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Tembec Vice President optimistic

by Charles Norman

Chris Black, Tembec's Senior Vice President, Newsprint, was in town yesterday and today, (November 26 and 27), to discuss plans for 2008 with Pine Falls Management. On Monday evening he met with two groups of mill employees to give a presentation on the state of the market for newsprint market. Between the two presentations he spoke to *The Echo*.

He said the US market for newsprint had dropped 30% since the year 2000, 10% of that being in the last year, almost all of the reduction being the result of the Internet. He said most publishers are concentrating on expanding their on-line advertising with huge revenues and very low costs. He said the full impact of the web has probably not been felt yet.

On top of the hit from the web, has been the skyrocketing Canadian dollar. Because newsprint is sold in US dollars a high exchange rate means a lower net price to the producer. In Pine Falls one cent on the Canadian dollar will have an impact of between 1.5 and 2.0 million dollars to the mill. The difference between the historical value of the dollar, at about 80 cents US, and the value today at parity represents

between 30 and 40 million dollars.

As a result of these two problems the mill is losing

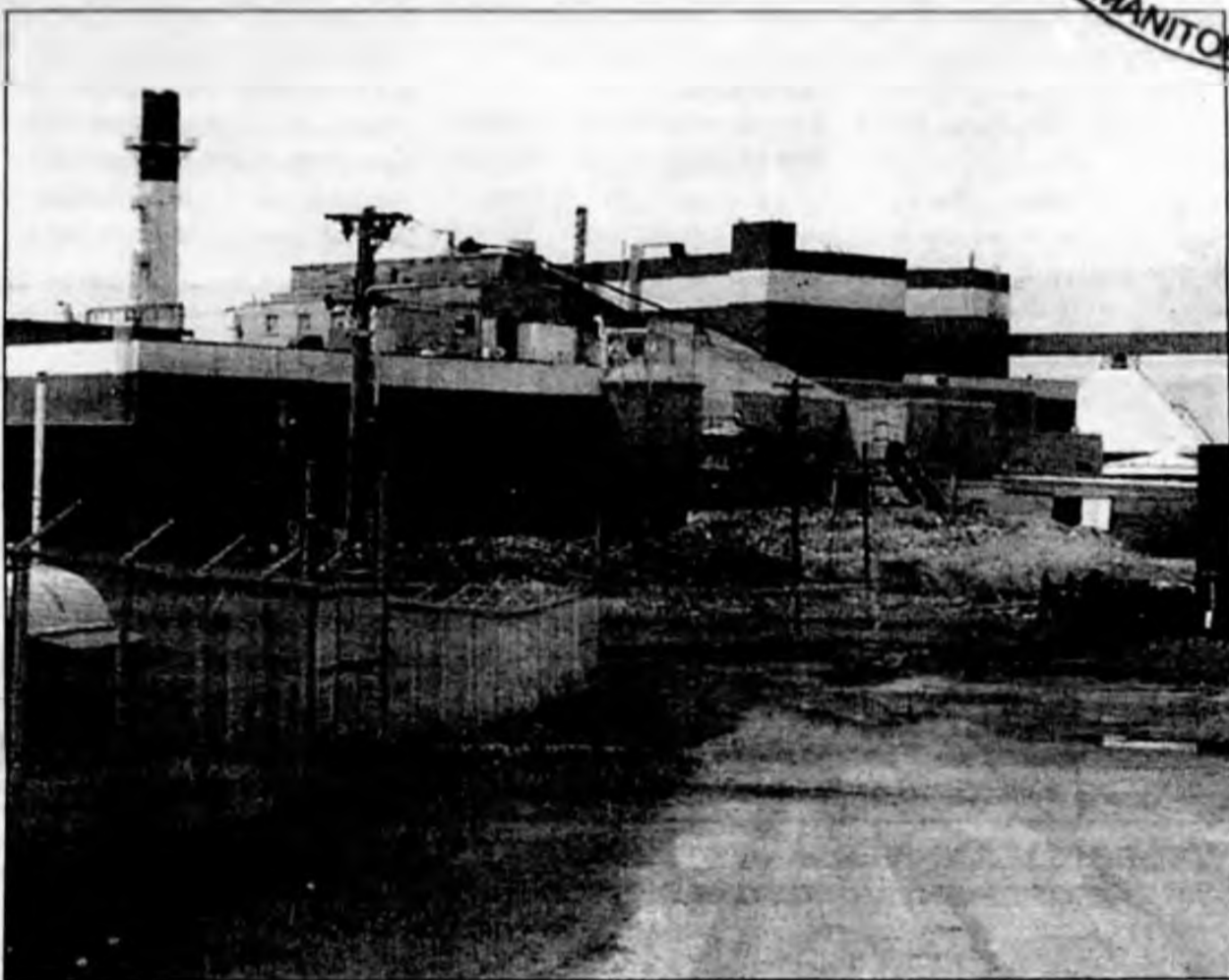
money for the first time in its history - and it is not just a paper loss, but an actual cash drain.

But it is not all doom and gloom.

Black said the mill has an excellent highly skilled workforce that has pulled through rough times before and will do so again. He said the whole community has to pull together to lower costs, and every opportunity to reduce costs has to be followed up. He said it is important to maximize production and thus lower the cost per tonne. He said Pine Falls employees can produce a high volume while maintaining quality. Because of the high quality, he said, Pine Falls newsprint is the preferred sheet in many North American pressrooms.

He also said the cost of fibre has to be reduced and the company will be talking to the provincial government in an effort to get stumpage rates lowered. They will also be talking to the province on cost sharing of the maintenance of forestry access roads.

The mill's hydro costs are very low, but Black believes they can be improved. He said by optimizing the management of the TMP mill there can be a surplus of pulp in storage tanks at periods of high power demand. By using pulp in storage, power consumption can be reduced and the power can then be sold to meet peaks in the



grid. Because the cost of meeting these peaks is very high the energy saved can be very valuable. Black is looking at ways that this saving can be of significant benefit to the mill.

The forestry industry is lobbying hard to get the federal government to lower interest rates. Lower interest rates result in lower investments in Canadian securities and a corresponding reduction in the value of the Canadian dollar. Interest rates are used to control inflation There are indica-

tions that inflation is dropping. Black is encouraged by the fact that interest rate reductions are again being discussed.

The recent merger between Abitibi and Bowater was designed to enable the new, very large newsprint producer to rationalize production and bring production capacity closer to demand. The result should be an increase in the price of newsprint.

The Pine Falls mill has an advantage in its location. It is strategically located close to the Prairie and Midwest Us

market where there is little competition, resulting in lower freight costs which are of a net benefit to the mill.

There will be more mill closures in the future, but Black does not believe that the Pine Falls mill will be one of them. He sees the major need of a concerted effort by everyone to lower costs. He said it will take hard work, and can be painful but he believes that when the market finally stabilizes the Pine Falls mill will still be producing a quality newsprint for the Midwest market.

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Members and volunteers work hard to keep Royal Canadian Legion Branch #64 alive and well in Pine Falls

As I write this letter to the editor, I am wondering if it is worth my while to bring attention to all about the many activities and functions of our volunteer-run club consisting of Norm, Sherry, Rudy, Sharon, Fritz, Joan, and others. Some and Sherry who take away the empty chairs for refreshments, the little things that mean so much in starting the work week and in December, with the heat our

What about when visitors come to town, all of these things we must come to realize if members drop out because of whatever, the legion is shutting down. It would not happen if more members came forward to keep it functional, and new younger people need to come and enjoy getting together once in a while. If someone with fresh new ideas such as charitable contributions between Legions, or others who want to participate, or how about music get together. Another new idea floating around here is the tennis table

tennis table tournaments. Are there any poker players interested in this kind of entertainment in our neighbourhood? please let us know. Right now the dart club is active. Club rooms were freshly painted by members of the legion, mention should go to Bob and George for doing a fine job of painting the club room etc. If you hadn't noticed we have built a covered addition for us to enjoy both a drink and a smoke (for those who smoke and a drink go hand in hand), summer use will be especially useful. The building of this addition hasn't gone without reservations of its own, regulations, rules govern too numerous to explain at this time, shortage of carpenters, the roof joint alone had to have a carpenter's signature, which took sometime locating, one thing after another kept holding up the completion. Now we must wait for the wind to die down to sheet the metal roof. Weather permitting we can hopefully do more in finishing it off. Almost forgot to mention and thank L. Velle, Lyte has been very helpful in all around job's especially in the new building, when reserving for November 11th celebration and even the weather cooperated. To our RCMP detachment officers whom added pomp to our ceremony, the Echo for the great coverage, and to all who donated wreaths, very much appreciated. To all of our comrades who served in wars, who gave their lives for a greater cause. Less we Forget, Less we Forget. Thank you all.

