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Budding shoppers

STANDARD PHOTO BY LANA MEIER

Siblings Sophia, Brian, and Jasmine Friesen were shopping for flowers at Vanderveen's Greenhouses in Carman on Saturday. The family-owned business, supplies florists and garden centers across Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Ontario offering a vibrant selection of bedding plants, indoor potted plants, and seasonal blooms.

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We are located in Carman – covering Southern Manitoba

Carman's Burger Week returns with six mouth-watering creations



STANDARD PHOTOS SUBMITTED
Pictured clockwise from top left: Breakaway Restaurant Ukrainian burger, Syl's - Sweet Chili Thai Peanut Smash burger, Scotswood Links - Taco burger, Chicken Chef - Chicken Caesar burger, Boyne River Bistro - The Reviver, Carman Country Club - Maui Buster burger.

By Lana Meier
Get your appetite ready—Carman's Burger Week is back from May 4–11 with six local restaurants serving up one-of-a-kind burger creations.
Hosted by the Carman Chamber of Commerce, the annual event invites food lovers to tour the town and try each unique offering, from sweet and spicy to savoury and stacked.

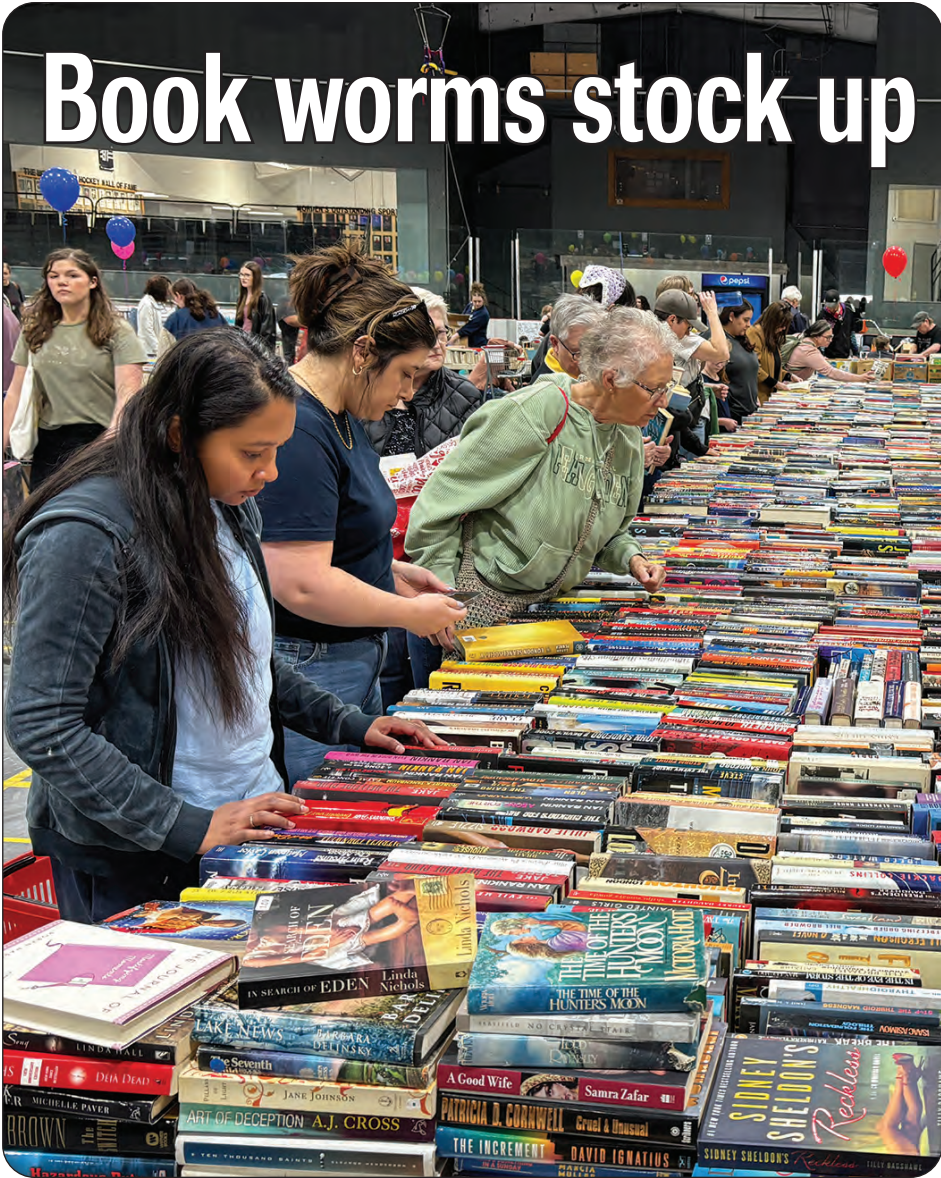
HERE'S WHAT'S ON THE MENU:

- Chicken Chef is serving up a Chicken Caesar Burger: crispy chicken on a garlic butter grilled bun with mozzarella, Parmesan, crisp bacon, lettuce, Caesar dressing and garlic aioli.
- Breakaway Restaurant takes a Ukrainian twist with a homemade beef patty topped with sautéed onions, bacon bits, pierogies, kielbasa, cheese sauce and their house-made sauce, served on an onion bun with homemade fries.
- Syl's Drive Inn goes bold

with a Sweet Chili Thai Peanut Smash Burger: sweet Thai chili peanut sauce, coleslaw, a smash patty, mozzarella and fried onions.

- Scotswood Links leans into Tex-Mex with their Taco Burger, featuring a 5-oz seasoned beef patty with onion, tomato, lettuce, cheese, sour cream, salsa, jalapeños and taco chips in a tomato-flavoured tortilla.
- Carman Country Club introduces the Maui Buster, a crispy chicken burger with ham, Swiss cheese, pineapple, red onion and teriyaki sauce on a grilled potato-scallion bun.
- Boyne River Bistro brings breakfast to the table with the Reviver Wirgau: a smashed patty topped with maple bacon, maple BBQ mayo, a fried egg, hash brown ring and Swiss cheese, all between two toasted waffles.

Try one—or all six—and support our local restaurants. Burger Week runs until Saturday, May 11.



STANDARD PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS
The South Central Regional Library's book sale filled the arena at the Access Event Centre in Morden with book lovers May 1-3. Funds raised from the sale go to help the library purchase new materials at its five branches across southern Manitoba.

Public Notice

Public Notice is herby given that the Dufferin Weed Control District and The Town of Carman Public Works intend to conduct the following Pesticide Control Program during 2025:

1. To control noxious weeds on road allowances and drains
2. To control grasshoppers and mosquitos

The projected dates of application will be from May 1st 2025 to October 31st 2025 and the following herbicides and pesticides may be used:

2-4-D Amine, Oracle, Milestone, Tordon 22K, Diflufenzopyr (Overdrive), Roundup, Startup, LI 700, Gateway, Aminocycloprachlor/Chlorosulfuron (Perspective), Esplanade SC, Aminocyclopyrachlor/Metsulfuron (Navius), Habitat Aqua, Admire, Chlorphyrifos (Pyrinex, Warhawk, Lorsban), Arsenal Powerline, Hasten NT Ultra, Vectobac, Delta Guard 20EW.

Any person wishing to complain against the proposed program may send a written submission within 15 days of this publication to the department Below:

Environmental Approvals Branch
Manitoba Environment & Climate Change
Box 35, 14 Fultz Boulevard
Winnipeg, MB R3Y 0L6



carmandufferin.com

Carman Legion Auxiliary Donates to Handi-Van, Food Pantry



STANDARD PHOTOS BY DENNIS YOUNG

Carman Legion Ladies Auxiliary president Barb Doerksen presented two \$500 donations to local organizations. Kathy Findlay accepted on behalf of the Carman Handi-Van, while Bertha Lalonde and Bob Pauls accepted for the Carman Food Pantry.

WCB to return \$122M in surplus funds to Manitoba employers

By Annaliese Meier

The Workers Compensation Board of Manitoba (WCB) will return \$122 million in surplus funds to eligible employers this May. The rebate, equivalent to 50 per cent of a business's 2024 premium, is possible due to strong investment returns, prudent financial management, and a stable reserve fund, the board announced Tuesday. "This distribution will support the Manitoba economy and offer employers the opportunity to reinvest in safe

workplaces," said WCB chair Colin S. Robinson. "Strong investment returns, prudent financial management, and a stable reserve fund have allowed us to return \$122 million to employers." To qualify for the surplus credit, employers must have reported their 2024 payroll and owed a WCB premium. Businesses that haven't yet submitted their payroll information can still do so to receive the distribution. The WCB operates Manitoba's no-fault insurance system for work-

place injuries and illnesses, funded by employer premiums. The board promotes workplace safety, supports injured workers in their recovery and return to work, and maintains finan-

cial sustainability of the compensation system. More information is available at wcb.mb.ca.

4-H members tackle town litter



STANDARD PHOTO SUBMITTED

Roland 4-H members were out in the sunshine for a community clean-up on Friday, May 2, enjoying clear skies and a high of 15.5 C as they collected litter around town.

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EDITORIAL > VIEWPOINTS > LETTERS

news@carmanstandard.ca

RM of Roland continues lead monitoring program

By Becca Myskiw

Roland residents once again have the opportunity this year to have their water tested for lead.

