

Morinville News

January 06, 2016 ISSN 2291-2738 Vol. 6 — Issue 01

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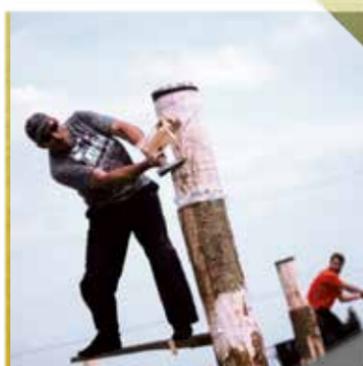


Looking back on an interesting year

Welcome to the first edition of Morinville News for 2016. As we bring you some of what is coming up on the road ahead, we'll spend some of this edition looking back on 2015 and those who made news over the past 12 months. On behalf of all of us, we wish you a Happy and Prosperous New Year.



We Love Hockey



Logger Sports

YEAR IN REVIEW EDITION



ANNOUNCEMENT



LISA CAMERON

"The management and staff at Northgate Chevrolet GMC would like to congratulate LISA CAMERON as our new member of our professional sales team. Lisa brings with her 5 years of General Motors sales and service experience. Lisa is a life long Albertan and has been a part of our military family for 17 years!!

Lisa welcomes all her friends, family, past and present customers to visit her at our friendly and helpful dealership for all your automotive requirements."

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Samantha Olson became the second lawyer to be called to the Bar in Morinville May 1, 2015.



Morinville Catholics gathered on the steps of historic St. Jean Baptiste Church July 9 to seal a time capsule to be opened in 2057, the church's 150th anniversary.



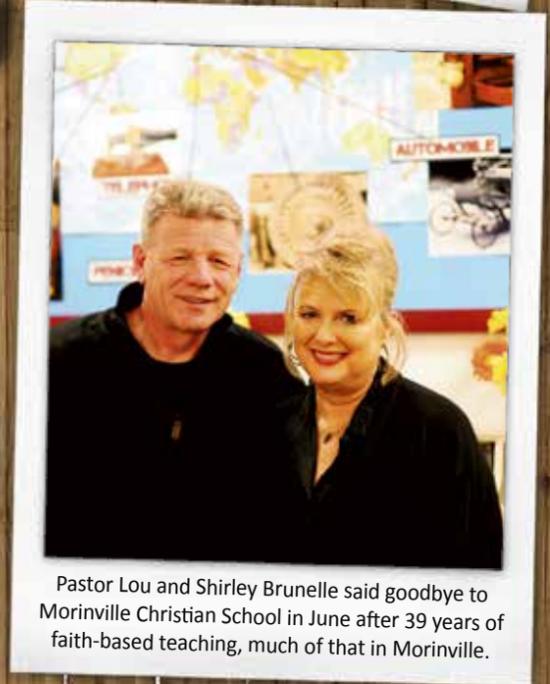
G. H. Primeau celebrated the District's 150th with a time capsule in January. Principal Allan Menduk will be 87 when it's opened in 2065.

2015 Community Champions & Newsmakers

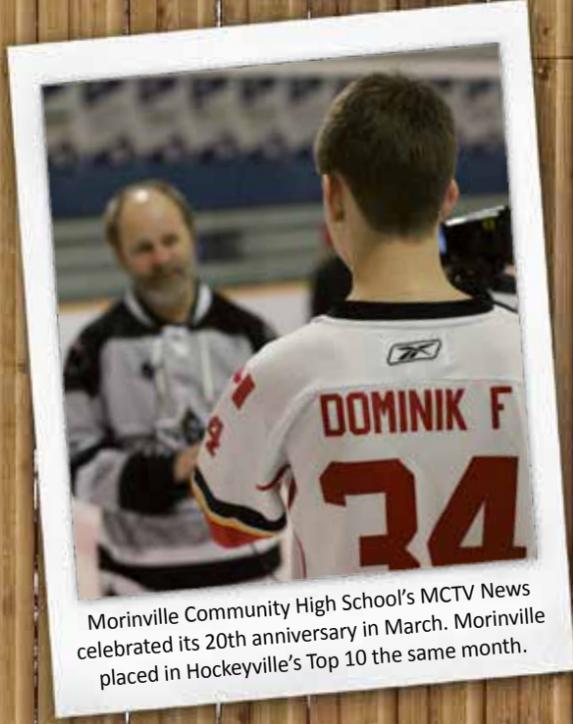
2015 was a year of accomplishment and milestones in Morinville. As this sampling of Community Champions stories from the past year show, there was an abundance of anniversaries, people starting and ending long careers, and making the community proud with professional, philanthropic, and volunteer successes. We are proud of those who work so hard to build Morinville into an ever better community.



Former G. P. Vanier students started planning early in the year for the school's 40th Anniversary Reunion. The event took place during SJB 2015.



Pastor Lou and Shirley Brunelle said goodbye to Morinville Christian School in June after 39 years of faith-based teaching, much of that in Morinville.



Morinville Community High School's MCTV News celebrated its 20th anniversary in March. Morinville placed in Hockeyville's Top 10 the same month.



Chad Melchert and son Morgan were busy in September. Chad was off to the CCMAs where he won drummer of the year. Morgan played baseball with Team Alberta's U15 team in Manitoba.



Lawyer Andrew Lawson's Old Guys in Action group raised \$44,000 for Cause Canada's efforts with maternal health in Guatemala in October.

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Canadian Blood Services are hoping you will give life in 2016



Sharon Hachey donated blood for the 147th time Dec. 8. Canadian Blood Services need Morinville and area residents to roll up their sleeves to meet the demand for blood in 2016.

- Lucie Roy Photo

by **Lucie Roy**
Morinville News Correspondent

Canadian Blood Services (CBS) will be back in Morinville next month for their first of six blood donor clinics in Morinville. The Morinville Rendez-Vous Centre is the venue for the clinics, which are put on with the assistance of the Morinville Lions Club and Knights of Columbus St. Anne Council.

According to Canadian Blood Services, 687 units were collected in the eight Blood Drive clinics held in Morinville in 2014. The six events held in 2015 resulted in 512 units collected. The next Blood Drive is Feb. 2 at the Rendez-Vous Centre from 3:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Canadian Blood Services say they need communities like Morinville to rally together because it takes many donors to help save a hospital patient. The donation can touch many lives. It requires up to eight donors a week to help someone with leukaemia, five donors to help someone undergoing cancer treatment, and 50 donors to help someone in a car crash. Surgeries require the donation of blood. Brain surgery (two donors), internal bleeding (two to eight donors), heart surgery (five donors), and two donors each for a hip replacement or undergoing a bone marrow transplant.

The most common blood type is O and O negative blood is always in high demand because of the number of recipients needing it. O negative is the universal donor type because anyone needing blood can receive this type. It is currently the blood type at the lowest level. Other blood types include A, AB, B. These types are often used in emergency situations when they have no time to test a patient's blood type. Patients with AB+ are known as universal recipients as they can receive blood from anyone.

CBS indicate they need about 170,000 additional donors per year to maintain the national blood supply.

To become a blood donor a person must be in good health, feeling well, and at least 17 years of age on the day the donation is made.

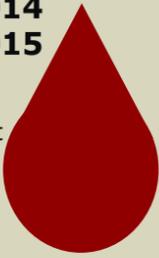
For the safety of the donor and the patients, all volunteer donors will be evaluated to find out if they are eligible to give blood. They must have eaten and had adequate sleep.

