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NOVEMBER 1, 2024 | EMPIRE: VOL 120 NO 11 / ADVANCE: VOL 139 NO 13 | PUBLISHING FRIDAYS


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Animal hospital expansion important economic development



SUBMITTED PHOTO

At the sod turning in early October (back l-r): Zac Penner (T.L. Penner), Tina Williams (Town of Virden), Dr. King (VAH), Claude Martin (RM of Grasslands), Cyril Druwe (RM of Sifton), Trent Peel (Prairie View Municipality); (front l-r): Jean Gatey, Dr. Loewen (VAH), Brenda Gatey, Larry Logan (Chair Virden Veterinary Service District) and Gerry Gatey and the Gatey dogs.

By Anne Davison
EMPIRE-ADVANCE

Pet owners and livestock producers in Westman can find themselves in a predicament when an animal is hurt, ill or needs a medical procedure because many formerly thriving rural clinics have closed in the last couple of decades. Virden Animal Hospital (VAH) has a number of veterinarians and a growing practice, however their clinic and treatment facility has become too small and is in need of renovation, so VAH is expanding its capacity with an addition that is now underway.

Dr. Joe King says, “This expansion to the Virden Animal Hospital will provide the space needed for our clinic to

grow.”

In early October elected representatives of surrounding municipalities attended a sod turning ceremony to officially kick off the construction process. Now, the foundation is dug and cement has been poured.

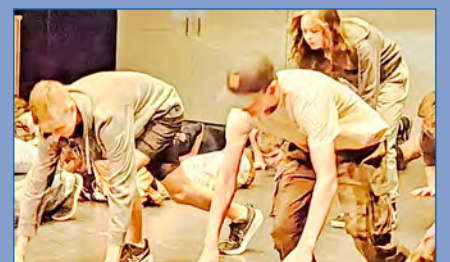
Virden Veterinary Services District Board is a quasi-municipal board where members of councils and the public are represented. District boards were created by an act of parliament some years ago, designed to include both municipal and provincial grants to help veterinary clinics. Larry Logan of Lenore is chairperson of the Virden District board.

Find out more about the Virden Animal Hospital on page 3...



HOME GAME
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3
VS. WAYWAYSEECAPPO
WOLVERINES
PUCK DROPS AT 7:00PM

Inside...



**FREAKY
FRIDAY UP
AND COMING**

P2



**VALLEYVIEW
CO-OP ZERO
WASTE LOOP**

P9

Behind the scene at Freaky Friday



PHOTOS BY ANNE DAVISON

Sandra Unger as Ms. Meyers the sergeant-major style gym teacher demands push-ups of the entire class as a penalty for a lateness. Costuming comes at a later practice.



Munchinsky (centre) directs the Livingroom set move at the Sunday, Oct. 27 rehearsal in the AUD Theatre.

By Anne Davison
EMPIRE-ADVANCE

It's exciting times as Freaky Friday, A New Musical is now rehearsing in the Aud Theatre for their upcoming Wednesday, Nov. 6 opening.

Moving parts are coming together as Virden Theatre Productions' producer/director Michelle Chzyk guides rehearsals. Key moving parts literally include clever wheeled sets that silently slip into place to transport both audience and actors to time and place.

Co-director Dean Munchinsky explains how necessary set moves fit the show, hand in glove: "The set is a character here as well. We have the main leads in the show helping move the sets. There's choreography that happens with it, a dance, a feel, so it doesn't take away from that reality. That's an enjoyable part."

He feels privileged to be part of Chzyk's productions and says, "Michelle leaves the sets pretty much to me," adding, "she is brilliant in the musical side of things, and blocking (actors stage movements)."

Munchinsky has worked on movie sets and on other stages and has a broad view of the importance of set construction. "In the bigger centres, construction people figure out that with movie sets and things like that, their talents are appreciated and sought after." He says in Virden, people with talents and skills "create something that is magnificent." He'd like to see that recognized and developed. "I would like to see us grow that side of the operation."

As set construction coordinator he works with unique design requirements. "The Aud is, of course, unique in its limitations. We don't have a fly stage. We can't drop in sets from the sky yet...." With no back stage and a minimal side stage area set design and movement is a challenge.

He jokes that hands-on set creation isn't his forte. "I can cut a board three times and it's still too short." People who are adept and talented have brought his designs to life.

SET CREATORS

There's a fun car scene. "Dan Roberts from Virden Car Wash made the Bronco. Terry Friesen made the cabinets and walls. Jodi Kreizer is the set decorator plus... the crew of a boat... 20 people, to haul the sets into the Aud and set them up.

"Terry Friesen built our kitchen front," a 16 ft. wide, 18 ft. high kitchen front. He also built walls for other pieces. The sets are then transferred to decorators-Krieser, Coralee and Kathy Welch, to decorate.

Jody Kreiser is "impressive" says Munchinsky.

chinsky. A decorator by profession, her work turned a plywood countertop into a granite look with a backsplash. "It's the little things that you don't think about."

THE DRAMA

Munchinsky is also dramatic director and says Freaky Friday's script has a lot of depth. "Our actors have been fantastic in chewing into the meat of this story and the characters and bringing them to life." He describes the acting demands. "You have to own who that person is. You have lived their life experiences you have dealing with issues they are dealing with."

For example, Sandra Unger's role. "Sandra Unger has probably one of the hardest

pieces, because we counter-cast her. She is a sweet, kind, loving person, all of the time." But, on stage the audience will find a very different character.

"So you have to find that piece of anger and malice... instead of being kind." He says its fun to "explore different pieces of who we can be."

The Aud's new seats promise new comfort leaving Freaky Friday to swallow up the audience into its zany reality, with projected backgrounds, set creations and rock concert style lightning technology.

The show runs from Nov. 6 through Nov. 10 with evening performances plus a Saturday matinee; and a Sunday matinee only. Don't miss it!

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The data, citizen accounts highlight need for another MRI

Portage La Prairie town hall calls for MRI in new hospital

By Anne Davison
EMPIRE-ADVANCE

If an MRI unit becomes a reality in Portage La Prairie, as people from the area are asking, it could be beneficial for everyone in southwestern Manitoba and possibly for Winnipeggers as well. One more MRI unit could help reduce wait times for a Brandon test, which is where most patients from Westman are referred to for Magnetic Resonance Imaging.

According to statistics from the Government of Manitoba, the province has 14 MRI units. Two of these are in Prairie Mountain Health region (Brandon and Dauphin). Southern Health Authority has one MRI unit for their populous area, and that is in Winkler.

A town hall event, hosted by Portage la Prairie MLA Jeff Bereza, was attended by over 200 people last Tuesday, Oct. 22, as part of an ongoing push to include an MRI unit in the new Portage District General

Hospital.

Bereza said the meeting “showed that Portagers and Manitobans will continue raising their collective voice for the tens of thousands of people waiting for MRIs in our province.”

In 2023-24 MRI diagnostics were used 97,712 times in Manitoba. Brandon Regional Health Centre averaged 868 tests per month. According to data for August 2024, there were 982 on the Brandon waiting list (excluding emergency scans).

An MRI scan can provide different information about structures in the body than can be seen with an X-ray, ultrasound, or computed tomography (CT) scan.

In answer to the Manitoba’s wait times of about seven weeks at Brandon, 19 weeks at Winkler, and over 50 weeks for a scan at Health Sciences, some Manitoba patients head south.

According to a CBC story by Arturo Chang posted Sept. 13, “The Unity

Medical Center in Grafton, N.D.—just over a two-hour drive from Winnipeg — says it receives between 15 and 20 Canadian patients every month.

“They’re just coming down because they can’t get into Canadian doctors on a timely manner when they’re in so much pain,” said radiology services supervisor Jess Tanke. “We can usually get them in within two weeks for an MRI, at the latest.”

PORTAGE CITIZENS SPEAK

The Portage town hall included a broad-based panel including local educator James Kostuchuk as emcee; Southern Health-Santé Sud Implementation Lead Kyle MacNair; Long Plain First Nation Councillor and Elder Liz Merrick, who is on the governing board for Southern Health; and Portage resident Judith Jeffries, who shared her and her husband’s experience having to travel out of province, and pay out of pocket, to



SUBMITTED PHOTO

receive MRI scans.

Attendees were also invited to ask questions, express their concerns, and share their stories.

“So many Portagers stood up to speak to the issue and courageously share their own stories,” said Bereza. “We heard from a young woman with a family history of breast cancer whose life was saved thanks to an MRI, but now worries for her daughter.

We heard from a young Indigenous man who is currently in incredible pain and was told by Shared Health just yesterday that he’s going to have to wait 44 weeks for an MRI.”

He said, “The main focus last night was to hear from the community and show to the government that this is a people issue, not a political one.”

Wab Kinew and health minister Uzoma Asagwara

were both in Portage la Prairie on Tuesday, but did not attend the town hall. Bereza said he repeatedly reached out to Asagwara—in the Legislative chamber and via letters and emails to the department—to attend the event, originally offering the minister to choose a preferred date.

Southern Health board chair Adam Monteith concluded the town hall with an encouraging statement.

VAH project gets boost from private donor

By Anne Davison
EMPIRE-ADVANCE

continued from page 1

However, VAH is locally owned by several veterinarians, Doctors Robby McDougall, Carla Loewen, Nadine Wohlgemuth and Joe King and no federal or provincial money is going into the addition, but a private donation of \$325,000 from the Gatey family is helping this expansion get off the ground.

Animal lovers Jean and Gerry Gatey and family donated to VAH in appreciation. The Gateys say, “Fortunately we are blest with the most kind and considerate veterinarians, technicians and support staff - they treat our pets and other animals too as they would their own.

“We love our pets dearly...we are sure they have added many wonderful years to our lives. Some of our pets had medical problems. Buddy, found in the back lanes of Brandon, was totally blind; Kaci, dumped twice on the streets of God knows where, needed on-going daily medicine....

The Gateys also appreciate the Virden area and say, “Our business was started by Roy Carscadden in 1936 and continued after his untimely death in 1959. Throughout all the years, families that we served supported us - this, then is our way of showing our appreciation for their loyalty and the success of our business.”

Logan sees this expansion as a necessity, given the shortage of staffed clinics in Westman. He also pointed out that with nine doctors, the animal hospital is a significant employer in the area with a staff of 22. “The economic development factor is huge,” he stated.

THE DETAILS

The expansion will be dedicated to a small animal practice and the original part of the clinic will undergo renovations.

Dr. King explains the project “will provide the flow and infrastructure needed to meet increasing small animal demand while maintaining a good work/life balance for all of our staff. The expansion will allow the large animal side of the clinic to expand into areas previously used for small animals.”

Although there are new veterinary doctors graduating every year, these new grads will gravitate to practices where there is sufficient staff to support the emergency service hours required of veterinary medicine.

Melita’s BorderVet Animal Health Services is a case in point regarding the landscape of closing clinics, having just closed this week. A message on their Facebook advised that Tuesday was their staff’s last day and says, “The Melita location will be closed until further notice. The phones will be transferred to the Carnduff location to assist you....”

Logan also said the Souris veterinary clinic is only open one day per week. Meanwhile, Brandon veterinary services have no openings for new clients, so even Brandon area will be looking for veterinary care, possibly at Virden Animal Hospital.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Details of the cost of the expansion project, as stated in the RM of Wallace-Woodworth council report, include a projected budget of \$1.739 Million. It is expected to take nine months to complete.

