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The *Altona Rhineland* Voice

VOLUME 1 EDITION 25

THURSDAY,
AUGUST 18, 2022

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Altona Library on the move

PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Volunteers from Sun Valley Co-op joined staff from the Altona Library last week to help move dozens of book shelves and hundreds of boxes of books from the old library location in Golden West Plaza down the street to their new home in the Altona Mall. While the pallets of books were ferried to the new space with a forklift, the shelves were literally dragged over using manpower and special dollies. For the full story, see Pg. 2.

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Altona library moves into larger space in the mall

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Packing up and moving an entire library is no small feat, but with the help of the community the South Central Regional Library's Altona branch did just that last week.

The library moved from its old location in Golden West Plaza across and down the street to its new space in the Altona Mall.

It involved moving hundreds of boxes of books and dozens of shelves, the latter of which were literally rolled down the road by volunteers pulling dollies by hand.

"Everybody seems to want to be part of it," said SCRL director Cathy Ching as volunteers from Sun Valley Co-op were lending the library a hand with the move last Thursday. "We appreciate the help."

The new library is nearly 1,000 square feet larger than the old, with a much more open layout and an entire wall of towering windows for lots of natural light.

It's coming full circle, in a way, for

the branch, which started out in the mall in the late '80s before moving to its location in Golden West Plaza in 1999.

Being back in the mall is a boon for the library, as it offers a much more accessible space and an easier-to-find location, Ching said.

"The mall, with the foyer there, it's so much more open. In the wintertime we can do programming right out there," she said. "It's going to be busy all the time."

Fundraising for the necessary renovations has been an unqualified success.

"We've fundraised close to \$425,000," Ching said, thanking the many private and corporate donors who stepped up in spades to support this project.

"Businesses in the community have been huge supporters. I can't say enough about them," she said, thanking as well the Town of Altona and the mall management for their continued support and help. "It's just really been a team effort."



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Library staff and community volunteers moved the SCRL Altona branch's collection from its old location to its new home in the Altona Mall last week.

Branch staff have kept pretty busy in recent weeks preparing for the move, and will continue working hard to get the space ready for patrons by early September.

Library clerk Julie Janz, who has been with the branch for 17 years, says everyone there is beyond excited to get the new library up and running.

"We've been building up to this for awhile and just knowing that that space is going to be the way that we've envisioned it to be" is pretty amazing, she said, explaining they had the opportunity to help design the layout. "We've pored over those plans as a team, studied blueprints, and talked about exactly the way we wanted it to be and what's best for our patrons."

That was always our focus.

"I'm super excited about that for them [the patrons]," Janz said, adding that in the past some residents didn't even know where the library was located. This new location will change that. "We're going to be very visible and very functional."

The branch had over 6,400 material loans in July alone. Year-to-date the number is over 29,000, which already surpasses 2021's usage stats. Those are numbers Janz expects will only grow moving forward.

"We're expecting to be much busier once we get into the mall."

An official grand opening celebration for the library is planned for sometime in fall.



PHOTOS BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Above: The new library has lots of natural light and a more open floor plan. Right: Jess Martens at work installing the tree sculpture in the kid's area.



Do you want to be a member of the Town of Altona Council?

The next Municipal Election will be held in Altona on October 26, 2022. If you are interested in running for the position of Mayor or Councillor, and want to learn more before making your decision, the Town of Altona will be holding an information session on topics like: responsibilities, legislation and terminology, time commitment, compensation, and campaign rules, and more.

Sept 7, 2022 | 7:00 pm
Rhineland Pioneer Centre

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Altona

Province provides funding for local police

By Lorne Stelmach

Policing in the region is getting another financial boost through the provincial program that puts proceeds from crime to good use.

Justice Minister Kelvin Goertzen and Morden-Winkler MLA Cameron Friesen were in Morden last Thursday to announce grants through the Criminal Property Forfeiture Fund.

The Winkler, Morden, and Altona police services jointly received just under \$5,900 for negotiator training at the Canadian police college, while the Morden department received about \$2,000 towards training related to de-escalation techniques.

Both are specialized services that are becoming increasingly important tools for the region's police services, suggested Morden Chief Brad Neduzak.

"Especially in a smaller service, funding is so important for us to be able to initiate programs and training and equipment," he said.

"Our specialized programs are so critical to have in our area ... it's so important for them to be right here so that we have access to them in a crisis situation," said Neduzak. "A lot of these programs may not be where they are today or maybe may not have even existed if it wasn't for the

help and funding.

"It's a great program, and we hope it continues."

Cash and proceeds from the sale of forfeited property are deposited into the Criminal Property Forfeiture Fund, and these funds are then used for four key areas:

- to compensate victims of the unlawful activity that led to the forfeiture of the property;
- to provide funding to victim services;
- to promote safer communities by investing in specialized equipment and training for law enforcement agencies
- to promote safer communities by providing funding to law enforcement agencies for community initiatives.

Goertzen stressed how the program can be flexible and adaptable to meet the varying needs faced by police services in the province.

"We hear a lot about public safety as being an issue, a growing issue, right across Manitoba," he said. "Sometimes, the nature of the concerns is different, so it might be more property crime in rural communities as opposed to maybe violent crime in the City of Winnipeg, but still the issue

Continued on page 5



Justice Minister Kelvin Goertzen was in Morden last week to announce funding for local police.

PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE



STAY SAFE THIS HARVEST SEASON

It is that time of year when crops and other vegetation can cause visibility issues and the farm equipment is out.

Have a conversation with your loved ones about road safety:

- Look twice before entering an intersection
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Kids learn to make bannock for World Indigenous Day

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The mouth-watering smell of freshly made bread filled the halls of the Grace Mennonite Church in Winkler Aug. 9.

Every Tuesday for the last several weeks, participants in Regional Connections summer programming for newcomer children (run by its Settlement Workers in Schools program) have spent the day learning about and cooking culinary treats from around the world.

Last week the day fell on World Indigenous Day and so bannock was on the menu.

Volunteers Taylor Hildebrand and Geraldine Delorme shared a bit of their Métis heritage with the kids as they guided them in making the traditional Indigenous bread.

“Every region has its own Indigenous people and I think it’s important when you come to a region to learn and educate yourself and others about how the Indigenous people in that region have contributed and are contributing to the lives of Manitobans and Canadians every day,” said Hildebrand. “Today we’re doing that through making bannock with the kids.”



PHOTOS BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Participants in the Settlement Workers in Schools program’s summer day camp last week learned how to make bannock in honour of World Indigenous Day Aug. 9. Left: Raymie Li and Jenna Cheung chow down on their handiwork.

The kids were whizzes in the kitchen, Delorme said, and certainly enjoyed chowing down on their efforts afterwards.

“It’s actually a very easy bread to make,” she noted. “And there’s so many different things that you can do with bannock—bannock burgers, hot dogs, pizza, dessert, even. It’s very versatile.”

Participant Joshua Adeniji was buttering up his bannock hot out of the oven and eager to give it a taste.

He said he enjoyed learning how to make it (though, he noted, it was

“pretty messy”) and has also enjoyed all the other various camp outings and activities this summer.

“It’s been fun,” he said, adding that he’s hard-pressed to pick a favourite activity but encourages other kids to check out what the camp has to offer next summer.

The SWIS program has kept kids busy with arts and crafts, science experiments, trips to the Winkler pool, bowling alley, and fire hall, and out-of-town visits to local farms and into Winnipeg to check out the Manitoba Museum.

The summer wraps up this week with a wind-up celebration at Lake Minnewasta.

“It’s been very busy, but very rewarding,” said organizer Aubrey Krahn, noting they have had up to two dozen kids a day some sessions. “We couldn’t do this without the community and our volunteers.

“We have seen a really big number of refugee families coming from Ukraine,” she added, pointing out it’s been a great way for our community’s newest members to meet other immigrant children and get to know the area a little more.

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“IT’S BEEN VERY BUSY, BUT VERY REWARDING. WE COULDN’T DO THIS WITHOUT THE COMMUNITY AND OUR VOLUNTEERS.”

Morden-Winkler DQs take part in Miracle Treat Day

By Lorne Stelmach

The local Dairy Queen restaurants both did their part last week to contribute to the Miracle Treat Day fundraiser.

Across Canada, people were encouraged to go out and buy a Blizzard treat last Thursday, with net proceeds from every one sold at participating DQ locations donated to local children's hospital foundations.

The annual tradition of making miracles happen for children and their families saw the Winkler location sell 600 Blizzards and contribute over \$3,500 while the Morden restaurant

sold 480 and will donate about \$2,600.

"We've been doing it for about 20 years, and it's been a great success for us," said Ben Rempel, Winkler restaurant manager.

It was extra special this time for the 20th year with the business being free from pandemic restrictions, he noted.

"It has not been the same for the past two years as it is now to have people in person, so what a difference," said Rempel.

"We still tried to do something smaller when the restaurants were half closed ... now this feels good to have the full support," he said. "There's lots of large businesses doing large

orders, treating their staff.

"We were going to go for around a thousand Blizzards today ... weren't sure if we could get close to that," Rempel said. "A hundred per cent from our store goes to Miracle Treat Day. We are allowed to hold back our food costs, but our store donates that in as well.

"It's a fantastic program," he added. "There can be local kids who are benefiting from this Miracle Treat Day."

Fund raised in Manitoba stay in

Manitoba. As a result, Morden-Winkler donations support the Children's Hospital Foundation of Manitoba, one of 12 Children's Miracle Network hospital foundations across Canada, and children being treated at the Health Sciences Centre children's hospital in Winnipeg.

Since the partnership began 38 years ago in 1984, DQ has become a top contributor to the Children's Miracle Network, with over \$46 million raised to date.



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Winkler Dairy Queen owner Ben Rempel and staff during Miracle Treat Day last week. The Winkler and Morden Dairy Queens together raised over \$6,000 for the Children's Hospital Foundation of Manitoba.



Pork producers celebrate Manitoba teachers

As part of Manitoba's Best Teacher contest hosted by Manitoba Pork, parents, guardians, students, staff, and others shared inspiring stories of teachers who have gone above and beyond to make a great impact on the lives of students and their communities during the 2021-2022 school year. This year's contest brought in 220 nominations from across the province, telling stories of mentorship, philanthropy, and incredible dedication to both the teaching profession and to students.

Manitoba Pork awarded five grand prizes to teachers across the province, consisting of a \$750 VISA gift card to be used for their classroom, as well as a catered pork-based lunch for the teachers and staff of the winning schools. Five additional teachers received \$250 VISA gift cards to put towards improving their schools.

Thank you, Manitoba teachers, for all your hard work. You play a significant role in students' lives that extends far beyond test scores.

To learn more, visit manitobapork.com/teacher

SPONSORED CONTENT

> POLICE FUNDING, FROM PG. 3

of public safety is absolutely top of mind for Manitobans.

"There is a regional approach we like to take as well," he added. "That sort of regional approach is really important, but also remembering then that each individual communities can identify the needs that are most important and most impactful to them."

"This has been an incredible program that has really added value in southern Manitoba," noted Friesen. "It essentially takes proceeds of crime and then seizes assets and monetizes them and reinvests those amounts to increase policing."

He praised the program for helping to make it possible for police services like those here in this re-

gion to continue to grow and diversify with the services that they can provide here.

"Policing looks a lot different today than it did 20 and 30 years ago. There are so many specialized functions in which officers perform their role, and they need equipment, and they need the tools and resources to do that, and that is exactly what this program does," said Friesen.

"The regional approach is essential, and as police forces, Morden and Altona and Winkler are models of how smaller, municipal police forces can work together to lever opportunities, to develop capacity and expertise that they wouldn't have invested simply in their own force."



Love Well trek raises \$8k

The Love Well Women's Drop-in Centre's Good Double Blessing trek proved a huge success last weekend, with over 100 people taking part and \$8,000 (and counting) in donations raised to be split between the Altona drop-in centre and the work of the Hijos de Dios Community Centre in Guatemala. Participants set out on foot or bike from Gretna Saturday morning to travel to Altona via the TransCanada Trail. Upon arrival they enjoyed lunch and live music at the centre.

PHOTOS BY EDWARD VINCENT ARCENAL/VOICE

Altona council okays tax incentive for multi-family housing projects

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Altona town council gave the green light last week to a new tax incentive it hopes will help see more multi-family residential buildings go up in the community.

Council approved a bylaw to establish the Multi-Family Residential Tax Assistance Grant Program.

Under the program, any increase in municipal taxes associated with eligible new construction would be covered for two years following the year the building is occupied.

So, for example, if a new apartment building valued at \$2.75 million would otherwise see its municipal taxes go up (due to a mill rate increase of two per cent) from \$18,261 in

2022 to \$18,630 in 2023, the incentive would be for that \$369 difference.

