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Inside this week



Page 8 -Will the Lily Festival ever bloom again?

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Doctors for all and more on the way

By Joshua Jackson

NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS

The Beautiful Plains Community Medical Clinic (BP-CMC) hit a major milestone, clearing the Doctor Finder's List.

That means every area resident should now have a family physician unless they have chosen to wait. This was accomplished through the Family Doctor Finder, the Government of Manitoba's tool that connects you to healthcare professionals, providing a base for your healthcare needs.

With this milestone achieved, the BPCMC isn't stopping there. At the latest Neepawa Town Council Meeting, Councillor Murray Parrott announced the clinic will be renovated to house eight new examination rooms and space for four new doctors to come to the Clinic.

The expansion is slated to be completed by summer 2026.

Continued on Page 7

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas



PHOTO BY JOSHUA JACKSON

As the Holiday season draws near, a Town of Neepawa employee hangs a light display on a light pole down Mountain Ave.



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Donation given to Polonia Hall



Neepawa Rotary President Rrain Prior is shown presenting a cheque for \$700 to Polonia Community Hall President, Kim Martin. The funds will help cover the cost of a recently purchased AED for the hall. Given the distance from a hospital and the limited phone service in Polonia, the availability of the medical device for visitors and volunteers could be life-saving. Martin gave a brief presentation about the hall history, the current facility, the community and community events including themed dinners.

Recognizing seven decades of service



Merv Dagg receives his 70 year service pin from Legion #23 President Lloyd Hall on Thursday, Nov. 13

An eye on retirement

Dr. Gerard Murray concludes his optometrist practice

By Eoin Devereux
NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS

After over five decades dedicated to serving patients across Manitoba, Dr. Gerard Murray has decided it's time to step away from his optical practice.

Friday, Nov. 14 was Dr. Murray's last day as an optometrist, as he has officially retired his practice at Neepawa Village Optical. Dr. Murray has been an eye doctor for 52 years, having worked over the years in Portage la Prairie, Winnipeg and Neepawa. His practice has been a cornerstone for the downtown since 1998.

But while Dr. Murray's time at 418 Mountain Avenue has concluded, the location will continue to serve our community in the same manner. Dr. Kara Vanderheyden, Dr. Megan Brunen and the team from WillowBrook Eye Care are carrying the proverbial torch and setting up a practice in that same building.

As for Dr. Murray's last day, a come and go celebration was held at the



office on Friday, to give those patients he served through the years a chance to wish him well. Dr. Murray said that he is thankful for all the well wishes he has received, adding that it's been a privilege to be a part of the community for just over half of his professional life.

Friday, Nov. 14 was Dr. Gerard Murray's final day operating his optical practice. Dr. Murray has served as an eye doctor in Neepawa since 1998.

PHOTO BY EOIN DEVEREUX

By Casper Wehrhahn
NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS

A whopping seven decades of dedication was honoured last week. On Thursday, Nov. 13, the Neepawa Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion presented Merv Dagg with a 70 year service pin.

Dagg, who currently resides at Neepawa's Country Meadows Personal Care Home, first joined Legion Branch #23 in 1955.

"He's one of our last veterans, too," said Legion #23 president Lloyd Hall, who made the presentation to Dagg. "He was ready to go

overseas when the armistice was signed in 1945."

Congratulations are extended to Dagg on this landmark occasion.

Aa Bb Cc Dd Ee Ff Gg Hh Ii Jj Kk Ll Mm Nn

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Did You Know...

News, especially local, is the most read newspaper content, followed by arts/entertainment and health

Dr. Kara Vanderheyden, Dr. Megan Brunen, and the team at WillowBrook Eye Care are pleased to announce that effective, November 15th, 2025, they will be acquiring the practice of Dr. Gerard Murray at Neepawa Village Optical.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to Dr. Murray for his years of dedicated service and for entrusting us with the care of his patients. We are honored to continue providing the high standard of eye care that patients have come to know and trust.

We look forward to welcoming both new and familiar faces to WillowBrook Eye Care!

Dr. Vanderheyden will begin seeing patients on November 21st, 2025. Dr. Megan Brunen will be available for appointments on November 27th and 28th, 2025. To book an appointment, please call (204) 476-5919

WillowBrook EYE CARE

1975: Neepawa most beautiful town in Manitoba

By Casper Wehrhahn
NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS

**125 years ago,
Wednesday,
November 21, 1900**

Note: The entries for 1900 are from The Neepawa Register, as The Press for that year is not fit for regular handling.

Mrs. Butchart celebrated her 71st birthday at the residence of her son-in-law, Mr. Neilands, near Rapid City, last week. There was a family gathering and Mrs. Butchart was the recipient of many congratulations from relatives and friends on the auspicious occasion. —The Reporter, Nov. 15.

**100 years ago,
Friday,
November 20, 1925**

Eden: Miss (Nurse) Coad returned to her nursing duties at Brookdale on Wednesday.

Arden: A tidy little cottage 22x22 has been recently built and finished on the H. Ritchie farm in Glenholm for the soldier settlement board. Wm. Stockdale had the contract. He is kept busy this fine weather with his workmen, building for the soldier settlement on the old Joe Bowler farm.

McCreary: Jake Schmidt, east of McCreary, is selling his farm outfit, also household effects on Monday, Nov. 23. Mr. Schmidt is moving south again.

Kelwood: A deputation of Kelwood citizens went to Neepawa last Monday to protest high tax assessment on account of the 1923 survey of the village. They took with them a largely signed petition regarding the same business from the property owners of the village.

W.J. Docking, two miles west of town, lost his barn by fire on Wednesday evening. Fortunately, the livestock got out, but their winter's

feed was destroyed, together with some harness and other equipment. There was full insurance on the building and some on the feed, but this is small recompense to a dairyman at the beginning of winter.

Telephone reconstruction in town is going on smoothly and with little inconvenience. Better service and better appearance are evident already. It is now up to the town to put the light and power service in similar condition. With first class service the taxation bellyache will soon be cured.

The letter box which was at the Rest Room corner has been moved across the street to King's corner.

Arthur Boyce is meeting with much encouragement in his candidature for the town council. Arthur is one of the young men who are growing up with the town and deserves success.

**75 years ago,
Thursday,
November 23, 1950**

First encouraging sign that petroleum underlies Manitoba occurred when a drillstem test yielded a quantity of the "black gold" from the 3,300 foot level of the Downey No. 1 well in Melita in the southwest corner of the province...

At Virden, west of here near the Saskatchewan border, the California Standard Oil Company have prepared to spud-in with the biggest drilling rig ever used in Manitoba.

**50 years ago,
Thursday,
November 20, 1975**

Bert McDonald, a 21-year-old farmer from Brookdale, left Monday to work for six months in Australia as part of an exchange program organized by the International Agricultural Exchange Association.

Council of the Village



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE BANNER & PRESS ARCHIVES

Neepawa was declared the most beautiful town in Manitoba in 1975 with the winning of the Shea Drewry Trophy. This was the seventh time Neepawa has won the trophy since its inception by the Manitoba Good Roads Association in 1939. Mayor Lawrence Hurrell can be seen holding the trophy, with councillors Peter Cottingham, John Kerr, Fred Barker, Gary Elmon, secretary treasurer George Bates, Bill Guinn, Mel Chambers and superintendent Gordon Murray flanking him.

of McCreary met in the Council Chambers Thursday, Nov. 13 at 7:30 p.m. Motions were approved that rules be suspended and leave given to introduce a bylaw to establish a regional library for the Village of McCreary.

The "General" orders you to come down to Kellington auditorium and watch him in this year's major production of "Romanoff and Juliet" a Peter Ustinov play.

This year's production, a satirical, tongue in cheek look at the morals and values of two great nations, Russia and the U.S.A., is the most ambitious play ever attempted by NACI.

In brief, the story revolves around the daughter of the American Ambassador in some obscure little country in Europe. These two have fallen deeply in love, much to the horror and disbelief of their parents. Their love affair has been arranged through the help of a matchmaker, the General.

An effort to open the Neepawa post office for local mail service using volunteer

help has been delayed pending the approval of the plan by the post office representatives in Ottawa.

Beautiful Plains Horticultural Society held its annual meeting recently at which new officers were installed. Elected president was Elsie Pilkey and vice president is Alice Moger.

A 50 year tradition will be broken this week when Manitoba's Livestock contingent to the Toronto Royal Winter Fair travel to their destination by truck rather than rail.

Eight large semi-trailer livestock vans will haul 254 head of cattle, horses and swine to the classic agricultural event. Only three horses have spurned the new-fangled mode and elected train travel instead.

Glenella: Congratulations to Mary Edna Clarke, daughter of Mrs. Anne Clarke, and Hugh Lawrence McLean, son of Mr. and Mrs. D. R. Manitou, who were married Saturday, Nov. 8, at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Gladstone. The reception was held in Glenella Centennial Hall.

**20 years ago,
Monday,
November 21, 2005**

Rural Manitoba hotel owners claim the province's butt ban is snuffing out their business.

Students had the day off Tuesday after the third major snowstorm of the season dumped over 25 centimetres of snow on Neepawa.

Erickson: Mike Braschuk has been acclaimed mayor of Erickson.

Franklin: The Franklin community members decided to purchase a

memorial wreath to be placed at our war memorial monument in front of the hall. We appreciate Donna Nicholson's donation of the wreath.

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.

**For Christ also suffered once for sins,
the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring
you to God. He was put to death in the
body but made alive in the Spirit.
1 Peter 3:18 (New International Version)**



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- Bewitched

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PHOTO COURTESY OF THE BANNER & PRESS ARCHIVES

Who remembers Video Kind and the Neepawa Food 'N Pop? This ad is from the Nov. 21, 2005 edition of The Neepawa Press!



Roxy theatre

291 Hamilton St., Neepawa, MB
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November 21 & 22 • SHOWTIME: 7:30 pm
Roofman
Jeffrey Manchester, a former Army Ranger & struggling father who robs McDonald's restaurants by cutting holes in the roofs, earning the nickname: Roofman. After escaping prison, he secretly lives inside a Toys "R" Us for 6 months, surviving undetected while planning his next move.

November 30 • SHOWTIMES: 2:00 pm & 6:00pm
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NACTV Annual General Meeting 2025

November 24, 2025 at 7:00 pm
at the Neepawa Library

NAC TV is looking for Volunteers & Board Members!

