



MANITOBA'S LAW FIRM

PKF Lawyers, Manitoba's law firm. Providing trustworthy, expert, real-world results since 1924.

Ready to serve today, tomorrow, **always.**

pkflawyers.com

VOLUME 14 EDITION 10

The *Winkler • Morden* Voice

THURSDAY,
MARCH 9, 2023

www.winklermordenvoice.ca

LOCALLY OWNED HISTORY BOOK FOR THE COMMUNITY



edstireservice.com



FULL MECHANIC SHOP & ALL YOUR TIRE NEEDS

HOURS: Mon-Fri 8AM-5:30PM | Sat 8AM-12 noon

COLD WEATHER MAINTENANCE

Batteries
Antifreeze
Heaters
Wipers...



80 THORNHILL ST, MORDEN | 204-822-6127
273 MAIN ST S, CARMAN | 204-745-2300



Colourful display

The Winkler Skating Club wrapped up its season with an "80s Icons" skating carnival Saturday featuring performances inspired by characters like Rainbow Brite. For more photos, see Pg. 16.

PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS

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



CANADA'S GARAGE

Offer valid Feb. 23 - Mar. 23, 2023
Call Shane or James
at 204-325-0641



CANADA'S #1 MOTOR OIL*

OIL CHANGE SAVINGS

SYNTHETIC: SAVE \$25

CONVENTIONAL: SAVE \$10

When you sign up to receive text messages.

Breaking ground on Discovery Trails School

By Lorne Stelmach

A sod-turning ceremony last Tuesday officially kicked off construction of the new Morden school, which now also has a name.

Dignitaries lauded finally having Discovery Trails School becoming a reality as vital to ensuring the continued growth of not only Western School Division but the city of Morden as well.

"We're confident that this new Discovery Trails School and child care facility will contribute to the prosperity of the city of Morden," said Education and Early Childhood Learning Minister Wayne Ewasko. "I know that more and more people moving into the community are of the younger generation, and so growth is positive."

"It's a great day for Morden. There is so much growth," said board chairperson Brian Fransen. "There are many new capital projects coming in the next year, two, three, and who knows how many more are coming with the growth."

"We are thankful for the years of effort from our staff, community members and elected officials who have advocated for this project."

"I'm invested in the growth this city is experiencing; as a council, we're invested in the growth," said Morden Mayor Brandon Burley, who noted he has four children in the school system. He also thanked everyone who had worked so hard to get to this day. "Thank you for all the work you do on behalf of our children, our families and our community."

"We're proud of our growth in southern Manitoba," said Josh Guenther, MLA for Borderland. "It's the community that will infuse it with its spirit ... and it's my hope that this will be a place first and foremost of learn-



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Dignitaries broke ground on Morden's newest school last week. The facility, located in northwest Morden, will be a K-8 school with room for 600 students to start, an attached childcare centre, and a running track and soccer field.

ing, a place where children can realize their potential and achieve academic success."

Discovery Trails School will be a dual-track English and French K-8 school that will go a long way to address rising student enrolment in the region.

The 81,600 sq. ft. facility will have an initial capacity of 600 students and the ability to accommodate up to 800 students in the future.

A 74-space child care facility will be integrated into the school on the main floor and will have its own drop-off and pick-up entrance.

The City of Morden is providing 2.6 acres of adjacent land to allow the division to build a soccer field and full-size running track on the school property.

Ewasko cited the support of not only

the division and the board but the community as a whole for pushing this project. He particularly cited former Morden-Winkler MLA Cameron Friesen for all he did to help make this happen.

"A lot of these cool things that are going on in the City of Morden and also in the surrounding communities have been because of the strong advocacy of Cameron," Ewasko said.

NAMED BY THE COMMUNITY

The name for the school came through an appeal to the public to submit their ideas, and Fransen felt the ideas reflected a very creative community and a deep respect for both its history and its future.

"There were many, many great ideas ... the board had a tough time determining the name for this new school.

We received well over a hundred submissions," he noted. "There were a lot of similar ideas and there were some themes as well. One of the themes that we found was that our community was looking for something in a name that was more than just a label, more than just a description of where it is."

Construction of Discovery Trails is expected to begin this spring.

"We are anticipating that we will have kids in this school in the fall of 2024," Fransen said.

"The construction of the new school is very exciting for our division and our community," added superintendent Stephen Ross. "This wonderful facility will support our students as they acquire and develop the foundational skills required to thrive in the future."



CONCEPT DRAWING BY PINNACO INC

Gateway Resources is planning to build this facility at 204 Main Street South to provide supportive housing for seven people and a larger space for their senior activity day program.

New home on the way for Gateway's senior program

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Gateway Resources has been given the green light to build a new multifunctional building in the heart of Winkler.

City council last week approved the necessary gross density per acre variation to allow the non-profit to build a two-storey facility at 204 Main Street South.

The 0.64 acre corner lot is currently home to a single-family residence that has been vacant for a number of years.

Gateway's build there will include a main floor that will house offices and space for its Senior Activity Program. "Currently we're operating our senior program out of one of our resi-

Winkler clinic purchases additional space in ALG Professional Centre

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler & District Health Care Board has found a new way to carve out additional future space for the C.W. Wiebe Medical Centre downtown.

The board a year ago had announced plans to build a standalone expansion on the former Co-op gas bar lot across the street from the ALG Professional Centre building the clinic calls home.

But the project hit a wall a few months later when construction costs came in millions of dollars higher than first predicted.

A new plan was needed, and last week the health care board announced they had found one.

The clinic is purchasing approximately 20,000 square feet of space in the ALG Professional Centre from the AL Group of Companies, which has had an ownership stake in the former retail mall for decades.

“We’re invested in the downtown location and we’re acquiring a very stable group of lease holders and tenants,” said James Friesen, speaking on behalf of the health care board at the announcement last Friday.

“Recruiting physicians is a key job

ahead of us ... so our immediate needs are not great in terms of space, but this gives us the capacity grow into the building”

That means none of the existing tenants in the recently purchased spaces—Chicken Chef, CIBC, Extend Insurance, among others—are being asked to leave any time soon.

“Being a community-based organization, we’re concerned we do this in a sustainable and an appropriate way,” Friesen stressed, noting the clinic is looking more long-term with these units. “This lets us set some direction and do some planning going forward. We’re not rushing into anything at this point.”

He noted, as well, that Eden Health Care Services retains ownership of its offices in the building, which it purchased nearly a decade ago.

As the health care board gathered supporters together at the clinic to celebrate the news, Winkler Mayor Henry Siemens thanked the board for persevering to find an alternative when the original expansion project fell through.

“We’d like to offer our thanks for the board who continued working. The tenacity that they showed looking



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Winkler and District Health Care Board members were joined by reps from the clinic, local municipalities, and the AL Group last week in celebrating Friday’s announcement that the board is purchasing additional space in its building downtown for the future growth of the C.W. Wiebe Medical Centre.

for option after option after option,” he said, thanking the AL Group as well for stepping up with this solution. “As the area continues to grow we know we’re going to need more space, and we now have that option that the board is able to plan for the future.”

Longtime local physician Dr. Cornelius Woelk reflected on the importance of the C.W. Wiebe Medical Centre has had in recruiting doctors to the area.

Over the past 23 years, the clinic has grown from 10 physicians to 44 doctors and surgeons and 90 other clinical and support staff.

“I remember the days when we as physicians owned our own building,” Woelk said. “And then we made that transition into this place, which was run by the Winkler and District Health Care Board. That’s really changed our ability to be able to attract people here.”

Continued on page 5

Take on the Trades | Apprenticeship Support Project

Shape the Future of Trades.

Do you dream about working in trades?

The Apprenticeship Support Project was created to help businesses grow while giving first-year apprentices their foot in the door to the trades industry.

Invest in yourself. Join the Red Seal trades.

Visit takeonthetrades.ca to learn more.

Funded by the Government of Canada's Apprenticeship Service **Canada**

*Hire up to two, first-year apprentices per fiscal year for a potential incentive of \$20,000. Open to all small to mid-sized employers in Canada.



GREAT FOOTWEAR & PRICES FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!!

DOORCRASHERS DOORCRASHERS DOORCRASHERS

WOMEN'S TERRADORA VENT \$125.00
TERRADORA WP \$140.00

FLY STRIKE GORETEX \$114.99

CSA FLINT WORKBOOTS \$119.99

WESTERN SHIRTS TAX INCLUDED
HATS 20% OFF

BLUNDSTONES FOR EVERY OCCASION!!

KIDS MERRELL RUNNERS 30% OFF

CONGRATULATIONS TO JOHN FOR WINNING CUSTOMER APPRECIATION BASKET!!!!

HOURS: Monday to Friday 9:30 am to 5:30 pm Saturday 9:30 am to 4:00 pm - 325 Kimberly Rd. - East of Canadian Tire

K.C.'s
Shoe Repair

YOUR FAMILY FOOTWEAR STORE
204.325.5538



WORK & WESTERN WEARHOUSE

Cutting the ribbon on new tech education centre

By Lorne Stelmach

The expanded Morden Collegiate Institute Technology Centre was celebrated with an official opening ceremony last Tuesday.

A new addition of about 5,400 sq. ft. of space relocates the piping trades program from its former leased space into a permanent facility adjacent to the existing welding trades shop, which has also been renovated to allow for a better flow of students in the building.

Construction on the addition began in January 2022 with a total cost of \$3.2 million. The addition opened for classes early last month.

"It's fantastic to have both of our independent sites in Morden now in one location with a nice, new facility," said Lane Curry, director of the Red River Technical Vocational Area, a partnership of five school divisions involving 12 high schools and a variety of technical vocational programs, including the welding and piping trades programs in Morden.

"It's going to be really good because the programs can work well together



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Western School Division cut the ribbon on Morden Collegiate's new Technology Centre last week. The expanded facility is home to the RRTVA's welding and piping trades programs.

with some things too," he said. "Piping and welding is a natural fit. They will be able to share some equipment.

"We believe it will be a draw for students," added Curry. "It's a good work environment, and we've got pretty modern technology and still upgrading that too."

Curry noted he also sees it being a boost for the RRTVA overall with the

whole range of programs being offered now well-established and drawing good enrolment with a continued strong demand for people in the trades.

"Piping is our newest one, and it's gotten to that stage where it's solidified its numbers as well."

Western School Division board chair Brian Fransen recalled the division

joining RRTVA about 20 years ago and a casual conversation about 14 years ago that not only brought up the dream of a state-of-the-art space for vocational training but also envisioned it in the very location it is now.

"The RRTVA's programming has had a noticeably positive impact on our kids and our community. It was a natural way to connect the theoretical with the practical," said Fransen. "We hope that the opportunities for learning provided by this space, both curricular and otherwise, have a positive impact on those who are able to use it."

Wayne Ewasko, education and early childhood learning minister, commented on the incredible growth happening in the community and offered a message to students:

"You have more career options today and choices than ever before," he said. "We know that within Manitoba, you've got multiple great opportunities and options to go on to post secondary education, and this is a great

Continued on page 6



TURN UP LIFE

Better hearing starts now.

Visit a HearCANADA centre and explore a new generation of high-tech hearing devices. Take them for a week-long test drive with no deposit, no fees, and no obligation to buy.

Book your complimentary hearing assessment today.*

1-866-623-3749 | [HearCANADA.com](https://www.hearcanada.com)

Sound of the **New Age**

*Complimentary hearing assessments valid for those over 50. Not applicable on third party claims.



SCCR Fashion Show returns next month

By Lorne Stelmach

The importance of its fundraising fashion show can't be overstated for South Central Cancer Resource.

Cancelled the last three years because of the pandemic, the annual event set for April 27 is a major fundraiser for the organization.

"It's significant. It certainly helps us considerably," said committee chairperson Dianne Mestdagh, who noted the last show in 2019 raised around \$37,000.

"It's the one major fundraising event that we as the board and the supportive committee put on," she added. "We have a number of organizations and families that arrange fundraising events on our behalf, but this is the one that we do ourselves.

The 2023 show takes place at the

Access Event Centre in Morden on Thursday, April 27. Tickets go on sale for \$55 each March 17 at 9 a.m. on-line at sccr.mb.ca or in person at their Morden office.

The theme this year is "A Walk in the Park" and the show as always will not only feature fashions from several local businesses but models who are all cancer survivors, volunteers, or members of the community who have shared in a cancer journey with a loved one

Mestdagh said it is always special to hear some of those stories throughout the evening.

"The models are, for the most part, clients who have been cancer patients, so it's also an opportunity to share some really good stories too, some success stories," she said. "It's a very rewarding opportunity I think for all

of us who are involved."

South Central Cancer Resource is a community based non-profit providing education, hope, and support to individuals with cancer and their families. It is funded entirely through community donations.

With client registration numbers reaching record highs this past year and continuing to trend upwards, it is really counting on fundraising efforts to be a success in order to continue helping everyone in the region who need it, noted Mestdagh.

"This helps us get the word out to the public even a little more about what we are and what we do," she said. "And I hope it helps the public realize how much support is out there, not even just from us, though we are a big factor for the people in our region in terms of support."



VOICE FILE PHOTO

After a three-year break, the SCCR Fashion Show is back next month. Tickets go on sale March 17.

PDS to get new principal next year

By Voice staff

Prairie Dale School in Schanzenfeld will have a new principal this fall.

The Garden Valley School Division board announced last week that Anny Froese will step into the role in September.

"Ms. Froese brings a wealth of ex-

perience to the position with 17 years of teaching and has held the position of vice-principal/resource teacher at PDS since 2019," the division shared in a statement. "Mrs. Froese believes every student has a right to an education which should be accessible and supportive."

> CLINIC EXPANSION SPACE, FROM PG. 3

"Right now we're at a point where we've lost some physicians, and we're a little disappointed about that. But we're also working hard at trying to recruit more. And it's the Winkler and District Health Care Board who's really been able to allow us to do that in a more seamless way."