The Manitoba government's Residential Lead Monitoring Program offers free water testing to communities with the province's largest and oldest water systems that have known or suspected lead service lines. The program began after Health Canada lowered the national guideline for lead in drinking water in 2019 from a maximum acceptable concentration of 0.01 mg per litre to 0.005 mg per litre. Manitoba adopted the new guideline as a standard in the Drinking Water Quality Standards Regulation in 2020.

According to the provincial government's website, lead is not naturally found in Manitoba's source water. Instead, it enters drinking water through the corrosion of lead-bearing materials in service lines to homes and buildings, as well as in plumbing systems and fixtures. Lead can also be found in air, soil, food, water and certain consumer products.

Several factors affect how much lead is released into drinking water, including the chemistry of the treated water, temperature, changes in water

quality, the age of the plumbing system and the length of time water sits in the pipes.

Fetuses, infants and children are most at risk from lead exposure, which can affect neurological development and behaviour. In adults, it can contribute to high blood pressure and kidney problems.

The only way to determine if a home or building has lead in its drinking water is to test it at the taps.

This is the second year the Rural Municipality (RM) of Roland has offered the free water testing. Chief administrative officer Taya O'Brien said no lead has been found in Roland's drinking water to date, but the municipality is offering the testing as a precaution.

To sign up, property owners can contact the municipal office or visit in person. All that's needed is the address of the home being tested. After registration, the public works foreman will collect water samples and send them to a lab for testing.

Results take seven to 10 business days. If lead is detected, a second test will be conducted. If that result is also positive, the provincial government will take steps to rectify the issue.



STANDARD PHOTO SUBMITTED
The RM of Roland is once again offering free lead testing for residential drinking water through Manitoba's Residential Lead Monitoring Program.

Health Canada issues recalls for kid's natural health products, jewellery, cosmetic cream and meat

By Patricia Barrett

Health Canada issued recalls of natural health products for children last week citing issues with bacterial counts.

Adorable Wampole's product, ProBioMax Antibiotic Protection Kids, was recalled on April 1 because the total bacterial count may be out of specification in the affected batch.

The affected product is a chewable tablet with a lot number of 800178 and strength showing Lactacaseibacillus Rhamnosus GG 5.0 billion cfu and Lactiplantibacillus Plantarum 5.0 billion cfu.

Health Canada also recalled Laboratoire Suisse's product, Probiotic Antibiotic Support Kids, because the total

bacterial count is also out of specification in the affected batch.

The chewable tablet has a lot number of 800177 and a strength showing Lactacaseibacillus Rhamnosus GG 5.0 billion cfu and Lactiplantibacillus Plantarum 5.0 billion cfu.

Other Health Canada recalls:

-On April 30, Health Canada recalled WATIER Age Control Supreme Sublime Advanced Rich day cream because of microbial contamination.

The cream is sold in a cylindrical printed glass jar containing 50 ml of cream. The UPC associated with the product and the batch affected by the recall is found on the bottom of the secondary packaging: 058655630646

and (L)23L1757.

Health Canada advises the public to immediately stop using the cream and contact Groupe Marcelle Inc. to obtain a refund.

-The agency issued a recall on April 28 for Lil' Juan's brand and Lucia's brand Mexican Style Pork Carnitas dues to pieces of wood.

The products were distributed in BC, Alberta and Ontario.

Under the Lil' Juan brand, the product's size is 400 g with a UPC of 7 73220 10406 2 and codes of BB 250624 and BB 250625.

Under the Lucia's brand, the product size is 1 kg with a UPC of 7 73220

Continued on page 2

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Leslie humbled by outpouring of support

By Lorne Stelmach

Portage-Lisgar MP Branden Leslie is ready to get back to work in Parliament, although he had hoped to be joining his fellow Conservatives on the other side of the house.

Leslie was easily re-elected for a second term in office with 31,889 votes, 69.4 per cent of the ballots cast. In a distant second place was Liberal candidate Robert Kreis with 10,493 votes, 22.8 per cent.

Leslie's excitement though was tempered by the fact the Liberals were elected to a fourth term, although their 169 seats were three shy of what is needed for a majority government.

"I will give them an opportunity to see if they are going to chart a different course ... I'll happily support good policy ideas wherever they come from," Leslie said last week.

"I just want to say how thankful I am for the people of Portage-Lisgar for once again placing their trust in me to be their member of Parliament. I'm just so incredibly humbled by receiving such strong support ... nearly 70 per cent of the vote.

"Nationally, it's a disappointing result. We were certainly hoping to form government," he said. "At the same time, I think we can be very proud of the fact that we had the best Conservative national turnout in terms of votes. We picked up a couple dozen more seats, making us an even stronger voice of opposition to this government.

"I'm optimistic ... and I would like to be optimistic in wishing Prime Minis-

ter [Mark] Carney all the best, and I hope he can follow through."

Leslie felt the Tories ran a good campaign, and he noted the best part of it for him was people sharing their stories and challenges.

"That's my favourite part about a campaign ... the chance to talk to so many people," he said, adding he now hoped the government would work hard to unite the country in a difficult time.

"They certainly tried to replicate some Conservative policies that we proposed, and I will urge the Liberal government to implement them in a way that is actually going to lead to improved economic results for this country," he suggested. "In the event that doesn't happen, I am going to be part of a stronger Conservative team to be an even stronger voice in opposition.

"The Donald Trump effect was certainly real," Leslie observed. "It seems as though some folks became fearful of Donald Trump and his outrageous statements and unjustified tariffs and had folks thinking a little bit different across the country."

Leslie's focus now will be to keep close tabs on the Liberal government.

He noted, for example, how Carney had previously been a proponent of the idea of a carbon tax before dropping it.

"I'm very skeptical [about] whether it comes back with a different name," he said. "We'll be standing on guard because I will oppose that every step of the way.



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Branden Leslie is eager to get back to work as Portage-Lisgar's MP in Ottawa.

"Certainly the cost of living is the biggest issue I heard on the doorsteps. Folks are really struggling to get by," he continued.

"I think we need to focus on economic growth," said Leslie, citing the example of pushing for more investment in Manitoba as a whole but especially in rural Manitoba in such areas as water and wastewater projects.

"We tried to run a campaign based on hope ... restoring the promise of Canada," he continued. "I'm optimistic about the growth that we saw in our overall vote tally and in the number of seats we picked up.

"We'll see how long this minority parliament lasts. I don't know if there's going to be a huge appetite to go to an election again in a couple of months," Leslie concluded. "I can see this being a challenging minority parliament for the Liberals."

letter to the editor news@carmanstandard.ca

To the Graduates of Midland Collegiate Carman, Class of 1965

I was reminded that, come June, it will be 60 years since we were sent out into the world to do what we might. For better or worse, the Class of 1965 has made its mark and now drifts into the mists of memories and musings.

Did we do what was ours to do? Did we make use of the lessons learned? Did we make our world a better place?

The graduation speeches, the well-wishes, the resources poured into us had us believe the world was our oyster. And in many ways, it was—a relatively stable and prosperous Canada. As youth, we blithely chose careers or paths with no idea where

they would lead us, toyed with relationships and fast cars. How random it all seems now. A few lucky choices, a few near misses, a few words of encouragement kept us moving along in lives we can now call long.

Long enough to be amazed and grateful that most of those little students, studying in that little school with teachers and mentors galore, have lived these 60 years. Lived in such a nurturing place where our lives became part of a larger web. Where our families are also part of that web, even as it expands to include much of the world. Travel almost anywhere, and someone you meet will know someone from Carman.

Yes, it was the centre of our universe—and indeed, it seems to remain the centre. Luck and adventure—some elders allowed us to be birthed in this fertile valley and sent out like

maple seeds into the world.

As our grandchildren now graduate, I sometimes look at them longingly, and sometimes fearfully. But always with the sneaking suspicion that the blessings we shared will also embrace them—with the hope that their brilliance and humanity will carry the next generations forward, to weave the web tighter and include all on Mother Nature's good earth.

Although I'm away, I am not from away. Our kinship breaches time and distance, filling me with nostalgia and just general happiness. Such a gift.

To the Class of '65—my class—who graduated 60 years ago: congratulations for living out the potential so earnestly wished for us those many years ago.

It's been quite a ride, hasn't it?

Your classmate,
Lorraine Duvenaud Hand

worship

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Responding to the Election

We have just come through a tumultuous election that has divided much of our country and so much misinformation from biased media that no one seems to know the truth. What is the truth and how are we supposed to respond according to the Bible?

Jesus Christ said, 'I am THE WAY, THE TRUTH and THE LIFE. No one comes to the Father except by Me.' (John 14:6) This means that the path we are to take, the truth we are to listen to and the way to truly live all come from God through Jesus Christ. The way is called Christianity or following Jesus. The truth is absolute and comes from our Creator, never changing. The life is the personal relationship with God that we have been created for.

All rulers on earth must answer to God and cannot rule except by His permission (Romans 13:1-7). This is hard to grasp, especially when rulers go against God's design or God's people, but the apostles taught this when evil rulers like Nero were in power! We are called to do the following, whether we like the ruler or not:

Submit to our authorities in all areas except where it takes us away from what God has called us to (Hebrews 13:17).

Live at peace with everyone, including the government, as far as you are able. (Romans 12:18)

Pray for your governments, all levels, that you may live a peaceful life (1 Timothy 2:1-2; Jeremiah 29:7)

Avoid political arguments with others to maintain a positive testimony that draws others to Christ (Titus 3:9).

Remember that your citizenship on earth is temporary, but your citizenship in Heaven is permanent (Philippians 3:20).

Exercise your democratic rights (Matthew 22:21) by keeping your representatives accountable and voting, keeping in mind all of the above.