Highlights of the week

Neepawa Remembrance Day Service 2025
Nov 24 at 12:00 PM | Nov 27 at 1:15 PM | Nov 30 at 8:15 PM

Coffee Chat: Beautiful Plains Community Foundation Gala
Nov 24 at 1:00 PM | Nov 26 at 3:30 PM | Nov 30 at 9:15 PM

Coffee Chat: Beautiful Plains Community Theatre
Nov 25 at 8:15 PM | Nov 27 at 6:30 PM | Nov 29 at 1:00 PM

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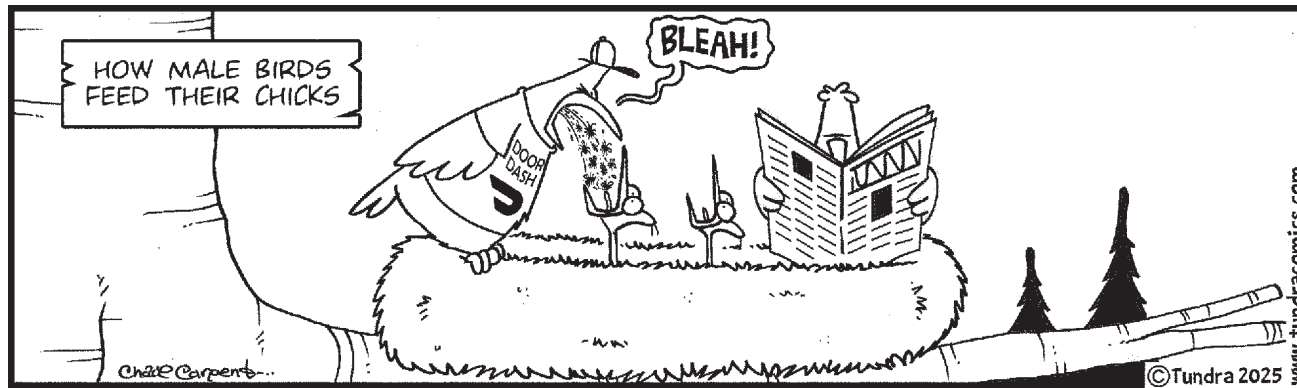
BINGO
Wednesday nights at 7 P.M.

Bingo packages are available at Harris Pharmacy, Touchwood Park, Neepawa Legion, NACTV office, Frontier Trading in Minnedosa, Superstore Lottery Kiosk in Brandon

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Tundra

By Chad Carpenter



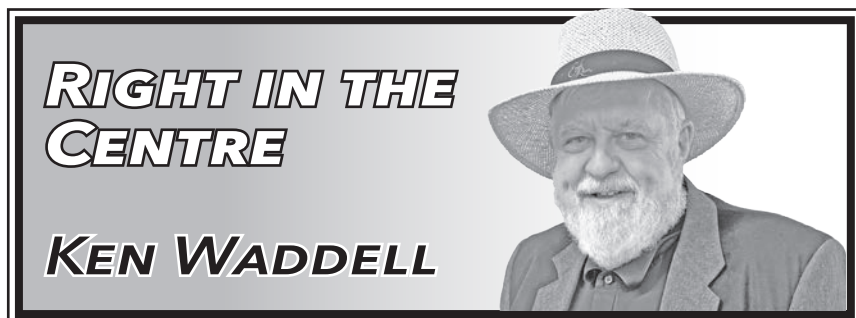
Keep the Canadian content in Canadian football

This column is written on Grey Cup Day, and yes, it's about football. I love Canadian Football. I have friends who much prefer the National Football League (NFL) game. In spite of how hyped the NFL is, I still prefer the Canadian Football League (CFL). It's a matter of choice and each person can have their own opinion. We all know that not many CFL players do well in the NFL. A few do, but the NFL seems to be able to demand and pay for a higher skill level.

I played CFL rules football in high school, way back in late 60s for three seasons. It was an absolute highlight of my high school days. I played high school hockey too and limped my way into beer-league hockey into the 70s and early 80s. But it was football where I felt I could really contribute as a player. I was the largest kid (read fattest if you must) on my high school team. I played centre and I practised and practised with my Dad, my Mum and by myself. I could block, I could do the short snap and the long snap. We were, for that day and level of football, a pretty competitive team, winning the league championship once and I believe placed second twice.

Now that the CFL has announced some rule changes, I am not impressed. I like the 55 yard line centre field. I like the goal posts on the goal line and the fact that a missed field goal can be returned for a gain, sometimes a big gain and even a touchdown. Same with a long punt.

I am of the opinion that the CFL bosses are somehow thinking if they adopt the NFL rules, they



“Now that the [Canadian Football League] has announced rule changes, I am not impressed.”

may attract more fans. More fans isn't our concern as Winnipeg and Saskatchewan usually sell out their stadiums. If there are some empty seats in eastern Canadian stadiums, I say tough luck to be them, I have little sympathy for Ottawa, Hamilton or Montreal. I have no sympathy for Toronto.

CFLPA president Solomon Elimimian in Winnipeg (via TSN) “We were informed about these changes but not consulted, that won't happen again. We've had positive conversations with (commissioner) Stewart (Johnston) and the league about our expectations to be consulted on any future changes to our game. Rule adjustments can directly affect or fundamentally alter members' jobs, and it's important players' perspectives are heard.”

Again on TSN, Canadian quarterback Nathan Rourke had harsher words, He feels the same

way about the CFL's changes to its three-down game.

“New rule changes are garbage. It's garbage. I, as many people did — who are fans and people who play in this league — grew up watching the CFL and loving the game. I grew up in Ontario, played Canadian football rules all my life. I went down to the States proud of the game, being able to explain the differences — the waggle, the yard, the extra person. These are the things that are unique about the game that make it different. I was aware and was a fan of the league down there, but was a fan of the CFL because of its differences,” Rourke said.

In fairness, some players say the new rules will make for more exciting games. I am not convinced!

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 newspaper staff.

Homebodies

Rita Friesen



Pithy sayings and old wives' tales...

For those unfamiliar with the term 'pithy' - it is an adjective meaning concise and forcefully expressive. I know, not far removed in pronunciation from another, too common, common term!

One of the distinct perks of the walking that Arie and I enjoy daily, are the people with whom we stop and chat. Sometimes its a casual and laughter filled conversation, sometimes heavy, and sometimes a bit of both. A catch-up without the coffee! This week I heard an expression that was entirely new to me. 'Just because you tear up the road map, it doesn't change where the roads are.' I've been known to tear up a few maps; turned a blind eye to the reality of a situation rather than trying to find my way through a maze, or tangled undergrowth, or discern a path I don't wish to travel. Not once did the roads change.

Man, this expression can cover so many situations; relationship concerns, deep seated beliefs that may be contrary to ones I cherish, simply doing what needs to be done even when I seek to resist accepting the responsibility. The saying may be as old as Adam, but it's the first time I heard it. Thank you Betty, for something to think about.

'Wives' Rales and Elbow Grease' complied and printed by the Anemone Rebekah Lodge #23, Neepawa, Manitoba was published in 1995 to commemorate Manitoba's 125 anniversary. Certainly I am thankful for modern day medicine! For a cold- 'mother gave us a teaspoon of coal oil with a little white sugar'. For sore joints, apply equal parts of whiskey and vinegar. For a sore throat- place a piece of brown paper saturated with kerosene oil around the neck and gargle with a solution made of equal parts salt and alum in warm water. I don't hear, or see, much about boils or carbuncles anymore. Perhaps they are a thing of the past? Some folks believed that eating a pound of raisins would purify the blood and clear any boil, forever! This booklet suggests making a mixture of chewing tobacco and spit and applying it to the boil, and cover with a bandage. I'll eat the pound of raisins! Folks were more superstitious, or acknowledged their superstitions... Never put shoes on the table. It is bad luck to cut toenails or fingernails on a Friday or a Sunday. (I suppose with bath night being Saturday?) Don't put your purse on the Bingo table, you'll have bad luck. (watch for this at your next bingo night.) When baking, always stir the batter in the same direction to prevent a failure. (Sure wish I had known this years earlier!) Whenever you sneeze, a spirit leaves your body. (How do you even bring that into casual conversation!) And then there are a whole lot of sayings I can vouch for. Don't meet trouble halfway, it is quite capable of making the whole journey alone. The best way for a housewife to have a few minutes alone is to do the dishes. (YUP!) Better to wear out than rust out. Doing beats stewing!

Trust you got a chuckle, and stirred some early memories!

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Canada

Priorities

Today's words are addressed to those who, after many years of active service to family, community, church and country, are facing the most important decision they will ever be asked to make. I understand your dilemma. You are tired, your body is telling you that you need to slow down, and you are ready to transition to a quieter lifestyle.

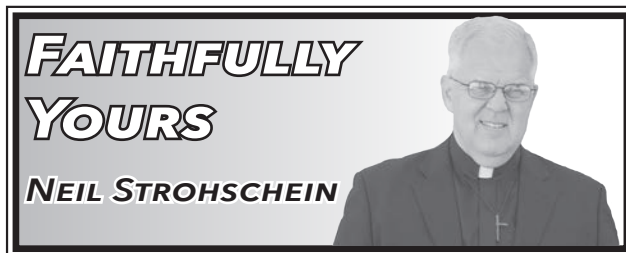
Here are four things to consider as you map out your choices and future plans.

First, what values or beliefs ground you, providing the foundation stones on which you have and will continue to build your life? For me, the answer is found in St. Paul's words to the Corinthians: "No one can lay any foundation other than the one that has been laid; that foundation is Jesus Christ." (1 Corinthians 3:11) My belief in God and my faith in Jesus Christ have

never been negotiable. Nor has my commitment to govern my life by the teachings of Scripture.

I will be honest. I haven't always lived up to the level of what I know. But I have found forgiveness, freedom from guilt and a second chance at life, thanks to the knowledge that Christ died for my sins; and that by believing in him, I am forgiven.

Second, personal self-care. If there is one area in which we fail, it is this. In last week's column, I shared that I have had two episodes of total burnout. In diagnosing the first one, my doctor told me that in his opinion, I was the best candidate for a nervous breakdown, a heart attack or both, and that my chances of recovery were slim to none. That put the fear of God in me like nothing else has ever done. He ordered me to cut back my working hours to half-time. That order, which I



followed, saved my life.

The symptoms of burnout have returned for a third time. With them has come a nagging fear that, through my own lack of self-care, my wife might have to face a time when her primary care giver needs more care than she does. So changes will be made.

Third, family. Our son's sudden death left a huge hole in our family. But it also opened our eyes to another family—a family not bound by blood, but by love and faithfulness. It isn't large, but it is made up of some very special people. They have supported us over the past year. And now, we are ready to support them should they ever need our help.