The health care board is made up of representatives from the City of Winkler, the municipalities of Rhineland, Roland, and Stanley, Eden Health Care Services, the Winkler chamber, Salem Home, the clinic, and the local physician's group.

A LONG TIME COMING

In a way, this sale has been a long time coming, shared Alvin Thiessen of the AL Group.

He recalled how the building that was once the Winitoba Mall was transformed into the "health mall" it is today.

"Back before 2000, I remember I was just coming out of what was Al's Restaurant at that time at the corner there and Mayor John Krahn says,

'You know, we're down to five physicians in the clinic over there. We need to do something.' That's where the thought started: What could we do?"

The Winkler Clinic, which was then located at 500 Main St., was in desperate need of space if it was going to continue to grow to keep pace with the community.

The mall, meanwhile, had been struggling as a retail facility, so it had plenty of space to offer.

In 2001, the C.W. Wiebe Medical Centre was created at the northeast end of the building, initially renting the space but later purchasing it and other units throughout the facility for a total of 27,000 square feet.

When the clinic's plans to build an expansion across the street fell through, Thiessen said the AL Group reached out to offer them ownership of the rest of the building "so that they can have an opportunity to grow as they're able to."

The AL Group will continue to manage the building on behalf of the clinic.



What can heat your home in winter, cool it in summer, and reduce your electric heating costs by **up to 60%?**

A GROUND SOURCE HEAT PUMP CAN!

Get a rebate on a ground source heat pump.

Visit efficiencyMB.ca/heatpump to learn more.



The Voice

Letters

> Get in touch with us

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



PUBLISHER
Lana Meier



MARKETING & PROMOTIONS
Brett Mitchell



EDITOR
Ashleigh Viveiros



REPORTER
Lorne Stelmach



REPORTER
Lori Penner



COLUMNIST
Peter Cantelone



SALES
Gwen Dyck



PRODUCTION
Nicole Kapusta



PRODUCTION
Tara Gionet



DISTRIBUTION
Christy Brown

The newspaper is supported solely by advertising dollars. If you enjoy the paper and would like to see it grow and prosper, visit any of the advertisers and businesses in our rural communities. Keep your dollars working at home and shop local.

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

OUR SISTER PUBLICATIONS



"ADVICE" TO TEEN DRIVERS

Dear teenage drivers,
It's time to tune up your race cars for the upcoming "Winkler Spring Races." Where? Main Street, from Highway 14 to all the way to Stanley Avenue. Back and forth they go. Date to be announced.

There will be no prizes for the winners. Actually, some of you will end up with huge amounts of fines from Winkler's fine police and their blue and red flashing lights. I suppose you boys don't need to worry about money. Your parents have a lot of that. Your dads might even pay your fines. Some of those fines even go over \$500 and more. You guys are so brave. Maybe your dads will even buy you some new tires for the ones you ground off on the pavement last year.

I'm sure your dads are very proud of you guys. They sure must love you

guys. The old people who live close to the "race track" probably don't love you as much as your parents do. They sure don't like the "night owls" as noted below.

Oh, by the way, most of the "races" will start at approx 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. and some night owls will keep the "races" running until midnight.

'Oh' again ... try not to spin your tires too much, like at 3000 RPM.

Peter Neufeld,
Winkler

the 404 hampers that were received, and many hours were volunteered to complete the task. Thank you to all who were involved!

The Cheer Board could not operate without the generous hearts of those who contribute in many different ways.

Lori Derksen,
Winkler & District
Christmas Cheer Board

Clarification

A story in the *Voice* last week with an update on the responses from various local councils to a campaign to remove access to sexually explicit books in South Central Regional Library branches broadly referred to the books in question as "sexual education books."

It was brought to our attention that one of the books some people are taking issue with, *All Boys Aren't Blue* by George M. Johnson, is titled a memoir-manifesto and classified as young adult non-fiction, not sexual education.

All Boys Aren't Blue is a series of frank personal essays exploring Johnson's experiences growing up a member of the LGBTQIA+ community.

The SCRL does not currently have physical copies of this book on its shelves. It is available to patrons as an audio book or an electronic book through the eLibraries Manitoba lending system.

All columns and letters published on our Get Heard pages are the personal opinions of the submitting writers. They are not objective news articles, nor are they necessarily the viewpoint of the Voice.

CHEER BOARD SAYS THANKS

We live in a wonderfully generous community, and this was very evident again during the Winkler & District Christmas Cheer Board's 2022 season.

It's really quite amazing to consider the many people that contribute to our cause, and we'd like to thank all of our donors.

Thank you to all those who contributed financially to help us achieve our goal.

Thank you to all that came to support our ScotiaBank Holly Jolly Breakfast—to enjoy the pancakes and to listen to the local talent!

We also had great support at the Winkler Flyers versus Winkler Fire Charity Classic hockey game.

During our Cheer Days, which were graciously hosted by the Meridian Exhibition Centre, we packed

> TECH CENTRE, FROM PG. 4

stepping stone.

"These types of programs ... help students develop transferable skills and abilities that are required by business and industry," Ewasko continued. "These programs are going to work towards your apprenticeship level one credentials, which allows rural students to get an early start in their career pathways."

"Having diverse educational opportunities right in your area contributes to the overall health and well-being of a community," he added. "It is important Manitoba students have access to as many opportunities as possible and skilled trades—a vital component of both education and community well-being."

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.

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

GET IN TOUCH WITH US

GENERAL INQUIRIES:
204-325-6888

ADVERTISING:
Gwen Dyck 204-823-0535
gdyck@winklermordenvoice.ca

Advertising Deadline: Monday at 4 p.m.

NEWS DESK:

Ashleigh Viveiros Editor
204-332-3456 news@winklermordenvoice.ca

Lorne Stelmach Reporter
204-823-2655 lstelmach@winklermordenvoice.ca

MAILING ADDRESS:

Winkler Morden Voice
Box 39, Stonewall, MB R0C 2Z0

The Voice is published Thursdays and distributed as a free publication to 21,141 households. Republishing in whole or in part without permission is prohibited. Printed in Canada by Prolific Printing. The Voice received financial support from the Government of Canada in 2021.

Power of the Purse raises \$11,000

By Lorne Stelmach

Three local charitable endeavours were the beneficiaries of the Morden Area Foundation Power of the Purse brunch over the weekend.

The fundraiser held Saturday morning at the Morden Legion hall saw 110 women participate in granting out \$11,000 in donations.

The Menzies Medical Centre community board received \$5,073, the Pembina Valley Pregnancy Care Centre got \$3,573, and the Pembina Valley Humane Society was awarded \$2,354.

Nicole Walske, executive director of Menzies Medical Centre, had asked for \$4,300 in support of providing the services of handheld ultrasound equipment.

She made her pitch at the brunch through the perspective of a patient

who was going to be having a baby, noting that the clinic provides prenatal care to about 300 patients each year.

"We use this ultrasound more and more all the time," said Walske, who explained there are multiple uses for the equipment while also noting equipment purchases are not funded by the province but rather the clinic's community board.

Scott Wilson, grants committee chair for the Pembina Valley Humane Society, requested \$5,000 for the new "Be A Tree" dog safety program for students.

The initiative aims to teach children how to approach and treat a dog and to play with one in a safe manner. Its name comes from the idea of being like a tree and being still around a strange dog.



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Over 100 women came out to the Morden Legion hall Saturday to take part in the Morden Area Foundation's Power of the Purse brunch. Participants each contributed \$100 to be donated to local non-profits.

"The most important part of our program is the pamphlet that we want to provide each child to put in their backpack and take home ... the goal is that they take it home, share it with their parents," said Wilson, explaining they will work with the schools and with students starting at the Grade 3 level, although they may be able to expand on it.

"Our goal is to reduce the amount of dog bites in our community," he said. "The second part of the program would be to increase awareness about who we are and what we do."

Linda Marek, executive director of the Pembina Valley Pregnancy Care

Centre, sought up to \$5,000 for their initiative to provide parents with car seats, cribs, and formula.

She noted the rising costs now amidst all the challenges that are faced during and after a pregnancy, and the organization had over 100 people reach out for help last year—three times what they had anticipated.

"You can make a difference ... you can help women courageously step into the adventure called motherhood," Marek told the crowd.

Over the past eight years, Power of the Purse has granted out over \$80,000 to 23 local registered charities.

Low to moderate risk of flooding this spring: province

By Ashleigh Viveiros

After a year of drought followed by a year of flooding, dare we hope 2023 will be the year local waterways give us a break?

According to the province's spring flood outlook, we just might be that lucky, depending, of course, on what Mother Nature has in store for us in the weeks ahead.

In its February flood outlook released last week, Manitoba Infrastructure and Transportation's Hydrologic Forecast Centre reported low to moderate risk of flooding in most Manitoba basins.

The centre is predicting a moderate risk of flooding along the Red and Assiniboine rivers and in the Interlake region along the Fisher and Icelandic rivers, and a low risk of flooding along rivers such as the Souris, Roseau, Rat, and Pembina.

Water levels are expected to remain below community flood protection levels, the province says.

There is also a low risk of flooding for most other Manitoba basins including the Saskatchewan River, Whiteshell lakes area, and northern Manitoba. With the exceptions of Dauphin Lake and Lake St. Martin, most Manitoba lakes, including Lake Winnipeg and Lake Manitoba, are projected to re-

main within operating ranges after the spring run-off, the release said.

The report notes that soil moisture conditions at freeze-up play a major roll in the likelihood of flooding come spring.

"Due to normal to below normal summer and fall precipitation, the soil moisture at freeze-up is normal to below normal for most Manitoba basins," it says. "Some localized areas in central Manitoba and in the Interlake region have above normal soil moisture.

"The soil moisture is normal to below normal for the Red and Souris River basins (including the U.S. portions of the basin), the Assiniboine River, Qu'Appelle River, Saskatchewan River, Winnipeg River and northern Manitoba basins."

Winter precipitation has also been generally below normal in much of central and southern Manitoba, save for southeastern Manitoba which saw near-normal levels. The northern part of the province saw normal to above normal levels, as did the U.S. portions of the Red River and Souris River basins.

"The magnitude of the spring runoff on Manitoba's rivers is still very dependent on weather conditions from

Continued on page 9



"I upgraded my furnace for only \$9.50 per month. You can too."

- CANDACE

Like Candace, you can:

GET A NEW NATURAL GAS FURNACE UPGRADE FOR A LOW MONTHLY PAYMENT.*

With the **Energy Efficiency Assistance Program**, you can also:

- ✓ Get a FREE Home Energy Check-Up to find more ways to save.
- ✓ Get your home insulated for FREE (including the materials and the installation).
- ✓ Get FREE energy efficient light bulbs, showerheads and aerators, air sealing products, and other energy saving items.

Find out if you qualify today
efficiencyMB.ca/EEAP
 204-944-8088 or toll free 1-888-944-8088



*\$9.50 per month for 5 years when upgrading from an existing standard efficiency natural gas furnace OR \$25 per month for 5 years when upgrading from an existing mid-efficiency natural gas furnace.

Natural gas efficiency programs are funded in part by the Low Carbon Economy Fund.

Funded in part by:
 Financé en partie par:
 Canada



Loreena McKennitt inducted into songwriters hall of fame

By Lorne Stelmach

It's been a long creative journey for Loreena McKennitt, with many honours coming her way, but the latest may be special for the Morden-born musical star.

In recognition of nearly four decades as a distinctive performing artist, McKennitt was the first 2023 inductee into the Canadian Songwriters Hall of Fame this week.

She was hailed for how "her masterful songwriting, ethereal soprano voice and imaginative arrangements that combine her passion for traditional Celtic music with world music influences have forged her own distinctive genre of 'eclectic Celtic.'"

"Loreena is a musical enigma whose songs are seamlessly timeless yet current, rooted in tradition yet inventive. She is a storyteller who can weave through eras, cultures and transcend boundaries," said Stan Meissner, chairperson of the hall of fame. "Loreena has achieved global success on her own terms and has remained steadfast as an independent recording artist, which is both admirable and deserving of recognition."

"It is always nice to be recognized by your peers or by the industry in which you are working," McKennitt said in an interview last week. "I'm sure many other artists are like myself: You just keep your head down and keep going and doing what you do."

"I am deeply honoured to be receiving this recognition," she continued. "For 25 years, this organization has shown a deep devotion to celebrating and promoting Canadian songwriters and this country's rich, musical legacy. We have all been enriched by their work. I feel so privileged to have my name added to their list of distinguished Canadian songwriters."

Early on, McKennitt decided to fo-

cus her songwriting on her passion: Celtic music.

Her original songs and her skillful musical arrangements of time-honoured English and Irish poems such as Tennyson's *Lady of Shalott* and W.B. Yeats's *Stolen Child* were part world music, folk-roots and Celtic wave infused with a classical finesse.

"Many singer songwriters are drawing upon their own lives and experiences as fodder for their inspiration," said McKennitt. "I chose to follow the broad history of the Celts and tangential regions spinning off of that ... the fact that I could do all of that and then spin that back into something creative and make a career of it seems to be a great thing."

"In one sense, that whole exercise of research and learning about other cultures that may have some connection to the Celts has been one of really self education," she continued. "It's also not just looking back at history but really trying to find those elements of history and bring them forward and bring them to some kind of contemporary relevance. That's not always possible, it doesn't always happen, but in some way or another, that's one of the things I strive to do."

McKennitt recalled early on taking a course in Irish history that initially spurred her on in this direction.

"It was really at that juncture I could see where history related to the folk music, it was impossible to appreciate some of the folk music without appreciating the social, economic and political circumstances from which it sprang."

She also recalled seeing an exhibition in Venice in 1991 and how an extensive collection showed just how far the Celts had spread out across the world.

