

VOLUME 14 EDITION 42

The *Winkler Morden* **Voice**

THURSDAY,
OCTOBER 19, 2023

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Exploring the fire hall

From left: Leo Unrau, Jack Toews, and Hayes Toews were among the kids who had a blast exploring the Winkler fire hall last week during the department's annual Fire Prevention Week open house. For more, see Pg. 2.
PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

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The Winkler Fire
Department
hosted its
annual Fire
Prevention
Week open

house at the Pembina Ave. fire hall Oct. 11. It was a chance for the community to get a peek inside the fire hall to see how things work. Kids of all ages (and more than a few adults) took the opportunity to explore the department's various fire trucks and tour the entire facility. Above: Chief Richard Paetzold kicked off the evening's demonstrations by showing the right way to put out a stove top fire—by simply putting a lid on the pot to starve the blaze of oxygen. Above, left: Kids cheer as one of the trucks is moved out of the bay. Left: Experienced firefighters (in yellow) and some of the department's rookies (in black) tore a vehicle apart to demonstrate how they extricate car crash victims.

Winkler Police Board looking for your feedback

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler Police Board is looking to the community for feedback on the work of the police department.

A survey released this fall will be open to all community members until Nov. 17.

Winkler Police Service Chief Ryan Hunt explains it's part of the department's strategic planning process. The last survey was four years ago.

"We want to find out what the biggest concerns are in the community for where policing resources should be spent and find out what we're doing well now and what we could change in the future."

These surveys in the past have rarely yielded any surprising results, but

it's still a valuable planning tool to ensure the department is meeting the needs of Winklerites.

"We want to focus our policing resources to work on those areas that are of concern for the community," Hunt says.

Drugs, property crime, and traffic infractions are generally top of mind for most residents, the chief notes.

The last survey in late 2019 got about 350 responses.

"We would like to get more if possible," says Hunt. "We realize people are busy ... but it does just take couple of minutes."

You can fill out the survey online at buildwinkler.ca or stop by City Hall to pick up a paper copy. All responses are anonymous.



FILE PHOTO

Got thoughts on the Winkler Police Service? The police board that oversees the department has a new community survey available for residents.

The department expects to release the results of the survey by early next year.

Koats for Kids puts call out for donations

By Lorne Stelmach

United Way Pembina Valley is putting out a call for donations of winter clothing for its annual Koats for Kids campaign.

The donation drive began Oct. 16 and goes until Nov. 8 before the Nov. 9 distribution day, and organizers are anticipating there will be a significant need again this year.

“Last year the demand for winter coats and winter gear went up quite dramatically in both Winkler and Morden,” said United Way board member Audrey Armstrong.

“It was kind of tough in that we actually had fewer donations that year for, I think, a variety of reasons ... other programs and such ... we ended up feeling like we turned a lot of people away, which was really unfortunate.”

The United Way is looking for all kinds of winter items for both kids and adults: jackets, snow pants, toques, mittens, scarves—anything that will help families in need stay warm in the months ahead. Both new and used items in good condition are welcome.

Red donation bins will be in place at three locations this year: at the Morden fire hall (194 Thornhill St. by the shed at the back of the building), Winkler fire hall (290 Pembina Ave. at the front of the building), and Central Station Community Centre (555 Main

St.) in Winkler.

This year’s distribution night will be Thursday, Nov. 9 from 3-7 p.m. in Morden at the 500 Stephen Community Centre and in Winkler at Central Station. There is no charge for any of the clothing, so anyone who needs it is welcome to come pick something up. There will be items available for both children and adults.

“We are only having one distribution session. In past years we have had several distribution sessions over a couple of days,” noted Armstrong. “We made the change following our experience last year of being almost out of coats by the end of the first session.”

She said all indicators point to there being significant demand once again.

“This year, in talking with both of the community centres who are both well connected to the food banks, they’re saying they’ve seen a consistent rise in numbers. Sometimes it settles then maybe goes up a bit again.

“I think there’s an increase in people whose budgets are tight, and winter coats can be quite costly, especially if you’re trying to get them for a whole family,” Armstrong continued. “Because the economy’s been a little tough this last while, it’s getting more pay cheque to pay cheque, and it’s getting more challenging ... and we also have newcomers coming in each year who are often not equipped for a



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

United Way Pembina Valley board members Audrey Armstrong and Anna Wieler with one of the red donation boxes set up in both Morden and Winkler for the Koats for Kids program. Donations of new or gently used winter clothing for kids and adults are being accepted now until Nov. 8. They’ll be distributed to families in need Nov. 9.

Manitoba winter.

“Each year, the program’s been building, and unfortunately the need has been building as well, and that part of it is too bad, but I’m glad that United Way is able to be involved in stepping up to help meet some of that need,” said Armstrong. “So this year, we’re trying to push the donations a

bit more, and hopefully we get a few more coats donated and get back to more like the numbers we had previously. We’ll see what happens with how many people come.

“I think people may see it a bit more. We’re just trying to get the word out a little bit more in both of the communities.”

Altona ends membership with Central MB Tourism

By Lori Penner

After many years of active participation and investment, the Town of Altona has decided not to renew their 2024 membership with Central Manitoba Tourism.

Mayor Harv Schroeder says the decision was not taken lightly, and it comes after a thorough evaluation of the benefits and value that the municipality has received from its membership in the regional tourism agency.

“Unfortunately, despite our efforts to engage and collaborate, we have not seen the expected return on our investment in terms of tourism pro-

motion, economic development, or enhanced community engagement,” he says.

In a letter to the organization, Schroeder noted that the town has been disappointed in the challenges that the organization has had in maintaining a positive relationship with the provincial tourism agency, in meeting quorum for board meetings, and with the lack of new content created in the past several years, both in print and digital media.

“When reviewing social media and website content from the past year,

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WORK & WESTERN WEARHOUSE

Continued on page 8

New thrift store opening in downtown Morden



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Matthew Vetten and Leni Zacharias are preparing to open the Oba Yo Thrift Shop in downtown Morden next month. Everything will be priced \$5 or less.

By Lorne Stelmach

It's a big change from running a restaurant to operating a thrift store, but Matthew Vetten and Leni Zacharias were looking for something different.

The idea for their \$5 thrift store, Oba Yo Thrift Shop, was something they had in mind previously before they started operating the Oba Yo kitchen out of Rendezvous Brewery and Taproom.

"Our experience at Rendezvous was absolutely amazing. We were able to fulfill a dream of mine that had been apparent for quite a while," Vetten said last week as they prepared to open the \$5 thrift store in downtown Morden.

"It made me realize though I just don't think I want to be in the restaurant industry, right now at least. It could be again later on, but right now, it was too much," he explained. "After we did our last day there, we were talking about what are we going to do now? I started doing the soup to go again, but one of us had mentioned the \$5 thrift shop idea that we had a while back."

Then came a discussion with the owner of the former Appelts building on Stephen Street. Vetten and Zacharias had been thinking of moving elsewhere, but their thoughts changed with the availability of a location for rent.

"We went back and forth maybe five or six times over the past two months ... then we decided to go for it."

"It was sparked initially because I love thrifting. It's something that I enjoy and I've been doing for years

with friends. It's kind of how we spend time together," said Zacharias.

"But we've noticed over the years that even some of those prices have gone up ... some thrifting right now can be almost unapproachable for some families, like furniture for example ... to be able to help someone furnish their home for like maybe under \$100 would be incredible."

"We want to have a space that's more affordable for more people," said Vetten.

"So no matter what, every single thing donated to us will be sold for \$5 ... though anything that's not worth five bucks will be under," he noted.

"We want to create a space that's open and welcome for the community and holds no prejudice about anybody in any way," Vetten added. "There's a lot of people in this community who need a lot more help than communities elsewhere, and I think we need to take care of our community."

He believes there is room for another thrift store in the area, especially with so many people struggling as prices for everything keep going up.

"It's something that could really benefit a lot of people who need more help, who really need things," said Vetten.

"The idea is to just really be there for people who really need it," he continued. "We even want to work closely with the food bank and other organizations locally who are doing good already."

Continued on page 6

New IG Wealth Management office opens in Winkler

A trio of experienced financial advisors have opened up a new practice together in Winkler with IG Wealth Management.

Wil Montgomery, Jeffrey Klassen, and Sherri Oakes joined IG this fall, opening up offices at #3-880 15th Street.

All three have over 20 years experience in the local financial services industry and recently decided to partner on this new venture together.

They chose IG Wealth Management after considering many options, given the firm's commitment to full financial planning—i.e. focusing on more than just investments or retirement planning.

"We wanted to offer clients complete financial planning, to ensure everything is considered for today and tomorrow," says Oakes. "Investments, tax, estate, insurance, cash-flow, mortgage planning, business advisory—it's a fully integrated approach."

The team works together to ensure clients' "philanthropic, retirement, and estate goals are confidently realized," Klassen says.

This fully integrated approach to planning, adds Montgomery is "comprehensive and goes beyond traditional investment advice" and "takes into consideration all aspects of a client's financial well-being."

In addition to the focus on financial planning, another big draw for the trio was access to a team of IG Wealth Management experts.

"Not only does IG Wealth Management have an extensive product shelf, we also have access to a team of professionals, including tax accountants, estate lawyers, and advanced financial planning specialists," Montgomery says. "It became very clear to us that joining IG Wealth Management would allow us to assist clients with even greater confidence, no matter their need or complexity."

"At IG, we call it the IG Private Wealth Planning Experience," says Klassen, "which allows our team to pull in regional and head office experts in our Advance Financial Planning department when a client's situation calls for it."

IG Wealth Management is a name Canadians know and trust, the trio note.

In the company's nearly 100-year history, they've established practices in communities large and small to provide sound wealth management for affluent Canadians.

Learn more about what IG Wealth Management has to offer by stopping by the new Winkler location, calling 204-542-8909, or heading online to www.ig.ca.



Financial advisors Wil Montgomery¹, Jeffrey Klassen², and Sherri Oakes² have joined the IG Wealth Management team.

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Honourary Krushel Dr. unveiled in Morden

By Lorne Stelmach

It's a street that doesn't really exist now, but Krushel Drive can still be found on a map of Morden if you search it on Google.

And now there is an honorary sign marking Krushel Drive on the property of Farm King, and family members are happy to have it commemorating the hard work and ingenuity of the family's 125-year history in and around Morden.

"Krushel Drive has been on Morden street maps for as long as I can remember. The road was never fully developed, and the sign was never erected," Chris Krushel explained shortly before the sign was installed last Thursday.

"My grandfather would be happy to see it," added cousin Glen Krushel, who is a descendant of Adolph Krushel, while Chris is a descendant of Adolph's brother Ludwig (Lewis) Krushel.

Adolph and Lewis were among the seven children of Johann Krushel, who immigrated to the 1-6 area in the late 1800s.

From humble beginnings living in a sod house, he and his wife eventually moved to Morden.

