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The Winkler Morden *Voice*

THURSDAY,
JULY 30, 2015*Locally owned & operated - Dedicated to serving our communities*

Community bids farewell to The Hitching Post

By Lorne Stelmach

People who live and work in Darlingford and the surrounding area were uncertain this week where they would next be going to meet for coffee or lunch.

For now, however, they were going to just celebrate and say thanks to the mother and daughter who have run The Hitching Post for the past 16 years.

The regular customers joined family and friends at the community's main meeting place on Monday to surprise Mary Loepky and her daughter Wanda, who have both decided it's time for a change.

With the SOLD sign now up in the restaurant's window, people like area farmer Murray Seymour wanted to show their appreciation for the duo before their departure from the restaurant business.

"We want to celebrate 16 years of Mary and Wanda providing this service to our community. It's meant a lot to us," Seymour commented as a packed dining room enjoyed coffee and cake. "It means a lot to the community. I know when the restaurant first closed before, we had no one doing coffee in town, and there was no place to meet, no place to gather."

"It is kind of a sad day, but I just realized I was getting tired and needed a change,"



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

A long-time customer at The Hitching Post in Darlingford presents mother-daughter owners Mary and Wanda Loepky with flowers at a community celebration on Monday. After 16 years, the pair are getting out of the local restaurant business, leaving the café's future up in the air.

said Mary, as she took a break from serving coffee. "It's been a rewarding experience. And we've made lots of great friends."

It was in 1999 when Mary and Wanda saw The Hitching Post was up for sale and made the decision

to try going into business together.

Mary said it was time for a change in her life back then as well.

"It was totally a new experience. I had never been in the restaurant business before," she said.

"I don't know if it was necessarily

the right thing ... but my daughter decided that she would like to try it, so I came in as an accomplice," she added with a laugh. "She had worked in the restaurant business

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> HITCHING POST, FROM PG. 1

before, but for me it was totally a new experience."

Wanda had worked in a restaurant in the area previously for about seven years, and for her the appeal was the opportunity to set up shop in a smaller community like Darlingford.

"We just thought we would give it a try. So here we are, 16 years later," she said.

"I like small towns. We're absolutely small town, been raised in a small town in the Morden area, and we'd always had something to do with Darlingford," she added.

"We've always had something to do with this town. We've always had relatives here. We held family gatherings in this town. So we've always been involved. Darlingford's been a part of our life."

For both of them, what's made their years in the restaurant business most meaningful is the relationships built with the customers and the community.

"It's seeing people every day and meeting new people," said Mary.

"We've met people from all walks of life. We've had people in from the States . . . all the way from Wisconsin and Nebraska. There were always people travelling through."

"We're close to people," said Wanda. "And it's very family-oriented, very small-town. There is a lot of love, and people care."

That sense of community helped make the work seem less onerous, although both acknowledge that the running a successful restaurant demands hard work.

"There's all kinds of challenges that come along with it . . . but it's been good," said Mary, who added she also learned a great deal over the years.

Wanda noted that she never minded coming to work each day.

"You've still got to put a smile on your face. You've got to enjoy it. It's a big percentage of your life, so you better enjoy it."

PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE
Above: Loyal customers organized a surprise farewell celebration at The Hitching Post in Darlingford on Monday, filling the place for a morning of coffee and reminiscing. Left: Several volunteers passed along flowers to customers as they entered to present to owners Wanda and Mary Loepky in thanks for their years of service.

Both said they have no plans yet for the future.

"Right now, I'm just going to take some time off . . . and go from there," said Mary, who added she really hoped there might be a future still for the restaurant in the community.

"I hope it does continue on. It's the hub for socializing for the people here in town. If it doesn't happen, it will be sad."

The day was bittersweet, agreed Wanda.

"I have a lot of memories here. My kids were raised here . . . seven and three years old when we came here in 1999. It definitely is home."

Seymour said the regulars at The

Hitching Post also hope that another meeting place for the community will come along to fill the void left by the Loepky ladies' departure.

"It's been a great asset to the community and to the local people. They've put out some great meals at lunch time for the farmers who stop in," he said. "The smaller towns are closing down, businesses are closing and moving out. We need convenience stores and restaurants in our towns

to keep them going. Times are changing . . . but whatever businesses we can keep on going here is helpful to the community."

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LATER."**

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Voice welcomes new reporter to the team

The Winkler-Morden Voice is pleased to welcome Lorne Stelmach to our editorial staff as our new reporter.

Lorne comes to the role with over 25 years of experience in community journalism in our region, and he's eager to get back into covering the people and events that make this area so special.

You'll see Lorne at events all over the Pembina Valley, though his focus will be on Morden and the surrounding communities.

You can get in touch with Lorne at lstelmach@winklermordenvoice.ca or 204-823-2655.



Firefighters parade boot drive helping one of their own

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler fire department is hoping the community will be more generous than ever at the Harvest Festival and Exhibition's Saturday morning parade boot drive next week.

As always, firefighters will be walking the parade route armed with their boots to collect donations for a worthy cause.

Most often that cause has been the Manitoba Firefighters Burn Fund, but not so this year, says firefighter Ray Doell.

"This year, we have one of our own that needs our help."

Seven-year-old Kadyn Giesbrecht, son of firefighter Henry Giesbrecht and his wife Maryanne, is currently undergoing treatment for leukemia.

Every dollar dropped into a boot next weekend will go to help the Giesbrecht family deal with this trying time.

"The Winkler firefighters association has decided that all our fundraisers for this year will go to them," Doell says, noting the boot drive raised around \$5,400 last summer. "The community is always really supportive of it, and hopefully they'll come through for us again this year."

Henry Giesbrecht, who has been with the department for five years, says the support his family has re-

ceived from his fellow firefighters has been overwhelming.

"It's a huge blessing," he says, choking up. Henry has walked the parade route, boot in hand, for years, but he never imagined he'd be on the receiving end of the community's generosity.

"It's beyond words," adds Maryanne. "That anyone would want to help is amazing. That anyone would go to this length for us, it's a miracle."

The costs of treatment are adding up, with the Giesbrechts having to take Kadyn into the Children's Hospital in Winnipeg several times a week. Maryanne has also taken a leave of absence from her job to care for her son.

In addition to dealing with leukemia, Kadyn has also been diagnosed with a rare neurological disorder known as ataxia telangiectasia (also called Louis-Bar syndrome).

This disorder, which severely affects the nervous and immune systems, is the cause of his cancer, Maryanne says, and it's something that Kadyn will be struggling with for the rest of his life.

"It affects the brain and it is degenerative," she says. But there is reason to hope—most children diagnosed with the disorder, by Kadyn's age, are unable to walk or feed themselves;



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Henry and Maryanne Giesbrecht with sons Kadyn, 7, and Asher, 3. The Giesbrechts will be the recipients of the Winkler fire department's annual festival parade boot drive next week to help cover costs associated with Kadyn's battle with leukemia.

two things Kadyn is very much able to do. "It's not a very common disease and we don't know how it's going to affect him in the long-run yet."

Right now, the Giesbrechts are taking it one day at a time, focusing on helping Kadyn beat this cancer and get well enough to tackle whatever comes next.

"The leukemia treatment lasts three and a half years," Maryanne says. Kadyn has thus far responded very well to treatment and is currently in re-

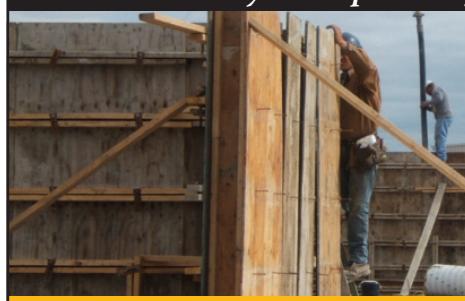
mission, though he still needs to go in for ongoing treatments to keep the cancer at bay.

Look for Kadyn and his family on one of the fire trucks in next week's parade, flanked by firefighters collecting donations on both sides of the street.

In addition to the boot drive, a fundraising barbecue will also be held at the Winkler Co-op parking lot after the parade.

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**PHOTOS BY
EMILY-ANN DOERKSEN/VOICE**

About 40 bikers took part in the third annual HOG Toy Run from Morden to St. Norbert on Saturday, bringing \$5,000 worth of toys to child patients at the Children's Hospital in Winnipeg. Left: Newcomer to the Toy Run John Blatz says he'll definitely be taking part again next year.

Bikers collect \$5,000 worth of toys for sick kids

By Emily-Ann Doerksen

About 40 members of the Southern Manitoba chapter of the Harley Owners Group (HOG) rode off of the Gaslight Harley-Davidson parking lot with \$5,000 worth of toys in tow last Saturday.

In its third annual HOG Toy Run, the group were headed to St. Norbert to transfer the toys to the Children's Hospital Foundation to put a smile on the face of child patients.