If a person is not eligible to give blood they can register as an organ and tissue donor, consider donating cord blood or register with the OneMatch Stem Cell and Marrow Network. At any given time more than 4,500 people are waiting for organ transplants in Canada and only a fraction of Canadians are registered to donate.

Canadian Blood Services Facts

687 units collected in Morinville in 2014
512 units collected in Morinville in 2015

- Eight donors a week to help someone with leukaemia
- Five donors to help someone undergoing cancer treatment
- 50 donors to help someone in a car crash
- Brain surgery (two donors)
- Internal bleeding (two to eight donors)
- Heart surgery (five donors)



Send your brief non-profit listing to
editor@morinvillenews.com

UPCOMING

Saturday, Jan. 16 Derina Harvey Band

Led by the fearless Derina Harvey, this five-piece Celtic-rock group offers a fresh take on traditional tunes combined with their own original jigs and reels. Their infectious rhythmic undertow is layered with rock guitar, dizzying fiddle motifs, and tapped by Derina's powerful voice. These transplanted east-coasters have earned a reputation for leaving the audience out-of-breath and hollering from the dance floor!

Cocktails: 6 p.m. - Dinner: 6:30 p.m.
Show: 8: p.m. - Tickets: \$45

Proudly Sponsored by Andrew Webb Carpentry

Saturday, Jan. 23 Quest Theatre's Snow Angel

Presented by Calgary's Quest Theatre, Snow Angel is a story about the ripple effect of kindness set in a Canadian community during winter. It is a story told with movement, using masks and music. Snow Angel confirms the benefit of living in a community and how kind acts can have a positive effect on all of us. Join the actors after the show for a mask-making workshop!

Time: 1:30 p.m.
Admission: Free
Proudly Sponsored by Morinville Sobeys



EVENTS

Tuesday, Feb. 2 Blood Donor Clinic

Canadian Blood Services will be in town Feb. 2 from 3:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. for their first Blood Donor Clinic of 2016. The clinic will take place at the Morinville Rendez-Vous Club on 104 Street. Visit Blood.ca to pre-register for the clinic.

Saturday, Feb. 20 Splash 'N' Boots

Don't miss Canada's award-winning children's music duo Splash 'N Boots. Share the joy of music and dance with your little ones and the fabulous stars of Treehouse TV in this fun-filled, high-energy family concert.

Time: 11 a.m.
Admission: FREE
Proudly Sponsored by Morinville Sobeys

Want to see your event in our Community Calendar?

Send your not-for-profit
Community Event listing to:
editor@morinvillenews.com

Two weeks prior to our Wednesday publication date.
Listings will be placed based on available space.



Library Corner

Happening at the Library this week...

Click **EVENTS** on our website for all the new programs at the Library!
www.morinvillelibrary.ca

Celebrate the Winter!

Join our It's a Blizzard of Books!

Do you have the sub-zero blues? Need something to do during the cold, snowy months?
Join the library's Winter Blues Program.

All ages welcome!

Read for 7 hours during the months of January and February. (That's less than 15 minutes per day!) and you could WIN one of six tablets! Along with gift cards and supplementary prizes!

Open craft time nearly each week
Check our website for dates & times!
(small fee for supplies)



Must register at the Morinville Community Library. Must have a current Morinville Community Library card in good standing.

Morinville Community Library



Hours of Operation

Monday-Thursday 10 am - 8 pm
Friday 10 am - 6 pm
Saturday 10 am - 4 pm
Sunday 12 pm - 4 pm
Closed Holidays

10125 - 100 Avenue
Morinville, AB. T8R 1P8
Phone: 780-939-3292 FAX: 780-939-2757
eMail: info@morinvillelibrary.ca
Website: www.MorinvilleLibrary.ca

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Letter: Library disappointed with recent budget decisions

The Morinville Public Library is a bustling, vibrant community space that provides key services to many residents of Morinville and Sturgeon County; like all municipal services, however, it costs money to run the library (which is a not-for-profit organization).

2016 is going to be a tough financial year for the Morinville Public Library (MPL). At the root of our financial problem is Sturgeon County and the fact it grossly underfunds the library, a service many of its residents access (in fact, over 40% of MPL's membership reside in Sturgeon County).

In their 2016 Budget, Sturgeon County has decided to provide MPL with \$3,000 in funding from their own coffers (which represents 0.5% of MPL's total budget). The County continues to maintain that provincial funding, in the amount of \$54,000, which comes through the County to MPL, should somehow suffice as their portion of library funding. This line of thinking is not only unfair to the Morinville taxpayer (who pays the brunt of library funding) but it's also illogical.

Sturgeon County no doubt expects its citizens to pay for the services the County provides, in the form of taxes. What would happen if County residents decided they don't want to pay their tax bill anymore because, heck, the County receives provincial funding, like an MSI Grant? That provincial money should suffice, right?

The Morinville Public Library Board of Trustees is not the only group who believes Sturgeon County is grossly underfunding MPL and taking advantage of the Morinville taxpayer. On Dec. 8, during a town council meeting, Morinville's council expressed similar sentiments. Morinville's Mayor, Lisa Holmes, publicly stated that the town's taxpayers are taking on the burden left by Sturgeon County's decision, and it's not fair.

As a way to "send a message" to the County, Morinville's council voted in favour of reducing MPL's funding request for 2016 by \$30,000. We greatly appreciate the town's funding and fully acknowledge our library could not operate without the money the town allocates to us; however, the town's decision to send a message to the County in this way will have negative impacts on MPL's operations and service levels in the coming year.

Because we do not have enough funding, MPL will now have to close its doors to residents on Mondays, starting January 1, 2016, and half of the library staff will now be faced with reduced hours. Instead of trying to "send a message" to Sturgeon County though cutting our funding request, why not pick up the phone—call Sturgeon County, talk to them when you meet during your Inter-municipal Affairs Committee, for example, and demand the county pay its fair share.

When it comes down to it, Morinville's council is doing a disservice to its taxpayers by allowing Sturgeon County to remain unaccountable in their decision to not appropriately pay for a municipal service many of its



residents use and depend on. In 2016, Sturgeon County's taxpayers will pay \$3,000 to the Morinville Public Library—Morinville's taxpayers will cover \$373,780 (125x more). It's wrong, especially considering nearly half of the people who use the library are from Sturgeon County.

In tough economic times, a community's library is more important than ever. It's where families go to access affordable entertainment in the form of books, music, movies, and programming. It's where many people come to use computers to look for a job. The library allows people who are trying to upgrade their education through correspondence to come and take their official exams, and it provides mobile services to many seniors and people with limited mobility, who cannot physically come out to the library.

To say we are disappointed in the outcome of Sturgeon County's 2016 Budget decision is an understatement. If you, as a patron of MPL, are also disappointed in how the funding decisions have played out over the past month, we urge you to speak to your respective councillors and tell them this funding issue needs to be rectified.

Respectfully,

Keith Norris,
Chair of the Town of Morinville Library Board
on behalf of the Morinville Library Board of Trustees

Open Letter Regarding the Morinville Library

A recent letter to this newspaper outlined the issue with Sturgeon County funding to the Town of Morinville Community Library. While Keith's arguments are valid, they focus on only one part of the funding issues. To support Keith and the Library, here are several other arguments that should be cause for Town Council and Morinville residents to reconsider the funding it gives to our Library.

First, consider the services it provides. When the Morinville Job Centre was closed, the Library was quick to step up to fill the void. The Library Manager, Isabelle Cramp and Board Chair both pitched a strong case that this was a crucial service that needed to be kept in town for residents who couldn't make it to either Edmonton or Westlock. To do this, they invested some of their hard earned fundraising dollars for lap tops that are also used for other programs.