Adolph would go on to develop and patent the agricultural innovation known as the Krushel Crusher which gave farmers the ability to crush their own feed such as wheat, oats, barley and rye.

Lewis created the Kwik Kut power hack saw line, and his sons Walter and Arnold built many variations of LKS (Lewis Krushel and Sons) welders, and they became a benchmark used by the Canadian Standards Association. Many are still being used on farm yards and in shops around the country today.

"Just a few weeks ago, I had a fellow from Saskatchewan call me at work to help troubleshoot problems he was having with a welder that he had bought new some 45 years ago. Shortly after, I was chatting with David Lumgair and he said, 'You're a Krushel, you must be mechanically inclined,'"

noted Chris. "Although I couldn't help the guy and quickly passed the call off to my father Wayne, it does instill a sense of pride with the recognition and association that our name still carries."

"LKS welders were used during the manufacturing process at Farm King ... and Farm King was initially a trade name that was created by my grandfather Adolph," noted Glen.

He observed that, back in the day, the family would have needed to be self sufficient and do everything themselves on the farm.

"All of the boys were actually industrious and ingenious," said Glen. "My grandfather Adolph had numerous patents, had numerous inventions, as did Chris's grandfather."

"One of the other brothers Henry was a watchmaker, so there was lots of mechanical inclination that stemmed from the farm. When they initially came over from Russia, life on the farm with numerous siblings meant you had to be ingenious."

The mechanical skills would carry on in the family including Glen's brother Al winning the best antique motorcycle restoration award at the Corn and Apple Festival show several years in a row.

"As far as the industrial and agricultural sector here, we played a part back in the day," suggested Chris, who noted another thing that people relate to the Krushel name is flying. "Both my father, mother and grandfather had their pilot licenses."

"At one point, I counted 14 pilots in the Krushels. My dad Ernie, my brother Warren and myself at one point," added Glen.

Chris noted his father Warren and his cousin Terry built and flew their own airplanes.

As well, Arnold Krushel was an avid pilot and integral part of creating the Morden Flying Club, and he also had a love for building airplanes but on a smaller scale. He built, flew and operated his own airport on the LKS property for remote controlled aircraft. His son Dale Krushel would go on to become a pilot and a captain for Air



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

From left: Glen Krushel and Chris Krushel with the sign that now marks the unofficial street long known as Krushel Dr.

Canada.

Before the Morden airport, Dr. W Colert had an airstrip at the lake where he and Glen's father Ernie had their planes. When Colert sold that property, which would come to be developed as Colert Beach, they moved to where the airport is now.

So there is a lot of local history tied to the Krushel families, and Chris has over the years been digging into it all a bit.

"I've been kind of dabbling in that for some time now," he said, noting another family member, Howard, initially did much of the research. "He gave me a lot of the family history, and I've kind of just built on it talking with other Krushels and kind of compiled the history."

"We have a family tree that spreads pretty far by now," he said. "There's not many of us now in this area."

It was after Glen and his family placed a bench on the historical site of Adolph Krushel's original Standard Gas Engine Works in front of Bound-

ary Trails Dental Centre that Chris felt driven to do something that led to the erection of the street sign.

"My wife Lili and I are the proud owners and caretakers of one of Morden's iconic historic homes [Bella's Castle] We love Morden's rich history and are also very proud of what the Krushel's brought not only to Morden but also to Western Canada in terms of agriculture and industrial machinery," he said.

"It's interesting that the street has always existed at least on paper," he said. "Up until recently, they still put it on there ... obviously, it's not going to be developed into anything now other than driving into the yard."

"It's something we felt should be shared and honoured and not lost to the tides of time. It's always been here, and I've wanted to put something up here," Chris concluded. "It's great to finally have it in its place where it should be. I'll be proud to see it and proud to drive by it."

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Becoming someone new

I'm writing this column on Friday the 13th, which seems an appropriate time to talk about Halloween.

I have loved Halloween ever since I was four years old. I vividly remember Mum cutting two eye holes in white bed sheets and my sister and I running around the neighborhood with her collecting candy as ghosts.

It was a brilliant costume really because we could be bundled up underneath and no one could tell. Still, it was not without its dangers. The limited peripheral vision and near trips on the been that close to our feet definitely made for careful walking.

In the future we graduated to cheap plastic masks and single-use vinyl costumes. These were the kind of masks that cut into the skin around your face and mouth.

I didn't care because I was Spider-Man ... at least for the evening.

As I got older I insisted on using a pillow case to collect candy because you could cram way more into it than something as paltry as a shopping bag.

Halloween reveals an interesting character attribute about people. We like to dress up and become something other than who we are. People love cosplaying as different characters.

Heck, even as adults we still enjoy this (at least my wife and I do). This year I will be a Death eater and my wife will be Dobby the House Elf, both characters from the Harry Potter

universe. We like to hand out candy in costume ... full size chocolate bars only.

It's always fun to see which costumes will be the most popular. There are the generic princesses, etc. and I expect varying takes on Marvel and DC superheroes, clowns, zombies, perhaps a Wednesday Addams or two, and more.

Even pets are willingly and unwillingly dropped into the evening. Small costumes that our beloved furry companions are fiercely crammed into.

To be honest, it's mostly dogs. Trying to put a costume on a cat can be life endangering. I might perch a small hat on our leopard gecko for a picture of shed docile enough ... we will see.

I think aside from the obvious goofy fun involved there's an aspect of escapism. It's somewhat freeing to shed your normal skin and put on another for a little while.

For a little while you can almost imagine climbing a wall, shooting ends, flying or casting a spell. Fantasies run rampant as you proudly simply exist in your costume.

Of course, there's the positive reinforcement of getting candy as a child that keeps the memory alive and hap-

py.

Even our homes can become new characters as they are swept up in the excitement of the festivities.

Creepy statues, fake graves, strange illumination with exaggerated shadows, scary music and the like. What a time.

I hope you enjoy Halloween and revel in the opportunity to become someone different, if only for a night. Especially you adults, even if you don't have kids (maybe especially).

Have fun being different, watch the scariest movies you can, and hide around every corner waiting to scare your loved ones.

> THRIFT SHOP, FROM PG. 4

"We can't do it without donations, so that is the number one thing we need ... as many donations as possible," Vetten added.

Their plan is to open the first Tuesday of November. You can email matthew@oba-yo.ca or call 250-666-5207 for more information or if you have something to donate.

"We'll even come and pick up donations if you have them."

Letter policy

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

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

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

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

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View the *Voice* online at www.winklermordenvoice.ca or altonavoice.ca

Charges laid in standoff

By Voice staff

Police have released additional details about a standoff that ended peacefully in Morden earlier this month.

Morden Police were called to the scene of an assault with a weapon at a residence on Westwood Drive the evening of Oct. 2.

A man and a woman were arrested on the scene, but a second man barricaded himself inside the house.

Morden officers were joined by police from Winkler, the Regional Support Tactical Team, the Regional Crisis Negotiators Unit, and K9 officers.

Police say the accused, who was also wanted by police for failing to attend court on charges of possession for the purpose of trafficking methamphetamine, did not respond to numerous attempts by negotiators to communicate and ignored different tactics used by officers to have him safely exit the residence. The situation went on for nearly 12 hours

Officers eventually entered the

building and were able to penetrate a make-shift barricade that the accused had set up and equipped with an alarm.

A search of the residence revealed the accused hidden inside a wall he had accessed through a hidden compartment.

Police discovered that the accused had a backpack with a cellphone and a charging pack inside the wall where he could potentially have been in hiding for hours.

Officers located and seized a replica assault rifle the accused had during the standoff.

“On October 3rd, 2023 at approximately 10:30 a.m., the incident had ended safely and citizens were allowed to resume their daily activities in the area,” Morden Police said in a statement. “Police resources were used from the Winkler Police Service and the Altona Police Service as well as assistance from the Morden Fire and Rescue.

“Many of these members were called out to assist with this incident in the



MORDEN POLICE SERVICE PHOTO

Police seized this replica assault rifle after entering a Morden home in which a man barricaded himself for 12 hours Oct. 2-3.

middle of the night. This demonstrates the hard work and dedication of all involved.”

As a result of this incident, a 33-year-old has been charged with assault with a weapon, uttering threats, possession of a weapon for a dangerous purpose, and three counts of failing to comply with the conditions of a release order. He was remanded into custody to appear in Provincial Court in Winnipeg.

A 25-year-old Morden man is facing a charge of possession of a weapon for a dangerous purpose. He will be appearing in Morden Provincial Court in January.

Finally, a 46-year-old Morden woman is facing two charges of failing to comply with the conditions of a release order. She will be appearing in Morden Provincial Court in November, as she already had charges before the courts.

Morden to hold two separate by-elections for council seats

By Voice staff

Morden voters will be heading to the polls not once but twice to fill the vacant seats on city council.

Mayor Brandon Burley and Councillors Florian Lassnig resigned from their positions a few weeks apart this fall.

“After careful consideration and consultation, we have decided to conduct two separate by-elections,” city manager Nichole Reidle announced in a statement Monday. “The first will be for the position of mayor on December 20, 2023, followed by a separate by-election for the city council, a date to be determined.

“We understand that both the mayor and city councillor positions are highly valued within our local government, and we want to ensure

that the entire election process is fair, transparent, and beneficial to our residents.”

Reidle further noted that by holding the mayoral election first the City is ensuring continuity of municipal governance and more focused community engagement with candidates.

“By conducting the mayor election first, residents will have the opportunity to select a leader who aligns with their values and vision for our city,” she further noted. “This choice can provide essential direction and inspiration for those considering running for city council positions, thereby promoting a more cohesive and unified vision for our community’s future.”

Details about registering as a candidate for the mayoral election are available at mymorden.ca.



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Southern Manitoba Concerts begins its 50th season this week

By Lorne Stelmach

Southern Manitoba Concerts (SMC) presented its first series 50 years ago with the goal of bringing inspiring performances to south-central Manitoba.

The entirely volunteer board behind it is excited to be back post-pandemic with a full slate of shows for the 2023-24 season.

"It is pretty special and exciting to be back," said board member Sharon Wiens, who was only aware of one other rural concert series that

has gone as long as SMC, with a similar organization in Pinawa having reached the 50-year milestone.

Wiens said they are cautiously optimistic about returning and are encouraged by the initial response.

"Southern Manitoba Concerts is fortunate to have loyal subscribers who have already resubscribed for the new concert series," she said.

"We have to applaud the community minded people who started the series 50 years ago," Wiens added. "My understanding is that it was just a small group of people from Altona,

Winkler, and Morden who met and said this was something we want as part of the lifestyle of our communities, so how can we make it happen?"

Having a varied lineup of performers continues to be a priority for the organization.

"This is not a chamber music society. It's meant to appeal to all ages ... and just present a variety of performances for people," Wiens said. "And there's also a bit of social mixing that goes on at these events as well."

