

Your Community, Your News

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Volume 136 No. 01

Tuesday, January 14, 2025

Manitou Elementary School Christmas Activity

SUBMITTED PHOTOS



Submitted by

5s at Manitou Elementary School were busy designing new drinks for the Charlie's Coffee Co. Winter Menu.

They began by choosing at least five ingredients, then drawing a picture of it. They chose

included three detailed reasons as to why this drink would be a great addition to their menu. Their letters and drink ideas were delivered to Charlie's staff to be read.

On Tuesday, December 17, the students walked

revealed the 5 drinks that the staff had chosen as their favourites! These were featured on Thursday and could be ordered throughout the holiday! The top 5 specially

designed drinks were:

• Candy Cane

enjoy the hot chocolate and a treat. Peppermint - Maddison

- Caramel Cream
- Payton • Caramel Mint Santa
- Emmett
- Candy Cane Coffee - Aaleiyah

Addison VanDeKerckhove, Maddison Penner, Sawyer Funk and Aaleiyah Heinrichs

• Candy Caramel - Paige A huge thanks to Charissa, Brenda and

the Charlie's staff for supporting this writing project and making this a wonderful experience for the Grade 5s!

Local Border Hours Reduced

Compiled by **Nancy Holman**

Gone are the days of "going across the line" for supper. As of January 6, 2025, hours of service at 35 land ports across Canada have been "adjusted." Perhaps unfairly, Manitoba border crossings are the most affected by reduced/ changed hours: one border port in Alberta, two in B.C., four in New Brunswick, ten in Quebec, six in Saskatchewan and TWELVE ports of entry in Manitoba

had their hours changed.

According to a Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) news release of November 18, 2024: these adjusted hours, 'determined in collaboration with the United States, will enhance overall security for both countries. It will allow the CBSA to use its resources more efficiently by deploying officers at busier ports of entry. This will support the CBSA's ability to process travellers and goods as well as to manage enforcement

activities.

The U.S. is also adjusting service hours at many of its ports of entry. This alignment will also allow both countries to return inadmissible travellers and goods to the other country, which is more difficult when one side of the border is closed while the other remains open.

These adjustments are based on an analysis of operational pressures, peak periods and services required at the ports of entry, to minimize the

impacts on border communities. Almost all of these ports of entry are processing an average of two or less cars or commercial trucks per hour during the hours that will no longer be in operation and travellers have an alternative border crossing option within a 100 km radius.'

Manitoba's Ports: Cartwright

Travellers: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., 7 days a week Coulter

Travellers: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., 7 days a week

Commercial: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday to Friday (except holidays)

Crystal City

Travellers: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., 7 days a week Goodlands

Travellers: 9 a.m. to 5

p.m., 7 days a week Gretna

Travellers: 8 a.m to 6 p.m., 7 days a week

Travellers: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., 7 days a week Commercial: 8 a.m. to

4 p.m., Monday to Friday (except holidays)

Piney

Travellers: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., 7 days a week Snowflake

Travellers: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., 7 days a week

South Junction

Travellers: 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., 7 days a week Tolstoi

Travellers: 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., 7 days a week

Windygates Travellers: 9 a.m. to 5

p.m., 7 days a week Winkler

Travellers: 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., 7 days a week

CPR Station Restoration Update

AL THORLEIFSON SUBMITTED PHOTOS



The La Riviere CPR Station was moved from Archibald Museum to the railway track at Manitou. Many hours of work has gone into restoring the old building. To the left is the restored kitchen in the north side leanto.

Bottom left: the CPR Station waiting room with display cabinets in place.

Below: the restored Station Agent's Office with a newly acquired Agent's secretary and period lighting fixtures.



Manitou Students Step up to Support Menstrual Hygiene in Zambia



Cameron McNabb (left) gives Art Harms a cheque for \$755 SCORE Against Poverty. The money was raised by the grade 10 students at Nellie McClung Students in the

Submitted by **Art Harms**

10 LIFE-WORK class at Nellie McClung Collegiate in Manitou. After reaching out to Principal Melissa Pearce, she recommended joining Cameron

McNabb's class of over 20 students, where young men made up a slight

While working closely with local farmers, Mweendalubi Dubekah,

(CA).

majority.

the project's on-theground representative, identified a pressing issue - many young girls were struggling with menstrual hygiene due to extreme poverty, worsened by consecutive years of

severe drought. Families

facing difficult financial

nization dedicated to

improving farming con-

ditions in Zambia through

Conservation Agriculture

choices were forced to pri-The focus of the sesoritize food over hygiene sion was PAD A GIRL, products, leaving girls an initiative under vulnerable to stigma, low SCORE Against Poverty, self-esteem and frequent a non-governmental orgaschool absences.

Determined to make a difference, the Grade 10 students took on the challenge of raising funds to support this cause. Through bake sales, movie nights, guessing jar competitions and other school events, they managed to raise an impressive \$755. These funds will be used to purchase menstrual hygiene products directly from local Zambian

communities, ensuring sustainable support for the girls in need.

A heartfelt thank you goes out to Principal Melissa Pearce, teacher Cameron McNabb, the dedicated students and the Manitou community, for their generosity and unwavering support. Their kindness and commitment to making a global impact are truly inspiring. This initiative is a testament to the power of young people working together to change lives, one step at a time.





Festival begins: April 15 Deadline for entry submission: Friday, Feb. 28, 2025

Mail or email submissions to:

Joy Pauls, R.R. #1 La Riviere, MB ROG 1A0 bjpauls@inethome.ca c. 204-242-4424

E-transfer payment available

Entry Forms, Syllabus & Addendum available by

MANITOU SCHOOL OFFICES: Entry forms MANITOU SCHOOL LIBRARIES: Partial Syllabus & Speech Repertoire Manuals; Addendum **MANITOU PUBLIC LIBRARY:** All Materials



background.

On December 17, Art Harms had the privilege of attending a Grade

Needle Felting Workshop

January 25 1-3 p.m, BLUE DOOR 148 Moffat Ave Pilot Mound

With Val Norquay and Lisa Clouston

\$40 All supplies included

To register email: louise rec@hotmail.com

Crystal City Health and Flowers to close

Submitted by **Cathy Thiessen**

As some of you may be aware, Crystal City Health and Flowers has been a struggling business for the last little while. I have explored a few options to try and

keep it open and operational (loan, line of credit, investors, cash advance) and nothing seems to be working out. Therefore, I have made the extremely difficult decision to close the business.

I feel like it has potential to be a viable business

that serves the community with health essentials, a drop off and pick up location for numerous people, and the flower shop portion of the store is very important as well. It will be a loss for the community, and I feel bad for that.

I will update everyone on the final closing date as the closing process gets started. Thank you to all the past customers, this will be hard, but things can't continue on this

What do granite and apricot chicken have in common?

Susan Peterson

The 2025 Rocky Mountain Equipment Women of the Rings provincial curling championship is being hosted by the Pilot Mound Curling Club next week in Black Jack Stewart Arena.

Formerly known as the Scottie's provincial qualifier to the Scotties national curling tournament, Rocky Mountain Equipment (RME) and Case IH became its official sponsor about one year ago. This new name of "RME Women of the Rings" has taken time to adjust to as initially no one knew what it was referring to. "Oh, you mean the Scotties..."

The curling begins on Wednesday, January 22 and runs through to Sunday, January 26th. Wednesday evening features the opening ceremonies with all 12 teams being led onto the ice by local junior curlers (each carrying their team's name), two RCMP officers with area roots: Shae Argue (Cartwright) and Shane Flanagan (Pilot Mound) in ceremonial red

serge and of course, the traditional piper.

Highly skilled curlers such as Kerri Einarson or Kaitlyn Lawes have already qualified for the national Scotties and won't be competing. Not being able to watch these and other big names curl in Pilot Mound is certainly disappointing, however there are still some very talented curlers sliding out of the hacks next week. Chevenne Ehnes of Manitou and Alyssa Calvert of Carberry continue to demonstrate their talent throughout this curling season. Next generation curlers such as Gaetanne Gauthier, Lara Burtnyk and others should also be crowd pleasers. Attending enthusiasts can brag that "we saw them when..." and can buy apparel designed by Curl Manitoba and produced by Xi Promotions of Crystal City to prove it.

Competitors will be playing on 3 sheets of ice in Black Jack Stewart Arena with ice level viewing from bleachers on both sides of the main level and overhead on the

second level. The curling rink is being converted to "The Rockies Lounge" a licensed, non-viewing area, which seats 300 where spectators can sit to enjoy a meal. A smaller licensed lounge on the second level offers a smaller eating area with limited window seating.

The supper menu is amazing! Served in the curling rink, plan to savour Lasagna (Wed), Pulled Pork (Thurs), Stew in a Bread Bowl (Fri), Apricot Chicken (Sat) and Chili is available for lunch on Sunday. These meals are being prepared and ladled by the volunteers who signed up to be on the RME Women of the Rings Food Committee.

At the Phoenix counter, the usual burgers, fries, popcorn chicken, onion rings, etc. are available for purchase along with soup, sandwiches, taco in a bag, chicken wraps, and mozza fries. Breakfast sandwiches and cinnamon buns are also offered. This kitchen is manned by the food committee and Phoenix Club members.

It takes many enthusiastic people to organize a successful event such as this. Twenty-five committee heads were needed, each of whom found volunteers to help them get their particular job done. From ticket sales and 50/50s, to decorations, efficient ice conditions and great food, attendees can rest assured their money and time will be well spent.

The Pilot Mound Millennium Recreation Complex is a cash only venue. Full event passes are \$150, day passes \$40 and the last draw of the day \$20. These are available at Keystone Insurance, 134 Broadway Ave., Pilot Mound, or email pmrockies25@gmail.com. Full event information is available at rmepilotmound.com

This calibre of curling may not be witnessed so close to home for some time. Don't miss your chance to see the magic of brooms and granite and enjoy some apricot chicken!

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Tank foundations,

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Louise Aquatic Centre Cash Calender Winners

Submitted by Julie Weselowski

NOVEMBER

Nov. 1 - Derek Turnbull - \$25

Nov. 8 - Dave & Yvette Glenn - \$25 Nov. 15 - Darren Loney - \$25

Nov. 22 - Doreen Buydens - \$25

Nov. 29 - Derek Schott - \$100 **DECEMBER**

Dec. 6 - Home Hardware - \$25

Dec. 13 - Carolyn & Rick VDK - \$25

Dec. 20 - Beau Moore - \$25

Dec. 27 - Brandy McKay - \$100

Dec 31 - #436 - Donna Wallace - \$500

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Big Sky Singers Christmas Concert



The Big Sky Singers, under the direction of Richard Olfert, presented their Christmas Concert on December 20 at the United Community Arts in Pilot Mound. An appreciative audience were treated with a variety of Christmas songs and enjoyed refreshments after the concert. The choir will be starting rehearsals soon for a Spring Concert in April. New members are welcome. DAVID HEIDE PHOTO

Back Log?!

Deborah Coghill

When Canada Post went on strike all of Canada was affected in some way. Many small businesses lost money and charties lost donors. All of this happening at Christmas time made people think long and hard about the alternative methods for mail, including Canada Post themselves using Purolator to send things out! (See Susan's story in the December 10th issue!)

Soon after the strike ended Canada Post announced that they would clear out everything that was back logged before accepting new mail. They started delivering mail again the week of December 16 and

To my amazement, my Christmas cards arrived that Thursday. According to tracking they had arrived in Winnipeg on November 14. Of course, as we all know, that was the day before the strike

They must have been searching in every nook and cranny while the strike was ongoing because on the 20th my mother received quite a bit of mail. That isn't strange at all until she opened her mail box.

There were 2 Manitoba Hydro bills for earlier this year. A newspaper from 2022. It was a copy of The Western Canadian! Almost 3 years late and not sure why it was given to Mom as she did not have a subscription to the late, great newspaper!

Next she opened a Christmas card where the sender wished Mom a Merry Christmas and all the best in 2023! Two years late?! Better late



than never?!

The last one is the worst one though. Mom's brand new Westoba bank card. It was dated November 6, 2023. More than a year

We are very blessed to have all of our local Post Office people who work hard to get our mail to us. We know that when the mail arrives at the small town Post Offices that the Post Mistresses and Letter Carriers will get it to us.

Here is hoping your lost mail finds or found you and that they do not strike again in 2025!

