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Merry Christmas
&
Happy New Year!



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Merry Christmas
and
Happy New Year!



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Inside this week



Wishing you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year



Feature: Merry Christmas



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PHOTO BY JOSHUA JACKSON

The Neepawa Figure Skating Club dazzled on ice as they held thier annual Christmas on Ice figure skating show. From the CanSkate Elves, to synchro performances, and solo routines, the figure skaters wowed the crowd. Pictured here is the Regional Beginner 2 Synchro Team mid performance. More photos can be found on Page 9.



happy holidays

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Alright, everybody in the pool

Best Western Plus Neepawa completes its pool construction

By Eoin Devereux
NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS

Neepawa’s newest hotel made another splash last weekend, with the opening of its pool area to customers. The area features the L-shaped indoor pool, as well as a spray fountain, lounge chairs and a hot tub.

The management and shareholders for the Neepawa Best Western Plus celebrated the occasion with a ribbon cutting ceremony on Saturday, Dec. 13. Murray Parrott, who has publicly represented the local shareholders group on the project, served as the emcee for the day. He thanked everyone involved for their commitment to the project, the builders as well as the employees and management for their efforts, during the build. He noted it has

been quite the journey to get to this day, and that the support of the local investors on this project made it possible.

After the ribbon cutting ceremony was completed, Neepawa Best Western Plus General Manager Trish Hall provided the Banner & Press a chance to see the finished space, just before patrons arrived.

Hall noted this addition ensures that Neepawa’s Best Western is providing the best possible experience to guests, who are arriving to our community.

The completion of the pool was the primary focus of phase two of Best Western’s plans for Neepawa. The first phase involved the opening of the hotel itself to the public back in July.

The exact cost of this portion of the project has not been made public.



PHOTOS BY EOIN DEVEREUX

Minnedosa Veterinary Clinic receives provincial funding

Joshua Jackson
NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS

The Town of Minnedosa and three neighbouring rural municipalities have received provincial funding to support the expansion of veterinary services in the region.

The Government of Manitoba canvassed the Westman and Parkland regions last week, announcing a \$2.6 million provincial investment.

Within the announcement, the government is providing \$671,664 toward a Veterinary Clinic Expansion through a joint application involving the Rural Municipalities of Minto-Odanah, Harrison Park and Clanwilliam-Erickson, along with the Town of Minnedosa.

The funding is delivered through the Manitoba Growth, Renewal and Opportunities for Municipalities (Manitoba GRO) program, which supports infrastructure projects



PHOTO BY RRAIN PRIOR

Members of the RM’s of Minto-Odanah, Harrison Park and Clanwilliam-Erickson, along with the Town of Minnedosa pose for a photo with Northern Relations Minister Glen Simard

outside Winnipeg.

The veterinary clinic expansion will strengthen access to essential animal health services for livestock producers, pet owners and rural residents across the region.

In a press release, Municipal and Northern Relations Minister Glen Simard

said these projects reflect the strength of local collaboration and the importance of building sustainable communities.

“This funding will help municipalities deliver the infrastructure families and businesses rely on every day, including veterinary services, recreation facilities,

and critical road and bridge upgrades. This is the first Manitoba GRO project funded through a regional co-operation application, allowing multiple municipalities to work together on shared priorities.”

Minnedosa Town Councillor and Chair of the

Minnedosa and District Veterinary Board said this funding helps fill a critical need in the area.

“Veterinary care in rural Manitoba is increasingly precarious, with Clinic space, growing demands, workforce pressures and aging facilities, all of which

put essential services at risk. This investment directly addresses these challenges by allowing us to expand our clinic and strengthen its long-term viability,” he said. “By doing so, we are better able to serve clients, producers, and families across our region, ensuring reliable veterinary care that supports animal health, public health, and the local economy.”

2025 marked the first time municipalities were permitted to submit joint applications under the Manitoba GRO program, allowing smaller communities to collaborate on projects with regional impact.

Other projects included \$1,262,314 for the Grandview Community Sustainability Initiative, \$225,000 for the Swan River Legion Park Revitalization, \$438,000 for a road and bridge rehabilitation project, and \$59,150 for the RM of Mountain to conduct Oliniyk Bridge Repairs.



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2005: Cemetery sapling becomes rogue X-mas tree?

By Casper Wehrhahn
NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS

**125 years ago,
Wednesday,
December 19, 1900**

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

Franklin: Franklin is getting to be quite a wood centre of supply along the line. This forms one of the great trades of winter. That with our good grain market is attracting considerable attention. With increasing trade facilities our village is destined to go ahead. A few more lines of trade would flourish to advantage in our midst. Someone will seize the golden opportunity soon there is no doubt.

The Register will not be issued next week.

**100 years ago,
Tuesday,
December 15, 1925**

McCreary community has been somewhat stirred and amused for a while over a case of assault, the outcome of which is that a frail old man is restrained for two years from using his cane on the head of a vigorous young man who pestered him about debts. Perhaps the pestering will cease, also, and peace prevail.

**75 years ago,
Thursday,
December 21, 1950**

Brookdale: The biggest building project in the



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE BANNER & PRESS ARCHIVES

Neepawa Public Works employee Jack Follows (pictured) was left wondering where a blue spruce tree went in December of 2005. The tree had been planted ten years prior and was located in the Riverside cemetery. It was cut down by thieves in 2005—perhaps for a Christmas tree.

district for the year is the new Memorial skating rink. It was opened on Dec. 1 with a big crowd in attendance. It is a credit to the district and will give lots of recreation for young and old.

Brookdale: H. Simpson has built a big new garage that will house a car, truck and tractor.

**50 years ago,
Thursday,
December 18, 1975**

Birnie: A fire at the home of Gordon Pryor, one and a half miles east of Birnie, which broke out mid-afternoon Saturday, caused extensive smoke damage, though actual fire damage was limited.

Between 70 and 80 people braved the icy winds and swirling snow Monday to attend the official opening of the new Manitoba Pool elevator in Neepawa.

The ribbon cutting ceremony that declared the elevator open was handled by Bob Newton and took place at 11:00 a.m.

Mountain Road: Congratulations are extended to Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Masters (nee Judy Wisnoski) on the birth of their first baby, a son, Richard Scott, at the Thompson hospital on Dec. 11.

**20 years ago,
Monday,
December 19, 2005**

A black Rottweiler-cross is the first animal to be declared a dangerous dog under the town's new animal control bylaw.

'Twas two weeks before Christmas and somewhere in town, a creature was stirring—cutting a tree down...

What makes the theft of this Christmas tree so unusual is that it wasn't in

a tree lot, or even a snow covered field. This tree was smack dab in the middle of Neepawa's Riverside Cemetery.

Town of Neepawa Public Works employee Jack Follows said over the years,

trees have been clipped by drivers on the narrow cemetery lanes, but this is the first time one's ever been chopped down for a Christmas tree.

Brookdale: Pepinics Bonanza Bar, a four-year-old mare bred and owned by McLeod's Paint and Quarter Horses of Brookdale was the winner of the 2005 Select Ranch Horse competition held at Agribition in Regina Nov. 25.

Trained and shown by Clint and Susan Christianson of Bracken, Saskatchewan, Pepinics Bonanza Bar netted \$10,000 in prize money as well as the use of an aluminum trailer for one year.

This mare was also the highest selling horse of the Select Ranch Horse sale held later that afternoon, bringing in \$11,500.

Pepinics Bonanza Bar is from the first crop of foals sired by Pepinics Paradise, who is also owned by McLeod's Paint and Quarter Horses.

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.

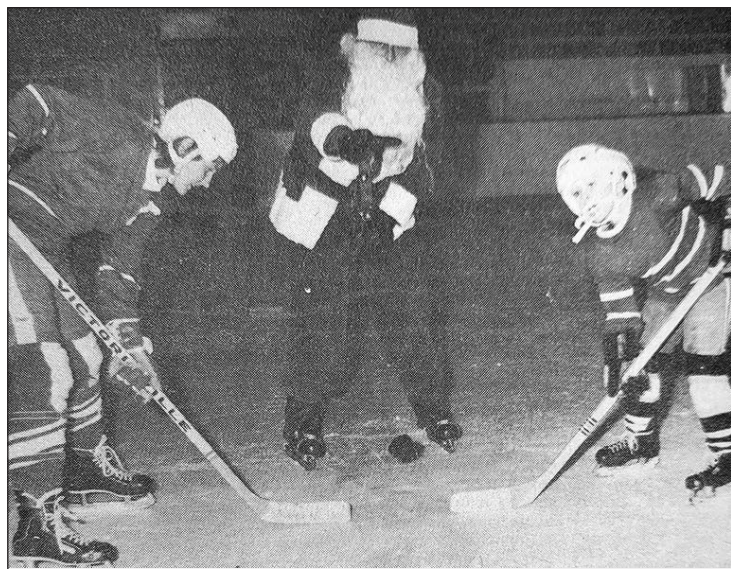


PHOTO COURTESY OF THE BANNER & PRESS ARCHIVES

Boys met girls in hockey action in December of 2005, with Santa Claus acting as referee. The Neepawa Blades girl's hockey team took on a team of six-year-old boys, with the boys coming out on top with a little help from old St. Nick. Yvonne Bremner and one of the stars of the boys' team opened the action as Santa dropped the puck.

**Mary responded,
"Oh, how I praise the Lord.
How I rejoice in God my Savior!"**
Luke 1:46-47, 49 (The Living Bible)

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This ad from Neepawa Florists was in the Dec. 19, 2005 edition of The Neepawa Press.

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Highlights of the week
Christmas Ice Show
Dec. 22 at 12:30 pm | Dec. 26 at 4:30pm | Jan 4 at 8:30pm
NACI Winter Band Concert
Dec. 29 at 1:00pm | Dec. 31 at 7pm | Jan. 2 at 4:45pm
Coffee Chat: Jodie Byram
Dec. 18 at 6:30pm | Dec. 20 at 7pm | Dec. 28 at 2pm

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Tundra

By Chad Carpenter



Christmas is a time to take action

In a world that seems to be filled with trouble, poverty and war, I think it's important to do all we can to change what we can. The Serenity Prayer pretty much sums it up. The Serenity prayer says, "God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, Courage to change the things I can, And wisdom to know the difference."

I grieve for all the people who are so badly affected by war and poverty. I pray and hope and wish for an end to war and hatred and violence. In addition to the prayers, hopes and wishes, we can do all within our power and circle of influence to make as many positive changes as we can control.

Go back a few lines and re-read the Serenity Prayer above and let those words wash over you. Most of us will not be called upon to end war and poverty in far-away lands, but we are being called upon every day to have the "Courage to change the things I can".

Here's some suggestions to ponder.

Go to church, a mosque, a temple or synagogue. Don't get hung up on what the name on the building is, get hung up on what they teach and believe.

Maybe you haven't ever been to a church, or it's been a long time or your parents or grandparents used to go to church. Check out the churches in your area. No, they aren't perfect. Or if they are, they won't be after you to start attending. (Don't take offence at that, it's a joke).

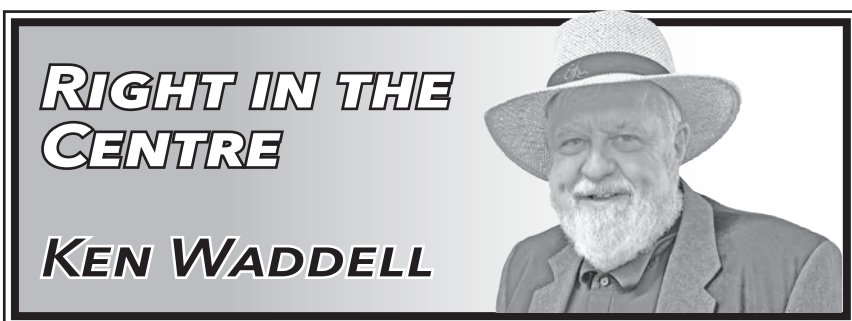
Here's another joke for you. If you won't go to a church because of all the hypocrites that attend there, make sure you aren't putting a hypocrite between you and God because that means they are closer to God than

you are.

I think we all admire our ancestors to some extent. Every people group known to Canada has a background of establishing a place of worship. First Nations, Red River Metis, every settler group that has come to Western Canada (and that includes First Nations albeit they arrived a lot earlier than others) all set up a system and place of worship.

We all should be participating in and supporting what we believe in.

Here is another idea. As a society, we have taken a number of things out of our daily experience. Our public schools have taken away Bible readings and repeating the Lord's Prayer. I can somewhat understand that we have many different beliefs but why can't we sing O'Canada and God save the King? Sporting events do better than many other venues with anthems than the schools do. If people can't sing O'Canada or God save the King, maybe they shouldn't be in Canada. I get it. Canada has lots of faults and so does King Charles, I know that. But, Canada has done fairly well by us all and as much as we complain about Canada, our King and the British system of parliament, is there some other place you would rather live? To that I say, don't let the door hit you where the Good Lord split you on your way out the door.



And a bit more on churches if you will indulge me. Over the centuries, in spite of the problems churches have caused, we would not have as many hospitals as we have without the churches. Many hospitals were started by our churches. We would not have as many universities either. Brandon University, University of Winnipeg, Canadian Mennonite University, Providence College, St. John's College, St. Paul's College are all church based and founded institutions. And I may have missed a few.

I firmly believe it is incumbent on us all to do more for God and Country. If you believe, as I do, that Canada is slipping as a country, then I implore you to reflect at this time as to what more you can do.

At this Christmas season we must remain thankful to God for his provision and mercy. Christmas is a great time to think upon God and his Son Jesus.

We are born, we live and then we die. God is good through it all and it is incumbent upon us all to live in his blessing and pass it along whenever and wherever we can.

