



NEW PRICE \$639,900
 MLS num: 202412543
 Cattle or Sheep Farm Property
 65.3 Acres near Rosenfeld
 Charming two-story farmhouse,
 35 x 43 heated shop, a 2200 sq ft barn,
 and 6000 sq ft of dry storage.



The **Voice** Altona • Rhineland • Morris

VOLUME 3 EDITION 35

THURSDAY,
AUGUST 29, 2024

altonavoice.ca

LOCALLY OWNED HISTORY BOOK FOR THE COMMUNITY



**Canadian Tire Auto
Service in Winkler**

CHECK OUT OUR
SELECTION OF
CLEARANCE TIRES
SELECT SIZES,
GREAT PRICES
WHILE SUPPLIES LAST!



CALL JAMES OR
SHANE FOR AN
APPOINTMENT TODAY!
204.325.0641
781 Norquay Dr., Winkler



**A night of music,
food, and fellowship**

Edna Dreger enjoys music with daughter Bonnie and son-in-law Rob McKinley at the Red River Valley Lodge's fundraising barbecue last week. For more photos, see Pg. 17.

PHOTO BY SIOBHAN MAAS/VOICE

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



**Altona
MCC
THRIFT SHOP**

10 Main
Street,
Altona
204-324-8323
AltonaMCC
@gmail.com

**STORE WIDE
HALF PRICE SALE**

Clearing out our SUMMER inventory
Sale dates are Sept. 5-7, 2024



A bountiful season for Altona Community Garden

By Lori Penner

Despite a wet start, this year's harvest at the Altona Community Garden looks to be a bountiful one.

"You had to work a little harder to stay ahead of the weeds, but everything looks great," says coordinator Jack Heppner, who adds there was a waiting list when planting season began this year.

"This year we expanded north, with 40 new plots, but we had 65 new ap-

plicants. But there are always spaces that open, with some not coming back. So we decided the first 30 on the waiting list would get one plot. The next 30 got half a plot. There are about 30 or so people on the north side that only have half a plot, but they got their foot in the door."

With about 150 families using the garden, Heppner estimates that the site provides fresh produce for at least 800 people.

"That's substantial. There's always



PHOTO BY LORI PENNER/VOICE

Altona Community Garden coordinator Jack Heppner peeking over the tall corn.

somebody here, in all kinds of numbers. There are so many cultures represented. About 47 percent of the gardeners are newcomers. One disadvantage with the growth is that I

don't remember everyone's names anymore, but they all know mine."

To say that the community garden is growing is an understatement. It's

Continued on page 18

Our mistake

Our front-page photo last week had an incorrect name in the cutline.

The kids enjoying the water at the library's summer reading program wrap party at the Altona Aquatic Centre were Brady, Keyrah, Caleb, and Silas Fehr.

We regret the error and any confusion it may have caused.



 **Red River Valley Palliative Care**
Presents

The Butterfly Golf Tournament

WHEN: Sunday, September 8, 2024
WHERE: Emerson Golf Course
TIME: REGISTRATION 11:30 am
SHOTGUN START 12:30 pm
4 PERSON TEXAS SCRAMBLE

ENTRY FEE: \$65.00/PERSON INCLUDES

- 9 HOLES OF GOLF
- MEAL by Border 9 Bar & Grill
- \$20.00 Donation tax receipt

RAFFLE
Hole-in-One CONTEST
PRIZES

**PUTTING CONTEST • COMMODE CHIPPING CONTEST
LADDER GOLF • LONGEST DRIVE • CLOSEST TO THE PIN**

PRE-REGISTRATION REQUESTED Major Sponsors

PLEASE CONTACT: KATHLEEN @ MORRIS HOSPITAL
PHONE 746-2301, (press#2, then press#4)
Or 204-746-7356 Or EMERSON GOLF COURSE
PHONE: 204-373-2015 Or hrafferty@southernhealth.ca
redrivervalleyipc@gmail.com

 **Calderwood's Country Store**
 **ACCESS CREDIT UNION**

 **Altona**

Hey Altona, Are you registered for our alert system?

Receive text or phone call alerts for:

- Severe weather
- Boil water advisories
- Major road closures
- ...and more



 **REGISTER TODAY**
ALTONA CONNECT
www.altona.ca
204-324-6468
Scan this QR code 

PVLIP puts call out for Welcoming Week participants

Get your photo with “I’m a Welcomer” frame for upcoming social media blitz

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Pembina Valley Local Immigration Partnership (PVLIP) is launching a fun new social media campaign next month, and they’re inviting you to be part of it.

From Sept. 13-22, PVLIP will for the first time be taking part in Welcoming Week.

Welcoming Week is an annual opportunity to recognize and celebrate the people, places, and values that help everyone feel welcome and give them a sense of belonging in their community, no matter where they come from.

“It’s a national initiative that started about four years ago,” explains PVLIP coordinator Elaine Burton-Saindon. “For us, it’s really the first year we’ve had the resources and the staffing to

manage it on top of everything else, so we’re stepping into it this year with the intention of keeping it going on an annual basis.”

Taking the lead on the campaign is PVLIP community liaison Kevin Driedger, who has put a call out for people and businesses to make use of the “I’m a Welcomer” selfie frame they’ve created.

“We at PVLIP want to celebrate all the people who make the Pembina Valley a welcoming place,” he says, explaining he and other agency staff are open to scheduling a time to stop by locations across the region to snap a photo of individuals, employee groups, volunteers, etc. with the frame to be posted on social media during Welcoming Week (#WelcomingWeek2024 and #WelcomingPV).

“Already I’ve got places that are interested scheduling times,” Driedger says, noting that you can also take part by sending him photo that he can insert into the frame digitally. “We’re trying to make it as accessible as possible for people to participate.”

“This is a fun and engaging way to get community people involved,

businesses, other organizations, municipal leaders ... we hope throughout the region there’s a wide variety of participation,” says Burton-Saindon.

“The plan is for that week, social media will be flooded with pictures of welcoming people from throughout the Pembina Valley,” Driedger adds. “That’s the goal.”

Helping create communities where everyone feels like they belong is what PVLIP was created for, Burton-Saindon says, so this campaign is a great fit for the organization.

“Everything we do—in all of our strategies, our promotions, our campaigns—is all about creating that welcoming space,” she says, explain-

ing they do that in a variety of ways, including helping municipalities and businesses create policies that foster inclusiveness, hosting community events to bring people from all walks of life together, and shining a spotlight on local success stories.

“Businesses are thriving because of immigration, economic development is happening because of immigration, and our communities, in general, are very welcoming. There’s a lot of good stories out there,” Burton-Saindon says, and this campaign is one way to shine a spotlight on that.

If you’d like to get involved in Welcoming Week 2024, connect with Driedger via email to kevin@pvlip.ca.



SUPPLIED PHOTO

PVLIP staffers Kevin Driedger, Elaine Burton-Saindon (centre), and Tara Funke with the “I’m a Welcomer” photo frame they’ve created to mark Welcoming Week 2024 on social media Sept. 13-22. Contact PVLIP today to get your photo with the frame.

Back To School Deals!!!

KIDS KEEN RUNNERS

25% OFF

WESTERN BOOTS

20-25% OFF

WRANGLER HOODIES TAX INCLUDED WHEN YOU BUY 2

20% OFF

TERRA CSA WORKBOOT

25% OFF

CONGRATS TO BRYNLEE!! ONE OF THE WINNERS OF COLOURING CONTEST!

KC'S Shoe Repair YOUR WORK & WESTERN WEARHOUSE
WINKLER, MB • Ph: 325-5538
Service & Selection Guaranteed Company charges welcome (must be arranged ahead of time)

HOURS: Monday to Friday 9:30 am to 5:30 pm Saturday 9:30am to 4:00 pm
325 Kimberly Rd. - East of Canadian Tire
GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE

From Argon To Xenon We Have You Covered

Welding Gases For The Altona Area

We are pleased to announce JNM Custom Steel as the new distributor for Innovair welding gases & supplies in the Altona area.

JNM Custom Steel

415 Industrial Drive,
Altona, MB

Call (204) 216-0751

getinformed



SUPPLIED PHOTO

A campaign to collect donations for midway wristbands for families in need raised enough to hand out over 150 passes at the Corn and Apple Festival last weekend.

Thousands raised in midway wristband campaign

By Lorne Stelmach

An initiative that helped make it possible for local families to enjoy the midway at the Corn and Apple Festival will likely become an annual effort.

The idea of collecting donations to distribute free wristband passes for the Wonder Shows midway was started previously by former mayor Brandon Burley, and a local couple helped take up the initiative this year in conjunction with the 500 Stephen community centre.

Allison and Reg Braun of Gallery Wealth Management

picked up on it after reading a post on the In the Know Morden Facebook group that wondered if it would be done again.

"[Burley] didn't do it because he was the mayor. He did it because he just saw a need," said Allison Braun. "I thought, 'You don't need to be the mayor to do something like this—anybody could do it.'"

Hooking up with 500 Stephen was a vital part of the effort, as it was able to help connect with families that might not have been able to otherwise afford the cost of midway passes.

People were encouraged to either e-transfer money or donate in person at Gallery Wealth Management, and interested families were able to sign up at 500 Stephen to be eligible for the draw to award the wristband passes.

Braun said everyone who came in to donate was excited to be able to help out.

"It was just lovely to see. So many people pitched in, to the point where we had more tickets than we actually had people sign up at 500 Stephen," she said. "We had people donating money past the point where we said this was the cutoff for donations ... we had already purchased the tickets."

The campaign brought in \$5,720 in

all and also got support from Wonder Shows, allowing them to give away over 150 wristbands.

"It was so successful. The community was so supportive, and I think people who received the tickets were so thankful," said Braun, who noted they believe a vast majority of the recipients were from Morden.

"The whole thing was amazing. It was so fun to be a part of it ... and we're definitely going to do it again next year, but we'll tweak it a bit," she said. "We're going to do things a little bit differently next year ... having learned this year, we'll do it better next year."

Braun noted they had been told other communities are talking about doing something similar in conjunction with their festivals.

"I think it has sort of sparked a movement in communities around the province," she said.

"It was an amazing sight to see. Our community is just like none other. I've always felt that Morden is a really special place ... we love volunteering for our community because it's a worthwhile place to give our time to ... and I just think the people of Morden are amazing community members."



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
- Let the dust clear – never follow someone in the dust
- Never enter an intersection unless you are certain it is clear
- Drive defensively
- Yield to large equipment
- Respect work crews along roads

"Road safety is everyone's business – make it yours"

A message from the RM of Stanley

Summer sunrise



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Roy Heinrichs snapped this photo of a stunning sunrise over the Minnewasta Golf and Country Club course last Friday morning.

Morden-Winkler SuperWalk coming up Sept. 7

By Lorne Stelmach

George Braun has a strong personal motivation to support the local Parkinson Canada SuperWalk.

The Winkler resident, who has been the top fundraiser in the Morden and Winkler area in recent years, not only has the disease himself but has also seen it afflict his father, his mother-in-law, and his wife Cathy.

"So we've been dealing with this disease for quite some time," Braun said in advance of the SuperWalk taking place in Morden Sept. 7. "I have thought about who else in our family is going to get it. Is our kids or their kids, our grandkids? You never know ... that has crossed our minds quite a bit.

"To me, it's personal ... it's easy for me to say get involved because it's a good cause ... there are a lot of good causes out there, but when there's a cause where you see some good support coming out of it and help coming out of it, it's a worthwhile thing to do."

Parkinson's is an incurable brain disease that occurs when brain cells involved in mobility and coordination are dying. As a progressive disease, symptoms slowly worsen, and new ones develop over time.

While Parkinson's is typically known for its movement-related symptoms like tremors and difficulty with mobility, non-movement symptoms such as anxiety and depression, sleep issues, cognitive problems, and sometimes even dementia can also occur.

In total, there are more than 35 Parkinson's symptoms, and they can vary from one person to the next, making everyone's experience with the disease unique. Not all symptoms of Parkinson's are outwardly visible, and the severity of symptoms can change from day to day and even by the hour.

Currently, more than 100,000 Canadians live with Parkinson's, and that number is expected to increase in the coming years with more than 12,000 people diagnosed with the disease every year in Canada.

The Parkinson Canada SuperWalk has raised \$44 million to date to directly support people living with Parkinson's and their families, and the

Morden-Winkler walk aims to raise \$40,000 this year.

Braun has raised nearly \$40,000 in pledges himself over the past couple years of walks.

"I have some very good supporters," he said. "Over the last few years, we've raised a lot of money."

Braun's father was the first to be diagnosed with Parkinsons followed by his mother-in-law and then Cathy in 2012.

"At that point, we were both walking. Now [Cathy] isn't walking without a walker," he noted.

"I don't really know if it's hereditary or if it's just a fluke thing that it hit us," he continued. "Cathy actually diagnosed her mom and then talked to her doctor, and they confirmed that she had Parkinsons, and they sent her to a specialist in Winnipeg ... then years later, guess where she got sent ... to the same doctor.

"Her meds are regulated, and she hasn't had any med changes now for a number of years.

It seems to be working," said Braun, who recalled his wife one time having a fall in the yard, but it was only seven weeks later they finally learned it was a fractured hip and a fractured pelvis, which eventually led to hip surgery.

"The biggest thing for me is that when I retired, I had plans of maybe doing some travelling ... it ties you down at home more," he said, noting he managed one trip after he retired with another couple, but "since then, we haven't done many trips, so it's a bit of a drawback, but things happen, and we don't control it.

"It ties me down more. I do some golfing," he added, noting he plays in the local senior men's league. "I don't want to be away for a long length of time ... it's a life change for you."

He looks forward to supporting the local walk each year now also because it brings his family together for the occasion.

"I've been walking now for probably about 12 years ... not always in Morden," he said. "When the pandemic hit, they didn't walk in Morden, so then I got a group of family members and extended family together in Winkler, and we walked our five kilometres here."

"OVER THE LAST FEW YEARS, WE'VE RAISED A LOT OF MONEY."



PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Above: Participants in last year's Parkinson Canada SuperWalk. This year's event is Sept. 7 in Morden. Right: George Braun, who lives with Parkinson's, will be lacing up his shoes to raise funds.



Braun encouraged everyone to do whatever they can to support the fundraising walk and the work of Parkinson Canada.

"It has a lot of help for people who have Parkinsons ... my hope would be that with research they might find more help for the next generation."

The Sept. 7 walk sets out from the Morden Mennonite Church. Registration is at 10 a.m. followed by the walk at 11 a.m.

You can visit www.SuperWalk.ca to register as an individual or a team or make a donation directly to Parkinson Canada.

The Board of Directors of Child & Family Services of Central Manitoba Inc.



Would like to invite you to attend the

90th Annual General Meeting

of Child & Family Services of Central Manitoba Inc.

Wednesday, September 11, 2023 at 6:30 pm

Child & Family Services of Central Manitoba Inc.

**25 – 3rd St. South East
Portage la Prairie, Manitoba**

Guest Speakers

Membership is not required for attendance.

Please RSVP to Christine.bergen@gov.mb.ca or 204-239-3839 by September 5, 2024.

If you are unable to attend the meeting, but wish to view the 2023-2024 Annual Report, it will be available on our website at <https://cfsocentral.mb.ca> after September 11, 2024

The Voice What's *Your* story? Call 204-325-6888

The Janzen Boys perform in Manitou Sat., Sept. 7

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Janzen Boys have come a long way from their roots starting out busking at The Forks for spare change.

Today, more than a decade after first getting their feet wet as street performers, the trio of father John Janzen and sons Simon and Mick have several singles, a full album of new music released late last year, and multiple shows across Canada under their belts.

Next weekend they bring their country-folk style to the Manitou Opera House to wrap up the Honey Garlic & Maple Syrup Festival.