Assuming another two per cent mill rate in 2024, the incentive on such a property in the second year would be worth \$738.

It's not a huge chunk of change in the grand scheme of things, but Mayor Al Friesen notes every little bit helps as developers cope with increasingly ris-

ing construction costs.

"Town council and administration on a regular basis explore ways to work with developers and one of the things current developers are dealing with is unpredictably in costs—they're rising," he said. "This perhaps addresses some of that in a tangible way."

From the community's standpoint, Friesen noted they're always "looking for ways to encourage densification" on some suitable vacant properties around town.

"This particular program is geared for some specific areas of the community to address some of the infill opportunities [that exist] and perhaps encourage people to look at them in a more positive way."

Properties eligible for this tax incentive are multi-family residential buildings containing more than four dwelling units that are classified as Residential 2 as per the Manitoba Municipal Assessment Act. Condominium buildings are not eligible.

"As a community you look at areas that are potentially underserved," Friesen noted on that last point. "This would hopefully encourage those who are considering a rental option as opposed to condominiums, which



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Continued on page 7

Retiring CEO looks back with pride on Salem staff's accomplishments

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Salem Home's Sherry Janzen closes the book on 25 years with the Winkler personal care home later this month.

Janzen's retirement as CEO comes after two stints in Salem's top role, including seven years in the '90s and 18 years since returning to the job in 2004.

"I decided it was time," she said, pointing to her mother's impending 90th birthday and a desire to be able to spend more time with her.

The desire to be able to travel back home to Saskatchewan more (if not eventually move there) has been on her mind for awhile, Janzen noted, but the pandemic chaos of the past few years had her putting it off.

"I told the leadership group I would stay as long as we were in the thick of the pandemic," she said. "Now I think we've kind of settled into it and we have an equilibrium in the building—if we would go into an outbreak, people know what to do."

Janzen looks back on her time with Salem with pride at how far they've come in providing care for residents.

Over the past decade or so they've shifted to what's known as relationship-centred care, which prioritizes giving residents more choice and finding ways to give staff more time to really connect with the people they're caring for.

"I think that has been something to be proud of," Janzen said. "I'm incredibly proud of the staff and how they do provide care, how they have been able to embrace as much change as we have gone through the last 18 years."

Changing policies and practices are never an easy thing to deal with, she observed, but the end results are seen every day in happier residents and a more homelike feel to the facility as a whole.

There have also been no shortage of capital projects during Janzen's tenure at Salem (the addition of a dining room and a multi-purpose/meeting room, renovations to the chapel and

Oma's Kitchen, and, more recently, the Cottonwood unit renovations), each coming with their own headaches during the construction phase before the benefits could be realized.

The Salem staff and management teams are always ready to "roll with the punches," Janzen said, and that can-do attitude is something she'll miss.

That, and dreaming of new ways to make the facility better.

"I think what I will miss the most is the leadership group and the brainstorming sessions that we would have about, okay, what can we do next? Where do we need to go?"

Janzen leaves knowing Salem Home's future is in good hands.

Stepping into the CEO role is Karin Oliveira.

Oliveira came on staff at Salem in 2008 as a nurse and has since worked her way up to resident care manager and, two years ago, director of resident services.

That breadth of experience will serve Oliveira well as she takes on this new job, Janzen said.

"It was critical to have somebody who understands what we are building," she said. "To understand why we made some of the decisions that we did."

"To have somebody new come in ... it would be very, very difficult. It would take at least a year of just listening and observing before they could say, okay, now we can move it forward," Janzen said. "Whereas for Karin now, she can hit the ground running."

Though she'll most certainly miss providing hands-on care to residents herself, Oliveira is excited to tackle this new administrative position and to see how Salem can continue to grow and improve in the years ahead.

"I think we're on the right track and I want to continue to build onto what we have been building," she said.

Oliveira noted she'd loved to see the facility play a greater role in the education of the next generation of care workers.

approvals prior to construction, must compete construction by Dec. 31, 2024, and pay all outstanding amounts owed to the Town of Altona (property taxes, etc.).

No application for the program is required, as the incentive will be calculated automatically once the building's assessment is added to the municipal tax roll.



After 25 years with Salem, CEO Sherry Janzen (seated) begins her retirement at the end of the month. Stepping up to fill the role is longtime Salem manager Karin Oliveira.

PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

"Because we want to be leaders in how we provide care—that's part of our vision—I think it would be good if we could have more students coming here, if we could maybe teach courses on how to offer better care or how to save time," she said, noting such courses could be for health care aids,

activity personnel, or kitchen staff in other facilities across Manitoba and beyond, passing along best practices Salem's own team have learned in the shift to relationship-centered care.

"Karin will do well," Janzen observed. "She has a grand vision for Salem."

Investing in Our Communities



Manitoba is investing \$34 million this year in culture and communities through the Arts, Culture and Sport in Community Fund.

This fund supports capital projects, special initiatives and community celebrations - allowing local arts, culture and amateur sport organizations to innovate and respond to emerging community needs, including those that are led by Indigenous, Francophone and ethnocultural communities.

Online funding applications open August 16, 2022. All eligible non-profit organizations are encouraged to apply.

To learn more please call **1-866-626-4862** or visit **Manitoba.ca/ACSC**.



> ALTONA COUNCIL, FROM PG. 6

are being addressed by the current building climate.

"This is just one way to target one specific sector: residents, or potential residents, who are looking for a place to rent and builders who are perhaps looking for areas of opportunity."

In order to receive the incentive, property owners must obtain all necessary permits, agreements, and

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• FAITH FOCUS

Great observations

In recent weeks there has been great enthusiasm over the photos and related information that has been seen through the James Webb Space Telescope. You do not need to be an astronomer to appreciate the incredible richness of the photos that have been shared.

One source notes that the “James Webb Space Telescope is a space telescope designed primarily to conduct infrared astronomy. As the largest optical telescope in space, its greatly improved infrared resolution and sensitivity allows it to view objects too old, distant, or faint for the Hubble Space Telescope.”

The Canadian Space Agency is a partner in this project and the results of the current photos are providing new insights as well as exciting photography.

The writer of Psalm 104 did not have a super telescope to relay to them the details that we can view so easily today. But, that Psalm and others found in the Old Testament do offer very poetic and eloquent descriptions regarding many different aspects of the world that God made.

The author assumes that God is and that God created the world. One Bible translation has a subtitle for the

text “The Lord’s Care over All His Works.” A reading of the Psalm reveals many observations of how the natural aspects of the created world work together on land and at sea for the people who live here and the animals also.

Robert Grant was excited about the knowledge he understood of the incredible way the created world works together. He wrote the hymn “O Worship the King” with a sense of awe about the created world and inspired by Psalm 104.

One original verse (the third) is not found in more recent hymnals. “The earth with its store of wonders untold, Almighty, Thy power hath founded of old, Hath established it fast by a changeless decree, And round it hath cast, like a mantle, the sea.”

We may not personally have giant telescopes to explore the world beyond. We can leave that to the specialists. Remember that God has given us eyes and ears to see and observe how the created world can work in harmony—for the common needs that we all

have.

As we spend time outdoors we can look and listen to see what the writer of Psalm 104 was describing. Instead of looking at screens to be told what

the world looks like today why not take time every day to intentionally look and listen to see the world unfolding in minute and miraculous ways just as God made it to be.

During an evening walk my wife and I spotted a very young rabbit foraging on a nearby yard. We stopped to watch

and even took a picture. A short distance later we spotted another young rabbit exploring their corner of the world. You cannot schedule these moments. You need to make yourself available to discover the delight of the world God has made.

Randy Smart has been a pastor in Southern Manitoba since 1979.

“MAKE YOURSELF AVAILABLE TO DISCOVER THE DELIGHT OF THE WORLD GOD HAS MADE.”

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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getinformed

Local pilot sees his dream take flight

By Lorne Stelmach

It started as a dream for a kid who wanted to fly.

Ryan Neufeld has now not only made that dream come true but has also built his own award-winning airplane.

Neufeld recently flew his plane to the Experimental Aircraft Association annual AirVenture fly-in at Oshkosh, Wisconsin, where a record-setting 650,000 people gathered to celebrate all things aviation and check out the thousands of planes that flew in for the show.

He had not planned to enter his airplane in the competition, but he was encouraged to do so and he came away with the reserve grand champion Silver Lindy Award, named for aviation pioneer Charles Lindbergh.

"It wasn't actually my intent. I had just built it to have fun and to be able to fly my own airplane ... but the judges of my particular category said, 'Would you be interested in letting us judge your plane?'" said Neufeld.

"It just made the experience that much more

special ... it's kind of the grand finale; if you build an airplane, you should fly it to Oshkosh because that's where all the other airplane lovers are."

It was the culmination of a dream that started about 15 years ago for Neufeld, who is part of the Morden Flying Club. He got the flying bug as a teenager and later on obtained his private license over three months at Mountain City Aviation in 2011.

He traces his passion for flying back to an uncle who had a small plane and would take him for rides as a kid.

"Flying is my passion ... and I always wanted to do it myself," Neufeld said.

The idea of building his own plane came about when he was 24 and found himself laid up in hospital after knee surgery.

"I actually started building this air-

plane before I even had a licence," recalled Neufeld. "While I was in hospital, I was given a kitplanes magazine, and I found a picture of this little biplane, and I thought that would be fun to build.

"Most people don't even know now that you can build your own airplane," he noted, recalling how he realized it was possible to be done with regular tools and equipment.

Neufeld came upon the kit that would become his red biplane—a Murphy Renegade kit plane designed by Canadian Darryl Murphy—about a year later when he was 25

"It kind of has an interesting story," Neufeld shared. "It ended up being a guy east of Winnipeg. He had bought this kit, I think, in about 1994 ... he

bought in when he was living in Georgia, but he ended up sailing the Caribbean for 10 years, and he never touched the airplane kit.

"After he was done sailing the ocean ... he met a woman from Winnipeg who ran an Irish dance school. So that's how he came to Canada."

Neufeld approached his father Rod about helping him with it and convinced him this was something they could do together.

Construction started in 2007, and it took over 2,200 hours of work before the plane was completed in 2020.

"It only first flew in 2020, so it was 13 years later from when we started ... but it was pretty much, when the kids were young, I would put them to bed at nine and I would work from nine until midnight and do it again the next day. You had to do two to three hours a day to really get anywhere."

Neufeld gives a lot of credit to the local aviation community for all of their support and assistance along the way.

"There's actually quite an aircraft building community out there in the world, and a lot of people do this ...



PHOTOS BY RICK HIEBERT/VOICE

Ryan Neufeld recently flew the plane he built to the Experimental Aircraft Association annual AirVenture fly-in in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, where he won the reserve grand champion Silver Lindy Award.



there's a bunch of guys actually in Morden and Winkler who have done the same thing.

"There's lots and lots of guys who have helped out with their expertise," Neufeld said. "Some guys have even welded parts for me, and they've given me a lot of guidance on what to use and what not to use ... so a big shout out to all of the flying community who have helped me out along the way."

The next step then of course was for the airplane to pass the inspections before being granted a certificate of airworthiness. That was a special moment for Neufeld.

"You stare at all these parts in the garage for so long, and then it's all come together ... and it actually worked," he said, explaining he had a local pilot do the test flight

Today he's flying the plane himself. "I now have just over a hundred hours I've flown the plane now, and everything has worked well," Neufeld said, noting he flew as much as he could to practice and become proficient in the plane's operation before he contemplated going to Air-

Venture.

Once he decided to make the 514 nautical mile trip, there were a lot of preparations to tackle, including planning for the border crossing, routing, weather and fuel. He arrived safely on the second day of the week-long show after 18 hours of flying time.

"It's not designed for long distances," Neufeld said of the aircraft, explaining the open cockpit meant he needed to pretty much have perfect weather and allow plenty of time for the trip. "I had an extra fuel tank. I made some provisions to increase my range from two hours to four hours."

Neufeld is now looking forward to simply having more time to enjoy his plane. If you see a red biplane soaring over local skies, it's likely him doing just that.

"I probably don't plan on building another one in the future because it just takes incredibly so much time and energy," he said. "I still just enjoy flying the plane. It's piles of fun, and I just want to continue doing that as much as I can."

Incubator mall helps Winkler start-ups thrive

By Ashleigh Viveiros

A unique Winkler business is growing and thriving thanks in part to the help it got from the Winkler Incubator Mall.

Stag & Finch this summer moved out of its space in the George Ave. facility in favour of its own building in the east industrial park.

The business, which creates and cuts its own gemstones for its custom-made jewelry pieces, got its start as a home-based operation in 2016.

Owner Bryan Wiebe, who runs the business alongside wife Melanie, had dipped his toes into the hobby of gemstone cutting a few years earlier and quickly fell in love with it.

