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Voice

THURSDAY,
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Grace on ice

The Morden Figure Skating Club held its spring show last Thursday. For more photos, see Pg. 16.

PHOTO BY
LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

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

Morden/Winkler & Area Residents

Information session

Are you interested in finding out more about the Boundary Trails Health Centre expansion project?

April 13, 2023
4:00-6:00 p.m.
Presentation at 4:30 p.m.

Days Inn & Suites
940 Navigator Rd
Winkler



Résidents de Morden/Winkler et environs

Séance d'information

Vous souhaitez en savoir plus sur le projet d'agrandissement du Boundary Trails Health Centre?

Le 13 avril 2023
16 h à 18 h
Présentation à 16 h 30

Days Inn & Suites
940, rue Navigator
Winkler

getinformed

Betty Peters honoured with President's Council Award

By Lorne Stelmach

Betty Peters is widely praised for not only improving students' lives in their school years but changing their futures by supporting and empowering them.

Her ultimate goal through her 35 years as a school liaison worker for Western School Division in Morden has simply been to ensure students are successful, and her dedication to the task recently earned her special recognition.

Peters, who plans to retire after this school year, recently received the President's Council Award from the Manitoba School Boards Association.

While she appreciates the recognition, her ultimate reward comes from

knowing the impact she has been able to have on students.

"The job has been very rewarding in absolutely every way," said Peters. "I had a little person come up to me here at École Morden Middle School just the other day with arms wide open, and she had just heard that I'm retiring ... she said, 'How can you leave me?' I had worked with this family for years already, so it was just heart-warming.

"I don't think I've ever had a boring day, and I have done this job for 35 years. I have always loved my job."

The Manitoba School Boards Association President's Council Award recognizes exemplary service and outstanding achievement, innovative thinking and personal initiative, and



WESTERN SCHOOL DIVISION PHOTO

President's Council Award winner Betty Peters (centre) with Western School Division trustees (from left) Trustees Darcy Wolfe, Lisa Burley, David Guenther, and Brian Fransen.



What's your story?

Date: April 1st, 1-4 PM | Cost: \$55+GST/person

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Amanda Le Rougetel
Writer, editor & community educator



Deborah Schnitzer
Teacher, writer, filmmaker, and editor

Facilitators

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lasting and pervasive impact in the field of public education

Peters' citation praised her for her passionate advocacy for children.

"Betty has been described by students as 'everybody's Mom' for her caring and concerned approach," the citation read. "She has a great understanding of the needs of families and works hard to help them meet those needs.

"She is very respected, which allows her to have open conversations with parents where she encourages them, supports them, and challenges them when needed. This in turn helps foster a healthier experience with school for our students and their families.

"She walks alongside of families as they experience many of life's challenges and helps them remain focused on their priorities of making healthy, safe, and strong decisions that allow their children to flourish."

The high praise was very much appreciated by Peters, but she also passed on some of those kudos.

"I'm so honoured and humbled. It was such an amazing award ... it means a lot to me ... and the fact our Western School Division board even nominated me was a big honour in itself.

"I have amazing colleagues, and our school board has been amazing," she

stressed. "The school division has always given so much opportunity and support."

Peters has been able to play a role in bridging the divide that can exist between schools and marginalized communities within Morden. Her many years of experience means the scope and reach of her work has sometimes extended to multiple generations of the same family.

A key part of her work has been to connect families to a wide range of resources to help with everything from addressing their food security to ensuring they get counselling.

"I don't work so much with the kids, but I do work with the parents," she explained.

"I love working with families, and I have worked with all kinds of families, whether it's single parent, two parents and whether it's Indigenous or newcomers from other countries.

"My goal is always to see them be successful in school," Peters said. "Part of my job is to listen to everybody's story because every family has a story, and you have to work the resources towards that story.

"Then when they walk across the stage at high school graduation, my heart goes crazy. That's always a special moment."

Nicole Enns takes on Harvest Festival director mantle

By Ashleigh Viveiros

August may seem like a long ways off, but the ball is already rolling on planning for the 2023 Winkler Harvest Festival.

The Aug. 11-13 community celebration has a new person leading the charge: Winkler community events coordinator Nicole Enns has stepped into the shoes left behind by Kathy Bueckert, who headed up the 2022 edition of the festival.

"Kathy was just a one-year term because there wasn't an event coordinator in place" when planning for the first festival post-pandemic began early last year, Enns explains.

Enns started in that position last summer and was able to shadow Bueckert in the weeks leading up to the festival and, of course, festival weekend itself.

"It was really good to be able to work beside her and see the goings on of the festival. I learned a lot," she says.

Now she's heading up an organizing committee that includes plenty of veterans who have been involved in pulling off their respective festival events for years.

"We've had one meeting so far, and we have another one coming up [this] week," Enns says, noting the experience on the committee certainly helps organizing go much more smoothly. "They're all bringing great ideas to the table."

It's too early for any big announcements—the headliner names will be released in April—but Enns stresses all the old festival favourites will return, with a few new things on the schedule as well.

"There's going to be some new things happening for kids," she says, though she's mum for now on what those are.

There will also be beer gardens this year—an offering that's definitely new for Winkler but something festival organizers have fielded requests about for years.

"We were hearing from a lot of the

younger people, 20-somethings, that they would enjoy something like that, so we thought we would try it," Enns says, noting they're working out all the security aspects of offering alcohol on-site.

Beyond new events, they're always looking at ways to improve the festival as a whole, Enns says. The petting zoo, for example, is moving back outside from the arena into its own tent closer to the kid's area.

"The maintenance guys did not love it being inside," Enns says, chuckling. "And it just felt like it was way off from everything else kid-related, so we're moving that back."

Enns is certainly no stranger to the Harvest Festival. Not only did she grow up attending it, but she's fol-

lowing in the shoes of her father, Bob "Chomper" Giesbrecht, who served as festival director years ago.

"The festival was always something that I looked forward to every summer," she says. "And I always thought that it was kind of cool that my dad was in charge of everything. Now that I'm in charge, it's exciting and scary all in the same breath."

"It's such a great event. It's all about bringing the community together and celebrating."

You can stay up-to-date on festival announcements by heading to visitwinkler.ca/harvest-festival. That's also the place to go if you'd like information about sponsoring the festival or getting involved as a volunteer.



Nicole Enns

Province upgrades Red River flood risk to "major"

By Voice staff

So much for Mother Nature giving us a break this year.

Snow in recent weeks means we are now expecting at least some level of flooding along the Red River.

The Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure's Hydrologic Forecast Centre released a March spring flood outlook last week that has a bit of a darker outlook than the one released in February.

It is now predicting a major risk of flooding on the Red River and a low to moderate risk of flooding in most

Manitoba basins.

"At this time, the centre advises that due to recent precipitation events south of the border in the United States, the flood risk has increased to major on the Red River," the province said in a news release. "The flood risk is low to moderate in the Interlake region along the Fisher and Icelandic rivers, and along the Assiniboine River. The risk of spring flooding is generally low along several other rivers, including the Souris, Roseau, Rat and Pembina rivers."

Continued on page 4

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The healing power of music

By Lorne Stelmach

Joel Klassen is obviously a firm believer in the transformative and healing power of music.

The Winkler resident who is now serving as the president of the Canadian Association of Music Therapists sees every day how music therapy can help in a wide variety of situations to promote health, well-being, and quality of life.

"Every day in my work, I work with people who can't tell me their first name, but they can sing all the words to their favourite songs," said Klassen, who was helping to promote and raise awareness of the field with March serving as Music Therapy Awareness Month.

"It's used in a wide range of settings ... my experience is in long term care and at Eden Mental Health Centre, but many therapists work in school settings or in intensive care in hospitals or pediatric care or cancer wards and maternity wards."

Klassen believes it is a field that continues to gain more recognition, with about a thousand music therapists in Canada working in a variety of set-

tings.

Music therapy has been proven to help people improve skills, decrease stress, and feel strengthened during a transition or crisis by alleviating physical symptoms, supporting coping and well-being, and aiding people in processing their spiritual and existential concerns.

It often involves counselling coupled with intentional listening to live and/or recorded music while discussing the personal relevance of song lyrics as well as more active engagement in music experiences such as writing songs, singing or playing instruments.

Klassen traces his interest in the field back to music being a big part of his family life as a child.

"I grew up in a very musical household," he said, noting he learned not only to play a number of instruments but also sang in choirs.

"After high school I started working in homes with adults with disabilities," he said. "I started to just realize I love working with people, and I started bringing my guitar to that day program setting."

He then learned about music thera-



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Music therapist Joel Klassen loves bringing music into local personal care homes and health care centres.

py as a career and knew quickly that was what he wanted to be doing.

Today, about 80 per cent of his job is working in dementia care, travelling to work with residents in long-term care homes across the region. Music therapy is also a full-time position at the Eden Mental Health Centre; he started there in 2005.

"It's the most consistently helpful intervention that many of the residents experience," Klassen suggested. "Many of the people hardly come out of their rooms except for meals, but they'll come out for music."

"Actually, a lot of my training was with people with autism, so I would be sitting at a piano ... the child would be sitting with a drum or a cymbal," he recalled. "Maybe they're non-verbal or don't have language in the normal way, but they're banging on this drum, and I'm matching that at the piano."

Klassen welcomes any opportunity

to spread the word about his field of work.

"Our lot in life as music therapists is to have kind of an elevator speech or a way of explaining what it is to people, and even that isn't all that easy to do," he said. "It's interesting to be in a profession where there's that need to explain yourself a lot."

"Music is a part of being human, and music therapy works for people in the same way that music works on all of us.. The qualities of music, the rhythm and the emotion, they work on our human systems in very specific ways, and so a music therapist harnesses those qualities of music to facilitate the relationship."