Finally, work and other activities. This will be the most difficult decision for any of us to make. Work

isn't an option for any of us. We need money to pay our bills, to provide our families with the food, clothing, transportation and shelter that they need; and to have some extra in store for emergency expenses, donations to causes in which we believe and times away from the hustle and bustle of life. If we don't work, we don't eat. It is as simple as that. So work we must, and work we will. But the work we choose should do two things—provide enough income to meet our needs; and do so without consuming every waking hour of our day. Finding that balance is hard, but it can be done.

Next week, I will speak about my own struggle to bring my work life into balance and part of what that will mean for me and my family going forward.

Letters

CUPE finds favor with Manitoba's Throne Speech

Manitoba's largest labour union says the NDP government's blueprint for the year ahead is on the right track and offers important improvements for workers and seniors, including patient-to-staff ratios in long-term care. CUPE urges the province to invest in public services adjacent to Northern development and continue building a strong public sector that provides valuable services and good jobs for Manitobans.

"Two years into the NDP's term, and we are seeing continued improvements in the lives of workers and their families," says Gina McKay, President of CUPE Manitoba.

Health care in Manitoba has seen significant improvements over the past two years, including thousands of new workers hired, historic wage improvements for front-line support staff, and first-time-ever pension and benefit coverage for home care workers. CUPE has lobbied for over a decade for legislated minimum staff-to-patient ratios and is pleased to see this generational improvement in the lives of seniors.

"This government has really stepped up to the plate on health care," says Margaret Schroeder, President of CUPE 204. "Legislating patient-to-staff ratios will be a game changer in long term care, keeping seniors safe and comfortable."

"There is still more work to be done, but we know the government is responsive to front-line health care workers' needs, including adding more staff into the system."

"Stronger staff to patient ratios will ensure our seniors and patients get the care they deserve," added Schroeder. "This is a huge win for the health care system and will result in a major reduction in staffing shortages."

CUPE appreciates the government's commitment to eliminating sick note requirements for absences under seven days.

CUPE supports this government's plan to grow hydro to provide clean, public, affordable energy to Manitobans.

"We see this government's commitment to hydro, whether that's energy efficiency or expanded energy production as really important to growing Manitoba's economy," said Michelle Bergen, President of CUPE 998. "Highlighting Manitoba's plan to reach net zero is a really exciting part of this throne speech."

CUPE supports the governments continued commitment to expand access to child care in Manitoba.

"We still have a child care space deficit in Manitoba," says McKay. "Four hundred new spaces in schools will help ensure school divisions offer before and after school programs in all primary schools."

Canadian Union of Public Employees

Would you like to send in a letter to the editor?
Email news@neepawabanner.com to submit yours.
Letters are limited to **approximately 400 words**
The Banner & Press reserves the right to edit letters to fit available space.

Gladstone Auction market report

By Blaine Huston
GLADSTONE AUCTION

The market was a little lower than what we seen last week. We sold 1,562 head Tuesday Nov. 18.

Here are some market highlights from yesterday's sale:

Four red exotic steers weighing 562 pounds bring \$6.64 a pound (\$3733 a head)

Three Black steer calves come in the ring weighing 643 pounds and cash in at \$5.75 a pound (\$3697 per head)

Three red and black calves weighing 768

pounds stamp there ticket at \$4.8750 a pound (\$3744 a head)

On the Hiefer side of things:

Eight red exotic heifers weighing 548 pounds bring \$5.90 per pound (\$3231 per head)

Five red exotic heifers weigh 664 pounds and fetch \$5.28 per pound (\$3507 per head)

Red white face Heifers weighing 740 pounds bring \$4.57 a pound (\$3381 a head)

Plainer type cattle are still seeing some discounts. If your cattle are not weaned for at least six

weeks expect an aggressive discount.

Gladstone Auction Mart Cattle Market Report Nov. 18, 2025

Steers:	
3-400lbs	8.10-9.20
4-500lbs	6.90-7.95
5-600lbs	5.80-6.82
6-700lbs	4.90-6.11
7-800lbs	4.25-5.20
8-900lbs	4.00-4.50

Heifers	
3-400lbs	6.50-7.35
4-500lbs	5.75-6.77
5-600lbs	5.05-6.02
6-700lbs	4.40-5.67
7-800lbs	4.10-4.67
8-900lbs	3.40-4.10

1,562 head sold

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HELEN DRYSDALE

OUT OF HELEN'S KITCHEN

Venison

If you have a deer hunter in your family here are two recipes to help use the bounty of the successful hunt. Slow, moist cooking is the way to go with a shoulder roast and venison stew. Come home to a hot and hearty meal straight from your slow cooker!

Slow cooker venison roast

- 3-4 pound venison shoulder roast

2-3 cloves garlic

1 onion, sliced

1 package of mushrooms

2 small bay leaves
- 2 tsp. dry parsley

2 cups beef broth

1 can mushroom soup

salt and pepper to taste

If you wish you can brown all sides of the roast in a frying pan with butter or oil before putting it in the slow cooker. This helps seal the juices in and gives a nice colour and taste to the gravy. Take a knife and make a slit in the meat in several places. Push the garlic in the slits. Place the onion slices on the bottom of the slow cooker. Place roast on top of onion slices. Sprinkle on the mushrooms, bay leaves and parsley. Mix the broth and mushroom soup together. Pour over the roast. Cook on low for 8 hours or high for 4-6 hours or until roast is easily broken apart with a fork. Add salt and pepper to taste to the juices. Serve with mashed potatoes or noodles.

Venison stew

- 1 large onion, diced

2 sticks celery, sliced

2 cloves garlic, minced

2-3 cups sliced carrots

2-3 cups sliced mushrooms

3-4 cups diced potatoes

1 bay leaf
- 1 tsp. dry oregano

1 tetra pack beef broth

2 pounds venison stew meat

1/2 cup flour

1 tsp. salt

1/2 tsp. pepper

3-4 Tbsp. butter or oil

Layer first nine ingredients in a slow cooker. Prepare the stew meat by tossing it with the flour, salt, and pepper in a mixing bowl. Heat the butter or oil in a large fry pan over medium-high heat. Add the venison pieces. Cook for several minutes or until browned nicely, turning occasionally. If it is too much for your pan do this in two batches. Add the venison to the slow cooker. Cover and cook on low for eight hours. Remove bay leaf. Serve with fresh bread or biscuits.

Kuharski/DeCosse win

national culinary competition



The results are in from the Taste Canada's 2025 Cook the Books Culinary Competition, held in Toronto on Nov. 9 and 10. As of Nov. 10, Assiniboine College students Alicia DeCosse (left) and Presley Kuharski (right) are officially Canada's best new student chefs. The duo were required to prepare dishes live in front of the audience and judges. Congratulations! Kuharski has ties to Neepawa and the surrounding area, including her former involvement as the instructor of the Field to Table Club hosted at ArtsForward.

PHOTO COURTESY OF ASSINIBOINE COLLEGE

The new face of bullying:

Why the problem isn't going away

Bullying continues to be one of the most persistent and damaging issues facing Canadian youth despite decades of awareness campaigns and school-based prevention programs. While many schools have implemented zero tolerance policies, the realities of bullying suggest that it's more subtle, complex and difficult to detect than ever before.

Traditional forms of bullying such as name calling, exclusion and physical intimidation are still common but digital bullying has added extra layers to this ever-growing problem. Cyberbullying allows for hurtful messages, rumors and images to spread rapidly and remain online indefinitely increasing the emotional impacts on young people.

Students no longer can escape bullying when they go home, it follows them on their devices. The effects of bullying are long lasting causing anxiety, depression, lower academic achievement and difficulties in forming trusting relationships. For some, bullying becomes a daily barrier to feeling safe, confident and connected at school (and now home).

While many assume bullying is about aggressive behavior, its roots are in power and control. Children who engage in bullying often do so to maintain social status, cope with their own insecurities, or mirror behaviors they see at home and online. There is hope that behavior can change with intervention and support.

Social media has made the bystander effect more intense. Students may witness bullying online

YOUR

LISTENING EAR

DELSIE MARTIN

without knowing how to respond or are scared of getting involved. Research consistently shows though that if peers become involved, bullying stops quickly. Empowering kids to safely speak up is one of the most effective strategies for reducing harm. A couple of things we can advise our kids to say is, "We don't talk to people like that here", or "Not cool, let's be better than that".

Schools are turning to whole community approaches that address bullying from multiple angles. These can be classroom lectures on empathy, dedicated mental health classroom supports, presentations on digital ++literacy and restorative practices. We can also look to Indigenous informed approaches such as emphasizing relational responsibility, community care and the importance of helping others feel like they belong.

Parents play a crucial role as well. Open communication, carefully monitoring online activity, and modelling healthy conflict management can all be tools in helping kids get on the right path. Experts encourage parents to document incidents of bullying, communicate to the school early and seek professional support if your child is in distress.

Despite the challenges, we can remain optimistic. Students are more willing

than ever to talk about mental health challenges and the impacts of harmful behavior. Schools are also much better equipped with resources than they have ever been. Meaningful change requires ongoing effort. Bullying may be an old problem but the modern forms of it deserve renewed attention. Creating safer schools is a community responsibility and its only through collective action that students can feel safe, supported and free to learn.

Delsie Martin (BA, MSW, RSW), is a Registered Social Worker and an instructor at Assiniboine College in Brandon. If you have any questions or suggestions related to these columns, your enquiries can be sent to news@neepawabanner.com and they will be forwarded.

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'Privileged to be a growing rural community'

*Continued
from Page 1*

"There are many areas of our community that need expanded services. We are privileged to be a growing rural community that can provide all services," said Parrott. "We continue to attract new people to live here, raise their families, enhance their careers, or retire safely."

The centre's history stretches back to the 1960s, when several local physicians operated independent practices before joining forces to open the Neepawa Medical & Dental Clinic in February of 1970. In 1984, the building was purchased by Dr. David Chapman, and Dr. George Ong later established his own clinic in 1996. To safeguard the future of local healthcare. In 2010, the Neepawa & Area Development Corporation, supported by the Town of Neepawa and surrounding municipalities, acquired the facility and has made several changes to this day.

