


# Empire-Advance

serving virden & area since 1885

OCTOBER 18, 2024 | EMPIRE: VOL 120 NO 9 / ADVANCE: VOL 139 NO 11 | PUBLISHING FRIDAYS



COME BY, WE ARE  
**OPEN**  
*late!*

Open 7 Days a Week  
Sunday to Thursday 11<sup>am</sup>-12<sup>am</sup>  
Friday & Saturday 11<sup>am</sup> - 1<sup>am</sup>  
290 Frontage Road West, Virden, MB  
204-748-6500

“**Farming is in my blood.** My grandparents farmed, my parents farmed, I farm, and now my kids are farming. **You keep going.**”

Dean Laval  
Laval Family Farm, Deloraine, MB



Contact **Sunrise Credit Union** to meet with an expert for your Farm Transition goals!



## Families enjoying the Virden skatepark in October



Two families share the ramp at Virden skatepark: Atheena and her father (left) and Sloan (right) with her unicorn scooter, her mum at her side. It soon becomes a “runaway unicorn” when it slips out of her grip on the slope. With seating and a table on the edge of the cement structure this is a perfect place for the evening picnic that Chase and Sloan’s mum has brought along.



Here, Chase, 8, balances on his board. It’s nearly thanksgiving and we know the weather can change quickly, but on Oct. 8 Virden’s skatepark is a beckoning place.

PHOTOS BY ANNE DAVISON



**HOME GAME**  
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20  
VS. PORTAGE TERRIERS  
PUCK DROPS AT 7:00PM

## Inside...



**OIL CAPS**  
**WON 2**  
**GAMES**  
*P13*



**WOODWORTH**  
**FIRE**  
**DEPARTMENT**  
**OPEN HOUSE** *P2*

# Woodworth Firefighters hold open house at Kenton fire hall



The Woodworth Fire Department truck is all shined up for its day to show off.



The volunteer firefighters taught the kids how to use fire extinguishers.



The gear is ready for the crew to go when the time is needed.

PHOTOS BY GERRY NOLAN



Checking out the gear inside of the fire truck.

By Gerry Nolan  
EMPIRE-ADVANCE

On October 12, 2024, it was a beautiful fall day, for the Woodworth Fire Department to host an open house and free BBQ lunch.

A tour of their firehouse displays of equipment, demonstrations, and educational games for the kids were some of the activities offered. The Fire Chief Chris Routledge told us that they consist of twenty-two volunteer members, with five junior members this year.

The junior members are on a high school program where they can earn a credit for 60 hours and a full credit for 120 hours. These are all volunteer hours.

The fire department does training courses, such

as basic first aid, ground fire, surface water rescue, ground search and rescue, plus vehicle accidents such as roll overs. They have had thirteen calls this year.

Equipment upgrades are being planned, which include replacing the chassis on the rescue truck. Their equipment was on display for everyone to see and ask questions.

Fire Chief Routledge stated that all of the team are within five years of age of each other, and that they are a very close-knit group. He also stated that

new volunteers are welcome as members sometimes move away due to work or other reasons. They are fortunate to have three training officers on their team.

Free Hamburgers, Hotdogs, Coffee, and Pop were offered to everyone.

Our community is very proud and so fortunate to have these individuals who give their time, training, and resources to keep us safe! Huge thanks to all of you!



At Virden's Derrick Theatre!  
Episode 4 – Wednesday, October 23, 2024,  
Doors open – 7pm ~ Showtime – 7:30 pm  
Free Admission – Everyone Welcome  
Bible Study Following

**THE BLANCHARD**  
HOTEL, LOUNGE, AND RESTAURANT  
German - Bavarian Cuisine  
Homemade Food made from scratch  
**Fraenkische Stuben**  
Wed-Sat: 10:30am-10pm | Happy Hour Wed-  
Sun: 4pm-9pm | Fri 5pm-7pm  
Sunday Buffet from 4pm-8pm  
OAK RIVER, MB ~ 204-566-2131

Lost in Virden area. Miniature gelding, last seen west of Virden Animal Hospital. Silvery gray with black legs, mane and tail. (Grulla)  
If you see him please call  
1-204-851-0070. Thank-you



**Last Chance**  
14th Annual Par 3 Golf Tournament  
Proceeds donated to the  
**Virde Golden Bears Football Team**  
For an Irrigation System, Goal Standards and Equipment

Thanks to everyone who participated in our golf tournament on September 28th.

**Congratulations to the winning team:**  
Shane Keown, Zaine Haines, Mike Graham & Matt Strain

We would like to thank the following businesses for sponsoring the hole-in-ones:

- |                      |                              |                            |
|----------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| CFO Rentals          | PureChem                     | Prairie Pride Fishing      |
| Southern Range       | Eagle Well Servicing         | Reliance Oilfield Services |
| Rangeview            | General Well Services        | Swift Oilfield Supplies    |
| Tundra Oil & Gas     | Amped Well Servicing         | Virden Drugs               |
| Andrew Agencies      | Silverline Oilfield Services | Test Pro Energy            |
| Safety Source        | Virden Ford                  | Travis Penner              |
| Sparwood Services    | Four Seasons                 | Hayward-Draper Counseling  |
| Greg Penner          | Super Thrifty                | Meyers, Norris & Penny     |
| Moore Pipe           | A&C Consulting               | Comfort Inn                |
| Sunrise Credit Union | Integra Tire                 | Dobbyn Oilfield Services   |
| Foxtail Hauling      | Mainline Motors              | MayCo Well Servicing       |
| Custom Creations     | Virden Drugs                 | Virden Ford                |
| TS&M                 |                              |                            |

We would like to thank the following businesses for donating closest to the pin prizes:

- |                         |                 |              |
|-------------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Sport Chek              | Moore Pipe      | Four Seasons |
| Home Hardware           | Mainline Motors | Integra Tire |
| Swift Oilfield Supplies |                 |              |

Hope to see you all back next year.

# Co-operative Development Foundation of Canada (CDF Canada) appoints Greg Gill of Valleyview Co-op as a Director

## Submitted

BY VALLEYVIEW CO-OP

Virde n, Manitoba – The Co-operative Development Foundation of Canada (CDF Canada), a global leader in promoting sustainable economic and social development through the co-operative business model, is pleased to announce Greg Gill's appointment as Director.

Founded in 1947, CDF Canada has been empowering communities across Asia, Africa, and Latin America for over 75 years. Through partnerships and co-operative principles, CDF Canada takes a data-driven approach to building capacity, fostering economic self-reliance, and influencing local cooperative policies for sustainable growth. Gill will support these initiatives and help guide the organization's strategic vision.

Greg Gill is the General Manager and Executive Officer of Valleyview Consumers Co-op Ltd. in Virde n, Manitoba. With an impressive 32 years of experience in the co-operative sector, Greg has dedicated 24 years to

transformative leadership, including 20 years in senior roles across four local co-operatives and as a Business Advisor for Federated Co-operatives Limited.

As a value-driven leader, Greg excels in nurturing stakeholder relationships and is skilled in organizational design, strategic planning, and data analysis. His expertise spans diverse sectors, including non-profit, for-profit, and co-operatives. Throughout his career, he has successfully managed comprehensive portfolios encompassing operations, finance, marketing, administration, and human resources.

Gill joins CDF Canada at a pivotal moment in its history. The organization is expanding its global initiatives to bridge agricultural and financial access, support women's economic empowerment, and enhance resilience to climate change. Greg Gill expressed his excitement for the role: "I am honoured to join CDF Canada in its mission to drive sustainable development and financial inclusion through the cooperative model. I look forward to working alongside our dedicated team, partners, and



PHOTOS BY JUNE WILSON, FCL

Greg Gill, Board Member CDF Canada.

communities to create lasting impact and build a more equitable world."

## Valleyview Co-op celebrates the success of Fuel Good Day, raising record funds



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Left to right cheque presentation to the Virden School Nutrition Programs for \$4,584.88: Will Noseworth Goulter School Principal, Brad Hayward Mary Montgomery School Principal, Faye Gerring C-Store Manager Valleyview Co-op, Tracy Ramsey Virden Junior High School Principal, Virden Collegiate Institute Vice Principal Hugh Henderson.

## Submitted

BY VALLEYVIEW CO-OP

Virde n, Manitoba—Valleyview Co-op is proud to announce the overwhelming success of its annual Fuel Good Day, held on September 17th, 2024. Thanks to the tremendous support from our loyal members and guests, this year's event exceeded expectations. It raised significant funds to benefit Virden School Nutrition Programs, Melita and Pierson Early Learning Centres, and Kenton Community Enterprise.

Fuel Good Day is a much-anticipated event in which a portion of every litre of fuel sold at participating Valleyview Co-op gas bars is donated directly to local charities. This year, Valleyview Co-op partnered with

local volunteers, who helped raise \$10,061.06 during the event.

"A Community Effort for a Greater Good"

"Fuel Good Day is a highlight of the year for Valleyview Co-op because it allows us to give back to the communities that support us," said Energy Division Manager Sue Capern. "The generosity shown by our members is heartwarming, and we are thrilled to see this event's positive impact on our local organizations. We are truly blessed with a team that goes above and beyond to support their community, from our Gas Bar teams to our Food Store teams; this was a collaborative effort for the greater good."

### Thank You to Our Customers and Volunteers

Valleyview Co-op extends a

heartfelt thank you to everyone who filled up at our pumps and participated in the event. Special thanks also go to our dedicated staff and volunteers who worked tirelessly to make this day a resounding success.

"Our community has once again demonstrated its unwavering support and commitment to helping others," added Capern. "Events like Fuel Good Day remind us of what a caring and compassionate place we live in."

### Looking Forward

As we celebrate the success of this year's Fuel Good Day, we are already looking ahead to next year's event. Valleyview Co-op remains committed to being a strong community partner and fueling good in our communities.

## Food recycling catches on in Prairie View Municipality



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Food scraps put through the FoodCycler become fertilizer.

By Anne Davison  
EMPIRE-ADVANCE

The residents of Prairie View Municipality had an opportunity to join a food recycling 12-week trial offered within the municipality by simply purchasing a unit, the FoodCycler Foodilizer™ in August and trying it out until October. Households got a break on the purchase price through the municipality if they agreed to track their use on a weekly basis.

Reeve Roger Wilson said Prairie View purchased about 20 or 30 units initially, providing a \$100 subsidy on the price for ratepayers.

Landfill and recycling are topics of concern to council. Wilson said, "Granted, this will be a small help," adding that it made sense to try out a household unit that sits on the counter and recycles scraps into compost.

Billed as a hassle-free alternative to composting, the FoodCycler reduces table scraps and food prep waste to a powder that can be added directly to garden soil at

a ratio of 1:10 or 1:20 (depending on the amount of fat or dairy). Details can be found on the website: [foodcycler.com](http://foodcycler.com).

The company (Vitamix) that created these powerful little processors boasts that this method can reduce food waste volume by 90 per cent and the resulting (methane) greenhouse gas from decomposing food in the landfill can be reduced by a whopping 95 per cent.

The FoodCycler promises to take care of kitchen waste in an odorless fashion, while making it available as a fertilizer for potted plants and gardens.

Other communities like Nelson, B.C. have also gotten onboard with this project. Information for the program is available at: [foodcyclescience.com/pages/municipal-solutions](http://foodcyclescience.com/pages/municipal-solutions)

As it turns out, Prairie View residents who tried it, loved it and the word got out. With their supply down to just one left, the municipality decided to purchase another 15 FoodCycler units.

# Tundra

By Chad Carpenter



## Fall (Fowl?) Suppers

According to my research the custom of community fall suppers are Manitoba's oldest culinary tradition. It is part modern pop up café and part heritage foods. Churches and community halls host suppers from September to November. The suppers are known for the home cooked foods and the hospitality, and as a fundraiser for worthy causes.