Don't look to the government to provide for you, but rather look to God (Psalm 146:3).

Do this and you will be blessed ... and people will be attracted to Christ instead of angry at Christians.

Pastor Richard Heppner
Friends Community Church Carman

Remembering Eldon McEachern

By Dennis Young with Alice McEachern notes

Eldon was raised and educated in the Carman area and served in the RCAF during the Second World War, after which he spent his life in agriculture. In 1946, he started by renting 140 acres in the Boyne District, increasing his land substantially over the years as he began to grow sugar beets, corn, plus cucumbers, beans (yellow, green and navy), tomatoes and sweet corn for the Winnipeg market.

In 1957, he built his first potato storage shed by the Boyne River. It was composed of not only storage but a washing line and packaging system for the fresh market. Eldon then expanded on that when he bought the H. Churchill International Harvester building next to it in 1964. By 1969, 800 acres were potatoes, so he encouraged a group of farmers to join him in the spud business. Soon, Carman Vegetable Storage was built on Hwy. 3 to house several growers' product.

Looking for ways to better his yields, he tried many concepts such as tile drainage, line irrigation and pivot systems. In 1970, he, along with his son Gary, opened Carduff Farm Serve (now Chrysler property), selling fertilizer and liquid nitrogen locally — the first in Western Canada to offer

non-pressure nitrogen solutions. Dry fertilizer, too, was bagged and loaded on rail cars, which later changed to selling bulk. They sold the operation in 1993, but it continued until 2001.

As a Piper Cub PA-11 aircraft owner and licensed pilot, Eldon utilized this ability in his farming operation using infrared photography to keep constant watch and detect diseases. At 75 cents per acre, he custom sprayed as well. He played a key role in the development of a 5,000-head capacity feedlot located southeast of Carman. In 1968, along with partners Allan Findlay and Jack Hetherington, Circle 3 Custom Feeders opened as an outlet to custom feed (gained average 2.8 lbs. daily) and the community's grain and corn. Cattle arrived from not only Manitoba but Saskatchewan and Ontario. With expansions, it reached 12,000 head at one time. He was harvesting 1,100 acres of corn then and helped organize Manitoba Corn Growers (now Manitoba Corn Alliance) in 1971.

His energy could not be surpassed when it came to his community involvement. Besides the above, he jumped into the Manitoba Vegetable Growers and Keystone Producers, Carman Arena Board, Flying Farmers and Flying Club, International Co-op



STANDARD PHOTO SUBMITTED

Eldon McEachern shows his son Gary the workings of his Piper plane.

Potato Board, Dufferin Agricultural Society, Carman Legion, Mancorn and Portage Mutual Insurance Board.

In 1972, Eldon received the Mr. Manitoba Farmer recognition, joining three other Carman men as recipients (John Murta, Jack Wilton and Harry McKnight). Awarded annually to those playing an important role as a businessman-farmer.

When remembering Eldon, his obituary said it best: "His satisfaction was to see things grow and flourish. His true happiness did not come from possessions or fame, it came from the quality of his relationship with people he loved and respected."

Eldon passed in November 2008.

The Carman Garden Club is seeking donations for its upcoming three-day plant sale

By Becca Myskiw

It's that time of year again, and the local garden club is celebrating with a plant sale like no other. The annual event takes place at the Carman MCC Thrift Shop and raises funds for both the Carman Garden Club and

the store. Last year marked the club's 95th anniversary, with the sale having taken place nearly as long and serving as the group's primary fundraiser. What began as a modest sale with just a few plants has grown into a major event—in 2023, hundreds of plants were up for grabs, generating \$4,500 for the two organizations.

Funds raised by the garden club go toward monthly speaker honorariums, junior gardening club programming, and various community initiatives, including floral donations and beautification projects.

This year's sale will run from May 29 to 31, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day at Carman MCC Thrift. The first day is typically the busiest, with the most sought-after plants going quickly, though there will be plenty of options available throughout the event.

"It is an opportunity for people to acquire a variety of plants for their gardens at a reasonable price," said Liz DeWit of the Carman Garden Club.

Shoppers can expect to find a wide selection of plants, including perennials, annuals, small fruit plants like raspberries and saskatoons, succulents, houseplants, tomatoes, and

even a few trees. Each plant has been grown in a Manitoba garden—either by club members or other local gardeners—making them more resilient than store-bought varieties thanks to their acclimatization to local conditions. Prices range from \$1 to \$10, depending on size, variety, and quality.

To stock the sale, the club is currently looking for gardeners with extra plants to donate. Volunteers are happy to do the digging, help split and replant, and even rejuvenate the garden afterwards. Anyone interested in donating can contact DeWit at 204-745-3839.

All plants in the sale are potted at least a week in advance to ensure they're well-established by the time they're sold. DeWit typically stores the plants in her garage leading up to the event, personally caring for them to maintain their quality.

Last year's sale brought in more plants than there was space to display, yet almost everything sold. The club is hoping for similar success this year. Any remaining plants will either be saved for next year's sale or discarded if they're no longer viable.

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Carman Legion Ladies Auxiliary #18 is offering two bursaries of \$500 each to a child, grandchild or great grandchild of a Veteran, Carman Legion Branch or Auxiliary member, leaving High School this year to further their education. The Bursary must be used within one year from the day it is awarded.

Application forms are available at Carman Collegiate, Elm Creek Collegiate, Miami Collegiate, Dufferin Christian School or by contacting the Auxiliary Secretary directly at (204) 745-8222.

Applications must be clearly marked Legion Ladies' Auxiliary Bursary and must be received by the Auxiliary Secretary, PO Box 98, Carman, MB. R0G 0J0 no later than Friday, June 6, 2025.

Elm Creek School parent council urges division to act on gym replacement

By Becca Myskiw

The Guardian Parent Advisory Council (GPAC) at Elm Creek School (ECS) presented further information to the Prairie Rose School Division (PRSD) last week as part of its ongoing push for a new school gym.

On Monday, April 21, GPAC members addressed the PRSD board, continuing their multi-year campaign to replace the aging facility. The group has been gathering and sharing data over several years, but there has yet to be movement on the issue.

GPAC chair Andrea Ladouceur said the group's goal is to work with the division, not against it—which is why they continue providing updated information. They are urging PRSD to request a provincial inspection of the gym, backed by nearly five years of documentation.

"We just feel like waiting is not an option," said Ladouceur. "We're pushing PRSD to move past kindly asking and waiting and saying, 'We have an issue. How do we move forward? How can you help us?'"

According to Ladouceur, ECS has needed a new gym for two generations. Some current parents remember the space being inadequate when they were students, and they are now raising the same concerns as parents. GPAC listed several ongoing issues with the gym: the roof leaks, the floor is rotting, mould is suspected, the mezzanine steps are very steep and feel unsafe, the electrical system doesn't work properly, the gym is too small to accommodate the growing student population and sports programs, the gym's limited space has created safety hazards. The out-of-

bounds lines are so close to the walls that several children have been injured trying to save balls, spectators are pressed against the wall with their feet nearly on the court, and teams must sit directly in front of the changing rooms, forcing players to crawl over benches to change, many students have to change in shifts due to the limited space.

As ECS enrollment grows, the gym can't accommodate all classes, with only one activity able to run at a time. The school is now considering holding events like the Christmas and band concerts off-site for more space.

During a recent game, Ladouceur said she noticed the opposing team walking the court before play began to identify the "dead spots" where the ball wouldn't bounce—caused by uneven flooring that heaves by as much as an inch.

After hosting a town hall in the gym, GPAC found only one working outlet—and only one of the two plugs on it functioned. Ladouceur said the electrical issues are what worry her most as a parent.

They are now calling for an official inspection to identify the full scope of the problems and begin the process of planning for a replacement.

"People are starting to feel unsafe there," she said. "People feel like a joke when schools come to play sports in the gym."

According to the Manitoba Public Schools Act, Part V, Section 74, school boards cannot "purchase, erect, enlarge, or remodel school buildings, teacher's residences, students' residences, or any buildings on property owned or leased by the school

division or school district" without approval from the Minister of Education.

A provincial government spokesperson said the province inspects school buildings on a case-by-case basis, with the Department of Public Service Delivery conducting site visits when a need is identified. That department, along with Manitoba Education and Early Childhood Learning, is responsible for planning and delivering school capital projects.

School divisions submit their five-year capital project requests annually, which can include gymnasium construction. The spokesperson confirmed that PRSD has submitted a request for a new ECS gym, which is currently under review for Budget 2025. Projects selected to move forward will be announced once approved.

MLA Lauren Stone has also voiced support for the project, sending multiple letters to the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Learning.

Despite GPAC's extensive efforts—gathering testimonials, conducting research, and compiling data—Ladouceur said many residents haven't participated due to fatigue from the decades-long conversation. At a recent council meeting, GPAC decided to host a town hall to share their findings more broadly and inspire renewed community engagement.

At the most recent division board meeting, GPAC focused on electrical concerns—highlighting how a socket fell out of the wall during a pancake breakfast—and invited a registered nurse to testify about a student injury from colliding with the gym wall dur-

ing a tournament. They also raised concerns about the gym's air quality.

"You walk in and there's a smell," said Ladouceur. "Not a sweaty sports smell, a different one. It's humid in there. It's dusty. The kids have to sweep the floor before they play because the dust makes it slippery and dangerous."

GPAC is awaiting a response from PRSD. Ladouceur said they're pushing for an urgent inspection and are committed to ensuring the project doesn't lose traction.

