



New Country Listing

Merry Christmas!



The *Altona Rhineland* Voice

VOLUME 1 EDITION 41

THURSDAY,
DECEMBER 15, 2022

altonavoice.ca

LOCALLY OWNED HISTORY BOOK FOR THE COMMUNITY



*Merry Christmas
And many thanks to
you, our friends and
neighbours*



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Ready for Christmas

Five-year-old Rosie Braul adds a little sparkle to the Christmas tree at École Elmwood Elementary School. Elmwood is one of nine schools across Border Land School Division that will be presenting Christmas concerts this year for the first time since 2019. Check out the school calendars for dates and times.

PHOTO BY LORI PENNER/VOICE

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



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Elmer's Manufacturing recognized for entrepreneurial spirit

By Lori Penner

Elmer's Manufacturing Ltd. has been recognized by the Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters (CME).

The Altona business will be presented with the CME's 2023 Export Award at a gala dinner in March. The award celebrates a company that demonstrates excellence in expanding its market numerically and geographically.

Family-owned and operated, Elmer's designs, manufactures and supports high-quality, innovative agricultural equipment focusing on the needs of progressive farmers.

What started out as a small farm business in 1978 with a vision to improve their own agricultural implements and farming processes has grown from building row crop cultivators to an extensive and diversified group of equipment lines for any size farming operation.

Elmer's is best known for their Haulmaster grain carts and the Revolutionary Super 7 Harrow. They later added the Wolverine Ditcher and the Ravage Bale Processor, and redesigned the Haulmaster to better fit the needs of farmers across North Ameri-

ca and Australia.

The business has faced a few challenges along the way.

In 2019, a fire resulted in the total loss of their assembly and paint facilities.

And, like so many other businesses, they faced supply chain issues during the pandemic but continued to sustain their growth.

Elmer's has started and completed two expansions resulting in over 60,000 sq. ft. of additional production space as well as a new laser cutting, welding and paint and assembly line facility to meet the continually growing needs of Canada, the U.S., and the rest of the globe.

A large part of their growth has been the Elmer's Haulmaster Demo Program, equipped with 20+ staff and multiple grain carts which travel thousands of miles through dozens of states and provinces to prototype and field-test new products to fit the farmer's needs.

The company's marketing lead Dennis Friesen says it's an honour to receive the CME award.

"It shows that all the time and hard work that our employees have put in



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Elmer's Manufacturing in Altona will receive the Export Award from Canadian Manufacturers and Exporters next spring.

to deliver these results are being recognized and that the countless hours spent in buddy seats of tractors listening to customers' needs has put us on the right path to meet the needs of farmers going forward."

CME Manitoba vice-president Ron Koslowsky says their organization is doing everything it can to help alleviate stressors for manufacturers like Elmer's as they recover from the economic and shipping challenges of the last few years.

"While we're starting to see the business environment return to pre-pandemic conditions after a chal-

lenging couple of years, these stories of resilience and spirit are more important than ever to inspire our local companies that, yes, we may be facing uncertainty now, but continued growth and success are just around the corner.

"Elmer's represents the best of Manitoba manufacturing's entrepreneurial spirit. Manitoba products compete on the world stage and are exported to countries around the globe. It's businesses like Elmer's whose ingenuity and can-do spirit sets prairie manufacturers apart."

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Merry Christmas

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MLA for Borderland

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City of Morden gifts land to Western School Div.



SUBMITTED IMAGE

Morden's new K-8 school in Parkhill West will include a soccer field and running track thanks to land donated to the project by the City of Morden.

By Lorne Stelmach

A gift of land from the City of Morden to Western School Division is being touted as a win-win for the entire community.

The city is handing over 2.6 acres of land out of a parcel of reserve in the northwest corner of Morden to the division to add to the space for the new K-8 school. It will allow WSD to include a soccer field and full-size running track on the school property.

"That area along Parkhill West really doesn't have anything right now as far as public reserve, so it's very much time for this to happen ... and it will add to the quality of life for residents in the area," said Mayor Brandon Burley last week.

"It wouldn't have been possible without this," noted WSD board chair Brian Fransen. "It shows the vision and the foresight that council has had in working together with the school board ... what do we want for the future of our community? It's more than just what we want now."

Burley explained the city had a significant amount of allocated park land and green space in agreement with the developer, but the land was more than what the city saw being developed as park space for now.

"Part of the land that became available to us was immediately north of the new K to 8 school, so the City of Morden in conjunction with Western School Division is going to be allocating just over two and a half acres of that land to the division to enhance their school site so they can include

some full size recreational amenities." He added the city will develop land directly west into park space as well.

"So it will enhance the usability of the school ... and we're still left with over 10 acres in that area for future consideration of park space or green space.

"I think it's a really good partnership. It certainly will increase not just the usability of that school facility but also that entire area as it continues to develop," said Burley. "It demonstrates that we have been able to forge a strong alliance with the division over the last number of years, and they have been really good to work with on this proposal."

"This is really one of the things that we have talked about ... what all of our electorate are expecting of our elected officials is to be able to be working behind the scenes for the betterment of the entire community," said Fransen.

He applauded "being able to have

this opportunity to provide recreational facilities for the community on the school site ... the school will make good use of it, but it will be available for the entire community."

The agreement comes as proposals

for construction of the K-8 school are being accepted by MCM Architects. Construction is anticipated to start in the early spring of 2023 so the school can open in fall 2024.

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Dec. 30 - 8:30 am - 6:00 pm
Dec. 31 - CLOSED
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Dec. 25 - CLOSED • Dec. 26 - CLOSED
Dec. 27 - CLOSED
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Dec. 29 - 10:30 am - 4:30 pm
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The Voice

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Happy Holidays from All of Us!

Pembina Valley comes through for Genesis House with PJ donations

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The South Central Regional Library's Power of PJs campaign gathered together enough donations of comfy clothing to last the Genesis House women's shelter for at least the next few months.

The giant donation box at the Winkler Centennial Library was overflowing with pyjamas, sweat pants, leggings, and warm socks last week as shelter executive director Ang Braun stopped by to pick everything up.

The haul represented not just Winkler's donations but also those collected by SCRL branches in Morden, Altona, Miami, and Manitou.

"People were very generous; they always are," said Winkler branch administrator Jess Martens, noting the clothing drive has become something of a tradition for the libraries and their patrons in recent years. "People know it's coming and they want to support it."

Martens sends out a big thank-you to everyone who donated.

"We definitely couldn't do this by ourselves," she said. "Everybody knows times are tough, but seeing the generosity in spite of that is amazing."

Braun is certainly grateful for that generosity, and for the fact the five libraries are so willing to serve as a central donation point for their respective communities.

"Most of the shelters across the

province do not have storefronts, including us, so to be able to have a drop-off spot that people are familiar with ... for us it's just an awesome partnership."

Braun noted that the donations collected by the libraries used to be enough to last the shelter the entire year, but these days they're seeing

Continued on page 7



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Genesis House executive director Ang Braun (left) with the Winkler Library's Jess Martens and the dozens of donations this year's Power of PJs clothing drive brought in for the women's shelter.



Farmers help feed families in need

December always feels like a special month, filled with holiday celebrations, work parties, connecting with friends and family, and most importantly, sharing meals with those we love. The holiday season is also an important time of year to consider supporting those around us who may need a little extra help.

Manitoba pork producers are committed to giving back to their communities year-round. By supporting local food banks like Harvest Manitoba, Southeast Helping Hands, the Salvation Army, and Agape Table, thousands of pounds of pork products are reaching hungry children, struggling adults and seniors, and the working poor across Manitoba.

Making a positive contribution to society is at the heart of Manitoba hog sector's sustainability focus. The passion to support the well-being of communities across the province, reflects our commitment to support those experiencing food insecurity, particularly during the holiday season. Manitoba pork producers work hard to ensure a safe, affordable protein is available to all.

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EVERYONE WELCOME!



Winkler Cheer distributes 423 care hampers

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Months of preparation and fundraising culminated last week with the deliveries of the Winkler and District Christmas Cheerboard's care hampers to 423 families in the area.

Volunteers spent last Tuesday and Wednesday at the Meridian Exhibition Centre pulling together grocery gift card packages and wrapping up hundreds of toys to ensure every child has a present under the tree this Christmas.

Wednesday night, a small team of volunteers set out to deliver the goodies, while others manned tables at the MEC for those families who opted to pick up their hampers themselves.

"We had, I think, 21 drivers de-

livering hampers this year," shared outgoing Cheerboard president Kris Derksen. "One-third of our recipients picked up, but then the other two-thirds we delivered. It all went pretty smoothly."

Derksen said it makes all the work worth it to see the smiles on the faces of recipients, for whom the hampers mean extra food on the table this holiday season.

"There was a lot of thank-yous, huge thank-yous. And the kids were so excited—they had their heads in the bags and they were saying, 'Thank you, thank you.' It was fun to see that excitement.

"Seeing the fruits of our labour of the last few months ... that's when it's worth it, when you see all the good



PHOTOS BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Crystal Rempel, who steps into the president's role for the Winkler and District Christmas Cheerboard next year, with some of the boxes of presents and gift cards distributed to hundreds of households last week.



Anne Klassen wraps one of the 778 toys that went out with the Winkler Cheerboard hampers last week as fellow volunteers Shari Dyck (left) and Karen Klassen (right) round up more behind her. Every Cheerboard recipient family with kids under 12 gets a toy for each child, while youth 12-18 receive gift cards.

it's doing."

This is Derksen's final year at the head of the Cheerboard.

"I will miss the people," she reflected as her fellow board members were busy pulling items together for the deliveries. "We have such a good group of people. Everyone knows what

they're doing and it runs smoothly because they've done it for years.

"I will definitely miss having the hands-on involvement, but I hope to come back and volunteer, if they need any volunteers."

Continued on page 7

A Rising Star in Pembina Valley

TDS congratulates our partner **Scott Hoepfner** on being named among **Lexpert Rising Stars 2022: Leading Lawyers Under 40 in Canada.**

The Lexpert Rising Stars Awards honours lawyers who are leaders in their legal practice and community. Scott's remarkable accomplishments are reflected in his diverse practice in the areas of labour and employment and business law. TDS is especially proud of Scott's achievement as the only lawyer in Manitoba to receive this award in 2022.

Congratulations to Scott and all of Canada's Leading Lawyers Under 40.



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Get to know Scott at tdslaw.com/sjh

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Blazes in Morden-Winkler kept firefighters hopping last week

By Lorne Stelmach

Firefighters in both Winkler and Morden had to deal with fires in the midst of the cold weather last week.

A house fire in Morden last Wednesday saw firefighters have to return to the scene twice after it reignited. The cold that night was an additional challenge.

"As soon as the cold weather sets in, that seems to be when things start happening," said Chief Andy Thiessen. "Wintertime fires are a little more work for us. Hoses are freezing, and the breathing apparatus regulators were freezing up ... so we had to rotate those around quite a bit."

The department was called to a Wardrop Street home at 3:40 p.m. when neighbours saw smoke coming out of the building's vents.

It was pinpointed as having come from the mechanical room in the basement, Thiessen said.

"It was most likely an electrical cord that had been pinched. It could have been pinched like that for a year, two years maybe, but it takes some time for it to heat up through the insulation of the wire and then it shorts out."

There was an additional challenge as well in trying to ensure the fire was fully extinguished.

"There was one wall that we could not get at completely because the floor had been burnt away, so it was unsafe for my guys to go in and do that," the chief explained. "We attempted to open up the out-

side of the wall and check there ... and we used the thermal imaging camera to find all the hot spots ... at the time, when we left, there was nothing showing.

"By the time we got back to the hall ... we usually go back and do another check ... at that time, the neighbours had already phoned and said that it was full involved again."

Firefighters were then on the scene until about 3:30 in the morning to put the fire out once and for all.

Meanwhile, in Winkler, firefighters battled blazes at two local businesses mid-week.

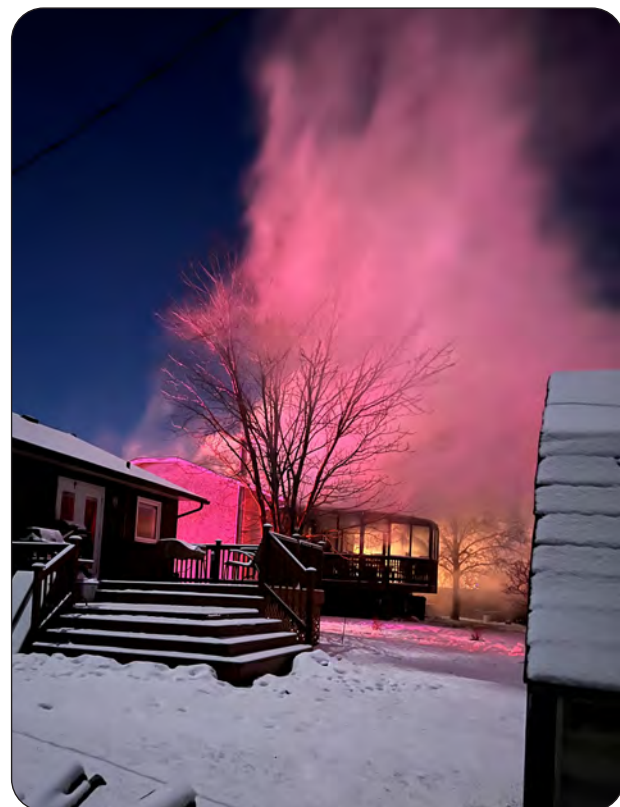
The first was Wednesday in a compressor system building for a George Ave. manufacturing facility.

