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Voice

VOLUME 9 EDITION 50

THURSDAY,
DECEMBER 13, 2018

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Rolanda Heinrichs and Tina Wiebe of TiAnna's Café with some of the goodies they've collected in recent weeks for Genesis House, a cause Heinrichs says is close to their hearts. TiAnna's is accepting donations of toys, toiletries, and non-perishable food items for the women's shelter until month's end. The Winkler restaurant is also donating proceeds from the sale of every slice of winter sangria cake sold to the shelter as part of their Cakes for Cause program, in addition to the funds raised from the second annual Jingle for Genesis House craft sale held last weekend.

news > sports > opinion > community > people > entertainment > events > classifieds > careers > everything you need to know

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The Villages welcome first tenants at Buhler Active Living Centre

Second floor community housing offering personalized daily care

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Two years after Buhler Active Living Centre opened its doors in downtown Winkler, its second floor of specialized seniors housing is finally welcoming its first tenants.

The facility has teamed up with Silver Lining Care to oversee the 24-unit floor, which offers a community housing experience.

Tenants of what's been dubbed The Villages will lease their own private bedroom with en suite washroom and share kitchen, dining, and living, and outdoor rooftop terrace spaces with 12 other residents (creating The Villages East and West communities).

The floor will include 24-hour on-site daily living support from Silver Lining Care, in addition to laundry, cleaning, and meal services.

It's what's known as the small house concept of care, giving residents who need day-to-day assistance a more home-based living experience, explains Carolyn Peters, president and

CEO of Silver Lining Care.

"The Villages is built on Buhler Active Living Centre's concept of 'Where you come to live,'" she said. "This is the place for families to truly live and to enjoy life on their terms, to be the author of their own life. Our role as Silver Lining Care is to find out what does that good day look like and to have that happen through individualized plans of care."

Peters' foray into home care started when her own mother needed it. They eventually opted for a family-managed program, wherein families receive funding from the regional health authority to secure care for a loved one instead of relying on the public home care system.

"It's a great partnership that worked really, really well for our family and we realized more people needed to hear about this and have the opportunity to have that type of personalized care," Peters said. "That is where Silver Lining Care began."

Over the past three years, Peters'



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Guests tour the kitchen/dining space at The Villages on the second floor of the Buhler Active Living Centre. Tenants will lease a private bedroom with en suite washroom and then share several communal living spaces with other residents.

team has provided in-home care to clients across southern Manitoba.

The opportunity to bring those services now to The Villages is a new and exciting step for the company.

"When I first had a tour of the sec-

ond floor I was so excited. Here was what I've really been dreaming of," Peters said.

Continued on page 3



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> THE VILLAGES, FROM PG. 2

The Villages trades the feel of institutionalized care for a true home, she said, but one with trained caregivers—health care aides and nurses—there at all times to lend a helping hand.

“This is their home ... so that means you get to get up when you want, go to bed when you want, provide input with what the meal is going to be.”

Another unique service the space will provide is daily reporting to families.

“Each family will receive a report after every shift to know how their loved one is doing,” Peters said, explaining that will include the day’s activities and any health care issues that may arise, ensuring distance is no barrier to families being able to stay informed about their loved ones’ well-being.

Tenants will pay \$1,550 a month for

rent and meals. Personalized assessments for each resident will be done to determine the level of care they require and the costs associated with it. Those costs are covered in part (and, in some cases, in full, depending on assessed need) by funding from the regional health authority.

Every case is different, Peters stressed, urging individuals or families interested in learning more or receiving a free, no obligation assessment to contact her for details (204-346-2988).

“IT IS SUCH A RELIEF”

The Villages saw its first tenants move in this past week.

After years of development, it’s gratifying to see the floor finally come to life, said Buhler Active Living Centre board chair George Klassen.

“It is such a relief to know that now

“WHEN YOU’RE IN THAT PART OF YOUR LIFE, YOU WANT TO BE TAKEN CARE OF ... AND THAT’S JUST WHAT THEY’RE GOING TO DO.”

we’re there where we wanted to be a couple of years ago,” he said. “Especially the professional people we have coming to run the services on that floor.

“When you come to live here, when you’re in that part of your life, you want to be taken care of ... and that’s just what they’re going to do. It’s just awesome.”

There are a handful of tenants slated to move in right now and Klassen is confident more will be calling The Villages home in the months to come.

“The word is starting to get around,” he said.

For more information, contact Peters at the number above or, for a tour of the floor, call centre executive director Mike Chute at 204-331-4646.



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

The Villages will offer residents a more homey care experience, says Carolyn Peters of Silver Lining Care, which will staff the 24-unit space with caregivers 24/7.

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Special O thank Morden Police for their support

By Lorne Stelmach

The Morden Police Service was honoured for its involvement with Special Olympics Manitoba at the Manitoba Chiefs of Police meeting in Winnipeg Nov. 22.

President and CEO of Special Olympics Manitoba Jennifer Campbell made the presentation to Chief Brad Neduzak in recognition of the police service's contributions.

Over the past several years, the department has raised significant funds in support of Special Olympics through events such as the Morden Police Officer's Community Ball, Law Enforcement Torch Run, and the upcoming Polar Plunge.

Neduzak last week particularly

cited Cst. Scott Edwards for the honour, as Edwards has not only been instrumental in the torch run and polar plunge but is also on the provincial executive committee for Special Olympics Manitoba.

Edwards heads up many of the events within the community and surrounding areas and has been a great ambassador for Special Olympics, Neduzak said.

Edwards, meanwhile, simply sees it as a good partnership.

"They always have a lot of respect and admiration for law enforcement and vice versa ... these are people that don't always necessarily have the means to get involved in extra curricular things like this," said Edwards, whose involvement goes back a ways.

"I've been involved with athletes for a number of years now," he said. "I was involved with Special Olympics back in high school and throughout my early adulthood ... playing junior



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Morden police Chief Brad Neduzak (right) and Cst. Scott Edwards with the award the department received from Special Olympics Manitoba in recognition of the work they've done in support of the agency.

hockey, we were always involved with Special Olympics athletes.

"The opportunity came forward to take part and join in the law enforcement torch run here in Morden ... it seemed like a natural fit for myself," Edwards continued. "I've enjoyed the last five or six years that we've kind of taken more involvement in the region.

"A few years ago we did a police ball in support of Special Olympics ... and it was very successful. And then we got more involved in hosting the Po-

lar Plunge, which has kind of become the staple event for Manitoba Law Enforcement Torch Run."

Planning is now underway for the fourth annual Polar Plunge Feb. 16 in conjunction with the Morden Winterfest, and Edwards hopes the event dubbed "Freezin' for a Reason" can keep growing.

"Our three previous, we've had a lot of success. We raised over \$70,000," he noted.

He is, however, hoping to see the level of participation increase.

"We've had a lot of success, but our numbers have kind of hit a plateau," Edwards said. "We are hoping to get to 50 plungers this year. That's one of

Continued on page 6



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Winkler museum enjoys an Old Tyme Christmas

The Winkler Heritage Mu-

seum hosted its annual Old Tyme Christmas Nov. 6, featuring music, stories, and snacks. Melanie Wiens (above) and Hank Hildebrand (right) led the audience in Christmas carols. Helen Riemer (far left) and Marg Hildebrand shared stories and readings to highlight the meaning of the season.

PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE



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Chamber hosts holiday mixer

Morden and District Chamber of Commerce members gathered at Morden Physiotherapy Thursday to celebrate the Christmas season. It is part of the Business After Hours initiative of the chamber that offers members the opportunity to mingle and network with other business people in the community with food and drinks, and Morden Physiotherapy also used the opportunity to announce plans to expand to Winkler (see Pg. 24).

PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Brave participants needed for '19 Polar Plunge

From Pg. 4

the goals we set out. We did that the first year, but the

last few years we've had around 30, 35, so we're hoping to get to 50.

"Obviously, we'd love to raise more than we did last year ... but I think if we can focus on trying to get participation up, then the two go hand in hand."

Anyone interested in participating or supporting the polar plunge can find more information online at www.plungemanitoba.com.

The support goes a long way in helping the more than 1,800 Special O athletes from all across Manitoba compete in sports, noted Edwards.

"This region has really supported the events, and it's obviously helping assist our central region athletes as well. A lot of the funds stay local," he said. "Last year was a great time for everyone who participated. It is an amazing way to support local Special Olympics Manitoba athletes."

II

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Work underway on Morden's first retail marijuana store

By Lorne Stelmach

One of the nation's largest retailers of cannabis is setting up shop in Morden.

Renovations are underway in part of the North Railway St. downtown strip mall for a Meta Cannabis Supply outlet owned by National Access Cannabis Corp.

Representatives of the company could not be reached for comment at press time, but the building permit posted in the front window of the long vacant space reveals the plans.

National Access Cannabis Corp. bills itself as a leader in delivering secure, safe, and responsible access to legal cannabis in Canada. It so far has 14 NewLeaf Cannabis retail stores in Alberta and five Meta Cannabis Supply Co. stores in Manitoba, including three in Winnipeg.

The company states on its website that it is already the largest private cannabis retailer in Canada by store count and that by month's end it expects to be larger by store count than any other public or private operator.

It further states that it achieved \$3 million in cumulative sales in its first 43 days of retail operation and \$3.95 million in its first 50 days.

The provincial government had awarded National Access Cannabis permission to operate 10 privately owned retail cannabis stores as well as an e-commerce platform in Manitoba, including a planned four stores in Winnipeg, one in Brandon, and five in smaller Manitoba municipalities.

The company also continues to develop its retail strategy to open cannabis retail locations in partnership with five Manitoban Indigenous First Nations.

