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PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

The fifth annual Big Rigs Big Hearts ride set a new participation record Saturday, with 128 semis travelling the streets of Winkler in support of the family of Alexander Sawatzky and STARS air ambulance. The event raised upwards of \$20,000. For more, see Pg. 4.

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



# Armed standoff ends peacefully in Morden

#### By Lorne Stelmach

Several people are in custody in the wake of a nine hour standoff in Morden last Wednesdav.

It began with a stolen vehicle investigation and ended with an armed suspect barricading himself in a 9th St. South apartment.

Other residents in the complex were evacuated at about noon while police tried to negotiate with the suspect, who was taken into custody peacefully that evening around 9 p.m.

"Public safety is always of primary, paramount importance to us," said Sgt. Sean Aune of the Morden Police Service. "One of the first things that we did was to get everybody out of that building we were surrounding."

Morden officers were investigating

a stolen vehicle as part of an ongoing investigation.

They were familiar with several suspects who had been involved in similar recent incidents. In fact, the man who became a primary suspect was connected to a recent investigation in Winkler involving stolen property, Aune noted.

"We have dealt with him recently ... this was someone who was known to us ... and known to be doing this type of stuff, so it was important for us to get this guy in custody."

Police took several individuals into custody and recovered a stolen vehicle. They then traced one of the suspects who had evaded officers to the apartments on the south side of Morden, where police recovered a second stolen vehicle and made further ar-



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

The regional support tactical team were called to an armed standoff in Morden last Wednesday. The suspect was taken into custody peacefully after nine hours of negotiations.

rests. Winkler police were called in to assist.

One of the suspects barricaded himself inside the property and initially would not communicate with police, who then learned he had a weapon. That's when the regional support tactical team was called in along with officers who are trained in negotiation.

Aune said they always have to proceed cautiously with such incidents and not force a situation.

a regular basis ... that's what it was designed for," he said, "Another resource that's available to us also is negotiators, so we actually utilized two negotiators ... and we went for about a nine hour stretch."

The standoff demonstrated the benefit of having local officers trained and equipped for just such situations, said Aune.

"This is basically us using some of

Continued on page 6



"This is what the team trains for on

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# Take a stroll down Katie's Lane

#### By Ashleigh Viveiros

Another big piece of the Katie's Cottage puzzle has fallen into place.

Ever since it opened last year, the respite home has worked to get a walkway installed to make the trek from the nearby Boundary Trails Health Centre safer for guests. This month, Katie's Lane finally became a reality.

"There's a final few finishing touches we're still doing," notes Katie Cares' Ruth Reimer. "Spreading the mulch, getting the picnic table in there, the two concrete benches, and



PHOTOS BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Katie Cares' Ruth Reimer on the newly opened Katie's Lane, which gives people a safe way to get from the Boundary Trails Health Centre to the nearby Katie's Cottage respite home (left).

the flower planters. But that will all be done in the next week or so."

The walkway itself is up and running, though, and has been getting a lot of use—and rave reviews—from guests and visitors.

It stretches from the edge of the hospital grounds right to the doors of Katie's Cottage, running alongside the trees and greenery of Morden Nurseries and the field adjacent to the respite home.

On the way, a natural meadow area will house the picnic table and benches, giving people a peaceful place to enjoy the outdoors.

Continued on page 6







PHOTOS BY ASHLEIGH **VIVEIROS/VOICE** 

In the lead-up to the Saturday evening's Big Rigs Big Hearts truck convoy through the streets of Winkler, supporters came out to Main Plaza to enjoy an afternoon of fellowship, musical entertainment, fun and games for the kids, and food.

### **Big Rigs Big Hearts shatters records**

#### **By Ashleigh Viveiros**

The fifth annual Big Rigs Big Hearts truck rally set records on all fronts last weekend.

On Saturday, 128 semi trucks signed up to take part in the evening convoy through Winkler, smashing the previous record of 118 trucks set in 2016.

"We feel just overwhelmed with the turnout," said organizer Rick Wall, who noted that pre-registration had actually been quite a bit down from usual heading into the weekend."But you never really know until the dayof. You always hope you're going to have a good turnout, but we certainly weren't expecting 128."

Though they were still crunching the final fundraising numbers at press time earlier this week, Wall estimated \$20,000.

"That is a huge boost for us over years past," he said, noting that day-of donations, raffle ticket proceeds, and event merchandise sales were all way up over previous years. Generous community sponsors also helped to keep event costs down.

The funds will be split between the STARS air ambulance and the family of the late Alexander Sawatzky to help cover expenses connected with his battle with cancer.

While many Winklerites set up lawn chairs along the route through the city to watch the evening big rig parade, the event also welcomed the public down to the Main Plaza parking lot that afternoon to enjoy kids activities, musical entertainment, food vendors,

the event was on track to donate over and a chance to check out the wide array of trucks taking part up close.

"There were a lot of people around right throughout the day," sad Wall. "The kids were all having a great time ... it looks like everyone was having a

great time. "It just goes to show the interest that people have in seeing these big rigs. It shows you the support for the trucking community."

Wall sends thanks out to "everyone that attended, everyone that involved themselves or contributed in any way ... including our awesome lineup of volunteers. We could not do it without them.

"The support from the local community is just awesome. Everybody's just kind of on board with what we're doing and willing to support it."



### Locals weigh-in on Omar Khadr settlement

#### MP Candice Bergen hosts round table discussion

#### By Lorne Stelmach

Portage-Lisgar MP Candice Bergen sees the controversy surrounding the \$10.5 million compensation payment to Omar Khadr as possibly being a pivotal moment.

Speaking after a round-table discussion with constituents in Morden last Wednesday, Bergen said there is such strong feelings on this issue that it could come back to hurt the Liberal government in the next federal election.

"I hope that this is a turning point," she said following the hour-long session. "We can sense the frustration and the anger from people on this Omar Khadr payment. People from all across the riding came out for this round table. They want to know what they can do. I think that's what I'm hearing. 'What can we do? Can we change this decision? And why in the world would the prime minister do this?'"

During the discussion, the payment and apology to Khadr announced by Prime Minister Justin Trudeau was roundly denounced, including as a "disgraceful payment to a known murderer and terrorist."

"We don't pay prisoners of war ... we don't pay people who are captured ... I think it's the wrong thing to do," said Winkler Mayor Martin Harder, who saw the use of taxpayer dollars in this way as "disturbing."

One speaker said it defies common sense to think or suggest that Khadr was not aware of right and wrong when, at age 15, he was involved in a firefight between U.S. soldiers and Taliban fighters in Afghanistan that led to the death of American soldier Sgt. Christopher Speer.

Speaker after speaker denounced Khadr as a confessed murderer who was involved in terrorist activities, with many suggesting he should be expelled from Canada.

Everyone unanimously questioned how the compensation can be justified and even how the government arrived at the \$10.5 million figure.

One speaker connected the discussion to how Canada's military spending has been cut and veterans have a hard time getting basic services.

Other comments were directed at the mainstream media, particularly the CBC, for biased reporting, but in the end much of the anger about the settlement was directed squarely at Prime Minister Trudeau.

And that is where Bergen directed her advice to constituents, noting that a recent survey not only suggested 71 per cent of Canadian believe it was wrong but 61 per cent of Liberals as well.

"Individual Liberal MPs need to be held accountable for what their leader, what the prime minister has done," said Bergen.

"If people like [Manitoba Liberal MP] Jim Carr believe that this was a



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Portage-Lisgar MP Candice Bergen hosted a round table discussion at her Morden office last week to talk about the Omar Khadr settlement.

good decision, he needs to stand up publicly and say so. If other Liberal MPs in Winnipeg believe that this was the right decision, they should say so," she continued. "I would think though that, if they are in touch with their own constituency, they will then denounce this decision."

Bergen stressed that the court ruling that Khadr's rights were violated while imprisoned and interrogated at Guantanamo Bay did not address compensation.

"Under no court order ... nothing forcing his hand ... Justin Trudeau decided on his own to give this individual \$10.5 million and an apology," she said.

"We've been saying for a long time that the prime minister is out of touch with everyday Canadians," Bergen said. "We've been saying for a long time that we see him as elite, as arrogant. We didn't expect to see it in a way that was so out of touch with the values of Canadians."

Bergen also touched on how this is a difficult and complex issue that brings a lot of things into play, including racism.

"There were some comments made today that I personally don't agree with, but I do think that people should have the right to voice those opinions and not be labelled and not be called names," she said. "I don't agree with labelling everyone the same way ... but there are legitimate fears around extreme Jihadist Islam ... we can't sugarcoat it."

In the end, Bergen encouraged constituents to speak up and be heard.

"These Liberal MPs can't hide behind Justin Trudeau. They need to be held to account. I think that would put them in a difficult spot if they had to defend this," she stressed, adding, "what I am concerned about is that he not be prime minister again after 2019."

### Winkler Senior Centre hosting urban poling clinic

#### By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler Senior Centre is hosting a workshop next week designed to transform your walks into fullbody workouts.

Occupational therapist Joanne Gross will be leading a free Urban Poling Clinic at the centre on Thursday, July 27 from 10-11:30 a.m.

Urban poling involves walking with specialized poles with rubber boot tips that absorb vibrations on asphalt and propel you forward, explains resource coordinator Cathleen Bergen.

"Physiotherapists are actually recommending more and more walking poles for people," she says, noting it's great exercise for all ages and fitness levels.

