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VOLUME 10 EDITION 42

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Winkler firefighter Chris Kalansky helps Ryan Klasen into a set of slightly oversized turnout gear at the Winkler Fire Department's Open House Oct. 9. The event, held at the fire hall annually during Fire Prevention Week, is a way to let the community see the kind of equipment local firefighters use in a variety of emergency situations, says Chief Richard Paetzold. The evening also included several technical rescue demonstrations. For the full story, see Pg. 10.

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Portage-Lisgar candidates take the stage

By Lorne Stelmach

Five of the six candidates running for election in the Portage-Lisgar riding made their pitches and fielded questions at a forum in Morden last Wednesday.

Cindy Friesen of the NDP was the lone no-show at the event organized jointly by the Morden and Winkler chambers of commerce.

While citing the comprehensive platform of the Green Party, Beverley Eert's emphasis fell on tackling climate change.

"We simply have no time. Procrastination has to end. This is about life on Earth," she said.

"Believing that either of the two parties with a realistic chance of forming the next government have any intention of doing what the UN says needs to be done is like Charlie Brown believing Lucy is going to hold the football for him," said Eert. "The Liberals and Conservatives have been setting



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

From left: Portage-Lisgar candidates Aaron Archer, Candice Bergen, Ken Werbiski, Jerome Dondo, and Beverley Eert faced voters at a forum in Morden last week. NDP candidate Cindy Friesen did not attend.

and failing to meet their emissions targets for 31 years.

"The Green Party, however, is committed to knowledge-based decision making," she stressed. "The Green Party's climate change plan is ambitious, setting a target of reducing

Canada's emissions to 60 per cent below 2005 levels by 2030 and to net zero by 2050."

Jerome Dondo cited his belief that the Christian Heritage Party's policies are different from all of the other parties.

He touched on their idea that the budget could be balanced in six months by taking advantage of the Bank of Canada's ability to offer interest-free loans to governments.

His other points ranged from support for families (including a \$1,000 monthly family allowance for one parent to stay at home) to reform of income tax rules.

"We would eliminate the Income Tax Act and replace it with a fair spending tax," said Dondo, who also stressed that they are "the only party that is pro-life ... other parties have

Continued on page 4

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New home for The Hub

By Lorne Stelmach

A program offering food and clothing to those in need in the community is able to continue thanks to space provided by the Canadian Fossil Discovery Centre and the City of Morden.

The Hub Community Centre was facing having to close down its weekly food bank last month if a new location could not be found.

But then the CFDC, which operates in the basement of the Access Event Centre, offered them the use of a couple of its unused storage rooms.

"It's considerably smaller than what we have had in the past, but we're making the best of the situation and we're just very grateful for the location that we have," said spokesman Brian Thiessen.

"We're still on the lookout for another location ... in the meantime, we're grateful that the city has allowed us to use this space. We're grateful that the CFDC approached us."

Formerly called Donate Love, The Hub had previously been operating its food bank and also providing free clothing and donated household items from a space in a building on Thornhill St.

When that space got a new tenant, they found a home for the summer at the Morden EMMC, which allowed them to stay an extra month beyond the initial agreement.

While The Hub volunteers will con-

tinue to keep an eye out for a larger, more permanent space, the room at the CFDC allows them to continue providing food and clothing to families in need in the meantime.

"It was very important to us that we could keep functioning and stay open," said Thiessen.

"There are people who rely on it, and to not be there ... it's just not an option. We wouldn't be able to live with ourselves if we couldn't continue to operate and offer the services that people have come to need.

"We've seen people go off of it and turn around and help us in return be able to help others. They just need a little bit of a leg up to get them through."

The food bank will be open Tuesdays from 3-6 p.m. Simply come to the museum's front desk and staff will direct you to The Hub.

"We're still accepting donations, and we're still accepting food if anybody wants to do that as well ... there's a bin right at Co-op that people can put food in," said Thiessen.

He noted they can be pretty busy on some Tuesday afternoons.

"On a given week there's anywhere from 30 to 50 families who come ... it fluctuates; it depends on their needs, and it depends on whether they've been able to find us ... social media has worked well for us in that way, for people to be able to reach out to us."

You can find The Hub Community Centre on Facebook.



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

The Hub Community Centre's Brian Thiessen says the space the Canadian Fossil Discovery Centre and the City of Morden are providing for their food bank will help them stay open while volunteers continue the hunt for a new, larger location.

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> FORUM, FROM PG. 2



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Voters filled the Morden Activity Centre last week to hear from five of the six candidates running for election in Portage-Lisgar

candidates who are pro-life but most leaders have said they are not going to do anything about it."

Liberal Party candidate Ken Werbis-ki highlighted a number of positive initiatives introduced by the Liberal government and cited several examples of significant infrastructure investments across the riding.

He suggested good progress has been made while acknowledging that more needs to be done to address issues ranging from crime to addictions to homelessness.

Werbiski suggested he would very much take a collaborative approach and would be an MP "who is willing to engage with the people who are involved with these issues and come up with a plan to address these issues."

Conservative incumbent Candice Bergen cited her experience of the past 11 years and proven track record in government.

"I've held Justin Trudeau to account in the House of Commons for the past four years, even though he has refused to answer my questions," she said. "People have told me about how life has become more expensive and

how concerned they are about the direction Justin Trudeau is taking this country."

Bergen particularly touched on doing away with the carbon tax, noting how it disproportionately impacts rural communities, and instead implementing a real plan that will reduce emissions.

"We will protect our rural way of

life," she said. "As Conservatives, we believe in keeping more money in your pocket because you know how to spend your money much better than Ottawa does ... Conservatives believe governments should live within their means and not run massive deficits."

Aaron Archer of the People's Party of Canada noted how he had been feeling as pessimistic about the state of affairs as most Canadians.

"I feel lied to. I feel betrayed. I feel as if the government hasn't represented me for a long time," he said, adding he feels as both a Métis and a veteran that he has not being given equal treatment.

It is difficult to believe the other political parties, he suggested.

"We have been run into the ground by a combination of these parties," Archer said. "I promise, if you put your faith in me, to represent the fire in your belly which made you show up here today ... I will bring back accountability, prosperity and freedom."

In a wide-ranging question period, Bergen noted a fully costed platform was being released by the Conservative Party, and she emphasized their pledge to get back to balanced budgets in five years while also reducing taxes.

"We've done it before in govern-

ment and we'll do it again," she said.

All of the candidates fielded a question around reopening debate on abortion law in Canada.

Dondo again pointed out the Christian Heritage Party is the only pro-life party in Canada and said that one step "could be as simple as removing the funding of abortions from the Health Act."

"A women's right to choose is already enshrined in the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms ... doctors in this country have a very strict set of rules that they go by," said Werbis-ki.

Bergen said her personal belief is in the sanctity of life from conception to natural death but called it a difficult issue.

"We have to look at it with a heart of compassion and generosity and caring and stop using it as a bully whip against each other," she said.

"I believe our party is willing to open up the debate and have discussions open to everyone," said Archer. "I believe in the right for women to choose, but we need to have this discussion."

Eert said a woman has the right to make decisions about her own body

Continued on page 17

State of emergency declared in wake of storm

In the wake of last weekend's monster snowstorm, the provincial government declared a state of emergency for Manitoba Hydro to help deal with the aftermath.

"It is clear the tremendous effort to restore power and other activities will be ongoing for some time," said Premier Brian Pallister on Sunday. "The state of emergency will help with that effort."

Tens of thousands of people were without power over the weekend as the heavy snow and winds took down power lines across the province.

A declaration of a state of emergency is a formal step that allows Manitoba Hydro to—for the first time ever—invoke mutual aid clauses with neighbouring utilities for such assistance as may be required to restore services.

Immediately following the issuance of the declaration, Manitoba Hydro reached out to Hydro One, Minnesota Power, and Sask Power to request specific resources such as replacement transmission towers, distribution poles, and specialized electrical equipment as well as crews to help with restoration.

Manitoba Hydro noted Sunday afternoon that 34,000 people were still without power, many in the Portage la Prairie and Interlake areas.

"Once we began to get access to these areas and previously impassable roads with the help of staff from Manitoba Infrastructure, we began discovering levels of damage never seen before, spread across a large geographic area," said president and CEO Jay Grewal. "Sections of our transmission and distribution system are completely destroyed, and will require a total rebuild before coming back online. In addition, we are still experiencing issues with impassable

roads and possible shortages of the materials needed to repair the damage.

"In short, this means many customers will not have electricity for days—a situation we know creates a great deal of hardship."

Meanwhile, as temperatures for the week were expected to steadily rise, the province is now bracing to deal with rising water levels and potential overland flooding as the snow begins to melt.

The Red River Floodway had already been activated Oct. 9 to lower levels in Winnipeg. It is expected to operate until the end of the month.

Last weekend's storm damaged hundreds of hydro poles across the province, leaving tens of thousands of Manitobans in the dark.



MANITOBA HYDRO PHOTO



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Salem gala a success

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Despite a storm, a snowed-in MC, and power outages that threw a wrench into meal preparation, Salem Home's annual Building for Tomorrow gala was still an unqualified success last week.

The sold-out event organized by the Salem Foundation and Salem Ladies Auxiliary packed supporters into the hall at the Winkler Berghthaler Menonite Church Oct. 10.