According to Neepawa's

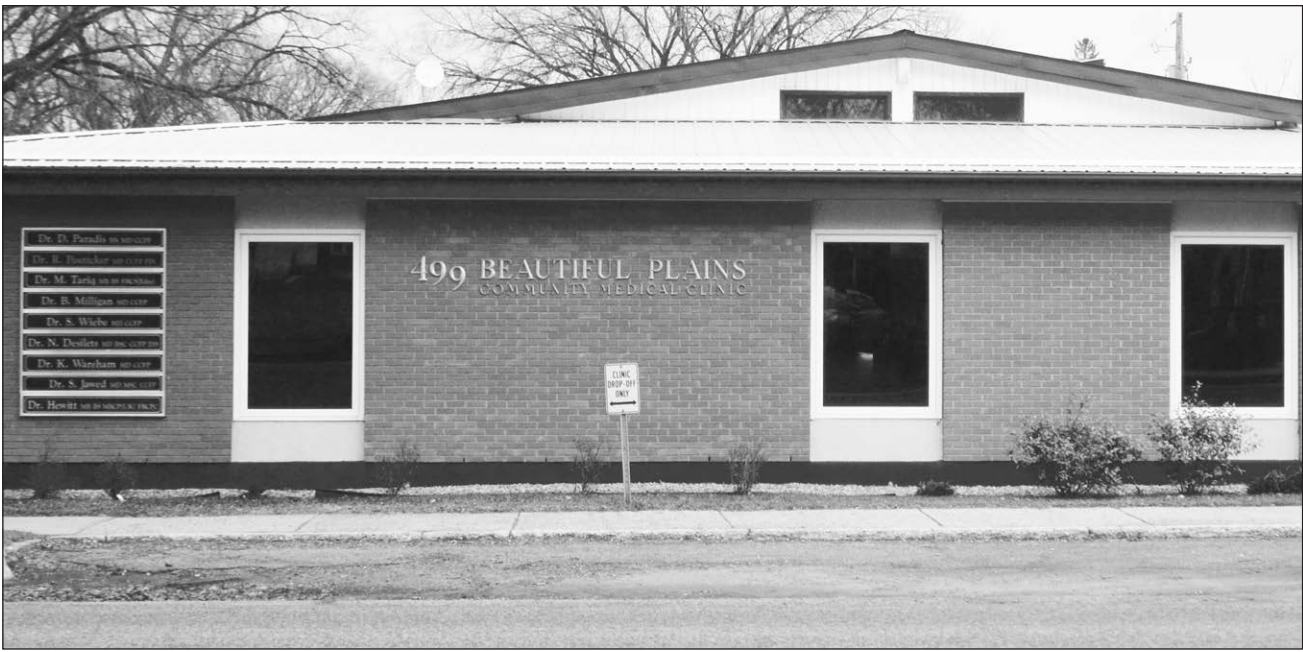


PHOTO BY JOSHUA JACKSON

The expansion of the Beautiful Plains Community Medical Clinic is expected to be finished by July 2026, and will be funded by Neepawa's Farm and Leisure Lottery.

website, the Prairie Mountain Health Region encompasses a geographic area of nearly 67,000 square kilometres and is home to over 170,000 residents. Prairie Mountain contains 20 acute care (hospital) sites, 43 long-term care (personal care home) sites, with over

7,500 employees.

The expansion project will be funded by Neepawa's Farm and Leisure Lottery, happening in 2026.

Parrott also acknowledged the efforts of long-established citizens and professionals in the area, whose contributions have

helped Neepawa become a leader in healthcare service expansion.

"This project aligns with the progressive long-range planning that Neepawa and the surrounding municipalities have endeavoured to maintain, along with each municipality's share of

the financial commitment toward our new regional hospital," he said.

The expansion of the Beautiful Plains Community Medical Clinic pairs well with Neepawa's new hospital, which is under construction. The hospital will contain 60 acute care

inpatient beds, up from 35 at the current Neepawa site, an expanded emergency department, and an enhanced space for programs, such as surgery, diagnostics and palliative care, as well as various outpatient services.

He noted that registration with physicians at the clinic is now closed to new patients. Residents who do not yet have a family doctor are encouraged to register with the provincial Family Doctor Finder program.

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Join us as we celebrate 30 years of building a stronger, more vibrant community! The Beautiful Plains Community Foundation is thrilled to host a special **30th Anniversary Gala** on **Saturday, December 6, 2025** with **doors opening at 6:30PM**, located at the **Yellowhead Centre Hall**.

The evening will feature a delicious catered meal followed by live entertainment from **The Bromantics**, a unique sound of a blend of classic rock, doo-wop, Motown and modern pop. This milestone event is a chance to reflect on three decades of generosity, community spirit, and the impact of philanthropy in our region.

We invite donors, community members, and friends of the Foundation to join us for a night of celebration, music, and connection as we look back on our journey and forward to an even brighter future.

Tickets are available on our website or by scanning the QR Code.

Tickets are \$75 each which includes admission to the catered meal and entertainment. There is also Table & Sponsor Table Packages available. Sponsor Tables have VIP access to the invite only VIP Cocktails & Hors d'Oeuvres prior to the event.

Please purchase your tickets before the **deadline of Friday, November 21st**.

Due to the lack of ticket sales for this event, if we do not reach a set minimum this event is at risk of being cancelled.



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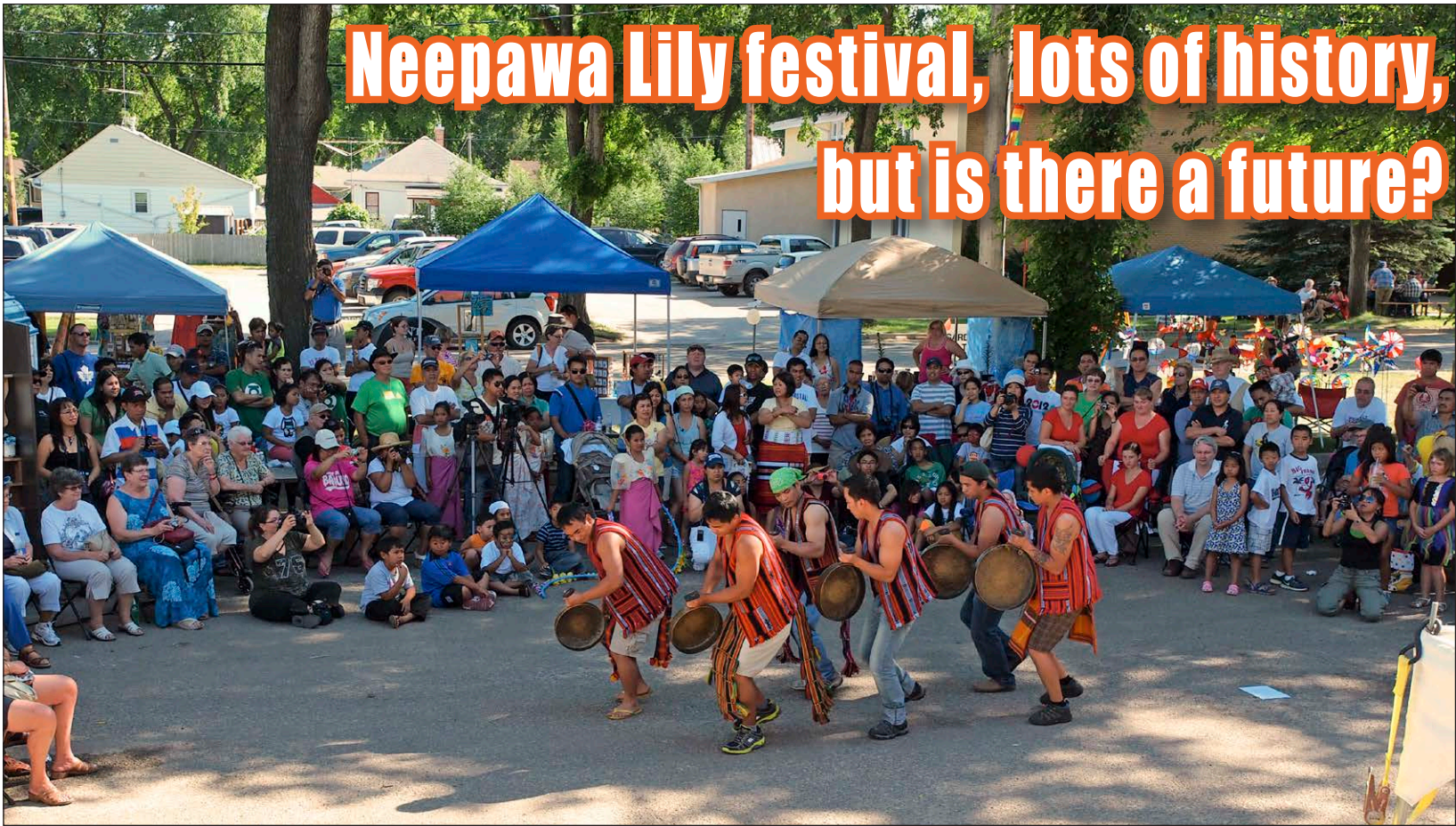
By Ken Waddell
NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS

For 18 years, the Neepawa Lily Festival was a signature, go-to event for thousands of people across Manitoba and to some extent across Canada and for a number of international travellers. The festival was the vision of Eleanor Nicholson and the late Barrie Strohmman. Strohmman founded the Lily Nook and it's still in business today, operated by his son Nigel and the Strohmman family along with a group of dedicated staff. In the 1990s, with the thousands of varieties of lilies grown at the Nook and with nearly every home in Neepawa and area showing off a wide variety of lilies, Neepawa was able to lay claim to the title Lily Capital of the world. No one ever disputed that claim!

But time moved on. The Lily Festival Committee members got older and weren't able to carry on. There was also some opposition to the Festival carrying on as well. The last Lily Festival was held in 2014. Now in the interim time frame, the Lily Beetle has decimated a lot of lily beds. Lily growers say that the beetles can be picked off the plants but it is painstaking and tedious. I have been told there is no legal insecticide licensed for use in Canada that can control the little critters.

Looking back, the festival started as a five day event but later became a Thursday through Sunday weekend event. Hamilton Street between Mountain and Brown was closed off, large tents were set up. Live entertainment played through the festival, there were special meals, a pancake breakfast. Lilies we sold, there were so many vendors there was a waiting list. The parade was attended by many people, perhaps over 2,000. There were 250 volunteers. The budget for the festival was nearly \$100,000, funded by provincial and corporate grants, sponsorships and festival advertising. Support from the Town of Neepawa was significant. There was admission fees and other revenue. The festival usually made a profit.

