might have trucks and people to spare," said president Francis Fehr. "We asked for trucks

The call for help from anyone with a four-

wheel or all-wheel vehicle went out late

Wednesday morning. By the time deliveries

were slated to start at 2 p.m., dozens of eager

volunteers were lined up at the Winkler MB

"It was wonderful ... all the individuals who

came with their four-wheel drive trucks, all I

and, let me tell you, they showed up."

Church parking lot.

VOLUME 7 EDITION 50

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The Winkler Morden

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2016

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Blizzard can't stop the Cheer Board By Ashleigh Viveiros The Winkler and District Christmas Cheer Board put out an urgent call for help, and the community certainly answered. The blizzard that shut down roads for two days last week threw a bit of a wrench into the Cheer Board's plans to deliver 325 care hampers the evening of Dec. 7. Instead, with a gymnasium full of perishable food items that needed to go out, organizers were forced to push up their timeline, starting deliveries early that afternoon in the hopes it could all be completed before night fell and being out on the snow-covered roads became too dangerous. "We made a bunch of calls to whoever we knew that had a truck, to businesses who

PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

The Winkler Christmas Cheer Board was forced to move up its timeline for hamper deliveries last Wednesday, but the community stepped up to ensure every single one of the 325 care hampers was delivered despite the snow-covered roads.

can say is, 'Wow,'" said Fehr, noting that with many of the drivers making multiple trips, the last hampers went out a little after 5 p.m.

It was an uplifting end to an already hugely successful campaign.

Continued on page 3

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Morden-Winkler digs out from under two day blizzard

By Lorne Stelmach

The cleanup continued well into this week from the blizzard that dumped

nearly 10 inches of snow on the Winkler and Morden region.

The storm that closed highways across southern Manitoba and had



PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH AND ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE Shovels and snow plows were a familiar sight in both Winkler and Morden last week, as the communities got to work digging themselves out of the 10 inches of snow the blizzard left behind.

patients and staff storm-bound at the regional hospital was not of record proportions but still one of the larger ones in recent history.

"I think it would probably be the biggest since 1997," suggested Peter Froese, public works supervisor for the City of Winkler.

In fact, the snowfall wasn't so much the issue this time around, noted Morden public works director Les Wieler, as it was the poor conditions that led into it.

"The pre-storm conditions really worsened what we had to deal with," he said, suggesting even double the snowfall but in good dry conditions would have almost been easier to clean up.

"The biggest issue was before we had the 10 inches of snow we had an inch and a half of rain over a period of about a week ... and everything was saturated and wet underneath ... so it was kind of a worst case scenario for us."

"The temperatures certainly played into it," agreed Froese. "It was tough to get good traction just because the ground was still not frozen when the first snow came ... once you lose traction, you can't push very well."

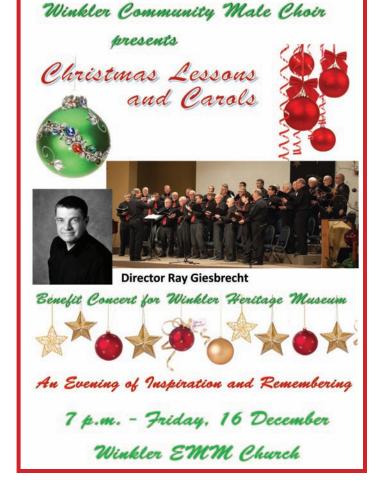
The city did some initial clearing the Tuesday evening and then the bulk of it Wednesday, which made for an extra long day.

"We kind of stretched the boys a little bit on that one," Froese said. "We kept the main routes open the whole time ... as good as we could.

"You're taking the bulk of it away the first time," he explained. "You start

Continued on page 6









> CHEER BOARD, FROM PG. 1

The community drop-off points for food donations contributed thousands of non-perishable food items for the hampers (from the schools alone there were over 8,000 items), and Winkler Co-op's program allowing customers to donate at the till raised over \$12,000.

Countless businesses also helped out, Fehr noted, making financial donations of all sizes and sponsoring fundraising events like the Scotiabank Holly Jolly Breakfast, which brought in over \$10,000.

If Fehr has one message for the community, it would be a great big thank-you to every single person who contributed.

"I'd like to say just thanks for the response and for coming in droves in half-tons and four-wheel drives and actually making this thing happen," he said. "And thanks to the business

that supported us and made this possible, because without those guys and the churches, the individual donations ... that's the only way we're able to do what we do."

The hampers not only make the Christmas season a little brighter for families struggling to make end's meet, but the effect of that generosity ripples out into the future, Fehr said.

"Every year we usually get one or two people [who received hampers] come back and help us pack hampers," he said. "It may have been a number of years ago that they received a hamper, or as a child, and now these people are back helping

"That is really neat because you can see both sides of it and how it's affected them and now they want to come back and pay it forward."

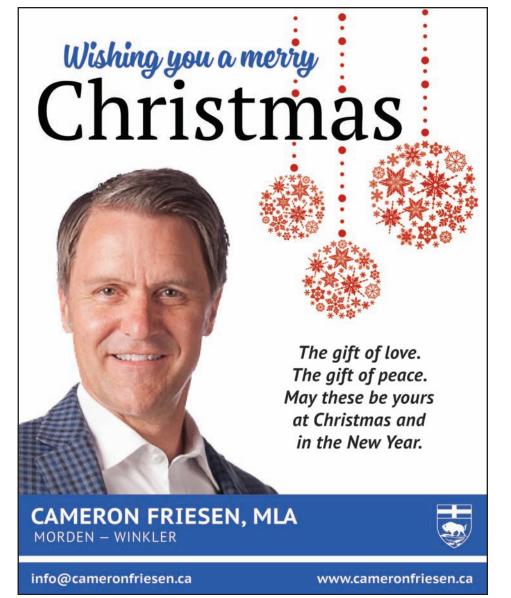




PHOTOS BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/ VOICE

The Cheer Board put out a call for vehicles able to safely navigate the road conditions after last week's blizzard. Dozens of drivers came out with trucks and SUVs early Wednesday afternoon to ensure the hampers made it out as scheduled.





Morden fire department adds camera cams

By Lorne Stelmach

Morden firefighters have added another important piece of equipment to their toolbox.

The department recently purchased

eight helmet video cameras that can be used not only for training but also to provide important evidence for fire investigations, said Chief Andy Thiessen.

"For the cost of each camera, it

seems to be pretty good bang for our buck." he said.

Equipping eight key members of the department with them so far so far, including the chief, deputy chief, captains, and safety officer, added up to around \$2,400, which is coming through the Firefighters Association equipment fund. They had acquired one about a year ago to try it out, noted Thiessen.

"Once we actually realized what this thing could do for us as far as training and investigations, we decided to get some for all of our officers," he said.

On the training side of things, the

Continued on page 5





PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE





"FOR THE

CAMERA, IT

SEEMS TO BE

PRETTY GOOD

BUCK."

BANG FOR OUR

COST OF EACH

cameras will allow recruits to watch firefighting techniques and analyze their own, Thiessen said.

But the video footage from real fires will be even more invaluable to the department, he said.

"It's very key for fire investigations to know ... when we first pull up on the scene ... where the majority of the flames are coming from ... that gives a good indication of where it started," said Thiessen.

"In the past, we've just kind of taken a mental snapshot. This

way, we have the cameras on as we pull up, and we'll know exactly what it was looking like ... things like the colour of the smoke."

The cameras are similar in size and resolution to a GoPro with a battery

time of about two hours. The cameras are also built to withstand extreme temperatures.

In the future, Thiessen said they would ideally like to have the whole department outfitted with them

If money was no object, there are more extravagant units that would even be able to transmit live video feeds, he noted.

"Part of the safety factor with that would be if someone happens to get in trouble or trapped ...

if you can see the video, you would know exactly where they are,"he said. "They are very expensive."

The Winkler Morden Voice Thursday, December 15, 2016 **5 MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM US ALL!** MAY GOD BRING YOU PEACE THIS CHRISTMAS! SNOWMOBILE **BUY ONE GET 2ND JACKETS Suits & Jackets** Mens • Ladies from 1/2 PRICE! **MUCK BOOTS** Winter & Chore **WESTERN Jewelry WALLETS & PURSES BELTS Regular & Fancy Western** WINTER **WRANGLER Jeans & Shirts BOOTS HIKERS Leather GLOVES & MITTS** Mens • Ladies • Kids /lens • Ladies • Kids **Snowmobile GLOVES & MITTS DUCK WINTER** WESTERN **WORK WEAR BOOTS**

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Hospital sets up cots for stranded staff, visitors

From Pg. 2

cleaning some residential streets, knowing full well you're going to be going back to do the final cleanup the second time around ... so it becomes two full cleanups."

Froese said some cleanup would be continuing this week, particularly with sidewalks.

Public works crews in Morden started the snow clearing Wednesday at 5 a.m. with additional contractors brought on board to assist.

"We went at it from 5 a.m. until approximately 9:30 p.m. We had the whole city open as far as the roads," said Wieler. "There were a couple streets in outlying areas that we didn't get."

Work continued then with sidewalk clearing Thursday and Friday. Further downtown cleanup to haul away the piled snow was expected to continue into Monday.

"We still have a lot of cleanup work after the fact like widening the streets," he said, adding they would hope to then get to scraping the streets at some point down the road.

"There's a lot work left after this. It could take a month before we get everything back to where we want it. There's a lot of work after the fact that you don't necessarily see," said

"IT WAS TOUGH. A LOT OF PEOPLE WORKED MANY HOURS ... BUT THEY GOT THROUGH IT."

"It's been a while since we've had one of these ... so it's like a bit of retraining for everybody ... a bit of a reality check.

"Our guys stepped up to the plate ... everybody put something like 16 hours in."

CODE GREY AT BTHC

The storm had Katie's Cottage operating at capacity, with even the couches being put to use at the respite home across from Boundary Trails Health Centre, which enacted its Code Grey severe weather plan for the first time in 15 years.

With all of the highways in the area closed, both patients and staff couldn't leave, so they needed to ensure the proper and safe care for the patients as well as the safety and well being of the staff.

"It was tough. A lot of people worked many hours ... but they got through it," said Angie Cusson, director of health services at Boundary Trails Health Centre.

"We didn't know how long it would

Continued on page 8







((SiriusXM))

Set mews - views - winkler - morden - surrounding areas

Designers present their vision for Morden senior centre

By Lorne Stelmach

A project that will help launch new interior design careers is also envisioning a renewed 55 Plus Activity Centre for Morden.

Students in the final year of their masters program at the University of Manitoba had the centre as the focus for their final design studio projects.

After two earlier meetings in Morden, the students were back at the centre Friday to present their ideas to an open house.

"They're exciting and far-reaching," director Dale Ready said of the students' suggestions for the centre's future."It will be interesting to see what we take away from this as a board and as a centre and say perhaps we should take a look at this ... take a look at that idea."

"We thought it would be a wonderful opportunity to bridge academia and real life," said Jason Kasper, U of

Kasper said they were approached by representatives of the centre about tapping into the class to brainstorm some design ideas for the facility. He saw it as a great opportunity for the

students to put their training into practice.

They class started by meeting with board members in the fall to learn about the centre and how it might like to evolve. They came back a second time to learn more about Morden and get a feel for the community.

"From there, each of them have taken their own approach to revitalizing and improving the centre ... playing to the strengths of the centre," said Kasper, who, after seeing the students present their ideas and field questions, liked what he was seeing and hearing from them.

"The fact that there's real clients with real responses is very helpful,"

"What we wanted to do was provide the platform so that each student would have a quasi-real experience to take to prospective employers ... to say look 'what I've done'," he continued.

"I like to see the response when real feedback comes from individuals," said Kasper, noting when they present proposals to clients they have to be prepared for the unexpected and learn to "think quickly on their feet."

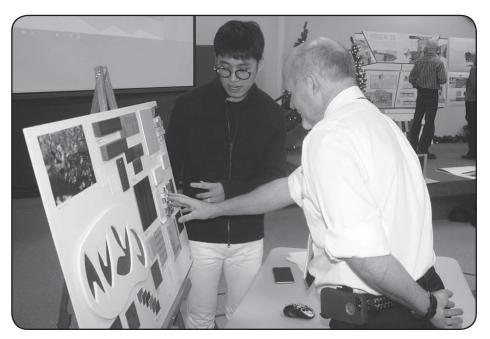


PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Centre director Dale Ready, here checking out one student's ideas for materials and colours, saw the project as potentially helping the board envision what could be possible to keep the centre relevant and moving forward.