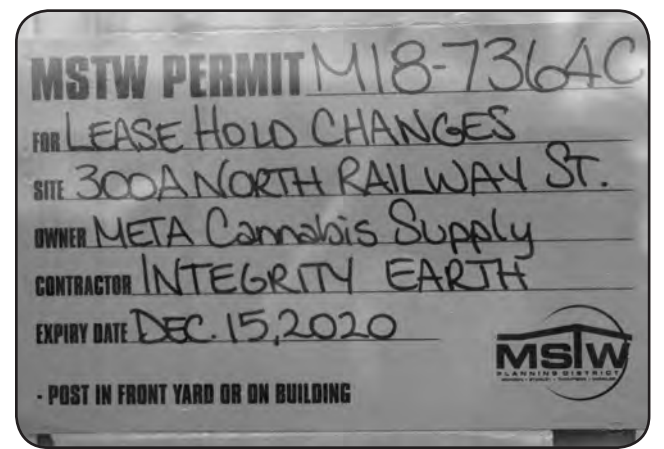
"We are excited about NAC's future in Manitoba's recreational cannabis market, and I look forward to providing updates as we work with the regulators to be awarded additional locations," company CEO Mark Goliger said in a Dec. 6 news release.

"With NAC's history operating nationwide cannabis-focused medical clinics, close First Nations and licensed producer relationships, and our strong consideration for safety, security and harm reduction, NAC is well positioned to provide recreational customers with special in-store experiences in an environment where education and access to quality products with a range of options and pricing are our top priorities."



PHOTOS BY
LORNE STELMACH/
VOICE

Work is well underway on Morden's first retail marijuana store, located in the strip mall on North Railway St.



Donations pour in for Genesis House's Power of PJs campaign

By Ashleigh Viveiros

There will certainly be no shortage of comfy pyjamas at Genesis House this Christmas.

The women's shelter's annual Power of PJs campaign was a resounding success last month, with 189 sets of brand new PJs for women and children coming into the donation boxes at South Central Regional Library branches in Winkler, Morden, Altona, Miami, and Manitou.

"It's unbelievable," said executive director Ang Braun, who noted that though the drop-off boxes were picked up at the end of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, generous supporters have been contacting Genesis House directly to make donations well into December. "One lady ordered 24 pairs of pyjamas on-

line and had them sent to us. It's been amazing."

And the pyjamas were just the tip of the iceberg—the boxes were also filled with other necessities such as baby supplies and toiletries.

"We can use it all," Braun said, thanking each and every donor for their support.

Last month also saw several local hockey teams don Peace Begins at Home jerseys to raise awareness about domestic violence in our community.

Braun said those games were a great opportunity for Genesis House volunteers to chat with people about an issue that most often stays in the shadows.

"They did have some very good conversations with people," she said. "It was very well-received."



Holiday Schedule

The Winkler Morden Voice

December 20th	Regular Paper Deadline – Mon., Dec. 17th, 4 pm
December 27th	Display Ads, Classified Ads or Announcements EARLY Deadline – Mon., Dec. 17th, 4 pm
January 3rd	Year in Review Display Ads, Classified Ads or Announcements EARLY Deadline – Tues., Dec. 18th, 4 pm Offices will be closed December 22nd through January 1st. Offices will reopen Wednesday, January 2nd



Happy Holidays!

The *Winkler Morden*
Voice



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Winkler Morden Voice

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getheard

EDITORIAL > VIEWPOINTS > LETTERS

Become like little children

With the recent deaths of Marvel Comics founder Stan Lee and *SpongeBob SquarePants* creator Steven Hillenburg, the child and the child-like have taken a pretty big hit in the past month.

As a kid, comics were a part of my life. My all-time favorite was forever Spider-Man, but Ghost Rider, Richie Rich, Archie, Daredevil, and many more kept me company as well.

Cartoons like Bugs Bunny (still the greatest cartoon of all time), Scooby-Doo, ThunderCats, He-Man and early anime classics like Gatchaman (G-Force) were after-school and Saturday morning staples.

It is fair to say I am still a pretty enthusiastic cartoon and animation fan. I love stories for children and am a child at heart. I cannot deny these things.

So of course it was annoying to hear that Bill Maher, Libertarian talking

head and star of the 1989 movie *Cannibal Women in the Avocado Jungle of Death* (it's true—look it up), had a few unkind things to say about comics and their value.

"I don't think it's a huge stretch to suggest that Donald Trump could only get elected in a country that thinks comic books are important," said Maher.

Ouch.

Clearly Maher has never been to Comic Con because one survey of the room will tell you there are not a lot of Trump voters to be found.

He introduced his comments with a jab at Lee's legacy:

"The guy who created Spider-Man and the Hulk has died and America is in mourning," Maher said. "Deep, deep mourning for a man who inspired millions to, I don't know, watch a movie, I guess."

While Maher may have a point about simplistic and infantile thinking sweeping the world these days, comics, cartoons, and their creators are not to blame.

Comics, cartoons, and their forebears fables and fairy tales serve to present complex life lessons, morality, ethics, and more in a digestible format that anyone can understand.

Almost 2,700 years ago in ancient Greece, Aesop was entertaining and teaching at the same time with his fables that include some pretty memorable ones we know to this day, including The Tortoise and the Hare,

The Ant and the Grasshopper, and the Lion and the Mouse, to name a few.

I'm guessing Maher would prefer if people read things like Ayn Rand's *Atlas Shrugged* (gag) or Joseph Conrad's *Heart of Darkness* (bleak). Both books rank an eight and seven out of 10, respectively, on Shmoop's tough-o-meter (a real thing).

My point? We do not need post-graduate level tomes on philosophy and morality to help us know the difference between good and bad, a moron and a hero. Frankly, the simplest forms of communication are often the best regardless of age level.

Also, whether you are an adult or a child, we all need to escape to Neverland or the Wizarding World sometimes because reality can be so incredibly brutal at times and the people in power can be burdensome.

However, as we learned from the immortal Spider-Man: "With great power comes great responsibility."

We can and should hold our leaders to this standard, even though it comes from a comic book, even though it, and many other moments, come from the mind of the great Stan Lee, who is now simply a memory.

And you know what the great ones say about moments and memory:

"You never really know the true value of a moment, until it becomes a memory."

- *SpongeBob SquarePants*.



By Peter Cantelon

letters

Saying thanks to an honest fellow shopper

On Wednesday, Nov. 28, I was shopping at the Morden Co-op Store.

Unbeknownst to me my Visa card dropped out of my pocket.

A call came to our house that someone had found my card in the snow

on the parking lot.

I returned to the store to retrieve it. No name had been given—just an honest person doing the right thing.

In this season of spending one could easily have used my card for Christ-

mas purchases,

Thank you to that honest person for saving me a lot of trouble. May God bless you for your act of kindness.

Wilfred Warkentin, Morden

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

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

• GUEST COMMENTARY

Work to improve patient care showing dividends

Two years ago we set out to ensure Manitoban's received better health care.

We promised shorter wait times, lower ambulance fees and an overall more reliable health-care system. The numbers released last week by the Canadian Institute of Health Information show the changes we have been making are working.

When we first announced changes to the health sys-



Cameron Friesen, MLA

tem in April 2017, we said we would follow the recommendations of the Peachy Report commissioned in 2015 by the former NDP government.

That report identified excessive wait times, high numbers of patient transfers between hospitals, limited resources spread across too many sites, and called for regional consolidation of health services to better leverage clinical expertise, diagnostic resources and staffing.

With the results released last week by CIHI, it is clear we have begun to achieve our goals of creating a better health care system.

For years, the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority lagged behind every other health region in Canada when it came to wait times. We are now tied for "most improved" in Canada.

Because of the changes initiated by our government, we are the only province in the country that has seen emergency department wait times go down. No other health region in the country saw a bigger decline in 90th percentile wait times, with the WRHA showing a 42-minute year-over-year improvement for 2017/18. Every single emergency department in the WRHA has seen improvements in their wait times. Across the WRHA, improvements range from 5.8 per cent to 31.7 per cent. Wait times haven't been this low for the last eight years.

When it comes to measuring length of stay for admitted patients in the 90th percentile, we are beating the Canadian average following a dramatic 25.1 per cent improvement in the same time period.

Prior to our clinical consolidation, the WRHA had an average of 83 people waiting in hospital for a PCH bed. Since October 2017, this PCH wait time has been reduced to an average of 21 patients.

Our plan is working. CIHI has proven that we are bringing down wait times and improving patient care. This positive trend is continuing into the current year. Since April, 90th percentile wait times have fallen a further 4.5 per cent for emergency care and 12 per cent for length of stay.

We are keeping our promise to Manitobans. We are delivering better care, sooner.

Cameron Friesen is the MLA for Morden-Winkler and Manitoba's Minister of Health, Seniors and Active Living

Café 545 hosting community Christmas meal Mon.

By Lorne Stelmach

Winklerites are coming together Monday for the annual community Christmas dinner.

Organizers of the weekly Café 545 supper at Central Station hope to see people of all ages and walks of life come together to celebrate the season.

"It's a meal for everyone ... it's creating a sense of community ... and we're all part of the community," said lead volunteer Marian Hildebrand.

Supper will be served at the Emmanuel Mennonite Church from 4:30-7:30 p.m. Dec. 17. Everyone is welcome. If you need a ride to the church, call 204-325-0257 to be put in touch with a volunteer driver.

Guests will enjoy a complete turkey dinner with all the fixings, including Christmas cookies for dessert.

With 300 people coming to the weekly meals held at Central Station, organizers expect to see upwards of 400 people for this special dinner.

"Whatever is needed for it to work, we'll make it happen," said Hildebrand.

"We live in a community where we have an abundance of people who are gracious with their time and their donations ... and we have all the volunteers in place," she added. "We're going to have about 75 people who will be preparing the meal, serving

the meal, cleaning up after the meal.

"Our youngest one will be 13, and our oldest that I know of is 92 ... and everything in between, from all walks of life."

In addition to the volunteers, many other supporters make this meal possible.

