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VOLUME 4
EDITION 11

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Magical world

STANDARD PHOTO BY LANA MEIER

Carman Collegiate presented the timeless classic Alice in Wonderland last week. Alice crossed the imaginary chessboard of many lands to become Queen. Pictured left to right, Dormous (Lada Dmitriev), Mouse (Martha Rempel), Mad Hatter (Carter Lane), Alice (Jaclynn Knight), Queen of Hearts (Chelsea Bourgeois) and White Queen (Rosie Phan-Cotton).

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Riedbow Dairy farmers earn 2024 Watershed Award

By Ty Dilello

The Redboine Watershed District (RBWD) recently presented Ale Riedstra of Riedbow Dairy with the 2024 RBWD Watershed Award. This award recognizes Ale's outstanding contributions and the impact they have had and continues to have on the provincial landscape.

The Redboine Watershed District encompasses an area of approximately 5,200km². It includes all or parts of the participating RMs of Victoria, Norfolk Treherne, Dufferin, Grey, Cartier, Ritchot, Stanley, Thompson, Lorne, Morris, Roland, Pembina, and the Town of Carman.

Ale and Hilly Riedstra and three children first immigrated from the Netherlands to Canada in March of 1987. Four more children were born in Canada. The start of Riedbow Dairy went from conception to reality in 1987 with 25 milking cows. The Riedstras worked hard and took advantage of the opportunities that were presented to them.

In the early years, the family faced many challenges, with the lack of forage due to drought being the critical one. Because of this, the Riedstras felt strongly about building a good feed

inventory so that when a bad year came around again with low forage production, they could change their feeding strategies and make it to the following year. Soil health and nutrient management became very important, directly impacting forage production and quality. Having high-quality forage increases the performance opportunity of the dairy herd.

At Riedbow Dairy, the Riedstra's work closely with advisers in several different departments.

They have a close relationship with their veterinarian to discuss animal health and a nutritionist who samples all their feed and inventories and formulates and balances a ration that supplies the cattle with their daily requirements while optimizing performance. They also utilize an agronomist who takes soil samples and advises on optimizing on-farm nutrients and where to supplement fertilizer, taking into account the crop nutrient requirements to maximize yields.

They also work with the environmental sector in the RM of Grey and Water Stewardship on how to best utilize farmable acres without negatively impacting the local district.

Riedbow Dairy, near Elm Creek,



STANDARD PHOTO SUBMITTED

Ale Riedstra of Riedbow Dairy near Elm Creek received the 2024 RBWD Watershed Award. Pictured, Ale Sr., Ale Jr., and Logan and Mason Riedstra.



Left to right, RBWD chairman Shane Pelletier presented the Riedstra Family, Hilly, Ale and Ale Jr. with the Award at the AGM on Feb. 23 in Carman.

now milks 850 cows with a Delaval VMS (voluntary milking system). This robotic system was installed in 2015 and allows the cows to be milked 24 hours a day as they please. As a re-

sult, milk production and cow health have improved, and it has proven to be a positive and economic step towards the future.

Continued on page 6

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A trek from Ukraine leads to new life in Carman

By Ty Dilello

The Anishchuk family is enjoying their new life in southern Manitoba after leaving Ukraine during the ongoing war one year ago.

Olena and Oleksandr Anishchuk live in Carman with their 12-year-old son Arkadii and 10-year-old daughter Vira.

Olena first came to Canada in February of 2023 and moved to Carman a month later. She returned to Ukraine to bring her children over and was later joined by her husband. On the second anniversary of the Russian invasion of their homeland, Olena Anishchuk shared her personal story with the Carman-Dufferin Standard.

On Feb. 24, 2022, at 4:30 a.m., the country of Ukraine woke up to loud, terrifying explosions. Rockets were flying from all sides. Kilometre-long convoys of Russian military equipment crossed the state border, and landing ships were coming in from the sea.

It was the beginning of the Russo-Ukrainian War, which has been an ongoing conflict for the past two years.

"It was difficult to understand how this could happen in the 21st century," said Olena Anishchuk. "More than 80 years have passed since the attack of Hitler's army, which caused lost lives, war hunger, devastation, and terrible memories of five years of war for the veterans."

For Anishchuk and her family, their lives were forever changed after Russia invaded Ukraine.

"For a long time, we did not find the words to explain to the children why dad is at home and not at work, why we would stock up on water and food, until we had to run to the sounds of an air alarm to the parking garage of a nearby high-rise building together with our neighbours," said Olena An-

ishchuk. "We slept together in a remote room with dimmed lights to camouflage us from enemy planes and drones and gathered the necessary documents and things in case the occupiers broke into the city. Around the clock, we followed the news from the front from all possible sources. We learned with horror the destruction throughout the country, such as mass murders, territorial occupation, the seizure of nuclear power plants, etc."

In those difficult first days of the war, Ukrainians rallied as they organized the construction of defence structures in their cities, provided the military and territorial defence representatives with the necessary things such as food, warm clothes, hygiene and medical products, and stood in line at centers to donate blood or to join the army.

Despite everything that Russia had thrown at them, Ukraine persevered and is still fighting vigorously to this day.

"Currently, our military is repelling around the clock the numerous attacks by occupation forces which far outnumber our army in terms of men and equipment accumulated by the enemy over decades of wars of

aggression. The majority of Ukrainians and citizens of other countries transfer funds for the purchase of everything necessary for the Ukrainian army. Support from partner countries is very important, both in terms of military equipment and financial assistance. Also, many countries opened their doors to protect millions of Ukrainians who were forced to leave their homes in order to pre-

"WE SLEPT TOGETHER IN A REMOTE ROOM WITH DIMMED LIGHTS TO CAMOUFLAGE US FROM ENEMY PLANES."



