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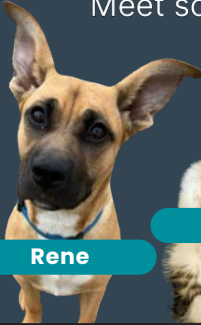
PHOTOS BY JOSHUA JACKSON

July 26 and 27 marked the annual McCreary Ag Society Fair. The two days were bustling with activity featuring a multi-day rodeo, children's activities, a parade, a vendors market, and live entertainment. Shown here are just a few scenes from the variety of events that took place.

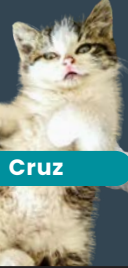
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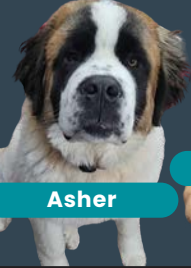
Meet some of our Stride Squad: Pet Edition




Rene



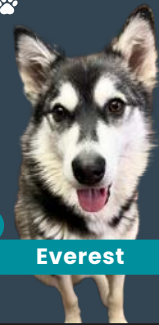
Cruz



Asher



Stewart



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A 'little festival with a big heart'

Harvest Sun Music Festival prepares to mark 20 years in Kelwood

By Casper Wehrhahn
NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS

The heart of Kelwood is prepared to come alive with the sound of music this month. From Aug. 15 to 17, the community will host its 20th annual Harvest Sun Music Festival. And, while people who attend can expect the same good fun from past years, they can also expect some changes. According to Harvest Sun director Nadia Kuhl, attendees can anticipate this year's event to feel "more intimate, more rooted and maybe even more magical".

"This year we have stepped out of the big tent and into the town itself. Evening concerts are now hosted in the Kelwood Community Hall, which we are transforming into what we have called The Prairie Portal, a whimsical space filled with music and twinkly lights," said Kuhl. "We have shifted the vision to have a more place-based feel to it. The daytime music, including the Moody Mani-

toba Morning Workshop and a special kid's show, will take place at the Kelwood Campground, and is open to everyone."

Kuhl added, "We're still celebrating Manitoba music with an incredible lineup but now it is woven into the heart of Kelwood in a way that feels deeply authentic. And partnering with the Boom Chuck Old Time Music Camp leading into the festival, is such a wonderful addition to the feel of the festival."

A fresh start

Part of the inspiration for these adjustments came from a festival in Prince Edward Island known as

the Festival of Small Halls, which focuses on the use of community halls as a music venue.

"Our inspiration has been to begin to see the spaces that already exist in the town as meaningful, and really, such a unique expression of rural prairie life," said Kuhl. "We wanted to engage with that,

and the unique beauty of the prairies surrounding our village with its view of the escarpment, and so close to the national park."

With the event date close at hand, Kuhl shared her perspective on marking Harvest Sun's 20th year.

"It feels like a homecoming and a fresh start all at once. We've been reflect-

ing deeply on what Harvest Sun Truly is, and this 20th year gave us the perfect moment to listen inward and reimagine," said Kuhl. "When you reach a milestone of 20 years, everyone who has been part of the festival will have a lot of memories from the past, but we are wanting to make space

incredible excitement and momentum behind the scenes. Everyone has been leaning in. And that feels very special."

All welcome

As the organizers take these last few weeks to dot their i's and cross their t's, the team is buzzing with excitement. Kuhl shared that all involved are eager to welcome the coming festival goers to Kelwood.

"We're so grateful to everyone who's been part of the Harvest Sun story. Whether it's your 1st year or your 20th, we hope you know how welcome you are," said Kuhl. "This year, it feels like a threshold, from something that has been so special and magical, into the next beautiful phase of our little festival with a big heart! We'd love to see you in the Prairie Portal this year!"

The full details of the Harvest Sun Music Festival's events schedule can be found at www.harvest-sunmusicfest.com.



FILE PHOTO

Orange Blossom Special performing at the 2024 Harvest Sun Music Festival.

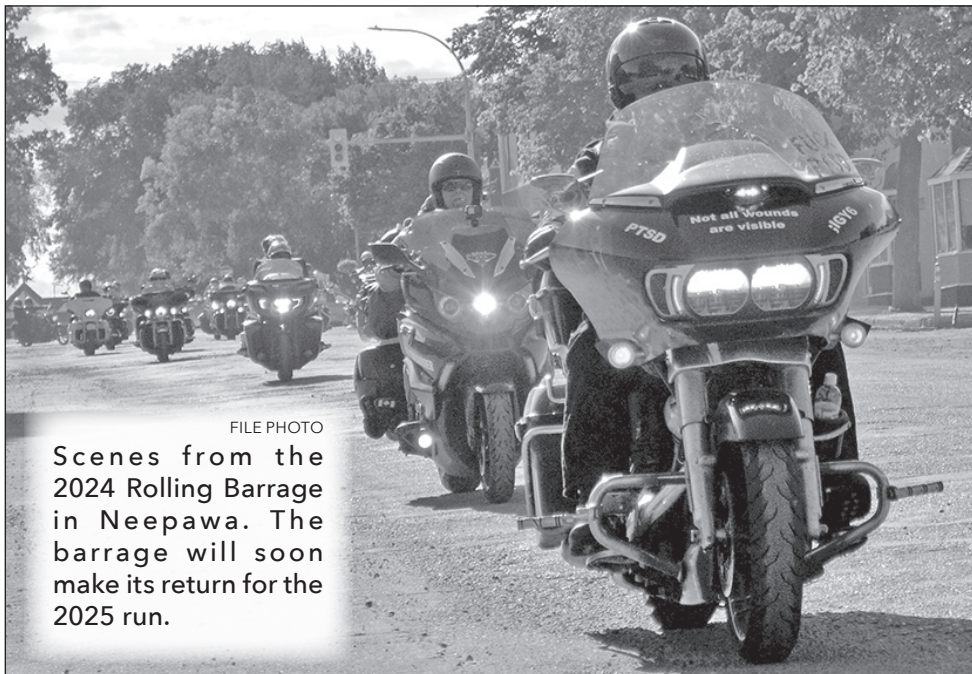
Rolling Barrage to return to Neepawa

Annual motorcycle fundraiser breaks the stigma around PTSD

By Eoin Devereux
NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS

The cross-Canada ride that has become a symbol of support for veterans and first responders is returning to Neepawa this August. The Rolling Barrage is an annual event that attempts to bring awareness and break the stigma surrounding post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) in veterans and first responders. The Barrage sees its participating riders make stops in communities all across the country over a three week period.

For the fifth straight year, Neepawa will be one of those stops on Saturday, Aug. 9. The caravan of riders will stay in Neepawa for the night, before departing in the morning on Sunday, Aug. 10.



FILE PHOTO

Scenes from the 2024 Rolling Barrage in Neepawa. The barrage will soon make its return for the 2025 run.

Funds raised from The Rolling Barrage support various programs and initiatives aimed at improving the lives of veterans and first responders. These

include mental health support services, transition programs, adaptive sports programs, and educational scholarships.

For more information

or to register for a leg of the ride, visit the Rolling Barrage's Facebook page or website at therollingbarrage.com.



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Looking Back

1975: Neepawa Pool elevator under construction

By Casper Wehrhahn
NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS

**125 years ago,
Wednesday,
August 1, 1900**

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

J. A. McGill has now been for several years a successful dealer in and breeder of English Birkshire pigs and his Gold Standard herd is becoming known as one of the best in the country...

Last week, at Winnipeg's big annual fair—a provincial event—Mr. McGill was the fortunate winner of five firsts and three seconds, running a close second for the aggregate number in awards to the famous prize herds of Hon. Thos. Greenway.

V. N. G. Pickering, of Minnedosa, was a successful exhibitor in the kennelline at the Winnipeg Fair winning second for his Russian wolf hound and fox terrier, and first place for Gordon setter and deer hounds.

**100 years ago,
Tuesday,
August 4, 1925**

Wm. Watson, of Plumas, is a visitor in Neepawa,

the guest of his daughter, Mrs. Jas. G. Buchanan. He was a homesteader near Neepawa many years ago; and now he is in his 82nd year and he is just taking a few days off the farm to renew acquaintances.

**75 years ago,
Thursday,
August 10, 1950**

Neepawa Seniors, in their most impressive showing this season, won three out of four games over the weekend in Sportsman's Park, Clear Lake.

**50 years ago,
Thursday,
August 7, 1975**

Construction is well advanced on the Pool elevator in Neepawa, but the portion already completed is but a fraction of the size of the proposed structure. Barely visible in the background is the conventional-sized UGG elevator.

Margaret Laurence, noted Canadian author and former resident of Neepawa, will be returning to her hometown Monday, Oct. 6.

Oct. 1 is now the official date on which Manitoba's standard work week will be reduced from 44 hours to 40 hours.

Poor cooperation on the part of the weatherman resulted in a few showers of rain but they were not enough to dampen the enthusiasm of visitors to the McCreary Rodeo held over the past weekend.

In all, there were 4,800 visitors to the rodeo, a higher total than was attained last year.

Construction of the new junior high wing for NACI is progressing according to schedule with most of the groundwork and foundation construction completed. It is hoped that construction will be

complete in time to open the school in early January.

The Neepawa Fire Department was called out at approximately 5:30 a.m. Sunday to deal with a pile of hay bales on Highway 258 just south of the junction with Highway 4 in Neepawa.

The alarm was reportedly turned in by employees at East View Lodge who saw the flames and thought that a vehicle was on fire. The incident was the second of its type to occur in recent weeks.

A spokesman for the fire department stated that the incident is under investigation by the Neepawa detachment of the RCMP and fire department representatives...

The latest incident represented a cost of approximately \$100 to the town as the fire department was called out, and a prior incident about two weeks ago cost the RM of Langford approximately \$200.

Considerable interest has been expressed in agricultural circles concerning a mutant strain of Glenlea wheat grown on the Don Barilla farm near Eden.

