



REDLINE TRANSPORT
RIVERS, MB

204-724-6870
280 Taylor Road
Rivers, MB R0K 1X0
www.redlinetransport.ca
alepp@redlinetransport.ca

NEXT HOME GAME

HARTNEY BLUES VS RIVERS JETS

Game day: February 7th at 7:30pm, at Riverdale Community Centre.
Tickets available at the door.

HOCKEY



BROOKSIDE ANGUS

Bull & Female Sale
February 28, 2026 at 1:00 p.m.
DLMS • Stride Exhibition Grounds Neepawa
Derrick & Megan Pilatic • 204-841-5466
Videos & catalogue • www.brooksideangus.com

RIVERS BANNER

Local People. Local Stories.

GAZETTE-REPORTER

Serving the Rivers, Rapid City, Forrest, Kenton, Oak River, Hamiota and Oak Lake areas for 116 years

Veteran Tom Sedgwick honoured with legion's Centenary Medal

Both Mr. Sedgwick and the RCL share 100th birthday



SUBMITTED PHOTO

On behalf of RCL Woodworth Branch No. 118 president Vaughn Wilson presents Veteran Tom Sedgwick with the Royal Canadian Legion Centenary Medal on Jan. 28.



PHOTO BY ANNE DAVISON

From the Woodworth Legion, a framed photo of the young soldier Tom Sedgwick and the poppy emblem hang in Mr. Sedgwick's room.

By Anne Davison
RIVERS BANNER

Hamiota's Tom Sedgwick was presented with the Royal Canadian Legion Centenary Medal last week, the very first Centenary Medal from the RCL Woodworth Branch No.118.

Legion president, Vaughn Wilson said, "Only members of the Legion can purchase these medals and we wanted to honour our last remaining WWII Veteran by presenting the Centenary Medal to Tom first."

Mr. Sedgwick was raised in the Hamiota municipality where he and his wife Eleanor farmed and raised their girls.

In a recent interview at Birch Lodge care home where Mr. Sedgwick now lives, he spoke very highly of his time as a young man in the Canadian Armed Forces. "It was the best time of my life," he said. Despite the army's gruffness, as a young person enjoyed the camaraderie and sense of belonging and said he did a lot of growing up in those two years, having joined the Regular Forces as an 18-year-old in 1944.

Mr. Sedgwick will celebrate his 100th birthday on Feb. 20.

When the Hamiota Legion Branch folded, Mr. Sedgwick became a member of Woodworth Legion. The visit from Legion President Wilson and the presentation of the RCL Centenary Medal was a thrill. Mr. Sedgwick said, "It's a great honour to receive it."

For the medal presentation Mr. Sedgwick also received a letter from the Legion:

"On behalf of the Woodworth Legion Branch No.118 it is my pleasure to present you with the Royal Canadian Legion Centenary Medal. At our recent regular meeting of membership, we unanimously approved the issuing of this special Medal to you.

"We also recognize that you are the only surviving WWII Veteran in our membership and it is equally significant that you are in your 100th year with your special birthday fast approaching - congratulations on both counts!"

Legion's foundations and future

The Royal Canadian Legion was formed from the merger of three organizations: the Great War Veterans Association (GWVA), the Canadian Legion of the British Empire Service League (BESL), and the Army, Navy, and Air Force Veterans in Canada (ANAVETS).

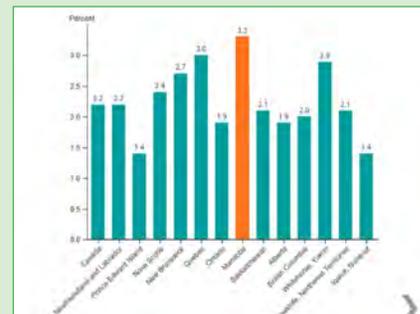
Founded in 1925 at the Unity Conference, the Legion's mission was clear: support Veterans, advocate for their rights, and ensure Remembrance. On July 17, 1926, the organization was incorporated by a special Act of Parliament - now recognized as the Legion's official anniversary. In 1960, Queen Elizabeth II granted a Royal Charter, officially renaming it The Royal Canadian Legion.

This year, while individual legion branches will celebrate the national RCL100th anniversary, watch for other initiatives planned for this special year including membership incentives.

Inside...



RIVERS JETS UPDATE
P5

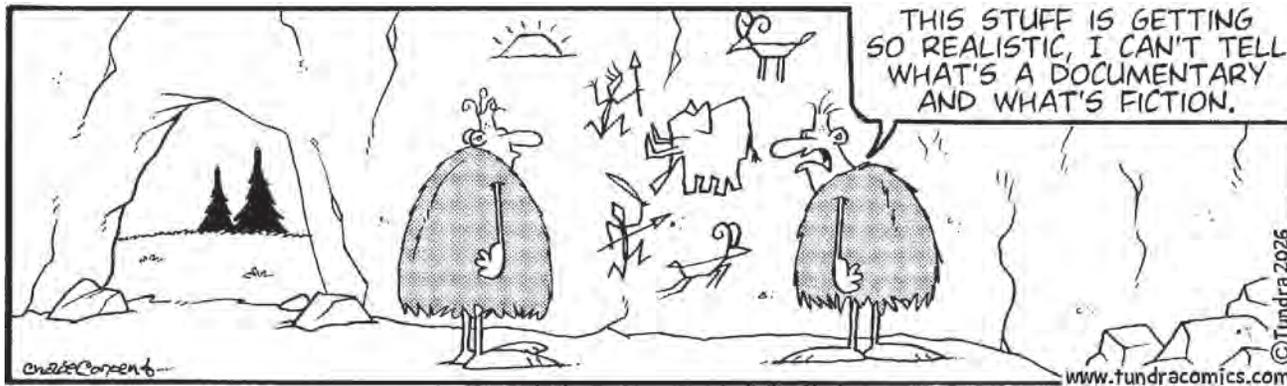


MANITOBA HAS HIGHEST INFLATION

P4

Tundra

By Chad Carpenter



Binge watching...