When we look back at the early community fall suppers we can understand, in part, why so many regulations now dictate food prep, presentation and clean up. Years ago the supper was often served in a crowded church basement, the food having been prepared in many individual homes and transported as best as one could to the public eating area. The dishes were hand washed in rapidly cooling water, hand dried by progressively damper towels, and hustled back out to the serving table for the next diners. Much as the workers tried, the water too soon became tepid, greasy and less than desired for cleaning ability! However! The food was tasty, home grown and plenteous. The standard dessert was pie, many different types of pies, all homemade and mostly from the back yard fruit trees or local Saskatoon bushes. (An aside—one of my sons was about eight and after being served a slice of Saskatoon pie at a community supper, returned to the kitchen and pointedly asked be given a slice of mom's Saskatoon pie. Apparently mine was better, or more familiar!) One could count on mashed potatoes, gravy, jelly salads—red, green and orange—several types of vegetables, often turnips, stuffing and then, of course, meat—usually fowl. And buns, and pickles and tea and coffee. The fall supper was well supported and a welcome time of gathering after the harvest pressure was past.

It's only been in the last twenty to thirty years that folks travel near and far to catch a fall supper. There are on line sites that list all the suppers in the province, broken down by areas. So many changes! Some communities now pre sell the tickets, controlling the amount of food required, eliminating too many left overs, or disappointed patrons. Some communities provide access to alcoholic beverages; some have all the tables seated before serving them in order. Some still have first come, first served and if you have to stand outside for a while, consider it time for catching up with local news! Suppers often feature beef, or ham, or pulled pork, or a combination of meats. Districts have become for their specialities—perogies, sauerkraut or meatballs for example. And the dessert table! Now we have cheesecake, squares, chocolate desserts as well as pies. The food is generally prepared on site, and the dishwashing area has at least three sinks or an industrial dish washer.

There have been changes. There are, thankfully, some things that have not changed. It is a community coming together, working together, for a common goal. The food is made with love and expertise, not often store bought. There are families, neighbours, and strangers sitting down together to share a meal, to share stories and laughter. Great food, great company, great cause.

## A Thanksgiving and Anniversary wrap-up

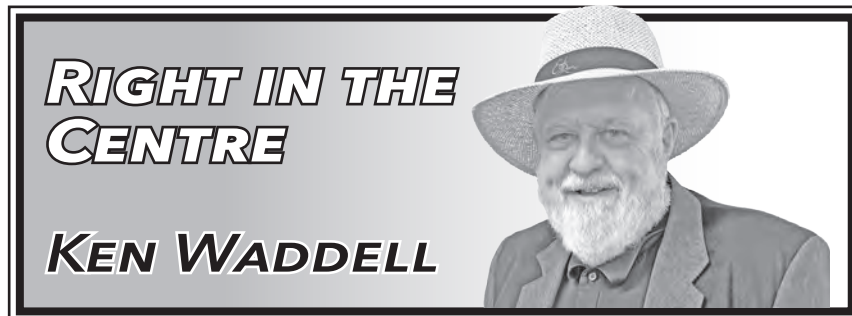
Last week, I wrote about the upcoming Thanksgiving weekend and how it coincided with our 55th wedding anniversary. For about two weeks before the big day, I asked my wife what she wanted to do for our anniversary. No real plans were forthcoming so I went about our regular business of doing the best we can to publish three newspapers and help out at the Neepawa Access Community Television Station (NACTV). The Thursday before our anniversary was the regular paper delivery run to Rivers and Rapid City.

That run is about two-thirds more than it used to be because, as of June 21, we took over the Virden Empire-Advance. Now the run is Rapid City and Rivers with a hand-off to Gerry Nolan to do deliveries around Rivers, Hamiota, Oak River, Kenton and Lenore. Our job then is to head down to the T-Can and turn in at Sioux Valley Petro-Can and then on to Virden to deliver papers to a few spots. We sure distribute a pile of papers at Hi-Way Grocery and pick up lunch there too so that I can eat at my desk. No rest for the wicked. Then it's on to the Flower Attic in Virden, our biggest delivery spot, pick up the mail and head to our Virden Office.

From there, it's Oliver Nolan's turn, son of the above mentioned Gerry, to deliver to dozens of spots in Virden. Dad Gerry circles back from his Rivers Banner deliveries and takes the remaining Virden papers to places like Elkhorn, Cromer, Reston and Pipestone.

My job gets a little easier by Thursday afternoon as I look after some admin duties and meet with Jessica Coulter, who sells and designs ads and the papers at Virden and Rivers. Often I meet up with Dianne Hansen who has graciously come out of retirement to sell ads at Virden.

Our job winds up Thursday by



delivering the papers to Oak Lake and Alexander on our way home.

So that is how Thursday goes and that's how last Thursday went. As I said, it was the eve of our anniversary so I had to buy my wife a little present at Dundee Designs in Alexander and also pick up one of the best egg salad sandwiches ever. They are a staple at Dundee and the sandwiches are made at the Honey House in Rivers.

I should also explain that before Thursday can happen, our staff diligently assembles all three papers on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Printing takes place at Killarney Wednesday afternoon where the Struth family has been printing now for two generations. Our staff brings the papers back Wednesday, sorts and packages the papers into bundles Wednesday night ready to go early Thursday. We have three vans and a SUV on the road on Thursdays and one on Friday. There is a cycle to the whole process.

So back to the anniversary, what did we do on Friday. Well, I worked a little late at the office, came home and we had pizza and watched a hockey game and a football game. The Blue Bombers lost and the Jets won.

So did our local teams, the Neepawa Titans and Virden Oil Capitals, though Neepawa did end up winning a pair over the weekend to Virden's lone victory.

On Saturday, we did go to a restaurant but just for breakfast. Prepping

for winter is on the top of the list so the annual job of getting all the junk and partly finished projects out of the garage and cars in begins in earnest. That, and painting the garden shed.

Sunday was our Thanksgiving day with a multi family gathering. Just so you get an idea of what that was like, there were 10 children under 10 years of age in one house. Four of them were our great grandsons. Lots of happy noise and laughing and lots of love.

Still worked on the anniversary through Monday, our version that is. Pushed hard (but very slow) and got garden hoses winterized, rain barrels put away. I think my wife is getting some better as I looked across the yard when I took a breather from garage prepping and she was tumbling the rain barrels across the yard. No cane, no walker but carefully and steadily bossing the rain barrels across the yard.

So our anniversary weekend closed off Monday evening with vehicles in the garage, two on the driveway and off the street, the motorhome in the storage compound.

Some people will be somewhat shocked at the way we celebrated our anniversary, but this year was a very good one. Lots to be thankful for, especially since Christine started in January with very serious surgery followed by many months of chemo and a very tired body. Yes, we are thankful.

**Empire Advance**  
Serving Virden and area since 1885

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### STAFF

Sales/Media/Design  
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Reporter  
Anne Davison

Office Manager  
Oliver Nolan

Reporter  
Dale Davison

Sports Reporter  
Robin Wark

Owner/Publisher/Editor  
Ken & Christine Waddell



# Wasn't that a storm!?



PHOTO BY EMPIRE ADVANCE OCTOBER 1959

With a wedding scheduled for Monday... at St. Paul's United Church and the sidewalks around the church waist-deep with drifted snow, Rev. S. A. Walmsley (sent out a rallying call to a group of Hi-C boys. In a matter of... the lads were on the job with shovels and it was not long until the walks were bare. Here is the group that did the job in short order. (l-r): Rev. S. A. Walmsley, Gary Reid, Grant McDonald (back turned), Jim Lyons, Hugh Harris, Don Berry (hidden behind Hugh), Fred Waines, Bruce Nield, Doug Berry, Doug Fowler and Wayne Dunfield. (Bits of the caption were not legible due to the binding.)

By Anne Davison  
EMPIRE-ADVANCE

Virden reader and frequent letter writer, John Fefchak, sent in a note last week about the October storm of 1959:

Oct 7th 1959 - Early

## Snow Storm Hits Western Manitoba

An early Oct. snow storm in 1959 was a lot worse than predicted. It entered western Manitoba on Oct. 6, moving on to Portage La Prairie on the 7th and hitting the Winnipeg area full

force on Oct. 8. That early snowfall never left until the spring of 1960. I was there.

-John Fefchak, Virden

Our publisher, Ken Waddell said: "I remember the 1959 blizzard, it was 11. I heard and read

the Auction mart at Pipestone was full of cattle and they were stranded there. Thousands of cattle were still out on pasture and in some places they had to use bulldozers to clear trails to the cattle."

A Hamiota man recalls that his family got

the cattle in from the pasture. They had to come in for hay. His dad had to purchase straw bales because the snow was enough to do through a winter that was looking to be extra long.

Another recalls a teachers' seminar that was shut down due to the storm, and sure enough, it's front page of the Oct. 14, 1959 edition of the Empire-Advance:

**"Most speakers, many teachers unable to get here for sessions"**

The story says: "The splendid program arranged by the officers and executive of the Teachers' Convention of Inspector K.B. Thorkelson's Division for the convention last Thursday and Friday was, because of the tremendous snow-storm in this area, literally a "shambles."

"Only 32 teachers of an expected 150 were able to get through blocked roads to register at Goulter School."

**"Record October blizzard paralyzes Virden Area"** was also

on the front page, telling of 35 inches of snow that carpeted Virden and District....

"The first storm which started early Tuesday evening and continued until early Friday all but paralyzed traffic in this area.

In Virden... snowplows and maintainers working around the clock had opened most streets...."

But it tells of a "second storm accompanied by high winds, plugging most traffic arteries completely. Digging out operations from the second storm began early Sunday...."

Internet search showed that other early storms have occurred since including one in 2019. These brought comments to a Facebook page as others chimed in recalling the 1959 storm: "in 1959... I remember a big snow drift higher than our kitchen window."

Neepawa received 84.6 cm from Oct 6-10, 1959. The October 1959 storm remains the largest on record for many locations in western Manitoba.



## NOTICE OF NOMINATIONS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that between October 30th and November 5th, 2024

### between the hours

9:00 a.m. and noon and 12:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m.  
at the RM of Ellice-Archie municipal office at  
318 Railway Avenue, McAuley, MB. Or  
331 Main Street, St. Lazare, MB

I will receive nominations for the offices of

**1 COUNCILLOR – WARD 3**

of the aforesaid Local Authority.

**The nomination deadline is Tuesday, November 5th, 2024 at 4:30 p.m. local time. Nominations cannot be accepted after this day.**

All nominations shall be made in writing and shall be signed by at least twenty-five voters, or NOT less than 1% of the voters (whichever is the lesser) of the authority or ward (as the case may be), but in all cases by at least two voters. Each nomination shall also be accompanied by the candidate's declaration of qualification.

Nominations must be filed in person at the above location, on the date and hours specified. To obtain a nomination paper, and / or candidate's declaration of qualification, contact the S.E.O. at the telephone number listed below.

**Nomination papers not accompanied by the required documents and not properly filed shall be rejected.**

Dated at McAuley in the Province of Manitoba, this 1st day of October, 2024.

Constance Tanguay  
Senior Election Official  
Rural Municipality of Ellice-Archie  
Phone: (204) 683-2241  
Fax: (204) 683-2317

## Letter to the Editor

re: "Plenty has changed over the years when it comes to raising pigs — barns have become more efficient, animal care standards have been strengthened — but farmers have remained steadfast in their responsibility to raising animals in the best possible environment". (WFP 23 Sept. 2024)

However, there still remains a dark side to Factory Hog Farming.

When it comes to factory hog barns; the Manitoba government is reluctant to regulate on behalf of the public interest!

A Stern Lesson from the Past - The tainted blood scandal and disaster.

The tainted blood disaster was a Canadian public health crisis in the 1980s in which thousands of people were exposed to HIV and hepatitis C through contaminated blood products.

The Canadian government's inquiry into the tainted blood scandal of the 1980s and 1990s. The report was named after its commissioner, Justice Horace Krever, who was appointed by the Canadian government to investigate the scandal. The report made several recommendations, including the establishment of a new regulatory body to oversee the blood system in Canada. "One of the key findings of the report was that the relationship between a regulator and the regulated must never become one in which the regulator loses sight of the principle that it regulates only in the public interest and not in the interests of the regulated".

Can you imagine waking up gagging in the middle of the night to an unbearable stench wafting through your open windows? Or having your family barbecue ruined because the wind has shifted and your country residence has been overwhelmed by the putrid smell of hog manure. Sadly, this scenario has repeated itself far too many times in rural Manitoba over the past 25 years.

