

# The Winnipeg River Echo

Vol. 5, No. 35

February 15, 2005

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## New group gathers to find centre solutions

by Jim Hampshire

Stormy seas that have plagued the Lac du Bonnet Community Centre in recent weeks have calmed and the forecast looks good, says one former board member at the centre.

Ken MacMaster, one of the centre's founding board members, is co-chair of a new committee dedicated to resolving the financial woes at the community centre. The new com-

mittee, made up of a dozen representatives from local councils and organizations, is in fact, the brainchild of MacMaster, who said he approached several local individuals in an effort to find solutions to the problems plaguing the centre.

"Basically the community centre could use a few good people with a fresh outlook at the current situation," MacMaster said after some preliminary meetings with the new committee. "Sometimes it takes a fresh set of eyes or new ideas to help keep the ball rolling."

To that end, MacMaster met with members of both Lac du Bonnet Councils and called a few local organizations who have long term interests with the centre and after some initial meetings, MacMaster was able to form a new steering committee.

"What we are determined to do," he explained, "is to work together to form a new set of guidelines while improv-

ing any relations that might have fallen off over these financial problems."

Besides MacMaster, the steering committee is co-chaired by Correen Pusiewich, who brings her financial expertise to the table. MacMaster says it is important to point out that Pusiewich does not personally oversee the community centre account for the Royal Bank, where she works as manager, but does bring a wealth of experience to the table. Along with Pusiewich, MacMaster also approached members of the Lions Club of Lac du Bonnet and the local Knights of Columbus as both organizations have worked closely in support of the centre.

"I believe I have brought together the best of the best this community has to offer, and between everyone, we should have some sort of a longterm solution to the problems surrounding the centre," MacMaster stated.

See NEW page 3

## Crack cocaine seizure

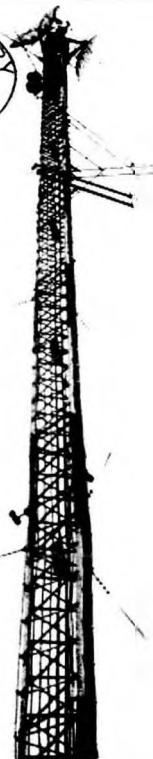
On January 31, 2005 as a result of an ongoing police investigation, Winnipeg River RCMP stopped a vehicle shortly after 5:00 p.m. on Provincial Highway 304 just south of Powerview. A search of one of the occupants of the vehicle resulted in 14 grams of crack cocaine being seized. The drugs have an estimated street value of approximately \$1700. A 24 year old, Timothy Joseph Abraham of Fort Alexander has been charged with possession of a controlled substance for the purpose of trafficking under the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act.

The Winnipeg River RCMP Detachment encourages anyone with information on Controlled Drugs and Substances or any other crimes to call the police or Crime Stoppers.

## Couple charged in marihuana bust

On February 1st, 2005 Powerview RCMP officers executed a Controlled Drugs and Substances Act search warrant at a residence in St. Georges, Manitoba. Police seized a total of 159 grams of Cannabis Marihuana, under 1 gram of Cannabis resin, \$240.00 in cash and numerous drug paraphernalia from this

property. The drugs and cash have an estimated street value of \$2000.00. One adult male Roger Frechette has been charged in trafficking under the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act. One adult female Andrea Frechette has been charged with possession under the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act.



## MTS microwave tower to improve communications

A new 400 ft microwave tower similar to this is being erected at Hollow Water. The tower will provide digital rather than analog signals resulting in improved long distance telephone operation, improved Internet dial-up service, and improved Fleet net service (RCMP radio service, for example). The project began in mid-2004 and will be completed in March this year. Total project cost is close to \$1,000,000. The area served will be the same as the existing tower serves -i.e. from Bissett to Riverton.

**LdB Blues vs. Gimli Wolves**  
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Pine Falls Hawks

**Southeast Blades vs.**  
**Swan Valley Stampeders**  
Friday, February 19th 7:30pm  
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## ECHO MAIL Letters to the Editor

Email: [theecho@mb.sympatico.ca](mailto:theecho@mb.sympatico.ca)  
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Send your letters  
or comments to:

Box 550,  
Pine Falls, MB  
R0E 1M0

# Hawranik responds to Lavallee letter

Dear Shirley:

Thank you for your letter of January 5, 2005 with respect to your concerns about the Pine Falls Hospital. I don't believe that the Pine Falls Hospital is a 3rd class hospital. The Pine Falls Hospital is equally as important as our 2 other regional hospitals in the constituency - Beausejour and Pinawa.

The Pine Falls Hospital serves a very large geographical area, including the urban and rural areas of Pine Falls, Powerview, St. George, Great Falls, Alexander, Sagkeeng, Little Black River, Mangotagan and Bissett and is the first primary care centre from the North on the East side of Lake Winnipeg. I cannot overemphasize the importance of maintaining the Pine Falls Hospital in our area. It is vitally important that we maintain all 3 regional hospitals in the constituency. Our constituency is very large geographically, and if one

hospital were to be closed, it would substantially increase the time it would take by ambulance to receive health care. Let me make it perfectly clear - the Pine Falls Hospital is a very busy regional hospital, and will be there to serve you.

The issue with respect to the retention of physicians, nurses and other health care workers is one which has been echoed throughout all Manitoba. The challenge to attract and to retain health care workers is one that is prevalent throughout Manitoba.

The Province must do more and can do more to attract physicians, nurses and health care workers by ensuring that our children who graduate from our schools in rural Manitoba are admitted to our Medical, Nursing and Health Care education programs.

Rural students who graduate from Medical, Nursing and Health Care programs tend to return to their rural communi-

ties to practice and they tend to stay there. I have advocated and I will continue to advocate for more of our students being admitted to Medical, Nursing and Health Care programs so that they return to our community to practice and so that all of our hospitals and health care facilities are staffed by those that want to stay in our community.

As for NEHA, I know that they are doing their best with what they have been given and I will ask that NEHA reviews its policy with respect to recruitment and retention of health care workers within the region. I have previously spoken to and received assurances from NEHA in the past that they are doing what they can to alleviate the health care worker shortages throughout the NEHA.

Thank you for your letter. If you have any further questions, do not hesitate to call.

Your M.L.A. Gerald Hawranik  
M.L.A. for Lac Du Bonnet

## Opinion



by Charles Norman

### Revolving door medicine

More and more people are complaining about what they call "revolving door medicine" - the constantly changing doctors in the Pine Falls Health Complex. The Blue Water Medical Group has been shut down and all Pine Falls doctors are now employees of NEHA. They arrive in Pine Falls, work long enough to get a work permit, then move on. Older people are especially vocal. They complain that they barely get to know their doctor before he moves out of the community and another doctor

takes his place.

Not just patients are complaining. Doctors are complaining too. They are calling Pine Falls a "third rate hospital". Elsewhere in this issue of *The Echo*, is a response from Lac du Bonnet M.L.A. Gerald Hawranik to Shirley Lavallee's letter carried in last week's issue of *The Echo*. Hawranik takes issue with Shirley Lavallee describing the Pine Falls Hospital as third rate. She did not make it up. She was quoting a Pine Falls doctor. Hawranik, who is a lawyer, should think carefully before he contradicts a qualified medical professional on medical issues.

Nurses are also complaining. In just one example, nurses are called off the ward to deal with emergencies. That is reasonable. What is not reasonable is that ward patients

See REVOLVING/page 15

# Reader sick of Powerview - Pine Falls conflicts

I'm so sick of this Powerview - Pine Falls conflicts. To me it seems like there is a lot of bitterness, jealousy and guilt in a lot of people. A lot of energy is wasted dwelling on the past.

In my 25 years living in

Powerview, I never felt anything wrong with our communities. I had people stay over in my home from Great Falls, Fort Alexander, Manigotagan, St. Georges, Powerview, Pine Falls and the beaches. I have never felt any less or any better than any of these people. The problem is within yourself and how you raise your family and treat people.

I wish people would respect each other and work together to build a strong community.

Joyce Sharpe

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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.

## New group gathers to find centre solutions

from front page

According to MacMaster, the steering committee was brought together to work on potential new guidelines. Once these are completed, MacMaster says a smaller advisory committee will be formed from the steering committee to work with the existing community centre board to implement the guidelines.

"Hopefully this whole process won't take very long," he said. "We don't want these problems to drag on so everyone is committed to meet as often as it takes to fix the situation."

MacMaster concedes that the new committee would like to have new guidelines in place before the annual general meeting in next month, but adds that the timeline might be too tight.

"Ideally we would like all this sorted out by the March meeting (AGM)," he continued. "It would be in the best interests to offer the new elected board a clean slate but

the time frame is too tight."

The only alternative, MacMaster says, would be to ask the current community centre board to postpone the AGM for a month or possibly more, giving the steering and advisory committee the time to put together a well thought out proposal.

"The last thing we want to do is work under pressure to be ready for the AGM," MacMaster said. "We will ask for the AGM to be delayed and I expect the board will agree it is the best for all concerned."