"It's really like any other therapy in the sense that you're forming a relationship between two people, but it's music that is the tool that's facilitating that relationship."

If you are interested in learning more, head to musictherapy.ca.







Navigating Care Options

Expo on addressing increasing care needs

Buhler Active Living Centre / Winkler Senior Centre
650 South Railway Avenue, Winkler

Saturday, April 15, 2023

PRESENTATIONS
Registration required
9:00 - 12:00

INFORMATION BOOTHS
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12:00 - 2:00

Presentations by:
Home Care
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Register by Thursday, April 6th
online at:
<https://tinyurl.com/care-options-expo>
or call 204-325-8964

Visit information booths to learn about the Care Options available in the Pembina Valley as care needs increase for you or your family member.



Scan to register

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> FLOODING, FROM PG. 3

"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 remain within operating ranges after the spring runoff."

On the plus side, the Red River's water levels are expected to remain below community and individual flood protection levels, the province

said.

As always, weather conditions between now and spring melt could change the flooding forecast significantly in the weeks ahead.

If we get average weather conditions, we could be looking at flood levels akin to what was seen in 2019. If we see a lot of snow or rain in the next few weeks, it might be more like the flooding of 2020.

Neither of those years saw water levels crest above the ring dikes protecting communities such as Morris. Nor did Hwy. 75 have to be closed.

CFDC to host 'Dig Deep' award gala April 15

By Voice staff

The Canadian Fossil Discovery Centre will honour a scientist who specializes in the origin of mosasaurs at its Dig Deep dinner fundraiser next month.

CFDC has announced Dr. Michael Caldwell will receive the third Dr.



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Dr. Michael Caldwell will receive the Dr. Elizabeth 'Betsy' Nicholls Award for Excellence in Palaeontology from the Canadian Fossil Discovery Centre April 15

Elizabeth 'Betsy' Nicholls Award for Excellence in Palaeontology at the gala taking place in Morden April 15. Caldwell will also serve as the keynote speaker.

"We are excited to have Dr. Michael Caldwell to come to Manitoba," Adolfo Cuetara, CFDC executive director, said in announcing Caldwell's win last week. "His research directly connects with the evolutionary origin of the marine reptiles we host in our collections, and it is the key to understand the marine animals that ruled the Western Interior Seaway in what Manitoba is today, 83 million years ago."

Caldwell is a vertebrate palaeontologist and evolutionary biologist with a discipline-specific focus on the evolutionary history and interrelationships of snakes, lizards, and mosasaurs. He is currently a professor in the Department of Biological Sciences and the chair of the Faculty of Science at the University of Alberta.

In 2010, Caldwell co-authored a scientific publication redescribing the mosasaur *Hainosaurus pembinensis* as *Tylosaurus pembinensis*, of which Morden's "Bruce" fossil is the best-known specimen.

Caldwell said in a statement that he's deeply honoured to be recognized by the CFDC for his work.

"I knew Betsy Nicholls very well,

admired her very much as both a person and a scientist, and am thrilled to receive this award, so aptly named in her honour," he said. "My work on marine reptiles from around the world has included mosasaurs from Manitoba and a number of my graduate students have worked in collections in Morden.

"The Cretaceous marine reptiles of Manitoba are without doubt, key fossils in our understanding of these ancient animals and it is my pleasure to be invited to the gala and to accept

this award."

The gala is open to the public. Tickets are \$100 (a \$50 charitable donation receipt will be provided) and are available at www.discoverfossils.com, at the CFDC, or by calling 204-822-3406.

The evening will include supper, the awards presentation, a rainbow auction featuring replicas of fossil specimens, and the presentation of the plans to build a new facility for the CFDC. Funds raised go to the new facility project.

Winkler Family Resource Centre holding Quiz Night April 20

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler Family Resource Centre is asking supporters to put on their thinking caps next month

The non-profit celebrates the return

of Quiz Night, one of its biggest fundraisers of the year, at the Winkler Emmanuel Mennonite Church (750 15th St.) on Thursday, April 20 at 7 p.m.

Continued on page 7

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The Voice

get heard

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OUR SISTER PUBLICATIONS



Is it worth the risk?

I am not a good gambler. Having been to Vegas numerous times over the years for various and sundry conferences, I, like so many others, could not resist the loud, bright, and busy casinos that cram nearly every square inch of space along “the strip.”

Now I say I am not a good gambler but what do I mean by that?

What I mean is that I’m the kind of guy that will wander the slot machine floor looking for a lost token or extra credits on an abandoned machine and play with that.

I’m the kind of guy that will nurse \$20 for more than an hour playing Blackjack and walk away with nothing. Ultimately, to make any gains while gambling you have to be willing to risk a decent amount of money playing the odds. I am not that guy.

This is partly because I go by the mantra “the odds are never in your favour.” I just find it all too risky.

So a risk averse guy like me is never going to win big in Vegas. When you enter a place like Vegas with a set amount of money and proceed to operate on a risk averse basis I can almost guarantee that you will leave with nothing. Slowly but surely that money will dry up.

Now, a certain amount of this logic

translates to investment. Playing it safe may seem like the most responsible choice but you can pretty much guarantee that you will not exit the investment space significantly ahead of where you started, and depending on the market, you may even end up behind. Riskier investments provide larger payoffs.

I’m thinking about these things because I am thinking about our region and our community investments. Lately it’s starting to feel a little like a regional poker table with Morden, Winkler, Altona, Carman, and Plum Coulee gathered around, cards held tight to chest, weighing one another’s choices.

I wonder sometimes who is who in the regional game of investment and odds. Who is betting big on the future? Who is playing it safe avoiding risk at all costs? Which player is quietly counting cards in the background? Which player is the \$20 over an hour player like me—the player all the other players disdain.

One player bets big on a huge and costly community centre. Will it pay off? We will see. Another may be betting on building an indoor pool. Foolish or visionary? Who can say? Still another is making enormous conces-

sions to commercial and industrial businesses, betting on a big win down the road in terms of increased and diversified taxes that don’t saddle residents with 78 per cent of the burden.

As a resident and taxpayer, I have fronted money to my player with a few hopes.

I want to see gains. I don’t want to simply see my money stretched out over a long, safe period of time until it slowly vanishes in the winnings of my adjacent competitors.

I expect risks to be taken on my behalf. Risks that not only see wins in infrastructure and basic maintenance but pay off big in the future with commercial and industrial growth that leads to residential growth (and not the other way around).

“I don’t want my city or province to gamble with my money!” I can hear a few people grumble, and I understand you. Believe me, I do.

Still, no one was ever heard saying “I sure am glad our city re-lined the sewers 10 years ago.” While that’s an absolute necessity everyone wants to see invested in, it’s not so much betting on the future as it is maintaining the present.

Continued on page 7



By Peter Cantelon

Letter policy

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

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

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

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

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

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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.

• DON'T MIND THE MESS

You're never too old to play

think it must have been payday for a lot of people because the lineup at the bank was insanely long that afternoon.

I hesitated at the door, debating whether to even bother, since all I needed to do was make a quick deposit.

I can do that online, I surmised, but then thought, "Oh well, I'm already here."

I took my place at the back of the line, bracing for a lengthy stay. Entertainment is limited at times like that, and even scrolling my phone got old after a while. I made small talk with some of the people around me, but eventually stared blankly into space and wondered what to make for supper that



By Lori Penner

night.

I waved at a lady I knew, but she was preoccupied with searching through her purse. Another visitor about 10 people ahead of me needed a lengthy explanation about a cheque she was depositing. So, I commenced staring blankly, and planned an entire menu in my head.

On this day, all the tellers were open, so the line actually did move from time to time. Just enough to get our hopes up and keep the circulation going in our legs. There were those with a slight bounce in their step, freshly arrived cheque in hand.

Others didn't look that happy.

So many bring their hopes and dreams to this place, taking out loans, starting up businesses, applying for mortgages, financing vacations, paying bills, and discovering their account balance.

I was about six feet away from my turn when I noticed her, happily romping around inside the roped off area that showed all of us in the queue where to stand.

I'm guessing she was about four years old, with a tiny pixie face and a strawberry blond ponytail. She seemed blissfully unconcerned with the trivial things our minds were focused on. She had only one mission: to keep the balloon she had walked in with airborne. So she bounced it with her little hands, tapping it upwards ever-so-gently whenever it wafted down again.

We all exchanged knowing glances, bracing ourselves for the inevitable "bang" when it hit a sharp corner or a pen, and the tears that would likely follow. At one point, it floated out of her reach and into mine, so I lightly tapped it back in her direction. There was a millisecond of caution in her

blue eyes, then a giant grin. After that, she began to play balloon volleyball with all of us in the lineup, tearing us from our grownup worries and turning us into excited children again.

The lady behind me must have been at least 80, but you would never have guessed by the way she giggled when the balloon came her way.

Then, just like that, the little girl's expression became serious. She hugged the balloon and gravely announced, "Okay, I'm goin' home now" and scampered off behind her mother, whose banking was done.

Recess was over.

And I don't think there was a single person in that lineup who didn't wish they had a balloon in their pocket.

> CANTELON, FROM PG. 6

No, the biggest winners, the ones everyone talks about, are those who bet on people like Eiffel and his ridiculous tower; or San Jose, California when it put nearly all its development eggs in the technology basket long before anyone else thought it was a good idea.

The biggest winners are tiny lit-

> QUIZ NIGHT, FROM PG. 5

After the Teddy Bear Picnic, the trivia night is one of the organization's best ways to raise both awareness and funds, says executive director Chantal Human.

"Our goal is \$3,000," she says, noting they have room for about 18 teams.

The evening will pit participating teams against one another in several rounds of trivia games encompassing a range of topics. It will be led by an experienced Quiz Master, Human notes.

