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The *Altona Rhineland • Morris* Voice



THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2024
altonavoice.ca

LOCALLY OWNED HISTORY BOOK FOR THE COMMUNITY



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MLA for Midland



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A night of dance

The Altona Gujarati community held a Navratri celebration at the Rhineland Pioneer Centre Saturday. For the full story, see Pg. 10.

PHOTO BY LORI PENNER/VOICE

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



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Survey results reveal Altona's vision for recreational future

By Lori Penner

The survey results are in, and Altona residents have shared their vision for the community's recreational future.

The survey and open house were conducted this summer by profes-

sional consulting agency Urban Systems, which has partnered with Altona to develop a master plan for the community's wishes concerning future recreation and transportation of the town.

The initial draft outlines three guiding principles—equity, inclusion and access, climate resiliency and sustainability, and health and wellness—along with recommendations for shaping the future of recreation decision making.

These recommendations include improving safety and accessibility in Altona's active transportation, upgrades to recreation facilities, the creation of new outdoor multi-use facilities and creating



The Altona Skatepark is a popular place for local youth. A number of community members would like to see a shelter added.

PHOTO BY LORI PENNER/VOICE

a new indoor multi-use facility, a permanent dog park, additional leisure programming with a focus on arts and culture, expanding the existing campground, skate park, and playgrounds to include more amenities, exploring opportunities for additional funding, and land use rezoning of agricultural land within Altona's municipal boundaries.

Recreation manager Eric Hildebrand says the whole process is part of a study to explore what the community already offers and areas where they could expand or improve.

"Urban Systems reviewed all the information from Round 1, and we held a second community engagement event this month with a second survey which concluded this week. We've gleaned and created a clearer focus on what Altona residents are looking for."

Hildebrand says it's interesting to see what came out of the first round.

"They're seeing a desire for accessible, dedicated recreational facilities for sports beyond baseball and hockey, such as soccer, softball, pickleball and cricket."

The first survey also indicated that the most popular facilities in the community are the Centennial Park, the walking trails, the Millennium Exhibition Centre (MEC), and the Buffalo Creek Nature Park.

The survey also indicated that walking and running along the trails was the most frequent activity, followed by team sports, swimming, and cycling.

"We're fortunate in Altona that

we've had some of these facilities in place for years," Hildebrand said. "We've embarked on some substantial projects which put us in a great place, even today. Now we're making sure that the current council has some guidance for recreation moving forward."

Along with the obvious benefits to personal well-being, Hildebrand says a good variety of recreational options in the community creates more access to opportunities, programming, and events which draw more people to the community.

"There's always economic spin-offs with that, as well."

Moving forward, Hildebrand says the second round of the survey focused on priorities and recommendations noted in the first draft.

"We're going to take the information we gathered from round one and narrow it down even more," he said. "We've asked the community to provide their thoughts and ideas."

"We're beyond the halfway point where we felt this entire exercise would take us," Hildebrand said. "After the survey results are finalized and tabulated, an in-person review of the open house and survey will take place in the next few months with Urban Systems. Ultimately, Urban Systems will glean through everything, narrow it down and present it to council."

"All this feedback is going to be used to refine and finalize a master plan, and they must decide what to do moving forward. At least now, they'll have a starting point."



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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, October 23/24
7:00pm Altona Curling Club

- Annual Report
- 2023 Audited Financial Statement
- Election of Directors

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Winkler city council, community mourning loss of Coun. Don Fehr

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Winkler city council is mourning the loss of one of its own.

Councillor Don Fehr passed away on Saturday of a suspected heart attack. He was 62 years old.

"It is with profound sadness that we share news of the sudden and unexpected passing of City of Winkler councillor Don Fehr, yesterday afternoon," Mayor Henry Siemens said in a statement Sunday. "We extend our condolences and prayers to Don's wife Kathy and their family during this unimaginably difficult time. We will miss him immensely around our table."

Fehr was in the midst of his third term in office, having first been elected in 2014.

He'd been a fixture in the local business community for decades, most recently as the owner of Eco Plus Sanitation and Cleaning Supplies.

His community involvement stretches back for years before he entered municipal politics, including stints as Harvest Festival co-chair and with the Awana Children's Ministry in Manitoba and Northern Ontario.

In an interview Monday, Siemens shared his memories of a dedicated public servant and friend.

"He was a good friend, somebody who was a listening ear. He always had optimistic thoughts and ideas," he said. "He always believed that every problem could be solved."

Fehr served on numerous boards and council committees over the years.

"He never, ever declined an appointment," Siemens said. "He always stepped into it enthusiastically."

"I think the biggest thing that we can say about Don is that he loved his community. He wanted to find a way to contribute to



CITY OF WINKLER PHOTO
Councillor Don Fehr, who had served on Winkler city council for a decade, passed away unexpectedly Saturday.

it. He thought Winkler was a great town and he wanted to do everything that he could to make it even better.

"He did that through his service in his private business as well. When you talk to his customers, he always had time to visit. He always had time to share.

"He was a man of deep conviction, a man of faith," Siemens continued. "He listened to absolutely every opinion that was out there ... even when he disagreed with the points that were being made, he took the time to listen."

"That was, I think, one of the hallmarks of Don's life."

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OUR SISTER PUBLICATIONS



Worth a thousand words

I have a problem. I am a photoholic. I take TOO MANY PICTURES. It's true. Maybe I take more than you, or maybe not. I think I am one part of a much larger societal problem, but it's hard to say because no one talks about this addiction.

As you know, recently I was in London, England celebrating (and officiating) the wedding of my son and our new daughter-in-law.

That particular digital travel album has 559 photos in it ... stretched across a seven-day visit. If a picture is worth a thousand words that's more than half a million words or about six typical novels.

The great, albeit old fashioned, Canadian writer Robertson Davies is famous for his hatred of word processors, suggesting the encouraged verbosity. I suspect he would feel the same about digital cameras.

Having a high-quality digital camera on my phone makes taking photos as easy as breathing. Unfortunately for a person like me with a journalist's heart, ease of photography combines with a desire to document EVERYTHING.

It should also be noted that volume of photos does not translate to quality. Most of the pictures I take are unre-

markable.

It's actually a pretty bad problem. I take so many photos on vacation that those who travel with me often choose not to take any under the rule of "why bother?"

I have actively wondered if I am actually missing part of the travel experience because I am seeing almost everything through the lens. Shouldn't I take a few moments and enjoy the sights unfiltered with my own eyes? I think so.

I wonder if there is a market for an app that limits the number of photos you take in a day? Say 24 photos like the ancients were restricted to in a roll in the days of film photography.

Unfortunately, if I was in the distant past using film, I would likely have brought a dozen rolls with me on a vacation and half of those pics would be blurry. Still, this would only amount to 288 pics so maybe that is a sort of restriction.

Photo obesity is part of a larger problem of our era, if it is a problem. We have created amazing tools allowing us to dramatically increase our creative volumes in nearly every area

of our lives.

Today you can write a single prompt and in the course of 30 seconds an AI-driven tool will create an entire, well-edited video for you with B-roll shots included. Incredible.

I fear we will drown in the tsunami of content that is coming our way. One day our augmented reality glasses will capture an entire seven-day vacation at 240 frames per second and deliver them all to us in an album.

That's more than 145 million pictures, which will make by measly 580 look pathetic. Still, I imagine we will find ways to complain about having "missed" something important.

If I had the power, would I eradicate digital cameras in favour of film? Absolutely not. The problem is not the tool ... it is how we use it. Things change, technology typically progresses, and we adjust accordingly.

I am happy to report that as of the writing of this column it has been a whole four days since I have taken a picture of anything. Maybe I'll get a pin if I can hold out another 361 days. If I do, I must remember to take a picture of it.



By Peter Cantelon

Letter policy

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

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

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

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

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

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“For many, it is the action piece that is missing”

By Lorne Stelmach

Morden marked National Day for Truth and Reconciliation Monday with a flag raising ceremony and healing walk.

The ceremony was led by Courtney Yeo Thiessen, who noted the passing of Doreen Cameron “who was instrumental in helping us organize the very first September 30 event here in Morden in 2021.

“Her voice and strength is missed, not only in this community but her home Swan Lake as well,” she said.

Yeo Thiessen noted it was “a day to recognize and reflect on the tragic history and ongoing legacy of residential schools, honour survivors and remember the children who never returned home.”

