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RIVERS BANNER

HAPPY HALLOWEEN

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Rivers Legion hosts thriving second annual dinner auction



PHOTOS BY CAROLYN PHILLIPS

Auctioneer Warren Smallwood and his assistant, the lovely and always entertaining, Maggie 'Vanna' Smallwood.

By Carolyn Phillips
RIVERS BANNER

The Rivers Legion recently hosted its highly anticipated 2nd Annual Fundraiser Dinner Auction, bringing together community members for an evening filled with excitement, laughter, and generous giving. This engaging event was designed to benefit the local legion and, specifically, to fund a much-needed new dishwasher for the clubroom.

As the doors opened, patrons eagerly filled the venue, many bringing items to auction in exchange for a delicious roast beef supper prepared by the talented members of the Rivers Legion Ladies Auxiliary. Their culinary

efforts not only tantalized taste buds but also reflected the strong community spirit that defines this event. The combination of hearty food and a great cause set the tone for the evening, offering attendees a perfect way to enjoy a meal while contributing to a vital community resource.

The highlight of the evening included the hard work of the dedicated representatives from the 2026 graduating class, who volunteered to help with the serving and cleanup duties. Their enthusiasm and commitment added an extra layer of camaraderie to the event, showcasing the importance of youth involvement in community affairs.

Read more about the Legion Fundraiser on page 2...

Inside...



NEW NURSE FOR OAKVIEW
P8



RIVERS JETS BACK IN ACTION
P11

Rivers Legion enjoying a fun filled Saturday night

Continued from page 1

It's heartwarming to see the younger generation stepping up and actively participating in local traditions, reinforcing the bonds that tie the community together.

The auction commenced at 7pm, with an exciting variety of items up for bidding. Attendees were treated to an impressive selection that catered to diverse interests—from homemade baked goods to bottles of select spirits. The assortment included quirky items such as a giant fish hook, adding an element of fun to the proceedings. However, the event's standout moment was undoubtedly when local legend Don Ramsey showcased his original 1960s era baseball uniform. With his charismatic modelling, he drew cheers and laughter from the crowd, making it a memorable highlight of the evening. Ramsey's involvement not only underscored his ties to the community but also sparked a nostalgic appreciation for the rich history of local sports.

As the evening progressed, the

atmosphere buzzed with excitement and community spirit, evidenced by the spirited bidding for the various auction items. The camaraderie and laughter shared among patrons created an inviting ambiance, where friends and neighbors connected over shared memories and future aspirations for the Rivers Legion.

As the night wound down, the Rivers Legion expressed immense gratitude to all the attendees and contributors who made the event a resounding success. The funds raised will directly impact the clubroom's functionality, particularly with the purchase of a new dishwasher that is essential for the Legion's ongoing community services and events.

With such a strong turnout and community support, the Legion looks forward to hosting more events like this in the future. Mark your calendars, as the Rivers Legion is excited to invite everyone to join them again next fall for another fantastic evening of fun, fellowship, and fundraising. Let's continue to strengthen our community ties while supporting causes that uplift us all. See you there!

Pumpkin truck comes to Kenton



PHOTO BY CHERYL HILL

Ty's Pumpkin Patch Pumpkin Truck returned to Kenton on Monday September 29.



RIVERS LEGION BRANCH #75

REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE

Join us on November 11 at the
Rivers Legion Hall at 10:45am
for our Remembrance Day
Ceremonies.

Following the Ceremony the
Rivers Ladies Auxiliary will have a
Luncheon for all to enjoy.



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SPIDER DEVILED EGGS FOR HALLOWEEN

Looking for some easy Halloween ideas for a potluck or your Halloween party? Everyone loves deviled eggs and they are easily turned into creepy spider deviled eggs.

- Ingredients**
- 6 eggs
 - 1 tbsp mayonnaise
 - 1/4 tsp Dijon mustard
 - salt and pepper to taste
 - 12 black olives
 - 1 pinch paprika (Optional)

- Directions**
1. Place eggs in a saucepan and cover with water. Bring to a boil, remove from heat, and let eggs stand in hot water for 15 minutes. Remove eggs from hot water, cool under cold running water, and peel.
 2. Cut each egg in half lengthwise, remove the yolks, and place the yolks in a bowl with the mayonnaise, mustard, salt, and pepper. Mash the yolks and stir the mixture until smooth and thoroughly combined.
 3. Fill each egg half with the deviled yolk mixture using a spoon, piping bag, or a sturdy plastic bag with a corner cut off.
 4. Cut olives in half and place 1 half on each filled egg as the spider body. Cut the other olive half into 4 strips. Cut each strip in half, so you end up with 8 thin olive pieces for the legs. Arrange 4 olive legs on each side of the spider body. Dust with paprika.



The benefits of boundaries



Freedom--it's a word we hear every year. Canadians hear it on July 1; Americans hear it on July 4—all in familiar statements like this one: "Today we give thanks for our country and for the 'freedoms' all who reside within its borders enjoy."

That statement looks good on paper and resonates well in a radio or TV sound bite. But when people are asked to define "freedom," their answers will be as different as the people themselves; and will reflect how little we understand what true freedom really is.

There are some (and their numbers are growing daily) who believe that true freedom is the right to do what they want to do, when they want

to do it, where they want to do it and with whom or to whom they want to do it. But what I've just described isn't freedom at all. It's "licentiousness," and it is the foundation stone upon which corrupt societies filled with anarchy and abuse are built. Those societies ultimately destroy themselves.

