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Redline Transport celebrating 40 years of community values and commitment



Redline Transport owes its success to a strong hardworking team of wonderful employees.

SUBMITTED PHOTOS

By Carolyn Phillips
RIVERS BANNER

In today's fast-paced transportation industry, one company stands out not just for its service, but for its deep-rooted values—the very essence of its identity. Redline Transport, owned and operated by Al and Collette Lepp since October 1986, has been a beacon of professionalism, safety, and community commitment since it was established. The company was acquired with a vision to keep it local, thanks to the efforts of the Taylor family and community leaders including Marg Taylor and the Brandons and Wades. Al Lepp's focus was to ensure that Taylor's Highway Transportation, renamed Redline Transport, remained in the community of Rivers rather than succumbing to the allure of higher financial offers.

Redline Transport operates under the guiding principle that it is not just a business; it's a stewardship entrusted to them by the Lord Jesus Christ. This unique perspective shapes every decision made within the company. The team at Redline understands that they are all caretakers of the legacy they continue to build, a legacy founded on the strong values of safety, professionalism, and quality control.

Safety is paramount in an industry where the stakes are high. At Redline, every vehicle serves as a moving billboard for their brand—an assertion of reliability and trust on the roadways. The company's slogan, "Driven by People," encapsulates the driving force behind every successful delivery. Customers not only expect top-notch service; they also seek assurance that their goods are in capable hands. The dedicated team at Redline plays a pivotal role in providing that assurance, making it clear that the human element is irreplaceable.

Establishing long-term relationships with both customers and suppli-

ers is another cornerstone of Redline's success. The company thrives on repeat business, fostering an environment where dependability becomes second nature. While some may view predictability as mundane, Redline embraces it as essential to fostering trust and loyalty. The reassurance that comes from knowing your transportation needs will be met consistently cultivates stronger bonds and ultimately leads to more robust partnerships.

Being strongly rooted in the community is evident in every aspect of Redline Transport's operations. The team believes that serving the Westman area effectively is crucial before extending their influence elsewhere. Their commitment to their immediate surroundings underscores the belief that strong local ties are vital for meaningful contributions to other communities and provinces. The company's success is not just measured in revenue but also by the positive impact it has on its hometown and the relationships nurtured over decades.

As Redline Transport celebrates 40 years of operation, it has garnered recognition for its excellence, earning the 2018 Manitoba Truckers Association Omnitrac's Distinguished Member Award. This accolade reflects the hard work, dedication, and outstanding service the team has consistently delivered to its clients.

Redline Transport is more than just a trucking company; it is a community-focused enterprise that blends business acumen with heartfelt service. With a legacy built on trust, relationships, and unwavering values, Redline continues to drive forward, proudly serving the surrounding Westman area as well as interprovincially while upholding the motto that "people make the biggest difference." Here's to many more years of success for Redline Transport, a true gem in the transportation industry.

Inside...



MEET
RIVERDALE
CANDIDATES
P6-7



MEET
HAMiota
CANDIDATES
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Oakview candidates DON'T BE LEFT OUT

The Rivers Banner has invited the candidates for Oakview to submit their photos and responses to two questions. Some people have not yet responded. We would like to hear from all candidates for the

RM of Oakview. If you are a reeve candidate, council candidate, or LUD candidate and have not responded, please do so this week before Monday, Oct. 19 at 9am. Send in your photo and respond to the questions in

200 words or less:

- 1) Why do you want to be a council member/the reeve?
- 2) What do you feel is the most important part about being a councillor/the reeve?

Email us at reporter1@empire-advance.ca or text 204-412-0050

Meet the Candidates running for office in Hamiota

Candidates running for Mayor



Randy Lints

Why do you want to be Mayor of Hamiota?

Hamiota is home, it's where I was born, raised, and brought up my family. Nothing matters more to me than seeing our community thrive. Serving as the mayor this past term has been an honour, and I'm running for a second term to finish the key projects we've started while bringing fresh ideas to the table. By building strong, cross-party relationships in the provincial government, I've created a direct line to key decision makers. That connection helps me effectively advocate for our local priorities, secure vital funding, and keep Hamiota's future top of mind.

What do you feel is the most important part about being Mayor for the Hamiota Municipality?

Being mayor means uniting council, listening to our neighbors, and respecting the democratic process. I believe in setting good policy and trusting our staff to run the daily operations, not micromanaging. We need to focus on the essentials, aggressively protecting local healthcare and keeping doctors here, investing in our roads, water systems, and local assets while maintaining a balanced, sustainable budget. If we build a community that supports local agriculture, housing, and small business, families and seniors will want to stay and grow here. My goal is simple, be a strong voice for Hamiota in the province, and an approachable leader for everyone in the municipality.



Tom Mollard

Why do you want to be Mayor of Hamiota?

Hamiota has always had a very strong sense of community backed by many volunteers that work tirelessly to benefit all who reside there.

Over the last 40 years I have spent countless hours volunteering to help others. In the last four years I have watched the relationship between the community and local government deteriorate to a point that good and dedicated people are ready to quit. Watching this unfold in a community like Hamiota is very disappointing and has compelled me to let my name stand for the office of mayor.

What do you feel is the most important part about being Mayor for the Hamiota Municipality?

If elected I would work with council to plan a future that includes and encourages others in the community to continue to get involved in achieving common goals.

At the previous election candidates spoke about the need for transparency in our municipality and I would like the opportunity to show council members what they meant.

Being elected is a privilege and not an achievement. Our legacy begins the day after the election from the work we do. I take this very seriously and would expect other council members to do so as well.



Jen McConnell

Why do you want to be Mayor of Hamiota?

As a home-grown Hamiota gal, I have spent 40 of my 45 years in this community, moving back after graduating as an RMT to raise my children here was an easy decision. For eight years, I've served as Park West School Division trustee and vice-chair, managing multi-million-dollar budgets and representing local families. That inspired me to bring those skills to the council table.

I'm a self-starter with an entrepreneurial mind. I built a home massage practice into a multidisciplinary wellness clinic because rural people shouldn't have to drive to a city for quality care. Reviving our local Creamy let me employ local youth and taught me managing, scheduling and teamwork. I've coached local teams, served on various boards and am a volunteer Hamiota firefighter.

What do you feel is the most important part about being Mayor for the Hamiota Municipality?

The most important part of being mayor is communication, collaboration and honesty. Municipal issues aren't always simple. Residents deserve clear answers and a path forward. Hamiota is strongest when we support each other, sustaining what we have while creating new opportunities. I'll have lessons to learn, but I bring wide-ranging experience and a drive to make our community better. I'll listen, encourage, organize, work alongside my colleagues, bringing teamwork, openness and efficiency to the mayor's chair.