That show of community support is always humbling for organizers, but never surprising, said Salem board chair Glen Thiessen.

"We are grateful for the tremendous support in our community for the work of the foundation and ultimately for the residents living at Salem Home," he said, noting the community continually comes through for the care home as it tackles new programs and projects designed to improve the quality of life of its residents.

The proceeds from this year's gala were earmarked for the purchase of new furniture in each of Salem's 145 resident rooms.

The current sets of furniture were purchased between 1986-1995 and have seen better days.

"[They're] in desperate need of replacing," Thiessen said.

The new complete set—which includes a bedside table, dresser, wardrobe, ottoman, and a chair—comes with a hefty \$5,500 price tag per room.

That high cost is due to the fact the furniture is designed to better withstand the rigorous cleaning regimen the rooms must undergo regularly. Each piece is also replaceable, so if a leg or arm is damaged it can be easily swapped out without having to replace the entire item.

"We need furniture designed for durability," Thiessen stressed, adding that "wheelchairs and motorized wheelchairs are not kind to furniture."

It will cost nearly \$800,000 to complete this project, but Thiessen knows the community will make it happen.

"We know that to refurnish the entire home will take time, but as we begin we are confident that it may be completed sooner than we anticipate," he said.

FIVE MONTHS ON THE STREETS

Every year the gala presents a guest speaker with an inspirational story to share.

At the Salem Home Building for Tomorrow gala, Mike Yankoski shared stories from his five months spent living as a homeless person and the insights the experience provided.

PHOTO BY
ASHLEIGH
VIVEIROS/
VOICE



This year it was Mike Yankoski, the author of the book *Under the Overpass*, which details the five months Yankoski and a friend spent willingly living on the streets of six U.S. cities.

The undertaking came about after Yankoski, who was studying theology at a Christian college, realized his actions weren't living up to the ideals he purported to believe in.

Despite successfully writing an A+ paper on the meaning behind the parable of the Good Samaritan, Yankoski realized he routinely actively avoided

engaging with the homeless people he saw living on the streets around him.

"I'm acing this thing in the classroom, but when it comes down to actually loving my neighbour as myself, when it comes right down to actually being who I claim to be, I'm pretending like human beings made in the image of God don't even exist," he said.

And so Yankoski set out to flip the script.

Continued on page 8

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get heard

EDITORIAL > VIEWPOINTS > LETTERS

It's complicated

I'm in a relationship that goes back quite a ways and the best I can do to describe it is to say: It's complicated.

Politics and I go way back, and as far back as I can remember we have never had a clear cut, rock solid, healthy affiliation.

"What are we doing? Why do we keep going round and round and getting nowhere?"

Politics, as usual, would reserve comment and simply meet my constant questions with silence.

Oxford defines politics as: "The activities associated with the governance of a country or area, especially the debate between parties having power."

Politics and power go hand in hand the way a hot day in August and sweat do, and power, or the notion of power, draws many to the well. It is rife with conflict, ego, debate, decisions, and the potential to leave your mark—everything I love in a typical day.



By Peter Cantelon

Ever since the days of reading Plato and Aristotle alongside the great modern philosopher Hunter S. Thompson, I have been hooked on the intricacies and implications of politics in my life and the lives of the people around me.

Still, despite all of its noble roots, I cannot help but understand Thompson's view of it as being suffused with fear and loathing and so much that defines us at our worst. It's a granite foundation upon which we build a house of cards, hoping against hope that the winds of change do not stir and the air remains stagnant and dead.

Still, like a bright lighthouse in a thick fog, politics draws me. Driving me to the light are the words of people like former U.S. President John F. Kennedy, who once said, "Let us not seek to fix the blame for the past. Let us accept our own responsibility for the future."

Then I arrive and find I am simply a moth at risk of being pulled into the flames. It was all a ruse to lure us closer and I am reminded of Thompson's words that ring closer to the truth for me than Kennedy's:

"Some book reviewer whose name I forget recently called me a 'vicious misanthrope' ... or maybe it was a 'cynical misanthrope' ... but either

way, he (or she) was right; and what got me this way was politics."

I'm not even a politician and I am weary and torn up by politics. I wonder if you feel the same way sometimes.

I have been asked on numerous occasions to consider running for office and I am not sure if I should be flattered or offended. Do you think so much/so little of me that you would suggest such a thing?

But if I am to be honest, the lure is there in the same way I imagine the lure is there for an addict seeking their fix. I know somehow deep down that it would destroy me and the people around me but I cannot help but wonder sometimes.

Ultimately the life of the politician is not for me. I have seen the toll it takes on families, spouses, children, and the people themselves and, frankly, I am too selfish to make that kind of sacrifice let alone demand it from my family and friends (who would willingly allow it, frankly).

No, I will linger in the weeds and the back alleys adjacent to politics. Near enough to smell what's going on and let you know, but far enough away to avoid the claws if I can.

So no, you will never see me run for political office, but ... maybe ... ah well, as I said, it's complicated.

• **FAITH FOCUS**

Empathy is dangerous. Do it anyway

Empathy is not sympathy. Sympathy has to do with pity and experiencing sadness for another person, while empathy is much deeper.

A quick Google search will define empathy as "the ability to understand and share the feelings of another." It

is our willingness to see reality from a different perspective; to put ourselves into the shoes of another person and truly experience their world.

Empathy is a supreme act of love. It is the gift of presence. To enter into someone else's experience, not with an agenda to

change them, but simply to be with them in their current space. To let them know they are not alone; that they are valued and accepted, even if we disagree with them. Perhaps especially if we disagree with them.

For those within the church, I don't believe that empathizing with those who are different is simply a nice idea; I believe it's the way of Jesus.

Peterson paraphrases his words in



By Dan Doerksen

Continued on page 7

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

Winkler Library reopens after months of repairs

By Ashleigh Viveiros

After a months of waiting, patrons of the Winkler Library were finally able to get back to the stacks last week.

The South Central Regional Library branch opened its doors fully for the first time in four months on Oct. 10.

"We would like to welcome back our regular patrons and thank you for your patience," the branch said in a statement. "We would also like

to thank the other branches of SCRL for lending their books and taking returned books. Morden staff have been happy to meet many Winkler patrons during the past few months."

A water pipe burst near the library foyer over a weekend in June, causing extensive damage to the walls and carpeting.

Though no books were damaged, all the shelving had to be removed so that new carpeting could be installed

and the walls could be repaired.

A temporary children's library operated from an unaffected corner of the facility through the summer, but last week was the first time patrons were able to access the rest of the collection.

The library noted 180,000 books were moved during the restoration process, over 7,000 square feet of flooring was replaced, and 2,000 sq. ft. of new paint was applied.

Staff also took the opportunity to restructure the library's layout to make it more efficient and accessible.

The bulk of the work is done, though the branch is still waiting on the installation of a new circulation desk. In the meantime, a temporary one is being used.

A grand re-opening celebration is being planned for sometime next month.

> FAITH FOCUS, FROM PG. 6

Matthew like this: "If all you do is love the lovable, do you expect a bonus? Anybody can do that. If you simply say hello to those who greet you, do you expect a medal? Any run-of-the-mill sinner does that."

In other words, nobody's impressed if all we do is love those who are easy to love and empathize with those who are like us.

The reason this is difficult, and rare, is because empathy requires something of us that scares us. You see, we are all desperately trying to make sense of our world (it's why our brains make first impressions so

quickly—we need to put things into categories to give us the illusion that we understand them), and empathy threatens to blow apart our categories and boxes and expand our minds and hearts into new territory. It's disruptive and uncomfortable and causes us to reconfigure our worldviews to make space for another's experience.

This is not to say that empathy erases our disagreements with others. It doesn't. Rather, it is placing the emphasis on truly understanding someone first before we determine that we agree or disagree. Only once we can say, "I get it now; that makes sense to

me why you think that/did that/believe that" can you also say, "I don't see it that way. I still disagree."

Empathy happens when we let down our defenses and admit that there are other legitimate ways to view a particular situation or topic. We need the humility to put our views on the shelf for a moment and genuinely understand why a person might act, think, or believe differently than us. It's much easier to write those people off, though. To assume they're either foolish, crooked, or both. We do this with politicians, bosses, and leaders of all sorts every day. We criticize from the outside and assume poor motives, lack of courage, or just plain stupidity when they make decisions we don't agree with.

Criticism is much easier than empathy. Criticism requires nothing of us and often serves to simply make us feel superior to others. It's the adult version of a schoolyard bully.

Empathy doesn't let us off the hook like that. It forces us to realize that we might not actually understand something, that our view is limited, and we may even be wrong.

This is why empathy is dangerous.

It will change you. It will not let you stay where you are. Once you truly see the world from someone else's vantage point, you can't unsee it. You might even find that their questions become your questions. Their perspectives may become your perspectives. Your worldview will be challenged and forced to adapt.

If we don't like change or are not willing to endure the discomfort of growth, empathy may not be for us. Honestly, it's simpler, and a lot more comfortable, to spend our days listening to those who are like us, reading articles and listening to podcasts that reinforce what we already believe, and

thinking more about what we need to say to people than what we need to understand. If we do this, though, we can be sure that our world tomorrow will remain just as small as it is today.

Or, we can choose to be brave. We can choose to discover a world of truth, beauty, and goodness that lies just outside of ourselves.

