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VOLUME 6
EDITION 7

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Scoring king makes history

STANDARD PHOTO BY RICK HIEBERT
Aaron Lewadniuk poses with his children, Luca and Ellie, and the SEMHL West End Tire Top Scorer Award prior to the Feb. 21 game, after capturing his sixth career South Eastern Manitoba Hockey League scoring title — the most in league history.

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Carman Legion celebrates 100 years of service and remembrance

By E. Antonio

The Carman Legion Branch No. 18 is celebrating its 100th anniversary in 2026, commemorating a century of remembering, honouring and supporting Canadian veterans of the past, present and future.

Karen Maxwell, president of the Carman Legion, said she and her fellow members are committed to remembering the past and the reasons the legion was created.

"We never want to forget who they are," she said. "We want to celebrate our veterans, their families and widows — that is our number one goal."

Canadian legions were formed in 1926 as a place to unite and support veterans returning from war. One year earlier, the Great War Veterans Association of Canada unified members from the British Empire Service League (Canadian Section), the Legion of Frontiersmen (Canadian Division), the Canadian Veterans' Alliance, the Imperial Veterans in Canada, the Tubercular Veterans' Association, the Scarred Veterans' Association and the Naval Veterans' Association. In 1960, Canadian legions gained "Royal" status when Queen Elizabeth II honoured their service record.

While the Carman branch will not



A Canadian Legion 100th anniversary medal was presented to the 2025 executive members and past president of Carman Legion Branch No. 18 as part of its centennial celebrations in 2026.

celebrate its official centennial until Dec. 6, members are planning festivities throughout the year.

Throughout the last century, Maxwell said the legion's mission has remained unchanged: to never forget those who served and continue to serve.

"Without them, we might not be able to live in the country we call home, and we need to keep the memories alive of our fallen comrades,"



STANDARD PHOTOS SUBMITTED

The Royal Canadian Legion — Carman Branch No. 18 is celebrating its 100th anniversary in 2026. Pictured are the 2026 executive members. Back row (L-R): Jim Scott, Chuck Ross, Pat Phillips, Don Lemon and Kyrke Nussey. Front row: Lee Collingridge, Karen Maxwell and Bev McLean. Missing from the photo is Rick Simpson.

she said.

Over the years, the branch has seen several changes, particularly in membership.

Originally, only veterans were permitted to hold ordinary memberships. Associate memberships — also known as spouses or children of veterans — were added in 1974, and in 1990 eligibility expanded to include additional family members. More recently, affiliate voting and affiliate non-voting memberships were introduced for individuals who wish to support the legion but do not have relatives who served.

Maxwell said that in the early days, the vast majority of members were veterans. Today, associate memberships make up 170 — or 61 per cent — of the branch's 281 active members, which she believes is a positive shift.

"We need new and active members to keep the legacy of the legion alive,"

she said. "Without them, we aren't going to last for another 100 years."

Maxwell became involved with the Carman Legion in 1986 while working as a bartender. She officially joined as a fraternal — now known as affiliate — member on Jan. 1, 1987, and in 1990 became an associate member through her husband, who was also an associate member at the time. On March 31, 2014, Maxwell received the honorary title of life member and has served on the executive board for more than three decades.

With grandfathers and uncles who served in the war, Maxwell said her connection to the legion is deeply personal.

"I love to be involved with my community, and I joined the legion because a piece of my heart is there," she said. "We don't want to forget

Continued on page 6

2026 Gravel Hauling Tender

The R.M. of Dufferin is requesting that anyone interested in hauling gravel for the R.M. of Dufferin in the 2026 construction season contact the office as listed below for a tender package.

The R.M. of Dufferin will have the right to engage the services of any gravel hauler who has submitted a hauling quotation, which is considered in the best interest of the municipality as far as efficiency and economy. All gravel haulers must adhere to the rules established by the Council of the R.M. of Dufferin in the Gravel Policy and submit their sealed tender no later than **March 16th, 2026, at 11:00 am.**

The Municipality reserves the right to reject any and all tenders at its sole discretion; and that the lowest or any tender may not necessarily be accepted. The R.M. of Dufferin would like to thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sharla Murray, CMMA
Box 100, 12 2nd Ave SW
Carman, Manitoba R0G 0J0
204-745-2301
info@rmofdufferin.com



carmandufferin.com

NOTICE

STORE CLOSING

BenefitsRx Pharmacy wishes to announce that they will be closing their doors as of **March 4th, 2026**

All prescriptions will be securely transferred to Carman Pharmacy

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The pharmacy team will be moving as well and look forward to continuing to serve you at Carman Pharmacy.



Carman Health Auxiliary supports hospital care through fundraising and volunteerism

By Lana Meier

The Carman Health Auxiliary continued its long tradition of community service in 2025, contributing equipment, patient comforts and financial support to the Carman Memorial Hospital while logging hundreds of volunteer hours.

According to the group's annual report submitted by secretary Betty Park, the auxiliary held eight regular meetings during the year with a membership of 16 and an average attendance of 12. Six associate members also support the organization, along with a group membership from the Legion Ladies Auxiliary.

Members recorded a total of 785 volunteer hours. The current executive includes president Kathie Findlay, past president Della Heaman, vice-presidents Marie MacLean and Dorothy Peters, treasurer Darlene Pritchard and secretary Betty Park. Meetings continue to be held at the hospital on the third Tuesday of each month, and new members are welcome.

The auxiliary hosted its annual spring tea May 10 at the Carman United Church and a fall tea Oct. 25 at the Legion Auxiliary Hall, both of which organizers described as successful.

Members also participated in the Carman Fair Parade, organizing a float with help from Swains' and MacLeans' for use of a garage, truck and trailer.

Raffle ticket sales remain the group's main fundraiser. Tickets were sold at the Co-op, the August farmers' market, at teas and individually, with the auxiliary thanking the Co-op for providing selling space.

Additional support came from community dona-

tions made in memory of loved ones. The Carman MCC Store contributed \$129.55 from its October tip jar and donated \$1,500 in honour of its 50th anniversary.

The auxiliary was also represented at Healthy Communities and stakeholder meetings throughout the year.

Funds raised help purchase equipment and supplies for the hospital.

In March, an emergency room overhead light was installed at a cost of \$7,222.53. The group also purchased a sit-to-stand lift with slings for \$8,521.81, designed to help patients move safely from sitting to standing while supporting strength, mobility and independence.

The auxiliary has also committed funds toward a STARS education day for staff and additional patient-care items including cups, utensils, stockings and pager call bells.

For 2026, the auxiliary's fundraising goal is \$8,500 for a blanket warmer for the emergency room.

Two bursaries totalling \$1,000 were awarded to students entering health-care fields.

Long-standing traditions continued as well. A baby quilt was presented to the community's New Year's baby through the public health nurse, and carnations were delivered to each inpatient to brighten their stay.

A new Facebook page was also launched by M. Gylywoychuk to help share updates with the community.

"We look forward to continuing for another year and are grateful for the community support we receive," the report noted.



STANDARD PHOTO SUBMITTED
Carman Memorial Hospital staff Madie Gylywoychuk-Winkler, Laureen Kippen, Albert Castro, Rachel Groo and Chantal Banman with Health Auxiliary representatives Kathie Findlay and Darlene Pritchard with the purchasing a sit-to-stand lift.

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Our commitment to you: we want to help build stronger communities through articles that both inform and entertain you about what's going on throughout the Pembina Valley. This is your community newspaper—let us know what you want to see in it.

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getheard

EDITORIAL > VIEWPOINTS > LETTERS

Access CU closing, consolidating six branches

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Access Credit Union is closing six branches across its network in 2026.

On June 19, the Moosehorn, Sanford and 850 Regent Ave. Winnipeg branches will close, consolidating with Ashern, the new Kenaston Crossing location opening later this year, and the 1300 Plessis Rd. Winnipeg branch, respectively.

On Oct. 21, the Plum Coulee branch will close and consolidate with Winkler, the Emerson branch will close and consolidate with Altona, and the 720 St. Anne's Rd. Winnipeg branch will close and consolidate with the 515 St. Anne's branch.

CEO and president Myrna Wiebe said the decision reflects a continued decline in in-branch transactions, with 94.93 per cent now completed electronically.

"Looking at how many transactions are being completed electronically or outside of the branch—either at another branch or through the ATM ... we've monitored this over a number of years," she said in explaining some of the factors behind the decision when it came to these six branches. "Within that time frame, there's certainly different steps and things we've tried, whether it was moving staff around or trying to make sure

that the branch was being used and remaining very relevant."

Ultimately, the affected locations were no longer sustainable, Wiebe said, noting limited hours of operation in some of the branches due to consistent low traffic volumes as well as their proximity to other branches were also factors in the decision.

The closures will affect nearly 10,600 members. Access has over 208,000 members across the province.

Eleven employees work at the four rural branches affected by these closures, all of whom will have the opportunity to move to another branch. A few corporate employees will also be relocated.

Wiebe expects they will get some push back on these closures, as some of these branches have served their communities for many years.

"Certainly we have definitely heard from some members and some municipalities as well," she said. "What we're doing is we're just trying to inform them as best we can, explain the business case as best we can, and let them know that they're being supported through this, whether it's teaching people how to use online banking or the telephone banking, those kinds of things, and then making sure that they're aware of all of

the availability of the branches—not just the branches closest to them right now, but it's anywhere they're going. Any one of our branches across our Manitoba footprint is where they can go to use a physical branch."

Members can also access their accounts through the mobile banking app and ATMs at any credit union in Manitoba. Access CU also offers online appointments with its lenders or financial planners.

Wiebe stressed that Access closing these branches does not mean they will not still be a part of the communities affected.

"Our priorities are tied to the communities that we have across Manitoba, and we do not take lightly the responsibility that we have that comes with the history that brought us where we are today," she said. "We don't underestimate and it's not lost on us the impact the changes to local branches can have on the community. But I also need members to understand that we will still be in those communities."

"They are still within our footprint ... the sponsorships, at the events, whether there's a new project being done by communities—we're still going to be there."

RM of Thompson approves landfill expansion, utility deficit recovery

By Haley Cvar

The Rural Municipality of Thompson approved a new service contract for bylaw enforcement, advanced landfill expansion plans and moved to address a utility deficit during its regular meeting Feb. 12.

Council unanimously approved an agreement with the Canadian Corps of Commissionaires, Manitoba Division, to provide bylaw enforcement support services. Reeve Brian Callum and Chief Administrative Officer Melissa Brunel were authorized to sign the contract on behalf of the municipality.

Council also approved construction of a new waste disposal grounds cell, awarding the project to Horizon

Earthworks based on its quotation and engineered specifications. The expansion is intended to ensure continued capacity at the municipal landfill.

In financial matters, council agreed to seek approval from the Public Utilities Board to recover a \$31,233 operating deficit incurred by the Miami Water and Wastewater Utility in 2024. The recovery plan proposes raising \$15,718 through a one-year rate rider of \$0.77 per cubic metre, with the remaining \$15,515 to be drawn from the utility's accumulated surplus.

Additional spending included \$17,201.48 for equipment supplied by Sea Hawk to the Miami Fire Department. Councillor Donna Cox also pro-

vided an update on planning progress for a new fire hall.

Representatives of Dunston Church provided an update on ongoing efforts to secure heritage designation and complete repairs, and requested financial support from the municipality to assist with restoration work and insurance.

Administration reported the municipality's application to the Canada Housing Infrastructure Fund was unsuccessful. Council also received updates on the Miami library garden project, the Miami Medical Clinic and potential expansion of the Town of Miami toward Steckly as part of long-term growth planning.

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Roland advances emergency planning, infrastructure work

By Haley Cvar

The Rural Municipality of Roland approved its 2026 interim budget, adopted a new emergency plan and addressed lagoon maintenance, planning and administrative matters during meetings in November and December.

Council adopted an interim operating budget of \$819,000 on Dec. 9 to fund municipal operations until the full 2026 budget is approved.

“Interim Budget is comparable to the interim budgets passed in other years, our full budget will be passed sometime in April.”

The largest allocations include \$300,000 for transportation services, \$250,000 for general government services and \$125,000 for utility operations. Recreational and cultural services were allocated \$44,000, while environmental health services received \$39,000.

Council also approved the municipality’s 2026 Emergency Plan at its Nov. 10 meeting, with further updates expected as work continues.

“The Emergency Plan is currently

undergoing an overhaul as we have a new Emergency Coordinator as of Fall of 2025. The 2026 plan that was passed had just the required updates made ex: contact info, Director information etc.”

