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VOLUME 3 EDITION 51 THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2023

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Groovin' students

STANDARD PHOTO BY LANA MEIER

Carman Elementary students were waving, singing and drumming their way into the Christmas holidays.

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Health auxiliary supports Carman hospital staff

By staff

Carman Health Auxiliary recently used the proceeds generated from a successful raffle to donate a treatment cart and cabinet, worth a collective \$3,589.77 to Carman Memorial Hospital. The items will allow for medical supplies to be close at hand as staff provide care to patients.

In 2024, the auxiliary will celebrate its 120th anniversary. Similar to the Boundary Trails Health Auxiliary, the Carman group is seeking new members to join its ranks.

"We are so appreciative of the support of the community in our ventures. We look forward to the staff's next request for a 2024 project. At our next meeting, on Jan. 16, 2024, we will decide on such project," auxiliary member Betty Park said in a statement to the *Standard*.



STANDARD PHOTO SUBMITTED

Pictured left to right, Darlene Pritchard and Della Heaman stand with Colette Herlick, clinical resource nurse, and Lori Wychopen, manager health services, at the Carman Memorial Hospital. The Carman health Auxiliary recently donated a treatment cart and cabinet to the health centre to support patient care.

Wishing you joy & happiness through the holidays and straight through the year



Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

From Councils and Staff of the Town of Carman & RM of Dufferin



carmanmanitoba.ca

Holiday Smile Cookie spreads Christmas Cheer



STANDARD PHOTO BY DENNIS YOUNG

The Carman Christmas Cheer Board got a big financial boost last week thanks to a donation from Tim Hortons. The November Holiday Smile Cookie campaign brought in \$5,581 at the Carman location, with \$2,790.50 each going to Christmas Cheer and Tim Horton's Foundation Camps. "We were surprised actually at how well it went and how much money we were able to raise in a short period of time," said co-owner Linda Doerksen. "This community always is so supportive of these campaigns."

Manitoba's 123rd Christmas Bird Count is underway around the province

By Raegan Hedley

Instead of counting the number of holiday parties you're going to, what if you counted birds instead? From Dec. 14 to Jan. 5, the Christmas Bird Count (CBC), North America's longest-running citizen science project, takes place, and anyone interested can participate.

The CBC was created in 1900 by conservationists to encourage the public to count birds instead of hunting them. According to the official rules, each count is done in a circle with a 24-kilometre diameter. Each circle has a compiler who selects a count day, coordinates with the volunteers and divides everyone up to cover the circle depending on how many people are participating, and if they are solo or going out in groups.

Pending weather disruptions, 21 counts will occur across Manitoba this year.

Volunteer birders receive checklists, signs that say "Christmas Bird Count In Progress" (if they are driving) and maps outlining their allocated area. They then travel by foot, ski, snowshoe or vehicle to look, listen and record the number and types of birds they see. Volunteers can also watch their feeders and count from indoors, or use a combination of methods to count the birds in their area. Often, at the end of the count day, everyone gathers to enjoy refreshments and discuss what they saw.

"I like the comradeship," said Bonnie Chartier, the organizer for the Gimli count. "It's a small community, and it's fun to catch up with people."

In addition to organizing the Gimli count on Dec. 19, she helps count in other circles since she's an

experienced birder. However, you don't need to be an experienced birder to participate in the CBC.

"With new people, you make sure to put them with someone who's an experienced birder so they can learn the differences between a northern hawk owl and a great gray owl, for example," says Charlier.

The information volunteers document through the CBC is important for assessing long-term trends in the bird populations of North America. Gerald Machnee, the organizer for the Selkirk CBC, says that some birds are not observed every year, while a few have been observed only a few times in 30 years.

"There have been a few birds that should not be here for the CBC, especially the yellow-rumped warbler that was counted in 2015," says Machnee. "They will not survive once the temperature goes below about -20 C."

Manitoba's collective CBC data results from hundreds of hours of observation and thousands of kilometres covered by volunteers. Last year, the house sparrow counted the most (21,213 times) followed by the common redpoll (6546 times), then snow buntings (5824 times).

James Duncan is the creator of Discover Owls, a retired conservation zoologist, and the organizer for the Balmoral CBC for almost 30 years. Duncan says that doing and publishing scientific research plays an essential role. Still, unless you get the public invested and involved by making nature a part of their lives, the research alone lacks the "conservation punch" needed to drive change.



STANDARD PHOTO SUBMITTED

Christmas bird counters are hoping to see the pair of Northern Cardinals that have been frequenting the south east portion of Carman.

"It's reasonably easy for the general public to participate in, and it provides people with an op-

Continued on page 8

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Snow, sleet or shine local families show up for Hockey Day in Miami

By Ty Dilello

Challenging weather did not dissuade parents and children from hitting the ice Dec. 9, when the Lloyd Orchard Community Arena hosted Hockey Day in Miami.

Families enjoyed a pancake breakfast and skated with Santa from 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., before cheering on three minor hockey games between the Miami Rockets and Notre Dame Hawks. The fun continued in the evening with adults playing recreational hockey and kids enjoying sticks and pucks.

Overall, it was a great day for locals to gather and support local hockey players and the arena, which is celebrating its 70th anniversary this year.

The day went well, despite some bad weather which created havoc on the roads, said Miami hockey organizer Brian Weir.

"The bad roads created some challenges," he said. "We considered postponing the event but chose to still go ahead with things. One game was cancelled. Also, the opposing U9 team was cancelled, so our U9 team just played their parents instead, which ended up being a lot of fun."

Weir noted there was great atten-



Brody Duncan (left) and Rhett Thomson were some of the many lucky kids who enjoyed a skate with Santa.

dance from the local community.

"We really appreciated the efforts made by all who were able to attend," he said. "It was really nice to see the rink full of so many people from the community. Lots of young families came out to skate with Santa and enjoy some pancakes as well."

The fundraising aspect of the day was a great success, too, thanks in



STANDARD PHOTOS BY BRIAN WEIR

Bad weather couldn't stop Hockey Day in Miami on Dec. 9. Despite challenging road conditions, the event was a success, generating around \$3,000.

part to the overwhelming support of local businesses and individual prizes and food donations.

Roughly \$3,000 was raised from Hockey Day in Miami. Funds will go

toward keeping the ice rental rate at the arena low for local community activities and groups.

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Fun, food, festive spirit mark Christmas at the Museum

By Lana Meier

The Dufferin Historical Society and Carman Wellness Connections hosted Christmas at the Museum on Dec. 9 with more than forty people attending.

Outdoor games were played, Christmas ornaments were made, refreshments were had and entertainment by Lulu and the TomCat was enjoyed by all.

The organizers extended heartfelt thanks to Vanderveen's Greenhouses (which donated several poinsettias) and Irene Stevenson (who made a Gingerbread House) that were given away as door prizes.

They also thanked volunteers from the museum and Carman Wellness Connections, who organized games and crafts, served popcorn, hot dogs, hot chocolate, apple cider and cupcakes and helped to make the event a success.

"We thank everyone for coming out to support the event and we look forward to seeing them again at the museum in the future," the Historical Society said in a statement.

"Watch our Facebook page for notices about our next meeting and our future events and fundraisers."



Children who attended enjoyed a performance from Lulu & TomCat and guests were treated to tasty Christmas cupcakes



STANDARD PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Volunteers Chris, Sheila and Susan helped set up outdoor games.



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getheard

EDITORIAL > VIEWPOINTS > LETTERS

Ty Dilello
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Carman & Community Chamber year-in-review

By Ty Dilello

On Dec. 12, the Carman and Community Chamber of Commerce held its final Chamber Meeting of 2023.

The Chamber is excited to partner with the Carman Collegiate Robotics Club for another year. A group of five club representatives came out and gave a presentation at the Chamber meeting to report on how it did over the past year.

Alongside a new club leader in Melissa Ziehlke, the club is looking to expand and do more things in the future. It is seeking \$1,000 for the new robots, and the Chamber is asking businesses for \$100 each to help contribute to the club.

A few community reports were shared, including the Boyne Lodge Personal Care Home, which gave some updates on its landscaping project over the last year.

The Town of Carman gave an update on tree planting in town, and how council meetings will be chang-

ing going forward. As in 2024, it will have two council meetings per month. Previously, council held four monthly meetings spread out between the many sub-committees.

This was also Tyler King's last meeting as the economic development officer with the Town of Carman, and he has moved on to a new position with Boyne Care Holdings. His focus there will be getting the new assisted living building project going and built in the near future.

The Carman Rec Department provided an update on local sports and leisure activities that are available in Carman this winter. These can be checked out on the Town of Carman website.

The Chamber's executive director, Jodi Winkler, noted that the Holiday Hoopla was a big success last week. A big congrats went out to all of the winners including Glenn Smith, who won \$1,000 in Chamber Bucks. All the

businesses were very happy with how the day went, Winkler said.

Keep The Cheer Here has also raised over \$2,000 so far, and every day in December until Dec. 23, it will give out \$100 in Chamber Bucks. The Chamber Bucks need to be redeemed in December for anyone who has won a prize.

Finally, Carman is hosting the U21 Junior Curling Provincials from Feb. 21 to 25 at the Carman Golf and Curling Club, and the host committee is looking for volunteers for the event.

Now that the Blue Crescent Hotel in town is up and running, Carman is looking to have a successful event hosting these Junior Provincials, as the town would like to host the provincial Scotties Tournament of Hearts within the next five years.

People interested in volunteering can get in touch with Dean North at dean@carmangolfandcurlingclub.com

Garden Club supports community growing projects

By Ty Dilello

Following a successful plant sale and garden tour, the Carman Garden Club will be donating \$1,500 to several growing projects in the town and surrounding area. The Boyne River Keepers and Dufferin Agricultural Society will each receive \$400, which will go towards landscaping around the new dock at Ryall Park and for prizes in the vegetable, fruit and flower sections at the Carman Fair.

Carman Palliative Care and Boyne Towers will each receive \$150 to be used for their garden areas. Palliative Care plans to invest in self-watering planters, and the Boyne Towers residents will plant flowers and vegetables in Boyne Park.

Local schools were each granted \$100 to be used for growing projects, including raised beds, corner pockets, and outdoor revitalization. Several schools are planting indigenous grasses as they learn more about indigenous perspectives through their

curriculum.

"Although the donations are only a small contribution towards many of the projects, the Carman Garden Club supports the endeavours of the school students and staff to create welcoming outdoor grounds," said Barbara Lepp of the Carman Garden Club. "Ideas included fruit tree plantings, haskap bushes, flowers, vegetables, and grasses."

Roland School, École Carman Elementary, Elm Creek School and Carman Collegiate will each receive \$100 from the Garden Club.

A new executive was elected for

the Carman Garden Club in 2024, with Debbie Vanderzwaag serving as chairperson, Elise Dubourg as vice-chair, Elizabeth DeWit as secretary and Kathie Findlay as treasurer.

The Club plans to continue with the Junior Gardeners, the plant sale in spring, the garden tour in summer, as well as outings for members throughout the year. Meetings are held on the last Monday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Pentecostal Church with guest speakers on a variety of topics. Check out recent speakers on the Carman Garden Club Facebook page.

The *Standard* welcomes letters from readers on local and regional issues and concerns. Please keep your letters short (excessively long letters are less likely to be published), on-topic and respectful.

The *Standard* reserves the right to edit, condense or reject any submission.

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Local businesses band together to support Cheer Board

By Becca Myskiw

Local businesses have been supporting the Carman and District Christmas Cheer Board more than ever this year, making for full hampers this holiday season.

Since 2020, the local cheer board has switched to only accepting monetary donations, allowing them to buy every single item for the hampers rather than giving everyone different food items that were donated.

"While people may be disappointed in the loss of 'a tin for the bin' type of collections, this model has been a great improvement for our board," said Deana Gauld, board chairman. "Financial donations help us get the items we need, and we can guarantee safe, fresh food for our recipients."

Homestead Co-op is a big partner for the local cheer board, ordering the groceries for them as they go on sale in November, then storing them until the hampers are ready to be packed. They bring in stuffing, cranberry sauce, cake mix, peanut butter, pasta, and sauce. Instead of giving ham and turkey in the hampers, the cheer board gives a gift card for families to use to purchase a meat of their choice for dinner or other groceries they may need.

The cheer board also gives a gift for each child of the family in each hamper. Red Apple ran their Fill Santa's Sleigh event again this year, which brought in numerous toys for the hampers and an opportunity for people to give financial donations. Home Hardware also set out a table of

wished-for toys and mitts for people to buy and donate as the cheer board is hoping to include those, along with neck warmers, in their hampers.

"The result is thousands of dollars of toys purchased locally and donated to families," said Gauld.

This year, the cheer board has also been fundraising for hygiene items like shampoo, soap, and body wash. Gauld said though those items are outside the board's mandate, being clean is an important part of feeling good, being confident, and for children, fitting in. That's why Gallery Dental donated toothbrushes and toothpaste for the hampers this year, and why The Prices Rite created the opportunity for customers to make a \$5 donation to go towards a child's hygiene pack.

Carman Pharmacy also gave their customers the chance to donate hygiene items for adults, which includes soap and body wash. Newman Hand Insurance and Rural Buds Cannabis each made a \$500 donation — Newman Hand gave it for hygiene bags and Rural Buds gave it for deodorant to be added to the bags. Birch and Honey Salon collected feminine hygiene products for the cheer board this year too.

"Again, not our mandate," stated Gauld. "However, if they are donated to us, we are happy to use our hampers as an avenue to get them to women, as they are expensive and necessary."

Tim Hortons also partnered with the cheer board this year, donating \$1,500



STANDARD PHOTO SUBMITTED

The Carman & District Christmas Cheer Board volunteers have collected and put together hygiene packs this year along with food, toys, mitts and neck warmers.

from their Holiday Smile Cookie week to them and Carman Food Pantry, who serves the same families as the cheer board.