"I used that as a creative springboard ... I had no idea it would take me to all of these places," said McKennitt, who

especially cited researching for what became *The Mask and Mirror in Galicia* in the northwest corner of Spain, where there was very much collision of Christian and Islamic cultures.

"I could never have imagined that this was the trajectory I was going to take ... I think partially because I didn't really know anyone else was doing it."

After forging a distribution deal with Warner Music Canada, she won her first Juno Award in 1992 for the multi-platinum album *The Visit* and her second Juno win for Best Roots Album in 1995 for *The Mask and Mirror*, which explored Celtic connections to Spanish and Arab music.

She followed this with *The Book of Secrets* and its Juno-nominated single "The Mummer's Dance." The album became her highest-charting effort at No. 3 on Billboard, selling over four million copies worldwide.

Her subsequent albums *An Ancient Muse* and *Troubadours on the Rhine* both earned Grammy nominations.

McKennitt has garnered a total of 11 Juno nominations in her career and has sold more than 14 million records worldwide.

All of this has been accomplished with McKennitt at the helm when it comes to both business and creativity.

"It's a balancing act for sure because I also manage my own career, so I don't have a manager," she noted.

In recent years, McKennitt has stepped back somewhat from the music industry and focused a little more on civic and philanthropic goals.

"The music making side of the business has taken quite a hit over the past 20 years through the unregulated Internet ... to be honest, there has not been a strong persuasive argument to be writing and recording as we once were," she said. "The business model is so broken and compromised. It is a bit discouraging from the business



@LOREENAMCKENNITT

Morden native Loreena McKennitt was inducted into the Canadian Songwriters Hall of Fame this week.

side ... the business model is completely predatory ... it removes a lot of incentive for writing and recording."

As far as what comes next for McKennitt, she is looking forward to clearing the schedule and is planning to tour in the fall, with the possibility of a stop in Manitoba next year.

"I try to find a bit of time here and there just to keep my creative processes flowing," she said, hinting as well at a future project. "A few years ago, I took a marvelous trip to Rajasthan in India and gathered an enormous amount of inspiration for a recording that would connect with the connection of the Celts in that part of the world. It might be a project I will return to ... I would love to get back to it."

Benefit concert for Türkiye and Syria March 19

By Ashleigh Viveiros

A group of concerned citizens are doing what they can to help people in desperate need half a world away.

A benefit concert has been organized to help the survivors of the earthquake that devastated Türkiye and Syria earlier this month.

Co-organizer Ashley Wiens explains she and some friends from church wanted to do something to help in the wake of the disaster.

"I emailed Garry [Klassen] and

said is there something we can do? A prayer vigil? A concert?"

They latched on to the concert idea and reached out to singer-songwriter Steve Bell to see if he'd be keen to get involved.

Bell jumped on board without hesitation, Wiebe says, and generous local sponsors have stepped up to cover the costs of renting Buhler Hall in Gretna for him to perform on Sunday, March 19 at 7 p.m.

There's free admission to the show, but donations (a suggested minimum of

\$25) will be accepted on behalf of the Canadian Foodgrains Bank.

"All our costs are covered, so 100 per cent of the proceeds are going right to the Canadian Food Grains Bank," Wiens says, noting they really hope to see the 463-seat hall full that night. "It's really a regional effort. We're hoping we can reach people in Winkler, Morden, Gretna, Emerson—all over."

Raising funds for CFGB, which Bell has performed benefit concerts on behalf of in the past, just made sense,

Wiens says, as it's an established Christian relief agency that mobilizes all over the world.

"They already have people on the ground there [in Türkiye and Syria]," she says.

There will be donation forms available at the concert supplied by Canadian Foodgrains Bank. Donations can be made by cash or cheque that night or online at foodgrainsbank.ca/donate/turkiye-syria/.

Author brings 'Strange Creatures' to local libraries, gallery

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Replicas of a giant beaver, a massive frog, Manitoba crocodile eggs, and even Bigfoot himself made a stop at the Morden and Altona libraries and the Winkler art gallery last week.

They were all brought to town by John Warms, author of *Strange Creatures Seldom Seen*, on his tour of the province to drum up interest in his book, which shares stories of these and other creatures people say they've seen right here in Manitoba.

"Most of these stories come from the northern [Indigenous communities], though there are a lot of things happening in the south too—that thing's in Winnipeg and Brandon," Warms said during his stop in Winkler on Friday, gesturing to a replica of man-sized beaver. "But the bulk of these animals are up north ... most of these stories come from up there."

The cryptids featured in Warms' book include Sasquatch, an underwater moose, lake monsters, a huge bat-like creature, and giant beavers, frogs, birds, and snakes, among many others.

Strange Creatures was first released by a publisher in the U.S. back in 2015, but Warms recently reacquired the rights to it. He's now collecting new sightings and evidence to share in future editions.

Warms, a former teacher, says he first became interested in these types of stories while working up north and chatting with locals.

For him, it's the sheer number of stories that lends credibility to these kinds of sightings.

"I enjoyed all the fairy tales as a boy, but I have no interest in such things now," he said. "If it's not reality, I want nothing to do with it. I found the corroboration that was out there, otherwise I wouldn't be doing this."

Some of these animals—giant marine reptiles, say, or huge birds—are known to have existed but are believed to have gone extinct millions of years ago.

But for Warms, that doesn't explain why so many people claim to have seen them or evidence of them in more modern times.

"When I realized that one group [the scientific community] knew nothing about any of these still being around, and the other group had all these corroborating stories, I soon realized where the truth led," he said. "And to me it became a challenge to dig out as much truth, as many exciting

John Warms, author of *Strange Creatures Seldom Seen*, with a replica of a giant beaver. Though believed to be extinct, stories of these huge creatures and countless other cryptids persist right here in Manitoba, Warms says.

PHOTO BY
ASHLEIGH
VIVEIROS/VOICE



things that were largely hidden, except to a few eyes, to share with people."

People who have seen something unbelievable are often hesitant to share their stories for fear of being ridiculed. Warms said when he's on the hunt for a story he makes it clear he's there to listen with an open mind.

"Invariably they're happy, pleased to speak with me because they know somebody finally believes them."

The giant beaver specifically has become Warm's white whale. He said he's seen plenty of evidence of it in the giant burrows that can be found dotting the province, and he hopes to make a major breakthrough in his research of them in the year ahead.

He's always looking for like-minded people to help him in his investigations or offer new stories to add to his growing collection. You can reach Warms at johnwarms10@gmail.com.

> FLOOD OUTLOOK, FROM PG. 7

now until the spring melt and during the spring melt period," the report stresses.

Too much precipitation, the frost depth at the time of runoff, and the timing and rate of spring thaw and peak flows in Manitoba, the United States, Saskatchewan, and Ontario could all paint a very different picture over the next few weeks.

"A late thaw and spring rainstorms could result in a rapid snow melt that increases overland flooding and flows on tributary streams and larger rivers," the report says.

The province is already taking flood mitigation steps, including conducting normal spring ice cutting and breaking work along the Red and Icelandic rivers over the next few weeks to reduce ice jam related flooding.

The Red River Floodway is expected to be activated this spring under unfavourable future weather conditions to reduce water levels within the city of Winnipeg. Some operation of the Portage Diversion is also anticipated to prevent ice jamming on the Assiniboine River.

Another flood outlook is expected later this month.

Education with a destination

Your ticket to a career that cultivates adventure.

"If you like change, this is the industry for you. Every day is different and it's always so exciting."



SUZANNE LAHR | EVENT COORDINATOR
RBC CONVENTION CENTRE
GRADUATE OF HOTEL AND RESTAURANT
MANAGEMENT | RED RIVER COLLEGE



Accelerate your career when you join a tourism education program. Browse available programs at travelmanitoba.com/tourism-education

AN INITIATIVE BY:

**TRAVEL
MANITOBA**

Franklin Bergen to represent Plum Coulee on L.U.D. committee

By Lori Penner

Franklin Bergen is proud to live in Plum Coulee, and it's that pride that led him to fill the vacancy on the L.U.D. of Plum Coulee committee.



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Franklin Bergen is excited to represent the town of Plum Coulee as the third member of the L.U.D. committee.

"I love this town, and anything I can do to support it and showcase all that it has, count me in," says Bergen, who fills the vacant spot on the committee alongside Justina Hamm and Kyle Wiebe, who were acclaimed to their positions last fall.

After a few people expressed interest in the empty seat, a byelection to fill the spot was announced by the Municipality of Rhineland earlier this year. But Bergen ended up being the only candidate to file his nomination papers in time. As a result, he was acclaimed to the position.

Bergen grew up on a farm in the Plum Coulee area and now lives in the community with his wife and three children.

When he's not busy selling vehicles at the Dodge dealership in Morden, he's actively involved in sports, camping, and spending time with family and friends.

"My family and I just love the small-town atmosphere of Plum Coulee. Knowing our neighbours, having that relationship is the biggest thing we love about living here. We also love the growth we see in this community. The parks, the beach, the arena, the baseball diamonds... all that we see.

It's just so exciting and it makes me proud to see how this town is thriving."

Bergen says he never considered getting into politics until Rhineland CAO Mike Rempel suggested it.

"He put that bug in my ear and asked if I would consider it. The more I thought about it, the more the possibility and excitement grew."

The potential to influence some of the decisions regarding the community was a big draw.

"I love Plum Coulee and I want to give something back. I also want to see this community promoted and showcased," Bergen said. "I want people driving by or dropping in to know about all the things that make this town so special and what a great place this is to live, grow your family and build your life, and put down roots."

As a member of council, Bergen wants to be the voice of the community and would like to encourage a number of initiatives to make a great town even greater.

"Accessibility is a big deal. I want to make sure all our sidewalks and walkways are easy to navigate for people of all ages and abilities to walk

and go for bike rides," he said, noting another priority will be getting a youth drop-in centre so Plum Coulee can have "a safe place where local youth can hang out and enjoy an evening or two every week."

Bergen says Plum Coulee has come a long way in terms of growth and opportunity in recent years.

"I want to see that growth and success continue. This town really is a hidden gem on the prairie. Our festival, our elevator, our downtown area, our stores. There are so many treasures to be discovered here. It's a hidden secret we want to share. We want to show off how great this community is."

He says he's grateful for the opportunity to take a place at the council table.

"I want to thank the community of Plum Coulee for giving me this opportunity. It's something that I definitely don't take lightly. I am excited for the challenges ahead. My door is always open for the residents to chat and voice their opinions and concerns. I'm really excited to see where this opportunity will take me."

PVWC continues to build capacity into the regional water system

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Pembina Valley Water Co-operative had another busy year of trying to build capacity in the regional fresh water system to meet the growing demands.

PVWC's board of directors gathered in Altona late last month for their annual general meeting.

Chief executive officer Greg Archibald shared that there certainly weren't many dull moments in 2022.

"It started off with a leak by the Red River up at Morris," he began.

A large leak formed on one of the main lines running from the Morris treatment plant. Customers in the area were under boil water advisories until workers could dig down to repair it.

Not long after, the entire region was impacted by the spring thaw, which surrounded the community of Morris with floodwaters. PVWC found itself relying heavily on the Morris Pond to keep drinkable water pumping through the system.

"We weren't pulling water out of the Red River because it was everywhere. We were pulling out of the pond," Archibald said. "And we did that for almost three months.

"If we didn't have that pond of clean water there, life would have been not so good ... we would have had no water."

It was an ironic situation to be in, Archibald observed—a year earlier the risk of running out of water was due to the 2021 drought.

These kinds of challenges make it clear how important it is to continue to increase capacity across the entire PVWC system, he stressed. Along those lines, the co-op was hard at work on a number of major capital projects through the year.

A \$2 million Morris to Roland booster station project was approved with 50 per cent funding support from the Manitoba Water Service Board.

"We're doing three new booster stations at Kane, Lowe Farm, and Myrtle," Archibald explained. "These booster station upgrades allow us to put about 10 litres a second of water over to Roland and then into the Winkler-Morden corridor."

Tied in with this, they're also expanding the size of the pipelines at the Morris plant to move more water through the system more quickly. That project is expected to be completed this summer.

Another big undertaking is the Le-

tellier Reservoir project. Rising costs meant that plan had to be reworked, Archibald noted.

"The \$16 million project now includes a reservoir, a breezeway between it and the plant, associated equipment and a roof over the reservoir," he shared in his formal report. "Construction is well underway and is expected to be completed in late 2023.

"The new intake and pipeline project was put on hold due to lack of funds. This \$7.8 million project is now planned to begin in mid-2023, supported by a \$3.0 million commitment from Manitoba Water Services Board."

The need for a new, deeper intake was made clear during the drought of 2021, when the pumps weren't able to operate properly due to low water levels on the Red.

"And the new pipeline," Archibald shared, "will allow us to pull up to three times as much water as we do today. We got allocated from the licensing branch that we can go from 100 litres to 200, on average, and up to 300 litres for short periods of time."

A few other projects of note include the new Graysville booster station, a distribution pump upgrade at the Ste-

phenfield Water Treatment Plant, and completion of construction on a new Letellier Lime Room.

Looking to the future, PVWC has spent a lot of time lobbying for support for a new membrane plant in Letellier. They've secured \$7.5 million from the provincial government but still need to find another \$13 million to make it happen.

The membrane plant would "allow us to pull another 100 litres a second to provide to southern Manitoba," Archibald said.

Ideally, he noted, the co-op's partners—both municipalities and perhaps local industries as well—will come to the table to support this project, which will allow for further residential and economic growth across the entire region. Discussions are ongoing.

Archibald will be on staff with PVWC through to the end of 2023 to try and guide some of these projects to fruition. After that, he begins his retirement after seven years with the organization. The hunt for a new CEO to replace him is already underway.

Archibald has high hopes for the co-op moving forward.