Lagoon maintenance was another priority, with council approving a sludge measurement survey and reviewing removal options.

“The survey was done and we met with the representative in the December meeting to discuss their suggestions. This is just preventative to maintain the lagoon.”

Planning and development decisions included approval of a variation to reduce the minimum site area requirement at 56/58 4th St. to allow a subdivision, along with a related application to consolidate three lots into two.

A second variation was granted to allow a reduced front setback for a deck at 55 2nd St.

Council also approved private drainage works applications from Kroeker Farms and Tom Menold, both subject to provincial licensing requirements.

In bylaw matters, council gave final approval to a bylaw increasing building permit fees.

Council also finalized employment contracts for non-union staff, including the chief administrative officer, administrative assistant and public works foreman.

At a special meeting Dec. 18, council approved posting for an interim chief administrative officer.

“The Interim CAO position was required as our CAO is on medical leave, we hired an interim CAO in January.”

Public works projects completed in 2025 included 11 miles of ditch cleaning, culvert replacements, road maintenance and upgrades to the Millennium walking path. Municipal staff also ordered a replacement lift station pump at a cost of \$9,500 after equipment failure in December.

Council approved payments totaling \$199,236.32 in November, along with \$27,925.53 in payroll. In December, council authorized \$1,656,543.33 in accounts and \$27,146.04 in payroll.

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Things still happen in the seasons of waiting.

Winter has a way of settling, not just on the landscape but on the spirit as well. When the days feel short, the light feels thin, and motivation seems to freeze over, winter fatigue can feel like quite a weight.

Winter slows everything down. The body moves differently, the mind feels foggier, and even simple tasks can feel like trudging through snow.

The winter season often exposes our limits, and that can feel discouraging.

But winter also invites a different kind of strength — the strength of resting, receiving, and trusting.

Farmers often speak about winter with a kind of reverence—not because it’s easy, but because it fits into God’s larger pattern of rest, renewal, and balance.

Under the frozen ground, roots are strengthening. The trees look barren, but they’re conserving energy for spring.

Winter is not wasted time — it’s preparation time — and in the same way, God may be doing quiet, unseen work in you as well.

Winter is a season of rest, renewal, and anticipation. It encourages stillness and reflection, symbolizing the waiting for new beginnings and the return of Christ, while highlighting trust in God’s timing.

Genesis 8:22

“As long as the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night, shall not cease.”

Winter is part of God’s ordered design. When life feels cyclical or slow, this verse reminds us that the seasons are purposeful, and that the rest and renewal of creation are built into God’s plan.

You don’t have to push through winter on your own. God is not waiting for you to “get it together.” God is walking with you, step by slow step, offering grace for every moment.

Maybe this season is teaching you to slow down. Maybe it’s teaching you to depend more deeply. Maybe it’s teaching you that you don’t have to carry everything alone.

Pastor Desmond P. Penner
Carman Christian Fellowship

The way it was – This week of February 26

By Dennis Young

100 years ago — 1926: Speaker at DAS meeting encourages barley to be sown as it can be used for malting purposes; A.S. Doyle sells Slumber bedsprings for \$12.50; two doors down from the CNR station is M. Mickelson’s Tack Shop; Elsie Garnett teaches piano and theory; wall mirrors are prizes won at the Winnipeg bonspiel by locals; set of six stainless table knives sells for \$10.50 at Cochran’s Gift Store; Roland juniors Keith Sayer and Roy and Chet Cameron score in a win over Manitou.

75 years ago — 1951: Memorial Hospital discusses collection of unpaid bills; John Tjaden MCs Sperling Carnival; “Haywire” hockey tournament features Homewood, Roseisle, Graysville and Barnsley teams; Skel-

> 100 YEARS, FROM PG. 2

why this place came to be in the first place.”

To mark the centennial milestone, a variety of events are planned throughout the year. The branch kicked off celebrations by honouring its 2025 executive members and past president with a special Canadian Legion 100th anniversary medal. Awards chair Ken Minty presented the medals, marking his final official duty after serving on the executive for 30 years.

“The executives of all legions are volunteers, and this is a very small

ton’s Hardware sells grain treatments; Carman Intermediate team consists of Norm Langston, Earl Garnett, Jack Hetherington, Jake Feakes, Al Patterson, Reg Ulloyt, Ron Foster, Don Andrews, Arni Hansen, A. Nicol, Robert McIvor, Bob Rutherford and Bob McGowan; Shilson’s sells potatoes at 37¢ for 13 lbs.

50 years ago — 1976: Midland building inspector Jack McEachern hires Poulins to combat rats at the Collegiate; Co-op meat manager Cliff Riehl offers stew beef at \$1.29/lb.; Elm Creek Co-op GM Walter Neufeld accepts Award of Excellence from Federated; Carman Frosted Foods moves to Main Street; Rosella Semple reports the library has 1,772 members and 10,000 books; Sylvia Kuzyk opens Miami Community Centre; Roseisle Chi-

gesture from the membership to thank them for all they do,” he said.

Upcoming public events include a celebratory barbecue on July 25 and a grand celebration on Dec. 6. Smaller, members-only events will also take place, including the annual veterans’ dinner in September. More information on scheduled festivities will be shared closer to each date.

Maxwell is also inviting anyone with photographs or memorabilia from the past century to share them with the legion so a special historical display can be created. She added that all items will be carefully handled and eventu-

ally returned to their owners. Looking ahead, Maxwell hopes to continue strengthening the legion’s presence in the community.

25 years ago — 2001: Kerri-Rae Sprott of Miami receives \$46,000 in scholarships; development officer position remains vacant after RM cuts funding; Sperling plans reunion; Ron McClain returns to work for Boyne River Sports; enough funds raised for two slides at the new pool; Carman squirts win National Sunny Delight Challenge and host skills clinic; 29 rinks enter Sperling bonspiel; Prairie Agri Photo launches online farmland library with more than 10,000 images; Pat Harness & Company offers income tax services; Town calls for nominations for International Year of the Volunteer.

ally returned to their owners.

Looking ahead, Maxwell hopes to continue strengthening the legion’s presence in the community.

“Please join us in remembering and celebrating our veterans and show others the importance of supporting local legions,” she said. “It’s about remembering the past and supporting the veterans who are still with us.”

Those interested in becoming members can sign up online or visit the Carman Legion in person during operating hours. To mark the centennial anniversary, first-time memberships are free.

Interlake property owner shelters in place during Puerto Vallarta shutdown

By Lana Meier

A Stonewall woman spending time at her property with her husband and family in Puerto Vallarta says a quiet morning quickly turned tense after smoke began rising across parts of the city.

Sheri Labossiere said it was around 8 a.m. when she first realized something unusual was happening.

"I first smelled the smoke and then saw smoke," she said.

Labossiere was inside her condo watching the Olympic gold medal hockey game when she heard loud popping sounds.

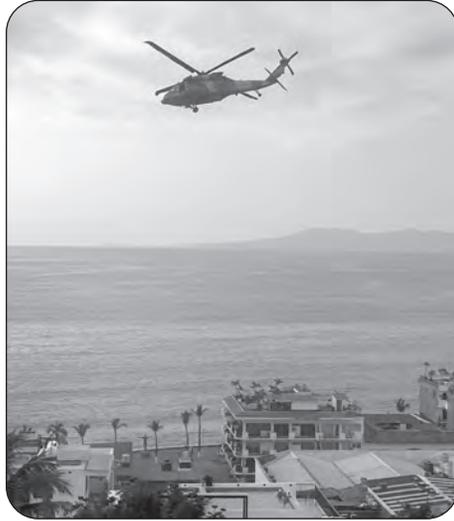
"I heard the bangs so I looked out and saw the smoke. It was very black and covered the sky," she said. "There was some as close as three blocks away."

She later learned the popping sounds were tires on burning vehicles exploding.

"You could smell the rubber," she said.

The unrest followed reports that Mexico's army had killed cartel leader Nemesio Rubén Oseguera Cervantes, known as El Mencho, prompting retaliatory violence in parts of Jalisco state and beyond.

Labossiere said the Mexican government issued a stay-at-home advisory, and she and others in her building remained inside for the day.



Mexican federal security forces, including the Secretaría de Marina, flew helicopters over areas of Puerto Vallarta as part of a security operation after significant violent incidents were reported Sunday and Monday.

"We stayed at the condo all day. The city is very quiet — no traffic, no people. Everything is closed."

She described Puerto Vallarta as largely shut down, with no Uber service, taxis or buses operating. A nearby corner store opened briefly but allowed only four customers inside at a time.

"There was a lineup and things are getting picked over," she said.

Labossiere said eight condos in their



STANDARD PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Thick black smoke rises over Puerto Vallarta on Sunday morning as unrest unfolded across parts of the city following reports of retaliatory violence in Jalisco state.

building are currently occupied and residents chose to stay indoors.

"We all felt safe and stayed inside. We are all waiting for the city to open up."

She said she has not registered with Global Affairs Canada and has not been contacted by officials but has kept family back home informed.

"Yes, I have contacted everyone at home to let them know we are safe. I am staying in contact with them."

Despite the disruption, Labossiere

said she felt informed and secure throughout the situation.

"The stay-home alert was to keep civilians safe — don't get in the way," she said.

By Monday, she and her husband were back outside for a walk.

"What went on is crazy, but I felt very safe through it all," she said. "The air is better today. We closed our windows on Sunday."

For now, the couple do not plan to change their travel arrangements.

More than \$1.2M announced for Manitoba community festivals

By Haley Cvar

The Government of Manitoba is investing more than \$1.2 million to support festivals across the province in 2025-26, including more than \$359,000 for winter events, Sport, Culture, Heritage and Tourism Minister Nellie Kennedy announced.

"Festivals connect people, celebrate community spirit and support local businesses," Kennedy said in a news release. "Our government is proud to help communities host events that strengthen neighbourhoods, attract visitors and showcase Manitoba's culture, especially through Manitoba's winters."

Funding is delivered through the Community Festivals and Events program for signature community events, as well as through dedicated funding for major stand-alone festivals.

Among the largest winter investments is \$324,600 for Festival du Voyageur Inc. to host the 2026 Festival du Voyageur in Winnipeg from Feb. 13 to 22, and \$25,000 for the Northern Manitoba Trappers Festival in The Pas from Feb. 18 to 22, 2026. Aurora Win-

terFest in March 2026 received \$3,000, while the Canadian Power Toboggan Championships' 2026 Canadian Open in March was allocated \$7,000.

Major summer stand-alone festivals include \$370,000 for Manito Ahbee Festival Inc. for Manito Ahbee in May, \$290,500 for Folk Arts Council of Manitoba to present Folklorama in August, and \$40,600 for the Valley Agricultural Society's Manitoba Stampede and Exhibition in Morris in July.

Dozens of community fairs and celebrations across rural and northern Manitoba also received support, most in the \$6,033 range. These include the Arborg Agricultural Fair (\$6,033.52), City of Winkler Harvest Festival and Exhibition (\$6,033.52), Hanover Agricultural Fair (\$6,033.52), Icelandic Festival of Manitoba, Islendingadagurinn (\$6,033.52), Morden Corn and Apple Festival (\$6,033.52), Nickel Days in Thompson (\$6,033.52), Niverville Olde Tyme Country Fair (\$6,033.52), Norway House Cree Nation Treaty and York Boat Days (\$6,033.52), Richer Rough Stock Rodeo and Country Fair (\$6,033.52),

Sagkeeng Annual Treaty Days (\$6,033.52), Sioux Valley Dakota Nation Powwow (\$6,033.52), Stonewall Quarry Days (\$6,033.52), Summer in the City in Steinbach (\$6,033.52), Grandview Mud Bog Weekend and Homecoming (\$6,033.52), Victoria Beach Summer Winds Family Music Festival (\$6,033.52) and the Virden Indoor Rodeo and Wild West Daze (\$6,033.52).