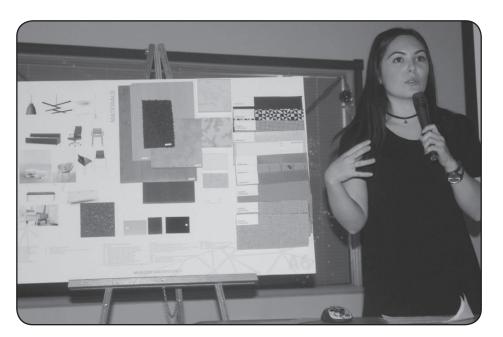


PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Interior design students from the University of Manitoba presented their ideas for revamping the Morden 55 Plus Activity Centre at an open house Friday.

"WE START HERE

WITH THE VISION

AND THEN WE

LOOK INTO THE

PARTICULARS ...

WHAT WE CAN

ACTUALLY DO

AND WHAT WE

CAN AFFORD."

The students offered a range of ideas, everything from extending out the foyer and revamping the front exterior to having more varied lighting and different designated areas inside, such as a reading lounge.

Kasper felt the ideas grew from the students developing a feel for the centre and what people wanted from

"It feels like, every time we come back here, this whole space sort of inhabits our thoughts. The quality of the responses from the students ... leaves me to believe they really inhabit this space in their minds."

Student Caroline Grimes saw the experience as a very special project to wrap up her studies.

"I think we all tried to approach it with that in mind and make it something really special and something that

we can all be quite proud of, and it's been fun," she said.

"It's such a unique project. We don't always get to do something that's so rooted in practicality and in the real world," Grimes said, adding "the more practical experience, the bet-

And what stood out for her was ex-

periencing the community in general.

"The community is so strong ... and just the way that it approaches everything," she said.

"I was really inspired by all the historical architecture. In Winnipeg, it's something people don't really pay attention to, but I feel like Morden really has made an effort to make that a

statement."

Ready said the project grew from the board wanting to look at what new things the centre might be able to offer to the community.

"Anytime you're looking at what can we do to keep our centre relevant and current and a place where people want to go ... that means we do have to do something ... whether it's cosmetic or whether it's deeper than that," he said.

"We start here with the vision and then we look into the particulars ... what can we actually do and what can we afford," Ready said. "I think our board is looking ahead and thinking how can we make our centre more usable, more accessible and more relevant for the City of

Morden."

The Winkler Morden Morden







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Setnember 2 Septiments > VIEWPOINTS > LETTERS

Rest in peace, Highway Chicken

or weeks my daughter has been regaling me with tales of the chicken that has been frolicking alongside the highway between Morden and Winkler during her commutes to and from school.

Well, sadly, we learned recently that Highway Chicken was tragically struck down, apparently having at least made it to the other side.

It is interesting how we react to things. For instance, upon learning of the death of a random chicken I was somehow almost upset. Not really fully upset, but more than annoyed. This is such an odd thing con-



By Peter Cantelon

sidering, as I write this, I still have the taste of chicken from Chicken Chef on my lips.

Yes, I consider chicken to be one of

the more delicious creatures out there (of the creatures I have eaten so far in life) and yet I have allowed myself to be distracted by the death of one.

Likely one of the reasons for this is that this chicken seems to have brought some humour and joy to my daughter's life over the last several weeks.

It was clear she found the mystery of a recently wild chicken wandering the side of the roadway interesting and funny. Questions would abound: Where did it come from? Why did it keep coming back? What was it up to? So many questions for one chicken.

Perhaps it was because she gave this thing a narrative. This was not some anonymous chicken bound for the KFC or Chicken Chef bucket ... this was Highway Chicken. This was one brave (read: stupid) fowl that chose to live life dangerously and on her own terms playing amongst the speeding tracks and cars of a local highway.

It was bound to end badly, but how much better would it have been anyhow really? Cooped up all day popping out eggs for the farmer before eventually being unceremoniously beheaded, plucked, and plopped into a pot to be eaten?

Heck no. Not for Highway Chicken. If she was going to go out it would be

playing chicken (sorry) on the roadways like the brave bird she must have been. I respect this.

Of course, you would never catch me playing along the side of the highway. I have goals and dying under the wheels of a car is not one of them.

That being said, Highway Chicken was in charge if her own destiny in the end and she chose to bring smiles to the faces of those bewildered and bemused drivers and passengers passing between Morden and Winkler.

While Highway Chicken is gone, she is not forgotten.

Some say that when the night is of a certain clarity and the moon is just right unwary passersby have reported seeing a ghostly feathered figure of a lone chicken standing by the side of the road dashing in and out of traffic to this day.

Such a sight is enough to send a chill through the wishbones of even the stoutest traveller, but it is the echo of her distant, hollow clucking that sends you over the edge.

Cluck, cluck, cluck—the haunting, staccato reminder that Highway Chicken remains as a solitary watcher in the spaces between Morden and Winkler forever more ...

> Got something you want to get off your chest? How about an act of kindness to share?

Send your letters to the editor or acts of kindness to news@winklermordenvoice.ca. Please include your name, address, and phone number for confirmation purposes. Anonymous letters are not considered for publication.

'Our staff and physicians really step up'

From Pg. 6

be," she said, adding that "the unfortunate timing of this event was that the hospital was already full. I think we had one bed."

The hospital was not only unable to safely discharge patients but more still were making it in for medical care despite the poor road conditions.

"Even though the roads were closed, people were still finding

their way there," said Cusson.

"We knew that we had some patients who we wouldn't have expected to stay that may have been storm-stayed with us. And of course we had the extra staff in the building who would need to stay as well."

The hospital support team had to ensure there would be places to rest and adequate food for what worked out to be about a 24-hour period before they were able to let people go, and the Southern Emergency Response Committee came through with 10 cots for the hospital.

In the end, Cusson said the entire team really stepped up and ensured they had adequate staffing to get through the day and night.

"We knew that we would have staff working double and triple ... just to ensure that we could provide the care to the patients," she said. "The team pulled together ... our staff and physicians really step up every time that we need them. Every time there's an emergency, they're at their best."

Winkler firefighters honoured with service awards

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Winkler Fire & Rescue celebrated 110 years of service last week by honouring the men and women who sacrifice so much to keep our community safe.

While the average volunteer firefighter in Manitoba serves for three to seven years before hanging up their helmets, things are a little different in Winkler, says fire Chief Richard Paetzold.

The department's average service length is an impressive 17 years, with many members working for decades beyond that in dispatch and as mentors to younger firefighters.

It's something Paetzold, who has served as the city's fire chief for five years now, never wants to take for granted.

"We have lots to be thankful for," he says. "A lot of these people have been here a long time and they have not only been great contributors to the fire department, they've also been great contributors to the community."

At the department's annual banquet last week, every single active member received a challenge coin in recognition

of their service. Coins were also presented to former chiefs Abe Suderman, Garry Klassen, and John Elias and recently retired longtime firefighter Ray Doell.

"This is just a small token of appreciation for all the time they put in," Paetzold said.

"THEY'VE BEEN GREAT **CONTRIBUTORS TO** THE COMMUNITY."

The evening also saw the presentation of a number of departmental, provincial, and national awards.

Receiving department service awards were Myron Derksen (25 years), Marvin Plett (30 years), Peter Neufeld (35 years), and Ike Dyck (50 years).

Honoured with Manitoba Association of Fire Chiefs long service awards for 25 years of continuous service in Manitoba was Tina Wolf and Paetzold, who served in The Pas for 20 years before coming to Winkler.

Finally, national exemplary service medals were presented to Gary Reimer and Ray Doell for their 30 years of service, and to former chief Klassen for 40 years.

Paetzold thanked these long-serving members for their dedication to their community.

He also pointed out that the department owes a debt of gratitude to the families and local businesses who support the firefighters in their commitment to service.

"We couldn't do this without the support of the family, the support of the employers," he says.

'IT'S AN HONOUR'

What keeps Winker's firefighters coming back year after

For Tina Wolf, who was honoured for 25 years of service, it's the opportunity to do some good for the community she

Wolf got started with Winkler Fire & Rescue as an EMT back when the department provided both fire and paramedic services.

Today she's involved in the communications and logistics unit and also works as the department's first aid and CPR instructor. Both are roles she loves.

"Just to know that I'm helping people in our community ... that I can be able to go and help from young kids through baby-sitting courses to elderly people [learn first aid]," she says. "Helping them is my greatest pleasure and



PHOTOS BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/ **VOICE**

Receiving awards for their many years of service were (above, from left) current and retired firefighters Myron Derksen, Marvin Plett, Peter Neufeld. Ike Dyck, Chief Richard Paetzold, (at right) Tina Wolf, (below) Garry Klassen, Gary Reimer, and Ray Doell.





my greatest honour."

At 50 years of service, Captain Ike Dyck is the department's eldest member. Like Wolf, he remains involved as a communications officer.

Dyck says the recognition he received at the banquet was an honour, but awards are most certainly not the reason he continues to serve.

"I enjoy the service. I enjoy the people. My family encourages me to continue. And it's helping the community. That's primarily what keeps me going."

Dyck says he tries to be a role model for

younger firefighters through his actions.

"I try and be an example by showing them more than telling them ... I can show by what I do, by my commitment to the department. Hopefully that encourages them to stay on."

Dyck attributes the fire department's ease at keeping members in large part to the supportive sense of community fostered by its leaders over the years.

"I think we support each other. And we've had good leadership. Understanding leadership that wants to see the best in us."



Drug addict shares his story of abuse and recovery

A fentanyl overdose nearly cost him his life; now he's warning others of the dangers

By Ashleigh Viveiros

John doesn't remember the details of the two times he nearly died overdosing on drugs.

But he certainly remembers the aftermath.

The Winklerite, who spoke to local media last week about his struggles with addiction on the condition of anonymity, says he'll be living with the choices he made as a long-time drug user for the rest of his life.

"I started using drugs to cope with family issues," John says, explaining he had a rocky, abusive upbringing. "It started with the use of pot and then LSD and mushrooms and then cocaine. And I tried heroine a couple of times. "It was terribly easy" to progress up the chain of increasingly addictive substances, he says.

"I was so angry at the world, I guess. Still am, a bit. Angry at everything ... I guess it just wasn't enough," John says of using milder drugs like marijuana. "And then to fit in, too. I guess some of my friends were doing it, too, and then sitting in the corner doing your pot just didn't seem good enough."

Amidst all this, John was prescribed painkillers for back pain.

"I was taking Percocet at first, and then Percocet and morphine, and then fentanyl."

If that last drug sounds familiar, it's not surprising. Fentanyl and carfentanil, both opiods, have been making headlines as two of the most toxic drugs to hit the streets in decades.

To put it in perspective, fentanyl is 100 times more powerful than morphine, and carfentanil, a drug used as an elephant tranquilizer, is 100 times stronger still.

Larger urban centres in Canada have seen dozens of fentanyl overdose deaths this past year—about 30 in Winnipeg alone—and that trend is poised to trickle down to us in the smaller rural areas, says Cst. Chris Kalansky of the Winkler Police Service.

"We're starting to hear that this stuff's starting to appear here," he says, noting that while no one has died yet, it may only be a matter of time. "At the street level we're not experiencing overdoses yet, but we know that we're on the cusp of this coming here and it's going to be a problem.

"MY SON

THOUGHT I WAS

DEAD. I COULDN'T

WISH THAT ON MY

WORST ENEMY."

"We want to make the public aware of just how dangerous this drug is."

Illegal fentanyl can increasingly be found in many different forms, including as a powder, pill, liquid, and blotter tabs.

When it's legally prescribed to patients for pain relief, it's distributed in a patch de-

signed to release doses of the drug over a period of time.

That's how John first encountered it, and while it certainly served its purpose in relieving his back pain, he soon found himself abusing the patches to get high.

He knew it was dangerous, he says, but he wasn't worried—overdosing was something that happened to other people.

"I just thought, 'That won't happen to me. I'm always careful.'"

John had his first overdose in 2013. It was a wake-up call, but not enough of one to motivate him to get help for his addictions. A year later, he overdosed again.

"That was the bad one. Everyone

who I've heard from, because I don't remember the situation, said I was, like, done ... I was grey."

Kalansky was one of the responders first on the scene that day.

"I came in and he was blue on the floor," he recalls. "I assumed he was dead ... I was actually surprised to get a pulse. He was not breathing at all

"His son was doing CPR and probably saved his life."

"My son thought I was dead," says John, his voice cracking. "I couldn't wish that on my worst enemy. To have my son tell me that he saved my life, it's amazing. But what kind of an adult did I become?"

"I wanted to start fresh, but it was hard."

Once he made the commitment to get clean, it still took John the better part of a year to get into a residential

drug treatment program.

"It took us eight, nine months just to get into the rehab," he says, noting that was just the first of many steps toward recovery. "I'm still on the road. I'm not totally fixed."

