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# Green Action Team shares audit results and green goals

By Lori Penner

Altona's Green Action Team has completed their audit of three of the community's recreation facilities, resulting in a variety of ideas on how they can become more environmentally friendly.

The team was formed late last year, and is made up of local volunteers Shayna Schroeder, Winnie Yu, Melissa Thiessen, Michael Hiebert, and David

Under the tutelage of the Green Action Centre in Winnipeg, their task was to perform assessments of the Millennium Exhibition Centre (MEC), Rhineland Pioneer Centre, and the Altona Curling Club.

Sawatzky's position as a recreation operations assistant for the Town proved to be helpful during this pro-

"The whole process began with me gathering information in order for them to put together the actual green audit," he explained.

The audit was based on things like water and electricity bills, building usage, and food and waste management.

The exercise continued with monthly workshops where the team, guided by members of the Green Action Centre, went through each facility focusing on these areas.

"Each session included reviewing statistics. As an intermediary with the town, we had gathered statistics about energy usage and all that to better understand the building," said Sawatzky. "Members of our team put things into perspective as far as energy usage, compared to a provincial, national, and international scale, and we asked for suggestions and recommendations on how the building could be improved. Then we weeded through these suggestions and came up with some short-term and longterm goals, and things that would not work."

One of those recommendations is to reduce usage of electricity and water.

"In a facility like this, it's a little difficult because you want to be open to the community as much as possible, but you also want to look at how the building is being used, when it's being used, how you can maybe have the lights on less, have the heat down, things like that."

Reducing waste is another sugges-

"We did a waste audit, and literally went through a specific time period and calculated the amount of waste collected in the building. We realized that about 60 per cent of the waste we throw away is either recyclable or compostable," said Sawatzky. "When you go by weight, that's substantial in a facility like this. But we believe with some education and encouragement, that number can come down.'

The team has come up with a few ideas to make this happen in the short

A \$7,500 grant, made available for a medium-scale project based on the audit's findings, will help cover the cost of some of the solutions they hope to provide.

"One suggestion was using the money to install programmable thermostats and changing to a more integrated cooling and heating system," Sawatzky said. "Outdoors, we are suggesting that the annual plants in the flower beds be replaced with perennial, more water-friendly plants around the building. We're also looking at installing some interactive displays to illustrate environmentally



PHOTO BY LORI PENNER/VOICE Green Action Team Member David Sawatzky says discovering ways to improve the environmental footprint of local recreational facilities has been an enlightening journey.

friendly practices when people enter the facility. Those practices can then hopefully be transferred to their homes and businesses."

Sawatzky says the Town of Altona has been very encouraging and supportive during the green audit process, because it reflects their own green values. For example, council approved the purchase of an electric Zamboni in their 2023 budget, which is set to arrive in January.

"I think a lot of the things we're proposing to them are not only ecologically sustainable, but they are essentially things that will help save taxpayers money, over the short term and long term. In that sense, it's a win-win. It's not a subject we can ignore any longer."

Going forward, the hope is that some of these suggestions will be integrated. The team will also be submitting a larger, broader list of recommendations to be considered in the future as well.

Continued on page 15





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# Faith Mission hires its first executive director

By Ashleigh Viveiros

There's a new but familiar face at the helm of Faith Mission (FriedensBote) in Winkler.

The Christian ministry has hired a full-time executive director for the first time in its 29-year history, but Nathan Elias is by no means a stranger to the organization.

He's the son of Faith Mission founder Jake Elias. The younger Elias spent many hours growing up helping out with the ministry's work. As an adult, he's remained active as a volunteer and board member.

"I grew up in the mission. It started on our yard and I grew up being pretty involved," he says. "A lot of my early memories are of me and my grandpa cutting cardboard for the clothing bales."

Elias spent six months working on behalf of Faith Mission in Ukraine in 2004 and has returned there for shorter outreach trips a number times in the years since.

"It instilled a desire in me to keep working with it and now, the last number of years, to take it a step further," he says.

Operating out of its location at 520 Circle K Drive, Faith Mission sends shipping containers full of donated used clothing, food, bicycles, and Christmas gift boxes to Ukraine to be distributed to families in need.

Jake Elias, who remains involved on the mission's board of directors, says the ministry has grown so much in recent years that the time seemed right to hire someone to head things up full-time.

"It's just too much work for volunteers to handle," he says. "We've been talking about doing this for awhile and finally decided now was a good time to do it."

For Nathan Elias, jumping into a career in ministry is an exciting challenge and also an opportunity, he hopes, to bring the mission's work to

new heights.

"There's many different avenues that we can expand," he says, noting his immediate focus over the next couple of months is to grow the gift box program for orphaned and needy kids in Ukraine from the 3,500 or so they sent last year.

"We're hoping to expand the gift boxes substantially, to get a lot more locally," Elias says, noting the mission's volunteers put together about 1,200 of last year's boxes themselves, with the rest coming in from the community. "It seems to have progressed fairly gradually the last number of years ... I think there's a lot more potential there."

Boxes and supply lists can be picked up from Faith Mission or Winkler's Dollar Tree. People are asked to fill them with things like socks, mittens, personal hygiene products (toothbrushes, washcloths, combs), school supplies, and small toys appropriate for both a boy or a girl age 4-9 or 10-16



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Faith Mission founder Jake Elias (left) with son Nathan Elias, who stepped into the newly created role of executive director for the Winkler ministry this summer.

years old. The mission adds an evangelical colouring book, religious tract, candy, and food to every box.

The deadline to return the filled boxes to Faith Mission is mid-November so they can be sent out with the last shipment of the year.

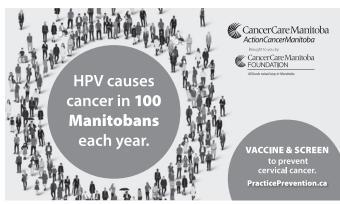
For some of the kids, these gift boxes are the only present they'll receive for

Christmas.

"I've seen firsthand what our boxes can do out there," Elias says. "They're being used to spread the Gospel. Wherever they're handing out gift boxes, the children there are getting the true meaning of Christmas, the story behind it.

Continued on page 5











# getinformed

# Legion to rededicate Confederation Park cenotaph



By Lorne Stelmach

The Morden Legion will be holding a rededication ceremony for the war memorial in Confederation Park.

The Sunday, Sept. 24 ceremony comes following the completion of some restoration work that was done on the cenotaph last spring as a joint project supported by the City of Morden, the RM of Stanley, and the Legion.

"It was really just to bring it back to life. Being as old as it was, it needed a little bit of love to just kind of clean it up," said Legion vice-president Jason Evert.

"It's an environmentally-friendly cleaning that they use on concrete that helps kind of get rid of some of what builds up over time," he explained, noting the cenotaph had turned somewhat green over time and faded, so the names weren't as clear. "It was really

#### **VOICE FILE PHOTO**

The cenotaph in Morden's Confederation Park has been deep cleaned and will have a rededication service on Sunday, Sept. 24.

something that we wanted to see done to bring that cenotaph back and looking as best as it could."

The cenotaph was first erected in 1921 by the Town of Morden and the RM of Stanley. It was designed by two Morden residents to honour locals who had died in the First World War.

Names from the Second World War and the Korean War were added in the decades that followed.

Evert observed it was a good time to take on this project, given how a lot of work has been done in the past few years with new historical signage in the park.

For the rededication, a group will depart from the Legion at 1:45 p.m. heading to Confederation Park for a ceremony set to begin at about 2 p.m.

"It will be a short program with an address by each group that was a part of this project and then a short prayer as well as our Last Post and Lament and two minutes of silence," said Evert. "It won't be long, but it's definitely very important to us ... once we were able to get the work done and cleaned, we wanted to celebrate it with this rededication."

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# Kidney Walk is coming up

By Lorne Stelmach

Raising awareness around kidney disease is just as important as raising funds to Jackie Plett.

It has been the day-to-day reality for the Morden resident her whole life, so there is a strong personal motivation for her to be part of the upcoming Pembina Valley Kidney Walk.

"A lot of people don't even really know what kidney failure or kidney disease is and don't realize until it happens to them ... or even what dialysis is and what it means," Plett said in advance of the 10th annual Kidney Walk fundraiser being held in Morden Park on Sunday, Oct. 1 at 1 p.m. (same-day registration opens at

Plett was just 10 months old when a form of kidney cancer required the removal of one of her kidneys and twothirds of the other.

She was then diagnosed with kidney failure in 2013. At that time she had about 50 per cent function. She began dialysis in 2018 at the age of 32.

"Kidney disease actually runs in my family. My dad had it also," noted Plett. "All my life I've just had one third of a kidney ... and then add in having kidney disease in the family ... and I'm on dialysis now.

"I always knew that I had the one third of a kidney and I needed to be careful," she continued. "I always knew I wasn't the same as every other kid ... when I had to go to the bathroom, it was always very important that I went when I had to go because that can cause damage ... just little things like that I always had to be careful."

Despite having that high level of awareness, it still hit her hard when she had to go on dialysis.

"It was very much an adjustment. I still took it actually as a big shock, even though I knew I had kidney failure prior to that," she said. "This is my life now. Three times a week ... four hours each time ... rain or snowstorm, I have to be there. It keeps me alive."

It poses a tremendous challenge to living a normal life, Plett observed.

"I can't really have a Monday to Friday office job. I work night shift for Gateway, and that actually works out pretty good. A regular job full-time during the day wouldn't work."

She appreciates the resources and support provided by the Kidney Foundation.

"It makes a difference ... the Kidney Foundation gives back to us," she said, noting they get gift cards once or twice a year for perhaps up to \$200 that can go towards costs such associated with gas, groceries, or medica-

Representatives of the Kidney Foundation noted how many patients struggle to make ends meet. Not only is the cost of their basic needs on the



**VOICE FILE PHOTO** 

The Pembina Valley Kidney Walk sets out from Morden Park on Sunday, Oct. 1.

rise, but they also face the burden of regular dialysis appointments, transportation, and costly medication.