In a statement, PRSD superintendent Kevin Clace said the replacement of the ECS gym is "an important and ongoing priority for Prairie Rose School Division," and the division "will continue to work in collaboration with educational stakeholders, Manitoba Education and Early Childhood Learning and related provincial government departments to address this priority."

"We're concerned this is now an unsafe space, pending any other stress or incident," Ladouceur said. "We feel it's a vulnerable, critical space."

If the gym were to become unusable due to an electrical fire or condemnation, there is no backup plan in place. ECS students would be left without a facility for physical education and extracurricular activities.

"We want to make sure the information we share with PRSD becomes part of their voice, their opinion, their thoughts on how urgent this needs to be," said Ladouceur. "We need to be unified, and we need to be aligned. We're hoping they'll use the information to guide the process."

This week, the way it was through the years

By Dennis Young

100 Years Ago — May 7, 1925: Muskrats and skunk furs were wanted at high prices; 30 x 3.5 Partridge tires sold for \$5.95; ladies' silk hose were three pairs for \$1; auto livery offered rides to Winnipeg and back; Roland and Miami were being considered for electric power; A.F. Higgins Co. sold butter for 22 cents per pound; Aunt Betty's Bread was popular at Adam's Bakery.

75 Years Ago — 1950: Nine 90-foot poles arrived for the ball field floodlights; businessmen opposed parking on both sides of Fournier Avenue (1st Street SW); Carman Memorial Hospital marked one year in operation; Collegiate held Vice Versa Day where girls dressed like boys; actor Jack Carson was invited to Town and a Cardinals game; a \$1,275 quote was accepted to shingle the grandstand; CPR rerouted trains through Carman due to flood conditions elsewhere.

50 Years Ago — 1975: A & M Soil was granted permission to erect two anhydrous ammonia tanks in town; Carman Trailer Park monthly fees increased from \$10 to \$12; the Recreation Commission reported a deficit of \$3,239 due to a drop in ice rentals; Park and Laycock proposed land development plans to council; the Carman Flood Committee held public meetings about a possible watershed control district.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of dust control program

Homeowners along gravel provincial roads and main market roads in unorganized territories may apply to have dust control applied in front of their homesites at a cost of \$200 for a single application.

The formal application is available from your local Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure office. The deadline for these applications will be **no later than May 23, 2025.**

For more information, please contact one of the following Transportation and Infrastructure offices:

Steinbach	204-346-6266	Brandon	204-726-6800
Swan River	204-677-6540	Dauphin	204-622-2061





Remember Your Loved Ones
with an Announcement in the

The Carman-Dufferin
STANDARD
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Elm Creek growing project seeded with donated land and support

2024 canola proceeds topped \$74,000 thanks to community donations and support

By Annaliese Meier

A generous land donation and strong community support are helping another growing project take root near Elm Creek this season.

On April 17, volunteers with the CHOICE growing project seeded a new wheat crop on an 80-acre field donated by Helen Rempel, renewing their commitment to fighting global hunger through the Canadian Foodgrains Bank.

The CHOICE project continues to build on the success of last year's efforts, when canola was grown on the same field. Thanks to a strong yield and supportive prices, more than \$74,000 was raised—over \$44,000 of it from crop sales alone—and organizers are hopeful for another strong season ahead.

Proceeds from the project are matched up to 4:1 by the federal government, significantly multiplying the impact of every dollar raised.

Organizers expressed their gratitude to Rempel for once again providing

the land, and to Ian Lepp for coordinating the seed, seeding and ongoing operations throughout the season.

"We wouldn't have a successfully seeded field without the time and efforts of Ian and our CHOICE supporters," said CHOICE secretary Carolyn Koster.

This year's wheat seed was donated by a corporate sponsor, along with half of the fertilizer required. The project continues to benefit from corporate partners, who are invited to place their signs beside the CHOICE field signage during the growing season.

Financial donations and agricultural inputs from the community have also been vital to the project's success.

Volunteers are welcome to assist with upcoming field operations such as spraying. Those interested are encouraged to contact Ian Lepp at 204-750-1090.

Additional donations can be made at Access Credit Union or through Abe Elias or Carolyn Koster.

The Canadian Foodgrains Bank works to end global hunger through projects like this one, which bring farm communities together to support food security efforts worldwide.



STANDARD PHOTO SUBMITTED

Equipment moves across the field near Elm Creek as 80 acres are seeded to wheat for the CHOICE growing project. Donations of land, seed and fertilizer will help support the Canadian Foodgrains Bank's efforts to fight hunger.

Funds support the in-country hunger relief efforts of church-based organizations, including ERDO (Pentecostal Assemblies), Mennonite Central Committee Canada, United Church of Canada, World Renew (Christian Reformed Church), Canadian Lutheran World Relief, and the Anglican church's Alongside Hope.

The project's success is built on community involvement, with dozens of volunteers donating their time, equipment and expertise to get the crop in the ground. Corporate donors also contribute seed and fertilizer, keeping input costs low and maximizing the return.

"We're incredibly grateful for our sponsors, but especially for those in our CHOICE community who show

up with their time and talent," said Koster. "Each person brings something unique, and together we make each season a success."

Harvest is expected to take place in late summer or early fall, depending on weather conditions. The wheat will be sold with all proceeds directed to the Canadian Foodgrains Bank.

"Seeing the community come together to support this work is fulfilling and rewarding to me," Koster added. "I'm thankful for the opportunity to serve, and I look forward to this year's crop with hope—trusting that God will provide what's needed so we can continue to bless others."

RURAL BUDS
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> RECALLS, FROM PG. 4

10408 6 and codes of BB 250424, BB 250425, BB 250702, and BB 250706.

-Health Canada issued a warning on April 28 that certain children's jewellery available on Amazon.ca contains lead in excess of allowable limits.

The product, SUZUTOY Charm Bracelet Making Kit for Girls, poses a "chemical hazard," said the agency. The arts and craft kit contains various beads and pendants, adjustable bracelets, hair clips, keychain and rope necklaces. "Hello Princess" and "You Are My Little Princess Beautiful" are written on the pink gift box.

"Immediately take the affected jewellery away from children and dispose of them according to municipal hazardous waste guidelines," states Health Canada.

For more details about the above affected products and additional product recalls, visit Health Canada's Recalls and Safety Alerts webpage.

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VIEWING: MAY 12TH TO MAY 16TH 9AM TO 5PM BIDDING STARTS: MAY 8TH AT 9AM
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"The community is grieving with us"

Fire destroys much of Winkler's Quality Inn

By Ashleigh Viveiros

It has stood at the north end of Winkler's Main St. for decades, providing generations of visitors with a place to stay and serving as a gathering space for countless community celebrations over the years.

Now, a sizeable part of the building that was home to both the Quality Inn & Suites and Smitty's Restaurant & Lounge has been reduced to rubble after a fire ripped through it last Tuesday afternoon.

Hotel general manager Felicia Penner said it was just a normal day right up to the moment when things took a turn for the worst.

"Then all of a sudden you're smelling smoke and the alarms are going off. There's always a possibility it's a false alarm, but when you also smell the smoke you know it's real," she shared. "So everyone did what they needed to do immediately: we evacuated. Everyone met at the muster point."

Staff quickly cleared the building room by room as they waited for emergency services ("They were there so, so fast," Penner said, thanking firefighters for their efforts that day), so everyone got out safely, including a dog whose owner was at work when the fire began.

"You open the door and you yell in and you just heard 'ding, ding, ding, ding' and it's his little tail wagging up against his kennel," Penner recalled. "So I grabbed him and out we went."

"We had the dog at the muster point with us, and that's where, as [the owner] pulled up, he could see it was okay," she said, noting it was a joyful reunion amidst the heartbreaking scene unfolding in front of the gathered guests and staff as they watched firefighters battle the blaze.

"Where the muster point was, you could see the smoke on the opposite side of the building and the fire crews working on that part," Penner recalled. "Being such a long building, as soon as it crept out of that first initial area and hit the pool area ... we had a beautiful cedar feature ceiling, and as soon as it hit that, it was game over."

The fire eventually hit the pool mechanical room and the chemicals stored there, creating noxious fumes and billowing black smoke that could be seen for miles.

HEAVY SMOKE, FLAMES

Winkler Fire Chief Richard Paetzold said they were on the scene within minutes of receiving the call at 4:32 p.m.

"There was already heavy fire, heavy smoke showing when we arrived," he said. "We initially tried to do an interior attack to try and locate the seat of the fire, where it was coming from, and we couldn't locate it. So that's when we knew it was in the roof area."

Firefighters began focusing their efforts there, peeling back strips of the roof in an attempt to get things under control.

The Winkler firefighters were joined by those from Morden Fire & Rescue, who sent their ladder truck to help.

Fire crews were on the scene until well after midnight, stamping out small flare-ups that cropped up after the main fire was quelled.

They were successful in stopping the fire from taking down the entire building—24 rooms on the east side survived—but the damage was still extensive in the central part of the facility that housed 31 rooms, part of the restaurant and lounge, and the pool.

"There were some areas we were able to keep fire and smoke and everything from, but there's significant damage to portions of the other parts of the building that are still standing," Paetzold said.

The Office of the Fire Commissioner's investigation into the cause of the fire is ongoing.

OUTPOURING OF SUPPORT

All in all, if there is such a thing as a good time for a

Continued on page 12



WFD/WPD PHOTOS

Fire crews spent hours battling the fire that broke out in the roof area of the Quality Inn & Suites in Winkler last week. The middle part of the building was destroyed.