Continued on page 12

WSD unveils \$27.1M budget

By Lorne Stelmach

The financial plan for Western School Division offers good news for local taxpayers, but it does still come with challenges for the division.

It's 2023-24 budget of about \$27.1 million represents about a seven per cent increase from the operating expenditures of \$25.1 million for the current school year.

It presents ratepayers with a reduction in the education portion of their tax bills, but that was more or less decided for the division as a result of provincial restrictions, officials noted as the plan was presented last Wednesday as part of the annual budget expo.

"One of the challenges we have is that our community is growing at a rate faster than two per cent, and the province caps us at a two per cent increase," explained board chair Brian Fransen, noting then it "means that every year we are getting further and further behind in terms of the amount of money that we are able to use from the community to help support education in this community."

"The growth in our region, the assessment growth in our area, is growing so much that the cap of two per cent on our special requirement means that we have to reduce taxes."

The budget means that a residential home assessed at \$350,000 will see a reduction of \$233.10 to \$1,861.65 in school taxes. On a quarter section of farmland assessed at \$1 million, the reduction will be \$384.80 to \$3,073.20, while a commercial property valued at \$500,000 will see a cut by \$714.35 to \$6,439.88.

The budget was boosted by \$16.3 million in provincial funding that includes \$15.7 million in operational

funding and \$600,000 in property tax offset funding for an overall increase of \$1.5 million.

The provincial funding makes up about 65 per cent of the division's total revenue, which is better than the provincial average of 56.2 per cent. Local taxation then represents 34 per cent of revenue; the provincial average is 37.7 per cent.

The division is dipping into its reserve, which had been at \$517,870 as of last June. Western is looking at a deficit of \$70,851 for the current school year and \$81,930 for 2023-24, so that would reduce the reserve to \$365,089 as of June 2024. It represents just over two per cent of expenditures, which is well within the provincial requirement that restricts school divisions to a maximum of four per cent of expenditures in reserve.

"We budgeted to draw on them slightly this year and again for 2023-24," said secretary-treasurer Carl Pedersen. "What's happened in most years and is happening again this year is, as we get towards the end of the year, there have been other pieces of funding that have come in that are a little bit unexpected, and we are looking at a surplus."

"So that certainly helps our reserve because we shouldn't be in a negative year-to-date when we finish the year, and it also really allows us to do some pre-purchasing, especially within technology areas, to prepare for next year. So we don't have to budget for it next year but we can pay for it this year, and that's been a huge help."

"We're also kind of keeping an eye on this year and seeing what we can do with the remainder of the year to make next year's budget a little easier," Pedersen added.

The division's spending of course is



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Western School Division held its annual budget expo last week, where guests not only got to hear the ins and outs of the 2023-2024 financial plan but also see the kinds of programs and equipment public funding supports in local schools.

driven by rising enrolment that has increased from 1,891 as of September 2021 to 2,076 in September 2022 and 2,123 today.

Salaries and benefits accounts for 85.17 per cent of the budget followed by 5.97 per cent for instructional support, 5.79 per cent for transportation and operations, 1.83 per cent of tax and interest, 0.78 per cent for administration and then just 0.47 per cent for adult and community education.

The budget addresses a few needs including support for an additional 5.6 full-time teaching positions as well as additional vice-principal time and second youth support guidance workers at Morden Collegiate and École Morden Middle School.

As well, there is additional funding for family counselling, a half-time library clerk at Maple Leaf, a half-time student services administrator position, investments in technology, and some funds for the new Discovery Trails School.

"There will be additional staffing that's required [for the new school]," noted Pedersen. "There'll be some staffing that will be required before the school even opens just to get set and get ready for it ... the other little bit of a pinch that we're going to feel is that we won't necessarily see the operating funding for the first year until we get through one year."

Fransen suggested the budget overall strikes a good balance.

"With our increase of just under \$1.9 million from last year, we are going to be spending over \$1.7 million of that on increased staffing ... which doesn't really leave a whole lot of wiggle room for other discretionary spending in terms of other ways to improve learning and improve the environment."

"We are using that money effectively and wisely, and we are pleased with what we are able to do, but there's always more that we could be doing."

> GATEWAY RESOURCES, FROM PG. 2

dential homes in an added-on space," explained Gateway CEO Kim Nelson. "We've outgrown this space. For awhile we've needed to find an alternative location."

The Senior Activity Program gives older adults with intellectual disabilities a chance to stay active and connected in the community.

Nelson estimates the new building will allow them to perhaps double the number of senior participants in the program.

The second floor, meanwhile, will include seven one-bedroom apartments for individuals in Gateway's supported independent living program, which operates out of residences in both Winkler and Morden.

These individuals benefit greatly from the opportunity to share meals and social activities together, Nelson said. As a result, the main floor of the new building, once the senior program is done for the day, can be used as a common area for residents and staff to gather.

"Gateway currently supports 30 individuals in our supported independent living program," Nelson said. "And that program just continues to grow."

"With apartment shortages everywhere, we're trying to be strategic in finding new spaces. So when we knew that we were going to be building a main level floor for the senior's program, we realized we could prob-

ably add another level and have some apartments on top."

Nelson noted the original residence that houses the senior program will remain active, though Gateway isn't sure yet how it will use the extra space there once that program vacates the building.

The agency hopes to break ground on the new building this spring. The sooner they can get it operational, the better.

"We have a waiting list for both programs," Nelson noted.

Council received no objections to the project at the public hearing last week. Nelson said they reached out to residents in the community prior to appearing before council to ensure everyone was on board with the idea.

"Gateway sent letters to all the neighbours and then we also hosted an information night for people that maybe wanted to come and ask any questions," she said. "We got a lot of, 'Oh, we were hoping something was happening in this spot.' So it was really positive feedback."

Making sure their residential facilities fit into the surrounding neighbourhood is important to Gateway, Nelson stressed.

"That is always our goal," she said. "We want to be good neighbors."

Now Gateway turns its attention to fundraising for the build. If you've like to give them a hand on that front, you can donate online at gatewayresourcesinc.com or stop by their main facility at 1582 Pembina Ave. West.

arts & culture

WAC March exhibit points the lens at local photographers

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Winkler Arts and Culture's March exhibition is shining the spotlight on the work of several local photographers.

The show, which runs until March 31, fills both the main and secondary galleries with photographs from Herb Kuhl, Kevin Driedger, Terrance Klassen, Ryan Sawatzky, Susan Crawford-Young, Walter Dueck, and Ian Peters.

The gallery has featured photographic exhibitions before, but the neat thing about this one is the sheer breadth of topics it encompasses, shares WAC executive director Alesha Hildebrand.

"It's a really cool range of photography and photographers," she says. "Herb Kuhl does portraits; most people in this area are familiar with his work. Kevin Driedger is bringing in some tourism photos; he's travelled all over. Terrance Klassen is bringing

in architectural photos from around the world. Ryan Sawatzky shoots sports. Ian Peters is bringing photos of concerts and music. Walter Dueck is nature and animals."

Hildebrand is excited WAC is able to provide a public platform for these talented photographers.

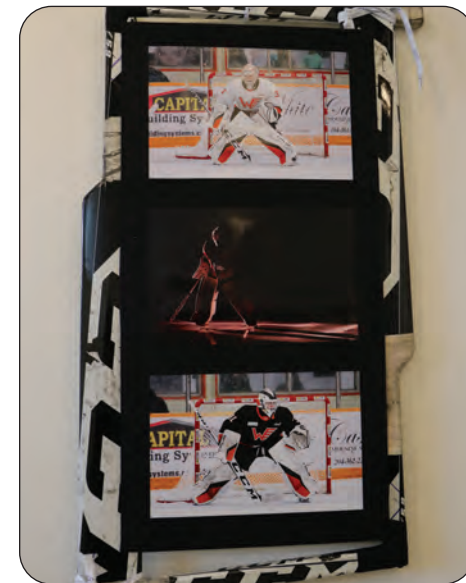
"Knowing that there are so many diverse photographers in the community, we wanted to showcase their specialty and their passions," she says. "I think sometimes people think photography is just weddings or personal travel photos, but really it's a way to see the world through somebody else's lens. Photography is a form of art. It's a form of self-expression."

The exhibition anchors a busy month at the Park Street gallery.

There are several art workshops for kids and adults alike—focusing on topics such as Japanese nagomi art, mixed media, pottery, and Ukrainian Easter eggs—lined up for the next few weeks.

Looking ahead a bit, Hildebrand is putting a call out now already for WAC's annual Members' Show, which will run in April.

"If you're a local artist who wants to put your work on display, we encourage you to come be part of the



The work of photographers such as Susan Crawford-Young (left) and Ryan Sawatzky (above) are on display at Winkler Arts and Culture all this month.

Members' Show," she says, explaining membership at the gallery is \$30 a year. "Then you have access to having something in this show. And it doesn't have to be hanging art ... it can be whatever you define as art."

To stay updated on what's going on at the gallery, head to winklerarts.com.



Morden Festival of the Arts returns with strings, piano sessions this month

By Voice staff

The 48th Morden Festival of the Arts gets underway this month with the strings and piano sessions.

The festival aims to foster and promote continued interest, growth and development of talent within the arts and provide a venue for student performance and adjudication in various disciplines including strings, sacred, piano, vocal/choral, band and French and English speech arts.

It begins with strings March 12 at 1:30 and 6:30 p.m. and March 13 at 9 a.m., 1 p.m., and 6:30 p.m. at the Morden Church of God.

There are 127 entries from beginner to Grade 10, with 14 entries in the senior classes. Participants are performing in solos and duets on violin, cello, and bass in classes that feature a range of musical genres.

Session adjudicator Laurel Howard has taught violin and viola for over 35 years and is a longtime member of Winnipeg's Suzuki community. She has also taught for the Winnipeg youth orchestras, Sistema Winnipeg, Winnipeg and Seven Oaks school divisions and at many workshops and camps.

The next festival session will be piano March 20-21 with performances starting at 9 a.m. and 1:15 p.m. at Westside Community Church. There are 106 entries from beginner to Grade 10.

Adjudicator Madeline Hildebrand was recently featured on composer T. Patrick Carrabré's award-winning album *100,000 Lakes* and in the Banff Centre's 2022 Classical: Evolution artist development program. She teaches piano at Brandon University.

The festival will wrap up next

month with the vocal/choral sessions April 13, French and English speech arts April 18-20, and band April 27 followed by the highlights concert April 30 at 2 p.m.

All festival sessions are open to the public. Admission is \$2 per session to help offset costs.

Donations to support the festival can be sent to Box 493, Morden, MB, R6M 1A5 or made at any festival venue. Donations of \$20 or more receive two free passes to all sessions and the highlights concert.

For more information, head to mordenfestivalofthearts.com.

> WATER CO-OP, FROM PG. 10

"I'm optimistic we're going to find a way to fund these [projects]," he said.

The co-op bid farewell to RM of Dufferin representative George Gray at the AGM. Gray has served on the board for 12 years, including the past four as co-chair.

"My time over the years with PVWC has been educational and enriching," Gray said in the co-

chair message. "Working over that time with three CEOs and the great staff as well as the board members has been a good experience. I wish everyone at PVWC all the success in the future."

Co-chairing the board now alongside returning Don Wiebe, reeve of the Municipality of Rhineland, is RM of Stanley councillor Peter Froese.

Local teacher, students working to preserve a piece of Morden's history

By Lorne Stelmach

A local teacher is taking on the task of preserving a record of a newspaper that served Morden for much of the last century.

Morden Collegiate instructor Darryl Toews is enlisting the help of a couple of students to digitize a collection of the *Morden Times* newspaper dating back to the 1920s.

Storm Letkeman and a few friends spend their free period Tuesday mornings helping out. They were midway through the 1925 editions last week.

"My goal would be to try to do a decade a year, maybe more than that," said Toews. "It depends on my time ... but it will be a number of years for sure. It will be a multi-year project.

"We'll just keep going until they're all done

and can be accessible to the public, which is really what the goal is here," said Toews, a history buff whose research efforts can be seen in such projects as the memorial plaques in Confederation Park.

The *Morden Times* came to an end in 2020 when Postmedia laid off about 80 employees and permanently closed 15 community publications in Manitoba and Ontario. The affected publications in Manitoba included those in Morden, Altona, Carman, Winkler, Gimil, Selkirk, Stonewall, and Teulon.

At the time, former mayor John

Wiens had rescued the archives of the *Morden Times*.

"He had them stored away for quite some time and had reached the point where he wasn't sure what to do with them anymore. He knew I am interested in the history of Morden and asked if I wanted them. I couldn't turn down a big pile of old newspapers."

His immediate thought was they should be digitized to not only preserve them but also make them available to the public. So he started the process of scanning them and getting them to the Pembina Manitou Archive, which has a large collection of old newspapers.

"I thought with my connection to some interested students that we could make this a bit of an adventure this year and take on this process," Toews said, noting a challenge is there isn't really any proper place to store archival materials, with the Morden Historical Society not being an active organization.

"I know there's a group of interested retired archivists in Morden who I've met with, and we are talking about what we can to keep the history preserved and maybe involve some more people in the community."

Newspapers like these are a very important record of the history of a community, Toews stressed.

"IT'S INTERESTING TO GET THAT WEEKLY GLIMPSE INTO OUR COMMUNITY AND WHAT WAS GOING ON."



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Morden Collegiate teacher and history buff Darryl Toews with student Storm Letkeman hard at work last week digitizing old copies of the *Morden Times*.

"These old newspapers especially I find quite fascinating because of the level of personal information that they provide," he said. "The early *Times* papers had the local section where it talks about people left the community to go on holiday or visitors arrived, so it was the social media of the time.

"It's interesting to get that weekly glimpse into our community and what was going on ... there was all sorts of world news and local stuff, so it's just very fascinating to read."