"We always say it's a mix between rootsy/folk/country with lots of harmony singing," says Mick of their show.

"That outside-of-the-Perimeter music," chimes in John with a chuckle, adding they've very much found their audience in the concert halls and

opera houses of rural Canada.

The family today calls Winnipeg home, though John grew up in Killarney and the boys spent the bulk of their childhoods in Japan.

Music was always a part of their household growing up, shares Mick.

"There's always been lots of instruments in the house. Dad would say it was part of his strategy to have instruments everywhere in the house—so much so we'd have to step over them to get around."

"Because I knew if I forced the issue then they wouldn't do it," explains John. "It was like fishing, and I put a lot of bait out there."

After spending 12 years overseas, the family returned to Manitoba in 2012 and John and the boys started performing in public.

"That was Simon's idea," John says. He was 12 at the time, while Mick was just nine years old.

"I really wanted to try the busking thing," Simon recalls. "It was proba-

bly an influence of when Dad had had a band in Japan, and I was like, 'I would love to do this at The Forks' because I would always see the buskers there ... I loved the idea of performing and seeing some cash roll in at the same time.'

"Simon was always the outgoing performance brother," John adds. "And Mick was always like,



SUPPLIED PHOTO

The Janzen Boys—father John Janzen and sons Mick and Simon—perform at the Manitou Opera House next weekend as part of the Honey Garlic and Maple Syrup Festival entertainment lineup.

'I'll play, but put me at the back of the stage.'

"So Simon and Dad starting busking and I wanted to play, but they wouldn't let me in because I wouldn't sing harmonies," recalls Mick. "So the deal was I could join them at The Forks if I sang, and that's how it all started."

Today, all three of them continue to provide not only vocals but also instrumentals for their shows, John and Simon on guitar and Mick on mandolin.

They spent two years at The Forks before performing their first stage show at the West End Cultural Centre in Winnipeg, and they haven't looked back since.

This summer the trio have been

travelling across Canada on tour—performing in B.C. to the west and Quebec in the east, and every province in between—promoting their new album, |2|, which chronicles the last five years in their lives.

Being on the road as a family has been a blast, but they're also eager to return home to Manitoba and get back into the studio once again.

"I like the rhythm of it," John says of what's kept him plugging away at a career in music. "I just said this morning that I was getting kind of sick of being on the road, ready to get home ... there's a bunch of stuff I want to record in our basement."

"And then I know when I'm home for a month and a half I'm going to be like, hey, when are we going to get back out on the road again?"

Audiences in Manitou can expect an eclectic show when The Janzen Boys come to the opera house Sept. 7.

"We say we sort of have two modes: the rock and folk country aspect and then the more singer-songwriter, three-part harmonies aspect," Mick says.

The concert is also full of plenty of stories and family banter.

Continued on page 9



Come to Oakview Golf and Country Club 5km south of Altona, MB and enjoy an unforgettable day of golf.

Our glow golf tournament will be held Saturday, Aug 31. Registration starts at 6:30pm, along with happy hour specials and a rib dinner served at 7pm. The registration fee is \$65.00, and includes the green fee, the dinner and 1 glow ball!

On Wed., Sept. 4, we will host the Earl Dick Memorial Golf Tournament. It will begin at 5:30pm with a Rib dinner waiting at the end of the round. You can register for the tournament through the clubhouse at 204-327-5590. The tournament is paid by donation along with an additional \$11 cart fee, and a \$23 Dinner fee.

Updated kitchen hours are:
 Monday 11am-7pm
 Tuesday-Friday 11:30am- 8pm
 Saturday 8am- 8pm
 Sunday 8am-2pm

Breakfast is only served on weekends until 2pm. Subject to change as the weather changes.




RURAL BUDS CANNABIS SHOP

MORRIS • CARMAN
 ST. PIERRE • ST. ADOLPHE



Jack McKennitt inducted into livestock hall of fame

By Lorne Stelmach

A Morden producer cited for having helped shape the cattle industry in Manitoba received a posthumous honour recently.

The Livestock Markets Association of Canada recognized livestock dealer and auction market operator Jack McKennitt with an induction into the livestock hall of fame.

The Manitoba Livestock Marketing Association nominated McKennitt, who was unanimously chosen to be this year's inductee. Jack's son Warren and daughter Loreena attended the induction ceremony in Waterloo, Ontario earlier this summer.

"It was pretty exceptional and just totally wonderful ... to discover really in some ways how he took a leadership role in various ways and champion people ... that was very heartwarming," said Loreena. "I've learned even more things about what he was involved in ... I wasn't aware at the time. It sort of broadens one's perspective of their parent, which is always interesting."

"We were quite honoured. It was a really neat thing and to hear the write-up they had ... we were quite excited about it," said Warren.

He said a number of people who had done business with dad said that "it was high time ... 'your dad was the ultimate advocate or voice for us small producers.'"

McKennitt left school when he was 15 to start a 50-year career as a livestock dealer and auction market operator. He was a third-generation livestock dealer and ran his business out of Morden.

His passion for the livestock marketing business was unmatched, and his reputation for honesty and integrity was of the highest standard.

During the early years, McKennitt would gather cattle in southern Manitoba, load them on rail cars, and then follow them to Winnipeg to watch them sell and make sure his customers got a fair price for their cattle. He attended sales at the union stock yards in St. Boniface three to four days per week.

His interest and knowledge of live-



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Livestock Markets Association of Canada president Craig Jacklin presents the late Jack McKennitt's children, Loreena and Warren, with the hall of fame award.

stock continued to grow, as did his belief in the live auction method of price discovery for selling cattle.

In the early '70s, he was approached by a group of producers in Pilot Mound to manage and operate the small sale barn located there. He also eventually was one of the original partners at the Winnipeg Livestock Sales.

As he became more involved in this area of the industry, McKennitt became an active member of the Manitoba Livestock Markets Association. Through his involvement as a buyer on most of the markets in Manitoba, he knew most of the operators represented on the provincial association.

Continued on page 10

"He believed in the small producer"

By Lorne Stelmach

With their father's recent induction into the national livestock hall of fame, brother and sister Warren and Loreena McKennitt found themselves reflecting on the many ways that Jack McKennitt made a major impact on the industry here in Canada.

"He believed in the small producer, which was his bread and butter out here. Back in those days, there were no big feedlots. If there were, they were few and far between," suggested Warren.

"The packing industry was in Winnipeg, so he developed quite a group of connections there, all the packers ... he knew one guy might have 30 head in his little yard, and they would not all be ready to go at the same time, but Dad would go in and say okay, you've got five ready to go ... he would get the best price for that producer, for those five cattle.

"Then as time went on, the industry changed. You got the bigger players, bigger feedlots ... there were bigger orders, so that changed, and then he had more contacts down east, and the customer base there was changing."

Warren recalled how his father would take local producers on some of those trips east so that they could meet other producers.

"It was to show this is another way that you could do it back home ... there were things like

that which he did, taking producers to visit with other producers. Dad had all these contacts and wanted to make sure that they all got together to talk about things."

When stock yards were getting shut down, the elder McKennitt and a few others opened up the Winnipeg livestock sales.

Warren further recalled when there was focus on marketing boards and doing away with the traditional ways of doing things.

"Dad was going to have no part of that, and he was going to tell them in no uncertain circumstances that it wasn't good for business," he said. "There were things that small markets could do better than big markets ... we were fighting for the producers and for the small markets, but all the markets really, to keep them going.

"Somewhere very late '70s, early '80s, there was more of a need to interact with government, and that was a big deal. These cowboys weren't lobbyists ... my father wasn't either, but he had cultivated contacts in Manitoba with the politicians to gently encourage them on things they should do and shouldn't do.

"So he was always working behind the scenes to get to know the people who were going to be making the decisions, and he wasn't afraid to let them know if their decision was going to be good for the industry or not.

"Just before he died, he said to me, 'I don't know

where this industry is going. There's big change coming. I don't know what's going to happen' ... and there was huge change."

Loreena, who today is an international singer-songwriter and composer, has fond memories of spending time helping her father on the family farm as a youth.

"I remember feeding some of the livestock over there in minus 30 degree weather ... it's kind of a character-building experience," she said. "I went to work at the stockyards. At 3 o'clock, when the auction rings were done, I would go out into the auction rings and help him bring some of the cattle back, sort them into the barn. He would go back to Morden and I would stay and feed and water some of the livestock, and then I would go and perform at the Hollow Mug."

She has developed an even deeper appreciation for her father over the years.

"I got to see him in different settings and with different people," she said. "He was not a very complex person. He was, in some ways, a regular type of person from the country but who had very strong values ... he was a really good man.

"I saw him in those different settings and driving around the countryside ... particularly in the last couple years, I would sometimes go back and I would help drive him to some of the farmers' places. We would have some good talks, and again I see how he was with the farmers ... I really, really respected him.

"I really wish he was around now ... there are so many aspects of our parents that we would love to appreciate more."



PUBLISHER
Lana Meier



MARKETING & PROMOTIONS
Brett Mitchell



EDITOR
Ashleigh Viveiros



REPORTER
Lorne Stelmach



REPORTER
Lori Penner



REPORTER
Siobhan Maas



SALES
Gwen Dyck



PRODUCTION
Nicole Kapusta



PRODUCTION
Tara Gionet



DISTRIBUTION
Christy Brown

The newspaper is supported by advertising dollars. If you enjoy the paper and would like to see it grow and prosper, visit any of the advertisers and businesses in our rural communities. Keep your dollars working at home and shop local.

Our commitment to you: we want to help build stronger communities through articles that both inform and entertain you about what's going on throughout the Pembina Valley. This is your community newspaper—let us know what you want to see in it.

OUR SISTER PUBLICATIONS



Hold my beer

It has been said by many, including me, that only an idiot would try to predict the results of an election beforehand. Well, I am that idiot.

Despite knowing that electoral predictions are about as accurate as the Farmer's Almanac I continue to jump at the chance at trying to guess what will happen and am regularly humbled.

For instance, moments after pictures began to surface of American presidential candidate Donald Trump standing resolutely after an assassination attempt with arm raised and blood streaming down his face I boldly declared: "This is the moment that Trump won the election."

It seemed like the momentum of his campaign train went into light-speed overdrive as people rallied behind the image. This combined with the truly awful performance of President Biden at the recent debate filled Trump's campaign coffers to overflowing with energy and donations.

Then the unthinkable happened. A month before the Democratic convention, President Biden announced he was withdrawing as the candidate for the election. Something he had been saying he would never do.

I say unthinkable because a politician, particularly a president or prime minister, withdrawing from an election is the stuff of myth and legend.



By Peter Cantelon

This is because there is often so much ego and hubris involved that attributes such as humility and self-sacrifice seem to get pushed aside or obliterated in the emotional stampede.

Leaders, like current Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and almost every prime minister who has ever lost an election before him, prefer to go down in flames (often along with their party) than to publicly admit their time has come and step aside for others.

Ironically, one of the few prime ministers who has done this was Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau after his famous walk in the snow. Lester Pearson was another one.

But I digress.

Now we have an interesting situation in the United States with only a little over two months to go until election day. Current Vice President Kamala Harris along with Minnesota Governor Tim Walz have stormed to the front, seemingly reviving the previously dead Democratic election machine.

Suddenly, Democrats have hope, fundraising dollars are pouring in, and the once over-confident Trump has been put on the defensive, having to resort to mocking Harris's race and mispronouncing her name. He'd

make a candidate for Gr. 3 class president look like JFK in comparison.

Additionally, prior to Biden's surprise withdrawal, Trump, brimming with certainty, picked the far-right JD Vance as his pick for VP. The logic was simple: the left has abandoned Biden and so we have the freedom to lean to the right for our election strategy.

Now suddenly the Democrats and the left are more alive than they have been since a young Barack Obama ignited the passions of a nation 16 years ago in 2008. This leaves Trump with a problem: he cannot campaign toward the centre with someone like Vance on his ticket, not to mention the main emphasis of his campaign to this point. This leaves him exposed and leaves undecided and centrist voters of both parties to the Harris/Walz ticket.

It's possible that Trump could suddenly drop Vance in favour of a more moderate choice for VP in a decision as shocking as Biden's withdrawal in hopes of re-energizing his own campaign, but this seems highly unlikely.

No matter how you look at it, this American election season has been

Continued on page 9

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.

Send your letters to us by e-mail at news@winklermordenvoice.ca.

GET IN TOUCH WITH US

GENERAL INQUIRIES:
204-325-6888

ADVERTISING:
Gwen Dyck 204-823-0535
gdyck@winklermordenvoice.ca

Advertising Deadline: Monday at 4 p.m.

NEWS DESK:

Ashleigh Viveiros Editor
204-332-3456 news@winklermordenvoice.ca

Lorne Stelmach Reporter
204-823-2655 lstelmach@winklermordenvoice.ca

MAILING ADDRESS:

Winkler Morden Voice
Box 39, Stonewall, MB R0C 2Z0

The *Voice* is published Thursdays and distributed as a free publication to 21,141 households. Republishing in whole or in part without permission is prohibited. Printed in Canada by Prolific Printing. The *Voice* received financial support from the Government of Canada in 2021.

• DON'T MIND THE MESS

Seize the day

It's funny how something I've always been so passionate about can just slip away without even seeing it go.

I've always been a "seize the day" kind of girl. My mom, in her sweet, worried way, always labelled me as impetuous and compulsive.

And in some ways, she was right. I could never wait for the good things to just come to me. I always knew what I wanted, so I never saw the purpose of waiting for it. When I wanted to get married, I got married.



By Lori Penner

When I wanted to be a mama, I became one. Six times.

Without giving it much thought.

When I wanted to become a writer, I just did it. Regardless of whether I was particularly good at it or not, or whether anyone would like it.

I knew what I wanted.

I never waited for happiness to find me; I hunted it down and caught it. I didn't wait forever for conditions to be just right. I took risks.

That doesn't mean it was always easy. That doesn't mean it was always wise. That doesn't mean I never struggled or suffered any failures.

But the tears and the effort and the consequences were always something I accepted as part of the process. They didn't deter me from dreaming, growing, and going wherever I wanted to go.

But in the last few years, I've become fearful.

I've become a slave to the "what ifs." I became a "waiter." I put life on hold and waited ... for every little piece to fall into place. For security. For safety. For the one thing life can never, ever give you: guarantees.

And in the process, I've lost the most precious thing I could ever have. The thing that connects me to God. The thing that connects me to others. The thing that connects me to myself.

My joy.

It's not easy to admit that.

I knew I'd lost it when I stopped smiling. When I stopped wanting to get up in the morning. When I stopped dancing in the kitchen and singing in the car. When I stopped caring about the little things and spent most of my time worrying about the big ones.

When everything, even the fun things, became too much of an effort.

How did this happen?

When did I become a waiter?

I pondered this the other day, as I noticed a brand-new worry line etched between my eyebrows.

I realized this new and "not so im-

proved" me has got to go.

So, I've embarked on a quest. Every day, I'm going to do at least one thing that brings me joy. Tiny little gifts to nourish my spirit. I want every day to count. I don't want to wait until my holidays to relax. I don't want to wait until I retire before I finally read all the books gathering dust on my shelves. I don't want to wait until I'm old to enjoy my grandchildren or check off some of the things on my bucket list.

I want to carpe the heck out of my diem!

It's been a tough couple of years, with so many loved ones lost. But they have shown me that life is shorter than we think it is. So, I will remember them with my spirit, and honour them with my joy. I will smile through my tears. I will do the things they can no longer do. And I will bless each day with gratitude, happy that I'm still here to see another one.

It's time to not mind the mess and live my life with an open heart.

• FAITH FOCUS

Ready for every season

In our home we have a framed photograph which portrays an early fall scene from the Pinawa Channel.