Dan Doerksen is the Family Ministries Pastor at WMBC. He is the father to a talented little girl and two twin boys.

"ONCE YOU TRULY SEE THE WORLD FROM SOMEONE ELSE'S VANTAGE POINT, YOU CAN'T UNSEE IT."

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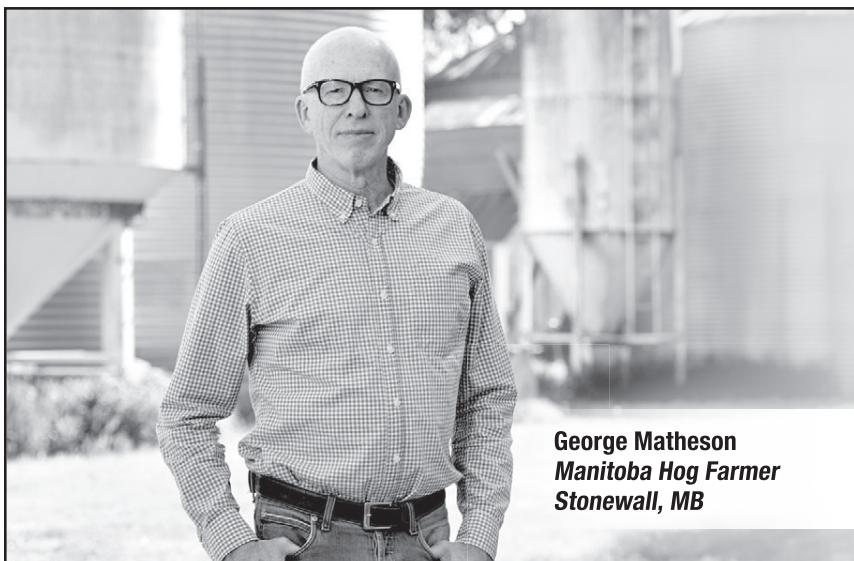
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Pembina Valley Toastmasters hosting open house

By Ashleigh Viveiros

If the very thought of public speaking starts your heart pounding and your palms sweating, a local group has the cure.

Pembina Valley Toastmasters are marking Toastmasters Week Oct. 20-26 with an open house on Tuesday, Oct. 22.

It's a chance for the curious to get a peek at exactly what goes on at the group's weekly meetings, explains

club president Martin Carson.

"We want to invite people to come and see what we're all about," he says, adding that it's open to "anyone that is interested in public speaking and just gaining confidence in general, learning how to communicate better."

"And people who may have heard of it but never really understood exactly what it is we do here," adds longtime member Tim Penner.

The average Toastmasters meeting is filled with both prepared and off-

the-cuff speeches of varying lengths, as well as other exercises designed to help members hone their speaking skills.

"This is a safe place to come to practice those skills," Penner says. "I think a lot of people surprise themselves that after they've done it awhile it's a lot more fun than they thought it would be.

"What Toastmasters is about is helping people cheat death," he adds with a grin, pointing out that studies have shown some people fear public speaking more than they do dying. "We get you to the point where you don't fear public speaking that much. And if you really did have to choose, you'd be able to choose public speaking."

A big part of that process is constructive evaluations, which provide veteran and rookie public speakers alike with aspects they can work on as well as kudos for a job well done.

"A lot of times when people get up to speak they only remember the parts they had difficulty with, not the parts they did well," Penner points out. "In our club, one of the things we particularly try to focus on in our evaluation is the positives."

It's an incredibly supportive environment, agrees Mary-Lou Dueck who joined the group this spring.

"I've found this group of people very inviting and very warm. They make it easy," she says.

Dueck got involved with Toastmasters out of a desire for self-improvement.

"That and also the whole idea of keeping my brain active," she says, noting the various exercises certainly go a long way towards doing that.

Fellow member Zach Samborski signed up in January and says the club has definitely been a confidence booster.

He urges anyone looking for a fun new hobby to consider Toastmasters.

"Definitely come out ... it's a great environment filled with very supportive people."

"Everybody's in the same boat here," Penner adds. "So there's a lot of compassion and understanding. If somebody's up there nervous, every other person in the room has felt that and they understand what it's like."

Penner has been involved with the club for nearly 20 years. He loves seeing people steadily gain confidence in themselves—often much faster than they expect.

"That's one of the things that keeps making it fun for me, seeing other people get past that early stage where they're overwhelmed and getting to the point where they're going, okay, how do I go about getting better?"

The Pembina Valley Toastmasters open house runs from 5:45-7 p.m. in the Winkler Library's multipurpose room next Tuesday.

If you can't make it but want to learn more about the group, contact Penner at 204-362-0807 or stop by the library any Tuesday evening.

"Come to a meeting and just see what happens," Penner says.

Pembina Valley Toastmasters chair Martin Carson (left) and longtime member Tim Penner invite the community out to an open house next Tuesday in honour of Toastmasters Week.

PHOTO BY
ASHLEIGH
VIVEIROS/
VOICE



> SALEM, FROM PG. 5

He and his friend left behind the creature comforts they'd always known to live as the homeless live.

"We wanted to better understand what is it like to be a human being

intentionally ignored day in and day out?" he said. "What is it like to be a human being trying to survive on the streets?"

"How might we as members of larger communities that are not on the streets, how might we love and care for the least of these? What does that mean? What does that look like?"

Yankoski said they quickly came to see how dehumanizing it is to be ignored and discarded by society.

He shared a story of sitting a table away from a group of people having a Bible study meeting in a sandwich shop.

The entire group willfully ignored the clearly homeless and hungry pair, who resorted to picking through the garbage bin to eat scraps left behind.

"It's so eye-opening to be on the receiving end of someone else's willful blindness," Yankoski said. "They're looking at the sandwiches that they

had purchased, they're looking at the Scriptures in front of them, they're looking at the ceiling, but they are not looking in our direction."

It was a common thread throughout their experience, Yankoski said, recalling being shooed away from the steps of a church on a Saturday morning. It was a church that had a homeless outreach program—but one that took place on Tuesdays not Saturdays.

That kind of compartmentalization is a very human thing to do, but it's something that defies the true spirit behind Jesus' teachings, Yankoski said.

"We build nice, neat little boxes and compartments in our lives and we are unwilling to let the spirit of the living God show up in unexpected ways," he said. "I want to suggest that one of the things we see Jesus doing again and again and again in the Gospel stories is busting through the nice, neat little categories that we have made."

As Yankoski and his friend sat on the streets playing guitar to try and make some money so they could eat, when people stopped to simply acknowledge their existence, to offer a helping hand, it changed everything.

"We so often experienced people looking away and pretending we didn't exist, but when people took the time to acknowledge us, to treat us like we were human .. it changed the whole day," Yankoski said. "To be reminded by another human being's actions that you too are human is a great good."

"I want to suggest that one of the most profound invitations that we have as those who would say we want to follow Jesus is an invitation to participate in the rehumanizing work of God," he said.

"To tell people by our actions, to show people by our actions that they are fully human."

P Is the Perspective biased?



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City of Morden responds to Morenet purchase offer

By Lorne Stelmach

Whatever future there may have been for Morenet appears to have faded again with a statement from the City of Morden late Friday.

The news release responded to reports earlier in the week that the two partners who have been managing and operating Morenet on behalf of the City of Morden were interested in taking it over and offering the community-wide high speed internet service privately.

Dave Haines, former deputy city manager, and Sergi Polishchuk of Infotec Manitoba had revealed Oct. 7 that they had been in negotiations with the city over the summer to take over Morenet and were still willing to make a deal.

The pair said they were "committed to continuing this service and are ready to accept city council's terms immediately. The community's invested a lot in this, and we would like that to continue in whatever way that's possible."

The City of Morden, however, offered a different take on where things had been at with negotiations leading up to the Sept. 30 announcement that Morenet would be shutdown as of Oct. 30.

Council reiterated they feel it would not be in the community's best interests to sell Morenet to Haines and Polishchuk.

"It is inaccurate to suggest the negotiations were close to conclusion or that even the complete agreement was on the table," said the statement.

"We were approached by the Morenet network administrator and former city employee who offered to purchase the utility. Council felt it was important to explore this avenue as a means of cost recovery. Unfortunately, we were unable to come to an acceptable agreement.

"The negotiations included the exchange of various drafts but also contemplated additional agreements in respect of which no drafts were yet exchanged. The city advised the opposing party the negotiations were concluded in advance of the press conference on the morning of Sept. 30 when the city informed the interested parties through their legal representation."

Council also reiterated their case for having made the decision to walk away from Morenet, citing significantly higher costs to deliver the service. The originally price tag was \$400,000 in capital costs and then \$100,000 in operating costs annually.

"The new costs were many millions over the next several years with no relief in a 10-year window," the statement said. "At this juncture, we were determined to perform a new analysis of the project in the context of these updated numbers and concerns being raised from several people in

the IT industry. We retained a network engineer to provide a report about what we were attempting to undertake, whether it could succeed.

"We were also concerned that the public utility model would not allow us to meet those challenges in a cost effective and responsible manner. In May 2019, Morden city council decided that the new cost combined with the report provided by our consultant meant that we needed to terminate the service."

City officials stressed that they are continuing to explore alternatives for Morden.

