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GAZETTE-REPORTER

Local People. Local Stories.

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RAPID CITY'S ZANE DYCK WRAPPED UP HIS ASSINIBOINE COMMUNITY COLLEGE VOLLEYBALL IN STYLE

By Robin Wark
RIVERS BANNER

The son of Diana and Glenn contributed in various ways as a left side for the Cougars. In the Manitoba Colleges Athletic Conference, he was sixth in digs (1.38) and ninth in kills (1.91) per set. Dyck was 12th in service aces per set at 0.33.

"Zane stepped up in a big way this year becoming a starting left-side," ACC head coach Dan Ashfield said. "He worked hard throughout the summer working on his game and strength and it paid off. He became a stable and reliable passer, top defender, and consistent attacker."

Dyck was an important leader for the Cougars. The third-year ACC student-athlete brought crucial experience to the team. In 2023-2024, he was named to the MCAC's True Sport Team for volleyball. The honour recognizes athletes displaying its principles of go for it, play fair, respect others, keep it fun, stay healthy, include everyone, and give back.

"Zane's leadership and attitude that he brought to the team this year really made him a strong all-around player this year," Ashfield said. "His focus day in and day out on getting better and helping his teammates succeed not only helped him better himself but also the entire team. He holds himself and the team with a high standard and makes sure he makes everyone accountable for their actions."

This past season Dyck dove into a new role. After two years of competing mostly at right side, he moved to left side.

"What allowed me to make the transition was getting the passing reps I needed," he said. "It was a skill I didn't have and needed to develop to play left. Dan letting me play some left side games the previous season, playing beach volleyball, and open gyms with (Brandon University) in the summertime is what allowed me to get what I needed."

Dyck has enjoyed various aspects of his three years with the Cougars. He said, "The thing I remember most is the friends I've made and the relationships I've built."



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Zane Dyck is studying culinary arts at ACC.

Over the years, Dyck has had the support of his parents. This has continued through college.

"They have been nothing but incredibly supportive of me playing volleyball," he said. "I always had their support with anything I need and they were always in the crowd cheering when they could make it. I am forever grateful for them."

At ACC, Dyck studied aviation management. He said, "What I enjoy about my classes is getting to learn a very broad amount of information. It's all towards the same goal but you learn a lot of different stuff."

Inside...



BACKYARD BAND AT MIDWEST ART CENTRE

P2



RIVERS LEGION "LET'S MAKE A DEAL"

P2

RE-ELECT



Conservative

DAN MAZIER

THE BEST CHOICE FOR RURAL CANADA

Authorized by the Official Agent for Dan Mazier

Backyard Band entertains the crowd at Hamiota Art Centre



PHOTO BY CELIA NOLAN

By Gerry Nolan
RIVERS BANNER

Fun and Entertainment took place at the Art Centre on Saturday March 29. The group, Backyard Band, were entertaining the large group of people in attendance. What a great way to spend an afternoon listening to local music and have some fun as well. The members of the Backyard Band are Willie Gilbert, Cyril and Jan Maxwell and Mary Richie. The band plays and sings pop music from the 1950 and 1960s. They have been playing together for a number of years. I asked how often do you get together to practise? Not often enough was the reply! Some up-and-coming events for the Backyard Band include the Threshermens reunion in Austin, Boissevain farmers market and seniors dance as well next week entertaining at the Hamiota 55 plus centre. Coffee, tea and dainties were served by members of the MidWest Arts Centre, followed by visiting and having lots of laughs. If you would like to book an event with the Backyard Band, give Cyril Maxwell a call at 204-764-0958.

Rivers Legion “Let’s Make a Deal”

By Carolyn Phillips
RIVERS BANNER

Friday nights at Rivers Legion have taken on a new life, thanks to the exhilarating energy of the popular game show “Let’s Make a Deal.” On a recent Friday evening, the venue was transformed into a buzzing game show floor, attracting a small but lively crowd eager to test their luck and sense of humor. As guests gathered, the anticipation was palpable. The atmosphere was charged with excitement as participants wheeled and dealt their way through a series of wildly entertaining games of chance that Barb Plewes skillfully set out. With laughter echoing through the hall, everyone embraced the spirit of the show, whether they were actively playing or cheering on their friends from the sidelines. In the true style of “Let’s Make a Deal,” the night was filled with quick thinking, bold choices, and the ever-present risk of “zonks” lurking behind enticing deals. One notable moment came when Garth Ventnor participated in the Wishing Well game. With a hopeful spirit, he took a gamble and was met with the first zonk prize of the night—a colorful, if not entirely practical, BBQ apron. While it may not have been the prize he hoped for, it’s sure to bring laughter and stories during summer cookouts, making it a memorable highlight of the evening. The fun didn’t stop there. Shelly Foster found herself at a crossroads when she was presented with a choice: guaranteed money or a mysterious envelope. With the allure of potential riches tempting her, she opted for the envelope, only to



SUBMITTED PHOTO

find herself facing the hilarious outcome of a belly button lint brush. While it may not seem like a must-have item for most, it’s certainly a quirky gift idea for anyone who claims to have everything! The night continued with more fun and games, and patrons savored delicious offerings from a hot dog bar that added to the festive atmosphere. The aroma of grilled hot dogs and toppings wafted through the air, keeping the energy high and the spirits bright. It was a true feast that catered to every taste while participants engaged in the thrilling antics of the game show. As the night came to a close, all eyes were on Deb Sherman, who played her cards right and secured the top prize—a delightful goodie basket hidden behind one of the enticing doors. Her joy was infectious, and it served as a fitting end to a night filled with laughter, unexpected surprises, and a sense of community.

