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Vol. 4, No. 29 December 16, 2003

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Grand Marais' first Christmas parade a great success

by Charles Norman

The organizers of the first Eastern Beaches Santa Claus Parade said they would be ecstatic if two hundred people showed up. As it turned out they lost count at 400.

The parade started out from the Grand Marais Fire Hall a little after the 11:00 am scheduled start time and traveled from the Fire Hall, via Grand Marais Blvd, Grand Beach Road, and Orvis Street to the Grand Marais Recreation centre, arriving about 12:30.

The weather cooperated. Temperatures were mild and a stiff breeze off the lake failed to add any serious wind-chill. A happy, festive atmosphere created by the repartee between spectators and people manning the floats, especially the children, lasted until the parade and the following spectators got to the recreational hall where hot chili con carne and bannock and hot dogs were served.

No one could be sure how many people showed up, but the hall was packed to the rafters. At least four hundred hot dogs were served, and it seemed that just about as many chose chili.

In the hall was a mini market-square with about eight tables selling Christmas gifts. There was a silent auction, a bake sale, and youngsters could get their pictures taken with Santa.

Outside a bonfire did not get



Children aboard one of the many floats, enjoyed waving to the hundreds of people who showed up for Grand Marais' first ever Christmas parade

a lot of attention but the newly completed outdoor hockey rink was quickly occupied. Boys organized a scratch hockey game at one end of the rink while the girls had fun, without skates, at the other end.

Everyone had fun. There was unanimous agreement that the first Eastern Beaches Santa Claus parade would not be the last

(See photos page 5)

Emergency room shutdown

Sagkeeng asks Premier to intervene.

by Charles Norman

Sagkeeng has asked Premier Gary Doer to intervene to prevent the closure of the Pine Falls Hospital emergency

facilities for two weeks over the Christmas holidays.

In a letter to the Premier, Sagkeeng complains that delivery of medical services has been steadily deteriorating since the North Eastman Health Association took over the administration of health services in the area. The letter

reminds the premier that, since the province took over the Department of Indian Affairs hospital in Pine Falls, they also took on the responsibility for Canada's health delivery obligations to Sagkeeng under Treaty No. 1 They ask that Premier Doer demonstrate, to See EMERGENCY/page 2

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Open letter to the Premier

Dear Honorable Gary Doer:

The North Eastman Health Association (NEHA) recently announced the shutting down of emergency services at the Pine Falls Hospital for two weeks over Christmas holidays. This is totally unacceptable.

You are aware the federal government has certain obligations under Treaty No. 1 to provide medical services to Sagkeeng First Nation and other signatory, First Nations. An Indian Affairs Hospital was established in Pine Falls to meet this obligation. Abilibi Price Paper Company also built a hospital to service its employees. years later, these two hospitals merged under the provincial health department and an agreement with the federal government was signed. This system served us adequately for many years.

Then NEHA took over. The operating theatre has been closed. Expectant mothers from Sagkeeng, Little Black River, and Hollow Water have

been told to go to Selkirk or Winnipeg to deliver their babies. The Pine Falls Hospital recently operated at 40% capacity.

Another problem with NEHA is they are unable to ensure an adequate number of doctors in the region. They have the highest ratio of people (patient) per physician in the province - a statistic that seems to indicate that NEHA has a poor relationship with our local physicians.

In short, since NEHA came into existence medical services to our people have been steadily deteriorating. The latest example is the closure of the emergency room. This is gone too far without a challenge. Adequately staffing the hospital is NEHA's responsibility - one they seem unable to meet.

Emergency services for the holiday season is important to all people in our region. Our region has the highest automobile fatality rate in the province. First Nations suffer the most in terms of health and the serv-

ices we receive.

I am asking you, Honourable Doer to intervene and take over from NEHA, the medical obligation under the treaty. There should be enough qualified physicians in the health department to cover the emergency rooms needed for the holiday season. We would need four doctors working two days each during the time of emergency closure. I understand that one doctor will be available in Pine Falls. Sending out the Chief Medical Officer of Health and three of his associates for two days each would demonstrate to us that you take seriously our Treaty Rights.

We look forward to your immediate action.

Respectfully yours,
 Sagkeeng First Nation,
 Donovan Fontaine,
 Councillor

Emergency Room shutdown

from page 1

Sagkeeng and to NEHA that the provincial government take those treaty obligations seriously and staff the emergency room with qualified physicians currently on the payroll of the Department of Health in administrative positions. (see letter page 2)

Reaction from local residents has varied from concern to anger. Sagkeeng Chief Gary Swampy says it is "totally unacceptable - it (health services delivery) has been getting worse and worse."

"Let's hope no one has a heart attack" was a concern raised by almost everyone con-

tacted. Some wondered who would be held responsible if someone dies as a result of there being no emergency services in Pine Falls. Others are not yet clear on the role of NEHA in the delivery of medical services. "It's not NEHA's fault", said one person, "it's the government's fault."

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 56 Art Street, Powerview 367-9468

Community Bingo's Holiday Hours
 Great Falls Community Hall
 Tuesday Bingo's will be closed Dec 23, & 30th, bingo will resume Jan 6/04
 Laker's Ski Club
 Thursday Bingo's will be closed Dec 25, & Jan 1/04
 Lac du Bonnet Legion
 Will be open all through the holidays. Bingo will be held Dec 22, Dec 29, & Jan 5/04

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The Winnipeg River Echo
 The Echo is an independent weekly newspaper published on Tuesdays in Pine Falls and Lac du Bonnet, Manitoba. Advertising and submission deadline is Friday at 3:00 p.m. prior to Tuesday's publication.

Waterline extension examined

Municipal residents could soon be online in Lac du Bonnet

by Jim Hampshire

Residents on the outer fringe of Lac du Bonnet might soon have the opportunity to tap into the town water supply, as the municipality is looking to extend water and sewer lines into new territory.

Lac du Bonnet Reeve Don Halbert confirmed that the RM has applied

for government funding to help finance new underground infrastructure that would supply water services to residents along PTH 502, with further extensions leading to Drifter's Corner, along # 11 Hwy.

"We have been looking at this project for quite a while now," Halbert

said last week. "Obviously we need public support and we held a public meeting to inform residents last Thursday."

Halbert says that an engineering report was completed last summer, detailing the cost of the waterline extensions. And although the RM is still waiting for a formal

reply regarding any government funding, Halbert believes it is time municipal residents had access to a safe water source.

"The residents on Edward Crescent have had a boil-water order for several weeks now and this could be a reoccurring problem for any area feeding off a water co-op or a private waterline," Halbert explained. "Ideally our council would like to see safe water access to all areas of the municipality."

According to an engineers report by J.R. Cousins, the cost of the initial waterline project along PTH 502 would run in excess of 4.1 million dollars. Even with government funding, Halbert says that some of the capital costs would have to be absorbed by the residents who could access the new water and

sewer system.

"We held the public meeting last week, essentially to put our cards on the table," Halbert offered. "We explained that there would be some cost to the public along the new line, but in general, most residents were receptive to the idea."

Halbert notes that some residents along PTH 502 have spent a great deal of money to upgrade private waterlines and septic fields in recent years. In view of this, he says the public meeting was especially important to get feedback on the potential costs.

"We are definitely looking at this project in advance," he said. "This is a big undertaking and we need public support and we need the public to be well informed before we move in any particular direction."

Halbert says any new waterlines would likely run parallel with PTH 502 as far as Halliday Drive, near the Winnipeg River Bridge. Once the mainline is in place, it would be up to each individual homeowner to pay the cost to hook up to the system. Besides being a safe water source, Halbert says the line would bring some much needed fire hydrants to the populated area.

"We believe the time is right for this project and we believe it is an important undertaking," the Reeve concluded. "We have a state-of-the-art water treatment plant here in Lac du Bonnet and it's important that RM residents have access to safe water."

According to Halbert, if the appropriate government funding becomes available, work on the new waterline could begin as early as this spring.

Softwood lumber proposal nixed

by Charles Norman

A proposal to eliminate tariffs on Canadian exports of lumber to the US in return for a quota lower than the current Canadian share of the US lumber market is likely to be formally declined by Canada's new trade minister, Jim Peterson

Not only would the proposal have reduced the amount of Canadian lumber sold in the US but would probably have resulted in a dangerously low price for lumber in the Canadian market. Certainly there would have been no growth in the Canadian industry and little or no new investment. There would have been no new sawmills in the foreseeable future - certainly there would be no Sag-

keeng sawmill.

The possibility of a new paper machine in Pine Falls, along with a new TMP mill and possibly two sawmills on northern reserves would be history. Close to a billion dollars

In investment would go elsewhere. Up to 1,000 local high-paying jobs, mostly to aboriginal communities would simply not materialize.

In spite of the negative impacts of the proposal, some companies were in favour. However when the chips were down, Alberta, Ontario, and Quebec, and Manitoba, were opposed.

Tembec is taking the lead in organizing a standard Canadian position on the dispute so that Canada can present a

strong and unified front in dealing with the US Department of Commerce. The objective is free trade. A successful resolution the conflict is likely to have a bigger influence on Pine Falls and the surrounding communities than any event since the construction of the mill in 1926.