Walking with poles involves all the major muscles and can help you burn 20-46 per cent more calories than a regular walk.

It also reduces stress on one's hips, knees, and ankles, Bergen says, and helps to improve stability, balance, and posture.

Next week's workshop will include information about proper poling technique and equipment, with poles available for demonstrations.

This clinic is being funded through a grant from Lifeline, which will also allow the senior centre to purchase several sets of poles for people to use moving forward.

"I think once people realize we have them here, that they can try them out, you'll see more of them out there," Bergen says.

The clinic is free to attend. You can pre-register by calling 204-325-8964.



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### **Diversitas speaker hopes to bridge the gap**

Dr. Ruth Ashrafi to address Israeli-Palestinian conflict

#### By Lorne Stelmach

The next speaker in the Diversitas series aims to play a role in bridging the divide between Israel and the Palestinians.

For Dr. Ruth Ashrafi, it simply comes down to making contact and building relationships on a more personal level.

"They say when you meet the face of 'the enemy' ... then you see very often that they are regular persons just like yourself with the same issues that you yourself are dealing with ... and, of course, most people on both sides know this already," Ashrafi said in advance of her presentation at the Canadian Fossil Discovery Centre next Wednesday at 7 p.m.

Ashrafi's July 26 talk is a perfect fit for the speaker series on human diversity, whose aim has always been to encourage dialogue and dispel fear and ignorance.

"I look forward to all of them, but this one is of particular interest to me just because of the nature of the world in the 21st century and the centrality of Israel in so much of what's been going on," said organizer Peter Cantelon.

"Hopefully, she'll be able to eradicate some unnecessary stereotypes and educate us on some better ways of thinking."

Ashrafi, who is the Judaic studies advisor at the Gray Academy of Jewish Education in Winnipeg, titles her presentation It is complicated because it clearly "is very complicated, but I would like people to have a better grip of both narratives," she said.

"I believe it is very important that people learn that there are narratives about the conflict in the Middle East, that there's a Jewish narrative and there's a Palestinian narrative," Ashrafi said.

"I would like to tell people about the Jewish narrative ... and I would also like people to know that Jews are very aware of the Palestinian narrative," she added. "It is very important that these two sides with their different perspectives come together and talk to each other and try to sort these issues out."

Ashrafi stressed there are ways to bring about change, but she doesn't see it happening through the people in power.

"For me, it is mostly taking it out of the realm of politics. I think the politicians of both sides have too many special groups that tie them down ... and are basically obstructionist," she said.

"I have great faith in the good citizens of both sides of this conflict, who are very willing to stretch out their hands to the other side and to start co-operating."

"Israel and Judaism and the history of Judaism and the Jewish people is such a complex and incredibly interesting but insanely diverse history ... it needs something like this, I think,



Dr. Ruth Ashrafi speaks at the next Diversitas session in Morden July 26.

just to help lay some groundwork," suggested Cantelon.

"Because it's so complex, because it's so diverse, because there's so much to the history, there's no way to do it justice in a presentation that's going to be under an hour," he added."So really our goal is that people will leave with the right pieces of information that can go and find additional resources ... that they could be looking into further."

The session, as always, will allow time after Ashrafi's presentation for questions.

There is no admission to attend.

#### > KATIE'S LANE, FROM PG. 3

"It's peaceful, it's relaxing, it's beautiful," says Reimer.

Aside from getting the respite home itself operational, this is one of the most valuable projects Katie Cares has tackled in recent years, she savs.

"We have been seeing more walking traffic coming to Katie's Cottage, which is what we wanted. This is a place where families can come during the day and just relax ... the cottage is open to anyone of any age.

"It's a very busy road," Reimer adds, pointing not just to the hospital traffic but the trucks that rumble past regularly en route to the nearby grain elevator."So we wanted to be proactive instead of reactive to this situation where people were having to walk on

the road.

"We needed a safe walking path. We needed a place where people could walk back and forth whether it's at midnight or early in the morning or during the middle of the day."

To that end, the path includes a flagged crosswalk over the busy road to the hospital. Should traffic warrant it, that crosswalk could be upgraded

#### > ARMED STANDOFF, FROM PG. 2

the tools that are available to us and what we train for ... we don't have to use them all the time, but you can see where they are actually of use to us.

"We run into a bit of a delay when we have to use outside agencies ... which we will do ... but obviously there's a big time gap, and sometimes things unfold quicker ... so it's essento a lighted one in the future.

This walkway project was made possible thanks to a partnership between Katie Cares, BTHC, the RM of Stanley, and the many private and corporate sponsors who provided donations or gifts in-kind to make it a reality, all of whom Reimer and Katie Cares send thanks out to for their contributions.

tial for us to have our officers trained in this."

More information about the incident is expected to be released soon. At press time, police said there are numerous individuals facing charges for drug and property related offenc-

PRODUCTION



# Winkler's Phil Ens named to Order of Manitoba

#### **By Lorne Stelmach**

Phil Ens is a little overwhelmed after being inducted into the Order of Manitoba.

The founding partner of Triple E Canada afterwards noted some of the esteemed company among the 12 Manitobans honoured at the investiture ceremony last Thursday at the Manitoba Legislature.

"It's a very illustrious group ... all the way from people who have done some very fine medical research ... scientists who have studied the universe," said Ens."It was a very gratifying moment for me and a wonderful ceremony ... I'm deeply thankful."

The honour cited Ens for being widely respected as a community builder, leader, and mentor as well as an entrepreneur and philanthropist.

Among his many voluntary services, he was the president of the former

P.W. Enns Family Foundation, a charity which has supported such projects as the heritage centre at Canadian Mennonite University in Winnipeg as well as a hospital in Taiwan.

Additionally, he has been involved, both through the foundation and personally, in numerous community projects in the Winkler and surrounding areas.

Ens said being recognized in this way is a great honour, but one that he did receive with somewhat mixed emotions.

"On the one hand ... you're deeply humbled by it ... and realizing that somebody has nominated you, and a committee voted for you ... to be chosen is very humbling," he said.

"On the other hand, I guess I thought ... in a way ... I would have been pleased if our company would have been the recipient of this hon-



#### SUPPLIED PHOTO BY THOMAS FRICKE

Triple E co-founder Phil Ens was invested into the Order of Manitoba by the Honourable Janice C. Filmon, Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba, on July 13.

our," Ens added. "The company really has been a tool at my disposal to do a lot of good."

The Order of Manitoba is the province's highest honour and since 1999

has recognized Manitobans who have demonstrated excellence and achievement, thereby enriching the social, cultural or economic well-being of the province and its residents.

# H.O.G. Toy Run sets off from Morden Sunday

#### **By Ashleigh Viveiros**

The rumble of Harley Davidsons will fill the air in Morden Sunday for the fifth annual Southern Manitoba H.O.G. Chapter Toy Run.

Dozens of motorcyclists will be setting off from Gaslight Harley Davidson that morning to head into Winnipeg, hopefully bringing along a trailer full of toys for the Children's Hospital.

"They have in the vicinity of 120,000 children go through there in a fiscal year, so there's a huge need," says chapter director Jake Hiebert.

"We want to be a H.O.G. chapter that gives back," he added "If we can put a smile on a sick child's face during a rough time, then we've done what we set out to do."

New, unwrapped toys are needed for all ages, ranging from infants right up to teenagers.

"Gift cards are good, too, because then they [the hospital] can buy what they need," Hiebert noted, adding they'll also accept monetary donations towards toys.

Small to medium-sized toy donations are best, in general, and the hospital requests no stuffed animals, no latex balloons, no large containers of things like Mega Bloks, and no used toys. A complete toy list created by the hospital is available online at www. smhogchapter.net.

Toys can be dropped off before Sunday in Morden at Gaslight, Giant Tire, and Image Promotions and at Winkler Floor Fashions and Crystal City Co-op.

You can also stop by Gaslight Sun-

day morning before the riders leave at 11:30 a.m. (ride registration starts around 9:30 a.m.)

"Just come on out and support a good cause," Hiebert said. "We're hoping for a good day to have some fun."

The fifth annual Southern Manitoba H.O.G. Chapter Toy Ride leaves Morden for Winnipeg on Sunday, carrying with it toys for the Children's Hospital.

> VOICE FILE PHOTO



# Flying club celebrating 15 years of Fly Day Fridays

**By Lorne Stelmach** 

The weather may have not been favourable for flying, but members of the Morden Flying Club were out at the airport anyway last Friday.

They gather every week through the summer for Fly Day Fridays, welcoming their fellow pilots and the general public to stop in for some food and fellowship.

The initiative now in its 15th year is a well established tradition that makes the airport a pretty busy place some weeks.

Last Friday rainy weather kept pilots grounded, but a week earlier they had 22 planes stop in and served up 72 plates of food.

"Pilots will fly in from all over Manitoba, some from Saskatchewan. We even had some from Alberta ... maybe not specifically for Fly In Fridays, but they heard about and stopped in here," said the club's Ron Loewen.

He feels the initiative has been well received in part because there aren't necessarily many ongoing events like this available to pilots.

"It is rare ... there's fly-in breakfasts at other places but nothing on a regular weekly basis ... this is on from June to the end of August rain or shine every Friday," said Loewen. "Everybody's got to eat ... it was a destination to fly to and a reason to go.

