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Voice

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Scotties champs

The Fort Rouge team of Kaitlyn Lawes, Selena Njegovan, Jocelyn Peterman, Kristin McCuish, and coach Connor Njegovan won the Manitoba Scotties Tournament of Hearts in Morden Sunday. See inside for more Scotties coverage.
PHOTO BY RICK HIEBERT/VOICE

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Canada

Morden's Winterfest returns bigger and better Feb. 10

By Lorne Stelmach

Morden's annual celebration of the community's cultural diversity returns next week with some fine-tuning having been done to improve it.

Set for Saturday, Feb. 10, it is following the same format introduced last year with separate pavilions, but they have been moved to larger locations this time around.

"One of biggest problems last year was getting enough people through ... that was a lot of the feedback we got from people who were attending," said Shelly Voth, immigration co-ordinator for the City of Morden and a member of the Winterfest organizing committee. "There also wasn't enough time to get to all of them, so we've also extended the hours. That was the other feedback we received."

The Morden Multicultural Winterfest began not only as a celebration of the winter season but also the growing diversity of Morden, giving people the chance to learn a little more about their neighbours and their cul-

tural traditions.

The event returned last year post-pandemic with the new format where there were about a half dozen different pavilion locations around Morden. In the past it had all been held at the Access Event Centre.

"We can't put it all in one venue anymore because of the space that is needed," Voth said, noting this year there will be four indoors pavilions in addition to the outdoor Canadian pavilion at Lake Minnewasta.

The East Asian pavilion will be located in the Access Event Centre hall, South Asia booths will be at the West-side Church gym, the African pavilion will be at the Morden Alliance Church, and Europe and Latin America will be represented in the Morden Collegiate gym.

Each pavilion will feature entertainment including dancing and/or music as well as food and snacks, cultural displays, and other activities

Voth noted it would be hard to represent all of the cultures that are in Morden today, so it in some part de-



VOICE FILE PHOTO

The 2024 Morden Multicultural Winterfest sets up shop in five locations throughout town on Saturday, Feb. 10.

pends on which ones can pull together enough volunteers to put on a pavilion.

"There's also several cultures in each venue ... there's perhaps five or six distinct cultures within a venue," she said. "We were able to rely on local talent when it was smaller, but now, as it's growing, we also have a lot more diversity and talent coming into Morden to fill all of those roles."

Voth noted they are encouraging people to make use of the three 24-passenger buses that will be available to transport people from one location to the next.

"We will have three buses running steady on a loop between the pavil-

ions. We would like people to know of that option and to make use of that option so that we are not as congested, especially at the lake as far as parking," she said, suggesting the best option for parking would be at the Access Event Centre.

She was optimistic the event would be well received once again.

"It's great for long term residents of Morden as well to be able to see all of their new neighbours and where they are from," she said. "It's so very Morden to celebrate the different cultures and to have everybody excited about learning about other cultures ... it's a place where people can feel included."

Five-year-old killed in Winkler toboggan-vehicle accident

By Voice staff

A five-year-old boy was killed in an accident in Winkler over the weekend.

Early Sunday afternoon, emergency crews responded to a report of a child being hit by a vehicle in a residential bay on the south side of town.

When police arrived, the child was lying unresponsive on the roadway and nearby residents were performing CPR on him.

Further investigation revealed the victim had been sliding down a snow hill and onto the street with a toboggan.

Police say a driver, who had been

visiting friends in the bay, backed his vehicle out of a driveway, unaware the child had slid out onto the street.

As he was reversing, the driver turned his vehicle in the direction of leaving the bay, came to a stop, and then moved forward, unaware the child was immediately in front of his bumper. As the vehicle moved forward, it drove over the child.

Police say the driver stopped and remained on the scene.

The child was transported to Boundary Trails Health Centre by paramedics where he died as a result of his injuries.

Police continue to investigate. No charges have been laid at this time.

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“All I’ve heard is such positive things”

By Lorne Stelmach

Morden came through with flying colours as the host for the Scotties Tournament of Hearts provincial women’s curling championship.



The week of top level and highly competitive curling concluded Sunday afternoon with Kaitlyn Lawes edging Beth Peterson 9-8, and host committee chairperson Ernie Epp was all smiles.

“I’ve loved every minute of it, and I’m going to miss not being here tomorrow,” he said.

Epp was very pleased with the response overall—from the fans who packed the stands to the sponsors who provided overwhelming support to the hundreds of volunteers who made it all run smoothly behind the scenes.

“I’m ecstatic. The response from the fans, from the sponsors, from the players ... all I’ve heard is such positive things,” he said.

“There was no complaints about the ice. The icemakers did a fantastic job,” Epp continued. “The curling was stellar, and the fans are so knowledge-



PHOTOS BY RICK HIEBERT/VOICE

Above: The Morden Scotties host committee received kudos at the closing ceremonies Sunday night. Left: Chair Ernie Epp said it was a great week for the community.

able; they knew when there was a great shot made, and they responded.

“Then to have a Mordenite in the finals [Katherine Doerksen of Team Peterson] when the game is being played in Morden, how can you ask for any better?”

He also saluted the large contingent of fans who came daily as well

Continued on page 4

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Winkler hosting Settlers of Catan qualifier

Winner will be sent to compete at national competition in Toronto this spring

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Winkler is the place to be for Settlers of Catan players Louis Riel Day weekend.

Sixteen13 Ministry is hosting its first annual Manitoba Catan Tournament EtherLan Winkler fundraiser Feb. 18-19 at The Bunker (545 Industrial Dr.).

While EtherLan video and board gaming events have been happening for nearly 20 years now, including Settlers of Catan competitions, there's something special about this one, shares organizer Harold Espinosa.

"This one is exciting because it's a fundraiser and, at the same time, we are qualifiers for the Catan National Championships. I've been dreaming of doing something like this for a long time," he says, explaining they're one of only a limited number of qualifiers across the country. "We've got people from Saskatchewan coming, and from all over."

"It's all about getting together as people, having fun, and helping others through ministry by playing a board game."

The winner will not only qualify to compete on the national stage in Toronto this spring, but also have their flights and hotel covered for the trip.

A win at nationals, then, would send the player to the Catan World Championship in 2025 (location not yet announced).

If enough people sign-up to compete, Winkler's event could earn another fun distinction for the community.

"If we can do more than 150 people, we beat the Americans in their largest tournament," Espinosa says. "It'll put us on the map."

At press time, the Winkler qualifier was the only one listed on the official Settlers of Catan Canada website for Manitoba, though Espinosa hears there may be one or two other tournaments being planned in smaller communities.

"I think we're the only city in Manitoba that's doing it ... so we're going to be posting in Winnipeg everywhere to try to get the 150 people."

The day will start that Sunday afternoon with registration at 2 p.m. followed by the first of three rounds of games at 2:30 p.m. Participants are guaranteed three games and will also be served supper.

On Monday, the top gamers will enter the semi-finals at 10:30 a.m. followed by a provided lunch and then



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Organizing the upcoming Settlers of Catan tournament for Sixteen13 ministry is (from left) Harold Espinosa, Morgan Wiebe, Silas Goertzen, Anny Goertzen, Michelle Goertzen, Tiffany Krahn, and Eva Unger.

the final match at 1:30 p.m.

If you want to take part, you're encouraged to register in advance at etherlan.ca/catan. There will be limited registration at the door. Tickets are \$49.26 each. You must be 18+ to compete.

Funds raised that day will go to support Sixteen13's outreach programming, which includes sharing the Christian gospel, helping newcomers to Canada settle in, and aiding others in need in the Winkler-Morden area.

They currently work with 150 local families and have 70 volunteers, Espinosa shares.

If you'd like to support the competition as a sponsor, contact Espinosa at 204-332-0586.

Espinosa says they intend to make this a regular event.

"This is the first of many that's going to happen. This year we aim for 150 people. Next year we're going to double it."

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Police investigating stabbing

By Voice staff

Winkler Police are investigating a stabbing that took place on Jan. 24.

Just after midnight last Wednesday, police received a report of an injured person in the 1600 block of Grandeur Ave. They found a seriously injured 66-year-old female on the scene.

Police report that an immediate family member of the victim had begun assaulting them. When the victim attempted to flee the residence, the suspect produced an edged weapon and stabbed them multiple times in the upper

body while uttering death threats.

The victim was eventually able to escape and call for help.

The suspect was found inside the residence and placed under arrest without incident.

The victim was transported to hospital by paramedics where she was treated and has since been released.

A 38-year-old Winkler woman has been charged with aggravated assault, uttering threats to cause death, and forcible confinement. She has been remanded in custody.

> SCOTTIES, FROM PG. 3

from Carman in support of their local team skipped by Shaela Hayward.

The week was further proof of how Morden has always come through with hosting these kinds of events, said Epp.

"Those 200 volunteers who worked their butts off this week, I can't say enough about them," he said. "The curling community here is far bigger than just the city of Morden

boundaries ... the majority of volunteers and sponsors were from Morden, but it went beyond that.

"Chatting with some volunteers, they drove a fair distance just to be able to say they contributed to this event. They know how beneficial it is for us to do this kind of thing and raise some funds for our curling club, so it's awesome."

Stroke survivor support group puts call out for members

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Pembina Valley's new peer support group for stroke survivors has steadily grown since launching last fall, but organizers hope to see even more people take part in the months ahead.

Led by Dr. Margie Hesom, who survived a stroke herself a few years ago, the group meets the third Tuesday of the month from 10 a.m. to noon at the Central Station Community Centre in Winkler (555 Main St.).

At last month's meeting, 10 people, survivors and family members alike, came together to share their stories and lean on each other for support.

Lloyd Ching's stroke was three years ago. He joined the group in the hopes of finding encouragement and motivation as he works towards leaving his wheelchair behind.

"I'm progressing slowly, I think," he shared. "All I need is a little bit of energy to get better. I've kind of lost interest [in recovery] and I thought this group would kind of get me back in the groove again."

Hearing other people's journeys has

been both inspiring and comforting, Ching said, knowing he's not alone in what he's going through.

"We've got the same problems," he said. "When you're on your own, you're always thinking the worst. But this, I hope, will help. You've got to have people [around you]. The more the merrier, I think."

"My dad always said ... if you have a problem, just find a rainy day and go to a neighbour's place and get together and talk. You'll find out that maybe somebody else has the same problem or worse."