COOKIE SALAD


Ingredients

- 2 (3.4 oz) packages instant vanilla pudding mix
- 2 cups buttermilk
- 12 oz frozen whipped topping, thawed
- 1 (20 oz) can pineapple chunks, drained
- 2 (11 oz) cans mandarin oranges, drained
- 2 (11.5 oz) package fudge stripe cookies

Directions

1. Gather the ingredients.
2. Mix pudding mix and buttermilk together in a large bowl; fold in whipped topping. Mix in pineapple chunks and mandarin oranges. Put one package of cookies in food processor to make coarse powder and mix in. Cover and chill until ready to serve.
3. Put one package of cookies in food processor to make coarse powder.
4. Crush second package of cookies and mix in just before serving.





Heritage Co-op’s 95th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

April 30th, 2025
Registration: 6:30PM
Meeting: 7PM

In-person options will be offered at three locations this year*

Live Event: Minnedosa Community Conference Centre
Satellite Locations: Brandon Agro and Strathclair Home Centre
Desserts, tea & coffee to be served at all locations


All Members Welcome to Participate

RSVP by April 23 via QR code, by e-mail at agm@heritagecoop.ca or by phone to Admin at 204-867-2295

Please provide name & member number

Satellite locations will only operate if sufficient interest is shown via RSVP

*no virtual option will be offered this year



Tundra

By Chad Carpenter



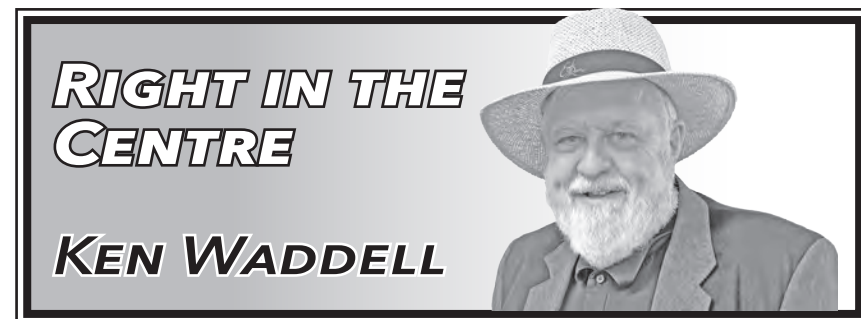
Canada needs a leader who can build a bigger Canada

Conservative Party of Canada leader Pierre Poilievre is holding daily rallies across Canada. Attendance is over 2,500 at every one according to reports, the rally in Winnipeg had 3,500 people attending. Ironically, or perhaps as expected, the Canadian Broadcast Corporation (CBC) is downplaying the numbers. In comparison, Mark Carney's rally in St. John's was reported to be around 1,650 by the Liberals, but the crowd photo looked to be less than 500.

I say, as expected as CBC is totally opposed to Poilievre as he has promised to cut the funding to the CBC. I can agree with that as the CBC gets \$1.3 billion each year from the federal government. Between the CBC and the Canada postal system, the drain on the taxpayers is over \$2 billion per year with no end in sight. The CBC is so biased against the conservative side and so cuddled up the liberal side that it is annoying to say the least.

In the past few years, the Liberals made a lot of errors in managing the COVID-19 pandemic, they committed about \$50 billion into electric car battery plants and they put a tariff on Chinese EVs when we don't even make EVs in Canada. That tariff triggered crippling tariffs against Canadian pork and canola. If you just review these few categories, you can see many reasons the Liberals should not be re-elected. Their policies have been not only misguided, they have been self serving.

Justin Trudeau got elected for two basic reasons. One, he promised to legalize marijuana and promised to talk nicer than Stephen Harper so as to attract voters that had a hate-on for Stephen Harper. I used to know Stephen Harper, having met and



“When an election is called, the ‘experts’ jump out of the weeds.”

talked with him several times. His last campaign was not good as he let himself get into policy discussions that didn't even need to be discussed. For example, the face-covering controversy in Quebec.

I attended the CPC annual convention after the Harper defeat and there were a ton of angry people attending who had some choice words of criticism about the election handlers who steered Harper and the party into useless and silly debates.

When conservatives lose elections it's usually because some folks, who have never run in an election, all of a sudden become experts in politics. Trust me when I say this as I have observed, ran in or been involved in elections since 1967. When an election is imminent, or called, the “experts” jump out of the weeds and start holding “focus groups” and reading polls to try and mould the party's platform into an often misguided estimation of what people want. I have seen some very dumb election policies and reimagined party logos to try and depict a mythical platform.

I like the 2025 CPC motto of Canada First For a Change as it is meaningful and current. Liberals stopping oil pipelines and not pursuing Liquid Natural Gas production certainly didn't put Canada first. The EV battery commitment didn't put Canada first and placing tariffs on EV cars, if they stay in place, may be a disaster for Canada. Not really increasing the capacity for the Port Churchill since it was built 90 years ago has been a big mistake. Not buying proper jet planes has been a mistake, flying ancient helicopters is a mistake. The list goes on and the mistakes haven't only been Liberal mistakes. As noted above, some have been CPC mistakes as well.