The alarm system alerted employees, who evacuated the building.

"They attempted to extinguish it ... they used, I think, four extinguishers to try to knock it down but they were unable to do that," Chief Richard Paetzold said. "When we arrived, the fire was trying to make its way into the main building, so our crews entered from the main building and kept it from coming in."

Given the industrial nature of the building, it could have potentially been much worse, he noted.

"Most likely, the employees attempting to put out the fire initially with extinguishers probably held the fire back enough before it got going."



VOICE PHOTO BY GWEN DYCK

A neighbour snapped this shot of the fire at a home on Wardrop Ave. in Morden last week. The fire department says it was likely caused by a pinched electrical cord. The house sustained major damage.

Continued on page 7




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getinformed

Reinfeld woman killed in head-on crash near Roland

By Voice staff

A Reinfeld woman was killed in a two-vehicle collision near Roland last Friday night.

Emergency crews were called to the scene on Provincial Road 428 about three kilometres south of Roland at 5:30 p.m.

Pembina Valley RCMP say a southbound pickup truck being driving by a 62-year-old Winkler man was in the process of passing two vehicles when he collided with a northbound vehicle being driven by a 26-year-old woman from Reinfeld.

The woman was pronounced dead

at the scene. The male driver was transported to hospital with non-life threatening injuries.

Pembina Valley RCMP along with a forensic collision reconstructionist continue to investigate.

MAN KILLED BY TRAIN

Morris RCMP are investigating a train versus pedestrian collision.

On Dec. 10 just before 10 a.m., police responded to a report of a body found near the railroad tracks in Dominion City.

A 30-year-old man from Roseau River Anishinabe First Nation was pro-

nounced dead at the scene.

The initial investigation indicates the victim was struck by a train some-

time overnight.

RCMP and the Canadian Pacific Railway continue to investigate.

Teen charged in vehicle-pedestrian collision

By Voice staff

A 17-year-old has been charged with dangerous driving causing bodily harm after a collision on Winkler's Main St. last weekend.

On Sunday, Dec. 11 at about 2:45 p.m., Winkler Police received a report of a collision between a vehicle and a pedestrian at the crosswalk near Garden Valley Collegiate and the Co-op gas bar.

Officers arrived to find an injured but conscious woman lying on the road, being tended to by motorists

who had stopped to provide aid.

Police say the woman was walking west across the street and had pressed the button to activate the crosswalk light. She was about halfway across the northbound lanes when she was hit by a Honda Civic.

The victim was taken to hospital by paramedics.

The driver of the Civic, a 17-year-old female, has been charged with operating a conveyance in a manner that is dangerous and causes bodily harm.

Alcohol and drugs are not considered a factor in the collision.

> GENESIS HOUSE, FROM PG. 4

more and more women and children seeking aid than ever before.

"Since COVID, it has been ridiculous, so incredibly busy," she said. "At this point, today, we're out of PJs already and so we were looking forward to this donation. My guess is ... that we will burn through all of them pretty quickly."

In the past year the shelter has provided safe haven to 64 women and 60 children for a total of 1,008 bed nights. That's kept all five of their

> CHEERBOARD, FROM PG. 5

While the hampers are out, the Cheerboard's job isn't quite done—they still hope to raise some more money to help cover the costs of the 2022 campaign.

"We're pretty much at \$90,000 now, so there's another \$10,000 we're hoping for in the next little while," Derksen said, thanking everyone who has already given generously.

If you'd like to support the Cheerboard in its work, you can make a

> FIRES, FROM PG. 6

The fire trucks rolled out again early Thursday morning, around 4:30 a.m., when the fire alarm at Janzen Chevrolet Buick GMC went off.

"We had smoke coming out of the ventilation system," Paetzold said. "We determined a vehicle was on fire inside the building, so the crews made entry and extinguished the vehicle fire and extinguished the extension fire ... but there was signifi-

cant smoke and heat damage inside their service area."

The two fires add to what could end up being a record count this year for fires in and around Winkler.

"We've been very busy," Paetzold said. "We're over the 200 calls already this year, and I think our record was in 2011, and we're approaching that record quite shortly."

donation to them directly online at winklercheerboard.com or contribute to the Winkler Cheerboard Fund through the Winkler Community Foundation (winklercommunityfoundation.com).

Cheerboard volunteers are also at the Winkler Christmas Market in the New Leaf Garden Centre this weekend, manning the Santa photo booth and accepting donations.

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"We've been very busy," Paetzold said. "We're over the 200 calls already this year, and I think our record was in 2011, and we're approaching that record quite shortly."

Think you're registered?
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OUR SISTER PUBLICATIONS



Growth is coming—will we be ready?

Canada has recently announced an intent to see 1.5 million new immigrants by 2025—three years from now.

Do you have an opinion on this? I bet you do. I know I do.

Personally I love immigration for a number of reasons—my grandparents on my Dad's side were Jewish immigrants to Canada from Ukraine. My great-grandparents on my mum's side were immigrants from Italy and Ireland respectively. I love different foods. I love learning. I love new languages. I love diversity and the exciting cultural smorgasbord that ensues.



By Peter Cantelon

Unless you have Indigenous ancestry you, my friend, are of immigrant stock.

What this history means is that it is difficult to claim immigration is a bad thing for Canada without being instantly a hypocrite.

Still, there are legitimate concerns that need to be addressed, and infrastructure is the biggest.

While statistically it is clear that employment opportunities exist for this and many more people, one wonders: is the health care system capable of managing when it almost collapsed (or did, depending on who you talk to) under the weight of COVID-19 and now juvenile flu?

In Morden and Winkler we are going on more than 10 years of attempt-

ing to secure federal funding for waste water treatment, to no avail. I mean, maybe to some avail but the info the public receives is pretty basic and generally falls into the category of, "Trust us, we are working on it, certainly harder than the previous administrations."

The waste water infrastructure has become so inadequate that we are, and have been, under development constraints now for not days, weeks or months, but years. Which leads to the next infrastructure issue: AFFORDABLE housing (both rental and for purchase).

Affordable housing in our region simply means having supply meet demand. It is difficult for a developer at the best of times to anticipate what that demand might be and then lay out the cash in advance to build 40, 80, or 100 units.

Add to this the uncertainty of if they will even be allowed to develop and what you get is a very easy to predict circumstance: housing will not be de-

veloped or even planned for an area that cannot tell you if and when it will be allowed. Period.

Transit is another pressing need that continues to be back-burnered as "too costly." Translation: "We do not think

you, the taxpayer, want to pay the extra dollars for it so we will not invest in it. We know this through the growing psychic infrastructure we have been investing in as well as my five friends at the coffee shop." This is the handy answer for any expense that falls out of the interest area of the average council.

Many immigrant families of, say, two parents and one or two children typically only own one car (if that), leaving one parent trapped at home to trudge to the grocery store and various other locations in February on foot.

I believe necessity is the mother of

Continued on page 7

"THE INCREASE IN IMMIGRATION WILL NECESSITATE SOME PRETTY CREATIVE SOLUTIONS TO THE INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS ..."

Letter policy

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

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

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

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

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

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

• DON'T MIND THE MESS

A little haunting might do you good

It only took Charles Dickens a few months to write his holiday classic, *A Christmas Carol*.

He financed the publishing himself and by December of 1843, the book had sold an amazing 6,000 copies. This is quite something when you consider the meager economy in which it was born.

It continues to be a bestseller today.

The London of Dickens' time was quite different from the comfy, middle-class existence most of us enjoy today. It was

common to find whole families begging in the streets. Unless you were born into wealth, proper health care

and nutrition were unheard of. Most couldn't even afford a stove. The local baker roasted your Christmas goose for you—for a fee of course.

By the time a child reached five or six, he or she was already working to support the household. Nearly half the funerals at the time were for children under the age of 10.

These were the folks that Dickens wanted to reach: the rich who turned their eyes from the needy, and the poor who simply accepted their lowly station as a fact of life.

Already an established author, his goal was not to profit from the book; its retail price of only five shillings ensured that. He wanted it to be affordable to everyone. In his own words, he wanted to "haunt their houses pleasantly" with its message of hope and redemption.

I try to read it every Christmas. I also watch as many movie versions of

it as I can. The old one with Alastair Sim as Scrooge is my personal favourite, although the Muppets do a pretty good job, too. Its message is timeless. It tells us to change our hearts while we still have time. It warns us that all our actions—or lack thereof—have consequences. It assures us that as long as we're still breathing, we can choose to be better, kinder people.

If the Ghost of Christmas Past were to visit you tonight, what memories would it show you? Was there someone whose heart you carelessly broke without an apology? A moment when you chose money over morals. A time when you put your own desires ahead of what was right? Or made a decision that derailed your life?

And what about the Ghost of Christmas Present? Is there a pang of conscience you've been ignoring? A little tug on your heartstrings to help someone out, or at least visit them?

Or maybe, there's a habit you refuse to change, even though it's hurting others. Or a family member you haven't talked to in years, waiting for them to make the first move. Is there some dark little secret that's keeping you from becoming a whole person?

And then, there's the Ghost of Christmas Future. We fear it because it holds so many unknowns. What if something happens to me or my kids? What if I lose my job? What if someone finds out who I really am? Would anyone care if I died today? What legacy would I leave behind? Would I be remembered for my kindness, my generosity, or my love? Would I be remembered for my mistakes? Would I even be remembered at all?

Perhaps we should welcome these spirits in, at least once a year. We should allow them to "haunt our homes pleasantly" and remind us of who we've been, who we are, and who we could become. There's a little Ebenezer Scrooge in each of us. But, as the old miser tried to tell us, it's never too late to change.



By Lori Penner

• FAITH FOCUS

An accurate record

During recent travel I was reminded of the importance of accurate records.

We require accurate records in every aspect of our lives. Our given name for legal purposes. A valid picture on important documents so that others can confirm that we are who we say we are. Our correct address so that parcels

and mail can be delivered. Accuracy is also important in the things we say and do.

As we draw near to Christmas day, which is known as a celebration and reminder of the birth and importance of Jesus Christ, it is important to know that the Bible record is accurate and can be trusted.

The coming of a Saviour had been foretold in various details in the Old Testament. The birth of Jesus is directly referred to in Matthew 1 and in Luke 1 and 2 in the New Testament. The pictures that come to mind of Joseph, Mary and the babe, of stables, angels, shepherds and wise visitors

from afar can be found in the record of Matthew and Luke.

Luke tells the most complete story. In his opening statement he writes to a respected friend: "Many have undertaken to draw up an account of the things that have been fulfilled among us, just as they were handed down to us by those who from the first were eyewitnesses and servants of the word. With this in mind, since I myself have carefully investigated everything from the beginning, I too decided to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, so that you may know the certainty of the things you have been taught."

Luke is believed to have been a medical doctor, who understood the importance of observation and facts. The very intimate information provided in Luke 1 and 2 would indicate that Mary, the mother of Jesus, was one of the many eyewitnesses whom Luke had interviewed. He wrote with elegance and yet confined his description to essential information. The details we are not given should not distract us from the things we can

be certain of, as recorded by Luke and verified through the voices of the eyewitnesses within his account.

Jesus' birth was not the end of the story. It is the introduction and revealing of the timeless purpose of God to reach out to every person of every nation with a message of personal access to God through Jesus Christ, and ultimately a heavenly home with him after our time here on earth is done. Jesus said "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me..." (John 14:6).

We may observe "Christmas" with different customs, practices and assumptions. Jesus' birth did not mean the immediate end of all burdens and pain. It does mean that when we have recognized the accuracy of the record and personally learn to worship the Saviour—as the shepherds and wise men did—we can find new courage for the present, a brighter outlook for each new day, and hope that looks to eternity.

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



By Randy Smart

> CANTELON, FROM PG. 6

invention and in this case the increase in immigration will necessitate some pretty creative solutions to the infrastructure needs. However, these solutions will not be distributed evenly throughout the country—those regions that are fortunate enough to either already have invested in the infrastructure or that immediately and

bravely take firm hold of their future and invest with or without financial assistance will thrive.