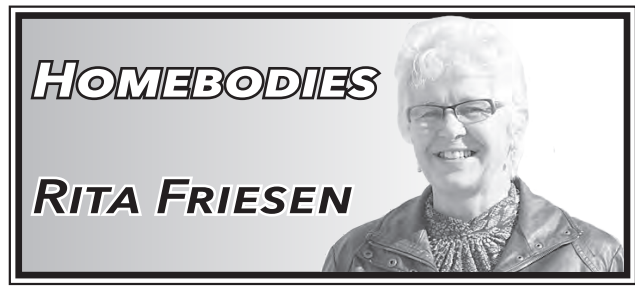
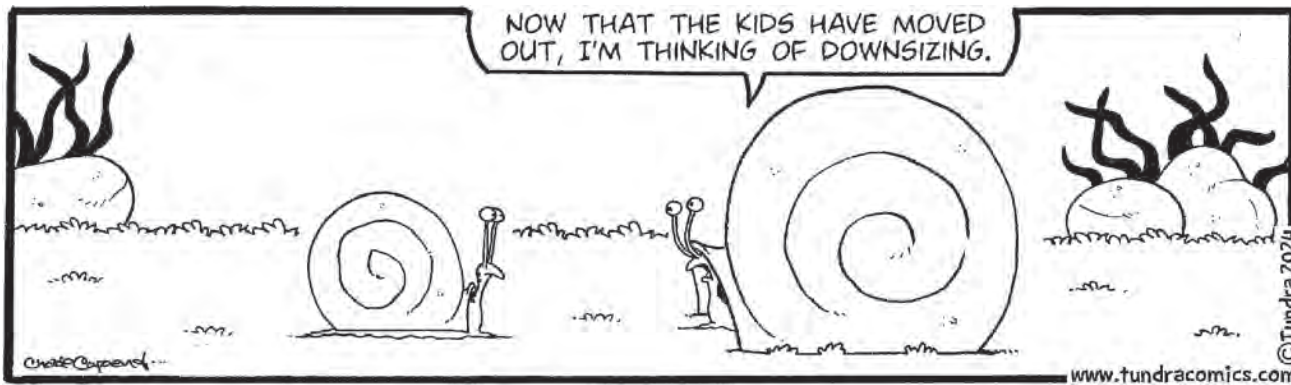
As for the ongoing operational cost, Logan says that if additional ongoing municipal support amounts to half again what the municipalities grant yearly, it will mean a very few additional dollars on the tax bill and will bring huge economic benefit to Virden and area as clients seek services here.

In Logan’s words, “Build it and they will come.”

King echoes this sentiment and says, “We hope to continue growing our practice, with our sights set on 10 veterinarians, along with an increase in RVTs (registered veterinary technicians) and all other support staff.”

Tundra

By Chad Carpenter



I simply stood...

And the winner is...

I have been asked many times recently, "Who will win the U.S. presidential election?"

My answer is simple, "I don't know."

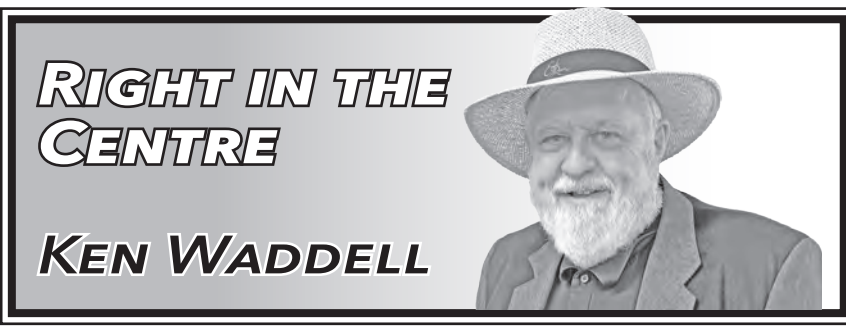
What I do know is that if Donald Trump is elected, it will be because people are sick of the stands taken by the Democrats who are shamelessly backed by the majority of the media and the entertainment industry.

That stand, if you can actually call it a stand or platform, is contrary to what the majority of people believe. I call the Democratic stand "the accepted narrative".

Many people are sick and tired of being told what they have to think, what they have to believe, what they have to say, what they can and can't say.

Most people know that the so-called Woke Movement is mostly nonsense and some of it is just destructive to individuals and to society. Even left-leaning commentators like comedian Bill Maher have turned on the Democrats saying the "woke" movement is largely nonsense. I think the breaking point for Maher came when the woke promoters said the U.S. is worse off than even before. He quickly shot down that theory by comparing today to the U.S. slavery days, the 1950s segregation days, the levels of education compared to past eras, the average life expectancy and the level of prosperity compared to many decades ago. Yes, there is a lot of progress that needs to be made, but to say the Americans are worse off than ever before is just plain silly. If the U.S. is such a bad place, then why are people willing to risk dying to get into the country.

The left wing, or the Democrats,



could easily lose a very winnable election because they are so out of touch with the beliefs, desires and needs of the average citizen.

In addition to all the things listed above about the "accepted narrative" the Democrats are out of touch on the issue of abortion. Abortion is inevitable in some circumstances. I have studied, pondered, spoken about and actually grieved over this topic. The bottom line was accurately summed up by former Democratic U.S. president Bill Clinton who said that abortion should be safe, legal and rare. Most people especially believe in that last part, rare. Today's Democrats are going out of their minds about abortion being necessary or a right, almost something to be sought after. They call themselves "Pro-choice" but they conveniently ignore the fact that abortion results in the death of a baby and that baby does not have a choice. And when babies are little more than young children, those same Democrats are promoting how it's necessary for those children to access gender surgery.

If the Democrats lose the upcoming election it will be due to them having lost their way. They have strayed away from common sense, from their faith principles and from reality.

But what about Trump? People

will say he's an idiot and a huckster. Well, he's smart enough to find a way to appeal to a large number of voters. He is aware that a successful politician has to be in sync with the voters. He knows the U.S. citizens got tired of wars pretty fast in the 20th century. They were late into WWI and WWII. They got whipped pretty badly in Vietnam, Korea, Iraq and Afghanistan. Trump knows that and he, along with many others believe it's better to threaten war than it is to go to war. Wyatt Earp was successful not just because he was good gunfighter but because his enemies believed he was a good gunfighter. He survived some battles and died of old age, peacefully at his home.

It will be interesting to see if the U.S. voters accept a verbal gunslinger, who is a bit of a con artist, or a person who doesn't really know how out of touch their words put them versus the majority of citizens.

Disclaimer: The views expressed in this column are the writer's personal views and are not to be taken as being the view of the newspaper staff.

With the change in the daylight hours, the household patterns have changed as well. Arie, my dog, usually waited until it was walk time to step outside; she is smart enough to know that walk time will be later, preferably when the sun is shining and the temperature above ten degrees!! Now she is eager and willing to utilize the back yard as her relief centre and heads right back into the warmth of the house. I no longer step out with bare feet, and usually grab a light jacket before joining her outside. The sunrises have been spectacular. There is calmness in the air, and quietness, as the colours spread and stretch across the heavens. On some mornings the western sky reflects the glory of the eastern sky. This one morning in particular, I simply stood. It was the calm, the quiet, and the colours that spoke to me. There is a freshness in the air I breathe, there is the reminder of the seasons change in the layer of leaves covering the yard, and a affirmation of a wisdom beyond mine as I hear the call of the geese, an age old call that does not disturb the silence, rather accentuating it. 'I am a child of the universe' sounds within me.

My home has been busy this past month with much coming and going. A grandson, at my invitation has moved in; Marie a friend of more than fifty years made her annual visit; a trip out to Alberta shortened the month, so along with the words I speak, the month sped by. I was at the kitchen window, not doing dishes, making a cup of tea. I chanced to look up and out. To really look. And again, I simply stood. This time the colours filled the western sky. Out of habit, I turned to the now empty rooms and invited others to share the moment with me. Aware that I was alone, I continued to stand and absorb the magnificence of the scene before me. Now that the leaves are mostly off the trees, and when there are no loaded rail cars on the siding, I can see the escarpment. The sunset was brilliant, shifting and smoothing pinks and oranges and soft purples across the horizon. I am really not great at simply standing, but all I could do, all I wanted to do, was to stand and watch as darkness slowly covered the earth and the stars began to appear.

Perhaps it is because Marie and I spent much time at Park Lake watching the migrating geese, and took many long walks- immersed in conversation and quiet- that I am more ready to be still. Perhaps it is that once again, I am adjusting to changes in life cycles. Perhaps it is because I am getting older, and wiser. Perhaps hearing the Desiderata read twice this month triggers it. Perhaps it is because I have an increased desire to be at rest, with myself, and the universe, especially with the Creator of the universe. I am learning to pause, and simply stand, with ease.

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FAITH & FAMILY

TARA KAUFHOFEN



Cherish the moments

I heard it said once that motherhood can be described like this, your heart breaking with joy. With each milestone, each new skill learned, each new year that passes, every tooth that falls out and is replaced with an adult tooth.

With each baby feature that slowly turns into a toddler's face, and then into a boy's, and then into a floppy haired goofy grinned pre-teen, and then the glimpses and flashes of what will come as a teen and then adulthood.

With every success they have, with every moment they used to need you and don't anymore, there is a heartbreaking mix of pride that you never knew you could hold for another human being and an equally surprising depth of sadness as another stage comes and goes.

So this past week, when I went to look at the calendar to go over our weekly schedule, I found myself doing a double take and sure enough, my fourth baby boy is almost one.

I found myself scooping him up in my arms and begging him to stay little a while longer, trying to snuggle him close while he wriggled away to get to his big brothers to play.

I found myself watching him, and with every beat of my heart came an ache that was both joy and pain as I willed him to be little a little bit longer.

And like Mary holding Jesus, I found myself pondering these things in my heart.

The memories of all four boys growing flashing in my minds eye like a slideshow of the last almost ten years of my life and all I could think was, God please let me cherish every moment before it is gone and we are on to another stage yet again!

So as my heart aches with joy, as it is filled with the depths of both pride and sadness, I am doing my best to soak it all in.

To stop the hustle and bustle and watch them more, to sit down on the floor in front of them and study their faces, to enjoy them today exactly as they are for only this day, to let the aching and joy co-mingle in my heart and take the time to feel the sadness when it comes to the surface just as much as I do the joy.

To remember in all of this that they co-exist for a reason, they twist and turn and wind through our memories and hearts as a reminder to not take this time for granted and know that someday the pitter patter of little feet will be long gone, the remnant of peanut butter finger prints and dirty shoes will have faded and been washed away and what will remain are only the faint memories of what will feel like a lifetime ago.

Micro moments for connection

YOUR LISTENING EAR

DELSIE MARTIN

Emotional distance is something that every person in a relationship will experience at some point. There are many reasons for emotional distance including being in a long-term relationship, having children, busy schedules etc... As we go on in our relationships our lives become busier with more commitments which can get in the way of taking time to connect with your partner. Early on in relationships it's easier to find the time to connect because we are driven to do so in a way that we aren't as time passes. Even the most motivated of us can struggle to carve out some time for our partners so we must focus on connecting in other,

more time efficient ways. I like to call these 'micro moments for connection'. Micro moments of connection are these small but big impacting things that we can do throughout our days to make a connection with our partner.