"Our board members are so grateful for the enthusiastic support from our community," said Gauld. "We could not do this without everyone pitching in."

She added that these partnerships allow them to give as much as they can to the families in need. They have 170 hampers going out this year, and with everything being more expensive this year than ever before, the

support from all the local businesses has made all the hampers possible.

"I want everyone who has donated, whether it was change dropped into the collection at the Sonatrice concert, a toy, a \$5 donation for a hygiene bag, or a donation of your hard-earned dollars, to know we appreciate it," said Gauld. "We all feel the stress of the holidays and yet, we also know many living right here struggle every day all year. This is an opportunity to help them, to let them know we see them, and we care for them as a part of our community."

Carman Christmas Community Dinner Dec. 25

By Ty Dilello

The Carman Community Christmas Dinner is returning on Dec. 25, with doors opening at 4 p.m. with supper at 5 p.m. at the Carman Community Hall. Tickets are \$5 each.

The event usually feeds around 200 people who would otherwise be alone

for Christmas. It gives them a place to socialize, food to eat, and something to do.

Ross Bursey has been cooking the Christmas Dinner for the past eight years.

"This is for the people that want to get out and socialize on Christmas

day," said Bursey. "It's incredible and is all from the support of the community, farmers, churches, etc."

What's on the menu this Christmas? "Turkey, ham potatoes, coleslaw, and much more," said Bursey. "You name it. It goes on and on. Desserts as well. And only \$5 to boot. If you're

free on Christmas night, please stop in for a good meal."

Everyone is welcome and tickets are available at Carman Home Hardware and Benefits RX until Dec 23. Please call the Handi-Van if you need a ride at 204-745-3477.

What's *Your* story?

Please share your story ideas with **Dennis Young** at denjohnyoung@gmail.com or **Lana Meier** at news@carmanstandard.ca or call 204-467-5836.

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Seniors, families suffering from Alzheimer's not alone

By Ty Dilello

The Alzheimer's Society of Manitoba has several options available to people in the Carman area to help with people living with dementia and dementia awareness.

In an effort to keep people informed about the debilitating cognitive disease, Carman United Church is hosting a viewing and group discussion of the One Small Seed video series.

It will be held on Jan. 16 from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Carman United Church. The Alzheimer's Society of Manitoba will be present to for a question and answer forum covering the content in the videos or any other questions about dementia.

Info about One Small Seed is available online (<https://onesmallseed.ca/>).

The Morden Activity Centre is also hosting a screening of the documentary *Alive Inside* on Jan. 10 at 11:30 a.m. The film presents the power of music on memory and positive experiences for people living with dementia. A trailer of the film can be viewed here: <https://www.aliveinside.us/#land>.

Call Morden Activity Centre ahead to pre-order lunch, which will be available during the showing at 204-822-3555.

There is also a care partner support group at the Carman Active Living Centre, which is held on the last Wednesday of every month from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. December's session is cancelled and will recommence in January.

Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia can leave those affected and their care partners feeling isolated. You are not alone. There are other people to share the journey with you.

"Support groups offer the opportunity to meet, interact with and learn from others who are living with dementia," said Rebecca Atkinson, Southcentral regional coordinator for the Alzheimer's Society of Manitoba.

"It's a safe environment where you can share, laugh, and help each other through mutual understanding. We currently offer in-person and virtual support groups to meet you where you're at. All of our support groups are inclusive environments for people of different ethnicities, cultures or persons who identify as part of the 2SLGBTQ+ community."

At any time, people can call or email the Alzheimer's Society of Manitoba to share their emotions and experiences and receive support.

"Call with questions or ideas, as



STANDARD PHOTO BY REBECCA ATKINSON

The Alzheimer's Society of Manitoba would like to remind the public that there are a ton of resources available for people living with dementia in the Carman area as the calendar turns into 2024.

we are here to provide education, resources and support," Atkinson said.

A video showing the benefit of this is "Ken's Story" on YouTube at the link

here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZnAQIOADqgo>.

Flashback... The Steak Pit: unique dining experience

By Dennis Young

Mike and Annie Dorfman's Store, which was located directly east of The Carman, closed in 1964 and sat vacant.

Four years later Frank and Marie Graboweski had become the new owners of Carman Motor Inn, after a brief hotel stint in Altona.

During extensive travels in North America and Spain, they conceived the idea of adding "The Flame Room" or — as it is more commonly known in these parts — "The Steak Pit."

They knocked down Dorfman's, and by 1974 the addition, increasing the restaurant's seating from 87 to 172.

When the work was complete, the couple invited Carman residents to a grand opening ceremony — eager to introduce the community to their new (and novel) dining experience.

The concept of customers selecting choice cuts then barbecuing the meat to their personal satisfaction on an open pit was unique to Manitoba. Representatives at the opening from

the Manitoba Hotel Association recognized the restaurant as the only one of its kind granted approval by the provincial liquor board.

For decades, Carman and area residents went nowhere before first meeting at The Steak Pit. Thousands of customers enjoyed the unique dining experience. "It now is no longer in use.

Anyone recall the two water fountains too?



The Carman Motor Inn introduced Manitobans to, "The Flame Room," from 1974-2020, where patrons could cook their own steak.

> BIRD COUNT, FROM PG. 3

portunity to have fun with family and friends while having these experiences counting birds...[and] making valuable contributions to our knowledge of bird populations," said Duncan. "Most importantly, they become stronger advocates against things that may impact birds...because they've been getting up close and personal counting them."

Chartier has been birding for almost 30 years. She remembers wondering what made birding so interesting until she saw a common redpoll through

binoculars for the first time.

"I've been birding since I was a young person in Churchill. It started because I was just curious what all these ladies in goofy hats were looking at. I spotted a small brown bird with a red cap and a red chest. After that, I wanted to see what they all look like up close. When you see them through binoculars, it's so different."

Last year, Carman's Bird Count recorded 34 species and 1,447 individual birds. Notable species were an American Kestrel that was spotted in Barnsley and a Red-bellied Wood-

pecker in Carman. House Sparrow, Rock Pigeon, Wild Turkeys, and Snow Buntings were the most counted with a combined total of 902 individuals. On the other end of the count numbers, there was one American Robin and a lonely Red-winged Blackbird that both had decided not to migrate south. A big thank you to the nine individuals that counted by car and foot and covered 403 kilometers of roads in total and the 17 individuals that stayed in the warmth of their homes to count the birds that appeared in their yard and feeders.

This year we are hoping to spot the pair of Northern Cardinals that are frequenting feeders in the south east portion of Carman

If you are interested in participating in the Carman Christmas Bird Count on Dec. 23, contact Rhonda Smith at smithr1060@gmail.com or phone/text at 204-745-0383.

In addition to the Manitoba CBCs, there are also opportunities for kids to learn how to count birds through a program called CBC 4 Kids. You can find the nearest CBC 4 Kids through the Birds Canada website.

Woodburning artist explores intricate designs on natural medium

By Ty Dilello

Local Roland artist Janessa Davis offers custom woodworking, woodburning and painting services for signs, gifts and decorations.

Davis has always enjoyed expressing her creativity through art. In January of 2018, she was walking through the craft aisle of Walmart and saw a woodburning kit and thought she would give it a try.

"I was hooked right away," said Janessa Davis. "I started with simple welcome signs and birthday calendars and attempted some scenery and wildlife, and then started posting some of my art on social media. My friends and family are so supportive of my art and always encourage me to try new things."

Once Davis got used to different woodburning tips and the feel for how soft woods burn versus harder wood types, as well as how to find the right heat settings for each, she started to build signs and boxes and much more.

Most recently, she created an intricate build and burn for a Roland Fire Department worker Kevin Brown,



who is retiring at the end of this year.

"I had made a sign for a retiring Roland Fire Department member, John Hughes, a few years ago and was honoured to be asked to make another one," Davis said.

Davis typically spends several hours on some of her larger scenic pieces, spreading the time out over a couple of days when she finds the opportunity.

"My favorite pieces are unique and hand drawn. I have made quite a few custom pieces since I started, but I can only take on a couple of projects at a time as my husband and I have our hands full with our wonderful four kids and our jobs."

Davis' work can be found on her Facebook page @janessa.woodburning. Message her on Facebook or



STANDARD PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Roland artist Janessa Davis practices woodburning, also known as pyrography, which is one of the oldest human art forms and is thought to have originated in Egypt.

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"I enjoy creating beautiful art as well as humorous art, and I hope to spark

a creative curiosity in others. I'll be continuing my projects and looking forward to taking on more unique requests in the new year."



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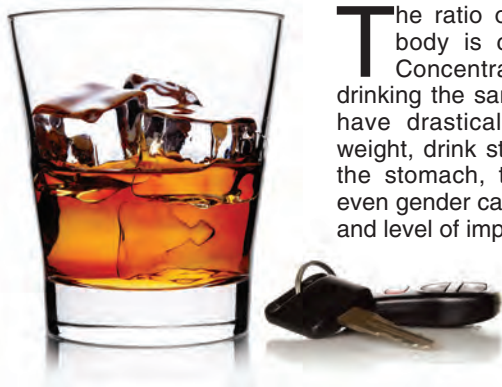
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Celebrate Like Your Life Depends on It:

DON'T Drink & Drive!



The ratio of alcohol to blood in the body is called the Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC). Two people drinking the same amount of alcohol can have drastically different BACs. Body weight, drink strength, amount of food in the stomach, time between drinks and even gender can all affect a person's BAC and level of impairment.

While a BAC of .08 is typically the legal limit, impairment can occur at much lower levels. A driver can be arrested with a BAC lower than .08 if a law enforcement officer has probable cause to believe the driver is impaired. More importantly, any level of impairment significantly increases the likelihood of a traffic crash, putting your life and the lives of others in danger. The bottom line? If you plan on drinking, getting behind the wheel is always a bad idea.

3 WAYS ALCOHOL IMPACTS YOUR ABILITY TO DRIVE

1. Inhibitions are lowered, affecting judgment and coordination, even after one drink.
2. Reaction times are slowed, even after two beers.
3. Vision, balance, speech and movement are adversely affected.

HOST THOUGHTFULLY

- Offer a mocktail, alcohol-free beer or other nonalcoholic beverage for guests choosing not to drink.
- Ask guests who are drinking if they have a designated driver or transportation plans.
- If someone has been drinking and might drive, offer your couch as a place to sleep.
- Help guests who have been drinking arrange transportation through a ride-share app or taxi service.

CELEBRATE RESPONSIBLY

- Agree on a designated driver before you go out for the evening.
- Save the number for several local cab companies in your phone if you plan to drink, or make sure you have a ride-share app downloaded to your phone.
- Ask a friend if you can crash on his or her couch for the night if you've had too much to drink.
- If you're attending a party and are concerned you may drink too much, give your keys to the host at the start of the evening, so he or she can hold on to them unless you are sober.

*This feature brought to you by these community-minded businesses.
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The Carman-Dufferin **STANDARD**
Your Community NEWSPAPER



Carman NYE social set to rock, roll into 2024



STANDARD PHOTO BY JODI WINKLER

The Carman Golf and Curling Club is inviting you to celebrate the New Year in style at their exclusive New Year's Eve Social, featuring prime rib dinner and music provided by Water & Wood.

By Ty Dilello

The Carman Golf and Curling Club is inviting area residents to celebrate the New Year in style at its exclusive New Year's Eve social.

Patrons who purchase a ticket for \$100 will be treated to a prime rib dinner, the musical stylings of Wood & Water, and an evening of dancing, socializing and merriment before the ball drops at midnight.

All proceeds from ticket sales will support the U21 Junior Curling Provincial Championships that are to be hosted in Carman from Feb. 21 to 25.

Water & Wood was formed in 2011 and features Trevor Clearwater on acoustic guitar and vocals with Dave Hopwood on bass guitar and vocals. The pair played together previously as members of Winnipeg country group Hawg Wylde, which performed for over 20 years and released three albums.

The band features a wide-ranging set list that includes hit songs across multiple genres of music.

Call the clubhouse at 204-745-2366 or email dean@car-mangolfandcurlingclub.com to reserve tickets.



WISHING YOU A BLESSED CHRISTMAS!



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Merry Christmas
& HAPPY NEW YEAR

BESCO GRAIN

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OUR OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED
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Opening January 2nd, 2024

There will be NO newspaper printed December 28th, but we will continue to distribute our flyers, so please watch for them in your mail and distribution boxes.

Merry Christmas &
A Happy New Year

The Carman-Dufferin
STANDARD

If you have a news tip or are interested in advertising please contact
News Tips: news@carmanstandard.ca
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Happy HOLIDAYS

The Carman-Dufferin
STANDARD

Wishing you all a very

Merry Christmas

and

a Blessed New Year!

204.745.2951  www.walinga.com



Dufferin Christian School celebrate Christmas



Letters to Santa Carman Elementary Grade 1 and 2 class

Dear Santa, how is it going? How is it at the north pole? I hope you're ready for Christmas. I hope you deliver all of the presents in time. I hope your elves are ready and reindeer. I hope you are ready for Christmas. I hope your sleigh doesn't break down. I hope you don't get lost in the snow. Merry Christmas!

- From Kenton.

Dear Santa, I was very kind this year. I want a stuffy peacock, a big squishmalow and a big magic mixi. My sister is sometimes naughty, but I think she should still get a gift too.

- From Jenna.

Dear Santa, how do reindeer fly? How do you deliver half of the presents all over the world?

How do you get magic? I want a magic mixsy, mini magic mixsy. is Rudolph real? How are the elves? Have

a great Christmas!

- From Audrey.