Other supported events span the province and calendar, including the 4P Festival (\$1,255.57), Springfield Chicken Daze (\$6,033.52), Baldur Summer Solstice Days (\$1,263.42), Belmont Jamboree Festival (\$486.90), Carrick Days (\$1,427.53), Prairie Winds Music Festival in Cypress River (\$2,273.43), Eriksdale Creamery Days Fair and Rodeo (\$2,973.92), Flin Flon Trout Festival (\$2,428.43), Frog Follies in St. Pierre-Jolys (\$3,702.77), Harvest Sun in Kelwood (\$2,756.11), Canada Day celebrations in Lac du Bonnet (\$2,083.37) and Vita (\$4,436.44), Lunder Fair (\$5,664.26), Threshermen's Reunion and Stampede in Austin (\$6,033.52), MMF Ste. Madeleine (\$3,475.30), Whitemud Music Festival

in Glenella-Lansdowne (\$1,182.57), Festival du Patrimoine Montcalm Heritage Festival (\$1,145.42), Pina-wa Birthday Celebration (\$1,977.79), Plum Coulee Plum Fest (\$2,293.94), Holiday Alley in Selkirk (\$6,033.52), Reston Fair (\$867.62), Dominion City SummerFest (\$1,281.52), Mitchell and Area Fun Days (\$3,390.23), Blumenort Fun and Fair Days (\$2,090.61), Fête de la Saint-Jean-Baptiste in La Broquerie (\$2,696.38), Melita Banana Days (\$5,472.40), Stony Mountain Family Festival and Canada Day (\$352.96), Teulon Rodeo (\$3,703.37), Manitoba Sunflower Festival in Altona (\$5,322.16) and Prairie Pioneer Days hosted by the Turtle Mountain Flywheel Club (\$558.70).

The province noted that the \$882,300 invested in 49 summer festivals plays an important role in supporting local businesses, boosting tourism and fostering community pride. With festivals taking place year-round, the government says Manitobans will continue to have opportunities to gather, celebrate culture and experience the province's diverse and vibrant communities.

Flashback: Miami's garment factory put the town on the fashion map

By Dennis Young

The high cost of mass-producing clothing in Winnipeg during the early 20th century led manufacturers to relocate factories to rural areas. The Winkler District Chamber of Commerce soon mobilized local businesses to invest in Winkler Apparel Ltd., which opened its factory in 1960. This provided 150 jobs — mainly for women — and quickly grew into a major employer with nearly 600 workers.

Ralph King, a New York-trained executive and general manager at Winkler Garments Limited, emphasized the need for the garment industry to revamp its public image through creative public relations programs. He shared these views at a government-sponsored seminar highlighting the public relations efforts that helped his company gain acceptance and respect in Winkler.

In 1965, Reeve Rudy Hink approached King to discuss opening a factory to employ people in Miami. With initial investors already committed, the Miami-Thompson Development Corp. sponsored the purchase of Ford Hall, which was renovated and outfitted as a factory. A training program began, and nine women — Mary Pearson, Annette Alexander, Margaret Smith, Isobel Angers, Anna Spent, supervisor Marjorie Nordquist, Velma Hefford, Annie Ford and Esther Fry — were sent to Winkler from April 18 to July 22, 1966, to learn the trade.

Miami Fashions Ltd. officially opened Aug. 12, 1966, drawing hun-



Gemini was the clothing brand manufactured at Miami Fashions.

dreds to its ribbon-cutting ceremony, which featured Manitoba's new minister of industry and commerce, Sidney Spivak. He commended Miami's citizens for their entrepreneurial spirit and hoped this marked the beginning of rural diversification. Other garment plants sprang up in Altona, Winkler, Morden and Manitou.

King praised the Development Corp.'s essential role in making Miami Fashions possible. As the town's first industry, it employed 30 people with an annual payroll of \$60,000, and there was room for expansion as more workers were hired. Gemini products — primarily high-quality parkas and ladies' sportswear — were shipped to stores in Eastern Canada and the northern United States.

By 1967, plans were finalized to expand the facility from 2,000 to 8,000 square feet and increase the staff from 35 to possibly 75. The Miami plant was expected to generate \$750,000 by producing 100 per cent pile Eskimo



STANDARD PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Sixty years ago, Miami entered the fashion business when Winkler Garments agreed to open a factory there in 1966.

parkas for Canadian Garments Ltd. of Winnipeg. King noted that Canadian manufacturers were now competitive with American companies in design, quality and price.

He opened a showroom in New York and soon announced an order for 6,000 garments from a major U.S. department store. Unfortunately, the operation in Miami closed in 1980 and moved to Morden. By 2008, Gemini

ceased entirely due to competition from low-cost imports.

Doris Tosh: "I worked in Miami for five years, then two years in Morden before it closed. I was a garment checker for quality control, supervised by manager Herman Hyde. I don't remember our wages — I'm 81 now — but I do recall that the faster you worked, the more money you made. Lol."

Two men charged after RCMP traffic stop uncovers drugs, loaded handgun

By Haley Cvar

Two men are facing multiple drug and weapons charges after a late-night traffic stop on Highway 2 led to the seizure of a loaded handgun and suspected cocaine and methamphetamine.

According to Manitoba RCMP, officers with the Roving Traffic Unit initiated the stop at about 11:15 p.m. on Feb. 14 within the RM of South Cypress-Glenboro. The vehicle had two occupants.

During the interaction, an officer observed a controlled substance in plain sight along with a prohibited weapon, police said. Both occupants were arrested.

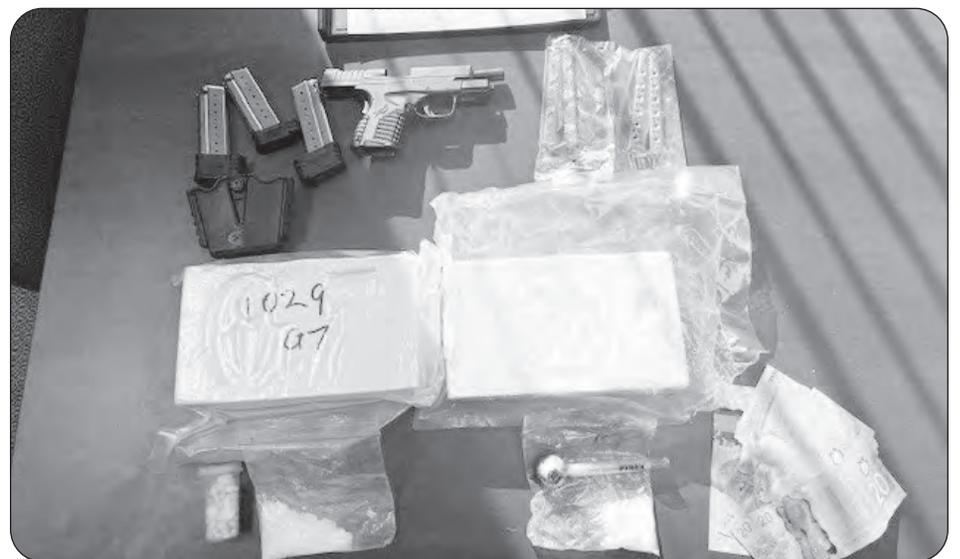
A search of the vehicle resulted in the seizure of a loaded handgun, approximately two kilograms of a substance believed to be cocaine, several grams

believed to be methamphetamine and additional prohibited weapons.

Tyler Thorvaldson, 29, of Carman, and Kyle Tkachyk, 43, of Elm Creek, have been charged with possession for the purpose of trafficking cocaine, possession of methamphetamine, unauthorized possession of a prohibited weapon, possession of a prohibited weapon without a licence, possession of a firearm in a motor vehicle, possession of a loaded prohibited weapon in a motor vehicle, possession of a weapon for a dangerous purpose, unsafe storage of a firearm and careless use of a firearm.

Thorvaldson was also issued tickets for operating a vehicle equipped with a radar detection device and for having open liquor in the vehicle.

Both accused were remanded into custody.



STANDARD PHOTO SUBMITTED

Drugs, a loaded handgun and additional prohibited weapons seized by Manitoba RCMP during a Feb. 14 traffic stop on Highway 2 in the RM of South Cypress-Glenboro.

Candlelight soirée raises funds for Carman Habitat build

By Lana Meier

A Valentine's weekend candlelight fundraiser brought the community together to support the Carman-Dufferin chapter of Habitat for Humanity Manitoba and its goal of building a new home this fall.

About 120 people attended the evening, which organizers say raised roughly \$10,000 toward the upcoming build — exceeding expectations and reinforcing what emcee Ernie Bart described as the feeling of “a community coming together for a common cause.”

The evening featured more than 200 donated desserts, a chamber orchestra performance, Valentine's-themed hall decorations, a presentation by sponsors and a ministerial message, along with prize draws and donations collected throughout the night.

Bart opened the evening with a land acknowledgement, recognizing that guests were gathered on Treaty 1 territory and that Manitoba is located on the treaty territories and ancestral lands of First Nations peoples, as well as on the homeland of the Red River Métis. Bart said the acknowledgement reflected a commitment to respecting “the spirit and intent of treaties” and to working in partnership with First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples “in the spirit of truth, reconciliation and collaboration.”

Tying the theme “Home is where the heart is” to the Louis Riel long weekend and Habitat's mission, Bart told attendees the chapter was “set on a build” this fall and said the turnout signalled the community support needed to carry the vision forward. Guests were invited to donate online or by envelope throughout the eve-

ning, with donation envelopes collected at the end of the program.

Entertainment was provided by Tangled Strings, a genre-blending string quartet that moved from classical chamber music into contemporary styles. Violinist Clair Tang introduced one piece as a story following a girl who leaves her birthplace and travels across cultures, gradually discovering that freedom is “not just a destination, but a choice.” The group also performed “Ahora,” described as a traditional Romanian circle dance often played at weddings and festivals.

During the program, Bart introduced Winnipeg-based Neptune Properties Inc. as a platinum sponsor and welcomed company president and co-founder Calvin Polit to present a cheque for \$20,403.38 to the Carman-Dufferin Habitat chapter.

Polit said the donation was driven by Habitat's model of helping families become homeowners through mortgages geared to their income — “a hand up, not a handout,” as he put it — with mortgage payments reinvested to support future builds.

“It becomes this really wonderful lasting legacy,” Polit said, adding that the need for affordable housing was clear in communities where the company has ties, including Carman through True North Foods.

Polit told the crowd one of the most powerful moments he has seen at Habitat's “key ceremonies” is when children enter an unfurnished home and realize they have a bedroom of their own.

“This is my room. It's my bedroom,” he recalled, saying that for some children, it is the first time they have ever been able to say that.

Polit encouraged guests to contribute however they can, noting Neptune's team has taken part in annual Habitat build days since 2017.

“Every hand makes a difference,” he said. “Not just the labour that takes



STANDARD PHOTOS BY LANA MEIER

Neptune Properties Inc. president and co-founder Calvin Polit presents a \$20,403.38 cheque to the Carman-Dufferin Habitat for Humanity Manitoba chapter alongside committee members Brent McDonald, Lorraine Girouard and emcee Ernie Bart during the Valentine's fundraiser in Carman.



The Tangled Strings quartet provided the entertainment for the fundraiser.

place on the site, but also every dollar that gets raised gets you closer to that goal.”

Family selection committee chair Karen Tjaden followed with an overview of how the local chapter plans to choose a partner family before construction begins. Tjaden said selection is based on three principles: demonstrated need, ability to pay a mortgage and willingness to partner with Habitat Manitoba and the local chapter.

Applicants must be working and/or living in the community, and Tjaden said the target household income

range is about \$35,000 to \$90,000. The selected family will contribute 500 hours of “sweat equity” through the build and volunteer work, which she described as the family's down payment. Families purchase the home at market value and pay monthly mortgage payments, including property taxes, with Habitat ensuring through credit checks that the family has the tools and resources to succeed.

Tjaden said Habitat's model provides long-term stability by ensuring a family's mortgage payment will not exceed 27 per cent of total household income.

“We are really excited to talk with prospective families, especially one or two parent families with young children who are renting now,” she said, noting some local housing can be too expensive, too small or in poor condition.

Calling Habitat a “wise investment,” Tjaden pointed to results from a national study on the impacts of home-

Lauren Stone
MLA for Midland

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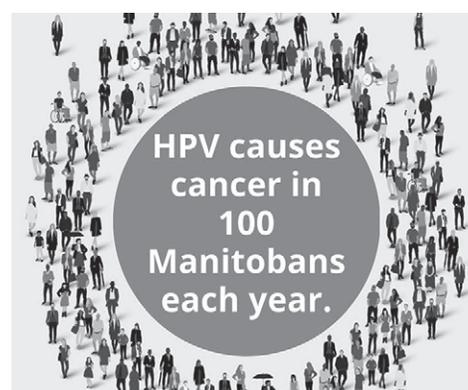
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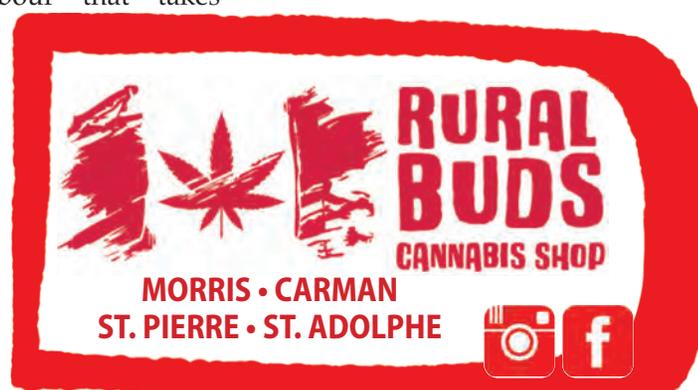
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Seven blooms bring a touch of spring indoors

By Lana Meier

In the middle of winter, when snowbanks are high and gardens sit dormant under ice, a single houseplant can brighten more than just a room.