Micro moments can begin as soon as the sun rises. Good morning hugs and kisses are a great way to set the day out on a positive note. Don't forget the, "I love you" as you part for the day. While at work, finding time for connecting can be especially tricky but there are some quick tips at this point of the day. First, send a text message during the day when you are thinking about them or if something ridicu-

lous happened at work. Second, maybe a quick Facetime hello at lunch break or even take it to the next step with a lunch date. Not everyone has the capacity to text or call during the day, for these folks, might I recommend a cute note strategically placed in a lunch kit or in a wallet/purse? Or, if you have the opportunity, a delivery of a special coffee or treat to your partner's work. Sharing appreciations with your partner is another way to connect, telling them when they do something that you appreciate is not only great for self esteem but great for building emotional connection.

Coming home from work is a transitional period and is often a difficult time to connect, especially in households with children. Make sure that you acknowledge your partner when you see one another after the day. At this point you don't necessarily have to get

into how your days were (unless you have the time). Cooking supper together can be another opportunity for connection or if you prefer cooking solo, having your partner keep you company while you cook can be a great point of connection. After supper is hopefully your relax time (I'm talking about after kids have gone to bed), this time provides you with many opportunities. Maybe you enjoy sitting on the couch and watching TV. How about switching it up and instead of sitting on opposite ends of the couch, you sit near one another or do this and hold hands. Maybe you sit together, have a coffee and exchange stories about your day or maybe you have a crib competition. Before sleep can be a peaceful (or fun!) time for a couple. Try to use these last moments of the day to connect with good night wishes, I love yous and hopes for a day of connection tomorrow.

Miniota and Isabella News

Submitted

By LINDA CLARK

Don and Sandra Armitage travelled to Brooks, Calgary and Banff to attend Don's 50th veterinary class reunion on Oct. 19 and 20. Much visiting was done along the way with friends in Brooks, Lyle's family in Calgary and with the 14 classmates attending the reunion. "It was a great follow-up to our 50th wedding anniversary weekend," they said.

A beautiful outdoor fall wedding was celebrated on Oct. 27 at Miniota. Congratulations to Colby Walker and Kacie Funk who were married on the Walker farm with the wedding reception and dance at the Miniota Community Centre Hall.

With the beautiful weather continuing, it has given the Enhancement Committee for the Rink and Sports Grounds the opportunity to begin work on the new ball diamond as they moved the back-stop fence and other equipment from the Isabella sports grounds to Miniota.

We are praying this beautiful weather continues as we welcome all the little ghosts and goblins on Thursday evening. We hope everyone has a fun Halloween.

"Success is not the key to happiness. Happiness is the key to success. If you love what you are doing, you will be successful." -Albert Schweitzer

ISABELLA

Sunday, Oct. 27 saw a full house at the Isabella Community Hall to enjoy roast beef with all the trimmings. The beautiful day brought out people from all parts of Manitoba and even a couple of folk from Saskatchewan who were out touring the area. Although our community is getting smaller in numbers, it was wonderful to have all hands on deck, with ages ranging from eight to 90 years young, to ensure a wonderful meal was prepared for our guests. The Isabella Community Women's group are appreciative of all the work and cooking done by our people and for the support of our guests.

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HELEN DRYSDALE

OUT OF HELEN'S KITCHEN

If you've ever eaten rye bread, you have no doubt tasted caraway seeds, but there is much more to this little seed. Caraway spice is a staple ingredient in many typical German, Hungarian, and Polish dishes. They are a traditional ingredient in a British seed cake, Irish soda bread, Dutch cheeses and the Scandinavian spirit, Aquavit. It also is used in Serbian scones and cheeses, Middle Eastern puddings and harissa paste. Caraway has the flavor of licorice with hints of citrus and pepper. Caraway seeds are also used in flavoring curries, soups, sausages, vegetables and pairs well with garlic, pork, and cabbage.

Caraway was native to Central Europe and then spread across Europe, into the Mediterranean and then the Middle East. It belongs to the Apiaceae family of aromatic flowering plants which includes anise, celery, dill, parsley, and carrot. Caraway pairs well with other common spices, such as cumin, coriander, and mustard seeds. In the absence of caraway seeds, there are several alternatives that can work in their place. Coriander seeds, fennel seeds, cumin seeds and anise seeds also work in recipes in place of caraway. Early uses for caraway were medicinal. References found in German medical books dating back to the 12th century refer to it as a stomach tonic as well as a remedy for excess gas and colic.

Toasted caraway seeds are a flavorful addition to loaves of bread and salads. To toast caraway seeds, place a small dry skillet over medium-high heat and add the seeds. Cook for two to three minutes, or until the seeds are fragrant. Remove from heat and let the seeds cool. Caraway spice is sold in two forms: as a seed or as powder. Whole caraway seeds tend to keep their flavor longer than the ground version. It works well to buy whole, and grind as needed.

Caraway roast pork

3-4 lb. boneless pork loin roast
2 large garlic cloves, quartered
1/3 cup flour
1 tsp. salt
1/2 tsp. pepper
1 Tbsp. caraway seeds
3 cups beef or chicken broth
1/4 cup flour
extra salt and pepper

Trim any excess fat from the pork loin roast. Make slits in the roast and insert the pieces of garlic. Combine the flour, salt and pepper. Roll the roast in the flour mix until completely covered. Pat the caraway over the top of the roast. Roast fat side down in a 375 F for one hour. Add one cup of the broth and cover with the lid. Turn the oven down to 325 F and cook for another half hour or until the internal temperature reaches 150 F – 160 F for medium well done. Over cooking pork will dry it out. After removing your pork from the oven, cover the roast with foil and set it aside to rest for about 10 minutes before carving. In the meantime, take one half cup of the broth and mix with the flour until smooth. Pour the remaining broth in the roaster and add the flour and broth mixture. Over medium heat cook the broth until it thickens stirring all the while. Salt and pepper to taste.

Mixing caraway with sautéed cabbage gives this easy side dish a distinctly German flair.

Caraway, ginger cabbage

2 Tbsp. butter
1 Tbsp. diced fresh ginger
1 tsp. minced garlic or more to taste
1/2 onion, cut into 1/4-inch slices
1/2 head cabbage, thinly sliced
1/4 cup white wine or wine vinegar
1/4 cup water
1 tsp. salt
1/2 tsp. pepper
1 Tbsp. white sugar
1 tsp. caraway seeds or more to taste
1 large apple, thinly sliced
1 large pear, thinly sliced (optional)

Melt the butter in a Dutch oven. Add the ginger, garlic, and onion and sauté for two minutes. Add the cabbage and sauté for several more minutes. Add the wine, water, salt, pepper, sugar and caraway seeds and cook for 8-10 minutes. Stir occasionally to toss the cabbage and prevent it from sticking to the pan. Add the apple and pears, put the lid on and simmer for 3-4 minutes. Do not stir once the apples and pears have been added. Serve.

Police intervene in double assault

Westman RCMP Service Report for Oct. 20 –26

Submitted

By WESTMAN RCMP

During this week Westman RCMP received a total of 65 calls for service. Of these, 18 were traffic related including 5 moving traffic – speeding violations. Also included in the calls for service were 3 suspicious person/vehicle/property files, 5 assault files, 8 false alarms, 2 mischief files, 5 false alarms, and 4 failure to comply with order files.

On Oct. 20 Westman RCMP conducted a traffic stop in the RM of Sifton. The 49-year-old male occupant of the vehicle had a no contact condition from a previous release order with the two female occupants of the vehicle. He is charged with three counts of failing to comply with release order conditions and will attend court in October.

On Oct. 23 during a routine traffic patrol on Highway 2 in the RM of Sifton, RCMP observed a vehicle travelling at

a high rate of speed. Radar confirmed a speed of 140 km/hr in a 100 km/hr zone. The vehicle was stopped and the driver was issued a speeding ticket which carries a fine of \$573.

On Oct. 24 Westman RCMP received a call of an abandoned 911. RCMP attended the residence in the town of Melita and located two individuals. It was determined that a double domestic assault had occurred and charges were laid on a 39-year-old male and a 42-year-old female. Both are charged with one count of assault and will attend court in December.

There has been an increase of traffic collisions with wildlife this fall season. If you are in an accident with wildlife and there are no injuries, please report to MPI directly. If you are in need of assistance due to injury, please call 911. If the animal is injured and blocking the roadway please call Manitoba Conservation at 1-800-782-0076.

To report a complaint or non-emergent incident to RCMP please call 204-748-2135. For general inquiries or administrative requests including criminal record checks please call the administration line at 204-748-2046 Ext. 3. If you are reporting an emergency please call 911.

If you witness a crime and wish to remain anonymous please contact Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477. Crime stoppers is entirely confidential and completely anonymous. The tip line is not traceable and they do not subscribe to caller ID or call display.



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Things you should never plug into a power strip

Submitted
EMPIRE-ADVANCE

In our modern, technology-driven world, power strips have become an essential part of managing the multitude of electronic devices we use daily. While power strips are convenient for expanding electrical outlets, it's crucial to use them responsibly to avoid potential hazards. Here are 9 items that you should never plug into a power strip:

Major Appliances:

Power strips are designed for low-power devices like chargers, lamps, and computers. Plugging major appliances such as refrigerators, air conditioners, or washing machines into a power strip can overload it, leading to overheating and fire hazards. Major appliances require dedicated circuits to handle their power demands.

Space Heaters:

Space heaters draw a significant amount of power to generate heat. Plugging them into a power strip meant for lighter loads can overload the circuit, posing a fire risk. It is advisable to plug space heaters directly into wall outlets to ensure they receive the necessary power without compromising safety.

High-Wattage Devices:

Devices with high wattage, like power tools and kitchen appliances, should be directly connected to a wall outlet. Attempting to power such devices through a power strip may lead to overheating, voltage drops, and increased fire risk. Always check the wattage requirements of your devices and use them accordingly.

Multiple Power Strips in Series:

Daisy-chaining power strips, or plugging one power strip into another, can overload the electrical circuit and pose a serious fire hazard. Each power strip adds resistance and potential points of failure, increasing the risk of overheating. Instead, use a single high-quality power

strip with sufficient outlets.

Electric Grills and Cookers:

Cooking appliances that generate heat, such as electric grills and cookers, should never be connected to a power strip. These devices draw a considerable amount of power and are best suited for direct wall outlet connections to ensure safety and prevent potential electrical fires.

Air Conditioners:

Air conditioners are power-hungry appliances that require a dedicated circuit due to their high energy consumption. Plugging an air conditioner into a power strip can lead to tripped circuits, overheating, and, in extreme cases, fires. Always connect air conditioners directly to wall outlets to avoid these risks.

Laser Printers and Photocopiers:

Printers and photocopiers, especially laser ones, have high power demands during operation. Plugging them into a power strip designed for lighter loads can lead to electrical issues and compromise the lifespan of the devices. Connect these office appliances directly to wall outlets for optimal performance and safety.

Aquariums:

Aquariums with heating elements and filtration systems can draw a significant amount of power. Plugging them into a power strip may overload the circuit and disrupt the equipment's operation. To ensure the well-being of



SUBMITTED PHOTO

your aquatic pets and the longevity of your aquarium equipment, connect these devices directly to a wall outlet.

Medical Equipment:

Devices like oxygen concentrators, CPAP machines, and other medical equipment are essential for many individuals. It's crucial to connect such devices directly to a wall outlet to ensure a stable power supply. Using a power strip for medical equipment may lead to power interruptions, jeopardizing the user's health.