"The questions cover a huge spectrum," she says, stressing everyone is sure to have at least a few topics they're well-versed in.

The winners will get bragging

rights and a fun prize. They're also working on having door prizes for everyone to have a crack at.

Registration is \$200 for a table of four to eight players. Email winklerfr@gmail.com or call 204-332-9418 to sign-up. Deadline to register is April 13.

Snacks and beverages will be provided free of charge.

All funds raised go to support the free early childhood education sessions the WFRC offers local families.

"It all goes towards just more programming," Human says. "We always fill up really quick so we want to be able to offer more programs to the community."

Manitoba Parks' Camping Reservations Begin April 3

New this year: Manitoba launches a new reservation service system. There are now six opening reservation days.

Choose your accommodation or location as follows:

Day 1 - Monday April 3, 2023: Book cabins, yurts and group use areas in all parks.

Day 2 - Wednesday, April 5, 2023: Book a spot in western and northern provincial park campgrounds including Asessippi, Bakers Narrows, Clearwater, Duck Mountain, Manipogo, Paint Lake, Rainbow Beach, Rivers, Spruce Woods - Kiche Manitou, Turtle Mountain - Adam Lake, William Lake, and Wekusko Falls.

Day 3 - Tuesday, April 11, 2023: Book a spot for Birds Hill and Winnipeg Beach campgrounds

Day 4 - Wednesday, April 12, 2023: Book a spot at Caddy Lake, Falcon Beach, Falcon Lakeshore and West Hawk Lake campgrounds.

Day 5 - Thursday, April 13, 2023: Book a spot at Beresford Lake, Bird Lake, Black Lake, Tulabi Falls, Shoe Lake, Betula Lake, Big Whiteshell, Brereton Lake, Nutimik Lake, Opapiskaw, and White Lake campgrounds.

Day 6 - Friday, April 14, 2023: Book a spot at all remaining provincial park campgrounds including Camp Morton, Grand Beach, Hecla - Gull Harbour, Hnaua Beach, Lundar Beach, Moose Lake, St. Malo, Stephenfield, and Watchorn.

How to Reserve Your Spot

- Online and call centre reservations begin at 7 a.m. on opening days

Go to manitobaparks.com

Call 204-948-3333 in Winnipeg; 1-888-482-2267 toll free

For more information to help prepare you for making your reservation, visit manitobaparks.com



Okello joins Morden-Winkler nomination race

Changes Conservative bid from federal to provincial nomination

By Ashleigh Viveiros

A second candidate running for the Conservative Party of Canada nomination in Portage-Lisgar has changed their bid to focus on provincial politics instead.

Josh Okello announced last week he is leaving the federal nomination race to instead run for the Conservative Party of Manitoba nomination in Morden-Winkler.

The announcement comes on the heels of Morden's Liz Reimer doing the same.

Okello says his decision to do so was influenced by the urging of supporters he's connected with across the region in recent weeks.

"It reminds me of a Latin phrase, vox populi, vox dei: the voice of the people is the voice of God," he says.

"Almost everyone I've been talking to about my platform, what I stand for, what I would like to work on within the community, has been directing me to focus on provincial politics, because that way I stand a better chance of impacting our communities positively."

Okello's platform includes a passion for improving things like local infrastructure, health care services, affordable housing accessibility, and immigration programming—all things he feels he could perhaps focus better on as an MLA than an MP.

It's also a good way for him to cut his teeth in the political sphere, he says. If elected, this will be Okello's first political office.

"Without a track record, it is really hard to make it at the federal level," he says. "Having my feet right here within the provincial level will give me that chance to prove

myself not only to my community but to this country as a whole as to what I can offer."

Okello immigrated to Canada from Kenya in 2009. He spent several years in Toronto before moving to Winkler, where he lives today with his wife and two kids.

He works as a civil designer with Valley Fiber, teaches business at Red River College Polytechnic, and acts as an asset management consultant for local municipalities.

The Morden-Winkler nomination race currently includes Okello, Reimer, and Winklerite Carrie Hiebert. The winner of the nomination will represent the Conservatives in this fall's provincial election.

Running for the Portage-Lisgar nomination, meanwhile, is Cameron Friesen, Lawrence Toet, Branden Leslie, Don Cruickshank, and Rejeanne Caron. The winner of that race will be the Tory candidate in the next federal election slated for the fall of 2025.



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Josh Okello is now running for the Conservative nomination in Morden-Winkler.

No date had been announced for either nomination election. Only Conservative Party members will be able to cast a vote.

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Alzheimer Society looking for new board members

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Alzheimer Society of Manitoba board of directors is looking for some new members.

Chair Ray Bisson explains they find themselves with three empty seats at the board table thanks to two members finishing their terms this spring and a third who had to step aside for personal reasons last year.

With their dementia-related educational and support

programming being offered across Manitoba, they're casting a wide net in their search.

"What we want to have on our board is a gender balance, we want to have inclusivity, and we want to have diversity," Bisson says. "And we certainly want to have representation from the rural communities."

"We really want representation from various areas of expertise—some people from business, from health care, some people with a financial background," he continues. "If you have any experience in policy governance, that's also an asset."

A personal connection to Alzheimer's disease or a related dementia can also be a powerful motivator for a potential board member, Bisson says, but it's not a requirement, though an interest in giving back certainly is.

The successful candidate can be elected for a maximum of two consecutive three-year terms.

Bisson notes the board focuses its efforts on big-picture planning for the

PUBLIC NOTICE

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1. To control invasive plants and noxious weeds on Manitoba Provincial right of way.
2. The herbicides include: Dicamba, 2,4-D amine, 2,4-D Choline, 2,4-D Ester, 2,4-D, Mecoprop-p, Dichloroprop-p, Aminopyralid, Metsulfuron-methyl, Diflufenzopyr, Fluroxypyr, Imazapyr, Triclopyr, Picloram, Aminocyclopyrachlor, Chlorsulfuron, Saflufenacil, Iron (as FeHEDTA), Glyphosate, Clopyralid, Bromacil, Acetic Acid, LI 700, Non Ionic Surfactant, Flumioxazin, Indaziflam, mineral oil, Methyl Ester & Ethyl Ester.

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

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Access CU donates \$50K to help rebuild Morden Golf clubhouse

By Lorne Stelmach

The new clubhouse project of the Minnewasta Golf and Country Club got a big financial boost last week from Access Credit Union.

The \$50,000 donation last Thursday was welcomed by head pro and general manager Greg Hesom.

"This is huge for Minnewasta ... we've had such fantastic community and business support from the area," he said. "We're really looking forward to being able to put those investments into the clubhouse."

Regional branch manager Candace Collins said Access Credit Union was happy to support the project.

"Access is wanting to be part of the communities that we're in, and we think it's an important project. We're happy to donate and just be part of our local community."

The donation helps move Minnewasta Golf and Country Club another step closer to getting started on the new clubhouse.

Minnewasta is working from a funding base of about \$3 million through insurance coverage following the fire that destroyed the building in late 2021.

It had applied for funding through a provincial sports, arts and culture program with the hope of possibly securing \$800,000 to get them to a goal

of \$5 million. Not landing that funding is a setback, but Hesom said it won't derail things.

"At the moment, we're just regrouping, seeing how that affects the project but still really trying to get a shovel into the ground here in spring."

Hesom estimated their fundraising has now reached the \$1.5 million mark.

"The fundraising has been humbling and amazing from the community ... without that money, we wouldn't stand a chance of going forward in the path we're trying to go," he said.

"THE FUNDRAISING HAS BEEN HUMBLING AND AMAZING FROM THE COMMUNITY."

"What we're looking at now is trying to keep the footprint the same and obviously changing some of the structure ... we're exploring our options," said Hesom. "If we can target up to \$1.8

million [for fundraising], I think that would be a really good return ... we just have to figure out what the final budget's going to be"

Minnewasta has been working with LM Architectural Group of Winnipeg on the design for the building. It will be built by Triple E Developments.

The new facility will include a restaurant, banquet room, and patio. Santa Lucia Pizza in the meantime will continue to manage the food and beverage services out of the snack shack.



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

From left: Minnewasta Golf and Country Club pro Greg Hesom with Access Credit Union's Candace Collins and Rich Harries as the financial institution presented a \$50,000 donation towards the clubhouse rebuilding project.

HISTORIC HELP Safer Streets

To help Manitobans feel safer on their streets and in their communities, Budget 2023 dedicates more funding to help the homeless, expand shelters and build more housing units.

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Budget 2023

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Soil management assoc. holds annual meeting

By Lorne Stelmach

The benefit and value of shelterbelts was highlighted as a key part of the valuable work of the Stanley Soil Management Association at its annual meeting last week.

It continues to be a main emphasis for the organization along with tree sales, technician Richard Warkentin noted as the association met March 22 at the Pembina Threshermen's Museum.

The past year was again a busy one for both planting and sales, Warkentin shared.

"We planted about 15 miles of trees, and there's 8,728 trees that we planted over the 15 miles," he said. "And we do planting all over the place really, anywhere from Killarney to Arnaud, which was another project we had, which isn't in the district, but we do some custom work for people."

The association had a record year for tree sales especially.

"Last year actually was probably our biggest year where we actually sold over 24,000 trees to about 60 different customers throughout the region," Warkentine said.

"One of our biggest customers is Kroeker Farms," he noted. "Kroeker



Stanley Soil Management Association staff at work planting shelterbelt trees. SUPPLIED PHOTO

Farms alone probably would plant about seven or eight miles every year, so they ordered I would say about 5,000 trees from us. They're a good example of sustainable farming. I think most of their farming is probably organic by now."

There are many benefits to shelterbelts including serving as a wind break, aiding soil conservation, offering shelter for farmyards, and even

mitigation of airborne contaminants.

