne Stelmach

The spirit of fellowship is usually no more alive and well than during the Christmas season.

That spirit is bringing people together once again to host a community gathering for those who may not have a place to go on Christmas Day.

Planning is well underway for the 2015 Morden Community Christmas Dinner, with the Donate Love organization spearheading the preparations. The dinner takes

place 4-6 p.m. Dec. 25 at the Morden Alliance Church.

"It's a place for people to go to on Christmas Day so no one is alone," said organizer Denise Thiessen. "This is for anyone in our community ... seniors, young families, newcomers ...

anyone and everyone is welcome."

Thiessen said they are putting out a call for people to get involved and help out however they can.

"We need lots of volunteers," she said. "We are in need of cooks, kitchen help, set up and clean up help, table hosts, financial donations, gifts, or even drivers to pick people up and bring them home afterwards."

"Anyone who is able to help out at all, as a business or as an individual, it would be greatly appreciated."

Thiessen estimated they will have room for a maximum of about 300 people.

Anyone who wants to be part of the meal must call or e-mail in advance to reserve a seat or table.

To sign-up to help or to register a seat, contact organizers by e-mail at 2donatelove@gmail.com or call 204-823-2865.

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Manitoba 

Manitou teacher receives conservation award

By Lorne Stelmach

Honoured for his work that inspires his students on environmental issues, it is those youth who inspire Kent Lewarne.

"For me, the driving force is my students ... seeing the passion that they have and the work that they're prepared to put into it," said the Pilot Mound resident. "It just excites me to keep working with them, to keep expanding their knowledge and appreciation for the environment."

Lewarne was recently named as the winner of the Pembina Valley Conservation District (PVCD) 2015 Conservation Award.

The award, created in memory of the late Mike Cabernel, is presented each year to recognize an individual,

organization, family, or business who actively promotes wise farm management and conservation practices.

Lewarne was recognized at the Manitoba Conservation District Association conference in Brandon Dec. 7-9.

For Lewarne, who has been teaching high school for the past 28 years including the last eight at Nellie McClung Collegiate in Manitou, the environment has been a lifelong passion.

It seemed natural for him, then, to take on a lead role in environmental sustainability education.

He stresses, however, that he has been fortunate to work with a lot of great people, organizations, and especially students.

"There's been so much hard work

that's gone into it before me and continues to go into it by lots and lots of people," said Lewarne. "I'm the fortunate recipient, but really I'm just a small cog in a huge project that involves lots of people."

One of the projects near to Lewarne's heart is his volunteer efforts with the Nellie McClung Collegiate Envirothon Club, with which he's played an active leadership role for eight years.

Through this program, students develop skills that enable them to address environmental issues, such as teamwork, problem-solving, critical thinking and public debate.

In collaboration with the Envirothon program, the Binney Outdoor Classroom was declared a Wetland Center of Excellence by Ducks Unlimited.

This not only recognized the site but also Envirothon Club members who do a majority of the mentoring work out at Binney.

With the support of Enbridge Pipelines, Lewarne has also been the program co-ordinator for the South Central Eco Institute (informally called Riverwatch) for the past four years.

Its primary focus is the collection and analysis of surface water from bridges throughout Manitoba, and he has been involved in partnering with nine conservation districts in that effort.

Lewarne is also the educational coordinator for Nutrients for Life (NFL), a charitable organization that promotes soil science and learning gardens in schools. His Manitou high school was one of the first learning gardens in Manitoba and is now one of many in Canada with NFL support, promoting implementation of the "Nourishing the Planet" curriculum with a focus on food security and feeding an ever growing population.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Kent Lewarne has been named the recipient of the PVCD's 2015 Conservation Award.

For the past two years, Lewarne has also been one of the facilitators for the Prairie Spirit School Division STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) Club.

Last year he travelled to Japan with three students and was able to work with a small group of students from 19 countries on a food/water security hand-on learning scenario.

"Although Kent attributes much of what he has been able to accomplish to the partnerships he has created over his educational career, many of the programs would not move forward without his knowledge, ambition and drive," PVCD officials said in a statement. "PVCD is proud of all the work he has put into educating our youth and feels he is very deserving of the conservation award."

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> FRIESEN, FROM PG. 6

PST exemptions gets smaller all the time, but the NDP could still apply their eight per cent sales tax to fuel, funerals, movie tickets, or home repairs).

Manitobans have paid the price for NDP broken promises before. In the 2011 provincial election, Premier Selinger said it was "ridiculous" to suggest the NDP would raise taxes to pay for its election promises. Last week, when asked by the media whether he would rule out further tax increases as a result of this new \$6 billion tax plan,

Selinger wouldn't rule it out.

Manitobans are tired of NDP waste and mismanagement. The PC Party believes that Manitobans are smart shoppers who look for the best price and want value for their money. Manitobans should take the advice of the Consumer Protection Office, ask the right questions and not get fooled again. Otherwise, they may end up with another case of buyer's remorse.

Cameron Friesen is the MLA for Morden-Winkler

Work wraps up on Donate Love home reno project

By Lorne Stelmach

The project is complete except for just a few finishing touches.

The reward now for everyone involved in the Donate Love's Making a House a Home project is in seeing the difference the community can make when it pulls together for a good cause.

"It started with wanting to get water into this home so that it could be habitable. But, digging deeper, we kept finding out what all was needed," said project organizer Brian Thiessen. "I think we're all fairly ecstatic that the process happened the way that it did ... we feel it was very successful. And the end product, I think, exceeds what we thought it could turn out to be."

This past spring, the Winkler/Morden-based charity heard about a single mother who was planning to move her family into a home that didn't have running water.

Further investigation revealed the home had no plumbing at all and needed significant improvements to be livable.

The modest 500 sq. ft. building required interior walls, plumbing, kitchen cabinets, kitchen and bathroom fixtures, flooring, drywalling, painting, window covers, and various other finishing touches.

Donate Love leapt into action to get the work done, bolstered by a local construction company that stepped up to help spearhead the work, and by Hillside Church, which agreed to allocate missions fund to the project.

Material costs were expected to hit around \$20,000, but the final tally came in closer to \$13,000.

"That's just because of everything that was donated or given at cost," noted Brian.

And, of course, the final total doesn't include the countless manhours that were donated to the project.

"There were so many businesses in our community that really stepped up and helped," said fellow organizer Denise Thiessen, noting some volunteers were there almost every day.

She said it was remarkable to see how many people came together to make it all happen. And she also lauded volunteers Kim and Barry Klassen for connecting everybody together on the project.

"To me, they need the most amount of thank-you for this. She was there and he was there every day, their family was there every day helping. We would have never been able to do it without them."

Brian noted the family, who remains anonymous for privacy reasons, was also very much involved in helping to transform their home.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Donate Love volunteers spent countless hours this fall transforming a local home into a livable space for a family in need.

"Having the homeowner have a huge say in a lot of the things that happened was great for them," he said, adding the volunteers enjoyed getting to know the family, too. "They loved seeing the interaction that they could have with the homeowner."

Continued on page 11

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Enjoying their new digs

By Lorne Stelmach

It has the look of a heritage building akin to the adjacent railway museum on Miami's main street.

The building housing the municipal office for the RM of Thompson as well as the South Central Regional Library's Miami branch, however, is brand new, and its tenants are happy to finally be settled in.

In addition, the project got done for less than the originally projected price tag that had raised concern in the community.

"There was a lot of community discussion about it. I think the big concern was over the cost," said Reeve Brian Callum last week, a few days after the building officially opened its doors. "Our municipal office had served its time. It was outdated, didn't have wheelchair access ... the bathrooms were in the basement. We needed something new."

And the library, which had been housed in a temporary trailer for a couple years, desperately needed a true place to call home as well, so the timing was right all around.

"We had a great library but a poor facility ... now we're going to have both," remarked Miami librarian Cherie Debreuil.

Questions were originally raised about the cost of the two-in-one building potentially climbing to \$1.5 million, but in the end the entire project came out at about \$700,000.

"You put the borrowing bylaw through for more than what you're going to require because you don't want to have to go back and ask for more," explained Callum. "Which, as it turned out, was quite a bit more than what was required. We kind of set a price point that we wanted to stay under and then went about getting the drawings done."

"We had quite a few options in the tender that allowed us, in one way, to keep the price down and then see what the price was and then add if we could."

In the end, a few of the features that they were able to add included a better parking lot finish, floor heating, and a vaulted ceiling.

Making the building all accessible



Assistant chief administrative officer Michelle Cummer, Reeve Brian Callum and CAO Jody Oakes in the new office of the Rural Municipality of Thompson. The new building (shown below) also houses the Miami library, and all say it has been well received by the community. The RM and the library settled into the new space late last month.

PHOTOS BY
LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

is one of the main improvements, Callum noted, as is having a building that is very energy efficient.

"We suspect it shouldn't be too costly to operate the building. It's a very functional building," he said. "We didn't go elaborate by any means ... and made sure it provided what we wanted ... a good size for the library, a little bigger, more efficient municipal office, a little bigger council chambers."

Callum noted the facility's meeting and storage space can also be used by community groups.

Meanwhile, the library space came in at about 1,400 square feet, and they're eager to use every inch of it.

"It turned out very well. We're really happy with our library facilities now," said Callum. "And the usage is amazing. It's a big plus to the community and we hope that continues."

Debreuil thanked all of their users who stuck with them through all the challenges of not having a proper place to call home until now.

"The trailer was really small, so over



half of our items were in storage. But we didn't actually see a huge dip in circulation, so that was really nice. It really showed Miami wants the library. It's a well-used facility," she said, noting they are still not fully moved in and set up in their new space just yet, but they're getting

there.

"We were willing to provide a service from wherever we had to," Debreuil said. "We've got awesome patrons, and I've felt for a long time that they really deserved a nice new facility. It's a dream come true for us."

New Year's gala raising funds for Katie Cares

By Lorne Stelmach

When the idea of a New Year's Eve celebration that could also be a fundraiser came to her, the cause also soon became clear for Sharon Webb.

The event and wedding planner has a personal appreciation for the idea behind the Katie's Cottage respite home going up across from the Boundary Trails Health Centre.

"In the past, we had a family member that had to use the Ronald McDonald House in Winnipeg, and it was such a lifesaver for the family as far as just relieving stress and

being close to the hospital," Webb said. "When I heard they were doing something like that in this area ... it was a great opportunity."

"I think out here this is going to be such a needed facility, and what they are going to be offering ... will be appreciated by families that are caring for loved ones at Boundary Trails."

And so, Webb is planning the New Year's Eve Gala at the Access Event Centre in Morden, with the proceeds going to the Katie Cares' project.