We have discussed where it should hang. Is it the picture we want to be on display in our living room all year? We like the picture so it does have a place in our home and we may switch a couple of our framed pictures around in keeping with the season we are in. It captures a realistic snapshot of what the fall season could look like in a certain setting.

Speaking of seasons, our summer seemed to be a little late coming and now, after some sweltering heat, our evenings have quickly shifted to cooler temperatures. It is a reminder that the seasons of our year continue and yet each arrives with its own special features for us to experience.

In Genesis 8:22 we read that there are some certainties in our creation.



By Randy Smart

"As long as the earth endures, seed-time and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease."

I have found it helpful to consider that in addition to the weather cycles of the created world we also have seasons in our life. Physically and spiritually, we have or will experience different seasons. David wrote "I was young and now I am old, yet I have never seen the righteous forsaken or their children begging bread." (Psalm 37:25).

When we are younger we may be too busy to notice there is a progression of life experiences and conditions that we face as we continue our days on this earth. Like the cycles of our weather, we arrive at a new time in our circumstances and wants, needs, and even energy for the tasks we once devoted our attention to.

We should not wait until we are old (whatever you consider that age to be) to pay attention to the seasons of life. In the Bible, God has provided a collection of word pictures and instructions so that we can be ready to face each season with his help and continuing supply so that our roots are nourished, even in times of

drought.

In Psalm 1 we read "Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers, but whose delight is in the law of the Lord, and who meditates on his law day and night. That person is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither—whatever they do prospers."

Jeremiah 17 gives us a similar pic-

ture. "They will be like a tree planted by the water that sends out its roots by the stream. It does not fear when heat comes; its leaves are always green. It has no worries in a year of drought and never fails to bear fruit." With God's help we can be like trees planted by a reliable water source, and ready for every season.

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

> CANTELON, FROM PG. 8

the stuff of brain fever dreams and insanity. The once dominant Trump is now in a position of trying to change the rules of or evade his upcoming debate with Harris while Walz is chomping at the bit to debate Vance.

> JANZEN BOYS, FROM PG. 6

"Dad's been telling the same jokes for the last 10 years," says Mick, tongue firmly in cheek.

"I do get reined in sometimes," admits John. "Dad, don't talk so much between songs."

"Whenever I start picking my mandolin when he's talking ..." adds Mick.

"It's like when the orchestra plays during an awards show," John says. "He's playing me off the stage."

At this stage my only hope is that the American election looks like a circus in comparison to the forthcoming Canadian federal election. At the very least, the clowns will be different.

You can learn more about The Janzen Boys and their music online at thejanzenboys.com

Reserved tickets for the Manitou concert, which is being put on by the Manitou Coffeehouse Musicians, are \$25 for adults and \$15 for kids 17 and under. They can be booked by calling or texting 204-242-4415.

The doors and cash bar open at 7 p.m. The show starts at 8 p.m.

get informed

> MCKINNETT, FROM PG. 7



SUPPLIED PHOTO

The late Jack McKennitt has been inducted into the Livestock Markets Association of Canada's hall of fame.

His knowledge of the industry and personal relationship with people resulted in his becoming the president of that organization. He also became more involved with the national association, which led to his being nominated and elected as its president.

McKennitt was also the president of the Manitoba Auction Markets Association for a number of years, and he protected and defended the auction market business in the province.

During his term as president, the provincial government adopted the beef commission, which threatened to take control over the livestock marketing sector. McKennitt rallied the auction market owners to act, and, with the help of some of the members kept the government from forging ahead with its plan.

McKennitt supported the auction

markets across Manitoba and Saskatchewan, often sourcing Angus calves from western Saskatchewan for his local customers and marketing the finished product in the south.

He earned the respect of the marketing sector, producers, and government representatives. Promoting transparent price discovery by public auction was his passion and his life.

McKennitt was never at the front of the line when credit was being handed out, as he preferred to be behind the scenes getting the work done. Nonetheless, he was a true champion in the livestock industry in Manitoba until his death at age 62 in 1992.

"It's been quite a while. Dad's been gone for over 30 years," said Warren. "When we were younger, we knew dad was busy and always on the go ... he would be out interacting with his

customers ... he was trying to make them as successful as they could be despite the changes.

"He never sought the limelight," he added. "I think he would have been quite pleased and happy to receive the award, but he never went out looking for it. He did things because they were the right things to do."

"It's always nice to be recognized, but I would also say that he was the kind of person that got great gratification from just doing things and making a difference," agreed Loreena.

"I certainly knew to a degree that was his philosophy, and he approached the farming community with a kind of equity," she said. "I think he saw that there needed to be some leadership in some quarters by people who'd been in the business for a fair bit of time."

Immigration Business Expo comes to Morden Sept. 20

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Manitoba Immigrant Employment Council (MBIEC), Regional Connections, and New Horizons Media are teaming up to bring a new event to the area next month.

The Immigrant Business Expo Southern Manitoba (IBE) takes over the Morden Access Event Centre on Friday, Sept. 20 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Its goal is to help new immigrants in navigating the often complex requirements of operating a small business in Canada, says organizer Bisi Adebayo, outreach and partnerships manager with MBIEC.

"It's a great opportunity for immigrants looking to start up a business to receive this support," she says. "[This expo] has never happened in the province before."

The IBE shines a light on the fact newcomers to Canada are not simply filling existing jobs in our communities, but also creating new ones, both for themselves and others.

"We want to support employers in hiring newcomers, but newcomers are also job creators in the province," Adebayo stresses. "So we want to support immigrants with these resources and tools [they need to] start their own businesses."

The day will provide existing entrepreneurs and those who aspire to run their own business the opportunity to learn "how to grow their businesses, network, get more profitable branding, getting loans and access to grants" and more, says Adebayo.

Starting a business isn't an easy task for anyone, but newcomers often

have additional hurdles to overcome on the path to success.

"The unique challenges are mainly because they're in a new environment, a new country, so [knowing] how to go about it, where to go, how to start, can be a challenge," Adebayo says.

The expo will connect participants with community services and supports that help newcomers start or grow their own small businesses.

There will be workshops, panel discussions led by leading immigrant entrepreneurs and business leaders, a marketplace featuring immigrant-service organizations and business ser-

vice providers as well as booths from immigrant entrepreneurs showcasing their companies, small business clinics on a variety of topics, and guest speakers, including Jamie Moses, the provincial minister of economic

trade and investment, and Zahid Zehri, a successful pharmacist and business owner in Winkler.

While geared towards immigrants, Adebayo notes the expo is open to anyone interested in this topic.

"It's open to everyone—non-immigrants, immigrants—to attend and learn one or two things about immigrant businesses," she says. "And even those that are non-immigrant that have started businesses here can also help support and promote information of business ideas that would interest someone looking to start a business."

Attendance as a participant is free. You can reserve a spot in advance at the Southern Manitoba Immigrant Business Expo page on Eventbrite.ca.

If you'd like to book a promotional vendor booth at the event (which does come with a cost), or have any other questions, you can connect with Adebayo at 204-325-4059 or bisi@manitobaiec.ca.

"NEWCOMERS ARE ALSO JOB CREATORS IN THE PROVINCE."

The **Voice**
What's *Your* story?
Call 204-325-6888

Do you have a suggestion for our news team?
Is there someone you would like to see recognized in the newspaper for their accomplishments - athletic, academic or community service.

Back-to-school safety reminders

With the excitement of returning to school, it's easy to overlook safety measures. Here are some safety tips to keep in mind as your child transitions into the new school year:

STREET SAFETY

With increased traffic around schools, remind your child to use crosswalks, look both ways before crossing the street and avoid distractions like phones or gadgets. Also, ensure your child wears bright or reflective clothing to make them more visible to drivers.

SAFE TRANSPORTATION

If your child is old enough to walk or bike to school, plan a safe route that avoids busy streets and intersections. If your child takes the bus to school, ensure that they know the bus number and remind them to wait at a safe distance from the curb.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Review emergency procedures with your child, including evacuation routes and what to do in case of a fire or lockdown. Additionally, remind your child about the importance of stranger danger and to never accept rides or gifts from strangers.

CYBER SECURITY

As digital learning becomes more prevalent, teaching your child about online safety is essential. Explain the importance of keeping personal information private and avoiding sharing it with strangers. Also, discuss the risks of cyberbullying and tell your child to report any incidents to a teacher or trusted adult.

These safety tips can help ensure a smooth and secure transition back to school.



Phone: 204-822-4448

BACK TO SCHOOL
and back on the bus!
PLEASE WATCH OUT
FOR OUR CHILDREN!

Ph. 204-325-0829 Admin
For emergencies call 911
www.winklerpolice.ca

COLE & MACE LAW OFFICE
Barristers, Solicitors & Notaries
204-324-6451 www.colemacelaw.com

Paint * Stain* Games* Lego and More!
600 Centennial St., Winkler

JANZEN'S

PAINT & DECORATING LTD.
janzenspaint.com

Back to
School

Back to
Safety

WHERE
Imagination
GROWS

EST. 1907

FRIESENS

— EMPLOYEE-OWNED —

VISIT FRIESENS.COM

HAVE A GREAT SCHOOL YEAR!



BRANDON UNIVERSITY

August 2024

Brandon University helps students get a great start

BRANDON, Man. – Beginning your post-secondary education is a big step, and that's why Brandon University is committed to helping you get off to a great start.

Brandon University has a 125-year history of high-quality academic programs, and a support system that helps students put their best foot forward as soon as they step on campus. A friendly group of student leaders welcome new students when they arrive for orientation, and the helpful faculty and staff are there every step of the way, including academic assistance, career counselling, Student Accessibility Services, personal counselling and cultural resources such as the Indigenous Peoples' Centre. A recent addition to BU's supports is the Al and Bee Wagner Indigenous Student Transition Program, which helps students adjust to university life through mentorship, academic check-ins and guidance from Knowledge Keepers.

"We're a smaller university than many, but we prefer to look at it as being the right size for many new students, who want to step up to post-secondary education without being overwhelmed,"

said Leanne Barcellona, Director of Recruitment and Retention at BU. "The students can really get to know each other and their professors."

Located on a compact but full-service campus at the heart of Manitoba's second-largest city, BU offers its 3,500 students a wide range of options to prepare for their careers. Students can choose from 20 undergraduate programs, six graduate programs and four certificate programs in the Faculties of Arts (including Business), Education, Health Studies, Science and the School of Music. BU even has a Winnipeg campus, which offers the Bachelor of Science in Psychiatric Nursing. There are also 19 pre-professional programs, where students can start at BU taking advantage of small class sizes and exceptional student-to-faculty interaction. Students will be able to obtain the necessary pre-requisites close to home before admission to their desired professional program at another post-secondary institution.

Aiding in career preparation are built-in practicum in Education and Health Studies, as well as the Co-op program option, which mixes in paid work experience between academic terms. Enoch

Ouskun, who was a Co-op Business student and a participant in the Indigenous Student Transition program, began an articling position with an accounting firm following graduation this spring and credited the people of BU helping him reach his goals.

"The professors and staff were all wonderful people and whenever I need help with anything, be it understanding a concept, getting office time to go over questions, or anything to do with deadlines," he said. They were always helpful and understanding."

Brandon University also has robust research programs, allowing students to gain valuable experience working on meaningful projects, even at the undergraduate level. Right now, undergraduate BU students are working on projects including cancer detection and treatment, environmental stewardship, quantum computing and green energy production.

To learn more about Brandon University, take a virtual tour, or set up an in-person visit at brandonu.ca/Future-Students.



Education that gets you off to a great start

let's start

BRANDONU.CA



Career opportunities are around the corner at MITT

Deciding on a post-secondary education can be challenging. While there are many options available in the province, the choice for students wanting industry-driven education is clear. The Manitoba Institute of Trades and Technology (MITT) has graduated thousands of students through its one—and two-year programs, allowing them to quickly reach a fulfilling career in a variety of industries, from health care to skilled trades.

As MITT has evolved over the past decade, the college has focused on making sure its offerings are different than the other options in the market. This applies to both the programs and the experience a student can expect at MITT. MITT offers:

1. A convenient location: MITT's college programs are located at its South Winnipeg campuses, which are easily accessible from the perimeter. This makes MITT an ideal choice for those attending from Winnipeg and surrounding communities.

2. A warm and welcoming environment: MITT provides small classes, campuses, and a welcoming culture. Students will experience an excellent student-to-instructor ratio, resulting in personalized attention and mentorship. Students also ben-

efit from the support and expertise of the Student Services team.

3. Hands-on learning: MITT believes in learning by doing. Industry-experienced instructors provide hands-on training in modern simulation labs, ensuring students gain the in-demand skills they need for their careers.

4. Industry-driven, student-focused programs: MITT programs are designed in collaboration with industry leaders, ensuring learners receive an education that meets the current needs of the workforce. Students can build valuable industry connections through an extensive network of employers, alumni, and community partners. 86 per cent of MITT graduates indicate they have found a job within the first five months of graduation.

5. Diversity in people and programs: Whether you're interested in skilled trades, health care, technology, or the culinary arts, MITT offers a wide range of programs to match students' passions and career goals. MITT also welcomes students from around the world, with applications received from 100 countries.

6. Career and employment services: MITT is well known for its career development resources.

Boasting a nationally recognized team, MITT has worked hard to ensure that every program offers career support as part of the curriculum. Students graduate with both the technical and employability skills needed to be successful.

7. Real-world work environments: MITT campuses are equipped with industry-relevant equipment and the latest technologies. Along with instructors who simulate work-like environments, this helps students prepare for the workplace.

8. Affordable education: MITT understands the financial pressures students and parents face in today's economy. The college offers competitive tuition rates and numerous scholarships and financial aid options to make today's education accessible and affordable. MITT is also part of the Manitoba Student Aid program.

Are you looking to go to a school where innovation is embraced, and you can learn by doing? Consider MITT, where expert recruitment specialists will walk you through program offerings, provide a customized tour, and help you prepare for what's next.

Contact recruitment@mitt.ca or 204 989 7376.

MITT

A NEW CAREER IS OUT OF REACH

closer than you think

30+ programs in Business, Technology, Health Care, Human Services, and Skilled Trades only 75 minutes away.

APPLY FOR WINTER 2025 AT [MITT.CA](https://mitt.ca)/NOW

A look at musicians Lulu and the TomCat

By Ty Dilello

Roland's Lulu and the TomCat is a Juno Award-nominated children's musical group that has produced numerous children's albums and made many concert appearances around the globe.

They are a multi-instrumental, bilingual entertainment group that encourages active audience participation. With their colourful puppets and creative themes, this duo performs many different shows and tailors each to suit your particular audience.

Originally from Montreal, LuLu (Lori Neufeld) and TomCat (Tom Neufeld) were members of several bands before meeting at Beaconsfield High School in Montreal. They played and composed music together in a band that Tom led. They both continued their education in Quebec and after university, they relocated to Roland, where they found jobs in local schools.

LuLu taught Music, French, Spanish, and German, while Tom was a high school librarian and did extra-curricular music. Because of their backgrounds, the group combines music with education in its music, books, and live shows.

"While we were in Montreal, Lori and I would put on shows for her little sisters," said Tom Neufeld. "I guess that's where the enjoyment of Children's Music started. After moving to Manitoba, we still did all types of music and entertainment, but the Children's Music seemed to strike a chord with us and our audiences. We still do all types of performances, in-



cluding shows by Tom and Lori."

Over the years, Lulu and the TomCat have toured Manitoba, Ontario, Saskatchewan, and British Columbia. They have produced nine multiple award-winning CDs and a series of children's books with accompanying pedagogical activity guides.

They have earned three Parents' Choice Awards, a Children's Music Web Award, a Western Canadian Music Award, a Prairie Music Award, and two Canadian Children's Book Centre "Our Choice" awards for their original compositions. Of their nine albums, seven have received WCMA nominations, two have received WCMA awards, and one has received a Juno nomination.