Candidates running for Council



Ryan Tolton

Why do you want to be a council member?

I have built my career around agriculture, working closely with producers as a sales agronomist. I truly understand how important agriculture and rural businesses are to our local economy. As a husband and father of a young family, one of my priorities is to foster a community where families want to live, work, and raise their children for generations to come.

As my wife works locally in healthcare, I have gained first hand knowledge of the importance of accessible healthcare and emergency services. One initiative I would like to explore, is establishing a Medical First Responder program in Hamiota, helping strengthen our community's ability to respond to emergencies when every minute matters.

I currently serve as president of the Hamiota and District Sports Complex, where I have had the opportunity to work with local volunteers and community members to support important projects and initiatives.

What do you feel is the most important part about being a councillor for the Hamiota Municipality?

I will bring a fresh perspective to the council table and represent our community with fairness and respect. I believe a councillor's most important responsibility is to listen - to the concerns, ideas and perspectives of residents - and make informed decisions. My goal is to help build a strong, welcoming and sustainable community for the future.

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SCAN HERE



Town	Date	Time	Location (including address)
Oak River	Wed. October 28	12 pm to 4 pm	Oakdale Seniors Home (30 North Railway)
Rapid City	Thu. November 5	12 pm to 4 pm	ValleyView Senior Centre (380 3rd Ave)
Rivers #1	Tue. October 27	11:30 am to 6 pm	Rivers Legion Hall (633 Second Ave.)
Rivers #2	Tue. November 3	12 pm to 4 pm	Rivers Legion Hall (633 Second Ave.)

Meet the Candidates running for office in Hamiota

Candidates running for Council



Ed Brethour

Why do you want to be a council member?

As a candidate for councillor in the upcoming election, I see my role is to support the provision of efficient and fiscally responsible municipal services to our taxpayers and residents. If elected, I also want to expand economic development and growth for existing businesses and services but also for new ventures like distance education.

What do you feel is the most important part about being a councillor for the Hamiota Municipality?

We need to continue to build on our strengths such as the growth of our Health Center. And I will support the development of the community and businesses so that we can offer a wide range of services locally and continue to make Hamiota and area a desirable place to live.



Ken Lawn

Why do you want to be a council member?

I want to continue to be a councillor because I enjoy being able to be part of the table that makes decisions about the welfare of our community.

What do you feel is the most important part about being a councillor for the Hamiota Municipality?

I feel the most important part about being a councillor is not to be silent at the table, but to voice my thoughts and opinions to which I believe is for the betterment of the community, while being cognizant of the spending of taxpayers' money.

Les Kirk was unavailable to respond to the newspaper. He will have his opportunity to answer these questions when he is available.



Ross Gray

Why do you want to be a council member?

I am running for council for a second term as I have really enjoyed being involved on council. I enjoy listening to community members concerns and working towards answers to those concerns through council. By doing so, hopefully we can make Hamiota a community where people are proud to live and call home. Now that we have a term under our belts, I believe myself as well as the rest of council have a better understanding of municipal politics and the operations of such.

What do you feel is the most important part about being a councillor for the Hamiota Municipality?

I feel being open minded and a willing listener to community members' concerns is one of the most important components of being a councillor. There will always be issues which are not valid and you need to work through them all to ensure we are doing what is best for the community and the ratepayers of the municipality in a fair and equitable fashion to ensure tax dollars are being spent where needed the most and in a fiscally responsible fashion.



Cal Harrison

Why do you want to be a council member?

I would like the opportunity to work with the mayor, council and staff to keep the town and RM of Hamiota moving forward.

What do you feel is the most important part about being a councillor for the Hamiota Municipality?

I would say the most important thing is to listen to the community, find reasonable solutions and keep an open mind.



Lance Routledge

Why do you want to be a council member?

I believe small rural communities are wonderful places to live and raise a family. For a community to thrive, everyone must contribute. Serving on council gives me the opportunity to help guide and shape a successful future for our community.

What do you feel is the most important part about being a councillor for the Hamiota Municipality?

I believe accountability is the most important part of being a councillor. While it is natural to feel passionate about certain issues, the role should never be used to advance a personal agenda. Everyone deserves to be heard, understood, and respected. Decisions should be based on the best available information and input, with the community's interests at the forefront. As a councillor, I represent residents and am entrusted with their tax dollars, so I owe them responsible and transparent leadership.



Kelvin Tiller

Why do you want to be a council member?

I have enjoyed my first four years as councillor for the town and RM of Hamiota. I have found it very rewarding being on council — we all have our opinions and don't always agree yet we always come to a consensus after a good discussion. We had set goals when we were first elected and we have succeeded in completing a portion of these goals, however, we still have some unfinished projects that I would like to be a part of completing.

What do you feel is the most important part about being a councillor for the Hamiota Municipality?

I feel that the most important part about being a councillor is to be open and transparent to all constituents and not to have a personal agenda.

I feel that councillors need to work together to succeed for the betterment of our community and to do that I feel it is important to make our constituents feel like they can approach me regarding any issues they may have.



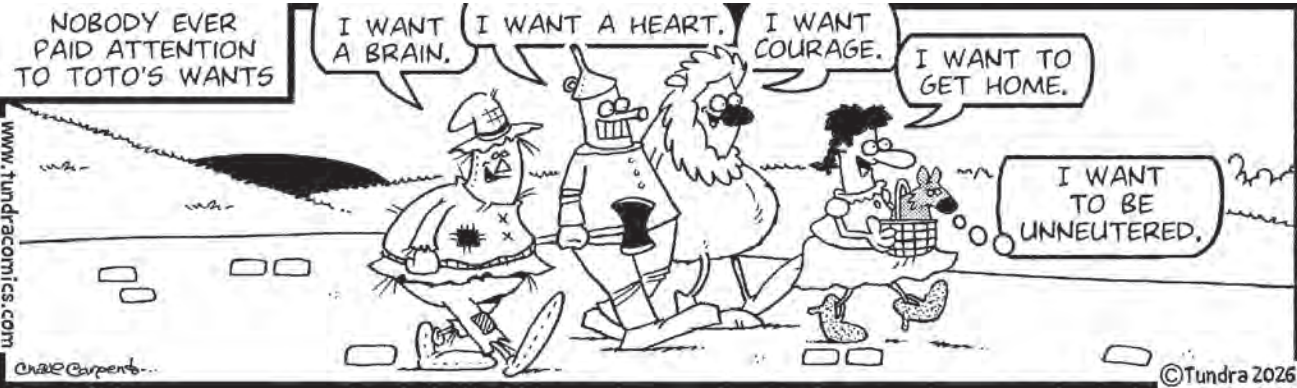
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Sundays 10 a.m.
Children's Church during the message
Bible Study - Thursdays 7:30 p.m.