STANDARD PHOTO BY OLENA ANISHCHUK

Olena Anishchuk has been living in Carman with her husband Oleksandr and 12-year-old son Arkadii and 10-year-old daughter Vira for the past year after immigrating from Ukraine as a result of the ongoing Russo-Ukrainian War.

serve the most valuable thing, the life and health of their children."

Anishchuk and her family came over last year under the Canada-Ukraine Authorization for

Continued on page 5

Missions Conference 2024

March 14-15 at 7:00pm.

Sunday, March 17th at 10:30am followed by a potluck lunch.

7:00pm evening service.



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getheard

EDITORIAL > VIEWPOINTS > LETTERS

Ty Dilello
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March snowstorm

PHOTO BY MATTHIEU MEIER
Last Tuesday, Manitoba Hydro crews were busy pulling a roller along the power lines, cracking ice from the wires just outside of Notre Dame after a low-pressure system swept through Manitoba last week. Much of the province was hit with freezing rain, 6-25 cm of snow and strong winds.

The history of Carman adopting Daylight Savings Time

By Margaret Riddell

Carman got its first taste of Daylight Savings Time in February of 1942, when “fast time” was declared in effect all across North America to conserve electrical energy for World War II industries.

The year after the war, the Carman Town Council was presented with a petition to adopt Daylight Saving Time for the summer months. They polled the town’s storekeepers, who mostly favoured putting the clocks ahead, as had already been done in Winnipeg.

The Council passed a by-law to change the time to midnight, June 2, with a return to Standard Time in October. They reminded people, however, that the railways would remain on Standard Time, as would the Post Office. Within a few days, the Post Office decided to blend in with the rest of the town and moved their clocks ahead.

Just over a week of fast time passed. At the June 10 meeting of the Carman Board of Trade, over half of the attendees were farmers protesting the change. They cited considerable confusion with the new time. A resolution from the Dufferin Agricultural Soci-

ety recommended the town revert to Standard Time, mainly to avoid problems during the Carman Fair.

The Board of Trade unanimously recommended that the town rescind the Daylight Savings By-Law. When the town councillors met, they decided to take no action to rescind the by-law without a new petition. Instead, they opted to keep the offending statute on their records without enacting it.

Ten years passed before anyone dared suggest another time change. In March 1953, the Chamber of Commerce brushed a new proposal aside, recalling the “indignant” meeting that led to the earlier abandonment of Daylight Saving time.

By the early sixties, DST had a well-established footing in most cities, and Carman, with little opposition or fanfare, decided to try again to implement the time change on an experimental scale.

In 1965, Carman people enjoyed the extended daylight hours enough to propose extending them past Labour Day to the last Sunday in October to conform with Winnipeg. However, there were still enough conflicting opinions in the area that the Town

Council decided to take no chances with a hasty decision. They referred the matter to a July referendum, where voters gave their three-to-one approval.

A cartoon in the local paper that fall carried the caption, “Do you want Winnipeg time, Portage time, School Division time, Carman time, or sun time?”

But Carman’s variable times were just part of a nationwide time disorder. In 1967, the Official Time Act was passed to legislate consistent clocks. Across Canada, the time change was in effect from the last Sunday in April to the last Sunday in October. Another 20 years before an amendment to that act moved the effective date to the first Sunday in April.

In 2024, Daylight Saving is a taken-for-granted fact of life. While a few areas still resist its adoption, it is now used in over 70 countries worldwide and affects over one billion people. Still, many oppose the twice-yearly clock changes as unnecessary disruptions. Many jurisdictions in Canada and worldwide are considering possibly making DST the permanent default. Time will tell.

OUR SISTER PUBLICATIONS



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Carman Country Fair returning from July 11-13

By Ty Dilello

The 2024 Carman Country Fair will be held from July 11 to 13 at the Dufferin Agricultural Society (DAS) Carman Fairgrounds.

First staged in 1879, the Carman Fair has grown from small beginnings to become one of the major agricultural shows in Manitoba and is currently recognized as one of the top five fairs in the province.

The Fair combines the traditional elements that we all know and love with exciting exhibits and headline entertainment to keep people coming back again and again.

It is the vision of the Fair's Committee to continue to hold a fair that enter-

tains, provides an outstanding showcase for our exhibitors, and a first-class competition for its competitors.

Each year, the Carman Country Fair raises funds for Community Groups within the region. In addition to showcasing rural life, the Fair provides a platform for local businesses and entrepreneurs to promote their products and services. Visitors can browse and shop for unique and handcrafted items and engage in innovative, educational and community fundraising events that support the festival's initiatives.

"To our members, customers, and patrons, we pledge continuous improvement and make the commitment



STANDARD PHOTO SUBMITTED

The Carman Country Fair is returning in 2024 and will be held from July 11-13 at the Dufferin Agricultural Society Carman Fairgrounds.

that every Carman Country Fair will continue to build a testament to the strong spirit and values of the communities within the Pembina Valley Region," said Bernie Townsend of the Dufferin Agricultural Society.

Some of the new exhibits and events to look forward to in 2024 include:

Bale Decorating Competitions for Community Groups and Individuals
Red River BBQ and Grill Backyard Pitmaster's Cook-Off

PRAIRIE Trains, Planes and LEGO, an interactive experience for children

and adults

MBRCC Provincial Championships
Folklorama performances
Ethno-cultural Food Trucks
Open Barrel Racing

The full Carman Country Fair program is available online for people to check out at www.carmancountry-fair.ca.

"The Dufferin Agricultural Society does not want to change the Fair, but to improve and grow the experience to reach all regardless of age, culture, and circumstance," said Townsend.

> UKRAINE, FROM PG. 3



Arkadii and Vira Anishchuk both attend Carman Elementary School.

Emergency Travel (CUAET) program. Help centers for newly arrived Ukrainians were created in all major cities of Canada to help with finding housing and work, organizing language courses and clubs, completing necessary documents, medical insurance and psychological support.

