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BTHC ready to grow

By Lorne Stelmach

Officials this week heralded plans for an expansion of the Boundary Trails Health Centre.

They hope to see construction underway by 2017 on a new patient care support centre that will free up space in the regional hospital for expanded care services.

Pat Gibson, chairperson of the BTHC Foundation, said it began with asking the question, "What do we need to enhance the effectiveness of Boundary Trails?

"Now we have a plan to do just that," she said.

Gibson traced the genesis of the planning process to her own long-



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Municipal officials joined representatives of the Boundary Trails Health Centre Foundation on Monday in announcing plans for an expansion of the regional hospital, starting with construction of a patient care support services centre to free up space elsewhere in the facility.

term recovery from broken bones in tients from our area plus beyond our 2014.

"You have to appreciate ... what a gem we have in rural Manitoba ... the special services we provide to pa-

area ... and we are really good at what we do," she said.

Still, while she was in hospital Gibson said she heard from a number of staff about how badly a facility expansion was needed to meet the growing demand on services.

Continued on page 4





Salem raising funds for second equipment washer

Faspa, Fellowship, & Song this Sunday

By Ashleigh Viveiros

A recent flu outbreak at Salem Home has made it clear the Winkler care home needs another automatic equipment washer to more effectively care for its residents.

A few months ago, the care home, thanks to community funding through the Salem Foundation, was able to install a specialized washer that allows staff to more quickly sanitize wheelchairs, walkers, kitchen carts, and other high-use pieces of equipment.

Shortly after getting the washer, dozens of Salem's residents came down with a bad stomach flu, says CEO Sherry Janzen.

"As the virus was working its way through the building, the equipment was sent through the washer," she said, noting the automated sanitization of equipment helped more effectively kill bacteria and save staff valuable time that would otherwise have been spent hand washing all these items.

It became clear, though, that one washer was not nearly enough to meet the needs of the entire 146-bed facility.

As upwards of 80-90 per cent of Salem residents are wheelchair-bound, moving contaminated wheelchairs from one part of the building to the other for cleaning presented a risk of spreading the flu, Janzen noted.

More washers would also make it easier to wash equipment more often, she said, since demand on the lone washer has been so high.

That's why Salem is now looking to install more of the washers throughout the building.

Since each washer costs \$20,600, they're starting with a goal of raising enough to purchase a second one for the Cottonwood unit (the Maple unit is home to the current washer).

Salem Foundation is once again leading the charge in fundraising, hosting their spring Faspa, Fellowship, and Song event this Sunday, April 10. Admission is by donation.

"As the Salem Foundation we really do appreciate the support we've had from the community in the past," said board chair Edwin Guenther, noting the November faspa raised enough to purchase the first washer unit." [That] has been an excellent addition to our facility. What it has really done is it has enhanced the quality of life for our residents. We have a more germfree environment ... we have cleaner equipment and therefore we have healthier residents as a result."

This weekend's fundraiser gets underway at the Winkler Bergthaler Mennonite Church at 4 p.m. with a performance from the Winkler Senior Centre Choir followed by faspa from 5-5:45 p.m. Salem maintenance manager Jake Froese demon-

strates

the use of the automatic equipment washer they installed this winter. The device cleans wheelchairs faster

faster and more effectively than doing so by hand. PHOTO BY ASHLEICH VIVEIROS/





"WE HAVE A MORE GERM-FREE ENVIRONMENT ...WE HAVE HEALTHIER RESIDENTS AS A RESULT."







Spring break fun

Budding artists kept busy during Spring Break last week thanks to the programming at the Pembina Hills Arts Centre. The kids spent their mornings at the gallery in downtown Morden creating a wide array of arts and crafts under the guidance of local artist Willi Richardson (above) along with guest instructor Carl Klassen. Here, the kids were creating small butterflies, while other activities through the week ranged from creating cards to making working lighthouses.

PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE



> BTHC EXPANSION, FROM PG. 1

"Cubby holes were now offices. Two and three staff shared an office ... which makes it really difficult to work with patients," she said. "Every effort was made to maximize additional space required for patient care. Organizational efficiencies were maxed and still we were short of space."

After months of research, Gibson said they have arrived at the realization that they could free up a lot of space if they moved the whole range of hospital administrative and support services.

Three phases of construction are now planned, starting with a patient care support service centre on the northeast corner of the hospital property.

"When the support services are moved into that space, then phase two can begin," said Gibson. "These renovations would allow an expansion of chemotherapy, post-op clinics or ambulatory care, and the emergency department.

"Phase three would see additional obstetrical beds as well as rehab beds to support patients who have had strokes or need diabetic followup."

Gibson said the next step is to find someone to pull the plan together with a more complete design picture of the stages of construction, as well as an initial cost estimate for the project. "We have representatives from the RHA at the table ... they know what we are doing," added Gibson, who said they were uncertain of the timeline for the project, although they hoped to see work be well underway by next year.

She suggested this region has a history of pushing the envelope to make things happen, and that is what she sees us doing again now.

"Boundary Trails would never have been built if it wasn't for the visionaries who represented our health district," she said.

"It's taken us about a year to get to this point, but I think it's a good place to start," said Morden Mayor Ken Wiebe at the announcement.

"It took a while to analyze exactly what it was we were after and what it was that we could do to maybe help convince the provincial government that this is a good thing and it's not going to cost a whole pile of money up front," he added. "It does something really good for our district and for our area ... it helps the whole province out."

Winkler Mayor Martin Harder said it was an ideal plan to "free up the space within Boundary Trails in order to expand the existing services that are there to what it should have been in the first place.

"The additional building is the answer for patient care as well as the future potential expansion for Boundary Trails," he said.

Just how busy is BTHC?

The hospital delivered 434 babies when it opened in 2001. That number hit 956 in 2015.
Chemotherapy treatments reached 2,177

in 2015—up from 590 back in 2001.When the hospital opened, the three op-

erating rooms had 1,647 surgeries. Last year surgeons performed 4,156 operations.

• BTHC provided over 10,000 post-operative visits in 2015 and treated almost 26,000 patients in its emergency department.

Winkler Police stats show crime on the rise

By Lorne Stelmach

Crime is still on the rise in Winkler according to yearend statistics from the city police.

That much has remained constant in recent history, but what is changing now is how the city is looking to address the issue.

Council is looking to ideas like the Safe Community Initiative to better address the root causes of crime (see story below). As well, they are looking to hire more officers.

But hiring even two more people alone won't be enough, said Mayor Martin Harder.

"The numbers in there are concerning, and that's why we're trying to address it from multiple fronts," he said. "My opinion is we can't solve this with two officers. We can't reduce the crime rate through two officers. The crime rate needs to be reduced from the bottom up rather than from the top down.

"We will never hire enough police officers to be able to step up the pace ... to meet all the needs that are out there as far as crime is concerned."

Reporting on statistics for 2015 at the March police board meeting, Chief Rick Hiebert noted the total Criminal Code offences increased to 1,007 from 665 in 2014.

There was some bits of good news in the numbers, such as zero business break-ins in the past year. But there were nearly the same number of residential break-ins at 34, while other break and enters rose sharply from six to 34 over the year before.

Continued on page 8

City aims to nip crime in the bud

By Lorne Stelmach

The City of Winkler is looking to take the initiative to better address the root causes of crime in the community.

It all stems from a recognition that policing alone cannot address the issue and that there are many resources here now that could play a vital role, Mayor Martin Harder said after the last council meeting.

"It's an opportunity here for people to invest in people's lives," Harder said in addressing the proposed Safe Community Initiative.

The project was inspired by a similar initiative known as The Hub that has proven successful in the Saskatchewan community of Prince Albert.

The aim is to provide more immediate, coordinated, and integrated responses with the help of a variety of resources to address situations facing individuals and families at risk.

It involves a range of services from various sectors, including not only police but also education, health care, social services, and other community organizations.

"The police department there took the initiative to figure out how they could reduce the rate of crime that is in their community by being able to address the issue or the problem circumstances before it becomes a police issue," said Harder. "That is the ultimate ground rule for trying to establish this in Winkler."



Make your choice



Provincial election day is Tuesday, April 19

When will you vote? You can vote on election day or at any advance voting location in Manitoba from Saturday, April 9 to Saturday, April 16. You don't need a reason to vote in advance.

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MIDLAND					
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Ind. – Independent
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nce, for a brief time, I was a nine-year-old Asian girl.

I was Whitney Wong and I lived with my grandparents along with my seven-year-old brother William. Grandpa was on disability and couldn't work. Grandma worked as a cashier at a local grocery store.

Dad was nowhere to be seen (never had been, really) and Mum was in jail on drug charges.

We had two mortgages on the house, a car loan, \$350 a month in prescription drug costs for William's ADHD, and really never

had enough AGRICULTURE REPORTER make ends meet. Harry Siemens

> work all day it was left to Grandpa to do the running around (such as he could as a disabled man), taking care of the banking, bills, etc.

> > Needless to say, he could not keep up and we fell behind. The stress got to Grandma and she tried to drink it away, which led to an eventual DUI and the loss of her job.

> > It was then that I started encouraging my younger brother to steal to help make ends meet, which landed him and me in juvenile detention.

> > Eventually we lost the house and ended up in a family shelter for a while.

The hill just got steeper and the end got so far away that we couldn't see it anymore.

Once, when I was a nine-year-old girl

Setionial > VIEWPOINTS > LETTERS

And that's when the simulation ended.

On Monday I participated in a poverty simulation called Living on the Edge held by the Morden & District United Way.

Participants were assigned a persona (in my case, a nine-year-old girl named Whitney) and instructed on how to proceed. Over the course of the morning your family unit would attempt to meet the typical needs of a family in a circumstance of poverty.

The effort proved enlightening, but not in the way I thought.

You see, I grew up in an impoverished, single-mother household with three sisters and no car. Mum was on welfare and eventually we made it into subsidized government housing. This was my world until I moved away at 18 to go to university on government grants.

As a child you are aware of the consequences of poverty without being aware of the poverty. You feel the consequences of parental stress, depression, anger, etc. You know there are differences between your clothes and your friends' clothes, your toys, your house, your food, etc.

As an adult going through the simulation, though, you become aware of the entanglement and cascading nature of all of the varying struggles and consequences of poverty. One thing affects another, one thing breaks another, and a painful cycle develops VERY quickly.

That my Mum was able to navigate the brutality of a disconnected set of systems, maintain her sanity, and raise us to a place where would could all leave poverty shocks me more and more and is a testimony to who she is.

There are no easy answers but all too many sobering facts. In 2012, 29 per cent of Manitoban children lived in poverty. In 2014, Manitoba had the highest percentage of children (44 per cent) using food banks than any other province.

What can be done? What can I do? What can you do? Like I said, there are no easy answers.

One thing is to stop personal and systemic judging. By personal I mean stop assuming people are where they are for some reason you think they could have stopped. You and I don't know. It is that simple. Unless you are in a personal relationship with that particular person, you have zero knowledge.

By systemic judging I mean corporate assistance entities need to stop putting barriers in place that are designed to weasel out the cheats, for lack of a better word. We're so worried about people cheating the system that we put embarrassing barriers in place that hurt the majority of people who are simply in need.

I don't know what would have happened to Whitney had I been able to watch the rest of her life, but I can tell you the trajectory was grim.

One can only hope we begin to move past the "lazy welfare" mentality and move into something a little more affirming and life giving.

letters

Real solutions needed for Manitoba's day care crisis

A provincial government that has been in power for 17 years should be talking about their record, not recycling promises they haven't kept. But that's exactly what the NDP is doing in this provincial election, especially

when it comes to day care.

The NDP promised to decrease wait times for day care by 40 per cent but instead wait times have continued to go in the wrong direction. More Manitoba families than ever

are currently waiting for day care spaces for their children. In 2011, there were 5,000 families on the day care wait list; now there are over 12,000.



By Peter Cantelon

Winkler named in top 10 list of "charming small towns"

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The City of Winkler was celebrating an unexpected national tourism plug last week.

The community was chosen as one of the "10 Charming Small Towns in Canada You Need to Visit" by the travel site Expedia.ca.

Blogger Lara Vukelich wrote that the city's small population "translates to just enough food and entertainment for a great vacation, without an infinite number of elbows to rub along the way."

She urged travellers to "feed your inner artist" by taking in a show at the P.W. Enns Centennial Concert Hall or enjoying a free concert at the Harvest Festival, or to "spend an afternoon relaxing in Bethel Heritage Park or painting your own pottery at the Clay Owl Studio."