Dear Santa, I was good this year. I moved this year. How do you deliver presents all around the world? I want your reindeers so I can fly and my friends, even Tyler. I want Rudolph for Tyler to ride. Can I get a toy reindeer and I want some toy tools.

- From Carlin F

Dear Santa hi Santa I have been a good boy. How can you get into my house, my door has a little squeak. I want ps4 and Roblox gift cards please. Do you play Roblox? Be safe and don't fall.

- From Michal

Dear Santa
Hi Santa, how are the reindeers? So I want a battery semi truck. One I can go in and drive. I hope you have a

good Christmas.

- From Danny

Dear Santa, I'm really excited for Christmas. My brothers and I have all been nice this year. For Christmas I want a dog stuffed animal and an art set with paper. I also want some dog slippers. This year I am getting my brothers presents. Happy holidays

- From Elliette

Dear Santa, I can't wait until Christmas morning. I like drinking hot chocolate with my family. Also, what I want is some slippers and a stuffed animal puppy maybe some clothes. This is my favourite year. I am also excited to open my gifts in the morning with my family. Also I'm getting my sisters some presents. Have a great day, happy holidays!

- From Brooke

Dear Santa, hi Santa, is the queen elf real? She stole a treat from my daycare. What I want for Christmas is a Furdy and a watermelon beanbag and a camera and mini squishmallows and a giant giraffe. Fly safe!

- From Sadie

Dear Santa, hi Santa I was good this year. I am excited for Christmas. How are your reindeer? I want a dog and a puppy. Happy holidays.

- From Beau

Dear Santa, I have been good. How are the elves? Do you have a favourite elf? This year? I want a big toy for Christmas.

- From Ben

Dear Santa, hi Santa I am excited for Christmas and I want to do a

Continued on page 13



STANDARD PHOTOS BY BRETT MITCHELL
Dufferin Christian School held their annual Christmas concert last Friday.

> LETTERS FROM SANTA, FROM PG. 12

snow angel. I love you and presents and I like candy canes. For this Christmas I would like to Barbies. I hope you have a good Christmas.
- From Elizabeth

Dear Santa, for Christmas, I want a Nerf gun, the movie, Titanic, and

a toy car. How are the elves? Are they working hard making all the children's presents? What do your reindeer eat.
- From Mark

Dear Santa, hi Santa, I was nice this year. So were my brothers and sisters. How are the

elves doing? Can I have games and I want stuff from the item shop in Fortnite. Have a good Christmas! From Zander

Dear Santa, I was nice this year. Does Rudolph's nose really glow? Can I get a toy

car for Christmas? Have a great Christmas. I am going to leave you three cookies!
- From Ryan

Dear Santa, how do you deliver presents to half of the world? I was good this year! Can I have Cupid and Ru-

dolph so me and Carolyn can fly? And how big is your sleigh? I would like a mini hockey rink. Merry Christmas.
- From Tyler .

Dear Santa, I was good this year. Can I get a table to play Minecraft? I really like Mario Bros. I also want a kitty in a box that plays music. Merry Christmas!
- From Bella-Layne

Dear Santa, can you get me a low doll house? I want to know how the reindeer fly. I've been good. I want a new phone. I want Emily to get a gift too.
- From Lilly

Dear Santa, hi! Santa, I've been very good. Are elves, real? And reindeer real? I want a real Pokémon, so I will chase my sister with it! And I want it to be Charmander! Want shackles and give my sister a Furby! And new slippers. My old slippers are itchy!
- From Emmett

Dear Santa, can I have a big sketchbook, a Freddy faz bear, plush robux, siren head plush, a Fnaf foxy plush, and clay? And have a good night!
- From Brendan

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HAPPY Holidays

Best wishes to you and your family this holiday season.

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Carman Elementary students were groovin into winter



STANDARD PHOTOS BY LANA MEIER

Carman Elementary School was filled to capacity with standing room only at the Grade 3, 4, 5 Christmas concert on Dec. 7. Friends and family enjoyed a number of holiday favourites for each grade along with three songs by the Grades 4 and 5 choir.



Christmas STORIES

**ELM CREEK GRADE 5,
NICKY SPENCER'S CLASS
Santa's Dream Wishlist**
By Liam Grade 5 Elm Creek

I think Santa Would like lo go to Disneyland with his wife because he would love a vacation! They would go on lots of rides and go to hotels and make new friends! They would spend a couple days going shopping at malls and eating at food courts and al other restaurants. Then they would spend a couple days at public pools and going on water slides and swimming in wave pools! They would go to movie theaters and beaches and have lots of fun! Then after a couple weeks they would relax in their hotel rooms, play games and watch some Christmas movies. Then they would head home to get ready for Christmas, feed the reindeer and settle back into their house.And then Santa would go on his sleigh and give presents to the world.

Santa comes home for Christmas
By Elle, grade 5 class, Elm Creek School

Hello, I am Amalia and I am Santa's daughter. Now you know that my dad is Santa Claus.
He is never around for Christmas.

So this year, I am going to bring my dad home from the North Pole and he's going to spend time with mom and I! You're probably wondering why mom and I don't live at the North Pole. Well it's way too cold for my mom and I! My dad had to make a huge decision and he chose to be Santa. I only see my dad on Christmas Eve! But I've had enough! I'm done. I am going to bring my dad home for the holidays. I am going to get Dasher's favourite candy cane to convince him to go to my house. I asked my mom if I could go to the store to get the candy! When I got back I placed it outside on the porch. I will check on it in the morning to see if it worked!

The next morning I looked out and omg there was Dasher! Omg, omg, omg it really worked! I asked Dasher if he could please bring me to my dad because I wanted him home for the holidays! When I got to the North Pole, I saw my dad! I asked him to please come home because I flew all the way here! He asked what I was doing here and wasn't I supposed to be home with my mom. I begged him to please come home because he is never home, just this Christmas. "Ok I guess you're right I will come home just this Christmas" said Dad. I asked

my dad if we could please ride home on Dancer and he said yes! And that is the story of how I got my dad to come home for Christmas!

Santa's Christmas Wish List
Brock, Grade 5 Elm Creek School

I think Santa would have a big wish list because he probably doesn't get a lot of things since he's the one who gets us all the presents . At my house Santa gets us one present but he has to travel all around the world in just one night and he and the elves have to make all the presents and that's a lot of people.

1. Santa would probably want a toy making machine so he doesn't have to spend his whole year making toys.

2 Santa might want a time machine so he can go into the future so the toys will all be made.

3 He might want a remote control cookie dispenser because they get hungry and don't have time to make cookies.

4 A candy machine that makes candy canes and any other candy in just a snap of your finger.

One Christmas eve Santa had a plan this year for Christmas, he would deliver the presents but he would go to New York last. Why? well because when santa was deciding who was naughty or nice he came upon a name that sounded familiar "Owen Calvin". Santa's son , "I haven't seen Owen in such a long time. Maybe if I can contact Carol and see if I can visit them tonight, "Santa said with excitement. So Santa began the journey. First he ran to his office to go digging in some old boxes. Finally he found a box that said "2019 technology". Then he grabbed out a phone then he came upon a problem with the password then Santa remembered the password

"Oh ya its 1,2,3,4,5,6". So he entered it and then texted Carol. The current night at 8:20am in New York. Ten minutes later Santa had one more house, the Calvin house . One day passes and Santa's going home . When he went outside he saw a huge problem. The reindeer were missing! Then he remembered something when Owen was five one of the elves gave him a snow globe that would alert Santa and the reindeer if Owen is ever in trouble. Santa went to his room and grabbed the snow globe. He shook it as hard as he could and then the reindeer came flying and then Santa hopped in and flew away."Merry Christmas One and all!

SANTA'S CHRISTMAS WISH
By Jeremy, Grade 5, Elm Creek School

One sunny Saturday evening when Santa was relaxing he got a thought about why so many kids were bad. So Santa thought maybe because they don't like getting gifts. So the next day Santa went to all the bad kids' homes at night and wrote a note that said please be good. I really don't want to give you coal. When all the bad kids saw the note, they decided to not be bad and they started to listen to their parents. Then by Christmas all the bad kids got gifts and Santa was so happy that he could barely keep a straight face! Even the reindeer couldn't keep a straight face. The next Christmas Santa was still so happy that everyone got double the gifts. The kids were so happy they got dressed, headed outside and started singing Christmas carols. Lots and lots of people joined them.Santa was happy again! Merry Christmas one and all.

Santa Says,
"Celebrate!"

Hope your Christmas season is filled with warmth, caring and plenty of fun!

Thanks for all you've done to make our year a merry one. We really appreciate the support and friendship of this community, and we wish you all the best!




Carman
Golf & Curling Club

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HOLIDAY HOURS

**Monday, December 25
CLOSED**

**Tuesday December 26
CLOSED**

**Monday January 1
CLOSED**



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Enjoy Every Merry Minute

We hope the festive spirit of this holiday season fills your heart and soul with joy and contentment, and may the coming year be filled with blessings, good health and endless possibilities!


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Steph and Maeghan

Bonnie Returns

By Jordyn Nickerson, grade 7, Elm Creek

"...Flight 35 to the north pole is now boarding." the intercom screeched.

Bonnie excitedly hopped up from her chair and ran to the gate. Bonnie was also a little nervous she was returning to the north pole. She left because of a big storm 10 years ago that made her flee the village. None of her friends have seen her since then and she hasn't seen them. That thought made a single crocodile tear run down her rosy cheeks.

"Excuse me, ma'am passport please." snapped the gates person rudely.

"Oh I'm terribly sorry." apologized Bonnie while drying her single tear with a swipe of her hand.

When Bonnie finally boarded the plane she sat next to an old lady reading a book.

"Is this seat taken?" asked Bonnie kindly to the women.

"No dear, it's free." she answered politely

"Do I know you?" asked Bonnie curiously

"I don't think so." said the old lady with a twinkle in her eyes that made Bonnie think otherwise, but she still talked to her the whole plane ride. About books, food, pets, family members, and CHRISTMAS!!!! Apparently they had a lot in common. They liked the same food, books, and things about Christmas (which is family), but sadly Bonnie hadn't seen her family since she was little, which made the Christmas season sadder.

"Please fasten your seatbelts and prepare to land." Screeched the flight attendant from the speaker.

"Well, bye for now." said the old lady suspiciously.

"Bye," answered Bonnie with her eyebrow raised still trying to put her finger on where she had seen this old woman before but she had those thoughts to the back of her head because

she was now at the north pole.

"Hi, is this Santa's workshop?" Bonnie said in her nicest voice.

"Depends who's asking" said an Elf gruffly.

"I'm Bonnie, I lived here 10 years ago, don't you remember me?" Bonnie said still in her nicest possible voice.

"You're Bonnie," said the Elf wide eyed.

"Yep that's me," Bonnie said, a little annoyed.

"Well follow me ma'am," said The Elf nervously.

Confused, Bonnie walked through a very long hallway till the Elf stopped in front of a pair of large red and green french doors.

Knock Knock

"You may enter, Peppermint" said Santa

"Um Santa you have a visitor" Said Peppermint shyly

"Bonnie!!" Screamed Santa with tears streaming down his face as he ran to give her a hug.

"Um why are you hugging me Santa I'm flattered but why." asked Bonnie confused

"You're my daughter." Santa said smiling "Peppermint go and get Mrs. Claus"

"Yes Santa," Peppermint said, running to get her.

"Oh my Bonnie I am so glad you're back" Santa gleamed

"Hi Bonnie" said Mrs. Clause schemingly

As Bonnie turned around her mouth fell wide open. Mrs. Clause was the old woman on the plane.

"Mom?" Asked Bonnie curiously

"Yes it's me" Said Mrs. Clause smiling

"Why didn't you tell me on the plane?" urged Bonnie

"Because I knew you were going to come here," said Mrs. Clause calmly, still with that twinkle in her eyes. She walked up to give her only daughter a giant hug.

FROM OUR FAMILY TO YOURS

merry
Christmas
& Happy New Year

Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!
2 Corinthians 9:15



Merry Christmas
& HAPPY NEW YEAR

Christmas in Miami celebrating literacy



STANDARD PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Miami School grade 4 students wrote Christmas stories and read them to their classmates.

The Little Girl Jessica and the Elf on the Shelf

By Abrielle

Once upon a time there was a little girl. Her name was Jessica. She was in her room. She had a pencil and paper in her hand. She was writing about what she wanted for Christmas. She wanted a black hoverboard, new pajamas, and then she said "that's enough writing for today. I'll finish writing tomorrow."

She went to kiss her dad and mom good night then she went to bed. She woke up when she heard a noise in her living room. She went to go check but then she found presents under the tree. She went back to bed but then she had a dream that she was being watched last night. She got up and the dreamed went away. Sitting up, she was so scared but she went into her living room to watch the movie The

Grinch.

While, she was in the living room watching The Grinch, she heard a big BANG that was in her room. She went to go check it out and she found an elf on the shelf and there was a note beside it. It said, 'From Grandpa to Jessica.'

She opened the letter and she read it. It said, 'Dear Jessica, I'm sorry I can't be there for Christmas, I have work to do. I will be there maybe next Christmas but don't worry I sent an elf on the shelf to make sure you were good.'

Jessica giggled. She looked at the elf on the shelf. She went to eat breakfast. She whispered to the elf, "I hope grandpa is here for Christmas." Jessica found the elf on the shelf, who was now sitting on a wardrobe that was made out of wood. It was white and it was tiny. Jessica really wanted

to touch the elf. She was about to but Jessica went to bed cause it was getting dark and it was past her bedtime. She crawled right in the bed and she fell asleep.

The elf on the shelf got up and went into the living room. He was sitting. They had a tiny clumsy claw machine and so he climbed in there. He fell asleep and woke up in a forest. He found a tiny house that he could fit in. He opened the door and walked inside and he said, "Is anybody here?" He heard a voice.