We would also be on track to question the sanity of governments which willingly shells out our tax dollars, which supports an industry that contributes to the social disruption of rural residents, along with polluting our water sources and Lake Winnipeg.

For this, the government of Manitoba must be held accountable!

"The truth is incontrovertible. Panic may resent it; ignorance may deride it; malice may distort it, but there it is." - Winston Churchill.

John Fefchak  
Virden, MB.  
204 748 2521

## HELEN DRYSDALE

# OUT OF HELEN'S KITCHEN

Cranberries are traditionally seen on Canadian Thanksgiving and Christmas tables in the form of my very favourite cranberry sauce. Cranberries make a popular juice, fresh and dried cranberries are frequently used in breads, muffins, cookies, cakes, cobblers and salads. Cranberries have not always been called cranberries! They grew in various parts of North America and have been a staple food for a long time – a really long time. The word for cranberries in the Indigenous languages literally meant “bitter berry”. They used them in a variety of ways; eaten raw, put into stews, into pemmican and used as a dye to name a few. Cranberries are a rich source of several vitamins and minerals, especially vitamin C.

Contrary to popular belief, while cranberries grow in marsh or bog land they do not actually grow in water. Commercial fields are flooded. The growers come through with machines to dislodge the berries from their vines. The machines are nicknamed “eggbeaters”. Each berry has tiny pockets of air that allow it to float to the surface of the water, where they are easily scooped from the water surface. Wet harvesting is very efficient, but it also damages the berries so those berries are used for processing. For that reason, the cranberries which are intended to be sold fresh are harvested through “dry harvesting.”

On the prairies we know cranberries as high bush cranberries. The highbush cranberry is actually not a cranberry at all, it is actually a member of the honeysuckle family. Highbush cranberry can be found in damp thickets and moist woods. While the small red berries are very tart to eat on their own, they do make a wonderful jelly or jam. The only drawback to this fruit is the “dirty sock smell” when you are cooking them. Every year I get my supply from my “secret place” to make my jellies with. Unfortunately the bears are on to my “secret place” and I have to share the berries.

### Cranberry orange muffins

The best replacement for fresh cranberries is frozen, which are available year-round. The frozen berries can be put into recipes without thawing. These cranberry orange muffins are delicious on the flavor and bursting with cranberries in each bite.

1 cup white sugar	1/2 cup butter, at room temperature
2 eggs	1/2 cup milk
1/4 cup orange juice	2 tsp. grated orange rind
2 cups flour	2 tsp. baking powder
1/2 tsp. baking soda	1/2 tsp. salt
1 1/2 tsp. cinnamon	1/2 tsp. each allspice and cloves
1 cup pecans (chopped)	extra sugar for topping (optional)
1 1/2 cups cranberries (fresh or frozen, patted dry)	

In a small bowl stir together sugar, butter and eggs. Mix in the milk, orange juice and orange rind. In another larger bowl add the flour, baking powder, baking soda salt, cinnamon, allspice and cloves and mix well. Add the first mixture to the flour and stir until just combined. Gently stir in the cranberries. Divide the batter among the paper liners in the muffin tin. If you're not using paper liners, make sure to butter and flour the wells of your muffin tin thoroughly. Sprinkle with sugar, if desired. Bake at 375 F for 18-22 minutes or until the tops are golden brown and a toothpick inserted into the center comes out clean. Cool on a rack.

### Cranberry sauce

My orange delicious cranberry sauce.

- 1/2 cup water
- 1/2 cup orange juice
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 package fresh cranberries
- 1 Tbsp. grated orange rind

In a pot mix the water, juice and sugar together. Heat until sugar is dissolved. Add the cranberries and bring to a boil. Turn the heat down and gently simmer for 5-9 minutes. Remove from heat and stir in the orange rind. Cool and chill before using.

This easy cranberry smoothie combines cranberries with frozen banana and yogurt for a creamy and delicious sip able breakfast or snack!

- Cranberry smoothie
- 2/3 cup frozen cranberries
- 1 frozen banana
- 1/2 cup yogurt
- 1/2 cup orange juice or milk
- 2 Tbsp. honey

Place all ingredients in a blender. Blend until creamy and frothy. Taste and adjust sweetness as desired.

# Police find outstanding warrant during Hwy 21 checkstop

## Westman RCMP Service Report for Oct. 6 –12

### Submitted

BY WESTMAN RCMP

During this week Westman RCMP received a total of 73 calls for service. Of these 16 were traffic related including 9 moving traffic – speeding violations. Also included in the calls for service were 6 suspicious person/vehicle/property files, 2 assaults, 3 disturbing the peace, 7 false alarms, 4 mischief files, and 2 pointing a firearm files.

On Oct.11 RCMP conducted check stops on Highway 21. Members gave two vehicle defects tickets for window tint and one ticket for not wearing a seat belt. All other vehicles were registered, and the drivers were sober, licensed and properly belted. Further, a warrant was located and the person arrested due to the check stop. In excess of 60 vehicles were checked.

On Oct. 8, during a

routine traffic patrol on Highway 257 in the town of Elkhorn, RCMP observed a vehicle travelling at a high rate of speed in a residential area. Radar confirmed a speed of 86 km/hr in a 50 km/hr zone. The driver was stopped and issued a traffic offence notice for speeding, which carries a fine of \$521.


On Oct. 14 RCMP were dispatched to a domestic assault occurring in the community of Sioux Valley Dakota Nation. One male fled the scene prior to the arrival of RCMP members, charges have been laid for this individual and he is wanted for arrest. He will face charges of assault, 6 counts of failure to comply with release orders, uttering threats against a person, pointing a firearm, 4 counts of possession of weapon for dangerous purpose, possession of a firearm when unauthorized, and unsafe storage

of firearms.

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. The tip line is not traceable, and they do not subscribe to caller ID or call display.

RCMP would also like to remind the public, impaired driving is dangerous and it's a crime. Manitoba takes a tough stand against impaired driving of any kind of vehicle, on or off the road. Protect the safety of your family, friends and neighbours. Be road-wise - make the right choice - don't drive impaired!



### NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

### SALE OF LANDS FOR ARREARS OF TAXES

### RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF ELLICE-ARCHIE

Pursuant to subsection 367(7) of The Municipal Act, notice is hereby given that unless the tax arrears for the designated year and costs in respect of the hereinafter described properties are paid in full to the Municipality prior to the commencement of the auction, the Municipality will on the 4th day of November, 2024, at the hour of 10:00 AM, at Rural Municipality of Ellice-Archie, 318 Railway Ave, McAulay, Manitoba, proceed to sell by public auction the following described properties:

Roll Number	Description	Assessed Value	Amount of Arrears & Costs for Which Property May be Offered for Sale
302000	LOTS 1 AND 2 BLOCK 5 PLAN 445 NLTO IN S 1/2 17-17-28 WPM, THE SLY 8 FEET OF LOT 3 BLOCK 5 PLAN 445 NLTO IN S 1/2 17-17-28 WPM - 215 MAIN ST.	L -\$5,400 B -\$118,400	\$16,749.56

**The tax sale is subject to the following terms and conditions with respect to each property:**

- The purchaser of the property will be responsible for any unpaid municipal utilities and any property taxes not yet due.
- The Municipality may exercise its right to set a reserve bid in the amount of the arrears and costs.
- If the purchaser intends to bid by proxy, a letter of authorization form must be presented prior to the start of the auction.
- The Municipality makes no representations or warranties whatsoever concerning the properties being sold.
- The successful purchaser must, at the time of the sale, make payment in **cash, certified cheque or bank draft** to the Rural Municipality of Ellice-Archie as follows:
  - i. The full purchase price if it is \$10,000 or less; OR
  - ii. If the purchase price is greater than \$10,000, the purchaser must provide a non-refundable deposit in the amount of \$10,000 and the balance of the purchase price must be paid within 20 days of the sale; AND
  - iii. A fee in the amount \$500.85 (\$477 + GST) for preparation of the transfer of title documents. The purchaser will be responsible for registering the transfer of title documents in the land titles office, including the registration costs.
- The risk for the property lies with the purchaser immediately following the auction.
- The purchaser is responsible for obtaining vacant possession.
- If the property is non-residential property, the purchaser must pay GST to the Municipality or, if a GST registrant, provide a GST Declaration.

Dated this 1st day of October, 2024.

Managed by:

Trisha Huberdeau  
Chief Administrative Officer  
RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF ELLICE-ARCHIE  
Phone: (204) 722-2053  
Fax: (204) 722-2027

## FAITH & FAMILY

TARA KAUEHOFEN



# Thanksgiving weekend

**A** time filled with good food, good drinks, and family. As I was looking forward to those very things, I found myself reflecting back on years past and things I know now that I have taken for granted in the past.

I found myself overwhelmed with thankfulness for the lessons my parents had taught me, whether intentionally or organically.

I felt a wave of gratitude as I looked to one side and then the other in the chairs surrounding me at church on Sunday morning.

Family surrounded me on all sides, my parents, my sweet children, my husband, my nan.

The generational faith that helped shape who I am, how I parent, how I view family, what my core values are.

Then I turned behind me, and I saw my dear friends. Who have very quickly become like family, who are also reaping the blessings of this generational faith I grew up with.

I found by the end of the day my face hurt from smiling and laughing and my heart had burst with joy from the faces that filled my parents home.

They taught me to have an open door, to bring people in and treat them like family, to love them like Jesus loved, to hold our homes with an open hand to him, bringing glory to him and to build his kingdom, one meal, one conversation, one act of kindness at a time.

These things that I have learned through generations of watching, I am now passing down to my own children and I am forever grateful.

To those that are pioneers in their families, the first believers, the first with an open door policy, the first that are living like Jesus.

Know that despite it feeling hard and new and scary sometimes, hear me when I say, what you are doing matters.

It will ripple out into your world, your children's world, their children's world and their children's world.

You are truly doing work that will last for generations to come, and your children will look back the way I did this past Sunday and look around with a deep sense of gratitude for the work you did to pave the way for a new life for generations to come.

# Breaking The Silence: Men's Mental Health Matters More Than Ever

## YOUR LISTENING EAR

DELSIE MARTIN

**T**he rate of people seeking out mental health services has exploded but we continue to see a lower number of men seeking out support. What accounts for this difference and what can we do to engage men in emotional wellness? Those identifying as men are encouraged to support this idea of Hegemonic Masculinity, the "ideal man". Who does our society consider to be the ideal man? He is usually tall, well dressed, athletic, intelligent, high income, charming, loyal, good with his hands, virile and is always a level-headed problem solver. There are numerous problems with this starting from the fact that this version of the ideal man is completely impossible and contradictory, yet men are held to these standards by others and themselves. This version of the ideal man also does not include someone who prioritizes their emotional well-being, who takes care of themselves or talks about their problems. The stigma remains. We are doing better with breaking down the stigma with our young boys but there is still much work to do.

So, what can we do to further break down the stigma with those men who we love so much? The first is normalizing the conversation. If you identify as a man and are reading this article, don't be afraid to ask your people, "Hey man, how are you doing?" and if they respond with a joke, answer, "No really, how are you doing?". If you are comfortable, I would encourage you to offer up a stressor that you are dealing with in

your life. Normalizing the conversation about emotional well being for men is going to come from how other men speak about it. Use language that resonates with men such as "stress management" or "overall well being" which might be more comfortable than the term "mental health".