Winkler made the list alongside cities such as Tumbler Ridge, B.C., Almonte, Ontario, and Yarmouth, N.S., to name a few.

"It's really gratifying to see that we have achieved that level," Mayor Martin Harder says, "because Winkler has never really been looked on as being a tourist destination.

"But with the changes that have taken place within the last 10 years, with Bethel Heritage Park, with the activity in the concert hall, with the Harvest Festival ... we're gaining significant attention."

Hopefully the article will get Winkler on the radar of people who may have never heard of our city before, Harder says.

"We are becoming a destination point and we want to continue to encourage that," he says.

You can check out the article for yourself at travelblog. expedia.ca.

> LETTERS, FROM PG. 6

Last week the NDP promised once again to fix day care. (Did you know they have made the same announcement five times in the past year and a half?)

So how can we really do a better job? Our day care system has always been a combination of licensed non-profit facilities and licensed home-based operations. But while home-based day care used to account of 20 per cent of the total capacity, it now accounts for only eight per cent.

Many families in our communities would love to place their children in a home-based day care setting, but that option is increasingly limited.

People from our community considering starting up a daycare in their homes talk about an approval process plagued with excessive red-tape and other barriers that eventually causes them to give up.

It's clear that the NDP's reliance on the facility-based child-care model at the expense of other options has created gaps in care.

The PC Party believes that you can't address the dramatically increasing wait times for day care spaces by overlooking viable options.

Whether in licensed facilities or in licensed home-based settings, the priority should be that qualified, compassionate people in our community are caring for children in a safe environment that meets their needs and supports families.

Manitoba families need increased options for their children's care, and that means investing more in licensed home-based day care.

Cameron Friesen, PC Candidate for Morden-Winkler



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Saturday, April 9 to Saturday, April 16

MORDEN-WINKLER

Additional Locations:

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MORRIS

April 13

April 9

April 14

April 15

April 16

April 12

Returning Office

Unit 2 & 3 116 Main St., Morris

Additional Locations:

Provincial election day is Tuesday, April 19,

but you can vote earlier if you choose.

- Advance voting locations are open from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm (noon to 6:00 pm Sunday).
- Don't forget to bring photo ID or two other documents with your name.
- If you're not on the voters list, you can have your name added when you go to vote.

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April 16 Chalet Malouin, St. Malo

April 13	Dominion City Legion Hall

- April 11 Emerson Complex
- April 15 St. Pierre Jolys Recreation Centre

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Returning Office

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Additional Locations:

April 9-10, Carman Active Living Centre April 13

- April 11 Club d'Age d'Or, Notre Dame de Lourdes
- April 12 Crystal City Friendship Centre
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Unit G, Oakwest Plaza, 886 Thornhill St., Morden

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April 10-11 Headingley Community Centre

Niverville Heritage Centre

Rosenort Heritage Centre

Starbuck Community Hall

Brunkild Memorial Recreation Centre

La Salle Community Centre (LSCU)

April 11-13 Southland Mall R2, Winkler

NPC student up for Women of Distinction award

By Ashleigh Viveiros

A Winkler student is one of 50 nominees for this year's YMCA-YWCA Women of Distinction awards.

Northlands Parkway Collegiate Gr. 12 student Jessica Froese is up for the Prairie Award of Promise, which is handed out each year to a rural student who shows promise of one day being a woman of distinction by making a significant contribution to her school and community, demonstrating scholastic achievement, and acting as a role model for others.

Froese certainly fits the bill, says Kim Apperly, the guidance counsellor who nominated Froese for the award.

"She's involved in a lot of activities but part of it for me, too, is some of the stuff that's happened to her in life and how she's taken that and really turned it around and focused on how can she make an impact on others, how can she be a positive influence and make sure that people are being self-advocates," she says. "Going out into the world, she'll be somebody who will make a difference in the lives of others."

The teen has spent the last several



Jessica Froese

years giving back at school as a Peer Leader and student council member, at church as a youth leader, and in the world at large by organizing an upcoming fundraiser for the Genesis House women's shelter and going on no less than two missions trips to an orphanage in Nicaragua.

"Probably the biggest thing in my life is doing junior youth leading at the EMMC," Froese says, noting the group gives her the chance to mentor younger girls."I just remember when I was in Gr. 7, Gr. 8, I had leaders myself and they were always there for me ... you had someone to talk to if you needed to. So I want to be that kind of person for them now."

Her trips to Central America have been equally as fulfilling, she says.

"The first time I was there I really made connections with these girls that were there," Froese says. "I had asked them what they wanted from Canada and they told me they wanted a Spanish Bible."

Froese canvassed her church community for funds to purchase

about 60 Spanish Bibles for the kids, which she delivered on her second trip to Nicaragua.

Closer to home, Froese helped found her school's Peer Leaders group, finding new ways to support her fellow students.

"What we do is we talk about different situations that kids have in our school, and so they can come and talk to us if they need help," she says, noting she's shared her own story as a survivor of abuse. "One of the topics that we have talked about is abuse—emotional abuse, physical

abuse—and so we want others to speak out about it so we can get the word out a bit more."

The desire to give back is just part of who she is, Froese says.

"I like helping other people, really. Just making sure you have an impact on something and being able to do something in your community, that's what I

really like doing."

"I LIKE HELPING

OTHER PEOPLE

... JUST MAKING

SURE YOU HAVE

AN IMPACT ON

SOMETHING."

Froese isn't sure what her plans are for after high school, but she is currently considering studying law.

Froese is up against five other nominees in her category. The awards will be handed out at a gala in Winnipeg on May 4.

For a full list of nominees, check out www.ywinnipeg.ca.

> SAFE COMMUNITY, FROM PG. 5

Harder noted a good illustration of how a community network like this could help was one Prince Albert youth who eventually was charged with murder. In that case, there was a realization that there were a number of times where there could have been an earlier intervention.

"We have lots of opportunities here to invest into people's lives before they ever become criminals," said Harder. "We're trying to figure out how can we intervene in people's lives so they get the help that they need before they become a problem."

Harder said their first step will be finding someone to take on the role of a program co-ordinator.

It will be vital to have someone who can look at and compile all of the information available in any given case and see that the proper people or agencies come into play.

He suggested what shape that assistance takes could vary according to each individual situation.

"Whether it's just a friend going out with somebody for coffee ... or if there's a kid who has a problem in school and becomes disruptive ... just to connect with families to see how things are going and just to try to get some help for the family perhaps if there is an issue," he said.

Harder said there has been a lot of discussions involving a range of community groups, all of whom are positive about the potential of the idea.

"We've had meetings including the school division, including Central Station, including some different support groups ... Big Brothers ... city council, the police department,"

While minor thefts dropped from

56 to 48, other categories increased—

bike thefts from 51 to 81, thefts from

cars from 27 to 52, and shoplifting

Two categories of fraud also had

minor increases in 2015, while the

various categories of drug charges re-

mained similar or slightly increased.

Mischief offences also increased

from 79 to 89 for those over \$5,000 and

Assaults rose from 28 to 40, while

sexual assaults were nearly un-

changed at 10 offences, as were as-

from 18 to 51 for those over \$5,000.

from 23 to 68 offences.

> CRIME STATS, FROM PG. 5

he said. "We're all sitting around the table trying to figure out how we can address the issues. The next step is simply trying to find a co-ordinator to put the program together.

"I think we have a good understanding of what needs to be done, but we need someone there to be able to put the details together and to ensure we can connect with the people who are involved in the program."

Harder said he was very hopeful

they could have something set up and going by this summer.

"We have \$40,000 sitting in an account waiting to be spent. We're hoping that will be enough to do the groundwork and be able to get this position in place," he said.

"I'm pretty excited. People are supporting it and think it's a great idea, but great ideas only happen when people put their boots on and start working."

saults causing bodily harm or with a weapon at 11 offences.

A particularly concerning stat for Hiebert was that the bail violations had doubled from 50 to 110.

Discussions about hiring more police officers for Winkler recently focussed on having officers on duty 24/7.

"[That] requires that we make an adjustment in the scheduling," said Harder, noting that then needs to first be addressed through the collective bargaining agreement with the local police association. "Until we have an agreement that says, 'Yes, we are willing to change our shifts,' we can't go and hire two more people. The reason we are hiring two more people is to have them on staff for 24/7 ... not just on call.

"We still understand that there is a tremendous workload, and they need to get some help," he concluded. "We're willing to give them help, but they need to step up to the plate and say, 'Okay how can we adjust what we are currently doing?"

Four vying for your vote in Morden-Winkler

Local candidates weigh-in on why you should vote for them in the April 19 election

BENJAMIN BAWDON, LIBERALS

Benjamin Bawdon may be new to the provincial election scene, but he's eager to give voice to both youth voters and the Liberal Party platform.

Bawdon is currently studying global political economy at the University of Manitoba. Though his studies keep him busy, Bawdon says the opportunity to run for the Morden-Winkler seat was one he couldn't pass up.

"I've always been interested in politics since I was younger," he says, noting he got involved with the Liberal Party a few years ago and that this election was an opportunity to get more hands-on in the political process. "I was wanting to get more involved."

Having grown up in a rural community, Bawdon says he understands the needs of rural voters.

"I grew up north of Winnipeg around Stonewall, so I've always felt really connected with rural ridings."

He stresses that the Manitoba Legislature needs to work in partnership with rural communities to help foster growth and prosperity, such as that seen in the Morden-Winkler area.

"I don't feel rural ridings have been well-served by the previous government," he says. "The Liberal Party is more about partnership governments versus management or stand-off kind of governments."

Along those lines, he points out that infrastructure is a key issue in rural areas. The Liberals have promised to dedicate the one per cent PST increase to a municipal infrastructure fund and distribute funds on a per-capita basis for communities to spend on infrastructure projects of their choice.

Bawdon stresses the Liberal platform is one based on "doing what is right" to make for a better Manitoba.

That includes reaching out to youth voters, who



Benjamin Bawdon, Liberals

he hopes will get more involved than ever this election.

"I'm a huge advocate for youth involvement, getting younger people out and involved," ĥe says."I think youth are very interested in helping to develop the community. Personally, that's a huge thing for me, encouraging people to vote and encouraging younger people to get more involved."

CAMERON FRIESEN, CONSERVATIVES

Conservative Cameron Friesen has served as Morden-Winkler's MLA since 2011 and he feels that he is the right choice for another term in office.

Friesen says this election boils down to trust and credibility.

"We really believe this is an election about who can you believe, going forward, to do what they say they will do?" he says, stressing the NDP have broken countless promises during their 17 years in office. "They've lost the trust of Manitobans by promising they wouldn't raise the PST and then doing so. But they also broke their word on many, many other things, including ER wait times, access to doctors ... education outcomes."

Friesen believes that the Conservatives are better equipped than any other party to get Manitoba's finances back on track.

"We have a credible plan. A plan that is based on

the last four and a half years of very careful policy work," he says, stressing that the PCs consulted with voters across the province to find out what issues matter most to Manitobans.

"We took those ideas back into the room and we designed a set of coherent policies based on principles that we believe will make for fundamentally a better Manitoba," he savs. worker, family counsellor, and youth worker. Most recently, Lynch has worked as a youth clinician in Winnipeg.

Committed to cominvolvement, munity she has devoted her to mentoring time youth and organizing programming vouth and events.

The NDP say Lynch's extensive experience working with people across communities in crisis management and counselling demonstrate her great potential to represent Morden-Winkler. They say she is pas-



Elizabeth Lynch, **New Democrats**

sionate about health care and education for everyone, not just the few, and is dedicated to keeping families together and building stronger communities across the province.

MIKE URICHUK, **GREEN PARTY**

Winkler teacher Mike Urichuk has thrown his hat in the ring on behalf of the Green Party of Manitoba.

The 24-year-old had been involved with the Green Party at the federal level in recent years and, upon seeing there was no local candidate for the provincial election, felt called to step forward.

"I thought that to give voice to these different party platforms, to give voice to these issues, and to give choice to people in Morden and Winkler, I figured I should run," he says.

Among the Green Party's campaign promises, it is their plan for a guaranteed annual income that most resonates with Urichuk.

"That really lit a fire within myself," he says. "Growing up we had some tough times. My mom was a single parent ... and this policy helps out single parents."

The \$1.4 billion program aims to deliver \$6,300 a year to Manitobans by significantly adjusting the income tax system, cancelling select non-refund-



"This policy helps out single parents," says Urichuk. "It reduces poverty within single parent homes by 89 per cent, it reduces poverty in two parent homes by 86 per cent, and it completely eliminates poverty in elderly

Mike Urichuk, **Green Party**

Continued on page 11



Cameron Friesen, Conservatives

"Principles of trust, compassion, common sense, teamwork."

