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Voice

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Got fries?

From left: Phyllis Kroeker, Tracy Peters, and Dwight Suderman manned the french fry table at Central Station's giveaway last week for Pay It Forward May. For the full story, see Pg. 5.
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OUR SUPPLIERS



A glimpse at Gateway

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Gateway Resources filled the Buttercup Celebration Hall near Winkler May 7 with supporters for its annual gala.

"It's truly wonderful to see so many people gather tonight," observed CEO Kim Nelson. "Tonight is about connection, community, and purpose."

Funds raised from the gala go to support the non-profit, which provides life skills programming, employment opportunities, and assisted housing in Winkler and Morden for 232 individuals living with an intellectual disability.

"At Gateway, our mission is simple but deeply meaningful," Nelson said. "We support individuals to live full, inclusive, and meaningful lives within communities. Every day, our teams walk alongside people of all abilities, helping them build independence, develop skills, find employment, and create connections. We believe that everyone deserves to belong."

Guests got the chance to hear first-hand about the impact of Gateway's programming from several of its staff and participants.

Chrissy Peters has been at Gateway for 25 years, working on the recycling sorting line, taking life skills classes, and helping out with cleaning.

"The skills Gateway has taught me is how to sweep, how to recycle, and how to work with other people and how to focus on myself," she shared. "Gateway has also taught me how to be kind to people."

"Gateway has helped me stay focused and to work hard," Peters added. "Gateway has taught me life skills and given me a job to go to every day."

Peters is also an accomplished Special Olympian, bringing home medals in track and field and snowshoeing from events in China and Austria.

"Gateway celebrated me by having a community party to celebrate my medals," she recalled.

With the help of Senior's Activity Program manager Patrick Simoens,

"WE BELIEVE THAT EVERYONE DESERVES TO BELONG."



PHOTOS BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

At the Gateway Resources fundraising gala last week, participants Annie Fehr (above) and Chrissy Peters (right) and staff member Patrick Simoens shared how the non-profit has impacted their lives.

Annie Fehr reflected on some of the highlights of her days at Gateway.

"We play bingo, go shopping, do puzzles, or go to the Winkler Senior Centre," she said, noting the senior's



Continued on page 5

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At this time, the Senior Election Official (S.E.O.) and/or the Assistant S.E.O. will be available to update the voter's list by:

- (a) adding the names of voters who are entitled to have their names on the list;
- (b) deleting the names of persons who are not entitled to have their names on the list; and
- (c) making such other corrections of errors to the list as required.

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A person is eligible to have his or her name added to the Voters List if he or she is:

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Failing the foregoing, the voter's name will be placed on the list as the S.E.O. may select.

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A voter may apply in writing to the S.E.O. (at the address /email address below) no later than September 22nd, 2026, to have his/her name and other personal information omitted or obscured from the voter's list in order to protect the voter's personal security. The application may be submitted in person, by mail or by fax and must include your name, address and proof of identity.

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Dated at Altona in the Province of Manitoba, May 14th, 2026.



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get informed



PCAN marks Earth Day

PHOTOS BY LILI KRUSHEL/VOICE

Volunteers from the Pembina Climate Action Network set up shop at Lake Minnewasta Saturday for their rescheduled Earth Day celebrations (the first date was cancelled due to poor weather). The afternoon included Birdwatching 101, a prairie grass talk and plant walk, a presentation from the Morden Horticultural Society about the community

becoming a "Bee City," seed giveaways, a chip path walk, nature bingo, and arts and crafts.

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The **Voice**

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Do you have a suggestion for our news team?
Is there someone you would like to see recognized in the newspaper for their accomplishments - athletic, academic or community service.

Sharing fries, and smiles

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Winklerites lined up down the street last Thursday for Central Station's annual Frozen French Fry Giveaway.

The community centre's Pay It Forward May initiative saw them give away over 2,000 bags of fries.

It was two per vehicle—one to keep and one for recipients to give away in the spirit of the theme of the month, which encourages random acts of kindness.

"We've experienced so much kindness that we wanted to pay that back to the community," said social impact director Krista Rempel. "And in doing so, give people an opportunity to also experience the blessing of paying forward fries."

It was a great afternoon of connection, she said.

"This is an amazing experience to be able to see this many people, and peo-

ple that we don't necessarily always see. And to be able to hand them a bag of fries—who doesn't love fries? So we're getting to experience little moments of joy throughout the day. It's one of our favourite events."

The giveaway is truly a partnership, observed executive director Anita Wiebe.

"It's happening here at Central Station, but Simplot and Second Harvest and Winkler Meats were all a part of it," she said. "And also the Winkler Food Cupboard and The Pantry."

"It's just organization after organization being able to pay it forward, whatever their part of it is. It took the entire team to get it to this point."

Tracy Peters from Winkler Meats, which provided freezer space for storage and a giant truck to get the fries to Central Station, said they were happy to help.

"We often donate a bunch of our



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Central Station staff and volunteers handed out over 2,000 bags of frozen french fries last week for Pay It Forward May.

samples and products [to local food banks] ... we absolutely love the community involvement that we have

here," she said. "We want to be more and more involved in the community, and this is a beautiful way to do that."

> GATEWAY GALA, FROM PG. 3

program gives her plenty of fun things to do to fill her day, and Gateway's residential staff help her out at home with making meals and doing her laundry.

In her younger years, Fehr worked at Gateway in the kitchen, washing dishes and helping prepare meals.

"I have learned kitchen skills and how to make things, like crafts," she said. "I learned to be kind to others."

Simoens also outlined his time with the organization, starting out as a direct service provider in 2008 and working his way up to manager.

"I work with a team of three other staff who provide programming for some of the older individuals that attend day services at Gateway," he explained.

"I've learned a lot since joining Gateway," Simoens reflected. "How to support others through life's challenges. I've learned to be more patient ... how to be a leader."

Asked by Fehr what his favourite part of Gateway is, Simoens noted it's, "hearing the participants say they've had a good day."

If you missed the gala, you can still get a behind-the-scenes peek at the inner workings at Gateway at their annual open house on Thursday, May 28 from 1-3:30 p.m. at 1582 Pembina Ave. in Winkler.

PUTTING HER FAITH IN GOD

After shining a spotlight on Gateway's work, the evening wrapped up with a "fireside chat" between

six-time Olympic medalist Cindy Klassen and MC Chris Sumner.

The hour-long conversation ranged from Klassen's childhood to her drive to make Team Canada and compete in the Olympics (initially, unsuccessfully, in women's hockey) to her bronze medal win at the 2002 Winter Games in speed skating and her record-setting five medals—a gold, two silver, and two bronze—four years later at the Olympics in Turin.

Klassen credited her success to the work ethic her parents instilled in her, and to God.

"It hit me that I had done all the preparation to get ready for that moment," she said of her first race at the 2002 Olympics. "There's nothing else I could do. All I had to do was trust God, go out and race the best that I could to His glory. That's all He's asking of me."

When she returned to the Games four years later, she was simply looking to do her best—she never imagined she'd be the first and only Canadian athlete to win five medals at single Olympics.

"I really didn't have a goal except

to do better than I had done at the Olympics before," she recalled, noting she didn't let herself succumb to nerves because she knew "God is with me, and He's going to sustain me through whatever happens."

Klassen reflected on how she seeks to live with her Christian faith very much on her sleeve.

"This is a gift that God has given me to be able to share my story and share how good God has been," she said, noting she's an introvert by nature but still tries to embrace the speaking opportunities that come her way. "If I can be a light and make a difference in someone's life, then it's all worth it."

Rooting her life in faith made leaving speed skating behind in 2015 after years of injuries much easier, Klassen shared.

"I think the big part of that is that my identity didn't lie in being a speed skater," she said. "My identity has always been in Christ."

Looking back, Klassen said the things she misses most are the personal connections she forged.

"I don't think about the podium finishes. I think about the times of being with my friends and my team-

mates, because they're kind of like family," she said. "All those crazy moments that we had."

After her retirement from sports, Klassen completed her degree in psychology and became a police officer in Calgary for a few years before retiring to be a stay-at-home mother and motivational speaker.

"Whether you're a teacher, whether you're a mom, whether you're an executive, whatever you are, whatever walk of life you're going through, you can be a shining light to others," Klassen said, stressing the importance of living one's life for God. "Anybody can do it, and I think that it's a high calling."



Guest speaker Cindy Klassen shared how her faith played a big role in her success as an Olympic athlete.

"ALL I HAD TO DO WAS TRUST GOD, GO OUT AND RACE THE BEST THAT I COULD TO HIS GLORY. THAT'S ALL HE'S ASKING OF ME."

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OUR SISTER PUBLICATIONS



Woven out of a fabric of worries

worry. One might say without too much exaggeration that I am woven out of a fabric of worry.

I come from a long line of Class A worriers. Part of striving to be the best worrier you can be is understanding that the foundation of a Master Worrier is guilt. Guilt and worry are often found hand in hand strolling through the myriad pathways of the mind seeking out themes to fixate on for a while like kids wandering through a playground stopping and spending time on different structures until they get bored.



By Peter Cantelon

Having been raised by an Irish Italian Catholic mom and sharing half of my DNA with my Jewish father, I am told I have a good pedigree when it comes to guilt and worry.

One of the signs you have stumbled across an award-winning worrier is that they seem to exist in a constant state of apology.

"Do you find it warm in the house today?"

"Sorry, I should have turned down the thermostat."

"Do you know if we have any cat food left?"

"Sorry, I should have bought more."

"It's awfully sunny out today."

"Sorry, I should be carrying extra sunglasses with me."

You get the idea.

Mum worried about everything, everywhere, all of the time.

I thought she was being ridiculous and found it annoying rather than en-

dearing.

Once I became a parent I vowed not to worry to the degree my mum did. In my mind I assumed that once the kids survived to adulthood they were on their own and I would no longer worry about them. Little did I know how naïve I was.

Now we have three adult children and the worry continues. Heck, the worry might even be greater now because they have adult problems for me to worry about. They're all married to amazing partners and have proven themselves to be excellent humans, yet still I worry.

I wonder what their debt ratio is? How's their marriage going? Do they enjoy their careers? Is their house being well maintained? Are they vigilant and safe drivers? The list goes on.

Then just when you feel like you are coming to a place of managing the worry, grandchildren start appearing and the cycle starts all over again.

Are they being bullied at school? Do I need to go beat up some other kid's parent for raising a jerk? Along

with an endless list of other unhelpful questions.

The guilt comes in to play because, to a large degree, this kind of worry betrays a lack of trust in the work you did as a parent to lay a solid foundation. There is plenty of evidence to the contrary—all of our kids are amazing people. If you know them, you know I am right.

So why worry? Because this is who I am.

I'd like to think that being in a constant state of

worry is a bit of a super-power. Like Peter Parker's Spidey-sense I am always vigilant to what is going around me, how I may have contributed and what I can do to mitigate it.

I'm sure it would be healthier if I could relax a little and trust that things will work out. I'll try to give it a shot and see what happens ... but then I wonder: will the readers connect with this? What if they don't? What if they don't like this column? Could I have written it better ...

"GUILT AND WORRY ARE OFTEN FOUND HAND IN HAND STROLLING THROUGH THE MYRIAD PATHWAYS OF THE MIND ..."

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

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

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

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Frank James honoured with Presidents' Council Award

By Ashleigh Viveiros

A retired Northlands Parkway Collegiate custodian is the recipient of this year's Manitoba School Board Association (MSBA) Presidents' Council Award for his dedication to his school community.