"It's good to have a support system of other people around you that have gone through similar things, or more things," agreed Greg Armistead, a fellow stroke survivor. "It's good to be a part of a team that can help you get back, and support each other."

Angela Bergman has been attending alongside her mother, who had her second stroke six months ago. She's there to support her mom, but also learn more about what she's going through.

"The Stroke Recovery Association



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

The new peer support group for stroke survivors is a welcoming bunch who meet at Central Station in Winkler the third Tuesday of the month.

came into Riverview [a recovery centre in Winnipeg] when my mom was there. It was two individuals who had been stroke survivors and it really opened up my understanding on how to be there for my mom," Bergman said. "To hear other stories and to share ideas of things you can try, it just broadens your perspective of it and how to be there for them."

Sharing experiences is what the group is all about, Hesom said.

"We're just sharing stories and goals and encouragement," she said, noting they've been pleased to welcome newcomers every month so far.

They hope to eventually bring in guest speakers—doctors, physiother-

apists, dietitians, lawyers, long-term survivors—and also provide participants with access to other recovery resources that are available, though Hesom noted it has been frustrating in that many such resources are Winnipeg-based right now.

Registration for the support group is not required; simply stop by to join in. The next meeting will be Feb. 20.

"Your stroke doesn't have to be recent," Hesom stressed. "Even if it was years ago, we want to support you and we want to hear from you."

You can also learn more at www.strokerecovery.ca or by contacting Hesom at 204-362-7088.

Chronic wasting disease found in Winkler area deer

By Voice staff

A case of chronic wasting disease (CWD) has been identified in our area for the first time.

First detected in Manitoba in 2021, a total of 26 cases of CWD have been found, including 22 mule deer and four white-tailed deer.

The latest case was found in a female white-tailed deer near Winkler in a biological sample submitted by a hunter, Manitoba Economic Development, Investment, Trade and Natural Resources reported last week.

Before now, positive cases have occurred only in two distinct and localized areas along the province's western border.

CWD is an incurable, fatal disease that affects members of the deer family (cervids) including white-tailed deer, mule deer, elk, moose, and caribou. Animals infected with CWD may appear healthy until the later stages of the disease.

If the disease spreads and becomes endemic to Manitoba, there is a serious risk that CWD will threaten the

health of all cervid populations in the province, officials says.

CWD is not known as a human health risk but meat from a CWD-infected animal is not recommended for consumption.

Hunters who are active in areas where CWD is a concern should get harvested animals tested, practice safe carcass-handling protocols, and avoid consumption of any animal that has tested positive for CWD.

The province thanks hunters for participating in efforts to manage CWD by submitting samples to the provincially run testing program. Testing turnaround times have improved considerably in 2023-24, they report, now averaging approximately six to eight weeks following the submission of a sample.

Sample results from harvested animals are posted at www.gov.mb.ca/nrnd/fish-wildlife/wildlife/cwd-results/cwd-results.html.

Hunters with questions or concerns about an animal that has been harvested can email CWD@gov.mb.ca or call 1-204-638-4570.

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OUR SISTER PUBLICATIONS



It's the end of the world as we know it

The impact of the printing press is sweeping the known world and no one will be left unaffected by its remarkable, almost artificially intelligent, feature set.

This incredible machine takes tasks that normally require days, sometimes weeks or months and compresses it into mere hours as pamphlets, posters and even books are created in the blink of an eye.

Of course, with such innovation there comes risk and potential job loss.

Reports are coming in to the newsroom that as many as 90 per cent of monks who work in scriptoriums will find themselves out of a job and likely forced into menial roles such as hoeing potatoes or hoeing carrots or hoeing turnips ... basically there will be a lot of hoeing involved in the new world order.

Yes, machines are taking our jobs! Every day more and more people find themselves having to adjust to the superiority of the machine as it prints documents at the lightning speed of one page per minute instead of one page per day or two.

Sure, the machine requires a designer, people to manufacture all of the components and others to actually operate and maintain it, but what about the loss of high quality, good old-fashioned writing, complete with

cat footprints from when old Puss walked across the wet page whilst someone (Brother Eric!) was taking a lunch break.

Such charming moments are now lost as we fall to the inhuman, stark new world of the soulless machine.

I imagine the above to be a somewhat exaggerated example of how some people might have felt at the advent of the printing press in Europe. In many ways this is how people have felt every time technology takes a step forward and threatens the current order.

No one today would suggest that returning to the scriptorium would be a more efficient way of producing documents. Those that were once involved in the handmade codicil and scroll industry moved on after some transition and the world kept turning.

When the chainsaw took over from the axe in mass deforestation projects, we kept going. When the laser printer took over from the printing press, we kept going. When Henry Ford in-

troduced automation and when the sewing machine slowly made the tailoring industry shrink, we kept going. We adapted.

So too will we adapt to the introduction and rapid adoption of AI despite all the potential risks. Heck, I even interviewed an AI (Microsoft Copilot) to tell me about the risks of adopting

AI, and it shamelessly and without fear told me the following:

"AI development poses great potential risk to humanity," said Microsoft Copilot with an imagined evil laugh. "Experts and researchers have warned that AI algorithms can improve them-

selves without human intervention, pose a control problem, and (lead to) a nuclear-level catastrophe. The rapid improvement of AI algorithms is a key issue, and the development is going way too fast."

Continued on page 7



By Peter Cantelon

"ANYTHING INTRODUCED THAT CHANGES THE WAY WE USED TO DO THINGS CREATES A LEVEL OF UNCERTAINTY ..."

Letter policy

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

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

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

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

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getheard

EDITORIAL > VIEWPOINTS > LETTERS

• DON'T MIND THE MESS

The party line

still remember that long, curly cord stretched tight across the wall, and disappearing behind the porch door. It was attached to the old black rotary telephone that hung on the kitchen wall in the farmhouse where I grew up.

If any of us needed a little privacy in that crowded and curious household, we'd quietly slip into the entrance with the receiver, softly close the door, and try to carry on a conversation away from all the listening ears.

That room was unheated and un-



By Lori Penner

insulated, so on a cold January night or a broiling hot July day, we generally kept our chats short. But that little attempt at solitude didn't shield the caller from a world of torment.

When one of us seven siblings tucked behind that door with the receiver, the rest of us would knock on it relentlessly until our mother finally interceded with "the look" that only mothers know how to give.

Mom also used that isolation method when she called her sisters or friends. We heard her muffled voice and bursts of laughter on the other side of that door and knew to leave her alone for a while. Or else. Unless, of course, you were my eldest brother, who was always up for a good joke and had no problem with a bit of parental wrath.

The rest of us just watched from a safe distance, in frightened expectation for the show to begin.

First, he knocked gently, just a few times, to get her ire up. He allowed a minute to lapse and knocked a little harder. The door opened, just a crack, and mid-conversation, he would receive "the look."

Then the door quickly closed.

For anyone with any sense, that should have been enough. But when it came to teasing, my brother had no boundaries.

He waited another minute or so and knocked again. And again. This would go on for quite a while. My mother had obviously slipped into "ignore them and they'll go away" mode. This ploy would have worked with anyone except my brother.

He knocked one last time, and the door burst open. My mother stood there, receiver still attached to her ear, shaking her tiny fist with fire in her eyes, all the while continuing the friendly exchange with the person on the other line, as if nothing was going on.

Now, my gentle mom would never actually use that fist. We all knew it. Even her spankings, which I can count on one hand, were more like forceful pats.

I can't remember if she ever threw any shoes during that process. Maybe I blocked that out. That cord wasn't very long, so it may not have been physically possible. I do wonder if the person on the other end ever noticed any change in the timbre of her voice. If not, my mother should have chosen a career in Hollywood instead of a farmer's wife and mother to a crowd

of mischievous kids.

But there was revenge to be had. Her chats with her sisters were often so long, we had to put off our own calls to friends or our current crushes for what seemed like hours. This was long before cell phones, and with only one land line in the house, we all had to learn a little patience. And throw in the fact that it was a party line, so if any of the neighbours were making calls, we all had to wait.

I look at the ease in communication we take for granted now, receiving, and making phone calls any time, anywhere. We're not hunting for a pay phone in an emergency or waiting for a neighbour to finally hang up. And our privacy isn't dictated by the length of the cord.

Somehow, it's just not as much fun as it used to be.

> CANTELON, FROM PG. 6

Do I sense a threat in this answer? Anything introduced that changes the way we used to do things creates a level of uncertainty which in turn leads to a level of fear and push back. Sure, the printing press didn't personally threaten humanity with nuclear annihilation but how likely is that really? I asked an AI and it said:

"It is important to note that these risks are not inevitable and can be mitigated through careful planning and regulation."

See. Nothing to worry about.

Like the printing press, automation, the chainsaw and the sewing machine before it we will adapt to

the introduction of AI and drive new efficiencies in how we do things that (hopefully) will improve lives everywhere. Give it time.

BREAKING NEWS ...

Dear Peter. We are happy to inform you that we have appointed Microsoft Copilot as your "copilot" to assist you in "flying" your columns to the newsroom and "landing" them safely on our desk.

We trust this new partnership will be completely non-threatening and in no way foreshadows your replacement.

Warm regards,
EditorBOT

letters

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS KUDOS

I've been meaning to post a thank you for weeks to go out to Greenvalley Equipment Inc and Duron Equipment Inc. for taking the time to put up the Christmas lights this winter.

I, along with hundreds of others, drive that stretch every night. You have no idea how it brightens my night seeing those lights shining after spending the evening with my husband at Salem Home.

I know I and others were so disappointed that the other businesses along the corridor, (ie: Mazor Group, Rocky Mountain Equipment, and Precision Land Solutions), chose not to put up lights this winter. I'm sure they have their reasons but, just so you know, it was really missed during these long, dark nights.

Margo Friesen,
Morden

The Voice

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Do you have a suggestion for our news team?

Is there someone you would like to see recognized in the newspaper for their accomplishments - athletic, academic or community service.



Morden Elks donate \$14K to BTHC Fdn.

Members of the Morden Elks Branch #478 visited the Boundary Trails Health Centre recently to present the BTHC Foundation with a donation of \$14,700—the proceeds from the service club's annual Cash is King raffle. The foundation will use the funds to purchase medical equipment from the hospital's wish list. Pictured here are Morden Elks Raffle committee members Rob Dudgeon, Gary Grabowski, and Cam Fehr with BTHC Foundation executive director Shannon Samatte-Folkett.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Genesis House Caring Dads session starts Feb. 20

By Lorne Stelmach

Genesis House hopes there will be a long-term future for a program that works with men to help address the safety and well-being of families.