"We were lucky to meet extremely kind, sensitive and caring people, who introduced us to the picturesque town of Carman, where we have been living and working for almost a year."

After many years of work in the geodesic field back in Ukraine, when she arrived in Canada, Anishchuk discovered a new profession as a meat cutter at the local Co-op food store in Carman.

"Our children study in local schools, where caring and talented teachers work, who, with all their love, give valuable knowledge, important skills and protection every day. My relatives and Ukrainian friends also live in Carman and work at local enterprises, contributing to the development and prosperity of

the community. The only difficulty in the process of successful social integration in a new country is a good command of English and French, learning which requires some time and effort, but is not a significant obstacle for a comfortable stay, because the local population treats newcomers with respect and understanding."

For hundreds of thousands of Ukrainians and for the Anishchuk family, it was a difficult but important decision to find shelter in a safe country such as Canada. The Anishchuks are extremely grateful to the Manitoba provincial government and Canadian government and to all the citizens of this country for their help, support and love.

"I want to express my gratitude to our Canadian friends and all residents of the wonderful, cozy town of Carman for the care, devotion, sincerity, and warmth in your hearts, as well as for providing all the necessary household items, knowledge and experience to build a new life in Friendly Manitoba."



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105-year-old Second World War veteran to be laid to rest

Funeral on Friday, March 15 at 2 p.m.

By Ty Dilello

Carman's Carm Colvin, one of Canada's oldest surviving Second World War veterans died at the age of 105 on March 3.

During the War, Colvin and his two brothers courageously fought for Canada on multiple battlegrounds throughout Europe. He spent three years from 1942 to 1945 stationed overseas in England, Scotland, Bel-

gium, France, Holland, Luxembourg, and Germany.

Following the war, Colvin returned to Carman and raised a family with his wife, Vera.

Two years ago, Colvin was bestowed with the highest honour from France that can be given to a civilian or military member - being made a Knight of the French National Order of the Legion of Honour. Over the years, France has Knighted 1,600 Canadian soldiers for their bravery.

Colvin had proudly served as a member of the Carman Legion for more than 75 years.

The funeral for Colvin will be held at the Carman United Church on March 15 at 2 p.m. Interment will take place at the Greenwood Cemetery. Those wishing to make a donation in his memory can contribute to either the Carman Area Foundation or the Carman Health Auxiliary.

"Not many people get to live such a long and vibrant life as he did, so we know how fortunate we are to have had him with us in good health to the age of 105," said Carm's son, Fred Colvin. "Of course, we're sad, but we knew this day would come."



PHOTO BY FRED COLVIN

Second World War veteran and noted Carman resident Carm Colvin passed away at the age of 105 years old.

> DAIRY, FROM PG. 2

Riedstra's commitment to positively impacting the watershed was evident when they purchased a quarter section that included a sizeable wetland. The former owner had illegally drained the wetland, which the province ordered restored to its previous

function. Riedbow Dairy understood they would be responsible for covering the restoration costs at the time of purchase and decided to go one step further.

With the help of the Redboine Watershed District and Manitoba Drainage and Water Rights, a plan was

developed to restore the six acres of wetland as mandated by the province and increase the wetland area to over ten acres.

A fixed crest weir would control the wetland, maintaining a set water level while protecting the municipal road upstream from backflooding.

The wetland would outlet into a large retention pond that Riedbow Dairy would construct to provide water for its dairy operation to the north. Any excess water could flow through the natural drainage channel east across the property.

The disputed area had been left to reseed itself naturally, and it was agreed that altering the vegetated regions would be an unnecessary disruption to the re-established ecosystem. Earthwork in the wetland was kept to a minimum, removing enough of the illegal berm to satisfy the provincial requirements and constructing a new retention berm to the south to maintain water in the recreated wetland while providing a physical barrier to prevent encroachment of the cultivated land.

The project was a resounding success. It not only increased the site's flood water retention capacity but also increased and improved the habitat area of the wetland ecosystem. This provides space for dozens of native species to live and thrive while improving water quality for the dairy, which in turn improves the health and productivity of the livestock. It also provides a working example of the benefits of cooperation between landowners and the Watershed Districts.

The Redboine Watershed District would like to congratulate Ale and Hilly and Riedbow Dairy on their commitment to the Redboine Watershed. They will be recognized at the Manitoba Association of Watersheds Annual Conference in Brandon in December.

"The Riedstra's willingness to knowingly purchase a piece of land with an existing court order to replace a wetland that they would become responsible for, and showed their extreme commitment to making the watershed a better place," said RBWD manager Justin Reid.



The Riedbow Dairy operation is located just outside of Elm Creek. The family owned and operated farm milks 850 cows daily.



Soil health and nutrient management is very important in forage production and quality.



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Sunshine Highway Relic Run scheduled for July 23

By Ty Dilello

A group of local historians in southern Manitoba have recently taken it upon themselves to see what they can learn about the old Sunshine Highway that ran from Brandon to Sioux City, Iowa, in the early 1920s. They've even planned an old car run on the Highway this summer to trace the early Manitoba motorists' routes.

Coincidentally, Mike Webber, a volunteer printer and tour guide at the Crystal City Printing Museum, has researched the Sunshine Highway for several years.

In Crystal City Courier newspaper files from 1921, Webber discovered information about the Highway's opening. He has since found the original route maps and the Route handbook, which give information about the towns along the route, as well as their dining, hotel, and "automobile servicing facilities."

This was before the federal government developed long stretches of roads; instead, organizations would scout good local roads that interconnected to form routes that could take you across the country.

The handbook even provides the name of a Highway representative (or ambassador) in each town who would assist tourists if needed. Local civic groups would check the roads, encourage good maintenance from local road departments, and establish official highway signs marking the route.

Sheet metal signs were 18 inches square with a yellow background. In the center was a black letter "S" that was stylized in a circle for Sunshine Highway that motorists were to follow. Signs along the road marked right and left turns with an R about the circled S for right turns and an L above the circled S for left turns.