Communities are first and foremost people. When we start running into obstacles to welcoming the very building blocks and essence of community, this is when community begins to fail.

The **Voice**

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School board trustees tour RRTVA offerings

By Lorne Stelmach

Trustees from across four school divisions had a whirlwind tour of the region's vocational programs last week.

The tour of the Red River Technical Vocational Area (RRTVA) offerings in the Border Land, Red River Valley, Garden Valley, and Western school divisions began in Altona and went to locations including Dominion City, Morris, Morden, and Winkler, covering over 200 kilometres with stops to take in all 14 RRTVA programs.

It provided a good opportunity for trustees to see firsthand the variety of facilities, learning spaces, and especially new technology that is available to students.

"It's nice to see the various vocational programs, and it also really builds enthusiasm in trustees and school administrators for supporting the kids who go to the programs," said Steven Wiebe, a trustee for Border Land School Division.

"What was really interesting was we saw numerous pieces of brand new equipment that have been purchased over the last four to five years in almost each vocational area," he noted. "That's equipment that's been purchased through grants from the provincial government, so it's exciting to see where that grant money is going and how it's being put to good use.

"So in every single vocational area, students have access to the newest equipment, newer computer systems, diagnostic systems," Wiebe continued. "When they go out in the field, they are going to be working with

those current systems, so it's good that we are educating them in the same way."

"I went on a tour previously, but there's some new programs offered and upgrades with some of the other ones, so it's great to see," noted Fred Kelesnik, a trustee with Red River Valley School Division.

"I think there was a program a few years ago where they brought junior high students in to see some of the programs ... and I think that was instrumental in showing students what's available," he continued. "And it's a great thing that these divisions can work together and provide a fantastic opportunity for our students."

"It's something we couldn't do

Trustees from the Borderland, Red River Valley, Garden Valley, and Western school divisions went on a whirlwind tour of the RRTVA's programs across the region last week.

SUBMITTED PHOTO



PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

RRTVA director Lane Curry took school board trustees on a tour of their many vocational programs across the region, including the hairstyling and esthetics (above) and electrical (left) programs at NPC in Winkler.

alone but together we can," agreed Brian Fransen, a trustee for Western School Division. "No single division in the RRTVA could afford to run any program, but together, we can each run our programs, and every student in all of our divisions have the opportunity to go to any of those programs.

"And it's interesting seeing how the technology has changed," Fransen noted. "Technology always advances, so we have to keep updated with the programs and what's being offered."

Lane Curry, director of the RRTVA, said all the programs being offered today are well-established and successful.

"Our programs have all been full the last couple of years, so it's been very good. Our numbers have been very steady for the last number of years. COVID actually didn't hurt; it proba-

bly actually bolstered us," he suggested.

Curry sees a continued strong demand for people in the trades to continue to fuel the success of their programs.

"In the big picture, essential workers are largely trade workers," he said. "I think there's less stigma around being in the trades for sure, and there is definitely demand.

"We've been warned about this for the last five years because a lot of people across Canada in the trades are in that 55 to 65 age bracket. For the last five, six years, Skills Manitoba and Skills Canada have been saying there's going to be a need because the age of our people in the trades are getting close to that age where people will need to be replaced."

Altona Curling Club proud to host U18 championships

By Lori Penner

Things are hopping at the Altona Curling Club as they prepare to host the CurlManitoba's Asham U18 Boys and Girls Provincial Championships Dec. 27-31.

Seventeen teams from across the province will be heading to Altona for the big event.

On the men's side there are seven teams competing for two spots to the U18 Canadian Championships to be held in Timmins, Ontario, in February. The field includes Team Jace Freeman who recently won the right to represent Manitoba at the 2023 Canada Games in PEI at the end of February.

A couple of teams include players from around the Pembina Valley, such as Team Nash Sugden out of the Morden Curling Club, Team Zach Norris out of the Morris Curling Club, and Team Luke Robins, which curls out of the West St. Paul Curling Club and includes Altona's own Logan Zacharias.

The women's side has 10 teams competing for two spots to the U18 Canadian Championships. Altona will be well represented by their own Team Dayna Wahl, who recently won the right to wear Manitoba colours at the 2023 Canada Winter Games in February.

Another team with Pembina Valley connections is Team Shayla Hayward. They curl out of the Carman Golf and Curling Club and were runners up to Team Wahl at the Canada Winter Games Trials earlier this season.

Organizing committee co-chairs Keith Stoesz and Quinn Hildebrand are excited to showcase the community to those visiting from across Manitoba.

"It's such an honour to host this event. CurlManitoba actually approached us, which says a lot about our hosting committee and our facility," Hildebrand says.

Hosting the U18 Provincial Championships is a first for the Altona club. Hildebrand says it will be an easier event to manage compared to the 2018 Provincial Junior Championships that featured 32 teams and transformed the Sunflower Gardens Arena in the Millennium Exhibition Centre into four sheets of curling ice.

"This is being run in the curling club, so it will require fewer volunteers than the last event," Hildebrand notes. "However, we're still in a struggle to find volunteers."

"We are looking for volunteers to help in various areas, including ice maintenance, ticket sales, bartending and general clean up."

If you'd like to help out, email ac-



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Seventeen teams will be in Altona later this month for the U18 Boys and Girls Provincials Championships. Among them are Altona's own Team Wahl, which includes skip Dayna Wahl, third Piper Stoesz, second Anna Ginters, and lead Jillian Hildebrand. The team is coached by event co-chair Keith Stoesz.

cvolunteering@gmail.com to sign up.

A portion of the event's proceeds will be given to the Curtis Klassen Memorial Fund as well as the Altona Curling Club's Legacy Fund and the Junior Curling program. Funds raised will also cover the expenses of a new overhead camera system that was installed at the rink last October.

Admission at the door is \$50 for a full event pass, \$15 for a day pass, or \$10 for the last draw of the day. Kids age under 12 get in for free.

More information is available online at curlmanitoba.org/asham-u18-provincial-championship/.

Local clinics navigating physician shortages

By Lorne Stelmach

As they deal with significant staff shortages, the Winkler and Morden health care clinics served notice recently to area employers to not have employees come looking for medical notes for absences from work.

A message distributed through the local chambers of commerce stressed the clinics simply can't be taking up staff time and resources for such notes, especially for people who otherwise would not be requiring medical attention.

Representatives of both the CW Wiebe Medical Centre in Winkler and Menzies Medical Centre in Morden last week said the clinics must dedicate their limited resources now to the more urgent health care needs in the communities.

"We were starting to see a pretty significant increase in people looking for medical reports or medical notes for

their employers. A lot of these folks are not necessarily even sick anymore or their illness is minor in nature," said Terry Penner, executive director of the Winkler clinic.

"We're certainly at a place in our entire system in this region where our doctors are stretched to their absolute maximum capacity and even at that maximum capacity can't cover the amount of hospital care that's required," noted Nicole Walske, executive director in Morden.

"To keep the hospital functioning ... we have to make those changes here at the clinics in order to allow physicians to be at the hospital," she continued. "The medical notes is one easy solution for us to reduce those appointments that maybe could be eliminated if the only requirement is the medical note."

Both Penner and Walske said an already difficult situation for the two clinics has been exacerbated with

more departures of care providers in recent months.

"We've had a significant increase in the loss of physicians ... and every loss effects more than simply just the clinic schedule," said Walske, who estimated about 5,000 local patients have lost their primary care provider in the last six months.

"We're already seeing that we have to lessen our walk-in hours," she said. "We used to have two physicians available for walk-in here on a daily basis, and now we have reduced it down to one in order to increase our capacity at the hospital."

"I think the general public may see it as physicians doing less, but our physicians are actually doing more, but it's maybe less at the clinic," said Walske.

"There's certainly lots of people who never had a family doctor, never mind those who had them and lost them," she continued. "We could recruit 10

physicians and still need more ... so we have a really big job ahead of us that's going to be years in the making to try to make an impact."

"Our physicians are equally frustrated," she added. "If we burn out our physicians who are here, we will be in a worse position ... so we are trying to protect those who are here."

"With the current shortage of physicians that we're experiencing ... we're just finding there's so many squeezes and so many areas where we're just getting crunched," echoed Penner.

"There's more urgent cases out there now, so we're just appealing to the employers in the area ... and we're just trying to see as many more urgent cases as we possibly can."

"It's not just southern Manitoba, although we're certainly feeling it here," Penner said. "Whenever a physician leaves the area, it leaves a pret-

Continued on page 12

Maria and the Mennos casts homegrown talent

By Ashleigh Viveiros

A familiar face on the local theatre scene is making the jump to the small screen in the new year.

Chuck Fefchak has been cast in the new Yes TV sitcom *Maria and the Mennos*, which starts filming in Winnipeg next month.

Fefchak plays Hank Friesen, a Mennonite father whose son marries a Filipino-Canadian woman and moves back into the family home. The entire family gets a crash course in cultural differences—and similarities.

Winkler's own Tina Fehr Kehler is also involved in the production as both co-creator and writer.

"We're trying to tell a Mennonite story," she says. "There aren't any representations in television or film about regular Mennonite families. We're just like everybody else, but we have weird cultural things too."

"And it's the same for Filipinos—there's nothing out there that's specifically about Filipinos in a North American context. So that's what we wanted to do; we wanted to put something out there."

"When you play a couple of cultures off each other, the characters themselves see the fishbowl they're swimming in" and all the things they take for granted that someone outside that bowl might find weird, and vice versa, Fehr Kehler says. "But it's our humanity that unites all of us ... I think that anybody regardless of their cultural background will be able to connect with it because it's people and their daily experiences trying to navigate life."

"I'M A LIVE THEATRE GUY"

Fefchak was aware that Fehr Kehler was casting for *Maria and the Mennos* this summer (she actually wrote the father's role with his voice in mind, having worked with him in the past) but he initially decided against throwing his hat in the ring for a part.

"I'm a live theater guy," he says. "I'm used to being on the stage with no help, no net ... I get a real rush out of going out on stage and running the risk of not remembering my dang lines"

"And on top of it, I saw it was 10

weeks worth of filming and I was like, 'That's never gonna happen.' I still have a mortgage, you know."

Fast-forward to fall and the show had cast all the roles but that of the father. No one had quite captured the character the way she had written it, Fehr Kehler says, noting they needed someone who "got" Mennonite culture.

Fefchak isn't Mennonite himself, but he's lived in the Winkler area for 25 years and is, by now, sort of an "honorary Mennonite."

So she appealed to him one more time.

"She told me this is an actual legitimate paid gig," Fefchak says, joking that "paid gig" in the theatre world is usually a gift card for Tim Hortons. "She goes, 'We're gonna pay you this much money.' And I sort of

took a step back and said, "We should talk."

"It's not as if it's a million dollars, but it's enough to pay my bills. So if I'm going to spin my wheels here in January, why don't I spin them in Winnipeg?"

Fefchak, whose day job is as a salesman at Southland Honda, starts his leave of absence next month.

He's not the only actor with local roots to score one of the four starring roles in the show.

Playing his better half, wife Sarah Friesen, is Erna Peters, who grew up in Reinfeld but today calls the Winnipeg area home.

Peters dipped her toes into the world of acting with Winnipeg Mennonite Theatre a few years ago and hasn't looked back since.

Still, she never saw herself as a TV actor.

"In the summer all of the sudden my friends were forwarding me information about something called *Maria and the Mennos*. They were looking for Mennonite actors ... but I'm like, come on, as if they're going to pick me."

"One of my girlfriends says, 'Erna, just try it out. You and your Plautdietsch, you would be perfect' ... it's taking place in Winkler, you've got to do it."

The rest, as they say, is history.

"I'm just so excited to be part of this," Peters says. "So excited to bring life to this character."



SUPPLIED PHOTOS

Erna Peters, formerly of Reinfeld, and Winkler's Chuck Fefchak have been cast as the mother and father characters in the upcoming *Maria and the Mennos* television sitcom, which films in Winnipeg and the Winkler area in the new year.

She describes Sarah as a somewhat conservative Mennonite mother trying her best to keep up with the times.

"She is old-school but she is trying very hard to be modern. She embraces having her son and daughter-in-law move back in, even though it can be annoying—she has her way of doing things."

The cross-cultural mix makes for some funny scenes, Peters shares, and also an important message.

"We all may be different cultures, but in the end it all boils down to what's important in life: your family, your friends, your faith."

"And life isn't perfect. Sometimes it is messy, but there can still be love ... humor and love, even amidst some of the cuckoo things that go on."

The cast has spent the last few weeks getting to know each via video chats, running through the scripts. They'll be working together in person from January until mid-March, mainly at a house in Winnipeg but also with some location shooting in the Winkler and Altona areas in spring.