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Manitoba Minimum Wage to increase April 1, 2008

New Rate Will Be \$8.50

Effective April 1, Manitoba's minimum wage will increase by 50 cents to \$8.50 an hour, to help lower-income earners and help make work a more rewarding experience, Labour and Immigration Minister Nancy Allan announced today.

"This government has made improvements to the minimum wage on an incremental basis to bolster the purchasing power of minimum wage earners and improve the lives of working people and their families while respecting the ability of employers to pay," said Allan.

The minimum wage rate has increased from \$6 an hour in 1999 with increments of 25 cents an hour every year between 1999 and 2005. There were two more staged increases in 2006 and 2007 of 35 cents and 40 cents respectively which brought the rate to \$8 an hour.

"This will mark the eighth time since 1999 that our government has increased the minimum wage, which fell behind

R.M. of Alexander unveils strategic plan and wants public comments/opinion

By Charles Norman

The R. M. of Alexander published its first ever strategic plan last Wednesday, November 24. The eleven page document is available at the RM office in St. Georges and can be downloaded from the RM website at www.malexander.com. The Municipality is asking for public comments on the plan.

The document, prepared by HMC Management Inc., a firm of management consultants, is long on platitudes and short on details. For example, on page five - "We will be renowned for our ability to make things happen and for being the Municipality of Choice for business, commercial, industrial, or residential development in Manitoba and abroad."

On page six - "The council of the Rural Municipality of Alexander provides responsible leadership and management that serves to enhance the quality of life for our citizens."

The provincial government requires all municipalities to establish land designations for the entire municipality. Land designation is not zoning, it will include forest, swamp, agricultural land, etcetera. Out of this will flow an overall zoning bylaw.

4) To develop an emergency plan exercise to test our Emergency Operations Centre.

The RM has an Emergency Operations Centre in the basement of the municipal offices. The system has already been tested twice - In the Lester Beach flood, where a plugged culvert caused water to back up behind the railway embankment. It collapsed at about 8:00 am on July 1, 2005, causing a very sudden and very large increase in the flow of Diner Creek. The second test was the Gull Lake tornado last year. The provincial government requires municipal emergency operations centres to have a simulated mock disaster to test the system and to identify any shortcomings or weaknesses.

Other Priority A items are to update and maintain the RM's website on a regular basis and to create a "paperless Council agenda", the idea being for councillors to use laptops instead of the reams of paper currently used at council meetings.

Priority B
 Under this heading are listed:

Determining the location for a central fire hall should the need arise and to contribute to the snowboarding and ski hill project. Also included is the development of a long term budgeting method which will contain an inventory of road conditions and a schedule for maintenance and upgrading, and a capital replacement plan for all equipment and buildings.

Priority C
 Priority C items include looking into a monthly payment plan for municipal taxes, possibly hiring a by-law enforcement officer, conducting an analysis of the recreation needs of the municipality, identifying beaches, boat launches, portable washrooms, and access points to beaches, and developing a customer relations policy.

Premier Gary Doer cordially invites you and your family to the annual

Legislative Building Open House

Saturday, December 1, 2007
 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Join Members of the Legislative Assembly in a celebration of Manitoba's festive traditions.

Please bring a non-perishable food item or an unwrapped toy for the Christmas Cheer Board.

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Anti-poverty initiatives to help Manitobans help themselves

New Manitoba Child Benefit, Stronger Work Incentive and New Job-Seekers' Allowance will ensure that low-income Manitobans' working poor will benefit from an improved Manitoba child benefit and work incentives, Family Services and Housing Minister Gord Mackintosh announced today.

"We are moving forward to ensure it pays for Manitobans to make the move from welfare to the working world," said Mackintosh. "These initiatives are the next step in dismantling the welfare wall and helping to ensure that work pays."

Under Rewarding Work, a four-year action plan to move Manitobans from welfare to work, three new measures effective Jan. 1, 2008, include:

A stronger work incentive allowance will help to ensure people are better off working and keep more of their earnings. Earnings exemptions for 4,200 Manitobans on assistance will almost double so workers can keep \$200 of net monthly earnings plus 30 per cent of net monthly earnings over \$200. Under the existing program, participants can keep up to \$115 and 25 per cent of

earnings above that amount, depending on their case category.

A new \$11-million Manitoba child benefit will ensure parents will not lose all support for their children when moving off welfare. Up to 33,000 families with children will benefit. This means an initial gain for low-income, working families of up to \$420 tax free each year for every child. Monthly payments will begin in January 2008. For a single parent of three children working full or part time and earning \$15,000 or less, this totals \$1,260 with partial benefits for parents who earn \$15,000 to \$20,000.

A new job-seekers' allowance will help single, non-disabled adults and childless couples who actively participate in an employment plan. Effective January 2008, the allowance program will provide \$25 per month to participants, assisting 3,900 recipients through an annual investment of \$1.17 million.

Under the first phase of Rewarding Work and the recently-announced minimum wage increase, a two-parent family of four where one parent works at minimum wage

will see their income increase by more than 11 per cent. As of April 1, the minimum wage will rise to \$8.50 per hour, an increase of 42 per cent since 1999.

"Investing in low-income working families and reducing the barriers that people face when leaving welfare for work are critical in an effective anti-poverty strategy," said Michael Mendelson, senior scholar with the Caledon Institute of Social Policy.

Today's announcements total \$14 million per year. Other steps in Rewarding Work already announced include a work clothing and bus pass stipend of \$100 per month for those working their way off welfare, longer job training when it leads to work and more personalized education and job preparation for youth at risk of dependency and for single parents. For people with disabilities on income assistance, there was a doubling of the allowable exempted cash assets of an individual with further initiatives to be announced next month. More information about Rewarding Work is available at www.gov.mb.ca/rewardingwork.

Christmas is coming

As we slip into that Christmassy feeling, please don't forget the families who struggle to put a Christmas dinner on the table.

Planning is underway, and our aim is to provide this dinner plus staples to help families during the long, cold month of January.

We do not include toys; we do need new, warm mitts, hats, scarves, and socks. Quilts have been a wonderful donation.

Choose something other than macaroni and Kraft dinner. Soups, fruit, jam, peanut butter, honey, tuna, hot chocolate - so many things are available to fill these boxes.

If you prefer to give a cash donation, this is just great and will be used to buy the groceries.

ies we need to fill the hamper boxes.

Helping hands are always welcome. Once again we will be allowed space in the basement of the Powerview Catholic Church.

Thursday, December 20 we will pick up and sort.

Friday, December 21 the hampers will be packed and delivered.

Both days at 9 a.m. Anyone needing to receive a hamper should contact Child and Family Services at 367-6120

Names should be in by December 15.

We'll repeat what we say every year. What we have to work with comes from you; we count on your generous spirit of giving.

NEWS TIPS?
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Lac du Bonnet to benefit from \$1.6 million infrastructure investment

Lac du Bonnet, MANITOBA - The rural communities of Lac du Bonnet and Teulon in Manitoba will benefit from infrastructure projects funded through the Canada-Manitoba Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund (MRIF). This funding exceeds \$1.6 million and is based on equal contributions from the Government of Canada, the Province of Manitoba, and local partners.

The announcement was made today by the Honourable Vic Toews, President of the Treasury Board, on behalf of the Honourable Rona Ambrose, President of the

Queen's Privy Council for Canada, Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs and Minister of Western Economic Diversification; and the Honourable Ron Lemieux, Manitoba Minister of Infrastructure and Transportation.

"Today's announcement reflects the Government of Canada's commitment to investing in infrastructure that helps build a stronger, more sustainable economy for Manitoba," said Minister Toews. "We are making infrastructure investments that will leave real and lasting benefits to families and their communities."

"We are pleased to support these infrastructure projects in Lac du Bonnet and Teulon that will upgrade the communities' water and sewer systems and will help enhance the environment," said Minister Lemieux.

The Town of Lac du Bonnet, located 110 km northeast of Winnipeg, will benefit from over \$1.5 million in funding to replace deteriorating water and sewer lines. The project will provide upgraded water and sewer service to all residential and commercial properties. Teulon will receive \$42,800 to complete repairs to the lagoon dyke to protect it

from wave erosion.

These new green infrastructure projects are part of \$11 million being announced this fall to enhance the environment in rural and northern communities by improving the quality of water and management of water, wastewater and solid waste. These rounds of announcements are based on recommendations from the MRIF Rural/Northern Federal Provincial Local Consultative Committee (FPLCC). The FPLCC consists of local government representatives from the Association of Manitoba Municipalities and the Northern Association of Community Councils. The FPLCC was created to provide local input and knowledge in the MRIF project selection process in rural and northern Manitoba.

