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The **Voice** Winkler Morden

VOLUME 9 EDITION 12

THURSDAY,
MARCH 22, 2018

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Fun for all ages

PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

The Morden Lions Toy Show took over the Access Event Centre hall last weekend, filling it with about two dozen vendors showcasing a variety of items on display and for sale. For more photos, see Pg. 10.

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Morden-Winkler launch new joint tourism brand

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Morden and Winkler have joined forces to put forward a united front when it comes to attracting tourism dollars to the region.

The two cities unveiled their new joint tourism brand to community stakeholders last week.

Representatives from Travel Manitoba and the McKim Communications Group were on hand at the March 15 event to run through the ins and outs of the promotional campaign, which includes a new stylized Morden-Winkler logo and the tagline: "Explore What We're Famous For."

This is the fifth of seven place brands recently unveiled by the provincial tourism organization, with Clear Lake, Gimli, Portage la Prairie, and Whiteshell also launching campaigns, explained president Colin Ferguson.

"This is a really exciting opportunity for the area," he said. "This is a unique opportunity that is not happening in other parts of the country."

Morden-Winkler got involved with the initiative thanks to the efforts of Morden Mayor Ken Wiebe and Winkler Mayor Martin Harder, who to-

Continued on page 4



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Heading up the push for the new regional tourism brand was a committee made up of co-chairs Karina Bueckert and Peter Cantelon and members Katelin Letkeman, James Friesen, Michelle Sawatzky, Thomas Guenther, and Wendy Klassen.

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Winkler council approves \$16.2M budget

By Lorne Stelmach

The \$16.2 million budget introduced last Tuesday at Winkler council accomplishes a lot for the city.

There is an increase of 3.9 per cent in spending with a minimal impact on municipal taxes—on average about 2.5 per cent for residential and 1.5 per cent on a commercial tax bill.

At the same time, council faces potentially taking on a new \$6 million debt load—including \$4 million for the wastewater treatment facility and \$2 million for the new recreation complex—when it already comes into the year with an existing \$4.2 million in debt from other projects.

Mayor Martin Harder maintained the city is well positioned to handle it all, noting that the current debt load “is the lowest in probably 20 years for the City of Winkler ... and we have a reserve fund there that’s well over \$10 million.”

A decrease in the mill rate from 14.299 to 13.729 balanced out with revenues boosted by an eight per cent increase in overall property assessment in Winkler means there will be a minimal impact on tax bills.

A residential property with an assessment increasing from \$300,000 to \$320,000 will see its municipal taxes go up by \$49 to just over \$1,979, while a commercial property with an assessment increasing from \$500,000 to \$528,500 will see its municipal taxes go up by about \$69 to about \$4,716.

Looking at how the tax dollars are spent shows 19 per cent goes towards policing followed by 15 per cent for transfers to reserves, 14 per cent to recreation and culture, 13 per cent for transportation, and 11 per cent to both administration and fiscal services. Smaller portions pay for areas including fire protection, waste disposal, planning and economic services.

Harder suggested the city has done a good job of keeping pace with the continued growth of the city while keeping tax increases in line.

“I think it’s striking a very good balance,” he said. “Obviously, we’re in a growing community so we can afford some of the luxuries of increasing a budget without increasing the tax base. I’m pretty excited that, if I look back over the last 10 years, the bud-

get increases have been roughly one and a half per cent per year. Last year, there was basically zero increase.

“I think it’s very reasonable and in particular looking at the number of projects that are in there,” he continued. “Twelve years ago when I first took over as mayor, we had an \$8 million budget. Today it’s a \$16 million budget.

“So the city has grown, and the tax rate has been very, very stable,” said Harder, calling it a good position to be in. “It’s something a lot of communities can’t grasp, that we can do as many things as we are doing.”

Municipal taxes account for 64 per cent of the city’s revenues at about \$10.4 million, with the remaining 36 per cent or \$5.8 million coming from other sources, including 53 per cent of that through provincial municipal tax sharing.

Another factor as well is support that comes from the community outside of taxes through donations and contributions to various projects, facilities, and organizations. In 2017, that amounted to around \$400,000 in additional revenue, while federal and

provincial support provided almost \$3 million in revenue.

The city is hoping to soon start on a couple major projects, including the wastewater treatment facility, which carries a total cost of \$46.7 million of which Winkler plans to take on a \$12.2 million portion of it. As well, there is the Meridian Exhibition Centre with an estimated cost of around \$20 million.

Other significant projects include development of the Clover Creek industrial park at \$1.7 million, Highway 32 construction at \$1.2 million and development of Northlands Parkway at \$800,000.

Highlights of other areas of expenditure include:

- Policing - about 19 per cent of the budget at \$3.1 million; includes a new patrol vehicle.
- Parks and recreation - about 14 per cent of the budget at \$2.3 million; includes additional 15th Street parking, shelter at Redhawk Park.
- Transportation - about 13 per cent of the budget at \$2.1 million; includes a new front-end loader as well as work on roads, walkways and street lighting.
- Administration - about 11 per cent of the budget at \$1.7 million; includes new software and a new vehicle.

**“I THINK IT’S
STRIKING A VERY
GOOD BALANCE.”**

Notice of Environment Act Proposal

Manitoba Sustainable Development has received a proposal pursuant to The Environment Act regarding the following operation and invites public participation in the review process:

**GIESBRECHT EXCAVATING LTD.
- FILE NO. 5944.00**

An Environment Act Proposal has been filed by Giesbrecht Excavating Ltd. for the construction and operation of a used oil and used oil filter collection and recycling facility at 469 Pembina Avenue East in Winkler, Manitoba. The facility receives used oil and used oil filters for the purpose of recycling the oil to use as diesel fuel. The potential environmental effects of the development are related to hazardous waste generation.

Anyone likely to be affected by the above operation and who wishes to comment on the proposal should contact the department in writing or by email to Eshetu.Beshada@gov.mb.ca, not later than April 20 2018. Further information is available from the online Public Registry located at: www.manitoba.ca/sd/eal/registries/index.html or by contacting Eshetu Beshada, Environmental Engineer at 204-945-7023.

Information submitted in response to this proposal is considered public information and will be made available to the proponent and placed on the public registry established in accordance with Section 17 of The Environment Act.

**Environmental Approvals Branch
Manitoba Sustainable Development**
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> EXPLORE MORDEN-WINKLER, FROM PG. 3

gether approached Travel Manitoba for help in better promoting regional tourism.

A stakeholder meeting was held last fall to take a look at what the area has to offer and how to get that message out to potential visitors.

“We know that travellers are already coming to Morden and Winkler. Our problem is that travellers see you as individual one-stop destinations,” noted Tracy Francis, one of the creative minds at McKim behind the campaign. “So we need to invite them to do more, to stay longer, and to come back.

“There are few [places] in the province of Manitoba that offer the variety of experiences and the accommodation choices that travellers can find if they visit both Morden and Winkler,” Francis said.

“You’ve got historical sites, festivals, golf, natural attractions. It’s a really deep and diverse list of products that, combined, make Morden and Winkler one of the best bang for your buck tourism destinations in

Manitoba, and we want to encourage people to come here and experience twice as much.”

To that end, the campaign’s ads focus on some of the major attractions in both communities and the surrounding RM of Stanley, while also emphasizing the depth of other things to see and do across the region.

The promotional materials received enthusiastic thumbs up from those gathered at the unveiling.

“Everything about it’s great. The colours are fantastic, the message is key,” said Peter Cantelon, who co-chairs the regional tourism committee created to oversee this project.

“When we saw the brand and the message the committee began to realize that we’re involved in something that’s probably going to be way bigger than just tourism,” he added. “We all know our region has had its competition ... but the unifying potential of this is awesome.”

The campaign includes a website (exploremordenwinkler.com) and

Facebook and Instagram pages, all of which went live the night of the launch.

“Now it is ours and now it’s in our hands,” said committee co-chair Karina Bueckert, explaining Travel Manitoba has handed over the reigns of the campaign’s implementation to the communities. “So it’s up to us to market it and take it to the next level.”

Mayor Harder feels these new promotional materials will go far in attracting people to the region.

“I think if we properly market it between communities that we’re willing to promote things within the separate communities, including the RM of Stanley, I think it’s a winner,” he said.

“It’s bang-on in my opinion,” agreed Mayor Wiebe. “You can do things individually and you can do them well, but if you can get this kind of thing, tourism, getting three communities together to work on it, I don’t think there’s a limit to what you can do.”

Winkler, Stanley Ag. avoid expropriation

By Ashleigh Viveiros

After years of negotiations, the City of Winkler and the Stanley Agricultural Society have finally come to an agreement over the sale of the society's land in the Parkland area.

The two announced Friday that Winkler will purchase the SAS fairgrounds for \$750,000, bringing the expropriation process to a halt and opening the way for the construction of the Meridian Exhibition Centre—the major expansion to the current Winkler Rec. Complex—on the site.

"We never like to be involved with expropriation at the best of times, but it did finally accomplish what both of us needed to have accomplished," said Mayor Martin Harder. "I think it's a win-win for both parties and we look forward to being able to develop that property."

"We're thrilled that this has come to an agreement. This has been a long process with its ups and downs," noted SAS president Toban Dyck.

"It feels a bit surreal because it's been such a long, protracted process," he added, noting that the agency is looking now to the future. "There's lots of work to do. The ag. society has a long ways to go. We fully appreciate that this is a step on that process, but we are happy to have it behind us."

Winkler takes ownership of the land effective June 1, but the society will be able to use the site for its horse and cattle shows this summer.

"We look forward to running our programming on it this year; we're thankful that we're able to," said Dyck. "And we're thankful about the City of Winkler's commitment to agriculture in the area and that it's chosen to remain an ag-focused community."

The price tag also includes the large barn on the site, which the city will make use of until the exhibition centre project gets off the ground.

The value of the land is what ultimately deadlocked negotiations for months, eventually culminating in the city taking steps towards expropriation last year.

It was a move neither side really wanted, and so talks continued in the hopes of finding a number both could live with.

In the end, a little give and take was required from both the city and the society to reach the \$750,000 amount.

"When you take a look at the value of the property, obviously it was a little more than we had anticipated we were going to pay, but yet we have no desire to create enemies with any-

body," Harder said. "We want to make sure we stay on a great working relationship. We look forward to working with the Stanley Ag. Society on hosting events in the future."

"Hopefully now we can get serious about building the addition that we're anticipating to build," he added.

But first those plans need to be revisited with the new financial picture in mind.

"Hopefully within the next month or so we'll

have a better idea of what the plans could look like and whether it fits the budget that we have assigned to it," Harder said.