Garden Valley School Division trustees presented Frank James with the award at a special celebration at the Winkler high school Monday morning.

Before his retirement in late 2024, James worked at NPC for seven years. He was hired to keep the facility in tip-top shape, but he did so much more, noted principal Donovan Giesbrecht in addressing the assembled student body.

"It only takes two minutes in a conversation with Mr. James to realize what he was really trying to do, what his real job here was: encouraging students and staff to find their hope, to find their passion, and to find their purpose."

James truly went above and beyond in his time at NPC, and it made his nomination stand out, shared GVSD board chair Leah Klassen, who also serves as a vice-president with the MSBA.

"This year, our association had a record number of applicants for our Presidents' Council Award. There were many inspired and worthy nominations," she said.

In selecting James, the nomination

committee found someone "whose quiet passion and unwavering commitment to students has left a lasting imprint on the entire school community," Klassen continued. "He embodies the very spirit of Garden Valley School Division's mission by creating an environment where every student is seen, valued, and supported.

"Mr. James built genuine relationships with students, taking the time to listen," she said. "His deep appreciation for art became a bridge to connect people, often purchasing art supplies with his own resources so students could explore their creativity.

"Whether sitting in The Commons to offer a listening ear, cheering from the sidelines at sporting events, or offering a steady voice of encouragement during difficult times, Mr. James became a trusted adult mentor to countless students."

Gr. 11 student Chantelle Reimer reflected on the huge impact James made during his time at NPC.

"There aren't enough words to describe how thoughtful and caring Frank is. He a light in a dark room," she said, noting he was always there to talk with any teen who needed a listening ear. "I think everyone here could agree that Frank was more than just a custodian. He was a friend, and one of the greatest friends ever.

"Frank, I hope you know everyone here at the school loves and appreciates everything you have done for



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Garden Valley School Division chair Leah Klassen presented former Northlands Parkway Collegiate custodian Frank James with the Manitoba School Board Association's President's Council Award for his dedication to the school community.

this school."

For his part, James said he felt called to this role.

"I always looked forward to coming to work each day, not necessarily for the work I had to do but for the friendships I gained with the kids and staff," he said.

James shared that he had a difficult home life as a teen. It gave him a point of connection with students who were going through similar challenges.

"My heart goes out to them. I tried to befriend them, love them, encourage them, and try to set them on the right path," he said. "Sometimes telling them that you truly understand where they are coming from goes a long way. And they also need to know

that they are loved and you are praying for them.

"Being a Christian, my heart was telling me: 'What would Jesus do?'" James continued, noting his time at NPC "provided me with many opportunities to share my faith.

"As the years went by, challenges changed, new problems came up, new friendships developed, and some kids' lives changed for the better. The kids and I shared times of joy and anger, tears, love, faith, mourning, celebration, and even the odd dad joke—okay, a lot of dad jokes.

"I never thought that I would ever go back to school, but I must say: I think I learned a lot more the second time around."

Run to End Endo takes place in Morden June 6

By Lorne Stelmach

Everyone likely knows someone with endometriosis, as it affects two million Canadians, but many people don't know much about it and have never even heard of it.

A group of Manitobans are wanting to change that with Endometriosis Network Canada's new annual Run to End Endo June 6 in Morden Park.

This community event invites walkers and runners of all ages to come together in support of those living with the chronic illness, and it will follow a scenic route through Morden with a five or two kilometre loop.

Raising not only funds but awareness is important to Morgan Wall. The 29-year-old has been dealing with the pain of endo since she was about 12 years old.

"I will be going for my fifth endometriosis surgery this upcoming year," she shared, reflecting on how hard it was to get a diagnosis. "It took me about nine years ... after an emergency surgery had taken place, I was officially diagnosed after I had about a 10 centimetre cyst rupture on my left ovary.

"Before that, I wasn't really taken very seriously by any doctors. I was just often told to just go home and take some Tylenol and that this is just part of being a woman. But it wasn't just part of being a woman.

"Now, with symptoms and scans, you are actually able to get diagnosed earlier, which is huge for people with endometriosis," Wall said. "It's definitely becoming more aware in the field. People are practicing and re-

searching it, which has been so helpful for those of us who have endometriosis."

People with endometriosis can suffer severe menstrual pain, chronic pelvic pain, and infertility. They often feel alone in dealing with their disease due to lack of awareness and understanding or even dismissal of their symptoms.

Wall noted the day-to-day impact that it has on her.

"I usually have about one bad week out of a month, whereas before I was treated, I would have one good week a month."

And she noted how the pain even goes down into her legs.

"So I usually can't walk on my bad days. My stomach is usually very distended, sore, very, very bloated like it

hurts to touch," she said. "And usually it's back pain. I deal with chronic kidney issues as well.

It means she is not able to work full time, down to four days a week.

"For every person, it's different," Wall said. "It's not really even just like a pelvic disease. It's really like a full body disease, and that's really what is now being researched ... it's not just a gynecological disease. It's everywhere."

OUTPOURING OF SUPPORT

Pembina Valley run director Barb Graham said they were encouraged by the response when they floated the idea to have an event in this region.

Winkler youth clinches first at Showcase of Magic

By Ashleigh Viveiros

A Winkler youth wowed the judges at the 37th annual Young Magicians of Manitoba (YMM) Showcase of Magic May 2, winning the first-place trophy for his age group.

Nine-year-old Kolbyn Potter has been part of YMM for the past three years, heading into Winnipeg every other Saturday for a morning of magical education. This was his first time winning the Junior Division for rising magicians age 7-11.

Potter began developing a keen interest in magic tricks a few years ago, watching videos and teaching himself the basics.

"I was watching videos on YouTube of people doing magic," he recalls. "And then I saw Dean Gunnarson and I was like, 'I want to be this guy.'"

Gunnarson is a Canadian escape artist who is renowned for such feats as escaping from a straightjacket while hanging over the Hoover Dam, jumping out of a plane handcuffed, and being buried alive under several tonnes of wet cement.

"I was like, 'I want to do that one day,'" says Potter. "So I started practicing the tricks I saw and I started to get really interested in it."

He was thrilled when his parents found out about YMM's program and enrolled him in it, as it was an opportunity to get together with other magically-inclined kids and learn new tricks to boot.

"I like how I get to meet new people, get to make friends," Potter says.

"We learn at least one or two tricks a day," he adds of the sessions, which are led by experienced magicians.

The program runs in conjunction with the school year, culminating with the Showcase of Magic in May and a group barbecue in June.

At the showcase, Potter did a trick involving a cut rope magically being restored.

"There are a few different ways to do it," he says, though he's mum on the details of his preferred method—a magician never reveals how it's done, after all.

Winning was pretty cool, Potter says, but even more so was who presented him with the award: Gunnarson himself, who Potter had met previously during a tour of Gunnarson's collection of artifacts from the world of magic.

That was an amazing visit, Potter shares, excitedly rattling off some of the props he got to see from Gunnarson's biggest tricks. He was also thrilled to get a few tips from the master himself.

Potter expects magic will continue to be a big part of his life, though his current career ambition is to become a veterinarian.

"And then when I'm off work I'll be travelling and performing magic," he says.

He encourages other kids to give magic a try.

"They'll get to have lots of fun learning the world and probably making up a bunch of tricks by themselves and trying to wow people."

MENTORING THE NEXT GENERATION

YMM chair Bob Barker shares that the program has been operating since the early '80s. Today it draws a couple dozen kids each year, ranging in age from as young as seven all the way up to 17.

"We teach a trick every week and we give performance tips and then we talk magic and share secrets," he says, noting it's immensely gratifying to see kids like Potter grow in skill and confidence through the years. "For a nine-year-old to get up in front of an audience and not just to speak but actually manipulate something, remember the



SUPPLIED PHOTO BY J. CAREY LAUDER PHOTOGRAPHY

Kolbyn Potter provided lots of oohs and aahs as he magically restored a cut rope for the Showcase of Magic May 2, where he came in first in the Junior Division.

sequence, remember the words, it's quite an accomplishment."

Potter's performance at the showcase really stood out, Barker says.

"The judges are looking at skill level and how well they accomplish the trick. They're looking at audience reaction and their presentation and their originality—did they put their own little spin on it?"

"Kolbyn's was really good. He handled it really nicely and even had a surprising move in there ... he did something I hadn't seen before, so I was really pleased. I don't know where he got that from but I'll have to corner him to find out," he says, laughing. "But it's good to see, because it's the kids who are doing the work at home, practising ... who do a little bit every day to get really good at it. And Kolbyn has that hunger and that desire to succeed. He's doing stuff that some adults can't even do."

You can learn more about Youth Magicians of Manitoba online at youngmagicians.com.



SUPPLIED PHOTO BY J. CAREY LAUDER PHOTOGRAPHY

Potter receives the Showcase of Magic Junior Division trophy, the Oake Rabbit, from escape artist Dean Gunnarson.

SCRL book sale raises \$16,500 for branch special projects

By Voice staff

South Central Regional Library staff have crunched the numbers and announced the April 30 to May 2 book sale sold \$16,500 in used books and related materials.

Ninety volunteers made the sale possible, shares director of library services Gail Hildebrand, working a cumulative 397 hours.

Hildebrand notes that the funds, after expenses, are earmarked to support special projects across SCRL's locations, including a new teen programming room at the Winkler library, storage closets and new meeting room furniture in Morden, a new circulation desk in Altona, new furniture in Manitou, and a reading garden in Miami.

News or sports tip? E-mail news@winklermordenvoice.ca or call 204-325-6888

Rosemary Siemens performs at U.S. National Day of Prayer in D.C.

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Plum Coulee native Rosemary Siemens and her husband Eli Bennett made history last week by becoming the first Canadians to perform at the National Day of Prayer in Washington, D.C.

The 75th annual gathering at the U.S. Capitol took place May 7, and Siemens and Bennett were there singing a song she had written for the occasion years earlier in faith that this lifelong dream would one day come true.

"Eight years ago, I wrote a song called 'Path of Prayer.' It quickly became the most requested song in our live shows, but I never released it," Siemens shared. "For years, I would watch the National Day of Prayer and feel so strongly that I was supposed to wait, that this song was meant to be performed there. I even told Eli years ago that I believed we would play it at that event one day. It truly felt like God had a specific moment for it."

The opportunity became a reality this February when the musical duo were performing at the Synergize religious conference in Orlando, Florida.

"Leaders from around the world, church leaders, were there, and we were invited to play," said Siemens.

Also on hand was Kathy Branzell, president of the National Day of Prayer Task Force. After hearing Siemens and Bennett perform, and learning of their interest in being part of the National Day of Prayer, Branzell issued them an invitation.

"It was just such an honour. It was amazing," Siemens said. "To have that dream fulfilled was totally a God thing."

Siemens sees the event as a truly unifying one, where people from all political affiliations gather to seek wisdom from a higher source.

"To have both sides come together for prayer in the highest government in the U.S. is pretty significant, especially with all the turmoil now," she said. "Just to hope to bring unity through God and focusing our attention on prayer and the power of prayer is just pretty significant."

"To have a song like 'Path of Prayer' there, I think was just God's perfect timing."

The experience exceeded Siemens' expectations. Entering the Capitol Building and making their way through the National Statuary Hall left them in awe of the history of the place.

"It is actually the first place where the U.S. government ever met, so it's very significant," Siemens said. "And the acoustics were so unbelievable."

"To have that honour, and it just has such a reverence in there. It was more than I could have ever imagined, honestly."

Siemens' parents, Jack and Mary Siemens, came out from Plum Coulee to watch her perform, as did her three kids.