Second, consider the number of people who walk through the Library's doors. One of the Library's key mantras has always been "We're more than just books." The Library has become both a community and information gathering point. Don't know where the Chamber of Commerce office is? Need to use a computer because you can't afford one or yours died? Want to learn how to write, knit or speak English? Need a room to hold a birthday party or watch a family movie? Go to the Library for all of these services and more.

Third, it is a small number of very tired volunteers and a core group of loyal and dedicated staff that have kept the Library functioning and financially healthy for quite some time. The Library's fundraising arm, Friends of the Morinville Library, is a good example of their dedication. Many Board members and Library staff are currently, or have been, members of the

Friends at one time or another. This small group and the Library staff have done an excellent job of raising money to buy or replace essential equipment during the 2013 renovations, fund activities such as the Summer Reading Program, or help with day-to-day expenses that help the Library function. They have done more than their part to try and keep the Library running at full capacity with the money they have been given.

Finally, the heart of the library has been its dedicated and loyal staff. Most people likely don't know that the Library's employees do not work for the Town of Morinville, so they are not compensated nowhere near as well. A big reason for the large increase to the Library's budget in 2016 was to account for the move to the province's minimum wage to \$15 in the next couple of years. Also, given the turnover of staff that the Library has experienced, the Board wanted to try to keep staff, rather than

continually training new people. This makes good business sense, allows for continuity and provides better service.

The main reason I resigned from the Board in September was to pursue other personal interests. However, another, probably self-conscious, reason that I have not shared until now was that I saw this coming. Having spent seven or so of the last ten years as a part of the Library Board and a year stint with the Friends, I wasn't ready to help dismantle important parts of that work. With the economic downturn, fundraising would be even more difficult than in the past and I simply didn't have the time that it needed.

Our Town Council has many difficult decisions ahead of it: a new recreation centre, town services, fire and police are all draws for scarce financial resources. But if you look at what the Library provides for both Town and County residents and the people who provide it, it is more than worthy of being fully funded. I think that the Library's funding should be revisited in the New Year.

Respectfully,

Brent Henry,
Resident of Morinville and
Former Library Board Member

Send Your Letters TO:
editor@morinvillenews.com



by **Joe Morinville**
Joe@morinvillenews.com

Well, the owner of this rag convinced me that I ought to come back and start writing a column again regular. I originally didn't want to do it because of a number of reasons, but mostly it was the number of dollars offered. More like the lack of the number of dollars offered. Anyways, I'm not gonna be doing the list of stuff I used to do, but sometimes I might. We agreed that I could write a column about anything I want. Pretty much it's gonna be stuff I seen on the Internet or heard about at Timmy's or in one of the other coffee shops.

Chickens roaming in backyards:

I ain't really got an opinion on whether people ought to be able to keep a few chickens in their backyard or not. Growing up here, there used to be chickens, pigs and cows — sometimes in the same yard. We got away from all that as a society, but now it seems to be some kind of hippity dippity hippy thing to do like growing lumberjack beards but never picking up an axe. Mind you they did have axe throwing a couple times here at festival.

But I'll tell you what annoys me about chickens. It's when you go to a convenience store or chicken joint and decide you want a breast, and the clerk gives you a thigh. I think if you're gonna sell people fried chicken, you ought to know a breast from a thigh.

Maybe the Town ought to let people raise chickens, then kids will grow up learning the different parts when they slaughter them. That way I'll be able to order some fried chicken and get what piece I ordered. I hate thighs.

Cats roaming in backyards:

A lot of folks I know is upset they're thinking about letting cats run around loose with no fines or nothing. I ain't thrilled about it either because every summer we go to the green houses to get the colourful annual flowers that cost me a bunch of money. The missus spends days planting them, and then gets upset a week later when the neighbourhood cats have left a few dozen kitty cigars in the dirt. It's the only time I hear her curse, and it's usually at me for laughing at her for getting so mad at the cats.

Maybe they ought to rethink this one. People say cats are supposed to run around loose because it's in their nature — it's in their DNA. Well, it's in dogs DNA to run around in packs eating cats. Don't see anyone at the Town asking to make a bylaw to allow dogs to do that.

New Year's resolutions:

I have to laugh at some retired friends of mine that make these crazy New Year's resolutions that they never will keep. Now I like to take Buffalo Jump for his daily walk, so I'm not against walking, but when a 68-year-old friend says he's gonna take up jogging, I think that's the kind of resolution that's just going to go in one year and right out the other.

My resolution is to try and meet deadline on these columns of mine. Yeah, we'll see how far into the New Year I get with that one.

OBITUARY NOTICE

Atkinson, Harvey Maurice

January 7, 1927 — December 19, 2015

It is with profound sadness that we announce the death of **Harvey Maurice Atkinson**. Harvey was born January 7, 1927 in Camrose, Alberta and passed away peacefully on December 19, 2015 in Victoria, British Columbia with his loving wife of 67 years by his side. Predeceased by brothers Marvin, Gerald and Leo, Harvey is survived by his wife Eva (nee Lewis), daughters Arlene (Ken), Lynn, and Karen (Bob) and son Brian (Elaine), as well as 17 grandchildren, 22 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandson. Harvey was a proud veteran who loved spending time with friends and family, and volunteering in his community. He was an active Life Member of the Lions, serving as President of the Morinville Lions Club and as District Governor. In recognition of his dedicated service he was inducted into the 37B District Hall of Fame. In 2002 he was awarded the Queen Elizabeth II Golden Jubilee Medal in recognition of his exemplary and outstanding contributions to his community. Harvey had a lifelong love of music and dancing, and took every opportunity to play the harmonica earning him the nickname "Music Man". Famously opinionated, he was loved by all who met him for his warmth, charm and wit, his silly jokes, and his love of burnt toast. Special thanks to Nurse Bunny at Sunset Lodge for your special care and attention. Memorial service to be held in Morinville, Alberta.