May God bless you and yours this season and in the year ahead!

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



Traditions!

Papa in Fiddler on the Roof, belts out 'Tradition' and then with dialogue and song explores some of the common practices of his village. The roles were clearly defined, the requirements for eating, dressing, sleeping and working all stemmed from traditions. He asks 'how did it get started?' and with a shrug and a chuckle admits 'I don't know!'. That can be said for many, if not most, of the traditions we carry forth.

The Christmas tree should not be set up or decorated until the Saturday evening before the First Sunday of Advent, a law according to Ed. I understood that a bit when we cut and hauled in a live tree. But then, the tree was required to stay until at least the sixth of January. With falling needles it made more sense to get it up earlier and take it down right after New Year's, at the latest! Tradition won, until the decision of when to put up the tree rested solely on my shoulders. And this year, I have chosen not to put a tree up at all.

Scratch tradition! A custom that developed under my reign was blue lights, on the tree and around the home. Blue, for me, is a peaceful, tranquil colour, calling me home. I have put that custom away as well. The blue LED lights on a tree bother my head, just like fluorescent lights do.

There are no lights on the outside of my home either. After downsizing and estate tidying I don't want one more thing for anyone to look after. My grandson assures that putting up the lights- and they would have to be in a perfectly straight line- is not a problem, and then taking them down, whenever- would also not be a problem. I am now challenged to think through why I don't want them or come up with better excuses/reasons!

Christmas Baking! Now there's a tradition I can embrace. I have made the fruit cake, it has ripened, I have sampled, and all is well. I made a family favourite, date filled oatmeal cookies, the kind you roll out and sandwich when cool. I was thrilled to have my great grand think they were good enough to have a second (*I don't make them huge*) and I smile to think that this tradition may go another generation. I used to make many sugar cookies, in many shapes and with attention to decorating. I've not been moved that far...yet.

And then there is the music. One must have carols playing softly in the background. Not so much anymore. Music was a major (get the pun?) part of our family life. There were concerts to practice for and preparations for programs at care homes, there was singing for pleasure. Several times I have selected holiday music and too quickly become distracted. So, I don't need background noise. I will enjoy every concert and service I attend.

Start a new tradition, enjoy an old one. And when asked 'how did it get started?' it's okay to reply 'I don't know'. Happy Holidays and Merry Christmas.

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Canada



The presence you bring this holiday season

They stand in a circle hand in hand, swaying around a Christmas tree singing, “Fahoo Fores, Fa Who Doraze”, tiny Whos from Whoville coming together despite collectively hurting because of the actions of the Grinch. One of the deep meanings behind Dr. Seuss’s *The Grinch* is how gifts and tangible things aren’t what matters around Christmas, it’s about love and community and coming together. The Grinch was written in 1957 for a time when coming together was the norm, little did he know that his Christmas wish would remain just as vital for 2025 as it was for 1957 when coming together becomes for those who are privileged enough to do so.

I’ve spoken before about how I don’t think that we were meant to live in isolation as human beings. We are inherently social creatures, even those who feel that they do better solo- and genuinely thrive in it- will seek out another human being after a time alone. Yet, despite this, we do live in more isolation than we once did. Families are separated across cities, provinces, even countries out of necessity and some by choice. Whatever the reason— the result can feel the same— a sense of isolation and a gradual disconnect from other people. Coming together

is vital for humans to feel a sense of community and to thrive as active members of that community.

For those who are privileged enough to have friends, we are beginning to see a steady decline in gatherings of friends around the holiday season. Once upon a time it was not uncommon for one to have weekends booked solidly for the entire month of December due to social gatherings. Yes, the sheer amount of these gatherings came with a side effect of complete exhaustion, however, we cannot negate the sense of community and family that comes with them. Coming together as friends or family for group gatherings is an essential ingredient in a recipe for belonging.

Our little ones look up to us and will gain a sense of belonging by being part of a family or community coming together. Increasingly I see us teaching our children that coming together is optional or something that is more work than its worth, rather than an essential aspect of being a human being. Coming together is as natural as taking breath, it’s as much a part of being

human as putting one foot in front of the other.

I suppose what I’m trying to say is that coming together should be valued even higher than Christmas gifts, even though Amazon will be the thing many think of first before they consider who to invite into their home. Coming together should be an essential aspect of a child’s holiday season rather than seen as an afterthought or a chore. How do you start coming together? Pick up the phone. Pick up your messenger and start communicating. Is there someone in your life who doesn’t have a lot of family around or someone who you think would be genuinely a good time to hang out with? Stop waiting for them to call you, stop putting off socializing for other things. Your home doesn’t have to be perfect. The moment doesn’t have to be perfect. Just...communicate. Communication is the first step to coming together. The rest, should begin to fall in place. Remember it’s not about the presents you bring this holiday season, it’s about the presence you bring this holiday season.

**YOUR
LISTENING EAR
DELSIE MARTIN**

HELEN DRYSDALE

OUT OF HELEN’S KITCHEN

With the holidays soon upon us

With the holidays soon upon us, the kids will be at home for two weeks. Get those little hands busy in the kitchen to help make these recipes for the special people (and dogs) in your lives.

Many writers and poets have referred to the New Year as a chance to begin anew, to hope for a brighter future, and indefinite possibilities. I want to extend my warmest wishes to you and your loved ones. May this year be blessed with love, laughter, peace and good health.

Cheeseburger soup

This cheeseburger soup takes everything you love about cheese burgers and transforms it into a cheesy and creamy soup. Your whole family will love it.

1 lb. hamburger
4 cups beef broth
1 medium onion, chopped
2 garlic cloves, finely chopped
2 celery stalks, sliced
2 medium carrots, sliced
4 medium sized potatoes, cubed
1 tsp. salt
1/2 tsp. pepper
1 tsp. prepared mustard

2 tsp. dried parsley flakes
1/4 cup butter
1/4 cup flour
2 cups milk, preferably whole milk
2 cups shredded cheddar cheese

Garnish:

2 green onions, thinly sliced
bacon bits
dill pickles, diced

Cook hamburger stirring frequently, until the meat is brown and crumbly, five to seven minutes. Drain of any excess fat and put into a large pot. Add the beef broth, onion, garlic and celery and cook for five minutes. Add the carrots, potatoes, salt, pepper, mustard and parsley flakes to the pot and bring to a boil. Turn the heat down and simmer until the potatoes start to become tender, 10 to 12 minutes. Meanwhile in a small frying pan add the butter and the flour. Cook for three to five minutes until bubbly. Slowly add the milk to the flour stirring all the time. When this thickens slowly add to the pot of soup stirring all the while. Simmer for a few minutes more. Remove from the heat, add the grated cheese, stir gently and serve. Garnish with desired toppings.

Candy cane cheese cake

Base:

1 1/2 cup chocolate cookie
or chocolate chip cookie crumbs
1/4 cup sugar
1/4 cup melted butter

Topping:

1 package cream cheese,
room temperature
1 can sweetened condensed milk
1/2 cup crushed
peppermint candy canes
1/2 tsp. peppermint extract
1 -1 litre Cool Whip, thawed

Combine the base ingredients. Reserve 1/4 cup for topping and press remaining crumbs into a 9x9” pan. Put in the freezer while you make the topping. Mix the cream cheese together with the sweetened condensed milk. Reserve 1 tablespoon of the crushed candy for the garnish. Add the remaining candy and the peppermint extract to the cream cheese. Fold in the Cool Whip. Spread over base. Garnish with remaining candy and crumbs. Cover with plastic wrap and freeze until ready to use. Do not thaw before serving.

Peanut butter and banana dog biscuits

Everyone loves cookies but dogs may be the most appreciative recipients of all! For your dog’s stocking get your kids to help make these yummy biscuits as they can help stir, roll and cut them out. I have a cutter that is shaped like a dog biscuit but you could use another shape or cut strips out with a knife.

1 cup smooth peanut butter
1 ripe banana, mashed
1 Tbsp. bacon grease or oil

2 cups whole wheat flour
1/2 cup water (if needed)

Preheat oven to 350°F (175°C). Mix peanut butter, mashed banana and bacon grease in a bowl. Gradually add whole wheat flour, mixing until a dough forms. Add water if needed. Roll out dough to 1/4 inch thickness and cut into shapes. Place two inches apart on an ungreased baking sheet and bake for 25-30 minutes until bottoms are lightly browned. Tops may crack but that is okay. Let cool on wire racks completely before storing in an airtight container.

Is Neepawa making space for its youth?

A quiet shift is reshaping our town. 15 years ago the average age of Neepawa was 8 years older, for the first time as of last census there was more people in Neepawa under the age of 45 than above.

The Town of Neepawa, used to be called a “retirement town,” gaining residents seeking affordability and calm. This is now being countered, by an even more powerful, demographic force: international immigration, which has dramatically transformed the community. Nearly half of Neepawa’s population of over 5,700 now identifies as Filipino, a near doubling since 2016. This growth is largely driven by the HyLife Foods pork-processing plant, which actively recruits a multitude of workers annually.

This trend brings to mind a famous 1960s experiment: John Calhoun’s “Mouse Utopia.” He placed mice in an enclosed space with unlimited food and water, free from predators or disease. The only limit was physical space.

At first, the colony thrived. But as density increased, society broke down. Mice abandoned social roles; mothers neglected young; some males became hyper-aggressive, others totally withdrawn “beautiful ones” who only ate, slept, and groomed. Despite plentiful resources, stress from overcrowding led to what Calhoun called a “behavioral sink.” The population collapsed and never recovered.

What does this have to do with retirees moving to the country, a wave of new international residents, and young people already here?

The experiment was less about mice and more about the effects of unsustainable density, not just of bodies, but of pressures. Today’s youth may not live in physically crowded pens, but many face a different squeeze:

• **Competition in a Shifting Economy:** While major employers like HyLife provide jobs, are there

**BLOWING
THE DUST OFF
JOEL ASSELSTINE**



diverse, long-term career paths for youth beyond a single industry? Is there support for young entrepreneurs or professionals in different fields?

• **Social Space in a Changing Town:** As the population grows and changes, are there enough inclusive third spaces? Affordable housing? Community centers and recreational programs? Where can our young people connect, lead, and build a sense of belonging?

• **Navigating Rapid Change:** The town’s rapid demographic shift is a testament to its economic pull, but it also creates growing pains in housing and services. Are young people equipped with the skills and support to thrive amidst this change?

Retirees seek physical space and peace. Newcomers seek economic opportunity and stability. Young people seek economic and social space, room to build a life, not just find a job. The lesson from Calhoun’s mice isn’t that we’re doomed, but that environmental design matters.

So, what is Neepawa providing? The foundations are being laid:

• **Economic Supports:** Annual job fairs connect seekers with employers. The Manitoba Youth Job Centre offers free career help for those 13-29. Events like the “What’s the Big Idea” workshop encourage entrepreneurship.

• **Skills & Education:** Assiniboine College offers

local medical training. Workshops on pathways to homeownership provide financial literacy. We also have the ECE Program.

Yet, the critical question remains: are these supports designed to help young people not just live in Neepawa, but to build and lead here? Are we co-designing a community with them, or just making room for them in a structure built for other demographics?

Beyond beer league sports, what other spaces does Neepawa have for young people? Games night at Brews Brothers is great, and sports leagues are good, but do we have any space where a group of teenagers can just sit back and relax? Where is our Pop’s Diner from the Archie comics? Where are the arcades of old? If I had the capital, I’d turn the old Harris Pharmacy into an arcade and diner, a safe space for youth to be youth, with ice cream floats and Pac-Man. Maybe some “Super Smash Bros” thrown in.

The most vibrant communities intentionally create space for all generations. For Neepawa, the true test of avoiding a modern “behavioral sink” won’t be in managing population growth, but in ensuring that growth includes purposeful pathways for its youth. Turning a retirement and relocation destination into a launchpad for the next generation.

Franklin Christmas supper a success

By Linda Fleger
FRANKLIN MEMORIAL HALL

The Franklin Memorial Hall held a very well attended outreach Potluck Christmas Supper and Carolling Night on Friday, Dec. 12. It was a very enjoyable evening. The community thanks Pastor Harry and Bernice Friesen who lead in the carolling and preparing

for the event. Also thanks to Douglas Wilkinson, Murray Parrott and Pastor Beth MacDonald for their help.

Attendance of 50 people was a bit lower than expected due to the extreme cold weather but a lovely turkey supper was enjoyed by all in attendance. Three meals were delivered to people that couldn’t come out to the meal.

The meat package was won by Linda Harp and the poinsettia, donated by Doug Wilkinson, was won by Linda Minkus.



Thumbs up, thumbs down



A big thumbs up to everyone who attended the Lessons and Carols event hosted by the Neepawa Area Community Choir and NUASM and gave so generously at the door. Over \$1400 was donated to Neepawa’s Salvation Army.

Blair Chapman
Neepawa, MB

To Public Works, Please use the snow gate on the grader when crossing the garage entrance for us seniors. Thank you.

Fred Quist
Neepawa, MB



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Building something meaningful

ABC Therapy Services co-owners reflect on recent expansion, share future plans

By Casper Wehrhahn
NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS

Last week's paper featured the grand opening of the new location for A Better Connection (ABC) Therapy Services. This week, the Neepawa Banner & Press had the opportunity to speak with co-owners Shelby Gillies (Speech Language Pathologist) and Martina Villa (Behaviour Consultant) on the growth of their business and services thus far.

Rapid growth

The therapy service first got its start in Neepawa on Sept. 17, 2024 as ABC with Shelby Gillies, with Gillies as the sole owner and services provider. At that time, the business was located in

the east wing of the Breaker 16 Building, just outside of town. Then, in June of 2025, Gillies and Villa's collaborations began.