True freedom always exists within well defined boundaries; boundaries that do several things. First, they clearly define standards of right and wrong. Those standards apply equally to every person living within the borders of a country, province or municipality. No one is above the law. The law that punishes a young offender for stealing a candy bar is the same law that can send a high ranking corporate, political or judicial official to jail for fraud, conspiracy, embezzlement or crimes against humanity. If you cross any of the boundaries, you pay the consequences. No favorites. No exceptions.

Second, boundaries help protect the innocent and vulnerable from exploitation and abuse. Most of us, after reading the previous statement, immediately think of children as the innocent and the elderly as the vulnerable. But let's be honest. Any one of us can, at any time be victimized by people we are supposed to trust, but who have systematically violated that trust in the past and

may be looking for ways to do it again. Sometimes our only protection is to set boundaries that keep such people at a distance and shield us from further abuse or exploitation. The law allows us to set those boundaries.

Third, boundaries help us recognize where we have failed and show us how to deal with it. We may not be perfect—no one is. We will make mistakes—everyone does. But we are free to face our mistakes with integrity, dignity and courage, admit where we have done wrong, apologize where necessary, make amends where we can, learn from what we have experienced and move on. Boundaries give us that freedom.

Finally, boundaries help us create a space in which we can grow physically, mentally, emotionally, relationally and spiritually. With nothing from our past to trouble us or hold us back, we are free to dream big dreams, to set big goals and to work hard to achieve them. We are free to choose where we will live, what we will do, and with whom we will share our lives. Most of all, we are free to discern how God wants us to use the time, talent and treasure he has given us and to follow his leading.

But for those boundaries to work well, they must be set. Next week, I will share some thoughts on how to set boundaries that protect us without building walls that could separate us from those we can trust and with whom we want to share our lives.

Happy Halloween Wordsearch

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

Word Bank

- | | | | |
|------------|-------------|-----------|---------------|
| 1. pumpkin | 2. witch | 3. orange | 4. haunted |
| 5. boo | 6. ghost | 7. zombie | 8. trick |
| 9. fright | 10. vampire | 11. treat | 12. halloween |



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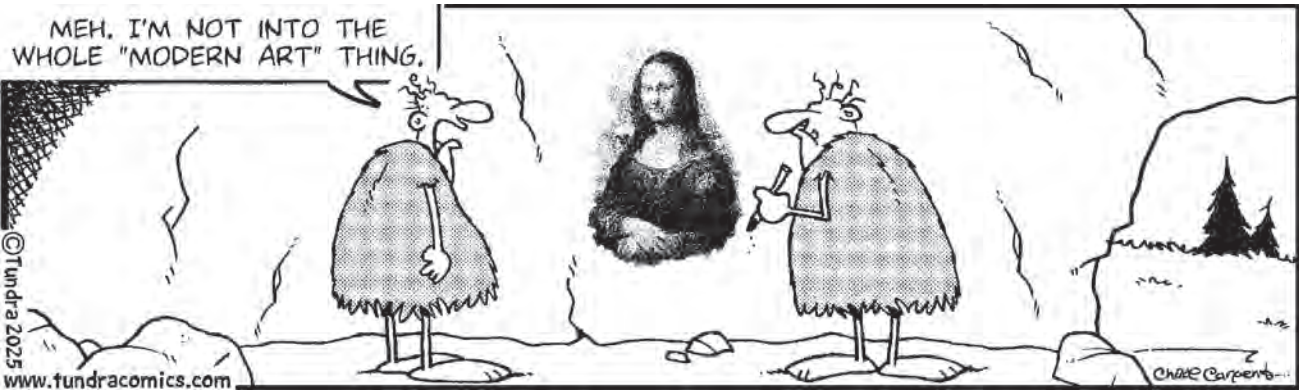
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By Chad Carpenter



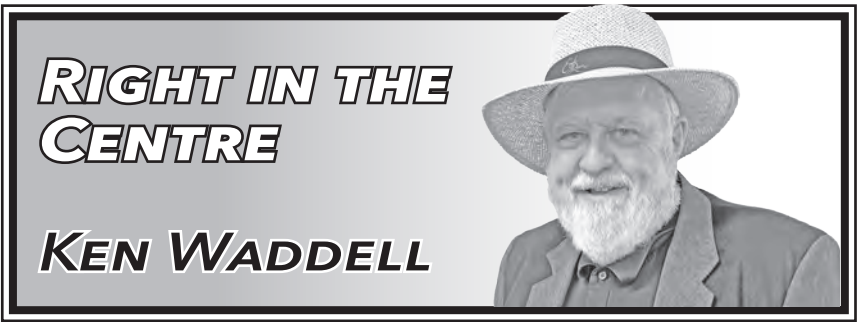
At least attempt human connection

Forgive me if you have heard me say this before. I am very concerned with the way businesses are trending, especially large businesses and governments. In days gone by, every business, organization, and level of government has at least made an attempt at personalized customer service.

If you go to a bank branch, for example, you can get some semblance of customer service, but for some services, such as credit card information or commercial banking, it's all online. When it works, it's fine, but when it doesn't, it's awful. I have been struggling to get a simple changeover of access for a bookkeeper for an organization for a few months now, and as of the writing of this column, there has still been no success. They tell you to go to the website, log in, and if that doesn't work, click for a new passcode, and all will be well. I have been through a dozen or more passcodes now and still no solution.

