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Inside this week

NEEPAWA HEALTH CENTRE

Page 15: Ponderings on the old hospital

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Neepawa's Salvation Army 'more than a bandaid'

Ribbon officially cut on Neepawa Community Services Centre



PHOTO BY CASPER WEHRHAHN

Neepawa Salvation Army and Neepawa Community Services staff, board members, and dignitaries were joined by area Salvation Army dignitaries and local government representatives to mark the grand opening of the Community Services Centre on May 13.

By Casper Wehrhahn
Neepawa Banner & Press

A significant milestone was achieved by Neepawa's Salvation Army last week. On Wednesday, May 13, the organization held the

official grand opening of its new Community Services Centre, located at Unit B 342 Mountain Avenue. The opening celebration was met with favourable, sunny weather, a gathering of community members

and dignitaries, and swells of emotion.

"What we have created really is a space for all," said Amanda Naughton-Gale, community ministries director.

The new space was de-

veloped through community consultations, as well as growing demand for services that could no longer be accommodated at the former Thrift Store location. It includes a reception area, two private

offices, an expanded shopping style food bank, space for workshops, events, and a community kitchen which can be rented out.

These features were also noted to provide the valuable potential for new

programs that respond to local needs.

"This isn't just a food bank, it's a place for people to come together, and to grow skills," said Naughton-Gale.

Continued on Page 2

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Valley Optical settling in at spacious new location

By Eoin Devereux
Neepawa Banner & Press

After nearly 11 months of paperwork, planning and preparation, a well established local business has officially made its move to Neepawa's downtown. Valley Optical reopened on Monday, May 11, at 424 Mountain Avenue, a location remembered by many locals as the former Harris Pharmacy building.

Dr. Derek Papegnies said the process began around June of last year, with the lease signed in the late summer/early fall and renovations started in January. Dr. Papegnies explained that while the renovation process itself had a couple little hiccups, overall it was a pretty seamless shift from a pharmacy building into a modern and spacious optical clinic.

As for the response from patients to the new location, Dr. Papegnies said the one of the biggest reactions so far has been the openness



PHOTO BY EOIN DEVEREUX

Pictured: Dr. Derek Papegnies and the rest of the Valley Optical team, including Elodie Adamyk (centre) and Heather Krutkewich (right) in their new space at 424 Mountain Ave.

of the new location.

"Everybody's been amazed by this space. Everyone's like, 'I can't believe how open it is,' and how much larger it was compared to the clinic," he noted with a laugh. "Yeah, I'm certainly getting a few more kilometres in walking

to and from the back."

But, Dr. Papegnies said the move is about more than just extra square footage, it's also about creating opportunities for future growth, while still providing the level of care his patients have come to expect.

"I'm happy to continue

the same great service that I had over at the clinic, but now in a much more open space," he said. "I hope that this will eventually allow me to grow even bigger, now that I have the extra space to be able to do it. So please feel free to come in."

'My clients are like family'

Continued from
Page 1

These points were further emphasized by Pat Fedoruk, chair of the Neepawa Salvation Army.

"To get where we are has always been the drive of Amanda," said Fedoruk, who also added, "We need to be more than a bandaid."

Additionally, the Community Services space elevates the dignity of the clients that access it.

"People deserve privacy, choice, and respect when accessing services," Naughton-Gale emphasized.

Currently, the food bank is able to serve 75 households (approximately 200 individuals), providing an approximate 5,000 lbs of food per month. In contrast, these numbers are up from the roughly 50 households (an estimated 130 individuals) served per month at the former location.

Sherri Francis, who spoke on behalf of MLA Jodie Byram, further highlighted the significance of the grand opening.

"This is a milestone for a community and the people it will serve—we know this goes beyond our community," said Francis. "Congratulations to everyone involved in making this Centre a reality."

Wrapping up the opening speeches, Naughton-Gale extended special thanks to all who have provided their support over the years, and helped make the Community Services Centre a reality. Additionally, gratitude was also extended to the dedicated staff—from the board members to the new food bank coordinator and beyond.

"My clients are like family," said Naughton-Gale. "It's important that everyone feels welcomed and cared for."

She added, "All that we do, we can't do it without you."

Currently, the Neepawa Salvation Army/Community Services Centre is engaging in a fundraiser with the purpose of expanding its operational funds. Their current fundraising goal is \$35,000.

Donations can be made online via Salvationarmy.ca/Neepawa, by mail at Box 548 Neepawa, or in person. Either cheque, cash, debit or credit card can be accepted, with all donations over \$20 being viable for a tax receipt.

Note: If you were unable to attend the grand opening and ribbon cutting, a recording of the celebration will be viewable on NACTV.



PHOTO BY CASPER WEHRHAHN

Amanda Naughton-Gale, community ministries director, pictured during her grand opening address.

Big Grass Community Foundation announces 2026 recipients

Banner Staff
Neepawa Banner & Press

The Big Grass Community Foundation announced its 2026 grant recipients recently. The details are as follows:

- RM of Westlake: Cross country skis, \$3,900.
- Gladstone School Band: Tuba and tenor sax, \$3,000.
- Gladstone Musical Arts: Festival 2026, \$3,000.
- Gladstone Senior Support: Programming, \$2,300.
- Gladstone 55+: Storm door, \$1,200.
- Big Brothers & Big Sisters: Mentoring, \$800.
- Plumas Curling Club: Ice plant replacement, \$3,000.
- Neepawa Area Health Aux: Wellness room completion, \$3,000.
- Westbourne Cemetery: Maintenance, \$3,000.
- William Morton High School: Team seating,



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Langruth Rec Committee was one of the Big Grass Community Foundation's grant recipients for 2026. The funds received totalled \$10,000.

- \$2,500.
- Gladstone District Arena: Kitchen upgrades, \$4,000.
- Gladstone Ag Society: Pitching mound, \$5,000.
- Langruth Rec Committee: Hall washroom, \$10,000.
- WL Community Club: Curling ice nippler, \$2,800.
- Plumas Pirates: Baseball shale, \$3,000.

- Plumas Community Hall: LED lights, \$3,000.
- *These were via the Thomas Sill Grant, which is a Big Grass Community Foundation grant award that is partially supported by Thomas Sill Grant.
- Also announced were:


Citizen of the Year
The Big Grass Founda-

tion's 2026 Citizen of the Year is Laurel McConnell. Congratulations!

- Designated fund disbursements**
- Big Point Cemetery: \$433.
 - Gladstone Cemetery: \$1,064.
 - Hungarian Cemetery: \$261.
 - Lakeland Cemetery: \$1,174.
 - Langruth Cemetery: \$360.

- Scholarships and bursaries**
- The recipients for the following will be announced at the 2026 graduation:
- Big Grass Scholarship: \$448.
 - Langruth Legion Scholarship: \$200.
 - Langruth Bursary: \$448.

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1976: Winnipeg Jets players visit Neepawa

By Casper Wehrhahn
Neepawa Banner & Press

Note: We're throwing back to some earlier dates in May this time, as I accidentally skipped over a week. Enjoy! -Casper

**125 years ago,
Tuesday,
May 7, 1901**

Acton: Adam Watson's horses ran away with the seeder on the 2nd, as he was on his way home after work. They were startled by the rattling of the chains on a bridge, and after upsetting Mr. Watson and tearing down several fence posts they were stopped by one of the horses falling on the broken seeder tongue and driving it into the ground. The drill was considerably damaged and two of the horses severely bruised and cut.

**100 years ago,
Friday,
May 7, 1926**

Glennella: Our local barber

left town this week. We have here a good opening for a barber and a pool room man, as we expect the town to boom this summer.

The newly opened photographic studio is equipped with the latest in modern apparatus in order to cater to the needs of the amateur photographer. Twenty four hour service to the amateur starting Monday, May 10. The Morrish Studio.

**75 years ago,
Thursday,
May 10, 1951**

W. L. Rutledge, Ph. D., survey director of the Sanatorium Board of Manitoba, addressed a largely attended meeting in the Court House last Wednesday evening concerning the holding of a mass chest X-ray clinic here again this year.

Wellwood: Congratulations to Phyllis Graham, nurse-in-training at Brandon Hospital, who



NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS ARCHIVES

Bobby Hull (left), Anders Hedberg (at centre, covered), and Ulf Nilsson (right) of the Winnipeg Jets were in Neepawa signing autographs for many excited youth in May of 1976. This photo is from the May 13 edition of The Neepawa Press for that year. The signing was stated to take place at Neepawa's Yellowhead Centre.

stood first in her class in recent exams.

Riding Mountain: The UGG construction crew are building a two-bin coal shed right-of-way.

**50 years ago,
Thursday,
May 13, 1976**

Many people from the Neepawa and surrounding district were awakened early Thursday morning by what many thought was a terrible explosion.

The Canadian and American Air Forces have been holding maneuvers this past week over the skies of Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba with planes capable of breaking the sound barrier. The Air Forces had said that they were going to hold their maneuvers over as little populated an area as possible and obviously Neepawa must have been chosen for at least one fly by.

So far we have not had any word on damage done except for the rude

awakening delivered by the speeding jets, so if you wondered about the "explosion" it was a "Sonic Boom" created either by American or Canadian Fighter planes.

Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Godbold were honored in their home recently on the occasion of their 60th wedding anniversary. The couple were married Apr. 20, 1916 in Gilbert Plains. R. Godbold was originally from Toronto and Mrs. Godbold (nee Susan James) was from Neepawa.

Neepawa Lionelles: Sixteen members and two guests were on hand for our 18th birthday evening. A full business meeting preceded activities of a more festive nature.

**20 years ago,
Monday,
May 8, 2006**

An extraordinary man who accomplished the extraordinary.

That's how Betty Fox described her son Terry,

whose Marathon of Hope has turned into an annual run, raising more than \$400 million for cancer research.