In this election, the question is not who can best wrangle with President Donald Trump, it's who can best lead and develop Canada so we don't stay so dependent on the United States or be distracted by Trump.

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



And this one's for me!

Over the decades I have created and assembled countless quilts: all sizes; crib, single, double, queen and cuddle. My very first one was sewn out of Fortrel, the indestructible fabric of the late sixties and seventies. It was the perfect material to work with, enough stretch to make the corners meet! The backing was/is a cosy brushed synthetic. Finished in the late sixties that sucker is a good as new!

I got better at sewing pieces together. There were some quilts that I pieced out of new, colour coordinated, cotton percale that the women of the church stitched and gifted to Bible School graduates. There were some I made for children, and then the grandchildren. One winter I had stockpiled probably six or seven and one set of granddaughters could tell me where the material had come from- which sheet set had been used to make a duvet cover for whom, which fabric was a remnant of clothing I had made. When they left that weekend all the quilts went with them! I often wonder if any of those are still in use...

There was the year I debated between tying a top, or stitching it. Again there were probably five or six finished quilts waiting for a home. I approached a family camp that provided counselling and safe space for any and all and they were delighted to accept them. There was the year I sandwiched, again, five or six, and the youth from our faith family and a couple of willing adults met for an afternoon of tying them, finishing them, and delivering them to a family resource centre nearby. Those were fun ones, scraps that had been given to me, some with wildlife scenes, some simply very colourful! The most colourful one I pieced together was a kit that a family member dropped off for me to assemble. There were yellows and oranges and red, prints and solid- it was magnificent – and now its honours the guest bedroom in their home. That was a puzzler for design....

The first time we entered lock down, I determined to empty the trunk of fabric, knowing that if anyone needed to tidy after me they would simply discard the contents of the chest. So I sewed. Again all sizes, all aesthetically appealing, again to friends and family, far and near. I so much enjoyed that project, for some of the backing was yardages that had been gifted to me by a beloved sister-in-law.

This winter I started from scratch. I chose material, I purchased material, I designed the pattern that I wanted. For the first time, ever, I made a quilt for me. Every square is a night sky- lightning; stars, constellations and snowflakes, and a silvery, glittery band borders each. It is my absolute favourite. (or it wouldn't stay mine!)

This winter's work resulted in one for a granddaughter, a great granddaughter, and a grandson, and one more to gift.

It's really not that I don't take care of myself, or indulge my whims and wants, however I have never before wanted a quilt, and never before have I been arrested by fabric design. It's all good

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RM of Elton

Meeting mins notes

March 11, 2025

Regular Meeting of Council (draft version)

Submitted
RIVERS BANNER

Present: Reeve Ches Bollman; Councillors Neil Waldner, Rod Paterson, Wes Pankratz, Cameron Hales, and Melissa Bromley; Chief Administrative Officer Shawna LeBlanc; and Administrative Assistant Christy Burdeniuk

Others Present: Public Works Operators Kerry Moorehead and Ryan English; RCMP Staff Sergeant Clint Wikander; Citizens John Kopp, Lorelle Farley, Brian Ursel, Doug Stewart, Annie Pichie and Blair Pichie

Absent: Councillor Gregg Campbell

Hales/Paterson-BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Rural Municipality of Elton hereby authorizes Administration to apply for the “From the Ground Up - Safe Communities for All” grant provided by the Province of Manitoba specifically for the development and review of a Zoning By-Law. CARRIED

Kerry Moorehead and Ryan English, Public Works Operators have reported that they have been clearing machinery roads where accessible. Several frost boils have been encountered, and one site is experiencing a heave in the road surface. Currently, there are no drainage issues. A request for a quote has been made to repair both one-ways on the graders.

RCMP Staff Sergeant Clint Wikander reported that overall statistics remain consistent in Elton. While policing priorities had remained unchanged for over a decade, there was a recent shift in the priorities from three to four primary focus areas. These now include employee engagement, modernization and stewardship, reconciliation, and community engagement.

Scott Price, Municipal Emergency Coordinator led and facilitated a comprehensive tabletop exercise focused on a water emergency scenario. This exercise involved key stakeholders from Council, Administration, Public Works and the Whitehead Elton Regional

Water Co-op employees.

Hales/Paterson-BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Rural Municipality of Elton hereby approve the following Variations Orders:

1. VO-002-25-E to reduce the minimum site area in the “RG1” Residential General Zone (Lot 10) from 1393.55 m2 to 674.611 m2.

2. VO-003-25-E to reduce the minimum site width in the “RG1” Residential General Zone (Lot 10) from 30.48 meters to 15.908 meters.

3. VO-004-25-E to reduce the minimum site area in the “RG1” Residential General Zone (Lot 11) from 1393.55 m2 to 675.634 m2.

4. VO-005-25-E to reduce the minimum site width in the “RG1” Residential General Zone (Lot 11) from 30.48 meters to 15.907 meters.

5. VO-006-25-E to reduce the minimum site area in the “RG1” Residential General Zone (Lot 12) from 1393.55 m2 to 676.159 m2.