• Internet providers are similar. We have had email issues, and we have been told it's because of a faulty computer, it's because we use Apple computers, or it's because Apple won't talk to some email programs. Then, they say, we have been blocked, but they don't know why.

• Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) was recently evaluated, and it was found that a very high percentage of their answers to taxpayers' questions were incorrect. How can that be? Well, I guess I shouldn't be surprised. Many years ago, a CRA auditor came to my farm and said that interest on a farm loan wasn't a tax-deductible expense. Fortunately, a letter from my accountant straightened that out, but it was frustrating. I suspect today's problems with CRA



may be due to many of their staff working from home or remotely. There's little opportunity to stick your head into the next office and say, 'Hey Josie, what's the right answer to question B?'" If a staffer is labouring away all day without peer consultation, there's more room for error.

• Phone companies can be frustrating as well. It took dozens of calls to get a simple change to a couple of our company phone lines. Each time, the customer service rep on the other end of the line was apologetic and admitted that it shouldn't be complicated. However, it was complicated because whoever they referred a question to didn't make the required changes. I even had no phone service for a few days, which was annoying.

• I believe that our customer service philosophy is pretty clear. Our staff will hopefully always answer the phone, and with the approach that if they don't have the answer, they will do their best to find the answer.

• Looking at local municipal and town councils, it's safe to say they have a tough job, and it has gotten tougher in recent years. I have been on a town council twice, but the second time was over 10 years ago. Council work has certainly gotten more complicated

I think councils and staff could

make things easier for themselves with a few changes. Technology allows for an exchange of information, which is much simpler than in the past.

Councillors, taxpayers, and news media need to be able to see the agendas earlier. Most councils only prepare a simple paper copy agenda, which contains very little information. A few municipalities prepare an electronic agenda package for staff and councillors. Documents can be accessed very easily as the document links are embedded in the electronic agenda (usually) on the municipal website. That's how it should be. If material is going to be discussed in an open council meeting, then staff, councillors, ratepayers and media should have access to it. In an electronic agenda with document links embedded. Access is very good for everybody.

If municipalities and towns could all achieve that level of transparency and ease of access, voters would be better able to know what is happening. Maybe, if more people had access to more information, it might be easier to get people eager to run for council.

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

Homebodies

Rita Friesen



Where was I?

In the last several months events from the 1970's, huge world events, have come to my attention. It's like I never heard of them before, not even vague and cloudy memories. Rather than overly berate myself, a habit to which I am prone, I looked at why, what was I doing that trumped life changing, heard around the globe events. Well, I was busy. Busy with my own life. For some of that time I was struggling as a single mom with two little ones. Then I was welcoming a life partner and two more children. Those years included three relocations, from my parental home to a modest home in a town, to an established farm, and then, miles away, to another farm. Oh, and one more child in all of these changes. So, embracing a new life, a new life style, a new community (twice), I guess I was not able to concentrate on world events!

"The Troubles". What an inaccurate euphemism for the turmoil, riots, death and destruction that was occurring in Northern Ireland. When an elected official can go on record stating that the death toll is 'an acceptable number', my eyes blink and my mind spins. No unnecessary loss of life is acceptable. Speaking with residents of Belfast, hearing their stories told in gentle honesty, and touring the Ulster Museum gave me a glimpse of what people suffered. Torn families and communities. That tour concluded with personal stories and a well posted help line for those whose memories and emotions had been triggered. I am certain that the conflict was included in our national news, but I don't remember being overly impacted.

A few weeks ago I came across a quote by Maya Angelou; "You are only free when you realize that you belong in no place- you belong in every place- no place at all. The price is high. The reward is great." She is accredited with the saying from an interview with Bill Moyers in 1973 on the Paradox of Belonging. I read, and re-read, that quote. It was one of those epiphany moments. That's me, someone has found the perfect words to help me understand myself. Then, of course, I wanted to find out more about the wise one. Maya Angelou, 1928- 2014, was an American memoirist, poet, and civil rights activist. She published seven autobiographies, three books of essays, several books of poetry, wrote plays, movies and television shows spanning fifty years. She received dozens of awards and more than fifty honorary degrees. Yes, I know/knew the names of Malcolm X, and Martin Luther King, but had never heard of this powerhouse of a woman. Wise, passionate, well spoken and out spoken. She read one of her poems at the inauguration of President Bill Clinton- On the Pulse of Morning. The theme is change, inclusion, responsibility....She was the second poet to read at an inauguration, the first being Robert Frost for John F Kennedy. And the first African American and woman. A ground breaker on so many levels.

It's not too late to get my head out of the sand.

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From the prairies to the highland tour 204 - part 9

By Gerry Nolan
RIVERS BANNER

We were up early again as we were on the road to Dunrobin Castle, the ancestral home of Clan Sutherland for over 700 years.

The castle's history goes back to the thirteenth century, serving as the seat of the Earls and Dukes of Sutherland. The castle evolved from a medieval fortress, surviving the Jacobite uprising, served as a naval hospital during World War I and used as a boy's boarding school between 1965-1972.

The second Duke of Sutherland commissioned Sir Charles Barry to remodel the castle between 1835 and 1850. They added turrets, spires and a large extension in Scottish Baronial style to

create the fairytale look. Barry also designed the formal gardens, which were completed in 1850. They were inspired by the gardens of Versailles. The castle is inhabited by Allister Charles St. Clair Sutherland, the twenty-fifth Earl of Sutherland and his family.