Kicking off the season this Friday at the Access Event Centre in Morden is Canadian Brass. They're a fitting opener, as the original group performed as part of one of SMC's first seasons decades ago.

The *Washington Post* once commented "these are the men who put brass music on the map with their unbeatable blend of virtuosity, spontaneity and humanity."

In addition to performances, Canadian Brass has averaged two and a half full length recordings per year

for each of its 52 years of existence. During the COVID era, the group created another award-winning recording called *Canadiana* that features music of Canadian superstars such as Joni Mitchell and Bruce Cockburn.

The second SMC show is The Nadeau Ensemble on Nov. 26 at the Emmanuel Mennonite Church in Winkler.

The ensemble will present concert-goers with a captivating choice of music to celebrate the Christmas season, along with a group carol sing-along.

The third show features Notas de 4 Jan. 28 at Buhler Hall in Gretna.

This Latin folk and jazz ensemble of musicians and dancers offers original compositions that are inspired from flamenco, Latin jazz, and traditional music from Cuba, Mexico, and Spain.

The series then concludes with a performance from pianist Sarah Hagan Feb. 24 at the Emmanuel Mennonite Church in Winkler

The award-winning artist brings to the stage her unique combination of piano and humour. Hagan's extensive touring has taken her across Canada to Sweden, France, Germany and Italy and twice to New York's Carnegie Hall.

There are a limited number of subscriptions available, taking into consideration the capacity of the venues. Rush seating tickets will only be available for individual shows if space allows.

Subscriptions for adults are \$80 for returning patrons and \$100 for new ones. Seniors subscriptions are \$70 and \$80 while a family of four (two adults and two children) can subscribe for \$180 or \$200.

Tickets are available at The Flower Shop in Altona, Morklers in Morden, and Bloom Floral Creative in Winkler.

More information can be found online at southernmanitobaconcerts.ca.



SUPPLIED PHOTOS

Canadian Brass kicks off the Southern Manitoba Concert Series' 50th season this Friday at the Access Event Centre in Morden. SMC is offering subscribers four different shows from now until spring. Right: The Nadeau Ensemble is SMC's second show of the season. It takes place Nov. 26 at the Emmanuel Mennonite Church in Winkler.



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> TOURISM, FROM PG. 3

we were disappointed to see that our community was not featured aside from one or two 'shares' around the time of our festival. It has become apparent to us that fundamental improvements are necessary to ensure that Central Manitoba Tourism can effectively serve its members.

"We hope that Central Manitoba Tourism will take this opportunity to evolve and become a more effective partner in achieving our shared goals, and we remain open to reevaluating our decision in the future should Central Manitoba Tourism demonstrate a commitment to addressing these concerns and implementing meaningful changes."

Representatives from Central Manitoba Tourism did not respond to requests for comment by press time.

Meanwhile, Schroeder says Altona will continue to find ways to promote local tourism and foster positive regional relationships.

"We've been members of Central Manitoba Tourism for a long time. While we are parting ways for now, we wish them well moving forward. We are looking forward to pursuing other ways of promoting tourism in Altona next year, including working with local residents on creating new content that highlights everything we have to offer."

Central Manitoba Youth Choir tours the region



Some of the top youth singers from across the region hit the road last week to perform as part of the Central Manitoba Youth Choir. The choir, which was conducted by Scott Reimer and accompanied by Loren Hiebert, featured singers from high schools in Winkler, Morden, Altona, and beyond. The group spent two weekends rehearsing together and then set out for five days



of performances, including this one in Altona Saturday afternoon. The tour also included multiple stops in Winkler and Morden.

PHOTOS BY EDWARD VINCENT ARCENAL/VOICE

WSC, NPC teaming up for intergenerational cooking/baking class

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler Senior Centre is teaming up with Northlands Parkway Collegiate's culinary arts program for a free intergenerational cooking/baking class next month.

On Thursday, Nov. 2 from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., adults 55+ are invited to the school to take part in either a cooking class with chef Paul Henderson or a baking class with chef Shelley Patel and their students.

It's a great opportunity to bridge the generational gap while learning something new, says WSC resource coordinator Denise Enns, explaining the classes are funded by a Health Together Now Increasing Community Belonging grant from Southern Health-Santé Sud.

"The goal of those grants is to build connections and relationships to

make everyone feel more connected and resilient," she says. "So we came up with the idea of contacting the high school and doing a cooking/baking class with their students.

"It's a chance to learn, to share, and for the younger generation and the older generation to work together."

Chef Henderson says participants and students will team up to cook and bake food that the group will enjoy for lunch.

"We'll all sit together and have a meal. I think it's valuable community connection," he says, noting it's also a great opportunity for seniors to get to see and work inside NPC's state-of-the-art commercial kitchens.

There will also be a nutritional focus to the classes.

"I'll talk about how nutrition is part of the process—healthy portions, how to eat better, how many calories

we need, and the type of fats that are good for us," Henderson says.

To register, call 204-325-8964 and ask for Cathleen or Denise. Space is limited. The registration deadline is Wednesday, Oct. 25.

WORKSHOP ON MONDAY

A bit closer at hand, the senior centre is partnering with Dying With

Dignity Canada to host an Advance Care Plan seminar this coming Monday, Oct. 23, from 1:30-3:30 p.m. in the multi-purpose room at the Buhler Active Living Centre.

The session will take participants through the ins and outs of creating a health care directive or living will.

All are welcome. Pre-registration is not required.



Main & Stanley reopens to traffic

PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

After weeks of work, the revamped intersection at Main Street and Stanley Avenue in Winkler reopened to traffic last week. The project realigned both the north and southbound lanes on Main Street as it crosses over Stanley Ave. Also installed were bump-outs (curb extensions) and ramps to improve safety and accessibility for pedestrians. The city has been lobbying Manitoba Highways to straighten out the intersection for years. Main St. is under provincial jurisdiction.

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EFFICIENCY MANITOBA

PHAC hosts author Casey Plett

By Lorne Stelmach

As a trans-gender woman, Casey Plett often draws on this experience in her writing, but she also wants people to connect with her writing on all of its merits.

That is something she reflected on in an interview before doing a reading and Q&A at the Pembina Hills Gallery in Morden this month.

"I'm of two minds about it. I want my writing to be valued for its own sake. At the same time, I'm very proud to be trans, and I'm very open about it," said Plett. "I devote a lot of my work as well about working with and celebrating other trans-artists.

"There's plenty of things in my books that are just drawn from real life. There's also plenty of things that aren't," she added. "One thing I do very much feel is that trans artists have a lot to offer the world, have a lot to offer the world of art ... I do feel strongly about that, and I do feel that trans-art is just really good art on its own terms."

Born in Winnipeg, Plett lived in Morden for close to six years before her family moved. She has lived in Oregon, New York, Toronto, and Windsor, Ontario.

An award-winning author, Plett was reading from and promoting her newest books, including the novel *A Safe Girl To Love* and the non-fiction *On Community*. *A Safe Girl to Love* is a series of short stories on the trans experience. In *On Community*, Plett ruminates on the meaning and impact of community.

Plett is also the author of *A Dream of a Woman*, *Little Fish* and has been the co-editor of *Meanwhile, Elsewhere: Science Fiction and Fantasy From Transgender Writers* as well as the publisher at

LittlePuss Press. She is a two-time winner of the Lambda Literary Award for her work.

Plett remembers always being attracted to writing, even as a child.

"I can remember when I first had the thought, 'I know, I'm going to write a book,'" she said, recalling her first attempts at putting pen to paper while the family lived in a duplex on Nelson Street in Morden.

"My eight-year-old scribbles did not go far," she said with a laugh. "But I always knew I wanted to be a writer. I always knew it was something I was going to do.

"I just always loved reading. I knew how to read since I was three or four. I took to it very quickly. I needed to occupy myself, so reading was the way that I sort of dealt with the world, and it was something I could do.

"Pretty much right outside of high school, I was going to give this a try. I'll at least try, and if it didn't work out, if it fails, then at least I know that and I can go figure out something else ... I had to at least give it a shot."

Plett initially just knew she wanted to write fiction even before she transitioned.

"Then, when I transitioned—this was as I was trying to begin as a writer—I thought, I don't see trans-fiction writing out there. I hadn't really read much of that, and there was a point where that felt sort of intimidating ... so then I thought oh, maybe I can write that; maybe it's something that I can contribute."

Now that Plett has had some success, it affords her the opportunity to consider how she might explore and go further with her writing

"I have been very fortunate. I've been more successful than I would have ever dreamed ... and the fact that my books have been cele-



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Casey Plett was at the Morden art gallery this month to read from her two new books: *A Safe Girl to Love* and *On Community*.

brated to the degree that they have just blows my mind," said Plett. "I think I feel free to take some more risks ... it's opened a lot of doors."

She concluded with the thought that it was special for her to do the reading at the Morden gallery, as it was the building that formerly housed the local library where she first was really encouraged to read and write.

"The fact that I'm now here doing a reading is very, very special."

Winkler Co-op members to vote on merger with St. Joseph Co-op

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Winkler Co-op members will vote this month on whether or not to welcome St. Joseph Co-op to the family.

A special meeting has been called by the Co-op board of directors to vote to amalgamate with La Cooperative Paroissiale De St. Joseph.

Winkler Co-op board president Milt Olfert explains St. Joseph Co-op approached them with the idea earlier this year.

"Winkler Co-op and St. Joe Co-op, we've had a good relationship for many years," he says, noting Winkler has hauled fuel for St. Joseph in the past. "So we've been working together.

"They're mainly fertilizer, though they also have a small general store and gas station," Olfert says. "We have three fertilizer sites and we know that running one fertilizer site is hard to make money, but if you have two or more, it makes it easier."

So bringing in St. Joseph's agro centre, which was built in 2016, will serve to bolster both Winkler's and St. Joe's fertilizer operations.

"It's about the volume when it comes to fertilizer and chemicals—you get better pricing," Olfert says. "We're on each other's border's now already with Rosetown [Winkler Co-op's ag centre] and St. Joe, because Sun Valley Co-op has no fertilizer site ... so it was just a good fit.

Continued on page 15

Salem Foundation Presents

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"Building for Today and Tomorrow"

Your FARM



Saskatchewan farm paving the way in regenerative agriculture

By Becca Myskiw

A Saskatchewan farm will be the first in Canada to have regenerative certification.

Axten Farms by Minton, SK, has been rewriting the agriculture industry for a while now. What started as a family farm three generations ago, has become a sustainable powerhouse that's building for the future.

Derek Axten grew up on the family farm. After college, he returned home and took on the farm himself. After a frost in 2004 left the Axtens vulnerable, they realized they must find ways to eliminate risk and increase their resilience; the only question was how.

The search for a solution took the Axtens to South Dakota to find a new disc seeder that would help their crops to lose less moisture. While there, they learned about the South Dakota State University Research Farm, which Axten described as "the birthplace" of regenerative agriculture.

Regenerative agriculture is a conservation approach to farming. In Axten's words, it's about putting the earth's resources first.