As for the Stanley Ag. Society, the hunt is already on for a new home.

"There is an exploratory group ... looking for land," Dyck said. "They have been in talks with a few people and there is some promising potential land out there."

"It's looking optimistic. There are a lot of landowners that want to see us succeed, so that works in our favour, for sure, and we are looking forward to working with them."

The society is also getting to work on implementing some of the suggestions that came out of their strategic planning session last fall.

"When you got that group of farmers together they were pretty excited

"I THINK IT'S A WIN-WIN FOR BOTH PARTIES AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO BEING ABLE TO DEVELOP THAT PROPERTY."



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Winkler Mayor Martin Harder (left) and Stanley Agricultural Society president Toban Dyck signed a \$750,000 purchase agreement for the society's land in the Parkland area, putting an end to the expropriation process started last year.

about what the ag. society could be in this area, and it was pretty lofty," Dyck said. "So we'll have to figure out

what that looks like and how we can implement it."

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The Winkler Morden Voice



PUBLISHER
Rick Reimer



ADMINISTRATION
Lana Meier



EDITOR
Ashleigh Viveiros



REPORTER
Lorne Stelmach



COLUMNIST
Peter Cantelon



AGRICULTURE REPORTER
Harry Siemens



PRODUCTION
Tara Gionet



PRODUCTION
Nicole Kapusta

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Our commitment to you: we want to help build stronger communities through articles that both inform and entertain you about what's going on throughout the Pembina Valley. This is your community newspaper—let us know what you want to see in it.

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General inquiries: 325-6888

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Winkler Morden Voice

Box 185, Winkler, MB, R6W 4A5

WSD doesn't make cut for new school

By Lorne Stelmach

A long awaited new school for Morden did not make the cut in last week's 2018 provincial budget.

Western School Division officials were disappointed to have again not received a commitment from the province for the new school.

"We were certainly hoping for better news. We have some questions that we are going to be asking in the next while," said superintendent Stephen Ross. "At this point in time I think we need to gather some more information and determine why ... why other places and why not here?"

The division has long identified what would be a K-6 or possibly a K-8 school as the top priority in its five year capital plan, and it already owns a 10 acre parcel of land in the north-west corner of Morden for the facility.

WSD not only sees the immediate need for a new school but also a need for additional space at its existing schools, where portable classrooms have been added in recent years.

In fact, the division had hoped the province would at least fast-track an expansion to the community's high school-middle school complex to help free up space for Grades 5 to 8, but the government has indicated those three additional classroom spaces will be delayed until at least 2019-20.

"I think we have made a substantial case based on actual hard data over a long period of time here. Our projections are based on long term data that is very solid," Ross said..

"It's a challenge. Western School Division has had, as far as smallest square footage per pupil in Mani-

toba, for eight years out of ten, we have been the second smallest," he said, adding that they can't help but "wonder why over that period of time we haven't got what the community needs."

"I guess it's up to, not just the school division, but it's up to parents and ratepayers in this community to ask those people who are responsible ... why ... why and when maybe are the questions."

Morden-Winkler MLA and provincial Finance Minister Cameron Friesen said that the province recognizes the division has made their case for a new school, but he could offer no commitment to the project at this point.

"I believe that the best way forward for Western is to continue to dialogue with the [education] minister and with me as their local MLA," he said.

"We get it ... the evidence is there ... the evidence will ultimately drive the construction of a new school," Friesen said. "I would say clearly a new school for Western School Division is on the radar for this government."

BUDGET PASSES

Meanwhile, trustees gave final approval to the 2018-19 budget at their March 12 meeting.

Spending increases by 2.4 per cent from last year to \$20.9 million, while revenues are forecast at \$21.2 million, which represents about a three per cent increase.

Provincial funding increased 3.4 per cent or by \$353,000 to a total of \$13.6 million, which accounts for about 64 per cent of revenues, while municipal

"IT'S UP TO PARENTS AND RATEPAYERS IN THIS COMMUNITY TO ASK THOSE PEOPLE WHO ARE RESPONSIBLE ... WHY?"

taxes make up 34 per cent or around \$7.2 million.

The division decreased its mill rate 7.4 per cent, but the bottom line on taxes will vary.

A \$275,000 house reassessed at \$291,500 will see a reduction of \$38 in school taxes from \$2,055 to \$2,017, while a business with assessment rising from \$500,000 to \$530,000 will pay an extra \$104, rising from \$8,810 to \$8,915.

Being harder hit will be farmland, as a quarter section of farmland with assessment increasing from \$1 million to \$1,230,000—a 23 per cent increase—will pay \$599 more as their school taxes rise from \$4,319 to \$4,918.

The budget deals with increasing enrolment, in particular at École Morden Middle School, which will have its largest enrolment yet with a rise from 520 to 575 and will need two more classes as a result.

"Things are very tight this year ... there were some tough choices to be made," said Ross.

Winkler Handivan ending service March 31

By Ashleigh Viveiros

After months of trying to make a go of it, the Winkler Senior Centre has decided it's time to pull the plug on the Winkler & District Handivan.

"When we looked at the overall deficit that we were running at, in the long-term it just wasn't feasible," said WSC executive director Nettie Dyck Monday afternoon.

A fundraising concert was held a few weeks ago to try and bolster the program's funds, but though the community's support was heartening, it proved to be only a stop-gap measure.

"The fundraiser was overwhelming. People were amazing. They raised a

lot of money," Dyck said, adding, however, that while those funds helped the program catch up and provided enough cash to make it through to month's end, the WSC board have decided that to continue beyond that would be fiscally irresponsible.

The program has been unable to secure the grants it had hoped to get for its operational costs, she explained, and the vehicle itself, which was donated to the project, has proven quite costly to operate.

While the handivan was going out on trips daily and there are those in the community who very much needed the service it provided, there simply wasn't enough demand to cover those costs.

"It is unfortunate," Dyck said. "We were hoping that, with it having been 10, 15 years since the last time a handivan was operated in the community, that there would be a difference there [in the number of users]. I think there's more now than there was then, but there was still not enough to make it work."

One silver lining to note, perhaps, is the lack of users, Dyck believes, owes a lot to the fact many seniors and disabled people in our community are able to rely on friends and family to help them get around.

"There's so many opportunities here, so people stick around [after

Continued on page 7

Immigration partnership aims for integration

By Lorne Stelmach

A new initiative is working to bring communities together to better coordinate efforts to make the Pembina Valley more inclusive for newcomers.

The hope for the Pembina Valley Local Immigration Partnership is to improve the integration of immigrants and other newcomers in the area.

"We do a great job with that. We see a lot of integration ... there has been a lot of success, but there still is another level that we can achieve," co-ordinator Elaine Burton told a meeting Friday with various local stakeholders in Morden.

"It's not just so that people come here ... we want them to stay and feel a sense of belonging," said Burton, adding the goal is to develop an overall strategic plan suited for this region. "It's going to strengthen the region's ability to better address needs of newcomers and specific to our region ... that's really important because what happens in Winnipeg is not the same as what happens here."

Last week's Morden meeting and similar sessions held earlier in Winkler and Altona brought together stakeholders from various sectors to talk about the project.

A goal for what is currently a three year project is to develop a strategic plan for the region to improve the coordination of services.

In order to get to that point, the project will put together two working groups, one of newcomers and the other made up of community stakeholders. A key part of the effort is to give the community of newcomers a voice in the process, said Burton.

"This program gives a voice to our

immigrant needs and identifies the gaps," she said.

"This gives a direct voice. Those two tables will communicate with each other ... it's the stakeholders though who are the decision-makers, who can lobby for the changes that are needed."

Their hope is to work towards an overall action plan. A strategic planning session is tentatively planned for October.

"A facilitator will hear all of the information and put it together to develop an action plan that we would use moving forward to see what changes we can implement in the Pembina Valley region to ensure that we've met our goals," Burton said.

She believes the process will go a long way towards helping find out what is lacking.

"As service providers, we have an idea of what we think they may need. It's also equally important to identify what service providers are also experiencing with the growth," said Burton.

"Ultimately, what it's needed for is to get a better sense of what is needed in this region to ensure that the newcomers and immigrants who come into our area have a sense of belonging and a sense that they fit in and are part of an inclusive and welcoming community," she said.

"It's the overall initiative to see that we are able to provide that sense of belonging and well being for everyone so that we don't see breakdowns in our services ... to make sure that we are aware of what the needs are, what the gaps are and be able to answer those with action ... take action to provide the services that are needed

Pembina Valley Local Immigration Project leader Elaine Burton has met with stakeholders in Winkler, Morden, and Altona to talk about what steps need to be taken to ensure the communities are being inclusive for the many newcomers calling the area home.

PHOTO
BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE



to make sure that we have everything covered.

"Communities across the nation are recognizing the value of having their newcomer population join in," Burton concluded.

"In our region, what we see is obviously the growth has been huge. As the region has expanded between Morden, Winkler and Altona with the growth in our newcomer population, what we see is we need to kind of take it to the next level. We want to see that collectively we understand what ser-

vices are available and who's doing what already so we don't reinvent the wheel.

"It's really exciting. I think we have a huge opportunity for the communities within the Pembina Valley."

Notice of Environment Act Proposal

Manitoba Sustainable Development has received a proposal pursuant to The Environment Act regarding the following operation and invites public participation in the review process:

WINKLER CONCRETE LTD - CLOVER CREEK CONCRETE BATCH PLANT - FILE NO. 5954.00

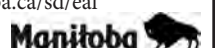
An Environment Act Proposal has been filed by Winkler Concrete Ltd. for the installation and operation of a Ready-Mix concrete batch plant at 485 Eastview Drive in Winkler Manitoba. The plant will be relocated from its current operating location at 141 Manitoba Street in Winkler Manitoba. The plant produces ready-mix concrete and delivers to the surrounding area for all types of construction projects. The potential environmental effects of the development are related to wastewater, noise and dust emissions.

Anyone likely to be affected by the above operation and who wishes to comment on the proposal should contact the department, in writing or by email to Eshetu.Beshada@gov.mb.ca, not later than April 20, 2018. Further information is available from the online Public Registry located at: www.manitoba.ca/sd/eal/registries/index.html or by contacting Eshetu Beshada, Environmental Engineer at 204-945-7023.

Information submitted in response to this proposal is considered public information and will be made available to the proponent and placed on the public registry established in accordance with Section 17 of The Environment Act.

**Environmental Approvals Branch
Manitoba Sustainable Development**

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> HANDIVAN, FROM PG. 6

high school] or they come back and they have careers in the community and they stay close to their families and they're there to help," she said. "That means a lot and I think that's something that our community offers that some other communities don't necessarily have."

