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Inside this week



Page 8 - U15 Titans win Provincials

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Banner Staff
 NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS

Lara Denbow and Daxx Turner had history making weekends for the University of Manitoba Bisons. The pair of Neepawa based track and field athletes completed for the U of M at the U-SPORTS Track and Field Championships.

Denbow, who competes in the high jump, became the first Bisons female and only the third student-athlete in school history to win gold in an individual event at nationals in three consecutive seasons.

Turner, meanwhile, won his second gold at Nationals in the triple jump, while also breaking his own school record with a jump of 16.17m. That distance also broke a 30-year provincial senior indoor record and is fifth best indoor triple jump in Canadian history.

Overall at nationals, Manitoba's women and men combined for eight top four finishes, with the men finishing just a point shy of bronze in the team standings.

Congratulations to both Denbow and Turner on all of the well earned success.

Lara Denbow and Daxx Turner make history at U SPORTS Nationals



ALL IMAGES PROPERTY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

It was a historic weekend for Lara Denbow (Above left picture in centre and bottom left picture) and Daxx Turner (Above picture). Denbow became only the third Bison student-athlete to win gold at an individual event at National in three straight years. Turner, meanwhile, hit a triple jump of 16.17m. That distance broke a 30-year provincial senior indoor record and is fifth best indoor jump in Canadian track and field history.

From March 9-20th all Stride branches will be collecting donations in support of Central Plains Cancer Services.

Together, we can make a difference in the lives of local cancer patients and their families.

Tune in March 19 & 20 for the CPCS People Helping People Radiothon, with Golden West Radio broadcasting live from Stride MacGregor, Neepawa & Gladstone branches.



Sleighting in Riding Mountain National Park

By Casper Wehrhahn
NEPAWA BANNER & PRESS

Saturday, Mar. 7 was marked by some residents of the region with a good bout of late-winter sleighing and horseback riding in Riding Mountain National Park. This event, a “rendezvous day”, is held annually by the Southpark Teamsters on the first Saturday of March, with all welcome to join in with their own horses. This year, there were 17 teams and two riders who participated by riding to Sugarloaf Hills within the Riding Mountain National Park. At the ride’s conclusion, participants enjoy a fire to warm up and have their lunches.

A union of generations

According to Dan Shwaluk, one of the event’s organizers, people have joined the Southpark Teamsters in sleighing into Riding Mountain National Park from the south side for this annual occasion for approximately the past 15 years. Another group, who also entered from the park’s north side, kept the sleighing tradition for approximately 18 years.

“Originally we would meet up with the teamsters that come in from the north side and have a rendezvous. Our largest rendezvous had 62 teams and close to 500 people,” said Shwaluk. “Over the years we have lost some of our teamsters and always enjoy meeting new teamsters. We travel from the trailhead on the south side of the park, north of Rossburn, to the hitching rail near the Sugarloaf.”



Schwaluk added, “We go to pack the snow so that on our rendezvous day the first weekend of March, there’s a good trail to the hitching rail. We have been

known to go in 10 times before the first weekend of March.”

With three of the original sleigh-riders still participating, and new

teamsters being added to the mix, this is certainly a tradition that spans across the generations.



PHOTOS BY NIKOLA CEPLIS-GIBSON

There was plenty of fun to be had at the 2026 “rendezvous day” held at Riding Mountain National Park for sleigh ride and horseback enthusiasts. Shown here are some scenes from the day’s rides, skillfully captured by photographer Nikola Ceplis-Gibson.

Keep reading for more local news, sports, and opinion pieces!



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H&R BLOCK

1976: Enns tops Neepawa X-country snow race

By Casper Wehrhahn
NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS

**125 years ago,
Tuesday,
March 5, 1901**

There may be nothing in a name but an Ohio man named Slaughter who recently opened a hotel and christened it the Slaughter House is now bankrupt.

Franklin: Miss Caswell, of Coldstream school was among last week's arrivals and re-opened school yesterday.

Mar. 12- Jas. Molland, one of the pioneers of Glendale, passed away on Friday morning last. His death was due to la grippe and complications of a serious nature. Mr. Molland was widely known throughout the whole district and eminently respected. When Glendale was a municipality Mr. Molland for a long time occupied the reeve's chair. He was in his 57th year at the time of his demise.

**100 years ago,
Friday,
March 12, 1926**

Kelwood: About 50 players attended the

cribbage tournament last Wednesday night in the hall. A good number came up from Riding Mountain for the evening's fun. Kelwood ladies served a dainty lunch at the close of the tournament. Prize winners were: First, Richard Thurston. Second, Mason Bandy. Consolation: Steve Wilson and D. A. Mathewson.

Birnie: The Arden Dramatic Society are putting on "Deacon Dubbs" in the Orange hall on Friday, Mar. 19.

**75 years ago,
Thursday,
March 15, 1951**

The Neepawa Figure Skating Club production of "Fiesta On Ice" won the acclaim of 1,100 residents of the town and district, when the sparkling ice revue was presented here Friday evening.

The town and district were saddened when word was received that the name of Pte. Roland Blaine Pearson, of the P.P.C.L.I., a former Neepawa and Birnie boy, was included in a recent casualty list as killed in Korea.

Pte. Pearson was well known here, having lived in Neepawa for some time with his parents, Mr. and Ms. Ed. Pearson. He was born at Birnie and after the family, moved to Neepawa he attended the public school here. Active in sports, he played hockey with the local public school teams. He was awarded the Legion Trophy annually given to the most sportsmanlike player in the Public School Hockey League in the spring of 1946. He graduated from Grade VIII in June of that year.

He left with his parents and brother Dean about a year ago for Edmonton.

Pte. Pearson visited here before last Christmas.

**50 years ago,
Thursday,
March 11, 1976**

Despite a concerted effort by the Yellowhead Centre committee to keep down operating costs, they are facing projected deficit of more than \$10,000 next season, treasurer David Murray told members of the town council at their regular meeting Tuesday night.

What are the attitudes of landowners toward incentives to maintain wildlife habitat on their lands? The Department of Renewable Resources and Transportation Services in cooperation with the Whitemud Watershed will be attempting to find the answer to that question in a door to door survey of farms in the R. M. of Lansdowne.

Arden's second annual snowmobile rally showed 233 entries, ranging from 3 years to 63 years old, with 173 machines present and 60 ghost riders, which was a first for Arden. This rally is planned again for next year for the first weekend



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE BANNER & PRESS ARCHIVES

Bob Enns (second from left) was the Neepawa Cross-country Champion in a snowmobile race held in 1976, though he didn't know it at the time of the photo. He also won \$500! He finished the race with a time of one hour, four minutes and 48 seconds. It was a 50-mile course.

The photo seen here is from the Mar. 11, 1976 Neepawa Press.

in March.

Approximately 80 people were in attendance at the McCreary Community Centre for the combined 25th anniversary and annual public meeting of the McCreary District Hospital. The hospital opened in May, 1950 as an eight bed medical nursing unit and was enlarged in 1963 to a 17 bed general hospital.

On Saturday, Feb. 7, the Bethany hall was the scene of a happy occasion when a large crowd of relatives helped to celebrate [Oliver and Margaret Price's] wedding anniversary. Oliver Price and Margaret Robinson were married on Feb. 12, 1936 in the United Church manse by Rev. Samson.

**20 years ago,
Monday,
March 13, 2006**

Minnedosa is the latest Westman community

to make a bid for the Hockeyville title.

A former Neepawa woman is hoping to raise \$2,000 during The Weekend to End Breast Cancer.

Candace (Jakubowski) Bennet will be walking a 60 kilometer course through Winnipeg June 9 to 11.

Abelated happy birthday to Mrs. Lizzie Ames of the Dinsdale Home in Brandon who celebrated her 107th birthday Saturday, Feb. 26. Mrs. Ames, with her late husband Harold were

longtime residents of Brookdale district.

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.



Coming to Neepawa ...

"The Roadrunners"

from Minneapolis, Minnesota

Saturday, March 20th

HAZEL M. KELLINGTON AUDITORIUM

plus ... "SPRING FEVER TIME"

FEATURING THE

NEEPAWA CHAPTER BARBERSHOPPERS
LAND O' PLENTY CHORUS

— and —

- ★ THE SINGING SOUVENIRS from Winnipeg
- ★ THE KEYSTONE QUARTERS from Brandon
- ★ GUEST ARTISTS

TWO SHOWS
2 p.m. & 8 p.m.

CALLA CARRUTHERS
AL and CAROL PARENTEAU
MARK CLARK

Admission: Afternoon, advance \$1.50, at door \$2.00; Evening, all reserved \$2.00
Tickets and seating plan at Regent Hobby Centre

NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS ARCHIVES

'The Roadrunners' were set to come to Neepawa on Mar. 20, 1976.



Roxy theatre

291 Hamilton St. Neepawa, MB
www.neepawaroxycy.ca (204) 476-3716

March 13 & 14 • SHOWTIME: 7:30 pm
SCREAM 7

When a new Ghostface killer emerges in the quiet town where Sidney Prescott has built a new life, her darkest fears are realized as her daughter becomes the next target. Determined to protect her family, Sidney must face the horrors of her past to put an end to the bloodshed once and for all. 14A

March 20 & 21 • SHOWTIME: 7:30 pm
LOVED ONE

Host your birthday party at the Roxy! • www.facebook.com/neepawaroxycy

**Quietly trust yourself to Christ your Lord,
and if anybody asks why you believe
as you do, be ready to tell him, and do it
in a gentle and respectful way.**

1 Peter 3:15 (The Living Bible)



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Highlight of the week

Neepawa Job Fair
March 16 at 12:35pm | March 18 at 5:30pm
March 21 at 7pm

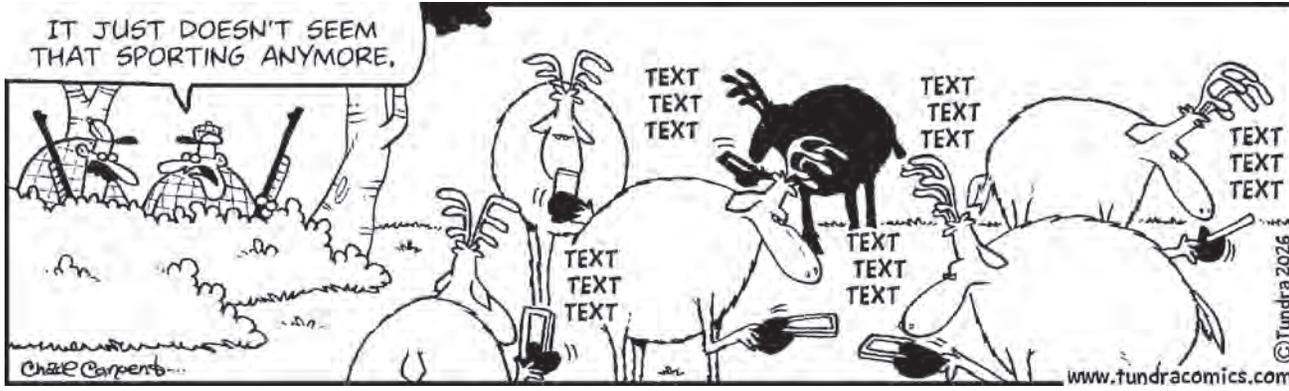
BIGGER BINGO
Wednesday nights at 7 P.M.

Bonanza over \$20,000 • Toonie Pot over \$2,000
Blackout starts at \$500 (plus no. of cards sold this week)
Visit nactv.tv for exact amounts. For more info call 204-476-2639.
LGCA 6052-MB-45955

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

Tundra

By Chad Carpenter



Does your dawg bite?

