FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2024 · VOL.117 No. 7 · RIVERS, MANITOBA



Serving the Rivers, Rapid City, Forrest, Kenton, Oak River, Hamiota and Oak Lake areas for 116 years

Hamiota community dines with the Lions



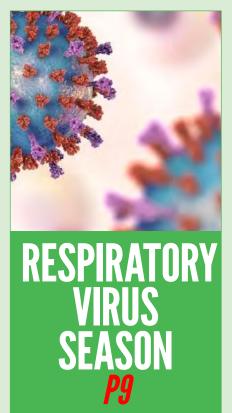
At the Hamiota Lions Club all you can eat fish fry, Sunday, Oct. 20, Kyla Wilson-Davies a 4H Club leader along with other 4Hers help out the Lions Club at this popular yearly event.

On the menu, delicious pan fried /deep fried basa fillets, baked brown beans, coleslaw and a bun plus an ice cream dessert. It's a popular event in Hamiota

Inside...







In the cook tent beside the Hamiota Hall, Lion Eli Plata presents a tray of fried fish on, Sunday, October 21. They serving over 300 people.





JETS RETURN CORE, ADD TALENT



By Robin Wark Rivers Banner

The Rivers Jets are hoping to soar this season with a strong group of returning players and some exciting new additions.

The senior men's hockey team opens the 2024-2025 Tiger Hills Hockey League campaign on Oct. 26 at home versus the Deloraine Royals. Local fans will get plenty of opportunity to see the local club early on this season as four of its first five contests are at home.

Last season the Rivers team was 13-5-0-0 in the regular season. It swept Melita in the first round of the playoffs, 2-0 and fell 3-2 to Virden in the West Division semifinals.

Many top players return for the successful squad. That group includes defenceman and captain Riley Shamray, goalie Riley Lamb, and top scorer Brock Paddock. In the playoffslast season, Lamb was fourth in the THHL with a .911 save percentage. Paddock was eighth in the THHL regular season with 41 points in 17 games. He scored 18 goals - one more than teammate Joben Smith for the team lead.

The Jets have added some talented players to the core that the trio above helps lead. Joining the Rivers blue line are Josh and Jaxon Elmes as well as Ryder Richmond. The Elmes siblings joined the Moosomin Rangers of the Big Six Hockey League. Brandon product Josh Elmes played junior hockey on both sides of the borderaswell for the University of Manitoba and in the minor pro ranks. Hisyounger brother Jaxon suited up in the Manitoba Junior HockeyLeague.Richmond, a former standout for the Flin Flon Bombers junior team, returns to the Jetsafter playing last season at the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology in Calgary.

Up front the Jets have added Dylan Thiessen, aformer University of Manitoba player. He had a strong junior career with the Virden Oil Capitals. Rivers product Layton Veitchjoinshishome team after having success of his own with the Oil Caps. Luke Decorby is now a Jet after captaining the Red Lake (Ont.) Miners in the Superior International Hockey League last season.

"We are built around solid goaltending and a strong defensive core, while the additions of Thiessen, Decorby and Veitch should help bolster the offence," Jets president Aaron Tycoles said.

The Jets met the Langenburg Warriors in Russell on Oct. 19 in an exhibition tilt. It was the Sask East Hockey League representative coming out on top, 5-3. It was a homecoming of sorts for Jets such as Russell's Kale Bomback and Binscarth product Smith, Adam Robidoux, and Decorby as well as Foxwarren's Bo Tibbats.

The Rivers team will be competing in a new look THHL. Four teams have taken a one-year leave of absence: Gladstone, Miniota-Elkhorn, Pilot Mound and Wawanesa. Due to this, the Jets moved to the East Division. Their divisional foes will now be Carberry, Killarney, MacGregor, Minnedosa, and Neepawa. The Jets will face each of those teams twice. They will take on the following West teams once: Boissevain, Deloraine, Hartney, Melita, Souris, and Virden. Every team will receive a postseason berth. The top two teams in each division gets a first-round bye.