We toured through the beautiful historical castle, every room was laid out with furnishings and artwork, right down to the China and candelabra set on a massive table in the dining hall.

The many portraits on the wall were very interesting. We found familiar family names and faces. One portrait in particular caught our attention! The portrait of George Granville Williams Duke and Earl of Sutherland bore a striking resemblance to our grandson Nicolas Sutherland.



PHOTOS BY CELIA NOLAN

The beautiful fairytale Dunrobin castle.

After a time we went out into the beautiful, spectacular gardens, with so many stairs to go up and down on, people back then must have been in great shape!

Once down to ground level we were treated to a falconry demonstration. The falconer explained the difference between falcons and hawks. These

birds were used for hunting. The birds were so well trained, one command from the falconer and they obeyed.

After the falcon demonstration we went up more stairs into a museum of sorts where there were all kinds of artifacts as well as many hunting trophies, which looked so real. We saw all kinds of weapons used. For hunting in the early days. There was so much in the building it is hard to remember



Dunrobin castle's spectacular gardens.

everything!

Later that afternoon, Donald's friend Ross Pauley took us on a tour of his workplace. He works on a magnificent hunting estate. There is much to say about this location, but we respect this place too much to share, as it is private property. Let me say this, what a privilege it was for our group to get a tour.

Following our tour, we returned to Dornoch Castle where we had a

delicious supper followed by visiting in the common room with Ross and his sons Deacon and Calan.

A short walk back to The Eagle where we were staying, as it was time to get some rest so we would be ready for the next day's adventure, which was going to be full of historical significance to Scotland! Can you guess where? If anyone follows outlander, you will know where we are going. Culloden! Stay tuned!

Feeling better: Even if you think "Holistic" is just hocus-pocus

**PUBLISHED AUTHOR, HOLISTIC
WELLNESS CERTIFIED HYPNOTIST
(C.H.)**

MARIE EVELYNE GINGRAS

Let us face it. Some folks hear the words "holistic wellness" and instantly picture someone waving sage over a crystal while chanting to the moon. If that is you, do not roll your eyes just yet! You do not need to wear hemp or own a singing bowl to enjoy the benefits of holistic living. In fact, you might already be doing it without realizing it. Every time you take a deep breath, stretch after sitting too long, or sip a cup of tea instead of reaching for another coffee, which is holistic wellness.

Here is the thing: holistic wellness is not about replacing your doctor with a crystal. It is about looking at the big picture: your mind, body, and daily habits and realizing they are all connected. You do not have to believe in "energy flow" to understand that stress makes you tired, anxious, and cranky. Science agrees! When stress hormones like

cortisol hang around too long, they mess with your digestion, sleep, and even your immune system. So, when you take a few minutes to breathe deeply, go for a walk, or just laugh at a funny cat video, you are not being flaky. You are calming your nervous system.

Even the most skeptical person can get behind this part: prevention. Holistic wellness focuses on doing little things every day that help you stay well, instead of waiting until you are falling apart. It is like giving your body a friendly "heads up" before it sends you the memo in the form of a headache or back pain. Eating more real food, sleeping properly, drinking water, and unplugging from screens occasionally are not fads—they are common sense.

And let us talk about listening to your body. Modern life has us ignoring it all the time. We drink coffee

when we are exhausted, scroll our phones when we are overwhelmed, and eat on the run because we "do not have time." A holistic mindset gently says, "Hey, maybe try the opposite." That might mean taking five quiet minutes in the morning, swapping junk food for something that gives you energy, or stretching before bed instead of doom-scrolling.

You also do not have to meditate for an hour on a mountaintop. Sometimes "mindfulness" just means noticing that you are smiling while chatting with a friend or enjoying that first sip of peppermint tea. Those moments matter because they reset your mood and recharge your body without a single supplement or mantra involved.

So even if you think "holistic wellness" sounds like a buzzword from a yoga retreat, give it a try. Your way. Think of it as tuning up your mind and body like you would tune up your car. Less sputtering, more smooth cruising. Whether you call it self-care, balance, or just plain common sense, feeling good is something we can all believe in, and no incense required.