Long ago, 1976, there was a popular movie 'The Pink Panther Strikes Again' starring Peter Sellers as Detective Clouseau. My favourite scene is the detective, spotting a cute little dog, asks the hotel proprietor "Does your dawg bite?" "No", the owner replies. Then, as the detective bends down to greet the nice doggo, the creature snaps and bites. Clouseau turns and reproachfully says: I thought you said your dawg does not bite." The reply has become a byword with our family "That's not my dawg." How lovely to be able to not take accountability for a snapping, snarling creature!

This saying came to mind early this month. Aerie, my almost four year old Yorkie Poodle cross dog (fourteen pounds of attitude!) and were returning from our daily walk. As we had set out, there had been a large black dog, untethered and unsupervised at the corner, but a sharp 'no, go home' from me had halted his advance. Coming home this creature was anxious to greet us. I scooped up my dog and stood there, very uncertain of what would happen next, and how I should react. And a knight on a white charger appeared! The driver assessed the situation, leaned on the horn, and proceeded through the intersection, effectively sending the big, black dog back. As I hastened to the left side of the street - I know the right side would have been safer, but 'walk on the left side facing traffic' is a rule!- and the driver kindly stopped and offered me a ride home. Well, me and my dog. I hesitated but a moment, it was less than a block to the safety of my home, but I gladly, and thankfully accepted the ride. Does your dawg bite? Not taking the chance.

Later that evening I was sharing my ordeal with a friend. Her question was, "Do you think it was playful and curious, or threatening?" Really, that was not a question I was about to pause and entertain at that time! I don't believe I had the capacity to stop and think. It was fight or flight for me at that point. Does your dawg bite? I was not about to stop and wonder.

It's a fact that some large breed dogs get a bad rap. It does depend much on the training and environment. Ed always said to watch closely for the little ankle biters- the little lap pets that sneak up behind you and try for a quick snatch and go. I do know that Arie doesn't trust strangers and wishes, desperately, to keep me safe. She also abhors rabbits and squirrels, so maybe it isn't about protecting me...

A cornered dog, a chained dog, a hungry and abused dog...these sights hurt my heart deeply. They have no words that we can easily understand. They have emotions. They don't understand all our words.

Thinking back to that big black dog (and yes, it really was big and black- not imaginary!) if it could have called out "I just want to play with you", or "I'm lost, help me" my reaction might have been very different!

March a time for optimism

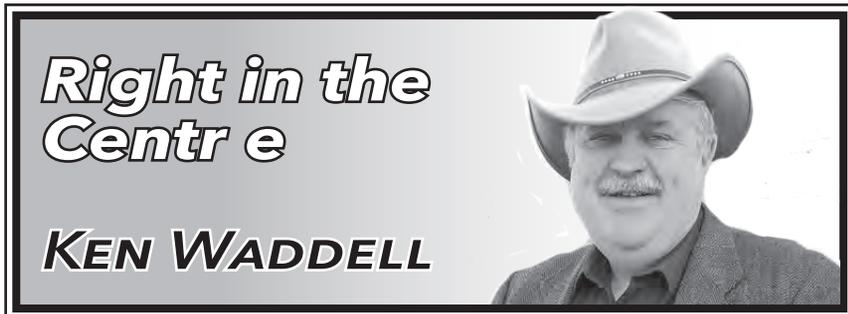
Publisher's note: This an updated re-run of a column I wrote in 2024.

March is a memorable month for me. Seventy-eight years ago, I was born on Mar. 29. I remember many of the intervening months of March. One year, when I was in my very early school days, we had to travel by horse drawn sleigh and van to school because the roads weren't passable for a truck. The snowplows of the day couldn't keep up with accumulated drifts. Yes, students used to be hauled to school in the back of a pick-up truck. But that year, our early 1950s rear wheel drive half ton couldn't make it through the snow clogged roads. It wasn't "over the fields we go" or "dashing through the snow", it was more like slogging all the way.

Another March, actually on my March 29 birthday, I had an agronomist friend out to my own farm at Arden and the snow had receded so much and the sandy soil had warmed up enough that the alfalfa was sprouting nicely. Needless to say that was an exceptionally early spring. One year, on my birthday, we had five calves born in one day. That was memorable.

So this March, while bringing back a flood of memories, also stirs some thoughts about the past but also about the present. Bull sales and cattle sales are booming. And then there's something about March and calving season that brings out the buyers for a new bull to better the genetics of the herd.

Grain growers are putting the finishing touches on seed, fertilizer and machinery purchases. Machinery is being, or has been, made field ready. After some very dry years, and surprisingly good crops and prices,



“ If you are worried about too much CO2 going into the atmosphere, then stop buying stuff from China. ”

growers are figuring it may be a more "average" year this year but hope springs eternal within the human breast and perhaps that's where the spring season gets its name. Even the Neepawa Titans Hockey team gets into the spring season theme as they are in the play-offs and looking forward to the annual Ag Expo auction.

Here's some spring thoughts to chew on for a while.

Farmers feed us all, so everyone please don't speak out against farmers while your mouth is full. Farmers provide a lot of habitat for wildlife, way more in some areas than when they used to when one-third of the crop acres were kept as blackened summer fallow.

Carbon taxes raise food prices and prices or everything else. Carbon taxes don't lower consumption because most of fuel consumption is essential in rural areas. Rural people don't just fire up the tractors, trucks and combines for the fun of it. Mostly, it's essential.

And so here's a thought, back in the day, when I was a child, crop

yields were far less than now. Today's yields were unheard of in the 1950s and 60s. Why is that? One reason is minimum tillage which retains more moisture than the old tillage methods. Another is that seed varieties are better. Fertilizer use is more targeted and better utilized. And, if Carbon Dioxide (CO2) levels are higher now yields will be higher. Many people don't know that greenhouse operators pump CO2 into greenhouses to get better plant growth. Perhaps a slightly higher CO2 level in the atmosphere is a good thing. I think it is but all the liberals will disagree.

And finally, if you are worried about too much CO2 going into the atmosphere, then stop buying stuff from China. That's where the problem is. Maybe you can convince the volcanoes around the world to stop erupting.

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

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STAFF
 Owners/Publishers: Ken and Chris Waddell
 Editor: Ken Waddell
 Sales: Joel Asselstine
 Accounts & Admin: Kay De'Ath, Gloria Kerluke, Rea Apita
 Production Staff: Diane Warner, Sandra Unger
 News Staff: Eoin Devereux, Casper Wehrhahn
 Distribution Staff: Shannon Robertson, Matthew Gagnon, Betty Pearson
 News releases and leads: news@neepawabanner.com, sports@neepawabanner.com
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Opinion: 'Small businesses need long-term certainty'

Submitted
CFIB

More than 1.3 million work permits are set to expire by the end of 2026, threatening significant economic and labour challenges, warns the Canadian Federation of Independent Business (CFIB).

"The economic fallout could be massive. Thousands of workers could be forced to leave or left in limbo waiting for an extension or a new permit. Some estimates show more than 300,000 work permits are due to expire by March alone. Many employers are now facing the hard reality that they may not be able to keep their foreign workers because of recent federal changes," said Brianna Solberg, CFIB Director for the Prairies and Northern Canada. "In Manitoba, sectors such as agriculture, retail and transportation that have been struggling with persistent labour gaps will be hit hardest if they lose access to their TFWs, leaving crucial sectors in our economy exposed at a time when we need to be strengthening our economy and supply chains."

According to CFIB's Monthly Business Barometer®, skilled labour shortages remain the second highest constraint on sales and growth for 37 per cent of Manitoba small businesses. In a 2024-2025 survey of businesses who had turned to the Temporary Foreign Worker Program (TFWP) to meet their labour market needs, 57% said they would have to scale back their growth plans if they could not retain or have access to foreign workers and 52 per

cent would be unable to fill orders or render services. Nearly a quarter (24 per cent) would have to reduce their hours of operation and 18 per cent stated that it was very likely that they would have to close their operations.

We appreciate that in April 2025, the Manitoba government introduced a temporary public policy allowing eligible Manitoba Provincial Nominee Program (MPNP) candidates whose work permits had expired or were set to expire in 2025 to apply for a two-year work permit extension with employer support.

"This move provided some short-term relief for employers trying to retain valued workers who are already contributing to Manitoba's economy," said Solberg. "However, the measure does not necessarily provide a pathway to permanent residency and applies only to a subset of workers currently in the province."

"Small businesses need longer-term certainty," Solberg added. "Provincial steps like this can help in the short term, but the federal government must ensure immigration policies align with labour market realities so employers are not left scrambling to fill essential roles."

Many Canadians also mistakenly believe employers can easily bypass local workers by hiring through the TFWP. CFIB's snapshot proves that small business owners hire TFWs out of necessity and to fill gaps where local skilled labour isn't available.

"Small businesses want to hire Canadians, including young Canadians and

under-represented groups, but these jobs may depend on a specific skill they cannot find. In fact, the share of youth working in many of the sectors where TFWs are employed, such as agriculture or manufacturing, remains extremely low," Solberg added. "In some cases, without the specialized TFWs, there are fewer jobs for Canadians. This is why access to TFWs remains important."

To prevent disruptions and keep supply chains moving, CFIB urges the federal government to:

- Facilitate the retention of TFWs already in Canada through a grandfathering clause;
- Provide a pathway to permanent residency for lower-skilled TFWs who have maintained their legal status, acquired work experience in Canada, and paid taxes;
- Implement an appeals process if a TFW application is denied;
- Reduce the program's administrative burden; and,
- Consult employers and the business community in advance of future reforms.

"Businesses and their employees need stability. Many of these work permit holders, including TFWs, are already integrated in, and contributing to, their communities. Immigration policies must respond to economic needs and so now is not the time to make things even harder for small businesses and their employees. Government needs to deliver on a concrete plan to ensure workforce stability," concluded Solberg.

For more information on why small businesses need the TFWP, visit cfib.ca.

HELEN DRYSDALE

out of helen's kitchen

Beautiful Plains Museum

This week's recipes come from "Old Favorite Recipes" from the Beautiful Plains Museum. Incorporated in 1976, the museum was named after the County of Beautiful Plains which now includes the Municipalities of Rosedale, Lansdowne, and Langford as well as the town of Neepawa. The original home of the museum was the old school, the Viscount. In 1980 the museum board purchased the CNR Station for \$100 and set to work renovating the inside to make a museum. Today the museum is full of artifacts, diaries, history books, clothes and many pictures to help tell the story of the Beautiful Plains thus preserving local history.

The cookbook was published in the late 1990s. The copy I have once belonged to Ada Gardener and by the batter splashed pages was well used.

Sweet and sour chicken - Jean Hunter, Arden

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------|
| 3 1/2 lb chicken pieces or 4 chicken breasts | 1 8-ounce pineapple chunks |
| 1 Tbsp. melted butter | 2 Tbsp. brown sugar |
| 1/2 tsp. salt | 3 Tbsp. water |
| dash of pepper | 1 1/2 Tbsp. soy sauce |
| dash ground ginger | 1 Tbsp. apple cider vinegar |
| 3 stalks celery | 1 Tbsp. corn starch |
| | 1 red pepper |

Rinse chicken and pat dry. Put on a lightly oiled baking pan, skin side up. Pour melted butter over top. Sprinkle with salt, pepper and ginger, top with diced celery. Bake at 350°F for about 20 minutes.

Drain pineapple juice into a cup. Blend in brown sugar, water, soy sauce, vinegar and cornstarch; mix and pour over chicken. Put back in the oven until chicken is cooked. Decorate with pineapple chunks and thinly sliced red pepper. Serve with rice, string beans or a salad.

