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A glimpse into the past

Artist Sarah Collard (left) and Lou Erickson, Morris & District Museum mural committee member, stand in front of the new mural that graces the museum building. For the full story, see Pg. 2.
PHOTO BY SIOBHAN MAAS/VOICE

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

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New Morris Museum mural bridges decades of history

By Siobhan Maas

A new mural painted by Morris resident Sarah Collard adorns the outer west wall of the Morris and District Museum, capturing the burdock and Scottish thistle characteristic of the local river banks.

What catches the eye among the vibrant green landscape is the steel truss bridge that spanned the Red River until 1967.

An original desire to fill an empty space of boarded-up windows meandered from a Morris School

student art project of four individual pieces to realizing a larger, single mural would most benefit the space.

Inspiration came from Ida Hoffman's oil painting housed at the Morris Baptist Church, which depicts the local river forks where the Morris River, formerly known as the Scratching River, meets the Red River. Hoff-

man's painting is symbolic of water transformation during baptism.

"River water is part of all of us," shared Lou Erickson, museum board member and part of the mural committee, at the mural celebration Saturday. Having the Red and Morris river forks on the mural is part of "our life-blood historically and forevermore."

"Steamboats and barges were prominent for trade along the Red River," explained Leslie Poulin, another mural committee member. Ferries were used by settlers to cross the river until 1908 when a permanent structure was built.

"The pontoon bridge was the first of its kind," Poulin shared, but it was plagued by problems and replaced by the steel truss bridge that stood for over 40 years. Fully opened in June 1921, the bridge was the only structure at the time that spanned the Red River between Morris and Emerson.

"RIVER WATER IS PART OF ALL OF US."



PHOTO BY SIOBHAN MAAS/VOICE

The Morris & District Museum unveiled its new mural Saturday, painted by local artist Sarah Collard.

Dismantled to make way for the flood-proofing of Morris and a ring dyke around the town, the steel truss bridge came down in 1967 and the current Highway 23 bridge was erected in its place.

Collard spoke to the colourist style of painting used for the mural depicting the old bridge.

"I really wanted something to catch the smaller space," she said, noting this mural is quite bit smaller than others she's painted. "The unfinished approach and intensity of the paint colour looks nicer from farther away."

The red sign within the mural was

painted several years ago by a class at the Morris School.

The museum's new mural is symbolic of the many community members that came together to bring this project to fruition, including local bird enthusiasts, photographer Julie Snarr who brought perspective to the mural, numerous committee members, and volunteers. Rivers separate land and people but a bridge will always bring unity to the community regardless of time or distance.

Continued on page 11

The Return of Monthly Compost Collection

It's getting colder outside, which means that the compostable material collection schedule changes to monthly. Collection will be on your normally scheduled pick-up day on the following weeks this winter:

November 5 - 8, 2024

December 3 - 6, 2024

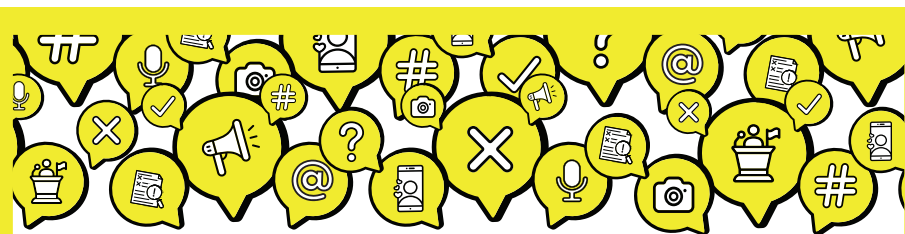
January 7 - 10, 2025

February 4 - 7, 2025

March 4 - 7, 2025

Weekly collection resumes in April.

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Nearly half of Canadians say it's getting harder to distinguish between true and false information.¹ So in recognition of Global Media Literacy Week, here are four ways to spot misinformation like a journalist:

- Choose credible sources**
Look for relevant expertise, a track record of reliability, and the credentials to speak on the subject.
- Demand transparency**
Ensure that there are real people or organizations willing to put their names on the information.
- Consider the context**
Ask yourself how the news fits into a bigger picture, and if you're really getting the full story.
- Check for bias**
Consider how personal opinions — your source's and your own — may influence the information.

1. "The spread of misinformation: A multivariate analysis of the relationship between individual characteristics and fact-checking behaviours of Canadians." Statistics Canada (2024)

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Astro Club sets its sights on rare comet

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Pembina Valley Astro Club hosted an impromptu viewing night in Winkler last week in the hopes of catching the C/2023 A3 (Tsuchinshan-ATLAS) comet in the night sky.

“What’s interesting about this comet is it is what’s called a long period comet, so the next time it’ll come around is sometime between 80,000 and 86,000 years from now,” explained Kenton Dyck, who heads up the club. “The fact that it comes close enough that we can see it is fairly unique, and so we’re out here trying to capitalize on that as much as we can.”

Clouds and haze didn’t cooperate with the group’s comet-viewing plans that night, but that didn’t dampen the enthusiasm of the crowd of stargazers, who instead set their sights on the brilliantly bright moon, Saturn, and a few notable stars.

It was Corey Messner’s first time checking out the Astro Club.

“A friend from work was telling me about this club and so I decided I’d come out tonight and see if I could see the moon and see the comet through a different telescope than my own,”

he said, noting his model is much less powerful than Dyck’s. “His lowest magnification is probably close to like my middle magnification.”

Astronomy has been a lifelong interest for Messner.

“Ever since I was a kid, I’ve always been into it ... it’s a fascination of what’s all out there, and

it kind of makes you think about how important life is here,” he said. “It’s very humbling to think about everything that’s out there in our solar system, and it’s intriguing to try and find things through the telescope.”

Michelle Martens has been coming to the club’s viewing nights for awhile now, and says it’s always a good time.

“IT’S VERY HUMBLING TO THINK ABOUT EVERYTHING THAT’S OUT THERE IN OUR SOLAR SYSTEM ...”

Continued on page 5



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

The Pembina Valley Astro Club gathered in Winkler last week to try and spot the C/2023 A2 (Tsuchinshan-ATLAS) comet. Though clouds foiled their plans that night, members have gotten a few shots of the comet over local skies in recent weeks (below).



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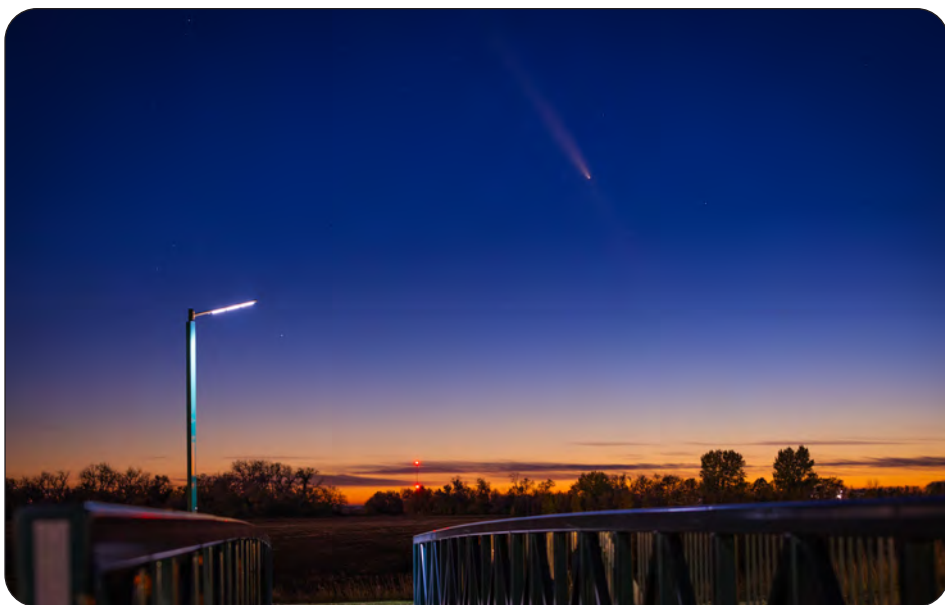
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CMYC celebrates 40 years

The Central Manitoba Youth Choir program marked its 40th anniversary with a special concert in Winkler Saturday night, featuring not just the 2024 choir (above, led by conductor Vic Pankratz) but also an alumni choir (below, conducted by Kristel Peters) featuring representatives from every single year CMYC has been active. Right, top: Loretta Thorleifson leads the 2024 CMYC choir and the audience in a rendition of Lean On Me. Right, bottom: The two choirs, some members standing amongst the audience, perform "I Sing Because I'm Happy" together.

PHOTOS BY RICK HIEBERT/VOICE



Important Notice: Winkler TDS Office Closure

After years of serving the community from our Winkler TDS office, we will no longer be operating out of this location. For the time being, we ask our Winkler customers to visit our Morden office for any services. If you have any questions or would like to schedule an appointment, please contact our Morden office directly.

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CCH reports on another successful year of renovations, community-building

By Ashleigh Viveiros

At its annual general meeting last week, Central Community Homes (CCH) reflected on the successes and challenges of the past year while also sharing optimism for the years ahead.

The organization oversees 90 social housing units in Winkler and this fall broke ground on an apartment complex at the corner of Main St. and North Railway Ave. that will add 28 more affordable housing units to its roster.

They partner with the Central Station Community Centre in managing those properties and providing support for the tenants who call them home, and with Community Friends Inc., a group of local businesses and residents who collectively own the buildings both Central Station and The Bunker youth ministry are in, allowing them to focus on their community programs rather than worrying about raising funds for rent or mortgages.

CCH's role in this partnership is to "provide the capital for the affordable social housing stock: the bricks and mortar," board chair James Friesen explained.

Central Station staff then work to help "some of our most vulnerable community members to find, get, and keep housing so that they can advance their lives and build stronger relationships and connections in the community.

"We use the 'housing first' approach model," Friesen said, "which says that if you provide individuals and families with housing first, then some of the other components, the challenges in that person's or that family's life can be addressed better, as opposed to saying, 'Well, clean up your act first, then we'll give you housing.'"

In recent years, Central Station project manager Brad Adrian has headed up plans to revitalize every one of CCH's holdings, turning the aging buildings into welcoming, modern homes.

They're down to the final nine units, and expect to have those completed by next summer, Adrian reported.

"Our goal is to make them blend into the community ... and reduce the stigma that's often attached to those houses," he said, explaining that includes a refresh to the outside of the buildings as well as improvements

inside.

"When you look at some of the pictures of the homes, it's pretty evident to see how significant the physical changes are," noted Anita Wiebe, executive director of Central Station. These improvements have impacted tenants in countless ways. "There's improved mental health, which has all sorts of other implications as well—it impacts families, relationships, it creates a sense of stability, potential for employment, all sorts of things.

"There's also a pride of ownership. If your house looks [run down] the motivation to clean is going to be less because, really, no matter how hard you clean, there's still going to be holes in the wall ... but when we're able to put them in environments [that have been refreshed] they are far more likely to be able to keep them that way."

While a renovated apartment or house doesn't magically fix the other problems families may be facing, it does help, Wiebe said, and Central Station's housing program staff are there to assist families with their other challenges.

"That is where our staff has the opportunity to come alongside our tenants ... offering supports," she said, explaining that might include equipping them with the knowledge and skills to maintain their homes or manage their finances. "Sometimes it's just having someone there with you, encouraging you, helping make sense of things. It can make the difference between it being a successful endeavour or not."



SUPPLIED IMAGE

Central Community Homes is in the midst of building a 28-unit affordable housing unit in Winkler at the corner of Main St. and North Railway Ave. They still have about half a million dollars to raise to get the project across the finish line.

COMMUNITY OWNERSHIP, SUPPORT INTEGRAL TO SUCCESS

Community support remains key to CCH's success, Friesen stressed, be it through financial contributions, in-kind donations, partnerships on renovation projects, or the dedicated group of volunteers who have stepped up to serve on the board and lead the charge on the agency's projects.

"We know the community is generous," he said, "and we certainly use that as leverage with our government contacts" when it comes to seeking out additional funding sources.