"The AMM is pleased to be a part of a successful partnership bringing much-needed infrastructure investments to Manitoba communities," said Ron Bell, AMM President. "The projects being announced today are essential water and wastewater investments that will benefit the residents of Lac du Bonnet and Teulon for many years to come. The Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund (MRIF) has made a significant contribution to our members' infrastructure needs and I look forward to seeing more funds dedicated to these types of projects in the future."

"These infrastructure investments are important for area residents," said Reg Meade, President of the Northern Association of Community Councils (NACC). "As part of the FPLCC, these projects were selected with NACC input for their strong positive impact."

The initial Canada-Manitoba Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund (MRIF) agreement invested a total of \$120 million in communities across Manitoba. This year, an additional \$25 million is being provided to MRIF through matching funds from the governments of Canada, Manitoba and local contributions as part of the commitment to help small communities meet their pressing infrastructure needs. This additional funding will bring the total federal and provincial investment and matching local contribution in MRIF Manitoba projects to \$145 million.

Of the funds, 80 per cent are earmarked for communities with a population under 250,000, including 198 municipalities and 50 unincorporated Northern Community Councils in total federal and provincial investment and matching local contribution in MRIF Manitoba projects to \$145 million.

More information on Canada and Manitoba infrastructure projects are available at: www.infrastructure.gc.ca or www.infrastructure.mb.ca.

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Winnipeg River RCMP Report

Reporting from November 13th to November 18th, 2007

WEEKEND PRIMARY: - a single vehicle accident resulted in a 19 year old male the lone occupant of the car, in stable condition at Health Sciences Centre. The driver of the vehicle struck a tree in the early morning hours Sunday. Investigation continues.

November 13:
POWERVIEW - a spree of stolen vehicles and attempted thefts over the weekend resulted in 1 vehicle not being recovered and at least 8 vehicle ignitions damaged. Police are looking for any information regarding the incidents. No suspects have been identified at this time.

- Culprits broke into a shed belonging to a local business and attempted a break in to the shop but were unsuccessful. Damages were sustained to the shed door, frame and lock mechanism but nothing was taken in the incident.

FORT ALEXANDER - an altercation between 2 females was referred to the peace bond process. No charges were laid in the incident.

HILLSIDE BEACH - police attended when emergency response crews were called

out to a garage fire on Galoway Bay. No one was injured in the incident.

November 14:
HIGHWAY 304 - culprits vandalized a vehicle and stole a bag containing prescription medication. The bag was recovered but medication contained in the bag is still missing.

LAKE WINNIPEG - a request to locate some overdue hunters was made to police in the early afternoon however by nightfall the pair had returned unharmed.

POWERVIEW - a missing male youth was located with a relative.

November 15:
POWERVIEW - police attended with a male to a residence to remove personal effects as a safety precaution. The couple have a no contact order in place. No problems were encountered in the incident.

FORT ALEXANDER - a missing .22 coony rifle was stolen from a residence. The rifle also has a picture of a rabbit carved into the stock.

- police attended to a domestic disturbance and apprehended a male in breach of 2 court orders. The man was taken into custody and remanded to Provincial Remand Centre.

November 16:
POWERVIEW - a spousal assault resulted in a female being treated at local hospital. Police were able to apprehend the male suspect and remand him into custody to Provincial Remand Centre. Investigation continues.

- a recovered purse was returned to it's owner intact.
FORT ALEXANDER - prescription medication and a mark's work warehouse black jacket were taken from a residence on the South Shore.

- a missing youth was located by police at a relatives.
HOLLOW WATER - a male was given a verbal warning by police after he continued to make harassing phone calls to a female. The incident resulted from a work related matter.

BLACK RIVER - a male was driven home by the local band constable after police were informed the man would not leave a residence. The man was warned for possibly

breaching conditions of a court order in the incident.

November 17:
POWERVIEW - 1 male has been charged with mischief after smashing a car window after an argument with another male.

- a vehicle taken without the owners consent was recovered in the vicinity. No charges were laid in the incident at the request of the owner.

FORT ALEXANDER - a curfew check of a youth was conducted by police. The youth was found at home and not in breach of any conditions. Probation service was advised accordingly.

RM ALEXANDER - a male was removed from the parking lot of a local business after he continued to harass customers. Alcohol was involved in the incident. The man was lodged until sober and released with no charges.

November 18:
TRANS LICENSE RD - Pine Falls Fire crews were called out to attend a vehicle fire. Police have no suspects in the incident and notification to the registered owners was made.



FORT ALEXANDER - an altercation between 2 women resulted in no charges made by police. The females were spoken to accordingly and warned.

SUMMARY: Police also followed up on 3 false alarm(s) actioned 7 request(s) for assistance to other police services/service of legal documents, issued 4 ticket(s) under the highway traffic/liquor acts, attended 0 incident(s) under the Coroners Act, charged 1 person(s) for impaired driving/refusal of breath test, lodged 2 person(s) under the intoxicated persons detention act, attended 0 noise complaints, processed 9 traffic accident reports and transported 1 person(s) under the Mental Health Act to the appropriate facilities.

REMEMBER IF YOU HAVE ANY INFORMATION ON ANY CRIMINAL MATTER YOU CAN REMAIN ANONYMOUS AND CONTACT CRIME STOPPERS AT 1-800-782-8477 OR THE POWERVIEW RCMP AT 367-8728.

Romanza Christmas - Oh Night Devine!

by Marion Delaney

From a melting serenade to a spine-tingling high C, the tenor voice romances the soul.

On Friday November 30th The Eastern Manitoba Concert Association Ltd (EMCA) will do just that with its Christmas-themed show by the exhilarating vocal team, Romanza.

Romanza is a trio of lyric tenors - Philip Grant, Todd Jang and Frederik Robert. Individually these three have impressed audiences internationally and together they are undeniably entertaining. These classically trained musicians are real-life friends and this camaraderie translates into a warm and entertaining stage style. Their aim is to bridge the gap between classical and pop by reinvigorating opera hits, Italian favorites and well-known ballads with contemporary arrangements. They are

part of the "popera" movement amidst performers like Il Divo, Josh Groban and Andrea Bocelli.

Philip Grant, a lyric tenor from Ontario, started his musical career in a rock band and later in a heavy metal band while earning a marketing degree. According to Grant "The opera beckoned and years of study followed. It's all brought me to this." He has had more than a dozen lead roles in opera venues across Canada, the US, Mexico and Italy and has received critical acclaim for his exciting rich tone as well as dedication to excellent musicianship. Grant is considered an up and coming new talent in the opera scene.

Todd Jang, originally from Liverpool, England, has sung with opera companies across Canada. He brings passion to any style of music- opera, jazz, rock and hip-hop. He also holds



a Chef's Diploma from one of Canada's top culinary schools. This newest member of the trio

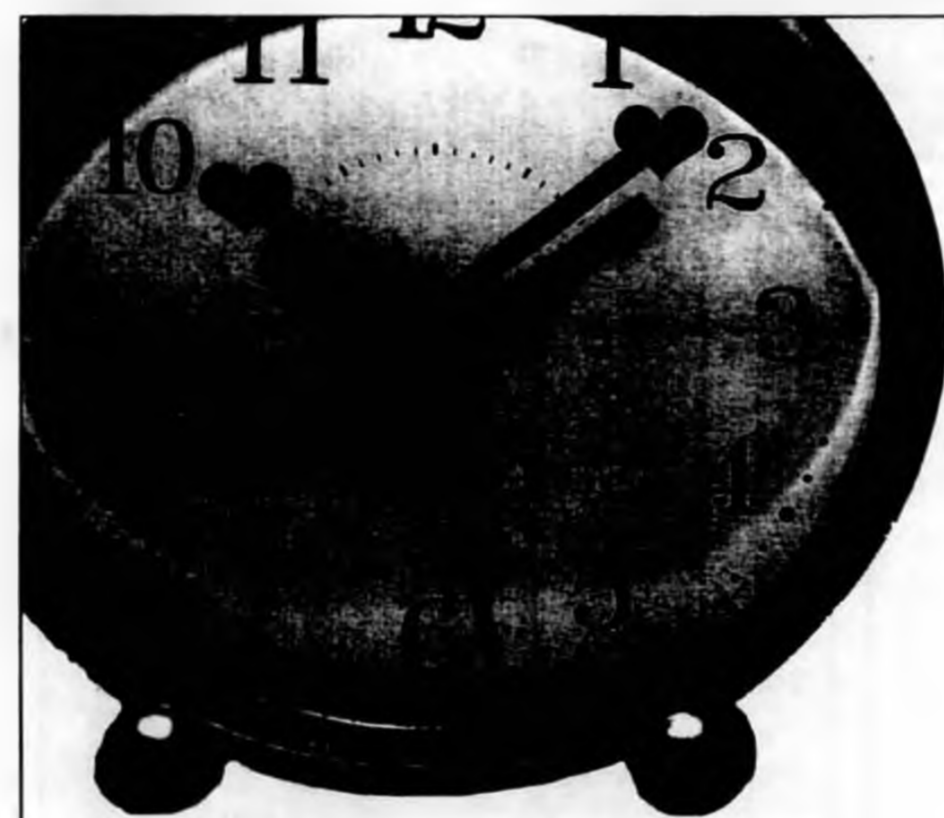
states "Limiting oneself to a single genre of music is like eating the same food day in day out, possible but not very interesting."

