

# Clinic scheduled to run for 32 weeks

## CLINIC from A1

Hahn's neighbour, Dr. Jennifer Conners has staffed the clinic for the past three weeks.

She said she was talking to Hahn about his work with migrant workers and the need for better access to medical care.

"So I volunteered," she said.

"I have worked in small clinics overseas. I've been to Guatemala and I speak a little bit of Spanish, so I thought, 'Sure, this is something I can do.'"

She has been joined by registered nurse practitioner Manuel Flores, who works at Hotel Dieu Shaver Rehabilitation Centre in St. Catharines.

Flores, an immigrant from El Salvador who speaks fluent Spanish and English, helps Flores with patients and serves as a translator.

The clinic has other volunteer translators on hand, and Conners said it also has volunteer "facilitators" at the church to help patients manage prescriptions.

"So if I give a patient a prescription, we have a facilitator and translator who goes with them to the pharmacy and helps the patient get the medication they need," she said.

The clinic has some donations of basic supplies, including bandages and doctor's samples of medications, for Conners and Flores

to use, but they said they need more.

Conners said the clinic works closely with Beamsville Medical Centre.

If a patient needs a level of medical care the clinic cannot handle, such as an X-ray, Conners is able to send them to the medical centre with a facilitator.

The clinic is the most recent addition of a larger network in Niagara to help provide better medical care to migrant workers, said Dr. Fraser MacKay, a senior partner at Quest Community Health Centre in St. Catharines.

MacKay said Quest personnel have been going out to farms to ensure workers have Ontario health cards, which they are entitled to have but do not always get.

This way, when they have health cards, should Conners or another doctor send them to the Beamsville clinic or they need to go to a hospital, they can be seen with fewer obstacles.

Hahn said the aim is to build a roster of Niagara doctors and nurses who will volunteer to work at the St. Alban's clinic, which is scheduled to run for 32 weeks.

The church also hosts a dinner for the workers on Sundays and is looking for sponsors and volunteers.

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# Championship tickets still available

## SCOTTIES from A1

Geddie said the competition has been solid, with top-ranked Team Canada and Team Ontario performing as expected. He said it is too early to predict who will come out on top, but he said that the Newfoundland and Labrador team, led by Stacie Curtis who won the 2014 junior

championships in St. Catharines, putting in a strong performance.

He said tickets are still available for the tournament and championship games. For more information and tickets go to [www.curling.ca/2017scotties](http://www.curling.ca/2017scotties).

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## Curling for Dummies

For the uninitiated, curling can appear to be a baffling sport complete with its own odd rules and arcane language. So if you are heading down to Meridian Centre this week to take in the Scotties Tournament of Hearts championship, here are a few things you need to know.

### What the heck is it?

Curling is a bit like shuffleboard, but with ice, really heavy rocks, brooms and a lot of shouting.

Two teams compete in each match by throwing their rocks, or stones, across the sheet — the name for the ice surface — to the "house," the blue and red bull's-eye. Points are scored for the stones closest to the centre of that target.

Curlers will attempt to place their rocks nearest to the centre and knock their opponent's rocks out of play. They also place their own rocks in the house to protect those in scoring position. Skilled players

can curve, or curl, their rocks and others that are already in the house to place them where they want them. Matches at the Scotties consist of eight "ends," or matches. The team with the highest score after the ends are completed wins.

Two-time Scotties and world champion Marilyn Bodogh of St. Catharines calls curling "chess on ice" because the game is more a strategy and craft than it is about throwing stones with brute force.

### What's with all the shouting?

The player who throws a rock puts out from the "hack," foot pads that resemble starting blocks used by sprinters. Once the stone has been released, other players with brooms will sweep on the ice in front of it to speed it up or help guide its trajectory. The player who threw the rock will usually shout commands to the players with the brooms. Sweeping harder will reduce surface friction under a stone, allowing it to travel faster.

# Draft report is online

## PARKING from A1

At the parking meeting, landlords and property developers like Cooperman said they are losing clients and tenants because of a dearth of parking spaces.

Cooperman, who owns the office building at 80 King St., said potential tenants who might otherwise move into vacant office spaces opt for locations elsewhere in the city or even outside Niagara where they can guarantee parking for their clients and staff.

Others, including dentist Yvonna Hrabowsky, whose clinic Niagara Prosthodontics has been downtown for 20 years, worries that increasing parking fees will drive

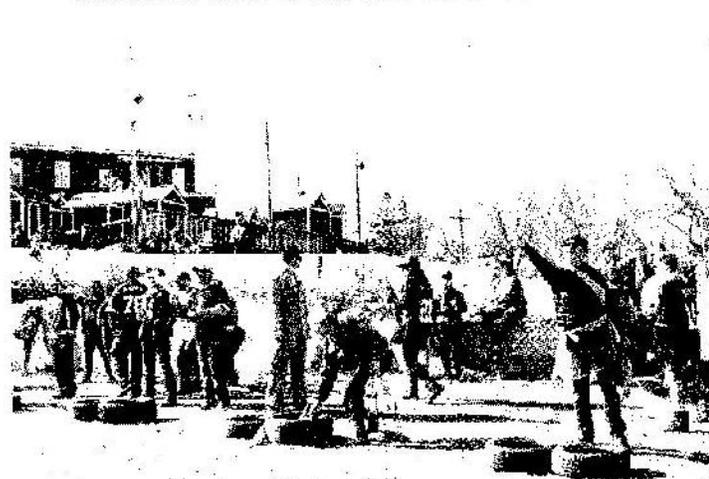
birth of the downtown — driven by Meridian Centre and the performing arts centre — remains fragile. There are still empty storefronts and customers are still wary of having to pay for parking.

Higher parking fees will deter people from coming, she said, which in turn will hurt business in the core.

Sendzik said the parking report will be debated by city council in late April or early March. Members of the public will be able to make presentations about the report to council at that time, he said.

The draft report can be found at [www.stcatharines.ca/en/livein/resources/Downtown-Parking-](http://www.stcatharines.ca/en/livein/resources/Downtown-Parking)

## TIME FOR CHUCKING CHICKENS



GRANT LAFLECHE/STANDARD

Participants in the annual Kilt and Clover pub chicken chucking competition enjoy warm weather Sunday afternoon, throwing rubber chickens in the