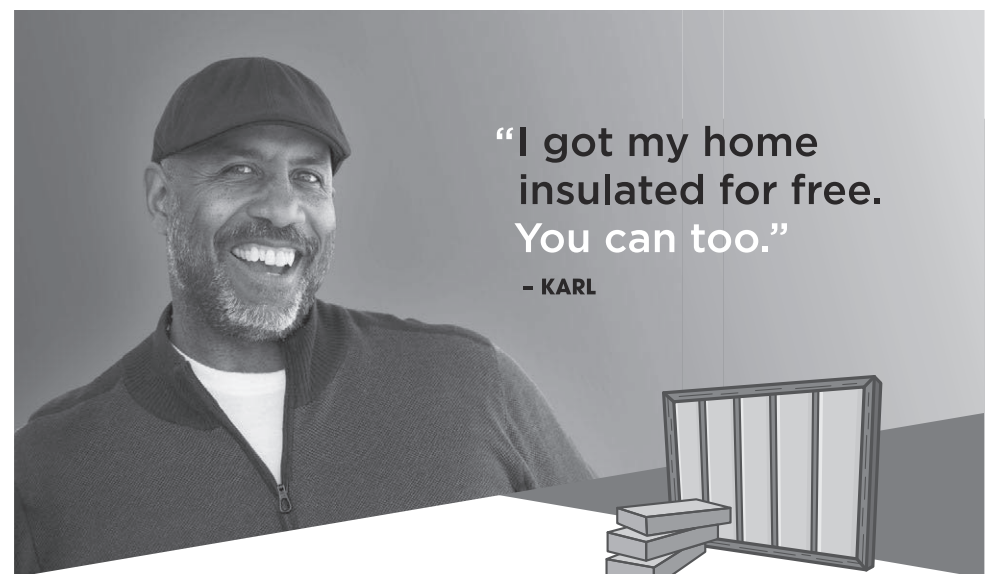
It's important to help men see that opening up about emotional well being is a source of strength rather than weakness. There are

many celebrities out there who have made it their mission to do just that. Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson (actor and former wrestler) has spoken about his experiences with depression, Terry Crews (actor and former NFL player) has spoken about pressure to conform to ideals of masculinity and Kevin Love (NBA player) has opened up about his experience with panic attacks. These are only a few male celebrities that are making efforts to normalize the conversation. For some men, knowing that there are real world examples of men trying on a new version of masculinity can make all the difference.

Integrating emotion-

al wellness conversations around activities like sport or exercise can make the topics feel more approachable as people tend to connect more over shared activities. When having these conversations, keep things practical by addressing specific issues that men face such as pressure to perform, parenthood, being a provider, work stress or relationships. Specific issues are more relatable than just speaking about mental health in general.

If you identify as a man and are reading this, know that you are seen and are cared for. That your feelings do matter and that you have people in your corner, ready to listen, when you feel ready.



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# News from Miniota

**Submitted**

BY LINDA CLARK

Oct. 10 saw six combines, grain carts and semis arrive to take off the crop to 'Grow Miniota', and a very good crop it was. The Miniota Community Centre ladies prepared supper for the harvesters, for those who

had donated the inputs for the crop and also for Kelvin, Becki and Hazel Wall who had rented the land for this Miniota Rink and Sports Grounds Enhancement project. Congrats and thanks to all! Next on the fundraising list is the Sportsman's Dinner to be held next weekend.

Congratulations to Don

and Sandra Armitage who celebrated their 50th anniversary this past weekend with family and friends at the Miniota hall. Home to help their parents celebrate were Lyle and Loni Armitage, Layne, Libby and Lochlan of Calgary and Kerilee and Dustin Fouillard, Carter, Addison and Casey of Melfort, Sask. Other out of town guests were from Brandon, Winnipeg, Calgary and Kelowna.

Visiting with their first

cousins Grant and Colleen Brown, Wayne and Dorothy Brown and Betty Ann Ellerington were Connie Heath and her daughter Wendy Evon from Corunna, Ont. and her son Dennis Heath from Courtright, Ont.

Donna Gammack from Garson, Man. visited with Linda Clark and family for the Thanksgiving weekend.

Janice Kerr has just returned from a holiday with her daughter Jill and her family at Trenton, Ont.

Wishing Sharon McKenzie a happy and healthy retirement. We shall miss seeing her smiling face at the till at the Virden Co-op Grocery.

A celebration of life service was held on Sunday, Oct. 13 for the late Terry Bryant at the Miniota Community Hall. Home from Hinton, Alta. were his wife Greta Bryant, his children Wayne and Tracey Bryant and Lori and Kim Frattinger and their families. As well Gina, Chuck and Aiden Hackikowski were

here from Hinton. Many of the Bryant cousins enjoyed a Thanksgiving supper together that evening.

We send our best wishes with Phyllis Thompson who has moved from Parkissimo Lodge to The Sherwood at Virden. We hope you enjoy your new home and the company of many friends.

"The best portion of a good man's life is his little, nameless, unremembered acts of kindness and love."  
-William Wordsworth



## PUBLIC NOTICE

# Centra Gas Manitoba Inc. Fiscal 2025 General Rate Application

Centra Gas Manitoba Inc. (Centra), Manitoba Hydro's natural gas subsidiary, has applied to the Public Utilities Board for the following adjustments to natural gas rates:

- Interim approval of a 4.5% general revenue increase effective November 1, 2024, to be finalized at the conclusion of the Application review process; and
- Approval of adjustments to rates that include costs to transport natural gas to Manitoba for distribution to customers' homes and businesses, and the costs to store natural gas in the summer months for use in the winter.

The proposed general revenue increases are needed to ensure Centra has the revenue to run the natural gas system and perform maintenance as needed to continue to provide reliable, safe and effective service to customers.

For an average residential household, the proposed November 1, 2024 rates result in an annual bill increase of \$24. Residential bills would increase approximately 3.9%, while bills for Large General Service customers would increase between 0.2% and 3.3%, depending on consumption. The bill impacts for High Volume Firm, Mainline and Interruptible customers will be communicated directly to those customers.

Further details of Manitoba Hydro's Application are available at: [www.pubmanitoba.ca](http://www.pubmanitoba.ca)

You can share your views on the proposed rate increases with the Public Utilities Board in three ways:

- **As a Presenter** – If you want to make a virtual or in-person formal presentation to the Public Utilities Board on this matter and are willing to respond to questions about your presentation, please go to [www.pubmanitoba.ca](http://www.pubmanitoba.ca) and apply to become an approved Presenter. Presentations are limited to a maximum of 10 minutes.
- **Written comment** – If you would like to comment in writing on the rate increase, please go to [www.pubmanitoba.ca](http://www.pubmanitoba.ca) and provide your written comment.
- **As an approved intervener** – If you want to actively participate in the public hearing as an Intervener, please go to [www.pubmanitoba.ca](http://www.pubmanitoba.ca) and apply for Intervener status. Interveners are required to represent the interests of a significant group of customers and may be required to combine their intervention with others representing similar interests.

Manitoba Public Utilities Board  
400-330 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 0C4  
Phone: 204 945 2638  
Email: [publicutilities@gov.mb.ca](mailto:publicutilities@gov.mb.ca)



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## Supplementation matters: Trace mineral requirements of a beef herd

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Pictured above is a solar powered alternative watering system on pasture which provides better quality water to livestock and results in improved livestock performance.

**By Shawn Cabak**  
MB AGRICULTURE

The following information is from the Beef Cattle Research Council.

There are many factors impacting the mineral requirements of beef cattle such as stage of production, age and body condition. These are further compounded by the bioavailability of the mineral source provided and any antagonists that may be present in the diet.

Regional variations in the trace mineral content of forages and soils create high risk areas where trace mineral deficiencies are more likely

to occur. Supplemental sources need to be provided to prevent production declines, animal health events or reproductive wrecks.

Recently published data from work led by Dr. Cheryl Waldner with the Western College of Veterinary Medicine in Saskatoon, SK, showed 64 per cent of mature beef cows in Western Canada and 59 per cent of mature beef cows in Eastern Canada have less than adequate copper status. This is based on data collected in 2019. If you are a cow-calf producer in Canada, you need to worry about copper supplementation in your herd regardless of your location.

The research from Dr. Waldner's

group also evaluated molybdenum levels in beef cows and found significant regional variation. Molybdenum is found in soils and in plants, and it can tie up copper. This means if molybdenum is present in the forage, any copper that is also there is no longer available for use by the animal. This results in secondary copper deficiency.

In addition to molybdenum, high sulphate levels present in water sources or in some alternative feeds, can further limit the bioavailability of copper in the diet. Therefore, despite supplementation, many herds may still be deficient. This is when using a chelated mineral should be considered.

### Consequences of a trace mineral deficiency

Trace mineral deficiencies can take months to manifest into clinical symptoms, depending on factors such as diet, water quality or health status. Symptoms observed are often not unique to any specific deficiency and can include low conception rates, late-term abortions, poor-performing cattle despite high-quality feed, reduced immune response or rough hair coats.

Many trace minerals, such as copper and zinc, are essential for pregnancy, and when cow requirements are not met, they are at an increased risk of being open in the

fall. Supplementation during gestation is one key timeframe which impacts both calf and cow health and production as well as the cows future reproductive performance.

Dr. Waldner will be speaking at the Beef and Forage Conference in Portage on October 30. This fall Manitoba Agriculture initiated a pasture forage and water survey across the province to determine trace mineral levels of forages and any possible water interactions.

For more information contact the Manitoba Agriculture office in Portage at 204-239-3353 or [shawn.cabak@gov.mb.ca](mailto:shawn.cabak@gov.mb.ca)

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# The excitement of **Manitoba AG EX** is back in Brandon for 2024!



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Manitoba AG EX is the largest All-Breeds Cattle Show in Manitoba, attracting exhibitors and visitors from Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta. Competition is high within breeds.

This year's Manitoba AG EX will be held at the Keystone Centre in Brandon, from Oct. 23 to 26. The event features the Little Lady Classic, Jackpot Bull Show, and Junior Show and Showmanship. All classes are huge draws, but one of the fan favourites is the Supreme Breed Extravaganza. The champions from all shows compete in the Supreme Breed Extravaganza. The winners go on to the Canadian Western Agribition held in Regina, Saskatchewan.

Moo Mania is an event at Manitoba AG EX that offers hands-on educational opportunities for grades 3, 4, and 5 students to experience livestock and learn about where your food comes from as well as healthy environment practices. Newly added, Ewe Mania, will also appear at the 2024 event showcasing sheep in agriculture, proudly partnered with the Manitoba Sheep Association!

Manitoba AG EX is focused on the cattle industry showcasing the best of the breeds, as well as an opportunity for youth to both show cattle and attend educational events

Welcome

to the

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# Manitoba Ag Ex announces 2024 'Party in the Dirt' with Quinton Blair

Submitted  
PROVINCIAL EXHIBITION

Get ready for a night of country tunes, lively entertainment, and unforgettable fun! Manitoba Ag Ex is excited to announce that the highly anticipated "Party in the Dirt" is back for 2024, featuring the award-winning Quinton Blair Band. This 18+ event will take place on October 25th at 8:00 PM in the Westoba Agriculture Centre of Excellence in Brandon, Manitoba.

Quinton Blair, known for his electrifying performances and roots-inspired country music, will light up the stage, bringing his signature sound and energy to what promises to be a night to remember. Blair, a true Manitoban and cowboy at heart, has earned acclaim across the country music scene and is sure to deliver a high-energy, foot-stomping show for party-goers.

"We couldn't be more thrilled to have Quinton Blair headline this year's Party in the Dirt," said Bob



IMAGE COURTESY OF PROVINCIAL EXHIBITION OF MANITOBA

Scott – Co-Chair of Manitoba AG EX "His authentic country vibe and love for rural Manitoba make him the perfect fit for this event. It's going to be a fantastic celebration that embodies the spirit of Manitoba's agricultural community."

### Event Details

**What:** Party in the Dirt featuring Quinton Blair Band.

**When:** Friday, October 25th, 2024 – Doors open at 8:00 p.m.

**Where:** Westoba Agricultural Centre of Excellence – Keystone Centre, Brandon, MB.

**Who:** This is an 18+ event  
**Cost:** \$10 cover charge

Attendees can expect a night filled with great music, dancing, and plenty of excitement, making it the perfect way to celebrate the Manitoba Ag Ex festivities. Tickets will be on sale soon, watch our social media for up to date information. Don't miss your chance to be part of this incredible night!

For more information, visit [provincialexhibition.com](http://provincialexhibition.com) or follow Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba on social media for the latest updates.



# Manitoba Beef & Forage Conference set for Portage la Prairie on Oct. 30

By Shawn Cabak  
MANITOBA AGRICULTURE

Do you want to hear from local producers and industry experts discuss applying research on the farm? This year's conference will be a one-day event in Portage la Prairie, where participants can expect great quality information delivered in a combination of keynote presentations and hands-on breakout sessions. Hear from a variety of speakers from across Canada and the United States talk about issues related to livestock methane production, Johnes disease, family succession, business risk management, mineral and vitamin supplementation, livestock predation

control, genomic tools for beef production and more.