Some of the significant career highlights include representing Canada at the World 2005 Expo in Aichi, Japan. In 2006, they toured schools and community centres in Cuba with a 15-piece band. In 2008, they performed in Ottawa for Canada Day. In 2010, they performed at the Canadian Embassy in Washington, D.C.

"We have been so fortunate to be

"WE HAVE BEEN SO FORTUNATE TO BE ABLE TO PERFORM ALL OVER THE WORLD."



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Roland's Lulu and the TomCat (Lori and Tom Neufeld) is a local Juno Award-nominated children's musical group that has been around for decades, entertaining children and folks of all ages worldwide.

able to perform all over the world," said Neufeld. "I still remember our Canada Day show in Ottawa. We were singing a song that we wrote about the colours of Canada, and during the song, the Canadian Snowbirds Aerobatic jets flew overhead. I told the crowd, 'Just like in rehearsal.'"

Playing at the Canadian Embassy in Washington, D.C. was another privilege, as we looked out over the mall at the iconic buildings."

Perhaps the biggest honour of Lulu and TomCat's careers was being asked to represent Canada at the 2005 World Expo in Japan.

"Lori, being a language specialist, spent about six months learning as much Japanese as she could, even writing songs and choruses in Japa-

nese that really connected with the crowds. It even got us on a Japanese national radio program to perform a song live. The people, the culture, the food, the opportunity. What a great experience."

Through it all, the pair still writes and performs as much as they can for kids, adults, and seniors and plays with various community bands.

They have several upcoming performances and private and public functions (schools, senior homes, private parties). The public functions include Winnipeg's Teddy Bear's Picnic in Assiniboine Park on Sept. 8 and the Roland Pumpkin Fair on Oct. 5.

"We are also in final negotiations for a major local public concert, tentatively in January of 2025."

IIU Manitoba investigating Winkler police officer

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Independent Investigation Unit (IIU) of Manitoba is looking into the alleged conduct of a Winkler police officer.

On Aug. 21, the Winkler Police Service notified the IIU of a complaint they'd received July 14.

The complainant, an adult male, says an on-duty officer made threatening comments toward him while at Winkler's Tim Hortons around 4 a.m. on July 14.

The civilian director of the IIU has determined it is in the public interest to investigate.

As the investigation is ongoing, the

agency is no providing any further details at this time.

Witnesses or individuals who have information or video footage that may assist the investigation are asked to contact the IIU toll-free at 1-844-667-6060.

When asked to comment on the matter, Winkler Police Chief Ryan Hunt

stated that he is "unable to comment on specifics of the incident at this time. As is normal practice, the Independent Investigation Unit will do a complete and thorough investigation to determine if there was any wrongdoing by our officer, and we will cooperate in any way we can."

The **Voice**

Get in touch with us via e-mail:
Send news items to: news@winklermordenvoice.ca
Advertising inquiries to: ads@winklermordenvoice.ca

What's *Your* story?



Show & Shine gives foundation a platform

By Sean Conway

On Aug. 22, the Morris Area Foundation (MAF) invited the public to an information night at the Morris Bigway parking lot.

A free hotdog BBQ, live band, bouncy castle, and a car show were on site for those that attended the evening, which was put on by the Morris Show & Shine, a group of local car enthusiasts that meet weekly to show off their rides.

“Every year for the past three years we have chosen a local charity and used the car show to highlight their event. This year it is the MAF,” says group spokesperson Ralph Fief.

While in past years the focus has been on raising funds for local projects and charities, this year their aim

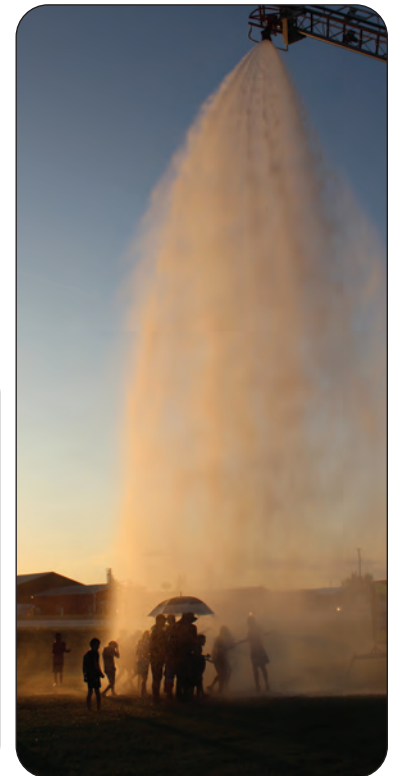
was to raise awareness of an organization that gives back to the community.

The foundation manages and invests financial gifts to build a permanent endowment fund that generates grants to support projects in Morris and the surrounding area.

Through partnerships with Thomas Sill Foundation, Winnipeg Foundation, Endow Manitoba, the Province of Manitoba, Community Foundations of Canada, area businesses and individuals, the foundation has returned over \$170,000 to the community since it started offering grants in 2015.

MAF board members took over the barbecue to roast 228 hotdogs for the evening.

PHOTOS BY SEAN CONWAY/VOICE
Above: Almost Famous performed at the Morris Show & Shine group's special event in the Bigway parking lot last Thursday night. Right: The Morris Fire Department was also on hand to show off their gear, including “making it rain” with their ladder truck. Left: A view from the top of the ladder truck. Below: Representatives from the Morris Area Foundation manned the barbecue stand.



“The MAF thanks the Show and Shine car guys and Bigway for setting this up,” said foundation board chair Curtis Evanson. “You can’t get any better than hanging out with people, eating some food, and getting soaking wet to get our message out.”

The “soaking wet” came courtesy of the Morris Fire Department, who made it rain with their ladder truck and also showed off some of their other pieces of equipment and vehicles.

The evening also included music from the band Almost Famous



The Morris Fire Dept held their annual steak supper fundraiser at the Morris Chamber of Commerce's Manitoba Stampede kick-off event in July. At last week's Morris Show & Shine gathering, Bigway owner Pat Schmitke (far right) presented a cheque for \$2,500 to Chief Trevor Thiesen (kneeling) and other department members to further bolster their fundraising efforts.

Engage **MB**

ARE YOU PART OF THE 2SLGBTQI+ COMMUNITY? WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!



Take the survey
EngageMB.ca/2SLGBTQI

WAGE MB WOMEN AND GENDER EQUITY MANITOBA

Manitoba 



École Elmwood School vice-principal and teacher Robin Martens prepares workbooks for her new students. Kids head back to class next week.

PHOTO BY LORI PENNER/VOICE

Fresh faces for upcoming school year

By Lori Penner

After a relaxing break from the classroom, staff and administrators across Border Land School Division (BLS) are gearing up for another busy school year.

Superintendent Krista Curry says preparation includes a few upgrades at many of the division's 17 schools.

"Each summer we always have a list of painting, roofing, and flooring projects. There were some classroom renovations, and the BLS Tech Building has been renovated to accommodate the Red River Technical Vocational Area (RRTVA) staff whose offices were lost with the building of the new daycare."

In terms of staffing for the upcoming year, Curry notes they have three new people joining their school administration team this fall, either through a change of position or new to a position.

This includes Jennifer Collette, who will be taking on the role of principal at Roseau Valley School (RVS) this year while Jason Mateychuk is on a one-year leave of absence. Kerry Peterson will move into the role of vice-principal at RVS.

Hal Lavery is the new vice-principal at Shevchenko School, and Erin Waldner will be the teaching principal at Ridgeville Colony School.

"We also had 20 retirees this year in all areas of the division, representing 450 years of service," Curry adds. "We're so thankful to those who retired for all their years of service."

Meanwhile, the division has hired their complement of new teachers for the 2024/25 school year.

"Support staff hiring is ongoing, so we encourage anyone looking to watch our website for information," Curry says.

As far as enrollment goes, Curry says at this point, the numbers are at par with where they were last year, with a full-time equivalent en-

rollment of 2,100 students across the division.

"We will know more when the first week of school is over if we have more or less, based on transfers in or those who may have moved away."

Due to the first-ever collective agreement with public teachers in all 37 school divisions, Manitoba teachers can anticipate increased wages this year.

The agreement is a four-year term dating back to July 1, 2022, and will be in place until June 30, 2026. Teachers will receive a 12.25 per cent wage increase - 2.25 per cent for 2022-23, 2.75 per cent for 2023-24, three per cent for 2024-25, and three per cent for 2025-26.

The final year also includes a one per cent teacher retention adjustment increase.

Other changes coming with the new agreement include a new salary schedule for the 2026-27 school year, better teacher protections and paid leave for inclement weather, more prep time for teachers, and more options to take leaves of absence.

Curry says while BLS has not officially received all the details on the new agreement, they are planning around what they do know.

"There are increases to general wages and other benefits in the agreements that have costs associated with them. We are sorting all the details and look forward to hearing the funding announcement from the province in January to see if and how they are going to support local school divisions financially to support the new provincial agreement."

Curry is excited about the coming year.

"It is always a new beginning that allows staff and students to have a fresh new start in a new grade, with new classmates and new extra and co-curricular opportunities. There is always a positive buzz when the year begins and that brings energy. That is where we like to focus on our energies."

Students return to class next week.

Altona man killed in Hwy. 30 crash

By Voice staff

An 80-year-old Altona man was killed in a two-vehicle collision at the intersection of Hwy. 30 and Provincial Road 421 over the weekend.

Emergency crews were called to the scene south of Altona at approximately 4:15 p.m. Saturday afternoon.

Pembina Valley RCMP say the investigation has determined a southbound pickup truck being driven by the 80-year-old man attempted to turn east onto PR 421 when he collided with a northbound semi-trailer being driven by a 29-year-old male.

The older man was pronounced dead on the scene. The semi driver was not injured.

Pembina Valley RCMP continue to investigate.

It was the second serious incident to take place on Hwy. 30 last week.

Altona Rhineland Emergency Services (ARES) were called to a three-vehicle crash north of town near PR 201 early Wednesday afternoon.

One person was sent airlifted to Winnipeg by STARS Air Ambulance in that collision.

Province announces universal birth control coverage

By Lana Meier

Manitoba residents will have universal access to birth control coverage as of Oct. 1.

Last Thursday, Health, Seniors and Long-Term Care Minister Uzoma Asagwara declared that Manitobans will experience financial benefits with the implementation of free prescription birth control.

"Prescription birth control is a right, not a luxury," said Asagwara. "Money should never be a barrier to accessing reproductive health care. Starting Oct. 1, Manitobans will be able to get some of the most common and effective birth control without having to worry about the cost. This will save people hundreds of dollars and it will ensure you are fully in control of your body and your choices."

The recently released Budget 2024 from the Manitoba government included a proposal to provide free prescription birth control for all residents of Manitoba. Under the coverage of the Manitoba Pharmacare Program, approximately

60 frequently prescribed forms of birth control, such as the pill, IUDs, and hormone injections, will be fully covered.

Prescriptions can be obtained from a doctor or nurse practitioner during a scheduled appointment, at a walk-in clinic, or in a hospital.

According to Dr. Jacqueline Gougeon, a family physician, the recent announcement guarantees that all Manitobans in need will have dependable access to contraception.

"It further empowers women to make decisions around their education and careers that are based solely on their own hopes and dreams and not around unintended pregnancies. This decision represents renewed choice and opportunity for so many of my patients, and removes a tremendous barrier to adequate health care and gender equity," said Gougeon.

Eligible Manitobans without existing coverage from a federal or provincial program can receive free coverage for birth control by presenting their prescription and Manitoba Health Card at a pharmacy.

Pickup *Your* Community

Weekly News at



IN MORRIS MB

Morris welcomes new rec. facilitator

By Siobhan Maas

The Town of Morris welcomed a new recreational facilitator in early August.

After moving away for a couple years, Meagan Dilts is eager to put her newly-earned administrative office assistant diploma to work in Morris.

"I've missed being a part of this community and I've come back with more respect and new eyes," she said last week. "We can offer so many things to the creative [minds] of the world and offer more than hockey and curling in Morris."

Dilts has always enjoyed the recreational activities available locally.

"As the new recreation facilitator I'm excited to help continue these programs and create new, inclusive and accessible options for Morris and the surrounding areas," she said. "I'm interested in speaking with anyone

who might be interested in offering their services or providing programming for the community."

The Morris Area Recreation Commission has recently begun recruiting volunteers to serve as Timbits soccer coaches beginning in September.

"I didn't volunteer as a young person, but I've realized that a strong community needs volunteers," said Dilts. She hopes to push the Morris community to further build strong ties and relationships with one another through seasonal programming and the unique volunteer opportunities that come with each program. "To grow a community, we need volunteers. I'm [personally] excited about our fall activities and getting involved with the little ones."

Timbits soccer registration is currently open and already two full teams of Smurfs (five to seven-year-olds) are at capacity.



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Meagan Dilts is the new recreation facilitator for the Morris Area Recreation Commission.

September programming also includes Babysitters and Staying Home Alone courses, a Canadian Firearms Safety course, and a four-week Beaded Earring Workshop. Lil Twisters recreational hockey begins in October. The Pickleball courts are open on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings in

the South Hall of the Multiplex.

Residents can stay updated or register for programming online. Contact Dilts at recreation@townofmorris or 204-746-2832 for the link to register or visit the Morris Area Rec Commission's Facebook page.

BBQ builds community



PHOTOS BY SIOBHAN MAAS/VOICE

Local residents came together to enjoy an evening of music, camaraderie, and food in support of the Life Enrichment Program for residents of the Red River Valley Lodge last Thursday. Above, right: BMW—made up of Margaret Gluck, Merl Friesen, Bill Denby, Wanda Friesen, Michelle Munford, and Larry Gluck—performed. Right: Samantha Berg decorates Shawn Berg's arm. Organizer Marielle Dyck said the event was a big hit. "It was one big party with people from everywhere: St. Jean, Ste. Agathe, Lowe Farm. It was just so great."



Check out the Voice online at www.winklermordenvoice.ca or altonavoice.ca

New feature to offer alternative to burial at Altona Cemetery

By Lori Penner

Some new features are coming to the Altona Cemetery, including its first columbarium.

A columbarium is a structure for the

reverential and usually public storage of funerary urns holding cremated remains.

Altona is one of the few communities in southern Manitoba that doesn't have one, says to Councillor Tammy

Braun, who also serves on the town's recreation and culture committee that's been hard at work making improvements at the cemetery.

Braun says this project is something that has been close to her heart, as she has had a number of very dear people pass away in the last couple of years.

"In my process of making cremation and burial plans, I realized that the Altona Cemetery did not have a place to lay the ashes of our loved ones. We felt it was time for a columbarium to be placed in the Altona Cemetery. It was not a new idea; there has been a plan in place, but it just needed a little push."

The solid granite columbarium will be situated in the new cemetery expansion. Standing at approximately

seven feet high and 3.5 feet wide, it will contain 48 niches, each measuring 12"x12"x12".

Placing the structure at the cemetery is just the beginning, Braun says. A courtyard will be added to the new section of the cemetery, designed with input from Erin Sawatzky, a local landscape architect.

The courtyard will feature trees, decorative grass, and provide a serene place for visitors to reflect on their loved ones.

"I think it's important to sit somewhere quiet and think about your loved ones, just to sit and relax and enjoy your surroundings."

The columbarium was slated to go up this or next week.



PHOTO BY LORI PENNER/VOICE



PHOTO BY LORI PENNER/VOICE

MB Underground Opera tour performs in Altona

Members of the Manitoba Underground Opera presented "Playtime" to visitors at the SCRL Altona branch on Aug. 22. The production tells the story of a little girl named Anna who, with the help of her two moms, learns that, with the help of your imagination, learning can be fun. From left: Actors Sonia Campbell (Anna), Melanie Dupuis (Joan), and Chloe Thiessen (Karen).