6. VO-007-25-E to reduce the minimum site width in the “RG1” Residential General Zone (Lot 12) from 30.48 meters to 15.907 meters.

7. VO-008-25-E to reduce the minimum site area in the “RG1” Residential General Zone (Lot 13) from 1393.55 m2 to 676.726 m2.

8. VO-009-25-E to reduce the minimum site width in the “RG1” Residential General Zone (Lot 13) from 30.48 meters to 15.908 meters.

9. VO-010-25-E to reduce the minimum site area in the “RG1” Residential General Zone (Lot 14) from 1393.55 m2 to 668.136 m2.

10. VO-011-25-E to reduce the minimum site width in the “RG1” Residential General Zone (Lot 14) from 30.48 meters to 15.908 meters.

11. VO-012-25-E to reduce the minimum site area in the “RG1” Residential General Zone (Lot 15) from 1393.55 m2 to 668.094 m2.

12. VO-013-25-E to reduce the minimum site width in the “RG1” Residential General Zone (Lot 15) from 30.48 meters to 15.907 meters.

13. VO-014-25-E to reduce the minimum site area in the “RG1” Residential General Zone (Lot 16) from 1393.55 m2 to 668.094 m2.

14. VO-015-25-E to reduce the minimum site width in the “RG1” Residential General Zone (Lot 16) from 30.48 meters to 15.907 meters.

15. VO-016-25-E to reduce the minimum site area in the “RG1” Residential General Zone (Lot 17) from 1393.55 m2 to 668.136 m2.

16. VO-017-25-E to reduce the minimum site width in the “RG1” Residential General Zone (Lot 17) from 30.48 meters to 15.908 meters.

Hales/Waldner

BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Rural Municipality of Elton hereby approves Conditional Use Order No. CU-001-25-E on Pt. of the NE 17-12-19 WPM for Stewart/McDonald, Owner/Applicant to establish a non-farm dwelling within the “AG80” Agricultural General Zone by the way of Subdivision. CARRIED

Hales/Pankratz-BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Rural Municipality of Elton hereby approve Variation Order No. VO-001-25-E (Stewart/McDonald) to decrease the required site area on the NE 17-12-19 WPM in the “AG80” Agricultural General Zone by way of Subdivision from 80 acres to 76.81 acres. CARRIED

2NDDWELLINGREQUESTSW32-11-17 (PICHE)

Brad Roth, Building Inspector/Development Officer, will revise the request to clarify that the existing house, which has been deemed unfit for occupancy, will be designated solely as a storage building. This revision ensures that the structure will not be recognized as a second dwelling and will not be permitted for residential occupancy, use as a public facility, or operation of any type of business. This clarification aligns with zoning and safety regulations to prevent any potential misuse of the building. TABLED

Councillor Bromley reported that Elton’s bank balance is \$833,434.91 as of March 6, 2025.

Bromley/Hales-BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Rural Municipality of Elton hereby accept and file the Financial Statement for the month ended

February 28, 2025 as presented. CARRIED

Hales/Paterson-BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Rural Municipality of Elton hereby approves the inclusion of item 2(e) in Schedule “A” of By-law 1643 to establish the Pass-through Rate. CARRIED

Council approved the attendance of several councillors and staff at the annual AMM Spring Convention at the RBC Convention Centre in Winnipeg on April 15-16, 2025 and various other conferences.

The walking path project is currently in the planning stage, with draft routes being developed following discussions with Manitoba Hydro. These draft routes will be submitted to the contractor for a revised quote.

Hales/Waldner-BE IT RESOLVED that Council of the Rural Municipality of Elton hereby approves a Second Alarm Sponsorship for the Rivers Firefighters Association Fundraiser on May 24, 2025, at a cost of \$250.00. CARRIED

Hales/Waldner-BE IT RESOLVED that Council of the Rural Municipality of Elton hereby approves sponsorship for the Rapid City Fire Department Fundraiser on April 26, 2025, in the amount of \$250.00. CARRIED

Paterson/Pankratz-BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Rural Municipality of Elton formally requests Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure to adjust the speed limits entering and exiting Forrest by:

1. Relocating the 100 km/h speed limit sign on the southbound lane exiting Forrest further south, beyond Road 65N;

2. Relocating the 70 km/h speed limit sign on the northbound lane entering Forrest further south to improve speed transition and traffic safety turning off Road 65N. CARRIED

Council is currently reviewing the proposal for the creation of a joint Community Services Officer position with surrounding municipalities.

Councillor Waldner reported that Douglas transfer site cameras are functioning effectively, and snow removal operations are underway along the ditches adjacent to Provincial Road 340 in Douglas to mitigate potential flooding risks.)

Council has asked DOUGLAS COMMUNITY RECREATION ASSOCIATION representatives to provide further details about the grant request. TABLED

Councillor Bromley reported that a resident suggested a multi-use facility could accommodate a wider range of community needs than a municipal shop.

CAO LeBlanc reported that quotes have been requested for the 2025 and 2026 lawn care contract following the withdrawal of the originally scheduled contractor for 2025. Municipal insurance options for 2026 are currently under review. Additionally, services for emptying Forrest septic tanks have been requested for both 2025 and 2026. The five-year capital funding requests have been submitted to the Manitoba Water Services Board. Lastly, options for the weed spraying contract will be discussed at the upcoming project meeting on March 19, 2025.