On a personal level, Friesen, who was born and raised in Morden, says he's been proud to represent our region at the Legislature these last few years, and he's eager for the opportunity to continue to do so—ideally as part of the governing party.

"We all want that opportunity to be in government. Because it's really in the context of government that we can have the most influence.

"Certainly, I've been proud of what I've been able to accomplish," he adds, pointing to things like his Private Member's Bill on pedestrian safety in school zones.

Friesen says his time in the opposition taught him the value of collaboration and partnerships, and now he's ready to put that knowledge to use in another term.

"I've learned my role and I believe I'll be effective in also delivering results," he says.

ELIZABETH LYNCH, NDP

Winnipegger Elizabeth Lynch has put her name forward as the candidate for the New Democratic Party.

Lynch did not return calls for an interview as of press time, but her biography on the NDP website says she holds degrees in social work and criminology and has over 10 years' experience working with high-risk youth, the homeless, and people with mental health and substance abuse issues.

In the past, she's worked as a child protection



Braul, Graydon, and Jones running in Emerson

LOREN BRAUL, LIBERALS

As the Liberal candidate in the riding of Emerson, Altona's Loren Braul hopes to engage more voters this election.

Braul noted Emerson has had among the lowest voter turnouts in recent elections.

"I wanted to demonstrate my interest in investing in the future of the community," Braul said of his decision to run for office.

Braul said he went to law school with Manitoba Liberal leader Rana Bokhari and appreciates that

"she has a lot of energy. I know that when she puts her mind to accomplishing objectives, she is very capable."

He thinks the Manitoba Liberal Party can be the choice for those disappointed with 17 years of NDP government and unimpressed with the leadership of the PCs.

And, as a centrist party, the Manitoba Liberals are not trapped by

ideology or beholden to a particular base, which allows them to develop policies that work for all Manitobans, Braul says.

"The Liberal Party had an openness to work from the grassroots level to generate policy."

He believes a key issue is sustainable and predictable funding for municipalities because they are struggling to keep up, which puts pressure on local taxes.

"We want a plan that will put the dollars in the hands of the people making the decisions. We want to make sure the municipalities are able to continue to provide infrastructure investments ... a wide range of investments."

CLIFF GRAYDON, CONSERVATIVES

Cliff Graydon is seeking re-election in the Emerson riding because he believes a Progressive Conservative government will deliver a better plan and future for rural Manitoba.

First elected in 2007 and having also won the riding in 2011 with 72 per cent of the vote, Graydon served most recently as the opposition critic for healthy living and seniors.

In that role he promoted services that allow all

Manitobans to enjoy healthy lifestyles and particularly advocated for seniors.

He also spoke out against tax hikes on low income and fixed-income Manitoba seniors.

Graydon sees health care as a key priority, citing the number of emergency ward closures across the province.

"It's really important to retain more doctors," said Gray-

don, who also cited the example of the PC pledge to reduce ambulance costs.

He also stressed the Conservative promise to roll back the PST.

"It has a huge impact on all Manitobans."

Graydon as well emphasized the need to better address infrastructure across the province and especially in rural Manitoba.

"The lack of maintenance for so many years has created a big issue for rural and urban municipalities," he said.

Born and raised in Arnaud, Graydon spent about 30 years farming grain and raising purebred Cha-

rolais cattle. He now lives in the Woodmore area.

ALANNA JONES, NDP

Alanna Jones is passionate about serving her community.

The NDP candidate did not return calls for comment as of press time, but in her online biography she stresses she believes the province needs to keep up strategic investments in education, health care, and seniors' supports to keep moving Manitoba forward.

As well, she stresses developing more job opportunities for young people in the province.

Jones attended the University of Manitoba for two years before moving to Alberta, where she received a degree in dance from the University of Calgary.

Since then she has danced professionally in both Winnipeg and Calgary, including in

tours around the world and across Canada.

Throughout her career she has also found a way to give back to the community with over 20 years of teaching and volunteer experience.

NDP

Jones volunteers at the École Heritage Immersion School, helping out with reading in the Grade 1 and Gr. 2 classroom.

She lives in St. Malo with her partner Chris and their three children.

Over the last five years, she has worked at the Pembina Active Living in south Winnipeg where she has been working hard to make life better for older adults.



Cliff Graydon, Conservatives

> MORDEN-WINKLER, FROM PG. 9

Loren Braul, Liberals

family homes."

The impact of this plan cannot be overstated, he says, as it will ripple out to affect numerous other aspects of society.

"It will help reduce expenditures in health care, it will help make sure that we don't have to pay as much in security," he says. "We've seen that as poverty decreases, crime decreases. As poverty decreases, health care costs decrease.

"Even though it is just one policy, it affects so many different things and it will help us build a better Manitoba."

Other key issues include working towards a more sustainable Manitoba by things such as tackling environmental problems at Lake Winnipeg to ensure our fishing industry is able to be strong for future generations, looking at bringing more solar solutions and jobs to the province, and further diversifying our economy.

"Making sure that we can work as a team in order to ensure Manitobans have jobs, that Manitobans are cared for, and that we also take care of Manitoba, the environment, itself," Urichuk says. "We need to think about government as helping the people," he adds. "I already think of myself as being someone who desires to do that with each day that I live and with each path I take.

"That's who I am as a person. I want to help people. I want them to be able to live the best lives that they can, and that's why people should vote for me."

> - Election profiles by Ashleigh Viveiros and Lorne Stelmach



Four on the ballot in the Midland riding

STACY O'NEILL, **GREEN PARTY**

Stacy O'Neill sees the desire among Manitobans for a change in government and feels that the Green Party is a viable option to lead the charge.

The mother, homemaker, and small business owner from Miami also feels she can be a voice for voters who understand the need for sustainability and interdependence in our society, the economy, and the environment.

A resident of the Midland constituency now for 11 years, O'Neill said change is about making room for a new generation of policy makers who care about the topics near and dear to Manitobans.

"I chose to run because Manitobans, like the rest of Canada, desire change in government ... not only the party in a po-

sition to govern but the

way in which decisions

are being made," she

said."I think the Green

Party is an under the

radar, viable option for

Manitobans with many

of our ideas being ad-

opted by other parties."

the Green Party be-

cause of many aspects

"especially their con-

crete plan to reduce

greenhouse gas emis-

sions while stimulating

O'Neill said she likes



Stacy O'Neill, **Green Party**

the economy.

"I also like that the Green Party gives its candidates flexibility to adapt their policies according to the needs of its constituents and not just the needs of the party," she added.

A greenspace management graduate as well as an emergency medical responder, O'Neill has also worked as a baker and garden centre manager.

She previously served in the Canadian Armed Forces and is an active volunteer member of Miami Fire and Rescue.

She believes the key issues for Midland are taxes, health care, education, and the economy.

"I think the most important issue for Manitobans is making our economy, our society and our environment interdependent and sustainable," she said.

BLAINE PEDERSON, CONSERVATIVES

Blaine Pedersen is excited to be running for reelection this month, especially given the chance for the Progressive Conservatives to form the next provincial government.

The incumbent for the Midland riding, however, doesn't just stand on his record or that of his party.

"I don't expect it ... I still have to work for it," said Pedersen."It is exciting to have the chance to make these vital changes to a better Manitoba."

Pedersen has served as the MLA for Midland since 2007, having been re-elected in 2011.

He has served as the PC opposition critic for

Agriculture, Food and Rural Development, which theological studies in college. is a suitable role given his 30 plus years of farming experience in cattle and grain operations. He has been active in many livestock organizations including the Manitoba Cattle Producers Associa-

tion, Feeder Cattle Finance organizations, and field shelterbelt planting management groups.

Born and raised in the Elm Creek area, Pedersen is an active member of his community and has served in various capacities with groups such as the Kinsmen, Toastmasters, 4-H program, the local Co-op as board president, and a local housing corporation.

Pedersen said it is exciting to be part of the PC team under leader Brian Pallister because he feels they have a better plan to realize the unlimited potential of the communities in Midland and create a thriving rural economy.

Blaine Pederson,

Conservatives

He said the key issues include taxes and the deficit as well as what he called the Americanization of Manitoba Hydro.

"There's a lot of concern with the bipole line coming through the heart of my constituency," he said. "We've dealt with that quite a bit.

"There's just a lot of concern about the deficit and taxes ... how are we going to pay for everything ... and where are we going?"

JULIA SISLER, LIBERAL PARTY

Julia Sisler believes youth are underrepresented and overlooked in Manitoba politics.

The Liberal candidate sees our youth as not only needing a seat at the table but also deserving of more attention from our provincial government.

"Many people in my age bracket feel as though their home towns can't provide them with a prosperous future, so they simply move into cities," said Sisler.

"I want to see Midland communities become plac-

es where residents young and old can

achieve their dreams

and goals and truly

thrive without having

to relocate. I want to

see more opportuni-

ties for both young

people but also older

Winnipeg but with

family roots in Mid-

land, Sisler studied

communications and

media along with

from

professionals."

Originally



Julia Sisler, Liberals

She has worked in several marketing and communications roles in the past few years and is currently vice president of communications for the Young Liberals of Canada (Manitoba) as well as an intern with Parks Canada.

She is seeking election in Midland because, despite growing up in the city, Sisler said she has always had a deep appreciation for southern Manitoba.

"The sense of community is something I've never experienced in the city. I've become adopted into these communities and I know it's where I want to be long term," she said.

Sisler sees the Liberals as representing diversity and having evidence-based and fiscally responsible policies.

Another issue that is near to her heart is mental health, which she said is becoming an epidemic, especially in rural Manitoba.

"I believe in the Liberal policy that mental health care be covered under Medicare so that financial burdens are not a barrier to seeking help," she said. "Our communities can only be healthy when our residents are healthy."

JACQUELINE THEROUX, NEW DEMOCRATS

Jacqueline Theroux is seeking election for a second time in the riding of Midland on behalf of the NDP. She also ran in the 2011 election, coming in second behind Conservative candidate Blaine Pederson with 24 per cent of the votes.

Theroux did not return calls for comment as of press time, but her biography notes Midland has been her home for about 40 years.

Theroux is a registered nurse and has worked in emergency medical services delivery and health care management before returning to work as a front-line nurse in 2006.

After graduating with a Registered Psychiatric nursing degree, Theroux moved to rural Manitoba to pursue a career in geriatric nursing.

During her career she has been in charge of emergency medical service delivery for the central region and managed health care services in Notre Dame, Carman, St. Claude, and Swan Lake.

Her career has giv-

en Theroux insight into the entire continuum of care, including community health services, public health, home care, mental health and facility-based services like long-term care and acute care.

In 2006, Jacqueline left her career in health care management and resumed her career as a frontline nurse.



Jacqueline Theroux, NDP

By Lorne Stelmach

City officials are heralding the success of a local initiative that is bringing newcomers to Morden from all corners of the world.

The personal testimonies of some of these immigrants attest to the benefits of the Morden Community Driven Immigration Initiative.

"The warmth felt since day one convinced us that we made the right decision ... Morden is the right place," said Mae Merin, whose family came from the Philippines last spring.

"So far, so perfect. I have no complaints ... not even the winter ... every season has its good things to do, so you just have to learn to enjoy it," added Elaine Caxias, who came from Brazil in spring 2015.

Morden immigration co-ordinator Shelly Voth said they are pleased their efforts are not only attracting people here but also keeping around 80 per cent of these families in the community long term.

"We are very happy with how these families are settling successfully in Morden," she said. "It is wonderful to see them making friends, becoming involved, benefiting Morden employers, and adding a valuable multicultural perspective on community life."

Close to 75 families have arrived in Morden since the start of the program in 2012.

Voth said a key is being able to meet the needs of local employers as well as finding people who really desire to live in a smaller community.

"It's filling gaps ... we're getting enough applications that we're able to be really choosy with who we are picking," she said. The interest in immigration is starting to come from a larger varieties of countries, as well, Voth noted.

"We still get a lot from eastern Europe, we see a lot from the Philippines, we see a lot from Brazil," she said. "But we're starting to see more from places like India, Bangladesh. It's as word spread into a new country then we'll all of a sudden get more applications."

The program aims to accept 50 immigrant families per year and selects potential immigrants and offers them support through the Manitoba Provincial Nominee Program.

Applicants are chosen based on criteria such as language ability, work experience, education, occupational skills, their ability to financially support themselves during their transition and other factors. Emphasis is placed on applicants who meet specific labour shortages.