The two-headed wheat, pictured in The Press last week, is very unusual, particularly when both heads are growing out of the stock. Carberry Ag-rep Lloyd Cavers contacted Al Martin in Winnipeg, chief of the crops section of these soils and crops department in the Manitoba Department of Agriculture. Mr. Martin felt the unusual strain could have resulted from herbicide damage as a result of spraying too early



NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS ARCHIVES

Around this time in 1975, the construction of the Pool elevator in Neepawa was considered well underway. However, there was certainly quite a fair bit left to go! Seen in the background, just peeking out over the top of the new construction, is the top of the UGG elevator.

or too heavily.

He explained that the spots in the field where the two-headed wheat have sprung up could have been late germinating due to wheel packing, etc., and that this could result in the odd growth pattern.

Both Mr. Martin and Mr. Cavers were hampered in their analysis attempts by a lack of first hand knowledge of the field and the crop...

But another, alternative, solution to the problem of two-headed wheat has been advanced by Dr. Robert Wolfe, a plant researcher at the Brandon Agricultural Research Station who has examined specimens of the wheat.

Dr. Wolfe suggested in an article in the Brandon Sun that the seed had been frozen before it ripened and that the liquid nitrogen pumped into the soil after the seed as fertilizer hit the plant at exactly the right stage. This, he suggests, gave the seed a sudden burst of energy and somehow

stimulated the growth of two heads inside the shaft...

The occurrence of the two-headed wheat is unique in the memory of all the plant specialists contacted.

**20 years ago,
Monday,
August 8, 2005**

Organizers are calling Neepawa's ninth annual Lily Festival one of the best ever.

Rollin' Thunder lived up to its name as Neepawa hosted its fourth annual drag races a week ago Saturday.

The vehicle, owned by Brad Janishewski of

Edmonton is a modified Honda powered by a jet engine, which shoots 60 feet of flames as it takes off.

Requiring a parachute to stop, [drag race organizer Monty] Simon said Rollin' Thunder burned up the track at 175 miles an hour.

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.

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Elite Hair Fashion used to be in the I.O.O.F. building in Neepawa. This advertisement is from the Aug. 7, 1975 edition of The Press.

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Highlights of the week
Amazing Race Neepawa
Aug 4 at 12:15 PM | Aug 7 at 8:00 PM | Aug 9 at 10:30 AM
Multicultural Event Performances
Aug 4 at 8:00 PM | Aug 7 at 1:30 PM | Aug 9 at 1:00 PM
Business Spotlight: Lola's Bakery
Aug 5 at 10:45 AM | Aug 7 at 1:00 PM | Aug 9 at 7:00 PM

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I strain to reach the end of the race and receive the prize for which God is calling us up to heaven because of what Christ Jesus did for us.

Philippians 3:14 (The Living Bible)

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Tuesday & Wednesday • August 5 & 6 • (PG-13)
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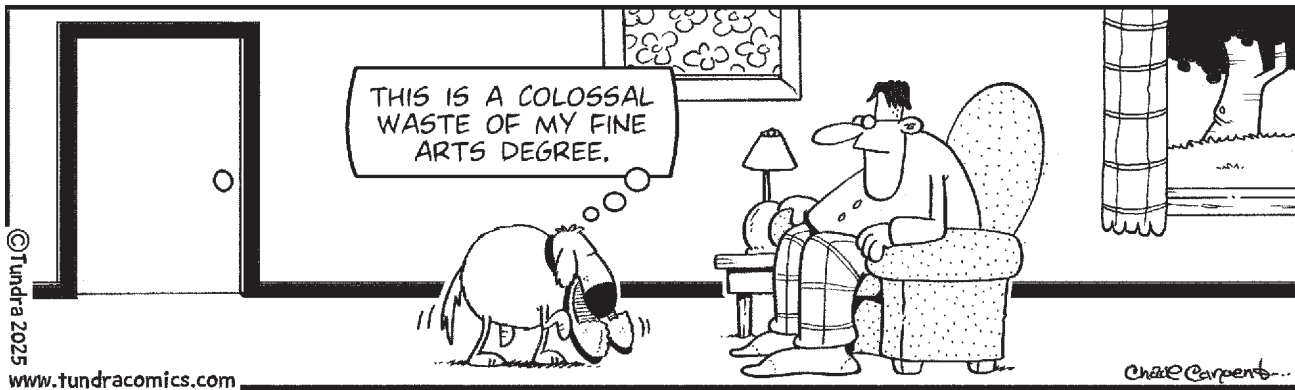
Thursday & Friday • August 7 & 8 • (PG)
7:30 p.m.
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By Chad Carpenter



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Repeating the mistakes is avoidable

For many months now we have been hearing lurid details about the five junior hockey players charged with sexual assault. I have no intention of trying to re-tell the story, we have heard enough about the details.

What we haven't heard much about is how did we get into this kind of situation and how can it be avoided in the future? There are some logical lessons to be learned, and while I don't expect some people to agree with these lessons, I do think that they still need to be strongly considered.

People need to understand that sex is not a spectator sport. Neither is it a right to have a sexual relationship, it's a privilege best left to married or committed couples. The men involved in this sex trial, should have learned that from a general observation of human history, along with stories from their hockey buddies, from high school friendships or their parents. While the activities of these five men were deemed to be not guilty (subject to the Crown Attorney filing an appeal), I doubt that anyone would put their actions in the "wise move" section.

Ahead of getting involved in the manner they did, they should also have learned that after consuming alcohol, or other substances, a person's judgement is impaired.

It's up for debate as to whether they will ever play NHL hockey again and they have not played for a period of time now. Even if the protests of the NHL Players Association prevail, it will be nigh unto impossible to remove the stain they put on their reputations. And then there's the psychological damage they have done to themselves.

The woman involved will certainly

be damaged in a number of ways. She threw caution to the wind by apparently over consuming alcohol. And not to pick on this particular woman, but is nobody teaching or learning about not placing yourself in potentially dangerous situations? There is no excuse for the players action. It's also difficult to find enough adjectives to explain how dumb their actions were, how stupid and selfish.

After thousands of years of human activity, one would think that people would have learned that personal safety should not be intentionally put at risk.

As I reflect on my years of experience and observation, society has never been successful in coping with sexuality and sexual activity. When I was young, some really dumb and naive people were pushing the "free love" idea. It sounded so good, but love or sex is never free, it comes with huge responsibilities and some risks. Then some of these same people pushed the idea of "safe sex". Again, that was dumb and naive. There is no such thing as "safe sex". There are always risks. Risk of pregnancy, risk of sexually transmitted diseases, the possibility high risk pregnancies for the mother and the baby. Sex doesn't always turn out the way one

might hope.

What I do know is this whole sordid hockey player mess could have been avoided. Neither the woman, nor the men, should have put themselves in the situation.

And speaking of situations, Hockey Canada completely botched handling the whole deal. They should not have settled out of court and definitely not without telling the hockey players.

The police did not initially charge the five men, and years later, the judge found them not guilty. But Hockey Canada decided they were guilty and that they, and Hockey Canada, needed to be protected by Hockey Canada funds, funds that every hockey boy and girl in Canada contributed to with their annual fees. Hockey Canada paid a lot of money to the woman involved to keep the situation out of the public eye. The woman and the players may never recover from this mess, neither will Hockey Canada. The woman and the players do have the option of repenting before God and being forgiven. It's a matter of opinion if God forgives organizations.

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



Rick Rack and bias tape...

While sharing a delightful cup of coffee with a friend the conversation turned, as it so often does, to long ago. Not long ago and far away, for in our memories, years long gone don't seem that far away! We were reminiscing about clothing- fashions and functions. When I was a child, a dress needed to last a long time. When crafted, a deep hem would be essential, and as I grew, the hem was let down. If the fabric had worn well it wouldn't look too obvious that several inches had appeared. Too often the old hem line was a distinct track around the entire skirt. Rick rack to the rescue! For those too young to understand, rick rack was a zig zag ribbon thing. The colour, if one was fortunate, would be co-ordinated to the dress material. In a pinch a carefully stitched strip of bias tape could be introduced. I can't recall that either myself or my peers kicked up a fuss about stretching a garment to last another year. Many of my generation grew up with hand-me-downs, from family member on down, and, if one was lucky, the line of descent could originate with a city kid. That was pure gold. My older sister and I are close in age, but weren't close in size; I relied on clothing from a skinny cousin and her family lived in town and her dad was a teacher – beautiful garments passed down to me. Our chatter recalled having a school outfit and home clothes. As soon as you returned from school you changed into your work garb. Often one year's outing outfit became the next year's work clothes. I can recall having a Sunday outfit and a little Sunday outfit. The second one was often last years model, too good for school or play, but not quite good enough for church!

Then we got giggling about footwear. She told of the year her feet grew so much that her father took the sturdy leather oxfords to the local shoemaker; he extended the toe and the sole- the ugliest shoe on record! But, warm, waterproof, and sensible. Just not attractive! There was the year my father took me to Mr. Fels shoe shop in Roland. (*It was so much more than shoes; clocks, leather works, repairs.*) The shoes I absolutely fell in love with were one full size too large, and they were the only ones I wanted. I stuffed the toe with paper until I grew into them, sadly aging them well before their time. And the rubber boots that we needed to wear over the shoes...

The last fit of laughter was about the sealer rings we used to keep our stockings up. Do I need to explain sealer rings? Rubber rings, red or white that were used to seal glass jars in the canning process. We wondered how skinny our legs were to have such a device keep up those lovely brown cotton stockings! Usually mended and darned....

Bottom line, we were fed and clothed. Warm and presentable. Mostly grateful. Not a bad measuring stick.

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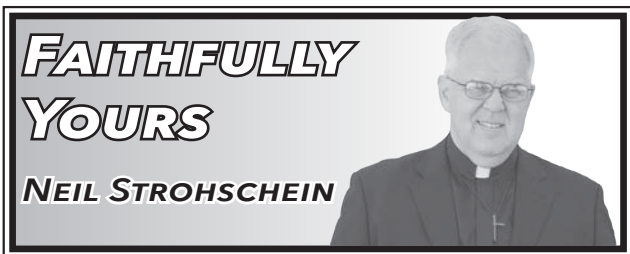
Canada

Strengthen the things that remain

The life lesson I want to share this week is one I have been learning since my mother passed away. It began when one of my aunts told me that I was now “one of the old people.” When I asked what she meant by that, she said: “Well, both your parents have died. You are their oldest child. Your job is to look out for your family. That makes you one of the old people.” I smiled then; but I have never forgotten those words.