The conference will be held at the William Glesby Center starting with registration and visiting agri-business displays at 8:00 a.m. Registration is only \$100. The conference agenda includes time for networking with presenters, industry representatives, vendors, and fellow participants. A hot lunch catered by Merv's Pitchfork Fondue is also provided.

To register visit <https://gov.mb.ca/agriculture/livestock/beef-conference.html>



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# Farmers' Advocate

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## Manitoba Forage and Grassland Association conference gains momentum

**Submitted**

MANITOBA FORAGE & GRASSLAND ASSOCIATION

Now entering its seventh year, Lucky Number Seven is proving to be no fluke when it comes to Manitoba Forage and Grassland Association's annual conference around regen ag and soil health.

"We are super happy with our line-up and the response from farmers, partners and trade show booths to date," said Mike Duguid, MFGA chair, also the 2024 MFGA conference chair. "We really believe our agenda showcases our 2024 conference theme: Open Minds – Open Opportunities."

While hosting a one-and-a-half-day agenda with a full evening on Nov. 12 so as not to impact attendees and keynotes also attending the much larger biannual conference Alberta Soil Health and Grazing Conference in Edmonton in December, Duguid says momentum and advance registrations are doing very well. He says MFGA has constantly delivered

a great agenda that interests farmers and industry alike while offering a robust trade show where countless conversations and contacts are made, especially during extended breaks at lunch and coffee.

This year, an extended early bird registration will remain open until Oct. 18. Meanwhile, the trade show is filling up fast and Duguid urges anyone considering a booth to act fast.

"Over our seven years, we have hosted a conference in every format you can imagine from fully online to hybrid of both to full room attendance," he said. "We listen closely to the feedback of delegates, and we also have an active

conference committee that meets numerous times for planning, updates and decisions.... We usually have a twist we add that keeps us fresh for delegates. Last year, it was the screening of the

Common Ground movie about regen ag that we brought in for the premiere in Manitoba. This year, it is the presentation of breakout sessions with four of our keynotes at conference-end so folks can pick sessions that they want to learn more about and interact more with the speakers."

Duguid says the MFGA board and staff really appreciate having like-minded partners at Holistic Management Canada host a session with well-regarded keynote David Irvine at this year's event.



HMC is also providing youth programming for families that wish to attend as a unit with conference agenda aimed at adults and HMC programming aimed at youth interests. All in all, Duguid says, the entire 2024 MFGA event is strong.

"We've brought back the fireside chat that went over super well last year. This year's fireside chat is between Ryan Boyd and Jaime Elizondo and it will be very interesting. And anytime you can get Will Harris on the agenda – even online as we have locked down – you're going to hear some very neat, personal stories and anecdotes about the way Will and the Harris family farms at White Oak Pastures," said Duguid. "Add the HMC session and then the keynotes John and Deanne Chuiko, Stuart Chutter, Paul Overby and Elizondo and the ability to double back with them on breakout sessions and it's going to be a great event for those wanting to learn more about regen ag and soil health.

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**“It was definitely the horses that inspired me to want to take over and be more involved with the farm and the breeding program that my dad, grandfather, and great-grandfather worked on.”**

Charity Martin Thevenot  
 Boulder Bluff Clydesdales, Strathclair, MB

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# SPORTS

## DODGSON LEADS, SCORES FOR OIL CAPS



Tyler Dodgson on a break away

By Robin Wark  
EMPIRE-ADVANCE

**T** Tyler Dodgson has emerged as leader for the Virden Oil

Capitals.

The Manitoba Junior Hockey League team named him one of its assistant captains for this season. The 20-year-old de-

fenceman from Winnipeg is in his second campaign with the team.

"I think I have a lot of experience in this league and will be able to help our

younger guys with transitioning to junior hockey both on the ice as well as off the ice," Dodgson said.

Wearing a letter is certainly not new to Dodgson. He was announced as the Winnipeg Blues captain before the 2023-2024 campaign. Dodgson was traded partway through last season to the Oil Capitals. He provided yet another experience blueliner on a veteran-loaded team and helped the squad make it to the semifinals. This season he is helping lead a younger group.

"Tyler is a competitor," Virden head coach Tyson Ramsey said. "He works extremely hard on and off the ice. He is physically strong and plays important

minutes in all situations. He is the first one in the gym and a great role model for our younger guys and in the community. We are very lucky to have him here for his last year of junior hockey."

The 5-foot-10, 196-pound Dodgson has shown he can light the lamp. The blue liner has three goals through 10 games this season. As of Oct. 14, Dodgson had posted five points, which put him fourth on the team in scoring. The defenceman has enjoyed his time playing at the Tundra Oil & Gas Place.

"We're lucky enough to have a great home crowd with lots of support from the community and I think the best thing about it is how they come out to support us no matter what,"

said Dodgson, who billets with Lance and Janice Barrate and their sons Isaiah, Evander and Allister.

Dodgson got his start in junior hockey with four games for the Portage Terriers during a COVID-19 affected 2020-2021 season. The Terriers had snagged him in the first round of 2019 MJHL Draft. Dodgson played the 2021-2022 campaign in Portage. He was swapped during the next season to the Winnipeg Blues. He quickly made an impression and received both the team's Fitness Award and its Sportsmanship Award.

Now in his final junior season, Dodgson is focused on helping the Oil Capitals succeed. As for the future, he hopes to play hockey in university while studying kinesiology.

## NEWCOMER SHORE BACKS OIL CAPS TO TWO WINS

By Robin Wark  
EMPIRE-ADVANCE

**N**ew goalie Peyton Shore backed the Virden Oil Capitals to a pair of wins last week.

The Manitoba Junior Hockey League team fell to the Northern Manitoba Blizzard, 5-2, before beating Swan Valley 5-1, and the Winnipeg Blues, 4-1, with Shore in net. The victories gave Virden a .500 record at 5-5-0-0 entering this week. After two games with the Oil Caps, Shore had a 1.00 goals against average and a .947 save percentage.

"Peyton is really composed for a 16-year-old," Oil Capitals head coach Tyson Ramsey said. "He is a good size, moves well and very good positionally. Added to that, he is very mature and a great teammate."

Of the team's two victories last week, the coach said, "Defensively, I thought we did a better job of being simple and harder to play against in our own end of the rink. Our defencemen are feeling more comfortable with each other and communication is improving."

Shore, a 2008-born netminder from Winnipeg, was reassigned to the team from the Western Hockey League's Red Deer Rebels. The 6-foot-1, 172-pound netminder did not see any action with the WHL team early this season but had a 1.65 goals against average in preseason play. Goalie Gavin Renwick, acquired by the Oil Caps before the season, is no longer with the club.

The Oil Capitals hosted the Winkler Flyers on Oct. 17 after the Empire-Advance deadline. They play in Niverville on Oct. 19. The Portage Terriers visit on Oct. 20. This will be the team's second straight week of having three games in four days.

"It's good to play lots, it gets everyone involved and helps with conditioning and having a good understanding of how to look after yourself away from the rink," Ramsey said. "It gives us great information on areas where we are getting better and where we need more work."

### NHL Debut

Former Oil Capitals forward Conor Geekie made his National Hockey League debut on Oct. 11. He saw 10 minutes of ice time with the Tampa Bay Lightning in a 4-1 win over Carolina. The Strathclair product played

nine games for Virden during a 2020-2021 season that was affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Geekie went on to further develop his game in the WHL with the Winnipeg Ice, Wenatchee Wild, and Swift Current Broncos. He saw his first pro action last season in two playoff games with the American Hockey League's Tucson Roadrunners.

### Oil Caps 4, Blues 1

Shore made 15 saves on Oct. 11. The Oil Capitals fired 39 at Samuel Couture, who had 35 saves, and one at Graham Connor, who stopped it in a brief appearance.

Special teams were on display in the opening frame. Virden got powerplay goals from defencemen Rhylan Baxter and Tyler Dodgson. The Blues' Jack Linton scored with the man advantage to cut the Oil Capitals' lead to one, 2-1, before the first intermission. At even strength, Luke Robson lit the lamp for Virden in the second period, while teammate Maxx Hamelin scored in the third.

Oil Caps captain Ethan Guthrie and Virden's own Bryce Bryant each recorded two assists. Robson and Hamelin also had two assists each.

Through 10 games, Hamelin paced the team with seven points. Noel Englot and Moosomin's Marshall Light were tied for second in scoring with six.

### Oil Caps 5, Stampeders 1

Shore was strong in his Oil Capitals debut in Swan River on Oct. 9. He made 21 saves. Shore only allowed one goal - on a powerplay. Aidan Taylor's first period marker started the game's scoring. Before the end of the frame, Englot replied for the Oil Capitals to tie things up at 1-1.



PHOTOS BY VIRDEN OIL CAPITALS

The visitors exploded for four goals in about a five-minute span in the back half of the second period. Scoring for Virden were Acoyen Fehr, Light, Englot (his second of the night), and Daniel Tokariwski. Light had three points on the night, while Englot and Tokariwski had two. Carson Wright and defenceman Maddox Shindle each recorded two assists. The Oil Capitals sent 41 shots at Swan Valley goalie Jackson Miller, who stopped 36 of them.

### Blizzard 5, Oil Capitals 2

In The Pas on Oct. 8, the Blizzard led 2-1 and 4-2 at the intermissions. Two of their goals came on the powerplay. Scoring for Virden was Englot, on the powerplay, and Dodgson, who collected two points on the night. Oil Capitals goalie Nik Trakakis made 23 saves.

Alex Reedy stopped 21 shots for Northern Manitoba. The Blizzard's scorers were: Quincy Supprien (two), Keenan McNeill (two), and Isaac Tomchak.

# SPORTS

## KYLE RECOGNIZED FOR COUNTLESS HOURS AS HOCKEY VOLUNTEER

By Robin Wark  
EMPIRE-ADVANCE

The late Dennis Kyle has been honoured for the impact he had on hockey in Elkhorn and the area.

Kyle, who passed away in 2023, has been named the 2024 winner of the Frank McKinnon Outstanding Volunteer Award. The recipient was selected by Hockey Manitoba's Board of Directors. Kyle's involvement with hockey included coaching sons Bryce and Tanner. The family expressed appreciation for the board choosing Dennis for the award this year. Bryce, Tanner and family said:

"Whether it was volunteering behind the bench coaching, hours on the ice teaching, you always knew where you could find Dennis; at the rink.

"There were never enough hours in a day, or days in a year, that could suffice his dedication and commitment to the game of hockey and giving back to his community.

"He put everyone before himself, no one below him, and demanded nothing in return other than hard work and respect. Dennis understood how integral hockey and the rink was to Elkhorn's community and gave his time for the love of the sport and the people. ...

"Although his coaching days had been over for a while, he stayed a kid at heart who never missed an opportunity to lace them up when he could.

"He had a lifelong dedication and commitment to hockey, but his contributions far outstretch more than the game itself.

"Words cannot truly describe how much he is missed in our hearts and will be missed in the community, but his impact to the game will forever live on in the province."

Kyle spent the early years of his life in Two Creeks before the family moved to Elkhorn. He was involved in hockey in a variety of aspects, including as a player, coach, referee, board member, and rink caretaker.

Former teammate and longtime Elkhorn hockey coach Brent Brennand said, "Dennis played senior hockey in Elkhorn for many years and served as our team captain for a lot of those seasons. As a former teammate of Dennis

and someone who coached in the Elkhorn minor hockey program at the same time, his leadership and dedication to our hockey community was second to none."

Kyle coached in Elkhorn for many years. He served as an assistant coach for a time with the U18 AAA Yellowhead Chiefs. Kyle also volunteered for a power skating program in Elkhorn.

"Dennis coached many teams during his years in Elkhorn and was always there to mentor any of our other coaches," Brennand said. "I know many of us who coached minor hockey in Elkhorn would go to Dennis for advice, and he was always willing to help."

He emphasized that "Dennis was a leader in our minor hockey program at Elkhorn. He served as president of the minor hockey board for numerous years and was always the first one to volunteer for any work that needed to be completed around our rink."