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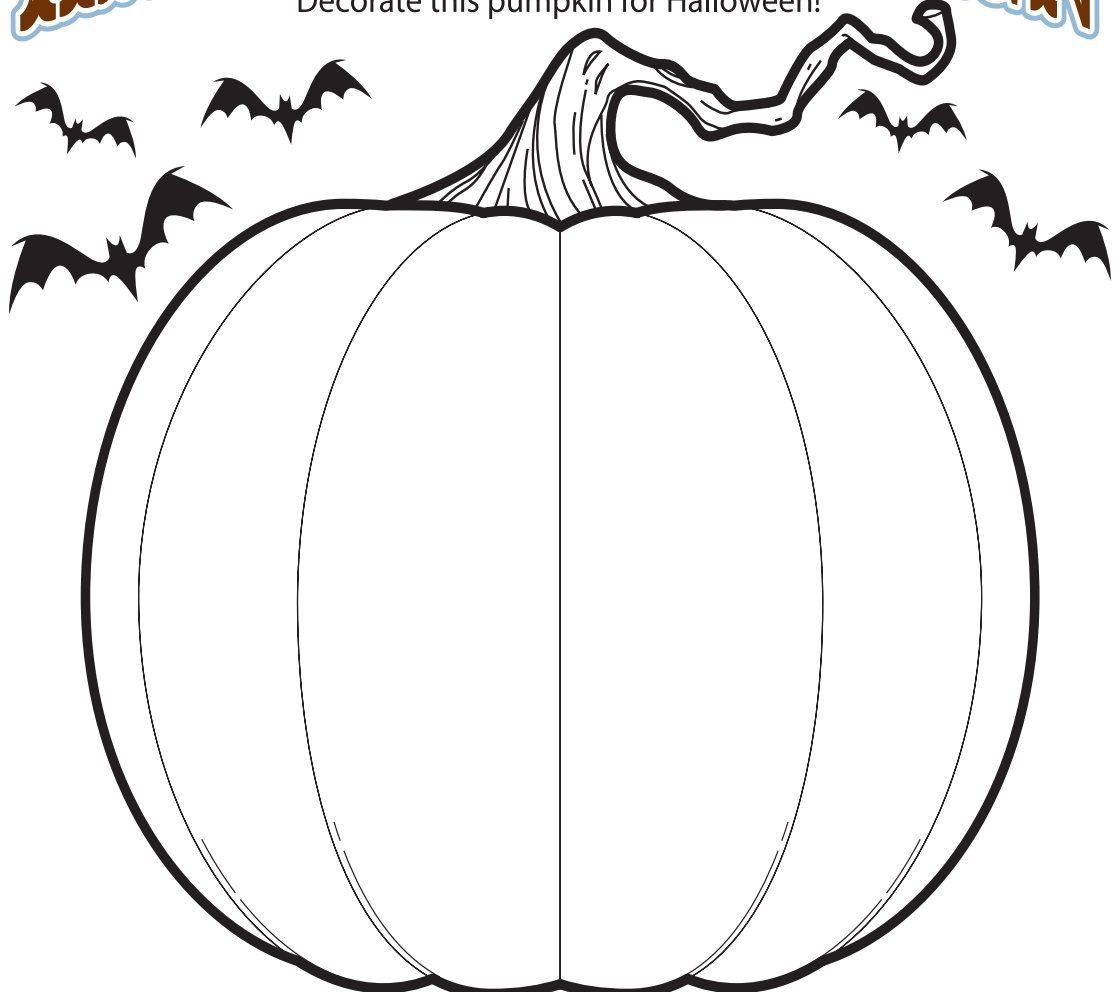
Safe & Happy

HALLOWEEN



Happy HALLOWEEN

Decorate this pumpkin for Halloween!



HALLOWEEN

I Spy



How many do YOU spy?

 _____

 _____

 _____

 _____

 _____

 _____

 _____

 _____

Spooky Scramble

SUTMEOC _____

IEPAVRM _____

DIRSEP _____

LEESOTNK _____

OBZIEM _____

MYMUM _____

Answers: COSTUME, VAMPIRE, SPIDER, SKELETON, ZOMBIE, MUMMY

HALLOWEEN SPELLS

 P _ _ _ _	 M _ _ _ _
 C _ _ _ _	 G _ _ _ _
 W _ _ _ _	 B _ _ _ _

Keep pets safe this Halloween



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Submitted
BY METRO CREATIVE

Halloween is an annual celebration that many children and adults look forward to each October. From the mysterious and the macabre to the goofy and gregarious, Halloween speaks to people in many different ways. And with the opportunity to accumulate several pounds of sugary treasure after a

few hours of trick-or-treating, is it any wonder celebrants love Halloween?

While Halloween hijinks may be ideal fun for plenty of ghosts and ghouls, companion animals may not be so enthusiastic come October 31. In fact, Halloween can be a source of stress and even dangerous for many pets. Here are some things pet parents should keep in mind

prior to Halloween.

Costumes

Pet costumes are popular and can help owners and their pets coordinate for Halloween. Some pets may find costumes uncomfortable or frightening. For those with a mind toward creative costume coordination, introducing the costume to the pet slowly and gradually can help ease the transition. Allow the pet to sniff the costume and put treats nearby to indicate it is no threat. If the pet simply will not warm to the idea of a costume, it's best not to force the issue.

Glow sticks

Glow sticks are a safe way for children to enjoy some spooky fun on Halloween night and become more visible when the sun sets. But those glow sticks may be attractive to pets and they can bite them, ingesting the liquid. The ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center says typically pets experience a mild and self-limiting taste reaction to glow stick liquid. Wiping off the excess with a damp cloth to help prevent the pet from licking again and having another reaction can help.

Accessibility to candy

One of the biggest Halloween dangers for pets is the accessibility of candy, especially chocolate. Chocolate is toxic and particularly dangerous to dogs. Chocolate with high amounts of cacao is especially dangerous. Raisins and gum with the artificial sweetener xylitol also are problematic. Candy wrappers can get stuck in the intestinal tract and cause a life-threatening blockage. Lock candy away so pets can't get into it.

Nerves

Many youngsters will ring the door bell on Halloween. Anxious pets, and even those that normally aren't nervous with visitors, may be overwhelmed. Keep pets in a dark, calm room away from the door to reduce anxiety and make it less likely skittish pets will escape the home and get lost.

Understanding common Halloween dangers can help keep pets safe on this fun-filled holiday.