JETS TEACH SKILLS, HELP RAISE THE GLASS



By Robin Wark Rivers Banner

The Rivers Jets helped someyoung players develop their hockeyskills while raising funds for a community project.

The senior club held its first hockey school this fall. It ran for two weekends -Sept. 28-29 and Oct. 5-6. Thirty-five players born between 2012-2017 attended the event.

In addition to helping players develop skills and their passion for hockey, the event raised \$4,100 for the Raise the Glass project. The project aims to install windows in the Redfern Hall.

"It is something that we would like to do going forward to help make money for arena upgrades and other projects around the community," Jets president Aaron Tycoles said of the hockey school.

The hockey school's ses-

sions focused on skating in the morning and overall hockey skills in the afternoon. Players were mentored by some of the players they cheer on for their local team in Tiger Hills Hockey League action.

The instructors brought impressive backgrounds in the game to the camp. Jets captain Riley Shamray, an Oak River product, was one of the announced instructors. He played in the Western Hockey League, Manitoba Junior Hockey League, and at the U Sports level. Instructors and hometown products Riley Lamb, Brock Paddock, and Jaxon Heeney all played junior hockey with Lamb going onto the U Sports and pro levels.

Participants at the co-ed schoolalso benefitted from the experience of Morgan Ramsey. The Rivers product helped Mount Royal University win the 2023 women's hockey national championship.

New Jets defenceman Josh Elmes suited up at the junior, U Sports and, for five seasons, minor pro levels. Fellow newcomer Dylan Thiessen starred for the Virden Oil Capitals in the junior ranks and spent time at the NCAA Division I level and U Sports levels.



Join us for a town hall meeting to introduce the Hamiota & Area Community Alliance.



CHICKEN STUFFED CRESCENT ROLLS

Whip up these easy Chicken Stuffed Crescent Rolls for a delicious and quick meal! Perfect for any occasion.

Ingredients:

1 package crescent roll dough

2 cups cooked chicken, shredded 1 cup shredded cheddar cheese

- 1/2 cup mayonnaise
- 1/4 cup chopped green onions
- 1/4 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1/4 teaspoon black pepper

1/4 cup grated Parmesan cheese 1 tablespoon chopped fresh parsley (optional for garnish) Directions:

- 1. Preheat the oven to 375 F (190 C). Line a baking sheet with parchment paper.
- 2. In a mixing bowl, combine shredded chicken, cheddar cheese,
 - mayonnaise, chopped green onions, garlic powder, and black pepper.
- 3. Unroll the crescent roll dough and separate into triangles.
- 4. Place a spoonful of the chicken mixture onto the wide end of each crescent roll triangle.
- 5. Roll up the crescent rolls, starting from the wide end, and place them on the prepared baking sheet.
- 6. Sprinkle the tops with grated Parmesan cheese.
- $7.\ Bake for 12-15\,minutes, or until the crescent rolls are golden brown and cooked through.$
- 8. Garnish with chopped fresh parsley before serving, if desired.





FAITHFULLY YOURS Neil Strohschein

Thanks for unsung heroes

There is, in all communities served by this newspaper, a group of unsung heroes whose service to our citizens is of inestimable value. They may not see themselves as heroes. But they are-and this week I want to pay special attention to them.

These heroes come from every segment of society. Some are old; some are young. Some are professionally trained; some are not. Some have multiple clients; some have only one. Some are paid for the work they do; some do it as a labor of love. Some will serve one client for a while and then move on. Some will serve the same client for life.

Bynowyou've probably guessed who those unsung heroes are. They are the parents, partners, children, doctors, nurses, therapists and health care aides whose loving care enables chronically ill people to remain in their homes for extended periods of time, thus freeing hospital beds and care home placements for those who really need them.

Being a caregiver is hard work. Caregivers often see their clients (those for whom they care) when they are at their worst. Caregivers must endure times of impatience, complaining and resistance to treatment or services they wish to provide. If they work in a hospital or personal care home, they can ask for help from staff members who will help them complete their assigned tasks.