Fefchak says the scripts have had everyone in stitches.

"I've been through them three or four times now. It's still funny. So that's always a good sign," he says. "It's going to be pretty fun and I think

people in this area are gonna get a kick out of it."

No one involved with the show want to jinx it, but it's hard not to think of the success of similar Canadian comedies like *Corner Gas* or *Kim's Convenience*.

Could they have a Mennonite/Filipino-flavoured sitcom hit on their hands?

"I'd be a darn liar. If I said that that hadn't crossed my mind," says Fefchak, noting he'd be kicking himself if he didn't at least pursue this opportunity, whether it lasts this one season

or runs for several. "Nothing ventured, nothing gained. I'm 59 years old and I've never had an opportunity like this. And if I don't take this, I probably won't get another one."

"All I'm looking to do with this is have a new experience. To be able to check

a box, put it on my personal accomplishments/resume list. And if it goes someplace beyond? Bully. If it doesn't, I've already done what I set out to do."

The show is slated to air next fall on Yes TV, an Ontario cable channel which also has a streaming platform called Castle people in Manitoba should be able to watch it on if it isn't airing locally.

"WE'RE TRYING TO TELL A MENNONITE STORY ..."

"I THINK A LOT OF PEOPLE IN THIS AREA ARE GONNA GET A KICK OUT OF IT."

> CLINICS, FROM PG. 11

ty big hole to fill ... but the difference now than what it has been in the past is a significant number of physicians who have chosen to leave the area in recent months.

"It's been more of an exodus in re-

cent months, and that is really putting pressure on certainly Boundary Trails because the physicians in the area service the hospital as well as provide services in our clinics."

Holiday Mountain slated to reopen this winter

By Lorne Stelmach

The new owners and operators of the Holiday Mountain ski resort in La Riviere have been working hard to get it in shape to reopen by the beginning of 2023.

The resort was shut down ahead of last winter in large part because of the drought conditions, but the new management has a great deal of optimism about its future.

"There's a lot of excitement, a lot of buzz about it," suggested Abe Sawatzky, who is stepping in to oversee its operation on behalf of resort owners Paul and Renee Warkentin.

Sawatzky was working as a project manager for Warkentin's construction company when he was asked to head up Holiday Mountain this season.

"It sounded like a very good opportunity for me, and I jumped at the chance," said Sawatzky, who grew up in Winkler and recalled going often to the ski hill as a youth. "Skiing and snow sports have been a passion, so when my boss presented me with the offer to come manage it here, I

couldn't say no.

"I think it's the best job you could have, to be at a resort where everybody is having a great time," he said. "I'm a people person ... and when I heard this was a possibility for Paul, that he was interested in buying it, I told him that I would love to do it.

"It was sad to see it shut down for a season, so we didn't want to let it go," he noted. "I do feel like there's a lot of potential here, and we've gotten a lot of support from the local community."

"HOLIDAY MOUNTAIN IS AN INSTITUTION IN MANITOBA, AND WE WANT TO BRING THAT BACK AND BRING SOME LIFE TO THIS PLACE AGAIN."

Recent weeks have been busy ones for the resort's staff as they assess what needs to be done ahead of opening day.

"We've brought in a big team to get this place up and running again because it had been closed for a year. There were a lot of things that needed work," Sawatzky said. "We're investing in some new technology for snow making ... we're doing some upgrades.

"It's an incredible amount of work. We're overhauling things that may be haven't been done for a while, for whatever reason. We're just go-



FILE PHOTO

Holiday Mountain in La Riviere will be open under new management this winter after being closed entirely last season.

ing over everything with a fine tooth comb. It's how we operate as a business model that we want to make sure that everything really works well.

"We want to invest in this place. We're doing some upgrades and some renovations. We have some big ideas and big plans for the future that we really want to put La Riviere back on the map. Holiday Mountain is an institution in Manitoba, and we want to bring that back and bring some life

to this place again."

Sawatzky said they are hoping to be able to open very soon.

"We talked about January 1, right at the beginning, that was our goal," he said. "We feel that we could maybe move that up a little bit.

"We're just telling everyone to stay tuned to our social media. We're getting all those sites up and running, and we will be releasing more information."

'An Opera House Christmas' is back this Friday

By Ashleigh Viveiros

After a two-year break thanks to the pandemic, the Manitou Coffee House Musicians are gearing up for the return of their An Opera House Christmas show this week.

The Manitou Opera House will be filled with stories and song on Friday, Dec. 16.

"We have narrators sharing Christmas stories and poems and reflections and so on, all relating to the upcoming musical act, so it's quite seamless,"

says spokesperson Mariette Howatt, explaining that special lighting and treats after the show help to make for a cozy holiday scene. "It's sort of like an old-fashioned kind of Christmas."

This will be third such old-fashioned Christmas concert at the opera house run by the Coffee House Musicians.

"We did it for two years and then COVID hit," Howatt says, noting the event was a big hit in 2018 and 2019 and they hope it will be so again this year.

The narrators for the evening are Al Thorleifson and Judy Booker.

Taking the stage as musicians are local acts On the Edge, The Friesen Family, Landon Booker, Tina Morgan, Wing & A Prayer, Cassandra Serle, The Turner-Koller family, Denise Howatt, the Secret Santas, Winnie, Evelyn & Loretta and the Howatt family.

They'll be performing Christmas music that runs the gamut from the traditional to modern, sacred to sec-

ular.

"Be ready to relax, enjoy, and just be immersed in the spirit of Christmas," Howatt says.

The show has reserved seating. Tickets are available by calling 204-242-4287. Admission is \$20 for adults and free for kids 17 and under (though you still need to book a ticket for them in advance).

Doors open at 7:15 p.m. The concert starts at 8 p.m.

The **Voice**

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get informed



Pen pal program continues to cross the generational divide

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler Senior Centre was abuzz with conversation and laughter Monday afternoon.

It was the first time Gr. 5 students from Emerado Centennial School got to meet their elder pen pals in-person for a few hours of board games and snacks.

This is the second year for the Intergenerational Pen Pal Program, but the first that the matched pairings were able to get together so early in the school year (pandemic restrictions threw a wrench in those plans last winter).

"It's exciting because this year we get to see them at Christmas, whereas last year we had to wait until June," said teacher Tasha Roberts, noting

the 23 kids in her class have been exchanging monthly letters with their pen pals since September. "The kids were very excited about this."

The program is incorporated into the class' English Language Arts curriculum and has proven to be a hit for the middle schoolers.

"It's awesome for the seniors but it's also good for the kids," Roberts says. "It makes writing easy and fun for them because they want to write a letter each month."

Winkler Senior Centre resource coordinator Denise Enns says the program saw a lot of repeat participants as well as several newcomers.

"We had a number returning and then there were about 8-10 new ones," she says, noting the Gateway Re-



PHOTOS BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Gr. 5 students from Emerado Centennial School were at the Winkler Senior Centre Monday to meet their pen pals for the first time.

sources senior program got involved in a big way this time around.

It's really a win-win kind of program for everyone, Enns observes.

"Connecting the seniors and the students, creating those intergenerational relationships, it's so important," she says. "And it's so cool—there's a big age gap but they find they have so

many things in common."

The senior centre would love to expand the program to other classrooms but that would require another few dozen senior participants to commit to it. If you're interested in getting involved in a future program session, contact the senior centre for more information.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The second year of the Intergenerational Pen Pal program has teamed up 23 middle-schoolers with local seniors.

The Funnies





Christmas Glow in the Country

PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

The Winkler Bible Camp was all lit up this past week for its holiday light display. Week one of Christmas Glow in the Country included a fundraising drive-thru pickup meal Dec. 5-8 as well as the drive-thru lights-only experience, which continues until Dec. 18. Head to christmasglowinthecountry.com to book your slot. "It's been a great week," camp executive director Dale Wiebe said on Monday. "We've had around 4,500 people come through."



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Your FARM



Flashback: monitoring the moisture in grain

By Dennis Young

Moisture was and is still crucial when it comes to combining and many farmers in the day became accustomed to making trips to town or the nearest elevator for an agent to calibrate the seed.

Such was the case with Bob Dickey, a farmer in Chatham, Illinois, only his primary problem at the time was the constant getting in and out of the tractor to ensure proper seeding. So he invented a planter monitor in an attempt to ensure proper seed count while sitting in his cab.

He began receiving hundreds of inquiries due to an ad placed in a *Prairie Farmer* magazine and farmers from hundreds of miles away came to see this new technology. For the first year, Bob operated out of his farmhouse, with his wife serving as his secretary

but his invention became so popular he had to incorporate. Needing a name for his company, one night at his kitchen table his brother-in-law/partner Jack Littlejohn came up with the name Dickey-john.

In 1966, DICKEY-john manufactured and marketed just one product, a planter monitor with a mechanical switch. But in 1988, Churchill Industries acquired DICKEY-john Corporation and under their guidance, DICKEY-john embarked on a new era of development including the world's first full line of grain moisture testers. The GAC2100 Grain Analysis Computer was selected as the Federal Standard for measuring grain moisture content in 1998.

Today many choices of testers can be found on every farmer's yard and/or in field thanks to Bob.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Ken Savage looks on while Brian Dickenson and Murray Savage take a moisture test from a sample of grain in 1972.

Lots for producers to consider as tax season looms

By Lorne Stelmach

Tax season is upon us with the year-end approaching, and it can present agricultural producers with a lot to

consider in making sound tax and financial decisions.

There are myriad annual tax issues to consider with producers aiming to ensure they are minimizing the tax

they pay. Some of the pillars of tax planning can include income tax deferral, income splitting, and ensuring you use all available tax incentives.

"There's no way to avoid the tax;

it's only a matter of postponing it and putting it off," said Lance Stockbrugger, a chartered accountant who had dealt mostly with farm clients until he turned his attention full-time to farming while still doing some consulting in areas including transition planning, tax planning, corporations.

"In the old days, a lot of people used to try to stay in that lower tax bracket and pay the minimum amount of tax ... farmers can do that by avoiding to take income ... and making sure all of their expenses are paid by year end," he said.

"I've been advising people for many, many years now that probably the minimum, the low tax bracket isn't enough. If you're running a decent business ... and we've had very successful years ... paying tax at the low tax bracket probably isn't enough. You need to be probably paying upwards of closer to a hundred thousand dollars, depending on your business obviously.

So Stockbrugger emphasizes "making sure you're paying enough tax



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anyway and that you're not creating a big problem because farmers typically will create a problem for themselves by not paying a lot of tax, deferring as much as they can, pushing off income and not delivering grain or selling cattle ... and then prepaying expenses to create this big balloon problem that the tax has to get paid."

A lot of the discussion revolves around whether cash or accrual accounting is better for a farm business.

In cash accounting, you record a sale or expense only when the cash is received or paid. Inventory is not included in the calculation of income. With accrual basis accounting you record income and expenses when a sale or purchase is made, even if the money hasn't changed hands yet.

Stockbrugger also talks about "monitoring the amount of

income that you've taken in and looking at the expenses that you've paid ... and this time of year, if your year-end is Dec. 31, then doing some planning around your year-end can allow you to reduce your taxes ... hopefully reduce them to a manageable level.

"The key thing, which is not news to anybody, is to make sure that you've got good records so that your books are up to date and you've done a good job of recording all of your income and expenses," he said. "So if you are going to see your advisor or your accountant at year end that they will have decent numbers to formulate a plan for you.

Unincorporated businesses, sole proprietors, and partnerships would all be subject to the graduated personal tax rates, Stockbrugger noted, so you're going to want to be monitoring your level of income that you have based on those tax brackets.

"Another thing to think about is income splitting, utilizing as many tax returns as you can," he continued. "So if that's between husband and wife, you split your income and maybe even split your income with your children if your children are working on the farm."

If that is the case though, it is crucial to ensure they are being paid a wage with all of the necessary deductions for proper reporting, he added.

If they are incorporated, Stockbrugger emphasized that producers need

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Continued on page 23

MERRY **Christmas** & Blessed **NEW YEAR**

Glory

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LUKE 2:14



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AAFRC hosts family holiday party this Friday

By Lori Penner

The Altona and Area Family Resource Centre (AAFRC) is thrilled to bring back their annual December celebration.

They are inviting all children from newborn to five to attend their "Whatever Your Reason, Celebrate the Season" event this Friday.

AAFRC coordinator Nina Edbom-Kehler says this fun-filled celebration will include a variety of ways for little ones and their parents to have a great time together and learn at the same time

"Way back we used to do the Christmas party and breakfast with Santa at the Altona United Church. It was something our families always looked forward to every year. Then COVID hit, so we couldn't celebrate together anymore. But now that the restrictions are lifted, we wanted to get together again. We also decided to change the name to include everyone, no matter what their background."