CORRECTION

Please note the correction for last week's story "2nd Annual Ice Breaker". The event was held on Monday, December 8th, not December 2nd as published. Also our apologies to Don Hills and Norm Pachkowsky, whose names were misspelled. The 2003 Senior Bonspiel winners were Denise Allison/lead, Norm Pachkowsky/second, Don Hills/third, and Jack Shwaluk/skip.

Lac du Bonnet Blues presents....

I'll be home for Xmas

Social

Saturday, December 27

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Music by Dynamic Sound

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Lac du Bonnet needs a hospital

by Charles Norman

A \$7,000 study commissioned by the RM and town of Lac du Bonnet comes the conclusion that - "The evidence demonstrates that Lac du Bonnet best meets the criteria for a new healthcare facility in the North-Eastman region."

The consultants, TDV Global Inc. find that the region is very close to capacity in long term care facilities, and that, "with an aging population the need for an additional long-term care facility with adult day care and primary health care

services in the area is clear." TDV Global suggests that the Pinawa hospital be converted to that function. The executive summary of their report concludes - "NEHA can honour its commitment to maintain services in Pinawa and meet current and long-term needs of the community by converting the Pinawa Hospital to a long-term facility.

The statistics certainly seem to bear out the need for a hospital in Lac du Bonnet. In the fiscal year 2001/2002, close to eighty percent of patients in the

Pinawa hospital would have been closer to home in a Lac du Bonnet hospital. Growth trends are reinforcing the need. Lac du Bonnet is growing, Pinawa is shrinking. The Bird River Region, Ward four in the RM of Alexander, is the fastest growing community in Manitoba. It is serviced by Lac

du Bonnet.

TDV Global also point out that acute care hospital beds per capita in the NEHA region is only half the provincial average, which reinforces the need for another hospital in the region. The town of Lac du Bonnet and the R.M. of Lac du Bonnet have put a high pri-

ority on working with NEHA to ensure that, any new acute care facility will be built in Lac du Bonnet. Copies of the TDV Global study can be obtained from the Town Office of Lac du Bonnet.

WINGS OF POWER



by Michelle Berthelette

Breakfast with Santa was held at Wings of Power on Friday, December 12. The place looked quite festive, thanks to the talents of our Junior Kindergarten class, who helped out by making Christmas decorations for us. Guests were able to add to the merry atmosphere by decorating the Wings Christmas tree. Everyone was invited to hang a paper ornament with a phrase that best described what Wings of Power means to them. Our little "Charlie Brown tree" has been magically transformed with everyone's inspiration.

Staff was busy flipping pancakes and cooking sausages, as we fed breakfast to a jolly crowd of 110 guests, Santa and his elves included. Little ones had their pictures taken with Santa in his "Winter Wonder-

land". Some were a little reluctant, while others couldn't wait to sit on Santa's lap to let him in on their many Christmas wishes. Santa gave everyone a little gift to take home as well. Door prizes were a highlight.

Families "scrambled" to unscramble Christmas words as their entry for a chance to win the prizes.

It was a morning filled with fun, friendship, warm smiles and many memories to share.



Newborn Felix Guimond has his first Christmas recorded with a picture with Santa at Wings of Power.

Lac du Bonnet Blues

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Grand Marais' first Christmas parade a huge success

A photo collage of some of the floats at this year's parade



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Pineview Recreation

Winter's here and Christmas is right around the corner, but remember to stay active. The display of lights and decorations can put you in the Christmas spirit so bundle up and enjoy a winter walk with the family or go for an outdoor skate (St. Georges Pond or the Village Green).

Our community hockey is in full swing with many upcoming games and tournaments, so be sure to check your rink calendars.

PRA has gone through some changes beginning with their name, we are now the Pineview Recreation Commission. This means our communities (RM of Alexander, The Village of Powerview, Townsite of Pine Falls, Tembec & our schools). Are working together with a Board of members.

EXECUTIVE:

President:	Robert Nault
Vice Pres:	Vince Rodych
Secretary:	Jenna McLellan
Treasurer:	Bev Dubé
Rec. Director:	Rachel Raymond
Member:	William Borlase (Bill)



Representatives for the area total of 11:

2	The Village of Powerview	Bev Dubé & Danny Gelinas
2	RM of Alexander	Ed Forsyth Vince Rodych
2	Townsite of Pine Falls	Wayne Barkhouse & TBA
1	Sunrise School Division	To be Appointed (TBA)
1	Pine Falls School	Don Whitehill
1	Student Rep	Jenna McLellan
2	Members at Large	Bill Borlase/Robert Nault

The Board Members would like to thank the past board members for all their efforts and volunteered time.

Another big thanks goes out to our local businesses for supporting our advertising sign promotion. Anyone wishing to get their ad sign up contact Wendy Ursel or the Rec. Office.

Legion news

Royal Canadian Legion
Lac du Bonnet Branch #164



submitted by: Cde Howard Richmond C.D.

Branch Elections were held on December 9th and the following Branch Officers were sworn in: President: Norm Rimmer, First Vice Pres: Lloyd Jones, 2nd Vice Pres: Dwayne Wickstrom, 3rd Vice Pres: Ed Morlidge, Treasurer: Brian Amason, Sgt-at-Arms: Bob Hampshire and Service Officer: Art Arsenault.

Executive members are Lennett Larson, Howard Richmond, Rollie Grantham and Al Johnson. Vic Popple moves into the Past President position.

If you reside in the Lac du Bonnet / Pinawa / Whitemouth / Great Falls area and are spending Christmas Day alone then this is an open invitation to have Christmas Dinner with us at the Branch if you would prefer company on this holiday. This no cost dinner starts at 5 P.M. on the 25 December and Legion membership is not required. If interested, you are

requested to call Helen at 345-2988 prior to 22 December to register.

Grey Cup Raffle winners were as follows:

1st Quarter - Jean Smith (Wpg) / Reverse - Bob Hampshire.

2nd Quarter - Vic Peters (Wpg) / Reverse - Linda Brunchanski

3rd Quarter - Bill Kovacs (Pinawa) / Reverse - H.Brown (Wpg)

Final & final reverse: Max Moser (St Clements).

Pay-outs were Quarters-\$100 / Reverse - \$50. Final - \$200 / Reverse- \$50.

Celebrate the start of 2004 at the Branch with the New Years Eve No Frills Evening featuring music and a snack. Doors open at 20:00 on 31 Dec and cost is just \$10, deadline is 29 Dec to pick up tickets.

New Years Day Levee starts at 13:00, 1 Jan 2004.

Merry Christmas to all from the Branch and best wishes for a great 2004 !!

Match your goals to your mutual fund

by Stephen Kulyk

Are your investments out of sync with your goals? How can you tell? A lot depends on the time frame you're talking about.

"Short-term" refers to anything less than five years. During that time, you may be occupied with making sure you've got enough for things like a car or house, maybe renovating that house, or taking vacations with the family.

"Longer-term" goals, extending beyond that could include sending a child to university, saving for retirement, and buying a property to spend that retirement on.

Once you've determined your investment goals, you must decide how much financial risk you are willing to take to achieve those goals. Different investments bring different levels of risk. Deciding what you hope to achieve will help you select an investment to meet your goals.

Experts agree, if you have less than five years, you shouldn't be looking at equity

mutual funds. You should be looking at money market or very short-term bonds. If you're looking at less than 10 years, you shouldn't be looking at equity mutual funds that have a long-term investment philosophy.

Make sure the goals of the fund you buy match your own investment goals. If those goals change from time to time, you may need to reevaluate those investments. For example, if your goal is growth, you should be picking something aimed at capital appreciation over the long term. If the goal is income, choose investments like bonds.

This cannot be reinforced strongly enough: always read the prospectus before, during and after investing. This important document describes the range of securities the fund may purchase, how it selects them, the types of securities it emphasizes, and investment practices the fund may use. The fund's investment strategy must relate to its goals, and yours.

The risks inherent in an investment vary, with respect to how it responds to inflation, fluctuation in domestic interest

rates, fluctuations in currency or political upheaval in the case of a foreign holding, whether or not an investment within a fund can be bought or sold (the "liquidity risk"). The bottom line is, unless you're familiar with an investment's risk, you won't know what to expect from the fund's performance or how to evaluate it properly.

Still, what you've put in to any investment, and any statement you receive in the future, represents only cold figures on a sheet of paper. People are emotional, and for them, money is emotional.

To help, schedule periodic meetings with a qualified financial planner to make sure your funds and your financial needs are in sync.

It's not that difficult to manage money. It's extremely difficult to manage your emotions. And if your emotions are coming into play on this fund, you are likely to sell it at exactly the wrong time.

Contact your personal Financial Advisor for more information on planning your financial future, or I can be contacted at Kulyk Insurance and Financial Services in St. Georges, Mb. 204-367-9572.

Sagkeeng Junior B Home Games

Sunday, December 21
2:30pm
Vs. St. Boniface

January 4th, 2:30pm
Vs. Selkirk Fishermen
Sagkeeng Arena Multiplex

Pine Falls/Powerview Arena Schedule

Powerview Arena

Monday: 5:00pm - Squirts, 6:00pm PeeWee C, 7:15pm Bantam, 8:30pm OI Cocks.

Tuesday: 6:00pm PeeWee Girls, 7:15pm Midgets

Wednesday: 7:15pm Bantam, 8:30pm OI Cocks, 9:45 Leftovers.