The festival had a year round coordinator who worked three days a week and full-time right around the festival dates. To co-ordinate with the peak of the lily bloom, the date was



NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS ARCHIVES

Pictured here are scenes from the 2012 edition of the Lily Festival. For 18 years, the Neepawa Lily Festival was a signature, go-to event for thousands of people across Manitoba and to some extent across Canada and for a number of international travellers. The last Lily Festival was held in 2014.

the weekend of the third full week of July.

On several occasions, the festival committee and volunteers attended trade shows on behalf of Neepawa's tourism and business efforts. The festival put Neepawa on the map in daily newspapers and national magazines. Local coverage was extensive as well as on radio, TV and the internet.

The Lily Festival Committee still exists as a shadow

of its former self. The Neepawa Lily Festival name is still in existence and registered. There is a bank account with a small amount of money. The question is now, what to do next.

The only visible function of the Lily Festival is the upkeep of the town-owned piece of land known as Gertrude Williams Park on Highway 16 in Neepawa. The land for the park was donated to the Town of Neepawa to be kept as a park

in perpetuity. A dedicated group of volunteers have been doing that for many years.

According to the Festival constitution, if it dissolves, the money has to be turned over to the Town of Neepawa. The Town doesn't want money or the responsibility of looking after the park.

Again what should the committee do going forward?

The Lily Festival was a lot of work, a lot of fun and gen-

erated considerable tourism and commercial dollars for the town. The festival had a strong appeal to all cultural groups in the area. We still get asked, when will the festival come back or an event of that magnitude?

The question now is, what does the community want to see happen? Does the Town, the community, the area want to see the festival come back? Or, should it just stay away.

Dauphin has Coun-

try Fest and the National Ukrainian Festival. Minnedosa has Rockin' in the Field. Arden has the Whitemud Festival and Kelwood has had many years of the Harvest Sun Music Festival. What do we have?

It would be good to hear our readers views on this. It wouldn't take much time to email me a note about your thoughts. It would be greatly appreciated.

Contact me at kwaddell@neepawabanner.com



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Neepawa 4-H Club lends a helping hand

By Lynn Davidson
NEEPAWA 4-H CLUB

Have you ever wondered how a group of friends your age can make a big difference in your community? Well, let me tell you about the Neepawa 4H group called Belles, Beaux, and Builders.

On Nov. 3, 2025, these awesome kids rolled up their sleeves and volunteered at the new Salvation Army thrift store to help with a food drive. This wasn't just any food drive—it was all about supporting families in need, from toddlers to grandparents, right in our town!

With their energy and enthusiasm, this group is not just having fun; they're also learning the power of giving back and connecting with their community. So, if you're curious about how you can join in and make a change, keep reading!

The Salvation Army food bank caters to individuals of all ages, races, and genders, and the Belles, Beaux, and Builders



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Members of the Neepawa Belles, Beaux, and Builders 4-H Club with Amanda Naughton-Gale, of the Neepawa Salvation Army.

ers frequently lend a hand at the food bank.

The provisions supplied by the bank come from generous local citizens, philanthropic donations, and purchases from retail establishments. The 4H Club helped with sorting and organizing the food.

Multiple volunteers come to assist at the Salvation Army, with a significant portion consisting of youth, aged 13-17. Notably, this demographic also represents the primary clientele of the food bank, as 40-50 per cent of consumers are under 17.

The Salvation Army also serves approximately 30 per cent of individuals over the age of 60. The food bank has a historic legacy, having been in existence since the establishment of the permanent thrift store in 1994, as shared by Amanda Naughton-Gale,

one of the food bank's most dedicated advocates and the overseer of the Salvation Army.

The new facility has meeting spaces, a communal kitchen, and even a shopping-style food bank equipped with a point system!

These meeting areas are slated to be accessible to the community in the future, but they are currently undergoing renovations.

This venue occupies the former site of the Rockin' Animal House, a building connected to the original Salvation Army.

If you wish to volunteer or assist at any of the Salvation Army's events, including bell ringing, food drives, and various other initiatives, please reach out to Amanda Naughton-Gale at the thrift store (Monday through Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.). For those interested in volunteering or donating (they graciously accept most donations, but are unable to take mattresses or furniture), call the Salvation Army at 204-476-5869.

If you are eager to join the Neepawa Belles, Beaux, and Builders, please contact Cindy Zubert. We are always delighted to welcome new members!

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Bridge the Seasonal Gap with a Cash Advance

Now is a good time to take stock; not just of what's in the bin or pasture, but of your farm's financial needs heading into winter. Whether you're growing grain, raising cattle, or managing a mixed operation, fall is a smart time to consider an Advance Payments Program cash advance from Canadian Canola Growers Association.

A cash advance provides farmers with access to up to \$1,000,000 in financing, including up to \$500,000 interest-free. Any amount above that is at CCGA's interest rate of prime minus 0.25%, resulting in a blended rate that's well below prime on every advance.

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- **Manage seasonal expenses more efficiently.** Use a fall advance to cover year-end payments, equipment maintenance, winter feed costs, or whatever your farm needs.

Just starting to farm? No problem. You can apply as long as you own, store, and sell your inventory separately from others.

Every farm is different, but post-harvest planning often means bridging the gap between this year's work and next year's plans. A cash advance can provide flexibility, helping you make confident decisions as you prepare for the next growing season.

Our team of experts offer service and guidance to make applying easier. **New customers can call 1.866.745.2256.** Returning customers can call or apply online.

The Advance Payments Program is a federal loan program administered by Canadian Canola Growers Association. It offers Canadian farmers marketing flexibility through interest-free and low-interest cash advances.

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Province commits to Carberry overpass in throne speech

Banner Staff
NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS

The Manitoba government has promised to build an overpass at the Trans-Canada Highway intersection just north of Carberry. That pledge came from Premier Wab Kinew was part of the provincial throne speech on Tuesday, Nov. 18.

The overpass will replace the current intersection of Highways #1 and 5, which currently has a stop signs at the north and south entrances and a yield sign in the median.

The creation of the overpass is being advanced as an effort to improve safety at an intersection where 17 people died in a bus crash in 2023.

A bus carrying seniors crossed through the intersection in June 2023 and collided with a semi-trailer that had the right of way.

The province had previously been reviewing other options to improve safety, which was met with a negative response from local residents.

Earlier this year, Carberry residents rejected a proposal to build an R-Cut design. The R-Cut required drivers to change lanes and make a U-turn in order to cross the highway.

Kinew said the overpass would likely cost more than \$100 million and that the design phase will begin next year.

What's the scoop?



If you've got a news tip, story or event, let us know! Give us a call, email or visit the office!

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Good Street Hall rings with music



Left to right: Martin Finnie, of Harding MB, shares the stage with Logan and Colton McKillop who were raised in Onanole. They performed in front of a packed house at Good Street Hall in Erickson. Good Street Hall is a former church converted into a concert venue and community hub that includes markets, yoga, counselling services and much more. Logan currently resides in the Yukon, Colton now hails from Winnipeg. The McKillop brothers attended high school in Erickson.

PHOTO BY ROB WADELL

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A little smile goes a long way

Tim Hortons Holiday Smile Cookies aid Neepawa Hospital

By Joshua Jackson
NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS

Who knew that helping your community could be as easy as picking up a cookie at Tim Hortons?

That's what Prairie Mountain Health, alongside the Neepawa Health Centre, encourages you to do from Nov. 17-23, when the Holiday Smile Cookie campaign takes place.

Manager Health Services-Neepawa Health Centre, Christina Woodcock, said the team at Neepawa Health Centre is honoured to have been chosen as the beneficiary of this year's Smile Cookie campaign.

"We all encounter the healthcare system in some way at some point in our lives, and this generous campaign allows for important fundraising, all while allowing folks to enjoy delicious cookies," she said.

Funds raised from the Holiday Smile Cookie Campaign will support

equipment purchases like patient lifts, equipment carts, obstetrical monitors, and physiological monitors, which will be used by the current hospital, as well as the hospital under construction.

Woodcock said healthcare facilities are always faced with needs in many areas, so the extra boost in funding goes a long way.

"With so many competing priorities for healthcare resources, community contributions that can enhance the delivery of healthcare services are important and appreciated," she said. "It is a great initiative that allows all community members to make a difference to enhance healthcare services in our area."

The Neepawa Health Centre doesn't have a dollar figure they would like to achieve, but they know the community and surrounding area always step up to support them. The Health Centre and Prairie Mountain Health thanked



PHOTO BY JOSHUA JACKSON

Smile Cookie week occurs Nov. 17-23, helping the Neepawa Health Centre at the Neepawa location and Gladstone Area Senior Support at the Gladstone spot.

the local Tim Hortons for all of their continued support and contributions, both past and present.

In 2024, the Tim Hortons Smile Cookie Week campaign raised \$10.7 million for local charities and community groups. The most recent Smile Cookie Week was in the spring, which helped raise funds for the Beautiful Plains Community Foundation.

Also in the region, make

sure you stop by the Gladstone Tim Hortons and get your Smile Cookie, as proceeds from their store go towards Gladstone Area Senior Support.

Sunrise C.U. fuels ag members futures



PHOTO COURTESY OF SUNRISE CREDIT UNION

Sunrise Credit Union has fueled local success by awarding \$15,000 in fuel gift cards through its Fuel Your Future contest. Three Sunrise members, including David Swift (Minnedosa branch) received \$5,000 in fuel from their local gas stations. From Aug. 1 to Oct. 4, individuals who applied for new agricultural loans or mortgages had the opportunity to participate in the Fuel Your Future contest. Pictured above (left to right): Jordan Brown (Loans Officer, Sunrise Credit Union), David Swift, Terry McLenehan (Minnedosa Branch Manager) and Dawn Swift.



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Sports

Neepawa Titans unable to defeat Dauphin

By Eoin Devereux
NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS

While the Neepawa Titans had their chances on Friday, Nov. 14 against the Dauphin Kings, the team just couldn't take advantage and would ultimately fall 3-2.

The Kings took the lead at the Yellowhead Centre just 8:27 into the opening period and didn't surrender it the rest of the way. Dauphin's Havryil Simchuk scored on a breakaway.

That lead would be extended in the second period, as Sheldon Shyiak would be credited with Dauphin's second of the night. It should be noted, however, that 730 CKDM, the Kings' official radio broadcaster, states that the goal should be credited to Josh Schmidt. As of the Banner & Press print deadline, the league website was still crediting Shyiak with the tally. Whomever scored the goal doesn't matter however to the Titans, as either way, they were now trailing by two.