Nutty apricot bread - Dorothy Babcock

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| 1-14 oz. can apricots, drained, save juice | 2 cups flour |
| 1/3 cup Crisco | 1 tsp. baking powder |
| 2/3 cup sugar | 1/2 tsp. baking soda |
| 2 eggs | 1/2 tsp. salt |
| 1 Tbsp. orange juice | 2/3 cup granola or All Bran |
| | 1/2 cup chopped walnuts or pecans |

Mash fruit with a fork; add enough juice to make a cup. Cream shortening and sugar; add eggs. Stir in orange juice and apricot pulp. Mix all the dry ingredients together in another bowl. Add to the creamed mixture. Bake in a loaf pan for 40 to 50 minutes at 350°F.

Coconut cake - Lorna Clark (Mrs. Eric) submitted by daughter-in-law Mary Ellen Clark

- | | |
|--|-----------------------|
| 1 cup fine coconut | 1 1/4 cup white sugar |
| 1 cup milk | 3 eggs well beaten |
| 1 tsp. vanilla | 2 cups. flour |
| Soak coconut in milk and vanilla for 10 minutes. | 2 tsp. baking soda |
| 3/4 cup shortening or butter | 1/2 tsp. salt |

Cream butter and sugar; add beaten eggs. Mix well. Stir in the coconut mixture. Add the flour, baking powder and salt. Bake in a square pan at 350°F for 30 minutes or until toothpick inserted comes out clean. Ice with a fluffy icing.

Beet salad - Merle Hunt

- | | |
|--|-----------------|
| 2 cans beets, drained or fresh beets, cooked and cubed | 3/4 tsp. salt |
| 1 cup chopped mild onion | 1/4 cup sugar |
| 1/2 cup vinegar | 1/8 tsp. pepper |

Combine vinegar, salt, sugar and pepper, bring to a boil. Pour over vegetables. Chill several hours, turning vegetables to keep covered with liquid. Will keep weeks in the refrigerator.

Old time remedies included in the cookbook:

Remedy for baldness: Rub the bald spots with a sliced onion once a day, or take one quart of boiling water, 1 ounce of Borax, and 1/2 ounce of Camphor oil. Apply once a week with a sponge or flannel.

Remedy for insomnia: Eat 2 or 3 onions just before going to bed. They will have a soothing effect and induce sleep. Or drink hot water 3 times a day and bath your feet in hot water before going to bed.

Thumbs up, thumbs down



Thumbs up to Delsie Martin and her article titled "Gender identity spectrums." I'd be interested in hearing more on this topic. I believe it helps me work towards being a better ally...we owe it to humanity to learn a little more about ourselves and each other.

Adrienne Mack
Neepawa, MB



Congratulations to the organizers of the 75th Anniversary of the Neepawa Rotary Club and the Paul Harris Banquet. A delicious dinner was prepared by the Legion Ladies and presentations made to deserving recipients.

John Drinkwater
Neepawa, MB

Going away on vacation?

Read the full newspaper online at www.neepawabanner.com!

Improvements suggested for Hamilton Street Bridge

By Eoin Devereux
NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS

Under current conditions, the Hamilton Street Bridge could potentially have about ten to 15 years of life left in it... But those conditions are not going to stay current very much longer.

Late last year, the Town of Neepawa brought in a consulting firm to perform an inspection of the structure in order to evaluate its lifespan. The report, which was shared with Council earlier this month, stated that deterioration is occurring and that some elements of the bridge should be repaired or replaced in the near future. The report also stated that should that suggested upkeep and repair work be done, it should extend the operation of the current Hamilton Street Bridge to between the years 2036 to 2041.

Chief administrative officer Colleen Synchyshyn elaborated on the report to Council, however, noting that those suggestions are based on existing traffic numbers in the area. In the very near future, there will



PHOTO BY EOIN DEVEREUX

Improvements will be needed to extend the life of the Hamilton Street Bridge, under the existing traffic numbers for the road.

be increased traffic due to the new regional hospital and other development in the southwest section of town.

"It is the recommendation of Tetra Tech that the town should be planning for [the bridge's] replacement. So, what I think administration would like to hear from [Council] is that we are allowed to proceed within the 2026 budget to get some

bids to do work to rehab the bridge at least to a level that will make it acceptable. And then a phased-in approach to how we inspect it regularly for four years with the idea being once we start to see what's going on in the southwest of 34, it might expedite the need for a new bridge," said Synchyshyn.

The Council accepted the consulting report and expressed its willingness to

move ahead in seeking bids for the suggested rehabilitation work and plan for its eventual replacement.

Neepawa posts a budget surplus for 2025

By Eoin Devereux
NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS

The Town of Neepawa closed out its 2025 fiscal year with a little bit of unspent cash in its coffers. Chief administrative officer Colleen Synchyshyn informed to Council on Tuesday, Mar. 3, that the Town had an audited surplus from its general operating fund of about \$1,023,470. Synchyshyn explained that money is from some planned projects that could not be completed last year.

"While that seems like a lot of money, it really is unexpended funds related to projects, that due to seasonal delays or timing, remained uncompleted at year's end," said Synchyshyn. "To give you a few examples, the street renewal for Adelaide Street,

Second Avenue from Mill to Hamilton, and of course new road work on the east side of Neepawa and the southwest of 34."

Meanwhile, the Town also had a surplus of \$263,230 for its utility operating fund. The reason for this extra money is the same as general operating, as some water and sewer project planned in 2025 did not progress as anticipated.

Administration recommended to Council that it should shift General Operating surplus into the building and land reserve, so that it can be used to complete those previously mentioned projects at a later date. Council agreed and voted to transfer the surpluses to the reserves.

Spruce Plains RCMP report

By David Taggart
SPRUCE PLAINS RCMP

In the month of February, the Spruce Plains RCMP responded to 276 occurrences. We conducted many traffic stops in the area and one driver received a road side suspension after failing a mandatory alcohol screening demand. On Feb. 15, we received a call of a male threatening a couple with a firearm in Rapid City. The suspect was located at a residence in Minnedosa and arrested without incident. We obtained a search warrant for the residence and seized ammunition and gun parts. John Mofat, 26 was charged with pointing a firearm and uttering threats.

If you have an interest in changing your career or starting a new one. On

Saturday, March 14th at 2:00 p.m. there will be a Recruiting Presentation hosted by the RCMP at the Neepawa Library.

Speeder of the month— Goes to a 28 year old male from Portage La Prairie. Travelling at 162 km/hr in a 100 zone through the R.M. of North Cypress-Langford. A serious offence notice was issued which puts their drivers licence under review by MPI.

Anti Fraud Tip— We continue to see scams where persons are sent cheques for work they haven't completed yet or told to purchase an item. They are then told they were sent too much and to send them back a portion of the cheque in cryptocurrency. A few days after they cash the cheque it bounces and the victim is out the portion of money they sent back in cryptocurrency.

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Report to **cybertip!ca**

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Manitoba 

'It makes us happy!' -Betty Patterson

Kinsmen Kourts residents share testimonials on the benefits of exercise

By Casper Wehrhahn
NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS

Exercise at any age brings many benefits to an individual's health and overall happiness. This fact is something that many residents at Neepawa's Kinsmen Kourts embrace wholeheartedly.

"I've been leading the exercise for a year now, and I am delighted by the commitment of everybody here to get stronger," said Ellie Taylor, who co-instructs with Don Shaw and Terry Boersma. "This is a lovely group of people and I am so happy to work with them."

The senior living facility has hosted an exercise group for approximately four years in total, every Monday to Friday. Between both new and long-time participants, all have enthusiastically shared the benefits and improvements they have experienced first-hand. These ranged from being able to walk without assistance and an increase in energy, to better breathing, the easing of joint and muscle



PHOTO BY CASPER WEHRHAHN

Pictured here are some of the dedicated members of the exercise class at Kinsmen Kourts, alongside class lead Ellie Taylor (front row, far right). The class has been extremely dedicated to their exercises, and enjoying all of the benefits it brings to their health and happiness.

pains, aiding with conditions such as fibromyalgia, and more.

"It's wonderful, I wouldn't be walking if I didn't have these classes. I can get out of a chair without help," said Betty Patterson.

Ray Kingdon testi-

fied to both his own and his wife's improvements, stating, "I find very good value from it. I have the tendency, like most fellas, to put on some weight, so you've got to just work through it. I also have some back problems, and I find that after the class,

it helps a lot. And my wife, she has an abdominal condition and it helps her manage it and it helps her know easier what to eat and what not to eat."

Terry Smith, the class's newest member, added, "This was my first class, and I'm really looking

forward to more and to improving my breathing, because I have a breathing condition."

In addition to the physical health benefits, the residents also made note of enjoying stronger bonds with each other—a bolstering of community

and friendship.

Emphasizing that final point directly and enthusiastically, Patterson stated, "It makes us happy!"

Congratulations to all of the class participants on their hard work.

Carberry Plains Museum embarks on historic potato project

By Gloria Mott
CARBERRY PLAINS MUSEUM

Since 1961, the Carberry Plains agricultural industry has been significantly energized by the production and processing of potatoes. However, the tools that made this industry happen 65 years ago, are being lost to scrap metal dealers as well as rust and erosion.

The Board of the Carberry Plains Museum is on a mission to exhibit and educate about that early potato industry, through the erection of a three-sided display shed, to be built in conjunction with their current display buildings, to house those first potato growing tools.

Their mission has been helped enormously through the receiving recently of

a grant from the McCain Foundation. This will build the basic structure and allow the board to start procuring and organizing donations. Fundraising had been started with a grant last fall from the Carberry and Area Community Foundation. The structure is slated to be built this spring and will be located to the north of the "Wings to War" display and to the west of the main building.

In conjunction with the tools and equipment, we also are seeking photos from those early days. Not just from those original seven farms, but from the many growers that participated to the present day. We will also plot the many transitions of the potato plant from Simplot Foods to the McCain's processing plant

that it is today.

Do you have a piece of early growing equipment? Do you have photos of the potato growing years? The Carberry Plains Museum Board would love to receive pieces of equipment that would fit our display. We are also hoping to receive photos of crews of potato harvesters and the work as it progressed—to the present.

If you have any such equipment you are willing to donate, please contact Brad Wells at 204-729-5558. If you have photos you are willing to donate, please drop them off at the Carberry Plains Archives (open Tuesday 9-5 or Wednesday 12-5) — or can scan and send to us, please do so to cparchives@townofcarberry.ca or

Gloria Mott at mott-

farm@xplornet.com. Please note that all donations of equipment may not be accepted. Early documentation would be of interest to us, as well, such as early potato contracts.

We are extremely grateful for grants received so far, but are aware that to complete this project, more funding will be required. If this project interests you, the Carberry Plains Museum accepts tax-deductible donations (over \$50) through the Town of Carberry (Box 130, Carberry MB R0K 0H0 — with a notation that it is a donation to the museum's potato project). Want to learn more? Stop in and attend our AGM on March 18, 7 p.m. in the old town hall at 122 Main St. Carberry.



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Neepawa Titans U15 win gold at Provincials

Banner Staff

NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS

While it was an incredible weekend all around for the Neepawa Minor Hockey Association (See additional details on page 12), the crowning achievement for the program happened in Hartney, as the U15 Titans won gold at Provincials.

The Titans were one of ten teams competing in the Hockey Manitoba U15 B Rural Provincials. Their first game was a showdown on Friday, Mar. 6 against the Dauphin Kings. Neepawa was able to leave the ice with an impressive 6-2 win. Brooks Hockin was named the Player of the Game for Neepawa, while his teammate, Kyson Lapointe was the Hardest Worker Award



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Neepawa U15 Titans are the best in Manitoba, as they won the Hockey Manitoba Rural B Provincial Championship last weekend in Hartney.

recipient.

The next day, the Titans would face a club from

Winkler, and skated away with a solid 10-4 victory.

Zane Jakubowski was the

Player of the Game, and Easton McKee picked up the Hardest Worker honours.