Looking to the future, Friesen shared that the \$1 million shortfall CCH originally anticipated having to fill with community donations to pay for the North Railway project has shrunk to closer to half a million dollars.

"So it's moving in a good direction," he said. "We're going sharpen up those numbers, and we hope to launch something more official out to the community in the next couple of months."

Friesen is confident Winkler area donors will come through for this project. He noted community ownership of the work of both Central Station and CCH is integral to its ongoing success.

"Truly successful communities are defined as ones where all residents enjoy a life that is free from stigma and where barriers are addressed. This is our challenge to the community. We need an all-of-the-community approach to help define this city as a place where everyone is accepted and supported, no matter what place in life we may find ourselves."

> ASTRO CLUB, FROM PG. 3

"It's really unique getting to come and look through such a large telescope," she said. "It's not something you find around here very often, and to be able to come and just check out the sky from a zoomed-in perspective is really neat."

Seeing the rings of Saturn has been a highlight, Martens shared, and she also enjoyed checking out a dense star cluster earlier this year.

"And Kenton is very educated, very smart about all this, so it's interesting being able to learn about all about it while you're looking up at it."

Eleven-year-old Melissa Martens

was most definitely enjoying her first time out with the club.

"This is awesome," she said, noting she loves "getting to see what's out here ... it's so cool to look out there and see there's other planets, there's other places."

Dyck has hosted upwards of 20 events across the region since getting his computerized telescope last year.

"I think at last count we're at almost 1,700 people that have looked through the eyepiece just this year alone," he said. "We've been travelling all over the place. It's been wildly successful."

Seeing adults and especially kids eagerly line up for a chance to take a peek through the giant lens is a big part of what keeps Dyck going with this club.

"That's a huge drive for me because I always feel that had I been exposed to something like this when I was their age, I would have been better for it," he said. "I would have hopped on this passion a lot sooner."

You can stay up-to-date on upcoming club viewing nights by following them on Instagram (@astroclubpv) or emailing astroclubpv@gmail.com.

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

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OUR SISTER PUBLICATIONS



The horror of it all

Since it is October, the month of all things spooky, let's talk about horror films.

I've never written a column about horror movies before, but the subject has been a passion of mine for a long time.

Heck, when I was in seminary completing my M.Div. I found a way to write about horror by contrasting western horror film themes with Japanese horror films and pointing to Judeo-Christian theology as the key differentiator. Fun times.

Why write about horror now? I think what triggered it was learning that there is a remake/reboot/reinterpretation/homage/reimagining being made of what is in my opinion the greatest horror film of all time, *The Exorcist*, this time by director Mike Flanagan.

Now, if anyone was going to try and reimagine *The Exorcist*, Mike Flanagan is your guy. His track record of previous films includes *Doctor Sleep*, *The Haunting of Hill House*, and *The Fall of the House of Usher* (fantastic), to name a few.

But still, this is an entirely different level. It would be like someone trying to reinterpret Clint Eastwood's *Unforgiven* (the greatest western of all time), but much harder.

There are a few things to note about the original *Exorcist* film that make it difficult, if not impossible to reinter-

pret.

The author of the novel it was based on, William Peter Blatty, was intimately involved in the original film, even acting as screenwriter (for which he won an Academy Award). This is important because his novel was brilliantly written, and he does not get nearly enough credit for his artistry, likely because of the genre.

Everything about the original film are mountaintops to be overcome, like the unforgettable music (thanks to Mike Oldfield's *Tubular Bells* for a spine chilling and unique sound that still evokes fear in the listener), to the cinematography, to William Friedkin's direction, to the phenomenal casting and acting.

I mean, this film cast the first Catholic priest to play a Catholic priest in a commercial movie: the unforgettable Jesuit Fr. William O'Malley as Fr. Joseph Dyer. O'Malley, a university professor and award-winning author of 37 books of theology was also an advisor to the film.

Of course, there is the matter that one does not speak about even today ... the film is VERY blasphemous. I'm sure there are many readers who re-

call when the film was originally released in 1973 and the boycotts that took place around the world.

The evangelist Billy Graham notably said, "the Devil is in every frame of this film" and led a boycott against it.

It didn't help that the author, a devout Catholic, stated numerous times he was attempting to present as realistic a depiction of evil as possible (he succeeded) but not a celebration of it. After all, how do you water down a depiction of demonic possession?

To this day I have never seen a film that pushes the envelope of horror as far as *The Exorcist* did more than 50 years ago. The dialogue given to the character of a possessed 12-year-old girl would still not be tolerated today, but somehow made it to screen all those years ago.

For these reasons and others, this new version will likely not live up to the original. Western audiences are less spiritual now, for one thing. Faith in the broader world is not what it used to be, and faith or belief was a big part of the fuel that drove the original film's terror.

Continued on page 7

Letter policy

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

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

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

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

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View the *Voice* online at www.winklermordenvoice.ca or altonavoice.ca

Local invited to join national immigration advisory council

By Lorne Stelmach

Our region has a voice on a new national advisory body on immigration.

Lea Esconde, who is involved with the Pembina Valley Local Immigration Partnership, was recently selected as one of the 12 members of the new Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) Deputy Minister's Council of Newcomers.

It is an advisory body that will regularly meet with the federal deputy minister to share lived experiences and provide diverse perspectives about Canada's immigration system.

The council is an initiative that arose from a 2023 report—An Immigration System for Canada's Future—to assess whether policies and programs are aligned with newcomer's needs, and Esconde said it is a remarkable opportunity for her.

"To me, serving on the council of newcomers is an extraordinary lifetime experience that comes with great responsibility. I am grateful for the trust and confidence bestowed on me," she said.

"It gives me a sense of empowerment to share my journey on immigrating to Canada, leaving a footprint to the immigration system of Canada's future. My personal story can help educate and inspire others

which help break the stereotypes and provide hope to other immigrants like me.

"Never ever had I thought I would embark on this journey when my husband and I took a leap of faith and made a life changing decision moving to Canada," she said, thanking the government for "giving us a seat at the table, enabling our voices to be heard to ensure the immigrants and the community who welcomed us are set up for success."

During the council's recent inaugural meeting in Ottawa, Esconde had the chance to speak with the IRCC Minister Marc Miller and Deputy Minister Dr. Harpeet Kochhar and have conversations about their lived experiences as newcomers to Canada.

Esconde hopes sharing her experiences will provide insight to the successes and challenges experienced in navigating Canada's immigration system.

"Moving to a different country takes a lot of courage and resilience. We must adapt and successfully integrate to reach for our Canadian dreams," she said.

"The lessons learned and the successes of my story will provide a unique perspective to the current immigration policies and programs," she suggested. "These will help bridge the gaps by bringing awareness and diverse feedback on how we turn these challenges into lessons learned and provide an opportunity to improve and strengthen the current system."

"Each immigrant's story is raw and relatable," Esconde said. "As a newcomer to Canada, this experience will

bring me a deeper understanding and a broader perspective on how Canada's immigration system works.

"It opens up a lot of opportunities for me," she suggested. "It will be my once in a lifetime experience, something that I will be forever grateful and proud of ... where I had the opportunity to share a seat at the table and have my voice heard."

"This will bring me a wealth of knowledge about IRCC's immigration policies and programs and how it became a global beacon and a world class standard."

SUPPLIED PHOTO

Lea Esconde with Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada Deputy Minister Dr. Harpeet Kochhar as the Council of Newcomers met for the first time in Ottawa this fall.



> CANTELON, FROM PG. 6

Horror no longer has the power it once did. Today's horror movies are about human evil, not spiritual, and this reflects the fears of the audience.

I suspect this new version of *The Exorcist* will fall flat on modern horror enthusiasts who are more interested in slashers, thrillers, and

environmental horror than anything supernatural. We will see.

P.S. If I were casting a new film as a remake rather than a reinterpretation, I think Ian McKellan would be excellent as Fr. Lankester Merrin, originally played by the incomparable actor Max von Sydow.

"IT GIVES ME A SENSE OF EMPOWERMENT TO SHARE MY JOURNEY ..."

Letters

A THANK-YOU FROM KATIE CARES

On behalf of Katie's Cottage, I would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who supported and attended the recent Katie Cares Fashion Show. Your generosity and enthusiasm made this event a tremendous success, and we are deeply grateful.

From the talented models and volunteers who donated their time, to the generous donors and sponsors who provided invaluable support, and of course, the community members who came out to show their love—your contributions have

made a real difference. The proceeds from this event will go directly towards helping us continue to offer a comforting, supportive space for families who need to stay close to Boundary Trails Health Centre while their loved ones receive care.

Events like this remind us of the power of community and the impact we can have when we come together for a cause. Thank you once again for helping us fulfill our mission of providing a home away from home for those in need.

With gratitude, on behalf of the fashion show committee,

Ruth Reimer,
Winkler



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EFFICIENCY MANITOBA



An evening of discussion

The Morden Area Foundation hosted a World Café Monday night, inviting community members to come together to share their thoughts on what's needed to make Morden an even better place to live. The resulting feedback will be used by the community foundation board as it makes decisions about future grants, ensuring MAF funding is having an impact guided by what the community truly wants and needs, said chairperson Sue Nelson.

PHOTO BY PETER CANTELON/VOICE

Byelection called for Winkler council seat

By Ashleigh Viveiros

A byelection has been called to fill the Winkler city council seat left vacant by the death of Coun. Don Fehr last month.

Winklerites will cast their votes on Thursday, Dec. 12 for the person who will finish out the rest of this term in office, which began in 2022 and ends with the 2026 fall municipal election.

Those interested in getting their name on the ballot have until day's end on Nov. 6 to get the appropriate paperwork in.

Nominations will be accepted at City Hall during business hours on Oct. 31, Nov. 1, Nov. 4, 5, and 6th. All nominations need to be signed by at least 25 Winkler voters and be accompanied by the candidate's declaration of qualification.

Prospective candidates need to register with the senior election official (SEO) before they can accept contributions, incur expenses, fundraise, or borrow money for their campaign.

Registration forms can be obtained by emailing SEO Wendy Klassen at seo@cityofwinkler.ca or calling 204-325-9524.

More details about becoming a candidate, updating the voters list, or applying to have your name and other personal information omitted or obscured from the voters list can be found at cityofwinkler.ca.

Those who need to vote in advance of Dec. 12 can reach out to the SEO in person between Nov. 16 and Dec. 9 or by mail between Oct. 28 and Dec. 9 to arrange to get a sealed envelope ballot package

WHAT DOES IT TAKE?

Mayor Henry Siemens has been serving on city council for 18 years. He has some advice for anyone mulling over whether or not to run.

"First and foremost, do your research to find out what the time commitment might be—talk to current elected officials or past elected officials to get a good feel for what it is," he said. "You won't necessarily know what roles you'll be doing, but you should be aware of the time responsibilities and what that looks like."

The role of city councillor is very much a second job, though the time commitment can vary month to month, depending greatly on the committees one is tasked with serving on.

"There may be months where it's 10 hours [for the whole month]," Siemens said. "And there may also be months where you're spending 10 hours a week at it. That would probably be on the high end, but it is a fairly fluid thing; it depends on meetings and what types of things we have on our agenda."

It's a job that needs to be given the commitment and attention it deserves, Siemens stressed.

"As a council member, you're on the board of directors for the City of Winkler. We're not physically out there directing staff, but we have a greater responsibility to create the vision and direction of the City of Winkler. It's a significant responsibility."

There's plenty of support available to help a rookie councillor get their bearings, though the onus is on you to dig into it.

"Our city staff have a really good training piece that helps us understand what [the role of councillor] is and what that looks like," Siemens said, noting the Association of Manitoba Municipalities is also a valuable source of information about the job. "Not knowing what the role necessarily entails shouldn't scare anyone away. The resources are there to learn—you just have to have a commitment to wanting to learn it."

This byelection is a prime opportunity for someone who perhaps has wanted to dip their toes into municipal politics but has been uncertain about committing to a full four-year term.