At the research farm, Axten and his wife, Tannis, went on a tour of the irrigation plots, seeing nothing they hadn't already seen before. However, it was there the couple first saw an irrigation system putting out two inches of water in nine minutes — and leaving the soil dry enough to not muddy their shoes.

"That was the TSN Turning Point," Axten said. "I was like, 'show me what to do.'"

The Axtens spent the next few years researching, travelling, and learning everything they could about regenerative agriculture. They started with cover crops for crop diversity. Over a decade, Axten said they tried more than 15 crop combinations, and because of that, they now grow over 10 different grain crops along with various specialty peas, mustards and more.

"We were looking for a way to increase diversity and lower fertility," he said.

Their first cover crop didn't receive nitrogen when they fertilized — and he saw no difference between that

crop and the ones that did receive it. Today, half of Axten Farms is nitrogen-free.

Years later, Axten bought his own seed cleaner so he could start separating and cleaning seed himself. This led him to start thinking about food instead of commodities and became the spark for advancements the farm has made today.

"It was like how far can we push this thing?" Axten said. "We started to explore ways to grow the crops with less, but still be successful and have good quality product."

After attending a conference where the speaker talked of microbiology management, Axten and Tannis found their new interest: managing the microbiology of their crops. They started by making large amounts of windrow thermal compost (organic composting material in long windrows) and then doing compost extracts in the place of fertility.

To get compost extracts, they first fill small bags with the compost, then hang them in a small brewer. The bags and the water each have bubblers that wash and massage the biology and the compounds out of the compost, and after 20 minutes, they can change the bags out with fresh material to extract. Once they have the compost extract, Tannis will look at the biology



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Derek Axton is a pioneer of regenerative farming in Canada. In 2007, he began the process of converting his multi-generational family farm near Minton, SK, into a sustainable operation.

under her microscope and when she's happy with what she sees, they'll add minerals and biological foods to it, then put it in the seeder to add in-furrow.

Around the same time Axten Farms started making its own compost extract for fertility, it also started doing

sap analyses instead of soil analyses. A sap analysis takes a certain part of the plant from various spots in the field and squishes the juice out of it. The information from that tells Axten what his plants are taking in.

Continued on page 18

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Your FARM



Automated systems boost efficiency at Halarda Farms

By Jennifer McFee

Mooove over manual milking — this Manitoba dairy farm is run by robots.

It's all in the family at Halarda Farms in Elm Creek, which has been operated by the Borst clan for nearly 40 years.

The entrepreneurial enterprise began with Hans and Dini Borst, who moved to Manitoba from Holland in 1984. They bought an existing 80-cow operation and named it Halarda Farms, incorporating the first initials of the names of themselves and their children — Hans, Anton, Lucie, Alex, Ralph, Dini and Adrienne.

The business continued to grow, and by 2008 they had acquired more than 600 milking cows.

Ten years ago, Anton Borst and his wife Cheryl officially took over the operation from his parents. The couple has nine children and nine grandchildren — with more on the way.

"When our kids are 12 years old, that's when they're officially on the chore list and on the payroll," Anton said.

"All our kids have to go off the farm for at least a year and do something else. Then they can decide if they want to come back to the farm. And

if they want to have a job on the farm, that's always possible. If they want to be involved in ownership or management, it takes a totally different level of commitment."

Last year, their son Michael and daughter-in-law Janique joined as partners, representing the third generation managing the family farm.

"I like working with animals and I don't mind working hard," said Michael, a father of three wee children with a fourth expected to arrive soon. "I liked growing up working with my family — and I want that for my kids too."

The bustling business also employs 17 full-time staff members as well as some part-time workers.

About 15 years ago, when Halarda Farms' manual milking parlour needed to be replaced, they set out to explore new options — and they discovered innovations in large robot barns that ended up transforming the future of the family farm.

They decided to build a new barn equipped with Lely Astronaut A3 robotic milking systems. Over time, they continued to add more robots while also increasing the size of their herd and in 2019 upgraded the robots to Lely A5s.

Today, Halarda Farms is home to



PHOTOS BY JENNIFER MCFEE AND SAMUEL BURBANO MCFEE

Left to right: Jaclyn, Richard, Janique, Miranda, Michael, Alayah, Annika, Cheryl and Anton.

nearly 3,000 Holsteins, including 1,300 milking cows that are milked an average of 2.8 times per day at 20 robotic stations.

The cows are separated into multiple groups depending on their age and stage of life. They all wear computerized collars that monitor everything from the cow's movement to how they chew their cud.

"The infrared collars can calculate a

chance that she's sick. Any cow with a 70 per cent probability of being ill will automatically be put in a separate pen. If she's in a sort pen, it will tell you the reason she's there. It also indicates when she's in heat and needs to be bred," Anton says.

"The robotic system saves a lot of work. It gives the farmer a more flexible schedule, and robotic systems collect a lot of additional data on the cows that can be used for management decisions. With a herd this size, we're trying to do management by exception."

Continued on page 14



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Six-year-old Richard represents the fourth generation on the family farm.



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Your FARM



> HALARDA FARMS, FROM PG. 12

On any given day, about 20 cows are in the separate sort pen for treatment or recuperation.

"If we have to treat them with any kind of antibiotic, then there is a set milk withdrawal after the antibiotic is used. The milk is not allowed to be shipped, and we take that very seriously," Anton said.

"We have a very close relationship with Morden Vet Clinic and they're here once a week on Tuesdays. They do pregnancy checking and we'll show them any cows that we're not 100 per cent sure about."

About 150 calves are born each month, with an average of five per day. The males are sent to Alberta

while the females are raised on the farm for two to three lactation cycles. All the females undergo genetic testing so only the best are bred for replacement.

"Dairy cows are like high-end athletes," Anton said. "They're bred to give a lot of milk, so for them to be able to perform up to their potential, we need everything for their care to be right when it comes to nutrition and comfort."

Comfort is key for maximizing milk production, which averages 41 litres daily per milking cow. Each day, Halarda Farms ships out about 50,000 litres, and all the milk is sold through the non-profit Dairy Farmers of Man-



After they're milked in the robotic station, cows are routed through automated gates.

itoba, which also designates the destination. Most of the milk from Halarda Farms ends up being processed in Winnipeg or St. Claude.

The climate is closely monitored in the well-ventilated barns, which have plenty of natural light. Other comfort measures include an automated bedding system that deposits freshly chopped straw. In the main pens, cows enjoy lounging on waterbeds with a foam underlay.

The animals undergo automated hoof baths four days per week, and a professional hoof-trimmer visits the farm weekly. Automated brushes provide even more creature comfort for pregnant cows.

The Borsts also hire a nutritionist to determine the right ratio of ingredients to feed their cows to maximize milk production with the best possible components. They grow their own crops on 5,000 acres of farmland and try to keep six months of feed in reserve. Healthy food is always within reach for the cows, thanks to the Lely Juno automatic feed pushers. Houle alley scrapers keep the barns clean by continually pushing manure to a channel under the floor. Eventually, the manure is used to fertilize their fields for a full-circle cycle.

Besides dealing with bovines, the dairy business involves many administrative aspects.

"On a farm our size, there is a lot of administration and data management, so there is a lot of office work. In addition, because there is some automation and equipment, there is also a lot of maintenance and repair work

that needs to be done," Anton said.

"On top of that, all these animals need to eat so we plant and grow and harvest a lot of feed for the cows during the summer and fall. Personally, I spend most of the time working in the office during the week with an occasional trip to barn. On weekends, when some of the regular staff are off, I will work in the barn and with the cows for part of the day."

For Anton, the best part about being a dairy farmer is the opportunity to be his own boss.

"We enjoy the challenge and variety of the work. It takes a wide-ranging skill set to be an effective dairy farmer. You need to be able to understand cropping, animals, people and business," says Anton, whose favourite dairy products are cheese and ice cream.

"We also enjoy seeing the industry evolve and change as technology evolves quickly in the dairy industry."

And after a decade of robotic dairy farming, Anton doesn't miss the manual method of milking.

"I have done it occasionally on a cow that was ill," he said, "but it is a very inefficient way of harvesting milk."

Looking ahead, the future is bright at Halarda Farms, which focuses on lean management to maximize efficiency.

"We are always looking for ways to become more efficient, be it by saving labour or saving costs," Anton said.

"As expenses and interest rates increase, we need to find ways to maintain our margins so we can be profitable."



Cheryl and Anton Borst with daughters Jaclyn and Annika.

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**"DAIRY COWS ARE
LIKE HIGH-END
ATHLETES ..."**

Endowment fund to generate bursaries for current, future health care workers

By Lorne Stelmach

A bursary has been set up under the umbrella of the Morden Area Foundation to help meet the critical need for health care professionals in this area.

The Learn and Return for Health Care Bursary was spearheaded by a committee that recognized there is a huge need in the area, especially with the demand for specialized health care workers that will be needed at the expanded Boundary Trails Health Centre (BTHC).

"This will be one way of maybe addressing the staffing issue on a bit more of a permanent basis," suggested Marilyn Skubovius, who is part of the planning committee that also includes Pat Gibson, Sue Nelson, Allison Braun, and Lenore Laverty. "Maybe students will see this is out there, and maybe this is something will make them look at this area."

This bursary will provide a financial award to a person entering or continuing post-secondary studies leading to employment within the health

care field and with subsequent employment at BTHC or Morden Menzies Medical Centre.

It could also apply to a current employee seeking advanced education or a new Canadian that needs recertification, but with an understanding the recipient returns to work in the area for a minimum of one year.

Once they are able to reach \$100,000, the fund will generate a bursary of \$5,000 every year. Their long-term goal is to raise \$1 million.

This bursary is being established as an endowed fund of the foundation, so the money invested in it will continue to provide health care education dollars in perpetuity.

Skubovius emphasized the fund will generate funding for this bursary now and for generations to come, so donors can be part of ensuring expanded health care at the hospital and clinic by making a gift to this bursary through the foundation.

"With the expansion of the hospital, there will be a need for more staff plus upgraded staff in some departments," she said. "There will be a need from time to time for developing and ex-

"THIS WILL BE ONE WAY OF MAYBE ADDRESSING THE STAFFING ISSUE ON A BIT MORE OF A PERMANENT BASIS."



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

There was some pre-Halloween fun at the Pembina Hills Gallery last Friday evening. The paint night had Dani Johnson lead participants in creating a Halloween themed painting using acrylic paints. She guided them on things like blending techniques, perspective, and shading.

panding their skills and training, and there will also be newcomers coming in who need some upgrading of their credentials."

The BTHC Foundation needs to be more focused on the physical building and expansion infrastructure, so this is another specific need that they can address, said Skubovius.

"It will be an endowment fund forever for health care," she said.

They are planning to hold an official kickoff later this year, but people can already make donations. Cheques can be mailed to the Morden Area Foundation, 13 – 379 Stephen Street Morden, R6M 0G8 or by e-transfer to info@mordenfoundation.ca. For receipts, include your name, mailing address, and specify the Learn and Return Health Care fund in the message box.