Crossword

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Americans' "uncle"
- 4. Chair
- 8. Ancient kingdom
- 10. Egyptian city
- 11. Alaskan glacier
- 12. One from Somalia
- 13. Ancient alphabets
- 15. Relating to vocabulary
- 16. Small mongrels
- 17. Natural settings
- 18. Weekend entertainments
- 21. Line from which light seemingly streams
- 22. Your own private code
- 23. Swiss river
- 24. Satisfaction
- 25. A person's brother or sister

WELLNESS CENTRE

26. Folk singer DiFranco

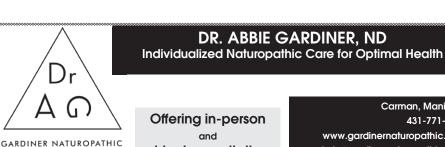
- 27. The Blonde Bombshell
- 34. Kids' school project
- 35. Bluish greens
- 36. Classifying 37. Cube-shaped
- 38. Choo-choos
- 39. Indian religious
- god of dissolution 40. French depart-
- 41. Leak into gradually
- 42. Foundation
- 43. Midway between south and southeast

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Counterbalancing
- 2. In slow tempo
- 3. Glamorous city
- 4. Japanese lute
- 5. Makes law 6. Informative book
- 7. Animal's body part

- 9. American playwright
- 10. Blood poisoning
- 12. Angels
- 14. Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)
- 15. Written account
- 17. Unwelcome pest
- 19. Saddle horses
- 20. Type of gibbon
- 23. Delta is one
- 24. NE Massachusetts
- cape
- 25. Soup cracker
- 26. Yes vote
- 27. Muddy ground
- 28. Physics apparatus (abbr.)
- 29. Type of drug
- 30. German city
- 31. Animal disease
- 32. Martini ingredients
- 33. Get away
- 34. Spanish munici-
- 36. Thrust a knife into

11 13 16 18 20 22 21 23 24 26 27 32 34 36 38 40 41



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The Hometown View's office hours are Tuesday to Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.



Minutes of the 16 December 2024 **Regular Meeting**

Present: Council Members - Murray McIntyre (8:15), Bill McKitrick, Travis Saban, John Darracott, Mike McLaren, Kyle McCannell, Liana Vanwynsberghe, CAO Alicia Buydens and PW Manager Kelly Young.

NEW BUSINESS

Donations collected on behalf of organizations were distributed accordingly:

Christmas Cheer Board - \$2,000

Clearwater Sports Club - \$16,020

Fire Committee - \$400 Pilot Mound Swimming Pool (construction) \$700 Tivoli Theatre \$600

List of Accounts

Payments totalling \$1,238,602.82 were approved along with the financial statement and 2024 TCA projects

PILOT MOUND KIN CENTRE CLOSED DUE TO STRUCTURAL INTEGRITY CONCERNS

and costs report as of 30 November 2024.

Emergency Plan

The Municipality of Louise Emergency Plan at December 2024 was approved.

2025 WTO Operator

The 2025 LUD of Clearwater Water Treatment Plant Operator was contracted to Keith Vines.

2025 Flower Contract

The annual flower bed planting and maintenance, flower planter planting and maintenance, Legion flower bed maintenance, cemetery flower bed maintenance (Crystal City) and flower pot planting and maintenance (Municipal Office) was awarded to Susan Pryor.

2024 Audit

Council appointed Sensus Chartered Professional Accountants Ltd for the 2024 audit.

By law 2025-02

Second and third readings were given to By law 2025-02 being a By law of the Municipality of Louise Appointments to Boards and Committees.

By law 2025-01

Second and third readings were given to by law 2025-01 which is a By law of the Municipality of Louise to authorize the expenditure and borrowing of money for connecting a new well to the Clearwater Water Treatment Plant as a Local Improvement.

Pilot Mound Kinsmen Hall

M. Cameron, Fire Inspector, issued an Order to close the hall with effect 7 December 2024 due to significant change in structural integrity. Administration to reach out to the Hall Board to discuss with Council the plans for repair.

PMMRC dehumidification system

Council reviewed the request for financial support for a dehumidification system and low e-ceiling. An allocation from the Recreational Building Repair Reserve Fund will be included in the 2025 Financial Plan along with support to apply for grants.

AMM Employee Benefits

Administration advised of the 6.9% premium increase with effect from 1 January 2025.

SCPD 2024 permit summary

Council reviewed the list of South Central Planning District permits that were applied for in 2024.

2024 donations summary

Council reviewed the 2024 donations summary which shows a total of \$139,501.68 in donations that were received from various individuals and disbursed to various community groups.

REPORTS LUD of Crystal City

As per Office of Drinking Water recommendation that an eye wash station be installed in the Crystal City well location, a wall in the building will be moved and extended to allow for adequate space. **Vet Board**

Future expansion proposal to include more exam rooms and a larger hospital area to help attract and retain new vets is being worked on. 2024 had four local veterinary students and several highschool and pre-veterinary

students at the clinic. Library

Lease renewal is still in the works with UCA. Hours that computers are available to the public to be adjusted to support staff in being able to finish work on time.

Rural Area

Water Conservation is involved in a land issue where there are drainage concerns.

RLHD

Trial period of the Doctors work rotation is being reviewed.

CAO

- Postal strike challenges continue as Administration tries to get payments delivered.
- J Boucher has registered for course 1 of 6 of the U of M Extended Education Program for Municipal Administration.
- Auditors completed their interim visit.
- RCMP advised that as of March 2025 they will all wear body cameras.
- Manitoba Assessment advised of the change to the taxation method for short term rentals to commence in 2026.

Council meeting date change

Due to conflicts with the

Rocky Mountain Equipment Women of the Rings tournament commitments

for a number of councillors, the January 22, 2025 council meeting is cancelled and rescheduled for Monday, January 27, 2025.

PW Manager

- LUD of Crystal City sander has been installed on the flat bed truck.
- Downstream land owner approval continues to be sorted for some DFA sites.
- Safety Advisor Report -November safety program report was reviewed.

MINUTES

Louise Recreation District - 21 November 2024

Pilot Mound Swimming Pool – 21 November 2024 Works and Operations Committee – 2 December

Correspondence

MAMEC - Community Emergency Response Team Training

Crime Stoppers support acknowledgement

2024 Annual Report -Provincial Pesticide Use Permit

LIWM holiday hours



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HAPPY NEW YEAR!



By Lloyd McTaggart, Common Sense Management

If you're a small business owner, you might have some good reasons to feel optimistic about the coming year. The most obvious one to me is the federal election which will hopefully take place sooner than later. It all depends on the House of Commons; the elected members can execute a vote of non-confidence or they might wait until October 20, 2025, when an election must be held. Prime Minister Trudeau's recent resignation resulted in Parliament being prorogued (put on hold) until late March, which means a non-confidence vote cannot take place until after that date.

For the good of the country, I think sooner would be better. Canada is under a tremendous

Let's Talk BUSINESS

Small business is the backbone of the Canadian economy and communities across the country. "Let's Talk BUSINESS" explores ways to help independent businesses grow and prosper. During his corporate business career, Lloyd McTaggart held a variety of management positions both domestically and internationally. His passion for working with independent business stems from his upbringing in Crystal City and from his own experience as a business owner/operator. He is now a semi-retired business consultant living in Kamloops, BC.

amount of economic pressure and that ultimately affects all of us. The current government has not - in my opinion - been "business-friendly" in their policies and actions, especially with regard to taxation and regulations.

LOVE THY NEIGHBOUR

We might be facing the possibility of 25% tariffs on products made in Canada and shipped to the USA, our biggest (by far) trading partner. In 2023, the U.S. purchased 77.1% of our total merchandise exports and the U.S. supplied us with 49.6% of our total imports.

According to what I've read, Prime Minister Trudeau told President-elect Trump last month that those tariffs would "cause Canada to dissolve; Canada wouldn't be able to function." I could interpret that to mean something like this: "We can't make it on our own without the USA." I'm no politician

but I do know that kind of a statement is generally not the best way to open negotiations. You've lost the battle before it starts. Anything can be negotiated.

For many, many reasons, it would certainly be worthwhile to strengthen our long and friendly relationship with the USA. Never mind the fanfare and political show-

habit (federal government), the future will be full of

economic woes such as increased taxation to pay for our debt.

Currently, the total amount of GST collected each year by the government goes to paying interest on our national debt. The interest amount rose 37% from 2022 to 2023. That trend is, to coin a fashionable phrase, unsustainable.

THE GOOD NEWS

QUOTE: "We have seen the enemy and he is us." - Walt Kelly, creator of the comic strip Pogo.

manship - those are just distractions which could cause us to take our eye off the ball.

WE NEED TO CHANGE

The entire country is under negative economic pressure right now (with the possible exception of Canadian exporters who benefit from our weak dollar and good for them) but unless we get over our overspending

The population at large appears to be quite aware of the federal government's impact on their lives and if the polls are right, there will be a change in government this year. No government is perfect but it would be hard to imagine a new one being worse than the current one when it comes to managing finances.

The fix to our situation won't be easy but it is certainly doable. If we as a country can create a business environment which allows customers to earn and retain enough money to spend it on things they need and want, we will be on our way to a much better market situation. That bodes well for the small business community because they depend on economically healthy customers for their survival. **POSITIVE CHANGE**

POSITIVE CHANGE REQUIRED

I have heard the term "common sense" come up in the news more than once and I had to stop and wonder if I heard it correctly. After all, it has been a long time since we've been able to place "federal government" and "common sense" together in the same sentence.

The small business community might actually see a new scenario where they can change from "struggling to survive" to "planning for growth." We might all have to make some adjustments to our thinking but



that is a good and positive challenge!

It won't all happen instantly but even a glimmer of hope would be a great step in the right direction. Consumer confidence can become a self-sustaining movement if they see the right things beginning to take shape. When that begins to happen, small business will feel the impact quickly.

I would respectfully suggest to the new government that they look for ways to unshackle small businesses and create a realistic environment (taxes & regulations) to reverse years of discouragement and kick-start a strong recovery. It's not rocket science or brain surgery.

So, bring on the changes and let's stay positive! 2025 could be the best year we've had in a long time.

Why Unions Are Dividing Canada and Wrecking the Economy

Submitted by
Nataliya Lawrence
Outreach Coordinator –
C2C Journal
Written by Gwyn Morgan
- Retired Business Leader
who was the Director of
five global corporations.

In an era of constrained budgets and competitive challenges, Canada's beleaguered economy has become beset with strikes called by unions demanding double-digit wage hikes. The cost to our economy and society is becoming unsustainable and powerful unions are increasingly dividing Canada into a nation of "haves" - overpaid unionized workers - and "have nots" - everyone else.

Nowhere is this divide more evident than in the recent strike by Canada Post workers - a 55,000 - strong union demanding a 24 percent wage increase over four years. A stunning 10 million parcels went undelivered in just the first week of the strike, leaving individuals and thousands of Canadian small businesses scrambling to make alternative

arrangements.

Service Canada had to hold off mailing out 85,000 passports, forcing many Canadians to cancel travel plans they had already paid for.

Pension and financial assistance cheques have been affected and charities have felt the drop in incoming cheques and pledge forms. Such damage is on top of the business losses that will be incurred by Canada's already struggling retail sector and the potential tears from missing gifts on Christmas Day. This strike shows Canada's unions at their worst: heartless, greedy, selfish and plain awful.

It is common to laugh or sneer when the words "Canada Post" come up. The nation's once proud mail service has been on a long downward slide; it lost \$315 million in the third quarter and is headed for its seventh straight year in the red. But whenever a strike hits and Canada Post stops operating, it becomes instantly clear that it remains an essential service

But this isn't just about one strike. According to Statistics Canada, the nation is in the midst of a huge multi-year wave of strikes and lock-outs, with the key metric of "person days not worked" more than quadrupling from 1,451,556 in 2020 to 6,584,618 last year. This year is shaping up to be another bad one, with over 700 work stoppages and over 400,000 workers off the job through the end of October.

That includes workers at the nation's two largest railroads, Canadian Pacific and Canadian National, which represent the only economically viable shipping option for tens of thousands of farms, commercial enterprises and major industrial facilities. And the country's two biggest ports, Vancouver and Montreal, saw labour disputes in November that disrupted \$1.2 billion in shipments per day.

While unions claim to advocate for fairness, their wage demands and disruption tactics create a stark divide between the "haves" in unionized jobs and the "have-nots" who are left to shoulder the economic burden

The average unionized worker in Canada earns \$10,000 more annually than their non-union counterparts, according to the United Food and Commercial Workers (UFCW) union. The disparity might be justified in competitive industries where employers can afford it.

It should come as no surprise that the unionized workers wreaking the greatest havoc are employed by huge, federally regulated monopolies like railways, ports and Canada Post, a government-owned monopoly that's particularly important to average Canadians and small businesses.