Fox, who was keynote speaker at the CancerCare Manitoba annual Community Education conference in Neepawa Wednesday, said ironically, if research dollars had been available 25 years ago, her son would probably still be alive...

When Terry was diagnosed with a form of bone cancer—found in a tumor on his right knee—Betty Fox said the family

knew nothing of the disease, only that it was bad.

A plaque commemorating war brides was unveiled at the Manitoba Legislature Monday to commemorate their contribution to Canadian history.

Disclaimer: The information gathered and used each week in the Looking Back feature is directly taken from the original print copy of the Neepawa Press and Neepawa Banner newspapers. Any errors or omissions from stories (Factually or otherwise) are the result of the original print and not the responsibility of the archivist for the current version of the Neepawa Banner & Press.

May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had, so that with one mind and one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ

Romans 15:5-6 (New International Version)



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Highlights of the week

Rotary Conference - Opening Ceremony
May 26 at 10:30 am | May 28 at 6:30 pm | May 31 at 8:30 pm
Rotary Conference Speaker #1 - Paul Samyn
May 26 at 6:30pm | May 28 at 1pm | May 31 at 9pm
Grand Opening & Tour of the Community Services Centre
May 25 at 4:40pm | May 27 at 12:30 pm | May 28 at 8pm



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NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS ARCHIVES

Neepawa's own Rug Doctor, G. Follows, was advertising his spring cleaning equipment services in he May 6, 1976 edition of The Neepawa Press.

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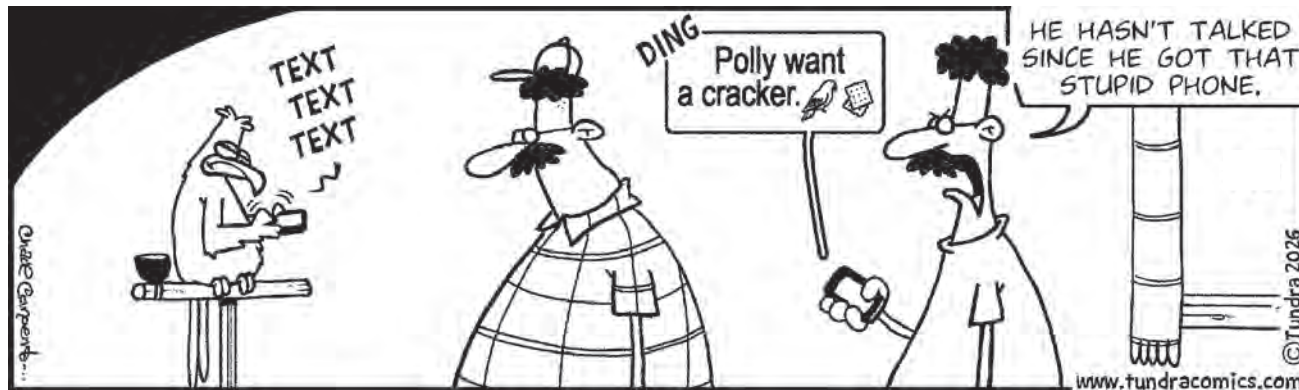
May 22 & 23 • SHOWTIME: 7:30 pm
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Tundra

By Chad Carpenter



And that was the May Long...

Okay, by the time one reaches the age of 80 there are a goodly number of May long weekends in the memory bank. And some are remembered. I want to say that this year, because May started on a Friday, the long weekend came a bit earlier than some other years. Oh, it's always the third weekend, however often it will be the twenty something not the teens. Those few days would have made a difference in the temperature. Right?

Way back when I was in high school it was traditional to have the divisional track and field meet the Friday before Victoria Day. The Graysville Consolidated School did not have a gymnasium. We did have a basement room that was an auditorium until it was needed for classroom space, and another room that allowed for a table tennis set up, but no gym where one could actually get fit. The good thing was that we were a bunch of farm kids and life provided us with plenty of exercise— for fitness and stamina. There were some years when the weather before the girls day had not been gentle enough for us to truly hone our athletic abilities, and we still did pretty darn good in the competition against other schools. And then there were years when the temperature had been high enough that practice was not a delightful time. Track and field days were highlights for me, a touchpoint for memories, so I can quite accurately recall the highs and the lows.

When the May long weekend began to feature in camping trips there was another memory maker. One anticipated getting out in nature, surrounded by sky and water, trees and wind, bonfires and weiner roasts. Some years you got that in plenty and other years it was a stint in survival mode. A co-worker, back in the 90's, had been enticed to co camping with her partner. Their sleeping accommodation was the old cab over truck camper. The lovely tin box perched on the half ton. Telling us about her trials on Tuesday morning, Brenda maintained that as she shivered and shook, breath frosting the morning air, she was convinced that hell had, indeed, frozen over! I think some campers this past extended weekend may have felt the same... God bless and protect the tent dwellers!

The past weekend was filled with family and chosen family. Two family members planned and orchestrated a gathering— the excuse being that I am now 80. (I did not want loved ones to feel obliged to travel back in the cold of February— rather like Christmas in July for some families!) We ate far too much, played games for lovely long hours, swapped stories— some of which I had never heard before— and refreshed family ties. Six of the grandchildren and six of the great grands joined a gaggle of nieces and nephews and their children. So much love and fun... and none of us remembered to take pictures!

Another May long weekend is now in the books. Every one different, not all significant. Rather like every day in that aspect. But each one a gift.

Weigh the decisions carefully

Election time is coming and this column is about our communities' future.

Our three papers covers every town and municipality from West-Lake-Gladstone on the east to RM of Wallace-Woodworth the west. They also cover RM of Ste. Rose to the north all the way to the RM of Pipestone, Carberry and Elton on the south end including the City of Brandon.

The next general municipal election is Wednesday, October 28, 2026. Voters need to be planning ahead as I have been told, and I sense, many councillors, Reeves and mayors will not be seeking re-election.

Here are some of the common election issues we have observed and heard about.

The most commonly expressed concern is the condition of the roads. Some are good or at least OK but many are bad, really bad. Like, I mean dangerously bad with potholes and rough areas that are big enough to swallow the front end of a car or light truck. It costs a lot of money to build and maintain roads but it also takes a lot of foresight and planning.

In areas faced with paved roads, the problems are even more expensive to fix.

Around the year 2000, when I was first in the mayor's chair at Neepawa, I attended a national conference. At the conference was a trade show where a pavement repair machine was demonstrated that had a large spray boom on the front that would blow the water and loose gravel out of the cavity, spray in sticky oil and gravel and pack it down. Great idea, it works well. It's not cheap, but it works well. I, among others, brought that idea back to our councils but it took over 20 years to adopt usage of the machine.

The machine is seeing some local use now. The big advantage is that local



staff can run the equipment, potholes can be filled any time during the non-winter season and municipalities aren't squeezed into months long and even years long waits for the scarce paving companies.

These machines are costly, but roads are important, so how long do taxpayers need to wait to see a solution to what is arguably one of the most important problems facing them? These machines cost less than a new farm combine, so I think it's high time to have towns look at this solution. Maybe two or three towns could buy a machine jointly and then, God forbid, they could cooperate on fixing a common problem.

Around our papers' coverage area are problems that are locally specific. Virden has a huge and long term problem with water supply and quality. No doubt it will get solved, but at whose cost? The issue is being contested in court right now. The RM of Rosedale is in the midst of a huge controversy about the proposed wind farm that will take years to iron out. The RM of Pipestone is also involved in an energy controversy over a carbon capture project and both projects are promising huge financial costs and returns. Personally, I am skeptical on the returns part.

Recreation is always an issue. RM of Rosedale has an uncompleted skating rink at Kelwood. Neepawa's Yellow-head Centre is one of the oldest in our coverage area and quite frankly, one

of the poorest of condition facilities. The YHC is not municipally owned and one of the main reasons it's so far behind other towns is that it does not have anywhere near sufficient support from the Town of Neepawa and the surrounding RMs.

There are parts, if not all, of our coverage area that need more housing and more daycare spaces.

So, across our coverage area there are both unique and common problems. If communities are to grow or even survive, they need good councils and staff. One of the obstacles to getting good councils and staff is all the abuse that is shoved their way. Here's a few clues to change that. Be nice, discuss and criticize ideas not people.

And remember, to put it all in context, pick up your local history book and check out all the towns and villages that have died or are on their last legs. Many times a community's demise could have been prevented. It's up to us folks. Think local, live local, shop local. When your mind strays to other centres, just ask yourself how many times Costco, Amazon or Facebook has sponsored your kid's ball team or 4-H Club. And don't forget the price of gas!

More than ever before, we need to think and act locally. That's the key, think and act!

Disclaimer: The views expressed in this column are the writer's personal views and are not to be taken as being the view of the Banner & Press staff.

Letters to the editor

Fleury Winds project 'not a slam dunk success issue'

A letter to the editor, "Hot air or hot wind", was published in the May 15 Neepawa Banner & Press with respect to the proposed wind turbine project in the RMs of Rosedale and Minto-Odanah. Due to its content and tone a rebuttal is necessary.

Dr. Scott Blyth opens with an incorrect description of the open house held in Polonia based on an article from the Brandon Sun. Scott refers to "angry denunciations", "a hostile environment" and supporters of the project being "intimidated into silence". I attended this gathering and in no way did it resemble what Scott described. Residents became frustrated by a lack of an open discussion to serious questions that were only addressed on a one-to-one basis and not in an open forum. A few residents took to the stage and turned it into a proper question and answer session. There was no uncontrolled yelling, foul language or intimidating behavior. Scott was obviously not there and therefore was in no position to write what he did. Gossip and innuendo is not allowed in a court of law and this is what Scott should have been guided by and not second-hand information.

