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Hamiota gallery explores art, identity and heritage



PHOTO FROM VANDA FLEURY WEBSITE

Vanda Fleury at work digitizing old audio and video cassettes for her "Screenshots of the 90's" project.

By Anne Davison
RIVERS BANNER

September ahead.

The gallery features the work of a different artist every month and in September a visitor can experience the work of Winnipeg. Vanda Fleury is this month's artist. She's originally from Uno and on her website she describes herself as, "A Métis poetry-film and photovoice artist (who) weaves story work with memories, cultural knowledge, and documentary heritage."

Her wide range of projects include short films and photographs often accompanied with written insights and comments on the social and cultural significance of the topic. Drawing on her indigenous heritage and her childhood home in the Birdtail valley she explores snapshots from our past. Examples include

Mid-West Arts Council's gallery space located in Hamiota's historic bank building has a busy

an analysis of the residential school system, including the Birtle Residential School.

In her 'Screenshots of the '90s' project she explores our self-identity and cultural diversity that result from our shared past.

On Oct. 1, the public is welcome to Hamiota's Old Bank gallery for a meet and greet with Vanda. High School students can have a short session and there will also be a presentation on residential schools.

Mary Lowe's sculpture classes will continue this month, with lessons on working with clay.

For something out of the ordinary, painters can try their hand at the "plein air" technique at the Kenton dam. Plein air is a French phrase meaning 'in the open air.' It refers to painting outdoors and painting what you see directly in front of you. The artist must work quickly as light shifts, shadows move and clouds roll in.

Inside...



**25 YEARS
SINCE 9/11**
P7



**SCHOOL
SPEED ZONES
ARE BACK** *P6*

Manitoba Government announces new provincial park licence plate will feature iconic loon

Licence plates help show support for Manitoba Parks, will be available in both English and French

Submitted
By MB GOVERNMENT

The Manitobagovernmentis unveiling new provincial park licence plates featuring a loon, the winning design chosen by Manitobans, Premier Wab Kinew announced today.

“Manitobans love our provincial parks, and this licence plate will help you show your support,” said Kinew. “Thousands of Manitobans voted for their favourite design option, with the loon coming out on top. I look forward to seeing these licence plates on cars across the province – in both English and French.”

Manitobans were invited to help pick a new licence plate design in support of Manitoba Parks. An EngageMB survey ran from June 8 to July 31. A total of 62,605 Manitobans responded to the survey. Following community feedback, the licence plate will be the first Manitoba specialty licence plate to be offered in both English and French, the premier noted.

A portion of the proceeds from every licence plate sold will go to the Manitoba Provincial Parks Endowment Funds through The Winnipeg Foundation, supporting park improvements that enhance ecological integrity, improve public safety, enhance accessibility and enrich visitor experiences in provincial parks.

“Our provincial parks are very special places and the new Manitoba Parks licence plates will give Manitobans a way to share their love of parks while supporting improvements that will help families enjoy them for generations

to come,” said Environment and Climate Change Minister Mike Moyes. “Our government thanks everyone who took the time to vote on the proposed designs. The response was overwhelming and demonstrates Manitobans’ strong support for our provincial parks.”

The Nature Conservancy of Canada, a non-profit dedicated to connecting people to nature through partnership-driven conservation, habitat protection and long-term land stewardship, brought forward the application for the new plates as a way for people to show their love for the nature of Manitoba.

“Widely recognized as a Canadian symbol, the loon is a fitting reflection of the pride Manitobans feel in the natural and special places found right here at home,” said Andrea Laughren, regional vice-president, Prairie region, Nature Conservancy of Canada. “Our natural spaces, including our provincial parks, support healthy ecosystems and connect people to nature, helping make Manitoba such a special place to live, visit and explore. This new licence plate gives Manitobans a meaningful



PHOTO BY MB GOVERNMENT

way to celebrate and care for what is uniquely theirs, today and for generations to come.”

Since 2011, Manitoba Public Insurance (MPI) has administered the Specialty Licence Plate Program on behalf of the Manitoba government and currently offers 19 specialty plates. To date, more than 215,000 specialty plates have been sold, generating more than \$6.4 million in charitable proceeds.

The new Manitoba Parks licence plates featuring the loon design chosen by Manitobans will be available for purchase at MPI service centres and MPI brokers offices in spring of 2027.

HAWAIIAN-STYLE CHILI

This Hawaiian-style chili recipe is a very good one, and it's made with pineapple for sweetness. Since this is a large recipe, you might want to make a half-batch if it is just for a small family.

Ingredients

- 1 lb ground beef, turkey, or Italian sausage
- 2 medium onion, diced
- 2 red bell pepper, diced
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 can (15 oz) pineapple tidbits or chunks, drained (reserve the juice!)
- 1 can (15 oz each) black beans or kidney beans, rinsed and drained
- 1 can (14.5 oz) diced tomatoes
- 1 can (6 oz) tomato paste
- 3 tbsp chili powder
- Salt and black pepper to taste

Directions

1. Brown the meat and veggies: Cook the ground meat, onion, and bell pepper in a skillet over medium heat until the meat is browned. Add the garlic in the last minute. Drain any excess fat.
2. Combine in the slow cooker: Transfer the meat mixture to your slow cooker. Add the reserved pineapple juice, beans, diced tomatoes, tomato paste, chili powder, cumin, salt, and pepper. Stir well.
3. Slow cook: Cover and cook on low for 6 to 8 hours or on high for 4 to 5 hours.
4. Add the pineapple: Stir in the reserved pineapple chunks during the last 30 to 60 minutes of cooking so they stay warm and hold their texture.
5. Serve: Ladle hot into bowls and top with cheese, sour cream, or green onions if desired.



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NHL CONTRACTS

REF TO
WRITER
GERRY
NOLAN



The Winnipeg Jets goalie, Connor Hellebuyck wants out of Winnipeg, even though he signed a contract at \$8.5 million a year back in the 2024-2025 season so he has a few years remaining on it.

Dylan Larkin of the Detroit Red Wings signed a 8.7 million contract and still has 5 years remaining on it.

Brady Tkachuk signed a 8 year contract at \$8.2 million per season and wanted out of Ottawa. The interesting thing is that these 3 players are all American. All 3 players signed for a combined total of over 25 million dollars per season which is paid in American dollars. The question is this, how do the general managers of these teams handle this?

Ottawa traded Brady Tkachuk for basically nothing. Draft picks are uncertain and to get a player back with that kind of contract is not realistic.

I would think Detroit and Winnipeg will get about the same amount back for their players as Ottawa did.

Connor Hellebuyck signed a multi year contract for big money, 8 years at 8.1 million a season but wants to go to a team that has a chance to win the Stanley Cup. When he signed the deal he stated he wanted to win a Stanley Cup and bring it back to Winnipeg. Did he notice how he has played in the playoffs recently?

Obviously, he has had a change of heart. Part of that may be that the GM Kevin Cheveldayoff cannot seem to get players to come to Winnipeg.

I wonder if there is anyone behind these players wanting to go to the United States to continue their careers? I think NHL President Gary Bettman may be behind this in some sort of way. Gary Bettman has never wanted a Canadian team to win the Stanley Cup, and the

proof is in the pudding. Training camp for the National Hockey League begins in about 2 weeks and if Connor Hellebuyck does not show up at camp the Jets can suspend him without pay. The Jets would have about 8 million dollars to spend elsewhere.