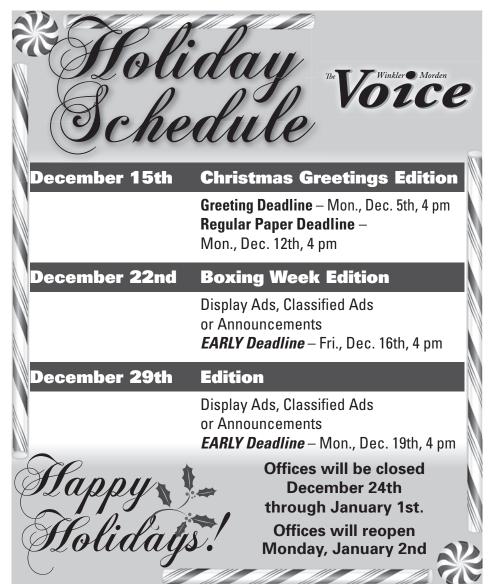
Today, John is working with Winkler addictions specialist Dr. Johann Blignaut to continue battling his

addictions. He takes daily doses of the drug methadone to stabilize his system and help keep cravings at bay, though he knows they'll never be completely gone.

"I'll be honest, I do think about it," he says of the chances he'll slip back into old habits. "I'm not sure why my brain wants to think about it because, at this point, I see way too many benefits of being off of it than any pros at all [of using again]."

Still, the pull of getting high one more time is a daily challenge.

"I can just picture it and remember the good—not the overdosing, of course."



Continued on page 11

Carman bonspiel raises \$25K for SCCR

By Lorne Stelmach

South Central Cancer Resource received a \$25,650 financial boost thanks to the curling community in Carman.

The annual Curl For Cancer held last month raised around \$76,000 to be divided between the resource centre, CancerCare Manitoba, and the Canadian Cancer Society.

"It goes up a little each year. We keep thinking its going to top out, but it doesn't seem to happen," said Sandra Goff, a member of the organizing committee.

Now in its 23rd year, the Curl For Cancer is a bonspiel that provides 20 teams with three four-end games as well as an evening banquet.

"It's been a soldout event for the last number of years," said Goff, adding they appreciate the loyal support of the community each year.

"We canvas all the businesses and usually by the time we've walked in the door ... they've already thought about what they are going to donate this year."

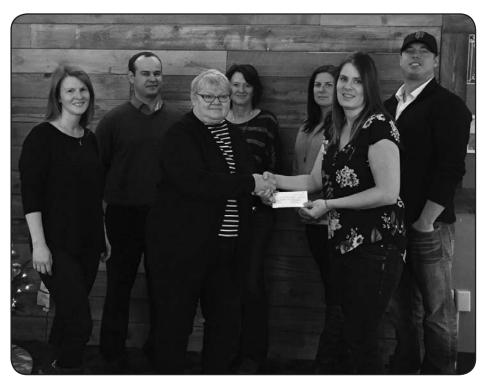
Goff said they feel it is worthwhile to not only support cancer research but also the local services provided through organizations like South Central Cancer Resource.

"They provide an important service in the area," she said.

SCCR administrative co-ordinator Deb Thiessen said they are very grateful for the bonspiel's annual support, as it can go a long way in helping them continue offering their programs.

"This donation is a quarter of our transportation budget for the year, and we are only into our fiscal year by a couple of months," she said. "It means that we can continue to make a difference to those families that face challenges during their cancer jour-

"We want to be there to ease their burden, and especially over this Christmas season ... cancer treatment doesn't stop or take a break."



Organizers of the annual Curl for Cancer presented South Central Cancer Resource with a donation of over \$25,000 last month.

Community must address fentanyl crisis together: chief

From Pg. 10

It's a maddening cycle well known to everyone who deals with addictions, explains Dr. Blignaut.

Opiod drugs activate the "feel-good" centres in our brain by mimicking the effects of the endorphins our body can create naturally. It's the same feeling you might have when getting a caring hug from a loved one, Blignaut says.

"People who have been through a hard childhood, like our friend here, really what we've realized over the years is that people are not really technically looking for a high. They're looking for that feeling that 'I'm okay. I'm cared for. Life is fine," he says. "Unfortunately, this class of drugs are extremely good at getting that need met.

"Addiction is a chronic brain disorder. Your brain changes over time," Blignaut adds, explaining that ongoing drug use not only impedes your brain's ability to make rational choices, but also perpetuates itself through a series of instant gratifications. "The reward system of the brain gets hijacked and it says it runs the show ... you're constantly chasing

Right now, John is very much focused on a different kind of reward: getting his life back on track so he and his wife, who is also a recovering drug addict, can regain custody of their teenage children, who have been in foster care for the past year.

"I can say-by God's will, I have to say-I have not used in over a year. I haven't used a needle or a hard drug since October of last year. And I'm darn proud to say that."

A COMMUNITY CONCERN

As he navigates his own healing journey, John says he knows many people in our area who are abusing fentanyl in the same way he did.

"I have friends too that have overdosed on it, but the thing is they were lucky and just came out of that sleep," he says.

Other people may not be so fortunate, even if they aren't purposely setting out to abuse fentanyl.

Kalansky says drug dealers are cutting fentanyl and carfentanil into other drugs to create a danger-

"So, at the street level, [users] think they're buying a moderate drug, a mild drug, and they're actually getting hooked on this."

To further complicate matters, when cutting fentanyl into other drugs like cocaine or heroine, there's no way to ensure each dose is getting a uniform amount, adds Cst. Arnie Klassen.

There will always be "hot spots," he says, and, considering that just a couple milligrams of pure fentanyl is enough to kill the average adult, that's makes for a dangerous game of Russian roulette with every hit.

"The fear is you're at a party and there's drugs around, any white powder, nowadays it could have fentanyl in it," Klassen says. "That's just becoming a huge concern."

With fentanyl and other opiods set to become increasingly common dangers in our community, local police will soon be carrying naloxone kits with

This drug can be used to counteract the effects of opiod overdoses, giving paramedics time to bring patients into the hospital for further treatment.

"Fentanyl overdoses, it happens fast," explains Klassen. "It shuts down the system and people die fast, and so it's important to have something like this for first responders."

The Winkler Police Service has its naxolone kits on order and they hope to have officers equipped with them within weeks.

But that needs to be just one step in the community's approach to this issue, says Winkler police Chief Rick Hiebert.

The city's Safe Communities Initiative, which hopes to tackle the root causes of crime by better connecting local social service providers, needs to address the growing fentanyl crisis as well, he says.

"From a police standpoint, knowing the problem persons in our community have with addictions and the looming forecast of the fentanyl epidemic, I truly hope it will be included in the list of topics the group wants to address ... because when people reach out for help, we want to make it available as quickly as possible."

'THINK ABOUT IT'

As the community continues to grapple with this issue, so, too, does John struggle every day with his addictions.

If he has one message for others, especially youth, just starting down a similar path, it's this:

"Think 20,000 times before you do something, please. Think about how it's going to affect you in the future. Whatever you do affects you, whether it be good or bad.

"I thought I had thought about it," John says, "but it didn't work. So think about it more."

Holiday tea gives MLA a chance to chat with constituents

By Lorne Stelmach

His job as Manitoba's finance minister makes his work as Morden-Winkler MLA more challenging for Cameron Friesen.

He welcomes opportunities then to be back home and meet with residents, such as when he hosted a Christmas coffee open house Friday morning at his Morden constituency office.

"It becomes a bit of a challenge to

find the time to do the things that we have always done ... but it is important to do it," said Friesen.

He said it is always encouraging to get back into the constituency and meet with the people who are building our communities here.

Today, about eight months into serving as the new provincial government, Fri-

esen said he is encouraged by much of the feedback.

"What I find, as I'm listening to people, is they are saying to us you are on the right track," he said. "They understand that there's a plan, they understand that we have to fix the finances, they understand that we are trying to repair the services and rebuild our economy.

"Some people would say we are not

moving fast enough. Some people say we're moving too fast ... but I think people understand that the work that we're undertaking to do in government is necessary."

The government under Premier Brian Pallister continues to focus on the need to control spending while aiming to hold the line on tax increases, enhance services, and improve the climate for business. Those are tough challenges, with the government not pleasing some sector, like labour.

"We have to make decisions, and we have to make tough choices ... good government makes those tough choices. I think the government that sets out to please everyone is going to find it's a losing proposition," said Friesen.

He suggested the government has a plan that is not only sensible but "also sensitive to the fact that there's a reason why we want to do these

things.

"WHAT I FIND, AS

I'M LISTENING TO

PEOPLE, IS THEY

ARE SAYING TO

US, 'YOU ARE

ON THE RIGHT

TRACK.'"

"The opposition would say that we want to bring in harsh austerity, and they seem to imply that we would somehow like to be strict for the sake of strictness," Friesen continued. "We want to solve this riddle. We want to push down the expenditures to make this all manageable, so we can make the investments in education, in new schools, make the new investments



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Morden-Winkler MLA Cameron Friesen chats with constituents at his annual Christmas coffee open house in Morden last week.

in infrastructure, in a stronger health care system.

"If we don't get this right, what it means is we continue to pay more and more in debt service costs."

Now that the Conservatives are in power, not to mention having Friesen in control of the purse strings, there could be pressure from the constituency to get more provincial funding into this region, Friesen acknowledged.

"I spent five years working very hard with my constituent groups to understand where the pressures were ... what the needs were ... we felt for a long time this area of the province was being overlooked," he said. "So it does create a pressure, now that we're in government, these groups are saying finally here's our chance

"I think I would say that the relationships that I have built and that groups have built with me ... are now working well for us," he concluded. "We know, as an area of the province ... we need investments here ... this is one of the economic drivers of the province."

• AN ARTIST'S LIFE

The story behind the song: 'Carol of the Bells'

n recent years, the song "Carol of the Bells" has rapidly become famous, popularized by artists such as Pentatonix, the Piano Guys, and TransSiberian Orchestra.

With a memorable melody, a quick tempo, and a style that lends itself to creative arrangements, the song seems destined to become a classic. But where did it come from?

While "Carol of the Bells" is best known as a Christmas tune, the song was originally a Ukrainian folk song meant as a "winter well wishing" song.

In its original form, it was composed by Ukrainian composer

Mykola Leontovich to tell the story of a swallow flying into a household to announce that the next year would be bountiful.

The song was

By Candace Hamm

composed during a time of political and social unrest in Ukraine, and was later performed by the Ukrainian national chorus around the world, promoting hope and unity.

The song was popularized via choral performances and today is still best known as a song for multiple voices

At some point, one of these performances caught the ear of American composer and arranger Peter Wilhousky. The tune reminded him of bells, and he decided to reset it with new lyrics to convey the imagery of chiming bells for performance with his own choir.

Wilhousky copyrighted the new

lyrics in 1936. Now known as "Carol of the Bells," multiple recordings began to surface almost immediately.

Since then, the carol has rapidly become a favorite Christmas tune for many, so much so that an estimated 35 separate recordings were released in 2003, and numbers have only risen every year since.

In Ukraine, however, the song is still better known as "Shchedryk," the story of the swallow bringing plenty and prosperity to Ukrainian households.

Reach Candace Hamm at ibcnu@mts.net

Morden United Way \$25K shy of its goal

By Lorne Stelmach

The year-end deadline is drawing near for donations to the Morden and District United Way.

As of last week, the annual fundraising campaign had reached about \$65,000 of its \$90,000 goal.

The campaign, which supports over two dozen charitable agencies in the Morden area, last year raised close to \$80,000.

United Way spokesperson Alex Fedorchuk said this is always a challenging time of year to raise funds, but they remain optimistic.

"There's a lot of agencies that are looking for a share of the same dollar right now," he said. "We're hopeful though ... right now, we're hopeful of hitting at least \$70,000.

Their campaign goal was perhaps a bit optimistic, but Fedorchuk said they always like to aim high.

"Every year, you've got to try to get a little better than last year," he said, adding it is hard to predict year after year. "You can never tell. One of the best years we ever had was a tough year for agriculture.

"We just have to make adjustments if we come up short of our target," he added. "We'll still accommodate all the agencies, but just to lesser amounts."

Fedorchuk said there is a great need in the area with some agencies saying their continued existence would be challenging without the support of organizations like the United Way.

"There's many demands. The requests are about twice as much as we're able to come through with ... but we do the best that we can. We would like to be able to accommodate 100 per cent of what everybody asks."

You can support the United Way with a donation online at www.unitedwaymorden.com or by mail to P.O. Box 758, Morden, Mb, R6M 1A7.

KOATS FOR KIDS

Meanwhile, the agency's annual Koats for Kids program did some brisk business last week.

The collection depot that opened earlier this fall collected a good variety of new and gently used winter clothing for struggling families.

"The first few nights had very slow response ... there was warm weather and no snow ... there seemed to be no demand," said Fedorchuk, noting the United Way then added a couple extra nights. "The other night we gave out 170 jackets and ski pants and all kinds of stuff."