Kyle saw such former players as Brett Orr, Josh Martin, Taylor Sanheim, and Shawn and Bradley Bowles go on to compete at the junior level and, in some cases, beyond. Tanner Kyle went on to play in the junior ranks and later be teammates with his brother Bryce on the senior Miniota-Elkhorn C-Hawks. Travis Sanheim, another player Kyle coached, currently plays for the National Hockey League's Philadelphia Flyers.

"I believe lots of us guys had some of the best years of our life playing minor hockey together with Dennis coaching," Martin said. "Not only was he a great coach that helped develop great paths in hockey for all of us, he also taught us a ton about life. He taught us a ton of lessons over the years on hard work, winning and being good teammates. He helped mold us into the people we are today."

Kyle served as both a director and chair of the Elkhorn District Community Centre. He spent time as the local rink's caretaker. In a post on the Hockey Manitoba website, it was stated that Kyle was "running the Zamboni and ensuring the community had the best ice and cleanest rink in his area (he also sharpened everyone's skates)."

In Elkhorn, Kyle spent time as the local referee co-



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Dennis Kyle of Elkhorn.

ordinator. He refereed minor hockey games in his home community and the area as well as senior tilts in Manitoba and southeastern Saskatchewan. Virden's Randy Kalynuk played and coached against Kyle for many years. It was during their time refereeing, in which they travelled many miles together, that they became great friends.

"Dennis was one of the most competent refs that I had the privilege to work with," Kalynuk said. "His playing and coaching background was a big asset in his call making and his relationships with players and coaches. He was well respected by both. As one of the area's top senior refs - a huge void has been left in his absence. There is no one more deserving of this Hockey Manitoba award."

In later years, Kyle still enjoyed hockey as a player and spectator. According to the Hockey Manitoba website, he played on several recreational teams and "was always willing to play for any team that was shorthanded or going to a competitive tournament." It also stated that "he still loved watching his sons, nieces and nephews and the many kids he had coached over the years play the game of hockey."

## High water usage triggers infrastructure replacement in Prairie View Municipality

### Oct. 8 meeting minutes brief

By Anne Davison  
EMPIRE-ADVANCE

Under new business, Prairie View councillors discussed an item recorded in the Oct. 8 minutes as Paving PTH 83 and 42: The municipality is asking the province to repave Birtle's Main Street which is also a provincial road, when Hwy 83 paving from Beulah north to Birtle takes place next summer.

Reeve Roger Wilson said of the paving project, "We're hoping to tag in." Pavement on the main street in Birtle was torn up to allow the municipality to replace original 1940s cast iron sewer and water lines. The project over the five town blocks is to be completed in November and will leave the street gravel-topped for the winter. A grant covered only the infrastructure replacement, but Wilson points out that the street is a provincial responsibility.

The construction project arose when, over the last 6 to 8 years, Prairie View installed a new water source, treatment plant and new water pipeline for 318 connections in the town of Birtle. They were then able to monitor water use and found the plant was running some 22 hours per day instead of about eight hours processing time, placing extra wear on pumps and an expensive filtration system. It became obvious there were leaks and the municipality decided to take action, beginning with the pipes under the heaviest traffic area which meant tearing up Main Street.

#### BRIEF

On Oct. 8, in Birtle Council Chambers, council members

present were: Wilson, Clark, Cole, Oliver, Fulcher, Butler, Peel; staff present: CAO Bonchuk, Admin Assistant Gardham,

Admin Assistant Amy

Minutes from the Sept. 24 meeting and Oct. 8 agenda were adopted.

At 9:05am council held a public hearing where applicant/landowner Terryl Green sought approval of a variation order to reduce a right-side setback from six feet to zero to accommodate an existing deck. The CAO entered into record the notice placed on the municipal bulletin boards on Sept. 23, and notices were mailed to adjacent landowners by Mid-West Planning District. No public attended.

Council having completed its duties at the variation order hearing adjourned the hearing and reconvened the regular council meeting.

In the regular meeting, at 9:30am items were: Shawn Samels, MWM Environmental; staffing and committee reports; CAO's Report; Rec Director Summer Report.

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Council approved Charlene Bonchuk as the appointed Designated Officer for the purpose of a Tax Sale.

Other items: Birtle Centre for the Arts Sponsorship; Birtle water and sewer renewals weekly reports; Daycare/BCI land update

#### NEW BUSINESS

Regarding the Green - Resolution No: 2024-261, applicant/landowner Terryl Green, property 11/13-21-1526, Roll #378100 application to Mid-West Planning District for a variation order permit to vary the right-side setback from six feet to zero feet, council approved the variation with the

applicant responsible to obtain permits required from the Mid-West Planning District.

The Yellowhead Chiefs requested sponsorship for the 2024-2025 season; Council approved the sponsorship level of Silver, \$150 to the U15 Male and \$150 to the U18 Male Team.

Supplemental Taxes, Resolution No: 2024-263: The assessor has provided the CAO with a listing of assessment changes; by resolution the CAO is instructed to make the necessary revisions according to the download dated Sept. 11, 2024 from the Assessment Branch.

The municipality has plans to order more Eco5 Food-Cyclers, a small processor that finely grinds kitchen/food scraps.

Council discussed the paving of Birtle Main Street (see above).

Council authorized Roger Wilson and Linda Clark to attend the RM of Yellowhead Breakfast Meeting on October 21.

Council received a request from Miniota Community Centre for assistance with the costs of auditing and council approved funds of \$5,000 each year for the next three years.

Other items on the agenda included the Christmas party date and a fence /road allowance concern.

Council authorized the reeve and CAO to enter into an agreement with The Government of Manitoba under the Canada Community-Building Fund.

The financial report was tabled.

Councillor reports included: Fibre - Westman Communications; MWPD (Mid West Planning) and CDC (community development) the Virden vet clinic and the handi van.

Council went in camera meeting; adjournment of the regular council meeting followed at 12:32 p.m.

# Oak Lake's Town & Country News celebrates 50 years

## September 24 1974 – September 24 2024

### Submitted

BY WENDY TAYLOR

September 24 marked the 50th anniversary of the Oak Lake Town & Country News. I will begin this article with the early history of this magnificent publication, which I will quote from *Ox Trails to Black Top* history book, pages 40-41.

"In 1881 the Canadian Pacific Railway had been built as far west as Flat Creek, a short distance east of the present site of the Town of Oak Lake. That year a large number of settlers came from the British Isles and Ontario to stake their claims in the West. From then on new businesses were established and in 1890 John Miller Bender started a Printing and New Paper Business in the Town of Oak Lake, on Lot 11, Block 7, known as The Oak Lake News.

"In 1901 he sold to William Murray Wheeler, who in turn sold to William Cowper Harris, in 1902. Then Mary Young purchased the business which she and A.T. Young ran until 1907, when she sold to F.A. Briscoe. On January 31 1910 Thomas Rutherford Hogg became

owner of the Oak Lake News. Harry Freemantle his son Russell Hogg and Richard Tillett worked with Mr. Hogg. In 1916 A.E. (Tony) Ducharme joined the staff and they carried on until 1919 when Mr. Hogg sold the business to his son Russell. During this time, C.M. Strong was a member of the staff for a number of years: Freemantle and Tillett had taken a job elsewhere.

"As the paper began to flourish, cars had become a popular way of transportation, and residents could travel to larger centers to shop, business began to suffer in the small towns. 1941 Tony Ducharme, who had been with the paper for 25 years, left for another job. Llyod Harrison and John A. Ready began to learn the printing trade. John who bought the business from his father-law later decided to take a position at the Virden Advance, and from there on Mr. Hogg took ownership of the paper.

"The Hogg family soon learned to set type by hand, and with the help of C.M. Armstrong produced issues of the paper. In 1961 due to illness Mr. Hogg sold the business

to Mr. John Hresavich of Neepawa. At that time Mr. George Matheson worked as an editor for many years, renting the office to Allen Morcombe until 1974. Mr. Hresavich, who passed away in 1976, left the office and contents to his half-brother, Mr. Joe Morland of Churchill, who got word that the Austin Agriculture Museum was interested in housing the antique Printing Press.

"When the Oak Lake News printing press was moved to Austin the town and district was without a newspaper. The loss was keenly felt and finally a group of interested people decided to try to publish a newspaper for Oak Lake. Meetings were held, news was gathered and a paper put together on Sept. 25 1974.

"The stated Municipal board room took on all the air of a busy press room on Wednesday, Sept. 25 as the greenhorn crew began to roll out the first edition of a trial paper for the Oak Lake and area.

"Our No. 1 critic and cheering section, Cliff Gordon, arrived to do his bit cranking out copy and overseeing the job. At last,

we were going in fine style: pages passed from the gestetner to the straightener, snatched up in order on the stacker, stapler and folder. The smooth rhythm was shattered when Cliff grabbed the first copy hot off the press, shouting "EXTRA, EXTRA- READ ALL ABOUT IT."

From then on, the day-to-day issues of running a business/organization, like finances, where to print the issues, who is on the committee, how is the paper run, and countless questions were asked, discussed and figured out.

"An early meeting was held in September 1974, with "Mr. Stevenson (who chaired the meeting), Mr. C. Gordon, Mrs. E. Batho, Mrs. Llyod Hatch, Mrs. Mabel Holland, Mr. Jack Harrison, Mr. Wm. Holland (who was sitting in for his wife) and Mrs. C. Helton. At a later date they were joined by Mrs. E. Kufflic, of Griswold and Mrs. Hart. We decided to try and put out two trial issues, meanwhile exploring various means to do so, how to go about it etc."

On Sept. 30 1974, following an excellent response

from our first effort we organized our committee a little more formally.

- Chairman - Mrs. E. Batho
- Secretary - Mrs. Lorraine Holland
- Treasurer - Mr. Cliff Gordon
- Subscription Secretary - Donna Hutchison
- South Country News Coordinator - Mrs. Wilma Hatch
- North Country News Coordinator - Mrs. Mable Holland
- Pleasant Plains Reporter - Mrs. Audrey Taylor
- Sports Reporter - Ray Larway
- Town Reporters - Mrs. L. Holland, Mrs. W. Smith, Mrs. Hogg
- Town Coordinators - Mrs. C. Heapy, Mr. J. Harrison
- Griswold News - Mrs. E. Kufflick
- Births, Deaths and Weddings - Mrs. Helten
- Advertisements - Mr. Cliff Gordon

Humble beginnings, and now here we are 50 years later, with three moves within the town site, the last being a new building attachment to the R.M. of Sifton office site, hosting a Grand Opening on June 7, 2014, which aligned with the paper's 40th Anniversary. As volunteers come and go, below, we have listed the past and present hard work-

ing volunteer residents and current Board members who have helped create this wonderful bi-monthly publication. All 97 editions unique in their own, bring you, the reader, into the eyes of Oak Lake and area, my what a read.

We the current Board members would like to take this time to invite you to our 50th Anniversary Golden Celebration Tea, Saturday, Oct. 26 at the Oak Lake Community Hall from 2pm -4pm, with the program at 2:30pm.

This anniversary is a HUGE accomplishment for a community of our size. Join us, as we applaud the determination, effort, loyalty and I express my appreciation to the past and present volunteers, during the last 50 years to reach this remarkable milestone.

If you, the reader, writer would like to send in your anniversary wishes, articles, memories, please do, we look forward to hearing from you.

**Saturday October 26**  
**At the Oak Lake Community Hall**  
**2:00 – 4:00 pm**  
**2:30 pm Program and Cake**  
**Silver Collection and Door Prize**

# NDP dysfunction becoming evident after one year in office

## Under the Dome

### Submitted

BY MLA GREG NESBITT

As the harvest wraps up and Manitobans are back into a regular routine, I too have rejoined my MLA colleagues for the fall legislative session.

It is an important several weeks at the legislature for our opposition members of the house, holding the NDP government to answer to Westman residents and all Manitobans for its dishonesty and dysfunction that concern everyone in our province.

The dysfunction within the government has become apparent in allegations of toxicity and demeaning behaviour displayed by Premier Wab Kinew toward his cabinet, caucus, staff and even public servants. This is a crisis of leadership and mismanagement that our Progressive Conservative caucus wants the provincial ethics commissioner to investigate, even though the government members voted down our request for such a probe.