"It's a place where pilots can share experiences, and we get to check out other people's planes," he added. "We get all kinds of planes coming in ... it's always nice to go out and look at other people's planes and hear their stories."

There's much to be gained from hearing about each other's experi-

From left: Morden Flying Club members Menno Hoeppner, Ed Hoeppner, Ron Loewen, Bob Gerbrandt. **Bill Toews** and Wayne Krushel at last week's Fly Day Friday barbecue at the Morden Airport.

> PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/ VOICE

ences, like flying into poor weather, noted Loewen, who has been flying for 17 years and especially appreciates seeing the variety of planes that come out each week.

"I've had the opportunity to fly 30 some types of airplanes ... you gain a lot of experience from that," he said.

In addition to these close-to-home gatherings, members of the Morden Flying Club are also set to take in the air show in Oshkosh, Wisconsin next week.

"It's the busiest airport in the world during that week," noted Ed Hoeppner, who started learning to fly while doing volunteer service in Central America in 1977.

"We usually go with a number of airplanes ... kind of a convoy," said Hoeppner, who added "it's quite an experience even to cross the border, first off."

Being located so close to the border, the Morden airport could be getting designated this year as a CANPASS facility.

The designation would allow planes flying from the U.S. into Canada to clear customs here rather than having to first go elsewhere such as Winnipeg.

"The city is working together with us to get that done. We require 25 U.S. flights in order to meet that requirement," said Loewen, who suggested that status could open up some new opportunities for them.

It could be beneficial in such cases as companies that need to fly to the U.S. and back regularly, said Hoeppner.

"There is some," suggested Loewen, "and there could be way more if the customs clearance was available here

> A recent Fly In Friday at the Morden airport saw close to two dozen planes come in for some food and fellowship courtesy of the Morden Flying Club.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

... it could get more traffic in here." Fly Day Fridays run from 5:30-7 p.m. each week, with meals starting at \$5 for a hot dog, chips, salad, and a drink. Also available are hamburgers, chicken, and, sometimes, steak.

Learn more online at the club's website: mordenflyingclub.com.

### Fatal crash on Hwy. 3

Several people from Morden-Winkler were injured in a fatal two vehicle collision on Hwy. 3 Saturday evening.

Emergency services responded to a crash just south of Brunkild at approximately 5:30 p.m. on July 15.

Police say a southbound vehicle struck the shoulder, overcorrected, and went into oncoming traffic, striking a northbound vehicle. The driver of the northbound vehicle, a 43-year-old male from Winkler, was transported to hospital. His 45-year-old female passenger from Winnipeg was pronounced dead at the scene.

The 17-year-old female driver of the southbound vehicle and its three other female occupants, aged 38, 11, and 13, were transported to hospital in serious condition. All were from Morden. The investigation is ongoing.





# Full steam ahead for Valley Fiber project

#### **By Lorne Stelmach**

Work is progressing well on a fibre optic network that will provide the City of Winkler with better and faster internet service.

The Valley Fiber project is nearly ready to move ahead with its test rollout of the service in the Rosebrook development in south Winkler.

"There's a lot of things that are still in the works here ... but things are working out very well right now, and we're very excited to be seeing more

traction," CEO Hank Wall said after formally signing a letter of intent with the City of Winkler at the July 11 council meeting.

"You can talk about it all you want ... everything takes some time ... to see this already happening today ... it's very exciting," said Mayor Martin Harder.

The letter of intent

sets out the project responsibilities of Valley Fiber and the City of Winkler, including such areas as access agreements for boulevards and liability for damage.

City council has committed to pay for the routing of the proposed fibre optic lines to every publicly-owned facility in Winkler, representing about a half million dollar commitment. The city has also designated a property for Valley Fiber to use for its data centre.

The company, in turn, will install a fibre optic network for homes and businesses throughout the city.

Though a formality, the agreement nevertheless signalled that the project is taking significant steps forward.

"We're very happy to be moving forward," said Wall, noting the support of the City of Winkler is vital to the project."It's key. Without it, this could not happen."

The development of a data centre and office in the north end of Winkler is a significant piece of the project, Wall stressed. The company is also looking at exactly how they will be moving ahead with further rollout of the network.

"We're moving into Roblin Blvd next ... into that region. We will also be servic-

ing the residential portion as well as the commercial portion of that part of town," he explained. "We will be continuing our construction with the City of Winkler build-out as well, too, for their key core infrastructure."

Wall noted that the financial side of the project is coming together as well. It has been estimated the cost of the initial build-out would be in the



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Mayor Martin Harder (right) and Valley Fiber CEO Hank Wall signed a letter of intent last week to formalize the partnership on the fibre optic project.

range of \$15 million and that it could be done within three years.

"We're moving forward very nicely. We've received a lot of support. We have a lot of irons still in the coals, a lot of details still to be worked out, but we've had a lot of success in southern Manitoba in raising the funds," he said.

These technological advances are already creating a buzz in the business world, attracting new companies to the city.

"The future of Winkler, the opportunities, will be absolutely phenomenal," said Harder, who noted there have been discussions with "different companies that are out there that rely on fibre optics or speed of internet in order to be able to secure a site for an expansion ... they are already inquiring, so we're excited about that ... to see what can happen here."

"We're looking forward to the economic growth that it will bring to the region," agreed Wall. "We're very excited to be ushering in the next generation of high speed internet access as well as the other different types of technologies that will come with it."

# Winkler police warn of phone scams

#### By Lorne Stelmach

Winkler police are warning residents to be cautious about scams, including one making the rounds recently where callers are claiming to be calling for the police department.

Police say the fraudulent calls warn people of outstanding warrants for arrest due to unpaid taxes. The phone number where the call is coming from may even display as being similar to the Winkler Police Service.

There are a multitude of phone scams calling and asking for personal information or payment of some type, say police, who warn residents against giving personal information over the phone. Other items of note in the weekly police report includes:

• Police were called July 15 around 3 a.m. about an employee of a Winkler fast food restaurant who came to work drunk as well as about another women in a vehicle outside who appeared to be passed out.

Both were placed under arrest, and police seized numerous open bottles of liquor from the vehicle.

The pair were held in custody and released the next morning once sober. They were also issued a ticket for open liquor.

• Police also got a call July 15 about a trampoline being vandalized overnight. Further investigation revealed similar damage at two other residences in the area.

• Winkler officers investigated a report of a minor accident shortly before 8 p.m. July 15. They arrived on the scene but saw no damaged vehicles, though witnesses told officers a vehicle that was involved had driven away with the air bags deployed.

Police caught up to the vehicle, which did not stop and even went through a stop sign before coming to a stop, though it then began reversing toward the police car.

Officers were eventually able to stop and speak to the woman, who was unable to provide her driver's license, and they learned she had been suspended from driving.

While speaking to her, officers also got a strong odour of liquor on her breath, and she was arrested for impaired driving refusing a breathalyzer as well as driving while disqualified.

• Winkler police also conducted extra patrols as part of the Manitoba Public Insurance distracted driving initiative this past week. They issued eight tickets for cell phone use while driving along with speeding and other infractions.



"WE'RE VERY HAPPY TO BE MOVING FORWARD."

### Corn and Apple fest unveils weekend lineup

#### By Lorne Stelmach

Organizers are looking to start diversifying the entertainment at the Corn and Apple Festival.

Music will continue to take a majority of the time on the main stage, but "we're trying to get away from it being all just music," chairperson Jocelyne Durand said as the remainder of the main stage lineup was announced last week.

"Moving forward, we're bringing different types of entertainment to the main stage. The evening entertainment, of course, will always be music, but we are looking to bring a variety of different types of entertainment to the main stage," she said.

Next month's festival will again have the pie eating and corn husking competitions, and there are also plans to try a 'band-off' competition where performers will be judged in a sort of Corn and Apple Idol contest.

"It is something we are going to try," Durand said, noting they are trying to change things up a bit with the festival overall.

Other new ideas in the works include a Corn and Apple Comic Con and a fundraising combine pull in support of the United Way.

The beer bistro introduced last year will be back, Durand noted, and they are also working with the Stanley trail association to offer a shuttle service to and from the trail on the Saturday.

As far as the musical entertainment on the main stage goes, organizers feel pretty good about the lineup, which includes a number of local performers.

"We're really pleased this year with our entertainment," Durand said.

Back from last year are Snake Oil, who are billed as the ultimate tribute to some of classic rock's greatest stars. Their opening act will be Fake, a Cake cover band made up of six musicians from the Vancouver area.

The Saturday night headline act will be Vegas Country with tributes to Shania Twain and Tim McGraw performed by Las Vegas entertainer Adam D. Tucker with Donna Huber.

The opening act that night will be Those Memories featuring Keri Latimer, Jess Reimer, and Vanessa Kuzina paying tribute to the 1987 country classic trio of Dolly Parton, Linda Ronstadt and Emmylou Harris.

Other main stage acts announced last week include:

• Carly Dow (Friday)

Her soul-folk blends dark and poignant writing with an incomparable voice that is raw, alluring and unique, weaving image-rich lyrics with strong songwriting on clawhammer banjo or guitar.

• Romi Mayes (Friday)



SUPPLIED PHOTO

The Morden Corn and Apple Festival announced several more acts for its stage entertainment line-up, including Casati on the main stage Saturday night.

Hailing from the prairies, Mayes is one of the hardest working independent musicians touring today. Mayes is known for her powerful lyrical ability that gives life to the words she sings. Her insightful sweet and edgy vocals paint pictures of heart on her sleeve sincerity and a road well travelled.