There can be indirect benefits as well, such as water quality enhancement and aiding ground water recharge. Shelterbelts have also been shown to have agricultural benefits, Warkentine stressed, with one study estimating a corn crop increased by 12 per cent due to nearby trees.

Warkentin observed it is encouraging to see more businesses, growers, and even individuals recognizing all these benefits.

"People might say we see all these trees being taken down, but there's also trees being planted all the time.

"I would say particularly this area, the RM of Stanley particularly, is good for planting trees," he added, noting the municipality has offered a rebate for producers who plant trees.

The association also offers a number of other programs and services ranging from woodlot resource management plans to abandoned well sealing, which is done in partnership with the Pembina Valley Watershed

District.

They also continue monitoring for diffuse knapweed, a noxious weed that has long been only found in a small area west of Stanley Park.

"It's contained ... it is very close to eradication," Warkentine said. "We spend a bit of time monitoring and looking for the weed. We did spray last year. If you miss a weed or two, you can have 20,000 seeds happening quite quickly."

The annual meeting also heard an update on the projects of the Pembina Valley Watershed District Project, including new opportunities for funding.

Liz Karpinchick of Tone Ag Consulting presented on using organic farm practices in a conventional program

"She does a fair bit of consulting in the area for local farmers," noted Warkentin.

You can keep up to date on the programs and activities of the Stanley Soil Management Association through its Facebook page.

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agency, creating policies that are enacted by the chief executive officer and her staff. The society has an annual operating budget of approximately \$3 million and a client base of 6,000.

The board meets six times a year in Winnipeg. Prior to the pandemic, board members would have to travel to the city to attend, but in the last few years remote attendance has become the norm as needed.

"So distance is not a barrier anymore, and it opens the door to have people from really anywhere in the

province, which is exciting," says Bisson, who is himself from Roseau River.

That rural perspective is important, he stresses, since the society's client base extends well beyond Winnipeg. There are regional service offices located in the Interlake/Eastern, North Central, Parkland, South Central, South Eastman, and Westman regions of the province.

The deadline to apply is April 21. You can do so online at alzheimer.mb.ca.

getinformed

NPC welcomes grandparents back for supper

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Gr. 9 students at Northlands Parkway Collegiate (NPC) in Winkler got the chance to show off their school to their grandparents last week.

On March 21, NPC celebrated the return of its annual Grandparents Supper, which has been on hold the past few years.

Principal Tammy MacDonald explained the event is a chance to “create community, bring grandparents in and show them what their grandkids are doing for six hours every day. It’s probably very different from when they went to school.”

The evening included a roast pork supper with all the fixings prepared by NPC’s culinary arts and baking students.

“We’re always thrilled to be able to showcase them,” MacDonald said, “because they do such a good job.”

After the meal, students were able to take their grandparents on a tour of the school.

MacDonald was thrilled to see around 100 people take part.

“For a restart, I think it’s a great turnout,” she said. “I think once the word gets out that we’re doing it again and these grandparents start to talk with their friends about it ... I’m sure it will pick up every year.”

Being able to finally invite the community back into the school after years of restricted access is wonderful, MacDonald added.

“It’s fantastic,” she said. “We’ve been so looking forward to it.”

The event got a big thumbs up from students and their guests alike.

“I think it’s a great idea to connect with the grandkids,” said Richard Krahn as he waited for supper to start alongside grandchildren Jordan and Megan Knelson. “It’s a special event to solidify our relationship even more than it already is.”

Jordan said he enjoyed getting the opportunity to break bread with his grandfather at the school where he spends so much of his time, though he noted Krahn is no certainly stranger to NPC.

“He’s actually subbed here [as a teacher],” he said. But he was still “pretty excited, because I like to spend time with my grandpa. We do a lot of golfing and stuff together.”

A table over, Wayne and Joanne Derksen were in attendance as honorary grandparents to Anna Alencar.

“We’re kind of like her surrogate grandparents in Canada because her family’s in Brazil,” explained Joanne.

They met Anna and her family on a missions trip some years ago and then reconnected when the family moved



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

NPC Gr. 9 students served their grandparents a roast beef supper made by the school’s culinary arts and baking classes last week as the Winkler high school celebrated the return of its Grandparents Supper.

to Canada in 2016.

“They feel like grandparents to me and my brother,” Alencar said, noting there was no question who she wanted to invite to the supper.

“This is great,” Wayne said. “We get to see the school—I haven’t been in here much, so it’s great to see.”

“It’s an honour, certainly,” added Joanne, “because we are a part of her life

and so it’s very special to celebrate that.”

“It’s great for the community, a way to make connections,” Wayne noted of the whole idea of hosting a grandparents supper. “And it’s good for the students. I’m sure they’re proud of their grandparents. And they get to show them a little bit about what their daily lives are like.”



PHOTOS BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Left: Surrogate grandparents Joanne and Wayne Derksen with Anna Alencar. Above: Richard Krahn with his grandkids, Jordan and Megan Knelson.



Learning the art of pysanka

By Lorne Stelmach

There were all ages involved this past weekend at a pair of workshops that taught participants how to create pysanka, the traditional Ukrainian Easter egg.

It very much reflected that it is an artform that is accessible to anyone, said instructor Yevgeniya Tatarenko.

It may be rooted in tradition, but she sees it as being as or more important for people to put their own personal touch into their egg.

"It actually should come from your soul, from your heart ... you can just use your imagination

and your creativity," said Tatarenko.

"It's easy to do, and I find a lot of people enjoy it so much because they know the history and not just how to create it and get incredible results but they start feeling it. That's the difference. It's not just about the art ... it's that it comes from your heart."

The word pysanka originates from pysaty, which means "to write."

The decorative designs are applied to the eggs with beeswax. This is known as the batik method and is a tradition that goes back to ancient times.

Like many Ukrainian traditions, pysanka art has pre-Christian roots, representing the rebirth of



PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Yevgeniya Tatarenko has hosted several workshops in recent weeks teaching the art of Ukrainian Easter egg painting, including at the Pembina Hills Arts Council gallery in Morden last weekend.

the earth. With the advent of Christianity, the pysanka came to represent the resurrection of Christ and rebirth of man and played an important role in Ukrainian religious traditions.

The artform was prohibited under Soviet rule, and so it was kept hidden. Ukrainians who came to Canada brought it here with them.

"They brought the art and wisdom of pysanka with them, and they wanted to continue it ... for them, it was very important to keep this tradition alive," said Tatarenko.

Teaching it is something near and dear to her, as it is what her mother did as well.

"She was teaching me and other people and especially other kids," said Tatarenko, who has headed up several workshops in Morden-Winkler in recent weeks. "I would say this is my soul and what I love to do, to teach everything Ukrainian to other people and especially kids. I love to teach and to share my culture. There are so many things to share and talk about and so many stories to share."

She thinks it is something that will connect with people because it does have deeper cultural meaning than just being art.

"It has a connection between generations ... pysanka and the wisdom and the legend of the pysanka goes through the generations ... it's not just the art," suggested Tatarenko.

"Everyone can handle it. It looks tricky ... but anyone can try it and everyone can do it," she said. "And I find when people find out what it means, how meaningful it is, they can create every better art on the egg and put more into each egg then."

"IT LOOKS TRICKY ... BUT ANYONE CAN TRY IT AND EVERYONE CAN DO IT."



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Students in Leanne Dejaegher's Gr. 2 class enjoyed a tasty pizza lunch last week courtesy of Ichkaben Doner Kabab owner Louanes Harra in recognition of their hard work during I Love to Read Month. The class came in first in Maple Leaf School's reading challenge, which saw each classroom attempt to be the first to complete a Bingo card filled with reading challenges revolving around the theme "Reading Connects Us." "Although there was excellent school-wide participation in the event, it was Dejaegher's Grade 2 class who worked together to rise to the challenge, defeating the other classes at the school with their voracious reading during the month of February," says principal Samuel Jerema.

Helping local families achieve home ownership

By Lorne Stelmach

Merwin and Eleonor David and their three children are settled into their new home in Morden thanks to an initiative to support first-time home buyers in the community.

Provincial funding is supporting the program provided through the City of Morden and Morden Community Development Corporation to help families who might not have otherwise been able to enter into the home ownership market.

The David family was one of four successful applicants chosen from the program's first intake. A second intake round takes place in April.

"We are very excited and overwhelmed. We are very happy to have a house that is our own place," said Merwin. "My children also are very happy because we get a house that has a back yard where they can play ... we were just living in an apartment before, and our apartment was quite small."

Project coordinator Liz Reimer is excited at the impact this program can have on local families.

"What I really appreciate about it is you know that the families that I was working with needed a home and they needed more space ... for them to be able to put some roots down and really grow here in the City of Morden is a perfect program. I love it; it's very satisfying."

Successful applicants can receive funding equal to a five per cent down payment on the purchase of a home and a portion of associated closing costs by way of a five-year earned for-

givable loan to a maximum of \$15,500.

The program involves a comprehensive review process and evaluation criteria with a multi-phase approval process to ensure the funding meets provincial guidelines and is used to support sustainable housing solutions in Morden.

Eligibility requires a gross family income that does not exceed \$84,600 and a home purchase price that does not exceed \$275,000.

The program also provides support with home ownership education sessions for successful applicants to ensure they have the information needed to have a sustainable and thriving experience in their new home.

Merwin came to Canada from the Philippines on his own in 2018. The whole family was then able to settle here in March 2020.

He first worked at Decor Cabinets and now at Grandeur Housing while he pursues his certification as an electrician. Eleonor works at Pembina Valley Child Care Centre.

The program was very appealing to them because they weren't able to manage anything other than an apartment until now.

"We were very happy when we heard about it," said Merwin. "We have savings, but it's not a lot ... the program helped us a lot ... so we kept our savings, and at the same time, we got our house."