Neepawa would have a number of opportunities to cut into the lead, as they had four power-play chance in the middle frame. While Talen Wallis did score on the final of these four opportunities, there were several near goals that just barely missed the mark. One of those near misses included a Jack Clark chance at the side of the net, that somehow Kings goaltender Bryson Yaschyshyn kept out of the back of the net. Despite Neepawa's aggressive push, the score was 2-1 Dauphin going into the third.



PHOTO BY EOIN DEVEREUX

The Neepawa Titans had several opportunities against the Dauphin Kings on Friday, Nov. 14, including this near goal in the second period, but just fell short to the Kings 3-2.

For the third period, the Kings regained the two goal lead with a power play goal

from Daniel Helary. Late in the game Jack Clark's omnipresence around the Kings

net paid off, as he secured Neepawa's second of the game, making it 3-2. The

Titans would throw everything they had at Dauphin in the final four minutes of



PHOTO BY EOIN DEVEREUX

Goaltender Alex Myers made 35 saves for the Neepawa Titans in their game against the Dauphin Kings.

regulation, but Yaschyshyn stood tall, and secured the 3-2 victory.

The loss dropped Neepawa's record to 8-9-0-1 and has them tied for third place in the Western Division, with the Waywayseecappo Wolverines.

The Titans returned to the ice for a game against the Portage Terriers on Wednesday, Nov. 19. The results of that contest were official after the Banner & Press publication deadline.

Neepawa's next home game is scheduled for Friday, Nov. 21 versus the Winnipeg Monarchs. Start time is set for 7:30 p.m. at the Yellowhead Centre.

Don't shut us out!
Send us results from your games so we can keep everyone up to date on our local teams!
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MJHL Standings

Western Division	G	W	L	OTL	SOL	Pts
Dauphin Kings	19	12	6	1	0	25
Virden Oil Capitals	18	12	6	0	0	24
Neepawa Titans	18	8	9	0	1	17
Waywayseecappo Wolverines	22	8	13	1	0	17
Swan Valley Stampeders	21	6	14	1	0	13
Northern Manitoba Blizzard	19	3	14	1	1	8

Eastern Division	G	W	L	OTL	SOL	Pts
Niverville Nighthawks	19	18	1	0	0	36
Steinbach Pistons	20	15	4	1	0	31
Selkirk Steelers	23	14	8	1	0	29
Portage Terriers	20	13	6	1	0	27
Winkler Flyers	20	9	9	1	1	20
Winnipeg Blues	17	7	8	2	0	16
Winnipeg Monarchs	22	4	18	0	0	8

Game results

Friday, Nov. 14
Dauphin 3-2 Neepawa

First Period
08:27 DAU H. Simchuk (9)
ASST: N. Zaharias (12), D. Miko (5)

Second Period
04:00 DAU S. Shyiak (2)
ASST: B. Magarrell (5)
00:00 NPA T. Wallis (8) PP
ASST: C. Kasprick (8), O. Durigan (9)

Third Period
12:33 DAU D. Helary (8) PP
ASST: M. Murray (12), J. Kubas (9)
15:11 NPA J. Clark (7)
ASST: K. Weisgarber (9)

Scoring 1 2 3 Total PP
DAU 1 1 1 3 1/2
NPA 0 1 1 2 1/4

Goaltender
DAU - B. Yaschyshyn - (W) 30/32 saves
NPA - A. Myers - (L) 35/38 saves
Attendance: 297 - Yellowhead Centre

MJHL Player Stats

Leading scorers (MJHL)	G	A	Pts
1. Sebastien Hicks (WAY)	12	20	32
2. Ben Roulette (WAY)	11	20	31
3. Bryce Bryant (VDN)	10	21	31
4. Nik Gudmundson (WKR)	12	18	30
5. Trevor Hill (POR)	17	12	29

Leading scorers (Titans)	G	A	Pts
1. Talen Wallis	8	9	17
2. Logan Paquette	7	9	16
3. Kyle Weisgarber	4	9	13
4. Cooper Kasprick	7	5	12
5. Jack Clark	4	8	12

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Club 55 Bowling Minnedosa

Nov. 13, 2025: Men's High Single & Triple: Russ Taylor 207 & 562. **Ladies' High Single & Triple:** Carole LeBoutillier 199 & 529. **Other Good Scores:** Laurie Kohinski 150; Muriel Porada 168; Darrell Gabler 174; Caroline Harding 166, 174; Vivian Oswald 152,176,176; Chuck Morden 154, 160, 201; Eleanor Scott 164; Frank Porada 155; Russ Taylor 194, 161; Carole LeBoutillier 184; Barb Bohn 162, 158.

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Sports

Neepawa Farmers rally late to defeat Carberry Plainsmen

By Eoin Devereux
NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS

A late game goal from Garrett Rempel lifted the Neepawa Farmers to 3-2 win over the Carberry Plainsmen on Saturday, Nov. 15. Rempel put away the winner with only 4:26 remaining in regulation, with Tarek Lapointe picking up the assist. The go-ahead goal was also scored less than a minute after Carberry's Trey Dickson had tied things up at 2-2. Kaelan Waldner collected the other goal for Carberry, while Rempel also scored for Neepawa in the second period, as did Cohen Kulbacki.

The win improved the Neepawa Farmer's record in the Tiger Hills Hockey League to 3-1-0, while Carberry drops to 0-3-1.

Elsewhere around the league, the Minnedosa Bombers dominated in their 9-0 victory over the Wawanesa Jets. Bryson Werbicki-Mallett had a night to remember, putting up six points, (3 goals

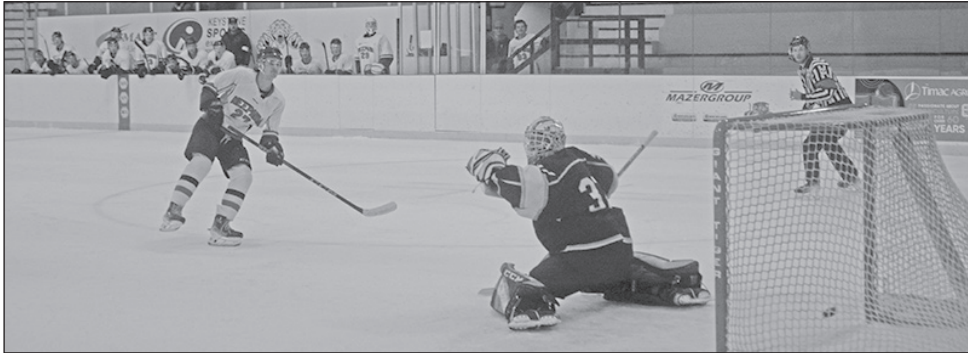


PHOTO BY EOIN DEVEREUX

Neepawa's Cohen Kulbacki (#27) collects his first goal of the year for the Neepawa Farmers. Though this was his first goal of the year, he has contributed with six assists in four games.

- 3 assists), including a natural hat-trick in the second period. Ryan Heino and Logan Robinson each pitched in for four points each (1G - 3A and 4A, respectively), while Owen Riffel, James McCarville, Shane Jury and Matt Saler had the other goals for the Bombers. Minnedosa goaltender Devon Fordyce made 22 saves, and picked up his first shutout of the year. This results improves Minnedosa's record to 4-0-0, and within striking distance for first place in the league. The Hartney Blues and Rivers Jets sit



PHOTO BY EOIN DEVEREUX

Carberry's Dylan Hood and Jory Kulbacki of Neepawa had themselves a tilt in the second period. Both players received game misconducts and five for fighting.

atop the Tiger Hills Hockey League standings, with identical 5-0-0 records to start the season.

Tigers split games in WHSHL

By Eoin Devereux
NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS

There were mixed results for the Neepawa Area Collegiate Institute (NACI) Tigers out on the ice this past week in the Westman High School Hockey League. While Neepawa was able to dominate at home, blanking the Hamiota/Rivers/Elton Huskies 4-0, they found themselves doubled up upon by the Swan Valley Tigers 8-4.

In their first outing on Wednesday, Nov, 12, Ian Foster was all over the ice to lead Neepawa to a 4-0 win over the Huskies. Foster was a factor in all four goals, scoring three of them himself, and adding an assist. Meanwhile, Foster's teammates Kane Lapointe (1 goal - 2 assists) and Kellen Hockin (2A) also came up big, while Jase Eros stopped all 29 shots he

faced in goal. Neepawa then travelled north to Swan River on Friday, Nov. 14, for a clash against their fellow felines, the Swan Valley Tigers. While, the Tigers brought forth a tremendous effort, the Tigers were just too much for the Tigers and left the arena with an 8-4 victory...over the Tigers. The Tigers (*Swan Valley edition*) jump out to the early lead, with Rylan Laderoute scoring a pair of goals in the first period. Swan Valley added one very more early in the second, before Neepawa replied. Zach Plett collected a pair, while Kane Lapointe added one more. Swan Valley scored on a short-handed opportunity, however, to make the score 4-3 going into the last 20 minutes of regulation. For the final period, Swan Valley added four

more goals, to Neepawa's lone reply back in the form of an unassisted Kellen Hockin goal. That would make the final an 8-4 result for the Swan Valley. The defeat dropped Neepawa's record to 4-2-0, and has them in a tie for fifth place in the league standing with Hamiota and the Bois-sevain Broncos.

Neepawa Titans
Junior "A"
Hockey team

vs. Winnipeg Monarchs
November 21
Yellowhead Centre - 7:30pm

vs. Swan Valley
November 26
Yellowhead Centre - 7:30pm

vs. Winnipeg Blues
November 28
Yellowhead Centre - 7:30pm

Adults: \$15 • 7-17: \$5 • 6 and under: free

BU Brass Ensemble to entertain in Neepawa

By Casper Wehrhahn
NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS

The Brandon University (BU) Brass Ensemble is making a return to Neepawa. On Dec. 2, the university band will flood the stage at the Roxy Theatre, filling the auditorium with its refined sound. This special performance is being held in coordination with the Neepawa Middle School and Neepawa Area Collegiate Institute (NACI) band programs, acting as a Band Booster fundraiser.

“We encourage the public to come and enjoy the live music. There will be a silver collection at the door. The recommended donation amount is \$10 per person, but whatever you are able to contribute is greatly appreciated,” said NACI band teacher Colleen Hallett. “All proceeds go towards supporting the NACI and NMS band programs.”

Hallett added, “Live music is an important form of entertainment that people of all ages

should experience, especially children! When kids get the opportunity to see first-hand what you can achieve through practice and teamwork, the world opens up to them. We hope to make this show an annual tradition, so join us for the holiday fun! This year, we have a very special performer in our group: NACI band graduate, Macey Kilburn, who is currently studying music at Brandon University!”