The bulk of the newspapers were still in decent condition, but some were getting tattered and would only worsen, he observed.

"I'm not sure what we'll do with them. That's a question I have for when this is done. I don't like throwing out or destroying historical items.

Once these are digitized, what do I do with the originals?"

For her part, Letkeman said she simply had the time to help out, but she has since gotten truly interested in the project.

"And it's fun to learn about the history of Morden. I'm only 18 years old, so I don't know much about the history of Morden," she said.

"It's fun to go through all of the old newspapers and find out what was going on, what was important to people ... it's interesting to see how much of your daily life was posted in the newspaper."

You can find scanned editions of the *Morden Times* dating back to 1911 online at peminamanitouarchive.ca.

PVPCC support group starting up next month

By Voice staff

A new session of the Pembina Valley Pregnancy Care Centre's Steps in HOPE (Healing Our Pregnancy Experiences) support group starts up next month.

The free program provides a safe space for women who have experienced miscarriage or stillbirth to

work through their grief together with others who have had the same experience.

"Losing a baby can be one of the most difficult experiences anyone can go through and providing a caring space for women to share, knowing they aren't alone, is so important," said PVPCC executive director Linda Marek. "Sometimes the pain is so

deep but women are told they should be over it by now, or they feel misunderstood when they do take that brave step to be vulnerable about their experiences."

The program runs for six weeks starting April 4. Weekly themes include sharing your experience with other women, learning to cope, cycles of grief, self-care, honouring your

difficult journey, and creating a keepsake.

Pre-registration is required. Email stepsinhope@gmail.com, call 204-325-7900, or head online to www.pvpcc.com/miscarriage-and-loss-support/ for more details.

The **Voice**

Get in touch with us via e-mail:

Send news items to: news@winklermordenvoice.ca
Advertising inquiries to: ads@winklermordenvoice.ca

sports & recreation

Hawks advance to semi-finals against Bruins

By Lorne Stelmach

A three game sweep of their quarter-final series now has the male Pembina Valley Hawks in the Manitoba U18 semi-finals starting this weekend.

The Hawks knocked the Yellowhead Chiefs out of the running with a 5-3 victory in game one last Tuesday, a 5-2 win in game two Thursday, and then a 4-1 victory to wrap it up Saturday.

Two goals, including a shorthanded marker in just over a minute in the latter half of the third period by Ty Love, got the win for the Hawks in game one of the series in Morden.

Also scoring twice was Marek Miller, while Sam Delaquis contributed a single.

Raiden LeGall got 37 saves as Pembina Valley held a slight 41-40 edge in shots on goal.

The Hawks then scored three unanswered first period goals and went 2 for 7 on the powerplay in Shoal Lake to win game two 5-2.

Carter Campbell led the way with a hat trick, with Marek Miller and Sebastian Hicks also scoring for the Hawks, while Bryson Yaschyshyn made 35 saves as the Chiefs outshot Pembina Valley 37-30.



PHOTO BY RICK HIEBERT/VOICE

Pembina Valley Hawks captain Carter Campbell celebrates a goal in the third period last week Tuesday in game one of the quarter-final series, which the Hawks won 5-3. They went on to take games two and three as well to knock the Chiefs out of the playoffs.

In game three in Morden Saturday, the Hawks were clinging to a 2-1 lead when they scored twice in 21 seconds within the last two minutes to close it out.

Kam Thomas scored twice and Carter Campbell and Cedrik Robidoux each scored once that night. LeGall made 34 saves on 35 shots on net. His teammates fired 33 the other way.

The third ranked Hawks now take on the second place Winnipeg Bruins, and this semi-final could be a close, hard-fought match-up.

The two teams faced each other four times in the regular season, each skating away with two close wins.

On one side is regular season scoring champion Hayden Moore of the Bruins, while on the other end is MVP

and top goaltender LeGall backstopping the Hawks.

The series kicks off in Winnipeg Friday and then comes to Morden for game two on Sunday

The league's other semi-final series has the Brandon Wheat Kings up against the Winnipeg Wild.

Bombers to face Ste. Anne Aces in SEMHL finals

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Morden Bombers came out on top in their best-of-five semi-final series against the Warren Mercs last week.

Morden bounced back from Warren's game two overtime win to retake the series lead 2-1 with a 4-3 win on March 1.

The Bombers were up 3-2 after 20 minutes thanks to a pair of goals from Adam Hughesman and a single from

Mike Rey.

Warren tied it up with the lone goal of the second period and then Jaden Townsend scored what ended up being the game-winner midway through the third.

Reed Peters made 30 saves in goal for the Bombers as Morden outshot Warren 47-33.

The Mercs had their backs up against the wall in game four Friday night, needing a victory to make it to game five.

They didn't get it.

Three goals from Rey and singles from Hughesman, Cole Penner, and Steve Mullin drowned out the two the Mercs managed to take the game 6-2 and the series 3-1.

That means Morden will now face the Ste. Anne Aces, who swept their semi-final series against the regular season champion Portage Islanders 3-0 a week earlier.

The Aces finished the SEMHL regular season in fourth place to Morden's

third-place finish.

The two teams only faced each other twice this season. The Aces won the first game 12-5 while the Bombers took the second 6-4.

The best-of-seven series starts in Morden Friday night. Game two is in Ste Anne on Sunday. Game three is back in Morden next week Wednesday.

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

Flyers sweep home-and-away vs. Steelers

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler Flyers added two more to the win column in MJHL action last week.

Last Wednesday night saw the junior team double up on the visiting Selkirk Steelers 2-1.

Selkirk had a 1-0 lead with the game's first goal eight minutes into the second period. The visitors looked poised to win it before Trent Penner managed to tie things up with just 19 seconds left on the clock in the third.

In the resulting overtime, Dalton Andrew scored the game winner at 1:42.

Malachi Klassen stood tall in net for Winkler, making 34 as his teammates outshot the Steelers 52-35.

The rematch a couple nights later in Selkirk saw a high score but a similar result for Winkler.

This time they got the win 4-2. Brody Beauchemin scored two of those, opening Winkler's scoring at the top of the second and then scoring the final goal of the game in the last minute. In between, Zachary Brault and Jayce Legaarden also scored goals in the win.

Aidan Comeau was in net for the Flyers this game. He made 36 saves as Selkirk outshot Winkler 38-26.

Winkler remains in third place in the MGEU East Division standings with a record of 32-13-6-1 for 71 points. Ahead of them are the Portage Terri-



PHOTO BY RICK HIEBERT/VOICE

Selkirk goalie Hunter Tarves stops Winkler's Trent Sambrook in close during the overtime period last Wednesday night. Dalton Andrew managed to get the game-winning goal a short while later to give the Flyers the win 2-1.

ers in first (84 points) and the Steinbach Pistons in second (78 points). Well back in fourth place are the Niverville Nighthawks (52 points).

This week the team heads to Por-

tage Wednesday night and then hosts Neepawa on Saturday.

Orioles moving to Winkler

By Lorne Stelmach

A new leadership group means one of the local Manitoba Junior Baseball League teams are moving down the road to Winkler.

The Pembina Valley Orioles are making the change from being based in Morden, and it comes about not only as a result of a change in the key people at the helm but with strong interest from Winkler to take charge.

Jim Odlum and Sheldon Bergman had both been guiding the team for about a decade, and they shared the feeling that it was time for a bit of a shake-up.

"We both felt it was time for the team to come under some new direction, some new leadership," Odlum said on Monday.

The timing seemed opportune, as sponsorships were also up for renewal, and they saw a need for some new blood to step in and take charge with

new energy for the program.

"A group stepped up that said they would be willing to take it over, and one thing led to another," Odlum explained. "In a short time, they had a substantial crew of people together.

"They also have the new diamond coming together there, so everything kind of fell into place.

"I think it's all going to work out and that it's going to be great for the team," Odlum said. "A lot of people are jumping on the bandwagon, and I can see some great things happening for the team."

"We just decided this was the time. It was time to move on and let others carry on with the program," said Bergman. "But unfortunately we couldn't really find anyone in Morden to carry on with it.

"Winkler has a strong baseball community," he added. "It's maybe sad

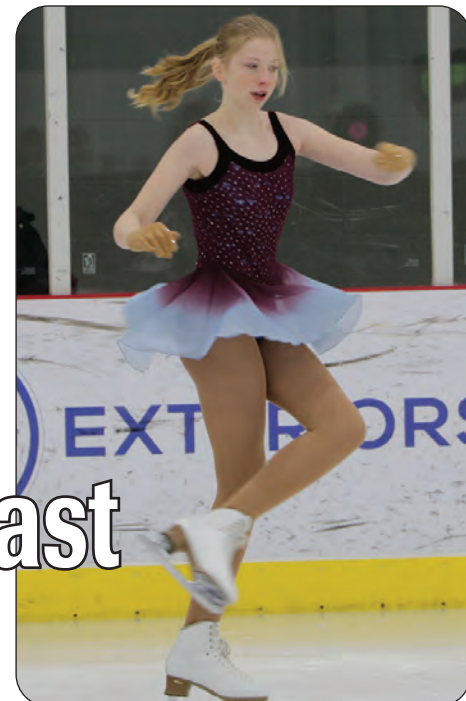


SOLAR REBATES FOR YOUR HOME AND BUSINESS

Get rebates up to \$5,000 for your home and up to \$25,000 for your business.

Visit efficiencyMB.ca/solar to learn more.





Blast from the past

PHOTOS BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

The Winkler Skating Club hosted an "80s Icon" spring carnival Saturday to wrap up their season. Clockwise from left: A solo performance



from Makenzie Enting; Alvin and the Chipmunks were joined by the Chippettes on the ice; Ella Bueckert shows off her spin skills; this trio were part of the Care Bear Countdown; the Ghostbusters make short work of Slimer.



Twisters fall to Victorias, beat Royal Knights

By Lorne Stelmach

The Pembina Valley Twisters had

their winning streak halted at four games but then rebounded this past week in MMJHL action.

The sixth place Twisters were outplayed in an 8-3 loss to third place St. Vital Thursday before edging second place River East 2-1 Sunday.

Things came apart in the final frame against St. Vital as the Victorias scored five times in the third period after leading 3-1 after 40 minutes.

Brett Bergman, Nico Vigier, and Rylan Thomas scored for the Twisters, while Matt Grysiuk made 33 saves with St. Vital holding a 41-25 edge in shots on goal.

Kyle VanDenyze scored the winner on a powerplay at 13:41 of the third period to help the Twisters edge River East.

Riley Goertzen scored his team-leading 26th of the season earlier in the third period to tie it up, and Logan Enns made 36 saves as Pembina Valley was outshot 37-31.

The Twisters have a playoff spot secured as they sit in sixth place at 20-15-3-3 for 46 points. They are a full 10 points ahead of Transcona and three back of Fort Garry Fort Rouge and five behind Charleswood, who welcome Pembina Valley for a key game this Friday before the Twisters then visit St. Boniface Sunday afternoon.

Pembina Valley will wrap up the regular season against Transcona March 17 and the Raiders March 19.

Scenic Flight Tour

\$119 FOR A 3 PERSON FLIGHT TOUR
Book Today!

LS AIRWAYS FLIGHT ACADEMY

LS Airways Flight Academy | 311 Anson St, Gimli, MB | 204-651-1402

> OROLES, FROM PG. 15

for Morden, but we're also happy that people are taking on the program and that Winkler is getting the opportunity."

The team has announced that Dan Giesbrecht will be the first head

coach in Winkler. Giesbrecht brings decades of baseball experience at various levels to the Orioles and has expressed great excitement to work with the young players and coaches in the organization.

Classifieds

Book Your Classified Ad Today -
Call 325-6888 or Email
ads@winklermordenvoice.ca

The Winkler Morden
Voice

SCRAP METAL

Buyer for all farmyard scrap, machinery and autos. No item too large! Best prices paid, cash in hand. Phone Alf at 204-461-1649.

LAKESIDE FLIGHT ACADEMY

Want to learn how to fly? Lakeside Flight Academy is the most affordable in Canada. Recreational, private and commercial certificates. We offer flight training and ground school (air law, navigation, meteorology, aeronautics general knowledge). Call 204-651-1402.

SERVICES

Confidential, personal, Christian counseling, guidance by correspondence by mail: Christian Counseling, Box 39, Stonewall, MB. ROC 220.

FOR RENT

Suite rental – large condo style apartment with common area. On-site laundry, 1 bdrm. plus utility room. 15 minutes from Winkler & Carman. Best deal in southern MB! \$500/mo. Ph 204-615-0676. pgrift@shaw.ca

HELP WANTED

Employment Opportunity - Grain farm looking for a seasonal employee to operate and maintain farm equipment, located west of Morden. Phone or text David Martens 204-324-7261.

RESPIRE/COMPANIONSHIP

Offering respite & companionship services in the Pembina Valley. Available days, evenings & nights. Certified Health Care Aide. **Specializing in palliative care.** For more information, call Frances at 204-526-4453.

WANTED TO BUY

Mobile Scooter with cab in good condition. Call 204-325-8190.

NOTICES

URGENT PRESS RELEASES - Have a newsworthy item to announce? An exciting change in operations? Though we cannot guarantee publication, MCNA will get the information into the right hands for ONLY \$35 + GST/HST. Call MCNA 204-947-1691 for more information. See www.mcna.com under the "Types of Advertising" tab for more details.