Boo-tiful Halloween craft ideas

Submitted
BY METRO CREATIVE

Halloween is a highlight of fall, as children and even adults anxiously await October 31. Similar to the holiday season, people often decorate their homes for Halloween, and even do so well in advance of late October to maximize the amount of time they get to enjoy the trinkets and other items.

Many people enjoy getting hands-on for Halloween. It's possible to craft decorations, personalized treats and festive costumes. Consider these ideas for Halloween craft projects.

3D Pumpkins

Carving pumpkins is a popular Halloween tradition. But there are many people who feel the job is too messy. Instead, a fun way to add personality to pumpkins comes by way of some hot glue and paint. Use a hot glue gun to create a pattern on the outside of the pumpkin. It can be designs, a jack-o'-lantern face or just about anything. Once dry and hardened, use craft paint to go over the entire pumpkin. The raised design will be evident and add dimension.

Spooktacular Wreath

Adorn the front door with something creative. It can be utterly frightening or something more festive. Start with a premade spring greenery wreath or a wreath frame that you cover with your own greenery. Purchase a round, unfinished wooden sign panel, and paint with black chalkboard paint. Add your own message with chalk or chalk paint. "Keep Away" or "Enter at Your Own Risk" are great Halloween phrases to consider. Attach the sign in the middle of the wreath. You also can add some embellishments to the wreath, including black moss and floral stems and leaves. A glittery black and green ribbon or bow is the finishing touch before hanging.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Boo Treasure Box

Purchase a wooden treasure chest or box from the hobby store. Paint it all black or your favorite Halloween colors. Then add additional designs like spider webs, bats or pumpkins. Fill the box with treats or small toys. Kids can have fun picking out their treasures.

Halloween Gnomes

Gnomes have been popular for years, and they keep turning up in different iterations. You can craft your own gnomes for Halloween with a few supplies. Start with a 9-inch-tall foam cone. Cut the bottom off the toe part of a solid colored ankle sock just past the heel, and pull it up so it covers the lower few inches of the cone. Add some hot glue to secure, draw a beard shape on the back of the faux fur and cut it out. Attach the beard to the lower part of the cone over the sock. Use a crew length patterned sock to create a hat for the gnome, and glue to the top part of the cone. Glue on a large wood bead for the nose. Decorate the gnome any way you'd like, such as adding felt patches to the sock hat.

Halloween can be even more fun with some creative crafts the entire family can enjoy.



Nurse Practitioner Michelle Weighell RN to practice in Rapid City and Oak River

Expanding community health services in November 2025

Submitted
By RM of OAKVIEW

Rapid City, November 10, the doors will open!
Oak River, November 13, the doors will open!
The Rural Municipality of Oakview is excited to announce the future arrival of Nurse Practitioner Michelle Weighell, who will begin providing her services to both Rapid City and Oak River communities in November 2025. This important new local healthcare provider is the result of multiple meetings and productive discussions focused on enhancing medical care for all residents.

Meeting Community Needs
Michelle Weighell is no stranger to the area and brings with her a deep understanding of the unique needs of our residents. With extensive training and a wealth of experience, Michelle is well equipped to serve every age group within the community. From providing peace of mind to our seniors and offering prenatal care to soon to be parents. Her arrival will ensure that health services are more accessible and responsive to local needs.

Comprehensive Nurse Practitioner Services
As a fully qualified Nurse Practitioner, Michelle can prescribe medication and make referrals to other medical professionals as needed. This expansion of services will streamline care and reduce wait time for residents seeking medical attention, ensuring that everyone from children to seniors receives timely and effective support. Michelle has plans to expand this service over a period of time by utilizing her wide array of medical contacts within the industry.

Commitment to Community Well-being
The addition of Nurse Practitioner services in Rapid City and Oak River reflects councils' commitment to improving healthcare access and quality for all. We believe Michelle's expertise and familiarity with our community will help to create a healthier future for every resident.

Michelle plans to hold two public meetings. The first is in Rapid City on October the 28 at 7:00pm in the Rapid City Legion Hall. The second will be held at the Oak River Rink on October 29 at 7:00pm.

Michelle will present the services that will be on offer and how she plans to develop the practice going forward. "Leaving Rivers Clinic is one of the most difficult decisions I have ever made. The physicians and team I worked with are wonderful and will be such a great support for potential new Nurse Practitioners," says Michelle Weighell, "Opening a clinic has been a dream of mine for a very long time and I hope to address the needs of our communities who currently have no health care provider within the RM of Oakview."

We look forward to welcoming Michelle Weighell as our local Health Care Provider in the RM of Oakview. Please stay tuned for further updates and how to access her services. For any questions or more information, contact the RM of Oakview office.

Or Michelle Weighell RN NP at OakviewNP-Clinic@outlook.com



SUBMITTED PHOTO
Nurse Practitioner Michelle Weighell RN.



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REF MEMORIES

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ER

GERRY
NOLAN



Officiating minor and senior hockey around Westman and beyond from 1970-1996, our job as officials was made easier by some of the unsung heroes like the timekeeper and score-sheet men and women who helped out their local team as volunteers. These people could really make or break it for you, especially when there were multiple penalties at one time. Who comes out of the penalty box first? Which player caused them to be shorthanded? Coincidental penalties, players with a minor penalty and misconduct? Who is serving the minor penalty? It was all part of their duties to know this as you wanted to keep the game flowing. You did not want big stoppages of play to figure out the game sheet. Some games were messy and had lots of penalties which tended to make for long games.