Manitoba executive director Greg Unger said they've received a 41 per cent increase in requests for financial support in Manitoba over the past

"Our programs provide essential financial support as best we can to patients who need it most in our province, but none of it would be possible without the generosity of our donors," said Unger.

Participating in her fourth walk this

year, Plett appreciates the support of the community.

"Lots of people donate, and a fair amount of people come out," said Plett, who last year raised \$1,300 and has a goal this year of \$1,400. "It feels very good just knowing there is that love and support out there.

'Come out and support the Kidney Walk and the Kidney Foundation. It's such a good cause, and it helps so many people."

For more information about the foundation and the walk, visit www. kidney.ca/manitoba.

#### > FAITH MISSION, FROM PG. 3

"It can have a very lasting impact on society, just starting with something as simple as a gift box."

Elias is also working on increasing what food they can send overseas.

"Since the war started we've sent a lot of funds to our sister organization in Germany and they've sent food from Germany into Ukraine," he says. "But some of the food, especially flour and sugar, we can buy a lot cheaper here."

Since they send shipping containers full of clothing overseas several times a year (they expect to have sent 12 by the end of 2023—several more than in past years), adding more non-perishable food is a possibility they're

"We're hoping to get a few different types of food going," Elias says.

"Especially now, with winter coming up ... they're very concerned over there about what winter is going to bring because there just is nothing to eat. And then the fighting is just con-

They're also looking to raise funds to send to Ukraine for the purchase firewood in advance of winter, when prices go way up.

"The one thing we can do to make our dollar go further is if we buy firewood now, rather than waiting until it gets cold," Elias says, noting they pay nearly double for the same amount of wood come December.

You can learn more about Faith Mission's work and make a donation online at faithmission.ca. Or call 204-325-4086.

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# Hidden knowledge

six vears old. a friend of mine once told me about where babies came

There was a whole group of us standing around listening wide-eyed and attentively to the older child, who must have been almost 10 years old and therefore significantly wiser.

Once the information had been

passed along myself and others left somewhat stunned but accepting of this new truth.

I'm embarrassed to say it wasn't until years later when we had sex education that I had learned that this profound mystery I



**By Peter** Cantelon

had been told was absolute rubbish. I will not go into detail but frankly physics alone would never allow what I believed to be "the way" to ever occur.

Out of this circumstance I learned a valuable new insight: you cannot always trust the people you admire to know what they're talking about. Do your own fact checking before simply believing a thing.

For the most part these rules have served me well over the years but I never fail to be shocked at how often large groups of people fail to apply these most basic principles to information before blindly accepting it as fact and spreading it around like a

Another example: the great Italian thinker and fighter of fascists Antonio

**s a child of about** Gramsci wrote about such instances of ridiculous acceptance of patently ridiculous info in the early 20th century. He even named the phenomenon Lorianism after one of the worst offenders Achille Loria.

Loria was a personality who had assembled a fan-base of people through newspapers and magazines; People who believed in his intellect and track record as a "smart guy." One of his wonderful theories was something Gramsci called altivism, the theory was that the higher in altitude people dwelled the more noble, intelligent, moral and healthy they were.

As you moved closer to sea level you got increasingly immoral, unhealthy, stupid individuals. To quote Gramsci "heaven forbid you happened to live at sea level."

The entire premise was completely idiotic and yet people believed him. He never offered a shred of actual scientific evidence to back up his laughable thinking. He even went on to propose the government work on developing some sort of high-altitude prison plane/hot air balloon that would hasten the reformation of youth criminals given the significant distance from sea level.

As silly as these occurrences are they

have very powerful real-world ramifications when people blindly absorb them as truth simply because of the person they came from.

These days one might consider Jordan Peterson a prime example of Lorianism. A smart guy with real world credentials in a narrow field who is constantly spouting off on the most ridiculous, simplistic ideas that have nothing to do with his area of science and struggles to back up his assertions. His influence has real world consequences that have led to an enabling of intolerance and hate.

Honestly, I wish this kind of thinking was simply harmless and something we could all laugh at and go about our days ignoring. Unfortunately, believing and spreading silly, baseless ideas with no evidence perpetuates poor, uncritical thinking and can cause real harm.

The antidote? Listen to everything but don't believe it if it isn't backed up with some sound proof. If what's being peddled is being defended as hidden knowledge that the "lamestream media" is afraid to tell you about run in the other direction.

Think critically. Ask questions. Demand proof and challenge silly ideas, because they crop up like weeds.

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

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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

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# Make education an election priority

Submitted by the Garden Valley School **Division board of trustees** 

Are your children, grandchildren, and neighbours a priority as you consider how you will cast your vote in the upcoming provincial election?

Alongside issues like quality health care, fiscal sustainability, taxes, and new infrastructure, public education needs to be a strong consideration. Education is a provincial responsibility and so before you cast your vote, please ask candidates important questions about how they will support over 190,000 students in over 700 public schools in Manitoba.

Ask them about their vision for increasing literacy and numeracy levels and graduation rates. While GVSD exceeds the provincial average in all these areas, the impact of the pandemic has decreased levels in GVSD and across the province. What will be invested in recovery learning and increasing these vital life skills?

Ask them how they will support the increasing mental health needs in our schools. More students than ever are struggling with anxiety and multiple mental health challenges. Like other divisions, GVSD hires clinicians (social workers, psychologists, occupational therapists) to address mental health needs. We need more clinicians and support but are limited by available, reliable funding.

Ask them about integrating newcomers. Immigration has wonderfully supplied our region with many workers and great citizens but also presents some challenges. Newcomers require extra support to learn a new language, and some need assistance to catch up with education levels in Canada. How will the government support regions like ours which lead the province in welcoming newcomers?

Ask them about poverty and meal programs. There are areas in our province with greater needs but even within GVSD we have too many students who come to school hungry. This strongly impacts their ability to focus and to learn. Community partners have assisted with breakfast programs in some of our schools, but needs are increasing. Poverty and hunger are impacting learning; how

will this concern be addressed?

Ask them about adequate education funding. Statistics can often be cleverly manipulated to deceive voters but here are some numbers provided by the Manitoba School Board Association that are worth consideration: "Between 2006/07 and 2021/22 actual growth in Manitoba's education budget was 19.2 per cent, while inflation across this same time grew by 34.6 per cent, resulting in a funding gap of over \$500 million."

If schools are asked to address mental health, integration, and poverty needs in addition to educational requirements, divisions need to receive adequate funding so the gap between funding and inflation increases doesn't continue to grow.

Ask them if they will restore school divisions' former ability to tax locally. Each school division has unique needs which require discretionary funds. In GVSD we hire literacy and numeracy coordinators to raise reading and math levels, school liaison workers to support newcomers and families in need, English as Additional Language instructors, and we partner

with four neighbouring divisions to offer exceptional technical vocational programs that prepare students for local employment. Since the government limited the ability to add a local tax component a few years ago, our region has grown significantly but we have not been allowed to fully realize the benefits of an increasing tax base

Ask them about their plans for staff recruitment and retention. Like many sectors, education is experiencing a shortage in qualified staff. To date GVSD has managed to hire sufficient staff but this is not true throughout our province and the trend is concerning. What are they planning to do to address this? How will they invest in the wellbeing of current staff: professionally, personally, and financially?

Education MUST be a key priority during the 2023 election. Asking local candidates about their own, as well as their party's future plans for public education will help you to best evaluate who deserves your vote on October 3rd.

# BTHC Auxiliary hosting fall luncheon, bake sale

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Boundary Trails Health Centre Auxiliary is getting back into the swing of things after a few fallow years thanks to the pandemic.

This spring they reopened the hospital gift shop, which is manned by auxiliary volunteers, for the first time since 2020.

Now, they welcome the return of their fall luncheon and bake sale. The fundraiser takes place at the Morden Legion Hall (285 North Railway Ave.) from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 23. Lunch will be soup, sandwiches, and dessert for \$12. The bake sale will be full of homemade goodies. There will also be raffle tickets for sale for a variety of prizes.

"We're raising funds for the hospital to help them purchase the equipment that they need," says auxiliary president Margaret Ann Popplestone.

That's been the auxiliary's mandate for decades. While the BTHC receives funding from the province, auxiliary donations help them purchase additional needed or improved equipment they would otherwise have to go without.

"The government only provides so much money," Popplestone says. "The more equipment that we have, up-to-date equipment, the better the hospital can care for patients and the easier it's going to be to attract staff."

Even though things were quiet during the pandemic, the auxiliary was still able to cross a few items off the hospital's annual wish list thanks to the ongoing support of local do-

"We still worked seeking donations the last few years," Popplestone says. "We do have some people that donate every year, and we're very thankful for that."

For 2023, the auxiliary spent over \$35,000 on equipment purchases that included a phototherapy light, special doors for operating room shelving units, a compact wall desk, and an ice water machine.

Popplestone says they haven't received the 2024 equipment list from the hospital yet, but they're eager to raise as much as they can to help meet the needs identified in it.

The auxiliary currently has about a

dozen members. Many aging volunteers have passed away or stepped back in recent years, so they're looking for some fresh blood to keep the organization going into the future.

"We definitely need more help," Popplestone stresses. "We're just kind of at a standstill with members right now. We need more to continue on."

Auxiliary members meet monthly for most of the year to discuss fundraising plans, including the fall and spring luncheons, cash calendar sales, and a November craft sale. Members are asked to help out at those events and in the gift shop.

If you'd like to get involved, stop by the luncheon next week to chat with auxiliary members or give Popplestone a call at 204-822-6208.

The VOICE

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## 'The Last Radio Show' performances raising funds for Eden Foundation

By Lorne Stelmach

The audience will be taken back in time when the musical theatre production *The Last Radio Show* comes to Morden this month.

The production at the Kenmor Theatre Sept. 29-30 is set in Morden in 1965 and centers around fictitious radio station CGMW, which is broke and preparing to go off the air.



It was created last year as a way to mark and celebrate the 100th anniversary of radio in Manitoba, so it has been a labour of love for Garry Moir, who has spent most of his life working in the field.