"I 100 per cent just started doing stuff I wanted to do and was just doing it for fun," he recalls, explaining he started out honing his cutting skills with basic tools and cheap stones. "What ended up happening was my tastes started to get

more and more expensive, and I was starting to invest more of our money into this hobby. So I decided at some point that maybe I should try to sell one or two of these to at least support the hobby, because I can't have thousands of dollars in these raw stones at home for no reason."

He began selling his creations online, first on Etsy and later on a website designed by Melanie, who soon got involved with stone cutting herself.

The pair eventually decided to leave their full-time jobs behind and tackle this new venture in earnest.

As their sales grew, it became clear

it was time to take things to the next level.

"I was working in the office in my home, crammed in there with everything, hand cutting," recalls Wiebe.

They started looking for viable spaces outside the home and stumbled across the Winkler Incubator Mall—a place they hadn't even been aware existed.

"My dad pointed it out to me," Wiebe says. "What we liked about it was that the amount of space available to us, the freedom to do what we wanted to do there, and of course the affordability of it."

Mark Sawatzky, business development and immigration officer for the Winkler-Stanley Economic Development Corporation, says offering start-up businesses a supportive and affordable space in which to grow is what the incubator mall is all about.

"We want to help businesses that are going to grow in the community," he says.

The mall operates with a graduated lease system that gives tenants a bit of breathing room in the early years and then increases a little bit annually.

In year one, a business would pay just under \$600 a month (a fraction of the rates seen in most commercial buildings in the area). By year five, their last year in the mall, they'd be paying a little over \$1,000 a month.

"The whole idea is we have to get the market rent closer to what they're going to have to pay somewhere else, because that helps you develop your business for growth," Sawatzky explains. "You often need that affordability at the start."

"WE WANT TO HELP BUSINESS THAT ARE GOING TO GROW IN THE COMMUNITY."



The Winkler Incubator Mall on George Ave. offers businesses a supportive, affordable place to get started in the community.

PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Stag & Finch's Bryan Wiebe with the gemstones he cuts for the company's custom jewelry.

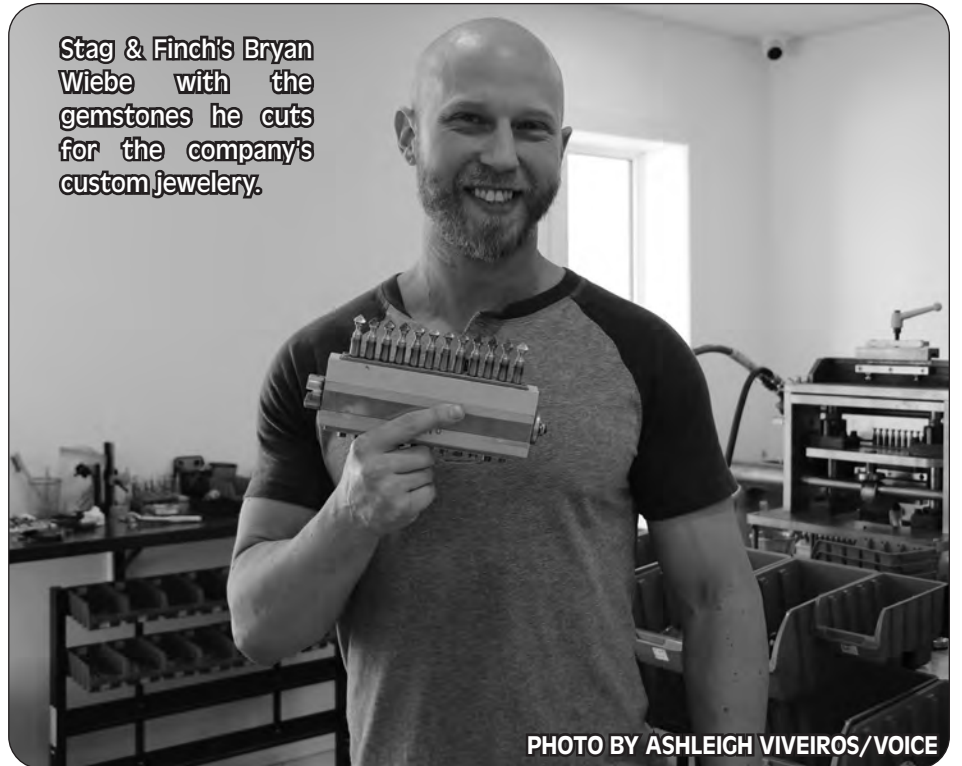


PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Five years is the maximum lease period, but business aren't locked into staying for that length of time. Stag

& Finch, for example, were ready to move on after just one year.

Continued on page 11

"We're the only ones in North America"

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Stag & Finch not only create custom jewelry but are also making their own synthetic gemstones from scratch.

Owner Bryan Wiebe says that while they do use some natural stones dug out of the earth in the traditional way, upwards of 90 per cent of their pieces use lab-crafted stones they made themselves.

"We create our own gemstones here, which is very unique. No one else does this—I think we're the only ones in North America," he says, noting other jewelry companies ship synthetic stones in from overseas.

Synthetic gemstones are chemically identical to natural ones, and actually offer more affordable stones with fewer imperfections than those that took Mother Nature millions of years to create.

"For a natural stone, the less impurities it has, the more perfect it is, the more expensive it's going to be," Wiebe points out. "But then in my opinion the closer it looks to a lab stone anyway."

Having full control of the process from beginning to end means Stag & Finch is able to offer customers

exactly what they want in an engagement ring, earring, or pendant.

"If someone is like, 'I want a stone this shape, this size, this colour' in a natural stone, it's impossible to track it down," Wiebe says. "But with a synthetic stone I can create it to their exact specification."

Synthetics stones are not only more affordable but they also cause far less ecological damage than stones sourced from massive mining operations. There are also all the ethical concerns that can come with mines in developing countries, where labour abuses have occurred.

"We have a lot of customers really preferring the synthetic stones over the natural ones for a lot of those reasons," Wiebe says. "Not only is it more affordable but it's more ethically responsible."

Right now the company is using ring bands made by a secondary company, but their plan is to start manufacturing those on-site as well.

"We have a room upstairs that's ready to go for our goldsmith ... so we're going to be casting our own gold and installing our gems and then sending it out to the customer," Wiebe says. "It's going to be great to

Continued on page 11

> INCUBATOR MALL, FROM PG. 10

"It's not a commercial property where we're going, 'We've got to make a profit so you've got to stick around,'" Sawatzky says. "The whole idea is that it's a community-based place that offers a very affordable way to get that space outside the home and establish your business.

"So if somebody goes, 'Hey, we're rocking and rolling, it's time to move on,' that's not a problem because that's the whole purpose. And on the flip side, if someone in year two or three says it's just not working, then we're going to let them out of that. It's a real safe space to grow your business, one way or another."

For the Stag & Finch, the mall served as a perfect proving ground for whether the company could successfully make the leap from being a home-based business.

"It was wonderful," Wiebe says. "Small businesses starting out, it's super hard. Most people are doing it for the first time, you're learning how to run a business, and then you're having to do it on a super-tight budget. You have no room for error. You

> STAG & FINCH, FROM PG. 10

have it all in-house."

Stag & Finch ships pieces all over the world but its primary market currently is in the U.S.

"The bigger population centres is where most of our stuff goes ... California, Texas, New York," says Wiebe. "And we also send quite a bit to Australia ... and then, for some reason, in Singapore we have a nice fan base as well.

make a mistake and your toast. So it's really nice to have any little bit of help. It goes a long way."

He doesn't hesitate to recommend the incubator mall to other fledging companies in the area.

"Everybody who's starting out should look into it."

Sawatzky certainly hopes success stories like Stag & Finch will help get the word out about the site.

"Not everybody knows about it," he says. The facility actually has one open space right now and will have a second this fall as tenants move on.

It offers five storefronts of various sizes in total, catering to just about any kind of business.

"Nobody should have a preconceived notion of would my business work there?" stresses Sawatzky. "If anybody's out there that is working on their business at home or have a business idea or whatever and they want to take it to that next level, then they should reach out to us."

You can reach Sawatzky at mark.sawatzky@wsedc.ca.

"We do some in Canada but not a whole lot. But I think our Canadian market's starting to grow, which is nice."

Wiebe says they plan to make themselves more accessible locally in the months ahead, by appointment.

You can learn more about Stag & Finch online at stagandfinch.com.



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE
Melanie Wiebe of Stag & Finch with some of their custom jewelry. The company makes its own synthetic gemstones to work with.

Morden Lions, Leo clubs set to return this fall

By Lorne Stelmach

A community organization with a long history of service in the area is being revived in Morden.

Recruitment efforts this summer have brought enough members on board to organize not only a Lions club but also a Leos Club for youth members.

The latter is especially exciting for Bruce Robert, who spearheaded these efforts, and he also sees it as encouraging that a majority of the new members of both clubs are newcomers to the community.

"The fact that it's newcomers to our community is just awesome," said Robert, who suggested it perhaps was particularly attractive to newcomers because they are looking to make connections in their new home. "And I think this is a good way to do it ... getting into the community and working hands on with those who are here."

Robert has been involved with the Lions as a membership team chairperson for the Lions district (which takes in most of Manitoba and parts of northwest Ontario) and as a zone chairperson for four clubs.

He has a long family history with the Lions, including his father having

been a director in the Lions Club International, which is a global organization with over 48,000 clubs around the world involving about 1.4 million people serving their communities.

He's wanted to revive the organization locally ever since the Morden club closed down in 2020 and Winkler's called it quits back in 2013.

The new club is dubbed the Morden Roaring Lions. It will be a branch of the Crystal City club until the current membership of eight reaches 20. The Roaring Morden Leos Club, meanwhile, has the 10 members required for a standalone club.

Morden Mayor Brandon Burley will be part of an official induction ceremony planned for Sept. 30 for the two clubs, which will have a family con-

nection between them as Sachin Jain heads up the Lions and his daughter Riya leads the Leos.

The groups will come together for the first time to help out a bit with corn husking at the Corn and Apple Festival.

"That's an awesome opportunity we've been provided with as a first little service project," said Robert.

He sees it as a key step for the organization to involve youth in community service here.

"They've really become excited about it, and they're sharing about it with their friends from school, so we're quite confident the number will grow.

"I think the excitement around it all is growing ... what I've heard from the

new folks who have joined us is that they are really eager to get involved in our community," Robert suggested. "They're excited to do some hands-on projects ... they're eager to do some service here."

"I think anywhere you look in Morden, you can find a lot of projects that were done by the Lions," he concluded. "We're just eager to carry on from everything that was done here in the past.

"I think we have a community that's ready to roll up its sleeves, not only to help one another but to really showcase what we have here."

Anyone wanting more information can contact Robert by email to educatebruce@outlook.com.

Morden man facing drug charges

By Voice staff

A Morden man is facing drug charges after being pulled over by Winkler Police last week.

On the afternoon of Monday, Aug. 8, officers pulled over a vehicle in a parking lot in the 200 block of 1st Street as a result of a drug trafficking

investigation.

The driver was placed under arrest and police dog Juno was brought in to aid in the search of the vehicle.

That search found 27.24 grams of methamphetamine (valued at approximately \$2,720), a small quantity of cocaine, \$305 in Canadian currency, and drug trafficking paraphernalia.

The driver of the vehicle, a 40-year-old man from Morden, is facing charges of possession of methamphetamine for the purpose of trafficking, possession of cocaine, and possession of property (Canadian currency) obtained by crime.

He was released and will appear in court in October.

Decor Charity Classic raises over \$100K

By Lorne Stelmach

The Decor Charity Classic fundraising golf tournament bounced back in a big way last week.

The annual event was able to go on this year free of any pandemic restrictions, and the tournament and 50 per cent matching amount from Decor Cabinets meant there will be over \$100,000 to be divided up among four charities.

"That would be a very big year for us ... this will be the second biggest year we have ever had with this event," said tournament co-chair Dave Schellenberg.

"We're very pleased with it. We had a really good turnout with 140 golfers out there ...

and there was a lot of stuff out on the course [for the golfers]."

Offering the opportunity to support very worthwhile charities is a draw for people to want to support the event, he suggested.

"We hear that over and over again from so many different organizations and businesses how they love the charities that we are supporting;

they're behind them the same way that we are," said Schellenberg.

"This is a good opportunity for them to get their donations matched at 50 per cent. It's kind of a win-win then all around the way that it works out."

The Decor Charity Classic has now raised over \$1.4 million since its inception in 2004.

Every year, tournament proceeds go to three local charities: Youth for

Christ, Pembina Counselling Centre and Pembina Valley Pregnancy Care Centre.

This year, the tournament returned to having a fourth guest charity with the addition of the Mully Children's Family, which supports children in Kenya, Africa.