• Lakes and Pines (Saturday)

With influences as diverse as the members themselves, Lakes and Pines bring a wide array of sounds to the table while staying true to their folk roots. Morden is home base for the indie quintet, which just released their debut Peace Comes at Last.

Wreckin' So (Saturday)

Wreckin' So is a four piece blues and rock hybrid often described as a 'must see' band with over 60 combined years between them.

• Prairie Lakes (Saturday) Cole Moreau is the heart and soul of Prairie Lakes. The Winnipeg-born singer songwriter draws creative inspiration from the natural beauty and is a composer and thoughtful lyricist with a gift for introspective themes and commentary. Cole has had his hand in musical theatre as well.

• Bill Dowling & The Even Breaks (Saturday)

A west end Winnipeg boy transplanted to southern Manitoba, Dowling sings heartfelt stories of all sorts of people, past and present with honesty, humor, and a musical nod to the rich folk music tradition.

• Casati (Saturday)

The music of Casati is a living thing, constantly changing, evolving and reinventing itself. It began as The Grace Hrabi trio, arranging jazz standards, then found its own voice as a unique blend of folk and jazz with lush harmonies and rich textures created with ukulele, guitar, double bass sometimes a hurdy-gurdy.



Other Corn and Apple Festival main stage acts include Cole Moreau of Prairie Lakes (left) Saturday and Romi Mayes (right) Friday night.

SUPPLIED PHOTOS



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PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE Magician Greg Wood brought his comedic illusions to Bethel Heritage Park last Thursday as part of the weekly Concerts in the Park performances. This week, July 20, the Jayme Giesbrecht jazz combo is

slated to perform. Rounding out the month is The Boy and the Sea on July 27. August's performers include Warren Friesen, The Committee, Lindsay Rae, and Lulu and the TomCat. The shows run from 6:30-8:30 p.m. every Thursday night.



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### Arts council holiday craft sale registration begins August 1

By Lorne Stelmach

If you're a crafter in the region, it's

Christmas. That may be hard to do in the heat

time to give some thought to next of summer, but it is necessary with registration opening Aug. 1 for the annual November holiday craft sale

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in Morden.

"Be ready because it's going to fill up fast," said Tricia Dyck, administrative assistant with the Pembina Hills Arts Council."In past years, it's been as quick as four days. I don't think it usually takes more than two weeks to fill all 85 spaces."

Registration starts at noon that day for the sale, which will run at the Access Event Centre on Saturday, Nov. 4 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

New this year is the opportunity for crafters to register online, with tables priced at \$40 for current arts council members and \$45 for non-members.

The popular sale brings over 60 artists and crafters from across the Pembina Valley region offering a variety of handmade wares.

There are many vendors who come back year after year.

"We do have a lot of repeat crafters, but we do also have a pretty solid 10 to 20 new ones every year," noted Dvck.

"It's awesome to see what direction they're taking things ... there's been a lot of advances in the use of technology in crafts now a days," she added, recalling one last year offering intricately laser cut cards.

"We welcome anything handmade, but we do look for really unique crafts," said Dyck, who suggested that "the fundraising committee will be a little bit stricter on the content this year ... just to ensure that we don't end up with not much variety." Having brought in over \$3,000 last fall, the sale plays an important role in supporting area artists and arts council programming.

"It does continue to be the main fundraiser for the Pembina Hills Arts Council," said Dyck. "It brings in the most money of any of our fundraising events."

For more information, contact Patricia Hunt, interim administrative coordinator, at 822-6026 or e-mail info@ pembinahillsarts.com.

Registration forms will be available at www.pembinahillsarts.com or for pickup at the gallery starting Aug. 1.



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# Making life easier for SENIORS

### **Coping as a family caregiver**

Individuals are born into the world requiring the care of their parents and other adult guardians to grow and thrive. These adult children, in turn, may end up providing care when their parents reach senior age or face an illness or disability.

Becoming a family caregiver frequently is a tough choice to make. It requires patience and time, and can be emotionally and physically taxing. An estimated 43.5 million adults in the United States have provided unpaid care to an adult or a child in the prior 12 months, according to the National Alliance for Caregiving and AARP Public Policy Institute.

It's not uncommon for caregivers of any age to feel stressed and burned out by the demands of caregiving. The Mayo Clinic says people who experience caregiver stress can be vulnerable to changes in their own health. Some signs of caregiver stress include: • Feeling overwhelmed or constant-

ly worried • Feeling tired most of the time

· Gaining or losing a lot of weight

Becoming easily irritated or angry
Losing interest in activities you used to enjoy

· Having frequent headaches, bodily pain or other physical problems

Some caregivers even resort to drugs and alcohol to self-medicate, which can lead to further issues. To avoid the potential pitfalls of caregiver stress, individuals should always put their needs first and find ways to alleviate the added stress of caring for a loved one. These suggestions are just a start.

#### Don't strive for perfection

It isn't possible to maintain a patient attitude and get everything done perfectly each and every day. People are not perfect and mistakes will be made. Do not punish yourself if you lash out or simply need a break

#### Eat healthy

As anyone who has dealt with a hungry toddler can attest, failure to eat well and frequently can result in an emotional meltdown. Be sure to always make time for nutritious meals. This will help keep up energy stores and enable you to better cope with caregiver stress.

**Pay attention to mood changes** Anxiety or depression can sneak up on you when you least expect it. Ask for help if you feel your tasks are becoming too overwhelming. Seek the help of a doctor if changes in mood, sleeping patterns, appetite, and the like become noticeable.

#### Take frequent breaks

Getting a break from caregiving and setting aside time for yourself can increase patience levels and the ability to bounce back from stress. Whenever possible, have a friend or another relative step in for you so you get a break. Explore resources available for professional aides to come and take some of the responsibilities off of your shoulders.

Being a caregiver can be a rewarding, but challenging role to play. Caregivers should keep their health a priority.

### Think "health" before leaving home

Planing on taking a trip? When it comes to your health, a little planning before you leave can save you a lot of trouble during your trip. Book any necessary appointments well in advance, and keep potential unexpected health care costs in mind while drawing up your budget. Here are a few other things to consider for happy, healthy travels.

Medical exams

optometrist for complete checkups at least

Visit your doctor, dentist and even your

#### 90 days before departure. Also ask about any necessary vaccines (hepatitis A and B, tetanus, influenza, etc.) and specific instructions concerning any new prescriptions. Ask the relevant professionals all your medical questions so that you can go on vacation with peace of mind.

#### Medications and prescriptions

Have all your prescriptions renewed and bring the original containers for your medications with you. Never empty the contents of several bottles of different medications into one to save space. The labels are important. During your trip, always carry a copy of your prescription for glasses or contact lenses, as well as a letter from your doctor explaining your medical prescriptions. You never know when it might come in handy. You should also keep a list of your allergies and medical conditions with you in case of an emergency.

#### Travel medical insurance

Buy travel medical insurance that'll cover you outside the country, if necessary, and make sure it's fully paid for before departure. Read your insurance policy carefully, paying particular attention to the restrictions and exclusions. This will help you avoid any unpleasant surprises.



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# Making life easier for SENIORS

#### How to protect your home while you're away

or months? In the rush to organize all away. You could also ask a trustworthy their travel arrangements, many people neighbour to park his vehicle in your forget the importance of protecting driveway to give the impression that the their home during their absence. Here house is occupied. In addition, be sure are some tips to follow to deter burglars and make it look like your home is oc- ghts; lights that are turned on all the cupied.

#### A few weeks before departure

Ask a friend or family member to visit your home regularly during your absence and make a list of the jobs that you would like this person to do (water plants, for example). You should also install outdoor lights with motion detectors in less visible areas of your property — after all, there's nothing like being able to surprise intruders.

#### Seven days before departure

Make arrangements for someone to look after the yard as well as dispose of

Are you going away for a few weeks flyers and newspapers while you're to put timers on some of the interior litime will attract attention for all the wrong reasons.

#### The day before departure

Unplug electrical appliances inside your home and move any plants away from windows so they will not dry out as quickly. Ensure that all garbage cans are empty and that the windows and doors are locked.

#### The day of departure

Set the air conditioner or heating system to economy mode and activate the timers on the lights. Turn off the water supply to such appliances as the washing



machine and dishwasher and check that everything is locked, including the garage door. After locking the main door, be discrete about putting your luggage into the car in order not to draw attention to the fact that you're going away.

### **Technical aids Helping the elderly live** independently

With age, simple tasks that once required very little effort, like bathing or getting dressed, can become rather strenuous. Thankfully, many devices and systems specially designed to help seniors selfmanage their daily life are available on the market.

#### **Practical tools**

Technical aids, usually sold in specialty stores, are designed to compensate for functional limitations commonly experienced by aging individuals. Therefore, whether it's to help them go to the bathroom, get dressed, eat or move around, seniors can choose from a wide range of equipment intended to simplify everyday tasks and reduce the risk of domestic accidents. Here are just a few examples: • Personal care: bath and shower chairs, bathroom support rails, faucets with elongated handles, slip-resistant bath mats and shower

treads, long-handled hairbrushes, etc.

• Mobility: canes, elevated and standard wheelchairs, walkers, stair lifts, bed hoists, adjustable chairs, etc.