Some time ago I cancelled any television connections. I do have a smart set so there are literally hundreds of channels available for watching. Most old series, but current news is there. 'The Antiques Road Show', the one from Great Britain is my go to. I love seeing the places I have been privileged to visit being featured as host sites—cathedrals and castles and museums. The items brought for analysis are fascinating and there are times I wonder if any of my treasures are valuable! They're not...

Much of my leisure watching is on my laptop, youtubing my way through the hours. Here are two series that I spend much time with; 'Who do you think you are', and 'DNA Detectives'. Folks searching for their family history, trying to enlarge their definition of who they are, and what in the past may be shaping them. I think I get that. My family has done a remarkable job of detailing our past. There is a modest collection of the Toews, Groening, Born and Friesen family history. I have a bit on the Martin side, my maternal grandmother's starting point. I recognize how very fortunate I am to have known two complete sets of grandparents and one complete set of great grandparents. They were not distant beings, but story tellers and history keepers. More the grands than the great grands, but that's pretty natural. Great grandpa Born was an intuitive gardener. At one point working in the Morden Experimental Farm, and known for embarrassing great gran when he would casually pick weeds in other's gardens... as natural as breathing. Great gran I knew as a sitter... after carrying and bearing fifteen children, raising thirteen to adulthood, she earned the right to sit! A lot of descendants there... I heard the stories of the trauma and despair of the Russian Revolution, the murders and starvations, the immigration, the life saving work of the Mennonite Central Committee (a school program provided half a cup of powdered milk and a bun; the bun often saved for home where it could be shared). Little wonder that the MCC still plays an important role in Mennonite life.

I came from a line of teachers and seekers, musicians and artists, homemakers of exceptional standards. Workers of land, survivors and make doers. Those early ancestors were mostly farmers with the occasional teacher/preacher. My childhood included bits of all of that. I chose not to learn how to knit or crochet, sewing was a necessary skill. We worked wool from shearing the fleece to washing, carding and creating the batting for quilts. Gardening was from planting to weeding to processing, canning before we had a freezer. And there was always books, and music.

I acknowledge that I am blessed with a fairly thorough genealogy. And yes, there are a few rascals in the batch. I have a clear understanding of my inherent values, characteristic traits and physical likeness. Much as, as a youth I prayed to be adopted, there is my face on my great aunt on my mothers side... Now to maintain these records for the next generations...

Recognizing the truth

After my column last week I received some feedback. A reader took exception, saying the "column should have been more balanced". I agree, the column should have been better written.

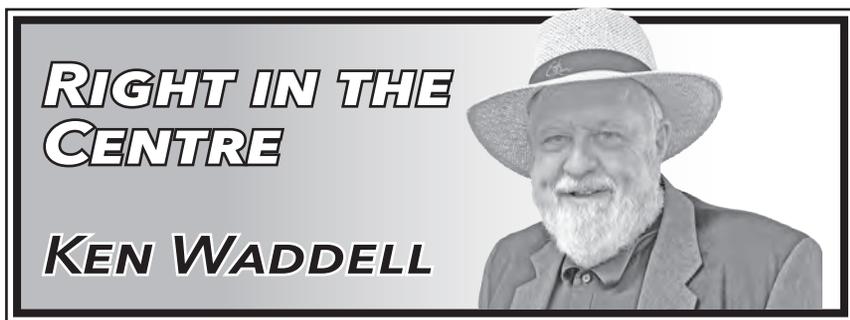
The reader went on to say, "Yes, people need to be careful about where they get their news in the social media, but even moreso from the main steam media. The CBC, Global, and CTV are not only one-sided and biased, but also corrupt in taking it upon themselves to report what people say when they never said it. I believe we are in a position where only God can fix this mess. People need to get their heads out of the sand."

The reader went on to attach a link that clearly shows that CTV did a very obvious "cut and paste" on a speech by Pierre Poilievre, Leader of the Official Opposition.

This past week, the Conservative Party of Canada held their convention.

Pierre Poilievre made his convention speech, the party had the leadership review vote. Pierre came out of that vote with over 87 per cent approval.

In the run-up to the vote, mainstream media such as the CBC, bent over backwards to weave as much doom and gloom into the narrative. It was quite funny to watch actually. Their predictions were all over the map and included conjecture that more CPC MPs might cross to the Liberals. That may happen, but polls show that 51 percent of Canadians believe it is unethical. At the CPC convention, a young woman named Jasmin Laine spoke. It was an intriguing speech and I would encourage everyone to listen to it. You can find her speech online by simply typing



her name in the search engine.

Laine said politics isn't about Right and Left, it's about right and wrong. Perhaps her pun is intended, but she is correct in the number of ways she points out that current left-wing policies are wrong. She went on to explain that in truth there is freedom. I think we heard that somewhere before. It's in the Bible and it was often quoted by Gary Doer when he was premier of Manitoba. Laine maintains that current liberal polices in Canada today are designed to keep our citizens fearful and hopeless. Much of what we are fed in the media is full of fear, anxiety and hopelessness.