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Sleeping Beauty gets musical makeover at Carman Elementary

By Becca Myskiw

With just five days, a dash of fairy-tale magic and a whole lot of rehearsal, 55 Carman Elementary School students transformed into dragons, royalty and rock stars for this year's Sleeping Beauty production — Missoula Children's Theatre style.

The travelling children's theatre company returned to town recently to lead students through its annual week of on-stage magic. Since 2011, the school's parent council, ACSL, has partnered with Missoula Children's Theatre to offer a unique experience — complete with auditions, rehearsals and a full-stage production, all within five days.

Missoula Children's Theatre sends two directors to each location, where they hold auditions, assign roles and rehearse with students throughout the week. Each production is their own twist on a classic fairy tale or fable — this year's show was inspired by Sleeping Beauty, with a rock-and-roll spin.

The program is open to students in Kindergarten through Grade 5. This year, 65 students auditioned and 55 were cast in speaking and ensemble roles.

The week-long experience is fully funded by the ACSL Missoula committee and local businesses. It typically costs approximately \$5,000 to bring

Missoula Children's Theatre to Carman for the week, but with recent tariffs and the conversion to the US dollar, it cost closer to \$8,000 this year, including production fees, accommodations, and meals for the two directors. Ticket sales and donations help offset expenses.

Heidi Russell, a member of the ACSL Missoula committee, said support from Carman's business community makes the entire program possible.

"A lot of businesses in town are willing to donate because there are a lot of skills that you acquire from theatre," said Russell. "It pulls children that aren't super confident into a confidence role. It's pretty amazing."

Fifteen local businesses contributed money, time or goods. Homestead Co-op donated snacks for the weekend, Nutrien Ag provided Friday's cast supper, Carman Florists supplied flowers, Mackenzie Gaultier offered photography services, and the Carman Area Foundation granted \$2,500 to the project. Other groups



STANDARD PHOTOS BY RICK HIEBERT

Cast members from Carman Elementary's production of Sleeping Beauty took the stage during a Missoula Children's Theatre performance, which featured 55 students and drew an audience of 350 over two shows.

also pitched in to ensure the week's success.

Russell said this year's program ran smoothly and the casting process was particularly impressive.

"It was amazing how they auditioned the children without knowing much about them, then figured out which roles would be appropriate," she said. "It was an incredible week — it showed creativity, teamwork and the courage of all the children who participated."

Auditions were held Monday, followed by two hours of rehearsal that

evening. From Tuesday to Thursday, rehearsals lasted up to four and a half hours after school. On Friday, students began rehearsing at 2 p.m. ahead of the 7 p.m. performance. A second show was held Saturday afternoon.

This year's production gave the classic tale a musical twist, incorporating Elvis Presley melodies and a storyline where the king of rock and roll awakens the princess from a 500-year sleep.

"Missoula Children's Theatre is all about helping kids build confidence,





stretch their imagination and experience the magic of live theatre," said Russell.

In addition to the full production — complete with props, costumes, sound, lighting and effects — the directors also led in-school theatre workshops so every student could participate. That portion of the week was supported by the Carman Kinsmen and Kinettes.

A student from Carman Collegiate also volunteered to play piano for the show, starting rehearsals as early as November to learn all the music.

Between both performances, *Sleeping Beauty* drew an audience of 350. Russell said the 2026 production is already booked, though the title of next year's show hasn't been confirmed yet.



CMHA encourages Manitobans to unmask mental health during awareness week

CMHA Mental Health Week May 5-11

By E Antonio

Campaign aims to support those struggling in silence by breaking stigma and promoting connection

For anyone silently struggling with their mental health, the Canadian Mental Health Association wants you to know you're not alone.

As part of Mental Health Week from May 5 to 11, CMHA Manitoba and Winnipeg is urging Manitobans to take part in this year's campaign theme: Unmasking Mental Health. The message aims to reach people who may be hiding how they truly feel — often without realizing it — and offer them permission to be honest, seek help, and find support without fear of judgment.

"People often mask symptoms of mental illness, sometimes without even realizing it, as a way to cope," said Marion Cooper, CEO of CMHA Manitoba and Winnipeg. "The lead-

ing reason people hide their symptoms is stigma, which continues to prevent many from seeking the support they need."

Masking — the act of concealing emotions, behaviours or symptoms — can deeply impact relationships and self-worth. According to a 2022 survey by the Mental Health Commission of Canada, 72 per cent of respondents living with a mental health or substance use disorder said they experienced serious self-stigma. Many said it negatively affected their self-esteem and how they viewed themselves.

"Unmasking can help us form deeper connections and boost self-esteem, which supports good mental health," said Cooper. "Our vulnerability can inspire others to be open and honest about their mental health, creating a ripple effect that fosters greater understanding and empathy in communities."

This year marks CMHA's 74th Mental Health Week, and organizers are encouraging people across Manitoba

to start conversations, share their experiences, and connect with resources — particularly those who feel isolated or overwhelmed.

"If you or someone you love is struggling, please reach out," CMHA said in a release. "If you're in crisis, you can call or text 9-8-8 any time — help is available 24/7."

May 5-11 marks CMHA's 74th Mental Health Week. This year's theme "Unmasking Mental Health" encourages people to unmask the truth about mental health, while breaking down barriers, challenging stigma, and supporting open conversations. To get involved, you can:

- Attend a CMHA Across Manitoba Mental Health Week event including courses and activities in Winnipeg, Selkirk, Portage la Prairie, Dauphin, Swan River, The Pas and Thompson. On May 8, join us for the launch of Love Notes—a mental health campaign, and in the evening attend a gala fundraiser Red Threads - Honouring Voices, Inspiring Change.

Download the toolkit: Visit mental-

healthweek.ca for social media graphics and resources.

- Share the content and your support on social media using the hashtags #UnmaskingMentalHealth and #MentalHealthWeek.

- Start a conversation: By #UnmaskingMentalHealth through open and honest conversations we break down barriers so people can get the help they need when they need it.

- Donate to support CMHA mental health programs and services at <https://www.cmhaacrossmb.ca/donate>

- Connect. If you or someone you love is struggling, please contact CMHA. If you are in crisis and need immediate support, call or text 9-8-8 for free, 24/7 crisis support.

The Canadian Mental Health Association is a national charity supporting mental wellness through advocacy, education, and services. In Manitoba, CMHA has more than 13 offices across the province and works to ensure no one faces mental health challenges alone.

> FIRE, FROM PG. 9

hotel to have a fire, the timing of this one was probably it, Penner said

"It was the middle of the afternoon, so most people hadn't checked in at that point, and anybody who's in-house [registered as a guest] was still at work," she said. "Our housekeeping team had gone home already, so it was kind of minimal staff in the building, and the Smitty's supper rush hadn't started yet."

But the resulting destruction none-

theless has hit the facility's staff and the community as a whole hard.

Penner said lots of people have reached out to share memories of the space and lament its loss.

"So many people have worked there through the years. We had so many conferences, weddings ... it was home to so many people," she said. "It's not just the employees who have lost their work space—the community is also grieving with us."

Support has been pouring in from all over through the past week, and Penner is grateful for it.

Numerous businesses stepped up that day to ensure hotel staff had a place to go, offering food and other services while the shock of everything was still fresh. Local restaurants also brought food out to the firefighters as they worked through the night.

In the days following the fire, even more people reached out to ensure the hotel's team were taken care of, offering up office space, massages, counselling, and more, along with countless messages of sympathy.

"There's been flowers, there's been donuts. So many hugs," Penner said.



Photo by Ashleigh Viveiros


"Saying 'thank-you' doesn't feel like it's enough. We're so grateful to everyone."

It's too soon to say what the next steps for the site will be, including whether the parts still standing are salvageable. The hotel had thousands of room and event bookings through this year and well into the next. They're reaching out to patrons to let them know what's happened.

"It's like an apocalypse going through those hallways," Penner said. "The power's off, so it's dark. It's wet. And then you open a room door and it's just pristine—the beds are made and it smells clean."

"We're going day by day right now," she continued, noting management's focus is on supporting their staff—between the hotel and the restaurant there were nearly 70 people employed there—including providing access to counselling and helping them find other employment.

"I'll do everything I can to help them all find new jobs. That's the best thing for the immediate future," Penner said. "And when the times comes, I would be honoured to have the crew back."