The Sunshine Highway starts right in Brandon and goes south through the Brandon

Hills, Wawanesa, Glenboro, Baldur, Glenora, Rock Lake, Crystal City, the U.S./Canada border, Sarles, North Dakota, Devil's Lake, North Dakota, and South Dakota, before ending 700 miles later at Sioux City, Iowa.

The Sunshine Highway was officially opened at a ceremony in Crystal City on July 23, 1921. Mayor Dinsdale of Brandon, plus the mayor of Woonsocket, South Dakota, Mayor Dalton, who was also the President of the Sunshine Highway, accompanied by 75 officials of the Highway, took part in the ceremony at Crystal City.

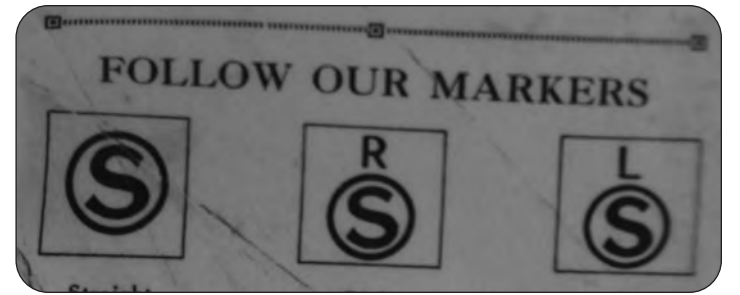
The Highway's original staff had hoped to extend it through Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma, and Texas to the Rio Grande, but this never happened.

The Highway was on a stretch where farmers and stockraisers were prosperous. Tourists will find a town every ten miles along the Highway, which is the natural north-south Highway for people wanting to reach the Canadian Northwest or the heart of the Dakotas. It's the ideal Highway to reach the Black Hills or Yellowstone National Park.

A committee of Alan Melvin, Charlie Baldock, Bill Sandercock and Mike Webber, joined by Gordon Goldsborough of the Manitoba Historical Society plan to re-enact that opening day with a journey of about 110 miles from the U.S. border south of Crystal City to Brandon.

The trip will be called The Sunshine Highway Relic Run, and vehicles built in 1940 and earlier are invited to take part. Like that initial opening-day journey, the committee is hoping for 30 vehicles to make the trek. Many of the roads will be gravel, not paved highways, so this may limit who will be willing to risk dust and stone damage to their old vehicles.

The committee proposed that the old vehicles stop at museums along the route to break up



the driving and give the relic riders a chance to explore some history.

The Sunshine Highway Relic Run is set for July 23 with a rain date of July 24. For more information or to sign up, please get in touch with Alan Melvin at 204-529-2104 or akmelvin@gmail.com.

"It's going to be a very exciting day," said organizer Alan Melvin. "We're still looking for some old cars that want to make the drive that day, so please give us a shout if you want to come on the ride along the Sunshine Highway."



STANDARD PHOTO BY NANCY HOLMAN)

Dr. Gordon Goldsborough (left), renowned Manitoba historian and author, Alan Melvin (centre) and Mike Webber of the Crystal City Printing Museum look over the route, set for this summer on July 23, of the original Sunshine Highway from Brandon to the U.S. border south of Crystal City.

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Fantasy story performance fantastic



STANDARD PHOTOS BY LANA MEIER

Carman Collegiate's senior year students worked tirelessly behind the scenes to create a magical and intriguing show for three *Alice in Wonderland* performances last week. With the use of a Cyclorama screen or computer generated scenic backdrop, in-house made set pieces, and some of the students' art, the audience was transformed into a psychedelic, imaginative, and colourful world. The timeless classic story *Alice in Wonderland*, follows a young girl who grows weary of her studies and drifts off into a dreamland. There, she embarks on a journey through Wonderland, encountering a colorful cast of characters while trying to navigate across a giant chessboard. With a determined spirit, Alice sets her sights on becoming the Queen and returning home to her family, studies, and beloved cat, Dinah.





Remembering... Carman teachers Miss Bowes and Miss Bruce

By Dennis Young

In 1969, two public school teachers retired and were honoured for their 75 combined years of educating children. Over 700 attended an "At Home" celebration at the Carman Elementary School to congratulate and bid farewell to those who had been a part of our community and supported projects during their lifetime here.

Mary Bruce was a hometown girl born and schooled in Carman. After completing her schooling following the First World War, she decided to teach and began her career at Gilt Edge School near Culross. Miss Bruce taught in Starbuck, Winnipeg, Lenore, Dominion City and Morris before settling back home in 1935. She originally wanted to teach grade 1 pupils, but the only spots open were grades 3-5, which would be her classes for the next 34 years.

She could follow her students through the grades, getting to know them and their families. Many changes came her way that affected her teaching habits. One was the television. She was against it initially, then realized the children have access to a field of knowledge never before available and recommended specific programs. Yet she also noticed that television also had an adverse effect on their reading skills.

With the increase in the number of religious denominations and school enrollment, she was quoted at the farewell as saying, "The close association between teacher and student is being lost. We are not as likely to develop close relationships." Miss Bruce undoubtedly set a teaching record that may never be equalled/passed. Out of her 47 years, 34 were here in Carman.

Olive Bowes was also raised in the Carman area, receiving her high school education there. After teaching at other schools in the province, she

returned in 1928 and taught for the next 41 years. Miss Bowes was always closely associated with her students and found that as you get to know the children, you get to know the parents and the families.

"Their concerns become my concerns," she was quoted as saying then. "And their joys become my joys!"

She said, "I built a circle of friends in the teaching profession, became a part of the community, and reaped a harvest of rewards because of it. Look at all my students who showed today!"

Her attitude towards retirement was that one should retire before reaching the point where they cannot live any other kind of life than what they are doing.

