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# The *Altona Rhineland* Voice

VOLUME 2 EDITION 16

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Visitors to Active Transportation Day in Altona Saturday were able to create their own smoothies using pedal power. For more, see Pg. 9.

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VOICE

# Pedal power

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

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# Phase 2 begins for Trans Canada Trail project

By Lori Penner

Walkers and cyclists who use the Trans Canada Trail between Altona and Gretna can expect a few added features to the six-mile pathway this year.

The first phase of upgrades completed last summer saw the entire length resurfaced with 3-4 inches of quarter down limestone crushed rock. Signage was added at each trailhead as well, along with stop signs at most mile crossings.

The \$100,000 cost for the project was covered by corporate and individual donors and the provincial government, including a recent donation of \$7,400 from the Altona Community

Foundation.

Trail committee chair Jake Enns says they've already received numerous accolades and positive comments from the many cyclists, hikers, and casual walkers that accessed the trail last summer.

"People really like the trail. They have expressed their appreciation for the wide-open prairie experience, the smooth and level trail surface, the ability to view a variety of crops as they mature over the growing season, the abundance of wildlife and flowering plants, and the beautiful prairie sunrises and sunsets."

Enns noted that they've also added "no motorized vehicle" signs along

the way.

"We've heard of a few cases where people had to get out of the way for ATVs and trucks. This is not what the trail was designed for."

The new logo for the trail is posted at both ends, and the committee would love feedback on it from trail users.

With spring in the air, the committee is now eager to launch Phase 2 of the project. Enns says most of the funds needed for this year's work are already in place.

At a cost of \$34,750, Ducks Unlimited (DU) has agreed to prepare the roughly 23 acres of soil along the trail and seed it with native grasses.

"This will include Big Bluestem, which can grow up to seven feet tall, and other grasses like Little Bluestem," Enns says, adding that DU will manage weed control and monitor and maintain the soil to ensure proper germination of the grasses over the next two years.

Ducks Unlimited was involved in a similar environmental project a number of years ago when it seeded native grasses on the hill at Altona's nature pond.

Enns says the farmers who have been using the soil along the trail for their own planting until now will be asked to stop, since the land title for the property belongs to the municipality, including 50 feet from the center of the trail on either side.

"We're planning to do a municipal survey to establish exactly where that line is. Then that space will be planted with species of native grasses and flowers and plants."

The second part of Phase 2 will see



PHOTO BY LORI PENNER/VOICE

The Trans Canada Trail between Altona and Gretna has a new logo and sign to go with the completed pathway.

the addition of rest stops with benches at two locations on the trail (beside the Altona Village and at the Enbridge road crossing), along with garbage cans and recycling bins.

For people who want to donate to these rest stops, the benches will be dedicated as memorials for people who have passed away.

Phase 3 is planned for 2024 and will include planting a variety of trees in designated areas along the path.

"We haven't established a budget for that yet, since at this point we're still not sure what kind of trees or how many we will plant," Enns says.

Enns says the committee is very grateful for the support the trail project has already received from the local business community and individuals.

If you'd like to get involved or make a donation, Enns can be contacted at 204-324-8069.



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**Application deadline is April 30, 2023  
Payment must accompany all applications**

## Community gardens continue to grow

By Lori Penner

Due to high demand, the Altona Community Garden will be adding 32 more plots this spring.

After five seasons of bringing growers together and seeing the number of plots more than double, task force committee spokesperson Jack Hep-

penner says the demand just keeps on growing.

With all 110 plots already reserved for the 2023 planting season, and a waiting list for more, Heppner says they didn't want to leave anyone out.

Continued on page 27

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# Morden mayor talks sustainable development in state of the city address

By Lorne Stelmach

Maintaining Morden's growth is the aim, but it is an objective that has to be reached in the right way, says Morden Mayor Brandon Burley.

That was at the heart of his message in the state of the city address he delivered last week at the Morden chamber's annual meeting.

"Morden is the fastest growing community in Manitoba ... 15.5 per cent growth over four years ... but growth for the sake of growth is no real strategy. If we cannot translate growth into quality of life improvements, into better outcomes for our families and businesses, that's the real opportunity when it comes to growth," said Burley.

"The goal of council is to make investments in sustainable development," he said. "Growth is great, but it has to be sustainable, and that is something that council is very aware of ... we also want to make investments in quality of life components and improvements for the City of Morden."

Burley said he wanted to give a sense of the direction of the city, and he stressed the important role played by the chamber and the business community.

"Thank you for the work you do as a chamber first and foremost. Morden Chamber of Commerce does such an important role in representing the business interests and the economic interests of the City of Morden," he said. "Our objectives along with the objectives of the chamber really find themselves coinciding so very frequently."

"The chamber is a very invested member of our community, and as the chamber goes and as its business community goes, so goes the fortune of our city," he continued. "It's not an understatement when I say that the role of the chamber is critically important to our community and its citizens ... we value the commitment of our business community."

They all share a common desire to

instill market confidence and investment confidence in the City of Morden, Burley stressed.

"And there's lots to be confident about. We're looking to leverage growth into opportunities for you as business partners and as community members."

"There's a lot to be excited about, but we recognize we have partners in this growth," he added. "The chamber is an important one, instilling confidence through decades in the business environment in the City of Morden."

Burley also noted other important partners, from the Morden Community Development Corporation to Western School Division. The latter "who really have to carry a lot of the brunt of that growth in the community."

He went on to say that they "see our goal as providing the context for success ... we want to be able to provide the resources and the abilities for you to grow and to succeed. We think that's the role of government."

"We see that role being played out in certain specific ways. Firstly in investing in critical infrastructure," said Burley, who highlighted the needs that were revealed in the midst of what was a historical drought.

"It was an opportunity to look at the sustainability of our position in a very small watershed and to try to understand what our goals were and the opportunities that were available to us."

"Luckily for us, we were able to develop an increased partnership with Pembina Valley Water Co-op to deliver additional litres per second that will be able to sustain our growth for at least the next 10 years of projected growth."

A longer term solution could be in the Pembina River diversion project where they could take excess spring water flow as an additional source of water.

"We're also working on wastewater," said Burley, noting an announcement is expected soon.

He went on to highlight a few other priority areas for the city.

"The City of Morden also offers and will continue to offer business supports to your membership," he said, going on to talk about the success of the Morden Community Driven Initiative, which has brought 75 families into Morden so far this year. "It delivers skilled labour into the arms of businesses who can't find labour locally ... every business in this region has issues around labour."

The incubator spaces for small industrial start-ups will also continue, and Burley noted the industrial expansion that will come with the development of 142 acres south of Willcocks Road.

"There's an incredible amount of appetite in that parcel already," he said, hinting at news in the works for 2023. "There are exciting announcements coming this year in terms of developments and in terms of things coming to Morden."

Burley stressed the importance of Lake Minnewasta and highlighted how it will benefit in the long term by having dedicated investments, including a reserve fund.

"The money we're making there we're reinvesting there," he said. "The quality of life investments that we can make there I think will return not only to our own residents but also in attraction to the community ... it will also lead to investments in water quality in the lake itself."

The mayor also highlighted the progress the city has made both financially and administratively, including carrying one of the lowest debt loads in the province.

"That gives this council the ability to act boldly over the next 10 years and to identify priorities and things that we can invest in and ways that we can continue that



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE  
Morden Mayor Brandon Burley presented his state of the city address at the Morden chamber AGM last week.

growth cycle well into the future.

"We've been able to keep our municipal budget below both the provincial and the national rate of inflation five years in a row," he added, noting as well how they have moved to more director-driven management of the day-to-day operations. "Directors are able to manage their own budgets and make decisions that affect you on a daily basis."

Burley concluded with a thought on how they will continue to carefully manage the capital costs of growth.

"We're going to do it in a measured way, and we're going to do it in a way that anticipates that growth pays for growth, but we're also going to do it in a way that ensures that we don't act independently of the market region we're in."

## Correction

Our story last week on the Manitoba Vexillology Association's poll rating municipal flags across the province noted that Morden's flag got knocked out in the first round alongside the Winkler and Portage la Prairie flags. The Town of Altona's flag ultimately came in first.

City of Morden staff have brought it to our attention that while a flag bearing a stylized Morden clocktower, name, and slogan has been flown in the community in the past, it has since

been phased out and has not been raised in some time.

Morden doesn't currently have an official flag, the City states, nor did it submit this old flag for the MBVA survey.

Plans are in the works, though, for a new official flag for Morden—one residents will have the chance to be a part of designing. Details are expected to be released in the coming months.

We regret the error.



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# Fish fry this week supports Well of Plenty Foundation

By Ashleigh Viveiros

A fundraiser taking place at the Pembina Threshermen's Museum this week will help families half a world away put food on the table.

The Well of Plenty Foundation hosts a Walleye Fish Fry at the heritage museum on Hwy. 3 on Thursday, April 20.

Pre-ordered lunches are available to be picked up at noon that day (lunch orders need to be in by Wednesday, April 19; call 204-362-4101 to book).

There's also a drive-thru supper option open without reservations from 4:30-7 p.m.

Both meals are by donation, with funds going to help the charity build community wells and provide irrigation drip kits and training in their use to families in Africa.

Morden's Harry Dalke is part of a group of local farmers who have taken up this cause.

The foundation was started by an old university friend of his, Doug Dueck, in 2019.

Dueck was in Malawi to hear his daughter and her husband preach when he was approached by a pastor asking if there was any way Canadians could be mobilized to help feed the starving families in his community.

"God never intended anybody to starve, but that is the reality out there," Dalke says, sharing the struggles African farmers have to be sustainable in a climate plagued by a short rainy season and then drought for the rest of the year.

Well of Plenty was formed as a Christian ministry to help the people of Malawi create more sustainable food growing systems.

Over the last four years they've built wells in multiple villages and have provided supplies for drip irrigation systems to help families more reliably



SUPPLIED PHOTOS

Well of Plenty is raising funds to buy irrigation drip kits and train families in Malawi, Africa in their use (right). The charity has also been digging wells for community use (above).



grow not just enough food to eat but also to sell as a means of supporting themselves.

"It's amazing how fast it's growing and how big a difference it's making in the lives of hundreds of people already out there," says Dalke, who got the chance to see the impact of the ministry firsthand during a trip to Malawi last fall.

He was joined by fellow farmers and foundation supporters Ben Friesen and John Dyck, who, along with Dalke, are members of the local SHARE (Sharing Hope with Agriculture Resources of the Earth) group that grow crops to donate to the Canadian Foodgrains Bank each year.

The Well of Plenty initiative resonated with SHARE's members, Dalke says, and they've led the charge to raise funds for it locally.

It costs \$500 to put together an irrigation drip kit and put participants through a training course on how to

use it.

"They learn all about it in the church's demonstration garden—how to use the drip lines, the filters," Dalke explains.

The technology has been a huge success.

"Their families only need about a third of what they're growing," Dalke explains. "Every week they seed something and after three months they start harvesting. So it's a rotation, and they're able to sell the extra to buy other things they need."

Thus far the program has run in five communities, but Moses Chirusha, the Congolese man who heads things up for the foundation in Malawi, has dreams to expand into many more, including in other African countries.

"He's a real go-getter," Dalke says, noting Chirusha has helped the farmers form a co-op to sell their excess produce to local hotels in tourist areas, helping the project as a whole be-

come more sustainable.

But outside funds are still needed to keep it growing, and that's why Canadian donors are so vital. Dalke has been spreading the word about the foundation's work in the hopes of drumming up further support so they can get more families into the program.

He notes that while they are a Christian ministry that works with churches in Malawi, this program is offered to all.

"It's not closed to non-Christians—it's open to everybody," he says, stressing they share God's love not by simply feeding families but by helping them learn how to feed themselves. "That's the beauty of it."

To learn more about Well of Plenty or to make a donation, contact Dalke at 204-362-4101 or [hbdalke@gmail.com](mailto:hbdalke@gmail.com) or head to [wellofplenty.com](http://wellofplenty.com).



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# Lost bet puts Winkler mayor in Pistons jersey

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Winkler Mayor Henry Siemens found himself on the losing end of a bet last week—and he paid for it with his attire at the city council meeting.

Siemens attended the April 11 meeting wearing a Steinbach Pistons jersey, fulfilling a promise he made to Steinbach's Mayor Earl Funk.

"We were in Winnipeg at the Association of Manitoba Municipalities spring conference," Siemens explains. The conference took place as the Pistons and the Winkler Flyers were squaring off to see who would advance in the MJHL playoffs.

"Earl and I were in a session and we got to talking about Game 7—we were both very confident that our team was going to win ... so we made a good natured wager."

Whichever team won the series, the other mayor promised to wear their rival's colours to their next council meeting after the last game.

Siemens certainly had reason to believe it wouldn't be him—the Winkler Flyers had come from behind to force the final game, which took place in Steinbach April 4.

Unfortunately, despite a valiant effort, the Flyers lost the match 4-2, and Siemens went home from the game with Funk's own Pistons jersey in tow.

"We had the chance to watch that game together, and it was a tight game. All game long we were all over them, but we just couldn't find a way to convert," Siemens says.