"This is a two-year piece," Siemens said. "It's long enough that you're going to get a really good idea of what it's all about, but it's not so long that if suddenly you find it's not for you,

that you're tied to it for a long time."

Reflecting on the qualities that make for a good public servant, Siemens stressed the importance of not being a one-issue politician.

"When you have somebody who's mad about something or has decided that they're going to create a change somewhere, you end up at the table and quickly find out either it's not a change that you have an opportunity to affect, or, in a better scenario, it's something that you get solved and then you sit there bored the rest of the time."

Ideally, the city council seats should be filled by people "who have a passion and a commitment to Winkler, people who want to improve Winkler, who show up with ideas, who show up open-minded, who show up prepared to have conversations. A large part of this job is simply having conversations with people and finding out what their concerns are."

Key as well is being able to take the community's concerns back to the council table for discussion, debate, and decisions.

"We have to be able to listen to each other and then we have to be able to share our ideas," Siemens said. "When we do that successfully, we do that respectfully and we do that in a way that allows everyone's voice to be heard."

The **Voice**

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'Wild Willows' visit DNS

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Discovery Nature Sanctuary (DNS) in Winkler welcomed a group of "Wild Willows" earlier this month.

The homeschool group of teenage girls and their mothers are always looking for fun activities and spaces to explore for their weekly get-togethers, explains member Phylis Wiebe, who is part of the group alongside her 15-year-old daughter.

"Our trip to the Discovery Nature Sanctuary came up after I was on social media and saw an ad pop up about it," she says. "I'd never heard of it and I thought it was interesting that there was a nature sanctuary right in the city of Winkler."

The group, which has about a dozen young ladies participating right now, all hail from the Steinbach area, but they don't limit themselves to that region for their outings.

"We don't mind travelling—last year we visited the elevator museum in Plum Coulee ... went to Portage la Prairie to see the Fort Le Reine Museum," Wiebe says. "If there's something that piques our interest and we all decide we want to do it, we make it happen."

The Wild Willows got their start last year as a social outlet for home educated teens.

"As moms, we have two goals for our group," Wiebe explains. "We want to raise our daughters to be godly young women, we want to surround them with people who are walking in the same direction and develop quality friendships with other girls."

"Our second goal is to provide our daughters with a variety of experiences, both practical and interesting, so they'll have a good foundation of skills and experiences to support them in their future roles, perhaps as wives, mothers, or professionals in a workplace."

It's a small but tight-knit group, shares fellow mom Verna Derksen.

"We're trying not to get too large,

because there is a demand for more wanting to join, but we're just careful not to get too big so the relationships can really grow," she says. "It's a chance for the girls to get together and support and encourage each other."

They meet every Thursday afternoon, sometimes doing hands-on activities and crafts, other times heading out to explore someplace new.

"We try to provide events that appeal to each member," Wiebe explains. "So that includes a whole range of activities from cooking, baking and sewing to an escape room, hiking, skateboarding, mini golf, art, movies, museum tours."

Derksen's daughters, 16-year-old Kamryn and 14-year-old Xzandria, share they've been having a blast with the group.

"The connections and hanging out with friends" are highlights for them both, says Kamryn.

Fellow member Rory Kroeker, 16, echoes that.

"One part that I really enjoy is the fact that I get to hang out with other girls around my age," she says, sharing that a recent craft afternoon spent making scarecrows ended up being an unexpected hit with everyone. "I had never done anything like that before. It was pretty fun."

The visit to DNS involved a bit of a drive, but the nature preserve—and food at Del Rios to round out the day—proved worth it.

"I really liked the overlooks at the pond," says Kamryn. "And how many Canadian geese there were."

"And I really liked how fine the dividing line between the park and the industrial area was," says Xzandria. "It's just a fence."

"It was neat for us to see how urban meets nature so closely," adds Wiebe.

Two mature cottonwood trees at DNS also caught the girls' imaginations.

"One of our members said that those trees look like they're waiting to tell



SUBMITTED PHOTOS
The Wild Willows homeschool group explored the Discovery Nature Sanctuary in Winkler earlier this month.



a story," says Wiebe. "We imagine they've seen a lot of Winkler's history unfold over their lifespan."

A return visit is in consideration for

the spring or summer so the group can get the chance to experience the site in a season when there's more wildlife to spot.

Pilot Mound man facing drug charges

By Voice staff

Winkler Police have arrested a 42-year-old man from Pilot Mound they say is responsible for trafficking cocaine into the Winkler/Morden area.

Last Friday, just after 5 p.m., police pulled over a vehicle near Myrtle on Hwy. 23 in connection to an ongoing drug investigation.

The driver and lone occupant of the

vehicle was placed under arrest and, with assistance from the Morden Police Service, police located \$2,475 cash and 441 grams of cocaine, an estimated street value of \$44,100.

The man will be charged with possession of cocaine for the purpose of trafficking and possession of the proceeds of crime.

He was released with several conditions and a court date of Dec. 10.

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Manitoba.ca/vaccine



Book reveals the social fabric of early homesteaders

By Lori Penner

Most of us have read stories about the challenges and struggles faced by newcomers and pioneers who came to the Canadian Prairies in the late 1800s and early 1900s, but a new book delves into the social side of those early homesteaders.

Folklife and Superstition: The Luck, Lore and Worldviews of Prairie Homesteaders by Dr. Sandra Rollings-Magnusson is a rich collection of prairie folklife, compiled from hundreds of first-person accounts.

The book focuses on immigrants who settled in Alberta, Manitoba, and Saskatchewan between 1867 and 1914, sharing stories from families who migrated from diverse regions including England, Ireland, Scotland, Ukraine, Germany, Poland, Iceland, China, and the United States.

Each chapter covers different topics, from country fairs, community dances, and childhood games, to beliefs about luck and weather phenomena, capturing the essence of prairie homesteaders, celebrating their perseverance, hardships, and the joyous moments that defined their lives.

Rollings-Magnusson, an associate professor at MacEwan University, says she's been researching the life of pioneers for about 30 years.

"I have Moravian homesteaders in my personal background who came out in the early 1900s. I heard all the stories during the summers I spent with my grandparents. Way back when, I started collecting items from that time, so I've got all sorts of artifacts. It's become my hobby. And when I went into academics, that also became my area of research, so my whole world centres on my interest in these early homesteaders."

She was born in Alberta and raised in Saskatchewan.

"During those summers at my grandparent's farm, they had me do everything the old-fashioned way. I churned butter, collected eggs, and called the cows for milking. I don't think a lot of children these days have those opportunities. Mixed farms have disappeared."

During her studies, an advisor showed her the wealth of information that was available in the provincial archives.

"I was fascinated by all that information. It was like a treasure trove. I could read all these stories, and I've spent thousands of hours there ever since."

One of the greatest treasures, she says, was a project undertaken by the Saskatchewan archives in the 1950s.

"They realized they should gather

information from those who homesteaded before they passed away. So, they created 10 questionnaires with 45 questions each, covering different aspects of life, from their health practices to their farming experiences, religion, politics, folklore, and eating habits. They sent them out to people who had homesteaded and collected all that data."

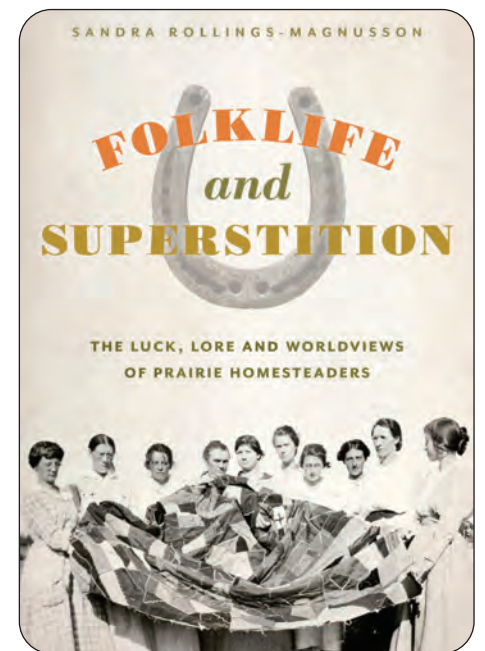
Rollings-Magnusson has spent years collating that data for both academic projects and for her own literary pursuits.

"I like telling all those stories, because those are the voices of the homesteaders. It's all true."

She's written five books about homesteaders.

"The first one was about the labour of children on homesteads. Then I did one on women homesteaders. The next one was more of a general, pictorial coffee table book about homesteaders. My previous book, *Tales from the Homestead: A History of Prairie Pioneers, 1867-1914*, was a compilation of 36 stories written by pioneers, and was a finalist for the Alberta Literary Awards' Wilfred Eggleston Award for Nonfiction."

From all the information she's gathered over the last 30 years, questions began to arise about what kind of subculture these pioneers created.



"Did they create a folklife? What do they have in common, regardless of their ethnic backgrounds? This is revealed through their poetry, songs, tall tales, jokes, legends and traditions, superstitions and proverbial sayings as well as aspects of family lore. Homesteaders also learned from each other as they interacted with each other," explains Rollings-Magnusson. "They influenced each other to create a new society."

Continued on page 18

One visit, two shots; province launches respiratory virus vaccination campaign

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The provincial government is urging Manitobans to roll up their sleeves for the COVID-19 and seasonal influenza vaccines this fall.

"Vaccines for both the flu and COVID-19 are available throughout the province," said Health Minister Uzoma Asagwar. "Everybody has a responsibility and a role that they can play in making sure that our families, our loved ones, our friends, and our communities are protected and safe this respiratory virus season."

"While health care workers take care of our most vulnerable and our sickest Manitobans, it is our job, each and every one of us, to make sure that we are doing everything that we can ... that means getting vaccinated against the most recent strain of COVID-19 and influenza viruses."

The province is urging Manitobans to get both of their shots in one go and not to wait too long to do so.

"Go see someone—your doctor, a nurse practitioner, a pharmacist—and

get your vaccines done in one visit," Asagwar said.

Preparation to deal with the upcoming respiratory virus season is well underway across the province, Asagwar said, noting last year's season was the worst its been in decades.

"We have increased acute care beds and ICU beds in the province," Asagwar said. "We've hired hundreds of new staff and we're training more consistently. And we've developed surge protocols and plans to ensure that there is care available to those who need it."

All Manitobans six months of age and older are eligible for the free influenza and COVID-19 vaccinations. The province is also providing vaccines for respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) free of charge to people older than 60 and living in long-term care homes.

"Both influenza and COVID-19 vaccines are widely available now throughout the province," said Dr. Brent Roussin, chief provincial pub-

lic health officer. "And it's especially recommended to those that are high risk of severe outcomes to get those vaccines and get them as soon as they can."

High-risk individuals include those over the age of 65, residents of personal care homes or long-term care facilities, pregnant people, children six months of age to five years, Indigenous people, and those with underlying chronic health conditions.

As always, Roussin stressed the importance of staying home if you are ill, practicing good hand hygiene, disinfecting common surfaces, and wearing a mask if you're symptomatic and around those who might be more vulnerable to negative outcomes. These steps will aid in the preventing the spread of illnesses in the months ahead.

It's hard to predict what kind of flu season Manitoba is going to have, Roussin noted, but looking at what's happening in the southern hemisphere right now can provide a hint.

"The southern hemisphere is seeing what we would call a fairly typical respiratory virus season [with] influenza A, RSV, as well as COVID-19, but not seeing anything unusual in the patterns there," he said. "Now, that doesn't necessarily always translate here. Last year our severe outcomes were driven largely by influenza A, where we saw a lot of transmission."

"It was quite virulent, so we saw many severe outcomes with it. But we did have a fairly good match with the vaccine last year. Unfortunately, the people that we saw in our ICUs, with the severe outcomes, almost none of them had received the vaccine."

You can learn more about Manitoba's vaccination program online at www.manitoba.ca/vaccine.

Southern Health-Santé Sud also has a list of upcoming community vaccination clinics at <https://www.southernhealth.ca/en/finding-care/health-info-for-you/immunizations/2024-seasonal-flu-and-covid-19-clinics/>.