"We had been talking on the phone for quite a while, shaping ideas and planning what our collaboration could look like. Things became more official and structured in August 2025, which is when we began actively searching for the perfect clinic space and moved forward with the planning process," said Villa.

This partnership marked the official change to 'ABC Therapy Services', and their subsequent relocation to 41 Main Street East.

"When we expanded into 'A Better Connection Therapy Services', finding a space right in town felt nat-

ural and practical. Neepawa is growing quickly and has become a central hub for surrounding communities," said Gillies. "The location helps reduce long driving times for families and makes services more accessible for people in the nearby areas. It felt like the right place to build something that supports both local families and those commuting from nearby towns."

Stepping into their new space for the first time, and holding their first therapy session, on Nov. 21, 2025 was described by the pair as 'surreal'.

"Seeing our vision become real feels incredibly accomplishing. We put so much work into every step of this process, and being inside the finished clinic re-

minds us why we did it. The space holds a lot of significance because it represents growth for the community," Gillies enthused.

Villa added, "It creates more therapy opportunities for individuals and families in and around Neepawa, which was one of our biggest goals. It also reflects our resilience and commitment as young business owners. Seeing the clinic open and running shows us, and hopefully others, that when you want something and you put in consistent work, you can build something meaningful."

A major milestone

In addition to their recent move, the co-owners shared that the past six months since their partnership have

been full of momentum. With an abundance of encouragement and support from the public, ABC Therapy formed swiftly.

"Families were eager for a clinic that brought Speech Language Therapy and Behaviour Consulting together under one roof. That need pushed our growth forward faster than we expected," said Gillies. "It has been rewarding to watch the partnership evolve from conversations into a functioning clinic that serves individuals and families. It reinforced that there is a genuine need for accessible, high-quality services in this region."

Grateful for support

Looking forward to the coming years, the duo are eager to incorporate a 'sensory gym'. Sensory gyms, also known as sensory rooms, are calming spaces that help individuals manage stress and/or sensory overload. They often include features such as soft lighting, calming sounds and tactile materials and activities.

"It will support our clients during sessions and

also act as a drop-in option for families who are travelling long distances and need a safe sensory break," said Gillies. "We want it to be a welcoming and supportive space for anyone who needs it."

The ideas don't stop there, however. Villa expanded further, adding, "We are also planning possible spring break and winter break camps, as well as exploring potential creative and engaging therapy options with other professionals for individuals and families. We also want to create different support groups for individuals and families."

In the meantime, the pair wished to share a word of thanks for the support they have received thus far in their venture.

"We feel grateful for the trust families have already shown us," said Gillies. "Building this clinic has been a major milestone, and we are committed to maintaining a warm environment, high-quality therapy, and strong communication. Our goal is to support individuals and families while continuing to grow with the community."

BP Archives: Orange Lodge sweaters



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE BEAUTIFUL PLAINS ARCHIVES

Shown here is a youth sports team, coached by Cecil Bolton (left) and AB Kingdon (right) wearing Neepawa Orange Lodge sweaters in January of 1980. The youth were eight years of age at the time. They are (starting in the back row): Chris Wilman, Glen Sawicki, Chris Turner, Darren McIlwraith, Jason Repko, Blaine Jorundson, Sean Glauser, B. J. Birch, Neil Johnson, Sean Whelan, Myles Cathcart, and Rick Baker.

Westlake

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Wednesday, January 21, 2026, at 5:30 pm
Westlake Office Board Room
342 Mountain Avenue, 2nd Floor, Neepawa, MB

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Here is the house, now make it a home

Neepawa Habitat for Humanity hands over homeowner keys

By Eoin Devereux
NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS

Just in time for Christmas, Ritchel Quezon and her daughter are settling into their new home, after receiving the keys from Neepawa's Habitat for Humanity. A key ceremony organized for the family was held on Thursday, Dec. 11. It celebrated Quezon's journey to home ownership, as well as recognizing the volunteers, donors, and community partners who made the project possible. The evening also included a tour of the house, which is a 970 square foot home with a basement and two bedrooms.

Steepawa Habitat Steering Committee Chair John Lavich said the community coming together to make this project a reality is what Habitat for Humanity is all about.

“Everyone involved with this build should be proud of what this day represents. [During the build] we had a couple hiccups, but nothing major. Overall this was a fantastic build. We had so many builders come in and help, and volunteers

to no end. It was amazing," stated Lavich.

**Built
with love
and dreams**

As for Ritchel, her journey to this moment started a little under four years ago. Since her arrival to Neepawa, the lone caregiver for her teen daughter has worked tirelessly to build up her finances, saving every cent hoping to purchase a place of their own.

Then earlier this year, an opportunity presented itself, in the form of Habitat for Humanity. Quezon learned of the organization, and decided to submit an application. After an extensive process, was chosen as Neepawa's first Habitat partner. Now, all these months later, Ritchel thanked everyone involved for their support.

“Welcome everyone to our new home. We are incredibly happy to have you all here today to celebrate this chapter with us,” said Quezon. “A house is made of walls and beams, but a home is built with love and dreams. It’s your prayers and your presence and your help that makes this house a

PHOTOS BY EOIN DEVEREUX

Above picture: Members of the Neepawa Habitat for Humanity chapter celebrate the completion of building the first home project on Thursday, Dec. 11. Bottom pictures: Neepawa EDO Marilyn Crewe and Habitat for Humanity Steering Chair John Lavich hand over a ceremonial key to Ritchel Quezon and her daughter as part of the house warming ceremony for the new Habitat Home (pictured bottom left).

home. We feel so blessed and so grateful. Thank you.”

A dream realized

The mandate for Habitat for Humanity is to partner with a selected family, build a house to suit their particular needs and sell to them at the fair market value. While there is no

down payment required, a monthly mortgage is paid and is always 27 per cent of the families gross income. While the homeowners are paying the mortgage to Habitat, as opposed to a financial institution, they are still buying that home, just like everyone else.

There are also other requirements for a family to partner with Habitat for Humanity, including putting in 500 hours of what is known as ‘sweat equity’. That doesn’t necessarily mean hammer to nail, though that is acceptable. It’s about volunteering those 500 hours towards improving their community in some capacity. Ritchel is close to having her 500 hours completed and should reach that benchmark by the end of the year.

In a conversation with the Banner & Press, Ritchel couldn't help but feel emotional about what this day represented.

"It feels like I'm dreaming," said Quezon. "We're going to start moving in [on Dec. 12]. We are so happy. Everyone was so helpful. We can't thank them enough, especially Jon [Lavich]. He's my

father...My father building a house for us."

The Neepawa chapter of Habitat for Humanity was established in 2024. This build is the first for the group, with the groundbreaking happening back in May. There is not an exact timeline for the next build to begin. Those details will likely be announced in 2026.



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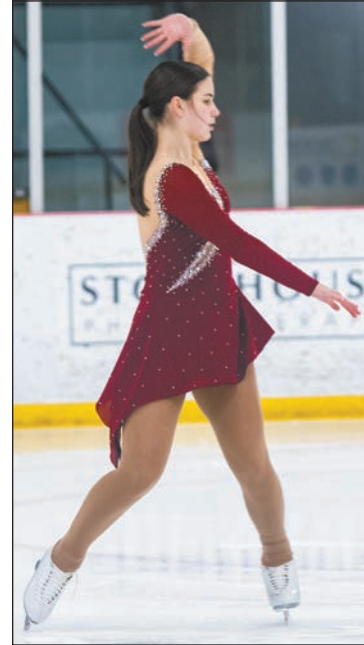
The Rotary Club of Neepawa would like to thank the many businesses and individuals who donated cash or items to contribute to the success of our online auction.

Much of the funds raised will be re-distributed within the community.

We also wish to thank the many individuals who participated in the bidding process. A successful auction has many people bidding on each item. Your participation has helped to make this a successful fundraiser.

Thank You

A Neepawa Figure Skating Club Christmas



PHOTOS BY JOSHUA JACKSON

The Neepawa Figure Skating Club hosted its annual Christmas Show on Sunday, Dec. 14. The evening featured performances by the Figure skating Club's StarSkate, CanSkate, and Synchro teams.

Shown here are a few scenes from the evening, which was full of colour and fun for both the skaters and viewers.



Have a safe and very merry Christmas!

The next paper will be printed in January of 2026.

Titans Teddy Bear Toss a big success



PHOTOS BY EOIN DEVEREUX

The Neepawa Titans Junior 'A' Hockey Club held its Teddy Bear Toss game on Sunday, Dec. 14. The toss took place after Cooper Kasprick scored the first goal, with the team's billet siblings collecting the plush companions. Since then, the Titans have reported that all of the teddy bears have been safely delivered to the Neepawa Salvation Army/Neepawa Community Ministries Centre.



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Sports

Farmers blanked at home by Hartney

By Eoin Devereux
NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS

The Neepawa Farmers were shutout 5-0 on home ice by the Hartney Blues on Saturday, Dec. 13. Goaltender Reiden Bodin stopped all 28 shots he faced to pick up the win for the Blues, while Jeremy Marvin scored twice, including the game winner. Mark Agnew, Taylor Wells and Colin Pottle had the other goals for Hartney.

This was the Blues' second win in as many nights, as they had also defeated the Minnedosa Bombers 6-1 on Friday night. Braeden Beernaerts had the only goal for Minnedosa, scoring off a power-play opportunity midway through the second period.

While the Bombers fell to Hartney, they would bounce back the very next night against the Sandy Bay Flying Feathermen, winning 9-2. Dallas Drysdale, Michael Birch and Shane Jury, all scored twice, with Patrick Kondratiew, Zac Lamb and Logan Robinson

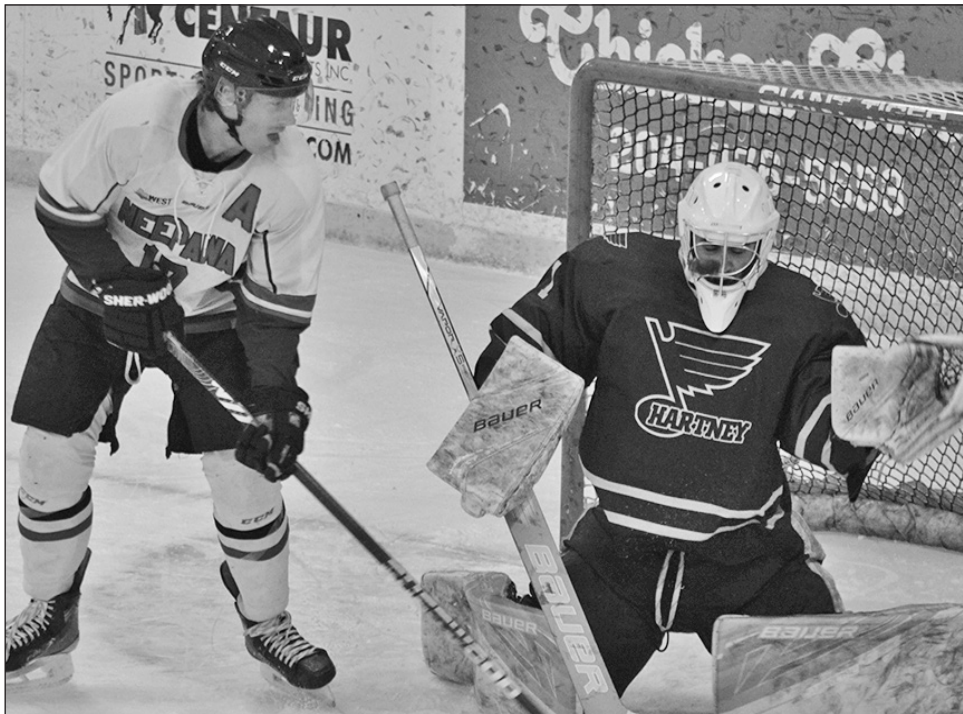


PHOTO BY EOIN DEVEREUX

Hartney Blues goaltender Reiden Bodin used every tool at his disposal, including his face, to stop shots against the Neepawa Farmers, on Saturday, Dec. 13. That effort paid off, as he shutout the Farmers, helping Hartney to 5-0 win.

chipping in singles as well. Dustin Mousseau scored both goals for the Feathermen, who were dealing with a depleted bench, as they only were able to dress nine players.

These split results from

the weekend pushed Minnedosa's record to 7-2-0 on the season, and has them tied for fifth place in the Tiger Hills Hockey League with the Virden Oil Kings. As for Neepawa and their lone game, the loss dropped them

to 5-4-0 on the year, which places them in the middle of the pack, at seventh place in the league. The Farmers' next home game will be on Saturday, Dec. 27, versus the Wawanesa Jets.

Neepawa basketball begins

Varsity boys and girls teams start their schedules

By Eoin Devereux
NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS

The Neepawa Area Collegiate Institute (NACI) Tigers are making a fast break into the high school basketball season just ahead of the holidays. Both the Varsity Boys and Girls team recently played in notable pre-season tournaments.

The Varsity Boys squad were one of 32 teams who participated last weekend in the annual Brandon Sun Spartan Invitational (BSSI).

The massive tourney is split into two tiers, and saw NACI placed in the Tier two category. For the round robin, Neepawa was paired up against the Neelin Spartans, Major Pratt Trojans and a co-op club from Glenboro/Baldur. In round-robin play, the Tigers went 2-1, defeating Neelin by the score of 95-81 and Major Pratt 86-48. Their lone loss was to Glenboro/Baldur, with the final score being 70-49.

Despite the loss, Neepawa's results still advanced them into playoff bracket.