The Winkler Handivan Service will cease operation effective Saturday, March 31.

The WSC board is currently looking at what to do with the handivan itself. They stressed in a state-

ment that they remain committed to working with other existing or future transportation services that will give our community access to this type of service.

The Morden Handivan, for one, provides services to residents of Winkler and area. You can call 204-822-5047 to book a ride.

The Winkler Senior Centre will also continue to provide its volunteer driver service. Call Cathleen Bergen or Denise Enns at 204-325-8964 for details.

Letter policy

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

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

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

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

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

Editor
Winkler Morden Voice
Box 185, Winkler, MB.
R6W 4A5

Elks donation funds new lift for BTHC

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Morden Elks stopped by Rehab Services at Boundary Trails Health Centre last week to get a first-hand look at how the funds from last year's LobsterFest were used.

The service organization donated \$12,000 to the BTHC Foundation to help the hospital purchase a ceiling track lift system.

The device, which was installed in January, provides support for patients as they go through various physiotherapy exercises and also allows for easier transfer to and from wheelchairs.

"We're very excited to have it in our department," said physiotherapist Linda Drummond.

"It provides the patients with opportunities to try things in therapy that would have required a lot more staff. Now, with even just us and the patient or just one other staff member, we can try a lot more things and progress them a little bit faster."

It's something the hospital has had on its wish list for some time now,

said the department's client services manager Gail Brewis.

"We've been for a while looking at how can we improve our services," she said. "We've been seeing more complex clients that used to go to Winnipeg—we're now having to manage them rurally."

That includes patients recovering from spinal cord injuries, head injuries, and strokes, to name just a few.

Having this unit at the hospital is also a great help in training patients and home care workers on its proper use.

"A lot of homes have ceiling track lifts now, so we can actually have the equipment here to emulate what they're doing and do that training piece,"

said Brewis.

The Morden Elks chipped in a few thousand dollars more than what was raised at the July Lobsterfest to more closely cover the full cost of the purchase, and it was money well spent, said member Henry Penner.

"This was one of the things that we were really convinced on doing," he

"IT'S ONE OF THE THINGS THE AREA NEEDS."



Morden Elks Exalted Ruler Ray Kirk got the chance to try out the new lift system the service organization's donation purchased for BTHC.



PHOTOS BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Morden Elks Henry Penner, Charlie Hildebrand, and Ray Kirk stopped by the rehab services department at BTHC last week to present a \$12,000 donation toward a new ceiling lift system. On hand from the department was Linda Drummond, Danielle Vigier-Clark, and Gail Brewis. Also donating to the project was five-year-old Atlee Dyck. The Elks funding was raised in large part through its 2017 Lobsterfest, which was headed up by chairman Jeff Hildebrand (not shown)

said. "We weren't actually too sure what an H-Track was all about. Now it's kind of fun to be able to see what actually it is and how it's appreciated."

"It's one of the things the area needs," he added, noting the Elks have long been avid supporters of BTHC as well as many other community projects. "The area hospital is very near and dear to everybody."

"They covered the cost of the track, the motor, two walking slings, and a transfer sling," noted Brewis of the club. "So we're very grateful for that."

The Elks' donation was joined by a \$200 one from a very young supporter of the hospital.

Instead of presents for her fifth birthday party last summer, Atlee Dyck asked her guests for donations

for charity.

Her mother, Kari, works at the hospital as a speech language pathologist and so Atlee decided that would be a good place to gift the funds.

"When she originally thought about where she wanted to donate to she just said she wanted it to go to the hospital where mommy worked," said her proud mother. "So we came in and sat down with the foundation, who gave us some options on where that money could go to. And then this is what Atlee choose."

"I think that's wonderful that she would want to do that," said Brewis.

"It's nice to be [donating] in conjunction with the young lady there," added Penner. "I think that's really cool."

WFRC Literacy Fair at J.R. Walkof this Friday

The Winkler Family Resource Centre's annual Literacy Fair takes over the J.R. Walkof School gym tomorrow night.

The March 23 celebration of family literacy runs from 6-7:30 p.m. Admission is free.

This year's event has an Olympics theme and so families are encouraged to come dressed in Team Canada or

sports apparel.

On tap for the evening are celebrity guest readers, an Olympics-inspired obstacle course, various play stations, and a craft table where kids can make their very own Olympic medal.

Thanks to funding from the Winnipeg Foundation, each child will also take home a free book to build their family's library.

Canadian economic growth expected to slow

By Lorne Stelmach

A slower pace of economic growth won't be a bad thing for the country, a luncheon in Winkler heard Thursday.

The Winkler Chamber of Commerce event at the Days Inn Conference Centre heard a message that moderation will be the theme moving ahead in a time of some uncertainty.

"We're in a good place in terms of growth," suggested Mark Weinberg, a vice president with AGF Investments.

"It's not a bad thing to have a slowing economy ... we've had a very high

rate [of growth]. It's a good thing to moderate and not be too fast. You don't want to have too fast growth, you don't want to have too slow growth either."

Weinberg noted the global economy overall is still relatively solid, with higher growth in some other economies and record number of countries overall that have enjoyed significant growth in the last two years.

Canada had a strong year in 2017 with growth of about three per cent, he said, adding that "this year and over the next few years we expect to

moderate.

"We do believe a lot of the drivers that we saw last year ... like consumer spending, which is one of the largest ... are going to start to moderate.

"We're going to see as well more high debt," Weinberg added. "Every quarter, we see household debt increase that much more for consumers ... they have less amount to spend and that much more to pay down on interest as interest rates rise as well.

"So the drivers that we saw in 2017 are going to start to moderate the economy in the next few years."

There are a number of factors coming into play in driving that moderation, from the anticipation of further interest rate increases to the uncertainties around trade, particularly with the NAFTA negotiations.

"The central bank has raised interest rates once this year. We expect the central bank to raise maybe twice more this year," Weinberg said. "I think the economy can handle it ... they want to be careful with how much the economy can handle."

As far as the threat of trade wars, Weinberg said they are not great for anyone, but the U.S. needs to tread carefully with its manufacturing sector.

"[U.S. President Donald] Trump's a lot of bark, not so much bite," suggested Weinberg, adding nevertheless that "trade is a big topic right now ... the trade balance is negative for a lot of countries."

Another concern for the U.S. is that its dollar also hasn't performed as

well as many thought it should be.

"We have trade uncertainty, which typically would benefit the U.S. dollar, but the double whammy against them is their trade deficit and their fiscal deficit as well."

One note of caution is what can be triggered by such factors as rising interest rates and the uncertainty overall.

"In a strong economy, and less to worry about, less uncertainty ... companies will spend ... if there's uncertainties such as NAFTA, they're going to hold back on their spending until they have more certainty," said Weinberg.

"It's a ripple effect throughout the economy. If people aren't showing confidence, whether it's been jobs ... wage growth," he said. "So this really trickles throughout the whole economy, and it applies to governments as well as interest rates rise. They'll have less amounts to spend on infrastructure, for example, or other long term growth-inducing projects ... and more towards interest costs."

Canada overall, though, has much working in its favour.

"We've had phenomenal job gains ... we have a very strong labour market," Weinberg concluded.

"A lot will depend on economic data, but we do expect the economy to continue to moderate but grow at a nice pace," he said. "And unemployment is low, multi-decade lows, and the labour market is very tight, which is very good for supporting the economy."



Mark Weinberg, vice-president with AGF Investments, spoke to local business leaders last week about the future of Canadian economic growth in light of what's going on in global markets.

PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

GVSD passes \$51.5M budget for 2018-19

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Garden Valley School Division board of trustees opted to dip into their surplus fund rather than maxing out the special requirement increase for 2018-2019.

The provincial government advised school divisions to cap education property tax increases at two per cent, but, after consulting with community stakeholders and crunching the numbers, Garden Valley decided to go with a one per cent increase.

"The decision was based on evaluating what our surplus needs to be and we felt that this would be the time when we could draw down on our surplus and still meet the needs," said GVSD board chair Laurie Dyck. The division will be drawing \$530,317

from their surplus fund.

"We're still able to hire that second [numeracy] coordinator and still able to buy buses and still able to get the operating costs covered ... but we want to be fiscally responsible," Dyck said, adding that GVSD is in a unique position from many other divisions who have to increase taxes the maximum amount just to make ends meet. "We've heard many divisions are taking their full two [per cent] and we've been able to not do that for this year, although we recognize next year's budget ... we can't keep drawing down on our surplus, either."

The 2018-2019 financial plan was given final approval by the board at its March 13 meeting.

It lays out an operating budget of just over \$51.5 million, representing

"WE WANT TO BE FISCALLY RESPONSIBLE ... WE CAN'T KEEP DRAWING DOWN OUR SURPLUS, EITHER."

an increase of nearly \$1.5 million over the current school year.

The mill rate drops from 15.99 to 15.08, which will translate into savings for residential and commercial property owners.

A home previously assessed in 2017 at \$250,000 now valued at just over \$259,800 will pay about \$36 less in school taxes, while a \$500,000 business reassessed at \$523,466 is looking at nearly \$66 in savings.

Farmland is another ball game entirely, as the taxation system there

sees a farm of 160 acres valued in 2018 at nearly \$1.59 million (versus 2017's assessment of \$1.28 million) paying nearly \$918 more than the year before. A farm of 640 acres now valued at \$6.336 million (from \$5.12 million in 2017) will pay over \$3,675 more.

The growth of the community is what allows GVSD to toe the line on taxes, Dyck noted.

"When we're building homes and new businesses, that's generating a new tax base, which means also that

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Lions host 18th annual toy show

PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

The Morden Lions Toy Show offered everything from diecast farm vehicles to sports collectible cards to vintage toys last weekend. Now in its 18th year overall, the toy show has been run by the Lions Club as a fundraising project for the last eight years. A final tally was not available at press time, but proceeds that usually come in at about \$2,000 were to be divided up this year between Katie Cares and the children's ward at Boundary Trails Health Centre. Above: Kids have some fun playing with remote control vehicles up on the hall stage as part of the event's Lego display. Below: Grant McDonald with his grandchildren Chet and Chali of Neepawa at his table selling restored farm toys.