The voice said, "Hello! Do you want to come into the living room?"

He walked in the living room and he saw another elf.

The other elf said, "Well hello there. You look interesting. Follow me. He started to follow the other elf but he was being led outside. He walked outside but the elf was taking him

into another house. They walked in and said, "Hello I'm here again. I have someone here. Hello! Hello! I am here like I told you I'll be."

Another elf walked down the stairs. "I wonder who this elf is, what's your name young elf"

"I'm Jordan, what's your name?"

"My name is Chase. That is a nice name, for your information, and you're probably wondering where you are?"

"Yes, what is this place? It's very fancy though."

"Yes, it is very fancy. We are at the hall."

"It is very fancy. I should be going back now."

"Yes, Yes, well thanks for coming. Can you tell me where your person lives?"

"No sorry."

> MIAMI, FROM PG. 17

The elf goes back and makes sure he is back in his place before Jessica wakes up. She goes back to her pencil and paper and writes more. She wants an iPad and she wants an apple pen. She also wants a phone and a cookie maker. She was done and so she went back to bed. She tucked herself in and fell asleep.

The next day, it was Christmas! She got up so fast to check under the tree. She went into her parents and she screamed, "Wake up! Wake up, it's Christmas!"

Her parents got up and said, "Come on, let's go open some presents." She opened one and there was an iPad inside. She said, "Thank you, thank you! All of my friends had an iPad, so I'm so glad I got one."

The Christmas Cat

By Ace

There was a cat that was trapped in a cave. He wished he could have Christmas time. The dogs were trapping the cats. The cat that was getting bullied was named Frece. Frece jumped on the counter and found a hole. It led outside.

Meanwhile, Santa was making a list of what he wanted. He wanted infinite cookies and milk because he loved cookies and milk. He wanted new friends because he was lonely.

Frece escaped the cave and looked. He saw beautiful snow and beautiful sky. He loved running in the snow and jumping in the snow but as soon as he jumped in the snow the mountain had an avalanche. Frece ran as fast as he ever could! He ran all the way to his house in the village and his friend Mouse was right there. He was excited to see Frece.

Meanwhile, Santa was still making his list. He also wanted a new house because he needed room for his new friends.

Frece was happy to see Mouse. They went to the candy store and bought basically everything and then they went bowling. They were so happy that they got two strikes. They went back home and sang some carols. After that, Frece opened all his advent calendar packets. His theme was cat treats. After that, they went to bed.

"Goodnight Frece," said Mouse.

"Meow," said Frece.

Meanwhile, Santa was packing the presents in the sleigh. When he was done he jumped in his sleigh. The reindeer started to fly. He went to the city first. There were 10,000 houses there. Next, he went to the town, there were 1000 houses in town. Next, he went to the hamlet where there were only three houses. Finally, he went to the village.

When Santa went to Frece's house, they went downstairs to look. Santa was putting down presents for Mouse and Frece. When they saw Santa they slowly went back to bed. The next morning they went to the Christmas tree and saw many presents. They saw ones with Mouse on them and ones with Frece on them.

Mouse went first. He got cheese, a

small playhouse with a bowling alley, a bed and many more cool things. Then it was Frece's turn to open some of the exciting and cool presents. When Frece got to open his presents, he got a new collar that said 'The Christmas Cat' and a magical gem that would give him a good Christmas.

Mouse went into his small playhouse and got a strike and a spare in his bowling Alley. Then he had a one second nap and then went out to eat his cheese. Frece put on his collar and put the gem in the middle of the collar. Then a big Christmas tree appeared and Frece started to dance. Mouse started to dance too. It was Frece's favorite Christmas that he ever had in his life.

After that they made a list of what they wanted to do. Frece wanted to go sledding, make snow forts, and go skiing. Mouse wanted to go to the Christmas concert, go to the big Christmas tree again, and also go ice fishing.

So, first they went sledding and had a good time doing that. Then they built a snow fort. It was very hard to do because the snow was not that hard. Then they went skiing. They got a little hurt by falling but they just got right back up. Then they went to the

Continued on page 19



A Special Note from Bill Klassen Auctions

First of all, we would like to thank this incredible community to which we have belonged to for so many years. Your support over the last 55 years is appreciated beyond words. Over the last few months your prayers, thoughts and continued support have carried us through this very difficult time.

It is with heavy hearts, that we announce the closing of Bill Klassen Auctions.

Bill was the founder, pulse and voice of this company. Without him, Bill Klassen Auctions is simply not Bill Klassen Auctions.

So now, as Bill would so often say at the close of an auction, 'That's it! That's all! Thank you all for coming out today and have a safe trip home!'

We would like to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year.

- Karen Klassen, the Klassen Family, Kayla Elias and the Bill Klassen Auctions Team.

For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Isaiah 9:6



*'That's it! That's all!
Thank you all for coming
out today and have
a safe trip home!'*

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> MIAMI, FROM PG. 18

Christmas concert. They loved watching the Christmas concert because it was funny and it was inspiring. Then they went to the big Christmas tree. It was beautiful at night. It was made by the Christmas gem that Santa had given them. Then they went ice fishing. They caught lots of things like fish, boots, rebar, and garbage. Why were people throwing garbage in the lake, they wondered?

But it was the best Christmas ever and they hoped that they would have this much fun next Christmas.

The Christmas Dog

By Alexa

The Canes family was happy until one night when they left Cookie, their dog in the woods.

Cookie was trying to find her family, but she was lost. Cookie kept looking, following her nose and then she found a trail. Cookie came up to a raccoon and she asked, "Have you seen my family?"

"No!" replied the raccoon.

It was almost Christmas and Cookie had to get home to her family because the little boy of the family was sick.

Then suddenly, a pound worker started to chase her and she started to run. Cookie ran into the bush and the pound worker ran past her. When the coast was clear, she went back on the track. She got closer and closer but it started to get darker and darker. She found a little spot to sleep. The next morning, she went back on track.

Meanwhile, the Canes family, was looking for her and the boy got sicker and sicker. They were putting up the Christmas tree.

Cookie was hungry. She found some spilled dog food but she was still hungry. She went on the track. A person walked by and stopped to give her a

treat. He asked if she had a home. Cookie barked.

He said, "OK."

Cookie kept going.

Meanwhile, they were wrapping presents. The boy was wrapping Cookie's. The boy started to cry and said, "She's never coming back."

The boy was really sick now. His dad set off to look for Cookie

Meanwhile, Cookie was getting closer and closer. She saw lights. She headed towards them. It was the town. She went into the town to look for the house. The Pound Worker was back. She started to run. She looked back and he was gone. She kept going and she saw the street. She went down it. It was a long street but she kept going. She headed into someone's Christmas decorations. She looked around and she saw the house.

It was Christmas day, she started to bark and the boy got the door. He looked so happy that he got to see Cookie again.

"Mom! Dad!" cried the boy, "I found cookies!"

Everyone was so happy! Cookie had something for the boy. He opened it and it was a monster truck. Cookie got a dog bone. The mom asked if they wanted to go shopping? Cookie barked.

"Yes," said the boy.

"Ok," said mom.

When they got there, they went to the Pet Store and got a dog house, dog toys, a dog bowl, and dog treats. Then, they went to the Toy Store and got a remote control car, nerf gun, and a sled. Then they went home and went sledding. Then they set up the dog house, had supper and went to bed.



It's a season for reflection, hope and gratitude too, and we hope the warmth of its spirit touches each and every one of you.

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Miami winter parade piques community spirit

By Ty Dilello

Perfect weather and a crowd of cheering locals greeted the Miami Power Toboggan Club on Dec. 13, as the community turned out in force for the annual winter parade.

"It went amazing," said April Hildebrand of Miami Recreation and Play Spaces. "Many people parked along Norton Avenue to take in the parade, and many families were out on the street waving to the cars. Lots of seniors and others enjoyed the parade from their home."

There were 14 floats in the Miami Parade this year, including the decorated running elf, Arli Cruikshank, who was giving out treat bags.

Morden RCMP, Miami Fire and Rescue, Miami U11 Rockets, RM of Thompson and the Miami Parent Advisory Council also had floats in the parade.

Other community members that had floats participate were Leann and Rod Friesen, Nicole and Monique Parisien, Dale Oakes, John and Christina Friesen, Ed Marquart and Jay and Mike Murray.

"The parade was wonderful, and so was the weather for the parade," said Hildebrand. "It's a great way to help the community get into the spirit of the season."



STANDARD PHOTOS BY APRIL HILDEBRAND
Miami's Winter Parade put on by the Miami Power Toboggan Club was held on Dec. 13 as 14 floats made their way through the streets of Miami on a perfect winter night.



THANK YOU



To the amazing individuals and businesses for your gifts to CARMAN AREA FOUNDATION this year and in the past. Your unwavering support and generosity have not gone unnoticed.

Only with you are we able to grant back to the organizations within the communities we live and love.

TODAY'S NEEDS, TOMORROW'S DREAMS



Christmas STORIES

FIRST PLACE

The Tree in Town

Rylee Schmidt, Grade 7, Elm Creek.

I am returning home from my private school for Christmas break. I'm in Grade 7 and haven't been home since I left for Grade 6. I had missed my brother dearly and was looking forward to returning home!

"Katie Mcneel, please report to the office. Your ride is here to take you home," Mrs. Shreve said over the announcements. I was so excited, I practically ran out of the classroom. "Miss Mcneel, don't forget your homework," Mr. Bonafiss said. I didn't have time to think about homework, but I grabbed it on the way out. Seriously, I thought to myself, who assigns homework on Christmas break?

I hurriedly put on my winter gear and rushed to the office to await the cab. I was very fortunate to have a scholarship to St. Acrobrooks even though my parents applied for me.

I knew it would be a long 3-hour car ride, so I thought about the small Christmas tree farm my brother and I started a couple years ago. All the trees would be sooo big now. Thanks to Santa, he gave the kids a bunch of seeds because the farm when they found it only had one Christmas tree.

Business would be booming! The day we planted the seeds Grady and I pledged that all the money we made would go to charity. We knew since the seeds came from Santa, we shouldn't keep the money for ourselves. I wonder what charity Grady picked this year. I was too tired to care, so I decided I would get some sleep for my homecoming!

Before I knew it, the driver said, "No reason to tip me, I only had to listen to you snoring the whole ride!!!!" He commented with snark. I still tipped him \$20, then went inside not expecting what happened to happen next!!!!

"SURPRISE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!" Everybody shouted. I was stunned. Everybody was there! "Hi guys! Wow, I wasn't expecting this," I said. "Welcome home, Katie. We missed you so much" my mom said. "Katie Kat," Grady shouted. He jumped up and hugged me so tight I almost fell over. "Hi, Grady. Now can you please let go, I'm going to suffocate" I said. "Sorry, Katie. I'm not trying to hurt you. I've just really missed you," he said "Well no time for sentiment, let's party. Tomorrow is Christmas Eve!!!!!!!!!!!!!! We partied. My mom had baked all our family's Christmas goods. "They're as good as they always are," I told my

mom at the island. "How long did it take you to do this?" I gestured to the party. "All day, but you're worth it. I missed you, Katie Kat."

That evening after we cleaned up from the party, mom sent me off to bed. "You look so tired Katie," she told me. "Okay, but wake me up at 7 for breakfast. I want to go to the library to see Mrs. Armstrong," I said. "Fine, but hurry off now, okay? I love you, Katie Kat" she told me. "I love you, too. Goodnight," I said as I hurried off to bed. Before I knew it I was fast asleep.

My mom had steaming pancakes waiting for me, so I gobbled them down and walked to the library.

"Mrs. Armstrong, I'm here," I said. "Well, hello Katie. I've missed you. I have some new books. Would you like to look at them?"

"Yes, set them down by my usual place by the window, please" I said. But when I went to sit down I noticed there was no tree. "Mrs. Armstrong, where is the Christmas tree?" I asked. "We have been trying to find one, but all the big ones are sold out," she said, frowning.

I rushed home and told my family my plan and they all agreed. "Come on, if we start now we may be able to finish around 7." So we worked hard until the project was finished and by then a crowd had gathered around. The tree was a magnificent sight. Nobody could take their eyes off it. Then, someone started to sing some carols and we all joined in as we sang into the night sky!

SECOND PLACE

THE CHRISTMAS MIRACLE

By Marley, Grade 4, Miami School

There once was a girl named Marley. She was the main character of a Christmas concert. She was really excited. She couldn't have her lines on stage so then Marley got worried that she would mess up.

After school, she went home and told her parents. They were very proud of her. The next day, she went to school. The first thing that they did was practice for the Christmas concert. She thought that if she messed up, everybody would laugh at her. She only got a couple words wrong, but she was still scared.

The day came, she was scared because everybody was looking at her and she couldn't see her family. She started talking but then she stopped.

Then she saw all of her family and friends when they walked in and she felt Christmas Cheer in her heart. She didn't get any lines wrong. Afterwards her family cheered and they were very proud of her. They celebrated with hot cocoa. That's what I call Christmas cheer, she was very proud of herself.

The next day, everybody said her name, Marley, Marley. She still felt that Christmas cheer in her heart, but she didn't know why. She tried to figure it out. She tried being naughty and she tried being rude, but nothing worked.

Then she got it! It was stuck in her heart! No matter what she did, she would always have the Christmas cheer in her heart. She felt happy and kind. She couldn't stop smiling and dancing and singing all over the place.

Marley went to bed. She woke up in the middle of the night. Marley heard jingle bells. She went downstairs and saw Santa Claus. She said, "hi".

He said, "Hi" back.

Marley said, "What do you want for Christmas?"