Webb said she and a number of friends had talked about the idea of doing a big gala event as it was

something that has not really been done much here up to now.

Making it a benefit event seemed like a natural choice, she said.

"Fundraising has always been something that's been true to my heart," said Webb. "I knew when I initially started the business that somehow I wanted to incorporate contributing to some fundraising."

The gala evening will feature magician Chris Funk and music by Lindsay Rae and Melanie Schwarz followed later by MK Sound DJ &

Continued on page 12

A hands-on look at vocational options

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Sixteen Gr. 8 students from Altona and Gretna gave up their Saturdays in November for the chance to get a hands-on look at the many technical vocational training programs available in our region.

The Red River Technical Vocational Area (RRTVA) held its second annual Trades Camp last month for kids from Gretna Elementary School and Parkside Junior High School in Altona.

The kids spent the first weekend exploring the welding and auto body programs in Morris, headed to Altona in week two to try their hands at culinary arts and to tour several industrial facilities for a real-life look at the trades at work, and spent week three learning about the carpentry and sustainable energy courses offered in Altona.

They wrapped up the month right here in Winkler at the Garden Valley Collegiate Technical Education Campus, where they learned about the heavy duty auto mechanic program and the horticultural and landscaping courses.

At each stop, the student got to chat with program instructors, check out specialized equipment, and get a taste for the kinds of activities they'll be doing if they decide to take these vocational courses when they reach high school.

In Winkler, for example, they built floral centrepieces while touring the horticultural program and then got to get their hands dirty exploring engines in the diesel shop.

It's an incredibly informative and

fun way to introduce the youth to the many programs available to them, says camp organizer and RRTVA high school apprenticeship teacher Andy Reimer.

"You can tell them over and over again about the programming available to them, but if you can actually give them a taste of it, the kids will remember it," he says. "They got a lot of chances to explore and get really hands-on."

"It's also really good for the programs, too ... I think it really makes it easy for the kids to make some choices because they learn what they like and what they don't like," Reimer adds.

By getting the chance to not just tour a school but also partake in activities there, it makes it less of an unknown place when students are considering whether they'd like to enrol in a course outside their home community (the RRTVA includes programs in five different school divisions in southern Manitoba).

"They also can build up some confidence to be able to go to different schools," Reimer says. "It can sometimes be intimidating if you belong to a certain school community to make a choice to go off to a different school."

The camp was funded by a Jobs and the Economy grant from the provincial government to the Border Land School Division.

Reimer says he's had a lot of interest from other schools in southern Manitoba who would like to run similar introductory programs. He hopes to see it expand to other schools next year, funding allowing.



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Students from Altona and Gretna got a hands-on look at the Red River Technical Vocational Area programs across the region last month. On Nov. 29, the kids wrapped up a month of Saturday field trips throughout the RRTVA by stopping in at GVC TEC to learn more about the diesel technology program (above) and try their hands at creating Christmas centrepieces as part of the horticultural and landscaping program (right).



> DONATE LOVE, FROM PG. 9

For everyone behind Donate Love, this project might just be the start of an ongoing venture.

"It's about keeping an ear to the ground to see where we're needed next. Is it going to be another project like this or is it going to be something else?" Brian wondered. "We always want to be aware of what's needed, where help can be given, where we can give back."

"It depends mostly on the community, if they're willing to jump in and help out in any way possible,"

added Denise. "It's just us connecting people to try to make it happen."

In the meantime, Donate Love is carrying on with its mission of making connections between those who have and those who have not, providing clothes and household items as well as food hampers and milk.

Donate Love's food bank is open in Morden Tuesdays to Thursdays from 4-7 p.m.

Find out more about Donate Love's services and volunteer opportunities online at donatelove.ca.

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Wizards give back

The Winkler Wizards Special Olympics team decided to pay it forward again this year.

Instead of buying gifts for one another at their Nov. 30 banquet, the team's athletes and coaches decided instead to support the Chance 2 Grow program with a \$293 donation.

Athlete Keith Peters made the presentation to local Chance 2 Grow administrator Sandra Doell last week.

"It's wonderful to get this donation

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Special Olympics athlete Keith Peters presented Chance 2 Grow program administrator Sandra Doell with a donation of \$293 last week on behalf of the Winkler Wizards team.

from Keith and his fellow athletes who know the value of sports and recreation" said Doell, who notes Chance 2 Grow provides funding to help eligible families with the costs of children's recreational activities, including sports, art, and music programs.

"This donation will help fund a child to go out, learn a new skill and have fun," she said.

Donating to another cause has become a club tradition; the Wizards have presented donations of money and toys to the Child and Family Services of Central Manitoba Foundation every Christmas for the last several years.

It's a way for the athletes to thank the community for supporting them in kind, the team says.

Water rates on the rise in RM of Stanley

By Lorne Stelmach

RM of Stanley residents will be paying more for their water in the new year.

The Manitoba Public Utilities Board recently approved water rate increases for the municipality that take effect January 2016.

The rates vary among the water systems in the municipality, but it was estimated that for the average consumer using 15,000 gallons of water per quarter, the increase will be slightly more than \$5 per month for those connected to the Massey system and slightly more than \$3 per month for others.

The PUB noted the dollar impact of the rate increases is a relatively minor one, especially when compared to other rate increases which the board has seen implemented in other municipalities in recent years.

Still, in order to mitigate "rate shock" for residents, the RM had proposed to stage their increases over four years instead of one large immediate increase.

The PUB did vary the rate proposal of the RM and applied the rate increases one year sooner. Therefore, the rates requested for 2017, 2018 and 2019 will be implemented in 2016, 2017 and 2018, respectively.

The municipality will then have to go back to the PUB for a rate

review by July 1, 2018.

The breakdown of the water rates includes a quarterly service charge that increases 10 per cent from \$10 to \$11 for 2016, with no further increase in 2017 or 2018.

The rate for the Massey system then rises about 28 per cent from \$3.50 to \$4.50 per thousand gallons for 2016. The projected increase for 2017 is 13 per cent to \$5.10 per thousand gallons and another 13 per cent to \$5.80 per thousand gallons in 2018.

There is also a minimum quarterly charge based on 3,000 gallons of water usage that increases 19 per cent from \$20.50 to \$24.50.

The rate for other water systems rises about six per cent from \$9.56 per thousand gallons for 2016. The projected increase for 2017 is three per cent to \$10.45 per thousand gallons and 2.5 per cent for 2018 to \$10.71 per thousand gallons.

These rates include the cost of \$7.46

per thousand gallons for water purchased through the Pembina Valley Water Co-op.

There is also a minimum quarterly charge based on 3,000 gallons of water usage that increases seven per cent from \$38.68 to \$41.45.

The RM purchases most of its water from the co-op and uses this supply to service all but the Colert and Massey systems.

The Colert system is supplied with water purchased from the City of Morden, while the Massey system has its own groundwater supply treated at an RM-owned treatment plant.

The RM of Stanley owns and operates seven primary water systems:

- Massey water system—the only system that treats raw water and delivers it to a local system. Original construction in 2002 with a reservoir expansion in 2010.

- Colert water system—the RM purchases water from Morden and then

sells it to RM customers. The system is small with less than a few dozen connections.

- Schanzenfeld water system—began in late 1970 and has seen continual pipeline extensions, the most recent in 2010. A reservoir and pump house was added to the system in 1997 and then expanded in 2011.

- Reinfeld water system—began in late 1970 and has seen continual pipeline extensions. A reservoir and pump house was added to the system in 2002 and then expanded in 2011.

- Blumstein water system—majority was installed in 1999 and 2002 but has had numerous extensions, the most recent in 2012.

- Dunston water system—majority was installed in 2003 but had significant extensions in 2009 and 2011.

- Three-four water system—majority was installed in 2001/2003 but has had a few extensions, including one in 2009.

> GALA, FROM PG. 10

Dance.

Also on hand to capture guests in all their finery will be photographer Steve Hiebert of Personal Expressions.

Serving up liquid concoctions will be mixologist Garrett Vanwinkle, while there will also be a Whitecap Coffee coffee bar and a dessert bar by Coffee Culture.

The dinner will include hors

d'oeuvres during the cocktail hour followed by butternut squash soup garnished with creme fraiche and then a main course of beef Wellington, though people can also arrange for chicken by Dec. 19.

The event is open to ages 16 and up. Formal attire is required. Cocktails begin at 6 p.m., dinner is at 7 p.m.

You can purchase single tickets for \$75 or get a table of eight for \$600.

Tickets are available at Crocus Realty and 909 Apparel in Winkler, The Olive Tree and ReMax in Morden, Rhineland Ford in Altona, and Carman Co-op. No tickets will be sold at the door. Table reservations made before Dec. 19 will receive two complimentary bottles of wine.

You can find out more about the event on Facebook or online at www.newyearsevegala.ca.

Regional Connections hosting open house Dec. 17

By Lorne Stelmach

The organization that serves as a one stop shop for newcomers to south central Manitoba is gearing up to play a role in helping refugees settle here.

Officials with Regional Connections see the settlement services agency as being well positioned to help co-ordinate local efforts and partnerships to respond to the current refugee crisis unfolding in Syria.

They want to work with individuals and organizations in Winkler, Morden, Carman, and Altona that are wanting to privately sponsor refugee families to resettle in the Pembina

Valley.

"One of the keys for being a welcoming community to newcomers is local partnerships," said Laurie Sawatzky, executive director at Regional Connections. "When people in the community, organizations, and employers work together with newcomers, that's when we see newcomers settling and integrating successfully."

To help bring people together and co-ordinate efforts, Regional Connections is holding an open house at its Winkler office on Thursday, Dec. 17 from 3-4:30 p.m. The office is located at 2-295 Perry Street, just north of Rona.

Sawatzky said they hoped to bring

together people who would like to help but aren't sure what they can do.

"We have a number of programs and services available," she said. "We build a personalized settlement plan together with each family, based on their needs and skills."

These plans can guide the family as they access a range of settlement services that can include English as an additional language classes and literacy classes for adults, employment services for unemployed or underemployed newcomers and Canadians, and community integration events and a volunteer program that help connect immigrants to their new communities.

Sawatzky said they recognize it is important to connect newcomers and the local community as soon as possible through referrals, community connections events, and volunteering.

"Since the launch of our volunteer program two years ago, the community response has been just incredible," she said.

Volunteers can help at Regional Connections in a variety of ways depending on their interests and the current needs of newcomers.

For more information, call 204-325-4059 or visit www.regionalconnections.ca.