"Morden is a very good place for us, very quiet and peaceful," he said. "We love living here and I think we will be happy living here for the rest of our lives."

Reimer said they initially had open-



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Liz Reimer of the Morden Community Development Corporation (far left) with Merwin and Eleonor David and their kids Miel, Daniel and Gabriel. The family is one of four so far to have received support through Morden's first-time home buyers assistance program.

ings for up to seven families.

"What was exciting for me was we had over 10 applicants who came in," she said, noting the David family was the first to get settled among the four who qualified. "We have another three openings that hopefully will be successful in completing in April."

She reiterated that there are specific criteria in place for families to qualify.

"There's a limit on your family income. There's also a maximum you can have in your savings. Part of the reason for that is just to ensure that the right group of people are able to take advantage of it."

"And they have to live in their home for five years. If they do not live in their home for five years, they do have to pay that down payment back."

Reimer added that they need to

know that the families will have some resources for costs related to a new home, such as appliances.

She noted they are anticipating some challenge in finding homes, given that the local housing inventory is so limited, with vacancy rates that have been under one per cent.

"We didn't want to flood the market with seven families all looking for the same house, so I think it worked out quite well."

The second intake for the program runs April 1-30. Pre-approval for a mortgage is a key step.

For more information, visit mordeneconomicdevelopment.ca or contact Reimer at lreimer@mymorden.ca or 204-822-4434 ext 1204.

New vice-principals for ÉMMS, Morden Collegiate

By Voice staff

École Morden Middle School welcomes a new face to its administrative team this spring.

Western School Division last week announced the appointment of Cynthia Dick as interim vice-principal at the school starting April 3. The position will continue through the 2023-24 school year.

Dick brings a wealth of experience to the job, WSD shared in a statement, having most recently served as the principal of Academie da Vinci Charter School in Florida. Prior to her time as a principal, Dick worked as a Gr-

7 French and technology teacher and dean of students.

She also served as principal of Maple Leaf School from 2013-2016, principal of Roland Elementary School from 2006-2013, and has teaching experience across various K-8 subject areas.

"As an educational leader, Cynthia is dedicated to building positive relationships with students, parents, and staff members," the division says. "She is committed to providing students with rich and challenging learning experiences that engage and maximize their potential for growth. She will also offer guidance and support to staff as they strive to be the best

versions of themselves.

"Her philosophy and values are closely aligned with Western School Division's Board priorities plan and the culture of ÉMMS."

The division also announced Christopher Chiappetta has been hired to fill the additional part-time vice-principal role at Morden Collegiate.

The position has been created due to increasing enrolment at the high school, WSD said.

Chiappetta has been a math and science teacher at Morden Collegiate for the last eight years. He will continue teaching in that capacity on a part-time basis.

He has also been involved as a Thunder volleyball coach and photographer for many school events in addition to playing a leadership role filling in as acting admin. in the office and being an active member of the Leadership Committee.

"Chris has enjoyed his time at Morden Collegiate and is excited about this next step in his career," WSD said. "Chris is looking forward to collaborating with the staff, students, parents, and community partners at Morden Collegiate to help make our school a great place to learn and grow."



SUPPLIED PHOTOS

The Pilot Mound and District Museum celebrated a grand re-opening Saturday in its new space in the Pilot Mound Millennium Complex, which gives it more room than ever for displays.

Pilot Mound & District Museum opens in new, larger space

By Lorne Stelmach

The Pilot Mound and District Museum has been a fixture in the community since 1954, but it now has a new lease on life with a larger location.

A grand re-opening Saturday afternoon celebrated the completion of work on its new home in the Pilot Mound Millennium Complex.

The location seemed like a good fit for the museum, with the complex already serving as a real hub for the community given that it includes not only the rink and curling club but also a day care, movie theatre, and hockey academy.

"It was the easiest and the best choice ... it just took a bit of time," said museum spokesperson Heather Brewster, noting there were some people who needed some convincing it was the right place for the museum.

"Being a multi-use building, it's kind

of neat that there is so much going on in here," she said, pointing to how the museum is now right next door to the theatre. "Even on Thursdays, if I'm up here, they're getting the movie ready and you can hear the movie trailers. We share the interior wall; the back wall of the museum is the interior side wall of the movie theatre."

The museum has come a long way from its start as what was to be a temporary display.

"It originally started just as a community display for when the town turned 50 in 1954, and it just turned into an actual museum because that whole display went over very well," explained Brewster.

"It was originally in the basement of the town office and library for a very long time up until about 10 years ago when it closed and in 2018 we started building on the second floor of the Pilot Mound Millennium Complex."

It now offers them a larger and more wide open space to feature more artifacts and displays that allow visitors to explore the origins of the area and gain a deeper appreciation of the lives of local settlers.

Brewster sees it serving as a destination for history buffs and an invaluable educational resource for students.

"We went from approximately 915 sq. ft. to just a little over 2,300 sq. ft. That's allowed us to have a separate office, which we never had before, as well as storage," she said. "It also allowed us to create what will be a phase two with an archive room."

"Over the year, we have become the place to put pictures and scrapbooks and even minutes from different organizations ... things that nobody knew what to do with," Brewster continued. "That will be really nice to have a community archive ... you just never

know what people might be looking for at any given time.

"The other advantage is accessibility. There's an elevator now ... before in the basement, we had two flights of stairs to come down, so that just ruled out anybody with a wheelchair or a walker or even a young mom with a stroller.

"We were able to curate a lot of new different display areas," said Brewster. "We've had to develop some display panels that can tell some history, like the geology. We had a geologist from the Manitoba government very nicely explain what the mound is through the glacial push.

"These are great stories, but we didn't have anything to go with it, so we created mound moments ... now we can tell you these little stories," she said. "I'm really excited about this ... it was exciting to get this all done."

Local projects receive provincial funding

By Ashleigh Viveiros

A number of local arts and sports projects have received a welcome funding boost from the provincial government.

The province earlier this month announced the winners of more than \$50 million in funding from the The Arts, Culture and Sport in Community (ACSC) fund.

"Our government recognizes the critical role Manitoba's community facilities play in the development of our children and youth, while also supporting the growth of our communities and economy," Premier Heather Stefanson said. "We know that stronger communities start with a foundation of local arts, culture and

sporting initiatives that foster a sense of belonging today and for generations to come.

"Our government is proud to provide this historic investment to support shovel-ready community-led projects that will have a positive and lasting impact on communities all across the province."

A total of 402 arts, culture, and sports initiatives received funding, including five in our area.

The South Central Regional Library is getting \$25,000 for capital improvements at its Manitou branch and \$12,000 for renovations in Miami.

Director of library services Cathy Ching says the funds will go a long way indeed toward improving the Manitou branch with new flooring, a

new circulation desk, and an outdoor book drop.

"Right now they're using a Rubbermaid container," she shares. "All of our other branches have an outside book drop, but Manitou never has. So they'll be joining the rest of our ranks with helping our patrons get their books back to us more easily."

Ching anticipates the library may need to shut down for about a week this summer to complete the renovations.

In Miami, the funds will be used for several branch improvements.

"There's a few things that need some tweaking," Ching says. "We're going to move the desk a bit, they're going to put in a new book drop, do some reordering so we can move the pho-

tocopier to a less intrusive place, and put up some shelving and possibly a wind break for the back door."

Candlewick Productions in Morden is receiving \$16,350 for repairs and upgrades of the Kenmor Theatre.

There are certainly no shortage of projects to tackle in the 73-year-old theatre, says Candlewick's Richard Klassen.

"There are a bunch of little projects we've wanted to work on in the theatre," he says, explaining funds will be used for things like improving the heating and cooling system in the foyer, replacing worn carpeting throughout, and addressing water seepage in the basement. "And then there's a

sports & recreation

Ste. Anne wins SEMHL championship

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Ste. Anne Aces came from behind to win the 71st annual South Eastern Manitoba Hockey League championship over the weekend.

Our own Morden Bombers had been leading the series 3-0 before the Aces managed to flip the script in game four with a 6-4 win.

They then took game five 9-3 last Tuesday night in Morden. Scoring for the home team were Andrew Clark, Adam Hughesman, and Tyler Peers. Reed Peters backstopped the Bombers' net, making 52 saves as Ste. Anne outshot Morden 61-43.

Wednesday night's game six win in Ste. Anne went to overtime for a decision.

Morden had a firm hold on the lead in the opening period, with Mike Rey scoring twice and Cole Penner once to make it 3-1 heading into intermission.

After a scoreless middle frame, though, the Aces got the two they needed to tie it at 3-3 and send things into overtime.

It took nearly 17 minutes, then, for Ste. Anne to break the deadlock for the 4-3 OT win.

Peters was in net for Morden once again. He made 48 saves off 52 shots. His teammates fired 39 the other way.

That tied the series at three games each and forced a decisive game seven in Morden Saturday night.

Jaden Townsend drew first blood six minutes in but Ste. Anne returned the favour to end the first period tied at 1-1.



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

The Morden Bombers battled hard but ultimately fell to the Ste. Anne Aces in the South Eastern Manitoba Hockey League championship final last week. Ste. Anne took game five (above) 9-3 in Morden and then game six at home 4-3 to tie the series 3-3 before sweeping games six and seven to win it all.

The Aces then pulled ahead in the second, which saw Morden's Hughesman score once in between two Ste. Anne goals.

The 3-2 score held until the game's final five minutes, when Ste. Anne's Brenden Walker managed to make it 4-2 at 15:44.

A Jory Mullin goal for the Bombers closed the gap once again in the final minute and Morden pulled their goalie for the extra man in a bid to try and catch up. It was to no avail, with Walker putting the final nail in with

an empty-net goal to give the Aces the win 5-3 and the championship—Ste. Anne's first—four games to three.