She also reflected on the meaning of the day and how there is still much more to be done.

“How many of us understand what

the reconciliation half of today really means?” Yeo-Thiessen asked, noting the word reconciliation implies there had been a good relationship to begin with; what is needed first is actually conciliation before reconciliation can truly begin, she said.

“For meaningful reconciliations to take shape, there needs to be an honest attempt to restore to Indigenous people what was taken at the time of colonization.

“For many, it is the action piece that is missing,” she concluded.

Andrei Mardli offered the land acknowledgment and speaker Marge Daniels introduced herself as the kookum (Cree for grandmother) for Western School Division. The Swan Lake resident was hired by the division last November.

“I’m very happy to be in this position,” said Daniels. “I’m very thankful for Western School Division for



PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Above: Raising the flag at the Access Event Centre. Right: Elder Marge Daniels.



hiring me. I will hopefully be here for a few years ... I do work with all four of the schools in Western School Division.

“I go to the classrooms and I teach the children as much of my culture as I can,” she shared. “I hope I can teach ... some of the stuff that went on with residential schools.”

Morden Mayor Nancy Penner also spoke on this being a day to reflect on the historic and ongoing impact on Indigenous communities and to help dismantle the barriers of ignorance and intolerance.

“This day calls us to listen, to learn and engage in meaningful conversa-

tions about the painful truths of the past,” said Penner. “We acknowledge these painful truths as we also commit to building a future that embraces understanding, healing and unity.

“Reconciliation requires us to play an active role from educating ourselves to fostering relationships rooted in respect and empathy.”

Letters

WINKLER CAMPGROUND DUE FOR AN UPGRADE

Winkler’s campground is in a unique position, close to the pool, playground, MEC, art gallery, baseball diamonds, etc. However, here is our story.

On Aug. 7, I called the Winkler Campground to reserve some sites for the September long weekend. I was not told that the showers and washrooms were not available, only that we would have 15 amp service on the west side. I called a few weeks later to reserve another site and no mention was made about the toilets and showers, only the 15 amp service.

The sign on the showers said we could use toilets and showers at the pool, starting at 6:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. However, it being a long weekend, the pool did not open until 1 p.m. on Saturday. The MEC was supposed to be open at 9 a.m., but I didn’t go and check it out.

We don’t understand why the showers and toilets could not be repaired after the camping season is done.

We have a motor home builder in our fair city, namely Triple E, and we cannot accommodate our own people. We were told our motor home was too long, it being 35 feet, but beside our neighbours was one that was longer.

We want to spend millions on a pickleball court, but our campground to accommodate all these people only has a few sites that are really usable, being only 15 amp service.

Why is our campground not being updated to 30 amp service for everyone? We want people to come here, then let’s serve them.

Another thing to address is the sewer dump. Every camper has to go through the campground to turn around to dump. There were at least two dozen who came through while we were there; they had not camped in Winkler, but chose to dump here. With the children on skateboards, bikes, and little scooters, we feel it is too dangerous for all this traffic.

Esther Reimer,
Winkler

Engage **MB**



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Singin' in the Grain concert in Winkler Oct. 26

By Lorne Stelmach

Upcoming fundraising concerts are built around the simple idea of raising our voices in song to help feed the hungry people of the world.

Singin' in the Grain is the effort of a small committee of people who organize this pair of annual concerts to support the work of the Canadian Foodgrains Bank (CFGB).

The 2024 concerts at the end of the month will feature two male voice choirs: the Faith and Life Male Choir and the Eastman Male Choir.

These two ensembles, comprised of singers from across southern Manitoba, will sing at the Emmanuel Mennonite Church in Winkler Oct. 26 at 7 p.m. and then at the Douglas Mennonite Church in Winnipeg Oct. 27 at 3 p.m.

"When you think a group of musicians are willing to donate their time, and that people are so willing to come and attend these events and to make donations, when there are so many other projects, it is amazing," said spokesperson Pearl Braun Dyck.

"The realization of the importance of this is there, and it is huge to know that people continue to support us in this way," she added, noting the fundraiser on average has brought in upwards of \$25,000 per concert.



SUPPLIED PHOTOS

The Eastman Male Choir (above) and the Faith and Life Male Choir perform in this year's Singin' in the Grain concerts in Winkler and Winnipeg Oct. 26-27.



Through the Canadian Foodgrains Bank, with the support of the federal government, that amount is then matched anywhere from three to four times

"So that is very significant, the contribution that the Canadian government does provide," said Braun Dyck.

Convinced that not only farmers

can help address food security issues around the world, the committee organizes these free concerts annually to offer others an opportunity to support the work of CFGB, which is a consortium of Canadian Christian aid agencies who do relief and development work around the world.

There is no admission to attend the

shows, but all concert-goers will be invited and encouraged to share in supporting the work of the CFGB.

Since the performers and organizers all volunteer their time, and sponsors cover all costs of the concerts, every dollar donated that day will go directly to the work of addressing food security concerns around the world.

The focus this year will be on areas of conflict. Watching television news reports in the security and comfort of Canada demonstrates clearly how devastating war and conflict are for vulnerable people in many places around the world, observed Braun Dyck, whose husband is also involved in harvest projects which support the Canadian Foodgrains Bank.

"We know the impact these things can have," she said, stressing that these concerts offer an opportunity to hear more about working toward ending world hunger and to participate in a small way by supporting CFGB's efforts.

"At every concert, stories are shared about people who have been impacted by receiving something from Canadian Foodgrains Bank ... and the impact that it has had has been huge."

For more information or to donate, you can go online to foodgrainsbank.ca/singin.

PHAC puts call out for volunteers

Halloween haunt at the gallery Oct. 17-31

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Pembina Hills Arts Council (PHAC) has put a call out for volunteers with a love of all things spooky to get involved with their Halloween haunt

Starting Oct. 17, PHAC, located in the clock tower building in downtown Morden, is putting on a Halloween Haunted Gallery Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights leading up to and including Halloween.

The haunt will run Thursdays and Fridays from 4-8 p.m. and Saturdays from 3-8 p.m. Halloween night will be 4-9 p.m.

The 15-20 minute walk through the gallery will take visitors through a toxic waste dump, an asylum, the Hall of Hands, and a mad scientist's dungeon lab.

Admission is \$5 at the door or in advance at pembinahillsarts.com. Group sizes max out at 10 people.

With a few weeks to go until the haunt starts up, PHAC is looking for people to help make it happen, shares executive director Jennifer Smirl.

"We're looking for people who are interested in Halloween—and I know there's a lot of Halloween buffs around here—who want to come and work with us. To set up, to make props, costumes ... we're going to need people at the doors ushering people in and out."

Volunteers willing to serve as actors in the haunt are also most welcome.

The haunt will definitely feature some thrills and chills, so it's not for young children, Smirl says.

"We've got some scarier parts and some less scary parts," she says, stressing parental accompaniment is recommended for kids who want to join in on the fun.

"We're planning on making this an

annual event, and then we'll have add-on stuff like costume prizes, pumpkin carving, the whole works," Smirl shares. This year, though, they're starting with the haunt and seeing how it goes.

If you'd like to get involved as a volunteer, head to pembinahillsarts.com to sign-up.

YEAR-ROUND VOLUNTEERS ALSO NEEDED

If haunts aren't your thing, there's still plenty of other opportunities to get involved in keeping PHAC up and running, stresses board president Lorne Stelmach.

"We have a wide range of needs right now," he says.

Chief among them is a need for new board members willing to roll up their sleeves and jump into ongoing planning and fundraising efforts.

"That includes everything from getting involved in one or two subcom-

mittees to even just offering a bit of time here and there at some of our events," Stelmach says.

The board right now is "operating kind of on a bare minimum" with seven members, he says. So there's plenty of room for people with a wide range of backgrounds and interests—finance, fundraising, promotions, and more.

"The board members are all volunteers with full-time jobs and families and everything, so it's hard—we need more people to share the workload," Stelmach says.

But if getting involved as a board member isn't something you can swing right now, PHAC can also use some general volunteers to help out with gallery events and programming.