Santa vanished away, Marley thought and thought. Then she got it, Santa wants everybody to be happy. Then it started snowing.

She quickly put on her coat and boots and heard a voice, "Ho! Ho! Ho! Merry Christmas!"

Marley felt more cheer in her heart than ever. When her family woke up, she told them about everything. They said that was supposed to happen.

She went to the Christmas tree and there were lots of presents. She couldn't believe it. It was a Christmas miracle. The tree was so pretty. Marley went on her knees and said, "thank you Santa and God."

Marley opened her present. It said "To Marley. From Santa."

There was a note inside....

Marley, you have been a very good girl this year so I trust you with this gift.

So she opened the gift. It was Santa's hat and Marley couldn't believe it. Her parents even couldn't believe it and everybody was shocked. Marley whispered, "Thank you, Santa."

Marley looked out the window. It was snowing outside. Marley ran outside and made a snow angel. She still had that Christmas cheer in her heart. She still had no idea how this happened to her. Then she heard a little voice, it said, "Ho! Ho! Ho! Merry Christmas, Marley!"

THIRD PLACE

Frosty the Snowman Returns Home

By Berlynn, Grade 5, Elm Creek

One day Frosty woke up in the North Pole and decided it was time to go back to visit his hometown. It was a good thing he was still wearing the black top hat that made him come to life or this would certainly fail. Frosty moved to the north pole a while ago, but he wanted to see what had changed back home and he missed his friends too. He will return to the north pole when winter starts to change to spring, because Frosty needs the snow to keep cold or he might melt and just be a puddle of water. Frosty packed his bags that night, so in the morning he can leave at 7:00 am on the dot.

When morning arrived, things already started going downhill. Frosty accidentally set his alarm for 7:00 pm, not 7:00 am! So he woke up late. He grabbed his bags and raced for the train station, he caught the train at 8:30 am and off he went. About halfway there Frosty fell asleep on the train, but the arrival call woke him up. Frosty was a little mad when the arrival call woke him up because he was having the sweetest dream about lollipops, he may have even drooled a little bit in his sleep. But Frosty had to get up and get going! He wiped the drool off his face and wobbled over as fast as he could to grab his bags and get off the train. Once he got off the train he looked around trying to recognize where he was. Some things looked the same, but some things didn't look the same at all, like the cars. However, he was there to find his old friends, so off he went to find them. About ten minutes later he saw the place where he was built, that sure brought back good memories, but he had to stay focused. Frosty thought and thought until ... he thought maybe he could just go knock on the doors of his friends homes. Frosty had a pretty good idea where they lived, it was worth a try. He knew they didn't go to school anymore, they were all grown up. So he walked over to the first house he saw and knocked on the door, knock, knock. When a lady answered he said, "Hello, I am Frosty the Snowman, do you remember me? You brought me to life!" Before he could say anything else she jumped into his cold arms and yelled, "FROSTY!" Where have You been?" We have to go find the others, but first I have someone for you to meet.



Christmas STORIES

Continued from page 21

She called over a little boy, this is my son. Say hi,"hi" he said. He can come and find the others with us. The boy could not believe Frosty could talk, he loved him. They got their snow gear and then they went to find the others. They went all over town and found most of Frosty's old friends. Everyone was so happy to see Frosty was back. They played and sang in the snow all winter. Frosty even met some new friends. About 2 months later it was time Frosty had to go back to the north pole as the sun was warm and if he stayed he would melt. So the next day he left to go back to the north pole. He waved as the train drove away. Soon Frosty arrived back at the north pole. I will be back someday.

HONOURABLE MENTION

What does Santa want for Christmas?
By Alyssa Isaak, Age 12, Elm Creek
"Hmm, what should I ask Santa for this year?" thought Sophia, as she sat at the kitchen table. It was December 5, 2023, and Sophia was writing a letter to Santa. Although, she had absolutely no idea what to ask for. So she decided to ask her mom.

"Mom, what do I want for Christmas? I don't know what to ask Santa for," exclaimed the exasperated Sophia.

"Well, how about that new necklace at the department store," mom suggested.

Sophia shook her head.

Sophia's mom tried again. "Maybe you could ask for some books."

"No, I don't want any more books either. I. Have. No. Idea. What. I. Want." said Sophia very dramatically. Her mom tried some more, but every idea was shot down.

"Well you don't seem to want any of these ideas, and I'm done trying to help. Figure it out on your own. I'll be working on dinner," exclaimed mom.

"Fine! I'll figure it out. Eventually. I'm going to work in my room," declared Sophia. She marched to her room, and brainstormed some more.

"I've got it! I'm going to ask what SANTA wants for Christmas! Why didn't I think of it before!" shouted Sophia.

"What's all the shouting for? Did you figure out what you want for Christmas yet? Mom said

"She's taking the letters to the post office tomorrow, so I hope you know what you want," said Sophia's older sister Katie. The girls didn't share a room, but the walls were like paper, so they could hear just about every-

thing.

"I know mom's taking them tomorrow, I just realized what I want, that's all," explained Sophia rather nonchalantly.

"That does not make sense at all, but I guess that's normal for you. Dinner's in an hour," replied Katie. She left the room and Sophia could hear her muttering to herself that "Sophia is getting stranger all the time".

Sophia didn't care. She finished up her letter, and read it over a couple times, and put it in the envelope. The letter went something like this:

Dear Santa,

How have you been Santa? I've been good. I'm going to get right to the point. Now, I don't know what I want for Christmas. So what do YOU want for Christmas? If you could send me a letter saying what you want I'll get it for you. When you come to my house there'll be a present under the tree for you! I know this is short, but I didn't have much to say.

-Sophia Woods

Sophia was satisfied with that, so she gave the letter to her mom, and got some supper. That evening Sophia started to have second thoughts about asking Santa what he wanted, but it was too late for that. So she snuggled down in her blankets, and fell asleep.

About 2 weeks later, Sophia finally got the letter back from Santa, and opened it as fast as she could. As Sophia read the letter, she realized that it was December 19th. She only had a few days left! She quickly wrote down all the things Santa would like, and rushed out the door.

Her list consisted of: Cookie brands (Santa of course loves cookies), Mittens (his old ones are threadbare), Christmas puzzles for when he's bored and good books.

As Sophia returned with the goods, and she wrapped them up. She wrote a note saying that she hopes that he will enjoy the gifts and that he will have a good Christmas. She put the presents under the tree, and thought "I hope he likes it", and went upstairs.

It was finally Christmas Eve, and everything was buzzing with excitement. Finally, everyone got to bed, and suddenly everyone was waking up and pulling their parents out of bed.

Eventually presents were opened, suddenly there was one more left. It was a small package. The note on top was from Santa! It said "Thank you for the present, and I hope you like this one."

It turned out to be that new necklace at the department store, the one that Sophia said she didn't want! Everyone had a laugh about that, and had a wonderful Christmas!

HONOURABLE MENTION

Santa Cat

By Rebecca Knox, Grade 4, Miami School

Once upon a time there was a cat, not a normal cat, a Santa cat. His name is Felix. Felix wanted someone to take care of him. He wanted a friend. Felix was going to find a friend. Felix grabbed a bag and filled it up with cookies, milk jugs, and a lot of pancakes.

He said, "Magic sleigh take me to France!"

So the sleigh did. They stopped in the soft white snow. Felix jumped out of the sleigh, a Cat walked up to him and said, "Bonjour."

Felix said, "Bonjour"

The cat said, "Comment t' appelle tu?"

Felix said, "Je m'appelle Père Noël."

The cat fainted. Felix said, "Ehhh."

Felix jumped into the sleigh. The Magic sleigh took Felix to Hawaii. They landed in the nice soft sand with a wooosh. Felix jumped out of the sleigh. A chicken walked up to Félix and said, "Hello, what is your name?"

Felix replied, "Hello, my name is Santa."

The chicken started going on about her wishlist. She said that she wanted a green and purple dress.

"OK, Merry Christmas," Felix said, "Can I know your name?"

The chicken said, "My name is Ginger."

Felix said, "Bye!"

Felix jumped into the magic sleigh. Next, he went to Winnipeg. He landed on the top of a building. He jumped out of the sleigh, He went through a door into the elevator. The elevator took him down the building. Felix stopped for one a kitty treat and a jug of milk. He liked looking at the glass everywhere in the building. He went down the steps all the way to the bottom of the street. Felix was walking down the sidewalk when he saw a puppy. The puppy walked up to Felix and said, "Hello, what's your name? My name is Jackson."

Felix said, "Nice to meet you Jackson. Where do you live?"

Jackson said, "I live in an alleyway." "That does not sound like a good place to stay. You can come with me. I live at the North Pole. It's really cold there so maybe we could find somewhere else to stay and someone to take care of us."

"OK"

They jumped into the magic sleigh and flew to Miami, Manitoba. They landed at The Station and they jumped out. A little girl named Bell, walked up to them and said "I'll name the kitty cat Felix and the puppy Jackson."

The little girl was so nice that Felix put her on the nice list. The little girl made Felix and Jackson a bed and food dishes. Félix and Jackson love the little girl. She took good care of them. They were best buddies.

That night, Felix called his elves and said, "We need to get all the way around the world!" Felix said to the reindeer, "Giddyup!"

Felix went one house at a time. Halfway around the world. 700 houses to go. A quarter way around the world. 100 houses to go. Felix started to sing, Jingle Bells, Jingle Bells Jingle Bells Jingle all the Way. Oh what fun it is to ride in one horse open sleigh. Dashing through the snow, in a one horse open sleigh. Over the hills we go, laughing, ha ha ha ha, all the way. Just hear those sleigh bells jingling, Ring tingling too. Come on, it's lovely weather for a sleigh ride together with you.

One of the elf's shouted, "One more house to go!"

Felix said, "Oh no! The bag of presents is empty!"

Jackson said, "We are going to have to give them something else. Let's give them a bunch of pancakes."

Felix said, "That's a great idea! Now, let's go home! I'm tired and cold. I want a glass of hot chocolate and warm cookies, actually gingerbread cookies, with my favourite buddy Jackson."

That's what they did. They went home and had hot chocolate, gingerbread cookies and they sat around the fireplace to warm up.

"I had lots of fun today," Jackson said, "Today was the funnest day ever. Why don't we celebrate Christmas together but like all the time."

Felix said, "OK! That sounds OK. We can do that. This will be so much fun! I'll go get the ornaments."

"I'll go get the tree," said Jackson.

"I'll go get the cookies and milk," said the little girl.

It looked like a party that would never stop.

Jackson, the little girl, and Felix had a happy Christmas every single year. Felix loved Christmas every single year no matter what happened or what went wrong because he always had his best buddy, Jackson.



The Carman-Dufferin STANDARD

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We would like to express our sincerest gratitude for your unwavering support over the past year. Our community newspaper wouldn't be possible without you. Thank you!

Moving forward, we'll continue to publish stories that have a direct impact on our community. You can continue to trust us to provide verified and timely coverage of the issues that matter most to you.

As we head into the holiday season, we want you to know that your support is our most treasured gift. We feel fortunate to have you on our side, and we hope you have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Happy holidays, and best wishes for 2024!



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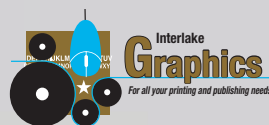
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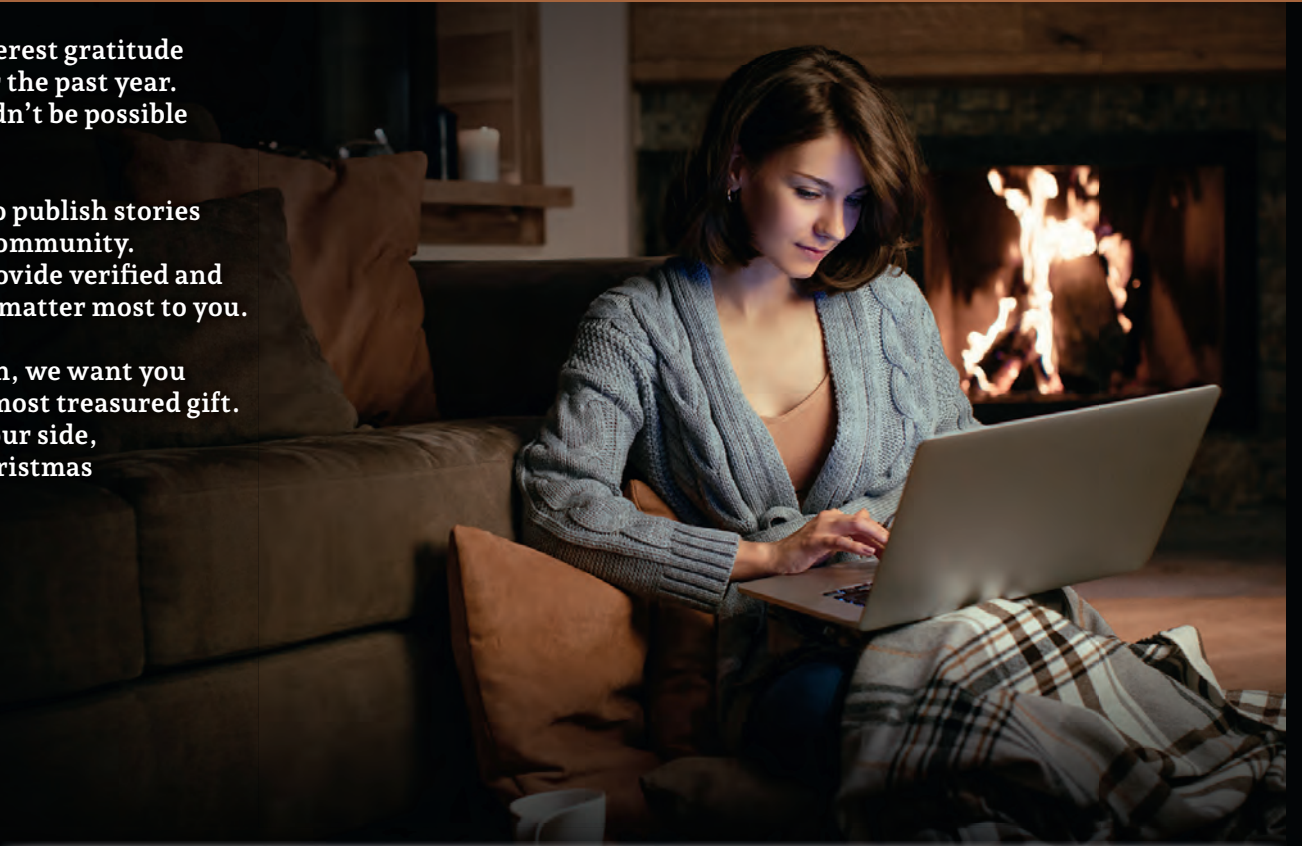
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sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

Twisters double MMJHL first place team, five game win streak

By Ty Dilello

The Pembina Valley Twisters have been on fire in the Manitoba Major Junior Hockey League (MMJHL), securing their fifth consecutive win. With the victories, the Twisters have moved into fourth place in the MMJHL's standings with a record of 13-8-2.