Government policies have built up so many regulations that it's tough to build anything from streets and highways to houses to pipelines and manufacturing facilities. Pierre Poilievre is correct on many points but there's one that ranks highest in my mind and that the government needs to get out of the way. Government permit processes are ridiculous. It takes five years to get all the government agencies to approve a simple housing sub-division. I know this because I have watched it happen in my hometown of Neepawa.

On another front, government doesn't need to control guns, they need to control criminals. Governments shouldn't be handing out drugs, they need to take addicts off the streets

and place them in proper institutions. If they can't, or won't get off drugs, let them stay in an institution where they are less likely to harm themselves or others. I would also suggest that there are many government programs that need to be phased out. Industries such as dairy, poultry, gas and oil, many manufacturing pieces and yes, even news media organizations, are subsidized. That needs to be phased out gradually as dependency has been built into the systems and it would be jarring to cut off programs immediately. Grants are now just a way of life and subsidies simply increase costs.

It's a small majority of Canadians that feel we need high levels of government regulation and subsidies. That majority is just enough to eke out yet another Liberal government. That means that every business, every movement and every idea has to be hidebound in dependency on the government. Just look around and ask yourself how beneficial it is to be dependent on the government. It doesn't work for welfare recipients, businesses or First Nations communities. In fact, it isn't really working well for anyone. To recognize that truth is the pathway to freedom and prosperity.

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.

Rivers Banner
Est. 1908

204-328-7494 | info@riversbanner.com
www.riversbanner.com | Drop box @ 529 Second Ave • Rivers, MB
Circulation: 2,200
Yearly Subscription Rates (excluding taxes): \$76 in Manitoba, \$85 elsewhere in Canada
Canadian Publications Mail Sales Product Agreement #40012782

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY
AD DEADLINE: MONDAY 12 PM PRIOR TO ISSUE DATE

Rivers Banner does not guarantee publication of any submitted articles or pictures. Such submissions, if printed, will appear at the discretion of the managing editor or publisher and only when time and space permit. We are not responsible for fax and e-mail transmissions which are not confirmed either in person or by phone.

STAFF

Owner/Publisher/Editor
Micah Waddell

General Manager
Jessica Coulter

Members of:



Funded by the Government of Canada
Financé par le gouvernement du Canada



Manitoba Government tables regulatory accountability report

Report outlines steps to improve efficiency, free up time for Doctors

Submitted

BY MANITOBA GOVERNMENT

The Manitoba government has tabled the 2024-25 Regulatory Accountability and Red Tape Reduction Report, demonstrating a clear and focused approach to reducing barriers to economic growth, improving access to health care, and enhancing services, Innovation and New Technology Minister Mike Moroz announced today.

“Making government smarter and more efficient means we can deliver better health care, lower costs, and better services for Manitoba families,” said Moroz. “From freeing up doctors to spend more time with patients, to getting more housing units built faster, we’re making sure our government works for Manitobans.”

The report highlights progress to improve government efficiency and outlines new initiatives aimed at delivering results for Manitobans, noted the minister.

Key initiatives include:

- working with Doctors Manitoba to cut unnecessary administrative tasks for clinicians by more than 10 per cent, saving an estimated 75,300 hours annually — equivalent to 227,000 additional doctors appointments;

- launching medinav.ca, an online booking system for same-day and next-day appointments, reducing administrative work and making it easier for Manitobans to access care. To date, more than 50,000 appointments have been booked through medinav.ca;

- eliminating sick note requirements to allow doctors to see more patients;

- introducing a streamlined digital intake system for housing development funding;

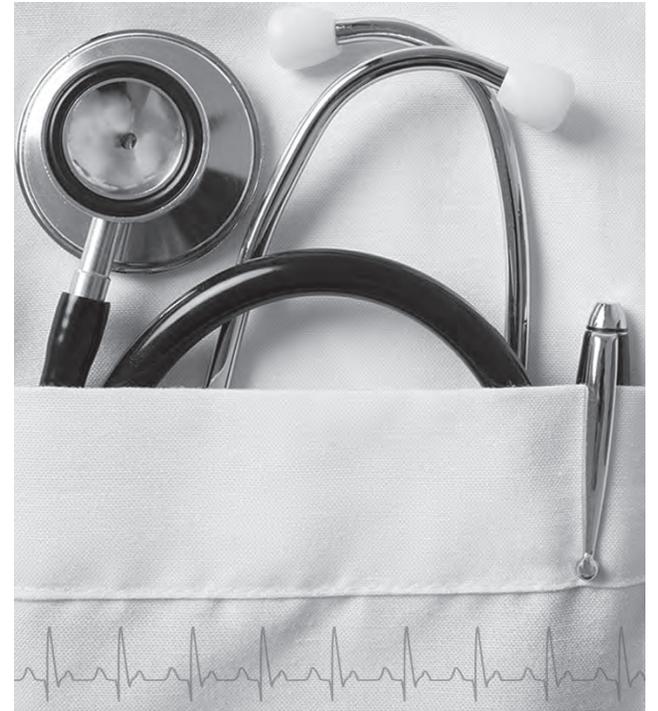
- lowering costs for businesses by pre-clearing thousands of transport trucks at weigh stations;

- implementing digital evidence management within Manitoba Justice, reducing transcription and storage costs for video evidence;

- streamlining construction of new schools and lowering costs, while delivering high-quality schools that meet community needs; and

- improving other digital services through tools such as Track My Plow and MBReady, as well as online licensing and benefits platforms.