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

Altona, Rhineland celebrate success of immigration pilot program

By Lori Penner

The Rhineland Pioneer Centre was a busy place on Oct. 18, as a wind-up celebration was held for a program that has brought hundreds of new residents to Altona.

Since 2019, the Rural & Northern Immigration Pilot (RNIP) program has offered a path to permanent residence for skilled foreign workers and is designed to support economic development and strengthen local businesses' capacity to develop and retain a skilled workforce.

The celebration drew local and provincial dignitaries, participating business owners, as well as newcomers who have benefitted from the program. The complimentary dinner, catered by Potpourri of Flavours, offered a wide variety of cultural dishes, and bouncers were provided to keep the children busy.

Stephanie Harris, Altona/Rhineland economic development officer for SEED, which facilitated the program, said they're thrilled to celebrate the success of RNIP.

She noted that about 30 employers have utilized RNIP to hire foreign workers to address their labour mar-

ket shortages. In total, 140 job offers have been provided, which has helped over 350 newcomers to apply for their permanent residency in Canada. Families have arrived from over 29 different countries.

"I would like to thank our municipal partners for planting the operations of the immigration program and their active involvement," she said.

"I would also like to thank the immigration selection committee, Regional Connections Immigrant Services, our community mentors, employers, and so many others that made this pilot program a success."

Addressing the crowd last week, Manitoba Labour and Immigration Minister Malaya Marcelino said she's heard a lot about Altona's way of welcoming newcomers.

"I came to Canada when I was four years old, and I know from my experience the importance of immigrating as a family. Sometimes they come as workers and live by themselves for many years, and that doesn't always work out for a lot of reasons. Another thing that is important is a welcoming community, and Altona has that in spades. Thanks so much for the leadership and all the folks in Altona

for what you're doing to welcome people."

She added the third thing newcomers need is the ability to work in their chosen field of study and experience.

"Those are the things that will see a lot of retention and success. And you guys are off to a wonderful start with this five-year pilot program. Depending on how it goes with the federal government, I wish you success there. The province is al-

"WE'RE GRATEFUL TO THOSE WHO HAVE CHOSEN TO MAKE ALTONA THEIR NEW HOME."



PHOTO BY LORI PENNER/VOICE
Manitoba Labour and Immigration Minister Malaya Marcelino lauded Altona and Rhineland for being such welcoming communities.



PHOTO BY LORI PENNER/VOICE
Potpourri of Flavours offered a wide variety of cultural dishes for all to enjoy at the RNIP windup celebration in Altona last week.

ways willing to be your partner. We have partnered with other regions; we need to do that because we want to see all parts of our province grow."

Altona Deputy Mayor Donna Rosling Wolters thanked Harris and the dedicated staff at SEED who have been strong advocates of the program since it's inception.

"Thanks also to the community mentors who have been invaluable to new families, all the businesses and employers who embraced the program, and organizations such as Regional Connections and the Pembina Valley Local Immigration Partnership (PVLIP) for their ongoing efforts to support newcomers to the community.

"We're grateful to those who have chosen to make Altona their new home. The knowledge, energy and diverse cultures you've brought to our community have already made so many positive impacts and I look forward to the contributions that will shape Altona in the years to come."

Municipality of Rhineland Reeve Don Wiebe congratulated SEED for all their hard work in facilitating RNIP.

"I recall when we applied, and how hard it was to imagine we could be selected from a national slate of applicants. We also want to express our appreciation to the newcomers that have come from so many different countries to be part of this community. By welcoming diversity, we can build resilient communities."

Altona was one of the 11 communities that benefited from the RNIP program. Going forward, SEED has applied for the new Rural Community Immigration Pilot program launching this fall.

"We're still waiting to hear back regarding that application," Harris said. "They have not announced the selected communities yet ... hopefully we'll hear about that soon."

Meanwhile, they've been working with the provincial government on creating an immigration partnership program similar to the ones in Winkler, Morden, Parkland and a few other communities.

"Hopefully in the coming months, all those pieces will come together," said Harris.

> MURAL, FROM PG. 2

Over 40 people attended the mural unveiling and celebrated with dainties and tea inside.

There was also the opportunity to view student art originally intended to cover the four boarded-over windows. Several pieces of artwork have been made into postcards available for purchase at the museum.

The Morris and District Museum

is celebrating 40 years of serving the community by holding a 50/50 draw to purchase an anniversary bench. Tickets can be purchased from board members or at the Christmas Craft Expo on Nov. 30.

You can check out some of Collard's other murals online at sarahcollard.ca.

Fall supper raising funds in support of local family

By Sean Conway

Oct. 4 was a day like any other for one Morris family—until it wasn't.

"I'm in a car pool," says Terri Yager. "My 13-year-old son Damien had football practice and it was my turn to pickup the boys when I got the phone call."

Dexter, her seven-year-old, had been complaining about pains in his legs and groin. Several visits to the doctor hadn't provided answers, and the amount of over-the-counter medication needed to help Dexter deal with the pain was raising red flags with Yager, who worked as a health care aid at the Red River Valley Lodge.

"I had taken Dexter in for blood work the day before," she says. "He said it was always hurting, but the amount of Advil and Tylenol was concerning."

"The doctor's office called and said I needed to take Dexter to the Children's Hospital in Winnipeg. I thought it was no big deal, I would arrange to get him there in the next few days. They told me, 'Now!' Abnormal cells had been found in the blood work."

A week later, the Gr. 2 student was back home after finishing his first treatment for childhood acute lymphoblastic leukemia.

"He has B-cell All type," shares dad Jessy Morgan.

"It's the most common form in children," adds Yager. "It accounts for 25

per cent of leukemia in children."

The treatment? Aggressive chemotherapy on top of daily medications to control blood pressure, inflammation, acid reflux, vomiting and diarrhea, and urinary tract infections.

"Every Tuesday and Thursday we will need to take him into Winnipeg for chemo," says Morgan, choking up at the prospect. This is to be the family's new reality for the foreseeable future.

"They tell us that the treatment can change monthly," says Yager. "Every three months, he will need a spinal tap and born marrow testing."

"FAMILY, FRIENDS, AND THE COMMUNITY ARE WONDERFUL. WE WOULD NOT HAVE GOTTEN THIS FAR WITHOUT THEM."

"He is monitored after the hospital treatment. He may need to be admitted," she adds, noting two to two-and-a-half years is the treatment plan. "Future treatment is determined by how it reacts. Bone marrow and spinal tap tests as we progress with treatment are how they determine higher or lower."

"Gym," was Dexter's response when asked about his favourite subject in school. "I like tag and dodge ball."

"He played Timbit soccer," notes Morgan.

"He is going to his next boy scout meeting, but after that, it's one meeting at a time depending on how he is feeling," adds Yager.

He's a little boy who would rather run than ride his bike ("My feet are faster," he says). The cancer treat-



PHOTO BY SEAN CONWAY/VOICE

Seven-year-old Dexter Morgan with, from left, dad Jessy Morgan, older brother Damien, and mom Terri Yager. Dexter has been diagnosed with leukemia. A fall supper is being held next month to raise funds to support the family.

ment—and the weakness, nausea and vomiting that come with it—is already taking a toll.

"In two to three weeks he will start to lose his hair," says Yager as she looks off into the room where Dexter is playing video games.

Loved ones have rallied around Yager, Morgan, and the boys to help them get through the weeks and months ahead.

"Thanksgiving my friends brought over a Thanksgiving dinner and cleaned my house," says Yager. "Family, friends and the community are wonderful. We would not have gotten this far without them."

Yager has taken a leave from her position at the lodge and Morgan has put aside his part-time work at the gas station to focus on the family. It's a financial strain, and one the community is stepping up to help alleviate.

A fundraising fall supper takes place at the Morris Multiplex on Sunday,

Nov. 3 at 4 p.m. The evening will include a pie and desert auction and a silent auction.

Tickets—which are available at Morris Bigway, the multiplex, or the Sun Valley Co-op gas bar—are \$20 for adults and \$10 for kids age four to 12. Children three and under are free.

Cheryl Crick, one of the event's organizers, says all the volunteers involved are eager to help the family through this challenging time.

"This was a family that was part of Red River Valley Parent Child Centre," she notes. "They contributed over the years with many volunteer hours at the centre."

"When you have people who help without being asked, it's nice to be able to help them in return."

If you'd like to get involved or have a question about tickets, call or text 204-712-6162.

Altona police investigating Thanksgiving weekend vandalism

By Voice staff

Altona police are asking for the public's help in getting to the bottom of a series of vandalism incidents that occurred over Thanksgiving weekend.

The department received numer-

ous mischief complains over the long weekend, including broken windows at the Bergthaler Mennonite Church, the Altona Civic Centre, and Sun Valley Co-op. Someone also entered a private property and destroyed the holiday decorations there.

In the Co-op incident, a suspect was identified and located at a nearby restaurant where he was causing a disturbance. He was charged with one count of mischief and released.

Police are asking anyone with information about the church incident

specifically to contact them at 204-324-5353 or via email to police.services@altona.ca. You can also make an anonymous report via Manitoba Crimestoppers at 1-800-222-8477.

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Local emergency response teams gain insight at provincial conference

By Lori Penner

Members of the Altona and Rhineland local emergency response control groups (LERCG) attended the Disaster Management Conference in Winnipeg last week.

The three-day event drew about 500 attendees from across the province and featured a packed schedule of international speakers, networking opportunities, and breakout sessions to equip communities on how to handle some of the worst scenarios.

"There were lots of really good sessions," said Altona and Rhineland municipal emergency coordinator (MEC) Perry Batchelor, who was joined at the event by Altona Mayor Harv Schroeder, Rhineland Reeve Don Wiebe, assistant MEC Barry Friesen, public information officer Marie Kehler, and Fire Chief Greg Zimmerman.

"We took in all the keynote speakers," Batchelor shared. "We spread out during the breakout sessions so that we could maximize our presence at the conference and gather as much collective information as we could."

The conference began with a presentation by Dauphin Mayor David Bosiak on dealing with community grief following the tragic bus crash that resulted in the death of a group of local seniors.

"It was very impactful and thought provoking," Batchelor said. "If something like that were to happen in our community, it would be devastating. It was a good session to sit through. He indicated how they worked with the city of Humboldt, after their bus crash. There were similarities and differences, with lots of lessons learned."

Another session dealt with high stress communications, during events such as fires, floods, tornados, derailments, and evacuations.

"You can imagine in the aftermath of a tornado, for example, how everybody's anxiety is going to be up, so how do you communicate with people effectively when they're so preoccupied with everything else?" Batchelor noted.

"Some interesting data came out of that, on how to keep your messaging to a maximum of three points. Think about COVID, and how we talked about washing your hands, maintaining your distance, and wearing a mask. They found over the years the human brain can only handle three points during high stress. The analogy they used was how they came up with 911. We all remember those

numbers."

Day three featured a session on keeping critical technology safe.

"It had to do with cybercriminals and hackers, and learning some basic practices on how to keep yourself from becoming their next victim. We're seeing these incidents more and more in our own communities."

The speaker discussed methods to create a protective layer that would take hackers centuries to break.

"In the end, caution is still your best defense. If you don't know the sender, don't accept the email. It can affect your systems very quickly if you do."

Other sessions included topics such as new information on the nature of tornados, safe methods to handle hazardous materials at a scene, harnessing risk perception, psychological first aid for reception centre staff, and wildfire management.

"Along with all the helpful information, the conference also provided great networking opportunities to determine best practices and learn how to improve what we're doing," Batchelor said.

"I'm glad my team and I attended," he said. "As a former chief of police and as a council member, I always appreciate the outstanding, relevant and engaging content. It's good to bring members of your LERCG to these events. These are your decision makers at any emergency event."

While information is power, Batchelor says it won't help you if you don't have a way to be informed.