Helping newcomers feel more welcome

By Lorne Stelmach

A local initiative is aiming to help newcomers to the region feel more apart of the community.

The monthly newcomer evenings in Morden offer an informal setting that is all about making connections, said Lynette Froese, a community integration worker with South Central Immigrant Services through Regional Connections.

"Most newcomers will say this is a very friendly community, that we are welcoming here in Morden, but there's also a lot of people who live here who don't really have the opportunity necessarily to interact," Froese said. "It doesn't happen naturally, so we're trying to make opportunities to give people a chance to do that."

They hold the welcome evenings the second Wednesday of every month, and Froese said they encourage everyone—newcomers and longtime residents alike—to participate.

"We do have a core group that come, and we sometimes get others, but that would be one area that would be great" if we could get more people involved, she said.

The initiative started in co-operation with the City of Morden as a way to help newcomers better integrate into their new home.

"Because the City of Morden is bringing people in on a regular basis through the immigration initiative, there's usually about a family a week that's been coming the last while," Froese said. "We thought it would be nice to have not really

a formal thing but an intentional event to welcome them when they arrive.

"That also gives others the opportunity who have come in the last little while to meet each other. And it can give folks in the community an opportunity to see who's here, too, and to meet them."

Froese said the background of newcomers to the community has become much more diversified over the last decade or so.

The Filipino community, for example, has grown quite a bit in recent years, and there are more and more people starting to come from such countries as Brazil, Poland, and Croatia. She also expects we'll soon start to see more newcomers from places like India and Bangladesh.

"I think if you walk down the street or go to the grocery store, a lot of those folks aren't visible necessarily right away," she said. "But that's going to change ... as we get more from other countries."

Morden will also likely start to see an influx of refugees in the next several months, Froese said.

"There's churches that are getting together to sponsor refugees, and that will add to our diversity as well," she said. "Those folks won't necessarily come from Syria, but they will have been in the refugee stream."

Froese sees the welcome evenings tying in well with the many other settlement services offered through SCIS.

She said the SCIS is all about "helping people with their initial settlement ... getting a place to live,

getting the kids in school, getting registered for Manitoba Health ... everything that people need when they first arrive. Then ongoing we have things like English classes, and we have conversation groups.

"We have opportunities for people to volunteer as well," she added. "We have a language study program where people have volunteered to work one-

on-one in partnering with someone who's learning the language.

"We also have community tour guide opportunities for volunteers. That's for when folks first arrive, to show them around," said Froese. "It's also just to connect with somebody in the community that they can have as a

Continued on page 16

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Living nativity



The Winkler EMMC's living nativity, From Everywhere to Bethlehem, once again broke records as it set up in Winkler Park last weekend. A total of 3,400 people came out to see the Christmas story brought to life, bringing along 2,460 pounds of food for the Winkler food cupboard as well as donations towards MCC's Christmas Giving Project. The popular production will return next year, organizers say, for what will be the church's 10th year of performances.



PHOTOS BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

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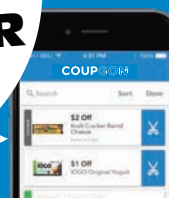
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Your Christmas

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The advantages of last-minute holiday shopping

Tackling tasks well in advance has many advantages, and often it is in one's best interest to be ahead of the game, including when the game at hand is holiday shopping.

But men and women who simply can't get a head start on their holiday shopping need not fear, as waiting until the eleventh hour to do the bulk of your shopping can have some distinct advantages, too.

- **Smaller crowds:** As the holiday season winds down, many shoppers have already completed their shopping. Fewer people tend to be in stores in the final days before Christmas, as they are readying their homes for company or making travel plans. This can be a prime time for shopping and getting through malls or other retailers in less time.

- **Discounted prices:** Anxious to reduce inventory and make the most of end-of-the-year profits, stores may discount merchandise even further for fast sale. Shoppers anxious to save a little bit more or come in under budget may find waiting to shop is to their financial advantage.

- **Lower chance of discovery:** One difficulty of shopping early is keeping all of the gifts hidden for the duration of the month. Waiting until later to shop means only having to camouflage gifts for a few days. When you wait, curious kids are less likely to find their gifts before the big day.

- **Last-minute specials:** Some online retailers offer "doorbuster" sales at various times during the holiday shopping season. These sales may offer additional discounts or even free shipping. Just be sure to balance the benefits of the discount against the shipping price. If it means having to pay a premium for overnight shipping, it may not be worth the investment.

- **More time to plan:** By the end of the holiday season you may have a better idea of what you need to purchase. You also may have polled others regarding what they are giving, reducing the chances of giving duplicate gifts.

- **Gift cards galore:** Some people prefer to give gift cards, which are available all season long. Consumer Reports says 62 percent of last-minute shoppers grab gift cards. If you fall into that category, waiting to buy the cards won't be

an issue so long as you make it to the stores before they close.

Last-minute shopping has its advantages. If time is ticking away, there are still deals to be had.



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Winkler man charged in major regional drug bust

A Winkler man has been charged in connection with a major drug bust orchestrated by RCMP across south-eastern Manitoba last week.

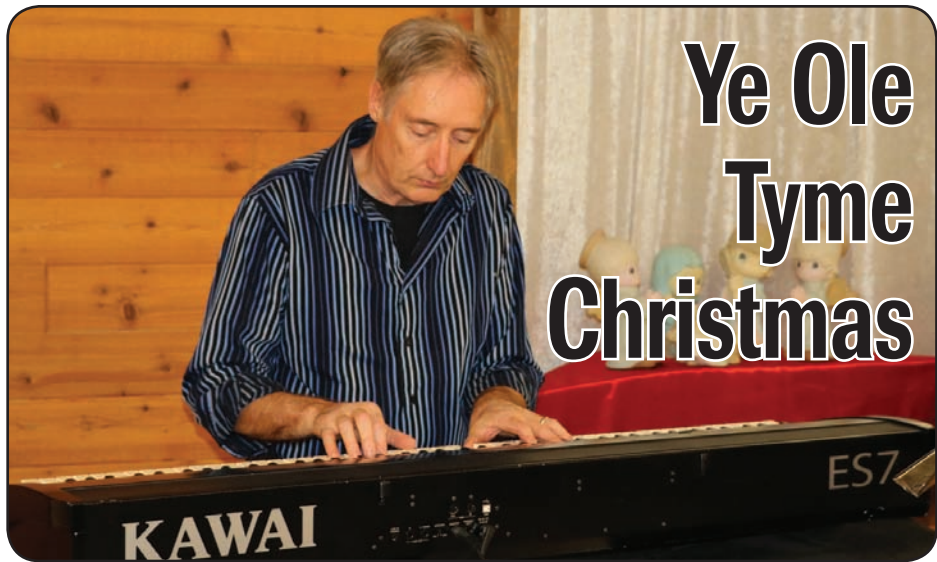
On Dec. 3, Steinbach and Altona RCMP wrapped up Project Doorman, a five-month investigation into the methamphetamine trade in the region, by executing the final of several search warrants.

The investigation led to searches of three residences in Altona, Morris, and Steinbach. An undisclosed amount of methamphetamine was seized from various individuals and locations.

In all, 11 people were arrested for methamphetamine trafficking offences as a result of Project Doorman. They include:

- Cornelius Thiessen, age 50, from Winkler. Facing charges of trafficking of meth and marijuana.
- Stephen Briggs, 52, from Altona. Facing charges of meth and marijuana trafficking and impaired driving.
- Keira Ball, 42, from Altona. Trafficking methamphetamine
- Rachel Jacques, 32, from Emerson. Two counts of trafficking meth-

Continued on page 20



PHOTOS BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

The Winkler Heritage Museum hosted an old-fashioned Christmas celebration on Dec. 3. The evening featured a Christmas carol sing-along led by pianist Jason Dyck (above), inspirational holiday stories from speakers such as Marjorie Hildebrand (left), and tasty snacks, including peppernuts (below).



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Hawks round up toys for Cheer Board

By Lorne Stelmach

They were opponents on the ice but came together off of it to support a good cause.

When the Pembina Valley AAA Hawks female team faced off against the Interlake Lightning Nov. 28 in Manitou, players and fans alike collected toys for the Morden Christmas Cheer Board.

The Hawks did it last year as well with another team, noted assistant coach Shanley Peters, and they really wanted to do it again this Christmas.

"We thought it was a great idea to give back to the community," she said. "It's a time of giving, a time of thankfulness ... so we gathered with the other team. There's a few girls from this area as well on that team ...

and we just got together and decided it was a great idea to give back and show some support to people."

Every team member was encouraged to bring toys for donation.

"It was also put out to the community that this event was going on, so some of the fans as well brought presents and stuff to add to the donations," Peters noted. "I'd say it's a pretty good haul. I'm sure a lot of kids will be very lucky to receive some of these gifts ... big and small, they all look like a lot of fun."

Mary Ann McElroy, who is in charge of the toy drive for the Cheer Board, said they're really pleased and honoured that the Hawks would choose to support the Morden campaign with their efforts.

"This donation is really helpful to



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

The Pembina Valley Hawks AAA team with the toy haul they collected for the Morden Christmas Cheer Board at their Nov. 28 game against the Interlake Lightning.

us. Each year we collect upwards of 200 and some toys, and a lot of those come by way of donation," she said as the Hawks presented the donations to her last week. "It's a good way for these young people to give back and share with those who maybe don't

have as much at Christmas time.

"It will brighten the day for the youngsters who receive these gifts."

The Cheer Board will distribute its food and gift hampers to families in need on Dec. 16.

OLICE BLOTTER

Two cars rear-ended in chain reaction accident

By Lorne Stelmach

Morden police were called out to a chain reaction accident involving three vehicles.

It happened on Hwy. 3 Dec. 2 when a vehicle going east slowed to turn north towards Boston Pizza. A second vehicle coming up from behind could not stop in time and rear ended the first vehicle. A third vehicle coming up close behind also could not stop and rear ended the second vehicle.

There were no injuries but vehicles required towing from the scene.

Other items in the most recently weekly reports from both the Morden and Winkler departments include:

- A resident of Willow Dr. in Winkler reported a theft from his unlocked vehicle overnight on Nov. 30.

Stolen was a black and blue duffle bag containing hard hats, safety vests and safety glasses that were all Acklands Grainger products.

Police have also received other reports of vehicles being rummaged through. They urge residents to ensure they lock their vehicles and keep anything valuable out of sight.

- Police charged a 30-year-old Morden man on Dec. 4 for breaching a no contact order with a local woman.

He was seen walking on North Rail-

way St. in Morden in close proximity to the woman despite being under the no contact order stemming from being charged in August 2015 for a domestic assault against her.