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Winkler man charged with armed robbery

A 22-year-old Winkler man is facing charges in connection with an armed robbery that occurred at the Esso gas station over the weekend.

Police were called to the 1st St. store just before 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 10

Surveillance footage showed the suspect, who was dressed to conceal his identity, entered the store, showed the lone employee a weapon, and demanded that the employee put money

Police have arrested a 22-year-old man in connection with an armed robbery that occurred at Esso over the weekend.

WINKLER POLICE PHOTO

into a bag that the suspect was holding.

The employee turned over a quantity of cash to the suspect, who then fled the store. There were no customers inside the gas station at the time of the robbery.

Monday night, just before midnight, police arrested a suspect and charged him with robbery with a weapon, disguise with intent, and two counts of possessing a weapon for a dangerous purpose.

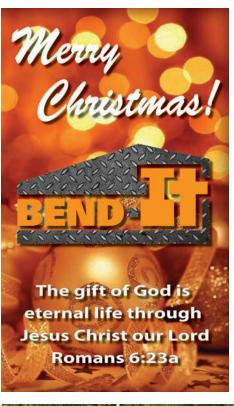
He was slated to appear in Morden Court late Tuesday morning. Police have not yet released his name. No other suspects are being sought.

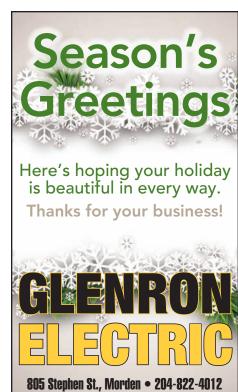
MORDEN MAN FACING THREATS, WEAPON CHARGES

Morden Police charged a 31-yearold Morden man with two counts of uttering threats as well as possession of a dangerous weapon on Dec. 9.

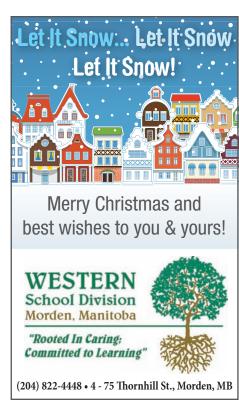
Officers were called around 9 p.m. about an incident that began with two people showing up at a home to pick up some personal items. As they drove near, the accused came out holding a knife. The people remained in their vehicle and began to drive away as the accused ran down

Continued on page 17











Fri. Dec. 23 • 8:30 am – 12:00 noon Walk-in open 9:00 am – 11:00 am

Sat. Dec. 24 • Clinic Closed • Walk-in Closed

Sun. Dec. 25 • Clinic Closed • Walk-in Closed

Mon. Dec. 26 • Clinic Closed • Walk-in Closed

Tues. Dec. 27 • Clinic Closed • Walk-in Closed

Wed. Dec. 28 • 8:30 am - 6:00 pm

Walk-in open 11:30 am - 7:30 pm

Thurs. Dec. 29 • 8:30 am – 6:00 pm Walk-in open 11:30 am – 7:30 pm

Fri. Dec. 30 • 8:30 am - 6:00 pm

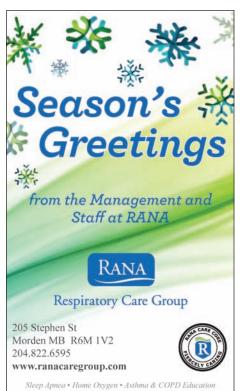
Walk-in open 11:30 am - 7:30 pm

Sat. Dec. 31 • Clinic Closed • Walk-in Closed

Sun. Jan. 1 • Clinic Closed • Walk-in Closed

Mon. Jan. 2 • Clinic Closed • Walk-in Closed

C.W. WIEBE MEDICAL Sat. Dec. 24 • Clinic Closed Urgent Care open 8:00 am - 12:00 pm Sun. Dec. 25 • Clinic Closed • Urgent Care Closed Mon. Dec. 26 • Clinic Closed • Urgent Care Closed Tues. Dec. 27 • Clinic Closed Urgent Care open 8:00 am - 7:30 pm Wed. Dec. 28 • 8:00 am - 5:30 pm Urgent Care open 8:00 am - 7:30 pm Thurs. Dec. 29 • 8:00 am - 5:30 pm Urgent Care open 8:00 am - 7:30 pm Fri. Dec. 30 • 8:00 am - 5:30 pm Urgent Care open 8:30 am - 7:30 pm Sat. Dec. 31 • Clinic Closed Urgent Care open 8:00 am - 12:00 pm Sun. Jan. 1 • Clinic Closed Urgent Care Closed Mon. Jan. 2 • Clinic Closed Urgent Care open 8:30 am - 7:30 pm



Are you brave enough to take the Polar Plunge?

Morden fundraiser for Special Olympics Manitoba returns for a second year on Feb. 18

"IT NOT ONLY

AWARENESS."

RAISED MONEY

BUT IT ALSO RAISED

By Lorne Stelmach

The Morden Police Service is planning its second annual Polar Plunge in support of Special Olympics Manitoba.

"Everyone I've talked to who participated last year so far has said that they would be back," said Cst. Scott Edwards, noting the first plunge saw nearly 50 participants jump into a tank of ice cold water and raise just over \$30,000 in donations for their efforts.

"It not only raised money but it also raised the aware-

ness,"he said, pointing out that's all the more valuable this year, as Special Olympics programming for youth with intellectual disabilities has started up once again in Morden. "It's exciting. We're in the early stages of planning ... but we want to continue to support that locally."

Held in association with the Manitoba Law

Enforcement Torch Run, this year's plunge will take place during Morden's Winterfest activities on Saturday, Feb. 18.

Edwards said they hope to have a different tank this year, one that may be more mobile "with the hope of maybe expanding the event into other communities in the future."

Anyone interested in taking the plunge or supporting local participants with a donation

can do so online through the Special Olympics Manitoba website (www.specialolympics.mb.ca) by going to the event calendar and selecting Morden Polar Plunge.



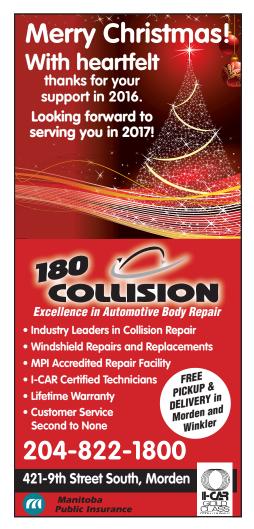
The second annual Morden Polar Plunge is looking for recruits to brave icy waters in support of Special Olympics Manitoba.

Check out the Voice online at www.winklermordenvoice.ca





Winkler United Way looking for \$30,000 more in donations



By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler and District United Way is feeling pretty good about where their campaign is at heading into the holiday season, but there's still a ways to go to reach their goal.

As of last week, the 2016 campaign had just about hit the \$95,000 mark—\$30,000 shy of the \$125,000 they hope to raise.

"We're at where we want to be at Christmas," says president Lori



"EVERYONE HAS SOME TYPE OF ORGANIZATION THAT THEY'RE IMPACTED BY THAT WE SUPPORT."

Penner."This is usually where we are for this time of year, and then a lot of personal donations, a lot of the online stuff, comes in just before Christmas when people start distributing their year-end giving."

And, in fact, the campaign extends well into the new year, with the funding cheques not sent out until late in March. Many businesses make their donations in January and February, and personal donations are still very much accepted through the first few months of the year, Penner noted.

With that in mind, the agency is optimistic about its chances of getting close to the \$125,000 mark. Last year it raised \$115,000.

"We're feeling good about it," Penner said.

The United Way's army of 150 volunteer canvassers have mostly all

completed their routes, but there are a few areas of town that may have been missed.

If you didn't get a visit by a canvasser this fall and would like to support the campaign, you can contact Penner at 204-325-6321 or donate online at unitedwaywinkler.com.

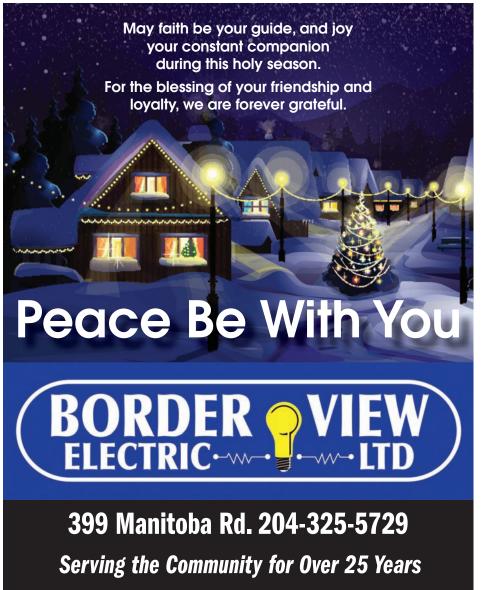
BIG IMPACT ON CHARITIES

Whatever the final total ends up being, the funds raised from the United Way campaign are earmarked for 19 non-profit organizations in our area.

For some, that annual United Way donation makes the difference between being able to provide services to the community or not.

"They couldn't operate without all

Continued on page 17





Minor injuries in four-car collision on Thornhill

From Pg. 14

the driveway swinging the knife.

After driving away, one of the individuals then got call from the accused threatening to kill her and the passenger.

He was arrested and released on condition to have no contact with the two victims and is to appear in court in January.

Other items in the most recent Morden Police weekly report include:

• Police are investigating an attempted break in at Boundary Plumbing and Heating.

No one had been at the business for a couple of days due to blizzard conditions, but employees returning Dec. 9 noticed pry marks on the back door. The suspects did not gain entry.

 Police were called to a four-vehicle accident at 2nd and Thornhill St. in Morden Dec. 9.

Police say a vehicle going east on Thornhill

was making a left turn onto 2nd St. when it was hit on the passenger side by a vehicle travelling west in the curb lane. The first vehicle was pushed into a third vehicle that was stopped facing south on 2nd St. at the stop sign, and it in turn was pushed back into a fourth vehicle right behind it.

Two occupants of the first vehicle received minor injuries, one taken to BTHC for observation. Two of the vehicles required towing.

• Police received multiple 911 calls Dec. 11 around 10 p.m. about a man walking into traffic on Hwy. 3.

Officers found the man, who smelled strongly of liquor, in the westbound lanes trying to get into a vehicle. He was belligerent with police and tried to walk away.

The man was arrested and held overnight before being released in the morning without charges.

the Reason for the Season As we revel in the joy and festivities of the Christmas season, we are moved to remember the greatest gift of all: the birth of our Savior. His eternal love for us brings peace and contentment to our hearts at this holy time and all year. Merry Christmas & Blessings to You and Yours!



> UNITED WAY, FROM PG. 16

of this," said Penner. "Those charities are very open about that. This makes a big impact on their bottom line."

In distributing the funds, the United Way tries to reach out to as many segments of the population as possible, Penner said.

"Everyone has some type of organization that

they're impacted by that we support," she said, noting the charities run the gamut from health organizations to services for families in need to programs for seniors and youth. "It's really every aspect.

"We would love to meet our goal so we can give money to everybody that's asked."



May Peace, Joy, **Hope and Happiness** be yours during this **Holiday Season and** throughout the New Year.

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Hampers head out





PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

The hall of the Morden Mennonite Church was abuzz with activity Monday as volunteers gathered to begin work on packing hampers for the annual Morden Christmas Cheer Board campaign. The hamper count was climbing past 220 in the lead-up to the Wednesday deliveries. Organizers said financial donations were on track to support this year's efforts.







get inspired > MEAL IDEAS

Cinnamon Multigrain & Yogurt Pancakes



1 cup (250 mL) quick-cooking rolled

1/2 cup (125 mL) multigrain hot cereal (uncooked)

1-2/3 cups (400 mL) 1% milk 3/4 cup (175 mL) whole wheat flour 2 tsp (10 mL) baking powder 2 tsp (10 mL) ground cinnamon 1/4 tsp (1 mL) baking soda

1/2 cup (125 mL) 1% plain yogurt 1-1/2 tbsp (22 mL) vegetable oil,

1 tbsp (15 mL) maple syrup or liquid honey

1 tsp (5 mL) vanilla extract Cinnamon yogurt 1/8 tsp (0.5 mL) ground cinnamon 1/2 cup (125 mL) 1% plain yogurt

1 tbsp (15 mL) maple syrup or honey

1/4 tsp (1 mL) vanilla extract 1/2 cup (125 mL) fresh fruit, or to taste In a medium bowl, combine

multigrain cereal, oats and milk; let soak for 15 minutes.

In a large bowl, whisk together flour, baking powder, cinnamon and baking

Whisk egg, yogurt, 1 tbsp (15 mL) of the oil, syrup and vanilla into cereal mixture. Pour over flour mixture and stir just until combined. Set aside for about 5 minutes while preparing

For the Cinnamon yogurt, combine cinnamon, yogurt, syrup and vanilla. Set aside.