BOOK YOUR SPRING HIRING / RECRUITING CLASSIFIEDS NOW! Be seen in the 32 Weekly Manitoba Community Newspapers to get your messaging all over the province. Let people know in the Blanket Classifieds! Call 204-467-5836 or call MCNA at 204-947-1691 for more details or to book ads. MCNA - Manitoba Community Newspapers Association. www.mcna.com

FINANCIAL SERVICES

Private mortgage lender. All real estate types considered. No credit checks done. Deal direct with lender and get quick approval. Toll free 1-866-405-1228 www.firstandsecondmortgages.ca

HEALTH

Are you suffering from joint or arthritic pain? If so, you owe it to yourself to try elk velvet antler capsules. Hundreds have found relief. Benefits humans and pets. EVA is composed of proteins, amino acids, minerals, lipids and water. Key compounds that work to stimulate red blood cell production & cartilage cell regeneration & development. Stonewood Elk Ranch Ltd., 204-467-8884 or e-mail stonewoodelkranch@myrnts.net

CAREERS



MAINTENANCE MECHANIC/MILLWRIGHT

Bunge Altona has an opening for a Maintenance Mechanic/Millwright. Work involves process equipment installation, maintenance and repair, lubrication, steel fabrication and welding.

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.

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

Bunge Canada is an equal opportunity employer.

CAREERS

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Walinga Inc. in Carman, Manitoba is looking for a flexible, enthusiastic, reliable, team player to fill the following position:



Service Administrator

- Greeting customers and scheduling service appointments
- Creating Job Orders based on input from the customer; including detailed descriptions of the problems and repairs
- Review Job Orders for completeness
- Being well organized and having a good understanding of computer systems.
- Back up parts sales representative when necessary
- Willing to train the right candidate.

Walinga offers modern machinery, competitive wages, full health benefits, company pension, and a great work environment.

If you are looking for a rewarding career in this area or would like to share a resume please contact Ray Beukema at 204-745-2951 (ext 440) or email him at ray.beukema@walinga.com

We thank all applicants for their interest, but only those considered for an interview will be contacted.

FIND THE RIGHT PERSON FOR THE POSITION with an EMPLOYMENT/CAREERS AD in

The Winkler Morden
Voice

Call: 204-467-5836 or Email: ads@winklermordenvoice.ca

TENDER

Sealed tenders in writing for the PURCHASE or LEASE of the property described below will be received by March 31, 2023 to the attention of Mr. Paul Eberling, 297 McLean Street, Winnipeg, MB R3R 0V8. Located in the Municipality of GREY, the property is described as:

PARCEL I: S ½ OF SE 1/4 SECTION 31-8-5 WPM

- Approximately 80 acres open tillable
- Proximity (1 mile) to Provincial Trunk Highway

PARCEL II: NW 1/4 OF SECTION 21-9-6 WPM

(Approx. 120 acres open tillable)

PARCEL III: SW 1/4 OF SECTION 21-9-6 WPM

(Approx. 150 acres open tillable)

PARCEL IV: N ½ of NE 1/4 OF SECTION 21-9-6 WPM

(Approx. 60 acres open tillable)

- Approximately 330 acres open tillable in total PARCEL II, III, IV. Remaining is pasture. Perimeter fence.
- Water (dugouts) located on PARCEL II, III, IV titles
- Yard site on PARCEL III is currently vacant (no buildings) but with access to MB Hydro and dugout. Perfect site to build on.

PUBLIC NOTICE



Garden Valley School Division Public Budget Consultation

On **Thursday, March 9, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.**, Garden Valley School Division will be hosting a Public Budget Forum to present and discuss the draft 2023/24 Operating Budget.

Those interested in participating in the forum may attend in-person at the GVSD Division Office (750 Triple E Blvd., Winkler) or connect virtually through the link that will be posted on our website.

The GVSD Board of Trustees encourages your attendance at this important event.

Please support our advertisers
SHOP LOCAL

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF DONALD NAGAZINA, late of Morden, in Manitoba, deceased.

All claims against the above Estate, duly verified by Statutory Declaration, must be sent to the undersigned at Box 1150, 1-655 Main Street, Winkler, Manitoba, R6W 4B2, on or before the 21st day of April, 2023.

Dated at Winkler, Manitoba, this 1st day of March, 2023

DOELL LAW OFFICE

Solicitor for the Executor

Attention: Christopher G. Doell

VOTING FOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CORRECTION

The following is a correction to the Access Credit Union legal notice which was published on February 27, 2023:

**NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
MEMBERS OF ACCESS CREDIT UNION LIMITED
(the "Credit Union")**

**TO: ALL MEMBERS OF THE CREDIT UNION
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

TAKE NOTICE THAT the Annual General Meeting of the members of Access Credit Union will be held on Tuesday, April 18, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. CDT via virtual means, for the following purposes:

1. 2022 Financial Statements
2. Board of Directors Report
3. Appointment of Auditors
4. Announcement of Patronage Allocation and Cash Redemptions
5. Director Elections

All eligible members wishing to participate in the Annual General Meeting are required to register online at www.accesscu.ca prior to April 18, 2023, at 4:00 P.M. CDT. More information about the virtual Annual General Meeting can be found at: www.accesscu.ca.

DATED this 9th day of March 2023
ACCESS CREDIT UNION LIMITED
By Order of the Board of Directors



Classifieds The Winkler Morden **Voice**
Announcements

Book Your Classified Ad Today - Call 467-5836
or Email ads@winklermordenvoice.ca

SENIOR RENTALS

**Garden Park Estates
has one suite available.**

1 bdrm with a den, 1085 sq. ft. 1 1/2 bath. Open spacious floor plan, in suite laundry hook ups, indoor heated garage parking available, and more.
Email Cindy at cindyek@mts.net
or call 204-362-7151
for more information.

SENIOR RENTALS

**OAK WEST ESTATES
HAS 1 SUITE AVAILABLE.**

1240 sq. ft., 1 bdrm with a den. Heated garage parking is available. Rent includes all utilities, yard care, snow removal and more.
Email Cindy at cindyek@mts.net
or call 204-362-7151
for more information.

take a break > GAMES

SUDOKU

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

Fun By The Numbers

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

Level: Intermediate

Here's How It Works:

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

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

Sudoku Answer

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

Crossword Answer

X CROSSWORD

CLUES ACROSS

1. Half-conscious states
8. Unnatural
13. Deep regret
14. Rogue
15. Taken without permission
19. An alternative
20. After B
21. Partner to flowed
22. Weekday
23. Body part
24. World's longest river
25. One of the Greats
26. Make clean
30. C. Canada indigenous peoples
31. Japanese seaport
32. Most unclothed
33. Small grouper fish
34. Soluble ribonucleic acid
35. Distinguishing sound
38. French realist painter
39. Popular beer brand
40. Views
44. God depicted as a bull
45. Relieve
46. Residue after burning
47. Habitation
48. Poe's middle name
49. Japanese title
50. TV series installation (abbr.)
51. Beloved country singer
55. Single unit
57. Genuine
58. Develop
59. Traveled through the snow

CLUES DOWN

1. Clues
2. Do again
3. Current unit
4. Neither
5. Corporate exec (abbr.)

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

6. Second sight
7. The absence of mental stress
8. Supplemented with difficulty
9. Stop for good
10. College dorm worker
11. Bones
12. Most supernatural
16. Spanish island
17. Unlimited
18. Where golfers begin
22. No charge
25. Print errors
27. Professional drivers
28. Kiss box set
29. Short, fine fibers
30. Administers punishment
32. Czech city
34. Normal or sound powers of mind
35. The academic world
36. Crustacean
37. Currency
38. Pastoral people of Tanzania or Kenya
40. Cloth spread over a coffin
41. Grouped together
42. On land
43. Glistened
45. A type of extension
48. One who assists
51. College sports conference
52. Zero
53. Midway between northeast and east
54. Type of screen
56. The 13th letter of the Greek alphabet

Classifieds *The Voice* Winkler • Morden

Book Your Classified Ad Today - Call 325-6888 or Email ads@winklermordenvoice.ca

HIP/KNEE Replacement?

Other medical conditions causing TROUBLE WALKING or DRESSING?
The Disability Tax Credit allows for \$2,500 yearly tax credit and up to \$30,000 Lump sum refund.

Apply NOW; quickest refund Nationwide! Providing assistance during Covid.

Expert Help:
204-453-5372

BATTERIES FOR EVERYTHING! 50,000 BATTERIES IN STOCK

- *Auto *Farm *Marine
- *Construction *ATV
- *Motorcycle *Golf Carts
- *Rechargeables *Tools
- *Phones *Computers
- *Solar Systems & design
- * Everything Else!

THE BATTERY MAN
1390 St. James St.
Winnipeg

TF 1-877-775-8271
www.batteryman.ca

CLASS 1 TRUCK DRIVER To run Canada

- Paid pick, drops, layovers and stat pay
- Multi drop runs
- Benefit package
- Dedicated truck
- Sign on bonus
- Annual bonus
- Reset at home
- Weekend home time
- Paid training
- Referral program

Derek (204) 793-7465
CENTENNIAL TRANSPORT & LEASING LTD.

FULL TIME HEAVY DUTY MECHANIC OR TRAILER MECHANIC

- Benefits Package (full time only)
- Competitive wages
- Valid driver's license
- Class 3 an asset
- Ability to perform MGI Safety an asset

Derek (204) 793-7465
CENTENNIAL TRANSPORT & LEASING LTD.

ReVolution Trailers

RVs Reimagined

- Renovated RV Sales
- Custom Renovations
- Service and Repair

Manitoba's Premier RV Renovator

1480 Springfield Rd
Winnipeg, MB
www.revolutiontrailers.ca

Call now:
204-955-7377

PUBLIC NOTICE



Border Land School Division invites applicants for a

TEACHING PRINCIPAL

FOR EMERSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
IN EMERSON, MB

FOR DETAILS VISIT WWW.BLSD.CA

PUBLIC NOTICE



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING Municipality of Rhineland

2023 Financial Plan Hearing
Wednesday, March 22, 2023 • 10:00 am
Council Chambers of the
Municipality of Rhineland

In accordance with subsection 162(2) of The Municipal Act, Council will present the 2023 financial plan for the Municipality of Rhineland at 10:00am Wednesday, March 22, 2023 in the Council Chambers of the Municipality of Rhineland office.

The presentation will include the 2023 operating costs, the 2023 capital budget, and a five-year capital expenditure program. The presentation will be followed by a forum for questions and comments from the public. The purpose of the hearing is to allow any interested persons to make a representation, ask questions, or register an objection. Copies of the proposed financial plan will be available after March 8, 2023 at the Municipality of Rhineland office, located at 109 3rd Avenue NE during regular business hours. Questions and remarks may be directed by letter or email at info@rhinelandmb.ca

Michael Rempel, CMMA
Chief Administrative Officer
Box 270
Altona, MB R0G 0B0

PUBLIC NOTICE



You are invited to attend The Town of Altona 2023 Financial Plan Hearing Tuesday, March 28, 2023 6:00 pm Council Chambers of the Altona Civic Centre

In accordance with subsection 162(2) of The Municipal Act, the Council will present the proposed 2023 Financial Plan for the Town of Altona at 6:00 pm on Tuesday, March 28, 2023 in the Council Chambers of the Altona Civic Centre. The presentation will include the 2023 operating costs, the 2023 capital budget and a five year capital expenditure program. The presentation will be followed by a forum for questions and comments from the public. The purpose of the hearing is to allow any interested person to make a representation, ask questions or register an objection.

Copies of the proposed Financial Plan will be available after March 15, 2023 on our website at www.altona.ca or upon request at the Town of Altona Administration Office, 111 Centre Avenue during regular business hours. Questions and remarks may be directed by letter or email to our Manager of Finance or through our email address at info@altona.ca.

Terry Fehr, CMMA
Manager of Finance
Town of Altona
terry.fehr@altona.ca
Box 1630
Altona MB R0G 0B0

February 24, 2023

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING UNDER THE PLANNING ACT

The City of Winkler, under the authority of The Planning Act, will hold a hearing at which time and place the council of the City of Winkler will receive representation from the applicants and any other persons who wish to make representations in respect of the Rezoning Application No. RZ2023-001 and By-law No. 2298-23, being an amendment to Winkler Zoning By-law 2271-21 of the City of Winkler.

The general intent of the above By-Law No. 2298-23, is to zone the land described below,
Namely:

**1650 Northlands Pkwy, legally described as Part of SE ¼ 8-3-4 WPM
Being Block 4, Plan 66568 MLTO**

as shown outlined in a heavy solid line on the map attached hereto as Schedule "A", and forming part of this by-law, be rezoned

FROM: "R1" RESIDENTIAL LOWER DENSITY & "R3" RESIDENTIAL HIGHER DENSITY

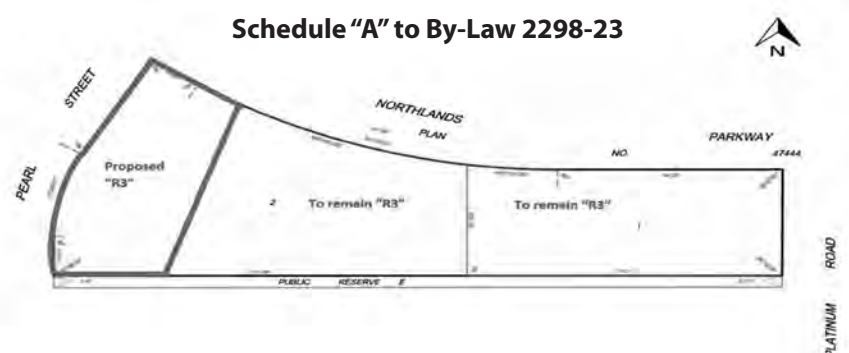
TO: "R3" RESIDENTIAL HIGHER DENSITY ZONE

A copy of the above By-Law No. 2298-23 and supporting material may be inspected by any persons between the hours of 9:00 AM and 5:00 PM, Monday to Thursday and 9:00 AM and 4:30 PM, Friday, in the City Office.