The Caring Dads program has the fifth of six planned 17-week sessions starting Feb. 20, and executive director Ang Braun would like to see them continue down the road.

"It has been received well," said Braun, although she acknowledged there are a number of challenges with the program.

"It is an intense program. It requires people taking the program to become quite vulnerable, and it also requires quite a large commitment because it's a 17-week commitment," she noted. "It also does really expect accountability ... the dad really needs to take responsibility for his role.

Caring Dads is described as an evidence-based program that helps fathers make positive changes in their lives. It focuses on the participant's accountability for abuse, countering the attitudes linked to abusive and neglectful behaviors and on promoting healthy relationships.

It was specifically designed from the premise that violence against women and violence against children are intricately intertwined, and that these two issues both can and should be addressed together.

"There was an appetite for men's programming, and there is a gap for sure," Braun said, explaining the initia-

"THERE WAS AN APPETITE FOR MEN'S PROGRAMMING, AND THERE IS A GAP FOR SURE."

tive became possible locally thanks to provincial funding.

She said they see it as very beneficial in addressing the issue in a different way by working with the men.

"We thought maybe if we were working with the dads, we could be influencing in a positive way ... because so many of our families want to reunite, maybe this would be a healthy way of trying to approach it."

Braun noted a similar program is offered through Child and Family Services, but "what we wanted was to offer it to the general community.

"The shelter had a men's program running previously for a short time, and we found a number of challenges with it. One was the sustainability ... finding funding for it. I have trouble finding funding just to keep on going here at the shelter," said Braun.

"We were sorry to have to let that program go," she said, adding, however, there was some good things learned from it that could help better shape Caring Dads.

"We want this to be a safe place where you can say, 'I have hurt people and I don't want to anymore. How do I do better?'" she said. "Any change is hard, but the longer you stay with the program and have the support of peers around

you, the better chance you have that it's really going to become part of your everyday."

The program offers a unique opportunity for men to connect as fathers with a combination of active group discussions, exercises, and homework.

Participants leave the program having developed skills to cope in healthy ways with frustrating situations, a better understanding of how different fathering strategies and choices affect children, an increased awareness of controlling, abusive, and neglectful attitudes and behaviours, as well as strategies to strengthen the father-child relationship.

Braun noted they have set a maximum of 10 participants but had not reached that number as of last week.

Still, she remains hopeful about the program. "We've had people come from far away to be part of the program," Braun said. "If the programs were consistently full, it would give us very good evidence to bring forward and say hey, look, there needs to be more funding for this program."

For more information about the Caring Dads program, head to caringdads.org, email children@genesis-house.ca, or call 204-325-9957 ext. 2225.

PV Pride hosting info. workshops across region

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Pembina Valley Pride is hosting a series of workshops across the region this month designed to educate people about the 2SLGBTQIANB+ community.

"These events are something that I've really wanted to do for a long time," shares chair Kat Basso. "We've had lots of people over the past few years who are supportive of the Rainbow community but aren't 100 per cent sure on things like terminology or what the acronym means and stuff like that. So our goal with these events is to create a space that encourages people to learn and also empowers them to have

"OUR GOAL WITH THESE EVENTS IS TO CREATE A SPACE THAT ENCOURAGES PEOPLE TO LEARN ..."

that knowledge.

"I know a lot of people are worried about asking questions the right way so they're not hurting somebody or offending people," she adds.

Continued on page 9

Art as therapy



PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Close to two dozen people took in an art therapy workshop Friday evening at the Pembina Hills Gallery in Morden. The Pembina Hills Art Council invited Lauren Adams, a registered art therapist, to host the session that encouraged participants to explore their inner selves with art. Adams guided people through art-based activities designed to promote self-reflection and release from stress and/or trauma and to use art as a tool for expressing feelings.

> PEMBINA VALLEY PRIDE, FROM PG. 8

“The goal with these is to create an environment where you don’t have to ask things the right way to get the answer you’re looking for.”

The free workshops will include a presentation on the Rainbow community and Pembina Valley Pride’s activities, and then the speakers will open things up to the floor for questions.

“We’ll do our best to answer as best we can,” Basso says.

The workshops take place on Wednesday, Feb. 7 from 7-9 p.m. at United Community Arts in Pilot Mound, Saturday, Feb. 10 from 2-4 p.m. at The Community Exchange in Altona, Thursday, Feb. 15 from 7-9 p.m. at the Manitou Library, Tuesday, Feb. 20 from 7-9 p.m. at the Pembina Hills Arts Centre in Morden, and Thursday, Feb. 29 from 7-9

p.m. at Paul’s Place in Carman.

They’re also working on dates and times for workshops in Winkler and Miami. Details will be posted on Pembina Valley Pride’s social media pages once they’re available.

Beyond these opportunities to educate, Basso notes Pembina Valley Pride is also active in providing safe spaces for local 2SLGBTQIANB+ individuals and supporters to get together. There are monthly games nights being held in Winkler, Morden, Altona, and Carman.

“We’re building quite a significant community that attends these game nights,” Basso says.

A little further down the road, the annual Pembina Valley Pride march returns to Altona this year. It takes place on Saturday, June 8.

Collaboration MB

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RCMP respond to shots fired in Emerson-Franklin

By Voice staff

RCMP officers from Morris, Emerson and St-Pierre Jolys responded to a shots fired call just after 4 a.m. on Monday, Jan. 22.

It was reported that a male and female met up earlier that morning on Gosselin Road, in St. Malo. They were in a vehicle together when

another vehicle pulled up and a male pointed a firearm at the male and demanded money.

The male suspect then fled in his vehicle with an undisclosed amount of cash. The female left shortly after in her own vehicle.

The victim left the scene and contacted a friend. They both returned to the area to try and locate the male suspect and the female, but they

were no longer in the area.

They then headed towards the female's residence in the RM of Emerson-Franklin, and while en route they came across the suspect vehicle parked near the home.

While one of the males was walking towards the suspect vehicle, a shot was fired in his direction. He returned to his vehicle and called police.

RCMP officers attended the residence, where a male and female were arrested without incident and two firearms were seized.

A 48-year-old female from the RM of Emerson-Franklin has been charged with robbery with a firearm, possession of a weapon for a dangerous purpose, unsafe storage of firearms, and unauthorized possession of a firearm.

A 64-year-old male from the RM of East St. Paul has been charged with robbery with a firearm, discharge firearm with intent, pointing a firearm, possession of a weapon for dangerous purpose, unsafe storage of firearms, and unauthorized possession of a firearm.

The investigation is ongoing.

AgriInsurance expected to pay out nearly \$5B

By Voice staff

Manitoba's AgriInsurance program is expected to provide farmers with nearly \$5 billion in coverage on an estimated 9.55 million acres for the upcoming crop year, federal Agriculture and Agri-Food Minister Lawrence MacAulay and Manitoba Agriculture Minister Ron Kostyshyn announced in Brandon last month.

"Canadian farmers have experienced a challenging growing year, battling a range of extreme weather events from floods to wildfires and drought," said MacAulay. "We know the uncertainty this causes for the sector, and why access to flexible and affordable risk management tools are so vitally important."

"The AgriInsurance program covers over 80 different crop types and will help ensure our hardworking farmers in Manitoba are able to continue to produce the high-quality products they are known for."

The ministers released details indicating that 2024 Agri-Insurance premiums will be lower than they were in 2023 for most crops insured in Manitoba. For annual crops, producers can expect to pay an average premium of \$16.21 per acre in 2024 compared to \$19.21 per acre in 2023.

"Managing costs and risks will be critical for success as margins are projected to tighten," said Kostyshyn. "We're pleased to offer affordable and effective risk management for Manitoba farmers through the AgriInsurance program."

Continued volatility in global commodity markets has impacted AgriInsurance dollar values for the 2024 season, government reps report. Some crops such as dry beans, forage seeds, potatoes, vegetables and forages will have higher dollar values. For the majority of crops, however, dollar values are lower than 2023.

The AgriInsurance program is a risk management tool for Manitoba farmers to protect against production shortfalls and quality losses caused by natural perils. It is run by the Manitoba Agricultural Services Corporation.

MASC is further enhancing the AgriInsurance program by launching a pilot program for the upcoming crop year

Continued on page 17



Morris Area Recreation

13th Annual Winter Carnival & Cancer Care MB Fundraiser

FEBRUARY 3, 2024

11:00 am - 3:00 pm












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All Proceeds to Cancer Care Manitoba

Stay after the Twisters game and help raise funds for Cancer Care with the Annual Twister Head Shave!

DONATE DIRECTLY TO CANCER CARE

<https://support.cancercarefdn.mb.ca/goto/PembinaValleyTwisters>

11:00 am-3:00 pm

(Outdoor)

Outdoor Fire pits

Outdoor Skating Rink

Toboggan Hills

Hotdog BBQ

Dunk Tank - donate to dunk your favourite Town "Celebrities"



Cancer Care Manitoba FOUNDATION

11:00 am-3:00 pm

(Indoor)

Hot Chocolate & Cookie

Try Curling (clean shoes required)

Bouncy Houses

Cotton Candy

Beer Garden

Silent Auction

50/50 License No. 4344

Hockey Games | \$25.00 - 3 game packs

Mavericks VS. Altona | 1:00 pm

Red River Wild Senior VS Portage | 5:00 pm

Pembina Valley Twisters VS Twins | 8:00 pm

Roaring Leos hosting used book sale this Sat.

Partial proceeds go to Pembina Valley Humane Society

By Lorne Stelmach

A fundraising book sale this weekend is a good example of how the Morden Roaring Lions and Roaring Leos service clubs want to get involved in and impact the community.

The sale hosted by the Leos—the youth version of the Lions—this Saturday from 5-8 p.m. at the 500 Stephen community centre will benefit both the organization and the community.

“It’s a win-win for everyone,” said Yevgeniya Tatarenko, who is the new advisor for the Leos club. “The idea was just to come up with an event that will connect with everyone at different levels, different ages ... people love to read and love books, no matter how old you are ... and people sometimes have too many books, so they can share them.”