"It really is a field of dreams"

From Pg. 2

come a long way since it began in 2017. The Altona Community Action Network (ACAN) took over the operation of the site in 2018, when it was a bare field with 57 plots available for planting.

Today, with a large pavilion, washrooms, accessible plots, two garden sheds loaded with supplies, a play area for kids, as well as a bridge, pathway and courtyard to greet visitors, the garden boasts 180 plots, with plans for 20 more next year.

Heppner says it's been a joyful journey, learning about new languages and ways of planting, while giving residents of all backgrounds a place to mingle and grow their own food.

But there's still work to be done.

"We're not quite finished with the accessible gardens. One is for wheelchairs, and one is for people who use walkers. The beds are in, but the overhead watering system isn't finished; there's a temporary tank there right now. The town will be paving a base, and then we'll finish that all up."

Planting for the community orchard to the north of the garden began in spring, and they hope to add an herb garden next year.

Their most recent addition is a medicine garden established by Steps Toward Reconciliation, a grassroots organization based in Altona. The garden is based on the Indigenous medicine wheel worldview.

Heppner says there's no way any of this could have been possible without ongoing support from the Town, the community at large, and volunteers

"IT REALLY IS A FIELD OF DREAMS ... I'VE SEEN COMMUNITY GARDENS IN OTHER TOWNS, AND NOBODY COMES CLOSE TO ALTONA'S"

on the various sub committees, who provide their know-how and expertise, along with their time.

He also praises the gardeners themselves, who keep the plots and pathways clean.

"We get big truckloads of compost from the town. We realized there's stones in it, so I designed a sifter that can be used over a wheelbarrow. Now each gardener can do their own screening, and use the stones to create a gravel path around their plot."

Heppner gets a little emotional when he reflects on how far they've come.

"When we started years ago, there's no way we could have imagined what it is now. We just took a step at a time, and our vision just grew. It was trial and error. And we're always still learning. It's nice to see the results of all our hard work. It really is a field of dreams, and we were proud to show it off at this year's Sunflower Festival. I've seen community gardens in other towns, and nobody comes close to Altona's. I think we have the best one in rural Manitoba."



Keeping the modern world moving



CO-OP Homestead
www.homesteadco-op.crs

BULK FUEL & LUBRICANTS
204-745-6702 or
1-855-857-2163

Homestead Co-op wants to thank all of the truck drivers who help keep our communities supplied with goods throughout the year.

FOOD | PHARMACY | ENERGY | HOME | AGRO
FARM & BUILDING | BULK FUEL & LUBRICANTS

WE ARE INVESTED IN THE LAND
WE ARE FUELING FARMS
WE ARE HOMESTEAD CO-OP

Austin | Carman | La Salle | MacGregor | Oakville | Portage la Prairie | Treherne



Sharing the road with big rigs: essential safety tips

Big rigs are vital to our economy, but their size and weight can be intimidating for smaller vehicles. By following these tips, you can navigate the roads alongside them safely and confidently:

1. Give them plenty of space. Due to their weight, big rigs take longer to stop and manoeuvre. Maintain a safe following distance of at least three to four car lengths. Trucks also need extra space to turn, so anticipate wide swings when rounding a corner.
2. Know their blind spots. Trucks have large blind spots on their sides, front and directly behind the trailer. Avoid lingering next to a truck, especially on the right side. If you can't see the truck driver in their mirror, they can't see you.
3. Pass safely and decisively. When passing a truck, use your turn signal well in advance and only pass when the oncoming lane is empty. Once you've passed the truck, use your turn signal again before merging back into your lane.
4. Minimize distractions. Driving requires focus, especially near large vehicles. Put down your phone, avoid fiddling with the radio and stay alert to the road and the truck's movements.
5. Be predictable. Erratic driving is dangerous around any vehicle, but big rigs have less room for error. Signal your intentions, maintain a steady speed and avoid weaving in and out of traffic.

Remember, everyone deserves to arrive at their destination safely. A little patience and respect goes a long way.

National Trucking Week takes place from September 1 to 7, a time to recognize the contributions made by the 400,000 Canadians who keep the country's freight moving. Learn more by visiting cantruck.ca/national-truckin-week.

Heavy Truck Services Include:

- > Safety Inspections
- > General repairs
- > Tire repair and replacement
- > Alignments

WES'S TIRE SHOP



**215 Main St. N.,
Carman
204-745-2076**





Trucks carry everything, for everyone!



Even merchandise that is shipped by train, boat, or plane, has to arrive or leave aboard a truck to cross borders.

Are you enjoying your bananas from the Tropics? Are you happy with your little American car? Are your new Italian shoes comfortable? Do you have a weakness for Irish whiskey? What do all of these very different products have in common? If you got it, a truck brought it!

From September 1 to 7, we celebrate National Trucking Week across the country. It is the occasion to pay homage to the men and women who work in the trucking industry; this week is also an opportunity to launch a public awareness campaign on the importance of the trucking industry to our economy and our well-being.

Without the trucking industry, imports and exports would not be possible. In fact, there would be hardly any access to the world. Consumer products would be limited

to those produced locally, or in close proximity, and would also be limited in variety. About 80% of merchandise is transported by truck at one point or another. Gas is transported to service stations by truck. Trucks bring us our clothes, food, medications, computers, furniture...

In Canada, our trucking companies deliver merchandise everywhere in the country. This industry plays a major role in Canada's economy by fulfilling an essential role in business competition. More flexible and as vast as our road system, the trucking industry offers the best quality service that responds perfectly to consumer needs, the endless demand from dependent businesses, and the constantly expanding requirements of shippers.



MANUFACTURING INC.

WINKLER • MB
PHONE: (204) 325.4798



Grain Hopper

GRAIN TRAILERS

GRAVEL TRAILERS

TRUCK BOXES



The key to our ability to manufacture superior quality products is because of skilled and knowledgeable staff, that works in modern facilities with up-to-date equipment.

It is customers trust in our products and service that has allowed the company to increase production every year. In return, we are dedicated to continue building quality products that will see it grow and prosper.

**WE ALSO OFFER: USED TRUCK AND TRAILER SALES
HYDRAULIC WET KIT INSTALLATIONS**

TRUCK BODY REPAIR & PAINTING • TRUCK AND TRAILER PARTS DEPARTMENT • FRAME ALTERATIONS

"If you bought it, A truck brought it"



We would like to thank all of our office staff and drivers who work tirelessly to help keep the logistical chain moving.



Office: 204-331-1511 • Email: dispatch@richlandtransport.com

Celebrating National Trucking Week

September 1st - 7th, 2024



**Thank You to the
MB Trucking Industry!**

Our Transportation Specialists: Brendan, Erika, Shawn, Shane, Brooke, Ryan

From all of us here at Rempel Insurance, we thank you for your hard work and dedication to keeping our economy moving.



REMPEL
Insurance Brokers

207 Main St, Morris, MB R0G 1K0
1.800.310.4447 | rempelinsurance.com

sports & recreation



PHOTOS BY RICK HIEBERT/VOICE

The Dead Horse Creek Speedway hosted its final weekend of races with the Proven Seed King of the Corn Friday and Saturday and the rescheduled GVC Deere Run Sunday. Feature winners Friday included Chris Unrau (stock), Jaymie Wier (super trucks), Brandon Rehill (midwest modified), and Ward Imrie (modified).

On Saturday, the winners were Stan Dueck (stock), Hayden Audette (super truck), Jeff Rempel (midwest modified), Ward Imrie (modified), and Brody Troftgruben (late model). And on Sunday, Dustin Strand came in first in both the modified and late model divisions while Stan Dueck (above) won the stock race, Brandon Rehill won the midwest mods, and Chris Audette came in first in the super trucks.

BEST GIFT EVER!

Scenic Flight Tour

LOVE IS IN THE AIR!

POPPING THE QUESTION
BIRTHDAYS

ANNIVERSARIES
SPECIAL OCCASIONS

\$149 3 PASSENGERS AND THE PILOT ALL FOR ONE LOW COST
Book Today!

LS AIRWAYS FLIGHT ACADEMY

LS Airways Flight Academy | 311 Anson St, Gimli, MB | 204-651-1402



PharmaChoice
PRICES IN EFFECT JUNE 27 - JULY 3, 2024

Switch to Walmart brands and save!

THURSDAY, JUNE 27 TO THURSDAY, JULY 4, 2024

Peavey Mart **CANADA Day**
CELEBRATING 151
129.99 SAVE \$120

The Kitchen & Bath **SALE**

Home Hardware **2 WEEKS OF SAVINGS!**
Savings available July 4 - 11, 2024
EXTRA BIG

PKF LAWYERS
PKF Lawyers, Manitoba's law firm. Providing trustworthy, expert, freshworld results since 1924. Ready to serve today, tomorrow, always.

The **Winkler-Morden Voice**
THURSDAY, JUNE 27, 2024
LOCALLY OWNED HISTORY BOOK FOR THE COMMUNITY

Did you know that we employ 56 carriers to deliver the newspaper and flyers door to door in Morden and Winkler - keeping our dollars local.

DID YOU KNOW?
Every flyer booked in the Winkler-Morden Voice supports our future generations.

Purchase ad space or book your flyer with the Winkler Morden Voice and support our local economy. We have 56 local carriers that look forward to delivering the Winkler Morden Voice every week to save money to plan for the future. Support our future generations and book an ad or flyer with us today
Call or text Gwen Dyck @ 204-823-0535 or email: gdyck@winklermordenvoice.ca

Thank you to PharmaChoice, Peavy Mart, Walmart, Natural Factors & Home Hardware for supporting our local carrier force.

Bisons down 0-2 in Border Baseball final



By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Cartwright Twins are one win away from the Border Baseball League championship title.

After falling 4-0 in game one, the Altona Bisons lost to the Twins 4-3 in game two in front of a hometown crowd last Thursday night.

That makes game three do-or-die

for Altona. It takes place Wednesday night in Cartwright.

The Bisons knocked out the Winkler Whips 7-5 to clinch the East Division title after finishing the regular season in first place.

Cartwright bested Pilot Mound 3-1 in the West, also after finishing in first place in their division.



PHOTOS BY EDWARD VINCENT
ARCENAL/VOICE

The Altona Bisons fell to the visiting Cartwright Twins 4-3 last Thursday night in game two of the Border Baseball League championship final series.

If Altona manages a win Wednesday and then goes on to take the championship, it will be the team's first time winning the Gerry Coulthard Trophy. Cartwright, meanwhile, won it back in 2022 for the first time in 20 years.



Flyers hires Matthew Melo as new GM, head coach

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler Flyers head into their training camp this weekend with a new coach at the helm.

The junior hockey club announced Sunday that Matthew Melo has been hired as the 2024-2025 head coach and general manager. He takes over from Justin Falk, who has stepped away to pursue other opportunities.

"I am excited about the standard of excellence Justin Falk, the coaching staff, and players have cultivated over the past three seasons," Melo said in a statement. "I look forward to contributing to building upon that momentum and am motivated by the potential of what this group can achieve together."

"It is a privilege to be able to combine two of my greatest passions: the game of hockey and building relationships. I can't wait to begin investing into the lives and development of the players, those within the organization, and the community of Winkler."

Melo will be responsible for overseeing the team's strategic direction, player development, and on-ice performance.

The Flyers won the MJHL Turnbull Cup last spring for the first time in 26 years, and the team's board of directors feel Melo is the right man to build on that

"IT IS A PRIVILEGE TO BE ABLE TO COMBINE TWO OF MY GREATEST PASSIONS: THE GAME OF HOCKEY AND BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS."

success.

"We are very excited to bring Matt into the Flyers organization," said president Caleb Suderman. "Matt comes highly regarded by his former colleagues and his goals align well with what has already been built here in Winkler."

"He has a great background in the game of hockey and will provide great leadership to an already excellent staff."

Melo, an Ontario native, played five years of junior hockey before moving over to the coaching side.

He has served as head coach of the North Middlesex Stars (PJCHL), assistant coach at Briercrest College (ACAC), and, for the past two seasons, as assistant coach at the University of Western Ontario (USports).

MAIN CAMP IS ON THIS WEEKEND

Prior to Melo's hire, assistant coach and assistant GM Coltyn Bates was filling in as head coach on an interim basis.

The Voice chatted with Bates last week

about this weekend's camp and the upcoming season.

With an experienced coaching staff that also includes assistant coach Ryan White and skills coach Andrew Clark, Bates said the team is in a good place to make the transition to a new top coach seamlessly as the pre-season gets underway.

"I'm feeling really good about everything," he said on Friday, noting Falk had been facilitating the changeover in the wake of the announcement of his departure from the club a few days earlier.

Looking to main camp, Bates said they have a fine crop of Flyers hopefuls coming out to compete. Seventy-four players hit the ice at the Meridian Exhibition Centre Aug. 31 to Sept. 2.

"Camp should be super competitive," he said.

"Our defensive core, we've returned like seven guys from last year's winning team, so that's super exciting to build around," Bates continued, noting they also have a lot of familiar faces vying for a spot on the roster. "We have [Bryson]



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Matthew Melo is the Winkler Flyers' new head coach and general manager.

Yaschyshyn in net, a local guy who had a great season for Pembina Valley [Hawks] last year, and up front, another local, Kam Thomas [who also played for the Hawks], and other guys as well.

"So, yeah, we're really excited and looking to be really competitive and strong again as a team."

Continued on page 24

Team Manitoba Senior Women's Baseball Team building for future

By Kieran Reimer

The standings won't tell you how Team Manitoba Senior Women's Baseball Team found success last week in Quebec City at the 2024 Baseball Canada National Championships.

Team Manitoba went 1-4 and finished last in the tournament.

To understand the whole story, one must examine the team and their intentions for the tournament much more deeply.

Head coach Kevin Booker, assistants Mike Krykewich and Dan Moir, and manager Rachelle Aime announced the roster in early July.

Initially in charge of finding a coach for the team, Booker stepped up to coach when he couldn't find someone to take the job.

For Booker, this wasn't the first time he'd coached a provincial team. Back in 1997, Booker headed up Team Manitoba at the Canada Games, along with other years of coaching college baseball in the United States and locally at the U18 level.

As he stepped into the new role in 2024, the team they began assembling was much younger than any team Manitoba had rostered before at the tournament.

This year's roster featuring multiple locals included Liberty Aime (Clandeboye), Amber Baker (Yellowhead), Dayle Bettens (Winnipeg), Emily Foster (Somerset), Kirsten Giesbrecht (Altona), Zoe Hicks (Boissevain), Ella Holm (Stonewall), Sarah Moir (Winnipeg), Ally Neufeld (Boissevain), Leah Peitsch (Winnipeg), Avery Pickering (St. Adolphe), Madisyn Robertson (Neepawa), Horizon Senff (Winnipeg), Jewell Thompson (Macgregor), and Payton Zubec (Winnipeg).

Only four players were of senior age, with the rest in junior, U18, and even U16.

Based on this reality, Booker knew this year's team would likely not win the 2024 Nationals.

With that in mind, Booker knew that making the most of his position



Clandeboye's Liberty Aime, left, and Somerset's Emily Foster helped Team Manitoba to a 12-8 victory over Team Ontario 2 in their opening game at the tournament.

would take much longer than a couple of weeks to make Team Manitoba a contender at the tournament.

As the tournament neared, Booker and his staff decided to plan for the future rather than the present by announcing a U21 Team Manitoba for the coming years to help feed into the senior team.

"I kind of thought about this before the season," said Booker following the tournament. "It's important for the players to have some continuity with the coaching staff so we can build toward something. That was the thought going in and it's something we're going to follow through with."