For the playoffs, Neepawa was paired up against the Sanford Sabres, and fell by the score of 70-62. The defeat moved them into the Tier-2 consolation bracket, where they would be defeated by the Gimli Lakers, to close out the tournament.

As for the weekend champions, the Dakota (Winnipeg) Lancers won the Tier-one title, while the Linden Christian (Winnipeg) Wings were crowned the champs of the Tier-two bracket.

As for the NACI Varsity girls, they took part in the Crocus Plains Early Bird Basketball Tournament. In this eight team bracket, the Tigers were paired against the host club from Crocus Plains and lost 53-33. Then in the Consolation bracket semi-final, they fell to Portage Collegiate 74-31. The Tigers concluded the weekend with a 51-30 win



PHOTO BY EOIN DEVEREUX

The NACI Tigers Varsity boys began their Zone 7 season versus the Carberry Cougars on Tuesday, Dec. 17. The Cougars beat the Tigers 84-58.

over Swan Valley, in the seventh place match-up.

These tournaments, however, were not the only action for the NACI Varsity Tigers ahead of Christmas, as both clubs played their

Zone 7 home opener on Tuesday, Dec. 16. For the Varsity Boys, they were defeated by Carberry 84-58, while the Varsity Girls fell to Glenboro/Carberry/Baldur 59-29.

NACI Tigers wrap up first half of hockey season

By Eoin Devereux
NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS

The Neepawa Tigers wrapped up the first half of their Westman High School Hockey League (WHSNL) schedule, with a pair of games on the road. The first of these saw the Tigers travel down to the Reston area on Sunday, Dec. 14 for a matchup against the R/M/S/H Renegades.

After a relatively close 40 minutes of back and forth action, Neepawa took over in the third period, scoring five unanswered goals, to cruise to a 7-2 win. Luke Nicholson picked up a hat-trick with a pair of late game goals to go along with the one he collected in the first period. Kane Lapointe and Ethan Bray also scored a pair for Neepawa, while Ian Foster contributed with three assists. Jase Eros faced 32 shots in goal for NACI and earned his fifth win of the year.

Neepawa concluded its schedule for 2025 with a matinee matchup on Tuesday Dec. 16, in Brandon against the Vincent Massey Vikings (10-2-0, 20 points). In this final game before the holiday break, Neepawa lost a heartbreaker, by the score of 4-3.


In the first period, Neepawa swarmed the home side, outshooting the Vikings 17-8. Those chances

also turned into goals early for the Tigers, as Ian Foster scored twice. His first of the afternoon arrived only 17 seconds into the first period. Vincent Massey did reply, however, before the end of the first period, to make it 2-1.

For the second period, Vincent Massey tied the game only a few minutes into play. That quick response woke Neepawa up, however, as they then peppered Vincent Massey with an additional 19 shots on goal. Despite facing an onslaught of rubber from the NACI attack, Vikings goaltender Hunter Gregory stood tall, and kept the score tied at 2-2 after 40 minutes.

For the third, Neepawa's Brock Pasloski scored early for the Tigers on an unassisted effort. Vincent Massey picked up the equalizer 26 seconds after the Pasloski goal, to make it 3-3. Then with just 1:04 left in regulation, the Vikings scored to take the lead, and eventually the win. Neepawa had fired 49 shots of goal over the course of the game, but Hunter Gregory's performance sealed the Vincent Massey win.

With these results, Neepawa heads into the Christmas break with a 7-3-0 record.



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Sports

MJHL Standings

Western Division	G	W	L	OTL	SOL	Pts
Dauphin Kings	29	18	10	1	0	37
Virden Oil Capitals	27	16	10	1	0	33
Neepawa Titans	30	16	13	0	1	33
Waywayseecappo Wolverines	31	12	17	1	1	26
Swan Valley Stampeders	28	6	18	3	1	16
Northern Manitoba Blizzard	27	5	18	2	2	14

Eastern Division	G	W	L	OTL	SOL	Pts
Niverville Nighthawks	29	26	2	1	0	53
Stienbach Pistons	30	23	6	1	0	47
Portage Terriers	30	23	6	1	0	47
Selkirk Steelers	32	15	15	2	0	32
Winkler Flyers	30	14	13	1	2	31
Winnipeg Blues	25	9	13	3	0	21
Winnipeg Monarchs	30	6	24	0	0	12

Game results

Wednesday, Dec. 3
Portage 6-4 Neepawa

First Period
02:23 POR T. Hill (20)
ASST: D. Uhrina (16)
11:08 POR D. Uhrina (9)
ASST: J. Deschenes (5), R. Platt (23)
13:51 POR R. Thomas (7) PP
ASST: J. Deschenes (6), D. Uhrina (7)

Second Period
03:24 NPA T. Lewis (6)
ASST: J. Clark (9), C. Kasprick (12)
09:59 NPA T. Wamboldt (3)
ASST: A. McIntosh (6)
11:00 POR T. Hill (21) PP
ASST: D. Uhrina (18), O. Witt (11)
11:35 NPA K. Weisgarber (7)
ASST: L. Paquette (15), T. Wallis (12)
14:51 NPA J. Clark (8) PP
ASST: DJ Meloney (11)
18:18 POR R. Platt (14)
ASST: D. Uhrina (19), B. Albers (1)

Third Period
19:26 POR O. Witt (8) EN
ASST: B. Hirschoff (7)

Scoring 1 2 3 Total PP
POR 3 2 1 6 2/4
NPA 0 4 0 4 1/5

Goaltender
POR - M. Kathler - (W) 31/35 saves
NPA - Z. Burleigh - (L) 28/33 saves
Attendance: 243 - Yellowhead Centre

Saturday, Dec. 13
Wayway 3-2 Neepawa

First Period
19:53 NPA J. Clark (14)
ASST: Unassisted

Second Period
18:46 NPA K. Weisgarber (9)
ASST: J. Clark (11), L. Paquette (18)
19:01 WAY D. Duzan (11)
ASST: C. Hunter (16), R. Cyca (9)

Third Period
02:53 WAY S. Hicks (16)
ASST: T. Wuttunee (9)
12:38 WAY K. Rookes (4)
ASST: C. Hunter (17), A. Chipelski (4)

Scoring 1 2 3 Total PP
NPA 1 1 0 2 0/2
WAY 0 1 2 3 0/1

Goaltender
NPA - Z. Burleigh (L) 27/30 saves
WAY - M. Bercier (W) 29/31 saves
Attendance: 420 - Arena Complex



Game results

Sunday, Dec. 14
Neepawa 3-2 OT Virden

First Period
04:10 VDN N. Englot (9)
ASST: M. Light (7), B. Bryant (24)
18:52 NPA C. Kasprick (9)
ASST: K. Skrupa (12), J. Kohut (4)

Second Period
No scoring

Third Period
05:52 NPA K. Weisgarber (10) SH
ASST: L. Paquette (19)
09:17 VDN R. Baxter (9) PP
ASST: M. Light (8), C. Wright (14)

Overtime
00:59 NPA C. Kasprick (10)
ASST: K. Skrupa (13)

Scoring 1 2 3 OT Total PP
VDN 1 0 1 0 2 1/3
NPA 1 0 1 1 3 0/1

Goaltender
NPA - A. Myers - (W) 22/25 saves
VDN - B. Burdeny - (OTL) 22/35 saves
Attendance: 256 - Yellowhead Centre

MJHL Player Stats

Leading scorers (MJHL)	G	A	Pts
1. Rhett Platt (POR)	18	27	45
2. Hayden Wheddon (NIV)	15	30	45
3. Trevor Hill (POR)	23	19	42
4. Adam Vigfusson (NIV)	18	24	42
5. Nik Gudmundson (WKR)	17	23	40

Leading scorers (Titans)	G	A	Pts
1. Talen Wallis	14	14	28
2. Logan Paquette	9	19	28
3. Jack Clark	14	11	25
4. Cooper Kasprick	10	15	25
5. Kyle Weisgarber	10	14	24

Club 55 Bowling Minnedosa

Dec. 11, 2025: Men's High Single & Triple: Darrell Gabler 223 & 582. **Ladies' High Single:** Vivian Oswald 213. **Ladies' High Triple:** Laurie Kohinski 561. **Other Good Scores:** Laurie Kohinski 185, 202, 174; Darrell Gabler 185, 174; Caroline Harding 159, 199, 161; Vivian Oswald 156, 185; Chuck Morden 158, 158, 161; Eleanor Scott 160, 187; Frank Porada 157, 163; Russ Taylor 158, 162; Carole LeBoutillier 200, 160; Tara Ross 158.

Titans best Oil Capitals in overtime



PHOTOS BY EOIN DEVEREUX

Titans captain Cooper Kasprick scored a pair of goals against Virden, including the first of the game.



PHOTOS BY EOIN DEVEREUX

The Neepawa Titans picked up an important win over one of the teams they are chasing in the West Division standings, as they bested the Virden Oil Capitals in overtime on Sunday, Dec. 14, by the score of 3-2.





Neepawa Titans

Junior "A"

Hockey team

vs. Northern Manitoba

December 20

Yellowhead Centre - 7:30pm

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CLASSIFIEDS

Obituary

Sheldon Norman Hogarth

November 19, 1966 - December 13, 2025

It is with deep sorrow that we announce the peaceful passing of Sheldon Norman Hogarth at his home in The Pas, Manitoba, on December 13, 2025, with his loving family by his side. He was 59.

Born in Winnipeg on November 19, 1966, Sheldon spent his youth in Neepawa. He was a competitive swimmer, a dedicated lifeguard, a hockey player, and participated in the local rifle range.

In 1987, Sheldon met his beloved wife, Monica, and they moved to Winnipeg; they were married in 1997. They welcomed their daughter, Jerica, in 1995, his "daddy's girl." They lived in Winnipeg until relocating to The Pas in 2020.

Sheldon graduated in 1991 with a degree in Computer Electronics and remained committed to his work following his cancer diagnosis in September 2020. He was known for his kindness, unforgettable sense of humor, and dedication as a "forever friend." His greatest joys were found outdoors, spending time camping and fishing, and delighting family and friends with his culinary skills around the campfire.

Sheldon will be forever cherished by his devoted wife, Monica, and their loving daughter, Jerica (Joshua). He is survived by his parents, Norman and Pearl Hogarth; his mother-in-law, Jan Ross; and his siblings: Richard (Rita), Tina (John), and Vicki (Ryan). He will also be greatly missed by Monica's siblings and their families: Patricia (Kenny), Helena (Terry), Polly (Vince), Rob (Deidre), and Jean (Charlene), as well as many aunts, uncles, nieces, and nephews.

Cremation has taken place. A Celebration of Life will be held Monday, December 22, 2025, at 11:00 a.m. in the CEC dining hall at the Neepawa United Church.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to a charity of your choosing.

*Thank you for reading
the Neepawa Banner & Press*

Real Estate

Property for sale: Ecoil recycling's full yard site of 5.5 acres (3 acres Commercial Highway). It's located close to Dauphin. Sale comes with a 24 x 32 steel shed, and a 60x30 shop containing modern utilities which includes city water. The property is completely fenced, with commercial entry gates. It has a 24 hour visual online, security system, and two trained guard dogs. The property is very secure and has an environmental clearance. Asking the sum of \$220,000. for info call 1-204-638-1742 (cell)

Personal

Crisis Pregnancy Centre Winnipeg: Need to talk? Call our free help line, 1-800-665-0570 or contact our Westman office: 204-727-6161

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

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

Invitation

Quilt exhibit by Christine Waddell at Virden's Historic train station (Arts Mosaic). January 5 to 30. Trunk show and official opening 1:00, Thursday, January 8.

Classified Ad Deadline: TUESDAY NOON

- Cancellations and corrections only within business hours and corresponding deadlines
- Please check your ad when first published the Neepawa Banner & Press will not be responsible for more than one incorrect insertion.
- All copy is subject to approval by the Neepawa Banner & Press.
- We reserve the right to edit copy or to refuse to publish any advertisement we deem illegal, libelous, misleading or offensive

Notice

Drug problem? Yellowhead Narcotics Anonymous meets Sundays at 7 pm, at the Minnedosa Town Hall basement.

Minnedosa Handivan 204-868-8164 Mon-Fri 9:00-3:30

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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Notice

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF LIAM SHEARER CRAIG, late of the Rural Municipality of Rosedale, in Manitoba, Deceased.

All claims against the above Estate, duly verified by Statutory Declaration, must be filed with the undersigned at 201 203-5th Ave North, Swan River, Manitoba, R0L 1Z0, on or before the 3rd day of February, 2026.

Dated at Swan River, Manitoba, this 10th day of December, 2025.

VESSEY LAW
201 203-5th Ave North
Swan River, Manitoba R0L 1Z0
Solicitor for the Administrator
Attention: Devin A. Vessey
Telephone: 204-614-0255



Request for Proposal

The Municipality of North Cypress-Langford will receive proposals until 4:00 p.m. Tuesday, December 30, 2025 to provide collection services for the following:

- *Rear-load bin* garbage and recycling pickup at various locations within the Municipality on a weekly basis.
- *Rear-load* glass recycling pickup at various locations within the Municipality on a monthly basis.
- Supply and service, on an on-call basis 1 roll-off bins (30 yd.) at the Fairview Transfer Station.
- Deliver the garbage, recycling, glass and roll-off contents to the operated waste management facility, Evergreen Environmental located in Franklin, MB.
- Two-year contract – February 1, 2026 – January 31, 2028

Conditions and Specifications

The Contractor agrees to provide weekly *rear load bin* garbage and recycling services to the following locations within the Municipality:

1. NW 6-10-14WPM (Carberry Golf Course)
2. SE 35-12-13WPM (Edrans)
3. SW 28-12-14WPM (Wellwood)
4. NW 26-12-16WPM (Brookdale)
5. NE 24-11-15WPM (Fairview Transfer Station)
6. SE 35-14-15WPM (Langford Public Works Maintenance Yard)

The Contractor agrees to provide monthly *rear load bin* glass recycling within the Municipality to all locations listed above.