The Aces will now play either Minnedosa or Miniota/Elkhorn for the Manitoba Senior A Championship.

WILD PLAYER HONOURED

The league announced on Monday that the Red River Wild's Brenden Heppner has been selected as the recipient of the 2023 Dale Rempel Per-

son of the Year Award.

"Brenden has become a huge part of local fundraising in the Morris-St Jean area and brings a contagious energy to the Wild and any committees he sits on," the league said, noting Heppner is involved in numerous local sports and philanthropic causes. "He was also a big part in helping the Wild in joining the SEMHL. He had his hands in fundraising and player recruitment."

Twisters and Hawks might go the distance

By Lorne Stelmach

It was now down to a best of three for the Pembina Valley Twisters this week in their MMJHL quarter-final.

The series between the Twisters and the Charleswood Hawks was even at

two games apiece after last weekend.

It has been a back and forth battle with the Hawks taking game one 5-2, the Twisters winning game two 3-2, Charleswood taking game 3-1, and Pembina Valley winning game four

3-2

The Hawks led 2-1 and 3-2 at the intermissions before putting game one away in the third last Tuesday with a powerplay marker and then an empty net goal.

Scoring for the Twisters were Slade Sotheran and Ryan Orchard. Logan Enns made 28 saves off 33 shots. His teammates fired the same number the other way

Continued on page 16



PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE
The Morden Figure Skating Club held its annual show last Thursday at the Access Event Centre. The show included solo and group performances as well as synchronized skating and a special 'Battle of the Blades' featuring local hockey players.

Battle of the blades

U15 Flyers win league, provincials

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Pembina Central Flyers U15 AA team wrapped up what was already a stellar season of hockey by clinching not just the league banner but the provincial one as well.

"They're a pretty amazing group of boys," says co-coach Troy Ehnes. "They had quite a wonderful year."

The Flyers were 21-2-1 in league play, which won them first place by one point.

"It's a competitive league," Ehnes says. "It's a nine team league that was created five or six years ago to give some better players a place to play that didn't make our AAA programs."

The Flyers are one of three teams representing the Pembina Valley in the league.

"We have the Twisters out of Morris, the Rockets west out of Holland, and then us the Flyers, which

is Winkler, Morden, Carman," Ehnes explains.

The Flyers found themselves going up against those same local teams alongside teams from elsewhere in Manitoba at the provincial championship in Winkler earlier this month.

They downed the Eastman Central Snipers and the Pembina West Rockets 3-0 and 3-2, respectively, in the round robin and then crushed the Snipers in the semi-final 6-0.

The championship final pitted the Flyers against the Southwest Jets. They skated away with a 2-1 win for the banner.

Ehnes notes he came out of retirement to help coach this team, inspired by the heart and dedication he saw out on the ice from the boys.

"They're probably one of the better teams I've coached in all my 37 years of coaching because the team was so balanced," he says. "You could put any line out on the power play—you didn't have to mix players together.

"And they're probably one of the best teams for work ethic at practice. They showed up, worked hard, wanted to learn every practice."

Ehnes expects a number of players will move up to AAA hockey next season.

"It's really given them a chance to hone their skills," he says. "They're going to move up the ladder."



SUPPLIED PHOTO



> TWISTERS, FROM PG. 15

Special teams made the difference in game two Thursday with the Twisters connecting for a powerplay goal and a shorthanded marker.

Zander Carels, Riley Goertzen, and Alex Vandenyze scored for Pembina Valley while Enns made 33 saves as the Twisters outshot the Hawks 37-35.

Derek Wiebe's first period power play goal was all the Twisters could manage in game three Saturday as they were shutdown the rest of the way despite outshooting the Hawks 35-31. Enns made 28 saves, with Charleswood sealing the win with an empty net marker.

Pembina Valley then trailed 5-3 after two periods Sunday but completed the third period comeback with two goals within the last two minutes, including the winner with just 24 seconds remaining.

Merek Degraeve scored twice while singles came in from Wiebe, Vandenyze, Nico Vigier, and Mike Heppner.

Shots on goal were 33-19 in favour of Pembina Valley. Enns made 14 saves.

Game five was scheduled for Tuesday night in Charleswood. Results were not available at press time. Game six is in Morris Thursday. Game seven, if needed, is back in Winnipeg Saturday.

Flyers-Pistons series tied at 1-1

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler Flyers and the Steinbach Pistons finished the MJHL regular season with just seven points separating them—Steinbach in second place and Winkler in third—and the first week of playoff action continued to be a close call.

Winkler took game one of the first round of the MGEU East Division playoffs with a tense 5-4 OT win in Steinbach Friday night.

The game was tied at 1-1 after 20 minutes, with Xyon Kiemeney getting Winkler on the board less than two minutes in.

Zach Nicolas then scored 40 seconds into the second to re-take the lead for the Flyers, only to have Steinbach score twice that period to do the same.

Another early goal for Winkler came in the third, this time from Gavin Waltz, to tie things at 3-3.

The lead proved short-lived, as the Pistons pulled ahead again at 2:54.

Nicolas' second goal of the night at

16:08 evened things out again and sent the two teams into overtime.

There, Jayce Legaarden fired home the game-winner two minutes in.

The Flyers' celebration over stealing an at-home game from Steinbach didn't last long, as the Pistons returned the favour Friday night in Winkler.

The home team found themselves playing catchup from the get-go, with Steinbach scoring first at 3:38 and again at 19:57. In between, Nicholas McKee got Winkler on the board.

Another goal in the second gave the visitors a 3-1 lead heading into the final 20 minutes. Dalton Andrew managed to score at 17:20, but that was the last time Winkler found the back of the net, giving Steinbach the win 3-2.

Games three and five are in Steinbach Wednesday and Friday night. Games four and six are in Winkler Thursday and Sunday.

The East Division's other match-up has top-ranked Portage Terriers leading 2-0 against the Niverville Night-



SUPPLIED PHOTO BY RYAN SAWATZKY/WINKLER FLYERS

The Winkler Flyers took game one 5-4 on the road last week, but then the Steinbach Pistons got their revenge in game two in Winkler 3-2 (above) in the best-of-seven MJHL playoff series.

hawks.

Over in the West Division, the Swan Valley Stampeders are up 2-0 against the Dauphin Kings while the OCN

Blizzard and the Virden Oil Capitals are tied at 1-1.

Access CU makes Manitoba's Top Employers list

By Voice staff

For the ninth year in a row, Access Credit Union has been named one of Manitoba's top employers by the editors of *Canada's Top 100 Employers*.

The list, which has been compiled for 17 years in partnership with the *Winnipeg Free Press*, recognizes the Manitoba employers that lead their industries in offering exceptional places to work.

"Top employers in Manitoba are raising the bar in their support of local community groups to guarantee maximum impact," says Richard Yerema, executive editor at the Canada's Top 100 Employers project. "Through programs like matching charitable donations by employees and providing paid time off to volunteer (often with no formal maximums), this year's winners offer staff the ability to take action and really make a difference."

Access Credit Union was singled out for its focus on community development.

"Access Credit Union established a special investment committee responsible to review donation requests from local charities," the project's editors said in a news release. "The company also provides paid time off to volunteer in the community and matches employee donations to char-

itable organizations."

For its part, Access CU says it works hard to be a workplace of choice in Manitoba. That includes creating a culture to maintain a healthy work-life balance.

"My job is to create an environment where people can excel. I find if people are empowered to excel, they will," says president and CEO Larry Davey. "We spend a great deal of time on leadership training and getting the staff flow as frictionless as possible. I find that if staff are empowered and know they are trusted, they are that

much more engaged."

Other benefits of working at Access, the financial institution shares, include paid training and continuing education, flexible hours and work locations, matched pension plans, competitive salaries, tuition subsidies, a fully paid health plan and family coverage, and the opportunity to contribute to the community.

RECORD-BREAKING CASH BACK

Access CU also announced last week that it will be returning \$13.5

million to its members via its Member Rewards profit-sharing program.

It's a record-breaking amount for the financial institution, which last summer merged with the Noventis and Sunova credit unions.

"We are proud to be in a position where we are able to pay Member Rewards as a way of saying thank you to our loyal members," board chair Kevin Beresford said. "This year marks the biggest payout in our history and fulfills our core commitment to strengthen our profit-sharing program."

> FUNDING, FROM PG. 14

number of small fix-its and facility upgrades just to keep things running smoothly.

"It's been great to see this funding go to the arts and also local sports projects too," Klassen notes. "It's really a good shot in the arm for everybody."

Receiving \$25,000 for lighting and sound upgrades is the Manitou Opera House Foundation.

Board treasurer Al Thorleifson says the facility's existing lighting system has really begun to show its age.

"We've been having difficult finding parts for some of those older

lights," he says. "They were just getting archaic and so when something would break or we'd need a bulb, we'd find out they don't make them anymore."

With the ACSC grant, an \$8,000 grant from Efficiency Manitoba, and other donations, the opera house board intends to put in a new, state-of-the-art lighting and sound system.

"We're still looking for about \$6,000 to complete fundraising," Thorleifson says, inviting those interested in supporting the project to contact them.

The hope is to have the new systems in place later this year.

"Having a good product, part of it is making sure we have the lighting and sound systems that are going to enhance the shows that we present," Thorleifson says.

Finally, the Altona Curling Club received \$10,000 for its over house video project.

Club reps declined to comment at press time as they await further details of the grant funding from the province.

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PUBLIC NOTICE



**R.M. of ROLAND
PUBLIC NOTICE -
2023 FINANCIAL PLAN**

Pursuant to Section
162(2) of The Municipal Act
The Council of the Rural Municipality
of Roland will hold a Public Hearing to
present the 2023 Financial Plan:
Thursday April 20, 2023
7:00 p.m.
Roland Memorial Hall
Interested persons may make
representation, ask questions, or
register an objection to the Plan.
Copies of the Financial Plan will be
available for review from the
Municipal Office after April 12, 2023.