The Manitoba government continues to welcome feedback on reducing red tape and barriers to improving services through the Red Tape Reduction website here: <https://gov.mb.ca/reduceredtape/submissions.html>.



FILE PHOTO

RAPID CITY COMMUNITY CHURCH
 Sundays 10 a.m.
 Children's Church during the message
 Bible Study - Thursdays 7:30 p.m.
JESUS IS LORD

Join us Sundays at 10:30 a.m.
RIVERS COMMUNITY CHURCH
 447 Edward Street ~ 204-328-7882

CancerCareManitoba
 ActionCancerManitoba
 Brought to you by
 CancerCareManitoba
 FOUNDATION
 All funds raised stay in Manitoba.

HPV causes cancer in 100 Manitobans each year.

VACCINE & SCREEN
 to prevent cervical cancer.
 PracticePrevention.ca

Locally created crossword

Across

1. Folded fabric below the collar
6. Future plants
11. An attack by soldiers
12. Mom or dad
14. Person in cahoots with another
16. Fire residue
17. Night twinklers
18. Fish eggs
19. Marsh plant
21. Inventor Whitney
22. One __ fits all
23. Person making sounds while sleeping
25. Joined forces (with up)
27. Bottom point
28. 67 1/2* on a compass
29. Assessed, checked out
32. Quick look
35. Old witches
36. Rowboat propeller
38. Basic partical of an element
39. Millennium Films founder - Lerner
40. Had title to
42. Draw a bead on
43. Living area
46. Surveillance by foot police
47. American Bald birds
48. Old Russian Rulers
49. Newscaster Robertson

Down

1. Slacken
2. Specialists studying prehistoric humans
3. Power Take off acronym
4. One in German
5. ___ B. Pearson -Canadian Prime Minister

	1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10	
11							12					13
14							15					
16				17						18		
19			20		21				22			
23				24			25	26				
		27						28				
29	30				31		32				33	34
35					36	37			38			
39				40				41		42		
43			44						45			
46							47					
	48							49				

Answers on page 6

Created by David Harris of Oak River, MB

6. The soul
7. Hearing organs
8. Age of, period of time
9. In a harmful way
10. Take a nap
11. Battle reminders
13. Forested
15. Buddy
20. Falling rain
22. Capital of Yemen
24. Female sheep
26. Snake-like fish
29. Has a keen edge

30. Beware of certain conditions in an agreement
31. Round wooden pegs
32. Hansel's sister (Brothers Grimm Tale)
33. Wrapped up
34. Television awards
37. ___ B. Davis of (The Brady Bunch)
40. Scent (American spelling)
41. Operate a rotary phone
44. George Gerswin's brother
45. In the past

Does Facebook support local?

Has your organization ever called up Facebook and asked them for a donation to your cause? Local businesses rely on local support to exist.

Shop local today.

Manitoba has highest inflation rate among Provinces: Consumer Price Index

Submitted
By PC CAUCUS MEDIA

WINNIPEG — On the heels of Wab Kinew and his NDP increasing Manitoba Hydro rates by 4% on Jan. 1st, the Manitoba Bureau of Statistics is confirming that the Consumer Price Index for Manitoba rose by 3.7% in Dec. 2025 compared to Dec. 2024, with food costs jumping a whopping 5.9%.

“This is outrageous. Manitoba families can’t afford higher hydro bills in the midst of an affordability crisis,” said Midland MLA Lauren Stone, PC Critic for Finance. “Wab Kinew says he’s going to conduct a ‘study’ to look at ways to keep grocery prices down, yet the inflation rate for food is up nearly 6% year over year. The premier needs to act by lowering taxes, not by launching another do-nothing government study.”

All eight major CPI categories show price increases compared to Dec. 2024, and six of eight have an increase in growth compared to the previous month’s year-over-year change. Food costs had the largest increase, up 5.9%. Shelter costs are up 3.6% year over year,

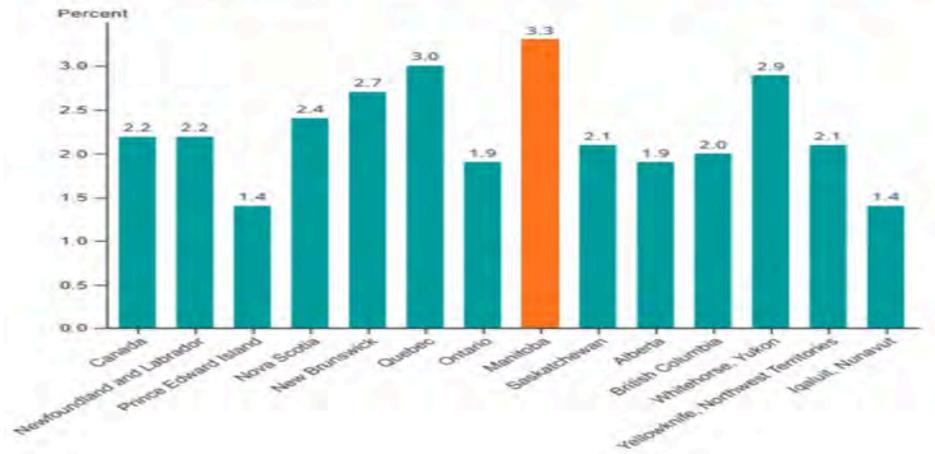
making it more difficult for Manitoba families to save for a down payment or upsize their home. Manitoba’s all-items Consumer Price Index increased by 2.7% on an annual average in 2025, the highest rate among provinces and far above the national increase of 2.1%.