The organization enables the rescue of Africa's most vulnerable children including abandoned babies, orphans of HIV/AIDS, boys forced into child labour, young teenaged mothers and little girls forced into the sex trade. Currently, it has around 5,000 children in its family and 23,000 have gone through the program since 1989, and it has plans for a medical mission trip in July 2022.

"WE HAD A REALLY GOOD TURNOUT WITH 140 GOLFERS OUT THERE."



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Decor Cabinets CEO Stan Pauls visiting with a couple of golfers as they set out to start their round last Thursday.



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

The Decor Charity Classic had one of its biggest years ever last week, raising over \$100,000 for four different charities.

On hand in support of the charity as guest speaker was cycling philanthropist Arvid Loewen, who's ultra-marathon cycling endeavours have supported the Mully Children's Family.

Among the recent accomplishments was setting a world record for the farthest distance biked in a month with

his 2021 journey having beaten the previous record of 11,315.29 km. The goal of his GrandpasCan 2022 cycling platform is to raise \$250,000 and help Charles and Esther Mulli provide 500,000 meals for children from their community schools.

"The Great Escape" in Miami this Friday

By Voice staff

The Miami Railway Station Museum will be treating visitors to a "Great Escape" this Friday, Aug. 19.

As part of the third annual Celebrate Miami Community Showcase, the museum will stage a short, high-energy drama featuring a villain, station agent, and his daughter. The fun starts at 5 p.m.

It's all part of ongoing efforts to support the many projects museum staff and volunteers have undertaken to better highlight the role of the railway in rural communities on the prairies.

With the addition of the now re-

stored 1914 caboose, train shed, and new interior and exterior exhibits, the museum has grown a lot over the past few years.

If you can't make it for the show Friday, the museum is open Wednesday through Sunday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., or by appointment.

Meanwhile, the Community Showcase will also include displays set up along Norton Ave. from 3-7 p.m. highlighting local businesses, products and services, sports and recreation clubs, and leisure organizations. The event will also include live musical entertainment.

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August 26 - 28



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MORDEN
Corn & Apple Festival!



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and enjoy the festivities once again!*



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FRIDAY NIGHT ON THE MAIN STAGE



SNAKE OIL, 9:30-10:45 P.M.

Snake Oil will be performing their acclaimed "Ikons of Rock" show, which has garnered the reputation as the "ultimate classic rock performance."

The ultimate arena rock show immaculately portrays the music, the look, movements and mannerisms of AC/DC, Aerosmith, Alice Cooper, Def Leopard, Evanescence, Heart, Kiss, Joan Jett, Ozzy Osbourne, Pat Benatar, Rob Zombie, Van Halen, Whitesnake, Journey, Queen, Motley Crüe and more.

The production team and cast has traveled from coast to coast in Canada and the U.S. to rave reviews.



The Sean Taylor Band is an energetic, six-piece party band that loves nothing more than making great music for our listeners to enjoy.

Whether you're looking for country, rock, or pop, their wide array of music will keep you singing all through the night. Bring your dancing shoes and your best singing voice!

JADE TURNER, 7-7:50 P.M.



With a natural talent for telling stories through music, rising Canadian country artist Jade Turner continues to share and support the Indigenous culture that inspires her. Recognized for her original songwriting and stunning music videos, the member of Misipawistik Cree Nation has already established a diverse audience attracted to her energetic stage presence and singles like "Somehow Someone," "Hangover Blues," and "Worth."

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SATURDAY NIGHT ON THE MAIN STAGE



THE INCREDIBLY HIP, 8:10-9 P.M.

The Incredibly Hip delivers a stunning concert performance, capturing the spirit and intensity of Canada's most beloved band, leaving audiences both thrilled, duly impressed, and waiting with anticipation for their next appearance.



BIG WRECK, 9:30-10:45 P.M.

Big Wreck have been entertaining audiences nationwide since the band formed in 1994 with hits such as "The Oaf (My Luck Is Wasted)", "That Song", "Albatross", and "Blown Wide Open".

The band used their time during the pandemic shutdown to hit the studio with revered producer Eric Ratz (Billy Talent, Arkells) and pumped out 15 new songs to be released over three five-track Eps. "7.1" was released in 2021, "7.2" was released in June, and "7.3" will be released later this year.



ROMI MAYES, 7-7:50 P.M.

Hailing from Winnipeg, globally renowned singer-songwriter and guitarist Romi Mayes is a Juno nominated, CFMA nominated, and six-time Western Canadian Music Awards winner.

Her music is billed as a blend of classic rock, blues, country, bluegrass, and Motown.

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AUGUST 26 - 28



We're back!





Access Main Stage

Friday, August 26

7:00: Jade Turner
8:10: The Sean Taylor Band
9:30: Snake Oil: The Ikons of Rock



Saturday, August 27

7:00: Romi Mayes
8:10: The Incredibly Hip
9:30: BIG WRECK



Cottonwood Dance Stage

Friday: 1:00 - 11:00
Saturday: 12:00 - 11:00
Sunday: 1:00 - 4:00

Children's Tent

Friday: 12:00 - 8:00
Saturday: 12:00 - 8:00
Sunday: 12:00 - 4:00

Youth Stage

Friday: 5:30 - 10:30
Saturday: 1:00 - 10:30
Sunday: 10:30 - 3:30

Wonder Shows Midway

Friday: 12:00 - 11:00
Saturday: 12:00 - 11:00
Sunday: 12:00 - 6:00



Free Corn & Apple Juice

Friday: 1:00 - 6:00
Saturday: 1:00 - 6:00
Sunday: 1:00 - 4:00

Art Walk Events

Friday: 12:00 - 5:00
Saturday: 12:00 - 5:00
Sunday: 12:00 - 5:00

Bus Tours

Saturday: 11:00 - 5:30
Sunday: 12:00 - 4:30

Corn & Cider Sales

Friday: 1:00 - 8:00
Saturday: 1:00 - 8:00
Sunday: 1:00 - 5:00

We couldn't be more excited to welcome you back to the Festival!



SCAN FOR FULL FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

Full details at cornandapple.com



PRAISE & WORSHIP PROGRAMMING



We, the Morden Christian Program Committee, are delighted to announce the return of **The Morden Corn and Apple Festival August 26, 27 & 28, 2022**



Pastor Mike Giesbrecht



Glencross Quartet



Lumber River Quartet



Pastor Victor Engbrecht



Canada's Double Portion

Throughout the years God has led this committee in the planning and organizing the Christian programming for this festival. It is our pleasure to announce the upcoming schedule and invite you to our special events.

A group of businessmen from Morden saw the need to start a weekly prayer meeting that started to meet in the early eighties. This group founded the Morden Christian Program Committee and have been faithfully meeting every Friday morning at 7:00 am. Faces have changed, still today some thirty men gather at Rocks Bar and Grill to worship, to encourage, but more importantly to pray for the needs of each other and our community.

Almost from its conception, this committee was asked to plan and organize the Sunday programming. They saw this as an opportunity and here we are some thirty years later still planning and organizing the Sunday programming which also include the Friday and Saturday night events. God has led and blessed the efforts of this committee.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

- **Friday August 26th** there will be a mini concert starting at **7:00 pm** at the **Morden Access Event Center**. The evening will feature special music as well as a "Bible Talk" presented by one of our local pastors, Mike Giesbrecht.
- **Saturday August 27th, starting at 7:00 pm**, again at the **Morden Access Event Center**, you will enjoy an evening of delightful music presented by "Canada's Double Portion" and the "Lumber River Quartet". It will be a great evening.
- **Sunday, August 28th, starting at 10:00 am** but this time you'll want to come to join us **downtown Main Stage** for a community worship hour. The special music will be presented by Canada's Double Portion who will also lead us in Praise and Worship. Pastor Victor Engbrecht will be our guest speaker.
- **Sunday afternoon, starting at 2:00 pm**, again **downtown Main Stage** another concert featuring "Canada's Double Portion" and the "Glencross Quartet" and the "Lumber River Quartet". You will again be blessed.

We are excited to be back, and are assured that God is ready to bless these events. We are confident that God is putting together this great team and believe that He is waiting to bless and encourage us as we worship Him together in song and Word. Plan to be there.



LUMBER RIVER QUARTET

The Sunday Programming Committee once again has a varied offering of spiritual stage acts and worship service speakers planned for festival weekend.

The schedule includes evening performances from the Lumber River Quartet and Canada's Double Portion both Friday and Saturday at the Access Event Centre. The event centre also hosts guest speaker Pastor Mike Giesbrecht Friday night.

Things move over to the main stage downtown on Sunday with Canada's Double Portion performing at 10 a.m., Pastor Victor Engbrecht speaking at 11 a.m., and an afternoon of gospel music courtesy of Canada's Double Portion (2 p.m.), the Glencross Quartet (3 p.m.), and the Lumber River Quartet (3:55 p.m.)

It's time to come together and enjoy all the exciting festivities once again!

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HAPPY CORN & APPLE FESTIVAL!



AUGUST 26, 27, 28, 2022



Kick up your heels at the Cottonwood Dance Stage

The Cottonwood Stage offers festival-goers a great lineup of old tyme/country music and a dance floor on which to kick up their heels while they enjoy the tunes. Friday's schedule runs from 1-11 p.m. and includes alternating performances from Young and Haggard, Gem Star, and Northern Reflections. Saturday sees Northern Reflections

joined by Dale Maksymic & the 78 RPMs and Vince Anderson & the Ace Band, performing from noon to 11 p.m. Wrapping things up on Sunday with an afternoon of music (1-4 p.m.) is the Group Therapy Band.

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AUGUST 26, 27, 28, 2022

On the Youth Stage



The Youth Stage (Stephen St. and 7th St.) is back to give up and coming local performers the chance to share their talents. The stage also hosts a variety of family-friendly entertainers. On Friday, the Danceworks All-Styles Dance Battle starts at 5:30 and is followed by



"The Not Very Late Show with Matt Falk" at 8:30 p.m. and the Corn & Apple Film Fest at 9:30 p.m. Saturday sees two performances of "Meet the Cappletons" (1 p.m. and 3 p.m), a theatrical production courtesy of the kids involved with the Candlewick and Danceworks Triple Threat Camp. More local youth artists will take the stage that night for "Saturday Night Live" at 5 p.m. followed with evening performances from Indigenous rap artist Geronimo, The Monochromatics, and Sun Sets West. Sunday's schedule includes children's church at 10:30 a.m., a youth worship service at 11 a.m., and performances from Lauryn Westhaver (1 p.m.) and An Unexpected End (2:30 p.m.).

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Art walk



This year's Art Walk offers something for everyone, including a Tik Tok Making Booth near the Youth Stage, live art demonstrations at the Pembina Hills Arts Centre gallery from painter Willi Richardson, potters Susan Pharaoh and Margie Hildebrand, and stained glass artists from Hollyhock Hill Studio, and even a Sound Art installation from Jimmie Kilpatrick throughout the weekend, also at the gallery.

It's hardly Corn & Apple is you don't take the opportunity to chow down on the festival's namesakes! Back again this year is the free hot buttered corn on the cob and cold apple juice. Get yours Friday and Saturday from 1-6 p.m. and Sunday from 1-4 p.m. at the corner of Stephen St. and Nelson St. Want more? You can purchase cooked corn and a cup or even a jug of apple cider at the sales booth at Stephen and 8th St.



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Making up for lost time



PHOTO BY RICK HIEBERT/VOICE



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE



PHOTO BY RICK HIEBERT/VOICE



PHOTO BY RICK HIEBERT/VOICE



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE



The Winkler Harvest Festival made a triumphant return last weekend, offering three days of fun for the whole family. Clockwise from above: Country music star Tenille Arts performs Saturday night; Eric the Juggler's antics at the Secondary Stage; seeing the Parkland fairgrounds from a new perspective on the midway; feats of strength at the CrossFit Challenge; getting up close and personal with furry friends in the petting zoo; Adelyn Janzen enjoys a free pony ride.



Clockwise from above: The CultureFest tents offered plenty of diverse acts, including Polynesian dance troupe Island Breeze; firefighters pass around the boot at the Saturday morning parade; kids put their gaming skills to the test inside the Centennial Arena during the Etherlan competition; a towering climbing wall gave youth and the young at heart the chance to try something new in the Kid's Zone; classic cars lined up at the car show; the Diamond Dogs wowed with their high-flying tricks.



PHOTOS BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE



Volunteers spruce up Ash Park basketball court

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The basketball court in Ash Park in Altona got a fresh coat of paint and

some colourful artwork this summer. The Altona Basketball League approached Altona Recreation Services



PHOTOS BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Gilbert Rey, Ricardo Perez, Nhoj Enguero, G.R. Catcho, and Agustin Alcantara of the Altona Basketball League joined Sun Valley Co-op's Co-op Nathan Klassen and Geoff Loewen and Kim Harder from the Altona Rec. Dept. in celebrating the new paint job completed by volunteers on the basketball court in Ash Park last week.

with the idea of freshening up the outdoor court, which they use regularly during league and pick-up play. "We wanted to make it look nicer, better to play on," said Agustin Alcantara, who led a group of volunteers who spent several hours this past week on the project.