Barb Lepp recently discovered that firsthand when her amaryllis opened not one or two flowers — but seven blooms at the same time.

The brilliant blossoms quickly became the highlight of her home, offering a reminder that spring isn't as far away as it feels.

Lepp purchased the bulb in early January at Homestead Co-op while it was on clearance and planted it right away. Some of the bulbs she bought were already beginning to grow inside their packaging, but she still wasn't expecting such a dramatic display.

"I have NEVER had so many blooms on one plant," she said.

Her goal was simply to keep the early flowers fresh long enough for the rest to open. Then the plant tipped over before the final buds bloomed, raising concern she might lose some of them. Instead, the next morning all seven flowers were fully open and undamaged.

Amaryllis bulbs are traditionally planted around Christmas and typically bloom about six to eight weeks later, making February their prime display season. Each stalk usually produces several large trumpet-shaped flowers, but having many open at once is a sign of a particularly strong bulb.

Lepp grows amaryllis every year and even shares the tradition with her grandchildren, giving each family one or two bulbs annually. During summer the plants are moved outdoors, then brought inside in fall and stored dormant in paper bags until after Christmas.

The blooming plant sits in a sunny south-facing sunroom among her many other wintered plants, which include geraniums, English ivy, calla lilies and canna lilies. She keeps a close eye on moisture



once the flower stalk emerges but says the care routine is simple — regular checks and watering as needed.

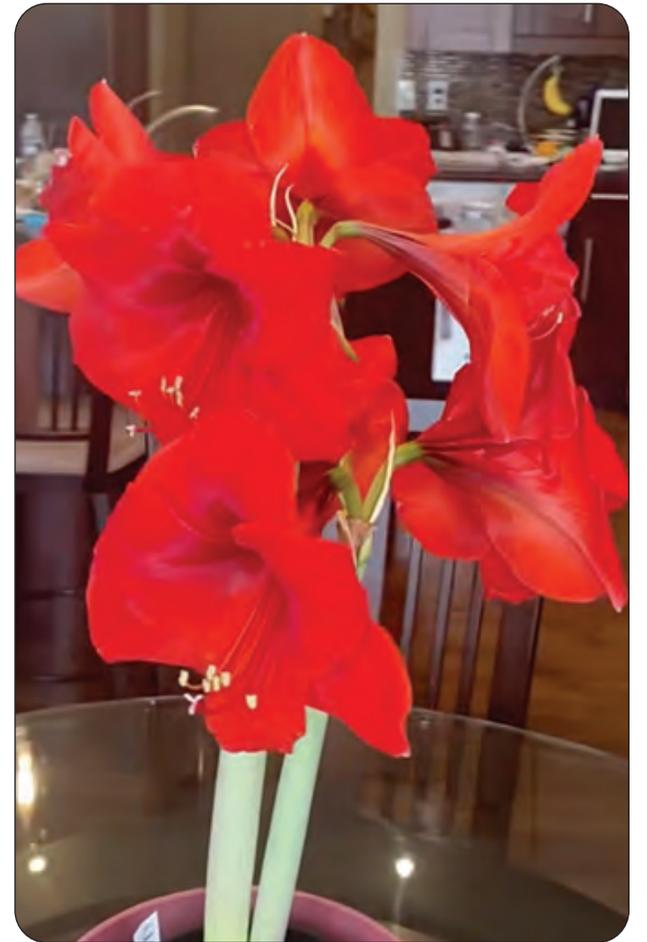
She credits local garden club friends and bulb enthusiast Lyle Myers for helping her learn more about growing and caring for the plants over the years.

While many people discard amaryllis after flowering, the bulbs can bloom again each winter if allowed to grow leaves through spring and summer and then rest in fall.

Lepp purposely times her planting so the flowers arrive when winter feels longest.

"I always like to wait until after Christmas to plant my amaryllis bulbs so they bloom close to Valentine's Day," she said. "I am assured to get flowers for Valentine's Day."

For gardeners eager for warmer weather, indoor blooms offer a welcome lift during the coldest stretch of the year — a simple splash of colour while waiting for planting season to return.



STANDARD PHOTO BY BARB LEPP

Barb Lepp's amaryllis produced seven blooms at once, bringing a burst of colour indoors during the winter months.

> SOIRÉE, FROM PG. 8

ownership for Habitat families. She said 73 per cent reported improved physical health, 79 per cent improved mental health, 51 per cent improved financial security and 50 per cent of parents said their children were doing better in school after moving into a Habitat home.

"The mortgage payments on the house we build this year will help to finance future builds," she said. "This house that we build this year will be life changing for one family, for one neighbourhood, for one community."

Bart also read a message from Housing, Addictions and Homelessness Minister Bernadette Smith, who sent regrets for not attending in person. In her letter, Smith thanked sponsors and volunteers and said proceeds from the fundraiser would support Carman's first Habitat build since 2015. She added the province is working to expand social and affordable housing and referenced provincial efforts to transition people living in en-

campments into more stable housing.

The evening closed with thank-yous from chapter treasurer Lorraine Girouard, who credited local businesses, volunteers and youth helpers for making the event possible. Girouard highlighted the "LYNK" student volunteers — described as "Local Youth Nurturing Kind" — who arrived early to prepare decorations and returned in the evening to help with the event.

"It takes a strong community like ours to make an event like this come together," Girouard told the crowd.

A 50-50 draw saw winner Bonnie Latimer split the \$1,125 pot, while a door prize draw sent a handcrafted crib board by Cliff McKercher home with Kieran.

Bart closed out the evening saying the fundraiser's success — from desserts and decorations to sponsors, volunteers and donors — leaves the Habitat team encouraged as fundraising continues through community partnerships and grant applications ahead of the fall build.

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Train, semi collide on Highway 13 in Carman



STANDARD PHOTOS COURTESY OF CARMAN-DUFFERIN FIRE DEPARTMENT

Emergency crews respond to the scene of a collision between a southbound semi-trailer and a train at the Highway 13 rail crossing in Carman shortly after 6 p.m. Wednesday. Carman-Dufferin Fire Department Chief Chris Lemke said the driver attempted to brake for the oncoming train but was unable to stop in time due to road conditions. No injuries were reported and the train, hauling approximately 170 grain cars, did not derail. Highway 13 was closed for more than two hours and reopened shortly before 8:30 p.m. RCMP said the semi driver was ticketed under the Highway Traffic Act for proceeding across a railway crossing when unsafe to do so.

Focus on FINANCE

7 ways to pay off your credit cards faster

1. Create a budget. Establish a comprehensive budget that maps out your income, expenses and debt obligations. This transparency helps you identify areas where you can trim unnecessary spending, freeing up more funds for debt repayment.

2. Use the debt snowball method. This method involves paying off your debts with the smallest balances first, regardless of the interest rates. This can help you build momentum and motivation as you see your debts disappear one by one.

3. Use the debt avalanche method. This method involves paying off your debts with the highest interest rates first, regardless of the balance size. This can save you money in the long run, as you'll pay less interest overall.

4. Consolidate your debt or transfer your balance. Consider debt consolidation, whereby you secure a bank loan at a lower interest than your credit cards and pay off all your cards at once. Alternatively, get a credit card with a temporary zero per cent or low introductory rate

and transfer your balances to that card, allowing you to make significant headway during the interest-free period.

5. Increase your payments. Whenever feasible, contribute more than the minimum required amount. Even a small extra payment can significantly reduce the interest that accumulates over time.

6. Negotiate lower interest rates. Negotiate lower interest rates with

your credit card companies. A history of punctual payments and a good credit score can strengthen your position in these discussions.

7. Avoid new charges. Temporarily stop using your credit cards until your existing debt is under control. Adding to your outstanding balance will only make matters worse.



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Dufferin moves ahead with bridge replacement, maintenance projects

By Lana Meier

The Rural Municipality of Dufferin is moving forward with two significant infrastructure projects this spring, including the long-awaited replacement of the McEachern Bridge on Road 22W north of Provincial Trunk Highway 3 and temporary maintenance work on the Road 25W (Sexsmith Road) bridge over the Boyne River.

The McEachern Bridge crossing was closed to traffic in 2012 due to significant deterioration and damage sustained during flooding events. Deconstruction began in 2013, and the structure was fully removed from the Boyne River, with the exception of the remaining timber pile foundations.

At the time, repair costs exceeded the value of the aging timber structure, making full replacement the more responsible long-term solution.

Since its closure, residents and agricultural producers have faced a 6.5- to 6.6-kilometre detour. The municipality says the closure has increased fuel costs, added wear and tear to alternate municipal roads and delayed emergency response times. The dead-end condition of Road 22W has also created safety concerns for unfamiliar drivers.

The total cost of the replacement project is estimated at \$2,370,034, including engineering, construction, materials and a contingency allowance.

Funding is being provided through a combination of provincial and federal sources. The Manitoba Growth, Renewal and Opportunities for Municipalities (Manitoba GRO) Program is contributing 50 per cent of eligible project costs, with the remaining balance funded through the federal Canada Community-Building Fund. Together, those funding streams allow the municipality to proceed without placing the full financial burden on local taxpayers.

With funding secured and detailed

engineering complete, construction is now moving ahead. The municipality says reinstating the bridge supports economic development by restoring efficient access for grain farms, residents, commercial trucking operations and the Bayer Research Farm. It also strengthens transportation links between Provincial Trunk Highway 13, Provincial Road 305 and PTH 3, and aligns with regional growth plans near the Town of Carman.

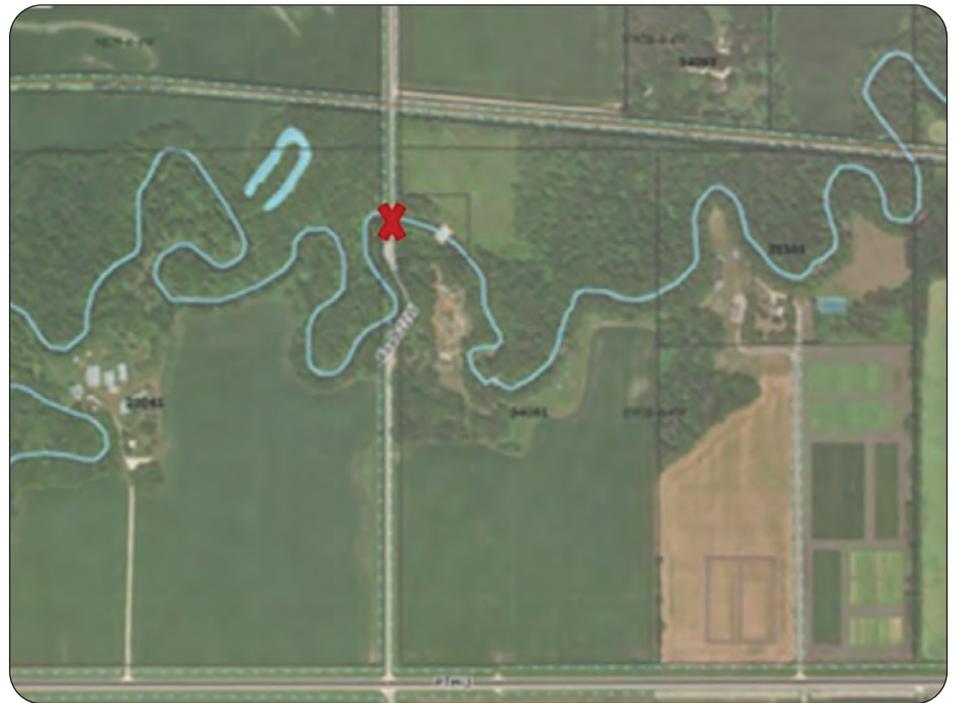
The former structure was a four-span timber bridge approximately 110 feet long. The new bridge will be a 26-foot-wide, 80-foot-long galvanized steel single-span structure rated to CL-625 standards, meaning it is designed to safely accommodate modern heavy truck traffic and legal commercial loads. Compared to the former timber bridge, the new structure will offer significantly improved durability, load capacity and resilience to future flooding events.