"It was so special to have them all there," Siemens said. "It was one of those moments where you're like, 'I can't actually believe that I'm here.' I



Rosemary Siemens and Eli Bennett were the first Canadians to ever perform at the National Day of Prayer gathering in Washington, D.C. earlier this month.

SUPPLIED PHOTO

come from this little small town. It's only through God—He ordained the steps to that moment."

Siemens and Bennett, who make their home in B.C., are looking forward to coming back to Manitoba for a stretch this summer, and to performing a church benefit concert at the Winkler concert hall in fall.

"It's my favourite place to come," Siemens said. "We usually try and come home for a month and spend

time on the farm and spend time with family.

"It's very important for me to have the boys kind of being raised on the farm, feeling that sense of my home and farming and hard work and country living. I want them to experience that. Honestly, it's their favourite place to go."

You can stay up-to-date on the details of their upcoming performances at rosemarysiemens.com.

Two facing charges after altercation at Morris General Hospital

By Voice staff

Two people are facing a litany of charges in connection with an incident at the Morris hospital last week.

On the afternoon of May 5, RCMP received a report that an armed man was threatening a woman inside the Morris General Hospital.

Police learned two women had been arguing inside the hospital when a man who was with one of them flashed a handgun at the other. The two suspects then left the building.

Minutes later, RCMP received a report that a pickup truck had collided with a highway sign on Highway 75, just north of Morris. The vehicle was subsequently abandoned and two individuals were seen fleeing the scene on foot.

Officers from St. Pierre-Jolys and Police Dog Services joined in the search for the suspects, who were found walking on Main Street in Morris. Both were arrested.

A replica handgun was located by RCMP service dog Sega a short distance away.

A 20-year-old man from Plum Coulee has been charged with assault with a weapon, possession of a weapon for a dangerous purpose, carrying a concealed weapon, using an imitation firearm in the commission of an offence, and two counts of failing to comply with a probation order. He

was remanded into custody.

A 39-year-old Emerson woman faces charges of possession of a weapon for a dangerous purpose, resisting arrest, and causing a disturbance. She was expected to be released on an undertaking.

> ENDO WALK, FROM PG. 7

"The outpouring from the community has been amazing ... realizing how many of our community members have endometriosis is crazy, so this now will become an annual thing because it is needed out here."

She noted it is estimated that one in ten people are dealing with endome-

triosis.

"So the statistics are actually quite significant, so that's why it's so crazy that it's not heard of as much as it should be," Graham said.

"We are so excited about the conversation that has been generated with this announcement. There is an entire community of women who understand the uniqueness and

struggles of endometriosis. To be able to connect them and to have the communities they live and work in come together in support of them is truly life changing for every woman who has ever felt the loneliness that comes with this."

You can register for the Morden run at tinyurl.com/Mordenendorun.

The Haileys to perform at Manitou Opera House May 30

By Lorne Stelmach

A rocking tribute concert is also going to be raising support for the Manitou Opera House Foundation.

The show by The Haileys will be the headline act for the annual foundation endowment concert May 30, and the group that includes members from Manitou and Morden will be doing a tribute to Joan Jett and the Blackhearts as well as their own original music.

Featuring Manitou's own Hailey Hunter, this band is known for gritty riffs, catchy choruses, and an electric stage presence. Opening for them is local group The Asters, featuring Denise Howatt, Delaney Smith, Olivia Bamford, and Hallie Loutchan.

"They're really hitting the rock and roll scene in Winnipeg running," said representative Lindy Sharpe, noting the show will be hosted by well known radio and music personality Howard Mandshein.

Consisting of Hailey Legary on guitar and vocals, Hunter on bass and vocals, and Haley Matiation on drums and percussion, The Hailey's draw from classic rock, punk, pop and folk influences to create a sound led by gritty guitar, catchy choruses and driving rhythm.

Hunter connected with Legary when she was about 18, and they would do things like open mic nights in the city. Calling themselves The Haileys seemed like a natural choice for a name.

"As we got more familiar with the live music scene in Winnipeg, we thought we should just make a band, but we thought there was no chance we would find another Hailey," Hunter shared. "Ever since then, we've been gigging pretty regularly in the city, and we got a chance to play in Toronto and open up for The Beaches, which was a huge thing we did last year."

The Haileys have released a record with another one on the way, so they are excited to have forward momentum and are happy to be coming back to support Hunter's home town.

"We're just happy to come back to Manitou because it has a special place in our hearts," she said. "Manitou is such a musical community ... once you move away, you kind of appreciate it even more. I'm really lucky to have grown up there in this way."

They are very much influenced by classic rock and have enjoyed in particular music by artists like Joan Jett, so it is a good fit for this show, which will feature one set of Jett songs and another of their own original music.

"It's been really nice to elevate our skills and learn more about writing our own music. That's something that we're really passionate about," Hunter said. "We're about to release new songs that we did during writing sessions in Toronto. We're really excited about it because it's really elevated our sound ... they'll be coming out over the summer, so it's an exciting time for sure."



SUPPLIED PHOTO

The Haileys—Hailey Hunter, Hailey Legary, and Haley Matiation—perform in Manitou May 30 in support of the opera house endowment fund.

Hunter values the importance of a local venue like the opera house.

"The Manitou Opera House is special. We have connections there obviously. It's a pretty big deal ... the opera house is pretty booked up most of the time with various events going on," she said. "It's a good thing to bring people together ... and to support the young musicians coming out of the area."

As for the show, she hopes people will just have a good time and appreciate the music.

"We love our cover music, and that's why we want to do some songs that everybody knows ... there's lots of people writing their own songs, and it's nice for those to get a chance to shine ... you need to support your local talent," Hunter said. "That's how you hook them in, and then hopefully they like the rest too."

Sharpe said they are always happy to support talent with roots in the area.

"We want to give them a platform ... we're super excited because these are all home town girls."

Fundraising events like this are vital to the historic opera house.

"We are totally run by fundraising for our venue. We don't have any outside dollars coming in ... so we have to have successful concerts and events in order to keep the lights on," Sharpe said.

When they created the opera house endowment fund last spring, they raised over \$44,000. They're hoping to bring in something similar this year.

"Ideally, long term, we will have an endowment fund fundraiser every year ... and it's always there for people to donate throughout the year," said Sharpe. "Ideally, eventually, that endowment fund will highly pay for our operating expenses ... that's our long term goal."

Tickets to the show are available at manitouoperahouse.com/events.

'A Storybook Tea at the Castle' in support of PVHS

By Lorne Stelmach

The Pembina Valley Humane Society is planning a storybook evening in support of its work.

A Storybook Tea at the Castle inspired by Anne of Green Gables takes place at Bella's Castle in Morden the evening of Monday, June 8. Think high tea, live music, a silent auction, and a really good reason to wear something pretty for the night.

Fundraising chairperson Kristina Graham said they wanted to do something that might appeal to a different

sector of the community.

"We wanted to do something that might attract people who enjoy something like going out and maybe bringing the kids or the grandkids out ... enjoy a high tea kind of a cultivated experience," she said. "You get to dress up a little, and you get to enjoy some amazing food that's going to be prepared by Kings Deli."

"It's just about having fun. There's going to be a crafting table where people can make their own floral crowns," Graham noted. "There's

going to be elegant sandwiches and dessert and live classical music. There will be a silent auction, a photo booth, and we're doing an Anne of Green Gables theme, so there will be a contest for the best dressed according to the theme."

Graham noted fundraising is vital to the organization, which has its shelter in Morden but serves a wide area across the Pembina Valley.

"We really couldn't do the work that we do without it," she said.

"We're really hoping for anywhere

between \$15,000 and \$20,000, but we will be happy with whatever the community is able to show up with and support us," Graham said, adding people can also collect pledges to cover their ticket fee. "It allows people to support who perhaps cannot attend but they know their daughter is going perhaps, so they can contribute and be there in spirit."

You can purchase a ticket for \$60 or raise \$100 in pledges to earn your seat at the table. Learn more online at pvhsociety.ca.

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What's *Your* story?



PHOTOS BY RICK HIEBERT/VOICE



Talking wildlife

Rachel Lazarus from the Prairie Wildlife Rehab Centre brought along some feathered and scaly friends for her presentation at the Access Event Centre in Morden May 5, part of the community's Mental Health Week activities. Also on the schedule was a flower crown workshop, free public skating, and a paint night with artist Jen Martens.

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Farm Fest returns June 6

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The countdown is on to Farm Fest 2026.

The music festival returns Saturday, June 6 from 2-9 p.m. on a farmyard just south of Winkler.

Now in its sixth year, the focus of the day remains the same as always: providing an opportunity to hear good music for a good cause.

"That first year the group came and said, 'Hey, this guy needs some money for back surgery, let's do something.' We didn't even call it Farm Fest yet," recalls organizer Betty Hiebert

In the years since, they've held one and sometimes two festivals annually for a range of local causes.

"That's the only reason we do this," Hiebert says, noting they've raised anywhere from \$6,000 all the way up to \$35,000, with thousands of people coming out to enjoy an afternoon and evening of country and gospel music.

This year's lineup includes The Threshermen at 2 p.m., The Porch Brothers at 3 p.m., Dusty Roads Band at 4 p.m., Jacob and Trudy Reimer at 5 p.m., Vic and Linda Wolfe at 6 p.m., Ed Wayne at 7 p.m., and Big City Filter at 8 p.m.

"It's a good variety," says Hiebert. "Starting with gospel and then moving more into country. And then we usually end the evening with something that's more kind of pop, just a fun band in the evening; Big City Filter is going to be amazing."

Admission is free, but as always they will be accepting donations. This year's recipient organization is Hopes Journey Home.

"They're working in building a home in Portage la Prairie for women in crisis pregnancy situations," explains Hiebert. "It's a home where they can live for the duration of their pregnancy in the hopes of having the baby instead of aborting."

Hopes Journey Home rep Glenda Dyck shares they've been working towards this facility for years.

"We had our first prayer meeting seven years ago," she says, explaining the group has its roots with four families who all had connections with the foster care system and saw a keen need for a maternity home that would give women the ability to choose life instead of ending a pregnancy due to a lack of housing options and support.

They broke ground on phase one of



VOICE FILE PHOTO

Farm Fest 2026 takes place south of Winkler on Saturday, June 6.

the five-bedroom home in 2023.

"We've seen God's hand so many times" in the fundraising and building process, Dyck shares. "Now we are almost ready to open."

When it opens later this year, the facility will be available not just to women in the Portage area but across the province, Dyck notes, offering mentorship throughout their pregnancy and transitional support afterwards as well.

"We have a real passion for this," she says. "It is our mission."

They're raising funds not only for future phases of the building project but also the facility's ongoing operations once it opens, Dyck says, noting they have faith that God and the com-

munity will come through for them on that front.

In addition to the music, Farm Fest will also have bouncy castles and face painting for the kids, 50/50 tickets up for grabs, silent auction prizes, a beef raffle draw at 7 p.m., and food available for purchase from Hopes Journey Home's own food truck.

To take in the festival, head 1.5 miles south on 14th St. until you see driveway #10090. There will be signs up to guide you to parking. Bring a lawn chair or blanket to sit on.

If you've not been before, Hiebert says you're in for a treat.

"It's a fun, outdoor family day. If you like music, just come listen and give to a good cause."

A Warm Welcome to New McDonald's Owners, the Einarson Family!



It gives us great pleasure to welcome **Dave Einarson and his family** as the new owners of the Winkler and Morden McDonald's restaurants.