Understanding the limitations of power strips is essential for maintaining a safe and efficient electrical setup. By avoiding the connection of high-power devices, major appliances, and multiple power strips in series, you can reduce the risk of electrical hazards and ensure the longevity of your electronic devices. Always prioritize safety and follow manufacturer guidelines when using power strips to create a secure environment for your electrical appliances

Arrow River Community Centre to receive support

Prairie View Municipality meeting minutes brief

Submitted
EMPIRE-ADVANCE

Prairie View Municipality council meeting began at 5:15pm on Oct. 22. Members Present: Wilson, Clark, Fulcher, Butler, Oliver, Peel, Cole; **Staff Present:** CAO Bonchuk

The agenda the minutes of the Oct. 8 meeting were adopted as presented was adopted. The minutes of Sept. 24 were incomplete and with errors. They were corrected and adopted as corrected.

DELEGATION: Dale Lyle - Way to Go Consulting presented Birtle UT Rate Study

RESOLUTIONS: (all CARRIED)

Sawyer's Well at Beulah: Moved - Linda Clark; Seconded - Trent Peel. Council approves the quote from LRB (Electric) to replace the infrastructure at Sawyer's Well at Beulah.

Gravel Reclaimer: Moved - Delbert Cole;

Seconded Darcy Oliver. Council received recommendations from the Public Works Committee Meeting of Thursday, Oct. 17; Council approved the Gravel Reclaimer to be sold through online auction on GovDeals with a reserve/opening bid of \$45,000.

P. Juba - Road 99 and 161 S: Moved - Morley Butler; Seconded - Michael Fulcher. Council received recommendations from the Public Works Committee Meeting, Oct. 17; Council approved the bush to be cleared on road 99 and 161 S.

Tile Drainage Application - Mark Morton: Moved - Trent Peel; Seconded - Delbert Cole. Council received recommendations from the Public Works Committee Meeting, Oct. 17; Council approves the Tile Drainage Application and gives permission to cross the road allowance.

Road 91N West of 157N gate: Moved - Linda Clark,

Seconded - Michael Fulcher. Council received recommendations from the Public Works Committee Meeting of Oct. 17; Council approves the recommendation to ask the individual to remove the gate on the road allowance.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Tax Sale Results; Monarch Waterline update; OSS; Birtle Water and Sewer Renewals

NEW BUSINESS:

Arrow River Community Centre: Moved - Linda Clark, Seconded - Michael Fulcher; Council has received request from Arrow River Community Centre for financial assistance with upgrades to the facility; Council of Prairie View Municipality voted to give Arrow River Community Centre \$5000 for the purchase of a new stage and that the money be taken from the Miniota Recreation & Culture Reserve Fund. Other items were Mani-

toba Growth, Renewal and Opportunities Grant; MTI Meeting; Assessment 2023 Annual Report; AMM Minister Meeting; Birtle Center for the Arts 10th Anniversary Invitation

List of Accounts for Approval: Moved - Delbert Cole, Seconded - Morley Butler, the following accounts issued in September 2024 is a total of \$302,076.14; Council hereby approves the accounts: Payroll \$89,846.23 (4887-4950); Council \$5,816.97 (555-561); Other-AP \$40,585.60 (5871-5879/5881-5886); EFT \$54,755.25 (545-567); Cheques \$111,072.09 (13072-13122).

BY-LAWS/ POLICIES:

Foxwarren Columbarium: Moved - Michael Fulcher, Seconded - Delbert Cole, Council hereby approves Policy PH-003 Foxwarren Columbarium with amendments; being a policy to establish

the regulations and fees for columbarium niches placed in the Foxwarren Cemetery.

Water & Wastewater rates for Birtle Utility: Moved - Darcy Oliver, Seconded - Michael Fulcher; Prairie View Municipality has received a utility rate study for the Birtle Water and Wastewater Utility; Birtle Utility incurred audited PSAB, PUB adjusted deficits of \$31,110 in 2021; \$60,107 in 2022 and \$56,438 in 2023; Birtle Utility is forecast to have a Working Capital Surplus in 2029 of \$232,495 with a Public Utilities Board minimum, 2029 Working Capital Surplus of \$138,723; THEREFORE Prairie View Municipality request approval from the Public Utilities Board for Birtle Utility deficits of \$31,110 in 2021; \$60,107 in 2022 and \$56,438 in 2023 with said deficits to be recovered through a transfer from Birtle Utility future accumulated

surplus of \$147,655; And Further Be It Resolved That By-law No. 2024-04 to establish Birtle utility rates be given first reading and submitted to the Public Utilities Board for approval. CARRIED

REPORTS/ ENQUIRIES

Reeve Wilson - RMW, EMO disaster conference; Coun. Clark - Shoal Lake healthcare; Coun. Cole - Community Development Corp., Mid West Planning District; Coun. Peel - Virden Vet Clinic; Coun. Butler - Park West Fibre; Coun. Oliver - Assiniboine West Watershed District; Coun. Fulcher - Birtle District Community Centre, Fibre, CDC.

Council went In Camera at 9:16pm, as a Committee of the Whole, to discuss: union matters; matters in their preliminary stages. Pursuant to the Municipal Act all matters shall remain confidential until a report is made public. Council adjourned.

PMH receives national accreditation recognition



PRAIRIE MOUNTAIN HEALTH
SANTÉ PRAIRIE MOUNTAIN

By **Blaine Kraushaar**
PRAIRIE MOUNTAIN HEALTH

Prairie Mountain Health (PMH) is pleased to announce that it recently received its national accreditation designation—its third since the health region was formed in 2012—following on-site surveys that took place in the region in May. Accreditation Canada affirmed PMH was successful meeting 97 per cent of surveyed criteria. PMH also met 23 out of 30 Required Organizational Practices (ROPs). Prairie Mountain Health CEO Treena Slate says Accreditation Canada's Qmentum framework affects everyone in the organization and helps assess all aspects of operations, from Board and Leadership,

to care and services, to infrastructure.

"The survey results reinforce what we know, and what we are so proud of, which is the professionalism of our staff, our accreditation teams, physicians and health partners who are dedicated to providing care to the patients, residents

and clients that we serve," Slate stated. "This designation demonstrates PMH's commitment towards quality improvement efforts by continually monitoring, evaluating and enhancing all of our programs and services to provide better care within our region".

Accreditation Canada, which conducted the on-site assessments May 26- May 31, helps improve outcomes through independent assessments against global standards. Some highlights noted within the final report included:

- The survey team, consisting of 17 surveyors from across Canada, evaluated PMH programs and services against 23 standards sets across 49 locations in multiple programs and services;
- Since the last review in 2022, surveyors noted

PMH has successfully managed through the COVID-19 pandemic. The patient's focus group recognized the efforts of the staff in supporting patients and the community throughout this unprecedented period;

- Stakeholder and health partner engagement was acknowledged and recognized. PMH works to obtain feedback from patients on their programs and services to advance quality care and ensure there is constant connections with individuals served;

- Recruitment and retention of staff remains a challenge. Surveyors noted the region continues to advance strategies to hire appropriate staff, often engaging in innovative approaches. Educational partners, municipal officials, and community partners recognize the challenges facing the organization while, at the same time, confirming the commitment that PMH has made to engage with them and deliver on shared solutions;

- Surveyors also noted the lack of a consistent electronic patient record across the system. Additional work is required to modernize medication administration systems.

In compliance with provincial regulations, complete accreditation results are posted on the PMH website under the "about us" (Regional Reports) section or you can view the full report here.



Find the newspaper at the following locations:

Alexander store, Sioux Valley Petro, Valleyview Co-op - Oak Lake, RM of Sifton office, Joe Dandy's (seasonal), Miniota, Lenore Post Office, In Kenton at Valleyview Co-op, Whyte's Lumber, Woodworth Dodge and Briarwood Cafe. In Elkhorn at Twin Valley Co-op, Elkhorn Library, KT's Kitchen (seasonal) and the Auto Museum (seasonal), Traci's Place-Kola, Cromer Valley Store. In Reston at Reston Fine Foods and Reston Drugs, Reston Library and Willowview Care Home. Turnbull's Sales, In Sinclair at Irwin Automotive Ltd. and Service at Pipestone.

Virden:

Drop Box at Flower Attic, Drop Box at Virden Empire advance and in the newspaper office, Sooper Daves, Fountain Tire, White Owl, Virden Golf Course, Stillwater Adventures, MJ's, Valleyview Co-op Grocery, Valleyview Co-op C-Store, Town of Virden, Custom Creations, Virden Dental, Super Thrifty, Prairie Dentist, Virden Footwear, HiWay Grocery, Virden Sport and Fashion, Alex Hotel, Virden Drugs, Central Hotel, Virden Train Station, Red Apple, TJ's, Chicken Chef, Town of Virden, Home Hardware, Kullberg's, Nu-Art, Shear Expressions, Swift Oil Field, Kola Store, Virden Ford, Virden Dodge

Plus the Virden Empire Advance is made available to residents of the seniors homes and care homes.

If you would like to have the Virden Empire Advance delivered to your place of business, please contact the VEA office at 204-748-3931.

Here's how the food loop feeds us

Deer Meadow Farmacy likes Loop

By Anne Davison
EMPIRE-ADVANCE



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Deer Meadow Farmacy piglets are off to a good start ranging among aspens, willows and undergrowth.

Food need not be wasted. Valleyview Co-op is part of a Zero Food Waste program called 'Loop' where food from the grocery store that is past its shelf date is diverted from the landfill to be sent to farms. A number of local farmers take part in this program. An Oak Lake enterprise was one of the first to enroll in Loop.

Several years ago, Deer Meadow Farmacy entered into a program with Valley View Co-op's Loop program as an opportunity to diversify their animals' diets and make good use of food that is past human consumption.

At Sean and Kristi-Lynn Buckley's Deer Meadow Farmacy, you find farm animals at work along with nature. The Loop programs fits their philosophy, "We've been members of the Loop program since it started in Virden," said Sean.

Every week they do a Virden pic-up. He says the amount depends on the week, but they usually get at least 15 boxes, mostly fruit and veggie trim.

"We do it because we see it as a great way to keep usable food out of the landfill. We're able to feed the good stuff to increase the diversity in our animals' diets..."

He's happy to compost anything that is past use for the farm animals – chickens, pigs and cattle. "Here at Deer Meadow Farmacy we aren't just farmers. We are passionate environmentalists who specialize in wellness for our entire ecological system," say the Buckleys on their farm website.

"We have created a biologically active oasis consisting of thousands of plant and animal species above and below the soil. This allows for a healthy, holistic ecosystem that creates flavourful, nutrient dense food."

On a recent visit to Deer Meadow, it was a surprise to see several litters of piglets learning to live in the aspen forest along with their mama sows.

Buckley explains how their hardy piglets manage to survive and thrive in the great outdoors: "The sows make a nest in the bush, usually under a blown over tree or in the willows for cover. They'll line it with grass, leaves and small sticks, and this time of year, we'll put some straw in for them. Between that, shelter from the wind and the body heat, they stay warm."

This fall has been unseasonably warm, but Buckley says, "If it was a colder fall, we'd put out a shelter for them."

Deer Meadow beef is raised and finished on pasture, and chickens are also truly 'ranging' with a portable chicken house to shelter them.

WE WANT TO HELP YOUR FARM

Valleyview Consumers Co-op Ltd food stores have partnered with Loop Resource to send unsold food to local farms for animal use. Produce, bakery, and other items that are not suitable for sale or donation to charity now support local farms.

Loop is available for farms in the Virden, Melita, Oak Lake, Kenton, Oak River and Pierson areas. On Valleyview's website you will see a heading, Zero Waste. Here, a producer who has a variety of farm animals, and is interested in getting affordable feed while keeping food from being wasted can sign up.