Those wins, along with the impressive goal differential of +10, secured

Neepawa first place in the round robin portion of the event.

The Titans would head into the semi-finals with a pairing against a familiar opponent in Dauphin. The result would end up being the same as before, with the Titans gliding to an easy 10-2 win. Easton McKee was named the Player of the Game and Maxwell Funk collected the Hardest Worker Award.

In the final, Neepawa played Carberry/Souris, and picked up the 5-0 win.

Huckleberry Brown received the Player of Game award for Neepawa, and Everett Armstrong picked the Hardest Worker prize.

Congratulations to the players, coaches and everyone involved with the team.

Ryan Gower seizes Oil Kings opportunity

By Perry Bergson

SUBMITTED ARTICLE. BRANDON SUN

Publisher's Note: This article first appeared in the Brandon Sun and portions of it have been republished with permission. The article in its entirety can be found online at www.brandonsun.com

Ryan Gower may not lead the Edmonton Oil Kings in points or ice time, but he might be the runaway champion when it comes to sheer positivity.

The 18-year-old defenceman and forward from McCreary has never lost sight of what's truly important and what his teammates need from him.

"I like to have a lot of fun at the rink, whether we're losing or winning," Gower said. "I like to make sure the room is loose and we're still having fun and remembering that these are the best years of our lives."

"I love going to the rink every day with the group of guys we have. They make it easy on me to be a good teammate."

After playing minor hockey in McCreary alongside current Brandon Wheat Kings forward Brady Turko — the pair were childhood best friends — Gower made the jump to AAA with the under-15 Parkland Rangers in 2020-21, which was the year that was quickly shut down due

to COVID.

"You're a young guy going into body checking and everything," Gower said. "And when we did get shut down, we had the same coach for my second year of U15 so we already knew him. They worked with us nonstop and I ended having a really good year. They gave me every opportunity in the world to succeed."

So did his family, which includes parents Syd and Carol and older brother Scott. He can't imagine the journey without their help and guidance.

"They haven't just supported me financially through hockey, but the mental aspect and everything about that and the game," Gower said. "Every decision that we've made up to this point in my career, whether it was tournaments or a few years ago where I had a big decision to make where I came out here to NAX to play for an academy and I left home for a year."

"Without them, nothing could ever be possible. I'm very grateful for everything they've done for me."

In his draft year with the Rangers, he posted 13 goals and 21 assists in 32 games and was grabbed by the Prince Albert Raiders in the second round, 32nd



SUBMITTED PHOTO

McCreary's Ryan Gower is making the most of his opportunities with the Edmonton Oil Kings of the Western Hockey League.

overall in 2022.

He admits he was nervous about the entire process, "You don't see many kids from McCreary get drafted to the WHL. That was definitely a special moment."

Along with Gower and Myhre, Turko was selected in the fifth round by Brandon, and Gower noted Brady's younger brother Easten played with them in minor hockey as an underage and also went to Brandon, but in 2024.

After putting up 25 points in 42 games as a U18 rookie with the Rangers, after he was reassigned by the Raiders at age 16, Gower made the difficult decision to jump to Edmonton's Northern Alberta Xtreme under-18 prep team.

"We were trying to make the decision that would be best for me," Gower said.

Beyond moving from a village of 750 people to a city of over a million, he also had to change schools and live with billets for the first time with two other future WHLers, Jordan Duguay of the Portland Winterhawks and Brek Liske of the Everett Silvertips.

"I've never made a better decision in my life," Gower said. "The level of that hockey, it was an entire step up."

He had a second opportunity to make the Raiders in the fall of 2024 at the start of his 17-year-old season, but was reassigned to the Manitoba Junior Hockey League's Dauphin Kings in September and called up for a pair of games with Prince Albert in November.

In December, he was dealt in the MJHL to the Neepawa Titans, which

proved to be a great move as he was given a larger role by Titans head coach Ken Pearson and assistant coach Zak Hicks. In 24 games, he flashed glimpses of his offensive ability with five goals and 13 assists in just 24 regular season games, and added four more points in five playoff games.

"It was obviously tough," Gower admitted. "I wasn't where I wanted to be at, with Prince Albert. I wasn't getting the opportunities I wanted with Dauphin so I ultimately chose to go to Neepawa for the rest of that season."

"Neepawa was great. Ken Pearson and Zak Hicks, those guys helped me a lot. As a young guy playing junior, it was going to be tough but I just felt going Neepawa with the opportunities those guys gave me, they gave me every opportunity to succeed and I built so much confidence. We had an unbelievable group of guys. It was one of my favourite years of hockey ever."

Gower was traded for the second time on Jan. 9, 2025 — although this time it was in a different league — when the Oil Kings acquired him for a sixth-round pick in 2028. Although he thought he might be dealt, it still came as a bit of a surprise when he got the call.

"I was kind of hoping it would have happened ear-

lier to give me a chance to stick around in Edmonton last year but it didn't happen," Gower said. "That's just the ups and downs of hockey. Sometimes you just have to work with what you have."

Edmonton called him up for four games in the back half of the season, and since he knew some of the players from NAX on the team, it made the transition pretty easy.

"It was tough but it was good learning experience," Gower said of the tumultuous season. "It was needed for my career to make those changes."

While he had a clean slate with Edmonton, Gower knew he was entering his 18-year-old season when he went to camp in August, essentially meaning it was his make-or-break moment. After all, not many players enter the league at 19.

"My mentality was that if you don't make it this year, you're going to be done," Gower said. "Just going in there with that mentality that you have nothing to lose, so showcase yourself. Don't go there and leave anything on the table when you'd have to come back and go 'Man, I wish I tried harder.' I went there and gave it all I've got and tried to be the best teammate possible and obviously it worked out for me."

Erickson Mixed Bonspiel champions



PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE ERICKSON CURLING CLUB

The Erickson Curling Club wrapped up its 2026 Erickson Annual Mixed Bonspiel last week, reporting a fantastic round of curling and great competition. Team Aitken secured the first event, while Team Gray were declared the champions of the second event. In the third event, Team Bialas took the top spot, and team Nylen reigned supreme in the fourth event. Congratulations to all the winners, and a round of applause to all participating teams on their hard efforts and sportsmanship.

Top photo: Pictured here is Team Aitken. From left to right are: Bruce Aitken, David Aitken, Betty Anne Aitken, and Danny Senff.

Above: The members of Team Gray are Scott Gray, Rebecca Gray, Rene Daigle, and Trent Pugh.

Below: Shown here are the winners of the third event, Derrick Bialas, Morghan Wark, Aaron Sichewski, and Barry Dowsett, of Team Bialas.

Bottom photo: The winners of the fourth event, Tracy Nylen, Cindy Nylen, Laura Nylen, and Marsha Merrick, of Team Nylen.



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Westbourne Open Bonspiel results



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Shown here, from top to bottom, are the A Side, B Side, and C Side champions of the recent Wesbourne Open Curling Bonspiel.



By Kaitlyn Davey
SUBMITTED

The Westbourne Open Curling Bonspiel, held Mar. 4 to 8, was one for the books. The weekend brought together curlers, volunteers, and spectators for several days of great competition and community celebration.

A sincere thank you goes out to the planning committee, volunteers, curlers, and everyone who came out to support the event and take part in the festivities. From the great food and the always entertaining costume contest

to the Saturday night social featuring live music from 8 Track Shuffle, there were plenty of laughs and memorable moments throughout the weekend.

Alongside the social events, the bonspiel also featured excellent curling, with many competitive and exciting games played over the course of the event. Final results were as follows:

•**South Paw Ag Services A Event Champions:** Skip Geoff Trimble, with teammates Mark Pouteau, Scott Einarson and Andrew Mathews.

Runners-up: Skip Joe Leslie, with Craig Manns, Morgan Manns and

Michelle Huyber.

•**Shur-Gro Farm Services B Event Champions:** Skip Keith Lambert, with teammates Gord Hall, Heather Stanley and Shannon Huyber.

Runners-up: Skip Dallas Maly, with Dara Maly, Dana Beck and Faye Maly.

•**Richardson Pioneer C Event Champions:** Skip Keaton Bachalo, with teammates William Pallister, Gabe Collier and Joel Bergen.

Runners-up: Skip Jeff Early, with Ken Early, Jodiene Early and Regan Early.

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Redline Transport 2026 Driver Recognition

By Al Lepp
SUBMITTED

On Jan 17, 2026, the team from Redline Transport Ltd met for their annual Christmas celebration. During this event, two drivers were recognized for their professional driving to this point in their careers.

Steven Rainka of Neepawa is a Lease Operator and was presented with a gift certificate to Peterbilt MB Ltd for over five years of safe and professional service to Redline Transport and the Trucking Industry. Since April 2019 Steven has safely accumulated over 1,000,000kms.

Dallas Davidson of Oak River is a Company Driver who started with Redline Transport in September 2015. Since that time he has rolled on over 1,300,000 kms in a safe and professional manner. Dallas was presented with a gift certificate to Peterbilt MB Ltd, and a 10 Year Plaque for his service to Redline Transport Ltd



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Pictured above: Redline Transport staff at the 2026 Christmas party celebrations.

and the Trucking Industry.

Congratulations to Steven and Dallas on these accomplishments.

The life of a Transport Driver is a lot more than driving. It involves long and unpredictable hours, road conditions, weather and loading or unloading circumstances. Drivers make numerous decisions during their day of work. The success of a professional driver also relies very heavily on the people they are surrounded by, whether at home or at the terminal. We appreciate the support of these people helping keep our units rolling safely up and down the road.



Pictured left: Dallas Davidson has been recognized for 10 years of hard work with Redline Transport. Pictured right: Steven Rainka has been recognized for five years of hard work with Redline Transport.



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U9 Titans(Lowry) compete in Gold League Championship



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The U9 Neepawa Titans (Lowry) recently competed in the Gold tournament losing a close game in the finals and coming in second out of the 19 teams which competed in the weekend.

U9 Titans (Tibbett) win Bronze in Miniota



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The U9 Neepawa Titans (Tibbett) recently won bronze in Miniota.

U9 Titans (Nugent) win Silver League Championship



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The U9 Neepawa Titans (Nugent) competed in the Silver Division League Championship hosted in Minnedosa on Mar. 7-8. The Titans would end up winning the weekend, including a 12-11 overtime victory in the final. The game winning goal was scored by Micah Uyaivato. The players and coaches include:

Back row (left to right): Assistant Coaches-Brad Nelson & Kevin Levandosky and Head Coach-Lance Nugent. *Middle row (left to right):* Milo Wilson, Mae Boyle, Micah Uyaivato, Emerson Levandosky, Leo McCannell and Caleb Nelson. *Front row (left to right):* Brileigh Nugent, Laine Loewen, Oaklyn Jury and Jaxson Dohan-Deverdenne. *Missing from photo:* Assistant Coaches-Brent Boyle and Brian McCannell. Team Manager-Claire McCannell.

U13 Titans win Silver at Provincials



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Neepawa Titans U13 Female hockey team took home Silver from the U13 Female B side Provincials in Birtle, MB Feb 27-Mar.1. They played five games total, and won all four games they played, leading up to the Championship game. In the final, the team would fall to The Pas Huskies 2-0. The girls played their best hockey all year at this tourney and we are very proud of their accomplishments.