Butifyou are a primary care giver, someone looking after

a parent or other close relative in your home, that help may not always be available. But that doesn't stop you. You try your best. You use every means you can devise to overcome the impatience, criticism or resistance to the help you offer. Sometimes you succeed. Sometimes, you just have to walk away. You come back in an hour or so and hope that attitudes have changed and required care can be given. You are thankful for small victories; and for another day of having the one you love at home with you, to enjoy life in familiar surroundings with family close by.

This week, I want to pay tribute to all of those who give of themselves each day to help care for those who, because of age, illness or infirmity, cannot care for themselves as they wish they could. By your dedication and devotion to duty, you bring rays of light into the lives of people who are battling severe illness, who are confined to their homes for prolonged periods of time or who need help with activities that, at one time, they could do on their own. You are not some casual person who comes by from time to time for a short visit. Over time, you become family; and when you retire, change jobs, are assigned to another unit in the care home or to other home care clients who need your special skills, we are saddened and miss you terribly.

Today we honor you. We thank you for a job well done. And in those times when the work is hard, the hours are long, travel conditions are less than ideal and the thanks you get is far from what you deserve; we pray that God will send you people who will give you the care, comfort and encouragement you need to heal your wounds and get ready for another day. You are our unsung heroes. May you always know that you have done some good for someone today; even if no one else recognizes it.





Who is getting married? Tell us! The Rivers Banner wants to help you tell the community about your big news!

Let everyone know your love story!



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From last weeks front page Ε Ε Ζ Y D S Ζ F E Т А S Κ Q Ρ Ν Κ R Q Q Ρ С Ο G Τ С Κ Х U Η R Х В Ρ Ρ Y A D U J В Ε Κ Y Ε R F Т Т Ρ U Y L Η Ν Ρ 0 Т Ρ 0 G Μ 0 Ο Y R G G

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By Chad Carpenter



Things to ponder for troubled times

his will be two columns in one. The first one is short and is an "ask", a request for everybody who reads these words. If you want to do something good for yourself, for your family, for your community and in fact, for our country, please do the following. If you are involved with a church, stay involved. If you aren't, get involved. There are dozens of churches in our readership area and there will be at least one, and likely several, that would welcome your involvement and support. If there was ever a time when vou need a church family or when a church needs you, it's now.

If there's past hurts in your heart that came out of a church setting, I am sorry that happened but by the Grace of God, forgive their trespasses. It might take more than one try, but I can guarantee it will be worth it.

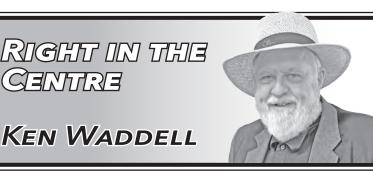
The second part is a visit to the halls of the Canadian government. I don't remember a time when a sitting government had worn out its welcome more so than the current regime of Trudeau, the Younger. I am not a fan of Justin Trudeau and I wasn't a fan of his father, Pierre.

Here are some reasons why the current government is held in such low esteem.

1. The handling of the COVID-19 pandemic disrupted years of peoples' lives, billons of dollars and largely misread the response needs.

2. The government gun buy-back program has spent \$67million over the pastfew years and not even one gun has been bought back. There has been an exemption period for gun owners that ends at Oct. 31 but it remains unclear what will happen then.

3. The Canadian Taxpayers Federation is calling on the federal government to scrap its carbon tax following a Parliamentary Budget Officer re-



port confirming the carbon tax costs average households more than they get back in rebates.

"Once again the PBO confirms the carbon tax costs average families hundreds of dollars more than they get back in rebates," said Franco Terrazzano, CTF Federal Director. "This PBO report proves that politicians' favourite talking point is incorrect and it proves the carbon tax is making life harder for Canadians."