Black Gold Classic Report



Champion Heifer Calf - Freyburn Blackbird 36M Exhibited by Freyburn Farms. Class Sponsor Valleyview COOP.



Champion Bred Heifer - Seldom Rest Sandy 3031 Exhibited by Swindon Ranch. Class Sponsor Northrok Constuction LTD.



Champion Futurity Cow/Calf Pair - More's Ms Karma 203K With More's Marshall 402M at side Exhibited by More Bros Simmentals.



Champion Futurity Bred Heifer - Freyburn Rally Missie 22L Exhibited by Freyburn Farms. Class Sponsor Foxtail Hauling Ltd.



Champion Bull Calf - HTA Excaliber 449M Exhibited by HTA Charolais. Class Sponsor Canart Backhoe.

Submitted

BY AMANDA SCOTT

As well as the champions listed above, here is a list of the reserve champions.

Reserve Champion Heifer Calf - HFL Rose 4034M Exhibited by Horner Cattle Company.

Reserve Champion Bred Heifer - Brookslain Layney 313L Exhibited by Northern Light Simmentals.

Reserve Champion Futurity Cow/Calf Pair - Gurr's Miss Kansas 3K with Gurr's Mr Maverick at side Exhibited by Gurr's Simmentals.

Reserve Champion Futurity Bred Heifer - More's Ms Laya 320L Exhibited by More Bros Simmentals.

Reserve Champion Bull Calf - HFL Longview Long Shot ET 4074M Exhibited by Horner Cattle Company.

Black Gold Classic would like to **THANK** all our sponsors, exhibitors, judges, Lenore 4-H Beef Club and the Virden Agriculture Society for making this show happen! We look forward to seeing everyone next year: Mark your calendars for Saturday September 27th, 2025.

Platinum Sponsors

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Zoetis - Janie Jansen
JGL Livestock



Black Gold Committee: Cody Renz, Naomi Best, Amanda Scott, Everett More, Greg Tough, Ashlee Mitchell and Trevor Nolan

SPORTS

GOLDEN BEARS ADVANCE TO FINAL



PHOTOS BY DALE DAVISON

On Oct. 7 the Virden Golden Bears went head-to-head with the Neepawa Tigers in Rural Manitoba Football League playoff action.

By Dale Davison
EMPIRE-ADVANCE

The Rural Manitoba Football League (RMFL) is an eight-team league of high school football teams located in western Manitoba and eastern Saskatchewan.

The four teams with the top regular season record compete for the Doug Steeves Trophy while the next four teams play off for the Murray Black Cup. The 2024 (RMFL) regular season has ended, and playoffs are underway. In the championship round Moosomin Generals beat Dauphin Clippers 26-20 in overtime and Swan Valley Tigers defeated the Southwest Sabres 55-21 to advance to the final.

In the consolation round the Park West Outlaws topped the Neelin Spartans 28-0 and the Virden Golden Bears faced the Neepawa Tigers in Virden.

Sunday was a cool sunny fall day, and the Tigers brought along a large contingent of loyal fans to cheer on their team. Although both teams gave it their best, the Neepawa offence was not able to get rolling and the Bears walked away with a convincing 77-0 win.

The Golden Bears will meet the Park West Outlaws on Virden's home turf next Sunday, Nov. 3 at 2pm to decide the winner of the 2024 Murray Black Cup.



In this game on Oct. 7 strong blocking by the Bears offensive line gave quarterback Deegan Flannery time to execute plays. Here, running back Fola Fashola (14) cuts around Tigers defender Austin Lewis (64) on the way to a Virden touchdown.

SPORTS

OIL CAPS LOVE HOME CROWD SUPPORT

By Robin Wark
EMPIRE-ADVANCE

The Tundra Oil & Gas Place faithful have been able to see their hometown Virден Oil Capitals often early on this season.

As of Oct. 30, the Manitoba Junior Hockey League team had a 6-9-0-0 record. Of the young Oil Capitals' 15 games played, 11 have come at home. Four of their victories were secured in front of enthusiastic Virден crowds.

"The atmosphere is great," Oil Capitals forward Marshall Light of Moosomin said. "We love all the fans and support that comes with them. It helps us out lots and makes us want to hear them cheering us on."

Last weekend the Oil Caps fell in a pair of home games. They lost 5-3 to Portage and 3-2 to Steinbach.

"I feel like we are improving in some areas for sure, but the consistency in our game is not there yet," Virден head coach Tyson Ramsey said. "We do some really good things for periods of time and then we get off track and make some

mistakes that turn out to be too large to recover from and allow some quality scoring chances for the opposition. It's a process and we will continue to work hard at all parts of our game."

After the Portage contest, community members joined the team on the ice for a Skate with the Oil Caps.

"It's a fun event to interact with the youth in the community," Oil Capitals forward Brett Sabel said. "I also enjoyed getting to skate with my billet family's grandkids and seeing their excitement about being out on the ice with me. It doesn't seem that long ago that all of us players were those same young kids."

The Oil Capitals are on the road Nov. 1 to play the Terriers. They are back home on Nov. 3 to host the Waywayseecappo Wolverines.

Terriers 5, Oil Caps 3

Three third period goals allowed the visitors from Portage to come from behind to beat the Oil Capitals on Oct. 25. The first of those final frame markers came on a powerplay to knot the contest at 3-3,



PHOTOS BY OIL CAPITALS

Pictured above and below Oil Caps celebrate a goal at Tundra Oil and Gas Place.

while the final was into an empty net.

Virден had jumped out to 2-0 first period lead with goals by Oak Lake Beach's Tyson Draper and fellow rookie Campbell Epp. In the second session, captain Ethan Guthrie, a defenseman, increased Virден's lead on a powerplay to 3-0. The Terriers responded with a shorthanded goal by Cameron Bullinger and one at regular strength from Grant Dardis.

In the third, Adam Belzil scored on the powerplay. Decker Mujcin scored the final two goals, including

the empty net marker. For Virден, goalie Nik Trakakis had 17 saves in the game. Ryan Velan stopped 26 shots for Portage.

Pistons 3, Oil Caps 2

The visiting Steinbach Pistons were able to hold on for a win on Oct. 26. A Brody Green powerplay goal gave Steinbach a 1-0

first period lead. Light knotted the score for the Oil Capitals less than five minutes into the second period. Before the end of the frame, Piston Ryan McDonald scored to give his team a 2-1 lead. With 17:46 gone in the third period, Connor Parounuzzi's goal made it 3-1 for Steinbach. With 11

seconds remaining and the Virден goaltender pulled, Luke Robson brought the Oil Capitals to within one, 3-2, but they were unable to tie things up.

Virден goalie Peyton Shore faced 33 shots and stopped 30 of them. Pistons goalie Christian Green had 33 saves.



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EFFICIENCY MANITOBA

SPORTS

ENGLOT LEADS, SCORED FOR OIL CAPS IN SECOND SEASON

By Robin Wark
EMPIRE-ADVANCE

This hockey season Noel Englot is building upon a strong rookie campaign to have an even bigger role on the Virden Oil Capitals.

The Cardiac, Sask. product was third on the Manitoba Junior Hockey League team in scoring, as of Oct. 28. As an assistant captain, he is an important leader.

"I think he has improved all parts of his game in his time here," Virden head coach Tyson Ramsey said. "He has matured and has become a very reliable player for us. We always know we are going to get a great effort from him each night."

Last season Englot battled to earn a role on a veteran laden roster. The forward posted 12 goals and 26 points in 49 games a season ago.

"The experience I gained from last year has helped a lot - specially making a good run in play-offs and just being a top team all year helps set the standard for this year trying to be a successful team," Englot said.

Entering this week, the 6-foot-1, 187-pounder had eight points through 15 games. He scored three goals.

"Noel works extremely hard on his game," Ramsey said. "He is smart and can be effective in all situations."

Englot's points total placed him third on the team behind rookie Maxx Hamelin's 12 and veteran Luke Robson's nine. Captain Ethan Guthrie also had eight points.

Englot has established him as one of the team's leaders. He said, "It means a lot to wear a letter. Very proud and honoured to be a lead part of this organization."

When asked about the 2005-born player's leader-



PHOTO BY OIL CAPITALS

ship, Ramsey said, "His work ethic and maturity are his strengths. He leads by example on and off the ice. He is well liked in the dressing room, and he is a great teammate. He is a great player for young guys to model themselves after if they want to become good players in this league."

Englot billets in Hargrave with Greg and Cathy

Tough. He said, "I really enjoy my time there." Oil Capitals teammate Rhett Platt also lives there. Englot and Platt were teammates in 2022-2023 on the latter's hometown U18 AAA Regina Pat Canadians. Platt split last season between the Oil Caps and the Prairie Junior Hockey League's Pilot Butte Storm.

GERRAND READY FOR OIL KINGS' HOME OPENER

By Robin Wark
EMPIRE-ADVANCE

Hometown product Andrew Gerrand is excited for the Virden Oil Kings' home opener.

The local senior men's hockey team takes on the Hartney Blues on Nov. 10 at Tundra Oil & Gas Place. The night before the Oil Kings are in Delorane to play their second Tiger Hills Hockey League contest of the season.

"I'm really looking forward to getting things going this year and playing in front of our fans," Gerrand said of the home opener. "They always bring great support."

The Oil Kings got the season started on Oct. 25 with a 5-2 victory over the Boissevain Border Kings. Jeremy Johnson scored twice for Virden and collected three points. New Oil King Bradley Bowles had three assists. Virden's own Eric Reid made 31 saves.

Gerrand, a defenseman, had an assist in the contest. His playmaking is just one of the ways he helps the Oil Kings.

"Andrew brings a great blend of size and skill to our defense core, along with being a leader on the team," said Virden general manager and coach Ryan Mathieson. "Having worn a letter for a number of years and coming off back-to-back team 'Top Defenseman' awards his contribution

can't be understated."

Last season Gerrand helped Virden make it to the THHL West Division finals. He collected 21 assists in 18 regular season games.

"His ability to see the ice and distribute the puck contributes to his success on the top power play unit, while his skating and physical play make him a defender we rely on in all situations," Mathieson said.

Gerrand joined the Oil Kings after suiting up for the Virden Collegiate Institute high school hockey team. His first campaign for the Virden senior team was 2017-2018.

"Andrew came to us following a successful high school career with the Virden Golden Bears, and has really grown into a top defenseman in the league," Mathieson said. "Making the jump from high school hockey to senior is a lot tougher than Andrew made it look and is something that should be recognized."

Like many senior players, Gerrand balances hockey with other life commitments. This includes his girlfriend and work with Diversified Oilfield Services.

"I really enjoy being with the guys at the rink," Gerrand said. "We've got such a great group in the dressing room, and hopefully we can bring a championship to Virden this year."



PHOTO BY ANNE DAVISON

Vet clinic construction and disaster management discussed

Municipality of Wallace-Woodworth Council meeting, Oct 22.

By Dale Davison
EMPIRE-ADVANCE

FINANCIAL

Council approved cheques in the amount of \$1,025,508.41 and direct deposit of \$3,553.89 for a total of \$1,029,062.30. The electronic funds transfers of \$104,405.84 were also approved.

Woodworth Senior Services and the RM office in Kenton have individual internet services. ACAO Iris Vercaigne will investigate the possibility of serving both locations using a wireless access point located in the municipal office to save the cost of an internet fee.

Vercaigne reported that taxes on hand are currently at 34 per cent of the total expected for this year, as there are some large payments outstanding from some of the big oil companies. The deadline for payment of taxes is Oct. 31.