Good Grief

You are invited to an informal gathering to talk and support one another in your journey of grief

Place: Boyne River Bistro Family Room

Time: 10:00am - 11:00am

Dates: Thursday, March 13, 2025
Thursday, March 27, 2025
Thursday, April 10, 2025
Thursday, April 24, 2025
Thursday, May 8, 2025
Thursday, May 22, 2025

For more information contact Sandy Cameron
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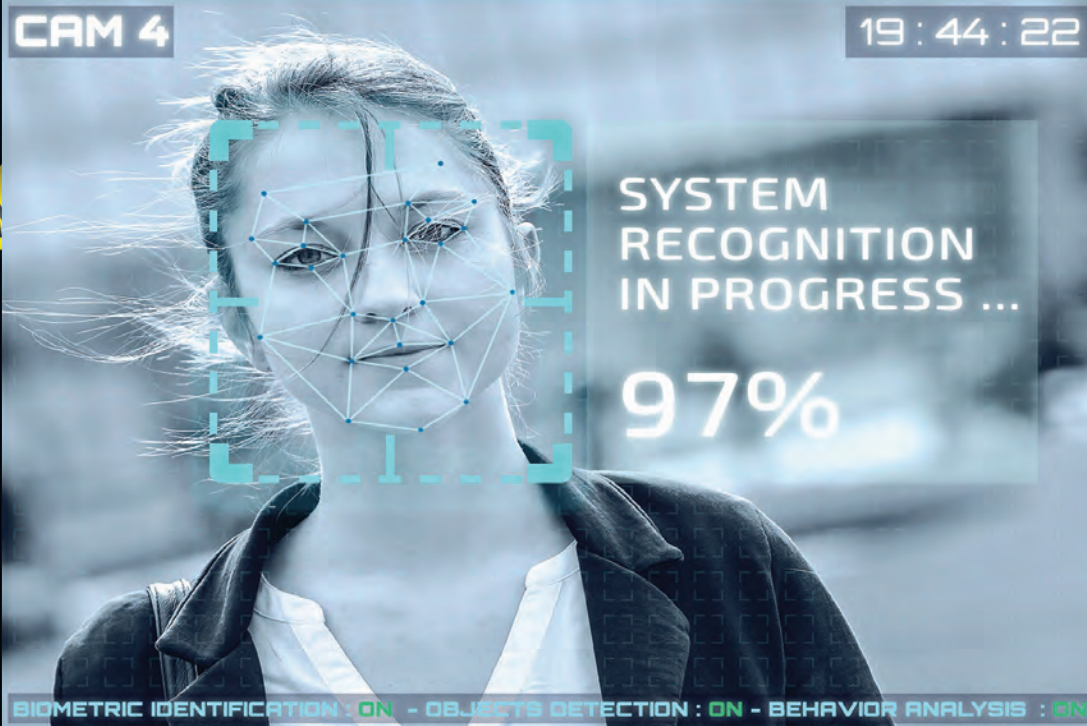
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POLICE WEEK

May 11-17, 2025



How AI is changing law enforcement

Here's a look at some of the latest tech.

- Facial recognition software helps officers identify suspects more efficiently by matching images from crime scenes with databases of known offenders.
- Automated licence plate readers (ALPRs) play a critical role in identifying stolen vehicles or tracking wanted individuals by scanning plates at high speeds.
- Gunshot detection systems use AI to analyze sounds in real time, helping officers quickly locate gunfire incidents and respond promptly.
- Social media analysis tools sift through vast amounts of online data to detect threats, trends or areas of concern, allowing law enforcement to stay ahead of potential issues.
- Police robots equipped with AI capabilities can perform duties like surveillance or bomb disposal, further protecting officers and civilians during high-risk situations.

ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS

AI offers numerous benefits, but it also raises ethical concerns regarding privacy and potential biases. For example, some people worry that facial recognition might lead to incorrect identifications or disproportionately target marginalized communities.

Fortunately, Canadian authorities are actively developing policies to govern the use of AI in law enforcement, aiming to balance the advantages of technological advancements with civil liberties.



As AI continues to shape modern policing, Police Week is a great time to showcase how technological innovations enhance public safety.




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> MEAL IDEAS



Wee Chicken & Waffles with Jezebel-Maple Syrup

tional)

Hot sauce for serving

To make the syrup: In a large microwave-safe glass measuring cup with pour spout (one holding at least 3 cups) or a bowl, add the maple syrup, pineapple preserves, apple jelly, horseradish, pepper, and salt; whisk to combine.

Microwave the mixture on high for 35 seconds. (You also can heat it in a small saucepan on low until the mixture is warm.) Stir and taste, adjusting the flavor if desired. Set the syrup aside.

Place the toasted waffles on a large serving platter. Top each waffle with a piece of chicken. Drizzle the chicken-waffle bites with about 1 teaspoon of the syrup. Garnish with the parsley, if desired, and serve with the remaining syrup and hot sauce.

Serves 10 to 12, Three or Four Waffles Each

Jezebel-Maple Syrup
2 cups maple syrup
1/4 cup pineapple preserves
1/4 cup apple jelly
1 1/2 tablespoons prepared horseradish
3/4 teaspoon ground black pepper
1/2 teaspoon salt
40 mini waffles from a 10.9-ounce package, lightly toasted
40 pieces cooked fried popcorn chicken
Finely chopped fresh Italian flat-leaf parsley or green onion for garnish (op-



Mint Chocolate Mousse

Melt the chocolate with the dinner mints over a double boiler or in the microwave. Let cool slightly. Using an electric mixer, beat together the egg yolks and sugar in a large bowl until thick and mousselike, then beat in the melted chocolate-mint mixture.

Sprinkle the gelatin over 4 tablespoons water in a small, heatproof bowl and let soak and swell for 2 to 3 minutes. Put the bowl in a pan of simmering water and stir until the gelatin has dissolved. Beat into the chocolate-mint mixture.

Working quickly, beat the egg whites in a clean, dry bowl until stiff but not dry, then fold into the chocolate mixture with a metal spoon.

Divide the mousse between the pots. Scatter with the chopped mint sticks, then refrigerate until set. Alternatively, whip the 1 cup cream and use to decorate the mousses, along with the frosted mint leaves. Leave at cool room temperature for about 20 minutes before serving.

Serves 4

5 ounces dark chocolate (60 to 70 percent cocoa solids), chopped or broken up into smaller pieces
4 to 6 chocolate covered dinner mints, chopped
4 eggs, separated
2 tablespoons sugar
4 tablespoons heavy cream
1 teaspoon powdered gelatin
2 tablespoons chopped chocolate mint sticks, or frosted mint leaves and 1 cup heavy cream, to decorate
4 pots or dessert cups, for serving

Ask the money lady



Dear Money Lady Readers:

I want to ask – for those of you in your 50's or 60's.....what's your plan for retirement?

I hope you have thought about it. Today let's talk about how to not outlive your money.

We all know planning is important. They say: "the person who doesn't plan for the future, can't expect to have a future." And we all know this to be true. So why is it that today we have over 40% of retirees falling into the "retirement gap." The new term, retirement gap, means that retirees are finding that the money they planned to live on, in reality, now falls short every month. Being in the retirement gap is not a good thing and if you know your in it than you also know you will need to either get a part-time job, adjust your spending, or downsize your home and your lifestyle.

First up, you want to make a list of all your monthly expenses, including mortgages (or rent), utilities, heat, hydro, condo fees, estimate for groceries, car payments and gas for your vehicle, memberships, subscriptions, and basically everything that you spend money on each month. Are these expenses going to continue in retirement, and if so, for how long?

Of course, if you plan to travel in retirement, then I will want you to decide how much you plan to spend every year and have this divided by 12 months and added in to your monthly expense list. Now that you know how much you will need each month when you retire – do you have a plan to create a revenue stream to cover these expenses. This revenue will need to be funded by investment portfolios, RRSPs, TFSAs, pension income, rental income, CPP and OAS.

While you may think you have enough funds to retire, please remember that timing your withdrawal from any investment is truly the key to ensuring your money lasts. If we take a typical retirement time horizon of let's say, 25 years and you are withdrawing a monthly retirement

income from an equity portfolio, you will need to account for 3 to 5 downward swings in the market. Because you are essentially creating a revenue stream from your portfolio it is important to remember that the cyclical trends that help build your savings, now works in reverse. Over a 25 year time period, due to bear markets, a retiree will need to consider that they will lose anywhere from 20% to 46% from their overall capital savings if held in an equity portfolio. Remember this is like dollar cost averaging but in reverse – because you are now withdrawing funds on a monthly basis, not saving them.

Another thing to consider is the state of the economy at the time you wish to retire. If you retire during a bull market, you will be much better off than someone that retires in a bear market. You see, positive returns early in retirement outlast an identical portfolio that has to endure negative returns early in retirement. This is called the "sequence of returns risk" and please believe me, this is a true event. Economists have shown that when you compare portfolios with the same securities and values, and with the same average long-term rate of return, the timing of the withdrawals does make a difference.

The fact is, bear markets will happen throughout your retirement, and they will affect your savings plan. Since 1940, we have had 15 bear markets with the average length being 11.2 months in duration and an average loss of 31.8%. The best way to combat this phenomenon is to have your fixed monthly expenses covered by your guaranteed income (OAS, CPP, Pensions, LIRAs). If you can do that, then you could potentially withdraw less during bear markets and more when we have a bull market. Bull markets typically last for about 3-4 years and have an average return of 148.7% over their past bear market. Don't be put in a situation where you are forced to sell securities in a down trending market. Selling in a bear market creates capital loss because once the securities are cashed out, they can no longer participate in the eventual recovery.

Good Luck and Best Wishes,
Money Lady

Written by Christine Ibbotson, Author, Finance Writer, Syndicated National Radio Host, and now on BNN Bloomberg News and CTV News every day in every province. Send your money questions, (answered free) to info@askthemoneylady.ca

RCMP investigating Roseisle grocery store break-in

RCMP asking for help identifying suspects

By Becca Myskiw

The Roseisle Community Grocery Co-op was broken into last Monday. Store manager Cindy McDonald was woken by an alarm call at 5:20 a.m. on Monday, April 28. Though she often receives calls when the alarm goes off at the store, McDonald knew this one was real because the motion detector inside the store had also been triggered, and the alarm company had contacted the RCMP.

McDonald got in her vehicle and drove past the store, noticing the metal gate was open and a shopping cart half-full of liquor was sitting in the parking lot.

"I knew there had been a theft, but they were gone," she said.