As part of the program, applicants come on a one week exploratory visit to Morden, looking at job opportunities, educational and medical systems, real estate and lifestyle options.

Voth said that is a vital component as well as it allows applicants to see their future home before making a final decision. In 2015, the initiative received a total of 68 visits from applicants.

"PEOPLE ARE WELCOMING"

Caxias came from a large city in Brazil. They wanted to settle in a smaller community, she says, and they have settled in nicely with her working at a law firm and her husband employed at Decor Cabinets.

"It's a big difference. People here are so welcoming and friendly," she



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Morden immigration co-ordinator Shelly Voth with some of the recent newcomers to Morden, including Elaine Caxias from Brazil, Ivan and Iryna Lystsyna with son Alexander from Ukraine, and Mae and Neil Merin with daughter Elle from the Philippines.

said."I fell in love with the city ... welcoming people, beautiful places, calm environment ... way different from what we had."

Merin said Morden has all that they could would want close by, including schools and the hospital.

"The people here ... it was like we already knew them the way they treated us," she said of her initial visit. "The first six months then was not that easy. [But] the people here really make us feel like we don't have to worry at all.

"We got jobs to start with that are close to the jobs we had before," she added.

"It has lots of facilities for our child ... and it's very safe," added Ivan Lysytsyn, a Ukrainian who had worked on a ship and was away from family too long, so he and his family wanted to make a new start somewhere.

"By the end ... I knew for sure that I wanted Morden to become our new home for me and my family," he said. "Despite the fact that the city is not very big, it has everything one needs.

Those kinds of comments are very encouraging to Voth and other city officials. "Overall, we are pleased with the retention of the families that are arriving ... and have stayed in Morden at least one year with most of them appearing to have settled more permanently," she said. "And many have already bought houses or started their own businesses."

"At last count, 26 Morden employers have hired newcomers who arrived through the Morden Immigration program," noted John Wiens, chairperson of the Morden Community Development Corporation. "In addition, five of the newcomers have started their own businesses."

Larry Dyck, president of Decor Cabinets, said they appreciated that the initiative has provided a pipeline of job candidates who are well suited to address the company's labour shortages.

"It provides an excellent opportunity for both the company and the applicant to determine the best job fit," he said. "As a result, job candidates are well matched to our business needs and in addition they are eager to settle and integrate into our community."

Morden Youth for Christ fish fry this Saturday

By Lorne Stelmach

A successful annual fundraiser for Youth for Christ in Morden will help the organization takes its building improvements to the next phase.

The 11th annual fundraising fish fry will be this Saturday, April 9 at the Morden Mennonite Church at 6 p.m. Admission is by donation.

The event originally came about through a fundraiser for the church

in support of its building addition.

"Then they thought to invite another non-profit to come alongside and share the proceeds. Then the following year they had it paid for, and for the 10 years following we've continued to be the recipient," said John Rempel, director of Youth for Christ.

Over the last four years, he said they had used the funds to help pay for the exterior and interior renovations at The Warehouse drop-in centre. "Now, the renovation portion is done ... so we can focus on a little bit more on the infrastructure around it," Rempel said.

"There's some furniture that certainly needs updating, some of the kids' gaming areas need updating. We need a security system ... and quite a bit of stuff for our stage area.

"Now that the renovations are done ... we get to be a little more ministryfocussed with it," said Rempel. "So we're looking forward to putting some of that into action with the proceeds from this fish fry."

He noted the proceeds from the fundraiser has kept increasing year after year.

"I think last year we cleared over \$8,000. That's huge. The first year I think we made around \$2,000," said Rempel. "Every year, it's been better. It's just been incredible."

Winkler dog park needs project leaders

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Think Winkler needs a fenced-in dog park?

City council agrees, but they're looking for local dog owners to step forward to spearhead the project.

Council is eyeing the empty green space on the west side of 14th St. just south of Pembina Ave. as a potential location for the park, says Mayor Martin Harder.

"There's enough space there to be able to do it on a level ground and it's right next to the walking path, so it's convenient for people to walk their dogs to it," he said. "And it's out of the residential area, so people won't have to worry about having noisy dogs nearby."

Considering the number of canines that call Winkler home, Harder is convinced such a park would be well-used by owners looking to give Fido a legal place to run off-leash.

"I'm amazed at the number of dogs that are in Winkler," he said, stressing, as well, that in recent years many more owners have been licensing their pets with the city. This City of Winkler concept drawing shows the proposed space on 14th St. South council is willing to donate towards the creation of a fenced-in dog park.



All Winkler dog owners are required to register their pet. The fact that so few were doing so just a few years ago was a sticking point the last time the dog park idea was brought to council. That's changed since the city insti-

of annual fees, making now a good time to broach the idea once again, Harder said.

"We never forgot about it. And we

don't disagree that we need a dog park—we just don't feel that we're the ones that need to fund it, not entirely," he explained. "We will provide property for it and we would like to get some people who are really excited about having a dog park raising some funds to get it built.

"If there's interest, then they need to stand up and start making some noise," Harder said. "I think it's important for dog owners to invest in the park on their own."

That may mean launching a fundraising campaign or reaching out to area businesses for sponsorships to get a fence built, he said.

If you'd like to lead the charge on getting the dog park built, contact public works director Pete Froese or Mayor Harder at City Hall at 204-325-9524.







How to protect seniors against fraud and financial abuse

Seniors, in particular, are often targeted by and other regular payments, and preauthorized fraudsters. According to the Government of Canada, financial abuse of seniors is the most common form of elder abuse in Canada. Those who are isolated are even more at risk.

While powers of attorney and joint bank accounts can help seniors and those who care for them manage and protect their finances, these tools can be abused by people whom seniors have put in positions of trust.

In addition, thieves regularly target seniors with telephone and email scams and fraudulent telemarketing.

One of the easiest ways for all of us to find signs of identity theft and fraud is to order a credit report every year from both of Canada's credit reporting agencies, Equifax and TransUnion. A credit report will show you when someone has opened credit cards and other loans in your name, leaving you responsible to pay them back, with interest.

Seniors can also use direct deposit for pensions

payments for regular bills to reduce the number of banking transactions they need to ask someone else to carry out for them.

Here are some additional tips that all Canadians should follow to prevent fraud and financial abuse:

· Keep your passwords and personal identification number (PIN) to yourself-avoid writing them down.

• If you must write this personal information down, keep it in a secure place, such as a safe or a hiding place. Also try not carry your PINs together with your cards while you are in public. If you must carry your PIN with you, keep it in a pocket or other place separate apart from your cards. That way, if your card is stolen, your PIN won't be with it.

• Be wary of calls or emails asking for personal information. Feel free to hang up on such callers.

• If a caller says they are from your bank, or an-



other financial institution, say you will call back using the number you have on file to verify what the caller is saying.

• Only provide personal information when it is you who has initiated the call to a reputable business.

· For major decisions, get your own legal advice before signing any documents.

• If you think someone may have defrauded you, contact the police, your bank, or your lawyer.



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IREMENT YEAR

7 essentials to include when writing your will

To avoid difficulties in the future, every person is advised to write a will and cover seven essential points, as follows:

• Make sure only one will exists.

• Determine who you want as your executor—the person who will carry out your wishes in settling your estate.

• Carefully plan for your dependents.

• Name a guardian for young children.

• Detail specific monies or gifts to friends, relatives or charities.

• Consider what people or organizations mean a lot to you for the residues of your estate. One's church, a favourite charity, or a favourite organization like Amnesty International, are often on that list.

• Put in writing the details of your funeral arrangements.

With those basics done, you may also want to consider other aspects of this task.

A will, for example, is more than a simple outline of the final distribution of your property and effects. It is an

occasion to plan for the financial support of people and projects that you have actively supported during your lifetime. It can also be the time to finally help those people and groups that you always intended to support but didn't have the resources to do so.

While everyone involved in estate planning agrees with the need to make a will, remember that it is, in fact, your will. Consider your own wishes and feelings. A will is an important document, but if it does not express your wishes, it is not done well. Talk it over. Consider the future. Make a draft. Think again. Your will is probably one of the most important, and personal, documents you will ever prepare.

Laws about will-making and taxes vary from province to province and the specific wording to ensure that your wishes are carried out may require the help of a lawyer. Experts strongly recommend that you seek legal advice when making out your will.

Oral health care for older adults



Dental hygienists remind seniors and their caregivers about the importance of caring for your teeth and mouth to maintain good oral and overall health.

Thanks to healthier lifestyles, as well as advances in oral and medical care, we can expect to keep most, if not all, of our natural teeth as we age. But keeping those teeth healthy can be a challenge. Many medications can cause dry mouth, a condition that can contribute to cavities and other oral problems. Seniors also develop more cavities on the roots of their teeth than younger adults. And, perhaps most worrisome, bacteria from the mouth can travel through the body, resulting in serious infections affecting overall health. All older adults should be encouraged to brush their natural teeth twice a day with fluoride toothpaste and clean in between their teeth at least once a day. Dentures (full or partial) should be cleaned and soaked daily, and the gums should be brushed and massaged, either with a soft toothbrush or with a warm, damp cloth. Whether you're at home or in a longterm care residence, good oral hygiene coupled with regular treatments by a dental hygienist can help to prevent more serious health problems. Together, you can plan a daily oral care routine that will keep your teeth, and you, healthy for life.





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PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

SCCR's Sue Nelson (left) and June Letkeman (right) received a donation of \$3,000 from the Morden Area Foundation's Lynda MacLean last week. The funds are earmarked for skin cancer screening clinics.

MAF funding supports cancer screening clinics

By Lorne Stelmach

The South Central Cancer Resource knows without a doubt its skin cancer project is a valued service in the area.

The screening clinic done with the volunteer services of a Winnipeg dermatologist doesn't yet have a date set for this year, but already has about 30 names on a waiting list.

The clinic is being planned for this year thanks to a \$3,000 grant from the Women's Giving Circle of the Morden Area Foundation.

SCCR program coordinator Norma Hildebrand said they have tried to offer the skin cancer screening clinic at least once a year with the help of Dr. Marni Wiseman.

"She sees up to a hundred people in that one day," she said. "She screens your body and lets you know whether or not you have any skin cancer ... or

you may have some pre-cancerous cells or areas on your body."

"She will treat those pre-cancerous with the liquid nitrogen gun, which was donated from the Women's Giving Circle last year."

Hildebrand noted that they had so far" done six screening days since I've started. She has found at least one potential melanoma in every one of those screening days, so we know it's an important thing. She treats many, many pre-cancerous lesions ... and the earlier that you find it, the better the chance of good treatment."

Hildebrand said they are very grateful to Dr. Wiseman for being so willing to provide her service each year.

"She's very passionate about this program. She wants to continue to offer the same kind of services that you would have in the city."

Many Hands takes on community garden program

By Lorne Stelmach

The community garden program is expanding in Morden as a new organization takes charge of it.

Many Hands Resource Centre is spearheading the community garden now and adding a third site in the northwest corner of the community.

Many Hands director Heather Francis said they jumped at the opportunity to take on the reins because they feel it fits perfectly with their vision of empowering families to improve their quality of life.

"We felt it was a perfect fit," said Francis, who is also a member of city council. "Our whole philosophy is one of encouraging people to become self sustaining and to have that reward of providing for themselves.

"And obviously nothing is healthier for you than fresh produce that you grew yourself."

She said the idea of community gardening not only provides greater access to fresh and healthy produce, but also provides exercise opportunities and encourages connection and cooperation with others.

Morden's community garden has grown in leaps and bounds in recent years.

"I know last year with the two garden plots they actually had to add more plots at the Loren Drive site just to accommodate all the people who wanted to garden," Francis said.

In addition to the sites at Grant Street and Loren Drive, there will be a new site off 19th Street just north

of the Co-op thanks to the support of the Co-op and Triple E, who have donated the use of the land and the necessary topsoil.

"It's definitely been a consideration to try to spread it out as well," said Francis, noting this new garden will be more accessible to Morden residents who live in that area of the city.

Registration for the 2016 community garden takes place on Monday from 7-8:30 p.m. in the Morden Library meeting room (via the rear entrance).

Plots will be \$25 and will be available on a first come, first choice basis. Call 204-823-1678 or email manyhandsrc@ gmail.com for more information.



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Bird release planned for Raptor Fest

By Ashleigh Viveiros

What are your plans for Saturday morning?

If the answer isn't"sleeping in" then you might want to consider taking in the rare natural wonder of a seeing a rescued bird released back into the wild.