Even when their employees are on the job, everyone else pays more for the goods and services they provide in order to enrich those workers. Such arrangements make victims out of virtually all non-union businesses and their customers - the have-nots. Canada's unionized monopolies are both

dividing and slowly destroying our country.

We urgently need our elected representatives to declare Canada's railways, ports and mail service to be essential services prohibited from striking, perhaps even from unionizing altogether.

This list should also include health-care workers, police, firefighters and electricity supply workers. Unfortunately, our legislators have made union domination even worse.

In June, the Justin Trudeau government passed legislation banning replacement workers in federally regulated workplaces such as Crown corporations, banks, railways, airlines and television broadcasters - collectively covering over 1 million workers or what one analyst called "the backbone of Canada's economic infrastructure."

Turning to replacement workers is a critical tool for strike-bound employers to avoid being completely shut down and thereby blackmailed by unions; the sight of replacement workers has

an uncanny power to persuade unions to return to the bargaining table, negotiate a livable deal and get their members back on the job.

It was predictable that the Liberals and the NDP would support the ban on replacement workers but, despite the pointed (almost desperate) pleas of employer and business organizations, the Conservatives - surprisingly, bizarrely and very distressingly - also voted for it. The new legislation will increase labour confrontations and make strikes more likely, not less.

With every federal party having signed onto this madness, the only action left for beleaguered "have-nots," it seems, is waging a personal protest campaign expressing our outrage to those who are supposed to be representing our interests.

The original, full-length version of this article was recently published in C2C Journal.



Cam Dahl, General Manager, Manitoba Pork

The name January is derived from the Roman god Janus. Janus was said to have two faces, one looking forward and one looking back. It is an appropriate metaphor for the month where we can look back at the year that was and anticipate the year to come.

If there is such a thing as a good disease year in the hog sector, 2024 was it. Given historical patterns, we expected to see new cases of porcine epidemic diarrhea (PED) this past spring. That did not materialize.

While we did not make it though 2024 PED free, the first case did not show up until December. This is not an accident. Manitoba's hog farmers, our government,

Reflections and Predictions

veterinarians and processors came together to develop a comprehensive plan to eradicate PED.

The "Manitoba model" is a 2024 success story - one that is being considered throughout North America and is a testament to what can be done through collaboration.

On the economic front, 2024 was a year of relief for hog farmers in Manitoba, with margins coming back to where they should be. I do see the positive financial situation extending well into 2025 but that prediction comes with a lot of global uncertainty and unpredictability.

So, what will farmers face in 2025? One cannot look ahead without mentioning the new administration in the U.S. Most farmers in Manitoba depend upon international markets. Take the hog industry as

an example - 90 percent of Manitoba's annual production is directed into international markets, with the U.S. being the number one destination.

Both major U.S. political parties advocate for "America First" policies and are moving away from supporting free and open trade. Examples of protectionist policies that threaten our exports include the revival of country-of-origin labelling and individual state legislation that is fragmenting the North American market (e.g., Proposition 12 in California).

"America First" was brought into sharper focus after the November election in the U.S. when Presidentelect Trump called for massive tariffs on Canadian and Mexican exports. In the past, he has threatened to rip up the Canada - U.S. - Mexico Agreement (CUSMA).

Not since the original Canada - U.S. trade agreement have we seen political goals tied to U.S. market access. For example, increased defense spending by Canada is likely going to be a condition of ongoing American support for CUSMA. I do believe that Canadian agriculture exports are going to be a target for U.S. negotiators. How is Canada going to respond?

It is not just trade with the U.S. that will be unpredictable in 2025. China, which is both the world's largest food producer as well as the world's largest food consumer, is also signaling that agriculture and food trade will be tied to outside policy issues.

The threat to impose tariffs on Canadian canola exports in response to tariffs on electric vehicles is just one example of this. What happens if a new trade war erupts between the U.S. and China? Will Canadian farmers be caught in the middle?

How Canada responds could very well determine if 2025 will be profitable or show a mess of red ink on farmers' income statements. Governments and industry need to be planning for all eventualities on Chinese trade before any of these potential problems arise. I am concerned that this is not happening.

Add to this the ongoing uncertainty caused by the war in Ukraine, the threat of foreign animal diseases like African Swine Fever, production risks, etc. and a picture of a volatile 2025 emerges.

Farmers can offset some uncertainty through tools like currency hedging, forward contracting, and other

risk mitigation approaches but farmers cannot control instability caused by global policies. This is the area where we need the support of our federal and provincial governments.

It is my prediction that protectionism, trade barriers and global uncertainty will be the top topics next January when we look back at 2025. We will also likely be talking about the outcome of a federal election, which may happen sooner rather than later.

Elections are the time when politicians are most attentive to concerns raised by constituents. Farmers, of all stripes, need to be asking the candidates who show up on their doorstep about their party's plan to deal with global volatility and trade uncertainty.

Manitoba 🐆

NewsRelease

Manitoba Government Extends \$10-A-Day Child Care to Cover School Holidays

EXTENDING \$10-A-DAY CHILD CARE TO NON-SCHOOL DAYS WILL MAKE LIFE MORE AFFORDABLE: SCHMIDT

Families with schoolaged children in licensed, funded child-care facilities are now paying \$10 a day for child care on non-school days as of Dec. 8, acting Education and Early Childhood Learning Minister Tracy Schmidt announced.

"The need for affordable child care doesn't stop on in-services and holidays," said Schmidt. "The previous government failed to extend \$10-a-day funding to school-aged children on non-school days like inservices, holidays and summer break. By providing true \$10-a-day care every day for school-aged children, we're making Manitoba's child-care system one of the most affordable in Canada."

The extension of the Reduced Parent Fee Revenue Grant to school-aged care on non-school days is solely funded by the Manitoba government.

This initiative will reduce full-day schoolaged fees for the approximately 73 non-school days per calendar year to \$10 from the current maximum of \$20.80. With school-aged \$10-aday funding launching in early December, the reduction will be in effect for the winter holiday break, noted the minister.

"The holidays are a time to celebrate with your family but for many parents, the costs can start to add up," said Schmidt. "This is one way our government is lowering your bills so it's easier to afford

that special something on your child's wish list.

Budget 2024 committed to extend \$10-a-day child care in the 2024-25 school year so all families with school-aged children in licensed, funded child care facilities pay the same affordable fees across Manitoba.

The \$10-a-day childcare extension will save some Manitoba families with two school-aged children approximately \$140 during this holiday

"I am very excited that the government has extended the \$10-a-day child care," said Michelle Pearson, mother of eightyear-old Bodhi and ten-year-old Dylan, Winnipeg. "In these challenging economic times, every dollar saved is important to our family."

For more information

about early learning and child care in Manitoba, visit: www.manitoba.

ca/education/childcare/ families/10_dollar_a_day

Apply now for funding to implement environmental beneficial management practices.

Apply today to the Sustainable Agriculture Manitoba program.

The application deadline is February 11, 2025.

For more information, please visit manitoba.ca/scap





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Leena Jacqueline De Jaegher



Leena was born at Boundary Trails Regional Health Centre on December 12, 2024 weighing 6 lbs 6 oz and measuring 20 inches long.

Excited about her arrival is big brother Nolan and parents Erin Johnson & Derek De Jaegher of Swan Lake. Proud grandparents are Jackie & Blaine Johnson (Clearwater), Lili Kolly & Kevin De Jaegher (Swan Lake) and Great-Grandpa, Casey Johnson (Clearwater).

Lorelle Alice Nissan



Lorelle Alice Nissan - surprise arrival on April 23rd, 2024 to Sidney Potter and Ramen Nissan Excited and proud grandparents: Julia and Rouil Nissan of London, ON and Colleen and Duane Henderson of Crystal City, MB

sudoku

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Hazel Lea

January 31, 1939 - December 22, 2024

With heavy hearts, we announce the passing of our dear mom Hazel Lea, Sunday, December 22, 2024, at the Pembina Manitou Health Centre at the age of 85.

Mom loved to bake and her homemade buns and bread were the best. She also enjoyed gardening, playing cards and spending time with her family, most of all with her grandkids.

Mom was born on January 31, 1939 and lived south of La Riviere. She met the love of her life, Percy Lea, while working at RBC in Manitou. They married on September 9, 1961 and had 51 wonderful years together.

Mom is survived by her daughters: Andra (Kevin) Bayliss and Connie (Troy) Cassidy; grandchildren: Landon and Trinda (Brandon), Abby and Jenna; sisters Evelyn Stinson and Helen Remillard; sisters-in-law Rosemary Lea and Emily Lovell; and many nieces and nephews. She is predeceased by her parents, Herbert and Annie Lovell, husband Percy, brothers Jim and George Lovell, brothers-in-law Dale Stinson, Gabe Remillard, Robert Lea, Laurie Lea and sisters-in-law Verla Lovell and Kay Lea.

We would like to thank all the staff at Pembina Manitou Health Centre for the excellent care Mom received over the past 7 years.

A private family graveside was held at St. Luke's Pembina Crossing Cemetery.

Donations in memory of Hazel may be made to the Pembina-Manitou Health Centre Foundation Box 212 Manitou, MB R0G 1G0

or the Alzheimer Society of Manitoba 10-120 Donald St. Winnipeg, MB R3C 4G2.

Messages of condolence may be made online at www. wheatlandfs.com.

Card of Thanks

Louise Grain Growing Project

We would like to thank all those who donated time, effort and resources to our projects in 2024. Without you this wouldn't be possible.

As we plan for 2025 we are still looking for a parcel of land for a project. If you would be interested in donating or renting us a parcel please contact a board member. Or if you are interested in participating in any other way in 2025 please contact us.

Board Members: Clare Reimer. Wendell Krahn, Don McLennan, Russell Pauls, Jeremy Hildebrand, Chris Falk, Jim Unrau, Tom Neustadter, Mark Sloane and Nathan Falk

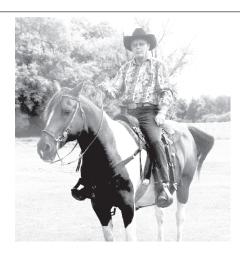
Card of Thanks

Christmas Cheer is extremely grateful for all of the donations made to us this holiday season.

Sandra Cavers Eileen & Gary Nesdoly

Card of Thanks

The residents of Parkview Lodge, Crystal City, wish to thank everyone who brought garden produce, flowers, baking, jars of jelly and fruit to share with everyone over the summer and fall. Also thank-you to all who brought Christmas baking, puzzles, gifts and cards. Thank-you to the school children and teachers, individuals and choirs who shared their talents and music with us. Your kindness is appreciated by all in Parkview Lodge.



William "Bill" Norrie

June 2, 1941 - December 28, 2024

Bill passed away on December 28, 2024 at the Prairie View Lodge in Pilot Mound, MB with his wife Sally by his side.

He leaves to mourn his passing and to cherish his memory, his wife of 61 years, Sally (Solange) Norrie nee Labossiere and his three children: Jim (Lori), Cindy (Cameron) and Lyle (Tanis), grandchildren: Renee, Michelle, Gavin (Cassandra), Blair (Raydan), Katelyn (Connor), Dylan and his great granddaughter Scottie-Layne, his brother Gord (Sharon) Norrie along with brother-in-law Larry Mansell and numerous nieces and nephews.

Bill was predeceased by his father Alexander (Buster) and mother Evelyn (nee Graves), siblings: Ken (Marge), Buck (Valerie), Faye Mansell and Ray, along with numerous sisters and brothers-in-law from Sally's Labossiere family.

Dad was born June 3,1941 and grew up on his family farm in the Wood Bay district near Pilot Mound, MB. Dad had a few jobs throughout his lifetime but for the majority of his working career of 28 years, he was with the Manitoba Highways Department, retiring as Foreman for the Treherne district and area. Dad was a people person and his role as Foreman gave him the opportunity to travel to surrounding towns and have coffee with the many people he had met over the years. Dad made many lifetime friendships as part of this role.

Dad loved his family dearly and his second love in life was the outdoors. Dad was a true cowboy and loved horseback riding. He and his fellow "cowboys" loved the many trail rides they participated in. His grandchildren will always have fond memories of sleigh rides pulled by a pair of dad's horses on Christmas

You could also not think of Dad without remembering how much he loved hunting. Spring to fall you could find Dad at his "hunting shack" near Wood Bay. If those walls could talk, we would all be the wiser! Dad always made everyone who visited his hunting shack welcome, including his sons and son-in-law and later his grandsons and their friends. Fishing was another sport Dad loved and every spring and summer you could find Dad close to Swan Lake or Rock Lake fishing with his buddies.