"I've worked in broadcasting for over 50 years, and a lot of the characters, I would say, they are just broad exaggerations of people I have worked with over the years," said Moir, who not only wrote the play but is part of the cast.

"We did it in Winnipeg last year and we sold out both of the productions that we did there," he noted. "One of our guests for that show was Jayme Giesbrecht, who was just going over to a role at the Eden Foundation, so this year the cast got together again and thought why don't we do it for the Eden Foundation and raise some money for mental health."

The play is the story of the very last live radio show performed by an elderly, dysfunctional staff, fretting about their future. However, on this final night, they must somehow pull it together to give listeners a tour of the golden days of broadcasting—and no one could have predicted what happens next.

In addition to being set in Morden, the production has plenty of local connections, as Moir grew up near Snowflake and attended high school in Crystal City while and his wife and musical director and cast member Agatha was born and raised in the Altona and Winkler area. On top of that, Jayme Giesbrecht is also part of the program as a special guest.

Moir suggested there are a number of aspects to the show that draw people to it.

"There's a lot of really great music in there. That's one thing," he said. "The other thing is there aren't really a lot of productions that appeal to kind of a 50-plus audience. We had a lot of 50-plus people in our audience, but there

were a lot of younger people who seemed to enjoy it as well. It kind of cut across the generations.

"I think another thing is it's one of those shows that has a little bit of everything. There's music, poetry; we put it all together and do the sound effects in the way they used to do in the golden days of radio. We just make them ourselves.

"It's just a show that has a whole lot of fun stuff in it," Moir continued. "It's a show that's minimalist. We have quite a nice set, but it's certainly small. It's not a big expensive production"

Another unique aspect of the production is the

"The cast was almost exclusively seniors. This time, we've had to bring in one younger person because one of our original cast members wasn't in good enough health to do it," Moir said. "Some of us are well into our 70s ... I think anybody who comes to see it, I think the audience will be quite surprised with the energy level and the kinds of things that a lot of these actors can do.

"You get to a certain age, it's pretty hard to find an acting part ... none of us make any money at it," he noted. "But most of us, in one way or another, have had some acting experience in the past ... we're not a bunch of rank amateurs."

Proceeds from the production will go to the Eden Foundation to support mental health programs.

Show times are 7 p.m. both evenings. Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased in advance at www.candlewick.ca or at the door.

"We can't wait to come out to Morden," said Moir. "I know virtually all of the cast want to stay overnight in Morden because they're just looking forward to getting out of the city and hopefully just putting on a really good show for everybody."

# **Alzheimer Soc. marks World Alzheimer Month**

Care partner groups starting up across the region this fall

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Things are hopping at the south central regional office of the Alzheimer Society of Manitoba this fall.

Not only are there a few special events happening in conjunction with World Alzheimer's Month, but several returning programs are getting back into the swing of things after summer break, along with a few new ones as well.

"We want everyone to know that the Alzheimer's Society is the first link to a community of support, resources, and knowledge for families impacted by dementia," says regional coordinator Rebecca Atkinson, encouraging any family grappling with the disease to get in touch with her to learn more about what help is out there and to let her know what other forms of assistance they'd like to see.

Monthly care partner support groups are starting up in Altona (11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m the third Monday of the month at The Gardens on Tenth), Morden (10 a.m. to noon the fourth Monday of the month at the Morden Active Living Centre), Carman (1-3 p.m. at the Carman Active Living Centre the last Wednesday of every month), and Emerson/Dominion City (alternating between the two communities the first Wednesday of the month at 10 a.m.).

It's a chance for caregivers to get together with others who understand what they're going through, Atkinson says, urging people to reach out to her at 204-325-5634 for more information about joining a group.

She notes there are also virtual support groups running provincially if the above times and locations don't work for you. And if there was enough interest for an evening in-person support group in the Pembina Valley, she'd be open to organizing that as well.

As far as events go, the Winkler Senior Centre/Buhler Active Living Centre is hosting a few livestreamed ones over the next few weeks.

On Wednesday, Sept. 20 from 2-3 p.m. is a family education webinar entitled "Navigating the Long-Term Care System." Register by calling 204-325-8964.

Then, on Thursday, Sept. 21 from 6-7:30 p.m., What's New in Dementia Research? Ask the Expert! will be livestreamed from Winnipeg to Winkler at the BALC. The presentation features researcher and neurologist Dr. Donald Weaver.

"He's apparently an excellent speaker," Atkinson says, noting he'll be fielding questions about the causes, risk factors, and treatments for dementia.

Atkinson will herself be speaking or fielding questions at a few other events this fall, including the Building Dementia-Friendly Communities presentation at the Crystal City Friendship Centre on Sept. 20 at 1:30 p.m. (register by calling 204-825-2443), the Home & Community Care Expo at the Morden Activity Centre Oct. 4 from 4-7 p.m., and the Understanding Dementia public information session in the Cedar Estates common room (350-4th St., Winkler) at 2 p.m. on Oct. 13 (no registration required).

Next month will also see the Care 4 U conference hosted in Winnipeg on Saturday, Oct. 28. The event is aimed

Continued on page 9

#### > ALZHEIMERS, FROM PG. 8

at family and friends caring for people living with dementia and features presentations from a variety of healthcare and community professionals. Registration information is available at alzheimer.mb.ca.

Atkinson encourages anyone interested in attending the conference and potentially carpooling with others from this area to reach out to her.

Finally, on the programming front, back for another eight-week session at The Gardens on Tenth in Altona starting Oct. 23 is Minds in Motion.

This program is designed for people living with early to moderate signs of dementia to attend with a family member or friend. Each session includes gentle chair fitness, engaging activities, and conversation.

"We're doing Altona in the fall and then we're set up to run in Carman in winter and then Winkler in the spring," Atkinson notes. Contact her at 204-325-5634 to register.

She's also putting a call out for volunteers for programming across the region and for businesses who want to learn more about how they can become more dementia-friendly.



PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE Close to 200 riders of all ages turned out Saturday morning for the Head for the Hills fundraiser in support of the Eden Foundation. Director of development Jayme Giesbrecht estimated the total will come in at over \$90,000 in support of mental health programming. "We were so grateful for a beautiful calm sunny day, lots of volunteer help, and a real positive attitude from cyclists, who had a keen understanding of Eden's work and in many cases a connection to Eden beyond fundraising," Giesbrecht said. The ride began and ended at the Cripple Creek Music Festival site just south of Morden.



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Elias Woodwork has reached an impressive milestone by celebrating its 40th anniversary. They are thankful to their loyal customers, and the dedicated team who supported and helped them throughout these years.

Elias Woodwork incorporated in 1983 while working in a 2000 square foot building on Centennial Ave. They began building their main facility, along with a maintenance room in 1986, after purchasing their first lot. Elias Woodwork worked hard during this time, even constructing overhead dust holding tanks to load trucks.

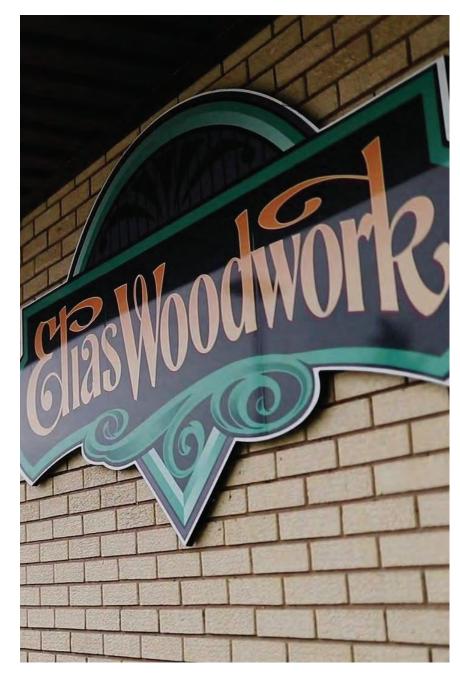
In 1994, they raised the capital needed by applying for a Grow Bond issue to start building the Rough mill/moulding shop and began painting in the South end of it using a small hand spray booth. Five years later, customer demand had Elias Woodwork requiring significant expansion again. The company built a large extension to its main shop and shipping area and invested in a new CEFLA paint line, requiring its first million-dollar plus bank loan. The project extended well into 2000, whereby the extension of the Rough mill and a wood storage area was built. Furthermore, they ventured into a vinyl pressing business called All Tech Panel Products, partnering with Triple E and based in a building from Lode King. In 2007 they bought a lot in Winkler, preparing it for another future building...but when the sub-prime mortgage crisis put that on hold, they found a less expensive way to expand and leased the front half of the Morden Tupperware plant in 2008. The immediately set out to built another paint room in the new facility and in the following year, they subleased part of the Morden plant to EXNER eWaste.

In 2013, they asked Exner eWaste to vacate that space, which they repurposed for cabinet box construction. Elias Woodwork negotiated the purchase of the entire Morden site a short time later, accommodating these plans by providing Lode-King with two years' notice to relocate.

By 2017, they repurchased AllTech Panel Products from John Fehr and Triple E and moved the company's production into the vacant space left by Lode King in the Morden plant. Elias Woodwork built an annex to the Winkler site Rough mill in the same year, housing an additional moulder and a Drawer box cell.

In 2020, Elias Woodwork began preparing another lot in Winkler for the future building once again. They recently finished this construction in 2022 and are now moving the Cabinet Box manufacturing from the Morden Site. The Elias Woodwork Ownership group is extremely grateful for the hard work and effort made by their staff, acknowledging all their contributions to Elias' growth and success these last 40 years. "We have been so blessed to be located in the Winkler/Morden area because of the hard working multi skilled populating the area. " Not every endeavour resulted in immediate success, including some of their earlier efforts such as dust collectors and exploded dust tanks, which now lie in trash and scrap metal heaps somewhere...but this never took the wind out of employee's sails and ambitions and great attitudes have kept them forging ahead.