Organizer Terry Walde started up the run after seeing the need when friends of his had a child in the hospital.

"The Children's Hospital can only allocate so much money to supply stuff for the children," he says. "We just want to give back."

Participants in the ride were asked to bring along as a registration fee one new, unwrapped toy, which ranged from Lego sets to action fig-

ures to board games.

When the truckload of toys reaches the hospital, the nurses pass the gifts out as needed to kids receiving treatment.

"Our first year we had someone donate a bicycle," says Walde. "It went into the rehab ward, to help [the kids] gain mobility in their legs and regain balance. It's amazing what the little stuff will do."

Walde says that the event is not only for bikers.

"It's a community thing. Anyone can come and drop item off . . . anyone can give to the cause."

This was biker John Blatz's first time at the ride and he said he'll definitely be back next year.

"I think it's a really good cause. It's good that a group of bikers can take some time aside and do some good," he said just before the ride got underway. "I'm looking forward to next year and we haven't even left yet."

"IT'S GOOD THAT A GROUP OF BIKERS CAN TAKE SOME TIME ASIDE AND DO SOME GOOD."

Scotiabank supports PVHS animal shelter

Scotiabank's Michael Chute and Kerri Leroux presented the Pembina Humane Society's shelter manager Anita Hatcher, president Cindy Kalansky, fundraising co-chair Megan Rodgers, and shelter dog Martin with a donation of \$5,000 last week, matching some of the funds raised at the Steps for Pets walk-a-thons that were held across the region this June.

"We match up to \$5,000, which we've been happy to do for the last seven years," says Chute. "We've also had a lot of our staff involved every year ..."

everyone seems to really jump on it as a project they want to support."

"This is huge for us because it allows us to take funds that we raise as pledges and essentially allows us to double our money with this partnership," says Kalansky. "Steps for Pets is the biggest fundraiser that we do in a year."

The funds will be mainly used to cover veterinary costs at the shelter, which ensures every animal is healthy and fixed before being put up for adoption, Rodgers says.



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Katie Cares teams up with Blood Services

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Hundreds came out to donate blood at a special blood donor clinic held in memory of Kaitlyn Reimer last week.

Canadian Blood Services teamed up with Kaitlyn's charity, Katie Cares, last Thursday for a clinic at the Winkler MB Church that aimed to reach out to a younger generation of donors.

"They want to attract new donors, young donors, and they felt that this would be a way to do it," says Ruth Reimer, Kaitlyn's mother. "I've seen a lot of young people in here today who knew Kaitlyn or they knew of her, so this is definitely reaching who they wanted to reach."

Steve Raizen, Canadian Blood Services territory manager, says connecting with a younger demographic of donors is crucial to meet the ongoing need for blood across the nation.

"A large majority of our donors are actually over the age of 50 and they donate a good portion of the donations that are committed across the country, so we're always looking to engage new donors and especially

younger donors who will be able to donate for a long period of time."

He says that most people don't give much thought to how important having an adequate supply of blood for patients in hospitals is until something happens to themselves or someone they love.

"About 52 per cent of Canadians will need or know someone who will need blood product in their lives, and only about four per cent of eligible Canadians actually donate," he says. "So I really just think it's a lack of awareness that there is a need for donors."

"The saying is, 'It's in you to give' and it really is," Reimer stresses. "Donating blood is so easy to do, but it can make such a difference in someone's life."

Kaitlyn herself was the recipient of 16 blood transfusions and four platelet transfusions while she received treatment for the cancer that eventually claimed her life.

Each time she received a transfusion she was left feeling just a little bit stronger and better able to recover from the chemotherapy, Reimer says. "I learned a lot while Kaitlyn was

"I NEVER REALIZED BEFORE THAT A BAG OF BLOOD COULD DO SO MUCH FOR SO MANY."



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Canadian Blood Services; Steve Raizen and Katie Cares' Ruth Reimer with first-time blood donor Eryn Penner at last week's special clinic in Winkler.

going through it about blood screening and about how they take the blood and spin it into platelets and plasma and whole blood," she says. "I never realized before that a bag of blood could do so much for so many."

"As a parent, as a patient, it's overwhelming," Reimer adds. "You're so grateful, but you can't even go back to that person who donated and say thank-you. But now we can pay it forward."

Raizen notes that one unit of blood can help save the lives of up to three patients. On average, a minute doesn't go by in this country without someone, somewhere needing blood to survive, be it a car crash victim or a cancer patient.

"The need is always there," Raizen says. "Really, it's something that I think people, if they've never donated before, you might not consider just how rewarding that it actually is. Once you have made a donation, it's a really positive feeling knowing that you've given back to the community and that you've given back to potential family members or neighbours who may in fact need blood someday."

If you'd like information on becoming a blood donor, log on to www.blood.ca or call 1-888-2DONATE.

The next clinics in our area take place in Morden at the Access Event Centre on Aug. 10 and in Winkler on Aug. 27.

POLICE BRIEFS

Police arrest three for assault in connection with drug debt

- Winkler police received a report on July 21 from a man who said he had been assaulted by three men in connection with an unpaid drug debt and that he believed he was once again in danger.

The man provided police with the name of his assailants, who were all taken into custody over the next few days without incident.

All three of the men were charged with assault, while two were also charged with breach of undertaking in connection with previous releases. One of the men remains in custody at the Winnipeg Remand Centre. The other two were released under strict conditions to protect the victim.

- Police are warning residents about another scam making the rounds in local cyberspace.

Morden Police reported July 23 that they had received a few complaints of a scam involving both text messages and emails.

The message appears to have come from the Bank of Montreal and is asking the recipient to take immediate action to update their personal information because their credit card had been deactivated.

Police warn the public that this is in fact a scam and never to give out any personal information to unknown sources.

- A local youth has learned a lesson about not only obeying a curfew but also not drawing attention to yourself. Police charged the 16-year-old boy with breach of undertaking for failing to observe a curfew.

They were called about two people

seen smoking on the roof of Marathon Pizza around 1 a.m. When officers arrived there was no one on the roof, but they saw two males in the back lane one block away.

The two fled on foot, but one individual was caught and arrested and police later identified the other youth as a teen who was on a 10 p.m. to 7

a.m. curfew. He will appear in Morden Provincial Court in July.

- Morden Police are investigating the theft of a wallet from a vehicle parked on Birchwood Drive on July 11 sometime between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Continued on page 7



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Harry SiemensPRODUCTION
Tara GionetPRODUCTION
Nicole Kapusta

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Winkler Morden Voice

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get heard

EDITORIAL > VIEWPOINTS > LETTERS

Those who don't know history . . .

The community of European nations is currently re-enacting the Treaty of Versailles with Greece playing the role of Germany, and the ramifications have clearly not been thought through.

The ongoing and increasingly burdensome financial sanctions being placed upon Greece by its neighbours is a recipe for disaster that, if they are not stopped, will send Greece hurtling towards fascist nationalism as it sees its heritage stripped away one ancient column at a time.

The requirements that continue to be piled upon the nation credited with founding democracy and the modern western world are unconscionable and mindbogglingly difficult to understand.

The benefits related to the repayment of the outstanding loans pales in comparison to the instability that is almost certain to come when Greece, crushed under the weight of austerity initiatives, collapses and sends shock waves through Europe and beyond.

While the circumstances that led to Greece's current economic state are different from those that led to Versailles, the consequences could be just as dire, if not moreso.

In the wake of the First World War, Europe and the Americas sought to bind Germany to very strict war reparations as a consequence of their defeat and in an effort to subjugate the nation to a point where it could not rise again in such fashion against the rest of Europe.

As a result, the Treaty of Versailles was signed on June 28, 1919, effectively ending the war and saddling an already destroyed Germany with a \$441 billion USD debt (in 2015 dollars) to cover the cost of reconstruc-

tion throughout the rest of Europe. This Article 231 of the treaty was later to become known as the War Guilt clause.

Germany had little choice but to accept the treaty terms or risk an Allied invasion and occupation.

Just as the Greek population is highly critical of the current terms being placed upon it by Europe, so too the German population in 1919 roundly rejected the treaty and resented the implications and the impact it had on their people and economy.

Ultimately, the treaty led to severe political instability in Germany, not to mention unprecedented economic hardship and joblessness that made the rise of Adolph Hitler and his National Socialist Party (the Nazis) relatively easy.

By appealing to the German people's pride and by creating a mythology of its history, Hitler's rhetoric of strength and call to take Germany back for the German people resonated strongly and drowned out other voices as it seemed the only option.

To paraphrase the great Chinese philosopher of warfare: when you back your enemy against a river they have no place to go and nothing left to lose. They will fight as if death is the only other option.