The league is made up mainly of members of the local Filipino community. Alcantara noted basketball is as big in his home country as hockey is here in Canada.

The group not only touched up the fading court lines but also painted "Ash Park" on one side and "Altona" on the other.

They also added the community's flag design—a circle of sunflower petals against a blue sky backdrop—at centre court.

Recreation Services manager Eric Hildebrand noted the volunteers provided the labour, the town covered the costs of paintbrushes and trays, and Sun Valley Co-op donated paint through its Communities in Full Colour program.

Seeing a local group step up to spearhead a project like this is always amazing, Hildebrand said, thanking Co-op as well for being so eager to support the project.

"It's a great partnership between the residents and the Town," he said. "And then when we can add in somebody like Co-op ... it's a win for everybody."

Ash Park is becoming such a popular space in the community that Hildebrand said they're considering other improvements there, including potentially a new park shelter.

The Altona Basketball League has a number of teams and dozens of players of all ages taking part, playing at Ash Court and the courts at W.C. Miller Collegiate. Anyone interested in getting involved next season can contact the Rec. Dept. to be put in touch with organizers.



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getinformed

Roseau River First Nation rallies for health walk

By Lorne Stelmach

First Nations communities came together for walks last week that were aimed at showing unity around an important health care campaign.

The ultimate goal of the Southern Chiefs' Organization health transformation process is to create a new First Nations health authority in Manitoba.

Five kilometre walks were held in a number of Indigenous communities to demonstrate alignment on the building of a new Anishinaabe and Dakota health care system that will address system inequities, said representatives.

"We're wanting to close the health gaps that people in First Nations are experiencing," said Tara Dela Cruz, who is the community health transformation liaison for Roseau River First Nation, which took part in the walk last Wednesday.

"We hope to bring more health services to our First Nations communities because a lot of us have to leave our community to access health care, and we then sometimes experience racism," she said. "It would be great to have those services at home in our communities and not have to leave home.

"Right now, in Manitoba, First Nations people have an 11-year gap in life expectancy than the rest of Manitoba ... so we want to bring more awareness to that and walk for our health and for the people we love who have passed on," said Dela Cruz.

They saw the walks as a good way to bring people together for a common cause.

"The turnout was great ... we had about 100 people came out," she estimated.

The theme of the multiple community walks focused on First Nation teachings of land-based healing, including:

- We Walk to Honour Our Lands: our lands feed, nourish and heal our



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Above: About 100 people took part in the Roseau River First Nation's community walk for health last week. Local leaders taking part included (right, from left) Jerry Daniels of Southern Chiefs Organization, Chief Craig Daniels of Roseau River First Nation, and Tara Dela Cruz, community health transformation liaison.

bodies, spirits and minds.

- We Walk for Our Ancestors: sacred teachings passed down by ancestors provide everything they need for a full, healthy and balanced life.

- We Walk for Family: healthy families are the foundation of thriving, connected communities.

In June, the Southern Chiefs' Organization announced a historic agreement-in-principle, with Manitoba joining Canada in creating a tripartite table that will result in the formation of a southern First Nation health authority to launch in the next year.

This new health care system is being built on a foundation of culture that follows ancestral ways in balance with Western medicine, ensuring optimal health, and officials saw the walks as helping bring more attention



to what they envision with the health care plan.

"This public education strategy is focused on providing Anishinaabe and Dakota Nations with the opportunity to share information about what adequate and culturally-informed health care looks like," said Grand Chief

Jerry Daniels. "It is also a chance to have the voices and knowledge of our communities drive the development of a southern First Nations Health care system.

"The community health walk campaign is centered on First Nations values of healthy relationships with our lands, our people, our ancestral knowledge, and our familial responsibilities," added Daniels.

"The health of our people, families and land is what drives our work in health transformation," noted Chief Derek Cook, chair of the Chiefs Health Action Table.

"FIRST NATIONS PEOPLE HAVE AN 11-YEAR GAP IN LIFE EXPECTANCY THAN THE REST OF MANITOBA ... WE WANT TO BRING MORE AWARENESS TO THAT AND WALK FOR OUR HEALTH AND FOR THE PEOPLE WHO WE LOVE WHO HAVE PASSED ON."

Residents raise concerns over development plans

By Lorne Stelmach

A group of rural residents are raising concerns about a proposed new residential development just outside of Morden.

Some of them planned to be speaking out at an RM of Stanley public hearing this week against the 25 home subdivision planned for an area bordered by Road 31W and Road 15N just a few miles north and west of Morden.

Aside from questions about the process itself and feeling like they had little time to prepare, the residents see the density of this development being a little too much for this area.

They understand that many people want the privilege of living rurally, but this doesn't need to destroy the quality of life of existing landowners, suggested Karla Warkentin.

"We sort of see it as a city-like development in a rural area," said Warkentin, who noted a number of residents met with the developers last week and had hoped they

would at least consider offering a delay.

She questioned the process, as the information meeting last Wednesday offered them little time to understand everything and prepare for this week's public hearing. She thought the RM encouraged developers to speak with existing landowners before developing new subdivisions, but this only came after the developers had already filed their subdivision proposal with the RM.

"They offered to meet with us, but it was after all of their planning was done, all of their engineering was done, all of their paperwork was filed at the beginning of June, and it seemed like we were being told as an after-thought," Warkentin said.

"That fundamentally is what bothers me," she continued. "It says that there's no place for us as existing homeowners to be involved in the process ... that just appears to be how municipal development works?"

Warkentin suggested that development in the RM seems to be proceeding unbridled and questioned whether there really is a master plan for development or if it is being followed.

"This is a substantial amount of homes, and it will bring a lot more traffic to this area," she said. "I spoke with someone at MSTW [Planning District], and they suggested for every new home, you can assume eight to ten trips to town a day.

"And our roads are already quite poor here. I think it's a municipal problem; it's not just our roads. They can't seem to keep up with them."

Warkentin added that the access for the development would be coming off a poor road with less than ideal visibility.

"There's a steep hill in there which I already know I can't see cars coming especially at dusk," she said, going on to suggest there are concerns and questions about drainage, especially with the hill in the area.

This particular subdivision proposal also takes

out a large section of a old-growth oak bush as well as farmland, Warkentin noted.

Another concern is a large commercial bee farm is right next to the development area.

"My son has got a commercial beekeeping operation on the property that's right adjacent to this subdivision," explained area resident John Friesen.

"You can't keep all those bees away from people if they're right there, right beside it," he suggested. "And if they put in any swimming pools, that's an attraction for the bees all summer.

"My property is also right adjacent to this," he added. "So add 26 homes, and there's 10 there already, that's 36 all in one bunch. That's too many. It's going to kill the roads here. It's just too much."

Friesen said he hoped that the RM would take a careful look at this and "if not kibosh it at least cut it down in size."

Reeve Morris Olafson could not be reached for comment on this matter at press time.

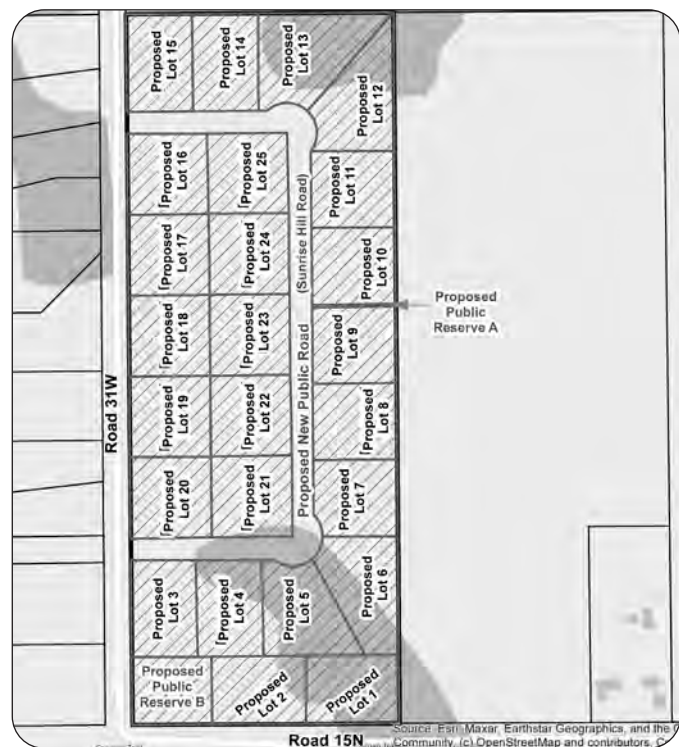
Representing the developers, John Froese did not want to comment other than to note this area has long been set for rural residential development.

"Everybody knows that's been there, unless they haven't checked it," said Froese, who otherwise would only say area residents can "voice their concerns" at the public hearing.

The property is located within what has been designated as a "rural cluster" as pursuant to the RM of Stanley development plan.

Parcels within a rural cluster are to maintain the underlying rural or agricultural designation but will be afforded additional subdivision opportunity. The proposed subdivision though is located within an AG agricultural general zone, and this development will require a rezoning from AG to RR rural residential, which allows for single-unit dwelling.

"IT SEEMED LIKE WE WERE BEING TOLD AS AN AFTER-THOUGHT."



Plum Coulee still waiting for cell tower installation

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Poor cell phone service has become a fact of life in Plum Coulee, and it's anybody's guess when that might change.

Councillor June Letkeman, who represents the community on the RM of Rhineland council, led the charge in late 2020 to appeal to Bell MTS to build a cell tower to improve service in Plum Coulee and the surrounding area. Currently, the nearest towers to Plum Coulee are in Winkler, 15 kilometres away, and Altona, 24 kms away.

Council that same year approved a

variance to allow the telecommunications giant to build one on land it owns downtown.

But while such a variance would seem to indicate progress was on the horizon, nearly two years later the company has still not built the tower.

"We gave them the variance for 2021 and then had to extend it for 2022 and again for 2023," Letkeman said, noting the company has not given any clear reason for the delay. "They just keep putting it off."

The most recent extension given to

Bell MTS earlier this year would allow them to build a tower anytime next year, but "there's no guarantee they'll do it then, either," Letkeman said.

"There really isn't much more we can do," she continued. "We've contacted them and we've had [Portage-Lisgar MP] Candice Bergen contact them, but we haven't been able to get any satisfaction and we don't really know what's happening. That's the frustrating thing. "I just don't understand it," Letke-

man added, noting the growing community of 1,040 includes hundreds of cell phone users, many of whom can barely hold a conversation on their mobile devices in their own homes.

The community's downtown is a virtual dead zone, she said, and other areas are just as bad.

"I cook at the manor [Maple Manor] for the seniors program and we have no cell service at all there, which is very bad because if we have an emergency we can't call out from there ... it's just not safe.

"We're not a third-world country,"

"THEY JUST KEEP PUTTING IT OFF."

More pets are being surrendered this year than ever before: PVHS

By Becca Myskiw

Pets across Manitoba are being surrendered more this year than they have any year in the past.

The Pembina Valley Humane Society (PVHS) has seen 29 public dog surrenders and 27 public cat surrenders in the first seven months of this year. In comparison, in all of last year they had just nine dogs and 29 cats surrendered.

"The top reasons we're hearing for [the high surrender numbers] is 'I don't have time' or 'I can't afford it,'" said PVHS animal care coordinator, Alesha Unrau. "It seems to be somewhat pandemic-related."

Most dogs being surrendered are six months to a year old, meaning people only got them within the last year — during COVID-19. Unrau's guess is people got the dogs during the "crazy COVID puppy phase" and now that life is getting back to normal, they don't know how to fit the new pet into their old life.

PVHS is a smaller Manitoba shelter with only three staff who rely on the help of volunteers and donors. Unrau said they're currently at capacity with 30 cats and expect to be at 19 dogs any day now, meaning their shelter is full and they cannot accept new animals.

"It's quite overwhelming," she said. "All of our resources are being used up pretty quickly."

For the first time in several years, PVHS has animals on a waitlist to come into care. Those being surrendered will stay with their owners until they can come in, and though Unrau tells those owners to put the pets on other shelters' waitlists, they also

"IT'S QUITE OVERWHELMING. ALL OF OUR RESOURCES ARE BEING USED UP PRETTY QUICKLY."

don't have room for more animals because the issue is province-wide.

Unrau said dogs could typically get off the waitlist within a few months as they get adopted more frequently, but cats often stay on it for over six months.

"We've never really experienced something like this before," she said. "It's quite stressful for [the animals]... they know there's something going on and when [their owners] leave, you can just see the heartbreak on their face because it's almost like they can understand what's happening."