"Communications are vital in any event. We have Alert Ready Manitoba, so you'll get alerts from the prov-



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Altona/Rhineland LERCG team members at the Disaster Management Conference in Winnipeg on Oct. 16. From left: Altona Mayor Harv Schroeder, municipal emergency coordinator (MEC) Perry Batchelor, information officer Marie Kehler, Fire Chief Greg Zimmerman, Municipality of Rhineland Reeve Don Wiebe, and assistant MEC Barry Friesen.

ince. Anyone on the LT network will receive those, but you won't get local information. I really want to emphasize the importance of signing up for our local alert systems."

Anyone in Altona and Rhineland can sign up to receive notifications through Altona and Rhineland's alert app, CONNECT. Altona currently has 1,800 subscribers and Rhineland has 100.

"We really need to get those numbers up. It is instant information, on everything from tornados to water main breaks, from local content providers with constant updates. In the case of a boil water advisory, for example, being unaware and drinking the water could be dangerous. With our local alert systems, you'll be notified immediately on your phone or through an email."

Another detail Batchelor highlights is that during an emergency, the first 72

hours are on you.

"The municipal equipment and resources are going to be overwhelmed. If Altona or Rhineland are ground zero and your power is out, the municipality isn't going to be dealing with individuals. We're dealing with an impact area. So, for the first 72 hours, are you prepared? Do you have heat? Do you have extra food and water? Do you have fuel for your generator, or batteries for your radio? You need to make sure you're okay for 72 hours. Hopefully, after that time, we'll have power back on and running. But don't count on it."

"A lot of people think it's not going to happen to me, but we are having more and more frequent power outages, and more and more high winds. You can call, but the LERCG will be working on much bigger problems. The more you can do to alleviate some of the stress on resources, the better off we all are."

"ALONG WITH ALL THE HELPFUL INFORMATION, THE CONFERENCE ALSO PROVIDED GREAT NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES TO DETERMINE BEST PRACTICES ..."

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Honouring a century of hard work and perseverance

The Wiebe family's roots run deep at the Rocking W Ranch

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Manitoba Farm Family Recognition Program presented the Rocking W Ranch north of Morden-Winkler with its Century Farm designation this fall.

The honour comes when a farm family maintains continuous ownership of their land for 100 years or more.

"The actual centennial was in 2018," notes Dusty van der Steen, who grew up on the property. "The farm was founded in 1918 by my great, great grandfather, Peter B. Wiebe.

"They lived in Altona, so it was quite a thing for him to purchase a parcel of land all the way in the Burwalde district, northwest of Winkler. He purchased it for his son, Peter P. Wiebe, which was my dad's grandfather."



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Peter P. Wiebe and his wife Margaretha farmed the land for decades before passing it on to their son Frank, who later passed it on to his son, Rick. Rick passed away in 2020 before he could complete the application for Century Farm status. His daughter Dusty van der Steen finished it this year.

Peter P. Wiebe married Margaretha Thiessen in 1919 and the couple soon after made the 30-mile trek to settle in their new home.

"They loaded up a wagon and a team of horses with all their belongings and they drove from Altona to where our homestead is now," van der Steen shares. "It took them most of the day. They arrived just in time to unload before dark."

Peter P. and Margaretha raised their family and farmed the land for decades, eventually passing ownership on to their son, Frank, who did the same with his own family, in turn passing it on to van der Steen's father, Rick Wiebe.

By that time, they had branched out from crop farming into raising horses, and it was eventually named the Rocking W Ranch. The ranch quickly became known for its quality of horses and a thriving PMU business (where urine is collected from pregnant mares to produce a estrogen supplement for menopausal women).

"As it went from one generation to the next, it was less and less crop farming," van der Steen says. "My dad didn't really do any crop farming, aside from making feed for the horses.

"People came from far and wide to not only buy horses from the farm, but to have them trained," she adds. "Dad was a cowboy a heart. Dad had plans to move out west to Alberta cowboy country when Grandpa and Grandma offered him the farm to keep



SUPPLIED PHOTO

The descendants of Peter P. Wiebe gathered at the family farm north of Morden-Winkler earlier this month to celebrate receiving a Century Farm designation from the Manitoba Farm Family Recognition Program. From left: Dusty van der Steen with son Layne, Marjorie Hildebrand, and Bruce Hildebrand.

him home."

In addition to the PMU work, Rick Wiebe also started a thriving horse auction business that brought in horses from all over Canada and the United States.

In 2018, Wiebe started the process to apply for the century farm recognition not long after they reached the milestone, but he had to put it on the backburner after being diagnosed with cancer. He died in 2020.

In her father's memory, van der Steen picked up where he left off and completed the necessary research for the application.

"I felt like it was important to not only honour my dad through finishing it, but also my forefathers that lived there as well," she says. "They homesteaded in a time that wasn't easy. And the fact that it's been in our family all this time is an achievement."

The ranch continues to be run today by Wiebe's widow, Barb, as a horse boarding facility, with van der Steen active there as well with her competitive barrel racing events.

The roots she feels when she sets foot on the property run deep.

"It'll always feel like home to me," she says.

"As a genealogist, I have developed a sense of how important knowing

your history is—what it is, how it affects you," says van der Steen who also runs Rural Roots Genealogy, offering her sleuthing services to others looking to unearth their family's stories. "It can be quite profound—how it all started, all of life's trials, how my ancestors persevered here and how the land that we live on sustained them through each generation. They were so blessed, even though things were tough at times."

There were plenty of good times as well, shares Marjorie Hildebrand, van der Steen's great aunt.

Hildebrand, 94, was the youngest of Peter P. Wiebe's four children who grew up on the property.

"I was born in the house that's still standing, but it's very old now," she says, reflecting that a stiff wind one day is liable to blow over some of the original buildings still standing today.

Reflecting back on her childhood, Hildebrand says they all worked hard to keep the farm running.

"I grew up helping. I had to take care of the chicken population and picking up eggs and putting feed out for them."

They lived two miles away from the nearest school, which made getting there a bit of a challenge, especially in the winter.

Continued on page 23

sports & recreation

Flyers down Selkirk and Virden, fall to Dauphin Kings

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler Flyers made short work of the Selkirk and Virden teams last week before coming up short against Dauphin.

Last Tuesday's home game against the Steelers was a 9-0 rout for the Flyers.

Goalie Liam Ernst denied every one of the 19 shots that came his way between the posts. His teammates sent 28 shots the other way.

Niklas Gudmundson scored a hat trick that night. The other six goals came courtesy of Brady Craik, Brody Beauchemin, Blake Matheson, Mathys Blanchette, Kam Thomas, and Max Lavoie.

Thursday's road game against the Oil Capitals in Virden was somewhat less of slaughter but still a win for Winkler; they took it 4-1.

Thomas and Jayce Legaarden had the Flyers up 2-1 after 20 minutes, and then goals from Lavoie and Gudmundson sealed the deal in the final period.

Rylan Benner went the distance in net for Winkler this game, making 21 saves as the Flyers outshot the Oil Capitals 37-22.



PHOTO BY RICK HIEBERT/VOICE

Niklas Gudmundson of the Winkler Flyers lifts the puck over the mitt of Steelers goalie Noel Olsonawski for Winkler's second goal of the game last week, which the home team won 9-0.

The script was flipped Sunday night when the Dauphin Kings came to Winkler.

Blake Matheson scored the Flyers' lone goal of the night near the end of the first. But the 1-0 lead was short-lived, the Kings scoring a minute lat-

er and then adding goals in both the second and third periods to win it 3-1.

Ernst faced 31 shots this game, saving 28. Winkler had 34 shots on goal.

The Flyers are in third place in the MJHL East Division with a record of 7-3. With 14 points, they're just one

point behind the Steinbach Pistons in second and eight behind the Steelers in first, though they have four games in hand over Selkirk.

This weekend, the Flyers head to Swan Valley to take on the Stampeders and to Dauphin to play the Kings.

Altona hosting Kurling for Kids bonspiel Nov. 16

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Altona is hosting a new-to-Manitoba fundraiser next month that will support the Boundary Trails Health Centre (BTHC).

Kurling for Kids (K4K), a charity that supports children's hospitals through curling tournaments, is holding its first-ever bonspiel outside of Quebec at the Altona Curling Club on Nov. 16.

"My husband and I, we have been avid curlers forever, and I've been part of Kurling for Kids for years," shares Sandy Friesen, who is a member of the Altona Curling Club and also the regional manager for K4K in Manitoba.

Friesen got involved with the charity during her years living in Quebec. Upon moving back to Altona, K4K reached out to her about expanding its reach into Manitoba.

"It didn't work out last year, but we're excited to get our first event together now," Friesen says, noting they already have a few teams signed up to take part.

The bonspiel has space for 16 teams. Each participant is asked to raise \$200 in donations. Registration is \$75 per person, which counts towards your pledge total. All curlers will get two games, lunch, supper, and a chance at trophies and door prizes.

If you're not a curler but still want to take part, you can sign up as a fundraiser for free and start collecting pledges.

The funds will all go towards BTHC, the regional hospital located between Morden and Winkler.

"The bonspiel will be a wonderful way to raise funds for our developing pediatric program and purchase medical equipment for the smallest

patients in our communities," shares BTHC Foundation executive director Shannon Samatte-Folkett.

You can register or make a donation online at www.kurlingforkids.org.

Continued on page 17

bdc Small Business Week | October 20 to 26, 2024

CANADA'S ENTREPRENEURSHIP
CELEBRATION



Why solopreneurs are on the rise: Gen Z



In recent years, solopreneurship has been on the rise among Generation Z. These new one-person companies have been reshaping the business landscape by challenging traditional business models, paving the way for innovative approaches to entrepreneurship.

What's Gen Z?

Generation Z, or Gen Z, refers to individuals born between the mid-1990s and early 2010s. This generation has grown up in a highly connected and technologically advanced world, which has shaped their values and perspectives.

Why this generation?

Unlike previous generations, Gen Z solopreneurs prioritize meaningful work over traditional career paths, seeking opportunities to create their own destinies. With access to vast amounts of information and resources online, they're empowered to turn their passions and skills

into viable businesses with minimal overhead costs.

The gig economy, which encompasses freelance, side-hustle and remote work, has further fuelled the rise of Gen Z solopreneurs, blurring the lines between work and per



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The Morden Thunder boys and W.C. Miller Collegiate Aces girls are the 2024 A-AAA provincial champions. At the championship tournament in Minnedosa Oct. 11-12, the Aces made short work of the home team (2-1) and the Morden Thunder (5-3), to advance to the championship match against the Garden Valley Collegiate Zodiacs. Altona took the title with a 3-1 victory. On the boys side, the Thunder downed Dauphin (10-4) and Minnedosa (2-1) before besting the Zodiacs 2-1 for the gold. Numerous local players made the all-stars list at the tournament, including, from W.C. Miller, Vanessa Krahn, Kate Sawatsky, Molly Harman, and Eliana Gensa; Vanessa Franz, Evelyn Majer, Mekdes Wall, Marcelo Froese, Samuel Fast, Phyo Soe, and Elias Kandt from GVC; and Kapri Curry, Rylee Thiessen, Kyra Dyck, Sean Aguinaldo and Badr Abujazia from Morden Collegiate.

Split weekend for Pembina Valley Hawks

By Ashleigh Viveiros

It was a weekend of mixed results for the Pembina Valley AAA Hawks.

The men's team downed the Yellow-head Chiefs 9-4 on the road Saturday night and then fell to the Wheat Kings

5-3 in Brandon Sunday.

The lengthy list of goal scorers in Saturday's game included Tyson Pethybridge, Cohen Pilkington (with two), Carter Unger (with two), Nolan Bravo, Haiden Friesen, Paxton White, and Ragnar Gillis. Goalie Karsen

Dyck made 22 saves.

Against Brandon, a scoreless opening frame was followed by the home team pulling ahead 5-0 in the second period. Period three saw Pethybridge, Nathan Froebe, and Teagan Fehr try to close the gap. Ryler Gates made 28

saves in net that night.

With that, Pembina Valley is 4-5 for the season so far, good for eight points and seventh place in the standings.

This weekend the Hawks play a pair of games in Kenora against the Thistles.