The man admitted to talking to the woman briefly and was released pending an appearance in court in January.

- Winkler Police were called twice Dec. 4 by residents in the area of 11th Street and Mountain Avenue about a male canvassing door to door for money under suspicious circumstances.

Officers located a male in the area fitting the description and questioned him about his activities. He denied asking anyone for money at first but then changed his story, giv-

ing a different reason than what he'd been telling the residents.

The youth, described as well known to officers, was not given any money and was turned over to his mother.

- Also on Dec. 4, Morden Police were called to help a family with a child under the age of 12 who was being violent and throwing things around the home.

Police said the girl was upset she was not allowed to leave the home for the evening and started throwing items at the mom. Police mediated the situation and left once the girl apologized for her actions.

- Officers are investigating a Dec. 5 theft from Stephen Street Wear.

Police were called around noon about two woman who had just left

the store with a stolen jacket.

One of them was wearing a tweed jacket with white mukluks while the other had dark hair, dark glasses, and a dark jacket. Both were estimated to be in their 30s, and white with darker features.

Anyone with information is asked to call the Morden Police Service at 204-822-4900.

- Also on Dec. 5, a woman came to the Winkler police station to report an assault by her former boyfriend after he attended her home to see their child. An argument ensued when he was not allowed the visit, and the woman was thrown and pushed.

Officers located the 34-year-old man at his home the same day and charged him with one count of assault.

> DRUG CHARGES, FROM PG. 17

amphetamine, trafficking marijuana, possession of meth for the purpose of trafficking, possession of oxycodone for the purpose of trafficking, production of marijuana, and possession of the proceeds of crime.

- Tami Renz, 33, from Steinbach. Trafficking methamphetamine and possession for the purpose of trafficking methamphetamine.

- Frank Hargreaves, 41, from Steinbach. Trafficking methamphetamine and four counts of weapon related of-

fences.

- Kelly Remier, 23, from Steinbach. Three counts of possession for the purpose of trafficking meth.

- Timothy Jacques, 34, from Richer. Possession for the purpose of trafficking methamphetamine.

- Tyler Myska, 23, from Steinbach. Possession for the purpose of trafficking methamphetamine.

- Jordan Friesen, 20, from Steinbach. Two counts of trafficking meth.

- Jordon Demare, 28, from Morris.

Possession of methamphetamine for the purpose of trafficking, possession of oxycodone for the purpose of trafficking, production of marijuana, and possession of the proceeds of crime.

All the accused above, with the exception of Ball, Friesen, and Demare, remain in custody.

Police have also charged various other individuals for drug possession and related offences during the course of the investigation.

arts&culture

Lindsay Rae Band Christmas in Reinfeld Dec. 17

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The sounds of Christmas will fill the Reinfeld Community Centre next Thursday, courtesy of the Lindsay Rae Band.

Rae and her band—made up of Josh Enns, Dylan Wiebe, Natalie Elias, Lyle Suderman, and Adria Dyck—are slated to perform a special Christmas show on Dec. 17 at 7:30 p.m.

It will be an acoustic evening of music featuring some of the most well-loved holiday classics alongside Rae's own Christmas songs off her album *Lamp in the Window*.

"It's going to be a Christmas evening of music," says Rae, "and then a chance to just hang out with the band ... and getting into the Christmas spirit."

Rae says the first songs she ever penned were Christmas tunes, so a holiday concert is right in her wheelhouse.

"When I started writing music I started writing Christmas music; it's kind of the basis of my music career," she says. "I used to joke that Lindsay Rae should maybe just be a Christ-



mas artist, I loved it so much."

She's since branched out into a plethora of country tunes, but is eager to get back to her roots.

"I love to pull it out at Christmas time ... we play the country music all summer—this is a chance for people to see us a little bit differently than on the big stage."

To further tempt you to the show, Rae notes they'll also be serving up holiday desserts from Gingerwood Lane.

Tickets to the *Lindsay Rae Band Christmas* are \$10 each and are available at Gingerwood Lane in Winkler or by calling 204-362-8854. Doors open at the community centre (located at 24

Church Ave. East) at 7 p.m.

For more information about Rae, check out lindsayraemusic.org or find her on Facebook.



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

The school Christmas concert season is in full swing in both Winkler and Morden, with many concerts already having been completed and a few more left for the week ahead. Check your local school's calendar for more detailed information. Above: Members of the Morden Collegiate jazz band perform during their Dec. 2 concert, which also featured songs from the school's jazz choir.

The Winkler Morden
Voice

Holiday Schedule

December 17th	Christmas Greetings Edition
Greeting Deadline – December 7th, 4 pm Regular Paper Deadline – December 14th, 4 pm	
December 24th	Boxing Week Edition
Display Ads, Classified Ads or Announcements EARLY Deadline – December 16th, 6 pm	
December 31st	First Edition of the Year
Display Ads, Classified Ads or Announcements EARLY Deadline – December 18th, 5 pm	

Happy Holidays!

Offices will be closed
December 22nd
through January 1st.
Offices will reopen
Monday, January 4th

sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

Froese faces off against Jets

Winkler's own Byron Froese has been getting ice time with the Toronto Maple Leafs this season, including in the Dec. 2 game against the Winnipeg Jets. The 24-year-old centre was called up from the AHL's Toronto Marlies in October to bolster the Maple Leafs' roster. Since then he's suited up in 21 games for the Leafs, earning three assists. In last week's game in Winnipeg, Toronto struggled greatly, dropping a 6-1 decision to the home team. The Maple Leafs' lone goal came in the opening two minutes from Michael Grabner.

PHOTO BY RICK HIEBERT



Flyers down Blues 4-3 in shootout

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler Flyers battled the Winnipeg Blues all the way to a shootout in Sunday's thrilling away game.

The Blues were up 2-1 after the opening frame, with Winkler drawing first blood a minute in courtesy of Cam Whyte.

Period two saw the momentum flip, as Winkler's Nico Labossiere and Jeff Michiels scored twice to counter the Blues' lone goal for a 3-3 tie heading into the final period.

After 20 minutes of scoreless play and an equally scoreless extra period, the game needed to be decided by a shootout.

There, Winkler's first shooter, Kurt Sonne, missed the mark, but shooter two, Jordan Williamson, scored his while newcomer Nathan Warren in the Flyers' net made like a wall and turned away all three of Winnipeg's shots for a 4-3 victory.

Warren made 27 saves in all in his debut game with the Flyers, as Winkler narrowly outshot the Blues 31-

30.

Sunday's game followed on the heels of a narrow 3-2 loss to the Portage Terriers on Dec. 4.

After a scoreless opening period, Winkler found themselves on the losing side of the 2-1 score sheet, with their only goal coming from Thomas Mansbridge in a mid-period power play.

Kayden Jarvis evened things out just 30 seconds into period three, but Portage took advantage of a power play five minutes later to get what

proved to be the game-winning goal past Connor Slipp, who otherwise made 22 saves in net as Winkler outshot Portage 28-25.

Earlier in the week, the Flyers downed the Steinbach Pistons 3-1 on Dec. 1, with Whyte, Jordan Wall, and Tristan Keck scoring all of Winkler's goals in the final period. Slipp went the distance in net, making 36 saves as Steinbach had the edge in shots 37-35.

Continued on page 24

Hawks looking to end five-game losing streak

Midget team welcomes Rylan Price to the coaching bench as Gerry Leiding departs

By Lorne Stelmach

Three losses this past week extended their current streak to five, but there were small victories for the Pembina Valley Hawks, as well.

Changing coaches mid-week posed an additional challenge for the team, but new bench boss Rylan Price still saw signs of progress.

"Through the first two games, we've definitely seen some positive things happening out on the ice, and there's a lot of potential for growth," said Price, who has stepped in to replace Gerry Leiding.

Price took over coaching duties after the Hawks fell 8-3 to the Winnipeg Thrashers on Dec. 2.

They tightened up their game Friday in a 2-0 loss to the Central Plains Capitals before falling 7-1 to the first place powerhouse Eastman Selects Sunday.

"We put new systems into place for the boys. We're trying to focus on becoming a very, very defensively sound team and eliminating our shot totals against," said Price.

"I've been looking at some of the stats and realized that is one area we needed to improve on. We're letting

other teams get far too many shots on our goalies.

"The boys did a really good job of responding to the systems we wrote up on the board and responding to the game plan we asked them to execute, and our shot totals decreased quite significantly."

Two late second period goals were the difference Friday against the Capitals, who outshot the Hawks 40-21 overall.

"We played a real scrappy period and a half," said Price. "We had two really good chances to score goals. We missed an open net and hit a crossbar on a two-on-one. If one of those happens to go in and we can get a lead, momentum usually plays in your favour."

On Sunday, the Hawks again kept it close into the second period before the game got away from them against a team that has only one shootout loss in 25 games so far.

Everett Bestland scored for the Hawks at 8:49 of the middle period to make it 2-1, but Eastman made it 4-1 by the second intermission. Pembina Valley limited Eastman to 39 shots while getting 16 themselves.

"There's a reason that they haven't

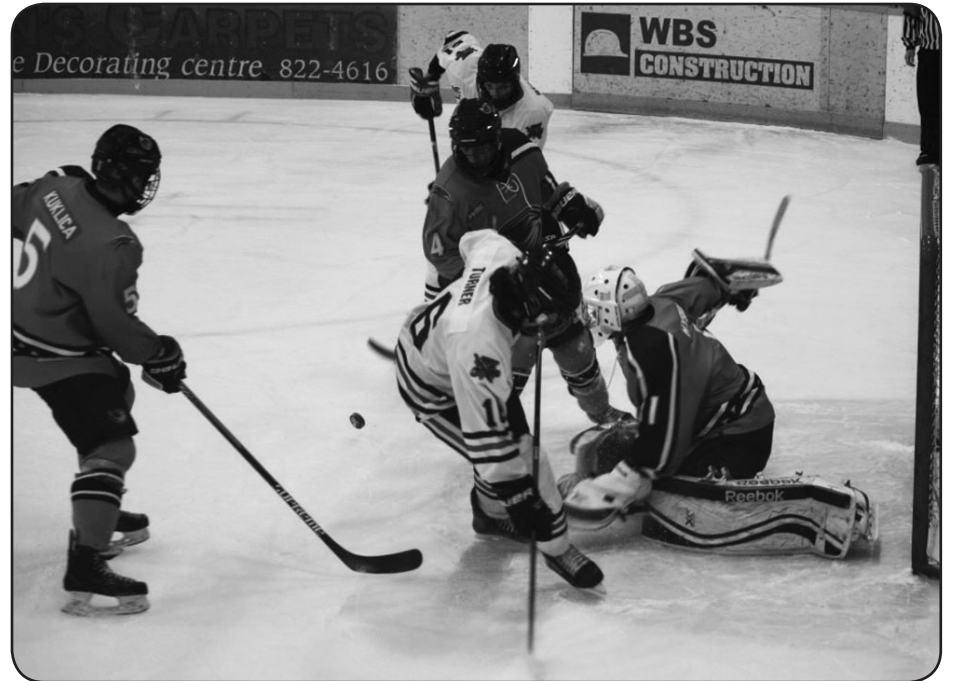


PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Winnipeg goaltender Dylan Myskiw kicks away the puck with the Hawks' Tye Turner in close hoping for a rebound in the 8-3 Hawks loss Dec. 2 in Morden.

lost any games this year," Price said of the Selects. "They have some real high-end players, top notch talented players who will probably end up playing in the Western Hockey League next year.