The Contractor will provide *rear load* solid waste pickup every Monday, unless there is a statutory holiday and recycling pickup every Wednesday for the delivery of the weekly solid waste and recycling collection service. The pickup of solid waste and recyclables shall commence no earlier than 7:00 a.m. and may continue up to but no later than 7:00 p.m. The weekly schedule may only be changed by mutual consent of the parties hereto.

The Contractor agrees to supply and service on an "on-call" basis one 30 yd, roll-off bin located at NE 24-11-15WPM known as the Fairview Transfer Station.

Bins will change to Front-load in first quarter of 2026

Contractors must provide and maintain a comprehensive general liability policy in a minimum amount of \$2,000,000.00 all inclusive; such policy to name the Municipality of North Cypress-Langford as an additional named insured; and to contain a cross-liability clause, type of operation to be performed must be shown on the policy.

The lowest or any proposal may not necessarily be accepted and the Municipality reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, to waive defects, or to accept and offer which may be considered in the best interests of the Municipality. The Municipality, in its entire discretion may reject or accept all or any part of the proposal or any of the proposals submitted under this proposal call.

RFP is due by December 30, 2025 at 4:00 p.m. They can be mailed or emailed to the address below. Any questions related to the specifications please contact the undersigned.

Municipality of North Cypress-Langford
Attention: Teresa Parker
P.O. Box 220
Carberry, MB R0K 0H0
Phone: 204-834-6600 ext 3
Email: cao@myncl.ca

Anniversary



JOHN & HEATHER LEA

Congratulations to
John and Heather Lea
on celebrating their
55th Wedding Anniversary
on December 27!

*55 years of love, laughter,
partnership, and cherished memories.*

Love from
Michael, Maria, Rosemary and Jasper

Thank You

Mandziuk

We would like to express our thanks to PMH ambulance services and the RCMP for their help and kindness April 28. Thank you to White's Funeral Home Neepawa for their care at the time of Paul's passing. To all our friends, neighbours and family who helped us at this most difficult time, thank you. It helped to make this loss a wee bit more bearable. To those who attended or helped at the time of the Celebration of Life, thank you. Thank you to Armstrong Tent Rentals, Gladstone and Jim Beaumont, Rankie's Septic for their exceptional services.

A huge thank you to all who helped Elizabeth and I sort out 35 years of living on the farm. Neighbours who offered help with moving furniture, Mountain Side Church Youth Group for the muscle, and all other offers of help. We are truly blessed to know all of you and appreciate all you did for us.

Thank you to family, friends and neighbours who helped me (Ann) this fall during my time taking chemo treatments. Your offers of help, driving me if needed, food, and concern were so kind. Your prayers were felt daily as I journeyed this path. My treatment will be on going with medication but we did it 15 years ago and I know we can do it this time as well. I'm not giving cancer the upper hand!!

Thank you, everyone, for your love and kindness.
Ann and Elizabeth Mandziuk

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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

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:

- 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 the Monday to Friday shift from 11:30 PM to 8:00 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:
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Be a part of the HyLife experience – your journey starts here!

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



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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.

The current starting wage is \$20.25/hour with incremental increases to \$21.55/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.

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



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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 \$17.45/hour with incremental increases to \$25.60/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

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:
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invites applications for the following positions:

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Reminder:
The Neepawa Banner & Press office is closed December 22 - January 2 for the Christmas Holidays. We will be open regular hours January 5, 2026

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M.P. Dan Mazier says Canadians should be very concerned

By Anne Davidson
SUBMITTED

The Liberals' Bill C-9 seeks to broaden criminalization of words and emotions. Bill C-9 is titled, An Act to amend the Criminal Code (hate propaganda, hate crime and access to religious or cultural places).

The Preamble to the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms states: "Whereas Canada is founded upon principles that recognize the supremacy of God and the rule of law". We're not a theocracy, but this great country was built upon a firm foundation and Bill C-9 is seen by many as undermining that foundation.

While Conservatives protest Bill C-9, is that enough? Well, many MPs say they have heard from constituents.

Here's the scoop from the National Post: "Op-

position Conservatives say a deal between the governing Liberals and the Bloc Québécois to remove a religious exemption from Canada's hate-speech laws, in exchange for passing a bill targeting hate and terror symbols, is an "assault" on freedom of speech and religion."

In a social media video post, The Hon. Michelle Rempel Garner, PC, MP for Calgary Nose Hill said of the amendments to Bill C-9, "It removes the Attorney General's consent so that police can charge you directly," she said. "And it opens the door ... frankly my concern is, it opens the door for politically motivated arrests."

In response to questions from the Empire-Advance, Dan Mazier, MP for Dauphin—Swan River—Neepawa confirmed that the amendments to C-9 were introduced on Dec. 2.

Mazier said, "I am very concerned with Bill C-9. I view it as an attack on religious freedoms."

He pointed to an op-ed in the National Post by Andrew Lawton: "Liberals wage unnecessary war on religious freedom with Bill C-9" —National Post. As horrifying as the recent mass shooting in Australia is, the subtitle of Lawton's writing tells that Canadian law already has teeth: "Genocide advocacy is already criminalized but not enforced".

Mazier goes on to say, "Since the introduction of these amendments, Conservatives have pushed back on Bill C-9 at Justice committee. However, the Liberal Chair of the Justice

Committee cancelled their Dec. 4 meeting, which is very concerning, as it meant that we could not debate these amendments...I've received emails from concerned Canadians who want to know their religious freedoms will be protected, and this is no time to delay."

According to the House of Commons website: Meeting No. 14 of the Standing Committee on Justice and Human Rights (rescheduled for Dec. 9) is suspended and will resume at a later date.

Mazier added, "Right now, Canada's existing laws on hate speech are clear that individuals cannot be prosecuted for expressing, "in good faith," an argument or opinion about a religious subject or a belief based on a religious text. The Supreme Court recognized this defence as necessary to keeping Canada's hate speech laws constitutional.

"Another safeguard currently in place is the requirement that the Attorney General consent to proceedings for hate-propaganda offences.

Mazier referred to the Liberal Chair of the House of Commons Justice Committee, Marc Miller's comments where he said, "there was 'clear hatred' in some books of the Bible."

Mazier said, "All Canadians should be very concerned about this bill, especially with the new amendments, which will not protect people of faith but will instead open them to criminal prosecution for something as simple as quoting their own sacred texts."

"We do not have a timeline for how quickly this bill could pass into law," Mazier said. It will undergo further study at the Justice Committee.

Ted Falk, MP for Provencher spoke in Parliament against the bill and expressed concern for freedom of religion. Liberal Parliamentary Secretary Leslie Church responded saying the definition of hate speech is "communicating statements in a public place and inciting hatred against any identifiable group where such an incitement is likely to lead to a breach of the peace."

Note the term, 'likely'. She goes on to say, "Those who spread hate need to be accountable for it and law enforcement needs the tools to police it."

Found at the link, "JUST - Home - House of Commons of Canada" Bruce Pardy (Professor of Law, Queen's University), spoke saying, "The government seeks to criminalize an emotion: 'hatred means the emotion that involves detestation or vilification and that is stronger than disdain or dislike'. It is criminal to detest but legal to dislike, but to detest, of course, means to intensely dislike—that's the meaning of the word—so it will be legal to dislike but criminal to intensely dislike."

He asks, "Where is the line between dislike and intensely dislike? Of course, nobody knows that. The line will be drawn wherever the authorities want it to be drawn to punish speech that the government hates."

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Byram and team host year-end meet and greet



PHOTO BY CASPER WEHRHAHN

MLA Jodie Byram and her team hosted a year-end meet and greet in Neepawa on Dec. 16. The event was hosted at her office in town from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. All who attended enjoyed refreshments and plenty of conversation. Festive touches adorned the lobby, greeting those who dropped in and getting them into the Christmas spirit. Pictured (left to right): Sherry Francis, MLA Jodie Byram, and Linda Dick, as seen during the Dec. 16 meet and greet.



PHOTOS BY EOIN DEVEREUX

Carberry's Owen Unrau was a huge factor in the Cougars first regular season win of the season, besting Neepawa 84-58. The Grade 12 student had 27 points on the night, including a few impressive dunks.

Don Amero entertains at ArtsForward




PHOTO BY RON NORDSTROM

It was a capacity crowd that attended the Don Amero concert at ArtsForward on Dec. 12. Ameron (Centre) did a solo set then was joined by Lachlan McLean and Larry Abrams for a second set. They played a number of traditional and original Christmas songs as well as some of Don's original music to an appreciative sold out crowd. Special thanks to Neepawa/Gladstone Co-op for sponsoring this concert. This was the second Kaleidoscope concert of the season. The next concert features an Ontario country music trio, The Abrams, on Jan. 30.

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24/7 SERVICE



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!
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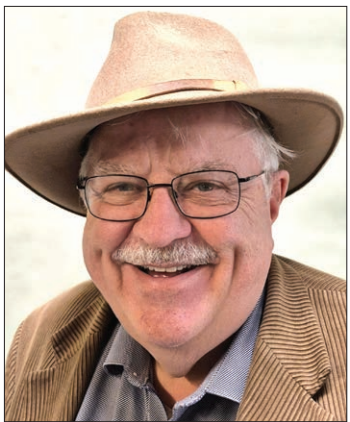
Thank you
Ken Waddell, Publisher



NEEPAWA **Banner** & **Press**



Wishing you a very *Merry Christmas* and a *Happy New Year*
From the Neepawa Banner & Press staff



Ken Waddell



Christine Waddell



Eoin Devereux



Casper Wehrhahn



Joshua Jackson



Diane Warner



Sandra Unger



Kay De'Ath



Gloria Kerluke



Rea Apita



Joel Asselstine



Matthew Gagnon



Rob Waddell



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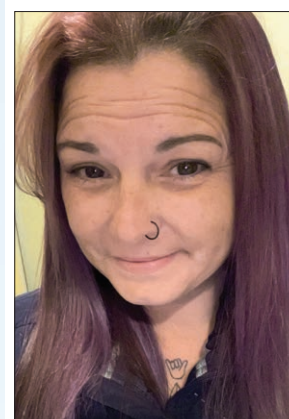
Ron Santos



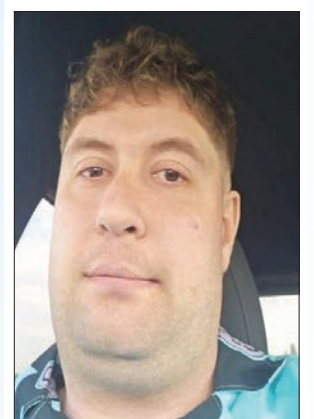
Lucas Uyaivato



Allison Curle



Carla Ward



Kyle McGowan



Dan Mazier
Member of Parliament

Dear Neighbours,
Every year Canadians gather over the holidays to spend precious time with those closest to them. I sincerely hope that this Christmas season is filled with joy, reflection, and prosperity for you and your loved ones, as that is what makes this time of year so special.

As your local Member of Parliament, I know how blessed we are to live in communities with individuals who are generous. I encourage everyone to extend that generosity to those in need as this time of year can be difficult for many. It is also important to check in with friends and neighbours who may be spending the holidays on their own.

For many of us, Christmas is also a time of worship, to reflect on our faith and



celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ.

To all of the charitable organizations, churches, and volunteers, thank you for your contributions to our communities over the holiday season. Christmas would not be the same without you.

From my family to yours, I wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year full of health and happiness.

The Honourable Anita
R. Neville, P.C., O.M.
Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba

Season's Greetings
The holiday season is now upon us, a wondrous time of celebration, goodwill to our fellow citizens and thoughtful reflections on the year gone by.

With neighbourhoods and businesses aglow with colourful decorations, our province's renowned community spirit is bright, beautiful and further enhanced at this time of year. Manitoba's multiculturalism is also on full display at this time of year, with holiday traditions from around the world joyfully reflected in cuisine, decorations, and seasonal events in all parts of our province.

Our renowned community spirit is further demonstrated through a variety of creative events and charitable endeavours, each helping to ensure that everyone feels the warmth of our welcoming and caring provincial community. I encourage everyone to support the many wonderful organizations dedicated to providing a hand up to Manitobans in need with the same empathy and gen-



erosity that has consistently made our province one of the most giving places in Canada.

As the King's representative in Manitoba, I am pleased to extend vice-regal greetings to all citizens for a safe and happy holiday season. May the wonders of this special time inspire us all to demonstrate kindness and compassion to all, not only seasonally, but all year-round. Every good deed is another subtle reminder of how fortunate we are to call this great province 'home.'

The Honourable
Anita R. Neville, P.C., O.M.
Lieutenant-Governor of
Manitoba

Jodie Byram,
MLA, Agassiz

It is an honor and a privilege to serve the constituent's of Agassiz as your Member of the Legislative Assembly.

As we gather to celebrate the festive season, we find ourselves reflecting on the challenges and triumphs of the past year. It has been a time of uncertainty, resilience, and growth. Each challenge we faced has reminded us of the strength within our communities and the importance of unity.

This holiday season may we take a moment to express gratitude to the brave men and women in uniform who serve our country with unwavering dedication. Their sacrifices ensure our safety and freedom here at home. May we honor their commitment, especially during this season of giving.

Give the gift of love and gratitude, treasure your friendships, and cherish time with your loved ones this holiday season.



As we look ahead to the new year, let us carry forward the lessons learned and the connections made while fostering compassion and kindness in our daily lives. Every effort counts, and it is through our collective actions that we can truly make the world a better place.