Fire destroys St. Jean Baptiste grain elevator

By Lorne Stelmach

The value of having a mutual aid district was on full display last weekend as firefighters and equipment from across the region helped battle a grain elevator fire in St. Jean Baptiste.

Letellier firefighters were initially called in early Saturday morning, but they were soon followed by members from departments including Morris, Altona, Dominion City, and Emerson.

Help then also came from Winkler with its ladder truck and a water tanker as well as from Morden with another water tanker.

"Everybody did a fantastic job ... with the mutual aid district, everybody works so well together," said Letellier fire Chief Andrew Dixon on Monday.

Emergency crews were called to the elevator around 3:30 a.m., Dixon said. When they arrived, the fire had progressed substantially through the 75-year-old wooden structure.

"It was very involved by the time

we got there," he said. "We had to just keep it contained where it was and not let it spread

"Our department went to help evacuate houses ... and the guys set about watering the houses to make sure they were protected."

Overall, it was a dangerous situation

> WINKLER CO-OP, FROM PG. 10

"And then with us delivering their fuel already, it just made sense that they would become part of one larger Co-op."

Winkler Co-op currently has about 20,200 members. St. Joseph Co-op brings approximately 350 members to the table.

The voting meeting takes place at the Days Inn Conference Centre in Winkler at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 26.

This is the second amalgamation Winkler Co-op has undertaken in recent years. In 2019 members voted

that had to be managed carefully, said Dixon, who noted they eventually were able to get to "start to tear down the building and knock it down."

"The scene was still active right now [as of Monday]," he noted. "We were there until 10 o'clock Saturday night."

The site was monitored overnight

Saturday and through the next day. "Overnight the guys had just been dampening down some hot spots," Dixon explained.

The cause of the fire and estimate of the damage was not yet available. No one was injured.

nearly 95 per cent in favour of merging with Lowe Farm Co-op.

NEW NAME IN THE WORKS

As the Co-op continues to grow beyond its Winkler roots, the store is looking to change its name to better reflect its regional reach. The Co-op today has locations and members in Winkler, Morden, Plum Coulee, Lowe Farm, and Rosetown.

"We've talked about changing the name for a few years now," says Olfert. "When we amalgamated with Lowe Farm it was something we knew

we wanted to do, but then COVID hit and everything kind of got put on the back burner.

"We want a name that represents the whole region we serve, not just Winkler."

Co-op has put a call out to the community for name ideas. You can submit yours online at winklerco-op.crs until Oct. 31 for a chance to win a \$500 Co-op gift card.

The new name will be voted on by Co-op staff and board members and then brought forth to members before the 2024 AGM.

sports & recreation

Male Hawks looking to break losing streak

By Lorne Stelmach

A rough week for the male U18 Pembina Valley Hawks has the team now in the midst of a four-game losing streak.

A 5-2 loss last Wednesday to the third place Thrashers in Winnipeg was followed by a pair of 4-1 defeats at the hands of the first place Brandon Wheat Kings.

It puts the Hawks in 11th place in the early going of the season with only one victory and a shootout loss through their first seven games.

Pembina Valley opened scoring against Winnipeg, but the Thrashers went on to take period leads of 2-1 and 4-1.

Acoyen Fehr scored both Hawks goals including a powerplay marker with just 25 seconds left in the game. Bryson Yaschyshyn made 31 saves as Winnipeg had a slim 36-35 edge in shots on net.

Game one in Brandon Friday again saw the Hawks open scoring on a goal by Jaxon Hildebrand just 13 seconds into the second period. Brandon however then took a 3-1 lead into the



PHOTO BY RICK HIEBERT/VOICE

The Pembina Valley Hawks dropped Sunday's home game against the visiting Brandon Wheat Kings 4-1. It followed another 4-1 loss to Brandon two nights earlier and a 5-2 defeat at the hands of the Winnipeg Ice on Wednesday.

second intermission.

Yaschyshyn had a busy night in net with 45 saves, while the Hawks managed 27 shots on goal.

Pembina Valley kept it close in game two and only trailed 2-1 before giving

up two empty-net goals in the final minute.

Fehr scored the lone Hawks goal, while Ryler Gates made 43 saves with Brandon holding a 47-24 edge in shots on goal including the two empty net

markers.

The Hawks have a chance to get on track this weekend as they are at home in Morden to host a double-header against Yellowhead Saturday evening and Sunday afternoon.

Local high school teams bring home provincial banners

By Voice staff

Local high school athletes ran away with a number of medal-earning finishes at the MHSAA Provincial High School Cross Country Championship last week.

The event was held at the Asessippi Ski Resort Oct. 11.

Top three finishers from our coverage area include:

- W.C. Miller Collegiate, JV Girls A/AAA, gold medal. On the team are Kate Sawatsky, India Loewen, Kirsten Giesbrecht, Sienna Loewen, Bella Peters, and Halle Smith.

- Morden Collegiate, JV Boys A/AAA, gold. On the team are Logan McPhail, Vance Olson, Connor Olson, Kiru Griffin, Mason Frost, Isaac Loewen, and Tyson Mullin.

- Morden Collegiate, JV Girls A/AAA, bronze. The team includes Kate Giesbrecht, Alison Convrey, Meredith Plett, Brielle Apperley, Ava Earl, Anika Wiens, and Mady Letkeman.

- Garden Valley Collegiate, Varsity Boys A/AAA, silver. The team includes Koen Unrau, Eh Kar Kaw Phyoo Moon, Lucas Froese, and Isaiah Vanden Berg.

Then, last weekend, our local teams

shone once again at the 2023 Provincial A-AAA Soccer Championships in Dauphin.

The final boys match came down to two Winkler teams: the NPC Night-hawks and the GVC Zodiacs. The Zodiacs brought home the banner with a 4-0 win.

Meanwhile, the third-place match between the W.C. Miller Aces and the Niverville Panthers went Altona's way 3-1.

In the girl's tournament, the Aces and the Zodiacs squared off in the gold medal game. GVC won it 2-1.

A host of local players earned

awards for their prowess on the field at the event.

Making the All-Stars list was Morden's Rylee Thiessen, GVC's Vanessa Fanz and Maria Bergen, and W.C. Miller's Kate Swatsky and Vanessa Krahn.

For the boys, All-Stars honours went to Altona's Moses Neufeld and Nico Hagin, Quinton James-Decker and Kevin Neufeld from NPC, and Eh K'Thwee Soe E'Thwee Soe and Mosi William from GVC.

The MVP awards went to GVC's Mekdes Wall and William Bergen.

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

Darlingford man tackles 24-hour race for Candlelighters

By Lorne Stelmach

A local resident took on the challenge of an endurance race in support of a good cause.

Devon Wiebe took part in the Beaudry Fall Classic 24 hour race/run at the Beaudry Provincial Park the weekend of Sept. 30 and Oct. 1, with his fundraising going towards the Manitoba Candlelighters Childhood Cancer Support organization.

Candlelighters exists to be a support for Manitoba families who are affected by childhood cancer, and it aims to provide meaningful emotional, social, informational and tangible support as well as creating connection between families.

"I have a friend whose kid went through a big thing ... Manitoba Candlelighters helped them out a lot, so I reached out to him ... he kind of experienced it first hand," said Wiebe.

Having grown up in Schanzenfeld then later schooled in Winkler, Wiebe now lives near Darlingford. He only really took up running in recent years during the pandemic

His wife's schooling got delayed, he explained, and he found he had time on his hands while in Prince Edward Island.

"She was doing her schooling, and while I was out there I got kind of restless and just started running. I got into it that way."

He then discovered the Beaudry Fall Classic, a timed-loop trail race held at the provincial park just west of Winnipeg.

Each loop is about five kilometres and participants can sign up for six, 12, 24, and 48-hour solo options. This year also featured a new Friday Night Sunset Fun Run.

Wiebe obviously did some training to prepare for the event.

"I just wanted to get into longer endurance runs, and I figured it would be a good entry because it's time based and not mileage based running," he said.

"I did lots of either early morning or late night runs because we have a young boy ourselves, so I don't want to spend too much time away from him.



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Devon Wiebe (centre) took part in the Beaudry Fall Classic 24-hour race/run this month in support of the Manitoba Candlelighters Childhood Cancer Support group.

"I just wanted to work up the mileage rather than faster times ... a hundred miles was kind of a big goal for me."

In the end, he did his 100 miles in 23 hours and 17 minutes—just in under the 24 hour wire.

"I cut it a little close ... I could have maybe fit one more loop in, but it was a bit tight," he said. "It was just doing constant math in my head, trying to

figure out how long I needed to keep the pace up."

Wiebe was looking to get pledge donations starting at \$1 per mile but was open to any other form of donation for the event as well. He was still finalizing his final tally but figured it might come in at around a couple thousand dollars.

Winkler Flyers remain flawless seven games in

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Winkler extended its win streak to seven games in going up against Waywayseecappo in Manitoba Junior Hockey League action last weekend.

The Flyers hit the ice strong and didn't let up on the Wolverines through 60 minutes, scoring three times in the first period, twice in the second, and four in the final frame to sweep the game 9-0.

Malachi Klassen got the shutout in net with 22 saves. The Flyers fired 27 shots on goal the other way.

Mike Svenson and Jacob Sargent both had two-goal nights while the remaining five came in from Jayce Legaarden, Brady Craik, Brody Beauchemin, Trent Penner, and Nick McKee.

Waywayseecappo were zero for six on the powerplay while Winkler made good with goals on three of their eight extra man advantages.

Winkler remains in the top spot in

the MGEU East Division standings at 7-0 and 14 points. The Steinbach Pistons are right up there with them at 14 points and a 7-2 record that has them

in second place. Niverville is in third place at 6-2-1 and 13 points.

Coming up, the Flyers host OCN Sunday at 7 p.m. Next week Monday

and Tuesday they play Neepawa and Dauphin in Winnipeg at the MJHL Showcase and then head to Steinbach to face the Pistons on Oct. 28.

Female Hawks fall to Chiefs, Wildcats

By Lorne Stelmach

A three-game slide has the female U18 Pembina Valley Hawks sitting at .500 in the standings after having opened the season with three straight victories.

The Hawks were edged 1-0 by Yellowhead Saturday evening in Shoal Lake and then had another close loss in falling 5-4 to Westman Sunday afternoon in Hartney.

A first period goal was all the Chiefs needed for the win Saturday as Yellowhead goaltender Natalie Rampton stopped all 26 Pembina Valley shots

for the shutout, while Kasia Rakowski made 35 saves to keep the Hawks in the game.

Westman had period leads of 2-0 and 4-1 before Pembina Valley made it a close game with three third period goals, including two goals within 17 seconds with about a minute remaining in the game.