"We have a number of food donations that were given for the meal, monetary donations for the meal. We live in a community that is very generous," said Hildebrand. "I'm just

overwhelmed by the community and their generosity, their willingness to help ... the generosity with their time, generosity with donations."

As always, the hope is to provide a place for people to come together in the spirit of community and Christmas.

"[It's] a place where you can come in and meet who your neighbour is,"

Hildebrand said. "If you're a newcomer to town, it's a great place to come to meet people and even find out about the community."

Morden has held a community Christmas dinner as well in past years, but as of press time there were no plans to do so this year due to the lack of a volunteer coordinator.

"IT'S A MEAL FOR EVERYONE."

Tour of Lights takes place Dec. 18

By Lorne Stelmach

Morden is again encouraging people to get out and get active while enjoying a celebration of the Christmas season.

The annual Walk or Bike Tour of Lights takes place next Tues., Dec. 18 starting from the Morden Activity Centre around 6 p.m.

"Winter is always a time when people generally start to slow down, and we wanted to encourage residents to stay active throughout this season," said Stephanie Dueck, recreation pro-

grammer for the City of Morden. "As long as you dress for it, you can bike and you can walk all year round.

"We'll have two groups heading out. One group will be walking and the other group will be biking," she explained of the tour, noting the plan is to go for about a 30 minute tour of the city to enjoy the holiday lights and décor. It will be about six kilometres if you're biking and 2.5 km if you're walking.

"We're encouraging people to dress up in festive attire, whether it's an

'ugly sweater' or something 'Christmassy' ... and then also to decorate your bike if you are choosing the bike ride with lights and a festive look," she said.

"When we come back, we'll have a draw for anyone who participated in those ways," said Dueck, noting there will be prizes from Floral Scents, Pure Anada, Coffee Culture and Country Cycle. The draws will be done at 7 p.m. at the Morden Activity Centre,

Continued on page 11

Check out the Winkler Morden Voice online at www.winklermordenvoice.ca



Right: Long service award recipients Peter Neufeld, Allan Derksen, Ike Dyck with Manitoba Fire Commissioner David Schafer. Left: Schafer with Exemplary Service Medal winner Chris Kalansky.

PHOTOS BY
ASHLEIGH VI-
VEIROS/VOICE



Winkler fire dept. honours its long-serving members

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The men and women serving with the Winkler Fire Department sacrifice a lot to protect our community.

Missed family celebrations, late-night calls, and time away from work are all part of the job, says Chief Richard Paetzold.

"This is their part-time job and a lot of it is volunteer," he said. "They take time away from their families to serve their community. And during the day we have employers that give up their employees' time to serve the community. It's a sacrifice all around to have a paid-on-call department.

"Them being on here isn't driven by money," Paetzold added. "They're here because they want to serve in something they're passionate about. I think it's fitting that once a year we recognize that contribution in a small way."

The department did just that at its annual awards banquet Nov. 5, shining a spotlight on the decades of service its firefighters and support staff have provided.

Among the many award recipients was Lt. Chris Kalansky, who received an Exemplary Service Medal from Manitoba Fire Commissioner David Schafer in honour of his 20 years as a Winkler firefighter.

"I'm deeply honoured to have been on a fire department for this length of time and been able to serve side-by-side with a great group of people,"

Kalansky said.

Becoming a firefighter two decades ago actually set Kalansky on an entirely new career path. Today he works as Winkler's deputy police chief and has also served as the region's emergency coordinator.

"When I first moved to Winkler a co-worker of mine actually convinced me to join the fire department," Kalansky recalled. "That was the start of my involvement in emergency services ... it all started with the fire department."

The Winkler department is unique in that it manages to retain its members for the long-haul, Kalansky noted.

Whereas the average term of service for firefighters is six to eight years, WFD has many members who have served 15, 20, even 30+ years.

"There is a great spirit of volunteerism, of cooperation amongst our members," Kalansky said. "The reality is we're here to help

our community. We all live in the community here and we want to see that it's protected. We want to serve."

That service would not be possible if not for the support each and every firefighter receives from their family, stressed Paetzold.

"One of the most unsung heroes in this whole thing are the people that are left at home to look after the rest of the family," he said. "We can't say enough or do enough [to say thanks]."

Continued on page 11



Winkler fire Chief Richard Paetzold (far right) with service award recipients Ernie Froese and Abe Dueck (above) and John Klassen (below).



> WINKLER FIRE, FROM PG. 10

Other awards presented at the banquet include:

- Manitoba Association of Fire Chiefs long service awards to Lt. Allan Derksen (25 years), Capt. Peter Neufeld (35 years), communications/

firefighter Ken Wieler (35 years), and recently retired Station Capt. Ike Dyck (45 years). Dyck also received an award from MP Candice Bergen in recognition of his 52 years as a fire-

fighter.

- Winkler Fire Department Years of Service Awards to Albert Dueck (10 years), Jonathan Wall (10 years), Kevin Oestreicher (15 years), Lt. Terry Fehr

(15 years), Brad Friesen (15 years), Lt. John Klassen (25 years), Capt. Ernie Froese (30 years), and Lt. Abe Dueck (30 years).



Winkler FD service award recipients (above) Terry Fehr, Kevin Oestreicher, (below) Jonathan Wall, and Albert Dueck.



> TOUR, FROM PG. 9

where there will be hot chocolate and some snacks and games available.

The Tour of Lights, now entering its third year, has grown a little more each Christmas.

"We want to bring people together, build community, enjoy the lights that have been put up around town ... just continue to build the festive mood here," Dueck said, noting they are encouraging residents to get into the Christmas spirit by decorating and lighting up their homes and businesses. "I would always like to see more, but I'm happy to see the displays that have been put up so far."

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Dreaming of a green Christmas



Winkler Horticulture Society volunteers set up shop at the Winkler Arts and Culture Centre last Thursday to put together 100 Christmas centrepieces. The annual holiday fundraiser quickly hit its sales target this fall and brought in a couple thousand dollars towards the society's plans to install curbing at Parkview Gardens on Grandeur Ave.

PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Olafson joins AMM board

By Lorne Stelmach

This region now has two voices at the table speaking for local municipalities at the provincial level.

RM of Stanley Reeve Morris Olafson was elected last month as a central district rep on the board of the Association of Manitoba Municipalities.

He will sit alongside Winkler Mayor Martin Harder, who was elected to the AMM board in 2015.

"Because of the [municipal] election, we had elections for seven new directors ... we needed to have these new people at least in the interim," noted Olafson, although he does intend to seek re-election to the AMM board again next year.

Olafson said he felt that he could contribute to the AMM discussions and hopes he can help provide some direction in their dialogue with the provincial government.

"I thought maybe I could help out in regards to trying to get a little more focus, put my voice to our area ... to say okay, let's work on two or three things that are pertinent more to our areas," he said. "I think we need a more pointed approach towards dealing with the government, and hopefully I can add something to that discussion."

Olafson believes the AMM plays a vital role in providing a unified voice in lobbying the Manitoba government on municipal issues.

"It's pretty hard for individual municipalities, especially if they're not very big ... it's hard for them to go at them one on one to try to get their things through," he suggested. "Hopefully we can be a little more forceful in that regard ... for helping not only the big guys but the little guys along the way."

There are ongoing key issues to

Continued on page 13

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A helping hand

The Morden Christmas Cheer Board recently received an \$800 donation from Farm Credit Canada. Money from the FCC Community Investment Fund is used to better the communities they live in and serve. On hand for the presentation were Ron Peters, Marilyn Sandercock, Durwin Busch, and Lynn Friesen with FCC rep Cathy Sandercock and other Cheer Board volunteers Lisa Dyck, Carolyn Schellenberg, Mike Duncan, Linda Kirk, and Leslie Andrews.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

> AMM BOARD, FROM PG. 12

be addressed such as infrastructure funding, which Olafson suggested is falling short of meeting the municipal needs.

"We understand that the province is in a not spending money mood," he said. "In reality, we still have to spend the money. We're still going ahead with projects, but without that funding. So guess where it comes from ... it comes from the local ... it's basically

offloading. Sometimes, we have to do things, especially if there's safety concerns and different things like that.

"Every little thing that you take away, it might seem small, you take away a little bit here, a little bit away there, but in the end there's millions of dollars that didn't go back into infrastructure, water programs, and different things."



Christmas is a time of love, family, and happiness. May your holiday season be everything you hope for and much, much, more.

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Franz Hoepfner Wiens Law Office wishes everyone a Merry Christmas and the very best for 2019!

Wiens & Franz Law Office and Jaret Hoepfner Law Office are pleased to announce their upcoming merger to form Franz Hoepfner Wiens Law Office, Effective January 1, 2019. The new firm will be located at 2-500 Main St., Winkler.

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The J.R. Walkof School Gr. 3-4 choir were one of several choirs to bring music to the halls of Salem Home last week. The kids shared several enthusiastic renditions of Christmas carols in the Winkler personal care home's packed-full chapel on Dec. 5. Other performances throughout the week came from choirs from Gateway Resources, Northlands Parkway Collegiate, and Valley Mennonite Academy as well as the Winkler Male Community Choir.



PHOTOS BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE



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SCRL board thanks its outgoing members

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The South Central Regional Library hosted a small get-together at the Winkler branch Saturday to bid farewell to its outgoing board members.

In the wake of the October election and resulting committee appointment changes, Alex Fedorchuk from the City of Morden, Mark Ratzlaff from the RM of Rhineland, Al Friesen from the Town of Altona, Dick Fehr from the RM of Stanley, and Huntley Knox from the RM of Thompson have all left the board.

It was an exciting four years, says Fedorchuk, who decided not to seek re-election after three terms in office.

"It was the first time that I had been assigned the library portfolio and it was so interesting," he said. "A million dollar cash flow, five locations ... we added the Manitou branch last year and it went so well. It was an absolutely perfect fit."