Tatarenko said the sale promises book-lovers an opportunity to discover different books while supporting a great cause, as a portion of the proceeds will go to the Pembina Valley

Humane Society.

The sale will feature a variety of books priced at \$5 or lower, depending on their condition, so you will definitely be able to find something that captures your interest.

The book sale was rescheduled from early January to allow them more time to plan and collect more materials, said Tatarenko, who has been involved with the club since late last year.

“It’s been a pleasure to see these young achievers and their passion for making a difference in the community ... even for me, it’s an additional inspiration,” she said, suggesting the experience will make the youth better and in turn make the community better. “It’s really awesome. I really love being able to help them and direct them.”

The membership has varied in size over the past year; they currently have nine active youth members.

“With this event, maybe we can kind of showcase what we are and what we have planned,” Tatarenko said. “We want to recruit and invite more members.”

Bruce Robert, who is the organizational founder for the Morden Roaring Lions, said the Leos have a vital role in their plans to serve the community for many years to come.



MORDEN ROARING LIONS PHOTO

Bruce Robert and Yevgeniya Tatarenko, shown here at a Halloween event at 500 Stephen last fall, head up the Morden Roaring Lions and Roaring Leos service clubs. The Leos are hosting a used book sale this weekend to raise funds for charity.

He noted the members who make up the membership for both clubs are largely newcomers to Canada.

“From their own countries, they know the impact Lions Club International has had, as many times the Lions, much like the Red Cross, are the first to have boots on the ground, so to speak, when disaster strikes,” said Robert. “They are a great organization for the many causes they serve such as hunger, vision, childhood pediatric cancer, the environment and so on.”

“The great thing about having our

newcomers as members of both Lions and Leos is that, when they are doing projects, they are working alongside many community members who have been here many years and have a great knowledge of the area and it’s needs when it comes to community effort,” he concluded. “It is a great way to help integrate them into the community and an excellent way to bring both community and newcomer together.”

Clinic distributes survey to assess primary care deficit

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler and District Healthcare Board and the C.W. Wiebe Medical Centre have turned to the business community for help in assessing primary care needs in the area.

A short survey has been sent out to all Winkler chamber members for distribution to their employees.

It has just three questions: which company do you work for, how many people are in your household/family, and do you have access to a primary care provider/family doctor?

Acting clinic executive director Jim Neufeld explains this is one of multiple ways they’re trying to get a sense for the local needs.

“We know at this time that we just don’t have the resources right now to be able to meet all the primary care needs for the population in this area,”

he said. “We know that, but it’s hard to actually get a good sense of the full scope of that problem, of how big that deficit is. There are different pieces of information around, but there’s isn’t anything that’s really comprehensive.”

Utilizing the chamber’s membership seemed a good way to reach a lot of people with the survey, Neufeld said, noting they’re also assessing information from other sources, including reaching out to other community stakeholders.

“We’re hoping to get a good sense of the scope of the work we have to do,” he said.

The struggle many people in the community have in finding a family doctor of late has its roots in a lot of factors.

“We’ve had some physicians leave the area in the past number of years

... and we know the population continues to grow, because we see many people new to the community that are showing up looking for [a family doctor],” Neufeld said.

“The public also doesn’t always realize, but pretty much all of the physicians we have working here also provide care at the hospital, and with how things have changed in the area, in different communities, Boundary Trails is taking on a greater load, and so our physicians have more demands on their time at the hospital. So all of those things lead to the situation we’re in.”

Neufeld advises people looking for a family doctor to register with the province’s Family Doctor Finder (you can do so online at gov.mb.ca/health/familydoctorfinder/ or by calling 1-866-690-8260).

“When we’re in a situation where

we can take on more patients, we go to that service,” he said. “But we also know that not nearly everyone that’s in a situation that they’re looking for a family doctor has registered with that program, so we’re trying to get information from as many sources as we can.”

“We’re going to need many partners in this to solve this situation,” Neufeld continued. “We’ll get there, we know that, but we need to work with our community, we need to work with the Southern Health regional health authority, and even the province on certain initiatives on meeting the demands out this way.”

“We want to get as accurate picture as we can when we start engaging these other groups on this situation.”

Check out the Voice online at www.winklormordenvoice.ca or altonavoiced.ca

getinformed

MFRC launches lending library

By Lorne Stelmach

The Morden Family Resource Centre is offering a new service to provide families with some educational fun.

It is building up a toy lending library with an assortment of games, puzzles, and other hands-on activities for families to borrow and enjoy.

Families can sign items out and take them home for one or two weeks, explained executive director Jen Froese.

"We have great activities for families to do at home, especially in the winter months," she said. "We are also introducing our new pre-school busy binders. They are offer pre-school based activities to work on with their parents and caregivers ... and most four or five-year-olds can even do them independently.

"These are a must for helping to offer non screen-based activities at home," Froese continued. "The binders are centred around different hol-

iday themes, animals and seasons. Each binder has different activities to work on numeracy, literacy, hand-eye co-ordination, and recognizing shapes and colours.

"The busy binders are awesome too for the pre-school kids to be interactive with their parents at home," she said. "There's lots of counting, matching, things to do with shapes and colours. They're great for kids to learn at home and prepare for coming to kindergarten."

When it comes to the other goodies in their lending library, Froese noted many board games can be very expensive for families, so this is a good way to try them out first.

MFRC are looking for donations of new or gently used pre-school games and puzzles. If you've got a few you can part with, email program assistant Galene Westhaver at galene@mfrsprogramassistant@gmail.com.



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Morden Family Resource Centre program assistant Galene Westhaver with the new toy lending library, which includes a variety of board games, puzzles, and other activities for families to enjoy.

Morden, Stanley okay health care funding levy

By Lorne Stelmach

Morden and the RM of Stanley have joined Winkler in setting out funding plans to support health care in the region.

Both councils recently approved special service bylaws that will provide financial support for the expansion of Boundary Trails Health Centre as well as the clinics in both Morden and Winkler.

"Health care is something that we all need ... and it's very important in our region. We're very fortunate to have good health care," said RM of Stanley Reeve Ike Friesen.

The municipality will contribute \$1,680,000 over a four year period, or \$420,000 annually from 2024 to 2027.

It will be calculated on the portioned value of all assessable proper-

ty based on the 2023 assessments. The mill rate levy of 0.516 mills would mean a property with a market value of \$250,000 and portioned value of \$112,500 would be charged a health service levy of \$58.05.

"We've been committing to the Morden and Winkler clinics for several years, and now what we're doing is showing it as a special service levy along with the hospital expansion commitment that we've made over a four year period," said Friesen. "This pulls part of it out of general taxes and showing it as a separate line but also a new commitment to the hospital expansion ... people will know exactly what we are committing."

"They are very important projects," said Morden Mayor Nancy Penner.

The city is committing \$1.1 million to the hospital expansion over four

years, or \$275,000 annually. As well, there is \$125,000 going annually to Menzies Medical Centre over the four years for a total of \$400,000 annually. The bottom line is a flat rate of \$91 on tax bills.

"We thought that was a fair way to do it rather than do it on the mill rate," Penner suggested. "Health care is beneficial to everyone, so this doesn't discriminate on income or the size of your home ... everybody is impacted by health care ... we felt this was a fair way to do it."

It will be similar in Winkler, where a special service tax will be levied annually from 2024 to 2027 on a per parcel basis against all rateable properties, including otherwise exempt properties in Winkler. The levy passed first reading at council early last month.

Property owners will pay a project-

ed \$91 a year for this levy, generating \$530,500 in funds annually for a total of \$2.1 million for the BTHC and the C.W. Wiebe Medical Centre.

The proposals now await approval of the Manitoba Municipal Board before returning to the councils.

Meanwhile, Morden also recently approved another special service levy connected to the new École Discovery Trails for its track and field project.

The \$50,000 annual commitment will mean an \$11.35 charge each year for a four-year levy

"We feel that it is a value to the whole community again as part of health living because that school track will not only benefit the school and our children and promote healthy living within the school system, the track will be available to the community as a whole," said Penner.

The **Voice**

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Faith Mission hosts bale-a-thon

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Volunteers worked long hours last week at Winkler's Faith Mission to help the Christian non-profit get caught up on its clothing donation backlog.

The three-day bale-a-thon started Thursday and ran into the weekend, with volunteer groups coming from all over to work well into the night sorting and packaging clothing for shipment to those in need overseas.

"It's all mostly church groups," executive director Nathan Elias shared Friday morning. "We had one group from Steinbach, there's a local Ukrainian group of refugees ... and the ones who are here right now are from Arborg."

Speaking on behalf of volunteers that day from Interlake Mennonite Fellowship Church was Ken Reimer.

He says the church are always looking for ways to give back.

"We came out to help here for the

day," he said, noting IMF had about two dozen people there that day, all eager to make a difference.

"I think it's a good mission," Reimer said of Faith Mission. "They're helping people in need."

While volunteers sorting through clothing donations are a regular occurrence at the Cargill Dr. facility, a sustained, multi-day push like this is a first for them.

"We had a real backup [of donations]," Elias said. "We had so much clothes that every time we'd have a group come in they'd get quite a few baled but it felt like we weren't getting anywhere with catching up."

"It's been in my mind for awhile already to do something like this, and I just figured now was the perfect time."

Elias was thrilled at the volunteer support the bale-a-thon drew, and he expects they'll do it again in the future.

The sorted clothes are bound for



PHOTOS BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Faith Mission executive director Nathan Elias with the dozens of bales of clothing volunteers got sorted for shipment to Ukraine last week. Below: This group from Interlake Mennonite Fellowship Church spent Friday sorting and baling clothes. They were one of several church groups who came out for three days last week to work long hours to get the mission caught up on its clothing donations.

Ukraine. Faith Mission sent 13 shipping containers of clothing and aid supplies to Ukraine in 2023, and they

expect to send 15 or 16 containers this year.



Axess Transit to provide taxi service in Carman

By Ty Dilello

Wave goodbye to the frustrations of unreliable transportation options and say hello to a new taxi service in Carman.

In a town where previous attempts at establishing a reliable taxi service have faltered, the arrival of Axess Transit Inc. in Carman brings renewed hope for convenient and efficient transportation options. As a division of Morden Taxi, which has already made waves in southern Manitoba since its inception last July, Axess Transit is poised to make its mark in Carman this year.