The steering committee members include Brian Arnason, Mayor Paul Chapman, Councillor Gene Tupa, Lions member Ted Mathers, Bill McKelvey, Reeve Don Halbert, Councillor Terry Howard, Vic Forsyth, Larry Teetaert and Bonnie Popowich.

An advisory committee will be made up from the larger committee already in place and meetings are likely to proceed at a rate of twice weekly.

## Charrette rink wins ladies bonspiel

by V. Anderson

The Pine Falls Ladies Curling League celebrated their 54th annual bonspiel this past weekend.

The final matches were all close games, and curling spectators got to see some great curling action.

A-side finals saw Danille

Charrette and her team of Noreen Hardyk, Debra and Diane Taylor, take top honours this past weekend, beating out Valarie Anderson and her team, Valerie Ogryzlo, Bridgette Cure, and Janet Stefaniuk in a closely played match.

B-side finals was won by local team Pauline Vincent, Bonnie Borlase, Dawn Nault and Cheryl Burnet, who played the Winnipeg rink of Terry Derksen, Heather Williams, Gerri Bland, Annie Bolak

C-side finals had two local  
*See Charrette Rink pg 4*



Winners of the Pine Falls Ladies Bonspiel (left - right) Skip - Danille Charrette, Third - Noreen Hardy, Second - Debra, Lead - Diane Taylor

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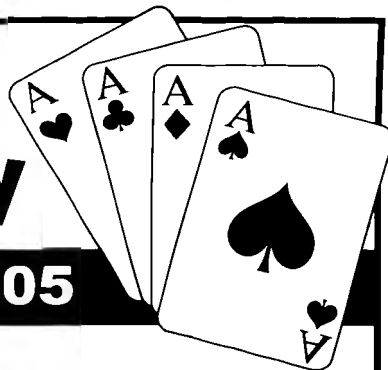
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# Charrette rink wins ladies bonspiel

*Continued from Pg 3*  
 teams vying for top spot. Sherry Johnston, Tracey Sharpe, Tammy Kunz and Darla Sequin beat out the Wendy Cyr, Sharon Cyr, Dorinda Watson, and Carol Hutchinson team. Friday nights action started off with games beginning at 5:00 pm. In the evening, the ladies put their best singing voices together and warbled a vast array of melodies. The singing sensations of many, had the women dancing and toe tapping until the wee hours. Saturday's curling began at

8:00 a.m. with the final draw at 8:30 p.m. This year's participants and invited guests were treated to a wonderful meal that was provided by Bostrom's Catering. This year's bonspiel theme was "Masquerade Ball" and the teams that participated chose a wide range of costumes. The ladies' imaginations ran freely and the costumes were plentiful. The skits were hilarious, from short jokes to some very original songs. Special thanks is extended to all who participated, it was a great show, together you managed to keep the room laughing for

hours and your antics will not be soon forgotten. The Phantom of the Opera was very popular on Friday night. (mascot for teams who made double take-outs on oppositions rocks) if you were lucky enough to end up with the Phantom on your rink at the end of the game, you received a prize. The silent auction was also very popular and the draw for the winners was done on Saturday at dinner.

Special thanks is also extended to the Ladies Honorary Members: Anita Borlase, Arlene McIntyre, Linda Segum, Aggie Hibbert, Jean Harrison, Joan Thomson, Shirley Reichart, Edna Fortner, Lynn Sparrow, Shirley Lavalle, and Margaret Ford. Your contributions to the Pine Falls Curling Club are greatly appreciated and all the hard work you do each and every year at the Pine Falls Ladies Annual Bonspiel truly contributes to the on-going success of the 54th Bonspiel. Also special thanks is given to Melinda Pluchinski Bonspiel Coordinator, Jackie Prowse Ladies Club President, the decorating committee, the prize committee. Thank you is also extended to the bar staff for all their hard work.



B- Event Winners (l-r) Skip - Pauline Vincent, Third - Bonnie Borlase, Second - Dawn Nault, Lead - Cheryl Burnett



C- Event Winners (l-r) Skip - Sherry Johnston, Third - Tracy Sharpe, Second - Tammy Kunz, Lead - Paula Segum

## School amalgamation meeting

A public meeting to clarify the positions of the Pine Falls and Sunrise School Divisions has been tentatively scheduled for March 2.

In last week's issue of *The Echo* we said that after the amalgamation of the two school divisions, the Sunrise School Division would not be accepting the 73 Pine Falls School students who are from outside Pine Falls. That is, from Sagleek or under the Schools-of-Choice program. That is not true. Sunrise will not be accepting any new students, but will accept all those currently enrolled in the Pine Falls School

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Les écoles Françaises sont ouvertes à tous les ayants droit. Un «ayant droit» est un résident du Manitoba dont la première langue qu'il a apprise et qu'il comprend encore est le Français ou un résident du Manitoba qui a reçu au moins quatre ans d'enseignement scolaire dans le cadre d'un programme Français au Canada ou encore être le père ou la mère d'un enfant qui reçoit de l'enseignement scolaire dans le cadre d'un programme de Français ou qui a reçu un tel enseignement pendant au moins quatre ans. Si vous avez des questions, veuillez communiquer avec les directions d'école de votre quartier dont la liste est la suivante :

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# Big weekend for Blues

Three games in three days brings back winning ways

by Jim Hampshire

It seems the Lac du Bonnet Blues might have stumbled upon those old winning ways after picking up three straight wins over the weekend. The three-game weekend - which is a rare exception in the South Interlake league - began last Friday evening, when the Blues travelled to Warren to take on the sixth place Mercurys. The Blues, who started the weekend with a 16 and 4 win-loss record, needed to start a new winning streak in Warren in order to regain their hold on second place in the close-knit SIHL standings. As it happened, the Blues went to work early, scoring ten goals before the end of the second period. The early onslaught was aided by Aaron Wold, who scored a natural hat trick in the second frame, while Dwight Hirst added two more markers to move the Blues ahead of the hometown Mercs. After taking a commanding 10 - 4 lead, the Blues put it on cruise control, knowing full well they would need a full tank down the road as they travelled on to Arborg to meet the Avalanche in a Saturday night contest.

Sure enough, less than 24 hours later, the Blues found themselves at the Arborg Arena, fresh off the 11 - 4 spanking they delivered to the Warren Meres, but it was the Blues who were still smarting. That's because the Blues lost a squeaker to Arborg at the end of January and it was pay-back time.

Oddly enough, payback happens quick in these Interlake communities as Lac du Bonnet jumped out to leads of 3 - 1 and 7 - 1 at each intermission. And proving that the Warren game was no fluke, Aaron Wold went to work to pick up his second hat trick in as many nights, while Reggie Goodfellow nailed four more netbenders to help seal the second win of the long weekend of hockey.

Next up saw the Blues return home for an unscheduled Sunday night tilt with the Stonewall Flyers, and the opportunity to extend the weekend winning streak to three games in just three days. Of course anyone who follows the South Interlake Hockey league with any interest will know that the Stonewall Flyers are no push-overs. Nope, they fall over all by themselves,

and rarely make it back to their feet as was the case in late December, when the Blues stuck Stonewall for a 16 - 4 loss in the Pinawa Arena. But things are not always as they seem, especially when you consider the travel time handed to the Blues leading up to the Sunday night game with the Flyers.

The Sunday night shocker started slow, with both teams picking up just one goal each going into the first intermission. The slow start got a little slower for the Blues in the second frame when the Flyers added three more goals to take an unexpected 4 - 3 lead into the third period.

And then the alarm clock rang. The Blues hit the scoreboard no less than five times before the third period was ten minutes old while cruising to a 10 - 4 win on the strength of a four-goal game from Aaron Wold. Reggie Goodfellow added to his great weekend performance by adding three markers of his own while Jamie Hickey hit the scoreboard twice. Over the three game stretch the Blues outscored their opponents 29 - 10 and are within three points of the second-place Beausejour Stars in league standings. On the up-



side, the Blues have one extra game in hand on the Beausejour Stars, although it looks like second place won't be settled until the last game of the regular season, when Lac du Bonnet travels to Beausejour on Saturday of this coming weekend.

In the meantime, the Blues will put their three game winning streak on the line at the Lac du Bonnet Arena

This Friday night when they host the Peguis Hawks, who have a record of 13 wins and 9 losses and are in danger of losing fourth place to Arborg.

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Cheryl Picher

Hi, I would just like to tell you about the benefits of using the Quick Spa. I'm a diabetic and in just 2 weeks my blood sugar dropped from 17 double digits to just 6 (nearly normal). This turn has given me better vision. I have way more energy and my clothes are already fitting more comfortably. The staff has been awesome with their support with the hours open to suit a full time hard working busy woman.

Sonia Sheane

I've been working out regularly about 5 times a week doing a variety of activities to keep in shape. I've tried many different machines, and have been a member at different clubs that had everything to offer. I got bored doing the usual ones, treadmill, bikes, climbers and then enjoyed running, hiking, skiing and free weights. Although this routine served me well it didn't challenge me and I was at a stand still. When I walked into Della's spa I was skeptical that a little 10 minute workout on the ROM. And her other interesting machines would give me results because I usually worked much much longer than that but WOW I am impressed. I noticed a difference in my overall shape in just 2 weeks compared to the last 4 years of my regular exercise routine. I am working out less and getting an awesome workout. I have more energy and now am using my time more efficiently. After 1 children, my toughest areas, my abs (which I gave up on) once again Della's machines are giving me results. I also don't have my usual side effects of exercise which used to halt my routine such as shin splints, sore back and muscles and joint pain. Thank you Della for taking my fitness to the next level.