Frederick Scharmann

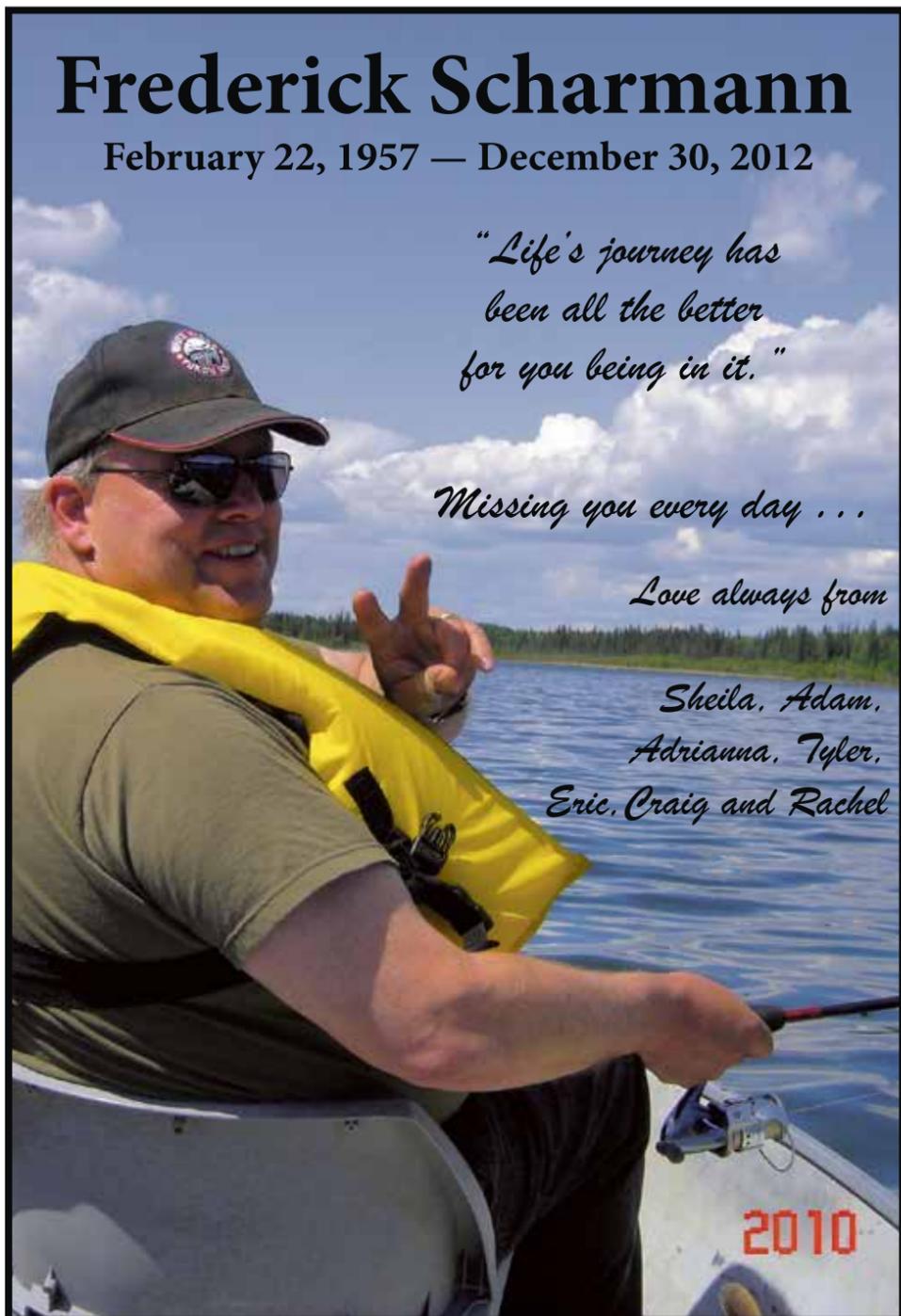
February 22, 1957 — December 30, 2012

*"Life's journey has
been all the better
for you being in it."*

Missing you every day . . .

Love always from

*Sheila, Adam,
Adrianna, Tyler,
Eric, Craig and Rachel*



A Year In Review

JANUARY



Building sold

A local investment consultant made a significant investment in the community he has called home for most of his life. Joel Chevalier, a financial consultant with Investors Group, purchased the former Putnam & Lawson building on 100 Street in January. That building has since become home to Royal LePage as well as Chevalier's own business.

Town nominated for Hockeyville

Morinville was one of more than 300 communities nominated for Kraft Hockeyville 2015. The annual competition provides one Canadian community with a pre-season NHL game and a half million in cash to put into their local arena.

FEBRUARY



New top cop in town

Morinville's new RCMP Staff Sergeant Riz Suleman took on the job of Detachment Commander as an interim assignment in February. He subsequently took on the role on a permanent basis later in the year.

MARCH



Morinville women recognized

Three Morinville women were applauded for their efforts in a special ceremony in St. Albert Mar. 7. The St. Albert Bahá'í community have sponsored an annual celebration of United Nations International Women's Day for 18 years. Nominations opened in January seeking exceptional women who had made contributions to society through their generosity of spirit, courage, creativity, determination, steadfastness, leadership, enthusiasm, love, and caring. Morinville residents Louise Horstman, Laura Hennie and Lisa Holmes joined St. Albert's Suzan Krecsy and Sophia Qaderi in receiving the award.

Morinville hits Hockeyville top 10

Hockeyville had more Morinville residents watching Hockey Night in Canada's Mar. 14 Flames Vs. Avalanche game than might normally be the case. Kraft announced their Top 10 finalists and Morinville was among the first to be announced among the top 10, an honour that carried with it \$25,000. Morinville Kings' President Wayne Gatza nominated Morinville for the contest in late January and worked tirelessly to promote Morinville in the contest.

APRIL



Church vandalism lands us on TV

Vandals struck Morinville's historic St. Jean Baptiste Church on the evening of Apr. 3. The church and park sidewalk was spray painted with anti-theological and homophobic messages, including "I Hate God", and "I Love Satan" (sic). The latter misspelling caught the attention of the producers of @Midnight with Chris Hardwick, and a slate of comedians had some fun at the vandals' expense.

MAY



Budget plans

Development of Morinville's annual budget would begin earlier and allow for more public participation.

That was the plan last spring. Council and Administration were to begin Budget 2016 in May and culminate with final approval of the 2016 Budget in late November. Council passed the Budget Dec. 8, two weeks after they'd planned. The Capital Plan was not passed at that time, and will be possibly approved in January.

Back in May of 2015, Administration's had planned to have updated budget workbooks, salary costs, and estimated tax, grant and other revenues completed in June. Departments would use the workbooks to prepare the 2016 operating budget in August, with a consolidated budget draft to be completed by the end of the month. Administration was to review the draft budget with Council during Committee of the Whole in mid-September. The draft budget, along with the three-year strategic and five-year capital plans, was scheduled to come before council for first reading on Sept. 22; however, Council gave the 2016 Budget First Reading Nov. 10, seven weeks after they'd planned to.

Council was to review the 2016 budget process in December before the Christmas break; however, the review did not take place at either the Dec. 8 regular meeting or the Dec. 15 Committee of the Whole meeting.

Provincial election

Barrhead-Morinville-Westlock voters went to the polls May 5. While the province elected an NDP government for the first time, locally, it was the Wildrose's Glenn van Dijken who topped the ballot boxes with 7,205 votes. Van Dijken was followed by the NDP's Tristan Turner with 6,233 and Progressive Conservative incumbent Maureen Kubinec with 4,878.

Van Dijken went on to become the Opposition's shadow for NDP Transportation Minister Brian Mason.

JUNE



Motor bikes and toys

More than 60 motorcycle riders departed Technical Automotives/Taser Inc. June 6 for a two-and-a-half-hour ride in support of the Midstream Support Society. In addition to the registration fee, riders were encouraged to bring toys for the Midstream's Santa Store. Proceeds above costs were donated to the Society.

School sites approved

After a lengthy and often emotional debate, Council decided to go ahead with two new school sites that were both requested by their school boards.

Council passed a bylaw that would transfer to Sturgeon School Division their preferred location adjacent to the current Ray McDonald Sports Center for a new public middle school (Grades 6-9). Council also directed Administration to draft a letter of support, allocating GSACRD the necessary land for their new elementary school in the Westwinds ASP (west of 100 Street in the empty lot between the railroad tracks and the No Frills grocery store).

Both school divisions had recently had schools announced by the province and opening is expected to occur in 2017.

JULY



Fingler heads up Rotary club

Morinville resident Sheldon Fingler assumed the Rotary Club of Morinville's gavel from outgoing President Brian Reed at the club's July 8 breakfast meeting. In the summer of 2016, Fingler will pass the gavel to Chamber of Commerce President Simon Boersma. Also at that meeting, Sturgeon

County resident Alanna Hnatiw will be president for 2017-2018 Rotary Club year.

Condos destroyed by fire

A fire destroyed a row of condominium units on 101 Avenue and a neighbouring house's garage July 11. Morinville Fire Department was assisted by crews from Legal and St. Albert in battling the blaze.