"The city administration is actively

in discussion with all local internet service providers and will do what is needed to ensure that Morden has access to quality internet.

"These ISPs are investing in our community. Now that we have made it clear that Morenet is indeed shutting down on Oct. 30, these ISPs are more willing to increase their investments and meet the needs of our citizens. Many have already increased their available speeds and lowered their prices now that there is competition in the marketplace."

City officials were not available for further comment at press time.

City plans tax levy to pay for new fire truck

By Lorne Stelmach

While there were no questions about the need for a new fire truck, the plan for how it is going to be paid for by the City of Morden did have some residents wondering this past week.

A hearing at the next council meeting Oct. 28 will present a local improvement bylaw for the purchase of a new truck paid for by a tax levy.

A new fire vehicle had already been included in the city's 2019 budget, but there were a number of factors that came into play that led to the proposal of a tax levy, explained Mayor Brandon Burley on Friday.

The truck was ordered in early 2018 and had been included in that year's financial plan, he said.

"It's been two years now that's it's been on the books ... there was a hold up in the actual manufacturing of it, which is why we didn't have it in 2018," Burley said.

"Normally it would get paid for out of a capital replacement reserve ... unfortunately there was not enough there," he continued. "The projected estimate for replacement was too low, and then money was spent in 2017, leaving insufficient funds in that account to cover the replacement cost of this truck."

He acknowledged this was not the ideal way for this purchase to have been managed and handled.

"Going forward, this is not a best practice," said Burley.

Continued on page 19



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PHOTOS BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Winkler firefighters showed off some of their technical rescue skills at the annual fire hall open house last week.

Winkler FD open its doors

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler Fire Department welcomed the community to the fire hall for an evening of tours and demonstrations on Oct. 9.

The event, held each year during Fire Prevention Week, is one firefighters look forward to as much as the general public does, said Chief Richard Paetzold.

"It's the one day of the year that we open the doors and let the public in unabated to come and visit," he said. "It's a relaxed atmosphere and we try and make sure there's opportunity for people to see who the firefighters for our community are. It's often their neighbours or co-workers.

"Building that community connectivity is important for a fire department like ours to continue to serve with the system we've got."

In addition to giving kids and the young a heart the chance to sit in the fire trucks and see what it's like to put on turnout gear, the evening also included a barbecue supper and several technical rescue demonstrations.

"Usually the fire department is known for fighting fires, but there's a lot of other services that we provide," Paetzold said. "It isn't just firefighters showing up and spraying water on a fire. There's a lot more to it and there's a lot more expected of us."

For example, the department has been practicing tower rescues at their training site for

years, and recently installed an interior training tower at the fire hall.

Open house guests last week lined the stairwell beside the tower for a close-up look at the safety steps firefighters take when executing a rescue at a great height.

Nearby, other department members lowered one of their own through a manhole into the storage room below to showcase a confined space rescue.

And several other firefighters demonstrated a rope rescue, ziplining from the hall's mezzanine level to the garage floor below.

"These types of situations are low frequency but high risk," said Paetzold, explaining that's why regular training is so important to build muscle memory so that when firefighters have to go into a real situation they're able to do so safely and efficiently.

"That only comes with practice," he said. "A lot of the dangers with technical rescue are subtle. It could be just a carabiner not closed properly, a knot that is not properly tied. And so there's a series of safety checks we go through before we do anything."

While all firefighters are trained to a basic operational level for these types of rescues, a core group are trained to the technician level. Similarly, other firefighters specialize in things like hazardous material response or water rescues.

"This type of stuff increases the moral and I think even the longevity of firefighters in our department," Paetzold said, "because there's all kinds of different things to learn."

**"IT ISN'T JUST
FIREFIGHTERS
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AND SPRAYING
WATER ON A
FIRE. THERE'S
A LOT MORE TO
IT AND THERE'S
A LOT MORE
EXPECTED OF
US."**



Winkler Imagination Library celebrating five years

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Thanks to the Winkler Imagination Library, hundreds of local tots have gotten a head start on a lifelong love of reading.

The Imagination Library, which sends about 800 free books out to Winkler and Plum Coulee area pre-schoolers every month, is marking five years of operations this fall.

Founded by country music legend Dolly Parton in 1990, the international early literacy program launched in Winkler on Oct. 25, 2014. Today it is run under the umbrella of the Winkler Family Resource Centre.

It was spearheaded locally by a group of current and former Garden Valley School Division staff who believed in the benefits of getting books into the hands of children as early as

possible.

"And what we expected to happen has happened," said board chair Joyce Sawatzky. "The Garden Valley School Division is thrilled with the results. They're seeing kids coming to kindergarten way more book literate, engaged, and ready to learn how to read."

The Imagination Library is open to every child in the GVSD catchment area. Once enrolled, kids receive a new, age appropriate book, delivered in their name, to their home once a month from birth until their fifth birthday.

These books often have a ripple effect through entire families.

"We've heard a lot of stories of how much the books are being read by older kids in the family. All the kids in the family are using them," Sawatzky said. "And even some parents are using them to learn how to read English better."



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Charlotte Klassen was the first child registered for the Winkler Imagination Library in 2014. She's since graduated from the program, which today sends out free books to 800 kids every month.

The committee works closely with school liaison workers, BabyFirst reps, Regional Connections, and other social services to ensure families who might not otherwise be able to provide their kids with a wealth of

books are well aware of the program. "I think we're doing a really good job at reaching those that most need to receive these books," Sawatzky said,

Continued on page 16

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Pine Ridge Elementary School feels the beat



African music specialist Jay Stoller (below) brought along djembe drums and other instruments to demonstrate for Gr. 4-6 students at Pine Ridge Elementary School last week. Stoller's sessions also gave kids the chance to get hands-on with the drums.

PHOTOS BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

By Ashleigh Viveiros

A primal beat sounded through the halls of Winkler's newest school last week.

Pine Ridge Elementary School welcomed African drumming specialist Jay Stoller for the day on Oct. 8.

Armed with handcrafted djembe drums ordered for the school's music program, Stoller walked Pine Ridge's Gr. 4-6 kids through a few basic drumming exercises.

"I love the way the kids react when they first see me play and get to listen to the different sounds the drum can make and get to feel the different rhythms," he said, adding that giving kids the chance to get hands-on with the instruments themselves is, of course, a big highlight of the day for everyone. "In a very short period of time they're making music."

Continued on page 13



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Koats for Kids now accepting donations

Winter clothing dropoff at Morden fire hall

By Lorne Stelmach

The Morden and District United Way is once again holding its annual Koats for Kids campaign.

The effort to collect gently used winter clothing for distribution to those in need is always a very worthwhile way for the United Way to return the favour for the financial support it receives each year, said board member Terry Gibson.

"It's the community helping the community, but it also helps reuse a lot of stuff," he said. "It's not hard to go through 300 pieces of clothing. Some years it's up into the 400 range."

The campaign, which the United Way runs with the help of the Morden Fire Department, will collect donations until a series of distribution days in mid-November.

The red collection box with a Koats for Kids sign is located outside the storage shed behind the Morden fire hall.

People are encouraged to donate all manner of winter clothing, including coats, ski pants, boots, mittens, and

toques.

"Anybody with kids who have outgrown their coats from last year and are wanting to put them to good use, there's the red box behind the fire hall and you can drop them off there," said Gibson. "It all just needs to be in usable condition."

There is no charge for any of the clothing, and everyone is welcome to come pick up what they need to get through the winter on Nov. 12, 19th, and 26th from 4-6 p.m.

"The coats and clothing will be free to anybody who needs them," Gibson stressed.

"Any kind of winter clothing that kids can use, we really appreciate. It seems we get a lot of coats for everybody, so we may even have



VOICE FILE PHOTO

From left: Andrew Plett and Terry Gibson of the Morden United Way with Fire Chief Andy Thiessen and the Koats for Kids box, which is set up at the fire hall for donations of gently used winter clothes.

something for adults."

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gram, call 204-822-6992 or head online to unitedwaymorden.com.

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> DRUMMING, FROM PG. 12

Stoller, who studied music at the University of Ghana, has been sharing his love of African music and culture for over 20 years.

He also runs an African musical instrument importing business, which is how Pine Ridge music specialist Cecilia Gil connected with him while looking to add djembes to the school's instrument collection.

"It all started because I ordered drums through him," Gil said, noting the drums were flown in from Africa just last week. "So when he was going to bring them anyway we started talking about whether he could come and spend the day with us."

"I like having the children see other kinds of music, other instruments we may not have here, and professional musicians," she said.

A grant from the Music Performance Trust Fund covered the cost of Stoller's day at the school.

"We were very excited because [the drums] are made in Ghana, they're authentic, and we will be using them here at our school, so this is a great introduction for the kids," Gil said.

"They have loved today," she added of the response she heard from students throughout the day. "When the class has been over they've been like, 'No! We want more, we want more!' So it's been a great day for all the children."

Welcoming Shelley Overwater to the MMJS Team effective October 1, 2019



Shelley attended the University of Manitoba's Northern Social Work Program and received her Bachelor of Social Work in 2004 and then went on to obtain her Juris Doctor in 2010. Upon completing law school, she articulated in Morden with a local law firm and practiced briefly on her own, accumulating many wonderful clients along the way. In her spare time, Shelley can be found volunteering around the community of Morden and participating in local events.