OTHER BUSINESS

Council considered bringing local issues to the attention of provincial cabinet ministers at the Association of Manitoba Municipalities fall convention on Nov. 25-27. Weather closure policy for the Trans-Canada Highway, the authorization for businesses to install signs along the highway and improved rural cellular coverage were suggested as possible areas of discussion.

Coun. Mark Humphries stated that a culvert repair on the Manitoba-Saskatchewan boundary road, 174W, had been improperly done. He said, "They can't have compacted or tested it, because it's sinking so bad." He added that the situation has become a safety concern. Reeve Clayton Canart agreed and said, "They need to do it now, because otherwise in the spring it's going to be a mess." Administration will contact the RM of Maryfield to ensure they know about the problem.

The RTM childcare facility in Elkhorn is nearly ready to open. Council and staff will walk through the facility to identify any deficiencies that need to be

corrected. The property fence is finished, and sod has been laid down.

Greenwood Cemetery Board will reinvest a Guaranteed Investment Certificate (GIC) that is maturing Nov. 10 into two GICs through Fusion Credit Union of \$6,000 and \$6,800.

Council approved a request from the Elkhorn Elks to designate the October 27 Halloween family dance as a community event.

TRANS CANADA WEST PLANNING DISTRICT

The consulting firm of Scatiff Miller Murray have been hired to do the municipality's secondary plan zoning by-law review. In August there were five permits issued, 25 site visits and one enforcement. In September there were 13 permits and 31 site visits. Year-to-date construction value is \$19,881,510, and the permit fee total, year to date, is \$71,981.29. The final yearly total for permit fees is projected to be just over \$100,000.

LUD REPORTS

Requests for proposals (RFPs) for two-year snow removal, waste collection and seasonal mowing in Kenton were approved. Kenton Community Services are still waiting for the signs that were expected to be installed last year. The committee discussed some possible ideas for 2025 sidewalk projects.

The Elkhorn LUD committee heard reports from the LUD manager and foreman. The seasonal mowing contractor may not be returning for the 2025 season and the committee will see if someone else is interested in taking over the contract.

COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Coun. Barb Stambuski attended the Virden Veterinary Services District board meeting and reported that construction of the addition to the current Virden Animal Hospital has begun. Financing is being set up and the land and buildings are being appraised. The board has requested regular progress updates, and they hope to have

the foundation in before winter with the building standing before the end of the year, although the slab may not be installed before freezing. The new build will be about a nine-month project.

Stambuski attended the Manitoba Disaster Management Conference. She said, "There is a lot of funding coming forward from the province for mitigation and preparedness programs." This funding will target growth and renewal, public safety, roads, bridges, active transportation, arena upgrades, solid waste management and organic development.

Coun. Val Caldwell also attended the conference. She described a presentation by Nova Scotia social worker Serena Lewis who talked about the Nova Scotia mass casualty tragedy where a gunman posing as a police officer killed 22 people in Nova Scotia over a two-day period in April 2020. Caldwell said, "She did a full mor-

ning session on grief the second day, and it was fantastic." The session focused on the way grief affects people after a disaster. She noted that the mayor of Dauphin gave his community's perspective on the bus accident last year and said, "It was a very powerful presentation."

Reeve Canart attended the multi-use fa-

cility meeting in Elkhorn on Oct 15 and said, "I think it overall went quite well. There were certainly some concerned citizen comments...about taxes and costs." He explained, "The meeting was about ideas and interests and what people would want to see in the building." Public hearings regarding costs will be held later if a plan is approved.



VIRDEN



CENTRE OF IT ALL

Town Office: 204-748-2440

Emergency After Hours: 204-851-5540

Facility Bookings: 204-748-2440

Animal Control: 204-851-1810

Tundra Oil & Gas Place: 204-748-2736

Waste Grounds: 204-748-6033

Employment Opportunity Confidential Secretary

The Town of Virden is accepting applications for the position of Confidential Secretary commencing immediately.

The applicant will be required to perform all clerical duties. The applicant must be able to learn all aspects of the computer systems utilized by the Town, including the accounting software program.

The successful applicant must possess:

- A grade twelve diploma with relevant post-secondary education;
- Strong verbal and written communication skills and the ability to deal with the public in a positive manner;
- The ability to work co-operatively and independently in a small office setting;
- Knowledge of various computer software systems;
- The ability to respect and promote confidentiality;
- Knowledge of basic bookkeeping is a definite asset.

Job descriptions are available at the Virden Town Office or online at virden.ca.

Detailed resumes marked "Confidential Secretary" will be accepted by:

Faye Pope, Office Manager
Town of Virden
236 Wellington Street West
Box 310, Virden, Manitoba R0M 2C0
Ph: (204) 748-2440 | Fax (204) 748-2501
Email: office.manager@virden.ca

Applications will be accepted until Wednesday, November 13, 2024 at 4:00 PM.

Citizen of the Year

Nominations are now open for this year's award!

Nominate a deserving citizen or community group for Citizen of the Year.

Deadline for nominations is **November 15, 2024**.

Visit virden.ca/p/citizen-of-the-year or call the Town Office for more information.

Upcoming Council Meetings: November 5 & 19

Please Note:
Town of Virden Council meetings begin at 7:00 PM

Remembrance Day Hours

The Town Office and Tundra Oil and Gas Place will be closed on Monday, November 11, 2024.

The Virden Landfill will be closed November 9-11 (inclusive).

Regular hours of operation resume at all sites on Tuesday, November 12.

LiveBarn

Now available at Tundra Oil and Gas Place.

Use code **togp-live** for 10% off.

Visit livebarn.com for more information.

CLASSIFIEDS

Help Wanted



Canupawakpa Dakota Nation Employment Opportunity – Full Time Start Date September 3 – Open till Filled Housing Clerk

Position Summary:

Under the direction of the Housing Manager, the Housing Clerk is responsible for assisting the department and community members with a wide range of tasks to support the effective and efficient delivery of Housing Services and Public Works.

Responsibilities:

- Provide general Housing Clerk support by answering phone calls, emails, correspondence and other documents as required
- Develop work order systems to meet the need of the housing department for maintenance
- Communicate with Housing Manager and Finance Director to ensure invoicing is received and payments will be processed by due date
- Able to work with the Public Works employee's
- Keep and organize all files and make sure files are up to date
- Preparing Cheque Requisitions to Finance Director
- Maintain a high level of confidentiality regarding housing members
- Keep contacts current and up to date
- Other duties as assigned

Qualifications:

- Grade 12 Diploma, Degree or experience in similar field an asset
- Valid Class 5 Drivers License & access to a reliable vehicle
- Maintain a High Level of Confidentiality
- Satisfactory Criminal Record Check
- Experience in Office Administration
- Demonstrated leadership capacity with the ability to achieve results through informative approach to decision making
- Follow Canupawakpa Dakota Nation Policies and procedures
- Proficient in Microsoft Office Programs
- Excellent Written and Verbal Skills
- Excellent organizational skills

Position Open till Filled
Email resume and references to:
Tbrown.cdfn.hr@outlook.com

We thank all that apply but only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

Obituary

IN LOVING MEMORY
DOUGLAS WAYNE BENDER
JANUARY 21, 1947 - OCTOBER 11, 2024



Douglas "Doug" Bender was born to George Jacob Bender and Martha (Heinemann) Bender in Regina, SK and passed away peacefully at Victoria General Hospital in British Columbia. Doug is lovingly remembered by his brother, Rick Bender (Debbie); nephews Terry Mayert (Robyn), Brad Page (Christine), Michael Bender (Jocelyn), Troy Bender (Vanessa), Vaughan Bender (Debbie), Perry Bender (Gail), and Jonathan Bender (Megan); nieces Sherry Lopushinsky (Bob), Carla Schneider (Chris), Erica Kabel, Lisa Bender, Tara Parr (Andrew); their respective children; and his numerous cousins. Doug was predeceased by his parents; sisters Eileen Mayert (Chuck) and Greta Page (Bill); brothers Eugene Bender (Betty) and Ron Bender (Mildred); and an infant brother. Doug remained deeply connected to Colleen Moore and Hilary Bell of Vancouver Island.

Growing up on a farm in Qu'Appelle Valley, Saskatchewan, Doug was proud of his prairie roots. At the age of six, Doug's family relocated to Sinclair, Manitoba. Like many children of his generation, Doug rode a horse to a one-room schoolhouse. At Clover Hill School, he excelled in academics and sports. In high school, Doug and his teammates narrowly missed earning the Canadian title in baseball.

Agriculture was in Doug's blood; he raised cattle to pay his way through post-secondary education and spent summers helping out on the family farm. After earning a diploma in engineering in Winnipeg, Doug joined a survey crew in northern Alberta and eventually began working for the Government of Manitoba—first for the Department of Highways in Melita and later for the Mines Branch in Brandon, where he was in charge of the western half of the province. Doug remained with the Manitoba public service his entire career, retiring with distinction after 35 years.

It was while working in Melita in 1971 that Doug married his first wife, Brenda Grierson, who grew up on a nearby farm. They made a home together for many years before parting ways. In 1999, Doug married Hilary. They lived in Brandon until retirement at which time they built a home together in Ladysmith, on Vancouver Island. Later, Doug met Colleen, with whom he shared a close bond for 10 years.

Doug spent nearly two decades on Vancouver Island. As a retiree living in paradise, Doug was an active volunteer at a local thrift store and met up for daily coffee with friends. He also returned to an old pastime, earning a first-place title in baseball at the B.C. Seniors Games. During the cool, rainy months, Doug enjoyed trips to Arizona, Mexico, the Caribbean, and more recently, Portugal. As much as Doug enjoyed travel and Island living, Manitoba held a special place in his heart. Doug often reflected on the years he spent in Killarney, in a house next to the lake with his dog, Jody, at his side.

In May 2024, Doug returned to Manitoba where he spent the summer reconnecting with friends and family, including his cherished nieces, nephews, and cousins. In early October, Doug packed up his SUV and made the long trip back to Vancouver Island, stopping to see loved ones along the way. Just days after his return to the West Coast, Doug suffered a major stroke and passed away.

Throughout his life, Doug was a devoted Christian. He demonstrated his faith quietly through prayer and by attending church. Funeral services for Doug will be held at St. Paul's United Church in Virden, Manitoba Saturday, November 9, 2024 at 11:00 am and he will be laid to rest at Virden Cemetery, next to his family and faithful dog.