"And then finally in the third period we tied it up ... unfortunately, we were not able to complete the comeback. They scored one to go ahead and then got the empty-netter for the win."

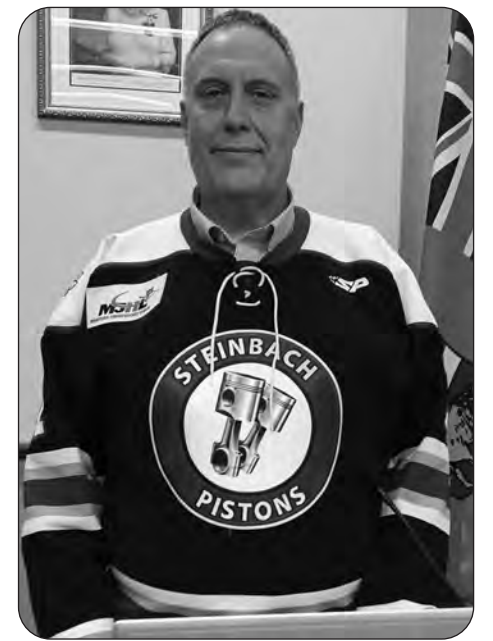
Despite having to show up at council in some questionable colours last week, Siemens is proud of how the Flyers handled themselves this season. He says he has every confidence Steinbach's mayor will find himself wearing the team's Orange and Black in the years ahead.

"It's not this year, but that opportunity is coming ... I have no doubt."

While the bet capitalizes on the long-standing rivalry between Winkler and Steinbach (yant sied or dit sied, depending on where you are), these kinds of friendly interactions help strengthen the relationship between two communities that have more in common than not, Siemens says.

"It is a good opportunity for us to grow a close relationship with a like-sized community dealing with some of the same things that we do in terms of rapid growth and having to do very large projects and finding ways to finance those in the midsts of all of the other priorities that we always have.

"We're going to continue to connect," Siemens says. "There's certainly some efficiencies that we can learn from Steinbach, as well as things hopefully we can share with them."



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Winkler Mayor Henry Siemens wasn't thrilled to be wearing a rival's jersey to council last week, but he held up his part of a losing bet with Steinbach's mayor after the Winkler Flyers lost to the Pistons.

## "We're excited to see what we can accomplish together"

### Morden chamber looks forward at annual meeting

By Lorne Stelmach

The Morden and District Chamber of Commerce reflected on the continuing challenges of the past year post pandemic at its annual meeting last week.

The organization however is emerging with renewed excitement and optimism, suggested chairperson Scott Hoepfner, whose term on the board came to an end at the meeting.

"We've having my first in-person AGM, but it's also going to be my last in-person AGM," joked Hoepfner, who recalled coming into the role amidst pandemic challenges.

The last year saw most of their annual events still cancelled while the chamber was also in the midst of finding a new executive director.

They're in a good place now, Hoepfner reflected, as events are starting to return to normal and Clare Agnew has stepped into the executive director role.

"It's not just been a return to the status quo. As with most things post-pandemic, there's been an element of learning what the new normal is going to be ... it's been no different with the chamber," he noted. "And so while things have changed and are continuing to change, we are then learning to change with it ... but change isn't a bad thing. It's an opportunity to question; it's an opportunity to understand; it's an opportunity to improve.

"So while we faced some speed bumps along the way, the most obvious being the [cancelled] Home and Life show ... the current board very

much views this as an opportunity to revisit what we're putting our time and efforts into, to listen to what our members are telling us and an opportunity to prove how we are now serving our members," Hoepfner stressed. "That's ultimately reflected in the chamber's strategic plan, which we completed earlier this year ... and which has a renewed emphasis on enabling organizational growth, being the voice of business and enhancing member services and engagement.

"It's going to be a new normal, and I think that's ultimately a good thing," he concluded. "I invite you as our members to be part of that change. Reach out to the board members; let them know how change is impacting you, get involved. We're excited to see what we can accomplish together."

A couple of factors impacted the chamber financially in the past year, but mostly in its favour, including having most events return and having a drop in expenses from a period without an executive director.

"At the end of the day, we broke pretty close to even, a small deficit, and we were projecting about an \$18,000 deficit last year, so overall it worked out pretty well," reported treasurer Derek Hamilton.

The 2023 budget increases on both sides with income of \$121,800 and expenditures of \$131,437 for a deficit of \$9,637.

"Just with some of the revamping of the events and specifically the Home and Life Show not happening, this year that obviously has an im-

pact on where we're sitting," Hamilton noted. "A couple years ago we had a pretty healthy surplus, so we knew there was going to be some transition that was going to be happening in the next year or two."

Stepping down from the board in addition to Hoepfner is Irma Maier. Rounding out the board now are Grant Nicholson as chair and Hamilton as treasurer along with Susan Lee, Brent Laverty, Derek Wiebe, Tyler Schroeder, Stephane Warnock, and Zoraia Constantino.

Nicholson thanked Hoepfner for his time with the chamber.

Continued on page 7

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# Mushroom parenting

**O**ne of my “rules of fatherhood” I developed and often employed as my kids grew into more independent teenagers was the following: “What I don’t know can’t hurt you.”

You see what I did there? If your child is going to do something that breaks a statute in the Code of Child Rearing then they had best be smart about it to avoid the parental ramifications that come with such things.

In other words: “If you are going to be stupid, don’t be stupid about it.”

Now don’t get me wrong, I do not believe in consequence-free parenting. I just recognized that as children turn into teenagers their antics become more and more interwoven with their own consequences. I would also say this is HIGHLY contextual and depends heavily on the kind of child you are dealing with.

Adding a layer of parental punishment on top of an already horrible (and often comical) circumstance did nothing to strengthen a message already well on the way to being learned by the time I found out about it.

I’m also a firm believer that as a parent you better have laid a solid moral foundation well before your kids become teenagers because if not, they will have developed it through other

sources by then.

This rule would typically be trotted out somewhere between 13-15 years old, depending on the child and the event in question. Usually it was the contravention of an already declined request:

“Can I go to BLANK’S and possibly partake of BLANK in BLANK location?”

“Absolutely not.”

This would be followed by much ingenious but ultimately fruitless pleas and arguments in their favour, followed by a tantrum-fueled stomp out of the room that included shouts of how unfair I was.

By this point my parenting senses were on high alert, having memories of what I might have done in a similar circumstance as a teen after such a refusal from my own loving parent.

Invariably, having failed at obtaining parental permission, said child would sometimes go ahead with their plans anyhow and in as loud and bumbling a way as possible still go to BLANK’S and partake of BLANK in BLANK location.

At what point I intervened often depended on where in the timeline I would learn of the infraction and

the stupidity level being achieved. I would try to make my involvement as embarrassing and public as possible followed by a cool down period of internetless bedroom incarceration.

After a suitable point in time I would cautiously approach the cell door, inquire within, and tentatively enter to begin a conversation.

“Listen, I have these rules for your own good and for your own safety. Blah, blah, blah.”

Then, after the appropriate length of parental monologuing, I would end with, “Just remember—what I don’t know, can’t hurt you” followed by a meaningful pause wherein they would appear confused for a few moments until apprehension slowly dawned and spread across their faces.

“Look,” I would say. “I didn’t raise an idiot. I trust you. But when I become AWARE of something you are doing I might find questionable I have a responsibility to intervene as a parent ... do you understand?”

“I think so.”

“Good.”

This was never about wanting to avoid parental responsibility as much

Continued on page 7



**By Peter Cantelon**

## Letter policy

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

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

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

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

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# CFDC hands out third Betsy Nicholls Award

By Lorne Stelmach

Dr. Michael Caldwell may have been a first-time visitor to the Canadian Fossil Discovery Centre here last week, but he certainly has a longtime connection to the museum and its fossil collection.

A palaeontologist and professor at the departments of biological sciences and earth and atmospheric sciences at the University of Alberta, Caldwell has greatly contributed to the field of palaeontology over the past three decades.

"I was in the collections room, and this was the first time I've actually been here, even though for the last 25 years I've sent my students out here all the time," Caldwell said as he received the third Elizabeth (Betsy) Nicholls Award for Outstanding Contributions to Palaeontology at the CFDC's annual gala Saturday evening.

"My research program has, for the last 30 years of my professional career, been on snakes, lizards and their palaeontology evolution ... and mosasaurs are a kind of giant marine lizard, a true lizard, so my research program has used the Morden material and it's really influenced myself and my students.

"We've travelled around the world and gone to see many collections ... and the Morden stuff informs us on a

lot and is linked to all the other kinds of mosasaurs that we find around the world."

Caldwell and his team were cited for having described the oldest known fossil snakes in the world, dating 100 million years old, and this extended the fossil record of ancient snakes by 70 million years.

In 2016, he was part of the team that re-examined a primitive snake specimen, *Tetrapodophis*, from Brazil. This specimen implied snake ancestors weren't burrowing terrestrial animals like originally thought but instead aquatic animals that evolved their unique body shape for eel-like swimming.

Caldwell has also worked on many mosasaur projects throughout his career, and his work has drastically changed mosasaur phylogeny and has redefined the relationships both within and outside the mosasauridae family. In addition to his innovating research, he is also a dedicated professor, teaching and inspiring the next generation of paleontologists.

Additionally, Caldwell was part of the 2010 team that reclassified the species *Hainosaurus pembinensis* as *Tylosaurus pembinensis*. CFDC's own "Bruce" specimen belongs to this species.

Caldwell said he was deeply hon-



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Longtime CFDC board member Kevin Campbell (left) and board chair Allison Halstead presented Dr. Michael Caldwell with the Elizabeth (Betsy) Nicholls Award for Outstanding Contributions to Palaeontology last weekend.

oured to receive the recognition and especially that it honours the memory and work of Nicholls.

"I knew Betsy really well, and she was someone special. I first met her when I was just starting out as a student at McGill University," he noted. "This is really a surprise. I had no idea that anybody really even knew that I existed on the other end of that scientific chain ... it's more than humbling, to be honest.

"The fact that the institution here named an award after her I think is really wonderful. The Royal Tyrell Museum hasn't done that yet, and beating those guys to the punch is a really good thing. The Tyrell doesn't even have any galas on an annual basis ... so this is really the first museum and community group in the country to create their own grassroots award."

Caldwell said he would never hesitate to sing the praises of what Morden has here with the Canadian Fossil Discovery Centre.

"I'm trying to make it very clear

to people that even though it might be just seem like a handful of dusty bones out in their back yards and in the Pembina Valley, it's actually really important stuff, and it's been important to the scientific understanding of mosasaurs around the globe," he suggested.

"It's unique in terms of the kinds of animals ... in the broad sense marine reptile faunas are not uncommon, but they're not as easily understood as commonly in the public mind as are dinosaurs," Caldwell continued. "It's also an incredibly dense fossil record from Morden. There are lots and lots of specimens.

"There's lots of opportunity for new discoveries, even in what is sitting in collections room," he concluded. "Let alone the opportunity that will exist for hundreds of years into the future yet to go out and do field work and collect new specimens. The museum's got new stuff just waiting for somebody to open the drawer and know what to do with it."

## Letters

### SOCIETY'S DECLINE

All societies/nations who embrace non-traditional family units fall apart within 100 years of doing so. All one has to do is study the past history. Serving porn to children in the public library only serves to speed up this process.

Joseph Sparrow,  
Rosebook

### ENOUGH IS ENOUGH

Firstly, thank you, Peter Cantelon for your positive words in the column "Leaders look forward" in the April 13 edition. Also, Kevin Driedger needs a commendation for his thoughts in the letter "Council

needs to move the community forward, not backward."

Morden library staff are hurting and the continuous vicious verbal attacks on the staff by this "group of angry people" must cease immediately. As for their claim of "promoting safety"—this is ridiculous and narrow minded trash talk. What kind of belief do they have that promotes this type of human treatment?

This is NOT the Canadian way of living and accepting. In Canada we "live and let live." We do not attempt to destroy! Enough is enough!

Llynde Morris,  
Morden

### > CANTELON, FROM PG. 6

as it was about transitioning from the kind of parent who actively prevents their kids from sticking metal things into power outlets to the kind of parent who trusts that they raised smart kids who would no longer do this.

It was always about being the kind of parent who knew that, eventu-

ally, their kids wouldn't have them around and they needed to learn to navigate the world's messy moral waters on their own with the tools they were given.

Based on where the kids are now, I would say so far, so good.

### > CHAMBER AGM, FROM PG. 5

"You did a phenomenal job keeping us organized, so I want to thank you for your service," he said. "He took over the role in what was most likely the most difficult time to take over that role, so it was not business as

usual. We didn't have an opportunity for you to learn your role from what happened in the past because everything was different. We weren't able to do what we would normally do."



# A Story for Every Mile paints a vivid picture of region's history

By Ashleigh Viveiros

A new history book packed full of photos and personal accounts paints a vivid picture of Southern Manitoba's storied past.

The Boundary Trail National Heritage Region (BTNHR) and the Pembina Manitou Archive (PMA) have spent the last several years working with author Ed Ledohowski on the creation of *A Story for Every Mile: An Illustrated History of the Boundary Trails National Heritage Region of Southern Manitoba*.