Date of Hearing: March 14, 2023
Time of Hearing: 6:30 p.m.
Location: Winkler Council Chambers,
185 Main Street, Winkler, Manitoba

DATED at Winkler, in Manitoba, this 17th day of February 2023.
Designated Officer
City of Winkler

Schedule "A" to By-Law 2298-23



Starting a new business?
Call us - We have everything you need to promote your business
Call **204-467-5836**

PUBLIC NOITCE



**R.M. OF STANLEY
PUBLIC NOTICE
REGARDING THE 2023
FINANCIAL PLAN**

Public Notice is hereby given pursuant to Subsection 162(2) of The Municipal Act that the Council of the R.M. of Stanley intends to present its Financial Plan for the fiscal year 2023 at a Public Hearing in the Council Chambers of the Municipality on Thursday, March 16, 2023 at 10:30 a.m. Council will hear any person who wishes to make a representation, ask questions, or register an objection to the Financial Plan, as provided. Copies of the 2023 Financial Plan will be available for review prior to the Hearing at the Municipal Office at 1-23111 PTH 14W in the Rural Municipality of Stanley.

PUBLIC NOITCE



**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:

THE TOWN OF ALTONA ZONING BY-LAW 1810/2023
Being an AMENDMENT to the TOWN OF ALTONA
ZONING BY-LAW 1792/2021, AS AMENDED

HEARING: ALTONA CIVIC OFFICE
LOCATION: 111 CENTRE AVENUE EAST, ALTONA, MB

DATE & TIME: March 28th, 2023
at 6:00 PM

GENERAL INTENT: To add greenhouse/garden centres as a conditional use in the "INDUSTRIAL GENERAL" Zone, to add large free-standing signs in "COMMERICAL NEIGHBORHOOD" Zones and to include requirements when "INDUSTRIAL" & "COMMERICAL" Zones are abutting residential zones.

AREA: TOWN OF ALTONA

FOR INFORMATION

CONTACT: Susan Stein, General Manager
RPGA PLANNING DISTRICT
Box 270, Altona MB R0G 0B0
Phone: (204) 324-5357 manager@rpgamb.ca

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



**Response Builder
Advertising
WORKS!**

- GET SEEN by over 360,000 Manitoba Homes!
- Create instant top of mind awareness
- Showcase your info, business, product, job, announcements or event
- We format it, to make it look great!
- Starting at \$239.00 (includes 35 lines of space)
- The ads blanket the province and run in MCNA's 32 Manitoba community newspapers
- Very cost effective means of getting your message out to the widest possible audience

Contact this newspaper NOW or MCNA at 204.947.1691 or email classified@mcna.com

www.mcna.com

Classifieds

The Winkler Morden

Voice

Book Your Classified Ad Today - Call 325-6888 or Email ads@winklermordenvoice.ca



E.F. Moon is a well-established Heavy Construction Company founded in 1962 and located in Portage la Prairie, MB.

We are currently seeking experienced, goal oriented individuals for employment in a number of areas: **Class 1 & 3 Drivers, Foremen, Skilled Laborers, Sewer & Water Personnel, Directional Drill Personnel, Excavator, Dozer, Grader, Rock Truck, Loader, Vac Truck and Packer Operators.**

We offer competitive wages, comprehensive benefits plan, safety training and a safe work environment.

Requirements are: Minimum class 5 driver's license, positive work attitude, reliable, able to work well with a team or alone, safety oriented, able to work extended hours.

If you are interested in joining a well-established and growing company with room for advancement, please visit us at 1200 Lorne Ave. E. in Portage la Prairie, MB to fill out an application, apply online at www.efmoon.ca or email a resume to jackiek@efmoon.ca

McSherry Auctions
12 Patterson Dr., Stonewall, MB
Online Timed Auctions @ iCollector.com

Estate & Moving
Closes Wed. Mar. 15 @ 7:00PM

Estate & Moving
Closes Wed. Mar. 22 @ 7:00PM

McSherry Man Cave Auction
Signs, Coke Machine, Gas Pumps, Toys
Closes Sat. April 1 @ 10:00AM

McSherryAuction.com
204-467-1858
Consignors Welcome!

Reporter/Photographer Wanted

Are you a natural born storyteller with an eye for photography and a passion for community news? Carman-Dufferin Standard is currently seeking a full-time reporter and photographer to join its multi award-winning weekly community newspaper.

We are looking for someone who is both motivated and passionate about being the best outlet of interesting and breaking news stories and event coverage in the Carman-Dufferin area and surrounding area communities.

Qualifications:

- A post-secondary degree/diploma in journalism or equivalent experience in a related field
- Strong photography and writing skills with an interest in social media
- Self-starter with the ability to exercise solid news judgement
- Ability to establish professional relationships to consistently source and write a wide range of stories and cover events in a fair, balanced and accurate manner
- Able to work both independently and as a team on a flexible work schedule including both evenings and weekends to meet our weekly editorial deadline
- Experience covering council and school board meetings
- Knowledge of CP Style and about the Interlake and its surrounding communities would be an asset

Please forward your resumé along with three writing and photography samples to:

Lana Meier
Email: news@stonewallteulontribune.ca



Please support our advertisers
SHOP LOCAL

PUBLIC NOTICE



The Winkler Centennial Golf Course intends to conduct its Pesticide Control Program from May 1, 2023 to Nov 15, 2023.

The Program is to control Turf Diseases, and Noxious Weeds within the property.

The Control Products include:
Chlorothalonil, Fludioxonil, Propiconazole, Polyoxin, Tebuconazole, Trifloxystrobin, Glyphosate, 2,4-D Mecoprop-P, dicamba, Mefentrifluzonazole, Carfentrazone-ethyl

The public may send written submissions or objections within 15 days of publication of the notice to the department below.

Environmental Approvals Branch
Manitoba Sustainable Development
1007 Century Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3C 1A5

BOOK YOUR ANNOUNCEMENT TODAY CALL: 467-5836

- BIRTHDAYS
- MARRIAGES
- ANNIVERSARIES
- NOTICES
- OBITUARIES
- IN MEMORIAMs
- ENGAGEMENTS
- BIRTHS
- THANK YOUs
- GRADUATIONS



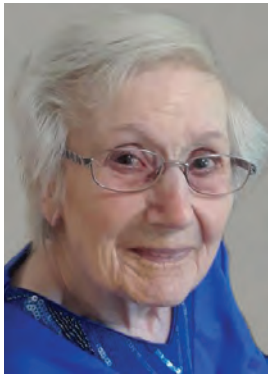
Classifieds Announcements

Book Your Classified Ad
Today - Call 467-5836
or Email ads@
winklermordenvoice.ca



OBITUARY

**Bernice Katherine Burkitt
(nee Winkler)
1929 – 2023**



On Tuesday, February 28, 2023 at Tabor Home in Morden, MB, Bernice Burkitt, 93 passed away.

She leaves to mourn her passing her daughter, Sherry, her son, Rick as well as two grandsons, Ryan and his wife, Tamara and great-grandson, Greyson and Adam (Marycel).

She was predeceased by her husband, Elmer Burkitt in 1984 and son-in-law, Benjamin Chaboyer in 2020.

Cremation has taken place and a private graveside service will be held at a later date at Hillside Cemetery.

The family would like to express their heartfelt gratitude to all the homecare employees who made it possible for Mom to stay in her home until 2020 and all the nurses and staff on Aspen as well as all the staff throughout Tabor Home for their excellent care. Donations may be made in Bernice's memory to Tabor Home Inc.

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



OBITUARY

OLLINIK, Joan

August 7, 1935 - February 16, 2023

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of our mother Joan.

Joan was predeceased by her husband Dr. Fred Ollinik; parents Don and Faith Brickwood; and brother Jim.

Joan will be fondly remembered by daughter Jill; son Steven (Dale); granddaughter Jessica; and grandson William.

Joan was one of a kind. Her humour and generosity will never be forgotten. So many memories of fun times with friends and family. She will be missed.

A private family interment will take place at a later date.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made in Joan's memory to the Kidney Foundation of Canada, kidney.ca

Condolences, photos, or memories may be sent to the family by visiting www.springfieldfuneralhome.com

EMPLOYMENT

Summer job - full -time
in Neuberghthal
Host & guide
visitors and tourists
help with programs
For more information
Call or text Ray 204 324 4115
email nhfrayh@icloud.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

Come to the Neuberghthal Heritage Fdn
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
March 14 • 8:00 PM
in the Barn, Commons Yard
5013 Road 1 West, Neuberghthal
For information
For a copy of the 2022 reports
For zoom link for the meeting
Call or text Ray 204 324 4115
email nhfrayh@icloud.com

EMPLOYMENT

Aubin Nurseries Ltd.

Require enthusiastic people to work in various areas of nursery production both full and part time with flexible hours starting approx. March 2023. Wage depends on experience with opportunity for advancement. Training can be provided.

Please forward resume to
cyndie@aubinnurseries.ca
or call 204-745-6703.

DEVOTION

Devotion
If you do not know
Jesus before you die,
Heaven will not be
your home.

**Remember Your Loved Ones
with an Announcement in the**
The Voice
Winkler Morden
Call 204-467-5836 or ads@winklermordenvoice.ca

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 04-2023
Being an AMENDMENT to the CITY OF
MORDEN ZONING BY-LAW 08-2017

HEARING LOCATION: Morden Civic Centre
195 Stephen St., Morden, MB

DATE & TIME: March 27, 2023
7:00 pm

From : "RT" Residential Two Family
To: "RM-S" Residential Multiple
Family – Small to construct a
6 Plex apartment building

AREA: 23 Stephen Street
Lots 17 Block 20 Plan
863 MLTO
Morden, MB

As shown outlined in red lines on the map attached hereto as Schedule "A", and forming part of this by-law.

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:
Santokh Randhawa, M. Eng., P. Eng.
133 7th Street, Morden, MB. R6M 1V3
Phone: (204) 822-2567



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.

COMING EVENTS

GRACE VALLEY MENNONITE ACADEMY
IS A NON GOVERNMENT FUNDED CHRISTIAN
PRIVATE SCHOOL.

DINE-IN AND TAKE-OUT
ENCHILADA SUPPER FUNDRAISER
WITH RICE, CHIPS AND DESSERT.



Tax receipts available for donations of \$30 or more, you can also send your donation by E-transfer @ gvmamb@gmail.com

March 17, 2023

5:00 - 7:00 PM

Winkler Sommerfelder Church
189 2nd St., Winkler

AUCTION



1960 BUILT BUNGALOW, 1132 SQ/FT SINGLE STOREY.
3 BEDROOM, 1 BATH. UPSTAIRS LAUNDRY/ENTRANCE,
SINGLE CAR GARAGE TO BE MOVED. SELLS TIMED ON-LINE.
SEE WWW.BILLKLASSEN.COM OWNERS, VINCE HINK
204-750-0004, LOCATED 35135, ROAD 18 NORTH,
NW OF MORDEN MB, OR 6 MILES SOUTH OF MIAMI.

For more complete listing www.billklassen.com

Bill Klassen Auctions Ltd.
Ph: (204) 325-4433
Cell: (204) 325-6230
Fax: (204) 325-4484

Announcements Classifieds The Winkler Morden **Voice**

Book Your Classified Ad Today - Call 467-5836 or Email ads@winklermordenvoice.ca

OBITUARY



Mary Schulz
April 11, 1931 – February 28, 2023
Forever Loved, Never Forgotten...

On February 28, 2023 Mary Schulz passed away peacefully surrounded by family at the Altona Memorial Hospital. She left this world the way she lived her life, with grace and dignity.

Mary was born on April 11, 1931 in the Amsterdam District near Altona to her parents David and Maria Braun. Her mother passed away two short years later and the family welcomed Marie Braun as the new matriarch. Mary's childhood was spent on the family homestead, enjoying adventures with many siblings and the hard work of mid century prairie life.

In 1952 Mary met a handsome teacher from the Amsterdam School and by 1953 Mary and Harold Schulz were newlyweds. They proceeded to move frequently from one school and home to another as Harold pursued his teaching career. Meanwhile they managed to raise four boys and one girl in an active and busy household. In 1962 they found a home in Plum Coulee, where Mary would live the rest of her adult life.

Mary had a genuine interest in learning. From the various species of birds in the trees to the seasonal location of the setting sun, Mary would seek an answer to the wonders of nature. Her hobbies included sewing, gardening, curling, puzzling and writing, managing to keep a daily journal for the past 50 years. After the children had grown, Mary studied and certified as a Home Care Attendant. For 10 years she took great pride in providing caring and consistent service to her clients.

Upon retirement, Harold and Mary enjoyed frequent travels to various locations. Although Mary appreciated the opportunity to see other parts of the world, she always said the day she returned home was the best part of the trip.

Mary's greatest love was family. She was never happier than when surrounded by family, especially the grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She developed a special bond with each member of the extended family, sharing her love and support for all their pursuits.

Having guests for a home cooked feast was Mary's passion, one that she maintained right until the end of her time at home. She was a master of the traditional family favorites, but never shied away from trying a new recipe that she had discovered. Her pantry was always stocked with the bounty of her garden, and frequently raided for her signature variety of pickles and jams.

The last two months of Mary's life were spent at the Altona Hospital. The compounding effects of congestive heart failure had taken a toll and Mary required further care and support. With the outstanding care of staff, the calm setting of the hospital, and the regular visits by family, Mary settled into an acceptance that she may not return home. She is now resting in her eternal home.

Mary was ever thankful for the care and treatment she received by Dr. Rahman, the nursing staff and all the support staff at the Altona Hospital.

Mary was predeceased by her husband Harold; her parents David and Marie Braun; brothers Dave, Jake, John, Bob, Wes and sisters Henrietta, Jessie and Anne.

Mary is survived by her brother Bernie; sister Frieda; sons Robert (Debbie), Avery (Theresa), Reuben (Carol) and Cameron (Suzanne) and one daughter Pamela. She is also survived by numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

A celebration of Mary's life was held on Sunday, March 5, 2023 at the Altona Bergthaler Church. Interment took place at the Altona Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Mennonite Central Committee or a charity of your choice.