Next year, Team Manitoba will enter the U21 Baseball Canada Nationals with the same staff from the senior team.

The senior team will continue to exist, though based on the age of most players, Booker believes having many of the U21 players on the same team for a couple of years will help strengthen the team when they eventually all graduate into the senior age



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Team Manitoba Senior Women's Baseball team finished ninth with an 1-4 record at the 2024 Baseball Canada National Championships in Quebec City, QC. Pictured left to right, back row: Kirsten Giesbrecht, Amber Baker, Madisyn Robertson, Ella Holmes, Ally Neufeld, Liberty Aime, Sarah Moir, Horizon Senff, Emily Foster, Dayle Bettens; front row. Payton Zubec, Leah Peitsch, Zoe Hicks, Jewell Thompson and Avery Pickering.

category.

"We have a lot of talented players, some really good athletes," said Booker. "Our goal, and we're sitting down and working on this now, is to put a more intent schedule together next year so we can be together more, be more familiar on the field, and work on our defence and offensive plays, which will help us not only perform better but improve the confidence level."

Booker said it's the first time Manitoba will have a U21 women's team in years.

At Nationals this year, the team had already become much more comfortable playing together than they were before the tournament, when they had only a few practices and exhibition games together.

Early on, the team won their opening game against Team Ontario 12-8.

Though that was their only win of the tournament, Booker said the team

could keep up with the country's best teams and showed a lot of promise for the future.

Overall, Booker was pleased. "Just a couple innings got away from us, but the team really hung together, supported each other, and put forward a great effort. We're seeing this as a nice building block to our future teams because the youth on this team got experience."

When group play ended, Team Manitoba was one win short of making the fifth/sixth place game.

Though they ultimately finished last, their 1-4 record was the same as Team Ontario 2 and Team Alberta's, which finished seventh and eighth at Nationals, respectively.

With the same group of players eligible to return next year, Booker and Team Manitoba look forward to taking another step forward next year as they continue to get older and better as a team.

> FLYERS CAMP, FROM PG. 23

While last season's championship win was certainly a high point, you don't start the new season with exactly the same group, Bates noted, so there's still plenty of work that needs to be done to ensure the Flyers are ready to successfully defend their title.

"Every year is different. Your strengths are different. Guys develop and everyone's roles expand and

grow from year one to year two to year three. So for us it's kind of just, you see where your roster's at.

"Last year you could argue our forward group was really deep and a strength of ours, and our D-core was younger. Now, with our D-core winning and all the returning [players], I would imagine that's one of our stronger areas.

"For the most part, we have an identity we like to play to. Certain guys we like to recruit. So we stick to

the plan and go from there."

Bates, who himself played for the Flyers from 2015-2018, has some advice for the guys stepping out onto the ice this weekend hoping to impress the team's coaching staff.

"The guys we have coming in, there's a reason we picked them," he said. "I think the biggest thing for guys is just to play to your strengths—if you're great at something, be great at that. Everyone has flaws, and we'll work with them on

the system side of things and the way we want to play it. I think with every guy, we take a lot of pride in communicating well."

The MJHL pre-season includes Sept. 6 and Sept. 13 home games against the Steinbach Pistons.

The Flyers then face the Pistons again Sept. 20 and Sept. 21 in a pair of home-and-away games to open the regular season.

“We’re extremely proud of this exceptional group of athletes”

By Ty Dilello

The U15 Central Charge girls’ softball team had a remarkable season, culminating in a Softball Manitoba U15 AA provincial title.

Many memories were made over the short season, which included several exhibition games, the AA Showcase Tournament in Hamiota in mid-June and the provincials in Brandon at the end of July.

Special mentions go to Shayna Driedger, who won the prestigious Player of the Tournament award after hitting an over the fence walk off home run, and Brielle Thiessen who

pitched a one-hit shutout as Central beat the Westman Fury 13-0 in the provincial gold medal game.

“We’re extremely proud of this exceptional group of athletes who learned from their mistakes, played with heart and ultimately, won gold at the AA provincials,” said team manager Laurhys Bergen.

The team had many sponsors which contributed to their success on the field this summer: NorthValley Precision Planting, Bayer CropScience, Roland Air, Richardson, Renew Wellness Center, Mid Man Mechanical Services, B.B. Wiebe & Sons Ltd, and Tri-Man Farms Co.



PHOTO BY LAURHYS BERGEN

The U15 Central Charge girls’ softball team was victorious winning the Softball Manitoba U15AA Provincials in Brandon at the end of July. The Charge squad consisted of the following players: Avery Mangin, Cali Hillier, Shayna Driedger, Madeline Bergen, Blaine Wiebe, Brielle Thiessen, Ella Victor, Payton Manness, Nevada Wrixon, Presley Wolfe, Ava Bonik, Amelia Wytinck, and Kali Hildebrand. The team was coached by Matt Victor, Jason Wolfe and Patrick Hildebrand, and was managed by Laurhys Bergen.

Central Speedskating Club opens registration for second season

By Becca Myskiw

Speedskaters officially have a club and home in southern Manitoba.

Even though there are five speedskating clubs in the province, Manitoba’s entire central and southern regions have needed a club to call their own. Speedskaters in the area had to travel hours each week to practice and train.

Heading into its second year is the Central Speedskating Club, which operates out of Portage la Prairie. Club coach Haylee O’Neill started the program last year to fill the gap. O’Neill did a little speedskating after retiring from figure skating when she was 15, and during the pandemic, her sons all got involved with the sport. Having three children driving to Winnipeg and back to skate prompted her to start a speedskating club at home — so that’s what she did.

“Last year, we made it into double digits,” said O’Neill about club registration. “That’s a big deal for a first year.”

In speedskating, there are two tracks: short and long. Most clubs focus on short track since it can be practiced in a hockey rink. Winnipeg has one long track outdoors when it gets cold enough in the winter, though, and once that opens, all speedskating clubs in the province train on it.

The sport involves athletes wearing extra-long skate blades and skating in an oval to race each other. Most races are individual, but athletes can also

compete in relays and group races.

Registration for the 2024-2025 season is underway for the Central Speedskating Club, and there’s enough room for up to 25 athletes. As O’Neill is the only coach and the club has limited ice time, they ask anyone registering to come with the ability to skate. All they have time to work on is getting used to skating with a speed skate, which has a longer blade and less ankle support than hockey or figure skates.

“I don’t think it gets as much hype as other winter sports,” said O’Neill. “But it’s our most decorated sport

in the Winter Olympics. We’re very good at it.”

Canada has won 37 Olympic medals in speedskating over the years, the most significant total in any winter sport for the country. Because Manitoba has so few speedskaters, the opportunities for athletes in the sport are plentiful, including Olympics training and out-of-province races.

O’Neill said most athletes make the transition to speedskating really smoothly, and she’s often impressed by their ease. She encourages anyone thinking about it to try the sport. All people over seven who can skate are

welcome.

“It’s a wonderful sport,” she said. “The need for speed is real and it’s so fun to just be able to go fast.”

Long-track speedskaters can go as fast as 56 km/h, and short-track speedskaters can go up to 48 km/h. That’s compared to the average hockey player, who goes 10 to 25 km/h.

The Central Speedskating Club practices every Monday at 7:15 p.m. and every Wednesday at 4:15 p.m. from Oct. 7 until March. To register or to learn more about the club and the sport, contact centralspeedskating@gmail.com.

Locals bring home medals from Summer Games

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Local youth athletes returned home from the 2024 Manitoba Summer Games in Dauphin with medals in tow.

Team South earned a total of 15 gold, 16 silver, and 14 bronze medals at the Aug. 11-17 event.

Athletes from our area who made it to the podium include:

- Winkler’s Capri Froese earned gold in swimming in the 100 meter free junior female event, silver in the 100m back and 50m fly events, and bronze in the 50 m free.
- Morden’s Andre Mariano won

silver in the 150 m U14 male track event.

- Morden’s Kellen King brought home silver in the U14 male standing long jump and the 2km U14 cross country run and bronze in the shot put.

- Miami’s Ayda Hainsworth won silver in the U14 80m run.

- Morden’s Oakley Jerema earned bronze in the U14 1200m, 800m, and 2 km cross country runs

- St. Malo’s Avery Wayne La France earned swimming gold in the 50 meter male breast stroke, and the 50m fly and bronze in the 100m individual medley

- Team South’s U14 female volleyball team, which included Osterwick’s Blaine Wiebe and Altona’s Kate Friesen, won gold.

- Team South baseball 14U mix—which included Easton Scott Neufeld (Altona), Darwin Mark Hildebrand (Crystal City), Maddox Ramage (Pilot Mound), Rhett Dyck (Morden), Dane Wubbe (La Riviere), and Jett Nickel (Miami)—and the U15 female softball team—including Winkler’s Brielle Faith Thiessen and Shayna Janelle Driedger and St. Malo’s Jade Rae Heppner—both won gold.

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

Morden-Winkler MLA named to CWP committee

By Voice staff

Morden-Winkler MLA Carrie Hiebert is taking on a new role this fall.

Hiebert has been selected to represent Manitoba on the Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians (CWP) - Canadian Region Steering Committee.

"It is an honour to be selected and serve as the Woman Parliamentarian for Manitoba," Hiebert said. "I look

forward to supporting and advocating the views and concerns of Manitoba women parliamentarians."

The CWP-Canadian Region is made up of elected women from each provincial and territorial legislature and the federal parliament.

Its vision is to see women as equal partners in Canada's legislatures, as well as to assist young women to dis-

cover their potential in politics and experience fulfilling careers in public service.

"As a woman, I believe it is important that we encourage female representation, foster relationships, and discuss action on gender related issues," said Hiebert. "I look forward to meeting with my colleagues from across Canada as we continue

to influence change in both my home province and the country."

"I know how important it is to have people around you who encourage and support you when making the decision to get involved in politics. Mentorship is just one part of that support."

Morden chamber looking for biz award nominations

By Lorne Stelmach

Mordenites once again have an opportunity to nominate a business and business leader they think is worthy of recognition.

The Morden Chamber of Commerce is calling for nominations for its annual business awards, which will be presented Jan. 30.

Executive director Clare Agnew says the business community here has a vitality and success that needs to be both recognized and promoted.

"I look forward to celebrating the business community every year," she said. "It's exciting to see the nominations each year and learn more about the businesses.

"One of our key functions is to share our story and to encourage business investment in the area. It's a key and exciting function of the Morden

Chamber of Commerce to have the opportunity to highlight, recognize and acknowledge the leaders in our business community.

"Really, it becomes a marketing exercise for the business to help tell the story of what it's doing and why it should be recognized. It gives them a platform to be recognized within Morden and often beyond Morden as well through the chambers of commerce network."

The award categories include business excellence, entrepreneur of the year, and community builder, with the latter having three sub-categories for a business, a non-profit organization, and an individual.

For the business excellence award, nominees need to have been in operation for at least three years. Other criteria includes business achievements and growth, commitment to employ-

ees, contributions to the business industry sector, customer service, and overall impact on the community.

Nominees for entrepreneur of the year also need to have been in operation for at least three year. Other factors to be considered include staffing and employee growth, quality control, marketing strategies, expansions and innovative ideas, and the overall impact on the community

For the community builder awards, it needs to be shown how the nominees are making a significant contribution to the community and its well-being.

One restriction is that businesses that have received an award in the

last five years or nominated in the last three years will not be considered.

The award selection committee includes chamber executive committee members along with the mayor of Morden and reeve of the RM of Stanley.

"Please share your nominations with us. Even an e-mail with the business name and a couple sentences as to why you think the business deserves recognition," urged Agnew.

Nomination forms are available online at mordenchamber.com or connect with the chamber at 204-822-5630 or via e-mail to execdirector@mordenchamber.com.

The Funnies

PLANET GARRY By: Harrison Doll ©



By Lana Meier

The Manitoba government is offering free entry to all provincial parks Labour Day weekend from Aug. 30 to Sept. 2, Environment and Climate Change Minister Tracy Schmidt announced Monday.

According to Schmidt, the government is waiving provincial park entry fees for all Manitobans this weekend. With over 90 parks in Manitoba, there are endless opportunities for outdoor activities such as hiking, camping, and other adventures. As September approaches, there are still plenty of opportunities to enjoy the outdoors and taking advantage of free entry is the perfect way to do so.

Visitors to Manitoba's provincial parks will not require vehicle permits on Labour Day weekend. Nightly camping fees still apply, as do entrance fees to national parks. Individuals who wish to camp in a provincial park can make a reservation through the Parks Reservation Service at

www.manitobaparks.com or by calling 1-888-482-2267.

Park interpreters are offering free tours, star gazing, guided paddles and other family programs this weekend for visitors to connect to the natural features, culture and history in provincial parks. Interpretive program information is available online at www.manitobaparks.com or visitors can check with the local campground office for details on any activities happening in the park.

Watercraft users and beach goers are reminded to be vigilant against aquatic invasive species. Always clean, drain, dry and, if necessary, decontaminate watercraft and water-related equipment including all water toys and inflatables. Information on aquatic invasive species and decontamination station locations is available at www.manitoba.ca/stopais.

Manitobans can stay up to date with provincial park news, activities and events by following Manitoba Parks social media.

Taking action on verticillium stripe

By Breanna Miller

Researchers detected verticillium stripe, caused by the pathogen *Verticillium longisporum*, in canola in Manitoba in 2014. Since then, the disease has been found across the Prairies, causing yield loss and lodging in some fields.

Disease surveys from the three Prairie provinces indicate the verticillium stripe situation in each province.

Manitoba 2023

Surveyors participating in the Manitoba Agriculture and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada Brandon survey assessed 129 canola crops in August 2023. Most of the fields were ripening, not yet swathed or combined, when surveyed.

Disease prevalence is the percentage of fields surveyed that have infection in them. The average prevalence was 29 per cent for verticillium stripe. Incidence is the percentage of plants surveyed within a field that have disease symptoms. Average incidence in infected crops was 11 per cent.

Saskatchewan 2023

In 2023, the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture surveyed 218 fields through the general canola disease survey and an additional 103 fields

after harvest. Results confirmed verticillium stripe in 25 fields in 23 rural municipalities (RMs). SaskCanola also expanded its disease testing program last year to include verticillium stripe, which found the disease in an additional 16 RMs, bringing the total to 39.

Alberta 2023

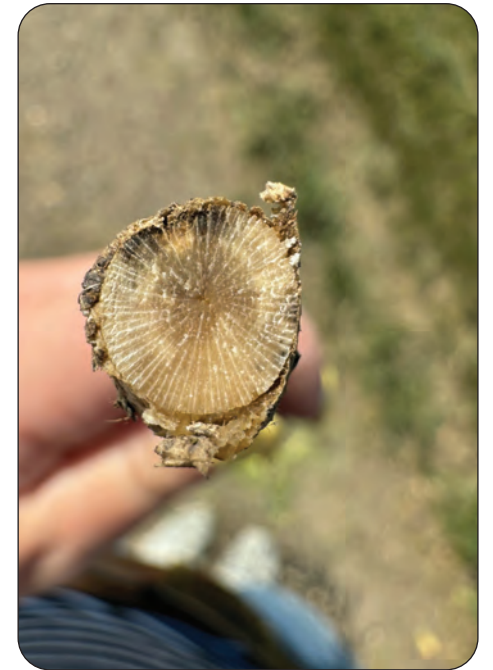
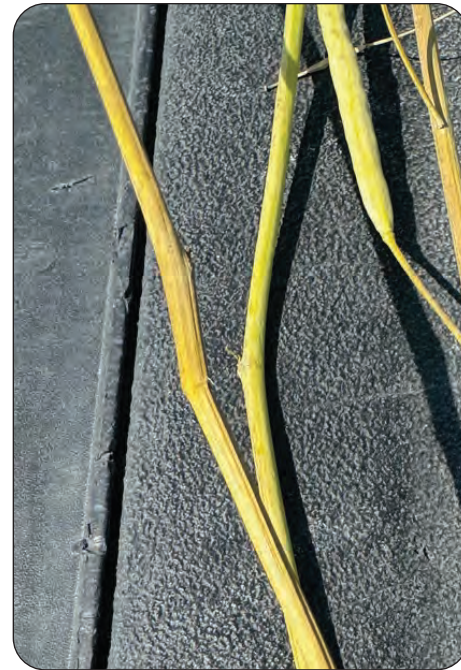
In Alberta, 356 fields were included in the 2023 disease survey, resulting in verticillium stripe prevalence at 18 per cent and incidence at just under one per cent. The complete plant disease situation from 2023 will be posted in the Canadian Plant Disease Survey once finalized.