JESUS IS LORD

COLLEEN ROBBINS, MLA
Spruce Woods Constituency
(204).717.7000

Tundra

By Chad Carpenter



There are a number of events coming up this fall that may change our world. Probably the most important for us directly here in southwestern Manitoba are the municipal elections.

As I have said many times, civil politics is the most important level of government for us in Manitoba. It's important to keep an eye on provincial and federal politics and even international politics, but it's municipal affairs that most closely affects our daily lives and our future.

There is a provincial election in British Columbia where current Premier David Eby has called an election long before it was necessary. Mr. Eby says he needs a new mandate to battle the effects of the American tariffs.

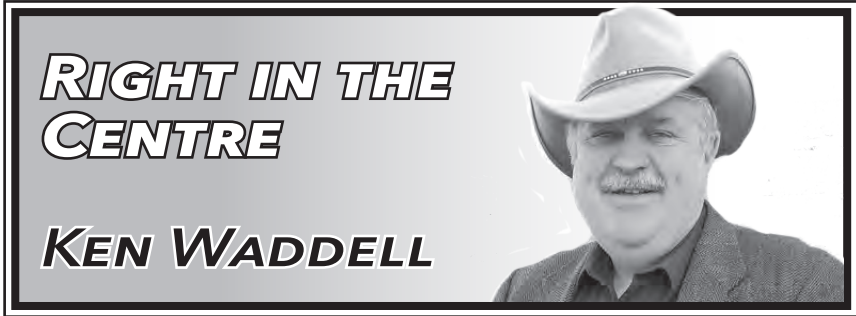
But it seems more likely that he saw that the opposition parties were in complete disarray and it would be an opportune time to call an election and obtain that much desired four years of majority government. The polling so far doesn't look good for Mr. Eby.

There was also an election in Quebec recently where the Parti Quebecois obtained a minority government position with only 28 per cent of the popular vote.

In Alberta, there is going to be a vote on whether or not to hold an independence or separation referendum in that province as some Albertans have no love towards the federal government. And perhaps not even towards the rest of Canada, but I doubt that there will be enough people in Alberta who vote to have a referendum on separation.

And then there is the famous mid-term elections in the United States. A lot of people are holding their breath to see if they midterms will go so badly for Donald Trump that he might change his ways depending on the results of the election. I don't know if I want to predict the U.S. midterm elections because the Democratic Party has gone so far left in the past five years that a lot of people in the middle of the voting spectrum don't want anything to

Coming events



do with the Democratic Party. One of the most famous of known Democrats would be comedian Bill Maher who has come out many times indicating that the Democratic Party has moved so far left even his liberal views of the political world are having trouble reaching consensus.

There's a lot of people in United States who still think Donald Trump is the greatest thing since sliced bread but there are a lot of people who are seeing that their grocery bills are going up and their gas bills have gone up and the cost of living is getting out of control for lower or even middle-class people. So there's enough uncertainty in the United States, I think right now, to make it difficult to predict how those mid-term elections will go. Then in Canada we might have an early election federally as Prime Minister Mark Carney could pull the pin and try to get a large majority instead of a small majority. It could happen but I think it would backfire somewhat but the situation in Canada is such that many Canadians seem to think that Mark Carney is doing a really good job. I will admit that Mark Carney appears to be doing a good job, but there are a lot of things that he has talked about that are simply sunshine and promises and not actual projects. I know there's some projects that have been theoretically approved, that would be favourable to Canada, but there's a number of stumbling blocks in the

way. One is finances for sure, the other is approval by First Nations people and then there's labour availability. They talk about thousands of jobs and there aren't thousands of people to take those jobs. Certainly not people with the skills required to build pipelines, highways and large construction and housing projects. I would say that for the next couple of months we're going to be experiencing a lot of uncertainty politically and the other only answer is to carry on to do the best you can with what we have at hand. Farmers need to farm, newspapers need to publish, carpenters need to build. We just need to do the best we can with what's in front of us and go ahead. I think I wrote recently that a number of years ago while I was in a church service in a little church in Rapid City, Manitoba a man stood up and actually spoke what you would call a prophecy. It went like this, "You have in your midst all that you need to do what God has asked you to do." That's so true, it's been that way for a long time and that phrase rings so true with me. The other phrase that I've said many times is there are Four F's in life- faith, family, friends and finances and as long as we keep them in that order we will do OK. May God bless you and yours in the coming days.

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 staff.

Homebodies

Rita Friesen



Sit with me a moment...

As I put pen to paper (finger to keyboard) to capture thoughts and emotions, I invite you to sit with me a moment. It's the last Saturday of September, grey, cool, and with just a hint of a breeze. I was sitting on the couch, reading, when I glanced outside. The front yard has a canopy of leaves, some deciduous and some evergreen, a perfect protection from the summer afternoon sunshine. Today that canopy felt a touch oppressive, and then I looked beyond. Just across the street two trees, one tall and stately and the other more shrub like, are dressed for fall. Their golden hues are like a candle blaze against the sombre greens and fading maples. The book was set aside as I marvelled at those shades of gold that broke the blah and caught my eye and my imagination.

Mr. Rogers, a children's television star, often reminded us to 'look for the helpers'. When witnessing an accident or natural disaster, to balance our emotions we are to see those who are working for the good of the people and the situation. The helpers. Let your mind sit with that for a moment. The helpers aren't always recognised, or recognisable. There are times when their efforts are in vain, and times when there is great success, and times, sadly, when the helpers lay down their lives. Having the history of 9/11 recently reviewed we can see all of those outcomes....

For me, this day, those two glowing trees caused me to reflect on who and what brightens my blah and lightens my way. First to mind is a trio - faith, family and friends. A word of encouragement goes a long way, on any day, but especially when the days have been challenging and tiring. Thank you to a dear friend who watched my week, felt and shared my sorrow, and baked me the bestest biscuits. The thank you notes I receive - and I truly don't expect them! Are some of the brightest candles burning. And when great grandchildren willingly run for a hug, arriving or leaving- well the entire galaxy is ablaze! The following series of thoughts were more sombre. When and how am I being a helper? Do I brighten someone else's day? We know that there are folks that make us happy when they appear, and folks that make us happy when they leave! May I be in the first category...I am learning, as I become more vintage, that there are days when it doesn't take much to see the sunshine, to feel the lingering warmth of real interaction with another living being. I love stopping to chat, waving a greeting across the street, pausing at a table to say hi. These bursts of sunshine are like those candles burning through the gloom - those trees I'm watching through my window. And just as I know that a strong wind will have those leaves a flying and piling in corners, they are not forever, but another point of beauty will appear. And so I shall accept the wonder and the blessing right now, and be prepared to find another, in it's time.