Ava Dalebozik had a pair of goals for the Hawks while Abigail Briggs picked up four assists. Sophia Cox and Hayden Arkle also scored for Pembina Valley, while Rakowski made 39 saves with Westman holding a 44-42 edge in shots on goal.

The Hawks still sit in third place in the early going with six points. That has them even with the Winnipeg Ice while trailing Eastman at seven and Yellowhead at 10 points.

The Hawks take a break from league play this week as they head south of the border for a tournament in Minneapolis. It will include games Friday against San Diego and Dallas, Saturday against North Dakota, and Sunday versus Anaheim.

League play resumes the following weekend with home games against the Winnipeg Ice Oct. 28 and Winnipeg Avros Oct. 29.

Roland Pumpkin Fair a smashing success

By Ty Dilello

Carman's pumpkin, dubbed heaviest in Roland at the annual weigh-in, topped the scale at a whopping 1,539 pounds—roughly the weight of a full-grown bull moose.

The weigh-off started at 10:30 a.m. with 27 giant pumpkin entries. And the defending champion Jason Terwin of Carman took home his third straight title with his winning gargantuan jack-o'-lantern gourd.

Terwin is happy to share his growing tips and notes that for anyone looking to grow gigantic pumpkins, get a soil test and prepare your soil as best you can.

"Get some good genetics seeds, fertilize and water," said Jason Terwin. "Get tips from other growers and ask questions. There's usually a Growers Seminar and Patch Tour in the spring and summer. But it comes down to spending a lot of time in the garden and a lot of luck."

From a seed the size of a dime, Terwin starts them in the house around April 20 and has them in their little garden shelters by the first week of May.

"It's a great hobby to be outside in the garden," said Terwin. "You never know what shows up at the Roland Pumpkin Fair. I was hoping for the Manitoba record set by Cornie Banman at 1,660.5 lbs in 2019. But the Banman's always have some good ones. And I knew Charlie Bernstrom had a near 2,000 pounder coming in." However, Bernstrom had some unfortunate news: he found a crack under his pumpkin when he lifted it up on Friday before the fair, making it not eligible to win.

"So no, I didn't expect to win heaviest pumpkin for the third consecutive

> AXTEN, FROM PG. 11

"It doesn't really matter what your soil test says because it doesn't correlate with the sap analysis," he said.

When Axten started this, no labs in North America did the analysis for him, so he was sending his samples to Australia. With the results he get from it, he'd plan next year's crops and fertility. Axten said it's all about balance. If the soil has certain deficiencies, he can subsidize that with micronutrients. The intervention only costs around \$4 per acre.

"If you buy them in the right form, it's not an expensive thing to do," he said.

What's surprised Axten most since starting these practices is how every-



For a second straight year, organizers hoisted a gigantic pumpkin into the air for onlookers to see it come smashing down.

year. It was a great surprise. Now I have to start for next year preparation."

"Following the Harvest Supper, the Pumpkin Drop was a huge smash," said organizer Derek Baschuk. "This was the second year of the drop and was a crowd favourite both last year and this year. And this year, a splash was added as it was dropped into a large pool of water."

A big thank you goes out to all of the volunteers who helped make the Roland Pumpkin Fair a success.

"It was a great day," said organizer Lisa Pinkerton. "We were glad the rain finally stopped. The fairgrounds were pretty muddy but at least we had good weather. We held our second annual giant pumpkin drop to end the day, and we dropped one of the giants that were weighed in the morning into a swimming pool this year."

thing seems to be crop-specific rather than field-specific. Because Axten Farms seeds over 10,000 acres a year, knowing what's in the crops before they grow gives Axten more peace of mind.

At a conference in 2017, Axten listened to a presentation on regenerative becoming its own stream of farming, similar to organic farming.

"I went home thinking I'm pretty sure that lady is right," he said.

Because he already had a seed cleaner, his new interest became tangible, so Axten started planning a facility for packaging food products. He started moving ground on it in the summer of 2019 and by 2020, it was



Each pumpkin is placed on the scale for the weigh-in.

TOP GROWERS OF THE FAIR:

Pumpkin

First \$1,500 - Jason Terwin - Carman - 1,539 pounds

Second \$1,000 - Cornie Banman - RM of Stanley - 1,496.5

Third \$500 - Marlene Terwin - Carman - 1,299

Fourth \$200 - Art Cameron - Roland - 1,178

Fifth \$100 - Emilio Lassnig, RM of Stanley - 1,156.5

Sixth - \$100 - Zac Anseeuw - Oak Bluff - 1,114

Seventh - \$100 - Helen Banan - RM of Stanley - 1,107.5

Eighth - \$100 - Julianne Zoppa, Oak Bluff - 1,094

Ninth - \$100 - Henry Banman - Schanzenfeld - 1,061.5

Tenth \$100 - Doug Whitehead - Roland - 1,009

Tomato

Jason Terwin - Carman - 2.11 pounds

Watermelon

Cornie Banman - RM of Stanley - 92 pounds

Squash

Henry Banman - Schanzenfeld - 1,229 pounds

done. Axten soon started expanding the facility to add a packaging line and automated packaging for milling flour and the expansion project just finished.

Because of its advances and changes, Axten Farms will now be the first in Canada to have its regenerative certification.

"To us, regenerative means putting the soil first," Axten said. "If we put soil first everything else looks after itself."

A few other things Axten Farms does to help the earth is never driving outside of tire tracks on fields and using mechanical weed control on combines (another Australian invention).

Axten believes regenerative agriculture is the future of rural communities. He backs this up with the movie *One Hundred Thousand Beating Hearts*, which tells the story of an American farmer who started putting the earth's resources first, and by doing that, his poor, underpopulated community began to rebuild and thrive.

"You can sit back and watch your town die, or you can do something about it," said Axten. "We chose to do something about it."

Axten and Tannis will be speaking at Manitoba Forage & Grassland's Regen Ag Conference in Brandon this November. To learn more about that, go to www.mfga.net.

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PUBLIC NOTICE




PUBLIC NOTICE REGARDING AUDITOR'S REPORT

Pursuant to Section 194 of The Municipal Act, notice is given that the Financial Statements and Auditor's Report for the City of Winkler for the year 2022 are available for inspection by any person at the City of Winkler office during regular office hours.
 David Martens, Director of Corporate Services

CITY OF WINKLER
 185 Main Street, Winkler, MB, R6W 1B4
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CAREERS



MAINTENANCE MECHANIC/MILLWRIGHT

Bunge Altona has an opening for a Maintenance Mechanic/Millwright. Work involves process equipment installation, maintenance and repair, lubrication, steel fabrication and welding. Preference will be given to those candidates holding a valid provincial Millwright or Industrial Mechanic ticket. Candidates who do not hold a valid ticket will be expected to enrol in the apprenticeship program to obtain their ticket as soon as possible. Overtime and on-call duties are required. The successful applicant will possess excellent written and verbal communication skills, trouble shooting skills, and be a team player.

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- Mechanic \$32.70/hour
- Red Seal Millwright: \$38.08/hour

A job description for this position can be found online on the Bunge website: <https://obs.bunge.com/>. enter "Altona" in the field "Search by Location". Click on "Maintenance Mechanic/Millwright" to read the description. Applications should be made online with an attached resume.

Bunge Canada is an equal opportunity employer.

FARMLAND TENDER

FARM LAND FOR SALE BY TENDER

Sealed, written tenders for property in the MUNICIPALITY of LOUISE and MUNICIPALITY OF PEMBINA described below will be received by:

McCULLOCH MOONEY JOHNSTON SELBY LLP
BOX 1670
CARMAN, MANITOBA R0G 0J0
ATTN: SCOTT W. JOHNSTON

PROPERTY NE ¼ 36-2-10 WPM
 PARCEL A PLAN 37688 MLTO IN NE ¼ 36-2-10 WPM being approx. 153.24 Acres

PARCEL B PLAN 37688 MLTO IN SW ¼ 6-3-9 WPM
 Being approx. 9.00 Acres

SE ¼ 36-2-10 WPM
 Being approx. 156.52 Acres

CONDITIONS OF TENDER

1. Interested parties must rely on their own inspection and knowledge of the property.
2. Tenders must be received on or before 2:00 pm on November 3, 2023.
3. Tenders must be accompanied by a \$10,000.00 cheque payable to McCulloch Mooney Johnston Selby LLP in Trust as a deposit. Deposit cheques accompanying unacceptable bids will be returned.
4. Highest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SALE

1. The bidder whose tender is accepted will be required to complete an agreement covering terms and conditions of sale.
2. In addition to the deposit, the balance of the accepted tender must be paid on or before the date of closing which shall be December 1, 2023, or evidence provided that the purchase funds will be available under conditions acceptable to the Vendor. If the balance of the accepted tender is not paid within the set time limit the deposit may be forfeited as liquidated damages and not as a penalty.
3. Possession is not authorized until acceptable arrangements for full payment are made following acceptance of tender.
4. Successful bidder will be responsible for real property taxes commencing January 1, 2024.
5. The purchaser shall be responsible for payment of GST or shall self-assess for GST.

For further information contact Scott W. Johnston at:
 Ph: (204) 745-2546
 Fax: (204) 745-3963
 email: scott@mmjlaw.com

FIND THE RIGHT PERSON FOR THE POSITION with an EMPLOYMENT/ CAREERS AD in *The Winkler • Morden Voice*
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Life Long Learning

Border Land School Division invites applicants for a
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FOR W.C. MILLER COLLEGIATE
IN ALTONA, MB

FOR DETAILS VISIT WWW.BLSD.CA

FARM LAND FOR SALE TENDER

FARM LAND FOR SALE BY TENDER IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF STANLEY

Sealed tenders in writing for the purchase of the property described below will be received by:

McCULLOCH MOONEY JOHNSTON SELBY LLP
351 Main St.
Box 279
Manitou, MB R0G 1G0

PROPERTY FOR SALE:
NW ¼ 8-3-6 WPM
148.65 cultivated acres
Title No. 2862254/4; Roll No. 264100.000

CONDITIONS OF TENDER

- Interested parties must rely on their own inspection and knowledge of the property.
- Tenders must be received on or before 3:00 p.m. on November 3rd, 2023.
- A deposit cheque in the amount of \$30,000.00, payable to McCulloch Mooney Johnston Selby Trust, must accompany the Tender. Deposit cheques accompanying unacceptable bids will be returned.
- Highest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SALE

- The bidder whose tender is accepted will be required to complete an agreement covering terms and conditions of sale.
- In addition to the deposit, the balance of the accepted tender must be paid on or before the date of closing which shall be January 1, 2024, or evidence provided that the purchase funds will be available under conditions acceptable to the Vendor. If the balance of the accepted tender is not paid within the set time limit the deposit may be forfeited as liquidated damages and not as a penalty.
- Possession is not authorized until acceptable arrangements for full payment are made following acceptance of tender. Once arrangements acceptable to the vendor have been made, the successful bidder may have access to the property.
- Successful bidder will be responsible for real property taxes commencing January 1, 2024.
- The purchaser shall be responsible for payment of GST or shall self-assess for GST.
- The land is not subject to a right of first refusal.
- The existing Lease Agreement expires December 31, 2023 and will be discharged.