HERE ARE SOME STUDENT MEMORIES:

Blair Lawson - Always remember Miss Bowes, who wanted you to sit "straight up" because if you didn't you would be hobbled later in life with a crooked spine. She was the epitome of an old school marm - set in her historic ways and values. What I remember most about Miss Bruce's class is memorizing and reciting *The Wreck of the Hesperus*. She was one of my all-time favourites. I loved her work, and she was dedicated to driving you to do your best.

Gwen Cutting Johnston - Mary was a stern teacher, and to discipline students, she would stand behind you as you sat at your desk, take her fingers, and jab them into your shoulders. Olive Bowes lived with her elderly father across from the old brick school. The grade 8 project she promoted was a 4-H Sewing Club where girls had to make a dress and the boys pyjama



Miss Mary Bruce



Miss Olive Bowes

bottoms.

Kelly Rothwell - I was relieved in Grade 8 when I was assigned to Mr. Clark's homeroom and not to Miss Bowes. She had a very short fuse and was quite terrifying when angry. As a neighbour across the schoolyard from me, she was always very pleasant.

Della Heaman - Everything I knew I had learned from Miss Bowes, and I credit her with developing my study habits. The first 10 minutes of each class was a short quiz, which we never knew ahead of which subject, but it would be based on work from the previous day. My best memories of Miss Bruce are from my C.G.I.T. years when she faithfully played the organ at the Christmas candlelight practices and services.

Bob Billing - Miss Bruce was my nonsense boys' choir leader. I enjoyed her leadership even though we could not fool around. I had Miss Bowes for only one class, in which several of us boys were banished from our outdoor

phys ed class and made to sit in on her girl's health class. And that's another story.

Denny Hunter - They were my favourite teachers, but I do not think I was theirs. Miss Bowes broke more than one yardstick over my desk and informed me to get her another one from my dad at the Beaver Lumber so he would know I was in trouble at school. She also lived across from the school and never complained on weekends when we asked her to get the sports equipment. I was fortunate to have them as teachers.

Jane Swanton - I remember Miss Bruce as a teacher with lovely grey hair and stylish earrings. Her donation to the library reflected her dedication to teaching and vision for the future of children in our community. Miss Bowes always had a string of beads adorning her neck. She could be seen in all kinds of weather, wearing a dress even at 20 below, pulling her shopping cart through town.

COUNTRY WOOD Signs

RETIREMENT ANNOUNCEMENT

After an incredible 31 years, I am announcing my retirement and the closure of my business, Country Wood Signs. This decision comes with a mix of emotions, but it is time to bring this chapter to a close.

I extend my deepest gratitude to our local community and surrounding areas for your unwavering support. To each individual, small business, and large corporation that trusted me to be your sign-maker, I am truly grateful.

As the door to my workshop closes, I will carry with me a deep appreciation for the memories, connections, and friendships formed over the years. It has been an honor and a joy to have a long career of doing what I love to do; make signs!

With sincere thanks,
Donna Christen
 Country Wood Signs

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Valley Motorsports has big plans for 2024 race season

By Lorne Stelmach

Now with one year under its belt, the Valley Motorsports Association is looking forward to moving ahead and building on its initial success.

The association recently held its annual meeting, and president Chris Unrau reflected on the positive response to the first year of events at the Dead Horse Creek Speedway.

"We're ecstatic. We never imagined that this thing would grow legs and take off the way it did. We obviously had hopes for success, but we hadn't imagined the community would take hold of it the way that they have," said Unrau.

"We've got a lot of people who are excited about what we are doing, a lot of people who are excited about attending, participating, sponsoring, volunteering. It's been an amazing journey to see the community coming together around it."

The association formed as a not-for-profit corporation in 2023 and took over operation of the former ALH Motor Speedway west of Morden. The speedway was constructed by Al Hildebrand in 2008 and operated from 2009 through 2019 before closing

during the pandemic.

The association bills itself as grassroots enthusiasts whose mission is to advance motorsports for the enjoyment of the region.

Unrau highlighted the enormous efforts of the community, businesses, and volunteers that enabled them to revitalize the track, which most notably included reshaping and resurfacing it with 350 truckloads of clay donated by Kroeker Farms.

Despite posting a minor loss in its first year of operations, the group was generally satisfied with the financial performance, and it was able to make a \$20,000 donation to the Boundary Trails Health Centre Foundation for the ongoing hospital expansion.

Three weekend special events are on tap for 2024, Unrau shared.

The McNaught Cadillac Cup will be May 25-26 and will include the attendance of the Northern Late Model Racing Association with a top level of late model competitors in the region.

The GVE Deere Run will go July 5-6 featuring the Watermelon Cup modified special as well as the Brad Wall Memorial.

Closing out the season in conjunc-



STANDARD FILE PHOTO

The Valley Motorsports Association has three race weekends planned for this summer at Dead Horse Creek Speedway.

tion with the Corn and Apple Festival is the King of the Corn on Aug. 23-24.

Other plans include the addition of a lap/leaderboard that will be constructed prior to the start of the season and sponsored by LMS Ag Equipment. A proposed new championship points fund could pay out additional winnings to drivers who earn points for performance on and off the track.

Some ideas for the future include seating expansion, corporate private suites, and the addition of other events.

With numerous projects on tap, the organization is looking for more volunteers to assist in construction, maintenance, track work and event operations, noted Unrau.

"There is a really strong racing community. It's not just dirt track. We've also talked about doing potential drag race events. We're talking about doing a truck and tractor pull. There's a lot of people who are excited about various forms of motor sports."

More information is available online at www.deadhorsecreeksspeedway.ca.

Pembina Pizazz compete at Canada Open

By Lorne Stelmach

It was less about the results than the experience when the local synchronized skating team took part in a national competition last month.