If I were in the position of the Winnipeg Jets, I would let him sit at home for the 5 years remaining on his contract. His career would be over, and he would lose millions of dollars. Sucks to be him I guess!

When players sign long term contracts and for millions of dollars they should have to stay with that team. The team gave the player the money he wanted and for the number of years the player wanted. Seems to me if a player wants and signs the contract then that is the team he has to play for. The players would also lose the right if a trade was being considered by the team to which team the player would end up with. Gary Bettman can put a stop to this but I am thinking he wants to make Canadian teams pay the price so American teams will be the winners of the Stanley Cup!

TORONTO BLUE JAYS

REF TO
WRITER
GERRY
NOLAN



As of this writing on a Sunday morning, the Toronto Blue Jays find themselves in play-off position. Who would have thought that possible the way their season has gone. Even though their pitching staff is injured and beaten up, the club has found their bats somewhat and along with playing good defence, along with pitchers from their bullpen that just does not let them down, the Jays are in the hunt for a wild card berth in the playoffs with about three weeks remaining in the regular season.

I watch the Blue Jays play whenever I can, and one thing I will say is that the Jays do not do things the easy way, which makes for exciting baseball games. They currently have a 4 game winning streak and have won more games than they have lost, over the .500 mark for the first time since they swept

the Oakland Athletics to begin the season. I hope they make the play-offs but will have to depend on starting pitching and defence team is near last in all of baseball.

The Toronto Blue Jays could have folded the tent a long time ago but have kept grinding out wins setting the stage for a great 3 weeks of baseball games.

If Vladimir Guerrero could ever get back to hitting the way he did last fall, we have a chance. He has hit only 8 home runs and batted in 54 runs, a long slide from where he was last season. He should be around the 30 home runs and 100 runs batted in.

The lack of power with the team has hurt the team, yet here we are right in the thick of things.

Canada is behind the team living and dying with every pitch, every swing and every catch, every decision made by the coaches. Good luck to the Toronto Blue Jays the rest of the season and as Yogi would say, it ain't over till it's over!

Wordsearch from last weeks cover

J L Z Z Q A E G B P E Z L U P
F G K U C M Y U X L I D W G S
I Y I C G R F W D C E C P Y O
U W D O P R E S S U R E K C S
J M W N Z K P X A K F G M E F
Q I I T E D W E L C O M E S D
L E N E P B C A Q X S L I F Z
P F Q S V W N E X T W J Z G B
G L I T D V E X T E N D E D A
A S T A N D O U T S L C P I S
M J R L T C F N N V J E O O E
E A L D S K J W Q S O D R K B
S C I J Y Y Y V Z M B T K Q A
J T R A R H S O A W O M D Q L
W W B C Q P I T C H I N G S L

- 1. Baseball
- 2. Standouts
- 3. Win
- 4. Pork
- 5. Welcomes
- 6. Extended
- 7. Picked
- 8. Pressure
- 9. Games
- 10. Pitching
- 11. Next
- 12. Contest

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Monday Night Men's: Justin Gerrard 204-724-6803	Rivers Curling Club AGM October 14, 2026 Behlen Lounge 7pm.
Tuesday Afternoon Seniors: Dennis or Maxine Veitch 204-328-7133	We need your help: Junior League Coach or Supervisor Seasonal Ice Caretaker position available
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Thursday Evening Open: Charley Beever 204-573-1852	

Tundra

By Chad Carpenter



Fear is their stock and trade

This column is based on one I wrote 25 years ago at the time of the Twin Tower attacks 25 years ago

It's interesting that since the terrorist attacks in New York and Washington that every commentator has become an expert on terrorism. To the amateur observer some things come to light very quickly. The most startling thing about terrorism is that terrorists have very different values than the average person. Attacks of terrorism are calculated and cowardly. Their most guarded weapon is the fear that the attacks instill in the hearts of the survivors.

The second thing that comes to mind is that these terrorists, whoever they may be, are very well organized and very well financed. This is no Mickey Mouse operation. This isn't some disgruntled group of kids tossing Molotov cocktails at a passing bus. There's serious coin behind this group and the movement is very large. Very well organized also, in that every time they want some publicity they just happen to have someone willing to burn a flag or stage a demonstration for the CNN camera crews.

The third thing that seems evident is that they hide behind religion. It's a facade. Religion doesn't usually promote terrorism, it doesn't promote killing people, it doesn't promote violence. It's assumed the terrorists, are Islamic but most Islamic people don't promote most of the negative things we see attached to the terrorist groups.

Terrorism is about money and it's about power. It's about people who want more than what they have or about people who had more than they have now and they want it back. It's that simple.

RIGHT IN THE CENTRE

KEN WADDELL



Unfortunately the answer is simple too. Too simple. While the theologies of the main religions of the world don't line up on every point, there is a common basis for the main religions. They acknowledge God as Creator. That's common to Judaism, Islam and Christianity. They mostly promote brotherly love and peace. In the original form and without the distortion of money, power and politics, the religions don't condone or promote what's happening in the world today.

However, God the Creator made people as free moral agents. We have freedom of choice. Our forefathers had choices. We all make choices. They affect our lives, they affect other peoples' lives, sometimes for good, sometimes for evil.

Nations make choices too. The Afghanistan nation has chosen to embroil itself in bloody civil wars, other nations have decided to try and suppress Afghanistan over the centuries. Now the U.S. is faced with a choice. They and the whole so-called free world with them were brutally attacked on Sept. 11. No doubt some people are going to die to avenge this act but is that the right choice. Perhaps the U.S. and the free world got a wake-up call on Sept. 11. Perhaps the U.S. and its allies should spend as much time and energy on ways of reaching out to other people

as they do in figuring out ways to clobber them. If the democratic free world of economy and lifestyle is as good as we believe it is, then why don't we spend more time including other nations instead of oppressing and excluding them. That doesn't mean opening the flood gates to immigration, it means helping them where they are.

Perhaps the leaders of the nations and all the people of this world would do well to sit down and read the Jewish Torah or Christian Bible or the Koran. They would find that there is a God the Creator and there are clear instructions about how to live together in peace and harmony. They might also discover that no matter how good we are or how peaceful we are we still fall short of the glory of God, that we can't, on our own strength, gain eternal life in heaven. All three books point that out, one of them contains the answer.

Editor's note: If I were to re-write this column today, I might change it up some. But the above words are what I wrote in 2001 and I think they still would serve countries and people well if followed. KW

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

Homebodies

RITA FRIESEN



Je me souviens... I remember

Emptying the cereal box, separating the wax paper from the cardboard before recycling, had me back in the kitchen of my childhood in a flash. Back then cold cereal was a luxury; usually corn flakes or puffed wheat and sometimes rice krispies replacing the belly filling oatmeal/porridge. The paper would be carefully smoothed out and used to wrap sandwiches, cover dishes in the fridge, or become a surface on which a jellyroll could be flipped before rolling. That single layer of wax paper would be washed and dried and carefully stored for multiple uses. Now we have rolls of wax paper, rolls of aluminium foil, rolls of plastic wrap and parchment paper. (that expense usually is under the heading of groceries, and we complain about the cost of eating?) The box in which the cereal had been purchased was reused as well. It became the transportation unit for dainties and casseroles.