“Wab Kinew and his NDP are taking Manitoba families in the wrong direction. Instead of making life more affordable, the NDP are making life more expensive,” said La Vérendrye MLA Konrad Narth, PC Critic for Economic Development. “Wab Kinew keeps saying he’s going to bring grocery prices and the cost of living down, but Manitoba is spiraling in the opposite direction and Manitoba families can’t keep up.”

Manitoba Harvest reported a 30% jump in food bank usage in the last year. Approximately 40% of clients are employed, representing a 66% increase from the previous year. This includes individuals working full-time who cannot keep up with rising costs. About 68% of food bank users are women, often managing households. Nearly 21% of children under 18 in Manitoba live in food-insecure homes.

Manitoba Has Canada’s HIGHEST Inflation Rate

Source: Stats Canada (January 2026)



Letter to the Editor RE: Wetlands

When is a retention pond not a retention pond? When it is a wetland! So, what is the difference? Why should we worry about it?

We have a Class 4 wetland just south of Patricia Ave. (in Brandon) and west of 18th St. (highway 10). There are plans to develop this land and if the developer has its way, the wetland will be replaced by a retention pond. A wetland is an area we find in and as part of nature—it is not man-made. A retention pond is man-made.

A wetland is defined as land that is saturated with water long enough to promote wetland or aquatic processes as indicated by poorly drained soil, vegetation, and other biological activity adapted to a wet environment. The depth and duration of water present in a wetland will result in formation of wetland soil characteristics and growth of specific plant communities adapted to growing in wet conditions. So, just as there are streams, rivers, and lakes, there are wetlands.

Plants in wetlands are grouped into vegetation zones. The deeper the wetland is, the more vegetation zones are present and an increase in types of plant species present.

Now a retention pond is man-made. An area of land is scraped out with enough depth to hold water i.e. a pond. Plants in this cultivated basin tend to be weedy (noxious), while in a wetland, it is dominated by native species.

How do wetlands work? What is so important about them? Wetlands act like sponges, soaking up rain and melting snow and slowly releasing water during drier seasons. In the wetlands, the higher classes 3, 4, and 5 have a greater capacity for flood and drought prevention. This is because of increased ability to store water, especially during storms and release water during drought conditions. They have extensive connections with ground water and factor in the re-charging of ground water. Wetlands clean our water, they trap and store carbon, thereby mitigating against climate change. Many wildlife species use wetlands as a place to rest, feed, and raise their young.

A retention pond is a body of water designed to manage stormwater run-off in developed areas. This water often carries pollutants, chemicals, and bacteria from roads, lawns, and commercial sites. It can bring in nuisance pests that then travel to nearby homes and businesses. They can emit a variety of noxious odors associated with blue-green algal blooms.

But, why have this debate? If a developer owns the land the wetland is on, can’t they just go ahead and drain it and fill it in? The answer is that wetlands are important and valuable. Manitoba has actually enshrined a commitment to no net-loss of wetlands in the Water Rights Act. Under the Water Rights Act and the Water Rights Regulation, a water licence will NOT be issued for the drainage of Class 4 and Class 5 wetlands. This means that the wetland has a boundary and from that has a 50-meter buffer zone. The Act also means that 5e works or projects cannot change the natural boundary of the wetland by reducing its area or result in the reduction of the class of the wetlands as it exists under normal conditions. Beyond that buffer zone, let the development march on.

In the article detailing the Plan for South Village, our City planner—Andrew Mok — state\$, and I quote: “The wetland (not the retention pond—my words) is definitely important to retain”. “It also plays a key role in drainage” (as pointed out in my notes above). “So, we appreciate the necessity of maintaining the wetland integrity”.

The plan (see the Brandon Sun—Tuesday, Jan. 13/26) shows a giant oval retention pond. This giant oval is exactly where the wetland is. So again, I ask, “when is a retention pond not a retention pond?”

Scott Blyth
Brandon Manitoba ~ e.mail: sochocdoc@hotmail.com

CREAMY OVEN BAKED CHICKEN THIGHS

Ingredients

For Chicken Thighs

- 5 chicken thighs skinless & boneless
- 1 tsp any poultry seasoning
- salt & pepper to taste
- 2 tbsps butter unsalted

For Creamy Sauce

- 2 tbsps butter
- 2 tbsps flour
- 1/2 cup heavy whipping cream
- 1/2 cup Parmesan cheese or prieve cheese, finely grated
- 2 tbsps garlic finely chopped
- 1 cup chicken broth
- salt & pepper to taste

Directions

1. First, preheat the oven to 375F. Next, season chicken with seasoning, salt & pepper, on both sides.
2. Now, melt butter in oven-proof skillet over medium heat, add chicken thighs and sear for 2-3 minutes or until golden color on both sides. After, transfer to a plate and set aside.
3. To Make Creamy Sauce
4. To make the creamy chicken sauce, melt butter in the same skillet. Once it melts add garlic and sauté for 1 minute, stirring few times.
5. Now, add flour and stir continuously for 1 minute. Next, slowly pour in chicken broth and cook for 1 minute stirring continuously, or until sauce thickens. Pour in heavy whipping cream and give it a nice stir. Add cheese, stir and taste it, add more salt or pepper, if needed.
6. Finally, add chicken thighs back into the skillet, coating each thigh in the creamy sauce. Place in the oven and bake for 30-35 minutes, uncovered or until chicken is cooked thru.
7. Garnish with dill and more cheese, if desired. Enjoy!