For further information, contact Chris H. Bowler
Phone: 204-242-2801
Fax: 204-242-2723
Email: chris@mmjlaw.com

Please Label Envelopes: "8-3-6WPM Tender"

FARM LAND FOR RENT TENDER

FARM LAND FOR RENT BY TENDER IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF STANLEY

Sealed tenders in writing for the rental of the farm land described below will be received by:

McCULLOCH MOONEY JOHNSTON SELBY LLP
351 Main St.
Box 279
Manitou, MB R0G 1G0

PROPERTY FOR RENT:
SW 21-3-6 WPM - 136.73 acres
– approx. 106.5 cultivated acres
SE 20-3-6 WPM - 155.89 acres
– approx. 81.1 cultivated acres

CONDITIONS OF TENDER

- Interested parties must rely on their own inspection and knowledge of the property.
- Tenders must be received on or before 3:00 p.m. on November 3rd, 2023.
- A deposit cheque in the amount of \$5,000.00, payable to McCulloch Mooney Johnston Selby Trust, must accompany the Tender. Deposit cheques accompanying unacceptable bids will be returned.
- Highest or any tender not necessarily accepted.
- Bidders may bid on one or both parcels of land.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF RENTAL AGREEMENT

- The bidder whose tender is accepted will be required to complete a rental agreement covering terms and conditions of agreement.
- Duration of rental agreement: three years.
- Rent payments are due on April 1st and, November 1st, in each year. The deposit shall be deducted from the first payment under the rental agreement.
- The renter shall be responsible for payment of GST to the Owner with each rental payment.
- Possession is not authorized until acceptable arrangements for full payment are made following acceptance of tender. Once arrangements acceptable to the vendor have been made, the successful bidder may have access to the property.
- The existing Lease Agreement expires December 31, 2023 and will be discharged.
- No atrazine is to be used.
- No cutting timber without consent.
- No altering waterways.
- Tenant shall incorporate all straw and crop residue into the soil. No burning of crop residue permitted.

For further information, contact:
Chris H. Bowler
Phone: 204-242-2801
Fax: 204-242-2723
Email: chris@mmjlaw.com

Please Label Envelopes: "21-3-6WPM & 20-3-6WPM Rent Tender"

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Manitoba Beef Producers invite you to attend your local fall district meeting.

In-person sessions will be held in Rosa, Arborg-Bifrost, Oak Lake, Baldur, Ste. Rose du Lac, Swan River, and Neepawa beginning at 4:30 PM with a free meal to follow.

Advance registration is appreciated – visit www.mbbeef.ca/news for dates & information.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

**NOTICE OF REGISTRATION
OF PROSPECTIVE CANDIDATE FOR GENERAL
MUNICIPAL BY-ELECTION
FOR THE OFFICE OF HEAD OF COUNCIL
CITY OF MORDEN**

Please be advised that a general municipal by-election will be held on December 20th, 2023.

Prospective municipal election candidates must register with the Senior Election Official (SEO) during the registration period before they may begin to accept contributions, incur expenses, fundraise, or borrow money for their campaign.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that candidate registrations will be received:

For the Office of Head of Council:
Between November 8th – November 14th 2023

at the City of Morden administration office, 100-195 Stephen Street during the regular hours of business.

To obtain a registration form, contact the SEO at the email or telephone number listed below:

Ted Fransen
Senior Election Official (SEO)
City of Morden
204-799-3817
seomorden2022@gmail.com



Dated at the City of Morden, Manitoba on October 13th, 2023

Classifieds Announcements

The *Winkler Morden* Voice

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CONGRATULATIONS ABE GIESBRECHT

Congratulations

Abe Giesbrecht
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take a break

> GAMES

SUDOKU

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

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Level: Intermediate

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

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

Sudoku Answer

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

Crossword Answer

X CROSSWORD

CLUES ACROSS

- A device to disengage without a key
- Subdivision
- Network of nerves
- Lounge chair
- Ocean
- C. European river
- Bowl-shaped cavity
- Caesar, comedian
- Lyric poems
- Tia's sister
- A way to develop
- Cows collectively
- Areas close by
- Slightly disreputable
- Made a mistake
- One who cites
- Food stall: __ pai dong
- Narrow valley between hills
- Members of people living mainly in the Congo
- More (Spanish)
- Classroom implements
- Cognizant of
- One who tells on others
- Free from slavery
- Thick piece of something
- Containing two nitrogen atoms between carbon atoms
- Removed entirely
- Late rocker Turner
- Appreciated
- Observation expedition
- Opposite of subtracts
- Unit of work
- Wreckage on the sea bed
- Affirmative! (slang)
- Witness
- River in England

CLUES DOWN

- A dissenting clique
- Japanese city

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								32								
33										34	35	36	37	38		
					39	40	41		42	43						
									46							
				44	45											
				47					48							
49								50			51		52	53	54	55
56								57			58					
59													61			
62								63								64

- Spiritual leader
- Second letter of Greek alphabet
- Musical term
- Ruled over
- Fortified wine
- Scottish or Irish Gaelic language
- Someone who serves in the armed forces
- Bring up
- Factual written account (abbr.)
- Having three sides
- Annoy
- Hustle
- American WW2 leader
- Stale atmosphere
- US Treasury
- Sound unit
- They __
- Soviet Socialist Republic
- Places to play video games
- Medical event
- When you hope to arrive
- Fixed prices
- Popular Boston song
- Valley in Indiana and Illinois
- Omit when speaking
- German explorer of the Congo Basin
- Stick around
- From a distance
- Heroic tale
- Amounts of time
- Eat

Classifieds Announcements

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IN MEMORIAM



In Loving Memory Of
Mary Demke
October 14, 2022

A special smile, a special face,
And in our hearts, a special place
Will forever stay.
No words we speak can ever say,
How much we miss you every day.
To hear your voice and see you smile,
To sit and talk to you just a while.
To be together in the same old way,
Would be our most dearest wish today.
-Dearly missed and lovingly remembered,
your family

OBITUARY



**Margaret Neufeld Rempel
(nee Lemky)
1930 – 2023**

LOVINGLY REMEMBERED

It is with great sadness that the Neufeld and Rempel families mourn the passing of Margaret Rempel on Sunday, October 8, 2023 at the age of 93 years.

Margaret was born in the RM of Stanley, in the 1-6 district, south of Morden, MB on May 6, 1930. Margaret lived in the village of Osterwick until her marriage to Herman A. Neufeld in 1947. They were blessed with five boys as a family. Leonard and Larry (twins), Ken, Allen and Loren. Margaret enjoyed sewing clothes, working as a cook, gardening with vegetables and flowers (a passion),

reading scriptures in her bible and listening to music.

Margaret is survived by her husband, Peter Rempel and his son, Jake, wife, Janet and family. Peter's son-in-law, Abe Wall, wife, Helen and family, Peter's daughter-in-law, Donna (John) and family; of her Neufeld/Lemky family two sons, Ken, wife, Carol and family, Loren and wife, Maureen, daughter-in-law, Joyce (Len) and family, daughter-in-law, Daisy (Larry) and family, her two sisters, Julie and Isabel.

She was predeceased by her late husband, Herman A. Neufeld (June 28, 1987), son, Leonard Neufeld (October 14, 2020), son, Larry Neufeld (May 31, 2023) and son, Allen (June 28, 1998); her parents, Margaret and Jacob Lemky, two sisters, Sarah Jane and Minnie and two brothers, John and Henry and his wife Lorraine. She was predeceased by stepdaughter, Mary Wall (nee Rempel) and stepson, John Rempel.

"THE REALITY IS THAT YOU WILL GRIEVE FOREVER. YOU WILL NOT 'GET OVER' THE LOSS OF A LOVED ONE, YOU WILL LEARN TO LIVE WITH IT. YOU WILL HEAL AND YOU WILL REBUILD YOURSELF AROUND THE LOSS YOU HAVE SUFFERED.

YOU WILL BE WHOLE AGAIN BUT, YOU WILL NEVER BE THE SAME. NOR SHOULD YOU BE THE SAME, NOR WOULD YOU WANT TO."

Elizabeth Kubler-Ross and John Kessler

Memorial service was held at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday October 14, 2023 at the Winkler Sommerfeld Mennonite Church with interment prior at the Plum Coulee Cemetery.

Wiebe Funeral Home, Winkler
In care of arrangements
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COMING EVENTS

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Manitou Opera House
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PUBLIC NOTICE

**UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE PLANNING ACT
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

On the date and at the time and location shown below, a PUBLIC HEARING will be held to receive representations from any person(s) who wish to make them in respect to the following matter:

**CITY OF MORDEN BY-LAW 13-2023
Being an AMENDMENT to the CITY OF MORDEN
ZONING BY-LAW 08-2017**

HEARING: Morden Civic Centre
LOCATION: 195 Stephen St., Morden, MB
DATE: October 30th, 7:00 Pm
TIME: 7:00 pm
From: "RS-L" Residential Single Family Large
To: "RM-M" Residential Multiple Family Medium

AREA:
339 Mountain St N Lot 56 Plan 23598 Morden, MB
As shown outlined in red lines on the map attached hereto as Schedule "A" and forming part of this by-law.

INFORMATION CONTACT:
Jose Yanez, Planning Development Officer
133 7th Street, Morden, MB. R6M 1V3
Phone: (204) 822-2567

A copy of the above proposal and supporting material may be inspected at the location noted above during office hours, Monday to Friday. Copies may be made, and extracts taken therefrom, upon request.



Track and soccer field project is looking for community support

By Lorne Stelmach

The fundraising campaign for a track and soccer field as part of the Discovery Trails School project in Morden is now turning to the community at large for support.

The effort is working in partnership with the Morden Area Foundation to solicit donations from individuals and small businesses.

A website at www.discoverytrack.ca and a GoFundMe campaign at www.gofundme.com/f/discoverytrack is now active, and the foundation has made a commitment to match the first \$25,000 raised from now until Dec. 15.

It is a third phase of the fundraising campaign that began with reaching out to larger businesses and grants followed by a second stage that sought other grant opportunities.

"With the Morden Area Foundation, true to their mission, they're working together for a common good that brings positive and lasting change to their community," said Western School Division trustee David Guenther.

"Their generosity is enabling indi-

viduals and small businesses to double their impact in Morden," he continued. "It's nice to open this up to individuals so that everyone can have a part in bringing this world class facility right to our back yard."

Guenther noted the total amount committed to the project so far is \$727,500, so they will be over the \$750,000 mark with this next step in the campaign.

"The amount we're raising now from the public will help us complete the physical aspects of the track and the field, and the rest of the fundraising can be done with in-kind donations or otherwise when we start planning for the bleachers and a shed and all that," Guenther suggested.