Now we have an array of plastic containers to meet every shape and size of baking and food storage. If we run low on custom built units, we dip into the stash of empty takeout containers. I am so certain that I am not the only one with a hoard of plastic trays - some with lids- and yogurt/sour cream/cottage cheese containers! Honestly a few of them on standby is okay but a mass of them?

Then there are paper products. I'm not certain when I met my first paper towel, full adulthood I'm sure. We had dish clothes/rags, floorclothes/rags and dust clothes/rags. And that is exactly what they were -rags, scraps of fabric that we used and reused. There were no Swiffer floor mops, it was down on your hands and knees with a pail and a rag, scrubbing the floors - often with the help of a brush. A spill did get cleaned up with a disposable paper towel. There was a rag/cloth for that as well. Dishes didn't get washed with clothes, or micro fibre clothes, or long handled scrubbies. There was a piece of fabric for each one of these tasks and they got washed, dried and used again, and again. It could be the last of a cotton tee shirt, the back of a flannel pj leg- any fabric that would absorb and could be washed with scalding hot water!

Those paper products included toilet tissue/ toilet paper whichever term your family used. Once again, I acknowledge that I am eighty. I am old, I have seen a lot of changes. Je me souviens the outdoor biffy, two holer, outhouse, privy - again whatever term your family used. I remember carefully saving the newspaper and quartering the page - so much better than the catalogue paper. And then the wonderful soft green squares of paper that protected the Christmas oranges in shipping! There was no choice of two ply or three ply! Now we rely on ready to use products. There is an elite assortment of food storage containers. There is an elite variety of methods and products for washing dishes, cleaning floors and catching spills. Every one is a household expense, usually included in groceries...hmmm

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Hamiota, Assiniboine College MOU creates education opportunities

By Anne Davison
RIVERS BANNER

Hamiota has agreed to become a training hub for Assiniboine College courses, both online and potentially, in-person.

Last week, Assiniboine College Vice-President of Community Development, Dr. Brad Mahon, met with Mayor Randy Lints to sign a memorandum of understanding (MOU) where in Hamiota municipality is providing a space for students to infuse with Assiniboine courses.

Courses could be delivered through Internet Technology or possibly in person, depending upon student interest, course material and teacher availability.

Classroom space is located at Hamiota's business hub on Elm Street, located conveniently along Hwy 21 just north of Hamiota Collegiate.

Preparing to sign the MOU document, Mayor Lints welcomed the small turnout and said, "I do want to give full credit to Armi (Adair), who really is the person that started this whole conversation."

Adair, Hamiota's Economic Development Officer, looked into creating a training opportunity in Hamiota when she began her job, before she went on maternity leave.

Lints said, "The first thing she did after she came back from mat leave was pick up where she left off with this idea, and it's really grown and really has potential to be



PHOTO BY ANNE DAVISON

At the signing agreement with Assiniboine College, Sept. 2, held in Hamiota's business hub in the future education facility. L-R: Armi Adair (Economic Development), Laura Eastcott (CAO), Dr. Brad Mahon (Vice President of Community Development at ACC), Randy Lints (Mayor of Hamiota), Pat Kirk (Member of Education Board), Lonnie Patterson (Business Development Coordinator at ACC).

a really great thing here."

To Mahon and to Business Development Coordinator for Assiniboine, Lonnie Patterson, he said, "I want to thank Assiniboine College for all of their efforts, and hopefully this will bring a lot of fruit for the future."

One of the mandates of the college is their broad availability across the province. Dr. Mahon responded saying, "Access to education should not be limited by geography, and this partnership with Hamiota really reflects Assiniboine's commitment to bringing education and training opportunities closer to where people live and work."

Survey

To help the college determine local interest, an online survey was created which closes on Friday,

Sept. 11. The survey asks about needs or interest people have for training courses.

He said, "We already have over 100 responses to that survey." He said it was exciting to see that number, and hoped even more people would respond.

Mahon said, "I'm interested to see what people have to say, what they're interested in. So, we're very excited and looking forward to the day that this space provides opportunities for people, for residents to build skills, explore careers, and pursue further education."

"I know that this space will not only serve Hamiota, but the larger region as well. And so, we're looking forward as well in the coming months to talking to some of the First Nations and some of the other municipalities that are neighbouring this area too."

Additional information about available courses, programs and training opportunities will be shared in the coming months.

Back to School, Back to Reality

PARENTING WITH PURPOSE

BETH McCONNELL



There's a particular kind of silence that settles over a house in early September. Not the peaceful, coffee commercial kind, more like the aftermath of a storm. Backpacks have been repacked three times, someone can't find their left shoe, and the lunch containers you swore you washed in June have mysteriously reappeared, still sticky. The kids are out the door, the house is quiet, and you finally exhale. But it's not serenity. It's the pause before the next round.

Back to school season has long been framed as a fresh start: crisp notebooks, sharpened pencils, smiling children marching into a bright future. But for most parents today, it's less about fresh starts and more about juggling acts. We're managing school supply lists that read like procurement orders, navigating bus schedules that change with-

out warning, and trying to remember which child needs indoor shoes, which needs outdoor shoes, and which needs both.

And that's before we get to the emotional load. Kids are anxious. Parents are anxious. The world feels heavier than it used to, and our children feel it too. We're not just sending them off with lunch kits and permission slips, we're sending them off with pep talks about kindness, resilience, and how to handle the kid who says something they saw online. Parenting today means preparing your child for a world that moves faster than any of us can keep up with.

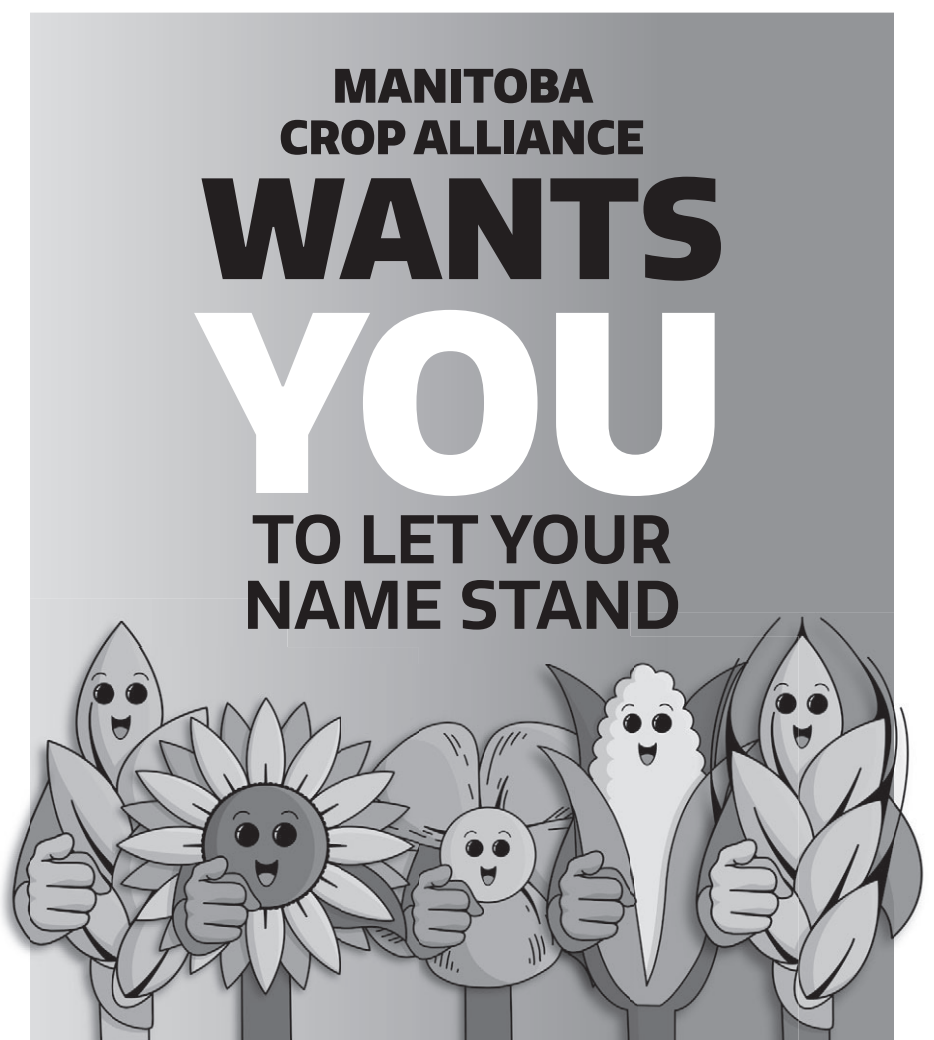
The truth is that most parents aren't striving for perfection. We're striving for "good enough." We're doing our best with the time, energy, and resources we have. Some mornings that means a balanced lunch and a cheerful send