**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



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PUBLIC NOTICE

FARMLAND FOR SALE BY TENDER

Sealed, written tenders for the purchase of the property described below will be received by:

TDS

3-175 Roblin Blvd. East
Winkler MB R6W 0H2
Attention: Matthew Bolt

Title No. 2085684/4 (40.00 acres)

LOT 5 SP PLAN 1907 MLTO
IN SE 1/4 8-1-3 WPM

Title No. 2416917/4 (62.23 acres)

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The properties are in the Municipality of Rhineland, Manitoba. *Tenders will be received on either titled property or on both titled properties.*

CONDITIONS OF TENDER:

1. Interested parties must rely on their own inspection and knowledge of the properties and not on the above or any other particulars or representations made by or on behalf of the Seller.
2. Tenders must be received on or before 1:00 p.m. on Friday, April 14, 2023.
3. Each tender must be accompanied by a certified \$10,000.00 deposit cheque, per property, payable to Thompson Dorfman Sweatman LLP, IN TRUST. Deposits accompanying unaccepted bids will be refunded.
4. The highest or any tender will not necessarily be accepted.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SALE

1. The successful purchaser, if any, will sign the standard Thompson Dorfman Sweatman LLP agreement of purchase and sale for agricultural property within seven days of being advised that he or she is the successful bidder.
2. In addition to the deposit, the balance of the accepted tender must be paid on a date no later than May 1, 2023 or evidence provided that the purchase funds will be available under conditions acceptable to the Seller. If the balance of the accepted tender is not paid within the set time limit, the deposit paid may be forfeited as liquidated damages and not as a penalty.
3. Successful bidders will be responsible for real property taxes commencing May 1, 2023.
4. Possession date will be May 1, 2023.
5. Tenders are binding upon acceptance and should not be subject to any conditions precedent.
6. Title to the property will be transferred free and clear of all registered mortgages, encumbrances and leases.
7. The property will be sold as is and the purchaser is solely responsible to determine the value and condition of the property, land quality, property use, environmental condition and any other information pertaining to the property.

Please send sealed tenders to:

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Thompson Dorfman Sweatman LLP
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**PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that the Rural
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1) To control noxious weeds on road allowances within the Municipality. The proposed period of application would be from May 1, 2023 to October 31, 2023. The herbicides to be used could include:

- Tordon 22K
- Nufarm 2,4-D Amine600
- Reclaim II Herbicide
- Roundup Transorb HC

2) To control insect pests including grasshoppers, mosquitoes, canker worms, etc. The proposed period of application for these programs would be from May 1, 2023 to October 31, 2023. The insecticides to be used could include:

- Malathion 95 ULV

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

**Manitoba Environment, Climate, and Parks
Environmental Approvals Branch
1007 Century Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3H 0W4**



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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.

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CONDITIONS OF TENDER

1. Interested parties must rely on their own inspection and knowledge of the property.
2. Tenders may be placed and accepted on one or any number of all parcels of land.
3. Tenders must be received on or before 2:30 pm on April 28, 2023.
4. Tenders must be accompanied by a **\$10,000.00** cheque payable to **MMJS LLP** in Trust as a deposit. Deposit cheques accompanying unacceptable bids will be returned.
5. Highest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SALE

1. The bidder whose tender is accepted will be required to complete an agreement covering terms and conditions of sale.
2. In addition to the deposit, the balance of the accepted tender must be paid on or before the date of closing which shall be **June 1, 2023**, or evidence provided that the purchase funds will be available under conditions acceptable to the Vendor. If the balance of the accepted tender is not paid within the set time limit the deposit may be forfeited as liquidated damages and not as a penalty.
3. Possession is not authorized until acceptable arrangements for full payment are made following acceptance of tender.
4. Successful bidder will be responsible for real property taxes commencing January 1, 2023.
5. The purchaser shall be responsible for payment of GST or shall self-assess for GST.

For further information contact
Scott W. Johnston at:
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CARD OF THANKS

A "Card of Thanks" from the family of Harold Kehler to family and friends who prayed, called, visited, brought food and flowers. Hugged, cried and laughed with us. The cards and sweet sentiments online as well. So appreciated and will not be forgotten. Bless you all.

-Ev and family

BIRTHDAY



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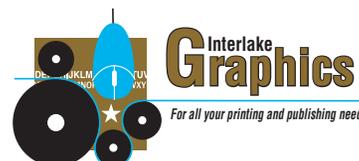
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OBITUARY



**Elma Bergen (nee Schmidt)
1929 - 2023**

Elma Bergen was born to Henry P. and Susanna Schmidt on August 13, 1929 in the district of Schoenau, close to Altona. She was the latter of twin girls, and the youngest of six siblings. In her early teens, the family moved to New Hope where she finished grade school. In April 1950, she was baptized upon the confession of her faith by the Bishop of the Sommerfeld Mennonite Church and received as a member. On October 18, 1952, she married Jacob G. Bergen of the Ruderweide district. At that time, she also joined the Ruderweide Mennonite Church. Eight children were born to them: five sons and three daughters. The youngest two daughters, Joanna and Jeanette died at birth in March 1969.

She was also predeceased by her parents, Henry P and Susanna Schmidt and her siblings: Susie (Corny), Jacob (Anne), Eva (Pete), Henry and her twin sister, Dora, Susie and Jake Thiessen, Neta and Frank Thiessen, Anne Bergen, Jake Friesen, Frank Bergen and Helena Bergen.

Left to cherish her memory are five sons and one daughter: Ivan (Karen) of Winkler, Ken (Lois) of Winkler, Ron (Carol) of Winnipeg, Melvin (Karen) of Calgary, Harold (Sharon) of Winnipeg, Amanda (Andy) of Cypress River and 16 grandchildren: Casey (Cam), Matt, Krista (Marty), Kendra (Michael), Kara (Dwayne), Kim (James), Matthew (Rachael), Danae (Marty), Tyler, Raine (Kaite), Brittany (Scott), Evan (Tedi), Caleb, Ayla, Quinn (Sandy), Keegan (Nancy) and 25 great-grandchildren. She is also survived by in-laws, Linda Schmidt, John Neufeld, Sara Friesen, Mary and Ernest Lescheid, Gertrude and Helmut Friesen and many nieces and nephews.

Following their wedding in 1952, Grandma and Grandpa moved to Portage la Prairie where they lived until the spring of 1954. They relocated to Ruderweide where they worked on several farms. Then in 1958 they decided to move back to Portage la Prairie. Grandma's life was that of a busy mother. Their five boys were born within seven years of each other, followed by a daughter six years later. She quickly learned how to run an efficient home. She kept a clean house but preferred her work out of doors. This was the work that she was most accustomed to growing up on the farm. Grandma was a woman that wasn't afraid of work. Along with her household responsibilities and volunteering roles, she had a variety of jobs both in Portage and in Morden where they relocated to in 1972. She fostered children, worked at preparing and setting up for meals at Manitoba School. She worked in the Portage Thrift Store and Blue Jean Shop, and in housekeeping at Bethel Hospital in Winkler, Eden and Salem Home, also at the Maple Leaf School and Morden School Division Office. Many of her life long friendships were established through Grandma and Grandpa's involvement in the Portage EMC Church where she was involved in Sunday School, Five Day Clubs and DVBS.

When Grandma and Grandpa moved to Winkler in 1991, Grandma retired. Her biggest goal in her working career was making enough money to purchase a piano. She had a love for making music, a gift that few people outside of her family ever got to enjoy. She couldn't read music, but she played many instruments by ear. The guitar, banjo, accordion, piano and the organ. Until the day that she went into the hospital, you could hear her play the little electric organ at the front door, belting out a tune.

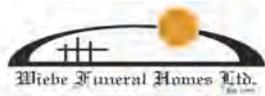
When Grandpa suffered his strokes, Grandma became his primary caregiver. Her strength and resolve served her well. Even when he was moved across the street to Salem Home, Grandma would bring him home for the day. When it became obvious that his time here on earth was limited, an early 50th anniversary celebration was planned. Ten days after the celebration (October 10, 2002) Grandpa passed away. Grandma loved him dearly and mourned his passing deeply. She would often say "I had such a good man, why would I want another?" On the 15th of March at 1 a.m., grandma called Dad (Ken). He took her to the hospital. She was admitted, and it was quickly realized that her heart issues had become more serious than any of us knew. She was moved to palliative care and in just a few short days, she became unresponsive. She quietly slipped into glory on Sunday, March 19th at 10:00 a.m. Grandma, you will be missed. We love you.

Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all the earth!
Make a loud noise, and rejoice, and sing praise!
Psalms 98:4

A private family service was held on Thursday, March 23, 2023 at Grace Mennonite Church with interment prior at the Rudnerweide Cemetery.

Donations may be made in Elma's memory to the charity of your choice.

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OBITUARY



**Dorothy Susan Pauls
(nee Sawatzky)
1927 - 2023**

We mourn deeply the passing of Dorothy Susan Pauls (nee Sawatzky) on Monday, March 6, 2023 in St. Boniface Hospital at the age of 95.

Dorothy was born on August 17, 1927 in Morden, Manitoba, the third child in a family of eight children. She attended Morden Maple Leaf School for six years, after which she stayed at home to help with cooking and childcare. Growing up, Dorothy displayed a keen interest in making things. A ball of wool was continually knitted, unraveled and knitted again; and a first pair of high heels were designed and crafted out of wood. Later she received sewing lessons, and a lifetime of sewing projects followed. If times were tough, discarded men's suits were taken apart and re-tailored as women's suits.