"If people have an interest, you don't need to be involved as a board member to help out," Stelmach stresses, noting their volunteer base took a real

Katie Cares Fashion Show another sold-out hit



PHOTOS BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

It was another sold-out year for the Katie Cares Annual Celebration of Life Fashion Show, which filled the Meridian Exhibition Centre in Winkler Saturday. The evening—now in its 11th year—included music from The Bromantics, runway fashions from a host of local businesses, and an online auction, with all proceeds going to support Katie Cares and Katie's Cottage.



North Railway St. to be named Veteran's Way

By Lorne Stelmach

North Railway Street in Morden will be getting a new honorary name.

The route in downtown Morden from 4th Street to 11th Street will be known as Veteran's Way.

It will be similar to the honorary name of Larke Lane that was adopted a few years ago for 13th Street. The Morden Legion is paying for the additional signage to be placed alongside the existing street signs.

"I actually had been thinking about it for quite a while," said Legion representative Bob Frost. "I threw it out there to see what [council's] reactions would be, and they were actually quite supportive of it."

A week later, the City had a prototype of the sign to show him.

"Given the events that are taking place in the world right now, I think it's important that we bring memo-

ries of our veterans to the forefront because, who knows, we may be called upon again," said Frost. "The mandate of the Legion is to support veterans and their families and promote the act of remembrance of these veterans ... so we try to honour their sacrifice and their service."

"If people notice the signs and maybe think about veterans a little more, it can only help us in our job of promoting veterans and their families."

Mayor Nancy Penner said it was an easy decision for council.

"It's a way to honour all of the veterans ... a nice commemorative way to pay tribute to the service men and women. With the Legion being on North Railway, it just made sense ... it's a nice little reminder to the community to show respect to our veterans, and this will be a permanent way."



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> PHAC, FROM PG. 6

hit through the pandemic and hasn't fully recovered in the years since. "We're more than open to having people volunteer in any capacity ... and we're open to all ideas."

A thriving arts council is only possible if community members step up to keep it running.

"I see the arts council and the gallery and the various programs and

workshops that we offer as really being like a hub for arts and culture in the community," Stelmach says. "But for that to fully happen, we need the support and we need people to get involved."

Head to the gallery website or stop by to learn more about how you can get involved.



Pop culture extravaganza



PHOTOS BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Morden's Pop Culture Expo took over the Access Event Centre last weekend, offering dozens of vendors of all things pop culture, a cosplay contest, and video and board game competitions. Left: Pokémon and Yu-Gi-Oh action in the trading card area. Below: The Manitoba Ghostbusters were in



attendance to show off their cosplay outfits and props and raise funds for charitable causes.

Winkler council updates two special service levies

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Winkler city council gave first reading to a pair of special service levies at its Sept. 24 meeting.

Council held public hearings for its police and fire protection services special levy and its highway maintenance, street lighting, and snow removal services levy.

Both will be applied to all rateable properties in the City of Winkler. The bylaws creating them lay out the maximum the City anticipates potentially having to spend annually on these services from 2025-2030.

These are not new taxes, stressed Mayor Henry Siemens, as these levies have been in effect since 2013.

"These levies get renewed every five or six years," he said.

The City needs to approve all special service levies on the books before drafting its next financial plan, Siemens explained, and these updated levies reflect the updated budgets for these services.

Council received objections for both levies from the Garden Valley School Division and the Garden Valley Teachers' Association.

By funding these services with special levies, it means properties that might otherwise be exempt—schools, churches, and government buildings—are no longer so.

GVSD and GVTA expressed concern about that point, asserting their belief that this is a misapplication of the local improvement concept. Such services, they attest, should be considered essential, ongoing municipal services that should be funded by regular municipal taxes. Requiring schools to pay these as special levies diverts

funding from education services, to the detriment of local students, they wrote.

Mayor Siemens said the City of Winkler has consulted with legal counsel and the Municipal Board and confirmed it is within its rights to apply these special service levies instead of including these services under general municipal taxes.

"We wanted to make sure that we were as fair as possible to spread [the cost of these services] absolutely over everyone who's going to use them," he said. "Otherwise we end up with some of the very large buildings, very large users of some of these types of services, not paying or contributing at all towards them through municipal taxes. It ends up with homeowners or businesses picking up somebody else's share."

"We felt it would be best if we levied it to everyone, and then everyone paid their fair share."

The first reading of these levies passed unanimously. They'll now go before the Municipal Board before returning to council for final approval.

In other news, Siemens shared that demolition inside the Winkler Centennial Arena got underway last week.

"They're staging their interior work already, and already they've put a significant dent in it," he said.

The plan is for the renovations, which will transform the aging arena into a more modern, energy-efficient recreational space, will be done by the end of 2025.

The mayor expects they'll have some detailed plans of what the finished arena is going to look like to share with the community later this month.



GRAND OPENING

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Samantha Leech - West of Manitou
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Morris hears from Indigenous studies professor Niigaan Sinclair

By Sean Conway

Sharon Eadie had a smile on her face as the people filled the seats for the evening's guest speaker at the Morris Multiplex Sept. 25.

"We would be really happy if there were 50 people," she said. "My husband told me to expect double that."

The facility organizers had set out 120 seats, with extra chairs stacked at the back. Five minutes before the speaker was to appear, that stack was half its original size.

Eadie is the chair of a seven-person Truth and Reconciliation committee formed in 2021 from the congregations of the Lutheran Church of the Cross and Morris United Church.

"Tonight's event is for people to make connections," she explained. "We believe people want to do something, but don't know how to get started. We want people to sign-up on our mailing list to explore options."

The board invited author, *Winnipeg Free Press* columnist, and professor of Indigenous studies Niigaan Sinclair as a guest speaker for the evening.

Lionel Mason opened the evening with a land acknowledgement in a song. The beat of the drum carried the Indigenous lyrics that translated as "gather today to talk about sharing this land and our lives together."

Mason, a resident of Morris, attended the Assiniboia Residential School in Winnipeg as a youth. He left be-



Lionel Mason performed the land acknowledgement in song.

hind a secure, loving home in St. Theresa Point, Manitoba at 13 years of age when he entered institutional living.

Eadie, as master of ceremonies, opened the event by sharing that "our journey began in the fall of 2021 when Pastor Leslie Poulin brought forward a recommendation from the Lutheran Church of Canada to explore how reconciliation was taking place locally."

Sinclair opened his presentation by calling the day an epic Wednesday. The Morris speaking engagement wrapped up a day for him that also included presentations and events in Selkirk, Winnipeg, and Winkler.

"Survivors of residential schools brought us here today," said Sinclair.

He described the park dedication ceremony he had attended in Winnipeg a few hours earlier. It recognized the June 24, 1972 plane crash on Linwood Street that took the lives of eight residential school children.

"I was beyond moved," shared Cheryl Demarcke, president of the Morris and District Chamber of Commerce. "I was never aware of the plane crash that took the lives of those eight residential school children. Sinclair was right when he said if it was eight white children, we would have heard about it. Empathy comes from knowing."

Sinclair's week was full of events that celebrated Indigenous stories, all leading up to the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation Sept. 30. Also known as Orange Shirt Day, it recognizes and remembers the tragic history and honours the survivors of Canada's residential school system.

Sinclair's presentation was part history lesson, part genealogy, part social characteristics and statistics of the Indigenous population, and part success stories for Indigenous peoples.

This was not Sinclair's first trip to Morris to speak. On a freezing cold January in 2013, he visited the community to deliver a gift of a coffee and donuts to Reed Turcotte, then editor-in-chief of the *Morris Mirror* newspaper.

Sinclair's aim then was to start a conversation with Turcotte about derogatory comments he'd made in an editorial about Indigenous people.

Sinclair never met with Turcotte on that trip, but a voice from an employee at the Subway restaurant next door befriended him with the question, "Are you cold? Want to come in and warm up?"

That 30-minute warm-up in the sandwich shop led to meetings with



PHOTOS BY SEAN CONWAY/VOICE

Niigaan Sinclair recalled coming to Morris back in 2013 to address racist comments made in the former *Morris Mirror* newspaper.

the mayor, the school principal, and a piece of carrot cake at the local library to talk to people about an incomplete story.

"You, Morris, helped me get started," shared Sinclair. "Truth and Reconciliation is challenging. How do we do it? I will be blunt: we are in this together."

"Orange Shirt Day is a really good job ... how are we going to live togeth-

er when we take the orange shirt off?"