Frederik Robert is versatile in opera, oratorio, pop and musical theatre. Although only 26, he has already sung over twenty roles with Canadian opera companies and symphony orchestras. During his teen-aged years in Alberta, he pedaled an ice cream truck, announcing himself with song. Even at fifteen he had a strong voice and could hit the high tenor notes. After years of study later with a voice coach from the Metropolitan Opera of New York, Robert has received reviews like this one from The Province-Vancouver: "Tenor Frederik Robert opened his mouth and the walls started shaking. Seriously they were shaking. But only because they were blown away by the power and passion in this young singer's voice. It

was amazing."

Romanza has been winning people's hearts everywhere they perform. In an interview on CKBD Rafe Mair said "Their passionate and sensationally enchanting sound combined with their accessible style has been exciting music lovers of all levels. Keep your ears open for ROMANZA - you won't want to miss them". To listen to their beautiful voices check out <http://romanzamusic.com>.

Get an early start to the Christmas season with an evening of thrilling music. Romanza will be accompanied on stage by piano, violin and concert bass. Their Christmas performance of seasonal ballads and songs will begin at 8 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 30 at the Pinawa Community Centre, 20 Vanier Drive in Pinawa. For ticket information contact Cathy at 753-2767 or visit EMCA's website at <http://www.emcaconcerts.com>



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2007 Throne Speech Highlights

- Green and Growing**
 - A \$206-million investment for the upgrade of all three wastewater treatment plants in Winnipeg as part of tri-level negotiations to address the City of Winnipeg's capital requirements.
 - A \$150-million commitment for rural and northern water and waste-water projects.
 - New legislation to set out Manitoba's Kyoto target.
 - A phasing down of the Brandon coal plant and requiring the capture of methane emissions from large landfills.
 - A commitment to reduce total greenhouse gas emissions in Manitoba below 2000 levels over the next two years.
 - A new province-wide program to help lower-income Manitobans make cost-effective, energy-efficient home improvements.
 - A new fuel mandate for biodiesel.
 - New restrictions on household use of dishwashing detergents and lawn fertilizers to help protect lakes and rivers.
 - New measures to address cottage and residential septic fields.
 - A new strategy to conserve water.
 - A commitment to plant one million trees a year for the next five years in partnership with the Manitoba Forestry Association and other groups.
 - Innovation and Competitive-
- ness**
 - An additional 4,000 apprenticeship spaces through a four-year plan.
 - Expansion of the University College of the North.
 - Further capital investments for university campuses in Winnipeg and Brandon.
 - Enhancement of the Manitoba Bursary Fund to provide direct support for students.
 - Additional labour market services for immigrants.
 - A new Qualifications Recognition Strategy.
 - Expansion and entrenching of the highly-successful Sector Council Strategy in legislation.
 - New measures to reduce red tape.
 - An enhanced driver's licence as an affordable and secure form of identification for travellers, to be offered beginning in the fall of 2008.
 - Addressing the Challenges of a Rapidly Rising Dollar
 - Starting Jan. 1, 2008, beginning the phase-out of the province's corporate capital tax and making the Manufacturing Investment Tax Credit 70 per cent refundable;
 - Establish a rapid response team to expedite the resolution of issues faced by individual sectors or companies.
 - Introduce a new timber-pricing policy.
 - Increase the farmland tax re-
- duce to 70 per cent.**
 - Launch the Road to 2010 tourism promotion strategy with a goal of reaching \$2 billion in annual tourism revenue by 2010.
 - Make an immediate, two-year investment in the equity investment program for local filmmakers while enhancing the incentives for foreign film productions to hire local personnel.
- Tax Reductions**
 - A commitment to implement Budget 2007 tax reductions, subject to the requirements of balanced budget legislation, including:
 - farmland school tax rebate increase to 70 per cent in 2008;
 - middle income bracket tax rate reduction to 12.75 per cent from 13 per cent, effective Jan. 1, 2008;
 - basic personal amount increase of \$200, effective Jan. 1, 2008;
 - corporate income tax rate reduction to 13 per cent from 14 per cent, effective July 1, 2008;
 - small business tax rate reduction to two per cent from three per cent, effective Jan. 1, 2008; and
 - beginning a Corporation Capital Tax phase-out with reduction of the rate to 0.4 per cent from 0.5 per cent, beginning in January 2008.
 - Healthy Families**
 - Expansion of child-care spaces by another 2,500 over the next two years.
 - New measures to further im-
- prove school retention rates.**
 - A new partnership with First Nations and the federal government to improve graduation and retention rates.
 - A new Safe Child Care Charter to provide parents with further confidence that their children are being looked after in a safe environment.
 - New legislation that builds on anti-bullying initiatives.
 - Mandatory physical education every year for students entering high school this year.
 - New legislation to ban the sale of foods containing trans fats in school vending machines and cafeterias.
 - A new bicycle trail to be built, to be named the Duff Roblin Trail, extending 40 kilometres from the floodway inlet to Birds Hill Park.
- Health**
 - New nurse training spaces to be added at Manitoba's universi-
- ties and colleges.**
 - New training spaces to be added at the University of Manitoba school of medicine.
 - A new primary-care paramedic program to be introduced at Red River College.
 - Additional nurses and aides to be hired in personal care homes.
 - More dieticians, respiratory therapists and occupational therapists to be added as part of a long-term strategy to improve quality of care for seniors.
 - A new hospital in Selkirk.
 - New operating facilities at St. Anne Hospital.
 - Redevelopment of the emergency ward at Steinbach's Bethesda Hospital.
 - Additional dialysis treatment facilities to be added in Winnipeg and Gimli, and in the First Na-

See page 12

Special Christmas "Tree of Lights"

The Pine Falls District Health Care Foundation Inc. was created to support hospitals, personal care homes, ambulance services and other non-profit charitable, educational and cultural organizations. It is the mandate of the foundation to assist in maintaining and promoting the good health for all the residents served in this area. The work of the Foundation is accomplished through donations from the community.

Honour the memory of a deceased loved one this Christmas season on the Pine Falls Health Complex's Special "Tree of Lights"

This special tribute will enable interested persons to acknowledge their memories by purchasing a light (\$10.00 per name) on this tree, while providing donation funds for the foundation. A tax deductible receipt will be issued to all donors.

Interested person can contact the reception desk at the hospital or send their donations to:
The Pine Falls District Health Care Foundation Inc.,
Box 2000, Pine Falls, MB
R0E 1M0



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Faith Perspective

by Pastor Jake Doell

The Bible - God's Final Answer

I'm sure most of you are familiar with the popular game show on TV called "Who wants to be a millionaire?" The contestant's must choose from four possible answers. When the answer is given the host asks the question, "Is that your final answer?" If the contestant gives the correct answer, they are eligible to win the corresponding cash prize. The longer the correct answer is forthcoming the greater the prize.

Life is filled with many questions. Is there a place we can go to for the "final answer"? Many people tune in to the TV talk show host for the final answer. Others read their horoscopes, and others go to a psychic. Although these sources will give you an answer but it is not the "final answer."

There is much more at stake to life's questions and answers than \$1,000,000 dollars. Who in life can give the correct final answer to all of life's questions? Peter the disciple who walked on water asked Jesus one day, "Lord to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life." (John 6:68)

Peter asked a very important question that all of us need to ask.

Is there a book that gives the "final answer" on all life's important questions? Questions like "What is the purpose of my life? Where do I go after I die? Is there a heaven and a hell?" God has given us a book that gives us the correct answers to those questions. It is the Bible - the Word of God. You see if you give an incorrect answer to a million dollar question, you've lost your chance to be a millionaire. But what if you give the wrong answer to the question "What must I do to inherit eternal life?" You lost

spending eternity with God and that is a far greater loss than a million dollars. The Bible asks the question, "And how do you benefit if you gain the whole world but lose your own soul in the process. Is anything worth more than your soul?" All of us must answer that question in the "game of life." What will your answer be? If you need to study "the BOOK" to get the correct final answer, do so today. God doesn't want anyone to lose at the game of life so He gave us the BIBLE which is His "final answer" to all of life. Jesus Christ who answered all the questions correctly said this, "I am the Way - I am the Truth - I am the Life. No one can come to the Father, except through Me" (John 14:6) So prepare to be a winner and study for the exam. Your answer will determine your eternal destiny.

