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Inside this week



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Real

Page 8 - RCMP warn of counterfeit bills

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*Santa delivers the spirit of Christmas to Neepawa*



PHOTOS BY JOSHUA JACKSON AND JODI BAKER

Spectators lined Mountain Avenue as brightly lit floats made their way through downtown during Neepawa's annual Parade of Lights on Saturday night, kicking off the community's festive season. More photos of the weekend can be found on page 16.



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# BPCF marks 30 years of local giving

By Joshua Jackson  
NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS

The Beautiful Plains Community Foundation (BPCF) is celebrating a major milestone after making a positive impact around the Neepawa area for 30 years.

Over the last three decades, the Foundation has strengthened Neepawa and surrounding municipalities by funding over \$3.4 million to local projects in health, education, recreation, culture and community development. Many programs, improvements, and services that residents rely on exist because of grants made possible by the Foundation's steady growth.

Today, the Foundation hosts events and fundraisers throughout the year to raise awareness and grow endowment funds, as well as host a yearly luncheon to celebrate and announce grant award winners.

## A brief history of the BPCF

The Foundation was formed in 1993 after the Thomas Sill Foundation invited Manitoba communities to consider creating local foundations, offering to match donations with one dollar for every two raised. Residents Susan Drayson and Marlene Siatecki rallied community support, leading to the formation of a working group in 1994, and by January 1995, the group had completed incorporation and secured charitable status.

The first BPCF board was initially led by President Dr. Greg Dunn, who helped establish the Foundation's mission: to enhance the quality of life in Neepawa and surrounding municipalities by building permanent endowment funds and supporting community initiatives. In 1995, the endowment fund grew from \$28,292 to over \$2.1 million by 2006.

## Cheers to 30 more years

For Melissa Grindheim, Executive Director of the Beautiful Plains Community Foundation, 30 years is more than just a milestone to celebrate.

"It celebrates three dec-

ades of community-driven generosity, leadership, and long-term vision. This anniversary reflects how local donors, volunteers, and organizations have worked together in our region to build something lasting."

Grindheim noted that through the BPCF's permanent endowment model, charitable gifts received are invested, and the interest earned each year is donated.

"Gifts that have been made years ago are still supporting projects today and will continue to do so over generations," she said. "That enduring cycle of giving – and the continued growth of the endowment fund makes this anniversary a celebration not just of the past, but of the promise of the future."

The Foundation's anniversary also highlights the commitment of countless volunteers, from its founders to present-day board members, who have guided the Foundation's impact. The Executive Director said the Foundation is a reminder of what a community can achieve when people come together with a shared purpose.

"It's a celebration of the community itself; its generosity, resilience, and belief in investing in its own future. It honours the past, recognizes today's achievements, and inspires continued support to ensure the region remains vibrant and strong for the next 30 years and beyond," she said.

As the BPCF looks to the future, Grindheim noted that community foundations are becoming more than fund organizations and are emerging as community leaders, connectors, and catalysts for collaboration. She expects foundations to focus even more on long-term sustainability, social innovation, and partnerships across sectors.

"Technology will also play a role, helping engage younger donors and improve transparency. But at the heart of every Foundation will remain the same principle that started the Beautiful Plains Community Foundation: local people working together to meet local needs," she said.



PHOTO BY JOSHUA JACKSON

Recipients of 2025 grants from the Beautiful Plains Community Foundation pose for a photo after their annual luncheon earlier in 2025. The BPCF has locally funded over \$3.4 million to local projects.

## Shaping a stronger tomorrow

The impact of The Beautiful Plains Community Foundation can be seen throughout the Neepawa area. The over \$3.4 million in funding they have granted has helped upgrade hospital equipment, build recreational facilities, support local schools, enhance art and culture programs, and provide opportunities for youth through clubs/camps and leadership programs.

"These initiatives directly affect everyday life, ensuring safer health care, creating spaces for families to gather, supporting education, and fostering a sense of belonging," said Grindheim. "Many of the improvements residents now take for granted were made possible because the Foundation was there to help when organizations needed support."

For the Executive Direc-

tor, some of her favourite moments on the job have come from seeing the joy and pride on the faces of grant recipients, watching local projects come to life, and witnessing first-time donors discover the power of giving. She also boasted that annual events such as the Giving Challenge have also been highlights, showcasing the incredible generosity of the community.

"Perhaps the most special moments are those quieter conversations with donors and families who choose to establish funds in memory of loved ones. Helping them create a legacy that will continue to benefit the community for decades is deeply rewarding," she added.

## It takes a community

The work of the BPCF is

not made possible without the community at large contributing. Grindheim noted this region has a remarkable tradition of neighbours supporting neighbours.

"People here take pride in their community and understand the importance of investing in its future. Whether through volunteering, donating, or simply showing up to support local initiatives, residents consistently demonstrate a strong sense of responsibility for one another. That collective spirit is what allows a community foundation to thrive. The generosity seen across the area – often from individuals who never seek recognition – is what makes the Beautiful Plains region truly exceptional."

The 30th anniversary of the Foundation marks three decades of shared efforts

and collective achievement. Reflecting the trust residents have placed in the Foundation, it acknowledges the thousands of donors, volunteers, and community partners who have made its work possible.

"The success of the Beautiful Plains Community Foundation is entirely rooted in the people of the community. Every donation, large or small, has helped shape the community we enjoy today," said Grindheim. "As we look ahead, the Foundation remains committed to honouring that trust, supporting local needs, and ensuring the Beautiful Plains region remains a vibrant, welcoming place for generations to come."

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## 1975: Touchwood workshop hosts sale at Co-op

By Casper Wehrhahn  
NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS

**125 years ago,  
Wednesday,  
December 5, 1900**

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

A successful operation was performed on Master Charles Riley, of Glendale, last week by Drs. McRae and Poole. The little boy had been suffering from tuberculosis of the neck and came into town for treatment. He is at present the guest of his grandfather, Mr. L. C. Jones and is progressing well after the surgical treatment.

Mrs. J. Whidden, of Brookdale, on Monday fell through a trap door in the floor to the cellar beneath, breaking several ribs.

Mr. Reuben Andre, of Hun's Valley, Man., has permanently located in Winnipeg, he having purchased the following businesses, and has consolidated them all under his own management on Portage Avenue East: The McCreary Arms & Cycle Co., The Crescent Bicycle (Hyslop Bros.), The Winnipeg Incandescent Gas Lamp Co. and the Incandescent Gas Co.

**100 years ago,  
Tuesday,  
December 1, 1925**

Riding Mountain: Jim Smith had the misfortune to have his arm badly sprained while cranking his car last week.

A telephone message

from Kelwood last evening at 8:30 stated that the Consolidated school building was on fire with little hope of saving it.

**75 years ago,  
Tuesday,  
December 7, 1950**

No one was injured but the possibilities last week were dynamite when a gigantic motor fuel truck tanker decided to go AWOL.

The driver left it parked near the post office while he went in to attend to some business.

When he returned, the big giant White with half a tank of fuel had plunged over a steep ditch north of the post office.

There, it was firmly wedged with its belly ground into the earth and its front wheels protruding in the air.

Funeral service for Robert Burns, 65, well-known Osprey district farmer, who died Nov. 29, was held in Knox Presbyterian Church here on Dec. 2...

Mr. Burns was born on his father's farm in Osprey district on May 2, 1885. He attended Osprey school and resided in the district until his death.

Mr. Burns took a keen interest in community affairs. He served as trustee of the Osprey School Board for a number of years.

He married Florence Helen Cuikshank of Neepawa, June 15, 1917.

Wellwood: Funeral service for James Morrison, who passed away at Deer

Lodge Hospital, Winnipeg, was held from Presbyterian Church, Wellwood, on Nov. 17...

Mr. Morrison was born in Newton Drimalloch, Aberdeenshire, Scotland, Aug. 18, 1878, coming to Canada in 1906.

**50 years ago,  
Thursday,  
December 4, 1975**

Neepawa postal workers, despite remaining off their jobs until a media announcement that a settlement had been reached in the dispute between the post office and the CUPW, were not allowed to vote on the proposed contract because they returned to work Sunday, a day early in the eyes of the Union.

The 37th annual Neepawa men's bonspiel wrapped up Sunday with Minnedosa's Keith Cameron walking away with top honours in the Co-op event and the Grand Aggregate title as well.

The family of Mr. and Mrs. William Johnson held their 50th wedding anniversary at the Yellowhead Centre in Neepawa with a Come and Go tea in the afternoon from 2 to 5 p.m.

Kelwood: Mr. and Mrs. Louie Harris were pleasantly surprised on Sunday afternoon when friends called to extend their best wishes on the occasion of their 35th wedding anniversary.

Glenella: Belated congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Brian Thomson

of Plumas, proud parents of their first born, a daughter, Sandy Christine, Saturday, Nov. 15 in Neepawa's hospital.

**20 years ago,  
Monday,  
December 5, 2005**

The Assiniboine Regional Health Authority will be unveiling architectural plans for a new personal care home in Neepawa this Wednesday.

The federal election may jeopardize Neepawa's bid for infrastructure funding.

Police have charged a former employee of the Glenella branch of Beautiful Plains Credit Union with theft over \$5,000 and false pretenses with intent to defraud over \$5,000. The alleged offenses took place between January 1999 and December 2004.

A conditional use hearing will be held in the R.M. of Rosedale office Dec. 9. Gerald Massey wants the zoning bylaw amended, allowing him to establish an aquaculture training and development centre for fish and vegetables in the former Kelwood High School. Currently zoned general development, it will have to be amended to industrial use.

Arden: Lane Collins of Arden was Manitoba's only winner at the Canadian Western Agribition and Canadian Cowboys Association championship finals in Regina. Collins, 15, won the junior steer riding event and he did it in great style, dominating the field with three good rides.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE BANNER & PRESS ARCHIVES

The Touchwood Park workshop was ready to offer some of the items they have made throughout the 1975 year for sale at a special table set up on the second level at the Neepawa store of the Neepawa-Gladstone Co-op in early December. The items were to be handled by the Lionelles, with proceeds going to the workshop.

Seen here is Helen Harris watching a young customer as she tries out some of the merchandise.

*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.*

**In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom also he made the universe.**

Hebrews 1:1-2 (New International Version)

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(153-154)

Gabriel's Ceramics had this ad in the Dec. 4, 1975 edition of The Neepawa Press.