The book, which became available at locations across the region this spring, is 140 pages and filled with over 550 historical photographs and images depicting scenes stretching back to the 1850s, though the stories go back much, much further.

"It starts right with the ancient history of this region—the Ice Age and Lake Agassiz," says Al Thorleifson, BTNHR board member, PMA archivist, and book editor. "It talks about the history of the Aboriginal peoples in this region ... the story of Chief Yellow Quill and his promotion of the rights of the Aboriginal people in this district."

"It tells a lot of the story of the initial settlement of this area. Ed has found many of the memoirs and stories that were told by the first settlers who came here."

Through quotes and photos, the book shines a spotlight on the lives of the people who helped build our

modern communities.

"The information is largely firsthand commentary by the people who actually lived it," Thorleifson says.

The book also details the introduction of the railroad, the various waves of immigrants and their impact on local demographics, and takes readers right through to the present day.

This project, started in 2014, was originally envisioned as a series of short educational booklets. But Ledohowski's research found such a treasure trove of material that it grew into a full-fledged book.

Many of the photos included have never been published before.

"Many of them have never been seen before because Ed found them in the strangest places," Thorleifson says. "There are collections that have never been actually archived. Photo collections, map collections, photos of historical documents."

It's those photos that really bring the stories to life.

"One of the things that I think is cool about this is there are so many photos that even little kids can look at the pictures and get a sense of things," Thorleifson says. "So many history books are just words. This is really good for young folks to get a sense of what it used to look like."

The preservation of history is a passion for Thorleifson, as is raising awareness of our region's roots.

"I don't think people can know where they're going until they know where they've come from. Wheth-



Al Thorleifson with the new *A Story for Every Mile* history book.

PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

er we're born here or we come from away, we have to make sure the next generation doesn't lose an awareness of where their parents and ancestors came from. And once you're here, you're part of this history too."

Thorleifson notes this project was made possible thanks to financial support from the Manitoba Government and the Boundary Trail Railway Company.

Copies of the book have been delivered free to municipalities, museums, and libraries across Southern Manito-

ba.

They're also available for sale for \$60 each at the Canadian Fossil Discovery Centre and the Pembina Hills Art Gallery in Morden, the RM of Thompson office in Miami, the Municipality of Dufferin office in Carman, and the Boundary Trail Railway Company office in Manitou.

You can also contact Thorleifson via email to [peminamanitouarchive@gmail.com](mailto:peminamanitouarchive@gmail.com) to arrange to purchase a copy.

## Province invests in physio funding for post-surgery knee, hip patients

By Lorne Stelmach

Private physiotherapy clinics in the region welcome the recent move by the Manitoba government to make it easier for people recovering from total hip and knee replacement surgeries to access physiotherapy and rehabilitation services from them.

With an investment of over \$2.5 million from the provincial government, an estimated 6,100 eligible patients recovering from total hip and knee replacement surgery will have access to and coverage for physiotherapy and rehabilitation at their Manitoba provider of choice and as part of their continued care.

This is the first time the province has widely funded outpatient physiotherapy for patients outside of the hospital in private clinics, noted Ashley

Froese, a physiotherapist with Morden Physiotherapy, which also operates clinics in Winkler and Carman.

"For them to recognize the need for rehabilitation, the importance of it, is for us really huge, and we're excited to start seeing these patients," Froese said. "We've had already had phone calls coming in."

"Bottom line is we just want to see patients be able to get good physiotherapy and actually participate in it, and to do that by making it easier and affordable ... that's the only way the patients are going to follow through and get greater surgical outcomes, and that's the goal."

"As soon as the announcement came out, we had patients giving us a call and excited that they would be able to access private physiotherapy care,"

echoed Leah Klassen, owner of Pembina Valley Physiotherapy based in Winkler but also with locations in Morden, Altona, and Carman.

Since October 2022, the Manitoba government has arranged direct-bill contracts at three private clinics for post-operative outpatient physiotherapy and rehabilitation care for patients. The next phase opens that up to all clinics.

As of April 1, the Manitoba Physiotherapy Association (MPA) began managing all physiotherapy billing services for eligible adult outpatients recovering from total hip and knee replacement surgery.

Under the contract, all registered physiotherapists in the province are eligible for reimbursement. This is an interim agreement until a more per-

manent billing arrangement is established, which is expected in the coming months.

Patients who have had total hip or knee replacement surgery since January 1 and who have not received treatment can qualify for up to six individual physiotherapy sessions or 10 group sessions.

With the province's commitment in recent years to increasing the number of joint replacement surgical procedures and reducing wait times, they have now realized access to physiotherapy is vital for successful post surgical outcomes and long term care of patients, suggested Froese.

And while there is some minor criteria involved, it will open up opportunities for many patients in the re-

Continued on page 10



# ACAN helps Altona mark Earth Day

By Lori Penner

The Altona Community Action Network (ACAN) marked the 50th anniversary of Earth Day by hosting an Active Transportation Day last Saturday.

The event took place at the Community Exchange in Altona and included spring bike tune ups with Back Alley Cycle owner Bruce Penner, a learn-to-bike demo which gave visitors a chance to try out a plain or Dutch bike, kids' activities, and a panel discussion with active transportation experts.

There was even an opportunity to make yourself a smoothie with a pedal-powered blender.

The day rounded off with a community bike ride.

The panel discussion included guest presenters Anders Swanson of Winnipeg Trails, Sherry Hoffman from the Green Action Centre, and Kayla Dawson, who is in charge of sustainability and active transportation with the City of Selkirk.

Swanson's role as executive director of Winnipeg Trails and chair of the Canadian Bicycle Federation takes him to a variety of smaller communities to encourage them to implement active transportation models.

"Our organization is focused on the connectivity of safe walking and infrastructure and the fun part of life," he said. "We play an important role in removing barriers that are in people's heads and make it easier for politicians to say yes to what are very popular ideas.

"It's refreshing to come to Altona where it would be quite easy to put in a complete network of safe cycling facilities. You can do it cheaply and quickly and it will appeal to everyone because the distances are so close."

Swanson says many communities across the province are promoting active transportation.

"Making a bike-friendly community is a money-maker, and trust me, you will get much more out of it than you put in," he said. "People really want to live healthier and be outside, and stay connected to one another. Where you want to live is a choice. That transportation piece and that connection to nature and to fun and to seeing people is a huge draw to the community. Connecting with your friends and seeing people is something you can't do that behind a windshield."

Earth Day promotes awareness for the health of the environment, and ACAN spokesman and event organizer Jonah Langelotz said hosting an event that encourages people to walk and cycle more, and drive less, is definitely in line with that.

Langelotz has worked with ACAN for the past four years to raise awareness and encourage environmental sustainability in the community.

He said, by definition, active transportation is any means of getting people from point A to point B without using a vehicle. It could be biking, running, walking, driving a scooter or any other type of people-powered movement. And the benefits go beyond individual health and well-being.



PHOTOS BY LORI PENNER/VOICE

Anders Swanson of Winnipeg Trails describes the positive features of plain or Dutch bikes to visitors at Active Transportation Day on April 15 in Altona.

The hope is that the Town of Altona will adopt an active transportation strategy that will include safer, designated pathways and signage to encourage a greener, healthier, and more social way to move around the community.

"Research shows that the majority of people, if the barriers are taken away, will prefer to walk or cycle instead of using their vehicles," says Langelotz. "People want to do this, but you have to make it easier for them."

"Making them feel safe on the road and making it accessible in terms of signage, and communicating with people that there are different ways to

get around are all parts of that. There is so much work that still needs to be done to make those different modes of transportation accessible for the majority of people who are interested and enjoy moving around and being outdoors, but don't necessarily know or feel like it's accessible the way things are laid out now."

Swanson says there are still trouble spots and barriers that make cycling difficult.

"It may not feel like a trouble spot from behind a windshield, but it sure does to the kids. The City of Dauphin took parking lot dividers and connected all of their schools with a protected bike lane. That's the first thing I'd do here. The federal government has lots of money for projects like that. Winnipeg Trails got \$50,000 for some plans. That would go pretty far in Altona. You can put \$30,000 in cedar and wood and soil and seeds and make this beautiful flowery protected trail down Centre Ave.

"I've seen it happen over and over again. Once you create those things, people will use them. People will use them to go to work or the library, or for exercise or have fun with their grandkids. The moment you start is the moment you start making a meaningful difference where you actually get to see people be happy. That's a rare public policy thing you can do: create a happy community."



Guest speakers were on hand to discuss the benefits of active transportation planning in the community.



# Zahid Zehri joins Morden-Winkler nomination race

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Another Winklerite has stepped forward to put their name on the ballot for the Conservative Party of Manitoba nomination in Morden-Winkler.

Zahid Zehri last week announced his candidacy for the position left vacant by Cameron Friesen.

Zehri has called Winkler home for nearly 20 years, having immigrated to Canada from Pakistan.

His firsthand experience as a newcomer coupled with his job as the pharmacist/owner of Winkler's Shoppers Drug Mart has given him invaluable insight into the concerns of the people he hopes to serve as MLA.

"I have a good connection with the

community, especially being a pharmacist. I see people every day, I talk with them about their mental health, their physical health, their financial issues," Zehri says. "Being a pharmacist, you have a plenty of opportunities to talk with the people ... you learn what the community needs, what the community is suffering from."

That knowledge is what led him to join the nomination race.

"We need to have somebody who understands the needs of the community, who can address those needs," Zehri says, stressing he feels he has the passion and negotiating skills needed to make things happen for the community.

Zehri has been a member of the pro-

vincial Conservative party for over a decade and volunteered with Cameron Friesen's various re-election campaigns.

He's run for municipal office himself twice, both unsuccessfully, but considers those campaigns a success in terms of the conversations he helped spur on how to improve the community.

"I'm not a politician," Zehri says in terms of what he's bringing to the table. "I'm a very common man. I'm a citizen. I'm a community member ... my bottom line is I just want to serve the people."

There are no shortage of issues Morden-Winkler is facing today and will face tomorrow as it continues to be one of the fastest growing areas of the province, Zehri reflects.

Whether it's infrastructure, health care, the education system, or immigration, he says he'll approach every challenge with common sense.

His campaign slogan gets to the heart of his approach "Collaboration, Consultation, Constituency."

Zehri says he intends to collaborate and consult with residents, stakeholders, community leaders, and other levels of government on projects that matter to the riding. And, if elected, he pledges to stay involved and engaged in and with the constituency.



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Winkler's Zahid Zehri is running for the Morden-Winkler Conservative nomination.

Also in the running for the nomination alongside Zehri are fellow Winklerites Carrie Hiebert and Josh Okello and Morden's Liz Reimer.

A date for the election has not yet been set. Only members of the provincial Conservative party can vote.

The winning candidate will represent the Conservatives in Morden-Winkler in this year's provincial election.

## ÉMMS students organize food drive for Many Hands



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

ÉMMS kids with some of the food the school collected as part of a weeklong food drive in support of the Many Hands Resource Centre.

By Lorne Stelmach

École Morden Middle School students were excited to work on packing their haul Monday after a week-long food drive in support of the Many Hands Resource Centre.

The entire school of over 700 students and about 70 staff were invited to contribute in the second year of doing the food drive for the local food bank.

"The student council organized it, and kids from Grade 5-8 and staff all

brought in food and hygiene products," said Gr. 5 teacher Alison Wiens. "It's something we can do to help our community and start some conversations in our classrooms about social issues.

"Last year we filled four trucks ... this year, I think we'll be pretty close, plus we had a bit of money donations, so I think we may have surpassed what we did last year," she said. "It's very nice to see when they're involved in something that is going to make a difference in our community."

### > PHYSIO FUNDING, FROM PG. 8

gion who wouldn't be able to access timely physiotherapy after surgery due to long hospital wait lists, distance to travel, and often affordability, she said.

"What it historically has looked like is that patients in the province of Manitoba had to go to hospitals for physiotherapy after they've had their surgery, which patients in our region still can access at Boundary Trails," Froese explained. "It is a wonderful service, but our region is huge. Driving from Crystal City or Notre Dame or Portage for example ... to attend physiotherapy at Boundary Trails is not necessarily an easy or accessible option for patients.

"To now be able to have the option of a clinic of their choice means they can receive physiotherapy probably a lot closer to home, which is great for everybody. It's going to help reduce wait list times and hopefully produce greater surgical outcomes."

"We're still working out the details ... one of the things that we do know is if you have private insurance, you do need to exhaust that first," noted

Klassen. "That's one of the restrictions, but other than that, you definitely have an ability to potentially be seen a little bit sooner than if you were going to be going to the hospital."

In general, Klassen sees this as helping "to get people up and about and walking again and mobile sooner. It also could mean, quite possibly they were already seeing a private physiotherapist prior to their surgery, so that continuation of care there as well could be a benefit."

"Agreements such as this will help patients access the care they need now as the Manitoba government expands capacity and builds a more resilient public health system for the future," said Health Minister Audrey Gordon in making the announcement earlier this month. "By streamlining billing processes and providing comprehensive support, we're also removing barriers and freeing up health-care providers to focus on delivering care to patients across Manitoba."