Germany had its back up against a river and its response, however horrifying, was the response of a people who felt they had no other options except ceasing to exist.

With these things in mind, Germany began the long and inevitable march toward the Second World War and the deaths of tens of millions of people.

Today, we're at a point in history where Greece has been backed up against a similar river with no apparent source of escape.

One of the terms of the current bailout deal is that Greece is required to sell \$50 billion of property to Europe. What property is worth so much? There is already talk that they will have to consider selling precious ruins like the Acropolis and the beautiful Greek islands that dot the coast.

Sell your history to stay alive . . . this is what the Greek people are hearing and it is not being received well.

What is happening in Europe right now is scandalous and ignorant. The potential consequences of holding Greece's feet to the flames are frightening.

Most frustratingly, the country most resistant to forgiving Greece's debt (or even a portion of it) is Germany, the very country who benefited on Feb. 27, 1953 from the signing of the German Debt Treaty, which saw Greece and the rest of Europe and the Americas forgive a substantial amount of German debt built up after WW2, thus allowing for a new, stimulated economy to rise and lift Germany to one of the greatest economies on earth.

Right now, five years into the ridiculous austerity requirements of European bailout aid, Greece is in worse economic shape than ever.

What they need is to have their debts forgiven as others have had theirs forgiven. What they need is a year of jubilee. Instead, they are being handcuffed and thrown into the Aegean Sea while the rest of Europe salivates like vultures over its holdings.

Letter policy

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

Please keep your letters short, on-topic, and respectful.

Letters may be edited for style and length. Letters written with malicious intent or considered to be in poor taste may not be published.

Please include your name, address, and phone number so we can

confirm your identity (address and phone number will not be printed, but your name will).

Send your letters to us by e-mail at news@winklermordenvoice.ca, or via mail to:

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The search for Klaas & Helena

Woman tracks down the unmarked final resting place of her great-grandparents and sets right an old wrong

By Ashleigh Viveiros

A Morden area woman has righted a past wrong and ensured her great-grandparents can finally rest in peace.

After taking a major interest in her family's genealogy, Julie McNeice hit a wall while trying to track down the final resting place of her maternal great-grandparents, Klaas and Helena Kroeker, who died in 1928 and 1945, respectively.

The pair made their home in the Reinland area and, later, in Winkler, but there was no sign of either of them in local cemeteries.

"I looked for him everywhere, just everywhere," McNeice says of Klass, noting she and a friend have travelled to cemeteries all over Manitoba and parts of Saskatchewan tracking down family members, but Klass was conspicuously missing.

She focused her search first on Schoenwiese, since that's the area where the pair made their home after emigrating to Canada from Russia separately as children.

Klass was a respected member of the community, working as a farmer, a clerk in the Reinland store he would later own, postmaster for the region stretching all the way to Gretna, and as a song leader in his church for decades.

He was well-known to have helped sponsor a great number of immigrants from Russia to Manitoba during the late 19th century, helping countless families get their start in a new land.

Family oral history indicates that Klaas took a very lenient view of collecting the debts owed to him at the store.

"He would say, 'If they could pay, they would pay,'" McNeice says.

This likely accounts for why Helena died penniless and why a tombstone was never erected for either of them—there just wasn't the money to do so.

Still, after living full lives and giving back to the community as they did, the fact that Klaas and Helena could so completely disappear bothered McNeice to no end.

"I just couldn't stop wondering what had hap-

**"TO ME, ROOTS
ARE IMPORTANT—
PEOPLE NEED TO
KNOW WHERE
THEY'RE FROM."**

pened to them," she says.

McNeice's efforts to find her great-grandparents were hindered by the realization that the cemetery in Schoenwiese had been destroyed long ago to make way for a farmer's field, and none of the records had been kept. All that remains on the site now is a single tombstone with a plaque dedicated to all the early pioneers laid to rest there.

"So there was no way to know if he, or his father, Jacob, were there," McNeice says of Klaas.

More detective work revealed that the cemetery in Reinland did have a Helena Kroeker buried there, but a complicated family dynamic made identifying just who that was quite difficult: Klaas' widowed father and Helena's widowed mother actually married one another in

1884, a year after their children's own marriage.

Though that tombstone has become nearly illegible over the decades, McNeice was fairly certain it belongs to her great-great-grandmother, meaning the hunt for Klaas and Helena continued.

After further mining the memories of older family members, McNeice finally found a cousin who clearly remembered Helena being laid to rest in the Rosenbach Cemetery just south of Winkler.

It's believed by McNeice that Helena would have been buried alongside her husband, who predeceased her by nearly 20 years.

"The Sommerfelder Church told me there was actually a church right near here, and so Klaas, being a vorsänger, a church song leader, was probably in that church, and so therefore it would be logical that he would have been laid to rest right here, and then she would too, later."

And so, finally, after nearly a decade of on-and-off research and 70 years since Helena was buried in an unmarked grave, on a sunny Saturday earlier this month McNeice and her cousin dedicated a simple tombstone bearing the names of both Klaas and Helena.

McNeice is thrilled to finally put an end to this family mystery and have her ancestors honoured properly for lives well-lived.

"To me, roots are important—people need to know where they're from," she says. "It's an integral part of who you are."

> POLICE REPORT, FROM PG. 5

The wallet is described as brown leather with a 'C' engraved on it.

Anyone with information is asked to call the Morden Police Service at 822-4900 or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477.

- On July 27, a 16-year-old male youth was charged with breach of undertaking and drug possession following a traffic stop.

A passenger was known to police to be on an overnight curfew. Police then also noted a strong odour of burnt marijuana coming from inside the vehicle, and a small quantity of the drug was found in the centre console.

The accused will appear in Morden Provincial Court in August.



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

After years of research, Julie McNeice finally tracked down and was able to mark the final resting place of her great-grandparents in Rosenbach Cemetery near Winkler.

The Bra Lady Is Coming To Size You Up

Are you tired of feeling saggy, lumpy, pinched or strained? Well you're not alone. As you've probably seen on Oprah or read in women's magazines, over 80 per cent of all women wear the wrong size bra.

Here's where Barb Chapman, the Bra Lady, comes in.

Due to the overwhelming response to the previous clinic, Chapman is coming to **WINKLER AND MANITOON WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12** to outfit you with the best possible bra for your body. Chapman said she will be seeing clients on a one-on-one basis, explaining the benefits of good bras and measuring their bodies properly.

"Most women just want to find a good-fitting bra that's not uncomfortable," Chapman says. "What they don't realize is that a good support bra is also important for blood circulation and enhanced lymph drainage."

Chapman has over 200 bra sizes available for ordering, ranging from 30AA to 52KK. It's likely that you'll fit somewhere between those sizes.

She offers these questions for women to ask themselves:

- Do you have a drawer full of bras but none that fit comfortably?
- Does your bust line "bounce" when you walk while wearing your "everyday" bra?
- Do you overflow the cup of your bra?
- Do your bra straps dig into your shoulders leaving red and painful marks?
- Does your bra ride up in the back because you tighten the straps to give you added support?
- Have you ever begun an exercise class only to drop out because your breasts ached from lack of support while jumping or running?

If you answer yes to any of these you are in need of a new bra, and a custom one could be the way to go.

1-800-254-3938 BY AUGUST 11

She doesn't come into town very often so she advises booking as soon as possible. Although Chapman enjoys coming to this area, she is on the look-out for someone to train for the business.

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PHOTOS BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Left: the CFDC's Victoria Markstrom led guests in singing Happy Birthday to Bruce on Saturday, celebrating the 41st anniversary of the fossil's discovery. Above: the party included cake and games.

Bruce turns 41—give or take a few million years

Bruce the mosasaur is starting to look a little long in tooth.

The Canadian Fossil Discovery Centre in Morden held a 80,000,041st birthday party for their star attraction last Saturday.

The fossil was discovered 41 years ago in a farmer's field northwest of Morden and has been dated back to the Cretaceous period, approximately 80-83 million years ago, said the

CFDC's field and collections manager Victoria Markstrom.

"Though we don't know exactly when Bruce was born, we still celebrate her birthday every year in recognition of her discovery in 1974," she said, noting that, yes, Bruce is technically a female, though that was determined long after the male moniker had stuck.

The story goes that Bruce was dis-

covered when a farmer stepped on a jawbone in his field.

"It lifted up from the field and the farmer saw it and thought it was a very odd-looking shape," Markstrom said.

An amateur paleontologist, he quickly realized he had unearthed part of a prehistoric monster.

"He knew from the get-go it wasn't just a stick or a rock or anything like

that, and the rest was discovered afterwards," said Markstrom.

It took several summers to dig Bruce out of the soil, eventually revealing a 13-meter long fossil that is still to this day the largest mosasaur fossil of its kind on display in the world.