• Kitchen accessories: electric can openers, palm peelers, anti-spill cups, slip-resistant plates, angled cutlery, wheeled trashcans, etc. • Apparel: dressing aids, compression socks, buttonhooks, elastic

laces, Velcro fastenings, zipper pulls, etc.

• Electronic devices: ringer amplifiers, large-buttoned telephones, wireless home security systems, electronic key chains, voice recognition systems, etc.

• Leisure and other: magnifiers and vision aids, page turners, pressure relief cushions, grip aids, automatic card shufflers, large-buttoned remote controls, etc.



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**Tips for transitioning** to a new home

Although many of us dream of the leisurely days of retirement, the transition from a busy working life to days of unscheduled free time can be daunting. If your retirement plans involve leaving an urban centre and starting fresh in a small community, the transition can feel overwhelming.

"Today's hot city real estate market makes leaving urban centres and retiring in a small town a sound financial choice, but there is unquestionably an adjustment," explains Mariah Hamilton, regional director at Millborne Real Estate in Kingston, Ontario.

Hamilton specializes in helping retirees find new homes in eastern Ontario. She says there are some simple steps to make the transition smooth.

Hamilton recommends making multiple visits to the town to make sure it has the stores, services and activities you like. Is there a local library, a bakery, a good selection of restaurants? Linger at the local coffee shop and get a feel for the locals. Are they chatty and welcoming, or closed off to strangers? If you enjoy the arts, is there an opportunity to get involved with the local theatre? If you're a boater, are there spectacular waterways to explore? For example, communities like Gananoque on the St. Lawrence River is very popular with retirees as it has so much to offer.

Retiring and downsizing is a big psychological shift and the process can be daunting. These expert tips will help:



1. Start planning several years before you want to retire, as many people realize too late they should have downsized sooner. Assess your financial situation and explore all of your options. Do you want to remain near friends and family?

2. If you know you want a condo, you will get a better property at a significantly better price if you make a down payment during pre-construction and you'll be able to customize your suite. The property will be ready when you are set to retire.

3. Retirement brings a different lifestyle and a different home, so allow yourself plenty of time to adjust. If possible, gradually ease your working hours and practice slowing down. Spend as much time as possible in the community where you plan to move.



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# arts&culture

### Sharing the dreams of Canada's youth

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The dreams of our nation's youth take centre stage at the P.W. Enns Centennial Concert Hall next week.

The Winkler concert hall hosts *The Dream Catchers* on July 28. The free show has been touring the country as part of a special Canada 150 project marking our nation's sesquicentennial anniversary.

Earlier this year, the Confederation Centre of the Arts sent playwright



SUPPLIED PHOTOS The Dream Catchers brings the dreams of young Canadians to the Winkler concert hall on July 28. The show blends hip hop, poetry, and spoken word with contemporary and indigenous dance.

Mary Francis Moore and indigenous artists Nick Huard and Watio Splice to host workshops in every province and territory, sharing the significance of the traditional dreamcatcher with



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#### **GUEST SPEAKER: PAUL WINTER**

Paul is currently a pastor at Living Word Temple in Winnipeg's North End, which is in partnership with Soul Sanctuary and C2C Network. He is also on staff with E3Partners/I Am Second and regularly takes part in overseas ministry as well as First Nations reserves up north.



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WWW.DECORCHARITYCLASSIC.COM PH: 204.822.6151 ENTRY DEADLINE JULY 27, 2017 young Canadians while also exploring their ambitions, hopes, and dreams for the future.

Those dreams and stories formed the basis of this one-hour musical, which combines hip hop, spoken word, and folk with contemporary and indigenous dance.

The show gives voice to Canadians who often feel their perspective isn't being heard, says Moore.

"We don't want to lecture. We just want to hold the mirror up," she stresses. "I feel like we all need to talk less and listen more and acknowledge that the 150 years that we're celebrating are on top of the 30,000 years that the First Nations culture was here before us.

"What have we learned from that? We've learned that we got here the wrong way, we did it wrong. This is our chance to talk about how can we get it right in the next 150 years?" Moore adds. "It can't erase what we did and it can't make it better, but we can learn from our mistakes moving forward."

*The Dream Catchers* has been performing in Charlottetown and Ottawa in recent months to rave reviews.

"It's been a incredible. It's been an unbelievable response ... people stick around afterwards, they stop our performers in the street ... and tell them their stories," Moore says, adding they've heard from Native Canadians who feel they've "waited so long to hear [their] people's stories told."

Cast member Kira Fondse, one of the show's two Manitoba representatives, agrees that it's clear the production's message is resonating with audiences



in a big way.

"Their eyes are really being opened to the reality of life for many young Canadians, which most of them didn't realize still exists," she says. "There is a message for everybody in this show."

"There's a lot of messages ... but at the end of the day, it's a really highoctane, high-energy musical," adds Moore. "It's full of joy and it's full of hope."

*The Dream Catchers* in Winkler starts at 7 p.m. next Friday. Rush seating begins at 6:30 p.m.

For more on the show, check out dreamingcanada.ca.

### **Gallery's summer concerts feature Winterhalt, Simoens**

#### By Lorne Stelmach

Music and art can be a match made in heaven, say two performers who are scheduled for upcoming gallery shows in Morden.

A space like the Pembina Hills Gallery has a lot to offer, but above all else is the ambiance.

"There is nothing quite as inspiring as playing in an art gallery," said Lana Winterhalt, who plays at the downtown Morden gallery next Saturday.

"I've played there a couple times now with Lakes and Pines, and I've done

a solo thing there as well. I like it because it makes for an intimate type of show," added Patrick Simoens, who performs there Thursday, Aug. 17.

Born and raised in Winnipeg, Winterhalt is a singer-songwriter whose favourite artists include the likes of Coldplay and U2. Her music draws on acoustic, indie, alternative, folk rock and folk pop sounds.

Her sound and lyrics are influenced by junky breakups and insomnia, all wrapped up into simple guitar and haunting harmonies.

Winterhalt feels playing in a space like the Pembina Hills Gallery can really draw something out of her performance.

> "To be surrounded by so much talent and personal expression is always so awe inspiring," she said. "It helps me to see the beauty in places that I wouldn't have looked

before.

**"THERE IS NOTHING** 

**QUITE AS INSPIRING** 

AS PLAYING IN AN

ART GALLERY."

"I also feel like my music is really personal and reflective, so I feel like the gallery will be a perfect atmosphere for my music to settle into."

For Simoens, who will be performing alongside Montreal artist Jenny Berkel at his show next month, there



#### **SUPPLIED PHOTO**

Lana Winterhalt (above) and Patrick Simoens are slated to perform at the Pembina Hills Art Gallery in Morden this summer. Winterhalt takes the stage next week, July 29, while Simoens performs Aug. 17.

is definitely an appeal in having art as a backdrop, but even the building itself adds to the atmosphere.

"I like the coziness of it ... and the size of it is nice if you want to play a show on a smaller scale," he said, suggesting the space could hold perhaps up to 60 people."I can't really think of other venues in the Morden and Winkler area that are similar." Gallery summer assistant Braelyn Koop noted the Pembina Hills Arts Council would like to host more concerts at the gallery in the future.

In the meantime, tickets for these shows are available now at the Pembina Hills Art Gallery.

Call 204-822.-6026 or e-mail info@ pembinahillsarts.com for more information.

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# Harvest Festival loses rodeo from lineup

#### By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler Harvest Festival and Exhibition will be without a rodeo this year.

Organizers announced last week that the Manitoba High School Rodeo Association competition will not be on the schedule at the Aug. 11-13 festival.

Steve and Sheila Reimer, who have organized the high school rodeo in Winkler for the last several years, have resigned from the role.

"We knew the day would come," says festival director Deb Penner. "They have two daughters who compete in the MHSRA and as the girls grew up we anticipated they would move on to other things.

"Unfortunately there is no other family right now that is able to take over organizing it, so we will have at least one year without the rodeo." Penner says they hope another local rodeo enthusiast or family will step up in time to organize the event next summer.

In the meantime, she's confident the festival's many other offerings will make up for the loss of this popular event.

"I know people enjoy the rodeo. It's fun to watch all that activity and we always had a good crowd out there," she says, "but I think we have so many other new and interesting things happening this year that I don't think it will affect attendance ... it's going to be a wonderful festival either way."

Penner sends thanks out to the Reimers for their work over the years.

"I do want to recognize and thank Steve and Sheila for the hundreds of hours they gave to the festival," she says, "and for their enthusiasm and support of the youth who participate in the rodeo association."



# **Candlewick presents Bye Bye Birdie in Manitou**

#### By Lorne Stelmach

Even though he's a veteran of local stages, Chuck Fefchak may be feeling a few more nerves as part of the upcoming Candlewick production of *Bye Bye Birdie*.

Fefchak estimates he may have as many 60 productions to his credit by now, but he doesn't see musicals as his forté.

"Doing a musical is way outside my comfort zone," he said as rehearsals geared up for the annual summer production that runs at the Manitou Opera House July 28-30 and Aug. 4-6.

"I've always stepped back from the musicals ... this is just in response to everybody saying why not, why not," Fefchak said, recalling when he had to stand in one night and do some singing in *Mary Poppins*. "It's a challenge I'm glad I accepted because quite frankly this cast is amazing. We're just having a ball."

Director Richard Klassen noted there is always some change in their cast each summer.