AUGUST



Research Centre nearly ready

Champion Petfoods' \$5.9 million product development facility was nearing completion in August. The 6,500 square foot BAFRINO Research and Innovation Centre announced in November 2014, was built behind Champion's existing administrative offices. The facility is now open and is where the company creates new product for worldwide distribution.

SEPTEMBER

Teen Centre reopens

Pool balls cracked and video games beeped Sept. 3 with the official reopening of the Morinville Teen Centre. The facility, originally located across from the arena in Lions Park, had recently closed, but was reopened in classier digs. The centre, located at the Morinville Community Cultural Centre's mezzanine level, operates Tuesdays and Thursdays after school for general activities, and on Wednesdays for youth and recreational programming.

OCTOBER



Ambrose wins

Conservative candidate Rona Ambrose returned to Ottawa after receiving 70.2 per cent of the vote in the federal election Oct. 19. She received 42,977 votes, 33,406 votes more than her closest rival, Liberal candidate Travis Dueck. Shortly after Stephen Harper stepped down as leader, Ambrose became Interim Leader. See our year-end interview with Ambrose on Page 8.

NOVEMBER



Town and County neighbours

A new partnership with the Town and Sturgeon County on the Rec Centre project was announced Nov. 10. The County purchased a plot of land directly east of the 77-acres the Town of Morinville purchased east of East Boundary Road. The two municipalities will work together to install servicing to both lots.

DECEMBER



Council cuts budgets

Residents can expect a 3 per cent increase to taxes next year, despite Council cutting two requested positions from the Town's wish list and hacking more than \$45,000 from requests made by the library and the Morinville Festival society. Final tax rates will be made in the spring just prior to notices being sent in the mail.

Thank you!

The Town of Morinville would like to thank the residents, groups, organizations, schools and businesses that so generously gave of their time with energy and enthusiasm in 2015.

Your volunteerism, participation, sponsorship, and partnerships

have a profound and positive effect on the community and are crucial to the events, festivals, programs and numerous other activities that take place in the town and region.

We are looking forward to a very eventful 2016 and to celebrating this wonderful Town with you.

Happy 2016 Morinville!
Town of Morinville

Christmas Tree Disposal



Christmas tree collection will begin on Monday, December 28, 2015. Please be sure to remove all tinsel and decorations before leaving your tree(s) by the curb.

We want to hear from you!



The 2015 Biz Pulse Survey is now live and is intended to hear from Morinville businesses to gain a better understanding of what our current economic development situation is, what businesses require to succeed and what businesses should we pursue to move to Morinville.

The survey will be open until January 31, 2016
Access the survey at www.morinville.ca or directly at morinville.fluidsveys.com/s/MorinvilleBizPulse2015

Important Reminders from the Town



Taxes were due by December 31, 2015.

Any taxes that are in arrears as of January 1, 2016 will be subject to a penalty of 18%.



First Council Meeting of the New Year
January 12, 2016

Business Licence Renewals
Deadline: January 31, 2016



Animal Licence Renewals
Deadline: February 29, 2016



Sometimes LIFE IS HARD

But YOUR LIFE MATTERS!

Need Someone to talk to?

If you or someone you know needs someone to talk to, call a 24-Hour Help Line

Distress Line 780-482-HELP (4357)
Family Violence Help Line 780-310-1818
Kids Help Phone 1-800-668-6868
Addictions Help Line 1-866-332-2322

If you are in immediate danger contact 9-1-1

For more information regarding additional referrals, contact:
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Father's House Morinville now closer to reality

by Stephen Dafeo
stephen@morinvillenews.com

It was three-and-a-half years ago that Greg Fraser's congregation gathered in a Sturgeon County field on Father's Day to hear the news The Father's House was the church's new name and the spot they had gathered to worship that morning was where that new church would rise.

Winter snow now covers the tracks of the heavy equipment that moved many piles of dirt between Oct. 19 and Dec. 11, preparation work for a 40,000 square foot church, gymnasium and school that will start to rise over the next few years on their property next to Heritage Lake.

The name of the church was decided in 2012 when 95 per cent of the congregation voted to take Morinville Christian Fellowship's 'Welcome home to the Father's House' motto as the church's new name. The congregation and their leadership regard the church as a church built with CARE, an acronym for Celebrate, Accept, Receive and Engage. But they have also taken financial care in planning the new facility.

Back in 2012, the congregation had raised almost \$2 million in less than

two years, enough to pay for the land the new church would rest on, and the preparation work to make the church a reality. The recent preparation work cost approximately \$1.1 million.

Doug Fleming, one of the church's building committee members, said the fact the church is outgrowing both the cultural centre and their Christian school is a good problem to have. "There simply is no place in Morinville for us to go, so we need to build our own church," he said. "We were at the school location and outgrew that. We went to the Parish Hall and outgrew that. Then we went to the high school and outgrew that. The cultural centre is a big beautiful building, but for our children's ministry, there is not enough room. We're almost to the point of pulling the bleachers out on a Sunday service because we've grown that much."

The new church will serve a present congregation of about 400 members, a solid growth from the 25 members who met in Cardiff 10 years ago when the church first began.

The first phase of the project will have room for all. It will include a school and a gymnasium/sanctuary, the latter forming the major block of the building. Fleming explained the church wants to use everything

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more than once. As such, offices will be ministries when the school is not using them, and the school's gymnasium will serve as the room for church services as well as providing a venue for the community. A future commercial kitchen will open opportunities for other events, including weddings, and the gymnasium will be open to local and regional tournaments.

"It's going to be for everyone," Fleming said of the project, adding the timeline for completion is roughly two to three years, depending on monies raised. "That's the interesting part because it's all based on fundraising."

The initial fundraising push ran from 2010 to 2013. That money was used to buy and prep the land. Fleming said the church will now reenvision fundraising to build the church. "The next portion has to be raised before we can build the building," he said. "The next phase will be \$4 million. Total project — about \$7 million. Our builders are totally on side. They understand from day one this will go as far as our funds go. We're a church. We don't have a profit centre we can pull from, so when we run out of money, we hold off on building."

Fleming said the church facility will be a two-floor building with a foyer leading to the sanctuary/gymnasium. The main floor will include a children's ministry room, and the upstairs will house both church and pastoral offices as well as the Christian school. The building will be a basic

square in the interests of keeping costs down.

It's been an interesting learning curve for Fleming and the other six members of the building committee. "We're just people in the congregation," he said. "When you are people just getting together — this stuff is so big. The learning curve is huge. They're a very committed bunch. We're learning as we go and relying on the experts."

The Father's House are hopeful the community will be as excited about their project as they are. "It's for everybody," Fleming said. "It's going to house our church, our school, anybody that needs to use our facility. It's going to be accessible to the community."

Above from left: Pastor Greg Fraser talks to his congregation on Father's Day 2012 about the church's new name and the new church they planned to build on property next to Heritage Lake. The congregation gathers at the the property for Church. Heavy equipment stripped top soil and laid down two metres of clay to raise the footprint of the new building. A sign at the edge of the property announces the future home of The Father's House's Morinville location.