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**Highlights of the week**  
**Glorious Christmas Wish Sale**  
Dec. 9 at 10:30 am | Dec. 11 at 6:30 pm | Dec. 14 at 8:15 pm  
**Pathway to Home Ownership - Working with the Town of Neepawa**  
Dec. 8 at 9pm | Dec. 10 at 12:30 pm | Dec. 13 at 1pm  
**Academic Preparation for Health Care Programs**  
Dec. 8 at 12pm | Dec. 10 at 8:15 pm | Dec. 14 at 8:45 pm

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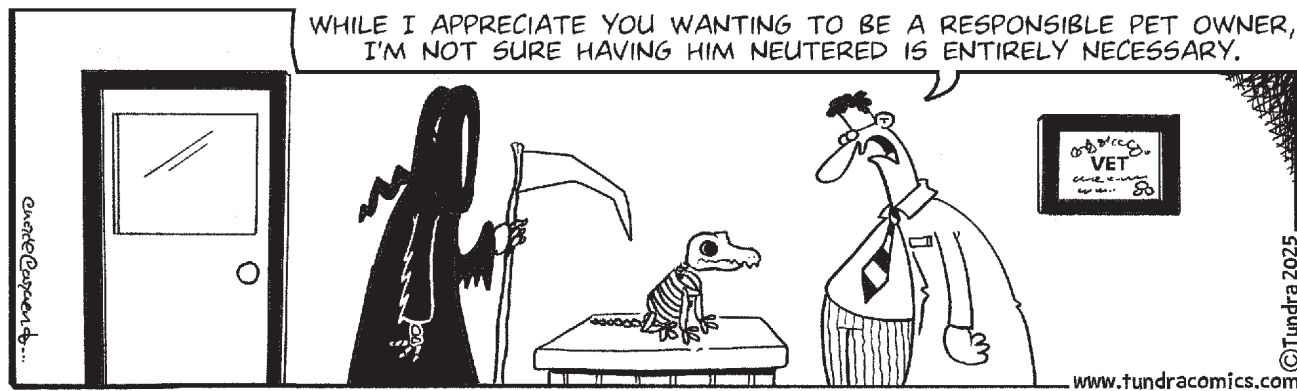
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# Tundra

By Chad Carpenter



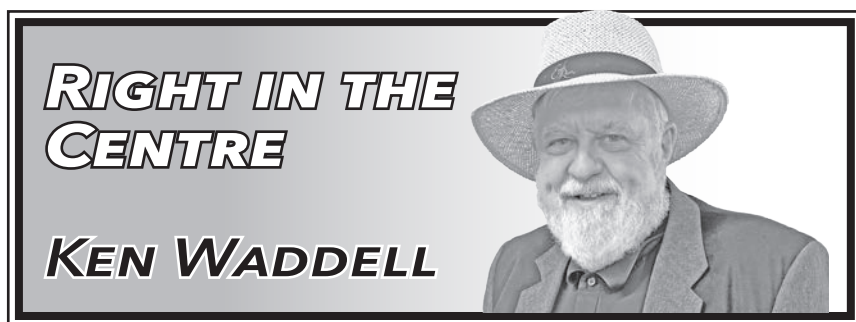
## Disgraceful behaviour continues

As anyone who knows me well or who has read some of my columns, knows I try to keep close track of political matters. There are good reasons for that. My parents liked to stay informed about local, provincial and national politics. My father came to Canada in 1913 and was a fan of Prime Minister Wilfred Laurier, if for no other reason than the family benefited from Laurier's immigration policies. Both my parents followed politics, always voted as soon as they were old enough and taught us the importance of being involved.

My wife Christine and I have long been involved in politics, have run for office a few times. I have known about or been somewhat acquainted with every Manitoba premier since Douglas Campbell in the 1950s. I have been in the gallery many times at the Manitoba legislature and have seen some good debates and momentous occasions. With all that background, it was very disturbing to hear about the vicious name calling that took place last week in the Manitoba legislature. I won't repeat what was said, but I abhor the attitudes, the slurs and the sheer ignorance of the discourse.

For me, it goes even a bit deeper than that. In 2006, the leadership of the PC Party of Manitoba became vacant when then leader Stewart Murray lost a confidence vote at a PC Party Annual General Meeting. A leadership race was called. I entered that race and came in third out of three candidates. It was a great experience. Through that leadership process, I became more familiar with the house and its workings. I met with the winner of that race, Hugh McFadyen, many times, and we talked about a wide range of topics and policies.

After all those years of political involvement, it had become evident to me that even then the level of discourse and decorum in the legislature had



“It's a mistake, a huge mistake for the legislature to carry on the way they have done for years now and with no relief in site.”

badly deteriorated. I strongly suggested that he gather his Members of the Legislature (MLAs) together and set a new course of action, discourse and decorum. I suggested that he not participate in the heckling and that he direct his MLAs to do the same. I predicted he would get a lot of attention, even adoration from the media and greater respect from voters. Even then, things were pretty bad in the house, a disgrace to the MLAs and an abuse of people in the gallery and especially to the delegations of school children.

McFadyen didn't apparently take my advice.

From that day forward, through the reign of now several premiers, the name calling, cat-calling and the general level of nastiness has accelerated.

It's a mistake, a huge mistake for the legislature to carry on the way they have done for years now and with no relief in site. No sensible Manitoban should say they like the situation.

The problem is that, although politicians may not realize it, most voters don't hold them in very high esteem. About 40 per cent don't even vote, let alone think that politicians can be taken seriously.

At all levels of politics in Canada, school board, municipal, provincial and federal, it should be incumbent upon politicians to behave in a cordial and respectable fashion. Added onto that is the amount of sad divisions that crop up in US politics and it's no wonder that people don't hold politicians in high esteem.

I am not about to quit preaching, but it's getting disheartening to see the level of disrespect that comes out of politicians' mouths.

The bottom line seems to be that the worse the politicians behave, the more sour and dismissive the voters (and non-voters) become, the less politicians are held accountable. Maybe that's the way they want it to be. With nobody caring and nobody paying attention, the politicians can do whatever they like without accountability. I hope I am wrong but the evidence is building up that politicians render themselves irreverent and irrelevant with the result that they can do whatever they want. That's a sad prospect isn't it?

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

## Homebodies

RITA FRIESEN



## Go make a diff'ence

One of the 'going forth' hymns in the newer United Church song book encourages everyone to go out and make a difference in their world.

"Go make a diff'ence, you can make a diff'ence..." It's an upbeat, off beat song, to be sung with enthusiasm. Singing it with enthusiasm is much easier than making a difference with enthusiasm!

It is easy to fall into the pattern of thinking that the something we do is big, splashy and noteworthy. They certainly can be, but they don't have to be grandiose actions that make a difference.

Two of my recent projects have possibly been totally unnoticed by everyone but me. And that's ok. In late spring I was distressed over the multitude of empty pop cans scattered down Railway Street. Twisted Tea cans to be exact. So, one day I grabbed a garbage bag as I left the house, and before I reached the stop sign a few blocks away I had almost 50 empties off the sides of the street, out of sight and into the recycling bin at home. I had not started out with a large enough bag so I stockpiled a few for my next trip out. And then I started spotting them on the grounds of the Yellowhead, down Hurrell Road, beside the old highway— everywhere!!! But I did what I could picking up after a prolific litterer...

This fall the plastic bags tumbling around the compost site have been annoying me to no end. And then one day—go make a difference was our closing song at service. When Arie and I headed out for our Sunday afternoon walk, I decided to start making a difference where I could see a need. I started gathering up bags, big bags, of old, of new, of rotted and whole plastic bags at the compost station. I chased them across the open field, I clambered through the ditch, I braved the tree line and I tugged them out of the dirt in which they were half buried. And I felt darn proud of myself for making a difference in my world. I did wonder if there is still a juvenile offender program in our community and if I could possibly get some assistance from a young offender. I did/do wonder why folks can not simply follow the instructions!!! There are bins provided for the bags. Oh, and I emptied other peoples bags of leaves, cause leaving your leaves in the bag is not the way to do it. And I wondered, every time I emptied one, what else might be in there! I collected a whole bunch of perfectly intact bags and stashed them away for the next time I go out gathering. That whole concept of a dedicated space to drop off trees and branches— NOT pieces of furniture—leaves and garden compost— NOT mattresses and light fixtures— is a wonderful addition to the community, my community, your community.

Perhaps not quite the spiritual intent of the song writer when sending me forth, but it's a start. I challenge each of us to make a positive diff'ence in our world.

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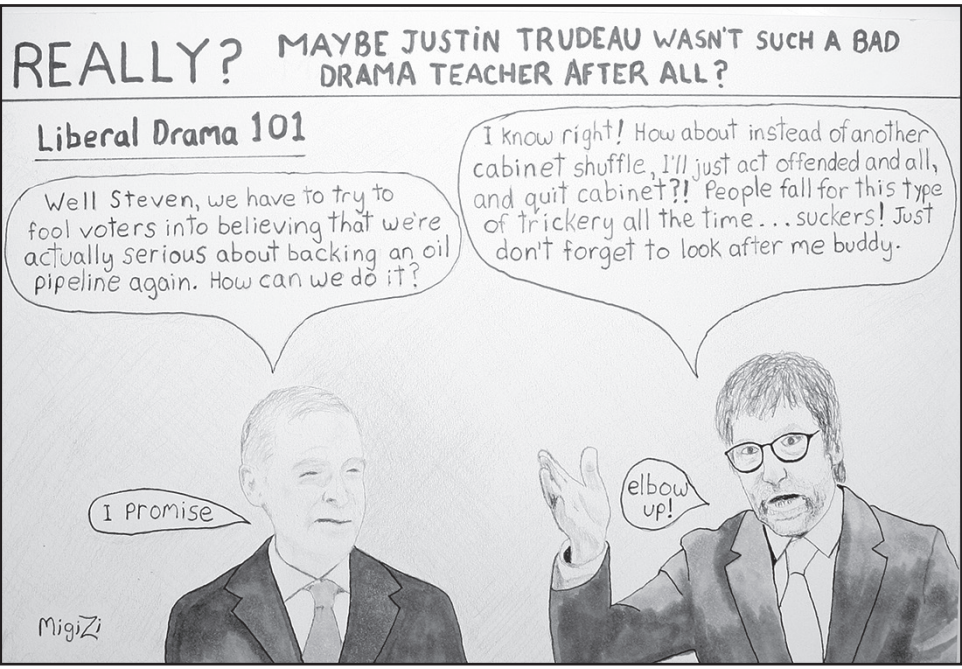
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Tiny nails, big reactions

Today, my daughter asked me to paint her nails. We went to the bathroom and chose all the beautiful colours, pink, purple and blue. As I brought them out, my 3-year-old son excitedly came up to us and asked what we were doing. After I explained he excitedly asked, "Mommy, can I paint my nails too?". I then paused. Why did I pause?

In our society we subscribe to gender norms. Gender norms are social expectations for how someone of a particular gender should behave. We think of things like blue is a boy's colour and pink is a girl's colour or motorbikes are masculine but bicycles with flowers on them are feminine. Certain gendered expectations attach themselves to children's bodies (ex: clothing, hair, accessories). These gender norms are reinforced by our reactions to our children as they try on different identities. As an example, a well-intentioned grandparent may say, "boys don't do that" or "long hair is just for girls". What this does is instill in our children and future adults that there is a code for how one should behave and dress depending on their gender. Gender norms are so rigid and deep within us that we may not even realize they are there. Even someone who is well trained on challenging gender norms (like me) can be subjected to them, this is the reason why I paused.

As I started painting his nails all the colours, I saw complete joy in his

YOUR LISTENING EAR  
DELSIE MARTIN

face. Each little nail that I painted felt like a big affront to gender norms. I was solidly proud of myself. Then the time came to send him to daycare, again, I paused. I have heard of so many stories of kids making fun of other boys about painted nails, parents expressing outrage at daycares painting their male children's nails and even one story from a former student about a daycare only allowing boys to come with a single painted nail and the color had to be "masculine". I had a genuine moment of fear. Would my son's daycare say anything? Would other parents say anything? Would family say anything? Fortunately, I am one of the lucky ones and nothing was said. In fact, in a photo posted online of my son, someone posted at how lovely his manicure was. Growth is possible and this brings me hope for the future.

Gender norms are socially constructed ideas, they are not inherent truths. Standards of what is considered masculine or feminine vary widely by culture, community and generation. In some cultures, men wear jewelry and makeup. Gender rules are contingent, not universal. Kiddos explore their identity through creativity and

trying on different identities so if your son wants to wear a tutu to dance class (which mine did) let him, if he wants to have long hair and paint his nails, encourage that. What you are encouraging is exploration and fun, not something dangerous or deviant. What our kids need from us is acceptance and emotional safety. Consider if you will, what messages our children absorb when harmless expressions are criticized.

So, next time my son asks for his nails to be painted, there won't be a pause, instead I will ask him what shade of pink he would like and if he would like sparkles added to that. As he proudly shows off his nails he doesn't even realize that he is challenging a social script that has been around for generations and that is a big deal.

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

HELEN DRYSDALE

OUT OF HELEN'S KITCHEN  
Potlucks

Parties are so much more relaxing when the food load is shared. Potlucks have been bringing people together for generations to enjoy fun, food and fellowship. Make these two recipes to share at your next gathering.

This vegetable side is irresistibly good and will be a welcome addition to any potluck gathering.

Vegetable and apple casserole

- 1 small turnip
  - 1 medium sweet potato
  - 6 carrots
  - 2 Tbsp. butter
  - 1 tsp. salt
  - 1/2 tsp. pepper
  - 4 small to medium apples peeled and sliced
  - 1 tsp. cinnamon
  - 2 Tbsp. brown sugar
- Topping:
- 1/2 cup brown sugar
  - 1/2 cup flour
  - 2 Tbsp. butter

This recipe calls for the vegetables to be cooked together. I do not do that. Turnips take longer to cook than the other two so I cook the turnips separately so the sweet potatoes do not go mushy when cooked with the turnips.