"There's certain cast members who can't be involved every summer," he said, "but because we alternate back and forth between a musical and a drama, there's those who are more inclined to be involved with the musicals and those who will be more inclined to be involved with the dramas." Bye Bye Birdie is a new production for Candlewick, which over the years has put on such plays and musicals as Fiddler on the Roof, Beauty and the Beast, Moses, and Tarzan in recent years.

The show is a loving send-up of mid-20th century small town America, teenagers, and rock and roll. It was inspired by the phenomenon of Elvis Presley and his draft notice into the army in 1957.

Set in 1958, the story centres around much-adored rock idol Conrad Birdie being drafted into the army. His songwriter and agent Albert and Albert's secretary and some time girlfriend Rosie hatch a plan for a farewell performance to take place on *The Ed Sullivan Show*, which they hope will help sell Birdie's new song"One Last Kiss" and ultimately save their record company from going under.

Bye Bye Birdie was not a musical Klassen knew well, but he heard it got rave reviews when done recently by Garden Valley Collegiate.

"After rehearsing with the performers so far, I can enthusiastically say it is going to be another memorable production," he said.

Fefchak plays Harry McAfee, whose starstruck daughter is set to get a kiss from Conrad Birdie before he heads off to war.

It's a smaller role, but he is more than okay with that.

"I'm just so happy to be a part of it ... all I aspire to is to not be noticeable ... I'm just trying to stay in tune," joked Fefchak, who added he can't see not being involved because in any of the productions in some way because he loves it.

"It's a passion in my life ... I always look forward to doing it."

It is that kind of commitment that Klassen always appreciates as well as the level of talent in the region.

"We're very blessed in this area," said Klassen.

"The cast, when they get on stage, they mean business. They can have fun, and yet they work really hard at what they do. They're rehearsing on the sidelines without being told to rehearse."

#### "IT IS GOING TO BE ANOTHER MEMORABLE PRODUCTION."

Show times for *Bye Bye Birdie* are 7 p.m. July 28 and July 29 and 3 p.m. July 30, with the same times the following weekend.

Main floor seating is assigned, while the balcony is rush seating.

Tickets are \$20 for adults in advance or \$25 at the door, while seniors and youth (13 to 17) are \$15 in advance or \$20 at the door. Children 12 and under \$10 in advance or \$12 at the door.

Tickets are available at CJ's Convenience in Manitou, at the Pembina Hills Gallery in Morden, or through Candlewick by e-mail to richard@ candlewick.ca or by calling 204-825-8406.



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### Border West regular season winding down

The Border West Baseball League regular season winds down this week.

Morden closed things out with a 5-4 loss to Pilot Mound on Sunday. That followed a pair of resounding wins over Cartwright (11-0) and Baldur (13-3) a few days earlier.

The Winkler Whips, meanwhile, fell to Clearwater 5-4 last Tuesday and then to Killarney 5-2 on Sunday. They finished the season with a make-up game against Clearwater this Tuesday. Results were not available at press time.

As of Monday night, Morden was in second place in the standings with a record of 11-7, trailing the 13-5 Pilot Mound Pilots.

The Whips were three spots down in fifth place with their record of 7-10. Cartwright and Clearwater bring up the rear in the standings in sixth and seventh place, respectively.

**PHOTO BY RICK HIEBERT** The ball gets away from the Twins' Bryce Enns as Morden's Tanner Bergman safely steals second base in last Tuesday's 11-0 win over Cartwright.

# **Orioles facing off against Bisons in playoffs**

#### By Lorne Stelmach

One of their goals is clear as the Pembina Valley Orioles faced their regional rival in the first round of the MJBL playoffs this week.

Orioles bench boss Joe Wiwchar hoped his boys could make a dent in the armor of the Altona Bisons' star pitcher.

"If we could figure out how to beat Nate Smith, we would have a chance. He's beat us twice ... so we have to get some runs on him. My aces should be ready to go. They haven't pitched since last week," Wiwchar said as the regular season ended Sunday with the Orioles splitting a doubleheader against first place St. James.

A 9-3 game one win followed by a 10-1 loss in game two left the Orioles in sixth place with a 9-15 record,

just one game behind Altona, who finished their season with a pair of losses to Elmwood to end with a 10-14 record.

The first round of playoffs got underway in Altona Tuesday, with game two slated for Morden Wednesday. Results were not available at press time.

If it goes to three, the deciding game will be Thursday back in Altona.

The Orioles dropped all three of their games against Altona this season by scores of 3-1, 10-0, and 6-2.

Against St. James last week, meanwhile, Wiwchar said it was another example of the Orioles' yo-yo season where they usually followed a strong game with a less than stellar effort.

Continued on page 21

# **Scoreless tie for Hurricanes**

#### **By Ashleigh Viveiros**

The SC Hurricanes battled the Red Hot Pink Flamingoes to a scoreless tie on the road last week Wednesday.

The July 12 match, which saw coach and player Jen Martens leave the field with a broken collarbone after a rough fall, brings the team record to 7-24, putting them in third place in the Winnipeg Womens Soccer League's 2nd Division behind SE Reunited and Synergy.

This week the ladies host Hanover Elite on Wednesday. Next week they take to the road once again to play Fusion July 26.

In the mens league, meanwhile, the

Winkler Storm took a breather in the lead-up to their next game, which is an away match against Dunvegan Castle tomorrow (July 21).

The Storm are 4-5 so far this season, putting them in seventh place in the Manitoba Major Soccer League's 1st Division.

# **ACU Junior Golf Tour off to fine start**

#### By Lorne Stelmach

The region's best courses are again hosting young golfers from across south central Manitoba this summer.

The Access Junior Golf Tour is in its third of eight weeks with a stop in Gretna this Friday. The season kicked off with rounds in Roland July 6 and Winkler last week.

For the courses involved, it is a way to not only get more young golfers involved but to promote the game and the quality courses in the region.

It is that regional aspect that also makes it an ideal initiative for Access Credit Union to sponsor

"It's a great opportunity for us to get involved in the region," said community co-ordinator Emily Suderman. "We have 17 branches all over the region ... and with this, we get to involve eight different golf courses in the region."

"Community involvement is in the forefront for Access ... and this is an active way to get involved," said Suderman, adding that they want the tour to be open to all abilities.

"This is great because it's for the younger kids [aged nine to 18] and we're always looking for ways to get the youth more involved. We open it up to everyone ... it's not super competitive. We just want everyone to have fun and they learn along the way."

For 15-year-old Caleb Voth of Winkler there is lots to like about being part of the tour.

"It's pretty fun ... it's kind of cheap golf too," he said.

"You get to play with other players from around Manitoba, so that's kind of fun. You get to play on different courses that you don't really play on much." His favorite of the courses is likely Car-

man, he noted. "It's an old course ...

has lots of big trees ... and it has good greens. It's lots of fun to play."

Voth also sees the tour as a good opportunity to work on his game.

"It even helps that you don't play the same course over and over again. You get to try new courses.

"It's probably helping my chipping ... I can get it pretty close to the hole." said Noah Klassen, 13. This is the



#### PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Sixteen kids ranging in age from 6 to 14 were put through their paces last week during the Andrew Clark Hockey School. The camp went from Monday to Friday at the Access Event Centre with special guest Ryan White of the Minnesota Wild. "I'm trying to teach them a little bit ... things that I've learned along the way," said Clark. "I just hope that they have fun and hope they want to keep coming back to the rink." Morden teen's third time on the tour.

"I think I'm going to be going to four or five," he said. "It's just fun when you're golfing with your friends ... and just trying to get better scores every time."

Klassen especially likes having the

chance to try the different courses and agreed it is helping with his game.

"My putting is improving a lot," he said, adding that his favorite course is Minnewasta in Morden. "It's got a lot of trees, and it's always fun to golf on."

Round one in Roland July 6 attracted 55 golfers while the

second round in Winkler last Thursday had 41 competitors hitting the links.

After the third round at Oakview in Gretna this Friday, the tour continues to Carman next Thursday and then to Manitou Aug. 2, Miami Aug. 9, Riverview in Morris Aug. 16, and then wraps up in Morden Aug. 23.



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE Teeing it up Thursday in Winkler were 41 young golfers for the second round of the Access Junior Golf Tour.

### **ALH race results**

Top three finishers at the ALH Motor Speedway last Sunday included:

• A-Modifieds: Jerome Guyot in first place, Scott Greer in second, and Rene Poluyko in third.

• B-Modifieds: Ted Doell, Rick Fehr, and Brandon Wieler.

• Junor Slingshots: Aiden Fehr, Dexter Saxon, and Ty Saxon.

#### > ORIOLES, FROM PG. 20

"We played quite well in the first game. Ty Enns pitched for us, and he threw quite well, and we got a lot of hits," he said.

"In the second game ... they scored four in the first inning and kept chipping away from there."

Earlier in the week, the Orioles dropped a 7-1 decision to Brandon in a game Wiwchar said they simply let get away from them.

"We would be about 20 and four if we could only play about five innings," he said. "We were going along really good ... we squeeze in a run ... and then everything just goes all crazy in the top of the sixth.

"We make a couple errors, allow

• Pure Stock: Jamie Smith, Brian Bellew, and Bailey Cousins.

• Sport Compact: Dean Miljure, Shane Rehill, and Denis Seguin.

• Street Stocks: Jesse Teunis, Art Linert, and Taylor Jacobson.