Karen Morcau

# Discover Manitoba a huge success



Discover Manitoba Volunteers - Back Left to Right, Angie Nault, Diane Dubé, Monique Dubé - Kneeling Left to Right, Christina Nault and Michelle Nault

This past weekend, Discover Manitoba, a Tourism Expo, was held at the CanadInn Polo Park. The event proved to be an outstanding success for our region. The communities of Pine Falls, Powerview and the RM of Alexander were represented proudly by the St. Georges CDC, Diane Dubé, her staff, and a group of volunteers representing the Village of Powerview, RM of Alexander and the Pine Falls Golf Course.

This initiative was part of the Winnipeg River Regional Round Table's commitment to promoting our region and working together to achieve common goals.

The attendance at the event was record breaking, over 1100 adults on Saturday alone, and the organizing committee did an outstanding job providing a tremendous variety of activities and entertainment for all ages.

Our regional theme of "Over the River and Through the Woods" was carried

through by the entire Eastman region, including Whitemouth, Pinawa, Lac du Bonnet, Grand Beach and the La Verendrye Trail Assoc.

We received tremendous support from our local businesses and in particular the Sunrise Bakery in Powerview. They generously donated 1000 dream cookies that were enjoyed by all in attendance. This contribution added greatly to our ability to draw people in to our area. With donations from the Papertown Motel, Pfisher Bed and Breakfast, Manitou Lodge, Pine Falls Golf Course, Jackson's Caribou Lodge and Rene's Guide Service we were able to offer three wonderful prize packages. We will now be bringing in many new visitors from all over the Province to enjoy our region.

The committee thanks all of the volunteers and businesses who assisted in making this a great success for our entire region. We are already planning for next year and will be bigger and better as we grow together in cooperation.

## The Winnipeg River Regional Round Table thanks the following for their Contribution to making Discover Manitoba a Success.

Additional Contributors	Volunteers at Event	Partner Organizations
Pfischer B & B	Diane Dubé	RM of Alexander
NESDA Trail	Bev Dubé	Village of Powerview
Jacksons Caribou Lodge	Bob Sequin	Townsite of Pine Falls
Sunrise Bakery	Linda Sequin	Sagkeeng First Nation
Maskwa Snowmobile Club	Angie Nault	North East Health Authority
Duck Lake Ski Club	Monique Dubé	MB Hydro
Chicken Chef	Christina Nault	Tembec Inc
Papertown Motel	Roger Bouvier	Govt. of Manitoba
Manitou Lodge	Michelle Nault	St. Georges CDC
St. Georges Museum	Odile Dubé	Pineview Recreation Commission
Pine Falls Golf Course		Bluewater Chamber of Commerce
Renes Guide Service		Wpg River Brokenhead CFDC
Midway Foods		Eastman Regional Dev Corp
Bluewater Aviation		Manitoba Melts Federation
Edgar Dubé		Manitoba Model Forest Inc
Kevin Alarie		Black River First Nation
Paul Raymond		
Jennifer Lidgett		
Michelle Bruneau		

## Family Night on the Duck Lake Ski Trail

It has been a busy first half of the ski season for the Duck Lake Ski Club. Trail grooming

has been occurring on a regular basis and the large amount of snow has provided excellent conditions for cross country skiing this winter. We have been working to complete the work on the chalet this winter. This has included adding tongue and groove pine siding on the Chalet. The Duck Lake Ski Club will be holding a Family Night on February 26. This also coincides with a full moon. There will be a Poker Derby on the trail. Bring along some food and refreshments. We'll be having a fire at the Chalet to warm ourselves up by and perhaps roast a smokoer or two. We'll meet at the trailhead at 7 PM. For more information, contact Howard May at 367-8846.

Just a reminder to pay for your ski club memberships at Celebrations in Pine Falls. The membership fees help to pay for maintenance of the trail and the Chalet. Thank you to Celebrations for once again for looking after the memberships. Trail brochures/maps are available at the Visitor Information Centre in Pine Falls and at the trailhead sign.

Here's your opportunity to save lives.

## BLOOD DONOR CLINIC

LAC DU BONNET COMMUNITY CENTRE MONDAY, MARCH 7

1:00pm to 3:30pm & 5:30pm to 8:00pm

For your appointment call 1-888-2-DONATE (1-888-236-6283)

WALK-INS WELCOME!

PLEASE EAT BEFORE DONATING. BRING IDENTIFICATION BEARING FULL NAME & SIGNATURE OR PHOTO



CALL 1-888 2 DONATE for more information or to book an appointment www.bloodservices.ca

### Basic Requirement for Blood Donation

Identification	Full name and signature, or full name and Photograph required
Age	Between 17th and 71st birthday (regular donor) or between 17th and 61st birthday (first time donor)
Weight	At least 50 kg (110 lbs.)
Frequency of Donation	Minimum interval between blood donations is 56 days
Health	You must be in generally good health and feeling well. You should have had something to eat and adequate sleep. You must also meet hemoglobin (iron) requirements (test done at clinic)
Screening	At the time of donation, you will be asked a number of questions to determine your eligibility

### Wait before donating:

- Until the day after treatment if you have had dental treatment for cleaning or filling. For extraction, root canal or dental surgery, you must wait 72 hours provided you have fully recovered
- Until you have fully recovered if you have a cold, flu or sore throat
- Until 12 months have passed if you have had ear or body piercings or tattoos

### Donating Blood. A safe procedure.

Donating blood does not put a risk for disease. All needles are sterile, used only once and are discarded. The usual blood collection, a unit, is about half a litre or one pint. Your body soon replaces all of the blood you donate.

The above eligibility requirements were accurate at the time of printing. Eligibility requirements are subject to change. For complete eligibility requirements, please contact Canadian Blood Services by calling 1-888-2-DONATE (1-888-236-6283).

When completing the donor questionnaire, remember to answer all questions truthfully and that to make a false statement is a serious matter and could harm others.



# MJHL News

## MJHL Suspensions

The Manitoba Junior Hockey League (MJHL) wishes to announce the following suspension:

As a result of receiving his 5<sup>th</sup> Ten Minute Misconduct penalty this season, player Joey Foxon of the Portage Terriers is suspended for One game.

As a result of receiving his 5<sup>th</sup> Ten Minute Misconduct penalty this season, player John Naturkach of the Dauphin Kings is suspended for One game.

As a result of receiving his 5<sup>th</sup> Ten Minute Misconduct penalty this season, player Joel Malchuk of the Dauphin Kings is suspended for One game.

The Manitoba Junior Hockey League (MJHL) wishes to announce the following suspension:

As a result of receiving his 5<sup>th</sup> Ten Minute Misconduct penalty this season, player Joey Foxon of the Portage Terriers is suspended for One game.



# Black River First Nation Wins National Forest Stewardship Award

On January 26, 2005 Black River First Nation was notified that it was selected as one of the recipients of the prestigious Wildlife Habitat Canada Forest Stewardship Awards for 2004. Wildlife Habitat Canada is a national, non-profit conservation organization which is dedicated to building capacity for and affecting change in policies and practices relating to habitat conservation. The Forest Stewardship Recognition Program annually recognizes outstanding Canadian individuals and organizations for their efforts in habitat conservation and education. The program is supported by Wildlife Habitat Canada, Natural Resources Canada, the Forest Products Association of Canada and the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources.

The nomination for the award came from Tembec Industries. The award recognizes the community's successful environmental education and monitoring programs which have engaged First Nation and

non-First Nation youth in the region in environmental monitoring of aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems. The award also recognizes the progress the community has made in sustainable forest harvesting education, training and practices.

"We were very pleased and flattered last fall when we heard that Tembec nominated us for this award" states Dr. Brian Kotak, Black River's Environment Director. "To actually receive it is an honor and really provides a shining example of what can be accomplished by First Nations with respect to building capacity in the area of the environment. This will allow First Nations to take a more active role in management and monitoring of the natural resources around us."

Current projects being lead by the community include assessing water quality in rivers and streams across eastern Manitoba and determining how forestry can best incorporate water quality concerns into the way they plan and conduct forest management activities, enhancing walleye (pickereel) spawning in the Black River by extending an existing set of spawning rapids (completed in 2003), and implementing a project to teach Grades 10-12 students from schools in Powerview, Hollow Water and Lac du Bonnet about climate change and its impacts on the forests in eastern Manitoba. In 2004, more than 60 students participated in field trips in June and September to learn how to use sophisticated monitoring equipment in the forest in order to track changes in soils, vegetation and

small mammals in relation to climate change.

"Much of the success of our projects is a direct result of the partners that are involved. Many of our project partners not only provide funding, but also take an active role in the project", notes Brian. "For example, representatives of some of our funders actually participate in the field work. All partners are part of a formal Black River Environmental and Community Development Committee that meet to discuss progress on projects every 3 months. In this way, the partners also contribute their expertise in specific areas."