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Defending your property

By **Gerry Nolan**
RIVERS BANNER

We hear of so many crimes that are happening in rural Manitoba these days. Cattle rustling, home invasion, etc. What can you do to protect yourself? The RCMP, of course, and the courts would probably tell you not to take matters into your hands but call the RCMP. With few officers and a big area to cover they may not be much help when you really need them.

Under Canadian law, defending your property is governed by Section 35 of the criminal code, which allows you to use reasonable force to stop someone from unlawfully entering, taking or damaging your property. To legally justify using force to protect your property, you must meet 4 conditions (information from the Department of Justice of Canada).

Peaceable possession - You must lawfully possess the property or assist someone who does.

Unlawful interference - You must reasonably believe that another person is entering without permission, taking or damaging your property.

Defensive purpose - You must act strictly for the purpose of defending your property.

Reasonableness - Your actions must be objectively reasonable in the circumstances.

Limits of force: You can only use the amount of force necessary to remove the trespasser or stop the damage and physically escort someone off your property. You can not use lethal force to protect your property alone.

Self defence: If an intruder threatens your life or physical safety. Lethal force is only justified if you reasonably

believe your life or someone else's is in imminent danger of death or grievous bodily harm and no lesser force will work.

On August 15, 2026, in the RM of Dufferin, a 66-year-old farmer faces six firearm related charges after firing shots from a gun at four suspected fuel thieves. The homeowner was alerted by a motion activated security camera to two vehicles, later confirmed stolen from Watrous, Saskatchewan on his property.

He found four individuals transferring fuel into a stolen vehicle, confronted them with a firearm and fired shots toward their vehicle to disable them.

The aftermath was three suspects were arrested at the scene by the RCMP, while a fourth fled but was later caught. The homeowner had called the RCMP.

The 66-year-old homeowner and farmer was also arrested and charged with six offenses. Two counts of careless use of a firearm. Two counts of using a firearm in the commission of an offence. Two counts of discharging a firearm in a reckless manner.

The charges: The RCMP stated that any force used to protect property must be reasonable and proportionate and warned against confronting intruders instead of calling the police first.

Manitoba Premier Wab Kinew agreed with the RCMP's decision stating individuals cannot act as jury and judge. Local MLA Josh Guenther criticized the response and argued for stronger property defense rights.

What are your thoughts? What is reasonable? Sounds like a loophole! What have the four perpetrators done to them except jailed, charged and released to do it again? All in the manner of a day, really.

Interesting to see how this will all work out. What would you do if this happened to you?

Crunchy French Onion Chicken

Ingredients

- 1 1/3 cups French-fried onions, crushed
- 1 large egg, beaten
- 1 pound skinless, boneless chicken breast halves

Directions

1. Preheat the oven to 400 degrees F.
2. Spread crushed onions in a shallow bowl. Pour egg into a separate shallow bowl.
3. Dip chicken into beaten egg, then press into crushed onions. Gently tap chicken to let loose pieces fall away. Place breaded chicken on a baking sheet.
4. Bake chicken until no longer pink in the center and the juices run clear, about 20 mins. An instant-read thermometer inserted into the center should read at least 165 degrees F.



Wordsearch from last weeks cover

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

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|-------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1. Storage | 5. Thanksgiving | 9. Ample |
| 2. Expand | 6. Acres | 10. Operational |
| 3. Building | 7. Vehicles | 11. Elements |
| 4. Local | 8. Shelter | 12. Enhance |



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Meet the Candidates running for office in Riverdale

Candidates running for Council



Jocelyn Beever

Why do you want to be a council member?

Community service is an important part of my life. I currently serve on the Rivers and Area Community Foundation, the Rivers Library Board, and the Rivers Train Station Restoration Committee. These roles allow me to contribute to projects that strengthen our community, support local initiatives, preserve our heritage, and enhance opportunities for current and future generations.

What do you feel is the most important part about being a councillor for the Riverdale Municipality?

I believe my experience working with teams, fostering positive team dynamics, and bringing people together to achieve common goals will be a valuable asset on council. I am committed to listening to residents, making informed decisions, and working collaboratively to ensure our community remains a vibrant place to live, work, raise a family, and build a future for generations to come.

Areas I would like to explore if elected include:

- Affordable recreation alternatives
- Year-round Bicycle / Cross Country ski trail system
 - Paddle club, utilizing the kayak launcher at the new dock
- Disc golf course
- Expand walking trails and include interpretive / educational signs
- ATV trail connecting to trails in other communities.
- Continued support for expanded Day Care facilities in Rivers.



Ashley Brennan

Why do you want to be a council member?

Since moving to Riverdale in 2020, I've come to appreciate the people, rural values, and community that make this area special. As a registered nurse working in Public Health and a mother of two young children, I want to help build a healthy, welcoming community for current and future generations.

My priorities include practical municipal investment, reliable rural infrastructure, responsible water stewardship, community safety, and creating more opportunities for children and families. I also want to support agriculture, strengthen local businesses, encourage economic growth, and proactively pursue grants and funding to make the most of municipal resources.

What do you feel is the most important part about being a councillor for the Riverdale Municipality?

I believe the most important part of being a councillor is listening to residents, understanding their concerns, and making informed decisions in the best interests of the entire municipality. Good leadership means being open to different perspectives, working together toward common goals, and finding practical, responsible solutions that benefit the community as a whole.



Bonnie Dreveski

Why do you want to be a council member?

Growing up in Rivers and now raising my young family here, I am proud to call Riverdale Municipality home. The people, values, and strong sense of community are what make this such a special place to live, and the reason I am seeking a position on Town Council.

As our community continues to grow, I am eager to help shape the future of our municipality. I am committed to exploring opportunities that bring more activities, tourism, jobs, and support to our community, while also advancing conversations around affordable childcare for our working families.

I commit to bringing a fresh perspective and a forward-thinking vision to council. Together, we can focus on strategic planning and practical solutions; taking a proactive approach to addressing aging infrastructure and preparing for future challenges before they become costly problems.

What do you feel is the most important part about being a councillor for the Riverdale Municipality?

If elected, I will be a dedicated and transparent voice to our residents, working hard to help this community continue to grow and thrive.

On Wednesday, October 28th, I would be honored to earn the opportunity to serve our community as a member of Council.