Lady Hawks compete in Minneapolis tourney

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Pembina Valley Hawks had a solid showing at the NIT tournament in Minneapolis over the weekend.

The U18 AAA women's team lost their first game to the 19U St. Louis Blues 3-2 (scoring for Pembina Valley was Leah Klaassen and Skyla Hildebrand), but then bounced back with a 5-3 win against the 19U Carolina Jr. Hawks (Abigail Brigg with two and Jessica Anderson, Casey O'Brien, and Emma Durand with singles).

They rounded out the weekend with a pair of ties, battling the 19U Anaheim Lady Ducks to a 4-4 finish (Brigg, Delaney Darby, Sophia Cox, and Klaassen) and settling for 2-2 against Team Colorado 19U (Rory Perrin and Piper Sawatzky scored)

Coming up, the Hawks host the Brandon Wheat Kings Friday and the Winnipeg Ice Saturday and then hit the road to play the Eastman Selects on Sunday.

Saturday's game will be preceded by the World Girls' Ice Hockey Day festivities at the Access Event Centre in Morden. The Hawks will be helping out with a host of fun activities for younger female hockey players.

Provincial cross country results

By Voice staff

The Manitoba High School Athletics Association Provincial Cross Country Championships took place in Clearwater Oct. 9, and a host of local athletes brought home medals for their efforts.

The complete results includes:

TEAM RESULTS

A-AAA Category

JV Girls

Gold - Warren
Silver - Niverville
Bronze - Sanford

JV Boys

Gold - Pilot Mound
Silver - Gabrielle Roy
Bronze - Morden

Varsity Girls

Gold - W.C. Miller
Silver - Stonewall
Bronze - Morden

Varsity Boys

Gold Westgate Mennonite
Silver - Gabrielle Roy
Bronze - St. Norbert

AAAA Team Category

JV Girls

Gold - Vincent Massey Collegiate (Wpg)

Silver - Miles Macdonell
Bronze - Jeanne Sauve

JV Boys

Gold - St. Paul's
Silver - Miles Macdonell
Bronze - Kelvin

Varsity Girls

Gold - Kelvin
Silver - St. Mary's
Bronze - Jeanne Sauve

Varsity Boys

Gold - St. Paul's
Silver - Glenlawn
Bronze - Garden City

INDIVIDUAL RESULTS

JV Girls

Gold - Lily Hemlow - Vincent

Massey Collegiate (Wpg)

Silver - Kaitlyn Schroeder, Power-view

Bronze - Alina Wiens, Mennonite Collegiate (Gretna)

JV Boys

Gold - Cole Landerville, Pilot Mound

Silver - Rory Hayes, St. Paul's
Bronze - Isaac Nichol, Miles Macdonell

Varsity Girls

Gold - Liliana Aiello, St. Mary's
Silver - Sadie Macuira, Westwood
Bronze - Alexie Beaupre, Jeanne Sauve

Varsity Boys

Gold - Liam Palmer, Garden City
Silver - Luc Fillion, Fort Richmond
Bronze - Nate Phillips, Carman

> KURLING FOR KIDS, FROM PG. 15

Business who would like to get involved as sponsors can contact Friesen at sandy.friesen@Kurling-forKids.org.

Friesen hopes Altona's involvement with K4K will inspire other Manitoba curling clubs to host a similar charity bonspiel themselves.

"Any curling club anywhere can sign up to host an event," she says. "And they can choose which hospital they'd like their fundraising efforts to go towards.

"K4K will get behind you and help you as much as possible."

Thiessen attends Manitoba Moose AHL training camp

By Ty Dilello

Altona's Matthew Thiessen participated in last week's AHL Manitoba Moose training camp as he was looking to earn a professional contract as a goaltender for the first time.

Although he played in the Altona minor program, Thiessen got his start in hockey in the small northern community of Lynn Lake, Manitoba, where he skated a few times as a child. He only played organized hockey once he moved to Altona in grade one. And soon after, he found himself in the net.

Thiessen credits growing up in southern Manitoba as important to his development as a top goaltending prospect.

"Growing up here in Altona and playing against teams like MacDonald, Carman, Morden, and Winkler, it was always really competitive, and there were plenty of battles with them over the years," said Matthew Thiessen. "It was also nice growing up and getting to play with your buddies, building relationships through hockey that you'll have for life."

Thiessen had his big breakthrough with the MJHL's Steinbach Pistons in 2017-18. His play was spectacular as he boasted a .923 save percentage and a 2.06 goals-against average. He posted a .944 save percentage on the way to his team winning the league championship and the ANAVET Cup.

Thiessen's season was so good in Steinbach that he was selected at the 2018 NHL Entry Draft by the Vancouver Canucks in the seventh round (192nd overall). After a year with Dubuque of the USHL, Thiessen moved on to college, where he spent three seasons at the University of Maine.

Thiessen, who majored in Marketing, then trans-

ferred to the University of Minnesota-Duluth (UMD) for the final two years of college. Last season, he posted a 3-11-2 record with a .904 save percentage.

"My last season at Duluth was a lot of fun, and even though we didn't have the results we wanted on the ice, personally, I felt like I continued to develop and get better as a goalie," said Thiessen. "The coaches, my teammates and professors were always so supportive and gave me experiences that I will cherish forever. Going through college for both the hockey and school experience was amazing and it truly brought me to create friends for life."

Going into this season, Thiessen was offered a tryout contract with the AHL's Manitoba Moose. He ended up having a great week at camp and was one of the last cuts at training camp, making it to the final day before he was released from his tryout.

"My first pro camp went well. It was so cool as a Manitoba kid to go and be on the ice with the Moose and around a great organization. Through my agent, I had an invitation to attend the camp on a tryout contract, and again, the experience and the people with the Moose were awesome. I definitely learned a few things and also met some great people along the way as well."

Now a free agent, Thiessen will explore his options in the coming weeks regarding where he will try to play his hockey this winter.

"As of right now, I'm not sure what the next chapter will bring, as there are a lot of really good goalies in the professional game right now. Early on in the summer, I had some good talks with teams in Europe, but ideally, I was going to stay in North America for the season. Unfortunately, a permanent opportunity still hasn't come up. Hopefully, in

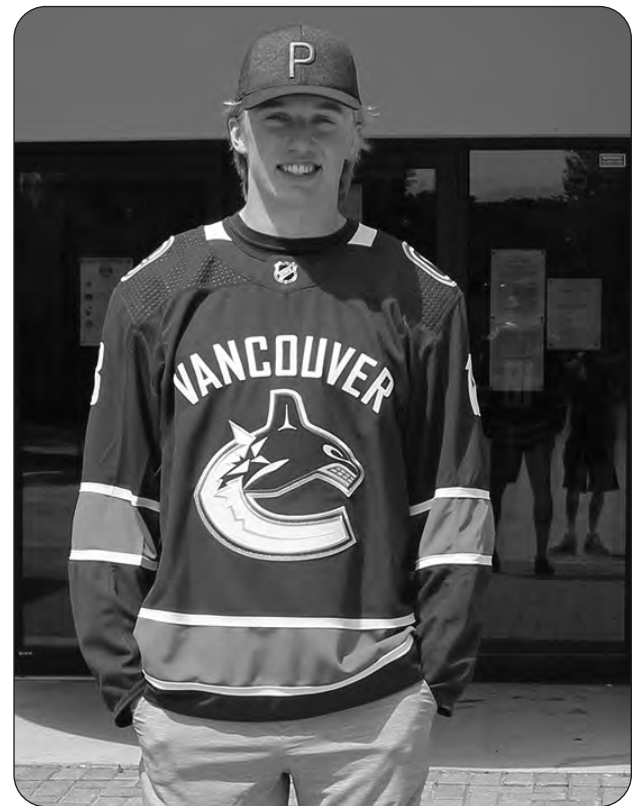


PHOTO BY TY DIEILLO/VOICE

A former draft pick of the NHL's Vancouver Canucks, Altona's Matthew Thiessen recently attended the training camp of the AHL's Manitoba Moose in Winnipeg last week

the coming week or two, I can get a contract offer, but if not, then it will be time to move in a different direction."

Twisters' slide continues with a pair of weekend losses

By Ty Dilello

The Pembina Valley Twisters, beginning the 2024-25 season, continue to go from bad to worse. The Morris-based MMJHL club dropped a pair of games last week to drop to 1-7-1, which is good for last place in the league standings.

On Oct. 17, the Twisters lost 8-4 on the road to the St. Vital Victorias. In spite of Alex VanDeynze's hat trick for Pembina Valley, Slade Sotheran's extra goal wasn't enough. Maysen Mazurat and Darion Penner shared the goaltending duties, making 32 saves.

The Twisters took to the ice on Sunday hoping for a better result, but instead lost 5-1 at home to the Charleswood Hawks. Ketema Wall had the lone goal for Pembina Valley, while Maysen Mazurat made 49 saves in the loss.

However, Twisters' head coach Braeden Beernaerts still isn't sounding the alarm.

"With a lot of fresh faces, it can take

time to gel, getting filmier with the systems, and up to pace with a really strong league," said Beernaerts. "We've been in this spot before; a bad start doesn't define our year."

The Twisters are back in action with a pair of road games this week. First

up, they play the Fort Garry/Fort Rouge Twins on Oct. 25 (7:30 p.m.). And then on Oct. 27 against the River East Royal Knights (4:45 p.m.).

"I don't think the scores reflect how the recent games have gone at all," said Beernaerts. "Coming off a tough

schedule, we've still been in the games, but just a few mistakes that we're working on ironing out, and finding consistency in sixty minutes is key for us to find success in our next games."

> FOLKLORE AND SUPERSTITION, FROM PG. 10

She adds, "There must have been things that brought them together. Each chapter in this book is about all the different things that they have in common. The community spirit and the folk life they created. They all travelled the same trails, and they had to overcome the language barriers. The books, the songs, the dances, and just all the ways they helped each other, whether it was building houses or quilting bees. They all worked together. They knew they had to rely on each other, or they wouldn't survive. That's what brought them together. Even in terms of idioms and phrases as people began to learn the language."

Life wasn't just about hard work, she says.

"They shared experiences. There were good-natured jokes that were also part of the community spirit. Like the stuff they did at Halloween, like putting buggies on top of buildings or haystacks to surprise the farmers. There's a story about one store owner who just left the buggy up there, because he didn't know how to get it down. Or they'd move outhouses or switch buggy wheels. It was all in fun."

The stories in *Folklife and Superstition* focus on pioneers from the three prairie provinces, including a few from communities right here in

southern Manitoba, including Carman, Roland, Winkler, and the Red River Valley.

"I love telling real stories about real people, in that specific period," Rollings-Magnusson says, "and I already have ideas for two or three more books in the future."

"Writing and researching for me, is like a big jigsaw puzzle. You have thousands of pieces of information, and you take all these pieces, and you build this picture that all comes together in the end."

Folklife and Superstition: The Luck, Lore and Worldviews of Prairie can be purchased on Amazon.

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Altona & Area Family Resource Centre's
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING **22 October**
 Taking place in our Altona Stay & Play Space
 6 PM Snacks Available

238 5th Ave NE Altona
 Registration appreciated. 204-324-2352_aafrc1998@gmail.com

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 Winnipeg
TF 1-877-775-8271
www.batteryman.ca

GRASS CUTTING & GROUND MAINTENANCE TENDER



APPEL D'OFFRES ENTRETIEN EXTÉRIEUR ET TONTE DE PELOUSE

La DDSFM désire retenir les services de contractuels pour l'entretien extérieur et la tonte de pelouse des écoles de la DSFM et du Bureau divisionnaire situé à Lorette. Ce service sera offert pour une période de 3 ans commençant l'année scolaire 2024-2025.

Tous les documents nécessaires à la préparation de l'offre pourront être obtenus en téléphonant au 204 878-4424, poste 3632 ou par courriel eric.collette@dsfm.mb.ca.

RÉCEPTION ET OUVERTURE DES OFFRES

Les soumissions seront reçues au Service du transport et de l'entretien de la DSFM jusqu'à 15 h, le vendredi **1er novembre 2024**.