# FTC brings Anne of the Island to the stage May 4-7

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The P.W. Enns Centennial Concert Hall will be transformed into a slice of the Maritimes as the Flatlands Theatre Company (FTC) performs *Anne of the Island* May 4-7.

The show continues the story of L.M. Montgomery's Anne Shirley as she leaves P.E.I. for college in Nova Scotia and navigates the rocky waters of adulthood and romance.

The play is based on the third book in the beloved *Anne of Green Gables* series. It's the fourth time FTC has performed an *Anne* show, having put on the first play in the series in 2007 and again in 2016 and then following it up with the second part of the story in 2017.

FTC then turned to local playwright Angela Klassen to create the first non-musical adaptation of *Anne of*

*the Island*. The pandemic pushed the show's world premiere back a few years, but it's now ready to take the stage.

Stepping into the part of Anne is Sasha Dyck, who took a break from rehearsals last weekend to share a bit about her process of preparing to take on this iconic role.

"There's a bit of pressure, for sure," she says, "but so far I've received pretty positive feedback. She's such a fun character to try to portray."

Dyck says she watched the 1985 television mini-series starring Megan Follows for inspiration.

"I was just really captivated by her energy," she says, noting this part of the story includes an Anne who is trying to figure out her place in the world as an adult. "She thinks that she's made up her mind on things but it's proven over and over again that maybe she doesn't know her mind as well as she thinks.

**"IT'S REALLY A HEARTWARMING STORY."**



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Sasha Dyck and Ezra Reimer play Anne Shirley and Gilbert Blythe in Flatlands Theatre Company's production of *Anne of the Island* May 4-7.

"It's a lot of growing; she needs to mature throughout the story," Dyck says. "You get a whole arc with her. And it's written so well. It's really a heartwarming story."

Playing Gilbert Blythe, who has been smitten with Anne since childhood, is Ezra Reimer.

"She doesn't at first want Gilbert to be anything more than a friend," he

shares, noting there's definitely some ups and downs in the story for his character and Anne. "It's a great story. And Anne is a great character, despite her flaws. I think it will really tug at your heartstrings."

Having Klassen on set for rehearsals as both a writer and actor (she's play-

Continued on page 12

Bell

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**PROPOSED BELL MTS MOBILITY RADIOCOMMUNICATIONS FACILITY TELECOMMUNICATION TOWER**

Bell MTS is committed to providing Canadian communities high speed wireless voice and data service. To improve service, Bell MTS is proposing to construct a 104 metre guyed tower with ancillary radio equipment including a shelter approximately 3m x 3m at the base of the tower with a perimeter fence restricting public access. As part of the public consultation process as required by Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED), Bell MTS's regulator under the Radiocommunications Act, Bell is inviting the public to comment on the proposed tower location before May 20, 2023 in compliance with ISED consultation policy. This guyed tower is fully compliant with ISED guidelines, as found under the CPC 2-0-3.

**TOWER LOCATION:** Approximately 700m North of Hwy 14 and Road 15W

**COORDINATES:** 49.198953, -97.796755

**LEGAL:** The Wly 375 feet perp of the SW 1/4 of Section 10-3-3 WPM Exc Firstly, Road Plans 553 MLTO and 1462 MLTO and Secondly: all mines and minerals as set forth in Transfer 115139 MLTO

**ANY PERSON MAY** comment by close of business day on May 20, 2023 with respect to this matter.

**BELL CONTACT:**  
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PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Sasha Dyck, as Anne Shirley, strolls with Quinton Stoesz's Roy Gardner but has her eyes on Ezra Reimer's Gilbert Blythe during rehearsals for FTC's production of *Anne of the Island*.

> ANNE OF THE ISLAND, FROM PG. 11

ing Marilla, Anne's adopted mother) has made for a unique experience for cast and crew, Reimer notes.

"It's really cool to have the writer on stage with us, playing a part alongside us," he says.

It made the creation of the show much more of a dynamic process, adds Quinton Stoesz, who is playing Roy Gardner, another love interest of Anne's.

"A lot of times we look at something that's said in a script or something is done a certain way and we're like, 'We can't really change it because it's in the script,'" he says. "But now we're able to just talk to Angela and get permission to change things on the fly, if we need to. You're working with the person who made it."

In an earlier interview, Klassen noted she worked hard to stay true to Montgomery's work with this adaptation.

"When people see the play they're going to notice that a lot of the dialogue is right from the book, because I don't feel like I can improve on L.M. Montgomery."

Prior knowledge of *Anne of Green Gables* is certainly not needed to enjoy the show.

"Even if you've never seen the other plays or never read the books, the characters are very believable, the situations are very believable and you can really connect with them," Stoesz says. "So even if you're not familiar with *Anne* at all, you can still enjoy it to its fullest. You're not going to be disappointed."

To celebrate the local roots of the play's creation, FTC is going all-out in setting the stage before audiences even take their seats.

The concert hall foyer will feature some *Anne* memorabilia and P.E.I. chocolates for sale. They're also partnering with Mulligan's Restaurant & Lounge on an East Coast supper special people can enjoy before heading to the Friday and Saturday night shows.

*Anne of the Island* runs nightly May 4-6 at 7:30 p.m. with a matinee at 3 p.m. May 7.

Tickets are available online at [www.winklerconcerthall.ca](http://www.winklerconcerthall.ca).

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# Earth DAY

Protect our Species



## Meaningful fun ways to celebrate Earth Day

Earth Day is a celebration of the planet that people, plants and animals call home. First celebrated in 1970, Earth Day was established to demonstrate support for environmental protection, and events are held each year on April 22. It is now coordinated globally by the Earth Day Network and celebrated in more than 193 countries.

People may wonder what they can do at a local level to make Earth Day a larger part of their lives. Here are just a few great ways to embrace Earth Day.

- Make it a point to bike or walk to school or work. If conditions are prohibitive, carpool to cut down on traffic. The fewer cars on the road, the less emissions in the air.

- Recycle e-waste in your home. E-waste is considered outdated electronic appliances that are no longer used. The Environmental Protection Agency suggests e-waste is the fastest growing waste stream in the world.

- Invest in a reusable coffee cup or water bottle. This can reduce the amount of trash that ultimately ends up in the environment.

- Connect with nature by turning off electronics for the day and getting outside. Head to a park or nature trail and immerse yourself in the great outdoors.

- Do something as simple as switching paper statements and bills to e-bills and online invoices. This

reduces reliance on trees for new sources of paper.

- Grow some edibles in your home garden or even on a windowsill. This is a fun, eco-friendly way to control the foods you consume at home and a great way to save money as well.

- Reusing and recycling does not just pertain to water bottles and aluminum cans. Find out ways to repurpose or share items with others so they get more mileage. Also, make use of sharing services like an online community sharing marketplace.

- Volunteer your time at an organization that has an environmental focus. Or suggest a task with an eco-friendly slant, like picking up trash from a beach, to a local community group or club.



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To help celebrate Earth Day, here are a few Recycling Do's and Don'ts:

### Do Recycle:

- Any plastic container with a recycling triangle on the bottom with the numbers 1,2,4,5,7 (includes bottles, pails, tubs & jugs)
- Drink cans & bottles, juice boxes
- All paper products including cardboard boxes, newspapers magazines

### Don't Recycle:

- Products containing multiple material types packaged together, like most coffee pods or toys containing both plastic and metal
- Takeout containers or pizza boxes with food remnants
- Household hazardous waste containers



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# Your FARM



## Second water planning tool receives funding

By Lorne Stelmach

Farmers and others in the Pembina Valley watershed region will benefit this year from two new high-tech water planning tools.

The project partners see the development of new environmental hydrologic forecasting models as helping guide land management decisions and on-farm planning by farmers, watershed districts, and communities around water resources.

"The Pembina Valley Watershed District is excited by the possibilities of this new tool," said manager Ryan Sheffield. "We hope that producers can find value in the ability to make better predictions of hydrological conditions."

The watershed district worked in partnership with Swan Lake First

Nation and the Manitoba Forage and Grassland Association on the \$35,000 project supported by the RBC Foundation through RBC Tech for Nature.

Aquanty, a Canadian software company, worked on the development of the landscape simulation project HydroGeoSphere (HGS). The soon-to-be-completed model will simulate real-time water flows over, under and through the landscape of the Swan Lake region using climate and weather information to provide seven and 32-day forecasting for soil moisture, groundwater, and surface water levels.

It will be similar to another forecasting tool recently made available for the overall Pembina Valley watershed district that was supported by funding of up to \$152,250 from Agriculture

and Agri-Food Canada's AgriRisk Initiatives Research and Development stream via the Canadian Agricultural Partnership.

With the region in the midst of the spring melt, it's the perfect opportunity to try these tools, suggested Sheffield.

"It's definitely an ideal time to have a look at it and check it out," he said. "This time of year, flowing water is at its most significant levels, and this tool is going to be providing some real time data for what's going on out there and predicting what's going to happen."

"Depending on soils and geology and topography and all these different factors that have been used to build these models, it creates variation across the landscape," he noted.

"These models have taken all of that into consideration and enables people to make predictions as to how conditions are going to be in a certain location ... it varies across the landscape."

There will be webinar introductions to the forecasting model around the ability and progress on the forecasting tool. You can find more information online at mfga.net.

"MFGA is very proud to be part of the team that brings this incredible water technology to the Pembina Valley Watershed District and Swan Lake First Nation," said chairperson Lawrence Knockaert.

"The ability to work with our partners and within the Royal Bank Tech for Nature on Aquanty's hydrologic

Continued on page 16

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# Your FARM



## Objectives for better beetle management

By Keith Gabert, Canola Council of Canada

Flea beetles are the pest of greatest economic risk to canola production, according to our 2022 Canola Council of Canada survey of canola growers. With more striped species, which emerge earlier in the spring and seem more tolerant of common seed treatments, and with spring weather conditions that challenge rapid crop emergence, flea beetle damage seems worse than ever.

Canola growers have two major objectives to reduce the risk:

### OBJECTIVE A: RAPID CANOLA EMERGENCE

The ideal flea beetle buster is a canola crop that establishes quickly with five to eight plants per square foot. More plants mean more food for the flea beetles, which limits the damage per plant.

Scenarios that require multiple in-season foliar sprays are often the result of a slow-establishing, non-competitive crop. Many factors can cause this, including moisture, temperature, plant populations, seed treatment and overall flea beetle numbers.

Management steps to reduce the risk include:

- Seed shallow into warm, moist soil. Consider seeding cereals first as they can tolerate cooler spring soils. Seed canola after soils have warmed up and ideally just before or after a spring rain.
- Use an advanced seed treatment to improve flea beetle protection in high-risk areas. These include Buteo Start, Lumiderm, Fortenza and Fortenza Advanced.
- Use safe rates of seed-placed fertilizer. The

recommendation is to use only phosphorus in the seed row at rates of 20 lb./ac. of actual phosphate. Higher rates of seed-placed fertilizer can add more stress, slow the pace of growth and reduce the stand.

### OBJECTIVE B: EFFECTIVE FOLIAR SPRAYS

Fields under moisture stress may not meet objective "A". Flea beetles love dry conditions, crops don't. In that case, growers should set up for effective foliar insecticide.

What makes a spray effective?

First, apply it at the right time. Action thresholds for canola are when damage exceeds 25 per cent cotyledon or leaf area loss. However, in warm weather with actively feeding flea beetles and slow-growing crop, this threshold can be passed quickly. Growers will want to anticipate the speed at which damage is developing and proactively begin spraying before 25 per cent defoliation. In some cases, early spraying around headlands may be enough when damage is localized from flea beetles entering the field edge.

"Right time" is also when flea beetles are most active. Warm, dry and calm are good conditions for spraying. In rainy cool weather, flea beetles often take shelter in the soil and don't feed as much. In these conditions, insecticides, which all rely on contact with the flea beetle target, will have lower efficacy.

Second, consider the temperature effect on insecticide efficacy. On spray days with highs over 25°C, malathion and Sevin XLR may provide better results. On days with highs below 20°C, pyrethroids (Decis, Pounce, Perm-UP and oth-



CANOLA COUNCIL OF CANADA

Two species of flea beetle—striped and crucifer—on the same canola plant. Striped species emerge earlier in the spring and seem more tolerant of common seed treatments.

ers) will show better results. Pyrethroids have restrictions when temperatures exceed 25°C.

Third, achieve coverage. Flea beetle insecticides do most of their work through contact. Because young canola plants take up only a small percentage of the ground area and because flea beetles are small targets, effective contact requires adequate water (at least 10 gal/ac.) and medium nozzles. Check labels for specific nozzle recommendations. Low-drift nozzles, which are a good practice for some herbicides, produce a coarse spray droplet that may not provide efficient flea beetle contact. Without coverage, results may not be as good as hoped.

This is just a quick overview of the top points. Continue regular scouting for flea beetle damage until your crop is well established. For more on flea beetle management tips and how to make the spray decision, please see our agronomy-based articles in the Insects section at [canolawatch.org/fundamentals](http://canolawatch.org/fundamentals).