Mark Gill

Why do you want to be a council member?

I farm seven miles north of Rivers and three miles west. I went to school in Rivers, played ball and hockey in Cardale and got the mail in Oak River. This past year I received my 30-year pin for being on the RM of Oakview Council.

I have always enjoyed being on council and being involved. Listening to people's concerns and accomplishing what can be done.

What do you feel is the most important part about being a councillor for the Riverdale Municipality?

Keeping up with the infrastructure needs of the municipality is never ending. Roads, bridges, ditches, machinery roads, streets, sidewalks, etc.

A lot of people visit Rivers for the memories, so beautification of the town and rural is important.

Enhancing the fairgrounds so more families could enjoy is something I would like to see happen; splash park, pool, etc.

Rivers has a lot of history from the CN Mainline to the air base so helping preserve that is important also.

Housing is also important, always people looking to rent.

I would like to work alongside with others to make Riverdale Municipality a better place to live and call home.

BE SURE TO VOTE OCTOBER 28, 2026

RE-ELECT

EVERETT SMITH

FOR RIVERDALE COUNCIL

Pursuing a third term to see old projects come to fruition and to work towards new opportunities for our community.

Remember to VOTE!

Your voice, your choice, your vote.

ELECT

JOCELYN BEEVER

for Riverdale Municipal Council

Community service is an important part of my life.

YEARS OF EXPERIENCE HAVE TAUGHT JOCELYN THE VALUE OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT, VOLUNTEERISM, AND TEAMWORK.

VOTE

Advance voting:
October 21, 2026
@ 670 - 2nd Ave, Rivers

Voting Places: Oct 28
Royal Canadian Legion Hall,
633 - 2nd Ave, Rivers

Meet the Candidates running for office in Riverdale

Candidates running for Council



Shawn Mason

Why do you want to be a council member?

Serving as a council member for the last four years has been a privilege. I have enjoyed being able to help grow the community I grew up in. I believe in the future and potential of Riverdale Municipality with its proximity to a major center, combined with a close-knit community. I am aware of the many challenges that affect our community, such as barriers to accessible childcare and housing needs, and believe it is of utmost importance that we have a plan for action.

I plan to draw on my 30+ years of professional experience, along with the municipal knowledge I have gained, to make forward-thinking, evidence-based decisions that further support the wellbeing and success of our community.

What do you feel is the most important part about being a councillor for the Riverdale Municipality?

As an elected official, it is important to remember that you are working as a team for the interests of the entire municipality. It is your responsibility to be aware of Council's role in governing and the possible impact you may have on the entire community; while respecting the decision made at the table.

The underlying challenges within our community do not always have to do with money, population, or jobs. Sometimes issues come about as the result of community fragmentation.



Everett Smith

Why do you want to be a council member?

I was elected to council in 2018 and acclaimed in 2022. When I first pursued a seat on Council, I was motivated by ensuring that the rural portion of Riverdale had representation at the table. I pursued a second term because I was enjoying learning about the municipal processes and the associated relationship with provincial partners. My desire to pursue a third term is based upon seeing old projects come to fruition and working towards new opportunities.

What do you feel is the most important part about being a councillor for the Riverdale Municipality?

Council has to find the balance between sustainable growth and continued commitment to our existing responsibilities. In a sense: building towards the future, while maintaining and performing our historic duties. Some decisions will be quick and easy. Others, not so. There will be occasions where the decision Council wants to make, is not the decision Council will have to make. As a former member that I served with once put it: the right decision is not always popular, and the popular decision is not always right. Council needs to trust in the municipality's administrative team and managers, as they are the experienced professionals and the knowledge they accumulate through their network of peers is invaluable to the decision-making process.



Christa Veitch

Why do you want to be a council member?

I want to be a councillor because it would give me the opportunity to take an active role in helping our community grow and thrive. I enjoy listening to residents, their perspectives and learning what matters most to them. I care deeply about our community and would appreciate working with fellow councillors, municipal staff, and community partners to help move our community forward in a positive way.

What do you feel is the most important part about being a councillor for the Riverdale Municipality?

For me, the most important part of being a councillor is keeping an open mind, remaining transparent and being approachable to residents. Councillors must also make thoughtful and informed decisions and work toward solutions that benefit the community as a whole. Finally, being a councillor means you are continually learning so it's important to be prepared, organized, and attentive.



RE-ELECT

CHRISTA VEITCH

FOR COUNCIL

VOTE ON OCTOBER 28, 2026

Riverdale Municipality

Voting Places: Oct 28

Royal Canadian Legion Hall,

633 – 2nd Ave, Rivers

Advance voting:

October 21, 2026

@ 670 – 2nd Ave, Rivers

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Why Care About Public Trust?



By Cam Dahl, General Manager
MANITOBA PORK COUNCIL

Recently, a farmer asked me “why should I care what somebody in Toronto thinks about how I manage my farm? I have been doing this for 40 years and I don’t need someone from the city telling me what to do.” This is not an uncommon point of view. Farmers get frustrated when people who don’t understand agriculture weigh in on how livestock should be raised and crops should be grown.

The fact is those opinions from urban Canada are already impacting what happens behind the farm gate, and that impact is only going to grow. There are two reasons for this. Canadian farmers don’t just grow corn and canola or raise pigs and cattle. Farmers grow food, and collectively urban consumers are the largest customer base for what farmers grow and raise. What our customers think matters. Second, there are more urban Canadians voters than rural voters, and that influences who is elected and the legislation and regulations that come down from our legislative assemblies and Parliament.

In today’s immediate information environment, public opinion can shift rapidly. For example, cooking oils from crops like canola were at the top of the “heart healthy list” just a short time ago. Despite years of research, questions

from the Make America Healthy Again movement have made many wonder how healthy these oils actually are. Another example is California’s Proposition 12, which was imposed without adequate scientific backing. The Proposition forced costly production requirements for both farms in California and in provinces and states that ship meat to California.

If the North American agriculture and food industries only react retroactively to these initiatives, we will see significant overregulation. Agriculture must proactively engage on the questions that our customers value. The question “where does my food come from” is genuine for many consumers. If agriculture is not prepared to answer this question, others will and they will do so without considering the interests of farmers and, if history is a guide, will do so with little consideration for scientific research.

The public frequently has questions about animal welfare practices. The farmers I have met genuinely care about the welfare of their animals. Healthy animals are also essential to the financial success of their farms. But just saying this does not answer the public’s question “was the animal cared for properly.” There needs to be some transparent proof behind the industry’s “yes it was” answer.