Project partners include Environment Canada (EcoAction program), Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Frontier School Division, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, Manitoba Conservation (Forestry Branch, Sustainable Development Innovations Fund), Manitoba Hydro, Manitoba Model Forest, Manitoba Water Stewardship (Water Quality and Fisheries), Sunrise School Division and Tembec.

For more information, please contact Dr. Brian Kotak at 367-4411 or [briankotak@blackriver.ca](mailto:briankotak@blackriver.ca). Additional information can be found at Black River First Nation's website ([www.black-river.ca](http://www.black-river.ca)) and at Wildlife Habitat Canada's website ([www.whc.org](http://www.whc.org)).


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## St. Georges Voyages Super Bowl Winners

1st Quarter:	
0-0	Yves Boisjoli \$200
Rev.	Yves Boisjoli \$50
2nd Quarter:	
6-0	Dan Sharpe \$25
7-0	Len Berthelette \$25
7-6	Dan Sharpe \$25
7-7	Krstjan Harley \$200
Rev.	Krstjan Harley \$50
3rd Quarter:	
7-13	Ron Adams \$25
7-14	Ron Dupont \$25
13-14	Jan Graham \$25
14-14	Sean Papineau \$200
Rev.	Sean Papineau \$50
4th Quarter:	
14-20	J.L. Guay \$20
14-21	Unsold
14-24	Mike Dupont \$25
20-24	Kevin Alarie \$25
FINAL:	
	Dave Lagasse and Dan Sharpe \$1000
Rev.	Unsold
Automatic Winners	
	Yves Boisjoli \$25 (0-0)
	Eileen Bruyere \$25 (29-29)

# Blades Hockey

The Blades are pleased to announce their

## Annual Awards Night

Join us in supporting the Blades Organization & acknowledging the players for their many achievements this year!

**Guest Speaker: NHL Great Bryan Trottier**  
Bryan Trottier was a key member in the New York Islanders, 5 Stanley Cup Championships, and was inducted into the NHL Hockey Hall of Fame.

**TICKET PRICE:** \$80/per person (Limited Seating)  
Cash or Cheque payable to the Southeast Blades Junior Hockey Club.


RSVP along with cheque or cash by February 18th, 2005.  
Blades Office at 367-2630.

**February 25th**  
at Pine Falls Curling Club

**COCKTAILS:**  
6:00 (cash bar)

**DINNER:**  
7:00pm

**PROGRAM:**  
8:00pm



Junior "A" Hockey Club

# Library Allard

## Local author to visit Library Allard

Gloria Grayson's autobiography *In Those We Trust Only They Can Betray Us* was left in the hands of her children to launch. Ms. Grayson died of cancer on September 29th at Winnipeg's St. Boniface Hospital. Ms. Grayson's daughter, Robin Cyr has been publicizing her mother's story of Ms. Grayson's romance with a professional thief and how she was betrayed by him. Most of the story is said to have taken place in southeastern Manitoba as you are taken back and forth through time as Ms. Grayson recounts her life leading up to meeting the man known as

Drago, the romance and eventual heartache when she is forced to make the decision to turn her European lover into the authorities.

Robin Cyr will be visiting us for an informal evening on Wednesday, March 2nd, from 6:45 - 8:00 PM to discuss her *Mothers'* book, enlighten us with a few readings, and answer any questions. Everyone is invited.

See you in the library, Library Allard - 367-8443 - Ecole Communautaire, St Georges

Beaches Branch Library - 754-4007 - Walter Whyte School - Grand Marais

# Pine Falls 5 pin news

## Week #14

The ladies high games were Sharon Tremain 220, Nancy Breton 209, 206, Wanda Berthelette 207, Kathleen Coss 203.

The men's high games were Derek Anderson 278, Todd Jesseau 274, 210, Jerry Gauthier 264, 260, Brian Bruyere 242, 206, Dwayne Duff 237, Jonathan Coss 233, Ron Pachkowsky 229, Denten Normand 228, Ron Knott 214, Lawrence Abraham 205.

The female bowler of the week was Sharon Tremain 220,

which was 58 pins over her average.

The male bowler of the week was Jerry Gauthier 264, which was 82 pins over his average.

The Legion Special was won by the Gutter Balls 3310. High triple games were Todd Jesseau 679, Nancy Breton 601.

## Week #15

The ladies high games were Nancy Breton 203, Mona Lessard 201.

The men's high games were Bob Hebert 294, 216,

Don Powell 286, 214, Dwayne Duff 270, 263, Jerry Gauthier 233, 218, Robert Mullholland 230, Todd Jesseau 214, Jonathan Coss 203, Ron Pachkowsky 202.

The female bowler of the week was Cheryl Hildebrand 166, which was 50 pins over her average.

The male bowler of the week was Bob Hebert 294, which was 133 pins over his average.

The legion special was won by the Gutter Dusters 3457.

High triple games were Don Powell 678, Dwayne Duff 667, Bob Hebert 654, Jerry Gauthier 641.

# Library Corner

## Lac du Bonnet Regional Library

*I Love to Read Month* is for everyone - especially the kids! And so it is time to tell you "what's new" in kids books! Reading is fun...and to prove it we the following new books to tell you about!

*Mo's Stinky Sweater* by David Bedford: "Mo Monkey loves his rainbow sweater. He wears it all the time...he even wipes his hands and feet with it! It doesn't take long before Mo's sweater is truly stinky and grubby and grimy! Mother Monkey is determined to give it a good wash, but Mo has other ideas..."

*You Can't Taste a Pickle With Your Ear* by Harriet Ziebert is an introduction to the five senses that is packed with humor and chock-full of information!

*Owl Babies* by Martin Waddell is a sweet and tender

story for the young child. "All children have to adjust to that first separation from mother, and this may help to ease that fear."

*Saying Goodbye to Lulu* by Corinne Demas is a beautifully written story of a child's experience of having to say goodbye to her dog, Lulu, and adjusting to the new puppy who comes to live with the family.

When children begin to read on their own, they soon progress to what we like to call "early chapter books". At the library we have marked these books in the Junior Fiction section with a yellow dot on the spine. Look for a few new books in this category such as *Scooby-Doo and the Runaway Robot*, *Scooby-Doo and the Sunken Ship*, and *Scooby-Doo and the Karate Capers*.



Then we have *The King of Show-and-Tell* by Abby Klein (a first-grade and kindergarten teacher). Take time to look at this "Ready, Freddy" book with your child and together you can find the word "fin" that is hidden in each picture that illustrator, John McKinley has drawn!

A new series for kids aged 8-12 years, is the "Laptop" series by Christopher Maselli. Read *Reality Shift* They Changed the Future, *Doubletake*: Things Are Not What They Seem, and *Explosive Secrets*: Not Everything Lost Is Meant to Be Found. Technological adventure and mystery awaits the young reader!

*You Read to Me, I'll Read to You* by Mary Ann Hoberman features children's favorite fairy tales "in very short tellings with a twist. Each story is told in "two voices" and uses traditional reading techniques: alliteration, rhyme, repetition and short sentences - to invite young children to read along with an adult." Get creative, don't just read it...make a couple of puppets with your child and present your very own puppet show! Make Reading Fun for your child and you will give them the gift of a lifetime.

Just a reminder that the *Battle of the Books* is not over yet! We are having a busy month and want to thank our patrons for making that extra effort to visit the library more often in participation of this friendly competition between libraries in the province. Pick up your special bookmark and take a little extra time to browse our shelves. Encourage everyone in your family to READ!

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**February 17, 18, 19**

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\$400 SPA Package at Giselle's and a \$1000 Shopping Spree at St. Vital Mall

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2:00am Thursday - Saturday

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Deadline for applications is April 15, 2005.

For information please call Franklin Courchene or Norma Daniels at 1-800-201-3505 or 204-367-2287

For applications and/or Information.

# Setting up a systematic withdrawal plan



by Steve Kulyk

**What should you do when it comes time to use your nest egg?**

Most Canadians spend considerable time thinking about how they can save for retirement. But how many of us know what to actually do with our portfolios when it comes time to retire?

How many of us have a plan for making withdrawals from our retirement portfolio?

A carefully managed systematic withdrawal plan (SWP) may be the answer. Allow us to explain what such a plan is, and how it can help you.

The Systematic Withdrawal Plan

A Systematic Withdrawal Plan (SWP) allows you to make a regular series of withdrawals (every month, for example) from an investment portfolio that's still growing. Ideally, portfolio growth compensates for the amount you're taking out every month, allowing you to keep up the withdrawals indefinitely. Think of the plan as a barrel: you take water out from the bottom at the same time that water is coming in from the top.

Managing the spread

The critical element of every SWP is the difference between the money coming out of the portfolio and the money going in. At first glance, it seems that

as long as withdrawals equal growth, the SWP can continue indefinitely. In the real world, however, there are market corrections, inflation, and taxes to worry about. Which is why it's best to build in some breathing room when implementing a SWP.