Along with the surrenders, PVHS also normally takes dogs and cats in from the local pound. But because they're at full capacity, they can't do that right now, which means they can't save those animals from eventual euthanization.

The problem is the pound has also seen an increase of dogs and cats filling their cages, adding to the demand.

To ensure this problem doesn't happen again, Unrau has some tips for those thinking about getting a pet:

- Do your research on the type of dog or cat you want. Ensure you can handle their breed and its needs before making up your mind on it.
- Do lots of meet and greets with the



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Alesha Unrau, animal care coordinator at PVHS, says they have more pet surrenders so far this year than they had at the end of the last.

animal you're adopting first to ensure it's a good fit.

• If you're still unsure if you can handle a dog or cat at the moment, try fostering. Fostering provides you with all the necessary supplies to care for the animal in your home and gives you extra time to feel it out with the dog or cat before committing to it.

Unrau said 2022 had not been an easy year at all for the shelter. They've had more animals coming in than

ever, less people wanting to foster them, and less people wanting to adopt them.

"It's a very tough battle," she said.

Adoptions are below average, at eight a month this year. Unrau said with more fosters, more animals get out of the shelter, if even for a little while, which frees up space for more animals to come into their care.

> CELL TOWER, FROM PG. 26

Letskeman said. "We deserve better service, but they don't seem to understand that.

"We all pay for our cell service here in town and we're not getting what we're paying for."

The Voice reached out to Bell MTS for comment but received no reply.

Frustrated, council has begun putting feelers out to other telecommunications providers in Manitoba to see if they might step up.

Letskeman noted she's hoping to hear back from Rogers Wireless to see if they have any interest in making in-roads in the community.

"But it looks like if we wanted the Rogers tower we might have

to pay for it ourselves, and I don't know that we're prepared to do that," she said. A typical cell phone tower costs hundreds of thousands of dol-

lars to build.

Letskeman said she's not giving up the fight. Council will continue to bug Bell MTS and look at what other op-

tions might be available.

"I'm working on it, it just seems we're not getting anywhere right now."

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sports & recreation

Whips break ground on Arctic Field improvements

By Lorne Stelmach

Work is underway on a project to give the community's most well-used baseball diamond a major upgrade.

The Winkler Whips senior men's baseball team has been raising funds for improvements for Diamond 5 that will be done in phases, and they held a sod-turning Monday to kick off work on the first two.

Whips president Russ Penner said it's great to see the project getting underway.

"We're very excited that we're finally here to the date where we can get started," he said. "Some of the prep work had already been started; fencing stuff was coming down [last week]. On Monday, we had excavators on site starting to dig up the infield and getting some of the dirt work done.

"It's certainly exciting to finally see it all starting to come to fruition," Penner said, noting these first two phases will be completed this fall. "We have all the funds that we need to complete those phases."

The Whips were looking to raise about \$350,000 for the first three phases, which begin with the first stage of digging out the current infield and replacing with sod as well as pushing out home plate about five to 10 feet to decrease the distance to the outfield fence, reworking and reshaping the pitcher's mound, providing more foul territory space, and providing a new sprinkler system.

Phase two will include the installation of below-ground and larger dugouts, a concrete backstop with



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

A sod-turning ceremony was held at the Parkland ball diamonds in Winkler Monday. Major improvements will transform Arctic Field in phases over the next few years. Below: A look at what the finished field will look like.

padding for long-term durability and less maintenance and new protective netting to improve sight-lines and provide greater safety for players pursuing foul balls.

Next up then for phase three will be a new outfield fence with the same dimensions but with protective padding and a more protective top. The new fence will allow for appropriate methods of securing advertising and sponsorship slots that are highly visible. The other significant feature will be the new scoreboard.

"We still have about \$189,000 that we need to collect to finish all of the

phases that we want to get done over the next two years," Penner said. "So we have a bit left, but we have all we need to complete the work that we want to complete this fall.

"It's all falling into place quite well," said Penner, who added they hope to move on to phase three next spring so the field will be ready for next season.

"We want to get that going because that's where the bulk of our advertisements and stuff are going on," he said. "In the fall of 2023, we're hoping to get the rest of the work done which would include the scoreboard.

"In the future, we're looking at possibly adding some stands and maybe even lights if things go well. We'll see how it all develops."

There is a \$50,000 contribution coming from the City of Winkler for this project. The club also sold the naming rights for the field to Arctic Spas, dubbing it Arctic Field.

Penner said they

are pleased to be getting such strong support for something he believes will be a real benefit to the community.

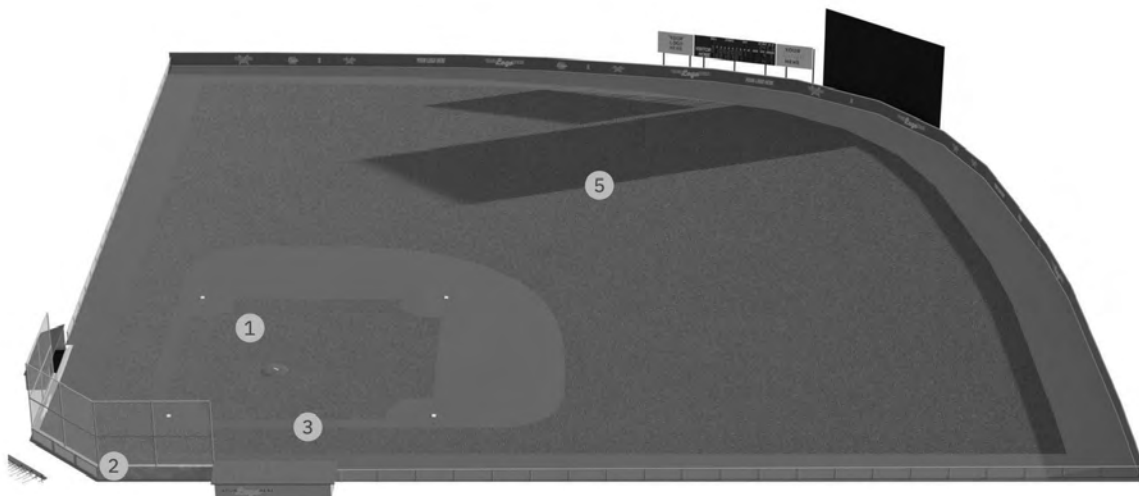
"It will be a big thing for Winkler, possibly bring in some bigger tournaments out this way ... there's a lot of teams that use that diamond," he said.

"There's possibility to grow into future usages such as maybe getting a junior baseball team ... it leaves the door open to all sorts of opportunities."

Scott Beattie, vice president of finance and administration for Arctic Spas, commented on the importance of community projects such as this one.

"We thought it was a great project to invest in," he said. "It's good for the community; it's good for every age bracket. We were happy to join in and become a contributor to this project."

"IT'S CERTAINLY EXCITING TO FINALLY SEE IT ALL STARTING TO COME TO FRUITION."





PHOTOS BY RICK HIEBERT/VOICE

Above: The ball escapes Morden third baseman Manny Lantigua as he's spiked by sliding Winkler's Liam Giesbrecht in game two of the East Division finals last week. Right: Whips shortstop Travis Friesen leaps over the diving Mud Hen Blake Hartry.



Mud Hens move on to championship final vs. Twins

> HARNESS RACING, FROM PG. 29

they're two or three years old, Don's ready to race them himself.

"Taking them through the learning process of maturing into a racehorse...that's really satisfying when you put the work in," he said.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Don and Matthew Howlett raise their own racehorses, including Blush and this unnamed foal.

Because Don is so busy driving on the track every weekend (for himself and for others), his son, Matthew Howlett, has become the horse's trainer.

Matthew said he has had a passion for the sport since his dad got him involved the first day. Since then, he's become a certified trainer for the horses and now does it as a full-time job.

"You're told growing up you want to do a career that's fun to you," said Matthew. "If you're going to work, do something you love doing. So that's something I found and something I want to continue doing."

The Howlett's have had an incredible season so far. Don said the competition in Manitoba is at the highest he's seen, and to win a race now, drivers have to be on their 'A' game. They currently have a stable of nine and race seven horses each weekend at the Miami track.

Don's excited for The Loop to open in Winnipeg so harness racing in Manitoba can grow its fanbase.

By Voice staff

The Morden Mud Hens are the Border Baseball League East Division champions.

Morden knocked out the Winkler Whips in game three last week Thursday.

Played in Altona due to work being done on Winkler's home field, the match had the widest margin when it came to the score, 10-4, of the entire series, which had previously seen Winkler take game one 3-2 and Morden win game two 8-7.

Now the Mud Hens are squaring off against West Division champs the Cartwright Twins in the final series. The Twins bested the Pilot Mound Pilots two games to three to earn their seat at the championship table.

On Sunday, the Twins took game one 12-8. Game two was scheduled to take place in Morden Tuesday night. Results were not available at press time.

Game three is back in Cartwright Thursday. Dates for games four and five have not yet been released.

Pearce makes roster for Female U18 Program of Excellence Summer Development Camp

By Voice staff

Manitou's Mya Pearce made the cut for the 2022-23 Female Under-18 Program of Excellence Summer Development Camp roster. The camp takes place Aug. 26-28 at the Bell MTS Iceplex in Winnipeg.

The Summer Development Camp is the third stage of the Female U18 Program of Excellence process.

Following the camp, an exhibition series will be held from Sept. 23-25

in Saskatoon. After that, participants will compete at the 2023 Canada Winter Games Feb. 26 to March 5 in Prince Edward Island.

The Female U18 Program of Excellence is designed to provide high-performance female players with the opportunity to develop advanced skills as well as an introduction to the concepts needed to play at an elite level.

Players from the Program of Excellence go on to play at the CIS, NCAA and International level.

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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.

MOTORCYCLE FOR SALE

For sale -2000 Harley Davidson FXSTD Softail Deuce. 36,000 kms. New Michelin rubber, Vance & Hines pipes, Harley hard leather bags, small windshield. Lots of extra chrome. Bike is sitting - time to sell. Asking \$12,500 obo. Ph 204-206-0120 (cell) or 204-643-5182 (house).

CAMPERS/ TRAILERS

FOR SALE - 2007 - 30.5 Foot Jayco Eagle 5 th Wheel Travel Trailer - 1 slide out, excellent condition. Asking \$8,000 Phone 204-582-2407.

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

Do you own rental property in Winnipeg? Are you tired of dealing with long term renters and the mess they can leave? We can provide you with a different option to earn a rental income. Pawluk Realty 204-890-8141.

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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 204-642-4799.

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Accepting music students year round for electric/acoustic and bass guitar as well as music theory for all instruments. Enrol anytime. Visit www.winklermusicacademy.com or call 204-331-3722.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Cluck & Quack Poultry Club Annual Sale - Poultry, small animals, equipment, crafts, vegetables, hobbies, etc. Saturday, Sept. 10th, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. at Springfield Curling Club in Dugald, MB. For further vendor information contact Bill 204-755-2347 Email: bhartmann@xplornet.com

DUNREA FLEA MARKET - Rain or Shine! Antiques, collectibles and more! Over 100 vendors. Admission \$5. 11 a.m. - 4 p.m., Sunday, September 4, 2022. Fairgrounds in Boissevain, MB.

NOTICES

URGENT PRESS RELEASES - Have a newsworthy item to announce? Having a spring/summer event? An exciting change in operations? Though we cannot guarantee publication, MCNA will get the information into the right hands for ONLY \$35 + GST/HST. Call MCNA 204-947-1691 for more information. See www.mcna.com under the "Types of Advertising" tab for more details.

PLANNING PROGRAMS FOR THE FALL & WINTER? Advertise them NOW in the 32 Weekly Manitoba Community Newspapers to get your messaging out now and be seen all over the province! Hiring? Selling something? 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

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS

In the matter of the Estate of **MARION McCALMAN**, late of Altona, Manitoba, Deceased. All claims against the above estate, supported by Statutory Declaration must be sent to the attention of: Marlene Klimchuk, Estate Administration, 155 Carlton St. Suite 500, Winnipeg, MB. R3C 5R9 on or before the 21st day of September, 2022. Dated at Winnipeg, Manitoba, this 10th day of August, 2022. **NICOLE HAMILTON** Public Guardian and Trustee of Manitoba

McSherry Auctions
12 Patterson Dr., Stonewall, MB
Online Timed Auctions @ iCollector.com
Estate & Moving featuring 40 vehicles
Closes Aug 24 @ 4:00PM
57 Chevy Belair; 2D Hard Top, 60's Parisienne 2D, 00 Ford 350 Van, 06 Ford 250 Dsl 4x4, 99 Ford 250 Dsl 4x4, 99 Chevy Tracker; 03 Toyota Rav4, 03 Nissan 350Z, 67 Chevy Caprice Station Wagon, Lund 1700 Pro Angler SS Adventure with Honda 4 Stroke 90 HP Outboard & Trailer
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PUBLIC NOTICE

Genesis House 38th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Mon, Sept. 12/22 at 7 pm @ the Winkler Library

Guest speakers:

Taylor Richards - Housing issues impacting women in our area
George Nickel - Why Intervention with Men Makes Sense.
Join us for cake & coffee.