Heat a large non-stick skillet over medium heat. Brush with a thin layer of remaining oil. Ladle about 1/4 cup (50 mL) batter per pancake into skillet. Cook for 1 to 2 minutes or until bottoms are golden and edges look dry; flip over and cook for 1 to 2 minutes longer or until golden and puffed. Repeat with remaining batter, brushing skillet with oil and adjusting heat as necessary between batches.

Serve pancakes with Cinnamon yogurt and fresh fruit.

Grape Tomato and Blue Cheese Tart



1 cup all-purpose flour

4 ounces cream cheese, chilled and cut into 1Ú2-inch pieces

8 tablespoons unsalted butter, chilled and cut into 1Ú2-inch pieces

1/4 teaspoon salt

1/8 teaspoon cayenne pepper **Topping**

4 ounces creamy blue cheese, finely crumbled

2 cups grape tomatoes, halved lengthwise (see note)

2 teaspoons olive oil

1 teaspoon balsamic vinegar Kosher salt

11/2 tablespoons chopped flat-leaf parsley

green onions, chopped to include 2 inches of the green parts

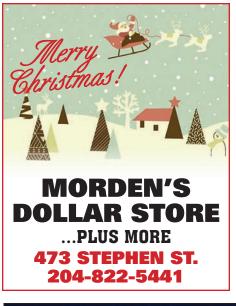
1. Arrange a rack at a center position and preheat the oven to 375 F. Have ready a 9-inch tart pan with a removable bottom.

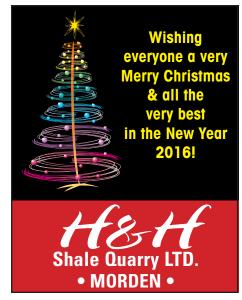
2. For the crust: Place the flour, cream cheese, butter, salt, and cayenne in a food processor; pulse until the mixture resembles coarse meal. Remove and knead the mixture into a smooth mass and then press it with your fingers in an even layer into the bottom (not up the sides) of the tart pan. Smooth the dough with the back of a spoon. Freeze the tart shell for 15 minutes to firm, and then bake the crust until golden brown, 30 minutes. Remove the tart shell from the oven and cool for about 5 minutes but retain oven temperature.

3. For the topping: Sprinkle the cheese evenly over the crust. Arrange the tomatoes in a circular pattern and in a single layer over the cheese, cut-sides up. You may not need to use all of the tomatoes. Whisk together the olive oil and vinegar and drizzle over the tomatoes, and then sprinkle with salt. Place the tart on a baking sheet to catch any drippings and return to the oven and bake until the cheese has melted and the tomatoes are hot, 10 to 12 minutes.

4. Cool the tart for 5 to 10 minutes and then remove the sides of the tart pan. (The tart can be made 3 hours ahead. Leave the tart cool at room temperature and reheat in a preheated 350 F oven until warmed through, 8 to 10 minutes.)

5. Mix together the parsley and green onions, and sprinkle over the tart. Cut the tart into 6 wedges and serve.







APPY HOLIDAYS!



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HEALTH CORNER

What is addiction?

rs. G, a 65-yearold lady, recently came to see me.

She was quite concerned that she may be addicted to hydromorphone, a pain relieving medication in the opioid class. She

had been prescribed it for postoperative pain following major surgery. It worked well for her, but when she tried to stop taking it, she felt unwell. She had headaches, muscle aches and pains and felt a little "down in the dumps."

I work in Winkler as a family doctor with a special interest in addictions. It seems these questions keep resurfac-

ing with my patients: Am I addicted? Will I get addicted if I use this medication? Do you think my loved one may be addicted?

We, as health care providers, often ask similar questions when treating our patients. Is this patient showing signs of addiction? Am I putting him/her at risk for addiction

by prescribing this particular medication? After all, we are supposed to be trained in medical school to be vigilant for the signs of addiction. Addiction is a serious disease that can cause great harm to the person and their family. What complicates matters is that there are conditions that can mimic addiction. It can be difficult to distinguish between the two.

The good news is that the majority of people who take prescription

drugs will not get addicted to them. The American Society of Addictions Medicine (ASAM) defines addiction as "a primary, chronic disease of brain reward, motivation, memory and related circuitry. Dysfunction in these circuits leads to characteristic biological, psychological, social and spiritual manifestations. This is reflected in an individual pathologically

pursuing reward and/or relief by substance use and other behaviors."

By Dr. Johann

Blignaut

ASAM's definition continues: "Addiction is characterized by inability to consistently abstain, impairment in behavioral control, craving, diminished recognition of significant problems with one's behaviors and interpersonal relationships, and a dysfunctional emotional response. Like other chronic diseases, addic-

tion often involves cycles of relapse and remission. Without treatment or engagement in recovery activities, addiction is progressive and can result in disability or premature death."

Thankfully, ASAM has a more concise definition called the 4 Cs. It is easy to remember and can be used as a guide to help determine if someone may be struggling with addiction, though it is not intended to replace the detailed assessments done by ad-

dictions specialists.

Those struggling with addiction often lose *Control* or find themselves fighting for control over their use of the substance. They tend to have severe *Cravings* to use the drug and end up *Compulsively* using it. They continue to use the drug in spite of negative *Consequences*.

Back to Mrs. G. A detailed history revealed that she was

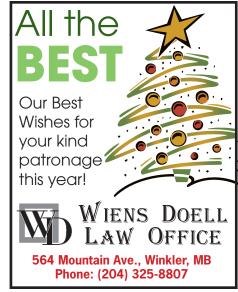
"physiologically dependent" on hydromorphone and had none of the 4 Cs mentioned above. Physiological dependence is one of those things that can mimic addiction. When an opioid medication is taken over a period of time one develops tolerance. Meaning you would eventually have to take a higher dosage than you

Continued on page 24













New online game teaches basics of recycling

By Lorne Stelmach

The City of Morden has a fun way for kids in particular to learn what goes into recycling, compost, or the trash.

A waste sorting game available through the city's website can be a little reminder even for adults about what should go where, said Chaley Martens, Morden's marketing and communications co-ordinator.

"I thought it was a really cool idea that's accessible to many different age groups," she said. "It really helps to kind of reinforce some of that knowledge across the board."

REJOICE. In this season of possibilities, we hope your every wish comes true. Merry Christmas and many thanks for your goodwill and support all year long.



The game was created by ReCollect, a technology company that provides the waste collection reminder program used in conjunction with Morden's system.

Martens saw the game being used in British Columbia and she liked that it could be customized for different communities.

"It's a little bit more generalized ... but I think overall, as a general rule, it can help the majority of people to understand how to sort their waste better," she said.

The program is especially useful in helping to instill this knowledge in kids at a young age. Kids are able to collect prizes along the way to add to their little virtual community and



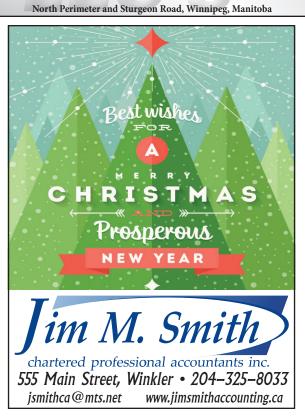
print a certificate at the end.

It's a fun way to reinforce these ideas ... to engage them so they know how to sort waste," said Martens. "It can be a tricky thing for parents to

engage their kids in learning how to sort waste ... I think this gives them an added tool to do that."

You can try out the game at www. recollect.net/sorting-game/morden.











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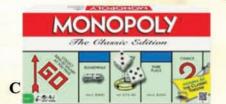
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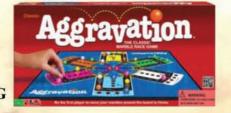




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Project launched to move McClung homes to Manitou

By Lorne Stelmach

Manitou will be home to a project that will carry on the legacy of famous activist and author Nellie McClung.

The community aiming to move two buildings that were home to Mc-Clung from the closed Archibald Museum west of Manitou to the site of the log cabin at the entrance to the community.

"We want it to look like an 1890s street," said Bette Mueller, who is spearheading the committee behind the project. "And my hope is that toward the end of the next summer we're going to be able to open them."

It is estimated it cost about a \$150,000 to move the two buildings. Mueller said they've already raised over \$70,000, with at least a couple potential grants also expected to help boost the effort.

The homes are seen as significant historically because they are where McClung lived in some of her most formative years.

"Although she wasn't there that long, the houses, I think, are quite important," Mueller said. "She really got her start here in Manitou."

Mueller recounted how Nellie Letitia Mooney came to the Manitou area to teach in 1890 as a 16-year-old, boarding in one house with a local family for the short term. That first home is called the Hazel Cottage after the district where it was located.

"She describes it in such detail in her first autobiography ... right to the flowers on the table ... the colour of the floor and the rooms."

Eventually, she married Wes Mc-Clung and moved into Manitou, where they started a family and lived until about 1911.

"I think the second house is really important historically because it was there, for instance, that Nellie wrote her first book," noted Mueller.

Her writing began with short stories and then an editor suggested it be turned into a novel, which became Sowing Seeds In Danny.

"It was a best selling book in Canada in 1908," said Mueller, adding "it just boggles my mind to think that a woman living in Manitou at that time with little children would write a bestselling book."

As a result of that success, Mc-Clung's career continued to grow and she started doing public speaking.

"She began to talk a little bit more about social issues as well. So her speaking career really began to take off then," said Mueller.

The women's rights and reform movement embraced McClung, who

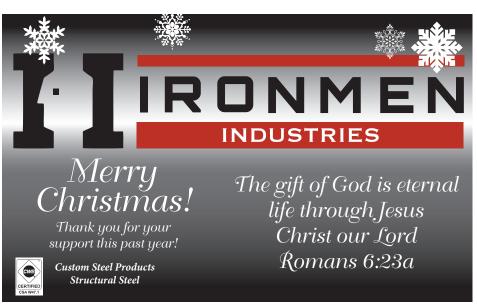
played a leading role in the 1914 Liberal campaign against the Conservative government, which had refused women's suffrage.

Having then later moved to Alberta,

Continued on page 24



Manitou is raising funds to move several Nellie McClung homes from the former Archibald Museum to the community, which is the home town of the renowned women's rights activist.







\$70,000 of \$150,000 goal already reached

From Pg. 23

McClung continued the fight for suffrage and rights for women, continuing to get more involved with political equality, and her fame grew from there.

For years, her formative years in the Manitou area were remembered at the Archibald Museum, and it was the decision to close it in recent years that led to the project to move the homes to the town (in the case of the second house, back to town, as it was originally located on Manitou's Park St.).

Interest in McClung's contributions to society has hit an all-time high this past year, which marked the 100th anniversary of women getting the right to vote.

"A lot of people asked if they could come out to Manitou to see the houses ... and that was the year the museum had closed," Mueller lamented. "It just seemed to me the house and Nellie herself really had the spotlight this past year. When we were offered the two houses ... with all of the relevant artifacts ... we just couldn't say no."

Mueller said the project has been getting good support thus far. In ad-

"WE WANT IT TO LOOK LIKE AN 1890S STREET ... MY HOPE IS THAT TOWARD THE END OF THE NEXT SUMMER WE'RE GOING TO BE ABLE TO OPEN THEM."

dition to the funds already collected, they've also received approval from the school division to use land near the log house and from the RM of Pembina, through which donations can be made.

"That kind of makes you realize how important it is," she said.

The hope is to have this project well underway next year.

"We have committed to moving the buildings as soon as we can in the spring," Mueller said.

She sees it see not only becoming a tourism destination but also wants it to have an educational component.

"I'm visualizing this as hands-on learning opportunity," she concluded. "I see it as a real opportunity for education ... we will be able to use them for classrooms ... that's my dream."

Winkler Canvas supporting MBFI

Winkler Canvas is teaming up with the Manitoba Beef and Forage Initiative to provide protection for two of MBFI's research sites in Manitoba.

A gift-in-kind donation of Winkler Canvass structures to MBFI was announced at the organization's extended grazing workshop last week.

"All familiar with Canada's Prairies know that dealing with the wide range of weather conditions can be a challenge of work and residency," says Ramona Blyth, MBFI chair. "And

that's why we are thrilled to announce a generous partnership with Winkler Canvas that will provide the top notch protection from the elements on two of our research farms located near Brandon."

Winkler Canvas' Derek Wiebe says the company saw a great fit for their buildings on the MBFI sites and also fully understood the value of MBFI research.

"Winkler Canvas got its start by providing the local farming community with protective tarps for everything you can think of,"he says."Our Fabric Structures division is an extension of that, developing and designing fabric buildings to protect livestock, hay, grain and machinery from the harsh Prairie elements.