Councillor Hales reported that the packer and mower have been ordered.

Councillor Paterson reported that interviews for Seasonal Public Works position are scheduled to take place on March 12, 2025.

Councillor Hales reported that Evergreen is purchasing a new trackhoe, and consultants have provided a quote for the Asset Retirement Obligation (ARO) to meet provincial requirements.

Hales/Waldner-BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Rural Municipality of Elton approves the extension of the recycling and glass services for one (1) year, maintaining the same terms, conditions, as outlined in the services agreement with a 3per cent increase applied to rental and services commencing May 1st, 2025, for the duration of the term until April 30, 2026. CARRIED

Councillor Pankratz reported that the Veterinary Board owns both the building and equipment. While veterinarians operate their services with established set rates set out the province. At present, there are no student veterinarians at the clinic.

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Kenton Professional Leah Obach



Leah was raised in the Harding District and attended Kenton School for kindergarten to grade 8 before going to Hamiota Collegiate for grades 9 to 12. Leah did not decide to become an educator until grade 12. She always enjoyed learning and going to school, so a career that allowed her to continue learning and growing played a huge part in her decision to become an educator. Leah also experienced working with children by baby sitting, coaching figure skating and teaching Sunday school. She also worked for credit experience in a grade 1 and 2 classroom as a high school student. While considering a career, she came to realize teaching was a great match for her skills and past experiences. Leah values rural living and feels strongly that rural kids deserve to have committed teachers who want to teach in rural schools. Leah pursued a career as an educator able to serve and support rural kids in their learning journey.

Leah attended Brandon University for 5 years, completing her Bachelor of Arts, followed by a Bachelor of Education Degree! In 2019, she completed a Masters of Education in Education technology and Design with the University of Saskatchewan. She obtained the degree by taking online courses while teaching full time! Her parents Cam and Marlene Hunter, siblings Chad and Sara supported and encouraged her along her life journey. Her family installed important values to her such as hard work, kindness, responsibility, respect and community. Her family support is invaluable to her as she knows her family is always there for her. Another person who has influenced Leah is her friend and fellow educator Devon Caldwell. They really had little to do with one another until Devon invited Leah to student teach with her in 2008. They quickly discovered they made a great team and enjoyed working together. Leah says Devon has inspired and influenced and helped shape her as an educator. Devon encourages her to try new things and offer different perspectives. They have become great friends and educators! Leah has been teaching for 16 years. She has taught at Hamiota Collegiate and



Leah Obach and Jett on a bright summer day in June of 2024.

Hamiota Elementary school before taking a job as ICT (information communication technology) teacher leader for Park West School division. She also co-founded KG education in 2019 with Devon to offer professional learning and wellness events for educators. Leah other interests include horseback riding and barrel racing. She is also passionate about wellness. She also enjoys Yoga, Scrapbooking, reading and trav-

eling with family and friends. In the future Leah hopes her career leads to different kinds of teaching experiences to help students and teachers alike to encourage them to move forward in their journey of learning. A final word from Leah to the youth of today, Pursue your Passions and Interests! Great advice from professional Leah Obach, Educator.

Lessons learned from the Corridor

By Nelson Gourlay, Director
MANITOBA LAND STEWARDS INC.

If you live, work, and/or play in western Manitoba you will be aware of an opportunity that recently presented itself, the Parks Canada National Program for Ecological Corridors (NPEC). The NPEC proved to be a learning exercise with multiple dimensions. It started out with awareness, when a few local landowners heard of a program that was proposed for the area and was to be led by the local watershed district, Assiniboine West Watershed District (AWWD). This small local group began the inquiry. Specifically, who, what, where, when, why and how were directed at the lead organization in search of clarity and understanding about NPEC proposed for the entire Little Saskatchewan River Watershed. At this point, there was a fork in the road. One path was open, transparent, engaging, multidimensional, educating and leading to informed and aligned action. The other being closed, vague, disengaging, single-focused, misleading and resulting in uncertainty and confrontation. Unfortunately, or fortunately, the latter path was travelled. One result of the path taken included the transformation of the small local group into the Manitoba Land Stewards incorporated (MLS). The MLS is a not-for-profit corporation dedicated to

research, education and engagement of Land Stewards across Manitoba. The MLS defines Land Stewards to include everyone that lives, works and plays in the province and is willing to take a responsible role in shaping its future. The MLS expanded the education and conversation to community halls that were filled to capacity (despite the challenging weather). As a result, a strong and unified voice was heard and action was taken to address the NPEC concerns and uncertainty; the AWWD declined the Parks Canada NPEC Contribution Agreement on January 20, 2025. This is an introduction to a series of articles that will highlight Lessons Learned From the Corridor. Additionally, the MLS is hosting a series of Community Update and Member Meetings throughout western Manitoba in the coming weeks where everyone is welcome to join in the education, conversation and strengthen the voice.

Calling people of all ages who love to sing!

During the month of April on 4 consecutive Wednesdays from 7 to 8 p.m. you are invited come on the 9th, 16th, 23rd and 30th at Rapid City Community Church.