off. Other mornings it means tossing a granola bar into a backpack and hoping no one notices the mismatched socks.

And yet, despite the chaos, there's something grounding about this season. The return of routine, even a messy one, gives families a rhythm to fall back into. Supper might still be rushed, homework might still be a battle, and bedtime might still be a negotiation, but there's comfort in the familiar patterns. We're reminded that parenting isn't about flawless execution. It's about showing up, again and again, even when we're tired, even when we're overwhelmed, even when the school email says, "as previously mentioned" and we swear it was never mentioned.

Back to school isn't a fresh start. It's a continuation, of effort, of love, of trying. It's parents doing what parents have always done: making it work, even when it's hard.

And maybe that's the most honest version of the season. Not the polished photos or the perfect lunches, but the everyday resilience of families who keep moving forward, one morning, one lunch, one "I can't find it!" at a time.



We are currently accepting nominations from farmer members to serve as delegates on our four crop committees: wheat and barley, corn, sunflower and flax. Nominations close on Oct. 1, 2026.



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Manitoba Infrastructure guide for establishing reduced- speed school zones



FILE PHOTO

Submitted

By MB GOVERNMENT

The Highway Traffic Act authorizes local governments, such as municipalities, Northern Community Councils and First Nation Band Councils, to make by-laws establishing reduced-speed school zones (RSSZ).

The Reduced-Speed School Zones Regulation (regulation) sets out requirements related to speed reductions, by-law development, and the signage necessary for the establishment of RSSZ's. Local governments opting to designate portions of roadways as RSSZ's are required to do so in accordance with the regulation. This helps to ensure that RSSZ's are identifiable and the maximum speeds within them are enforceable.

The regulatory requirements for establishing RSSZ's are set out below. The requirements are only applicable to RSSZ's. Traffic authorities will continue to have autonomy in determining the location and erecting approved signage for school areas where there is no speed reduction.

Maximum Speed in a Reduced-Speed School Zone

Local governments may determine the maximum speed in RSSZ's within the following parameters.

- The maximum speed must not be lower than 30 km/h on roadways where the posted speed limit is less than 80 km/h; and

- The maximum speed must not be lower than 50 km/h on roadways where the posted speed limit is 80 km/h or more.

Local governments may determine when speed reductions are in effect. In cases where the speed reduction is not in effect at all times, signs must be erected to inform motorists of when to slow down.

Warning Signs

Warning signs must be placed at the approach of a RSSZ to alert drivers of the up-coming speed reduction. The sign must be erected not less than 100 m and not more than 250 m before the beginning of a RSSZ's in both rural and urban areas. The prescribed distances reflect the standard under the MUTCD standard.

If the portion of roadway before the beginning of a RSSZ does not extend at least 150 m, the warning sign is not required. This exemption is intended to address situations where it is impracticable or impossible to effectively use a warning sign, i.e. where a school is located near a T-intersection or on a dead-end street. However, traffic authorities are encouraged to place a warning sign at the approach to all RSSZ's, even if the MUTCD standard cannot be met. The warning sign enhances the safety of a RSSZ and the enforceability of speeding tickets by giving drivers time to comply with the speed reduction.

Speed Enforcement

The RCMP and local police forces are responsible for speed enforcement in Manitoba, including speed enforcement in RSSZ. Speeding in a RSSZ is not a by-law offence. It is a speeding offence like any other under The Highway Traffic Act (HTA). A driver caught speeding in a RSSZ will be issued a provincial offence notice for speeding and, in most cases, be required to pay a set fine prescribed in provincial regulations.

Usually when a local government wants to reduce an existing speed limit, it must seek approval from the Highway Traffic Board (HTB). If the HTB approves the speed reduction, the new maximum speed for the specific portions of roadway is prescribed in the Maximum Speed Order (MSO) which is a regulation under the HTA.

The MSO authorizes the maximum speed and makes it enforceable; however, because the maximum speed in a RSSZ does not require HTB approval, it is not possible to authorize it under the MSO. Consequently, a by-law is required to authorize the maximum speed in a RSSZ so that it may be enforced. The by-law simply authorizes the speed reduction; it does not create an offence and is not in itself enforceable. A by-law officer is not authorized to enforce speeding offences, including speed offences in RSSZ's.

Questions of Origin

By Cam Dahl, GM

MANITOBA PORK COUNCIL

Questions of origin matter. No, this is not talking about Douglas Adams and the question of life, the universe, and everything, but something more mundane yet more relevant to day-to-day life. Country of origin questions are at the heart of the trade negotiations between Canada, the U.S., and Mexico, and Canadian farmers and processors may become collateral damage if we don't pay attention.

Where did the parts to make a new car really come from? Did the steel and aluminum originate in North America or were they imported from a third country? Where did the meat in the grocery aisle originate? Did it come from jurisdictions with regulatory systems that I trust or from some place else? Who grew my food?

Canada and the U.S. have a history of disputes involving food labelling. In 2009, the U.S. activated a law requiring mandatory country of origin labelling for red meat products. The regulations stipulated that retailers needed to identify where the animals were born, raised, and processed. Processors were required to segregate animals that were born or raised in Canada, which disrupted the integrated North American markets for both pork and beef. Consumers faced increased prices at the grocery stores as the cost of segregation, at least in part, was passed on to them. Hog farmers and beef producers lost income. Canada and Mexico took the case to the World Trade Organization (WTO) and ultimately won that six-year process, however, this did not deter those advocating for country-of-origin labelling. Origin labelling for meat is back on the table, and because the WTO's dispute process is broken, another challenge of U.S. legislation will not save our bacon this time.