Many of these volunteers learned the signal for penalties so you could skate by the box, give the signal and skate away. I liked this because when a player was mad over a penalty you could be far away in a hurry. Some officials did not do that and thus got the brunt of some foul language. I used to call these officials, guys with rabbit ears and I had no problem telling them that. The game is not about you, it is about the players!

Bob Henderson from Hamiota was very helpful and knew the signals and knew what was going on out on the ice. Bob usually had it figured out as long as he could keep Lloyd Anderson quiet. Lloyd was the PA announcer and wanted to announce it pronto. I do believe Lloyd was told one night to stifle himself until we got things figured out.

Ray Charles of Virden was really great figuring things out even before you got to the penalty box. Ray was first and foremost a hockey fan and had coached so he knew how things could

unfold. One night in particular there were a slew of penalties on one stoppage of play. Ray is writing it all down and he asked me is that it? I turned to speak to my linesmen and asked have we got all this correct? They said yes. When I turned back to the penalty box, Ray had put the microphone up to the hole in the plexi-glass in the penalty box and it was loud and clear for all to hear. I almost lost teeth out of that maneuver by Ray. Of course there were some laughs and that really relaxed everyone. Trust Ray so see the humour in the situation!

There were two ladies from Souris, the two Lindas. Linda Perrin and Linda Rykeman worked the Souris Elks senior games and many of the AAA midget games. These ladies were outstanding. They loved the game and volunteered to play such an important part. In cases where there was a lot of pushing and shoving and maybe a scrap breaking out, they would have jotted down the player numbers who were on the ice. They were really good at this which really helped me out.

They were always giving me the what for because I did not wear gloves. They would say, Gerry, you need to protect your hands otherwise you will get arthritis in your hands. I said you are probably right but did not wear gloves anyway, stubborn I guess. You know what, they were right!

The two Lindas were so concerned that they knitted me mitts and a toque, in black and white of course. I had them for years after I quit refereeing. What a great memory of the two ladies from Souris? Thank you so much ladies!

Next week I will be continuing to bring forth some names from the past who volunteered their services and left me with some great memories. Thank you to all of them!

Manitoba Community Newspaper Association Province Wide Classifieds

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SPORTS

JETS DEFEAT FARMERS TO OPEN THEIR THHL SEASON

By Robin Wark
RIVERS BANNER

The Rivers Jets were flying to start off the new Tiger Hills Hockey League season.

The senior squad defeated the Neepawa Farmers, 9-1, on Oct. 25 in Rivers. The Jets led 2-1 after the first period. They were up 5-1 at the second intermission. The Jets capped the contest with four third-period goals. What was clicking for the home team offensively?

"We were keeping things simple, getting pucks to the net, and the bounces were going our way," forward Jaxon Heeney said.

Heeney scored Rivers' first two goals of the game. The second came on the power play and stood up as the game winner. Early in the third period, he completed the hat trick. Thanks to his two assists, Heeney was one of three Jets who finished the night with five points. He is now in his fourth season with the team.

"I enjoy the group of guys that we have," Heeney said. "We're all pretty tight and it makes it a lot of fun coming to the rink."

Luke DeCorby lit the lamp twice

for the Jets and recorded three assists for five points. The playmaking Kayden Sutherland had a game-high four assists. He also scored once to accumulate five points.

In his Jets debut, Kaelen Huibers recorded a goal and an assist. Veterans Cam Ramsay and Riley Shamray, who had two assists, also scored for Rivers. DeCorby and Ramsay had power-play goals. The Jets were three-for-four with the man advantage and killed off all five of Neepawa's power plays.

Hometown product Owen Wareham had three assists in his first game for the Jets. Riley Boles had two helpers.

Rivers goalie Riley Lamb turned away all but one of the 19 shots he faced. Zak Hicks had Neepawa's lone goal. Brad Roncin made 32 saves for the Farmers.

The Jets' next game is on Nov. 7 when they travel to Carberry to face the Plainsmen. Carberry lost 5-2 to Minnedosa in its first game of the season.

On Nov. 8, the Jets host the THHL's newest team - the Sandy Bay Flying Feathermen. The Feathermen fell 16-2 in their season opener on the road in Neepawa on Oct. 24.

Southwesterners receive 4-H Leaders of Tomorrow Scholarship

By RB Staff
RIVERS BANNER

In total, four outstanding 4-H Manitoba members have been selected to each receive a \$10,000 scholarship in support of their post-secondary education.

Attending Brandon University, Allison Beaumont of Neepawa is the recipient of a \$10,000 scholarship presented to her in honour of the late Sharon Evans, of Hartney 4-H Club.

In 2025, Beaumont served as secretary of the South Parkland 4-H Council for groups from Kenton, Hamiota and northward to Riding Mountain and Neepawa.

Ashlyn Whetter has been with the Alexander 4-H club for many years. She's Manitoba's representative to 4-H Canada's Youth Advisory Committee. Attending University of Manitoba Whetter is in her fourth and final year of an agronomy degree where she's the 2025-26 Vice-President of U of M Future Leaders 4-H Club.

Brooklyn Piasta, at U of M was awarded the scholarship in honour of Estelle Bahaud, Headingley 4-H Club and Sarah Meggison, also at U of M University received the scholarship in honour of Lois Clarke, Poplar Hill 4-H Club.

The 2025 Leaders of Tomorrow Scholarships were awarded from a \$1 million endowment fund established by Manitoba Government with the Brandon Area Community Foundation.