WHAT CAN GROWERS AND AGRONOMISTS DO?

- Verticillium microsclerotia are soil-borne. Steps to keep soil in place could provide some reduction in spread.

- Two- or three-year breaks between canola crops is a disease management best practice. This should help reduce verticillium severity, although verticillium microsclerotia can remain viable for many years.

- Scout effectively. If you suspect the disease, submit samples for testing. Watch the video "How to collect



CANOLA COUNCIL OF CANADA PHOTOS

Left: When the crop is full height but still green, canola plants infected with verticillium stripe will often have a two-toned stem—half healthy and green and half discoloured and drying down. Right: This canola stem cross section (cut near ground level) shows both verticillium stripe infection throughout and a small wedge of darker discoloration that is likely blackleg.

canola samples for verticillium stripe testing" at youtube.com/canolacouncil.

- Get involved. For more information on verticillium stripe testing and participating in disease surveys, check out the 'Preparing for 2024: Canola disease recap' blog at CanolaResearch.ca.

WHAT'S NEXT?

In the long term, we hope genetic resistance or tolerance will provide the best solution for control. Canola breeders are actively working to develop this trait.

Research is also underway to help quantify yield loss from verticillium stripe across the Prairies. Four Canola Research Agronomic Program (CARP) projects are investigating the disease.

To learn more about verticillium stripe, check out the verticillium stripe chapter at CanolaEncyclopedia.ca, or the Canola Watch fundamentals article 'How to identify verticillium stripe' at CanolaWatch.org.

—Breanna Miller is an agronomy specialist with the Canola Council of Canada

Adults with disability, children under 18 now eligible for federal dental plan

By Patricia Barrett

The federal government recently expanded eligibility to its Canadian Dental Care Plan (CDCP) and now includes adults with a valid disability tax credit certificate and children under 18.

Subsidized dental care is a first for Canada. With encouragement from the federal NDP, the Liberal government introduced the first phase of a subsidized dental program in December 2022 with the aim of improving the oral health of millions of Canadians lacking private dental coverage.

The program will be rolled out in phases.

Canada's health minister Mark Holland and minister of northern affairs Dan Vandal made an announcement in Winnipeg in late June about enhanced eligibility to the program. The two new groups represent over a million more Canadians that will soon

have access to more affordable oral health services.

"Expanding eligibility to the CDCP to children under the age of 18 and to adults with valid Disability Tax Credits will mean that more than one million additional Canadians will have affordable access to the oral health care they need," said Holland in a June 27 news release from Health Canada. "This is about fairness and making sure people have access to the care they need to be healthy and have the dignity they deserve."

The federal government's program pays a percentage of the cost of dental services for Canadian residents who don't have access to private dental health insurance, who have a net family income of less than \$90,000 and who filed an income tax return.

The CDCP helps make dental care more affordable for up to nine million Canadians who don't have dental coverage.

The federal government had launched the plan for in December 2022. The interim program was called the Canada Dental Benefit (CBD) and helped lower dental costs for almost 450,000 kids. That program expired on June 30 and parents or guardians can now apply for the CDCP.

Eligible seniors aged 65 years and older can also sign up for the CDCP.

Over 2 million seniors have been approved to receive coverage under the plan since its launch, and since May 1, more than 200,000 have used the plan for oral health services such as cleanings, fillings and dentures, states the release.

Sun Life is administering the program. Those eligible for the CDCP will receive a welcome package from the insurance company within three months of applying for the program. It will contain information on their coverage start date and what services are eligible for coverage.

There are over 11,400 oral health providers such as dentists, denturists and hygienists currently providing services to people eligible for the CDCP. People who don't have a dentist or other oral health provider can use Sun Life's CDCP Provider Search service to find one in their community.

As of July 8, oral health providers which aren't part of the CDCP program can bill Sun Life directly for any care they provide to a CDCP client. Those providers don't have to formally participate in the program.

CDCP participants may have to pay additional dental charges depending on what services they received and the cost of those treatments.

Eligible Canadians between the ages of 18 and 64 will be able to apply online in 2025 for the CDCP.

For more information, visit Canada.ca/dental

Classifieds The Winkler • Morden Voice

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

SHOW HOME FOR SALE

Starting at \$289,000
Aurora Plus RTM

1648 SqFt, 3 bedrooms, ensuite, large kitchen with quartz countertops, 9ft walls, double cathedral ceiling

www.wgiesbrechthomes.ca
204-346-3231

Online McSherry Auctions

Estate & Moving

September 4th @ 7:00PM

Estate & Moving

September 11th @ 7:00PM

12 Patterson Dr.

Stonewall, MB

204-467-1858 or

204-886-7027

McSherryAuction.com

SCRAP METAL

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

Please support our advertisers
SHOP LOCAL

ANTIQUE SALE

Don't miss the big annual Fall Junk Wagon Antiques & Collectibles Sale. Everything from old toys, vintage clothing, comics, records, jewelry, rustic, retro, glassware, old advertising, old signs, upcycled and so much more. Saturday, Sept 7. Doors open 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. 980 Winakwa Rd. in Winnipeg. \$5.00 per person.

HELP WANTED

ROCKY MOUNTAIN EQUIPMENT IS HIRING: Parts Technicians, Sales Consultant, Agriculture & Heavy Equipment Techs - Journeyman, Apprentices and Sales roles. View open roles www.rockymtn.com/careers. Possible relocation and signing bonus offered.

WANTED

Firearms wanted. Looking for all unwanted firearms. Fully licensed for both non-restricted and restricted. Anywhere from individual items to estates. Cash buyer, paying top dollar. Please call or text Adam at 204-795-2850.

WANTED

WANTED/BUYING 1950's-70's Scandinavian, Danish, Canadian Mid-Century Modern Furniture (Teak, Walnut, Rosewood), lighting, ceramics, textiles, stereo or design. Contact Daniel at TEXT/PHONE: 204-918-1607.

FLIGHT ACADEMY

Want to learn how to fly? Recreational Pilot Program is the best way to get started, must be 16 years of age. Privileges: fly for fun in a certified airplane, a home-built aircraft or an ultralight; fly by day only in Canada with one passenger; can easily add float rating to permit. LS Airways Flight Academy 204-651-1402.

EMPLOYMENT



.57 FTE TERM TEACHER Competition #2024-50 Manitou Elementary School

Prairie Spirit School Division invites applications for a .57 FTE Term Teacher position to start as soon as possible to March 28th, 2025. Deadline for applications: **Noon August 30th, 2024.** Details available at: www.prairiespirit.mb.ca or phone 204-836-2147.

News Tips?
Story Ideas?
call the Voice

FINANCIAL SERVICES

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

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

FIND THE RIGHT PERSON FOR THE POSITION with an EMPLOYMENT/CAREERS AD in *The Voice*
467-5836

The Voice
Call 204-467-5836

EMPLOYMENT



1.0 FTE TERM TEACHER Competition #2024-49 Crystal City Early Years

Prairie Spirit School Division invites applications for a 1.0 FTE Term Teacher position to start as soon as possible to June 27th, 2025. Deadline for applications: **Noon August 30th, 2024.** Details available at: www.prairiespirit.mb.ca or phone 204-836-2147.

PUBLIC NOTICE



TOWN OF ALTONA PUBLIC NOTICE 2025 BOARD OF REVISION

The 2025 Real Property, Personal Property and Business Property Assessment Rolls have been deposited in the Office of the Clerk at 111 Centre Avenue East (Town of Altona Civic Centre) and will be open for inspection by any person(s) during regular office hours.

The Board of Revision will sit at the Council Chambers of the Town of Altona located at 111 Centre Avenue East in Altona on Tuesday, **October 8th, 2024** at 6:00 P.M. for the purpose of revising the Assessment Rolls of the Town of Altona.

Complaints against any of the above noted assessments must be received by the Secretary of the Board by Monday, **September 23rd, 2024** and may be made as follows:

Application for revision

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

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

Application requirements

43(1) An application for revision must

- be made in writing;
- set out the roll number and legal description of the assessable property for which a revision is sought;
- set out which of the matters referred to in subsection 42(1) are at issue, and the grounds for each of those matters; and
- be filed by
 - delivering it or causing it to be delivered to the office indicated in the public notice given under subsection 41(2), or
 - delivering it upon the secretary,
 at least 15 days before the scheduled sitting date of the board (no later than **September 23rd, 2024**) as indicated in the public notice.

Dated at Altona, in Manitoba, this 22nd day of August, 2024, A.D.
Town of Altona Terry Fehr, Secretary
Box 1630, Board of Revision for the Town of Altona
Altona, Manitoba ROG OBO

CAREERS



MAINTENANCE MECHANIC/MILLWRIGHT

Bunge Altona has an opening for a Maintenance Mechanic/Millwright. Work involves process equipment installation, maintenance and repair, lubrication, steel fabrication and welding.

Preference will be given to those candidates holding a valid provincial Millwright or Industrial Mechanic ticket. Candidates who do not hold a valid ticket will be expected to enrol in the apprenticeship program to obtain their ticket as soon as possible. Overtime and on-call duties are required. The successful applicant will possess excellent written and verbal communication skills, trouble shooting skills, and be a team player.

The following would be considered an asset for this position:

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

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

Starting Wages:

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

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

Bunge Canada is an equal opportunity employer.

EMPLOYMENT



Sew A Story Assistant

This is a part-time, contractor (20+hours) hybrid role for an Assistant at Sew A Story located in Manitou, MB, with flexibility for remote work from home. The Assistant will be responsible for supporting daily operations (emails, customer care, social media), managing communication, organizing schedules, and providing administrative support.

Qualifications

- Excellent communication and organizational skills
- Proven experience in administrative roles
- Proficiency in Google Suite (Docs, Sheets, Sides), Trello, Google Suite and other software applications as needed. Understanding of Social Media platforms; IG, FB, FB groups, YouTube etc. (Adobe products is an asset but not required)
- Ability to work independently and collaboratively
- Attention to detail and problem-solving skills
- Understanding or experience with crafting, sewing or quilting beneficial

Interested applicants, please apply through the form below: <https://forms.gle/EMLbbsnZRxFZMVG86>

For any other questions please email jennifer@sewastory.com

Classifieds The Winkler Morden Voice

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

BATTERIES FOR EVERYTHING! 50,000 BATTERIES IN STOCK

- *Auto *Farm *Truck
- *Construction *ATV
- *Motorcycle *Golf Carts
- *Rechargeables *Tools
- *Computers *Medical
- *All phones *Chargers
- *Marine *RV & more

Shipping/Delivery avail.
THE BATTERY MAN
1390 St. James St.
Winnipeg
TF 1-877-775-8271
www.batteryman.ca



Join Our Team!
We are currently seeking experienced, goal-oriented individuals for employment in the following positions:

- Class 1 & 3 Drivers
- Foremen
- Skilled Laborers
- Sewer & Water Personnel
- Heavy Equipment Operators
- Hydro Vac Operators

What We Offer:

- Competitive wages
- Comprehensive benefits plan
- Safety training
- A safe work environment

Requirements:

- Minimum Class 5 driver's license
- Positive work attitude
- Ability to work well with others or independently
- Safety-oriented
- Willingness to work extensive hours, including some weekends

If you are interested in joining a well-established and growing company with room for advancement, please email your resume to jacklep@efmoon.ca



Power Builder Advertising WORKS!

- GET SEEN by over 360,000 Manitoba Homes!
- Use your LOGO!
- Create instant top of mind awareness
- Showcase your info, business, product, job, announcements or event
- We format it, to make it look great!
- Starting at \$339.00 (includes 45 lines of space)
- The ads blanket the province and run in MCNA's 31 Manitoba community newspapers
- Very cost effective means of getting your message out to the widest possible audience

Contact this newspaper NOW or MCNA at 204.947.1691 or email classified@mcna.com

NOTICES

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

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

WANTED

Coins, Coin Collection, Old Jewelry,



Cash paid for silver coins, gold coins, rare coins, old coins & paper \$, Olympic coins, Royal Canadian Mint Coins, Franklin Mint, US Mint etc, unwanted jewelry, old Rolex & Omega watches, nuggets, sterling silver, Bullion, all Gold & Silver!

Wanted:

USA, Canada, World Coin Sets & Coin Collections.

Will buy entire collections & accumulations!

Todd

306-774-2420

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE MATTER of the estate of **DENNIS IRVEN ZIMMERMAN**, late of the City of Winkler, Manitoba, Deceased.

ALL CLAIMS against the above Estate, duly verified by Statutory Declaration, must be sent to the undersigned at 504 Stanley Avenue, Winkler, Manitoba, R6W 0M3, within four (4) weeks of the date of this publication.

GBH LAW OFFICE
Solicitor for the Estate

NOTICES

WANT TO ADVERTISE FALL ENROLLMENT or **CONFERENCE**? NOW is the time to get your information published! Book your ads now to boost enrolment! **SELLING SOMETHING**? Have your blanket classified ads seen in the 31 Member Newspapers which are seen in over 368,000+ homes in Manitoba. Now booking advertising for the remainder of 2024. Plan your success! Please call 204-467-5836 or MCNA at 204-947-1691 for more details or to book ads. MCNA - Manitoba Community Newspapers Association. www.mcna.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

CARMAN MEDICAL GROUP
Drs Clayden, Kruk and Engel are pleased to announce that **DR AIMAN DABLOUK** has joined the Carman Medical Group and is now accepting new patients. He is a family physician with an interest in babies and children, and he is also offering office based prenatal care. He speaks Arabic, Russian and Ukrainian as well as English. **Please phone 204-745-2024 for an appointment.**
182 Main Street South
Carman MB R0G 0J0

HEALTH

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

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF **ANNIE KROEKER** late of the Village of Rosenort in Manitoba, Deceased.

All Claims against the above estate, duly verified by Statutory Declaration, must be filed with the undersigned at their offices, Box 811, 164 Boyne Avenue, Morris, Manitoba, R0G 1K0, on or before the 21st day of October, 2024.