Dad and Mom loved to travel and enjoyed many vacations in Hawaii, Dominican Republic, Florida, Mexico and most recently, 10 plus years in Mesa, Arizona.

Dad's health and memory worsened over the last three years and he and Mom moved to the Prairie View Lodge in Pilot Mound. Dad was so fortunate to be supported by such amazing staff and a special thank you to Leslie M. who had a special place in her heart for Dad, as he did for her. Mom was so happy to be able to be there for Dad and she will miss his handsome face every day but knows he is at peace.

A celebration of life will be held this summer in Pilot Mound. In the meantime, honour Dad by toasting him with a rum and water with a splash of coke!

Messages of condolence may be made online at www.wheatlandfs.com

The Hometown View deadline for submissions is Fridays at noon.



Greg Costen

A retired professional counsellor, Greg Costen is fuelled by Timmy's and does anxiety for cardio

Dear Therapist,

I often find myself in situations where the sex is awesome and intense but afterward I feel empty and emotionless. Hot sex for sure but something is always missing. I keep finding myself drawn to these sexual relationships even though they are one-dimensional. I'm starting to wonder if I'm addicted to sex, the thrill of the chase or if I'm avoiding something deeper. I'm in

Ask the Therapist

In "Ask the Therapist" I tackle readers' counsellingrelated questions big and small, personal or general, by sharing how a therapist might think about your concerns.

sharing how a therapist might think about your concerns. If you are asking, "Who is this guy?", I am a retired military chaplain and have completed a master's degree in counselling as part of that role. I have owned/operated two private therapy clinics in southern Manitoba and have worked for several independent counselling agencies. I have a number of advanced certifications in sexuality counselling.

my late twenties and have had a long series of short-term encounters. I question why I keep repeating this pattern. It's a new year so seems like a good time to figure out why I prioritize sex over emotional connection. How do I stop this cycle and shift toward more meaningful connections?

Signed, Sad Sexbot.
Dear Sexbot,

Congratulations on all the good sex. If you're going to be sexually active, it may as well be amazing. This of course is precisely your concern; super sex with less than super mornings when it's all done.

You are not addicted to sex in the clinical sense. Sexual addiction involves things like putting oneself in dangerous situations, jeopardizing one's health, spending money you don't have and interferes with daily functioning.

It's important to recognize that your experience is not unique. Many people find themselves in relationships where physical attraction is strong, with emotional fulfillment much less strong

or non-existent. It's easy to get caught in the sex piece because it releases feel-good hormones, creates excitement, immediate gratification and feels damn good.

One key reason sex and fulfillment do not go hand in hand is that physical attraction and emotional intimacy aren't always aligned. Sometimes, people choose partners based on chemistry, because it feels exciting and familiar, even if it doesn't align with their long-term needs or desires for deeper connection.

There may also be an element of avoiding emotional vulnerability. In a purely physical relationship, it's easier to keep things surface-level and avoid the discomfort that can come with emotional closeness, particularly the fear of rejection, hurt or of being alone.

Additionally, it's possible that you're unconsciously seeking

validation through these intense experiences, which can momentarily fill a void but wears off within the hour afterwards. Might you have learned somewhere that you were "less than" and sex makes you feel valued?

To break this cycle, try shifting gears from frequency of sex to emotional needs. Start by asking yourself what you genuinely need in a relationship. Is it orgasm, or do you want someone who listens, someone who shares your values, someone who makes you feel secure and valued beyond the physical realm?

I anticipate it is the latter. Start setting boundaries with yourself, prioritizing emotional connection before or alongside physical attraction, giving yourself the space to create relationships that are fulfilling on both levels, with priority given to the emotional side of things.

It can also be helpful to explore your attachment style and whether you're drawn to partners who mirror past dynamics (everyone craves the familiar) or whether you're avoiding the emotional bit because of unresolved fears or past hurts. Try a period of sexual refrain, using the space to look inside, seek therapy, read around the topic or just to get your bearings back. It is impossible to process things logically when the thrills around sex are running the show.

This isn't about "fixing" a sex problem; it's about shifting your focus to a healthier balance between your emotional and physical needs. You deserve relationships that fulfill you on every level.

Take your time. You've got this.

Please submit your therapy-related questions to gmcosten@gmail.com with "Dear Therapist" in the subject line.

Somerset Bible Chapel

Submitted by Isabel Acheson

Sunday Dec. 22nd

included the lighting of the 4th candle in the Advent wreath, the candle of Love. Rick and Val Ross did the reading including Matthew 1:18-24. Rejean and Carol Picard were the music team with a selection of Christmas Songs and

The sermon was done by Abe Klassen on 1 John 4:17-21 looked at "God's Love Defined and at Work." Christians are instructed to Love One Another and to live so that the world may know love.

Christmas Morning service was led by the music team of Ernest and Lorna Unrau. The Christ candle of the Advent Wreath was lit with the Kimber family participating. Readings were from John 1:1-5, 9-14 and from Matt. 1:22-23.

Time for

a Check?

Clayton Kimber presented a brief meditation "Unto You" describing the gift of God in human flesh as key to Mankind's reconciliation with the Holy God.

Sunday Dec. 29th there was no Sunday School but the worship service included the Communion Celebration. Jamie and Brianna Small led the music. Michelle Friesen read the Scripture from 1 John 5:1-12.

Kevin Friesen was the speaker with "Faith is the Source of Love" as his title. A Christian is described by faith. Love is the evidence

Get Checked for Cancer.

of faith. God's Commands are not burdensome. Obedience goes with confidence in God, a growing joy, a peace with God knowing sins are forgiven. The text gives warnings about having a loveless heart. However, there is assurance of growth.

The Mission of the Month for December had been AGC Staff and for President Bill Allan. Rob Cochrane of Swift Current, SK serves as Regional Director for AGC West.

Sunday School classes resumed Sunday Jan. 5. Rob and Wendy Cochrane were visiting for the Sunday events: SS, Worship service and the lunch that followed.

The morning worship service was led by Ernest and Lorna Unrau. Rob Cochrane was the guest speaker. He offered greetings from the 40 some AGC congregations in Western Canada. He cited an incident of his trip about a year to visit the northern most congregation in Fort Vermillion in north western Alberta.

The Scripture lesson was Exodus 3:7-10 highlighting the phrases "I have seen the misery of my people," "I have heard their cry" and "I know their sufferings." Even if God seems to be silent when burdens are heavy, He sees, hears and cares.

Monthly bulletins and previous reports are available on the website www. somersetbiblechapel.com





Laura Seward Named CJLA Junior Enthusiast of the Year

Jennifer Ching-Faux Darlingford Correspondent

2024 closed on a high note for Darlingford's Laura Seward, who was awarded the Canadian Junior Limousin Association's (CJLA) Junior Enthusiast of the Year from the CJLA:

This award is given to a CJLA member who plays an active role in the Limousin breed, exemplifying positive traits such as excellent sportsmanship and support to juniors and adults, as well as a positive manner and

participation at events.

Laura has been a passionate advocate for the Limousin breed in Manitoba. She has revitalized the Manitoba Junior Limousin Association and since 2021, worked tirelessly to secure enough breeders to have a Limousin show at Manitoba Ag-Ex.

Laura is very friendly, helpful and outgoing. She is a strong, silent leader and a huge benefit to the cattle industry as a whole.

Congratulations Laura on your recognition and award!

Laura showing her heifer, Amaglen Moonbeam, at Canadian Western Agribition in November.

SUBMITTED PHOTO



Darlingford Fire Department Service Awards



Darlingford Fire Department Chief Cal Funk presents Glen Lowry with the Fire Fighter of the Year Award, as voted on by members of the department.



Captain Justin Giesbrecht -15 year service award.

Jennifer Ching-Faux Darlingford Correspondent

In December, the Darlingford Fire Department held its annual Christmas party and presented Years of Service Awards to three department members.

Congratulations and thank you to Rod Halabicki (Five years), Joel Hofer (10 years) and Captain Justin Giesbrecht (15 years) for your years of dedication and service to our community!

For the last number of years, the department has chosen one member to be

honoured as the "Fire Fighter of the Year." Congratulations to this year's winner, Glen Lowry!

Darlingford and the

s) for your years of cation and service to ommunity! some the last number of the department has surrounding area is so fortunate to have such a committed team serving our community.

Rod Halabicki - five year service award.

SUBMITTED PHOTOS



The Hometown View Tuesday, January 14, 2025

Juniors to Majors: A Coach's Journey

Nancy Holman

With the "Rockies" - the Manitoba women's curling championship upcoming in Pilot Mound next week, Lyall Hudson of Clearwater, a longtime curling coach, reached out to The Hometown View for an interview.

This year Lyall Hudson of Clearwater is coaching team McLeod out of the Pembina Curling Club in Winnipeg. That team has Lisa McLeod as the skip, Christine Mackay is the third, Victoria ("Tory") Beaudry is the second and Jolene Callum of Miami is the lead. Jolene is pregnant and will be unable to play so Jennifer Clark-Rouire has been added as the fifth player for provincials in Pilot Mound.

How did Lyall get into Coaching?

"I started to coach Lisa and Jo in 2009 when they were just out of juniors and playing front end for Karen Fallis," noted Hudson. "Jennifer Clark-Rouire was our skip for about five years in the 20teens and now Lisa has taken over the skip's role. Christine Mackay hadn't played for four years and came back this year. Tory is from Fort Frances, Ontario.

Half of our team from

last year could not play much this year for various reasons so they became team McFarlane [curling out of Neepawa this season] and are also in provincials."

Lyall has been associated with one of Canada's top curlers - Jennifer Jones. I questioned him about that relationship.

"I took my first two levels of coaching certification immediately after I aged out of junior curling. I wanted to be an instructor, but life is interesting and the journey sometimes unpredictable. A good friend of mine, Steve Gould, had a girlfriend at the time who was playing junior women's and their team was struggling.

"He asked me to help so I started coaching Jill Staub (became Thurston - the daughter of Don Duguid), Jennifer Jones was the 16 year old third, Kristie Moroz was the second and Kelly Mackenzie (later Scott) was the 13 year old lead. We ended up losing the Canadian junior final in dramatic fashion.

"I had my levels but coach age was 21 at the time so while I coached the team, I could not go on the ice. Kelly's dad was listed as coach. I



L-R: Jerry Pauls, Lyall Hudson, Brad Motheral and Rod Guilford, in their bright yellow Manitoba jackets were the Manitoba high school curling champions back in 1987!

would write letters for him to take out at fifth end break. There were no in-game timeouts at that time, only one between

"From there, Jill and Kristy aged out so Jen Jones and I formed a new junior team which had Trisha Baldwin, Jill Officer and Dana Malanchuk. That team had 3 years together and won

the Canadian juniors in 1994 [with Nancy Malanchuk as coach in 1994]. I quit for a few years but when team Jennifer Jones was having issues in 2002, she found me and asked me to come back so I did until 2004 with JJ, Karen and Lynn Fallis and Jill Officer.

"I then helped JJ put the

team together with Cathy O, Jill and Cathy Gauthier. I started coaching Karen and Lynn with a new team and the tree has just continued to branch out from there. So many stories to tell but mostly it's the behind the scenes stuff and closeddoor meetings where the real stories are told. In women's provincial's, there are usually about 2/3 of the teams who have someone on there that I have worked with in the past."

When asked what it takes to compete at the provincial level, Lyall wrote, "Everyone has a different approach these days. You have the pros at the elite level like Team Homan and Einarson.

"Then there are the secondary ones like Peterson and Cameron who play a lot and try to get in tier 2 events or make the occasional slam and make nationals.

"Then, there's the next level teams just trying to get into provincials and win that and accumulate some points to maybe someday get somewhere...then there's the occasional teams who love the game but can't make the time.

"With team McLeod, we are trying to compete at the highest levels without sacrificing our family lives or our careers to do it. We played exclusively in Manitoba this year but were still able to achieve enough CTRS [Canadian Team Ranking System] points to get one of those spots in provincials. We should be ranked around

#4 going in.

"We have two players I have not worked with before, Christine didn't play for 4 years, Jo is due with her second child in March, Tory was in curling club nationals with Northern Ontario while JCR (Jennifer Clark-Rouire) played in mixed nationals.

"It's been a bit of a making things work year. Our old team (now Team McFarlane) had Hailey McFarlane giving birth in October, Janelle Lach running a market garden until late into the fall and Hallie McCannell engaged in competitive rodeo until November so they only played 2 events together all year with one of them being getting their regional berth.