My foremost concern this fall is an effort by the premier and his government to push through pieces of controversial and harmful legislation while hiding them from public scrutiny. The NDP is including these contentious bills within omnibus budget implementation legislation, allowing them to bypass the legislative committee process and be passed into law without any input from concerned Manitobans.

One of these bills would damage business-labour relations by putting an end to secret-ballot voting for

union certification, allowing union representatives to pressure and intimidate employees. It would also make it difficult for employers to use replacement staff during work stoppages. Other bills the government is hiding this way would be equally unpopular in driving up costs for families. One such bill would remove transparency and accountability for Manitoba Hydro, leading to increased hydro rates. Another would transfer taxpayers' dollars to the NDP to help the party pad its coffers and finance its election campaigns.

By wrapping the bills within the wider budget legislation, Kinew's NDP intends to quietly force through these changes that it knows the vast majority of Manitobans don't want.

The alarming rise in crime in our province is another pressing topic at the legislature. I am pushing the premier and NDP to present a plan to assist beleaguered retailers and homeowners who are struggling with the surge in break-ins and thefts, as well as threats and assaults. Police, too, need immediate help from this government in the form of funding for additional officers in Westman's urban and rural areas, and advocacy for reforms to bail provisions that keep too many criminals running free after they're charged.

These NDP failures and others in education, health care and affordability are a result of a government that is not as advertised. Despite the promises over a year ago, waits for care remain as long as ever, hallway education has increased after the government's cancellation of at least nine new schools, and the costs of groceries and living in general have only risen. The Kinew government



MLA Greg Nesbitt.

has delivered no action, no plan and in fact nothing to Manitobans except disillusionment and dysfunction.

This fall, I am working hard with my opposition colleagues at the legislature on behalf of deceived and disappointed Manitobans. We are pushing the Kinew government to answer for its failures and to start delivering real progress for people in Westman and across the province.

Greg Nesbitt is the Member of Legislative Assembly for the Riding Mountain constituency. He can be reached at 204-759-3313, toll-free 1-844-877-7767 or by email at gregnesbittmla@mymts.net. When writing to MLA Nesbitt, please include your mailing address and a daytime phone number.

# CLASSIFIEDS

## Help Wanted



### \* Anticipatory Position \* Natural Resource Program Coordinator

Location: In close proximity to the Little Saskatchewan River Watershed.  
Employer: Assiniboine West Watershed District  
Term: 14-month term, full-time, with opportunity to extend  
Salary Range: \$60-80,000/annually, based on education and experience.  
Application Deadline: October 25, 2024

#### About Us

Assiniboine West Watershed District is dedicated to promoting sustainable practices and effective management of natural resources. We assist watershed stakeholders in identifying and implementing solutions that protect and enhance natural resources for generations. Our goal is to help landowners protect and enhance our environment while supporting local communities and economies. We are currently seeking a passionate and organized Natural Resource Program Coordinator to join our team and help us grow.

#### Job Overview

We are seeking a motivated and detail-oriented Program Coordinator to As the Natural Resource Program Coordinator, you will play a vital role in the planning, implementation, and management of programs focused on natural resource conservation and sustainability. You will collaborate with stakeholders, gather research, and engage with the community to promote our initiatives.

#### Key Responsibilities

- Coordinate and oversee a natural resource program, aimed at collecting data, building capacity and delivering on the ground projects.
- Implement project plans, timelines, and budgets.
- Collaborate with governmental agencies, non-profits, and local communities to develop a long-term management strategy.
- Organize workshops, events, and outreach activities to educate and engage the community.
- Prepare reports and presentations to communicate program progress and outcomes to stakeholders.
- Monitor and evaluate program effectiveness and make recommendations for improvements.

#### Qualifications

- Bachelor's degree in Environmental Science, Natural Resource Management, or a related field (Master's preferred).
- Proven experience in program coordination or project management, preferably in a related field.
- Strong understanding of natural resource conservation and agricultural principles and practices.
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills.
- Highly motivated self-starter with ability to work independently and collaboratively in a team environment.
- Proficient in Microsoft Office and ArcGIS online software.

#### Why Join Us

- Be part of a dynamic team dedicated to making a positive impact on the environment.
- Opportunities for professional development and growth.
- Competitive salary and benefits package.
- Flexible work environment.

#### How to Apply

If you're passionate about natural resource management and want to make a difference, we'd love to hear from you! Please submit your resume and a cover letter outlining your qualifications and interest in the position to [info@myawwd.ca](mailto:info@myawwd.ca) by October 25th, 2024.

## For Sale

### FOR SALE BY TENDER

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

#### MEIGHEN HADDAD LLP

110-11th St. Brandon, MB R7A 4J4

Attention: Ashley T. Joyce

or

#### MEIGHEN HADDAD LLP

255 Wellington St. W. Virden, MB R0M 2C0

Attention: Ashley T. Joyce

Property: E 33-12-25 WPM, located in the RM of Wallace-Woodworth which is composed of two separate parcels. Parcel One (Title No. 1429466/2) consists of approximately 160 acres of farmland. Parcel Two (Title No. 1429467/2) consists of approximately 160 acres of farmland. Tenders shall be submitted for the purchase of both parcels together.

**\*all acreages have been taken from the most recent Manitoba Property Assessment Report\***

#### 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. Tenders must be received at or before **2:00pm on November 7, 2024, at the offices of Meighen Haddad LLP, 110 – 11th Street, Brandon MB, or at the Virden office located at 255 Wellington St. W Virden MB, attention: Ashley Joyce**
3. The Property shall be sold in "as is, where is" condition.
4. The successful tender shall enter into an Offer to Purchase with the seller by **November 15, 2024**, and the closing date of same shall be **December 4, 2024**.
5. Each tender must be in writing and accompanied by a cheque payable to Meighen Haddad LLP representing 10% of the tendered purchase price. Deposits accompanying unacceptable tenders will be returned following the close of tenders.
6. 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 November 15, 2024.
2. In addition to the deposit, the balance of the accepted tender must be paid on or before the closing date which shall take place December 4, 2025. 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. Mines and Minerals are excluded.
5. Successful bidders will be responsible for real property taxes commencing as of January 1, 2025.
6. Successful bidders will be responsible for paying G.S.T. or to provide a Declaration and Undertaking to self-assess if registered for G.S.T.
7. Successful bidders shall be responsible to pay Land Transfer Tax (if applicable).
8. Each of the vendor and purchaser will be responsible for their own legal fees to complete the sale.

For further information, please contact Ron at 204-748-8188 or by email at [ron-nyk@hotmail.ca](mailto:ron-nyk@hotmail.ca).

## Thank-you

### Thank-you

Big thank-you to Father Norberto, choir, Carscaddens, um bearer, Eulogy and Ushers and all who attended the funeral service for George, and the lunch after. You all made it very special. Thank-you for all the messages, condolences, cards, flowers, phone calls, visits and food brought to our home. To Dr. Aung and Dr. Hammell and all the hospital staff for all your loving and excellent care and concern during our very difficult time. God bless you all!

Sincerely Thank-You  
Edna E. Kernel and Family

## In Memory

### IN LOVING MEMORY WILSON WILLARD HAINES



Wilson Willard Haines, beloved Dad of Rod and Michelle passed away on Cowboy Day at Moosomin Southeast Integrated Care Centre LTC, Wednesday, October 9, 2024 at the age of 88 years.

A Public Visitation will take place at Carscadden Funeral Chapel, 383 Wellington St. W. Virden, Manitoba Thursday, October 24, 2024 from 3:00 - 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

A private family interment will be at Two Creeks Cemetery at a later date.

For those who so desire, memorial tributes may be made in support of Manitoba High School Rodeo.

"It's time for your final ride"  
Carscadden Funeral Chapels Ltd. Virden, in care of arrangements.

## 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!



Virden and Area's community Remembrance Day service November 11th at the Aud. Be seated by 10:40 am. If you wish to lay a wreath then please contact our Sgt.-At-Arms at 204-761-0419.

The 11th Month, The 11th Day, and The 11th Hour.

### Thank-you

Sacred Heart Parish would like to thank everyone who supported our fundraiser by purchasing raffle tickets.

Congratulations to the winners:

- \$1000 - Cody Campbell
- \$500 - Jhonalynee Porcil
- \$100 - Maricel Angeles
- \$100 - Gypsy Rose Saniel
- \$100 - Delilah Buchart

## HEY! YOU!

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



# CLASSIFIEDS

## In Memory

### In Loving Memory

of  
Merle Lambourn  
July 3, 1929 - October 21, 2019

As I look back over time, I find myself wondering  
Did I remember to thank you enough for  
all you have done for me?  
For all the times you were by my side  
to help & support me  
To celebrate my success, to understand my problems  
And accept my defeats?  
Or for teaching me by your example, the value of hard work,  
good judgement, courage & integrity?  
I wonder if I ever thanked you for the  
sacrifices you made to let me have the very best?  
And for the simple things  
Like laughter, smiles and times we shared?  
If I have forgotten to show you my gratitude  
for all the things you did, I'm thanking you now.  
I am hoping you knew how much you meant to me.

Loving Memories of You Mom  
Carolyn

## In Memory

### In Loving Memory

of  
Merle Lambourn  
July 3, 1929 - October 21, 2019

Cherished Memories of a Mom  
whose Love was strong and true  
to lose someone so precious  
brings a pain you can't undo.  
You were a treasure in my heart  
You were loved every way  
Since you've been gone you're truly  
missed each and every day.  
Mom, life is not the same  
now that you are gone  
but my love for you remains  
and will always be this strong.

Love Always  
Calvin

## Coming Events

SCARTH  
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Sunday, Oct. 20  
9:00-11:00 a.m.  
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# Letter to the Editor

## RE: GovFox helping Wallace-Woodworth get organized

Further to the article in the October 11, 2024, edition of the Advance, I participated in the sessions held in Virден and Elkhorn. Some of the issues discussed at those sessions were:

- Roads
- Lack of Council Communication, Transparency and Accountability.
- Absence of Annual Ratepayers meetings.
- Lack of community presence and limited engagement between Ratepayers and Council.
- Ratepayers not knowing who their councillors were.
- What "Service Tracker" was, and how ineffective it is.

- Current RM Newsletter and its lack of value
- Lack of affordable and senior appropriate housing.
- What land is available for development, how is it zoned, and how do people find out about it.
- Should taxes be increased to address some of the priorities.
- The status of the "working" relationship with the Town of Virден.

The next step in this process will be Council receiving a summary of the meetings and survey results. A two-day session is planned, at which Council will discuss the information and come up with a Strategic

Plan that incorporates ratepayer priorities. The plan, once complete, will be presented to ratepayers.

The purpose of this exercise is to assist Council in deciding what their priorities should be. Future decision making should include the question "how does this fit into our Strategic Plan"?

I look forward to seeing how this unfolds.

Yours Truly,  
Sandy Heaman Ratepayer  
RM of Wallace-Woodworth

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# VIRDEN



CENTRE OF IT ALL

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Waste Disposal Grounds: 204-748-6033

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### Employment Opportunity Airport Manager

The Town of Virден Airport Commission is seeking an individual or company to perform the contractual duties of Airport Manager at the Virден Regional Airport (R.J. Andrew Field).

The Airport Manager is responsible for supervising the operation of the airport in accordance with Federal and Provincial regulations, policies, and guidelines. This includes coordinating with the Town of Virден and the Virден Flying Club to ensure the safe and effective operation of the municipal airport to service the emergency and everyday transportation and commercial needs of the community and users.

The Manager will be required to supply their own vehicle.

Extended or irregular hours may be necessary at times specifically when responding to emergency calls.

Please go to [virден.ca/p/employment-opportunities](http://virден.ca/p/employment-opportunities) for a detailed description or call John Stowe, Airport Manager at 204-851-6230.

Applications or Proposals for the Airport Manager Position may be submitted prior to **4:00 PM, Monday October 28, 2024** to:

Rhonda Stewart  
Chief Administrative Officer  
Box 310  
236 Wellington Street West  
Virден, MB ROM 2C0

### Annual Water Main Flushing

Will continue throughout the month of October.