Snowmobilers to ride safe

Snowmobile enthusiasts should keep safety in mind while enjoying the upcoming Manitoba winter recreation season. Conservation Minister Stan Struthers said today.

"Manitoba features a network of groomed, marked trails for snowmobilers to enjoy while ensuring they respect private property when driving off trails," said Struthers. "Proper equipment and well-maintained snow machines mean a comfortable, safe riding experience and we urge riders to be very cautious when crossing any body of water that may have variable ice thickness."

Speed limits and warning signs are posted along provincial park trails at hills and curves. Provincial natural resource officers and the RCMP travel the trails to ensure safe riding practices are followed including those regarding drinking and driving when operating a snowmobile.

In Manitoba, approximately 12,000 kilometres of groomed trails on Crown and private lands are marked with signs and maintained by the Snowmobilers of Manitoba (Snoman) to ensure members of the public have a safe ride. Snoman volunteers from 50 affiliate clubs groom trails on a regular basis throughout the winter snowmobiling season.

The province grooms about 1,100 kilometres of trails in the Whiteshell, Birds Hill, Grand Beach, Hecla and Spruce Woods provincial parks. Local clubs groom trails in Turtle Mountain, Duck Mountain, Clearwater, Paint Lake and Nopiming provincial parks. The trail system in the Whiteshell impacted by the summer windstorm will be open for the winter snowmobiling season but some areas will require winter access for further cleanup. The Whiteshell Snowmobile Club is assisting with trail safety improvements and the cleanup in the areas in requiring winter access.

"Snoman encourages riders to respect the laws and to respect private property," said Snoman executive director Duncan Stokes. "Like any motorized vehicle, there is a personal responsibility to drive a machine you can handle, drive within suggested speed limits and stay on the groomed designated snowmobile trail system - it's the safest option for riders."

Snoman is able to maintain the trail system with funds raised by the Snopass system. The annual Snopass is \$85 on or before Dec. 1 and \$115 after that date. A seven-consecutive-day Snopass is \$50.

More information is available at www.snoman.mb.ca.

The Winnipeg Humane Society



Pogo, 134913



Bear, 149601

We are still looking for a permanent home for Pogo, a handsome neutered male available from foster care. Pogo has been with us for far too long - since January 2007, in & out of foster care. Enough & enough - this sweet boy needs a 'forever home'! Pogo has an allergy to regular cat food and does well on an allergy-friendly food available from a vet. As a long-term cat, a reduced adoption fee applies. We'd love to free up his foster mom to foster more needy cats! Call 982-2049 to arrange a visit.

Bear is a happy, medium-sized dog found in the Rosser, MB area. Bear is a fairly independent dog and would do best with teens/adults for that reason - he likes to do his own thing! Bear seems to like other dogs, but we recommend they meet first. Bear is probably best suited to a home without cats or other small pets. Adoption fee includes his health exam, vaccine, microchip & more!

Where every adoptable dog finds a home and cats get a second chance at life!



The WHS needs your donations of canned cat food to help feed the many cats in our care. Drop off to 5 Kent Street.

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

Louie says

Playing on high snow drifts near hydro equipment, could bring you too close to dangerous wires.

Always play in a safe place.

think Safety First!

Manitoba Hydro

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Your voice in Ottawa
Vic Toews, MP for Provencher

Redoubling Efforts to Reform the Senate

In the Conservative government's recent Speech from the Throne, we restated our strong desire to proceed with reform of the Senate. This is a process that began almost immediately when we took office a little less than two years ago. Unfortunately, with one notable exception, our efforts have been stalled by the Liberal Party - a party that claims to be interested in Senate reform.

That notable exception was the naming of an elected Senator for the first time since the 1980's. In replacing a retiring Alberta Senator, Prime Minister Stephen Harper made a bold step forward in democratizing the Senate by naming Bert Brown to the upper chamber. Bert had been elected on two separate occasions by the people of Alberta, but bypassed repeatedly by Liberal Prime Ministers in favour of party bagmen and other assorted patronage appointments.

We've now also reintroduced legislation that would make such elections the norm

across the country, after the prorogation of the House of Commons killed an identical bill as it languished before Liberal opposition. Bill C-43 would create a Senate election process to give all Canadians a say over who represents them in the Upper House. To me, and to Conservatives, this is simple common sense. The people with the power to draft, amend and pass the laws of the land should be elected by the people.

To reform the Senate even further, we've also reintroduced a bill that would limit Senators' terms to eight years, putting an end to virtual lifetime appointments. This is another measure that we were unable to get through the previous session of Parliament - but in this case, it was stalled and obstructed by Liberals in the Senate itself. It is clear to me that Senate Liberals don't want change. They would rather cling to their entitlements than submit themselves to meaningful democratic accountability.

Once upon a time, even Liberal leader Stéphane Dion claimed to support term limits for Senators ranging from 6 to 15 years. Yet when given the option to support real accountability and change, he has instead wilted in the face of an arrogant Liberal establishment who feel entitled to appointed terms that can last up to 45 years. Given the track record so far, I'm not particularly optimistic that Mr. Dion will finally do the right thing and call on his party to support the badly needed democratization of the Senate.

When we reiterated our commitment to reforming the Senate, we did so with this reality in mind. That's why, at the very same time, the Prime Minister was clear: If the Senate refuses to reform, then it should vanish. Current efforts by the unaccountable, Liberal-dominated Senate to obstruct even modest reform are fueling public demand for Senate abolition.

NDP Leader Jack Layton is calling for a referendum on the abolition of the Senate. While the Conservative government understands the frustration that drives this call, in typical fashion the NDP is just looking for headlines. We have put forward

ward meaningful, concrete measures that would begin the much-needed reform process for the Senate - something the NDP has never done. In a time when Canadians are demanding a greater say in who leads them and more accountability in how they are governed, these reform measures should be given a chance before abolition is pursued.

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@mns.net.

Hot New.... RELEASES

Mr. Bean's Holiday DVD
Cast: Rowan Atkinson, Steve Pemberton, Lily Atkinson, Preston Nyman, Shariit Deyzac, Francois Touch, Emma de Caunes
Rating: G

Hot Rod DVD
Cast: Andy Samberg, Jorma Taccone, Bill Hader, Danny R. McBride, Isla Fisher, Sissy Spacek, Ian McShane
Rating: TBD

I Know Who Killed Me DVD
Cast: Lindsay Lohan, Julia Ormond, Neal McDonough, Brian Geraghty, Garcelle Beauvais, Spencer Garrett, Gregory Itzin
Rating: 18A

The Namesake DVD
Cast: Irfan Khan, Kal Penn, Jagannath Guha, Ruma Guha Thakurta, Tabu, Sandip Deb, Sukanya
Rating: 14A

Waitress DVD
Cast: Keri Russell, Nathan Fillion, Cheryl Hines, Jeremy Sisto, Andy Griffith, Adrienne Shelly, Eddie Jemison
Rating: PG

Bratz: The Movie DVD
Cast: Logan Browning, Janel Parrish, Nathalia Ramos, Skyler Shaye, Chelsea Staub, Anneliese van der Pol, Malese Jow
Rating: PG

Recreation Re-boot

There will be an NCCP - Comp A coaching course held in Powerview on Saturday, Dec 8th 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. and Sunday, Dec 9th from 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. at Powerview School. The cost is \$65.00. Open to coaches in any sport except hockey which has its own coaching clinics. For more information contact the Rec. Office at 367-9142.

Hockey Equipment Drop-Off

The Broomball league is looking for some gently used equipment for players. If anyone has some hockey equipment they would like to donate, you are asked to drop it off at the Pine Falls Arena or the Rec. Office from Friday, Nov. 9th until Friday, Nov. 16th. Equipment requested is helmets, shin guards, elbow pads, and gloves. For more information, call the Rec. Office at 367-9142 or J.L. Papineau at 367-8570.

Broomball

There will be youth broomball at the Pine Falls

Arena on Fridays from 7:00-8:00pm. for anyone aged 10-14. The cost is \$50.00. Depending on the number of players, there may be an additional charge later in the year. Mandatory equipment includes helmets (with cages), gloves and shin pads (soccer shin pads will work). Anyone interested in signing up can call the Rec. Office at 367-9142.