The Twisters emerged victorious at home against the Stonewall Jets on Dec. 15 with a final score of 6-2. Leading the charge for Pembina Valley was Ryan Orchard, who scored two goals. Other Twisters players who contributed to the win were Derek Wiebe, Mark Plett, Zander Carels and Josh Guilford. Logan Enns made an impressive performance in net, making 19 saves to secure the win.

A few nights later at home on Dec. 17, the Twisters doubled up the St. James Jr. Canucks by a 6-3 count. After falling behind 3-0 in the game, the Twisters would score six unanswered goals throughout the final half of the game to earn the victory.

Riley Goertzen notched a pair of goals, while his teammates Brett Bergman, Carels, Orchard, and Mike Hepner also found the back of the net for the Twisters. Enns once again put on an impressive performance between the pipes, making 29 saves to secure the win.

"We've been playing hungry hockey as of late, as the last few games, we have had flat starts and ended up down 2-0, 3-0, but we never quit, and climbed back to take both games," said Pembina Valley Twisters head coach Braeden Beernaerts. "We've gained a lot of traction since the start of the year knowing that if we play our game, we always have a chance."

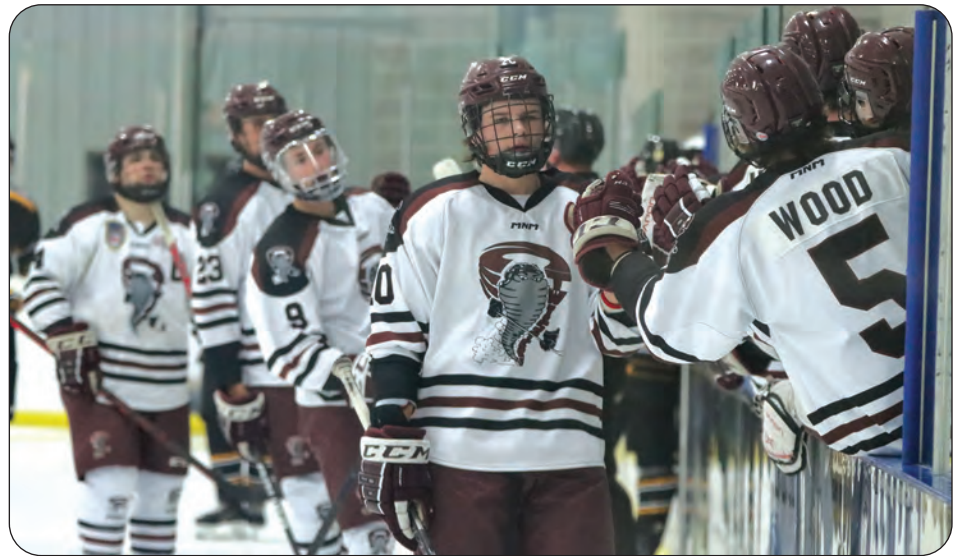
"THE PLAYOFFS ARE A LONG WAY DOWN THE ROAD, SO WE TAKE THE SEASON GAME BY GAME, KNOWING THAT WE CAN'T OVERLOOK ANY TEAM IN THIS LEAGUE."

Twisters' sniper Derek Wiebe holds third place in the MMJHL's scoring race, tallying 38 points in 23 games. Teammate Merek Degraeve sits at eighth with 34 points in the same number of games. Enns also stands out, securing fourth place in the goalie rankings with an impressive 3.14 goals-against average

and a .909 save percentage.

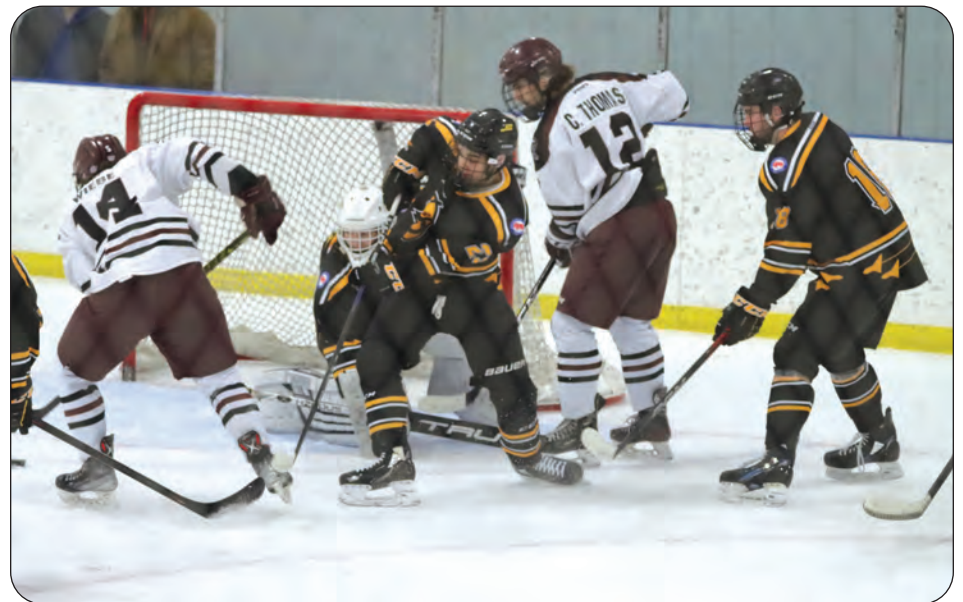
The Twisters are back in action with a road game on Dec. 19 against the St. Vital Victorias with puck drop at 7:30 p.m.

"Our goals do not change, nor do expectations as we want to keep the consistency and work ethic up, giving us the best chance to win every night," said Beernaerts. "The playoffs are a long way down the road, so we take the season game by game, knowing that we can't overlook any team in this league."



STANDARD PHOTOS BY LANA MEIER

The Twisters' Ryan Orchard had two goals in his team's 6-2 win over the Stonewall Jets last Friday.



Pembina Valley's Derek Wiebe (14) continues to lead the team with 12 goals and 26 assists in 23 games.

Flyers post pair of narrow losses, one decisive win

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler Flyers were 1-2 in MJHL action this past week.

Last Tuesday, Dec. 12, they found themselves on the losing end of a shootout against the visiting OCN Blizzard.

The score was 2-2 after 60 regulation minutes thanks to Winkler goals from Trent Penner and Dalton Andrew.

After a scoreless overtime, the shootout saw Brody Beauchemin, Andrew, and Jakob Jones all miss the mark. OCN's Riley See got the game-winner.

Malachi Klassen made 27 saves in

net for the Flyers. Winkler outshot OCN 40-29.

Friday night's game against the Nighthawks in Niverville was another close one.

All the scoring this game was in the first period, with Mike Svenson drawing first blood for Winkler five minutes in only to have one of the Nighthawks tie things up a few minutes later.

Niverville then scored four minutes into overtime to take it 2-1.

Klassen made 27 saves off 29 shots on goal this game. His teammates sent 34 shots the other way.

The Flyers shook off the close losses to earn a decisive 7-4 win against the visiting Dauphin Kings Saturday night.

Goals from Mike Svenson and Tanner George had the home team up 2-0 after 20 minutes.

The tables turned in the second, with Dauphin scoring three times to take the lead before Dalton Andrew and Brady Craik righted the ship for Winkler.

Andrew contributed two more goals in the third period. That, combined with a goal from Blake Matheson, kept the Flyers in the lead to the final

buzzer.

The Kings won the shots battle 38-29. Liam Ernst made 34 saves for the Flyers in net.

With that, Winkler is in third place in the MGEU East Division with a record of 20-3-2-2 for 44 points. They have a few games in hand over the first-place Pistons (23-4-3, 49 points) and the second-place Portage Terriers (21-7-3-2, 47 points).

The Flyers close out 2023 with a road game in Virden this Tuesday and a home game against Steinbach Wednesday night.

sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

Hawks put an end to losing streak

By Lorne Stelmach

A 13-game losing streak came to an end last weekend for the female U18 Pembina Valley Hawks.

The Hawks gained five of a possible six points on a busy three-game weekend that started with a 2-1 shootout loss to the Yellowhead Chiefs Friday.

Saturday then saw Pembina Valley end the streak with a 7-4 win over the Central Plains Capitals followed by a 2-1 victory against the Winnipeg Avros Sunday.

Kasia Rakowski had a solid game in net for the Hawks against Yellowhead with 42 saves, but Abigail Brigg was the only Pembina Valley player able to score in regulation. The Hawks managed 37 shots on goal.

Jessica Anderson had a hat trick against Central Plains as the Hawks had their biggest offensive output

of the season with period leads of 3-2 and 6-3.

Sophie Armit contributed a pair while the other goals were scored by Brigg and Casey O'Brien. Shots on goal were even at 43 apiece, with Vayha Willis getting the win in net on 39 saves.

All of the scoring in the Winnipeg game came in the third period, with the Hawks getting markers from Brigg and Naomi Scharf. Rakowski made 40 saves as the shots on goal were 41-32 in favour of the Avros.

It gives the Hawks a good boost as they now enjoy a break until their next game in the new year on Jan. 7 against the Eastman Selects.

With the wins, the Hawks inched up into sixth place at 5-11-2 for 12 points, which is one ahead of Interlake and seven behind Westman.



STANDARD PHOTO BY RICK HIEBERT

Ava Dalebozik of the Pembina Valley Hawks tries to get away from the check of a Yellowstone player in last Friday's 2-1 shootout loss. The Hawks bounced back with wins against Central Plains and the Winnipeg Avros over the weekend.

Hawks split doubleheader with Parkland Rangers

By Lorne Stelmach

The male U18 Pembina Valley Hawks earned a split of their weekend doubleheader with the Parkland Rangers in Dauphin.

The Hawks were edged 4-3 in game one Saturday but rebounded well in a 7-2 romp over the Rangers Sunday.

It was an even game through 40 minutes Saturday, with the score deadlocked at 1-1 after 20 minutes and 3-3 at the second intermission.

Kam Thomas scored a pair for the Hawks, who capitalized on two powerplays. Sam Delaquis contributed the other goal, while Bryson Yaschyshyn made 28 saves in net. Pembina Valley held a 37-32 edge in shots on goal.

The Hawks took control of game two with period leads of 3-0 and 5-1 and again connected for two powerplay

markers.

Scoring for Pembina Valley were Liam Goertzen with two along with singles from Thomas, Charlie Hill, Brett Lesage, Acoyen Fehr, and Haiden Friesen.

Shots on goal were even at just 23 apiece. Ryler Gates got the win in net with 21 saves.

The Hawks are in seventh place at 9-10-2-3 for 23 points, which has them three back of the Winnipeg Thrashers and just one ahead of Norman and Eastman.

This week the Hawks host the Winnipeg Wild Wednesday and then head to Brandon to play the Wheat Kings Thursday before getting a break for the holidays.

They return to action in the new year Jan. 3 against the Winnipeg Bruins.

Beavers slip into ninth place

By Ty Dilello

The Carman Beavers' unfortunate season took another hit last week, as they suffered two more defeats. As a result, the team has now dropped to ninth place in the SEMHL standings, with only two wins and eight losses under their belt.

On Dec. 14, the Beavers got blitzed 1The Beavers were unable to keep up with the Morden Bombers on Dec. 14, resulting in a 14-6 defeat. Tyler Park and Fraser Mirrlees both scored twice for Carman, while Ben Dalke and Scott Atkins also found the back of the net. On the opposing team, Jay Fehr and Mike Rey each recorded hat tricks and Jory Mullin had a remarkable eight-point game with two goals and six assists. Despite

their efforts, Carman's goalies Luke Zacharias and Daniel Wenham could not stop the relentless Morden offense as they made a total of 50 saves in the loss.

A few nights later on Dec. 16, the Beavers had a slightly better game, but still lost by an 8-2 count to the Portage Islanders. Noah Skorpad and Mirrlees had the Beavers' goals, while Joey Sutherland had a hat trick for Portage. Luke Zacharias and Daniel Wenham were busy again in net as they stopped 46 shots in the loss.

The Carman Beavers will now be taking a much-needed break for the holidays and will be back in action with a home game on Jan. 6 against the Ste. Anne Aces. The puck drops at 7:30 p.m.

Mateychuk gets the Christmas gift he's longed for

By staff

It was a year ago when the only gift on Denton Mateychuk's Christmas wish list never came.