"It takes a lot of sponsorship, finding ice when you can and family support to be a good enough player to even get to provincials.

A number of new teams showed up this year so there were some teams who put in a lot of time and didn't make it to provincials...not to mention 3 Manitoba teams are already in nationals (until Chelsea Carey got removed recently)."

Let's see what happens this year at the Manitoba women's curling championship taking place next week, January 21 to 26 at the Pilot Mound Millennium Recreation Complex. There will be some great curling to watch and all of the coaches, in particular, will be keeping a close eye on the action.



Left to right Jerry Pauls, Lyall Hudson, Brad Motheral and Rod Guilford.

Thomas Greenway Collegiate rink wins championship

On Feb. 15, the Thomas Greenway Collegiate rink, from Crystal City, captured the Provincial Boy's High School Curling Championship. The rink, made up of skip Jerry Pauls, third Lyall Hudson, second Brad Motheral, and lead Rod Guilford, went through the 15 team, double knockout tournament, undefeated. Their coach was Bruce Burgess.

The girls' title went to the Sisler High School rink from Winnipeg, of skip Cathy Overton, third Kim Overton, second Jennifer Laing, and lead Susan Small.

The boys beat teams from Sisler High (9 - 4), John Taylor Collegiate (3 - 1), Hamiota Collegiate (7 - 2), and Hapnot Collegiate of Flin Flon (5 - 4 in an extra end) to win the A side of the competition.

On the B side the boys defeated Crocus Plains of Brandon (9 - 4), Dauphin Collegiate (9 - 4) and once again John Taylor Collegiate (5 - 2) to emerge as B side winners, and undefeated champions.

The boys curled consistently well throughout the tournament, making take-outs and draws as needed, with very few missed shots. Statistically, the team's tournament average was 79%, with Rod Guilford shooting 78%, Brad Motheral 76%, Lyall Hudson at 77%, and skip Jerry Pauls was an amazing 85%.

The Thomas Greenway rink won the right to represent zone 6 by defeating teams from Bruxelles, Treherne, and Glenboro Zone 6 is composed of schools in Pembina Valley S.D., Mountain S.D., and Tiger Hills S.D.

It had been noted by curling authorities that in the 12 years since the last high school bonspiel, there has been a marked decline in the number of junior provincial levels.

February 24, 1987 - from the files of the Western Canadian

men and junior women curling at the club level and provincial playdown level. This decline is believed to be partly the result of fewer youngsters becoming involved with the sport at the Jr. and Sr. High School level. The revival of the high school 'spiel is an attempt to revitalize curling at the school level, and thus raise interest at the club and

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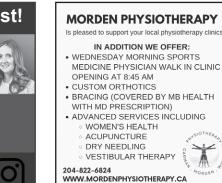
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46-1 EC

THE UKU-LADIES: Wed. Jan 15, 2. p.m. Pilot Mound Fellowship Club. Free ukulele performance. Sponsored by Louise Community Support Services and Santé Sud - Southern Health's Healthy Living Grant.

PEMBINA GAME & FISH ASSOCIATION'S ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET: Sat. Jan. 18, Manitou Curling Rink. Tickets \$40 (U12 Free), available at Sam's Foods or from board members. Cocktails 5 p.m.; Supper 6 p.m. See ad p.18

RME WOMEN of the RINGS: Jan. 22-26, Black Jack Stewart Arena, 213 Lorne Ave, Pilot Mound. Event passes: Full: \$150; Daily: \$40; Evening: \$20. Purchase at Keystone Insurance 134 Broadway Ave, Pilot Mound, or email: pmrockies25@gmail.com See ad p. 5

NEEDLE FELTING WORKSHOP: Sat. Jan 25, 1-3 p.m. United Community Arts 148 Moffat Ave Pilot Mound (blue door). \$40 includes all supplies. Instructed by Val Norquay and Lisa Clouston. Register: louise_rec@hotmail. com. See ad p. 2

HEALTHY BABY:

February 3, March 3, April 7, May 5 and June 2. Begins at 10:30 a.m. each day. Free program for those pregnant or a new parent, but all ages always welcome!

PEMBINA VALLEY MUSIC FESTIVAL: April 15. Entry deadline: Feb. 28. Mail or email entries to: Jov Pauls, RR1 La Riviere, MB R0G 1A0; bjpauls@inethome.ca All materials available at Manitou Library, or entry forms available at Manitou School offices, partial syllabus and speech repertoire manuals and addendum available at Manitou School Libraries See ad p. 2 EC



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NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE MATTER of the ESTATE of KAREN ELAINE MAKOWSKI late of Pilot Mound in Manitoba, deceased. All claims against the above Estate, duly verified by Statutory Declaration, must be filedwith undersigned at 309 Stephen Street, Morden, Manitoba, R6M 1V1 within thirty (30) days of the date of this publication. DATED at the City of Morden, in Manitoba, this 2nd day of January, 2025. McCULLOCH MOONEY JOHNSTON SELBY LLP Attention: Kelly Kennedy. Solicitors for the Estate of Karen Makowski.



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The Hometown View Tuesday, January 14, 2025 1

CARTWRIGHT

Do You Remember?

Compiled by Vicki Wallace from Southern Manitoba Review files

January 6, 1955

Mr. William Ford, whose family settled in the Sinkerville district in 1880, died Dec. 28 at the age of 84.// Mr. and Mrs. Allan Hopper left for Germany to visit their sonin-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Mac Laughlin. Mr. Hopper retired Dec. 23.// Mr. and Mrs. John Kemp celebrated their 53rd anniversary Dec. 29.// Miss Isabel Wright and Russell Wright are on a visit to Chicago and Detroit.

January 7, 1965

Merlyn Trembath skipped the winning rink

in the 35-rink mixed bonspiel.// Garth Vincent's rink won the mixed bonspiel held at Mather.// Ron Olson of the local bank staff has been transferred to Kamsack, Sask.// Brent McKenzie, Forbes Newman and Bob Barrett attended the Boys' Parliament in Winnipeg over the Christmas break.// Contact Mrs. O. Holmes if you would like a ride to Arizona or Texas.// Neelin: Dennis Janz and Allan Bramwell curled in the high school bonspiel in Winnipeg.

January 2, 1975

Mrs. G.W. Brogden spent the holiday at Summerside, PEI with the Geoffrey Brogdens.// Birthday greetings to Mr. E.E. Davis, 92 on the

13th; Mrs. James Clark 91 on the 17th; Austin and Herman Watts, 85 on the 20th; and Charlie Salfrais on the 29th.// Dorothy Schram and daughter Jackie visited Mr. and Mrs. Jim Schram and Debbie Schram in Montreal.// Residents of Badger Creek Lodge were presented with a new electronic organ from the Kinsmen and a set of dishes from the Kinettes.

January 2, 1985

Cartwright & District Centennial year is underway!// The old Federal Elevator was knocked over by one man and a bulldozer.// Darleen Trembath died Dec. 26 at Killarney hospital.// Jim Peterson died last week at Brandon.// George and Carla Toews, Joel, Kristin and Jonathon visited in Winnipeg during the holidays.// Raymond and Gaye Cavers of Fort Whyte spent Christmas with Dave and Doris Wray.

January 3, 1995

Mary Wray (nee Menarey) celebrated her 103rd birthday in December. She was born on the John Menarey homestead in Hazeldell district in 1891.// A petition, bearing 800 signatures, was presented to the Tri Lake Board on behalf of the Derby-Lorne Ladies, opposing the removal of obsetrical care from the hospital in Killarney. Expectant mothers are now being sent

to Brandon.// In Clipper hockey news, Brian Imhoff, Clint Haight and Barry Garbutt are all in the top 9 in league scoring.

January 4, 2005

The Maxwell family spent Christmas at Brandon, as Derek Maxwell had surgery for a ruptured appendix on Dec. 23.// Lorne Mooney, 71, died Dec. 30 at Killarney.// Mrs. Iva McGowan, Brian McGowan and Jessie Fisher visited Shirley McMillan and family in Winnipeg.// Trudy Ďobbelaere of Calgary spent the holiday with Bob and Mary Dobbelaere and family.// Walter and Alice Warkentin visited Stephen and Vanna Warkentin at Bloomfield, Iowa.// Mather: Ron and Trudy Melvin, Alan and Karen Melvin and families visited Disneyworld in Florida.

January 8, 2015

Edna Bridges and Sally Drewry are both at Davidson Memorial Health Centre at present.// Norma (nee Bridges) Harwood of Winnipeg died Dec. 27 at age 80.// At Mather Post Office, Myrna Lees' hours have been cut and with open hours still 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Mondays but 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. the rest of the week.// Holiday visitors with Jim and Ilene Marchant were Kate Pickering of Calgary and Tracy Marchant of Saskatoon.

From the Files of the Western Canadian

70 Yrs. Ago Dec. 23, 1954

R.C.M.P. Constable Ian Brownlee replaces Cst. Alex Bishoff in the village.// Co-op Neighbour Nite drew a record crowd of 635 people at Manitou Town Hall.// Weddings: Margaret Helen McElroy and Ronald Dale Ridley, on Dec. 18.// Deaths: Adam Scott Simpson, 79, who moved to Melita in 1910 and to Manitou in 1934 and leaves two sons and four daughters; Mrs. R. J. Chalmers (Mary Alice Findlay) 83, who came to Manitou in 1881, and leaves four daughters and seven sons.

60 Yrs. Ago Dec. 24, 1964

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Hurst celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Dec. 23; Mr. and Mrs. George Plant their 53rd on Dec. 23.// Winning the Horticultural Society's Christmas Home Decorating Contest were: 1st, Mr. and Mrs. Clem Windsor; 2nd, Mr. and Mrs. Nick Orzechowski; 3rd, Mr. and Mrs. Larry Curry; 4th, Mr. and Mrs. N. F. Johnston.// John Franklin Wilson, 80, who was born in the Hazel district north-west of Manitou, passed away on Dec. 2.// Manitou Mercurys won their first game of the season against Somerset. Lineup: Tim Sims, Lew Mueller, Ross Burnett, Dave Hansen, Jim Turner, Billy Brick, Walter Mueller, Alvin Checkley, Howie Rowley, Walter Hall, Garry Sims, Greg Speirs, Ed Sawchuk, Frank Chalmers, Paul

50 Yrs. Ago Dec. 19, 1974

Those from here who will be attending Manitoba Centennial Games in Winnipeg and representing the Pembina Valley region include: Basketball: Lois Tessier; Volleyball: Randy Clayton, Wes Froese; Weightlifting: Pat Martens, Ted Haresnape, Greg Clayton, Garnet Édwards, Robert Haresnape; Table Tennis: Bob McCulloch; Speed Skating: Donna Langseth; Badminton: Bette Mueller, Bill Scurfield, Paul Hryniuk, Sandi Arnett, Glenda Cavers; Co-ordinator: Walter Mueller.// Deaths: Mrs. Fred Buelow, 64, (nee Sophia Gulbraa) who has lived in the Manitou area for nearly 40 years.// A celebration to honour Mr. and Mrs. Harry McKinney's 60th anniversary was held on

40 Yrs. Ago Dec. 19, 1984

Darlingford has purchased a curling rink, which eleven men from Darlingford dismantled at Manibridge. It will be erected starting next spring.// Manitou Town Hall will not be rented to anyone whose intention is to obtain an occasional permit.

30 Yrs. Ago Dec. 20, 1994

Bev Atkins and her rink of Jacki Rintoul, Lynn Sandercock and Cindy Maddock went undefeated through the Scott Tournament of Hearts District 7 playdowns at Pilot Mound.// Don Orchard, MLA for Pembina, announced recently that he will not be seeking re-election for another term as a member of the Manitoba Legislature.// The Borderline Singers presented two performances of "Sing We Now of Christmas".// Deaths: Thomas Kingston 84, at the Pembina Manitou Health Centre.

20 Yrs. Ago Dec. 21, 2004

MANITOU

The Manitou Ag. Society welcomed its first lady president - Jackie Funk, when she took over from Don Rogers at their annual meeting.// The Borderline Singers presented "It's Christmas and All of That Jazz" at the Manitou Opera House.// Trevor Wiens

has joined the staff at Agassiz Credit Union as an Account Manager at the Manitou Branch.// Deaths: David J. Zacharias, 77, on December 4.

10 Yrs. Ago Jan. 6, 2015

Portage-Lisgar MP Candice Bergen, presented Manitou WWII veteran Norris Pringle with a commemorative pin and certificate during her annual Christmas Tea.// Deaths: Beatrice Mary (Baker) Lone, 91, Morden, mother of 3 daughters and 3 sons.// The Pembina-Manitou Fire Department is pleased to announce that they have reached their \$20,000 fundraising goal for the purchase of new turnout gear.