Saturday's party included a rendition of *Happy Birthday*, two huge birthday cakes, and party games.

Morden chamber seeks business award noms

Entrepreneur Lindy Norris announced as fall gala guest speaker

By Lorne Stelmach

Morden has a vibrant and dynamic business community, and the chamber of commerce is again looking to honour some of its outstanding businesses and entrepreneurs.

The chamber has put out a call for nominations for the 2015 Morden and District Chamber of Commerce awards gala to be held this fall.

Now in its sixth year, the awards aim to honour "the fan-

tastic businesses and organizations and individuals who are part of the business community here," said executive director Candace Olafson.

She said the awards program particularly recognizes businesses and individuals who go above and beyond just managing and operating a successful business. The awards also recognize one non-profit agency each year.

"We have many businesses that are not only profitable and great employers but also spend a lot of time and money and are dedicated to giving back to the community," said Olafson. "We just want to make sure they are recognized."

The gala is set for Oct. 8 at the Access Event Centre, and the chamber is looking for nominations in a range of categories, including:

- Business of the Year with less than seven employees.
- Business of the Year with seven or more employees.
- Not for Profit of the Year.
- Entrepreneur of the Year.

Full details of the awards criteria are available online at mordenchamber.com.

"Nominations are open to anyone in the public," said Olafson. "So anyone can nominate ... nominate your employer if you think you have a fabulous employer. Or maybe it's



Entrepreneur Lindy Norris is this year's Morden and District Chamber of Commerce awards gala guest speaker.

Hillside Community Church

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TOPIC: Uninhibited



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Continued on page 9

arts & culture

Joe Nichols sticking close to his country roots

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Fans of country music star Joe Nichols will get a taste of something new at his concert in Winkler on Aug. 8.

Nichols takes the stage at the Winkler Harvest Festival and Exhibition as the Friday night headliner, and he says fans should be prepared to have a toe-tapping good time.

"We like to have a little fun. We don't like to take anything too seriously," he said on the phone during a break from touring south of the border last month. "It's just a little bit of country music... maybe a few off-the-wall covers and, overall, just a whole lot of fun."

Nichols is fresh out of the studio working on his ninth album, which is set to be released this fall.

"We're going to do some stuff from our next album that we think have a shot at being a single," he said of next week's show. "And we'll also be doing all the old stuff."

The new album is in the vein of his most recent offering, *Cricket*, from which came the chart-topper "Yeah".

Nichols is mum on the new songs he'll be performing from the album, but he's confident fans will like what they hear.

"It is going to be a lot like *Cricket* in the fact

that we've got some traditional country music on there, got some stuff that's made for radio," he said. "More than anything, it just feels good. It feels like we've got a hit with this."

Sticking true to his traditional country roots is important, the Arkansas native stresses.

"More than anything, it's about being honest with myself, trying to be honest to who I am. I'm a traditionalist singer."

"I grew up listening to this music with my dad, watching my dad play. Some of the earliest memories that I have are of watching him play and wanting to be a singer like him. I grew up listening to Merle [Haggard] and Willie [Nelson] and Marty Robbins, Don Williams, a lot of the baritone, great country singers, so I kind of just naturally just started out trying to sound like those guys, as much as possible. It's just kind of the music that resonates with me."

Now that it's him up on stage, Nichols said there's always something special about connecting with audiences large and small across the continent.

"Playing shows live, trying new songs out, seeing people sing along to songs they've already heard for a long time—that's a rewarding feeling, for sure."

"And whether it's a big venue or a small venue, I think a good show is a good show," Nichols

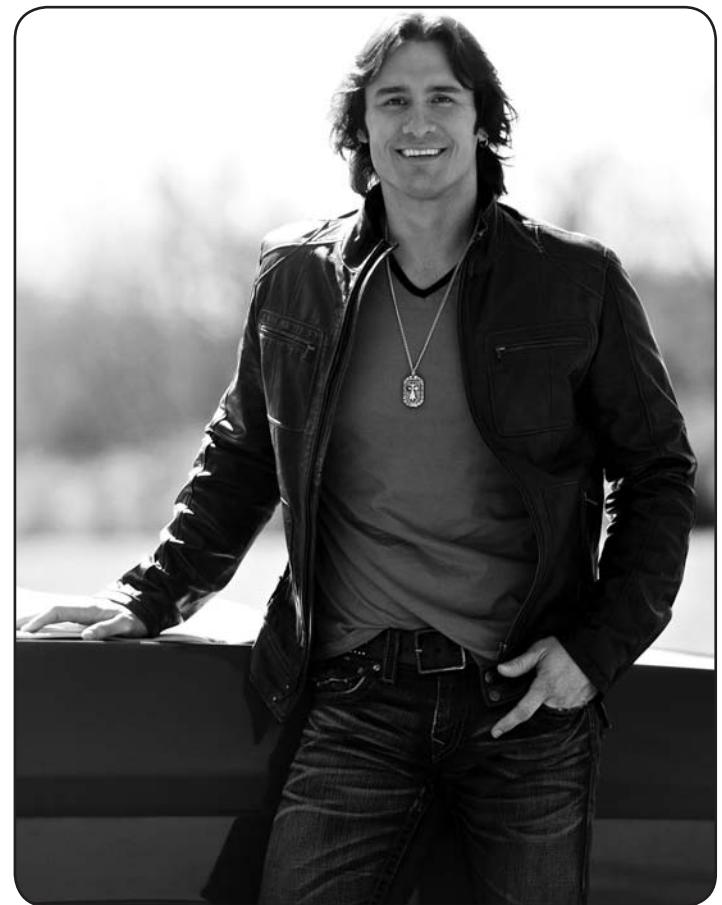


PHOTO BY ANN-MARIE HENSLEY

Joe Nichols performs at the Winkler Harvest Festival and Exhibition next week Friday, August 7.

added. "What we like to try and do, even if there's 30,000 people, is we try to make people feel like we're playing in their own backyard. We're all just there having a good time."

Nichols performs Friday, Aug. 7 at the festival Main Stage starting at 9 p.m.

**News tip? Reach us at
news@winkermordenvoice.ca**

Registration open for craft sale

Christmas may seem like a long ways off, but it'll be here sooner than you think—and coming even sooner is the start of table registration for the Morden Christmas Arts and Crafts Sale.

This year's sale takes over the Access Event Centre on Saturday, Nov. 7, raising funds for the Pembina Hills Arts Council.

The holiday sale has been a staple of the PHAC's fundraising efforts for decades, attracting artisans, crafters, and shoppers from all around the region and offering displays filled with a wide variety of handcrafted items.

The day will also feature lunch available for purchase from the Access Event Centre staff, a silent auction featuring donated items from each participating crafter, and a 50/50

draw.

Table registration opens next week, Aug. 4, and runs until Sept. 30. It costs \$30 per table, with art council members getting a \$5 discount per table. There are only 80 tables available, so

register early to avoid disappointment.

Registration forms are available at the Pembina Hills Arts Centre in Morden or by calling 204-822-6026 or emailing info@pembinahillsarts.com.

> CHAMBER GALA, FROM PG. 8

a business where you appreciate their customer service."

To make a nomination, log on to the chamber's web page or Facebook page or call 822-5630.

FEATURED SPEAKER

Meanwhile, the chamber has also announced that Lindy Norris will be this year's gala guest speaker.

Norris, who was named as one of Canada's brightest young minds by

Marketing Magazine, is a marketer, entrepreneur, speaker, and writer focused on growing businesses and helping leaders realize their potential.

She offers her expertise in areas including brand leadership, strategy development, marketing and communications experience.

She is the director of business development and marketing with Pitblado Law and is also the founder of Athena Leadership and SageWest as well as operating Lindy Norris Consulting.

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International mixed media artist Finnabair (a.k.a. Anna Dabrowska, at left) was in Winkler last week to teach a series of classes on a variety of techniques and projects.

PHOTOS BY
ASHLEIGH
VIVEIROS/
VOICE

Learning from the master

Mixed media artist Finnabair shares her skills with Winkler scrapbookers

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Local scrapbookers got the rare chance to learn from the master when famed international mixed media artist Finnabair made a stop in Winkler last week.

Hosted by the scrapbooking store Love is in the Details, Finnabair (a.k.a. Anna Dabrowska) travelled from Ireland to spend two days at the Quality Inn teaching four sold-out classes on a variety of advanced scrapbooking/mixed media techniques.

Store owner Lori Patterson said it was a packed-full couple of days, with everyone in attendance going home with a whole new set of skills.

"It's been information overload," she said after class on the Wednesday.

Though the store holds regular how-to classes for scrapbooking and beyond, they never imagined they'd get a teacher of Dabrowska's calibre, Patterson said.

"She is probably the most well-known scrapbooking artist... she has the most unique style and does the most detailed classes for mixed media," she said. "Did we ever think she'd come to Winkler? Never!"