They took on additional significance after the deaths of my wife’s parents. At that point, we literally became “the old people in the family.” Now the family came to our house for special occasions. The cooking wasn’t as tasty as grandma’s (nothing will ever be) but the memories of those special days, especially Christmas 2023 will never be forgotten.

Then came October, 2024; and the news that one of our blended family’s four children had suddenly passed away. This wasn’t



the first time I had stood with parents who were grieving the loss of a child. I heard their stories and felt their pain as they spoke of the huge hole that was left by their child’s passing. But last October, I wasn’t standing with someone else’s family. I was standing with my own.

Every member of our family (immediate and extended), changed radically the night our child died. We found ourselves dealing with a type of grief we had never faced before; and wondering how long our broken hearts would take to heal, if they ever would.

Then about a month ago, I listened to an interview with grief counsellor Megan Devine. She knows, having experienced it personally, how it feels to suddenly lose a loved one. She under-

stands the inner pain and emptiness caused by this sudden change in family dynamics. She wastes no time in condemning the things friends and neighbours say that they hope will comfort those who mourn; but that often add to the pain they already feel.

In Chapter 2 of her book: “It’s OK That You’re Not OK,” she writes: “Grief is not a problem to be solved; it is an experience to be carried.”

Those are some of the most liberating words I have ever read. Thanks to them, I am no longer troubled when I hear people tell me that they may never fully recover from the loss of a child, a parent, a partner or a close friend. That’s OK. By God’s grace and with his help, each of us can carry

our unique experience of grief with dignity and optimism; and allow ourselves the time we need for our broken hearts to heal.

As part of this healing, we need to strengthen the relationships that remain with those who, like us, are grieving the same loss; those who worked with our loved ones; those who were part of their social circles; and the new additions (close friends, partners, children) to their families that were being welcomed into our families and who need to know that they are still part of us and welcome to heal with us.

You and I will never go through life without feeling some form of grief. But we must never allow that grief to separate us from those we love. By strengthening the relationships that remain, we can help create a world in which all people, whatever their loss and however deeply they may be hurting, can receive the hope, help and healing they need.

‘Public trust matters too’

After nearly two months of silence, the federal minister responsible for Parks Canada, Steven Guilbeault, has finally responded to the growing outrage over the Agency’s sudden motorized watercraft ban on Clear Lake only to express his “utmost confidence” in the decision.

Local Member of Parliament for Riding Mountain, Dan Mazier, who has been pressing the Minister since May, says the response is nothing short of a slap in the face to the community.

“After hiding for months, the Minister’s only message is that this is not his responsibility,” Mazier said. “Passing the buck to the very officials who blindsided everyone is not leadership. It is neglect for the people, pure and simple.”

In a May 27 letter, Mazier warned the Minister that Parks Canada’s abrupt reversal, after months of telling residents and businesses to plan around a



“one boat, one lake” policy, had “blindsided the community” and undermined months of preparation. He called for two immediate actions: reinstate the one-boat-one-lake policy and replace local leadership in the park to rebuild trust.

When no response came, Mazier followed up on June 5th, demanding a public, in-person meeting. He called the continued silence “unacceptable.”

Mazier’s office was advised earlier this month from the local park superintendent, that there were no plans for Parks Canada to host a public meeting to explain their decision despite 500 individuals signing up to attend a meeting.

Guilbeault’s eventual response acknowledges the

“disruption and frustration” caused by Parks Canada’s decision but did not address Mazier’s recommendations, offering nothing to address the anger and economic consequences felt across the region.

Guilbeault claimed the matter “falls entirely under Parks Canada’s delegated authorities” and expressed his “utmost confidence” in the officials who imposed the motorized watercraft ban without specifically explaining the rationale behind the sudden reversal in policy.

For Mazier, the Minister’s letter neglected the matter.

“Parks Canada reports to the Minister. Hiding behind ‘delegated authorities’ after communities

were blindsided isn’t leadership,” Mazier said. “I gave the Minister two straightforward fixes in May: restore the one-boat-one-lake policy and replace the local leadership that has lost the public’s trust. The minister ignored both, then told us it’s none of his business.”

Mazier’s original correspondence detailed how Parks Canada continued advising the public as late as May 12th that motorized boats would be permitted, before abruptly reversing course without public consultation or explanation.

“Clear Lake’s health matters to everyone, but public trust matters too,” Mazier said. “You cannot tell people to plan around one policy all winter and spring, then abruptly reverse it hours before the May long weekend. And you certainly can’t pretend, as the Minister, that you have no responsibility to fix it.” Mazier said.

Continued on Page 10

Thumbs up, thumbs down

A thumbs up to the crews of the Town of Neepawa taking care of the south side of Highway # 16 approaching Neepawa from the west. You’re doing a meticulous job. I am well aware of the challenges of this strip over the years. Veterans Way is a pleasure to walk!

Liz Sumner
Neepawa, MB



Thumbs down for the current state of the streets. We all know how bad the roads are, but the Town [of Neepawa] is talking about a new recreation facility and school. Why not put that money first into infrastructure? Can’t barely drive here anymore

Also, start giving fines to those scooters using sidewalks!! Incredibly annoying.

Colin Whelan
Neepawa, MB

Editor’s note: Currently, there are no by-laws in place for enforcement related to those types of scooters.



In the spring, I had posted about the streets in Neepawa and the Town posted back bragging about all the streets they were fixing. Well its nearing the end of summer and I don’t see anything being done. The hospital street is awful, the junction of #16 and 5th, by Dairy Queen is a mess and so on and so on. It’s time the residents of Neepawa start complaining.

Terry Bradley
Arden, MB

Editor’s note: This Thumbs Down was edited down slightly to get closer to the word count requirements for these types of submissions.



Denis, the apparent operations manager for the Town had his workers go down the backlane of our street and hack at a tree (*Not even cutting the branches to the trunk*) and a bush (*Same thing, just random cutting of branches*) that were apparently impeding the backlane. Well, unless these two items were 100 feet long, they didn’t impede anything. Instead of BEAUTIFYING things you are MUTILATING them and leaving it up to the homeowner to fix.

Catherine Sage
Neepawa/ Calgary



Thumbs down to the person or persons that felt they had the right to go on private property and pick our choke cherries. Well, shame on you. If you were that desperate to pick them, you could have asked! P.S., you missed a few...

Catherine Sage
Neepawa/ Calgary



Congratulations to Neepawa Settlement Services for organizing the Multicultural Celebration last Saturday. Booth staff and performers were pleased with the venue and would support this as an annual event!!

John Drinkwater
Neepawa, MB



HELEN DRYSDALE

OUT OF HELEN'S KITCHEN

TCS foods

TCS foods (time/temperature control for safety) are foods that have a high protein content, are rich in moisture, and have a low acidity. I believe most of us have a better understanding of high protein foods but not the high moisture or low acidity ones. The more moisture a food has, the more likely it is to grow harmful bacteria. Lemonade is high in moisture, it also has high acidity so it is not a TCS food. Tomato juice, however, has high moisture and low acidity making the perfect combination to create bacteria. Pineapple is highly acidic, so bacteria will be less likely to grow on it if you leave it out in the open for a long time.

Bacteria grows more readily on foods with lower acidity. Watermelon, cantaloupe, and honeydew melons have a high water content and are low in acidity, making them susceptible to bacterial contamination, especially after being cut. The rind can harbor bacteria that can transfer to the flesh during cutting. Contamination of fruits and vegetables can come from water, soil, fertilizer, wild animals or birds and unsanitary processing methods. Wash fruits and vegetables under running water to remove harmful microorganisms and refrigerate left overs immediately after eating. Do not use soap or bleach to wash fresh vegetables or fruits. These products are not intended for consumption. Peel and discard the outer leaves of lettuce and cabbage because they are likely to have more dirt and microorganisms on them.

Keep cutting boards clean by washing them with hot, soapy water after each use then rinse with water and air dry. Both wooden and plastic cutting boards can be sanitized with a solution of 5 mL (1 tsp.) of household bleach to 750 mL (3 cups) of water in a labelled spray bottle. Allow the bleach solution to stand for several minutes on the cutting boards. Rinse with clear water and air dry or pat dry with clean paper towels. Nonporous acrylic, plastic, glass boards and solid wood boards can be washed in a dishwasher. The best wood boards to have are Bamboo as they are harder and less porous than hardwoods. Bamboo absorbs very little moisture and resists scarring from knives, so they are more resistant to bacteria than other wooden boards.

To keep your food safe and your kitchen clean, just remember these four words; clean, separate, cook, and chill. Clean: wash hands and surfaces often, separate: don't cross-contaminate, cook: cook to proper temperature and chill: refrigerate promptly. Safe and happy cooking.

Raspberry sauce

Raspberries are my all-time favourite fruit and my back yard patch is producing well. These intense flavoured berries are extremely fragile and are best picked and used or frozen right away. I make this raspberry sauce to top ice cream, pancakes, cakes or use on whatever you desire topped.

- 2 cups fresh or frozen raspberries

1/3 cup water

1/3 cup sugar
- 2 tsp. lemon juice

1 1/2 Tbsp. each water

and cornstarch

Place the raspberries, water, sugar and lemon juice in a small saucepan. Bring to a boil and simmer over low heat for 4-5 minutes, stirring occasionally until the raspberries have broken down. Mix the cornstarch and water together in a small bowl. While stirring add the cornstarch mixture a little at a time and simmer, stir until thickened. If you like your sauce without seeds put it through a fine mesh sieve using a spatula. The sauce can be stored in an air-tight container in the refrigerator for up to five days.

Raspberry coffee cake

This Raspberry Almond Coffee Cake is a tender, buttery coffee cake layered with raspberries and topped with crunchy sliced almonds. This makes a large cake but it freezes well for a later time.

