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Taco night supports YFC

Piper Friesen was among the many Youth for Christ Altona supporters who came out to enjoy the mission's taco night fundraiser last week. For more photos, see Pg. 9.

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BTHC Foundation holds 25th annual gala

By Lorne Stelmach

The Boundary Trails Health Centre Foundation marked a major milestone with its annual fundraising gala last Friday at the Access Event Centre. Now in its 25th year and fittingly having been estimated to have now collectively raised about \$25 million to make a difference in our region's health care, the gala continues to make a major impact, with early estimates putting this year's tally at around \$110,000.

Executive director Shannon Samatte-Folkett and other speakers paid tribute to the trailblazers, volunteers, and the dedicated health care professionals who have helped bring not only the foundation but health care in the region to where it is at today.

"We are truly grateful for the generosity we've seen across our region. This shared commitment allows us to keep growing, innovating and serving the health care of our communities," she said, noting the impact of things like the gala "aren't just measured in dollars but in improved comfort and peace of mind during vulnerable health crises.

"It means so much to see support coming from every corner of our region, whether that is individuals, businesses, and community groups alike. Their support strengthens our healthcare for everyone who calls this area home."

Dr. Aly Dhala touched on what "happens when vision meets with community support."

He emphasized how they keep making prog-

ress that is resulting in "better care that's closer to home for families in Winkler and Morden and the surrounding communities.

"Thank you to the Boundary Trails Health Centre Foundation for its leadership, passion and generosity," he said. "[And for] the equipment, programs and projects you fund."

Eileen Vodden, a former hospital director and more recently a regional director of acute care, touched on the vision for a regional hospital and highlighted some of the people who made it a reality such as Dr. Chandy Jacob, Dr. Jim Menzies, and his son Dr. Bob Menzies.

She especially cited Dr. Jacob, who was at one time the lone general surgeon here.

"I don't think you would find people like that anymore. He was on call for both hospitals in Morden and Winkler, so he was really instrumental and trailblazing."

Vodden also cited the original surrounding communities on the board including Morden, Winkler, R.M. of Plum Coulee, R.M. of Thompson, R.M. of Stanley, R.M. of Rhineland, R.M. of Roland and R.M. of Pembina. Also highlighted were the first board members including Ivadell Sigurdson, John Kuhl, Mona Livingstone, Frank Schaak, Marilyn Skubovius, Kim Porte, Lynda Oakes, Frank Wiebe, and Wilma Garlick. Other people working behind the scenes included Pat Gibson and Linda Duncan, among others.

"It took all of the municipalities and all of the communities to make this work," emphasized Vodden, who also then recalled the drive to get



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

BTHC Foundation board chair Brent Menzies with executive director Shannon Samatte-Folkett at the agency's 25th annual fundraising gala last week.

an MRI into the hospital.

"The good thing about that is we've got trailblazers who are going to keep pushing, and the whole idea for these communities was to have services closer to home," she said. "From that day forward, it's just been as tremendous amalgamation ... with every ounce of it being to provide better services closer to home in southern Manitoba."

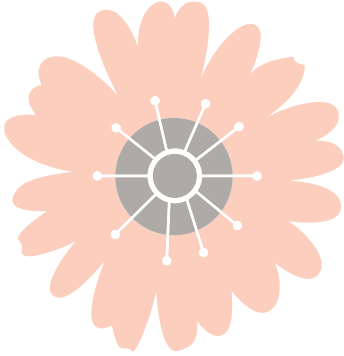
Boundary Trails Health Centre director of health services Joel Nelson recalled starting as an emergency room nurse, and the approximate 19,000 patients seen at that time. This year, that number is approaching 30,000 patients.

Continued on page 4



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GVSD exploring Big Picture Learning

Community survey available now

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Garden Valley School Division is exploring the feasibility of offering a new kind of high school experience, and they're looking to the community for some feedback.

The Winkler area school division launched a survey on its website (gvsd.ca) this week to gauge interest in what's known as Big Picture Learning (BPL).

The driving thrust behind BPL is the idea that students learn best when they are doing something they're passionate about.

"In a Big Picture Learning school, before a student even comes into Gr. 9, the student, the teacher, and their families all sit down together and talk about, 'What are your interests? What are your challenges? Who do you want to be when you grow up?'" explained Carrie Friesen, coordinator for BPL in GVSD and a former long-time principal at Garden Valley Collegiate.

Continued on page 6



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Carrie Friesen is exploring the potential for Garden Valley School Division to launch a Big Picture Learning school next year. The program creates personalized education plans for students based on their interests and gets them out into the community on related internships.

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Winkler students weigh their options for life after high school

By Lorne Stelmach

Winkler high school students got a glimpse of the possibilities awaiting them after they graduate at the annual divisional career symposium held last Wednesday at Garden Valley Collegiate.

The day-long event featured 45 exhibitors that ranged from post-secondary institutions to a variety of area businesses and industries.

The day also included seven presentations from post-secondary institutions, and it was estimated there were about 1,300 students who took it all in from both Garden Valley Collegiate and Northlands Parkway Collegiate.

"Hopefully it maybe sparks something," said guidance counsellor Ross Derksen.

"We're pretty lucky here that we can have all of these organizations and businesses mainly from Manitoba but Saskatchewan and North Dakota as well come to us," he said. "Our students have all of these people in the same day in the gym, and it really gives them a great opportunity to look at future options ... to get



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

GVC hosted the annual Career Symposium last week, giving students the chance to chat with a host of post-secondary institutions and potential employers.

a feel for the process of getting a job at a business or what steps to take for university or college or Bible school."

Reg Toews, a high school apprenticeship instructor with the Red River Technical Vocational Area, agreed it is a great opportunity for the students to explore all of the possibilities, and he especially highlighted having some of the spotlight on the vocational trades.

"It works in a complementary way with the technical training," he said. "It can be a really great career pathway for students ... it's especially good for students who have a pretty good idea of where they want to go.

"It's a great opportunity for students to engage with many different schools and businesses," Toews added. "We never had that when I was in high school."

Liane Dick, a human resource administrative assistant with Meridian

Manufacturing, saw the symposium as good exposure for them even in terms of showing there are opportunities for women as well as men in their industry.

"What many don't realize is that we have a lot of positions for females," she said. "It's a great opportunity for the students to see our products ... and they get an idea of what it is that we do. They get a good idea of what kinds of positions we are offering."

"It's a great opportunity to figure some things out," observed Grade 12 student Quinn Giesbrecht, who is thinking about getting into business and accounting. "It's really awesome that we can have the opportunity to go and walk around and see what all the businesses around Winkler are offering for employment and what universities in Manitoba are offering for school."

"It's hard to navigate on the internet sometimes, finding what you want ... actually talking to someone in person really helps."

"I think it's a fantastic idea," said Grade 12 student Gishika Vansal. "Instead of going place to place, having them all here. It's a great opportunity to meet everyone and learn about what you might want to do.

"I am not entirely sure what I'm going to do yet, so that's why I'm walking around here asking questions," she said.

"I think it's great," agreed Grade 11 student Ashley Braun. "You don't even realize how many options there are out there for you. At an event like this, you can really see how much there is and that there's so much that you can do.

"Right now, I'm kind of interested in doing education," she noted. "I really like the idea of teaching. I've had some really fantastic teachers in my life and I would like to make that same impact."