Seeing how libraries remain vital spaces in the communities SCRL serves was eye-opening, Fedorchuk

noted.

"In our area the population is just over 50,000 and over 50 per cent of people have a library card," he said. "It's amazing."

"A few years ago people were forecasting the death of hardcovers when e-readers came in. Not at all," Fedorchuk said, pointing out SCRL continues to loan thousands of books each year in addition to finding new services to offer the community. "We need to be more than just a place to go and get your books."

Fehr, who also did not seek re-election, stressed the importance council representation on the library board plays in ensuring municipalities understand just how their tax dollars are being utilized by the library.

"I really appreciated my time here. It was a good experience for me and I think it was good for Stanley council, too," he said. "I think there's a much better understanding on Stanley council now about the purpose of the libraries and I'm glad I could be part of that."



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

The South Central Regional Library celebrated its outgoing board members on Saturday. In attendance were, from left, Al Friesen, June Letkeman, Norma Thiessen, Marilyn Dyck, Cathy Ching, Marvin Plett, Heather Imrie, Alex Fedorchuk, Gary Hiebert, and Dick Fehr.

That's music to SCRL director Cathy Ching's ears. She also stressed how important it is that each community in SCRL's service area has a voice on the board.

"Every municipality is different. We have the two cities, the towns, the small rural municipalities, and they each bring such a different perspective," she said, going on to add that every board meeting helps the library plan how to "move forward and get things done."

Echoing Fedorchuk, Ching said libraries have weathered the onset of the digital age by finding new ways to remain relevant, whether that's through hosting a varied array of

community events and workshops or offering unique services such as language programs, access to public computers, or simply providing a quiet place to read or study.

"The nice thing about a library is you can sit here all day, nobody ever asks you to leave, and it doesn't cost you a penny," she said. "We want to create an atmosphere where people feel safe, you can bring your kids here."

The SCRL board, which includes both council and citizen reps, now includes Marilyn Dyck, (Rhineland), Marvin Plett (Winkler), June Letkeman (Rhineland), Norma Thiessen (Altona), Heather Imrie (Thompson),

Continued on page 19

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Winkler clinic renos provide a little breathing room

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The C.W. Wiebe Medical Centre continues to make the most of its space in the A.L.G. Professional Centre in Winkler.

The clinic recently wrapped up renovations designed to both update the look of and maximize efficiency in its workspaces, including replacing aging flooring and restructuring its physician offices.



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

C.W. Wiebe Medical Centre manager Jim Neufeld in front of the list of care providers that has been steadily growing for years. Below: Recent renovations have turned physician offices into shared spaces.

"We're trying to utilize our space better so we can get more people in the same amount of square footage," noted clinic manager Jim Neufeld.

The clinic currently has 42 physicians, one nurse practitioner, one physician's assistant, five nurses, and eight alternative care providers (dietitians and the like) providing care to thousands of area residents. That's not to mention another 75 support staff, all working out of about 25,000 sq. ft. of space in the former downtown shopping mall.

"One of the areas we're really struggling with right now is we've added extra care providers, which is a good thing," Neufeld said. "But along with extra care providers we also have extra support staff and we're running out of places for them to work. So we're trying to figure all that out."

"We see growth continuing here in Winkler for who knows how long," he added. "We see opportunities in the future to bring new services in health care to the area. All of those would require additional space."

Part of the solution the most recent renos provided was to shift from individual physician offices to shared spaces.

"Because all the doctors have other responsibilities and aren't in the clinic all the time ... while we were replacing flooring in this original part of the building [the northeast clinic area], wherever possible we took out a wall between two offices and made one bigger room where we're able to put three doctors in that same space,"

Neufeld explained.

The change created space for six additional doctors to work in and has gotten the thumbs up from the affected physicians.

"They actually quite enjoy it because there's a little more interaction now with each other," Neufeld said. "They can bounce stuff off each other in the same room."

"It's a model I think that we, throughout the building, we have a few more opportunities to do some

of that in the future, certainly in the south clinic part," he added. "And that's probably something we'll take a look at doing as well should we develop additional space in the future."

Over the past 18 years, the C.W. Wiebe Medical Centre has prided itself on offering as many services as is feasible to patients.

"It's a long laundry list of services that

are provided by our physicians but certainly aren't typical in most rural communities," Neufeld said, pointing to specialties such as cancer care, dermatology, orthopedics, and a wide array of surgeries, to name a few.

"What we're trying to do is figure out how we can keep patients closer to home, give them access to as many of the services that they need to access on a sustainable basis," he said. "We're not going to do heart surgery here anytime soon, we're not going to do brain surgery, things like that, but the things that we can do we're trying

Continued on page 19

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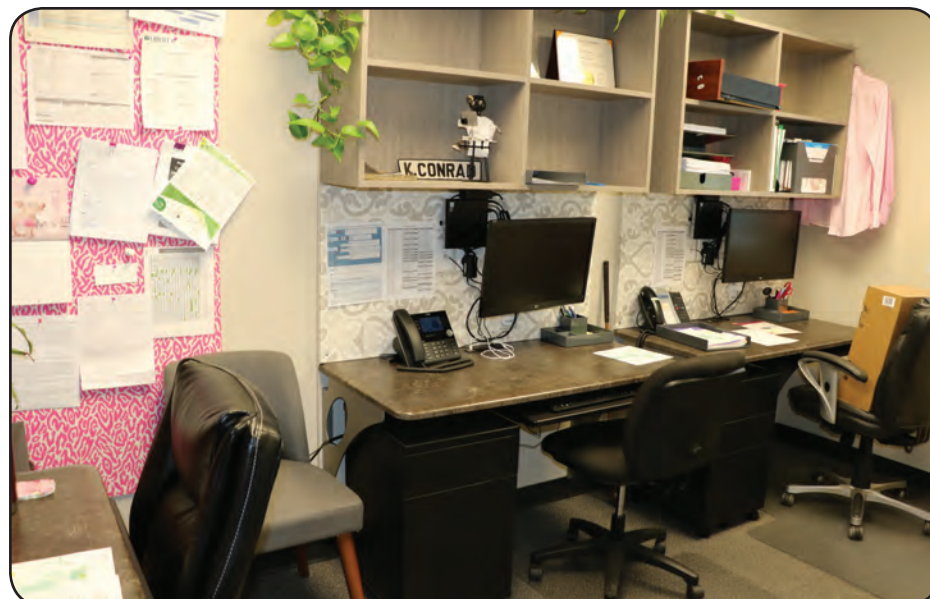
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Music to shop by

Winkler's Canadian Tire store provided some live music for Christmas shoppers on Saturday. The Prairie Redcoat Band turned the newly renovated store into a pop-up concert hall, performing several songs between the aisles.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

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RANA purchases Edmonton co.

RANA Respiratory Care Group is branching out further into Alberta.

The company founded by Mordenite Earl Gardiner in 1988 announced last week that it has purchased Edmonton-based Provincial Sleep Group Canada and Provincial Home Oxygen.

In support of this acquisition, RANA received a significant investment from the Winnipeg-based Megill-Stephenson Company, who will bring their business experience and per-

**"IT'S A VERY EXCITING
TIME FOR RANA."**

spective to RANA's board of directors. "It's a very exciting time for RANA," said Gardiner, who serves as the com-

Continued on page 22

MERRY
Christmas

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> C.W. WIEBE MEDICAL CENTRE, FROM PG. 16

to look at saying, okay, how can we do those here?

"More and more things will become sustainable as the population grows."

SETTING AN EXAMPLE

Neufeld has been invited to speak across the country on the success of the Winkler clinic and its community-owned model of operation. The

facility is overseen by the Winkler and District Health Care Board.

"We were probably the first clinic that made this very significant and deliberate relationship with the community," Neufeld said. "Other communities have seen that and asked what did you do and how'd you do it and how's it work?"

It all began when community leaders identified access to quality health care as playing a vital role in Winkler's continued growth.

"It's up there with roads and parks and arenas and everything else," said Neufeld. "If you don't have that in your community, it's going to hinder growth and create all kinds of problems."

"We were in a very difficult situation with the number of doctors and services we had to meet the population. We were way behind and a solution needed to be found. So the community got together with the doctors and this arrangement was created."

"When you look today at the amount of investment and energy that's come in from the community to get what we've got, I think everyone would see that it's been a really good return on investment."

> SCRL, FROM PG. 15

Gary Hiebert (Morden), Jordan Siemens (Altona), Emma Montgomery (Winkler), Harry Dahl (Morden), Jody Oakes (Thompson), Ray Unrau (Stanley), Chad Collins (Pembina), and Sharon Fehr (Pembina).



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Fri. Dec. 28 • 8:30am-6pm	Fri. Dec. 28 • 11:30am-7:30pm
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Thurs. Dec. 27 • 8:00am-5:30pm	Thurs. Dec. 27 • 8:00am-7:30pm
Fri. Dec. 28 • 8:00am-5:30pm	Fri. Dec. 28 • 8:00am-7:30pm
Sat. Dec. 29 • Closed	Sat. Dec. 29 • 8:00am-12pm
Sun. Dec. 30 • Closed	Sun. Dec. 30 • Closed
Mon. Dec. 31 • 8:00am-2pm	Mon. Dec. 31 • 8:00am-2pm
Tues. Jan. 1 • Closed	Tues. Jan. 1 • Closed

Merry Christmas From all of Us!

Manitoba chambers bend the government's ear

By Lorne Stelmach

Morden joined representatives from other chambers of commerce recently for a full day of meetings with the provincial government.

Executive director Candace Olafson was part of the Manitoba Chambers of Commerce first Chamber Day of Advocacy at the Manitoba Legisla-

ture.

It offered a great opportunity for chamber officials to present a united voice for the business community in Manitoba in meetings with not only Premier Brian Pallister but much of his cabinet, including Health Minister and Morden-Winkler MLA Cameron Friesen.