- 3 1/2 cups raspberries,
fresh or frozen

2 Tbsp. lemon juice

1 cup water

1 1/3 cups sugar

1/3 cup cornstarch
- 1 tsp. baking powder

1 1/2 tsp. baking soda

1 tsp. cinnamon

1 cup cold butter, diced

2 large eggs,
lightly beaten

1 cup buttermilk

1 tsp. vanilla
- Topping**

1/2 cup flour

1/2 cup brown sugar

1/4 cup butter, softened

1 cup slivered almonds
- Batter**

3 cups flour

1 cup sugar
- Glaze**

2-3 tablespoons milk
or cream

1 cup powdered sugar

In a pot, cook raspberries, lemon juice and water over medium heat 5 minutes. Combine sugar and cornstarch; stir into fruit mixture, stirring all the while. Bring to a low boil; cook and stir 2-3 minutes until thickened. Set aside to cool.

In a bowl, combine flour, sugar, baking powder, baking soda and cinnamon. Cut in butter until mixture resembles coarse crumbs. Stir the eggs, buttermilk and vanilla together. Add to the flour and butter mixture. Spread half into a greased 13x9-inch cake pan that has been lightly greased. Spread raspberry filling over batter; spoon remaining batter over filling. Topping: Combine flour, sugar and butter till it resembles coarse crumbs. Add the almond slivers. Sprinkle over top of the cake. Bake 40-45 minutes or until golden brown. Combine glaze ingredients; drizzle over warm cake.

Inviting your partner to conversation

In my last article of Your Listening Ear, we talked about the importance of structuring and preparing a serious conversation with your partner. This article will talk about inviting your partner into conversation. These tips can really be used for any serious conversation, but we will speak in terms of relationships here.

When you are inviting your partner into conversation it's essential to approach them in an open and inviting way. The first way you can show that you are inviting them into conversation is to create an attuned environment by turning off the TV, putting away laptops and phones, closing the door etc..... You can show an open invitation by the words that you use. Ensure that they are direct and to the point. If you have a partner who is anxious about having serious conversations you can start your invitation with, "I don't want you to worry but I want to talk with you about our finances right now".

During serious conversations with anxious partners, it can also be helpful to share with them, "I'm not going anywhere". Physically, your body posture should be open, don't cross legs, cross arms, drop head. An open body posture makes the nervous system feel settled and is less threatening. A lot of people will mirror the body language of the person who is attuning to them so you may find your partner adopting that same open posture, allowing for their brain to open in the same way. The couple cannot fear each other. People struggle because one or both partners have a fear of being berated, yelled at, or spoken down to. This threat could be real (in the case of

YOUR
LISTENING EAR
DELSIE MARTIN

mental/emotional abuse) or could be imagined. If your partner has been in an abusive relationship in the past, helpful statements could be, "I want to tackle this WITH you, I am not going to hurt you" or "I want you to feel safe talking to me right now" can put them at ease.

Adult attachment says that our attachment styles that we develop in childhood affect how we feel about and communicate in our intimate relationships. Secure attachment being the "normal", it is looked at along two dimensions

1) **Attachment anxiety:** An anxious attachment style in childhood (caregiving and/or emotional support was inconsistent. These individuals worry that their partner will reject or abandon them and deem them unworthy of love.

2) **Attachment avoidance:** An avoidant attachment style in childhood. Caregiving and/or emotional support was neglectful or abusive. These individuals feel uncomfortable with closeness and connection. They can at times do a swing toward extreme independence and have trouble seeing the value of connection in intimate relationships.

The motivation to address problems has two facets, an approach and an avoidance. An anxious attachment style fosters a tendency to consider approach, but end up avoiding (a person would like to have


an important conversation with their partner but does not because they are afraid) and an avoidant style tends to not even consider the approach (the person doesn't even consider the value of attempting the conversation or the value isn't worth the risk and effort). The experience of an avoidant individual is that they don't get a whole lot of reward and positive reinforcement from their daily emotional encounters, so they don't see a point in attempting with their intimate partners. Anxious individuals are surrounded by so much fear and second guessing themselves in their daily emotional interactions that although they understand that approaching is important, they are afraid to and ease that fear by avoiding the interaction altogether. Studies show that when a threat to the relationship occurs, avoidant individuals will distance themselves from the relationship as a protective mechanism. Anxious individuals can become clingy and if this doesn't work, actively distance.

Now that you've invited your partner into conversation, we have to have the conversation. Next time in Your Listening Ear, we will delve into the conversation.

Delsie Martin (BA, MSW, RSW), is a Registered Social Worker working out of The Wellness Clinic in Brandon. She can be reached at dmartin@wellnessclinicbrandon.ca.



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We each owe how much!?!

CTF's Debt Clock makes a stop in Neepawa

By Eoin Devereux
NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS

Do you have an extra \$23,000 right now hiding under your mattress or buried in a tin can in the back yard? For most Manitobans, the answer to that question is most definitely 'no'.

But if you do happen to have that bit of extra cash lying around, then congratulations. Because according to the Canadian Taxpayer's Federation (CTF), that's means you can pay your fair share of the government debt.

The Federation recently drove that point home (*literally*), when it brought its touring Debt Clock to Neepawa on Wednesday, July 23. The Debt Clock is a digital counter mounted on the side of a moving truck that shows the provincial debt going up in real time. The CTF is taking the Debt Clock across the province to show the debt increasing in real time. The Federation began its Manitoba tour at the Legislative Building in Winnipeg on July 22, with stops in Steinbach, Winkler, Neepawa, and Brandon over the course of the next few days.

According to Gage Haubrich, the Prairie Director for the Canadian Taxpayer's Federation, the aim of the tour is to raise awareness about Manitoba's growing deficit. Haubrich explained that the debt has surpassed \$35 billion and continues to increase.



PHOTO BY EOIN DEVEREUX

Representatives with the Canadian Taxpayers Federation, including Prairie Director Gage Haubrich (On right), travelled across Manitoba last week in the CTF Debt Clock vehicle.

"It's going up about \$4,000 a minute, or \$5.5 million a day," said Haubrich. "When that amount is divided among Manitoba's population, the debt amounts to more than \$23,000 per person. That's how much every single one of us in the province owes in government debt."

It's the interest that gets you

Haubrich added that on top of the debt itself, there is also the amount of interest that accumulates over time. The government has to spend about \$2.3 billion this year just on the debt interest, which comes out to almost 10 per cent of the

total budget. For Manitoba taxpayers, they pay the second highest per person debt interest charges in the entire country.

When the numbers reach a point such as this, it can be difficult for the average person to envision the true size and scope of the problem. That's what the debt clock is for, said Haubrich.

"When you see the numbers increasing at such a quick rate, by almost \$4,000 a minute along the side of the truck, for a lot of people, it really puts it all into perspective. A lot of people react by saying, 'I didn't realize it was this bad, and something needs to be done about it.'"

Haubrich explained to the Banner & Press that the federation would like to see the province decrease its spending, and that individuals can assist, in getting that message across to them.

"Every dollar Manitoba politicians rack up in debt today is a dollar plus interest that taxpayers will have to pay back tomorrow. Get in touch with your local politicians. Send them an email, call their offices, or just when you get a chance to see them, just tell them you are concerned about the debt."

Send your
historic photos to the
Banner & Press via
news@neepawabanner.com
or our Facebook page!



PHOTO BY EOIN DEVEREUX

The CTF Debt Clock shows, in real time, the amount of debt that is being accumulated by the Provincial government. As of Wednesday, July 23, the amount owed by every single Manitobian was over \$23,000.

Local organizations receive accessibility funding

By Joshua Jackson
NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS

Three local organizations within the Westman region are receiving funding to help enhance accessibility.

Last week, the Manitoba Government announced it is providing \$820,000 in funding to 33 organizations to help remove barriers and improve accessibility across the province.

A press release by the government noted that the Manitoba Accessibility Fund is an annual grant program that provides one-time, project-based grants to help non-profit organizations, municipalities, and businesses remove barriers, create awareness and support compliance with the Accessibility for Manitobans Act.

Criteria for receiving funding includes the project raising awareness about the prevention and removal of barriers; developing tools, resources and training to support compliance with legislated standards; and removing barriers to information and communication, electronically, in print and in person.

The Manitoba Accessibility Fund is in its fourth year and has funded 142 accessibility projects across the province worth more than \$3 million.

The Beautiful Plains School Division (BPSD) is getting \$8,400 to improve the accessibility of the school division's website, ensuring equal

access to information and services for people with disabilities. The project aims to enhance user experience for all visitors and increase awareness about accessibility issues within the organization and the broader community. The BPSD has 2,300 students and 340 employees accessing the website regularly. This project strives to create a more accessible and user-friendly digital experience for the entire community.

The Minnedosa Regional Library is receiving \$9,400 to acquire large print materials to meet the growing demand from patrons. According to the press release, the library will create a mobile collection for senior care facilities, ensuring those unable to visit the library can still access reading materials for education and enjoyment.

The Municipality of Glenella-Lansdowne was given \$1,500 to conduct a feasibility study to identify necessary digital enhancements for compliance with the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.1 Level AA or higher.

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Neepawa needs new approach to recreation

By Ken Waddell
NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS

On June 10, 2025, a meeting was held at Neepawa's Yellowhead Centre (YHC) to consider the initial findings of the Neepawa and Area Recreation Facility Committee. That committee consists of Mayor Brian Hedley of Neepawa, Jeff Cook of the Neepawa Curling Club, Kevin Paramor, Reeve of the RM Glenella-Lansdowne, Candace Newton representing the YHC board, Kevin Levandoski of the Neepawa Golf and Country Club, Gerrond Davidson, Councillor of the RM of North Cypress-Langford and Jeff Henderson, Councillor of the RM of Rosedale. The committee presented four possible locations for a new recreation centre. In the June 13 edition of the Neepawa Banner & Press, there was an initial report on the June 10 meeting. In the June 20 edition there was a more detailed story titled, "It's time to take that step".

The sites were discussed and evaluated. Since that meeting, there have been many coffee shop discussions about the best site, but not a lot of details. Decision time is coming, and hopefully soon. This page is set up to stimulate more discussion.

The background

Neepawa's Yellowhead Centre was built in 1971 and opened in 1972. The hall portion was built in the early 1940s and was the warehouse for the local salt well that closed around 1968. YHC has a large capacity hall and an ice arena. The Neepawa Golf Course has been well maintained but the general feeling is a new clubhouse would be a great addition. The clubhouse was reportedly moved to the course in 1960, and is believed to be a salvaged building for the former Neepawa air training base from WWII.