Peel the vegetables and cut them into chunks. Place them in a large pot with salted water and boil until tender. Drain, mash and add the butter and salt and pepper. In a greased 2 liter casserole dish layer half the mashed vegetables. Arrange the apple pieces on top. Mix the brown sugar and cinnamon and sprinkle on top the apples. Cover with the remaining mashed vegetables. Combine the topping ingredients and sprinkle on top of the casserole. Bake uncovered in a preheated oven at 350°F (180°C) for 45 minutes.

The cake is nice and tender, and the cranberries add a nice tart flavor, perfect for bringing to potlucks!

Cranberry orange coffee cake

- 1/2 cup butter, room temperature
- 1 cup white sugar
- 1 Tbsp. orange zest
- 1 tsp. orange or vanilla flavoring
- 2 eggs
- 1/4 cup fresh orange juice
- 1 cup sour cream
- 2 cups flour
- 1 tsp. baking soda
- 1 tsp. baking powder
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1 /2 tsp. cinnamon
- 1/2 tsp. allspice
- 1/2 tsp. cloves
- 2 cups fresh cranberries (or frozen cranberries thawed)
- Cinnamon Sugar Topping:
- 1/2 cup finely chopped walnuts
- 1 tsp. cinnamon
- 1/4 cup sugar

Preheat the oven to 350° F (180°C). Grease a Bundt pan or angel cake pan with spray or butter and set aside. Make the cinnamon sugar topping by mixing the granulated sugar, cinnamon and walnuts in a small bowl and set aside. In a large mixing bowl, beat together the butter, sugar and orange zest until creamy. Add in the flavoring, eggs and orange juice and mix well. Mix in the sour cream. In a small bowl combine the flour, baking soda, baking powder, salt and spices. Stir into the remaining batter. Fold in the cranberries until evenly distributed.

Sprinkle one half of the sugar/nut mix on the bottom of the greased pan. Slowly pour in half of the cake batter. Then carefully sprinkle the remaining nut/sugar mix on top. Top with the rest of the cake mix. Bake for 45-55 minutes until toothpick inserted in the middle comes out clean. Let the coffee cake cool for at least a half hour before transferring to a plate. Enjoy while warm or cold.

Thumbs up, thumbs down

To whom it may concern. On Tuesday, Dec 2, there was fresh snow-fall at the Neepawa Post Office. I watched two men with canes and one with crutches (unable to hold railing) trying to navigate the stairs. This is waiting for an accident to happen!!

**Lorraine McCurry**  
Neepawa, MB

Well, spring came and went as did summer and fall now winter and Mother Nature can now fill in the lovely potholes on the streets. The list that the Town provided in spring that was to be fixed must have been a Santa wish list cause maybe only two got fixed. Streets are getting worse all the time and nothing is done. Really Neepawa, you need to get something done on these issues.

**Terry Bradley**  
Neepawa, MB





# Neepawa & Area Palliative Care launch 2025 Memory Bulb Fundraiser

**Submitted**  
NEEPAWA PALLIATIVE CARE

This is a difficult time of the season for many but it is also that time of the year again when the Neepawa & Area Palliative Care Program runs its annual fundraiser where you can purchase a bulb in memory of a loved one that has passed for \$5.00 or a donation of your choice. The bulbs are on the tree outside of Fil Mart on Mountain Avenue and the donations can be made at a number of businesses throughout town (Harris Pharmacy, Super Thrifty Pharmacy, The Mill, Home Hardware and the Banner) as well as the Neepawa Health Center.

This has been the main fund raiser that the program runs since it began in 1998. The other main source of funds is from general donations. The

money raised is used to furnish the family rooms at both the Health Center and the Personal Care Home as well as patient rooms at the Health Center. The family rooms are stocked with snacks, water, coffee and tea for family use. We are currently working on raising money to add to the money received from the Estate of David Cochrane to furnish a Palliative Care Family Room in the new hospital.

In addition to material purchases for the program we provide the opportunity for continued education for the volunteer sitters. This year we were able to send 13 volunteers to the mini Palliative Care conference sponsored by Prairie Mountain Health (PMH) in Brandon as well as 5 to the Provincial Palliative Care Conference in Winnipeg.

And yes, we do have one

paid position, the Coordinator of Volunteers, Mary Ellen Clark. She not only coordinates the volunteers (who sit with the patient to give families a break) but works collaboratively with the medical staff at the facilities so that they can concentrate on looking after the patient while she can give support to the ones around the bed. She is the ears that listen, the shoulder that they can cry on, the one that brings them a cup of tea or coffee. It is because of this position and the person in it that makes our program very unique and different from any other program within the region. So far in 2025 the program has supported 34 families.

We need to send a huge thank you to the businesses that are collecting the monies, to Denis and the Neepawa Town Pub-

lic Works department for finding the tree, erecting it and stringing the lights, to our Volunteer sitters, to our Palliative Care Committee (eight community members, a representative from the Ministerial Association, the Coordinator of Volunteers and ad hoc members from the Health Center, Personal Care Home and the Home Care program) and of course to all who donate to our cause. As the year comes to an end and you need a tax break keep us in mind as well and you can send a donation to Neepawa & Area Palliative Care, Box 1240, Neepawa, MB., R0J 1H0.

Wishing everyone a very Merry Christmas and Joyous New Year.

**Judy Gabler, President, Neepawa & Area Palliative Care Committee.**

# "Amero Little Christmas" comes to Neepawa



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Don Amero, who will be performing in Neepawa on Friday, Dec. 12.

**Submitted**  
KALEIDOSCOPE CONCERT SERIES

Don Amero brings his soulful country music to the Kaleidoscope Concert series on Friday, Dec. 12, 7:30 pm at Arts Forward. This promises to be a heart-warming concert perfect for the holiday season, as this well-known Winnipeg performer, along with two other musicians, take to the stage.

Don tells us that this concert will feature "Don Amero songs, Santa songs and Jesus songs". There will be something for everyone—he will hold you in his spell with his beautiful music and engaging storytelling.

After nearly two decades in the music industry, Don is an award-winning singer/songwriter whose music evolves with every album he records. As a glass-half-full kind of guy, he makes music with a purpose, balancing fatherhood and family life with his artistic journey. His generous spirit and optimistic outlook shine through when he is on stage.

This concert is just what you need for the festive season. Be sure to get your tickets early for this fantastic evening of music. Advance tickets are for adults and are available at ArtsForward or online at Eventbrite, as well as at the door. This event is made possible thanks to the generous sponsorship of the Neepawa-Gladstone Coop, and the Manitoba Arts Council.

# Titans Toy and Food Drive a success



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Members of the Neepawa Titans delivered toys to the Neepawa Thrift Store on Tuesday, Dec. 2. The toys were collected as part of the Titans' annual Toy and Food campaign. The donations were collected at Neepawa's home game on Friday, Nov. 28 and at Harris Pharmacy.

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In Memory of a Loved One  
As you contribute, your memorial can be viewed in the window of Harris Pharmacy.  
The memory tree will be located at Mountain Ave. and Davidson St. downtown Neepawa, MB.  
Drop off your contribution at one of these Neepawa locations:  
Neepawa Hospital      Super Thrifty Neepawa Pharmacy  
Home Hardware      The Mill - Lifestyle Store  
Harris Pharmacy      The Neepawa Banner & Press



# Needs in front and behind the camera

## Neepawa Community Access Television hosts its' Annual General Meeting

By Eoin Devereux  
NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS

It was another challenging year for one of Canada's last independent access channels. Neepawa Access Community Television (NACTV) held its' annual general meeting on Monday, Nov. 24 in the back room of the Neepawa Public Library.

One of the primary topics examined that night was a look at the television station's financial report. For this past year, NACTV's total revenue came in at \$241,084. Expenses, however, totalled \$256,000, which meant NACTV had a loss for the year of \$14,916.

The reasons for the overall loss is due in part to a slightly smaller amount of royalties received from the Canadian Broadcasters Rights Agency (CBRA). Each year, NACTV gets a royalty cheque from the CBRA for con-

tent the local station has created. This year's amount was \$24,430, which is almost \$6,703 less than they had received last year.

As for the year-over-year loss, NACTV General Manager Ken Waddell clarified those numbers. He noted that they are still waiting on some outstanding payments that have yet to arrive, and therefore cannot be factored into the year-end figures. The largest of these is an extra \$6,000 that is expected from the Canadian Journalism Collective. That money is distributed annually from Google to news organizations across the country.

About halfway through the fiscal year, NACTV also had to reduce its employee numbers by two full time positions. That decision dropped the salary and benefits expenses by just over \$10,000. It's expected to drop that figures by a much larger number this upcoming year, though it does

put a strain on the remaining staff.

### LJI Report

Rrian Prior and Liway Cabrera offered an update on NACTV's participation in the Local Journalism Initiative (LJI). The LJI is a national program to support civic journalism in underserved communities across Canada. The funding is available to add in the hiring of journalists or payment of freelance reporters. In 2025, NACTV received \$96,752 from LJI.

Prior informed the community herself and Liway have been able to cover a wide variety of local events through the funding of the program, which translated to roughly 100 hours of new local content.

As for the contract with the LJI program, due to some federal bureaucracy, there have been some delays in NACTV's ability to re-up for the full year. The

local station has received several extensions to the previous contract, as the feds try to figure it out. NACTV is currently covered until early 2026.

### Technical report

Jeremy Vogt, who was an employee with NACTV until earlier this year, but still serves as an on-call contractor and volunteer for the channel, provided a report on the technical outlook. Read by Rrian Prior, the report noted that an issue that will need to be looked after soon is the end of operation of Windows 10. The majority of NACTV computers are older and operate off of Windows 10. This year, however, Microsoft ceased providing updates for that software. This will create a need for new computers to be purchased in the future, as the old set up will not be able to edit materials for broadcast. A lack of physical space in the Neepawa Banner &

Press building, as well as archive space on the computer servers, was also brought up, as things that will need to be addressed.

### A bare bones Board of Directors

Due to a variety of outside factors, the 2025-2026 NACTV board of directors is at its' bare minimum to be viewed as a functioning board. Last year, there were eight members, including one member at large. But, due to family commitments, illnesses and relocation from the community, several of those members are unable to continue this year.

This year's Board of Directors are Cathy McGrath, Ken Waddell (Member at large) and Christine Bellisle, who is letting her name stand for now to allow for the board to maintain its status. The minimum number of members for the board to be able to operate is three.

# Local facilities benefit from Stride Credit Union

Banner Staff  
NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS

Stride Credit Union is giving a helping hand to local businesses during the holiday season, with its Stride Forward Fund.

The Fund is an annual grant program designed to provide meaningful financial support to organizations and grassroots initiatives that drive social, environmental, and economic progress in the regions Stride Credit Union serves.

This week, the financial institution announced 13 recipients of this year's Stride Forward Fund. The press release notes these organizations are creating real impact in rural Manitoba by strengthening community spaces, expanding childcare, improving accessibility, and more.

ArtsForward received \$25,000, which will support window replacements to improve energy efficiency and reduce the environmental impact of the building.

The Yellowhead Development Society of Neepawa received \$25,000 to assist in renovating the lower level of the curling rink, creating a safer, more accessible, and visually unified space. The funding

will support new flooring throughout the viewing and change room areas, as well as new seating to enhance comfort and accessibility for members and guests.

\$6,000 is headed to the Roxy Theatre to help replace an outdated fire alarm panel to meet upcoming safety regulations and ensure continued operation.

Elsewhere in the region, Tiny Taters Childcare in Carberry is getting \$15,000 to prepare for the opening of a much-needed daycare centre for the community. Funding will support the purchase of outdoor play equipment.

The Langruth Community Hall is receiving a boost to replace old flooring throughout the facility, creating a safer, more inviting space for all who use the hall, helping maintain the hall as a central gathering place for the community.