An inspirational evening in addition to fundraising and providing entertainment to the public, these performances also hold significance for the students themselves. Students who attended last year’s BU Brass Ensemble performance sang its praises to the Neepawa Banner & Press.

“The Performance felt very special to me and truly inspired me to continue band for the rest of highschool, and possibly after! It was all whimsical and made my entire week,” said Althea Caberte.



FILE PHOTO

The Brandon University Brass Ensemble performed in Neepawa last December. They will return to the Roxy Theatre again on Dec. 2.

Martin Almeron added, “They were amazing! They played the pieces with so much joy and I enjoyed it. The way they played was so professional! As a band student, the value I hold

onto from last year is I follow my passion, and it will result in something good.”

Sophia Clavio echoed a similar sentiment.

“Their hard work was evident! I enjoyed every-

thing about the performance,” Clavio enthused. “The value I hold onto from last year’s event is the inspiration it brought upon me. I hope to be a great musician like them one day.

Music is my passion!” All wishing to attend the 2025 event may begin entering the theatre at 6:45 p.m. on Dec. 2, with the show beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Submitted opinion editorial: Labour and Immigration

By Cam Dahl
MANITOBA PORK

Immigration is a hot button political issue. High unemployment rates for young Canadians, housing shortages, and skyrocketing rents have many politicians calling for dramatic changes to Canadian immigration policies. For example, some have been calling for an end to critical programs like the Temporary Foreign Worker Program and slashing the number of new permanent residents.

The policy of the Government of Canada from 2015 to 2023 was one of wide-open doors, with Canada admitting a record number of newcomers. Facing housing shortages, rising rents, and high unemployment for youth and in some immigrant populations, the Government of Canada took a 180-degree policy pivot, cutting immigration targets. The targets for 2025 were almost 20 percent below the 2024 levels with further reductions planned in the years to come. The initial allocation for the Provincial Nominee Program was cut in half. These broad shifts do not serve the Canadian economy nor new Canadians.

The drivers behind the policy

shift are real. Canada’s big cities do have a housing crisis. Canadian youth are facing a difficult time finding jobs. Some regions of the country have seen an increased strain on social services and health care. Too many people have been admitted to Canada without a link to employment opportunities. However, a country wide one-size-fits-all immigration and labour policy is not the right answer.

What is needed for Toronto, Vancouver, or Montreal is not what is needed in other parts of the country. Pressures in other regions of Canada are not the same as in our large cities, and new Canadians are a critical part of the Manitoba labour force in places like Notre Dame de Lourdes, Neepawa, Brandon, and Winnipeg. Provinces, not the federal government, are best positioned to manage the labour requirements in their own region.

Lack of access to labour is an issue today for hog producers. There are current cases where farmers have shuttered barn sites due to labour shortages. This problem will only be exacerbated if further restrictions are placed on immigration.

To ensure ongoing sustain-

able hog production and pork processing, Manitoba producers and processors rely on immigration programs like the Provincial Nominee Program. The sector hires foreign workers and supports them on a path to permanent residency to fill vacant positions.

This approach successfully matches newcomers with stable full-time work. There is a high retention rate of foreign workers brought in by the hog sector. Foreign workers receive training and put roots into the communities where they settle. Neepawa is a prime example of a town that has been revitalized by the influx of new Canadians. The town is one of the fastest growing in Canada, boasting a new hospital and new road infrastructure because of investment by the hog sector and immigrants brought in to support the industry.

The negative impacts of labour shortfalls on hog producers and pork processors go beyond productivity losses. The sector has invested heavily in improving biosecurity and the ability to manage production diseases like Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea (PED) and Porcine Reproductive and Respiratory Syndrome

(PRRS), as well as keeping foreign animal diseases like African Swine Fever (ASF) and Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) out of the country. Labour shortages make this work more difficult and add strain to producers’ efforts to protect the animals under their care from disease.

The impact of diseases like PED and PRRS are not theoretical. The last major outbreak of PED in Manitoba, which began in the fall of 2021 and ran through the spring of 2023, is estimated to have cost the industry more than \$100 million. Current estimates indicate that PRRS in the U.S. is costing the industry there \$1.65 billion annually.

Hog production and processing in Manitoba have the opportunity for growth, if barriers like labour shortfalls can be overcome. New building and investment not only provide on-farm and spin-off employment opportunities but also help build and sustain Manitoba’s rural communities through population growth, increased school enrollments, additional small business opportunities, and enhanced community services.

Budget 2025 included commitments to prioritize immigration

for rural, remote and tariff-hit businesses and to increase the number of new Canadians that are coming to fill specific jobs. These are positive announcements. However, it is not all that is needed. First, we need to abandon a blanket approach for all of Canada. Canada is a vast country with different needs for every region. Canadian immigration policy should reflect the country’s diversity. For example, the Provincial Nominee Program has successfully helped meet regional needs. This program needs to be enhanced, not reduced. Second, policy should shift emphasis to the quality of immigration, versus a primary focus on the number of people entering Canada. More newcomers should have skills aligned with market needs, like the hog sector in Manitoba.

Immigration and labour needs vary widely across Canada. Rather than governments delivering, short “social media ready” soundbites we should be focused on thoughtful immigration and labour policies targeting regional, and sectorial, needs.

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Arden Hall, cap. 255. Park, camping and sports facilities, rink, curling ice, kitchen and lounge. Call 204-368-2202

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Neepawa Banner & Press offers full research and re-print services from our archives that go back to 1896. Additional copies of papers, \$2 each depending on availability. Re-print of a page from past copies, \$2 per page. Archival research, \$25 per hour with a \$10 minimum. Individual photos on photo paper \$5 depending if we have a suitable original in our digital, print or photo archives. Ken Waddell, publisher

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We are hiring!

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For accommodations or alternative formats, contact careers@assiniboine.net or 204 725 8729.

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3. Tenders must be received on or before 3:00 p.m. on Monday December 1st, 2025.
4. Each tender must be accompanied by a 5% deposit cheque payable to Johnston & Company. Deposits accompanying unaccepted bids will be refunded.
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1. The bidder whose tender is accepted will be required to complete an agreement covering terms and conditions of sale.
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Obituary

Lorna Cawston-Boyd

March 28, 1936 – November 13, 2025



With heavy hearts, the family of Lorna Cawston-Boyd announces her peaceful passing on November 13, 2025.

Lorna was born in Neepawa, Manitoba, on March 28, 1936, and spent her early years in Kelwood, where she attended school. She later commuted to

Neepawa and began her career at CIBC as a teller. After marrying Keith Birnie, the couple moved to Birnie, Manitoba, where they welcomed three children. The family later moved to Neepawa. They eventually separated and Lorna devoted herself to working with handicapped children, a role in which her compassion and patience shone.

Lorna's life changed again when she met and married Murray Cawston. Together with her children, they moved to the farm in Kelwood. During this time she worked at Eastview Lodge as an activities director for residents with the same kindness she brought to every aspect of her life. After several years, Lorna followed a new dream—purchasing and running the Kelwood Café, which she operated for many years. When she retired, she continued to pour her talents into her community: sewing wedding dresses, baking for family and friends, judging at local agricultural fairs, crocheting blankets for babies and seniors, and participating in the United Church Ladies' Auxiliary.

Many years after Murray's passing, Lorna returned to Neepawa, where she met and married Elbourne Boyd. They shared ten happy years together until Elbourne's passing. Lorna later moved to Elks Manor before hospitalization.

Lorna will be lovingly remembered for her generosity, creativity, and unwavering dedication to her family. You could always count on her to arrive at any gathering with homemade baking, offered with warmth and pride. She cherished Family Camp weekends, enjoyed camping, old-time dances, and treasured every chance to share coffee, cards, conversation, or simply a friendly hello with those she cared about.

She leaves to mourn her son Glen Birnie (Tammy Levandoski); grandchildren Sara Birnie (Valor Kane), Ben Birnie, and Jon Birnie (Holly) Angela Waite (David) great-grandchildren Aedan, Declan, Nolan, Isla Kane, and Lennon Birnie; step-grand children Myles Levandoski (Michelle) and Lindsay Hall (Darryl); and step great-grandchildren Vienna Levandoski and Natalie Levandoski. Sister Joyce Kingdon. Niece Kathy Therrien (Danny) nephew Kelly Kingdon (Una) and the Boyd Family, Relatives and Friends

Lorna was predeceased by her parents Samuel and Ethel Adamson; infant brother Lawrence John Adamson; husband Murray Cawston; daughter Leslie Birnie, daughter Lori Kuhnle, her sister-in-law Verla Cawston; and her husband Elbourne Boyd.

A service in Lorna's honour will be held on November 21, 2025, at 11:00 a.m. at Neepawa United Church, with lunch and interment to follow.

The family would like to extend their heartfelt thanks to Dr. Tariq, and to the nursing staff and aides at Neepawa Hospital for their care, compassion, and support.

In lieu of flowers donations can be made to a charity of your choice

Lorna's kindness, community spirit, and love for her family will be deeply missed and forever remembered

White's Funeral Home in care of arrangements.

www.whitesfh.ca

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 \$22.20/hour with incremental increases to \$23.55/hour based on tenure as per our Collective Agreement

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- 2500+ employees worldwide
- We Care about our employees, communities, customers, animals, and our environment

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- Permanent full-time employment (74-80 hours per bi-weekly)
- PM Shift
- Full training, with genuine opportunities for career progression
- Employee Referral program - \$500!
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We are looking for people who are:

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- Capable of working in diverse environments, including exposure to varying temperatures, humidity, and odors
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- Completion of Secondary school or equivalent experience
- Able to effectively communicate in English
- At least 18 years old to meet the minimum age requirement

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For inquiries contact: Phone: 204.476.3393

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

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Hog Receiving Barn Worker (NOC85100)

Why join our team?
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- 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
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- Completing hog receiving documents to CFIA standards.
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- Working outdoors and in a barn environment.

To excel in this role, you should possess:

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- 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



@HyLifeLTD @hylifeltd @HyLife



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 \$16.45/hour with incremental increases to \$24.60/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

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Fax to: 204.476.3791 | Email to: jobs@hylife.com | In Person at 623 Main ST. E, Neepawa, MB R0J 1H0

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



@HyLifeLTD @hylifeltd @HyLife

**Municipality of Glenella-Lansdowne
PUBLIC WORKS OPERATOR**

The Municipality of Glenella – Lansdowne is accepting applications for a fulltime Public Works Operator.