Genesis House
Shelter for Women and Children in Crisis

FARMLAND TENDER

FARMLAND FOR SALE BY TENDER

Sealed written tenders for the property in the Municipality of Rhineland described below must be received by 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 31, 2022 at:

Franz Hoepfner Wiens Law Office
Box 99, 1 880 J 15th Street
Winkler, Manitoba R6W 4A4
or email tenders@fhwlaw.ca

Property located 1/2 mile north of Hwy 14 between Reinfeld and Plum Coulee.

LAND: THE W 1/2 OF THE W 1/2 OF NW 1/4 OF SECTION 8-3-3 WPM RM of Rhineland 40 Acres of BARE FARMLAND Risk Area: 12 Soil Zone: D32

Conditions of Tender:

1. The property described will be sold "as is".
2. Highest or any tender not necessarily accepted.
3. Possession is November 1, 2022, or earlier upon removal of crop.
4. Tender must be accompanied by a refundable deposit of 5% of the amount offered, payable to Franz Hoepfner Wiens Law Office.

Terms of Sale:

1. The successful bidder(s) shall enter a formal agreement for purchase of the property within ten (10) business days of acceptance of the tender.
2. Possession is not authorized until acceptable arrangements for full payment are made following acceptance of tender.
3. GST and land transfer taxes will be the responsibility of the purchaser.
4. The adjustment date for property taxes will be January 1, 2023.

For further information contact
Franz Hoepfner Wiens Law Office
at 204-325-4615.

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Is looking for people in Altona and surrounding areas to help cover local events while recording our history for the newspaper. Hi resolution photos can be taken with an iPhone or camera.

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with a couple of samples of your favourite photos

AUCTION

ON LINE ONLY FARM AUCTION SALE

For Judith McDougall Ashern, MB

Sale Starts online: Friday, August 26, 2022
Closes: soft close starting at 1:00 p.m. Friday, September 9, 2022

www.apro.bid

(Items will be sold online in order listed)

- Western slip tank, 540 Lillies w/elec. pump
- Saturn 8 x 18 Trailer, steel deck, comes w/metal sides used for hauling cattle
- J.D. 2955, Ser #L02955T636766, CD 6350, D774262, triple hyd, 3 pt hitch, needs transmission seal, 18.4-38 tires
- Set of 18.4-38 duals w/all hardware
- 2006 Wilson Ranch Hand stock trailer 7 x 24 (LT235/85 R16) front - 7ft, middle - 9 ft, back end - 8ft
- 2006 Ford F350 XLT, ext cab, power stroke, turbo diesel, 4x4, 4 sp auto, 6 ltr, a/c, 218,000 km, approx. 10,000 km on rebuilt motor (very clean), safetied
- 3 pt hitch Bale fork
- 2004 J.D. 7220 F.W.A., 3pt hitch, comes w/741 loader, bucket & grapple fork, power shift, 14.9-28 front, 18.4-38 rear tires, (needs front wheel seal), Ser #RW7220 R012987
- 8ft J.D. bucket for J.D. loader

One item will close every 2 minutes until all items are sold. When an item is within 2 minutes of closing and a bid is received the end time will be extended by 5 minutes from when the last bid is received. This will continue until there has been no bid on that item received for 2 minutes.

Viewing by appointment only.

For more info: Call Buddy Lorne (Buddy) Bergner, Auctioneer
Box 1, Ashern, MB ROC 0E0
Ph: (204) 768-2669

Email: bergauct@mymts.netc www.globalauctionguide.com

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Don't forget to send your special wishes to your friends and family.

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LIVE to be auctioned AUG 20th

- 400 lbs atv winch • 8x8 tent • head ache rack for pickup • bench grinder • snap on retractable ext cord • booster pack • table top propane grill • snowmobile stand • backpack sprayer • electrical wire #6 3c teck • scale • assorted hand tools • lounging camping chairs • 30 lbs of welding rods • plumbing fittings • drywalling stilts • police car bumper guard • box of 112 fluorescent bulbs • sink toilet paper dispenser • misc air breather • tire changing machine • misc chaff spreaders • 46 ft westeel auger • belt sander • chop saw • circular saw • scroll saw • bicycle trailer • antique school desk • garden hose box • skies • misc electrical equipment • wood trim on packaging • used steel door • 1ftx 4ft windows with openers • (4) shelving • anchor • shelving • bread pans • 80 ft jlg manlift

ONLINE AUG 24th or later


- misc electrical service equipment • 852 new holland round baler • excavator side blade • volvo 650 tractor cw cab and loader • new holland tr85 combine • cross bow cw arrows • archery target • 46 ft westeel gas powered auger • dish washer • washer dryer combo • matching leather deluxe recliners • single recliner • coffee table set • dressers • twin bed • room dividers • desk • 2010 ford explorer • 1952 chevrolet styleline • 19ft utility trailer 2x3000 lb axles • 2002 keystone 28ft camper • white fish boat anchors 20 • pontiac montana sv6 • electric auger 7 in 51ft • skid steer trailer • 1983 dodge 1 ton dump truck • gmc envoy mpi write off • hoof trim chute • international disc • international cultivator • stainless scale • 1985 ford pickup • sea ray boat • 4IN Towable gas powered pump • onan elec generator • Volvo t810 • goose decoys • live animal trap • 33.5 ft 5th wheel camper trailer 2 slide outs

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DEVOTION

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



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

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 Email: ads@winklermordenvoice.ca

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COMING EVENTS



The P.W. Enns Concert Hall Presents

Lulu and the TomCat

JUNO nominees

Aug 31 2022 7:00 PM.

Ticket Available!
 Online: winklerconcerthall.ca
 in Person: MON-FRI, 8:30am-4:30pm at the Meridian Exhibition Centre!



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CAREERS



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Adult Learning Center Instructor – Term Focus on ELA and General Arts Subjects

Competition #: 2022-165 Closing Date: Aug 26, 2022

To view this and other employment opportunities, visit rrc.ca/employment. We thank all applicants for their interest, but only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

EMPLOYMENT



Rural Municipality of Victoria Public Works Operator

Council of the Rural Municipality of Victoria is now accepting applications for the position of Public Works Operator.

The prospective candidate will be required to perform a variety of duties such as heavy equipment operation and maintenance in the Utility Department. The position requires the ability to carry out a multitude of varying duties with limited direction and supervision. Experience operating machinery and mechanical problem solving aptitude is a definite asset.

All applicants must have reliable transportation, a valid Manitoba Driver's License, preferably with a Class 1 certification, or be willing to upgrade. Applicants are required to submit a detailed resume outlining educational background, qualifications and references. The municipality offers an attractive salary and benefits package.

Applications must be received by the undersigned no later than 4:00 p.m. September 2nd, 2022.

Personnel Committee
 Rural Municipality of Victoria
 130 Broadway Street
 P.O. Box 40
 Holland, MB R0G 0X0
 (204) 526-2423
 rm.office@rmofvictoria.com

Classifieds The Winkler Morden Voice Announcements

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ANNIVERSARY



Please join us at a
Come & Go Open House
to celebrate the
60th Wedding Anniversary of
Ron and Doreen Martins of Morden, MB
Sunday, August 28, 2022
2:00 - 4:30 p.m.
Pembina Threshermen's Museum
Hwy 3 east of Morden
Your presence is our gift.

IN MEMORIAM



Don Janzen
July 18, 1949 - August 8, 2020
Two years have passed since that sad day,
When one we loved was called away;
God took him home, it was His will;
Within our hearts, he liveth still.
We miss you every day and can't wait until we
see you again.
-Love Dianne, Kim, Jon and Cindy,
Camryn, Avery

CELEBRATION OF LIFE



Placement of Tombstone for Helena (Penner) Heppner

All relatives and friends of our great-grandmother, Helena (Penner) Heppner (1857 to 1947), are invited to the placing of a tombstone in her honor at the Sommerfeld Cemetery in Altona (2nd. St. SW, directly south of Kiddie Sunshine Center) at 11:00 a.m., Saturday, August 27, 2022.

Following a short ceremony at the cemetery, we will meet at the home of Jack and Ruth Heppner, 198 2nd.St. SE in Altona for a potluck lunch. Those who are able are asked to bring some finger-food to contribute to the meal. Drinks will be provided.

OBITUARY

Harold Sawatzky



It is with sadness that we announce the peaceful passing of Harold Sawatzky on Wednesday, August 3, 2022 at Eastview Place at the age of 94.

Harold was predeceased by his parents, Johan and Elizabeth Sawatzky and his brother Leonard.

He is survived by his wife Anne Sawatzky of Altona; daughter Marianne (Gerald) Thiessen of Winnipeg, granddaughter Michele (Blair), great-granddaughters Bryne and Keelan, grandson Michael and his wife Chantel, grandson Chris (Kaitlyn) and grandson Cody; son John (Francis) Sawatzky of Marquette; son Howard (Lori) Sawatzky of Altona, grandson Garrett, great-grandson Cerulean, granddaughter Sierra (Krista), grandson Gary, granddaughter Barb (Jon), great-grandsons Seth and Braeden, great-granddaughter Brooklyn; sister Evelyn and nieces Tonya and Leila.

Harold Sawatzky was born on May 11, 1928 in Gnadefeld, Manitoba. He grew up farming and this would become his passion throughout life. He had a sense of humor, always had time to visit, enjoyed his coffee time with neighbors and friends and loved to travel with his wife of 70 years, Anne. After retiring from farming in 1998, he spent many years volunteering at the Altona MCC. His cheerful smile and generous heart will be missed.

Thank you to the staff at The Altona Hospital and at the Eastview Care Home for your exceptional dedication and to the staff at Wiebe Funeral Home.

As an expression of sympathy, if friends so wish, donations may be made in Harold's memory to the Alzheimer's Society or Eastview Place in Altona, MB.

Wiebe Funeral Home Altona
in care of arrangements
www.wiebefhaltona.com

CELEBRATION OF LIFE



In Loving Memory of
Gordon Klassen
1955 - 1921

Join us for a memorial service to
celebrate Gordon's life
371 Wesley Drive, East Selkirk,
August 27 at 11 a.m.
RSVP: 204-232-9313
Please bring lawn chairs and
your favorite Gord story.

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The Winkler Morden
Voice

CALL: 467-5836

OBITUARY

Ruth Elaine Nichol (nee MacDonald) November 10, 1930 - August 11, 2022



Ruth Nichol died at Tabor Home in Morden, MB on Thursday August 11, 2022.

Her parents, Don and Elva MacDonald, raised her and her five younger sisters and one brother on their farm just north of Darlingford. She attended school in Darlingford and Morden and then off to Winnipeg for teacher training. She taught one year in rural Manitoba then returned to Darlingford to marry Bill. They raised their six children, two boys and four girls, on their farm south of Darlingford. Ruth was a firm believer in community involvement and supported her belief with action on numerous committees, boards and associations throughout her life. Among the most dear to her heart were the Zion Calvin United Church, Canadian Foodgrains Bank Darlingford Project and the Darlingford Memorial Park. Ruth was always an avid reader and loved to play word games with Bill and her children and grandchildren. Her commitment to correct grammar and good pronunciation was both appreciated and endearing. Ruth was a wonderful wife, mother and grandmother, a committed community member and an example of a life well lived. She was determined to wear out, not rust out and even as her capacity weakened her resolve never did.

Ruth will be deeply missed by her children: Jim, Joan (Gerald Farthing), Jack (Trish), Barbara, Liz (Darren Seymour), Kate (Joe Tickner); her many grandchildren and great-grandchildren; her sisters: Jean Ching, Helen Johnston, Anne McDonald Hudson, Bernice Morin, Heather McKenzie (Leonard) and sister-in-law: Kathy Grayson and many nieces, nephews, friends and neighbours.

She was predeceased by her beloved husband, Bill in 1994; infant daughter, Virginia, 1958; daughter-in-law, Barb Nichol (Lambrecht) 2021; infant grandson, Anthony Nichol, 1973; brother, Donald (Jake) 1994.

Ruth's funeral service will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 18, 2022 at the Zion Calvin United Church in Darlingford with interment at the Darlingford Cemetery and reception at Darlingford Community Hall.

Donations in Ruth's memory may be made to Canada Foodgrains Bank, Darlingford Growing Project, 393 Portage Avenue #400, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3B 3H6 or a charity of your choice.

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



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OBITUARY



**James Edward Peters
1968 - 2022**

A phrase that Jim lived by was "This world is for the bold and the brave", and did he ever live by these words each and every day.