The Neepawa Curling Club was built in two phases in the 1970's and 80's. It seems to be well managed and in good condition.

Last season, the Yellowhead Arena had a setback in the fall of 2024 when the ice making plant had

a breakdown that caused a delay in the hockey and skating season. It's well known that the facility needs some attention but it's also acknowledged that the YHC is a very valuable regional asset.

What about the money?

Let's say a new facility could be built for \$25 million. It's my opinion that the Town of Neepawa and partners should build sooner rather than later. If for example, construction is delayed 10 years and the cost rose to \$35million it would simply mean that the first \$10million of fundraising and financing would be totally wasted. Build now!

What about the land?

In my opinion, the best site available is shown in the picture and outlined in red and labelled 'A'. That choice would mean the Neepawa Golf Course would not be part of a combined new Recreation facility.

Why that choice?

Selecting land is always a touchy subject, but the Town already owns that piece of land. It's located next to the curling rink so a new curling facility would not be needed; that could save some dollars. There are two motels nearby and the new hotel is adjacent to this site.

There are four restaurants within easy walking distance and there could be a fifth restaurant if the former Chicken Delight site is redeveloped. The site is near the downtown business core. In places like Brandon when development was expanded out to the edges of the city, the central core declined badly. After two shopping malls being built on the edges over the decades, the once vibrant downtown Brandon is not thriving.



DRONE PICTURE COURTESY OF JON LUIGI PIDO

Site A-Looking east of the the new Best Western Plus hotel. The area marked in red is one of the sites chosen for a proposed Neepawa and Area Recreation Complex. The outlined area is said t be large enough for a complex as large as the Virden arena plus 300 parking spaces.

What about the Yellowhead Centre?

It should be kept and re-purposed. There has long been a stated need for basketball courts. There are nearly 25 basketball teams in Neepawa. I have been assured that the current YHC ice surface could make three basketball courts. If the current seating was taken out, a walking track could be put in. The hall could still be used for large events and the gymnastics club might be able to utilize the current lobby at the YHC or perhaps have space in the new facility. Finding a proper home for the very large gymnastics club is a definite need.

Somewhere in the mix, the YHC should have a large day care. The waiting list for day care spaces is estimated to be 300 spots. Even if it's half that number, it's very significant. I can see the hall being used for a day care and as a large

capacity use hall for bigger events. The area to the west of the current hall (*see area outlined in red and marked B*) could be fenced off and developed into a combined use park for the day care and the public.

Does the new facility need a hall?

I don't think so, if the new rec centre is built at the hotel/curling rink site. The Best Western Plus group, made up of 46 shareholders plans to build a convention centre that seats 300-400 people, have a commercial kitchen and an additional 16 rooms. If the Best Western Group is planning to build a hall, I think that's a great

idea and it helps keep costs down for a new rec centre. The Yellowhead Hall all can handle large events (300 to 1,000 people), the legion hall can handle 100-150 people and the curling rink upper hall can handle crowds of 100 or more people.

Is curling rink site big enough?

At the June 10 meeting, Town of Neepawa CAO Colleen Synchishyn stated that the site has enough space to accommodate a facility with the same footprint of Tundra Oil and Gas place in Virden and have parking for 300 cars.

Back to the money

I think the Town should step out in faith and finance both the new recreation facility and the YHC. If the partners come forward in the future, that would be great but delaying will raise costs. The project, with \$25 million financed over 25 years would require a principle and interest payments of \$1.75 million per year for 25 years. Partner dollars, government grants and fundraising could lower the cost. But be assured, delaying will only increase the cost and quite frankly, there will be some resistance to financing by the surrounding RMs.

Continued on Page 9

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The time is past due to make a switch



Site B: Looking east towards the Yellowhead Centre. The area marked in red could become a combined park area for the public and a large day care in the hall. Neepawa is reported to be in need of 300 additional day care spaces.

Continued from Page 8

Historic reasoning should prevail

Back in 1972, when the Yellowhead Centre was built and in the 1970's and 80's when the Neepawa Curling Rink was built, there were people who opposed the expenditure. I am glad

the builder type people prevailed and I certainly hope that same builder attitude and spirit prevails in the next few years. The new facility, the Yellowhead Centre, and the Neepawa Curling Club should all come under Town of Neepawa ownership and operations. Most other Manitoba towns operate that way, and while I didn't

always favour that approach for Neepawa, the time is past due to make the switch.

In summary

A combined YHC and a new recreation facility would put the Neepawa region years ahead in one bold move. Communities either grow or wither and this "bold move" would put

Neepawa on a firm path to growth and sustainability. Rest assured, the combined facilities will need strong and experienced management. There should be an advisory board but membership on that board must not be tied to user groups, it needs to represent a cross section of the whole area.

Fairness for Clear Lake meeting held in Wasagaming

Banner Staff
NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS

Frustration over Ot-tawa's boat ban at Clear Lake has hit its' peak with local residents and businesses. Those frustrations were heard loud and clear on Tuesday, July 29, at a in-person Town Hall in Wasagaming.

A large contingency of people were on hand for the event, which was organized by the group Fairness for Clear Lake (FFCL). The FFCL was formed to advocate for more transparency from the federal government on what they're trying to do to solve the zebra mussel issue that has occurred at Clear Lake.

The invasive species was discovered in 2023, forcing the complete closure of the lake to motorized water-

craft for the past two years. Earlier this year, Parks Canada had announced a 'one boat, one lake' policy to open things up a bit for the 2025 season. In May, however, that policy was unexpectedly reversed and the total ban on all motorized watercraft was put back in place. The reversal has had a profound impact on the community this summer, affecting local businesses, cabin and cottage owners, and tourists alike.

In response, Fairness for Clear Lake hosted an in-person town hall, and presented its findings of an independent scientific review of zebra mussel spread in Clear Lake. Details from that event, as well as local reaction will appear in a future edition of the Neepawa Banner & Press.

Tiny tycoons being inspired at Neepawa Day Camp



The counselors and participants in the 2025 Neepawa Day Camp.

By Eoin Devereux
NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS

The youth involved with this year's Neepawa Day Camp recently learned a few of the ins and outs of being a big stakes business mogul...but in a fun filled way.

The group participated in the Biz Builder's Sale Day on Thursday, July 24 at ArtsForward. The program teaches the kids

all about the importance of entrepreneurship and allowed them a chance to create their own business for the week.

It all culminated on Thursday, when these tiny tycoons had the chance to sell their products to the public. All the proceeds brought in from the products, as well as barbecue that coincided with the sale, were combined to help cover the cost of a field trip

to Turtle Crossing Water Park.

In a recent interview with NACTV, Day Camp Coordinator Prestyn Phinney explained that there was also a very important lesson to the week, that they hope stick with the kids well beyond their trip to Turtle Crossing.

"The big idea is when you work hard, you get to have fun," said Phinney.



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Ternier preparing to say farewell

Valley Life Recreation chairperson Dave Ternier to step down in 2026

By Casper Wehrhahn
Neepawa Banner & Press

As the Squirrel Hills Trail Park begins its next chapter, so too does Dave Ternier prepare for his own. Ternier has been a long time member of the Valley Life Recreation Board, which has been deeply involved in the recently completed expansion and development of Minnedosa's outdoor recreational area. Acting as board chairperson since late 2020, Ternier is now sunsetting his time with Valley Life Recreation.

The official date of his stepping down is set for spring of 2026, at which time the board will choose a new chairperson.

"Due to my wife's work, we had to move away from Minnedosa three years ago. At that point in time, we were really just a year into this development and expansion project of the trails and the park out there," said Ternier. "So I offered to the board, 'Look, I'm all in to remain your board chairperson if you'll have me'. And of course they were like 'Yeah, yeah please!'."

Ternier added, "So I've been leading the organization from afar for the last three years with the intention that I would see the organization through to the capital project's completion, which has taken place now... I mean, it'll be impossible to not remain involved still, but I really wanted to finish this project and it was incredible to do."

Prior to making the move to Winnipeg, Ternier and his family resided in the community of Minnedosa for almost six years.

An unforgettable feeling

During his time in Minnedosa and with Valley Life Recreation, Ternier has indeed made many memories. With this came something unexpected, but wholly welcome.

"Never in my life did I imagine that trails would become such a huge part of my life. I'm involved with trail projects all over the place now, which has been

really fun," said Ternier. "Trails have become my full-time endeavor. That's been probably the biggest highlight— that I didn't realize how much a part of my life this [Squirrel Hills] project would end up leading to become."

With respect to the expansion and development project itself, such a large undertaking naturally brought many personal highlights and takeaways.

"Seeing those first new trails put in and being able to walk down them for the first time— it's a feeling I'll never forget," Ternier shared. "It's something that's just conceptual lines on a paper or in a document, and then seeing them actually come to life is pretty incredible."

Ternier added, "Seeing that pavilion lifted up and in person for the first time— man. I think most people know the feeling they get when they first pull into that trailhead, never having been there before, and seeing this beautiful structure."

While Ternier noted that it may "seem silly" for the pavilion structure to invoke such strong feelings, those feelings come from plenty of hard work, hard conversations and difficult decisions. This included discussions on how best to implement this central focus point, if the costs were worth it, and more.

With the area being a capped landfill, the ground had to be built up to be levelled, as opposed to digging down. This meant bringing in approximately 2,000 yards of material. Additionally, considerations for the cost of the pavilion's concrete pad, particularly with its shape and size. Overall, it was deciding what the right things were to spend money on, especially with funders trusting the group in bringing this recreational vision to life.

Not just a trail park

Another factor behind those emotions, which any visitor to the new trailhead for Squirrel Hills may experience, is that this type of infrastructure is not typical



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Valley Life Recreation board chair Dave Ternier, as seen during the recent grand opening of the Squirrel Hills Trail Park. Ternier is well known for his dedication, and his bright smile.

for a trail park.

"When people think of trails, they just think of lines through the forest or across the grassland. They don't think of trails as being a formal park in the sense that, when I roll up there's a big parking lot, there are bathrooms, gathering areas, play areas and skill areas," said Ternier. "People don't think about that when they show up at a trail park— at a trail— because that's not normal. That's one of the really special things about what we've built."