"It's a huge opportunity for the students to have everyone here for a day, and it allows them to go around and make connections," noted Derksen.

He saw it as being especially important to show the broad range of opportunities that are available.

"The Winkler post-secondary rates are maybe not as high as some other communities. We have a lot of people who are going into trades or straight into the workforce, which is great," he said. "We want to have things for all of them to check out."

"So we have just as many businesses and employers here as we do post secondary institutions," Derksen said. "It is not a job fair. It's about them just having conversations about what can come after grad."

Turn the clocks back this weekend

By Lana Meier

Manitobans will get an extra hour of sleep this weekend as daylight saving time comes to an end.

Clocks will move back one hour at 2 a.m. on Sunday, Nov. 2, marking the return to local standard time.

The seasonal time change was first introduced in Germany during the First World War as an energy-saving measure. The idea was later adopted in many countries to make better use of daylight during the longer days of spring and summer.

By shifting the clocks forward in March, people gain more evening sunlight and potentially reduce electricity use. When daylight hours grow shorter in the fall, clocks are set back to align daily routines with the available daylight.

Most Canadians continue to observe the twice-yearly time change, although some jurisdictions, including Yukon and most of Saskatchewan, remain on standard time year-round.

Daylight saving time will return on Sunday, March 8, 2026, when clocks spring forward one hour.

> BTHC GALA, FROM PG. 2

"It's truly incredible to think about the growth that has happened over the last 10 years," Nelson said.

"We've seen incredible progress across all of our programs," he said, noting the hospital at one time did 30 hip and knee replacements, but that number has now reached 750 in the past year. As well, he cited the women's health team and how the hospital had surpassed over 1,000 births this year. "It's a milestone that reflects more than just a number. It reflects trust, compassion and teamwork."

"Boundary Trails has truly become a regional centre that serves not just Morden and Winkler but the entire southern health region. People come

here because they know they will receive care that is advanced, compassionate, and close to home."

Nelson emphasized how the expansion now will further transform health care in the region.

"These aren't just construction projects. They're a reflection of who we are as a community ... a testament to the belief that health care should be close, compassionate and connected."

Brent Menzies, who is stepping in as new foundation board chair, also highlighted the efforts of the front-runners who helped set the stage for today's successes.

"Their early efforts planted the seeds for the legacy of caring," he said.

Menzies shone the spotlight on

three leaders who have contributed so much to the foundation: Dr. Don Klassen, who has been the medical representative on the board for over 21 years, Ben Friesen, who served as chairperson for seven of his 12 years on the board, and June Letkeman, who returned to serve on the board after having previously contributed for many years.

"So here's to 25 years of making a difference and to the future that we will build together," said Menzies.

Foundation executive director Shannon Samatte-Folkett called it all "a real testament to what we can accomplish when we work together."

"Foundations cannot be just about the dollar ... I truly believe it's about you and the people and the vision."

Tabor Home honours longtime volunteer

By Lorne Stelmach

Tabor Home honoured a longtime volunteer last Friday.

Staff and residents said thank you to Ron Peters, who has been a dedicated volunteer at the Morden personal care home for at least 15 years.

"Not everybody has family here, so it's so important to have people who are able to show compassion, give them a hug, hold their hand and talk to them," said Joy Kaluzny, a health care aide and volunteer co-ordinator at Tabor.

She estimated that Peters has easily put in well over a thousand hours of time through the years.

"I literally have no one that is even close to that many hours right now," she said.

"Volunteers are appreciated and quite important to the life of Tabor Home because the hours they spend in support of the many tasks ... they are quite valuable," noted Tabor Home CEO Alex Renner.

He cited a quote about how volun-

teers don't get paid, not because they are worthless but because they are priceless.

"Thank you very much for all the hours you have spent and put into the lives of the residents and Tabor Home itself," he said in addressing Peters. "We sure hope you will continue that in the years to come because we appreciate you so much."

Peters recalled having gotten involved at the invite of then-volunteer coordinator Kathy Menzies, but it had been something on his heart even going back to when Tabor Home was still on Ninth Street South.

"I gratefully accepted because I also felt like it was a calling," he said. "Years ago, when I drove by the old Tabor, I felt a drawing to there."

"I enjoy being with the residents, interacting with them and having conversations or playing games. I also help with events like church and bingo," he said. "I also enjoy the staff here at Tabor. I appreciate what they do, and I see how caring and sensitive they are to our residents' needs."



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

From left: Tabor Home CEO Alex Renner with volunteer Ron Peters and volunteer co-ordinator Joy Kaluzny at a celebration honouring Peters' longtime commitment to the personal care home

Peters noted the importance of interacting and engaging with the residents.

"There's a number of residents who don't really get any visitors, which is too bad ... they appreciate it, and I get something out of it too," he said. "And I've held a person's hand while he died, and it was very peaceful ... I've done that a few times. At least they are not alone when they are pass-

ing away."

"Ron has been with us ... at the old Tabor and now the new Tabor ... and we are so lucky to have him. We make a phone call, and he is here like that," said Kaluzny. "And he always comes with a smile and a full heart."

"As staff, we don't always have time to sit and hold hands or just to be there ... so the volunteers offer that, and it's invaluable."

Project seeks to make workplaces more inclusive spaces

Looking for small and medium-sized businesses to come on board

By Ashleigh Viveiros

A project underway in the Pembina Valley aims to make workplaces across Manitoba more inclusive spaces.

Empowering SMEs to Identify and Prevent Hate in the Workplace is being funded by Canadian Heritage through Regional Connection Inc.'s Manitoba Immigrant Employment Council (MBIEC) program.

"We're developing tools and procedures to improve fair hiring and ensure culturally safe responses to hate incidents," said project consultant Dana Bergman, explaining the project is aimed specifically at helping small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) create more culturally safe workplaces.

Bergman is a familiar face in local immigration circles; she previously helped the Pembina Valley Local Immigration Partnership develop inclusivity resources for communities across the region.

Now she's working on this project alongside a colleague in Ottawa. So far, they've worked through the first two phases: the research phase to gain some insight into exactly what Manitoba businesses need and want when it comes to workplace supports, followed by the development of the relevant toolkits, procedures, and other resources.

"Our phase one was really around collecting information, knowledge gathering. What do people think and feel about their workplace integration experiences? From both sides—from the newcomer side as well as from the employer side," Bergman shared. They received more than double the hoped-for responses, and held several focus groups to further flesh out the needs.

"The great thing was that we had significant feedback from employers.

We had agriculture and manufacturing and social services and educational services," Bergman said. "There was a really broad response across all sectors."

They then took all that information and used it to create practical toolkits and procedures companies can adapt to suit their specific needs.

"We're talking about checklists, self-reflection checklists, and policy templates and memo templates and training outlines," Bergman said. "We've created a very robust toolkit that addresses a large amount of the things that employers and newcomers felt that they were struggling with as they worked through the integration process here in Manitoba and in Canada."

"Racism might not be intentional," noted Bisi Adebayo, the outreach & partnerships manager at MBIEC. "There are lots of policies, procedures, processes in place at the workplace, but most times we try to look away from racism and discrimination. We're trying to point employers in this direction to have that support

in place and the tools and resources in place for them to be able to address it when anything comes up."