The company invites everyone to attend their 40th anniversary celebration, which will take place on the lawn at their Morden location on September 16 from 4 pm to 9 pm. The celebration will include food trucks, exciting inflatables, face painting, a Country Princess, live bands, and a fireworks display to conclude the night. "This milestone is really a testament to the ambitions of the people in this entire area...and we'd like to say Thank You!" Elias Woodwork is anticipating the joy of having everyone join in and recognize this impressive milestone with them.







**Quonset Brothers** Performing at 4:15 pm A Pembina Valley local classic cover band!



Leathers and Lace Performing at 5:30 pm A Spectacular Tribute to Eagles - Fleetwood Mac & Friends! Brought to you by 'Icons of Rock and Snake Oil'





We couldn't have made it this far without the hardworking people in the Pembina Valley! We would love to have you all come out and celebrate our 40th Anniversary Come join us at our Morden location on September 16 at 4-9 pm







come hungry!

Performing at 7:30 pm

Trooper is a Rock Band formed in 1975 and took the radio waves by storm with a string of anthemic hits still playing on every Classic Rock Station in the Country.

The Group is best known for the hits "Raise a Little Hell", "We're Here for a Good Time (Not a long time)"





# Manitou festival a hit





The wonderful food was a big draw Saturday as people gathered in Manitou for the annual Honey, Garlic and Maple Syrup Festival. The day featured a gourmet alley and buffet supper, a packed vendor tent, cooking demonstrations, musical entertainment. a car show, fun activities for the kids, and more.

**PHOTOS BY LORNE** STELMACH/VOICE

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# "A thing of beauty is a joy forever"

Ribbon cut at community garden pavilion

By Lori Penner

The Altona Community Garden hosted a special grand opening event last Saturday to commemorate the completion of their pavilion project.

Garden manager Jack Heppner told the gathered crowd that it was truly a community effort that made the garden and the pavilion a possibility.

He recalled all the hard work that he and his fellow task force members put into the project, from gathering volunteers and fundraising, to pitching their ideas to town council.

"A lot of people have been involved on a lot of levels to bring us to where we are today," Heppner said. "The task force and a lot of volunteers have worked many hours to make this happen. It's sponsored by the Altona Community Action Network (ACAN) and the Town of Altona, and a lot of financial support."

To date, \$220,000 has been raised from the community.

Heppner recalled how the vision for the project began in 2017, when ACAN signed a three-year contract with the town to manage a community garden. A task force made up of Jason Peters, Joel Martin, and Heppner was formed and began some serious

They initially raised \$7,500 to begin the project. From the onset they had

a vision for a common area in the middle of the garden, where gardeners would be able to access tools, water, and compost, with picnic tables where they could build community with each other.

In 2018 they rented out 57 plots. In 2019 they added 33 plots for a total of 90. A new sign was erected, and they introduced a crop swap table where gardeners could share their produce. Equal Access Altona encouraged them to build an accessible garden for people with wheelchairs, which they committed to from the beginning.

By 2020, despite the challenges of COVID, the garden continued to thrive. The task force envisioned a common area with washrooms and a picnic shelter.

"We brought people on board to flesh out that vision. James Friesen designed and built the timber frame pavilion with the sun bursting in it right from the start. Aaron Sawatzky, our landscape architect provided central drawings for the entire commons area, including the garden area and the footbridge, later connected to the town trail system. Wilf Hiebert became the general contractor."

Heppner recalled how he used the Keats quote, "A thing of beauty is a joy forever" when he pitched the idea to the town.

"It worked," he said.



PHOTOS BY LORI PENNER/VOICE

Cutting the ribbon at the Altona Community Garden pavilion are, from left, Borderland MLA Josh Guenter, pavilion designer James Friesen, task force members Joel Martin, Stefan Ford, Jack Heppner, Jason Peters, Gavin Faurshau, Jonah Langelotz, and Mayor Harv Schroeder.

By spring 2021, they expanded to 105 plots. By June that year, they had raised about \$100,000 of the \$142,000 projected cost.

After receiving a grant of \$70,000 from the Manitoba Sustainability program, they forged ahead with optimism, installing water and sewer lines, and completing most of the concrete work.

By 2022, the timber frame pavilion and washrooms were built, and other task forces oversaw landscaping, which included designing the entrance, and adding a footbridge and gravel pathway.

Heppner noted that with every new financial need, the community responded with gusto.

A few things still need to be com-

pleted. The pathway needs a bit more development, and the accessibility garden needs another table. And there are still plans to develop an orchard. But overall, the mission to provide a place for people to garden and to gather has been accomplished.

"This year, the garden grew to 140 plots, each 15 ft. by 45 ft.," Heppner said. "There are 97 families that are gardening, and almost half of them are newcomers to Canada. It's become a truly international community of people speaking many languages, with a common ground of garden-

With tears in his eyes, Heppner thanked everyone who contributed to making this dream come true.

"Altona is a generous and welcoming community. There have been challenges along the way. But we say without reservation, it's been fun and worth it. Thank you to all the people involved. We've worked with three mayors, all been supportive. It's such a wonderful bunch of people who garden here."

Altona Harv Schroeder mirrored Heppner's pride.

"What a wonderful place that's been built here in the community. When I look around today, it reminds me that it's more than just a garden. It's a testament to what we can achieve when we come together as a community.

"The garden task force, ACAN, gardeners, business sponsors and individual sponsors have all put their hearts into this project, from the very first shovel full of dirt. This is more than a garden. It's a symbol of a community that is connected to one another, to the earth, and to the future."





Left: Maria Jose Toleda and Divinia Resdrepo do some gardening following the grand opening event at the Community Garden pavilion. Above: The pathways were finished in time for the celebration.

# Altona fundraiser supports communities in two countries

By Lori Penner

The Love Well Women's Drop-in Centre in Altona is preparing to host their second annual Good Double Blessing fundraising event, and this year organizers have raised the bar on how much they hope to raise.

Gaetane Reimer, Robyn Sierks and Nadine Klassen co-direct the centre where the outreach has expanded by leaps and bounds since they opened three years ago.

"It's amazing to see how things are growing here," Sierks says. "The number of women showing up for our weekly events is increasing. We're averaging 17 to 20 women a night now, and our weekday coffee days are also growing like crazy."

About 150 women from Altona and across the region visit the non-profit drop-in centre on 2nd Ave. NE every month.

"Some people just come in for a chat. Some come to play games. Some just need a listening ear," Reimer says. "We have women of all ages and walks of life here. Every woman is welcome and loved."

Along with their weekly Craft Café, and the coffee, tea, and snacks, they also provide a variety of free programs and study groups to support women in a welcoming, non-judgemental environment.

"It's been growing steadily. We just finished a grief and bereavement support group, and now we want to run a mental health first aid course, to give women the tools to help themselves and others," Sierks says.

"We are here to support women. A place for women to connect and build relationships. And if they do need help, we want to send them in the right direction for the right resources," Reimer adds. "We're not here to fix women, we're here to love and support them. We want to build long, lasting friendships. We want people to feel comfortable and safe here. It's about building trust."

Last year, the Good Double Blessing event raised about \$10,000. This year, their goal is \$45,000.





PHOTO BY LORI PENNER/VOICE

Gaetane Reimer and Robyn Sierks of the Love Well Drop-in Centre are excited about their upcoming fundraising event, The Good Double Blessing, which supports two important organizations in two countries.

Half of the funding will support Hijos de Dios, a women's centre located in Guazacapan, Santa Rosa, Guatemala.

Like the Love Well Centre, Hijos de Dios offers a wide variety of programs, but they also provide classes for families. There are learning centres for children with learning and intellectual challenges, an early learning program, English classes, self-esteem workshops for boys and girls, Mom's afternoon out, and Bible club. They also have a dance school, a sewing cooperative, a baking co-operative, and much more.

"They're building a bakery over there, and their outreach has increased as well. So, we decided to aim a little higher this year," Reimer says.

Klassen has been going down to Guatemala for almost 20 years now, spending about eight months at a time working with the Early Learning program and teaching English. She also translates books for their children's library and bakes desserts for special occasions.

"I was working with a different ministry when I started called Fe Viva World Missions. So many of the different missionaries I have worked with and do work with have branched out from Fe Viva to start different minis-

tries in the community. It is wonderful to see each ministry collaborate with each other when there is a need. I have been working with Hijos de Dios for the last two years."

Last year, some of the funds from the Good Double Blessing event were used to help a young mom leaving an abusive relationship with legal fees, finding a new place to live, teaching her how to read, write and do basic math, so she could start her own home-based business.

Klassen says places like Hijos de Dios and Love Well are so important because they are focused on building strong families and strong communities.

"Love Well works with women in the community to build their confidence so they can bring that back to their families. Hijos de Dios has an assortment of programs that build confidence in all areas of the family to provide for stronger families and stronger communities. We are both committed to seeing our communities thrive."

Reimer agrees.

"When you touch a woman's life, it spreads to every aspect of her life, from her marriage and other relation-

Continued on page 15



# Blue House Market draws hundreds to Altona gallery

The Blue House Market returned for the second year to Altona's Gallery in the Park this past weekend, as part of the Pembina Valley Studio Tour.

Last year's market attracted around 300 visitors. Gallery curator Susie Fisher was delighted to see this year's event draw over 450.

The market is a way to give local artisans who may not have studio space accessible to the public a chance to display and sell their work as part of the tour. Fisher noted.

More than 20 vendors and artisans were on site, featuring a wide variety of mediums including pottery, jewelry, candles, and more.

PHOTO BY LORI PENNER/VOICE

Both floors of Gallery in the Park were filled with displays by local artisans for the second annual Blue House Market.



#### > LOVE WELL, FROM PG. 14

ships to her family and beyond, so it's a huge ripple effect. Love Well covers a lot of ground. If you love somebody without expectations, it takes the pressure off and allows both of you to grow. You both heal. We all need that. Every single one of us."

The Good Double Blessing fundraising event takes place Saturday, Sept. 23 at 10 a.m.

Participants can walk or bike along the path around the Altona Centennial Park. At 11:30 a.m., participants and members of the community can enjoy Fiesta Time at the Love Well Women's Drop-in Centre.