BE ON TIME!
Advertising deadline:
12 noon Tuesday

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CLASSIFIEDS

Tender

FOR SALE BY TENDER

Sealed, written tenders to purchase the land in the Rural Municipality of Ellice-Archie and the Rural Municipality of Moosomin described below will be received by:

MEIGHEN HADDAD LLP

110-11th Street
 Brandon, Manitoba R7A 4J4
 Attention: Stephen K. Branigan

Property:

- Parcel One (Title No. 1806320/2) **NW 19-14-29 WPM1**, EXC All Mines and Minerals, located in the RM of Ellice-Archie (Manitoba) consisting of approximately 154.17 acres of farmland.*
- Parcel Two (Title Nos. 106093289 and 106093278) **SE 24-14-30 WPM1**, located in the RM of Moosomin (Saskatchewan) which consists of approximately 100 acres of Arable Land 35 acres of Pasture Land and 25 acres of Waste Land.* Parcel Two includes a Conservation Easement held by Ducks Unlimited Canada and registered as Interest Register Number 124999150 which limits the use of the land.**

all acreages have been taken from the most recent Manitoba Property Assessment Report or Saskatchewan Assessment Management Agency

** a copy of the Conservation Easement registered as Interest Register Number 124999150 can be provided upon request.**

CONDITIONS OF TENDER

1. Interested parties must rely on their own inspection and knowledge of the property and not on the above or any other particulars or representations made by or on behalf of the vendor.
2. Interested parties may submit a tender for the purchase of both parcels together or one parcel individually. If tendering on both parcels, the tenders shall set out the price tendered for each parcel separately.
3. The seller shall, in their sole discretion, decide whether the parcels will be sold together to one purchaser or individually to separate parties.
4. Tenders must be received at or before **3:00pm on November 15, 2024, at the offices of Meighen Haddad LLP, 110 – 11th Street, Brandon, Manitoba, attention: Stephen K. Branigan.**
5. Bidders shall rely on their own inspection of both parcels, which shall be sold in “as is, where is” condition.
6. The successful tender shall enter into an Offer to Purchase with the seller by **December 1, 2024**, and the closing date of same shall be **December 16, 2024**, or a such date to be agreed upon (the “Closing Date”).
7. Each tender must be accompanied by a cheque payable to Meighen Haddad LLP representing 5% of the tendered purchase price. Deposits accompanying unacceptable tenders will be returned following the close of tenders.
8. The highest or any tender will not necessarily be accepted.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SALE

1. The bidder or bidders whose tender is accepted will be required to complete an agreement covering terms and conditions of sale by **December 1, 2024**.
2. In addition to the deposit, the balance of the accepted tender must be paid on or before the Closing Date. If the balance of the accepted tender is not paid by the Closing Date, or no evidence is provided that the balance will be available under conditions acceptable to the vendor, the deposit paid 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.
4. Meighen Haddad LLP will prepare a formal Offer to Purchase with standard provisions for the purchase and sale for the accepted tender.
5. Successful bidders will be responsible for real property taxes commencing January 1, 2025.
6. Successful bidders will be responsible to pay G.S.T. or to provide a Declaration and Undertaking to self-assess if registered for G.S.T.
7. In the event that harvesting and marketing conditions prevent the Vendor from delivering grain grown and stored on the lands prior to the Closing Date, the Vendor shall have the right to store and access grain on the lands until July 31, 2025.
8. The Mines and Minerals Rights for Parcel One will be retained.
9. Successful bidders shall be responsible to pay Land Transfer Tax (if applicable).
10. Each of the vendor and purchaser will be responsible for their own legal fees to complete the sale.

For further information, please contact Stephen Branigan at 204-727-8461 or sbranigan@mhllaw.ca.

Obituary

IN LOVING MEMORY

CHARLES CLARE HICKS

OCTOBER 31, 1929 – AUGUST 19, 2024



Charles Clare Hicks was born on October 31st, 1929, in Hartney, Manitoba. He passed away peacefully at the age of 94 on August 19th, 2024, surrounded by family, after a long and fulfilling life.

Clare was the beloved son of Roy and Margaret, and he spent the majority of his lifetime on the family's homestead along the Souris River, carrying forward the tradition of farming. Clare grew up on Rosedale Farm with his siblings Evelyn and Gerald, where he learned the values of hard work, resilience, and love for the land. From a young age, Clare took on the responsibility of running the family farm, stepping in to help his father due to illness. Whether tending livestock, working the land, or operating large machinery, Clare poured his heart and strength into his work—a trait that remained with him throughout his life.

He attended Grand Bend School, and fondly remembered his rides to school in a horse-drawn buggy driven by his Grandfather William or on the back of his faithful pony. He shared lots of stories and antics about the happenings in a small one room school.

Clare enjoyed ball and hockey as a young man, but his talent lay in the sport of curling, which he took up at a tender age at the Melgund rink. He spent many hours hurling rocks after his chores were done. He enjoyed playing for some 50 plus years also teaching his children to curl. He even took in some competitive bonspiels in Winnipeg but duties on the farm kept him close to home. He enjoyed golf and took it up again later in life, teaching his grandchildren to play and making new friends. He found it equally enjoyable to hunt in the rough for the stray golf balls of others, and he had an impressive collection to show for it. At the age of 88 he enjoyed his last summer of golf; he played as many rounds that summer as his age.

Clare took an electrical course in Brandon and used the skills he learned throughout his life, just one of the skills for a jack of all trades. Like most farmers he had to know about mechanics, plumbing, along with animal husbandry and land management.

Clare met and married Elizabeth Rose Asmundson of Westbourne Manitoba, and together they raised a family of five girls and three boys. Having eight kids made for lots of mouths to feed, but this meant lots of hands to help. Clare took great pride in teaching his children the values of hard work, the joys of farm life, and how to ride horses. He coached hockey, was a 4-H leader, an avid fan of the kids sporting and school events and enjoyed the busy life that 8 children brought. Sometimes even stopping after a long day in the field to play a game of catch in the front yard.

In 1963, Clare accomplished a lifelong goal of obtaining his pilot's license. This love for flying we think was sparked by seeing the pilots at the Commonwealth training centres as a young boy. He purchased a plane with a neighbour and together they obtained a Predator Control Permit and had exciting adventures curbing the coyote population from the sky above.

His deep connection to the land extended to his animals, especially his horses and cattle. Clare expanded his herds over the years on the Circle Dot Stock Farm across the river from the family homestead, ensuring that his livestock were always cared for before himself. Many hours were spent in the hay flats making sure there was always lots of feed for the winter and he spent long winter days and nights calving out cows. A natural rider who grew up on the back of horse, he stood tall in the saddle and rode with ease and grace. A cowboy at heart, a steadfast horse was a welcome companion while doing chores, rounding up cattle or making trips to the river to cut a water hole in the dead of winter. His passion of horses lead him on many adventures. Taking up chuckwagon & chariot racing in his 50's, continuing to race into his 60's. Always young at heart, and with a mischievous smile, he even attempted the thrilling Ben Hur chariots on a few occasions. He organized many a trail ride through the Lauder Sandhills, for friends and family to enjoy and travelled all over Manitoba and Saskatchewan to attend other rides. A dream come true to ride the Boundary Commission Trail, a 5-day trek from Wood Mountain to Fort Walsh – a journey he completed twice, once with son Brendan.

At the age of 72, Clare & Betty moved to Virden, but this didn't slow him down. He volunteered on the Pioneer Home Museum Board, at the library, and at the recycling depot. He joined the Oak Lake Royal Legion Branch. He also helped Betty organize music jams in Virden and enjoyed chauffeuring her to many gigs—seizing the opportunity for a good waltz or two-step along the way. His early years delivering farm equipment for CCIL made him a natural fit for his new role at Piston Ring, delivering parts and making friends with his gift for conversation. Any spare time was filled with babysitting the grandkids or a coffee with friends. Becoming a grandfather was the cherry on the top of a good life and having them spread out in age kept him young and active for a long time. He was often found following them around to the hockey rink, football field and baseball diamonds. He passed on his love of horses and golf to some and his love of chocolate to the little girls. Never passing up the chance to give a big squeeze hug or to slip a little cash into their hands.

Clare was blessed with good genes and lived a long life with good health until the last few years, when the signs of his age finally caught up to him. He had an exceptional memory and could recall events, places and people with great accuracy. Whether soaring through the skies or racing the ponies well into his 60s, Clare showed us all that age is no barrier to chasing your passions. Many lessons can be drawn from Clare's life: find joy in the simple things, savor a home-cooked meal, watch a prairie sunrise or sunset, tap your toes to a good song, and enjoy a leisurely ride on a strong horse. Laugh at a good joke, work hard, but always take time for a nap—whether it's under a tree, leaning against the tire of a tractor, on a saddle or from the comfort of your favorite chair. Most importantly, always make time to chat with family and friends.

His legacy will live on for generations to come. Rest Easy Old Cowboy.

Clare is survived by his eight children: daughter, Kimberly (Graham) MacKenzie of Pipestone and their children: Derek (Eva) MacKenzie (son, Cole), Jason MacKenzie (deceased) (his daughter, Sarah) and Gavin (Cheryl) MacKenzie, (children, Rylee and Luke); daughter, Jacqi Hicks of Hartney; son, Morley (Donna) Hicks of Deloraine; daughter, Lisa Hicks of Virden; son, Ryan (Sara) Hicks of Virden (son, Ethan); daughter, Tanya Hicks of Virden; daughter, Marla (Alan) Wilson of Virden and their children: Coyle (Ashlynn) Wilson (daughter, Bennett), Dalton Wilson and Leif Wilson; son, Brendan (Trisha) Hicks of Hartney and their children: Lincoln, Carson, Aidrik, Vanessa and Vayda; sister, Evelyn Hicks of Hartney.

He was predeceased by his wife, Elizabeth “Betty” Hicks; grandson, Jason MacKenzie; parents, Roy and Margaret Hicks; and brother, Gerald Hicks.

A celebration of life officiated by Joyce Marsh was held on September 14th, 2024, in Lauder Manitoba. A fitting afternoon of visiting, music and good food.

If anyone wishes to, donations can be made to the Lauder Cemetery or the charity of your choice. Expressions of sympathy can be made at www.redpathfuneralhome.com.

Thank You.

The family of Clare Hicks would like to express our gratitude to everyone that reached out to us during our time of sadness and those whose joined us for Dad's Celebration of Life. Thank you to Joyce Marsh for guiding us and adding a personal touch to dad's service. Thanks to Joanne and Dianne for catering the wonderful meal. A special thank you to Jeff Jonsson for designing Dad's Urn, your kindness and the consideration you put into its creation will never be forgotten.

Tenders for Snow Clearing & Removal

Are being accepted for:

Reston Health Centre

Interested parties contact:

Kyle More, Maintenance

at 204-877-5194

to review specific tender requirements.

Prairie Mountain Health is not obligated

to accept the lowest or any tender.

CLOSING DATE

1200 hours November 1st, 2024



Tenders to be Submitted to:

Chris Couling | Area Manager

Capital/Infrastructure South


Ccouling@pmh-mb.ca

HEY! YOU!


If you are reading me, that means others are too! Place your Classified here!

CLASSIFIEDS

Help Wanted



Canupawakpa Dakota Nation Employment Opportunity Jordan's Principle – On Reserve Case Worker Start Date: July 8 2024



Position Summary: Develop relationship with local School District and Manage education programming for Pre-K to High School completion, adult basic education, alternative education and other school programs as well as administrative processing, organizing programs, applying for funding/proposals and supervising staff.

Responsibilities:

- Manage administration operations and programs
- Work and effectively communicate with school administrators, staff, families, and other industry and stakeholders
- Advocating for the community's education needs
- Connecting families with various support resources, ability to deal tactfully with students, staff and parents
- Mediate any interpersonal conflicts between educational institutions and families
- Must have a class 5 drivers license and access to a reliable vehicle, willing to travel upon request and work flexible hours
- Follow Canupawakpa Dakota Nation policies and procedures with specific attention to attendance and professional ethics
- Manage and oversee all Educational Staff

Qualifications:

- Bachelor of Education or equivalent experience.
- Grade 12 diploma
- Demonstrated leadership capacity with the ability to achieve results through an informative approach to decision making
- Ability to use tact diplomacy in interactions with all relevant parties; dealing and interacting with people from different backgrounds and disciplines, the ability to be sensitive to other people's opinions while trying to find common ground is essential
- Excellent written and verbal communications skills, organizational skills, analytical and problem-solving skills
- Experience and knowledge of financial accounting principles, practices, and procedures
- Strong ethical conduct: maintain a high level of professionalism and integrity, honesty, and trustworthiness in the discharge of duties, putting all personal, religious and political bias aside
- Minimum 2 years of experience in the field of education
- Must provide a satisfactory Criminal Record Check, Child & Adult Abuse Registry checks with the vulnerable sector search

Position open till filled

Interested applicants send your resume & references to:

Tbrown.cdfn.hr@outlook.com

We thank all who apply but only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

Obituary

IN LOVING MEMORY
WILLIAM JAMES LARRY DUNCAN
FEBRUARY 28, 1937 – AUGUST 31, 2024



Larry passed away at the age of 87 years – Born in Virden Hospital passed away at New Market Hospital in Ontario.