The Dominion City product was enjoying a stellar campaign on the blue line with the Moose Jaw Warriors in the Western Hockey League and looked primed to represent Canada at the U20 World Junior Championships on home soil. But when it was announced who would don the Maple Leaf at the annual holiday tournament, Mateychuk's name wasn't on the list.

Mateychuk wouldn't be denied this time around. Earlier this month, Mateychuk, along with Straithclair product Conor Geekie, were told they'd be among the 23 players to wear the Red and White at the 2024 World Junior Championships in Gothenburg, Sweden from Dec. 26 to Jan. 5.

Canada, the two-time reigning champions, opens its tournament against Finland on Boxing Day.

"It's obviously an awesome honour to be on this team and it's always awesome to put on the maple leaf," said Mateychuk, who represented Canada at the U18 World Junior Championships in 2020. "I think it started last year, not making the team, and it kind of sets you back a little bit, because you want to be able to represent your country."

"I just used it as motivation and then you get into the summer and it helps with the training and everything and I've been playing my best hockey so I think that's all the reasons that went into making this team."

Mateychuk, the first-round pick of the Columbus Blue Jackets in 2022, is on pace for a career year with Moose Jaw, tallying six goals and 29 assists in 24 contests. His 35 points are the fourth-most among defencemen in the league, despite missing the first 10 games while at Blue Jackets' training camp.

"I've felt good on the ice," he said. "I had a good

(training) camp in Columbus and then come back to Moose Jaw and bring back those pro habits that you see every day there and use that in the WHL and I think I've done a pretty good job of that and it's shown on the ice, I think."

Indeed, the 19-year-old is carrying himself with a different swagger than the one who came up short a year ago, and Warriors head coach Mark O'Leary has taken notice of his captain.

"The big thing is his patience with not forcing things that are not there. What I mean by that is in early parts when he started, it was all offence all the time," O'Leary said.

"Now he's learned to trust his ability to check it, to let the plays develop, be sound defensively, and when he does that he's able to be in possession and pick his spots to create offence."

The Warriors (18-14-0-2) are third in the Eastern Conference at the holiday reprieve. The club will be without Mateychuk for a handful of contests out of the break, but O'Leary will manage as they cheer on their fearless leader from 6,700 kilometres away.

"Just being able to watch how far Denton's come as a young 15 year old when he first started playing games with us— how hard he's worked to develop into the player he is now, whether that's the off-ice work that he's done, the attention that he puts to detail, the video work, just working on his skating," O'Leary said.

"He's our captain for a reason. He does everything like a professional and to see a guy like that be rewarded with this opportunity is very special."

Mateychuk's priority is defending Canada's title for a second time, but he would be remised to not soak up the number of learning opportunities that await in the international competition. Perhaps another gift this holiday season came in the form of former NHL defenceman Brent Seabrook, who is a



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Dominion City's Denton Mateychuk will be representing Canada at the U20 World Junior Championships in Sweden from Dec. 26 to Jan. 5.

part of this year's management team.

Mateychuk said he's already getting tips from the three-time Stanley Cup champion and Olympic gold medallist, and that he's sure more are to come.

"I'm sure there's gonna be lots of those moments," Mateychuk said. "I'm not too sure exactly what it'll be but I'm know I'm going to learn a lot though the next couple of weeks."

"I think there will definitely be some nerves but that's why you play the game," he continued. "It's for these moments that are to come and I'm just really excited right now about it."

Canada begins its title defence with two pre-tournament games on Dec. 19 against a U-25 team from Denmark and then tests against fellow WJHC participants Switzerland and United States on Dec. 22 and 23. Canada's tournament schedule begins on Boxing Day in a game against Finland at 7:30 a.m. central. All games can be viewed live on TSN.

Optimism abound as Mud Bugs celebrate strong start to hockey season

Head coach says team hungry for provincial championship

By Ty Dilello

The Red River Mud Bugs of the Hanover Tache Junior Hockey League (HTJHL) have their sights set on provincial glory, after a strong start to the season.

The HTJHL operates exclusively in the southeastern part of the province and is the only Junior C league in Manitoba, and as such, league champions are also named provincial Junior C champions.

The Mud Bugs have won the league title twice so far in the team's existence, back in 2018 and 2019.

"This team was formed around 15 years ago with the purpose of giving boys who can't commit to Junior A, Junior B, etcetera, as they are either in university or working and want a place to play junior hockey," said head coach Bill Dowswell. "The

HTJHL is an eight-team league and is very competitive every single game."

Although they play out of St. Jean-Baptiste, the Mud Bugs are made up of players primarily from the Altona area.

"The bulk of our team is from Altona, and they keep the team alive," Dowswell said. "We also have local guys from St. Jean and Morris, and a few from Winkler and Portage."

Through the midway point of the season, the Mud Bugs are in first place in the HTJHL standings with a record of 10-3-2.

"Our season is going pretty good so far. We had a slow start with a couple of overtime losses, but we have recently reeled off eight straight wins. We have a very tight group, and after losing in the league finals last year, the boys are hungry."



STANDARD PHOTO SUBMITTED

The Red River Mud Bugs of the Hanover Tache Junior Hockey League (HTJHL) are currently in first place in the league's standings at the halfway point of the 2023-24 season.

The Mud Bugs are led by Altona's Bryson Loewen and Andrew Dyck, who are both leading the league in scoring. Loewen has 36 points in 30 games, while Dyck has 30 points in 15

games.

"I can't say enough about those two players as they've been in the top 10

sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

Countdown is on to 2024 Scotties Tournament of Hearts

By Lorne Stelmach

There is just one month to go before top female curlers from across Manitoba arrive in Morden to compete for the provincial championship.

The 2024 Morden Scotties Tournament of Hearts takes place Jan. 23-28, and chairperson Ernie Epp is very appreciative of how the community has stepped up to make it happen.

"It's been really good. We've had lots of positive things happen," Epp said last week. "I think we're really close to about 200 volunteers for the event. We put out the request for volunteers and it was only a few short weeks and we had to cut it off because the response was that great ... it was super easy.

"The response is not just individuals who are volunteering. The response from the business community and sponsorships has also been phenomenal," he added, noting it was more than they had anticipated but "that's a wonderful challenge to have, and it's great to see that too."

Epp started initial meetings with CurlManitoba a year ago. The local committee then started organizing back before summer to put a team together. There is an executive committee with five chairs overseeing different areas of responsibility and 16 sub-committees overall.

Morden has a great track record of coming through for major events like this, noted Epp.

"I've seen that firsthand with my role, so it's humbling to see the number of people who are willing to give of their time to see something like this be successful."

He noted the last time Morden hosted was in 2002 when Jennifer Jones won. Jones unfortunately won't be here this year, as she earned a wild card for nationals, while Kerri Einarson won nationals last year so has a bye as the defending champions.

"But we've still got a lot of other good teams coming," Epp said, citing the examples of the teams skipped by Kaitlyn Lawes, Kate Cameron, and



STANDARD PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH

The 2024 Morden Scotties chair Ernie Epp (centre) purchased his elimination draw ticket from Jim Mutcheson and Shirley Sagert recently. The draw serves as a fundraiser for the local curling club. More information on that as well as the Scotties overall can be found at Morden2024.ca, and it is also on social media including Facebook and Instagram.

Beth Peterson. "Those three teams themselves are high up in the national ratings."

There is also a local team to cheer for with the young Carman foursome skipped by Shaela Hayward having qualified to compete.

"I'm expecting that there's going to be a number of people from the Carman area who are family and friends and supporters in general who are going to be helping to fill the stands here," said Epp. "It speaks volumes to the calibre of curling in Manitoba, not just today but into the future because there's lots of good programs out there."

Teams arrive Jan. 23, with curling going Jan. 24-28. Twelve teams will be playing in the round robin Wednesday to Friday, with three draws daily. The elimination playoffs then take place on the Saturday and Sunday.

More information can be found online at morden2024.ca, where you can also purchase tickets for specific

draws, certain days, or the entire event.

"Tickets have already been going really well. Curling Manitoba has told us it's a really good response," said Epp.

Another feature will be a fundraising elimination draw with just 400 tickets. During the event, numbers are pulled out of a pail and removed from the board. There will be prizes as it goes along, but the big prize is \$8,000 for the last number remaining.

"It's intended to be a fundraiser for our curling club, and those tickets were already half sold," Enns noted. "So they're going fast."

As the event draws closer, Enns looks forward to the excitement the Scotties will offer for everyone.

"The more teams that I saw, the more excited I got that this is going to be a lot of fun ... and we want it to be fun for the community, so we're having a social event on the Saturday evening."

Team Hayward headed for Tournament of Hearts



STANDARD PHOTO SUBMITTED

Carman's Shaela Hayward has punched their ticket to the 2024 Scotties Tournament of Hearts after winning the South Regional berth by defeating Manitou's Rhonda Varnes twice in a row by scores of 8-7 and 6-4. The 2024 Scotties Tournament of Hearts will be held from Jan 23-28 in Morden. From left-to-right: Rylie Cox, India Young, Keira Krahn, Shaela Hayward, Diane Hayward.

> MUD BUGS, FROM PG. 26

of league scoring for the past three seasons. And it's not just scoring, they play offence and defense, too, whether it be winning draws or blocking shots. Cole Martens of Altona also compliments those two very well and is also top ten in the league's scoring race."

Dowswell is confident of his team's chances at bringing home

the first HTJHL championship back to St. Jean-Baptiste for the first time since 2019.

"We still have over half of the season to go, but if we keep our heads and play hard, hopefully we can finish the regular season strong and carry that into the playoffs," he said.

Christmas stocking decorating tips and tricks

Hanging Christmas stockings is just one of the many traditions that fill the days leading up to Christmas. One theory regarding the origins of stockings says the tradition began when a poor widower who had three daughters worried over having enough money for their wedding dowries to help secure the daughters' futures. The wom-

en, who had hung their stockings by the fireplace to dry, woke up to find solid gold spheres inside. This legend suggests kindly St. Nicholas visited the home in the night and left the presents, helping ensure the daughters could marry well, after all.

Christmas stockings were the first places where gifts were stowed, before under

the boughs of Christmas trees became the primary spot for placing gifts. Then stockings were secondary vessels reserved for small trinkets. Today stockings are largely Christmas decorations rather than places to place gifts. Still, they're a key component of holiday magic.

When including stockings in holiday festivities, follow these tips for whimsy and more.

- Utilize stocking holders. Stocking holders are either metal or wooden devices that are placed on mantels. Hooks on the holders suspend the stockings. Just be sure the holders are sturdy enough to handle the weight of a stuffed stocking if you plan on filling it with goodies.

- Determine your style. There are Christmas stockings that coordinate to just about any interior design style. From farmhouse to modern to tradi-



tional, choose one that fits with your aesthetic. That isn't to say you can't mix and match stockings if you prefer a more eclectic, homespun feel.

- Enhance your stocking look. If stockings are strictly decorative, enhance their look with a few tricks. First, use tissue paper or balled up shopping bags to stuff the stockings and give them shape. Fill a small baggie with sand or florist glass and place in the heel of the stocking to balance it out and prevent the stocking from blowing around in the breeze.

- No fireplace; no problem. Stockings are traditionally hung from the fireplace mantel, but if you don't have a fireplace there is no need to fret. Simply use ribbons to hang them from the bannister of a staircase, or hang stockings right on walls with removable hooks, or from sturdy shelves. You also can think creatively and hang larger stockings on a door like you might a wreath.

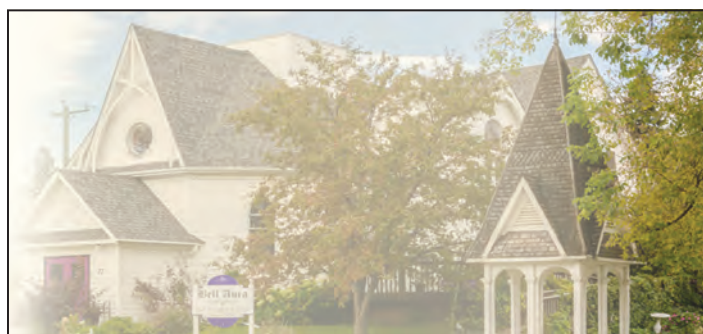
Whether they're decorative or functional, stockings can be an integral component of holiday decor in a home.



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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!