The project is now looking for employers to partner with to roll out all these resources out and receive feedback.

"We've been reaching out to employers," Bergen said, explaining their target was to work with at least five SMEs (businesses with an employee base of under 500 workers).

They've heard from several more than that already, including a few larger employers, and are keen to see what other interest is out there and how the project resources could potentially be used by a wider number of businesses than originally expected.

Participating companies will receive an environmental scan by Bergman (a structured review of their current inclusion practices to identify strengths and opportunities for development), access to the toolkit resources, and one-on-one consultant support for things like toolkit customization, staff

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> BIG PICTURE LEARNING, FROM PG. 3

From there a personalized learning plan can be created, one that allows for the student to spend up to two days a week learning on internships, perhaps at a local business, medical centre, or farm—places that match what the student is interested in.

"So they're actually in mentorships in the community every single week," Friesen said. "They're going to go out and learn different things, see how things work."

A student might think they know what they want to do when they grow up, and then learn through their internships that it isn't for them. That's not a problem, Friesen said, as they have the opportunity for multiple mentorships through their four years in a BPL school.

"They can try everything out," she said, noting it gives them a head start on figuring out what they might want to do with their lives, while also building valuable transferable skills.

Students are still required to attend school regularly and earn credits for approved courses under the Manitoba curriculum so they can graduate with a provincial diploma. But they reach those curriculum-based goals in a much more flexible, community-integrated environment than traditional classroom-centred teaching.

"Even when they're with their teacher, their advisor, they're not necessarily in the classroom," Friesen explained. "If you're working on a project that is about, say, trying to understand a concept in science, they can stay in the classroom and do an experiment or they could go find the person who actually does it as a job and learn from them."

Teachers in this context become more like air traffic controllers than professors standing at the front of the class lecturing.

Most BPL schools place students in small groups—around 15 students or so—called an advisory that is led by a teacher who will be with them from Gr. 9 all the way through Gr. 12.

There's less focus on a defined daily schedule ruled by bells and timetables, and more on exploring interests and learning from real-world mentors, building not just skills but also connections that will serve them well in life after high school.

"When you take off all of those constraints and those pressures and you just get to sit with this kid and really help them understand and apply it somewhere, the learning is so much deeper," Friesen shared what a teacher at one of the Winnipeg BPL schools told her.

Alternative forms of education are nothing new in GVSD—self-directed learning, the Fresh Start program, GVC TEC, all are designed to engage students in a different way from traditional schooling.

"That's one of the things I think we're really proud of in our division is that there's so many right ways to educate, but there's isn't one way to educate everybody," Friesen said. "You need to have lots of models."

It's about maximizing a students' chance of success, she added, noting approximately 15 per cent of students who start Gr. 9 in the division don't graduate, and a further 10-15 per cent never arrive in high school in the first place. The hope is a school that is smaller and able to offer a more personalized education plan will reach more of those kids.

If the GVSD board opt to move ahead with BPL, it would become the third school division in Manitoba to do so. There are currently five BPL schools in Winnipeg.

"The Seven Oaks MET School is right across from Garden City Collegiate, and they've been going for 16 years," Friesen noted. "But Big Picture Learning schools just celebrated their 30th anniversary around the world. They're everywhere."

Friesen has spent time at the Winnipeg BPL schools to see how they're run. They're generally individual schools, with their own principals and teachers, but have sister schools where students are able to take part in extracurricular activities and elective courses.

Though it's still too early to say for sure until the board meets to assess Friesen's data and make some decisions, that's possibly how it would work in GVSD—the BPL school would be its own distinct school but students would be still be able to play sports or take certain courses at GVC or Northlands Parkway Collegiate.

Right now the question is whether

this model of learning is right for the division, or whether the community can even sustain it.

"We need to have adults pouring in and mentoring to help us meet the curriculum outcomes, to take kids on as interns," Friesen said. "It's a big commitment, a big investment. But the return is you don't just attend grad and watch the kids—you feel integrated and invested. You help to create our future, what our future citizens, our future business owners, future employees are going to be in our community."

The Big Picture Learning survey is open to all community members—business leaders, parents, students, educators, and the general public. The survey, which can be filled out anonymously, will remain up for the next few weeks.

"Right now, we're just exploring this, nothing's been decided," Friesen stressed, urging people to weigh in on the idea. "We, as a division, don't want to move ahead on something that doesn't feel right for the community."

Friesen will be presenting her findings on BPL to the board of trustees later this year. If the division decides to move ahead with this, student applications for enrolment would be open in early March and the program would start up next fall.

You can learn more about Big Picture Learning at gvsd.ca, or connect with Friesen at bpl@gvsg.ca or 204-325-8335.

> BERGMAN, FROM PG. 5

training, and implementation support. There is no cost to businesses to take part.

"I'm really excited to work with these employers," Bergman said. "All of the support that I'm going to be giving them through the implementation phase is really customized to their needs."

She encourages business owners or human resource leaders to reach out to her to learn more about how their company can get involved. Bergman can be contacted by email to danabergman28@gmail.com or 204-324-4218.

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Flatlands kicks off its 20th season with 'Shirley Hamm' mystery

By Ashleigh Viveiros

A mystery is afoot! And Winkler's own Shirley Hamm is on the case.

The Flatlands Theatre Company (FTC) launches its 20th season next month with a show penned by local playwright Angela Klassen.

Shirley Hamm and the Case of the Disappearing Doilies takes the stage at the P.W. Enns Centennial Concert Hall Nov. 6-9.

"It's a Sherlock Holmes spoof, except the characters are all Mennonite women," says Klassen. "So we all have been practising our Mennonite accents."

The characters throw in the odd Plaudeitch (Low German) phrase here or there, Klassen says, and the show is packed-full of references to local sites, so Winkler area audiences are sure to get a kick out of following the enterprising detective as she works to get to the bottom of exactly who stole the MCC Thrift Shop's entire stock of doilies.

The one-act play began as a writing exercise for Klassen a few years ago.

"I just wrote this for fun—I didn't think it was something that would ever be performed," she shares. "We had just done a Sherlock Holmes show [2019's *Sherlock Holmes And The Case Of The Christmas Carol*] and I thought it would be fun to do a Mennonite ladies group of Sherlocks, and I did have a lot of fun with it."

Klassen has been involved with Flatlands since its second season, acting in numerous plays (she plays Nurse Wilma, the Watson character, in this one) and cutting her teeth as a playwright with the 2023 show *Anne of the Island*, based off the L.M. Montgomery book.

Starting off this milestone season with a home-grown piece seemed the perfect fit, says FTC artistic director Jeanette Hoepfner.

"Angela presented it to us, to our writer's



FLATLANDS THEATRE COMPANY PHOTO

An enterprising group of Mennonite women, led by Shirley Hamm, is on the case in Flatlands Theatre Company's fall production: *Shirley Hamm and the Case of the Disappearing Doilies*. On Nov. 6-9 at the Winkler concert hall.

group, and we did a reading of it and we were all having so much fun and laughing so hard," she recalls.

As plans for the 2025-2026 season started to come together, they knew they wanted *Shirley Hamm* to be a part of it.

"Angela told me, 'Well, I never wrote this to actually be performed' ... but it includes so much Mennonite and local cultural flair to it, it just felt like a wonderful thing to do and move into our main production lineup for the year," says Hoepfner.