The letter proceeds to summarize two American wind turbine projects that were roaring successes. A quick review of the internet tells of many such projects that failed or were abandoned, without any of the proposed benefits. It's not a slam dunk success issue as Scott portrays with everyone winning and no one losing. The many negative aspects of wind turbine projects were raised at the open house.

A partial list includes:

- 1) This project will consist of up to 36 turbines, each towering over 700 feet. By contrast, the tallest building in Winnipeg is just over 400 feet tall. Future expansion into additional wind turbines and extensive solar panels, as outlined in the legal contract, is very much a possibility.
- 2) Human Health— chronic headaches, lack of sleep, mood swings, vertigo, ringing in the ears, heart problems, etc. These symptoms have been reported up to a mile away. (Source: Nina Pierpont, MD, PhD)
- 3) Bird Migration— ducks, geese and swans colliding with rotating blades.
- 4) Song Birds— loss of feeding and breeding grounds due to noise and constant air turbulence.
- 5) Mammals— both large and small vacate the area due to noise, shadow flicker and loss of feeding areas and habitat.
- 6) Farm Land— reduced land in food production caused by the wind turbine foot print and presence of fences, underground cables and permanent access roads.
- 7) Construction— each turbine requires multiple steel piles 60 feet deep supporting a concrete base 100 feet in diameter and 10 feet deep.

Continued on Page 7

Helen Drysdale

OUT OF HELEN'S KITCHEN

Neepawa Legion Ladies

The Legion Ladies Auxiliary was organized in 1939 to help make items for the Red Cross and raise money to send packages overseas to the troops. After the war they helped raise funds for the construction of the Legion Hall. Over the years they have made a significant contribution to our community with their gifts of time and money. Many pounds of potatoes have been peeled, turkeys stuffed and cooked, desserts baked and sliced, gallons of coffee brewed and vast numbers of dishes washed for the banquets that helped to raise the money for their generous donations. These hard working ladies make the best roast beef for miles around. In 1977 they put out a cookbook, Home Town Recipes of Neepawa.

That year the president was Ruby Campbell, first vice president was Stacy Brown, second vice was Anne Baker, warden was Edith Hares, treasurer was Irene Macdonald, and the secretary was Lena Henderson. There were 69 members at large and five life members. Here are some of those hard-working ladies recipes.

Chicken and rice casserole —Winnie North

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 small chicken-about 3 lbs. | 1 pkg. onion soup mix |
| 1 cup rice, long grain | 1/2 tsp. salt |
| 2 cups water | Pepper to taste |
| 1 tin mushroom soup | 1 can celery soup (optional) |

Cut up chicken into serving pieces. Mix rice, water, soups and seasonings together in the bottom of a small roaster. Place chicken pieces on top and roast for 2 1/2 hours at 350°F oven.

Tomato cheese strata —Marjorie Drayson

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| bread slices | 1/4 tsp. oregano(optional) |
| 2 cups cottage cheese | 3-4 fresh tomatoes, sliced |
| 1 egg, beaten | 1/2 cup grated cheddar cheese |
| 1/4 cup minced onion | 4 eggs, beaten |
| salt and pepper to taste | 2 cups milk |
| 1 tsp. Worcestershire sauce | |

Butter large baking dish. Line the bottom with bread slices. Stir one beaten egg into the cottage cheese; add the onion, salt and pepper, Worcestershire sauce, and oregano. Spread over bread slices. Make a layer of tomato slices and top with a second layer of bread slices. Add another layer of tomato slices then sprinkle over with cheese. Beat remaining eggs lightly with milk and pour overall. Bake at 350°F for 25 minutes or until set in the middle. You can decorate with crumbles of crisp bacon and parsley. Serve immediately. Serves 6-8.

Cashew crunch cookies —Elsie Hockin

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------|
| 2 1/4 cup flour | 1 cup butter |
| 1/2 tsp. soda | 1 egg |
| 1/2 tsp. cream of tartar | 1 tsp. vanilla |
| 3/4 cup brown sugar | 1/2 cup cashews |
| 1/2 cup white sugar | |

Mix all ingredients except nuts. Add nuts. Drop by spoonfuls on greased sheets. Bake at 350° 12-15 minutes.

Pecan pie —Margaret Harvey

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 -9-inch unbaked pie shell | 1/2 cup margarine |
| 3 eggs, lightly beaten | 1 tsp. vanilla |
| 1 cup syrup | 1/8 tsp. salt |
| 1 cup sugar | 1 cup pecans, added last |
- Bake at 400 °F for 15 minutes, then at 350°F for 30-35 minutes.

Country fair honey tarts —Lillian Brown

- | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| 1/2 cup butter | 1/4 tsp. nutmeg |
| 2/3 cup liquid honey | 1/4 tsp. salt |
| 2/3 cup brown sugar | 2 eggs, slightly beaten |
| 1 cup raisins | |

Preheat oven to 450°F. Line 12 -3-inch tart shells with pastry; chill while making the filling. Melt butter, add all the ingredients except the eggs. Blend well and allow to cool. Add eggs. Spoon filling into pastry lined shells. Put on lowest rack in the oven. Bake 10-20 minutes until lightly browned. Cool for 10 minutes before removing from the pans. Loosen the edges and finish cooling on wire rack.

Old Canada Series: Brandon



PHOTO COURTESY OF OLD CANADA SERIES

Pictured here is a view of Brandon's Tenth Street, looking north. The Old Canada Series estimates that this photo was taken sometime in the 1930s. What a throwback!

Going away for vacation?

You can find the Neepawa Banner & Press online at:
www.neepawabanner.com

From Manitoba to Ontario, and back

WMCI band students return from inter-school collaborative experience

By Casper Wehrhahn
Neepawa Banner & Press

Students of the William Morton Collegiate Institute (WMCI) returned from a fruitful band trip recently. Leaving the familiarity of Manitoba by bus on May 6, the contingent journeyed to Ontario for a series of educational activities before returning home on May 9.

Band teacher Sean Goerzen noted that while band trips are typically organized surrounding a formal band festival, this trip was centred more on inter-school collaboration.

“We stopped at Beaver Brae Secondary in Kenora and Westgate CVI in Thunder Bay to play together and put on mini-concerts,” Goerzen explained. “We also stopped in at Lakehead University for a clinic with their music faculty. One of the biggest highlights of the trip for many was attending



PHOTO COURTESY OF SEAN GOERZEN

Pictured: William Morton Collegiate Institute students posing for a photo during their recent band class trip to Ontario, where they did a variety of collaborative exercises with other schools, and more.

Westgate’s school drama performance of ‘Mean Girls’. It was a top notch production that did not spare any details!”

In Goerzen’s four years of teaching band at WMCI, the band class has gone west to Moose Jaw, south to Minneapolis, and northwest to

Edmonton.

“So I figured it was time to go East! I knew that this beautiful part of the country was a place that most of our students would never have been to before,” said Goerzen. “It was very inspiring seeing them gaze and exclaim ‘lake!’ time after time

as we were going through the Canadian Shield.”

Goerzen added, “I believe that trips like this help to encourage community within the band program. Band is unique as it involves students of many different ages coming together to do the same thing. We had a

full range from grade seven to grade 12 on the trip. It also highlights the aspect of service. In Kenora we stopped and performed for an elementary school. Band is not just about making music for ourselves, but is also a way to give back to the community.”

The student response to the trip is reported to have been extremely positive. Though Goerzen also noted, with humor, “The one comment I always hear is that they wish they could sleep in a bit longer. We always keep a busy schedule during band trips so that there is not much time to get in trouble at the hotel!”

Desire for additional sleep aside, the students were certainly engaged and eager to see the sights.

Providing a particular highlight in his closing comments, Goerzen stated, “It was especially neat to see students engaging with nature at Sleeping Giant Provincial Park where we went on a short hike down to the waterfront of Lake Superior. We ended up spending more time there than I had budgeted because they wanted to keep exploring!”

Dreams in Motion to bring big sound to Neepawa

Media Release
Neepawa Dream Ride

The Neepawa community is set for an unforgettable evening of music, dancing, and giving back as the Dreams in Motion Concert takes the stage May 30th.

Hosted by Dream Ride in support of The Dream Factory and Habitat for Humanity, the social with concert promises to be more than just a night out — it’s a celebration of community spirit and local success.

The event will kick off the 2026 Dream Ride season while recognizing the incredible support the Neepawa area has shown over the years. Organizers say the partnership with Habitat for Humanity: Neepawa Chapter makes the evening even more meaningful, with proceeds from bar sales and an exciting raffle table benefiting their organization.

Headlining the night is rising Saskatchewan country star Adam Johnson and his band, bringing a high-energy mix of country rock



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Pictured: Adam Johnson, Saskatchewan Country Music Association award winner. Johnson will be the headline artist at the Dreams in Motion Concert.

music sure to keep the dance floor packed.

Johnson has quickly become one of the most talked-about names on the Canadian country scene. In 2025 alone, he captured four Saskatchewan Country Music Association awards, including Album of the Year and Songwriter of the Year. Fans may also recognize his hit single “Middle Finger,” which became the most-played song on SiriusXM’s Top of the Country station

during August. The talented performer has also opened for country legends including Pam Tillis, Lorrie Morgan, and George Canyon.

The concert takes place May 30, 2026, at the Yellowhead Centre. Doors open at 8:00 p.m., with the concert set to begin at 9:00 p.m.

Tickets are available at Arts Forward or by contacting Marsha at 204-841-2051.

Swing, batter batter!