The stars aligned, though, to bring Dabrowska to town during her North

American tour. Winkler is actually one of just two Canadian stops on the 10-city tour, which meant Finnabair followers from across Manitoba and even into Saskatchewan made the drive to Winkler last week.

Dabrowska is a firm believer that anyone can become proficient at creating mixed media masterpieces if they're willing to put a little effort into it and to get creative.

"You don't really need any special skills—if you can hold a brush in your hand and if you're able to stamp some of these designs, you're able to do it," she said. "I have a lot of people who are beginners, but because you just break the process into very simple steps, you can learn and grow as you go."

She first started scrapbooking about seven years ago and quickly became addicted. Soon after, the former after-school teacher translated her love into a full-time career travelling the world leading classes in collage, scrapbooking, art journaling, and more.

What draws people to the hobby is the fact there are no rules: it's just pure creative expression using whatever items catch your eye, Dabrowska said.

"It can be anything you want. That makes it a lot of great fun because people throw away a lot of great stuff, but once you look at it and you think, 'I like this shape' or 'I like this texture' or 'This piece has really cool history', you just want to use it, and you can. You're giving things a new life."

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PHOTOS BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Clock Tower Corner marked five years in Morden with its Summer's Medley session at the art gallery last week. Kids had a blast singing, dancing, and creating art. The next session starts in September.



Clock Tower Corner celebrates five years

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Clock Tower Corner celebrated five years of programs at the Pembina Hills Arts Centre last week with its Summer's Medley session.

The program has been offering morning and afternoon sessions filled with music, games, and crafts for kids age three to six since 2011.

"We're an educational creative arts program," explains instructor Jennifer Krahn. "We use a different artistic medium every week—pastels, arts and crafts, recycling materials and making something new, painting . . . and we also cover an artistic side in music, free movement, storytelling."

"I use a lot of hands-on, tactile items so that the kids are engaged, and they're not corrected on how they do their art projects," she adds, stressing the program provides a structured environment for kids to get creative. "It is so important to instill in young children the arts so that they grow up and become artists in our community, whether musicians, singers, songwriters, dancers, potters, whatever."

The program also brings kids on outings all over the community,

"We explore the community, we support the community," Krahn says. "It's instilling in the children that Morden is beautiful and Morden is a great place to grow up and that it's creative in and of itself—we don't need swings and slides to have fun, necessarily."

Since that first session five years ago, over 300 kids have gone through the program, many coming back again and again.

"It just keeps growing," Krahn says. "I'm very thankful to the community for the support. We've had a lot of sponsors walk beside us over the years and I'm so grateful for them."

Clock Tower Corner returns with classes running this fall at the gallery starting Sept. 10. Contact the gallery for detailed registration information.

Krahn is also making her first foray into Winkler with a new educational arts program at the Winkler Bergthaler Mennonite Church this fall. That program is already full, but she hopes to hold additional sessions in the future

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Lobsterfest proceeds go to help local kids

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Morden Elks Club shared the proceeds from their hugely successful June Lobsterfest with the RM of Stanley and Katie Cares last week.

Lobsterfest chair Gord Maddock presented Stanley Reeve Morris Olafson and Katie Cares' Ruth Reimer and Rob Suderman with \$4,000 each to go towards the new playground equipment in Stanley Park and the Katie's Cottage respite home project, respectively.

"We focus on children, whether they're healthy or whether they're sick," Maddock said of the donations. "The old equipment had to go. [Stanley Park] needed new equipment and

we were all for that. Katie Cares was just perfect—[Kate's Cottage] is just a great facility to have at our hospital. We had a meeting and it didn't take more than two minutes and we had these recipients picked out."

The new playground equipment is already in place at Stanley Park and has been very well-received, said Olafson.

"When we had our party for [Stanley's 125th anniversary], the playground equipment was full," he said. "There were bodies all over top of that thing. So you know it's being used.

That park is terribly busy...it's a free place for everybody to come."

"I think it's just a great thing and I commend the Elks on their contributions here," he added. "It just helps the area out, there's no question

**"WE FOCUS
ON CHILDREN,
WHETHER
THEY'RE HEALTHY
OR WHETHER
THEY'RE SICK."**



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Last week, Morden Elks Club member Gord Maddock (second from left) presented RM of Stanley Reeve Morris Olafson (far left) and Katie Cares' Ruth Reimer and Rob Suderman with donations representing the proceeds of this year's hugely successful Lobsterfest.

about that."

Katie Cares hopes to break ground on the respite home near the Boundary Trails Health Centre later this year, Reimer said.

"We're overwhelmed with the support from the community, from the businesses," she said of the fundraising campaign. "The Elks have been a

tremendous support to Katie Cares and we are very, very fortunate to be connected with them in their support. Kaitlyn's vision is being seen and it's being felt."

Maddock said this year's Lobsterfest was one of their most successful ever, with 220 people coming out to enjoy fresh lobster and all the fixings.

No injuries in early-morning house fire in Morden

Fire engulfed a Morden home early Monday morning.

No one appeared to have suffered any serious injuries, though, in the

blaze that heavily damaged the Second Street residence.

Police say the 911 call came in just before 4 a.m. and the home was fully

engulfed in flames when they arrived on the scene, with smoke filling the house.

Two residents had safely escaped from the home, police say, though it was at first uncertain if a third person was also in the home at the time.

Emergency responders were able to enter the home and ensure that the residence had indeed been evacuated.

Police could not yet comment on the cause of the fire as it remains under investigation.

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PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

The residents of this 2nd St. home in Morden all safely escaped an early-morning fire on Monday. The cause of the blaze is still under investigation.

Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious!

The huge cast of Candlewick Productions' Mary Poppins runs through 'Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious' during the show's opening performances at the Manitou Opera House last weekend. If you missed out, you have another chance this weekend to enjoy the Broadway musical. The show runs Friday at 7 p.m., Saturday at 7 p.m., and on Sunday for a final matinee showing at 3 p.m. Ticket information is available online at candlewick.ca.

SUBMITTED PHOTO



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Learning swim smarts



The Winkler Aquatic Centre held its annual Swim Smart day last Thursday at the pool, educating swimmers about the finer points of water safety. Clockwise from above: Buckles the mascot promoted the importance of wearing a life jacket; Eva Rempel, Jessica Giesbrecht, Mackenzie Klassen, and Barb Friesen got silly at the photo booth; a lifeguard took a dramatic leap into the deep end in a skit on water safety; fellow lifeguards pull "victims" to safety; other activities included "boat" rides for the youngest swimmers, speed slide races, scavenger hunts, and more.





SUBMITTED PHOTO

Winkler Barracudas Aidan Driedger, Reinhart Blignaut, Nathanu Botha, and Finnley Soltis (not shown) set new records in six different events at last Sunday's Swim Manitoba Summer Swim league meet in Beausejour.

Six more records for the Barracudas

By Ashleigh Viveiros

It was yet another record-setting weekend for the Winkler Barracudas, who travelled north to Beausejour for their second Swim Manitoba Summer Swim meet of the season on Sunday.

Aidan Driedger, swimming in the boys 13-14 age group, swam the 50M butterfly in 34.86, beating the record set by teammate Nathanu Botha in 2014.

Botha, meanwhile, also swimming in the 13-14 division, broke his own record from last week's meet in the 200m freestyle with a time of 2:40.63 and also set new times for the 50m freestyle (30.22) and 200m backstroke (3:03.96).

Reinhart Blignaut also broke the record he set last week in the 200m individual medley race with a time of 3.13.78. Blignaut competes in the 15+ division.

Finally, Finnley Soltis broke the 200m freestyle record for boys 11-12 with a time of 3:15.14.

Overall, the 'Cudas had 32 first-place finishes at the meet, with Botha, Blignaut, and Denika Corrigal all swimming their way to first in all five of their races.

After a break this weekend, the team's next meet is in Swan River on Aug. 9.

'Canes win 6-0

The South Central Hurricanes downed visiting Manikos 6-0 Monday night at the 15th St. field.

Jen Martens, Esther Schwarzkopf, and Andi Hildebrandt all scored doubles, while Jen Derksen and Kayleigh Wiens split the two halves in net for the shutout.

The win brings the team's record to 6-2-2.

The 'Canes also faced Portage on Wednesday. Next game is in Winkler on Aug. 7 against the CSSE Impact.

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INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

Mohawks, Pilots tied in two games

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Pilot Mount Pilots narrowly managed to even the scales in game two of the best-of-five semi-final series against the Morden Mohawks on Sunday.

Game one on July 22 saw the Mohawks start the series off with a decisive 11-2 victory.

But if they thought it was going to be easy to keep up that kind of scoring gap in game two, they were wrong.