"We have four caravans in Morden

and one in Carman for now with a possible second vehicle coming to Carman as demand gets greater," said Joe Janzen of Axess Transit Inc.

Janzen notes that business has been

a little slow in Carman to start, but that's a given when a new business comes into a new community.

"We go anywhere that's needed," said Janzen. "So far we've been going

quite a bit to Winnipeg as well ... we do go to the United States if anyone needs that service across the border."

Axess Transit can be reached at 431-774-8294.

Discovery Trails vice-principal announced

By Voice staff

Jenn Kroetsch will fill the vice-principal role for École Discovery Trails this fall, Western School Division announced last week.

She joins Samuel Jerema, who was previously named principal, to com-

plete the new Morden K-8 school's administrative team.

Kroetsch has over 18 years of experience in K-8 education, including serving as vice-principal and resource teacher at Minnewasta School since the fall of 2020.

With a background in special educa-

tion, Kroetsch has a passion for making schools an inclusive place for all students, the division shared, noting she is looking forward to creating a welcoming and positive environment for students, staff, and families at École Discovery Trails in the fall.



Morden hosts the Scotties

The Access Event Centre in Morden welcomed teams and curling fans from across the province to town last week for the 2024 Manitoba Scotties Tournament of Hearts, the provincial women's curling championship. Clockwise from above:

Teams file in during the opening ceremonies Wednesday evening; Kaitlyn Lawes addresses curling fans after her team won the tournament Sunday night; Katherine Doerksen returned to her hometown of Morden to play with Team Peterson, which lost to Team Lawes in the championship final; the event centre's Huron Window Corporation Arena was transformed into a three-sheet curling rink; Carman's Team Hayward—featuring Shaela Hayward, India Young, Rylie Cox, and Keira Krahn—fought hard through the week and earned three wins and two losses.

PHOTOS BY RICK HIEBERT/VOICE





PHOTOS BY RICK HIEBERT/VOICE

Above: Over 200 volunteers worked hard behind-the-scenes to make the Scotties such a success. Right, top: the opening ceremonial rock was thrown by Lynn Sandercock and swept by Pam Goertzen and Lauren Weselak: Right, below: That '80s Band entertained off the ice at the event centre.



Left: Altona's Mackenzie Zacharias competed with Team Cameron, whose playoff hopes ended with an 8-4 loss to Team Peterson in the semi-final match. Below: Host committee chair Ernie Epp receives a plaque from CurlManitoba for the community commemorating the Scotties. Left: Team Lawes and Team Peterson square off in the championship final to see who'd earn the trophy and the Buffalo jackets.



sports & recreation

Team Lawes wins final 9-8 to capture Scotties title

By Lorne Stelmach

A well-played close final Sunday afternoon in Morden capped off the Scotties Tournament of Hearts with the top seeded team skipped by Kaitlyn Lawes edging the Beth Peterson foursome 9-8.

It was a close game the whole way between Lawes, who finished 5-0 in the round robin, and Peterson, who went 3-2 and whose team included Morden native Katherine Doerksen.

The key shot in the end was a Lawes deuce in the ninth when she faced two and played a re-direct hit, just rubbing off a Peterson stone in the front of the eight foot circle and doubling out the second stone on the centre line in the back of the eight foot circle.

Team Lawes jumped out to a 4-1 lead after three ends, but Peterson and her team fought back to tie it up 7-7 after eight.

The Lawes deuce in the ninth end set the stage for a dramatic tenth when Peterson had a chance to draw through a narrow port to the four foot circle for a pair and a tie. She navigated the port but slid a few inches too deep and scored just a single.

"When I let it go, I thought it was



Skip Kaitlyn Lawes shouts directions to her sweepers in Sunday's Scotties Tournament of Hearts final, which Team Lawes won 9-8 against the Beth Peterson foursome that included Mordenite Katherine Doerksen. Below: Fans filled the stands at the Access Event Centre for the championship game.

PHOTOS BY RICK HIEBERT/VOICE

close, and it's either a flash or a two, so we went for it, and I thought it was kind of a gutsy call," Lawes said of her critical deuce.

"There were some great shots made on both sides and just some great line calls and well swept," she said, noting as well a key shot in the seventh when

she called for a little nudge to prevent a steal.

"It was very intense. Beth and her team played phenomenal, like first end runback after runback, and we knew we had to bring our A game and had to hang in there and make some big shots."

A teary Peterson afterwards lamented coming up just short at the end of a challenging week which saw her and a teammate both make visits to the walk-in clinic with injuries and needing to have their fifth step in as well.

"I'm so proud of the girls ... people don't even know how much adversity we had this week," she said. "It was a really long week with a lot of challenges thrown our way, and I just thought we had this last one ... I'm pretty devastated."

Despite the challenges, the Peterson team qualified for the championship round with a 3-2 round robin record and then were the only team to win all three championship round games and played a precision control game to win the semi-final over third seeded Kate Cameron.

She was optimistic heading into the championship final.

"Honestly, the girls did such a good job of keeping us in that game. It was



SEMHL teams head into final week of regular season action

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Altona Maroons stumbled in the second-last week of the SEMHL season.

The team were blanked by the visiting Portage Islanders 4-0 last Thursday night and then got run over by the Notre Dame Hawks 11-0, also at home, Saturday night.

It puts the Maroons in tenth and last place in the standings with a 3-13-0-1 record and one more game to go in the season. They host the Warren Mercs Thursday night.

Down the road, the Red River Wild had a better go of things, defeating the Ste. Anne Aces 7-6 Saturday night.

Tyler Anderson, Paul Remillard (with two), Jonah Wasylak, Colin Baudry, Gavin Froese, and Drayden Kurbatoff all scored for the Wild. Mark Friesen got the win in net, mak-

ing 34 saves.

It puts the Wild's record at 11-3-0-1 for 23 points and third place, behind Ste. Anne in first (30 points) and Warren in second (26 points).

This week the Wild travel to play in Warren Friday and then host Portage in Morris on Saturday. They wrap up the regular season next Tuesday in Notre Dame.

Finally, the Winkler Royals and the Morden Bombers squared off in Winkler for their lone game of the week.

Morden won it 4-1 thanks to a pair of goals from Andrew Clark and singles from Karl Fey and Jaden Townsend. Scoring for Winkler was Marcus Neufeld.

Winkler won the shots battle 39-35, with Reed Peters making 38 saves for Morden and Jayme Janzen stopping 31 for Winkler.

It gives Morden a record of 8-6-1-2



PHOTO BY EDWARD VINCENT ARCENAL/VOICE

The Altona Maroons had a rough go of it in their two home games last week, falling to Portage 4-0 Thursday (above) and then to Notre Dame 11-0 Saturday.

for 19 points and fourth place. The Royals are at 5-8-1-1 for 12 points and eighth place.

This week, the Bombers close out their regular season schedule in Portage Wednesday night. Winkler hosts Ile des Chenes Wednesday, plays in

Notre Dame Saturday, and then hosts Portage Sunday.

Playoffs will get underway next week, once the final games determine the standings for the top five teams.

Terriers put an end to Flyers' eight-game win streak

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler Flyers' eight-game winning streak came to an end last week thanks to the Portage Terriers.

The road game was a close one for Winkler's junior team, but they found themselves on the wrong side of a 2-1 score.

Trent Penner got the Flyers' lone goal early in the first period. It took the Terriers until the frame's final few seconds to tie it up. They then scored the game-winner with less than five minutes to go in the third.

Malachi Klassen made 25 saves in net for Winkler off 27 shots on goal. His teammates fired 26 the other way.

The Flyers shook off the loss and went on to defeat the first-place Steinbach Pistons Friday night.

Winkler was up 3-0 heading into the final few minutes of the game (Brody Beauchemin having scored in the first and second periods and Dalton Andrew adding one more for Winkler at 14:59 of the third) when the Pistons finally got on the board. They followed it up with their second of the night shortly after, but failed to further close the gap. Winkler won it 3-2.

Klassen had a 35-save night as Steinbach outshot Winkler 37-33.

The Flyers put a lot more distance

between themselves and the Waywayseecappo Wolverines in Sunday night's home game.

Goals from Isaiah Peters, Andrew, Marek Miller, Nich McKee, and Avery Andreson gave the Flyers the

> SCOTTIES, FROM PG. 16

a tough game, and we were down a lot, but a lot of good shots made, so I'm really proud of this team," said Peterson, who called it a hard loss that was going to sting for awhile. "Kaitlyn made some really key shots ... you can never count her out, and she made a great shot."

Lawes was equally proud of her new Fort Rouge team that includes Selena Njegovan, Jocelyn Peterman, and Kristin McCuish.

> AGRINSURANCE, FROM PG. 10

designed to meet the needs of small-scale vegetable producers.

The program will allow producers to bundle eligible crops to meet acreage minimums so they can adequately insure a variety of their vegetable crops.

The Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership (Sustainable CAP)

win 5-2. Liam Ernst was between the posts this match for Winkler, making 39 saves off 41 shots.

The Flyers are currently in second place in the MGEU East Division with a record of 30-6-2-2 and 64 points.

"It's our first provincial win as a team, and I'm so proud of the girls for hanging in there right to the end," she said.

Lawes sees winning the provincial championship as really helping build their team confidence now going as Team Manitoba to the national Scotties Tournament of Hearts later this month alongside fellow Manitoba teams led by Kerri Einarson and Jennifer Jones.

They're just three points behind the Steinbach Pistons in first place and four ahead of the Terriers in third.

Coming up, the team hosts Dauphin Friday night and Swan Valley Sunday afternoon.

"Any chance you get to play in big finals, we keep saying the more finals we can get into the better, and it's really exciting going into the Scotties being Team Manitoba," said Lawes, who concluded with encouraging words for the Peterson team. "They had a phenomenal week, and look out—they're a great team, and they'll be right there for the next few years."

is a five-year, \$3.5-billion investment by Canada's federal, provincial, and territorial governments that supports Canada's agri-food and agri-products sectors.

Under the Sustainable CAP, Agri-Insurance premiums for most programs are shared 40 per cent by insured producers, 36 per cent by the

government of Canada, and 24 per cent by the Manitoba government. Administrative expenses are shared 60 per cent by Canada and 40 per cent by Manitoba.

For more information, contact MASC at www.masc.mb.ca/masc.nsf/contact.html or go to www.masc.mb.ca/masc.nsf/index.html.