"We're very proud of this year's scholarship recipients and excited to see where their paths take them," said Greg Penner, President of 4-H Manitoba. "Each of them



SUBMITTED PHOTO

4-H Ashlyn Whetter.

has shown real leadership, dedication, and a commitment to their communities. Supporting them as they take the next step in their education helps build a strong future for Manitoba."

4-H Manitoba's mission is to build leadership in youth and adults while developing essential life and leadership skills as members "Learn To Do By Doing."

"One hundred and twelve years ago, Canada's 4-H movement began here in Manitoba, paving the way for a long and successful history of opportunities for Manitoba's youth to develop leadership and communication skills while learning about agriculture and environmental sustainability," said Agriculture Minister Ron Kostyshyn. "On behalf of the Manitoba government, I congratulate all of the 2025 scholarship recipients and extend my heartfelt wishes as they head toward a bright future in our province."

Get an eyeful at Hamiota's gallery

By Anne Davison
RIVERS BANNER

If you love visual art, there's still time to get an eyeful at Midwest Arts Council's Old Bank gallery in Hamiota. In The Storytellers display you will see the work of Shannon Desjardins, Joel Desjardins and Mike Davids.

Each piece invites viewers to step into the story. This stunning show is hanging until mid-November.

Framed pieces with depth of colour are at first, eye catching, drawing you in for a closer look.

Many pieces of this stirring are for sale, but some, such as self-portraits and family captured on canvas are NFS.

Over the years these artists have been Westman Juried Art Show winners, meaning their art has been part of a collection displayed throughout many galleries in Westman.

Shannon Desjardins is a resident of Neepawa. Her son Joel Desjardin is from Virden. Mike Davids is a Neepawa artist.

Coming next to Midwest Arts Centre, the Christmas Artisan Market. Crafters can register for a spot until Nov. 7. The Market runs Nov. 15 - Nov. 29.



PHOTO BY ANNE DAVISON

Among other works by the artist is a self-portrait done in 2020 by Mike Davids - a true likeness, attests Midwest Art Centre administrator Allison Gardham.

A time for feasting and visiting at Woodworth fall supper



Woodworth Legion ladies: Lesli Teasdale Burke, Linda Drake, Marilyn Brazeau, Celia Nolan, and Jessica Coulter.

By **Gerry Nolan**
RIVERS BANNER

The Woodworth Legion Ladies Auxiliary held a fall supper in the Legion clubroom on Friday, Oct. 24. A capacity crowd, and then some, attended the supper. Every chair was filled for people to enjoy turkey, ham and all the trimmings that go along with such a feast. People from Cromer, Melita, Oak River, Oak Lake, Hamiota, Lenore, Killarney and Kenton joined together to visit, reminisce and enjoy supper and fellowship. Thank you to all who came out and supported the Ladies Auxiliary.

The Chase-the-Ace draw was made at 7.15 pm, the lucky ticket was drawn and Bob Good of Kenton was chosen to draw a card from the deck. Lo-and-behold, Bob picked the Ace of Spades! His winnings were a little over \$4100. Congratulations Bob!

Thank-you to the Woodworth Legion ladies, Marilyn Brazeau, Linda Drake, Celia Nolan, Jessica Coulter, Lesli Teasdale Burke and Islay Shellborn from Erickson.

It's no easy task to pull this off the way that they do but job well done ladies!

You never know who you are going to see and at this supper was no exception. Chris and Elaine Hunt were



PHOTOS BY GERRY NOLAN
Turkey, ham and all the fixings fed the crowd in Kenton.

in attendance. Chris was born and raised in Kenton. He played hockey and fastball for the Cougars. The old Cougars infield of Chris, Lawrence Daniel and myself along with our ace pitcher, Blair Fordyce and the man who put it all together Craig Whyte, our manager had some time to chat and renew pastimes of hockey and fastball. This really capped the evening off!

SUNMONTUEWEDTHUFRI

SAT

Oct 31

Nov 1

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Oak River Fall Supper

2

Rivers Legion Bingo 11:30am

3

50 + Card Games 1pm

Rivers Legion Hall Flu Clinic 2-6pm

4

Rivers Legion Council Meeting

50 + Club Pool 1pm

5

50 + Club Cribbage 1pm

Riverdale Harvest Food Bank 9:30 to 11:30am.

6

Rivers Legion Cribbage 7pm

50 + Floor Games 1pm

Oak River Ladies Auxiliary Tea 2-3:30pm

7

Rapid City Valley View Senior Centre Flu Clinic 12-4:30pm

Prairie Crocus Library Storytime in Rivers 10am

Chase the Ace Rivers Legion 7pm Kenton Legion 7pm Hamiota Hotel 7pm

8

Oak River Legion Remembrance Service at 9am Oak River United Church

9

RCI Travel Club Community Supper at Rivers Collegiate

Rivers Legion Bingo 11:30am

10

50 + Card Games 1pm

REMEMBRANCE DAY LEST WE FORGET

11

Kenton Memorial Hall Flu Clinic 2 - 6pm

12

50 + Club Cribbage 1pm

13

50 + Floor Games 1pm

Prairie Crocus Library Storytime in Rivers 10am

14

Chase the Ace Rivers Legion 7pm Kenton Legion 7pm Hamiota Hotel 7pm

15

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church Christmas Tea 1:30 - 3pm