The Pilots—who were third to the Mohawks' second place finish in the Border West Baseball League's regular season—apparently found their groove, battling Morden to a 5-5 draw that held all the way to the top of the 11th inning under darkening skies.

Pilot Mount's Clint Maxwell managed to slide safely home to break the deadlock. While Morden posted one more run, the Pilots managed yet one more to take the game 7-6.

That sent things into game three on Tuesday tied at a game apiece. Game four was slated to take place Wednesday night in Pilot Mount. Results for both games were not available at press time.

Meanwhile, the league's top team, the Baldur Regals, made short work of the fourth-place Killarney Lakers to advance to the finals. Baldur downed Killarney 8-7, 5-4, and 7-5 to earn a spot at the finals.



PHOTO BY RICK HIEBERT

It was a hard-fought game two, but the visiting Pilot Mount Pilots ultimately evened out the series at a game apiece on Sunday with a 7-6 victory over the Morden Mohawks in the Border West Baseball League's semi-finals. The two teams faced off in games three and four on Tuesday and Wednesday, with a seat at the finals against Baldur on the line.

Bisons put an end to Orioles' title hopes

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Pembina Valley Orioles saw their season come to an end last week at the hands of the Altona Bisons.

After making short work of the Elmwood Giants in the quarter-finals, the Orioles got off to a rocky start against the Bisons in the Manitoba Junior Baseball League's semi-final round.

Game one on July 20 saw the Mor-

den-based team fall 5-1 to Altona.

Things didn't improve in game two on July 21, which the Orioles dropped 13-3, giving the Bisons a two game lead in the best-of-five series.

The Tuesday night game in Morden was mostly won in the sixth inning, in which Altona sent 14 batters to the plate and scored nine runs to take a decisive lead for the win.

Pembina Valley starting pitcher

Bryce Enns took the loss, giving up nine runs on 11 hits and making just three strike-outs.

That made game three back in Altona on July 22 a do-or-die outing for the Orioles, who struggled to get a single man across the plate.

Altona's Jordan Wall hit three doubles and another three RBIs to help lead the Bisons to a 10-0 shutout win, earning the team a seat at the finals.

Pitching for the Orioles this game was starter Dayton Creasy, who gave up 10 hits and a walk and allowed six runs in. Cody Miliken pitched relief, giving up eight hits and four runs.

Altona moved on to face Winnipeg South (who ousted the St. Boniface Legionaries in their semi-final series 3-2) in the finals taking place all this week.

Roland woman bikes 1,600 km for Habitat for Humanity

By Ashleigh Viveiros

It was the ride of a lifetime for one Roland woman.

Nancy Bezan was one of about 50

cyclists who embarked on Habitat for Humanity's Cycle of Hope earlier this month, spending two weeks biking 1,600 kilometres from Niagara Falls to Winnipeg.



PHOTO BY CORI BEZAN/VOICE

Roland's Nancy Bezan was all smiles as she wrapped up the 14-day, 1,600 kilometre Cycle of Hope in support of Habitat for Humanity.

The group averaged about 80 miles a day across varying road conditions, spending the night at host communities along the way after biking for upwards of seven hours each day.

Bezan, who bikes to work in Winkler regularly and has competed in the MS Society's two-day bike rides across the province for years, says this much longer ride proved a satisfying challenge.

"At first, it actually was quite challenging," she admits. "There was lots of hills every day, but as time went on it seemed I got a little more conditioned to it and so it got a little easier, a little better . . . and then you could see past the challenge part to what we were doing this for."

The group was raising funds for the completion of a Habitat for Humanity house for a family in need in Winnipeg.

Each rider was asked to raise at least \$2,500 in donations, and Bezan says she was humbled by the support she received in her efforts to that end.

"I've just had so much support from family and friends and the community," she said. "I had people I didn't even know donating. And also people coming up to me, even if they didn't

"IT'S AMAZING TO SEE JUST WHAT PEOPLE CAN ACCOMPLISH WHEN THEY COME TOGETHER FOR SOMETHING LIKE THIS."

donate, just being really supportive and wanting to hear all about it. I'd really like to thank everyone who helped and showed an interest."

Bezan's employer, Rona, really came through for her: all four of the company's major retail locations in Manitoba donated \$500 to the cause.

"I was so blown away by that," Bezan said. "Once I got that donation, I knew I was going—it was going to happen."

At the ride's completion on July 18, the group biked to the nearly-finished home and got the chance to meet with the family, which made for an emotional end to the experience, Bezan says.

Continued on page 20

Beach volleyball tourney to honour Erich Hirschfeld

By Ashleigh Viveiros

This year's beach volleyball tournament at the Winkler Harvest Festival and Exhibition will pay homage to one of the volleyball community's most ardent leaders.

The annual festival tournament has been renamed the Erich Hirschfeld Memorial Beach Volleyball Tournament.

"A lot of us knew Erich well," says organizer Rose Toews. "He was one of the original guys who worked to get youth volleyball going in our community."

Hirschfeld coached volleyball for

many of the 18 years he taught in the Garden Valley School Division, both in school and in club volleyball.

Hirschfeld passed away unexpect-

edly last fall.

"He had dedicated a good chunk of his life to volleyball and we wanted to honour him with what we're doing,"

Toews said.

Proceeds from the tournament will

Continued on page 20

Flyers sign 15-year-old defenceman

The Winkler Flyers have added defenceman Tyler Jubenvill ('99) to its roster for the 2015-16 season.

The Gilbert Plains product, who turns 16 this November, recorded 29 points (eight goals, 21 assists) in 30 regular season game played with the Parkland Rangers of the Manitoba AAA Midget Hockey League last season.

Jubenvill was a first round selection (third overall) of the Flyers in the 2014 Manitoba Junior Hockey League Bantam Draft. He stands 5'11" tall and weighs 180 lbs.

This month, after just one season of midget hockey, the 15-year-old signed-on to play for the Bemidji State University Beavers (NCAA Div. I) at the completion of his junior hockey career.

"We are very excited to bring a player of his caliber into our organization," said Flyers head coach and general manager Ken Pearson. "His visibility and hockey sense will help him to be able to contribute immediately, and

the fact that he's already committed to an NCAA Div I school at 15 shows the potential that Tyler has."

Continued on page 20

> ALH MOTOR SPEEDWAY RESULTS - JULY 26

Blazing across the ALH Motor Speedway finish line in the races last Sunday were:

- A-Mod: Joey Galloway, Ward Imrie, Scott Greer.
- Four-cylinder: Lee Moir, Shawn Klassen, and Terri Burke.
- Pure Stock: Jamie Smith in first place, Rod Wolfe in second, and Andrew Thomas in third.
- Midwest Mod: Ryan Cousins, Rick Fehr, and Cody Wall.
- Street Stock: Shawn Teunis, Jesse Teunis, and Shawn Holden.

The track takes a break from racing this weekend but then returns for the final month of the season starting Aug. 9 with the Pure Stock Special.

"HE HAD DEDICATED A GOOD CHUNK OF HIS LIFE TO VOLLEYBALL, AND WE WANTED TO HONOUR HIM . . ."

Agriculture

M-COOL saga continues at highest levels

By Harry Siemens

The M-COOL battle rages as two different bills reached the United States Senate floor in late July.

Legislation introduced on July 24 by Senate Agriculture Committee Chairman Pat Roberts would repeal country of origin labeling requirements for beef, pork and poultry and stave off trade retaliation from Canada and Mexico.

The proposed amendment comes on the heels of last month's passage of legislation by the House of Representatives to repeal COOL.

"Whether you support COOL or whether you oppose COOL, the fact is retaliation is coming unless the Senate acts to stop this program that the WTO has found to be discriminatory," says Roberts. "Over the years this body has attempted many times to craft a workable COOL program for all stakeholders while still living up to our international trade obligations."

The Kansas senator says through regulations issued in 2009 and revised in 2013, the Department of Agriculture made several attempts to implement a workable and WTO-compliant COOL program, to no avail.

"Again and again the WTO ruled in favor of Canada and Mexico," he says. "The Canadian government, which will determine whether or not retaliation on U.S. products will take effect in the near future, has made it clear the only acceptable outcome remains for the United States to repeal COOL or face \$3 billion in annual retaliation."

Roberts' proposal has been lauded by producers south of the border.

"We're grateful that chairman Roberts recognizes that repeal of COOL meat labeling is the only move left, with retaliation from Canada and Mexico imminent," says National Pork Producers Council president Dr. Ron Prestage. "The U.S. had its day in court, and it lost. We're in the sentencing phase now, and without repeal, a sentence of up to \$3 billion soon will be imposed on our exports."

Iowa State University economist Dermot Hayes says the average U.S. pork producer could lose \$10 per

hog beginning later this year and that most likely would double pork producer losses.