Like all livestock producers in Canada, pig farmers follow a scientifically developed code of practice, otherwise known as The Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Pigs. The Code specifies housing and environmental conditions, like space for pigs, and climate-controlled barns. The code also outlines staff training guidelines and requirements for traceability and safe transport. Nutrition and freshwater standards are outlined in the Code as is a requirement for the farm to have an ongoing relationship with a veterinarian. In Manitoba, following the Code is a requirement under the Farm Animal Care Act.

“Is the way my food grown good for the environment” is another common question from the public. Again, before we get to “yes”, agriculture needs to be able to back up the answer with transparent action.

There was a time when animal manure was spread on fields with little thought to what happens to the nutrients after. There was a time when few would have thought there was anything wrong with applying manure to frozen ground. There was a time when animal agriculture was a significant source of nitrogen and phosphorus in our lakes and rivers. Those times are long past.

Today hog manure is a valuable organic fertilizer that enriches soil health. Almost all hog manure in Manitoba is injected well below the soil’s surface, which protects waterways from run-off. The nutrient content of the manure is measured in real time as it is being injected, and the rate of application is adjusted to ensure that nutrients are being applied correctly.

Producing food in an environmentally responsible manner is good business. It is also a regulatory requirement. Hog farmers in Manitoba must file an annual Manure Management Plan with the province. Plans must be prepared by a registered third-party planner and include soil testing and tailoring application to the nutrient needs of a specific crop.

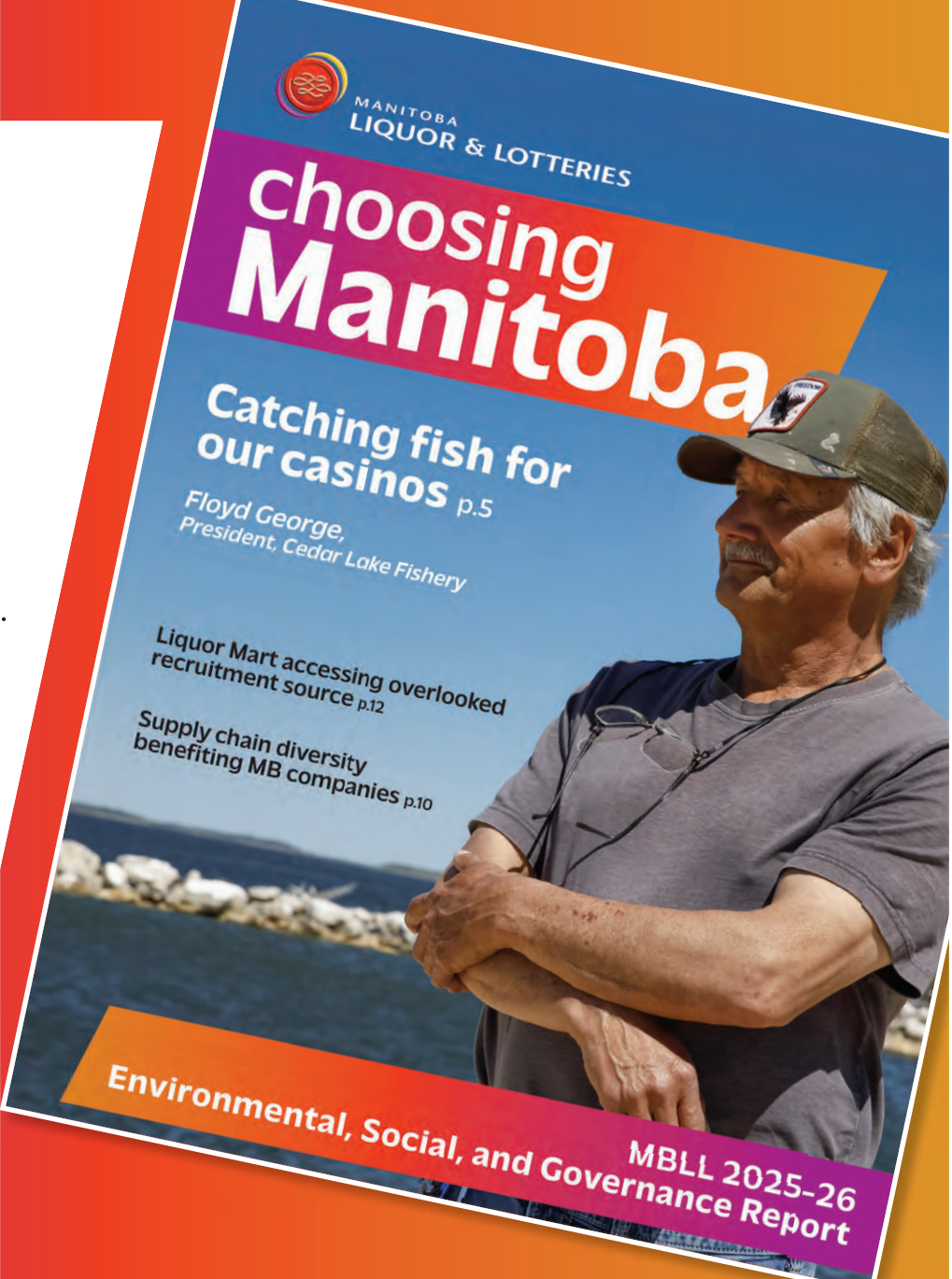
Farmers are doing the right things but is this enough to counter opinion driven movements? The answer is no. There was a time when the public had an inherent trust of agriculture. As time has passed, the connection between urban consumers and rural producers has faded and so to understand what it takes to deliver a safe and reliable food supply. Modern agriculture is not well understood. While trust is not built through advertising, it is incumbent upon agriculture to talk about doing the right thing and to demonstrate how consistent practices, transparency, and a willingness to improve are answering questions about food production.

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Our 2025-26 Environmental, Social, and Governance Report details many of the choices we are making and their positive impacts for Manitoba. We invite you to spend a few moments with it to discover how we’re working with our suppliers, partners, and customers to do “good together” for us all.