4. The Canadian Taxpayers Federation released Leger polling showing 59 per cent of Canadians oppose the federal government's ban on new gas and diesel vehicles by 2035.

"The results of the poll are clear: Canadians don't want the government to ban new gas and diesel vehicles," said Terrazzano. "Canadians want the option to buy new gas-powered minivans and diesel work trucks and taxpayers know this ban will cost us a fortune." The federal government plans to ban the sale of new gas and diesel vehicles by 2035.

The Legerpoll asked Canadiansifthey support or oppose the federal ban on the sale of new gas and diesel vehicles. The results of the poll show: 59 per cent oppose the ban, 29 per cent support the ban, 12 per cent don't know.

Among those who are decided on the issue, 67 per cent of Canadians oppose the federal ban on new gas and diesel vehicle

5. And again from the The Canadian

Taxpayers Federation who are calling on the federal government to cut spending to balance the budget following a Statistics Canada report showing interest charges increased by 29 per cent over the year.

Stats-Can recently released its Government Finance Statistics report for the second quarter.

"Interest expenses for the federal government grew 29 per cent year over year," according to Stats-Can. "The federal government devoted 10.9 cents of every dollar of revenue to cover interest expenses."

The federal government projects to run a \$40-billion deficit this year, according to Budget 2024. The budget also projects interest charges on the debt costing \$54 billion this year, which is more than the federal government will send to the provinces in health transfers.

The federal government won't balance the budget until 2040, according to supplementary data released by the Parliamentary Budget Officer in its most recent Fiscal Sustainability Report.

"This report should be a wake-up call for Prime Minister Justin Trudeau," Terrazzano said. "The feds need to cut spending and balance the budget before debt interest charges blow an even bigger hole in the budget."

So, I ask you to seriously consider my question at the the beginning of this column and after that, to consider the above five points on federal policy when you cast your vote in the next federal election.



Road Trip!!

t had been a number of years since I had spent time in Slave Lake, Alberta. Oct. 12 marked ten years of Llife without Ed, and my family invited me to spend the day with them, on the shores of the vast Slave Lake. It did not take a great deal of persuasion for me to agree to a long weekend with my oldest son and many of his family. My oldest grandson wished to host several us as houseguests, and many of us for the meal. Another grandson offered to drive with me, and a daughter in Saskatoon offered accommodation for the night, coming and going, and better than that, she and her partner joined us for the time together. Who could turn down an offer like that!

Three of us left on a Thursday noon, grandson, Arie (dog!), and I. The drive was uneventful; the scenery with the fall colours was spectacular. Leaving Saskatoon the next morning the vehicle contained four adults and two dogs; Pism, a well-behaved rescue joined Arie. The scenery was beyond spectacular as we took the road less travelled; golden tamarack mixed with the vibrant evergreens, roadside weeds a range of browns and gold, glistening water, geese beyond counting, rolling countryside; the beauty of creation all around us.

We arrived at my son's home to be greeted by sundry family and friends, and another dog, Shaker, a Papillion. The supper meal was wonderful, but only a precursor of what the weekend meals would offer. After a bit of a stretch we drove out to an acreage, the home of my grandson and his partner. Here we met two more dogs; Julius a brindle mix, and Jasmine, a lovely gentle collie cross. The home accommodated the owners, plus eleven guests, and another dog! Ragnar is a French bulldog, a puppy and so energized!

We managed, through great effort, to consume three meals a day. Okay, perhaps the noon to three was more like a snack pack on steroids! One morning breakfast was paper-thin crepes with real whipped cream and fruit filling. One morning it was homemade waffles with the traditional family brown sugar/butter sauce, and another was an egg casserole with homemade hollandaise sauce, and bacon. The suppers made the fantastic breakfasts look shabby! Most times there were twenty persons at the table, sitting down, chatting, telling stories and making memories. Needless to say we ate a great deal.

And we played table games. Three generations competing in word games and number games, learning new games, reminiscing and fellowshipping.