Dave brings an extraordinary wealth of experience to this new chapter, celebrating a remarkable 35-year career with McDonald's this year. Having spent 30 years with McDonald's Canada and five years working alongside a franchisee, Dave's journey is a testament to his passion for the brand. Throughout his career, he has found success by consistently prioritizing people and striving to deliver an unmatched guest experience.

Dave, along with his wife and their four children, is eager to become an active and supportive presence within the Winkler and Morden communities. For the

Einarson family, this transition represents a commitment to being more than local business owners but true community partners.

Dave is committed to hiring the best, training the best, and remaining relentless in his pursuit of enhancing the guest experience for everyone who walks through the doors.

Please join us in wishing Dave and his family every success as they embark on this exciting new adventure.



Garden Valley releases AI guidelines for students, staff

By Ashleigh Viveiros

As the artificial intelligence (AI) revolution continues, Garden Valley School Division (GVSD) is making sure its staff and students are prepared.

The Winkler division recently drafted its first set of guidelines for AI use in local schools.

"It's not, 'Are we going to use AI one day?' It's here, and it's not going away," said Susana Hawryshko, GVSD technology education coordinator. "Kids are using it at home and some are using it at school already."

AI use has exploded in recent years, and the division felt it was time to lay out clear expectations for teachers and students alike.

"Academic integrity was a huge component of it. Now that students are using AI, what does that look like?" said Hawryshko, stressing there is concern about kids becoming overly dependent on AI in their studies.

AI is becoming embedded in so many programs that you may well be using it without even realizing it, she noted.

"Lots of the tools kids are using, they can quickly put in a prompt on the side and create an image," she said, listing other examples such as asking your phone a question

and having it scour the web for an answer, or having a program summarize a lengthy piece of writing to make for a quicker read.

All this is changing how kids learn and how teachers need to design lesson plans and assess student learning.

"Kids today have grown up with phones in their hands all the time and AI already in use, without really calling it that," said Hawryshko. "So teaching has evolved, too. It's changing in the classrooms."

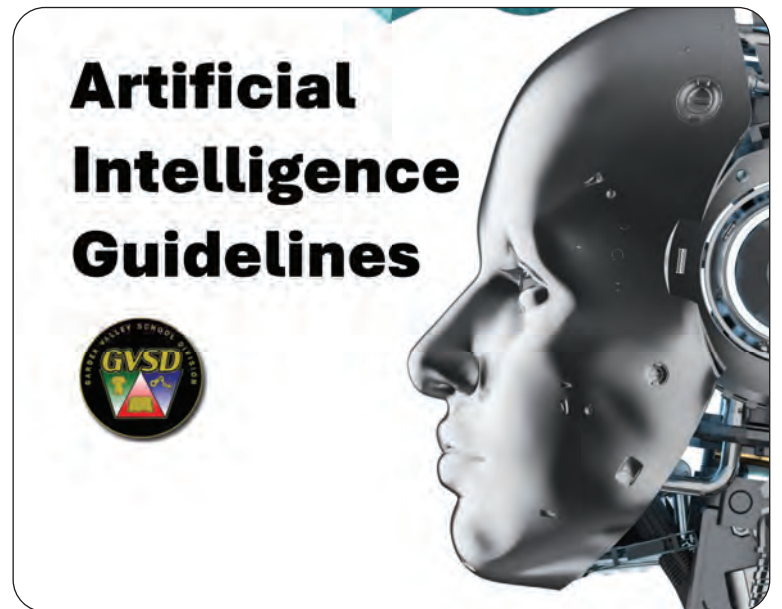
The provincial government is currently drafting AI guidelines, but GVSD decided to get ahead of the matter and create their own, drawing on resources from divisions in other parts of the country.

"We can't keep waiting—these questions about AI use are coming up all the time," Hawryshko

said. "So we decided to begin with something and then if we have to change it, we can change it. We're doing the best we can with the knowledge we have right now."

Over the past year, Hawryshko came up with a rough draft of the guidelines and then consulted with school administrators and teachers for feedback multiple times en route to the finished docu-

"IT'S NOT, 'ARE WE GOING TO USE AI ONE DAY?' IT'S HERE, AND IT'S NOT GOING AWAY."



GVSD.CA

GVSD new AI Guidelines can be found at gvsd.ca.

ment, which was presented to GVSD's board of trustees last month.

Continued on page 14

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PHOTOS BY
ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE
From left: Cutting the ribbon on the new CrystalSpar Ltd. store last week was Akki Adya, Morden Mayor Nancy Penner, owner Anjali Adya, Morden Chamber executive director Clare Agnew, and Amit Adya

Cutting the ribbon on Crystal Spar Ltd.

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Morden's newest downtown business is committed to helping its customers find balance, well-being, and spiritual growth.

CrystalSpar Ltd. cut the ribbon on its location at 301B Stephen St. (beside Coffee Culture) May 6.

The metaphysical shop sells a variety of crystals and related accessories/decor and also offers Reiki, crystal healing, and anxiety relief sessions as well as past life regressions and Tarot readings.

Owner Anjali Adya says the business has been a longtime dream for her.

"I've always wanted to create spaces where people can just come and connect with themselves," she says. "This is the place they can do that. It's not just about beautiful crystals; crystals help us do that, but this is also just where they can come and be themselves."

Adya believes strongly in the power of crystals to bring balance to one's life.

"Energy healing is not something everybody's aware of, but it is so essential for everyone," she says.

"We are all energy. We are made up of trillions and trillions of cells, and we keep on vibrating, but our energy is so unstable," Adya explains. "So we need to balance it out."

"I've always been into healing. I think that's what the purpose of my life is, to heal," she says, adding that she gets a great deal of satisfaction out of serving as a guide for people as they navigate their feelings en route to connecting with themselves. "It's really beautiful."

Mayor Nancy Penner and Morden Chamber executive director Clare Agnew were on hand to help Adya cut the ribbon.

"Not only another new business in Morden but a woman entrepreneur is exciting to see open up in town," said Penner, offering her congratulations to Adya. "Wishing you all success going forward in the future. It's exciting the opportunities that you offer."

You can learn more at crystalspar.com.

> AI GUIDELINES, FROM PG. 13

It includes ten core principles designed to support safe, ethical, and effective use of artificial intelligence, focusing on things like AI literacy, integrity, transparency and accountability, ethical use and privacy, sound pedagogy, inclusivity and equity, continuous learning, critical thinking, consistency, and environmental impact.

The document further breaks down appropriate and inappropriate use of AI for all grade levels and staff, with posters schools can put up outlining key talking points.

"The overarching principle is that AI should serve as a tool to enhance learning and productivity, not as a substitute for a person's own effort, learning, or judgment," the document stresses.

GVSD's AI guidelines will be reviewed periodically to ensure they stay up to date with emerging technologies and tools, new pedagogical research and practices, and feedback from staff, students, and parents.

You can check out the full document online at www.gvsd.ca/students_and_families/a_i_guidelines.



Public Notice is hereby given that Enbridge Pipelines Inc. (Enbridge) intends to conduct the following Pesticide Program from June 1, 2026 – November 15, 2026, to control noxious weeds on Enbridge ROW's, temporary workspaces, stations, and various facilities along the Enbridge Mainline and Bakken corridors.

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- Aminopyralid
- Propyzamide
- Indaziflam
- Chlorsulfuron
- Fluroxypyr
- Aminocyclopyrachlor
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- Metsulfuron-methyl
- Picloram
- Mecoprop-P
- Adjuvant

Any person may, within 15 days after the notice is published, send a written/email submission to the department below, regarding the control program or register with the department their written objection to the use of pesticide next to their property.

Environment and Climate Change
Environmental Approvals Branch
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Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3Y 0L6
pesticideusepermit@gov.mb.ca

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Riding the wave of light



Northlands Parkway Collegiate came together May 5 for the Wave of Light Pops Concert featuring a host of performances from the Winkler high school's band and choir students (above, left), artwork from the visual arts classes (right, top), and tasty treats from the culinary arts department (right). The cosmetology program also offered buzz cuts and manicures to help raise funds. Proceeds from the night went to CancerCare Manitoba.

PHOTOS BY KEAN REDHEAD/VOICE



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Rethinking farm financing with a cash advance

Thinking about your cash flow and financing plans for this growing season? If you're looking for a way to stretch your operating dollars a bit further, it might be time to take a closer look at a cash advance from CCGA.

Canadian Canola Growers Association offers below-prime farm financing with the Advance Payments Program (APP) cash advance. The 2026 advance includes up to \$1 million in total financing. The first \$250,000 is interest-free on all commodities, plus an additional \$250,000 interest-free on canola. Any additional interest-bearing amount is at CCGA's rate of prime less 0.25%.

"For those who haven't taken a cash advance before, this year is a good time to consider it, given how costs continue to increase," says Dave Gallant, Vice-President, Finance & APP Operations at CCGA. "Farmers can significantly reduce financing costs, saving thousands to tens of thousands of dollars annually."

Cash advances are available on over 50 commodities, including all major field crops, honey, and large and small livestock, and offer flexibility on how the funds are used.

"Put an advance to work in whatever way works best on your farm: finance your operating costs, buy fuel, fertilizer, or feed, make necessary equipment repairs, or complete maintenance and upgrades," says Gallant. "It's easy to see why over 10,000 western Canadian farmers come to CCGA every year."

New customers can get their application started in as little as 20 minutes by calling 1.866.745.2256, and the CCGA team can guide farmers through the steps. Returning customers can call or apply online.

"With so many farmers taking advantage of the program each year, streamlining has been a priority," says Gallant. "Reapplying is easier than ever with a CCGA online account. It's only a matter of reviewing and updating your information."

Gallant says he also hears from customers how easy it is to apply. "CCGA's been serving farmers for over 40 years, and we've worked hard to evolve how we do things to meet their needs."

To learn more or get started on your cash advance, visit ccga.ca/cash

The Advance Payments Program is a federal program administered by CCGA. It offers Canadian farmers marketing flexibility through interest-free and low-interest cash advances.

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Programme de paiements anticipés



Helping babies communicate through ASL

By Holly Thorne-Wiebe

A new program at the Altona branch of the South Central Regional Library is helping parents and babies connect through communication long before a child can speak their first words.

This spring, the library launched ASL for Babies, a weekly program led by library clerk Michelle McLaughlin that introduces parents and caregivers to basic American Sign Language signs they can use with their infants or toddlers.

McLaughlin said the inspiration came from her own experience teaching sign language to her children when they were babies.

"Babies can understand language before they have the verbal skills to speak," she said. "They're social creatures and they want to communicate with you."

The idea behind baby sign language is simple: giving babies a way to express basic needs and emotions through signs before they are able to form words verbally.

McLaughlin said she first discovered the value of sign language with her oldest son after a frustrating mo-

ment at home when he became upset but could not explain why.

"It took me a significant amount of time to figure out that his favourite toy had gone under the couch," she said. "The first sign I taught him was 'help.' He used that for so many things and it was so handy because then he could lower his frustration levels and I could better understand what he needed."

She said the program is designed to create a low-pressure environment for both parents and babies. Sessions are informal, allowing families to visit, practice signs together, and learn at their own pace.

"We just kind of practice and enjoy each other's company," McLaughlin said. "There's no pressure."

Each week, participants receive laminated flash cards featuring the signs covered during the class so families can continue practicing at home.

Katrina Miller, one of the participating parents, said she was interested in the program even though her daughter is only four months old.