*Keith Gabert is an agronomy specialist and insect management lead for the Canola Council of Canada. Reach him via email to [gabertk@canolacouncil.org](mailto:gabertk@canolacouncil.org).*

### > FORECASTING, FROM PG. 14

forecasting tool now for the Swan Lake sub-watershed is really exciting. We look forward to promoting the project and helping all stakeholders get up to speed on the forecasting tool in the near future."

"Supporting new ideas, technologies and partnerships to solve pressing environmental challenges is how we bring RBC Tech for Nature to life," said Mark Beckles, vice-president of social impact and innovation for RBC. "This multifaceted forecasting tool for land managers will help them deal with the challenges of managing their lands, waters and productivity."



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### HOG SECTOR TAKING ACTION ON SUSTAINABILITY



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Thanks to technological advances, lights, fans, and heating and cooling systems use significantly less energy than they once did, and electronic feeders ensure pigs are well fed while reducing the amount of wasted feed, increasing efficiency. Hog farms today require 40 percent less water, 33 percent less feed, and as much as 59 percent less

land for every kilogram of pork produced compared to 50 years ago.

“I am really enthusiastic about the future of agriculture in Manitoba,” Schmalenberg added. “Farmers have been stewards of the land for decades, and combining sustainability initiatives with their knowledge of the land will make for a great future in agriculture.”

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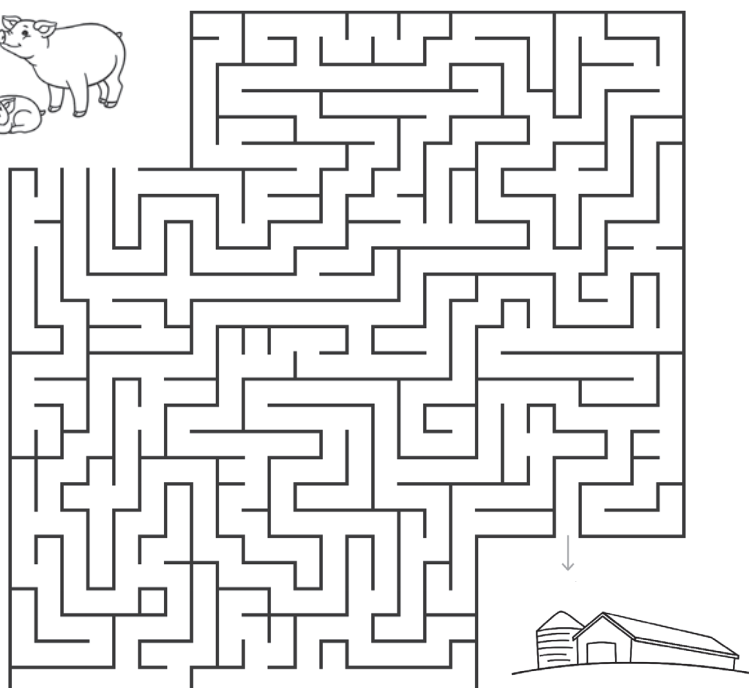
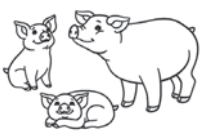


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# Your Wedding

## Did You Know?

The timing of when a couple cuts the wedding cake can have a specific meaning. Long ago, the cake was usually cut at the very end of the reception and would signal to the guests that it was the end of the festivities. Today, cutting the cake is an unspoken signal that represents that the formal wedding is nearing a close, and guests who

would like to leave can do so without worry of being rude. Many couples will cut the cake right after dinner as a courtesy to older guests who may want to get started on their trips home. This affords them the chance to make an earlier exit, rather than staying through the dancing that could extend into the wee hours of the night or missing

the cake entirely. Cutting the cake mid-reception also serves another practical purpose for couples who are paying a photographer by the hour. Photographers typically go home after the cake-cutting, so a mid-reception cutting can save couples a substantial amount of money.



## The tradition behind bridal veils

Though couples can plan wedding ceremonies and receptions how they see fit, many weddings are steeped in tradition, some of which may be more subtle than others. One longstanding wedding tradition revolves around a bride's attire. Historians differ regarding the origins of the bridal veil, but some trace this tradition all the way back to Ancient Greece. Others suggest bridal veils were first popularized within the Roman Empire by people who believed that the veil protected the bride from evil spirits as she walked down the aisle. Traditions surrounding bridal veils even differ within various faiths, so the veil may signify one thing at a Jewish wedding and something entirely different at a Christian ceremony. Veils also have long been seen by some as symbolic of purity. Despite their long-held position in wedding lore and tradition, veils are no longer seen as a must-have. Nor are brides who choose to wear a veil beholden to having it cover their face as they walk down the aisle. In fact, many modern brides now flip their veils over their head as they walk down the aisle en route to saying, "I do." Regardless of how brides who opt for veils choose to wear them, there's no denying the enduring popularity of this tradition.

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# PHAC shines a spotlight on student art this month

By Lorne Stelmach

High school students from across the region set their artistic talents loose for the current exhibit on display at the Pembina Hills Gallery in Morden.

The annual show involving students from Morden, Winkler, and Altona is always a great opportunity for the youth that also presents them with the challenge of working within a theme.

This year, the work of students from Garden Valley Collegiate, Northlands Parkway Collegiate, Morden Collegiate, and W.C. Miller Collegiate had to somehow fit within the idea of *Black*, and it was interesting for their instructors to see what their students did with that theme.

"I think that may be my favorite component of the show. The central theme is decided upon by all of the schools," said Scott Bell of GVC. "Seeing the various creative ways the students interpret that central theme is always fascinating to me."

"You can take in so many different directions. It's not just dark; it's about things like elegance ... it had many places to go," said Dawn Rigaux of Morden Collegiate. "I want to see every kid take it in their own direction and do something outside the box with it and make it interesting."

"Everybody had their own take on it, and whatever they were interested in came through with that topic," noted Jill Ferris of W.C. Miller.

The four schools come up with the theme collectively and narrow it down from all of the ideas that come in from staff and students.

"It's difficult to pick a theme that's wide open enough that we can get



Artwork from Winkler, Morden, and Altona students is on display at the Pembina Hills Art Gallery this month.

all these kids from all these different schools to take it in different directions," observed Rigaux. "You need something that's got a lot of possibilities."

Morden Gr. 12 student Finley Folkett has been involved every year since Gr. 9 with work that has reflected her Métis background. Last year her piece was connected to the issue of murdered and missing Indigenous women. This year's piece is related to residential schools.

"I think it's an honour to actually get my art out there," she said. "I wanted to reflect on what I was seeing in the news and just put my emotions into it."

"It really struck a chord with me ... 'black' I associated with grief. I wanted it to also maybe strike a chord with

whoever was looking at it."

Folkett's striking piece features an Indigenous girl in the foreground and a nun in the background cutting her hair. It represents cutting off your memories.

"I wanted the Indigenous girl to be front and centre. I wanted that to be your main focus because you want to feel the emotion of that child," she explained.

Involved in the show for the first time this year, W.C. Miller Gr. 12 student Tyson Tarnick was also inspired by the theme, but in a different way.

"Right away I thought of something medieval, and I chose to do a black knight," he explained, noting he thought "using charcoal kind of made it look better and almost maybe stand out a little more."



He welcomed the opportunity to have people see his artwork.

"It feels pretty cool, and this is my last year of high school as well, so to do this feels pretty good," he said. "I'm thinking I will be taking arts in university and just continuing with it ... it's always been a bit of a passion to draw."

It was also the first exhibit for his fellow Altona student Kaylee Franz, who just picked up art class two years ago.

"I think it's cool, especially in the aspect that it's alongside peers of mine ... being able to compare work from person to person and to be able to have my input is pretty cool," she said.

Continued on page 20

## '70s Show' Saturday in Winkler supports Back 40 Festival

By Lorne Stelmach

The Back 40 Festival returns to the stage again this weekend in Winkler for its annual 70s Show fundraiser.

It features local musicians paying tribute to favorite musical acts from the decade, and festival chairperson Scott Bell hopes for another good crowd like they had last year in their return post-pandemic.

"We had that two-year hiatus then we were able to bring it back last year, and we were so grateful for the audience that came to that show. It was well attended, and I think everybody had a really good time."

"It is our sole fundraiser. We're a non-profit, volunteer-run organiza-

tion, so this is what helps pay for the outdoor festival aside from sponsorships from some local businesses."

The 70s Show takes place this Saturday, April 22, at 7:30 p.m. at the P.W. Enns Centennial Concert Hall with eight local music acts, including bands and solo performers, doing tributes.

Link and the Moustaches will be paying tribute to George Thorogood, Bill Dowling and the Even Breaks will perform Van Morrison, Jenessa Kehler will be playing Leonard Cohen, The Committee will be playing AC/DC, the Monochromatics will be doing The Clash, BK and the Bad Habits will perform the Rolling Stones, Duane Hiebert and band will be do-

ing David Bowie, and Big Robbie G will be performing the Eagles.

Bell thinks they have an interesting and varied lineup of music for the show that should appeal to a lot of people.

"We're grateful to the performers who play every year and volunteer their time and their talents," he said. "The spirit of camaraderie and musical kinship is just awesome. Back stage is such a fun place to be with the buzz of excitement, the bands cheering each other on and supporting each other."

"For the audience, I hope they really enjoy it. We're putting on the best show that we can, and I know it's also a special experience for the commu-

nity of musicians who are involved."

The 70s Show also serves as a prelude to the Back 40 Festival set for June 4, with a few details about this year's event often announced at the concert.

"That's sort of become the tradition," Bell said. "I can say it will be a nice balance of musicians from Winnipeg, from other areas of the province and then of course some southern Manitoba musicians. We always try to make sure the local area is represented well."

Ticket information for the concert is available at [www.winklerconcerthall.ca](http://www.winklerconcerthall.ca).



# Spring melt begins



PHOTOS BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS AND LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

The spring melt meant the City of Morden last week was keeping its eyes on the Dead Horse Creek (left), which was running full but still within the banks. "The city so far is not expecting the creek to overflow the banks. However, there is risk of ice jamming at the railway and highway bridge, and the city is keeping a close eye on both," deputy city manager Santokh Randhawa said on Friday. In Winkler, high water levels closed Pembina Ave. by the cemetery (above), though the road was opened two days later. Various rural roads have also been closed in both Rhineland and Stanley due to water levels. Head to the RM websites for up-to-date details as the spring thaw continues.

## Many Hands to organize Morden Farmers Market

By Lorne Stelmach

Many Hands Resource Centre is preparing to oversee the weekly Morden farmers market starting this summer.

The organization is taking over from the Morden Chamber of Commerce, and it is seen as a good fit for Many Hands, given it has already been involved in the past through the Direct Farm Manitoba food currency program.

"They knew how much we already participate in the farmers market ... and we were very interested," said executive director Mariyam Tsygankova. "It is a perfect fit for us, and we are very excited about it."

A large part of the mission of Many Hands is to help create a healthy community, she noted, and it ties in well with the organization also co-ordinating the food bank program out of the 500 Stephen Community Centre.

"Shopping at the farmers market has a ton of advantages. You're not only supporting local farmers but it can also be a fun and inexpensive outing," Tsygankova said. "The farmers market is a great way to bring the community together and get customers for local small businesses ... it can aid in job creation and economic development. This means more money stays in the local economy."

Tsygankova also sees the food cur-

rency program not only continuing but being better co-ordinated and perhaps even expanded.

Initiated through Direct Farm Manitoba, the program provides community food coupons to participants to spend directly on products at their local farmers market, increasing access to fresh farm food for food insecure Manitobans while also supporting producers.

The program was piloted in the 2020 market season. In 2022, it served 230 households.

Additional funding from the Mani-

toba Building Sustainable Communities program and Winnipeg Foundation has provided almost \$1.1 million to expand the program further for the 2023, 2024, and 2025 seasons.

As for the Morden Farmers Market, it kicks off for another year on June 29. It will run Thursdays starting at 4 p.m. at its usual location downtown by the art gallery.

"We've started registration already. We already have some vendors coming back, and we have some new people and new vendors as well, so that is exciting," said Tsygankova.

"We won't change much. The location is the same, and almost everything will be the same. We will just try to bring more people, not only the vendors but we would maybe like to have some other organizations participate as well, and we want to have more people participate.

"We also have opportunities for volunteers," said Tsygankova, who encouraged people to contact her by email at [director@manyhandsrc.com](mailto:director@manyhandsrc.com) or phone at 1-431-774-1699.

### > STUDENT ART SHOW, FROM PG. 19

"It's quite an open-ended topic, so then everyone has the opportunity to be creative and come up with their own ideas and demonstrate their own personality through their art.

"Since I started art, I've enjoyed it and being able to consider my art to be good enough to show to other people is definitely encouragement to keep creating."

"When people see the show, I think they'll be impressed with the variety and depth of thought that went into it," suggested Bell.

He always sees it as a tremendous opportunity for the students.

"The regional show for the high

schools in the area has always been a great opportunity to collaborate with other schools and make our students aware of what great work kids in other schools are doing.

"Any public display opportunity we get is really welcomed, but this show is always really special," Bell said. "It's a professional gallery, and I think the students learn the importance of presenting their work in the best possible way, to really carefully consider the work they're creating and who their audience will be and who will see it ... it's an awesome learning opportunity."