Wishing you all a joyful and peaceful Christmas and a safe and happy holiday season!

Jodie Byram
Agassiz MLA



*A Note Of Thanks
To Our Loyal Patrons
At Christmas*

Wishing you a holiday that overflows with love, happiness, friendship and good fortune. Thanks for hanging in there with us this year. We truly appreciate your business!

From Jim, Richard and staff of

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204-729-7455 (cell)

WISHING YOU A
MERRY CHRISTMAS
& A HAPPY NEW YEAR

from the Management and Staff at

**WESTWARD
FORD**

Highway 16 W. Neepawa, MB

**MERRY
Christmas**

May the joy of Christmas fill your heart and home as you remember past holidays with cherished memories of family and friends

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owned by Brian James & Nathan White
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Messages of holiday greetings

Wab Kinew Premier of Manitoba

On behalf of the Province of Manitoba, I want to wish all Manitobans a very happy holidays.

Here in Manitoba, we've accomplished a lot this year that we can be proud of. We've come together during the challenges of threats to our sovereignty and a devastating wildfire season to support each other and stand united as One Manitoba. As we look ahead to the new year I see a lot of reason for hope. We all want Manitoba to be a place where everyone can build a good life. If we keep working together, we can make this a reality for every Manitoban who lives in our great province.

I hope you have the chance to celebrate with



friends and family, and experience all the joy this festive season. Happy holidays to you and your loved ones, and my very best wishes for the new year!

The Honourable
Wab Kinew
Premier of Manitoba

Mayor Brian Hedley, Town Of Neepawa

On behalf of the Town of Neepawa, I extend my warmest greetings to all of you this festive season. This season invites us to pause from our busy lives, reflect on the progress we've made together, and appreciate the community spirit that makes our town such a tremendous place to call home. As we gather with friends and family, may our hearts be filled with gratitude, peace and renewed hope.

This year has been one of remarkable growth and forward momentum. Our community continues to thrive - new businesses have opened their doors, families have chosen to build their futures here, and innovative projects are shaping the town into an exciting, vibrant place to live. None of this would be possible without the dedication and support of our residents.

Christmas is also a reminder of the importance of kindness, generosity, and service. I am continually impressed with the way our community looks after one another, whether it's through local charity drives such as Hope/Salvation Army, neighbourhood initiatives or simple everyday acts of goodwill such as shovelling the neighbour's driveway.

Let's take time to consider those who have struggled over the past year whether



it was through loss of a loved one, loss of a job, floods, fire or war. Let us reflect on the spirit of compassion and generosity to those less fortunate and extend a helping hand to community members who may be facing their own challenges.

As we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, I encourage everyone to take time to reconnect with loved ones, with neighbours, and with values that guide us. Let's continue to build a town that is welcoming to all newcomers, resilient and filled with opportunity for all.

On behalf of the entire Town Council and our dedicated municipal team, I wish you a joyful Christmas and a New Year filled with prosperity, good health and continued progress.

Warmest regards from our family to yours,
Brian and Tanya Hedley

Greg Nesbitt MLA Riding Mountain

The holiday season is a time when families come together and citizens take a pause from the day to day hustle and bustle of life to remember all the good things we share as citizens of the Riding Mountain constituency in the Province of Manitoba, in the most wonderful country in the world - Canada.

The tradition of community involvement is alive and well in our province. Theatre groups, 4-H clubs, seniors' organizations, service clubs and sports teams are just a few of the opportunities rural residents have and benefit from.

Volunteers are the heart of our communities and the strength of our province, and I am very honoured to say the constituency I represent in the Manitoba Legislature is rich with people with such commitment.

However, as we celebrate the festive season we need to take time to consider those

who have struggled over the past year - whether it was through the loss of a job, the loss of a loved one, wildfires, droughts, floods or tragedies around the world.

I am proud to represent you in the Manitoba Legislature and pledge to continue working for a stronger Manitoba moving forward.

I wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a healthy and prosperous 2026.

Greg Nesbitt
MLA Riding Mountain





Reeve Ray Drayson
Municipality of North Cypress-Langford

As the holiday season approaches, the Reeve, Council, and staff of North Cypress - Langford extend their warmest wishes to all residents and visitors.

May this Christmas bring joy to your homes, peace to your hearts, and hope for the year ahead. We are grateful for the strength and spirit of our community, and we look forward to continuing to serve you in the coming year.

Wishing you and your loved ones a Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year

Reeve Karl Snezyk,
Municipality of Rosedale

To all my family and all of you . Let's be extra kind to each other and to others this holiday season . Just a simple compliment . You never know what people are going through this time of year and sometimes a small and simple gesture would be just enough to fill their heart and mind with hope and happiness and with that from the RM of Rosedale and my family, have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year Karl Snezyk Reeve

Minister Simard
Minister of Municipal and Northern Relations

Christmas is my favourite time of the year. It's a time to slow down, reflect, and appreciate what truly matters—family, friends, and community. Rural Manitoba is the heart of our province, and as I reflect on the past year, I am immensely grateful to the people of Westman, your hard work and dedication that you show all year long. Whether it's tending fields, running local businesses, or volunteering to keep our towns strong, your efforts make Manitoba the great province that it is.

As we look ahead to the new year, I'm excited about what we can accomplish together. That means building opportunities for every region and ensuring rural voices are heard, that is the spirit of one Manitoba.

From my family to yours, I wish you peace and joy this holiday season. Thank you for everything you do to make Manitoba a great place to call home.

Reeve Ed Heppner,
Municipality of North Norfolk

As we approach this Christmas season, I would like to extend my sincere blessings to every household in our community. This is a time when we can pause to reflect on the birth of Christ, a moment of hope that continues to guide us toward compassion, unity and service.

In municipal work, we often speak of building, supporting and planning. Yet at Christmas, we are reminded that the foundation of every strong community is not only infrastructure, but the spirit with which we care for one another. The message of love and peace calls us to look beyond ourselves and to serve our neighbours with patience and generosity.

I am thankful for this community and how we can support one another supporting local families, volunteering time and talents, and working together to ensure our municipality remains a welcoming and thriving place to call home. In this season of light, we give thanks for the dedication and goodwill that each of you bring to the Municipality of North Norfolk.

May the joy of Christmas fill your homes with warmth, strengthen your families and inspire renewed hope for the year ahead. As a municipality, we can work hand in hand to build a future shaped by faith, cooperation and collective care.

On behalf of the Municipality of North Norfolk
Reeve Ed Heppner

Best Wishes

To you and your family as you welcome the peace and joy of the Christmas Season into your home.

We look forward to serving you in the New Year.

MAR-DEE ENTERPRISES
12 Main St. W, Neepawa
204-476-2348

WITH OUR THANKS AT THE HOLIDAYS

Another great season is in the bag, and we hope it's filled with good times for you and your family. We really appreciate your shopping with us this past year.

SAFeway
Mountain & Ellen
Neepawa

May the true spirit of Christmas shine in your heart and light your path.

Tri-J Industries
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204-966-3372

Santa got new glasses this year!
He knows if you have been naughty or nice!

Merry Christmas from

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OPTOMETRIST

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CLOSED DECEMBER 25, 26
DECEMBER 29, 30 - NORMAL HOURS
DECEMBER 31TH - 9 - 12:00 PM
CLOSED JANUARY 1, 2

Happy Holidays

warm wishes from the Rolling Spokes Family

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Merry Christmas from Our Families to Yours

Clarke's Funeral Home

Bob & Eileen,
Abilene, Greg, Sharon,
Marvin & Callie

Gladstone MacGregor
204-385-2274 204-685-2012

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Stella-Jones
Neepawa Operations

#205 Highway 16 West
204-201-1001



Apple meets cheesecake. Crisp apples and tangy cream cheese are the perfect match.

Apple cream cheese dessert

Base:

1 cup flour
1 cup oatmeal
1/3 cup brown sugar
3 Tbsp. cold water

Topping:

2/3 cup flour
2/3 cup white sugar
1/3 cup butter
2/3 cup slivered almonds

Filling:

1 250-g cream cheese
1/3 cup white sugar
1 egg
1 tsp. almond extract
1/4 tsp. salt
6-7 cups peeled apple slices, thinly cut
1/3 cup white sugar
2 tsp. cinnamon
1/2 tsp. nutmeg
2 Tbsp. cornstarch
1 Tbsp. lemon juice

Preheat oven to 350°F. Base: Add the flour, oatmeal and sugar. Cut in the butter until coarse crumbs. Add the water in and mix just enough to make a ball. Press down in the bottom and 1/2" up the sides of a lightly greased 9x13" cake pan. Bake for about 15 minutes, until a light golden. Filling: While base is cooking beat the cream cheese, sugar, egg, almond extract and salt together until cream cheese is smooth. Spread over the crust. In another bowl add the apples, sugar, cinnamon, nutmeg, cornstarch and lemon juice together. Spread over the cream cheese mixture. Topping: In a bowl combine the flour, sugar, then cut in the butter. When crumbly add the almonds and sprinkle over the apples. Bake for 45 to 55 minutes or until topping is golden and apples are cooked. Cool and store in the fridge until ready to use.



Merry Christmas

From Management and Staff
Sneath-Strilchuk
Funeral Services
McCreary & Ste. Rose Chapels
204-835-2004
204-447-2444
www.sneathstrilchuk.com



Merry Christmas & HAPPY NEW YEAR

P BAKER
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p.baker@wcgwave.ca

Happy Holidays

RM of Minto-Odanah
204-867-3282

Holiday Wish List

- ✓ PEACE
- ✓ HEALTH
- ✓ LOVE
- ✓ JOY

Step Into Action
Physiotherapy & Wellness Clinic
Wendy Marlatt, BMR (PT) 204-476-3742

May Good Tidings Knock on your door this Holiday!

Best wishes to you and your family as you welcome the peace and joy of the Christmas Season into your home. We look forward to serving you in the New Year!

RYAN'S Denture Clinic
Neepawa - 418 Mountain Ave.
204-476-2864 • 1-800-887-2458

During the holiday season, we cannot help but be grateful for your support in our business.

Happiest of holidays from the entire team at

CHRISTIANSON TDS

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Neepawa, MB., R0J 1H0
204-704-4000

In the brightest of seasons, may you find many reasons for happiness. Happy holidays to all of our members and families, and cheers to an even better year to come!

National Association of Federal Retirees
Association nationale des retraités fédéraux
Western Manitoba Branch
westernmanitoba@federalretirees.ca

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."
Romans 15:13

Wishing God's blessing upon each of you this Christmas season!

Steve and Jolene Friesen
Zachary, Jessenia, and Antonio

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Wonderful smells will fill your home when you bake this bread.
Make extra loaves for the holidays and give them to family and friends.

Raisin cinnamon swirl bread

- 3/4 cup warm water
1 Tbsp. sugar
1 1/2 Tbsp. active dry yeast
1 3/4 cup milk
1/4 cup butter
2 eggs
- 1 1/2 tsp. salt
2 Tbsp. sugar
2 cups raisins
1/2 cup sugar
1 Tbsp. cinnamon
1/4 cup melted butter

Cover raisins in boiling water and let soak to plump them. In a small bowl put the first three ingredients, stir and set aside in a warm place. In a small pan heat milk and butter just until butter melts. Add the eggs, salt and sugar and mix. Add the yeast mix and milk mix into electric mixer with dough hooks and beat in flour one cup at a time until soft dough forms. Beat 7-8 minutes. Add the drained raisins. Turn out onto floured surface and knead into a ball. Turn into a greased bowl. Turn dough to grease top, cover with a clean tea towel and let rise until double in bulk about one hour. Combine sugar and cinnamon. Divide dough into three balls. Roll each ball out into an 8x12" triangle, brush lightly with melted butter and sprinkle on 1/3 of the cinnamon mix. Beginning at 8" end, roll up as for jelly roll. Seal ends of loaf and place into lightly greased loaf pans. Cover and let rise about 1 hour. Bake in a preheated 350°F oven for 30-35 minutes or until bread is browned and sounds hollow when tapped. Remove from pans and let cool on racks. Enjoy.





CARBERRY AND AREA
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

*During the holiday season,
our thoughts turn gratefully to
those who have enriched the
lives of Carberry and
North Cypress-Langford
residents through acts of
philanthropy.*

Thank you, and best wishes
from your friends at
**Carberry & Area
Community Foundation**

We will be closed December 17, 2025 - January 6, 2026

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour,
which is Christ the Lord. Luke 2:11

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year



D.M.W. Repair
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Warmest Holiday Greetings!

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*Wishing you all the best
this holiday season!*

**Orv's
Appliance**

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orvsappliance.com



*Merry
Christmas*

*Wishing you an old-fashioned
Christmas that glows with good
cheer. We value your patronage
and look forward to serving
you in the coming year.*



Linda and Denise

**FOXON
AGENCIES
LTD.**
Gladstone 204-385-2993



Merry Christmas

Enjoy a vintage holiday season!

Mike Anderson and Mark Husak
**PERFORMANCE EXHAUST AND
BRAKE SERVICE LTD.**

*Merry Christmas
& Happy New Year*

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Fax: 204.476.8889

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Motel**
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153 Main Street West
Neepawa, MB. R0J 1H0
Phone: 204.476.2355
Fax: 204.476.3845



**Have a
Happy Holiday**

Let's cherish the spirit of Christmas and the joy of friendship.

**Municipality of
Glenella-Lansdowne**
REEVE, COUNCIL & STAFF





Ukrainian Christmas festivities begin on Christmas Eve. Sviata Vecheria (Holy Supper) brings the family together to partake in special foods and many meaningful customs and traditions.