The Plumas Pirates Ball Diamond is also receiving \$9,700 to help purchase a specialized tool to help level and care for the shale infield, keeping the diamond in top shape.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

ArtsForward, The Yellowhead Development Society of Neepawa, Tiny Taters Childcare in Carberry, and the Roxy Theatre in Neepawa were four recipients of the Stride Forward Fund.

NEEPAWA  
**Banner & Press**

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# Counterfeit cash used at Neepawa business

Submitted  
MANITOBA RCMP

On Nov. 19, 2025, at approximately 11:00 a.m., Neepawa RCMP received a report that a counterfeit bill was used to purchase merchandise at a business on Mountain Avenue.

Officers attended the scene and spoke with an employee who handed over the \$100 bill that was used.

After review, there were noticeable defects on the bill that indicated it was counterfeit. Officers are also investigating other locations in town where additional counterfeit bills may have been used.

Police are looking to identify the person who used the counterfeit bill to gather more information and ask anyone who may know her identity to contact the Neepawa RCMP detachment at 204-476-7340.

The Bank of Canada has important information for all businesses when dealing with suspicious money:

If you suspect that you're being offered a counterfeit note, assess the situation to ensure that you are not at risk. Then, do the following:

- Politely refuse the note and explain that you suspect that it may be counterfeit.
- Ask for another note (and check it too).
- Advise the person to check



the note with the local police.

- Inform your local police of a possible attempt to pass suspected counterfeit money.
- Be courteous. Remember that the person in possession of the bill could be an innocent victim who does not realize that the note is suspicious.

After a transaction, if you suspect that you've received a counterfeit note, give it to the local police.

- If it's real, you'll get it back.
- Either way, the police should be informed of possible counterfeiting activity in your community.

Timely reporting helps police and prosecutors bring counterfeiters to justice.

The Neepawa RCMP continues to investigate.



IMAGE COURTESY OF MANITOBA RCMP  
A video still image of the person believed to have used the counterfeit bill.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE MANITOBA RCMP

The photo shown at left from the Manitoba RCMP shows some comparisons between a fake Canadian \$100 bill and a real Canadian \$100 bill. The public is asked to keep these comparisons in mind, as a counterfeit bill was recently used to purchase goods in Neepawa. For additional comparisons, please see the statement posted online by the Manitoba RCMP.



## Stride Credit Union Empowers Rural Manitoba with Transformative Community Investments Through 2025 Stride Forward Fund

Thirteen projects receive funding to strengthen gathering spaces, childcare, recreation, and accessibility—building vibrant communities for generations to come.

**Portage la Prairie, MB – November 27, 2025** – Stride Credit Union is proud to announce the recipients of the 2025 **Stride Forward Fund**, supporting 13 incredible organizations that are creating meaningful impact across rural Manitoba. These investments strengthen the people, places, and programs that help our communities thrive.

From revitalizing gathering spaces to supporting childcare, recreation, arts, and accessibility, this year's projects reflect Stride's commitment to building strong, inclusive communities. Brent Budz, CEO of Stride Credit Union, emphasized the importance of these investments: *"The Stride Forward Fund is about more than financial support—it's about investing in the heart of our communities. These projects represent the resilience, creativity, and collaboration that make rural Manitoba strong."*

**Highlights of 2025 Stride Forward Fund Projects:**

- Langruth Community Hall – \$20,000 to replace aging flooring and ensure a safe, welcoming hub for local events.
- Koko Platz Recreation Club (Portage la Prairie) – \$14,000 to furnish a new community hall with tables, chairs, and storage.
- North Norfolk Ag Society – \$5,000 for removable ramps to improve accessibility at the curling and ice rink.
- ArtsForward (Neepawa) – \$25,000 to replace heritage windows, improving energy efficiency and preserving cultural space.
- High Bluff Community Centre – \$25,000 to revitalize the public playground for local families.
- Tiny Taters Childcare Co-op (Carberry) – \$15,000 for an outdoor play area at the new childcare centre.
- Junior Rifle Club – \$5,000 to upgrade competition rifles and enhance youth training facilities.
- Roxy Theatre (Neepawa) – \$6,000 to replace an outdated fire alarm panel for safety compliance.
- Get Together Club (MacGregor) – \$5,000 to renovate washrooms for improved accessibility for seniors.
- Birnie Hall – \$4,000 for kitchen upgrades to support community gatherings.
- North Norfolk Childcare Co-op – \$30,000 for renovations at the region's first licensed childcare centre.
- Yellowhead Development Society – \$25,000 to renovate the lower level of the Neepawa Curling Club for safety and accessibility.
- Plumas Pirates Ball Diamond – \$9,700 for specialized equipment to maintain safe playing conditions.

The impact of these grants is already being felt. Norma Somers, speaking on behalf of the Birnie Community Club, shared, "Birnie Community Club has done all its banking business with Stride Credit Union for years. We have had great service and have appreciated the support for local community events. The Stride Forward Fund is one example of the connection between the Credit Union and the communities it serves. We are very grateful for the grant we have received. Fundraising is a big challenge for small communities. This money will help us to begin our project to improve our kitchen facility for community functions. Thank you."

### Why This Matters To You

When we invest in community spaces, we invest in connection, belonging, and opportunity. These projects are commitments to the people who gather, learn, celebrate, and grow in these places. Every contribution strengthens the fabric of rural Manitoba, ensuring that children have safe places to play, families have access to childcare, and neighbours have welcoming spaces to come together.

To learn more about each recipient and how they're helping their communities stride forward, visit <https://strideforwardfund.ca>.

### Media Contact:

Nancy Funk, Manager, Marketing and Communications  
Stride Credit Union  
204-385-6194  
[Nancy.funk@stridecu.ca](mailto:Nancy.funk@stridecu.ca)



Keith Jury, Stride Credit Union Director, presents the Birnie Community Club with a \$4,000 cheque to upgrade their kitchen



Nancy Funk, Stride Credit Union's Manager of Marketing and Communications, presents members of the Carberry Tiny Taters Childcare Co-op with a cheque for \$15,000 from the Stride Forward Fund.

# Minnedosa RCMP respond to fatal scooter collision

Submitted  
MANITOBA RCMP

On Nov. 25, 2025, at 4:00 p.m., Minnedosa RCMP were notified about an injured male on 3rd Avenue NW in Minnedosa.

Officers responded immediately and located an injured male laying on the road with an electric scooter nearby.

Emergency Medical Services treated the 45-year-old male at the

scene and then transported him to hospital where he later succumbed to his injuries.

The investigation determined the male was travelling down 3rd Street

NW on the scooter when he lost control and collided with the roadway. He was not wearing a helmet.

Minnedosa RCMP continue to investigate.

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Thanks for reading

NEEPAWA THE Banner & Press



**By Eoin Devereux**  
NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS

A large contingent of locals got into the spin of things last weekend, and it was all for a very noble cause. On Saturday, Nov. 29, Neepawa Rhythm - Spin and Yoga Club hosted the local chapter of the Ride Inside MJHL fundraiser.

The cycling challenge for charity is staged through a partnership between the Manitoba Junior Hockey League (MJHL) and CancerCare Manitoba Foundation. The effort, which involves all 13 MJHL clubs, raises funds for initiatives that support pediatric cancer patients.

This year, Neepawa Rhythm paired with the Neepawa Titans to raise the money through a pair of events.

The first was a stationary cycling display set up at the Yellowhead Centre during the Titans' home game on Friday, Nov. 28. Supporters rode the bikes for the duration of the hockey game to raise cash for the cause.

The second part of the fundraiser was held the next day at Neepawa Rhythm, as Titans players and coaches, as well as a large number of local residents, participated in stationary cycling classes.

A few of the Titans even hopped up on the main podium and helped teach the classes.

Every cyclist that was involved donated \$20 to secure their seat in a class. There were a grand total of seven classes scheduled for the day, with every seat sold. That was able to raise almost \$1,300. Combined that with the money from Friday night, as well as other donations, the unofficial amount brought in surpassed \$2,000.

On Tuesday, Dec. 2, Neepawa Titans Head Coach and General Manager Ken Pearson had an update in regard to that number, as the amount brought in was now actually over \$4,000! Pearson said the efforts of Neepawa Rhythm made sure this was an incredible weekend.

"I think it was a great collaboration between Rhythm Spin and Yoga and the Neepawa Titans organization. We all have been touched in some way, shape, or form by cancer and if we can even help a little bit like this past weekend we will do it," added Pearson.

**Giving back**

Neepawa Rhythm - Spin and Yoga Club co-owner Tara McCarty worked with Titans



PHOTO BY EOIN DEVEREUX

Above picture: Tara McCarty of Neepawa Rhythm Spin and Yoga Club, helped to organize and operate the 2025 Ride Inside MJHL fundraiser. The charity challenge, which feature local supporters and member of the Neepawa Titans (bottom picture) was able to raise just over \$4,000 for CancerCare Manitoba Foundation.

Coach and General Manager Ken Pearson on the weekend efforts.

McCarty said they were glad to lend their support and their space to the Titans and assist in organizing this important initiative.

"When I bought the

spin club, events like this were, kind of on the radar for me," noted McCarty. "It's a Cancer Care Manitoba initiative, with a focus on support of child-care cancer. So, when you can give something back to something like that, it's very special."

100 per cent of the proceeds brought in is going directly to CancerCare Manitoba Foundation.



PHOTO BY EOIN DEVEREUX

Many locals supported the Neepawa edition of the Ride Inside MJHL Fundraiser.

Don't shut us out!  
Send us results from your games so we can keep everyone up to date on our local teams!  
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# Titans finding ways to win in dramatic fashion

By Eoin Devereux  
NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS

The last few wins at home for the Neepawa Titans have not been for the faint of heart. After falling behind by multiple goals against both the Swan Valley Stampede and the Winnipeg Blues, the Titans have staged late game rallies to pick up a pair of victories.

The first of these matchups on Wednesday, Nov. 26, saw Swan Valley score twice in the opening period. Neepawa eventually replied late in the second, with Talen Wallis scoring for the home side. Then mid-way through the third, Keenan Skrupa one-timer, off of a Jack Clark pass coming from behind the net. Cooper Kasprick closed out the night with an empty net goal, to provide Neepawa the 4-2 win on Family night.

After the Blues game, Titans Head Coach and General Manager Ken Pearson noted that while they'd prefer not to win games in such dramatic fashion, it's good to see that the players have the confidence to battle back like they do when they find themselves in a tough situation. "[Trailing early] isn't something we want to do, but we've talked about not

Titan trailing 2-0 heading into the third period.

For the final 20 minutes of regulation, Neepawa found that next level and simply out hit, outpaced and outplayed their competition. It all began with Grayson Slaney potting his first MJHL goal 4:12 into the third, to cut the Winnipeg lead to one. Barely a minute later, Talen Lewis score his fourth of the year, to tie things up a 2-2. For the rest of the third, Neepawa just kept the pressure on the Blues, and created several chances near the net. That tenacity payed off in the form of a Keenan Skrupa one-timer, off of a Jack Clark pass coming from behind the net. Cooper Kasprick closed out the night with an empty net goal, to provide Neepawa the 4-2 win on Family night.

being dejected when we get into these types of games. Just do your job, focus on every shift out there. One play, one goal at a time. Whether you have the lead, or are trailing, you work hard," said Pearson. "The guys kept at it tonight, and Slaney scored his first of the year. That fired everyone up on the bench, and we just built off of that. We're

not going to give up on any game, and they've been rewarded for that."

The weekend concluded for the Titans in Winnipeg against the Monarchs. Fortunately for Neepawa, this one was a little less dramatic, as the Titans cruised to a 7-2 decision on Nov. 30 at the Hockey For All Centre. Talen Wallis scored twice, and added an assist, while

Keenan Skrupa, Roan Michalchuk, Cooper Kasprick, Kyle Weisgarber and Talen Lewis each added a goal in the win. These three results improved Neepawa's record to 12-11-0-1, and has them just a point out of second place in the MJHL's West Division.