The Pembina Pizazz novice level team participated at the Canada Cup synchronized skating championship Feb. 21-25, and coach Pam Parker was proud of how well the skaters did in going up against more experienced teams from other provinces.

"They have a lot of room to grow," she said. "They learned way more than just about skating. They learned from the experience just in terms of things like how to compose themselves, how to work under pressure."

"You could see the improvement in their confidence and in their skills," Parker added. "They knew that they were kind of in their own level of competition, but they fit in with the teams at the end of the pack. They rose to the occasion."

Parker explained the format has changed for synchronized skating to have the senior and junior levels sep-

arate from the novice.

Entries were allocated to provinces or regions, with Manitoba and Saskatchewan getting one entry in the competition categories that included novice, intermediate, and open.

The Pembina Pizazz qualified through the regional synchronized skating championship held in Morden earlier this year. Parker said Manitoba had not had a team qualify for the event in years.

"We knew going in that the level we would be skating at was different than the teams from Ontario and Quebec ... those are the powerhouses of synchronized skating," she said, noting skaters there practice year-round five days a week and may be dedicated to synchronized skating, while the local skaters also compete individually and practice one day a week.

Parker noted they also brought in a couple skaters from Portage with no synchronized skating experience.

"They did extremely well, considering how quickly we put it together," she said. "A lot of the kids have never



STANDARD PHOTO SUBMITTED

The Canada Cup synchronized skating championship last month was a valuable learning experience for the Pembina Valley Pizazz, says coach Pam Parker.

competed outside of Manitoba, let alone at a national championship, so the whole thing was pretty huge and pretty exciting for them.

"The amount of energy and the noise in the building when they were at rink side waiting to skate was a whole new experience for them, and they handled it very well."

"It was a lot of pressure with a lot of people watching," said Parker. "They rose to the occasion and got their per-

sonal best score, and they were happy. They met a lot of people, and they got to witness firsthand things that we don't get to see here in Manitoba just with the level of competition."

Parker sees opportunities like this perhaps even being a further boost to the local program, which overall is now at about 40 skaters at three levels, including adult.

"This is the biggest number we've had in a number of years."

sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

Twisters open playoffs with pair of wins

By Ty Dilello

The Pembina Valley Twisters have taken a commanding 2-0 series lead winning the first two games of their quarterfinal match against the Raiders Jr. Hockey Club in the MMJHL playoffs.

Prior to the start of the playoffs, the Twisters suffered a 9-3 defeat on their home ice against the Fort Garry/Fort Rouge Twins in their last game of the regular season. Cohen

Thomas had a pair of goals for Pembina Valley in the losing effort, while Lucas Jolicoeur had the other goal. Jack Martin stopped 36 shots in goal for the loss.

The Twisters took the second spot in the MMJHL standings, boasting an impressive 27-14-4 record. As a result, they will have home-ice advantage as they face off against the seventh-seeded Raiders Jr. Hockey Club in their quarterfinal best-of-seven series.

Twisters' forward Derek Wiebe finished the regular season in seventh in the MMJHL's scoring race with 67 points in 44 games, while Merek Degraeve tied him with 67 points in 45 games. Netminder Logan Enns amassed a 20-8-1 record in goal, which

was good for second in the league in wins, with a 2.93 goals-against average and .914 save percentage.

On March 8, the Twisters won Game 1 at home by a 1-0 scoreline in a tight defensively played affair from both teams. Wiebe had the game-winner for Pembina Valley, while Enns stopped all 33 shots he faced for the shutout.

Game 2 was played on March 10. It was a wild back and forth thriller that saw the Twisters rally from a two-goal deficit in the third period to force overtime. The game ultimately went to double overtime before the Twisters pulled out a massive 6-5 victory.

Mike Heppner led the way for Pembina Valley with a pair of goals including the overtime winner, while the team's other goals were scored by Colton Wiebe, Thomas, Zander Carela and Brock Wood. Enns stopped 22 shots in goal for the victory.

"I think we went through every emotion you can in the playoffs in that one," said Twisters' head coach Braeden Bernaerts. "The whole game, we felt like we still had a gear or two left in the tank, and we just

"I THINK WE WENT THROUGH EVERY EMOTION YOU CAN IN THE PLAYOFFS IN THAT ONE."



STANDARD PHOTO BY LANA MEIER

The Pembina Valley Twisters' Derek Wiebe and Alex VanDeynze look to make a play in the 6-5 overtime win against the Raiders last Sunday.

had to find it. When we were able to not only tie the game but lead by one, I think we got too much of a relieved feeling, and we got caught thinking the game was over. And the Raiders capitalized on us as we were caught sleeping at the wheel. However, the boys dug deep and brought their all in the overtime as everyone stood tall, and Heppner was able to make an incredible play to extend the series lead to two."

The Twisters will now head out onto

the road for Games 3 and 4 at the Seven Oaks Sportsplex. Game 3 will be on March 12 at 7 p.m., while Game 4 will be held on March 15 at 7:30 p.m.

"It was a good lesson with a fortunate outcome that we were able to win in double overtime. We can't let off ever, and we can't take any game or shift for granted, or it could end up in the back of our net," said Bernaerts. We look forward to Game 3, and we hope we can keep the foot on the gas for a full sixty minutes."

Hawks move on to semi-finals versus Brandon Wheat Kings

By Lorne Stelmach

The Pembina Valley Hawks have taken down the number two team and now get a chance to take on the top seed as they advance in the Manitoba male U18 playoffs.

A 2-1 overtime victory in game five Saturday in Souris gave the Hawks a 3-2 series victory over the Southwest Cougars. They now advance to face the Brandon Wheat Kings in the semi-finals.

The seventh-place Hawks trailed 1-0 and 2-1 in the series after being edged 2-1 by Southwest in game three last Tuesday in Souris, but they then forced the fifth and deciding game

with a 4-3 win in game four Thursday in Morden.