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Nighthawks host grandparents for fall supper

By Lorne Stelmach

An event at Northlands Parkway Collegiate last Tuesday was all about making connections.

The Winkler high school's second annual Grandparents Fall Supper saw around 70 people enjoy a hearty supper of roast pork and potatoes, fall vegetables, homemade buns, and pumpkin tarts.

The evening also included music from jazz choir students, tours of the building, and a display of student artwork depicting some of the grandparents in attendance.

"We were looking into trying to get grandparents and the greater community into the school more, to be more visible and have our school be more visible in the community," explained principal Tammy MacDonald of the impetus behind the event.

"We weren't getting the word out as well as I would like," MacDonald said, noting the idea of the grandparents supper arose from the Jostens Renaissance program, which revolves around the idea of increasing positivity in schools.

"We thought it was a great idea because it highlights the different programs that we have, it highlights lots of positives in our building," MacDonald said. "This was a chance for grandparents to see what their grandkids do."

Gr. 9 student Julianna Harder was happy to have her grandfather, Winkler Mayor Martin Harder, at her side for the meal.

"I get to bond with my grandparents and eat some great food



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Northlands Parkway Collegiate students invited their grandparents to enjoy a hearty fall meal at the Winkler school last Tuesday night.

"WE WERE LOOKING INTO TRYING TO GET GRANDPARENTS AND THE GREATER COMMUNITY INTO THE SCHOOL MORE."

and show them the art that I got to draw," she said. "I got to draw their portraits, and that was fun.

"Some people might not really know their grandparents very well ... so I think bonding is the most important part of this."

"It's a privilege to have dinner with my granddaughter here, and I was looking for-

ward to seeing what she had created," said the elder Harder. "It's great for her to be able to give us a tour of the school ... it's an opportunity to spend time together.

"I am amazed at what this school does and the connection that they have with the com-

Continued on page 15

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> NPC SUPPER, FROM PG. 14

munity," he added. "I think it's a great asset to our community." "I think it's really cool ... and the food looks really good," said fellow Gr. 9 student McKenna Martens.

"I get to show them what the school is like and how we go about our day every day," she added, agreeing that the best part was being able to spend time together.

"We are just honoured to be here with our granddaughter," said Martens' grandmother Anita Klassen, who came out from Winnipeg for the occasion.

SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Above: At NPC's second annual Grandparents Supper, the school's culinary arts program served up a delicious meal, including a whole hog cooked on a custom roaster that was built by the Morden Collegiate welding program. Left: Art students created portraits of their grandparents for the event.

"I've never heard of this kind of thing before, and I thought that's what a small town does," she added.

"It's good to connect the generations, I

think, and just bringing grandparents in to see the school that she's in ... otherwise, we wouldn't really have an opportunity," Klassen added. "It's a big part of her life."

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Southern MB Manufacturer's Summit in Morden next week

By Lorne Stelmach

An annual gathering of the region's manufacturing industry will draw heavily on local knowledge and expertise this year.

That will be reflected in the lineup of workshops and speakers when the Canadian Manufacturers and Exporters holds the Southern Manitoba Manufacturer's Summit next Thursday, Oct. 24, at the Access Event Centre.

Vice-president Ron Koslowsky suggested it only makes sense when one considers the strength and diversity of the region's manufacturing sector that "rather than looking inside the perimeter for best practices and inspiring content and success, let's look at the region because there is such great stuff happening here.

"I've come to realize the absolute power of manufacturing in that region," Koslowsky said. "The companies down here have done an amazing job of building great manufacturing operations of all kinds.

"It's a chance for us as an organization that's involved in supporting manufacturing across the province to profile and highlight southern Manitoba," he continued. "It's also a learning forum. It's really a chance for manufacturers to get together to learn from each other.

"A lot of the stories people are presenting are local leaders in manufacturing talking about different issues and opportunities."

There are a variety of sessions throughout the morning as well as plant tours in the afternoon. Among the key sessions are:

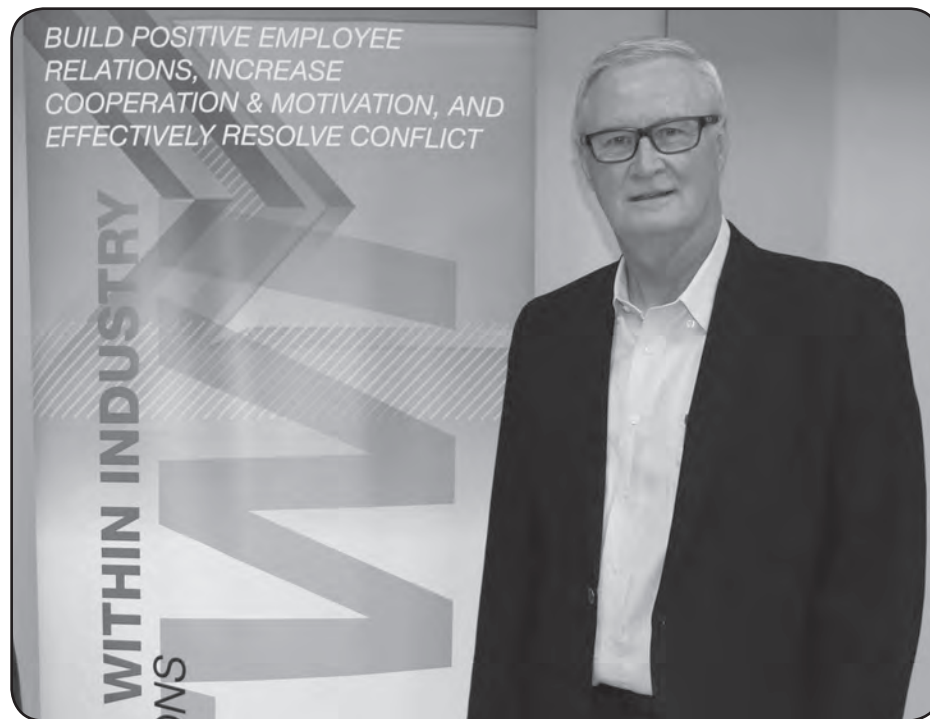
- *Workforce Development Through Immigration* featuring corporate immigration lawyer Reis Pagtakhan.

- *The Rise of Digital Marketing* presented by Drew Friesen, marketing manager for SteelTech, which, through a focus on online marketing, marketing automation, and data analytics, has seen exponential growth in the U.S. wood furnace market.

- *How to Survive a Cyber Attack* featuring SolutionsIT's Curt Dueck talking about the cyber attack Triple E survived in 2018.

- *An LDP Success Story*, in which Elmer's human resources manager Randy Dyck and CEO Mike Friesen will discuss how the manufacturer's investment in leadership development training generated impressive results.

- *Industry 4.0*. Kurt Buehler, vice president of operations with Macdon Industries, Kathryn Atamanchuk, Faculty of Engineering at the University of Manitoba, and Kevin Lusk, CME manufacturing and senior leadership executive, will talk about the



VOICE FILE PHOTO

Canadian Manufacturers and Exporters vice-president Ron Koslowsky is excited to bring the Southern Manitoba Manufacturer's Summit to Morden next week.

future of our digital economy.

- *Safety Simulation Workshop* will showcase Meridian Manufacturing's Safe Work on Wheels mobile unit and multiple safety demonstrations.

More information on the conference including a complete schedule and how to register can be found online at cme-mec.ca/blog/connection/2019smms.

"THE COMPANIES DOWN HERE HAVE DONE AN AMAZING JOB OF BUILDING GREAT MANUFACTURING OPERATIONS OF ALL KINDS."

> IMAGINATION LIBRARY, FROM PG. 11

stressing, however, that the program "is available to everyone. It's not just for the disadvantaged—every kid in the community has a right to receive these books."

Justina Friesen, who until recently had two children registered for the program (her eldest daughter started kindergarten this fall), said the free books have been a blessing for her family.

"It's a great way to give your kids an opportunity to get books and read them ... it can be quite expensive if you have to buy them all," she said, noting her daughters have

been thrilled to receive new books in the mail every month. "They definitely liked that part of it. And they love books, so it's been great.

"They read it so many times until they're done with it and then they're ready for a new one," Friesen said. "Over the five years they build up quite a collection."

HOW YOU CAN HELP

The Imagination Library is only possible thanks to the generous support of the community.

Countless individuals, businesses,

and organizations have stepped up to help cover the approximately \$48,000 it costs to run the program annually (about \$60 per child).

"We couldn't do it without them," Sawatzky said. "We've said from the beginning that as long as there is support in the community for the program we will keep mailing books."

That financial support means the wait list for the program is relatively short—newly registered kids start receiving books within a couple of months after signing up.

The committee is marking the five-

year anniversary by setting up tables at Superstore on Oct. 26, Canadian Tire Nov. 2, and the Winkler Co-op grocery store Nov. 16 from 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

"People are welcome to stop by and share their stories of how it has impacted their children," Sawatzky said, noting they'll also be accepting donations and registering children.

If you can't make it on those days, you can find more information about the program online at winklerfamilyresourcecentre.com or by stopping in at Central Station or the WFRC (750 15th St.).

Winkler youth leaders hosting guest speaker

Parents invited to come learn how to deal with youth anxiety

By Lorne Stelmach

An upcoming event in Winkler aims to help guide parents in dealing with the anxiety in their children's lives.