Born in Teulon, Manitoba on February 18, 1968 James Edward Peters was a light, and energizer bunny from the get-go. As a young boy, full of life and mischievousness, Jim knew how to have fun. Raised by Gertrude Johanna Meier and the late Walter Harry Peters, Jim began working in his dad's car maintenance garage as early as 12 years old, bringing passion, creativity, laughter and more fun than work to the garage. Jim loved to play with his late sister, June Diane Peters as a young boy and through the ups and downs of life, Jim's older brother, Ronnie John Peters, described Jim as an encourager. During a low, Ronnie recounts 12-year-old

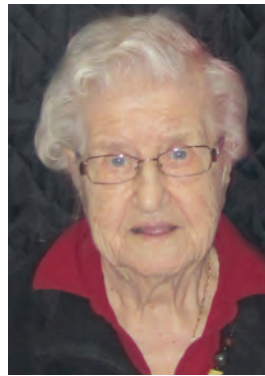
Jim saying "Well, you just have to get back on your horse and ride again". Jim, Ronnie, their oldest brother, Gary Bruce Peters and countless friends would hunt, fish and camp and play classic rock music together. Jim attended Balmoral Elementary, graduating from Stonewall High School in 1986 where he excelled in athletics and in practical jokes. He has always been naturally gifted in mechanics, fixing things, creating things and creating relationships. Following high school, Jim began his career as an auto-body mechanic through Red River College. He quickly learned of his preference to work in aircraft mechanics and began training as an Aircraft Maintenance Engineer (AME) from 1987-1991. Jim's love for adventure then drew him to Thompson, MB where he worked for Skyward and Calm Air as an AME and quickly took to the skies in 1992. Shortly after, Jim met his beautiful wife, Carla Susan Wall. Their relationship was immediately effortless, full of humor and full of romance. In 1994, Carla joined Jim in Thompson to work as a Physiotherapist and were married on July 22, 1995. Carla and Jim enjoyed fly-in fishing, exploring, cooking, socializing and laughing together. In 1997, Carla and Jim were called to Morden, MB for Jim's enticing career as a mechanic and aerial applicator. Within two to three years, Jim was the owner of an aircraft maintenance business, Southern Manitoba Aircraft Rebuilders (SMAR), a flight school, now known as Mountain City Aviation (MCA) and an aerial applicator business, Pembina Air Service (PAS). His determination, work ethic and perseverance in operating and maintaining these organizations successfully was obvious. Jim would never sweat the small stuff. His happy-go-lucky nature earned him an infinite amount of friends and touched so many. For someone who loved to fly, Jim was the most grounded individual. He was profound, wise beyond his years and deeply spiritual. Jim was real and always open and ensured that everyone he met knew their value and how much Jim loved and appreciated them. When his three children came along, Vienna June (1998), Katia Milan (2000) and Aiden James (2003), he was intentional about sharing with them his own fears, passions, dreams and goals and intentional about teaching each child to do the same. He taught them to love deeply, live fiercely, to be bold and to be brave. The Peters family packed their years together with cabin time at Laughing Water Lodge, ski trips to Fernie, Lake Louise and Colorado, trips to Mexico and loads of quality time simply being together. Time spent on the back deck while Jim cooked the most extravagant dinners, morning time in the sunroom with a cup of coffee talking politics or time talking faith and spirituality over a glass of Appleton in the evenings. Family and friends were the most important thing to Jim, but aviation and his businesses were a close second. Jim's natural aptitude for mechanics led him to leave his special touch on countless aircraft. His magnificent paint jobs, thoughtful mechanical considerations and the way he paid attention to detail made him a master. Jim also inspired and mentored countless young and old aviators. He worked selflessly to keep the opportunity to learn and experience the gift of flight alive in his community of Morden, MB. He constantly challenged himself to learn and grow despite his already incredible repertoire. Recently, Jim passed his Class IV flight instructor written exam and was studying to become an official instructor to keep his flight school Mountain City Aviation thriving. He also delivered aerial application through Pembina Air as if he was spraying his very own fields. He treated each work-order as if it were the most important work-order, he flew with heart and with grace and to satisfy to the utmost of his abilities, all of his customers. Jim, although aviation took something so special from us, we promise to continue to use aviation as a way to feel connected to you. We promise to honor your legacy, as a pilot, but also as the greatest husband, dad, son, brother and friend of all time. We promise to love deeply, live fiercely and to be bold and brave. We will see you in the skies.

Memorial service was held on Monday August 15, 2022 at the Access Event Centre in Morden.

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



OBITUARY



**Eva Wiebe (nee Harder)
1924 - 2022**

Peacefully, Eva Wiebe, 98 years old, passed away at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, August 6, 2022 at Salem Home in Winkler, MB with her family at her side.

Mom was the youngest of eight children. She was born on a farm near Plum Coulee on June 25th, 1924 and was raised south of Plum Coulee. She went to school in Horndean. She was baptized upon the confession of her faith in Jesus Christ in 1945 in the Plum Coulee Sommerfelder Church. She married the love of her life, John Wiebe, on November 4, 1945. They were blessed with four children and two foster children. Mom and Dad first lived on his parent's yard in a small house while Dad helped on the farm. Early in their married life, Dad worked in construction for Eric Leuzinger and Isbrand Rempel. At age 45, Dad bought his first Caterpillar and began his own business. Mom and Dad always worked hard and founded JKW Construction Ltd. in 1964 in Plum Coulee, MB. Mom was a big help with the business, often cooking meals for the workers and on hot days bringing watermelon and rollkuchen to the job site for everyone. She was an excellent cook and made the best buns. She was a natural care giver. She cared for her father for a number of years when his health started failing him, worked as a nurse in the Morden hospital and did home care which she enjoyed a lot. Mom was also an excellent seamstress. In 1975, they went to South America where they visited many Mennonite colonies. Mom helped her aunt as a midwife and Dad provided the transportation for patients needing to go to city hospitals. Mom and Dad spent 10 winters in Brownsville where they learned to slow down and enjoy themselves. They made lots of friends and enjoyed hosting all of us who would visit them to escape the winter. In Brownsville, they volunteered in a senior's home, providing music and entertainment for the residents. Mom spent the last 14 years of her life at the Salem Home in Winkler where they took excellent care of her. We feel blessed that she had such quality of care the last 14 years and want to thank everyone that contributed to her quality care. The last few years of her life has been challenging for her (and us) and we are happy she is now in heaven together with Jesus and her family.

She leaves to mourn her passing two daughters: Dorothy (Henry) Dueck of Morden and Janice Wiebe of Winkler, two sons: Jack (Sharlene) Wiebe of Plum Coulee and Ernie (Lisa) Wiebe of Plum Coulee, a foster son, Billy Antonine and a foster daughter, Linda Miller; 14 grandchildren: Kevin, Jason, Justin, Kyle, Mark, Chris, Jackie, Jennifer, Vicky, Danielle, Richard, Janet, Leon, Melania; 15 great-grandchildren: Vann, Cohen, Madeline, Brook, Cole, Slone, Izzy, Jaden, Kiren, Garret, Kanard, Naomi, Dexter, Marvin, Karlina, Dallas and one great-great-grandchild, Grayson.

She was predeceased by her husband, John K Wiebe in 2013; both parents, John and Catherine Harder; five brothers: John (Katherine), Jake (Sarah), Henry (Tina), Peter (Trudy) and Ed (Marry) and three sisters: Tena (Henry) Stoesz Helen (Cornie) Stoesz, Agatha (Bill) Giesbrecht.

On John's side of the family, she is survived by sisters-in-law, Kay and Nettie and brother-in-law, Abe (Diane).

Memorial service was held at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 10, 2022 at Winkler Mennonite Church with interment prior at the Plum Coulee Cemetery.

Thank you to Wiebe Funeral Home who have taken care of arrangements and to the Salem Home for their excellent care of Mom for many years.

Donations may be made in Eva's memory to the Salem Foundation, 165 15th Street, Winkler, MB. R6W 1T8 designated to the Palliative Care program at Salem Home.

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Cut canola later for higher yield

By Shawn Senko

Growers who give canola crops time for all seeds to reach maturity can see a 10 per cent increase in yield. That is why the Canola Council of Canada recommends swathing when the main stem shows at least 60 per cent seed colour change.

A Canola Council study from the early 2000s showed that canola swathed at 60-70 per cent seed colour change (SCC) yielded 11 per cent more than fields swathed at 30-40 per cent.

In 2013, Indian Head Agricultural Research Foundation compared two swath timings (20-30 per cent and 50-60 per cent SCC) and found that waiting a week until canola reached the more advanced stage increased yields by nearly nine per cent. BASF trials found that 60 per cent SCC is the "sweet spot" for hybrids without the pod-shatter trait. For hybrids with the pod-shatter trait, BASF trials showed higher yields for canola swathed at 80 per cent and highest yields for canola straight combined.

A 2020 Canola Council survey of 1,000 canola growers suggests many are cutting too early, and leaving yield on the table. Of the growers who swath all or some of their canola, the survey found that half of them target an SCC of less than 60 per cent.

Growers may have reasons to cut early based on frost risk and logistics, but, where possible, we'd like to see the target shift to later cutting.

What does 60% SCC look like?

At 60 per cent SCC on the main stem, seeds from the bottom third of the stem will have completely turned brown-black in colour. Seeds from the

middle third will be mostly brown, with some speckling and mottling. Seeds from the top third will still be green but firm to roll. Seeds that are mushy when rolled between the thumb and finger are not physiologically mature and will shrivel up after cutting. With the main stem showing this level of maturity, seeds from side branches should also be firm to roll. If they're not, growers may want to leave the field standing a little longer. SCC will typically increase by about 10 percentage points every two or three days, so waiting a week can provide a big boost in yield.

Uneven fields

Canola fields with plants at varying states of maturity often have growers wondering when to cut the crop. Ideally, the least-mature areas of the field will be left until their seeds reach physiological maturity.

Swathing remains the best and least risky option to manage extreme variation in maturity, however uneven crops could be left for straight combining.

While early maturing plants may start to shell out, late plants have more time to mature. And straight combining eliminates the need to make the swath timing decision at all.

Of the farmers who participated in the 2020 survey, 19 per cent straight combined all of their canola acres.

For more on this topic, please read "Swath later for higher yield" in the Harvest section at canolawatch.org/fundamentals.

Shawn Senko is an agronomy specialist with the Canola Council of Canada. Email senkos@canolacouncil.org.

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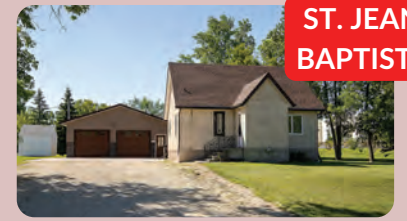
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Only the best at RuffMutts

It started with a simple premise: offering high-quality pet food to rural pet owners.

That idea has spawned not one but three locations of the RuffMutts pet store in Manitoba, including right here in Altona.

With their first location in Niverville four years ago, it was a matter of identifying a hole in the market, recalls owner Guy Britten.

"We recognized there was a need there when it came to pet food and pet nutrition," he says. "It's something I spent a lot of time researching with my own dogs.

"I think one of the challenges a lot of people have in rural settings is there are choices, and some of them are okay choices, but you don't really have a lot of quality choices where people really specialize in pet nutrition."

Thus, RuffMutts was born and quickly thrived.

"We offered some limited choices of quality Canadian pet food and we just grew from there," says Britten, noting they pride themselves on

offering "the best possible food for every price point."

RuffMutts caters not just to dog owners but also has pet food, supplies, and toys for cats, birds, rabbits, lizards, and other small animals.

"If somebody comes into our store and maybe they have chinchillas or something that we typically don't carry food for, we'll bring it in for them," Britten says. "And if people have a certain treat or toy or other item that they like, whether it be for a rabbit or a dog or a cat, we'll do our best to bring it in."

Once its first store was established, Britten started looking for another market to break into. Altona fit the bill.

"Altona was interesting because we knew it was cutting it a bit close in terms of population, but we thought we could make a go of it," he says. "And it's working. We've been getting good response from the community and it's still growing."

Soon after arriving in the community, RuffMutts became a member of the Altona



RuffMutts owner Guy Britten says they pride themselves on having knowledgeable staff and offering high-quality pet food for every price point.

& District Chamber of Commerce.

"It's a natural fit," Britten says. "It's a great way to get a feel for the community, introduce ourselves a little bit to other business and organizations, and work with certain initiatives, like the Chamber Bucks, which we certainly see quite a bit of that coming in."

"I think working with the chamber is a win-win. It's the sort of relationship where you give a little bit but you get back a fair bit as well."

Stop by RuffMutts in the Altona Mall or find them online at ruffmutts.ca.



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