There are two separate examples of the return of the origin debate in food. On January 1st of this year, new U.S. regulations came into effect that significantly tightened the rules behind the voluntary "Product of the U.S.A." label. Manitoba's hog farmers are watching the response from U.S. retailers closely. If retailers want to use the "Product of the U.S.A." label, their suppliers will



FILE PHOTO

Country of Origin is still a big trade issue for Canada.

need to eliminate purchases of pigs born in Manitoba. What will this mean for the approximately three million weanlings that Manitoba sells into the U.S. every year?

The second example relates to the U.S. Farm Bill. On August 6th, the U.S. Senate's Agriculture Committee voted to incorporate mandatory origin labelling for beef into the U.S. Farm Bill. We would be naive to think that the push for mandatory labelling will stop at beef.

Legislators are responding to consumers who want to know where their food comes from. Farmers and processors should acknowledge the desire of many consumers for transparent information on questions of origin. These questions are not going away, and it is best for farmers across North America if all the sectors of animal agriculture work together to answer them. If we don't answer these questions then governments will regulate how they are addressed and that will inevitably harm our ability to deliver nutritious, safe, and affordable food.

To start we need to clearly communicate that when it comes to food safety and the security of supply, animals raised in Canada are not much different from animals raised in the U.S. We have similar regulations on farm inputs, like veterinary drugs. We have compatible food safety standards. Canadian and U.S. farmers have comparable production practices. When U.S. consumers indicate that they would prefer not to buy foreign born meat, they are generally not including Canada in their definition of "foreign."

Farmers across North America must work together to demonstrate the value of our integrated market for agricultural products and food. Because of this integration, consumers have greater choice. Disrupting integrated North American markets will increase retail prices. The integration of North American value chains increases the security of our food supply, which is especially important during times of geopolitical uncertainty.

How do we accomplish the seemingly conflicting goals of protecting the integrated North American market for food while providing consumers answers to questions of origin? One solution is the development of a product of North America label or product of Canada and the U.S. label. Consumers would be assured that the meat they are purchasing was derived from animals that were born, raised, and processed by Canadian and U.S. farmers who follow the regulatory standards that have the confidence of consumers.

A Canada-U.S. label will require farmers, processors, and governments on both sides of the border to agree on the label requirements, auditing processes, and enforcement. This is no small task, and it will take some work to get ranchers in Texas to agree with hog farmers in Manitoba, but the undertaking is not impossible. The renegotiation of the Canada-U.S.-Mexico agreement presents a clear opportunity to move forward with this solution, but governments will not move first. Leadership first needs to come from within farm organizations and processors.

25 Years Later: Remembering September 11, 2001

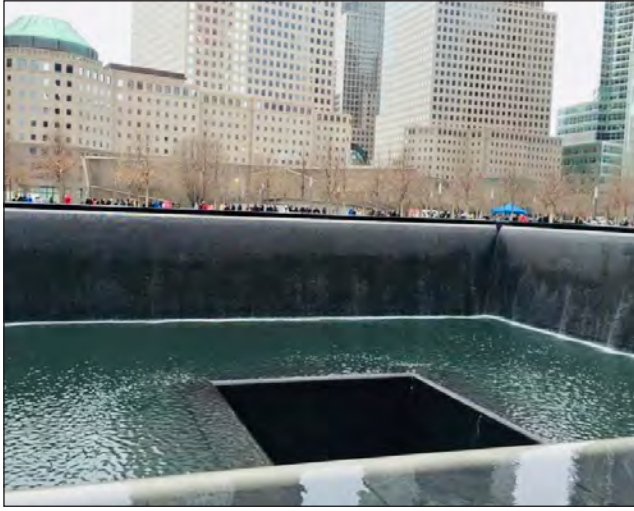


PHOTO BY LAUREN HALOWATY

On one of the footprints where the towers stood is one of the twin reflecting pools surrounded by bronze panels bearing the names of those killed on 9/11.

By Lauren Halowaty
RIVERS BANNER

It is difficult to process that a quarter-century has passed since September 11, 2001. By now, none of us are strangers to how fast time moves, but that number—25 years—hits with a heavy, distinct weight. Even though the tragedy unfolded in the United States, its echo resonated across the entire globe, reshaping the modern world in an instant. For those of us who watched from afar, we may not have experienced the immediate ground-zero trauma, but the collective fear, grief, and loss of innocence changed our lives forever.

I was 11 years old, but I remember that morning with startling clarity. I was getting ready for school on a crisp, stunningly sunny September day, having just started fifth grade in a small town, Nestor Falls, Ontario. As a Millennial, my childhood existed in that sweet spot right before smartphones and social media took over. Beyond the local newspaper, satellite and cable TV were our family's primary gateways to entertainment and breaking news.

That morning, I was sitting in front of the television watching YTV, a Canadian kids' network, when my cartoons were abruptly cut off by a breaking news broadcast out of New York City. The news anchor announced that

a plane had struck one of the World Trade Center towers, and live footage showed heavy smoke billowing into the blue sky.

A what hit what?

Confused and mildly annoyed that my morning TV show had been interrupted before school, my mood shifted the exact moment I heard my mother gasp. Steam exhaled from the iron she was using behind me on some clothes. Looking up at her face, I saw sheer horror. I realized immediately that whatever was happening on that screen was deeply, terrifyingly serious. My sister was already en route to high school in Fort Frances, so my parents and I sat glued to the screen together through breakfast, completely frozen until it was time for me to head out the door to my elementary school.

We lived atop our family's source of income: a hotel and restaurant in Northwestern Ontario. When it first happened, my dad was cooking in the kitchen for our guests, mostly American tourists who had traveled north to fly-in fish and hunt. Immediately after the news broke, calls came through to the few guests who had cell phones. Planes were grounded, and the nearby border crossings in Fort Frances and Rainy River were temporarily closed. It was chaos.

Before I left, my mom asked me to inform the secretary at my small, two-room schoolhouse about what was unfolding. When I arrived, I ran inside and blurted out to the secretary and my teacher that the World Trade Center had been bombed. The secretary gave me the exact same puzzled look I had worn just thirty minutes earlier, wondering what on earth this 11-year-old was talking about.

It wasn't long, however, before reality set in. Soon enough, the old, heavy TV mounted on a rolling metal cart, a familiar artifact Gen Z might only recognize from memes, was wheeled into our classroom so we could watch the news live as history unfolded.

Canadian kids are taught basic geography, so many of us knew where New York City was on a map. But as young students, processing the sheer scale and horror of the event was nearly impossible. Overnight, words like terrorist, hijacking, explosion, 9/11, and Ground Zero forced their way into our daily vocabulary.

We watched in shock as the events in downtown New York City were followed by the attack on the Pentagon in Virginia. We would also later learn about Flight 93, where

heroic passengers and crew fought back against the hijackers, sacrificing their own lives to force the plane down in a Pennsylvania field before it could reach its intended target in Washington, D.C. In a matter of minutes, a world that had felt safe and predictable felt entirely fragile.

For the next decade, the world shifted on its axis. Fear became a constant backdrop to global news, and world politics became a topic I had to understand far earlier than I would have liked. The tragic events of that morning launched a new era marked by military interventions abroad, most notably the conflict in Afghanistan, as nations grappled with an unprecedented threat to global stability and security.