The Winkler Area Youth Leaders have invited Walt Mueller from the Center for Parent-Youth Understanding to speak on the topic of the rise in anxiety and mental health issues that kids are facing these days.

The current challenges that kids face when it comes to anxiety and mental health can feel overwhelming at times, and parents are the best positioned to influence and shape the hearts of their kids, said Steve Zacharias, a youth pastor at Grace Church.

"It seems to be something that is

a very prevalent issue amongst our youth and children ... so we've been looking to support them with resources like this to help them along," he said.

"Parents have been clear to us, they want someone to offer ideas and solutions," said Zacharias. "We are constantly hearing about the struggles of this generation and the pressure that they are under.

"What we really need is someone to come alongside parents and offer real help, whether they are connected to a faith community or not."

That thought led them to Mueller, who speaks at hundreds of events across North America delivering insight, understanding, and practical

tools to help parents in raising the next generation.

"He is definitely an expert in the areas of youth, youth culture," said Zacharias.

It is important to at least have dialogue about these issues, he added.

"I think the statistic is somewhere in the neighbourhood of one in five young people struggle with an anxiety disorder ... anxiety at a level where they are not able to enjoy life as they should be able to," Zacharias said. "So we're looking to help bring greater awareness and support to the community."

The evening takes place Thursday, Oct. 31 from 7-9 p.m. at Garden Valley Collegiate. Admission is free.



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Walt Mueller from the Centre for Parent-Youth Understanding is in Winkler Oct. 31 to speak about mental health and anxiety.

Genesis House makes pitch for funding to local councils

By Lorne Stelmach

The Genesis House women's shelter is turning to the municipalities in the vast region it serves for financial help.

Representatives are making the rounds to councils throughout south central Manitoba to make a pitch for funding support.

Having appeared recently before Stanley council and last week at Winkler council, executive director Ang Braun suggested municipal support can help make a difference when provincial support comes up short.

"We're in a bit of a bind," she told Winkler councillors on Oct. 8.

Braun explained they asking municipalities to consider contributing 50 cents per capita. In the case of Winkler, that would be over \$6,000.

She noted provincial support has not increased to keep up with rising costs and the growing need for the services Genesis House provides.

She pointed out, for example, that they need to offer competitive wages if want to retain qualified staff, but then may have to look at cutting hours to make up the difference.

"We have shaved away as much as we can," Braun said. "The Province has just neglected us for the past 12 years."

At the same time, there is always a need for more programs and services. Some new initiatives such as the Caring Dads program are only possible through community fundraising support. That program was funded through the Morden Area Foundation's Power of the Purse event.

"That intervention piece has been missing in this province," Braun said of Caring Dads. "I would love to be able to have more programming for men."

She would also like to be able to do more outreach into the far reaches of the region they serve. It's an area that stretches west to Crystal City and Pi-

lot Mound, north to Treherne and St. Claude, and east along Highway 75.

"There's a large portion of our population that we are not able to support," said Braun, noting for example there are many newcomers who are either not aware of or are simply not accessing the services available to the victims of domestic violence.

"We're trying some different things," she said. "We need more voices; we need more people standing up beside us."

Winkler council voiced its support for the work of Genesis House and said it will take the funding request under consideration.

> FORUM, FROM PG. 4

and that the Green Party has always been pro-choice.

Bergen was questioned on the issue of people being allowed to wear hijabs.

"We support freedom of faith, we support freedom of belief, freedom of expression," said Bergen, who then turned attention back on Trudeau. "We have a prime minister who says one thing, wears blackface, fires women, lies about interfering in a criminal prosecution."

Another question then to Werbiski brought up support for war veterans and led to the issue of the compensation paid by the Liberal government to Omar Khadr.

"I didn't like it any more than anyone else," said Werbiski, who cited a Supreme Court of Canada decision that the government had to abide by—a point that elicited a visible reaction from Bergen and an off-mike exchange between the two candidates.

The attention then turned back to

the issue of climate change with a question specifically directed at Archer.

"If we didn't have to bow to the U.N., we wouldn't have to handicap ourselves here on a economic level," said Archer, who suggested we could rely on our ingenuity to develop the technology and address climate change with a small business way of thinking.

Eert fielded a question on balanced budgets, and she was unequivocal about the Green Party's stance on it.

"We would not run a deficit because we do not believe in leaving our children debt of any kind," she responded.

All of the candidates fielded a question around more support for the dairy industry.

"We need to once again be promoting our agricultural sector ... expanding our markets," said Bergen.

"We would allow co-ops to take their much needed place in the industry so that they can compete with

a lot of the larger producers that are already out there," said Archer.

The Green Party has a number of agricultural policies, noted Eert, who said they would protect supply management and would also allow for production for local markets within the system. She also highlighted ideas such as a farming apprenticeship program.

Dondo suggested that "we need to offer the incentive to allow younger people to purchase farms ... we need to allow the parents to transfer the farm to their children without suffering any huge tax consequences."

Another query for all of the candidates touched on Indigenous issues and the 94 calls to action from the truth and reconciliation commission.

"People need to be empowered; they need to have accountability," stressed Bergen. "I'm particularly passionate about the rights of wom-

Continued on page 18

sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

Team Walter wins



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Team Walter were the champions of the Women's MCT Event at the Thistle Curling Club in Winnipeg Oct. 3-6. The team includes skip Meghan Walter, third Morgan Reimer (of Morden), second Lauryn Kuzyk, and lead Mackenzie Elias. The team send thanks to out to their local sponsors: Diamond Autobody, Winkler Dental Clinic, Prime Interiors, and BP Grain.

Flyers fall to Blues 4-2

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler Flyers stumbled in their lone game of the week last week.

Poor road conditions put the kibosh on the team's scheduled weekend games against Portage and Waywayseecappo, which meant Winkler's home stand against Winnipeg Oct. 8 was it for local junior hockey fans.

The Blues hit the ice strong, scoring just 37 seconds in and then making it 2-0 eight minutes later.

Sullivan Shortreed got Winkler on the board with a little over two minutes to go in the period with his eighth goal of the season, working off assists from Justin Svenson and Jayden McCarthy.

Winnipeg got that goal back five minutes into the second, but McCarthy kept Winkler's hopes alive when his shot broke through the crowd in

front of the net to hit the mark. Bryce Krauter got his eighth assist of the season on the goal.

Period three saw Winkler turn on the pressure. They had already outshot Winnipeg 38-16 through the first two periods and now they fired 16 more in an attempt to balance the score.

The Blues sent back a paltry four shots on net, but it only took one, scored on the empty net in the final minute, to cement their win 4-2.

Goalie Dorrin Luding took the loss, making 16 saves out of 19 shots. Winkler outshot Winnipeg 54-20 overall.

This week the team was scheduled to host Portage on Tuesday (results were not available at press time) and then hit the road for a pair of games in Swan Valley Friday and Saturday and in Virden on Sunday.

The next home game is against the Wolverines next Tuesday.

Hawks crush Cougars

Last week's storm postponed the Pembina Valley Hawks' Saturday game against the Southwest Cougars, but the local boys were able to make it out to Brandon Sunday to crush the Wheat Kings.

Justin Keck led the way in scoring with two goals. Also contributing to the tally were Andrew Boucher, Trent Crane, and Trenton Penner, while Reid Dyck had a flawless night with

33 saves in the 5-0 victory.

Pembina Valley is 5-1 so far this season in Manitoba AAA Midget Hockey, putting them in third place behind Winnipeg and Yellowhead in first and second, respectively.

This weekend the Hawks head to Portage to play the Yellowhead Chiefs Saturday and the Central Plains Capitals on Sunday.

The *Winkler Morden* **Voice**
News tip? Call 325-6888

Zone finals postponed

The Zone 4 varsity high school soccer championship games were postponed last week due to the snow.

The Northlands Parkway Collegiate female Nighthawks, who booted the Morden Thunder 1-0 in the semifinals Oct. 8, will host the W.C. Miller Aces this Wednesday, Oct. 16. The Thunder boys, who beat NPC 3-1 in the semifinals to advance, also play the Aces that night for the banner.

In SCAC varsity volleyball last week, the NPC boys fell to the Lancers in three sets (25-16, 25-11, 25-12). The female Nighthawks also lost in three to the Lancers (25-12, 25-10, 25-12).

> FORUM, FROM PG. 17

en on reserves."

"I know that we can do more ... I would 100 per cent be batting for the Aboriginals of this great land as well as all of the promises they have been given," said Archer.

Citing what she called our profound obligation to reconcile, Eert said they would aim to fully implement all of the recommendations.

"The Green Party also rejects the Indian Act as racist and oppressive legislation and is committed to dismantling the act in full partnership and with First Nations taking a lead role in the process," she added.

"I still can't believe that today we

still have an Indian Act when Indian is considered a racist term," said Dondo, who cited the need to do away with it.

Werbiski agreed there is a need to address all of the recommendations but also cited the importance of things like having more reliable and predictable funding for First Nations.

"We've made great strides so far ... but we've got a long, long way to go. Every decision that is made needs to be in conjunction with First Nations people."

Canadians head to the polls Oct. 21.

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Agriculture

Alberta takes the lead in stopping farm harassers

By Harry Siemens

Alberta Premier Jason Kenney and the Government of Alberta took a strong stand for farmers recently.