Will be greatly missed by wife Miko, sons Anthony and Jason. Predeceased by parents Jim and Ola Duncan of Virden and survived by brother Robert (Bev), sister Judy (Jack Forrest) and brother Murray of Cromer, sons Tim (Anna) and Marshall (Stephanie) plus 10 other nieces and nephews.

Larry lived at Ebor (Cromer) until Grade 9 when his family moved to Virden to further Larry's education. He then attended University of Manitoba where he got his Bachelor of Civil Engineering followed by receiving his Master of Business Administration at Western University.

He entered the world of Business with IBM, Crown Data (division of Crown Life Corp) and consulted at Upper Lakes Shipping until he was 85 years of age.

Larry and Miko were happily married for 31 years and they were both avid golfers at Thornhill Golf and Country Club in Toronto and enjoyed curling. They travelled the world for last 30 years.

Donation may be made to Canadian Cancer Society in Larry's memory.

For Sale or Rent

Farmland for Sale or Rent in RM of Pipestone

	Taxes	Assessment
NW 23-8-27	\$778.96	\$246,400
NE 23-8-27	\$519.11	\$164,200
SW 23-8-27	\$808.16	\$255,600

Land is located on Road 46N and 157W. Approximately 400 working acres, classified as E on crop insurance.

Taking offers for purchase.

Taking offers for 3 years lease.

Mineral and oil rights are exempt.

Interested parties should rely on their own inspection.

Highest or any offers not necessarily accepted.

Deadline for offers is Friday, Nov. 29, 2024.

For more info call 204-748-5178 or 204-854-2543.

Offers to be sent to
Stewart Farms
Box 9
Pipestone MB
R0M 1T0

Tender

SNOW REMOVAL WANTED

Persons with equipment to provide snow removal for the 2024/2025 season at five locations within the Town of Virden.

Tenders close: November 8, 2024, at 4:00 p.m.

Send tenders to:

Association for Community Living – Virden Branch
216 Bridge Street West.
Box 1957, Virden, MB
R0M 2C0

Fax: 204-748-1737

Email: generalinfo@aclvirden.org

For more information call Lisa at 204 -748-1444

Coming Events

Virden Legion is now OPEN

Friday at 3pm - that's every Friday

New Games Night in the Legion Club Room

Open to All - no charge - Wednesdays from 7 - 9pm

All types of games - cards, darts, pool, and board games - scrabble.

Come for fun and socializing!

For Sale

WANTED

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CASH FOR COIN COLLECTIONS & ACCUMULATIONS OF COINS! ROYAL CANADIAN MINT COINS, OLD COINS, OLD PAPER MONEY, SILVER COINS, GOLD COINS, RARE COINS ETC.

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**Todd
306-774-2420**

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LEASES - Have a news-worthy item to announce? An exciting change in operations? Though we cannot guarantee publication, MCNA will get the information into the right hands for **ONLY \$35.00 + GST/HST.** Call MCNA (204) 947-1691 for more information. See www.mcna.com under the "Types of Advertising" tab for more details.

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WANTED Wanted old advertising: Dealership signs, service station, gas pumps, globes, oil cans, Red Indian, White Rose, Buffalo, Husky, Ford, GM, Dodge, Tire signs, Coke, Pepsi etc. Call 306-221-5908

Announcement

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McSherryAuction.com
204-467-1858
or 204-886-7027

mcserryttd@gmail.com

CLASSIFIEDS

Help Wanted



**Canupawakpa Health Service
Employment Opportunity – Full
Time Position
Home Care Assistant
Start Date October 28 – Open Til Filled**

Position Summary: Canupawakpa Health Centre is seeking a Registered Nurse to fulfill the role of the Home and Community Care Program. Under the direction of the supervisor and/or Health Director, the Home Care Worker provides quality personal care and home support services within the community of Canupawakpa Dakota Nation. The Registered Nurse is responsible for the assessment and provision of professional nursing care to clients in the community setting.

Key Responsibilities:

- Provide Personal and supplemental care duties and services in the home and/or in the settings including (but not limited to) bathing, dressing, grooming, toileting, exercise programs, shopping, transportation, monitoring, BP & BG
- Contributes towards promoting and maintaining the physical, psychological, and social well being of adult care/elder care clientele and advocates for the dignity and self respect of the clients
- Assists Canupawakpa families in providing care for the terminally ill clients
- Reports change in client's health and living arrangements that may affect the individual care plans and assists in coordinating elder care events
- Assists with planning, designing, and implementing comprehensive adult care/elder care program activities and initiatives
- Maintains records in all confidential and accurate manner and informs the Health Director with regular activity updates
- Encourage and assist client's participation with activities, organize and facilitate leisure activity groups and other duties as assigned
- Maintain strong confidentiality of clientele

Qualifications:

- Grade 12 diploma
- HCA Certificate or equivalent
- CPR & First Aid Certificate
- Proficient in Office Programs
- Maintain high level of Confidentiality
- Satisfactory Criminal Record Check & Child Abuse Registry Check
- Ability to speak/understand the Dakota Language an asset

We thank all that apply but only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

Interested applicants please send Resume & Cover Letter to:
Tbrown.cdfn.hr@outlook.com
 Human Resources
 BOX 146
 Pipestone MB
 R0M 1T0
 PH: 204-854-2959

Help Wanted



**Canupawakpa Dakota Nation
Job Opportunity – Full Time
Education Director
Start Date: August 5**

Position Summary: Develop relationship with local School District and Manage education programming for Pre-K to High School completion, adult basic education, alternative education and other school programs as well as administrative processing, organizing programs, applying for funding/proposals and supervising staff.

Responsibilities:

- Manage administration operations and programs
- Work and effectively communicate with school administrators, staff, families, and other industry and stakeholders
- Advocating for the community's education needs
- Connecting families with various support resources, ability to deal tactfully with students, staff and parents
- Mediate any interpersonal conflicts between educational institutions and families
- Must have a class 5 drivers license and access to a reliable vehicle, willing to travel upon request and work flexible hours
- Follow Canupawakpa Dakota Nation policies and procedures with specific attention to attendance and professional ethics
- Manage and oversee all Educational Staff

Qualifications:

- Bachelor of Education or equivalent experience.
- Grade 12 diploma
- Demonstrated leadership capacity with the ability to achieve results through an informative approach to decision making
- Ability to use tact diplomacy in interactions with all relevant parties; dealing and interacting with people from different backgrounds and disciplines, the ability to be sensitive to other people's opinions while trying to find common ground is essential
- Excellent written and verbal communications skills, organizational skills, analytical and problem-solving skills
- Experience and knowledge of financial accounting principles, practices, and procedures
- Strong ethical conduct: maintain a high level of professionalism and integrity, honesty, and trustworthiness in the discharge of duties, putting all personal, religious and political bias aside
- Minimum 2 years of experience in the field of education
- Must provide a satisfactory Criminal Record Check, Child & Adult Abuse Registry checks with the vulnerable sector search

Position open till filled
Interested applicants send your resume & references to:
Tbrown.cdfn.hr@outlook.com
 We thank all who apply but only those selected for an interview will be contacted


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 Mon and Fri 8:30a - 4:30p

Melita- 204-522-3543
 155 Summit St, Melita
 Tues and Thurs 8:30a - 4:30p




1 204-748-6823
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Sandhill Cranes are having a social gathering



PHOTO BY JESSICA COULTER

Hundreds of Sandhill Cranes fill a field just outside Kenton, Manitoba as they are preparing to migrate south. These cranes can be heard for miles around when they make their trumpeting call.

In their wintering areas, they form flocks over 10,000. One place this happens is at Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge, 160 kilometres south of Albuquerque, New Mexico.

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Manitoba Government supports workers by restoring 1:1 apprenticeship ratio

Changes promote safety and support quality hands-on education: Moses



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Submitted
MANITOBA GOVERNMENT

Regulatory changes that restore the 1:1 apprentice-to-journeyman ratio and modernize training programs will come into effect Oct. 30, Economic Development,

Investment, Trade and Natural Resources Minister Jamie Moses announced last week.

“Restoring the 1:1 ratio supports safe and higher quality training for workers,” said Moses. “All Manitobans deserve to come home safely at the end of their workday.”

Changes to the Apprenticeship and Certification General Regulation will also ensure apprentices receive high-quality supervision and appropriate supports throughout their training program, noted the minister.

“Apprenticeship is the training program, Red Seal is the career,” said Tanya Palson, executive director, Manitoba Building Trades. “This change will help young Manitobans feel sure that when they enter the training program, they are supported to completion so that they can build their careers and support their families here at home.”

The previous government removed the 1:1 ratio requirement, compromising the safety of Manitoba workers, the minister said, adding that the 1:1 ratio was established in response to the 1999 death of Michael Skanderberg, who was killed on the job while working unsupervised.

“I applaud the Manitoba government for restoring the 1:1 apprentice-to-journeyman ratio,” said Cindy Skanderberg, mother of Michael Skanderberg. “Every day I will fight to keep Manitoba workers safe. This will save lives.”

Other regulatory changes will modernize the apprenticeship system to reduce administrative burdens and improve Manitoba’s competitiveness with other

Canadian jurisdictions, noted the minister.

“IBEW 2085 strongly opposed the 2:1 ratio because for someone training to be an electrician, proper supervision can be a matter of life and death,” said Dave McPhail, business manager, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) 2085. “Restoring the ratio to 1:1 means that this government is serious about building Manitoba with highly skilled, properly trained Red Seals.”

The minister noted existing apprenticeship agreements can continue if:

- employers have been permitted to have journeymen supervise more than one apprentice;
- apprentices actively demonstrate continued progress in their apprenticeship program under pre-existing employment agreements; and
- journeymen do not take on additional apprentices.

This is the first step in the Manitoba government’s improvement of the apprenticeship program, creating good jobs for Manitobans and reaching its commitment of creating 10,000 skilled labour jobs, noted the minister. The government is also fulfilling its commitment to do a review of the operations of Apprenticeship Manitoba to look for efficiencies and modernization. That work is ongoing and stakeholder consultation will begin next month, the minister added.

“A modernized and responsive apprenticeship training and certification system is good for workers, grows industry and moves our province forward,” said Moses.

Legion

Honouring Our
TROOPS & VETERANS

Remembrance Day in the town of Virden & the RM of Wallace-Woodworth Community Service at the Virden Aud. The public is asked to be seated no later than 9:40 am.

For those being apart of the Remembrance Day Parade, then please be at the Legion Club Room by 10:00 am for the Parade Briefing by the Sgt-at-Arms. The parade steps off at 10:30 am.

There will be coffee & cookies after the service.

All are invited and that includes elementary children and teens with their parents. It is an important community event.

Note: If your organization, company, or family wishes to lay a wreath then please contact Comrade Marc Savy, the Sgt-at-Arms ASAP.

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