The venue has changed as well, moving to the spacious Rhineland Pioneer Centre this year to allow them

to combine it with their annual learning fair.

"There's so much more room for all the different tables and activities, and for the children to run around," Edbom-Kehler says, noting this is truly a community-supported event. "We wanted as much of the community involved as we could. We're partnering with South Central Regional Library Altona branch, Altona Police, Altona Fire Department, Town of Altona, and Regional Connections, just to name a few."

Members of the police service and fire department will be reading books to the children. Regional Connections will be sharing snacks and stories of how the season is celebrated in their countries of origin. They'll also provide some colouring pages to show children different versions of Santa Claus from around the world.

Various activity centres and craft tables will also be set up and there will be free snacks for all. Santa Claus will also be on hand for photos.

Continued on page 22

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Mother Theresa

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Dr. Seuss

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We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all the support you have given us over the years and hope you will continue to support us in the year ahead.

If you know of a child in need or would like to join us in our efforts, please contact the Elks of Canada at 1-888-843-3557 and they will pass on your request to us. For more information you can refer to our website: www.elksocanada.ca

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Border Land SD fills vacant seats

Bob Aldolphe, Mike Friesen appointed as trustees

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Border Land School Division has filled the two vacant seats on its board of trustees.

This fall's election saw seven incumbent candidates retain their seats by acclamation, leaving empty spots in Ward 2 and Ward 7.

Last week, the division announced the appointment of Bob Aldolphe to Ward 2 and Mike Friesen to Ward 7.

Aldolphe is a real estate agent by trade who calls the Vita area home (Gardenton, specifically). He's a Shevchenko School graduate, as are his three grown daughters.

"So I've got a lot of roots in the community and a lot of roots in that school," he says. "And I hope that one day my grandchildren will be going to that school, so I thought it would be a good fit."

This is Aldolphe's first foray into local politics, though he's no stranger to serving in a variety of capacities over the years.

"Right now I'm the vice-president of the Vita Hall and I've been on the day care committee board, the wildlife association board, and I was a firefighter for 15 years with the RM."



SUPPLIED PHOTOS

Bob Aldolphe (left) and Mike Friesen have been appointed to the Border Land School Division board of trustees, filling vacant seats in Ward 2 and 7, respectively.

Friesen, meanwhile, calls the Old Altona Village area home, just south of the current town of Altona.

"I was approached by a few local members of our community that felt I would be a good fit for school board trustee," Friesen shares on what drew him to the role. "So I started digging into it a little bit to see what it was all about."

"I have one son right now who is currently in the school division and one more that's going to be in school next year. So I thought I'd get involved and help the current team fulfil their tasks and bring some new ideas to the table ... to help better the education in the Border Land School Division."

Friesen is an industrial sales rep with Weber Supply in Altona. He's also involved at École Elmwood School, volunteering as the hot lunch coordinator.

Aldolphe and Friesen join a school board that also includes Jolene Bunn, Gail Sutherland, Albert Klassen, Mark Krahn, Jake Fehr, Patricia Wiebe, and Steven Wiebe.

MERRY Christmas

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• SUSTAINABLE LIVING

Reducing waste this holiday season

By Joanne Wiebe,
Altona Community Action Network

As we gear up for the holiday season, it can be helpful to pause to consider the choices we make as consumers.

It's easy to be persuaded to buy more and consume more in the name of creating a celebration. Along with spending more money, studies show that most people produce up to 30 per cent more waste during the holiday season.

Now might be the time to think about helping your loved ones move toward a more sustainable holiday season.

Consider products that contribute to a healthier environment. Such as:

- House plants or indoor herb gardens.
- Metal drinking straws.
- To-go kits for your car (real cutlery rolled up in fabric napkins).
- Stainless steel kitchen composter.
- Bamboo toothbrush.
- Organic skin care products (buy

or make your own).

- Soy or beeswax candles.
- Food wrap alternatives to single-use plastic.
- Reusable shopping and produce bags.
- Reusable beverage bottles.

One of the easiest ways to reduce your carbon footprint is to shop locally and search for gifts that are locally sourced. You can also avoid waste altogether by exploring other ways of giving such as:

- Creating memories: tickets to events, memberships, and experiences.
- Giving your time and talent: share your skills or services, make handicrafts, make home-baked treats
- Paying it forward: make a donation in their name

If you do purchase gifts, consider making ethical and organic purchasing decisions. Try to find alternatives to products that are cheaply made and produced in unethical conditions. These could include:

- Fair trade handicrafts.
- Fair trade coffee and tea.
- Handmade items.
- Home baked goodies.

•Eco-friendly apparel (Tentree plants ten trees for every item sold and is a Canadian company).

Still need more ideas? Check out <https://davidsuzuki.org/queen-of-green/your-guide-green-holidays/>

Lastly, consider the impact of the wrapping and packaging of your gifts

Continued on page 22

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> **AAFRC, FROM PG. 19**

Edbom-Keher says not only is this a celebration, but it's also a way for local parents and their children to become acquainted with what the AAFRC is all about.

"They're not aware of all the great programs we offer for preschoolers and their families," she says. "Our numbers are lower than they were before the pandemic. We have little ones and their parents who need that socialization, especially in single child families who haven't been exposed to a lot of other people. So, this celebration is for them."

Traditionally, the AAFRC's annual December celebration was held on a Saturday, but Edbom-Kehler says they intentionally chose a weekday this year.

"For one, December weekends are usually filled with family gatherings. And since this is just for preschoolers, we thought it would be good to host it when their older siblings are in school. This is a party just for them."

No registration is required for this free event. Kids can just show up with an adult.

"This has always been a treasured event and we're so excited to see this happening again," says Edbom-Kehler. "We could all use a good celebration right now. We need a little of that spirit of the season."

The AAFRC celebration takes place at the Pioneer Centre in Altona on Friday, Dec. 16 from 9:30 a.m. until noon.

> **ACAN, FROM PG. 21**

as well. Avoid using plastic, metallic or foil wraps because they cannot be recycled or composted. Instead, try using non-glossy gift wrap, plain craft paper, or newspaper; fabric bags, scarves, or fabric scraps; or reusable gift bags or boxes

The holidays should be a time of joy and celebration. Fortunately, there are many ways to celebrate that don't create excess strain on our planet.

ACAN seeks to inspire eco-friendly and sustainable practices in our community through education and action.

The Voice

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> TAX ADVICE, FROM PG. 18

to consider what type of income they going to take personally from the corporation.

“Is it going to be wages? Is it going to be land rent ... is it going to be dividends?” he asked. “Those personal incomes need to match or probably exceed the drawings that you’ve taken out throughout the year to live on, so all of your personal expenditures.”

If it is wages, you need to ensure you take all the deductions like CPP but not EI because you are the owner of the business.


“The wages are deductible to the corporation and fully taxable as normal income on your personal tax return.”

The option of land rent is only available if you own your farm land personally outside of your corporation, so you pay yourself land rent.

“The reason you might want to pay yourself land rent is because you don’t want to pay into the CPP. Maybe you’ve got other sources of income that you’re already paying into the CPP or you feel you’ve already paid enough in.

“The stickler is, first of all, you have to own the land personally, but you

Continued on page 24




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Drop off your donation at any local Access Credit Union Branch.

> TAX ADVICE, FROM PG. 23

also have to charge your corporation GST ... you'll collect it personally and you'll claim it back in the corporation."

In the option of taking a dividend, it won't involve the deductions like CPP or EI.

"That is not deductible by the corporation ... you will pay personally a

lower rate of tax, however what happens with a dividend is you get credit for the taxes that have already been paid by the corporation," Stockbrugger explained.

"Whatever you take out as a dividend is not deductible to the corporation ... when you file your tax return and you report that dividend, you'll get credit for the tax the corporation

has already been paid, and you just pay the difference.

"The government is still getting

their share of taxes; it's just coming

Continued on page 31

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Morden, Winkler Christmas dinners next week

By Lorne Stelmach

Community gathering points in both Winkler and Morden are inviting people to come together in fellowship this holiday season.

Central Station Community Centre in Winkler and Many Hands Resource Centre in Morden are both hosting free Christmas meals the week leading up to the big day.

They are open to anyone, but the events may especially be welcomed by newcomers or people who otherwise find themselves alone during the holidays, say organizers.

"We're pretty excited about it, and we hope people come out for it and just really enjoy it," said Tracey Krause, program co-ordinator for Many Hands Resource Centre, which will welcome people Tuesday, Dec. 20 at the Morden Alliance Church. Advance tickets are required to

reserve your seat.

Many Hands received a small grant in support of putting on its event, and it is getting good support with volunteers from Youth for Christ and the Alliance Church youth group.

There will be a global element to the celebration including a rice dish from India, an eastern European potato salad, and a Thai mango salad.


"We're working with Regional Connections, and we're going to be inviting some of the cultures that are here in Morden to participate with a table and to maybe show us some of the decorations or things that they do around Christmas," said Krause.

"There will be table hosts ... they're responsible to bring the joy, to make sure everyone at the table is warmly welcomed and that they're participating in conversation as much as they want,"

she added. "This is what we wanted to do as a community, to come together and celebrate and learn a little bit about each other and just enjoy an evening where maybe some of might feel a little bit out of our comfort zone but we can

Continued on page 31

Glory to the Newborn King



For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Isaiah 9:6 KJV

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• **HAPPY HOLIDAYS!** •



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St. Paul's hosts Cookie Walk for charity



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

A nice selection of baked treats were offered Friday at St. Paul's United Church in Morden for the annual Cookie Walk fundraiser. "We had lots of people donate cookies, so we had lots to choose from," said Sue Nelson. "And all of the money we raise will go out to local charities," she said, noting it has in the past brought in around \$600. That money is combined with funds raised from monthly soup and pie lunches to support a variety of local charities.

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Bombers 1-1, Altona 0-2 in SEMHL action

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Morden Bombers split their games last week in SEMHL action, while the Altona Maroons added two more losses to their collection.

Morden downed Ile des Chenes Thursday night 7-2 but then got slapped down by the Carman Beavers 13-8 on Saturday.

Playing before a hometown crowd against the Northstars, Adam Hughesman scored a hat trick while Jory Mullin contributed a pair of goals and Jaden Townsend and Mike Rey scored singles en route to victory.

Ile des Chenes managed to get its two goals past Morden goalie Reed Peters in the first and second periods. The third was a scoreless one for both teams.

Peters otherwise made 39 saves in net off 41 shots. His teammates had 29 shots on goal in the win.

Saturday night's game was a penalty-ridden exercise for the Bombers, who wracked up 74 minutes, 58 of them in the final six minutes of the game.

The two teams traded goals through the first period, every Morden point



PHOTO BY RICK HIEBERT/VOICE

Morden's Jessi Freund plays the puck despite the defensive efforts of Carman's Jack Lotscher in Saturday's penalty-laden game on the Bombers' home turf. The Beavers won it 13-8.

Continued on page 28

Flyers move into second place in East Div.

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler Flyers split their MJHL games last week, but it was enough to move them into second place in the standings.

At 44 points, Winkler is now just four points behind the first-place Steinbach Pistons (24-5-0-0) and two ahead of the Portage Terriers in third (20-16-1-1) in the MGEU East Division.

They earned three points last week thanks to a 2-1 OT loss to the Winnipeg Blizzards and an 8-5 victory over the Terriers.

Tuesday night's game in Winnipeg saw Connor Jensen score Winkler's

one and only goal in the first two minutes. The Blizzard, meanwhile, tied it up midway through the second period.

That was it for regulation scoring, though the Flyers certainly had plenty of shots on net, outshooting the Blizzard 16-2 in the first, 17-8 in the second, and 22-3 in the third but being denied again and again by the Winnipeg goalie, former Flyer Brock Moroz.

The game went into overtime for a decision, which was made when Winnipeg scored three minutes in.

Between the posts for Winkler was

Malachi Klassen, who made 14 saves off 16 shots.

The Flyers welcomed the Portage Terriers to town three nights later and sent them packing with a decisive loss.

The first period was all Winkler when it came to scoring. Jayce Legaarden bookended the frame with goals at 1:14 and 16:53. In between, Nicholas McKee, Mike Svenson, and Trent Sambrook added singles.

Portage managed three to Winkler's two in the second period (courtesy of Legaarden and Penner) to make it 7-3 heading into the final 20 minutes.

There, the Terriers tried to close the gap with two more goals in the first few minutes, but that was all they got, while Penner pounded in the final nail with his second of the night at 18:45.

Klassen made 48 saves as Portage outshot Winkler 53-28.

Winkler remains at home to play the Steinbach Pistons Friday and the Niverville Nighthawks Saturday. They'll close out the month with a home game against the Portage Terriers Wednesday, Dec. 21 and a New Year's Eve game in Steinbach.