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PUBLIC NOTICE



CITY OF WINKLER PUBLIC NOTICE

REGARDING SPECIAL SERVICE PROPOSAL NO. 45 - BY-LAW NO. 2312-24 FOR THE PROVISION OF WASTE, COMPOST AND RECYCLING SERVICES

The Council of the City of Winkler has scheduled a public hearing at Winkler City Hall, 185 Main Street, Winkler, MB on the 13th day of February, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. to the present the following special service proposal:

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF SPECIAL SERVICES PLAN NO. 45
The City of Winkler provides solid waste collection, as well as compost and recycling services to residents within the City of Winkler. The City of Winkler contracts out these services to private contractors. The purpose of this Special Service Plan is to levy a fair tax to all residential properties. The plan will show the amounts to be levied to single and multi-family properties in the levy area.
The Special Service Area to be levied under this proposal will be all residential properties within the City of Winkler.
The City of Winkler has contracted MWM Environmental for curbside collection of solid waste, Green Opportunities Inc. for collection and processing of compost materials and Gateway Resources has been contracted for curbside collection and processing of all recycling materials in the City of Winkler. The estimated annual cost for providing this service is a total cost of \$709,760 for 2024 to a maximum of \$1,109,000 for 2028. The cost is based on a total number of 4,436 dwelling units.
The special service tax will be levied annually, from 2024 to 2028, inclusive on a per parcel basis.

*The cost of the service will be as follows:
All rates are based on an annual basis:
Single Family Residences \$160.00 up to a maximum of \$250.00
Multi Family Residences \$160.00 up to a maximum of
(Duplexes and up) \$250.00/dwelling*

These rates are based on weekly waste, compost and recycling pickup.
A written objection may be filed with the City Manager, at 185 Main Street, Winkler, Manitoba, prior to the commencement of the hearing. At the hearing, Council will hear any potential ratepayer who wishes to make a presentation, ask questions or register an objection to the special service proposal.

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

Copies of the Special Services Plan No. 45 are available at the City of Winkler office at 185 Main Street, Winkler, MB, and on the municipal website at www.cityofwinkler.ca.

Dated at the City of Winkler this 4th day of January, 2024, and issued pursuant to Section 318 of The Municipal Act.

Jody Penner
City Manager
City of Winkler
204-325-9524

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PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING UNDER THE PLANNING ACT

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:

General Intent: Subject to Section 290 (1 & 2) of The Municipal Act, a municipality may close a municipal road by passing a by-law closing the road and must give public notice and hold a public hearing in respect of the proposed closure. This hearing is required to amend and correct By-law 2294-23, adopted on August 8, 2023, to allow the portion of Russet Road described as Parcel B on Schedule A below (already closed) to remain under City of Winkler control for land drainage purposes.

Area: All that portion of Russet Road, Parcel B, Plan (Dep 1597-2022) MLTO in the NW ¼ 2-3-4 WPM, as shown in heavy solid lines on the map attached hereto as Schedule A. (By-law 2311-23)

Contact: Jody Penner, City Manager
City of Winkler
Phone: (204) 325-9524

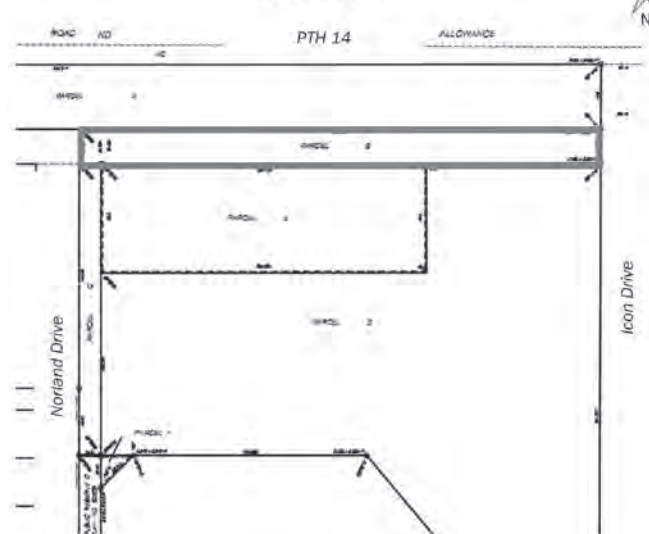
Date of Hearing: February 13, 2024

Time of Hearing: 6:30 p.m.

Location: Winkler Council Chambers, 185 Main Street, Winkler, Manitoba

A copy of the above proposal and supporting material may be inspected at the location noted above during normal office hours, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday to Thursday and 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 pm Friday. Copies may be made, and extracts taken therefrom upon request.

SCHEDULE A



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PUBLIC NOTICE



CITY OF MORDEN PUBLIC NOTICE

REGARDING SPECIAL SERVICE PROPOSAL NO. 2-2024 / BY-LAW NO. 03-2024 TO PROVIDE A HIGH QUALITY AND WELL-MAINTAINED RUBBERIZED COMMUNITY TRACK AND FIELD SPACE FOR THE DISCOVERY TRAILS SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS OF THE CITY OF MORDEN

The Council of the City of Morden has scheduled a public hearing at the City of Morden Civic Center on the 26th of February 2024 at 7:30 PM to present the following special service proposal:

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF SPECIAL SERVICES PLAN NO. 2-2024

The City of Morden proposes to support the funding request received from the Western School Division. The Special Service is intended to provide a high quality and well-maintained rubberized community Track and Field space for the Discovery Trails School and community members of the City of Morden. This project will provide inclusive, accessible, and equitable recreation opportunities for both the school division and all community members. This improvement is a joint effort between the City of Morden and Western School Division. The City of Morden will contribute a total of \$250,000.00.

The Special Service Tax to be levied under this proposal will be all rateable properties within the City of Morden. The estimated cost of the Special Service plan for the next five years is as follows

2024	\$50,000	2026	\$50,000	2028	\$50,000
2025	\$50,000	2027	\$50,000		

METHOD AND RATE TO CALCULATE SPECIAL SERVICE TAX

The special service tax will be levied annually, from 2024 to 2028, inclusive on a per parcel basis against all rateable properties, including otherwise exempt properties, within the City of Morden.

The cost of the service will be as follows:

All rates are based on an annual basis:

All rateable properties: \$11.35 per parcel (assessment roll number) in each of the years 2024 to 2028.

A written objection may be filed with the City Manager at 100-195 Stephen St., Morden, Canada, R6M 1V3 prior to the commencement of the hearing. At the hearing, Council will hear any potential taxpayer who wishes to make a presentation, ask questions, or register an objection to the special service proposal.

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

Copies of the Special Service Plan No. 2-2024 are available at the municipal office at 100-195 Stephen St., Morden, Manitoba, R6M 1V3 and on the municipal website at <https://www.mymorden.ca/>

Dated at the City of Morden this 1st day of February A.D. 2024 and issued pursuant to Section 318 of The Municipal Act.

Nicole Reidle, CMMA City Manager
City of Morden 204-822-4434

PUBLIC NOTICE

**CITY OF MORDEN
PUBLIC NOTICE**

REGARDING SPECIAL SERVICE PROPOSAL NO.1-2024 / BY-LAW NO. 02-2024 TO PROMOTE AND IMPROVE HEALTH CARE FOR THE CITY OF MORDEN AND THE SURROUNDING REGION

The Council of the City of Morden has scheduled a public hearing at the City of Morden Civic Center on the 26th of February 2024 at 7:15 PM to present the following special service proposal:

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF SPECIAL SERVICES PLAN NO. 1-2024

The City of Morden proposes to support the funding request received from the Boundary Trails Health Centre Foundation and the Menzies Medical Centre (Clinic). The Special Service is intended to promote and improve health care for the City of Morden and the surrounding region. Improved health care in the region is expected to increase population growth and attract businesses. This improvement is a joint effort with the RM of Stanley and the City of Winkler. The City of Morden will contribute a total of \$1,600,000.00.

The Special Service Tax to be levied under this proposal will be all rateable properties within the City of Morden.

The estimated cost of the Special Service plan for the next four years is as follows:

2024	\$400,000	2026	\$400,000
2025	\$400,000	2027	\$400,000

METHOD AND RATE TO CALCULATE SPECIAL SERVICE TAX

The special service tax will be levied annually, from 2024 to 2027, inclusive on a per parcel basis against all rateable properties, including otherwise exempt properties, within the City of Morden.

The cost of the service will be as follows:

All rates are based on an annual basis:

All rateable properties: \$91.00 per parcel (assessment roll number) in each of the years 2024 to 2027.

A written objection may be filed with the City Manager at 100-195 Stephen St., Morden, Canada, R6M 1V3 prior to the commencement of the hearing. At the hearing, Council will hear any potential taxpayer who wishes to make a presentation, ask questions, or register an objection to the special service proposal.

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

Copies of the Special Service Plan No. 1-2024 are available at the municipal office at 100-195 Stephen St., Morden, Manitoba, R6M 1V3 and on the municipal website at <https://www.mymorden.ca/>

Dated at the City of Morden this 1st day of February A.D. 2024 and issued pursuant to Section 318 of The Municipal Act.

Nicole Reidle, CMMA
City Manager
City of Morden
204-822-4434



X CROSSWORD

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Become less intense
- 6. Variety of pear
- 10. Religion native to China
- 14. Type of tooth
- 15. Fitted out

- 17. Make every effort
- 19. Autonomic nervous system
- 20. Complete
- 21. Alternate name
- 22. River in France and

CAREERS



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CAREERS



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Preference will be given to those candidates holding a valid provincial Millwright or Industrial Mechanic ticket. Candidates who do not hold a valid ticket will be expected to enrol in the apprenticeship program to obtain their ticket as soon as possible. Overtime and on-call duties are required. The successful applicant will possess excellent written and verbal communication skills, trouble shooting skills, and be a team player.

The following would be considered an asset for this position:

- Experience in grain handling, processing, or manufacturing facility
 - Experience in industrial equipment maintenance and repair
 - Ability to read blueprints and technical documents
 - Pressure or structural welding tickets and related experience
- This is a regular full time position providing an excellent wage and benefits package. Bunge is committed to providing a safe, healthy, and rewarding workplace for all employees.