The La Riviere Raptor Festival has announced a last-minute addition to its schedule: a second chance at life for a rough-legged hawk that was rescued by the volunteers at the Wildlife Haven Rehabilitation Centre.

The bird will be released on the north side and at the junction of Hwy. 3 and Broadway at 10 a.m. sharp.

Spectators are asked to gather on the turnabout roadway, which should give everyone a good view while still keeping their distance from the likely skittish bird.

Centre director Judy Robertson says an early morning release is preferable since it gives the hawk an entire day to explore its new surroundings and get its bearings, locate food, water and shelter, and reunite with other feathered friends. The hawk was rescued in the Morden area some months ago, so the Pembina Valley should be a familiar habitat for him, Robertson says.

After the bird's release, the festivities will continue at the Blair Morrison Hall until 4 p.m.

The day includes presentations from ornithologist Dr. Christian Artuso, guided birding walking tours, a chance to see several types of birds of prey that call the valley home up close, a photography competition, and much more. Admission is free.

For the full list of events, go to pembina.ca.

This rough-legged hawk will be released back into the wild at the La Riviere Raptor Festival this Saturday.

SUBMITTED PHOTO



City of Morden appeals to election candidates

By Lorne Stelmach

The City of Morden has made up its top ten list of issues and concerns for candidates in the provincial election.

A letter signed by Mayor Ken Wiebe and delivered to the four candidates for the Morden-Winkler riding makes Morden's case on a range of issues related to funding and fairness.

"We just want to bring it to the attention of our local candidates that these are some of the issue that our municipalities face, and we're looking for their support to possibly legislate and change some of these issues," said Wiebe.

The election offers a good opportunity to voice concerns and have them heard, he said, and municipalities want their needs and concerns to be considered before other levels of government make decisions that will impact municipalities.

"We would like to be a real partner with the federal and provincial governments ... and have them talk to us before they do some of these things ... so they know where we stand and what some of our issues will be."

With the federal government making a commitment to a maximum of

50 per cent of funding for major infrastructure projects, the letter calls on the provincial government to commit a further 25 per cent of the funding so that 75 per cent of the total project cost could be covered.

The big ticket item for Morden in conjunction with the City of Winkler and the R.M. of Stanley is a regional waste water treatment project that could cost up to an estimated \$33 million.

In addition, the letter recommends any regulatory changes imposed upon municipalities that come with significant costs should also come with two-thirds of the funding needed to make it happen.

Morden goes on to make its case on a number of other issues and concerns, including asking candidates to:

• Commit to review all legislation relating to municipal governments to ensure they are relevant and provide a level playing field.

• Commit to work with municipalities to revamp the funding formula for municipal governments.

"Out of all the taxation in the country, we end up with about eight per

Continued on page 19



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Pistons force game five

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler Flyers bounced back from a 6-3 defeat on March 29 to retake the lead in their semi-final faceoff against the Steinbach Pistons last Friday, only to then lose out on ending the series on Sunday.

Friday's 3-1 win got underway with a goal from Tristan Keck 10 minutes into the opening frame. That was it for scoring through the next 30 minutes, until Kurt Sonne made it a 2-0 game for Winkler with a point four minutes into the third.

Steinbach got on the board off a power play goal midway through and then yanked their goalie in the dying minutes in a bid to tie, only to watch as Winkler's Nolan McGuire chipped one into the empty net for the Winkler victory.

The two teams were evenly matched in shots—36 for the Pistons, 30 for Winkler—with Winkler's Nathan Warren going the distance in net for the near shutout.

Winkler headed into game four Sunday looking to put an end to the series, which they lead 3-1, but it was to no avail.

Keck once again opened scoring for Winkler, taking advantage of a power play to score just 4:02 into the first.

That was the last time Winkler found the back of the net, while the Pistons—who outshot the Flyers 8-6, 12-4, and 17-12—tied things up in the first, scored two more in the second, and put the final nail in the coffin with a late third period goal for a 4-1 victory.

Warren was in net once again for this rocky game, making 33 saves off of 37 shots.

And so it all came down to game six on Tuesday in Winkler, where a Pistons win would force a game seven on Wednesday, while a Flyers victory would earn the team a seat at the finals against the Portage Terriers.

Portage, who placed first in the regular season with a 52-6-2 record, blanked the Winnipeg Blues in four games straight in their semi-final round.

The Flyers' Nolan McGuire uses his speed and determination to get around Steinbach's Quintin Lisoway to score an empty net goal with 55 seconds left in the April 1 game, sealing the 3-1 win.

PHOTO BY RICK HIEBERT

Rookie rugby starting up

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Winkler Parks and Recreation is trying out a new sport this spring.

The department in partnership with Rugby Manitoba is hosting a Rookie Rugby program for kids ages four to 15 every Saturday morning from April 23 to June 25

"They want to grow their sport," said recreation programmer Jordan Driedger of the provincial rugby association. "It's a new sport out here and a fairly easy one for us to try.

"And I like the idea that it's based on beginners. It's basic skill development, something that someone who has never played rugby before can learn," he added, stressing the morning sessions will focus on physical activity and teamwork.

The program is open to both male and female athletes. Participants will be broken up in to three sessions: Minis from 9:15 to 10 a.m. (born 2010-2012), Flag Rugby from 10-11 a.m. (born 2002-2009), and Tackle Rugby from 11 a.m. to noon (born 2000-2005).

Registration is \$60 or the Minis, \$65 for flag, and \$75 for tackle. You can register your child online at www. rugbymanitoba.com/rookie-rugby-registration or call the Winkler Rec. Department at 204-325-8333 for more information.

Driedger stresses that safety will be paramount when introducing the youth to what is traditionally known as a pretty rough sport.

"You don't have to worry so much about the tackle aspect of the game," he says of two of the sessions, noting the third session will only allow participants to tackle once they've got a good grasp on the basics, including how to tackle safely.

"It's more just the skill development of it all, and if enough people really enjoy it, it may become a competitive thing in the future," says Driedger.



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Winkler's Team Renner—right, from left: Nick Renner, Jaxson Wallace, Logan Wiebe, and Ella Fisher—scored a rare eight-ender at the Tim Hortons Youth Spring Bonspiel last weekend in Winnipeg. The team went on to win the 16 and Under Open Bonspiel at the event and also earned the Fair Play Award for their division. Other Winkler teams at the bonspiel included Team Reece Hamm, Team Hayden Wiebe, and Team Rayna Krahn. Above, from left: Team Hamm's Reece Hamm, John Trinke, Brennan Kezema, Trevor Heide, and coach Conan Kezema won the B-Event in the 13U bonspiel.



Twisters, Hawks extend semi-final series to five

By Lorne Stelmach

The Pembina Valley Twisters were one win away from another chance at the MMJHL championship.

The third ranked Twisters were up three games to one on the second ranked Charleswood Hawks going into game five Tuesday night.

It hadn't come easily, however, as all four games so far had come down to just one goal differentials between these two closely matched teams, with game four Sunday being decided in overtime.

Fraser Mirrlees was the hero in the 36th minute of overtime with his third goal of the playoffs to give Pembina Valley the 6-5 win.

It was a come from behind win as well with the Twisters trailing 4-2 after two and then 5-2 early in the third period before getting three unanswered goals from Tyler Penner, James Van Der Velde and Corey Mazinke.

Jamie van der Linde had one of two powerplay goals for the Twisters and Matthew Hadley had his fifth of the playoffs. Morgan Wall had an outstanding night in net for Pembina Valley, which was outshot 59-47.

In game three Friday, a Twisters comeback fell one goal short as they also trailed 5-2 in the third, but goals by Justin Fernando and Eric Lebrun were all they could manage in falling 5-4.

Hadley and Van der Linde both had first period powerplay goals for Pembina Valley, who were outshot 44-37. Gavin Klassen came in to relieve Wall late in the second and kept the Hawks off the scoresheet in the third with 12 saves.

After having drawn first blood in the series with a 5-4 overtime win in

game one, the Twisters went up two games with a 4-3 victory in game two last Tuesday.

Wall came up with a heroic performance in making 50 saves as Charleswood outshot Pembina Valley 53-34. Wall was called on to make 23 saves in the first period alone.

The Twisters led 2-1 after one on goals by Corey Mazinke and Matthew Hadley then Eric Lebrun scored in the second period, which ended with the game tied at 3-3. Hadley then got the winner with his second of the game and third of the playoffs at 7:38 of the third period.

If the series was extended Tuesday, game six will be in Morris Friday night with a possible game seven back in Winnipeg Sunday night.

The Twisters were aiming to provide the second semi-final upset as the fourth ranked Stonewall Jets completed a four game sweep of the number one ranked Raiders in the league's other series.

> LETTER TO CANDIDATES, FROM PG. 17

cent of the taxes taken in across the country ... yet we own 60 per cent of the infrastructure,"Wiebe explained.

"Funding is always an issue with municipalities because the only source of funding that the City of Morden and other communities have is pretty much just property taxes."

• Commit to exempt or rebate the municipalities for the PST they pay to Manitoba.

"Similar to how the GST is rebated, it is incomprehensible why the government of Manitoba taxes a municipal government since municipalities have to raise our funds from the community via taxes, it is tantamount to raising the PST charges to individuals," the letter stated.

• Ensure recreation will receive infrastructure grants to build new and to refurbish existing infrastructure.

• Consult with municipalities prior to any implementation of legislation, regulation policy, procedure, or significant infrastructure build.

"We are the government closest to the people. We can advise the impact of proposed changes earlier than any bureaucratic think-tank of experts or expensive reports will ever do. It is time for a fair say," the letter said.

• Commit to change legislation to eliminate the mandatory requirement of municipalities with police services to have a separate police board.

• Make a commitment to build a new school in Morden within the first year of this term.

• Remove a commitment to remove the requirement of a 10 per cent contribution from rural communities toward the construction of provincial health and personal care facilities.



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PUZZLED **BY YOUR** YOUNG CHILD'S **BEHAVIOR?** Know the Signs of Autism.

There is no known single cause for autism, but increased awareness and funding can help families. Autism is a developmental disorder that appears in the first 3 years of life, affecting the brain's normal development of social and communication skills. People with autism usually have significant language delays, social and communication challenges, and unusual behaviors and interests. It's estimated that an average of 1 in 110 children in the U.S. today have an Autism Spectrum Disorder, and it is the fastest growing developmental disability. Today, scientists are working to discover the risk factors and raise awareness of the signs. Autism is not curable, but it is treatable. Studies show that

early diagnosis and intervention have a dramatic impact on reducing the symptoms because the youngest brains are the most flexible. Here are some signs that may indicate onset of autism in young children:

- Lack of or delay in spoken language
- Repetitive use of language and/or motor
- mannerisms (ie:hand-flapping, twirling objects) • Little or no eye contact
- Lack of interest in peer relationships

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- Lack of spontaneous or make-believe play
- Persistent fixation on parts of objects

If your child experiences these symptoms, please make an appointment with their pediatrician to discuss your concerns.



April is National Autism Awareness Month

South Central ASD Family Support Group

They bring support and awareness about autism and the autism spectrum to the Pembina Valley and surrounding areas. Their goals include information sharing, education and proactively supporting each other. They welcome ALL family, friends and support workers who are touched by the Autism Spectrum Disorder.

Email: southcentralasd@yahoo.ca Website: http://southcentralasd.blogspot.com/ Contact Name: Dianne 204-822-4587 and Celeste 204-331-3357



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arts&culture

Doc Walker on rising fame, giving back

By Lorne Stelmach

Like many music groups, Doc Walker had inauspicious beginnings as a band.

They came together in the early 1990s through a family reunion in Langruth. Only about 15 at the time, Chris Thorsteinson recalls his mother speaking to one of the organizers who was looking for a band for another event.

"They ended up hiring us ... but we didn't know any songs. We had to spend about two months learning about 40 songs," recalls the lead singer of the group that has gone on to become one of the most recognized Canadian country acts of the past two decades. The group performs in Morden tomorrow, April 8, at the Access Event Centre.

Thorsteinson recalls they started out playing small events like socials then it gradually grew from there.

"It was something that kept us busy on the weekends, and we made a little bit of money," he said, although he noted music had always been a big part of his life.

"I never really remember not singing. I've always played guitar and sang ever since I was really young."

"IT REALLY BECOMES MORE OF A PAYOFF AND MORE SATISFYING FOR US TO BE ABLE TO DO THINGS LIKE THIS."

Eventually, they got into a studio in Winnipeg and did a demo recording, and that's where they started to get more serious about it.