The importance of growth Obviously, to stay on top of the spread, investors need to invest some portion of the SWP portfolio for growth. In practical terms, that means investing in equities, equity mu-

tual funds, etc. That's a little different than the conventional wisdom that advises retirees to stick to bonds and other guaranteed investments, but think about the barrel: to ensure there's always water in the barrel, you need to keep water coming in as fast as it's going out. Equities are the asset class that offers you the best chance of keeping up with your withdrawals (and inflation) over the long term.

A new twist on SWPs In response to the increased

interest retirees are showing in SWPs, several mutual fund companies have built customized SWP funds that allow investors to make withdrawals in a tax-efficient way. The fund works much like a normal SWP, with one distinct difference: the special structure of these funds allows those monthly withdrawals to consist primarily of "return of capital," which is not normally subject to tax. As an added bonus, return of capital is not considered income for the purposes

of calculating old age security (OAS) and other government benefits, potentially leaving retirees with even more income.

A tax-efficient SWP isn't a strategy you just throw together—it requires detailed planning. If you're considering a SWP, talk to your financial advisor and make sure it's set up to meet your specific needs.

Steve Kulyk is an independent financial advisor and can be reached at 367-9572 in St. Georges.

# Faith Perspective



by Pastor Jake Doell

## Marriage - What is it?

Where did the idea of marriage originate? Did some of the ancients look at the human family and say, "Since it takes a man and a woman to procreate and carry on the human family, it would be a good idea to pair them off in two's and call that marriage." Well the Bible tells us in the book of Genesis chapter 2: vs. 18, 21-24: "The Lord God said, 'It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him....' So the Lord God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep and while he was sleeping, He took one of the man's ribs and closed up the place with flesh. Then the Lord God made a woman from the rib He had taken out of man and He brought her to the man. The man said, (WOW) "This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh and she shall be called woman, for she

was taken out of man. For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife and they shall be one flesh." (NIV)

This is the biblical account of God creating the woman from the man for companionship. God gave them the command "to be fruitful and increase in number," and today the human family has grown to over 6 billion members.

God ordained marriage between one man Adam and one woman Eve. When God

brought Eve to Adam I believe every cell of Adam's being shouted, "WOW! She is a perfect match, she is my equal." An interesting phrase that is often used in marriage vows says it so well: "The woman was not made out of Adam's head to top him nor out of his feet to be trampled by him but out of his side to be equal with him, from under his arm to be protected by him and near his heart to be loved by him." That is always a necessary requirement to building a healthy mar-

riage and a happy home.

The Bible also tells us that they

would become one flesh. God uniquely created the body of the man and the woman to compliment each other and especially in the sexual union of husband and wife. God created sex to be wonderful and intimate. He did this to make the marriage of "one man and one woman" a sacred union. Throughout human history, regardless of race or culture marriage as described in the Bible has been an honourable thing.

As our government is debating on broadening the definition of marriage to include "any two parties" let us always remember the Word of God which never changes still defines marriage as the sacred union of "one man and one woman. Societies may choose to redefine marriage to their liking but God's Word still is the rock solid foundation for marriage.

**Midget B**

## All Star Game

February 19, 2005  
Pine Falls Arena  
12:00 Noon

### TEAMS

Teams will be made up with players from 7 Eastman Teams.

**TEAM HOME:**  
Mitchell Mohawks, Landmark Blues, Lac du Bonnet Lightning, Springfield Hawks

**TEAM VISITORS:**  
Pineview Paper Kings, Steinbach Millers, Illes Des Chene Elks, Springfield Hawks

7 Eastman team will select 42 players - 36 skaters and 6 goalies. Coaches from the top 4 teams will take the bench. As of Jan. 31 top teams were Mitchell, Pineview, Steinbach, Landmark.

**Skills Contest**

**SPEED SKATING:** 12 skaters race against the clock  
**ACCURACY SHOOTING:** 12 skaters most accurate shot  
**PENALTY SHOT:** From Centre Ice against goalie  
**BEST GOAL TENDER:** 6 Goalies will compete

**Game Time 2pm**

There will be a lunch following the game for players and invited guests.

See you There!  
The organizing committee:  
Pineview Paper Kings

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# Beef Meetings for 2005

by Terry J. Buss Ag. Rep.,  
Beausejour District Office.

We are running a series of beef meetings in February and you might want to mark your calendar.

On February 23, 7:30 p.m. at the Hadashville Hall in Hadashville we will be covering the topics of Replacement Heifer Management, Composting Mortalities and RFID Tags. We will also be

looking at a Comparison of Various Ways to Put up Feed. This includes dry hay, round bale silage and chopped silage. This meeting will also be run at 7:30 p.m. at the Over 50 Club in Anola on February 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Evening Beef Meetings** will be starting up again for the 2005 season in Beausejour. Our first meeting will be on February 22. As usual, start time is 7:00 p.m. and the location, as always, will be the Beausejour Super 8. Watch this news column and your mailbox for further information on topics to be

covered.

For more information on any of these meetings, give the Ag Office in Dugald (853-5170) or Beausejour (268-6094) a call.

**New Study Says Risk of BSE Transmission to Humans is Very Low**

The Manitoba Cattle Producers ran the following article in their last newsletter. "Meetingplace.com reported on a study from British medical journal *The Lancet* which found that while BSE can be transferred to humans in the form of variant Cruetzfeldt-Jakob disease, it takes massive consumption of specific risk

material like brains and other parts associated with the central nervous system to produce an infection. The study found human infectivity from eating diseased cattle products is seven to 20 times lower than the infectivity rate for cattle consuming the same products. It estimated that a human would have to eat 3.3 pounds of infected neural tissue to be at risk of developing the disease. The study said "existing public health measures can prevent transmission of BSE to man."

**Manitoba Other Ruminant Industry Transitional Program**

The purpose of this program is to provide assistance to Manitoba producers in the other ruminant sector to facilitate industry restructuring because of the U.S. border closure due to BSE. Those in the bison, elk, deer, sheep or goat business should take note.

Program payments will be made on 80% of the producer's mature bison, sheep, goats, elk and deer as of September 1, 2004. Manitoba's per head payment will be \$40 for bison, \$20 for elk, \$10 for deer and \$8 for sheep and goats.

For more information and applications please contact your nearest Manitoba Crop Insurance Corporation (MCIC) office. For the MCIC office in Beausejour, the contact number is 268-6001. Please note that applications for this program must be submitted by **February 25, 2005**.

## 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 10-71375:** meets first Tuesday of the month, Chicken Chef, Powersview meeting room.

**Prenatal classes:** held regularly in your area. Please register with Gail 268-7465 or call your local public health nurse.

**Library Allard:** Tuesday 10:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday 12:00 to 5:00 p.m. and 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. Friday 12:00 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. Sat. 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

**Knights of Columbus:** meetings every second Tuesday of the month 7:30 p.m. Powersview 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 5:00 to 6:00 p.m.

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

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

**Powersview garbage pickup:** every Wednesday, recyclable pickup first and third Thursday of each month.

**P.A.S.:** meeting first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

**Village of Powersview:** meets second Tuesday of each month.

**Winnipeg River Senior Service:** Coordinator Tina Pilschuk, 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 Atchah Road 756-8018 or 756-2101.

**Happy Tois Day Care:** 367-2601, board meetings last Monday of each month 7:00 p.m. at the day care.

**Senior Scene Inc. #1 Atchah Rd. Victoria Beach:** general meetings second Tuesday of the month, 756-6468 for more info.

**Blue Water Support Group:** meets every third Monday 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.

**Powersview Parent Advisory Council:** meets first Monday of every month.

**Great Falls Hall workers:** Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:00 to 11:00 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 5:00 p.m. - 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 RCMP Report was unavailable at Press Time



### How does Crime Stoppers work?

An unsolved crime (Crime of the Week) is re-enacted each week and brought to the attention of the public via the media. An award is offered to anyone providing information which leads to the solution of any crime. Awards are also offered for information leading to the arrest of individuals for other criminal offenses, the recovery of stolen property, or the seizure of narcotics.

The "Tips Line" is 786-11PS (786-8477). Callers will never have to reveal their identity. The call will not be traced or recorded. No one will ever know who the informant is.

Due to security concerns, Crime Stoppers does not accept any tips via computer electronic mail, but you can send an e-mail if you have questions regarding the program.

## Winnipeg River Church Services

**NOTRE DAME DU LAUS:** Powersview - Saturday evening 7:30 p.m. (English), Sunday 10:00 a.m. (English), Stead - Sunday 12:00 noon.

**PINE FALLS UNITED CHURCH:** Worship Service and Sunday School at 11:00 a.m. - 367-2633. Everyone Welcome.

**PINE FALLS ANGLICAN CHURCH OF THE ADVENT:** Ph. 367-9529. Rector, the Rev. Sandra Lankard, Sunday Service at 9:00 a.m.

**ST. THERESA'S:** Masses at Notre Dame du Laus.

**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 #104. 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 754-3682.

**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, St. Anterbury, 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.