Acoyen Fehr was the hero 7:43 into overtime with his fourth goal of the playoffs. The Hawks had spotted the Cougars the opening goal in the first period, but Adrien McIntosh tied it up with 41 seconds left in the opening frame, and then Fehr got the game-winner.

Bryson Yaschyshyn made 30 saves as the Cougars held a 31-29 edge in shots on goal.

The Hawks outshot the Cougars 26-19 in game three, but they were mostly stymied by Southwest goaltender Micky Gross. Yaschyshyn made 17

saves for Pembina Valley.

Charlie Hill scored the lone Hawks goal to even the game at 1-1 seven minutes into the second period, but the Cougars scored what proved to be the winning goal with 35 seconds remaining in that frame.

Fehr had a pair of goals and a three-point night to lead the Hawks to victory in game four. Yaschyshyn had a solid 38-save performance as the Cougars won the shots battle 41-32.

Lane Apperley and Liam Goertzen also scored for Pembina Valley, which trailed 2-1 after two but then came back with three goals in the third, including the winner by Fehr with 6:38

remaining in the game.

The semi-final round kicked off Tuesday in Brandon and then continued Wednesday in Morden. Results were not available at press time.

Game three is in Brandon Friday night and game four is back in Morden Sunday.

The Wheat Kings had a near perfect season with only one overtime loss in 44 games.

The Hawks kept most of their games with the Wheat Kings close, other than an 8-3 loss in December.

The other semi-final series has the third-place Winnipeg Wild taking on the fourth-place Winnipeg Thrashers.

Carman Spurs club volleyball program is booming

By Ty Dilello

The Carman Spurs are a local club volleyball program that has expanded this year. They boast both a 14U and 15U girls' team.

The Carman Spurs started in 2022 because organizers wanted to provide a local opportunity for girls to compete in sport outside of the more traditional rural options. It began with a 15U girls' team, but they have added a 14U girls' squad this year.

"The expansion this year has had a really positive impact on our communities, providing more athletes the opportunity to train at a higher level," said Michelle Froese. "This opportunity arose out of interest plus the availability of coaches and gym space. We don't have plans to expand to more teams now, but we do evaluate the needs in the fall when we host a volleyball academy out of Carman. We are open to conversations with interested coaches about this possibility."

The goals of the Spurs club are to provide growth in leadership, accountability, athleticism, healthy habits, and behaviours. The Spurs program prepares the players for high school play and allows its athletes to see the potential for volleyball through university and beyond.

The 14U team is managed by Maureen Dyck and coached by Scott Dyck and Dave Bryant.

This 14U age group was added to the growing Carman Spurs club ban-

ner this year, and they are excited to bring more club volleyball into the Pembina Valley. They practice twice a week at local school gyms.

This team is comprised of 12 girls, primarily from Carman and the Miami area, as tryouts were held this past December. This season will include three tournaments and an exhibition game, with the first tournament resulting in a bronze medal finish in Virden.

The 15U Team is managed by Carly Cox and coached by Lynn Rempel, Michelle Froese and Patrick Crampton. It is comprised of 10 girls from Carman and Elm Creek.

They practice three times a week at Carman Collegiate and have competed at the 15U Premier Tournament in Winnipeg, with three additional tournaments to come this season.

It should be noted that club volleyball does not overlap with the high school season. Volleyball Manitoba has played a critical role in club volleyball by facilitating the season, organizing tournaments, running the Club Volleyball Provincial championships and seeing many teams from the province participate in the Canadian championships.

"This organization really helped us get started and answered all of our questions about starting a club," said Froese. "They help remove the barriers, and we hope to see more club opportunities for athletes in the Pembina Valley."



STANDARD PHOTOS BY MICHELLE FROESE

The Carman Spurs are a local club volleyball option for girls that play at the 14U and 15U level. Both teams practice locally and compete in tournaments across the province.

Flyers start final week of regular season with a win

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler Flyers downed Steinbach and Neepawa but stumbled against Portage this past week in MJHL action.

Last Wednesday's game against the Pistons in Winkler saw the Flyers up 3-0 with goals from Lucas Ens, Trent Penner, and Dalton Andrew. The visitors managed one goal in response midway through the third, giving the game to Winkler 3-1.

The Flyers had an edge on shots on goal, 30-21, with Malachi Klassen making 20 saves.

Hosting the Portage Terriers Friday night didn't go quite so well. The close game saw Portage draw first blood 14 minutes in only to have Andrew tie it up for Winkler three minutes later. That was it for scoring until the first half of the third, where Portage managed to get what proved to be game-winner to take it 2-1.

Klassen made 28 saves off 30 shots in net. His teammates fired 33 the other way.

The pendulum swung back Winkler's way against the Neepawa Titans Sunday afternoon.

The 5-3 win saw Jakob Jones score twice and Zach Nicolas, Noah Deimer, and Avery Anderson contribute singles. Klassen made 19 saves as Winkler outshot Neepawa 37-22.

Winkler is in the East Division's second place spot with a 40-9-2-3 record and 85 points. They trail the first-place Steinbach Pistons by eight points and are ahead of the Portage Terriers in third by nine.

The Flyers' final four regular-season games have them in Winnipeg to play the Freeze Tuesday night, hosting the Virden Oil Capitals Wednesday, and then on the road in Selkirk to play the Steelers Friday and in Winnipeg to play the Blues Sunday.



STANDARD PHOTO BY RICK HIEBERT

RBC rep Simon Becker and Winkler Mayor Henry Siemens presented Trent Penner with a Community Ambassador award having demonstrated outstanding citizenship and sportsmanship both on and off the ice.

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Budget 2024-2025 Public Presentation

Each year, Prairie Rose School Division's Board of Trustees presents the annual operational budget for the following school year. This year, the Prairie Rose School Division is hosting a Budget 2024-2025 Public Presentation at **Miami School on March 18, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.**

Prairie Rose School Division is providing a virtual option for those unable to attend the in-person session. The meeting link will be available on our website at www.prsdmb.ca.