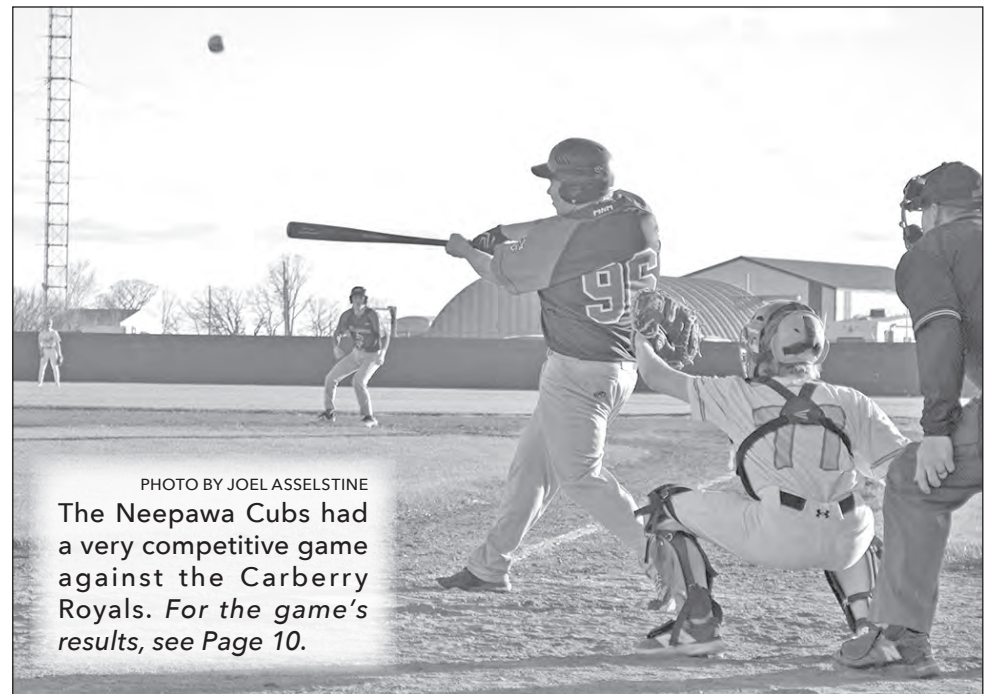


PHOTO BY JOEL ASSELSTINE

The Neepawa Cubs had a very competitive game against the Carberry Royals. For the game’s results, see Page 10.



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HOPE Spring Food Drive- We need your support!

Submitted
NACI HOPE group

It is that time of year again! The Neepawa Area Collegiate HOPE group is preparing for its annual spring food drive in support of the local Salvation Army food bank.

The need in our community remains significant, with Food Bank use up 48 per cent from last year. In 2025 alone, the local Food Bank supported 746 households, with the highest monthly usage occurring in December when 85 households were served.

This trend has continued into 2026, with 370 households already assisted so far. March marked the highest monthly usage on record, with 102 households receiving support. On average, 92 households rely on the Food Bank each month, amounting to approximately 6,000 pounds of food distributed monthly.

Notably, 40 per cent of those accessing the Food Bank in our community are children. These numbers are a powerful reminder that many in our commu-



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Keep an eye out for HOPE food drive bags!

ity continue to depend on this essential support.

To help restock the food bank, members of the HOPE group will be distributing donation bags that have been generously supplied by the Neepawa Rotary Club on doorsteps throughout the community on May 21. We invite all residents who are able to contribute by filling these bags with non-perishable food and essential household items. Suggested donations include canned meat, fish, fruits and vegetables, cereal, oatmeal, peanut

butter, jam, Cheese Whiz, pasta and sauce, school snacks, sugar, coffee, tea, pancake mix, syrup, toilet paper, and hygiene products.

Collection of donations will take place on the evening of May 26. Neepawa-Gladstone Co-op will donate \$2 towards the Neepawa Salvation Army Food Bank for every bag collected on this day! We kindly ask that all filled bags be placed in a visible location outside your home by 5:30 p.m. Monetary donations are also gratefully accepted.

If your home is missed during the bag drop-off, please feel free to use any bag you have on hand for your donation. If your donation is not picked up on collection night, you may drop it off at the Salvation Army or call 476-5869 to arrange for pickup the following day.

The HOPE group and the Neepawa Salvation Army sincerely thank you for your continued generosity and support in helping care for members of our community in need.

Opinion: Time for Manitoba to buy local advertising

By Paul Deegan
News Media Canada

Note: Paul Deegan is president and chief executive officer of News Media Canada.

Manitoba's 2024 Speech from the Throne stated, "One of our society's most important freedoms is freedom of the press. It holds the powerful to account including government. In an age of so much misinformation and polarization, we can't afford to let journalism disappear. At the same time, we can't allow this issue to become politicized. So, we are establishing an all-party committee to explore the future of local journalism including rural and cultural media such as Filipino, Punjabi and Chinese language publications."

On July 2, 2025, I was back in my hometown of Winnipeg to appear before the all-party committee, chaired by Robert Loiselle, MLA for St. Boniface. Across party lines, there was universal agreement that Manitoba should ensure a minimum of 25 per cent of government advertising, including Crown corporations and agencies, goes to local journalism.

Advertising with local news sources is a highly effective way for the Government of Manitoba to get important information across to Manitobans.

A 2025 study by Stagwell found that it is safe for brands to advertise adjacent to quality news content, regardless of topic; ads placed

adjacent to stories covering politics or crime perform as effectively as ads placed next to a positive business story and sports and entertainment; and there are no brand safety issues among key demographic groups for advertisers, including Gen Z, moms, high earners and university-educated Canadians.

A 2024 study by Plus Company on the effects of trust on advertising effectiveness in Canada concluded there is a clear and measurable lift in brand affinity when advertising is placed within trusted news environments. This "Trust Premium" is a powerful force that can be leveraged by advertisers to enhance brand perception and build stronger connections with consumers. As trust becomes increasingly important in today's media landscape, partnering with reputable news publishers is a valuable opportunity for brands to benefit from the halo effect and establish greater credibility with their target audiences."

In 2024, the Government of Ontario directed that 25 per cent government advertising spending would be set aside for news publications. The also directed Crown corporations like the LCBO, the Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corporation, and Metrolinx to also invest 25 per cent of their advertising spend to Ontario-based news businesses. This has made an immediate and meaningful difference to many news titles.

Continued on Page 15

Letter: 'Legitimate concerns'

Cotnined from Page 5

8) Hydrology— this area has many small creeks, under ground streams and aquifers. Roads, piles and the base will greatly alter the local hydrology and will result in unforeseen negative changes to ponds, sloughs and drainage resulting in unpredictable flooding, all of which affects the local ecology.

9) Decommissioning— RES estimates the project has a maximum 30 year life span upon which the turbines are dismantled. Not all material can be reused; the concrete base remains in place and the fibreglass blades, up to 300 feet long, are buried locally, thereby permanently harming the environment and reducing agriculture production.

10) RES estimates the project will produce a maximum of 200MW of electricity if operating at 100% efficiency. Based on a Massachusetts Institute of Technology study a more accurate figure is 17.7%, thereby producing only 35 MW. (At the open house a RES employee privately stated they hope to produce 40MW and not the 200MW advertised.)

The permanent ecological damage done to produce a small amount of

electricity for only three decades seems hardly worth the price.

Scott's letter finishes with the comment: "Some farmers oppose the Polonia proposal because turbines will alter a familiar landscape". As outlined above this is patently incorrect, as well as a shallow, condescending statement minimizing the legitimate concerns by the residents of a serious life changing issue.

Maybe a preferred location for this project would be the Perimeter Highway around Winnipeg or in the suburbs of Brandon where the continual hot air from politicians and know-it-all environmental "experts" will keep the wind turbines whirling forever.

To close out I quote William F. Buckley, jr., the American political commentator:

"I would rather the country be run by a thousand people randomly chosen from the Boston phone book than a thousand Harvard University professors." We should all keep this in mind. We may be "farmers" (stubble jumpers, hicks, rubes?) to you, Dr. Blyth, but we're a lot more intelligent than you give us credit for.

**Patricia Ciglar,
RM of Rosedale**



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Special feature: What will they try next

Nancy Jo Moller
Submitted

Publisher's note: Adventures in Camping is a special feature that appears in the Virden Empire Advance and Rivers Banner, and will be showcased in the Neepawa Banner & Press over the next few weeks as part of the special Camping Feature.

"Fictional names Herb and Zelda have been used to protect the innocent from laughter"

As seniors, things Herb and Zelda have tried didn't always go smoothly, but they remembered keep trying, keep making those memories. Favourite stories are what family will talk and laugh about for years to come.

Bike riding, how hard can it be? They both had ridden bikes before, but thinking it was likely over 40 or was it 50 years ago, Herb and Zelda were both up for the challenge. Beware of balancing and picking up speed going downhill, because riding bikes in the Whiteshell proved the challenge might win against prairie raised flatlanders. Whew, going downhill and trying to control the speed was one thing but going up the other side. Slow, slower and finally Zelda

gave up and said, "I'm walking back to the cabin." Yes, you heard right, they rented a gorgeous log cabin for the week that was fully furnished.

Canoeing, since Zelda had never canoed, she was careful to follow all of Herb's directions. He said don't turn around and over-balance, wait for me to get in and when I say okay, start paddling. Zelda kept eyes focused ahead, reviewing in her mind how Herb had said to paddle. She felt the boat sway and Herb said okay. She started to paddle and felt canoe overturn. Luckily, they were only in two feet of water, all they could do was look at each other and laugh. Herb had said OKAY when he stepped in, not when he sat down. First thing to remember, follow your own instructions. Next thing to remember is never canoe in western boots. Always have not only proper footwear but extra footwear available that can easily be purchased at local outdoor stores or shoe stores. Rubber-soled shoes provide not only a good grip but cushion for those aching feet. As they discussed the day, tired but still smiling, it was decided that when they got home planning



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Home sweet home for the week.

would start for their next adventure. Maybe it would be time to price out electric bikes that could/might make excursions easier.

Hiking – well Herb's boots were still wet the next morning after the eventful canoe ride, so they went for a drive instead of hiking. Will revisit that thought again tomorrow.