SPORTS

OLYMPICS

REF TO WRITER

GERRY NOLAN



The winter Olympics are to begin on February 6 and I, for one, cannot wait for the action to start. It is one of my favourite times to watch athletes compete against one another in search of the gold medal!

Hockey is one of my favourites as you may guess, but I like the competition in other sports as well. Figure skating is one sport that I do not understand the judging in, all I know that in the past we seemed to get screwed over by the Soviet judges.

These athletes spend hours trying to reach the point of being named to the Olympic roster. The thing I like is they work their buns off trying to reach for the ultimate goal.

I like amateur athletes who work so hard. Every night I see professional athletes who get paid millions take the night off, while Joe fan is paying hundreds of dollars just to watch professional play. I would take an Olympic event any day. I know at very least the amateurs are

giving it their all.

There are some dangerous events like the bobsled and the skeleton event, that are extremely dangerous.

One of my personal favourite events is speed skating. Man can they fly around that track. It is not for the faint of heart to watch them speed around the track. Should one fall they could get cut badly. I find it very exciting!

One of my most favourite memories was watching Jon Montgomery running down the streets with a jug of beer in his hand, celebrating victory. I hope we have some more Jon Montgomery moments in this year's games. Good luck to the Canadian team, we stand behind you in victory or defeat, and enjoy your moment, you deserve to be Canadian proud!

JETS HOST BLUES BEFORE PLAYOFFS

By Robin Wark
RIVERS BANNER

The Rivers Jets will host one last regular season tilt before waiting to pick their playoff foe.

The Hartney Blues visit on Feb. 7. On Jan. 30, the Jets fell 3-2 on the road in MacGregor in overtime. The standings point the Jets earned that night clinched them a first-round bye in the Tigers Hills Hockey League playoffs.

Twelve of the THHL's 14 squads will compete in the postseason. The fifth through 12th place

teams will play in the first round. As of Feb. 1, the Jets sat second in the league with a 14-3-1-0. The top three teams will choose their second round opponent from those who survive. The fourth-place squad will take on whoever is remaining.

Heading into the final week of the THHL regular season, Rivers forward Luke DeCorby was fourth in the league in scoring (43 points), goals (18), and assists (25).

Last week the Jets led the Wild 2-1 after two periods of play.

The hosts were able to score just less than five minutes into the third period to tie things up. At 3:36 into overtime, Nate Halvorsen scored the game winner.

Kayden Sutherland recorded two points for the Jets. He and Cameron Ramsay had Rivers' goals. Sutherland, Layton Veitch, Riley Shamray, and Decorbey had assists. Jets goalie Riley Lamb stopped 32 shots.

For the Wild, Niklas Anderson made 35 saves. Halvorsen scored all three of MacGregor's goals.

REF MEMORIES

REF TO WRITER

GERRY NOLAN



Officiating a hockey game is a tough job. The penalties are quite often controversial amongst the fans, it is a no-win situation for the officials. The hardest penalty to call was interference. Who is running the interference? Whose piece of ice is it? Hard decisions to be made!

The player without the puck who gets knocked down by a player from the other team should be assessed a minor penalty. Some are easy to call, but others are difficult because players are so smart they will fall down, so did they

dive? It is the officials to decide, it is his judgement that will determine if there is a penalty or not.

Cross checking is also hard. At what point does a player receive a penalty? If you watch the NHL, you have to drill someone to get a penalty called, but sometimes in the officials' judgement it wasn't severe enough. The rule book does not describe how vicious a cross check has to be to call a penalty. There are a lot of gray areas!

What about a penalty shot call? If a player has a clear-cut breakaway a pen-

alty shot can be assessed if the player is impeded in any way where his opportunity to score is taken away. I think I only ever called maybe 3 penalty shots as I felt if the player got a good shot off at the goalie, a 2-minute penalty would be assessed for the infraction that had occurred. Teams get upset if a penalty shot is called. I never understood that! A penalty shot is one shot and what is the success rate of taking that shot? If you watch shootouts, you know the success rate is not very successful. It is a one and done play! If the player who is taking the shot scores, well you have 2 minutes that you would not have had to play the game at full strength. It is very interesting to hear what teams would choose in a particular situation. Anyway, enough about penalty calls for now. Until next time!

MADE in MANITOBA Helping local farmers

Nearly \$12 million in programs each year for southwest Manitoba

Your partner since 1938!

Conservation Easements

Average payment to Manitoba farmers conserving habitat is \$135,000.

Wetland Restorations

Receive a payment per acre for restoring drained or altered wetlands.


Ducks Unlimited
Canada
ag.ducks.ca

CALL for DETAILS
204-285-9779

Funding for these programs is made possible through a partnership with the Conservation Trust


Manitoba
Habitat
Conservancy



Reach your **TARGET** audience.

ADVERTISE WITH US!

(431) 351-1628 ~ riversbanner@outlook.com



CLASSIFIEDS

Woodworth Royal Canadian Legion Branch #118 monthly report

Tender



2026 GRAVEL CRUSHING TENDER NOTICE

Hamiota Municipality is inviting tenders to crush 30,000 cubic yards of ¾ inch Traffic Gravel by September 30, 2026. Sealed tenders will be accepted until 4:00 pm on Friday, February 27, 2026. For Tender documents and Specifications or for more information please forward inquiries to:

Lorra Eastcott CAO, Hamiota Municipality
P.O. Box 100, Hamiota MB. R0M 0T0
Tel : 204-764-3050 ext 105
Email: cao@hamiota.com



2026 ROAD GRAVELLING TENDER NOTICE

Hamiota Municipality is inviting tenders to spread 13,290 - cubic yards of Traffic Gravel on Municipal roads transported from a gravel pit located at SE ¼ 5-11-22 WPM between May and July 31, 2026.