She then went home and answered a call from the RCMP to confirm what had happened and to ensure she could begin cleaning up before they arrived. McDonald took a quick inventory and found the thieves had stolen liquor and lighters from the store, totalling less than \$600. She reviewed the security footage, captured images of the suspects' faces and sent everything to the RCMP to assist with the investigation.

Despite the break-in, the Roseisle Community Grocery Co-op remained open that day. One lunch customer even offered to take the damaged door home to fix it and returned it within an hour.

"We've got a really good group of people in our community willing to help us," said McDonald.

Pembina Valley RCMP responded to the call. Their initial investigation revealed two suspects forced open the



Security footage captured the suspects fleeing in a small grey car after the break-in at the Roseisle Community Grocery Co-op on April 28. RCMP are asking for the public's help identifying the vehicle and those involved.

front door and stole alcohol and lighters, placing them in a shopping cart. McDonald said the suspects were inside for only two minutes before fleeing in a small grey car, leaving some of the stolen items behind.

She believes the loud alarm, which triggers a phone alert, and her dogs barking across the street likely scared the suspects off. There were no witnesses to the break-in.

"There's just that feeling of we work really hard in Roseisle to keep our store open," she said. "It costs the community that amount of money now."

Pembina Valley RCMP are asking for the public's help identifying the suspects or the vehicle used in the theft. Anyone with information is asked to contact the Carman RCMP detachment at 204-745-6760, call Crime Stoppers anonymously at 1-800-222-8477, or submit a secure tip online at www.manitobacrimestoppers.com.



STANDARD PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Security footage shows one of the suspects inside the Roseisle Community Grocery Co-op during the early morning break-in on April 28.



A suspect is seen with bottles of liquor during a break-in at the Roseisle Community Grocery Co-op in the early morning hours of April 28.

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sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

Tough weekend for U13 Central Energy against Eastman, Interlake

By Annaliese Meier

It was a challenging weekend for U13 Central Energy as the squad dropped four games in U13 AAA softball action against the Eastman Wildcats and Interlake Phillies.

Central Energy opened the weekend with a 13-5 loss to Eastman on Saturday. After taking a 2-0 lead in the first inning, Energy surrendered five runs in the third and six in the fifth as the Wildcats' bats came alive. Kaitlyn B, Collins V and Lindsay F each drove in a run, while Beaudry E recorded the team's lone hit. Central drew 10 walks but couldn't keep pace with Eastman's 10-hit, seven-stolen-base effort.

In the second half of Saturday's doubleheader, pitching dominated early in a 2-1 loss to Eastman. Kaitlyn B struck out four over two innings for Central, and Collins V led the offence with a 2-for-3 performance. Eastman scored once in each of the first two innings and played error-free defence to hang on for the win.

On Sunday, Central Energy faced the Interlake Phillies, who handed them a pair of losses.

In the first game, Central was shut out 7-0. Emma S allowed just three hits but gave up six runs—only two of them earned—over two innings. The Phillies' Kardyn R was dominant



Pitcher Emma Shantz started on the mound against the Phillies.

in the circle, striking out 10 over four innings and throwing an immaculate inning in the first. Beaudry E, Madison K and Kaitlyn B each had a hit for Central in the loss.

Game 2 saw Central fall 12-5 despite a pair of hits from Lindsay F and two RBI from Kaitlyn B. Beaudry E got the start but was tagged for four runs in



STANDARD PHOTOS BY LANA MEIER

Central Energy's catcher gets the out at home plate in Game 1 against the Interlake Phillies on Sunday. Interlake won both games.

the first inning. Interlake's Kardyn R again led the charge, driving in four runs on a 2-for-2 performance and striking out six over two innings. The Phillies racked up nine hits and eight

walks, and were flawless defensively for the second game in a row.

Central Energy will look to regroup before visiting Eastman again this coming Saturday.

Central Energy softball clinic hits it out of the park

By Annaliese Meier

More than 45 young athletes sharpened their softball skills and had plenty of fun thanks to a recent Central Energy clinic led by coaches Ray Mutcheson and Jen Smith, along with assistants Molly Cowan and Gabbi Hildebrand.

The clinic welcomed girls aged 7 to 18 and was structured in three groups based on age and skill level, allowing participants to receive tailored instruction. Mutcheson and his team broke key softball techniques into manageable steps and used small-area games to reinforce learning while keeping sessions upbeat and engaging.

A standout feature was a pitching clinic led by Smith, who brought her college playing experience to the

field. Her sessions focused on mechanics, accuracy and control, and included take-home drills so players could keep working on their skills.

"The way this clinic was run was phenomenal," said one parent. "My daughter looked forward to every session and always came away with a smile and a real sense of accomplishment."

The coaches were praised for fostering a positive, encouraging environment that built both skills and confidence. The clinic also helped spark a deeper love for the game and promoted teamwork and perseverance.

For details on upcoming sessions or to contact the coaching team, reach Central Energy at 204-823-2437.



STANDARD PHOTO SUBMITTED

Young athletes took part in a Central Energy softball clinic, where coaches Ray Mutcheson, Jen Smith, Molly Cowan and Gabbi Hildebrand delivered skill-building drills, small-area games and personalized instruction for girls aged 7 to 18.

sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

Aces feeling on the outs after alleged removal from SEMHL

By Kieran Reimer

The Ste. Anne Aces captured their third consecutive South Eastern Manitoba Hockey League (SEMHL) title just a couple of months ago.

The Aces have lost only 11 regulation games over the past three regular seasons, making them one of the top teams in the SEMHL.

But now, as they enter another off-season as league champions, their future in the SEMHL is in question.

On May 4 at the Carman Golf Course, the SEMHL held a league meeting attended by Aces head coach and president Kevin Lansard, representing Ste. Anne.

According to the special meeting agenda, one of the items discussed was a set of proposed changes submitted by the Warren Mercs — another team in the SEMHL — on April 22 at the league's annual meeting.

The proposed changes included:

- The five newest teams (Île-des-Chênes, Red River, Ste. Anne, Springfield and potentially Steinbach, which is currently non-operational) leave the SEMHL and revive the dormant Carillon Senior Hockey League.
- Replace the Ste. Anne Aces with the Steinbach Huskies.
- Reduce the player eligibility radius for designating a player as "local."

Aces forward Brett Meilleur, who did not attend the meeting, spoke with Lansard afterward.

Based on their conversation, Meilleur said that at one point during the meeting, Lansard was asked to leave the room. When he returned, he was informed that a vote had taken place and that Ste. Anne had been removed from the league.

Despite the circumstances surrounding the meeting, the Aces released a statement Sunday stating that the league's six original member teams voted to remove them.

"It was a surprise to all of the guys," said Meilleur. "We have a group chat, so he (Lansard) messaged us, and there was a flood of questions: What is the reasoning? What does this mean? Are we indefinitely out of the league? Is there a way we can fight back? It was out of left field for all of us."

Meilleur added the team had no indication it had broken any rules — and if they had, he believes they would have been informed.

Meilleur, 31, said the team is not giving up yet.

"We're reaching out to the public to get some backing, because we feel this is very unfair and uncalled for," he said. "We're going to speak with Hockey Manitoba, and if we have to get lawyers involved to see if this was

done legally — followed to a tee lawfully — then that's what we'll do."

A former Balmoral resident and ex-captain of the Manitoba Major Junior Hockey League's Stonewall Jets, Meilleur has been part of all three of Ste. Anne's recent championship teams.

"If we don't make it back into the league, I'm going to step away for a bit," he said. "I have a son on the way, so things are busy for me. I'd have to take a step back, unfortunately."

"I would like to continue playing hockey at the senior level because I love the league and the competitiveness. I just hope we can get back in, that this can be resolved fairly, and we can move forward."

"I think it's pretty well known that Ste. Anne has brought a very competitive nature to the league. It's not like we walked through everyone this year — we went to Game 7 overtime with Springfield, which was an electric experience. Now you're taking that away. If that ceases to exist, it doesn't just affect the community of Ste. Anne, it affects the league as well."

Meilleur said the potential removal of the team impacts more than just the players.

"I lived through it with my teammates," he said. "A lot of them have become close friends. They're fathers

of two or three kids, and their kids are at the games. Their wives and families come too. We've got kids lining up to fist bump us before every game — it's what they live for on the weekends."

"They don't know anything that comes close to that feeling. Senior A hockey with the Aces has been such a special experience. You don't always get on a team that can win like we have, so that's been very exciting — and obviously beneficial for the families and kids involved."

"That's the biggest gut punch. Taking that away affects a whole community. It's not just 24 grown men — it's their families. It trickles down. We all got to be part of the experience of winning together, and it just feels like something got stolen from us — not in the past, but maybe moving forward."

The SEMHL operated with 10 teams during the 2024-25 season, the Carman Beavers, Île-des-Chênes North Stars, Morden Bombers, Notre Dame Hawks, Portage Islanders, Red River Wild, Springfield Winterhawks, Ste. Anne Aces, Warren Mercs, and Winkler Royals. The Hanover Tache Junior Hockey League — which overlaps geographically with the SEMHL — included teams from both Ste. Anne and Steinbach last season.

FLASHBACK: Graysville boys crowned football champs

By Dennis Young

In 1960, the Graysville High School flag football team retained their Midland Division crown with a 23-0 win over Sperling.

George Gray recalls: "That team played flag football every school year for a few years. We played other schools in the area. At school, we had enough players to field two teams so we

could play each other. I remember kicker Roddy Major could split the goalposts from centre field. There was no tackling, but the line work was where the action was. Pulling the flags was the way to stop the runner, but the odd time the runner would tie the flag around the belt loop... the pants suffered from the pull. Great time we had!"