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Western Division	G	W	L	OTL	SOL	Pts
xy - Virden Oil Capitals	55	36	14	3	2	77
x - Dauphin Kings	57	32	23	2	0	66
x-WaywayseecappoWolverines	55	27	23	3	2	59
x - Neepawa Titans	56	27	27	1	1	56
Swan Valley Stampeders	55	19	32	3	1	42
Northern Manitoba Blizzard	56	8	41	4	3	22
Eastern Division	G	W	L	OTL	SOL	Pts
xyz - Niverville Nighthawks	57	50	6	1	0	101
x - Steinbach Pistons	56	46	8	2	0	92
x - Portage Terriers	55	37	17	1	0	75
x - Winkler Flyers	56	33	19	1	2	70
Selkirk Steelers	55	20	33	2	1	43
Winnipeg Blues	54	16	34	4	0	36
Winnipeg Monarchs	56	11	43	2	0	24

x = Clinched playoffs. y = Clinched Division. z = Regular Season Champion

Game results

Wednesday, Mar. 4 Neepawa 7-4 Nor Man

First Period
02:52 NPA R. Heaphy (3)
ASST: T. Wamboldt (8)
08:12 NPA D. McCann (2)
ASST: K. Skrupa (20), L. Paquette (29)
11:27 NPA J. Clark (30)
ASST: Unassisted
14:55 NMB D. Monias (2)
ASST: D. McAuley (4)
18:24 NPA L. Paquette (20) PP
ASST: K. Skrupa (21), K. Weisgarber (28)

Second Period
05:25 NMB J. Whitrow (11)
ASST: I. Tomchuk (20), L. Lorenz (14)
07:41 NMB K. Kellerman (9) PP
ASST: K. Pawlick (13), J. Adlys (15)
17:14 NMB K. Pawlick (4)
ASST: D. Westmann (8), J. Fogle (22)

Third Period
07:44 NPA T. Wallis (20)
ASST: R. Heaphy (6), T. Kirk (10)
18:25 NPA R. Harris (3) EN
ASST: L. Paquette (30)
19:24 NPA J. Clark (31) EN
ASST: T. Lewis (17), C. Kasprick (28)

Scoring 1 2 3 Total PP
NMB 1 3 0 4 1/4
NPA 4 0 3 7 1/2

Goaltender
NMB - N. Kunyk - (L) 30/35 saves
NPA - KC. Couckuyt - (W) 18/22 saves
Attendance: 253 - C.P. Community Centre

Saturday, Mar. 7 Neepawa 6-3 Swan Valley

First Period
01:25 NPA O. Durigan (6)
ASST: K. Weisgarber (30)
02:16 SVS A. Campbell (1)
ASST: J. Giacobbo (26), D. Martin (3)

Second Period
04:56 SVS N. Scott (7)
ASST: R. Woods (9), J. Giacobbo (27)

Third Period
03:46 NPA L. Paquette (21)
ASST: T. Wallis (21), K. Weisgarber (31)
05:54 NPA G. Slaney (7)
ASST: A. McIntosh (12)
08:15 SVS C. Harrison (15)
ASST: W. Smith (10), Z. Hertz (15)
08:27 NPA D. Andries (7)
ASST: Unassisted
13:36 NPA T. Wamboldt (7)
ASST: R. Harris (8), D. McCann (6)
17:54 NPA T. Lewis (14)
ASST: D. McCann (7)

Scoring 1 2 3 Total PP
NPA 1 0 5 6 2/6
SVS 1 1 1 3 1/6

Goaltender
NPA - KC. Couckuyt - (W) 30/33 saves
SVS - S. Bastien - (L) 33/38 saves
Attendance: 350 - Centennial Arena

Game results

Friday, Mar. 6 Swan Valley 9-4 Neepawa

First Period
04:16 SVS D. Martin (3)
ASST: B. Groome (22), W. Smith (8)
09:02 SVS N. Scott (6)
ASST: Z. Hertz (12), T. Langan (19)
13:15 NPA C. Kasprick (19)
ASST: T. Lewis (18), E. Walters (8)
17:38 SVS C. Bolding (2)
ASST: D. Martin (2), Z. Hertz (13)
19:03 SVS D. Roof (11)
ASST: W. Smith (9), T. Langan (20)
19:07 SVS R. Woods (5)
ASST: Z. Hertz (14)
20:00 NPA T. Wallis (21)
ASST: L. Paquette (31), K. Weisgarber (29)

Second Period
02:52 SVS C. Bolding (3)
ASST: C. Michell (7), A. Campbell (1)
09:15 SVS D. Ruff (12) PP
ASST: C. Harrison (26), W. Smith (10)
17:13 SVS T. Langan (22)
ASST: A. Scheck (4), Z. Hertz (15)

Third Period
10:50 NPA K. Weisgarber (14) PP
ASST: T. Wallis (20), O. Durigan (24)
14:22 NPA T. Wallis (22)
ASST: R. Heaphy (7), D. Andries (6)
16:03 SVS C. Harrison (14)
ASST: T. Langan (21), D. Ruff (15)

Scoring 1 2 3 Total PP
NPA 2 0 2 7 1/4
SVS 5 3 1 2 1/3

Goaltender
NPA - Z. Burleigh - (L) 13/18 saves
NPA - A. Myers - 11/15 saves
SVS - E. Falls - (W) 33/37 saves
Attendance: 400 - Centennial Arena

Tuesday, Mar. 10 Virden 5-1 Neepawa

First Period
13:17 VDN L. Hoilett (30) PP
ASST: N. Schaefer (37), C. Worthington (38)

Second Period
01:20 NPA K. Weisgarber (15) SH
ASST: L. Paquette (32)
13:55 VDN M. Light (8)
ASST: A. Osiowy (10), L. Hoilett (25)
19:39 VDN C. Worthington (18)
ASST: T. Ulmer (15), O. Schroeder (5)

Third Period
02:19 VDN N. Schaefer (7) PP
ASST: C. Worthington (39), L. Hoilett (26)
18:39 VDN B. Siemens (13) SH
ASST: Unassisted

Scoring 1 2 3 Total PP
NPA 0 1 0 1 0/3
VDN 1 2 2 5 2/5

Goaltender
NPA - Z. Burleigh - (L) 34/39 saves
VDN - S. Bastien - (W) 31/32 saves
Attendance: NA - Tundra Oil & Gas Place

Neepawa Tigers win first round series over Major Pratt Trojans

By Eoin Devereux
NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS

The Neepawa Tigers have moved on in the Westman High School Hockey League (WHSHL) playoffs, by defeating the Major Pratt Trojans 2-games-to-1.

A positive start in game one

The Neepawa Tigers opened the Westman High School Hockey League playoff series in strong fashion on Wednesday Mar. 4, defeating Major Pratt 5-1.

This first game was played in Minnedosa at the Sunrise Credit Union Centre due to mechanical issues closing the arena portion of Neepawa's Yellowhead Centre. But the change in venue did little to slow the Tigers' momentum as they delivered a decisive performance.

For the game, Neepawa struck first in the opening period. With 12:52 remaining, Ian Foster opened the scoring, finishing a play set up by Luke Nicholson to give the Tigers an early 1-0 lead. Major Pratt did respond midway through the first, off a power-play chance, to make it 1-1.

The Tigers would quickly seized control early in the middle frame, however, as just 43 seconds into the second, Luke Nicholson found the back of the net. The assists were credited to Ethan Bray and Ian Foster. Neepawa then doubled its advantage only 49 seconds later, when Foster scored his second goal of the game,

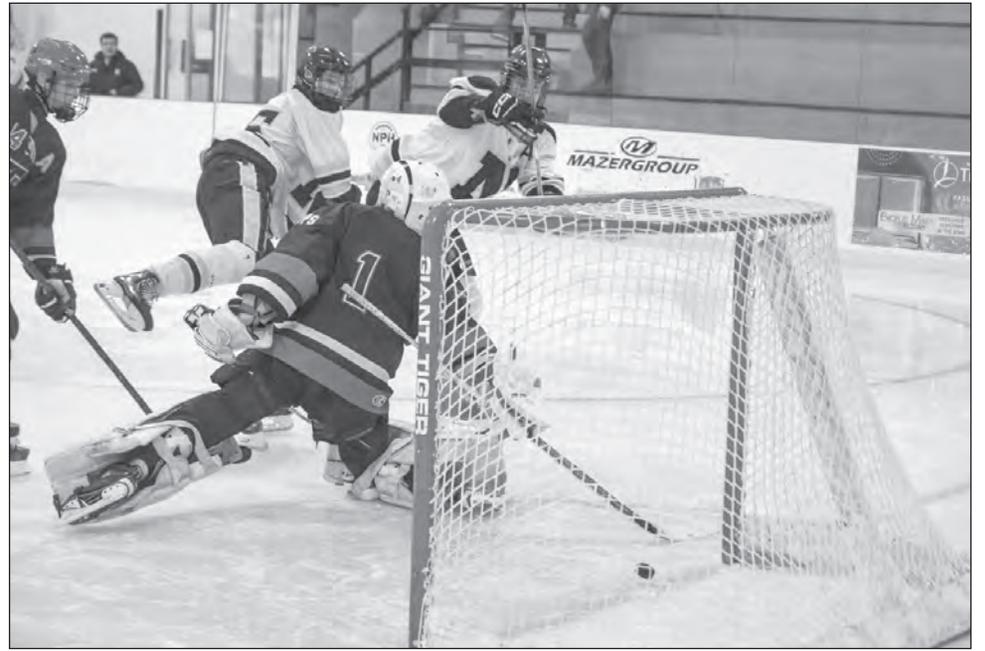


PHOTO BY EOIN DEVEREUX

Zach Plett scored his first goal of the post-season on Sunday, Mar. 8, against the Major Pratt Trojans. Plett and the NACI Tigers would win this game 5-1, and secure the series 2-games-to-1.

with Kane Lapointe and Nicholson providing the assists.

Holding a 3-1 lead entering the third period, Neepawa continued to press the attack. Foster would complete his hat trick just 4:57 into the third, finishing a play from Nicholson and Kellen Hockin to extend the Tigers' lead. He added his fourth goal of the night at the 10-minute mark of the third, again capitalizing on a setup from Kane Lapointe to cap off the Tigers' five-goal effort.

In goal, Harley Smith-Belisle delivered a solid performance for Neepawa, turning aside 32 shots to secure the victory.

Trojans reply in game two

Both teams were back on the ice in Russell for game two on Friday Mar. 6, which saw Major Pratt bounce back with a 5-4 win. The Trojans jumped out to the early lead, scoring twice in the first period. Luke Nicholson replied back for Neepawa just before the first intermission, to make it 2-1.

Less than a minute into the second, Ian Foster would tie it for the Tigers. The next two goals were by Major Pratt, before Foster and Kellen Hockin scored in the third, to tie the game once more. The Trojans would secure the lead and the win, however, on a power-play late in regula-

tion, to tie the series 1-1.

Win or go home time

This series would ultimately be decided on Sunday night with a third and deciding game, this time actually at home for Neepawa inside the Yellowhead Centre.

While the first period would remain 0-0, that didn't mean there weren't opportunities for both sides to score. Just over six minutes before intermission, Neepawa snuck a shot past the Trojans goaltender, but the familiar ting of rubber hitting steel rang out through the Yellowhead, as the puck hit the post. Then just three minutes later, Major Pratt created a chance of their own, with a shot that just barely slid past the open side of the net.

For the start of the second, Neepawa created

opportunities early, and took full advantage of them. Luke Nicholson scored just 45 seconds into the period, to make it 1-0. The second goal for the Tigers arrived less than two minutes later, as Ethan Bray sailed a shot in from near the blue line.

Just 28 seconds later, Zach Plett contributed with his first of the series, slapping a low one just beyond the face-off circle and into the back of the net. Before the end of the period, Nicholson and Kane Lapointe also scored, making it 5-0. Major Pratt would score once in the third period, but that's all they could muster, as the final score would be 5-1 for NACI. With the win, the Tigers have advanced to the semi-finals against the Vincent Massey Vikings. Game one of the best-of-three series was played on Tuesday, Mar. 10 in Brandon.