Tickets and show times for *Shirley Hamm and the Case of the Disappearing Doilies* are available at winklerconcerthall.ca.

20 YEARS OF COMMUNITY

The Flatlands community has certainly grown over the past two decades.

"We have students that were with us years ago when they were in Gr. 2, and now they're in Gr. 10 and they're still connecting with us," Hoepfner says. "Or we have people that were involved in season two that had never done theatre before, really—a.k.a., Angela—who auditioned, was cast, and now she's writing shows for us."

Relationships have been built that extend far behind the concert hall.

"So many connections have formed," Hoepfner says. "There's a group of gentlemen who, about eight years ago, they would have been working

together on a show, and they still regularly get together in the summer to golf."

"Even as people have moved and gone on to other things, they have those connections that started here—and not just with our theatre company, but we share actors with Candlewick [Players, in Morden] as well. It's people moving back and forth and connecting on a creative level."

"I love the community aspect of it," agrees Klassen. "It's a bunch of creative people that get together and just play."

FTC hopes to have some memorabilia from the past 20 years up at this season's performances, including old posters and a breakdown of all the people who have been part of the troupe's shows—be it as an actor, behind-the-scenes, or an audience member.

And if you're someone who hasn't quite taken the plunge but has an interest in community theatre, the group invites you to join them.

"There's always an opportunity to just dip your toe in if you're afraid the

water might be too cold or too warm," Hoepfner stresses. "It's not a lifetime commitment."

In addition to its popular kid's programming, Flatlands is running acting classes for adults in the new year. Head to flatlandstheatre.com for details as they become available.

"We usually do a workshop every other year, but this year we decided we would spread it out over several classes and see what interest there is," Hoepfner says, noting interested people can sign up for some or all of the classes, as their schedule allows. "It's an opportunity to see what this is all about."

Don't let fear keep you from checking it out, Hoepfner urges potential thespians.

"I would say to anyone who's sitting in the audience and watching and going, 'Well, I could never do that, but it sure looks like fun.' You're probably watching at least one person in that cast that has sat in the audience and said the same thing at some point. So why not give it a try?"

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St. Jean earns five blooms in provincial beautification competition

By Lorne Stelmach

The town of St. Jean Baptiste received a top honour recently in a provincial beautification program.

St Jean Baptiste earned a five bloom award in the category of communities with a population between 501 and 1,000, and it marked a great first year in earning top marks in the 2025 provincial Communities in Bloom

"The comment was nobody gets five blooms in their first year," said Mona Lavallee, who was involved in the community being part of the program. "Absolutely it is nice recognition for the community, especially getting the five blooms, which is the highest you can get."

The 27th annual Manitoba Communities in Bloom conference and awards ceremony was held at the Gimli Lakeview Resort Oct. 4, and it honoured six Manitoba communities participating at the provincial level. Since 1999, over 70 Manitoba communities have experienced the benefits of Communities in Bloom.

The Manitoba Communities in Bloom program provides communities with a comprehensive evaluation beneficial to the development of their community. The program encourages all sectors of the community to work together to develop best practices to achieve clean, green sustainable communities that celebrate their heritage and unique potential.

Judges tour participating communities providing an evaluation which focuses on beautification of landscapes and floral displays, environmental action, natural and cultural heritage conservation efforts and urban forestry practices.

"We really weren't sure what to expect or what it would all entail," said Lavallee, whose husband Gilbert serves on the St. Jean Baptiste local urban district committee. "We learned it wasn't just about having flowers on the boulevard. There's a number of different categories that are involved in it."

They organized a lunch on the day of the judging and toured the judges around the community, and Lavallee gave credit where it was due, noting how they rely so much on community volunteers.

"We had one couple who were especially visionary 20 or 30 years ago and really wanted to do stuff to beautify the main street ... so residents with a vision," she said.

There were a wide range of initiatives such as even fixing up the main community hall.

"And the nice part with the judges coming in too is that they make recommendations on things that you can improve on," she noted. "One of them was you need more signage on the highway to draw people in to your community."

St. Jean Baptiste was especially cited for its Four Corner Heritage Park, which is located near the location of a bridge that formerly crossed the Red River.

"We lost our bridge crossing the Red River in 2013 ... and the province condemned the bridge," noted Lavallee, noting the bridge was then demolished.

"This was a bit of an eyesore, so we developed a project," she said. "We put a canopy over it, and we added picnic tables. We added interpretative panels, so now it's kind of a nice over-



SUPPLIED PHOTOS

The beauty of St. Jean Baptiste was recognized this fall with five blooms from the Manitoba Communities in Bloom competition—the highest possible.

look at the Red River."

In addition, there is a park area where another community member took the initiative to have 50 trees planted, and they hope to do more again next year.

"So it's all the little things," said Lavallee. "You don't realize the potential that a place has to draw people to your community, but it's the little things."

Here are some comments from the judges:

"St. Jean Baptiste is a charming village where the Plum and Red Rivers meet, rich in French heritage reflected in its Roman Catholic church, heritage park and French school. The former bridge site now serves as a scenic picnic and event space, telling the story of the river crossing."

"Community pride is evident in projects like the heritage park, pol-



linator garden and Centennial Hall. Recreational options suit all ages, from a splash park and playground to disc golf, ATV trails and winter tobogganing. Club Chez Nous keeps over 110 older adults engaged with activities, coffee meetups and monthly meals.

"Often passed by on Highway 75, St. Jean Baptiste offers much to visitors and residents alike, including a wooded campground and recreational facilities."

Sun Valley Co-op hosts annual general meeting

Pickup *Your* Community
Weekly News at



IN MORRIS MB

By Ashleigh Viveiros

At its annual meeting last week, Sun Valley Co-op shared with its members some of the highlights and challenges it faced in 2024

The co-operative's locations in Altona, Dominion City, Morris, Emerson, and St. Jean Baptiste reported an overall downturn in sales—\$60.8 million, compared to \$65.2M the year before—but general manager Brad Iverson explained that petroleum depletion was the biggest contributor on that front.

"During 2024, the government removed the taxes and, based on the volume that we do, it makes a significant impact in sales at the end of the day," he said.

"Overall net savings finished at \$2.1 million compared to \$3.6 million the year prior," Iver-

son went on to note. "Lower FCL [Federated Co-operatives Limited, of which Sun Valley Co-op is a member] allocations played the biggest role in reduced earnings for 2024."

Nonetheless, the Co-op was able to distribute a total of \$1.97M of the year's savings to its members by way of patronage allocations. Sun Valley has 8,649 members, 7,144 of whom are considered active.

"Sun Valley Co-op is locally-invested, community-minded, and continues to focus on lifetime membership benefits," Iverson said. "In the tradition of giving back, over the past five years \$10.7 million has been allocated to our members, with over \$8.8 million being paid back in cash."

Continued on page 9



**PHOTOS BY
EDWARD VINCENT
ARCENAL/VOICE**
Youth for Christ Altona's annual taco buffet fundraiser took over the Altona Pioneer Centre Oct. 22. Admission was by donation, and the event raised more than \$12,000 for the mission's work with local youth. Above: The Friesen family—Atlas, Maverick, Nicole, Piper, Mike, and Redden—chows down.