Next race day is this Sunday, July 23 when the track hosts the Brad Wall Memorial.

a couple walks ... and there it goes. There's been several games like that now," said Wiwchar, who also shouldered a bit of blame in this case. "I think I leave my pitcher in too long. I think that's a fault of mine that I tend to give my pitchers a little more leverage to go and work themselves out of it."

Brandon, who finished third, are not playing in the playoffs because they're hosting the Westerns, and St. James gets the first round bye, so that means the other series have second place Elmwood playing last place St. Boniface and fourth place Carillon against seventh place Interlake.

#### "WE JUST WANT EVERYONE TO HAVE FUN AND THEY LEARN ALONG THE WAY."

### **Roland woman rides the Rockies in Cycle of Hope**



Nancy Bezan spent two weeks this month cycling in the Rocky Mountains on Habitat for Humanity's Cycle of Hope. The charity ride raised over \$300,000 to help families in need afford their own homes.

SUBMITTED PHOTOS By Ashleigh Viveiros

Nancy Bezan's third Cycle of Hope was her hardest yet—but still incredibly rewarding.

The Roland woman joined 45 other cyclists in travelling from Jasper, Alberta to Waterton Lakes National Park and then from Portage la Prairie into Winnipeg, a journey totalling over 700 kilometres.

The two-week trek was done in support of Habitat for Humanity, which netted upwards of \$300,000 from the ride to help low-income families become first-time homeowners

Cycling through the Rockies proved to be an exhilarating challenge for Bezan.

"It was really fun to see all the mountains, but hard not to stop every five minutes to take a picture," she said, laughing. "It really was a very challenging ride. There were some climbs that were actually few kilometres long."

The group biked anywhere from 90 to 170 kilometres each day, and though it was tiring, knowing they were doing it all for a family in need made the hills seem a little smaller. "The more you do this the more

you learn about what Habitat does and the different stories of the lives they've changed," Bezan said. "It's wonderful to see somebody get that step ahead in life.'

The group were joined on the final leg of their trek—from Portage to Winnipeg—last Thursday by another 50 or so Cycle of Hope alumni. Together they rode down Portage Ave. to the site of the 34th Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter Work Project.

The former U.S. president was supposed to be at the site to welcome the riders home, but Carter was hospitalized the day before after collapsing from dehydration (the 92-year-old was released from hospital on Friday).

"So that was disappointing, but the lady that's getting the home was at the ceremony and we got to meet with her and her family," Bezan said, noting the single mother of two has been putting in the sweat equity required to qualify for a Habitat home.

#### **BIG THANKS TO SUPPORTERS**

Bezan was able to not only raise the \$3,000 required to take part in the ride but also a few hundred dollars above and beyond that. She's earmarked the extra funds specifically for Habitat for Humanity's Carman chapter.

"I want to thank everyone so much for all the support that they gave me," Bezan said, adding that includes both the financial donations and all the words of encouragement she's received over the last few months of fundraising and training. "It's just so humbling each time someone gives money ... and they're giving it because they know it's going to make a difference."



# **Ironfist wins big**

Students from the Winkler Ironfist Martial Arts Academy participated in the annual Winnipeg Taekwondo CC Invitational competition last month. Presley Klassen won gold medals in patterns, breaking, and sparring; Armaan Dhillon took gold in breaking and silver in patterns; Reuben Penner won a pair of sivers in patterns and breaking. From left: Klassen, Dhillon, club leader Wolfgang Schaefer, Penner, and Chelsea Krahn.

SUBMITTED PHOTO



# Agriculture Review your lending strategy, says FCC

#### **By Harry Siemens**

When the Bank of Canada raised its interest rate modestly on July 12 for the first time since 2010, Farm Credit Canada advised farmers and agribusiness operators to take the opportunity to review their financial strategies.

J.P. Gervais, FCC's chief agricultural economist, said the reasons for this change in direction are many, the main one being that the Canadian economy is growing at a reasonable pace.

"All the additional, excess capacity that we accumulated since the oil shock of 2014 when throughout the year we had oil prices drop quite a bit," he said. "What that triggered is somewhat of a recession, especially in the western part of the country. Some businesses laid off workers, others lowered their investments. And that slowed down the entire Canadian economy."

Gervais said the economy now has moved on beyond the oil shock to the point that the Bank of Canada expects that by the end of 2017, or sometime in the first half of 2018, the economy will be moving at an average pace.

"So it will either absorb all the additional capacity that we accumulated and hence, at that time, we should have an interest rate that's more in line with what a reasonable interest rate would be," he said. "So that's the reason why the Bank is starting to raise interest rates now. It does also acknowledge that inflation is not that high in Canada. So typically when the economy's growing fast, you would see inflation pick up, and price levels move up, too.

"It does acknowledge that inflation is not going up at the pace that we'd expect. And so that's perhaps one of the reasons why we're not likely to see another rate hike anytime soon. But that's something to be thinking about: that the Bank could be raising interest rates. It did on July 12 and it could raise interest rates again before the end of this year in 2017 and perhaps even once more into 2018."

Gervais said if a business has a loan that's priced on a variable rate, that variable rate is usually tied to the prime rate. And the prime rate is tied to the Bank of Canada rate.

"So that means higher borrowing costs," he said. "It's not the end of the world. We're talking about a quarter of a per cent ... it's not that big of a deal. We have historically low interest rates on a downward trend for interest rates for a long time. But it does increase a little bit your borrowing costs.

"But if you're locked in for three years, four years, five years, that decision of the Bank of Canada for now doesn't change anything in terms of your borrowing costs that you face,"

he added.

Gervais said one rate hike does not make this a trend, but people have become accustomed to seeing interest rates go down in Canada.

"You can almost go back 20 years, 25 years, and argue that there's been a long term negative trend in interest rates for that long," he said. "Now, there's been some rate increases in between. But the long term path of interest rates was definitely down. And it reached all the way to the end of 2016 and early 2017.

"It really reached a record low when

been living in a low interest rate environment for a long time."

Gervais urges businesses to review their borrowing strategies to prepare for the future.

"You want to make sure that you address what's the right strategy for you," he said. "What's the risk profile that you want to have when it comes to interest rate risk? Do you want to see everything float and everything vary? Or do you want to lock in some rates now, knowing that perhaps down the road they'll be higher?"

it comes to borrowing costs. So we've

### **Elements** Talking with a climate change sceptic

#### **BY HARRY SIEMENS**

r. Tim Ball—no stranger to Manitoba, to farmers, and to agriculture, in general is a historical climatologist, author, and public

#### speaker and has a court date against Dr. Andrew Weaver this October.

However, I will leave that to my next column: Today about weather and so-called climate change.

Ball explains the talk about Arctic Ice and windy weather, especially the month of June:

"This is the distortion. They talk about fake news. You can have fake news not only regarding deliberately false news, but also regarding what the mainstream media choose to report, and it can create a distortion or a fake image of the world," he says. "And of the things that's been going on is the cool temperatures in the north and the ice has already started to reform at the North Pole, and it's two or three weeks ahead of schedule.

"And the other thing that people will have noticed, particularly across southern and central Canada, is cold temperatures but also quite windy. It is trapping the heat ... so they then focus on the heat in Phoenix and Arizona, all of that stuff. But when you look at it, they have not been setting records. In fact, it was warmer last year, but of course, with Trump shifting things away with dropping the Paris climate agreement, they've got to distort the news again."

Well, Dr. Ball, what about those who hear almost daily about the fact that the ice fields are receding, the polar bears won't have anyplace to live? Why should we believe you?

"I say, 'I'm not expecting you to believe me.' All I'm telling you is some facts. You can check them out for yourself, and then the bigger question that you have to ask yourself is, 'Why are we not hear-ing these things?'" Ball says. "Part of the whole global warming issue has been the deliberate attempts to deceive people, and one of the ways that they've done this is that they take common events and present them, without actually saying it, as if they're abnormal. And when you put things into the historical context, and of course, that's my expertise, is reconstructing past climates and un-

derstanding how much the climate has changed in the past. You see that what's going on today is well within normal patterns of weather, but, of course, that's not what they want to present."

Ball said he received an email from his nephew who keeps challenging over this with a graph showing here the temperature is going up, and here the temperature is going down.

"Yeah, one of the things you have to realize you can create any temperature trend you want just simply by picking a start and end point of your graph," he explains."And that's one of the things they've done. For example, they show the temperature going up since 1880, and then showing it at the highest readings today. Well, of course, because the temperature's been going up since 1680, but they don't tell people that it is part of an ongoing trend."

The climate varies all the time, and I don't need a computer model to show that to me on a graph. I did notice a cooler and windier June this year. Why?

"The temperature started to level off and had gone down slightly since about 1998, and they called this the pause or hiatus," Ball says. "Initially

# Breakfast on the Farm hosted by the Zieglers

#### By Harry Siemens

Every farm has a story and August and Betty Ziegler of Rural Perham, Minnesota (15 minutes east of Detroit Lakes) will share theirs and much more during a Breakfast on the Farm event on Aug. 5.

At 72 years of age, Gus said he's going to retire at the end of 2017 finally, but his wife Betty is quick to chime in, "I'll believe it when I see it."

He said he helped his parents build the house they now live in at the age of 13.

"Someone asked me here a while back, 'How long have you been here on the farm?' And I said since I was 21 inches," Gus said. "I grew up in a house way down where you see the straw bales down there. When I was 13, they built the house up here on the hill."

Gus had one thing in mind upon graduation from high school, and that was to be a farmer.