A group of us did a lot of walking. That would have been mostly the dog people! Six to ten people with a constant six dogs; along the country road, on the lakeshore, and one afternoon at the dog friendly Salve Lake Beach. How they ran, raced, retrieved sticks from the frigid water, galloped and spun. Watching them was pure pleasure.

The trip home is often anti-climatic. We had packed lunches from the stash of bonus foods, and basically drove home. Again a night's rest in Saskatoon and then home: tired, fulfilled, comforted and strengthened.

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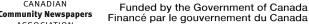
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FIREFIGHTERS ARE HEROES

Thanking our local firefighters for their service, sacrifice and dedication to protecting our community!



From left to right looking at picture: Richard Brown, Jeremy Gredewski, Darren Frederick, Kora-Leigh Adam, Sean Hammond, Dave Creighton, Hadi Dehnis, John Bigelow, Robbie Brown, Ryan MacLellan, Steve Hamm, Jesse Cords, Cory Sedgwick, Jeff Worth, Byron McMurachy, Jim Duthie, Brayden Johnson and missing Alvin Lepp, Cody Sedgwick, Josh Tait, Erin Lok, Josh Currah, Gage Wood, Nathan Lenting, Kevin Waldner, Tyler Pod, Troy Nielsen

Courage Under Fire We Salute Our Firefighters.

For the important role they play in protecting our lives and for their brave and selfless sacrifice, we thank the dedicated men and women of our nation's fire departments. We gratefully recognize their service to our communities, and we honor the memories of those who have fallen in the line of duty. You are all heroes, and we thank you for all that you do.

Rivers Banner

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Courage Under Fire We













Fire Chief: Jim Kuculym, Members: David Bullock (Deputy), Vern Davidson, Dallas Davidson, Allan Reid, Steve Reid, Justin Black, Greg Black, Scott Recksiedler, Shane Burt, Shawn Patterson, Bob Turnbull, Gerald Kuculym, Randy Kuculym, Jordon Arsenaut



"Have a fire escape plan for your family and practice it so everybody knows what to do." - Fire Chief Ryan English

Chief Ryan English, Deputy Chief Doug Finaly, Deputy Chief Brad Simpson, Captain Tom English, Training Officer Kelly Sawyer, Jackie English, Chanel Duthie, Nathan Switzer, Trena Moore, Micheal Sigvaldason, Nathan Bootsman, Curtis Citusky, Ian Barclay, Carson Burr, Cody Maclean, Daryl Andrews, Marty Riley





Salute Our Firefighters



L to R: Sean Schweitzer, Chris Sutherland, Bill Feschuk, Shawn Patterson, Dallas Skayman, Ron Dale, Jennifer Andrew, Jay Antonio, Dwayne Campbell, Josh Currah. Not able to attend were Blaine Lee, Blaine Colli, Randy Kirk, Jonathan Adair, Tammie McConnell



"Keep up to date smoke alarms in your house and have readily available fire extinguishers" - Fire Chief Chris Routledge the second and the second and the

Tyler Bond, Dean Brooker, Michael Draper, Andrew Hunt, Warren Hunter, Marita Kroeker, David Logan, Brad Nixon, Doug Roseveare, Lane Routledge, Tyler Routledge, Bruce Sangster, Mathew Williams, Missing from picture Trent Alexander, Donald Caldwell, Cameron Hodgins, Chris Routledge, Garret Kent, Brett Hemrica, Charlie Airey, Ethan Nixon, Owen Routledge, Easton Slimmon, Jonathan Kroeker















Thank-you FireFighters, For risking your lives to save ours.







WHAT IS A VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER?

Submitted By Indeed Editorial Team

A volunteer firefighter is an unpaid professional who saves people

from fires and other emergency situations. They're in charge of responding to emergency calls, putting out and preventing the spread of fires and administering first aid to people with injuries. They may help keep people safe during and after the following types of situations:

Fires in houses or other buildings: Firefighters may need to put out electrical or cooking fires, fires caused by lightning or fires caused by other accidents.