Sealed tenders will be accepted until 4:00 pm on Friday, February 27, 2026. For Tender documents and Specifications or for more information please forward inquiries to:

Lorra Eastcott CAO, Hamiota Municipality
P.O. Box 100, Hamiota MB. R0M 0T0
Tel : 204-764-3050 ext 105
Email: cao@hamiota.com

For Sale

TURN YOUR STASH INTO CASH!!!



Now buying GOLD, SILVER & PLATINUM.

Buying old Jewelry, Broken Jewelry, Bullion, Bars, Ingots, Wafers, Nuggets, Gold dust, Dental Gold, Coins, Coin Collections, Numismatics, Sterling Silverware & more!
Estate liquidations of Precious Metals.

I PAY CASH!

Covering Winnipeg & Rural Manitoba. I drive to you!
CALL ME NOW!!
TODD: 1-204-904-9705

Cash 4 Coin Collections!



Also BUYING Old Jewelry, Nuggets, Bullion, Gold, Silver, Platinum, Sterling Silverware, Franklin Mint sets, Royal Canadian Mint Coins, pre 1937 Paper Money, old coins, numismatists, Rare Coins, Silver Coins, Gold coins, etc.

Covering Winnipeg & Rural Manitoba. I drive to you!
CALL ME NOW!!
TODD:
1-204-904-9705

BATTERIES FOR EVERYTHING! 50,000 BATTERIES IN STOCK

*Auto *Farm *Truck
*Construction *ATV
*Motorcycle *Golf Carts
*Rechargeables *Tools
*Computers *Medical
*All phones *Chargers
*Marine *RV & more
Shipping/Delivery avail.

THE BATTERY MAN
1390 St. James St.
Winnipeg
TF 1-877-775-8271
www.batteryman.ca

Manitoba Community Newspaper Association Province Wide Classifieds

NOTICES

Advertisements and statements contained herein are the sole responsibility of the persons or entities that post the advertisement, and the Manitoba Community Newspapers Association and membership do not make any warranty as to the accuracy, completeness, truthfulness or reliability of such advertisements. For greater information on advertising conditions, please consult the Association's Blanket Advertising Conditions on our website at www.mcna.com.

URGENT PRESS RELEASES - Have a newsworthy item to announce? An exciting change in operations? Though we cannot guarantee publication, MCNA will get the information into the right hands for **ONLY \$35.00 + GST/HST**. Call MCNA (204) 947-1691 for more information. See www.mcna.com under the "Types of Advertising" tab for more details.

NOW BOOKING YOUR CLASSIFIED ADS FOR 2026! Let us help you book your blanket classified ads across Manitoba, and

increase your presence! If have a booth at any upcoming **TRADE SHOWS**, advertise, and let people know that you will be there by placing an ad with us! Your ad will be seen in the MCNA Member Newspapers, in over 368,000+ homes in Manitoba. Please **Call THIS NEWSPAPER NOW** to book, or call MCNA at (204) 947-1691 for more details or to book ads. Take advantage of our great pricing! MCNA - Manitoba Community Newspapers Association. www.mcna.com

Thank-you

ALFRED LINES

On behalf of the Lines family, we would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to everyone for your many acts of kindness – the cards, messages, flowers and comments on the website have meant so much. Dad was a doctor in London, Rivers, Prince Rupert and Lynn Lake (and surrounding communities). He spent 25 years serving Rivers as their doctor and surgeon and was on call 24 hours a day. Even with that, he would come to our various concerts and sports events. Many times we would be standing on the school stage and see him get the "touch on the shoulder" from someone telling him that the hospital had called. We never doubted his love for us. To those of you that came to his funeral, that shared your stories of him, that gave us your hugs – thank you from the bottom of our hearts. Each and every one of you that braved the cold (like he often did!) gave us such comfort. We could feel that he MATTERED. We are so very grateful.

Announcement



Response Builder Advertising WORKS!

- GET SEEN by over 360,000 Manitoba Homes!
- Create instant top of mind awareness
- Showcase your info, business, product, job, announcements or event
- We format it, to make it look great!
- Starting at \$239.00 (includes 35 lines of space)
- The ads blanket the province and run in MCNA's 31 Manitoba community newspapers
- Very cost effective means of getting your message out to the widest possible audience

Contact this newspaper NOW or MCNA at 204.947.1691 or email classified@mcna.com
www.mcna.com

Auctions

Online McSherry Auctions

Firearms and Accessories
Tues., Feb. 10 @ 7:00 PM

Estate and Moving
Wed., Feb. 11 @ 7:00 PM

Vintage & Collectible Toys
Tues., Feb. 17 @ 7:00 PM

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

By Vaughn Wilson
LEGION PRESIDENT

At the January 6, meeting of the Woodworth Legion Branch #118 the following information was presented:

1. The revised Woodworth Legion by-laws came into effect November 25/25
2. The most recent Military Recognition book volume 16 is available online
3. The Woodworth Legion archives are to be compiled and placed in a safe off site location

4. The Royal Canadian Legion Centenary Medal will be presented to our only surviving WWII veteran member Mr. Tom Sedgwick. It is significant that Mr. Sedgwick will be celebrating his 100th birthday in February 2026.
5. There are 12 rinks entered for the Legion Bonspiel to be held January 9th and 10th. There will be soup and sandwiches for lunch and the Ladies

Auxiliary will prepare a roast beef supper on Saturday for curlers and the community.