"I figured it was a great opportunity," Miller said. "As she gets older, if I can help her with sign language, then

hopefully she'll get less frustrated before she starts working on using her words."

Miller said she had previously heard positive feedback from friends who used baby sign language with their own children and



PHOTO BY HOLLY THORNE-WIEBE/VOICE

Altona library clerk Michelle McLaughlin (right) demonstrates an American Sign Language sign at the library's ASL for Babies course.

was interested in the communication benefits it could provide.

Another parent in the class, who has been signing with her son since he was four or five months old, said she has already noticed signs of understanding and communication development.

"He has a pretty big vocabulary now," she said. "I think maybe it's helping form his understanding of the world."

McLaughlin said many parents already instinctively understand their babies' non-verbal cues, and ASL can help strengthen that communication further.

"It's a way to lessen the frustration

between 'I know what I want, but I can't communicate it with you'," she said.

Although turnout for the inaugural program has been smaller than hoped, McLaughlin said she would like to offer the class again in the fall or winter when families may be looking for more indoor activities.

For her, the biggest takeaway is helping parents and babies feel more connected.

"Teaching your baby ASL, even if it's just the most simple, basic signs, is such a great way to communicate with your baby," she said. "And it's fun. Why wouldn't you want to learn it?"

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Fire at Altona Chicken Chef

Emergency crews were called to Altona's Chicken Chef Sunday morning after a fire broke out. The blaze was contained to the kitchen area, which sustained minor damage, and was quickly extinguished, Altona Rhineland Emergency Services share. No one was injured.

PHOTO BY EDWARD VINCENT ARCANAL/VOICE



Mothers Matter Canada Awards open for nominations

By Lorne Stelmach

An initiative is aiming to draw attention to the many important roles played by mothers, and it is at the same time lamenting that federal funding cutbacks have brought an end to a partnership with a local organization.

Mothers Matter Canada has opened nominations for the 2026 Because Mothers Matter awards, which

is a national campaign celebrating the mothers and mother figures who quietly hold families and communities together, with a particular focus on newcomers, refugees, and Indigenous women whose contributions so often go unrecognized.

Over the past six years, Mothers Matter Canada had worked with Regional Connections in Winkler in supporting nearly 177 mothers and their families with access to in-home early childhood educa-

tion programs. Unfortunately, federal government funding was cut for the partnership.

"We loved our partnership with Regional Connections. I think that the work they do for newcomers and in the Winkler area is so critical," said Amy Robichaud, CEO of Mothers Matter Canada.

Continued on page 19



SPRING

Home and garden TLC time

From Escarpment to Backyard: Spring Renewal in Winkler and Morden

As the snow retreats from the Pembina Escarpment, the twin cities of Winkler and Morden undergo a vibrant transformation. In this corner of the Pembina Valley, spring is a season of strategic renewal, where the rich agricultural heritage of the region meets modern outdoor living.

For local gardeners, patience is the priority. While the urge to plant is strong, the "Escarpment effect" can bring unpredictable frosts. Focus first on soil health; nourishing beds with organic compost is vital for the heavy clay soil common in Winkler. Cold-hardy heroes like radishes, spinach, and the iconic Prairie Crocus can be settled now, while tropical varieties must wait for the consistent warmth of June.

Beyond the garden, spring is prime time for structural construction. Building a deck or pergola is a popular way to embrace the valley views. However, Morden's soil requires precision; ensuring footings are set below the frost line is critical to preventing heave. Current trends emphasize "Indoor-Outdoor Fluidi-

ty," using composite decking and glass railings to create seamless transitions from the living room to the backyard. Integrating cedar privacy screens provides a modern aesthetic and a sturdy framework for climbing vines.

The community spirit is palpable during this time, from the anticipation of Morden's multi-city yard sales to the meticulous preparation of the local golf courses and public parks.

Whether you are renovating a character home in Morden or landscaping a new build in a growing Winkler subdivision, the goal is the same: creating a sanctuary that thrives in our Zone 3 climate. As the blossoms begin to appear, take inspiration from the natural beauty of the Pembina Valley to build a space that celebrates the arrival of the sun.

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-  **MAY 22-23**
-  **JUNE 19-20**
-  **JULY 3-4**
-  **JULY 17-18**
-  **AUGUST 7-8**
-  **AUGUST 28-29**

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> MOTHERS MATTER, FROM PG. 17

The HIPPY (Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters) helped newcomer parents of pre-schoolers prepare their children for school with weekly home visits and monthly group activities. It currently has 70 families taking part.

Regional Connections executive director Steve Reynolds shared the program will graduate its final cohort this June. Its end will be a real loss to the families who participated.

"HIPPY has been a great program," Reynolds said. "We launched it in 2020 with the support of Mothers Matters, and I believe we were the first rural HIPPY site in Canada.

"It was a great fit in our smaller communities because the target demographic is definitely a reality here: newcomer mothers of preschoolers who are isolated due to transporta-

tion barriers, weather, and lack of social connections," he said, noting the agency will do what it can to connect families to other supports available in the community moving forward.

"We were really devastated by the funding cut," said Robichaud, lamenting the fact it means dozens of mothers and families will now go "without support that was measurably and tangibly helping them to build their lives and to become integrated into the community and the economy and to help those mothers support themselves."

Robichaud has become a leading voice on the gendered impacts of poverty and isolation and is currently focused on federal funding cuts to the settlement sector that threaten essential programs for mothers and families.



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Mothers Matter Canada had partnered with Regional Connections to support its HIPPY (Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters) program the past few years, but federal funding cuts means it will end this June. Above: Graduates from a past program year.

Paying it forward



SUPPLIED PHOTO

The Winkler Community Foundation kicked off Pay It Forward May by treating their office complex neighbours to a barbecue lunch last week. "Be A Good Neighbour" to us means feeding our neighbours and getting to know our business neighbours," said community development coordinator Bev Wiebe, encouraging everyone to look for ways to share kindness in the weeks ahead as Pay It Forward May continues.

She has represented Canada at the UN high level political forum on sustainable development, served as national chair of the Women's Liberal Commission and is a former weekly contributor to The Early Edition on CBC.

Mothers Matter Canada is a national charitable organization dedicated to breaking the cycle of social isolation and economic vulnerability for mothers and their children. Through at-home programs and social innovations, it supports thousands of families each year, equipping vulnerable mothers, especially newcomers, refugees and Indigenous women, with the confidence, skills and community connections they need to thrive.

Robichaud emphasized the work of mothering rarely makes headlines, and it almost never gets thanked.

Recognition doesn't undo the isolation and economic vulnerability so many mothers face, but it is a meaningful place to begin, and when a mother's contributions are named out loud, she is reminded that she is seen and valued.

"Mothers Matter Canada exists to support mothers who are facing the most extreme circumstances and difficulties," she said.

"So this is all about honouring the

work that rarely ever makes headlines. We know instinctively that so much of the work that mothers do, so much of mothering, is done without recognition, without notice," she said.

"So much of our communities, of our economy, when things go well, mothers are quietly really laboriously working in the background to hold families together, to make sure food is put on the table, to make sure the kids are ready for school ... and mothers are working."

That is where the Because Mothers Matter awards come in, and they are designed to be a celebration of mothers and a growing national archive of maternal stories told by the people whose lives they've shaped.

The awards are free and open to all, but there is also an invitation to donate with the hopes that Mothers Matter Canada can bring back programs like the Regional Connections program in Winkler, noted Robichaud.

Now in its second year, the awards built on a 2025 pilot that recognized 618 mothers across Canada.

Nominations are open now until May 31 at bmmawards.ca. Every nominee receives a personalized award and is entered to win a prize package.

"THIS IS ALL ABOUT HONOURING THE WORK THAT RARELY EVER MAKES HEADLINES ... SO MUCH OF MOTHERING IS DONE WITHOUT RECOGNITION, WITHOUT NOTICE."

sports & recreation



Baseball, softball seasons underway



PHOTOS BY
KEEAN REDHEAD/VOICE

The high school baseball and softball seasons are well underway. Last week, the Northlands Parkway Collegiate varsity girls team downed the Garden Valley Collegiate Zodiacs 8-2 and 7-0 in a Wednesday night double-header (above, left). On the boys' side, the W.C. Miller College Aces hosted their All-In Baseball Classic Friday and Saturday, with games in both Altona and Morden. Above: GVC squared off against the Morden Thunder in this Friday morning game. Here, Zodiac Gavin Buhler slides in safely under the tag by Morden second baseman Ocean Fehr. Morden took it 5-3. Winning the 12-team tournament were the Steinbach Regional Sabres, who bested the hosting Aces 8-4 in the championship match.

ABOVE PHOTO BY RICK HIEBERT/VOICE

Race season begins May 22-23 at Dead Horse Creek Speedway

By Lorne Stelmach

The roar of the engines will be heard again at Dead Horse Creek Speedway, and the Valley Motorsports Association is excited to get racing underway for a fourth season at the track west of Morden.

President Chris Unrau said they are

excited to be more established now that they have a few seasons under their belts, and they're eager to continue to grow.

"We get a lot of very, very positive feedback from the racers ... what they like about Dead Horse Creek and the environment and the people. They just love a community that embrac-

es racing," said Unrau. "Motorsports isn't for everyone ... this definitely attracts the gear heads and motorsports people."

The association has six weekends of racing planned for the summer.

It all kicks off May 22-23 with the Bobcat Battle of the Creek sponsored by Duron Equipment. That's followed June 19-20 with the McNaught Cadillac Cup and July 3-4 with the Greenville Equipment GVE Deere Run, which will include an air show by Luke Penner on the Saturday night

A new race event is set for July 17-18 sponsored by Elmer's Manufacturing. It will be a doubleheader with the Northern Late Model Racing Association.

"That will bring in the best of the best in the whole northern plains region ... so we're looking forward to some really good competitive late model racing that weekend," said Unrau.

The season continues with the Harvest Classic Aug. 7-8 (another new event) and the Proven Seed King of the Corn Aug. 28-29, with the NLRA also back on Aug. 29.

Unrau said they are optimistic about the season ahead and the support and volunteer response.

"We're just always amazed by the response that we've had from the community, from businesses, and from people who want to volunteer and racers and fans. It just seems to be really gaining momentum, and we're really excited about it."

He noted they have a good fire and safety crew in place with the use of a couple response vehicles, donated gear, and volunteer firefighters standing by to use it.

And Unrau is optimistic the track will be in good shape this weekend and beyond.

"As far as the weather goes, you're always dealt different curve balls, so this year, with the cool weather that we've had, it just really slowed down getting things ready, so we hadn't been able to do a whole lot out at the track until this past week ... there was a big push on to get things ready."

More information is available online at deadhorsecreekspeedway.ca.



VOICE FILE PHOTO

Opening weekend at the Dead Horse Creek Speedway is May 22-23.

Morden's LeGall soaking in playoff run with WHL's Silvertips

By Kieran Reimer

It's been quite the couple of seasons of hockey for Morden's Raiden LeGall.

Just a year and a half ago, he was playing at the Junior 'A' level for the Niverville Nighthawks of the Manitoba Junior Hockey League.

A 2.46 goals-against average, a .921 save percentage and two shutouts through 15 games early in the 2024-25 season then earned him a call-up to the Western Hockey League's Everett Silvertips.

A strong start there landed him a full-time job with the team, which saw him take over the crease as the club's starting netminder throughout the remainder of the season and playoffs.

Returning to Everett for 2025-26, LeGall and the team took a step forward, becoming the top-ranked team in the WHL with a 57-8-2-1 regular-season record.