"We are proud of our agricultural roots and excited to support the industry's future with the development of leading livestock research by MBFI and exemplary animal care and comfort within in our structures."

Winkler Plumbing

> HEALTH, FROM PG. 20

started on to continue to get the same effect. Also, if you suddenly decided to stop taking the opioid, you would experience withdrawal, which can include symptoms like headaches, muscle aches and pains and depressed mood. Tolerance and withdrawal are normal phenomenon that virtually everyone who take opioids experience. On their own they are not signs of addiction and can be treated.

If you have questions or concerns about drug use, please discuss this with your primary health care provider or contact the Addictions Foundation of Manitoba.



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The Winkler Royals' Brett Harder keeps Morden's Jay Fehr at bay while goaltender Matt Krahn makes the stick save in Saturday's **SEMHL** upset. The lastranked Royals bested the Redskins 4-3.

PHOTO BY RICK HIEBERT

Winkler Royals best Morden Redskins in 4-3 upset

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler Royals posted their second win of the year on Saturday, downing the rival Morden Redskins 4-3.

Morden, the home team, broke a deadlock that lasted for much of the opening period with a goal from Tommy Wieler at 15:55. Winkler followed suit minutes later when Marlin Froese took advantage of a power play to even the score with 14 seconds left on the clock.

In period two, the Royals were the only ones to score. Craig Cornelsen made it a 2-1 game at 13:15.

The finale frame saw both teams step it up a notch. Morden's Dallas Holenski got the tying goal 2:45 in and then Jay Fehr pulled the Redskins into the lead at 4:55.

That was it for the Redskins, though,

while Winkler's Cody Friesen tied things with a goal in the eighth minute and then Phil Letkeman got the game winner at 16:37.

Getting the win in net was Matt Krahn for the Royals, making 53 saves as the Redskins outshot Winkler 5629. Reed Peters was between Morden's posts.

With that, Morden drops down in the SEMHL standings to seventh place with a 3-5 record and six points but a game in hand over the sixth place Stonewall Flyers. Winkler is one Dec. 23 in Winkler.

down in last place with 2-8 and four points.

Coming up, Morden hosts Portage Saturday and Warren next week Thursday. The Royals and the Redskins then play a rematch on Friday,

Hawks 1-1 in weekend shutouts

By Lorne Stelmach

They did it the hard way, but the male Pembina Valley Hawks escaped from two tight weekend games with a pair of wins.

They needed a shootout Saturday to edge the Winnipeg Thrashers 2-1 and then connected in overtime Sunday for a 1-0 victory over the Eastman Se-

The four points were much needed as Pembina Valley fights to keep ahead in the middle of the pack in the Manitoba AAA Midget standings, where they sit in sixth place at 14-10-0-0-1 for 29 points.

Pembina Valley goaltender Aaron

Brunn came up with a solid game Saturday in making 37 saves as the Hawks were outshot 38-32.

League leading goal scorer Elijah Carels picked up his 23rd in the first period for the Hawks before the Thrashers tied it in the second peri-

Continued on page 27

New doc shines a light on junior hockey in Winkler

"I WANTED TO SEE

WHAT THESE GUYS

THEY'RE PUTTING

EVERYTHING ON

GO THROUGH.

THE LINE."

By Ashleigh Viveiros

A new documentary is going behind-the-scenes with the Winkler Flyers hockey club this winter.

The first episode of what's expected to be a multi-part series covering the team's 2016-2017 season hit the internet last week. *Ice Time: A Junior Hockey* Mini-Series had since been viewed by hundreds of fans.

The documentary is the brainchild

of Andrew Bergen of Morden's Revalence Media, who wanted to learn more about what made Winkler's junior hockey players tick.

"I wanted to see what these guys go through," Bergen says. "They're putting everything on the line. They're 16-21 years old, some of them are coming here all the way from California to play."

Bergen has been given full access to the team. He's brought his cameras into the locker room to capture strategy sessions and pep talks, joined the team on the road for away games, and sat down to talk with players about their hopes for this season and be-

"The first episode tackles what it's like making the team," Bergen says. "And I want to go after what are the road trips like, what its like living with a billet family, what do they do in the community.

"Just following each story of what makes their lives as junior players ... what that looks like, what sacrifices they make."

Bergen hopes to capture some of the passion for hockey that drives these young men.

"They're coming from all over, they're putting their bodies on the line, they're leaving their families and friends, all to play a game," he says."I wanted to sort of honour them and

show the sacrifices they make to play the game they love."

The opportunity to share some of the untold stories of junior hockey was one the team was eager to take, says Winkler Flyers marketing director Matt Friesen.

"There is a lot of stuff that goes into running the club and being a junior hockey player than people see," he

says. "They've got the normal pressures of being a teenager plus they've got the pressure of the team and the fans and their parents ... I think this is a good way to give people a look at what it's like."

Having seen the first episode and clips from future installments, Friesen says Bergen has succeeded in really depicting the feel of the first few months of the team's 36th season.

"He's done a really good job capturing that," he says. "And the reception we've got from the hockey community and people who follow the club and



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Morden filmmaker Andrew Bergen has been going behind-thescenes with the Winkler Flyers this season for his documentary, Ice Time: A Junior Hockey Mini-Series. The first episode is available now.

follow hockey in general ... I think this is going to be a really good thing for the team."

Bergen says he's been bolstered by the response the project has received.

"We put a lot of teasers out starting back in September," he says, "and the response we got, we were surprised. It's really catching on."

Future episodes of *Ice Time* will be posted on the Winkler Flyers Youtube page and various other social media

platforms.

Bergen also hopes to get a wider audience for his work, and has been promoting the documentary on the national stage.

"Our goal from the beginning was how big can we get this? We want to achieve [recognition] not just locally, in Winkler, but all of Manitoba, all of Canada, getting people interested," he says. "Just because it's not NHL doesn't mean it doesn't matter."

Twisters win one, lose one

By Lorne Stelmach

The Pembina Valley Twisters were on the opposite ends of a pair of shutouts this weekend.

Pembina Valley fired blanks Friday in falling 1-0 to the St. James Canucks and then ran roughshod over St. Boniface Sunday in dropping the Riels 9-0.

The Canucks capitalized on a second period powerplay for the lone goal of the game.

Both goalies-Matt Kohlman for the Twisters and Tyler Wiess for St. James—faced 37 shots in a contest that saw few penalties, with Pembina Valley taking four of the six minors handed out in the game.

The Twisters then stormed out of the gate Sunday, firing five first period goals on their way to the humbling defeat of the Riels.

Penalties also helped do in St. Boniface, which gave up three powerplay markers in a game that became a

chippy affair, as the Riels gave up 10 man advantages for the Twisters as well as a number of misconducts.

Fraser Mirrlees fired two goalshis 13th and 14th of the season—and chipped in two assists for a four point night. Scoring for the Twisters as well were Michael Wirth, Matthew Hadley, Bryce Dusik, Danick Morin, Brendan Keck, Steven Baker and Mark Klassen. Hadley and Wirth also contributed a pair of assists each for three point nights.

Breaking a three game losing slump kept the Twisters in the battle for first place. Their 14-5-3 record has them tied at 31 points with St. James with two games in hand on the Canucks.

It remains a tight battle, though, with the Charleswood Hawks also in range at 30 and the Raiders and Stonewall at 28 points.

Coming up, the Twisters play the Jets Friday, the Hawks next Tuesday, and the Raiders on Dec. 23 before heading into the holiday break.

Flyers face Terriers

The Winkler Flyers got a break from league play last week, but they were back at it on Tuesday and Wednesday.

The team was slated to play in Swan Valley against the Stampeders Dec. 13 and at home against the Waywayseecappo Wolverines on Dec. 14. Results were not available at press time.

This weekend the boys have a two-game stand with the Portage Terriers, playing in Portage Saturday and then hosting the Terriers Sunday at 7:30 p.m.

That closes out Winkler's 2016 games. They'll hit the ice again in 2017 on Jan. 3 against the Dauphin

As of press time, the Flyers were 22-9 for the season thus far, giving them 44 points and the third place spot in the standings. They trail the Steinbach Pistons in first (51 points) and the OCN Blizzard in second (45 points).

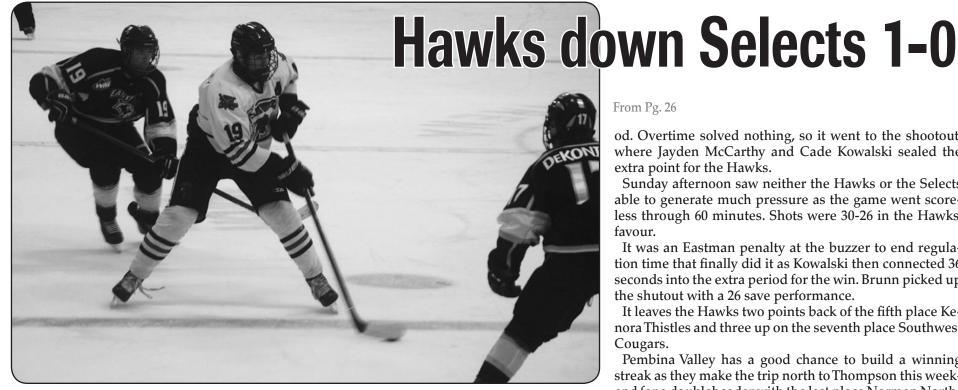


PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

It took over 60 minutes, but the Hawks finally broke the deadlock in their game against Eastman 36 seconds into overtime to take the game 1-0.

From Pg. 26

od. Overtime solved nothing, so it went to the shootout, where Jayden McCarthy and Cade Kowalski sealed the extra point for the Hawks.

Sunday afternoon saw neither the Hawks or the Selects able to generate much pressure as the game went scoreless through 60 minutes. Shots were 30-26 in the Hawks'

It was an Eastman penalty at the buzzer to end regulation time that finally did it as Kowalski then connected 36 seconds into the extra period for the win. Brunn picked up the shutout with a 26 save performance.

It leaves the Hawks two points back of the fifth place Kenora Thistles and three up on the seventh place Southwest Cougars.

Pembina Valley has a good chance to build a winning streak as they make the trip north to Thompson this weekend for a doubleheader with the last place Norman Northstars. They then visit the Southwest Cougars in Deloraine next Wednesday before taking their Christmas break.

Hawks face Wildcats, Avros this weekend

By Lorne Stelmach

They had the weekend off, but there wasn't much rest to be had for the female Pembina Valley Hawks.

With just five points separating the top four teams in the league, you can't afford to let up, and so coach Dana Bell had the first place Hawks working hard in practice to stay sharp and be ready for two big games this weekend.

"I think the girls are prepared," said Bell as the Hawks got set for the third place Westman Wildcats Friday in Manitou followed by the second place Winnipeg Avros Sunday afternoon in Morden.

The Avros, who edged the Hawks 2-1 in a shootout in their last meeting, are just one point back of the first place Hawks, who were at 12-2-1 for 25 points. Pembina Valley won their first two contests by scores of 3-1 and 5-1 over Winnipeg, which was at 12-3-0 for 24 points.

In third place at 11-2-1 for 23 points, Westman was edged 2-1 by the Hawks in their only prior meeting so far this

Bell said they used their practices "to go over some things and get our defensive zone tightened up a bit.

"I'm pretty confident. If they play like they did in the last games against Interlake and the Avros, I think we'll be fine," he said.

"Everybody's clicking, and everybody's working hard. We've got a full time effort going here right now," Bell

added, noting that they can't afford to have an off game.

"You've got to work 60 full minutes, can't take a shift off at all. The last month ... that's what we've been doing," he said. "It's a team effort ... it all starts at practice, and the girls have been working hard and been fo-

Thunder, Nighthawks at **Crocus Plains tourney**

The Northlands Parkway Collegiate Nighthawks and the Morden Thunder took part in the Crocus Plains Victoria Inn high school hockey tournament over the weekend.

Morden split their games in the round robin to come in second in their pool, downing the John Taylor Pipers 13-1 and then falling to the Westwood Warriors 5-3.

NPC did the same, besting the Vincent Massey Trojans 1-0 and then losing to the Virden Bears 5-4.

From there, the local teams both found themselves competing in the tournament's Royal Oak Division. Morden fell to St. John's Ravenscourt 6-4 in the first round and then beat Major Pratt Trojans in the second 7-0

and defeated Sturgeon Heights 3-1 in their last match.

NPC beat the Stonewall Rams 6-4 before losing to the Transcona Titans 4-2 and then beating the Beaver Brae Broncos 1-0 in overtime in their final

In Zone 4 action, meanwhile, the Garden Valley Collegiate Zodiacs fell to the Carman Cougars 3-0 on Saturday. Zodiacs goalie Bobby Matuszewski made 29 saves in the loss.