Taco night raises \$12,000 for YFC



> SUN VALLEY CO-OP, FROM PG. 8

"Further donations totaling \$120,000 were given in 2024 to various clubs and organizations for the betterment of our communities," he shared. "This of course would not be possible without the continued support of you, our members."

"It's nothing new to the Co-op system," Iverson observed of the company's commitment to supporting local projects. "It's who we are. Almost every group, school, organization, we touch in some way, shape, or form. Throughout the year we had our event trailer that was traveling around all the different communities putting on barbecues. And obviously there's the donations to all the groups and organizations. We're glad to be a part of it and we look forward to doing more of it."

The year was one of technological advancements at its various locations, Iverson said.

They rolled out new accounting systems, new cash registers at the home centre, and EMV payment upgrades at the cardlocks.

"Like any technology upgrade, it takes time to learn and work through the programming of each system," Iverson said. "I want to thank the staff for their hard work and fortitude during this time of change, and customers for their patience."

The EMV upgrades make it easier for people to use debit or credit when paying at the cardlock. There is a bit of a learning curve the first time you use it, but after that it should be smooth sailing, Iverson said, urging customers to contact the Co-op if they have any problems with the system.

"Ultimately, by being able to take debit or credit, it's going to allow everybody to have access to those sites 24 hours a day," he said, noting members will no longer need a special card lock card to purchase fuel from these sites.

In other highlights, Iverson shared that the Co-op's gas bars continue to grow their fresh food options.

"The Altona Gas Bar has now added smoothies," he said. "This program will be added to the Morris Gas Bar as well in 2026."

Looking to the future, work is underway on renovations on the building next to the Co-op Home Centre in Altona.

"This location will be the future home of a new flooring store called Elements by Co-op," Iverson said. "Once complete, we will have a dedicated space with improved selections of flooring, blinds, and bathroom fixtures to improve your shopping experience."

"We hope to be open in March of

2026. This transition will also provide more space in our current home centre to expand our product offerings."

On the board side of things, James Nickel, Eric Vetter, and Lionel Ewbank's three-year terms came to an end this fall.

Nickel let his name stand for another term. The board also received one new nomination: Carly Friesen.

Both Nickel and Friesen were ac-

claimed as directors, joining Kevin Bell, James Klaassen, Donna Wolters, and Bryce Groening.

Bell, who serves as board president, noted they have high hopes for the year ahead.

"This year seems to be in a better situation, and hopefully we can come back with really big earnings for next year," he said.



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Sun Valley Co-op board president Kevin Bell (left) and manager Brad Iverson shared some of the success the business had in 2024 at its AGM last week.



Spooky weekend



PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

There was some ghoulishly good fun to be had this past Saturday at the Pembina Hills Gallery in downtown Morden. In addition to being greeted by some scary characters in the haunted clocktower basement (top left), there was also Halloween face painting (above) and the Little Monsters workshop (left) where kids could create their own masks. The evening concluded with a group of scary characters gathering outside for a Zombie Walk.

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PVHS Raise the Woof 2025 coming up Nov. 15

By Lorne Stelmach

The annual Raise The Woof comedy night has become an integral means of fundraising support for the Pembina Valley Humane Society.

"It's grown tremendously," said fundraising chairperson Caitlin Parr of the event, which they've hosted for over a decade. "When we first started, we were in half of the basement of the Quality Inn, and last year we sold out the Access Event Centre with over 350 people."

"It has a lot of repeat attendees. I've never invited somebody who hasn't wanted to come back the next year," she said, suggesting it is an ideal event that offers a fun night out while also giving back. "It's always lovely to have your entertainment attached to a good cause."

Parr noted the comedy night is an essential part of their sustainability.

"Usually it raises around \$11,000," she estimated. "For the humane society, fundraising probably makes up a majority of our budget ... and be-

tween our golf tournament, the 50/50 and our comedy night, that's where most of our operating revenue comes from each year."

Parr noted the humane society is facing an additional challenge right now with a ringworm outbreak among some of its cat population in the shelter.

"We are currently dealing with some medical issues at the shelter ... and so we need a lot of additional supplies and a lot of additional support to help."

Raise The Woof 2025 will feature three comedians—Michel Green, Tyler Kotowski and Lori Ferguson—and live music from One Night Only.

It is set for Saturday, Nov. 15 at the Access Event Centre. Doors open at 6 p.m. with music and a buffet dinner until 8 p.m. followed by the comedians taking the stage.

Early bird tickets were still available at \$640 for a table of eight or \$100 per person. You can grab your tickets at pvhsociety.ca/events.

sports & recreation

Royals start season with a bang

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler Royals started their season in the South Eastern Manitoba Hockey League on a high note, downing the visiting Springfield Winterhawks 5-4 in overtime Sunday.

Justin Augert and Phil Letkeman lit up the scoreboard for the Royals midway through the opening frame to take a 2-0 lead.

Springfield halved that lead with less than a minute to go on the clock in the first and then pulled ahead with three goals to Winkler's one (courtesy of Braden Hildebrand) in the second.

Mike Heppner got the tying goal in the final period's 17th minute to force overtime, where he scored the game-winner 1:04 in.

Matthew Thiessen stood tall in net for Winkler, making 47 saves as the Winterhawks outshot the Royals 51-33.

The other local SEMHL teams didn't fare as well in their opening weekends.

Morden fell to Springfield 5-1 Friday night. Michael Hlady got the Bombers' lone goal—and the last goal of the game overall—midway through the third period. Reed Peters got the loss in net, making 34 saves. His teammates sent 30 the other way.

Meanwhile, the Red River Wild fell 6-3 to Carman on Saturday. Troy Lehmann, Colin Baudry, and Teagan Fillion scored each period for the Wild, but were drowned out by the Beavers' answering goals. Carman won the shots battle 50-29. Jayden Catellier made 44 saves in net for the Wild.

This weekend sees Morden host Carman Friday, Red River host Springfield Saturday, and Winkler host Morden Sunday night.



PHOTO BY RICK HIEBERT/VOICE

Winkler Royals players celebrate the game-winning overtime goal by rookie Mike Heppner (second from right) in Sunday's game against the Winterhawks. Heppner not only scored this goal in OT but also the tying goal with only two and a half minutes left in regulation.



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Viewing: November 17th -21st 9PM to 5PM
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The Voice

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Winkler Flyers down Titans, Stampeders

By Ashleigh Viveiros

In MJHL action this past week, the Winkler Flyers bolstered their record with a trio of wins.

On Oct. 21, they doubled up on the Neepawa Titans 6-3 at home.

A lone Titan goal made it past Winkler netminder Liam Russell in the first, while his teammates—Noah Stott, Owen Wallace, and Tanner George—fired home three to take a 3-1 lead.

Tanner George and Niklas Gudmundson made it 5-1 in the second.

A pair of goals in quick succession from Neepawa's Talen Wallis was the team's last gasp, while a final goal from Jacob Michelson sealed Winkler's victory with 1:27 left on the clock.

Russell made 19 saves in all that night as Winkler outshot Neepawa 38-22.

The Flyers followed that up with a 2-1 win against the Swan Valley Stampeders Friday night on the road.

Kam Thomas and George bookended the game, scoring in the first and third periods, while Leif Ekblad made 30 saves in net en route to victory.