Car accidents: The likelihood that firefighters have to help people who've experienced caraccidents can increase in inclement weather, like thunderstorms or hailstorms.

Wellnesschecks: Awellnesscheckiswhen police and fire-

fighters visit a person's home to confirm their well-being. Forest fires: A forest fire is an uncontrolled fire that burns in forested areas, grasslands, farms or other natural environments.

Hazardous materials incidents: Firefighters may have to respond to issues with hazardous materials, such as chemicals, batteries and motor oils.

Although volunteer firefighters usually have to work in dangerous situations, they may find many benefits to their work. They typically have the opportunity to form lifelong friendships with their colleagues and build positive relationships with their communities. They can also learn safety and professional skills that can help them in their personal life and in other professional settings. As volunteer firefighters, they may be eligible for tax credits, retirement programs and even scholarships. Those in this role typically volunteer in their free time, while having a different, paid job.

What does a volunteer firefighter do?

While a volunteer firefighter's primary priority is to put out fires, they have many more responsibilities as well. Here are some typical duties of volunteer firefighters:

Contain and eliminate fire outbreaks by setting up ladders, hooking fire hoses up to hydrants and operating fire hoses

Save people trapped in burning buildings by locating them and carrying them out

Provide emergency medical and life-support services to people with injuries, such as basic first aid and CPR

Listen to and follow the directions of career firefighters and supervisors

Collaborate with other firefighters to ensure an emergency response is effective

Assistin search and rescue efforts to find missing people Conduct traffic incident management (TIM) in the

aftermath of a car crash, blocking and directing traffic to ensure the safety of pedestrians and emergency workers

Collaborate with police departments to respond to emergency calls and wellness checks

Write and file official reports about events and the responses to them to avoid lawsuits



fire prevention

and safety techniques,

like installing and testing smoke alarms, supervising open flames and practicing fire response plans

Conduct fundraising by applying for grants and taking part in events like cook-offs, raffles and fairs

Clean and organize offices and other spaces in the fire department, making sure all emergency response materials are readily accessible

Maintain, repair and replace firefighting equipment, tools and uniforms

Regularly wash and maintain fire trucks and vehicles How to become a volunteer firefighter

With the right amount of planning and dedication, many people can achieve their goal of becoming volunteer firefighters. Speak to your local firefighters.

THANK YOU TO OUR **OAK LAKE-SIFTON DEPARTMENT**

FOR YOUR DEDICATION TO KEEPING OUR COMMUNITIES SAFE



Manitoba Government is prepared for respiratory virus season

Submitted Manitoba Government

The Manitoba Government is prepared for the respiratory virus season with a comprehensive strategy designed to reduce the strain on the health-care system and keep Manitobans healthy, safe and informed, Health Seniors and Long-Term Care Minister Uzoma Asagwara announced today.

"Iencourage every Manitoban to get vaccinated and keep yourself, your loved ones and your broader community safe," said Asagwara. "The previous government failed to prepare for respiratory virus season, they made cuts to health care and refused to listen to front-line workers. We've made significant progress in one year and the system is prepared to meet an increased need for care during this difficult season."

Preparation includes:

Building up intensive care unit (ICU) and acute

care beds so that everyone gets the care they need: ·the Manitoba government has newly funded 18 ICU beds, for a total of 110 adult ICU beds, and eight pediatric ICU (PICU) beds, plus four step-down beds, for a total of 21 PICU beds; and ·the Manitoba government has opened 112 acute care beds with a plan to open 70 more, 43 transitional care unit beds and 27 more opening in the coming months.

VaccinestoprotectManitobansand their loved ones: ·influenza (flu) and COVID-19 vaccines are available at medical clinics, ACCESS centres, vaccine clinics, pharmacies, nursing stations and through public health; ·the Manitoba governmentisproviding the RSV vaccine free of charge to seniors over the age of 60, living in a long-term care home, and encouraging residents to get vaccinated through their long-term care facility; and

•the Manitoba government launched a provincewide ad campaign to inform Manitobans about respiratory virus season and encourage everyone to get vaccinated as soon as they are able.