Local librarian and long time Morris resident Claudia Schmidt commented that it "was a very positive evening. Listening to the bad stuff is important. The positive stuff, like an Indigenous premier and the Indigenous youth achievements Mr. Sinclair told us, was something I want to hear more about."

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Altona's first Garba night brings joy and unity

By Lori Penner

The Rhineland Pioneer Centre was alive with vibrant colours, rhythmic beats, and joyous laughter as the Gujarati community hosted their first-ever Garba night in Altona.

This event was part of the annual Navratri celebration and brought together families and friends from across the Pembina Valley and Winnipeg, creating a memorable evening of cultural celebration and community bonding.

Local resident and business owner Nilesh Patel, who organized the event, expressed his delight at the turnout.

"There were about 75 people from

Altona, Morris, Winkler, and Morden, and we just love that. This is the first time we've hosted this event, and we are very encouraged by this."

Garba, a traditional dance from the northwestern Indian state of Gujarat, is more than just a dance; it is a form of worship and a celebration of life.

"This event is a cultural dance. It is performed by all ages, and it is a worship to God. We just pray to God, and we just move. In our home country, it is a creational Garba. We celebrate and pray for nine nights, and play the Garba, and then after every Garba, we ask God for a better future and better health," Patel explained.

Navratri, which means "nine nights," is a Hindu festival dedi-

PHOTOS BY
LORI PENNER/VOICE
Altona's first Garba
night brought people together from across the region for a celebration of life.

cated to the goddess Durga and her nine forms. It is celebrated with great fervor in various parts of India, each region adding its unique touch to the festivities. In Gujarat, it is marked by nine nights of dancing, where men and women come together to honour Durga through Garba.

"In India, it goes on continuously for nine days, but in our country, we take advantage of all the weekends," said Patel. "This is the first time we are having it in Altona. It's usually in Winnipeg and Brandon where they have such festivals, and everyone just enjoys it."

The evening was filled with traditional music, dance, and the vibrant energy of participants dressed in colorful attire.

Patel says there is no script or special choreography

"It's just a very happy celebration.

We would love to be able to do this every year in Altona, as we do in our home country. Every year there is a celebration during a specific nine days. There are some celebrations where there are about 6,000 people. We all wear traditional dress. We don't wear shoes, and we all dance in a circle. This year we have planned for one evening in Altona, but there are more celebrations in Winnipeg."

The evening also included prayer and the lighting of candles, a significant act of devotion that symbolizes light and purity, representing the divine presence and the dispelling of darkness and ignorance. The candles are often waved in a circular motion in front of the deity as an offering of light.

The night concluded with a shared meal and, of course, more dancing.

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Poplar Drive hosts first-ever street bash

By Lori Penner

For decades, the residents of Poplar Drive in Altona have shared friendly waves and casual greetings.

They've seen neighbours come and go, and their children have grown up and gone to school together.

It's a close-knit community where everyone looks out for one another. Yet, despite their camaraderie, they had never thrown a neighborhood party—until now.

On Sept. 24, everything changed. The residents set up tables and lawn chairs, lit the fire pit, and cranked up some tunes for a good, old-fashioned street party.

The masterminds behind this event were Vickie Friesen and Ray Loewen.

"We were just chatting outside on our front lawns one evening," Vickie recalls. "Ray mentioned he'd been thinking about organizing a street party, and I told him we'd been thinking the same thing."

In just ten minutes, they had a plan. They went door to door, handing out invitations.

"Everyone was all in," Vickie says. "When I knocked on some doors, I realized I didn't even know we lived on



PHOTO BY LORI PENNER/VOICE

Poplar Drive in Altona came together for a block party last week.

the same street! Many of these people have been here for years, but we never got the whole group together like this before."

The event featured lawn games for the kids, and the town granted permission to block off the street. Everyone brought food to share, creating a potluck feast.

The party was a resounding success, leaving everyone eager for the next

gathering. It was a night that turned neighbours into friends and a street into a community

"It was just awesome," Vickie says. "It came together so easily and was so much fun. We all say, 'We should get together,' but people never get around to it. This was on neutral ground, so nobody felt awkward or worried about cleaning up their house. We got to taste other people's baking. I would recommend other streets do this. You

never know when you'll need each other. It's a great way to get to know who lives close by."

Resident and fellow organizer Guy Mullen agrees.

"My neighbours are like family. We are all there for each other. Love is priceless and powerful."

If your street wants to follow suit, contact the Town to see about officially blocking off access to your road for the party.

Kudos for the Morris & Area Foundation



PHOTO BY SEAN CONWAY/VOICE

Midland MLA Lauren Stone recently presented the Morris and Area Foundation (MAF) with a certificate recognizing its 10 years of dedicated service in the community. Community Foundation Day was marked this spring in the Manitoba Legislature, but MAF members were unable to attend, so Stone brought the certificate to them in thanks for the work they do to support vital local projects and programs.

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Club Chez Nous hosts Creative Oasis art show

By Sean Conway

Last Saturday, Club Chez Nous opened the doors of the community centre in St. Jean for an art show and sale.

The Creative Oasis art program and seven artists took over the foyer and clubhouse to put their works on sale to the public.

Club Chez Nous celebrated its 50 anniversary in 2023. The club, which rents space in the St. Jean Community Hall, welcomes seniors to socialize, watch entertainment, attend exercise

classes and take part in crafts.

In 2022, local artists Janet Desautels and Chyrstal Sabourin approached Chez Nous about starting an art club in town. From that discussion, the club membership formed Creative Oasis.

"Our winters are long and if you are not one to travel and there is nothing to do, you can get depressed," noted Desautels. "With the Creative Oasis program, I can supply the materials needed for different projects so people can come and make something without having to invest too much money and then finding out it's not for them."

"I thought it was a wonderful idea for our club," said president Lucille Dupuis. "Club Chez Nous hosted this event to attract more people. Seniors have different tastes. We want to expand our activities to find things that members can do."

Club Chez Nous currently has a membership of 106.

"A lot of our members are 50 years old," shared Dupuis. "They don't consider themselves seniors, but they are still looking to stay active."



PHOTOS BY SEAN CONWAY/VOICE

Janet Desautels and Chyrstal Sabourin founded the Creative Oasis art club. Left: Tammy Blanchette of Bridgehill Pottery & Gifts at the club's show Saturday.

The Creative Oasis program has between 10 and 12 members, depending on what craft activity they have going on.

The art sale also included a raffle and silent auction. Monies raised by the fundraisers will go to support Creative Oasis.

"The fundraiser part provides Creative Oasis members a chance to show their work," said Dupuis. "We want to create funds to support member activities as well as reduce the costs to members in the club."

Jo Graydon, owner of Bridgehill Pottery & Gifts, came north to the show with a purpose.

"I came to see what is going on. I

want to see what artists are doing in this community. I'm always looking to hire artists for my shop."

Tammy Blanchette, an artist from St. Jean, had the product of her artistic talents on display for sale.

"I've been an artist for a very long time. I've been a member of the club for about two months. I was very excited to attend the new program and help with the fundraiser."

This was the first sale, show, and fundraiser for Chez Nous Creative Oasis.

"Our clubhouse has some artist work from past projects. We welcome ideas and new activities for the club. Creative Oasis is one," said Dupuis.

Altona Maroons taking a break this season

By Lori Penner

For the first time since the winter of 1951, Altona hockey fans will not be watching their favourite team play at Sunflower Gardens.

The Altona Maroons, a charter member of the Southeastern Manitoba Hockey League (SEMHL), will be taking a one-year leave of absence, ending a streak of 72 years of senior hockey in Altona.

President Byron Loeppky said there were a number of factors that led to the decision.

"The main issue is that over the last number of years, the team hasn't had enough local players that have been able to compete at the level the league has risen to."

Since the SEMHL expanded to 10 teams with the addition of the Ste. Anne Aces, Red River Wild, and Ile des Chenes Northstars in the fall of 2022, the Maroons have won just five of 36 games and finished in last place both seasons. This year the league has added another team from the Winnipeg area, Springfield, led by former NHL player Quinton Howden. Also competing are teams from Carman, Ile des Chenes, Morden, Notre Dame, Portage, Warren, and Winkler.

"You want to stay competitive," Loeppky said. "It got to a point where we were playing primarily with local players, and we could see we weren't going to be able to compete. This has been our reality for a long time. At some point it catches up, and it's caught up to us unfortunately. We just couldn't ice a competitive team this year."