Neepawa's most recent home game was played on Wednesday, Dec. 3, against

the Portage Terriers. This game concluded just after the Banner & Press publication deadline. After another pair of weekend road games in Swan River and The Pas, the Titans return to the Yellowhead Centre for a showdown on Wednesday Dec. 10, against the Winkler Flyers. Start time is set for 7:30 p.m.

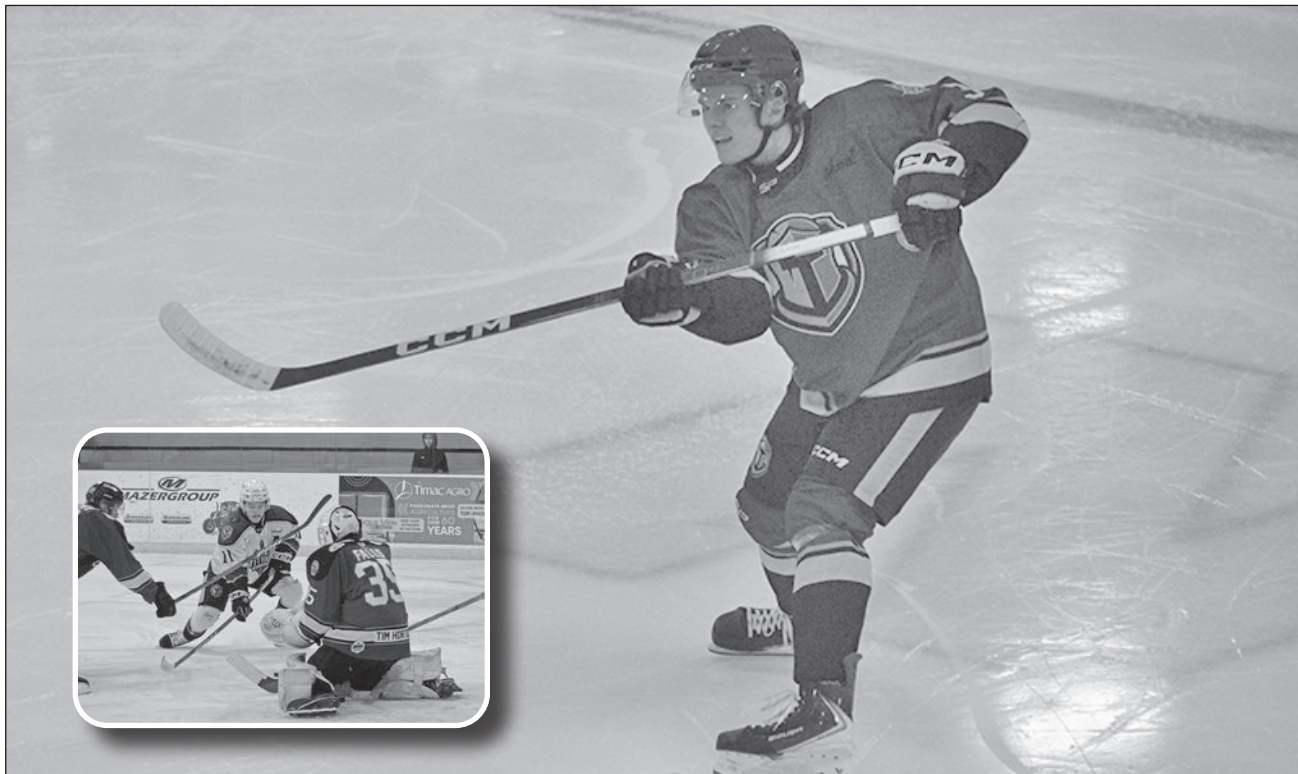


PHOTO BY EOIN DEVEREUX

The Neepawa Titans came back from two goal deficits in a pair of games last week. The first was an overtime win over the Swan Valley Stampede on Wednesday, Nov. 26. The second was a 4-2 victory over the Winnipeg Blues on Friday, Nov. 28. That game also featured the return of the Titans' third jerseys (Above picture).

## Neepawa Farmers win big over Melita

Results from around the Tiger Hills Hockey League

By Eoin Devereux  
NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS

The Neepawa Farmers' offensive prowess was on full display on Sunday, Nov. 30, as they picked up an impressive 9-5 win over the Melita Bisons. Eight separate players collected goals for the Farmers, with Jory Kulbacki scoring a pair in the victory. As well, Connor Braun had the most accumulative points for Neepawa on the night, with four (1 goal - 3 assists). Lucas Oliver (2G - 2A) and Nial Mills (1G - 3A), meanwhile, lead the way for Melita with four point nights of their own.

The win was Neepawa's fifth of the season, and has them in the mix with the top teams in the Tiger Hills Hockey League (THHL). The Farmers next game will be on Saturday, Dec. 6 in Carberry against the Plainsmen (1-4-1, 3 points).

As for those same Plainsmen, they earned their first win of the year, out-

acing the Wawanesa Jets on Friday, Nov. 28, by the score of 6-4. Daylon Creasy and Zaine McConnell scored two goals each, with Creasy collecting his pair in the second period. Trey Dickson and Jaden Johnson picked up the other pair for the Plainsmen, to secure the win. Joel Baron faced 40 shots in goal for Carberry.

### Minnedosa Bombers remains perfect

The Minnedosa Bombers are the prime example of just how competitive the Tiger Hills Hockey League has been so far this season. The Bombers are a perfect 6-0-0 on the year, with an incredible +25 in goals so far. And what does a near flawless effort out on the ice get you...? Apparently just tied for third place overall, with a pair of teams nipping at your heels in the standings.

But despite this log jam at the top of the standings, Minnedosa is just keeping focus on what it can control,

and that's worked out pretty well for them so far. The latest success was a 6-2 home win over the MacGregor Wild, on Saturday, Nov. 29.

First year Bomber forward Owen Riffel scored twice and added an assist, while 17 season vet Matt Saler chimed in as well, with a goal and an assist. Bryson Werbicki-Mallett, Logan Robinson and Braeden Beer-naerts also chipped in with goals for the home side.

Minnedosa find themselves tied with the Hartney Blues (6-1-0, 12 points) for third place in the league, and just two points behind Killarney (7-0-0, 14 pts) and Rivers (7-1-0, 14 pts.) in the overall standings. The Bombers next two games will be very important, as they play in Rivers on Friday, Dec. 5, and Hartney on Dec. 12. The next home game in Minnedosa will be on Saturday, Dec. 13 versus the Sandy Bay Flying Feathermen

## Keenan Skrupa named an MJHL Star of the Week

Banner Staff  
NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS

Keenan Skrupa's consistency for the Neepawa Titans has been recognized, as he has been named a Manitoba Junior Hockey League Star of the Week. The 20-year-old Brandon forward has posted a goal and an assist in each of last three contests played by the Titans.

Skrupa scored the tying goal before assisting on the winner against the Swan Valley Stampede, and came up big once again versus the Winnipeg Blues, notching the game winner late in the third. Skrupa and

the Titans hold a five-point lead on third place in the MGEU West Division heading into December.

This week's other MJHL Stars included Winkler Flyers goaltender Leif Ekblad, who earned a pair of wins, with 0.50 goals against average and a .977 save percentage. As well, Kam Thomas, also from the Flyers, contributing five points (2 goals - 3 assists) in two games for the surging Flyers, who have won seven of their last eight games.



MJHL Standings

Western Division	G	W	L	OTL	SOL	Pts
Dauphin Kings	24	16	7	1	0	33
Virden Oil Capitals	22	14	8	0	0	28
Neepawa Titans	24	12	11	0	1	25
Waywayseecappo Wolverines	27	9	16	1	1	20
Swan Valley Stampeders	26	6	17	3	0	15
Northern Manitoba Blizzard	23	4	16	1	2	11

Eastern Division	G	W	L	OTL	SOL	Pts
Niverville Nighthawks	23	22	1	0	0	44
Steinbach Pistons	25	19	5	1	0	39
Portage Terriers	25	18	6	1	0	37
Winkler Flyers	25	13	9	1	2	29
Selkirk Steelers	27	14	12	1	0	29
Winnipeg Blues	21	8	11	2	0	18
Winnipeg Monarchs	26	4	22	0	0	8

Game results

**Wednesday, Nov. 26**  
**Neepawa 3-2 OT Swan Valley**  
**First Period**  
06:00 SVS G. Bartha (5)  
ASST: E. Dhaliwal (6)  
14:23 SVS E. MacTavish (15)  
ASST: B. Groome (10)  
**Second Period**  
15:52 NPA T. Wallis (11)  
ASST: K. Weisgarber (11), DJ Meloney (8)  
**Third Period**  
11:24 NPA K. Skrupa (6) PP  
ASST: DJ Meloney (9)  
**Overtime**  
01:26 NPA L. Paquette (8) PP  
ASST: T. Lewis (4), K. Skrupa (7)  
**Scoring** 1 2 3 OT Total PP  
SVS 2 0 0 0 2 0/0  
NPA 0 1 1 1 3 2/4  
**Goaltender**  
SVS - E. Falls - (L) 34/37 saves  
NPA - Z. Burleigh - (W) 20/22 saves  
Attendance: 258 - Yellowhead Centre

**Friday, Nov. 28**  
**Neepawa 4-2 Wpg Blues**  
**First Period**  
02:06 WPB B. Green (1)  
ASST: C. Epp (9)  
**Second Period**  
11:09 WPB B. Green (2)  
ASST: L. Bent (9), W. Dyck (3)  
**Third Period**  
04:12 NPA G. Slaney (1)  
ASST: L. Paquette (13), J. Kohut (3)  
05:29 NPA T. Lewis (4)  
ASST: T. Kirk (6)  
15:51 NPA K. Skrupa (7)  
ASST: J. Clark (6), C. Kasprick (10)  
19:17 NPA C. Kasprick (6) EN  
ASST: K. Skrupa (8)  
**Scoring** 1 2 3 Total PP  
WPB 1 1 0 2 0/5  
NPA 0 0 4 4 0/1  
**Goaltender**  
WPB - M. Burkes (L) 29/32 saves  
NPA - Z. Burleigh (W) 16/18 saves  
Attendance: 349 - Yellowhead Centre

Game results

**Sunday, Nov. 30**  
**Neepawa 7-2 Wpg Monarchs**  
**First Period**  
08:32 NPA K. Skrupa (8)  
ASST: J. Clark (7), C. Kasprick (11)  
11:28 WPM I. Lavallee (2)  
ASST: Unassisted  
19:14 NPA R. Michalchuk (1)  
ASST: A. McIntosh (5), DJ. Meloney (9)  
**Second Period**  
04:48 WPM M. Hamelin (6) PP  
ASST: A. Cho (6), C. Legault (2)  
18:39 NPA C. Kasprick (7)  
ASST: J. Clark (8), K. Skrupa (9)  
18:51 NPA K. Weisgarber (6)  
ASST: T. Wallis (11)  
19:47 NPA T. Wallis (12)  
ASST: L. Paquette (14)  
**Third Period**  
12:06 NPA T. Wallis (13)  
ASST: DJ Meloney (10), K. Weisgarber (12)  
12:47 NPA T. Lewis (5)  
ASST: O. Durigan (11), D. Andries (5)  
**Scoring** 1 2 3 Total PP  
NPA 2 3 2 7 0/0  
WPB 1 1 0 2 1/3  
**Goaltender**  
NPA - A. Myers (W) 27/29 saves  
WPB - A. Ball (L) 39/46 saves  
Attendance: 107 - Hockey For All Centre

MJHL Player Stats

Leading scorers (MJHL)	G	A	Pts
1. Hayden Wheddon (NIV)	14	23	37
2. Adam Vigfusson (NIV)	13	22	35
3. Rhett Platt (POR)	13	22	35
4. Ben Roulette (WAY)	13	22	35
5. Nik Gudmundson (WKR)	14	20	34

Leading scorers (Titans)	G	A	Pts
1. Talen Wallis	13	11	24
2. Logan Paquette	8	14	22
3. Jack Clark	7	11	18
4. Kyle Weisgarber	6	12	18
5. Keenan Skrupa	8	9	17

Sports

NACI Tigers win their bracket at Victoria Inn Tournament



By Eoin Devereux  
NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS

The Neepawa Tigers have brought home some accolades from western Manitoba’s largest and most well regarded high school hockey events. Last weekend, the Tigers travelled to Brandon and participated in the 2025 Victoria Inn High School Hockey Tournament. The event is hosted by Crocus Plains Regional Secondary School and has been running in the Wheat City for decades. Each year, it involves the top high schools from all across Manitoba and Northern Ontario with this year was no exception as the tourney featured 23 teams

in total.