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

OBITUARY



Vernon Arthur Wiebe
1951 - 2023

Vern passed away peacefully on Wednesday morning, March 1, 2023 at his residence in Morden, MB after a long battle with cancer.

Vern was born on May 15, 1951, to Abe and Katherine Wiebe of the Wakeham district. After finishing school, he worked as a butcher at Hiebert Meats. Vern began his career in flooring in his late teens, working as an installer for Southern Floorcraft in Morden, moving on to sales after a couple of years. He became the manager when the business was sold to EG Penner. Vern was in this role for three years, after which he opened his own store together with his wife, Rose in 1982. Vern's Carpets is family operated and still proudly serves Southern Manitoba.

In his younger years, Vern was very involved in fastball. He was an incredible pitcher, often being awarded MVP. After ball came golf. Through both business and personal travel, Vern played some of the world's most beautiful courses. He and Rose wintered in Palm Springs for many years, where they created awesome memories with friends and family. Vern and Rose celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on July 9, 2022.

Vern and Rose were blessed with a daughter, Christine and a son, Duke, who married Chris and Carla. His family was further blessed with five grandchildren, Emerson, Hunter, Ryder, Ruby and Marley, all of whom he was incredibly proud of. Vern is survived by eight siblings, Ron, Harv, Mel, Sharon, Phyllis, Lucy, Lorne, and Myrna.

He was predeceased by his parents, brother, Elmer and brother-in-law, Art.

Memorial service was held at 1:00 p.m. on Monday, March 6, 2023 at the Access Event Centre in Morden with interment prior at Chapel Cemetery.

The family would like to give special thanks to the exceptional staff at Boundary Trails Health Centre's CancerCare and Palliative Care Units.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Vern's memory to the BTHC Foundation.

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



OBITUARY



George Henry Vogt
1932 - 2023

George Vogt passed away peacefully at the age of 90 at the Rock Lake Personal Care Home with family at his side.

George was born to George and Mary Vogt on March 25, 1932 in the R.M. of Louise. He met the love of his life, Mary Pauls and was married of July 8th, 1956. They raised three children on the family farm southeast of Crystal City, Manitoba. George and his wife, Mary farmed together for many years before moving to Morden. Being semi-retired he continued to farm with his son, Kevin Vogt. He became a Christian at the age of 19 and was baptized upon the confession of his faith. His faith was very important to him and remained so till the end. When his diabetes got worse, he was hospitalized in the Rock Lake Hospital and panelled to the Rock Lake Personal Care Home in the fall of 2021.

George was predeceased by his loving wife of 64 years, Mary, seven sisters, four brothers-in-law, and two brothers in infancy.

George is survived by his daughter, Alvina (Ernie Pauls), and their two children, Renee (Kyle Peters), great-grandchildren, Lauren, Isabelle and Cohen, Ryan (Tara) Pauls and great-grandchildren, Roy and Chey, his daughter, Lois (Don Warkentin) and their two children, Chelsea (Mark Thiessen) and Myles Warkentin and son, Kevin Vogt.

A celebration of life was held Wednesday, March 8, 2023 at Westside Community Church with interment prior to the service.

The family would like to thank the staff at Rock Lake Hospital and Rock Lake Personal Care Home for the wonderful care they gave George.

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



Remember Your Loved Ones with an Announcement in the *The Winkler Morden Voice*

Call 204-467-5836 or ads@winklermordenvoice.ca

Biz Cards

ADVERTISING THAT WORKS!

To place your BIZ CARD Call 204-467-5836

Elite Metal Works

(24/7) professional on-site welding services are just a call away.

(204)384-1245
 elitemetalworks.ca
 lucas@elitemetalworks.ca

PEMBINA VALLEY ESTATE CLEANING

- Consultation Services
- Contents Removal
- Cleaning Services
- Repair Services
- Staging Service
- Firearms Donation or Disposal
- Hoarder Clean-up/De-cluttering

204-333-4074 • website: www.pvestatecleaning.com

Winkler native drops the puck for Black History Month

By Lorne Stelmach

It was a special moment for a former Winnipeg Jets player who grew up in Winkler as he was recognized recently in conjunction with Black History Month.

It was marked throughout February as part of the NHL's Hockey is for Everyone initiative, which aims to celebrate diversity in hockey, drive positive social change and foster more inclusive communities.

There was a focus on historical achievements of black players, the impact made by black women in hockey, and significant moments in hockey involving black players as well as the next generation who are impacting the game.

As part of the celebrations, Winnipeg Jets alumnus Ray Neufeld and his sister Sara participated in the puck drop in a game against the Los Angeles Kings last week.

"The acknowledgment of the fans the other night at the arena was pretty incredible ... I feel blessed, and I feel I was one of the lucky ones to have been a Winnipeg Jet," Neufeld said.

"I was honoured that the Jets would

ask me to participate in that day. It was incredibly special to do it with my sister Sara, who has always been my number one fan. She was always instrumental in bringing crowds of people with her to games at all levels when I played hockey.

"It was a wonderful day. It was well done by the Jets organization," he said. "I was very thankful that I could help represent it in this way."

Neufeld's professional career lasted from 1979 to 1990. He recorded 157 goals and 200 assists for 357 points in that time.

His best season was in 1985-86 with Hartford where he recorded 27 goals and 42 assists for 69 points. He played with the Jets from 1985-1988 before being traded to the Boston Bruins.

He recalled growing up in Winkler at a time when he was quite likely the only black person there at the time.

"There certainly weren't a ton of us," said Neufeld, who stressed that he had tremendous friends and good memories of his time in Winkler. "All of it is fond memories. It was a great experience for me."

Neufeld recalled his move to the



SUPPLIED PHOTO BY JONATHAN KOZUB/WINNIPEG JETS.

Former Winnipeg Jets player and Winklerite Ray Neufeld and his sister Sara dropped the puck at last week's game between the Jets and the L.A. Kings as part of Black History Month celebrations.

Jets came at an opportune time and proved to be a real blessing.

"Coming to Winnipeg was a lifesaver for me. When I came to the Winnipeg Jets, I was struggling with alcohol ... there were some real life challenges I was going through off the ice, so coming to Winnipeg helped me find myself as a person.

"I always mention Laurie Boschman and Doug Smail. They were instrumental in me finding my faith and getting back on track ... there were other teammates in Winnipeg who were pretty terrific as well.

"I was pretty blessed to come to Winnipeg, and my time here was wonderful."

He recognizes that the game has come a long way in terms of accepting

and promoting diversity.

"I think hockey is just trying to increase awareness, make people more aware," he said. "I think all of it is positive. I think hockey in general is trying to move in a positive direction in respect to this and I think the message has to be consistent.

"I never ever felt the game of hockey was challenged in that way personally," Neufeld noted. "I think, with my experiences in hockey and the things I witnessed over the years, it was for the most part very positive, and I had tremendous support. A lot of people encouraged me and uplifted me.

"The game has changed a lot. It's grown, and there's more people of colour."

Provincials in Morden-Winkler



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

It was a busy weekend for hockey in Morden and Winkler this weekend with both cities hosting provincial championships. In Morden, Mayor Brandon Burley was part of the opening ceremony for the U15A rural championship which saw Morden fall 8-3 to Yellowhead in the bronze medal game. In Winkler, meanwhile, the Pembina Central Flyers won gold in the U15AA rural championship with a 2-1 win over the Southwest Jets. The Pembina Valley Twisters defeated the Pembina Valley Rockets 5-2 in the consolation final.

19 medals for Team 'Toba

By Voice staff

Team Manitoba brought home 19 medals from the 2023 Canada Winter Games.

After two weeks of competition in Prince Edward Island, Manitoba's athletes returned home this week with six gold, six silver, and seven bronze medals.

Winnipeg speed skater Sofia Bieber contributed a trio of first-place finishes and one silver medal to that tally.

Also winning gold were archers Chyler Brynn Sanders and Ryder Wilson and figure skating team Keith Lau and Julia Xiao.

Winning silver was the Manitoba table tennis female doubles team, the female team pursuit team in speed skating long track, the team mix in archery recurve, Cheryl Cheung in épée fencing, and Khloé Lessard-Kulchys-

ki in sabre fencing.

Bronze medal winners included Jesse Bachinsky in cross country skiing, Avery Pampolina in judo, Matias Enciso in épée fencing, Daniel Ekosky in judo, Ryan Cherniak in archery, Emily Love in archery, and the team mix in archery compound.

Athletes representing our area at the Games included:

- Cross country skiing: Isaiah Vanden Berg (RM of Stanley) William Vanden Berg (Winkler) Hezekiah Hoepfner (Thornhill), Kate Sawatsky (Altona), Gideon Hoepfner (Stanley), Mia Sawatsky (Altona), Naomi Wiens (Morden), and Benjamin Wiens (Morden).

- Curling: Altona's Gillian Hildebrand, Piper Stoesz, Dayna Wahl, Anna Ginters, and coach Keith Stoesz.

- Figure skating: Alison Convery (Morden) and Jorja Best (Carman).

Glen and Pat Lowry honoured with RBWD Watershed Award

By Lorne Stelmach

It has always been important to Glen Lowry to make his Darlingford area farm a sustainable operation.

It is vital to him to be environmental conscious with what is a fourth generation family operation that consists of 320 acres of rolling topography with bush and sensitive wetlands as well as airable farmland.

In recognition of the outstanding contributions and the impact that he and his wife Pam have had and are continuing to have on the landscape, the Redboine Watershed District have presented the Lowrys with the 2023 RBWD Watershed Award. They will be recognized at the Manitoba Association of Watersheds Annual Conference in Brandon in December.

"It's quite an honour to be recognized," said Lowry, who was also awarded the 2023 Manitoba Beef Producers Environmental Stewardship Award. "I know there's lots of people doing lots of good things out there ... so it's very humbling.

"What motivates me is to improve the land and make the cows healthier and the land healthier. If the cows are healthy, and the land is healthy, hopefully we can pay the bills and make some profit and leave the land in better condition."

After he took over the family farm in 1984, it became evident they enjoyed the cattle more than the grain farming. As a result, all the farm acres were committed to grasslands

for grazing the cattle. Currently the Lowrys have a commercial 80 cow-calf pair operation, calving on grass from May to June.

In trying to stay in tune with nature, the Lowrys took a holistic farm management course and implemented those practices. They use an intensive rotational grazing system, often moving the cattle daily. The cows are never confined and are typically on grass throughout the entire year. Their winter feeding consists of bale grazing or, depending on availability, hay feeding cows on the paddocks.

They have seen great improvement in their grasslands with natural fertilizer, and this in turn results in increased production, increased grass pounds per acre and healthier cattle and healthier soil.

"Our intention was simply to produce more grass on our land and make the land itself healthier," said Lowry. "When you can produce a large amount of grass by a little bit of management, it's very rewarding to myself ... we're just doing our own thing, and it's good for the environment as well."

Through collaboration with Manitoba Habitat Heritage, the Lowrys have also constructed five water retention sites for off-site solar watering systems that will be installed this year. These systems will provide fresh water for the cattle energy-free, with the bonus of keeping the livestock out of the sensitive wetlands.

In 2019 they teamed up with Dr.



SUPPLIED PHOTO

From left: Redboine Watershed District Watershed Award winners Pam and Glen Lowry with RBWD board chair Marshall Piper.

Aaron Glenn from Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada to research carbon sequestration, methane and CO₂ emissions from the cattle, and this is one of three sites in all of Canada that is conducting this research.

Thus far, the results are showing the carbon sequestration benefits from the grazing strategies outweigh the negative effects from methane emissions from the cattle.

"As part of the AAFC Living Lab Eastern Prairies project I am thrilled to be working with Glen and Pam Lowry studying the carbon fluxes of their innovative rotational grazing system," said Glenn.

"Being early adopters of this beneficial management practice, the Lowrys are excellent stewards of the land

and positive role models in the cattle ranching community. We hope the data collected during our time there will help them document and highlight the benefits they are having on the air, soil, water and biodiversity on their farm."

"We will continue working to improve the land, water, grasslands, environment and watershed," said Lowry, who is a member on the RBWD Tobacco-Shannon Creek sub-district.

"I would like all cattle producers to just have a look at their own operation and see if they can make improvements themselves because it's good for their own operation, it's good for the bottom line and for the environment as well."

Applications open for 'Spruce Up Your Story' funding

By Voice staff

Red River Mutual has put a call out for communities to share their stories for a chance to receive funding to upgrade vital public spaces.

Applications are now open for the company's fourth annual Spruce Up Your Story sponsorship initiative, which is making \$150,000 available to help restore well-worn but well-loved spaces that are at the heart of communities across Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

"The goal of Spruce Up Your Story is to ensure

the places where communities gather continue to thrive for generations to come. It's not about replacing these spaces, but rather breathing new life into them," says Jennifer Ewankiw, vice-president of strategy and business development. "We're committed to helping make a change in the communities and neighbourhoods we do business in. Red River Mutual is part of the community, a neighbour, and we want to be there for our neighbours."

The submitted renovation or beautification projects will be evaluated based on community use and significance, commitment to sustainability, aspects

of volunteerism, and connections to a local Red River Mutual affiliated insurance brokerage.

In addition to financial support, selected projects will also have access to additional volunteer hours from a crew of Red River Mutual and local brokerage staff members.

Since 2020, Red River Mutual has awarded more than \$450,000 to support 30 spaces in communities across Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

For an application or the full list of past winners, head to SpruceUpYourStory.com

The deadline for entries is May 31.

The **Voice**

Get in touch with us via e-mail:

Send news items to: news@winklermordenvoice.ca
Advertising inquiries to: ads@winklermordenvoice.ca