Club 55 Bowling

Mar. 5: Ladies' High Single & Triple : Laurie Kohinski 194 & 534. **Men's High Single & Triple:** Russ Taylor 217 & 561. **Other Good Scores:** Laurie Kohinski 192; Darrell Gabler 172, 174; Caroline Harding 156; Vivian Oswald 180, 160; Chuck Morden 156, 186; Judy Gabler 191; Frank Porada 186; Elsie Slimmon 150, 155; Russ Taylor 196.



Neepawa Titans

Junior "A" Hockey team

vs. Waywayseecappo
March 13
Yellowhead Centre - 7:30pm

vs. Virden
March 14
Yellowhead Centre - 7:30pm

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

Beaumont win Athlete of the Month honours at B.U.



IMAGES COURTESY OF BRANDON UNIVERSITY

Allison Beaumont has earned honours, winning the Brandon University Female Athlete of the Month, to cap off a dominating campaign for Bobcat futsal. The first-year goalkeeper was a key part of a stingy B.U. defence that allowed just 13 goals in eight regular season games. Beaumont and her Bobcats went 6-0-2 en route to capturing back-to-back league titles. The Neepawa product also held down the fort in the final as BU dropped the Providence Pilots 5-3.

Minnedosa humbled by Hartney in Tiger Hills Hockey semi-finals

By Eoin Devereux
NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS

The Minnedosa Bombers' trek to a Tiger Hills Hockey League (THHL) title ended over the weekend, as they were swept by the Hartney Blues, 3-games-to-0. Game one was played in Minnedosa on Saturday Feb. 2, and saw Hartney prevail 3-1. Former Brandon Wheat Kings Del Cowen (2007-2010) and Mark Derlago (2003-2007), along with the game winner from Mark Agnew, pushed Hartney to the win. Matt Saler replied with a late game goal, to at least ruin the shutout effort for Blues goaltender Justin Holder.

On Monday, Mar. 2, both teams headed to Hartney to play game two. This matchup would conclude with a 4-3 victory for the

hometown Blues. For this game, Minnedosa jumped out to an early advantage, scoring twice in the first five minutes of action. Zac Lamb and Shane Jury scored for the Bombers. While Del Cowan did reply back for Hartney, James Van De Velde would add a third for the Bombers before intermission, to make it a 3-1 score.

The Blues swung the momentum in the second period, however, scoring twice to tie it at 3-3. In the third, Zack McMillan scored what would prove to be the game winning goal for Hartney, on a power-play. Special team did prove to be a big factor in the final result, as Hartney were 2-for-5 with the man advantage, while Minnedosa was 0-for-4.

The third game returned to Sunrise Credit Union

Centre in Minnedosa on Saturday, Mar. 7, and was win or go home for the Bombers. Unfortunately, for the home side and their fans, the Blues jumped out to an early lead with a pair of goals in the first period. The Bombers did put the pressure on goaltender Justin Holder throughout regulation, but were stonewalled throughout much of regulation. Owen Riffel scored the only goal for Minnedosa, but Hartney added three more of their own over the course of the game, to make the final score 5-1.

The Hartney Blues now await the winner of the other semi-final between the Virden Oil Kings and the Killarney Shamrocks. As of the publication deadline, Killarney lead that best-of-five series 2-games-to-1.

History lessons with Helen: Beef rings

By Helen Drysdale
NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS

As farms were being established on the prairies by the first settlers, the main meat source was wild game such as deer, prairie chickens, and rabbits. Establishing a stock of chickens and pigs could be done fairly quickly, but it took a while to build up a herd of cattle. By the early 1900s, most farms had a few cows to milk and keep the heifer calves building up their herds. Those were the days of no electricity and therefore no refrigeration. With no refrigeration, butchering beef in the summer left even a large family with too much meat to eat before it went bad. For some, canning was one way to solve this problem. Many two-quart jars of meat were canned to keep the meat from spoiling. I remember my mom canning jars of meat on her wood stove. Hour after hour the canner boiled away, and the house was swelteringly hot. The meat that came out of the jars was tasty, but it was not like having fresh meat. For many people, butchering a beef was done in the winter so you had nature's freezer. My dad put wrapped meat out in gunny sacks in his grain bins to keep it frozen and safe from animals.

For many small farm communities, beef rings were formed. The beef ring consisted of as many as 15-25 families that were shareholders. They were a cooperative with a governing board and by-laws. A slaughterhouse was built in a central location. The beef ring ran for 16 to 20 weeks in the summer months. Each shareholder contributed a steer over the summer. The beef rings wanted the steer to dress out at approximately 400 pounds. A 1,000-pound steer will typically yield

about 430 to 450 pounds of boneless trimmed beef. When it was your turn to provide the beef on the hoof, you got it to the slaughterhouse the night before the butcher was to arrive. The animal was slaughtered, processed and divided among those in the ring and picked up at the slaughterhouse. The meat was placed in white cotton flour bags supplied by each member with their names stitched on the outside. Everyone got fresh beef each week. The farmer who supplied the animal that week received the head, heart, tail, tongue, and suet.

With careful records the butcher would see to it that the various cuts were allotted so that each family got their fair share of the choice cuts. At the end of the season it should work out that each shareholder got a full beef. If you could not supply an animal each year, you would make arrangements to buy one. Some who had smaller families took what was known as a half share and these people arranged between them who would supply the animal.

At the annual meeting accounts were settled. This included payment of overweight and underweight of meat received. For example, if the dressed weight of the animal which a member supplied weighed 500 pounds and he received 450 pounds of meat, he was paid for 50 pounds of meat.

Likewise, if the amount of meat received exceeded the amount provided the member paid the difference. Money only exchanged hands between shareholders at the year-end meeting. Most shareholders made or received yearly settlements, as some difference between the amount of meat put in and the amount received from the ring could not be avoided. In the early 1950s, with the coming of electricity and home freezers the need for the Beef Ring was no longer necessary.

In our surrounding community the village of Menthmore's beef ring was one of the first to start in the province and one of the longest running. It operated for 54 years. During those 54 years they distributed 789,814 pounds of dressed beef. Through the years, the ring provided good, fresh meat each week and was an opportunity for people to come together to help each other.

You don't need the luck o' the Irish when you can count on the Banner & Press for reliable news, printing and advertising!



Strathclair Drama Club

PROUDLY PRESENTS ITS 42ND ANNUAL PRODUCTION



April 20 - 25, 2026

at the
Bend Theater,
Strathclair, MB.

Monday - Friday
7:30 pm

Saturday Matinee
2:00 pm

Tickets go on sale Saturday, March 21 • 10 am - 2 pm

BY PHONE ONLY 204-365-2436

Payment by cheque ("Strathclair Drama Club")
or e-transfer: strathclairedramaclub@gmail.com

Tickets: \$20 main floor, \$15 balcony

After March 21, call the Box Office:
(204) 365-2436 (9 am - 12 pm)

BIG, THE MUSICAL is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials supplied by MTI (www.mtishows.com).



CLASSIFIEDS

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 Debby 204-352-4065

Notice

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

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

Notice

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

For Sale or Rent

Storage vans (semi trailers) for rent or sale. Anderson's 204-385-2685, 204-385-2997 Gladstone

For Rent

Apartment for rent. Bri-Mont apartments, 331 Mountain Avenue. Phone 204-841-4419

Auctions

Meyers Auctions & Appraisals. Call Brad at 368-2333. www.meyersauctions.com

Tender

TENDER FOR ANNUAL BID RATES

Westlake Watershed District invites tenders for Annual Bid (Equipment Rental) Rates for the 2026-2027 fiscal year.

More information regarding this opportunity can be obtained on the Westlake Watershed District website, at www.westlakewd.com or call the office at 204-767-2101.

Proposals will be accepted until 4:30pm March 31, 2026, as per directions in the Tender Sheet.

TO PLACE AN AD:

Telephone: 204-476-3401

Email: ads@neepawabanner.com

All word classifieds must be prepaid before printing

Help Wanted



Industrial Plant Cleaner (NOC 65312)

Why join our team?

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

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

Quick Facts:

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

What we can offer you:

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

Your duties may include:

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

We are looking for people who are:

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

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

Ways to apply:

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

For inquiries contact: Phone: 204.476.3393

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

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



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Obituary

Eileen Newton

August 27, 1934 – March 6, 2026 – Age 91 years



Eileen was born in Morden, Manitoba to parents Edith and Emile Schultz. She was raised on a farm near Darlingford, Manitoba, one of 11 children. Eileen went through all her school years at Darlingford School, travelling the 4.5 miles in winter by a horse drawn van.

Upon graduating school, she went through a 6-week training program enabling her to teach as a "permit teacher" in a small one room stone built schoolhouse near Killarney – Northcott School. Eileen had 9 multi grade students in her class. She boarded with a local family and walked 1.5 miles to work each day. Eventually Eileen decided to become a nurse, earning her LPN certification at a Winnipeg nursing training school. She started her nursing career in Minnedosa and then eventually at McCreary, Manitoba where she met her husband Russell Newton, a local farmer from Kelwood whom she married in 1956. Eileen took a leave of absence from her nursing career during the time she was raising three children. She eventually returned to nursing for a period of time as the children were older and became more independent. Eileen's love of visiting and genuine care for others made nursing a perfect fit. Eileen and Russ were married for 69 years prior to their passing, six weeks apart this winter. Eileen was a hard worker on the farm, sharing in all jobs associated with a successful grain and livestock operation, maintaining the books, caring of the children, and organizing the family vacations. Russ and Eileen had three children, Kevin (Laurie), Greg (Maribeth), and Terri-Lynn (Darcy). Kevin and Laurie have three children Paige, Mackenzie, and Sydney (Griffin). Paige (Dylan Thornborough) has two children Mara & Goldie, and Mackenzie (Cory Martin) has one daughter Scottie. Terri-Lynn and Darcy have two sons, Eric (Alex) and Matthew (Alana). Eileen enjoyed spending time with her grandchildren and was always genuinely interested in what they were up to.

Eileen and Russ enjoyed times at Clear Lake on the weekends, especially with family and all the wonderful friends they made while residing in the Old Campground area. Those friendships have been lifelong ever since. When time allowed, Eileen liked to golf, of which she played until age 86. While in Kelwood, Eileen kept busy with community affairs, maintaining positions on various boards, including the United Church, Curling Rink, Skating Rink, and Community Center. While residing in Neepawa, Eileen was a regular volunteer on a variety of committees, one being the Lily Fest volunteer group. Once fully retired from the farm, Russ and Eileen enjoyed wintering in Weslaco, Texas for a total of 25 years! Making more lifelong friends again!

In moving to Neepawa in 1995, Russ and Eileen purchased a home on the east side of town where they lived until 2016 before relocating to the Elks Manor, also in Neepawa. Both eventually became residents of the Country Meadows Personal Care home in the past year and a half.

Eileen was predeceased by her parents and her brothers and sisters Eleanor, Florence, Allan, Norman, Adeline, Art, Raymond, Ronnie, and Connie. She is survived by her sister Shirley, who resides in Nanton, Alberta.

The family of Eileen would like to thank the Country Meadows Personal Care Home for the wonderful and compassionate care she received this past year.

At Eileen's request, a family memorial graveside service will take place this spring or summer. She will be buried alongside her longtime husband Russell at the Riverside (Neepawa) Cemetery.

Those wishing to do so, donations in memory of Eileen can be made to the "Beautiful Plains Community Foundation" Box 486 Neepawa, MB R0J 1H0

Request for Return

Dear Ms McCreary,

Wanted: our mother's large jewellery case and contents that were taken by our late brother without permission and he gave it away. Our hearts were broken. We have been waiting all this time to have it returned. There are only two of us left now and we would dearly love to have those small treasures back.

Call Joyce at 204-867-2480 for return and pickup.

With sincere thanks.