For the Tigers, they were slotted in against a pair of city teams, in the form of the Steinbach Regional Sabres and the Dryden Eagles. NACI put in their best effort, but unfortunately, couldn’t overcome the advantages that Steinbach and Dryden have from drawing from their largest urban talent pool. Neepawa fell to Steinbach 5-1 and to Dryden 3-1, during the round-robin. The 0-2 record slotted the Tigers into the C-tier (*Crocus Plains*) bracket for the playoff.

In the quarter-finals, Neepawa matched up against the John Taylor Pipers, who are based in Winnipeg. In this game, Neepawa proved to be

the better club, winning 5-2. In the semi-final, the Tigers face the Red Lake (Ontario) Rams, and cruised to a 4-1 victory. After defeating a pair of unfamiliar foes, Neepawa would challenge a team they were all too familiar with, in the form of the Dauphin Clippers. In this Final, it was the NACI Tigers, who prevailed, winning 5-2.

As for who won the entire weekend, it was a club that Neepawa had previously faced, and had put a good effort in against, the Steinbach Regional Sabres. The Sabres, it appears faced a tougher challenges against the Tigers than the team that beat in the final, as they blanked the Sanford Sabres 5-0.

NACI Tigers defeat Virden Golden Bears

By Eoin Devereux  
NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS

With their latest victory, the Neepawa Area Collegiate Institute (NACI) Tigers have firmly established themselves within the top tier of the Westman High School Hockey League. The Tigers did so by hitting the road to Virden and doubling up the Golden Bears on Tuesday, Nov. 25,

winning 6-3.

Ian Foster scored twice, including the goal that would end up being the game winner. Benjamin Hulley-Oberholzer, Ethan Bray, as well as Kyson and Kane Lapointe also scored for the Tigers. Goaltender Harley Smith-Bellisle faced 29 shots on his way

to earning the victory.

This was Neepawa’s second win over Virden (6-4-0) this season, and third versus a team that currently reside above them in the league standings. The Tigers now have a record of 5-2-0 on the year and are only four points back of the

league leaders, the Vincent Massey Vikings (7-0-0. 14 points). Neepawa’s biggest challenge of the year, so far with be against those same Vikings on Sunday, Dec. 7. The contest will be played at the Yellowhead Centre and has a start time of 6:30 p.m.

Club 55 Bowling Minnedosa

**Nov. 27, 2025: Men’s High Single & Triple:** Russ Taylor 225 & 577. **Ladies’ High Single & Triple:** Vivian Oswald 219 & 596. **Other Good Scores:** Laurie Kohinski 153; Muriel Porada 163, 161; Darrell Gabler 159, 19-, 203; Caroline Harding 152, 160, 187; Vivian Oswald 182, 195; Chuck Morden 172, 189; Judy Gabler 156; Eleanor Scott 212, 168; Russ Taylor 195, 157; Carole LeBoutillier 152, 150, 157; Barb Bohn 180, 211; Merv Bohn 183, 206, 159. **November Bowlers of the Month:** Russ Taylor & Vivian Oswald.



Send us your team's latest game results so we can get it in the paper without a fight!

**Banner & Press**

sports@neepawabanner.com  
423 Mountain Ave. ~ 204-476-3401



**Neepawa Titans**  
Junior “A”  
Hockey team

**vs. Winkler**  
December 10  
Yellowhead Centre - 7:30pm

**vs. Virden**  
December 14  
Yellowhead Centre - 7:30pm

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



# CLASSIFIEDS

## Classified Ad Deadline: **TUESDAY NOON**

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

## To PLACE AN AD:

**Telephone:**

204-476-3401

**Email:**

ads@neepawabanner.com

**All word classifieds must be prepaid before printing**

## Obituary



### Robert John Michael "Bob" Jaska

September 1, 1944 – November 21, 2025

Robert John Michael "Bob" Jaska was born and raised in Brandon, living in Brandon his whole life except for hockey stints in Fort Frances, ON and Cranbrook, B.C.

Bob's hockey journey began with the Brandon Wheat Kings at the start of the 1963-64 season, before he finished the year playing in Fort Frances. He returned to the Wheat Kings for the 1964-65 season, and in 1966-67 his path led him to Neepawa, where he joined the Neepawa Natives. Bob spent the next nine seasons with the Natives, a team and community that became especially meaningful to him and where he formed many lasting friendships. His hockey career continued when he played with the Brandon Olympics in the CASH League for the 1975-76 season, after which he joined the Molson Pioneers—a team that felt more like a family and brought him on memorable hockey trips to places such as Victoria, San Diego, and Guadalajara, Mexico. Beyond hockey, Bob had a deep love of sports. He played fastball in the Major Fastball League, where many of his lifelong friendships took root, and he also raced stock cars in Chater. Later in life, he took up golfing, a sport he found both challenging and rewarding, and he cherished the camaraderie and support he found among his fellow golfers.

By the time Bob was 16, he had joined his father's construction company, spending his summers working alongside him and learning the trade. In 1977, he and his siblings purchased the company from their father. Bob later embraced a new chapter in 1990 when he began working for Manitoba Housing, a role he proudly held until his retirement in 2013. Over his 22 years with Manitoba Housing, Bob formed many meaningful and lasting friendships that he deeply valued.

Bob was an avid gardener who took great pride in his yard. He especially loved his canna lilies, caring for his fish pond, and growing a vegetable garden. His homemade

pickles became legendary—always a sought after treat for family and friends.

Bob is predeceased by his parents, John and Stella; sister, Dianne; brother-in-law Paul and niece, Barb.

Bob is survived by his wife of 58 years, Chris; son, Rob (Erin); son, Ryan (Carrie); grandchildren, Moe, Matt, Meagan, Kate and Sean; sisters, Irene and June (Arnie); nieces, Pat, Tammy, Andrea; nephew, Dale; brothers-in-law, Barry (Sue) and Ken and his forever friends, Ron and Val.

Dementia is a very unpredictable, frustrating and scary disease. We have been blessed to have some amazing people during Bob's journey. Mackenzie and Phil from Seniors Mental Health are treasures. They are really the best in their field. Dr. Yaworski helped us as well. The staff at CGP are a very special group of people. Their care and compassion did not go unnoticed. Thank you to the first floor at Fairview, they have been nothing but professional. Bob has been treated with care and kindness and we will always be eternally grateful.

A special special thank you too Ron and Val Panchuk, John and Rita Rowley and Barry and Sue for all their wonderful visits.

I want to especially thank my family for all their love and support. I feel your Dad knew you were visiting. A special mention to my amazing and wonderful grandchildren. They never treated their Grandpa Bob any different, than before his disease took over. They loved him just like he was the Grandpa that loved them more than words can say.

A Celebration of Bob's Life will be held at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 361 Russell Street, Brandon, MB on Saturday, November 29, 2025 at 1:30 p.m.

Donations in memory of Bob may be made to the Alzheimer Society of Manitoba, 457 9th Street, Brandon, MB, R7A 1K2 or to Fairview Personal Care Home – Orchard Lounge Improvement Fund, 1351 13th Street, Brandon, MB, R7A 4S6.

*Arrangements are in care of Brockie Donovan Funeral & Cremation Services, (204)-727-0694.*

## Real Estate

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

## Wanted

Wanted to rent a basement suite or an apartment in the town of Neepawa for January 1st 2026. Ph. (204) 871-5557

## Personal

Crisis Pregnancy Centre Winnipeg: Need to talk? Call our free helpline, 1-800-665-0570 or contact our Westman office: 204-727-616

## Notice

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

## Obituary



### Terrence (Terry) William Jackson

Terry passed away on Oct. 22, 2025 in the Palliative Unit in the Brandon Hospital surrounded by his wife, Jean and their three children. Terry was born on March 4th, 1952 to William and Ester Jackson of Eden, Manitoba.

Terry is survived by his loving wife, Jean of 50 years and his adored children, Roxanne (Patrick), Chandra (Tyler) and Derek (Jen). Forever cherished and remembered by his seven grandchildren, Zairyn, Samuel and Logan Mierau, Ryan and Emily Brunelle, and Keeyanna and Maverick Jackson and his bother Nelson, as well as many cousins, nieces, nephews and his memory will be cherished by his close friends.

Terry was predeceased by his Mother, Ester, his father, William, in-laws, Dorothy & Dick, his brother-in-law's, Allan and Wayne Brugger, several aunts and uncles.

Terry spent his early childhood in Eden before moving to the farm south of Eden. He started school in Eden and in Grade 10 he went to Neepawa Area Collegiate Institute before moving onto the U of M to take 2 years of Agriculture. It was while at the U of M that he came down with an illness that proved to be MS.

While in High School, Terry met the love of his life, Jean Brugger. They married on July 5th, 1975 celebrating 50 years. In 1978, Roxanne was born to them, followed by Chandra in 1980, and Derek in 1983. They lived in Neepawa until 1980, moving to Eden where Terry worked at the Eden Pool Elevator, working there as well as farming. In 1988 Terry and Jean moved to Arden where Terry became the manager of the Manitoba Pool Elevator until it closed. He worked for Delmar Commodities for approximately 10 years and then went to work for DeKoning Farms.

Terry was an avid hunter, fisherman, enjoyed starting flowers for Jean in the spring, and loved camping with family and friends. Spending time with his grandchildren and teaching them many things like hunting, fishing, enjoying the great outdoors and simply having fun in the family pool. Terry loved playing different card games with his family and friends. Jean and Terry travelled to many places during their life together, Germany, Sweden, Australia, New Zealand, Tasmania, Belize, from the east coast to the west coast of Canada. There was so much to see and not enough time.

Terry enjoyed watching football, hockey and all the activities his grandchildren were in; dance, figure skating, singing, hockey or sailing. He loved going out on trails, quading and snowmobiling.

When Terry was diagnosed with CJ disease on Oct. 30, 2024, his life changed drastically. We are so thankful for the abundant love of our family and friends. Terry was a "tease" and always had a twinkle in his eyes. Terry was never scared to take on new opportunities and did everything with honesty and integrity. He had very strong values.

Celebration of Life for Terry was held on November 10th at the Neepawa United-Anglican Church. The family would like to thank all the Prairie Mountain Medical Team for all the support they gave us and to White's Funeral Home for the arrangements made and special thanks to Joe Ball for being on this journey with us from the beginning. We would like to thank everyone for their condolences, food, flowers and support following our loss. Anyone desiring to make a donation on Terry's behalf can make them to the MS Society.

**Never Forgotten But Always in Our Hearts.**

## Notice

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

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

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

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

*Find it  
in the  
Classifieds*

## 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

## Online McSherry Auctions

**Vintage/Collectable Toy Auction**

Dec 9th @ 7:00 PM

**Estate & Moving**

Dec 10th @ 7:00PM

**McSherryAuction.com**

**204-467-1858**

**or 204-886-7027**

**mcsberrytld@gmail.com**

## Coming Events

### CP HOLIDAY TRAIN

**in Minnedosa December 5 at 4 pm**

West of Station on the North side of the yard,  
30 – 2nd Avenue NW

Please bring a donation of a non-perishable food item or cash for the Minnedosa & Area Food Bank.

## Tender

Minnedosa Area Veterinary Services District  
**Request For Proposals**

The Minnedosa Area Vet Board requests written proposals for an expansion and renovations to the current Vet Clinic, located in Minnedosa, Manitoba, Canada.

All proposals to be received by the undersigned by no later than 4:00 p.m., on January 23, 2026.

Send proposals marked "Clinic Expansion" to:

Minnedosa Vet Board  
Box 2204, Minnedosa, Manitoba, R0J 1E0  
Phone: 204-867-0739  
Email: minnedosavetboard@gmail.com

*Interested Contractors can contact the Vet Board Secretary to obtain the Request for Proposal Documents.*

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### Myrna Ann Suski (nee Ackerman)

Peacefully, surrounded by her family, Myrna Ann Suski (Ackerman) passed away unexpectedly on Sunday, November 23, 2025.