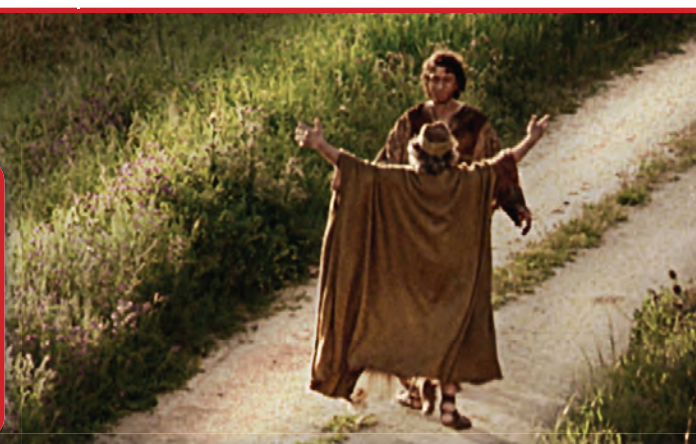


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> GVSD, FROM PG. 9

we have more students moving in, which increases funding," she said. "The ripple effect is it shares the tax burden between more people."

In addition to local taxes, the division is also slated to receive an additional \$680,000 in provincial funding due to increased enrolment. Provincial revenue covers about 67 per cent of the total operating costs of education in GVSD.

A detailed presentation on the budget is available online at gvsd.ca.

Twenty years of Winkler Citizens on Patrol

By Lorne Stelmach

A volunteer program helping keep Winkler safe is now in its 20th year in the community.

The Citizens On Patrol Program that began here in 1998 continues to last thanks to the dedication of the people who volunteer their time with the effort.

"There's new people coming forward all the time ... some good people putting in a lot of hours to make the program work," said co-ordinator Dustin Brown, who has been involved himself for the past 16 years.

The Citizens On Patrol Program has community volunteers serve as additional eyes and ears for the police, conducting regular patrols to be on the lookout for any suspicious or criminal activity, which they then record and report it to police.

The program plays a role in providing a level of deterrence through the additional presence in the community, and it also can serve a role to help educate residents about crime prevention.

Administered locally by the Winkler

and District Chamber of Commerce, the program has maintained a steady level of volunteer involvement over the decades, Brown said.

"We're sitting at about 20 active members right now," he said. "Our numbers of volunteers have kind of held steady ... we had a couple new ones join but we also lost a couple. We're always looking for more though."

What keeps volunteers coming back is a simple desire to do some good.

"I think it's just a matter of giving back to the community and helping with the health and safety of your fellow Winklerites," Brown said, adding that it also gives them a real appreciation for what the police deal with day in and day out. "You get to see a little more of what goes on in their daily lives and it definitely makes you appreciate them a little more ... and helps you want to help them."

Presenting an annual \$4,500 contribution to the program last week to help cover administrative expenses and equipment costs such as flashlights and jackets, Deputy Police Chief Ryan Hunt said Citizens On Patrol is



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Co-ordinator Dustin Brown receives the annual \$4,500 contribution for the Winkler Citizens On Patrol Program from Deputy Chief Ryan Hunt of the Winkler Police Service.

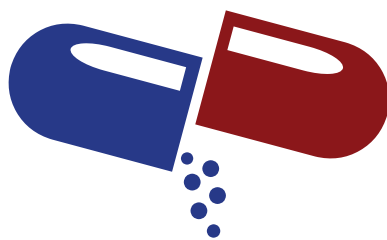
a huge benefit to the police department and the community at large.

"They're out there patrolling around in personal vehicles ... they have the opportunity to stumble across things

that a police officer in a marked vehicle would never come across," he said.

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Heritage museum always on the hunt for unique items

Retro bag phone latest donation to fit the bill

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler Heritage Museum has been having some fun showing off a recent donation that—for anyone born after the late '90s—is a slice of ancient history.

Ancient cell phone history, to be exact.

The Southland Mall museum received a donation of a Motorola Bag Phone, a decidedly large device that was used by on-the-go trendsetters from about 1990 to 2000, long before the days of pocket-sized cell phones. The kit comes with a massive battery, but the phone could also be attached to a vehicle outlet for power.

In many ways, it doesn't exactly fit in with the hundreds of other artifacts the packed-to-the brim museum has on display, most representing the Winkler area's pioneer past.

On the other hand, though, history is history, points out museum staffer Joanne Bergen.

"We had been actually talking not long ago about the fact that we do not

have any phones in here, so it's good timing," she says, adding they hope to add a few other vintage phones to showcase how the technology has changed over the years. "This is an interesting start."

Dropping off the donation was Russell Gyurek of Blumnort. He stumbled across the bag phone while exploring Winkler's MCC Thrift Shop.

"It was kind of an impulse buy," the 21-year-old admits. "The generations of phones that my parents had, the oldest had a battery the size of a brick, so the phone was like a brick. That's the oldest that I could remember. I'd never seen one like this before."

Simply for the novelty of it, then, it was worth the \$3 he paid.

"My friend was like, 'I don't know what you're going to do with that,'" Gyurek says, adding he did do a quick search online to see if the phone was worth anything, but realized selling it might be more hassle than it was worth. "I figured it was old enough to be in a museum. I didn't know what else to do with it really."

Bergen says that while they can't take every artifact that comes their way—they simply haven't the room, especially for duplicated or large items—they're always happy to take a look and, hopefully, find a home for something unique or of significant historical value.

"By all means, come in and ask," she says. "I'd much rather people come here and let us look at it first, instead of just throwing it out."

"Some stuff our curator has

Winkler Heritage Museum staffer Joanne Bergen with the Motorola Bag Phone they recently received as a donation. At perhaps 20 or so years old, it is one of the younger artifacts in the museum's collection, but still a unique slice of communications history.

PHOTO BY
ASHLEIGH
VIVEIROS/
VOICE



had to turn down ... right now, we're kind of looking for unique. This certainly qualifies."

In addition to donations, they also welcomes volunteers willing to man the museum evenings and Saturday afternoons.

"We need help," says Bergen, stressing that volunteers can work as little as one shift a month.

The need for volunteers is about to become an urgent matter for the museum, she adds.

"We've lost four or five groups of volunteers in the last few years and it's just going to keep getting worse,"

says Bergen. "I would say that in the next handful of years the volunteers we have here now are not going to want to be here anymore. They're almost all over 70."

If you're interested in getting involved, would like to make a financial donation to the non-profit organization, or have a piece of history you'd like to donate, stop by the museum or call curator Dora Hildebrand at 204-325-9117.

The Winkler Heritage Museum is open Tuesday to Friday from 12-4 p.m., Thursday and Friday evenings from 7-9 p.m., and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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"There's been lots of occasions where they have alerted us to an impaired driver," Hunt cited as an example. "They can set their own hours, but usually they're out from about 10 o'clock ... they can patrol the industrial areas where, if we're busy, we don't have the opportunity to get out there."

"It's a huge benefit, and we've relied on them for a lot of different incidences over the years. It's been a really good program."

Artist unveils treasures hidden in the floorboards

By Lorne Stelmach

Margrute Krahn's involvement with the Neubergthal Heritage Foundation is now very much driving her artistic passions as well.

It was through helping with restoration work in the historic 1876 Mennonite village that Krahn discovered a lost art she is now helping to document and preserve.

Her research into Mennonite floor designs has already led to the publication of *Resurfacing: Mennonite Floor Patterns, A Field Journal* as well as inspiring her to reinterpret them in her own canvas works.

Since discovering the hidden floor designs while helping with restoring the Friesen house barn into an interpretive centre in 2001, Krahn has been intrigued by the idea many of the Mennonites who came here were artisans and had the need to create as much as anyone else.

"That's one of the things that tends to get overlooked," said Krahn, speaking on her work at an artist talk last Thursday at the Pembina Hills Art Gallery in Morden.

"Maybe they didn't want to show a lot of outward stuff ... but we all need to create ... we all have to express ourselves creatively in some way ... and this is one of the ways that they did it."

While they were ripping up linoleum and carpet from several house barn floors, they uncovered hand painted patterns on the floorboards.

The journey to seek out and document these patterns took Krahn beyond Neubergthal to other villages and house barns in southern Manitoba, and she noted that there are still many remnants of these traditional house barns scattered throughout the region.

Some more of these painted floors likely still exist, though they have remained hidden.

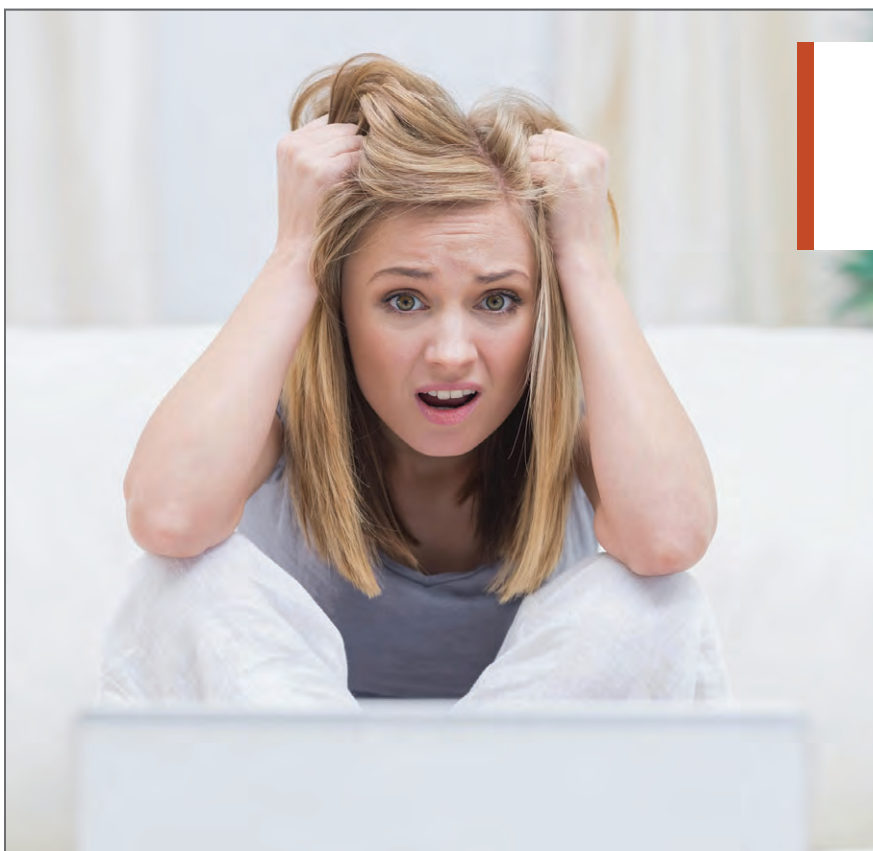
"These are colourful villages," she suggested, noting how it goes against the stereotyping where "we tend to think that Mennonites were very dour people, but I think they were also colourful personalities."

"We do live in a time where assumptions and misperceptions are being

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Margrute Krahn with the kitchen trap door taken from the Peter Klippenstein home. Krahn was at the Morden art gallery last week to talk about historical Mennonite floor patterns.

PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/
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sports&recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN



PHOTOS BY RICK HIEBERT/VOICE

The local figure skating clubs hosted their year-end carnivals this past week. Morden's show on Sunday included several father-daughter pairings (left), the Elementary Pembina Pizazz synchronized skating team (above), and a group of young "Olympic" skaters (below, left). Winkler's show last Thursday saw Camryn Harder, Madelyn Toews, and Talia Harder kick off the festivities (bottom, right), a ballet-themed routine from Ireland Hand, Skylar Klassen, and Mahle Vizor (below, left), and a hula-skate from Danika Toews, Beth Pauls, Vicky Wiebe-Elias, and Bowen Wall (far right).



Kowalski named SJHL Rookie of the Year

By Lorne Stelmach

A Mordenite is earning attention and honours in his first year of junior hockey one province over in Saskatchewan.

Cade Kowalski is sharing the league rookie of the year honours in his first campaign with the Weyburn Red Wings.

Kowalski, whose second goal of the game last Wednesday in overtime led the Red Wings to a series win over Melville and a spot in a quarter-final against Battleford, gave much of the credit to his teammates and coaching staff.

"It's an honour to be able to represent Weyburn," he said, adding he really appreciates the opportunities he has received at Weyburn.

"The coach has really helped me develop my game and make the transition from triple A to junior," said Kow-

alski. "Also, my linemates have really helped me. They were both veterans on the team."

Kowalski led all rookies in SJHL scoring in 2017-2018, racking up 11 goals and 49 assists for 60 points through 58 games, and he had 16 multi-point games along the way, including a four point effort against Yorkton Feb. 3.

One of just four Red Wing players to dress in all 58 games during the regular season, Kowalski capped off his rookie year with eight points in his final five games to help the Red Wings secure the seventh seed and a wild card playoff spot.

Kowalski's better than a point-per-game average followed a similar line from last year when he had 63 points in 43 games here with the Pembina Valley midjet AAA Hawks.

His skills were also recognized earlier this year when he was selected to compete in the inaugural Sask/Man

Showcase, and in two games at that event he collected another two points.

Kowalski sees himself bringing a couple strengths to the game but one aspect that he thinks is key for him.

"It's my play making, trying to make the right play at the right time," he suggested, saying it is sometimes a matter of making small, quick passes rather than making the big play.

He also identifies a couple key things in having made the transition to the junior level.

"How fast you have to make your plays and how hard you have to make your plays. You have to make sure that you make the right play at the right time," said Kowalski, who has his sights set on college or university hockey after completing junior.

"There's little room for error in junior hockey. The higher up you go, it's not always that the game gets so much faster, the guys are faster, but



Cade Kowalski

it's more so the play making is much more faster," he said, adding he feels his experience back home in Manitoba helped prepare him well.

"I feel like playing triple A and playing at high school the past two years really helped me work on my offensive game ... this year, I was able to focus more on defence as well, and I take pride in how much my defensive game has come along."

Flyers bounce OCN, move onto next playoff round

By Lorne Stelmach

An overtime win in game six Sunday moved the Winkler Flyers into the next round of the playoffs.

Weiland Parrish scored his third goal of the game 1:42 into overtime as the Flyers advanced with a 7-6 win to take the best of seven series 4-2 against the OCN Blizzard.

Game six was a thrilling back and forth affair with numerous lead changes and momentum swings. The Flyers jumped out to a 3-0 first period lead only to see the Blizzard fire home four unanswered goals in the second

period.

Brett Opperman had a pair for Winkler, with other goals coming from Cole Kirkup and Mitchell Dyck.

The Flyers pressed for the tying goal late in the third, and with 5:39 left on the clock, Dyck sent a wrist shot over the glove tying the game 6-6.

Late in regulation, Winkler was given a five minute power-play that carried into overtime. With seven power-play goals already scored in the playoffs, the Flyers would seal it just before the two minute mark. Taking the pass beside the net, Kirkup fired a cross crease pass to Parrish who

snapped home his third of the night.

Troy Martyniuk got the win in net as the Blizzard outshot the Flyers 45-29. Winkler went two-for-four on the power-play and three-for-five on the penalty-kill. Winkler finished the series with eight power-play goals in six games.

The series had been extended Friday after OCN scored 1:55 into double overtime to keep their season alive with a 4-3 game five victory.

Opperman scored a pair for Winkler that game, including his second of the night at 4:18 of the third on a powerplay to send the game to extra

time. Will Blake also scored for Winkler, opening the scoring in the first before OCN took a 3-2 lead after two periods.

With 1:55 gone in the fifth period, Trygve Many Guns stole the puck from beside the Winkler net and beat Martyniuk.

The Blizzard outshot the Flyers 37-28 with both going one-for-six on the power-play.

Last Wednesday, Martyniuk stopped all 36 shots he faced as the Flyers blanked the Blizzard 3-0 in game four.

Scoring for Winkler were Coltyn

Continued on page 17

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SUBMITTED PHOTO

Locals ski for Team 'Toba

Several local skiers headed east last week as part of Team Manitoba at the Cross Country Ski Nationals in Thunder Bay.

Representing our area and the Boundary Trails Nordic Ski Team at the event was Tessa Warkentine, Mattias Klassen, and Aaron Warkentine. Graduated team member Levi Warkentine, who now skis for Lakehead University, was also at the event.

Tessa Warkentine said it was a great week of competition.

"We held our own against larger provinces well known for their formidable ski programs, such as Quebec," she said. "While we may not have

been in the running for medals, every race this season gained meaning in light of the upcoming Canada Games taking place in Red Deer, which Manitoba will also be taking a team to.

"The trip was such a great experience," Warkentine added. "Everybody came away inspired."

At left is the entire Team Manitoba, which included (back row, from left) Shayna Hensrud, Casey Nelson, Elise Hummelbrunner, Levi Brunelle, Aaron Warkentine, Mattias Klassen, (front row, from left) Imogen Nadlersmith, Meaghan Smith, Tessa Warkentine, and Gideon Nadlersmith.

Pembina Valley Hawks vying for midget title

By Lorne Stelmach

Quinn McLaren's first goal of the year couldn't have come at a better time for the female Pembina Valley Hawks.

The defencemen's third period powerplay marker with about six minutes left last Wednesday was the only goal the Hawks needed to earn their chance to repeat as Manitoba AAA midget champions.

The 1-0 win over Westman in Hartney gave the second-ranked Hawks the semi-final series victory in four games over the third place Wildcats.

It sets up a final between the Hawks and fifth place Eastman Selects, who upset the top ranked Winnipeg Avros in the other semi-final, wrapping up that series in game four last week with a 3-2 overtime win.

Game one of the championship final took place Tuesday in Morden. The result was not available at press time. The series continues with game two in Ste. Anne Thursday and game three in Morden Saturday.

Eastman had earlier eliminated the fourth place Yellowhead Chiefs in three straight in the quarter-finals, while the Hawks swept the seventh place Interlake Lightning.

The Hawks could be thought of as the favoured team, having won four of their five regular season battles with the Selects, but coach Dana Bell said the playoffs are always a new season.

"It's playoff hockey ... you've to put everything behind you and continue on ... every team's different when it comes to the playoffs. You can't take any team lightly."

Bell has always stressed teamwork above all else, and he saw that propel them against the Wildcats, who were stonewalled by netminder Halle Oswald, turning in her usual solid performance in goal March 14.

Stopping all 26 shots that she faced, Oswald picked up her fourth shut-out in the seven playoff games so far. Having allowed just six goals through seven games, she now has an impressive 0.84 goals against average and .964 save percentage.

"There were chances back and forth. Both goalies played well. Halle stood on her head in the last minute and a half there to keep that win for us,"

said Bell.

"The big thing was our girls weren't going to quit," he continued. "We knew right from the get go that it was going to be a battle. Both teams weren't going to quit."

In the final, the Hawks will be coming up against an equally strong goaltender in Raygan Kirk, who has backstopped the Selects to the final. Kirk has let in just five goals in six games along with two shutouts for a 0.76 GAA and .980 save percentage.

Kirk will be facing a squad, however, that is led offensively by the top two playoff point-getters though in veterans Makenzie McCallum and Sage

McElroy-Scott. McCallum leads with five goals and 13 points followed by McElroy-Scott at four goals and 12 points.

Bell said they will continue to follow the script that has got them to the final against Eastman.

"We've preached team all year, and it was definitely a team effort again. That's the way we want to keep it going. It's 17 players all contributing in their own way," he concluded. "We're going to stick to our game plan and use what's been working for us all year ... come out with the aggressive forecheck and keep pushing hard that way and get pucks to the net."

Winkler Storm joined by SC Riot

By Ashleigh Viveiros

There's a brand new male adult soccer team starting up in the region.

The Winkler Storm soccer club will be joined in the Manitoba Major Soccer League this summer by the SC Riot.

With so many veteran players returning to the Storm year after year, there wasn't much room on the roster to accommodate the growing interest from younger players fresh out of high school, explains Storm coach Reinaldo Oliveira.

"We wanted to find a place for all these new players," he says, pointing out that local interest in the sport has been booming in recent years.

The SC Riot, who got its name

by popular online vote earlier this month, will give these rookies more field time and a place to hone their skills in a lower MMSL division—likely the 5th or 6th division (the team's application is still being processed by the league)—in preparation for moving up to play for the 1st Division Storm in future years.

Both teams have been meeting for spring training at Garden Valley Collegiate most Fridays since January.

"There's lots of players coming out for tryouts already," said Oliveira, adding the Storm once again expects to field a team with plenty of familiar faces. "I think almost the whole team will be back from last year."

The Storm can have a maximum of 20 players on its roster while the SC

Riot has room for up to 25 players.

"So there's still lots of space," says Oliveira. "We hope people will come out to try out."

"We're looking for young players for the Riot so we can develop the team a little more," he adds. "The good thing is for the Storm if we need a guest player we can pick from the lower division, which means we can move up a Riot player to play sometimes for the Storm."

That should cut down on problems caused by Storm players not being able to make the occasional game, Oliveira notes, though hopefully that will be less of a problem this year than it has some seasons.

Continued on page 17

PHAC puts out call for board members

The Pembina Hills Arts Council is looking for people to get involved in the organization.

The annual meeting takes place April 3 at 7 p.m. at the gallery in downtown Morden, and the arts council is hoping a few people will step forward to come on board as directors.

Several board members are either stepping down or taking on a different roles, explained current board chair Cathy Lone, and so they're looking for some new people and new ideas.

"We just need people who have experience with things like budgets and just running an organization," she said.