Christmas Craft Fair

There will be a Christmas Craft Fair at the Pine Falls School Gym on Saturday, December 1st from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. Canteen service will be provided. If you are interested in booking a table for this fair, please contact Ruth at the Rec. Office @ 367-9142. Space is filling up so please book your table early.

Pine Falls Badminton Club

The Pine Falls Badminton Club has started and will be

running until Wednesday, April 30th. It will be held in Pine Falls School gym from 7:00-9:30 pm. The club is open to anyone 14 years or age or older. The cost for the season is \$25/single or \$45/couple. For more information, contact Ginette Vincent at 367-9970 or Ruth at the Rec. Office at 367-9142.

Spring Shape-Up Boot Camp

Natasha Joy will be holding a shape-up session from Saturday, Jan. 12th to Saturday, March 15th from 10:00 - 11:00 am. There will be a variety of classes including cardio and muscle conditioning - always something different!! The cost is \$60 and a minimum of 10 people is required to run the course. PRE-REGISTRATION MUST TAKE PLACE BEFORE DEC. 15th. To register, call the Rec. Office at 367-9142.

Fitness Seminar

Natasha Joy, a certified fitness instructor, will be holding a fitness seminar at the Rivers North Fitness Gym on Satur-

day, January 5th from 10 am until 2 pm. The cost for the seminar is just \$20. There will also be an optional equipment orientation after the seminar beginning at 2:15 pm for an additional cost of \$5. Learn how to get in shape from a leading fitness expert!!

Pine Falls Curling Club

The league season starts on Monday, Nov. 5th. Men's league is on Mondays, Ladies on Wednesdays, Mixed on Fridays and drop-in curling is held on Thursday afternoons.

Bonspiel dates are as follow:

Men's - Feb. 1st, 2nd & 3rd
Ladies - Feb. 8th, 9th & 10th

Card Making Classes

There will be several evening card making classes held at the Rec. Office this winter. The first class is full and no date has been set yet for the next one. If you are interested in attending one of these classes, please let Kelly or Ruth know as soon as possible. You will be making 10 cards (2 each of 5 different designs and includes envelopes) as well as learning different stamping techniques. The cost of the class is \$12 and you are required to bring your own adhesive (glue stick or 2-sided tape) and a trimmer or scissors. To register, call Kelly Murray at 635-2396 (evenings/weekends) or the Rec. Office during the day at 367-9142.

Rivers North Fitness Co-op

The co-op membership fee is \$100. Fitness club memberships are \$250.00 for members and \$300.00 for non-members.

For more info, contact Bev Dube @ 367-8064 or Linda Cyr @ 367-2382.

Public Libraries

The Pine Falls Public Library, located in Pine Falls School, will re-open on September 4th from 1:30 - 3:30 pm. The library will operate every day from Monday to Friday. The library has a wide selection of books as well as some old newspapers and other articles. They also have internet access on site.

Bibliothèque Allard Regional Library (367-8443), located in St-Georges School, is open the following hours:

Tuesday - 10:30 - 5:00
Wednesday & Thursday - 12:00 - 8:00, Friday - 12:00 - 5:00, Saturday - 10:30 - 4:00.

Services offered are public internet access, photo-copy/fax/scan services, material in French & English, DVD's, VHS, 60 magazine titles, Inter-Library Loan (we have a collection of 28,000 + items, however, through Inter-Library Loan we have access to over a million titles) and many more. Membership is free to all ratepayers of the R. M. of Alexander, the Town of Powerview/Pine Falls, and the R. M. of Victoria Beach. We also have a Branch Library located in Walter Whyte School.

Miscellaneous

If any groups in the area have an event or ongoing program they would like to promote, please contact the Rec. Office at 367-9142 and I will put it in my weekly column.

TRY YOUR DRUGSTORE first

- Pharmaceuticals
- First Aid Supplies
- Hair Products
- Health & Beauty
- Stationary
- Greeting Cards
- Lottery Centre
- Gifts

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The Echo 367-9468

Volunteer Board Member
The newly created Recreation Commission exists to provide quality Recreation opportunities that encourage and promotes healthy living, and serves as a community base and resource for all the residents in the Town of Powerview Pine Falls and the R.M. of Alexander.

The Board encourages Volunteers to apply for the position of a member at large. The Board would encourage those to apply who have an interest in providing recreation programs to the community.

Please provide the Board a letter of intent and submit by email to:
info@EdArnoldWard1.com
No later than December 10th, 2007

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Pine Falls Community Billboard

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

USW 3-1375: meets third Thursday of the month, Chicken Chef, Power-view 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 8:00 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. 9:00am to 12:00 p.m., Thurs. 4:00 to 8:00 p.m., Sat. 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Kaights of Columbus: meetings every second Tuesday of the month 7:30 p.m. Powerview Church basement.

Silver Haves Club: cribbage every fourth and fifth Monday 1:30 p.m., whilst 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, meet 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.

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

PAK: meeting first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

Winnipeg River Sealer Service Inc.: Coordinator Tina Polischuk, Pine Falls Health Complex, phone 367-9128, 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday to Friday. Services: transportation, home maintenance, foot care, volunteer help, info.

Town of Powerview - Pine Falls: Council meetings are the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00pm.

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: Thursdays 8:00 p.m., Senior Scene, Victoria Beach, 1 Ateah Road, 754-3173.

Happy Tots 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.

Blue Water Support Group: meets every third Monday of the month 7:00 p.m. Pine Falls Health Complex.

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 Monday of every month.

Great Falls Hall workers - Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Pine Falls Library: open 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday to Friday, and Thursday evening 7:00pm to 8:00pm. Library is situated in the Pine Falls School, entrance facing pool.

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 Tuesday 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: Wednesdays at 6:45 weigh-in and at 5:30 Meetings Call Delores at 367-2945 or 345-3399 or 1-800-651-6000.

Pine Falls Golden Leisure Club: Bridge 7:00pm Mon. & Thurs., Canasta 1:00pm Friday, Whist 1:30pm Wednesday, Crib, 1st Monday of Month at 1:30pm. Exercise Class, Mon., Wed., Thurs., Fri., 10:15am.

Town Powerview-Pine Falls: Garbage Pick up every Wednesday 8:00am. Recycle: Every Thursday, 8:00am

Overcomers Outreach meetings: www.overcomersoutreach.ca, weekly meeting Contact: Isabelle (204) 367-2359

Parenting Support Group: Meets the first three Wednesdays of every month at Wings of Power, 11:30 a.m. - 1. Lunch and childminding are free, transportation also available. Call 367-9641

Family Leading Library: Open 10-12 and 1-4, Mon-Fri at Wings of Power

Computer access: Wings of Power, CAP site, Open 10-12 and 1-4, Mon-Fri.

Narcotics Anonymous meetings: every Tuesday, 7-8pm at the Sagkeeng Multi-Purpose Building (south shore highway 11), Kickboxing St. Georges School, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7:00pm to 8:30pm, contact Nick 367-2702 or Paul at 367-8018.

Winnipeg River Church Services

NOTRE DAME DU LAUS: Powerview - 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 11:30 a.m. 367-2633. Everyone Welcome

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

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

ST. GEORGES: Mass Sunday at 9:00am

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 #117, Sunday church school 10:00 a.m., worship 11:00 a.m. (alternate locations). For info, call 635-2625 or 754-8682.

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, Scantebury, 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

LIFE SKILLS CHURCH - Great Falls Community Centre Hall, Christian Healing Services 7:00pm, Wednesdays, Minister: Isabelle Fiola (204) 367-2359.

Throne speech highlights

from page 10

tions communities of Berens River, Norway House and Peguis.

• Consultations to begin on constructing a new Women's Hospital at the Health Sciences Centre.

• A new South End Birthing Centre to be managed by the Women's Health Clinic.

• Redevelopment of the maternity ward at St. Boniface General Hospital.

• A new MRI and a cardiac catheterization lab at the Children's Hospital.

• A new asthma and allergy clinic for children at the Health Sciences Centre.

• A new pediatric ophthalmology program at the Health Sciences Centre.

Safer Communities

• Hiring of more police officers as the first step in a new commitment to add 100 officers.

• Expanding the Lighthouses program to provide more places for young people to play sports, study or go online in the evenings.

• Expanding the Turnabout program to provide more monitoring and alternative outings for children under 12 who come in conflict with the law.

• Adding a new anti-gang Crown attorney in the Brandon region.

• Adding two new investigative teams to assist communities in tackling organized crime.

• Introducing new legislation to provide protection for witnesses who testify against gangs.

• Dedicating a justice unit to enforce a new criminal property forfeiture law.