"It's all different types of media

and different art forms, and the students get to see what other students are creating," noted Ferris. "The gallery has hosted this student art show for years, and traditionally, in the community, there's very good participation. There's a lot of people who come to this show expecting to see good quality student artwork."

"Art's made to be shown. I tell kids that all the time," said Rigaux. "Art needs an audience. I can give them an audience here, and their peers can, but it's different to put it out there to the public."

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# sports & recreation



## Magics show off their skills



The Morden Magics gymnastics club, which has members from across the region, wrapped up its 35th season with a display night April 11. Above, left: Ava Earl on the bars. Right: Emery Griffin on the balance beam. Above and below: The Magics' CCP (Canadian Competitive Program) 3 and CCP 4 athletes performed a myriad of group floor exercises that had them leaping, doing handstands, and making human pyramids.

PHOTOS BY RICK HIEBERT/VOICE





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Buyer for all farmyard scrap, machinery and autos. No item too large! Best prices paid, cash in hand. Phone Alf at 204-461-1649.

**FINANCIAL SERVICES**

Private mortgage lender. All real estate types considered. No credit checks done. Deal direct with lender and get quick approval. Toll free 1-866-405-1228 [www.firstandsecondmortgages.ca](http://www.firstandsecondmortgages.ca)

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

Cluck & Quack Poultry Club Auction. Poultry & small animals auction on Saturday, May 6, 12 noon. Springfield Curling Club in Dugald, MB. For further vendor information contact Danica Mutchler, email [danimonica@hotmail.com](mailto:danimonica@hotmail.com) or phone/text 1-204-770-3857.

**FOR RENT**

Suite rental - large condo style apartment with common area. On-site laundry, 1 bdrm. plus utility room. 15 minutes from Winkler & Carman. Best deal in southern MB! \$500/mo. Ph 204-615-0676. [prgriff@shaw.ca](mailto:prgriff@shaw.ca)

**LAKESIDE FLIGHT ACADEMY**

Want to learn how to fly? Lakeside Flight Academy is the most affordable in Canada. Recreational, private and commercial certificates. We offer flight training and ground school (air law, navigation, meteorology, aeronautics general knowledge). Call 204-651-1402.

**WANTED TO BUY**

Mobile Scooter with cab in good condition. Call 204-325-8190.

**NOTICES**

**URGENT PRESS RELEASES** - Have a newsworthy item to announce? An exciting change in operations? Though we cannot guarantee publication, MCNA will get the information into the right hands for **ONLY \$35 +**

CONT. ON NEXT COL.

**HEALTH**

Are you suffering from joint or arthritic pain? If so, you owe it to yourself to try elk velvet antler capsules. Hundreds have found relief. Benefits humans and pets. EVA is composed of proteins, amino acids, minerals, lipids and water. Key compounds that work to stimulate red blood cell production & cartilage cell regeneration & development. Stonewood Elk Ranch Ltd., 204-467-8884 or e-mail [stonewoodelkbranch@mymts.net](mailto:stonewoodelkbranch@mymts.net)

- BIRTHDAYS
- MARRIAGES
- ANNIVERSARIES
- NOTICES
- OBITUARIES
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- BIRTHS
- THANK YOU
- GRADUATIONS

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**SPRING HIRING???** Need Class 1 drivers or construction workers? **BOOK YOUR 2023 BLANKET CLASSIFIED ADS NOW** in the 32 Weekly Manitoba Community Newspapers to get your messaging to be seen all over the province! Let people know in the Blanket Classifieds! Call 204-467-5836 or call MCNA at 204-947-1691 for more details or to book ads. MCNA - Manitoba Community Newspapers Association. [www.mcna.com](http://www.mcna.com)

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The *Winkler* *Morden*  
**Voice**  
Call 467-5836 Email  
[ads@winklermordenvoice.ca](mailto:ads@winklermordenvoice.ca)

The *Winkler* *Morden*  
**Voice**  
CALL: 467-5836

**EMPLOYMENT**



Border Land School Division invites applicants for a  
**PERMANENT SENIOR YEARS ENGLISH TEACHER (1.0 FTE)**  
FOR ROSEAU VALLEY SCHOOL IN DOMINION CITY, MB

FOR DETAILS VISIT [WWW.BLSD.CA](http://WWW.BLSD.CA)

**EMPLOYMENT**



Border Land School Division invites applicants for a  
**PERMANENT SENIOR YEARS SCIENCE TEACHER (1.0 FTE)**  
FOR ROSEAU VALLEY SCHOOL IN DOMINION CITY, MB

FOR DETAILS VISIT [WWW.BLSD.CA](http://WWW.BLSD.CA)

**EMPLOYMENT**



Border Land School Division invites applicants for a  
**PERMANENT CHORAL TEACHER (0.75 FTE)**  
FOR W.C. MILLER COLLEGIATE & ÉCOLE PARKSIDE SCHOOL IN ALTONA, MB

FOR DETAILS VISIT [WWW.BLSD.CA](http://WWW.BLSD.CA)

**EMPLOYMENT**



Border Land School Division invites applicants for a  
**PERMANENT KINDERGARTEN TEACHER (0.5 FTE)**  
FOR ÉCOLE ELMWOOD SCHOOL IN ALTONA, MB

FOR DETAILS VISIT [WWW.BLSD.CA](http://WWW.BLSD.CA)

**CAREERS**



**MAINTENANCE MECHANIC/MILLWRIGHT**

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

The following would be considered an asset for this position:

- Experience in grain handling, processing, or manufacturing facility
- Experience in industrial equipment maintenance and repair
- Ability to read blueprints and technical documents
- Pressure or structural welding tickets and related experience

This is a regular full time position providing an excellent wage and benefits package. Bunge is committed to providing a safe, healthy, and rewarding workplace for all employees.

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

**Bunge Canada is an equal opportunity employer.**

**Reporter/Photographer Wanted**

Are you a natural born storyteller with an eye for photography and a passion for community news? Carman-Dufferin Standard is currently seeking a full-time reporter and photographer to join its multi award-winning weekly community newspaper.

We are looking for someone who is both motivated and passionate about being the best outlet of interesting and breaking news stories and event coverage in the Carman-Dufferin area and surrounding area communities.

**Qualifications:**

- A post-secondary degree/diploma in journalism or equivalent experience in a related field
- Strong photography and writing skills with an interest in social media
- Self-starter with the ability to exercise solid news judgement
- Ability to establish professional relationships to consistently source and write a wide range of stories and cover events in a fair, balanced and accurate manner
- Able to work both independently and as a team on a flexible work schedule including both evenings and weekends to meet our weekly editorial deadline
- Experience covering council and school board meetings
- Knowledge of CP Style and about the Interlake and its surrounding communities would be an asset

**Please forward your resumé along with three writing and photography samples to:**

Lana Meier  
Email: [news@stonewallteulontribune.ca](mailto:news@stonewallteulontribune.ca)





# Classifieds

Book Your Classified Ad Today -  
Call 325-6888 or Email  
ads@winklermordenvoice.ca

The Winkler Morden  
**Voice**

**FARMLAND FOR SALE BY TENDER**

**FARM LAND FOR SALE BY TENDER**

Sealed, written tenders for property in the RM of ARMSTRONG described below will be received by:

**McCulloch Mooney Johnston Selby LLP**  
Box 1670, 14 Main Street S.  
Carman, Manitoba R0G 0J0

**PROPERTY**

SW ¼ 29-20-2 EPM  
Being Approx. 159.33 Acres

Section 6-21-2 EPM  
Being Approx. 654 Acres

SW ¼ 32-20-2 EPM  
Exc Sly 1320 feet perp  
Being Approx. 82 Acres

SE ¼ 32-20-2 EPM  
Being Approx. 162 Acres

NE ¼ 30-20-2 EPM  
Being Approx. 155.89 Acres

NW ¼ 29-20-2 EPM  
Being Approx. 162 Acres

NE ¼ 29-20-2 EPM  
Being Approx. 162 Acres

**CONDITIONS OF TENDER**

- Interested parties must rely on their own inspection and knowledge of the property.
- Tenders may be placed and accepted on one or any number or all parcels of land.
- Tenders must be received on or before 2:30 pm on April 28, 2023.
- Tenders must be accompanied by a **\$10,000.00** cheque payable to **MMJS LLP** in Trust as a deposit. Deposit cheques accompanying unacceptable bids will be returned.
- Highest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

**TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SALE**

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

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

Please support  
our advertisers  
**SHOP LOCAL**

**McSherry Auctions**  
12 Patterson Dr.,  
Stonewall, MB

**Online Timed Auctions**  
@ iCollector.com

**Estate & Moving**  
Closes Wed. April 26 @ 7:00PM

**Estate & Moving**  
Featuring Guns & Ammo  
Closes Wed. May 3 @ 7:00PM

\*Booking On Site  
Spring Auctions\*

McSherryAuction.com  
204-467-1858  
Consignors Welcome!

**Open House  
& Earth Day  
Event!**

- Give Aways!
- Coffee & Donuts
- Tour Renovated RVs
- Blow out pricing on used parts & fixtures

**Saturday, April 22**  
10AM – 3PM

**Revolution  
Trailers**

1480 Springfield Rd  
204-955-7377  
www.revolutiontrailers.ca

**Maintenance/Caretaker  
Couple or Person Required**  
SLIMS CABINS  
NE Saskatchewan  
Seasonal. Possible Year Round.

Main camp road access plus boat in & fly in outposts. Large, heated, well equipped shop to repair or fabricate almost anything. Troubleshooting, mechanical, heavy equipment operation, plumbing, electrical, carpentry, welding, etc.

If you possess a lot of skills, enjoy a rural location, are motivated, responsible, independent and respectful, this may be your dream lifestyle/employment.

Any excessive alcohol consumption (beyond social) or substance abuse is not welcome at our fishing/hunting camp.

Call 204 937 4007

**HIP/KNEE  
Replacement?**

**Other medical conditions causing TROUBLE WALKING or DRESSING?**

The Disability Tax Credit allows for **\$2,500 yearly tax credit and up to \$30,000 Lump sum refund.**

Apply NOW; quickest refund Nationwide!  
Providing assistance during Covid.

**Expert Help:**  
204-453-5372

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50,000 BATTERIES IN STOCK

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www.batteryman.ca

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204-298-7578

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**2023 PROPOSED PESTICIDE PROGRAM – CITY OF MORDEN**

Public notice is hereby given that the City of Morden may conduct the following Pesticide Control Programs during 2023. An Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPM) has been developed for the City and will act as a guide for pest prevention, treatment and management. One of the goals of the IPM is to reduce the use of chemical controls by means of using preventative, mechanical, and biological controls. The City will adhere to provincial legislation and regulations pertaining to the use and implementation of a pesticide program.

1. For the control of noxious weeds within the City of Morden and in accordance with the Noxious Weed Act, Environment Act and the Non-Essential Pesticide Use Regulations between May 1st and October 31st the following herbicides may be used:

- Fiesta (Iron HEDTA)
- Par 3 (mecocorp-p, 2,4-D, dicamba)
- Round-up (Glyphosate)

2. To control larval mosquitoes in stagnant/standing water, within the City of Morden and 1 mile beyond the city boundary on public property, rights-of way, and ditches between May 1st to October 1st 2022 the following biological larvicides may be used include:

- Aquabac (Bacillus thuringiensis var. israelensis –Bti)
- Vectobac (Bacillus thuringiensis var. israelensis –Bti)

3. To control adult mosquitoes along streets and lanes, City parks, golf courses, cemeteries, and rights-of-ways within the City boundaries between May 1st and October 31st, 2023, by way of ultra-low volume mist sprayers the following insecticide may be used:

- DeltaGard 20EW ULV

4. To control elm bark beetles, the carrier of Dutch Elm Disease, by spraying Pyrate (chlorpyrifos) onto the lower 50cm of elm trees on both public and private property from approximately June 1st until October 15, 2023.

5. To control Dutch Elm Disease by way of macro injection directly into the root flare of American elm trees, Arbotect 20-S fungicide will be used between June 1st and August 31st.

6. To control other insect pests between May 1st and October 31st, 2023, the following may be used:

- Safer's Insecticidal Soap (potassium salts)
- Copper Fungicide Spray
- Foray 48B (Btk)
- Sevin (carbaryl)

Any person may, within 15 days after this notice is published, send a written submission to Manitoba Conservation regarding the above control program or register with the department their written objection to the use of pesticides next to their property to:

Pesticide Use Permit Program  
Manitoba Environment and Climate  
Environmental Approvals Branch  
Box 35, 14 Fultz Blvd, Winnipeg MB R3Y 0L6  
T: (204) 945-7107  
F: (204) 945-5229

E: pesticideusepermit@gov.mb.ca

W: www.gov.mb.ca/sd/environment\_and\_biodiversity/pesticides  
Any person who may wish to discuss the control policy may also contact the City of Morden, Parks & Urban Forestry Department at 204.362.3999 or email sdias@mymorden.ca

**EMPLOYMENT**



**PEMBINA VALLEY**  
WATER COOPERATIVE INC.

**Water Treatment  
Plant Operator  
Position –  
Stephenfield, MB**

Pembina Valley Water Cooperative is seeking applicants for the fulltime (40 hrs/week) position of Water Treatment Plant Operator in Stephenfield MB. The Stephenfield plant is one of three regional plants inside the Pembina Valley Water Coop, located 20 km west of Carman on highway 245. Pembina Valley Water Coop is Manitoba's 3rd largest water utility, producing potable water for 14 municipalities in south central Manitoba. Three water plants feed a network of over 9000 square kms.