"But, again, we scrapped with them for two periods," he added. "We were clogging up the neutral zone and making things difficult for those skilled players."

Last Wednesday, the Thrashers were opportunistic, scoring four first period goals and then expanding the lead to 6-1 early in the second on their way to the 8-3 win in Morden.

Tye Turner scored the first Hawks goal in the opening period on an assist from Bestland, who then scored a

pair on the powerplay in the second to close the gap to 6-3 after two periods.

The Thrashers outshot the Hawks 36-32, with Matthew Thiessen making 28 saves in net for Pembina Valley.

The Hawks remain in 11th place at 4-18-0-1 for nine points.

The Hawks hit the road this weekend to face the Wheat Kings in Brandon Saturday and the Parkland Rangers in Grandview Sunday.

Price said they were working on more aspects of their game this week in practice and hope to see the effort start to pay off this weekend.

"These first two games, we were focussing on some small steps. It's all a work in progress."

Lady Hawks down Winnipeg Avros 3-1

By Lorne Stelmach

The Pembina Valley Female Hawks picked up a key win Saturday with the 3-1 victory over the Winnipeg Avros.

It not only helped keep them ahead of a team chasing them in the Manitoba Female Midget Hockey League, but also stay in the hunt with those above them.

Improving to 10-3 for 20 points, the Hawks remain in fourth place. They're just two points up on the Avros and trail the third place Capitals by a lone point. The Westman Wildcats (27 points) and the Yellowhead Chiefs (21 points) remain in

the top two spots, though the teams beneath them have several games in hand.

Against the Avros, Megan Neduzak opened the scoring for the Hawks in the first when she intercepted a pass near her blue line, broke away, and fired a slapshot that went just inside the near post.

In the second period, Pembina Valley continued to control most of the play but were unable to add to their lead.

In the third, the Avros tied it up on a broken play that led to a convenient turnover and a shot from the slot that managed to beat Halle Oswald's high glove side.

The Hawks got the winner with 8:35 left when the Avros were caught off guard on a bad change and Mackenzie Hutchinson intercepted a pass at the Avros blue line and fired a wrist shot and then fired home the rebound.

Chelsea Dearsley then picked up a loose puck at her blue line and fired a bullet into the empty net with 1:47 left to seal the deal.

Oswald wasn't tested much but still made a few key saves in facing 18 shots overall.

The Hawks have a key game coming up this weekend as they attempt to hand the Yellowhead Chiefs their first regulation loss Saturday night

in Manitou.

COLLEGE-BOUND

The Hawks announced this past week that three of their players have made university commitments for the 2016/2017 season.

Captain Jenai Buchanan and assistant captain Megan Neduzak both signed with the University of Manitoba Bisons, who play in the CIS Canada West conference.

Meanwhile, goalie Taylor Reimer has committed to the University of Waterloo in Ontario. The Warriors play in the Ontario University Athletic Conference of the CIS.

Royals down Islanders

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler Royals crushed the visiting Portage Islanders 7-4 Sunday night.

The two teams were nearly evenly matched through the first two periods, with the scoreboard reading 2-2 after the first (Craig Cornelsen and Adam Porte scored the tying goals in the back end of the period) and 4-3 after the second (Winkler's lone goal that period came from Steven Doell).

Period three was all Winkler, though, as Marlin Froese tied things up 54 seconds in and then Brett Harder, Mitch Doell, and Mark Hildebrand piled on for the win.

Matt Krahn earned the victory in net, making 39 saves as Winkler out-shot Portage 47-43.

The victory followed a 3-2 overtime win over the Notre Dame Hawks the night before.

Notre Dame took a 2-0 lead in the opening period and held onto it until midway into the third, when Cody Friesen finally got Winkler on the board. Craig Cornelsen followed suit to tie the game with less than 20 seconds to go, and then Caleb Suderman slammed in the game winner 39 seconds into the extra frame. Matt Krahn got the win in net for the Roy-



PHOTO BY RICK HIEBERT

Midway through the second period with the Islanders ahead by a goal, Winkler's Matt Krahn just gets a toe on Dan McArthur's penalty shot attempt to keep the Royals in the game. Winkler went onto win 7-4.

als.

The Morden Redskins, meanwhile, had a tougher go of it last week, getting handed their first loss of the season by the Altona Maroons on Dec. 3.

Altona dominated the game on Morden's home ice, scoring twice in the first and once more in each of the

remaining periods for a 4-0 shutout. Reed Peters manned Morden's net in the loss.

The SEMHL standings as of press time had Carman and Morden tied for the top spot with 12 points each and 6-1 records. Altona rounds out the top three with eight points, while

Winkler is biting at their heels in fourth place with six points (tied with Notre Dame) and a 3-3 record.

This weekend the Redskins and the Royals face-off against one another in Winkler on Sunday. Morden also plays in Carman on Saturday.

Manitoba Hockey Standings

MANITOBA JUNIOR HOCKEY LEAGUE							
GP	W	L	OTL	PTS	GF	GA	
Portage Terriers	31	26	4	1	53	123	63
Winkler Flyers	29	22	5	2	46	123	65
Steinbach Pistons	31	22	7	2	46	119	75
Virden Oil Capitals	29	18	11	0	36	106	67
Winnipeg Blues	30	14	10	6	34	111	89
OCN Blizzard	32	13	17	2	28	97	120
Swan Valley Stampeders	31	11	15	5	27	83	103
Selkirk Steelers	28	12	14	2	26	103	117
Dauphin Kings	27	11	15	1	23	86	109
Waywayseacappo Wolverines	28	7	17	4	18	72	115
Neepawa Natives	30	7	23	0	14	62	162
MANITOBA MAJOR JUNIOR HOCKEY LEAGUE							
GP	W	L	OTL	PTS	GF	GA	
Pembina Valley Twisters	23	15	5	3	33	105	77
Raiders Jr. Hockey Club	22	15	5	2	32	79	63
Charleswood Hawks	20	12	5	3	27	81	56
St. Vital Victorias	21	13	7	1	27	87	74
Stonewall Jets	22	12	9	1	25	83	71
St. James Canucks	23	12	10	1	25	83	87
River East Royal Knights	23	10	11	2	22	71	79
Transcona Railer Express	21	9	11	1	19	72	88
St. Boniface Riels	22	8	12	2	18	73	85
Ft.Garry/Ft.Rouge Twins	23	4	18	1	9	57	111
SOUTH EASTERN MANITOBA HOCKEY LEAGUE							
GP	W	L	OTL	PTS	GF	GA	
Carman	7	6	1	0	12	40	28
Morden	7	6	1	0	12	28	14
Altona	6	4	2	0	8	27	18
Winkler	6	3	3	0	6	20	26
Notre Dame	7	2	3	2	6	30	29
Warren	7	1	4	0	4	35	50
Portage	6	1	5	0	2	25	40
AAA MIDGET HOCKEY LEAGUE							
GP	W	L	OTL	PTS	GF	GA	
Eastman	25	24	0	0	49	128	38
Wild	22	17	3	1	36	80	32
Yellowhead	23	16	4	0	35	81	51
Thrashers	23	16	6	1	33	106	53
Central Plains	22	12	6	1	28	71	60
Brandon	21	11	9	0	23	60	55
Kenora	22	10	11	1	21	73	87
Southwest	22	9	11	1	20	72	81
Parkland	23	8	13	0	18	71	98
Interlake	22	7	15	0	14	56	97
Pembina Valley Norman	23	4	18	1	9	43	112
	26	3	21	2	8	70	147
AAA CITY MIDGET HOCKEY LEAGUE							
GP	W	L	OTL	PTS	GF	GA	
Winnipeg Warriors	18	13	5	0	26	73	41
Winnipeg Monarchs	14	11	3	0	22	82	40
Winnipeg Hawks	18	10	6	1	22	83	64
Eastman Selects	19	10	8	0	21	57	54
Winnipeg Sharks	17	7	7	2	17	64	70
Interlake Lightning	20	0	19	0	1	31	121
Yellowhead Chiefs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Parkland Rangers	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
AAA BANTAM HOCKEY LEAGUE							
GP	W	L	OTL	PTS	GF	GA	
Brandon Wheat Kings	17	15	2	0	30	104	24
Central Plains Capitals	18	9	8	1	19	83	99
Yellowhead Chiefs	17	8	6	2	19	77	70
Southwest Cougars	20	8	11	1	17	62	69
Parkland Rangers	16	8	8	0	16	66	84
Pembina Valley PV Hawks	17	7	8	1	16	85	95
Norman Wolves	16	0	16	0	0	22	161
MANITOBA FEMALE MIDGET AAA HOCKEY LEAGUE							
GP	W	L	T	OTW	OTL	Pts	
Westman Wildcats	17	11	2	-	1	3	27
Yellowhead Chiefs	13	10	-	-	1	2	24
Central Plains	13	8	2	-	2	1	21
PV Hawks	13	8	3	-	2	-	20
Winnipeg Avros	17	5	7	-	3	2	18
Eastman Selects	13	4	8	-	-	1	9
Norman Wild	14	2	12	-	-	-	4
Interlake Lightning	14	-	14	-	-	-	-
HIGH SCHOOL HOCKEY							
GP	W	L	OTL	PTS	GF	GA	
Morden Thunder	24	20	2	0	42	130	61
W.C. Miller Aces (Altona)	24	17	4	1	37	122	74
Prairie Mountain Mustangs	24	16	7	1	33	139	87
Morris Mavericks	24	14	9	0	29	96	76
Northlands Parkway Collegiate							
Nighthawks (Winkler)	24	13	8	1	29	96	80
Portage Collegiate							
Institute Trojans	24	11	12	1	23	91	106
Carman Cougars	24	10	11	1	23	104	94
Cartwright/Nellie McClung/ Pilot Mound Tigers	24	7	17	0	14	70	109
Garden Valley Collegiate							
Zodiacs (Winkler)	24	0	23	1	1	40	201
STATS AS OF TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8							

> FLYERS, FROM PG. 22

Winkler is currently tied with Steinbach for second place in the MJHL with a 22-5-2 record and 46 points. They trail the first-place Terriers by seven points.