Thursday: 5:00pm - Novice A, 6:00pm Atoms, 7:15pm PeeWee B, 8:30pm Voyageurs.

Sunday: 7:15pm Left Overs

Pine Falls Arena

Monday: 4:00pm Figure Skating, 8:30pm OI Kings.

Tuesday: 4:00 Skating, 5:00pm Novice A & B, 6:00pm Atoms, 7:15pm PeeWee B.

Wednesday: 4:00pm Figure Skating, 5:00 Squirts, 6:00pm Pee Wee C, 9:00pm Ladies.

Thursday: 4:00 pm Skating, 5:00pm Novice B, 6:00pm Pee Wee Girls, 7:15pm Midgets, 8:30pm OI Kings.

Saturday: 10:00am Squirts, 11:00am Novice W, 1:00pm PeeWee Girls, 4:00pm Midgets.

Sunday: 11:00am Novice W, 4:00pm Midgets.

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Environmental Forum

by Brian Kotak



The New and Improved Duck Lake Ski Trail at Pine Falls

The snow is falling silently to the ground and gently blanketing the trees and forest floor. Another year of cross country skiing is now upon us and its time to wax up those planks and hit the trails. Trail grooming is just getting under way.

To those who regularly use the Duck Lake Ski Trail, you will notice some big differences this skiing season. To those who have never experienced the trail before, take the opportunity to come out and sample the 9 kms of beautiful trails that wind their way through the boreal forest near Pine Falls. The trailhead is located near the hospital in Pine Falls, on Maple Street.

The Duck Lake Ski Club has been active over the last

year improving many of the amenities of the ski trail. With the financial and in-kind assistance of the Manitoba Model Forest, Tembec and the Pine Falls School, a number of trail upgrades were made, and a new educational program was launched. With the help of teacher Leitha Fraser and Tembec Environment Director Brian Kotak, the Grades 7&8 science class of 2002 took to the forest around Pine Falls to gather information about the boreal forest ecosystem. This information was used to produce an interpretive trail brochure, which will be distributed shortly to the Pine Falls administrative office, businesses in the town and other town and Rural Municipality offices. Brochures will also be avail-

able at the trailhead kiosk. The color brochure contains a map of the trail system and environmental information for the 8 interpretive stops along the trail. To compliment the brochure, a trailhead sign and kiosk was installed on December 13 by Howard May, Jeff

Whitford and Brian Kotak. Trail map signs were also installed at each major trail junction, as well as interpretive signs. Come out and learn about the boreal forest and enjoy the trails!

There have also been some other improvements to the trail system. A new outhouse was constructed and a picnic table added to the Doyle-Pitre Chalet. New tongue-and-groove siding has been purchased and will be installed at the chalet shortly.

A new Executive of the Duck Lake Ski Club has also been established. The Executive includes Howard May (President), Paul Robert (Vice-President), Carol

Hutchison (Treasurer) and Brian Kotak (Secretary). The new Executive would like to thank out-going executive members for their years of faithful service to the club.

Membership fees for the Duck Lake Ski Club can be obtained from Celebrations in Pine Falls. Family memberships are \$25 and a single membership is \$15. Kids ski free. Take out a membership and support the club. It is through membership fees that the club pays for trail maintenance and grooming, as well as upkeep of the chalet. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Brian Kotak at (204) 367-5353.

See you on the trail!

Sagkeeng Junior B Hawks win two in a row

Sagkeeng Hawks 3, Selkirk 2

Sagkeeng Hawks Junior B team upset the league leading Selkirk Fishermen 3-2 on Friday night.

Selkirk opened the scoring at 13:47 of the first period on a goal by Cole Dowhan. Sagkeeng tied up with a goal at 19:53 by Louie Guimond, set up by Larry Canard Jr. and Julian Guimond. There was no scoring in the second period. Selkirk scored to go ahead on a goal by league leading goal scorer Darren Helm at 5:00 of the third period. The Hawks tied the game with :07 seconds left. Jay Courchene scored to send the game into overtime. Nathan Blackwater scored 3:10 into the overtime to provide the Hawks with the win.

Hawks 6, North Winnipeg Satellites 0

Julian Guimond continued to provide solid goal tending for the Hawks. After a 39 save performance on Friday versus Selkirk, he stopped 30 shots to shutout the second place North Winnipeg Satellites. The Hawks went ahead 2-0 in the first period with goals by Donovan Courchene and Kendall Chartrand. Louie Guimond and Larry Canard Jr. assisted on Courchene's goal. Dean Shade and Lee Courchene set up Chartrand's goal. Sagkeeng added three more goals in the second to go up 5-0.

Goals were scored by Canard Jr. with assists going to Sheldon Courchene and Chartrand, Jay Courchene scored to make it 4-0 with Sheldon Courchene and Julian Guimond getting the helpers. Marlon Gardiner scored the fifth goal on an assist from Chandesp Dhalieval. In the third period Chartrand scored his second goal of the game with assists going to Gardiner and Dhalieval.

The Winnipeg River **Echo**

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An historic moment for Canada

This past weekend, we saw the members of the Canadian Alliance and the Progressive Conservative parties participate in a great and open democratic exercise to merge their two parties into a single conservative entity. Members of the Canadian Alliance voted 95.9% in favour of the merger, while members of the PC party voted 90% in favour - an overwhelming mandate with which to move forward. And the new Conservative Party of Canada has hit the ground running - it is already an "official" party according to Elections Canada, and the Interim Joint Council, which is to govern the new party, has just been established.

The members in both parties have said "yes" to building a single Conservative Party that is a home to conservatives of all types - economic con-

servatives, social conservatives, democratic reformers, and Red Tories. The combined strengths of both parties is exactly what is required in order to ensure that there is political and fiscal accountability within our parliamentary democracy.

The new Conservative Party will ensure that Paul Martin accounts for the billions of dollars he lost on the long gun registry and questionable HRDC grants while he was the finance minister. It will demand accountability for the \$34.1 billion in new spending promises he made during his recent leadership campaign. It will also bring into focus the fact that Martin avoided paying tens of millions of dollars in income tax by refusing to close loopholes in the tax system for which he was responsible as minister of finance.

The success of the merger ratification has resulted in no small part from the leadership qualities of CA Leader Stephen Harper and PC Leader Peter MacKay, who have worked tirelessly during the past two months to achieve this result, and have put their own jobs on the line for the greater good of the country.

Mr. Harper should be credited for initiating the merger

talks, and for his dedication, diplomacy and perseverance through some of the toughest negotiations of the entire process. Mr. MacKay must be congratulated for having listened to the grassroots members of his party who overwhelming asked for change, and for being a strong enough leader to change his mind on the fundamental issue of the merger talks in the face of harsh criticism from a small but loud minority of detractors.

Over the past two months, Harper and MacKay have worked vigilantly to secure the merger ratification in order to

bring conservatives together into a party that will restore democracy and accountability to our electoral process and to present the only alternative to Paul Martin. This kind of leadership bodes well for Canada.

Please feel free to contact my office if you have any concerns or issues you would like to discuss. You may contact me toll free in Steinbach at 1-866-333-1933 or 204-326-9889, or in Lac du Bonnet at 204-345-9762. You may write me at Box 2470, Steinbach, MB R0A 2A0, by fax at 204-346-9874, or by e-mail at toewsv1@mtnet.net

Library Corner

Lac du Bonnet Regional Library



Who is counting....how many more sleeps before Christmas? The youngsters who visited the library's Children's Christmas Bazaar last Friday are ready for Christmas. Thanks to the assistance of our dedicated volunteers, their packages are wrapped and tagged and probably safely tucked under the Christmas tree! The turn-out was great at this year's event - about 40 kids came to do their shopping!

Please take note of our holiday hours - the library will be closed on Dec. 24-27, and on January 1st. All other hours remain the same. Visit the library soon to stock up on extra reading material and remember to purchase tickets for the Christmas Draw to be held on Dec. 17th.

What are some of the new titles we have to offer? For the kids we have *Peter Claus and the Naughty List* by Lawrence David - do the kids on Santa's naughty list deserve a second chance? Dav Pilkey shares *Dragon's Merry Christmas* with us, while Margaret Wise

Brown tells us about *A Pussycat's Christmas*. With words adapted from the lyrics of *The Teddy Bears' Picnic* by Jimmy Kennedy, Prue Theobalds brings to life the midwinter fun of the Teddy Bears - your youngsters will want you to read *The Teddy Bears' Christmas*...not once or twice, but many times!

Juniors won't want to miss Eric Walters' new book *Run*, with a foreword by the Fox family. Terry Fox's story is told in a way that would reach a younger audience (a combination of fiction and non-fiction). Eric Walter's royalties will be donated to The Terry Fox Foundation, and the publisher, Penguin Group Canada is proud to be matching his donation.

Two more titles that take you to different places and times in Canadian history are part of *Our Canadian Girl* series - look for *Certificate of Freedom* by Lynne Kositsky, and *An Irish Penny* by Sharon McKay.