Registration is \$25. Pre-register at

www.lovewelldropin.com.

"The street will be partially closed. There will be vendors, live music, pizza, drinks, and ice cream sandwiches for the participants. There will also be some great raffle prizes, generously

donated by local businesses," imer says. "We encourage everyone to come to the big block party. And if they don't want to walk, for just \$10, they can have lunch and enjoy the entertainment."

#### > GREEN ACTION TEAM, FROM PG. 2

"We really hope that this building, going forward, will take some of what we've suggested and put it into practice," said Sawatzky, noting those results could be posted online or with signage throughout.

Meanwhile, while the Green Ac-

tion Centre led the local Green Action Team through this audit process, representatives were also teaching the volunteers how to lead similar exercises for other local organizations and businesses looking to reduce their environmental footprint.

In the next phase of this process, a working group will be created to coordinate a larger-scale project funded through a federal program to the tune of \$50,000.



# Altona man facing fraud, theft charges

Police warn residents to be vigilant against online scammers

By Voice staff

An Altona man is facing charges of fraud and theft in connection with an online sales scam.

On Aug. 30, Altona Police were contacted by contacted by an employee of a local business who advised police that he had just observed a person load a truck with three lifts of plywood from an offsite storage location. The employee was aware that this plywood had not recently been sold.

Officers tracked down the truck

on Hwy. 201 east of Hwy. 75. After a brief conversation with the driver, it was determined that the company owner saw an advertisement online for plywood reportedly leftover from a recent project. He e-transferred the seller \$1,500 for it.

The plywood, however, was never the legal property of the seller, and the company name provided by the seller was a fictitious construction company.

The plywood was returned to the Altona business. The purchaser was out \$1,500, the victim of a scammer.

Further investigation determined several other parties were attempting to purchase the same materials from the fictitious construction company.

On Sept. 2, a 23-year-old Altona man was arrested and charged with two



**ALTONA POLICE SERVICE PHOTO** 

Altona Police arrested a local man in connection with an online sales scam that saw a fake construction company sell plywood that didn't belong to them.

counts of fraud under \$5,000 and one count of theft over \$5,000.00, as the actual value of the plywood was \$6,680.

The man was also charged with possession of goods obtained by crime, as the e-bike he was operating at the time of his arrest had been reported stolen out of Winkler.

"The Altona Police Service would once again like to remind residents and business owners to exercise caution when dealing online for the sale and or purchases of goods and or services," Chief Dan Defer said in a statement.

# Neubergthal hosts Darp Days Sept. 22-23

By Lori Penner

The Village of Neubergthal is gearing up to host Darp Days, its annual celebration of the rich history and culture in the Mennonite village.

"Last year's event had really poor attendance, because people were still cautious of crowds after COVID," says organizer Joe Braun. "We're hoping to attract many more this time."

This year the event holds special significance as it coincides with the centenary of the migration of Mennonites from the Soviet Union during its civil war

On Friday, Sept. 22, the festivities kick off at 5 p.m. with a soup and pie supper. Following the feast, at 7:30 p.m. the stage will come alive with the music of the Quonset Brothers, a classic country cover band hailing from the West Reserve.

Tickets for both the supper and the Quonset Brothers' performance are priced at \$20 each. Or you can enjoy both for just \$30.

On Saturday, Sept. 23, the second day of Darp Days begins at 10 a.m. with a street tour of Neubergthal. Climb aboard a flatbed trailer and traverse the village streets while listening to tales of Neubergthal's past and present narrated by local experts Joyce Kehler Friesen and Jolanda Schwartz Friesen.

"It's called Neubergthal Then and Now, so we start off with a little bit of history about the two men who originally arrived there with their covered wagons," shares Schwartz Friesen, explaining they'll take people through the whole village sharing stories of the families who once called it home.

At 11:30 a.m., head back to the Commons Barn for a session of Low German tales by local storyteller and retired teacher Allan Schrit

For lunch (noon to 1:30 p.m.), indulge your taste buds at the build-your-own-sandwich bar, and if you missed the village tour earlier, the flatbed trailer will be ready for another round. Watermelon and rollkuchen will be available at 3 p.m.

The summer of 2023 commemorated

the 100th anniversary of the beginning of the years-long migration of thousands of Mennonites from the Soviet Union during its civil war. One of a number of events observing this milestone in Mennonite history was a train journey across Canada tracing the settlement of the Russlaender Mennonites in our nation.

Dr. Aileen Friesen, a history professor at the University of Winnipeg, was a traveller and lecturer on that train journey. At 3:30 p.m. she will deliver a slide presentation of her experiences.

The afternoon will also feature oldfashioned carnival games for kids of all ages. The Bergthal School Sports Exhibit will also be open for exploration.

To top things off, Paul Krahn and

Friends will perform the intriguing Brommtopp tradition, a quirky New Year's Eve custom from the early 1900s exclusive to West Reserve Mennonite villages. The performance includes bizarre costumes, special New Year's songs in Low German, and the mysterious "rumbling chamber pot" instrument.

"I have never seen one of these performances before, but I think it will be hilarious," says Braun.

Tickets for Saturday's meals and events are \$15 for the entire day. Kids age 12 and under are \$5.

For more information or to order tickets, head to neubergthal.ca or call 204-324-6253



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.

# Get vocal about BUYING LOCAL!

# How to make buying local a part of your daily life

Do you want to help support the local economy and members of your community by buying from growers, producers and merchants in your area? If so, here are some tips to help you integrate this habit into your daily life.

- **Choose items made in the area.** Whenever possible, select artisanal food, clothing, furnishings and other products made by local craftspeople. You should also look for goods made with ingredients or materials sourced from nearby regions.
- **Visit stores owned by locals.** Rather than shop at large retail chains, opt to buy what you need at stores owned by people who live in your community. You can also check out local farmers markets, U-pick farms and agritourism operations.
- **Keep an eye out for labels.** It's increasingly common for food and other products that are made regionally to have an identifying label. If you want to ensure you make the right choice, don't hesitate to ask a sales clerk for more information.

Once you make the effort to change your shopping habits, you'll find yourself with a host of local products that you can't live without.

## 3 reasons to choose local shops over e-commerce giants

Massive online retailers like Amazon have become a top choice for many shoppers because of their low prices and speedy deliveries. However, there are important advantages to supporting local businesses when you shop online. Here are three reasons to champion the merchants in your area when you want to buy something on the internet.

giant. Additionally, you'll have the option to visit their store and see the products in person before you make a soloction.

Next time you want to buy something online, be sure to reflect on these points before you check out your order.

#### 1. SHORTER DELIVERY ROUTES

When you buy products from an international e-commerce company, your package may need to travel thousands of miles to reach you. This emits significantly more greenhouse gases than if you select items from stores that are closer to home.

#### 2. BETTER USE OF RESOURCES

Small, local businesses typically make it a high priority to use renewable energy sources and eco-friendly materials when designing their products. In many cases, this means the item will be made better and last longer.

#### 3. PERSONALIZED SERVICES

Even if you shop from their online store, you can still speak with the local merchants you buy from over the phone or via a live chat platform. This gives you access to personalized advice and recommendations about your purchase that you likely won't get from an e-commerce

When you support a small business you are supporting a dream.









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# Get vocal about BUYING LOCA

# when you buy local

There are many economic and environmental benefits of buying local. But did you know this practice also offers several perks to you as a consumer? Here are four reasons to shop closer to home.

- 1. You get to be part of a story. The merchants in your area have overcome obstacles and worked hard to build a thriving business. They'll undoubtedly be happy to share their story, which continues in part because of your patronage.
- 2. You get to support good causes. The choice to buy local is a sustainable, ethical and socially responsible one. Among other things, you'll reduce your carbon footprint and show your preference for companies that ensure proper working conditions.
- 3. You get to enjoy added value. When you buy local, you receive more than just a product. Whether it's the story behind it, the quality of the item or the sense of community your purchase provides, there's plenty to be proud of.

4. You get to choose the best. Goods from local producers are designed and manufactured to improve your daily life and allow you to get the most out of them. When it comes to food, buying local means gaining access to fresh fruits and vegetables.

What are you waiting for? Visit the shops in your area today.



**Small businesses** are the heartbeat of your neighborhood, the spine of your local economy, and the spirit of your town.



204-822-5423

It takes YOU to start the trend. Shop small. Shop local. Eat local. Spend local. Enjoy local.



# 4 perks you enjoy How buying local can help your business

You often hear about the advantages of buying local from a consumer's perspective, but what about from a business perspective? Here are four ways your business could benefit from buying local.

#### 1. LOGISTICAL BENEFITS

It takes a lot of time and resources to ensure your supply chain runs smoothly. The longer the chain, the greater the risk of encountering obstacles like sudden shortages, volatile exchange rates and miscommunications. Buying local gives you more control and flexibility over your supply chain, saving you money.

#### 2. NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES

Opening your doors to companies in your area creates exciting business opportunities. Buying local means contributing to the economic vitality of your region and being appreciated by your community.

#### 3. ENVIRONMENTAL ADVANTAGES

Buying local is one of the keys to reducing your company's carbon footprint. Today, products often travel thousands of miles when alternatives exist nearby. Therefore, your decision will be an inspiration to many.

#### 4. IMPROVE YOUR BRAND IMAGE

Many consumers prioritize companies that take concrete steps to uplift their community and protect the environment. Many large businesses proudly publicize their local purchasing policies. Therefore, why not take advantage of this powerful marketing tool?

Buy local if you want your business to prosper and stand out from the crowd.





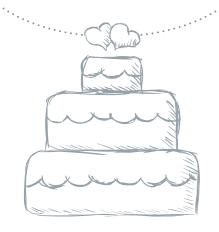
**YOUR FAMILY FOOTWEAR STORE** 





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# You may now KISS THE BRIDE



## 4 perfect locations to hold your wedding

Are you looking for a wedding venue that reflects your spirit as a couple? Here are four venue ideas that may inspire you.