"I think the biggest thing is that people think to be on the board that you should be an artist. If you just have an interest in your community, you're certainly someone who could be on the board. It has nothing to do with being an artist."

Meanwhile, the arts council is also working with the Morden and District Chamber of Commerce this year in organizing buskers for the weekly farmers' market.

"They asked if we would help them out with this, and we were glad to be involved," said administrative co-ordinator Laurie Wiebe.

She encouraged anyone who sings, plays or performs in any way to be a part of the Morden downtown scene.

A fee of just \$10 can get you a buskers permit for the season. Applications are available at the gallery.

> FLYERS, FROM PG. 15

Bates, Matt Christian, and Blake, while Martyniuk earned his fourth shutout of the year with the Blizzard outshooting the Flyers 36-34.

OCN defenseman Matt Greening scored 8:12 into double overtime last Tuesday as the Flyers dropped game three 4-3, seeing their lead in the best of seven opening round series cut to 2-1.

Blake, Bates and Collin Caulfield scored for the Flyers, who were outshot 56-53 by the Blizzard while going two-for-eight on the power-play and three for four on the penalty-kill.

The Flyers now face the Virden Oil Capitals in the next round of playoffs. Game one is on the road Friday. Game two is in Winkler Sunday.

WAC Chase the Ace winner

After months of hunting for the ace, a winner finally claimed the big prize in the Winkler Arts and Culture Centre's Chase the Ace last week. Cheryl Fehr (at right, shown with WAC executive director Wendy Klassen) found the ace March 13 to win \$2,766. The contest, which began last July, paid out a total of \$1,845 to weekly winners and raised \$4,611 for the art gallery. WAC will be starting up its next Chase the Ace on April 10. This time around, thanks to a donation from Burbank Express, the pot will start at \$1,000. Check out Winkler Arts and Culture's Facebook page for more information.

SUBMITTED PHOTO



> FLOOR PATTERNS, FROM PG. 13

called into question though, and I think that's good."

There are some commonalities in the floor patterns—from the use of common colour including yellow ochre as a base colour to the use of the geometric patterns.

Krahn believes there was a practical purpose to it in order to help them be able to keep it cleaner in the house barns.

"It does keep the dust down, the dirt down, it also keeps the slivers away," she said, adding though it was "also just the idea of decorating. I think they loved colour ... it was all around them."

"So they're taking the colour, I think, of their summer and their gardens inside ... and they reflect what is naturally around them."

Krahn said it is interesting to discover all that went into it including not only the geometric patterns but hidden layers and background images as well.

She showed the example of a kitchen trap door taken from the

Peter Klippenstein home with a more faint floral pattern slightly visible under the top layer of geometric pattern.

"It's so exciting when you go back to a floor and you find second and third layers of patterns," she said, suggesting the geometric patterns started to appear around 1920 alongside the emergency of linoleum. "We're still constantly being influenced and influencing ... and these kinds of things sort of reveal that."

Krahn is thankful at least that some of these hidden floors were not destroyed entirely along the way.

"The linoleum was sort of a blessing and a curse ... the blessing is that it preserved many of these patterns ... I guess the tragedy is that, for many people, this is now a lost art."

In her own way though, Krahn is now helping to revive that lost art, as she is recreating or reinterpreting some of the patterns through

"I THINK THEY JUST LOVED COLOUR ... IT WAS ALL AROUND THEM."

floor canvas pieces that take on a contemporary design while still using traditional methods.

Her next goal now is to take it a step further and work it all into a book that will aim to also tell the tales behind the floor patterns that she has been collecting and.

"I'm trying to collect as many patterns as I can. I'm sitting at over 30 right now. Together with Roland Sawatzky and a designer we're hoping to put together a book, a historic book ... but I want the stories that go with it."

> SOCCER, FROM PG. 16

"The players coming out are good players," he says. "They are trying hard. They want to be committed to coming to games."

After a break this and next week, the weekly training sessions will continue April 13th, 20th, and 27th from 8-10 p.m.

Anyone interested in trying out for either the Storm or the Riot are encouraged to attend.

You can also reach out to the teams through the Winkler Storm Soccer Club Facebook page or by calling Oliveira at 204-362-7144.

The Storm and Riot management

are still working on a logo for the new team and are also looking for corporate sponsorships.

"We're still looking for more sponsors to help soccer grow in the community," Oliveira says, encouraging those interested in supporting the teams to contact him.

Talk highlights the dangers of kids using social media

By Lorne Stelmach

Val Caldwell's mission is to help bridge the generational gap around social media.

The Manitoba-based consultant has been making presentations focusing on safety around the use of technology for a decade now, and she finds no less a need for them given how social media is ever evolving and prevalent.

At the heart of her message is for parents and caregivers to be more aware of and to understand social media rather than to fear it.

"We as adults value things very differently than teenagers do, and that's a generational thing," said Caldwell, who made presentations to area parents at Northlands Parkway Collegiate last Thursday on the pitfalls of social media related to their children's use.

"A lot of times we dismiss things that are not important to us, looking at it from the adult perspective ... for these kids, that is the world they are in," said Caldwell. "My approach is not a negative one. I don't think that social media is necessarily bad. I think that there are some dangers that are associated with it, and I think, as adults, how do we protect kids in a world that we don't understand?"

Caldwell's aim is to provide current and relevant information to both children and adults to help them use their various forms of technology and social media as safely as possible.

Parents and caregivers need to make an effort to better understand the world of social media, what the kids are using, and the possible dangers of apps like Instagram and Snapchat, Caldwell stressed.

"Those seem to be the ones that all of the kids are using these days ... Facebook has sort of fallen to the wayside a bit," she noted.

One issue on Snapchat, for example, is a map feature that provides the user's GPS location.

"Kids are potentially allowing other people to see their exact location," Caldwell pointed out.

She also sees there being an important mental health aspect to this kind of social media use.

"Do are friends need to know where we are, what we're doing 24 hours a day? Is that healthy in a relationship to constantly be in each other's back pocket?"

Using an app like Instagram can also feed into issues around self-esteem, with users placing too much importance on things like the number of followers that they have.

"What we seem to find is that people

require and start to feed off their likes ... if they don't get enough likes, they start feeling bad about themselves," said Caldwell, who tries to reinforce the positive and encourage users "to post things because they are things that we feel good about and not post-

ing them waiting for other people to make them feel good.

"The focus is getting parents to understand what is really happening on these apps," she stressed. "What I've found, in my experience, is there's such a huge gap between the gen-

eration of kids today and the generation of the parents ... so it's really important to show how some of them work and give the adults the tools they need to help their kids navigate through that world."

Winkler pressing province for funding

By Lorne Stelmach

Winkler continues to press the province for a commitment on the proposed wastewater treatment project.

It didn't earn any mention in the recent provincial budget.

Mayor Martin Harder wonders if there is any cause for concern given the fact infrastructure in general lost about \$100 million in funding and the Manitoba Water Services Board also had its budget cut.

"I'm not sure how much I can expect," he said after council met last Tuesday, adding they continue to "try to press our point that we are in a position where we really need this to be done."

Winkler recently stressed the urgency of the treatment facility to serve Winkler and the RM of Stanley in a letter to Bramwell Strain, deputy minister of infrastructure. The letter outlines the concern the city is

near its existing lagoon capacity and the treatment facility is necessary in order to not hold back continued growth in Winkler.

The \$16.2 million budget approved by Winkler council last week assumes work starting this year on the wastewater treatment facility, which carries a total cost of \$46.7 million. The city expects to take on a \$12.2 million portion of the costs, including a \$4 million debt load for 2018.

"We're trying to make that work ... and with the wastewater facility, it depends whether we get federal and provincial money ... whether that is even going to be applicable for this year," said Harder.

"We have refined and re-looked at this project ... what can we do in order to make some of it happen ... there may be some items inside that aren't finished, but we want to put the footprint there," he continued. "You need to start somewhere."

Meanwhile, Winkler is also making

its case for revamping the regional development authority.

A letter to Jeff Wharton, minister of municipal relations for Manitoba, seeks support for changing the representation on the MSTW Planning District board. It argues that Winkler is a major contributor to the growth of the region with almost 50 per cent of the building permit activity compared to the RM of Thompson at just under two per cent.

The MSTW (Morden Stanley Thompson and Winkler) board includes two representatives from each of the four member municipalities, and Winkler is pushing to have three while Thompson would be reduced to one. Morden and Stanley would remain at two representatives each.

Council was told the matter would also be coming up for discussion at an upcoming MSTW board meeting.

Big Night Out Supper Edition April 7

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Morden-Winkler is trying something new for their Big Night Out event next month.

After two successful years of bringing in stage acts such as comedians Brent Butt and Matt Falk and magician Chris Funk, this time around they're hoping to appeal to local foodies with the Big Night Out Supper Edition.

The April 7 meal will be hosted at the Pembina Hills Art Gallery in Morden and feature the culinary skills of acclaimed Winnipeg chef Ben Kramer.

"And for a bit of local flair, he'll be partnering with a local chef: Kevin Funk from The Olive Tree," says executive director Michael Penner.

The multi-course meal will include wine pairings for each dish.

"There's going to be some really high quality food," says Penner. "Each course the chefs will come out and explain the dish and the local suppliers they've used. It's going to be a great night."

This will be the first time Big Night Out will be held in Morden. In fact, many of the agency's fundraisers have traditionally been based in Winkler.

But Morden has many volunteers and upwards of 35 kids making use of the agency's various mentoring programs, Penner stresses.

"So we've really wanted to do something in Morden," he says, adding they hope this supper could become an annual event for the community.

Tickets to Big Night Out Supper Edition are limited to just 80 seats, so books yours today by calling Penner at 204-325-9707 or heading online to pembinavalley.bigbrothersbigsisters.ca/event/big-night-out.

April 7 is going to be a busy day for the agency, who will also host their first 24-hour Row for Kids at Crossfit Outland in Altona that day.

Teams of six or more will be camping out at the fitness centre to man the rowing machines from 9 a.m. April 7 through to 9 a.m. April 8.

Big Brothers Big Sisters recently expanded its programming to Altona, so it's been great to see the community embrace them through overwhelming support of this new event, Penner says.

Continued on page 20

Agriculture

PEDv revisited—how did MB. cope in 2017

By Harry Siemens

Dr. Glen Duizer, an animal health surveillance veterinarian with the Chief Veterinary Office of Manitoba, said time will tell whether the province's swine industry will ultimately eliminate the PED virus.

On April 29, 2017, the first of what would grow to 80 cases of PEDv was reported in southeastern Manitoba. It became the largest animal disease outbreak in the province in 30 years.

Duizer told the 2018 Manitoba Swine Seminar last month that the outbreak peaked at the end of June before tapering off with another bump in mid-September.