Duties:
The Successful applicant shall be required to perform duties in all areas of the Public Works Department of the Municipality of Glenella-Lansdowne. The Primary duty is to operate the grader.

Qualifications:
The successful applicant should possess the following qualifications:

- Ability to efficiently and effectively operate all types of heavy equipment including a grader
- Ability to maintain municipal roadways and snow clearing
- be in possession of a valid Class 5 Manitoba Driver's License, Class 1 license would be considered an asset.
- have mechanical aptitude
- Ability to work in a team environment
- be able to perform physical duties as assigned.

This is a permanent fulltime position to start immediately. The Municipality offers a comprehensive pension and benefit plan.

Interested applicants may submit a resume with references and salary expectations by 4:00 PM, Monday, December 1st, 2025

**Municipality of Glenella-Lansdowne
PO Box 10
Glenella, MB R0J 0V0
Email: rmofglen@glenella.ca**

We thank all applicants for their interest, however, only those being considered for an interview will be contacted.

The Town of Neepawa
has issued a Request for Quote for a

CAMPGROUND MANAGER

Reporting to the Manager of Operations, the Campground Manager is responsible for customer service, overseeing the daily operations, bookings, grounds maintenance, etc. of Neepawa's Riverbend Campground for the 2026 Camping Season.

The Manager(s) are to be on site everyday, and a lot will be provided for camper or tent.

For further details, please visit:
www.neepawa.ca or request a copy in person at the Town Office

**RFQ Deadline is
December 8, 2025 at 3:30 pm.**
all packages are to be delivered to the Town of Neepawa, 275 Hamilton Street or emailed to: operations@neepawa.ca

Visit www.neepawa.ca for more details.



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Beautiful Plains Community Foundation pleased with results of Giving Challenge 2025

Submitted
BEAUTIFUL PLAINS COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

The Beautiful Plains Community Foundation (BPCF) participated in the Endow Manitoba Giving Challenge over the week of Nov. 10 to 16. During this week, funds donated to community foundations in Manitoba were "stretched" - every five-dollar gift was turned into a seven-dollar gift, through the generosity of The Winnipeg Foundation and the Manitoba Government. Donations made to the BPCF, along with the stretch funding, were invested in the BPCF's Community Fund.

The BPCF receives the majority of its donations during the week of the Giving Challenge. Many of our generous donors wait until this giving week to make their donations, recognizing that their gift goes further thanks to the stretched funds.

The BPCF administers the Community Fund and a number of other long-term endowment funds. With an endowment fund the charitable donations are invested, and the interest earned every year is donated to causes that support our communities. Because most endowments last forever, the amount gifted to the BPCF through an endowment fund will surpass the value of the original gift. These permanent endowment funds ensure that the BPCF will always be able to provide grants to meet the growing needs of the communities.

The BPCF plays an essential role in strengthening the Neepawa and area communities by providing the stability and long-term support that helps local organ-

izations thrive. By building the permanent endowment funds, the BPCF ensures that charitable dollars stay in the area forever, generating annual grants that strengthen healthcare, education, recreation, and many other vital services. This support allows local groups to plan for the future, respond to emerging needs, and continue offering programs that improve daily life for people in the communities. Beyond funding, the BPCF also brings people together by connecting donors, volunteers, and community leaders to create meaningful change. Its presence helps ensure that Neepawa and the surrounding communities remain vibrant, resilient, and well-supported, both today and for generations to come.

This year's Giving Challenge was a success for the BPCF. Thanks to the generosity of donors and community supporters, and with the help of The Winnipeg Foundation and Manitoba Government, the BPCF raised \$31,295 which will be invested into the unrestricted Community Fund. The amount raised this year more than doubles that of previous years. According to Melissa Grindheim, executive director of the BPCF, "Seeing firsthand how committed the community is and how much support the BPCF received during this year's Giving Challenge was truly remarkable."

The BPCF accepts donations all year round, not only during the Giving Challenge. It is never too late to contribute to our beautiful communities. The deadline for 2025 contributions to receive a charitable tax donation receipt is Tuesday, Dec. 30.

Newdale hosts community cribbage tournament



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Dale Koroscil of Sandy Lake (on left) and Larry Zurbyk of Elphinstone (on right) won this year's Newdale Cribbage Tournament.

Submitted
NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS

The third annual Newdale Cribbage Tournament was held on Nov. 8, at the Newdale Community Hall. In total, 60 people (30 teams) competed against each other for huge cash prizes.

First place was awarded to Dale Koroscil of Sandy Lake and Larry Zurbyk of Elphinstone

Second place and the 1/2 way highest score went to Ed Broome and Lloyd Willment of Brandon, and third place to Cindy Ruppel and Dianne Sandstrom of Minnedosa. Guess the number of Jelly Beans in the Jar contest was won by Nostyn Hart of Thompson, which he graciously shared with the entire group.

The 50/50 draw of \$422.00 was split between

Newdale Harrison House Christmas Meal Program and Larry McMurachy of Shoal Lake. The roast beef dinner was tasty and enthusiastically embraced.

Congratulations to all the winners. Thank you to the participants who supported our small community and the Newdale Cribbage Committee Volunteers who helped make this tournament a success.

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TIMBER HARVESTING
We buy standing Spruce and Poplar timber

MERRY

Christmas

The Neepawa Banner & Press staff are taking a little bit of an extra (well deserved) holiday this year!

Our office will be closed
December 22, 2025 - January 2, 2026

There will be no
December 26th and January 2nd issues
of the Neepawa Banner & Press.

We do apologize for the inconvenience this may cause.

Our emails are still open!
If you've got a news tip, story or event, let us know!
Call 204-476-3401 or e-mail kwaddell@neepawabanner.com
Any advertisements e-mail ads@neepawabanner.com

Thank you
Ken Waddell, Publisher

Empire-
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& Press**

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Arts West Travelling Gallery reaches Neepawa



PHOTOS BY CASPER WEHRHAHN, ART BY EACH RESPECTIVE ARTIST.

The 46th annual edition of the Arts West Travelling Gallery was displayed right here in Neepawa recently. The exhibit had its last day at the Neepawa Library on Nov. 15, and featured 20 works from Westman artists. These works were selected out of 142 entries to the 46th Westman Juried art Show by jurors Leona Brown and Ben Davis. The travelling gallery will visit a total of 18 communities in southwestern Manitoba over the next year. Shown here are some of the pieces that were on display.

Top left: "The Sourcerer" by Cheyenne VanSteelandt, of Melita

Top right: "Happy Meal Surprise" by Shannon Desjardins, of Neepawa.

Bottom left: "Hope" by Geraldine Nelson, of Neepawa.

Bottom right: "Donor" by Mike Davids, of Neepawa.



BECOME A Medical Administration Assistant

The Town of Neepawa and Assiniboine College are planning to deliver this certificate program in Neepawa in March 2026.

This 8-month program provides students with foundational administrative and technical skills required for entry-level employment in healthcare settings.

For upcoming info session dates, visit assiniboine.net/medicaladminassistant

Apply today!
assiniboine.net/apply



JOIN OUR *Board of Directors*

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS – APPLY BY JANUARY 2, 2026

Are you ready to help shape the future of Manitoba's largest credit union? We're seeking passionate, forward-thinking individuals to join our Board of Directors.

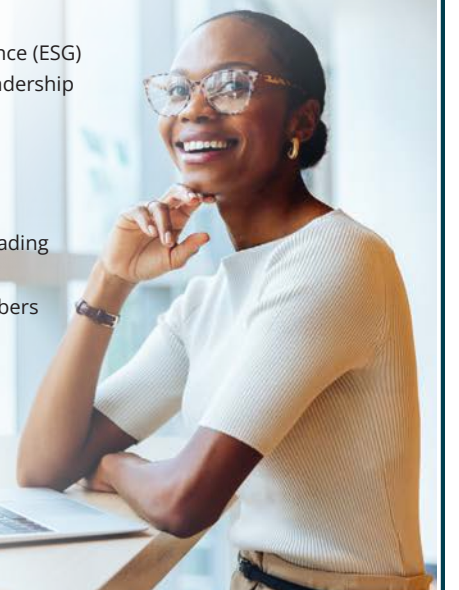
We welcome candidates from diverse backgrounds, cultures, identities, and regions to ensure our Board reflects the communities we serve. Ideal applicants bring a blend of professional expertise and lived experience, with strengths in one or more of the following areas:

- IT, and digital governance
- Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG)
- Strategic planning and executive leadership
- Human Resources leadership
- Business acumen

WHY SERVE ON OUR BOARD?

- ✓ Influence the strategic direction of a leading financial institution
- ✓ Champion initiatives that benefit members and communities across Manitoba
- ✓ Receive compensation for this paid governance role

LEARN MORE AT accesscu.ca



Co-op FUND-spiel curls for a worthy cause

By Eoin Devereux
NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS

The management and staff with Neepawa-Gladstone Co-op had so much fun helping out a local cause last year that they decided to do it again this year...Only this time bigger and better than before.

The Neepawa-Gladstone Co-op hosted its' second annual Co-op FUND-spiel, on Nov. 7, at the Neepawa Curling Club. This event brought together community members for an exciting day of curling, which also assisted in raising funds for upgrades to the Salvation Army's cargo van.

In total, 12 teams participated in the day's festivities, which included a round or two curling, as well as a raffle and meal.

The day's activities proved to be an amazing revenue generator for the charity, as \$4,241 was brought in from the combined fundraising efforts and sponsorships. That

number is an incredible jump up from last year's results, which saw a combined \$2,510 raised.

Amanda Naughton-Gale, Community Ministries Director at Salvation Army Neepawa noted that the funds will go towards a new cargo van for food rescue and deliveries to the satellite food bank in McCreary.

"So the van will, most likely, cost upwards of \$100,000 to purchase. We need a style of cargo van, that is refrigerated, so that will be expensive. This support from the Co-op gets us moving on that process. [Neepawa-Gladstone Co-op] have been so supportive of us throughout the years, and we are so appreciative."

Neepawa-Gladstone Co-op would like to thank the sponsors of the event: Neepawa Curling Club, Hylife, Brett Young, Coretva, Bayer and Adama, as well as all the curlers and spectators who attended the event.



SUBMITTED PHOTO
Community Ministries Director Amanda Naughton-Gale accepts the Commemorative cheque from Neepawa-Gladstone Co-op, who were able to raise the funds from its' second annual FUND-spiel.



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