**What we have to offer:**

- Excellent benefits package offered by the municipal government program
- Competitive industry wage (\$22.00 to start, with no previous industry experience)
- Certified Level 1-3 wage range from \$24.00-\$34.00 (Provincial certification program based)
- Company matched retirement savings program (starts at 8% match) through MEBP
- Strong support for internal training
- An environment geared towards learning
- 2 weeks holidays to start, 3 weeks after 3 years
- Strong safety focus

**Position Description:**

In this position you will perform day-to-day activities consisting of the monitoring and control of the water treatment process. Performance of day-to-day maintenance, process checks, troubleshooting, laboratory analysis, administration, and duties with respect to reservoirs and pumping stations. Collect, record, and analyze data daily, perform necessary adjustments to optimize the process performance. When Certification is obtained, applicant will be scheduled into a rotation that will consist of working alone on the weekend and some holidays. During this time, they will be expected to be on call and responsible for the process after hours. All on call and after-hours work will be compensated.

**Qualifications:**

- Valid driver's licence
- A good team player and positive attitude
- Good communications skills
- Good mechanical aptitude
- Willingness to learn and further education
- Ability to work at heights, in confined spaces and in inclement weather conditions
- Computer competency; emphasis on Microsoft Word and Excel. Scada familiarity an asset
- Any trade experience or post secondary education is an asset
- Flexibility to work some weekends and holidays
- Comfortable handling chemicals

Training will be provided to obtain water plant operator certification.

**Interested applicants should forward their resume to water@pvwc.ca by 4pm, April 28th, 2023, or call 204-324-1931 for more information.**





**Power Builder Advertising WORKS!**

- GET SEEN by over 360,000 Manitoba Homes!
- Use your LOGO!
- Create instant top of mind awareness
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- We format it, to make it look great!
- Starting at \$339.00 (includes 45 lines of space)
- The ads blanket the province and run in MCNA's 32 Manitoba community newspapers
- Very cost effective means of getting your message out to the widest possible audience

Contact this newspaper NOW or MCNA at 204.947.1691 or email [classified@mcna.com](mailto:classified@mcna.com)

[www.mcna.com](http://www.mcna.com)

# Classifieds The Winkler Morden Voice

Book Your Classified Ad Today - Call 325-6888 or Email [ads@winklermordenvoice.ca](mailto:ads@winklermordenvoice.ca)

## AUCTION

**ONLINE AUCTION SALE FOR THE ESTATE OF RICHARD DELEURME Graysville MB**  
**Register and Bid**  
[www.gauthierauctions.com](http://www.gauthierauctions.com)

**Bidding will start April 24 to May 3, 2023**  
*(lots will start to close slowly and each bid adds time to the clock, to bid again)*  
**Over 300 lots = Tractors, Truck, Guns, Tools, Antiques, Yard & Household items**

**View items:**  
 April 28 from 2:00 – 7:00 pm or by appointment

Details on website  
**GILBERT GAUTHIER AUCTIONS**  
 204-379-2826

Please support our advertisers

## SHOP LOCAL

## CAREERS



Border Land School Division invites applicants for a  
**PERMANENT GRADE 3 CLASSROOM TEACHER (1.0 FTE)**  
 FOR ÉCOLE ELMWOOD SCHOOL IN ALTONA, MB

FOR DETAILS VISIT [WWW.BLSD.CA](http://WWW.BLSD.CA)

## EMPLOYMENT



**PEMBINA VALLEY WATER COOPERATIVE INC.**

**Water Treatment Plant Operator Position - Morris, MB**

Pembina Valley Water Cooperative is seeking applicants for the fulltime (40 hrs/week) position of Water Treatment Plant Operator in Morris MB. The Morris plant is one of three regional plants inside the Pembina Valley Water Coop, located 55 km south of Winnipeg on highway 75. Pembina Valley Water Coop is Manitoba's 3rd largest water utility, producing potable water for 14 municipalities in south central Manitoba. Three water plants feed a network of over 9,000 square kilometers.

**What we have to offer:**

- Excellent benefits package offered by the municipal government program
- Competitive industry wage (\$22.00 to start, with no previous industry experience)
- Certified Level 1-3 wage range from \$24.00-\$34.00 (Provincial certification program based)
- Company matched retirement savings program (starts at 8% match) through MEBP
- Strong support for internal training
- An environment geared towards learning
- 2 weeks holidays to start, 3 weeks after 3 years
- Strong safety focus

**Position Description:**

In this position you will perform day-to-day activities, consisting of the monitoring and control of the water treatment process. Performance of day-to-day maintenance, process checks, troubleshooting, laboratory analysis, administration, and duties with respect to reservoirs and pumping stations. Collect, record, and analyze data daily, perform necessary adjustments to optimize the process performance. When Certification is obtained, applicant will be scheduled into a rotation that will consist of working alone on the weekend and some holidays. During this time, they will be expected to be on call and responsible for the process after hours. All on call and after-hours work will be compensated.

**Qualifications:**

- Valid driver's licence
- A good team player and positive attitude
- Good communications skills
- Good mechanical aptitude
- Willingness to learn and further education
- Ability to work at heights, in confined spaces and in inclement weather conditions
- Computer competency. Emphasis on Microsoft Word and Excel. Scada familiarity an asset
- Any trade experience or post secondary education is an asset
- Flexibility to work some weekends and holidays
- Comfortable handling chemicals

Training will be provided to obtain water plant operator certification.

Interested applicants should forward their resume to [water@pvwc.ca](mailto:water@pvwc.ca) by 4 pm, April 28th, 2023, or call 204-324-1931 for more information.

## COMING EVENTS

# CARMAN GUN SHOW

**Date:**  
**April 22, 2023**

**Time:**  
**9AM to 3PM**

**Place:**  
**Carman Hall**  
**\$7 ADMISSION**

## COMING EVENTS



Support families in Malawi, Africa

12 PM Lunch by order  
 & 4:30 - 7 PM Drive-Thru Supper  
 Pembina Thresherman's Museum

*by donation*  
 Cheques payable to Well of Plenty  
 memo#1255

For more information visit [wellofplenty.com](http://wellofplenty.com)

To order contact Harry Dalke 204-362-4101 by April 19

**FIND THE RIGHT PERSON FOR THE POSITION with an EMPLOYMENT/ CAREERS AD in**



Call: 204-467-5836 or Email: [ads@winklermordenvoice.ca](mailto:ads@winklermordenvoice.ca)

## CAREERS



Border Land School Division invites applicants for a  
**TERM VOCATIONAL ASSISTANT FOR THE RRTVA CARPENTRY PROGRAM**  
 FOR W.C. MILLER COLLEGIATE IN ALTONA, MB

FOR DETAILS VISIT [WWW.BLSD.CA](http://WWW.BLSD.CA)

## SALES CAREER OPPORTUNITY

**Big and Colourful Printing & Publishing** is looking for a dynamic, highly motivated person to become part of our advertising sales team in the Interlake area.

The successful candidate will thrive in a fast paced sales environment where a competitive nature, strong work ethic and excellent customer service skills are required and rewarded.

This opportunity involves building relationships and representing our newspapers to new and existing customers.

Qualifications: The successful candidate must be professional, dependable, energetic, goal-oriented, self-starter, can work within deadlines, well organized and friendly.

Customer service, sales experience and passion is a must.

- Strong computer skills, including Microsoft Office
- Excellent communication skills and a genuine love of people
- Willingness to learn
- Ability to work independently

If you fit this description please email resume to [Bigandcolourful@mts.net](mailto:Bigandcolourful@mts.net)





COMING EVENTS

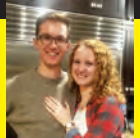
WHERE DID ALL THE MONEY GO?

ANNUAL FUNDRAISER PLANT & BAKE SALE

Come hear Pastor Thomson from Kenya talk about how God has provided for his family & community through your participation in our annual Garage/Plant sales. You will be inspired! Let's praise Jesus together!



7 PM, April 28th, Emmaus Church, 960 Pembina Avenue, Winkler Coffee & Snacks Provided



P&W with Will & Gabby



hopewithoutlimits@gmail.com 204-362-8371

DEVOTION

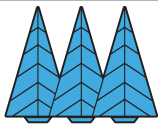
Devotion

If you do not know Jesus before you die, Heaven will not be your home.



EMPLOYMENT

Aubin Nurseries Ltd.



Require enthusiastic people to work in various areas of nursery production both full and part time with flexible hours starting approx. March 2023. Wage depends on experience with opportunity for advancement. Training can be provided.

Please forward resume to cyndie@aubinnurseries.ca or call 204-745-6703.

Classifieds

Book Your Classified Ad Today - Call 467-5836 or Email ads@winklermordenvoice.ca



SENIOR RENTALS

Garden Park Estates has one suite available.

1 bdrm with a den, 1085 sq. ft. 1 1/2 bath. Open spacious floor plan, in suite laundry hook ups, indoor heated garage parking available, and more. Email Cindy at cindyek@mts.net or call 204-362-7151 for more information.

SENIOR RENTALS

OAK WEST ESTATES HAS 1 SUITE AVAILABLE.

Oak West has one suite available. 1240 sq. ft. 1 bdrm with a den, 2 bath and a walk-in closet. Open spacious floor plan. Heated garage available. Call Cindy at 204-362-7151 or email: cindy@jacobmanagement.com for more information.

take a break > GAMES

SUDOKU

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

Fun By The Numbers

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

Level: Intermediate

Here's How It Works:

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

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

Sudoku Answer

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

Crossword Answer

CROSSWORD

CLUES ACROSS

- Dylan and Marley are two
  - Makes healthy
  - The Who's "O'Riley"
  - Side sheltered from wind
  - Flat-bottomed sailboats
  - Egyptian supreme god
  - Advice
  - Mass of small, loose stones
  - Online learning services provider
  - "Lords" in Northwest Semitic languages
  - Of she
  - A place to relax
  - Critical and mocking
  - Consumed
  - You get one in summer
  - Bath
  - Luxury automaker
  - Spiders spin one
  - Guy (slang)
  - Greek personification of Earth
  - Large instruments
  - Domestic cattle genus
  - Appetizer
  - Oil group
  - Where to put groceries
  - Speak incessantly
  - Popular color
  - A place to sleep
  - Make fun of
  - Former CIA
  - Salts
  - Bleated
  - Never sleeps
  - Sword
  - Water (Spanish)
  - Cyprinids
  - "Dark Knight" actor Christian
  - Fictional demon
  - Old World lizard
  - The content of cognition
  - Makes a mistake
  - A way to make wet
  - Tide
- CLUES DOWN
- One-liner

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
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- Evergreen genus
- College in Rome
- Prevents from seeing
- Cycles/second
- Mischievous child
- Less common
- Honorably retired
- Midway between south and southeast
- A confusion of voices and other sounds
- Bony fish genus
- Type of pear
- Egyptian cross
- Satisfies
- Founder of Babism
- Bar bill
- Chicago ballplayer
- Performer
- Hairpiece
- Partner to flowed
- Aircraft formation
- You have 3 per day
- Goes into
- College athletic organization
- Wet, muddy ground
- Talk
- Witty conversation
- Gurus
- "French Price of \_\_\_ Air"
- Sports equipment
- Try to get
- Flower cluster
- Sea dwellers
- Palmlike subtropical plant
- Polio vaccine developer
- Baseball's Ruth
- Gelatinous substance
- Hungarian violinist Leopold
- Offered
- Ancient Greek City
- A way to derive
- Touch lightly
- Witnessed



**PUBLIC NOTICE**

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING UNDER THE PLANNING ACT

The City of Winkler, under the authority of The Planning Act, will hold a hearing at which time and place the council of the City of Winkler will receive representation from the applicants and any other persons who wish to make representations in respect of the Rezoning Application No. RZ2023-003 and By-law No. 2300-23, being an amendment to Winkler Zoning By-law 2271-21 of the City of Winkler.