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INCORPORATED

Community Update & Members MEETING

Wednesday
April 9, 2025
Erickson Legion

Thursday
April 10, 2025
Shoal Lake Community Hall

Monday
April 14, 2025
Behlen Lounge
Rivers Curling Rink

Tuesday
April 15, 2025
Angusville Community Hall

Thursday
April 17, 2025
Oak Lake Community Hall

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PUBLIC NOTICE

REGARDING THE 2025 FINANCIAL PLAN

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to subsection 162(2) of The Municipal Act that the Council of Riverdale Municipality intends to present its financial plan for the fiscal year 2025 at a public hearing on the 23rd day of April 2025 at 7:00 p.m. at the Legion Hall, 633 Second Avenue. Council will hear any person who wishes to make representation, ask questions or register an objection to the financial plan, as provided.

Copies of the draft financial plan are available for review and may be examined by any person during the regular office hours of Riverdale Municipality at 670 – 2nd Avenue, Rivers, MB on or after April 4th, 2025

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Thank you to all applicants for their interest in Rolling River School Division.

Only those candidates selected for interviews will be contacted.

Coming Events



Riding Mountain PC Association

Notice of Annual General Meeting

for the year-ending December 31/24 via Zoom & Tele-conference options

Monday, April 21/25, 7:00 pm

All constituency PC members in good standing who wish to participate,

are asked to register by

Noon, Wednesday, April 16

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If you are interested in this career opportunity, please email your resume and cover letter with reference to Competition #100-24/25 to:

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We thank you for your interest. Those selected for further consideration will be contacted.



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RM of Oakview Meeting Feb. 25, 2025

Submitted
RIVERS BANNER

Present: Reeve-Robert Christie, Deputy Reeve Bill Aaroe, Councillors Gavin Reynolds, Frank Hyndman, Mark Gill and Ian Christie, Attending virtually-Lloyd Evans

Staff in attendance. CAO Mark Humphries. Administrative Assistant, Bonnie Wright.

Christie/Aaroe-That the agenda for February 25, 2025 be adopted as presented., to add 11.6 Doctors and 11.7 Planning Conference CARRIED

Gill/Hyndman-That the minutes of the third regular meeting held on Tuesday, Feb. 11, 2025 be adopted as circulated. CARRIED

Christie/Hyndman-That the minutes of the Committee of the Whole – Budget meeting held on Feb. 10, 2025 be adopted as circulated. CARRIED

Hugh Weitman - Sewage Lagoon

Aaroe/Hyndman-Be it resolved that the delegation information presented to Council by Hugh Weitman be hereby received. CARRIED

Gill/Christie-Be it resolved we do hereby accept the verbal and written reports of committee. CARRIED

Hyndman/Aaroe-Be it resolved that we do hereby approve for payment General Cheque's #11620 - 11623 and 11625 - 11651 and Payroll Cheques #56032 - 56053 including pre-authorized payments amounting to \$127,575.32. CARRIED

Aaroe/Hyndman-That the Council of the R. M. of Oakview approve payment of Gill Farms Ltd Invoice #5188 in the amount of \$3,337.95 by Cheque# 11624. CARRIED

Mark Gill returned to the meeting

Aaroe/Hyndman-Be it resolved that Section 12 of the Council Code of Conduct ByLaw states that "Council must review this code of conduct ByLaw annually to ensure it effectively meets its needs"; and Whereas Council has reviewed the By-Law;

Now Therefore be it resolved that we do hereby confirm

that ByLaw No. 2023-7 has been reviewed and meets the needs of Council. CARRIED

Aaroe/Christie

That the Council of the R. M. of Oakview accepts the AWWD 2025 levy and approve payment as submitted. CARRIED

Councillor Reynolds -joined Virtually

Christie/Hyndman-Whereas The Council of The RM of Oakview has reviewed the advice and suggestions presented by Stantec and MWSB in relation to the tender package for the upgrade to the Rapid City Water Plant. Therefore be it resolved that Council gives direction to MWSB and Stantec Engineering to proceed to create the tender document as recommended. CARRIED

Hyndman/Gill-Be it resolved that we do hereby approve Deputy Reeve Bill Aaroe to attend the Planning District Conference in Brandon. CARRIED

Hyndman/Aaroe-Be it resolved that the Council of the R.M. of Oakview instructs the C.A.O. to return the offer to purchase with the following conditions

1. items 5 and 6 of schedule A that no access restrictions are to be created while extracting pit run that could limit site or operation access to the RM of Oakview
2. items 5 and 6 of schedule A all pit run extracted by Providence Farms must be taken away at time of extraction, no stocking or processing on site will be accepted. CARRIED



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SPORTS

COUGARS AT THE NATIONALS

By Gerry Nolan
RIVERS BANNER

The Assiniboine Community College Cougars hockey team was in St. Louis Missouri for nationals this past weekend. The Cougars have had a wonderful year and were off for another showdown in Missouri.

In their first game they defeated Providence College 4-1. Payton Malchuk and Kasey Fouillard led the attack offensively in this game. This game was played on Friday.

On Saturday in game 2 of the tournament the Cougars defeated the University of Michigan 5-2. The Cougars fired 41 shots on their way to victory. Brooklyn Franklin led the way offensively with a goal and 2 assists. Lexy Waddell had a goal and assist and Kylee Emms-Finnason had 2 assists.