CALL FOR TENDERS GRASS CUTTING AND GROUND MAINTENANCE

The DSFM wishes to retain the services of contractors for exterior maintenance and lawn mowing at DSFM schools and the Divisional Office located in Lorette.

This service will be offered for a period of 3 years starting in the 2024-2025 school year.

To obtain pertinent information, please contact the Maintenance & Transportation Department at 204 878-4424, 3632 or by email at eric.collette@dsfm.mb.ca.

RECEIPT AND OPENING OF OFFERS

Submissions will be received at the Transportation and Maintenance Department of the Division scolaire franco-manitobaine until 3 p.m, Friday, **November 1st, 2024**.

Classifieds

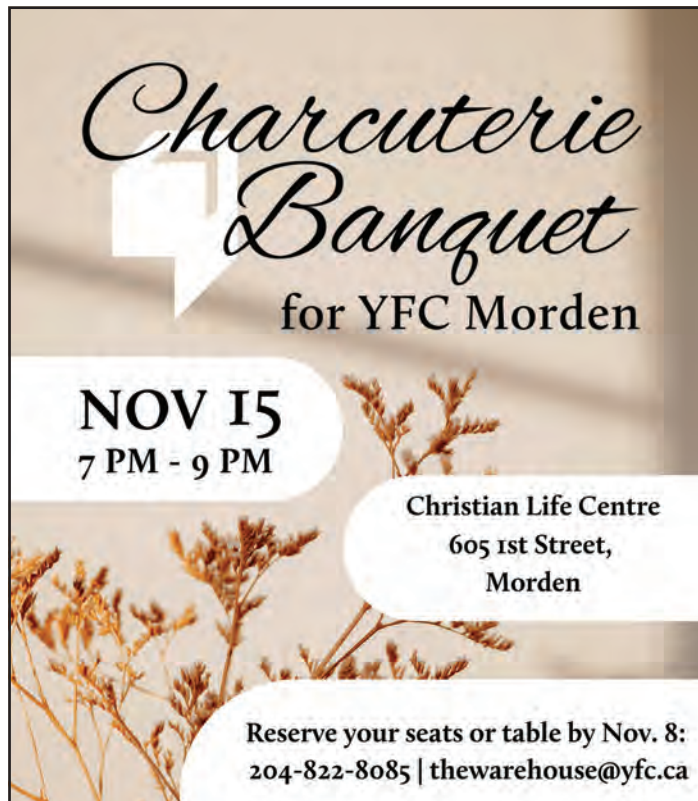
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The **Winkler Morden**
Voice

CARD OF THANKS

A big bouquet of thank you's "Thank you" Chris at Meilun Denture Clinic. When a very unique and unforeseeable health problem developed with the first set of dentures, he patiently put in all the extra work and time to make a new set and thankfully the problem was corrected.
-Joyce Ehnes

COMING EVENTS



Charcuterie Banquet
for YFC Morden

NOV 15
7 PM - 9 PM

Christian Life Centre
605 1st Street,
Morden

Reserve your seats or table by Nov. 8:
204-822-8085 | thewarehouse@yfc.ca

COMING EVENT

CARMAN GUN SHOW

Date:
Oct. 26, 2024

Time:
9AM to 3PM

Place:
Carman Hall

\$7 ADMISSION

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PUBLIC NOTICE



Public Notice
City of Winkler
Snow Parking Ban

A snow parking ban may be declared in the City of Winkler from October 1 – April 30 to effectively clear snow off the streets.

As stated in the City of Winkler Traffic & Parking By-Law 2283-22, through October 1 – April 30, Snow Route Parking Restrictions may be implemented during a snow event to expediently and efficiently complete snow clearing activities. During a parking ban, parking on the street will be prohibited until streets have been cleared to the curb and or the snow parking ban has been declared lifted.

Public notice will be given 24 hours before a parking ban is enforced via text message, website notice, local radio, as well as social media. Please note, only residents that are signed up to receive text messages through Connect Winkler will get the text notifications on their mobile device.

If you would like to sign up or are not sure if you currently receive text notifications, please email connect@cityofwinkler.ca or call 204-325-9524. You can also register for Connect Winkler online at <https://www.cityofwinkler.ca/p/connect-winkler>.

Vehicles that are not removed from the street after the notification period, could be towed at the owner's expense.

Full details on the Snow Parking Ban can be found on our website at <https://www.cityofwinkler.ca/p/snow-clearing>

Questions can be directed to Public Works & Facilities Manger, Cliff Wall at 204-325-9524 or by email at cliff.wall@cityofwinkler.ca

FARMLAND TENDER

FARM LAND FOR SALE BY TENDER

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

McCULLOCH MOONEY JOHNSTON SELBY LLP
351 Main Street, Box 279
Manitou, MB R0G 1G0

PROPERTY NE ¼ 28-3-7 WPM
being approx. 147.36 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 November 15, 2024.
- Tenders must be accompanied by a \$10,000.00 cheque payable to McCulloch Mooney Johnston Selby LLP 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, 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 Scott W. Johnston at:
Ph: 204-242-2801
Fax: 204-242-2723
email: scott@mmjslaw.com

FARMLAND TENDER

INVITATION TO RENT FARMLAND

We invite **TENDERS** for the rent of approximately 400 Acres of cultivated land in the R.M. of Pembina described as:

PARCEL 1: PART OF NE 1/4 13-2-8 W Roll No. 0055200 (approximately 150 acres)

PARCEL 2: PART OF SE 1/4 13-2-8 W Roll No. 0055400 (approximately 150 acres)

PARCEL 3: S 1/2 OF SW 1/4 18-2-7 W Roll No. 0023350 (approximately 50 acres)

PARCEL 4: N 1/2 OF SW 1/4 18-2-7 WPM Roll No. 0023300 (approximately 50 acres)

All land is located on adjoining fields. The initial tender is for a 2-year term, for the 2025 and 2026 growing season

Written tenders must be received by 2:00 p.m. on Oct 31st, 2024. Please include your name, price per acre to be paid, and phone number with your tender.

Winning tender will have access to land immediately upon signing an agricultural lease agreement with the owner of the land. Purchaser shall be responsible for payment of all GST or shall self-assess for GST.

The highest or any Tender may not necessarily be accepted.

ADDRESS: DOELL LAW OFFICE
P.O. Box 1150
1-655 Main Street
Winkler, MB R6W 4B2
Ph. (204) 325-8807

To the attention of Scott C. Doell
For more information on the tender
email: info@doelllaw.com

CELEBRATION OF LIFE



Brad Warkentin
 March 9, 1969 to October 15, 2024
 Son of Edward and Helen Warkentin
 A time of memory and fellowship will be held on
 Sunday October 27, 2024 at 2:00 p.m. at the
 Winkler Mennonite Church.
 You are invited.

*Your memory will live forever Engraved
 within our hearts*

OBITUARY



Connie Toews
 Connie Toews, age 63 years, of Altona, MB passed away on
 Tuesday, October 15, 2024 at the Altona Memorial Health Centre.
 She is survived by her siblings Albert (Evelyn), Ron (Pauline),
 Leona (John), Jenice (Brian), Grace (Don), Melvin (Peggy), and
 Alfred (Cyndie), as well as numerous nieces and nephews.
 She was predeceased by her parents Peter H. and Eva Toews, as
 well as her sister Verna and brother-in-law Abe.
 Funeral service was held on Saturday, October 19, 2024 at
 the South Park MB Church, Altona with interment at the Altona
 Cemetery.
 Donations in memory of Connie may be made to South Central
 Cancer Resource.

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

OBITUARY



Shane Peter Dubyk
 Shane Peter Dubyk, loving son, brother, father of two and friend
 to many, passed away unexpectedly on October 3, 2024, at the
 age of 45.
 Shane came from a long line of teachers and spent most of his
 adult life teaching and supporting others. Whether it was in a
 formal school setting, a coffee shop, his place of work or with his
 children, Shane was always imparting some deep, well-thought-
 out piece of knowledge that would stick with you forever. One
 of his favourite experiences was running into former students,
 hearing about their successes, and the role that he played in
 helping them reach their goals.
 Everyone who knew Shane felt his big heart, giving nature and
 sense of humour. Through his passion for helping others, Shane
 touched so many lives throughout his short time on this earth.

Shane was the type of person that would give you the shirt off his back (and many times he did); he was a gentle man with a tender heart and his levels of empathy were off the charts.

Shane's children were his pride and joy; seeing them achieve their goals and enjoy life meant the world to him. Academics, music, literature, and sports were passions of Shane's that his children share and will always remember him for. He is definitely responsible for his kids' eclectic playlists, bookshelf repertoire, and movie preferences.

Shane's faith was something that he grappled with his entire life as a theologian and philosopher; he was wired to question everything. In his final years, he found peace in his relationship with God and is now safe and at rest with Him.

Shane is survived by his children: Nya and Ben Dubyk, his brother Jonathan Dubyk, as well as his parents, Rosemary Dubyk and Peter Dubyk.

A Celebration of Life & Memorial Service will be held on Saturday, October 26, 2024 at 2 p.m. at Winkler Bergthaler Mennonite Church, 252 6 St, Winkler Manitoba.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to Central Station Community Center in Winkler.

Wiebe Funeral Chapel, Winkler
 In care of arrangements
 www.wiebefuneralhomes.com



**Classifieds
 Announcements**

The **Voice** *Winkler Morden*

OBITUARY



Arnold Krushel
 How to encapsulate 99+ years of full-orbed life?!
 "Arnold Henry" was welcomed into the Lewis and Olga Krushel
 home on May 20th, 1925, a little brother to Walter. Arnold's birth
 was registered the following day so his birthday has always been
 celebrated on or around Victoria Day long weekend – an extra day
 for enjoying cakes.

Educational experience included schooling, farm work, and
 manufacturing innovations at L. Krushel and Sons Quality Shop
 Equipment (LKS). Arnold's gregarious personality lent itself to
 public relations for the business, resulting in countless connections
 with employees, customers, dealers, and suppliers. He and Ann
 traveled extensively to represent LKS from coast to coast and as
 far away as Taipei, Taiwan.

Arnold met Ann through their families' participation in the Morden
 Church of God. They were married on a cold, dreary November 3, 1946, but Arnold happily stated
 that "life has been warm and sunny ever since."

Three sons were born to their union, Dale, Terry and Brian. Family was of utmost importance
 to Ann and Arnold, as was their Christian faith. Their shared faith found expression in church
 involvements, business ethics, and everyday enjoyments of the rhythms of nature. Summer
 vacations were highlighted by road trips to California, Mount Rushmore, the Seattle World's Fair,
 the pristine lakes of northern Manitoba, Saskatchewan, North-western Ontario, and the EAA Fly-
 In Airshow in Rockford, IL and Oshkosh, WI – to name just a few.

Arnold was fascinated with the North. He and Ann coaxed their VW Westfalia camper vans to
 the Yukon, NWT and Alaska for firsthand experience of the culture and countryside.

Arnold was a craftsman extraordinaire in fine furniture, metal and machine work, carpentry,
 lapidary pursuits and sign building. He built and sold go karts, and allowed Terry and Brian
 to help him build their own mini bikes. He infected his sons with the aviation bug, and shared
 ownership of two light aircrafts with his brother Walter.

Arnold invested heavily in his community through local and regional church boards, youth
 ministry, mission trips, credit union and flying club memberships, symphony and cultural. He
 chaired and MC'd the 1974 Manitoba Airshow to inaugurate the newly renovated Morden Airport.

Personal relationships were central to Arnold's life – with Jesus Christ, his family, and countless
 friends from all walks of life. Strangers became friends in a matter of minutes. We were incredibly
 fortunate to be included in his circle of love and friendship.

Arnold's burial will be held October 28th at 10:00 a.m. at the Hillside Cemetery and a Memorial
 Service will be at 11:00 a.m. at Wiebe Funeral Chapel in Morden.

Donations can be made to Tabor Home in Morden.