"To be able to convey our message to

the provincial government and have open dialogue was really important," said Olafson. "It was very unique for us to have an entire day and meet so many ministers and the premier as well as Opposition leaders ... it was good to sit down and have meetings with so many of the ministers in one day.

"The dialogue was very open, and they were very interested in hearing about issues from across the province and what they can do to help."

Olafson said there was discussion on a number of key chamber priorities, including improving the province's competitiveness as well as taxation, access to capital, improving the work force, better labour market information, and more closely connecting business and education.

"We really were focusing on a couple of key issues, that being economic competitiveness and the workforce ... having Manitoba be more competitive," Olafson said, stressing that both of those areas are critical to the long-term growth of the province. "We want to be a province that is open for business."

The Manitoba Chambers of Commerce stressed that the competitive gap is real, and the lack of reliable data and the lack of depth of skilled labour remain a great concern.

It urged the government to work aggressively to narrow the distance between Manitoba and other jurisdictions and develop a long-term economic development strategy for the province that is properly resourced and structured to succeed.

In its talks with provincial leaders, the Manitoba Chambers of Commerce outlined what it sees as seven

key public policy pillars to growing Manitoba's economy:

1. Fiscal competitiveness: Manitoba must have an effective and fiscally prudent government committed to creating a competitive tax jurisdiction to attract and retain investment.

2. Venture capital: Commitment to the creation of an accessible venture capital fund and supportive tax credit policies to leverage investment in the growth of businesses.

3. Global trade: Commitment to pursuing an expanded global trade profile for Manitoba which derives substantial economic benefit.

4. Infrastructure investment: Commitment to a strategic, sustained, disciplined approach to investment in Manitoba's core infrastructure.

5. Aboriginal engagement: Commitment to the creation of a strategy to ensure inclusion and partnership in economic growth policies.

6. Skilled work force: Commitment to attracting, educating, training and retaining a skilled, responsive workforce is fundamental to ongoing economic growth.

7. New fiscal deal for municipalities: Commitment to address the existing fiscal framework between the province and municipalities to meet the challenges of the future.

Olafson noted the Morden chamber also pushed for changes to the Provincial Planning Act.

"The Provincial Planning Act hasn't been modernized for a number of years and it does create unnecessary delays," she said, adding they also support the province's aim to further reduce the "red tape" barriers that hamper continued growth.



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Premier Brian Pallister and some of his cabinet ministers sat down with representatives from the Manitoba Chambers of Commerce earlier this month, including the Morden chamber's Candace Olafson.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

To celebrate the holidays I would like to invite you to come to a

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As the Christmas season begins, it's important to plan when you'll visit your elderly friends and relatives.

Christmastime can be difficult for seniors, especially for those who've lost loved ones, who live far from their families or are no longer as active as they once were. A visit from a loved one at Christmas can mean a lot to an elderly person who might otherwise be alone.

Visiting elderly friends and relatives will be rewarding for you too. The more time you spend with your older family members, the more you'll learn about your ancestry and relatives. Someday, you'll pass this family history onto your own children and grandchildren.

The holidays are also an ideal time to bring the generations together and let your kids spend quality time with their grandparents and other older relatives. Not only do children often lift people's spirits, but they'll also get the chance to bond with the people who raised their parents and hear stories about what Mom and Dad were like at their age.



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Thunder Cheer game a huge success

The Morden Thunder hockey team posed with Morden Christmas Cheer Board reps and the mountain of toys, food, and \$1,243 in financial donations collected at their annual Christmas Cheer game last week.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

A Christmas Wish for Our Cherished Friends



May it find you surrounded by family and friends,
a picture-perfect holiday from beginning to end.

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**Merry Christmas
To All & To All
a Great Year!**

> RANA, FROM PG. 18

pany’s executive chairman. “This past September RANA’s staff celebrated and reflected on 30 years of providing care. This acquisition of a like-minded, caring organization is a clear demonstration of our company’s commitment to the future and our determination to make our services available across Canada.”

The acquisition of Provincial, the company says, is an important step in positioning RANA as one of western Canada’s largest privately-owned providers of diagnostics and treatment for obstructive sleep apnea and home oxygen services.

Similar in size to RANA, Provincial has a strong presence in the province of Saskatchewan, central/northern Alberta, and coastal British Columbia.

“We are excited about the acquisition of Provincial as we believe there is a considerable opportunity for this new combined entity to provide leadership in the market, to provide rewarding opportunities for employees, and provide an even higher level of quality client care,” says Cory McArthur, RANA’s president and CEO.



Celebrate The Miracle!

As we watch the holiday season unfold,
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Merry Christmas &
Happy New Year!



Agriculture

Management vital in today's farming environment

By Harry Siemens

With increasing costs, rising interest rates, leveraging changing markets, and Mother Nature, managing a farm big or small today is a bigger challenge than ever before.

Accounting and business advisory firm MNP held an insightful farm planning seminar in Miami last week.

The Voice sat down with the two presenters, Ryan Turner, who works in MNP's Portage la Prairie office, and Brandon's Mike Poole, both partners and business advisors with the company.

Turner said today's farmer must be a good manager because of tighter margins, higher risks, and increased machinery and land costs.

"While revenues have gone up, so have expenses. And so that makes the margins tighter," he said. "And so people that understand the margins and their cash flow and how to manage their cashflow are the ones that are going to get bigger, quicker, and more successful."

"So it's not about operating a thousand-acre farm or a 20,000 acre farm, it's more about managing your cash flow and your operations so you can understand how you can make your next investment. And that's what's going to make you more money."

A big part of that is reinvesting in the right things, which might not always be the latest and greatest tech. Sometimes the old equipment will get the farmer the same dollars per acre as the new, more expensive one.

"You have to start balancing on what is more important. That new piece of equipment? Or does the old one still work?" said Turner. "Will it generate you more money than what it costs you, and can you manage the cash flow to get through those hard times as well as managing the good times?"

Poole tackled the question of leasing versus buying farm machinery.

"I don't think there's a ton of difference there from a tax perspective," he pointed out. "For the most part, when you crunch the numbers between leasing or buying and you factor in all the different things, the lease might come out ahead, or the

**"WHILE REVENUES
HAVE GONE UP, SO
HAVE EXPENSES. AND
SO THAT MAKES THE
MARGINS TIGHTER."**

traditional financing might come out ahead, but only by a small margin.

"It comes down to that cost of production per acre. Some farmers view the equipment as an asset worth owning. Other folks look at equipment as an annual cost ... I think it becomes a personal type of a thing."

That said, the federal fall economic update will impact the lease versus buy scenario. A rule the feds are putting into place will be very favourable from a write-off perspective, giving producers a greater deduction than before.

"Now a farmer will get a 45 per cent deduction in the first year—a significant amount of deduction," Poole said. "And so that in itself is going to put the traditional financing right on par with leasing. Because if you can deduct 45 per cent in the first year and

At a seminar in Miami last week, MNP's Ryan Turner said today's farmer must be a good manager because of tighter margins, higher risks, increased machinery and land costs.

PHOTO BY HARRY SIEMENS/VOICE



then 30 per cent the next year and 30 per cent the next year, you're going to be pretty close to a, say, a three year lease option from a tax perspective."

Meanwhile, Turner said that, like it or not, governments subsidize the AgriStability insurance program, making it attractive for farmers to use.

"The program works because we see it works, but it is important to build your reference margins," he stressed. "Get your qualifying income up and keep your qualifying expenditures down. And understand the program, so you know when you're going to get a payout."

"The big part is to build reference years when you can. And then when there's a disaster year, there's going to be a larger amount of money available to you because your reference margins are large."

He said the cost of the program, at \$1 to \$2 an acre, is what their analysis shows making it a cheap form of insurance if the farmer understands the program.

"If you don't understand the program, just like everything, it's not worth it," Turner said. "If you understand the program and build it into your risk profile, then you can understand how it impacts your farm."



By Harry Siemens

Telling our stories can come with a price

Recently, Farm and Food Care Saskatchewan executive director Clinton Monchuk said by recognizing those who keep doing outstanding work in educating the public, we inspire others to do likewise.

As part of its annual Farms at the Table Conference, Farm and Food Care Saskatchewan named Sherri Grant, a Val Marie area rancher, as its 2018 Farm and Food Care Champion Award recipient in recognition

of her efforts to educate consumers about agriculture.

"I think what it does is it encourages others to do the same. It stresses the importance of how we all need to get out there and make sure consumers understand what we're doing," said Monchuk. "We're in a state right now where less than three per cent of the population has a direct tie to a farm or a ranch. So where are consumers getting their information? They're getting it from other sources, so we need to make

sure we're active in being in that environment to share our stories, so consumers understand the truth of what we do on our farms."

Monchuk recognized those who are doing it and encouraged others to be even more active and engaged in telling our story and talking to consumers about what we do. Farmers can do this on Facebook or Twitter or at the local hockey game.

"In many instances, people do not

Continued on page 29

Morden Physio adding Winkler location in 2019

By Lorne Stelmach

Morden Physiotherapy will further expand in the new year with the addition of a third clinic in the region.

The business will add a Winkler clinic to its roster of existing locations in Morden and Carman.

"It seemed like a kind of natural trifecta," therapist and co-owner Tim

Shantz said in making the announcement last Thursday as the clinic hosted the Morden chamber's holiday mixer.

"We already do have a lot of patients who come from Winkler, Altona and a lot of people who doctor in Winkler as well," he added. "We feel that we provide a great service and it felt like a natural growth."

The Winkler clinic will be located in the strip mall development at 175 Roblin Blvd. (the former Sun Valley Tire building).

They don't have a firm opening date yet but the plan is to be ready to open the doors sometime in January, said Shantz, who stressed it will offer a full range of services.

"We don't run satellite clinics. Everything is full opportunity for patients," he said.