The budget presentation slides and feedback form will be available on the Prairie Rose School Division website from March 15, 2024, to March 26, 2024.

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OBITUARY



Rolande Henriette Lehmann

Rolande Lehmann of Carman, Manitoba passed peacefully at the Carman Memorial Hospital on March 3rd 2024 at the age of 87.

She was predeceased by her husband Mark and is survived by her children, Marco (Lisbertie), Doris (Steve), Maxine (Marvyn) and Marcel. She also leaves behind her nine grandchildren, six great grandchildren, sister Elise Touchette and brother Robert (Joane) Perreault, whom she loved dearly.

Funeral Mass was held on Friday, March 8, 2024 at 2:00 p.m. at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church, Carman, MB.

The family wishes to thank the Carman Hospital Palliative Care, Carman Homecare, Boundary Trails CancerCare and all the staff at the Carman Memorial Hospital.

Doyle's Funeral Home
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OBITUARY



Richard Riemer

June 26, 1952 - March 9, 2024

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See full obituary in next week's paper.

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6			8		3			
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							1	
	7		6		5			8
5							6	
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	9	3						

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!

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!

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

Sudoku Answer

Crossword Answer

X CROSSWORD

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Helps little firms
- 4. Political action committee
- 7. Allowed
- 12. Olivia Colman played one
- 15. Open
- 16. He had a notable lamp
- 18. Promotional material
- 19. Domesticated animal
- 20. Larry and Curly's buddy
- 21. The best ever
- 24. TV network
- 27. Checked for
- 30. Dry or withered
- 31. Expression of annoyance
- 33. Dash
- 34. Fifth note of a major scale
- 35. A secret clique
- 37. Partner to cheese
- 39. ___ school: where to learn healing
- 41. City in ancient Syria
- 42. Gasteyer and de Armas are two
- 44. Established practice
- 47. Thanksgiving side dish
- 48. District in Peru
- 49. It's becoming more prevalent
- 50. State in India
- 52. Measure of illumination
- 53. Raised platform
- 56. Japanese warrior
- 61. R.L. Stevenson novel
- 63. Transitory
- 64. Advanced degree
- 65. Fiddler crabs

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Prevent from seeing
- 2. Czech city
- 3. ___ and Andy, TV show
- 4. A young pig
- 5. Removed surgically

		1	2	3		4	5	6				
		7				8	9	10		11		
12	13									14		
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18						19				20		
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49				50		51					52	
53		54	55					56	57	58	59	60
	61						62					
		63										
						64				65		

- 6. Covered with
- 7. Chest muscle (slang)
- 8. Nigerian City
- 9. Midway between south and east
- 10. A way to shut
- 11. Stop playing
- 12. Marshy places
- 13. Takes apart
- 14. Ten cents
- 17. A gesture of assent
- 22. Scent
- 23. Teletypewriter
- 24. General's assistant (abbr.)
- 25. Hillside
- 26. Taxi driver
- 28. Semitic Sun god
- 29. Town in India
- 32. Traditional rhythmic pattern
- 36. Fugitives are on the ___
- 38. Type of dance
- 40. Two letters, one sound
- 43. Having a strong, pleasant taste
- 44. Golf score
- 45. Mayhem
- 46. Drenched
- 51. River in northeastern Asia
- 54. Drug to treat anxiety (abbr.)
- 55. Part-time employee
- 56. A very large body of water
- 57. Aboriginal people of Japan
- 58. Millisecond
- 59. Forearm bone
- 60. Subway dweller
- 62. Royal Mail



8 reasons to buy recyclable products

Recycling is a big part of your lifestyle, but what about buying products made from recycled materials? Here are eight great reasons to shop for recycled items.

1. You help maintain demand for recycled goods, which encourages businesses to buy from companies that offer them.
2. You encourage the development of new products by showing interest in materials that would otherwise be discarded.
3. You help conserve natural resources. Manufacturing products made from recycled materials uses minimal resources.
4. You limit the production of greenhouse gases by avoiding the disposal of materials.
5. You support energy conservation, as less water and electricity are used to manufacture recycled goods.
6. You encourage the creation of new jobs for each stage of the production chain, including collection, sorting, processing and manufacturing.
7. You respect the principles of sustainable development, which benefits your entire community.
8. You help reduce the amount of material going to landfills and incineration plants.

Shop smarter by choosing recycled products made by companies that use sustainable practices.



Recycling is a key part of the circular economy, helping to protect our natural resources.



Please place your carts 3 feet from any obstacles such as other carts & Mailboxes, with wheels against the curb.

To help celebrate Earth Day, here are a few Recycling Do's and Don'ts:

Do Recycle:

- Any plastic container with a recycling triangle on the bottom (except with the #6 includes bottles, pails, tubs and jugs) and any steel food and beverage containers: soup and pet food cans
- Drink cans & bottles, juice boxes
- All paper products including cardboard boxes, newspapers magazines

Don't Recycle:

- Products containing multiple material types packaged together, like most coffee pods or toys containing both plastic and metal
- Takeout containers or pizza boxes with food remnants
- Household hazardous waste containers

Recycle Facts: Did you know?

- When you recycle just one aluminum can, you save enough energy to power a 100-watt light bulb for 20 hours or to listen to a full album on your iPod!
- When you use recycled paper instead of "virgin" paper, you are contributing to saving 7,000 gallons of water per ton of paper produced. Save water not just trees...

Reminder ** Reduce Recycling Contamination** Cleaner Recycling means less waste and increased waste diversion.



AT YOUR DISPOSAL. Trash. Recycle. Compost.

HAPPY EARTH DAY EVERYONE INFO@MWMENVIRO.CA

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Your Common-Sense Conservative

VOICE in PARLIAMENT

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