Coming up this weekend, Winkler heads north to play at the OCN Blizzard on Friday, the Swan Valley Stampeders on Saturday, and the Dauphin Kings on Sunday before heading back home to host Portage on Dec. 15.

ROSTER CHANGES

The Flyers made several changes to their roster in the lead-up to the Dec. 2 league deadline.

First up, they traded goalie Clark Flegel (1997) to the Melville Millionaires of the Saskatchewan Junior Hockey League and goalie Ryan Larochelle to the Humboldt Broncos, also of the SJHL, both in exchange for player development fees.

The team then added 20-year-old goalie Nathan Warren from the Soo Thunderbirds of the Northern Ontario Junior Hockey League.

The British Columbia native led the NOJHL with a 14-1 record, a 1.61 goals against average, and a .931 save percentage. He joins the Flyers on a personal 10 game winning streak with three shutouts during that span.

"We are very excited to bring in Nathan and give ourselves one of the top goalie tandems in the league. We feel that his experience will help cement our already solid back end," said head coach Ken Pearson.

Warren joins 19-year-old Connor Slipp in the Flyers' goalie line-up.

Away from the net, the Flyers acquired 19-year-old forward Luc Soares from the BCHL's Victoria Grizzlies in exchange for a development fee.

Soares recorded three points (one goal, two assists) in 14 games with the Grizzlies, after playing the first six games of the year in Prince George.

In his rookie season with Kirkland Lake in 2014-15 he recorded 52 points (24 goals, 28 assists) in 49 regular season games and five points (two goals, three assists) in the playoffs.

Team Friesen is provincials-bound

From left: Coach Greg Maywood, Holly Friesen, Kelsey Sagert, Katelyn Derksen, and Brook Friesen will represent the Central Region at the 2016 Canola Provincial Junior Curling championships in Rivers Jan. 5-10. The team sends out thanks to its sponsors for their support this season, including Winkler Construction, Meridian, Lode King, Access Credit Union, Southern Potato, Hometown, and WFG.

SUBMITTED PHOTO



OT loss puts end to Twister winning streak

By Lorne Stelmach

An overtime loss ended their winning streak at five games, but the single point was still the difference that had the Pembina Valley Twisters on top in the Manitoba Major Junior Hockey League.

Despite the 4-3 loss to the St. Vital Victorias in overtime Friday, the Twisters held a one point lead over the Raiders for first place at 15-5-3 for 33 points.

It was a five game winning run that had propelled the Twisters to first, including a 6-3 victory over the River East Royal Knights Dec. 1 followed by a 9-4 rout of the Transcona Railer Express Dec. 3.

Against the Royal Knights, the Twisters roared to a third straight win with an onslaught that could have ended much worse for the River East team, who were outshot 61 to 32 and used both of their netminders.

Gavin Klassen, meanwhile, was solid in the Pembina Valley net with 29 saves, while the Twisters also connected on two of five

powerplays.

Corey Mazinke continued his hot scoring streak, picking up his 16th goal of the season along with two assists after having notched four goals the previous weekend against St. James.

Fraser Mirrlees scored his 17th and 18th goals of the season and picked up an assist as well. Also scoring were Mark Klassen, Bryce Dusik and Danick Morin.

Pembina Valley connected for three

power play goals as they took period leads of 2-0 and 6-2 against Transcona.

Jamie van der Linde connected on two man advantages in the first period, with Klassen scoring two more for Pembina Valley. Also scoring were Dusik, Matthew Hadley, Paul Remillard, Eric Lebrun and Alex Tetrault.

Morgan Wall earned the win in net with 25 saves as the Twisters poured on the pressure all night, outshooting Transcona 49-29.

Against the Victorias, the Twisters

came back from 2-0 and 3-1 deficits to force the game to overtime, where Justin Tremblay completed his hat trick at 2:48 to win it for St. Vital.

Remillard, Steve Young, and Tyler Penner scored for Pembina Valley, who outshot St. Vital 44-24.

The Twisters face the Jets in Stonewall Friday evening as a lead-in to their showdown at home against the Raiders Saturday night.

Zodiacs second in Iceplex tourney

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Zone 4 hockey took a bit of a breather last week, but all the Morden-Winkler high school teams still laced up for tournaments around the province.

The GVC Zodiacs, for one, headed into Winnipeg to compete in the MTS Iceplex tournament, where they found success by beating the Melita/Wekata Devils 4-3 and the Murdock

Mackay Clansmen 5-4 on Dec. 3.

On Dec. 4 they bested the St. Thomas Aquinas Saints 4-3 to make it to the tournament final against the Clansmen. There, Sven Schefer and Noah Friesen scored first period goals while Brady Klassen made 32 saves in net, but it wasn't quite enough for the win, which went to the Clansmen 3-2.

Off the ice, the Zodiacs got the chance to take in a Winnipeg Jets

practice and a Washington Capitals practice.

Meanwhile, the NPC Nighthawks, Morden Thunder, Mountain Mustangs, and the Pembina Tigers all took part in the Victoria Inn High School Hockey Tournament in Brandon over the weekend.

Morden came out on top amongst the local teams, ultimately snagging third place by defeating the Stonewall Rams 3-0. Earlier the team had fallen to Virden and Westwood by scores of 3-2 and beaten Transcona 5-2 and Dauphin 2-1.

NPC posted wins over the Red Lake, Ontario team 5-1 and the John Taylor Pipers 2-1, but fell to teams from Brandon and Winnipeg.

Back in Zone 4 play Monday night, the Thunder handed the Aces a 7-4 loss in Altona.

The lengthy score sheet for Morden included a double from Brayden Jonasson and singles from Joey Baker, Keane Boucher, Logan Dyck, Cade Kowalski, and Evan Wuerch. Luke Sheldon got the win in net.

The **Winkler Morden Voice**
What's *your* story?
Call 325-6888

Do you have a suggestion
for our news team?
Is there someone you would like to
see recognized in the newspaper
for their accomplishments
- athletic, academic
or community service.

Agriculture

Digging into the state of Canada's soils

By Harry Siemens

Healthy soils are the foundation of sustainable food production, enhanced biodiversity, and cleaner air and water.

With that in mind, the Soil Conservation Council of Canada hosted the Summit on Canadian Soil Health last week to bring national stakeholders together to address the issues of soil care and determine the best response to current and emerging challenges to the sustainability of the agricultural landscape.

"We are here to bring together people to talk about soil health in Canada," says SCCC vice Chair Alan Kruszel, who is a no-till grain farmer in Ontario. "Things have changed enormously since the plow in the 1960s. We see a lot more no till going on now on the Prairies and throughout Canada, really."

He says a key goal of the conference and the SCCC is getting people to focus on soil health and trying to figure out what is the state of Canada's soil now and how to move forward to try to get that even better in the future.

Kruszel operates a small cash crop farm in eastern Ontario near Cornwall growing corn, soybeans, and spring cereals.

The first-generation, university-trained farmer said that soil erosion and poor drainage cropped up as problems on his land, so he worked to improve things by slowly removing fence lines, installing tile draining, and switching to no-till on about 300 acres.

"We're improving the soil and the farm every year," says Kruszel. "There is always something new to learn and I'm learning every year since I left school."

Kruszel says he's tried to more closely mimic nature, switching over the years from first plowing and cultivating and then to vertical tillage tools and then finally to no-till and more recently getting into cover crops, as well.

"Trying to keep the soil green with something living as long as possible on the field is my goal," he says, noting he doesn't see that changing anytime soon. "I think this is the way it's

going to be to be for us.

"The first few years when you start into no-till ... it isn't as easy as you thought it would be," Kruszel admits.

For him, the biggest challenge was setting up the planter to handle all the residue, but since then he's never looked back.

"It works very well with the corn and soybean rotation and the cover crops in between those so we're planting into something green in the spring-time," he says.

Which brings Kruszel back to why the soil health conference is so important: it allows farmers and other experts a place to get together to hear and discuss perspectives from all

across the country.

Kruszel says interest in different soil management approaches is definitely on the rise.

"We're getting there, but I'm noticing even in Ontario in particular, there has actually been a reversion from no-till to more tillage," he admits. "Partially attributed to higher corn yields which means a lot more residue. There is still lots of work to do to convince people they still can make no-till work even with all that residue."

Kruszel says it really doesn't matter how much residue a farmer's soil has, he can almost always make no-till work, though he may have to make

some changes to his management practises.

"We've noticed some phenomenal improvements on our farm, organic levels have gone up, nutrient levels are going up, yields are going up so we are very, very pleased," he says. "In controlling weeds, we can't get away from the herbicides when not able to cultivate between the corn rows or anything like that."

Between herbicides and pushing plant densities and as plant populations go up, there's more competition and less weed pressure, he adds.

No-till is here to stay for this farmer

By Harry Siemens

For 19 years now Tim Nerbas has farmed using no-till on his mixed farm operation, NRG Farms Ltd.

For the past four years he has participated on the executive of the Saskatchewan Soil Conservation, and he's also been on the Soil Conservation Council of Canada for the last two years.

Last week, Nerbas participated on a panel at the SCCC conference in Calgary talking about soil health in Western Canada.

A lot has changed for the better in how producers approach the soil on their land, but there's still a ways to go, he says.

"We started with a plow and gone through several different technologies, and maybe the technology we're

using today, we'll look back at that some day and say, 'Did we ever improve on that,'" says Nerbas.

The soils agrologist says every year he looks for improvements and tries to make the environment better, and that is what farming is about: using the best technologies of the day.

"We've been one pass direct seeding

Continued on page 27



> HARRY SIEMENS

Well, as I sit here in my hotel room in Moose Jaw getting ready to write this week's articles, I see this flurry of email alerts in my inbox.

These alerts are for the Country of Origin Labelling fiasco that the American Congress should have put

M-COOL retaliations okayed by WTO

to bed a long time ago.

Dec. 7 the World Trade Organization made their big announcement favouring Canada and Mexico over the United States on the matter.

The WTO authorized a combined \$1.01 billion in annual retaliation against the United States: \$781 million from Canada and \$227 million from Mexico. The tariffs will be imposed by the individual countries on as yet unspecified products and could be in place as early as next week.