A measure also introduced on July 24 by Senate Agriculture Committee Ranking Member Debbie Stabenow would repeal mandatory meat labeling and replace it with a voluntary labeling program.

But because Stabenow's bill still calls for labels to provide information on where animals are born, raised and slaughtered, it still would necessitate segregation of Canadian and Mexican livestock, leading to discrimination against them—a violation of

international trade rules.

Canada rejects the voluntary approach outright and would continue to pursue retaliation.

"The only acceptable outcome remains for the United States to repeal COOL," said Canadian Agriculture Minister Gerry Ritz and Trade Minister Ed Fast in a statement. "Senator Stabenow's COOL 2.0 fails to address Canada's concerns and would continue to undermine our integrated North American supply chains."

"By continuing the segregation of and discrimination against Canadian cattle and hogs, Senator Stabenow's

measure will harm farmers, ranchers, packers, retailers and consumers on both sides of the border. This is contrary to successive World Trade Organization (WTO) decisions that have clearly ruled in Canada's favour."

NPPC's Prestage says it doesn't satisfy Canada and Mexico, so it won't stop retaliation, and the industry can't afford to have their products restricted, through tariffs, to two of their top three markets.

"We don't like it, Congress doesn't like it, but the reality is that after four losses at the WTO, Canada and Mexico hold the cards," he says.

Spotlight on the Klippenstein farm

By Harry Siemens

Eldon Klippenstein of Altona oversees a joint farming venture that includes three farms owned by three families, all related, that work together as one unit raising about 5,500 acres cereals, oilseeds, and dry beans.

The mix of crops depends on what Klippenstein sees as the best money makers at the time of planting, ranging from sunflowers and corn in past

years to soybeans, navy beans, oats, and spring wheat this year.

"Cropping changed over the last couple of years a little bit," he says. "Most of the decisions this year we made due to economic and potential to make the best returns. Next year corn might be an option again; so might sunflowers or canola."

While crop rotation plays an important part of the decision making, with the options he has, return is key to

running a successful operation. So far this year his cropping choices appear to have been good ones.

"The decisions are working well, but with the way I'm managing the marketing, I'm aggressively sold on all the crops," says Klippenstein. "Today, as long as the crop comes in we'll be in good shape if we get the projected yield."

Continued on page 19



> HARRY SIEMENS

The dollar sliding, crops shrinking a little in Western Canada, oil prices tanking, and the Chinese stock market making a correction is all the day's action—or is it?

Errol Anderson, president of Pro-Market Communications Inc. in Calgary, says oil prices in the \$50-\$55 range is a huge adjustment that's

Where is it all heading?

going on particularly in Alberta and more specifically in Calgary.

"What we are noticing is that a lot of the oil sand projects now that have shut down represent about a third of the global projects suspended or cancelled due to the low oil prices," says Anderson. "Really we do have a shock that is going through Alberta, into Saskatchewan and certainly it is affecting Canada sending our economy into a recession. Government data may not catch up for a few months yet, but it is clear to me we've gone into a recession."

He believes the U.S. economy is also slowing, regardless of what the media is portraying as an ability for

the American economy to hike interest rates.

"I don't believe them for one moment. I believe the U.S. will show some cracks, and I don't think there will be a rate hike in September. I'm certainly feeling that there maybe no rate hike in the U.S. through 2015," says Anderson.

How does this impact or affect the farm commodities?

Anderson says the big thing is China, and the stock market correction in early July wiped out about \$3 trillion, still up since January about 10-

Continued on page 19

What can the PV Conservation District do for you?

The primary reason for forming the Pembina Valley Conservation District (PVCD) involved concerns that were evident during the drought of the 1980s.

The PVCD has provided local landowners with technical and financial assistance so they can participate in the types of water and soil conservation programs they feel are needed.

The PVCD has focused its efforts on:

- supporting sustainable land use and water management
- addressing local watershed issues and priorities
- protecting drinking water
- improving watershed health
- supporting initiatives that improve and protect Manitoba's water
- encourage citizen consultation and meaningful participation in decision making processes

Currently, the PVCD is encourag-

ing landowners to do environmental farm plans (EFPs).

These are voluntary self-assessments that help farm managers identify the agri-environmental assets and risks for their operations and develop an action plan to reduce the risks.

After completion of the EFP, producers are eligible to apply for financial assistance to adopt specific beneficial management practices (BMPs) under the Growing Assurance program – Ecological Goods and Services (GAEGS). This program is funded under Growing Forward 2, a federal-provincial-territorial agricultural initiative.

Manitoba's Conservation Districts are eligible applicants for this program when they work with agricultural landowners to implement on-farm projects that provide environmental

benefit for local watersheds.

Approved projects will focus on water quality. They must demonstrate an ability to conserve and enhance valuable natural resources and promote environmental sustainability within the agricultural landscape.

Examples of BMPs funded through the program include: water retention structures, riparian area maintenance, natural area maintenance and enhancement, wetland restoration, constructed wetlands, buffer and grassed waterway establishment, perennial cover for sensitive land and shelterbelt/tree establishment.

The PVCD will work with agricultural producers to implement BMPs to reduce on-farm risks to the environment.

"This is a great program in that there is a little work up front to develop your plan," says Cliff Green-

field, manager of the Pembina Valley Conservation District. "But once that is done, a producer can apply for individual BMPs or work with their Conservation Districts on the suite of BMPs that are also available."

"Last year," he adds, "we worked with five area producers and built four water retention structures and one rock weir that will reduce downstream flooding and erosion. Funding was received from the GAEGS program."

Further information on GAEGS, go to www.manitoba.ca/agriculture and click on Financial Assistance or contact your local Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Development GO Office or PVCD office.

— Submitted by the Pembina Valley Conservation District

> KLIPPENSTEIN, FROM PG. 18

While some find it difficult to fathom, today's farmer knows aggressive marketing is vital to being profitable.

Klippenstein says the 2014 crop is all spoken for but still needs to make a few deliveries. While focusing on the price he gets to some degree when he sells the grain, he makes sure the crop budgets are in place so he knows his cost of production for each crop on a spreadsheet.

"When there is a selling opportunity that comes along that's higher than your cost of production, I try to incrementally sell into it to some degree."

To help stay on top of the marketing, he works closely with a marketing advisory service.

"When its time to make a sale, if I'm busy, and there is a good opportunity that comes along, he and I discuss it briefly," he says. "If all things are equal, he has the ability to make that call to sell and make the deal."

Klippenstein also uses agronomy advisors to help him develop his fertility plan based on historical yield data to determine yield targets for the year using variable rate fertilizer rates to save money on poorer soil types.

"We're currently using less fertilizer on poorer spots, while poor production zones hardly get any fertilizer at all," he says. "So for now, we just look at cutting our costs in those spots."

Klippenstein also uses social media for market research.

"I've been using it for quite some time and for me it is just a really good way to keep on top of what is going on," he says. "If I need a little more detail on something, where I'm not so sure what is exactly going on with things, if I can't get it from social media, I will call an advisor that I work with and sometimes they will have

a more direct connection than I, or a better understanding on the agronomy side of things."

With three family units making up this one farming entity, their succession planning is an evolving program, but it also makes it easier to split the crops and input costs.

Klippenstein's objectives for the farm is to use best management practices in everything.

"Certainly when it comes to raising the crop, a big thing is to try to improve and maximize returns off the land so putting fertilizer in the right place, spot, right time kind of thing," he says. "Making sure we are looking after the environment making it long-term sustainable and, from a farming career-wise thing, to make a better life for the kids down the road."

> SIEMENS SAYS, FROM PG. 18

14 per cent.

What occurred is many of the Chinese investors invested near the top. This really created some havoc in the Chinese market. The Chinese government has really moved in to try and support and stabilize it.

The reason he raises the Chinese action is that it has a direct impact on Canada, Australia, and Brazil because these are all feed directly into the Chinese pipeline. A shake in China will shake Canadians.

The Bank of Canada dropping its rate recently a quarter per cent down to a half per cent surprised him, especially the timing.

"That just goes to show the Canadian economy is slowing. With China slowing down, the globe slows down, including the U.S.," Anderson says. "So we will go through some difficulties on these commodity markets I believe through 2016, into 2017. Oil prices will certainly stay range bound between \$40 to \$60 a barrel."

The Calgary businessman feels there will be rallies in the grain markets, but they will not hold.

"I'm really promoting the idea of a strong marketing plan and hit those targets and take those profits when you see them as a producer," he says.

He says the cattle market is red hot now and has been for some time, but thinks the beef prices are going to come down because the meat glut in the United States is pushing the cattle market lower into the fall market.

While the crop will be lower across the board due to the lack of moisture in Alberta and Saskatchewan, Anderson says the canola crop will be well down with the available crush capacity in western Canada. What will happen, he believes, is the domestic market is going to buy this crop, leaving the export market with some difficulties.