DATED at the Town of Morris, in Manitoba, this 20th day of August, 2024.
BRUCE D. GREGORY LAW CORPORATION
Box 811, 164 Boyne Avenue,
Morris, Manitoba, R0G 1K0
Solicitor for the Executors

take a break > GAMES

SUDOKU

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

Fun By The Numbers

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

Level: Intermediate

Here's How It Works:

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

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

Sudoku Answer

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

Crossword Answer

CROSSWORD

CLUES ACROSS

- Microgram
- After B
- Everything
- An unfortunate development
- Coat with sticky substance
- Cylinder of tobacco for smoking
- Minimum interval take off
- Yuck!
- NBA sensation Jeremy
- Where some rockers work
- Midway between northeast and east
- Snake-like fishes
- Groups of homes
- Swiss river
- Useful towel
- "The Wire" character "Moreland"
- Oafish creature
- A major division of geological time
- Bird-like Chinese dinosaur
- Sporting events
- Body part
- Clerical vestment
- Shows data
- Some are "special"
- Expression of disappointment
- Students' rights document (abbr.)
- Vacation locale Costa _____
- Pop singer
- Distract outside a city
- Mark Wahlberg comedy
- Coniferous tree
- Midway between south and southeast

CLUES DOWN

- Lunatic

1	2	3					4	5	6				
7							8				9		
10				11				12					
13							14	15			16		
17				18			19				20		
21					22	23				24			
					25				26				
					27	28			29				
					30				31				
					32				33				
									34	35	36	37	38
39	40								41				42
43						44							45
46						47							48
49													50
													51
													52

- Actress Danes
- Buttock muscles
- The 22nd letter of the Greek alphabet
- Popular 70s rockers
- Electronic communication
- Trigraph
- Sea eagles
- Low-pitched, resonant sound
- Northeastern US university (abbr.)
- Home of the Bulldogs
- Exclamation of surprise
- Make a mistake
- Advantage
- Monkeys love them
- Wood
- Paddle
- Past participle of be
- Tall, rounded vase
- Device manufacturers
- Financial institution (abbr.)
- Paper product
- A type
- Atomic #43
- Red Hot Chili Peppers' drummer
- Behaviors
- Decays
- Walked confidently
- Voice (Italian)
- Class of adhesives
- Bar bill
- One-time aerospace firm

Classifieds Announcements

The *Winkler Morden* **Voice**

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

OBITUARY



Otto Treichel

Otto Treichel, formerly of Darlingford, MB passed away peacefully with his wife Dolores 'Lois' of 64 years and his sons by his side on Saturday, August 17, 2024.

He will be deeply missed and remembered by his wife Lois; sons Doug (Anna), Cal and Dwayne (Sherry); his grandchildren Tiffany (Dave), Tasha (Iain), Emilie (Owen), Erica and Tanner; great-grandchildren, family and friends.

Otto's life was farming, especially his cattle. He was the definition of a handy man. He could fix or build anything, but woodworking was one his favourite pastimes. Restoring old tractors was also a passion of his. When he wasn't farming or fixing something he enjoyed fishing, pool, cribbage and all sports but especially curling and baseball. Otto was very competitive in whatever he did! Grandpa was always playful and loved to joke with his grandchildren. We will always remember his smirk and his smile.

The family would like to thank Dr. Convery, Dr. Earl and all the medical staff for their dedication and compassionate care these past years. Special thanks to Pastor Alex Klages and Wiebe's Funeral Home, Morden, MB. There will be a private family service.

In memory of Otto and in lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Morden Junior Curling Program at 327- 2nd Street Morden, MB R6M 1P3 or to a charity of your choice.

"This life for me is truly past,
I have loved you all to the very last.
Weep not for me but courage take,
Cheers one another for my sake."

-Dad
Till we meet again.

Wiebe Funeral Chapel, Morden
in care of arrangements.
www.wiebefuneralhome.com



OBITUARY



Sheila Paulette Campbell

It is with deep sadness that we announce that Sheila Campbell passed away at Boundary Trails Health Centre on Thursday, August 22, 2024 surrounded by family.

Sheila was born on October 22, 1942 in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan to Helen (Leduc) and John Gilchrist. She was the 7th of 10 children. When she was 18 months old, the family moved to a farm south of Assiniboia, SK where she grew up.

She married Clayton Campbell in August 1962 in Taber, AB. From this union, in short order, came four children: Don, Dwain, Vicki, and Kevin. They moved their young family from Taber to Saskatoon to Guelph, ON eventually settling in Morden, MB in 1972.

Having completed her LPN training in Guelph, Sheila started her career at the Morden District General Hospital in February 1973 where she remained for 25 years. After retiring she worked at Salem

Home and Genesis House in Winkler for many years. She was a hardworking compassionate nurse. Her patients were always very well cared for.

Sheila was a very talented seamstress who could sew anything from undergarments, jeans, suit jackets to winter coats, often without the benefit of a pattern. She sewed uniforms for coworkers and did sewing for the church. Even the grandchildren got to wear some of Nana's creations, each item made with much love. Sheila also took up cross-stitching; beautiful pictures were proudly displayed in her home, each stitch meticulously placed creating a perfect picture. For 10 years she cross-stitched a picture yearly which she donated to the CWL for ticket raffles raising money for local charities.

After retiring Sheila travelled to many places around the world where she met a lot of nice people. She also enjoyed going to Harlingen, Texas for several winters with her sister Dorothy and brother-in-law Charlie. Sheila was very active in her Catholic parish community. She was a member of the 3rd Order of Franciscans which she said helped her grow spiritually. She was a woman of faith, a good listener, a reliable friend and a good counsellor.

Sheila leaves to mourn her children Don (Rose), Dwain, Vicki (Garry), and Kevin (Lisa); nine grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. She also leaves behind her sisters Yvonne, Anne and Dorothy; many nieces and nephews and numerous friends.

Rest in peace mom, nana, sister and friend.

In lieu of flowers, donations to the Menzies Medical Centre are greatly appreciated. Thank you.

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



OBITUARY

Elsa Marie "Angie" Matthys (nee De Zutter)
January 15, 1924 - August 26, 2024

We are saddened to announce the peaceful passing of Elsa Marie "Angie" Matthys on Monday, August 26, 2024 at Hillcrest Place, Brandon, Manitoba.

A native of Belgium, Angie and her husband, Arnold Matthys, immigrated to Canada in 1953. They settled in southwestern Manitoba; originally in the Lenore region and later on the family farm north of Manitou. They worked the land until Arnold suffered a stroke in 1980. They moved to Manitou and spent their winters in south Texas for the next 20 years. Arnold passed in 2002 and Angie relocated to Brandon where she lived independently until the age of 97 with the loving support of her daughter, Anita and son-in-law, Luc. She moved to Hillcrest Place three years ago where she enjoyed wonderful care from the attentive staff. Angie celebrated her 100th birthday with family and friends earlier this year and particularly loved the cake! Her other loves were her flowers and many pet dogs. She was our beloved matriarch; the last of her generation - our "Iron Woman".

A life with love is a life that's been lived.

We love you, Mom...xo

Angie is survived by her daughter Anita (Luc), son Rudi (Bev), daughter Sonja (Ralph); grandchildren Cindi (Brian), Angela (Mike), Randy (Deanna), Shelley (Bill), Shannon (Charles), Chelsea (Mike), Tim (Jenn); and great-grandchildren, Ashlyn (Bryce), Austin, Kyle, Taylor, Brady, Cole, Ryan, Kelsey, Makenna, Ayden, Elle, Cole, Finnley and Charleigh.

A time of visitation will take place from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 29, 2024 at Brockie Donovan Funeral Home, 332 8th Street, Brandon, MB.

Mass of Christian Burial will take place at 10:30 a.m. on Friday, August 30, 2024 at St. Augustine of Canterbury Roman Catholic Church, 327 Fourth Street, Brandon, with a reception to follow at the church. Interment will be at St. Leon Roman Catholic Cemetery, St. Leon, Manitoba later that day.

Arrangements are in care of
Brockie Donovan Funeral & Cremation Services
(204)-727-0694.

OBITUARY



Peter Reimer Obituary

May 14, 1938 - August 20, 2024

Peacefully with family at his side, Peter Reimer passed away at Notre Dame Foyer Care Home at the age of 86 years old.

He leaves to mourn his children Marcel (Dianne), Lynda (Ken deceased), Esther (Gerald), Lori (Chris), Sheila (Brian), Larry (Brenda), Tammy (Gordon) and his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Predeceased by his parents Abram and Kathrina Reimer, siblings Mary, Tina, Abe, Anna, Jake, Cornie, sister-in-law Agatha and brothers-in-law Pete Harder and John Elias, son-in-law Ken and great grandchildren Noah, Zachary and Lettie.

Peter raised his children at Rosebank, MB and later years moved to Winkler. He worked for farmers at a young age and later became a truck driver, having his own business. He worked many years for

Riverside Gravel and later years for Maple Leaf Construction. He retired in Winkler and lived in the Heritage apartments. He began to have poor health and was admitted into Boundary Trails Hospital and later Swan Lake Hospital and remained there until moving into Notre Dame Foyer Care Home.

Thank you to Wiebe Funeral Home and homecare staff as well as Boundary Trails Hospital. A very special thank you to Swan Lake Hospital for the wonderful care Dad received! And thank you so much to Notre Dame Foyer Care Home for the wonderful, loving staff they have working there. I am so glad we had chosen this home for Dad.

A private funeral service will be held. Wiebe Funeral Home in care of arrangements. Interment will be at the Winkler Cemetery and memorial donations can be made to the Children's Hospital.

Wiebe Funeral Chapel
in care of arrangements
www.wiebefuneralhomes.com

**Remember Your Loved Ones
with an Announcement in the**

The *Winkler Morden* **Voice**

Call 204-467-5836 or ads@winklermordenvoice.ca

Biz Cards

Call 467-5836

SPRING DISCOUNT 15% OFF Call or email for a FREE ESTIMATE! **403.872.4934**

Veteran Owned & Operated

WE OFFER:
Painting • Drywall • Flooring
Re-roofing, New Roofs & Repairs
Asphalt, Rubber Tiles and Metal
RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL

Have an odd job? Give us a call!
prestigerroofingcontracting@gmail.com

PRESTIGE ROOFING



Another great Corn & Apple in the books

The Corn & Apple Festival packed the streets of Morden for three days of festival fun, including (clockwise from above) free corn on the cob and apple cider, talented street performers, one of the largest parades in the province, art and craft stations for the kiddos, a car show Sunday afternoon in Morden Park, and a Saturday evening main stage lineup that included Canadian rockers 54-40.



PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE



get inspired

> MEAL IDEAS



Chicken with Peanut Sauce in Lettuce Wraps

Peanut Sauce:
 3 tablespoons creamy peanut butter
 2 teaspoons brown sugar
 1 tablespoon fresh lime juice
 2 tablespoons chili garlic sauce
 1 teaspoon fresh grated ginger
 1 tablespoon soy sauce

In pan, saute ground chicken in sesame oil until cooked through. Drain if mixture is watery.

Add shiitake mushrooms and onion; saute until mushrooms have softened and appear caramel colored.

Add garlic, ginger, hoisin, water chestnuts and green onions. Let chicken mixture simmer on low.

To make peanut sauce: In saucepan over medium-low heat, mix peanut butter, brown sugar, lime juice, chili garlic sauce, ginger and soy sauce until smooth, warm and thinned slightly.

Fold into chicken mixture. Stir until combined and simmer on low until peanut sauce is evenly distributed.

Garnish with fresh cilantro and crushed peanuts. Serve in lettuce wraps.

Recipe courtesy of Parker's Plate on behalf of the Georgia Peanut Commission

Prep time: 10 minutes
 Cook time: 15 minutes
 Servings: 4
 2 pounds ground chicken
 2 tablespoons sesame oil
 3/4 cup diced shiitake mushrooms
 1 small onion, diced
 2 garlic cloves, grated
 1 1/2 tablespoons fresh grated ginger
 1/2 cup hoisin sauce
 1/2 cup water chestnuts, diced
 3 green onions (both white and green parts), chopped
 2 garlic cloves, grated
 1/4 cup cilantro, chopped, for garnish
 1/4 cup crushed peanuts, for garnish
 iceberg or butter lettuce, for wraps



Broccoli and Edamame Salad with Peanut Dressing

Salad:
 2 cups broccoli slaw
 1 cup shelled edamame, cooked
 1 1/2 cups chopped raw broccoli
 1/2 cup English cucumber, quartered and chopped
 1/4 cup fresh mint, chopped
 1/4 cup fresh cilantro, chopped
 1/4 cup salted peanuts, roughly chopped

toasted sesame seeds, for garnish (optional)

To make dressing: In bowl, whisk lime juice, toasted sesame seed oil, honey, tahini, peanut butter, chili oil, garlic, ginger and salt, to taste. Add hot water, adding additional, if necessary, until dressing reaches desired consistency. Set aside.

To make salad: In large bowl, combine broccoli slaw, edamame, broccoli, cucumber, mint, cilantro and peanuts. Toss with dressing to combine and garnish with toasted sesame seeds, if desired.

Recipe courtesy of Parker's Plate on behalf of the Georgia Peanut Commission

Prep time: 10 minutes
 Cook time 5 minutes
 Servings: 4
Dressing:
 1/2 fresh lime, juice only
 1/4 cup toasted sesame seed oil
 3 tablespoons honey
 2 tablespoons tahini
 3 tablespoons creamy peanut butter
 1 teaspoon chili oil
 1 garlic clove, grated
 1 teaspoon fresh ginger, grated
 kosher salt, to taste
 1 tablespoon hot water, plus additional for thinner consistency (optional)

Ask the money lady

Dear Money Lady Readers:

Most people are taking summer vacation this year and actually going somewhere – YES, according to a Canadian IPSOS Study (May 2024), 8 out of 10 Canadians say they really need a holiday this year. While many Canadians feel the urge to travel this summer, more are also scaling back their vacation plans due to inflation. In short, IPSOS says: “more will travel, but many will try to spend less.”

Inflation has been trending down month over month and we all seem to be doing our part to reign in the spending which will help to lower the Canadian Prime Rate – a welcome reprieve to those still holding a variable rate mortgage. The BOC (Bank of Canada) will have 3 more opportunities to lower the rate from 4.5% (September 4, October 23, and December 11). If all goes well and they drop a quarter point each time, that could bring us down to 3.75%.

But if the BOC rate is currently at 4.5%, why is the Canadian Prime rate at 6.7% (July 2024)?

Well, the BOC rate manipulates the outcome of the rates, but it does so through its involvement with our financial institutions. It is the Canadian Banks that set the Prime lending rate and here's how it's done.

The prime rate has always been influenced by the policy interest rate set by the BOC which is also known as the target overnight rate. You see, the Canadian banks process their daily transactions overnight and borrow, trade and transact with each other during closed business hours. This is called the overnight market that operates much like an automated clearing house, transferring debits and credits between banks nationwide. All financial institutions operate this way during the night cycle to process all money transactions in Canada and around the world. The overnight rate is very important to financial institutions who will aggregate funds and borrow as needed to process and settle internal bank transactions. In order to process the large number of payments and transactions simultaneously, most institutions will run into issues clearing at the end of each day. Banks may not have enough deposits in a day to cover what needs to go out. Some financial institutions may have sent out more in payments than they received, while others may have received more than they sent out. This is why the BOC rate is so impor-



Christine Ibbotson

tant. Every night while we sleep, the Canadian banks borrow money from each other in the overnight market at a centralized cost, (the BOC overnight lending rate). A financial institution doesn't always have to borrow or lend to other banks, they can also use the BOC for one night. These rates vary overnight for deposits and loans to the banks based on the BOC operating band.

So why the “banking financial lesson?” Well, knowing how the banks transact with one another helps us understand why the BOC rate is so important. When our Canadian banks borrow and lend together, they basically keep our Prime rate consistent among all financial institutions across the country. This ensures the loan and mortgage rates we pay are based on a unilaterally agreed upon Prime Rate (currently at 6.7%) and the interest rates paid on GICs are generally the same across all Canadian markets. The 2% BOC threshold remind us – “to keep inflation at 2%” – and this has always been the BOC's magic number. Below 2% means they will lower rates to increase spending and increase the economy, above 2% and they will raise the rates to force us to spend less and slow down the economy. We're almost there. At the end of July, inflation sat at 2.70%. With three more potential drops, we are all hoping Prime will come down to 5.95% by December. (The BOC has 8 fixed dates per year where it will either raise, lower or maintain the rate). Most economists predict we will be under 6% by 2025.....so fingers crossed, they're right!

Written by Christine Ibbotson, Author, Finance Writer, National Radio Host, and on CTV & BNN, syndicated across Canada. Send your questions through her website at askthemoneylady.ca