"There won't be a clinic in southern Manitoba that's like this," suggested therapist Ashley Froese. "We've taken a lot of time and thought into the layout, the planning, the services. It will be something very unique to the area, so we're excited about that."

Froese said as the business continues to grow, they are not only reaching out to surrounding communities

but stress being actively involved in those communities.

"We have people born and raised who are committed to this community and committed to providing the best services," she said, noting they recently calculated the value of the continuing education that has taken place in the last year and estimated it would be worth around \$20,000. "That means that we're trying to really work hard to offer services here."

Schantz noted the demand for services will only continue to increase, even with the medical centre in Morden expanding and bringing in more doctors and health care practitioners.

"The population here is just exploding, so people need services. There will be more need for physiotherapy and allied health services in the region," he said, adding that "we may see patients on a multi-appointment per week basis, and they don't want to be driving ... every time that they come to an appointment."

Schantz also emphasized their continued commitment to Morden as the heart of their business.

"We will never stop being a Morden-based business ... we will never stop calling Morden home."



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

From left: The Morden chamber's Candace Olafson was on hand Thursday as therapists Tim Shantz and Ashley Froese announced plans for Morden Physiotherapy to add a third location in Winkler in addition to those in Morden and Carman.

• YEAR OF THE BIRD

The cheery chickadee

By Paul Goossen,
Discovery Nature Sanctuary

Hearing the familiar "chickadee-dee-dee" call of the Black-capped Chickadee can often lift one's spirits during the grey days of winter.

The Black-capped Chickadee is one of seven chickadee species in North America. Although not as colourful as some of its European and Asian cousins, the Black-capped Chickadee is an endearing bird.

Weighing less than half an ounce, this tiny ball of fluff is a lively, energetic, year-round resident. It braves our frigid winters and survives by spending most of the daylight hours looking for food, including unsuspecting insects tucked away in the nooks and crannies of trees. Seeds and berries are also part of its diet. Amazingly, chickadees can consume up to 35 per cent of their body weight in food in a day. Winter bird feeders are obviously a big bonus for hungry chickadees!

Chickadees have an excellent ability

to remember where they have hidden or cached their food. Research has shown that Black-capped Chickadees can locate storage sites even after 24 hours. Some can even remember sites after 28 days.

Nightfall finds the chickadee safely tucked in a tree cavity or among evergreen boughs. To save energy, they can lower their body temperature at night by 10-12° C.

Chickadee pairs excavate their nest holes in decaying wood of trees. Nests may also be found in old woodpecker holes, natural holes, and nest boxes. The inside of the nest, however, is prepared by the female alone.

Generally six to eight eggs are laid and young leave the nest at about 16 days of age. After spending some time with the family, the young leave to join small flocks in preparation for winter.

I hope you have enjoyed this Year of the Bird series. Twelve species of birds have been highlighted and hopefully these articles have inspired you to a greater appreciation for our feath-



PHOTO BY PAUL GOOSSEN

ered friends.

In just a few months our yards, parks, and communities will be filled with the songs and colours of a variety of birds.

Visit the Discovery Nature Sanctuary this spring to enjoy the assortment of waterfowl and songbirds. Guided bird walks will be offered in April and May, so check the DNS website (www.discoverynaturesanctuary) and Facebook page for dates

and times.

For those interested in birding during the holiday season, you may wish to participate in the Christmas Bird Count held in the Morden-Winkler area on Jan. 2. If interested, send an email to abeexing@gmail.com.

In the meantime, winter is a great time to enjoy many of our year-round and seasonal birds.

Wishing you good birding in the coming year!

sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

Flyers put the skids on losing streak

By Lorne Stelmach

The Winkler Flyers halted a six game losing streak Sunday with a 4-1 win over the OCN Blizzard at the MJHL Showcase in Winnipeg.

Their offensive struggles had earlier continued as the club failed to record a goal for the third time in four games Saturday when they fired 46 shots on goal but fell 3-0 to the Selkirk Steelers. They also dropped a fast-paced, hard hitting 4-2 decision to the visiting Steinbach Pistons Dec. 4.

Griffin Leonard scored three times Sunday as the Flyers moved a step closer to the .500 mark at the halfway point of the season. Their 13-5-2-0 record for 28 points had them in ninth place.

Dominating play in the opening period, the Flyers outshot the Blizzard 18-7 and scored first with 1:27 left when Michael Boutoussov found Leonard in front. The Flyers doubled their lead midway through the period on a power play marker by Leonard in the slot.

Early in the third, Leonard completed the hat-trick when his shot from the side boards snuck through the legs of OCN goaltender Noah Giesbrecht to make it 3-1, and Connor Beebe scored his fourth into an empty net.

Riley Morgan made 23 saves in the win as the Flyers outshot the Blizzard 48-24. Winkler went 1-for-4 on the power-play and 2-for-2 on the penal-



PHOTO BY RICK HIEBERT/VOICE

Winkler's Josh Kagan gets away with some serious goalie interference on Steinbach netminder Matt Lenz in the 4-2 Winkler loss Dec. 4. The Flyers also lost to Selkirk 3-0 last week but fared better at the MJHL Showcase over the weekend, besting OCN 4-1.

ty-kill.

The Flyers came out of the gate flying against Selkirk, but the game remained scoreless despite Winkler registering 22 shots on goal in the first period.

Three goals by the Steelers within about nine minutes during the second period then did the Flyers in.

Britt League took the loss in goal for Winkler as they outshot Selkirk 46-37 overall. Winkler went 1-for-3 on the

power-play and 3-for-4 on the penalty-kill.

Last Tuesday, the Flyers were back at the Winkler Recreation Complex after spending the entire month of November playing in Morden due to the arena shutdown in their home rink.

Winkler had good jump aided in part by a number of fresh new faces in the line-up, but they came up short at the end despite playing one of their best games in recent memory.

The Flyers cut the Pistons' lead to 2-1 with a short-handed goal. After carrying the puck into the Steinbach zone on a 2-on-1, Jayden McCarthy sent it towards the net where Beebe chipped it over the shoulder of goaltender Matt Lenz.

Trailing 3-1 going into the second, Winkler again made it a one goal

Continued on page 26

The Winkler Morden
Voice

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Clare Agnew off to B.C. to volunteer at junior worlds

By Lorne Stelmach

Clare Agnew might have to miss out on much of the action at the upcoming world junior hockey championship this year, even though she will be right in the midst of it.

The community events and services manager for the City of Morden will be there but working behind the scenes in a vital volunteer role for the annual year-end tournament being hosted in B.C.

"I'm really excited about it ... it's being away at Christmas ... but this is a great opportunity," said Agnew, who will be working at the championship from Dec. 22 to Jan. 6.

"The world juniors is one of my favorite hockey events. I've gone to it as a spectator a couple of times and now I get to see the work that happens behind the scenes, and I think that is energizing," she said. "I think it's a great tournament. I love the world juniors and I think lots of people look forward to watching that over the Christmas break."

Agnew will be among over 850 volunteers who will be involved in putting on the event at arenas in Vancouver and Victoria. Her role will be as the venue operations lead for the practice and development venue with an opportunity to assist as well at the main competition venue.

Agnew applied to be involved after having played a lead role in Morden hosting the 2017 Esso Cup national

women's midget championship.

"I knew that I wanted to still be involved with Hockey Canada events. I love the world juniors and I saw that it was going to be in Vancouver and Victoria ... so I really wanted to see if there was a way that I could be involved."

She believes her experience heading up the local Esso Cup committee was a primary factor in her being chosen.

Her task now will be to supervise a range of volunteers working at the University of British Columbia for team practices and a minor hockey development program. The main competition will run at Rogers Place.

"I have a few shifts during some of the bigger games when Canada is playing and they need more people involved," Agnew said. "My job is really just the operations of running the facility for the practices and development ... and then assisting on shifts when they require more people at the competition venue."

"I'm looking after things that happen in the arena ... that's kind of what I do every day here," she noted of her role at the Morden Access Event Centre, "and certainly that's what I did during the Esso Cup, so they felt that I had the experience that was needed."

"I don't know if people understand what venue operations is, though," she continued. "It's things like access control, the dressing rooms and team services, helping the teams with what they need for their practices ... if

Morden's Clare Agnew is headed to British Columbia later this month to volunteer at the world junior hockey championships. She hopes to bring back the things she's learned to help Morden host upper-level sporting events in the future.

PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE



there's medical issues or media want to do interviews with a player.

"It's kind of anything that happens with the teams away from the games," she said. "It is a smaller venue, but then also because of that it's really important to give the teams their space to do their practicing, and we have to make sure that all of their needs are met."

A great deal of planning and work goes into an event of this size, and Agnew expects to be kept pretty busy.

"I'm familiar with it just on an Esso Cup scale," she said. "I'm working every day ... my plan is to at least fit in a couple of games."

The experience she gains is some-

thing she's excited to utilize back home in the future.

"They are so organized and professional, it's just a great organization to be with," Agnew said. "You can't find a course that's going to teach what I'm going to learn from Hockey Canada ... just in terms of event planning experience and knowledge."

"Hopefully I can translate that into an event for our area ... I'm hoping to be able to bring a bigger event to Morden and the area. There's many different Hockey Canada events, and I would some day like to have an international Hockey Canada event here."

Flyers welcome back forward Gino Lucia

From Pg. 25

game with 2:27 left when Moffatt snuck a quick shot through the legs for his team-leading ninth of the season. The Pistons sealed the victory when a clearing attempt from their own goal line banked off the boards and right into the open Winkler net.

League made 29 saves on the 32 shots he faced as the Pistons outshot the Flyers 33-30 overall. Both teams were 0-for-2 on the power-play but did score one short-handed.

Winkler's next game at the MJHL Showcase was Tuesday against Virden. Results were not available at press time.