Consistency has also been a challenge.

"We generally would be able to fill up the roster with players who said they'd play five or six games a year, when what we needed was players who were committed to playing the season," Loeppky said. "But we know even when that happens, players can get hurt, people have family events, they travel for business or recreation, so they're not always available. You need to have the occasional game where everybody shows up, but unfortunately there were games where we'd show up with just eight or nine players, and you just can't compete at this level with that many players."

"We need three lines of forward and three lines of defence that you can count on, week in and week out. And we just didn't have that."

Loeppky said they don't see that changing anytime soon.

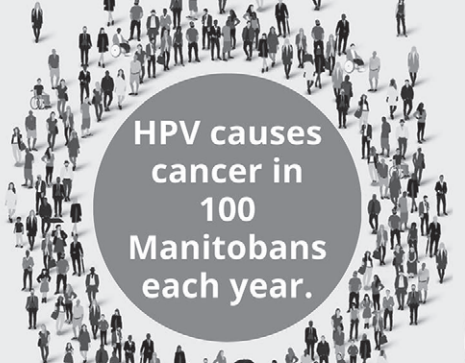
"When we talked to players that were graduating high school and

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sports & recreation

Mixed starting weekend for Hawks

By Lorne Stelmach

The male U18 Pembina Valley Hawks opened the 2024-25 season with a win and a loss on home ice in Morden.

They doubled up the Southwest Cougars 4-2 Saturday but were then on the losing end of another 4-2 game Sunday against the Parkland Rangers.

The Hawks took period leads of 2-0 and 3-2 against the Cougars, and then Nathan Froebe got the insurance goal 3:16 into the third period.

Ragner Gillis, Haiden Friesen, and Cole Secord also scored for Pembina Valley, while Ryler Gates made 35 saves as Southwest outshot the Hawks 37-35.

The Hawks were then mostly stymied Sunday against Parkland as the Rangers' goalie Piet Mierau stopped 43 of the 45 shots sent his way.

Adrien McIntosh and Ryder Wolfe scored for Pembina Valley, while Karsen Dyck made 20 saves in net.

The Hawks now have a three-game week that started Wednesday with a trip to Winnipeg to take on the Bruins. The Interlake Lightning then come to Morden for a pair of games Thursday and Saturday.



PHOTO BY RICK HIEBERT/VOICE

Hawks goalie Ryler Gates stopped 37 of 39 shots on net Saturday, including this save in the dying seconds of the game to preserve his team's 4-2 lead.

Female U18 PV Hawks' regular season starts Friday

By Lorne Stelmach

The female U18 Pembina Valley Hawks faced two tough teams in a pair of exhibition games this past weekend in Grand Forks.

The first game Saturday saw the Hawks fall 5-3 to the North Dakota 19U team.

"They were aggressive. It was a competitive

game and went back and forth. The girls weren't ready for the physicality," suggested Pembina Valley coach Matt Victor.

The Sunday afternoon game then saw the Hawks come up with a strong effort in edging the North Dakota 16U team 3-2.

"We adjusted for the game versus the state 16U team, which, in my opinion, was a stronger

team. We matched their physical presence and came on top with a win," said Victor.

He offered praise in particular for the performance of their goaltender.

"Madison Froese was great in net," said Victor, who added he liked his team's overall effort. "We are proud of the character shown by our team and expect the learnings to flow into to this weekend's regular season games.

In exhibition and pre-season play, the Hawks were 4-4.

The regular season is now set to get underway with three home games in Morden this weekend. The Hawks welcome Westman Friday, the Winnipeg Avros Saturday, and Eastman Sunday.

Winkler Flyers fall to Titans

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler Flyers were handed their second loss of the season last week, courtesy of the Neepawa Titans.

Playing on the road Tuesday night, Winkler was up 2-1 after 20 minutes thanks to goals from James Richards and Nicolas Mckee.

The home team managed a tying goal just two minutes into the middle frame and then pulled ahead at 6:17.

The Flyers retook the lead thanks to Jayce Legaarden and Marek Miller, but it didn't last for long—Neepawa quickly followed Miller's goal with one more to close out the period with the score tied at 4-4.

The Titans made it 5-4 46 seconds into the final frame and, despite firing nine shots on the Neepawa net, Winkler failed to make good on any of them, giving the win to the Titans.

Winkler outshot Neepawa 28-19 overall. Liam Ernst was between the posts for the Flyers, making 14 saves.

With that, the Flyers are 1-2 in the early goings on of the Manitoba Junior Hockey League's East Division. They had earlier split their opening weekend games with the Steinbach Pistons.

The team was scheduled to square off against the Wolverines in Waywayseecappo Friday night, but that game was postponed.

The Flyers play the Kings in Dauphin Tuesday night and then host the Portage Terriers Sunday.

Local rifle shooters win international honours

By Lorne Stelmach

Two young local shooters did not only the province but the country proud at a recent premier international event in the U.S.

Luke Trinke of the Winkler area and Andrew Wolfe from the Carman region were part of a Canadian foursome that took home second place in the junior category recently at the World Precision Rifle Championship in Grand Junction, Colorado.

It is an impressive feat considering there were competitors from 24 countries, and Trinke and Wolfe literally live about 15 minutes away from each other.

"I think we've got, in Manitoba alone, some of the best shooters in Canada and the world," said Wolfe of the area. "It was very exciting."

"It's interesting there's a high density of good shooters from the southern Manitoba area," added Trinke. "We were both lucky enough to be selected."

The precision rifle shooting competition challenges competitors to take on a series of targets in a specific order.

The distances vary from perhaps 300 to 1,000 yards, and it has to be done within a time period, which in this case was 105 seconds.

The targets can be a variety of objects: oddly shaped rocks, off of a vehicle, a barricade or even logs, tree branches, or stumps.

A 500 yard target might be six to 10 inches in size, and a 1,000-yard target might be about 10 to 15 inches. The shooters also move around to different positions to fire.

Shooters qualify based on their results from competitions. In the case of Trinke, he normally competes in the open category, but in this instance he could shoot as a junior because it is extended to being under 20 for this event.

The Canadian contingent had a

strong showing at the championships. Of the 30 Canadian shooters, Trinke ranked sixth across all divisions and was the top Canadian junior shooter. He was 81st in the world out of 266 shooters.

Now 19 and having grown up on a family farm north of Winkler, Trinke started shooting with his grandfather out into the country. Once he was old enough, he enrolled into a junior rifle club program, got his hunter safety certificate, and then got into competitive shooting.

"The reason I got into it was just to basically become a better hunter, so that I could make more accurate shots on game and just have more confidence in my equipment," he said.

"I had started out with competitive curling, and I always wanted to be at the top level of whatever I was doing," Trinke shared in explaining his mindset. "Eventually, getting into shooting, it started with becoming a better hunter, and then it morphed into just becoming the best and perfecting the craft."

Trinke considers himself fortunate to be living in the country, whereas shooting is not as accessible to a lot of other people, especially if there are not many facilities or clubs available in more urban areas.

"It's often very hard to find for most people, so I'm very lucky in that way," he said. "I'm lucky enough that, living on a farm, I'm able to have some targets set up with some berms that I've built ... and I'm able to practice with my sport, which is something most people are not able to do."

"It's nice because it's something I can do all year long, whereas hunting, there's specific seasons ... depending on where you want to travel, you're able to shoot rifle matches throughout the whole year."

In the end, he attributes his success to lots of practice and training.

"It's not like there's really any se-



SUPPLIED PHOTOS
From left: Jess Tischler from Ontario, Chase Beckley from BC, and locals Luke Trinke and Andrew Wolfe at the World Precision Rifle Championship in Colorado last month. Right: Trinke aims and fires.



crets I have found," he said. "There's things that you have to know and practice, but really it just comes with being out on the range and spending time pulling the trigger, perfecting your movements and making sure that all of your gear is fail proof and that you know how to use it all effectively."

Wolfe, who is 17, also grew up shooting "since I could hold a BB gun" at age four or five. He got into competition shooting in 2019.

"Over COVID I had a really bad concussion. I used to play hockey," he noted. "So I really just started getting more into the precision rifle game ... I couldn't play hockey."

Wolfe also suggested his success comes from putting a lot of time into precision shooting.