PHOTO SUBMITTED

The Graysville High School flag football team, left to right: Back row, Stan Henderson (coach), Jack Murta, Brian Owen, Ken McInnes, Blaine Harrison, Jim Refvik (coach); centre row, Dennis Doerksen, Ken Hudson, George Gray, Barry Gillingham, Lawrence Kyle, Awyn Coleman, Ken Major; front row, Vernon Begalke, Michael Funke, Wayne Watt, Gary Gibson and Bob McIntyre.

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JOB OPPORTUNITY

Planning Services Administrator

Office Location: Town of Carman

Representing: The Town of Carman, RM of Dufferin, and RM of Grey Planning District

Reports to: Chief Administrative Officers & the Planning District Board

Position Overview: The Carman Dufferin Grey Planning District is seeking a Planning Services Administrator to support planning and permitting activities in the Town of Carman, RM of Dufferin, and RM of Grey. This position is a permanent full-time position.

Key Responsibilities:

- Administer planning permits, ensuring all applications comply with regulations.
- Issue invoices, maintain records, and prepare monthly reports.
- Assist with zoning amendments, variations, and conditional use applications.
- Liaise with municipal staff, community organizations, and stakeholders.
- Respond to inquiries and ensure informational materials are accurate and up-to date.
- Conduct research to improve planning and regulatory practices.

Desired Qualifications:

- University degree or College Diploma in Business, Office Administration, or related field, with accounting coursework preferred.
- Familiarity with planning and permitting processes.
- Strong communication, organizational, and computer skills.
- Self-motivated, detail-oriented, and capable of managing multiple tasks.

Why Apply?

This role offers an opportunity to contribute to the planning and growth of the Carman, Dufferin, and Grey areas.

How to Apply?

Please submit your pdf resume and cover letter to the Carman Dufferin Grey Planning District Board at office@cdgplanning.com. We thank all those that apply, however only candidates selected for an interview will be contacted. The position will remain posted until filled.

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

Carman Community Restorative Justice Committee Annual General Meeting Monday May 12th 7:00 PM

Blue Crescent Hotel Meeting Room
The volunteer CCRJC partners with MB Justice and law enforcement, working to make our community a safe and healthy one.

Come and learn more about us.



LEGAL ASSISTANT - CARMAN OFFICE
PKF Lawyers is seeking a full-time Legal Assistant to join our Carman team.

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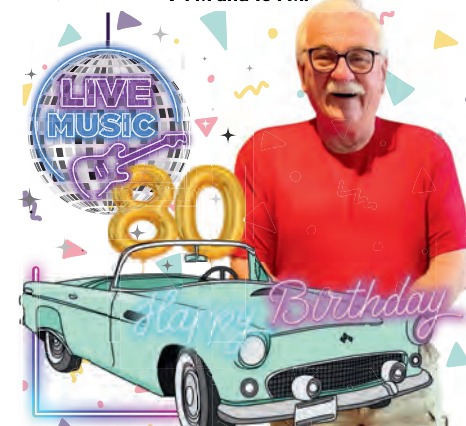
Position: Real Estate and Family Law assistant.

For more information or to submit your resume with 3 references and keyboard speed to Lori Wiebe lwiebe@pkflawyers.com

This position is at the Carman location and is open until filled. However, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

Join us in celebrating George Gray's birthday!
Date: Saturday, May 10th
Location: Carman Legion Auxiliary Hall

Feel free to come and go between
7 PM and 10 PM.



Sudoku Answer

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

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CARD OF THANKS

I wish to express my heartfelt gratitude to the staff of Carman Memorial Hospital for their wonderful care during my recent week-long stay there. The proficiency, respect and compassion with which I was treated was truly extraordinary and made being in hospital much easier. It was obvious that a team approach involving all departments of the hospital: lab and x-ray, housekeeping, kitchen, pharmacy, maintenance, administration, etc., as well as the health care providers of doctors, nurses and health care aides, was being followed, with each department playing their part and communicating well in addressing the needs of patients.

Our Canadian health care system faces many stresses and challenges today, which we all need to be concerned about and work on. In the midst of those challenges, it is truly inspiring to see hospital staff bringing their very best to their work each day and providing excellent patient care. We are so fortunate to have such a wonderful medical facility as Carman Memorial Hospital in our community.

-Yours sincerely,
Cathie Waldie

OBITUARY



Rian Cooper

Born 3 June 1946 - Died 25 April 2025

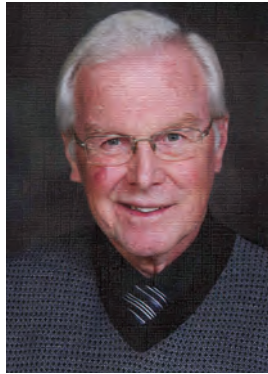
Left to grieve are: Dianne McCullough, Dustin Moses Cooper, Andrea Moses Cooper, Patty Cooper and Tina Biello.

No funeral will occur per wishes.

See Doyle Funeral Home page for detailed tribute. www.doylesfuneralhome.ca

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

OBITUARY



In loving memory of Albert Janzen

August 7th, 1935 - April 28th, 2025

Albert Janzen, age 89 of Morden, formerly of Miami, passed away peacefully at home on April 28th, 2025.

He is survived by his children, Joann (Andrew), Wayne (Mona), and Terry, one grandchild, Leah (Kaylen), and two great-grandchildren, Alex and Riley.

Funeral service was held on Tuesday, May 6th at 2:00 p.m. at Wiebe Funeral Chapel in Morden. Burial took place prior to the service at the Lakeside Cemetery.

Wiebe Funeral Chapel, Morden
in care of arrangements
www.wiebefuneralhomes.com



ONLINE FARM & CONSIGNMENT SALES

Farm Auction Sale for Dennis Geisler, Ashern, MB

Sale Starts online: Monday June 2, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.

Closes: soft close starting at 10:00 a.m., Wednesday, June 18th, 2025

Included in the sale: M.F. Super 90 Tractor, power steering, 540 pto, 8745 hrs showing; Hutchmaster 8ft offset breaking disc; Cockshutt 12 tandem disc; Vicon 9 wheel rake; N.H. 1475 Haybine, 16ft hydro swing, 1000 pto; N.H. 660 Baler w/auto wrap, 540 pto; #37 J.D. 9ft Mower, field ready; Antiques, cattle equipment, tools, misc.

Viewing: by appointment only Wednesday & Thursday, May 28 & 29th. 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Contact Dennis for viewing arrangements at (204) 302-0474.

From Ashern - 1.6 km South on Hwy #6 to PR #325. Follow #325 West for 7.7 km, turn left on Geisler Road for 1.3 km South. Farm is on West side of road - #144032.

Consignment Auction

In the Lake Francis & surrounding area

Sale Starts online: Monday May 12, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.

Closes: soft close starting at 10:00 a.m., Wednesday, May 28th, 2025

Included in the sale: Int. 1256 Turbo Tractor; Ford 7600 Tractor & loader; Boat, motor & trailer; Front end loaders; Manure & grapple forks, Kubota snowblower; Tires; Scaffolding; Gooseneck trailer; Hay trailer; Tires (farm and vehicle); Seed discers; Fertilizer spreaders; Mowers; Square bale picker;

Viewing by appointment only Monday, May 12 & Tuesday, May 13th, 2025 - 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Contact John Lampert for viewing arrangements at (204) 841-4136 (cell) or house (204) 383-5771.

Site location (1): 86155 Road 16W - (Corner of Roads 16W and 87N)

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to register or
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OBITUARY



Lyall Allison

Lyall Murray Allison, born January 11, 1932, passed away April 27, 2025.

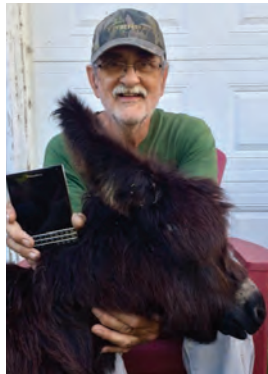
He was a devoted husband and father who farmed near Roland from age 16 until retirement.

Lyall married Lois Edie in 1957. They had five daughters, of whom he was very proud.

Funeral Service was held at Roland United Church at 2:00 on Saturday, May 3, 2025.

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

OBITUARY



François "Frank" Labelle

On Sunday, April 27, 2025 at the Boundary Trails Health Centre, Frank Labelle passed away at the age of 68 years.

He is predeceased by his parents Denis and Aline Labelle; brother Paul and sister Anna.

Frank will be sadly missed by his wife Janice Deremiens; sister Marie (Peter) Eickenberg; brother Maurice (Diane) Labelle; mother-in-law Marjorie Deremiens; sister-in-law Aileen Hutchen (Marshall Morgan).

He is also survived by nieces and nephews, Daniel (Candace) Labelle; Jerome Labelle; Nicole (Rob) Presley; Tiffany Eickenberg (Stephanie Butterworth) and grandniece Raelynn Presley.

Funeral service was held on Tuesday, May 6, 2025 at the Carman United Church at 2:00 p.m.

Donations may be made to the Heart and Stroke Foundation, 1379 Kenaston Blvd., Winnipeg, MB, R3P 2T5.

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

take a break

> GAMES

SUDOKU

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

Level: Intermediate

Here's How It Works:

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

Fun By The Numbers

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

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33-0703/2210

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