Ternier later added, "We've built a venue for

people who love trails in the same sense that a sheet of ice in someone's backyard is different from a hockey rink. We've done that with rails. Rather than just being a trail, we've built an entire facility to host that trail culture, which I think is really unique."

The final highlight shared was the creation of the sign for the Ole Heie Skillz Park. Ternier personally did the design and layout of the feature, working alongside Ole's family throughout the process. This aspect of the trail park was also deeply

meaningful, as it shares the story of the late Ole.

"Seeing it come to life in a physical form, that is definitely a huge highlight as well," said Ternier.

A remarkable team

As Ternier prepares to wrap up his time as Valley Life's board chairperson, he looks forward to continuing his dedication to trails. He aims to do this by continuing his work with Trails Manitoba and getting involved in other communities in Manitoba— especially rural communities. Currently, Ternier is actively involved in aiding the town of Neepawa and the Bison View Trails in Winnipeg.

Ternier also looks forward to a well deserved break!

"I definitely need a breather," he laughed. "I knew the last month or so, the push in getting the final major infrastructure pieces in place for the Squirrel Hills Trail Park would be a heavy lift, and it was, so I'm definitely looking forward to a few months or maybe six months where I can breathe a little easier. But, I mean, I'm really looking forward to taking my experience with this project and finding maybe another community that would like to have me involved in helping them accomplish something similar in a way

that's a mix of volunteer and paid... If I could be a full-time volunteer, I would. But as my wife gently reminds me, it's not really sustainable (chuckles)."

Providing a final comment, Ternier wished to express his whole-hearted gratitude to the team at Valley Life Recreation.

"Doing this job from two hours away is not an easy job to do. And I could not have done it without the incredible team on the ground out there. The hours that were put into installing the signs, to doing all the trail maintenance, to managing just so much of the infrastructure installation without various contractors and all that—the team, the board there in Minnedosa, have been remarkable," said Ternier. "They have worked so hard on this project and as much as I love leading a team of people, it's impossible to do a job if there's not a willing group of people who are willing and good with saying 'ok, I'm going to give up these hours away from my family or maybe even some work hours to go and get this done'. So just a huge thank you to the board that has been on the ground in Minnedosa making sure that some of my crazy, kooky ideas are able to come to life on the ground."

Editorial: Refusal to engage with the community 'a sign of disrespect'

Continued from Page 5

The local MP's office continues to receive calls and messages from residents, businesses, and tourists demanding answers from Ottawa, many of whom say can't get a hold of the local Parks Canada office in Riding Mountain National Park.

He says Guilbeault's refusal to engage with the community is a sign of disrespect not just for Clear Lake, but for rural Canadians everywhere who are being negatively impacted by top-down decisions from the federal government.

Guilbeault closes his letter by urging "constructive dialogue" while Mazier says, "A minister who refuses to listen and refuses to act has no right to lecture us about 'constructive dialogue'."

The local MP says he will continue to press for accountability, a change in local management in the national park, and for Parks Canada to reverse their decision. In the meantime, he encourages everyone to continue applying pressure to the Minister and Parks Canada to ensure their voices are heard.

Send your news tips, stories and news photos to: news@neepawabanner.com

Neepawa Titans post a slight financial loss for 2024-25 fiscal year

By Eoin Devereux
NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS

External forces beyond their control ended up having a major impact on the Neepawa Titans' bottom line.

The Junior 'A' Hockey Club held its annual general meeting on Tuesday, July 29, and went over all their results, both on and off the ice for 2024-2025.

In terms of the finances, the team posted a loss for the year of \$11,278. Total revenue for the season was \$563,535, while the expenses came in at \$574,813. The club's overall long-term debt, has increased year-over-year to \$382,273.

Neepawa Titans board chair Jamie Denbow said that there were a few

specific issues, beyond their control, that were a significant cause of the loss.

"We had to cancel our Hockey School and conduct our training camp and most of our pre-season games on the road [last year], due to the ice plant failure at the Yellowhead Centre. Those were circumstances beyond our control, beyond everyone's control. Just an unfortunate situation," said Denbow. "This increased our costs, while also cancelling a significant fundraising opportunity for the club, which was a difference in the financials of approximately \$24,000."

Another factor in the numbers was the opposition that the Titans faced in the post-season, in the form of the Northern Manitoba

Blizzard. Being the most northerly based franchise in the league, there are extra expenses to deal with when playing the Blizzard, such as hotel accommodations and additional transportation costs. That being said, the Titans still made a profit on their opening round play-off series, but not nearly the same amount a pairing against a closer located team, such as the Dauphin Kings or Waywayseecappo Wolverines would have.

Expenses/revenues

For the year, game revenue increased to \$87,095, from \$73,077 in 2023-2024. Travel fee revenue (\$104,895) also increased year-over-year. On the other side of the ledger, ad-

vertising and sponsorships (\$117,539) and fundraising (\$236,758) dropped slightly

Net income or loss

2024-2025: \$11,278 (loss)
2023-2024: \$16,998
2022-2023: \$89,251 (loss)
2021-2022: \$60,516 (loss)
2020-2021: \$96,082 *
2019-2020: \$64,083 (loss)
2018-2019: \$59,855 (loss)
2017-2018: \$48,376 (loss)
2016-2017: \$1,295
2015-2016: \$56,975 (loss)
2014-2015: \$33,011

* - MJHL season cancelled after 10 games due to reinstatement of COVID-19 restrictions in Manitoba

**Continued
on Page 14**

Plumas Pirates and Portage Padres advance once again to SCBL Final

By Eoin Devereux
NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS

The pairing for the Santa Clara Baseball League final has been set, and it is the exact two teams that most Santa Clara fans had expected it would be. The Portage Padres and Plumas Pirates have each advanced to the Championship, after sweeping their semi-final series 2-games-to-0. The Padres did so by besting the Carberry Royals, while the Pirates got the better of the Neepawa Cub.

In game one of the Plumas/Neepawa series, which was played on Friday, July 25, the Pirates took advantage of a few fielding errors from the Cubs, to win 10-2. That same night in Portage la Prairie, the Padres made it look easy, as they cruised to a 19-0 victory over the Royals.

Game two in both of these series ended up being much closer contests, as both the Cubs and Royals returned to their respective home fields on Monday, July 30. In Neepawa, the Plumas Pirates would jump out to an early 5-0 lead, after scoring a pair of runs

in the first and second innings, and one more in the third. Neepawa settled in, however, and shut down the Plumas bats for the fourth, fifth and sixth innings. It was a combination of excellent fielding by the Cubs and pitcher Zac Plett finding his rhythm on the mound, that contributed to the turnaround. As well, Neepawa also started to connect at the plate, scoring three runs in the bottom of the fifth, and one more in the sixth.

The dramatic comeback was not to be, however, as Plumas added an insurance run in the top of the seventh inning to make it 6-4. Then in the bottom of the seventh, relief pitcher Nate Braun collected the final three outs for Plumas, to secure the game and series victory. Rylan Denbow earned the win, as starting pitcher for the Pirates.

With the win, the Plumas Pirates advance to the Santa Clara Baseball League Championship for the fourth consecutive year, with them winning the league title in 2023.

**Continued
on Page 14**



PHOTO BY JOSHUA JACKSON

The Plumas Pirates first baseman leaps up to make the grab during the second game of the semi-finals, but the Neepawa Cubs would outspeed them to remain safe on first. The Cubs dropped the series two games to zero.

Neepawa Blue Dolphins dove into action at Swan River

Submitted
NEEPAWA BLUE DOLPHINS

The Neepawa Blue Dolphin was a long ride up to Swan River for the Blue Dolphins, but those who were able to attend performed fabulously. Final results of the day as follows:

9/10 year old girls

Charlize Macsymic: 1st 100m breast. 2nd 25m breast. 3rd 50m breast. 4th 25m back. 5th 50m back

Julia Pollock: 1st 50m free, 100m IM, 50m fly, 100m free, 50m breast. Julia swims in Brandon with the winter swim team, so she cannot place, but what a performance.

Novalee Menzies: 1st 25m breast. 2nd 50m breast. 3rd 25m free. 4th 50m free and 25m back.

11/12 girls

Madalyn Wahoski: 1st 25m breast. 2nd 25m free. 5th 50m and 100m breast. 6th 50m free.

13/14 girls

Anne Crosson: 1st 50m bk, 50m breast, 50m free, 50m fly, and 100m IM

15-17 girls

Aliyah Jacobsen: 1st 25m fly, 25m breast, 25m free, and 25m bk.

Clar Ann Howe: 2nd 25m fly, 25m breast, 25m free and 25m back. 4th 50m free.

9/10 boys

Benjamin Wahoski: 1st 50m breast. 4th 25m breast, and 25m free.

Next action was on Sunday, July 27, when the Blue Dolphins free style on over to Hamiota. If your children would like to come out and try the practices then please do. Practices are Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Contact manager Dave at Neepawa Dolphins <neepawadolphins@outlook.com>

For results check out the following: <https://swim-manitoba.mb.ca/swimmers/programs/>

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Kelwood Agricultural Fair

August 9, 2025

Horse Show (9 am) • Garden/School Work Exhibitions

Andy Aucoin Memorial Show and Shine
11:30 am - 3:00 pm

Free Pony Rides

1 pm - 5 pm

50/50 Draw

proceeds to Ag society

Parade at 11 a.m.