"It's just lots and lots of practice, getting to know the equipment and getting to know the devices we use," he said, citing the example of using a kestrel wind meter or even just choos-

ing the right ammo that will offer the best and consistent quality.

"I think really the big thing with me was the wind. It was really, really switchy wind out there, so it would go from right to left, left to right, and it would drop down to nothing and then gusts ... and it's some really small targets out there."

Both Trinke and Wolfe see themselves continuing with precision shooting because it has become a passion for them.

"Yes, for sure," said Wolfe. "Definitely."

Storm 1 falls to Galacticos in championship final

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler Storm 1 saw their season come to an end with a loss to Galacticos FC in the Manitoba Major Soccer League's Division 1 championship final last weekend.

The Storm advanced in the playoffs after making short work of United

FC in the semi-finals Sept. 24. Carter Klassen had a clean sheet in goal for Winkler, while teammates Tobi Morasch scored twice and Koen Unrau and Santi Bergen had singles to win it 4-0.

But Winkler struggled Saturday against Galacticos. Multiple errors lead to a 6-1 loss, with Matheus Ruffi-

ni scoring the Storm's lone goal of the night.

Nonetheless, it was a stellar season of soccer for the team, who finished in first place in their division with a record of 14-2-2.

"I thought overall we had a great season," coach Chad Bergen shared. "The purpose of moving down to Di-

vision 1 was to get guys more time on the ball, have more opportunities to score, and to be able to work on improving our play in the attacking end. And I believe we were able to do that."

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Previous Rate: \$14.53 per 1,000 gallons
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This increase, approved by the Public Utilities Board, for the PVWC is necessary to ensure the continued delivery of safe and reliable water services to the RM of Stanley. This rate increase reflects a "pass through" rate increase of \$0.29 per 1000 gallons for RM of Stanley consumers on the PVWC water system.

Chad Harder
RM of Stanley
Finance & Administration Supervisor.

CAREERS



MAINTENANCE MECHANIC/MILLWRIGHT

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

The following would be considered an asset for this position:

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- Experience in industrial equipment maintenance and repair
- Ability to read blueprints and technical documents
- Pressure or structural welding tickets and related experience

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Starting Wages:

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

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

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CAREERS



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PUBLIC NOTICE



**RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF ROLAND
 PUBLIC NOTICE
 BOARD OF REVISION
 FOR 2025 ASSESSMENT ROLL**

Public notice is hereby given that the 2025 assessment roll for the Rural Municipality of Roland has been delivered to the Municipal Office at 45 3rd Street, Roland, Manitoba and is open for public inspection during regular business hours. Any person who believes that an assessment ought to be revised, may make application in accordance with section 42 and 43 of the Municipal 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, the authorized agent of the person, mortgagee or occupier, or the assessor may make application for the revision of an assessment roll with respect to the following matters:

- 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) set out which of the matters referred to in subsection 42(1) are at issue and the grounds for each of those matters; 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 41(2), or
 - ii) serving it upon the secretary, at least 15 days before the scheduled sitting date of the board as indicated in the public notice.”

The Board of Revision for the RM of Roland will sit on **Tuesday, November 12, 2024 at 10:00 am** in the Council Chambers of the Rural Municipality of Roland to hear applications.

The final date on which the Secretary of the Board may receive applications is October 28, 2024.

Dated this 3rd day of October, 2024.

Taya O'Brien, Secretary
 Board of Revision
 Rural Municipality of Roland
 45 3rd St.
 Box 119, Roland, MB R0G 1T0

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

UNDER THE PLANNING ACT

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:

General Intent: Subject to Section 290 (1 & 2) of The Municipal Act, a municipality may close a municipal road by passing a by-law closing the road and must give public notice and hold a public hearing in respect of the proposed closure. And Section 147 (1) of the Municipal Act, the Council of a Municipality has the power to amend or repeal a bylaw. The proposed closure is illustrated by heavy solid lines on Schedule A.

Area: All that portion of Russet Road, Parcel B, Plan (Dep 1597-2022) MLTO in the NW ¼ 2-3-4 WPM, as shown in heavy solid lines on the map attached hereto as Schedule A. (By-law 2322-24)

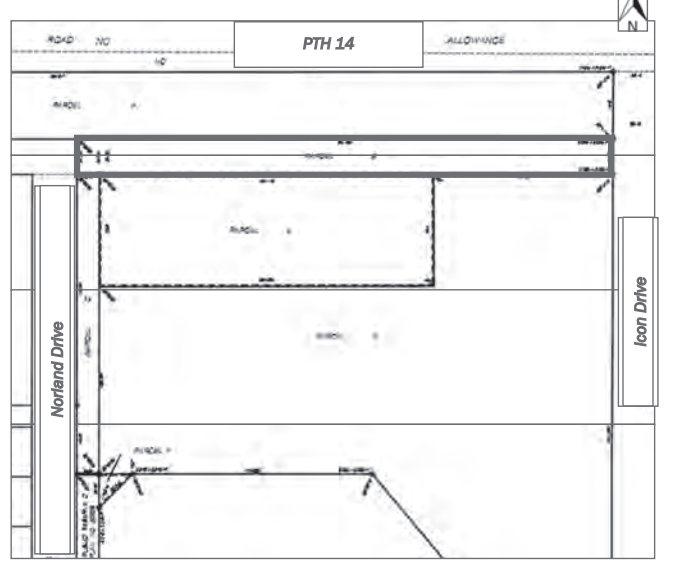
Contact: Jody Penner, City Manager
 City of Winkler
 Phone: (204) 325-9524

Date of Hearing: October 22, 2024
Time of Hearing: 6:30 p.m.

Location: Winkler Council Chambers, 185 Main Street, Winkler, Manitoba

A copy of the above proposal and supporting material may be inspected at the location noted above during normal office hours, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday to Thursday and 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 pm Friday. Copies may be made, and extracts taken therefrom upon request.

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

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ANNIVERSARY



John D and Lorraine Friesen were married on October 4, 1959. Happy 65th Anniversary Mom and Dad!! May your anniversary give you all the happiness and joy that you both deserve. We feel so incredibly grateful to call you our parents!!

-With love and best wishes from your family

BIRTHDAY



Happy Birthday Sara Neufeld

As you celebrate your 103rd birthday on October 3, you can look back on a life well lived. Your smile makes every day brighter! Enjoy your special day!

-Much love, from your family

Remember Your Loved Ones with an Announcement in the

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PUBLIC NOTICE

CITY OF MORDEN PUBLIC NOTICE REGARDING SPECIAL SERVICE PROPOSAL BY-LAW NO.12-2024 FOR THE PROVISION OF POLICE AND FIRE PROTECTION AND STREET LIGHTING SERVICES

The Council of the City of Morden has scheduled a public hearing at the City of Morden Civic Centre, 100-195 Stephen St., Morden, MB on the 28th of October 2024 at 7:00 p.m. to present the following special service proposal:

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF SPECIAL SERVICE PLAN NO. 3

Council is proposing to replace Special Service By-law No. 27-2017, dated March 26, 2018, to modify the rates that are subject to the special services tax for police and fire protection and street lighting services. The proposed special service levy will not be a new tax, but will be a separate levy to transparently reflect the costs for police and fire protection and street lighting services, and will be levied on all rateable property including otherwise exempt properties within the City of Morden limits, at estimated costs as follows:

2025	\$3,585,000.00
2026	\$3,690,000.00
2027	\$3,800,000.00
2028	\$3,915,000.00
2029	\$4,035,000.00

The method of taxation to be applied shall be based on the portioned value of assessable property. The assessed property is all rateable properties, including otherwise exempt properties, within the City of Morden. The mill rate shall be determined by Council annually, based on the annual police and fire protection and street lighting services budgets set out in the City of Morden's Financial Plan. The actual portioned values of the properties will be supplied annually by the *Department of Intergovernmental and Indigenous Affairs* (\$620,652,130 in 2024). Estimated budget for 2025: \$3,585,000 / (\$620,352,130 / 1,000) = 5.78 mills. Calculated on a residential property valued at \$280,000 (portioned value of \$126,000) and based on 2025 estimated budget and assessment, a \$728.28 special service tax will be levied for police and fire protection and street lighting services.