Starting Wages:

- Mechanic \$32.70/hour
- Red Seal Millwright: \$38.08/hour

A job description for this position can be found online on the Bunge website: <https://obs.bunge.com/>. enter "Altona" in the field "Search by Location". Click on "Maintenance Mechanic/Millwright" to read the description. Applications should be made online with an attached resume.

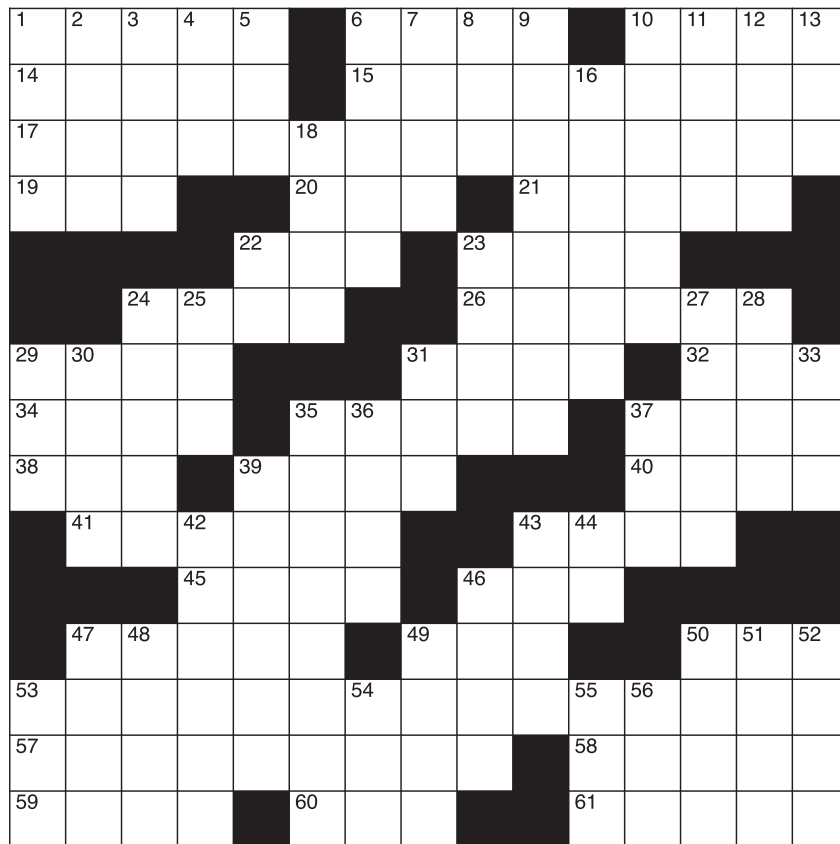
Bunge Canada is an equal opportunity employer.

Belgium

- 23. Miami's mascot is one
- 24. Turfs
- 26. Most cognizant of reality
- 29. Broad volcanic crater
- 31. Canadian surname
- 32. Satisfaction
- 34. Traitorous Greek mythological prince
- 35. Collide
- 37. Immune response
- 38. Feline
- 39. High opinion of one's own appearance
- 40. Thin strip to align parts
- 41. Containers
- 43. Convicted American spy
- 45. Breathe noisily
- 46. Taxi
- 47. Pancakes made from buckwheat flour
- 49. Swiss river
- 50. I.M. __, architect
- 53. Have surgery
- 57. Formal withdrawal
- 58. Dutch and German surname
- 59. Square measures 2,000 lbs.
- 61. Degrade someone

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Siberian river
- 2. Blessing
- 3. Substitutes (abbr.)



- 4. Principle underlying the universe
- 5. Work unit
- 6. Yellow edible fruits
- 7. Gemstone
- 8. A place ships dock (abbr.)
- 9. Evergreen tropical tree
- 10. Reality TV star Richards
- 11. Nonflowering aquatic plant
- 12. Stakes
- 13. Antidiuretic hormone
- 16. Make warm again

- 18. Light beams
- 22. Lethal dose
- 23. Terrorist group
- 24. Kids love him
- 25. Naturally occurring solid
- 27. German surname meaning "man from Saxony"
- 28. Popular cuisine
- 29. Partner to cheese
- 30. Type of horse
- 31. __ Diego
- 33. Defensive nuclear weapon
- 35. Most shrewd
- 36. It may be for shopping
- 37. Midway between south and southeast
- 39. A stock of foods
- 42. The bindings of books
- 43. Swiss river
- 44. Megabyte
- 46. Sammy __, songwriter
- 47. Dutch colonist
- 48. Clare Booth __, American writer
- 49. Sun or solar disk
- 50. Popular type of bread
- 51. Transfers of money (abbr.)
- 52. Association of engineering professionals
- 53. Young women's association
- 54. City
- 55. Niger-Congo branch of languages
- 56. Pointed end of a pen

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PARCEL II: LOT 2 PLAN 1867 MLTO EXC PLAN 2357 MLTO IN SE ¼ 7-1-2 WPM

Title No. 3047369/4 Roll No. 0081500 (approximately 79.75 acres)

Tenders may be submitted for each individual Parcel.

A cheque for \$10,000.00 must accompany the tender as a down payment. Written tenders must be received by 2:00 p.m. on February 15, 2024. Down payment will be returned if tender not accepted.

Closing date for the sale shall be March 15, 2024, by cash or approved loan proceeds. Any loan advances paid after closing date are subject to payment of interest at loan rate during reasonable delay for registration of security. Purchaser shall be responsible for payment of all 2024 property taxes and GST or shall self-assess for GST. Fertilizer has been pre-applied to the land and any successful buyer shall be responsible for payment in the amount of \$6,350.00, in addition to the purchase price.

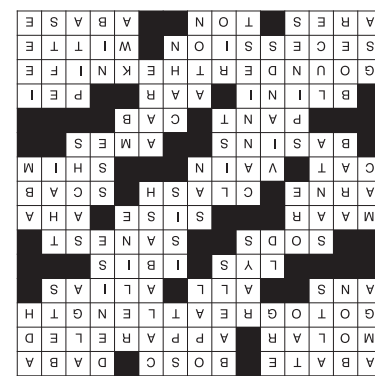
The highest or any Tender may not necessarily be accepted.

ADDRESS: DOELL LAW OFFICE
P.O. Box 1150
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Ph. (204) 325-8807

To the attention of Scott C. Doell

For more information on the tender email: info@doelllaw.com

Crossword Answer



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BIRTHDAY



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-From the family

BIRTHDAY



Happy 95th Birthday Leonard Dueck! A real-life Canadian pioneer, a wonderful father and husband, and a community leader. What a life!

-Lots of love from your family and friends

OBITUARY

Marcel Fillion



Peacefully, on January 24, 2024 Marcel Fillion, age 95 of St. Joseph, MB passed away at the Altona Hospital.

Marcel was born on October 1, 1928 in St. Jean Baptiste, MB. He was the second eldest of 15 children born to Leona (Delorme) and Adonias Fillion.

After his marriage to Adéline Gregoire, they began their lives as farmers in St. Joseph, MB.

Family was very important to Marcel. He was an honest, hardworking, bright and kind man.

He was involved in numerous committees and organizations, one being a councillor in the Montcalm Municipality. Marcel was always willing to lend a helping hand when needed.

His hearty laughter and the mischievous look in his eyes will be missed.

He is survived by his children Denis (Réjane) Fillion, Gisèle (Donald) Sabourin, Janine (Gilbert) Durand, Michel (Rick) Fillion, and Adéline (Rick) Sellwood; as well as 11 direct grandchildren and many great-grandchildren.

He was predeceased by his wife Adéline; two of their son's Jacques and Gérard as well as their son-in-law Neil, finally being reunited with them in God's home.

We would like to thank Gardens on Tenth for the excellent care given in Dad's last years. We also thank the staff at the Altona Hospital.

Prayers will be held at the St. Joseph Catholic Church on Friday, February 2 at 7:30 p.m. Funeral mass will be held at the church on Saturday, February 3 at 2:00 p.m. with rosary, viewing, and eulogy beginning at 1:00 p.m.

Wiebe Funeral Home Altona
in care of arrangements
www.wiebefhaltona.com

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REGISTRATION

PRAIRIE ROSE SCHOOL DIVISION KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

If your child was born in 2019, they are eligible to attend kindergarten beginning September 2024. Parents/guardians are asked to contact one of the following schools.

École Carman Elementary Pat Hamm, Interim Principal (204) 745-2623 Vanessa Giesbrecht, Secretary vgiesbrecht@g.prdsmb.ca	St. François Xavier School Marc Tellier, Principal (204) 864-2868 Debra Friesen, Secretary dfriesen@g.prdsmb.ca
Elm Creek School Ashley Cook, Interim Principal (204) 436-2354 Darlène Banman, Secretary dbanman@g.prdsmb.ca	École St. Eustache Lindsay Noël, Principal (204) 353-2869 Melanie Zimmermann, Secretary mzimmermann@g.prdsmb.ca
Miami School Brandy Chevalier, Principal (204) 435-2441 Leann Friesen, Secretary lfriesen@g.prdsmb.ca	St. Laurent School Bobby Ellis, Principal (204) 646-2209 Lori Combot, Secretary loricombot@g.prdsmb.ca
Roland School Melissa Benner, Principal (204) 343-2023 Marcia Rempel, Secretary mrempe@g.prdsmb.ca	

Your child's birth certificate or Manitoba Health Card MUST be presented at the time of registration.

Registrations will be accepted between February 5 - February 23, 2024. Please contact the school by phone or email to make arrangements.

PUBLIC NOTICE

UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE PLANNING ACT 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:

CITY OF MORDEN BY-LAW 16-2023

HEARING: Morden Civic Centre
LOCATION: 195 Stephen St., Morden, MB
DATE: February 26th, 2024
TIME: 7:00 pm
AREA: By-law 16-2023 will apply to properties East of The City of Morden described as PT. S. ½ 9-3-5W being Pt. lots 41 & 53, SS Plan 2020 MLTO and Pt. Parcel A, Plan 28796 MLTO

GENERAL INTENT: To amend by-law 1-2006 to provide cost recovery to the City of Morden General Operating Fund for the infrastructure costs associated with the development of the Pembina Connection as per Municipal Board Order No. E-05-100 & E-06-017

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:
Nicole Reidle, CMMA City Manager
100-195 Stephen St
Morden MB R6M 1V3
Phone: (204) 822-4434



A copy of the above proposal and supporting material may be inspected at the location noted above during office hours, Monday to Friday. Copies may be made, and extracts taken therefrom, upon request.