Junior Bonspiel Winners

On December 13, 2014, forty-four junior curlers participated in a junior curling bonspiel at the Manitou Curling Club. Eleven teams from Winkler, Morden, Pilot Mound and Manitou took part in the bonspiel. Each team played four 2-end games, counting points for each end won. The local team of Wyatt Baloun, Brianna Friesen, Levi Pauls and Bethany Sanders won the event, scoring 7 of a possible 8 points. All participants won a prize and a good time was reported by everyone who participated.

The Hometown View 16 Tuesday, January 14, 2025

PILOT MOUND & CRYSTAL CITY

Down Memory Lane

Compiled by **Nancy Holman**

January 6 & 13, 1955

Myra McLean wed Douglas Currie Monday, December 27 at a wedding ceremony and reception held at the bride's parents' home, Pilot Mound. Some 60 guests attended.// Clearwater Hall was full for the annual school Christmas concert December 22. Some pupils had to drop out because of mumps and chicken pox.// Public Notice: All places of business in Crystal City will close Saturday nights at 9 p.m. for the winter months.// Commencing Saturday, January 29, the Pilot Mound Bank of Toronto branch will be closed each Saturday to give their employees a five-day work week.// The PM Collegiate hockey team travelled to Winkler for their first game in the Inter-Collegiate Hockey League. Winkler won in overtime.// The application of Mrs. Jean Cohoe for music supervisor in Pilot Mound Schools was accepted.// Clearwater: Elmer Linaker, Nicky Argue, Clarence Johnson and Harold Orr took part in the high school bonspiel in Winnipeg.// La Riviere: about 40 young folks from Manitou and La Riviere enjoyed an evening of tobogganing on the hills at Elmer Scharf's.// Dr. Roman Swizczowski, who has for the past year and a half been assistant veterinarian at Morden, has indicated he will set up practice in this district in the spring. Dr. Swizczowski was a Polish soldier in WWII.// The Clearwater Community Council met Jan. 2 with Norval Olson presiding.

January 7, 1965 The New Year's baby arrived at Pilot Mound Hospital on January 2 to parents Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Stewart of Brandon. Dr. C. E. Cohoe was in attendance. Grandparents are Aileen Stewart and Mr. & Mrs. Roy Munro.// Miss Doreen McCannell, 17, of Winnipeg (granddaughter to the Eslers and McCannells of this district), was chosen Manitoba's outstanding female athlete of 1964. She competed in speed skating at the Winter Olympics.// The communities of La Riviere and Snowflake were shocked by the sudden passing of Mrs.

Ron Scharf, nee Sharon Fallis, 22.

January 9, 1975

Cindy Wallace and her Pilot Mound school rink of Heather Phin, Terry Moore and Donna Wallace won the Junior Girls' Zone at Carman and will go on to compete at the provincial play-offs.// Subscription rates for The Sentinel will go up a dollar to \$5 per year in Canada, \$6 in the U.S. and overseas.// Pilot Mound 10 & unders played their first game of the season at CC. Missing from the line-up was Myron Pinkerton, now residing in CC and scoring one of the winner's goals. 5 rookies are in this year's line-up: Dale Heppner, Calvin McKay, Tommy Burns, Donald Brown and Darren Butler.// This year's roster for the Pilots who play in the South Central League are Philip Weselowski, Larry Cruikshank, Joe and David Glenn, Charlie Hanks, Jim Kilmister, Allan Maxwell, Connor Beech, Bruce McKay, Ken and Ron McCoy, Gene, Jan and Burton Collins, Harle Munro, Brad Wallace, Bob Boyd and Jim Unrau.

January 9, 1985 Police, Kinsmen and

Winnipeg Jets are working together on a special hockey card trading promotion. Different cards will be issued every 2 weeks. The back of each card carries a hockey tip and a safety tip or crime prevention message. One objective of the trading card program is to bring police/RCMP officers and children together.// The inaugural provincial annual meeting of Keystone Agricultural Producers, Manitoba's new general farm policy organization, will be January 14 and 15 in Winnipeg. Manitoba Ag. minister Bill Uruski will be one of the speakers.// December 31st, 1984 was the last day for mail delivery to the rural mail boxes on the Snowflake Rural Route. There were 23 families on the 22.6 mile route. Bill and Elsie Brown delivered mail Mondays and Fridays since October 1972. Wes Findlay was the mail man from 1945 to '72.// Landon Cavers of the Pilot Mound Pilots received the Macleods and Mel's Sports player of the game Dec. 18.// Dance aerobics classes will be offered at Manitou,



Maxwell rink to represent zone

The rink of Danny Rowley, lead; Ken Almey, second, Phil Weselowski, third; and Don Maxwell, skip, earned the right to represent this zone in the Labatt Tankard

Provincial Mens Playdowns at Dauphin Feb. 6-10 by defeating the Wayne Ramage Rink of Cartwright in the final game of the Zone Playoffs.

Congratulations and the best of luck!

Snowflake, CC, La Riviere and Pilot Mound.// Died: Darleen (Mayo) Trembath, 47, of Cartwright; 'Grandma Croskery' -Maggie Leoline McLeod Croskery, 97, of Mather and CC.// Terry Edkins, Ken Gardiner, Tom Stone and Brent Gardiner are ManDak Super Curling League champs.

January 10, 1995 Peter & Helen Neustaedter have sold their investment and insurance business in Pilot Mound to Bill and Keith Braaksma.// The CBC program 'Country Canada' will feature Marringhurst Pioneer School. Mrs. Karen Melvin and her CC grade 3 students and Principal Larry Hamilton were filmed.// Arnold & Eileen Collins of Pilot Mound were pleased to have all of their family home for Christmas: 49 people!// 3 men are running for the Progressive Conservative nomination in Turtle Mountain: Fred King of Elgin, Rick Verspeek of Killarney and Mervin Tweed of Killarney.// In 11 & under hockey, CC slipped past Clearwater-Mather 2 - 1. Kyle Holman was in the CC net

while Owen Taylor was in goal for Clearwater.// Top bowlers: Ron McCoy, Carol Banman and Marg Pinkerton.// Died: Mary (Hood) Elsey, 90.

January 11, 2005

Celia Guilford wrote of the devastating earthquake and tsunami that hit Indonesia. Over the past 5 years Celia has worked coordinating the Indonesia Project for Peace Brigades International.// Art Harms of Mather wrote about part of his adventure while he was in Zimbabwe attending the Mennonite World Conference.// Gordon Barron celebrated his 90th birthday at Prairie View Lodge.

January 13, 2015

The Floyd & Ethel Cudmore Community Hall in CC had its official grand opening ceremony January 3. Floyd's brother Morley and Annette Cudmore held the ribbon cut by Floyd's widow Ethel. Hall Board chairman David Mutch noted the large number of volunteers who helped with the building// A trust fund has been established for Diana Stephens and her family of Pilot Mound as she battles cancer.//

Deaths: Marilyn "Jo" Sterling Blanco, 59, Pilot Mound, social worker and farmer; Ken McCannell, 86, Pilot Mound, curler, fisherman, community builder; Naaman John Amell, 2 days old; Jean (McConkey) Lindley, 91, mother to Dalton, Wayne & Grant Henderson and Lana Struc, Winnipeg and CC.// Ty Enns of Cartwright, a forward for the Pembina Valley Hawks, was the Offensive Player of the Month (December) in the Manitoba AAA Midget Hockey League. His brother Bryce Enns was named to the 2014 Manitoba

Junior Baseball League All-Star team at second base, as announced at the recent MJBL awards night.// Earning berths to the Safeway Selects Manitoba men's curling championship was the Pilot Mound based rink of Curtis McCannell, Rob Van Denyze, Bill Thiessen and Jason Morrow and the Manitou based rink of Steve Pauls, Clarence Reimer, Kevin Friesen and Tim Bridges.// Ginny Grenier of the Pembina Valley Hawks was the MFMHL Player of the Week.



NewsRelease

Manitoba Government Meets with Gov. Kelly Armstrong in North Dakota

DISCUSSION INCLUDED TRADE AND SHARED ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES

BISMARCK, N.D. -Premier Wab Kinew and Business, Mining, Trade and Job Creation Minister Jamie Moses travelled to North Dakota to meet with newly sworn-in Gov. Kelly Armstrong to discuss trade and economic opportunities and attended the governor's first State of the State

"A key to growing our economy is to reinforce our close relationship with American states and the mutual benefit both our countries enjoy when we have a free and strong trade partnership," said Kinew. "We met with Gov. Armstrong to congratulate him on his new role, to communicate our commitment to border security and cracking down on drug trafficking, and to impress upon him how his constituents benefit from a partnership with Manitoba - cross-border

shopping and good jobs."

Discussions included the important role provinces and territories have in strengthening and protecting the Canada-U.S. relationship including agriculture, tourism, the addictions crisis and taking action at a local level on border security, noted

North Dakota and Manitoba have had a historic relationship, working together to promote agricultural connections, trade partnerships, energy supply, tourism and business opportunities. Two-way trade between the province and state total more than \$1.6 billion annually and supports 5,700 North Dakota jobs, making it one of the closest trade partnerships in the U.S. and one of Manitoba's most important export destinations, added the premier.

"Manitoba is an essential partner to North Dakota when it comes to cross border trade, with safe and secure access to critical minerals, reliable energy exports, shortened supply chains and assistance in times of emergencies," said Moses. Our government is ready and actively doing our part to maintain and grow a close relationship with the U.S. so that we can protect Manitoba jobs and grow our economy."

Kinew noted he and Armstong first met while the governor was a congressman during a Manitoba trade mission to Washington, D.C. last spring. Armstrong previously chaired the Republican party of North Dakota, helping elect president-elect Donald Trump and received an endorsement from Trump in his gubernatorial campaign.

This Changes Nothing

Ottawa, ON - The Hon. Pierre Poilievre, Leader of the Conservative Party of Canada and the Official Opposition, released the following statement on Justin Trudeau resigning as the Liberal Leader:

'Canadians desperate to turn the page on this dark chapter in our history might be relieved today that Justin Trudeau is finally leaving.

"But what has really changed?

"Every Liberal MP in power today and every potential Liberal leadership contender fighting for the top job helped Justin Trudeau break the country over the last 9 years. All Liberal politicians actively worked to pass into law the job-killing, inflationary carbon tax - a tax that Carbon Tax Carney endorsed in his book. All supported a law quadrupling the tax over the next 5 years. All voted for or actively supported Trudeau's out-ofcontrol spending, debt and immigration. All passed Trudeau's housing

policies that doubled the cost of homes. All Liberal politicians helped pass catch-and-release bail and house arrest for the most rampant reoffenders, policies that increased violent crime 50%, gun crime 116% and hate crime by

"So, given that Liberal MPs and leadership contenders unanimously supported everything Trudeau has done, why dump him now, right before an election?

"Have they had a change of heart?

"Is it because they feel guilty that they doubled housing costs, hiked taxes, unleashed crime, broke immigration, forced a quarter of the population into poverty? No. They continued supporting Trudeau when he did all those things.

"No. Their only objection is that he is no longer popular enough to win an election and keep them in power. They want to protect their pensions and paycheques by sweeping their hated leader under

the rug months before an election to trick you and

'Now, while leaderless Liberals focus on saving their jobs and fighting each other for power the country spirals out of control - an out-of-control housing emergency, an out-of-control migrant crisis, an out-of-control \$62 billion deficit, not to mention tariff threats from the United States, oh, and another NDP-Liberal carbon tax hike kicks in this April 1st ... everything is out of control... and now, the government is out-of-control.

"The Liberals know how wrong this all is, that's exactly why they shut down Parliament and paralyze government, all to save their

"This cannot go on. We need a carbon tax election now, to choose between:

then do it all over again.

own skins.

The NDP-Liberal costly coalition that taxes your food, punishes your work, doubles your housing costs and unleashes crime and drugs in your

Taxpayer.com
Canadian Taxpayers Federation Promises aren't enough to

balance the budget

Submitted by Gage Haubrich, Prairie Director, **Canadian Taxpayers** Federation

Politicians, just like the rest of us, respond to incentives. You don't clean the garage because you have a passion for cleanliness, you do it, so your spouse doesn't make you sleep on the couch again.

Manitoba politicians need new incentives to balance the budget because government fiscal updates have become a somber affair for taxpayers.