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- Papertown Malar Inn

Thank you from the Pineview Saints Atom Boys



## Report from Legislature

by Gerald Hawranik,  
M.L.A. Lac du Bonnet Constituency

### Budget Deficits

As Manitobans, we have come to expect that our Balanced Budget Legislation ought to protect us from governments who spend more than they take in for revenues. However, as we found out in the last few weeks, the Doer Government found every loophole that they could in the Leg-

islation in order to proclaim to all Manitobans that the "budget was balanced", in spite of the fact that the Auditor General, Jon Singleton, disagrees and states that in fact the Province ran a \$604 Million deficit! The Auditor General is independent from the Legislature, and is independent from politics and politicians. The statements and the conclusions arrived at by the Auditor General can be trusted and relied upon! The

Finance Minister dug deep into his bag of tricks to try to convince Manitobans that the 2003/2004 Budget was in fact balanced, and that the Province had a surplus of \$13 Million in spite of the fact that the Auditor General strenuously disagreed with him. In order to convince Manitobans that the budget was balanced, the Finance Minister counted revenues that were not really revenues and did not count expenses that really were expenses! The Finance Minister counted the \$171 Million withdrawal from the Rainy Day

Fund as revenue, and the Auditor General called him on it! The Finance Minister did not count as expenses the \$71 Million it spent to fight forest fires and the B.S.E. crisis as expenses, and the Auditor General called the Minister on it!

When all was said and done, the Auditor General advised Manitobans that the Doer Government had run a deficit of \$604 Million for the fiscal year 2003/2004, the second largest deficit in the history of the Province! The Auditor General confirmed that the 2003/2004 financial year was in fact the Doer Government's third consecutive yearly deficit. The

Auditor General stated in his Audit Report that the Doer Government, by claiming a \$13 Million surplus is "misleading by omission". The Auditor General went on to remove the word "fairly" from his accountant's opinion on the financial statements of the Province.

If you have any questions regarding this article, or any other issues or concerns in the Constituency, please feel free to contact me at 268-4664, write to me at Box 430, Beausejour, MB, R0E 0C0, email me at [gerald@geraldhawranik.com](mailto:gerald@geraldhawranik.com) or visit my website at [www.geraldhawranik.com](http://www.geraldhawranik.com).

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## On Parliament Hill



Your voice in Ottawa  
Vic Toews, MP for Provencher

### Public safety in peril

To anyone who has watched the crime show CSI (Crime Scene Investigation), the value of timely DNA analysis is well-known. In this fictional program, DNA samples are often examined within hours of their collection and suspects are either apprehended or exonerated within a day or two. The reality in Canada, however, is much different. Delays in processing DNA samples by the RCMP has increased to more than 100 days in 2004 — and to make matters worse, the government is denying that the backlog of cases is imperilling public safety or criminal investigations.

The time taken to analyze DNA samples at the RCMP's forensic labs in Vancouver, Regina and Ottawa is more than three times the 30-day standard recommended in 1998 by Ontario Judge Archie Campbell. Judge Campbell concluded that a two-year delay in analyzing Paul Bernardo's DNA samples at Ontario's Centre of Forensic Sciences, a non-RCMP facility, allowed him to commit four more rapes and two murders.

The information tabled by Public Safety Minister Anne McLellan also shows that the over 1000 requests for DNA analysis that had not been completed at the end of 2004 resulted in an increase of 54 per cent from 2003, when 679 requests were still unprocessed at the end of 2003.

Although the handling most urgent cases, such as those involving life-threatening situations, has improved to 29 days — a substantial drop from 51 days the year before — it is still two times longer the desired 15-day standard.

At the same time that the government has failed to process DNA samples in a timely

fashion, the Firearms Centre has lost track of over 46,000 licensed gun owners.

Public Safety Minister Anne McLellan has disclosed the information that 46,409 letters to license holders came back from Canada Post as "undelivered" mail. These letters were among 773,218 renewal notices for gun-possession licenses that the Firearms Centre sent out as part of an initiative to stagger renewals in order to avoid backlogs at a processing centre in New Brunswick. This information gap could have drastic consequences.

Furthermore, since it is a Criminal Code offence for license holders to fail to notify the Firearms Centre if they change addresses, some firearm owners could be considered criminals without even being aware of it.

It is clear that frontline police officers cannot trust the controversial and ineffective firearms registration system, either with their lives or the public's safety. Nor can they depend on their government to properly fund the investigative tools, like DNA sampling, which are proven to be effective in fighting crime and keeping our communities safe. Why does it seem so difficult for our federal government to fund the programs it should or end the funding for programs that just don't work?

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 at 1-866-333-1933 or at 204-326-9889 or in Lac du Bonnet at 204-345-9762. You may write me at 203-323 Main Street, Steinbach, MB R5G 1Z2, by fax at 204-346-9874 or by e-mail at [toewsv1@mtns.net](mailto:toewsv1@mtns.net)

## The Winnipeg Humane Society

Low Income? Call our Subsidy Spay & Neuter Program Coordinator, Melissa at 982-2018 today!

The WHS needs Kong toys, tennis balls, peanut butter (for the Kongs), rawhides & assorted chew toys. If you can help, drop off at 5 Kent Street.



Curly, 22212

Curly is one of several small, elderly dogs we have available for adoption. He was found as a stray and when his owner was contacted, no longer wanted him. Curly's as "Good As Gold" & would love to be your constant companion during his golden years. A special reduced fee of \$42.12 applies, still includes his exam, 14 day health period, microchip & much more!



Boggle, 100551

Boggle was found way back on November 10 on Enfield Crescent. A really sweet rabbit. Boggle has already been neutered and is ready to leave today! For a limited time only rabbit adoption fees are 50% off, only \$19.50 with tax! All rabbit adoption fees include a health exam by a veterinarian, 14-day health period following the adoption, spay or neuter (a \$150 value!) & ear tattoo! - can you help?

The WHS has a new website, visit us at  
[www.winnipeghumanesociety.ca](http://www.winnipeghumanesociety.ca)

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

# Lac du Bonnet RCMP Report

Report for the weeks of February 7th - February 14th, 2005



On the 7<sup>th</sup> of February the police responded to a false 911 call in the R.M. of Lac du Bonnet.

On the 7<sup>th</sup> of February a report of a sexual assault was attended to by police in Pinawa and the matter is under investigation.

On the 8<sup>th</sup> of February documents were served on a person at a request of a lawyer from Winnipeg.

On the 8<sup>th</sup> of February a report of an accident was taken that occurred at a school in Pinawa. There were no in-

juries. On the 8<sup>th</sup> of February two further accident reports were taken. One to assist WPG Police Service and the other for an MVA that occurred in the R.M. of Lac du Bonnet.

On the 9<sup>th</sup> of February a counterfeit bill was seized at a local banking institution.

On the 9<sup>th</sup> of February a complaint was taken concerning youth at the local High School having fireworks.

On the 9<sup>th</sup> of February a report was taken concerning a theft of a ladder and an exten-

sion cord in the R.M. of Whitemouth.

On the 11<sup>th</sup> of February a black lab cross was reported found in Breton Lake area.

On the 11<sup>th</sup> of February a youth was reported to have taken several wallets at a school in Pinawa. The matter was followed up on.

On the 11<sup>th</sup> of February a false alarm was responded to in the Nutimik Lake area.

On the 11<sup>th</sup> of February a "hong" was seized off a youth in Pinawa and a charge laid under the Liquor Control Act.

On the 11<sup>th</sup> of February a complaint was taken about unregistered snow mobiles in Pinawa. Several of them were

checked in Town and were properly registered.

On the 11<sup>th</sup> of February a call was taken about two males banging on a door in Great Falls but had departed when police had followed up with a phone call.

On the 12<sup>th</sup> of February a report of a cottage on fire in White Lake area. The cottage had been completely burned. The cause of the fire is not suspicious.

On the 12<sup>th</sup> of February a report was taken of a foster child running away in the R.M. of Reynolds. The police are following up.

On the 13<sup>th</sup> of February the taser was deployed on an indi-

vidual at a social in Lac du Bonnet who was being told to leave due to being heavily intoxicated. He then got into confrontation with police. As a result he was charged under the Liquor Act and may face charges of assaulting a police officer.

On the 13<sup>th</sup> of February a report was taken of a break and enter into a cabin in the Whiteshell.

On the 13<sup>th</sup> of February a wallet was found in the Great Falls over and turned over to the owner.

On the 13<sup>th</sup> of February a false alarm was reported at a store in Pointe du Bois.

## 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 review meeting from

**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 268-7465 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., 148 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 366-2586, Leone 367-8569

**Ladies' Auxiliary Royal Canadian Legion Branch #164** meets first Tuesday of the month 7:00 p.m. Legion Hall

**LDH 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., 148 Senior School. Home Ex. Room. No meetings Jan, July, Aug.

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

**Lakeshore Al-Anon Group** Thursday 7:00 p.m. Lac du Bonnet District Health Centre, 89 McIntosh. Call Teri 345-8712

**Lakeshore Ala-Teen Group** For further information, Phone Kathie 367-8237 (evenings), Vickie 345-6520 (days)

## 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 Mirek Szybal, 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 Tankard 367-9520, church 345-2357  
Sunday 11:30 a.m. - worship; 11:30 a.m. - first and third Sunday of each month, holy eucharist

**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, helpline personal response system, friendly visitors, fee-for-service handy helpers

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

**R.M. 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, Haldeshville

**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

## Spot the electrical hazards at home

**ENERGY CORNER** prepared by Manitoba Hydro

Consider how your home would score if you gave it an electrical safety test. Electricity is so much a part of our lives that we sometimes take it for granted. For safety's sake, regularly check your home to make sure that you use electricity properly.