Thank You

David Winthrop would like to send a big THANK YOU to my Family and Friends for coming and helping make my 65th birthday a success.

Your attendance, well wishes, gifts and cards meant a lot to me!

A special Thank You to Chris & Kristi for organizing everything and the great food and the beautiful cake! My brother Don, sister Ruth and brother-in-law Mike, for making it special and for all they did.

To Darrel & Jeanette for the food, the help and the support. And to Jackie for her kind words.

It was a wonderful day! I will cherish the memories and fellowship forever.

Thanks Again, Everyone! Dave

Obituary



Donald William Smith

It is with great sadness that we announce the sudden passing of Donald William Smith on February 27, 2026, at his home in Riding Mountain, just one month shy of his 63rd birthday.

Don is survived by his loving wife, Anne Smith; his son Christopher Smith (Branden)

and grandchildren James and Olivia; his step-son Aaron Allston (Emily); and his daughter Megan Gingrich (Clint) and their children, Natalie and Nathan. He is also survived by his parents, Raymond and Wilma (Vivian) Smith; his sister Sandra Korkosh (Robert) and their son Riley; and his brother Ryan Smith (Allison) and their children Conner and Avery.

Don was born in Neepawa and spent most of his early life in the area, with a brief two-year period when the family lived in Moose Jaw. After graduating, he held various jobs in the Brandon area until he was hired by the Winnipeg Police Service, where he served for 31 years and retired with the rank of Sergeant.

Don and Anne later retired to Riding Mountain, where they enjoyed many hobbies. Their dogs were a large part of their lives, and they loved taking them on hikes throughout the area. Don cherished spending time with his family, but he especially enjoyed being with his grandchildren. He loved watching them take part in their favourite activities and took an active role in their lives.

Don was predeceased by his grandparents, William and Ethel Smith and Donald and Katherine Middleton, all from the local area.

He will be deeply missed and forever loved.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada.

White's Funeral Home in care of arrangements.
www.whitesfh.ca

Help Wanted



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 \$20.75/hour with incremental increases to \$22.05/hour based on tenure

Quick Facts:

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

What we can offer you:

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

Your duties may involve:

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

To excel in this role, you should possess:

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

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

Ways to apply:

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

For inquiries contact: Phone: 204.476.3393

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

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

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



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CLASSIFIED AD DEADLINE
TUESDAY NOON
Cancellations and corrections only within business hours and corresponding deadlines.

Margaret Laurence Home Summer Employment

Full time mid-May to September Long Weekend
(35 hours/week)
Ages 15 to 29

Duties include: greeting the public, tours, yard and house maintenance and cleaning, gift shop supervision, updating museum collection database and other duties as assigned.

Please send cover letter and resume to:
mllaurencehome@gmail.com



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.

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- Vacation: 10 working days of paid vacation as per our collective bargaining agreement
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- Permanent full-time employment (74-80 hours per bi-weekly)
- PM Shift Premium
- Full training, with genuine opportunities for career progression
- Employee Referral program - \$500!
- Free parking
- Company events
- And more!!!!

Your duties may include:

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

We are looking for people who are:

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

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Notice



MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH NORFOLK PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that the Municipality of North Norfolk, including the MacGregor Golf Course, intends to conduct the following Pesticide Control Programs during 2026.

1. To control noxious weeds and brush on road allowances within the Municipality of North Norfolk, as well as any required spraying on the MacGregor Golf Course. The projected dates of application will be from April 1, 2026, to October 31, 2026

2,4-D Amine, & Ester	Dicamba	Daconil 2787
Picloram	Glyphosate	Golden Eagle
Garlon (Triclopyr)	Mecoprop	Heritage Max
Fluroxypyr	Amitrol 240	Instrata
Dichlorprop	Diazinon	Senator 70 WP
Aminopyralid	Diflufenzopyr	Merge
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Prairie Corn Gluten	Horticultural Vinegar	Escort
Wilson Total Wipeout	Truvist	LI 700
Navius	Banner Maxx	Overdrive
Hasten NT	Gateway	Goal 2XL
Overdrive	Estaprop	RT-540
Reward		

2. To control Rodents at the following sites in the Municipality of North Norfolk at various times during the coming year using the rodenticide Brodifacoum.

- All Disposal Sites

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Cyhalothrin-Lambda	Aquabac	
Pyrate 480 EC	Sevin T+O	

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

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

Dated at the Town of MacGregor this 13th day of March 2026.

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Neepawa PESTICIDE CONTROL PROGRAM

Public Notice is hereby given that the Town of Neepawa intends to conduct the following Pesticide Control Programs during the 2026 season:

- To control noxious weeds on streets, boulevards, parks and cemeteries: Glyphosate, Curtail M & Par III
- To control pests such as gophers, mosquitoes, pine scale and spider mite: AquaBac 200, BTK Biological Insecticide, Rozul RTU Field Rodent Bait, Safers Insecticidal Soap

Proposed dates of application will be from May 1 to October 15, 2026.

The public may send written submissions or objections within 15 days of the publication of this notice to the department below.

**Manitoba Environment & Climate Change
Environmental Approvals Branch
Box 35, 14 Fultz Boulevard
Winnipeg, MB R3Y 0L6**

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE MUNICIPALITY OF WESTLAKE-GLADSTONE

2026 FINANCIAL PLAN PUBLIC HEARING

HEARING LOCATION:

Westbourne Longburn Community Centre
901 Main Street, Westbourne

DATE & TIME:

April 8, 2026
7:00 pm Public Hearing

At this time Council will present the proposed 2026 Financial Plan for the municipality.

The presentation will provide an overview of the proposed financial plan followed by a forum for questions and comments from the public. The purpose of the hearing is to allow any interested person to make a representation, ask questions or register an objection.

Copies of the proposed financial plan are available on our website www.westlake-gladstone.ca or upon request at the municipal office, 14 Dennis Street East Gladstone, MB during regular office hours (8:30 am to 4:30 pm), Monday to Friday after March 23, 2026. Questions prior to the public hearing may also be directed by letter to our Chief Administrative Officer or through our email address at info@westlake-gladstone.ca.

Consultation with our community is an important component of the municipality's budget process & council encourages you to attend.

Koreen Braun
Chief Administrative Officer
Municipality of WestLake-Gladstone

February 26, 2025

(In accordance with subsection 162(2) of The Municipal Act)

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Obituary



My tribute to my Dad, **Robert Joseph Delaloye**
May, 24th 1945 - December 14th 2025

This may not be the standard, ordinary obituary, but my dad was not a standard, ordinary guy. This is my tribute to my dad, Robert Joseph Delaloye, who was born on May 24, 1945, in Winnipeg, Manitoba, to his parents John and Edline Delaloye.

My Dad spent his childhood in Sperling, Manitoba, growing up on a farm meant learning hard work from an early age. My dad spent many days helping on the farm and pitching in during harvest season, which meant missing several days at the Tremont school he attended. With the fear of not passing Grade 9, he did as many did back then and decided to leave school and head out into the real world.

After making the decision to leave school at just fifteen, my dad ventured west, leaving everything he knew and the prairies that he loved behind seeking new adventure. He worked alongside his uncle on a ranch, where he continued to build his strong work ethic that he had developed at an early age growing up on the farm.

When his time at the ranch came to an end, he joined his Uncle Helgi at Canadian Fisheries. During the summer months, he worked at Lake Athabasca at Fort Chip in Northern Alberta, and his winters were spent working at Dog Tooth Lake in Kenora Ontario.

In 1964, my dad began working at the Sperling Co-op, where he drove the fuel truck and delivered fuel to homes throughout the area to provide the fuel that would keep them warm during the winter.

This is where my dad met my mom who was teaching at the Sperling school. It was a cold, stormy day, my dad was driving through the storm, he saw my mom and another teacher walking on the side of the road. My dad stopped, asked if they needed a ride and told my mom "I'm the guy that is going to keep you warm this winter"...this would later become known to our family as my dad's best pick up line and the pickup line my mom fell for.

Just three months after their first meeting, my parents were engaged. On July 9th, 1966, they were married in the Roman Catholic Church in Neepawa. They began their married life together in Sperling, where they lived until 1971. That year, my parents moved to Neepawa to take over Roco Gas Station, which belonged to my grandpa—my mom's dad. Their family began to grow with the birth of my brother, Regan, on October 28th, 1973. I joined the family on July 8th, 1975, this was the beginning of our Delaloye family.

In 1976 they sold the Roco, my dad worked at Kozak and Sons till 1988, then the Neepawa School Division till 2004.

Our childhood was the best. One of my greatest memories is camping at Lynches Point with Gehring's and Hoopers, close family friends from Sperling. We'd spend the weekend playing catch, cards, boating, swimming where we weren't allowed to get my mom's hair wet, while Dad tanned in his favorite red and white flowered speedos.

In 1997 at the age of 52, my dad's dream of owning a restaurant became reality. My mom, dad and brother Reg bought Uncle Tom's Restaurant in Minnedosa. For 17 years my mom, dad and Reg built Uncle Tom's into a household name, people would drive hours to come and enjoy Uncle Tom's homemade food. They worked side by side 8 months of the year, 7 days a week, taking winters off to enjoy snowmobile racing and a couple hot trips during the cold winter months. My dad took so much pride of ownership in Uncle Tom's. Over the 17 years, customers became friends that felt more like a family. Customers would come in day after day, week after week and year after year. He loved the fact that he built this with his family and he loved working every minute with his family. They sold Uncle Tom's in 2014, with much hesitation from my dad but he knew deep down it was time.

With the selling of Uncle Tom's, and more free time, my parents would pack up their RV, head down South to Mesa, Arizona to visit my mom's sister, my Auntie Candace and Uncle Earl and my mom's brother Uncle Ned and Aunt Marie who would winter full time there. Reg, Jody, Hayden and Alyx would go down to join them for a few weeks with us coming for a week during that time to make some amazing family memories with everyone. My dad's favorite thing to do while there, next to enjoying his rum and coke with his brother and sister in laws, was to tan poolside for hours. When taking a break from tanning, he would do his laps in the pool with his famous dog paddle while my mom would enjoy reading her book and I'm sure giggling to herself while watching my dad do his dogpaddle.

In 2017, at the age of 72 my dad was still wanting to continue his legacy. My dad realized there was more opportunity in owning a carwash than relying on interest from the banks. He convinced my mom and Reg that this should be the family's next business venture and 3D's Carwash was built. 3D's representing my dad, my mom and my brother Reg.

In 2022, my dad now 77, my family added its next business venture, Uncle Tom's food truck. Both Reg and my dad missed cooking together and thought this was a good way to bring back Uncle Tom's on a smaller scale. Positioned right in front of 3D's Carwash, the food truck quickly became a Neepawa favourite, bringing back all the favorites from their original Uncle Tom's restaurant. During the summer holidays, Hayden and Alyx also worked at the food truck. My dad's vision of truly running a family business with now adding his grandchildren happened. Even Crew and Forde did some cooking with grandpa in the food truck on one of our visits.

My Dad and Reg spent everyday side by side cooking at the grill with my mom running the front and visiting with all their customers who many became more like family. My dad worked at 3D's and Uncle Tom's Food truck right up until the day he went into the hospital Sept.19th, 2025. He loved to work and worked by choice. Full time retirement was not for him. He believed you needed a reason and a purpose to get up everyday and he had both.

My dad wasn't just a dad, he was Reg's hockey coach, baseball coach, equipment manager, team manager, trainer and team bus driver. My dad only ever missed one hockey game in Reg's hockey career right up till Junior A due to being in the hospital getting his kidney stones removed.