Global Positioning System (GPS), aka 'Susie', provided directions to their destination, but ensure both members know where they are headed and the proper destination is typed into the GPS. Nothing worse than driver Herb, knowing where he is headed, but Zelda put in a destination she thought was right. Oops, you know where this is going. As they approached the intersection to turn, GPS Susie and Zelda were saying go straight, don't turn. Herb tried to reason with both of them, finally he threw 'Susie' in the back seat, frowned and followed Zelda's directions. Of course, they ended up in the wrong area on one-way streets with Zelda calmly

saying, "Isn't this where we were going?" Herb could only shake his head, was this what travelling with Zelda was going to be like! Time to head back to the cabin and relax. They had left the fifth wheel at home this weekend and were staying in a log cabin rental that provided all the comforts of home. No extra camper packing, just carry suitcase in, head out on daily expeditions and then return to relax and barbeque on

the provided grill. Ah, how restful. But in the end, they decided to keep the camper for those vacations at friends' places and anywhere off the beaten path where Zelda suggested that maybe the accommodation was unsuitable for a variety of reasons. Now this is the best of both worlds with versatility and comfort. Okay, Herb and Zelda have retired life figured out.

The only part of travel that will never go smooth-

ly is hand signals. Useful while biking, backing in or general living, signals can be a challenge. Both partners must remember that they grew up in different families, and each family has their own system. Sometimes you have to create a new one between the family members that can clearly be understood. In Herb and Zelda's case, communication of the new signal involved Herb drawing a line across his throat and then pointing his thumb over his shoulder. Zelda quickly learned that meant 'You need to go away and let Herb figure the problem out himself.' Once he realized she was indispensable, he would come in and ask for help again.

And the number ONE RULE of retirement and life in general is: laugh when you can, talk all the time and travel anytime because life can throw curveballs that change everything.

See you next year when Herb and Zelda hit the road again.



Zelda's exhausted and can't pedal anymore.



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How trees and plants can change the look of a landscape

IMAGE COURTESY OF METRO CREATIVE CONNECTION

Submitted
Metro Creative

Spring is home renovation season, and no area of a home is off limits. That includes home exteriors, particularly in regard to landscaping.

Lawn and garden centers draw crowds on spring weekends, as homeowners are anxious to get out in the yard after spending more time indoors over the winter. Plants and trees provide a simple and unique way to transform the look and feel of a property. As homeowners ponder what can be done to freshen up their landscapes, they can consider these benefits of incorporating new plants and trees into their properties.

- Add some pops of color. There's no shortage of colorful plants to add some pops of color to a property.

Azaleas, lilacs, pansies, and, of course, rose bushes can add a wide range of colors to a landscape, providing undeniable and awe-inspiring curb appeal when the plants bloom.

- Native plants won't compromise their neighbors. When choosing plants for a landscape, it's important to pick those accustomed to the local climate. A non-native plant might be able to withstand local conditions, but it also might compromise other trees and plants on a property. When choosing new plants and trees for a landscape, work with professionals at a local lawn and garden center to identify native plants that can handle local weather conditions and do so without putting existing plants on the property in jeopardy.

- Trees can add considerable privacy. Homeowners

who don't want fencing, or those whose towns or homeowners' associations won't allow fencing, may look to trees to add the privacy typically provided by fences. The growth rates of trees vary by species, so homeowners who want instant privacy should look for trees that are already tall and/or fast-growing. Needlepoint holly (which reach an average height of 10 to 15 feet) and sweet viburnum (25 to 30 feet at maturity) are fast-growing species to consider when planting for privacy. Green giant arborvitae are a popular privacy tree, as they can reach significant heights and widths within a few years of being planted. And while it's always good to consult a lawn and garden center for advice on the compatibility of a given tree with the local climate, green giant arborvitae are

known to thrive in U.S. Department of Agriculture hardiness zones five through eight, which cover a significant portion of the United States.

- Evergreens keep a property green throughout the year. Homeowners who lament the loss of color each fall when their existing trees shed their leaves can keep a property green throughout the winter by choosing evergreen trees for landscapes. The New Jersey Conservation Foundation notes that evergreen trees excel at conserving moisture, which allows them to keep their leaves and maintain that distinct and appealing green color throughout the winter.

Various plants and trees can help homeowners change the look of their landscapes without busting homeowners' budgets.

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Neepawa Cubs win home opener

By Eoin Devereux
Neepawa Banner & Press

A stolen base, a perfectly placed bunt and a sacrifice fly under pressure lifted the Neepawa Cubs to a 3-2 victory over the Portage Padres.

The Cubs clawed out this dramatic win in their home opener of the Santa Clara Baseball League (SCBL) season on Wednesday, May 13.

It would be Portage, however, who struck first with a run in the top of the opening inning. Neepawa responded in the third with a triple from Ryan Benson, which drove in a Cubs runner already aboard. Immediately after, Brad Wilson followed with an RBI single to score Benson and give Neepawa a 2-1 advantage.

Both teams threatened through the middle innings but were unable to capitalize. It wouldn't be until the top of the sixth when the Padres evened the game at 2-2.

In the bottom of the seventh, Neepawa's rally began when Ryan Gower singled and then stole second base during the next at-bat. After one out,



PHOTO BY EOIN DEVEREUX

The Neepawa Cubs kept their eye on the ball on May 13, securing a win at their home opener game against the Portage Padres.

Wilson dropped down a perfect bunt down the third base line that advanced Gower to third, while also reaching safely himself at

first. Taylor Fletcher then delivered the game-winning play, lifting a sacrifice fly deep enough to bring Gower home and seal the

3-2 walk-off win.

Pitcher Garrett Rempel earned the win on the mound for Neepawa, with a complete game.

Around the Santa Clara Baseball League

By Eoin Devereux
Neepawa Banner & Press

The Minnedosa Mavericks scored early and often during their home opener on Wednesday, May 13, cruising to an impressive 19-6 win over the Carberry Royals. The Mavs scored five runs in the first, four in the second and seven in the third inning.

Aiden McGorman, who is in his first year on the Minnedosa roster, made a memorable debut, hitting a grand slam home run in his

first at bat. Jay Klym also knocked one out the park for the Mavericks, while Torey Scott replied with a round tripper for the Royals.

Other notable details from the box score included Andrew Richards going 4-for-4, with a pair of RBI for Minnedosa

Elsewhere around the Santa Clara Baseball League, the Plumas Pirates doubled up the Austin A's 6-3. Four Pirates pitchers combined to pick up the win.

Cubs and Royals Battle to 6-6 Tie

By Joel Asselstine
Neepawa Banner & Press

Tuesday, May 19, the Cubs hosted the Carberry Royals in an exciting back-and-forth matchup. Taylor Fletcher delivered a key RBI double in the fifth inning, helping keep the Cubs in the fight. The Royals escaped a late Cubs rally in the seventh, retiring the inning with the bases loaded to secure the 6-6 tie.

Neepawa local speeds through Oak Lake barrell races



PHOTO COURTESY OF

NANCY JO MOLLER

Ava Raddysh, of Neepawa, was competing in the High School Barrel racing at Oak Lake on Sunday, May 10. She had a time of 17.944 and placed 16th that day.

NEEPAWA



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Friday, June 5
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Friday, June 8
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Obituary



Doreen Ellen Trott

MAY 25, 1939 – May 7, 2026

The family of Doreen Ellen Trott (nee Campbell) were left with cherished memories and heavy hearts to bear her peaceful passing on May 7, 2026 at Minnedosa Personal Care Home. She was just 18 days shy of her 87th birthday.

Doreen was born on May

25, 1939, in Erickson, Manitoba, to Colin and Margaret Campbell (nee McMullen), the oldest of their three daughters. She grew up on the family farms, first in the Lund District and then at Eden, Manitoba. She received her education at Lund and Eden Schools. As a high school student, she was selected to attend a Mock United Nations Conference in Winnipeg. After high school, she went on to obtain her teaching certificate from the Manitoba Teachers College. She taught at Marney, Newdale Consolidated, and McBride Schools. Marney and McBride were one-room country schools, where she was the sole educator, teaching grades 1 to 9.

Doreen met the love of her life, Bill Trott, through mutual family friends while teaching at Marney School. They married on July 8, 1961 at Eden, Manitoba and settled on the Trott family farm; a setting that remained the centre of the rest of their lives. It was there that Doreen and Bill raised their three children. Doreen's family gave her much pride and enjoyment as she shared her love of learning, literature, and history with them.

As a young woman in the Caduris Community, Doreen integrated herself into community life, serving in the Caduris Community Club, teaching Sunday school and serving as the secretary-treasurer for the Caduris United Church. For over twenty-years, she was the Caduris Community Reporter for the Minnedosa Tribune, keeping up to date with the comings and goings of her neighbours with genuine interest in their activities. She was active in organizations that improved the health and well-being of her neighbours, such as the Basswood Women's Institute and the Basswood Hospital Auxiliary, functioning as the last secretary of the latter. She judged speaking competitions for the Basswood 4-H Club and assisted in managing the baking and handicraft competitions at the Minnedosa Fair.

History, current affairs, and conversations about the state of the world were favourite topics at her home. Her mind was open to other ideas, and beliefs, and she encouraged her family to be the same. Throughout her life, Doreen was an avid reader. She fostered her children's love of reading by ordering books from the University of Manitoba extension services until the Rapid City and Minnedosa Regional libraries were established in the 1970s. The excitement of the arrival of these literary works and later the weekly trips to the library created fond memories for her children. She was also an accomplished poet and took great joy in sharing her own literary works. She wrote treasured personalized poems for many bridal showers and other milestone events within the community.

Doreen was predeceased by Bill, her beloved husband of 52 years, her parents Colin and Margaret Campbell, her father and mother-in-laws Cecil and Clara Trott, her son-in-law, Wilbert Weir, and her brother-in-law Ken Hallatt.