- 1. Yacht. Space limitations may force you to limit your guest list to your absolute nearest and dearest. However, the fresh air and breathtaking views will ensure your intimate wedding at sea is truly memorable.
- 2. **Public building.** The stunning architecture of older buildings lends itself well to the decorum of a wedding. Imagine a couple of book lovers getting married in a stately library or a pair of art lovers tying the knot in the gallery where they had their first date.
- 3. Converted industrial building. Many old factories and warehouses have been given new lives as event spaces. Although you may need to spend more on decorations to offset the industrial backdrop, the funky surroundings will give your celebration playful energy.
- **4. Vineyard or brewery.** Are you particularly fond of a local brewer or winemaker? A romantic vineyard is perfect for a sophisticated celebration. Go with a casual brewery space for a laid-back vibe.



Don't leave your venue booking to the last minute. Take time this week to explore options near you.

When booking a unique venue, don't forget to check with local authorities regarding crowd size, noise restrictions and alcohol service regulations.

# 4 tips for a winning marriage proposal

Has the subject of marriage come up in conversations with your sweetheart? Does it feel like the right time to pop the big question? Here are four tips to help you make your proposal unique and unforgettable.

#### 1. Think about your personalities

If you or your partner are shy, a public proposal with lots of people watching might not be the best idea. Instead, choose an intimate moment. For example, in the comfort of your home, while taking a walk or during a romantic picnic. If you don't want it to be entirely private, consider including a few of your closest friends to make it meaningful.

#### 2. Plan your proposal

Ideally, choose a moment when you won't be too pressed for time to avoid needless stress. While it may seem there's never an ideal time to propose, it's in your best interest not to rush it.

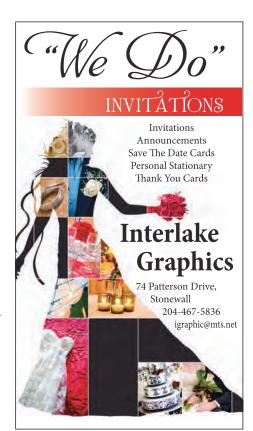
#### 3. Pay attention to your presentation

Even if an engagement ring isn't essential to you, the moment of presentation is the heart and soul of the marriage proposal. Choose the ring carefully, subtly taking note of your partner's tastes while passing a jewelry shop window, for example.

#### 4. Consider the element of surprise

Even if you and your partner frequently talk about marriage, the element of surprise is key to a memorable proposal. Make your plans discreetly, and be sure that the loved ones you enlist help keep the secret safe.

Start exploring your area to find the perfect ring and plan the perfect place and time for your marriage proposal.







# sports&recreation

# Flyers drop pre-season games to **Steinbach**

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler Flyers found themselves on the losing end of a pair of exhibition games against Steinbach as the Manitoba Junior Hockey League pre-season got underway last week.

Playing in Winkler last Wednesday night, the home team bowed 5-1 to the visiting Pistons in a game that saw the Flyers outmatched 51-29 in shots on goal.

Winkler rookie Dobie Unrau got the Flyers on the board early in the second period to tie the game at 1-1. But the Pistons went on to fire home two more goals in the middle and final frames to win it.

Splitting duties in net were Jacob Armstrong and Bryson Yaschyshn. Armstrong made 25 saves off the 29 shots he faced while Yaschyshn stopped all but one of the 22 that came his way.

Winkler went zero for one on the powerplay while the Pistons were two for seven.



PHOTO BY RICK HIEBERT/VOICE

Goalie Bryson Yaschyshyn stretches for the save last Wednesday in the Winkler Flyers' pre-season opener against the Steinbach Pistons, which the visitors took 5-1. Steinbach also won Saturday's game 5-2. This week the Flyers take on Selkirk.

The Flyers fell once again three nights later in Steinbach.

After a scoreless opening frame, the second period was a back-and-forth affair that ended with the Pistons up 3-2. Winkler's two tying goals came courtesy of Jayce Legaarden and Noah Diemer.

Period three's goals were all Stein-

bach's, though, to give them the win

Ernst Liam went the distance between the posts for Winkler, making 23 saves off 28 shots. His teammates sent 27 the other way.

Both teams had eight powerplays to play with. Winkler made good on one, with Diemer's goal, while Steinbach scored four of their goals during the extra man advantage.

The pre-season continues this week as the Flyers host the Selkirk Steelers Wednesday night and then play in Selkirk Saturday.

The team's MJHL regular season kicks off Sept. 22 in Winkler against the Winnipeg Blues.

# Winkler Storm 2 claim first place in 3rd Div.

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler Storm 2 team have moved into first place in the Manitoba Major Soccer League's 3rd Division.

The Storm blanked the YFC Saints a 2-0 Sunday afternoon in Winnipeg. Nico Nickel and Eh Tha Hay Moon scored for Winkler.

It was the team's second win of the

week: they also beat AC Fiorentina 6-2 Friday night on the road. Doing the scoring honours that match was Quinton James-Decker and Janick Richter with two goals each and Koen Unrau and Chase Ehnes with singles.

With that, the Storm are at the top of the pack with an 11-2-1 record and 34 points—two ahead of the Richmond Kings in second place and six more than the Scorpions FC in third.

Winkler's Premier Division team, Storm 1, had a rougher go of it over the weekend, falling to the visiting NKMB Saints 2-1. Cornie Siemens scored for the home team.

Storm 1 are currently in third-last place in the division with a record of 5-10 and 15 points. They lead the bottom-ranked teams, World Soccer Academy and Lions FC, by a full 10 points.

Both Storm teams play home games at the 15th St. soccer pitch in Winkler this weekend. Storm 2 host Dunvegan Castle at 3 p.m. followed by Storm 1 playing Hellas SC at 5 p.m.

Storm 2 also square off against the Richmond Kings Thursday night in

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

## Pembina Valley Hawks optimistic about season ahead

By Lorne Stelmach

The male U18 Pembina Valley Hawks come into the 2023-24 season with high hopes to build on the positives of the last campaign.

The Hawks finished third in 2022-23 and swept the Yellowhead Chiefs in the quarter-finals before then falling in three straight to the second ranked Winnipeg Bruins.

It was a competitive team, and there is a good core of returning players, so coach Brendan Edie is optimistic.

"We go into the rink expecting to be in every game, and we expect we are going to get our fair share of wins," Edie said last week after the team's tryouts in Morden. "I'm really optimistic. I love our setup on the back end, and we have a potential returning goalie or two, but if that doesn't pan out, we have some good young kids coming in.

"Pembina Valley is always kind of in the mix of things," he continued. "I don't want to be too high or get too low either ... we're going to be competitive. We always are, and we're going to focus more on the process to start and when we focus on the process, the outcomes will take care of itself." Edie noted they had 10 returning players at camp with a couple more who may still return, so he is hopeful.

"We have a decent crop of returning guys coming back ... and as a region, we're in a really good spot where there's kids who have moved through our U15 program the last couple of years who are really battling for some of those last spots in the lineup. It creates some nice internal competition."

The team had already reduced the roster a small amount last weekend, with more cuts expected this week.

The Hawks held an intersquad game Monday night with a practice Wednesday before heading into the first two exhibition games this weekend against Eastman and Yellowhead.

Edie noted they were challenging the veterans to really kind of push the pace.

"It will be good to see even a higher pace and see if some of those younger guys who are really fighting for spots to see if they can hang with some of our veterans," he said.

He remained somewhat cautious about setting specific goals for the season.

"We want to finish somewhere in the top tier of the league so we can secure some sort of home playoff spot," said Edie.

"You want to win at a competitive level, but we also want to really focus on developing our players ... we want them to improve as people and as hockey players so we can move them on to the next level."



PHOTO BY RICK HIEBERT/VOICE

# Pembina Valley Twisters 2-1 in the pre-season



The Manitoba Major Junior Hockey League pre-season got underway for Pembina Valley Twisters last weekend as they faced the Fort Garry/Fort Rouge Twins, the Stonewall Jets (shown here), and the St. Boniface Riels. The Twisters came out ahead against the Twins 6-2, fell to the Jets 3-1, and then defeated the Riels 4-1. Additional exhibition games are scheduled against the Twins Friday and Sunday and the Jets once again Sept. 22. The MMJHL regular season gets underway Sept. 29 when the Twisters host the River East Royal Knights.

PHOTOS BY LANA MEIER/VOICE





# The state of the s

# Behind the curtain

The 19th Pembina Valley Studio Tour saw artists welcome visitors to their galleries and studios Sept. 9-10. The annual showcase of the arts across the region featured a couple dozen stops. Clockwise from left: Artist Margie Hildebrand in Morden with her sister in law Audrey Wilson; Laurie Wiebe demonstrating the process of dyeing wool at the Wee Wool Shoppe in Darlingford; Nick Pharoah in La Riviere passing through artist Susan Pharoah's

moon gate; Susan Crawford Young demonstrates making gel prints; Ken Loewen with one of his metal sculptures at his home studio in Altona.









# Fore Parkinson's golf tournament back in Carman Sept. 23

By Becca Myskiw

Registration is open for the Fore Parkinson's golf tournament in Carman.

This Sept. 23, people will have the opportunity to swing a club in support of research for Parkinson's. Organized by Bev Baker and her family, the tournament is in honour of her dad, Jack Harder, who has the disease.

According to Parkinson Canada, Parkinson's is a complex brain disease that more than 100,000 Canadians live with.

The most common symptoms are tremors, slowness and stiffness, impaired balance, and rigidity of the muscles. People with it can also experience fatigue, soft speech, stopped posture, problems with writing, constipation, and sleep disturbances. As it progresses, non-motor symptoms can also appear.

There are drug and medication therapies for Parkinson's, and though it affects the quality of life for most with it, the prognosis can be a near normal life expectancy.

Harder has had Parkinson's disease for over a decade now and manages to keep a good attitude about it and life. Baker said the diagnosis was shocking for the family and came with a lot of learning for each of them. She said they had to learn what it is, how to manage it, what the prognosis can

be, and more, but the answer to each question is different for everyone.