The bite needs to be put back into Manitoba's balanced budget law so politicians who increase the deficit face consequences for wasting taxpayers' money on debt interest payments.

The government promised taxpayers a \$796-million deficit in Budget 2024. That was bad enough.

The latest fiscal update shows that the government has blew up that deficit to \$1.3 billion.

This will be the third largest budget deficit in Manitoba history, only beaten out by the pandemic and last year's \$2-billion deficit.

By the end of the year, the debt will be \$34.6 billion. Debt interest charges will cost taxpayers \$2.3 billion this year. That's a cost of more than \$1,500 per Manitoban.

The deficit is increasing because the government is spending more money than it told taxpayers it would. The update shows that the government is spending \$475 million more than budgeted.

Finance Minister Adrien Sala is still promising that the government will balance the budget by 2027. The increased deficit makes that commitment a lot more difficult.

The government has only balanced two budgets since 2009. And many finance ministers during that time promised balanced budgets

To balance the budget according to the government's own numbers, it will have to restrict spending increases to \$1.2 billion more in total over the next three years. For perspective, the government increased spending by \$845 million in just this year so far.

Budgets aren't balanced on promises - it takes concrete action to reduce spending. And refusing to act needs consequences.

A pay cut for ministers should be that consequence. And that used to be the law in Manitoba.

Manitoba's first balanced budget law was introduced 1995. Under that law, if the government failed to balance the budget, the extra pay an MLA receives for being a cabinet minister would be cut by 20 per cent. If the deficit continues into the next year, the extra pay was docked 40 per cent.

That means this year cabinet ministers would see their pay slashed by about \$12,000. If the deficit continues to next year, ministers would lose almost \$24,000 in pay. That should inspire MLAs to do some cost-cutting.

But the law was watered-down in 2018. Now, instead of being punished for any deficit, ministers get to keep their pay if they lower it by some amount compared to the previous year. What's most outrageous is that if minister's pay does end being docked, they get it all back if they balance the budget at some point in the future. That's barely an incentive to keep the province in the black.

The government needs to bring back real punishments for politicians who fail to balance the budget.

"Why does it have to be so complicated? Why wouldn't they just pass a law that says if you run a deficit, you take a pay cut?" said then NDP leader Kinew when the law was being watered-down.

It's time for Kinew to put his money where his mouth is – literally.

A law like this also places the blame equally around the cabinet table. If the government fails to balance the budget, all cabinet ministers, not just the finance minister would receive a pay cut. That's likely to make the ministers take a second look at their own budget spreadsheets.

The government needs to get spending under control and balance the budget. And it needs to make sure that politicians have skin in the game and face consequences when they saddle taxpayers with more government debt.

community.

OR

Common Sense Conservatives who will axe the tax, build the homes, fix the budget and stop the crime.

'Canadians can take back control of their lives and their country. Take back control of our border, take back control of immigration, take back control of spending,

deficits and inflation. Take back control of our streets by locking up criminals, banning drugs, treating addiction and stopping gun smugglers. We'll cap spending, axe taxes, reward work, build homes, uphold family, stop crime, secure borders, rearm our forces, restore our freedom and put Canada First.

"All with one mission:

to bring home Canada's promise that every hardworking Canadian gets a powerful paycheque and pension that buys affordable food and homes on safe streets; where all are united for the country we know and love: Canada first, Canada last, Canada always.

"Let's bring it home." ■

SUBSCRIPTION PRICING: (Taxes included)

Print Alberta: \$60.94 **Print-Online Combo:** \$80.00 **Print:** \$65.00 **Online:** \$35.00

Manitoba 🗪

NewsRelease

Manitoba Government Funds Upgrades to Provincial Trail System

REPAIRS INCLUDE WALKING, CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING AND SNOWMOBILE TRAILS



As Manitobans head into the holiday season, they will be able to enjoy a number of improved walking, biking, crosscountry skiing and snowmobiling trails through grant funding for 12 organizations across the province, Environment and Climate Change Minister Tracy Schmidt announced.

"Winter activities are vital to helping Manitobans enjoy the cold winter months," said Schmidt. "Maintaining our extensive multi-use trail system allows Manitobans to make the most of the snow and spend time outdoors with loved ones. This funding supports trail repairs and improvements for off-road vehicle use in Manitoba. It is an important investment to promote active living, environmental stewardship and nature conservation."

The Manitoba government is announcing nearly \$658,000 in grant funding for the following organizations:

- Headingley Grand Trunk Trail Association - \$26,280 for walking trail repair;
- Clearwater Lake Outdoor Club - \$44,500 for cross-country ski trail repair in Clearwater Lake Provincial Park;
- Local Government District of Pinawa - \$29,000 for Alice Chambers Trail rehabilitation project;
- Eastman Snopals Inc. -\$100,000 for snowmobile trail rehabilitation in the Lac du Bonnet area;
- Ducks Unlimited Canada - \$50,000 for Oak Hammock Marsh trail repair;
- South Interlake Sno Riders Inc. - \$90,090

for snowmobile trail rehabilitation;

- North Mountain Riders Inc. - \$100,000 for snowmobile trail repair north of Swan River;
- Log Cabin Riders Inc. - \$35,000 for snowmobile trail repair in the Interlake;
- Ashern Snowmobile Club 2008 Inc. - \$78,000 for snowmobile trail
- Northern Trail Blazers Snowmobile Club Inc. -\$90,000 for snowmobile trail rehabilitation in the Interlake:
- Seine Rat Roseau Watershed District -\$11,000 for trail repair and enhancements at the Tourond Creek Discovery Centre; and
- Victoria Beach Snowdrifters - \$4,000 for snowmobile trail repair.

"Several of our member snowmobile clubs were

able to take advantage of damage to the trail netvery beneficial, helping to safe snowmobile trails," said Jason Wiebe, presisport brings many econetwork."

This funding is suptheir annual registration.

In addition, the Manitoba government is announcing it will declare a new Manitoba Winter Trails Day to be celebrated on Feb. 8, 2025,

Winter Trails Day will inspire all Manitobans to explore the variety of ski trails in our province and discover or rediscover, a love for cross country skiing this winter," said Karin McSherry, executive director of the Cross-Country Ski Association of Manitoba.



nomic benefits to rural communities at a time when other tourism activities are slow and we are looking forward to increasing awareness of our vast provincial trail

ported through an annual fee for registered off-road vehicles, collected by Manitoba Public Insurance at the same time as

the minister said.

"We hope Manitoba



Tiger Hills Hockey League

Nancy Holman

The Killarney Shamrocks played the Mac-Gregor Wild Friday, December 20. Killarney won 6-2 with Ty Enns contributing a goal and an assist and Isaac Friesen 3 assists. Brian Archibald faced 27 shots while the MacGregor goalie was peppered by 47 shots.

The December 21st game between Killarney and Carberry was postponed. Saturday, January 4th the Shamrocks played MacGregor again, beating them 12 to 2.

Friday, January 10th, Melita Bisons were at the Shamrock Centre. The Shamrocks blasted Melita with 64 shots and beat them 14 to nothing. Ty Enns notched the first goal and went on to score another and add three helpers.

The next day Killarney played in Carberry. This was a much more even game as far as scoring went with the teams exchanging goals all night, but Killarney came up with a 8-7 victory, despite being outshot 62 to 21. Stellar goalie Brian Archibald was not in net for that game.

Ty Enns added to his scoring stats with a goal and 3 assists. He is number 2 on the scoring list with 35 points; Brad Bowles of Virden is the leader with 40 points, while Killarney's Reid Gow is in third spot with 23 points.

Ûpcoming this week, Killarney will travel to Boissevain for a Friday night, January 17th tilt.■

"Proclaiming Manitoba Winter Trails Day will support the promotion and awareness of Manitoba's incredible winter trails and activities, celebrate partners across the province who build and maintain the trails and encourage Manitobans to spend quality time

outdoors with family and friends," said Schmidt.

Manitoba's free provincial park entry in the month of February further removes barriers to enjoy trails across the province on that important day, the minister noted.

Manitoba 🐆

NewsRelease

Province Activates Aquatic Invasive Species Early Detection Rapid Response Plan For Assiniboine River

Manitoba Environment and Climate Change is activating its Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Early Detection Rapid Response Plan after positive zebra mussel veliger (larvae) samples were found in the Assiniboine River at the Brandon Generating Station.

Dead zebra mussel veligers were detected at this location as part of Manitoba Hydro's routine zebra mussel monitoring program and confirmed in followup sampling.

The Early Detection Rapid Response Plan includes developing a specific monitoring plan to better understand these detections and inform the establishment of a containment plan.

The positive samples remind the public of the importance of remaining vigilant against the spread of AIS. All water users play a critical role throughout the year in protecting Manitoba's waterbodies from the introduction and spread of AIS.

Manitobans are reminded AIS regulations and associated set fines are in effect year-round. Continued diligence is required including during the winter season. Requirements to stop the spread of AIS before and after accessing a water body during the

closed-water season are available at: www.manitoba.ca/stopais/checklist/ winter.html.

For more information on aquatic invasive species and to view Manitoba's Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention and Response Plan, visit: www.gov.mb.ca/stopais/ index.html.

The Early Detection Rapid Response Plan is part of the Manitoba government's commitment to ensure the protection of waterways by addressing the issue of aquatic invasive species. Budget 2024 includes a \$500,000 investment in AIS program funding.



PEMBINA GAME & FISH ASSOCIATION'S ANNUAL AWARDS **BANQUET**

Saturday, January 18, 2025 Manitou & Community Curling Rink

\$40 U12: Free 5:00 р.т. Cocktails: Supper: 6:00 p.m.

Tickets available from board members and at Sam's Foods.

Lots of great prizes to be won!

Bring your unused 2024 Game tag for a free chance to win HUNGRY HUNTER DRAW SPONSORED BY SAM'S FOODS!

Subject to change without notice

MAC ROBINSON COMMUNITY CENTRE (CARTWRIGHT)

Wednesday, Jan. 15 Saturday, Jan. 18 Starting at 8:30 a.m. U9 tournament

CLEARWATER SKATING RINK Saturday, Jan. 18

10 a.m. U7 vs Pilot Mound

CRYSTAL CITY ARENA Wednesday Jan. 15 6:00 p.m. U11 Rock Lake vs Manitou

Friday, Jan. 17

6:30 p.m. U9 female game Saturday, Jan. 18 Noon Public Skating sunaay, Jan. 19 1 p.m. U9 game 2 p.m. Public skating

PMMRC: BLACK JACK STEWART ARENA

Wednesday, Jan. 15 7:30 p.m. U11 Silver game Thursday, Jan. 16 6:15 p.m. U9-1 vs U9-2 Jan. 17 to 20th curling prep. Jan. 21-26 RME Women of the Rings curling

MANITOU COMMUNITY ARENA

Thursday, Jan. 16 7:30 p.m. Pembina Tigers vs Morris (high school) Friday, Jan. 17 6 p.m. U9 female game 7:15 p.m. U13 AA vs Wheat Kings Gold

Saturday, Jan. 18 9:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. U7 tournament Sunday, Jan. 19 1-3 p.m. Public Skating 3:00 p.m. U13 AA vs Bruins Black



Compiled by **Nancy Holman**

It has long been a tradition for the Pembina Tigers to take on the Mountain Mustangs on the last day of school before Christmas break. This year the contest was held Friday, December 20th in Manitou starting at noon.

The Tigers dominated the game with a hat trick on even strength goals by Easton Lounsbury, a power play marker by Seth Mazurat (assisted by Russell Wall) and a short-handed goal by Carter Leslie. A 5-0 win for goalie Aiden Rondeau. Rounding out the assists credited to the Tigers were 2 for Brad Sloane, 3 by Dwight Sawatzky and 1 by Fischer Cavers. That line of Lounsbury, Sloane and Sawatzky is really clicking. The Tigers outshot the Mustangs 32 to 22.

Back in action after the Christmas holidays, the Tigers had a home game in Treherne, Tuesday, January 7 when they played the GVC Zodiacs of Winkler. The Zodiacs scored in the first period then Gavin Johnston,

from Jason Park and Tucker Mangin tied it up later in the second. Winkler pulled ahead with a power play goal, then added a couple more before Seth Mazurat, assisted by Carter Leslie made it 4-2. Winkler kept pressing and piled on anther couple goals for a 6-2 victory. Two nights later on the 9th, the Tigers were in Winkler and the Pembina Tigers got their revenge beating the Zodiacs by that same 6-2 score. Hitting the scoresheet were Mazurat with 2 goals; Gavin Johnston, Sawatzky and Sloane with 1G, 1A each; Hudson Hilhorst 1G; and assists to Fischer Cavers, Lounsbury, Rylan McDonald, Jamie Park, and Hayden Wubbe.