She is survived by her three children, Denise, Claire, and Eileen; granddaughters Chelsey Weir (Charlie Jones), and Nicole (Alex) Huckabay; her delightful great-granddaughters Gwendolyn Jones and Natalie Huckabay; her sisters Leona (Bill) Peters, Ida Hallatt, and sister-in-law Mavis (Wally) Platt. She is also survived by numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, and her best friend of 53 years – Shirley Rose.

A celebration of her life was held on May 13, 2026 from White's Funeral Home in Minnedosa, Manitoba, with Shirley Martin, worship leader of Caduris United Church officiating. Bill Peters gave the eulogy. Internment was at Minnedosa Cemetery followed by a luncheon at Minnedosa United Church.

The family extends our appreciation to the staff members of the Sandy Lake and Minnedosa Personal Care Homes for their wonderful care and compassion given to Mom during her last few months. Thank you to White's Funeral Home for your knowledgeable and caring service. A sincere thank you to all who attended Doreen's Celebration of Life and/or sent messages of sympathy.

Doreen was a very special wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister and friend. She will be missed. Donations in her memory may be made to Cancer Care Manitoba or a charity of your choice.

Personal

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Notice

ABible Quote NKJV Romans 8:9 "But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His."

Thank You

Thank You

The Clark family would like to extend our gratitude to those who helped us through the difficult time of Gordon's passing. To the staff at Country Meadows Personal Care Home for the compassion shown to Gordon in his final days; to officiant Rita Friesen and piper Dan Jardine who made the graveside service a fitting tribute to Gordon's farming and Scottish heritages; to the staff of White's Funeral Home for their expertise; to Helen and the Newdale ladies for preparing and serving a wonderful lunch after the service, and of course to all family and friends for the phone calls, cards, online messages, food and flowers...we sincerely thank you all.

Enid, David, Donna and families

Thank you to all who attended the Meat Draw Supper, at the Legion Hall on May 15th, in support of "Kids in Trauma".

To the Legion Ladies for a delicious meal, and to all those who donated cash, materials, toys and time, to make this project a success. With this kind of response, we hope to continue to reach these children, who need us.

My sincere gratitude to everyone.

Mary Murray

Notice

Alcoholics Anonymous meetings currently being held at 342 Mountain Ave, Neepawa, Thursdays at 7 pm, Call Don 204-856-9072 or Debbi 204-352-4065

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Obituary



Thelma Burton

Funeral service for Thelma Burton will be held on June 6, 2 pm at the Neepawa United Church. Lunch to follow. Burial at a later date. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Cancer Care.



Rose Alice Labuik

A Celebration of Life for Rose Alice Labuik will be held on June 06 th at 11:00 am in Neepawa Manitoba at St Dominic's Catholic Church on First Street.

Rose Alice Labuik nee (Du Bois) was born to proud parents Louis and Rosalie, Rose lived an amazing life until

January 11, 2026 when at the age of 103, she joined her husband and the rest of her family in heaven. Rose lived an independent life until moving to Country Meadows Care Home in Neepawa just over 1 year before her passing.

Rose and Henry moved from Tenby to Neepawa in 1972. Rose's entire life was a testament of love, laughter, and dedication. Rose found enjoyment in everything she did, whether it was working at the Eviscerating plant in Neepawa until it closed, or working at the Neepawa Bus Depot and Neepawa Post Office.

Rose enjoyed walking, playing a game of Canasta, weekly Bingo and being a member of the Catholic Women's League for many years. Rose would take pleasure and pride in walking up the steep hospital hill to the cemetery to visit Henry as many times as possible, and walking to St Dominic's Catholic Church for mass on Saturday evening.

Rose is survived by her children Reta Freeland, Dianne Campbell, Roseann White (Owen), Dan Labuik (Marlene), Rick Labuik (Carolyn), 15 grandchildren, numerous great grandchildren, great great grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

Rose's memory will live on through her family, whose lives have been enriched by her unwavering love and support, by sharing their stories and memories of Rose she will never truly be gone, but will live in their hearts and minds forever.

Help Wanted



Industrial Plant Cleaner (NOC 65312)

Why join our team?

HyLife is a global leader in food processing, with a vision to be the best food company in the world. To achieve this, we are currently expanding our team and have exciting career opportunities at 623 Main St. Neepawa, MB. We are actively seeking to fill 10 positions.

The current starting wage is \$24.00/hour with incremental increases to \$26.10/hour based on tenure as per our Collective Agreement

Quick Facts:

- Culturally diverse – employ people from all over the world
- Fully integrated facility – Feed Mills, Barns, Transportation, and Production Plant
- 2500+ employees worldwide
- We Care about our employees, communities, customers, animals, and our environment

What we can offer you:

- Competitive Wage
- Vacation: 10 working days of paid vacation as per our collective bargaining agreement
- Comprehensive Benefits package – health coverage, dental plan, vision care, long-term disability, and pension plan
- Permanent full-time employment (74-80 hours per bi-weekly)
- PM Shift
- Full training, with genuine opportunities for career progression
- Employee Referral program - \$500!
- Free parking
- Company events
- And more!!!!

Your duties may include:

- Cleaning and sanitizing butcher and slaughter production areas and everything in between to ensure top-quality food safety standards.
- Operating cleaning equipment like high-pressure hoses to clean production equipment.
- Using cleaning chemicals with respect and following Material Safety Data Sheets.
- Ensuring all Quality Assurance checks are performed.
- Maintaining a safe, clean, and organized work area throughout the facility.
- Collaborating as a team to meet tight deadlines, ensuring production floors operate on time.

We are looking for people who are:

- Fit and capable of working in a physically demanding role. Capable of bending, lifting, and climbing.
- Available to work an 8-hour Night Shift from Monday-Friday, between 11:15 PM to 9:00 AM
- Capable of repetitive manual tasks and standing for long periods of time
- Capable of working in diverse environments, including exposure to varying temperatures, humidity, and odors
- Minimum of one (1) to seven (7) months experience in sanitation, or industrial cleaning, or heavy-duty cleaning
- Completion of Secondary school or equivalent experience
- Able to effectively communicate in English
- At least 18 years old to meet the minimum age requirement

HyLife is dedicated to promoting equal employment opportunities for all job applicants, including those who identify as a member of the following groups: Indigenous people, Newcomers to Canada, Older workers, Veterans, and Visible minorities.

Ways to apply:

Online at <http://hylife.com/careers/> or mail to PO Box 10,000, 623 Main St E, Neepawa, MB R0J 1H0.
 Fax to: 204.476.3791 | Email to: jobs@hylife.com |
 In Person at 623 Main St. E, Neepawa, MB R0J 1H0

For inquiries contact: Phone: 204.476.3393

**Be a part of the HyLife experience
– your journey starts here!**

We thank all applicants, however, only those under consideration will be contacted



Hog Receiving Barn Worker (NOC85100)

Why join our team?

HyLife is a global leader in food processing, with a vision to be the best food company in the world. To achieve this, we are currently expanding our team and have exciting career opportunities at 623 Main St. Neepawa, MB. We are actively seeking to fill 5 positions.

The current starting wage is \$20.75/hour with incremental increases to \$22.05/hour based on tenure

Quick Facts:

- Culturally diverse – employ people from all over the world
- Fully integrated facility – Feed Mills, Barns, Transportation, and Production Plant
- 2500+ employees worldwide
- We Care about our employees, communities, customers, animals, and our environment

What we can offer you:

- Competitive Wage
- Vacation: 10 working days of paid vacation
- Comprehensive Benefits package – health coverage, dental plan, vision care, long-term disability, and pension plan
- Permanent full-time employment (74-80 hours per bi-weekly)
- PM Shift Premium
- Full training, with genuine opportunities for career progression
- Employee Referral program - \$500!
- Free parking
- Company events
- And more!!!!

Your duties may involve:

- Receiving and unloading hog deliveries.
- Sorting hogs into appropriate receiving pens.
- Ensuring humane and safe handling of hogs in our facility.
- Completing hog receiving documents to CFIA standards.
- Scraping trailers.
- Working outdoors and in a barn environment.

To excel in this role, you should possess:

- Respect for animal welfare, food safety, and workplace safety. Understanding of animal behavior
- Capable of working in diverse environments, including exposure to varying temperatures, humidity, and odors
- Minimum of one (1) to seven (7) months experience working with livestock
- Fit and capable of working in a physically demanding role. Capable of bending, lifting, and crawling
- Completion of Secondary school or equivalent experience
- Capable of repetitive manual tasks
- Able to effectively communicate in English
- At least 18 years old to meet the minimum age requirement

HyLife is dedicated to promoting equal employment opportunities for all job applicants, including those who identify as a member of the following groups: Indigenous people, Newcomers to Canada, Older workers, Veterans, and Visible minorities.

Ways to apply:

Online at <http://hylife.com/careers/> or mail to PO Box 10,000, 623 Main St E, Neepawa, MB R0J 1H0.
 Fax to: 204.476.3791 | Email to: jobs@hylife.com |
 In Person at 623 Main St. E, Neepawa, MB R0J 1H0

For inquiries contact: Phone: 204.476.3393

HyLife has an accommodation process for employees with disabilities. If you require a specific accommodation during your employment because of a disability, please contact Jobs@hylife.com. An HR representative will be in touch with you as soon as possible. Reasonable accommodations will be determined on a case-by-case basis and our accommodation policy can be forwarded upon request.

**Be a part of the HyLife experience
– your journey starts here!**

We thank all applicants, however, only those under consideration will be contacted



Industrial Butcher (NOC 94141)

Why join our team?

HyLife is a global leader in food processing, with a vision to be the best food company in the world. To achieve this, we are currently expanding our team and have exciting career opportunities at 623 Main St. Neepawa, MB. We are actively seeking to fill 100 positions.