"China and Japan, I think their volumes for Canadian canola will be well down," says Anderson. "The bottom

line is our production is coming down and our demand is coming down so the whole canola engine is coming down and shrinking in size overall. This is the adjustment we will have."

He says while canola is well supported, but in the same breath if the whole engine shrinks, there will be times the canola prices will drop even though the supplies are down because the demand side is falling, too.

In summary, Anderson says there is going to be more pressure on commodities based on the China fallout, the U.S. will have to think twice about rate hikes, and the drop in the Canadian dollar is good news for Canadian commodities, though strong demand must follow it.

"It is the case of where a commodity market price is only as good as its demand," Anderson says. "Demand is king, not supply and as a result things will head lower and not necessarily translate into higher prices on the Canadian side."

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www.meyersauctions.com 7 p.m., Thursday, July 30. One bedroom house by auction. 219 Richmond Ave N., Plumas, Manitoba. 595 sq. ft. Bradley Meyers, Auctioneer 204.476.6262

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CAREERS

BUILDING INSPECTOR

The M.S.T.W. Planning District comprised of the City of Morden, RM of Stanley, RM of Thompson and the City of Winkler requires the services of a Building Inspector.

DUTIES: Under the direction of the General Manager, the successful candidate will perform inspection work enforcing compliance with the Manitoba Building Code.

QUALIFICATIONS: The successful candidate will have the following

- will have construction knowledge of residential and commercial Part 9 buildings, along with associated training.
- will have an ability to work well with the general public, contractors, architects, engineers, and fellow employees.
- Preference will be given to candidates with a licensed journeyman certificate, building standards / inspection training courses through the MBOA, and the Office of the Fire Commissioner (OFC).

SALARY RANGE: Dependent on experience and qualifications

Reply in writing with resume and references to:

Inspector Position, M.S.T.W. Planning District
180 - 5th Street, Unit D, Morden, MB R6M 1C9
Fax: 204-822-6508 Email: manager@mstw.ca

Application deadline: August 5, 2015



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Looking for organic grain from organic certified growers, contact Jason Charles at 1-763-999-7550 or Tom Sawatzky at 1-204-272-5514.

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with Class 1 licence to haul straw bales starting in early August. Local run, home every night.

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Gospel Echoes Thrift Store seeks Manager for Winkler, MB store. Must be experienced in management and sales, highly motivated with good PR skills and be able to embrace the vision and goals of Gospel Echoes Team Prison Ministry. **Position Involves:** Operational planning, implementation of different strategies, budgeting and resource management, human resources, internal communication and regular reporting. Contact Peter Reimer 204-392-3580 email: eljefe@hotmail.com or John Redekop 204-362-3789 email: juanredekop@hotmail.com. Only applicants selected for an interview will be contacted. All others are thanked for their interest.

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Ens Farms Ltd. Is a special crops and seed farm seeking a farm worker. This individual will be involved certain field activities required in season and will assist in maintenance of equipment related to the farm and seed business. Work will also include assisting with seed cleaning operation, assisting in packaging and distribution as required. This is a full time year round position. Good communication skills, written and oral are necessary. Only those candidates chosen for an interview will be contacted, thank you for your consideration.

Reply to Ens farms Ltd, with resume by fax: 204 -325 - 4985, email: info@ensfarmsltd.com, or phone: 204 - 325 - 4658.

COMING EVENTS



AUG. 2 - NO RACING RACE DAY

SUN., AUG. 9 • 4 PM

Street stock, Midwest mods, A-mods, 4cyl, Pure Stocks (PURE STOCKS SPECIAL)

www.alhmotorspeedway.com
3 miles west of Morden off Hwy. #3 **204-823-0603**

NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE

RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF STANLEY TAKE NOTICE THAT the Council of the Rural Municipality of Stanley will consider, and if approved, pass a by-law for closing the public roadway described below and located in part of the SE 24-3-6WPM, at a meeting of the Council to be held:



HEARING R.M. of Stanley
LOCATION: Council Chamber
23111 PTH 14W

DATE & Thursday, August 13, 2015
TIME: 9:10 a.m.

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:
Dale Toews, Chief Administrative Officer
Box 1600 Winkler, MB. R6W 4B5
23111 PTH 14W Phone: (204) 325-4101
The roadway at SE 24-3-6W (as indicated below by the heavy black line) to be closed is described as follows:

All that portion of the municipal road as shown on Parcels "B" and "C" on a Plan of Survey (Deposit No. 1266/2014) prepared by Jesse Paul Simon Carels, Manitoba Land Surveyor, on the 27th day of June, 2014

AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE that Council will, at the time and place aforesaid, hear any person or by his agent, any person who claims that his land will be prejudicially affected by the by-law and who applies to be heard. The Plan referred to above may be viewed at the Municipal Office, 23111 PTH 14W, Winkler, Manitoba, on any weekday between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

DATED this 20th day of July, 2015.



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AUCTIONS

Auction Sale for Henry Friesen, Saturday, August 8, 2015, 11:00 am, 232 Ash Street, Altona, MB

Household items and furniture, Honda Em6500 Generator, Delta Scroll Saw, Dewalt Planer, Honda Tiller 5hp Rear Tine, Makita Router, Mastercraft 12" Drill Press, Mastercraft Sanders, Mastercraft Air Powered Brad Nailer, Router table w/router, Shop Vac 10 gal, Tool Chest, Yardman Leaf Blower, Gas Powered Weed Eater, 5 gal Air Compressor, plus much more!

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Misc antique type B-A Oil sign 36" x 66 in
Kitchen cupboards simlar to Hoisser

See billklassen.com for listing and photos.



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Fax: (204) 325-4484

COMING EVENTS



Monday, August 10, 2015

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Face painting, games, sidewalk chalk contest, DIY: Get Creative area, Design your own t-shirt, Bubble Blast Booth, Life-size Twister game, Relay Races, Bean bag toss, Obstacle course, Sponge Bomb Water fight and lots more fun activities.

You'll get dirty and wet so be sure to wear old clothes. Refreshments will be served. Rain date is Aug. 14

Winkler Fire Department Association supports one of their own in the fight against cancer.



All funds raised this summer by the Winkler Fire Dept. Association will go to support the family of local firefighter Henry Giesbrecht as his son goes through cancer treatment.
You can add your support by giving to the **Boot Drive** during the Harvest Festival parade, and joining us for our fundraiser **BBQ Lunch at Co-op** after the parade.

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Announcements

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WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENT



Peters – Rempel

Marg and Gerry Peters of Winkler, together with Wayne and Erma Rempel of Winkler, are pleased to announce the upcoming marriage of Jaclyn and Garth. The wedding will be held August, 2015. With much love and prayers of blessing as you start life together!

ANNIVERSARY



Happy 50th Anniversary
John and Marge Letkeman

-With love from,
your family

IN MEMORIAM



In memory of
our dear Son and Brother
Dwight Klassen
who went to live in a much better place,
August 3, 1999
Forever 17.
Missing your lots Dwight
-Love your Mom, Dad and family



Sadie Toews passed away peacefully, with family at her side on Wednesday, July 22, 2015 at the Health Sciences Centre, at the age of 68.

She will be missed by her husband, Abe; two sons, Ivan and Rhonda and children, Ryan and Jessica and Stacey and fiancé Mark; Lyle and Sadie and children, Bailey, Eric and Cole. She is also survived by two brothers, one sister and many extended family members. Sadie was predeceased by her parents, Cornelius H. and Sarah Wall; her grandson, Riley in 1996 and her granddaughter, Alyssa in 2008.

Funeral service was held on Monday, July 27, 2015 at Winkler Bergthaler Mennonite Church with interment at Westridge Memorial Gardens.

If friends so desire, donations may be made in Sadie's memory to the Back to the Bible Broadcast.

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



OBITUARY

Elfrieda (Frid) Esther Olfert (nee Ens)

1942 – 2015



On Monday, July 20, 2015 at Boundary Trails Health Centre, Elfrieda Olfert, aged 73 years of Winkler, MB went to her eternal rest.

She leaves to mourn her passing her husband, Herman A Olfert; three sons, Brian and Shelley Olfert of Grande Prairie, AB, Terry and Heather Olfert of Penticton, BC, Milt and Tash Olfert of Winkler as well as eight grandchildren and one great-grandchild. She is survived by three sisters, four brothers and their families. She was predeceased by her grandson, Jeremiah

in 2011 as well as two sisters.

Memorial service was held on Saturday, July 25, 2015 at 1:00 p.m. at the Winkler Mennonite Brethren Church with interment prior at Westridge Memorial Gardens.

If friends so desire, donations may be made in Elfrieda's memory to the Gideon Memorial Bible Plan.

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