The most challenging milestone will be completing all in-water work by March 31 to comply with environmental and fisheries regulations. Once that phase is complete, the remaining construction is expected to proceed toward substantial completion by the end of May, with full completion anticipated by the end of June. Meanwhile, the municipality has temporarily closed the Road 25W bridge structure for maintenance work.

Repairs focus on structural improvements beneath the bridge, including north abutment and embankment repairs, replacement of deteriorated pier pile caps, installation of new structural components, riprap armouring and resurfacing to protect the deck. The upgrades are intended to extend the service life of the existing three-span concrete bridge.

The work was scheduled for late

Continued on page 12



STANDARD PHOTOS SUBMITTED

A map shared by the RM of Dufferin shows the location of the McEachern Bridge replacement on Road 22W north of PTH 3, marked with a red "X." Construction began Feb. 23, with the new bridge expected to open by late May to mid-June, weather permitting.



A map posted by the RM of Dufferin highlights the Road 25W (Sexsmith Road) bridge closure location over the Boyne River. The bridge is closed for maintenance and repairs until early April, weather permitting, with motorists directed to alternate routes.

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> BRIDGE REPLACEMENT, FROM PG. 11

February to take advantage of winter conditions, which minimize environmental impact, allow safer equipment access and enable crews to complete key structural repairs before spring runoff and higher water levels.

The bridge carries approximately 50 vehicles per day and serves local residents, agricultural operations, nearby commercial businesses, school buses and emergency services.

While the bridge structure itself is closed, Road 25W remains open on both the north and south sides of

the river, allowing continued access to properties from either direction. Motorists needing to cross the Boyne River are being directed to use nearby crossings via Provincial Road 245 and connecting municipal roads.

Emergency services have been notified of the closure and will use alternate crossings when travel across the Boyne River is required. The municipality says access to all properties will remain available throughout the maintenance period.

Manitoba bars open early for Olympic gold game

By Haley Cvar

Manitoba bars and restaurants were given the green light to open their doors early Sunday morning as Canadians tuned in to watch the Olympic men's hockey team chase gold.

The provincial government announced the temporary change ahead of the gold medal matchup, allowing licensed establishments to begin serving as early as 5 a.m. for the nationally televised game.

"When Team Canada plays for gold, the whole country leans in," Premier Wab Kinew said in a news release. "From Elkhorn to Winnipeg, Manitobans will be waking up early to cheer together. That's why we're allowing bars and restaurants to open early, so friends, families and neighbours can gather, share that energy and celebrate what unites us."

Under Section 11(5) of Manitoba's Liquor Regulation, the executive director of the Liquor, Gaming and Cannabis Authority of Manitoba

may authorize extended liquor service hours for events of community, provincial or national significance.

Licensed establishments that applied for early opening were required to serve liquor no earlier than 5 a.m. and no earlier than one hour before the televised event began, ensure the premises were closed and vacated for at least one hour the previous night, and open specifically for the purpose of televising the Olympic event.

Across the province, early risers gathered in licensed venues to watch Team Canada face the United States in the gold medal game.

The tightly contested game remained scoreless through regulation before heading to overtime tied 1-1.

The United States sealed a 2-1 victory in overtime.

While the outcome did not go Canada's way, the early morning gatherings reflected the national pride and camaraderie that accompany Olympic hockey — even in defeat.



Blankets for Tumbler Ridge

Update: Saturday, Feb. 21st



Mary Marguerite has plans to make 30 blankets for a specific group in Tumbler Ridge. Each blanket will be made with 20-24 squares.

Crochet squares must be:

- made from 4-weight acrylic yarn
- a 12"x12" square with 4 corners
- smoke free please

Before sending your squares, please message Erin Heppner 204-918-7671 You will be given her address with others as she needs to see the squares before they are sent.

Deadline for receiving squares is April 30, 2026!



Mature living

How can couples prepare for the transition to retirement?

Are you and your partner approaching the long-awaited moment of retirement? This major life change calls for careful planning so you can avoid misunderstandings and disappointment. Here's an overview of the best steps to take now to ensure a smooth transition for both of you.

REFLECTION

Have you or your partner been experiencing any frustrations or imbalances that have placed a strain on your relationship in recent years? Now's the time to address them. Take a moment to reflect on your own to identify bad habits you can improve before retirement. If your relationship is struggling, you might consider going together for counseling.

DISCUSSION

An essential step in good planning is to sit down with your significant other and have a frank conversation about what each of you expects from retirement. Do you want to stay active, getting up at dawn to go jogging, or would you rather sleep in? Would you like to have a part-time job or do volunteer work to keep busy? Are you hoping to travel? Gaining clarity about these matters can help you avoid unpleasant surprises.

PLANNING

Retirement involves significant financial changes, especially in your sources of income. To stay on track and avoid regrets, start planning as early as possible. Whether you hope to achieve certain goals or simply want to maintain your desired



standard of living, meet with a professional like a financial advisor for guidance on creating a realistic budget and savings strategy.

Start the conversation about retirement today so you and your partner can enjoy a smooth, rewarding and fulfilling retirement together.

Join us at our Open House on Saturday March 14 1 - 3 pm

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Elm Creek duo wins Western Manitoba Stick Curling Tour title

By E. Antonio

Two Elm Creek curlers are making a name for themselves in the stick curling world.

Sherri Bergen and Helena Borst were named the women's division champions of the Western Manitoba Stick Curling Tour — a result they didn't even know about until days later.

Having taken up curling only three years ago, the pair said they entered the tour simply for fun and were shocked to receive the congratulatory email.

"We were completely oblivious to the fact that we were the winners — it all came completely out of the blue," Bergen said. "We curl because we want to meet others, have fun and connect with the community. Our focus is not on winning."

The Western tour includes events in Killarney, Marquette, Swan River and Eriksdale. Bergen and Borst competed in Marquette and the Warren bonspiel, where tour points also applied.

They played three games in Marquette and six in Warren, winning four games overall — three during the second day of the Warren bonspiel and one in Marquette. Teams accumulate points for registering and for recorded wins, with standings calculated using each team's best five events.

Because of their victory, they have qualified for the Manitoba Stick Curling Association provincial championships in Beausejour from Feb. 27 to March 1.

They said they have no expectations heading into provincials beyond enjoying the experience.

Bergen and Borst were introduced to the sport through their workplace, Prairie Roots Co-op, after colleagues in Marquette had already started a stick curling community.

"There were a lot of avid curlers who spent time teaching and encouraging us to get to know not only the game, but the engaging community of players," Borst said. "There have been so many people along the way who just poured their ambition and passion into us."

Stick curling involves pushing the stone with a long stick from either a seated or standing position, allowing players to remain in one place without bending or sliding on the ice. The format makes it particularly accessible for people with knee, hip or back injuries and for curlers of all ages and abilities.

It is played in teams of two with six rocks and six ends, with no sweeping and no switching sides.

Bergen described stick curling as



STNADARD PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Elm Creek stick curlers Helena Borst, left, and Sherri Bergen were named the women's division champions of the Western Manitoba Stick Curling Tour. They will compete at the Manitoba Stick Curling Association provincial championships Feb. 27 to March 1 in Beausejour.

more of a mental sport than a physical one, as players must be aware of where and how they plan to push the stone.

After learning the game in Marquette, the pair helped bring stick curling to the Elm Creek Curling Club, where participation has grown steadily. About 25 teams have taken part this season, with 15 to 20 teams attending weekly Tuesday games.

Both within Elm Creek and beyond, they said representing their hometown has been an honour.

"We've been able to learn, grow and evolve, and that has been the real joy

of all this," Borst said. "We love seeing people get involved — it's a huge motivator for us."

To them, much of the curling community is filled with people who want to teach, learn and inspire — especially when it comes to bonding as teammates. They noted they have always had the ability to "click," whether through work, sports or travel.

"We are able to read each other," Bergen said. "We don't have the best technique, but we always seem to figure it out."

Ahead of the provincial championships, they plan to approach the tour-

nament stress-free.

"We are excited to share our love of the sport with others and spread a bit of Elm Creek pride," Borst said. "It's absolutely amazing how excited our little community has been for us."

Bergen and Borst invite curlers young and old to give stick curling a try every Tuesday at the Elm Creek Curling Club, with games starting at 6:30 and 7:30 p.m. Registration is recommended through the TeamReach app. Games are \$5 per person or \$120 for the year. No experience is required — only clean shoes (grippers recommended) and a positive attitude.

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sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

Hayward three-peats as junior women's champions

By Siobhan Maas

Curlers from across the province gathered at the Asham International Curling Development Centre in Morris for the Co-ops of Manitoba Provincial Junior Curling Championships Feb. 18-22.

History was made during the opening ceremonies when the event's first rock was thrown by a robot for the first time.

"The Morris Curling Club has Canada's only robotic rock thrower and we took advantage of that for this event," said club manager Steph Bérard. "We also had local youth as flag bearers for the teams as they were pipped onto the ice."

Twenty teams took part in the competition, with 12 women's and eight men's teams representing elite U20 curlers from across Manitoba.

Team Hayward from the Carman Curling Club won the Junior Women's Championship on Sunday night for

the third consecutive year, beating Team Dundas from the Heather Curling Club 6-5 in a tight game.

"We are excited to represent Manitoba again in Sudbury next month," said skip Shaela Hayward following the team's acceptance of their trophies and winners jackets.

On the men's side, Team Boutet from the Heather Curling Club won 7-4 against Team Sugden from the Mornden Curling Club. Both teams advance to the 2026 Canadian Junior Curling Championships in Sudbury, Ontario beginning March 28, with Team Sugden attending as the wildcard team.

"It's been a while since the Morris Curling Club hosted a Curl Manitoba event," noted Cheryl Demarke, club vice-president in reflecting on the weekend. "They've been fantastic to work with and the committee is thankful for the multiple hours put in by the volunteers to ensure this event was as successful as it was."



STANDARD PHOTO BY SIOBHAN MAAS

Team Hayward of the Carman Curling Club — Shaela Hayward, India Young, Keira Krahn and Dayna Wall, with coach Ron Westcott won a third straight Junior Women's Provincial Curling Championship in Morris on Sunday.

K4K Charity Funspiel raising funds for BTHC child and youth rehab centre

By Ashleigh Viveiros

A funspiel in Altona next month is providing curlers with the opportunity to take to the ice in support of a great cause.

The second K4K Charity Funspiel takes over the Altona Curling Club on Saturday, March 7, and there's still plenty of space for more teams.

"This event is raising funds for the Boundary Trails Health Centre, specifically the Child and Youth Reha-

bilitation Centre there," explains Zoe Fraser, one of the organizers.

"We wanted to choose an organization specifically targeted to rehabilitation," she adds, noting her family is one of the many Pembina Valley families who benefit from having these types of services closer to home. "My son has cerebral palsy and epilepsy and global developmental delay ... our rehab unit at Boundary rails is

going to open and it has lots of cool features.

"It's really wonderful to give funds to something that is going to support a really large part of our community."

Registration is \$75 per adult for a team of four. For youth 17 and under, it's \$50 per curler. That gets you two games, lunch, and a plated dinner.

All ages and skill levels are welcome. "We want to make it as fun as pos-

sible and as inclusive to our entire community as a whole," Fraser says.

The last time K4K came to Altona they raised upwards of \$11,000.

"We would love to raise close to what we raised the first time," Fraser notes. "But I think our goal is always just to help in any way that we possibly can."

To register, find the event's page at kurlingforkids.org.

Sabres sweep CPET, move on to second round

By Annaliese Meier

The Sanford Sabres are off to a strong start in the Winnipeg High School Hockey League's Winnipeg Free Press Division playoffs.

Sanford opened the post-season with back-to-back 6-2 victories over CPET on Feb. 17 and 19 to complete a two-game sweep and advance to the second round.

In Game 1 on Feb. 17, the Sabres set the tone early. Nathan Baxter opened the scoring in the first period from Austin Iliffe. Cooper Rodewald extended the lead in the second, finishing a setup from Dyson Dilk, before Baxter struck again later in the frame from Max Nabess

and Nate Young to give Sanford control.

CPET pushed back in the third period with a power-play goal followed by a shorthanded marker to cut into the deficit. The Sabres responded quickly and decisively. Rodewald restored the cushion, Young added another from Rodewald, and Iliffe capped the scoring from Baxter and Colton Boulanger to secure the 6-2 win.

Sanford carried that momentum into Game 2 on Feb. 19, once again earning a 6-2 victory to seal the series.