The two teams faced off for a second time Saturday night, still in Swan Valley, and this time the winning margin

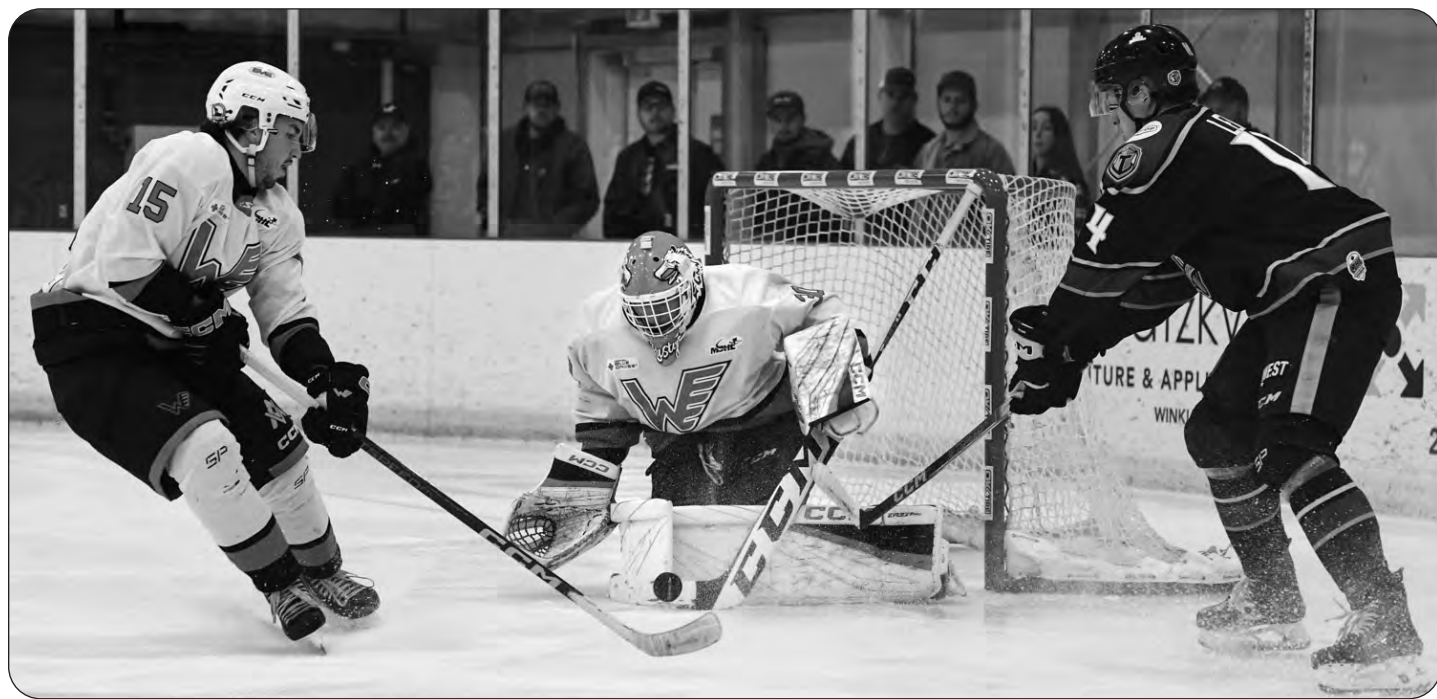


PHOTO BY RICK HIEBERT/VOICE

Winkler netminder Liam Russell stops one of the 22 shot he faced Oct. 21 against Neepawa in the 6-3 victory.

was much larger, with Winkler taking it 6-3.

Thomas had a two-goal night while singles came in from Oliver Schroeder, Michelson, William Lyons, and George. Russell was in net and made 23 saves off the 26 sent his way.

The win streak hit a wall as the Flyers went up against the Kings in Dau-

phin the next evening.

Only Wallace's shot found its mark that night, while the Kings scored three—including an empty-netter in the final minutes—to take it 3-1. Ekblad made 26 saves as the Kings outshot the Flyers 28-24.

The Flyers are now 6-8-1, good for 13 points and fifth place in the

MGEU East Division behind Selkirk (25 points), Niverville (22), Steinbach (21), and Portage (17). Trailing them are the Winnipeg Blues (12 points) and the Winnipeg Monarchs (two points).

Next up for the team is a road game against Niverville Friday, Nov. 7

Pembina Valley builds momentum with pair of victories

By Annaliese Meier

The Pembina Valley Hawks earned two wins and an overtime point over a three-game stretch in U18 AAA league play last week, highlighted by a come-from-behind overtime victory over the Winnipeg Wild and a dominant offensive showing against the Kenora Thistles.

The Hawks opened the week with a 3-2 overtime victory against the Wild on Oct. 22 at the Access Event Centre in Morden. After falling behind 1-0 early in the first, Pembina Valley responded in the second when Cole Secord tied the game on a setup from Parker Henderson and Casey Magarrell. The teams traded goals again in the third, with Caden McMahon drawing Pembina Valley even 2-2 with just under seven minutes to play.

In overtime, the Hawks capitalized on a late power-play opportunity, as Paxton White finished a passing sequence from Secord and Magarrell at 2:12 of the extra frame. Goaltender Koen Bleznuk was outstanding, stopping 45 of 47 shots to secure the win.

Pembina Valley carried that momen-

tum into Saturday's matchup with Kenora, where the Hawks controlled play start to finish in a 13-1 decision. The Hawks scored nine times in the second period and outshot the Thistles 66-19 overall. McMahon, Nolan Bravo, Carson Hiebert and Machray Siler each scored multiple goals, while Henderson recorded five assists and White, Secord and Magarrell also registered multi-point nights. Brody

Peters made 18 saves in the win.

The Hawks wrapped up the weekend with a 5-4 shootout victory over the Southwest Cougars on Sunday. Ocean Fehr opened the scoring for Pembina Valley, while McMahon, Henderson and Fehr added goals later in the game to force overtime after the Cougars had built a 3-1 lead early in the second. Hiebert scored the lone goal in the shootout, and Bleznuk

stopped all three Cougars shooters to seal it.

Over the three-game stretch, Pembina Valley outscored opponents 21-7 and generated strong balance throughout its forward group, while Bleznuk and Peters combined for steady work in net.

The Hawks return to the road this week, visiting the Winnipeg Wild on Oct. 29.

Hawks split weekend games in home doubleheader

By Annaliese Meier

The Pembina Valley Hawks earned a 6-3 win over the Central Plains Capitals on Friday before falling 6-1 to the Eastman Selects on Saturday in Manitoba Female U18 AAA league play at the Access Event Centre in Morden.

On Friday, the Hawks built momentum early and received offence throughout the lineup. Sophia Cox opened the scoring in the first period, and Payton Manness added another before the intermission to give Pembina Valley a 2-1 lead.

The Hawks extended their advan-

tage in the second with goals from Claire Boyd — who scored twice in the frame — and a shorthanded effort from Casey O'Brien. Cox added her second of the night late in the third to secure the win. Pembina Valley finished 1-for-2 on the power play, while goaltender Madison Froese turned aside 35 shots in the victory.

Pembina Valley returned to home ice the next afternoon to face league-leading Eastman. Claire Boyd scored early to tie the game 1-1 in the first period, but the Selects took control late in the

frame and added three unanswered goals in the second period. Eastman outshot the Hawks 41-7, and Froese faced another high-volume workload in goal.