In late March, Everett began its playoff run with the same level of dominance it showed during the regular season, breezing past the first three rounds with series wins over the Portland Winterhawks, Kelowna Rockets and Penticton Vees.

Then last week, the 19-year-old, who went undrafted in the WHL when he was 15, found himself suiting up for Everett in Games 1 and 2 of the WHL Championship series against the Prince Albert Raiders at Angel of the Winds Arena in Everett, Wash.

"It's an unbelievable experience. It's something I dreamed of as a kid, to go this far in the WHL playoffs, so it's been surreal," said LeGall.

The 2025-26 Everett Silvertips season has seen LeGall tend the crease

in 37 games so far, posting a 27-4-3 record with a 2.80 goals-against average, a .892 save percentage and two shutouts.

He has yet to appear in a playoff game as head coach Steve Hamilton currently has 19-year-old Anchorage, Alaska, native Anders Miller holding the starting role.

Miller has also been stellar this season, going 13-1-1 in Everett's 15 playoff games so far.

Though LeGall has been watching from the bench for the last month, the experience of being part of Everett's playoff run is something he's not taking for granted.

"I get to go out there and practice with one of the best teams in all of Canada, so you still get that development and obviously the other option is being at home skating, so it's much better to be here and getting some of the top shots in the world on you," said LeGall.

On Saturday, LeGall watched as Everett downed the Raiders 6-2 in Game 2 to even the best-of-seven series at one win apiece.

He said his mom made it out to both games in Everett, while his grandparents are set to attend Games 3 through 5 at the Art Hauser Centre in Prince Albert, Sask., later this week.

The Silvertips have the greater number of Manitobans between the two teams, with Carter Bear (West St. Paul), Brek Liske (Beausejour), Nolan Chastko (Brandon), Rylan Gould (Headingley) and Reid Nicol (Brandon) also representing the prairie province with Everett.

Prince Albert also has its share of Manitobans on the roster in Hubert Clarke (Norway House) and Brayden Dube (Roblin), making for a total of



PHOTOS BY EVAN MORUD/VOICE

Morden's Raiden LeGall went 27-4-3 with a 2.80 goals-against average, a .892 save percentage and two shutouts in 37 regular-season games for the Everett Silvertips.

eight Manitobans in the series.

While everything is going on in the WHL, LeGall has also kept his eye on Niverville and its historic run through the MJHL finals and into the 2026 Centennial Cup, which began last week.

"It's awesome to see that they're doing well," said LeGall. "They won their second game today. I've got a couple of buddies still on that team, so it's been great to follow along and see how well they're doing."

He added that since joining Everett, he's been able to take the next step in his career, which helped him land an NCAA Division 1 commitment with Minnesota State University, Mankato for next season.

Though he could technically return

to the WHL for one more season, playing at the highest level outside of professional hockey was an opportunity too good to pass up.

He'll report there this summer for his first few practices and some summer classes.

Depending on whether Everett wins the WHL and punches its ticket to the Memorial Cup, his summer could remain jam-packed until he gets some time off in August.

"(I'm looking forward to) getting to work there and going in during the summer for a month and a half to skate there," said LeGall. "It will be a quick turnaround after going home, but I'm really looking forward to getting to work there with the guys and sort of getting to meet everyone."

Southern talent selected for Team Manitoba POE Top-40 camps

By Haley Cvar

Hockey Manitoba announced the selections for its Boys U16 and Women's U18 Program of Excellence Top-40 camps, scheduled for May 21-24 at the Southeast Event Centre in Steinbach. The camps mark the second phase of the Program of Excellence pathway as athletes continue working toward a chance to represent Team Manitoba at the 2027 Canada Winter Games in Quebec City.

The Boys U16 Top-40 camp will feature skills sessions, team-building

activities and inter-squad exhibition games. The group includes 24 forwards, 12 defencemen and four goaltenders selected by Team Manitoba coaching staff and evaluators following the U16 Spring Selection Camp held in Winnipeg earlier this year.

The Women's U18 Top-40 camp will also include skills sessions, team-building activities and inter-squad exhibition games. The roster consists of 23 forwards, 13 defencemen and four goaltenders selected after the Women's U18 Top-68 Camp, which took place in Winnipeg

in February.

Athletes selected to the Top-40 camps will continue to be evaluated as Hockey Manitoba works toward naming the final Team Manitoba rosters for the 2027 Canada Winter Games, set for Feb. 27 to March 14, 2027.

The Canada Winter Games are one of the country's premier multi-sport events and feature top developing athletes from across Canada competing for provincial and territorial teams.

Local players from the Pembina re-

gion include:

Boys U16

- Forward Mason Froese (Winkler)
- Forward Brock Vodden (Manitou)
- Defenceman Andren Paulsen (Oak Bluff)
- Goalie Ethan Radke (Morden)

Women's U18

- Forward Madeline McKay (Oak Bluff)
- Forward Lydia Hill (Miami)
- Forward Casey O'Brien (Stanley)

News or sports tip? E-mail news@winklermordenvoice.ca or call 204-325-6888

Central Energy teams open AAA softball season

By Annaliese Meier

The Central Energy U13 squad opened the 2026 Manitoba Premier AAA Softball League season with a split through its first four games, highlighted by an explosive offensive performance against the Smittys Terminators on May 9.

Central Energy opened the season May 3 against the Manitoba Angels, falling 13-8 in the opener before dropping a 10-7 decision in the second game of the doubleheader. Despite the losses, Central Energy remained competitive offensively against one of the league's early top teams.

The U13 team rebounded on May 9, overpowering the Smittys Terminators 18-2 in the opener before narrowly falling 9-7 in the second game to earn a split on the day.

Central Energy will next face the Eastman Wildcats on May 30 at Friedensfeld Community Centre Diamond 1. The first game is scheduled for 10 a.m., followed by the second game at 12 p.m.

The Central Energy U15 team opened the 2026 Manitoba Premier AAA Softball League season against the Interlake Phillies on May 3 at the Carman Sportsplex North Field.

Central Energy dropped both games of the opening doubleheader, falling 6-3 in the opener before the Phillies secured a 14-4 victory in the second game.



Central Energy's Taylor Wall delivers a pitch against the Interlake Phillies.

Despite the results, Central Energy showed flashes offensively in both contests while gaining early-season experience against one of the league's established programs.

The U15 squad will look to bounce back May 14 when it hosts the Westman Magic for a doubleheader at Republic of Manitobah Diamond 9. First pitch is scheduled for 6 p.m., with the second game to follow at 8 p.m.

The Central Energy U17 team also opened its season on May 10 against the Interlake Phillies in Stonewall.

The Phillies earned a 13-3 victory in the opener before taking the second



PHOTOS BY LANA MEIER/VOICE

Becca Anderson of the Central Energy keeps a Phillies runner close at first base during U17 Manitoba Premier AAA Softball League action in Stonewall on Sunday. Central Energy jumped out to an early lead before the Phillies rallied back to earn the victory in the second game of the doubleheader.

game 15-8 later in the afternoon.

Central Energy will look to bounce back on May 17 when the team hosts the Eastman Wildcats for a doubleheader at LaSalle - Jays Care. The first game is scheduled for 12 p.m., followed by the second contest at 2 p.m.

Meanwhile, the Central Energy U19 team is set to begin its regular season on May 17 with a home doubleheader against the Smittys Terminators at

Quarry Park Diamond 3 in Stonewall.

The opener is scheduled for 12 p.m., with the second game to follow at 2 p.m.

Following the opening weekend, Central Energy will travel to Friedensfeld on May 29 for a pair of games against the Eastman Wildcats at Friedensfeld Community Centre Diamond 1, with first pitches scheduled for 6 p.m. and 8 p.m.

NPC, Rosenort athletes win Fuel Her Future Awards

By Voice staff

Two local athletes have received Fuel Her Future awards from the Manitoba High Schools Athletic Association and Manitoba Pork.

The award celebrates outstanding female high school athletes who are

making an impact both on and off the field.

Earning the honour in the sport of badminton this spring was Northlands Parkway Collegiate Gr. 12 student Taya Wall and Rosenort School Gr. 11 student Emily Waldner.

Wall was lauded for optimizing her role as a student athlete, holding a 96 per cent academic average while also participating in both badminton and track and field. She finished first in two badminton tournaments this season and also competed at provincials. According to her coach, she is a coach's dream because she never misses practice and is often willing to

put in the work to improve her game.

Waldner this season brought home the second girls singles Zone 4 championship banner in her school's history. She also maintains a 92.5 per cent academic average and has made the honour roll every year since she entered high school. Her coaches share that she is an excellent athlete that leads both on and off the court.



SUPPLIED PHOTOS

Taya Wall (left) and Emily Waldner have received Fuel Her Future Awards from the MHSAA and Manitoba Pork.

Hesom impresses at MJT Qualifier

By Annaliese Meier

Morden golfer Darren Hesom finished just one shot off the lead at the MJT Junior Worlds Qualifier presented by Maui Jim, held May 9 and 10 at Kildonan Park Golf Course.

Competing in the Juvenile Boys division, Hesom carded rounds of 74 and 67 for a two-day total of 141 to place third in a tightly contested field

at the Maple Leaf Junior Golf Tour event.

Hunter Oakden of Brandon won the division in a playoff after finishing tied at 140 with Ryder St. Laurent of Île Des Chênes. Oakden posted rounds of 69 and 71, while St. Laurent shot 73 and an impressive 67 in the final round.

The tournament drew a record-setting field of 91 junior golfers.

Province releases healthcare recruitment and retention toolkit for municipalities

By Patricia Barrett

The provincial government launched a toolkit last month to help municipalities recruit and retain healthcare workers.

The toolkit aims to help communities better understand how to recruit physicians, nurses and other healthcare professionals from other regions or from other countries, and support them in their communities over the long term.

Health minister Uzoma Asagwara said the toolkit was developed with municipalities and provides practical tools, best practices and ideas communities are already using to support providers.

“Health care doesn’t stop at the clinic door: it’s built in our communities,” said Asagwara in an April 23 news release. “Across Manitoba, we’re working with local partners to showcase their communities and welcome health-care professionals, support them as they build their careers and help them put down roots.”

Endorsed by the Association of Manitoba Municipalities, and building on strategies municipalities have found successful, the toolkit provides ideas

to showcase a community so that potential recruits get a sense of what it would like to live in a particular community.

Once recruited, the work doesn’t stop. The toolkit says the decision of healthcare providers to stay in a community is “rarely about the job alone.” They must feel connected, and have access to resources such as housing, recreation, childcare, schools and affordability, as well as an ability to make friends and have a sense of belonging. That includes a quality of life for their partners and children.

Communities can tailor strategies to meet the needs of

healthcare professionals coming from overseas or from different provinces, or to students completing a residency.

“Communities that are successful in attracting and retaining healthcare professionals think ahead about housing. That might mean identifying short-term, transitional options for those arriving quickly, or working alongside candidates with longer timelines to help them find permanent housing that fits their needs,” states the toolkit.

“HEALTH CARE DOESN'T STOP AT THE CLINIC DOOR: IT'S BUILT IN OUR COMMUNITIES.”

“Support often goes beyond housing itself. Many communities help new providers navigate the essentials of daily life—how to get around, establishing a bank account, where to set up utilities, how to access reliable internet and mobile services, and what to expect in a Manitoba winter. Small gestures, like guidance on winter readiness or transportation options, can make a big difference in helping someone feel prepared and confident in their new environment.”