"The good news is of the 80 sites, 44 of them have reached presumptive negative status," he said. "The producers, herd veterinarians, service providers, transporters, feed companies have all worked very hard to contain this disease because it takes on average four to six months to get there."

"I would be speculating to say that we're out of the woods, but I remain hopeful," he said, noting he thinks they've had only one farm that had a recurrence of the disease so far. "This upcoming year will be the telling piece while we wait to see if all the changes made within farms, around farms will be effective in preventing the disease from coming back."

Robyn Harte, a swine industry focus specialist with Manitoba Agriculture, told the same audience there were over one million pigs under surveillance on those 80 sites. Producers were very concerned about what they could do to protect their operation.

"When an operation breaks with a disease, we conduct a review of the farm's activities, staff behaviors, and protocols," said Harte. "This gives a snapshot of what occurred on the farm before infection to pinpoint a window of time for potential disease entry and the contributing factors."

She said as the outbreaks grew, questions arose regarding why were barns close by to positive operations not contracting PEDv? What was happening on negative operations, if anything, that was providing a protective effect? Producers also won-

dered if there could be enough difference in protocols between operations to produce a protective effect.

"To examine this question further, we surveyed to evaluate the biosecurity protocols of negative operations versus those of the positive operation," Harte explained. "The survey questions focused on key biosecurity areas; entry and exit protocols of staff and animals, cleaning and washing protocols for barns and transportation, interactions of staff, service providers and the barn environment."

Jennifer Demare of Steinbach's Swine Health Professionals reflected

on what they learned in tackling this outbreak and cleanup.

"Communication and collaboration are key to any successful disease outbreak and elimination strategy," she stressed. "All parties require trust of each other and continual open and safe channels of communication."

Demare said support to any employee or person involved should quickly be granted to ensure the mental well-being of farm workers. The protocols implemented are a tiring process, and staff turnover would slow down disease elimination success.

"All must practice biosecurity, inter-

nal and external, seven days a week, 365 days a year to reduce disease spread on a site," she said. "The benefits to following McRebel principles can increase piglet quality and reduce antibiotic use on the farm."

Last but not least, international livestock consultant Dr. John Carr said he would never have moved nursery and finisher pigs to another site even if the lab said they are negative.

"All the finishing pigs should go at the lowest weight possible in Manitoba not at the best weight maximizing profit," he said. "We need to consider the greater good."



Ottawa tackles grain transport issues

By Harry Siemens

Grain transportation is lacking as it pertains to moving farmers' grain through the mountains and into export position.

Meanwhile, the AG Transport Coalition latest weekly report showed CN and CP supplied a combined 53 per cent of hopper cars ordered in grain week 32—up slightly from 45 per cent provided the week before.

At the time of this writing on Monday and as Parliament returned to work, the Standing Committee on Agriculture held a four-hour agriculture committee emergency meeting on grain transportation.

The schedule had both railways testify just days after submitting their grain movement plans to Transport Minister Marc Garneau and Agriculture Minister Lawrence MacAulay.

Hour two saw presentations from the Canadian Canola Growers Association, the Canadian Federation of Agriculture, G3 Canada Limited, and the Western Grain Elevator Association.

Next, former Agriculture Minister Gerry Ritz was to make his return to Parliament Hill joined by Grain Growers of Canada. The last hour of the committee had producers from the Agricultural Producers

Association of Saskatchewan, Alberta Wheat Commission, Western Canadian Wheat Growers Association, and Keystone Agricultural Producers, but there appeared to be a conflict with voting in the House of Commons.

The Senate Standing Committee on Transport and Communications was scheduled to meet twice to review Bill C-49 this week.

In fairness to CN Rail, I reached out to director of marketing grain David Przednowek to ask him to explain their updated plans.

"The more immediate actions CN took were to relieve and manage congestion issues in western Canada," said Przednowek. "Those actions have been successful in improving fluidity in western Canada, especially around the mainline. By improving fluidity and eliminating congestion in places like railyards we can increase capacity as equipment moves and cycles faster."

He said the good news is that last week CN spotted 5,048 CN-supplied hoppers in western Canada versus 4,577 the previous week and an average of 3,400 per week in February.

"We are gaining momentum and improving performance, especially in areas further west. In Manitoba, CN has been ahead of last year's pace through the whole crop year-

to-date regarding total cars moved. The number of cars CN spotted in the country in Manitoba this February was very similar to last February."

He said one other publication quoted KAP as saying that CN only provided 25 cars in one week earlier in February. That was not the case. In weeks 27-30, the lowest number of railcars spotted in a week was 346, and the most was 474. In the most current week, that number was almost 750 cars in Manitoba.

However, an emergency hearing in Ottawa and concerns by farmers shows the problem is quite serious.

One of the farmers appearing before the committee is Daryl Fransoo, a director with the Western Canadian Wheat Growers Association.

"A good friend of mine has a durum contract that's three, four months late. A big contract. The first time that I can remember in my farming career that the Lloydminster ADM crush plant shut down, and that's unheard of," said Fransoo. "They couldn't move meal or oil out."

He knows of few farmers that have had to take out loans to pay off their cash advances because they can't deliver their grain and get money to pay the bills off.

"So we don't want to be taking on more debt to be paying off our debt."

Tickets on sale now for SCCR Fashion Show

By Lorne Stelmach

South Central Cancer Resource is expanding on its popular annual fundraising fashion show this year. It is growing into a two night event, with shows set for 7 p.m. April 24 and 25 at the Access Event Centre.

The quick sellout of tickets for last year's show helped convince them to try two nights this time around.

"Last year we sold out quite fast. We had people who were not able to be here at 9 a.m. [for the start of ticket sales] and they were disappointed that they could not come to our event," noted administrative coordinator Tracy Peters.

The Red Carpet Fashion Show will be featuring fashions by Co-op Fashions, Sasha's Atelier, and Stephen

Street Wear.

The event will also feature some local success stories amongst the fashions.

"We're really celebrating our models. All of our models this year have been cancer survivors, so we're kind of making them feel like celebrities," Peters said.

"They got to go pick out clothes that they will be wearing," she added, saying they hope to send them out on the catwalk and make them "feel like a

million bucks."

Tickets are \$45 and are available at South Central Cancer Resource's offices in Morden or online at www.sccr.mb.ca.

Monday was a busy first day of sales. "We had a lineup going out the door, and ticket sales online this year are going well already as well," Peters said. "So we're excited about that."

Now in its sixth year, the fashion show plays a major role in funding SCCR's support programs for people

battling cancer.

It often brings in upwards of \$30,000 and is the agency's main annual fundraiser.

"We're only focussing on the one fundraiser ... so we're really putting our heart and soul into this fashion show," said Peters. "We've had great results for the last five years. We're so thankful that our community wants to come and support us at this fashion show as our fundraiser."

> BIG NIGHT OUT, FROM PG. 18

"They're already full with teams," he says. "People have really responded to the challenge."

Closer at hand, this weekend at Valley Bowling Lanes in Winkler, the

agency hosts its biggest fundraiser of the year: Bowl for Kids' Sake.

Even if you're not on a registered team, you are invited to come down to the bowling lanes this Saturday to

make a donation towards the cause or purchase tickets for the silent auction, which Penner says is once again filled with great prize packs.

take a break > GAMES

SUDOKU

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

Level: Intermediate

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!

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!

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

Sudoku Answer

1	E	G				V	E	S
E	N	N				O	A	V
S	E	I	T			V	B	I
S	O	B	V			M	D	D
V	I	B	O	C		E	T	I
T	E	N	M	N	I	V	T	R
						H	D	V
						S	E	C
						T	O	V
						N	O	I
						E	N	S
						R	I	S
						E	N	I
						S	O	R
						C	O	V

Crossword Answer



CROSSWORD

CLUES ACROSS

- Builder's trough
- Pouch
- Adam's partner
- Zelda soldiers
- Network of nerves
- Heinrich __, poet
- Algerian port
- Reciprocal of one ohm
- Title of respect
- Form of expression
- Hoover's office
- Samoan monetary unit
- Cooperation
- Fiddler crabs
- Portion of a play
- Tropical American shrub
- Frosts
- Short-winged diving seabird
- Chemical compound used as a hardener (abbr.)
- Diversion
- __ Turner, rock singer
- __-bo: exercise system
- Large, edible game fish
- Doctor of Education
- Where the Knicks play
- Basics
- Tall tropical American trees
- Men wear them
- Widespread destruction
- Midway between north and northeast
- Vast body of water
- Hair product

CLUES DOWN

- Very brave
- Go too far

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
39	40				41				42	
43				44					45	
46			47						48	
49									50	
	51								52	

- Individual feature
- Drug trials term (abbr.)
- Has emerged
- Helped the Spanish conquer Mexico
- Northern Vietnam ethnic group
- Dried-up
- Reactive structures (abbr.)
- Licensed for Wall Street
- Japanese conglomerate
- Home to the Celts
- Title given to Italian monk
- Drunkards
- Cylindrical containers
- South American plants
- Frozen water
- Town in Galilee
- Not in
- Journalist and suffragist Wells
- Consumed
- Edible Mediterranean plant
- Poke fun of
- "First in Flight" state
- Fortifying ditch
- Receding
- Christian liturgical creed
- Used to decorate Xmas trees
- High-__: complex
- Thoughts
- __ and cheese
- Constrictor snake

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NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE MATTER of the ESTATE of LINDA JEAN SCOTT, late of the Postal District of Snowflake, in the Province of Manitoba, deceased.
 ALL CLAIMS against the above Estate, duly verified by Statutory Declaration, must be sent to the undersigned at 19 Crystal Ave., Crystal City, Manitoba, R0K 0N0, within four (4) weeks of the date of this publication.
 KEITH SCOTT
 Executor for the Estate

NOTICES

RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF STANLEY PUBLIC NOTICE

REGARDING BY-LAW NO. 2-18. FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A LOW-PRESSURE SEWER SYSTEM WITHIN THE STANLEY CORRIDOR.

The Council of the Rural Municipality of Stanley has scheduled a public hearing in the Council Chambers on the **5th day of April 2018 at 9:30 a.m.** to present the following by-law:

Providing for the spending, borrowing authority and imposition of taxes for the construction of a low-pressure sewer system along the north and south sides of PTH 3 and 14 of the Stanley Corridor in the Rural Municipality of Stanley.

Financing for the proposed borrowing will be set out in the Rural Municipality of Stanley's yearly financial plans, with borrowing to be repaid over 20 years at a maximum interest rate of 5%, with the annual repayment amount to be levied annually as part of the general municipal levy.