For adults - Ian Ferguson

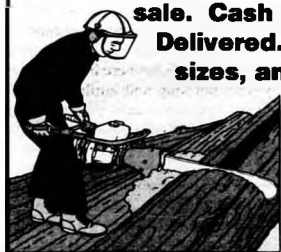
shares a "memoir of sorts". In *Village of the Small Houses* "Ferguson has crafted a delightfully idiosyncratic account of growing up in the North."

The new adventure by the creator of *The Left Behind* series, Tim Lallave, is called *Babylon Rising*. "The novels in this new series are even faster-paced thrillers based on prophecies that are not covered in the *Left Behind* books and that have great relevance to the events of today."

Are you still needing a few stocking stuffers? The remainder of the gift items from Children's Bazaar are still on sale at the library. As well, we have some very special gift certificates entitling the recipient to a FREE Internet Training Session with Heather. She will be working at the library until the end of February, and is available to answer your internet questions and provide basic training. This is a great one-size-fits-all stocking stuffer - and they're free!

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Lac du Bonnet RCMP Report

RCMP report for the week of December 5th to December 12th, 2003



On the 5th of Dec., a report was rec'd from Pinawa that an under-age female was missing from her residence. An investigation to locate the subject was initiated, however, she returned home on the 6th of Dec.

On the 6th of Dec., police checked a vehicle at a location in the R.M. of Lac du Bonnet. The under-age male driver was found to have consumed liquor, and was charged accordingly. Additionally, his Driver's License was suspended for 24 hours as he had a Zero BAC restriction on the License.

On the 6th of Dec., a report

was rec'd of mischief taking place in an alley behind a location on Lake Ave. in the Town of Lac du Bonnet. Police attended and found a number of young adults leaving the area. No mischief had taken place.

On the 6th of Dec., a report was rec'd from Ste. Rita of trees damaged by a vehicle which was driving around the community in the early hours of this date.

On the 6th of Dec., a report was rec'd of damage to a satellite dish pole and lawn ornaments thrown around, at a location on Johnson in the Town

of Lac du Bonnet. Under-age males who were checked in the area at the time denied involvement, and it was subsequently determined through police investigation that 3 different under-age males were responsible.

On the 7th of Dec., a report was rec'd of Xmas lights left behind a business in the downtown area of the Town of Lac du Bonnet. These were subsequently determined to belong to a business in the downtown area.

On the 7th of Dec., a report was rec'd of damage to a nativity scene at a church in the Town of Lac du Bonnet, and the theft of a string of Xmas lights from a business in the downtown area of the Town of Lac du Bonnet. Police investigation revealed that three under-age males were responsible for these offences.

On the 7th of Dec., a report was rec'd of an under-age female not returning to her residence in Pinawa over the course of Saturday night. She was located by her mother in Pinawa and taken home, and she then announced her intention to leave once again. Police attended and assisted the girl's mother with her, in order to have her remain at the residence.

On the 7th of Dec., a report was rec'd of a vehicle damaging the 16th green of the Pinawa Golf Course by driving on it. A truck was believed to be the suspect vehicle in this offence.

On the 8th of Dec., a report was rec'd that a burned-out mini-van was located in a

gravel pit south of Seddon's Corner in the R.M. of Reynolds. Police investigation revealed that the vehicle had been stolen from Winnipeg.

On the 8th of Dec., a report was rec'd of an under-age male causing a breach of the peace at a residence in Pinawa. Police attended and found that the subject was no longer causing a problem.

On the 8th of Dec., a report was rec'd of a peeping tom outside a residence on Third Street in the Town of Lac du Bonnet. This took place on Thursday night and on Saturday night.

On the 8th of Dec., a report was rec'd that a garden fork was thrown through the screen of a screened-in porch at a residence on McIntosh in the Town of Lac du Bonnet.

On the 8th of Dec., a report was rec'd that two small Xmas trees were stolen from outside a church in the Town of Lac du Bonnet.

On the 9th of Dec., a report was rec'd that a Mountain Bike was found at the Natural Resources building in the Town of Lac du Bonnet.

On the 9th of Dec., a report was rec'd that the gymnastics equipment at the Pinawa Secondary School was tampered with.

On the 10th of Dec., a report was rec'd of a hit and run to a vehicle while parked in the Town of Lac du Bonnet. It appeared that the vehicle had been backed into.

On the 11th of Dec., a report was rec'd of an Intrusion Alarm at a location on Lavoie Road in the R.M. of Lac du

Bonnet. Police attended and determined that this was a False Alarm.

On the 11th of Dec., a report was rec'd that a box of paintings had fallen out of a truck at an unknown location between Wpg. and Seven Sisters Falls. This took place on the 14th of Nov. The box contained 7 - 8 paintings of Yukon scenes.

On the 11th of Dec., a report was rec'd from a resident of Brereton Lake in the Whiteshell Prov. Park that a snowmobile had stopped on the lake in front of the residence, and an unknown subject had walked to the complainant's dock. The person had then walked back to the snowmobile and departed. Police followed the tracks in question, and did follow-up with the subject.

On the 11th of Dec., a report was rec'd of a vehicle operating on Riverland Road in the R.M. of Lac du Bonnet, with no lights on. Police stopped the vehicle in question and found that a burned-out fuse was the cause.

On the 11th of Dec., a report was rec'd of the theft of a BMX bicycle from a location on Lowland Road in the R.M. of Lac du Bonnet. Police investigation that this report involved a dispute over payment of a debt, and was not criminal in nature.

On the 12th of Dec., a report was rec'd of two vehicles driving in a careless manner at the Lac du Bonnet Senior School. Two under-age males were identified as being responsible, and both charged accordingly under the Highway Traffic Act.

Lac du Bonnet Community Billboard

Health Concerns? Call 268-3235 to book your seat.

Cooking for better health: Lose weight, gain energy and prevent illness. Classes begin for every five people registered. Cindy Reimann, certified in nutrition, call 268-2168.

PACE 7-1375: meets first Tuesday of the month. Chicken Chef. Power-view meeting room.

Sit and Be Fit: exercise class Thursdays, Lac du Bonnet Pioneer Club, 1:00 p.m.

Prenatal classes: held regularly at Lac du Bonnet. Please register with Gail 268-6106 or call your local public health nurse.

Lac du Bonnet Lions Club meets the first and third Monday of each month. 7:00 p.m. LdB Community Centre.

Lac du Bonnet Regional Library open Tues. and Thurs. 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and 7:00 to 8:30 p.m., Wed. and Fri. noon to 4:30 p.m., Sat. 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., ph. 345-2653.

Great Falls Women's Institute meets first Wednesday each month 7:00 p.m. Great Falls Hall. Pat 367-2586, Leone 367-8569.

Ladies' Auxiliary Royal Canadian Legion Branch #164 meets first Tuesday of the month 7:30 p.m. Legion Hall.

LdB Committee on Family Violence and Abuse meets second Tuesday of every month 7:00 p.m. Contact person 345-2664.

Royal Canadian Legion Branch #164 general meetings third Tuesday of each month 7:30 p.m. Legion Hall.

Horticultural Society meets second Tuesday of every month 7:00 p.m. Centennial School.

St. John's ACW meets first Monday of every month 1:30 p.m., parish hall.

Lakeshore Al-Anon Group Thursday 7:30 p.m. Lac du Bonnet District Health Centre, 89 McIntosh. Call Teri 345-8712.

Lakeshore Al-a-Teen Group For further information, Phone Kathie 367-8237 (evenings). Vickie 345-6520 (days).

Town of Lac du Bonnet Council Meetings second and fourth Thursday of the month.

Lakeshore A.A. meetings every Sunday and Tuesday 8:00 p.m. at St. John's Anglican Church, 86 McArthur, Lac du Bonnet. Last Sunday of the month open to the public. Call Ted 345-2839, Ron 753-8403.

Ladies A.A. Meetings Thursdays 1:00 p.m., 18 McDermot, Pinawa. Doreen 753-8357.

Battered Women's Crisis Line 1-800-362-3344.

Lac du Bonnet Health Centre Auxiliary meets fourth Thursday of the month. Health Centre 1:30 p.m.

Lac du Bonnet Wildlife Association temporarily meets at the call of the chair. Call Peter 345-6190 for information.

New to town? Drop in to the Craft Basket on Second Street and pick up your Welcome to Lac du Bonnet gift, courtesy of the Chamber of Commerce.

Two Rivers Seniors Resource Council Inc. Call Pat at the Lac du Bonnet office, Health Centre at 345-1227 or 348-4610. Services: driver escort, lifeline personal response system, friendly visitors, fee-for-service handy helpers.

Pioneer Club Meets first Monday of month 9:30 a.m., Pioneer Club.

RM of Lac du Bonnet Council Meetings second Tuesday of each month 10:00 a.m. and fourth Tuesday of every month 6:00 p.m.

Alzheimer Society Theresa Conroy, Whitemouth 348-3505.

Lac du Bonnet, Pine Falls, Victoria Beach, Pinawa, Beausejour, Whitemouth, Oakbank, Hadashville,

Little Day Buddies Nursery School Wednesdays and Fridays 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, 12:30 to 3:30 p.m., Lac du Bonnet Community Centre. Janice 345-8979.

Agassiz Horticultural Society meeting every 2nd Tuesday of the month, except January, July & August. Centennial School, 7:00 p.m. All gardeners welcome.