A written objection may be filed with the City Manager, at 100-195 Stephen St., Morden, Manitoba, prior to the commencement of the hearing. At the hearing, Council will hear any potential taxpayer who wishes to make a presentation, ask questions or register an objection to the special service proposal.

All objections, written or verbal, must be filed prior to the adjournment of the hearing and must include the name, address and property description of the person filing the objection and the grounds of their objection.

Copies of the special service proposal are available at the City of Morden office at 100-195 Stephen Street, Morden, Manitoba and on the municipal website at www.mymorden.ca.

Dated at the City of Morden this 24th day of September 2024, and issued pursuant to Section 318 of *The Municipal Act*.

Nicole Reidle, CMMA
City Manager
City of Morden
204-822-4434

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FARMLAND TENDER

FARM LAND FOR SALE BY TENDER

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

McCulloch Mooney Johnston Selby LLP

Box 1670, Carman, MB R0G 0J0

Attention: Harley J. Shepherd

PROPERTY SE ¼ 15-5-5 WPM
Being 160 Acres

CONDITIONS OF TENDER

- Interested parties must rely on their own inspection and knowledge of the property.
- Tenders must be received on or before 2:30 P.M. on Friday, November 1st, 2024.
- Tenders must be accompanied by a \$10,000.00 cheque payable to MMJS LLP in Trust as a deposit. Deposit cheques accompanying unacceptable bids will be returned.
- Highest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SALE

- The bidder whose tender is accepted will be required to complete an agreement covering terms and conditions of sale.
- In addition to the deposit, the balance of the accepted tender must be paid on or before the date of closing which shall be December 31, 2024 (1/2 payment due December 31, 2024 and 1/2 payment due January 7, 2025) or evidence provided that the purchase funds will be available under conditions acceptable to the Vendor. If the balance of the accepted tender is not paid within the set time limit the deposit may be forfeited as liquidated damages and not as a penalty.
- Possession is not authorized until acceptable arrangements for full payment are made following acceptance of tender.
- Successful bidder will be responsible for real property taxes commencing January 1, 2025.
- The purchaser shall be responsible for payment of GST or shall self-assess for GST.

For further information contact Harley J. Shepherd at:

Ph: (204) 745-2546

Fax: (204) 745-3963

email: harley@mmjslaw.com

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OBITUARY



Helen Harder

Helen Harder of Winkler, formerly of Plum Coulee, passed away peacefully at Salem Home, Winkler, Manitoba on September 23rd, 2024.

Helen was baptized on May 26th, 1947. Helen married John Harder on July 6th, 1947. They were married 52 years. They had one son, Jack.

Helen was predeceased by her husband John K Harder on July 8th, 1999 and her son Jack Harder on October 2nd, 2015.

Helen is survived by three grandsons and their families. A private viewing and graveside have taken place.

Wiebe Funeral Homes Winkler,
in care of arrangements.
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SUDOKU

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

Fun By The Numbers

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

Level: Intermediate

Here's How It Works:

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

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

Sudoku Answer

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

Crossword Answer

X CROSSWORD

CLUES ACROSS

- Separate with an instrument
 - State clearly
 - One-time MLB speedster Gordon
 - Broad in scope
 - Lacking social polish
 - Amount of time
 - Frame
 - Automobile
 - Caps
 - High school dances
 - Utilize
 - Checked
 - One-sided
 - Having an extreme greed for wealth
 - Potted plants
 - We all have one
 - Lake north of the Kalahari
 - Unidentified flying object
 - Aging persons
 - Small amount
 - Mother of Perseus
 - Ornamental waist box
 - Officials
 - Uncertain
 - A cotton fabric with a satiny finish
 - Extensive, treeless plains
 - Your consciousness of your own identity
 - Consumer advocate Ralph
 - Notable Spanish sports club
 - Body part
 - One's responsiveness
 - Woman (French)
 - Ready and willing to be taught
 - Muslim ruler title
 - Unhappy
 - Gradually disappeared
 - Able to think clearly
- CLUES DOWN**
- Brushed

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9	10		11	12	13
14					15								16	
17				18									19	
20						21							22	
23					24			25		26				
			27			28	29	30						
31	32	33			34				35				36	37
38				39					40			41		
42			43			44					45			
		46				47				48				
49	50								51			52	53	54
55					56		57	58	59		60			
61					62					63				
64					65							66		
67					68							69		

- Water sprite
- Ones to look up to
- Monetary units
- We all have one
- Marine invertebrate
- One who institutes a legal proceeding
- Outer
- Parallelograms
- Uncomfortable feelings
- Cross to form an X
- Remove
- Some pages are dog-__
- Capital of Ukraine
- A citizen of Denmark
- Eighth month (abbr.)
- Hindu queens
- Acids structurally related to amino acids
- Rider of Rohan in Tolkien

- Wet dirt
- Russian city
- Observed
- Irate
- Travelers need them
- Musical composition
- Auction
- Form of "to be"
- Women
- Inspire with love
- Think Japanese ankle sock
- Appears
- Old World lizard
- The lead dancer: __ ballerina
- Protein involved in motion
- Rosalind Franklin biographer
- Popular 1920s style art __
- __ Blyton, children's author
- Abnormal breathing
- A place to rest

HTJHL expanding to 10 teams, divisional play for 2024-25 season

By Kieran Reimer

The Hanover Tache Junior Hockey League is expanding once again.

The HTJHL will feature three new clubs in the 2024-25 season. The Ste Anne Aces, Mitchell Mustangs, and Grunthal Red Wings were approved to join the league at their annual fall meeting on Sept. 9.

With the Lorette Comets taking a leave of absence this season, the

HTJHL now has 10 teams primarily based south of Winnipeg, with the exception of the East St. Paul Gators and Springfield Xtreme.

This season, the league also moves to divisional play with five teams in each division.

The East St. Paul Gators, Mitchell Mustangs, Springfield Xtreme, Ste Anne Aces, and Steinbach Huskies have been divided into one division, while the other will include the Grun-

thal Red Wings, Landmark Blues, Macdonald Swarm, Niverville Clippers, and Red River Mudbugs.

Throughout their 26-game seasons, each team will play divisional opponents four times (two home, two away) and non-divisional opponents twice (one home, one away).

The HTJHL has also made changes to its playoff format. The top three teams from each division receive a bye to the best-of-five divisional semi-

final round, while the teams finishing fourth and fifth in each division will play a best-of-three divisional quarter-final, with the winners advancing to the divisional semi-finals.

On Sunday, Oct. 20, the HTJHL will also be hosting a showcase day at Niverville Community Resource & Recreation Centre, with each team playing a game that day.

The league's pre-season kicked off last week.

Busy season ahead for Sunflower Gardens

By Lori Penner

The ice is ready to go at the Sunflower Gardens arena in Altona, and programs are well underway.

Recreation services Manager Eric Hildebrand says it will be a different kind of season at the facility, with the Altona Maroons taking a one-year leave of absence from the SEMHL (see story on Pg. 12).

"This comes as a disappointment to many, but it presents a unique opportunity for the Millennium Exhibition Centre (MEC) facility to fill some extra ice time.

> STORM, FROM PG. 14

The Storm had been in the MMSL's Premier Division in 2023, but finished that summer in eighth place out of 10 teams. As a result, they opted to move down a division to rebuild.

Even though their first-place finish means they could move back up to Premier next summer, Bergen says they'll be staying where they are for another season.

"We scored 66 goals in 20 games, but we still have a lot of work to do to improve our finishing and ball control under pressure. Division 1 continues to be the best spot for us to work on improving those parts of our game.

"This has been a wonderful group of young men to work with," Bergen shared. "They play the game with integrity and show care for opponents and referees during games—even when it's challenging and everyone's emotions are heightened.

"The level of player commitment to being present makes the season with these guys so much more enjoyable."

The team sends its thanks out to all the fans who come out to cheer them on at home games.

"We generally draw the biggest crowds in the league," Bergen said. "Our fans have been the best."

"With the Maroons only playing a 20-game schedule in the past few years, this means a loss of 10 home games. That's approximately 25 hours of ice time we'll be looking to fill."

The only other unknown factor regarding how many hours of ice time will not be needed this season is related to Maroons playoff games. In recent seasons, there were few or no playoff games.

"However, it wasn't too long ago that the Maroons were in the league finals multiple times, especially during their back-to-back league championships in 2011-12 and 2012-13," Hildebrand noted. "During those successful seasons, the Maroons were often the only team booking games in our facility past early to mid-March, keeping the ice relevant."