"That's where I really kind of got the bug," said Thorsteinson.

"I think we might have had one song that we wrote and then we did covers of a couple other songs. That's when I really kind of knew that it was going to be something that I really wanted to do."

Since then, Doc Walker has gone on to garner over 20 top ten singles through a career that includes their latest album The 8th.

The group has received multiple Canadian Country Music Awards, including Fans Choice, Group or Duo of the Year, CMT Video of the Year,



Country stars Doc Walker perform a special benefit concert for Donate Love at the Morden Access Event Centre this Friday, April 8.

Single of the Year. and Country Music been in three years. That seems to be Program or Special of the Year. They have also been nominated for several Juno Awards for Country Album of the Year, including a win in 2009 for the album Beautiful Life.

They appreciate the accolades, but Thorsteinson says it's performing and the dedication of their fans that really keeps them going.

The challenge has been to evolve as music has changed, especially now with You Tube and social media, he noted.

"In this day and age, people make it world famous and then will be a hasthe life of an artist now. It's so different than what it used to be," he said. "Basically, you can't give up.

"A lot of other bands ... they seem to tour and build a fan base first ... and I think that's what we did. We just went back and forth across Canada ... for years before we ever got on radio. I think that's the trick.

"It seems the faster you go up, the faster you go down. So I think when it comes to longevity, you've just got to stick with it."

Continued on page 23

AN ARTIST'S LIFE **Overcoming the most common practice hurdles**

one of the most important component of arts instruction. but regular practice time is perhaps the most difficult part of the arts. ful practice

Many students struggle with prac-

ractice time is ticing due to the fact that other activities may be more motivating—they want to do

pick

ment.

in success-



By Candace Hamm

is motivation. Use practice time as a way to earn the other things your student desires, move practice to a time of day that will not conflict with other enjoyable activities, and use practice games and parental interaction as a way to make practice time rewarding.

Another common reason for a lack of practice is a lack of routine. Many parents struggle to help their child complete practice requirements each week, when in fact a habit of

regular practice is the most important factor in successful arts instruction.

If time is an issue, begin by finding a five minute slot in each day that will be set aside for practicing, with no exceptions. Work on creating a habit, and once ready, increase practice time by five minutes a week. While this solution may take more time and mean slower progress at

SMC wraps up 44th season



The Southern Manitoba Concerts series wrapped up its 44th season of shows with the Valley Arts Concert in Gretna last month.

The show featured the Post Road Strings, directed by local Wes Hamm, and members of the Brandon University Orchestra, directed by Leanne Zacharias.

SMC organizer Linda Butler says this year's season, which also included performances from Terry Barber, the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra, and Còig, was a hit, with a few near sell-out shows.

Next year's five-concert 45th season is one they believe "will prove to be our best season to date," says Butler.

Season tickets purchased by May 31 will be sold at this year's prices. Go to southernmanitobaconcerts.org for more information.

Winkler Festival of the Arts starts Monday

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Hundreds of Winkler area music students will take the stage at the P.W. Enns Centennial Concert Hall this month for the annual Winkler Festival of the Arts.

The festival kicks off April 11-15 with the piano sessions, which run daily at 8:45 a.m., 1 p.m., and 6:30 p.m. (though there are no evening sessions on Wednesday and Friday). Friday evening's awards night will run in two sessions: one at 6 p.m. and the other at 7:45 p.m.

Festival director Dorothy Plett says they have over 300 piano entries this year. She hopes the community comes out to enjoy watching these talented young musicians perform.

"It would be really wonderful to have more spectators," she said. "Especially the higher levels of piano, it's often a very small audience. But those are the people who have really persevered and they've really done well with the years of practicing. We wish more people would come enjoy their talents."

Public admission to all festival events is by donation.

The festival continues April 18-20 with the vocal/choral sessions. Sessions run April 18 at 1 p.m. and 6:30 p.m., April 19 at 9 a.m. and 1 p.m., and April 20 at 9 a.m.

There are 24 vocal entries and another 17 choral entries this year.

The festival concludes with the vocal/choral celebration concert on April 20 at 7 p.m. featuring the Winkler Senior Choir, Ray Giesbrecht, and the session's award winners.

The value of the Festival of the Arts to students and teachers can't be overstated, Plett said.

"The experience of preparing something, whether musical or poetic, individual or in a group, and performing in front of peers and professionals, is





Adjudicating this year's Winkler Festival of the Arts sessions is pianist Jane Duerksen (left) and soprano Trish Reimer.

a challenging and hopefully rewarding experience," she said. "It strengthens character and improves skills."

The two sessions are each being judged by a pair of very accomplished musicians: the piano categories by award-winning pianist and piano teacher Jane Duerksen and the choral sessions by soprano soloist and voice instructor Trish Reimer.

The adjudicators' remarks build up students' confidence and also give them something to take home and work on for future performances, Plett said.

The festival would love to expand its scope beyond just piano and vocal/

choral, but they need the manpower to do it.

If you'd like to volunteer to get involved, go to www.winklerfestivalofthearts.com for more information.

That's also the site to check out for a full festival program. Programs are also available for purchase at JB Music or at the door.

Funds raised from program sales and donations at the door go to help keep the festival going.

Plett also sends out her thanks to the event's many sponsors.

"Without the community's support, we could not run an event such as this," she said.

Morden Festival continues

By Lorne Stelmach

The 41st Morden Festival of the Arts is wrapping up in the coming weeks with two final sessions and then the highlights concert finale.

Next up is the vocal and choral sessions that start with vocal Wednesday, April 13 at 9:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. at the Christ Lutheran Church.

The 41 entries cover levels from eight years and under to 16 with solos and duets in a range of musical genres and styles.

The choral session then follows Thursday, April 14 at 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. at École Morden Middle School.

The entries in this division includes the Morden Collegiate junior and senior choir, Vibe, and Sound FX at 9 a.m.; the ÉMMS jazz choir at 11:15 a.m.; the ÉMMS Noon Choir at 1 p.m.; and the ÉMMS Gr. 7 Choir at 1:45 p.m.

Adjudicating this round of sessions is Sarah Hall, a soprano, conductor, and choral musician with masters degrees in vocal pedagogy and musicology and a bachelor's degree in voice performance.

The festival sessions conclude with French and English speech arts April 26-27 at the Morden Alliance Church.

Arline Collins will adjudicate these sessions. She has had a career in the performing arts while also being involved in public education since 1973, including music, voice, and opera. She has been a member of the Vancouver Opera Chorus and had lead roles in opera, operetta, and theatre.



PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE The 24th Street Wailers performed a lively show at the Morden Legion on March 31 as part of their North American spring tour.



Build habits, routines to get kids practising

From Pg. 21

the outset, in the long run, those who build solid routines and practice habits are more successful than those students who fit practice time in whenever they see fit.

Five minutes in a day is easy to create, and a good teacher will be much more pleased with regular practice as opposed to quantity of practice.

A lack of practice can also often be traced back to miscommunication or teaching error by the instructor.

If a child does not understand instructions during the lesson, they cannot be expected to practice effectively, or to enjoy their practice time.

Take time to talk with your student, make sure they know what they were instructed to work on during the week, and if you or they have any questions contact their instructor.

Choose an instructor who is qualified and has studied pedagogy in their particular field. A good instructor will teach your child how to practice effectively, and will both encourage your child and teach them how to receive constructive criticism.

A child who knows how to listen for mistakes and correct them, has been given a clear list of instructions, and is secure in the knowledge that they are capable and are doing well will usually have a much easier time practicing.

In addition, practice can be discouraging if the material given is so easy that boredom sets in, or is overly difficult and discouraging. Be sure that your teacher knows how to select appropriate repertoire for your child.

Lastly, perhaps the most common reason for a lack of practice time is simply that like all other activities, repetition can be tedious. Even the most enjoyable activity can become boring or a chore when a student is required to accomplish that activity every day.

This problem is not limited to arts instruction. Sports, work, exercise, and any other activity can all become difficult to enjoy when they are a mandatory part of the routine. Unfortunately, regular practice time is also essential to progress in any of these activities.

In some cases, asking a student to practice even though they may not feel like it is the only option. Often, this issue may be the point where students and parents consider the idea of quitting, but often students who persevere through this stage become involved with the arts long term as they discover how rewarding the arts can be.

Practice time can be a troublesome concept, but persevering through the more common issues that arise during practice time will produce long term results that will make teachers, students, and parents all happy.

> Reach Candace Hamm at ibcnu@mts.net

> DOC WALKER, FROM PG. 21

music perhaps has survived because it doesn't ride any particular musical bandwagon.

Any genre of music has its trends, said Thorsteinson, pointing out that it was the era of Garth Brooks and Shania Twain when they started.

"Then it went to more of the 'redneck' country with Gretchen Wilson ... and now it's sort of the 'bro' country with Luke Bryan," he suggested.

"Throughout that, there's a few artists who have seemed to carry on through all those genres or fads of music.

"I couldn't imagine playing a certain kind of song ... just to jump on a bandwagon and have to play that the rest of your life," he continued. "I think Doc Walker has always had a unique sound, and

To some degree, he added, their we've done our own thing ... that has really helped with us being able to sort of ride through the times."

> What also keeps him going is just a love of touring and performing.

> "It seems over the years, I've disliked being in the studio more and more," he said.

> "I love writing songs ... it's more about the payoff of being able to play them for the fans though. I've always loved sitting up in front of people and singing songs, getting them to know me and the band a bit better.

"We always want someone to walk out of a show happy and feeling sat-

> MORDEN FESTIVAL, FROM PG. 21

All festival sessions are open to the public. Admission is \$2 per adult and free for children.

The festival wraps up with the Hi-Lites Concert on Sunday, May 1 at 2 isfied."

And Thorsteinson said it's satisfying that their success allows them to give back by having their current tour stops support local causes along the way.

"The older you get ... you start seeing the world in a different way. It really becomes more of a payoff and more satisfying for us to be able to do things like this."

Tomorrow's concert in Morden supports Donate Love.

The show starts at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$50 at the door.

p.m. at the Morden Alliance Church. For more information on the festival, including how you can support it or get involved, go to mordenfestivalofthearts.cfsites.org.

Agriculture Meridian Industries purchases Elias Reliabelt

By Harry Siemens

Morden's Elias Reliabelt has a new owner: Winkler's Meridian Manufacturing.

"We purchased the company called Elias Reliabelt conveyors to augment our lineup of conveyors which we already are producing," says Bernie Thiessen, vice-president of Meridian, which builds storage and handling facilities for producers.

"The ag industry is very dynamic and is changing from day to day," he says. "We felt it was necessary for us to augment our product line to become a more complete storage and handling facility factory."

The two companies have been working together for the last few years already, as Elias Reliabelt has been building crescent belt conveyors under the Meridian brand.

"That went fairly well and Meridian's company president Russ Edwards decided to buy the company," Thiessen said. "Elias Reliabelt is a growing business and build a very well respected conveyor.

"We buy companies that have growth potential," he adds. "We are still, and most likely always will be in a growth mode. We never sit back and say this is good enough. There is never a time when you don't need to go forward, where you don't need to bring about a better product. Our products aren't always the cheapest products, but they are value driven."

With the purchase comes some changes for Reliabelt when it comes to production.

Thiessen says Meridian has facilities throughout Western Canada where they can fit it in, enabling them to provide work for the people that are there.

He notes that with the commodity prices dropping for farmers and oil prices on the downward slide as well, demand for their products has slowed down somewhat from the heights of past years.

"We are in a pretty good position as far as that is concerned. Our inventories are fairly high," he says. "Two years ago, our company was hard pressed to find enough employees to meet the market place then one and half years ago we had enough people, enabling us to meet the demand."

Then the commodity prices fell and Meridian ended with too many employees. Today, Winkler employees share shifts while other facilities have had to lay people off.

"We have a North American market, and with the augers and conveyors, they build in Regina, the market extends into Europe and Australia," says Thiessen. "More of a global marketplace, while still just emerging, in its infant stages at this point, certainly the growth mode is there for us with the auger plant in Regina."

With other manufacturing plants in Alberta, Saskatchewan, Ontario, and Iowa, it gives them a fairly large footprint in the industry.

"It also affects us more when things like the commodity prices go sour on us," he says."We've done quite a bit of work for the oil industry in the past, especially the service tanks, however that died down probably two years ago."

Reliabelt got its start on the farm

By Harry Siemens

The Elias Reliabelt conveyor company recently purchased by Meridian Industries—and now dubbed Meridian Reliabelt—got its start right out on the farm.