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

Sudoku Answer

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| T | A | T | A | V | T | E | D | M |
| T | O | B | V | S | D | E | N | T |
| S | D | A | G | A | L | V | D | I |
| V | A | I | V | A | F | E | C | H |
| S | A | F | S | A | N | O | S | O |

Crossword Answer

X CROSSWORD

CLUES ACROSS

1. Droops
5. Subatomic particle
10. Not in danger
14. Nursemaid
15. Black band worn in mourning
16. Long song in opera
17. Edible seed of a Philippine tree
18. Chicago political family
19. Pursues pleasure from one place to another
20. Appetizer
22. Hill (Celtic)
23. Simple shoe
24. Songs to one you love
27. Secret activities
30. Upset
31. Popular hot drink
32. Body art (slang)
35. Fired
37. Blood relation
38. Identical
39. Porticos
40. Partner to cheese
41. Type of sword
42. Enough (archaic)
43. Surface layer of ground
44. Cotton fabric woven like satin
45. Choose for a post
46. Father
47. Tell on
48. Indian title of respect
49. Fonts
52. Fencing sword
55. Mock
56. Vaccine developer
60. Atmosphere surrounding a person or place
61. Marten with a short tail
63. Chinese temple
64. Invests in little enterprises
65. Popular cut of meat
66. Charity
67. Iron-containing compound
68. River in Northern Europe
69. One point east of southeast

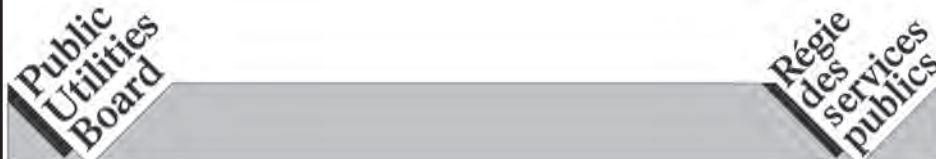
CLUES DOWN

1. Exhausts
2. Genus of fish related to gars

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14 | | | | 15 | | | | | 16 | | | |
| 17 | | | | 18 | | | | | 19 | | | |
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| | | | 24 | 25 | | | 26 | | | | | |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | | 30 | | | 31 | | | 32 | 33 | 34 |
| 35 | | | 36 | | | 37 | | | 38 | | | |
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| | | | 49 | | | 50 | | | 51 | | | |
| 52 | 53 | 54 | | | 55 | | | 56 | | 57 | 58 | 59 |
| 60 | | | | 61 | | | 62 | | 63 | | | |
| 64 | | | | 65 | | | | | 66 | | | |
| 67 | | | | 68 | | | | | 69 | | | |

3. Impudent behavior
4. Adherents to Islam
5. They come after A
6. Spoke
7. Room to receive guests
8. About opera
9. End-blown flute
10. Heroic tales
11. Member of a Semitic people
12. Dog's name
13. Opposite of west
21. Political divisions in ancient Greece
23. Ocean
25. Cool!
26. Young woman about to enter society
27. One from central Caucasus
28. Indian city
29. A way to serve ice cream
32. Emaciation
33. Escort aircraft carrier
34. Italian city

36. Mythical settler of Kansas
37. Unhappy
38. High schoolers' test
40. Measured in pace
41. Satisfies
43. Gullible person
44. Enclosed space
46. Substance used to color something
47. Shirt type
49. Discover by investigation
50. ___-Castell, makers of pens
51. Semitic Sun god
52. Grads wear one
53. French river
54. Part of a cap
57. Digestive fluid
58. Metrical foot
59. Body part
61. Very fast airplane
62. Supplement with difficulty



**NOTICE OF APPLICATION
RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF GREY
REVISED WATER AND WASTEWATER RATES
AMALGAMATION OF GREY REGIONAL AND ST. CLAUDE WATER
AND WASTEWATER UTILITIES
December 4, 2023**

The Rural Municipality of Grey (RM) has applied to the Public Utilities Board (Board) for revised water and wastewater rates for Grey Water and Wastewater Utility (Utility) as set out in By-law No. 09/23, read the first time on July 19, 2023. Rates for Grey Regional Water and Wastewater were last approved in 2020 in Board Order No. 28/20, with current rates coming into effect January 1, 2022, and rates for the St. Claude Water and Wastewater were last approved in 2020 in Board Order 29/20, with current rates coming into effect January 1, 2022. The RM has been granted approval in Board Orders 137-22 and 140-22 to pass through rate increases from Pembina Valley Water Co-op and Cartier Water Co-op. The RM is also requesting amalgamation of the utilities into one utility known as Grey Utility. The RM also has a deficit application before the Board to recover the 2018-2022 St. Claude Deficit.

The current and proposed rates are as follows:

| | St. Claude | Grey Regional | By-Law 09/23 Year 1 | By-Law 09/23 Year 2 | By-Law 09/23 Year 3 |
|--|------------|---------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Quarterly Service Charge | \$ 32.52 | \$ 29.87 | \$ 30.47 | \$ 30.73 | \$ 30.98 |
| Water (per 1,000 gallons) | \$ 16.55 | \$ 17.57 | \$ 21.36 | \$ 22.97 | \$ 24.59 |
| Wastewater (per 1,000 gallons) | \$ 6.40 | \$ 6.43 | \$ 7.20 | \$ 7.53 | \$ 7.86 |
| Minimum Quarterly Charge* | \$ 101.37 | \$ 101.87 | \$ 116.15 | \$ 122.23 | \$ 128.33 |
| Wastewater only customers** | \$ 90.12 | \$ 87.74 | \$ 95.27 | \$ 98.50 | \$ 101.72 |
| Bulk Water Sales(per 1,000 gallons) | \$ 19.00 | \$ 19.00 | \$ 23.00 | \$ 24.75 | \$ 26.50 |
| Tipping Fees (per load) | \$ 20.00 | \$ 20.00 | \$ 30.00 | \$ 30.00 | \$ 30.00 |
| Hyrant Rental (Annual) | \$ 125.00 | \$ 125.00 | \$ 200.00 | \$ 200.00 | \$ 200.00 |
| Deficit Recovery - Rate Riders | | | | | |
| St. Claude Deficit ¹ | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 1.78 | \$ 1.78 | \$ 1.78 |
| Minimum Quarterly Charge with deficit* | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 121.49 | \$ 127.57 | \$ 133.67 |

*Based on 3,000 gallons

**Based on 9,000 gallons

1 St. Claude Deficit Rate Rider application currently before the Board for approval

Details of the RM's application are available for review at the RM office or the Public Utilities Board's office. Any questions concerning the application for revised rates, or the operation of the Utility, should be sent directly to the RM.

If you have concerns/comments regarding the RM of Grey's application for water and wastewater rates please go to www.pubmanitoba.ca and provide your comment. *Please note all comments will be forwarded to the RM.*

Questions or comments should be sent on or before **January 19, 2024.**

The Public Utilities Board is the provincial regulatory agency that reviews and approves rates for water and wastewater utilities in Manitoba, with the exception of the City of Winnipeg. The Board's review process involves:

- the Utility filing a rate application to the Board,
- a public notification of proposed rate changes,
- the Board's review of the application through a public hearing or paper review process, and
- the issuance of an Order which outlines the Board's decision on the rate application and the rates to be charged.

The Manitoba Ombudsman has privacy guidelines for administrative tribunals. The Board is mindful of its obligations under those guidelines. Its decisions in respect of the application being considered will be sensitive to the guidelines. Personal information will not be disclosed unless it is appropriate and necessary to do so. However, the Board advises participants that these proceedings are public and that as a result, personal information protections are reduced.

The Board will then decide whether any further notice is required and whether to proceed with a public hearing or paper review process. All concerns received by the Board will be considered in the Board's decision on rates to be charged.

PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT IN CONSIDERING THIS APPLICATION, THE PUBLIC UTILITIES BOARD MAY OR MAY NOT FIND IT NECESSARY TO DETERMINE RATES DIFFERENT FROM THOSE APPLIED FOR BY THE APPLICANT.

Note: All proceedings will be conducted in accordance with the Board's Rules of Practice and Procedure, which the Board may vary in order to constrain regulatory costs. The Rules are available at www.pubmanitoba.ca.

Jennifer Dubois, CPA, CMA
Assistant Associate Secretary
Manitoba Public Utilities Board

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UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE PLANNING ACT
**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
FOR ROAD OPENING CA-01-2023RO**

On the date and at the time and location shown below, a PUBLIC HEARING will be held to receive representations from any person(s) who wish to make them in respect to the following matter:

Parkview Estates Ltd. (applicant) of mailing address Box 2452, Winkler, MB, R6W 4C2, (owner) has made an application to open a road due to subdivision 4409-23-8345, on the land legally described as the NW 25-6-5WPM, civic address 140 8th Street NW, roll # 0006600

HEARING LOCATION: Carman Council Chambers
12-2nd Avenue SW,
Carman Manitoba

DATE AND TIME: January 18th at 7:00 PM

GENERAL INTENT:

The applicant is applying to open a road on the property described above. A Public Hearing is required for this purpose. Notices were sent out within a 100m distance.

Please see attached Schedule "A" for reference.

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:

Susan Stein, Chief Administrative Officer
12-2nd Ave SW, Box 160 Carman, MB R0G 0J0
Phone: (204) 745-2443 Email: cao@townofcarman.com

SCHEDULE "A"

Proposed Subdivision - Town of Carman



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with an Announcement in the**

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OBITUARY



Lawrence John Allen

Peacefully at home, Sunday, December 10th, 2023 Lawrence passed away with family by his side, at the age of 90.

He leaves to mourn his wife of 61 years, Joan (née Forster); six children: Judith (Rhéal) Robidoux, Chris (Julia) Allen, Deanna (Jaime) Hutchison, Carla (Chris) Pouteau, Alex (Jolene) Allen, Paul (Kristal) Allen; 20 grandchildren: Brian (Meghan), Stéphane (Cassidy), Reg, Jocelyne, Joël and Nathalie Robidoux; Emily (Jacques) Fourie and Collin Allen; Daniel (Natalia), Erica, Chad and Leah Pouteau; Brodie and Mira Allen; Gabriella Allen; and Jessy, Lily and Maya Hutchison. He leaves seven great-grandchildren: Rhett, Jagger, Reese, Tripp and Vienna Robidoux; Georgia and Vaughn Robidoux. He also leaves to mourn two brothers, George and Maurice, one sister, Ellen Poulsen; two brothers-in-law, Joe and Greg Forster, two sisters-in-law, Judith Rock and Marie Green,

and their families.

Lawrence was predeceased by two granddaughters, Ashley and Hope Allen; his parents, Edward and Leah (née Funke); brother, Don; sister, Theresa; and his mother-in-law and father-in-law.

Lawrence was born on May 2, 1933 in his maternal grandparents' log cabin home. He attended school - first at McDermott and later at St. Daniel - until Grade 8, the highest grade provided; and his natural logic, practicality, and intelligence were evident throughout his life. He worked for a few years in Winnipeg and came home to St. Daniel and married the love of his life, Joan, in 1962. Together they bought 160 acres, built a life, and raised their six children. Lawrence practiced his Catholic faith and rarely missed Sunday mass.

Dad was a self-taught master-of-all-trades and his ability to repair, fix, or build anything from a self-designed sparrow trap to a house, served in helping provide for his family. He took pride in his Hereford cattle, enjoyed trapping moles, shooting magpies and was always up for a rousing game of cards. Both Mom and Dad loved their farmyard and planted hundreds of evergreen trees over the years. In recent years the farmyard became a pumpkin patch raising pumpkins for charity.

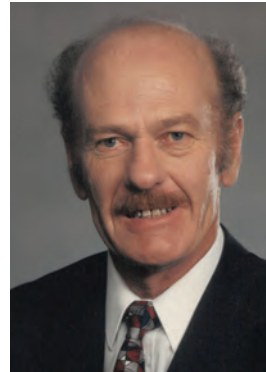
Lawrence was a big kid at heart and loved teasing, joking and playing with his beloved grandchildren and great-grandchildren. His one-liners were legendary and his wit was second to none, right up until his passing - if you asked him how he was feeling, he replied: "with my fingers". The memories of his unique and especially dry sense of humour will remain with us all.

In lieu of flowers, consider making a donation to the Children's Rehabilitation Foundation, 1155 Notre Dame Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3E 3G1 - in memory of his beloved Ashley and Hope.

Prayers and viewing were held Friday at 7:30 p.m. at the Catholic Parish of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Carman, Manitoba. Funeral mass was held on Saturday, December 16th at the Catholic Parish of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Carman, Manitoba at 1:00 p.m. with interment following in the St. Daniel Cemetery.

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

OBITUARY



William Keith "Bill" Roth

Bill Roth, beloved husband of Matilda Roth, passed away on Wednesday, December 13, 2023 at the Health Sciences Center at the age of 83 years.

Funeral service will be held on Thursday, December 21, 2023 at 11:00 a.m. at the Carman United Church with interment in Greenwood Cemetery, Carman. Viewing will take place on Wednesday, December 20, 2023 from 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. at Doyle's funeral Home.

Memorial donations may be made to STARS, or to the Boundary Trails Health Center Foundation.

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

Your memory will live forever Engraved within our hearts



Manitoba Beef Producers is returning to Brandon for our 45th AGM, Feb 8 & 9, 2024.

The AGM will feature breakout sessions, panel discussions, resolutions debate, a trade show, and beef banquet. Join us and interact with fellow beef producers, members of the value chain, and government officials.

Advance registration required via
www.mbbef.ca/news

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CARMAN LEGION BRANCH #18 ELECTIONS HAVE BEEN POSTPONED UNTIL WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24, 2024 7:30 P.M.

TENDER Garbage Collection Services

Council for the R.M. of Grey invite written tenders to provide garbage collection services in the L.U.D. of Haywood for a five year period from February 1, 2024 to December 31, 2028.

Tender specifications outlining duties and responsibilities for this service can be obtained at the R.M. of Grey Office, 27 Church Avenue East, Elm Creek, MB, Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. or on the website - www.rmofgrey.ca under Local Notices.

Sealed tenders marked "Garbage Collection Tender" shall be received by the undersigned until 4:00 p.m. on **Tuesday, January 9, 2024.** Lowest or any tender shall not necessarily be accepted.

Kim Arnal, CMMA
Chief Administrative Officer
R.M. of Grey
Box 99
27 Church Avenue East
Elm Creek, MB ROG ONO
1-204-436-2014
info@rmofgrey.ca

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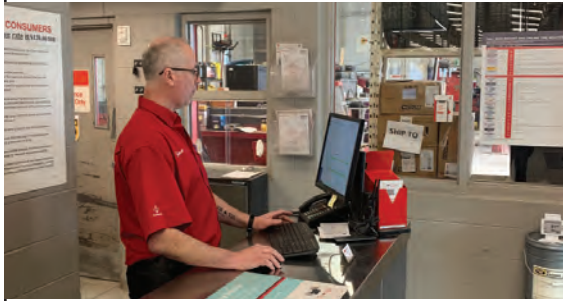
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On behalf of Shane and the staff at Canadian Tire Auto Service, we want to thank all of you for your business in 2023 and we look forward to seeing you in 2024.

From all of us to all of you, Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

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