Coming up, the Oil Capitals host Winkler Friday and then the Flyers welcome Portage on Sunday.

In other Flyers news, the team announced last Friday that it has welcomed 20-year-old forward Gino Lucia back to the fold.

The St. Cloud, Minnesota native played the past season and a half in the North American Hockey League after starting his junior career in Winkler during the 2016-2017 season.

"Gino's return to the Flyers will add experience and some much needed offense to our lineup," said general manager Ken Pearson. "His familiarity with our staff and the organization should make his transition back to Winkler very smooth."

Lucia recorded 41 points (16 goals, 25 assists) in 50 regular season games played in Winkler as a rookie. He then added four points (two goals, two assists) in the playoffs that season.

In 71 regular season games with the Minnesota Wilderness, Lucia wracked up 52 points (22 goals, 30 assists) before being traded to the Lone Star Brahmas last month.

Zodiacs have winning week

Garden Valley Collegiate were the lone Morden-Winkler team to take to the ice in Zone 4 high school hockey action last week.

The Zodiacs crushed the Portage Trojans 10-3 on Friday and then beat the W.C. Miller Aces 3-1 on Saturday.

Meanwhile, the Northlands Park-

way Collegiate Nighthawks headed to Brandon for a weekend tournament. They fell to the Sanford Sabres 10-5, the St. Paul's Crusaders 4-3, and Virden 5-4 before finding their footing against Transcona, beating the Titans 7-2, and Vincent Massey, besting the home team 9-0.

Redskins come from behind to win SO vs. Hawks

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Morden Redskins came from behind to earn a shootout victory against the Notre Dame Hawks in South Eastern Manitoba Hockey League action last week.

The Thursday night game in Morden saw the Hawks take a 3-0 lead before Morden got on the scoreboard five minutes into the second period on a goal from Kieth Bially.

Tyler Grove and Jay Fehr got the third period goals the Redskins needed to force extra time, which proved scoreless.

The resulting shootout went Morden's way, giving them the game 4-3.

Reed Peters stopped 32 shots in 65 minutes, while across the ice Notre Dame's Brett Timmerman denied 39 shots.

Two nights later the Altona Maroons handed the Redskins a rare defeat, narrowly taking the played-in-Altona game 5-4.

Morden was up 3-0 on goals from David Victor, Matt Sibbald, and Cole Penner before the Maroons found their footing, scoring four goals in seven minutes in the second period.

With the clock winding down in the third, Altona made it 5-3, and though Juha Keinanen responded 11 seconds later for Morden, it wasn't enough. Altona got the win 5-4.

Morden's Jay Fehr scores the second shoot-out goal against Notre Dame's Brett Timmerman to secure the 4-3 win Dec. 6.

PHOTO
BY RICK
HIEBERT/
VOICE



Morgan Wall and Peters split net-minding duties. Wall made 24 saves and gave up four goals in 40 minutes while Peters stopped 11, allowed one in 20 minutes.

With that, Morden is in second place in the SEMHL standings with a 6-3-0-1 record and 13 points, two points behind the league-leading Portage Terriers and one ahead of Warren.

The Winkler Royals, meanwhile, had

a weekend of mixed results, falling to the Mercs Friday night and then besting the Beavers on Sunday.

Home ice advantage did the trick for Warren as they beat the Royals 9-2. Winkler's goals came from Ryan Unrau in the first and Michael Moore in the second. Trevor Hiebert made a heroic 50 saves in net as the Royals were outshot 59-32.

The tables turned on Sunday when

a hometown crowd cheered the Royals to a 3-1 win over Carman. Marcus Neufeld, Jason Peters, and Marlin Froese all contributed goals, while Devon Wiebe made 42 saves overall.

The win bolsters Winkler's record to 2-8 for four points and seventh and last place in the standings.

Coming up, Winkler and Morden square off at the Access Event Centre this Saturday at 8 p.m.

Male Hawks earn three points over the weekend

By Lorne Stelmach

The male Pembina Valley Hawks gained three of four points in two hard-fought games over the weekend.

The Hawks defeated the Brandon Wheat Kings 2-1 Saturday and then were bested themselves 4-3 in overtime Sunday by the Yellowhead Chiefs.

Dylan Meilun gave Pembina Valley a solid game in goal Saturday, stopping all but one of the 34 shots he faced while his teammates managed 24 shots on net. Another key for the Hawks was blanking Brandon on their seven powerplay opportunities.

After spotting the Wheat Kings the lead in the first period, the Hawks got the equalizer from Riley Goertzen 5:41 into the second and then what proved to be the game winner from Jacob Carels at 14:29.

In Sunday's game against the Chiefs, Pembina Valley battled back twice to tie the game before Yellowhead got

the winner 2:11 into overtime.

After spotting Yellowhead a 2-0 first period lead, the Hawks got a solo shorthanded goal early in the second from Tyson Allison, who then tied it at 6:49.

After Yellowhead went ahead a goal, special teams did it again for the

Hawks when Derek Wiebe scored another shorthanded at 15:48 of the third period.

Shots on goal were 35-23 for Yellowhead, with Brock Moroz making 31 saves in goal for the Hawks.

Pembina Valley continues to hold down seventh place at 12-9-2-1 for 27

points. They are seven points back of Brandon at 34 and just two up on the Winnipeg Bruins at 25 points.

This week, the Hawks are slated to host Winnipeg Wild on Wednesday (results were not available at press time) and travel to Portage Saturday to face the Central Plains Capitals.

Lady Hawks 1-4 at showcase

By Lorne Stelmach

The female Pembina Valley Hawks went one for four on the weekend at the Manitoba AAA midget challenge.

The tournament was part of Hockey Manitoba's Girls Hockey United Showcase, which also featured a bantam AAA tournament, junior women's all-star game, and sessions with two-time Olympic women's champion Cassie Campbell-Pascall.

Pembina Valley started the weekend well with a 2-0 shutout of the Interlake Lightning on Friday.

They struggled on Saturday, though, falling to the elite Balmoral Hall Blazers of Winnipeg 9-1 and then to the Weyburn Gold Wings 3-1. Sunday saw them wrap the weekend up with a 3-2 loss to Pilot Mound Academy.

Regan Durand got the 18 save shutout against Interlake, while Abbi Conrad and then Cora Fijala on a

power play got second period goals for the Hawks, who outshot the Lightning 36-18.

The Hawks actually kept pace with the Blazers through 40 minutes, only trailing 2-0 going into the third period. But then the floodgates opened with six unanswered goals by Balmoral before Erica Pouteau scored the lone Pembina Valley goal with

Continued on page 28

Pembina Valley's winning streak comes to an end

By Lorne Stelmach

The Pembina Valley Twisters saw their winning streak come to an end last weekend.

The MMJHL team had won their 11th straight game Friday in outscoring the Fort Garry Fort Rouge Twins 7-5, but they followed it up with a 7-6 overtime loss to the St. Vital Victorias Sunday.

The Twisters scored four times in a seven goal second period against the Twins as they expanded on a 2-0 first period lead to go ahead 6-3 after two.

Wyatt Sabourin led the way with a hat trick, bringing him to 10 on the season, while Travis Penner chipped in a pair to put him at 15 goals.

Also scoring were Quade Froese and Braeden Beernaerts, while Travis Klassen earned the win with 29 saves off 34 shots. His teammates fired 56 the other way.

On Sunday, it was a game of mo-

mentum swings. The Victorias held leads of 3-0 and 4-1 in the first period, but the Twisters fired a pair of second period powerplay goals that tied the game 4-4. Pembina Valley then moved ahead 6-4 in the third only to see St. Vital find the mark with two goals in 32 seconds to force overtime.

The Twisters spread the scoring around with goals coming from Mark Klassen, Derek Wood, Jeremie Goderis, Van De Velde, TJ Matuszewski, and Penner.

Shots on goal were 45-41 for the Twisters. Sharing the netminding duties were Martin Gagnon, who allowed three goals on 11 shots, and Klassen, who stopped 26 of the 30 shots he faced.

Pembina Valley still holds first place in the standings at 16-2-3 for 35 points, but right on their heels are the Raiders at 34 and St. James Canucks at 32 points.

The offence continues to drive the Twisters, who not only have four of

the top ten point-getters but also lead the league with 116 goals overall. Second in scoring and leading the Twisters is Beernaerts with 14 goals and 38 points followed by Goderis with 17 goals and 36 points.

The Twisters' lone game this week is Friday when they are in Winnipeg to face the St. James Canucks.

They then have three games next week starting with hosting the Charleswood Hawks Tuesday in Morris.

> HAWKS, FROM PG. 27

about two minutes left.

The Blazers outshot the Hawks 33-11 including 21-9 in the final frame alone. Kadynce Romijn made 24 saves overall.

Zoey Pearce scored the lone Pembina Valley goal on a second peri-

od powerplay to open scoring against Weyburn, while Durand made 23 saves with the shots 26-23 in favour of Weyburn, who got the win short-handed in the third.

Special teams made the difference for Pilot Mound, as they scored twice on the powerplay and once short-handed to down the Hawks.

Jolyne LeClair and Tessa Odell scored in the third period for the Hawks to momentarily draw them even at 2-2.

Shots were 26-17 for the Hawks with Romijn tagged with the loss despite 14 saves.

Pembina Valley will aim to gain some ground when they are in Portage Friday to take on the Central Plains Capitals and in Hartney Sunday to face the Westman Wildcats.

They go into the weekend in sixth place at 6-5-2 for 14 points, which has them three back of Central Plains and Eastman and four behind the Avros

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COMING EVENTS

You are cordially invited to Christmas Eve at the Morden Church of God...