Sudoku Answer

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

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OBITUARY

Ernie Martens



Our beloved husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather went to be with his Lord, on January 10, at Boundary Trails Hospital, Winkler, MB at the age of 86.

He was born on February 17, 1937 at Gruenfelt, Saskatchewan to Heinrich and Anna Martens. He spent his early years on the dairy farm near Osler, Saskatchewan. At the age of 18 Dad saw his need for salvation, and he went to Rev. Pauls who explained salvation to him. Then he went home and knelt behind the barn and accepted Jesus as his Saviour and felt God's peace which followed him throughout his life.

He was baptized upon confession of his faith by Rev. John D Friesen on June 5, 1960 at the Westmount Evangelical Church, Saskatoon. He attended Steinbach Bible Institute for three years and spent one year at the M. B. Bible College, in Winnipeg. After

which he went back home to the family farm.

On July 5, 1969 he married Martha Dyck at Morrow Gospel Church in Winnipeg, officiated by Ben W Sawatzky. Timothy joined the family on May 24, 1970 and Jonathan joined on February 9, 1972.

In 1973 they moved to the Aylmer, ON area to help with church planting. In 1976 they moved to Horndean and he worked as a Health Care Aide at the Eden Mental Health Centre for 21 years. He enjoyed his work and retired in 1997. In 1998 they retired from the acreage and moved to Winkler and he cared for the Winkler cemetery for three years.

Throughout his life Dad enjoyed teaching adult Sunday School, serving as Deacon and on various committees. Hobby farming, and caring for trees were some of his side enjoyments. Dad's real passion was studying God's word and theology. After many years of studying at Steinbach Bible College he graduated in 1987 with a Bachelor of Religious Studies majoring in Biblical Studies. His desire and longing was that all would come to know Jesus as their personal Saviour and no one would be missing on that resurrection day. Ernie was hospitalized on November 6, 2023 and passed away peacefully January 10, 2024. He was predeceased by his parents, brother Ruben and sister Elsie. He leaves to mourn: his loving wife, Martha; two sons and their families: Tim and Michelle, Skyler Martens, Meeka and Rob Evans, Jon and Roxanne, Cassandra and Gerry Giesbrecht - Judah, Tayrn, Graham, Ginelle and Nick Temull, Riley and Ainsley Martens - Lincoln, Scarlet, Brendan and Shayla Elias, Larissa and Henry Hildebrand - Eli, Natalie and Dylan Wiebe - Finley, Lainey; one brother Harry and Eva Martens; many nieces and nephews.

We as family would like to thank you for all your prayers and acts of kindness and sharing time with us. May the Lord bless you.

-The family

OBITUARY

Dennis Allan Jones

June 11, 1945 - January 20, 2024

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the sudden passing of Dennis Jones, age 78, of Miami, MB.

Dennis will be mourned and sadly missed by his wife Susan of 54 years; four children: Carrie (Scott) Jones, Cheryl (Michael) Wright Israel, Chrissy (Scott) Hildebrand, and Allan (Alice) Jones; 11 grandchildren; cousin Warren (Cecile) Clearwater and their families, along with extended family, friends and neighbours.

Dennis was born in Winnipeg on June 11, 1945 and spent most of his childhood in Winnipeg alongside his cousin Warren who he considered a brother. On August 9th, 1969 Dennis married Susan Roy and in 1975 they moved to Carman where they raised their children on the Jones family farm alongside Dennis' parents. In 1999, they moved to Miami and enjoyed spending summers at West Hawk Lake.



Dennis would strike up a conversation with anyone, either to discuss his infamous station wagon, tell a joke or share one of his favourite stories. Dennis was always on the go with a fix-it project, lending a hand in the community, or helping a friend or family member get a job done. In his career, he achieved 35 years of service with CFIA with a dedicated interest in animal welfare. Dennis spent over 10 years as a volunteer firefighter for the Carman/Dufferin Fire Department, and many years involved with 4H as his children went through the horse club.

Dennis was proud of his children's and grandchildren's achievements in their chosen activities, careers and the families they created. He shared his love and appreciation for the outdoors with them through teaching them how to care for animals, sailing, boating, fishing, snowmobiling, quadding, camping and capturing nature through photography. In their retirement years Dennis and Susan also enjoyed their travels together visiting many beaches, lakes and oceans.

As a family, we will forever hold onto the fond memories and life lessons you taught us. You are our husband, dad, grandfather, cousin, uncle and friend forever.

A private celebration of his life will take place at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to a fire department association of your choice.

Doyle's Funeral Home
in care of arrangements
www.doylesfuneralhome.ca

OBITUARY

Rena Helen Duerksen (nee Elias)

1942 - 2024



Rena was born to Henry and Helena Elias in November of 1942 and attended school in the Winkler area. Her married life took her to many cities, towns and provinces but her final residence was Winkler, MB with her daughter, Jennifer. She worked in health care for many years and really enjoyed looking after others. Rena's greatest pleasure was cooking, baking and visiting with people. She loved God, family and friends and her faith in God never faltered; she was a prayer warrior. On Monday, January 1, 2024 God called her Home.

She is survived by two sisters, Mary Neufeld and Betty (Abe) Banman; three brothers, Harry (Gwen), George (Kathy) and Ed (Evelyn); her sister-in-law, Julia Elias as well as many nieces and nephews, cousins and special friends, Betty Elias and Elle Peters and others.

Rena was predeceased by her parents; daughter, Jennifer (2017); brother, Pete Elias; infant sister, Shirley Elias; brother-in-law, Jay Neufeld and nephew, Bradley Hildebrand.

A private service was held with interment at Westridge Memorial Gardens.

The family would like to thank the doctors and staff at Boundary Trails Health Centre.

Donations may be made in Rena's memory to the BTHC Foundation designated to Cancer Care.

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



take a break > GAMES

SUDOKU

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

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Thunder girls win Zone 4 curling banner

By Voice staff

The Morden Thunder girls team brought home the Zone IV curling banner last month.

The foursome of Laycee Henderson, Annabelle Lanthier, Kaitlyn McAllister, and Lauren Weselak won the A-side draw in the tournament in Miami Jan. 19 and then took on B-side winners the W.C. Miller Aces in the championship match.

Tied after seven ends, Weselak won it with a draw to the button, giving Morden the win 9-8.

The ladies are now off to the MHSAA provincials in Winnipeg Feb. 8-10.

In the boy's draw, Portage Collegiate beat the Garden Valley Collegiate Zodiacs 9-0 in the championship match to advance to provincials.

SUPPLIED PHOTO

Morden Thunder athletes Laycee Henderson, Annabelle Lanthier, Kaitlyn McAllister, and Lauren Weselak won the Zone 4 curling banner Jan. 20 in Miami.



Female Hawks compete in elite tournament

By Lorne Stelmach

The female U18 Pembina Valley Hawks had a busy three days of tough competition at an elite tournament in Headingley this past week.

They were part of the 11th annual Female World Sport School Challenge hosted by St. Mary's Academy at the Hockey For All Centre.

The tournament has grown to a 16-team event welcoming squads from Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, and British Columbia, and the Hawks were competitive but came up short in their four games.

A pair of 4-3 losses to the Rocky Mountain Raiders and RHA (Rink Hockey Academy) of Winnipeg were followed by 4-2 losses to the Winnipeg Ice and Prince Albert Northern Bears.

Giving up a first period powerplay goal proved to be the difference against the Raiders, as Pembina Valley and Rocky Mountain each then scored three times in the second period. Emma Durand scored twice with the other goal from Jessica Anderson. Shots on goal were 45-29 in favour of the Hawks.

Pembina Valley trailed 1-0 and 3-1 against RHA while being outshot

40-29. The Hawks got goals from Durand, Ava Dalebozick, and Abigail Brigg.

Dalebozick and Durand were the only Hawks to score next against the Ice, who put it away with an empty net goal with just over a minute remaining in the game. Kasia Rakowski put up a massive effort in net, making

51 saves as the Ice had a 54-18 edge in shots on goal.

Pembina Valley then gave up a pair of late goals including an empty netter in falling to Prince Albert to bring their tournament to an end. Sophie Armit and Jessica Anderson scored for the Hawks, who outshot the Northern Bears 36-32.

Pembina Valley returns to league play this week still mired in seventh place at 6-14-4 for 16 points, which has them eight ahead of last-place Central Plains and three back of sixth-place Interlake. Their lone game this week is a Saturday afternoon match-up in Seven Oaks with the first-place Winnipeg Ice.

Male Hawks defeat Bruins, Wild

By Lorne Stelmach

Coming out of three games in consecutive nights with two victories can be considered a good weekend for the male U18 Pembina Valley Hawks.

The three match-ups all came against the always tough Winnipeg teams and left them holding down eighth place in the league.

The Hawks kicked it off with a 2-1 overtime victory over the Winnipeg Bruins Friday followed by a 5-3 loss to the Winnipeg Thrashers Saturday, but they rebounded for a 5-4 win Sunday over the Winnipeg Wild.

Credit goes to goalie Bryson Yaschyshyn, as he made 48 saves Friday to lead the Hawks to victory over

the Bruins.

The Hawks were outshot 49-33 but won the game on a pair of goals by Acoyen Fehr in the second period and then 3:57 into overtime. The latter came on a powerplay and was Fehr's 14 for the season so far.

Pembina Valley tied the game at three early in the third against the Thrashers but then gave up two goals late, including a Winnipeg powerplay marker with just under three minutes remaining.

Haiden Friesen scored twice for the Hawks with the other goal coming from Lane Apperley. Yaschyshyn made 30 saves as the shots on goal were 40-35 in favour of the Hawks.

Pembina Valley then trailed 1-0 and 3-1 at the intermissions against the Wild before firing home four unanswered third period goals.

Fehr, Friesen, Jayden Penner, Sam Delaquis, and Liam Goertzen all scored for the Hawks, while goalie Ryler Gates made 25 saves off 29 shots on net.

Pembina Valley is just under .500 at 13-15-3-4 for 33 points, which is one back of seventh place Norman and four ahead of Eastman.

The Hawks have a good chance to gain some ground this weekend as they go east to Kenora for a double-header with the last-place Thistles.

The **Voice**

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