GVC remains in last place with their 0-12 record, while Morden has a hold on first with 11-0 and 22 points and NPC is in third with 7-3 and 14 points. In second place are the Carman Cougars (18 points).

Manitoba I	Ho	ck	ev	Sta	anc	lin	as	Thrashers Pembina Valley	23 25	14 14	6 10	1	31 29	103 89	50 72
MANITOBA JUNIOR HOCKEY LEAGUE	GP	W	l	OTL	PTS	GF	GA	Southwest	23	13	10	0	26	79	86
Steinbach Pistons	31	25	5	1	51	127	59	Eastman	25	11	12	2	24	82	80
OCN Blizzard	31	21	7	3	45	101	70	Kenora	27	10	13	0	24	79	117
Winkler Flyers	31	22	9	0	44	117	71	Parkland	25	8	15	1	18	74	121
Portage Terriers	30	21	9	0	42	132	95	Interlake	23	6	15	ò	14	59	109
Selkirk Steelers	29	18	10	1	37	97	90	Norman	28	5	22	0	11	71	182
Virden Oil Capitals	32	16	11	5	37	83	88	AAA BANTAM HOCKEY LEAGUE	GP	W	L	OTL	PTS	GF.	GA
Winnipeg Blues	31	14	13	4	32	104	98	Pembina Valley PV Hawks	19	14	4	0	29	127	41
Swan Valley Stampeders	28	11	14	3	25	84	106	Yellowhead Chiefs	17	12	3	1	26	69	36
Dauphin Kings	31	7	19	5	19	72	119	Brandon Wheat Kings	16	11	3	2	24	78	43
Neepawa Natives	29	8	21	0	16	74	122	Southwest Cougars	17	9	4	2	22	87	57
Waywayseecappo Wolverines	31	4	24	3	11	77	150	Central Plains Capitals	18	9	9	ñ	18	71	88
MANITOBA MAJOR JUNIOR HOCKEY LEAGUE	GP	W	L	OTL	PTS	GF	GA	Parkland Rangers	16	3	13	0	6	31	103
Pembina Valley Twisters	22	14	5	3	31	100	67	Norman Wolves	23	1	22	0	2	27	199
St. James Canucks	24	15	8	1	31	83	76	MANITOBA FEMALE MIDG				o	_	_,	100
Charleswood Hawks	21	13	4	4	30	73	54	HOCKEY LEAGUE	GP	w	L	т	OTW	ОТІ	Pts
Stonewall Jets	20	14	6	0	28	94	66	PV Hawks	15	11	2	:	1	1	25
Raiders Jr. Hockey Club	23	13	8	2	28	100	67	Winnipeg Avros	15	8	3	_	4	-	24
St. Vital Victorias	24	11	10	3	25	91	101	Westman Wildcats	14	10	2	_	i	1	23
Transcona Railer Express	23	11	12	0	22	83	89	Yellowhead Chiefs	15	9	5	_	i	-	20
St. Boniface Riels	23	9	10	4	22	75	90	Eastman Selects	13	5	4	_		4	14
Ft.Garry/Ft.Rouge Twins	23	9	11	3	21	81	97	Norman Wild	16	3	11	_	2	-	10
River East Royal Knights	23	4	19	0	8	54	127	Central Plains	13	3	8	_	-	2	8
SOUTH EASTERN MANITOI		7	10	U	U	J-T	121	Interlake Lightning	17	-	14	_	1	2	4
HOCKEY LEAGUE	GP	W	L	OTL	PTS	GF	GA	HIGH SCHOOL HOCKEY	GP	W	Ĺ	OTL	PTS	GF	ĠA
Notre Dame	9	7	1	1	15	39	21	Morden Thunder	11	11	0	0	22	64	20
Portage	7	7	ò	0	14	40	16	Carman Cougars	11	10	1	Ô	20	61	18
Carman	8	5	3	0	10	42	28	Northlands Parkway Colleg			•	·		٠.	
Altona	8	4	4	0	8	34	37	Nighthawks (Winkler)	11	7	4	0	14	53	34
Warren	9	3	4	2	8	40	44	Morris Mavericks	11	7	4	0	14	58	39
Stonewall	9	3	6	0	6	41	54	Portage Collegiate Institute Trojans	14	5	8	0	11	35	44
Morden	8	3	5	0	6	26	43	W.C. Miller Aces (Altona)	11	5	6	n	10	50	51
Winkler	10	2	8	0	4	26	45	Cartwright/Nellie McClung/		J	U	U	10	00	01
MANITOBA AAA MIDGET HOCKEY LEAGUE	GP	W	Ĺ	OTL	PTS	GF	GA	Pilot Mound Tigers	11	4	6	1	9	45	51
Yellowhead	26	17	4	1	39	113	74	Prairie Mountain Mustangs		3	8	0	6	45	67
Wild	24	18	4	0	38	128	48	Garden Valley Collegiate		Ü	0		U	10	01
Central Plains	27	17	9	1	35	115	91	Zodiacs (Winkler)	13	0	13	0	0	12	99
Brandon	24	16	6	i	34	100	62	STATS AS OF TUESDAY. DO		-	10	0	0	12	00

Agriculture

Cdn. pork keeps expanding into global markets

By Harry Siemens

Canadian pork continues to find other paths of least resistance and, according to industry sources, it speaks well of the marketing strategies and people who do the actual

Often it involves government trade missions, private enterprise initiatives, and producing a real good product at home.

Recently, HyLife of Neepawa announced a package to spend \$125 million upgrading and expanding their plant to meet demand in China and Japan.

Now, Canada Pork International expects Argentina to become a key part of Canadian pork exports to South

The government of Argentina suspended the eligibility of Canadian pork processors to ship product into that market in retaliation for Canadian restrictions on the import of Argentine beef back in 2002.

In November, the president of Argentina and the prime minister of Canada agreed to restore access to Argentina for Canadian pork.

Cesar Urias, the director of market access with Canada Pork International, says a few years ago Canadian consumers ate about half of the pork produced in Canada and the other half they exported. But today about 60 to 65 per cent of Canadian pork is exported and so Argentina will be an important component of pork exports to South America.

"Probably Canada right now stands as the fourth largest producer and the third largest exporter of Canadian pork and pork products worldwide," says Urias. "Probably, as we move forward in the short, we'll see more volume of Canadian product vis-a-vis what's Canadians are eating domestically to what's being exported increase. One of our premises here at CPI was to always expand access for Canadian pork. We've always had the idea that the more that we diversify the more we have options in terms of serving different needs worldwide."

In the case of South America, there are very few markets we currently don't have access to, Urias points out.

"We see the retention of market access to the Argentinean market as something very essential to actually having a better positioning of our products in South America and compete with other major suppliers of product like Brazil and Chile," he

Urias expects the Argentinean market to account for between 2,500 and 4,000 metric tonnes of Canadian pork during the first year, worth \$16 million to \$30 million dollars, depending on demand.

CETA BENEFITS

Greg Giokas, president of CPI, adds that the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement [CETA] with Europe will give Canadian pork the opportunity to distinguish itself in that market.

Giokas says trade agreements are critical to the success of Canadian pork exports, especially with the Trans-Pacific Partnership in limbo with the election of U.S. presidentelect of Donald Trump.

"As the population of the planet expands and, as we see countries like China that has a very large population where they've experienced poverty and had trouble feeding themselves, food is a big issue so we are uniquely placed in Canada," says Giokas. "We have the land, we have the water, we have the ability, we have the policies, we have governments that consult and develop policies based on feedback from the consumer, the processor, from the entire value chain."

What it means is that Canada has a position as a reliable, sustainable food supplier of high quality products.

'To access those markets we need trade agreements. We can't just sell food, put it on a ship and put it into a marketplace. You have to have the access," stresses Giokas. "There are tariffs, there are phytosanitary restrictions. There are all kinds of restrictions that you need to meet. These get negotiated in a trade agreement."

He says the agreement with the EU will provide 75,000 extra tonnes of carcass weight in addition to the five thousand tonne existing access totally up to 80,000 tonnes Canada didn't have before.



Figure Throne speech gets the ball rolling

By Harry Siemens

I hope the days of making up regulations for the sake of doing it or taking control of some segment or sector or simply forcing a slow down on some part of the economy for no other reason than silly ideology are

Why do I say that? Well, on two fronts. First off, I know someone who spent six years on a ministerial health and safety committee for the former NDP government, and often it seemed that the focus and the goal of that committee was to do just that. They devised regulations in the name of safety, health, workers, and whatever caught someone's fancy without thinking of the practical aspect of it, or whether it would price something out of the market. Many times it did both.

When now Premier Brian Pallister campaigned to get the people to vote for him, one aspect that caught my attention had to do with streamlining business by removing many of those same silly regulations.

In his most recent throne speech, Pallister outlined several areas of

improving the economy in the province and one has to do with establishing a Red Tape Reduction Task Force and creating regulatory accountability through legislation.

Keystone Agricultural Producers president Dan Mazier says, first of all, while the Department of Agriculture's allocation of the provincial budget remains largely unchanged from 2015, he likes it.

"This is good news for the industry," says Mazier. "There is a reallocation of expenditures to Indigenous and Municipal Relations for rural development, but we were expecting this and it will not affect agricultural programming."

Mazier says one of the positive features of the budget is the commitment for more funding to agri-innovation and policy funding, which reverses the trend of declining investment—something KAP lobbied for during the provincial election.

KAP also likes the establishment of a red tape reduction task force.

"KAP will be requesting to sit on the task force and has already begun the process of consulting with farmers to identify red tape problems," says Mazier. "Unnecessary and poorly designed regulatory measures cost farmers thousands of dollars every year in additional expenses and lost production opportunities. On average, half of the policies we adopt each year are related to these challenges."

Also included in the Pallister's speech was a commitment to develop a made-in-Manitoba carbon pricing mechanism.

What I really like about this PC government is they don't waste time getting things underway. That tells me they aren't just setting up task forces to beat a dead horse and let the report collect dust, but actually want to improve things by listening, doing, and implementing.

In this case, as in so many other areas of the province, the government quickly got to work on creating the 14-member group, with Morris MLA Shannon Martin co-chairing the process.

Martin says red tape is something he encountered frequently before becoming an MLA.

Continued on page 30

Cattlemen's Assoc. talks climate change strategies

By Harry Siemens

The federal government continues to push its climate change strategy by inviting the various ag sectors to Ottawa to discuss with them the actions they want to take.

The Canadian Cattlemen's Association (CCA) continues to be part of those discussions.

In December, the organization's Fawn Jackson and Bob Lowe shared the beef industry's perspective on sustainability, environment, and climate change.

While in Ottawa, the CCA members presented to the Standing Committee on Fisheries and Oceans, which is reviewing and studying the scope of application of the Fisheries Act.

The Canadian beef industry also values ample, clean drinking water, and the stewardship demonstrated by producers in protecting this important resource underscores this commitment.

Jackson says significant bodies of research done on impacts to water quality from livestock grazing in watersheds, both in the U.S. and Canada, has formed many of the Best Management Practices implemented across Canada.

She says given the uptake of Best Management Practices, the risk of cattle production to fisheries is not large and as such should not be treated as a major risk.

Here the CCA advocates for the continued focus on stewardship rather than enforcement for the agriculture sector, and views investment in programs such as Environmental Farm Plans and provincial water-focused programs like Cows and Fish as optimal solutions.

Lowe says the agency strongly believes that conservation on agricultural landscapes is best achieved through enhancing stewardship and partnership opportunities with the conservation community, government and Canadian public.

Both Jackson and Lowe and CCA Ottawa staff share that theme with key Environment Canada staff to discuss CCA Climate Change Policy, and Species at Risk current policies under the Federal Sustainable Development Strategy for Canada.

When speaking to cattle producers

about this detailed process and heavy programming materials, they say they are already doing most of this, and some of it maybe be overkill.

As cattle producers manage lands that have species at risk and their habitats across Canada, clarity and appropriate implementation of the Species at Risk Act (SARA) is of great importance, they stress. Cattle producers are dedicated partners in conserving healthy landscapes for Canada's flora and fauna however SARA has previously raised significant concerns for beef producers due to the uncertainty of how the act would be utilized and the subsequent impacts on their livelihoods.

In their comments to the seven draft policies, Lowe and Jackson say a strong stewardship approach is the best way to engage with the agriculture community in species at risk conservation. In CCA's view, the development of the draft policies under the SARA is an excellent step in enabling the abilities of Canada's farmers and ranchers as partners in conservation.

Overall, the CCA encourages further insight as to how the policies may be used in areas with multiple species at risk.

"Working together to find solutions for species at risk on agricultural landscapes will help to maintain an economically viable beef industry and avoid regulations that limit the ability of Canadian cattle production to compete on a national and global scale." say Jackson and Lowe. "The CCA also advocates for the support of research and agri-environmental programs, believing that investing in research, innovation, and agri-environmental programing are some of the best investments to make."