RM of Stanley intends to obtain borrowing authorization for up to \$400,000.00 with the exact amount of borrowing to be determined after the project is complete.

Total estimated project cost **\$899,100**

Anticipated sources of funding:	
Funded by Federal Grant (max)	\$299,700
Funded by Provincial Grant (max)	\$299,700
Funded by Borrowing (estimated)	\$299,000
	\$899,100

Estimated Municipal borrowing (max):	
Amount	\$400,000.00
Maximum Interest Rate	5.0%
Terms	20 years

A written objection may be filed with the Chief Administrative Officer, at 23111 PTH 14 in the RM of Stanley prior to the commencement of the hearing. At the hearing, Council will hear any potential taxpayer who wishes to make a presentation, ask questions or register an objection to the by-law.

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

Copies of the proposed borrowing are available at the municipal office at 23111 PTH 14 and on the municipal website at www.rmofstanley.ca. Feel free to call the RM Office for additional information at 204-325-4101.

Dated at the RM of Stanley this 8TH day of March 2018 and issued pursuant to Section 174.1(1) of The Municipal Act.

Dale Toews, Chief Administrative Officer
 Rural Municipality of Stanley

NOTICES



RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF THOMPSON

PUBLIC NOTICE 2018 FINANCIAL PLAN

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Subsection 162(2) of the Municipal Act that Council for the Rural Municipality of Thompson intends to present its Financial Plan for the fiscal year 2018 at a public hearing located at:

R.M. of Thompson Civic Centre
530 Norton Avenue
Miami, MB

Thursday April 19, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

Council will hear any person who wishes to make representation, ask questions or register an objection to the Financial Plan. Copies of the Financial Plan will be made available for review at the Civic Centre on April 9, 2018.

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OBITUARY



Charles Reginald (Reg) Follett 1942 – 2018

On Friday, March 9, 2018 at his home in Morden, MB Reg passed away. He leaves to mourn his passing his wife, Wendy (Watchorn); two daughters, Lisa and Danny Dyck and Kerri and TJ Wiebe; five grandchildren, Paige and Wyatt Gillis and Zane Wiebe and Seth and Zachary Dyck; his mother-in-law, Daisy Watchorn; twin brother, Ronald and sisters, Leah Douglas and Myrna Mann as well as

many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his parents, John and Violet Follett; father-in-law, Norman Watchorn and his sister, Audrey Bruce.

Reg spent his life as a farmer, with a love of field work and raising animals. He loved his garden and spent many hours in his later years providing vegetables for his family and friends.

A celebration of life took place at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 14, 2018 at Wiebe Funeral Chapel in Morden with interment prior at the Miami Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Reg's memory to the Heart and Stroke Foundation or a charity of one's choice.

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



OBITUARY



Alfred George Ens 1950 - 2018

On Saturday, March 10, 2018 at Boundary Trails Health Center, Alfred George Ens of Winkler, MB formerly of Reinland was released from his suffering and went to his eternal rest. He was 67.

He was born May 16, 1950 and attended school in Reinland from kindergarten till grade eight and graduated from MCI in 1969. This also happens to be the year that his dad graduated from U of M. Fred also got baptized along with his sister, Irene in 1969.

Fred leaves to mourn his passing his wife, Betty (nee Teichroeb); his daughter, Helen and two sons, Andrew and Donovan and his mother, Betty Ens. Fred is survived by three brothers and six sisters and their families. He was predeceased by his father, Frank; brother-in-law, James Peters; his mother-in-law, and father-in-law,

as well as his sister-in-law, Susan Wiebe.

Memorial service was held at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, March 16, 2018 at the Winkler Bergthaler Mennonite Church with interment prior at the Reinland Community Cemetery.

If friends so desire, donations may be made in Fred's memory to the South Central Cancer Resource.

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



NOTICES

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Notice of Winkler Co-op Annual General Meeting April 10, 2018 - 7:00 P.M. BUHLER ACTIVE LIVING CENTRE 650 South Railway Ave, Winkler

TO: ALL MEMBERS OF THE WINKLER CONSUMERS CO-OPERATIVE LTD.

The purpose of the meeting is to consider:

1. Financial Statements
2. Report of the Board
3. Election of 3 Directors
4. Auditors Report
5. Appointment of External Auditors
6. Any other business authorized by the by-laws to be transacted at an Annual Meeting of Members

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OBITUARY



Linda Mary Alberta Butler (nee Hard)

December 19, 1942 - March 12, 2018

It is with profound heartbreak and sadness that we announce the sudden passing of our beloved wife, mother, sister and grandmother and our best friend. Linda will lovingly be remembered by her husband of 45 years, Maurice (Moe); daughter, Claire Goertzen (Rob) of Morden; son, Jason (Kim) of Stoughton, SK; sister, Jacqui Aspinall (Bob) of Shoreham-by-Sea, Sussex, England and her special grandchildren, Emma and Luke Goertzen. She will also be missed by her colleagues and friends. Too many to list.

Born in Brighton, England, Linda, a teacher came to Canada in 1967. She found a teaching position with the St. James-Assiniboia School Division and taught at numerous schools in the St. James area. Linda met another transplanted "Brit" in Winnipeg, and in 1972 Linda and Maurice (Moe) Butler a St. James-Assiniboia Police Officer were married. Linda continued teaching and Moe continued policing.

In 1973 along came their first child, Claire and several years later their son, Jason. The family lived in St. James for the next five years and in 1978 the family made a move to Morden, MB where Moe would become the Chief of Police, and Linda commenced her tenure with the Western School Division; teaching work education in the High School and later transferring to the Morden Middle School teaching Grade 8. It became quite evident that Linda's passion was that of an educator. She continued this career path until she retired in 2000 after 40 years of teaching. After retirement Linda became very involved with numerous committees in Morden, including, The Corn and Apple Festival Queen Pageant, a Royal Canadian Legion member for 40 years, a member of St. Thomas Anglican Church, President of Southern Manitoba Concerts, to name but a few.

Linda was a very strong determined lady, fair but firm. As a wife she was truly devoted. As a mother and grandmother she was a dedicated, caring and loving individual. She loved her garden and her roses and she treated her roses like her children with lots of attention, love and tenderness.

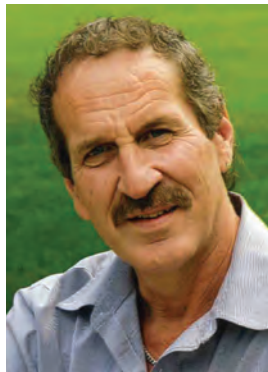
A service for Linda was held at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday March 20th, 2018 at St. Thomas Anglican Church in Morden.

In lieu of flowers, the family request that donations in Linda's memory be considered to the following: B.T.H.C. Foundation or The Morden Area Foundation.

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



OBITUARY



Douglas Richard Mikolasek 1964 - 2018

Douglas R. Mikolasek, aged 53, passed away on Monday, March 12, 2-18 in Morden MB.

Doug was born in Morden on April 15th, 1964. He grew up in Miami and began his career as a grain buyer in 1981. Doug married his wife, Crystal in 1986 and started their family in Miami. Among many contributions to his community, Doug dedicated 30 years of service to the Miami Fire Dept.

Doug is survived by parents, Joan and Tony; wife, Crystal; children, Ryan (Danielle), Kyle (Jenna) and Brittany (Spencer); grandchildren, Madelyn and Max; grandmother, Eileen; sister, Josie (Richard); niece, Sheralee (Darrell); nephew, Colton; uncle, Richard (Carol). Doug was predeceased by father, Harry and brother, Kim.

A time of remembrance was held from 1:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, March 18th at Wiebe Funeral Chapel in Morden.

If friends so desire, donations may be made in Doug's memory to the Canadian Mental Health Association.

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



OBITUARY



Loreen Anna May (Loewen) Enns 1929 - 2018

Quietly on Tuesday, March 13, 2018, one day after her 89th birthday, following a severe stroke, Loreen Enns of Winkler, Manitoba, went to be with Jesus, with her daughters at her side.

Loreen was born in Winkler to J.K. and Justine (Bergen) Loewen on March 12, 1929, the oldest of four children. She married Percy Enns on September 2, 1951. They were both baptized in the Winkler Bergthaler Mennonite Church on May 17, 1959, and later became charter members of the Grace Mennonite Church, where she served as organist for many years and attended regularly as long as she could.

After her children were born, Loreen spent most of her time at home, taking care of her girls, although over the years she also found time to do some local volunteer work. During her entire lifetime, she was well known and appreciated in the community for her friendliness, candor, and the genuine interest she took in peoples' lives.

When her daughters married and began having families of their own, the grandchildren (and great-grandchildren also!) became very important to her. She loved each of them dearly, checked in with them regularly, and prayed continually for all of them.

She is survived by three daughters and their families: Dolores (Leslie) Friesen, and their children, Megan (Murray) Penner, Grace, Levi, and Kane, Kenneth (Melanie) Friesen, Jacob, Noah, and Natalie, Daniel (Danica) Friesen, Lucas, Derek (Alyssa) Friesen, and Jessica Friesen; Jocelyn (Larry) Friesen, and their children, Tim (Carena) Friesen, and Ron Friesen; Melody (Ken) Hamm, and their children Joshua (Trisha) Hamm, Tyler (fiancée Danessa Wiebe), and Nolan Hamm. Also surviving are two brothers, Bob (Doreen) Loewen, Glen (Mern) Loewen, and one sister, Jeanette (George) Huber, as well as many nieces and nephews and their families.

She was predeceased by her husband Percy on June 23, 2009; her parents; and one brother (stillborn).

Funeral service was held at 2:00 p.m. on Monday, March 19, 2018 at the Grace Mennonite Church with interment at the Winkler Cemetery.

The family would like to extend special thanks to the paramedics who responded to the call, the staff of Boundary Trails Health Centre for the care and compassion they showed Mom and the family in her last days, and to Wiebe Funeral Homes for taking care of final arrangements.

If friends so desire, donations may be made in her memory to CNIB Manitoba or Salem Foundation of Winkler.

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



OBITUARY



Susie Friesen (nee Letkeman) 1943 - 2018

On Wednesday, March 14, 2018 at Boundary Trails Health Centre, Susie Friesen, age 74 years of Winkler, MB formerly of Haskett went to her eternal rest.

She leaves to mourn her passing, four daughters, one son and their families. She was predeceased by her husband, Peter P Friesen in 1999.

Funeral service was held at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 17, 2018 at the Winkler Mennonite Church with interment at Haskett Cemetery.

If friends so desire, donations may be made in Susie's memory to either Katie Cares or Gateway Resources.

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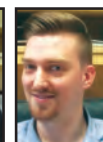
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