If you experience an ongoing loss of pressure or discoloured water that does not run clear within a few minutes, please call the Town Office, or 204-851-5540 (evenings and weekends).

### 2024 Property Tax

Payments are due by **October 31**.



### 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 [virден.ca/p/citizen-of-the-year](http://virден.ca/p/citizen-of-the-year) or call the Town Office for more information.

**Upcoming Council Meeting:  
October 22 & November 5**

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

### Very Virден Christmas

Sign up now to sponsor this year's event!

For more information, visit Very Virден Christmas on FB.

### Live Barn

Now available at Tundra Oil and Gas Place.

Use code `toqp-live` for 10% off.

Visit [livebarn.com](http://livebarn.com) for more information.

### Public Notice:

#### Cemetery Cleanup

The Town of Virден asks that items that have been left on plots be cleaned up by **October 21, 2024**.

All items must be removed from each grave in the cemetery - artificial flowers, ornaments, solar lights, plant hooks, stuffed animals, etc. must be picked up. Only headstones should remain in order to prevent damage to personal items throughout the winter months.

Following spring thaw, families are welcome to replace items to their loved ones' gravesites.

Items that remain after the date above will be removed by Cemetery Maintenance Staff.

### Town of Virден Notice: Board of Revision

Pursuant to Section 41 of the Municipal Assessment Act, public notice is hereby given that the Assessment Rolls for the Town of Virден for 2025 have been deposited in the Town Office, 236 Wellington Street West, and are open for public inspection during normal business hours. The public is also advised that the Board of Revision will sit at the Town of Virден Council Chambers at 232 Wellington Street West on **Tuesday, November 7th, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.** to hear applications for revision of assessments.

#### Application for Revision

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

- Liability to taxation;
- Amount of an assessed value;
- Classification of property; or
- A refusal by an assessor to amend the assessment roll under subsection 13(2) of the Act.

#### Application Requirements

An application for revision must:

- Be made in writing;
- Set out the roll number and legal description of the property for which a revision is sought;
- State the grounds on which the application is based; and
- Be filed with the Secretary of the Board of Revision, 236 Wellington Street West, P.O. Box 310, Virден MB ROM 2C0 at least 15 days before the sitting of the Board (by **October 22, 2024**).

Dated this 27th day of September, 2024.

Rhonda Stewart, CMMA  
Chief Administrative Officer  
Town of Virден

# Virден's Crude City Classics play Brandon auditorium's 55th anniversary

By Anne Davison  
EMPIRE-ADVANCE

Virден's Dan Kristof and his band Crude City Classics were invited to Manitoba Western Centennial Auditorium stage for Celebrate 55 Mini Fest in recognition of the auditorium's 55th anniversary on Friday, Oct. 4.

It was an amazing concert for Crude City, one among three rock bands to take the stage that evening. Kristof said, "We were honored to perform alongside some of Brandon's best entertainers in Westman's finest facility. The WMCA recently did upgrades to their sound system and the results were astounding. You won't regret checking out a performance there."

Songs like Dead or Alive (Bon Jovi), Love Removal Machine (The Cult), and My Hero (Foo Fighters) were among Crude City's crowd pleasers that Friday evening in the packed concert hall.

Warming up the audience was Matt Cory (2023 Guitarist of the Year, Vocalist of the Year and Rock Band of the Year - Manitoba Loud Music Awards) before the four-piece Crude City Classics played, followed by Full Flannel Jacket. The after-party music was supplied by DJ Red (Jared Weir), a popular Westman disc jockey.

Kristof, the lead singer, also plays guitar. Jesse Gray plays lead guitar and his father Don Gray plays bass. These three met as a result of Kristof playing an acoustic set at Jesse Gray's 40th birthday celebration. In its early days the band searched for a drummer who could keep pace with them and found a talent in Adam Nicholls from Pierson.

Crude City Classics covers a large variety of tunes mainly from the '90s, featuring the likes of Tragically Hip, Gin

Blossoms, The Black Crowes, and Bon Jovi, but Kristof says they do stray into music from other decades as well.

Kristof's clear vocals have been heard at solo performances in Virден such as Christmas in the Aud and you may have heard CCC in Virден at the Dec. 1st Oil Capitals half-time show.

This past summer they enjoyed entertaining the Oak Lake Beach crowd on the 40-square foot stage near the campground. Bigger gigs were Dauphin Countryfest and Minnedosa's Rockin' the Fields.

But that wasn't all. The CCC band played on Nicholls' home turf at an out of the way weekend music festival in Pierson. This late August event called Rollerfest is named for the development of the first paint roller by a Pierson inventor, (a story of its own). The festival has been going on for a few years now and it's looking good for a Rollerfest 2025.

Kristof took up the guitar as a teen living in Portage la Prairie, where he attended school with Dave Wasyliv, a guitarist with the Doc Walker band. Other well-known musicians from Portage were Murray Pulver and singer/guitarist Chris Thorsteinson. It was great place for an aspiring country rock



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Crude City Classics band: (l-r) Don Gray, Dan Kristof, Adam Nicholls and Jesse Gray.

artist to grow up in the 1990s.

With inspiration a plenty, as a young teen Kristof took guitar lessons for about two years and with the basics in hand, he grew his talent to become a guitarist and vocalist welcome on Manitoba's biggest stages. While Kristof is beginning to write some of his own material, for now he's busy enough with the band, enjoying a growing appeal in the local music scene.

For video of their live performances or contact information, check out the Crude City Classics on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61560381420991&mibextid=ZbWKwL](http://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61560381420991&mibextid=ZbWKwL)

## Town now has marriage licenses Town of Virден council minutes for Oct. 8

By Dale Davison  
EMPIRE-ADVANCE

Administration decided to make marriage licenses available at the Town office as they are not available anywhere else in town. Town of Virден has ten licenses on hand at \$100 each.

### FINANCE

Council discussed the service agreement with 3CTech and questioned whether the Town is using more than the 10 hours per month of service as set out in the contract.

Council passed a by-law authorizing the expenditure and borrowing of money for water and sewer main replacement as well as the reconstruction of the road base on Routledge Street East.

A second by-law to authorize the expenditure and borrowing of money for overlay and shoulder repairs of 6th Avenue South, Lyons Street West to PR. 257 and the overlay of Kent Street from 6th Avenue South to 7th Avenue South was also passed.

Cheques for the Town of Virден of \$840,044.00 and for water works of \$44,620.06 were approved.

The Town of Virден general operating and utility fund revenue and expense statements for June 2024 were approved.

The yearly groundwater and surface water monitoring program estimate for the Virден municipal and industrial waste facility was received from Matrix Solutions. The estimate of \$10,117.71 for fieldwork, data analysis, testing, project coordination and reporting was approved.

A quote of \$13,550.00 was received from Crocus Environmental Ltd. for a drone lidar survey, and the collection, analyzation, processing and production of review drawings for planning purposes at the Virден municipal and industrial waste facility. The quote was accepted.

### OTHER BUSINESS

Correspondence was received from the RCMP

asking if the Town wished to meet with them while attending Association of Manitoba Municipalities (AMM) fall convention. Council declined to meet with the force at this time.

Scarth Community Club is hosting monthly fundraising breakfasts from October to April to raise money for their washroom upgrades. Town of Virден will provide sponsorship funding in the amount of \$200 in support of the Scarth Community.

Seniors Access to Independent Living (SAIL) is hosting a wellness day in Virден to assist in providing resources for older adults and their families. Sponsorship of \$750 was approved for the April 9 event at Tundra Oil and Gas Place.

The Manitoba Environmental Industries Association hosted a two-day workshop on building trust, enhancing communication, and forging strong, mutually beneficial relationships with Indigenous communities. Two members of Council were authorized to attend.

Canadian Royal Purple recognizes that acquired brain injury is often accompanied by interpersonal violence. Mayor Tina Williams signed the Royal Purple decree recognizing Thursday Oct. 17, (the third Thursday in October) as Purple Thursday. Royal Purple has adopted brain injury awareness and prevention as their official cause and this will be a

"special day of connection between the Canadian Royal Purple, our communities and women's shelters across Canada."

Mayor Williams will attend the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Sustainable Communities conference, Feb. 10-13 in Fredericton, NB.

To provide timely and affordable educational opportunities for staff and council approval was given for Town owned facilities to be used at a reduced fee on a case-by-case basis.

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# Choral Konektions 2024

Submitted  
By MICHELLE CHYZYK

This year's version of Konektis is working hard to prepare for the annual Choral Konektions Concert. Each year, for the past 9 years, Konektis has invited guest choirs for an ambitious fall musical collaboration. The crowds have always been very large for this event filling venues to the brim, so the choir has decided to host a 2:00 pm afternoon concert as well as a 7:30 pm evening one. It is a perfect kick-off to the choral season and this year's two concerts will allow all involved to be more comfortable in the audience. We also thought that an afternoon concert would be appreciated for those having to travel to attend.

Audiences will want to line up to see the spectacular guests for 2024. In the afternoon, crowds will be treated to two exciting adult choirs – Meliora from Stonewall conducted by Kendra Obach and Sonolux from Winnipeg led by Dorothy Dyck and Adriane Kumka. The evening concert will feature groups with definite connections to Konektis – conductor Clint McLachlan directs the Crocus Plains Chamber Choir, soprano Meagan Lawson and her mother Jean Lawson (an incredible team) have prepped a Killarney high school group, and soprano Meagan McGill is bringing her Glenboro group Descant Get Enough. In both concerts the groups will sing in a stunning closing finale accompanied by strings.

The repertoire for this concert will thrill choral enthusiasts - music by Elberdin, Kirchner, Jacob



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Collier, Ily Mathew Maniano, Rob Dietz, Don MacDonald, Stephen Chatman, John Rutter, Billie Eillish, Ingrid Michaelson, and many beautiful arrangements of traditional folk melodies. Konektis has been inspired the large variety of music they are tackling this fall. In particular Konektis has enjoyed the challenge of working with experts in Tamil dialect and classical Indian dance to perform Rahman's vibrant Balleilakka. Conductor Marla Fontaine has expertly taught a 16-part World O World by musical genius Jacob Collier, conductor Michelle Chzyk is shaping a gospel set that shows off the tremendous vocal abilities in the room, and conductor Clint McLachlan draws from his passion for musical theatre to present a number from Broadway's Hadestown – talk about range!!

There is indeed so much excellent choral music happening throughout our half of the province, Manitoba Choral Association has of course taken notice. It is no surprise that the October 26th showcase will feature so many of the MCA award winners. Deserving Konektis soprano Daelyn Fefchak was awarded this year's Bert Kroeker Scholarship. Conductor Clint

McLachlan's treble choir Novos was chosen for the New Voice Award – an honor previously given to Konektis. Two dynamic MCA spirit award winners will be at work on Saturday – Marla Fontaine, a previous winner and Kendra Obach this year's recipient. Finally, in attendance will be MCA's Award for Artistic Excellence winners Michelle Chzyk (2022) and Dorothy Dyck (2024).

This year's Konektis group hails from Rivers, Minnedosa, Neepawa, Carberry, Glenboro, MacGregor, Austin, Cypress River, Souris, Killarney, Virden, and Brandon and ranges in age from 18 – 65. This range of talent allows for many exciting vocal colors and such a visual variety to enjoy. Thirty-one of the singers in the 2024 group were inspired by their participation in the Westman Youth Choir as high school students. Many singers are current students or graduates of Brandon University's prestigious School of Music. Thirty-five members are educators and many of those educators are choral and band directors.

Music "konnekts" us in a magical way and we would love to invite you to be involved and uplifted. There is no doubt our world needs it.

The concerts will be held at First Presbyterian Church, Brandon – 2:00 pm (doors open at 1:30) and 7:30 (doors open at 7:00) Advance tickets are \$15 and can be bought online at

Eventbrite and there will also be admission at the door – cash only.

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## Royal Purple Decree



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Mayor Tina Williams signs the Royal Purple decree proclaiming Thursday, Oct. 17 as Purple Thursday in Virden. Royal Purple President Karan Galbraith (left) and National Royal Purple Vice-President Fran Bayliss are at her side.