The minister noted the governmentknowsstaffing is critical when it comes to

bedsand the Manitobagovernmenthired 873 netnew health-care workers to the system in six months, marking over halfway to its goal of hiring 1,000 healthcare workers this year.

"Considerable planning has occurred within the health system in an effort to mitigate or minimize service disruptions during respiratory virus season," said Dr. Jose Francois, chief medical officer, Shared Health. "This planning has been strongly supported by our partners in government, who have worked in collaboration with clinical leaders to ensure Manitoba's health system is as fully prepared as it possibly can be for the SUBMITTED PHOTO

coming respiratory virus season."

Information and resources regarding the vaccinepreventable respiratory diseases, including resources for prevention, treatment and care of affected individuals in Manitoba, is provided at www.manitoba.ca/vaccine.



With **Efficiency Manitoba's Appliance Recycling Program,** we'll pick up, recycle, and give you \$30 for your old working fridge or freezer.

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Matt Epp and JD capture the Saturday night crowd

By Anne Davison Rivers Banner

From the first moments of their performance, Matt Epp and JD Crosstown had the Hamiota audience fully engaged, laughing and listening at the Art Centre on Saturday evening. But it almost didn't happen. Concert host, Sheena Blanshard saved the day when, finding that Epp had trouble with his travel bus, she met the duo at Shoal Lake and brought them to Hamiota.

The musicians immediately warmed to the Hamiota audience, shook off their travel worries and put on an amazing concert. Although theywere booked back to back, Epp grinned and stated, "Life has a way of working out."

He's an award-winning songwriter, billed as "the quintessential troubadour of the Canadian prairies, who has won the admiration of an audience that spanstheglobe."Following thiscross-Canadatour,Epp and JD are booked for Eur-

ope in the spring of 2025.

As a kid the Epp family lived in Minnedosa, among other places in rural Manitoba. "It feels very much like home to come here," he said.

Warm-up and back-up musician, JD is an accomplished guitarist and a singularsongwriter. He'san Aboriginal artist from Ontario and although notlong out of high school, he has charisma and a dynamic voice whether singing blues or ballads.

AtErickson, the previous evening, Blanchard had been part of an ensemble who warmed up for Matt Epp. So, it was special when Epp invited Blanchard to the microphone to harmonize with them. That song and a few others also had singalong parts for the audience.

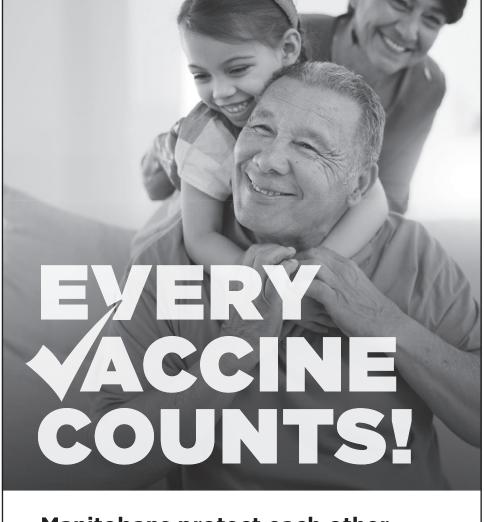
At the close of the evening Epp spoke of the two schools where they played for students. It was something new, but he said he and JD are talking of how important it is to engage kids and hope to visit more



Matt Epp (right) in concert in Hamiota Art Centre, Saturday evening, Oct. 19, with JD Crosstown accompanying on electric guitar. Virden artist Cody McPhee's scenes and iconic cultural portraits are seen in the background.

schools.

Their live performance created an exceptional evening in Hamiota. Following a November B.C. Home Routes tour, Epp and JD head for Europe in the spring of 2025. https:// www.mattepp.com/tour



Manitobans protect each other from flu and COVID-19.

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