There are twelve meatless dishes symbolizing the twelve Apostles who shared the Last Supper with Jesus Christ. The dishes are prepared with vegetable oil, omitting all animal fat and milk products, because Ukrainian Christmas is preceded by a period of fasting. When the children of the home see the first star in the night sky it is time to begin the Sviata Vecheria.

Cabbage rolls (holubtsi), which literally means "little pigeons," are served at this special supper. My favorite holubtsi are buckwheat.

This recipe uses oil but I always use butter. Enjoy.

Buckwheat cabbage rolls

2 cups buckwheat	1 large head green cabbage
4 cups water	1 onion, finely diced
salt and pepper to taste	2 cloves garlic, minced
1 medium onion, finely diced	2 Tbsp. vegetable oil
2 Tbsp. vegetable oil	

I toast my raw buckwheat, for a nice nutty taste. To toast: place buckwheat in dry frying pan over medium heat, stir until lightly browned, about five minutes. Put the buckwheat in the water and bring to a boil. Cook for about 15-20 minutes. While the buckwheat is cooking, fry the onion in the oil. When the buckwheat is cooked mix the onions, salt and pepper in. Set the pot of buckwheat aside.

Core the cabbage and place in a large pot of boiling water. Cover and let cook. Remove the leaves as they become soft. Cool and drain the leaves and remove any remaining core. Cut the larger leaves into smaller pieces depending on the size of the leaf. While cabbage is cooking, sauté the other onion, garlic and oil. Put a tablespoon full of buckwheat filling into each leaf and roll it up tucking in the edges of the leaves as you roll. Grease a casserole dish and place a few leaves of cabbage to line it. Place the rolls in layers. Between the layers add some of the sautéed onion and garlic. Place some cabbage leaves over rolls to prevent the top from drying. Pour warm water over all until it reaches 2/3 up the layers. Cover with a tight-fitting lid or foil and bake at 325°F for approximately two hours or until cabbage is tender. Sometimes it does take longer as each cabbage cooks different.



We wish everybody a
Merry Christmas
and a
Happy New Year

Kirk Saler
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Warmest Thoughts and
Best Wishes for the
Holiday Season

Touchwood Park
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Established 1985

May your holidays be happy & your year filled with joy!

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Wishing you peace and joy this
holiday season and in the New Year!

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NEEPAWA
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Heather Saquet, B.Sc. Pharm. - Pharmacist/Manager

Holiday Joy

May your holiday be a great time to
reflect and relax. We appreciate your
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Thank you to all of our
customers in 2025.
We look forward to
serving you in 2026.
Merry Christmas and
Happy new year!
from
HILLER ELECTRIC Ltd.

Happy Holidays

FROM OUR FAMILY TO YOURS

Wishing you infinite moments of joy and
connection throughout this special season.

Your Home... Your Future... Our Commitment!

21 CENTURY 21
Westman Realty Ltd.
Neepawa Office



From our families to yours,
wishing you a holiday season
filled with cozy moments
and cherished memories.

**SPUD CITY
FOOD MART LTD.**

140 Main Street, Carberry, MB 204-834-2003

Happy Holidays
from your FCC Neepawa office

fcc

Happy Holidays to our
members and community!
Thank you for a
wonderful year

A decorated Christmas tree with lights and presents at its base.

NEEPAWA & DISTRICT
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Merry Christmas & Best Wishes for 2026!
From the Staff and Council at

The Town Of

Carberry

DISCOVER. GROW. BELONG.

**HAPPY
HOLIDAYS**

Thank you for supporting your
local Bell MTS Dealer this year.
When you shop local, you're
not only giving great gifts, you're
supporting the community we
all call home.❤️

BellMTS
341 MOUNTAIN AVENUE
204-476-3636

A cartoon illustration of a man and a woman standing together. The man is wearing a blue sweatshirt that says 'STAY JOLLY MY FRIENDS' with a Santa Claus graphic. The woman is wearing a green elf-style shirt with a red collar and a brown belt.

GIVE A GIFT THAT KEEPS GIVING

Have you considered giving a gift to your community at Christmas?

A gift to the BPCF will impact the community forever!

BPCF supports many non-profit organizations acheive their goals by providing grants for special events, projects and capital improvements

Last opportunity to donate in 2025 is
December 30th from 9:00 am to 2:30 pm

A green and white striped gift box with a red ribbon bow.

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Donate Today!



*Wishing one and
all a
Merry Christmas
and a Happy
New Year*



**DR. CRAIG FEDOROWICH,
DR. ALLISON SIMPSON,
DR. MORGAN GRAHAM
AND THE TEAM AT
MOUNTAIN DENTAL**
452 1st Avenue Neepawa

NEEPAWA & Banner Press



Wishing you all
the timeless
treasures of
Christmas.

The warmth of
home, the love
of family and
the company of
good friends.





Out of Helen's Kitchen

It would not be Christmas without sweets and pies. This recipe is truly a delicious dessert. It will win compliments at your special meal and perhaps become a new Christmas tradition. This recipe is for a nine inch purchased pie crust.


Apple cranberry pie

- 3 large apples
- 1 1/2 cups fresh cranberries
- 1/2 cup raisins
- 1/2 cup brown sugar
- 2 Tbsp. cornstarch
- 1 tsp. apple pie spice
- or 3/4 tsp. cinnamon & 1/4 tsp. nutmeg
- 1 Tbsp. frozen orange juice concentrate
- 1 tsp. grated orange zest

- Topping:**
- 1/3 cup flour
 - 1/3 cup oatmeal
 - 1/3 brown sugar
 - 1/4 cup butter
 - 1/3 cup chopped pecans
 - or walnuts if desired

Set raisins to plump up in hot water. Slice and peel apples. In a large bowl add the apples, cranberries and raisins (discard the water). Mix the sugar, cornstarch, spice, orange concentrate and zest in a small bowl and gently stir into the apple mix. Place in the pie shell. For the topping ingredients, add the flour, oatmeal and sugar together. Cut in the butter until the mixture is crumbly. If using nuts add them now. Sprinkle over the filling. Bake at 350°F for 50-60 minutes until the top is golden and the filling is bubbly. Enjoy warm or cold.






Hillside Accounting

Glenn Wohlgemuth DFA
204-476-2847
245 Hamilton St. Neepawa

INCOME TAX AND ACCOUNTING

May the gift of God's love be with you this Christmas Season





DIAMOND WATERWORKS

302 Ellen Street, Neepawa, MB
204-476-8852

Kevin, Jennifer & Family wish you a wonderful holiday season.



May the spiritual peace of this Christmas enter into your lives. It's a time of joy... a time to wish everyone the happiness and contentment of the Holy Night long ago. Our sincere thanks to all.

Management and Staff
TRAIL MEATS 1984
NEEPAWA



Jeannie's Interiors

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Jeannie Bos
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Rapid City, MB
jeanniesinteriors@hotmail.com

Kelly & Staff
wish everyone a happy holiday season



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Here's to a wonderful
Holiday season
and a Happy New Year!

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Rejoice in the
Gifts of the Season

Howard and Kay McKay and The Team
would like to thank our customers for their business this past year, and wish them a Merry Christmas, and all the best for the New Year.

Closed December 24th at 12 noon
Open January 5th at 8 a.m.




PENNO'S
Machining & Mfg. LTD
Eden 204-966-3221

Wishing you and yours a Very Merry Christmas and a happy, prosperous New Year!



Santa's Sleigh
Pre-Flight Checklist

- Fuel up with Candy Cane Fuel
- Fresh Coat of Gingerbread Paint
- Wax Skis with Buttercream Frosting




From Eric, Robyn & Jessy at

Happy Rock Repair

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Merry Christmas and Happy New Year



Jodie Byram, MLA for Agassiz
361 Mountain Ave., Neepawa, MB
officeofagassizmla@gmail.com
(204) 390-5428



These homemade biscotti cookies are easy to make and perfect for holiday gifts and cookie trays.

Orange chocolate biscotti

1/2 cup butter
1 cup sugar
3 eggs
1 Tbsp. frozen orange juice concentrate
1 tsp. fresh orange zest
2 1/2 cups flour
2 tsp. baking powder
1/2 tsp. salt
1/2 tsp. each cloves and cinnamon
1/2 cup candied citrus peel
1 cup mini chocolate chips

Chocolate Glaze:
1 cup icing sugar, sifted
2 Tbsp. bakers cocoa
1 tsp. vanilla
1 Tbsp. milk

With a mixer beat the butter, sugar and eggs on medium speed until creamy. Stir in the orange juice concentrate and orange zest. In another bowl mix together the flour, baking powder, salt, cloves and cinnamon. Add the flour mixture to the sugar mix and just stir to combine. Add the candied citrus peel and chocolate chips. With lightly greased hands halve the dough and roll into two 2 by 12 inch logs and place on lightly greased (or use parchment paper) cookie sheet. Bake at 350°F for 25 minutes or until dry and set. Let cool for 20-40 minutes. It is much easier to slice when cool. On a cutting board with a serrated knife, cut the logs at an angle into 1/2 inch slices. Place slices flat on the baking sheet and return to the oven for 15-25 minutes, or until crisp and lightly browned. Flip the biscotti halfway through. Cool on wire rack. Make the drizzle by mixing the ingredients together and with a spoon drizzle over the biscotti. If the drizzle is too thick to drizzle properly add more milk, or too thin add more icing sugar. Store in air tight container.





No messy slicing, no fighting for the corner piece—just your own perfect little treat. Tarts deliver sweet, gooey goodness in every bite, perfect for any dessert table.

Cherry coconut tarts

12 unbaked tart shells

2 eggs

2/3 cup white sugar

2 Tbsp. maraschino cherry juice

1 Tbsp. flour

2 Tbsp. melted butter

2/3 cup chopped maraschino cherries

1 cup shredded large flake coconut

In a bowl combine the eggs, sugar, cherry juice, flour and melted butter. Add the cherries and coconut. Mix well and spoon into prepared shells. Bake at 350°F for 18-25 minutes or until golden brown and set in the middle.



WE WISH YOU AND YOUR FAMILY A

MERRY CHRISTMAS

AND

A HAPPY NEW YEAR

❄️ ❄️ ❄️

As the holiday season arrives, we look back with gratitude for your support throughout 2025. From all of us, our heartfelt thanks!

Sa pagdating ng Kapaskuhan, buong puso kaming nagpapasalamat sa walang sawa ninyong suporta ngayong 2025. Muli, sa diwa ng Pasko, Maligayang Pasko at Manigong Bagong Taon sa inyong lahat!

from

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to all our customers and friends!
from Daniel, Donna & Staff

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MNP

Happy Holidays

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It Must Be Christmas

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Merry Christmas & Best Wishes for 2026!
from Jim & Candace at

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Pavlova is an elegant meringue dessert and it's easier to make than you think. It is the perfect dessert for a lighter ending to your meal and makes a nice dessert for the gluten free guest at your holiday table.

Pavlova

4 egg whites
1 cup of sugar
2 tsp. corn starch
1 tsp. lemon juice

Filling:
Whipped cream with fresh fruits of choice
or lemon curd or lemon pie filling

Garnish if desired:
shaved chocolate
sprinkle of icing sugar
fruit glaze

To get more volume, it's necessary to have the egg whites at room temperature before beating them. Preheat the oven to 300°F (150°C). Line a large baking sheet with parchment paper. In a mixer fitted with a whisk attachment, on medium-high speed beat the egg whites until soft peaks form. Add 2/3 of the sugar gradually while continuing to beat. Beat until stiff peaks form. It will be smooth and glossy. To the last of the sugar add the cornstarch and gradually add in. Add the lemon juice. For a large Pavlova spread the egg whites on the parchment paper in a 9-10 inch circle. Use the back of a spoon to create an indentation in the center of the mound. For individual ones make 4-5 inch circles with indentations. Place in the oven. For the large Pavlova bake approximately one hour or until firm to the touch but not browned. Turn the oven off, open the door slightly and let the Pavlova cool inside the oven. For the small Pavlova bake approximately 25-35 minutes or until firm to the touch but not browned. Cool in the oven with door slightly ajar. Once the Pavlova is cool, you can serve right away, or store it in a tightly covered container at room temperature for up to two days, or freeze in an air tight container until ready to use. When ready to use fill the shells with whipped cream and top with the desired fruits. Garnish if desired.



Merry Christmas

From
Neepawa Motel
204-476-2331 ~ Neepawa, MB

May faith and hope guide you throughout this Holy season and may His love follow wherever you go.

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"At Christmas, all roads lead home."
- Marjorie Holmes

PYRAMID COLLISION CENTER 196 Airport Rd Neepawa
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SHARE THE SPIRIT

This holiday season, we feel fortunate to have the opportunity to express our gratitude for our freedom, family and friends. We're proud to serve this community.

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371 Mountain Avenue, Neepawa
Phone: 476-2345 Toll Free: 1-877-476-2345
www.gillandschmall.com

Meighen Haddad LLP
LAW FIRM

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Maligayang Pasko at Manigong Bagong Taon!

Stacy A. Senkbeil, Partner

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Neepawa, MB R0J 1H0
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@MHLawCA

May Your Days Be Merry & Bright

Wishing you all the festive feels at Christmastime!

Thanks for another stellar year. We couldn't do it without your support!

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Tips to keep holiday guests entertained

Submitted
METRO CREATIVE

Gone are the days when extended families live in close proximity to one another. Ours is now a global society, and it is not unheard of for people to live on the opposite side of the country or even the globe from their parents and siblings. But come the holiday season, families often congregate at one place so they can spend time together. That means that out-of-town guests may be spending a few days with holiday hosts to maximize their visits.

According to Diane Gottsman, a national etiquette expert and owner of The Protocol School of Texas, a weekend is typically sufficient for a nice visit, while anything more than three days can be challenging for hosts, particularly if guests are not being helpful.