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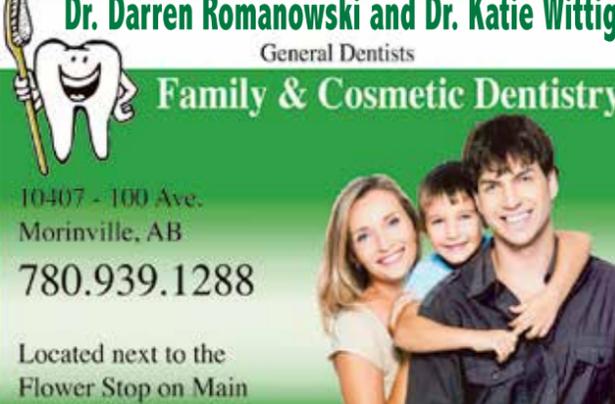


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Performing arts were alive in Morinville in 2015

by Stephen Dafoe
stephen@morinvillenews.com

The arts were alive in Morinville in 2015 with multiple live performances taking place in the community each month. Whether it was student actors putting on their school's annual production after months of rehearsals, professional travelling acts making a tour stop at the cultural centre, or locals getting together to put on a show, Morinville and area residents had plenty of opportunities to catch a live act last year.

Although nowhere near capturing all the shows to hit town, we present to you this sampling of shows from 2015.

This page clockwise from top left: Magician Sheldon Casavant, rated one of the country's top magicians, performs the linking rings during his September show during Alberta Culture Days. Tomáš Kubínek's Mar. 20 show at the cultural centre showed why this funny man is a Master of the Impossible. St. Jean Baptiste Festival kicked off with comedian Mike Dambra headlining the Annual Library Comedy Show. Cody Ray Slaughter hit the stage in September with his *Elvis '56* show, an event that packed the house.

Opposite page clockwise from top left: Ed Bulger plays the harmonica during the Martinis & Blues event held last year at Smith Music. Riley Quinn performed during a youth event last spring. Writer Marty Chan was in town last year to release the latest book in his novel series based on an alternate version of Houdini. Chan entertained his audience with one of the magician's illusions. Jimmy Rankin's *Back Road Paradise* show was a big hit with his Morinville audience Feb. 12. Missoula Children's Theatre brought 60 local youth to the stage with their production of *The Little Mermaid* in February. The Brabec Brothers Bavarian Band were one of the main performers at the Town's Oktoberfest event. Television and radio personality Bob Layton packed the house for the Silver Shoe's Pub Night in support of Sturgeon Foundation in October. *Peter Pan* was the Georges H. Primeau production for 2015, uniting 26 Grade 5 to 8 students for two shows in April that drew an audience of 300. After many months of rehearsal, MCHS put on three successful nights of their production of *Mary Poppins*, a show that consisted of a cast of 30 and a crew of 14. Comedy percussionists BAM hit the stage Oct. 16 with one of the funniest and fastest-paced shows the cultural centre has seen in its five-year history. Natalie MacMaster performs during the Calvin Vollrath show in May.

The Morinville Community Cultural Centre have two shows this month: The Derina Harvey Band, a five-piece Celtic-rock group, perform Jan. 16, and Quest Theatre performs *Snow Angel*, a play about kindness, Jan. 23.

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Ambrose will continue to challenge Liberal government in New Year

by Colin Smith
Morinville News Correspondent

At the start of 2015 local MP Rona Ambrose could have had no idea that she would end the year as head of the Conservative Party of Canada.

Then the job came open with Stephen Harper's resignation as the party leader following the conclusive defeat of the Conservatives in the Oct. 19 federal election.

With the Liberals taking a majority of seats in the House of Commons, the party dropped from 184 seats to 99, while Ambrose was elected as the MP for Sturgeon-River Parkland with 70.2 per cent of the vote.

Then on November 5 she was chosen from a field of eight MPs seeking to be interim leader of the Conservative Party.

Ambrose was first elected to parliament in 2004 as member for Edmonton-Spruce Grove. She held cabinet positions including Environment, Intergovernmental Affairs, Labour, Status of Women and Health.

"The new role for me is important both for us as a party and for Canada," Ambrose said in a recent interview. "We will provide strong opposition to Trudeau government and be a voice for taxpayers."

Ambrose pointed to tax increases and projected deficits of 10 billion dollars or more.

"We expect this to be a very big spending government," she said. "Our main job is to hold Justin Trudeau to account."

The biggest challenge for Canada in 2016 will be the continuing fallout from reduced oil and gas prices, Ambrose believes.

"There will be a huge impact," she said. "It's said there have already been 110,000 job losses and more to come."

Ambrose said the Prime Minister has shown little concern over energy sector job losses, in contrast how he would react if the auto or aerospace industries were affected.

"I have been pressing Justin Trudeau on what his plan will be for dealing with these lost jobs," she said. "He doesn't have a plan."

The Conservative leader asserts that a lack of concern is attributable to an anti-fossil fuel ideology. This will also lead to carbon taxes and increased regulation at a time when the energy industry is in trouble.



Ambrose also feels that the Trudeau government has dropped the ball in the fight against terrorism with its decision to withdraw the eight Royal Canadian Air Force planes now in action in Iraq.

"I'm disappointed in the pullout of the CF18s attacking ISIS," she said.

"We've been pressing him to keep up the fight against ISIS. All our allies are stepping up the fight.

"This is the war of our generation. There is no bigger threat than the threat of ISIS. They've declared war on Canada."

Another Conservative concern is the fate of "tough on crime" laws passed by the Stephen Harper government, such as more mandatory minimum prison sentences.

"The Liberals have said they are going to dismantle our crime legislation," Ambrose said. "That is going back to a criminal-centred justice system. We will be fighting that tooth and nail."

One Liberal government measure Ambrose does support is the recently announced inquiry into missing and murdered indigenous women, a reversal of the Harper government's position.

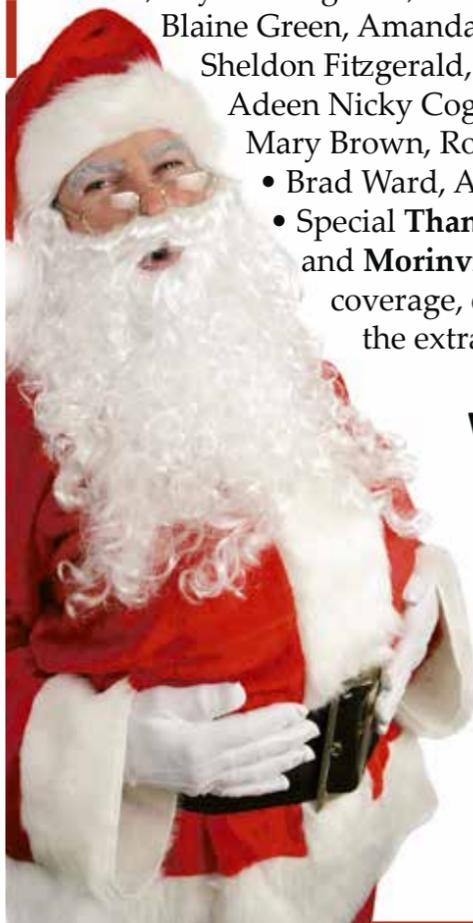
Ambrose will have plenty of opportunities to challenge the government on these and other issues, as it's expected the new Conservative Party leader won't be chosen for at least 18 months. Ambrose has said she isn't interested in the position.

Thank you!

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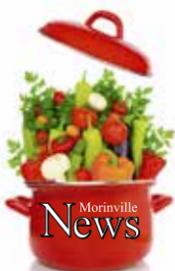


Bridget is a dainty lady with medium length fur. She is approximately 12 months old. Bridget was a stray found here in Morinville and sadly nobody claimed her as their own. Since her intake, Bridget has been spayed, vaccinated, and permanently identified. She has also been treated for parasites. The veterinarians here at MVC have given her a clean bill of health and now she is ready to find her forever home. If you think you can give Bridget the loving lifelong home she deserves please contact us at 780-939-3133.