Creating a social connection and keeping new medical providers en-

gaged is also a successful strategy. Providers can be introduced to a “local ambassador,” they can be included in social circles and community activities such as sports or cultural events in order to help build “early relationships” and help them feel that they’re part of something bigger.

Each regional health authority has dedicated representatives to help a community recruit healthcare workers.

Visit the toolkit online at makeitmanitoba.ca

Gudmundson up for CJHL MVP Award

By Voice staff

Former Winkler Flyer Niklas Gudmundson is up for another national award.

A week after making the cut as a nominee for the Canadian Junior Hockey League’s Top Forward Award (which ended up going to the CCHL’s Gabriel Le Houillier), the league announced Gudmundson was also in the running for its Most Valuable Player Award.

The 20-year-old earned the Manitoba Junior Hockey League’s MVP Award for a season that saw him contribute 29 goals and 45 assists in 48 games to sit fourth overall in points and eighth in goals and assists. He was second in point-per-game average with his 1.54 stat line.

Gudmundson recently committed to play NCAA D-I hockey next season at



SUPPLIED PHOTO BY RYAN SAWATZKY/MJHL

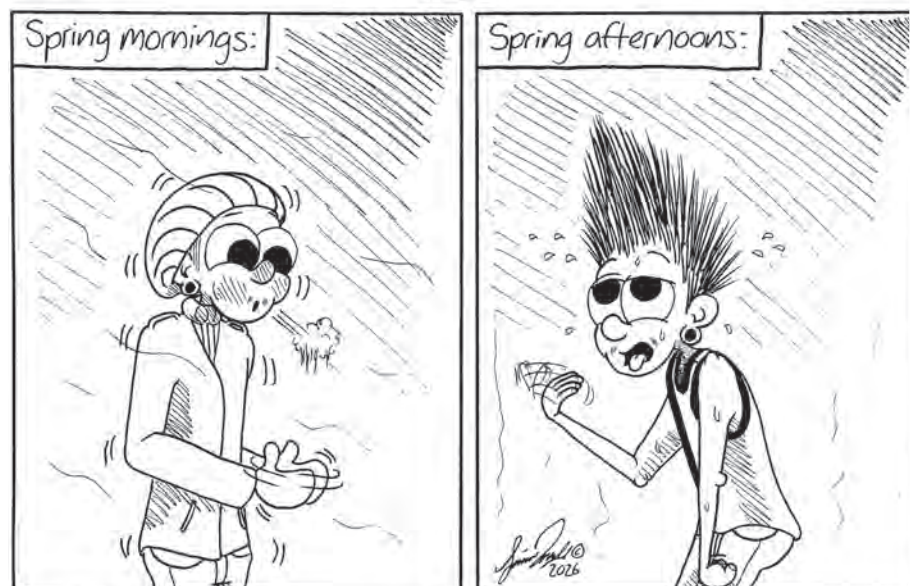
Winkler Flyers forward Niklas Gudmundson is in the running for the CJHL’s Most Valuable Player Award.

Northern Michigan University.

He’s up against four other players from across Canada for the award.

The Funnies

PLANET GARRY By: Garrison Doll ©



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Fun By The Numbers

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PUBLIC NOTICE



PLANNING & INFRASTRUCTURE
Planning & Permitting Department

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

UNDER THE PLANNING ACT

The City of Winkler, under the authority of The Planning Act, will hold a hearing at which time and place the council of the City of Winkler will receive representation from the applicants and any other persons who wish to make representations in respect of the Rezoning Application No. RZ2026-001 and By-law No. 2362-26, being an amendment to Winkler Zoning By-law 2271-21 of the City of Winkler.

The general intent of the above By-Law No. 2362-26, is to zone the land described below, Namely:

legally described as proposed Parcel A, Plan (Deposit No. 1449/2025) MLTO & proposed Parcel A, Plan (Deposit No. 0585/2025) MLTO

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

FROM: "CG" COMMERCIAL GENERAL ZONE & "CH" COMMERCIAL HIGHWAY ZONE

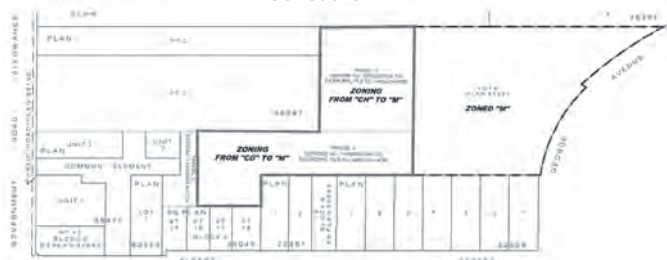
TO: "M" INDUSTRIAL ZONE

A copy of the above By-Law No. 2362-26 and supporting material may be inspected by any persons between the hours of 9:00 AM and 5:00 PM, Monday to Thursday and 9:00 AM and 4:30 PM, Friday, in the City Office.

Date of Hearing: May 26, 2026
Time of Hearing: 6:30 p.m.
Location: Winkler Council Chambers, 185 Main Street, Winkler, Manitoba

DATED at Winkler, in Manitoba, this 1st day of April 2026.
Designated Officer, City of Winkler

Schedule "A"



185 Main Street, Winkler MB R6W1B4 204-325-9524
permits@cityofwinkler.ca WWW.WINKLER.CA

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NOTICES

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MORTGAGE SALE

MORTGAGE SALE

The land and building known as 449 Fuller Avenue, Manitou, Manitoba, as described in Certificate of Title No. 3084541/4 will be sold by public auction by a Licensed Auctioneer on June 3, 2026, at 10:30 a.m.

The auction sale will be held by way of video or teleconference.

There will be no in-person attendees at the auction.

In order to participate you must pre-register at least 24 hours prior to the auction by contacting Matthew Underwood at either (204) 957-8373 or auctions@fillmoreriley.com.

The Vendor is informed that the property consists of a one storey dwelling approximately 1,120 square feet with living room, kitchen, 2 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, crawl space, single detached garage, on a lot approximately 49 feet x 120 feet.

Realty taxes (excluding any accruing water charges) are paid to December 31, 2024.

Prior Charges: Nil

TERMS OF SALE

A deposit of \$15,000.00 by way of certified cheque or bank draft payable to Fillmore Riley LLP, or cash (the cash component of the deposit not to exceed \$7,500.00), and the balance according to conditions which will be available electronically by contacting the individual below prior to the auction. The property will be sold subject to a **Reserve Bid** of \$152,000.00 plus such other additional and incidental costs which may be incurred by the Vendor from the 4th day of May, 2026 to the date of auction and which costs will be announced prior to the commencement of the sale.

The auction sale will be conducted pursuant to an Order for Sale issued by the District Registrar. Certain parties may be prohibited from purchasing the property, including but not limited to, parties who by virtue of their employment or relationship to a person involved in the sale process would have special knowledge of the circumstances pertaining to the sale. For more information and a list of prohibited purchasers please visit: www.teranetmanitoba.ca

Should the successful bidder have attended by teleconference and/or video conference, the bidder will have 24 hours to execute the Auction Sale Conditions and to provide them together with the deposit to our office as set out below.

Further information may be obtained from:

FILLMORE RILEY LLP
Barristers and Solicitors
1700 - 360 Main Street
Winnipeg, MB R3C 3Z3

File No. 408052-155MTU/kl(mor)
Attention: Matthew Underwood
Phone: 204-957-8373
auctions@fillmoreriley.com

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

Sudoku Answer

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

Crossword Answer

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Peter Suderman at 204-774-3312
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PUBLIC NOTICE



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

UNDER THE PLANNING ACT

The City of Winkler, under the authority of The Planning Act, will hold a hearing at which time and place the council of the City of Winkler will receive representation from the applicants and any other persons who wish to make representations in respect of the Rezoning Application No. RZ2026-003 and By-law No. 2367-26, being an amendment to Winkler Zoning By-law 2271-21 of the City of Winkler.

The general intent of the above By-Law No. 2361-25, is to zone the land described below, Namely:

legally described as Proposed Lots 1-19, Plan (Deposit No. 160-2026) MLTO.

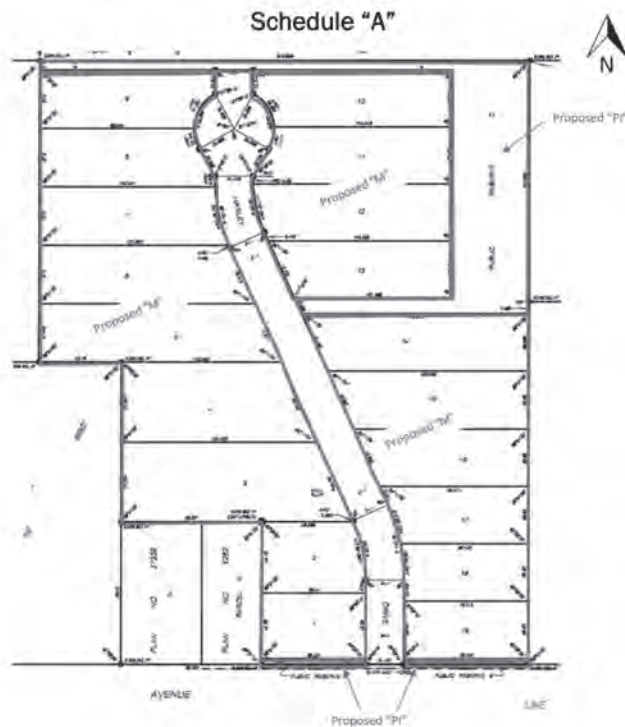
as shown outlined in a heavy solid line on the map attached hereto as Schedule "A", and forming part of this by-law, be rezoned

FROM: "SI" SERVICE INDUSTRIAL
TO: "M" INDUSTRIAL & "PI" PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE

A copy of the above By-Law No. 2367-26 and supporting material may be inspected by any persons between the hours of 9:00 AM and 5:00 PM, Monday to Thursday and 9:00 AM and 4:30 PM, Friday, in the City Office.

Date of Hearing: May 26, 2026
Time of Hearing: 6:30 p.m.
Location: Winkler Council Chambers,
185 Main Street, Winkler, Manitoba

DATED at Winkler, in Manitoba, this 15th day of April 2026.
Designated Officer, City of Winkler



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PUBLIC NOTICE



PLANNING & INFRASTRUCTURE
Planning & Permitting Department

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

UNDER THE PLANNING ACT

The City of Winkler, under the authority of The Planning Act, will hold a hearing at which time and place the council of the City of Winkler will receive representation from the applicants and any other persons who wish to make representations in respect of the Rezoning Application No. RZ2025-011 and By-law No. 2361-25, being an amendment to Winkler Zoning By-law 2271-21 of the City of Winkler.