Hosting houseguests for a few days requires hosts to keep guests engaged. Although the actual holiday itself provides ample opportunity for entertainment, hosts may need additional ideas to quell boredom if visits

stretch for more than one day. Here are some ideas for making spirits bright without having to stress too much.

Create a guest basket
Offer some in-house entertainment for guests. This can include best-selling novels, a book of word games, an adult coloring book, or some small craft kits picked up at the store. This option enables guests to self-soothe if boredom strikes.

Host a movie marathon
When guests visit, hosts can whip up some microwave popcorn and additional snacks and cue up a few different films. They can be holiday classics or movies that will bring back fond memories.

Take a trip
This time of year there are plenty of activities going on. Plan a drive over to a Christmas tree farm that may be offering rides through the fields or has a hot cocoa station. Walk down the main street of a quaint local town and savor all of that cozy flavor. Time a trip

to a tree lighting or another holiday-related special event, or drive around at night and look at neighborhood lighting displays.

Make an edible craft
Spend some time in the kitchen making gingerbread cookies or another relatively easy holiday treat. Guests can customize their desserts with colored sprinkles or other embellishments.

Set up Christmas karaoke
Get everyone in the holiday spirit by streaming instrumental tracks of favorite holiday carols and songs. Everyone takes turns singing a tune, whether they're great singers or not. The fun is in giving it a shot and laughing along the way.

Go on a crawl
Whether it's to visit area pubs, diners, dessert shops, or coffee spots, pick a few different places to stop in so everyone can get some fresh air and have a little fun.

Entertaining guests for the holidays requires some creative thinking and a willingness to have a little fun.



HAPPY HOLIDAYS

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As your local Realtor, I feel truly blessed to play even a small part in helping families in our town and the surrounding area find the place where life's most meaningful moments happen. May your home be filled with love, laughter, and unforgettable memories this holiday season and throughout the year ahead.

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MAY YOUR DAYS BE

Merry & Bright

THIS CHRISTMAS SEASON AND THROUGHOUT THE NEW YEAR

Greg Nesbitt

Member of the Legislative Assembly
Riding Mountain Constituency

Constituency Office: #7 – 515 – 4th Avenue P.O. Box 100 Shoal Lake, MB R0J 1Z0
Phone (204) 759-3313 Toll Free 1-844-877-7767
E-mail gregnesbittmla@mymts.net

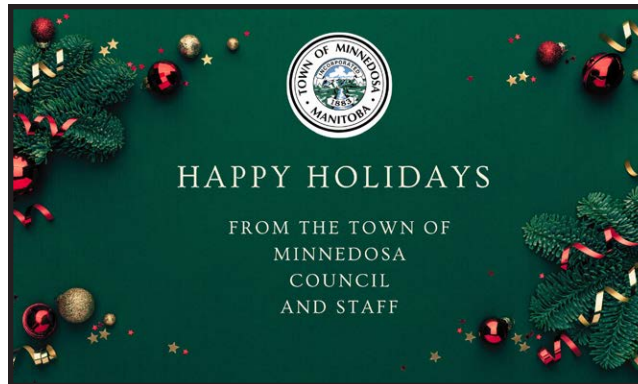


Did you know?

Submitted
METRO CREATIVE

Advent calendars are a common sight in many households each December, and some historians believe this unique tradition can be traced to a creative nineteenth century German housewife. Though Britannica notes the precise origins of Advent calendars are still debated, one theory behind the popular tradition suggests a woman in Munich created the Advent calendar as a way for her young and impatient yet excited son to count down the days to December 25. Though details are fuzzy and difficult if not impossible to confirm, this legends suggests the

crafty German mother filled 24 different small boxes with a baked treat, allowing her son to open one each day during Advent, the nearly monthlong period of preparation for Christmas that begins on the fourth Sunday before the holiday and ends by Christmas Eve. While this origin story connects Advent calendars with Christianity, and many Christians still make it part of their Christmas celebrations, many modern people with no such affiliation also incorporate the calendars into their holiday season routines.



Christmas Log

\$14.99

**103 Main Street East
Neepawa, MB 204-476-2663**

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**Warmest thoughts and best wishes
for a peaceful holiday season and a
prosperous New Year!**

**Mayor Hedley, Council
& Staff.**

www.neepawa.ca
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Season's Greetings



Below is a list of those
being commemorated
on the Carberry and
Area Community
Foundation Memory
Tree of Lights.

We Remember Them...

Adriaansen, Abby
Adriaansen, Jo
Adriaansen, Tony
Aitken, Diane
Aitken, Taylor Shane
Allen-Bernier, Debra
Anderson, Colleen
Anderson, Leslie
Anderson, Rev. Stu
Ardron, Ted
Arnold, Alf
Arnold, Muriel
Backlund, Don
Backlund, Janice
Bailey, Alan
Bailey, Martin
Bailey, Quinn
Bailey, T. Roy
Balciunas, Leo
Bankowski, Loretta
Baron, Joe
Baron, Margaret
Barton, Bette
Barton, Gordon
Beck, Henk
Beck, Paula
Becker, Art
Becker, Beverley
Becker, Velma
Berg, Ryan
Beswatherick, Ernie
Beswatherick, Ethel
Bickford, Lawrence
Birch, Cyril
Birch, Grace
Birch, Jack
Bird, Edward
Bjarnason, Carl
Blair, Anne
Blair, Bill
Blair, David
Blair, Wallace
Bowley, Ed
Bowley, Viola
Brooks, Beth
Brown, Orval
Buck, Beverley
Buck, Mark
Buck, Rylin
Burke, Morgen
Butterfield, Valerie
Buurma, Fokko
Buurma, Fokko P.
Buurma, Klasine
Calvert, Ron
Campbell, Marj
Campbell, Zander
Caughell, Jim
Chapman, Kelly
Christison, Bill
Christison, Edith
Christison, Jim
Clark, Jessie
Clark, Josh
Clark, Lorne
Crewe, Glynn
Currie, Kay
Cutler, Robert
Davidson, Alec
Davidson, Freda
Davidson, Ken
Davidson, Phyllis
Day (Lee), Dorothy
Denser, Margaret

Dickson, Charlotte
Dickson, Doreen
Dickson, Ken
Dobbyn, Ken
Downey, George
Downey, Jayson
Drayson, Jennifer
Drayson, Michael
Driedger, Elizabeth
Drysdale, John
Drysdale, Marg
Duncan, Butch
Duncan, Elsie
Duncan, Eva
Duncan, Glen
Duncan, Lyle
Duncan, Myrla
Durupt, Roland
Dyck, Chris
Dyck, Henry
Eng, Chief Petty Officer David
Enns, Mary
Epp, Wally
Erickson, David
Erickson, Earl
Fallis, Kay
Fisher, Elroy
Fisher, Ron
Fitzsimmons, Alonzo (Lon)
Fitzsimmons, Bill
Fitzsimmons, Mabel
Fowles, Zach
Garrett, Amos
Garrett, Gretta
Gaulke, Shannon
Gould, Mark
Graham, Allen
Graham, Barb
Graham, Barry
Graham, Greg
Graham, Ivan
Graham, James
Graham, Jenny
Graham, Jim
Graham, Keith
Graham, Mae
Graham, Mildred
Graham, Victoria
Green, Kalena
Greenlay, Georgina
Greenlay, Hazel
Greenlay, Jim
Greenlay, Michael
Hamilton, Byron
Harburn, Allan
Harburn, Audrey
Harburn, Lois
Harper, Allen
Harrison, Bobby
Hayball, Bruce
Hayball, John
Hayball, Rowena
Hewitt, Chad
Hewitt, Jim
Hewitt, Phyllis
Hewitt, Ozzie
Hood, Bruce
Hood, Grace
Hood, Lynne
Hood, Wallace
Hossack, Dave
Hughson (Brown), Jean
Hume, Isabel
Humphreys, Jen

Humphreys, Tom
Isfeld, Cathy
Jardine, Aaron
Jarvis, Audrey
Jarvis, Cliff
Jess, Marsh
Johnston, George
Johnston, Mickey
Johnstone, Bill
Jonasson, Valdie
Kalinowich, Jodi
Keachie, Alex
Keachie, Alice
Keachie, Cam
Keachie, Les
Keachie, Norma
Kendell, Donna
Kennedy, Janet
Kucharski, Ken
Kucharski, Nellie
Kucharski, Stanley
Labuik, Dwaine
Labuik, Terry
Langlois, Linda
Laroche, Lorraine
Loewen, Henry
Loewen, Katie
Lowry, Ilda
Lozinsky, Bob
MacDonald, Gretna
MacDonald, John
Mack, George
Mack, Norman
Mack, Thelma
Manns, Barbara
Manns, C. James
Manns, David
Manns, Irene
Manns, James L.
Manns, Ronald
Marnock, Fred
Marnock, Josie
Marofke, Ed
Marofke, Hilda
Maynard, Art
Maynard, Fran
McCormack, Vernon
McDonald, Carol Ann
McDonald, Jeanette
McFarlane, Betty
McFarlane, Harvey
McFarlane, Helen
McFarlane, Ina
McFarlane, Roy
McFarlane, Vi
McIntosh, Muriel
McLaren, Don
McLaren, Joan
McMillan, Cassie
McMillan, Terry
McMillan, W.D.
McMillan-Ashby, Samantha
McPhail, Gordon
McPhail, Muriel
McPherson, Danny
McRae, Martin
McRae, Ursula
Mikkelson, Marj
Milne, Gloria
Mitchell, Glen
Mitchell, Jim
Mitchell, Margaret
Mitchell, Robert
Moffatt, Bob

Moffatt, Dorothy
Moffatt, George
Moffatt, Laura
Moore, Wayne
Morrison, Julia
Muirhead, Helen
Murray, Jessie
Murray, Len
Murray, Owen
Myker, Stanley
Naismith, Jack
Nelson, Andy
Nelson, Luella
Nelson, Clifford
Nelson, Erin
Nelson, Muriel
Oliver, Alvin
Oliver, Margaret
Olmstead, Anne
Olmstead, Frank
Olmstead, Gerald
Olmstead, Linda
Olmstead, Merle
Olmstead, Myles
Orr-Hood, Cheryl
Parents of Lin Mann
Pearson, Brian
Pearson, Hayden
Pearson, Jaxson
Pearson, Terry
Pedersen, Jeffery
Pedersen, Margaret
Pickup, Sonia
Piper, Percy
Piper, Winnie
Pollock, Ken
Posthumus, Fred
Posthumus, Iris
Pothorin, John
Pothorin, Muriel
Pott, Lucille
Price, Donald
Price, Kay
Proven, Don
Proven, Mary-Ella
Rankmore, Don
Rankmore, Hugh
Rankmore, Jean
Rea, Barbara
Rea, Keith
Reddon, Bill
Reddon, Ivens
Reddon, Lil
Redlin, Ron
Renwick, Beatrice
Renwick, Lloyd
Reynolds, Amy
Reynolds, Glenda
Reynolds, Holly
Ritchey, Nancy
Roberts, Big Joe
Robinson, Joyce
Robinson, Lois
Robinson, Mona
Robinson, Robert (Bob)
Rolfe, Kayla
Ross, Lillian
Ross, Ron
Sage, Doreen
Salt, Joyce
Sank, Joan
Sank, Lloyd
Scott, Bob
Scott, Gladwyn

Scott, Marjorie
Sear, Art
Sear, Barb
Sear, Beulah
Sear, Cathy
Sear, Charles
Sear, Lorne
Sear, Marvyl
Short, Jessie
Short, Jim
Sigurdson, Marjorie
Sigurdson, Simon
Simoens, Daniel
Sinclair, Dawne
Sjolie, Albert
Sjolie, Clara
Slezak, Alex
Slezak, Diane
Smyth, Baby John
Soare, Gloria
Soluk, Donna
Soluk, Harry
Soluk, Jean
Sopotiuik, Peter
Staight, Christine
Steen, Betty
Steen, Irwin
Sticka, Katherine
Sticka, William
Stitt, Kiersten
Strain, Bob
Strain, Charlotte
Strain, Jody
Strain, Matt
Suttie, Bill
Suttie, Elsie
Swaenepoel, George
Swaenepoel, Margaret
Swaenepoel, Walt
Tilley, Bob
Tilley, Sheila
Tindall, Glenn
Tindall, Judy

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Turner, Alex
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Turner, Cliff
Turner, Maudie
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Udey, Margaret
Van Nest, Cathy
Vidnes, Doris
Vidnes, Hawkon
Voth, Neil
Walker, Bob
Walker, Freda
Watt, Garry
Watt, Lawrence
Watt, Lydia
Watterson, Cam
Watterson, Donna
Watterson, Earl
Watterson, John
Watterson, Nora
Watts, Fred
Watts, Gerald
Watts, Helen
Wells, Mabel
Whitelaw, Fred
Whitelaw, Myrtle
Whyte, Jessie
Whyte, Thomas
Wiebe, Rennie
Wiebe, Sandra
Williamson, Alice
Williamson, Joe
Witherspoon, Pearle
Witherspoon, Shirley
Witherspoon, Walker
Witherspoon, William
Wozniak, Ed
Wozniak, Nellie
Yablonski, Linda
Zander, Ed
Zander, Jean



Thank you to everyone
who supported the
Memory Tree this year.

We appreciate the support you give, so that we can
continue to expand our impact in the community!

Profits from the 2025 Memory Tree will go to the
CACF Community Impact Fund.

To learn more about Carberry & Area Community
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Please visit: carberrycommunityfoundation.com/memory_tree_of_lights_we_remember_them
for a full list of those remembered and those who remembered them