> SEMHL, FROM PG. 27

matched by one from Carman until a late one from Andrew Clark with five seconds left put the Bombers in the lead 5-4 heading into the intermission. Also scoring for Morden was Mullin with two and Cole Penner and Mike Rey with one each.

Carman then took the lead in the second, scoring three to Morden's one (Fraser Mirlees, nearly nine minutes in) to make it 8-5 for the Beavers.

Rey and Clark did what they could in the first half of the final period, but their two goals were drowned out by the six Carman managed, including two powerplay markers in the 15th minute.

Kohl Robertson made 50 saves in goal for Morden. Carman outshot Morden 63-59.

Altona, meanwhile, came so close in their first match of the week against Notre Dame Dec. 7, but ultimately lost it 7-6 in overtime.

Tristen Dueck's late first-period goal got Altona on the board in a tie that held until midway through the middle frame.

The second period saw the Hawks score three more times while Coltyn Bates got Altona's second of the night

partway through.

Altona's offensive lines came to life in the third; in the first six minutes, two goals from Adam Henry and one from Justin Augert brought Altona into the lead 5-4.

Notre Dame scored at 14:05 to even things out again, but Tyler Penner fired home a goal during a powerplay to give Altona the lead once again.

With 1:39 left on the clock, the Hawks got the tying goal needed to force overtime. There, it was Notre Dame who got the game-winner 21 seconds in.

Cole Kehler was between the posts for Altona and made 43 saves off 50 shots on net. His teammates had 26 shots on goal.

A rematch against the Hawks Saturday night in Altona saw the home team lose once again, this time by a much wider margin of 6-2.

Justin Augert and Henry scored the Maroons' goals, while Kehler made 49 saves in net. The Hawks won the shots battle 55-24.

Winkler, Morden, and Altona are all in the bottom half of the SEMHL standings right now, though the Royals and Bombers have a couple of



PHOTO BY EDWARD VINCENT ARCENEL/VOICE

The Altona Maroons battled hard but ultimately lost to the visiting Notre Dame Hawks 6-2 on Saturday, following up on a much closer 7-6 OT a few nights before.

games in hand.

Morden's in seventh place with a 4-3-0-1 record and nine points, Winkler is in eighth at 4-3-1-0 and nine points, and Altona's in 10th and last place at 1-8-0-0 for three points.

This week, Winkler hosts Morden Wednesday night and Red River on Saturday while the Bombers and the Maroons face each other in Morden Saturday

Morden Thunder supports Christmas Cheerboard



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Scott Edwards' son Kipp was happy to donate a toy Friday as the Morden Thunder high school hockey team faced off against the Mountain Mustangs. The game served as the annual fundraiser in support of the Morden Christmas Cheer Board, so along with donations of toys, the gate fees and proceeds from a 50/50 and auction went to support this year's hamper drive. A final tally was not available, but it usually brings in somewhere in the range of \$1,000 for the Cheer Board.

The **Voice**

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sports & recreation

Male Hawks best Thrashers, fall to Kings

By Lorne Stelmach

The male U18 Pembina Valley Hawks have been close to taking down the league-leading Brandon Wheat Kings, but came up just short again this past weekend.

The Hawks were riding a three-game win streak after having earlier dropped a 3-2 shootout decision Nov. 26 to Brandon, but Pembina Valley fell again to the Wheat Kings Sunday while at least gaining a point from the 5-4 overtime loss.

The loss followed a 6-1 win over the Winnipeg Thrashers last Wednesday and a 4-2 victory over the Southwest Cougars Friday that helped lift them into third place at 16-5-4 for 36 points.

Carter Campbell scored a pair of powerplay goals early in the second period to get the Hawks on their way to the victory over the Thrashers.

Ty Love, Cedrik Robidoux, Liam Goertzen, and Adrian McIntosh also scored for Pembina Valley while Raiden LeGall made 32 saves as the shots on goal were even at 33 apiece.

Two unanswered goals snapped a 2-2 tie in the third period to earn the Hawks their win over Southwest.

Robidoux, Love, Ryder Wolfe, and Nate Lodewyks connected for Pembina Valley, which was outshot 35-20 but Bryson Yaschyshyn backstopped them with 33



saves.

The Hawks spotted Brandon three ear-

PHOTO BY RICK HIEBERT/VOICE

Pembina Valley goalie Raiden LeGall stops one of 33 shots he faced to earn the 6-1 win against the visiting Winnipeg Thrashers Dec. 7.

ly unanswered goals before coming back to lead 4-3 in the third period before Brandon took it to extra time where a powerplay goal won it 4:11 into the overtime.

Campbell, Goertzen, Marek Miller, and Kam Thomas scored for the Hawks, while LeGall kept it close with 44 saves as Brandon held a 48-36

edge in shots.

Pembina Valley trails Brandon and the Winnipeg Bruins by eight and seven points while sitting one and three ahead of the Thrashers and Winnipeg Wild.

The Hawks were paying a visit to the Bruins Friday then heading to Teulon to take on Interlake Saturday.

Female Hawks lose trio of exhibition games to Queens

By Lorne Stelmach

The female U18 Pembina Valley Hawks travelled to Ontario for a three-game exhibition series with the Thunder Bay Queens last weekend.

It offered the Hawks some stiff competition which unfortunately saw them lose all three games.

Pembina Valley fell behind 2-0 early Friday, with the game ending up as a 5-2 loss as the Hawks were outshot 31-11 overall.

Game two Saturday saw the Hawks again trail 2-0 as they were eventually shut out 3-0. The Queens held a 30-12 edge in shots.

The series then concluded Sunday with a closer game that was tied 1-1 after one period and 3-3 after 40 minutes only to see the Hawks fall 4-3 in the end.

Pembina Valley now returns to league play with a pair of home games in Morden this weekend against the two teams below them in the standings. The sixth-place Hawks welcome eighth-place Central Plains Friday then seventh-place Interlake Sunday afternoon.

The Hawks sit at 5-10-1 for 11 points, which has them two and five points up on Interlake and Central Plains and four points behind Eastman.

Off to a good start



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Garden Valley Collegiate varsity boys basketball team opened up their season by reeling off three straight wins on their way to taking the championship at the JH Bruns Tournament last weekend. The Zodiacs got past Grant Park and Selkirk before facing a tough West Kildonan team in the championship game and coming away with an 85-74 victory. Sam Bergen had 34 points in the game and received All Star honors. Dante Dyck had 32 points, 14 rebounds, and eight assists and was named Tournament MVP.

Morden skaters shine

By Voice staff

The Morden Figure Skating Club had a solid showing at the 2023 Skate Manitoba Pre-Novice/Novice Sectionals and Gordon Linney Open in Portage la Prairie last weekend.

"It was a great weekend for our skaters," shares club president Tasha Roberts. "We had 13 skaters competing and many achieved their personal best scores."

In the pre-novice event, Alison Convery skated her way to a second-place finish while Ky-Lynn Jenner came in fourth, Jessica Kagan sixth, Gabbi Hildebrand 11th, and Molly Cowan in 12th place.

Convery also scored a personal best that qualifies her for a spot at the 2023 Skate Canada Challenge in Regina in January.

Competing at the Gordon Linney Open was Sarah Kagen (second place finishes in Gold and Star 9 events), Kierra Penner (first place in the Juv. U14), Carys Jenner (fourth in Juv. U12), Camryn McGill (8th in Star 6), Rebecca Kagen (third place in Star 5 U13), Kate Ginter (second in Star 9 Artistic), and Naomi Hildebrand (first in Star 9 Artistic).

"A huge thank you to our coaches for all of your time and dedication to this sport," Roberts says.



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

The Morden Figure Skating Club had numerous skaters compete at events in Portage la Prairie last weekend, many coming home with top-10 finishes and/or personal bests. Above: Skaters Jessica Kagan, Gabbi Hildebrand, Alison Convery, and Ky-Lynn Jenner with coaches Brooklyn Parker and Pam Parker. Right: Coach Parker with skater Kierra Penner. Left: Kate Ginter and Naomi Hildebrand on the podium in the Star 9 Artistic event. Below: Camryn McGill (left) and Molly Cowan (right).



Road wins bolster Twisters' record in MMJHL

By Lorne Stelmach

The Pembina Valley Twisters came up with a pair of big wins on the road this past weekend against teams they are pursuing in the MMJHL standings.

The Twisters first doubled up third-place Fort Garry Fort Rouge 6-3 Friday and then edged fourth-place River East 2-1 Sunday.

The victories moved Pembina Valley up one notch in the standings to seventh place at 8-9-3-1 for 20 points. They are two ahead of St. Boniface while having now crept within two and three points of Transcona and Charleswood.

The Twisters scored three unanswered goals to open up the game against Fort Garry Fort Rouge before

the Twins roared back to even it at 3-3 after 20 minutes.

Keston Worley scored a pair with the other goals coming from Riley Goertzen, Cody Clark, Merek Degraeve, and Slade Sotheran. Logan Enns made 27 saves with shots on goal 38-30 in favour of Pembina Valley.

The Twisters outplayed River East with a 51-35 edge in shots on goal, but

it took a pair of third period goals by Sotheran in the latter half of the third period for Pembina Valley to get the win. Enns got the win in goal with 34 saves.

The Twisters will aim to maintain the momentum this weekend against Charleswood Friday and St. Boniface Sunday.

Mazinke the celebrated Brier champ of 1973

By Ty Dilello

Eighty-five-year-old Harvey Mazinke was the skip of the 1973 Brier Champion team, representing Saskatchewan. Later that year, he went on to win the silver medal at the World Championships.

Born in Altona in 1937, Mazinke was raised in nearby Sewell, a small hamlet inside the RM of Morris. Mazinke also had three brothers, all solid curlers, who completed the provincial playdowns out of the Altona/Morris zone.

Coming into Winnipeg as a teenager, Mazinke played his junior curling under the legendary Bruce Hudson's tutelage at the Strathcona Curling Club in Winnipeg. He later played with Hudson in the men's ranks and won the province in 1964 to represent Manitoba at the 1964 Macdonald Brier, where they finished third with a 7-3 record.

Mazinke moved to Regina, Saskatchewan in 1968. He wound up finding himself a strong curling team to play with, and in 1973, they won the Saskatchewan championship and headed to the Brier in Edmonton.

"We were not the number one rated team that week," said Mazinke. "There were comments in the paper that we were too old or hadn't travelled to play that year too much. We weren't well known around Western Canada, but we were in Saskatchewan."

At the Brier, the rink suffered only one loss at the hands of Prince Edward Island. The rink pulled out two

14-end victories on the last day to secure their Brier win and a trip to the World Championships. That year the Air Canada Silver Broom was held in Regina, and the Mazinke rink competed in front of a hometown crowd.

At the end of the week's competition, Mazinke and his Team Canada had a perfect 10-0 record and were matched in the final against Sweden. A tense, close game inevitably came down to the final shot. The last Canadian rock failed to reach the rings on a heavy ice surface, and Sweden took the title. Mazinke left Regina with a silver medal.

"It was a Cinderella year that ended with a silver medal. We were upset to lose the final, but looking back, there's nothing to complain about with our magical 1973 year that we managed to put together."

Mazinke returned to the Brier with the same Saskatchewan rink in 1975 but finished with a 7-4 record, which was good for fourth place. His team played together for 12 years and was promptly inducted into the Saskatchewan Sports Hall of Fame in 1982.

From 1987-1988, he was the president of the Canadian Curling Association. And in 1989, he was inducted into the Canadian Curling Hall of Fame. Nowadays, Mazinke is retired and living in Kelowna, where he still enjoys watching curling from the comfort of his home.

"Curling was very good to me, and I'm proud of what I was able to get out of the sport," said Mazinke. "Not too bad for a young kid from Sewell."



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Harvey Mazinke was the skip of the 1973 Brier Champion team, representing Saskatchewan. He went on to win the silver medal at the World Championships later that year. Left to Right: Harvey Mazinke (skip), Bill Martin (third), Dan Klippenstein (lead), George Achtymichuk (second).



Roland Golf Club has stocking stuffer ideas



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Roland Golf Club is increasing membership and cart storage/trail fees by five per cent across the board for the upcoming 2023 golf season.

By Ty Dilello

The Roland Golf Club is increasing membership and cart storage/trail fees by five per cent across the board for the upcoming 2023 golf season.

"This is the first increase in over ten years," said Roland Golf Club Secretary-Treasurer Dianne Toews. "We have had to increase due to the cost of everything going up, such as fuel, fertilizer, chemical, equipment costs and repair."

Even with the membership costs going up, the Roland Golf Club is still one of the cheapest places in Manitoba to golf, with an adult membership at \$410, taxes included. You can also still purchase mem-

berships for next year at this year's price of \$390 until Dec. 31. Call Dianne at 204-343-2197 or email rgc-club@mymts.net if interested.