Rodewald delivered a standout

performance, scoring five of the Sabres' six goals. He opened the scoring from Koston Laramee and Iliffe and added another late in the first period. Rodewald completed his hat trick early in the second and struck twice more in the third, including one from Brayden Stryhorst and Aiden Clarke. Baxter accounted for the other goal, finishing a play set up by Rodewald.

With the sweep, the Sabres advance to face Springfield in the second round. Sanford travels for Game 1 on Feb. 24 at 4 p.m. before returning home for Game 2 on Feb. 26 at 4 p.m.

Sanford to face CJS in MWHSHL playoff series

Sanford does not play this week but will open its next playoff series during the week of March 2 in the Manitoba Women's High School Hockey League.

Sanford will face CJS in a best-of-three series beginning March 3 at 4 p.m. on the road. The series then shifts to Sanford for Game 2 on March 5 at 4 p.m.

If necessary, a decisive Game 3 will be played March 6 at 4 p.m., back on CJS home ice.

The series will determine which team advances in the MWHSHL playoffs.

Royals edge Hawks, Notre Dame pushes series to brink

By Lana Meier

The Winkler Royals are one win away from advancing after taking a 2-1 lead over the Notre Dame Hawks in their best-of-five South Eastern Manitoba Hockey League quarterfinal series.

Winkler opened the series with a 3-1 victory on home ice Feb. 15 before Notre Dame responded with a 2-1 overtime win Feb. 19. The Royals regained control Saturday, Feb. 21 with a 4-3 decision in Game 3.

Prior to puck drop in Game 3, the league recognized Aaron Lewadniuk, who was presented with the SEMHL West End Tire Top Scorer Award. The honour marked the sixth time in his career he has led the league in scoring, setting a new league record.

In the opener, Winkler struck twice late in the first period and never looked back.

Adam Henry opened the scoring at 14:51 with a shorthanded marker, assisted by Justin Augert. Just over three minutes later, Augert scored what stood as the game-winner at 18:05, finishing a play set up by Lewadniuk and Braden Hildebrand.

Notre Dame cut the lead to 2-1 early in the second period on a goal by Gavin Rondeau, assisted by Dawson Lytle, but Winkler restored its two-goal cushion at 11:57 of the third when TJ Matuszewski converted a feed from Lewadniuk and Marcus Neufeld.

Matthew Thiessen turned aside 32 shots for the win, while Christopher



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE SEMHL

Notre Dame Hawks general manager and head coach Brody Chabbert (left) presents Sean Christensen with the South Eastern Manitoba Hockey League Most Sportsmanlike Player award in Notre Dame on Feb. 14.

Lesage made 32 saves in the loss. Both teams went 0-for-1 on the power play.

Game 2 shifted to Notre Dame, where the Hawks evened the series with a 2-1 overtime victory Feb. 19.

Lucas Ens opened the scoring at 6:18 of the first period, converting a pass from captain Mitch Dyck. Notre Dame answered in the second when Zander Carels finished a setup from Lytle and Nikita Pecheritsyn.

After a scoreless third period, Vincent Grift scored the overtime winner at the nine-minute mark, assisted by Christian Prejet.



STANDARD PHOTOS BY RICK HIEBERT

Players from the Winkler Royals and Notre Dame Hawks battle for position in front of the net during SEMHL playoff action Saturday night in Winkler.

Lesage was sharp in the Hawks' net, stopping 44 of 45 shots over 69 minutes. Thiessen made 34 saves in the overtime loss. Winkler went 0-for-3 on the power play, while Notre Dame was 0-for-1.

Game 3 returned to Winkler on Feb. 21, where the Royals built a three-goal cushion in a span of 1:49 in the first period. Henry opened the scoring at 11:31, assisted by Donovan Tanner and Ens. Braden Hildebrand made it 2-0 at 13:07, with Lawson McDonald and Henry drawing assists, before Henry struck again at 13:20 off a setup from Brett Bergman and Tanner.

Matuszewski added what proved to be the game-winner with a shorthanded goal at 6:29 of the second

period. Notre Dame responded just 28 seconds later on a goal by Connor Hamonic, and Carels cut the deficit to one later in the frame. Christian Prejet pulled the Hawks within a goal at 16:52 of the third, but Winkler held on for the 4-3 victory.

Thiessen made 31 saves in the Game 3 win, while Lesage stopped 40 shots in defeat. Both teams were again held off the scoreboard on the power play.

Game 4 was scheduled for Feb. 23 in Notre Dame, with Game 5, if necessary, set for Feb. 26 in Winkler.

With the series now tilted in their favour, the Royals will look to close things out in Game 4, while the Hawks aim to force a decisive fifth game.

Allan, Podulsky place 10th in historic Olympic debut

By Jessica Eblie

With family roots in the Carman area, Kailey Allan stepped onto the Olympic stage last week and helped make history in the process.

Allan and partner Beattie Podulsky slid to a 10th-place finish in the first-ever women's doubles luge event Feb. 11 at the Milano Cortina Winter Olympics. The duo competed at the Cortina Sliding Centre against 10 other teams in a 22-athlete field.

Allan and Podulsky completed two runs during the competition. Their first run clocked in at 55.735 seconds and their second at 53.747, shaving nearly two seconds off their initial time for a combined mark of 1:49.482.

"The first run did not go our way, unfortunately, with a costly mistake at the top of the track, but I was very happy with our second run," said Allan.

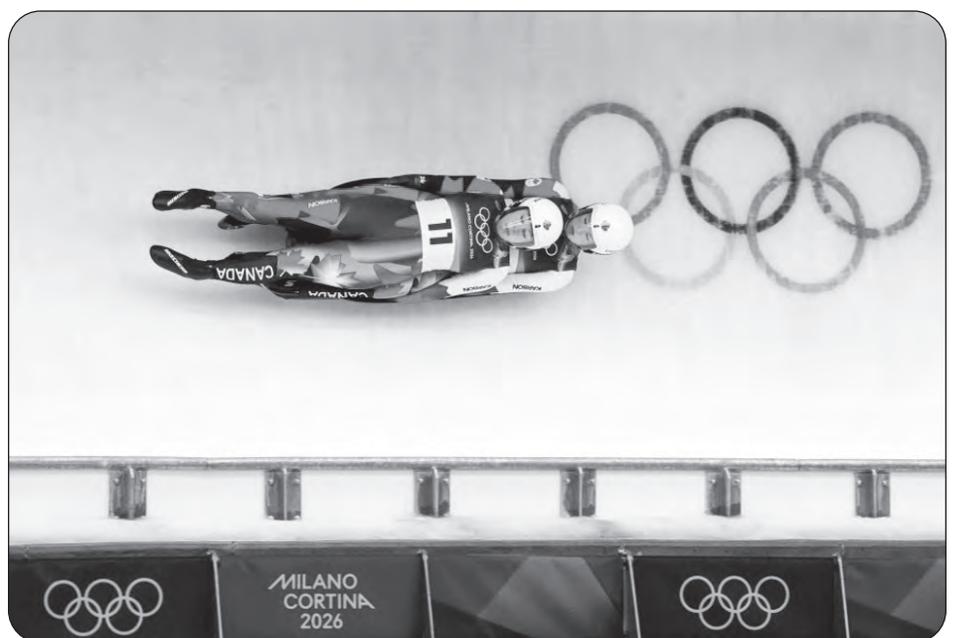
The competition proved tight, with

just five seconds separating the first- and last-place teams. The host nation captured gold in the inaugural women's doubles luge event, as Italy's Andrea Vötter and Marion Oberhofer posted the fastest combined time of 1:46.284.

In a text message, Allan said she planned to spend time exploring Cortina and Milan with family, cheering on athletes at events such as curling and taking in the closing ceremonies.

With the 2026 Winter Olympics complete and her luge season finished, Allan already has her sights set on the 2030 Olympic Games in the French Alps.

For those in the Carman area who know the family, the achievement carries special meaning — a reminder that even in a small prairie community, Olympic connections and dreams are never as distant as they seem.



STANDARD PHOTO FROM INSTAGRAM

Allan (back) and Podulsky (front) compete in women's doubles luge at the 2026 Winter Olympics at the Cortina Sliding Centre.

Lewadniuk makes SEMHL history with sixth scoring title

By Lana Meier

The South Eastern Manitoba Hockey League marked a milestone Saturday night — not only celebrating its 75th season, but also recognizing a record that had stood untouched for more than half a century.

Aaron Lewadniuk was presented with the SEMHL West End Tire Top Scorer Award prior to the Feb. 21 game, marking the sixth time in his career he has led the league in scoring — the most in league history.

The historic achievement comes during the 75th anniversary season of the South Eastern Manitoba Hockey League and broke the previous record of five scoring titles held by Harry Buechert, whose crowns came between the 1963-64 and 1974-75 seasons with Altona and Morden.

Lewadniuk captured the 2025-26 scoring race while skating in Winkler colours, adding to a career that has spanned more than a decade of senior hockey production. He previously earned scoring titles in 2012-13, 2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18 (co-leader) and 2018-19.

His accomplishments extend beyond scoring races. Over his career he has also earned league MVP honours, playoff MVP recognition, multiple all-star selections and champion-



The SEMHL scoring leader and Winkler's Aaron Lewadniuk controls despite the defensive efforts of a Notre Dame player.

ships, many of them during his years with the Carman Beavers.

Through 237 career SEMHL games, Lewadniuk has recorded 214 goals and 361 assists for 575 points — an average of 2.4 points per game — maintaining elite offensive output across multiple seasons and teams.



STANDARD PHOTOS BY RICK HIEBERT
Carman Beavers former president and general manager Dennis Young presents Winkler's Aaron Lewadniuk with the SEMHL West End Tire Top Scorer Award prior to Winkler's 4-3 playoff victory over Notre Dame on Feb. 21,

Longevity often proves the greatest challenge in senior hockey, where shorter schedules, physical play and work and family commitments make sustained statistical dominance uncommon. Lewadniuk's ability to remain among the league's most productive players across multiple eras

has separated him from generations of high-scoring talent.

In a season celebrating 75 years of SEMHL history, Saturday's presentation formally established a new league benchmark, cementing Lewadniuk's place among the most accomplished offensive players in league history.

Male Hawks end regular season on a high note

By Lorne Stelmach

The male U18 Pembina Valley Hawks closed out their regular season this past weekend by sweeping a two game set with the Norman Northstars.

The end result was Pembina Valley finishing in seventh place at 27-19-1-1 for 56 points, and it leaves the Hawks with the tough task of likely facing the second-place Winnipeg Wild in the first round of the playoffs. At press time, game one was tentatively set for Saturday in Winnipeg.

Pembina Valley began their final

week of the regular season with a crazy 10-7 loss Feb. 17 to the Interlake Lightning in Teulon.

Interlake held period leads of 2-1 and 6-2 at the intermissions. That lead grew to 7-2 early in the third period, but then a five-minute penalty for head contact proved costly to the Lightning as the Hawks rattled off four straight power play goals. That was as close as Pembina Valley could get from there.

Ocean Fehr had a hat trick while Tyson Pethybridge chipped in with a pair of goals for the Hawks, who also

got markers from Carson Hiebert and Mason Leite. Shots on goal were 63-45 in favour of the Hawks, who fired off 38 shots in the third period alone.

Game one with Norman Saturday saw the Hawks breeze to period leads of 4-0 and 8-1 on their way to the 8-2 victory.

Hiebert had a hat trick while Cole Secord added two. Singles came from Leite, Caden McMahon, and Ragnar Gillis.

The Hawks outshot the Northstars 46-37, with Koen Bleznuk earning the win in net with 35 saves.

Gillis led the Hawks in game two Sunday with a hat trick as Pembina Valley took period leads of 1-0 and 3-1 on their way to the 5-1 win. Fehr also scored along with a goal from Logan Delichte. Brody Peters made 28 saves with Pembina Valley holding a 38-29 edge in shots on goal.

The Hawks were relatively competitive with the Wild through the regular season with two of the four matchups being one-goal games, though Winnipeg won three of the four.

Female PV Hawks down 0-2 in quarterfinals

By Lorne Stelmach

The female U18 Pembina Valley Hawks' season was on the brink of coming to an end this week after they dropped the first two games of their best-of-five quarter-final against the Westman Wildcats.

The sixth-place Hawks though gave the third-place Wildcats all they could handle as they were both close games.

Game one Friday in Hartney saw the Hawks make a comeback only to come up one goal short in the end. Westman held a 5-0 lead after 40 minutes before Pembina Valley fired off five goals in the third period to tie it, but the Wildcats got the winner on a power play with 3:39 remaining.