She is survived by her devoted husband of 53 years, Richard, sons Scott (Carly), Brett (Laetitia) and grandchildren; Annika, Jillian, Matilynn, Nikosis,

Charlotte and Quinn as well as numerous extended family and a large circle of friends.

She was predeceased by her parents Alvin and Agnus Ackerman, stepfather Gerald Moore, brother Earl Ackerman and sister Lynn Nichol.

Myrna was born in Riding Mountain, MB on January 8, 1952, the youngest of 3 children.

Myrna spent her childhood in Riding Mountain. Her passion for learning started at a young age. She attended Riding Mountain school until grade 9 and later graduated from Kelwood High School.

After high school Myrna moved to Winnipeg to attend St. Boniface Nursing school where she graduated as a Licensed Practical Nurse in 1971.

While attending nursing school, Myrna maintained a long distance relationship with a boy from Riding Mountain, who became the love of her life, her forever two stepping partner and husband of 53 wonderful years.

Richard and Myrna started dating in 1970 and married on October 7, 1972. After their wedding she moved to St. Rose where Myrna began her nursing career.

In 1977 they moved to Pinawa, MB where they have lived for the last 48 years.

Not long after they moved to Pinawa, Richard and Myrna started their family welcoming Scott in 1979 and Brett in 1981.

Being a mom was one of Myrna's greatest accomplishments. Her love for her children and later her grandchildren was immeasurable. There were very few events she didn't attend. Countless camping and road trips, family reunions and family holidays are memories we will always cherish.

Being a life long learner, she went back to school in the mid 80's to become an RN and spent many years in Public Health. Healthcare was her passion. She was a trailblazer and left her mark in the region (even if it meant ruffling some feathers!) She was a part of many wonderful teams over the years making lifelong friends along the way. She

retired in 2012 but maintained her nursing license and skills and continued to work casually in remote northern communities providing immunizations where she made many special friendships.

Life truly began for Myrna in 2007 when she became a Granny for the first time. She was blessed with 6 beautiful grandchildren who were her whole world. She instilled a strength and determination in all her grandchildren, who were all so lucky to have her to look up to. Her fiery spirit will undoubtedly continue to shine through them.

Myrna was determined to live life to the fullest and on her terms. She was a social butterfly; from curling and quilting, to golf, bingo and cards. Myrna could be seen around Pinawa always ready to lend a helping hand, always with a smile on her face and a positive attitude. She cherished the many winters her and Richard spent with their friends in Texas where they continued to live their best life.

Myrna's love for her family was unmatched. She loved the holidays, especially Christmas and treasured all of our family get togethers, gathered around the table together, eating, laughing and playing games. She was the matriarch of our family, and we will be forever grateful for all our extra time and memories we were able to have with her.

Myrna was a shining light in lives of all those who had the privilege of knowing her. Her passing has left a void in the hearts of her family, friends, and many more whose lives were touched by her. We ask that you remember her not for the way her life ended, but for the way it was lived, and for the profound impact it had on the lives of those who had the pleasure of knowing her.

The family would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the Pinawa Fire Department, Pinawa EMS and Stars as well as the many healthcare professionals who provided unwavering care to her when needed the most. Also, a sincere thank you to everyone who sent messages of love and support. We are truly grateful.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Sunday, November 30th at 11:00 a.m. at the Pinawa Community Centre, 20 Vanier Ave., Pinawa, MB. Interment will be at a later date. We invite all guests to stay following the service.

If you wish to make a donation in Myrna's memory, please consider your local Hospital or Healthcare facility.

We love you to the moon and back xoxo  
SOBERING FUNERAL CHAPEL  
& CREMATORIUM, Beausejour  
(204) 268-3510 or MB Toll Free 1-877-776-2220  
Tributes to: www.soberingfuneralchapel.com



## Help Wanted



### HyLIFE FOODS

#### Industrial Plant Cleaner (NOC 65312)

##### Why join our team?

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

**The current starting wage is \$22.20/hour with incremental increases to \$23.55/hour based on tenure as per our Collective Agreement**

##### Quick Facts:

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

##### What we can offer you:

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

##### Your duties may include:

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

##### We are looking for people who are:

- Fit and capable of working in a physically demanding role. Capable of bending, lifting, and climbing.
- Available to work 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](mailto: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](mailto: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*



[www.neepawabanner.com](http://www.neepawabanner.com)



### HyLIFE FOODS

#### Hog Receiving Barn Worker (NOC85100)

##### Why join our team?

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

**The current starting wage is \$19.25/hour with incremental increases to \$20.55/hour based on tenure**

##### Quick Facts:

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

##### What we can offer you:

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

##### Your duties may involve:

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

##### To excel in this role, you should possess:

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

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

##### Ways to apply:

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




### HyLIFE FOODS

#### Industrial Butcher (NOC 94141)

##### Why join our team?

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

**The current starting wage is \$16.45/hour with incremental increases to \$24.60/hour based on tenure as per our Collective Agreement**

##### Quick Facts:

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

##### What we can offer you:

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

##### Your duties may include:

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

##### We are looking for people who are:

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

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](mailto:jobs@hylife.com) | In Person at 623 Main ST. E, Neepawa, MB R0J 1H0

**For inquiries contact:** Phone: 204.476.3393

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(Housekeeping & Laundry)

Casual and Part Time positions

#### JOIN THE HEALTH CARE TEAM! APPLY TODAY!

[www.prairiemountainhealth.ca](http://www.prairiemountainhealth.ca), click on Careers

An excellent health care benefit package that includes but limited to health & dental benefits, pension plan & a health spending account.

We thank all applicants in advance for their interest in Prairie Mountain Health however only those candidates selected for an interview will be contacted.

These positions are subject to a Criminal Record Check (including Vulnerable Sector), Adult Abuse Registry Check, and a Child Abuse Registry Check. The successful applicant will be responsible for any services charges incurred.



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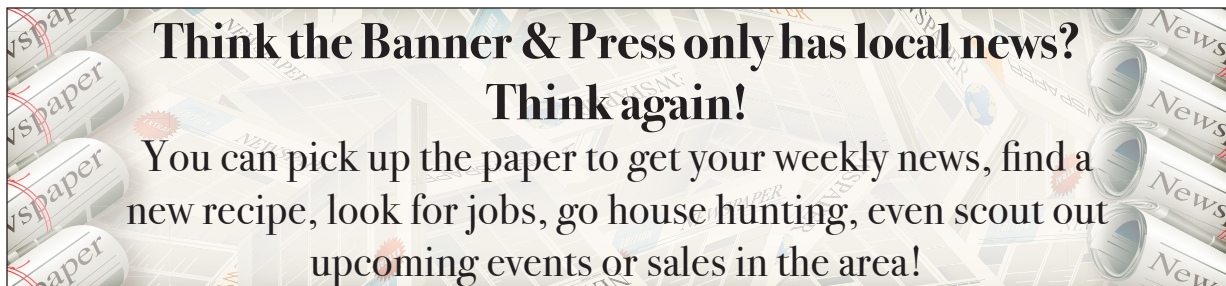
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## Think the Banner & Press only has local news? Think again!

You can pick up the paper to get your weekly news, find a new recipe, look for jobs, go house hunting, even scout out upcoming events or sales in the area!





# Guest editorial: Who cares?

By J. M. Bridgeman  
SUBMITTED

The media have sicced their hounds on PM Carney for responding "Who cares?" to an off-topic question that was followed by "When did you last speak to President Trump?" Flip-pant and dismissive, they decied. We want to know. You have to tell us. It's your job. You promised!

Perhaps my problem is that I watch politics through a lit-major's eyes. In this story, I see the media as single-minded, intrusive, distracted like the ancient mariner, badgering the PM as he attempts to walk by, insisting that he stop and listen, when all the passerby wants to do is get himself to that wedding. The question itself is demented, sourced from the albatross around

their own necks, the dead bird whose onus they, the media, want to shift from themselves on to the PM. Trump is the albatross, the not-quite-yet dead bird, whose stench warps every thought and taints every question. But the burden of it, weighing down every step the PM tries to take, is holding us all back from the reception and wedding dance.

If, like the PM, I had spent months in international meetings, trade negotiations, while crafting a first budget at home, and I were facing a scrum in a foreign nation after days of work, and the only question which "makes the news" is about the albatross, a bird who was not even present, I would say more than 'Who Cares?'. Personally, I would say 'Shut up about Trump'. Because I know it's a waste of our time and that other more important issues are not being covered because of the reek of the corpse around the media's own neck that the pack following the PM insists on carrying.

Why do I empathize with the PM's sloughing off the question? Because I have my own reading of the body language. I've read between the lines to the subtext, the unvoiced story about that albatross. I saw a hard-working team of negotiators coming to an acceptable proposal and having it dismissed out of hand by the bird. I see that dismissal as evidence that all our efforts to negotiate a fair deal as equals who mutually respect each other are fruitless. I see a Bird interested only in coercive control of this relationship.

One he chooses to dominate. He neither respects us nor wishes us well. He loves to see us squirm. He turns an older story, of Ontario's ill-advised ad featuring Ronald Reagan, into a way to gaslight us. A gaslighting that says "it's all your fault". He uses that as an excuse to dig in his heels and turn his back. His gaslighting is repeated, seemingly unquestioned, by the media pack who refuse to let the dead Bird go. What sane person, what self-respecting PM, would continue to pester an ex-partner, an old bird who revels in holding all the power? Whose flight changes with the wind? Who disgorges words like undigestible pellets? Who delights in devising new ways to hurt us and our friends?

There are archetypes in politics as there are in literature. The abusive partner is real. Coercive control is real. We have to be strong and resist the orbit of this bird's chaos. Walk on by. Accept other invitations. Ask others to dance.

My defense of our PM will never extend to national politics if he were to tolerate coercion from federal or other provincial governments against those

of us in British Columbia who prioritize human and Indigenous rights and the protection of the environment over resource extraction. Coercion is coercion, and one of the first clues is the denial of the constitutional rights of specific groups guaranteed in the Charter of Rights and Freedoms. It was wrong when railroad construction and settlement in the west were allowed to dominate, preventing the buffalo migration and destroying life as they had known it for Indigenous peoples after 1867. When force was used against those who fought for their human and Indigenous rights. When leaders were arrested, charged, tried, imprisoned, and some, executed for treason. It was wrong then and it is still wrong, 140 years later. Have we learned nothing from past mistakes? I know people will argue that there would not be a Canada without the railroad. We have to do better, be more creative, come up with other more viable solutions than these borrowed from history and already outdated.

*J. M. Bridgeman, writer, one lonely substack contributor.*

*Bridgeman has Oak River and Gladstone connections.*

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### By Blaine Huston GLADSTONE AUCTION

The market gained what it lost last to make a strong market today. We sold 1,267 head on Tuesday, Dec. 2.

Here are some market highlights from our most recent sale:

- Ten black steers weighing 568 pounds bring \$6.40 a pound (\$3,638 a head).
- Eleven Black exotic steer calves come in the ring weighing 650 pounds and cash in at \$5.72a pound (\$3,716 per head).
- Nine red and black exotic calves weighing 795 pounds stamp there ticket at \$4.82 a pound (\$3,831 a head).

On the Hiefer side of things:

- Ten charolais heifers weighing 524 pounds bring \$6.39 per pound (\$3,346 per head).

- Nineteen red exotic replacement style heifers weigh 695 pounds and fetch \$5.68 per pound (\$3,773 per head).

- Ten charolais heifers weighing 524 pounds bring \$6.39 per pound (\$3,346 per head).

- Nineteen red exotic replacement style heifers weigh 695 pounds and fetch \$5.68 per pound (\$3,773 per head).

Plainer type cattle are still seeing some discounts. If your cattle are not weaned for at least six weeks expect an aggressive discount. Calves coming straight to the cow to the sale are good to bring to town!