As a young girl, Dorothy shared with her mother a desire to be a good person and to become a Christian. During this conversation, she accepted Jesus Christ as her personal savior. Later she would be baptized upon the confession of her faith in the Morden Berghaler Mennonite Church. As a youth, she attended Sunday School, served as secretary for the youth group (Jugendverein), and sang in the church choir.

It was in this church setting that Dorothy met and married Jacob Pauls, forging a union that lasted 70 years. Together they farmed, entered church ministry, raised a family, and made studies and travel a way of life. In the course of many moves, Jake and Dorothy had two new houses built, and Dorothy sewed curtains and décor for both.

Dorothy played a supportive role in her husband's work by accompanying him on visitations, hosting many work related visitors and managing Jake's sartorial needs, especially for travel. Dorothy also participated in much of the travel related to Jake's work. Together they attended two European world conferences, several Canadian and American conferences, two study tours of the Middle East and finally an Asian and an African trip in preparation for the world conference in Winnipeg in 1990. While Dorothy enjoyed travelling abroad, she appreciated most of all the trips taken with the family to the mountains and the east coast.

During retirement, Dorothy did more of that with which she was familiar, homemaking, sewing and traveling. She dearly loved spending time with her young grandsons, Simon and Rowan, but advancing old age made that increasingly difficult. A serious fall in April 2022 resulted in Dorothy taking up care home residency. This past February she suffered another fall from which she would not recover. Peacefully she surrendered to the call of her Lord to leave loved ones behind and return to her spiritual home.

Dorothy will be lovingly remembered by her husband, Jacob F. Pauls; her children, Vera Pauls and Gerald Pauls, her grandsons, Simon Pauls and Rowan Braun; her siblings and in-laws, Verna (Sawatzky) Enns, Leona (Penner) Sawatzky, Ron Sawatzky, Harvey and Margaret (Penner) Sawatzky; and many nieces and nephews and their families.

Dorothy was predeceased by her parents, David R. and Marie (Klaassen) Sawatzky; an infant son Vernon James (stillborn); a daughter-in-law, Lora Braun; siblings and in-laws, Abe Enns, Rudy and Alma (Janzen) Sawatzky, Art Sawatzky, Henry and Anne Marie (Sawatzky) Bock, Anne (Martens) Sawatzky, Pearl Sawatzky; as well as a niece and two nephews.

A funeral service for Dorothy was held at Bethel Mennonite Church in Winnipeg on Monday, March 13, followed by interment at Southside Cemetery in Morden.

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> MEAL IDEAS



Savory Cheese Balls

Servings: 6-12
 2 packages (8 ounces each) cream cheese
 2 tablespoons caraway seeds
 1 teaspoon poppy seeds
 2 cloves garlic, minced, divided
 1/4 cup parsley, chopped
 2 teaspoons thyme leaves, chopped
 1 teaspoon rosemary, chopped
 1/4 cup dried cranberries, chopped
 2 tablespoons pecans, chopped
 crackers (optional)

fruit (optional)
 vegetables (optional)
 Cut each cream cheese block into three squares. Roll each square into ball.
 In small bowl, combine caraway seeds, poppy seeds and half the garlic.
 In second small bowl, combine parsley, thyme, rosemary and remaining garlic.
 In third small bowl, combine cranberries and pecans.
 Roll two cheese balls in seed mixture, two in herb mixture and two in cranberry mixture.
 Cut each ball in half and serve with crackers, fruit or vegetables, if desired.



Lemon Blueberry Trifle

Prep time: 45 minutes
 Servings: 8-10
Lemon Curd:
 1 cup Domino Golden Sugar
 2 tablespoons cornstarch
 1/4 cup freshly squeezed lemon juice
 1 tablespoon lemon zest
 6 tablespoons water
 1/4 teaspoon salt
 6 egg yolks
 1/2 cup (1 stick) unsalted butter, at room temperature, cut into 1/2-inch cubes
Whipped Cream:
 2 cups heavy whipping cream, cold
 2 tablespoons Domino Golden Sugar
 2 teaspoons pure vanilla extract
Trifle:
 1 cup blueberry jam
 12 ounces fresh blueberries, plus additional for garnish, divided
 1 pound cake, cubed
 lemon slices, for garnish

mint, for garnish
 To make lemon curd: In medium saucepan, stir sugar and cornstarch. Stir in lemon juice, lemon zest, water and salt. Cook over medium heat, stirring constantly, until thickened. Remove from heat and gradually stir in three egg yolks; mix well until combined. Stir in remaining egg yolks. Return to heat and cook 2 minutes, stirring constantly. Remove from heat.
 Stir in butter; mix until incorporated. Cover with plastic wrap, touching surface of lemon curd to prevent curd forming skin. Refrigerate until completely cool.
 To make whipped cream: In large bowl, beat cream, sugar and vanilla until soft peaks form. Do not overbeat.
 To make trifle: Mix blueberry jam with 12 ounces fresh blueberries. Place one layer cubed pound cake in bottom of trifle dish. Top with layer of blueberries. Add dollops of lemon curd and whipped cream. Repeat layering ending with whipped cream.
 Decorate trifle with lemon slices, fresh blueberries and mint.



Easy Brunch Quiche

Serves: 12
 1 package (10 ounces) frozen broccoli with cheese
 12 slices bacon, chopped
 1/2 cup green onions, sliced
 1 cup mushrooms, sliced
 4 eggs
 1 cup milk
 1 1/2 cups shredded cheese, divided
 2 frozen deep dish pie shells (9 inches each)
 Heat oven to 350 F.
 In medium bowl, add broccoli and cheese contents from package. Microwave 5 minutes, or until cheese is saucy. Set aside.
 In skillet, cook chopped bacon 4 min-

utes. Add green onions; cook 2 minutes. Add mushrooms; cook 4 minutes, or until bacon is completely cooked and mushrooms are tender. Drain onto paper towel over plate. Set aside.
 In medium bowl, whisk eggs and milk until combined. Add broccoli and cheese mixture. Add 1 cup cheese. Stir to combine. Set aside.
 In pie shells, divide drained bacon mixture evenly. Divide broccoli mixture evenly and pour over bacon mixture. Sprinkle remaining cheese over both pies. Bake 40 minutes.
 Cool at least 12 minutes before serving.
 Note: To keep edges of crust from burning, place aluminum foil over pies for first 20 minutes of cook time. Remove after 20 minutes and allow to cook uncovered until completed.

Ask the Money Lady

Dear Money Lady Readers: Why are so many Canadians still struggling with money when we have such a large banking industry that says it wants to help us?



Christine Ibbotson

Today Canada is dominated by five large banks, that now control 91% of the entire Canadian financial service industry, with approximately \$4 Trillion in assets. The Royal Bank's recent purchase of HSBC only amplifies this fact. Many may think that there are larger industries in Canada, however as of 2021 the financial sector is now the largest industry in terms of employment in Canada. There now is so much information out there, it's hard to know if someone is trying to truly help you or sell you something that is necessary for them to meet their sales quota. Because of this, I want to provide my readers with a basic financial plan strategy. One that every Canadian can fit into their life and we will break it into four stages. Use it as a guideline - something to work towards. Guaranteed, if done as presented, it will reduce the financial uncertainty that impact your life, and help you reach retirement debt free and wealthy.

Stage 1: In your 20's you will have debt—either consumer and/or school debt. This is the time to begin saving and establishing good credit so that you can borrow from the banks in the future. You don't want to pay higher lending rates simply because you continually overindulge or can't pay your bills on time. Open a tax-free savings account (TFSA) and have 15% of your paycheque taken out of your bank account the same day that you get paid (setup automatically with your bank). Once the TFSA is maxed, open a RSP account and do the same. TIP: Invest in ETF's (exchange traded funds) that follow an index such as the S&P 500 or the Nasdaq Composite. Don't have too much invested domestically. Historically, the US stock market has always outperformed all others.

Stage 2: Now in your 30's you will most likely be working fulltime and it is imperative that you continue your savings regime as in Stage 1. Always take 15% off the top of your paycheque to be first put in your TFSA and then into your RSP. If you are lucky enough to hit your maximum RSP contribution limit, any other savings should go into a non-registered investment account. In this decade you want to get into the real estate market. You may need to buy a home with friends or family or even take in boarders to help make ends meet. I know it will be a stretch for most young Canadians,

but it is an absolute necessity to give you more options for the future. You should have a Will + two Power of Attorney (medical direction + assets) and review your insurance needs at this stage.

Stage 3: This is the phase that combines your 40's and 50's and it's most likely when you will have your maximum earning potential. Always keep building on the foundation that you created in Stage 1 (15% towards TFSA, RSP, non-registered accounts). At this point you now must work to eliminate debt. You may have upgraded your home, have a second home, started a business or be thinking of your children's education. All these added expenses will have a huge impact on your income – but never succumb to reducing your 15% savings routine. During your 50's you must work at eliminating all debt. Why not refinance into a new mortgage with the amortization set to the year you plan to retire. Setup this way – you're guaranteed to have zero debt at retirement.

Stage 4: This phase starts in your 60's and goes to your 90's. You will want to start simplifying your lifestyle and your commitments especially as you age. Stage 1 and 2 were all about building your life and acquiring "things" to make you happy. In this stage you must now start the "big purge," reduce the clutter, downsize or right-size your residence to eliminate any remaining debts, lower expenses and add more funds to your retirement savings. In your 60's it is a good idea to update your Will and POAs. In your 70's to 90's, make sure you have a plan to fill your days if you have stopped working and always work towards improving your health, plus keep active – both mentally and physically.

Good Luck & Best Wishes,
 Christine Ibbotson

Written by Christine Ibbotson, National Radio Host, YouTuber, and Author of 3 finance books plus the Canadian Best-Selling Book "How to Retire Debt Free & Wealthy" www.askthemoneylady.ca or send a question to info@askthemoneylady.ca

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