Hildebrand also mentioned the natural ebb and flow of team success affecting ice time.

"I think it's important to remember that as with anything, there are ebbs and flows regarding hockey teams

and skating club programs having very successful seasons mixed with some less successful seasons. The teams that have successful seasons tend to require the most ice time. For instance, last season, the W.C. Miller Aces hockey team made it to their league finals, utilizing more ice time than if they hadn't made the playoffs."

While the absence of the Maroons this season is unfortunate, Hildebrand doesn't believe it will significantly affect the MEC operations.

"We have already secured some bookings for some Pembina Valley Hawks U15AAA boys' games, and a few other teams will also utilize our ice due to renovations at one of Winkler's arenas."

Meanwhile, the MEC has added a new feature to the Sunflower Gardens Arena which Hildebrand believes hockey and skating fans will love.

"LiveBarn is now available for anyone who can't make it to the facility, but still wants to watch all the events.

It's a streaming service which allows you to share events with friends and family, so they never miss a moment of the game. It provides audio and a clear and full view of the ice surface."

Hildebrand says you can download entire games or practices, and it could be a great tool for coaches and players to review games.

"Minor hockey was pushing for it for our facility, since so many arenas have it now. Now families from out of town can still watch little Johnny's games; they just need to log on. It's easy for us to add something like this, because it provides yet another service to the community."

The company provides the cameras and service to the facility for free. Users pay a subscription fee which allows them to watch events Live or On Demand for 30 days. Recreation office staff will not handle subscriptions or problems with the service.

"If you're interested, go to the Town of Altona website for all the details," Hildebrand says.

> MAROONS, FROM PG. 12

maybe playing for a junior team somewhere, the question was would some of these players come back to play in Altona? Some started families, some would go to Winnipeg to go to school, some move out of province or country, and then you have the odd one who would consider playing, but you need not only the numbers, but you'd also need the capabilities and the abilities to play at this level," he said. "And with the teams that have been added to the league in the last couple of years, particularly around the Winnipeg area, the caliber of play continues to rise, which means if you're not getting better, you're falling further behind."

It may also be a sign of the times, Loepky surmised.

"Hockey is a huge financial commitment and may not be the sport of choice for as many parents as it was years ago. There are more options now than there were in 1951. Back then, you either curled or played hockey. This is what the community did. And they watched hockey on Saturday night."

Skipping this season was a tough decision for the executive, he said.

"It always hurts when something is lost. We had dads and grandparents who played on the Maroons. It's a legacy team and we're the only league who has been there from the beginning. We've had many ups and

downs over the years, but we're the only team that's been able to navigate through it until now. That says a lot."

The executive hopes to announce some exciting options in the coming months.

"We can lament the Maroons as we know them, but we still have lots to celebrate," Loepky said. "Something positive and good can come out of this situation.

"We're focusing on the future of the team—and we think there is still a future—and we're excited about that. We don't think this is the end of the Altona Maroons. It might just look somewhat different in the future."

get inspired

> MEAL IDEAS



Creamy Pumpkin Soup with Mini Pierogies

1/4 teaspoon nutmeg
1/8 teaspoon cinnamon
2 tablespoons heavy cream
fresh thyme, to taste
1 box Mini 4 Cheese Medley Mrs. T's Pierogies

Slice shallot, peel and cube apple and crush garlic.

In pot over medium-low heat, add drizzle of olive oil and saute shallots, garlic and apple 20 minutes, covered.

Let mixture slightly cool then add to blender with 1/2 cup broth and blend until fully combined.

In pot, add pumpkin puree; blended shallot mixture; maple syrup; salt, to taste; pepper, to taste; nutmeg; cinnamon; remaining broth; heavy cream; and thyme, to taste. Bring to low boil then add frozen pierogies. Boil 3 minutes.

Prep time: 5 minutes
Total time: 40 minutes
Servings: 4
1 large shallot
1 large Honeycrisp apple (or 1 1/2 cups)
5 garlic cloves
olive oil
2 cups low-sodium chicken or vegetable broth, divided
2 cups canned pumpkin puree
2 teaspoons maple syrup
pepper, to taste
salt, to taste



Marinated Teriyaki Steak with Teriyaki Noodle Salad

and cook hot or cold kit according to instructions on bag.

Add steak back to pan and stir to incorporate.

\Garnish with toppings from hot or cold kit and serve.

Prep time: 1 hour
Cook time: 24 minutes
Servings: 4
1/2 cup dark soy sauce
1/2 cup brown sugar
1 tablespoon Sriracha sauce
1/2 cup unsalted chicken stock
1 pound flank steak
1 tablespoon sesame oil
1 bag (16.9 ounces) Fresh Express Hot or Cold Teriyaki Salad and Noodle Meal Kit

In saucepan, add soy sauce, brown sugar, Sriracha sauce and chicken stock; bring to simmer while whisking. Simmer 4 minutes.

Cool mixture down until cool to touch, about 20 minutes.

Slice steak into thin strips and place in bowl. Pour marinade over steak and marinate for 1 hour.

In large pan over medium-high heat, stir-fry steak 2 minutes.

Remove steak from pan and allow to rest.

In same pan used for steak, add oil

Teriyaki Tofu Bowls



Expert patient here to help!



Susie Schwartz

By Susie Schwartz

I thought it couldn't happen. I thought I had been through enough that my 'expertise' meant my rules didn't apply. I was wrong. Tip for today?

Take someone with you.

I know, I've said this many times before. 'Take someone to your appointments' has been my most given piece of advice. And yet, I didn't.

I'd had my first mammogram (welcome to 50!), and I got a letter saying I needed more tests.

"You'll need more mammograms, maybe an ultrasound, and maybe even a biopsy," they said. Don (my husband) couldn't take me since he, too, had a doctor's appointment that day. "Do you want me to come with you?" my friend Nic asked. "Nah. I'll be fine. They'll either give me good news or I'll have a biopsy and won't get the results that day, anyway."

As I sat in the inner waiting room after the mammograms and ultrasound, waiting my turn for a biopsy, I sat and listened to two friends talk, one there to support the other. After hearing the 'careful cancer language' of the excellent nurses and

techs who explained what they were doing and why, I felt catapulted into a new ecosystem – an alternative universe. Was I on a cancer journey? My blue gown tucked around me, I shivered as I watched those women and thought, I feel so alone.

Shocked by this feeling, I remembered Nic's offer. Why had I been too independent and proud to take her up on her offer?

Usually, I preach taking someone with you to your appointments so they can help digest information, ask good questions, and be your brain when anything other than the need for antibiotics or antihistamines is discussed.

But there is an equally good second reason to take someone: support. How comforting it would have been to have Nic sitting there each time I returned to the inner waiting room before the next test. She could've helped me process and regaled me with funny stories of Stanley, her hilarious Tibetan Terrier floof. What a glorious distraction from squashed boobs, anticipated needles, and 'careful cancer language' that would've been.

The biopsy came back fine, and we'll just have to do regular mammograms to keep an eye on it, so I'm thankful. But, lesson learned. (Surely this time, right?!?) Being a hero is pointless unless you get a Marvel movie deal. (Deadpool and Wolverine, anyone?)

Next time, I'll take the support. Will you?

Less health stress, yes?

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Prep time: 20 minutes
Cook time: 10 minutes
Servings: 4
1 tablespoon rice wine vinegar
2 tablespoons dark soy sauce
1 tablespoon honey
1 teaspoon fresh grated ginger
1 tablespoon minced garlic
2 teaspoons white pepper
2 teaspoons Chinese five-spice
1/3 cup neutral oil
1 package (16 ounces) extra-firm tofu, cut into 1/2-inch pieces
1 bag (16.9 ounces) Fresh Express Teriyaki Hot or Cold Salad and Noodle Meal Kit

In bowl, whisk vinegar, dark soy sauce, honey, ginger, garlic, white pepper and Chinese five-spice until com-

bined. Slowly pour oil into mixture while whisking vigorously. Place cut tofu in mixture and allow to sit 15 minutes.

Bring large saute pan to medium-high heat and place tofu in, turning when crust forms.

When tofu is finished, set aside and prepare hot or cold salad and noodle meal kit.

Serve with tofu on top of hot or cold salad and noodle meal kit.

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