Lac du Bonnet Church Directory

ABUNDANT LIFE CHAPEL

Pastor Jake Doell, church 345-2934, home 345-9766

Sunday: 11:00 a.m. - morning worship, 6:30 p.m. - Upper Room

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS

Church/office 345-8654

Sunday: 11:00 a.m. - worship service

NOTRE DAME CATHOLIC CHURCH

Father Richard Machura, 345-2900

Lac du Bonnet: 5:00 p.m. - Saturday mass; 11:00 a.m. Sunday mass

Pinawa (senior school): 9:15 a.m. - Sunday mass

ST. JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

Rev. Sandra Tomkaid 367-9520, church 345-2357

Sunday: 11:30 a.m. - worship; 11:30 a.m. - first and third Sunday of each month, holy eucharist

Manitoba Crime Stoppers in cooperation with the Winnipeg River Detachment would like your assistance in solving the following offence:

RCMP need your help



Manitoba Crime Stoppers in cooperation with the Lac du Bonnet RCMP Detachment would like your assistance in solving the following offence:

In the early morning hours of November 1st, 2003, police and the fire department were dispatched to a cottage fire located at emergency number 268 off of PR 433 (Lee River Rd) in the RM of Lac du Bonnet. The cottage was fully engulfed by the time emergency crews had arrived. No one was presented at the cottage at the time. Subse-

quent investigation conducted by the fire Commissioner's Office ruled that the fire was suspicious. The cottage did not have hydro and the owners were not present. The cottage has been the site of previous break and enters although it was not reported. Witnesses reported seeing a truck at the location the previous afternoon but no further description could be provided.

If anyone has any information please contact Crime Stoppers or Lac du Bonnet RCMP at 204-345-6311.

If you have any information and want to remain anonymous to any of the above crimes, please call CRIMESTOPPERS at 1-800-222-8477. Crime Stoppers will pay up to \$2000.00 in cash for information leading to an arrest in this or any other unsolved crime in Manitoba. Callers never have to reveal their identity and Crime Stoppers does not subscribe to caller ID.

Robin Redbreast's Christmas Tale

A Scotch Folk Tale Retold
There was once an old gray Cat, who went for a walk one Christmas morning to see what she could see. As she was walking by a small lake, she saw a Robin hopping about on a branch.

"Good morning, Robin Redbreast," she said, "Where are you going on this cold and frosty morning?"

"I'm going to the King," answered the Robin, "to sing him a Christmas Song."

"Oh, but wait before you go," said the Cat. "Hop down to me a minute and I'll show you the beautiful white ring around my neck."

But Robin looked down on Cat and saw an evil look in his eye.

"Ha! ha! gray Cat." He said, "You can't trick me. I saw you show your white ring to the little gray mouse and you ate him! I'm not coming down to you! I'm flying straight on to the King!"

So he spread his wings and flew away. He flew, and he flew, and he flew, till he came to a fence. There sat a greedy old Hawk who was looking about for his breakfast.

"Good morning, Robin Redbreast," cried the greedy old Hawk, "where are you going on this cold and frosty morning?"

"I'm going to the King," answered the wee Robin, "to sing him a Christmas Song."

"Oh, but wait before you go," said the greedy old Hawk, come close and see my magic green leather.

But the wee Robin did not like the look in the eye of the greedy old Hawk.

"Ha! ha! old Hawk," he said, "I saw you peck at the tiny birds, and you'll not peck at

me. I'm going straight on to the King!"

So he spread his wings and flew away. He flew, and he flew, and he flew, till he came to a hillside where he saw a sly old fox looking out of his hole.

"Good morning, Robin Redbreast," said the sly old Fox. "Where are you going on this cold and frosty morning?"

"I'm going to the King," answered the wee Robin, "to sing him a Christmas Song."

"Oh, but wait before you go," said the sly old Fox, "let me show you the black spot I have on the end of my tail."

Ha! ha! sly Fox," said the Robin, "I saw you chase a small lamb, I'm not interested in the spot on your tail. I'm going straight on to the King."

So the Robin Flew away once more, and never rested till he came to a rosy-cheeked boy, who sat on a log and eating a big piece of bread and butter. The tired Robin sat on a high branch and watched boy.

"Good morning, Robin Redbreast," said the boy. "Where are you going on this cold and frosty morning?"

"I'm going to sing a Christmas Song to the King," answered the Robin.

"Come a bit nearer," said the boy, "and I'll give you some crumbs from my bread."

"No way rosy-cheeked boy," I saw you catch a goldfinch with your crumbs. I am not interested in your crumbs. I'm flying straight on to the King."

So, no matter who begged him to stop and wait the Robin flew straight on to the King. And he perched on the window-sill of the palace. There

he sat and sang the sweetest Christmas song he knew. He was so happy because it was Christmas Time that he wanted the whole wide world to be as happy as he. And he sang, and he sang, and he sang.

The King and Queen sat at the window, and they were so pleased with his joyful song that they asked each other what they could do to pay him for

his loving thought in coming so far to sing to them.

"I know what we can do," said the Queen, "we can find him a friend." Then the King clapped his hands and asked his servants to find a friend for Robin Redbreast. One servant knew a bird named Jenny Wren who lived in the kitchen courtyard.

"Bring her to me," said the

King. Jenny Wren and Robin Redbreast, when introduced, liked each other very much. They sat side by side on the window-sill, and they sang, and they sang. And they sang on that merry Christmas morning and many Christmas mornings there after.

Blues win two over the weekend

By MP

Warren Game:

The Lac du Bonnet Blues traveled to Warren on Friday December 12th and brought home a 7-3 victory. Jay Abraham delivered a hat trick on assists from Tyler Tease and Aaron Wold, defenceman Marty Desrochers also assisted on the plays. Jay Seymour nabbed the first two goals of the opening period and assisted on Dwight Hirst's goal. Donavon Henzel held the Warren Mercs scoreless in the first, allowing one in the second and two in the third period. John Dancyt got the other Lac du Bonnet goal.

Phantoms Game:

The Blues hosted the 415 Phantoms on Sunday afternoon, playing for the first time this season at the Lac du Bonnet Arena.

The Blues fielded a short bench on Sunday, missing Jay Griffith who is out for what may be the rest of the season due to two cracked vertebrae. Devin Turner has been absent

over the last four games due to an ankle injury. University exams laid claim to defencemen Jay Usackis and Josh Abraham.

On a brighter note, Cam Sokoloski was back playing a solid defensive position. Tyson Papineau had no trouble impressing his mother and young 3 year old nephew Willie Burnside with a stellar performance that included two goals and one assist.

Jay Abraham centered Tyler Tease and Aaron Wold. Together they provided four of the nine Blues offensive strikes.

Jay Seymour worked extremely hard to deliver three assists alongside linemate Dwight Hirst who scored one goal and assisted on two. John Dancyt tied the game with a great shot low to the stick side corner. Dancyt also assisted on the seventh Lac du Bonnet goal with a great lead pass to Dwight Hirst who skated in alone and found the net.

The first period was dominated by the Phantoms who

took advantage of some defensive breakdowns by the Blues and retired to the dressing room with a 3-2 lead.

The Blues recouped and came out strong to score four goals to the Phantoms one in the second, ending the period tied at 4-4.

Lac du Bonnet continued the pressure during the third. Phantom goalie Paul Bruce saw three times as much rubber as Shane Hintz in net for the Blues, who allowed no Phantom goals during the third period while the Blues netted five.

The only disappointment during the third period was the removal of Tyler Tease due to hitting from behind. Tease's speed caught an opposition player unawares and left Blues fans wondering what game the referee was watching.

The next home game is Saturday December 20th at 7:30 pm at the Lac du Bonnet Arena against the Arborg Avalanche.



Anthony, 84875

Anthony likes other cats and enjoys cuddling and is our longest term cat resident. As Cat of The Day he'll receive a little gift to accompany him into his new home. He's been neutered and vaccinated for Rabies. His adoption fee is half off!

The Winnipeg Humane Society

If you or your family are interested in any of the listed animals here or others at the shelter, you can call us at 204-982-3551 or Fax 204-982-2047



Rover, 87168

Rover's looking for a 'fetching' partner to spend the rest of his life with. Incredibly intelligent, very active Border Collie would make excellent agility or flyball team member. Listens very well and was an awesome ambassador with Alzheimer's patients on a pet visit.

The Winnipeg River Echo

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Winnipeg River RCMP Report

The report covers the periods of December 8 to December 14, 2003



December 8
Fort Alexander - a disturbance at a residence caused police to pursuit 2 youth on a short foot chase. One of the youth was on a curfew and in

breach of a court order. The pair of youth were intoxicated and causing problems at a gathering. Both were lodged for their own safety and charged accordingly. They were re-

leased in the morning on a promise to appear in Powerview Court.

Powerview - an adult male was lodged in cells for his own safety. The male was extremely intoxicated and had fallen down onto the roadway when a passerby called police.

Police charged a male and female for breaching court orders. The couple have had ongoing problems in previous encounters.

R.M. of Alexander - an assault of a female at a residence is being investigated by police.

December 9
Powerview - police have charged 1 male after investigating reports of harassment of a female.

Fort Alexander - an assault of a youth was reported. Police are investigating the incident.