The current starting wage is \$17.95/hour with incremental increases to \$26.10/hour based on tenure as per our Collective Agreement

Quick Facts:

- Culturally diverse – employ people from all over the world
- Fully integrated facility – Feed Mills, Barns, Transportation, and Production Plant
- 2500+ employees worldwide
- We Care about our employees, communities, customers, animals, and our environment

What we can offer you:

- Competitive Wage
- Vacation: 10 working days of paid vacation as per our collective bargaining agreement
- Comprehensive Benefits package – health coverage, dental plan, vision care, long-term disability, and pension plan
- Permanent full-time employment (74-80 hours per bi-weekly)
- PM Shift Premium
- Full training, with genuine opportunities for career progression
- Employee Referral program - \$500!
- Free parking
- Company events
- And more!!!!

Your duties may include:

- Slaughter, eviscerate, and mark hogs for further processing;
- Debone edible parts and remove inedible organs for parts;
- Cut pork carcasses into primal cuts for further processing, cutting, or packaging for local, national, and international premium markets.

We are looking for people who are:

- Fit and capable of working in a physically demanding role
- Capable of repetitive manual tasks and standing for long periods of time
- Open to working in colder/warmer environments
- Minimum of one (1) to seven (7) months experience in meat cutting or slaughter or completed a program in Industrial Meat cutting
- Completion of Secondary school or equivalent experience
- Able to effectively communicate in English

HyLife is dedicated to promoting equal employment opportunities for all job applicants, including those who identify as a member of the following groups: Indigenous people, Newcomers to Canada, Older workers, Veterans, and Visible minorities.

Ways to apply:

Online at <http://hylife.com/careers/> or mail to PO Box 10,000, 623 Main St E, Neepawa, MB R0J 1H0.
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For inquiries contact: Phone: 204.476.3393

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**Be a part of the HyLife experience
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We thank all applicants, however, only those under consideration will be contacted



Career Opportunity



Neepawa-Gladstone Co-op is hiring a
FULL TIME DRIVER
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Who we are:

Co-op does business differently. As a co-operative, we believe in working together to serve Western Canadians, delivering profits back to our communities and investing in sustainable growth. To learn more about who we are and how you can help bring our brand to life, visit us at

www.neepawagladstoneco-op.crs

We are looking for:

An individual with the following qualifications:

- Excellent customer service skills
- Highly motivated and ability to multitask
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills
- Must be mechanically inclined and be able to perform heavy lifting
- Valid Class 3 Driver's license with Air Endorsement required
- Petroleum knowledge would be an asset but not required
- Must be able to provide a valid commercial driver's abstract dated within 30 days at time of interview.

Reporting directly to the Petroleum Division Manager, duties will include, but not limited to; customer service, processing customer transactions, product knowledge, inventory control, merchandising, and general Occupational Health and Safety responsibilities.

We offer career advancement opportunities, competitive compensation, benefits package, company matched pension plan and learning/development opportunities.

Application Deadline: Position open until filled

Apply online at www.neepawagladstoneco-op.crs or contact us at
j.bray@neepawagladstonecoop.com
 for more information.

We thank all candidates for their interest; however, only those selected to continue in the recruitment process will be contacted.

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MOBILE HOME, TRAILERS, SHELTERS: 1995 mobile home, central air, appliances; 1997 Mountain Aire 40' motor home; 1999 Merritt 53' tri-axle cattle pot; other campers and trailers; 40' Sea Can container; NEW vehicle canopies; metal livestock shelters; 4400-gal water trailer; **VEHICLES, TRACTORS, ETC:** 2005 Peterbilt 387 18spd Eaton transmission, etc; 2012 Subaru Forester, 280350km; 1975 Ford 9000 semi-tractor, V8 Detroit 9-spd engine; 2010 Ford 150 250,600km; other older vehicles; 1940 Allis Chalmers dozer; Ford 1220 tractor, FEL, 2021 hrs; JD 420 tractor; **LARGE EQUIPMENT, FARM AND RANCH MACHINERY:** NEW SDLanch ME15 gas-powered excavators; 2008 CAT 450E backhoe, 3 buckets, 4290 hrs; Intl 645 field cultivator w/applicator; T50 DJI spray drones, etc; JD 9610 combine 914 belt pickup, 30' flex header, etc; NH 1431 disc bine; Morris 47' deep tiller; tandem disks, harrows, grain augers, air carts; Hesston 814 round baler; 14-wheel V-rake; NH 1033 square bale picker; 55' rock picker, manure spreader, mowers; Elias cattle scale, 3000lb; cattle tipping chute, squeeze chute, palp cage, etc; variety of tanks, fluids, building materials, etc; **LIVESTOCK:** 13-yr old paint pony mare with April/26 colt at side; **RECREATION, YARD, GARDEN:** Beachcomber high-end 7-person hot tub-see details; 2009 Harley Davidson motorcycle, 71,428km; 2008 Suzuki motorcycle; 1986 Honda Fourtrax 350, 4x4; NEW SDLanch golf carts, mini dump trucks, electric bikes, utility trucks and other vehicle types; Lund 1650 aluminum boat, 90 hp Evinrude, trailer, etc; sports, water, snow equipment, Excalibur crossbow, etc; zero-turn lawnmowers; Bear Cat 8hp chipper shredder, other lawn/yard equipment and much more!

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ONLINE - FARM AUCTION SALE

for the Ed & Helen Harms, Riverton, MB
Sale Starts online: Monday, June 8, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.
Closes: soft close starting at 10:00 a.m., Wednesday,
June 17, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.
Viewing - June 4 & 5, 2026.
Contact Jeff at (204) 641-4617
or Jamie at (204) 861-2080.

This will be a very short sale with 17 items. (2) Tractors, Haybine, Bale shredder, Baler, 9 wheel Rake, 5 Bottom Plow, Rafter, Cattle Oiler, Hay Trailer, Side delivery rake, Field Cultivator, Cat.

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Notice

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE MATTER OF the Estate of ERIC GEORGE GLOVER, late of McCreary, in the Province of Manitoba, deceased.

ALL CLAIMS against the above Estate, duly verified by Statutory Declaration, must be sent to the undersigned at Box 551, Dauphin, Manitoba, R7N 2V4, on or before the 8th day of June, 2026, after which date, the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims of which the Administrator then has notice.

DATED at the City of Dauphin, in the Province of Manitoba, this 8th day of May, 2026.

JOHNSTON & COMPANY
Lana Elizabeth Davidson
Solicitor for the Administrator

Rolling River
School Division

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that Rolling River School Division may conduct the following Pesticide Control Programs in 2026.

To control insect pests and rodents, pesticides such as Dragnet, Drione Powder, and Dr. Doom (Residual) may be used on all school division properties and in buildings.

The public may send written submissions or rejections within 15 days of the publication of the Notice to the department below.

Environment and Climate
Environmental Approvals Branch
Box 35 - 14 Fultz Boulevard
Winnipeg, MB R3Y 0L6

Municipality of WestLake-Gladstone
PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that the Municipality of WestLake-Gladstone may conduct the following Pesticide Control Program during 2026:

1. To control noxious weeds on road allowances within the Municipality of WestLake-Gladstone. The projected dates of application will be from June 2026 to October 2026. The Herbicides that may be used include;

- 2,4D
- Glyphosates
- Clopyralid (MCPA)
- Round-Up
- Dichloroprop
- Vector 540
- Mecoprop-p

2. To control rodents at the Waste Disposal Grounds at various times during the 2026 year using the following rodenticide;

- Contrac Blox

3. To control the following insect pests including mosquitos, beetles, cankerworms, etc. The proposed dates of application for these programs will be from July 2026 to October 2026. The insecticides that may be used include;

- Vectorbac

The public may, within 15 days after this notice is published, submit written comments to the department or register a written objection to the use of pesticide next to their property.

Environmental Approvals Branch
Manitoba Environment and Climate
14 Fultz Blvd., Box 35
Winnipeg, MB
R3Y 0L6
pesticideusepermit@gov.mb.ca

HOT NEWS TIP?

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This position will work alongside current office staff

DUTIES MAY INCLUDE:

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- Team player



APPLICATION DEADLINE: JUNE 5TH

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Blaine Huston - Manager
204-750-4206



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Nancy at pa@empireadvance.ca

History lessons with Helen: Town names

By Helen Drysdale
Neepawa Banner & Press

As the prairies of Canada were settled, immigrants came by the thousands, putting down roots and naming their little corners of the world. I decided to delve into some of our local town and village names origins and discovered that there are a few stories that even locals can't agree on. So here goes.

Birnie's name came from one of the first settlers in that area, John Birnie, who arrived in 1886. The town was built on his land. There are still Birnies in the area today. The story for the town of Eden says that in 1877, Mrs. McCracken, the oldest person living in town, got the honour of giving the new town its name. With the bountiful crops and gardens that grew in the area, she felt like she was living in the Garden of Eden. I like that origin story. Brookdale's name came from John Mitchell, the first postmaster who named the post office Brookdale for the little brook running in the vicinity. When the school was built in 1883 it took the name of the post office as did the town when it was formed in 1902. Franklin was known as Bridge Creek until 1890. Residents wanted the name changed to Franklin. The reasons for this are not clear, one stating that it was named after Benjamin Franklin and another after the explorer, Sir John Franklin. To the north of Franklin is the community of Polonia. Its original name was Huns Valley, named after the settlement of Hungarian people who came in 1885. In 1921, the name changed to Polonia to represent the large number of Polish people that had settled in that area. If you have ever taken the 357 road



PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE BEAUTIFUL PLAINS MUSEUM

Pictured: The town of Minnedosa in days gone by. Some recognizable features are still present today.

that goes past the village of Mountain Road the name is just that simple—you have to drive up a mountain road.