Work continues to progress well on Discovery Trails, which will be a K-8 school slated for opening in September 2024.

The City of Morden provided 2.6 acres of adjacent land that will allow the division to include a soccer field and running track.

Guenther noted it is exciting to see good progress being made at the con-



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Work moving full speed ahead on Morden's new K-8 school, Discovery Trails School.

struction site.

"It's amazing seeing the amount of trucks that have gone by to bring dirt as they bring up the field and the level of that area ... the landscaping is just a huge undertaking," he said. "Raising the running area and the playing surface to the right grade and to have it properly drained is a really big project. We're getting close to being ready to put things on top of a really nice foundation.

"It's kind of a historic first in the

Pembina Valley to have an olympic-sized rubberized running track and properly graded soccer field," added Guenther. "It's certainly going to be an attractive soccer field for Morden to be able to bring competitions here.

"We're still right on track for completion by the fall of 2024, but I imagine the track probably goes in after the thaw of winter ... so it's going to be an exciting year."

New book shares stories of rural life in Manitoba

By Lorne Stelmach

Bill Redekop returns to his *Winnipeg Free Press* roots in mining the highways and byways of rural Manitoba for the stories that make up his new book.

Don't Fence Me In: True Stories about Rural Manitoba chronicles stories of rural life, and they are all original and written specifically for this book.

In many ways, it's a tribute to the scores of people who have welcomed Redekop into their homes during his years travelling the province for the *Free Press* and again for this book.

It's a heartfelt journey that he hopes will bring readers a sense of the rural life and landscape, as there is a lot of urban ignorance about it.

"I always felt, in my role, that I was kind of a bridge between urban and rural ... I like to think that this is a continuation of that," said Redekop.

"It was largely a labour of love for me because this was kind of my territory at the *Free Press* ... to travel the province and meet people and find interesting stories, of which there is no shortage," he continued. "When you leave a newspaper ... you have this whole storehouse of information of the subject that you've been covering for a long time ... I had a lot of story ideas still that I wanted to pursue,

and so I thought the book would be a way."

The Winnipeg-based writer spent 31 years at the *Free Press*, where he was the rural reporter for 14 years. He has been a freelance writer since 2019.

He is the author of five previous books, the last of which, *Lake Agassiz: The Rise and Demise of the World's Greatest Lake*, was the top-selling Manitoba non-fiction work in 2017 and the third best selling release of 2018.

Redekop has also recently penned *The Life and Legacy of Commodore D.A. Ritchie*, due out this fall, and *The Princess Auto Story*, due in spring of 2024.

With books like *Don't Fence Me In*, Redekop suggests a genre name for it could be the Remainers: people who have resisted urban migration, stayed on the land, and opted for a rural lifestyle.

Then there are those who have moved back to a rural setting like commuters or organic farmers. They are the Returners, as in returning to the land or their rural roots. This is the post-rural era we live in, Redekop maintained, where these two people intersect.

The book's format is also unique: nonfiction short stories. Short nonfiction books, where they exist, will typically have a unifying theme such as

rural renewal or rural architecture or the future of a rural region. The short stories in Redekop's book are linked only by their rural genre while crossing many different themes.

The stories range from a community cemetery where volunteers hand dig graves for family members to tales of Jesse James in Manitoba, quicksand in the Carberry desert, Canada's northernmost drive-in movie theatre in Flin Flon, and Our Lady of Seven Sorrows Catholic Church in Camperville, where there was a recent dig for unmarked graves at a former residential school.

The book also profiles friendship through the experience of two Morden women. Longtime friends Ruth Isaac and Cheryl Link have had a friendship for 35 years and go out to lunch every week.

"They make a point to maintain their friendship. They commit to that friendship ... they make it a priority," said Redekop. "We often don't treat friendships that way. It was a great opportunity to look into the nature of friendship."

Then there is The Burning Mountain set in the Pembina Valley escarpment and which reveals the natural gas reservoirs. Redekop spoke to Normand Bosc, who showed how "he can stick



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Author Bill Redekop has released his sixth book, *Don't Fence Me In*.

a pipe into the ground and light the other end, and a huge flame will go shooting out like a blow torch ... he gave me a demonstration, and it was absolutely fantastic."

The book covers a lot of the province, but Redekop didn't set out to hit every possible region of Manitoba.

"I didn't go out of my way to cover every area because I couldn't; as it is, the book was getting kind of long. You can't get everything, and there was too much material," he said. "I went with stories I knew about that really interested me ... I cover a pretty good spread of the province."

Don't Fence Me In: True Stories about Rural Manitoba went on sale Oct. 1.

get inspired

> MEAL IDEAS



Smoky Chipotle Pecan Burrito Bowls

2 chipotle peppers in adobo sauce
 1 cup vegan mayo
 3 cloves garlic, minced
 2 teaspoons vinegar
 2 tablespoons plant-based milk
 1 teaspoon agave
 1/2 teaspoon salt

To make pecan "meat:" In bowl of boiling water, soak pecans, covered, at least 30 minutes, or overnight in room temperature water for softer texture.

Drain pecans and place in food processor with mushrooms. Pulse mixture to texture resembling meat crumbles. Avoid over-pulsing.

In pan over medium heat, add pecan mixture, taco seasoning, tamari sauce, minced garlic, liquid smoke and vegan Worcestershire sauce. Cook 7-10 minutes then add chipotle in adobo. Cook 3 minutes.

To make pineapple salsa: Combine pineapple, tomatoes, jalapenos, cilantro, red onion, lime juice and salt, to taste.

To make chipotle crema: Combine chipotle peppers, vegan mayo, garlic, vinegar, milk, agave and salt.

To assemble bowls, place pecan mixture in bowl followed by pineapple salsa and chipotle crema.

Recipe courtesy of Dominique Williamson on behalf of the American Pecan Promotion Board

Prep time: 40 minutes

Cook time: 15 minutes

Servings: 2-3

Pecan "Meat:"

2 1/2 cups water

1 cup pecans

1/2 cup portobello mushrooms

2 tablespoons taco seasoning

2 tablespoons tamari sauce or soy sauce

2 cloves garlic, minced

1 tablespoon liquid smoke

1 tablespoon vegan Worcestershire sauce

1 tablespoon chipotle in adobo sauce

Pineapple Salsa:

1 pineapple, diced

2 Roma tomatoes, diced

1-2 jalapenos, diced

1 cup cilantro, finely chopped

1 red onion, diced

1/4 cup lime juice

salt, to taste

Chipotle Crema:



Vegan Pecan Al Pastor Tacos

Recipe courtesy of the American Pecan Promotion Board

Prep time: 35 minutes

Cook time: 10 minutes

Servings: 4-6

Water

2 pounds chopped pecans

1 cup onion

8 cloves garlic, minced

8 dried guajillo peppers

2 tablespoons oil

salt, to taste

pepper, to taste

7 ounces (1 can) chipotle pepper in adobo

Toppings and Garnishes:

flour or corn tortillas (6 inches each)

cilantro

diced onion

lime

pineapple

In bowl of boiling water, soak pecans, covered, at least 30 minutes, or overnight in room temperature water for softer texture.

Drain pecans. In food processor, pulse pecans to meat-like crumbles. Do not overprocess to pecan butter.

Finely chop onions, garlic and guajillo peppers.

In skillet over medium-high heat, heat oil and saute onions until transparent, 2-3 minutes. Add garlic and cook 1 minute. Sprinkle with salt and pepper, to taste, and stir to combine.

Add chipotle peppers in adobo and cook 1 minute. Add crumbled pecans and stir well to combine.

Remove from heat and serve on tortillas.

Serve with cilantro, onion, lime and pineapple.

Not feeling connected at work or home



By Gwen Randall

It's hard to admit we've made a mistake. The bigger the decision, and the more profound the consequences, the harder it is. If we've made a big investment in the square peg, and can't return it, then we may be tempted to try every possible way to get it into the round hole. Even if we are damaging the peg and the hole, we may still keep trying to force the situation. If we're in the wrong job, or working with people who frustrate us, or do not respect us, we may complain about the job, or try to change the people.

This can be very damaging to our self-esteem, self-confidence, and self-worth. The reason it can be damaging is because unless we are in a situation that is based on true cooperation, and in which our input is genuinely welcomed and appreciated, our efforts will have little impact. They may even meet with resistance, but either way we will feel negated, rejected or ignored. These are not healthy feelings. Either we accept the fact that we are not in a truly democratic environment, and live with the consequences of our choice, or we find somewhere else to be.

The third option is to be an agent of change, but this also must be a

conscious choice, because it is an extremely difficult path. It may or may not be an honorable path, depending on the situation, but for sure it will exact an emotional toll.

Now let's imagine the same scenario, but this time it's a marriage. Your spouse is just not acting the way you think a spouse should. He/she is not attentive, loving, interesting enough. He'd rather watch T.V. (always) than be with you. She'd rather be out with her girlfriends than to spend time with you. So you might rant and rage, nag, withdraw into silence, or distance emotionally. If this starts going on for years, any of the above responses may begin to become a way of life. You find yourself turning into a nag, or perhaps pulling back into your own little world.

At some point we have to ask ourselves how long we want to live our lives as the disgruntled employee, or the frustrated, alienated spouse. The problem is if we do it for too long, we lose the belief and confidence in ourselves, as well as the energy to do anything about it. And discouraging as it might seem, no one else can make it better. We must decide what we deserve and know that we are worth it. We can only make our needs and wishes known and see what the response is. If the pattern is that we don't count in the workplace, or in our own home, it may be time to count ourselves out.

Gwen Randall-Young is an author and award-winning psychologist. For permission to reprint this article, or to obtain books, CDs or MP3s, visit www.gwen.ca. Follow Gwen on Facebook for inspiration.



Roasted Sweet Potatoes Brown Butter Pierogies

fresh thyme leaves, for serving

Preheat oven to 400 F.

Toss sweet potato cubes in olive oil, salt and pepper, to taste, and spread in even layer on baking sheet. Roast 25-30 minutes, tossing about halfway through, until potatoes are fork tender.

In medium skillet over medium heat, brown butter 5-10 minutes. Avoid smoking or burning. Remove from heat. Allow to cool about 5 minutes then whisk in balsamic vinegar and lemon juice.

In large saucepan, bring water to boil. Cook pierogies according to package directions, about 3 minutes. Drain and toss in brown butter sauce.

Add roasted sweet potatoes and pecans to brown butter pierogies and toss gently to coat.

Top with fresh thyme leaves.

Prep time: 10 minutes

Cook time: 30 minutes

Servings: 4-5

1 bag (1.6 pounds) Mrs. T's Mini Classic Cheddar Pierogies

2 cups sweet potato cubes (approximately 1 large or 2 medium sweet potatoes, cut into 1/2-inch cubes)

1 tablespoon olive oil

salt, to taste

pepper, to taste

4 tablespoons salted butter

1 tablespoon balsamic vinegar

2 tablespoons lemon juice

water

1/2 cup pecans