My dad was the most devoted dad, we always knew how proud he was of us. My dad and I were cut from the same cloth. We butted heads at times since we were so much alike, I was the only one that would stand up to my dad but our father, daughter bond was unbreakable. My brother's bond with our dad was next level. It would be a very rare day if the two of them didn't see each other. They were the definition of a father, son team. My brother didn't just lose his dad, he lost his life long friend.

My dad was the proudest Grandpa and would brag about Hayden, Alyx, Crew and Forde to anyone that would listen and even those that didn't want to.

My Dad often said that he would rather be respected than liked. After receiving the overwhelming number of messages, it was obvious, dad you were both. Out of the 400 plus FB messages, phone calls, and cards we read, they all had very similar words to describe my dad:

-he was larger than life, so friendly, the kindest person they know, always went out of his way to ask how your day was, so generous, always willing to help you even if he didn't know you, full of life and energy, always had time for you, always smiling, hardest working person they knew, no one more genuine, a real presence, always made you feel welcome, would give you a special nick name, treated you like family not an employee, no one more proud of his family, children and grandchildren ...

Out of all those beautiful, heart felt messages there was a few

that stood out to us:

- "Bob always knew what to say to bring a smile to your face and a chuckle to our hearts. We were lucky to know him"

- "The most genuine person I have ever met, Bob was just an all-around good guy" - "Bob will always be Mr. Manitoba to me. Loved listening to all his sled racing stories" - "Your dad was one of the best, Bob was salt of the earth"

- "Always remember Bob driving the Neepawa Natives Hockey bus, window down in the middle of winter, everyone behind him freezing"

- "There is simply no one who could ever fill his shoes or replace his place in our hearts" - "When I was a teacher at HMK, I was having trouble with one of the students, Bob told me that he was pretty sure he could cure that student with one good swift kick to the ass" - "Bob touched so many lives, taught me so many life lessons and was like a second father to me" - "Bob was and will continue to become a legend. Bob was and is the wealthiest man I will ever know, with family"

- And for the Neepawa Locals who all know Roger Kuharski. Roger would come talk to my parents at the Titan games. Roger liked to flex his muscles to my dad, that would have made my dad's day. Roger came up to my mom at one of the recent games and said, "I'm sorry to hear about Bob, Bob was a nice guy" Roger I couldn't agree with you more

And my favorite: "Always thought of Bob as an indestructible real-life Superhero, that would outlive us all"

My dad was scheduled to come back to the Neepawa hospital Sunday December 15th to continue his rehabilitation. Reg didn't plan on going in to see my dad Saturday night since he was set to come back to Neepawa hospital Sunday morning. For some reason something was telling Reg that he needed to go, so he drove to Brandon and decided to stop at Pizza Hut and get dad his favorite pizza. Mom had been at the hospital all day so the three of them enjoyed my dad's favorite pizza together. I joined the visit by phone. My dad didn't want them to leave that night; they visited well past visiting hours then had to leave.

For three months, every single day they always park the car in the same parking lot a block away, but this night Reg decided to pull right up front of the hospital, he had never done this before. When they left the hospital, just before getting in the car, Reg turned around and looked up at my dad's window. My dad was in the window looking at Reg and they waved to each other. My dad always taught us, if you're ever unsure of something, always go with your gut feeling. I'm so happy that Reg went with his gut that night. At midnight, just 3 hours later, my mom got the call from the hospital. Reg and my mom rushed back to Brandon. Derick drove me straight to the Calgary airport to catch the next flight to Brandon. The plane to Brandon never arrived early over the past three months of taking it, but it did that Sunday morning, just in time to get to my dad with the priest already bedside. My mom and Reg kept telling my dad that I was on my way, we knew he could still hear us. We truly believe that my dad was waiting for me so we could be there with him, the four of us as a family, just the way my dad would want it.

Since that Sunday evening, the night my dad passed away, we have all been experiencing flickering lights. Just random lights that have never flickered before, flicker with such force then stop and stay on. We know that this is dad giving us a sign that he is okay and him telling us that we're going to be okay. I know everyone says that they are in a better place now, but my dad believed he was already in the best place. I do know that he is in heaven, catching up with everyone that he knew that has passed before him and causing mischief with his long-time friends Grant Rose, Glen Hooper, Lionel Crowther and his cousin Joe Bilodeau. Heaven will never be the same.

Left to celebrate my dad and his amazing life, is his devoted wife of almost 60 years, my mom Sandy as he would call her, my brother Reg, son and business partner, and his wife Jody.

Myself Heidi, the proudest daughter there ever was and my husband Derick who loved my dad like his own. His proud grandchildren Hayden, Alyx (children of Reg and Jody), Crew and Forde (children to Derick and me). My dad's brothers, Rick (Meredith), Dave, Dan (Cindy) Delaloye, my dad's sister, Jean (Harvey) Hussey, his brother and sister in laws Earl and Candace Backman, Ned, Marie and Harvey and Doreen Kulbaski, many nieces and nephews, friends and other family members that will miss him dearly. I know that my dad will live on as a legend in the stories that will continue to be told and passed down through our family generations.

My mom, brother Reg and I want to thank everyone for all their support. The flowers, food, phone calls, visits, notes left at my dad's bedside because he was sleeping when you stopped by and facetime visits. I always knew growing up in Neepawa that it was a special place but more so now than ever with the passing of my dad, I witnessed it firsthand. We couldn't make it 5 feet down the streets of Neepawa without a hug, a cry and a story about how and what my dad meant to them. Knowing that my mom and brother have that Neepawa support means the world to me, thank you all so much.

We would like to give a special thank you to our hospital angel as my mom called her, Kelly Aldcroft (Humeny), my dad's second daughter as he told the nurses. For her endless support to us and my dad during his hospital time. To Ryan Smith, owner of Smith and Son's. The morning after dad passed away, Reg went to 3D's to do snow removal and pulled up to an already cleared parking lot thanks to Ryan. And then there's Roy Globack, good friend to my mom, dad and Reg. My family could not have kept everything running if it wasn't for you and your countless hours you put in at 3D's while my dad was in the hospital. Speaking of salt of the earth, I can see why my mom, dad and Reg speak so highly of you. And to the Neepawa and Brandon General Hospital for everything you did for my dad, even though I can literally hear him say jokingly "well maybe if you all just did your job right, I'd still be here"

The biggest heart felt thank you from all of us and I know my dad says the same.

My Dad, the glue that held our family together, the rock that always kept us anchored. No one had greater pride for his family than my dad. The most loving, generous, hard working, always happy for others successes and never envious, always proud and content with the amazing life he built for our family. A smile and presence that would light up the room. You were always Reg and my biggest fan. I will always remember how you would pull up at one of our sporting events, you and mom would get out of the convertible, super tanned, in your muscle shirt and sunglasses, all the other kids would just stare at you while you strutted towards us, and I'd just think, yup that's my dad. Today and always, we will carry on that pride for our family dad.

Just 6 months until you and mom would have celebrated your 60th wedding anniversary. On July 9th, 2026, we will all celebrate your 60th with mom and we know you will be dancing with her in the kitchen...and until you both dance together again, keep those lights flickering Dad, it gives us so much comfort knowing that you are still with us. I know they say all great stories must come to an end, but I disagree, your story will continue through all our generations. Dad, you will always be a legend in our family.

I am so ever grateful that mom, Reg and I were there to hold your hands until you took your last breath dad on Sunday Dec.14th, 9:18PM and please do not worry, we will take care of mom. You worked so hard to provide us the most amazing life we could have ever asked for, now it's your time to rest Dad. We love you beyond words.

Love your forever proudest Daughter Heidi, Your Sugar
A celebration of life will be held in the Spring. Date to be announced later.

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Neepawa Novas give their all

Manitoba Winter Games and Morden Magics competition results

By Casper Wehrhahn
NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS

The Neepawa Novas had a busy round of competitions recently.

First on the agenda was a busy two days at the Manitoba Winter Games Gymnastics Competition. Members of the Neepawa Gymnastics Club competed on Mar. 3 and 4, offering them the opportunity to not only showcase their skills, but also to meet gymnasts from across the province and share in the experience together.

Neepawa Nova Natalie Henton also held the honour of being the flag bearer for Team West at the Games.

Results from the Winter Games are as follows:

•**Lennon Birnie (CCP Level 3: Age 10-11):** Beam, silver; all around, fourth place.

•**Hadley Ferguson (CCP Level 3: Age 12-13):** Bars, bronze; all around, seventh place.

•**Avie Wilson (CCP Level 3: Age 14-17):** Vault, gold; bars, silver; beam, silver; floor, bronze; all around, second place.

•**Ally Trotz (CCP Level 3: Age 14-17):** All around, eighth place.

•**Reagan Zalluski (CCP Level 4: Age 12-13):** Bars, silver; beams, gold; all around, second place.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE NEEPAWA GYMNASTICS CLUB
Pictured left: Natalie Henton at the Manitoba Winter Games Gymnastics Competition. Henton was also the flag bearer for Team West at the Games. Pictured above: Gymnasts Ally Trotz, Hadley Ferguson, Avie Wilson, and Lennon Birnie posing together after their events at the Winter Games. Pictured right: Reagan Zalluski as she appeared at the recent Winter Games.

•**Natalie Henton (Xcel Gold: Age 14-17):** Vault, bronze; bars, gold; floor, bronze; all around, third place.

Novas at the Morden Magics

Next up, the Novas took part in The Morden Magics Competition on Mar. 7. Each of the competitors

involved were reported by the Neepawa Gymnastics Club to have done an amazing job.

Here are the results for the day, as reported by the Neepawa club:

•**Rylee Leboutillier (CCP Level 1):** Vault, silver; bars, silver; beam, silver; floor, silver; all around, silver.

•**Scarlett Watson (CCP Level 2: 2015):** Vault, fifth; bars, fifth; beam, third; floor sixth; all round, fifth place.

•**Alayna Bieganski (CCP Level 2: 2016):** Vault, second; bars, second; beam, first; floor, second; all around, second place.

•**Ashlyn Chandler (CCP Level 2: 2016):** Vault, sixth; bars, first; beam, fourth; floor, fifth; all around, fourth place.

•**Karmen Zalluski**

(CCP Level 2: 2016): Vault, fourth; bars, sixth; beam, third; floor, sixth; all around, fifth place.

•**Hadley Ferguson (CCP Level 3: 2013):** Vault, first; bars, first; beam, first; floor, fourth; all around, first place.

•**Reagan Zalluski (CCP Level 4: 2012-2013):** Vault, third; bars, second; beam, first; floor, third; all around, first place.

•**Kylie Reynolds (Xcel Gold: 2012-2013):** Vault,

second; bars, first; beam, first; floor, second; all around, first place.

•**Natalie Henton (Xcel Gold: 2011):** Vault, first; bars, second; beam, third; floor, second; all around, second place.

•**Eliena Pinette (CCP Level 6: 2013-2014):** Vault, first; bars, second; beam, third; floor, second; all around, second place.

Congratulations to each of these gymnasts on their hard work.



Seen here are the Neepawa Novas at The Morden Magics Competition on Mar. 7. Shown at the far left: Rylee Leboutillier (top photo) and Hadley Ferguson (bottom). Left: Seen standing (left to right) are Reagan Zalluski, Natalie Henton, and Eliena Pinette. At front is Kylie Reynolds. Above photo: From left to right are gymnasts Ashlyn Chandler, Alayna Bieganski, Scarlett Watson, and Karmen Zalluski.

Stunning light displays in Neepawa



PHOTOS BY
JODI BAKER PHOTOGRAPHY

This pair of stunning sights were captured by Jodi Baker, of Jodi Baker Photography. Both photos were taken in the Neepawa area.

The image seen at the left was taken on Mar. 8 at Park Lake.

Shown at the right, an aurora event that was witnessed on Mar. 9.

For a full view of both of these photos, and for more images from each of these days, please visit Jodi Baker Photography on Facebook.

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