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



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Estate & Moving
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McSherryAuction.com
 204-467-1858
 or 204-886-7027
 mcsherrytld@gmail.com

CAREERS



MAINTENANCE MECHANIC/MILLWRIGHT

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

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

The following would be considered an asset for this position:

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

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

Starting Wages:

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

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

Bunge Canada is an equal opportunity employer.

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> CENTURY FARM, FROM PG. 14

"We were taken by horse and buggy, or horse and sleigh," Hildebrand recalls.

"There were three families in the area that got together to get the children to school—we had one family supplying the horses, one the wagon or the sleigh, and the other family the feed for the horses."

She left the property when she got married, but remembers those years fondly. Hildebrand, another avid historian in the family, penned a book *The Oak Tree* in the '90s about the Wiebe history in the area to ensure it wouldn't be forgotten by future generations.

"I felt that we needed to gather stories about what had happened during the years that we lived in Burwalde,"

Hildebrand says. "My mother was still alive and my two older sisters also were a good source of information. So before they would be all gone, I felt that I could maybe put something together, and so that's how it all started."

Hildebrand, who was among the family members in attendance Thanksgiving weekend to celebrate the Century Farm designation, is pleased van der Steen picked up the torch left behind by her late father.

"I was very happy that Dusty made that effort to continue the work that her dad had started," she says. "That was a wonderful gesture on her part. It's nice to have this recognition for the property."



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Morden-Winkler MLA Carrie Hiebert presents Dusty van der Steen with a certificate designating the Rocking W Ranch/Rick Wiebe Family Farm as a Century Farm.

Manitoba Ag Days Gives Back deadline approaching

By Lana Meier

"Community grant and scholarship applications are open now! Applications are being accepted November 1, 2024 and winners will be announced at the 2025 show in January.

Manitoba Ag Days has a strong tradition of investing in rural communities and agriculture education through the Ag Days Gives Back program. At the 2024 show \$51,000 in funds were awarded, in the form of seventeen community grants, four post-secondary scholarships and support for Ag in the Classroom - Manitoba. Since the program's inception in

2013 Manitoba Ag Days Gives Back has committed \$485,377.50 to building the agriculture community.

Not-for-profit organizations are eligible to apply for the \$2,000 community grants, which can cover various project components such as infrastructure, supplies, equipment, volunteers, or training. However, the total project budget cannot exceed \$50,000. To promote inclusivity and diversity, priority will be given to communities or projects that have not been previously funded within the past three years.

Post-secondary scholarships of \$2,000 each are open to students in

their final year of high school or to post secondary students. All agricultural related education and training is eligible, including degree diploma, certificate and trade programs. To apply, candidates must submit a completed form and include a written or video biography that highlights their community involvement and volunteer work, career goals, and how they envision contributing to the agriculture industry.

One-hundred percent of the funds raised through the Manitoba Ag Days 50/50 are used to support K-12 ag education, post secondary ag education and community organizations

throughout Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

"On behalf of the board and our committee, we want to thank the public for their support. The allows us to pool our resources and make a significant impact in communities across the province, and on the lives of students through ag education. There really is a ripple effect through this program," said Nicole Maguet, chair of the Ag Days Gives Back committee.

For more information please visit <https://www.agdays.com/community-giving-program/>

'Rural Reverie' on now at Winkler Arts and Culture

By Ashleigh Viveiros



The Manitoba Society of Artists' show Rural Reverie, featuring work from artists like Gail Sawatzky (above), is on display now in Winkler.

Winkler Arts and Culture is getting in touch with its rural side with this month's featured exhibition.

The Park St. gallery is hosting *Rural Reverie*, a collection of pieces from members of the Manitoba Society of Artists (MSA)

"The majority are paintings mixed between acrylic and oil, but then there's also a couple of pieces that are actually caribou tufting," says WAC executive director Jered Hildebrand. "They all have a rural feeling to them—there's a lot of landscapes, a few abstracts, some nature mixed in, whether it be animals, birds, flowers ... and then even just the tones—you get an earthy kind of feel from basically every piece."

The show includes pieces from artists Kristyna Ryan, Margaret Switala, Jo Smoley, Gail Sawatzky, Mavi Brake, Genevieve Henderson, Cheryl Gilarski Kathleen Buckoski, Tree Tree, and Altona's own Olga Krahn.

"The other artists are mainly from Winnipeg ...

one might be from Brandon," Hildebrand shares, noting WAC was keen to bring this MSA exhibition to town. "It's a great opportunity to bring artists from outside the community so people can see what other artists are doing in different communities."

It also gives local artists the chance to get to know MSA, which brings together professional artists from across the province.

Rural Reverie will be up at the gallery until Nov. 6. A number of the artists will be in Winkler for the show's reception this Friday, Oct. 25, at 6 p.m.

Looking ahead, Hildebrand says that they're planning on a two-artist show for November, featuring Winkler sisters Marge Fehr and Mary Klassen.

The first week of the month will also see the second round of Winkler Arts and Culture after school programming, including Lego building, sculpting, and crafting classes.

For a full class list and registration information, head to winklerarts.com.

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

get inspired

> MEAL IDEAS



Grape and Brussels Sprout Slaw

Servings: 6
 1 bag (12 ounces) shredded Brussels sprouts
 2/3 cup finely shredded red cabbage
 2 cups red Grapes from California, halved lengthwise
 1/2 cup finely diced red onion
 3 scallions, trimmed and thinly sliced
 2 tablespoons rice vinegar
 1 1/2 tablespoons honey
 1 teaspoon fresh lemon or lime juice

1 teaspoon low-sodium soy sauce
 2 tablespoons olive oil
 1 tablespoon toasted (dark) sesame oil
 freshly ground black pepper, to taste
 3 tablespoons toasted sesame seeds
 In large mixing bowl, combine shredded sprouts, cabbage, grapes, onion and scallions.
 In small bowl, whisk vinegar, honey, lemon or lime juice and soy sauce. Drizzle in olive and sesame oils while whisking. Toss well with slaw mixture. Chill 45 minutes to incorporate flavors. Season with pepper and sprinkle sesame seeds on top.



Jodhpuri Kabuli

Prep time: 30 minutes
 Cook time: 30 minutes on stovetop
 Servings: 8
 Rice:
 2 cups Royal Chef's Secret Basmati Rice, soaked 20 minutes
 6 cups water
 2 bay leaves
 1 cinnamon stick (1 inch)
 2 green cardamoms
 1 black cardamom
 3 cloves
 1 inch mace (javitri)
 1 star anise
 1 teaspoon salt
 Vegetable Filling:
 2 tablespoons ghee
 1 tablespoon oil
 1 bay leaf
 1 teaspoon shah jeera (cumin seeds)
 1 cup onions, finely chopped
 1 1/2 inches ginger
 6 cloves garlic
 2 green chilies with water
 8 almonds, soaked in water
 2 medium tomatoes, pureed
 2 teaspoons red chili powder
 1/2 teaspoon turmeric powder
 2 teaspoons coriander powder
 1 1/2 teaspoons kasoori methi
 1 1/2 cups yogurt, beaten
 1 1/2 teaspoons sugar
 1 1/2 teaspoons garam masala
 1 1/2 teaspoons salt

1/2 cup paneer, cubed
 1 cup mixed vegetables (carrots and green beans), chopped and boiled al dente
 1/2 cup cauliflower, boiled and air-fried or fried
 8 small potatoes, parboiled, cut in circles and fried
 1/4 cup milk, plus additional, if necessary
 Saffron Milk:
 1/4 cup milk, warm
 1 1/2 teaspoons ghee
 10 strands saffron
 Layering:
 3 tablespoons beetroot, boiled and grated
 4 slices bread, cubed, baked or fried
 10 mint leaves, torn
 2 tablespoons cilantro, finely chopped
 1 1/2 cups pomegranate seeds
 1/4 cup cherry tomatoes, halved
 Garnish:
 mixed nuts, finely chopped
 edible gold foil
 ghee
 To make rice: Boil soaked rice in water with bay leaves, cinnamon sticks, cardamoms, cloves, mace and star anise in spice bag. Add salt. Cook until rice is done. Drain water and remove spice bag.
 To make vegetable filling: In pan over medium heat, add ghee, oil, bay leaves and shah jeera. Once cumin starts crackling, add onions and cook until translucent.
 Grind ginger, garlic and green chilies to make paste. Grind soaked almonds to make separate paste. Lower flame and add ginger, green chili and garlic paste. After 1 minute, add almond paste, tomato puree, red chili powder, turmeric powder, coriander powder and kasoori methi; cook 5-7 minutes until oil separates. If spices are too dry, add 2 tablespoons water.
 Add yogurt and cook 5-7 minutes while

Fit Tips: Staying strong into your 40s (and beyond)

By Julie Germaine Coram

As a mother who got started a little later in life, keeping up with the little ones is really important to me. It's become more common now to delay starting a family for various reasons, such as building a career, creating financial stability, or taking time to select the best partner. Whatever the background story, older parents often mean these children have even older grandparents (maybe you are one!), further proving how crucial the baseline of a healthy body in your 40s is. I would bet that thinking ahead to when your child may give your grandbabies is motivating you to prioritize staying agile and active.



Julie Germaine Coram
 Registered personal trainer

Some ways to achieve this is by eating enough protein and focusing on building (and maintaining) lean muscle mass. (Happy bonus. This will also firm up your body and give you a toned physique.)

Many people don't realize that our bodies need more protein as we age to ensure bone health and reduce the risk of developing conditions such as osteoporosis. Adjusting your diet to top up your intake doesn't have to be difficult. I suggest putting in the effort to plan protein with each meal and snack by incorporating more beans, peas and lentils into your recipes, adding protein powder to smoothies, munching on almonds on the go, or simply replacing breakfast cereal with eggs or pre-made eggwhite bites (see my website for the tasty recipe). Combining protein sources is the best method to ensure you get adequate complete protein overall in your day. It's important to emphasize that you don't have to have a huge serving; smaller portions add up, and little lifestyle changes can make a big difference.

The same is true when it comes to your exercise regime. Some

daily movement is ideal; start slowly, a few times per week, and build from there. I have some free exercise plans to share if you need help with a beginner routine.

Parenthood in your 40s and 50s—and your retirement years—will be much more enjoyable if you have invested time into your health, enriching your energy, and boosting your stamina to help entertain those crazy animals, too!

Do you want to discuss your nutrition questions, fitness goals and struggles with me?

Visit my website www.juliegermaine.com or schedule a consultation by visiting: www.calendly.com/juliegermaine

Coach Julie Germaine Coram is dedicated to long-life health! She is an active mom, Registered Personal Trainer, a 2x Pro Fitness Champion, Certified Nutrition Expert & Fitness Specialist. She has helped many thousands of people worldwide improve their health since 2005.

stirring continuously until boiling. Cover and cook 7-8 minutes until oil separates.

Add sugar, garam masala, salt, paneer, mixed vegetables, fried cauliflower, fried potatoes and milk. Mix well and cook 4-5 minutes until melded together. Turn off heat.

To make saffron milk: Mix warm milk with ghee and saffron. Set aside.

To assemble: Divide rice into four parts. For each part, mix in boiled and grated beetroot gently for pink rice.

First layer: In glass bowl or serving dish, add layer of white rice. Sprinkle with 2-3 teaspoons saffron milk.

Second layer: Spread half the vegetables on top, pressing gently to settle. Place layer of fried bread then sprinkle with half

of mint, cilantro, pomegranate and tomatoes. Sprinkle with 2-3 teaspoons saffron milk.

Third layer: Add pink beetroot rice. Press all sides gently to lay flat.

Fourth layer: Repeat second layer without saffron milk.

Fifth layer: Top with remaining plain rice and beetroot rice. Sprinkle with remaining saffron milk and garnish with remaining mint, cilantro, tomatoes and pomegranate seeds.

Cover serving dish with aluminum foil and press tightly. Place on heavy-bottomed pan and cook on stovetop 15-20 minutes over medium-low heat.

Garnish with mixed nuts, gold foil and ghee, and enjoy.