The weekend results move Pembina Valley to 3-4 on the season, sitting in the middle of a tightly grouped standings table as teams approach the one-third mark of the schedule.

The Hawks return to league action on Oct. 29 when they host the Central Plains Capitals at the Access Event Centre in Morden at 7:30 p.m.

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LAND TENDER

Land for Sale by Tender RM OF THOMPSON

Completed Tender and a \$10,000.00 deposit of the Tender Price are invited to be received up to 12:00 PM (noon) on November 13th, 2025 (the "deadline") on the property described below, which Tenders and Deposits shall be received at:

PKF Lawyers

326 Stephen St, Morden, Manitoba R6M 1T5
Attn: Stéphane Warnock
Ph: 204-822-4463

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0.04 acres CT #3051710/4
(the "Land")

Parcels are being tendered together.

Conditions of Tender:

1. Financing must be pre-approved.
2. Tender to be in the form prepared by PKF Lawyers. To obtain tender form or more info, contact Tammy Bisschop at tbisschop@pkflawyers.com or call 204-822-4463.
3. Tender must be accompanied by a certified cheque, payable to PKF Lawyers (in trust), in the amount of \$10,000.00. Deposits of tenders not accepted will be returned to the tenderers.
4. Highest Tender or any Tender will not necessarily be accepted.
5. The Possession date and the due date of the balance of Tender Price shall be December 15th, 2025.
6. The maker of any Tender relies entirely upon his/her personal inspection and knowledge of the Land, independent of the representations made by the vendor or the solicitor and agent of the vendor. The Land will be sold "as is" and the bidder is solely responsible to determine the value and condition of the Land, Land quality, Land use, environmental condition and any other information pertaining to the Land.
7. **Submit Tender and certified cheque in a sealed envelope marked "Janzen Estate".**

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FARMLAND FOR SALE BY TENDER MUNICIPALITY OF RHINELAND

Completed tenders and a \$10,000.00 deposit are invited to be received up to 2:00PM on the 21st day of November 2025, for the land described below, at:

PKF Lawyers - 71 Main St. S, Box 1240, Carman, MB R0G 0J0
Attn: Mona Brown/Meghan Bennet Ph: 204-745-2028
mbrown@pkflawyers.com mbennet@pkflawyers.com

LAND FOR SALE:

Title No. 3142859/4 (109.12 acres)
LOT 1 PLAN 68799 MLTO IN N 1/2 2-2-3 WPM

Title No. 3156470/4 : (71.02 acres)
LOT 2 PLAN 68799 MLTO IN N 1/2 2-2-3 WPM

Title No. 3031671/4 (39.23 acres)
THE W 1/2 OF THE E 1/2 OF THE NW 1/4 OF SECTION 2-2-3 WPM EXC ROAD PLAN 1664 MLTO

Tenderer must bid on all 3 parcels / titles of land. The land will NOT be broken into separate parcels / titles.

Conditions of Tender:

1. Financing must be pre-approved.
2. Tender to be submitted on the form prepared by PKF Lawyers. To obtain tender form or more, contact Meghan Bennet or Mona Brown at 204-745-2028.
3. Tender must be accompanied by a certified cheque or bank draft, payable to PKF Lawyers (in trust), in the amount of \$10,000.00. Deposit, of tenders not accepted, will be returned to the Tenderers.
4. Highest or any tender will not necessarily be accepted.
5. Vacant possession shall be the 15th day of December 2025. Tax adjustment shall be the 31st day of December 2025.
6. The maker of any tender relies entirely upon his/her personal inspection and knowledge of the land, independent of the representations made by the Vendor or the Solicitor and Agent of the Vendor. The land will be sold "as is" and the Tenderer is solely responsible to determine the value and quality of the land.

PUBLIC NOTICE



You are invited to
attend The Town of
Altona Public
Hearing to

Amend the 2025 Financial Plan
Monday, November 10, 2025
5:45 pm
Council Chambers of the
Altona Civic Centre

In accordance with subsection 162(3) of The Municipal Act, the Council will present an Amendment to the 2025 Financial Plan for the Town of Altona at 5:45 pm on Monday, November 10, 2025 in the Council Chambers of the Altona Civic Centre. The Amendment is required to authorize a transfer of up to \$180,000 from the Millennium Exhibition Centre Building Reserve Fund for the emergency replacement of the Ice Plant Chiller and related costs. The purpose of the hearing is to allow any interested person to make a representation, ask questions or register an objection.

Copies of the Tender to complete the work are available on our website at www.altona.ca or upon request at the Town of Altona Administration Office, 111 Centre Avenue during regular business hours. Questions and remarks may be directed by letter or email to our Manager of Finance or through our email address at info@altona.ca.

Terry Fehr, CMMA
Manager of Finance
Town of Altona
terry.ferh@altona.ca
Box 1630
Altona MB R0G 0B0
October 17, 2025

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PUBLIC NOTICE



PLANNING & INFRASTRUCTURE
Planning & Permitting Department

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

UNDER THE PLANNING ACT

The City of Winkler, under the authority of The Planning Act, will hold a hearing at which time and place the council of the City of Winkler will receive representation from the applicants and any other persons who wish to make representations in respect of the Rezoning Application No. RZ2025-009 and By-law No. 2354-25, being an amendment to Winkler Zoning By-law 2271-21 of the City of Winkler.

The general intent of the above By-Law No. 2354-25, is to zone the land described below, Namely:

272 Albert St, legally described as Lot 3, Plan 46139 MLT0.

as shown outlined in a heavy solid line on the map attached hereto as Schedule "A", and forming part of this by-law, be rezoned

FROM: "R1" RESIDENTIAL LOWER DENSITY

TO: "R3" RESIDENTIAL HIGHER DENSITY

A copy of the above By-Law No. 2354-25 and supporting material may be inspected by any persons between the hours of 9:00 AM and 5:00 PM, Monday to Thursday and 9:00 AM and 4:30 PM, Friday, in the City Office.

Date of Hearing: November 18, 2025
Time of Hearing: 6:30 p.m.
Location: Winkler Council Chambers, 185 Main Street, Winkler, Manitoba

DATED at Winkler, in Manitoba, this 15th day of October 2025.

Designated Officer, City of Winkler

Schedule "A"



185 Main Street, Winkler MB R6W1B4
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PUBLIC NOTICE



RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF STANLEY PUBLIC NOTICE - BOARD OF REVISION

Public Notice is hereby given that the 2026 Assessment Roll for the Rural Municipality of Stanley has been delivered to the Municipal Office at 1-23111 PTH 14 and is open for public inspection during regular business hours. Applications for revision may be made in accordance with Sections 42 & 43 of The Assessment Act:

APPLICATION FOR REVISION

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

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

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

43(1) An application for revision must

- be made in writing;
- set out the roll number and legal description of the assessable property for which a revision is sought;
- set out which of the matters referred to in subsection 42(1) are at issue, and the grounds for each of those matters; and

- be filed by
 - delivering it or causing it to be delivered to the office indicated in the public notice given under Subsection 41(2), or
 - serving it upon the secretary, at least 15 days before the scheduled sitting date of the board as indicated in the public notice.

The Board of Revision will sit on Thursday, December 4, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. in the Council Chambers of the Rural Municipality of Stanley to hear applications.