Tragically, the fallout extended far beyond the physical destruction of that day. The attacks not only claimed thousands of lives on September 11th, but they also altered the daily lives of countless people around the globe. In the tense atmosphere that followed, widespread fear and uncertainty gave rise to heightened social divides and mistrust, leaving many communities navigating a much more sensitive and difficult public climate. National security priorities shifted, borders tightened, and the balance between civil liberties and public safety was permanently redefined.

Years later, during a trip to New York City with my sister, we visited the National September 11 Memorial & Museum. Walking through the underground space brought a heavy, solemn feeling that is hard to put into words. Standing near the twisted steel and quiet exhibits brought a visceral sense of grief, but I felt it was necessary to witness that history up close. The aftereffects of 9/11 didn't end when the dust settled in 2001; they redirected global politics, led to prolonged international conflicts, claimed thousands of additional lives through fallout illnesses, and fundamentally reshaped how an entire generation grew up.

September 11th remains a profound milestone in modern history, one that anyone old enough to witness will never forget. As we mark 25 years, it is critical that we continue to honour the lives lost, recognize the sacrifices made by first responders and heroes, reflect on the lessons of unity and resilience, and remember how that single morning changed our world forever.

To my readers: As we look back on twenty-five years, where were you, and what were you doing, when you first heard the news on September 11th?

International Peace Garden Hosting 9/11 Memorial Event

Submitted
INTERNATIONAL PEACE GARDENS

A special event marking the 25th anniversary of 9/11 will be held at the International Peace Garden on Friday, September 11 at 11 a.m. at the 9/11 Memorial Site. Everyone is welcome to attend this free event, and attendees should plan to arrive by 10:30 a.m.

The 9/11 Memorial Site was created with the support of the North Dakota and Manitoba governments, Rotary International, North American Firefighters Union and Manitoba Infrastructure. The site, which contains steel salvaged from the remains of the World Trade Center, was officially dedicated on September 11, 2002.

Because of the increased significance and interest with the 25th anniversary, IPG is encouraging visitors to leave plenty of time for arrival and parking. Attendees will not want to miss the initial procession, which will include Honor Guards from U.S. Customs and Border Protection, U.S. Border Patrol, Canadian Border Services Agency, North Dakota Parks & Recreation and United Firefighters of Winnipeg. The Manitoba Emergency Services College in Brandon, MB, will bring an aerial firetruck.

A variety of speakers will bring remarks from both countries with Member of Legislative Assembly David Pankratz serving as emcee. The keynote speaker is Jason Shaw, the Deputy Fire Chief with the City of Winnipeg. Shaw attended the 10th anniversary program in New York City.

Anthems will be performed by the Bottineau High

School Choir. All school districts are invited and should reach out to their respective Customs offices to ensure proper identification requirements.

"This solemn occasion commemorates a national tragedy, and also reminds us of the tremendous unity we felt as we came together in the wake of that tragedy," said Tim Chapman, CEO of the Garden. "As we look back at the last 25 years, we also look back at the years since the founding of the Garden in 1932, and are reminded that we came together to create this Garden as a living monument to peace, and to the bond of friendship between the U.S. and Canada that has endured throughout the years."

Gate admission fees to the Garden will be waived until noon on Sept. 11. Following the memorial event, light refreshments will be available, and the cafe and gift shop will also be open. The North American Game Warden Museum will also be open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

About the International Peace Garden

The International Peace Garden was founded in 1932



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The 9/11 Memorial Site was created with the support of the North Dakota and Manitoba governments

and is dedicated to peace, cooperation and friendship. A year-round destination, the International Peace Garden serves as a resource for education, conservation, and entertainment for local, regional, national and international visitors. The Peace Garden is a non-profit organization supported by private funding and public funding from the state of North Dakota and the Manitoba provincial government. Learn more at peacegarden.com.

Hamiota Municipality Regular Meeting

Briefed from Aug. 5 meeting minutes

Submitted
By HAMIOTA MUNICIPALITY

August 5, 2026, Regular Meeting of Council was called to order at 7pm in Council Chambers of Hamiota Municipal Office.

Mayor R. Lints in the Chair; Councillors R. Gray, K. Tiller, K. Lawn, E. Brethour, L. Kirk, L. Routledge, and Chief Administrative Officer Lorra Eastcott present.

Council adopted the Aug. 5, 2026 agenda; and the minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council of July 2, as presented and; that minutes for the Special Meetings of Council held July 8, and July 30.

Reception of Delegations/Hearings
Request for Variation- Maitland (7:03)
Land Owner- Drainage Concern (7:05)

Reports of Committees
Mid West Planning District- Councillor Gray

Correspondence
From: R. Arnold, Letter of Concern Re: Six Mile Slough, the CAO to provide response
From: T. Recksiedler, Letter of Concern Re: Hamiota Municipal Park/Campground; CAO to provide response.
Council voted to approve bill/wage/salary payments. The June Financial Report given.

Zoning Amendment
Be it resolved the Council of Hamiota Municipality request the Development Officer forward the zoning by-law amendment to Community Planning for review. Carried

Stop Work Order
Whereas Mid West Planning has issued a stop work order to the owners of 83-3rd Avenue in Hamiota, Manitoba due to non compliance with section 2.16(i) of By-Law 2019-04;

And where as the property owner plans to take out a variation to remediate the contravention;
Therefore, be it resolved that the Stop Work Order be lifted effective today August 5, 2026 to allow for construction to resume with the following condition: that a variation application be applied for and paid in full prior to work resuming. Carried

New/Other Business
Street Closure
Hamiota Recreation in conjunction with Hamiota Economic Development Corporation are hosting the annual street dance on August 14, 2026 along 4th Avenue between Maple and Oak Avenue; Be it resolved that the Council of Hamiota Municipality agree to close 4th Street between Maple Avenue and Oak Avenue for a street dance from 3pm to 10pm; And that the Council declare this a Community Event. Carried

Bandwidth Upgrade
The bandwidth of 2G for the current fibre internet is now at 70 percent utilization and reaching the maximum bandwidth could potentially causing slower than normal speeds to fibre customers in rural areas; Therefore, be it resolved that Hamiota Municipality agree to allow the CAO to enter into an agreement to upgrade the current plan with Flex Network from 2GB to 3 GB increasing the monthly fee from \$1,400 to \$2,100. Carried

Assiniboine College Memorandum of Understanding
Hamiota Economic Development Corporation is currently working with Assiniboine College to provide educational opportunities within the Municipality of Hamiota; And a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been proposed to outline the terms of the affiliation between the two parties and guides the general conditions by which they will collaborate; Therefore be it resolved that Hamiota Municipal Council agree to allow

the CAO to enter into the MOU as presented. Carried
Subdivision No. 4331-26-8834 (Councillor Gray declared interest and exited the meeting)
A subdivision application has been received to sever 18.62 acres from an existing 154.95 acres of cultivated land located on NW 31-13-23 W; Therefore, be it resolved that Council of Hamiota Municipality approve subdivision application #4331-26-8834 for the NW 31-12-23 W in Hamiota Municipality with the following conditions:
1) That a conditional use order be obtained for the non-farm dwelling on a proposed lot 1 with the "AG" Agricultural General Zone as necessary to ensure compliance with the Zoning By-Law;
2) That a variance order be obtained for proposed lot 1, increasing the site area from the required maximum of 10 acres to 18.62 acres within the "AG" Agricultural General Zone as necessary to ensure compliance with the Zoning By-Law. Carried
Councillor Gray returned to the regular meeting.