Mark Elias and his wife Margaret formed the company together with her father, Henry, over a decade ago.

"Coming from the manufacturing industry, marrying into a farming family where my uncles and my father-in-law were building all kinds products for their own uses on the farm, grain boxes, augers, and belt conveyors," says Mark Elias. "I guess my interest was in pursuing that one step further. So we took the product that they had designed as a high capacity, pinch drive conveyor."

They had a new way of building belt conveyors that gave them a higher capacity than what was normal in the marketplace.

"We have a lot fewer moving parts than other manufacturers have," says Elias. "Our tube design is built so we don't need any cables to stiffen it, a very unique double tube design very much enclosed with seam sealed welds from end to end, other than the intakes where you pour in the grain, making it most water and other weather elements tight."

Elias put in a wider belt than others to increase the capacity without spilling grain or leaving room for contamination. The drive system is a pinched drive system where the belt goes between two rollers.

"The capacity and the drive design is what put our product out in the market place to begin with,"says Elias, who will stay on as the company's manager. "We basically got some orders from local farmers and pursued that to the point where we are today." In 2003, they started building con-

veyors in Henry's converted hog barn, but quickly outgrew that facility.

From there they moved to a 12,000 square foot building on his farm near

Roland and then in 2011 expanded to a leased shop in Winkler as their welding facility, continuing to assemble the finished product on the farm

In 2014 they grew once more with another 12,000 square foot shop in Morden.

Elias says Meridian bought the Morden facility while the shop on his yard is an open-ended lease; Meridian will probably phase out of using it in a year or so.

Elias Reliabelt really focused on

Continued on page 25



PHOTO BY HARRY SIEMENS/VOICE

Mark Elias of Elias Reliabelt, now Meridian Reliabelt, with one of his belt conveyors in their Morden manufacturing shop.

Political leaders slow to weigh in on ag matters



BY HARRY SIEMENS

n April 19, Manitobans go to the polls to elect a new government. Agriculture is such a key component of the province's economy, yet the candidates and party leaders have been very quiet about it so far.

I know that provincial governments have limited ability to really affect the way farmers do things, or provide financial assistance, loan programs, and guarantees.

For that reason I put together a short tweet to my social media followers to get some feedback, first and foremost from the political parties, and secondly from farmers and ag people.

There was good feedback from farmers, but mostly on how ag isn't even mentioned by the provincial political leaders and their candidates.

I digress a little because the new Liberal government in Ottawa had

very little to say about it in their budget recently, too, other than wanting to charge for tax credits, which I happen to think is similar to trying to dress a ghost.

In Manitoba I'd like to hear from party leaders on how they will address the shortage our hog processing plants keep facing because of the NDP's total ban on hog expansion anywhere, period.

Oh yes, there is some chatter about a two lagoon system and a list of regulations as long as my right arm pointing straight up when calling a batter out on strikes. At least there I have three strikes, but the application the hog farmer must fill out to get a permit for the two-lagoon system is more a moving target. It is time for all parties to say what they will do in that regards.

I can remember way back when, as a rookie farm journalist, how much I relied on the Manitoba agricultural representatives to help me out with my programming.

I had a great network of working-

> RELIABELT, FROM PG. 25

what the farmers wanted, Elias said.

"We feel that is what brought us into the industry in the first place. We had a product with higher capacity and better drive system than anything else out there. As we grew and as we started to produce more, we really in-the-field ag reps across this great moisture-wise, how this current province of ours that I could call at a moment's notice, either for a direct quote or a farmer in his area that he would refer to me.

That changed when governments came up with more programs and many of those positions either got cancelled, amalgamated, or filled with pencil pushers.

We need to get the extension services back to where they are actually working more with farmers directly. Oh, I know we still have some good ones that blur that line, but it needs to be a government decision.

To me the whole Bipole III Manitoba Hydro line is not a good thing, especially where they put the line, but even more recently, how farmers had to stand up for their rights to protect bad weeds and even livestock diseases from coming onto their properties because of poor biosecurity by Manitoba Hydro contractors.

We need to hear more from all three political parties on that one, too.

While this spring we're doing okay

tried to make sure we were building what the farmers were asking for."

He gives much credit to the employees because they are such a huge asset to Reliabelt, as are the customers and family and friends that all supported them, too.

government has handled the compensation and politics surrounding man-made floods and damage compensation in the past leave much to be desired, too.

While that affects more than just farmers, I'm also speaking on behalf of people who live in rural Manitoba. Keystone Agricultural Producers recently pointed out that agriculture is, indeed, a major economic driver in

our province, enhancing our economy by \$10 billion annually and creating 62,000 jobs directly and indirectly for Manitobans.

In a recent KAP poll, 89 per cent of Manitobans said they try and purchase food produced in Manitoba as often as they can. Farmers in Manitoba are the source of that local, safe food. It's grown or raised here, processed in the province, and available at affordable prices.

Wow, that is why I serve this basic industry: farming and agriculture, a renewable resource.

"I really want to carry on this passion that we have, first of all building a good belt conveyor that the demand is asking for, and continuing the relationship with our employees and customers," Elias says.

Grifts win PVCD 2016 Conservation Award

By Lorne Stelmach

At Windy Lake Farm, the land is treated as a precious resource.

Conservation and proper land use are very important to Andrew and Corinne Grift, so they use sustainable practices that have earned them the honour of the Pembina Valley Conservation District 2016 Conservation Award.

Named in memory of Mike Cabernel, the award is presented each year to recognize an individual, organization, family or business who actively promotes wise farm management and conservation practices.

Andrew Grift said the recognition is a reaffirmation for what they are doing with their farming operation.

He said it is not just because it is the right thing to do, but they are also seeing the reward and financial payoff including significant cost savings.

"We're working with the land, with mother nature," he said. "Instead of always reaping, we're sowing back into her. We're working with her rather than against her."

Located in the Swan Lake area, Windy Lake Farm is includes a 75 cow calf herd, free range Berkshire hogs, free range chickens and sheep on 600 acres.

They moved to the 80-acre plot of grazing land with a tree-lined marshy pond in the spring of 1989.

They started raising Yorkshire-Landres pigs and Simmental-Angus cows in their first year, establishing some make-shift pens outside as there was no barn.

The couple set to work establishing their new home, including the barn and the house they now live in which Andrew built using 100-yearold lumber from old buildings that



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Pembina Valley Conservation District chair Murray Seymour and Cabernel family representative Linda Van Deynze recently presented the PVCD 2016 Conservation Award to Andrew and Corinne Grift.

The

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> PVCD, FROM PG. 25

he, his father, and brother tore down. The following spring they purchased their first four cows and built their herd from there.

For years, they grazed their cattle conventionally and were feeding cows early in the fall using up all of their winter rations early.

Then, in 2007, the Grifts were able to take a holistic management course which they credit for improving their farm's sustainability.

They began rotational grazing practices giving their pastures ideally 60 to 65 days of rest. Each paddock is five to seven acres, and the cow/ calf pairs are allowed to graze five to seven days before moving to another paddock. This gives the area time to recover before it is grazed again.

They have increased their herd size to 50 and cattle are able to graze well into October on 130 acres of pasture divided into 15 paddocks. Then the cows bale graze on the pastures to further fertilize and add bio mass to the soil.

The Grift's animals are being used as tools to increase the fertility and carrying capacity of the pastures. And plants provide a root system that reaches for moisture and nutrients. Moisture then is retained because the soil acts like a sponge rather than it running off.

The farm is located near low land areas which are sensitive. The area around the lake has been fenced off from the cows to protect it, but they have found foxtail is becoming a problem.

However, in another low area hay grazed the cattle and have found with timely grazing, the cattle can control the foxtail. So they decided to try putting the sheep on the lake front to control the foxtail since their hoof action is not as detrimental to the area as the cows.

The chickens are controlling the growth of weeds in the yard as well

by adding nutrients to boost the growth of the grass so weeds have difficulty competing.

The Grifts had tried their hand at organic production but have since let their certification go. They do however continue to use organic practices and what they have learned to improve the land.

Alfalfa is turned under as green manure rather than spraying it out, which is a healthy alternative to sprays and over use of fertilizer.

It's become very much a family passion, as their son Joshua is wanting to farm and starting a herd of his own, so they are rent pasture and hay land as well for his herd.

The Grifts' have also been selling their meat products at Farmers Markets, through the Harvest Moon Local Food Initiative and farm gate sales.

Grift says he believes more producers are becoming more aware of the benefits of these kinds of conservation practices.

"It's a different way of thinking," he said. "Especially with the animals, the cattle, maybe not so much with the grain farming. With the animals, it works better for them.

"And we find people are starting to tune in more and are more aware."

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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!				 42. Forms over a cut 43. Performer Lo Green 44. Pressed against 45. An alternative 46. 5th note of a major scale 47. Tell on 48. Patti Hearst's captors 49. Breaks apart 52. Russian country house 	2. River in Norway35. Just a lit3. Long poem36. Small, s4. Cygnus star37. Founder5 fi (slang)38. Father6. Known for its canal40. Blue Hei7. A citizen of Iran41. Satisfies8. Inhabited43. Police o9. Midway between south and southeast44. Digital a							spotted cubes r of Babism en State is sflicer													
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NOTICES

Christ rose from the dead on the first day of the week as well as appeared to His disciples on the first day of the week. In Acts 2 we read of the outpouring of the Holv Spirit which as well took place on the first day of the week. In this way Christ, being Lord of the Sabbath. transferred the Sabbath from the seventh to the first day of the week. www.

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COMING EVENTS

COFFEE WITH CAMERON FRIESEN CANDIDATE FOR MORDEN-WINKLER Thursdays • 3-4 PM at the Campaign Office Unit 2A - 915 • Navigator Road, Winkler beside Delmar Commodities Progressive Conservative Authorized by official agent of the Cameron Friesen Campaign NOTICES **R.M. of ROLAND PUBLIC NOTICE** -**2016 FINANCIAL PLAN** The Council of the R.M. of Roland will hold a Public Hearing to present the 2016 Financial Plan: Wednesday April 20, 2016 • 7:00 p.m. Council Chambers, **Roland Memorial Hall** Interested persons may make representation, ask questions, or register an objection to the Plan. Copies of the Financial

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PUCTIO





• 2013 CaseIH 9230 AFS Combine w/CaseIH 3016 Pick Up Header, Long Auger, 900/75R32 Rubber, Deluxe Cab with Heated Seat, AFS Pro 700 Monitor, 502 Thrashing Hrs Showing & 666 Eng Hrs Showing, Power Folding Hopper Extension, Field Ready, s/n217455 2004 JD 9860 STS Combine w/JD 914P Pickup, Folding Hopper Extensions, 1879 Thrashing Hrs Showing, 2744 Engine Hrs Showing, Yield & Moisture Monitors, Green Star Ready, 800/65R32 Rubber, Chaff Spreader, Long Auger, Combine will be Green Lighted, s/nS706037 • 2008 New Holland H8040 SP Swather w/30' New Holland Header, Pick Up Reels, Air Ride, 1456 Eng Hrs Showing, 3075 Total Acres Cut, s/nY8G661073 2013 35' CaseIH 2162 Flex Straight Cut Header w/Pickup Reel, Self-Transport, s/nYDZN36168 • 2010 35' JD 635F Hydra Flex Straight Cut Header w/

Crary CWS Air Reel, Pick up Reel, For/After, s/n736173 • 1994 30' NH 971 Straight Cut Header w/UII Pick up Reel s/n576024 Auger — fits JD 636 Draper Header (Used for Straight)

Cutting Canola) 8' Poly Swath Roller

- 8" Blanchard Metal Swath Roller
- Bean Concaves for JD 9860
- Bean Concaves for CaselH 9230

 Labtronics 919 Moisture Tester w/Scale **INDUSTRIAL:**

• Case 721E Wheel Loader w/4yd Bucket, 2 aux Hyd to Loader, 20.5-25 Rubber, 6640Hrs Showing, s/nN7F202706

 JD 270LC EX18 Track Excavator w/40" Toothed Bucket, Thumb, 65" Smooth Clean up Bucket, 32" Tracks, Under Carriage, 65% - 70%, Hyd Quick Attach Bucket, 21,103Hrs Showing, s/nFF0270X070397

 Hitachi EX200 Track Excavator w/48" Toothed Bucket, Thumb, 32" Tracks, Recent Engine over haul, 5227Hrs Showing, s/nAUE2217

• CAT 80 Fully Hyd Scraper w/Push-off, 26.5-25 Front Rubber, 29.5-29 Rear, s/nNA

TRUCKS:

 2007 Freightliner Columbia T/A Grain Truck w/21' Loadline B&H, Roll Tarp, Rear Hoist Controls, 450HP Mercedes Benz Eng, Smart Shift Auto Trans, 22.5 Rubber, 1,166,685 Kms Showing, VIN# 1FUJA6CV07LW86991, SAFETIED

 2000 Western Star T/A Grain Truck w/20' Loadline B&H, Roll Tarp, Hoist Controls at Rear, Pintle Hitch, 430HP, Detroit Series 60 Engine, 13 Spd Eaton Trans, 24.5 Rubber, 1,182,157 Kms Showing, VIN# 2WKPDDXH5YK962814, SAFETIED

 2011 Dodge Ram 3500 SLT Laramie Crew Cab Dually 4 x 4 w/9.5' Flat Deck, Head Ache Rack, 5th Wheel Hitch, Fully Loaded w/Leather Interior, Cummins DSL Engine, Auto Trans, 71,081Kms showing, VIN#

3D6WZ4CL3BG580561, SAFETIED 2007 Dodge Ram 3500 SLT Laramie Quad Cab Dually 4 x 4 w/9' Aluminum Flat Deck, Headache Rack, Fully Loaded w/Leather Interior, Cummins Turbo DSL Eng, Auto Trans, 134,042Kms Showing, VIN#

3D6WH48A17G731446, SAFETIED • 1992 Dodge Power Ram 250 4x4 Ext Cab w/9' Flat Deck, Headache Rack, Cummins Turbo DSL Eng, Auto Trans (NO TOD — FARM USE ONLY)

1979 Chev C70 Tag Axle Truck w/18' B&H, 366 V8
 Gas Eng, 5+2 Trans (NO TOD – FARM USE ONLY)
 1974 Ford 600 S/A Truck w/15' B&H, 4+2 Trans, V8

Gas (NO TOD-FARM USE ONLY)

- 10' Truck Flat Deck w/Hoist, Headache Rack (Mounts
- on Truck NEEDS decking) 5th Wheel Hitch w/Mount Plate

TRAILERS:

• 2006 37' Tarnel 5th Wheel Flat Deck w/Tandem Duals, Beaver Tails, Ramps, Wood Deck, ST235/80R16 Rubber, VIN# 5PYAT172161004122 • 1992 20' Norbert's T/A 5th Wheel Stock Trailer w/ Single Partition, Front Man Door, VIN# 2N9C75722M6017482

For more information contact: CLIFF SEWARD 204-242-0077 OR LES FUNK 204-242-4323 THIS IS JUST A PARTIAL LISTING, for complete listing visit www.fraserauction.com

• Mid 80's Arnes 70-ton, t/a lowbed equipment trailer w/beaver tails, extended to 10' width excellent deck, neck extension for more bucket space, Safetied

MUINE

BIDDING

SEED & TILLAGE:

• 2015 **NEW NEVER USED** 90' Elmers Super 7 Heavy Harrows w/7 Bar Harrows, Light Kit, Hyd Tilt, s/nH\$790015543

• 2015 **NEW NEVER USED** 90' Elmers Super 7 Heavy Harrows w/7 Bar Harrows, Light Kit, Hyd Tilt, s/nH\$790015469

- 70' Summers Heavy Harrows, s/nX0123
- 60' Summers Super Chisel Tillage w/3 Bar Summers
- Harrows, 12" Spacing, Tank Hitch, Light Kit, s/nI0658 2013 Rite-Way RR900ST Hyd Drive Rotary Stone Picker w/16.5L16.1 Rubber, Rock Apron, s/n13-1379 (ONLY Used 2 Springs)

• 1998 John Deere 1780 16/31 split row Drawbar style corn planter w/240 Valmar fo infurrow inoculation, Zero till disks, Markers, corn and soybean plates

- Rock-O-Matic Hyd Drive Rotary Stone Picker
- 20' Massey Ferguson 40 Offset Disk w/Smooth Blades, s/n1618001998

Lloyd's 12" PTO Water Pump w/540 PTO,

s/n81-0183-12RE100

• New & Used Cult Shovels

GRAIN HANDLING:

• Westfield MKX130-114 (13"x114') PTO Swing Hopper Auger w/Reversing Gear Box, Dbl Hopper Augers, Hyd Hopper Mover, 1000 PTO, s/n2Y5880 (Only Used 2 Seasons)

- buhler/farm king 16"x104' PTO Swing Hopper Auger
- w/Reversing Gear Box, 1000 PTO, Dbl Hopper Augers, Hyd Hopper Mover s/nN/A (Only Used 2 Seasons) 10"x60' Farm King PTO Swing Hopper Auger w/540
- PTO, Hyd Swing Auger Drive, s/n8171207
- BH 10"x41' Wheatheart Auger w/Mover Kit, 36HP
- Kohler Engine, s/nWH8586 (Used 2 Seasons)

• REM 2500 Grain Vac w/1000 PTO, 307Hrs Showing, s/n8282

- (3) Edwards Grain Guard Aeration Fans 7HP 1PH
- s/n's (1) 200417274, (2) 200417277, (3) 200517062
- Poly Auger Hoppers

HOPPER BOTTOM BINS:

• (3) 5000 Bus Meridian Hopper Bottom Bins w/Aeration Floor, s/n's (1) W03345, (2) W03412, (3) W05628

- Approx 2500 Bus Behlen Hopper Bottom Bin
 (2) Approx 2000 Bus Friesen Hopper Bottom Bins
- (2) Approx 1800 Bus Behlen Hopper Bottom Bins • Approx 750 Bus Behlen Hopper Bottom Feed Bin
- Approx 500 Bus Hopper Bottom Feed Bin



AAC Licensed and bonded, P.L. License #

Brandon, MB | **204.727.2001** | F: 204.729.9912 www.fraserauction.com | office@fraserauction.com



Elizabeth (Betty) Hiebert (nee Olfert) 1928 - 2016

Betty Hiebert passed away peacefully on Good Friday, March 25, 2016 at Salem Home. She was predeceased by her son, Don and by her husband, Henry Hiebert.

Betty's compassionate, exuberant and joyful spirit will be lovingly missed and remembered by her son, Jim (Darlene) Hiebert, their children, Robyn (Martin Schwebe), Bryan (Linda) and grandchildren, Hannah and Clara, her daughter, Kathy "Kate" (James) Kroeker, their children, Dustin (Megan), Tabitha, Rachel, and grandchildren, Henry, Charlie and Milika, her daughter-in-law, Linda Hiebert, her children, Donovan, Nathan, Timothy, TJ (Carolyn Reimer) and grandchildren, Kacie and Simon.

A service to honour Betty and celebrate her life was held in the Fellowship Hall of the Winkler Bergthaler Mennonite Church at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 30, 2016 with interment prior to the service at Westridge Memorial Gardens.

OBITUARY

If friends so desire, donations may be made in Betty's memory to Salem Home Foundation Inc. where she received kind and excellent care.

OBITUARY

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





Matthew Walter Suderman

1983 - 2016

On Saturday, March 19, 2016 at his residence in Olds, AB, Matt Suderman aged 33 years passed away unexpectedly.

He leaves to mourn his passing his parents, Garry and Patti Suderman; one sister, Katie and Josiah Wiebe; two brothers, Cam and Brett as well as his grandfathers, Peter Suderman and Walter Baran.

Memorial service was held at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 29, 2016 at Winkler Bergthaler Mennonite Church with interment prior to the service at Westridge Memorial Gardens.

If friends so desire, donations may be made in Matt's memory to the Grace Mennonite Church – (Sandwich Ministry in memo).

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





Aganeta Wiebe (nee Wiebe) 1959 - 2016

On Friday, March 25, 2016 at Boundary Trails Health Centre, Aganeta Wiebe aged 57 years of Reinfeld, MB.

She leaves to mourn her passing her husband, David Wiebe; two daughters, Justina and Wilhelm Enns, Helena and Heinrich Wiebe; four sons, Peter and Katharina, David and Margaretha, Jacob and Tina, Franz and Annie and 15 grandchildren as well as six sisters, one brother and their families.

Funeral service was held at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 30, 2016 at the Reinland Mennonite Church in Winkler with interment at the Church Cemetery in Schanzenfeld.

If friends so desire, donations may be made in Aganeta's memory to Cancer Care Manitoba.

A big thank you from husband, David and family to Dr. Jackson and all the Boundary Trails nurses and staff. God bless you all.

OBITUARY

OBITUARY

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



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OBITUARY



Frieda Janzen (nee Penner) 1940 - 2016

On Wednesday, March 30, 2016 at her residence in Schanzenfeld, MB Frieda Janzen aged 75 years formerly of Russia and Germany went to her heavenly home.

She leaves to mourn her passing her husband, Jacob; three daughters, Katharina and Peter Penner, Lidia Janzen, Olga and Alexander Loewen; one son, Johann and Helene Janzen as well as 10 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. She was predeceased by her parents, Martin and Elizabeth Penner; one grandson, Julian Penner; three sisters and three brothers.

Funeral service was held at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, April 3, 2016 at Evangelical Mennonite Brethren Church in Reinfeld with interment at Westridge Memorial Gardens.

The family would like to thank Dr. Woelk, Dr, Caswill, the staff members at Dr. C.W. Wiebe Medical Clinic, Boundary Trails Health Centre and Home Care as well as Wiebe Funeral Home. Also a special thank you to all our friends for your kindness shown in thought, prayer and deed. The Family.

OBITUARY

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





Martin Wall 1944 - 2016

Our loving grandfather, father, and husband, Martin Wall of Winkler, MB passed away on Tuesday March 22, 2016 at Boundary Trails Health Centre with family by his side at the age of 71 years.

Susan, his wife for 49 years, his son, Jacob, his daughter-in-law, Margaret and his grandchildren, Amanda, Dustin and Tanisha will dearly miss Martin, as well as his brothers and sisters. Martin was predeceased by his parents; five older siblings, John, Jake, Tina, Mary and Henry and by three children who died at infancy.

Martin was born on October 3, 1944 in Mexico, Martin was the second youngest of 11 children born to Jacob and Katharina Wall. Martin and Susan were married on July 30, 1966. They had their son, Jacob on April 1, 1968. They lived together in Belize before

relocating to Canada in 1978. Martin accepted Jesus as his personal Lord and Saviour as a teenager and was baptized on May 17, 1964 at the Old Colony Church in Belize. For work, Martin moved houses, helped in the meat shop and worked at Monarch Industries for 27 years. He enjoyed repairing miscellaneous equipment and motors, fishing, going for coffee with friends in his spare time and had a love for animals. In the last couple of years made many trips to the scrap yard. He was known for his pranks and loved to spend time with his family and friends. He always helped his family however he could.

Funeral service was held on Friday, March 26, 2016 at Zion Mennonite Church with interment at the Church Cemetery.

The family wishes to express a special thank you to the staff at Boundary Trails Health Centre for their loving care, and to family and friends for all of their love and support.

If friends so desire, donations may be made in Martin's memory to the Canadian Diabetes Association.

Grandpa, you will be lovingly remembered and greatly missed. We will always love you. We mourn; but not as those that have no hope, for we are awaiting a blessed reunion on that great and blessed resurrection morning. (2 Timothy 4:7-8).

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







Peter Rempel, 79, of Morden, MB peacefully passed away Thursday, March 31, 2016 at Boundary Trails Health Centre. Pete is survived by his beloved wife, Ann as well as his children,

grandchildren and extended family. He was predeceased by his first wife, Elfrieda (nee Friesen) in 1993.

Memorial service was held at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, April 7, 2016 at Winkler Bergthaler Mennonite Church with a private family interment prior to the service at Winkler Cemetery.

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In care of arrangements wiebefuneralhomes.com



Mary Unrau (nee Friesen)

1930 - 2016

On Thursday, March 24, 2016 at Boundary Trails Health Centre, Mary Unrau, aged 85 years of Morden, MB passed away peacefully. She leaves to mourn her passing her husband of 63 years, Diedrich; two daughters, Anne and Ernie Funk, Mary Unrau; two sons, Peter Unrau, Diedrich and Tina Unrau as well as 11 grandchildren, 12 great-grandchildren and one sister. She was predeceased by one brother.

A private service was held at Wiebe Funeral Chapel in Morden with interment at Hillside Cemetery.

Wiebe Funeral Chapel, Morden

If friends so desire, donations may be made in Mary's memory to the Heart & Stroke Foundation of Manitoba.