The general intent of the above By-Law No. 2361-25, is to zone the land described below, Namely:

legally described as Part of SW ¼ Section 8-3-4 WPM

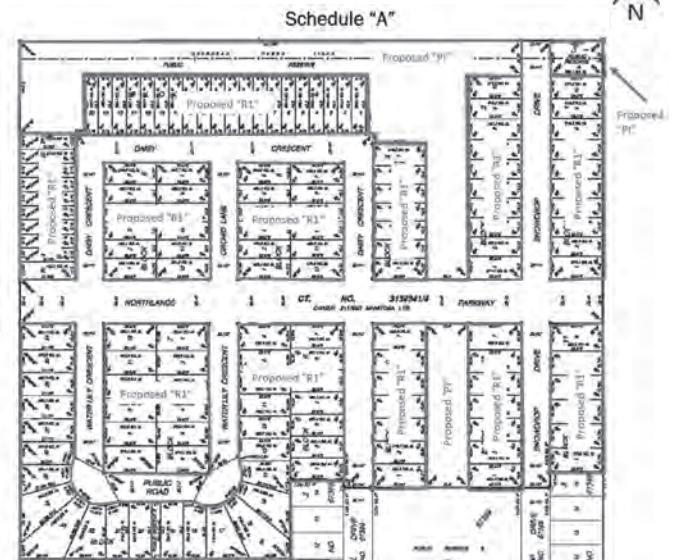
as shown outlined in a heavy solid line on the map attached hereto as Schedule "A", and forming part of this by-law, be rezoned

FROM: "DR" DEVELOPMENT RESERVE
TO: "R1" RESIDENTIAL LOWER DENSITY & "PI" PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE

A copy of the above By-Law No. 2361-25 and supporting material may be inspected by any persons between the hours of 9:00 AM and 5:00 PM, Monday to Thursday and 9:00 AM and 4:30 PM, Friday, in the City Office.

Date of Hearing: May 26, 2026
Time of Hearing: 6:30 p.m.
Location: Winkler Council Chambers,
185 Main Street, Winkler, Manitoba

DATED at Winkler, in Manitoba, this 12th day of March 2026.
Designated Officer, City of Winkler



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REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL



ROSENORT LAND SALE & DEVELOPMENT

Request for Proposals (RFP) will be received by the RM of Morris Office located at 207 Main Street North, Box 518, Morris, MB, R0G 1K0 or by email cao@rmofmorris.ca up to **2:00 pm local time on Friday, July 3rd, 2026** for the following:

The opportunity to purchase and develop approximately 57.19 acres of usable RM of Morris owned Property located on the South-West side of the Rosenort. Total of 71.12 acres with 13.93 acres described as 'Brush/Scrub' or 'Creek Conservation Land'. The intent of this Request for Proposals (RFP) is to identify development concepts that contribute positively to the long-term economic and community development of Rosenort and the surrounding municipality.

RFP Documents are available on the RM of Morris website: rmofmorris.ca under "Updates" or by request from the CAO by email: cao@rmofmorris.ca

The lowest bid or any RFP not necessarily accepted. This RFP process was designed for respondents to propose ideas and deliver solutions for the Lands. The Developer with the best overall development program will be selected for further negotiation and will enter into a development agreement with the RM of Morris.

Wes Unrau, CAO

TENDER



JANITORIAL TENDER

Access Credit Union Manitou

Access Credit Union's Manitou branch located at 330 Main Street, requires the services of a contractor to provide general cleaning duties.

Duties include:

- Cleaning of interior and exterior areas of branch

Tenders or resumes, accompanied by a minimum of two references, must be received **on or before May 22, 2026, before 4:30 p.m.**

Walk throughs available by request.

Tender information can be obtained by emailing:

Vickie.Addison@accesscu.ca

Tenders may be delivered, mailed or emailed to:

Access Credit Union
PTH #14 Unit 2 - 23111 Stanley Business Centre Winkler, MB R6W 4B4
Email: vickie.addison@accesscu.ca

News Tips? Story Ideas? Call the Voice



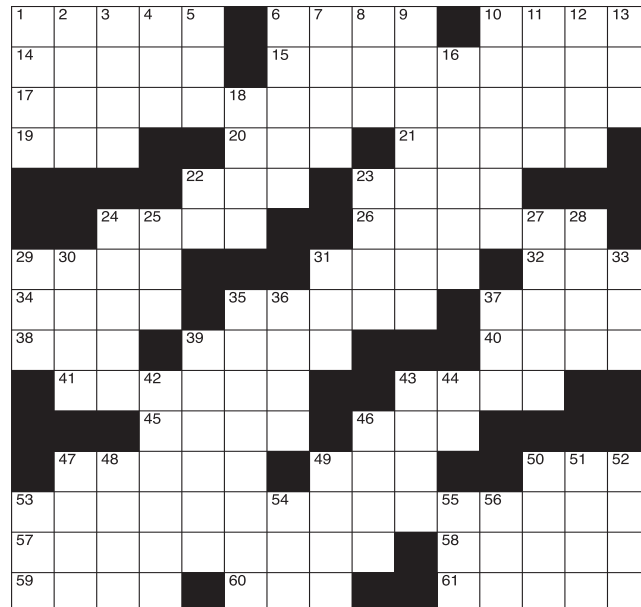
CROSSWORD

CLUES ACROSS

1. Notable casino destination
6. Current units
10. Roman military unit
14. American lizard
15. Fates
17. The Yankees have lots of these
19. Unhappy
20. Mimic
21. Remove from the record
22. Where cargo ships dock (abbr.)
23. A way to fight
24. Turfs
26. Contract
29. Country along the Arabian peninsula
31. Tree species
32. Pituitary gland secretion (abbr.)
34. Perfect
35. "Partner" to groans
37. Jewish calendar month
38. Where wrestlers work
39. Egotistical
40. Potted plants
41. Containers
43. Large, flightless birds
45. Part of a book
46. American spies
47. Pancakes made of buckwheat flour
49. Swiss river
50. Disfigure
53. Have surgery
57. Formal withdrawal
58. Early English council
59. Area units
60. 2,000 lbs.
61. Siskel and ___

CLUES DOWN

1. Animal jaws
2. Small water buffalo
3. An appliance has one



4. Every

5. Largest English dictionary (abbr.)

6. Very skilled

7. No more than what is specified

8. Tire measurement

9. Towers

10. Forward

11. Jacob ___, American journalist

12. Vale

13. Former CIA

16. Middle Eastern nation

18. Exhausts

22. South Dakota

23. The complete duration of something

24. Kids love him

25. Singular

27. Cod genus

28. Mild yellow Dutch cheese

29. Resistance unit

30. Ancient kingdom near

Dead Sea

31. Cast out

33. 60-minute periods

35. Most worn

36. European river

37. Atomic mass unit

39. Items of food

42. Body parts

43. Ireland

44. Partner to Pa

46. Sammy ___, songwriter

47. Dutch settler

48. Full-grown pike fish

49. Sun or solar disk

50. Minute arachnid

51. From a distance

52. A monthly expense

53. Young women's association

54. Brazilian state

55. Air freight provider

56. Pointed end of a pen

PUBLIC NOTICE



Thinking of Running for **School Trustee** in the Garden Valley School Division?

Consider attending the **GVSD Trustee Campaign Information Session** on Tuesday, May 26, 2026, at 6:00 P.M. at the Winkler Library (160 Main Street).

Serving as a school trustee is a meaningful way to contribute to your community and support student success. Join us to learn more about:

- Structure of Manitoba's education system
- Role and responsibilities of a school trustee in GVSD
- How to run for school trustee
- Q & A session

If you have any questions before the session, please contact us at gvsd@gvsd.ca

Carman couple honoured for decades of dance tradition

By Annaliese Meier

More than five decades of teaching, preserving and promoting old-time dance has earned a Carman couple a place among Manitoba's most respected contributors to fiddle culture.

Larry and Irene Stevenson were recently inducted into the Manitoba Fiddle Association's Wall of Fame in the builder and promoting category, recognizing their lifelong commitment to keeping traditional dance and music alive in their community and beyond.

"Larry and I were recognized for our 50-some years of teaching old-time and pattern dance music," Irene Stevenson said. "We taught the old and the young."

Their journey began in the early 1970s, when they were approached by the Dufferin Agricultural Society in Carman to share their knowledge of traditional dance styles.

"We had been taught and knew the polkas, the waltzes, the schottisches and many, many more," Stevenson said. "We knew the moves to the old-time square dances as well."

What started as a local opportunity quickly grew into a decades-long effort that reached far beyond Carman. The couple taught a wide range of groups, from small classes to large community gatherings, including 4-H dance programs and special events.

"We taught large groups, smaller groups, 4-H dance, and communities celebrating 100-year anniversaries,"

Stevenson said. "We taught in many communities surrounding our own community of Carman."

Their contributions also extended to choreography, helping shape the tradition they worked to preserve. The Stevensons created dance patterns for several well-known pieces, including the Waltz of the Angels, Irene Good Night, Gram Lee's Waltz and the Carman Waltz.

Behind the scenes, Larry Stevenson has also played a key role in supporting Manitoba's fiddle community through sound production.

He has run sound for the Carman Fiddle Festival for approximately 25 years and has been responsible for sound at the Manitoba Fiddle Association's Wall of Fame ceremonies since its inception in 2004.

That connection makes the honour especially meaningful, as the couple now joins the very group of individuals celebrated at the Carman Community Hall display.

The Wall of Fame itself was spearheaded by the late Winston Simpson, along with committee members Joe Salwinsky, Lorne Flurry and Dave McMillan, with the goal of commemorating Manitoba fiddle players and those who contribute to the tradition.

The builder and promoting category recognizes individuals whose work ensures the continuation of fiddle music and dance through teaching, organizing and community involvement.

For the Stevensons, that work has



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Larry and Irene Stevenson of Carman were recently inducted into the Manitoba Fiddle Association's Wall of Fame in the builder and promoting category, recognizing more than 50 years of teaching and preserving old-time dance traditions across the region.

always been rooted in sharing knowledge and keeping traditions accessible to all ages — a legacy that continues to resonate across generations of dancers.

Their induction serves as a lasting recognition of the role they have played in preserving a vital part of Manitoba's cultural heritage.

Province releases healthcare recruitment and retention toolkit for municipalities

By Patricia Barrett

The provincial government launched a toolkit last month to help municipalities recruit and retain healthcare workers.

The toolkit aims to help communities better understand how to recruit physicians, nurses and other healthcare professionals from other regions or from other countries, and support them in their communities over the long term.

Health minister Uzoma Asagwara said the toolkit was developed with municipalities and provides practical tools, best practices and ideas communities are already using to support providers.

"Health care doesn't stop at the clinic door: it's built in our communities," said Asagwara in an April 23 news release. "Across Manitoba, we're

working with local partners to showcase their communities and welcome health-care professionals, support them as they build their careers and help them put down roots."

Endorsed by the Association of Manitoba Municipalities, and building on strategies municipalities have found successful, the toolkit provides ideas to showcase a community so that potential recruits get a sense of what it would like to live in a particular community.

Once recruited, the work doesn't stop. The toolkit says the decision of healthcare providers to stay in a community is "rarely about the job alone." They must feel connected, and have access to resources such as housing, recreation, childcare, schools and affordability, as well as an ability to make friends and have a sense of belonging. That includes a quality of

life for their partners and children.

Communities can tailor strategies to meet the needs of healthcare professionals coming from overseas or from different provinces, or to students completing a residency.

"Communities that are successful in attracting and retaining healthcare professionals think ahead about housing. That might mean identifying short-term, transitional options for those arriving quickly, or working alongside candidates with longer timelines to help them find permanent housing that fits their needs," states the toolkit.

"Support often goes beyond housing itself. Many communities help new providers navigate the essentials of daily life—how to get around, establishing a bank account, where to set up utilities, how to access reliable internet and mobile services, and what

to expect in a Manitoba winter. Small gestures, like guidance on winter readiness or transportation options, can make a big difference in helping someone feel prepared and confident in their new environment."

Creating a social connection and keeping new medical providers engaged is also a successful strategy. Providers can be introduced to a "local ambassador," they can be included in social circles and community activities such as sports or cultural events in order to help build "early relationships" and help them feel that they're part of something bigger.

Each regional health authority has dedicated representatives to help a community recruit healthcare workers.

Visit the toolkit online at makeit-manitoba.ca

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



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