Notice of Motion
Councillor Lawn left the meeting

In Camera
Therefore, be it resolved the Council of Hamiota Municipality agree to go in camera at 9:17 PM to discuss personnel matters.

Out of Camera
Be it resolved the Council of Hamiota Municipality agree to go out of camera at 9:56 PM and resume regular order of business.

Notice of Motion
Resolve to remove Marla Edmundson as signing authority for Hamiota Municipality effective immediately and; Be it further resolved that all access to financial information be terminated effective immediately. Carried

Adjournment
Adjourned at 10pm to meet again Sept. 2, at 7pm.

SUNMONTUEWEDTHUFRI

SAT

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Sept 11

12

Chase the Ace Rivers Legion 7pm

3rd Annual Rivers and District Chamber of Commerce Thank-you BBQ 11am - 1pm

13

14

RIVERDALE municipality

Council Meeting

50 + Club Pool 1pm

50 + Club Cribbage 1pm

Darts Rivers Legion 7pm

Rivers Legion Cribbage 7pm

50+ Floor Games 1pm

17

18

19

20

21

RIVERDALE municipality

Nomination Deadline for Mayor and Councillor 4pm

50 + Club Pool 1pm

50 + Card Games 1pm

Rivers Legion Bingo 11:30am

23

24

25

26

CLASSIFIEDS

Notice

R.M. of Oakview NOTICE OF NOMINATIONS



NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that
on the following days:

September 16th, 17th, 18th, 21st and 22nd, 2026
between the hours of
8:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon and 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
at the following location:

The R.M. of Oakview municipal office at 10 Cochrane Street in Oak River, MB

September 17th, 18th, 21st and 22nd, 2026
between the hours of
8:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon and 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
at the following location:

The R.M. of Oakview satellite office at 435-3rd Avenue in Rapid City, MB

Nominations for the following will be received:

Reeve

Two (2) Councillors at large for Ward 1
Two (2) Councillors at large for Ward 2
Two (2) Councillors at large for Ward 3

Three (3) Committee members for the Local Urban District of Oak River
Three (3) Committee members for the Local Urban District of Rapid City

The nomination deadline is Tuesday, September 22, 2026 at 4:30 p.m..
Nominations cannot be accepted after this day.

All nominations shall be made in writing and shall be signed by at least twenty-five voters, or NOT less than 1% of the voters (whichever is the lesser) of the authority or ward (as the case may be), but in all cases by at least two voters. Each nomination shall also be accompanied by the candidate's declaration of qualification.

Nominations may be filed in person at the above location, on the date and hours specified, by an agent, or by email. To obtain a nomination paper, and / or candidate's declaration of qualification, contact the SEO at the telephone number listed below.

Nomination papers not accompanied by the required documents and not properly filed shall be rejected.

Dated at Oak River, MB this 26th day of August 2026.

Mark Humphries
Senior Election Official
Phone: 204-566-2146
cao@mofoakview.ca

Bonnie-Lee Wright
Assistant SEO
Phone: 204-826-2515
adminrc@mofoakview.ca

Donna Anderson
Assistant SEO
Phone: 204-566-2146
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Obituary

IN LOVING MEMORY
WAYNE HENRY TOEWS
AUGUST 16, 1956 – AUGUST 30, 2026



Wayne Henry Toews, 70, of Rivers, Manitoba, passed away on August 30, 2026.

Wayne was born on August 16, 1956, to Harry and Elsie Toews in Dryden, Ontario. He grew up in the Vermilion Bay sharing many fond memories with his siblings and cousins. He enjoyed working various jobs in the forestry and farming as a young man. Additionally, he dedicated his life to ministry, serving as a missionary in India and Nepal, and as a pastor in Vermilion Bay, Ontario. In his retirement, he continued to preach and minister throughout the community of Rivers and the surrounding area. Wayne was a devoted follower of Jesus and reflected His love to everyone he met.

In 1983, Wayne married Shelagh after meeting on the mission field in India. Together, they shared 43 years of marriage and raised three children: Lianne, Ryan, and Greg.

Wayne was known for his unconditional kindness and generosity with his time and care for others. He was happiest when surrounded by family, playing with his grandchildren, or sharing a cup of coffee and a conversation with anyone he crossed paths with.

Wayne was preceded in death by his parents, Harry and Elsie Toews; his brother, Alvin Toews; and his infant son, Dale Toews. He is survived by his wife, Shelagh; his children, Lianne, Ryan (Kathy-Jo), and Greg (Danica); his grandchildren, Maddie, Kayden, and Olivia; and many siblings and extended family members.

A Funeral Service will be held at 2:00 p.m. on September 6th, 2026 at the Riverdale Community Centre, located at 101 Main Street, Rivers, Manitoba.

Expressions of sympathy may be made at www.memorieschapel.com. Arrangements with Memories Chapel, Brandon, 1-204-727-0330

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By Gerry Nolan
RIVERS BANNER

The crickets are back and that is a sure sign of fall. Harvest has begun; may it be ever so slowly because it just can't seem to quit raining. The morning dew is heavy; it is like having a shower of rain and by 8 o'clock the grass is already wet.

The gardeners are pushing toward the end of their production and of course by 9 o'clock it is getting dark out.

On June 6 our town of Kenton was hit by a vicious storm. Many homes were damaged and are still waiting to hear from their insurance company. Funny how slow the insurance companies are but do not miss a beat when it comes to them taking the money out of your bank account.

I had to replant most of my garden, which I did on June 12. The garden overall has been great, but some noticeable changes from other seasons. I had 7 corn plants that were left from the storm, so I decided to leave them be and plant new seed which I had purchased in British Columbia. The seed from British Columbia has turned out great. The cobs from the plants left from the storm really do not have much taste.

The Peas just would not fill and were dying off. Lack of warm weather, too much rain, who knows? The tomatoes after 2 hair cuts do not seem to want to ripen and the cucumbers have not been

as plentiful as other years. The potatoes are hit and miss. Only the Purple skinned spuds with white on the inside have done really well. The red potatoes are a disaster, maybe 2 or 3 potatoes per hole and the Yukon potatoes are not too bad.

The squash and the pumpkins are growing out of control, haircuts to them. The onions which are good got picked as the ground is so wet, I feared they may rot. My friend has his onions which are Spanish. They are soft and mushy. I encountered the same thing last year.

The Potato bugs were terrible this year. I tried all kinds of treatments and finally gave up. I have never encountered so many bugs. I wonder if they just blew in with the storm back in June! I wonder if all the storms which include wind and almost 18 inches of rain in Kenton this year are having an effect on the plants.

I am sure the farmers are getting anxious with all this weather, as it will not quit raining and the fields are waterlogged. Hopefully it dries up soon so the farmers can get their crop into the bin. Remember when meeting farm machinery on the roads to slow down, get over to the side of the road and give them space. They will appreciate it and remember to thank these men and women who feed the world. With input prices so high I am sure they are more than a little concerned about getting the crop off. Keep safe everyone!