(Participants to meet at the Rink at 10:30 am)

Canteen at skating rink

Breakfast 7:30 - 10 am • Lunch 11 am - 3 pm

(proceeds to Kelwood fire department)

Generation Gap

at the Kelwood Legion 9:00 pm

Cafe 37 Fair supper & Dance

at the Community Hall from 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm (proceeds to cafe 37)

Pie Baking Contest • Pie Auction after parade

Pies to be dropped off by 5pm the day before at Drop In Centre

Gate Admission: Adults \$5.00
Children under 12: Free



kelwoodagsociety.com

CLASSIFIEDS

Classified d 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 / 888-436-4242
Fax: 204-476-5073

Email: ads@neepawabanner.com

All word classifieds must be prepaid before printing

Personal

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

Notice

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

Notice

Alanon meetings currently
being held at 342 Mountain
Ave, Neepawa - Old Co-op
Store. Tuesdays at 7 pm.
Call 204-841-2192

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

Notice

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

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

Neepawa Banner & Press
offers full research and
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archives that go back to
1896. Additional copies of
papers, \$2 each depending
on availability. Re-print of a
page from past copies,
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search, \$25 per hour with
a \$10 minimum. Individual
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suitable original in our digital,
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Waddell, publisher

For Rent

2 light housekeeping rooms
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microwave, oven, washer,
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MB. 1-204-447-3350
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Apartment for rent. Bri-Mont
apartments, 331 Mountain
Avenue. Phone 204-841-
4419
For Rent

Quiet 55+ 1200 sq ft apart-
ment located at 236 Mountain
Ave Neepawa. Includes
fridge, stove, parking and
snow removal. No smoking.
No pets. One apartment
available Aug 1, one avail-
able Sept 1. 204-967-2157
or cell 204-476-4682

Coming Events

COMMUNITY, "FLEA MAR-
KET" SAT AUG 2, 10-2.
4 MILE SOUTH OF
ONANOLE ON HWY
#10, TURN EAST ON
DITCH LAKE RD 1 MILE.
GARAGE SALE, FOOD
AND REFRESHMENTS

Auctions

Online McSherry Auctions

Estate & Consignment
August 6th @ 7:00PM

Featuring Building Supply,
Vehicles, Trailers, Balers, Tractors
& More

Estate & Moving
August 13th @ 7:00PM

McSherryAuction.com
204-467-1858
or 204-886-7027
mcsherrytld@gmail.com

Notice

UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE PLANNING ACT NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

On the date and at the time and location shown below, a
PUBLIC HEARING will be held to receive representations
from any persons who wish to make them in respect to the
following matter:

**TOWN OF CARBERRY
BY-LAW NO. 06-2025
being an AMENDMENT to the
TOWN OF CARBERRY
ZONING BY-LAW NO. 13-2022, as amended.**

HEARING LOCATION:
Council Chambers, 44 Main Street, Carberry, Manitoba

DATE & TIME:
August 12th, 2025 at 7:00 pm

GENERAL INTENT OF BY-LAW NO. 6-2025
To add Daycare as a Permitted use between
"Cemeteries" and "Hall" in Table 3.7 Use and Site
Requirements: "OS" Open Space Zone.

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:
Cypress Planning District
122 Main Street
Carberry, Manitoba
Phone: 204-834-6618

For more information contact:
Teresa McConnel, ACAO of the Town of Carberry
Phone (204) 834-6628

A copy of the above proposal and supporting material may be
inspected at the location noted above during normal office hours,
Monday to Friday. Copies may be made and extracts taken
therefrom, upon request.

Tender



Beautiful Plains School Division is accepting two separate
tenders for:

- The supply of bulk diesel fuel at Neepawa and Eden
locations for the 2025/2026 school year.
- The supply of diesel fuel for Carberry buses for the
2025/2026 school year.

See Division website for more details at
www.beautifulplainsd.ca
Click on Job Postings.

Auctions

McSherry Auction Service Ltd.

McSherry Online Retirement Auction
Construction, Agriculture, Vintage Cars
Robert & Virginia Lanoway

Tuesday August 19th at 7:00PM
Beausejour, MB:

2 1/2 Miles East on Hwy 44, (North Side) #44121.
Contact: 204-268-0107

Cat D6B, Vers. 875 4WD, Cat D8H, JD 690B Excavator,
Terragator Sprayer, 67 Ford Galaxy 2D, AC D21 w
FEL, MF Wheel Loader, (2x) Cat 12 Graders, Truehauf
Low Bed Tanker Trailer, More Construction & Ag.
Equipment, Vehicles, Yamaha 4-Wheel Golf Cart,
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See Full Listing: mcsherryauction.com
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Rolling River School Division



Commercial Buildings For Sale By Tender

The Rolling River School Division is selling by tender, the
following two buildings in Minnedosa, Manitoba, that are
surplus to its' needs.

Transportation Garage and Office Building

154 Main Street South, Minnedosa, Manitoba
The building is 11,306 square feet, two stories plus
mezzanine, slab on grade and has a fenced compound.
The parcel has frontage along Main Street South of 252.0'
and depth of 132.0'.

Maintenance Shop / Armory Building

21-1st Avenue SW, Minnedosa, Manitoba
The building was originally an armory and is 10,106 square
feet, two stories plus mezzanine.
The parcel has frontage along 1st Avenue SW of 83.65'
and depth of 265'.

Both properties are zoned CC – Commercial Central Zone.

As per provincial guidelines, reasonable consideration
will be extended to proposals /bids whose objectives are
to meet educational, recreational, or cultural needs within
the community.

The properties are to be sold as is, where is, with the
purchaser to assume any and all legal costs incurred.

The highest or any tender is not necessarily accepted.
Tenders close at 12:00 Noon, September 2, 2025.

Visit <https://www.rrsd.mb.ca/division/tenders> for property
profile information / summary documents and the process
to view the properties and submit a bid.

REMINDER

**Ad DEADLINE
TUESDAY NOON**

Auctions

ONLINE ONLY

**ESTATE AUCTION FOR THE LATE ANDRE
AND THE LATE PIERRETTE LABELLE
LAURIER-STE AMELIE, MB
MONDAY, AUGUST 11, 2025
SOFT CLOSE AT 7:00 PM**

**For on-line bidding and pictures, visit www.gartonsauction.com.
FOR INFO OR VIEWING: CALL Paul 204-596-3664**

TRACTORS, VEHICLES, TRAILERS: JD 2120 tractor, 148 JD loader, etc; Case 1175
hybrid tractor; MF 1080 tractor; Intl Fleet Star 2010 truck; 4-wheel trailer/gravel box;
older vehicles, school busses, trailers, tires, etc; **FARM/HAYING MACHINERY AND
EQUIPMENT:** JD 100 14' deep tiller/mounted harrows; JD 4-furrow power lift plow;
Degelman stone picker, packer, grain auger; Flexi-coil post pounder, 540 pto; NH
1400 diesel combine; Morris Seed Rite 14' seed drill sections; steel grain bins; 256
Hay Buster bale shredder; Ajax 10-bale picker; Hesston 1160 14' mower conditioner;
livestock handling aisle 32' long/30' wide; adjustable head gate; steel panels, round
bale feeders; 100-gal slip tank; 45-gal steel drum, propane tanks; treated fence posts,
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Eric Glover

Eric Glover of McCreary
passed away on Monday,
July 21, 2025 at the
Dauphin Regional Health
Centre at the age of 82
years.

A graveside service for
Eric was held on Thursday,
July 31, 2025 at 1:00 pm at
the Kelwood Cemetery in
Kelwood, Manitoba.

Rita Friesen officia ed
the service.

Should friends so desire,
please consider remembering Eric with a donation to
a charity of your choice. *Sneath-Strilchuk - McCreary
Chapel*

204-835-2004 • www.sneathstrilchuk.com

Lionel Jackson



It is with great sorrow that
we announce the passing of
Lionel Jackson on July 9,
2025, at the age of 88 years
old.

He was predeceased
by his loving wife, Patricia
(nee Fisher) Jackson of 60
years (2023), his sister Rita
Jackson (2023), and infant
brother Terrence (1950).

Lionel is survived by his siblings, Albert, Lawrence
(Pat), Louise, Gloria, and Jeannette (Fred). He is
survived by his 7 children, Francis, Jackie (Doug), Terry
(Debbie), Harvey (Rosie), Clayton (Shawna), Jo-Anne
(Ian), Roxanne (Jody), and his 12 grandchildren Devin
(Cheryl), Marty, Brittany (Riley), Anya, Siobhan (Rhett),
Simon (Amy), Hammar (Megan), Colby, Riley, Brooklyn,
Masey, Austin, and great grandchildren Raelynn,
Hayden and Oliver.

Lionel was born in McCreary Cottage hospital, oldest
of eight children, and was raised next to a small logging
community called Mill Park, next to Riding Mountain
National Park (RMNP). He spoke of hard times, and of a
community of people helping each other. He carried this
mantra throughout his life. He spoke very fondly about
those years, with stories of hunting elk and deer, and
logging with horses deep inside the RMNP. Lionel first
worked construction, travelling all the way to Churchill
working. He also worked for some local farmers.

He met the love of his life, Patricia, and married in
November 1962. They bought the family farm from
Lionel's Uncle Pete and moved there in the spring
of 1963, where they raised their family. Lionel loved
farming and farmed until he was 86! Over the years they
had a variety of farm animals, including pigs, cows, all
sorts of chickens, turkeys, rabbits, and horses. Lionel
was a farmer that was not scared to try new things
and was one of the first to grow corn for silage in the
area, which often grew 14plus feet tall. Lionel loved his
horses, and would often drive his horse team, with either
the covered wagon or the winter sleigh he made himself,
with a wood stove inside to keep warm. He made many
lifelong friends with this shared love of horses. Lionel
was also generous, always trying to help when he could,
and even served as an RM councillor for a term. He had
a great sense of humour and loved to laugh and tease. If
you were teased by Lionel, he liked you. We will forever
miss his teasing, and he will be missed by many.

Funeral Mass was held on Friday, July 25, 2025 at
2:00 pm from in McCreary, MB with Fr. James Ahaneke
officiating. Interment followed in McCreary Roman
Catholic Cemetery in McCreary, MB.

Should friends so desire, please consider remembering
Lionel with a donation to a charity of one's choice
Sneath-Strilchuk - McCreary Chapel
204-835-2004 • www.sneathstrilchuk.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
- Full training, with genuine opportunities for career progression
- Employee Referral program - \$500!
- Free parking
- Company events
- And more!!!!

Your duties may include:

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

We are looking for people who are:

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

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

Ways to apply:

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

For inquiries contact: Phone: 204.476.3393

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

Be a part of the HyLife experience

– your journey starts here!