Ensure that all your electrical appliances and products carry a Canadian safety seal of approval from a testing laboratory. If not, it may be time to upgrade to safer models. And when an appliance breaks down, it's best to have them serviced by a qualified repair person.

An electrical outlet is no place for an octopus. A jumble of appliance plugs likely means

too many things are running on one circuit. Try to rearrange your appliances or consider updating your electrical system. If a fuse blows, unplug all of your appliances before installing a new fuse. As well, cover all unused electrical outlets so that curious little fingers can't poke items into them. And never run electrical cords under carpeting or area rugs. The cords can become frayed and lead to a fire hazard.

If you must use a space

heater, it's best to plug them in at the electrical outlet only. Never use an extension cord as a substitute for permanent wiring. And outdoor extension cords must be grounded and three-pronged.

Install ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCI) in wet areas like the bathroom, kitchen, laundry room and outdoors. These special electrical outlets help prevent shock and other injuries by cutting the flow of electricity if a leak is detected.

The Winnipeg River

# Echo

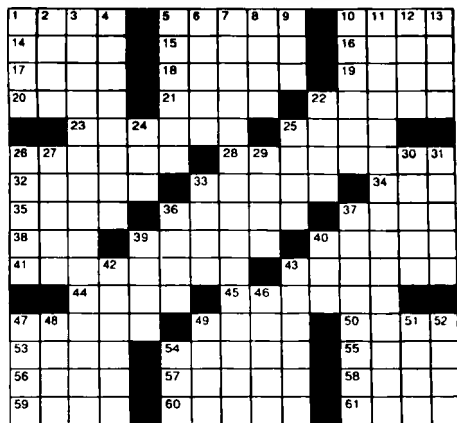
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# WEEKLY CROSSWORD



**ACROSS**

- 1 Chapeaux
- 5 Singer Midler
- 10 Actor Paul
- 14 Ger. number
- 15 Porthos' colleague
- 16 Prolific author
- 17 Region
- 18 Bo Peep's loss
- 19 Twist
- 20 Stitched
- 21 Designer Edith
- 22 Fr. noggins
- 23 Yale cry (2 wds.)
- 25 Real

- 26 Trees
- 28 Drowsier
- 32 The \_\_\_ Not for Burn
- 33 ing
- 34 Alda and Arkin
- 35 Gunman's assn.
- 36 Femmel
- 36 "God \_\_\_ America"
- 37 Run
- 38 Author Fleming
- 39 Medleys
- 40 Swap
- 41 Watchman's treat
- 43 Like a prison window
- 44 Catcher's need

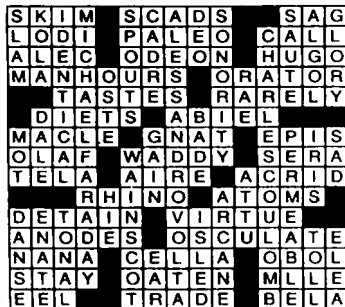
- 45 Certain hunter
- 47 Muse of poetry
- 49 \_\_\_ be in England
- 50 Aspect
- 53 Wagon
- 54 Mighty hunter
- 55 Dog's wagger
- 56 Fairy tale beginning
- 57 Added to the kitty
- 58 Omelet ingredients
- 59 Actor Bert
- 60 Singer Della
- 61 \_\_\_ , dem and dose

**DOWN**

- 1 Actor Hugo
- 2 Land measure
- 3 June song (3 wds.)
- 4 Actress Kim, et al
- 5 Hits hard
- 6 Singer Merman
- 7 Bride's row (4 wds.)
- 8 Stepped lightly
- 9 Sixth sense
- 10 Cosmetics
- 11 Wed (3 wds.)
- 12 \_\_\_ But the Brave
- 13 Pen fluids
- 22 Very Fr
- 24 Tax agency
- 25 Decades
- 26 Actor Delon
- 27 Porch, in Hawaii
- 29 Scots girl
- 30 Lat away
- 31 Collected leaves
- 33 Arabic letter
- 36 Stain
- 37 Stopped
- 39 Beetle Barly's dog

- 40 Hebrew letter
- 42 Batter, at times
- 43 Goldie Hawn, for one
- 46 Amer. Indians
- 47 Branch of bio.
- 48 Indian prince
- 49 Fr. river
- 51 Uses a shovel
- 52 Or \_\_\_ (ultimatum)
- 54 Paddle

**LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS**



## Did you Know?

- 1: Is actress Jane Seymour's real name: (a) Julia Hamburger; (b) Gina Chipstein; or (c) Joyce Frankenberg?
- 2: Melissa Manchester, studied songwriting at New York University. Was her teacher: (a) Willie Nelson; (b) Neil Diamond; or (c) Paul Simon?
- 3: You are taking an advanced worm course and must memorize the names of all annelids. How many names will you have to remember? (a) 87; (b) 870; or (c) 8,700?

**ANSWERS**

1. Joyce Frankenberg 2. Paul Simon 3. About 8,700 (The annelid is a segmented worm. The most common are earthworms and leeches.)



## CRYPTIC PUZZLE

BZC'CBX DVFW GQV HXRNX CXBB CQX  
 CJKCQ DXLVNX GXMCQXI NXII GQXII  
 CQXF TJVG KS.

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**

IF YOU SEE ONE THOUSAND RABBITS WALKING BACKWARDS, YOU ARE LOOKING AT A RECEDING HAIR LINE.

## Weekly Echo Horoscopes



**ARIES** (Mar. 21-April 20)  
 Make sure you concentrate if operating machinery or vehicles. A residential move may be necessary to get a better job. Offer love and affection instead of conflict and rejection. Be careful when dealing with loved ones.



**TAURUS** (Apr. 21-May 21)  
 You will be able to find the perfect outfit, and the greatest new accessory for your house. Tempers will mount if you are too pushy at work. You need to look into new philosophies. You may need a physical outlet that will help you relieve your tension.



**GEMINI** (May 22-June 21)  
 Your emotions may get the better of you. Attempt to face key issues with lovers or problems could escalate. It is best not to upset the apple cart if you learn information that may damage a colleague's reputation. Your professional attitude will not go unnoticed.



**CANCER** (June 22-July 22)  
 Do not jump to conclusions concerning your romantic partner. Don't exaggerate. Your lover will be annoyed with your participation. Be careful, your ideas are good but make sure that you're realistic and start off on solid ground.



**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22)  
 Your mate may not have been honest with you. You should focus on moneymaking matters and stay away from emotional disputes. Travel opportunities must be taken advantage of. You can make wonderful contributions to any organization that you join.



**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 23)  
 Take care of matters involving institutions or government agencies. You won't have to look for the action. Try to avoid serious discussions with loved ones. Set your goals and stick to your guns.



**LIBRA** (Sept. 24-Oct. 23)  
 You are going through a period of questioning. You are likely to be left alone if you aren't willing to bend just a little. Rid yourself of that which is old and no longer of use. Older family members may take advantage of you by making you feel guilty.



**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 22)  
 Your ability to communicate with ease will win the hearts of those you are in touch with this week. You must make them stand on their own two feet regardless of how much you want to make things better for them. You may find it difficult to communicate with someone at work. You are best to be accommodating for the time being. Sudden romantic infatuations won't be lasting.



**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 23-Dec. 21)  
 You could find yourself left with someone's dirty laundry. Don't let jealous friends put you down, making you insecure about your capabilities. You'll be prone to tears if your mate is harsh with you this week. You will easily blow situations out of proportion.



**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 20)  
 Large organizations may try to talk you out of your hard-earned cash. You need to take a break with the ones you love. You may want to take a look at your direction in life. Travel and creative hobbies will be your best outlet.



**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 21-Feb. 19)  
 You must try to lay your cards on the table. Talk to your mate and tell them how you feel. You will find that valuable knowledge can be gained if you are willing to listen. Take a short business trip if possible. Don't be too eager to start any debates.



**PISCES** (Feb. 20-Mar. 20)  
 Don't agree to make any of those cosmetic alterations you've been considering. Organizations may cost you more than you can afford. You need an energetic outlet that will help you dissipate your anxiety. Don't let someone you work with put words in your mouth.

# Echo Classifieds

**For Rent**  
**Office space for rent**  
 Above Pine Falls Post Office. c/w private washroom. For more information call Denis at 367-8651.

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

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

**For Sale**  
**Lake front Cottage.** Lot 27, Sunset Drive Ayer's Cover, 24' x 32' cottage with large windowed veranda, excellent view, lot size 100' wide x 300' deep, hydro available. A must see treasure. Serious inquiries only, please call 367-8859.