In game 3 on Sunday the Cougars hammered the East Michigan squad 7-1. They fired 65 shots on goal in this one. Payton Malchuk led the way scoring 4 goals and assisting on another one for the Cougars. Linemate Kasey Fouillard garnered 3 assists.

Game 4 on Sunday, in semi final action, the Cougars outlasted the United States Navy Academy by a score of 2-1. This victory gave them a shot in the final for a National Championship. Madison Haluk scored both goals for the Lady Cougars in this one.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

In game 5 for the Championship the Sault College had a big first period scoring 4 times and never looked back and won the game 6-2. Madison Haluk and Brooklyn Franklin scored the goals for the Cougars.

Although the Cougars came out on the short end of the scoreboard in this game they should be very, very proud of their season. They ended up being the number 2 team out of 82 teams. They finished the season with 26 wins, only 3 losses and 2 ties. Great goaltending and solid defence and timely scoring were the recipe for a strong season.

Congratulations to the team on a fantastic season. The friendships you have made as a team are life long and that in itself is worthy of more than a championship. To those whose career with ACC we extend best wishes and to next years team, let us do it all again!

ing to drop the puck when they were ready to face-off. Randy is across from Billy on the other side of the rink on the blue line. I was inside the blue line and was just sort of gliding over to Randy and Goph says to me have you had enough of that coach yelling at us yet? At that moment the coach yells at me, get over here I want to talk to you! The coach has come down from behind the players bench to the door where players go in and out of. I started to move forward, and Randy says are you throwing him out in a quiet voice? I said, "Oh yes, but I am going to have some fun, come with me". Randy follows along. I got over to the bench door and I said to the coach, you know you may be right about complaining about these calls, but I am here just to let you know, I am your friend, but I am throwing you out of the game. Goodbye, see ya!

There were a lot of people from Wawanesa at the game, mostly parents. None of them were saying a word which I thought was odd, but what the hey!

At the end of the game we the officials were skating to our exit to go to the change room. There were 4 sets of parents standing by the door and I am thinking, this may get into some nasty name calling. What I heard from them was finally thank you for throwing our coach out of the game. They said it was long overdue. They were embarrassed by his behaviour and it was not an example they wanted set before their boys. They had determined to remove him from coaching their boy's team but had not been able to because no one was throwing him out of any games. Enough was enough and they were going to make changes, and they did. I saw them later in the year and the kids were responding well to the new coach. I thanked them for their support to myself and Goph and Bronco.

When I went into the referee room some of the other Virden referees had dropped in as well as Billy and Randy and they wanted to know what were the parents saying to you? What happened? My answer, I was just making some new friends, and they love me!

REF MEMORIES

REF TO
WRITER

GERRY
NOLAN



When I moved to Virden from Oak Lake I began doing minor hockey in Virden. I had not been doing much minor hockey in recent years so it was fun again to work that type of hockey. I worked games with some really great officials and saw many take off and develop into real good referees and linesmen.

Bronco Billy Hayward assigned the games back then and I worked with Bronco on a number of occasions.

One particular game stands out to me. Wawanesa Bantams were playing the Virden Bantams who were coached by Stan Harvey. This was not a difficult game to do at all, but someone was losing his mind over the calls that I made or the linesmen made.

Bronco and Randy Kalynuk were doing the lines, and I was the head referee for that game. We were a veteran crew, to say the least, and had been around for a few years. Anyway, the coach from Wawanesa, a rather young fellow was mad at all of us and maybe just mad at the world, I do not know.

He questioned every call it seemed. There was a stoppage of play for offside, so we were lining up for the face-off just outside the blue line. Bronco was go-

Hamiota Agricultural Society Report

Submitted
RIVERS BANNER

Hamiota Agricultural Society is currently seeking volunteers. Some of

our Sections are requiring new directors. Cooking and Canning welcomes Judy Oakden and still needs one or two more directors to supplement the Section. Cattle is pleased to announce that Oriana Hyndman has volunteered. Other Sections that need new directors include Light Horse & Pony, Miniature Horses, Raw Fruit & Flowers, Homecraft and Junior Section. If you are interested in any of these Sections and joining Hamiota Ag Society, please contact Linda Wilson at 204-764-2642. She will provide contact information of the current directors to answer any questions you may have.

Another area the Hamiota Ag Society requires volunteers in the Meals Section. The pancake breakfast will still be sponsored by the current businesses for which Hamiota Ag Society greatly appreciates, but do not have adequate staff to prepare and serve the meal. If you are interested in becoming part of the Pancake Breakfast team, please contact Linda. Also, volunteers are required for sandwich making on Wednesday, July 16th and during the day on Thursday, July 17th for serving lunches and suppers. If you can help for a two-hour stint, please contact Linda.

Hamiota Ag Society also offers a scholarship to graduating students from Hamiota Collegiate who have shown a degree of volunteerism, service to the community and have supported Hamiota Ag Society. Details of the scholarship are available at Hamiota Collegiate.