The general intent of the above By-Law No. 2300-23, is to zone the land described below,  
Namely:

**224 Victoria St, legally described as Lot 10, Block 1, Plan 30045 MLTO.**

as shown outlined in a heavy solid line on the map attached hereto as Schedule "A", and forming part of this by-law, be rezoned

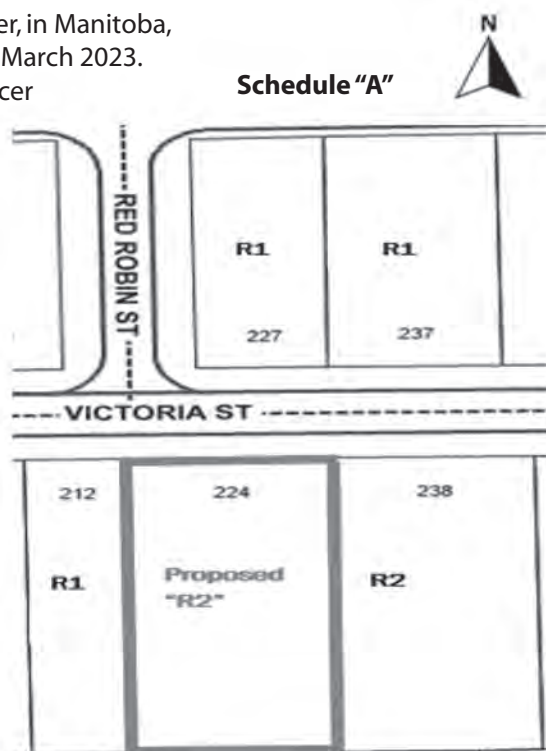
FROM: "R1" DEVELOPMENT RESERVE

TO: "R2" RESIDENTIAL MEDIUM DENSITY

A copy of the above By-Law No. 2300-23 and supporting material may be inspected by any persons between the hours of 9:00 AM and 5:00 PM, Monday to Thursday and 9:00 AM and 4:30 PM, Friday, in the City Office.

**Date of Hearing:** May 9, 2023  
**Time of Hearing:** 6:30 p.m.  
**Location:** Winkler Council Chambers,  
185 Main Street, Winkler, Manitoba

DATED at Winkler, in Manitoba,  
this 29th day of March 2023.  
Designated Officer  
City of Winkler



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**OBITUARY**

### Elma Nickel (nee Unrau) 1930 – 2023



Peacefully, Elma Nickel passed away on Monday, April 10, 2023 at the Boundary Trails Health Centre.

Elma was born on June 21, 1930 in Winnipeg, MB. She grew up in the Rosenheim district at the homestead of her parents, the Reverend Jacob A. and Anna Unrau. She enjoyed her years at the Rosenheim School until she was needed at home for caregiving and other duties. Mom spoke fondly of her work experience at the Boise Cannery in St. Catherines, Ontario 1949/50. Once back home in the same year a special relationship began with a young man who would be her husband for 50 years. Elma married Henry Nickel of Weidenfeld in October of 1950. For most of their years together they lived on a small farm south of Plum Coulee where they raised six children. Once we children were grown, Mom felt she had more caring to give and so began work in homecare. She acquired a Red River College certificate to support this 15 year career. Elma was strong in spirit, tackling life with courage, sensibility, efficiency and forever strove for a higher standard. Her resourcefulness and creativity were expressed through her sewing, gardening, canning, baking and all forms of needle work. Elma had a sharp sense of humour enjoyed by all who knew her. When that sparkle appeared in those round brown eyes a good anecdote was sure to follow. She enjoyed adventures such as fishing, berry picking, sports. Mom was an avid Toronto Blue Jays fan and could talk baseball with the best of them. Elma joyfully engaged in mission work with a special love for the Grimsby Sewing Circle. Later when she moved to Winkler, she became involved with the Mennonite Central Committee Thrift Store and for as long as she was physically able contributed mounds of hand made crafts to the Christmas Shoe Box and other projects.

Elma was deeply committed to her faith which clearly guided her throughout her life journey. In June of 1950 she was baptized and became a member of the Sommerfeld Church, attending the Plum Coulee Sommerfeld Church during their years on the farm. After Dad's passing Mom moved to Winkler where she attended the Sommerfeld Church for as long as she was physically able and then very much enjoyed the church services at the Buhler Centre. Elma was a wonderful mother, with a wisdom to nurture each of her children according to their individual natures. Mom would say she had six different ways of parenting her six children. She deeply loved each grandchild and great-grandchild, making this evident through the stories she proudly told and retold about them. She was entirely devoted to her family and friends.

Elma will be greatly missed and lovingly remembered by her children: Judy Nickel, Irene and Rob Patterson, Janet and Harold Pauls, Grace Nickel and Michael Zajac, Robert Nickel, Jim Nickel and Candice McDiarmid; her grandchildren: Angela and Nathan Gerbrandt, Julia and Brad Minnis, Richard and Mandi Pauls, John Patterson and Rachael Thorleifson, Jeffrey Pauls, Joseph Nickel; and great-grandchildren: Taylor and Lauren Minnis, Zachary, James and Riley Gerbrandt, Jacob and Cooper Pauls.

Elma was predeceased by her husband, Henry Nickel; her parents, Reverend Jacob A. and Anna Unrau (Kehler); her stepmother, Katharina Unrau (Tina Penner); brother, Peter Unrau. Also, Elma leaves to mourn sisters-in-law, Helen Wiebe and Kathy Loewen, brother-in-law, John Wiebe and dear nieces and nephews.

Funeral service was held at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 15, 2023 at the Winkler Sommerfeld Mennonite Church with interment at the Weidenfeld Cemetery.

The family thanks Dr. Miller, Dr. Lane and the Boundary Trails Health Centre nursing team, the palliative care team both in hospital and at home, the first responders and homecare. All have been splendid in supporting us through this difficult journey and we are truly grateful for such quality professionals in southern Manitoba.

Donations in memory of Elma may be made to Boundary Trails Health Centre Foundation designated to the Palliative Care Unit.

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# Altona's Van Gogh may need a paint job

By Lori Penner

Altona's Van Gogh is in need of repair.

Town CAO Dan Gagne says they've noticed some damage on the town landmark recently, which he says is likely due to the weather.

"The paint seems to be coming off the canvas. So, we're getting the artist Cameron Cross to come to town [this] week to survey the damage. My thoughts right now are we're going to do a minor repair this summer and then think about a larger project to get it replaced either next year or the year after."

Gagne says it may have to be completely re-painted.

"That's something Altona council will have to decide. How extensively they want to do this."

Cross created the giant replica of Vincent Van Gogh's *Sunflowers* on the 76-foot tall easel in 1998 in recognition of Altona as the Sunflower Capital of Canada.

Van Gogh painted a series of seven paintings depicting sunflowers which feature his unique style of abundant light, colours, and thick, short brush strokes. He saw the flower as a symbol of life and hope.

Cross, who was an art teacher at W.C. Miller Collegiate at the time, developed the vision of a giant steel easel as a town landmark.

Upon its completion, Cross continued to pursue his dream of erecting seven giant Van Gogh sunflower paintings around the world. To date, the one in Altona has sister paintings in Kansas and Australia.

After initially being erected near the Millennium Exhibition Centre, the painting was moved to where it is today along Altona's trail system, near the Memory Garden.

It has attracted thousands of tourists to the community over the last 25 years, but just wasn't meant to endure the harsh Manitoba weather.

Parts of the painting needed to be repainted several years after its installation. Then, in 2017, it was taken down and completely refurbished by the artist before being re-erected.

At that time, the contract indicated it would be five years before another repair would be in order.

"It had a life expectancy at the onset," Gagne says. "This is year six, so we knew a redo was coming. Cameron thinks it's the way the painting was originally finished. It wasn't watertight, so the plywood base might just be rotting in some spots. There's a lifting as a result. He says they should have sealed the wood canvas before they applied the paint. He's done several of these, but in places where the weather is not quite as tough as ours."

Gagne believes the latest repair will be a lot less pricey, since not as much crane time will be required.

"The painting was originally welded to the steel easel. The last time, they bolted it down. So now it's just a matter of taking the canvas off, bringing it down to the ground, repairing it, and then lifting it back up. The crane doesn't have to be used as long."

While Cross, who calls Winnipeg home, hasn't



PHOTO BY LORI PENNER/VOICE

Altona's giant Van Gogh painting has sustained some weather damage. The artist and the town are looking at repair options.

seen the damage firsthand yet, he can guess the problem is as Gagne described.

"I've just seen a few photos. I could tell the damage was higher up and it doesn't look like a major repair," he said ahead of visiting the painting to confirm what needs to be done. "It's just a section of the painting. But people have noticed it and we want to curtail any further damage."

## > COMMUNITY GARDENS, FROM PG. 2

"If someone wants to plant a garden, we want them to have every opportunity to do so."

The task force made up of Heppner, Jason Peters, and Stephen Foord approached Altona town council earlier this month requesting permission to expand into the area between the southern edge of the Blue Sky property and the pathway constructed for the foot traffic between the two Blue Sky locations.

Permission was granted to use the space to expand the garden by about 20 plots.

"The value of that garden has surpassed all expectations," notes Mayor Harv Schroeder. "It has grown into a big project and Jack and his crew, along with ACAN [the Altona Community Action Network] have done such a great job of providing that for the town. We're very thankful for the support they're giving the community, and we want to get behind that, because it's just a win-win for everybody."

"About three years ago we lost half a plot width on the west side next to the ditch when they put in a sewer line," Heppner notes. "At that point, we were asked to move back eastward, and just create half plots on that first row. We lost about 12 plots at that point. The town then gave us 12 extra plots to the north."

"But now over the past few years, the ground on the west ditch has healed significantly, so we're reclaiming that ground. That gives us an extra 12 plots, but because of growing demand, that still

doesn't give us enough plots. So we made a request of the town to allow us to use the land south of Blue Sky Opportunities."

The 50 ft. strip of land north of the pathway between the two Blue Sky buildings has already been tilled, so Heppner says it's ready to go.

"In total we'll be expanding the garden by 32 plots. We had 110 last year, and this will give us 142."

All but 12 of the promised lots are already spoken for.

"I just got a request for five, so we'll have seven spots left, but it's still about a month before planting season," says Heppner. "Every couple of days, someone will call. Maybe this year we'll be able to say we have a space for you."

There are likely a few factors causing the increase in demand.

One, Heppner surmises, is simply the fact they have a bigger footprint in the community.

"With the new pavilion complete and the washrooms nearly done, people are more aware of the garden. Everybody is talking about it."

Another factor could be the over 20 Ukrainian families who recently moved to the area.

"Quite a few of them have shown interest. There are all kinds of newcomers here who would love to garden."

The cost of living might also be a motivation.

"Everything has become so expensive. But here, for 20 bucks, you get a 15 ft x 45 ft. plot and every-

thing with it. It's the best deal in Manitoba. You get access to planting tools, water and compost, a tiller and straw, whatever you need. For \$20 you can just garden all summer long."

The garden has become a popular meeting and gathering place for long-time residents and newcomers alike. One third of the 83 families who made use of it last year were newcomers to Altona.

Once the washrooms are complete and the raised accessible garden beds are added, Heppner says he knows demand will grow again.

"The accessible garden should have room for 10 more gardens for people who are in need of a wheelchair or walkers," he notes.

The committee is hopeful that all the additions will be completed by mid-summer. This includes the addition of the accessible garden plots, a paved pathway to the pavilion, the installation of a donated footbridge from the Town of Altona, and an art piece added to the inside of the pavilion.

"The art piece is something we're really excited about," Heppner says. "James Friesen, who designed and built the pavilion, will be creating a sunburst mural that will be really eye-catching."

The plan is to hold a grand opening for the site sometime in August.

For information about getting a garden plot, call Heppner at 204-304-0656.





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Owner Steven Kiansky says there are many advantages to aerial spraying versus ground spraying.

"It allows us to put the application down without damage to the crop, and without spreading disease from field to field. We get it done in a timely manner to get the best effect of the product."

Southeast Air Services Ltd. uses state-of-the-art equipment and techniques to ensure that farmers get the most effective crop protection services. With a seasonal staff of six pilots, six ground crew staff, and five airplanes, they cover a lot of ground quickly.

"You can go all day with a ground sprayer and spread maybe 600 or 700 acres," says Kiansky. "With our fleet on our best days, we can cover 12,000 to 15,000 acres in the same amount of time."

Their fleet includes three turbine and two piston aircraft. These aircraft are highly specialized and can carry up to 800 gallons of crop protection product, providing an incredibly efficient way to plant and protect crops.

All their pilots are commercially licensed, have years of experience, and undergo regular professional training.

The business began with a dream. Kiansky learned to fly at 15, purchased his first plane at 19, and launched Southeast Air Services out of the family farm in 1991. The company relocated to Altona four years later.

Since then it has grown into a successful family business operating out of Altona and Deloraine and serving 130 producers across southern and eastern Manitoba.

The company works with producers throughout the crop year, from planting to early growth to pre-harvest, offering herbicide, pesticide, and fungicide applications. "It's really all about tim-



*Southeast Air Services Ltd. owner Steven Kiansky prides himself on helping producers protect their livelihood with timely aerial crop spraying.*

ing, and that's where we come in," Kiansky says. "A lot of the fungicide applications, for example, have to happen in three days. If you do it after that, you don't get the same effect. They can lose 30 per cent of the crop if they don't get it done fast, and that's huge with commodity prices the way they are now."

Southeast Air Services take pride in their work and in their relationship with clients.

"The growers come to trust you because that's their income on that field. That is everything they're working for," says Kiansky. "They know we care. And after working with us for three decades, they know we have a reputation they can trust."

While specializing in aerial seeding and aerial spraying, Southeast Air Services also provides pipeline surveillance, aerial patrol, line patrols, photography, and reconnaissance.

For more information, call 204-324-1300 or head to southeastairservices.ca



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