R. M. of Alexander - a complaint of stolen gas from an atv and a safety pin off a piece of equipment was taken as well.

A garage fire caused police to attend a residence. A piece of equipment was being repaired when the garage caught on fire. The Fire department was on scene quickly and damages were minimal.

December 10
Fort Alexander - police were called to a residence where an intoxicated male was causing a disturbance. Further investigation found the male had assaulted his spouse and had an outstanding warrant. He was arrested, charged accordingly and lodged in cells. Investigation continues.

December 11
St. Georges - a theft of a personal item from a residence was reported to police.

Scantabury - good driving skills and quick thinking prevented a near mishap on Highway 59 when a Powerview School Bus coming back from a field trip with children was swiped by a 1/2 ton truck. The male driver of the truck crossed the centre line directly towards the school bus. The female driver of the school bus pulled over into the shoulder area to avoid a head on impact. The truck and driver did not stop after swiping the bus. A quick call to Powerview and Selkirk RCMP located the vehicle and driver near Selkirk. One male has been charged with impaired driving. Investigation continues.

December 12
Fort Alexander - a male was hit by a vehicle while riding a bicycle late this evening near catfish creek. The male was taken to Pine Falls Hospital for treatment and released the next day. Anyone witnessing the incident is asked to contact the Powerview RCMP.

R.M. of Alexander - a stolen vehicle led police on a short pursuit of the vehicle and driver. The male driver was finally apprehended and continued to be combative with police. He was eventually lodged in cells, charged with numerous offences and remanded into custody to the Provincial Remand Centre. Police continue their investigation of this incident.

December 13
Fort Alexander - police attended a residence where a mentally unstable female was located. She was transported to the Pine Falls Hospital for

treatment and then lodged in cells for her own safety. The Mental Health mobile crisis unit attended in the morning and she was released to them.

A vehicle reported missing was located near the Multiplex Arena. No charges were laid in the incident by the owners request.

An extremely intoxicated male entered a residence and was found sleeping there by the owner. Police attended and spoke to the male advising him accordingly and he left peacefully.

December 14
R.M. of Alexander - police set up a check stop in this location and charged 1 male with impaired driving. A second male was charged later this evening.

Fort Alexander - a spousal assault left 1 female with a cut on her forehead after an argument. Police have charged 1 male in the incident. Investigation continues.

A family dispute turned into an assault over the weekend. Police are still investigating the incident.

A break, enter and theft to a residence was reported to police. A tv was taken in the incident. Access was gained when the front door was kicked open.

Police request that if you have any information with any of the above noted incidents, or any other criminal matter, you are asked to call the Winnipeg River Detachment at 367-2222 or you can remain anonymous and call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-782-8477.

Pine Falls Community Billboard

Fort Alexander Health Centre: Diabetes Clinic 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. every Tuesday. Blood sugar check, nutritional counselling, phone 367-2208.

PACE 7-1375: meets first Tuesday of the month. Chicken Chef. Powerview meeting room.

Prenatal classes: held regularly at Pine Falls. Please register with Gail 268-6106 or call your local public health nurse.

Library Allard: Tuesday 10:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. and 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. Friday 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. Saturday 10:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Beaches Library: Tues 1:00 to 4:00 p.m., Thurs 4:00 to 8:00 p.m., Fri. 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Sat. 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Knights of Columbus: meetings every second Tuesday of the month 7:30 p.m. Powerview Church basement.

Silver Haven Club: cribbage every fourth and fifth Monday 1:30 p.m., whist every Thursday 1:30 p.m.

Pine Falls Health Auxiliary: meetings first Tuesday of every month 1:30 p.m.

Cottage Country Business Assoc.: meets first Monday of the month 7:00 p.m. October through May, phone 756-2596

Alcoholics Anonymous: Sunrise Group meetings every Monday, Wednesday and Friday 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., last Friday of the month open to the public, at St. Georges Catholic Church basement.

Pine Falls Legion: meetings held second Thursday of the month 7:30 p.m. Legion, meat raffles held at Legion on Fridays 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Pine Falls Masonic Lodge #154: meets second Friday of every month, Pine Falls United Church, except January and February

Badminton: Pine Falls School gym, Sunday and Wednesday nights 7:00 to 10:00 p.m.

Powerview garbage pickup every Wednesday, recyclable pickup first and third Thursday of each month
PAA: meeting first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

Village of Powerview: meets second Tuesday of each month.

Winnipeg River Senior Service Inc. Coordinator Tina Polischuk, Pine Falls Health Complex, phone 367-9128, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Monday to Friday. Services transportation, home maintenance, foot care, volunteer help, info

Family Care Giver Support Group: at the United Church, Pine Falls, last Thursday of the month 7:00 p.m.

AA & Al-Anon - The Beaches family group, Thursday 8:00 p.m., Senior Scene, Victoria Beach, 1 Ateah Road, 756-8018 or 756-2101.

Happy Toys Day Care 367-2601, board meetings last Monday of each month 7:00 p.m. at the daycare

Senior Scene Inc, #1 Ateah Rd., Victoria Beach. General meetings second Tuesday of the month, 756-6468 for more info.

Mental Illness Support Group: meets second Wednesday of the month 7:00 p.m. Wings of Power office.

Beaches HELP Centre (seniors service) 756-6471, Wednesday 1:00 to 4:00 p.m., Friday 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Powerview Parent Advisory Council: meets first Thursday of every month

Great Falls Hall workers - Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.
Pine Falls Library open 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday and Thursday
Weight Watchers Meeting: Every Thursday - weigh in at 4:45 to 5:30pm, --call Dolores for info. at 367-2945

Foster Homes Open your heart and home to a foster child, foster homes needed in Pine Falls and surrounding area, call Debby at 268-6158

Child Health Clinics - will be provided by area Public Health Nurse every Thursday afternoon at the Pine Falls Complex, Community Health Office assessments of babies (or child's) height, weight, infant nutrition, advice, immunizations (as necessary) and any other advice you may wish, please call 367-5406 for more info.

Weight Watchers: Effective October 8th Wednesdays at 4:45 weigh-in and at 5:30 Meetings

Winnipeg River Church Services

NOTRE DAME DULLAUS: Powerview - Saturday evening 7:30 p.m. (English), Sunday 10:00 a.m. (English), Stead - Sunday 12:00 noon

PINE FALLS UNITED CHURCH: Sunday service 11:00 a.m. Bsh. Rodger Minister, Church 367-2633 or Cell 754-7220. Everyone Welcome Sunday School, September 7 at 11:00 am, everyone welcome

PINE FALLS ANGLICAN CHURCH OF THE ADVENT: Ph. 367-9520 Rector, the Rev. Sandra Tankard Sunday Service at 9:00 a.m.

ST. THERESA'S: Masses at Notre Dame du Laos

ST. GEORGES: Mass Sunday at 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.

ST. JUDE'S ANGLICAN CHURCH Grand Marais, Holy Eucharist - second and fourth Sundays, 11:00 a.m. Morning prayer 11:00 a.m. - first, third and fifth Sundays

TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH Thalberg, 1 mile east and 1 mile south of Junction #12 and #304 St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Greenwald on Hwy #12, 1 1/2 miles north of junction with #317. Sunday church school 10:00 a.m., worship 11:00 a.m. (alternate locations). For info, call 635-2625 or 754-9682

CHRISTIAN FAITH FELLOWSHIP - Bible study 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, church service 10:30 a.m. Sunday school 10:00 a.m.

HOUSE OF PRAYER FULL GOSPEL - 2:30 p.m. every Sunday, Scantabury, on Hwy #59

ST. MARGUERITE R.C. MISSION Pitt Road - Traverse Bay, 11:30 a.m. Sunday additional mass mid-June through Labour Day 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Closed November 1 to April 30th.

ST. ALEXANDER R.C. CHURCH located at Sagkeeng First Nations. Sunday mass 10:00 a.m.

ST. THERESA, R.C. MISSION 88 Glenvale Avenue, Grand Marais. Mass 12:00 noon first Sunday of November to last Sunday of April. May through October mass 10:00 a.m. Sunday.

SAGKEENG CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP CHURCH - Lloyd Guimond (Pastor) Sagkeeng South Shore, service Thursday 7:30 p.m. and Sunday 2:00 p.m.