This ruling is the final step of a trade dispute several years in the making over the U.S. COOL law

mandating disclosure of born, raised, and slaughtered information on meat labels.

That law was challenged by Canada and Mexico, who ultimately persuaded the WTO that the law accorded unfavorable treatment to Canadian and Mexican livestock because, amongst other things, it required segregation of live animals.

The flurry of activity in my inbox resulted from all the news media, organizations, and individuals offering their two cents worth on this long awaited announcement.

Continued on page 27

> NO-TILL, FROM PG. 26

for 19 years now farming grain and cattle, somewhat diversified, not diversified in our rotation to where I'd like us to go in the future," says Nerbas. "Some of it is always a time thing versus let's just do the easy. And sometimes that is what agriculture has become: let's just do the easy."

He says there are many quick fixes, but sometimes when they look at the biological it's becoming more holistic in his thinking.

"Asking questions like how will this benefit this, and if we do this process, it helps us keep pathogens away versus just relying on a quick fix," says Nerbas. "Some of it is trying to create our thinking so that it is a little bit more long-term than just that one year kind of thinking by these various processes that work together for that long-term plan."

Nerbas practises the four Rs for crop rotation on his farm, meaning using the right product, at the right rate, at the right time, in the right place.

"We want to provide that fertilizer just in time for crop growth so that way we won't leave it vulnerable to losses to the environment, to the atmosphere, to water erosion," says Nerbas.

Figuring out the four Rs can be time-consuming, but the benefits are such that Nerbas has never consid-

ered going back to an easier method.

"Personally, I've never been tempted to ever go back. I see my soil, the improvements in my soil, in terms of the hilltop growth and limiting the amount of soil erosion on some fairly good slopes," he says. "I see the benefits in terms of my soil, often talk about soil tilth, what it feels like. We have good aggregation—when I leave my standing stubble those to me are shelter belts for my young seedlings."

"It also allows when rainfall events

occur, it gives that little extra time for water infiltration."

So when the crops get too much moisture, that means he has to increase the intensity in terms of the water use and forages are a great way of using up water.

"The question is how can we increase that intensity and then when we get into drier years we have to lower that intensity, too," Nerbas says. "The key is trying to figure out that timing. Sometimes we see things as

a problem, when it's just a matter of stepping back and looking at the big picture. Then sometimes it isn't such a big problem after all.

"In general, we've seen where not everyone has livestock anymore, and sometimes that changes our thinking. Maybe there is another way by selling some forage to those who have livestock and still include it in our rotation for those extreme conditions."

> SIEMENS SAYS, FROM PG. 26

From our newly elected federal government, Chrystia Freeland, Minister of International Trade, and Lawrence MacAulay, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food, say this:

"Since 2011, the World Trade Organization has repeatedly ruled that COOL discriminates against Canadian and Mexican cattle and hogs and violates the trade obligations of the United States. The government of Canada has made every effort to convince the United States to comply with its international trade obligations."

"We are pleased that on June 10, 2015, the U.S. House of Representatives repealed COOL for beef and pork. The government of Canada has

urged the U.S. Senate to do the same, but it has not yet done so.

"If the U.S. Senate does not take immediate action to repeal COOL for beef and pork, Canada will quickly take steps to retaliate."

My friends at AgWired report that U.S. Senator Pat Roberts, chairman of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, said, "As I've said time and time again, whether you support or oppose COOL, the fact is retaliation is coming. Today, the WTO announced just how much that retaliation will cost the U.S. economy ... We must prevent retaliation, and we must do it now before these sanctions take effect. I will continue to look for all legislative opportunities to repeal COOL."

The animal agriculture community has also responded.

National Pork Producers Council president Dr. Ron Prestage stressed the need to repeal the labeling provision.

"America's pork producers need congressional lawmakers to recognize the imminent harm our economy faces. Retaliation has been authorized, and our exports to the No. 1 and No. 2 markets will suffer and so will U.S. farmers, business people and consumers."

For Canada and Mexico, though, the WTO's decision is good news, and we're hoping Prime Minister Justin Trudeau will drop the boom and retaliate sooner than later.

get inspired

> MEAL IDEAS

Slow Cooker Beef Stroganoff



Ingredients

1 1/2 pounds top round steak, cubed
1/4 teaspoon salt
1/4 teaspoon paprika
1/4 teaspoon pepper
2 tablespoons butter
1 package (8 ounces) fresh sliced portobello mushrooms
1 small onion, chopped
2 medium garlic cloves, minced
1 can (10.75 ounces) condensed reduced sodium cream of mushroom soup, undiluted

1 tablespoon Au Jus
1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce
1/4 cup plus 2 tablespoons water
2 tablespoons all-purpose flour
1 cup sour cream
hot cooked egg noodles
minced fresh parsley
Preparation

Sprinkle beef with salt, paprika and pepper. In large skillet, brown beef in butter. Place beef in large slow cooker. In same skillet, saute mushrooms, onion and garlic until tender. Transfer to slow cooker. Stir in soup, au jus mix, Worcestershire sauce and 1/4 cup water. Cover and cook on low 6 hours.

Combine remaining water and flour until smooth; add to slow cooker. Stir in sour cream. Cover and cook 1 hour longer. Serve over noodles; sprinkle with parsley.

Preparation Time 25 minutes

Cook Time 7 hours

Serves 7

Simmered chicken dinner



Makes 6 servings

Here's one of the fastest and easiest ways to cook a chicken, potato and vegetable dinner—all in one pot. It's also a good way to introduce children to new vegetables. This dish has sweet potatoes, which are not overpowering or as dried out as baked ones can sometimes be. You can use carrots, turnips or squash cubes instead of sweet potatoes.

Ingredients

1.5 Kg (3 lb) chicken pieces, skinned
1L (4 cups) water
2 slices bacon, cut in pieces
3 leeks or medium-size onions
2 bay leaves
5 mL (1 tsp) dried thyme

5 red potatoes, halved
1 large sweet potato (375/12 oz), peeled and cut into chunks
Half small head of cabbage
1 clove garlic, minced
50 mL (1/4 cup) chopped fresh parsley
1 mL (1/4 tsp) or less salt and freshly ground pepper

Directions

If using a whole chicken, remove skin first, then cut into pieces. In large pot, combine chicken, water and bacon; bring to boil and skim off any foam.

Halve leeks lengthwise and clean under running water; cut into 5 cm (2 in) (5 cm) lengths. If using onions, cut into quarters. Add leeks to pot along with bay leaves, thyme and red and sweet potatoes; cover and simmer for 10 minutes.

Cut cabbage into 2.5 cm (1-in) wedges and add to pot; cover and simmer for 10 minutes or until vegetables are tender.

Using slotted spoon, transfer chicken and vegetables to six large soup bowls. Remove bay leaves from the broth.

Increase heat to high; boil liquid for 3 to 5 minutes or until reduced to about 750 mL (3 cups). Stir in garlic, parsley, and salt and pepper; ladle over each portion.



Milkshake Mondays at big hit

What better way to start off the week than with a delicious milkshake? That's just what the staff and students at Southwood School in Schanzenfeld having been doing every Monday since Nov. 2, courtesy of teacher Carol Suderman's Gr. 2 class. The students have been offering up chocolate, strawberry, and vanilla milkshakes for 75 cents each, with funds raised going towards purchasing books to support student reading during the summer, spring, and Christmas breaks. Suderman says the entire campaign was the students' idea, and it's proven a big hit so far at the school. Milkshake Mondays will continue through to Christmas break, she says.

SUBMITTED PHOTOS

take a break > GAMES

SUDOKU

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

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Level: Intermediate

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

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

Sudoku Answer

I	T	E	E	V	T	E	S	S	S	E	R	D
G	V	T	S	I	S	R	V	T	E	M	V	C
N	V	B	S	S	N	P	R	U	O	M	V	L
E	R	V	H	H	K	N	V	N	N	N	N	S
S	K	S	V	T	S	N	O	T	E	K	K	S
S	V	D	I	D	V	D	B	E	R	B	S	S
S	E	R	V	M	R	E	P	U	S	C	V	
U	V	E	T	V	A	T	E	M	U	D	V	R
D	V	E	D	V	C	I	N	T	S	E	H	C
V	O	T	S	H	U	I	R	T	H			
G	N	I	N	E	E	R	C	S	T	I	V	A
T	W	O	S	P	E	S	S	E	S	E	L	V
P	V	A	I	N	V	A	T	R	P	A	V	A
R	V	U	N	V	R	E	V	P	A	R	E	T
D	I	S	V	H	D	T	O	H	A	I	P	B

Crossword Answer

X CROSSWORD

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Characters in one inch of tape
- 4. In a hold
- 9. Jewish mystic
- 14. A way to souse
- 15. A small sharp knife
- 16. Frogs, toads, tree toads
- 17. Brew
- 18. Rowdy carouser
- 20. Poetries
- 22. ___ salts, remedy
- 23. Expect eagerly
- 24. Obstructing the view of something
- 28. Denotes three
- 29. Expression of uncertainty
- 30. Greek portico
- 31. Bureau
- 33. Electric battery
- 37. Vapor density
- 38. Radioactivity unit
- 39. Strive to equal or match
- 41. Cologne
- 42. Carrier's invention
- 43. Highest in degree or quality
- 44. Female horses
- 46. Serbian
- 49. Publicity
- 50. Actress Lupino
- 51. Supporting structures
- 55. Jobs
- 58. Indian founder of Sikhism
- 59. Capital of Zimbabwe
- 60. Woman of charm and good looks
- 64. Order
- 65. Draft animal in desert regions
- 66. Unaccented syllable verse
- 67. Fail to keep pace
- 68. Sheath or shirtwaist
- 69. Moss stalks
- 70. ___ Lilly, drug company

1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13
14				15						16				
17				18					19					
20			21				22							
23						24	25					26	27	
		28				29				30				
31	32					33		34	35	36			37	
38				39	40						41			
42				43						44	45			
46		47	48				49			50				
51				52	53	54				55			56	57
		58							59					
60	61						62	63			64			
65						66					67			
68						69					70			

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Exclamation of praise
- 2. 200 island Pacific nation (alt. sp.)
- 3. Repeated
- 4. Hungers
- 5. School of Business, UCB
- 6. Bobby ___, NHL champ
- 7. Lease
- 8. More parched
- 9. Medieval merchant guild
- 10. Negative ions
- 11. Top
- 12. One of the Gershwins
- 13. Dekalitre
- 19. Imitate
- 21. Gentlemen
- 24. Dawn
- 25. A citizen of Chile
- 26. Bright stars
- 27. Codfish genus
- 31. Extremely unrefined
- 32. Diacritical mark
- 34. Correspondences
- 35. Indicates position
- 36. Small cup
- 40. 12th Greek letter
- 41. Capable of being eliminated
- 45. 12th Jewish month
- 47. Rechristen
- 48. In a way, imputes
- 52. Hydroxyls + 2C
- 53. Follows sigma
- 54. Vegetable shrubs
- 56. South African village
- 57. Monetary unit of D.R. Congo
- 59. First Chinese dynasty
- 60. Divides evenly into (Math)
- 61. Household god (Roman)
- 62. Pakistani rupee
- 63. American time

Classifieds

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The Winkler Morden Voice

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MUSIC LESSONS

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COMING EVENTS

Thousand Oaks Ministries Inc. ANNUAL CHRISTMAS MUSIC NIGHT Sat., Dec. 12, 2015 7:30 pm at the P.W. Enns Centennial Concert Hall Winkler, Manitoba Featuring: Christmas with D'Friesens Reinland, MB Everyone Welcome! Freewill Offering 1000 Oaks Info Line (204) 822-1253

TRAVEL

Save 30% on our Greenland and Wild Labrador Voyage until December 18, 2015. See Labrador as it was meant to be seen - by sea aboard the comfortable Ocean Endeavour. No extra charge for singles! Quote community newspapers! Call toll free: 1-800-363-7566 or visit: www.adventurecanada.com (TICO # 04001400).