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



@HyLifeLTD @hylifeltd @HyLife



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 |
In Person at 623 Main ST. E, Neepawa, MB R0J 1H0

For inquiries contact: Phone: 204.476.3393

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


Be a part of the HyLife experience

– your journey starts here!

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



@HyLifeLTD @hylifeltd @HyLife



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
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For inquiries contact: Phone: 204.476.3393

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Minnedosa Lake placed under algae advisory

By Joshua Jackson
NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS

If you were planning on heading to the Minnedosa Beach this weekend, you may want to reconsider your decision, as the Government of Manitoba has issued an algae advisory for the lake.

A notice posted to the Town of Minnedosa's Facebook page stated that if large amounts of green scum are visible, it is recommended not to swim in it.

The government notice advised beach users not to drink directly from the lake. The statement added that boiling or chlorinating the water will not make it safe.

Officials warned animal owners to prevent pets or livestock from drinking the water along the shoreline, as it could be fatal. The Town forewarned against eating fish from the lake that appear unhealthy.

According to the Government of Manitoba website, Cyanobacteria is the scientific name for blue-green algae. It can be blue, green, or brown in colour and ranges extensively in size and shape. Some cyanobacteria species can potentially produce toxins that could be dangerous to people, pets, and livestock.

When the Manitoba Government tests the waters for the algae, they look

for a total cyanobacterial cell count of 100,000 cells per mL, and any amount below 100,000 cells per mL is safe for recreational activities. In the Government's test results on July 28, the cell count was 269,000 per mL, triggering the advisory.

Town of Minnedosa's Chief Administrative Officer, Danniele Carriere, said signage has been erected on the beach and around the campground. This weekend marks the Town's annual Rockin' The Fields of Minnedosa, and the CAO said that although the Algae Advisory is to advise beach and lake goers to take caution should the green scum be visible, there are plenty

of other great activities to do in Minnedosa.

"The Town of Minnedosa has many other amazing opportunities, whether that be visiting Squirrel Hills, Heritage Village, Bison Enclosure, Ishii Gardens, playgrounds, the new Florence Bold Memorial Spray Park, disc golf, and many trails," she said.

She added that the Province of Manitoba is responsible for the body of water, and they will be monitoring and testing the lake for additional bacteria. The Province will advise of any next steps. Residents of

Minnedosa should not be concerned about their drinking water supply, as their water supply is sourced from wells, not from the river.

Titan's player effort making an impact on and off the ice

Continued from Page 11

Neepawa Titans Head Coach and General Manager Ken Pearson offered his evaluation on the 2024-2025 year at the AGM.

He noted the team closed out the year with a winning record (32-21-2-3, 69 points) and a spot in the playoffs for the second consecutive season. Both of those feats have not been accomplished in Neepawa since 2009-2010.

Pearson added that the team will have 18 roster players returning this year, so that should have them in a good position to contend once again this upcoming season.

As well, all the over-age players, who have wrapped up their MJHL eligibility, have committed to post-secondary institu-

tions. Pearson said being able to prepare these young men for the next phase of their lives, both on and off the ice is very important to the organization.

One other item of note related to the players is that in 2024-2025, they put in just over 1,700 hours of volunteer time throughout the community.

For the upcoming year, the Titans confirmed that the hockey school, training camp and several of their pre-season games will be operated in J & G Homes Arena in Brandon. The reason for this is that the installation of ice in the Yellowhead Centre in Neepawa will not begin until late August, and it takes quite a bit of time for the ice to settle in, so that it is in top tier condition for the winter.

Plumas/Portage a rematch from 2024 Santa Clara Final

Continued from Page 11

For the second straight year, it will be the Portage Padres that Plumas will face in the final. Portage secured its spot in the championship with a 7-6 win in Carberry on Monday night. Game stats were not available for publication before the Banner & Press publication deadline. For Portage, this is the sixth time in the last seven years, that they have advanced to the league final. The Padres are also the defending champs,

as they defeated Plumas in the championship in 2024.

The SCBL Championship will be a best-of-five series, with the Padres having home field advantage. Game one, in Portage la Prairie, was played on Wednesday, July 30. Game two will be in Plumas on Tuesday, Aug. 5. Start time is set for 6:30 p.m.

Game three will be Aug. 6, while the fourth and fifth games, if needed, will be on Aug. 14 and 15, respectively.

Golf tournament in Arden a great success!

By Kevin Paramour
SUBMITTED

You might say...A golf tournament?...In Arden?? Okay, well it's actually a Pitch'n Putt fun day that started back in 2006 and had been held annually up until 2019. If teeing off with hard hats, off a toilet, a spin the wheel and putting into a muffin tin golf holes sounds fun, then please plan to attend next year. Bring friends and your best pot of chilli! Serious, and let's face it, non-serious golfers need

only apply! There were over 50 golfers registered for the 10 hole fun event and approximately 80 people for the Chilli Supper.

This year's event, held on July 19, was a little extra special. This year, the event was renamed The Brent Hunter Memorial Party in the Park Fun Golf and Chili Cook-Off. Brent always enjoyed this event and was a key member of the community, always volunteering his time and energy and fun wherever it was needed. This event also coincided with

an idea to dedicate a flower bed in memory of Brent. In true Brent fashion, instead of making something new, friends, volunteers and community members of Arden re-purposed the plant bed located adjacent to the Curling Rink on Lansdowne Avenue. The project is almost complete. A sign indicating In Memory Of Brent Hunter is in the works and will be placed at the plant bed soon.

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Third year's a charm for Whitemud Music Festival

By Joshua Jackson
NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS

Music lovers, mark your calendars! Arden's popular Whitemud Music Festival is set for its highly anticipated third annual event, returning Aug. 22 to 23, 2025. What started in 2023 has quickly become a regional favourite, with organizer Robert Cameron calling its rapid growth hard to believe.

"The time has flown by. Our host committee is proud of how fast this event has become a quality product that is seeing lots of return attendees and is growing rapidly each year," said Cameron. "We are fully expecting another boost in attendance for this year's festival as well."

This year's edition of the festival is jam-packed with many acts, including returning favourites The B34st, from Puerto Val-

larta, Mexico, and newcomers including Mandy Ducharme and the Absolute B's, Just 4 Kicks, and Dan Lussier.

"It's truly amazing the amount of talented musicians out there, we have bands reaching out to us now to get in the line-up as they have heard positive things from previous acts who have played the festival," he said.

The closing night of the Whitemud Music festival features a crew of cover bands playing the classics. Hip 2 Be Square will be holding down the stage with a Huey Lewis and the News set, Ramble Tumble will be covering all of Creedence Clearwater Revival's biggest hits, and The Main Street Exiles will close the festival out with a tribute to the Rolling Stones.

Cameron thinks that people who are on the fence

about attending this year's festival should consider attending and seeing what they have to offer.

"From the beginning, the host committee has tried to keep it an affordable weekend for people. While some of the bigger festivals cost \$300 or more per person, we are at \$80 a person if bought before the event and camping is included in that price," he said. "We also keep our adult beverage price down and don't try to break the bank for people, we also have great food trucks on site."

The music Festival has quickly grown throughout its life. Attendance at the festival doubled last year from the first edition, and the group received plenty of positive feedback from attendees and musicians.

"I had a gentleman from Brandon tell me he had been going to some of the area's bigger festivals for



FILE PHOTOS

Rattlesnake Suitcase (Guns N' Roses tribute) at the 2024 Whitemud Music Festival.

over 20 years and was loving our festival as much, if not more than the others, which was nice to hear," said Cameron.

Each year, the festival raises funds for the Arden Curling Club, but this year, the festival is also donating a portion of the proceeds to

Juvenile Diabetes.

Cameron said it takes a small village to put on this music festival, and he's grateful for the growth and everyone who pitches in to make it happen.

"We want to thank our supporters, volunteers, and local businesses that have

helped us so far," said the organizer. "Without all of the support, we wouldn't be able to pull this off. We hope to see everyone August 22nd and 23rd in Arden for the Whitemud Music Festival."

Multicultural Day hosted in Neepawa



IMAGE COURTESY OF NEEPAWA AND AREA SETTLEMENT SERVICES

Neepawa and Area Immigrant Settlement Services hosted a Multicultural Day Festival at Neepawa's Riverbend Park on July 26, starting at noon.

The event invited members of the public to celebrate beauty and diversity in the heart of Neepawa with live song and dance performances, crafts, henna, face painting, and more.

Plumas resident awarded Coronation Medal

By Joshua Jackson
NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS

Between the hustle and bustle of the Plumas Fair on Saturday, July 26, MP Dan Mazier made time to laud a well-deserving citizen with a King Charles III's Coronation Medal.

Wendy Denbow was awarded the medal for her volunteerism, with many organizations around Plumas. Denbow has taught across three school divisions and has helped lead figure skating programs, 4-H Clubs, Sunday School, and confirmation classes at her church.

The award winner helped develop youth events like the Pine Creek School Division Junior High curling bonspiels, while finding time to educate the public on behalf of Central Plains Cancer Care Services. Denbow is a natural-born leader,



PHOTO BY JOSHUA JACKSON

Wendy Denbow (right) received a Coronation Medal from Riding Mountain MP Dan Mazier (left) recently.

serving as director of the Big Grass Community Foundation, lending her talents to the Plumas Terry Fox Run, and organizing Fall Suppers in her community.

Denbow has also served as a member of the Legion

and Ladies Auxiliary for 50 years, serving terms as President, Zone Deputy Commander, and Zone Commander.

Congratulations to Wendy Denbow for the well-deserved honour.



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Plumas Fair provides fun for all



PHOTOS BY JOSHUA JACKSON

The Town of Plumas showed big-time spirit as it hosted its annual fair over the weekend. The event kicked off on Friday with a Santa Clara Baseball League playoff game, while Saturday featured a pancake breakfast, parade,

kids’ activities, and fireworks to end the event.

Pictured left: This young fellow had a great bout of fun while using the large inflatable slide that was available.
Pictured middle: The local Legion was one of many groups and businesses that took part in the parade portion of the event. Here, some of the Legion representatives share bright smiles as they pass by.
Pictured right: Many of the attending youth took part in the available kids activities. Seen here are but a few from the fair’s crowd doing just that!



August 6, 2025

- 9:30 AM

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