"I farmed with Dad, and I'm the youngest of three brothers. Well as of now, we have a little over 1,000 acres yet. We've sold off one big field that was a 250 acre irrigated area. That's our retirement. And the rest here will be left for our children," he said. "The reason I sold that particular piece off is it's my theology if a man who works the land ought to have a right to own it rather than some rich man gaining the profits." That farm continues to raise potatoes, soybeans, edible beans, corn, and alfalfa.

"Potatoes and edible beans were the two big crops where we made our big money," said Gus. "Soybeans and corn is always marginal, unless, like we had five years ago with the boom.

"When I was a child here, with no irrigation, farming was very marginal. It was oats, corn, and alfalfa. And corn was checked so you could cultivate it either way. Soy beans weren't heard of. Oats was a crop that did best because of earlier rains. And out of those three crops you could figure if you got two you had a good year, you know? That's how farming was. My father and brothers made a living doing it that way."

Of the remaining 1,000 acres, 400 is irrigated and the rest is woodlands. There's about 100 acres of dry corners, of which he still farms himself making hay.

Gus also keeps nine steers.

#### > SIEMENS SAYS, FROM PG. 23

the people that were pushing the global warming due to human CO2 told me you need at least 17 years of records before it has any statistically meaningful trend. Well, then the 17 years without any increase in temperature came, and now we're into 21 years without any temperature increase. And one of the things that "I get them just for old times sake and feed 'em out. And last year, even though the prices weren't too bad, I got a good buddy buyer who buys them on a good price and sells them on a good price for me, so I come out ahead," he said. "This year I bought some goats for the big fete that's coming up. We're gonna have a sow with little ones here, and rabbits, and chickens of different age, so the children can see how fast a chicken grows. And hope that this event will be educational for children as well."

Breakfast on the Farm with the Zieglers started out small, but it's something Gus has wanted to do before he finally retires.

"To help people understand that farmers are trying to be the best stewards of the land that they can be. But often-times we're judged because maybe we put on too much water, so the public thinks. Or they put on too much chemical, or too much fertilizer, or whatever. While in all reality, the

have happened is that, because of Trump pulling out of the Paris climate agreement, of course, that means he's also gonna pull out all of the government funding for climate research."

"Another thing we know is that what's important in the Arctic isn't just the temperature, it's the wind patterns. The wind patterns farmers water is all monitored. We'll explain that at the event on Aug. 5," he said. "We monitor our chemicals, fertilizer and nitrogen especially these days. That will be some of the educational stuff, as well as a big trailer of safety for children, for animals, an introduction to where does milk come from. We're going to have my dad's old combine that sits down there in that shed from 1945 here, and alongside of it we'll have a new modern day one. The difference between \$1,500 and \$150,000, times two or three."

With a group of volunteers, sponsors and organizations supporting this event, Gus is looking for 1,000 or more people to show up next month.

"An industry that feeds you is an industry worth promoting," he said. "Knowledge is power, so who better to ask than the people who live and breathe agriculture"

are noticing in southern Manitoba is the fact that over the last two or three years is the movement of Arctic ice, the amount of open ice, and also the formation of the ice.

"None of this information gets out to the public," Ball says, blaming mainstream media for sacrificing facts for a good story.

### Incentive program pays landowners to enhance wetlands

#### By Leanna Fehr, Pembina Valley Conservation District

An upcoming program provided by local conservation districts will pay landowners to reclaim wetlands on their property.

The Wetland Restoration Incentive Program is funded through the Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation. It improves on the last program of its kind, coming with more benefits.

Canada's wetlands provide enormous benefits to the economy and quality of life in Manitoba. Wetlands provide important services by holding water back, slowing runoff and allowing water to seep into the ground. In this way, they provide wildlife habitat and help reduce flooding downstream. Additionally, the roots of wetland vegetation acts as natural filters, cleaning phosphorous, nitrogen and heavy metals from waterways, improving water quality without building expensive infrastructure.

Individual landowners can benefit from wetlands through well recharge, livestock watering and irrigation as well as appreciation of wildlife.

Wetland drainage causes economic, social and environmental losses through increased water treatment costs, required water hauling as well as decreased habitat and biodiversity, according to research by Ducks Unlimited Canada.

Additionally, wetland drainage creates losses in erosion control, groundwater recharge as well as flood and drought moderation.

Local producer Roger Lesage says that producers like himself could benefit from receiving compensation for maintaining or enhancing wetlands—a practice which can cost in lost productivity but supports longterm economic benefit for Manitobans.

According to Cliff Greenfield at the

Pembina Valley Conservation District (PVCD), "The Wetland Restoration Incentive Program provides landowners added value for restoring wetlands on their property." "Payments are made per acre on a ten-year program" and amounts are assessed based on number of acres and the type of wetland.



Important habitat for waterfowl and other species has been improved by this enhanced wetland area near Kalida. Landowners can receive additional value for wetland restoration through the new Wetland Restoration Incentive Program.

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Job Type: Full-time Salary: \$28,252.00 to \$35,315.00 /year Job Location: Morden, MB Required education: High school or equivalent Required experience: Accounting: 2 years

To apply email HR@ranacaregroup.com









HELP WANTED



#### CARD OF THANKS

We would like to express a heartfelt thanks for all the prayers, phone calls, visits and many deeds of kindness shown after Isaac's accident. May God bless you all.

-Isaac and Justina Elias and family

BIRTHDAY



The family of Tina Penner invite you to her 80th Birthday Celebration Sunday, July 30th 1:30 - 4:00 p.m. Gateway Resources 1582 Pembina Ave. W. Short program at 2:00 p.m. Your presence is a gift

HELP WANTED

#### MORDEN MOTOR INN

is looking for experienced kitchen cooks, must be reliable and willing to work nights and weekends. We're also looking for an experienced front desk person, experienced waitress & bar tenders. Please leave a resume at the Morden Inn front desk or email att: Dion morden\_inn@mts.net 204 822 6272





Jerry Hildebrand 1929 – 2016 How my heart cried out on the 12th When God took him Home so suddenly, -but He knows what is best. -Marjorie

#### AUCTION

#### COLLECTOR & YARD EQUIP. FOR SUSAN DYCK & ESTATE OF THE LATE JAKE DYCK

SAT., JULY 22 • 10 AM 7 MILES SOUTH OF WINKLER ON HWY 32 AND 1/4

MILE WEST ON ROAD 5 NORTH IN HOCHFELD VILLAGE Stationary engines Lister Ruston Hornsby, IHC, Fairbanks, Kohler, approx. 6 John Deeres etc. 16/40 Metal cutting lathe, Large milling machine, Shop Press etc. 2014 Kubota L3400 TRACTOR 144 HRS, Bad boy ZT 48 "mower





#### OBITUARY

#### David Penner 1974 - 2017

David Penner, 42, of Reinfeld, MB passed away Sunday, July 9, 2017 peacefully at home with his wife at his side. Dave was born on October 3, 1974 in Fresnillo, Mexico to Diedrich and Anna (Guenter) Penner.

He was predeceased by three siblings, Peter, Peter and Aganetha. He is survived by the love of his life, Tina (Siemens) and their precious children, Joshua, Matthew, Jaquelyn and Alexander; his parents, Diedrich and Anna; his siblings, Aaron, Mary (Peter), Anna (John), Kathy (Frank), Margaret (Adam), Nancy and their families; father and mother-in-law, Henry and Helena Siemens and their families.

Dave had a happy childhood where he spent many hours outdoors enjoying the sun, which is perhaps why he had little affection for winters. As a young boy, Dave was a bit of a mischievous fellow, and once, to avoid consequences for one of his pranks, spent the entire day hiding in a cornfield, only after he smelled his mom's empanadas cooking, did his love of food lure him home.

Young Dave and Tina worked together which led to a budding romance. They were high school sweethearts in every sense of the word. Alongside Tina, Dave was baptized upon confession of his faith on May 26, 1996 at the Winkler Mennonite Church. They boldly proclaimed their love for each other, and were married less than a month later on June 22, 1996. Early in their dating years, Dave would often watch Tina hit McDonald's drive-thru after dates as she was too nervous to eat in front of him. The wake-up call for just how seriously Tina took her McDonalds came on their honeymoon when Dave ate the last of Tina's fries upsetting her burger to fry ratio – it was a mistake he never repeated.

The birth of each child was a life highlight and he rejoiced from the depth of his heart with each one. He thoroughly enjoyed family movie nights, holidays with his treasured loves and trips to Mexico. He cherished those memories.

Dave was passionate about missions and being able to help those less fortunate. During one of his times volunteering at Lighthouse Mission he was honoured to lead someone to the Lord. Dave was very intentional with his relationships. Throughout his illness, unsurprisingly to those who knew him, he provided the support and comfort to his family and friends. Dave was a strong man, and there was never any guessing as to how he was feeling as he wore his heart on his sleeve. Dave was a devoted and faithful family man whose deepest joy and greatest pride were his wife and the children he has now temporarily left behind. As his illness progressed, he had increasing joy knowing he would soon see his Lord and Saviour, and great peace knowing Tina and each of his children would one day be reunited with him in heaven.

Funeral service was held at 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 13, 2017 at Winkler Mennonite Church with interment at Westridge Memorial Gardens.

If friends and family so desire, donations may be made in Dave's memory to the BTHC Foundation designated to palliative care.

2 Timothy 4:7-8

I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day—and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

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



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