A couple's membership at the course will also be increasing from \$695 to \$730 after Dec. 31.

Need a great stocking stuffer? The course also has its Four Play Lottery tickets returning for the 2023 season. \$40 gets you a chance at seven different monetary draws totalling \$20,000 and 72 holes of golf (18 in Roland, 18 in Miami, 18 in Treherne and 18 in Pilot Mound). Tickets can be purchased at the Roland General Store.

• INCREDIBLE CREATURES

Pileated Woodpeckers: attractive ant-eating architects

By John Gavloski

We were treated to an incredible bird sighting in our front yard recently when the largest species of woodpecker in Canada showed up in our front yard to feed on some crabapples from our crabapple tree, then went off to feed on what it could find on the bark in another tree in our yard. This large woodpecker, that gets to nearly the size of a crow, is called the pileated woodpecker. This article explores the interesting appearance, architecture and appetite of the pileated woodpecker, and why they are of such great value ecologically.

Red Crested Ant Eaters

There are twenty-two species of woodpeckers in North America, excluding the ivory-billed woodpecker, which is largely believed to be extinct, and eight species that can be found in Manitoba. My wife and I have seen seven of the eight, and just have to track down the three-toed woodpecker. The pileated woodpecker is the largest living woodpecker in North America, and third largest in the world after the great slaty woodpecker, found in southern Asia, and the

black woodpecker, found in Europe and parts of Asia. Pileated woodpeckers are about 42 cm (a foot and a half) in length, and about two and a half times taller than the petite downy woodpeckers, that are more common visitors to peoples' yards.

Pileated woodpeckers are mostly black, with a triangular red crest and bold white stripes on head and neck. The bill is long and chisel-like, and about the length of the head. The woodpecker in the photo is a male; just the males have the red stripe behind the beak (scarlet mustache), while in the females' this mustache is black. Both males and females have the distinctive red crest, but the male's extends further toward the bill.

Pileated woodpeckers eat mostly ants and other insects, but also fruits and nuts. Carpenter ants may be up to 60% of their diet; although they will also eat other ants (rarely digging into anthills on ground), larvae of wood-boring beetles, and other insects such as flies, spruce budworm, caterpillars and grasshoppers. Compared to other woodpecker species, pileated woodpeckers prefer to for-

age in dying and decaying dead trees, using their bills to chisel oval or rectangular holes in search of prey. About one-quarter of the diet may be wild fruits, berries, and nuts. They may occasionally visit feeders, and are especially fond of suet.

The Value of Dead Wood

Pileated woodpeckers nest almost exclusively in standing dead trees. They are the bird's home and nursery. Pileated woodpeckers prefer deciduous and coniferous forests with larger, old growth trees that can support their spacious cavities. In spring, the hole made by the male attracts a female for mating and raising their young. The entrance hole is oblong rather than the circular shape of most woodpecker holes. Pileated woodpeckers don't line their nests with any material except for leftover wood chips. Cavity depth can range from about 25 to 60 cm (10-24 inches).

Once the brood is raised, the birds abandon the hole and do not use it the next year. Abandoned holes of pileated and other woodpeckers provide good homes in future years for many forest songbirds and a wide variety



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Pileated woodpecker

of other animals. Owls and tree-nesting ducks, such as wood ducks, may largely rely on holes made by pileated woodpeckers in which to lay their nests. Ecologically, the entire woodpecker family is important to the well being of many other bird species.

For those of you that remember the cartoon character Woody Woodpecker, cartoonist Walter Lantz is believed to have based the appearance of this character on the pileated woodpecker. They are a fascinating bird, and one to watch for this winter, as they do spend the winters here and can be found in towns and cities.

> CHRISTMAS DINNERS, FROM PG. 25

come together as a community."

For more information, head to manyhandsrc.com or contact Krause at 204-8223-1678 or via email to manyhandsrc.com.

Meanwhile, in Winkler, Central Station is the place to be the week leading up to Christmas.

"We want everyone to have something special happening at Christmas," said executive director Bev Wiebe of their community meal planned for Monday, Dec. 19 from 4:30-7 p.m. at 555 Main St.

"It's about community building for one and pro-

viding a place of celebration for the Christmas season for individuals and families who might not have other celebrations to look forward to," Wiebe said. "As well, it is for general public. We want a place where everyone can get together and share a meal, share some warmth and celebrate the Christmas season."

Central Station's gathering will include a full Christmas dinner along with some entertainment.

It is open to everyone, with some extended seating and extended hours in order to accommodate as many people as possible. Wiebe anticipates it will be somewhat come and go.

She sees people coming because they are "looking for connection, looking for opportunity to meet other people, and it's whether you've lived here for 30 years or lived here for a year. Many people are still always looking for connections.

"It doesn't matter who you are or what you do or where you come from, we want people to feel welcome and that it is for anyone in the community."

> TAX ADVICE, FROM PG. 24

from different sources.

"A lot more have been incorporated now ... but you need to treat them for what they are and treat them as a tax deferral, not a tax saver," said Stockbrugger, who noted the bottom line is to be prepared and plan ahead.

"You can set yourself up and plan for 2023," he

concluded. "These are usually the times when you should be sitting down with your advisor and looking at is a partnership or a sole proprietor, an unincorporated business, is that still viable for you to run your business, or should you be looking at possible incorporating?"

For more information, head online to winklercentralstation.ca, call 204-325-0257, or email info@winklercentralstation.ca.

Other local celebrations in the works include a Christmas Day community meal at Westside Community Church in Morden.

Pastor Gerald Dyck said they wanted to step in when they were not aware of any other community Christmas meals happening on Christmas Day.

"We just wanted to ensure that something was happening on Christmas," he said, noting the plan is to start at 1 p.m. People can register their seat by contacting the church (204-822-5172).

Dyck said they ultimately want people to "understand that they are valued and needed in the community.

"We think we can do meals for up to 250 people. If people need it delivered, they should let us know that too," he said. "We just wanted to make sure that people had a place to go on Christmas especially if they didn't have family here or were disconnected in some way."

What's *Your* story?

We want to hear from you.

The Winkler Morden Voice connects people through stories to build stronger communities.

Do you know someone who has a unique hobby? Will be recognized by a local organization for volunteer service?

A teacher that goes above and beyond? A hometown hero? A sports star? A business celebrating a milestone or expansion? A senior celebrating their 100th birthday? A young entrepreneur starting out?

Please share your story ideas at news@winklermordenvoice.ca Phone 204-332-3456

The Winkler Morden **Voice**

Fused glass business helps artist cope with grief

By Autumn Fehr

Grieving the loss of a loved one is often a long and complicated process.

Some folks use different vices to cope with that loss, while others find a hobby that will fill the void.

When Barb Murray's husband was killed in an accident, she needed to find something to do to cope with her loss.

Out of that time of mourning came a new passion for fused glass, which later turned into starting her own business, Stringers & Frit, the same year.

"For a long time, it was grief therapy for me," said Murray.

When her husband died, Murray went on her mourning journey, and she needed to find an outlet to keep her busy.

It started with her sister dragging her to a fused-glass lesson in Morden.

Afterward, they went to Winnipeg and took some more classes at Prairie Studio Glass.

"Glass is such a versatile medium – almost anything is possible. I feel that glass is meant to be touched, to pick it up and feel the weight of it, to see the play of light in the glass and to appreciate the piece for its beauty," said Murray.

Murray makes plates, bowls, jewellery (with tiny pieces of glass), and Christmas ornaments, to name a few.

"I make it, so it is functional. There are very few pieces that I make that are strictly ornamental," said Murray.

For a long time working with fused glass was grief therapy until people started to ask to buy her glass.

"Working with glass as I started to cope with my husband's death made me smile at a time when I thought I would never smile again," said Murray.

She started making pieces for others when she bought her large kiln, a device used to heat the glass to fuse it, similar to pottery.



Every piece Murray creates is one of a kind.

"Making glass and gifting it, in the beginning, was part of my grief therapy. That was, first and foremost, why I started glass, and it has now evolved into going to craft fairs and selling my glass. It has been an evolution, and it makes me smile," said Murray.

Murray said she is willing to do commission work, planning with a client and picking the colours that 'speak' to them to create a piece they love.

In the past, she has done pieces for retirements, notable birthdays, weddings, and anniversaries.

"It's always a pleasure to create glass for others," said Murray.

A fan favourite for those that know Murray's products are coasters, and her favourite thing to make

is bowls.

Murray doesn't currently have an online store but hopes to one day.

For now, she is participating in two to three craft sales a year and sells her pieces at some retailers: Prairie Fusion Arts & Entertainment in Portage la Prairie, and Golden Prairie Arts Council and Toews Printing in Carman. She also sells it directly from her studio.

When Murray found her passion, she wanted to share it with others.

"There are very few people who do fused glass in Southern Manitoba," said Murray.

In 2015, she started teaching fused-



PHOTOS BY LANA MEIER/VOICE

Barb Murray, owner/operator of Stringers & Frit makes a new Christmas decoration each year.



A fused-glass plate made by Barb Murray.

glass lessons to teach the community its art.

When COVID-19 hit, Murray had to take a break, but in the summer of 2021, she started back up again.

Murray hosts lessons in the spring, summer, and fall and takes a break during winter as it's too cold for classes.

Every year, Murray has donated glass to new families attending the Western Canada Family Forum, a gathering for people affected by a



The Tree of Life is a 11x11 plate, kiln-formed on a mould in the kiln.

workplace event.

The forum is organized by Threads

Continued on page 35

The **Voice**

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get inspired

> MEAL IDEAS



Spinach Christmas Tree Salad

Servings: 6
 2 packages (5 ounces each) Fresh Express Baby Spinach
 1/2 cup dried cranberries, divided
 1/3 cup pistachios, divided
 1/2 cup feta cheese, divided
 1 red pepper, cored, cut into thin strips
 1 large apple, thinly sliced, cut into star shapes
Dressing:
 1 cup whole berry cranberry sauce
 3 tablespoons cranberry juice
 2 tablespoons balsamic vinegar
 2 tablespoons honey
 1/4 cup olive oil
 1 tablespoon light brown sugar

1/4 teaspoon salt
 In large bowl, toss baby spinach with 1/4 cup dried cranberries, 1/6 cup pistachios and 1/4 cup feta cheese. Transfer to Christmas tree cake mold. Neatly arrange spinach leaves to create smooth surface.

Arrange red pepper strips, trimming as needed, to create garland. Arrange remaining dried cranberries, remaining pistachios and remaining feta cheese as "ornaments" on top of spinach. Create tree topper with one apple star; place remaining apple stars around "tree."

To make dressing: In blender, process cranberry sauce, cranberry juice, balsamic vinegar, honey, olive oil, brown sugar and salt until smooth.



Creamy Au Gratin Potatoes with Kale and Gruyere

Recipe courtesy of Wisconsin Potatoes
 1 1/2 cups heavy cream
 1/2 teaspoon salt
 1/2 teaspoon black pepper
 2 cloves garlic, smashed
 3 sprigs fresh thyme
 2 tablespoons butter
 3 cloves shallots, diced
 4 large kale leaves, finely chopped (discard stems)

2 pounds red potatoes, sliced 1/8 inch
 2 ounces gruyere cheese, grated
 1 ounce Parmesan cheese, grated
 Heat oven to 325 F.

In small saucepan over medium heat, combine cream, salt, black pepper, garlic and thyme; stir constantly, until cream starts to bubble, 4-6 minutes. When bubbling, remove from heat and stir until slightly cooled. Let cream sit.

Heat large (12-inch) oven-safe skillet over medium-high heat. Add butter. When butter melts, add shallots and kale leaves. Saute until kale is tender and bright green, about 4 minutes. Turn off burner.

Add sliced potatoes to skillet, fanning over top of kale.

Use slotted spoon to remove garlic and thyme from heavy cream. Pour heavy cream over potatoes.

Cover skillet tightly with foil and bake

until potatoes are tender, 75-85 minutes.

Remove skillet from oven and turn on broiler. Discard foil.

Sprinkle gruyere and Parmesan cheeses over potatoes, tucking some cheese between potato slices.

Return skillet to oven and broil until top is golden brown, 5-6 minutes.

Cranberry Cheesecake



Prep time: 45 minutes

Cook time: 1 hour, 15 minutes

Cranberry Compote:

2 cups fresh cranberries
 1 cup C&H Light Brown Sugar
 1/4 cup freshly squeezed orange juice

1 teaspoon freshly grated orange zest
Crust:

2 cups graham cracker crumbs
 6 tablespoons unsalted butter, melted

Expert patient here to help!



Susie Schwartz

Take the day off!

I mean yes, from work if you can, but I'm talking about your health troubles.