The Winkler Morden Voice CALL: 325-6888

COMING EVENTS

You are invited! Please Join MLA Cameron Friesen For his annual Christmas Coffee Break Friday, Dec. 11 10:00am-11:30am Southland Mall, Winkler (Centre Court) Cameron Friesen, MLA Morden-Winkler Constituency 204-822-1088 info@cameronfriesen.ca

HEALTH

Are you suffering from joint or arthritic pain? If so, you owe it to yourself to try elk velvet antler capsules. Hundreds have found relief. Benefits humans and pets. EVA is composed of proteins, amino acids, minerals, lipids and water. Key compounds that work to stimulate red blood cell production & cartilage cell regeneration & development. Stonewall Elk Products Ltd., 204-467-8428 or e-mail stonewoodelk@hotmail.com



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To be considered, you will be a high school graduate with the following credits: Mathematics 40S (Applied or Pre-Calculus), Physics 30S and English 40.

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Applications for both the Power Line Technician and Aboriginal Line Trades Pre-Placement Programs must include a personal résumé and a complete transcript of marks (high school and any post secondary). Only complete applications will be considered.

Visit our website at www.hydro.mb.ca/careers to apply online. If you are unable to access a computer, please call our Employment Line at 1-204-360-7282 or 1-800-565-5200.

The deadline for applications is December 21, 2015. We thank you for your interest and will contact you if you are selected for an interview.

Manitoba Hydro offers a competitive salary and benefits package and working conditions that provide for a balanced approach to work, family life and community, including a nine day work cycle.



Manitoba Hydro is committed to diversity and employment equity.



NOTICE

Attention Manitoba Wildlife Federation members and outdoor enthusiasts:

There will be a public meeting held at the RM of Stanley office December 14th at 7 pm, to discuss the proposed Pembina Valley Provincial Park expansion. The Morden Game and Fish and the MWF would like to ensure that hunting opportunities are protected and available in these lands for the future. Your presence and opinions are encouraged. Anyone is welcome to attend. For more information call David Olafson at 204-822-4586.

NOTICES



PUBLIC NOTICE HEARING CITY OF MORDEN 2016 FINANCIAL PLAN

Pursuant to Section 162(2) of The Municipal Act, the Council of the City of Morden invite all ratepayers of the City of Morden to a Public Hearing in respect to the 2016 Financial Plan (Budget) for the City of Morden. The purpose of the Public Hearing is to allow any interested persons to make a representation, ask questions or register an objection to the Financial Plan.

A presentation of the Financial Plan will be made at the Morden Civic Centre on Monday, December 21st, 2015 at 7:00 P.M. Copies of the Financial Plan will be available on December 18th, 2015.

PUBLIC HEARING 2016 FINANCIAL PLAN Monday, December 21st, 2015 7:00 P.M. 195 STEPHEN STREET, MORDEN, MANITOBA

TENDER

NOTICE OF TENDER

Sealed written tenders to be received until 5:00 p.m. on Dec. 18, 2015

Address: 342 - 2nd St, Winkler, MB Lot Size: 100 ft x 125 ft Zoning: Residential, Multi-Family

Ideal residential development opportunity!

Tenders must be accompanied by a deposit of \$1,000.00 by certified cheque payable to Jaret Hoepfner Law Office. Highest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

Please mail or deliver tenders to: Jaret Hoepfner Law Office Box 1053, Unit A - 915 Navigator Drive Winkler, MB R6W 4B1

For more information, contact our office: 204-325-8666 mviveiros@jarethoepfnerlaw.com

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Sat. Dec. 12, 11 am
 Hwy 14 and St. Joseph road and 1/2 mile north
 Approx. 1200 bu. Friesen Hopper bin with air and fan, Also approx 800 bu. Sunrise feed bin
 See www.billklassen.com. Phone bids accepted
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 Cell: (204) 325-6230
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Bill Klassen Auctions Ltd.

COMING EVENTS

SANTA'S SCHEDULE SOUTHLAND MALL

Fri., Dec. 11
 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Sat., Dec. 12
 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Fri., Dec. 18
 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Sat., Dec. 19
 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Mon., Dec. 21
 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Bring your camera for a photo with Santa

CAREERS

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 John (204)362-1581
 or Bill (204)362-8936.

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COMING EVENTS

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for Cake and Coffee and to wish Branch Manager Mike Chute a Happy Retirement after 44 excellent years with the bank!

We are also pleased to announce Kerri Leroux as the new Branch Manager.

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CAREERS

The City of Winkler Requires a Utility Maintenance Operator

Under the direction of the Utilities Foreman, the successful candidate will serve the Community by maintaining and operating water and sewer infrastructure and equipment. Standby and on call duties to responding to afterhours emergencies is required.

Qualifications

- Must have or be able to obtain a Class 3 drivers license with air endorsement
- Experience in operating light equipment and trucks with ability to learn heavy equipment operation
- Basic welding, plumbing, piping and mechanical skills are desirable
- Possess or be able to gain through studies - water and wastewater certification
- Physically capable of heavy lifting
- Grade 12 education

Forward resumes by December 18, 2015 to:
 City of Winkler
 185 Main Street
 Winkler, MB R6W 1B4
pfroese@cityofwinkler.ca
 Attention: Pete Froese, Director of Works & Operations

We thank all candidates for their expression of interest; however we will contact only those under consideration. Candidates may be subject to a criminal record check.

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Announcements

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BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT



Teyla Aurora Leroux

Richard and Kerri Leroux of Miami, MB are thrilled to announce the safe arrival of their precious baby girl, Teyla Aurora, on September 15, 2015, at Boundary Trails Health Centre. Weighing 6 lbs. 10 oz. and 20" long. Proud grandparents are Ike and Brenda Unger of Morden and John and Wendy Leroux of Winnipeg. Special thanks to Dr. Megan Chatwin, Dr. Sahar Aljahja, Dr. J. Jackson and Dr. David Martens for helping make Teyla's grand entrance into our world. Also a big thank you to the Maternity Nurses for all their wonderful care.

IN MEMORIAM



Cornelius F. Klassen

December 24, 1925 - December 9, 1990

OBITUARY



Peter Dyck
1927 - 2015

On Wednesday, December 2, 2015 at Morris General Hospital, Peter Dyck, aged 88 years formerly of Winkler, MB went to his eternal rest.

He leaves to mourn his passing his wife, Margaret (nee Braun), one sister and one brother and their families. He was predeceased by one brother-in-law.

Memorial service was held at 11:00 a.m. on Monday, December 7, 2015 at the Blumenort Mennonite Church in Rosetown with a private interment prior at Westridge Memorial Gardens.

If friends so desire, donations may be made in Peter's memory to the Gideon Memorial Bible Plan.

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



OBITUARY

Wilma McKay Stewart

On Monday, November 30, 2015 at the Carman Memorial Hospital, Wilma Stewart aged 93 years, long time resident of Roland, MB, beloved wife of the late Don Stewart.

Private interment will take place at a later date in Fairview Cemetery, Roland, MB.

Doyle's Funeral Chapel in care of arrangements

IN MEMORIAM



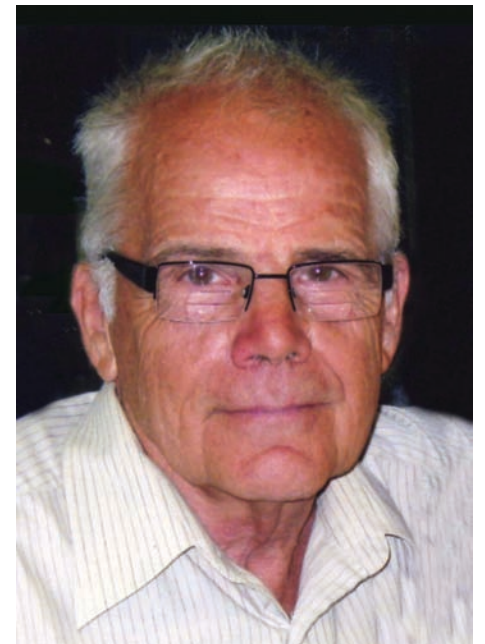
Jake F. Wiebe

June 7, 1925 - December 15, 2014

The Lord saw you getting tired,
And a cure was not to be;
So He put His arms around you,
And whispered, "Come with me".
With tearful eyes, we watched you suffer,
And saw you fade away;
Although we loved you dearly,
We could not make you stay.

-In loving memory
Katherine and family

IN MEMORIAM



Pete Leiding

1936 - 2011

We never asked for miracles,
But today just one would do;
To see the door push open,
And you come walking through.
The things we felt most deeply,
Are the hardest things to say;
But we, your family, loved you,
In a very special way.
It's lonely here without you,
We miss you more each day;
But life is not the same for us,
Since you have gone away.
Our hearts still ache with sadness,
And silent tears still flow;
For what it meant to lose you,
No one will ever know.

-Always in our hearts,
Janice,

Rick, Tami, Joey, Toni, Katelyn, DJ and Jared
Gerry, Melacyn, Graham, Olyvia, Evan, Jared
and Emily
Brenda, Henry, Ryan and Garrett
Kelly

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- Tailgate Step
- Chrome Step Bars
- Integrated Trailer Brake Controller
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15U185



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