Read it »



Superstitions



The number of times Friday the 13 occurs on an average calendar is 1.72 per year. There can never be more than three in a single year, as was the case in 2015. In the United Kingdom, many local councils have

instigated legally binding bans on using the number 13 for newly built homes, while many developers skip the number entirely when building new estates. Twenty-eight percent of streets in the United Kingdom do not have a house number 13. One of the most well-known superstitions is that of the broken mirror. The Ancient Greeks believed that a person's reflection on the surface of a pool of water revealed their soul. The Romans were the first to manufacture mirrors from polished metal surfaces, believing gods could observe human souls through them. Breaking or damaging a mirror was deemed so disrespectful that the gods would inflict bad luck on the perpetrator. A seven-year period was attached to the breakage so that there was at least an end in sight to the black cloud of misfortune. The British have long believed that a black cat crossing

your path is a bad omen. The reason? It was believed that a black cat might be on a mission from a witch or even be the devil in disguise, bringing misfortune along with it. The next time you prepare to travel, keep this in mind: after five airline disasters involving a flight with the number 191, major United States carriers Delta and American Airlines no longer use the number on any of their routes. The deadliest was American Airlines Flight 191, which crashed at Chicago's O'Hare Airport in 1979, killing 273 people. Delta Air Lines Flight 191 crashed at Dallas-Fort Worth Airport in 1985, killing 137 people. There have been other serious incidents involving flights numbered 191 as well, so next time you're flying, you might want to double-check your flight number before you leave. Whether you believe in superstitions or not, it is fascinating to look into these strange traditions, especially with Halloween right around the corner.

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• FORTUNE, Brent • GOURLAY, Nelson • REYNOLDS, Gavin

Two Councillors at large for Ward 1 from the following duly nominated candidates:
• MCFADDEN, Shawn • HYNDMAN, Frank • EVANS, Lloyd
• CHRISTIE, Ian • DALGLEISH, John

Two Councillors at large for Ward 2 from the following duly nominated candidates:
• RAUPERS, Chris • BOOTSMAN, Joey • CHRISTIE, Robert (Bob)
• HEDLEY, Trent

Two Councillors at large for Ward 3 from the following duly nominated candidates:
• STEWART, Charles • AAROE, Bill • CORBEY, Andrew

Three Committee members for LUD of Rapid City from the following duly nominated candidates:
• USUNIER, Justin • PAUL, James • CITULSKY, Curtis
• RICHTER, Jaimie

NOTICE OF ACCLAMATION
Committee members for LUD of Oak River have been acclaimed:
• BURKE, Harmony • JOHNSON, Karen • TURNBULL, Robert

Voting Places
Voting places will be open for voting on Wednesday the 28th day of October, 2026 between 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. at the following locations:
• **Voting Station #1 (Rapid City Poll)** – Rapid City Legion Memorial Community Centre at 380 – 3rd Avenue in Rapid City (Townships 13 & 14 Range 19 and 20W, which includes the Town of Rapid City)
• **Voting Station #2 (Basswood Poll)** – Basswood Community Hall at 125 McKinnon Street in Basswood (Township 15 Range 19 and 20W)
• **Voting Station #3 (Oak River Poll)** – Meeting Room at the Oak River Rink 7 Government Road in Oak River (Township 13 Range 21 & Range 22W; and Township 14 Range 22W)
• **Voting Station #4 (Cardale Poll)** – Dora's Coffee Shop at 28 Railway Avenue in Cardale (Township 14 Range 21W and Township 15 Range 21 and 22W)

IDENTIFICATION MAY BE REQUIRED BEFORE BEING ALLOWED TO VOTE. A person may be required to produce one piece of government issued photo identification (for example – driver's license or passport) or at least two other documents that provide proof of identity.

Advance Voting
For the purpose of accommodating persons who are qualified to vote, but who have reason to believe that they will be absent or otherwise unable to attend their proper voting place on election day, an advance voting opportunity will be located at:
• **R.M. of Oakview municipal office** at 10 Cochrane Street Oak River, MB and
• **R.M. of Oakview municipal office** at 435 Third Ave Rapid City, MB and will be open on:
• **Monday, October 19th, 2026 between 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.**
• **Tuesday, October 20th, 2026: 9:00 am and 12:00 noon and 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm**
• **Wednesday, October 21st, 2026: 9:00 am and 12:00 noon and 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm**

Application to Vote by Sealed Envelope
A voter who is unable to go in person to the voting place or vote in advance, may apply in person, in writing, by fax or email to the senior election official at R.M. of Oakview office at 10 Cochrane Street Oak River, Box 179 Oak River, MB R0K 1T0; fax number (204) 566-2126; or email info@rmfoakview.ca
If applying in person*, a voter may apply between October 1st, 2026 and October 23rd, 2026 during regular office hours.
*A voter applying in person may pick up a sealed envelope ballot package at the time of application.
If applying by mail, fax or email**, a voter may apply between September 30th, 2026 and October 25th, 2026.
**A voter applying by mail or fax will receive a sealed envelope ballot package by regular post, or by making alternative arrangements with the senior election official.

Mark Humphries
Senior Election Officer
RM of Oakview
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cao@rmfoakview.ca

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SPORTS

IN MY OPINION: NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

By Gerry Nolan
RIVERS BANNER

The National Hockey League season is only two weeks old, and already one can see teams that appear unlikely to make the playoffs or compete for the Stanley Cup. Usually, by American Thanksgiving, you have a rather good idea of who is making the postseason, alongside the obvious powerhouses that we know are locks even today.

First, let us look at the teams that are out of the

playoff picture after playing only a few games. If you look at their records, the odds of making it are steep: the Detroit Red Wings, Philadelphia Flyers, Chicago Blackhawks, Vancouver Canucks, Calgary Flames, and Los Angeles Kings.

These teams would have to go on extended winning streaks just to get back to five-hundred hockey.

On the other end of the spectrum are the teams that will likely make it, barring season-wrecking injuries, and look like

near slam-dunks to compete for the Stanley Cup: the Colorado Avalanche, Utah Mammoth, Minnesota Wild, Edmonton Oilers, Vegas Golden Knights, Carolina Hurricanes, Tampa Bay Lightning, Florida Panthers, and Montreal Canadiens.

In conclusion, about 18 teams will be left to compete for the few remaining playoff spots, and it is only mid-October. I will check back around American Thanksgiving to see which teams have risen or fallen in the playoff race.

HUSKIES U18 STARTS UP

By Anne Davison
RIVERS BANNER

Hockey season is ramping up but for U18 hockey players, opportunities can be limited if they do not make a AAA roster or a high school team. In many rural communities, those players are often left with few options to continue playing competitive hockey.

Sarah Ramsey, Hamiota Minor Hockey president, is working to organize a U18 coed team iced out of Rivers and Hamiota.

She says, "Over the

past year, I heard increasing concerns from families and players throughout Hamiota and the surrounding area about this gap, particularly for athletes who still wanted to play and develop the game they love. After seeing the need firsthand, I decided to take action and begin the process of creating a U18 coed hockey team."

There's been interest. The U18 wants about 13 skaters plus goalies. With a couple more players this will be a reality.

Practices would be

twice per week. Hamiota and Rivers will share as home ice for the team with Danton Hintz as Head Coach.