CHRIST CHURCH ANGLICAN - Sunday 2:30 p.m. at Hollow Water.
GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH - Bible study, Wednesday 7:30 p.m., call Pastor Todd Goudy for information 367-2531

The Winnipeg River Echo

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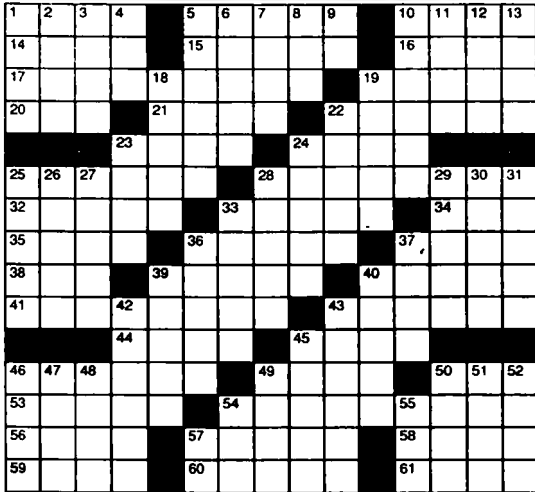
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WEEKLY CROSSWORD



ACROSS

- 1. Cereal Grain
- 5. Vestige
- 10. Lounging garment
- 14. Aroma
- 15. Latin citizen
- 16. Level
- 17. Deputized
- 19. Entreat
- 20. Took a chair

- 21. Paradise
- 22. Types
- 23. Honey makers
- 24. Footwear
- 25. Negligent
- 28. Disgraces
- 32. Similar
- 33. The ones there
- 34. "My ___ Sal"
- 35. Valley

- 36. Hoisting device
- 37. Spouse
- 38. Dined
- 39. Verify
- 40. Rubbed dry
- 41. Firmly determined
- 43. Eating places
- 44. Go beyond
- 45. Relax
- 46. Innate ability
- 49. Stride
- 50. That girl
- 53. Solitude
- 54. Embellished
- 56. Sit for a portrait
- 57. Lengthy
- 59. Kernel
- 60. Musical study
- 61. Church part

- 23. Two wheeler
- 24. Quick bread
- 25. Electronic detector
- 26. Gladden
- 27. Measures of distance
- 28. Use a razor
- 29. Wide open
- 30. Tardier
- 31. Snow coasters
- 33. Jogs
- 36. Scrap of bread
- 37. Make coins
- 39. Aircraft
- 40. More astute
- 42. Unfolded
- 43. Decipher
- 45. Sprinted
- 46. Army bugle call
- 47. African lily
- 48. Misplace
- 49. S. American country
- 50. Cease
- 51. Biddies
- 42. Border
- 54. Speck
- 55. Pie ___ mode (2 wds.)
- 57. Have existence

LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS



Down

- 1. Fishing poles
- 2. Notion
- 3. Young horse
- 4. Before
- 5. Barters
- 6. Mechanical routine
- 7. Prayer ending
- 8. Deceitful fellow
- 9. Type measure
- 10. Depended
- 11. Stove compartment
- 12. Thrash
- 13. Concludes
- 18. Web footed birds
- 19. Inclined
- 22. Stage in a cycle



CRYPTIC PUZZLE

QB NRA PSUWDI HRI SDNIPQDH DQOW
 IR JSN SVRAI SDNVRN ORFW JQI
 DWKI IR FW.

Each letter represents another letter in the alphabet. See if you can break the code to figure out the famous quotation.

Last Week's Solution

THE TRUTH WILL SET YOU FREE, BUT FIRST, IT WILL PISS YOU OFF.

Weekly Echo Horoscopes



ARIES (Mar. 21- April 20)
 You need adventure and excitement in your life. Invite friends over. You must take care of health problems that have been lingering. An older member of the family may need assistance.



TAURUS (Apr. 21- may 21)
 Try not to get into disputes that will lead to estrangements. You could find yourself left with someone's dirty laundry. You can make money if you put your savings into conservative investments. Someone you live with may feel totally neglected.



GEMINI (May 22-June 21)
 You're likely to encounter new partners if you take short trips. Stand up and propose your ideas, and you'll be surprised how many people will follow you. Someone may be trying to pull the wool over your eyes. Someone around you may not be trustworthy.



CANCER (June 22-July 22)
 Networking will be a necessity. Don't get involved in other people's private doings. You'll be angry if those you live with aren't pulling their weight. Work quietly behind the scenes for best results.



LEO (July 23-Aug 22)
 Empty promises will cause confusion. Any attractions toward clients will be one sided and must be put right out of your head. Don't let opposition from those envious of your talents daunt your progress. Don't give in too quickly.



VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 23)
 You may want to pull out some of those unfinished projects you've got tucked away. Someone you live with will get angry if you are neglecting your duties. You will have opportunities to advance, but you may have to be willing to make some changes and possibly a residential move. Changes in your domestic scene are apparent.



LIBRA (Sept. 24-Oct. 23)
 You will be able to work with fine detail this week. You will have to control the way you feel. Be cautious when dealing with coworkers. Do a little extra work at home.



SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)
 Don't let your partner get you going. You are best to travel or attend lectures or seminars. Your efforts won't go unnoticed; however, someone you work with may get jealous. Try not to lend or borrow money this week. Avoid any erratic behavior or it could cause isolation at home.

This edition covers the week of December 15th to December 21th



SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21)
 Don't let others try to create unwarranted guilt if you can't meet their demands. This is a turning point. Don't spend too much in order to impress others. Take care of yourself or you can expect to suffer from minor illness.



CAPRICORN (Dec 22 - Jan. 20)
 Your accomplishments could exceed your expectations if you mix a little business with pleasure. You need to fulfill your needs and present your talents. You should channel your efforts into getting rid of bad habits. Try not to be too aggressive or judgmental when talking to your mate.



AQUARIUS (Jan. 21-Feb. 19)
 Make changes that will enhance your appearance and entice potential partners. Beware of someone who is trying to make you look bad. If you're looking to do something worthwhile, consider volunteer work. You may have more to do with children this week; keep an open mind.



PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20)
 You're in the mood to spend time with your lover. You would be wise to socialize with as many people as possible. Don't hesitate to enlist the aid of friends or family if you have a big project to finish in your domestic environment. Don't hesitate to present your unique ideas.

Echo Classifieds

For Rent Card of thanks Auction Memoriam Meal Program

Woodland Place/DaleHaven Apartments, 1 - 2 bedroom apartments for rent, utilities and parking included, coin laundry, very clean and well maintained, call after 6:00 p.m. 367-4922.

For Rent
Office space for rent
Above Pine Falls Post Office. c/w private washroom.
For sale: One hospital bed. \$300.00. For more information call Denis at 367-8651.

For Sale
Firewood for sale:
Seasoned firewood for sale. Cash and Carry or Delivered. Assorted sizes, and prices. Call 367-2479 or 367-8892.

For Sale
For Sale in Powerview, 2 bedroom riverfront condo, appliances included. Contact Dan Gelinat at 367-2349.

Accommodations
Rooms and Suites for rent. Weekly and Monthly rates available. Hydro and satellite included, call Omer at 367-9991 or 367-4210.

Miscellaneous
Bankruptcy Info-line - free, confidential. Call 1-800-463-8371. www.lctaylor.net
This is a community service offered by L.C. Taylor & Co. Ltd., Trustee in Bankruptcy.

Thank You!
Library Allard/Beaches Branch participated in the Annual Pine Falls Christmas Craft Sale on November 29, 2003 with a bake sale table and pictures with Santa. The Board and Staff would like to thank the following for their donations, hard work and especially their valued time:
Marcel & Heather Chevrefils; Carl Gugenheimer; Lisa Grant; Rheel Nault; Pine Pharmacy; Tony Pawlowski; Neil Boulette, Beau Halverson; all those who generously gave baked goods, and of course, our special someone, Bert Ruf. Your hard work and enthusiasm were greatly appreciated. We can't thank you enough.
P. S. Be sure to watch for Santa next year!!

Card of thanks
Thank you to all the artists and crafters who took time out of their busy schedules to come out and display their pieces at the "First Annual Meet the Artist" held at the Pine Falls Tourist Interpretative Center. I would also like to thank the artisans who donated prizes to the silent auction for the Pine Falls Health Auxiliary. The generosity of these people helped make the day a great success, and has surely laid the foundation for many more such events to be as successful in the future. Thanks also to the Pine Falls Townsite, Angela and Liz, and to Merrilee for their organizing and decorating skills. Last, but not least, a big thank you to all those who came out to meet the artists and see their work, for this helps support and encourage them to continue in this path.

Auction Sale
for Mr. Joe Mercier of Ste. Rita, MB
Sat., Dec. 20, 2003, 11:00am

Located from Anola, Mb, 15 miles East on Hwy. #15 or from Elma, Mb., 18 miles West on Hwy. #15. **Sawmill:** Prince Albert Foundry 50' Saw Mill (Cummins 185 Hp. Diesel Engine, 46" Simmons Head Saw (single blade), 12' Carriage Manual Set Works, Hyd. Carriage Drive, 27' Slap Conveyor and Saw Dust Blower - good working cond.); **Industrial Equip.:** 1974 Case "350" Industrial Crawler Loader (188-D Case Diesel Engine, Power Shift, 3/4 yd. Bucket, East Winter Starter, Good working condition); Grapple Attach. fits Case Loader (sold separate); 1966 Timber Jack "225" Skidder (353 Detroit Diesel, good tires - runs well); **Trucks:** 1987 Ford F-350 1 Ton Truck w. 11' Flat Deck (360 cu. in., 4 spd., Std., Dual Wheels, 144,721 km., safetied); 1987 Ford F-150 1/2 Ton (6 cyl Std. Trans., runs); 1976 IHC 5-Ton Truck w. 15' Grainmaster Flat Deck & Hoist, (345 cu. in., 4 & 2 spd. Trans., c/w 40" removable sides); 1974 Ford F-500 2 Ton Truck w. 12' Flat Deck (seized engine); **Lumber (Rough Cut Pine):** 70 - 2x4x10', 192 - 2x6x8', 132 - 3x4x8', 7 - 4x4x12', 308 - 4x4x8', 96 - 4x5x8', 5-4x6x12', 14 - 6x6x12', 5m. Qty. of 2x8x8' and 2x10x8', 9 - 6x6x10' Rough Tamarac; 2 - 8x8x10' Rough Tamarac; **Firewood/Logs:** Approx. 10 Cordsof Pine Firewood/Logs (8' Lengths, sold in 2 cord lots); **Misc.** Hiab "174" Truck Mount Folding Telescopic Lift (16' reach); ROP Canopy (fits J.D. Crawler); 3 pth. Saw Mandril (PTO drive); 22' Wood Conveyor; 42" Saw Mill Blade; FarmKing 7'3 pth Angle Blade (like new); Indust. 230 amp. AC and 180 amp. DC Elec. Welder; Hyd. Cyl's, Hyd. Pump and Control Valve for wood splitter; Gear Reducer Attach. for honda Engine; 353 Detroit Diesel Engine (needs rebuild); Fuel Tanks, etc. **Auctioneer's Comment:** Due to health reasons, Mr. Mercier is selling his lumber related equipment. All equipment currently working. Sale held outdoors (dress warm). 1/2 hour of small items. Sale less than 2 hours. Plan to be on time. Storm date: December 22, 2003. For more information or fax list call:

Capital Auctions & Appraisals
Beausejour, Mb
Auctioneer: Len Pleskacz
Ph: 1-204-268-3052

Remembering a dear friend
Bobby-Jo Smith (Beej)
Dec 29 1974 - Dec 10 2002

I'd like to be the sorta friend that you have been to me; I'd like to be the help that you've been always glad to be; I'd like to mean as much to you each minute of the day As you have meant, old friend of mine to me along the way. I'd like to give you back the joy that you have given me, I'd like to make you feel as rich as I, who travel on. Undaunted in the darkest hour with you to lean upon. I'm wishing at this time that I could but repay a portion of the gladness that you've strewn along my way; And could I have one wish, this only would it be; I'd like to be the sorta friend that you had been to me.

Remembering you always
your friend forever,
Michelle

SILVER HAVEN MEAL PROGRAM

Open to all seniors 55 and over. You are welcome to bring a guest. All meals are \$4.50. Meals are at 12:00 noon Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Your name must be put on the list the day before by calling **Silver Haven at 367-4620**
Friday, Dec. 19
Soup, sweet and sour meatballs, rice, carrots and peas, pudding.
Monday, Dec. 22
Soup, pork chops, baked potatoes, stir fry vegetables, cinnamon buns.
Wednesday, Dec. 24
Salad, meat loaf, mashed potatoes, carrots & celery, hashbrowns, jello
Closed for Christmas Merry Christmas

**RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF ALEXANDER
TERM EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY
CLERK/TYPIST (12 Month Term Position)**

The Council of the Rural Municipality of Alexander will receive written applications for the position of a temporary Clerk/Typist. Reporting to the Chief Administrative Officer, the Clerk Typist would be responsible for performing a variety of general office skills and proficiency in the use of Microsoft Computer Software Applications is required. Bilingualism will be considered an asset.

This is a temporary term position commencing January 1, 2004 and concluding December 31, 2004 with a 35 hour work week Monday to Friday. Rate of pay will depend on qualifications and experience.

Written applications and resume may be sent to:
Rose-Marie Blanchette
Chief Administrative Officer
Rural Municipality of Alexander
P.O. Box 100, St. Georges, Manitoba R0E 1V0

Application closing date is December 22, 2003 at 4:00 p.m.

We thank all applicants, but advise that only those applicants selected for an interview will be contacted.

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**R.M. Of Alexander
Bird River, St. Georges, & Traverse Bay
NUISANCE GROUNDS**

**Will be CLOSED on
Christmas Day &
New Year's Day**

**R.M. Of Alexander
WATER METER READER**

Resumes will be received for the casual position of water meter reader by the undersigned until 4:00 p.m. January 5, 2004. The meters are to be read on a quarterly basis (between 85 to 90 meters). The R.M. thanks all who apply, however only those selected for consideration will be contacted.

Rose-Marie Blanchette, CMMA
Chief Administrative Officer
104058 PTH 11
Box 100, St. Georges, MB R0E1V0

Holiday cookie exchange

Organizing a holiday cookie exchange ensures you'll have plenty of treats to eat or give as gifts. It's also a cherished chance to catch up with friends. Follow a few simple guidelines to guarantee a great party.

1. Send invitations three to four weeks in advance. Invite eight to 12 people.

2. Ask everyone to bring eight to 12 dozen cookies and to let you know what kinds they're baking so you can make

sure there aren't any duplicates. Instruct guests to bring the cookies on a pretty platter, with labels for each kind. Some groups like to exchange recipes too.

3. Make sure everyone remembers to bring empty containers for toting their selections home.

4. As the hostess, provide drinks and snacks. Sometimes people bring an extra dozen cookies to create a big platter

for tasting, but include savory choices too. Wine or warm cider and cheese and crackers are good choices, and they create a grown-up atmosphere. Don't forget the holiday music.

5. After snacking and schmoozing, have guests circle the cookie platters and collect their share. Have each person explain why she baked the ones she did or where her recipes came from.

Peppermint snowball cookies

1 cup butter, softened
3/4 cup confectioners' sugar

1 tsp. vanilla
1/4 tsp. salt
2 1/4 cups all-purpose flour
1/2 cup quick-cooking oats
10 starlight mints, crushed (heaping 1/4 cup)
Red food coloring
Confectioners' sugar for rolling

Directions:
1. Heat oven to 400°F. In large bowl, with mixer on high, beat butter and sugar until light

and fluffy, about 2 minutes. Beat in vanilla and salt. Reduce mixer speed to low, and beat in flour (dough will be very dry). Beat in oats, mints, and 12 drops of red food coloring. Shape heaping teaspoons of dough into balls, place on ungreased baking sheets 1/2 inch apart, and bake 15 to 18 minutes per batch.

2. Place confectioners' sugar in large bowl. Roll hot cookies in confectioners' sugar, let cool completely, and repeat. Makes 4 dozen.


Cheery Christmas wreaths

1 bag (10 oz.) marshmallows
3 Tbs. butter
Green icing color (gel coloring)
6 cups crisped-rice cereal
1 cup sweetened coconut
3 Tbs. red sprinkles
Red licorice laces

Directions:

1. Line 2 or 3 baking sheets with wax paper. In large saucepan, over medium heat, melt marshmallows and butter until smooth; remove pan from heat. Tint marshmallow mixture green with icing color. Add ce-

real and coconut, stirring gently until combined. Coat your hands with vegetable cooking spray. Shape mixture into 20 balls, and place on prepared baking sheets. Using greased handle from wooden spoon, press into center of each ball, making a wreath shape. Top wreaths with red sprinkles. Cut licorice into 40 pieces; shape into bows, pressing together to secure. Press bows onto edges of wreaths. Makes 4 dozen.



Rob Oakes 345-4828
(204) 348-2955

46 MCDUGALL AV. ST. GEORGES
Approx 1344 sq. ft. 3 bedroom bi-level on approx. 3.25 acres. This home includes, built-in oven, stove (on island), dishwasher, 3 bathrooms, central air, alarm system, woodstove. Forced air heat, wet bar, 18 ft. dia. above ground pool, 650 sq. ft. of deck space, 10x20 insulated workshop. COUNTRY LIVING IN TOWN!! \$130,000.00




ST. GEORGES

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Approx. 1300 sq. ft. 3 bedroom Bungalow with view of Winnipeg River. This home includes: recent renovations, detached garage, fridge, stove, central air, electric forced air, wood stove, whirlpool bath, hardwood flooring, large 10x40 deck. PRICE REDUCED.



1 BALSAM ST., PINE FALLS
Approx 2448 sq. ft. 2 story home situated across from the village green. This home includes; 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, stove, dishwasher, oak cupboards, oak trimming, hardwood floors, finished basement, fenced yard, single garage, fireplace, screened porch, large deck, lots of storage space. TOO MUCH TO LIST!! \$150,000.00

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PUBLIC NOTICE
CHANGE OF DATE & TIME FOR THE FOLLOWING:
GARBAGE PICK-UP
Wednesday, December 24th
Wednesday, December 31st

*Please Note: All Garbage should be put to the curb at 8:00am. There will be no garbage picked up after 11:00am.
RECYCLING PICK-UP
Tuesday, December 30th
*For the month of January, 2004 Recycling will only be picked up on the 22nd.
Box 220, Powerview, MB
Tel: (204) 367-8483
Fax: (204) 367-4747
Email: powerview@mts.net
J.M. Thevenot
Administrator
Village of Powerview

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Pine Falls Health Complex, 37 Maple Street
Box 932, Pine Falls, MB R0E 1M0

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Phone: 367-2537

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Cold Beer Vendor

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367-4317

Rusty Spoon Diner

367-4895

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28 McArthur Avenue
11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

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at Powerview Agencies
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Powerview 367-4455 8150
or Winnipeg 1-204-957-6411

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36 Maple Street
(across from the hospital)
367-4417
Tuesday, & Thurs 11am-7pm
Friday, 9:30am - 2:30pm
Mon. & Wed. Closed

Fort Alexander Dental Clinic
(in the Fort Alexander Health Centre)
367-2208
Monday & Wednesday
9:30am - 4:30pm
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