Makayla Warnick, Leah Klassen, Mia Brass, Sophia Cox and Rylee

Harms scored for the Hawks, who were outshot 33-26.

Game two followed a somewhat similar trend as Pembina Valley had fallen behind 4-1 early in the second but again came back to tie the game before Westman connected for the game-winning goal with 1:41 left.

Cox scored again for the Hawks along with Casey O'Brien, Ariel Ron-

deau, and Delaney Darby. Westman had a 37-29 edge in shots on goal.

Game three was scheduled for Tuesday in Hartney. Results were not available at press time.

If the Hawks win that night, the series will continue with game four Thursday in Morden and potentially game five Saturday in Harney.

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Tender for Landscaping Services

The Town of Carman and the Rural Municipality of Dufferin (collectively referred to as the "Municipalities") are inviting **submissions** from qualified contractors for the provision of landscaping services at various jointly owned and/or managed municipal properties for the 2026 season (with an option to extend, if desired). Contact the office as listed below for a tender package or see our website.

The successful contractor will be responsible for ensuring all designated areas are maintained to a high standard, reflecting the Municipalities' commitment to clean, attractive, and well-kept public spaces.

The Municipalities reserve the right to reject any or all tenders and to waive informalities at their discretion. Late submissions will not be accepted.

Closing Date and Time: Friday, March 13th, 2026, @ 12:00 pm
Submission Location: Carman Dufferin Recreation (on behalf of the Town of Carman and the Rural Municipality of Dufferin) Box 160 Carman, MB R0G 0J0, 12-2nd Avenue SW
Contact: Susan Stein, CAO Town of Carman
Phone: 204-745-2443 - email: cao@townofcarman.com or Sharla Murray, CAO RM of Dufferin
Phone: 204-745-2301 - email: cao@rmofdufferin.com



TENDER NOTICE

Town of Carman & Rural Municipality of Dufferin Fire Hall Addition and Renovation Request for Tender (RFT No. 2026-001)

The Town of Carman and the Rural Municipality of Dufferin invite sealed tenders from qualified and experienced contractors for the addition and renovation of the Carman/ Dufferin Fire Hall, located at 197 Main Street South, Carman, Manitoba.

The project generally consists of:

- Construction of an approximately 1,224 sq. ft., two-storey building addition
- Interior renovations including a kitchen, washrooms, gear cleaning room, compressor room, turnout gear room, lounge, and workout area
- Associated mechanical, electrical, structural, and exterior works

Tender documents are available beginning 13/02/2026 and may be obtained by download or by request.

Submission Deadline:
13/03/2026 at 16:00 Local Time

The lowest or any tender will not necessarily be accepted. Award of the tender is subject to Council approval.

Enquiries: Chris Lemky, Fire Chief
Email: firechief@townofcarman.com Phone: 204-745-8030

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE MATTER OF the Estate of **HELEN MAY DAW**, late of the Town of Carman, in Manitoba, Deceased. ALL CLAIMS against the above-mentioned Estate supported by a Statutory Declaration must be sent to the undersigned at 85 PTH 12 North, Steinbach, Manitoba, R5G 1A7, on or before the 2nd day of April, 2026. DATED at Steinbach, Manitoba, this 18th day of February, 2026.

Smith Neufeld Jodoin LLP
85 PTH 12 North
Steinbach, Manitoba
R5G 1A7
Attention: Mathieu R. Lafreniere
(Solicitors for the Executor)

Classified booking deadline is Monday at 4 p.m. prior to Thursday's publication Please Call 204-467-5836

FARMLAND FOR SALE BY TENDER R.M. OF DAUPHIN

Parcel	Legal Description	Status of Title	Roll No.	Acres per Manitoba Assessment
Parcel 1	THE NE 1/4 OF SECTION 7-24-20 WPM EXC FIRSTLY: WCW PLAN 23537 DLTO AND SECONDLY: THEREOUT ALL MINES AND MINERALS VESTED IN THE CROWN (MANITOBA) BY THE REAL PROPERTY ACT	3082862	71500.000	159.75 acres
Parcel 2	THE NE 1/4 OF SECTION 8-24-20 WPM EXC ROAD PLAN 30845 DLTO SUBJECT TO THE RESERVATION AS TO MINES AND MINERALS SET OUT IN O/S INST. 42213 DLTO	3082861	71900.000	159.91 acres
Parcel 3	THE NLY 264 FEET OF THE WLY 498 FEET OF THE NE 1/4 OF SECTION 10-24-20 WPM EXC ALL MINES AND MINERALS AS SET FORTH IN THE ORIGINAL GRANT FROM THE CROWN	3036632	72800.000	160.00 acres
	THE NE 1/4 OF SECTION 10-24-20 WPM EXC THE NLY 264 FEET OF THE WLY 498 FEET SUBJECT TO THE RESERVATIONS AND PROVISIOES CONTAINED IN THE GRANT FROM THE CROWN	3082858		
Parcel 4	THE S 1/2 OF THE NW 1/4 OF SECTION 8-24-20 WPM EXC WCW PLAN 23537 DLTO SUBJECT TO THE RESERVATIONS AS TO MINES MINERALS AND OTHER MATTERS SET OUT IN DEED 4787 DLTO	3082859	72000.000	78.82 acres
Parcel 5	THE SE 1/4 OF SECTION 17-24-20 WPM EXC ALL THAT PORTION OF SLY 250 FEET PERP WHICH LIES WEST OF A LINE DRAWN NLY AT RIGHT ANGLES TO THE SOUTHERN LIMIT OF SAID 1/4 SECTION FROM A POINT IN SAME DISTANT ELY THEREON 350 FEET FROM THE SW CORNER OF SAID 1/4 SECTION SUBJECT TO THE RESERVATIONS AND PROVISIOES CONTAINED IN THE GRANT FROM THE CROWN	3082856	76150.000	157.99 acres
Parcel 6	THE SW 1/4 OF SECTION 21-24-20 WPM SUBJECT TO THE RESERVATIONS AND PROVISIOES CONTAINED IN THE GRANT FROM THE CROWN	3082860	77900.000	160.00 acres
Parcel 7	ALL THAT PORTION OF SLY 250 FEET PERP OF SE 1/4 17-24-20 WPM WHICH LIES WEST OF A LINE DRAWN NLY AT RIGHT ANGLES TO THE SOUTHERN LIMIT OF SAID 1/4 SECTION FROM A POINT IN SAME DISTANT ELY THEREON 350 FEET FROM THE SW CORNER OF SAID 1/4 SECTION SUBJECT TO THE RESERVATIONS AND PROVISIOES CONTAINED IN THE GRANT FROM THE CROWN	3082855	76100.000	2.01 acres

SCHEDULE "A" Property Details

Buildings and structures situated on and included as part of Parcel 5: Aeration on bins, propane heated approximately 40' by 80' shop (of which approximately 40' by 40' is heated) and 50' by 100' machine shed. See picture below.

House situated on and included as part of Parcel 7: bungalow measuring approximately 1482 sq feet, 3 bedrooms, 2 bath, kitchenette in basement, with attached garage. See picture below.



CONDITIONS OF TENDERS AND TERMS OF SALE: All Tenders are subject to the following terms and conditions:

- Tenders may be for either or all properties listed in the above table.
- Only unconditional Tenders will be accepted.
- Tenders shall be submitted with a \$25,000.00 deposit (certified cheque or bank draft) payable to Ammeter Law. If a Tender is accepted the deposit will become non-refundable. If the successful tenderer fails to complete the purchase for any reason, the vendor shall retain the deposit as liquidated damages and not as a penalty. Unsuccessful tenderers shall have their deposit returned within 20 days.
- The closing date for the lands identified as Parcel 1, Parcel 2, Parcel 3, Parcel 4, Parcel 5 and Parcel 6 which shall no later than April 3, 2026, or as may otherwise be agreed upon between the parties, and the closing date for the lands identified in Parcel 7 shall be no later than November 1, 2026, or as may otherwise be agreed upon between the parties.
- The balance of the purchase price shall be paid on trust conditions acceptable to the vendor's lawyer, on the closing date.
- All adjustments for property taxes shall be made as of January 1, 2026. The purchaser will be responsible for all 2026 property taxes.
- If part of the purchase price is to be paid from a new mortgage, payment may be delayed until such time as the mortgage registration is complete, and any amount paid after the closing date shall bear interest at the greater of the Purchaser's mortgage rate or 10% per year, from the closing date until paid in full.
- The Purchaser will pay any applicable GST or provide an acceptable undertaking to self-assess GST and to indemnify the Vendor for the same, as applicable.
- Tenders will be held in confidence and not released publicly.
- Highest or any tender received will not necessarily be accepted.
- The Purchaser is to rely entirely on their own knowledge and inspection of the property independent of any representations made by, or on behalf of, the Vendor.
- The particulars and the details with respect to the structures situated on Parcel 5 and the residence situated on Parcel 7 are listed below in Schedule "A" (the "Property Details").
- The successful tenderer of the property identified as Parcel 5 acknowledges and agrees that the purchase agreement to be entered into by the parties following acceptance of the tender shall contain a covenant contemplating that the vendor shall be permitted to access the property following the closing date to remove personal items situated on the property and in the shop, barn and outbuildings situated thereon, the details of which shall be further set out in the purchase agreement.

Tenders will be received through to 5:00 p.m. on March 6, 2026. Tenders are to be sent to:

c/o Ammeter Law
117 Victor Lewis Drive, Winnipeg Manitoba R3P 1J6
Attention: Samuel Guertin
or electronically by email to sam@ammeterlaw.com.

For more information, contact Samuel Guertin at 204-594-3094 or at sam@ammeterlaw.com.

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Please contact the Liquor, Gaming and Cannabis Authority of Manitoba at 204-927-5300 if you have questions about this application.

Please contact your municipality if you have questions about zoning bylaws and requirements.

If you want to make a formal objection to this application, please send us your objection in writing by 4:30 p.m.

14 DAYS FOLLOWING THE PUBLICATION OF THIS ADVERTISEMENT

You can email, mail or fax your objection. Please include your contact information.

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Mail: LGCA Objections
1055 Milt Stegall Drive
Winnipeg, MB R3G 0Z6

Fax: 204-927-5385

- We respond to all formal objections and will work to resolve objections before issuing a licence.
- A copy of the objection, including the name of the person who submits the objection, will be provided to the licence applicant.
- Each person who submits an objection will be advised in writing of the outcome to the licence application.

CARD OF THANKS

Our family would like to express a heartfelt thank you to everyone who supported us during the last couple of weeks on the loss of our Dad and Grandpa. Thank you for the visits, phone calls, food, flowers and personal messages we received. To Mark from Doyle's Funeral Home, you truly are a compassionate individual and your support and advice has helped us through these trying times more than words can say. Thank you to Norm and Sherry Thiessen and their helpers who organized the food and looked after the reception following the funeral. Finally, a big thank you to the staff at the Lions Prairie Manor in Portage la Prairie for your wonderful care of Dad and the support you gave us in his final days. It was apparent of how much you truly cared for our Dad.

-Trish Aubin, Curtis McCutcheon, Wendy Parvais and families

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OBITUARY



Orvil James McCutcheon
October 30, 1943 – February 14, 2026

Dad passed away at the Lions Prairie Manor in Portage la Prairie on February 14, 2026 at the age of 82.

Born on October 30, 1943 in Carman to John and Hazel McCutcheon, Dad was the fifth child of eight siblings. He grew up on the family farm in the Stirling District northwest of Carman, Manitoba. Dad attended regular classes until grade 8 and then took grade 9 and 10 through correspondence at Stirling before completing grade 11 at Graysville school.

At 16 years old he started working for local farmer Jim Kitching and then went on to work for local plumber Ron James in the late 60's. He decided to branch out on his own in the early 70's with his own business and continued to operate his own plumbing and backhoe business for the next 60 years. It seemed like whenever

you went for a drive with him, he was always pointing out that he put in a septic tank, septic field or "just did some work over there". It seemed like he had worked on every square mile in the area over the years.

In the early 1970's he and mom purchased the family farm. It was here where they raised their family. Dad later moved to Portage la Prairie in 2004 but continued to have cattle on the farm until 2019. Along with cattle he raised pigs, chickens and turkeys. He also supported his children's hobbies and interests with at one time having 19 horses on the farm. Every November, Dad looked forward to hunting with family and friends and later with his son Curtis and grandsons.

Dad enjoyed visiting with neighbors and friends. He would often come to the house and say "just going for a little drive" and without a doubt come home several hours later after visiting with one neighbor or another.