As you can see we had a powerful market on Dec. 2 in Happyrock.

Hopefully that gives you an idea how the market shaped up.

Our final feeder sale of

2025 is next Tuesday Dec. 9. Don't forget about our butcher and bred cow sale coming up on Friday, Dec. 5 and Dec. 12!

This has been Blaine Huston Reporting for the Gladstone Auction mart for the week of Dec. 12th and thank you for being a part of our industry!

### Gladstone Auction Mart Cattle Market Report Dec. 2, 2025

#### Steers:

3-400lbs	8.05-9.20
4-500lbs	6.90-7.78
5-600lbs	5.80-6.93
6-700lbs	4.90-6.18
7-800lbs	4.10-5.17
8-900lbs	3.70-4.84

#### Heifers

3-400lbs	7.00-8.25
4-500lbs	6.00-7.20
5-600lbs	5.10-6.39
6-700lbs	4.40-5.39
7-800lbs	3.90-5.00
8-900lbs	3.20-4.15

1,267 head sold





# ONLINE AUCTION

## December 5-11, 2025

### A Major Fundraiser of the NEEPAWA ROTARY CLUB



#	Item	Donor	Retail Value	#	Item	Donor	Retail Value
1	Stihl Hedge Trimmer	TIC	200	74	1/32 Scale 9260 Combine With Header	Rocky Mountain Equipment	195
2	Two Large Pizzas	Rotor's Bakery & Pizzeria	52	75	7 Coupons for Small Fries	McDonalds	26
3	One Hour Massage	Two Creeks Massage	90	76	8 Coupons for Small Fries	McDonalds	30
4	Coleman Cooler	Gardewine	150	77	\$200 Credit on Accounting Services	Kinley Thompson	200
5	\$25 Gift Certificate for Rotor's Bakery	Ron Nordstrom Photo & Art	25	78	10 Manitoba Moose Tickets	Christianon TDS	330
6	Business Banner with Stand	Asselstine Printing	110	79	2 - 10L Jugs Strikelock	Shur-Gro Farm Services	398
7	\$125 Gift Certificate	ArtsForward	125	80	Bundle of 5-6" x 6' Sharp Treated Posts	Stella Jones	750
8	\$25 Gift Certificate for Rotor's Bakery	Ron Nordstrom Photo & Art	25	81	Bluetooth Speaker	Bank of Montreal	150
9	Farmery Gift Pack #1	Farmery	55	82	Two 20 L Pails of Hydraulic Oil	Penno's Machining	200
10	Certificates for 4 Haircuts	Hymie the Haircutter	80	83	2 - 10L Jugs of Vector 540	Alecki Tomoniko	145
11	Stellar Apparel Gift Pack	Stellar Apparel	240	84	10 kg Northstar Instagreen Lawn Seed	DSV Northstar	85
12	Farmery Gift Pack #2	Farmery	52	85	10 kg Northstar Instagreen Lawn Seed	DSV Northstar	85
13	\$50 Gift Certificate	The Missus Interior Detailing	50	86	Smart Bounce Automatic Bouncer	Hid'n Hollow	100
14	Outdoor Sectional Set	Home Hardware	600	87	Jumpstarter and Power Bank	Redcoat Autoglass	170
15	Air Compressor	Enns Brothers	885	88	\$50 Gift Certificate for Brews Brothers	RBC	50
16	\$500 Gift Certificate for Concrete	Rolling Acres Redi-Mix Concrete	500	89	Huns Valley 140 Memorabilia #1	Polonia Huns Valley 140 Heritage Committee	53
17	1 Case of Pork Back Ribs	Springhill Hutterite Colony	120	90	Huns Valley 140 Memorabilia #2	Polonia Huns Valley 140 Heritage Committee	58
18	1 Case of Pork Back Ribs	Springhill Hutterite Colony	120	91	Gift Card for Plain Leather Belt	Woodhaven Leathers	55
19	60 Acres Aerial Application	Western Canadian Aerial	726	92	Gift Card for Hand Tooled Leather Belt	Woodhaven Leathers	60
20	21 Speed Bicycle	Napa Autoparts/Mazur Group Neepawa	585	93	Hackzell M12 Recip Saw Kit	Kelawa Construction	228
21	Jets Tickets Overnight Package	McLaughlin GM	650	94	Dewalt Laser Level	Yellowhead Windows	246
22	\$25 Gift Certificate	Herbs for Health	25	95	20 L 0w40 Synthetic Diesel Motor Oil	Neepawa Gladstone Coop Bulk Fuel	200
23	4 Wheel Alignment	Neepawa Tire	123	96	4 Ten Litre Jugs of Vector 540	Neepawa Gladstone Coop Ag- Petroleum	288
24	Side of Beef Cut and Wrapped	Mowat Livestock/Cut Rite Meats	1500	97	\$1000 Gift Card for Fuel	Coop and Stride Credit Union	1000
25	Side of Beef Cut and Wrapped	Mowat Livestock/Cut Rite Meats	1500	98	Camping and Swim Pass for a Week & Sweatshirt	Town of Neepawa & Neepawa Tourism	275
26	\$150 Certificate Booking in Cattle	Gladstone Auction Mart	150	99	Area Rug	Neepawa Gladstone Coop Home Center	350
27	\$400 Voucher for Livestock Transportation	Stoney Creek Transport	400	100	20 L 0w40 Synthetic Diesel Motor Oil	Neepawa Gladstone Coop Bulk Fuel	200
28	\$50 Gift Certificate	Neepawa Safeway	50	101	Counter Top Ice Maker	Orv's Appliance Sales & Service	200
29	4 Wheel Alignment	Neepawa Tire	123	102	Nordic Flame BBQ Oven	Giant Tiger	75
30	Surf and Turf Dinner for 4	Cut Rite Meats & The Fish Hut	350	103	Walk In Green House	Giant Tiger	90
31	5 Meal Tickets	Home Assistance Neepawa & District	55	104	Gift Pack	Jodie Byram	150
32	5 Meal Tickets	Home Assistance Neepawa & District	55	105	12-month Student Pass	Roxy Theatre	50
33	\$50 Gift Certificate	JB Photography	50	106	\$400 in Print or Advertising	Neepawa Banner & Press	400
34	Drop-In Centre Membership	Neepawa Drop-In Centre	30	107	2 Nights' Stay	Neepawa Motel	220
35	Drop-In Centre Membership	Neepawa Drop-In Centre	30	108	12-Volt Deep Cycle Battery	Mar Dee Enterprises	165
36	\$75 Gift Certificate	Promo Time	75	109	\$100 Gift Certificate for Parts or Labour	Performance Exhaust & Brake	100
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38	\$200 Gift Certificate for Electrical Services	Jury Electric Ltd.	200	111	Four Green Fees	Neepawa Golf Club	180
39	Memorial Vase and Installation	Guinn Bros Memorials	300	112	10-Pack of Neepawa Titans Tickets	Neepawa Titans	120
40	Car Clean Certificate	Westward Ford	120	113	Wine Making Kit	Diamond Waterworks	90
41	Oil Change	Westward Ford	100	114	Spousal Will & Power of Attorney	Taylor Law Patersons LLP	745
42	\$60 Gift Certificate	Best Choice Auto Sales & Service	60	115	Single Will and Power of Attorney	Taylor Law Patersons LLP	495
43	\$350 Certificate for Hall Rental	Yellowhead Center	350	116	Wine and Gift Card Basket	Taylor Law Patersons LLP	260
44	\$25 Gift Certificate	Boston Pizza	25	117	Wine and Gift Card Basket	Taylor Law Patersons LLP	260
45	\$25 Gift Certificate	Boston Pizza	25	118	\$200 in Neepawa Bucks + Welcome Mat	Century 21 Westman Realty Ltd.	200
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47	\$25 Gift Certificate	Boston Pizza	25	120	\$50 Gift Card	Neepawa Prairie Donair	50
48	3 Soil Tests with Recommendations	Redfern Farm Services	600	121	\$50 Gift Card	Neepawa Prairie Donair	50
49	Two 8 inch Blizzard Cakes	Neepawa Dairy Queen	64	122	\$50 Gift Card	Neepawa Prairie Donair	50
50	\$100 Certificate for Duct, Carpet or Furniture Clean	Clean Conscience Carpet & Duct Cleaning	100	123	\$50 Gift Certificate for Brews Brothers	Brews Brothers Bistro	50
51	10 Class Pass	Grit Force Fitness	175	124	One Hour Massage	Marijka's Therapy Clinic & Day Spa	95
52	10 Yards of Gravel	P Baker Backhoe Service	155	125	Yoga Mat and Massage Bar	Step Into Action	70
53	\$25 Gift Certificate	Lola's Bakery	25	126	180 Piece Multi Drive Socket & Tool Kit	Piston Ring	230
54	\$50 Gift Certificate	Neepawa Veterinary Clinic	50	127	50 Pound Bag of Potatoes	Sprucewoods Colony	25
55	\$50 Gift Certificate	Neepawa Veterinary Clinic	50	128	50 Pound Bag of Potatoes	Sprucewoods Colony	25
56	\$25 Gift Card	Chicken Chef	25	129-136	50 Pound Bag of Potatoes	Sprucewoods Colony	25
57	\$25 Gift Card	Chicken Chef	25	137-151	Butter Tarts	Sandra De Groot	20
58	\$25 Gift Card	Chicken Chef	25				
59	\$25 Gift Certificate	Bamboo Garden Restaurant	25				
60	Custom Made Orthotic Insoles	Keeping You Active Chiropractic	400				
61	Haircut at Studio One	Studio One	34				
62	Taylor Made Cart Lite 2.0 Golf Bag	Landon Cameron Golf	349				
63	10 Rounds of Golf	White's Funeral Home	315				
64	15 Certificates for Coffee	McDonalds	30				
65	10 Class Pass	Rhythm Cycle Club	145				
66	\$50 Gift Certificate	Brews Brothers Bistro	50				
67	\$50 Gift Certificate	Brews Brothers Bistro	50				
68	Basket of Jams, Jellies, and Pickles	Helen Drysdale	40				
69	Basket of Jams, Jellies, and Pickles	Helen Drysdale	40				
70	Serengeti Women's Sunglasses	Valley Optical	300				
71	Ray Ban Polarized Sunglasses	Willowbrook Eye Care	278				
72	Hair Product and Gift Certificate	Rural Route 88 - Becky Jury	78				
73	Painted Welcome Sign	Gwen Baryl	45				

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Neepawa Banner & Press		In Kind Advertising	\$500

**For information updates and to see how to register and bid, visit our website at**  
**neepawarotary.weebly.com/**

## December 5-11, 2025

To view items online and to register to bid on items go to [www.district5550.charity-auctions.ca](http://www.district5550.charity-auctions.ca)

**Bidding starts at 8:00 am on Friday, December 5.**

**Supporting our new hospital and other community projects**



# Plenty to see at the Glorious Christmas Wish Sale



PHOTOS BY CASPER WEHRHAHN  
The Glorious Christmas Wish Sale drew a large crowd throughout the day on Nov. 29, as part of Neepawa's first 'Super Saturday'.

Far left: An assortment of some of the items that were on sale.  
Left: A batch of eager customers selects some baked goods from one of the many stalls at the event.  
Below: People of all ages attended. Shown here is a portion of the crowd.



**NEEPAWA  
COMMUNITY  
SERVICES**

# Christmas Giving Appeal

**Help those less fortunate...**


Donate today to support Christmas Hampers for Neepawa, Gladstone and McCreary areas.

Last year we assisted over 200 families and we expect that need to grow this year.

Scan the QR Code to donate on-line or drop off your donation in person at:  
342 Mountain Ave  
(Community Services Entrance)  
or any of the Kettle locations  
All donations collected stay local.



*Ad space partially sponsored by The Neepawa Banner*



# MERRY Christmas

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

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

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

We do apologize for the inconvenience this may cause.

**Our emails are still open!**  
*If you've got a news tip, story or event, let us know!*  
Call 204-476-3401 or e-mail [kwaddell@neepawabanner.com](mailto:kwaddell@neepawabanner.com)  
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Thank you  
Ken Waddell, Publisher