Plans are underway for the 131st Hamiota Fair on Thursday, July 17, 2025. There is a full day of fun, food and fantastic entertainment planned for you and your family. The pancake breakfast starts the day off and is sponsored by local businesses at 6:30 a.m. in the display building. Breakfast is free with the price of admission to the fairgrounds and for that price of \$6.00 for everyone over 2 years of age you can spend the whole day at Hamiota Fair enjoying all the activities. You can join in the fun by helping prepare the food and serving breakfast to over 300 diners. The parade marshals at the High School grounds between 8:00 – 8:30 a.m. with commencement through the streets of Hamiota at 9:00 a.m. Livestock and equine shows take place in the showrings at the fairgrounds commencing at 9:00 a.m. and concludes with Gymkhana events later that day. For the young and the young at heart we have Just Acres Petting Farm from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm, Ryan Price Magic show and Applause Events providing a comedy magic show, 1 hour foam party, bubble stations, mini golf and a dinosaur area proving all sorts of dino activities for which a sponsorship from Hamiota Community Library is gratefully acknowledged, Hamiota Recreation Department offering face painting, perhaps a RC car racing tournament, laser tag kits and possibly archery tag equipment. Road Apples will perform at the Oakner Church Museum from 1:00 – 2:30 pm. All attractions at Hamiota Fair will be depicted on the poster once they have been confirmed. Meals will be available throughout the day at the Lions Booth on the grounds. This year the booth has been rented to Real Food from Portage la Prairie and their menu provides an extension offering. Other food trucks are also being contacted. In the Complex lunch and supper will be served by the Ag Society. The evening meal will start at 4:30 this year. Hamiota As Society Directors would like to take this opportunity to thank Hamiota Municipality and our other major sponsors who have generously financially supported Hamiota Fair this year and of course, all those local and nearby businesses who sponsor the various classes as are listed in the 2025 prize list book.

Russell Clarence Gurr "The Singing Farmer"

By RB Staff
RIVERS BANNER

The following "Memorable Manitobans" story came to my attention from the family of Russ's grand nephew. It's a brief introduction to a video of a Manitoban, taken from the Manitoba Historical Society prepared by Gordon Goldsborough, (www.mhs.mb.ca/docs/people/gurr).

Born on a farm near Arrow River on 23 December 1918, son of Albert Edward Gurr (1888-1969) and Bertha Maud Richardson (1890-1983), Russ Gurr began singing and playing guitar at an early age. He won his first singing competition at age 17, and began performing professionally on the newly opened CKX Television in Brandon in 1955.

Gurr signed a promotional contract with Federal Grain in 1967 and, over the next half-dozen years, he and the band Western Union performed at rodeos, fairs, and events across the prairies, including for Queen Elizabeth II as part of Manitoba's centennial celebrations in July 1970.

In the mid-1970s, he did promotional work for the chemical firm Eli Lilly, makers of the pesticide Trefflan.

Known for his powerful voice and yodeling, he released three albums: Federal Grain Train (1970), On Tour With Russ Gurr (1973), and Hogs are Beautiful (1976). He had a half-hour program on CKY Television entitled "Two for The Country."

On Jan. 5, 1939, he married Phyllis Patricia Hunter (1917-2000) of Lenore and they had two sons and two daughters. They farmed at Lenore (1939-1946), Hamiota (1946-1949), and Brandon (1949-2011). From 1952 to 1958, Gur was the Progressive Conservative organizer for rural Manitoba.

Russ Gurr died at Brandon on Nov. 8, 2011 and was buried in the Brandon Cemetery. He is commemorated by the video "Please Bring Your Guitar" (2017) written, produced, and directed by his granddaughter Julie Watt. Here's the YouTube link: www.youtube.com/watch?v=lmQ4O5ai3AI

Watoto Children's Choir coming to Hamiota April 15



Watoto Children's Choirs have traveled extensively since 1984 sharing a message of hope- not only for Africa's most vulnerable children and women- but for each of us all around the world. And we're thrilled they're coming here to perform songs off their brand-new album, "Better Days- There is Hope" on Tuesday April 15 at 6:30 PM. Come join us for this heartwarming, free musical performance.

We're Hiring

Role: Seasonal Chemical Delivery Driver
Location: Hamiota, MB

Job Requirements:

- Minimum Class 1 or 3 Driver's License with Air Brake endorsement
- Previous equipment operation (e.g., Forklift) and maintenance experience, an asset
- Previous Anhydrous Ammonia experience, preferred

To learn more, scan below or reach out to connect:



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SUN

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THU

FRI

SAT

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Apr 4

5

Prairie Crocus Library
Storytime in Rivers 10am

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

6

7

8

9

10

11

12



Rivers Legion
Bingo 11:30am

50 + Club Shanghi
Rummy 1pm

50 + Club
Pool 1pm



50 + Club
Cribbage 1pm



50 + Club Floor
Curling/Carpet
Bowling 1pm



Crib
Rivers
Legion 7pm

Darts
Rivers
Legion 7pm



Prairie Crocus Library
Storytime in Rivers 10am

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



Rivers Legion
Bingo 11:30am

Rivers Lions
Fish Fry



14

15

16

17

18

19

Oak River Bingo
and Pie Auction night

50 + Club
Pool 1pm



50 + Club
Cribbage 1pm



50 + Club Floor
Curling/Carpet
Bowling 1pm



Crib
Rivers
Legion 7pm

Darts
Rivers
Legion 7pm



Good
Friday