She started the golf tournament as a way to help fund research and find a cause for this incurable disease. It started with six teams, then 10, and 16 last year. Baker is hoping they get at least as many teams as last year, if not more.

The event takes place be at the Carman Golf & Curling Club with a 1 p.m. tee-off time. The cost to register is \$125 per person, which includes 18 holes of golf, dinner, and a donation to the cause. People can also choose to only go for dinner and buy a \$20 ticket. If children are wanting to golf, Baker said there are special rates for

them that can be discussed over the phone. There are cash prizes for first place (\$400) and second place (\$200).

Along with golf, the tournament will have a couple challenges on certain holes and a silent auction with prizes like a bench made by Harder, four-foot sunflower wall art, a fire pit, and more.

Baker is hoping the tournament continues to grow. Whether it be in numbers or through awareness, she's happy to see more people learning about the disease and supporting research.

To learn more about the tournament, go to @ForeParkinsonsGolf on Facebook or call 204-470-0517 or 204-799-6591.

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

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#### PUBLIC NOTICE



CITY OF MORDEN **PUBLIC NOTICE -BOARD OF REVISION** 

2024 REAL, PERSONAL AND **BUSINESS ASSESSMENT ROLLS** 

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that the 2024 assessment roll for the City of Morden has been delivered to the Municipal Office at 195 Stephen Street, Morden, Manitoba and is open to public inspection during regular business hours. Applications for revision may be made in accordance with sections 42 and 43 of the Assessment Act:

#### APPLICATION FOR REVISION

42(1) A person in whose name property has been assessed, a mortgagee in possession of property under section 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:

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

#### APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

#### 43(1) An application for revision must

- (a) be made in writing;
- (b) set out the roll number and legal description of the assessable property for which a revision is sought;
- (c) state the grounds on which the application is based; and
- (d) be filed by:

I. delivering it or causing it to be delivered to the office indicated in the Public Notice given under subsection

II. serving it upon the Secretary,

at least fifteen (15) days before the scheduled sitting date of the Board of indicated in the Public Notice.

The Board of Revision will sit on Monday, October 16, 2023, at 7:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers of the City of Morden to hear

The final date on which the Secretary of the Board must receive applications is Tuesday, October 3, 2023 by 4:30 P.M. local time. Dated at Morden, in Manitoba, this 6th day of September, A.D.

Ruziel Relatores, Secretary

Board of Revision City of Morden

100 - 195 Stephen Street Morden, Manitoba R6M 1V3

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#### Reporter/Photographer Wanted

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

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

#### Qualifications:

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

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

Email: news@stonewallteulontribune.ca



# BÜNGE

#### MAINTENANCE MECHANIC/MILLWRIGHT

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

Preference will be given to those candidates holding a valid provincial Millwright or Industrial Mechanic ticket. Candidates who do not hold a valid ticket will be expected to enrol in the apprenticeship program to obtain their ticket as soon as possible.

Overtime and on-call duties are required. The successful applicant will possess excellent written and verbal communication skills, trouble shooting skills, and be a team player.

The following would be considered an asset for this position:

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

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

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

Bunge Canada is an equal opportunity employer.

# Classifieds

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#### **AUCTION**

#### Timed online Farm & Shop Auction for Garth & Doreen Robinson.

Bidding closes Friday Sept 15 at 5:30 pm. Inspection day is Friday Sept 15 from noon till 4:30pm at Robinson's farm 4 miles North of Darlingford. 38038 Mile17N. Pick up & Pay on Saturday Sept 16 or Sunday Sept 17.

To view pictures & descriptions, please go to sierensauction.com

Farm Tractors, Trailers, Land Scraper, Rock Rake, Snow Blower & more equipment; MIG Welder, AC Welder, Gas Welder, 50 Ton Shop Press, Good Engine tools, Wrenches, sockets & some household & antiques.

Payment at the Farm, Sept 16 & 17 with cash, etransfer, cheque with ID, Debit & Credit Card (3% fee on credit cards only).

Sierens Auction Service 204-526-5047 or rsierens1@gmail.com

#### AUCTIO

## Online-timed Antique, Collectible & Household for Steve & Laurie Kovach

Bidding starts: Mon. Sept. 11 @ 9am Bidding ends: Sun. Sept. 17 @ 6pm - soft close

Featuring: a variety of furniture, incl. some mid-century and newer furniture; crockery; lamps; glassware incl. cranberry, Wavecrest, carnival glass; a variety of China; some modern tools: knick-knacks; furniture for restoration & more

#### Online-timed Inventory Dispersal Auction for Cypress River Electric – Gordon & Rita Hyrich Retirement Sale

Bidding starts: Thursday Sept. 14 @ 9am Bidding ends: Wed. Sept. 20 @ 6pm - soft close

Featuring: new wire; electrical boxes; outlets & covers; conduit; breaker box items; ladders; hand tools; new appliances; office supplies & much more

#### Sale handled by Wright's Auction Service Ltd. Boissevain & Melita, MB.

Please call: 204-534-7997 or 204-305-0284 if any questions or email w.wright@mymts.net.

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SHOP LOCAL

## JANITORIAL TENDER

Access Credit Union Winkler requires the services of a contractor to provide daily general cleaning duties for the interior and exterior of the building.

**JANITORIAL TENDER** 

Tender information can be obtained by emailing *Vickie.Addison@accesscu.ca.* 

Tenders, accompanied by a minimum of two references, must be received on or before **September 20, 2023, before 4:30 p.m.** 

#### TENDERS MAY BE DELIVERED, MAILED OR EMAILED TO:

Access Credit Union PTH #14 Unit 2 - 23111 Stanley Business Centre Winkler, MB R6W 4B4

EMAIL: Vickie.Addison@accesscu.ca



accesscu.ca

#### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

# Morden.

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

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

# CITY OF MORDEN BY-LAW 12-2023 Being an AMENDMENT to the CITY OF MORDEN ZONING BY-LAW 08-2017

**HEARING:** Morden Civic Centre

LOCATION: 195 Stephen St., Morden, MB

**DATE:** September 25, 2023

**TIME:** 7:00pm

AREA

By-law 12-2023 will apply to the entire limits of the City of Morden **GENERAL INTENT:** 

To amend Part-111 section 27 of The City of Morden Zoning By-law 08-2017 to include "Industrial Multiplex" as a conditional use under MB and MG Districts.

To amend Part-IV Use Specific Standards, to add 30.17 to add governing conditions for such developments.

To amend Part-IV Use Specific Standards clause 30.6, to accommodate industrial/commercial bareland condo developments

#### **INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Santokh Randhawa, M. Eng., P. Eng. 133 7th Street, Morden, MB. R6M 1V3

Phone: (204) 822-2567

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



2023 Provincial

09

18

**Election Forum** 

23

Morden Friendship Center 306 N Railway St, Morden, MB 7:00PM-9:00PM (Doors open at 6:30PM)

HOSTED BY:





#### OBITUARY

#### Veronica Lynn Frost

Veronica Lynn Frost (nee Bezan) 68 years old of Morden, Manitoba passed away on August 30th, 2023 at 1:44 p.m. with her family at her side at Boundary Trails Health Center.

Funeral Service was held at 2:00 p.m. September 5th in Morden at the St. Paul's United Church, with Brian Minaker officiating. A private family burial followed at the Miami Cemetery.

Veronica was born in Galt, Ontario to Pearl and Ted Bezan on October 19th, 1954. In Veronica's grade 10 year, the family moved to Miami, Manitoba. In Miami is where she met her future husband, Doug. On June 30th, 1973 Doug and Veronica were married at the Miami United Church.

Veronica was a dedicated bookkeeper for Little Morden Service for 34 years. She had a passion for animals and served as a volunteer for over seven years at the Pembina Valley Humane

Society. During that period she participated in the fundraising and capital campaign for the new animal shelter building.

On June 2nd, cancer reared its ugly head. On July 12th, Veronica started her first round of chemotherapy. Three weeks after the first treatment she took a turn for the worse and was unable to do the second round of chemotherapy. On August 2nd she was hospitalized. Veronica remained at Boundary Trails Health Center until her passing on August 30th.

Veronica was predeceased by her father Ted Bezan (2022), mother Pearl Bezan (nee Schankel, 2014), father-in-law Cyril Frost (1992), mother-in-law Joan Frost (nee Caswell, 2023) and one grandson Bradley Wall (2017).

Veronica is survived by her husband of 50 years Doug; daughter Kim (James) Wall, daughter Michelle Frost, grandson Cody (Morgan) Wall, brother Ron (Nancy) Bezan, brother Wayne (Carla) Bezan, brother-in-law Bob (Deb) Frost, brother-in-law Ray (Bev) Frost, along with many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

The honorary pallbearers are close friends Capri, Daneen, Karen, Kathy, Sandy, Lisa, Jill and

In lieu of flowers, donations in memory of Veronica may be made to the Pembina Valley Humane Society at https://pvhsociety.ca/donate.

The family would like to thank Dr. Woelk, Dr. Dahla, Dr. Robinson and the staff at CancerCare and palliative care at Boundary Trails Health Center.

Funeral service was held on Tuesday, September 5, 2023 at the Morden United Church. Interment took place in the Miami Cemetery.