Kenton Book Club Girls



PHOTO BY LEAH OBACH

From left to right: Mary Ann Stevenson, Leith Corney, Celia Nolan, Devon Caldwell, Leah Obach, and Debbie Routledge. Missing from photo: Rilla Hunter.

By Gerry Nolan
RIVERS BANNER

On Saturday, Sept. 4, the Kenton Book Club Girls travelled to Clear Lake for their September book club outing. The day was sunny and warm, perfect weather for strolling around, enjoying the sites and sounds and, of course, a bit of shopping.

They gathered at the DragonFly Delights for "High Tea". There they were served petit sandwiches, scones with sour cream and jam along with dainties for dessert. They also had a pot of tea to pair with their lunch.

Before leaving Clear Lake, they continued their stroll around this

beautiful scenic tourist spot then headed back to Onanole where they visited Poor Michaels Book Store. What an interesting shop to browse through!

All the ladies had such a fun day, and it occurred to them how fortunate they were to have this beautiful National Park with this gem of an attraction almost right on their front door. The town's name is Wasagaming which means "clear water" in Anishinaabe.

In 1930 the area officially obtained National status transitioning from a dominion forest reserve.

In 1931 the South entrance to the park was built and Conservationist Grey Owl arrived at the park. In 1933 the park was officially opened to the public alongside the completion of the East entrance and other rustic infrastructure projects and named Clear Lake.

Following the life story of Grey Owl, my wife Celia's mother told her that as a young girl in England her school class had gone to see Grey Owl give his lecture on Canada and his home in the park. Celia is sure that is why her family ended up moving to Canada!

Terry Fator performs

By Gerry Nolan
RIVERS BANNER

Last weekend my wife and I, along with our friends from Beulah, journeyed to Winnipeg to see Terry Fator, a ventriloquist and singer along with his puppets. He entertained us for about an hour and a half which was excellent. Fator began his career at age ten and performed at birthday parties, wedding anniversaries, really just anywhere he could get a chance to improve his craft.

In 2007 he won America's Got Talent and won a million dollars! He told us a little bit of the way you have to get to perform and to be ready on a moment's notice.

Terry is a terrific singer and to do this without moving your lips is near impossible. The only thing we could notice was when he took a big breath in was how his body would move. He sang all kinds of songs and

sounded like many of those who had made the song a hit. The songs ranged from Rock and Roll to Opera. He must have spent hours practising these songs. Some of the ones I noticed especially were Roy Orbison, Elvis Presley and many more.

Terry performed a song called "Horse in Heaven" that he had written. It was a true-life story that happened a few years ago. His brother accompanied him on the guitar. It was a song which took a few years for him to write as he had tried to write the words but somehow just did not seem correct.

The song tells of a real-life story of 2 young boys who were best friends, both under the age of 6 and they had wondered if there were horses in heaven? Sadly, one of the boys was diagnosed with cancer and passed away.

One night about 2 A.M. Terry, who said he had

been tossing and turning all night and had trouble sleeping, woke up and the words of the song just came to him. After years of trying to write the song, it was put down on paper and thus was written. You can find it on You Tube.

The evening was very enjoyable, funny with no foul language. It would be a perfect place to take your children. The humour from the puppets was great!

Terry, as I said, has a variety of songs that included Blues, Rock and Roll and as I said Opera. He has performed in Las Vegas but the one place he really wants to get to is New York City and sing Opera. I believe the man will succeed as he is such a great performer and by the way he handles himself on stage.

There were some other people from Virden at the performance, and I believe we could all agree it was a wonderful evening!

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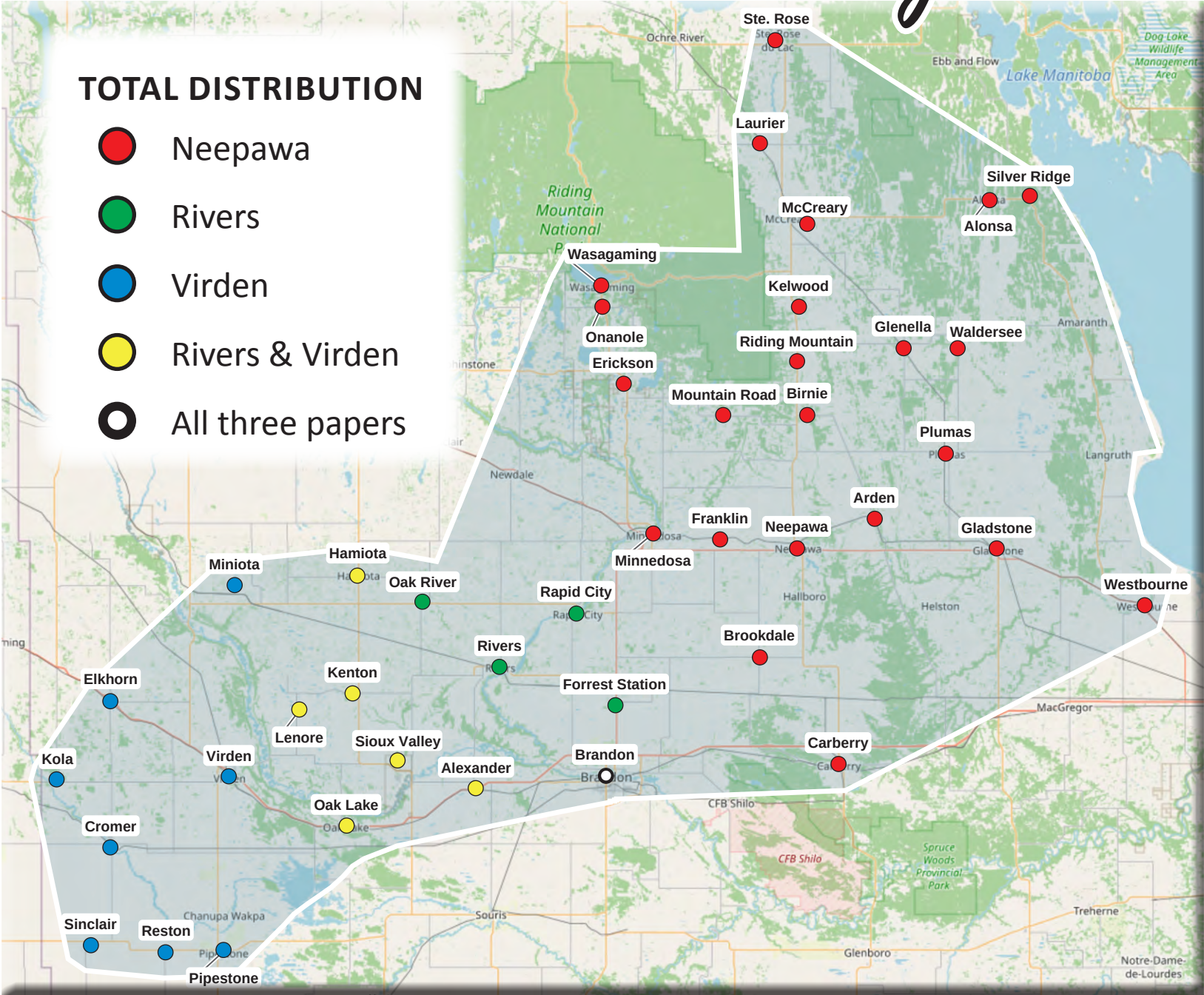
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