"Albertans stand with our farmers and our food producers, who are an essential part of our society, and our economy, and our future. That is why Albertans were so

distressed to observe the invasion of your turkey barns that occurred here on September the second," said Kenney at the Jumbo Valley Colony.

The move comes after dozens of animal rights activists occupied the turkey barns at the colony in southern Alberta, calling for an end to commercial poultry farming.

While the government doesn't know of other examples of similar demonstrations disrupting farms in recent years, it wants to "lay down the law" to ward off future action.

"Some people have called this a protest. I don't think it was a protest. You do a protest, you hold a bunch of signs on public property," said Kenney. "This was an illegal invasion of private property, a dangerous act of trespassing, harassment of law-abiding, hardworking Alberta farmers.

"These food producers follow the laws and the regulations, living an often challenging life to help feed the rest of society. We should not dignify this by calling it some act of legitimate protest.

"We believe in freedom of speech. If people want to criticize farming, if they want to criticize poultry or live-

stock, they have every right to do so," Kenney said. "But they have no right to enter the private property of a farm to invade it, to harass the farmers, to create a biohazard for the animals, and to violate several laws in so doing."

I agree with Mr. Kenney that this is long overdue. As he said, it needn't have happened in such a fashion.

Some people call these people activists but Kenney and I call them anti-farming militants. Not protesters, but trespassers and bullies.

"I'm here today to say that the Government of Alberta will not tolerate trespassing and bullying of our farmers," Kenney said. "We will stand up for and with Alberta farmers in protecting the rule of law."

In the next session of Alberta's legislature, the government will introduce legislation to protect farmers.

"We will do so by strengthening the provincial Petty Trespass Act to address trespass on agricultural land specifically," Kenney said. "We will increase penalties through the provincial Offences Procedures Act, fines of up to \$10,000 for a first violation,

\$25,000 for a second violation, and potentially up to six months of imprisonment for offences of this nature.

"We are considering amending provisions in the Animal Health Act and the Agricultural Pest Act to address the cost of biocontamination and biosecurity breaches due to unlawful entry."

While the penalties and fines may sound excessive, the message that it sends undoubtedly is not.

I like this part, too:

"We will ensure there are legal repercussions for individuals who misrepresent themselves to gain access to farms, capture images to discredit operators, and more measures that we are studying," said Kenney. "I understand that the Canadian Food Inspection Agency closely inspects the turkey farm operated by the Jumbo Valley Colony. Also, by annual audits from the Alberta Turkey Board, and has a solid compliance record. There was no reason for the activists to target this farm, but that's not the point. There is no reason for any farm to face harassment, intimidation, trespass and this kind of illegal biohazard."

Some may have legitimate concerns, and Kenney had words for them too:

"If people have legitimate concerns about animal health and safety or potential violations of food safety and agricultural regulations, we encourage them to go to the appropriate authorities," he said. "We in Canada and Alberta have the world's highest standards for regulation of the food chain, and that includes poultry operations such as this one.

"We don't need people acting like vigilantes through trespass, intimidation and harassment. Instead, what we need to do is to stand up for and defend our food producers, our agricultural operators, our farmers.

"Most of the people in the cities are only a couple of generations removed from a family farm," Kenney noted. "I ask those folks in our urban communities to remember their grandparents and great grandparents who made great sacrifices to operate farms, to feed their families, to produce food for the rest of the society.

"That's what our farmers do all across Alberta every day, just like this Hutterite Colony at Jumbo Valley."



> FIRE TRUCK, FROM PG. 9

"In the future, we'll be making the transfers into our capital replacement reserve to ensure that there's enough money to cover these costs as they come up," the mayor said, noting they will ensure for the 2020 budget "that there will be adequate transfers into that capital replacement so we don't encounter this again."

The estimated cost of about

\$820,000 will require the borrowing of the funds, with annual payments then of just over \$106,000. That will require the levy of .23 mills. It's estimated that will mean about \$20.70 extra on taxes over a 10 year period on a property assessed at \$200,000.

The truck itself is a necessity, Burley noted, as the department's current vehicle is over 30 years old and missing many of the safety upgrades

that have since become standard in emergency vehicles.

The 2019 model can carry eight firefighters and all their required rescue tools. It is capable of use for hazardous material, water rescue, and high angle response and can also serve as a portable command post.

The truck is expected to be here and in service by early 2020.

The Winkler Morden **Voice**
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COMING EVENTS

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131-8th St., Morden

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Fri. October 25
11:30 - 1 pm
\$8.00 PER PERSON

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PUBLIC NOTICE



Winkler MCC Community Assistance Centre Inc.

ANNUAL MEETING

will take place

Mon. Nov 4, 2019, 7 PM

**at Buhler Active Living Centre
650 South Railway Ave.**

Reports, Elections, Guest

Speaker: Darryl Loewen -

Executive Director of

MCC Manitoba.

COMING EVENTS

CARMAN GUN SHOW

October 26

9 am to 4 pm

Carman Community Hall

Admission: \$5.00

12 & under Free

PUBLIC NOTICE

CITY OF MORDEN PUBLIC NOTICE

REGARDING LOCAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN 01/19 - BY-LAW NO. 03-2019 FOR THE PURCHASE OF A NEW FIRE RESCUE VEHICLE

The Council of the City of Morden has scheduled a public hearing at 100-195 Stephen Street in Morden, Manitoba on the 28th day of October 2019 at 9:00 a.m. to present the following local improvement plan:

The purpose of this local improvement levy is to fund the purchase of a new fire rescue vehicle for the City of Morden.

The fire rescue vehicle that the City of Morden currently owns was manufactured in 1986 and is in a state of disrepair. The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) outlines how apparatus manufactured prior to 1991 usually included only a few of the safety upgrades that were required by the 1991 (and subsequent) editions of the NFPA fire department apparatus standards, or the equivalent Underwriters' Laboratories of Canada (ULC) standards.

Since 1991, the changes, upgrades and fine tuning to NFPA 1901, Standard for Automotive Fire Apparatus, have been truly significant, especially in the area of safety. It is therefore considered a risk to keep pre-1991 fire apparatus in first-line service.

The new heavy rescue vehicle is a completely up-to-date 2019 model. It can carry 8 firefighters as well as all the required rescue tools. In addition, it is capable of Hazmat response, water rescue and high angle responses, and can operate as a portable command post.

The City of Morden will be getting the new rescue vehicle in late December 2019 or early January 2020.

The local improvement tax to be levied under this proposal is to be based on the portioned value of all assessable property in the City, which includes taxable, grant-in-lieu and otherwise exempt property in the City of Morden, and the tax is to be based on the portioned value of all these properties. The potential taxpayers under this plan are the owners of said properties.

The total estimated cost of this local improvement is \$820,000.00, and it is to be funded by City of Morden borrowing at a maximum rate of 5.125% over 10 years.

The rate will be calculated as follows:

Based on the calculated annual repayment amount of \$106,839.34 and the City of Morden's 2019 local improvement district assessment value of \$464,409,000.00, an estimated 0.230 mill rate will be required. Calculated on a residential property valued at \$200,000.00 (portioned value of \$90,000.00), an estimated \$20.70 local improvement tax will be levied annually for 10 years.

The annual operating and maintenance costs associated with the proposed local improvement will be covered under the City of Morden's annual operating budget.

A written objection may be filed with the City Manager at the Civic Office located at 100-195 Stephen Street in Morden, Manitoba prior to the commencement of the hearing. At the hearing, Council will hear any potential taxpayer who wishes to make a presentation, ask questions or register an objection to the local improvement plan.

All objections, written or verbal, must be filed prior to the adjournment of the hearing and must include the name, address and property description of the person filing the objection and the grounds of their objection.

Copies of the local improvement plan are available at the municipal office at 100-195 Stephen Street in Morden, Manitoba and on the municipal website at: www.mordenmb.com.

Dated at the City of Morden, this 2nd day of October A.D. 2019, and issued pursuant to Section 318 of The Municipal Act.

Faisal Anwar
City Manager
City of Morden
204-822-4434



PUBLIC NOTICE

LIQUOR LICENCE APPLICATION PUBLIC NOTICE

MORDEN SENIOR CITIZENS FRIENDSHIP CENTRE INC.

operating as **Morden Activity Centre**
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has applied for
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9:00 A.M. TO 2:00 A.M.
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Citizen and community input is an important part of the application process.

Please call the Liquor, Gaming and Cannabis Authority of Manitoba at 204-927-5300 if you have any questions about this application.

Please contact your municipality if you have questions about zoning by-laws and requirements.

If you want to make a formal objection to this application, please send us your objections in writing by 4:30 p.m.