Arden has several stories of how it was named. One story goes that Maurice Boughton, the first postmaster who opened the first general store, named it after a town that he lived near in England. Another story is that it was named after a cook on the railway construction crew named Arden. He was said to disappear for naps and the construction foreman was always saying, "Where is Arden?" That story probably is a beer committee tale, but who knows. Wellwood was named after the Reverend James Wellwood who came in the 1880s to serve as a Presbyterian minister to a large area. The story of the Mentmore name is my favourite. The village was on the land owned by Thomas Drayson, who had emigrated from England. He believed that his new home "meant more" to him than his old home in England. Langruth was named after the owners of the land that the town was built on. George Langdon and his wife Ruth combined names to become the new town name of Langruth. Glenella was named by the then CN vice president,

Donald Mann in 1897 after his sister-in-law, Ella. He used the Scottish glen and added Ella, thus making the name Glenella.

Third time's the charm they say. Woodside was first called Stoney Ford, then renamed Second Crossing. It was the second Whitemud river crossing for the prairie trail that ran between Fort Garry and Edmonton. It was renamed Woodside due to the abundance of wood nearby. Gladstone, the place of the happy rock, was first known as Third Crossing, for on the trail that was the third crossing over the Whitemud river. As the settlement grew, it was renamed to Palestine. In 1882, the community was incorporated as the Town of Gladstone supposedly named after the British Prime Minister of the time, William Gladstone. Minnedosa has a similar story. It was named the Fourth Crossing for the crossing of the Little Saskatchewan River. John Tanner built a ferry to help settlers cross the river, and soon the site was known as Tanners Crossing. A town site grew rapidly and was renamed by John Tanner to Minnedosa, meaning "rapid water" in Dakota Sioux.

The town of Carberry had a very different start

than many towns had. The CPR had established a station in De Winton, a growing town just a few kilometres east of what is

now Carberry. De Winton had the misfortune of having some CPR officials purchase land in De Winton on speculation of making

a tidy profit when it was sold. This was against CPR policy. When the CPR directors learned of this, they acted quickly. One night in the spring of 1882, the CPR imported 100 men to move the station. When morning came the De Winton townspeople were left wondering who stole their railway station. By morning the station was moved to the site that was to become Carberry. The same year, James Hill, a railway magnate, named Carberry after Carberry Tower in Scotland belonging to Lord Elphinstone. When he chose the name, he was travelling with Lord Elphinstone on the newly built CPR line.

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A view of Franklin, Manitoba. How does it compare to present-day?

What's the best use for Neepawa's current hospital?

As former, and possibly future owners, community deserves some answers

By Ken Waddell
Neepawa Banner & Press

As Neepawa's new regional hospital edges its way towards completion, the Neepawa Banner & Press has been seeking answers as to what will happen to the old hospital. Built in the early 1950s and followed up with numerous updates, there are varying ideas as to what the old facility could be used for. Some would say knock it down and use the land for another purpose. Some have suggested that it could be re-purposed into other uses, perhaps a training facility or low rental housing. The chemo unit, we are told, was built in modular fashion and could be moved. That said, one of the biggest assets of the chemo unit building is the location with its excellent view.

The future of Neepawa's old hospital boils down to a decision by Prairie Mountain Regional Health Authority (PM-



PHOTO SOURCED FROM ENGAGE MB

The future of the current Neepawa Health Centre is still up in the air as the new building continues to draw steadily closer to completion. PMRHA hasn't revealed any plans for the old hospital.

RHA). Below is a record of correspondence between the Neepawa Banner & Press and PMRHA.

May 2026– The Neepawa Banner & Press asked Prairie Mountain Regional Health Authority if we could get, “an update on the expected use of the current Neepawa Hospital and Chemo Unit?”

Prairie Mountain Health responded, “Regarding the question about the current Neepawa Health Centre, PMH is actively evaluating the space while

considering our operational needs. Prairie Mountain Health has not yet determined on how the space will be used.”

October 2025– The Neepawa Banner & Press asked Prairie Mountain Health Authority, “Can you put us in touch with the person or department that will be making that determination about the future of the current Neepawa Hospital and Chemo Unit.” An earlier inquiry said no decision had been made yet.

Prairie Mountain Health responded: “PMRHA CEO Treena Slate said, “This will be a decision made by our Executive Management Team and the PMH Board. We have not had formal discussions on this as of yet. We will communicate with the community once a decision has been made.”

To fully appreciate the nature of those answers, we need to re-visit some history. Neepawa Hospital was built and owned by the Neepawa Hospital Board. In the 1960s and 70s, East View Lodge (EVL), the local 120 bed care home, was built by Neepawa and Area Development Corporation (NADCO). Later, both the hospital and EVL were amalgamated under Beautiful Plains Health Services (BPHS). Therefore, the community owned both facilities.

In the 1990s, health care in Manitoba was centralized. Neepawa became part of Marquette Regional Health Authority. BPHS gave all their assets, including the hospital and EVL to Marquette Regional Health Authority plus a large trust fund. I be-

lieve the fund was around \$1million. Please note the word “gave”. Marquette amalgamated with one RHA after another until it became PMRHA which extends from the US border to Swan Valley and from Arden Ridge to the Saskatchewan border.

Here's problem number one.

When a replacement for EVL was announced and later built, a couple of strange things happened. The region decided that Neepawa and area didn't need 120 care home beds, 100 beds would do. That was a huge miscalculation that has resulted in bed shortages and moving elderly people away from their home community. The Town of Neepawa has doubled in size since Country Meadows was built.

Here's problem number two.

Once the new home, Country Meadows, was announced, we were told that EVL would be turned over to the Town of Neepawa to be used as they saw fit. Plans were made toward a goal of making EVL into 60 units of low income housing. It got as

far as a proposal was approved, a contractor had plans drawn up and began storing building supplies. The Town of Neepawa was willing to proceed. BUT, the region and the Health Department dragged their feet, EVL was neglected, heat was left off, pipes froze. In short, the place had to be demolished at the expense of the PMRHA or Manitoba Health, and all that Neepawa and area got was a bare hill left behind that is slowly, and at great expense, being turned into housing lots.

Hopefully, more foresight will be inserted into the fate of the old hospital than was achieved with EVL. Everyone is grateful for Country Meadows and the new hospital, but Manitoba Health and the RHA have not been nearly as diligent and timely as they should have been with managing and utilizing assets.

Hopefully Neepawa and area will see the old hospital building turned back to the local authorities. Hopefully it will become more than just another bare hill. Neepawa has seen a lot of buildings destroyed over the years and most of them could have been re-used if correct action had been taken in a timely fashion.

A good first step would be for the PMRHA to hold community consultations with the area residents. They didn't with EVL and we all know how badly that turned out.

It's logical, but in the past logic has not always prevailed and promises not always kept.



PHOTO SOURCED FROM PORTAGE ONLINE

Publisher Ken Waddell well recalls the fate of Neepawa's East View Lodge. Even after promises to the community, Manitoba Health neglected the building for so long it had to be demolished.

Opinion: Invest in local Manitoba papers

Continued from Page 7

The U.S.-based not-for-profit Rebuild Local News found that advertising set asides have a number of benefits. First, they can provide substantial revenue to local news organizations and help community journalism thrive. Second, it is money the government is already spending—not new money—so it does not require enlarging state or local budgets or raising taxes. Third,

government messages should reach a full range of residents, including those that may not be using larger media. Fourth, as advertising, it is payment for a service rendered, not a subsidy perse. Finally, advertising in community news helps government be more effective by reaching audiences through community and ethnic publications that are more trusted in their communities.

Recently, the Connecticut

Senate unanimously approved legislation requiring the state to disclose how it spends its advertising dollars – including how much goes to Connecticut media vs. social media and out of state. Manitoba should provide similar transparency.

News publishers can help the Province – and municipal governments – reach engaged audiences better than anyone. Credible journalism strength-

ens trust, while delivering real business results in a brand safe environment. There is absolutely no reason Manitoba shouldn't use trusted Canadian news brands to reach Manitobans.

Let's invest provincial advertising dollars in local Manitoba papers instead of sending them to Mountain View (Google) or Menlo Park (Meta), California.

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Komfort for Kids

PHOTO BY KEN WADDELL

On May 15, the Neepawa Legion Ladies Auxiliary hosted one of their famous Friday night suppers in conjunction with the Legion's Chace-the-Ace and the Meat Draw. The suppers are held as a fundraiser and this month was in support of KiTs- Kids in Trauma.

Pictured here is Mary Murray, of Neepawa, who has made over 3,000 quilt kits that have been given or are being given to children who have experienced trauma. The quilts and a toy are given out by police, fire and ambulance personnel. (See story on Mary Murray in the May 8, 2026 edition of the Neepawa Banner & Press.)



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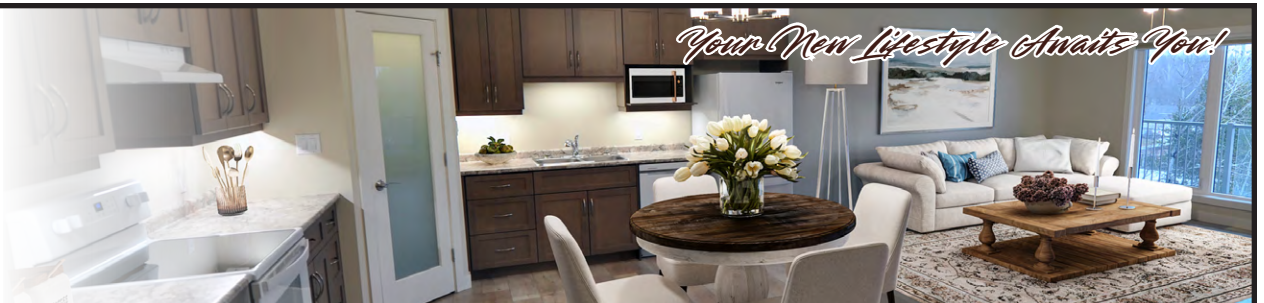
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