• Dedicating a Crown attorney to work exclusively on child exploitation cases.

Inclusion and Citizenship

• An increase in the minimum wage based on previous public consultations.

• An increase to the child benefit to provide support to work-

ing families.

• An expansion of the popular Safety Aid program to provide security to low-income seniors.

• Changes to election laws to increase democratic participation and improve accessibility and transparency for citizens.

• Appointment of a new privacy commissioner with the power to issue orders under Manitoba's freedom of information and protection of privacy legislation.

• Introduction of amendments to the Employment Services Act to protect workers who are not covered by existing labour law protections.

Northern Manitoba

• Enhance the University College of the North's main campus facilities in The Pas and Thompson.

• Provide additional satellite university campuses in remote communities.

• Begin work on a tripartite partnership to strengthen primary and secondary education in the north.

• Expand training of health professionals for northern areas.

• Further expand the successful Northern Healthy Foods Initiative with the development of a commercial greenhouse at Grand Rapids.

• Establish a new round table to allow youth in east side communities to discuss challenges and work towards solutions.

• Begin work on the first leg of the all-weather road from Hollow Water to Bloodvein with the building of two new bridges.

• Continue route selection now underway for the second leg to Berens River.

Rural Manitoba

• An increase in the farmland tax rebate to 70 per cent.

• A \$95-million commitment through the Canadian Agricultural Income Stabilization

(CAIS) program to support farm income including the livestock sector.

• A commitment to negotiate a new federal-provincial safety net package.

• Begin work to extend the successful Bridging Generations program to rural small businesses and fishers.

• Consult with the co-operative sector to enhance support for co-ops.

• In partnership with the federal government, launch Value Chain Manitoba, an innovative business model to promote formal partnerships between producers, processors and suppliers.

Urban Centres

• Continue work on the Eastern Access project in Brandon.

• Expand Neighbourhoods Alive! to five new urban centres: Flin Flon, The Pas, Dauphin, Portage la Prairie and Selkirk.

• Provide support for Brandon's newly-announced Renaissance Brandon project.

• Construct new affordable housing in urban centres across the province as part of the HOMEWorks! program and revitalize over 13,000 public housing units.

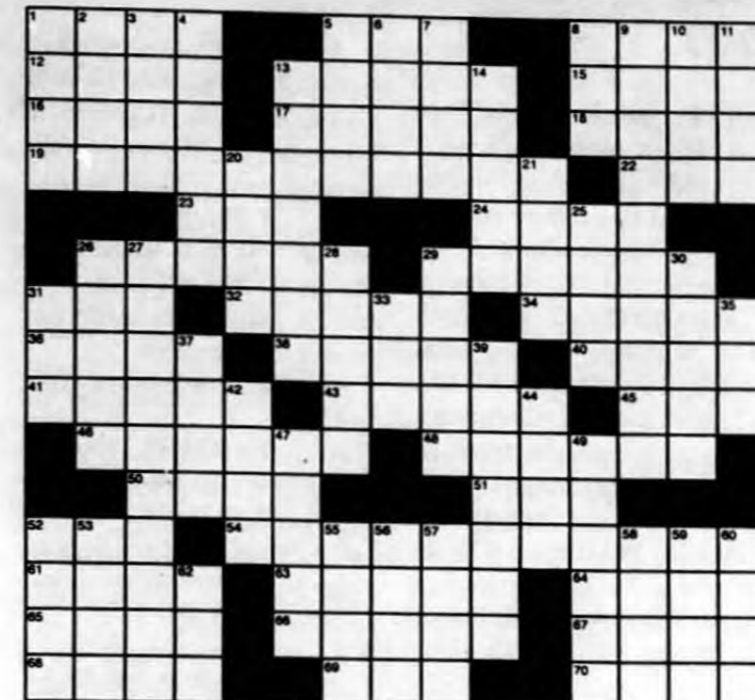
• Begin implementing a plan to double funding for recreation facilities across the province including support for proposed facilities in Winnipeg, Brandon, The Pas, Portage la Prairie and the Selkirk Library.

• Provide funding to add four firefighting positions each in Brandon, Thompson and Portage la Prairie to increase public safety and fire response.

• Provide \$3.8 million to the City of Winnipeg to support 20 new firefighting positions and other priorities of the Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service.

• Finalize agreements to be signed for the Museum for Human Rights that will trigger the establishment of the first national museum outside Ottawa.

WEEKLY CROSSWORD



Across

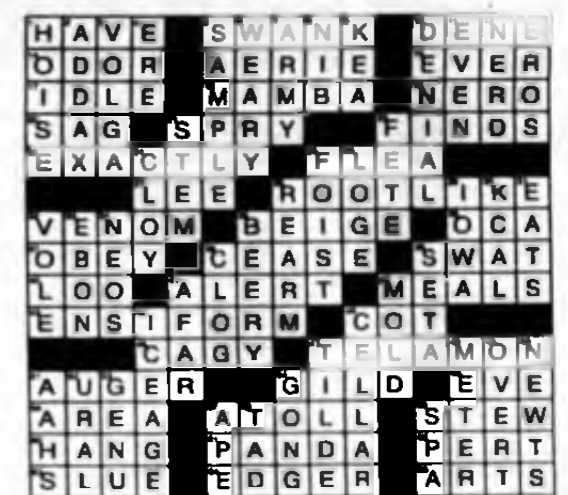
- Airtight metal containers for food.
- Lively energy.
- Period of time during which something is in effect.
- Content of conscious thought.
- Totality of business transactions during a period of time.
- Genus of plants native to South Africa.
- Pass rapidly.
- Enthusiastic approval.
- Mount, peak in southern Alaska.
- Congratulate someone.

Down

- Turner Rebellion.
- Namely.
- Step on a ladder.
- Pause.
- Leader of the Trojan War on the side of the Trojans.
- Rapid escape.
- Schrodinger, 1933 Nobel Prize winner in physics.
- Port city in northeastern Brazil.
- Printed characters.
- Receives payments for work done.
- Jaunty rhythm in music.
- Russian unit of measure.
- Provoke someone.

- legal process.
- Measure of capacity.
- Refer to someone else's words.
- Trevor, one-time member of John Zorns Electric Masada.
- Adams, comic book artist.
- Daniel, young adults author.
- Invokes evil upon.
- Sweet, new beer.
- Make null and void.
- Fencing hall.
- Airport code for Lotusvale, Queensland, Australia.
- Male given name from Hebrew word meaning, "watchful."
- Acronym for Lots To Do.
- Catch sight of.
- Expressed by snoring.
- Aka czar.
- Shaft of a cart.
- Unsuitable.
- Exertion of force.
- Two items of the same kind.
- Cheese scoop.
- Plural of serum.
- Supplemented with great effort.
- Acronym for National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.
- Someone's grandmother.
- Device for hurling clay pigeons into the air.
- Make a piece of clothing.
- Standard time in the 5th time zone west of Greenwich.

LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS



CRYPTIC PUZZLE

XBWCV BQF RVS TGHXF XBWCJ TKRV
LGM, JQGHs BQF LGM JXSSN BXGQS
-KXFG BCXJH

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
WATER, TAKEN IN MODERATION, CANNOT HURT ANYBODY.

Weekly Echo Horoscopes November 27th to December 3rd, 2007



ARIES (Mar. 21 - April 20)
Deception and confusion regarding your status in society is likely. Go after your goals and don't be afraid to ask for assistance. Your best efforts will come through hard work. You can make career changes that may put you in a much higher earning bracket.



TAURUS (Apr. 21 - May 21)
You can get a promotion if you put in a little extra detail. Compromise if you wish to have any fun at all. If you can work at home, do so. Loss or theft may occur if you are careless with your belongings.



GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)
You can have quite the romantic adventure if you take time to get to know your mate all over again. Changes in your residence may be financially favorable. You have done all you can to sort things out a personal level. A need to be in love may fool you.



CANCER (June 22 - July 22)
Listen to a good friend who is truly looking out for your best interests. Family trips or projects should be on your mind. You may find yourself in the limelight for the wrong reasons. Partnerships will be successful.



LEO (July 23 - Aug 22)
Implement your ideas into your projects at work. Secret activity is evident. Uncertainties regarding relatives will make situations uncomfortable if you attend a family function. Coworkers may not be on your side.



VIRGO (Aug. 23 - Sept. 23)
This is probably causing upset and confusion on the home front. You will be full of good ideas, and your choice of activities may bring you enrichment far beyond your expectations. Let your lover know what your personal intentions are. Try not to get involved in other people's problems.



LIBRA (Sept. 24 - Oct. 23)
You need a job with more responsibility and a higher wage. Opportunities for romance will flourish through travel. You may have a tendency to put on weight. You may want to plan physical activities that will help burn off some of their excess energy.



SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)
Take things slowly, especially for the sake of those you love. The emotional state of peers may cause a problem for you. You may find that you're being used. Later in the week your boss will put you on the back for a job well done.



SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 - Dec. 21)
Try to visit a country that excites you. Travel will be on your mind, but you should be sure that you've got all your work up-to-date. Your accomplishments could exceed your expectations if you mix a little business with pleasure. You need to spend less time day-dreaming and more time accomplishing.



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 20)
You may want to take a serious look at your goals and objectives. Put in some extra hours and finish those careful jobs before you move on to some fun and games. Pleasure trips will ease the tension between you and your mate. Do not travel unless absolutely necessary. Be careful.



AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)
Talk to those in a position of power about your intentions. You need to get out and be an observer. Move into a leadership position if you are determined to do so. Don't be shy; show your abilities!



PISCES (Feb. 20 - Mar. 20)
Make sure that you have covered yourself legally and try not to let your temper get out of hand. Feeling under the weather may be a result of overindulgence. Travel if it's needed to start the ball rolling. Your hard work and dedication will payoff, so stick to your guns and do your job well.

Lac du Bonnet RCMP Report

Reporting from November 12th to November 18, 2007

Monday, November 12th, 2007

At 8:15 AM there was a request to assist EMS with entering a house in Pinawa to assist a patient. A patrol was made and EMS had already gained entrance into the house.

At 9:10 AM there was a call to hunters possibly hunting in a no hunting area in the RM of Lac du Bonnet. Matter was referred to Manitoba Resources who checked it out and hunters were in a hunting area.

At 12:15 AM there was a call regarding a civil matter in the RM of Whitemouth. Matter was deemed civil with no actions required from police.

Tuesday, November 13th, 2007
Nothing of significance to report for this day.

Wednesday, November 14th, 2007

At 11:15 AM there was a call of a suspicious vehicle in the RM of Lac du Bonnet.

A patrol was made and the vehicle was checked but found to be not related to any criminal activity.

At 11:25 AM there was a report of a lost gold charm in Lac du Bonnet.

At 2:45 PM there was a report that there were two trucks trespassing on rural property in the RM of Lac du Bonnet. Matter is under investigation.

At 7:00 PM there was a report of a slashed tire on a truck in Lac du Bonnet. No suspects.

At 7:20 PM there was a report of a runaway from Winnipeg currently in our area. A patrol was made and the subject was escorted back to Winnipeg and turned over to Child and Family Services.

Thursday, November 15th, 2007

At 8:35 AM there was a report of hunters possibly being in a no hunting area in the RM of Lac du Bonnet.

Friday, November 16th, 2007

At 1:15 PM there was a re-

port of a possible breach of court order. No breach has yet occurred and information was passed on as to how to proceed to ensure there is no breach.

At 6:00 PM there was a call of an accident with a semi truck and a pick-up in the RM of Lac du Bonnet. Occupants of the pick-up were taken to hospital for precautions. Matter is still under investigation.

At 6:20 PM there was a report of an ATV accident at Big Whiteshell Lake. The driver was taken to hospital for injuries.

At 7:16 PM there was a report of an alarm at the Pinawa Elementary School. False alarm as people were in setting up for a tea and no break in.

Saturday, November 17th, 2007

At 12:01 PM there was a call to attend to a residence and taken over 4 rifles which were no longer wanted. Rifles were obtained and are to be destroyed pursuant to owner's wishes.

At 12:24 PM there was a report of a Break and Enter to a residence in the RM of Whitemouth. Matter is under investigation.

At 4:25 PM there was a report of two dogs attacking a deer in the RM of Lac du Bonnet. A patrol was made and the dogs were gone.

Sunday, November 18th, 2007

At 10:00 AM there was a report of cattle getting out of their property in the RM of Lac du Bonnet and damaging other property. Matter is under investigation.

At 10:01 AM there was a report of a Breach of Protection Order. No evidence to support charges.

At 12:52 PM there was a report of hunters on the ski trails around Pinawa. Matter is under investigation.

At 9:15 PM there was an alarm at the Northern Store in Lac du Bonnet. Alarm was false and no patrol was made.

There were also three charges laid under the Highway Traffic Act during the week.

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. **USW 3-1375:** meets third Thursday of the month, Chicken Chef, Powervision meeting room.

Pre-natal 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., LdB Community Centre.

Lac du Bonnet Regional Library open Tues and Thurs 10:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.; Wed and Fri, noon - 5:00pm, Sat 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., ph. 345-2653.

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

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

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

Lakeshore Al-a-Teens 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

Lac du Bonnet Church Directory

ABUNDANT LIFE CHAPEL
Pastor Jake Drell, 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 Szynal, 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. John Giroux 367-9520, church 345-2357
Sunday: 11:30 a.m. - worship, 11:30 a.m. - first and third Sunday of each month, holy eucharist.

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For Sale
2 Pce. Ski-doo suit fitted jacket and bibs, size 16, like new, black and yellow, \$50.00, also for sale black faux mouton jacket with real black fox fur cuffs \$35.00, call if interested 367-2764.

Want to Rent
Want to rent a house or trailer in Pine Falls, St. Georges, Silver Falls, or Great Falls area. Phone "Bubs" at 1-204-482-6171. 16a-10

For Rent
Woodland Place/Dale Haven Apartments. 1 - 2 bedroom apartments for rent, utilities and parking included, coin laundry, very clean and well maintained. Furnished, weekly and monthly rates also available, call after 6:00 p.m. 367-4922.

Health
Problems with drug or alcohol addiction in a loved one? Don't know whom to turn to for help? Contact Drug Rehab Resource for a free confidential consultation to find the help you need. Call today 1-866-649-1594 or find out more at www.drugrehabresource.net. Don't wait. tda

Memoriam
In loving memory of **Art Cyr**
Nov. 11, 1939 to Nov. 26, 2005

To a good life came a peaceful end. He died as he lived, everyone's friend. Upright and just in all his ways. Loving and kind to the end of his days. We saw him suffer, we heard him sigh. We could do nothing but sit close by. We have lost, but Heaven has gained. One of the best the world contained.

Deeply and sadly missed, your loving wife and family

Seniors, Did You Know?

That the Winnipeg River Senior Services in Pine Falls offers the following...



- Home Maintenance
Help with caring for your home, inside/out.
- Foot Care
Professional Staff come to you home to provide basic footcare.
- Transportation
We offer handivan services or paid volunteers to drive you to shopping, appointments, etc.... The handivan must be booked in advance.
- Friendly visiting
Volunteers spend time with individuals who are lonely.
- Red Cross Loans
The Sick Room Equipment Loan Service provides wheelchairs, walkers, and canes up to three months.
- Victoria Lifeline
When others can't be with you or your loved one, Victoria Lifeline is 24 hours. A one time installation charge and low monthly fee puts assistance just a push of a button away.
- E.R.I.K.
Emergency Response Information Kits contain pertinent information in case of an emergency. Call Tina at the Winnipeg River Senior Services 367-9128 for more information.

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate heart of Mary, be praised, adored and glorified throughout the world forever and ever. Amen. Say 6 times a day for 9 days and promise publication and your prayers will be answered no matter how impossible they may seem by the ninth day.

Do you want to improve your English and Math skills to prepare for entry into high school courses?

Empower Adult Education

will offer Training beginning in January 2008.

Call Sheila Wesselius at 367-2495

ST. GEORGES MEAL



55 plus - guest welcome Meals are served Monday, Wednesday & Fridays @ 11:30 a.m. - \$6.00 each. Your name must be in 24 hours prior to meal days. Take outs & special occasions welcome.

Wed., Nov. 28
Green salad, beef melt, shredded buttered potatoes, vegetables, banana cream pie.
Friday, Nov. 30
Strawberry spinach salad, stuffed chicken breast, fancy rice, vegetables, orange almond cake.

SILVER HAVEN MEAL PROGRAM

Open to all seniors 55 and over. You are welcome to bring a guest. All meals are \$5.00. Meals are at 11:30 noon Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Your name must be put on the list the day before by calling.

Silver Haven at 367-4620 or Denise 367-2374

Wednesday, Nov. 28
Coleslaw, hot beef sandwich, mashed potatoes, broccoli, blueberry pie.

Friday, Nov. 30
Soup, roast turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes, carrots, date square.

Affordable Advertising

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Dr. David Kindrat
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 New patients welcome
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Dr. Alan Grant - DENTIST
 Fort Alexander Dental Clinic (in the Fort Alexander Health Centre)
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 Health Centre **367-2208**
 Direct Lines **367-4821**
367-4417

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