> SIEMENS SAYS, FROM PG. 29

The government says this task force will identify regulatory requirements detrimental to the competitiveness of business or that degrade the quality and availability of public services.

I don't think I could have said it better myself.

While KAP likes most of what was in the throne speech, two issues that

are important to Manitoba producers have not been addressed: the government's commitment to a province-wide Alternative Land Use Services program and KAP's request for an increase in the budget for the Farmland School Tax Rebate program.

Mazier says a 2013 change to that program capped the rebate result-

ing in Manitoba farmers paying more than \$7 million in additional education taxes annually on farmland.

"We understand these are big expenditures that would not necessarily be addressed in the first budget, but we will lobby for these member priorities to be addressed in the future," he says.



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Mutual Fire Insurance of British Columbia along with BSI Insurance donated a total of \$3,000 to Morden Caring & Sharing and the Winkler & District Food Cupboard this month. BSI matched Mutual Fire's original \$1,500 donation to help support the food banks during a busy time of year. Above: BSI's Justin Fehr, Paul Wiebe, and Jamie Hartry presented a cheque to Caring & Sharing's Grace Warkentin. Right: Olga Kushcheva and Florian Schlack did the honours in Winkler to the food cupboard's Menno Giesbrecht and Nick Friesen.

BSI Insurance supports local food cupboards



Stocking stuffers



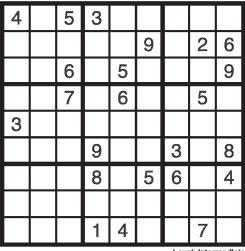


PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Students at the adult education centre in Morden took time from their studies Monday to spread some Christmas cheer. They were busy preparing well over 200 stockings for families in need through their annual Gift A Stocking campaign, which was started as a way for the students to get involved and give back to the community.

take a break > GAMES

SUDOKU



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 but vour sudoku savvy to the test!

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!

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Sudoku Answer

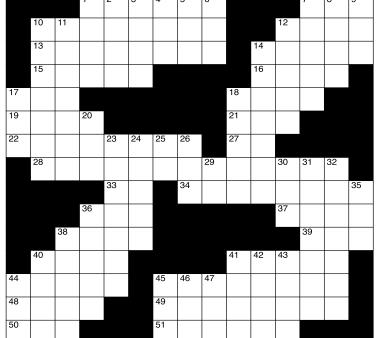
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Crossword Answer

CROSSWO

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Give a raucous cry
- 7. Mentally ill
- 10. Natural electrical phenomenon
- 12. Vessels
- 13. Judge the worth of something
- 14. South Asian garments
- 15. Studied intensively
- 16. District in Kazakhstan
- 17. Beloved meal and cheese
- 18. Ceases to live
- 19. Home to BYU
- 21. What thespians do
- 22. Julianne Moore and Christina Hendricks are two
- 27. Double in chemistry
- 28. Clayton Kershaw plays here
- 33. Overdose
- 34. Begrudged
- 36. Consumed
- 37. A game of chance
- 38. A low platform
- 39. Shelled and crushed coffee bean
- 40. Dashes
- 41. Long lock of a woman's hair
- 44. Indicates silence in music
- 45. Positively charged
- 48. In bed
- 49. Cruciferous vegetable
- 50. Fuel
- 51. Kids' ride
- **CLUES DOWN**
- 1. Greenish-blue 2. Having sufficient skill,



knowledge, etc.

- 3. Dirt
- 4. New Zealand mountain parrot
- 5. Back muscle
- 6. Supplement with difficulty
- 7. Kate and Rooney
- 8. How Amazon identifies its products (abbr.)
- 9. Emirati island
- 10. Contended
- 11. Pear-shaped fruit
- 12. Parks cars
- 14. Killing oneself
- 17. Austrian river
- 18. Older brothers
- 20. Home hemodialysis
- 23. One who is self-absorbed

- 24. Yellow fever mosquitos
- 25. Pepper or Oz
- 26. Soviet Socialist Republic
- 29. Tellurium
- 30. Pens are filled with it
- 31. Use this at dinner
- 32. Thin fibrous cartilage (pl.)
- 35. When you were born
- 36. Oohed and
- 38. Small freshwater fishes
- 40. Religion in China
- 41. Twitches
- 42. Cape near Lisbon
- 43. Management software
- 44. Game for kids
- 45. Ed Murrow's home
- 46. They
- 47. Part of the foot



We work very hard throughout the year to keep you informed with the news that matters most to you. Local information is of significant importance because it concerns the various subjects that affect you as well as the projects of the people we have elected, our school, town and municipal council, the local economy and the businesses in our area.

As your local newspaper, it is our mission to connect people through stories to build stronger communities. We will keep you informed and we are very proud to be the local resource for news and information in this community. We sincerely thank you for making our newspaper what it is today. Your loyalty means the world to us.

We wish you a Joyful Christmas and a New Year filled with much happiness!

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WEDDING



Len and Marge Giesbrecht of Winkler, together with Henry and Judy Harms of La Crete, Alberta, are pleased to announce the upcoming marriage of Kara and Brad. The wedding is planned for December 30, 2016. Love and prayers of blessing as you begin this journey together.



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We would like to thank everyone for the many acts of kindness shown to us after the loss of our beloved husband, father and grandfather. The cards, visits, phone calls and messages of condolence, flower arrangements, baking and meals and the memorial donations made in Jack's memory were all very much appreciated. Thanks also to Rev. Allison Halstead for the lovely service, to Shauna for the eulogy, the honourary pallbearers and Craig and Mark at Doyles Funeral Home.

-Thank you, Anne Black, Rob and Deanna Black and family, Jacqueline Black

Workplace Education Manitoba

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Invites applications for a Career Opportunity Position

GENERAL MANAGER

The Solid Waste Area Management Project 'SWAMP' Regional Landfill is looking to fill the position of General Manager.

Reporting to a Board of Directors, the General Manager is responsible for the overall management, administration and operational components of the landfill operation.

The General Manager position includes supervisory & management functions as well as a wide variety of operational requirements including the operation of machinery and equipment.

The ability to plan, organize, work independently, meet deadlines and regulatory requirements are all essential in ensuring the site is managed effectively. This position requires communication with the public, staff, government departments and regulators, SWAMP officials, municipal administrators, waste haulers, contractors and suppliers.

The successful candidate will have:

- Management and leadership training or experience
- Proven analytical skills
- · High degree of professional judgment and creativity in problem solving
- Ability to communicate with tact and diplomacy
- Strong aptitude for public service
- Experience operating heavy equipment
- Supervisory experience

This individual will have or be willing to complete the Manager of Landfill Operations course offered through Red River College.

Interested applicants should forward their resume and cover letter to the undersigned marked "SWAMP General Manager Position" on or before January 16, 2017. Candidates being considered will be required to complete a Criminal Record Check.

The SWAMP Regional Landfill offers a competitive compensation and health benefits package and pension plan.

Please note that only those applicants selected for interviews will be contacted.

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Announcements Volce

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Ina Mae Young (nee McElroy) 1922 - 2016

It is great sadness that we announce the passing of our Dear Mother, Grandmother, Great Grandmother and Great Great Grandmother, Ina Mae Young (McElroy) peacefully at Emerson Personal Care Home, Emerson, Manitoba on Monday, December 5. 2016.

Mom was born on January 6, 1922 in the Rural Municipality of Pembina to Lorne and Francis McElroy. She schooled in the area and later met and married Maurice Clark Young on December 31, 1943. After the war they set up homesteading and farming in the Overdale District. They raised a family Wrenda Clark, Rhonda (Art) Crane, Floyd and Betty (Ken) Nichol. She also enjoyed time with her 10 grandchildren, 19 great-grandchildren and one great-great-

grandchild.

Mom was predeceased by her parents and three brothers (Lloyd, Robert and Mervyn), her husband of 49 years, an infant daughter and son-in-law, (Tom Clark).

Mom enjoyed all her time with family and friends. Hobbies included bowling, playing cards, music, dancing, singing in church choir, knitting, biking (peddle and motor), ski-dooing and oil painting.

Celebration of life was held at Zion Calvin United Church, Darlingford, Manitoba on Tuesday, December 13, 2016. She rests in the family plot in Darlingford Cemetery.

The family would like to thank Wiebe Funeral Chapel, Boundary Trails Health Centre Staff, Homestead South Staff and Emerson Personal Care Home Staff.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Ina's memory to the Boundary Trails Health Centre Foundation (designated to Palliative Care).

> Wiebe Funeral Chapel, Morden in care of arrangements wiebefuneralhomes.com



OBITUARY



Erik Blaine Smith 1982 - 2016

It is with heavy hearts that we let you know that Blaine Smith passed into Glory with Meagan by his side on Wednesday, December 7, 2016 at 8:36 a.m. at Boundary Trails Health Centre.

We rejoice in the knowledge that he is with his heavenly Father and has been restored!

He is survived by wife, Meagan, sons, Oliver, Felix daughter, Felicity, parents, Doreen and Jim Smith, brothers, Bradley (Nancy) with Tyler and Emma, Bradon (Shaya) along with extended family and many friends.

Blaine was born in Gladstone, Manitoba on August 10, 1982 the middle son to Doreen and Jim.

Funeral service was held at 1:30 p.m. on Tuesday, December 13, 2016 at Westside Community Church in Morden with interment at Hillside Cemetery.

Thank you to all our family and friends for their love and support through this trying time. Heartfelt thanks go out to the staff at Boundary Trails Health Centre for their kind and loving care. Donations can be sent in lieu of flowers to Katie's Cottage (KatieCares Winkler; Contact: Ruth Reimer 204 363-1173).

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



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OBITUARY

Devin Michael Klassen September 27, 1984 - December 5, 2016 On Monday, December 5, 2016 Devin Klassen passed away at

Victoria General Hospital in Winnipeg, MB at the age of 32. Left to mourn are his loving mother, Tracie (nee Waddingham), biggest fan; sister, Cory Dawn (Smith), G-Pa and G-Ma, Hugh and

Betty Waddingham, great-grandma "Mad", Madeline Waddingham, aunts; Loretta (Dave) and family, Renee (Ken) and family, uncles; Ryan (Dara) and Brent, great aunts and uncles, many cousins, friends and dedicated caregivers. Devin was predeceased by his great-grandfather, Russell Waddingham.

It is with heavy hearts we say goodbye to our beloved Oggie. Devin resided at Nelson House in Morden, MB before moving to St. Amant in Winnipeg, MB in 2013. His love of wrestling and music

were second to none. From a clothesline to a body slam he loved every second and wasn't willing to tap out. Devin's laugh, mischievous grin and heart of a lion attracted people to him like bees to honey. His big smile and loving eyes will be forever cherished. Devin leaves a legacy of love and will be deeply missed.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Devin's memory to St. Amant Free the Spirit Festival. A Celebration of Life will be held at the Darlingford Community Hall.

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



OBITUARY



Andrew Anthony Benedet 1927 - 2016

Andrew Benedet passed away on Thursday, December 1, 2016 at Rock Lake Personal Care Home in Pilot Mound, MB. He is survived by his five children and their families and one sister and her family.

Andrew was born on August 11, 1927 and lived most of his life in Thunder Bay, Ontario. He worked for the Canadian Pacific Railway for many years and after his retirement enjoyed traveling west in Canada to spend time with family and friends. He loved visiting, telling jokes, and could play endless games of crib. When his health declined he moved to Manitoba to be closer to family here and Rock Lake Personal Care Home became his new home. We are deeply grateful to the staff who provided care with compassion and humor and gave him comfort and dignity over the last six

years. Andrew will be missed but is forever in our hearts and memories.

In keeping with Andrew's wishes, cremation has taken place. A private celebration of his life will be held at a later date in Morden, MB and Thunder Bay, ON.

Donations in Andrew's memory may be made to the Boy Scouts of Canada, 1345 Baseline Rd. Ottawa, Ontario, K2C 0A7 or to a charity of your choice.

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



OBITUARY



Jacob (Jake) Driedger 1938 - 2016

On Wednesday, December 7, 2016 at Tabor Home in Morden, MB, Jake Driedger aged 78 years former owner of the Winkler Macleods store went to meet his Lord and Savior.

He leaves to mourn his passing his wife, Shirley (nee Neufeld); one daughter, Sherry and one son, David and their families. He was predeceased by his daughter, Barb.

Funeral service was held at 11:00 a.m. on Monday, December 12, 2016 at Grace Mennonite Church in Winkler with interment at Westridge Memorial Gardens.

The family would like to thank all those who came to visit dad. Thank you also, to the nurses and staff at Tabor Home, Swan Lake

Hospital and Boundary Trails Health Centre. If friends so desire, donations may be made in Jake's memory to the Tabor Home General Fund.

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



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