6. A motion was passed to donate \$500 each to the Kenton and Lenore Bonspiels.

A lengthy discussion was held regarding the 100th Anniversary of the Royal Canadian Legion about how we can celebrate it at our local Branch #118. Centenary Medals and free membership were discussed.

The Royal Canadian Legion Centenary Medal signifies the organization's 100th Anniversary (1926-2026) honouring its century of supporting Canadian veterans, promoting remembrance, and serving communities. It recognizes members and volunteers for their dedication to the Legion's mission, symbolizing its proud history, ongoing renewal, and future endeavors. The Medal is authorized for wear starting January 1/26 to mark this significant milestone.

During the 100th Anniversary year of the Royal Canadian Legion all new members can join for free in 2026. Your membership will help strengthen the Legion and our support for Veterans, Remembrance, and our communities across Canada. There are many great ways to get involved help and have fun through your local Woodworth Legion Branch #118.

Engage **MB**

BUDGET 2026

YOUR VOICE MATTERS

Help shape the next provincial budget.

Share your thoughts by filling out our short survey online.



Learn more at EngageMB.ca

Manitoba

Flowers for Valentine's Day



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Red roses are closely tied to Greek and Roman mythology as the flower that symbolizes love, passion and beauty.

Submitted

By PATRICIA HANBIDGE

As we get closer to February 14th, floral shops become very busy, and the price of purchasing flowers increases. When I am doing floral classes, I never schedule them for right around Valentine's Day as the product price is too expensive. I often wonder how trends develop over time, so I thought a bit of history surrounding this special day would be interesting.

Valentine's Day originated from a mix of Roman, Christian and romantic traditions and evolved to include gifting flowers. I get that gifting flowers is a beautiful

gesture as who doesn't smile when presented with a beautiful arrangement – or even a single stem of something bright and beautiful? For me, my life is enhanced because throughout the year I buy flowers for myself and don't even need a special occasion. This all began in the 18th century.

If we go back even further, the origins of this special day was linked to the Roman festival of Lupercalia which was a celebration of fertility. This day is named after a 3rd-century Christian martyr – St. Valentine and Pope Gelasius I declared February 14th as St. Valentine's Day around 496 AD. Geoffrey Chaucer linked the day to romance in the 14th century, associating it with spring

and courtship.

King Charles II of Sweden introduced the Persian tradition of Floriography or the language of flowers to Europe. Specific blooms and colours of flowers conveyed secret messages. Victorian people used flowers to express their emotion and had specialized dictionaries to help people to understand the sentimental meanings of bouquets. Floriography was popularized in the 19th century as it allowed people to convey sentiments that were deemed improper to express verbally. How the flowers were arranged and even how the ribbon was tied held specific meaning. Talking bouquets or tussy-mussies were used to communicate complex emotions. Today, floriography continues to influence floral design, wedding planning and the symbolic giving of flowers, adding deeper and more thoughtful meanings to arrangements.

Red roses are closely tied to Greek and Roman mythology as the flower that symbolizes love, passion and beauty. It was believed that the red rose was the favourite flower of Venus/Aphrodite who are the goddesses of love, beauty and fertility. Roses continue to be the top choice for people today to purchase and to express love.

Some common colours of Valentine's flowers have special meanings. The red rose expresses deep love, passion and romance. Pink flowers convey admiration, joy and gratitude and yellow flowers convey friendship and new beginnings. White flowers, not surprisingly, convey purity and innocence.

Specific flowers also have meanings. The orange blossom conveys innocence and forget-me-nots remembrance. Delphiniums are considered haughty and hydrangeas heartless. Cabbage/kale depicts profit or wealth and sunflowers convey adoration, loyalty and happiness. What an interesting way to build an arrangement!

Hanbidge is the Lead Horticulturist with Orchid Horticulture. Find us at www.orchidhort.com; by email at growyourfuture@gmail.com on facebook @orchidhort and on instagram at #orchidhort.

Tune into GROW Live on our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/orchidhort> or check out the Youtube channel GROW...

SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Feb 6

7

Prairie Crocus Library
Storytime in
Rivers 10am



Chase the Ace
Rivers Legion 7pm
Kenton Legion 7pm

8


Rivers Legion
Bingo 11:30am

9

50 + Card
Games
1pm



10

50 + Club
Pool 1pm



11


50 + Club
Cribbage 1pm

Darts Rivers
Legion 7pm



12

Rivers Food Bank
9:30 -
11:30am




Rivers Legion
Cribbage 7pm

50+ Floor
Games 1pm



13

Prairie Crocus Library
Storytime in
Rivers 10am



Chase the Ace
Rivers Legion 7pm
Kenton Legion 7pm

14



15

16



17


St James Anglican
Church Pancake
Supper 4:30 - 6:30pm

50 + Club
Pool 1pm



18


50 + Club
Cribbage 1pm

Darts Rivers
Legion 7pm



19


Rivers Legion
Cribbage 7pm

50+ Floor
Games 1pm



20

Prairie Crocus Library
Storytime in
Rivers 10am



Chase the Ace
Rivers Legion 7pm
Kenton Legion 7pm

21