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FOOD & Health PAGE

How to decide on the best for your health

by Gladys Kublik
Neighbors Vitamin Shop

The New Year brings with it a sense of new beginnings, a fresh start and in the depths of January's dark days a respite from the excitement of Christmas and time to plan for the future and also to reflect on the past year.

The most gratifying thing about the past year has been the support of our customers. We appreciate the

confidence you have shown in us and hope to meet your expectations in the coming year. We also appreciate all the positive comments and compliments we have received both from our regular customers and our new customers regarding the selection and quality of our vitamin and supplement brands. Many new customers tell us they are impressed with the large variety we carry, and we tell them that we often carry a product because just one of our customers requested it and buys it regularly. If we have a supplier, we try to bring in what people need.

It is also affirming to have customers recognize the brands we carry as some of the best in the industry. These brands have been in the top levels of performance for many years. Most have won Canadian Health Food Association Industry Achievement Awards which celebrate excellence in the natural health and organic products industry. These awards recognize the companies that exemplify the best of this dynamic industry. We are proud to be able to say we carry many of the best.

The reason these brands reach this level as in the case of New Roots, Natural Factors, Platinum, Prairie Naturals, and Preferred Nutrition is that they rigorously test all ingredients before manufacture to ensure that organic materials are non-GMO, that all ingredients are natural (non-synthetic), free of all toxins and contaminants and are potent. The finished products are submitted to rigorous third party testing at an agency such as ISURA or similar facility to ensure the ingredients inside the capsule or tablet match the list and strengths on the label. It also ensures that they are also allergen free,

and devoid of binding agents, artificial colouring, flavouring or preservatives.

It is important to know when you are buying vitamins and supplements that you can trust the brand's integrity. You need to be assured of the product's purity, the potency of the ingredients, and that the recommended dosage is a therapeutic amount for that particular product. Sometimes customers compare strengths by the milligrams shown, this is a start,

but quite often not the whole story. Read the fine print to see if you are buying 1000 mg of bulk herb compared to 500 mg of standardized extract. With minerals, it is necessary to find the form most easily assimilated by the body, which means that more is not necessarily better if the body cannot use it.

When looking for supplements it is also important to think of

how the body utilizes nutrients. While it seems efficient to take a high strength capsule once a day, it isn't always in the body's best interest. Often there are limiting factors to how much of a nutrient can be utilized at a time and to how much can be stored in the system for later use. If the excess is excreted because it isn't being used, you are throwing it away. Just as with food, it is better to take smaller doses several times a day to obtain the best results.

Your good health is your most valuable asset, as important to your family as it is to you. When looking at vitamins and supplements to improve and maintain that good health, look at the cost effectiveness of what you buy. Will it provide your body with what it needs, when it needs it or as is the case with so many bargain products, will it simply pass through not providing the active ingredient in an absorbable form in a therapeutic dosage. Will the product you buy provide clean, tested ingredients free of contaminants such as toxic chemicals or heavy metals?

We are proud to offer such high-quality products that provide the most bioavailable forms of the elements necessary for optimum health. Talk to our knowledgeable staff about our brands that provide noticeable results. Your health is worth the world to you, don't wait until it is fading before you support it.



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by Gladys Kublik

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SPORTS

Kim Edworthy instructs a Learn-to-Skate class prior to the Christmas break. **Inset:** Edworthy has a one-on-one with Kale Tapphof during the session. The program will start again in late January and run until March.

- Stephen Dafoe Photo

Learn to Skate program putting blades on the ice

by Stephen Dafoe
stephen@morinvillenews.com

Youth of all ages will have the opportunity to improve and refine their skating skills starting the third week of January. The Learn to Skate Program is expanding in 2016 to include offerings beyond the Learn to Skate 1 and 2 offered in the past along with power skating basics.

Power Skating is one area of particular focus this year for the program's expansion. Tyler Edworthy, Morinville's Operations and Program Coordinator, said the program will go up to Level 3. In the past, they have only offered skating basics and Power Skating Level 1.

"This is the whole development component of it," Edworthy said. "It's making sure we don't limit the amount that these kids can improve their skating ability. What we want to be able to do is attract some of the Atom and Pee wee players that are already good skaters. We want to start improving those abilities, so they are stronger on the ice, have more explosiveness, and are a lot quicker."

Edworthy said the program was another effort at sport development for local athletes.

"We have no succession plan," he said. "We want to start getting these kids going through the Power Skating Program so that they can come back

and instruct and give back to the program. That's the push right now — to accelerate it as quick as we can and get those participants developed as fast as we can."

Edworthy is quick to point out the program is for all skaters, not just hockey players, and is equally open to those who just want to learn how to skate. "This is the outlet for them to do that," he said. "We want to make sure that it is available to everyone that want to learn how to skate."

Program instructors include Kim Edworthy, Jackie Luker, and Jodie Bourque.

Edworthy is hoping skaters and would-be skaters will come out to see what the instructors have to offer.

"We're striving to make this the opportunity for all kids of all abilities," Edworthy said, adding the program is a perfect opportunity for anyone to learn and improve. "I've gone through it myself, right up to the Advanced Senior. It's probably the one reason I was able to go from playing goalie up until Midget and go on to playing defense and forward."

The program will run Monday evenings between 4:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. for all levels. Individual levels will run between 30 and 45 minutes of ice time. The program runs from Jan. 19 until March.

The cost of the program is \$50 per skater. Those interested in signing up can call Morinville Community Services at 780-939-7839 or sign up online at Morinville.ca.



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Jan. 10 - AWAY
Kings V Edson
3:30 p.m.



Jan. 8 - AWAY
Jets V Merchants
8:00 p.m.

Jan 10 - HOME
Jets V Mustangs
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Jan. 8 - HOME
Sting V Rangers
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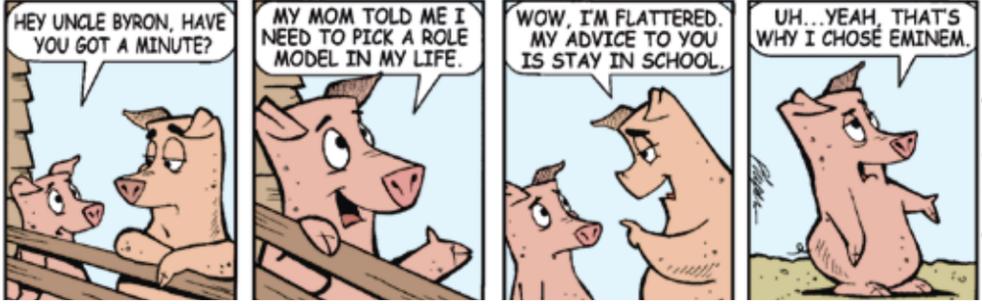
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- 1 Lose color
- 5 Actress Lupino
- 8 Half a ticket
- 12 Not "fer"
- 13 Neither mate
- 14 Bean curd
- 15 Tin Man's problem
- 16 Carriage entry
- 18 Cookbook
- 20 Underscore
- 21 Lacks the ability
- 23 Brit. reference book
- 24 One seeking political asylum
- 28 Unaccompanied
- 31 — Khan
- 32 Doctrine
- 34 Tiny
- 35 Trumpet, e.g.
- 37 Shame
- 39 Third letter
- 41 Close up tight
- 42 Narcotic
- 45 Jackson or Johnson
- 49 Oppressive ruler
- 51 Skeleton component
- 52 October

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49					50			51		
52					53			54		
55					56			57		

- 9 Make less intense
- 10 Venusian vessels?
- 11 Prickly seed cases
- 17 Ike's command in WWII
- 19 Treaty
- 22 Morrison and Braxton
- 24 Doo follower
- 25 Id counterpart
- 26 Absurd
- 27 Use Wikipedia, maybe
- 29 Zodiac feline
- 30 "— the
- 33 Compared to
- 36 Without making a mess
- 38 Address to a bloke
- 40 Greek vowel
- 42 Smell
- 43 Meerschaum, e.g.
- 44 Sicilian spouter
- 46 Post-bout attire
- 47 Carbon compound
- 48 Cry
- 50 Out of use, as a wd.