**For Sale**  
**House for Sale.** 16 Louise Street, Powerview. Corner Lot size 123' x 123', 1206 sq. ft., with full basement, 5 bedroom, 2 baths, electric furnace, central air, double door garage, 26' x 32' insulated and heated. Fenced yard, shed 12' x 12', many extra features too many to list. Serious inquiries only, please call 367-8859.

**Help Wanted**  
**Rusty Nail Tavern** is now hiring staff. Drop off resumes in person.

**Babysitter Wanted**  
 Looking for a babysitter for a 9 month old. Two days per week Pine Falls/Beaches area, call 756-3907.

**Advertising**  
 The Echo Classifieds feature low, low rates. Advertise your birth announcements, weddings, birthdays, engagements, anniversaries and memoriams for as low as \$5.00. Cost to run a photograph is an additional \$5.00. Call for more information 367-9468 or fax us at 367-9974.

**Obituary**

**John King Ruse**

Suddenly on Wednesday, February 9, 2005, John King Ruse passed away at home.



John was born August 31, 1914 in England and came to Canada in 1918. He is survived by his loving wife, Irene, married 58 years; daughters Rosemary (Don) Gaffray, Debbie and friend (Howie); grandsons Darrin and Jeffrey; his sister Margaret Kruger and brother Harry Ruse. He lived most of his life in Elmwood. He was employed with Claude Neon as a sign painter. In 1966, he moved with his family to Pine Falls, MB at which time they opened and owned the Marshall Wells Store. He retired in 1976 and moved to Silver Falls, MB, where he resided until his death. His happiest hours were spent at his beloved falls, doing his many woodworking projects especially the clocks which he gave to friends and will be cherished by all. His other love was travelling by motor home to the U.S., visiting friends and family which he and his wife did for many years. He was an active member of the Pine Falls United Church and will be sorely missed.

Thank you to the Pine Falls Ambulance and the Pine Falls Hospital Staff for their promptness and care. Cremation has taken place. A Memorial Service will be held on Saturday, February 12 at 2:00 p.m. at the Pine Falls United Church. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Pine Falls United Church Memorial Fund or the Alzheimer Society of Manitoba, 10 - 120 Donald Street, Winnipeg, MB R3C 4G2. SOBERING FUNERAL CHAPEL & CREMATORIUM, Beausejour 268-3510 or MB Toll Free 1-877-776-2220

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Closing Date: Noon March 1st 2005

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A list of proposal specifications and duties is available from the Division's Office, 75-5th Street South, Beausejour, Manitoba R0E 0C0, 268-6500 between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Fran King  
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**L'Ecole communautaire Saint-Georges**

Les inscriptions a la maternelle, a l'Ecole communautaire Saint-Georges, se font des maintenant jusqu'au 4 mars. Les enfants qui auront cinq (5) ans avant le 31 decembre 2005 sont admissibles. Veuillez apporter a l'ecole un certificat de naissance.

Les ecoles francaises sont ouvertes a tous les ayants droit. Un « ayant droit » est un resident du Manitoba dont la premiere langue qu'il a apprise et qu'il comprend encore est le francais ou un resident du Manitoba qui a recu au moins quatre ans d'enseignement scolaire dans le cadre d'un programme francais au Canada ou encore etre le pere ou la mere d'un enfant qui recoit de l'enseignement scolaire dans le cadre d'un programme francais ou qui a recu un tel enseignement pendant au moins quatre ans. Si vous avez des questions, veuillez communiquer avec la direction de l'ecole au 367-4224.

It is now time to register your child for Kindergarten at l'Ecole communautaire Saint-Georges. Please do so before March 4<sup>th</sup>. Children who will be five (5) years of age before December 31<sup>st</sup> 2005 are eligible. Please bring the birth certificate at the time of registration.

The French schools are open to all "ayant droit". An "ayant droit" is a resident of Manitoba whose first learnt language, which is still understood, is French or a resident of Manitoba who was educated for at least four years in a French program in Canada or the father or mother of a child who receives his or her education in a French program or who has received such an education for at least four years. Please contact the principal of the school at 367-4224.

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 Soup, battered fish, wild rice, carrots and celery, pumpkin pie.

**Friday, February 18**  
 Soup, pork chops, hashbrowns, carrot casserole, fruit cocktail.

**Monday, February 21**  
 Roast turkey, mashed potatoes, dressing, gravy, peas, ice cream.

# Revolving door medicine - from page 2

can be left without nursing care for several hours while the emergency, or series of emergencies are dealt with. Presumably to save money, NEHA will not allow another nurse to be called in when an emergency demands it.

One of the reasons for the revolving door medicine is that doctors are worried that NEHA's administration of the hospital is so bad that sooner or later someone will die because of it - and they are afraid that NEHA will make sure that the doctor gets blamed for it. They prefer to move away - not from Pine Falls, but from NEHA.

Revolving door medicine appears to be the result of a

deliberate NEHA policy. NEHA made life so difficult for the Blue Water doctors that they eventually left - all of them. NEHA used taxpayer's money to buy out the clinic and closed it down. All Pine Falls doctors are now on the NEHA payroll, and under the control of NEHA until they can get out of here. (Blue Water doctors made more money than staff doctors at Pinawa for example) because Blue Water doctors worked on a fee-for-service basis. They worked harder, often seeing up to twice the number of patients that a Pinawa doctor would see in a day).

### Priorities

NEHA Chairman Bill

Boonstra, NEHA CEO Jim Hayes, and now our MLA Gerald Hawranik are saying that Pine Falls is a Priority. That is patently false. Anyone with an ounce of brains can see that the Beausejour hospital is the number one priority. This priority rating can go to ridiculous lengths. Some time ago, someone in Pine Falls decided that the hospital needed some new drapes, NEHA agreed, they purchased new drapes, sent them to Beausejour, and replaced the Pine Falls drapes with the used ones from Beausejour.

It is very difficult to understand why NEHA has decided to concentrate the major part of its resources in Beausejour, since Beausejour is within spitting distance of three major hospitals, one in Selkirk and two in Winnipeg, and the Beausejour facility serves a relatively healthy population. Pine Falls, on the other hand serves an aging retired population at the beaches, (and in Pine Falls itself) It also serves a substantial number of aboriginal people who are genetically predisposed to diabetes and also suffer from a whole range of ailments resulting from living on very low incomes and in sub-standard housing. One very experienced doctor said it is the sickest community he has ever come across.

Some of our more cynical citizens claim that Beausejour is favoured because Pine Falls votes conservative and Beausejour votes NDP. This only makes sense if the NDP are taking the aboriginal vote for granted since Sagkeeng, Black River and Hollow Water all vote NDP. There has to be another reason why NEHA is running the Pine Falls Health system into the ground, but they haven't shared it with us. Nor are they likely to. They

should, however, be prepared to explain to the provincial Minister of Health and the federal Minister of Indian Affairs just why they are doing such a poor job in meeting our treaty obligations to our First Nations people.

It was our previous MIA, Darren Praznik, who, to his undying shame, gave us the regional health authorities, including NEHA. It should be said in his defence however, that he was trying to save money to deal with hefty cuts in federal medicare funding (Tories have this funny idea that amalgamations result in cost reductions. The opposite

is true. In almost every case the effect of governmental amalgamations is an increase in the bureaucracy).

Also, in fairness to Praznik, he had intended that regional health authority board members would be elected. The present government has no intention of allowing elections to health authority boards but appoints local party members to represent the local population. The problem is that their natural inclination is to protect their party and their government rather than the local people. It is unfortunate, but perhaps not surprising, how supporters of the underdog so quickly become fat cats themselves.

## UNDER THE PLANNING ACT NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING BY-LAW 01/05

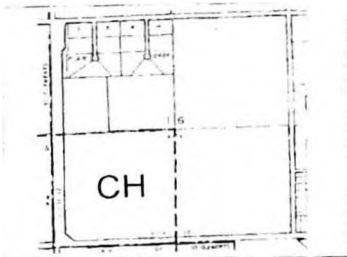
The Council of the Rural Municipality of Alexander under the authority of The Planning Act will hold a PUBLIC HEARING at the office of the Municipality at St. Georges, Manitoba on the 8th day of March 2005 at 11 00 a.m. at which time and place the Council will receive representations and objections from any persons who wish to make them in respect of By-law No. 01/05 to amend the R.M. of Alexander Zoning By-Law No. 08/98 as amended

A copy of the above noted By-law of the Rural Municipality of Alexander and supporting material may be inspected by any person during regular office hours from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday at the office of the Municipality at St. Georges, Manitoba

(1) The general intent of By-law 01/05 of the Rural Municipality of Alexander is to amend Zoning By-Law Map No. 4-16 of Appendix A in order that the area described as follows

SW ¼ of Section 16, Township 18, Range 7EPM.

And shown outlined of a heavy broken line on Appendix "A", attached hereto, presently zoned "RD" Resource Development Zone be rezoned to "CH" Highway Commercial Zone



### Appendix "A"

Attached to By-law No. 01/05 of the Rural Municipality of Alexander amending map 4-16 of by-law 8/98 being the Rural Municipality of Alexander Zoning By-law as amended

#### Legend

CH "CH" Highway Commercial Zone  
--- Limits of area affected



Margaret Bonekamp  
Chief Administrative Officer

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