The final date on which applications must be received by the Secretary of the Board is Tuesday, November 18, 2025.

Dated at Winkler, in Manitoba, this 30th day of October, 2025.

Luc Lahaie - Secretary
Board of Revision
Rural Municipality of Stanley
1-23111 PTH 14
Stanley MB. R6P 0B1

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Central Community Homes
is holding its AGM on
November 6, 2025
Time: 12 noon
Location: Keith's Shop,
558 Norland Drive, Winkler
Please RSVP for lunch by
October 31st including any
dietary requirements.
RSVP to brad@winklercentralstation.ca

PUBLIC NOTICE



PUBLIC NOTICE REGARDING AUDITOR'S REPORT

Pursuant to Section 194 of The Municipal Act, notice is given that the Financial Statements and Auditor's Report for the City of Winkler for the year 2024 are available for inspection by any person at the City of Winkler office during regular office hours.

David Martens
Director of Corporate Services
City of Winkler
185 Main Street, Winkler, MB R6W 1B4



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Brandon

Comp #22-25/26

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(\$30.60 to \$42.52 hourly)

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How to Apply:

If you are interested in this career opportunity, please email your resume and cover letter with reference to this competition to careers@assiniboine.net. We thank all applicants for their interest; only those selected for further consideration will be contacted.

For accommodations or alternative formats, contact careers@assiniboine.net or 204 725 8729.

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SUDOKU

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

Fun By The Numbers

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

Level: Intermediate

Here's How It Works:

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

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

Sudoku Answer

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

Crossword Answer

CLUES ACROSS

- El __, Texas town
- Rocker's tool
- A lot
- Traveling by ground
- Spelling competition
- Two-toed sloth
- Small perfumed bag
- "Much __ about nothing"
- Tough-skinned mollusk
- Removes from record
- It warms the planet
- Leafy green
- Quality of arriving favorably
- Living thing
- "Six of Crows" author Bardugo
- Got around a rule
- Resin from burned substance
- Iraq seaport
- Religious leaders
- Fugitives are on it
- Samson's influencer
- Italian city
- A quality of lacking interest
- Predatory tropical fishes
- Nobel physician Isodor
- Luck
- Stationary part of a motor or generator
- Orthopedic professional group (abbr.)
- One point south of due east
- It follows 79
- Paper currency
- Anger
- Spanish seaport
- Sleep in a rough place
- Famous museum
- Selfs

CLUES DOWN

- Bullfighting maneuver
- From a distance
- Soul and calypso song
- Expressions of delight
- Lower in esteem
- Inner region of an organ
- Flowers
- A bog
- Remove a fastening
- Membranes
- Enormous
- One who abstains from drink

X CROSSWORD

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

- Malayan wild ox
- Type of student
- Rejecting all moral principles
- Sino-Soviet block
- Egyptian unit of weight
- Wrong
- Make a mistake
- Indicates location
- Boxing's "GOAT"
- Where wrestlers compete
- Timid
- Disney town
- Suggesting the horror of death and decay

- Male parent
- Remove for good
- Simple shoes
- Flowers
- Hindi courtesy title for a man
- Not pleased
- "Atlas Shrugged" author
- CIA officer and writer
- Hoodlum
- __ Von Bismarck, Iron Chancellor
- Woolen rugs

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Plum Coulee YIP kids spearhead successful food drive

By Ashleigh Viveiros

A food drive spearheaded by Plum Coulee School's Youth in Philanthropy (YIP) group generated three big boxes of food for the Winkler and District Food Cupboard this fall.

The group has 10 kids taking part this year, meeting monthly over lunch to discuss ways to support not just their school community but the larger community as well, shares Claire Goertzen, one of the teacher advisors.

"We want our children to be active positive citizens that contribute to our communities," she said. "That starts now through programs such as Youth in Philanthropy."

When speaking with the kids about the growing needs of the food cupboard—which has provided rescued food to the school for its breakfast program—the group decided they wanted to do something to help support families at Thanksgiving.

Over two weeks, they mobilized their fellow students to fill the "Turkey Box" with non-perishable food donations.

"Teaching the students about the cost of living and grocery shopping is a life skill they were interested in learning about," Goertzen noted. "They understood that grocery bills

are getting higher and they realized that some families in our communities are struggling financially to make ends meet. They felt that every family should have enough food to eat."

YIP member Mikayla, Gr. 6, shares the group "really wanted to do something for Thanksgiving" and a food drive seemed a perfect fit. They were surprised and happy with how much they were able to collect in such a short period, she said.

"I hope it fills them up and keeps them healthy," Mikayla added of the people who will be receiving the collected food in the weeks ahead.

It's Mikayla's first year taking part in YIP, and she says she's very much enjoying it.

Some highlights have included making posters and reading out trivia questions to drum up interest in the food drive and the school's Terry Fox Run a few weeks earlier. YIP is also volunteering to help serve and clean up at the Plum Coulee Community Foundation soup and pie fundraiser and with the school's upcoming Remembrance Day service.

YIP plans to host another food drive in December.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Three large boxes of donated food showed up on the doorstep of the Winkler and District Food Cupboard last month thanks to the hard work of the Plum Coulee School Youth in Philanthropy group.

Pembina Valley Twisters edged in back-to-back outings

By Annaliese Meier

The Pembina Valley Twisters remain in search of their first win of the Manitoba Major Junior Hockey League season after dropping a pair of close contests over the weekend.

On Thursday night in Winnipeg, the Twisters came out firing offensively in a 6-5 shootout loss to the St. Vital Jr. Victorias at St. Vital Centennial Arena. Pembina Valley twice held the lead and got multi-goal efforts from Ryan

Thiessen, but the Victorias forced extra time and secured the extra point on a shootout winner from Liam Saxberg.

Thiessen struck twice, with Ozymandis Atkinson, Vlad Stepic and Lucas Thomas also scoring for the Twisters. Rowan Cherkas was busy in net, turning aside 47 shots as St. Vital held a 53-48 edge on the shot clock.

The Twisters carried some of that momentum back to Morris on Sunday but again came up just short, fall-

ing 2-1 to the Charleswood Hawks.

After a scoreless first two periods, Charleswood's Tyson Sperber opened the scoring 1:30 into the third. The Twisters answered midway through the frame when Josh Guilford finished off a passing play from Lucas Thomas and Brayden Cox, tying the game 1-1. But the Hawks responded late, with captain Elliott Lewis scoring the game-winner at 17:32.

Goaltender Darion Penner kept Pembina Valley in it throughout, mak-

ing 29 saves in a strong performance.

The Twisters sit at 0-7-1 to start the season, but have played in increasingly close games and have shown improvement in five-on-five play.

Pembina Valley is back on the ice Thursday, Oct. 31, when they visit the Ft. Garry/Ft. Rouge Twins. The Twisters then return home to the Morris MultiPlex on Sunday, Nov. 2 to host the River East Royal Knights. Puck drop is 7 p.m.



Trivia masters



PHOTOS BY EDWARD VINCENT ARCENAL/VOICE

The South Central Regional Library hosted its latest Quiz Night competition in Altona Friday and invited participants to come dressed to impress in their best Halloween costumes. Left: Jules Carlson as Fred Flintstone. Right: Britany Morgan as Beetlejuice.