Christmas Day and New Year's day are two of the very few days of the year when doctors and clinics don't schedule medical appointments and procedures. As long as they don't get called out for an emergency surgery or are needed on a ward or are in the ER, they'll be trying to sleep in while their kids pounce on them in the wee hours of the morning begging to see what Santa brought them.

The lab and x-ray techs and diabetes nurses, well, they'll also be in their pjs for an extra couple of hours until their in-laws descend upon them for turkey and stuffing.

So I say, take the opportunity to give yourself a break. Wear your

pyjamas for too long and delight in your children or new puppy. (? Oh I hope you get a new puppy!) Try not to think about your next appointment or chemo treatment or endoscopy.

I'm not saying it will be easy. I have to get my two big toenails ripped off in January. Needless to say, it's on my mind. But I am going to try to revel in every moment of the celebratory days with family and friends this season, and put my toenails in a box. (Not a cardboard one. Gross. And they're not off yet. No, a mental one. Metaphorically.)

Of course, you still have to take care of your needs that day. I'll be pumping (extra!) insulin and scanning my blood sugar monitor and taking my medication – there's no choice in that. As much as I want to forget it all, I have to be smart. And you do too. But maybe if we can package up the extra worries and upcoming appointments, our Christmas will be just a little less heavy.

And we could all use a little less heavy, right?

So go get distracted in all of the festivities and take that break. You deserve it.

Merry Christmas everyone, and Happy Holidays.

Less health stress, yes?

A published author and musician, Susie currently lives in the UK. Find her on FB @medicalmissstress, Instagram @susie.suschwa, and lesshealthstress.com

3 tablespoons C&H Light Brown Sugar
 1/4 teaspoon salt

Cheesecake:
 3 packages (8 ounces each) cream cheese, at room temperature

2 cups C&H Organic Raw Cane Sugar
 3 tablespoons all-purpose flour
 2 teaspoons pure vanilla extract
 1/4 teaspoon salt
 4 large eggs, at room temperature
 1/2 cup sour cream, at room temperature

1/2 cup cranberry compote
 fresh cranberries
 sugared cranberries
 rosemary sprigs
 whipped cream

To make cranberry compote: In medium saucepan, bring cranberries, brown sugar, orange juice and orange zest to boil. Lower heat and simmer 10-15 minutes, or until most cranberries burst. Remove from heat. Cool completely at room temperature then transfer to bowl; refrigerate.

To make crust: Preheat oven to 350 F. Butter 8-inch springform pan and line bottom with parchment paper. Set aside.

In medium bowl, mix cracker crumbs, butter, brown sugar and salt. Press

crumb mixture into bottom of prepared pan. Bake 15 minutes. Remove from oven and set aside. Reduce oven temperature to 325 F.

To make cheesecake: In bowl of electric mixer fitted with paddle attachment, beat cream cheese at medium speed until smooth. Add cane sugar and beat 2-3 minutes. Scrape sides of bowl as needed. Add flour, vanilla and salt. Beat 1 minute until incorporated.

Add one egg at a time, mixing until incorporated. Add sour cream and mix 1 minute. Scrape sides of bowl as needed. In medium bowl, mix half of cheesecake batter with 1/2 cup cranberry compote.

Wrap springform pan with aluminum foil and place in large roasting pan. Pour cream cheese and cranberry mixture into prepared pan. Top with remaining cream cheese batter. Place roasting pan in oven and add hot water to 1-inch of springform pan. Bake 1 hour, 15 minutes, or until cake looks set in center. Remove from oven and rest 1 hour. Refrigerate in pan overnight.

Decorate cake with fresh and sugared cranberries, rosemary sprigs and whipped cream.

Carpathia CU members okay merge with Access CU

By Voice staff

Carpathia Credit Union members have given the green light for the proposed merger with Access Credit Union.

The Winnipeg financial institution held a vote last week on the merger that received the required two-thirds majority to move forward with the idea. Access CU members were not required to vote since Carpathia rep-

resents less than 10 percent of Access' total assets.

The two credit unions will become one on July 1, 2023 under the Access Credit Union name.

"It's exciting to see our shared vision to build a stronger future together come to fruition" said Don Cilinsky,

Carpathia board chair. "For our communities it's an opportunity to broaden our impact and do more good together."

"Our priorities are to continue serving our members and communities with excellence, and invest in our communities for a sustainable future"

noted Access Credit Union board chair Kevin Beresford.

After the merge, Access Credit Union will have more than \$10 billion in assets, over 168,000 members, more than 900 employees, and 61 branch locations.

> STRINGERS AND FRIT, FROM PG. 33

of Life, a national organization dedicated to helping workers living with a life-altering injury, an occupational disease, or the family left behind following a workplace fatality.

Murray has been involved with the organization since her husband died at his workplace.

"Glass truly is part of my grief therapy," said Murray.

Class information and questions can be directed to stringersandfrit@gmail.com or by calling 204-745-6003.



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Sgordon@scoular.com

LAND FOR SALE BY TENDER

Land for Sale by Tender

Completed Tenders and a \$20,000.00 deposit will be received up to 12:00 PM (noon) on January 25, 2023 (the "Deadline") at:
MLT Aikins LLP
30th Floor - 360 Main Street
Winnipeg, MB R3C 4G1
Attn: Jilian P. Stefanson
Ph: 204-957-4713 Fax: 204-957-0840
Email: jstefanson@mltaikins.com

Property for Sale Between Kaleida and Darlingford Hwy # 3 Road Access:

4 titles comprising:
NW 11-3-8 WPM
SW 11-3-8 WPM

(approximately 317.41 acres) all as more particularly described in the Real Estate Tender Form. To obtain a Tender Form or more information, contact Jilian P. Stefanson of MLT Aikins LLP at the address above.

Conditions of Tender

- Interested parties must rely on their own inspection and knowledge of the property.
- Tenders must be in the form prepared by MLT Aikins LLP and must be delivered by the Deadline.
- Each Tender must be accompanied by a certified cheque, payable to MLT Aikins LLP (in trust), in the amount of \$20,000.00.
- Deposits for Tenders not accepted will be returned to the bidders.
- The possession date and the due date of the balance of tender price shall be February 15, 2023 (the "Due Date").
- If the balance of the accepted tender is not paid on the Due Date, the deposit paid may be forfeited as liquidated damages.
- Successful bidders shall be responsible for payment of the GST or shall self-assess GST.
- Successful bidders will be responsible for the payment of property taxes commencing January 1, 2023.
- Highest Tender or any Tender will not necessarily be accepted. The Vendors are not obligated to sell any of the land, or to accept any Tender.**

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
RACHEL ALMA MARIE DELORME
late of the Town of Altona, in Manitoba,
Deceased.

All Claims against the above estate, duly verified by Statutory Declaration, must be filed with the undersigned at their offices, Box 811, 164 Boyne Avenue, Morris, Manitoba, R0G 1K0, on or before the 7th day of February, 2023.

DATED at the Town of Morris, in
Manitoba, this 7th day of December, 2022.

BRUCE D. GREGORY LAW CORPORATION
Box 811, 164 Boyne Avenue,
Morris, Manitoba, R0G 1K0
Solicitor for the Executor

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.

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

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NOTICES

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Reporter/Photographer Wanted

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

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

Qualifications:

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

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

Lana Meier
Email: news@stonewallteulontribune.ca

The Carman-Dufferin
STANDARD

FARMLAND TENDER

FARM LAND FOR SALE BY TENDER IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF PEMBINA

Sealed tenders in writing for the purchase of the property described below will be received by **McCulloch Mooney Johnston Selby LLP** as follows:

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

PROPERTY FOR SALE:

PARCEL I:

NW 1/4 OF SECTION 24-3-8 WPM

(Approximately 110 cultivates acres, 32 acres of hay land, 18 acres of bush and yard site)

Yard site is currently vacant (no buildings). Perfect site to build on.

PARCEL II:

NE 1/4 OF SECTION 24-3-8 WPM

(Approximately 115 cultivated acres, 40 acres of hay land, 5 acres of bush)

CONDITIONS OF TENDER

1. Interested parties must rely on their own inspection and knowledge of the property.
2. Tenders may be placed on all or part of the above described parcels of land.
3. Tenders must be received on or before 3:00 p.m. on January 13, 2023.
4. A deposit cheque in the amount of \$25,000.00, payable to McCulloch Mooney Johnston Selby Trust, must accompany each Tender. Deposit cheques accompanying unacceptable bids will be returned.
5. Highest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SALE

1. The bidder whose tender is accepted will be required to complete an agreement covering terms and conditions of sale.
2. In addition to the deposit, the balance of the accepted tender must be paid on or before the date of closing which shall be February 16, 2023, 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.
3. Possession is not authorized until acceptable arrangements for full payment are made following acceptance of tender. Once arrangements acceptable to the vendor have been made, the successful bidder may have access to the property for seeding and other farming purposes.
4. Successful bidder will be responsible for real property taxes commencing January 1, 2023.
5. The purchaser shall be responsible for payment of GST or shall self-assess for GST.
6. The land is not subject to a first right of refusal.

For further information, contact Chris H. Bowler

Phone: 204-242-2801

Fax: 204-242-2723

Email: chris@mmjlaw.com

Please Label Envelopes: "24-3-8 WPM Tender"

FARMLAND TENDER

FARM LAND FOR SALE BY TENDER IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF PEMBINA

Sealed tenders in writing for the purchase of the property described below will be received by **McCulloch Mooney Johnston Selby LLP** as follows:

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

PROPERTY FOR SALE:

NW 1/4 27-1-7 WPM EXCEPTING - ALL MINES AND MINERALS AS IN TRANSFER 84240 MLTO
(Approximately 125 cultivated acres)

CONDITIONS OF TENDER

1. Interested parties must rely on their own inspection and knowledge of the property.
2. Tenders must be placed and accepted on the entire above described parcel of land.
3. Tenders must be received on or before 3:00 p.m. on December 22, 2022.
4. A deposit cheque in the amount of \$20,000.00, payable to McCulloch Mooney Johnston Selby Trust, must accompany each Tender. Deposit cheques accompanying unacceptable bids will be returned.
5. Highest or any tender not necessarily accepted.
6. The land is not subject to a first right of refusal.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SALE

1. The bidder whose tender is accepted will be required to complete an agreement covering terms and conditions of sale.
2. In addition to the deposit, the balance of the accepted tender must be paid on or before the date of closing which shall be January 20, 2023, 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.
3. Possession is not authorized until acceptable arrangements for full payment are made following acceptance of tender. Once arrangements acceptable to the vendor have been made, the successful bidder may have access to the property for seeding and other farming purposes.
4. Successful bidder will be responsible for real property taxes commencing January 1, 2023.
5. The purchaser shall be responsible for payment of GST or shall self-assess for GST.

For further information, contact Chris H. Bowler

Phone: 204-723-2777

Fax: 204-723-2416

Email: chris@mmjlaw.com

Please Label Envelopes: "27-1-7 WPM Sale Tender"



We hope it's the type of season that fills your heart and home with hope, warmth and great joy! As we wrap up a most eventful year, we are especially grateful for the trust and support of this community. Our commitment to quality reporting and service to our neighbors here remains as strong as ever, and we wish everyone peace and good health in 2022 and beyond.

Delivering our thanks and warmest wishes - your community newspaper team.

Allana Sawatzky
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Brittany Hiebert
Christy Brown
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They can also assist you with family law, notary and commissioner for oaths, contract review and leases, among other things.

The practice was started in 1977 by legal associates Peter Cole and Harry Wiens. Cole took sole ownership in 2008.

Adam Mace worked for Cole as a summer student in 2010, and as an articling student in 2011. He purchased the practice in 2012, with Cole as a partner until 2020.

Mace graduated from the University of Manitoba's Law School in 2011, after having obtained an undergraduate bachelor's degree in economics and political science from Bishop's University.

Mace says good communication is not only the key to a successful law practice but is also vital in developing a good working relationship with clients.

"We pride ourselves in providing fast and effective legal services and responding to clients in a timely manner," he says. "The most common complaint the Law Society receives from



The staff of Cole & Mace law office in Altona.

clients is a lack of communication from lawyers and we want to make sure that never happens when using our office. We answer voicemails and emails promptly, and keep our clients updated. Many areas, such as real estate and corporate matters are deadline driven, so we accommodate that."

Through the years, Mace says the Altona & District Chamber of Commerce has always been there to make sure they are represented in the community as well as they represent their clients.

"We take part in the 'Welcome' packages and sponsor various activities throughout the year. They've been a valuable networking tool."

Being a part of the community is also important to Mace.

"Living and working in Altona has been great. Peter was fantastic about introducing me to his clients and the community welcomed me with open arms. I've coached multiple teams over the years and served on a few boards. I look forward to continuing doing so."



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AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

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