DOWN

- 1 Jamie of "M*A*S*H"
- 2 Chills and fever
- 3 Platter
- 4 Lure
- 5 Started a paragraph
- 6 Female deer
- 7 Weaponry
- 8 Gawks

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

	9		7					6
		2		5				1
1				2	4	8		
	4	3		1				2
8			4			7		
	7			6			9	
	3			7	5	2		
2				6				5
		5	8					3

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★

- ★ Moderate
- ★★ Challenging
- ★★★ HOO BOY!

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6	3	9	4	2	8	5	1	7
5	7	1	3	9	6	4	8	2
8	4	2	5	7	1	6	3	9
4	6	3	9	8	2	1	7	5
1	5	7	6	3	4	9	2	8
2	9	8	7	1	5	3	4	6
3	8	4	2	6	9	7	1	5
1	7	1	6	8	5	3	2	9
6	5	2	9	8	7	4	1	3

Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

P	E	L	L		H	S	V	A	L	T	E	R
E	O	B	O		N	B	C		A	L	P	A
					O	R	B	O	N	E		
					A	N	D	R	E			
					L	S	E	A	L			
					O	N	H	S	D	I	S	O
					E							
					S	O	L	O				
					O	E						
					S	T	R	E	S			
					R	E	C	I	P	E		
					O	N	A	N				
					A	G	I	N				
					I	O	F					
					S	T						



Fantastic 4 Level Split
\$339,900
MLS# E3420941

Situated in the desired community of Cardiff is this 4 level split featuring 2044sq.ft, 4 bdrms, 2.5 baths, spacious living room, formal dining room, family room w/gas fireplace and a large beautifully landscaped yard. Low taxes!



5 Bedroom Bi-Level
\$349,900
MLS# E3416365

This 1199sq.ft fully finished Bi-level features 5 bdrms, 3 baths, newer windows, central air, oversized & insulated double detached garage. Private backyard w/deck, mature trees & gate for access to 100th Ave.



Stop Renting
\$221,900
MLS# E3432912

1155sq.ft, 4th floor condo - 2 bdrms & den, 2 baths, open concept, soaker tub in main bath, walk-thru his & her closet in master bdrm, in-suite laundry & storage room, wrap around balcony. 1 under parking stall & 1 titled outside stall. Well maintained building.

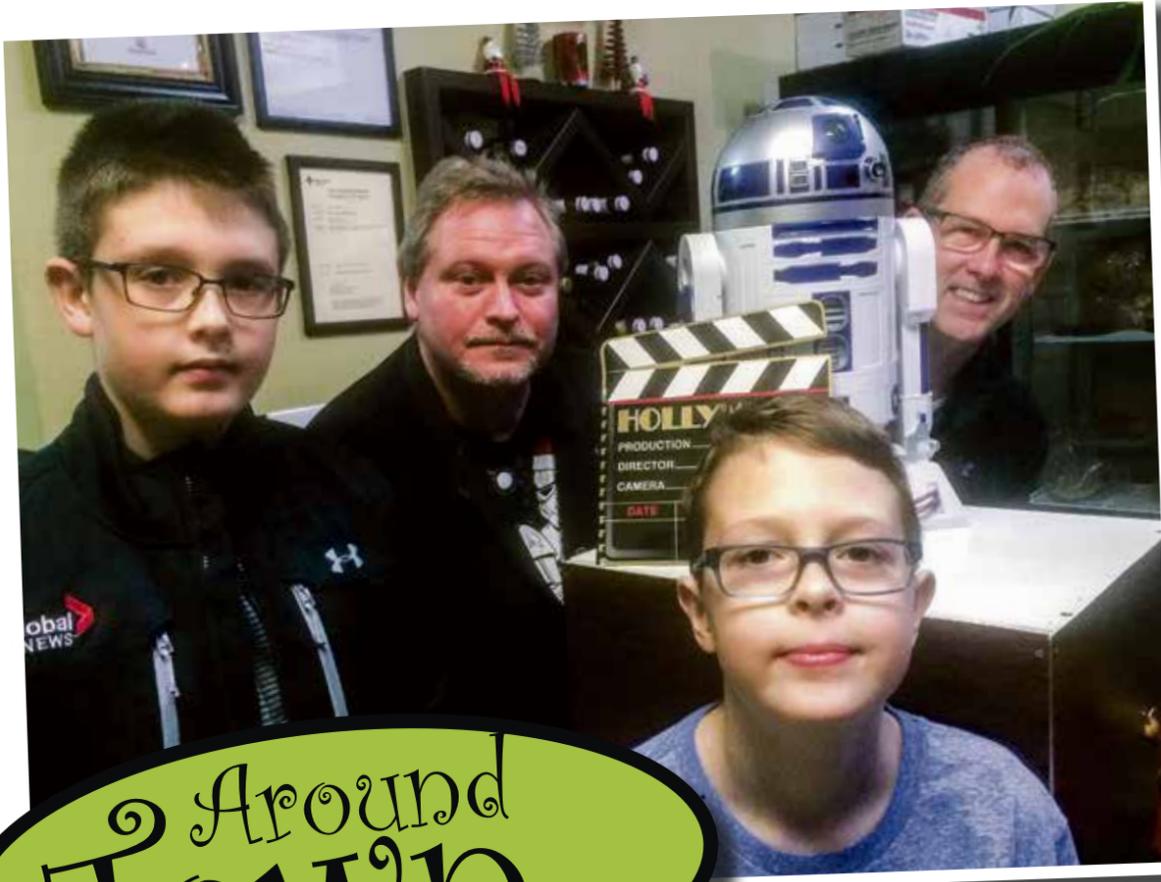


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Around Town

Clockwise from top left:

Global Edmonton newscaster Kevin O'Connell and sons joined Doug Adsit and about 30 locals for the Green Bean's Star Wars night Dec. 22. The evening included a Star Wars themed buffet, bus ride to North Edmonton Cinemas, and tickets to The Force Awakens in 3D. Plans are already underway for the next movie night for next spring's Batman V Superman.

Green Bean employee Deby Kelly displays the adult colouring calendar she spent 175 hours completing as a Christmas gift for her mother.

Linda Lyons caught this wintery scene of two sparrows in her backyard.

Send your Around Town photos to editor@morinvillenews.com



And We Have A Winner!

Theresa Sandstrom was the lucky winner of our **12 Pages of Christmas Contest**. She dropped by our office over the holidays to claim her \$600 in prizes, which included:



- \$100 gift certificate - Smith Music
- \$50 gift certificate - The Body Shop
- \$50 gift certificate - Morinville Sobeys
- \$50 gift certificate - Home Hardware
- \$50 gift certificate - The Flower Stop

- \$100 Cineplex Gift Card - Morinville News
- \$50 gift certificate - Neighbors Vitamin Shop
- \$50 gift certificate - JM Turner
- Sterling Silver Necklace - JM Turner
- Exercise Gear - Morinville Physical Therapy

Thanks To Everyone Who Supported And Entered The Contest