The addition of a Huskies U18 team would bring the total number of teams in Western Manitoba to between four and six. It would mean a league and would provide meaningful competition and opportunities for players across the region.

During the week of October 19 Ramsey hopes to add a Hamiota/Rivers U18 team to the Western Manitoba League.

A century ago

shared primarily through small localized weekly papers like the Virden Empire Advance.

In June of 1926 a highly publicized tragedy occurred in Virden. A passenger vehicle returning from a Sunday School picnic stalled on a local railway track and was struck by an oncoming train. The crash killed several occupants including George Atkins, a fifteen-year-old British "Home Child" who had been sponsored by the Salvation Army to work on a Virden farm. The news was widely covered by provincial papers like the Winnipeg Tribune.

Rural areas were heavily invested in the development of major roadways to connect isolated rural economies.

In 1926, grocery and general stores in the hub of Virden served as the ultimate lifelines for surrounding rural farming families. Farm households produced their own fresh meat, dairy and garden vegetables. Town grocers provided critical goods and services that couldn't be manufactured on the farm. This is a far cry from that point in time up to today. There are few dairy farms to speak of in and around Virden and area. People would just rather go to the store to pick up their supplies than growing and producing their own food. Hence,

this is one reason prices at the stores are so high. People would rather pay for their groceries rather than producing their own.

BP Kent milled sugar, baking powder and flour in Virden. Groceries were stored in large wooden barrels, glass jars, or metal crates. The grocery stores bagged by hand into paper bags.

Just a story I was told by a retired farmer. Years ago, when they had to take their wheat and or other grain to the elevator in Griswold because there were no grain elevators to the north, they would have to wait until the Assiniboine river froze up to take their grain to the elevator. The grain was hauled by a team of horses. Now there is something to think about. Shovel grain onto a wagon, hitch up the horses and pray that the river is frozen. I wonder if there was a life, supplies and horses that did not make it across without breaking through. Next time you think you have it hard, remember how the farmers back then must have had it.

Our society it seems today would rather take the easy way than using some good old sweat and blood and produce their own food. Pretty easy just to go to the nearest store and buy their groceries. Physical work is way down the list these days!

REF TO
WRITER

GERRY
NOLAN



A century ago, did you know that James Armstrong Richardson formed Western Canada Airways in Winnipeg, helping pioneer commercial and bush aviation across Northern Manitoba and the Canadian Shield.

In September of 1926, Winnipeg installed its very first traffic lights at the intersection of Main Street and Higgins Avenue.

In 1926, news across Virden and rural Manitoba was dominated by localized community reporting. Agricultural developments, infrastructure expansion and some tragic headlines were the lead stories. During this era, local information was recorded and

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Happy Thanksgiving!

Submitted
By PATRICIA HANBIDGE

Canadian Thanksgiving is an annual holiday that is celebrated on the second Monday each October. Although we all are thankful for different things, it is generally accepted that on Thanksgiving, we give thanks for a bountiful harvest and for the blessings we have enjoyed for the past year. It is thought that the first European celebration dates back to 1578 when the English explorer Martin Frobisher held a ceremony in present-day Nunavut to give thanks for a safe journey.

Traditions of giving thanks long predates European colonization as First Nations across North America have held harvest practices and seasonal ceremonies of gratitude for thousands of years. Gratitude with many is a daily practice embedded in spiritual beliefs, while seasonal ceremonies will celebrate abundance of seasonal foods with feasting, song, dance and gifting to honour nature's cycles. Giving thanks can be quite individual or may involve entire communities.

In 1879, Parliament declared the first official annual Thanksgiving on November 6th. In 1957, Parliament fixed the date for Thanksgiving to be the second Monday in October.

For me and my family and friends, Thanksgiving is a time we gather together to eat some food, enjoy some time together and quite often do some seasonal gardening chores. More often than not, the fish come out of the pond on Thanksgiving along with a variety of other chores that need to be done before the deep freeze begins.

A little bit ago, I asked our readers to take a moment to send me a picture or share some words on what you might be thankful for. Thank you to all of you who took the time to get in touch. It is much appreciated.

Giving thanks for a bountiful harvest was a very common theme. I received many images of giant pumpkins, tomatoes, corn and even some of some very pretty floral arrangements. Also, very common was being thankful for good health and the freedom to be able to live life as we choose. There was a smattering of non-garden related things which also included being thankful for being Canadian.

I think that my favourite responses involved children and pets. It was very heartwarming to see the number of families that have their children/grandchildren gardening right alongside them. It brought back so many memories of my girls in the garden, harvesting flowers, fruits and vegetables. I would always set up the play area right beside or in a comfortable place in the garden. So many hours went by in this fashion.

Others shared their favourite Thanksgiving foods and traditions that are truly unique. I even received some recipes that were so graciously shared. Lots of pictures of leaves and other fun fall things. Children with rosy cheeks and giant smiles were the common thread.

It is my hope that all of you have a Thanksgiving that is filled with love, laughter and wonderful food. May your gardens flourish and your larder never be bare. The garden gives us food, beauty and purpose and we are lucky to be able to have the ability to grow ornamental plants and food to make our lives full.

Happy Thanksgiving!

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

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Chihuly fall garden. SUBMITTED PHOTO

SUNMONTUEWEDTHUFRI

SAT

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

18

Lucky Break Ranch
Haunted
Forest
4:30 - 10pm

Fall Supper at
Rivers United Church
4:30 pm – 6:00 pm

Rivers Legion
Bingo 11:30am

19

20

Council Meeting

50 + Club
Pool 1pm

21

22

Rivers Food Bank
9:30 - 11:30am

Lucky Break Ranch
Haunted
Forest
4:30 - 10pm

Rivers Legion
Cribbage 7pm

50+ Floor
Games 1pm

23

Lucky Break Ranch
Haunted
Forest
4:30 - 10pm

Prairie Crocus Library
Storytime in
Rivers 10am

Chase the Ace
Rivers Legion 7pm

24

Lucky Break Ranch
Haunted
Forest
4:30 - 10pm

25

St Andrew's
Beef Supper

Oak River Fall Supper
Oak River Memorial Rink
4:30 pm – 6:30 pm

Rivers Legion
Bingo 11:30am

26

50 + Card
Games
1pm

27

50 + Club
Pool 1pm

28

ELECTION DAY

50 + Club
Cribbage 1pm

Darts Rivers
Legion 7pm

29

Rivers Legion
Cribbage 7pm

50+ Floor
Games 1pm

30

Prairie Crocus Library
Storytime in
Rivers 10am

Chase the Ace
Rivers Legion 7pm

31

Happy Halloween

Hope it's a real treat!