The team spent a lot of time in Winkler playing in a tournament there January 10 and 11. Friday morning versus the Stonewall Rams, the Tigers lost 4-1. At the 5:00 game that same day, they played fellow Zone IV team Northlands Parkway, beating them 4-3. that win sent the Tigers to the B Side final against St. Thomas Auinas Saints and they lost 3-0.

The team played in Altona Monday, January 13th (information on that one, next week). The Pembina Tigers next see action in Manitou Thursday, January 16th at 7:30



WINTER **PROGRAMMING**

Kelsey McLaren, Louise Recreation Director

ADULT PICKLEBALL: PMCI Gym

Mondays 7 p.m.

Begins January 27 and runs 8 weeks until March 24 (none on February 17).

\$35 for 8-weeks, or \$5 drop-in per evening.

ADULT BADMINTON: PMCI Gym

Wednesdays 7:00 p.m.

Begins January 29 and runs 8 weeks until March 19. \$35 for 8-weeks, or \$5 drop-in per evening.

ADULT VOLLEYBALL: PMCI Gym

Thursdays 7:00 p.m.

Begins January 30 and runs 8 weeks until March 20. \$35 for 8-weeks, or \$5 drop-in per evening.

HALL WALKING: PMCI Gym

Monday & Wednesday evenings 7:00 p.m. Begins January 27 and runs until March 19. (none on February 17). \$2 drop-in per evening



WEIGHTS AND BANDS: Pilot Mound Fellowship Club

Monday & Thursdays 10:00 a.m.

Please bring clean, indoor shoes.

Mondays: February 3 to March 31 (none on February 17). Thursdays: February 5 to March 26 (none on March 6). \$75 for twice/week.

\$40 for Mondays only or \$35 for Thursdays only.

TO REGISTER FOR ANY OF THESE PROGRAMS: 204-245-0680 louise rec@hotmail.com

Sports Bits

Nancy Holman

Curling:

There will be fantastic food as well as great curling upcoming at the RME Women of the **Rings** Manitoba curling championship in Pilot Mound January 22 to 26. An amazing amount of work and planning has gone into this endeavour. See ads elsewhere for information on buying tickets to watch some games. Thomas Greenway Middle School students will be attending to cheer on the teams and learn a bit about curling.

With the RME Women of the Rings taking over the ice at the Black Jack Stewart Arena in the PMMRC, all Pilot Mound Hockey Academy practices will move to Crystal City. PMHA led hockey skills for the U9/U11 and U13/U15 sessions on Tuesdays will move from Crystal City to Clearwater while the women's curling is going on. The curling ice part of the PMMRC building has had the ice removed and it will become the 'Rockies Lounge'. The skating surface will have 3 sheets of ice for the curling. The event starts with a banquet for the curlers on the 21st then curling gets underway on Wednesday the 22nd until the finals on Sunday the 26th. With Chevenne Ehnes of Manitou as one of the entries competing for the provincial banner, there should be lots to cheer about.

At the Canadian Mixed Curling Trials in Nova Scotia, December 30 to Jan. 4, three-time Manitoba and reigning Canadian champions Colton and Kadriana Lott of Gimli curled well but did not make the finals. Peter Gallant and his wife Jocelyn Peterman are now the Canadian champs. Peterman is part of the Manitoba women's rink skipped by Kaitlyn Lawes. January 3rd, Lawes, her third Selena Nejegovan and lead Kristin Gordon were part of a 'Meet Team Lawes'

curling event at the Treherne Curling Club.

At the U18 Asham Manitoba Curling Championships held in Morden at the beginning of January, the Caitlyn McPherson rink of Gimli won the women's event. On the junior men's side, the hometown Morden rink of skip Nash Sugden, third Tyler Fehr, second Tanner Treichel (of Darlingford), lead Ryan Thiessen and coach Gord Titchkosky won first place. Last year the Sugden group were all grade 11 students and they finished in second spot. Manitoba will send two male and two female teams to Nationals in Sas-

katoon in February. CurlCanada unveiled its 2025 Canadian teams for the upcoming World Wheelchair Curling Championships. Ina Forrest (related to Manitou/Pilot Mound/Clearwater people) will team up with Mark Ideson for the Mixed Doubles team. Canada has already qualified in the four person team for the 2026 Paralympics, but not in Mixed Doubles. Crystal City's Dennis Thiessen is not on any world teams

this year. Hockey:

Congratulations to Hannah Bannister of Manitou. For the second time this season she has been chosen as the U15 AAA Manitoba Female Hockey League 'goalie of the week'. She backstopped her Pembina Valley Hawks team to a 5-1 victory over the Brandon Wheat Kings. Her team was in Fargo over the weekend at a tournament, now head up north to The Pas for a pair of games against the Norman Wild on the 18th and 19th.

Hockey Manitoba is again partnering with 'Buddy Check for Jesse' to help normalize mental health awareness and foster a stronger team culture both on and off

World Juniors (men's hockey): Brandon Wheat Kings' netminder Carson Bjarnason of Carberry was the third goalie for the team and didn't see any action except in a pre-tournament game. Winnipeg Jets' prospect Brayden Yager was the captain of the team. Yager is from Saskatoon. Gavin McKenna, who turned 17 on December 20, was expected to be the Connor Bedard like force of the junior team, but Canada ended up bowing out in the quarter finals like last

year. At the 2025 World U18 Women's Hockey Championship in Finland, Team Canada defeated Japan in the quarter finals 17-0. That poor Japanese goalie was out-shot 76 to 4, yikes! Sara Manness of La Salle helped out with scoring in almost every game. In the semifinal against the Czech Republic Canada doubled up on the Czechs 4-2; in the other semi-final, U.S. defeated Sweden. That set up the epic rivalry Canada versus the United States for the gold medal. Team Canada was victorious with a 3 - 0 shut out (one empty net goal) over the Americans.

At the **Spengler Cup** in Davos, Switzerland, Team Canada lost in the semifinals. Winnipeg's Madison Bowey had a good tournament contributing goals and assists.

Add another impressive Manitoba female goalie to the list: Raygan Kirk of Ste. Anne backstopped her PWHL Toronto Sceptres to a 4-2 victory over the Boston Fleet in her first career PWHL win. She made her PWHL debut earlier on December 18th when she replaced Brandon's Kristen Campbell for the third period in a game against the New York Sirens. Coincidentally, Elm Creek's Corinne Schroeder was in the New York net for the win.

Denton Mateychuk of Dominion City, Manitoba, a 12th overall pick in the first round by the NHL's Columbus Blue Jackets, got called up to play with the NHL team on December 23rd. The 20 year old had been playing in the AHL with the Cleveland

Monsters. In Denton's first NHL game against the fabled Montreal Canadiens, the big defenseman had more than 18 minutes playing time, including power-play minutes. As one hockey expert wrote, Mateychuk "never looked out of place in a 5-4 CBJ win over Montreal. The whole family: parents Jason and Keela, brothers Maddux, Kasen and Crosby and sister Brylee all made it to Columbus to watch Denton in his NHL debut. Mateychuk was recalled again by the Blue Jackets for a game December 27th against Boston Bruins and has stayed up (so far) with the NHL team. As of January 9th he had a goal and two assists in 8 games. His younger brother Crosby plays defense for the Eastman Selects U15AAA hockey against our Pembina Valley Hawks; Crosby, only 14 years of age, looks like a full grown man at 6 feet tall and 185 pounds, especially against the much smaller Easton Holman and Dane Wubbe!

It was **Hockey Day in** Manitou January 11 with a full slate of games from U7 to U18.

This upcoming weekend the **U18AA Pembina Hawks female** team will be playing a tournament in Boston!

Other sports:

What devastating news that the Minnewasta Golf Course main building at Morden had another fire. The blaze occurred not long after its grand opening on New Year's Eve.

The Canadian Press 'Team of the Year' is the Canadian Olympic gold medal winning 4 x 100 metres relay team of Andre De Grasse, Brendon Rodney, Jerome Blake and Aaron Brown. The Male Athlete of the Year is Ethan Katzberg, 22 of Nanaimo, BC. Katzberg earned a gold medal in hammer throw at the Paris Olympics. For the second straight year, swimmer extraordinaire Summer McIntosh, 18, is the Female Athlete of the Year.

Sports information can be emailed to sports. thehtview@gmail.com or call 204-825-2772.

SAINT LEON CURLING BONSPIELS

OPEN BONSPIEL Jan 31, Feb 1 & 2, 2025

Entry Fee: \$160.00/team

Entry Deadline: Jan 28, 2025

Steak Fry: Saturday 5:00 - 7:30 p.m. Feb 7 & 8, 2025 Entry Fee: \$140.00/team (Includes smorg supper)

LADIES BONSPIEL

Entry Deadline: Feb 4, 2025

Contact: Bub at 204-526-7584 or Réjean at 204-245-0191

Air Greenway Curling League

Nancy Holman

2024 Air Greenway Curling League at Baldur finished up on December 19. After regular league play, the Baldur teams skipped by Mike Johnson and one by Jesse Janz were tied with 5 and 2 records. Steve Pauls (Pilot Mound/Purves), Clare Reimer (Crystal City) and Paul Sundell (Holland) teams had 4 and 3 records.

Also taking part were rinks skipped by Anthony Friesen of Pilot Mound, Wytinck of Cypress River, and Dean North of Carman.

In the playoffs on December 21st, Johnson defeated Reimer while Pauls beat Janz. In the final, it took an extra end, but the Pauls team was victorious. The Sundell foursome beat the Friesen rink on the consolation side



The Steve Pauls rink of Steve, Bernie Hildebrand, Russell Pauls and Pat Sutherland are the 2024 Air Greenway Curling League Champions.

PHOTO COURTESY MIKE JOHNSON BALDUR-GLENBORO GAZETTE

Part Two - 2025



PMHA News Release Submitted by Gordie Tumilson, Marketing Manager Welcome back Buffs' fans for our regular season's second half with playoffs closing in. They begin once again from Penticton, BC in early March

First however, let us again congratulate the past month's Hockey Academy Award Winners. The Academy is first and foremost a place for the highest, public high school education possible. The second of our 3 part focus, is on community & team while third of course is working toward the hockey excellence part.

Here's the teams' update for the past week and the week ahead!

On Jan 9-12 our four teams all saw action on

our first full weekend back with the U17 males in Caronport, SK, for three games on a busy showcase weekend. The U15 males travelled to Grand Forks, ND for two games, while the U18 females and U18 males hosted 3 CSSHL teams. Two teams were visiting. One from Edmonton and the other the Rink squad

from Winnipeg!

For all the results, stats and standings as always go to our ultra informative website @ www.pilotmoundhockeyacademy. com

This week sees only two of our teams in action with both the U17 and U18 male teams in Saskatoon for two games each vs IHA! You can watch all of our games streamed on FloHockey TV or Live Barn - check out any of our 4 social media platform postings for streaming, up-to-date scheduling and broadcast information.

Finally, please join our 8 a.m. Wednesday weekly Buffaloes podcast at GShow.ca or at any time after on YouTube! GoBuffsGo!

PILOT MOUND HOCKEY ACADEMY: STUDENT-ATHLETE OF THE MONTH AWARDS

December 2024







Sheigh Siemens Athlete of the Month Female U18 Prep



Jaden Mah Leadership of the Month Male U18 Prep



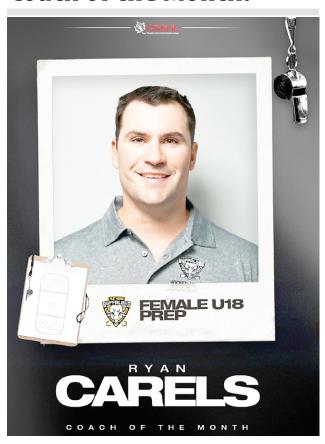
Gavin Noseworthy
Academic of the Month
Male U17 Prep



Matsun Adams
Student Life of the Month
Male U15 Prep

Pilot Mound Hockey Academy - Athlete of the Month Awards - December. Each month, PMHA will recognize four student athletes for the following awards: Athlete, Leadership, Student Athlete and Student Life. Congratulations to Sheigh, Jaden, Gavin, and Matsun!

Coach of the Month!



Congratulations to Ryan Carels of Cypress River who is the female U18 coach at the Pilot Mound Hockey Academy. The Canadian Sport School announced that he is the West Female Division Coach of the Month.

SUBMITTED PHOTO