> Arrangements in care of Doyle's Funeral Home, Carman www.doylesfuneralhome.ca

#### Your memory will live forever Engraved within our hearts

#### AUCTION

#### **FARM KING ONLINE SURPLUS AUCTION SEPTEMBER 22, 2023 AT 6:00PM** FARM AUCTION. 87 KRUSHEL DR., MORDEN MB, CA





Here is a brief overview of what to expect at the Farm King Surplus auction. There is a lot more to come in the online bidding catalog. Pallet of misc fittings, Black hopper, Red hopper, Seed hoppers (sell separate), Gatgo hopper, Bend-Pak w/ dies - 3 phase power. Lift King Forklift, Allis Chalmers 708 forklift. Farm King RR420 EVO, Farm King rotary rake, Farm King CX 841 auger w/ hyd mover. Less engine. As is. Farm King CX 104 pto drive auger, Farm King CX 1041 engine drive auger – no mover, 31 – 10ft Farm King swath rollers to be assembled, Allied 6010 hyd snowblower skid steer unit (some are 66in). Pull type snowblower blue 740 without spout. Farm King 960 snowblower pto driven. Allied 2795 loader. As is. Hose kits/controllers/ misc parts for loaders (one pallet) Allied 395 loader. Loader bucket, 5ft Loader bucket, 7ft loader bucket, Mounting kit for loader, 1460 applicator – not complete. Yellow racking 6 sections 15ft wide by approx 18ft high buyer disassembles. Concrete not included. Farm King will help load. Each section will sell separate.Farm King TL 236 tillers - 2 green and 2 red, Farm King finishing mowers 430 - 3 red and 5 green, Cincinnati 230 Ton Brake Press - Asset #000445 Serial # 40428. 10 ft. bed with 10 inch stroke. Includes working Laser Safe, dead man switch and foot pedal. Cincinnati 110 Ton Punch Press Asset #000444 Serial # 828941, Cole-Tuve Roller Asset # 000470 Serial # SZ-224417. Frejoth Drill Press Asset #000464 Serial # 4060, Landis Dual Head Threader Serial # 12CL2B-155AX, Induma Mill Asset #000427 Could not find a serial #, Bickford Drill Press Serial #03930.

#### For more listing www.billklassen.com/nextlot



Ph: (204) 325-4433 Cell: (204) 325-6230 Fax: (204) 325-4484

## Classifieds Voice Announcements

#### **Frederick Charles Storey** 1939 - 2023 Suddenly on Sunday, September 3, 2023 our Husband, Dad and

Grandpa passed away. Left to mourn his passing is his wife, Carole; son, Charlie (Lupita),

son, Kevin, daughter, Kim, granddaughter, Sydney, granddaughter, Kaylee (Austin), granddaughter, Abigail and grandson, Owen. Fred was born in Miami, MB to Charlie and Fannie on June 4,

1939. Fred was a farmer first but also enjoyed his work at abattoirs in the area. He was a volunteer firefighter for over 20 years. Fred enjoyed hunting, curling, watching and playing hockey and baseball. Most of all Fred enjoyed camping with great friends and spending time with family.

The family wishes to thank the paramedics and police officers for their incredible effort. As well we'd like to thank Amy, who was Fred's special home care worker who he looked forward to seeing every morning over the last three years.

Graveside service was held at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 13, 2023 at the Miami Cemetery followed by the Celebration of Life at the Miami Community Centre Hall. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Fred's memory to the Heart and Stroke Foundation.

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



**COMING EVENT** 

#### COMING EVENTS

**Boundary Trails** Health Centre Auxiliary

Sat., Sept. 23,2023 11:00am - 1:30pm

> At Morden **Legion Hall** 285 North Railway,

#### 8 Luncheon & Bake Sale

Morden

#### COMING EVENTS

**WANTED** 

**OLD SIGNAGE** 

Looking to purchase

old cigarette

advertising signs.

Black Cat, Sportsman,

Buckingham, etc.

**Cash Paid** 

Ph: 403-860-1445 or

grizzlygas@hotmail.com

May buy other oil or

dealership signs.

#### Valley Mennonite Academy **Fundraiser**

Saturday, Sept 23rd 4:30-7pm

#### **EMMC**

600 Southview drive, Winkler MB

Please park on the south side

Dine in and Take out Fajitas, Rice, Beans and Brownies





Proceeds go to the general operating fund of the school.

VMA is non-government funded.



**Nordic Ware** and Cookbooks available for sale.



From Coast to Coast WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 2023

Winkler, MB Bethel Heritage Park Gathering @ 9:00 am

March @ 11:00 am #1MillionMarch4Children

Remember Your **Loved Ones** 

with an Announcement in the Call 204-467-5836

# Set inspired MEALIDEAS



Servings: 4-6

1/4 cup freeze-dried strawberries 6 cups popped popcorn

1 cup white chocolate chips, melted In small food processor or spice grinder, pulse freeze-dried strawberries until finely ground.

Place popcorn in large bowl. Drizzle melted chocolate over top; toss until well coated. Sprinkle evenly with ground freeze-dried strawberries; toss until well coated.

## Strawberries and **Cream Popcorn**

Scrape onto large parchment paperlined baking sheet, spreading into even layer.

Let stand at room temperature 30-60 minutes, or until chocolate is set and hardened. To serve, break into pieces.

Tips: To melt chocolate: In heatproof bowl over saucepan of barely simmering water, stir chocolate chips 3-5 minutes, or until smooth.

To melt chocolate in microwave: In microwave-safe bowl or measuring cup, microwave chocolate on medium heat 1-2 minutes, stirring every 30 seconds, or until smooth and melted.



Prep time: 15 minutes, plus at least 1 hour chill time

Cook time: 22 minutes

Servings: 6 (1 1/3 cups per serving)

Lime Vinaigrette:

1/2 cup extra-virgin olive oil

1/3 cup lime juice

2 tablespoons honey 3/4 teaspoon sea salt

freshly ground pepper, to taste Salad:

11/2 cups quinoa

2 cups vegetable broth

2 cups halved Grapes from California

1/2 cup minced red onion

1/4 cup chopped fresh cilantro

2 tablespoons minced jalapeno pep-

1 large firm, ripe avocado, peeled,

## **Honey-Lime Quinoa** and Grape Salad

pitted and cut into bite-size pieces 1/2 cup chopped peanuts (optional)

To make lime vinaigrette: In medium bowl, whisk olive oil, lime juice, honey, sea salt and pepper, to taste.

To make salad: In fine mesh strainer, rinse quinoa; drain well. In medium saucepan, bring broth and quinoa to boil; reduce heat and simmer, covered, 12 minutes. Remove from heat and let stand 10 minutes then fluff with fork and let cool. Transfer to large bowl.

Pour vinaigrette over quinoa; stir well to coat. Add grapes, onion, cilantro and jalapeno pepper; cover and chill at least 1 hour.

Lightly stir in avocado and transfer to decorative bowl. Sprinkle with nuts, if desired.

Notes: Salad may be prepared and refrigerated up to 2 days ahead without avocado and peanuts. Add avocado and peanuts just before serving.



## **Sweet and Tangy Pickled Grape Dogs**

Prep time: 15 minutes, plus 1 hour marinating time

Cook time: 5 minutes

Servings: 8 (1/4 cup relish per serv-

## **Ask The Money Lady**

Dear Money Lady Readers: Have you ever looked at the story of your life and decided you wanted a different one?

Often times the new story to a new life is right in front of you, but for whatever reason we can't see it, can't feel it, and certainly can't imagine making a change. Changing the course of your future always brings new opportunities that in the beginning could never be imagined. A new career, new friends, more money, more love, it is all there for those who want a different story. Of course, this all sounds great, but the reality is we never realize we want or even need a new life story until we have usually hit "rock bottom."

Most people use the phrase "rock bottom" with addictions or alcoholism, however it just as easily can happen with a financial failure, career or business failure, or even an injury, trauma, divorce, or death. After struggling with anxiety and depression, hitting rock bottom means you have gotten to the point that you are finally sick and tired of feeling sick and tired. Here is a quote from an Italian poet Dante Alighieri, (1265-1321): path to paradise begins in hell."

I too had to hit rock bottom to find my true calling and begin my journey to provide financial literacy to all Canadians. It was something I never considered doing but am now so glad I have. It was a path I could never have imagined and only by being in my proverbial "Dante-hell" did I see an opportunity for greatness. often we tend to revel in our sad and pitiful life stories, getting an emotional charge out of how unfair life is to us, and how great we are for keeping up the struggle – against all odds. We whine and complain to people about being a survivor and love it when we get comforted..... "You poor thing, how do you ever manage?'

Now I am not saying we shouldn't have our pity-parties. Often times this is exactly what we need - I just don't want you to keep the party going forever. Remember, the greatest gift we have is the one we often



forget: we have a choice. You can always choose a different direction in life. What story do you want to focus on? What choices will you make that will change your experiences and bring you closer to the life you want to live. Negative feelings create negative attitudes, and they attract negative people. But, when you decide to make a change, being positive creates feelings of happiness and this will attract other happy people as well as successful people with opportunities and connections for you, with the probability of advancements to make your own success story. Start creating positive affirmations that you can say out loud to yourself on a daily basis and keep saying them over and over, every day. Write down your goals and read them to yourself daily, (honestly, this works!). Providing yourself with positive self-talk - guaranteed will make you richer and more successful. It needs to be a daily habit, like brushing your teeth. If you don't do this five-minute chore every day, you won't have any teeth and if you don't build up your confidence through positive intentions you won't have a future. Try it. This is the first step to changing your story.

Good Luck & Best Wishes, ATML - Christine Ibbotson

Written by Christine Ibbotson, Author, Finance Writer, National Radio Host, and now on CTV Morning Live, and CTV News @6. Send your money questions (answered FREE) through her website at askthemoneylady.ca

- teaspoon mustard seeds
- 1/2 teaspoon coriander seeds
- 1/2 teaspoon black peppercorns
- 1/2 cup wine vinegar
- cup packed brown sugar 1/4
- 21/4 cups quartered or coarsely chopped Grapes from California (red, green, black or combination)
- cup thinly sliced red onion
- turkey or chicken hot dogs
- hot dog buns, lightly toasted Place mustard seeds, coriander seeds and black peppercorns in small

resealable bag. Using meat mallet or

rolling pin, crush seeds and peppercorns.

In small saucepan, stir vinegar, sugar, seeds and peppercorns; bring to boil. Remove from heat and stir to dissolve sugar; let cool. Stir in grapes and onion; set aside to cool and marinate 1 hour, stirring occasionally.

Heat grill to medium heat.

Grill hot dogs 5 minutes, turning occasionally, or until charred and heat-

Place hot dogs in buns. Using slotted spoon, top with pickled grapes.

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