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Free Community Christmas Supper
4:30 - 6:00 p.m.
Please call 204-822-5557 by Dec. 20th to register
6:00 - 6:30 p.m. - Hot Apple Cider, Christmas Goodies and Photo Op
6:30 p.m. - Candlelight Christmas Eve Service
Morden Church of God - 141 6th Street
www.mordenchurchofgod.org

COMING EVENTS

A Christmas Musical Drama
Sunday, December 16 at 6:00 PM

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Grandma has an extra place set at the table...Who is it for? This Christmas we all need a reminder of the real reason of why Jesus came and the difference He can make.

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NOTICES

RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF STANLEY
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

On the date and at the time and location shown below, a PUBLIC HEARING will be held to receive representations from any person(s) who wish to make them in respect to the following matter:
RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF STANLEY BY-LAW NO. 12-18, being a By-law to close a municipal road.

HEARING LOCATION: R.M. of Stanley Council Chamber, 23111 PTH 14W
DATE & TIME: Thursday, January 10th, 2019 at 9:15 a.m.
GENERAL INTENT OF THE BY-LAW: To close a portion of Public Road Plan 611 (W Div) MLTO shown as Parcels A and B on a Plan prepared by Albert G. Degner (Deposit No. 1068/2018) in W 1/2 of 13-3-6W.
AREA: W 1/2 of 13-3-6W in the R.M. of Stanley

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: Dale Toews, Chief Administrative Officer
Box 1600 Winkler, MB R6W 4B5, 23111 PTH 14W
Phone: (204) 325-4101

The purpose of the hearing is to allow any interested person to make a representation, ask questions or register an objection.

Additional information and documents concerning this matter and procedures to be followed at the public hearing are available for review at the R.M. of Stanley office (23111 PTH 14W) during regular office hours, Monday to Friday.

COMING EVENTS

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OBITUARY



Lena (Helen) Hildebrand (nee Kroeker) 1922 – 2018

On Saturday, December 1, 2018, Helen Hildebrand age 96 years of Morden, MB went to her eternal rest.

Helen was born on May 19, 1922 in the Glencross district to Bernard and Helena Kroeker (nee Boschman). She was baptized upon the confession of her faith. On October 3, 1943 she married Abram A. Hildebrand. Together they had seven daughters and three sons.

She will be sadly missed by her 10 children, Helena (Glen) Wiebe, Abe (Marge) Hildebrand, MaryAnne (Ed) Dyck, Margaret (Jack) Enns, Evelyn Hildebrand, John (Shirley) Hildebrand, Tom (Lori) Hildebrand, Shirley (Neil) Wolfe, Becky (Duane) Legros, Joanna (Garry) Hildebrand; 23 grandchildren; 21 great-grandchildren; three great-great grandchildren as well as one brother, nieces, nephews and her many friends at Oak West Estates. She was predeceased by Abram in 2008 as well as one son-in-law and one grandson-in-law.

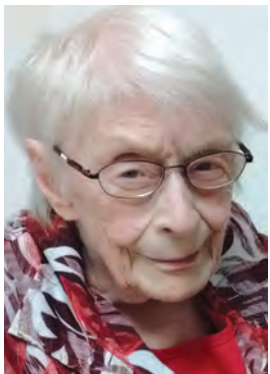
Memorial service was held at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, December 7, 2018 at the Morden EMMC with interment prior at the Glencross Church Cemetery.

Donations may be made in Helen's memory to the Back to the Bible Broadcast.

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



OBITUARY



Helen Stobbe 1925 – 2018

Helen Stobbe went to her eternal rest on Monday, December 3, 2018 at the age of 93. Helen had been residing at the Tabor Home in Morden, MB since early 2007.

Helen was predeceased by her sisters, Irene of Winkler, Irma of Portage la Prairie, and Willy of

Drake, Sk. She leaves in her passing several nieces and nephews, Beverley (Robert) of Parksville BC, Carol (Greg) of Shelter Bay Marina Panama, Tammy (Pierre) of San Remo Australia, Glen (Deb) of Camrose AB, Doug (Lois) of Duxbury Massachusetts. She also leaves 16 great nieces and nephews and many great great nieces and nephews. Helen was predeceased by her father, Cornelius C. Stobbe in September 1924.

Helen was born in Rush Lake SK on March 20, 1925. Her mother, Helena remarried John D. Elias in March of 1927, whereupon Helen and Helena moved to Drake, Sk. In Drake Helen's mother and new father began a new family in addition to John D's previous children. The new family grew to include Irene, Irma, and Willy.

In March of 1944 the family moved to Winkler, MB to live in a brand-new house her father had built for them. Helen and her mother resided in that house up until 1968. Helen grew to love gardening. She and her mother had a vast garden including raspberries, plum and apple trees. They also had a large vegetable and flower garden area. Helen loved walking and would walk to town most days for the shopping and mail. She also had a great love for singing and spent many years in the Berghaler Church choir. Years later at Tabor Home Helen always looked forward to the Sunday services with its singing and during Christmas season singing carols in "the big room". Helen's love for music didn't end there. She purchased an organ and spent many years learning to play and loved showing friends and family her accomplishments. Ever since Helen was small, she had a love for dolls and over the many years amassed an interesting collection, all of course with names and clothing she had sewed. She also had an interesting collection of clocks and watches. The clocks would be all set to ring at different times of the day. Helen's greatest love later in life was animals of all sorts. Thus, she had a huge collection of small stuffed toys who rode along with her in her walker and later in her wheelchair.

The most amazing ability Helen had was her memory and her ability with numbers. It was more than extraordinary! She could remember exact dates and the corresponding weather for specific events. She could remember grocery bills with their totals and dates going back decades. She and her phenomenal memory were very instrumental in helping her niece Beverley write a family history a year ago. Helen was also very political. She always watched the news and would like to say she received her monthly income personally from the prime minister at the time. While Helen lived at Tabor Home, Helen grew to really enjoy the game of Bingo at which she became very adept and more than a bit lucky! Helen's favourite colours throughout her life were red and white and so ALL of her clothing had to be in her one of those colours. Over the years Helen made many, many friends at the Tabor Home. Helen will be missed by all who grew to love her.

Funeral service was held at 2:00 p.m. on Monday, December 10, 2018 at Wiebe Funeral Home in Winkler with interment at the Winkler Cemetery.

Donations may be made in Helen's memory to the Tabor Home.

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



OBITUARY



Michael Meier 1951-2018

On the morning of Friday, November 30, 2018 Michael peacefully passed away with his family by his side.

He was predeceased by his father, George and mother, Regina; two brothers, George and Josef. He is survived by his loving wife, Ida; daughter, Olga (Alex); son, Michael (Tatiana). He will be missed by many friends and family. Especially important to him were his grandchildren, Jack (Krista), Jason, Alex, Anastacia, Emily, Enrico, Jonathan and Celina. He will forever be remembered for his enduring spirit and positive attitude.

Funeral service was held at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, December 7, 2018 at Wiebe Funeral Chapel in Morden with interment at Southside Cemetery.

The family would like to thank everyone that has helped and supported us through this long and strenuous process. A special thank you to the staff at Boundary Trails Health Centre (Medical Ward) and Dr. C. Woelk for the comfort provided to all of us in Michael's final weeks.

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



OBITUARY



Elma Peters (nee Tiessen) 1929 - 2018

Mom passed away on Wednesday, December 5, 2018 and leaves to mourn, her four daughters: Ellie and Gary Loewen and children – Charlotte, Rosanna, Dan and their families; Dorothy Peters, Louise and Barry Braun, Irene and Hans Friesen and children – Evelyn, Konrad and families, Karl and Kevin. Our mom continues to be dearly loved, and we her family will miss her very much.

Memorial service was held at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, December 8, 2018 at Emmanuel Mennonite Church in Winkler with interment prior to the service at the Blumenort Cemetery, near Gretna.

Donations in Elma's memory may be made to the MCC, designated to "Water Projects".

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



OBITUARY



Ruth Reimer (nee Enns) 1955 – 2018

On Wednesday, November 28, 2018 after a two-and-a-half-year battle with cancer, Ruth Reimer age 63 years of Winkler, MB, with her family by her side, went to her eternal rest at Boundary Trails Health Centre.

She leaves to mourn her husband, Garry; her daughter, Shelly and Jeff Friesen and their children, Samuel, Madeline, Seth, Benjamin, Jonathan, Levi, Jeremiah and Vivian; her son, Garry and Pam Reimer and their children, Gabriel and Isabel; as well as nine sisters, one brother and their families. She was predeceased by her parents, William and Susie Enns and four brothers.

Ruth was born on November 21, 1955 in Winkler to Susie and William P.E. Enns. She lived just outside of Schanzenfeld and attended elementary school in Chortitz and high school in Winkler. She married Garry Reimer on April 29, 1973. They had a daughter Shelly, who married Jeff Friesen who have eight children and they had a son, Garry Jr. who married Pam Suderman and they have two children. Her 10 grandchildren were her pride and joy. Ruth was saved as a child while attending Bible Camp and was baptized along with her husband, by her son-in-law, Pastor Jeff Friesen in Longbow Lake, by Kenora, Ontario in 2004. Ruth worked for many years at the Winkler Daycare Centre and many children in the community have mentioned remembering being under her care. Later in life she changed careers and graduated at 55 years old as a Hearing Aid Practitioner. In April of 2016, she was diagnosed with cancer and she had a remarkable spirit of strength and acceptance throughout her illness. The family would like to thank Dr. Cornie Woelk, Dr. Aly Dhala, the nurses at Cancer Care, and the palliative ward for their exceptional thoughtfulness and care.

Funeral service was held at 2:00 p.m. on Monday, December 3, 2018 at the Pembina Valley Baptist Church with interment at Westridge Memorial Gardens.

Wiebe Funeral Home, Winkler
In care of arrangements
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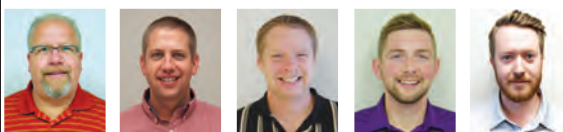
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