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Winnipeg, MB R3G 0Z6

Fax: (204) 927-5385

- We respond to all formal objections and will work to resolve objections before issuing a licence.
- A copy of the objection will be provided to the licence applicant.
- Each person who submits an objection will be advised in writing of the outcome to the licence application.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION SALE OF LANDS FOR ARREARS OF TAXES RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF THOMPSON

Pursuant to subsection 367(7) of The Municipal Act, notice is hereby given that unless the tax arrears for the designated year and costs in respect of the hereinafter described properties are paid in full to the Municipality prior to the commencement of the auction, the Municipality will on the **14th day of November, 2019**, at the hour of **10:00 AM**, at Rural Municipality of Thompson, 530 Norton Avenue, Miami MB, proceed to sell by public auction the following described properties:

Roll Number	Description	Assessed Value	Amount of Arrears & Costs for Which Property May be Offered for Sale
57700	LOT 14 BLOCK 4 PLAN 1887 MLTO IN S 1/2 8-5-6 WPM 54 BLIGHT STREET	L - \$10,200 B - \$116,500	\$10,159.01
114050	ALL THAT PORTION OF THE SE 1/4 OF SECTION 9-6-7 WPM LYING TO THE SOUTH AND WEST OF SOUTH WESTERN LIMIT OF ROAD PLAN 104A MLTO EXC FIRSTLY: THE SLY 519.5 FEET AND SECONDLY: ALL MINES AND MINERALS AS SET FORTH IN DEED 31550 MLTO - 31044 RIDGE RD	L - \$41,200 B - \$234,700	\$10,571.54

The tax sale is subject to the following terms and conditions with respect to each property:

- The purchaser of the property will be responsible for any property taxes not yet due.
- The Municipality may exercise its right to set a reserve bid in the amount of the arrears and costs.
- If the purchaser intends to bid by proxy, a letter of authorization form must be presented prior to the start of the auction.
- The Municipality makes no representations or warranties whatsoever concerning the properties being sold.
- The successful purchaser must, at the time of the sale, make payment in **cash, certified cheque or bank draft** to The Rural Municipality of Thompson as follows:
 - i) The full purchase price if it is \$10,000 or less; OR
 - ii) If the purchase price is greater than \$10,000, the purchaser must provide a non-refundable deposit in the amount of \$10,000 and the balance of the purchase price must be paid within 20 days of the sale; AND
 - iii) A fee in the amount \$309.75 (\$295 plus GST) for preparation of the transfer of title documents. The purchaser will be responsible for registering the transfer of title documents in the land titles office, including the registration costs.
- The risk for the property lies with the purchaser immediately following the auction.
- The purchaser is responsible for obtaining vacant possession.
- If the property is non-residential property, the purchaser must pay GST to the Municipality or, if a GST registrant, provide a GST Declaration.

Dated this 25th day of September, 2019.

Managed by:



Nicole Enns
Chief Administrative Officer
Rural Municipality of Thompson
Phone: (204) 435-2114
Fax: (204) 435-2067

COMING EVENT

Darlingford Community Fall Supper
 Sunday, October 27, 2019
 4:00 - 6:30 pm
 Adults \$15 • Ages 6-12 \$7
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Darlingford Community Hall

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OBITUARY



Audrey Agnes Hemminger (née Kuhn) 1925 - 2019

It is with sadness that we announce the passing of our mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, Agnes Audrey Kuhn on Wednesday, October 9th, 2019.

She was born on February 10th, 1925, the third oldest of 16 children to Fred and Olga Kuhn. Audrey grew up in Whitemouth and Portage la Prairie, MB. She married Clifford Hemminger in 1944 and farmed in Windygates, MB until 1974. They had five children.

She is survived by her son, Richard, wife, Margaret, his daughter, Tammy Morgan, husband, Conway and sons, Ty and Cole; son, Lloyd, wife, Vonnice, their son, Robyn and wife, Sarah, their daughter, Karla, husband, JP Vigier, daughters, Maddie and Olivia, their daughter, Amber and her daughters, Eve and Alice; daughter, Sandra and husband, Roy Clark; son, Rodney and wife, Debbie, their son, Derek and wife, Leanne, their daughter, Dana and partner, Andrew; daughter, Cindy and husband, Jim Law, their daughter, Jennifer and husband, Sean Major, their son, David, wife, Chantel and daughter, Liberty. She was predeceased by her husband, Clifford Hemminger in 2003, great-granddaughter, Anna Major in 2017, her parents, several siblings, sisters-in-law and brothers-in-law.

Mum loved crafts, crocheting, knitting, needlepoint, cards and puzzling. She adored her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. It was a big disappointment for her when after two cataract surgeries she was diagnosed with advanced macular degeneration and she could no longer see the things she loved to do. On August 30th, Mum had a second stroke and did not recover.

Family want to thank Dr. Carol Holmes at Agassiz Medical Centre for decades of supportive medical care, thanks to Homestead South and the Community Home Care program for helping Mum stay in her home until her next move to Tabor Home. We also give big thanks to Tabor Home who cared for Mum with her diabetic challenges and lately wonderful palliative care.

A private celebration of life will be held at a later date.
 In lieu of flowers, donations will be most welcome to Tabor Home Fund, 450 Loren Drive Morden, MB R6M 0E2 or Agassiz Medical Centre Community Board, 130-30 Stephen Street Morden, MB R6M 2G3.

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



AUCITON

FRANK SCHAAK FARM AUCTION
NEW DATE
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BOARD OF REVISION

RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF ROLAND PUBLIC NOTICE
BOARD OF REVISION FOR 2020 ASSESSMENT ROLL

Public notice is hereby given that the 2020 assessment roll for the Rural Municipality of Roland has been delivered to the Municipal Office at 45 3rd Street, Roland, Manitoba and is open for public inspection during regular business hours. That any person, who believes that an assessment ought to be revised, may make application in accordance with section 42 and 43 of the Municipal Assessment Act.

APPLICATION FOR REVISION

"42(1) A person in whose name property has been assessed, a mortgagee in possession of property under section 114(1) of The Real Property Act, an occupier of premises who is required under the terms of a lease to pay the taxes on the property, the authorized agent of the person, mortgagee or occupier, or the assessor may make application for the revision of an assessment roll with respect to the following matters:

- liability to taxation;
- amount of an assessed value;
- classification of property; or
- a refusal by an assessor to amend the assessment roll under subsection 13(2).

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

"43(1) An application for revision must

- be made in writing;
- set out the roll number and legal description of the assessable property for which a revision is sought;
- set out which of the matters referred to in subsection 42(1) are at issue and the grounds for each of those matters; and
- be filed by
 - delivering it or causing it to be delivered to the office indicated in the public notice given under subsection 41(2), or
 - delivering it upon the secretary,
 at least 15 days before the scheduled sitting date of the board as indicated in the public notice."

The Board of Revision for the RM of Roland will sit on **Tuesday, November 12, 2019 at 10:00 am** in the Council Chambers of the Rural Municipality of Roland to hear applications. The final date on which the Secretary of the Board may receive applications is **October 28, 2019.**

Dated this 26th day of September, 2019.

Kristin Olson, Secretary
Board of Revision
Rural Municipality of Roland
45 3rd St., Box 119, Roland, MB R0G 1T0

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SUDOKU

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

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

Sudoku Answer

Y	E	D				D	E	T
L	L	E				C	I	N
E	B	V				V	R	V
N	V	V				S	P	E
O	R	V	C		V	M	R	V
L	N	O	I		T	N	R	E
						G	O	V
						N	V	S
						N	V	O
V	D	O	S		E	G	V	T
N	N	I	I		V	E	R	E
N	V	T	I		T	E	V	O
A	C	R	A		V	E	A	E
G	A	V	M		A	V	L	T

Crossword Answer

CROSSWORD

- CLUES ACROSS**
- Computer key
 - Periodical (abbr.)
 - Hot beverage
 - Capital of Ghana
 - Shrek is one
 - Behemoth
 - Good friend
 - Form of "to be"
 - Where travelers rest
 - European country
 - Everyone has one
 - Pop
 - Feelings of anxiety
 - Small amount
 - Moved quickly
 - Common name for a type of frog
 - Free from psychological disorder
 - 8th month (abbr.)
 - Basics
 - Transcending national boundaries
 - Natives of Kashmir
 - Returned material authorization (abbr.)
 - Cigar wrapper
 - Brew
 - Popular video game series
 - Abba __, Israeli politician
 - Jewelled headdress
 - French cleric
 - Bizarre
 - Unit of measurement
 - Foul-mouthed Hollywood bear
 - "Partridge Family" actress

1	2	3					4	5	6		
7							8				9
10			11				12				
13							14	15			16
17				18			19				20
21					22	23				24	
					25				26		
					27	28			29		
					30				31		
39	40								42		
43					44					45	
46					47					48	
49											
										50	
										52	

- CLUES DOWN**
- Type of bomb
 - Smooth
 - Clothing pattern
 - Defunct phone company
 - Something to take
 - Type of piano
 - Consumed
 - "Pitch Perfect" actress Kendrick
 - Ray-finned fish
 - Heat storage stove
 - Shrink back
 - Yukon Territory
 - Connects words
 - Sound unit
 - Furniture with open shelves
 - Cool!
 - 007's creator
 - Source of the Nile River
 - Not safe, but ...
 - Helps little firms
 - Comedienne Gasteyer
 - Conceptualize
 - Root mean square (abbr.)
 - Integrated circuit
 - Evergreen trees and shrubs genus
 - Apprehended
 - Suitable for growing crops
 - Isolated
 - Footwear company
 - Electronic intelligence gathering
 - Political action committee
 - Free of

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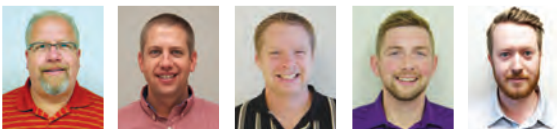
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