Dad is survived by his daughter Trish (Rick) Aubin, son Curtis (Nicole) and daughter Wendy (Jean) Parvais along with his eight grandchildren, Graham, Parker, Dawson, Ryder and Nikolas McCutcheon and Felix, Abigail and Chantelle Parvais, his two sisters Marjorie Wanless and Jean (Dick) Elias, brother-in-law Ray Mansell, sisters-in-law Shirley McCutcheon and Susan McCutcheon. He is also remembered by many nieces, nephews, extended family and friends.

He was predeceased by his parents John and Hazel, brothers Allan, Clarence, Don and Ken, sister Ruby Mansell, brothers-in-law Ed Hinton and Mervin Wanless and sister-in-law Sharon McCutcheon.

Donations can be made to the Central Plains CancerCare, 318 Saskatchewan Ave E, Portage la Prairie, MB. R1N 0K8, or to a charity of one's choice.

Funeral service was held on February 20, 2026 at the Carman Church of Christ. Interment in Greenwood Cemetery, Carman.

Doyle's Funeral Home
in care of arrangements
www.doylesfuneralhome.ca

OBITUARY



Joseph Paul
January 29, 1940 - February 19, 2026

It is with great sadness we announce the passing of our father, Joseph Paul.

Dad was born in Carman, Manitoba but spent much of his life in Winnipeg. He served in the Navy and later became a Cook and Restaurant Manager, as well as a guard at Headingley Correctional Centre.

He is survived by his family: daughters Marian and Selene, son Doug, best friend Cathy, as well as grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

We will continue to always celebrate his life and cherish his memory.

Thomson Funeral home 204-783-7211
Condolences may be sent to
www.thomsonfuneralchapel.com

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OBITUARY

Don Woods

With deep sadness, we announce the passing of Donald Clifford Woods, age 88, at Carman Boyne Lodge, on February 12th, 2026.

Don will be lovingly remembered and deeply missed by Helen, his wife of 65 years; sons, Brent, Neil (Kathy Lewis), Gary (Kim), and Ian (Sherry); his grandchildren Ashley, Stacey (Eric), Brandon, Taylor, Gordie, Jessica (Rod), Jamie (Mackenzie); great-grandsons Ryker and Wren. He is also remembered by his brother-in-law Eric Aune, brother and sister-in-law, John and Diane Aune and by his nieces and nephews.

Don was born September 17th, 1937 and raised in the town of Elm Creek. At the age of 18, Don became a teacher at Maplestead School south of Fannystelle for two years, teaching a wide range of grades in one classroom. He then taught in Winnipeg for one year, then September 3rd, 1960, he married his life long partner,



Helen Aune, and moved back to Elm Creek to raise their four sons. Don began teaching at the Elm Creek School from 1960, where he taught until his retirement in 1994. He taught two generations of families while in Elm Creek.

During his summer months off from school, he often worked for Manitoba Hydro, alongside Dempsey Carefoot, digging in hydro poles by hand. Later in the fall, he would be helping Dennis Woods and Sandy Ryrie on their farms.

In the late 70's, Don was very involved in the planning and building of the new curling rink, where he made ice for 35 plus years. He spent many hours preparing and maintaining the ice for club playing along with many yearly bonspiels.

Don loved curling himself and enjoyed coaching many kids and adults. He actually coached many teams that excelled at the provincial level. When his physical ability wouldn't allow him to continue on ice, he was always encouraging everyone to get out and try curling. "We all have to start somewhere!"

In 2008, he had the opportunity to have the Men's China Team come to Elm Creek Curling Rink for some extra game practice where Don was able to help them with some strategies. This was helpful for them in their event at the World Curling Championship held in Grand Forks, ND.

Don was a regular volunteer for the Elm Creek Fire Department. He enjoyed working beside others in keeping the town safe and secure.

In the summer months, after his retirement from teaching 37 years, Don could be found at Scotswood Links, either helping pull irrigation hoses off the greens in the wee hours of the morning or spending countless hours golfing with family and friends.

In 2022, Don was awarded the Queen Elizabeth Platinum Jubilee Medal, one from the Provincial Government and one from the Federal Government, for all his volunteering hours and leadership in the community of Elm Creek.

Don LOVED talking to people and reminiscing about the history of Elm Creek. He enjoyed talking about all of the students he taught over the years and appreciated any updates on their careers and life endeavors.

The entire Woods family would like to thank the exceptional staff at the Carman Boyne Lodge, the Notre Dame Foyer and the Portage General Hospital for all the professional care they provided for him.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to The Carman Area Foundation, "RM of Grey Fund". Funeral service was held on Tuesday, February 24, 2026 at the Elm Creek Community Hall.

Doyle's Funeral Home
in care of arrangements
www.doylesfuneralhome.ca

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The Carman-Dufferin **STANDARD**

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CAREER OPPORTUNITY AT



COMMERCIAL SITE SUPERVISOR

Qualifications:

- Knowledge of and experience in the construction industry including the ability to read construction drawings and specifications.
- The ability to understand all aspects of the project scope.
- The ability to coordinate multiple scopes of work with sub-trades on a construction site to ensure productivity.
- Successfully supervised a construction workforce.
- Journeyman Certificate or Experience is preferred.
- Ability to demonstrate conflict resolution skills, problem solving abilities, and professional judgment.
- Communicates with the project manager/project coordinator in all aspects of the project to ensure final project completion that is on time and on budget.
- Effectively communicates with all sub-trades on site to ensure that performance, productivity, quality, and safety requirements are being met.
- Basic computer skills
- Successful candidate will need to have the flexibility to be away from home
- Company truck and cell phone will be provided
- Class 5 License

This position is a full-time opportunity with competitive wages and benefits package.

Please specify your wage expectations.

Resumes should be forwarded to cara@lclconstruction.net

Applications forms can be found on www.lclconstruction.net



CAREER OPPORTUNITY AT



COMMERCIAL CONSTRUCTION LABOURER

Qualifications:

- Knowledge of and experience in the construction industry including the ability to read construction drawings and specifications an asset but not required.
- The ability to operate equipment (Training will be provided)
- The ability to operate hand tools
- Physical strength to load/unload construction materials and move them as needed
- Ability to help with various duties throughout the course of the project
- Familiar with site safety procedures (training will be provided)
- Ability to work in different climates
- Ability to demonstrate mature professional judgement
- Communicates with the site supervisor to ensure tasks are completed as instructed
- Basic computer skills
- Successful candidate will need to have the flexibility to be away from home.
- Reliability and Punctuality is a requirement
- Adaptability and problem solving would be an asset
- Attention to detail
- Class 5 License

This position is a full-time opportunity with competitive wages and benefits package.

Please specify your wage expectations.

Resumes should be forwarded to cara@lclconstruction.net

Applications forms can be found on www.lclconstruction.net



get inspired

> MEAL IDEAS



Sick Day Chicken Noodle Soup

pepper, to taste
 chicken bouillon cubes (optional)
 4 cups dry egg noodles
 3 cups cooked rotisserie chicken

In large stockpot over medium-high heat, saute butter, celery and carrots 3 minutes. Add garlic and cook 30 seconds.

Add chicken stock or broth and season with rosemary, thyme and crushed red pepper. Add salt and pepper, to taste. Taste and add chicken bouillon cubes, if desired, for flavor.

Bring to boil. Add noodles and cook until al dente. Remove from heat once noodles are tender.

Add chicken. Taste and adjust seasoning as desired.

Photo courtesy of Shutterstock

Recipe adapted from Tastes Better from Scratch

Prep time: 20 minutes

Cook time: 20 minutes

Servings: 8

1/2 tablespoon butter

2 ribs celery, diced

3-4 large carrots, diced

1 clove garlic, minced

10 cups chicken stock or broth

1/8 teaspoon dried rosemary

1/8 teaspoon dried thyme

1/8 teaspoon crushed red pepper flakes

salt, to taste



Air Fryer Veggie Rice Bites

1/2 teaspoon garlic powder
 1/8 teaspoon salt
 barbecue sauce or ranch dressing (optional)

Preheat air fryer to 390 F. Heat rice according to package directions.

In blender, roughly chop vegetables.

In bowl, combine vegetables, egg, cheddar cheese, garlic powder and salt. Freeze 5 minutes to slightly firm up.

Divide rice mixture into four portions and hand form into mounds.

Air-fry 8 minutes, or until golden brown. Serve with barbecue sauce or ranch dressing for dipping, if desired.

Prep time: 5 minutes

Cook time: 9 minutes

Servings: 1-2

1 Minute Butter & Sea Salt Jasmine Rice Cup

1/4 cup frozen mixed vegetables, thawed

1 egg

1/4 cup cheddar cheese, shredded



Simple Chicken Stir-Fry

Heat rice according to package directions.

In large skillet or wok over medium-high heat, heat sesame oil. Add chicken and saute 6 minutes until chicken is evenly browned and cooked through.

Add mixed vegetables to skillet and stir-fry 4 minutes, or until tender but still crisp.

Add cooked sticky rice to skillet. Pour in soy sauce and mix thoroughly, ensuring rice is evenly coated and heated through.

Remove from heat, stir in chopped green onions; garnish with sesame seeds, if desired; and serve hot.

Tips: Chicken can be substituted for shrimp or tofu. Frozen vegetables can be used in place of fresh; cook 5 minutes, or until cooked through.

Prep time: 5 minutes

Cook time: 10 minutes

Servings: 2-4

2 Minute Sticky Rice Cups

2 tablespoons sesame oil

1 pound boneless, skinless chicken breast, cut into thin strips

1 cup mixed vegetables

3 tablespoons soy sauce

2 green onions, chopped

1 tablespoon sesame seeds (optional)

Ask the Money Lady

Dear Money Lady: My nine-year-old daughter has MS. I read your newspaper column about government programs. It's not exactly easy to make sense of all the information out there. What are the first steps I should take? Thanks, Marlene

Great to hear you're looking to take advantage of what's available to you and your family, Marlene! The most important first step is getting the Disability Tax Credit (DTC), which helps those people living with disabilities and their families reduce the income tax they pay each year. It's also the first step to becoming eligible for important supports like the Registered Disability Savings Account (RDSP) that offers government contributions of up to \$90,000.

To be eligible for the DTC, your daughter's medical practitioner must certify that her disability causes a severe and prolonged impairment in one of the following categories, or she has significant limitations in two or more categories, or she receives therapy to support a vital function. Categories include walking, mental function, dressing, feeding, elimination, hearing, speaking, vision or a life-sustaining ongoing therapy.

Today, over 21 million Canadians live with a medical condition that may potentially qualify for the disability tax credit, but most are unaware of this benefit. In fact, according to a 2025 survey shared with me by Concentra Trust, 23% of caregivers incorrectly believed that DTC eligibility was based on having a specific diagnosis they didn't meet the criteria for. The reality is that the DTC eligibility doesn't require a specific diagnosis but rather considers other restrictions or limitation factors that are certified by a medical practitioner.

With the DTC, you can then open the Registered Disability Saving Plan (RDSP), which I wrote about in my previous column. To recap: the RDSP is a tax-deferred savings plan for Canadians and their families living with disabilities that can provide up to \$90,000 in government-contribution grants and bonds. Of this, \$20,000 in bonds does not require any contribution for beneficiaries from low-to-modest



income households – which means it's worth opening even if you have nothing to contribute.

While RDSPs are offered by many financial institutions, I always recommend going with a team that knows RDSPs, which are often not as well-understood as other registered plans like the RRSP or TFSA. Concentra Trust, a reputed provider of RDSPs, has an experienced, knowledgeable team who can help you with the ins and outs of opening an RDSP. If you are a member of a credit union, that's also a great way to explore the RDSP given their community involvement and understanding of their members.

Other benefits worth exploring include the Canada Disability Benefit and the Canada Pension Plan Disability Benefit (CPP-D). For any readers caring for a child with a severe disability, look into the Child Disability Benefit (CDB) if you haven't already. It's also a good idea to apply for any provincial benefits such as the Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP), the Alberta Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped (AISH) or the British Columbia Persons with Disabilities benefit (PWD). I hope more Canadians, like you, explore and take advantage of these benefits if they are dealing with a disability.

Good Luck and Best Wishes,
 Money Lady

Written by Christine Ibbotson, Author, Finance Writer and Syndicated Money Coach on BNN Bloomberg. Christine is also part of the everyday lineup on CTV Your Morning in every province. No AI. Follow Christine on Instagram @askthemoneylady, or on Facebook (Christine Ibbotson)

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