By Menzies Medical Centre (204) 822-6667 • Open Mon. - Fri.

Morden Drugstore

215 Stephen Street, Morden (204) 822-9992 OPEN 365 DAYS A YEAR



THURSDAY, MARCH 25, 2021

Locally owned & operated - Dedicated to serving our communities





PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Premier Brian Pallister was joined by Morden-Winkler MLA Cameron Friesen and Health Minister Heather Stefanson in touring the new Morden vaccination supersite, which opened in the Access Event Centre community hall on Monday. For the full story, check out our stories on Pg. 2 and Pg. 3.

news > sports > opinion > community > people > entertainment > events > classifieds > careers > everything you need to know



80 THORNHILL ST, MORDEN | 204-822-6127 273 Main St S, Carman | 204-745-2300



Morden hosting pilot for new vaccination process

By Lorne Stelmach

The new COVID-19 vaccination supersite that opened in Morden this week is testing a new way of doing things that aims to make it easier and more comfortable for patients while also significantly increasing the number of vaccines that can be provided.

Premier Brian Pallister and Health Minister Heather Stefanson along with other health officials touted the improvements after touring the Access Event Centre site last week before its opening day on Monday.

Pallister said there have been ongoing efforts to build a flexible and more efficient vaccine rollout plan for the province.

"The more vaccine we deliver, the more we learn how to improve our processes and ramp up delivery, just as vaccine delivery is poised to ramp up from the federal government," he said. "We will continue to learn from our experiences and best practices from across the country to increase our capacity to deliver life-saving vaccines and protect Manitobans."

"We're always looking for opportunities to improve the experience of the people coming in for immunizations and to provide the services in the most efficient ways that are possible while still maintaining safety at all times," said Lynda Tjaden, executive director for population and public health with Manitoba Health.

Up to now, people visiting a supersite to be immunized walk from the registration desk to a waiting area and then to the immunization room and finally to a post-immunization observation area.

An immunizer is responsible for reconstituting the vaccine and drawing it into the needle, delivering the vaccine, and checking and updating a client's immunization records. With these responsibilities, immunizers are able to provide six to eight immunizations per hour.

In the new process, people will enter the site, register, and be escorted to a station, where a staff member will come to them to review their consent form. Some staff will be assigned to reconstitute and fill the needles with vaccine to accelerate the process, while other staff members will focus on checking and updating immunization records.

Immunizers will move from client to client with a cart of supplies, meaning they are able to focus on immunizing.

"With this model, there is no movement, so once you come into the site and they check you in with your appointment, you go to your chair and you remain there for your entire visit," Tjaden explained. "The team has a cart with an immunizer ... they will move around and come to you."

This new method is expected to vastly increase the number of immunizations they can complete in an hour

This model will be especially beneficial for people with mobility or other accessibility needs. The total time



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Public health officials explain the Morden site will use a new system designed to move people through the vaccination process more efficiently.

each person spends in the clinic is expected to decrease, on average to 25 minutes from 45 minutes including a required 15-minute recovery period

"With this model, when the immunizer is very focused on doing that part of it, they're able to do much higher numbers, so we are looking at 60 to 90 in an hour,"Tjaden suggested. "This is new; it's a pilot, so we don't know exactly what it will look like, but we do have the team here very keen to work with us to test it out ... if we're able to be more efficient, it just means that we are able to immunize more people more quickly."

The overall capacity of the clinic is also dependent on supply though, she

"Capacity is really based on the amount of vaccine that we have available to us," said Tjaden. "We always

have the option of expanding the hours of operation in order to deliver more vaccine.

"With the amount that we have right now and based on the population in this area, they're going to be running eight-hour clinics ... that could absolutely could be expanded if there was more vaccine because then we can run more days of the week, we can run longer hours."

"We have learned from the success of our focused immunization teams and from other jurisdictions to develop this model," said Stefanson. "The goal is to expand that success on a larger scale. This will allow for more rapid turnover between clients and less waiting, which will allow us to immunize more people every day and get the vaccine to more Manitobans sooner."

"WE'RE ALWAYS LOOKING FOR OPPORTUNITIES TO IMPROVE THE EXPERIENCE OF THE PEOPLE COMING IN FOR IMMUNIZATIONS ..."



For us, April is the month everything starts over.

We can't make the days longer, or grow your crops faster, but we can help with an APP cash advance from CCGA. **Get a jump start on your year and get your application in now.**

Our experienced team makes it easy. Call 1-866-745-2256 or visit ccga.ca/cash.

Interest-bearing portion at prime less 0.75%





riculture et roalimentaire Canada ogramme de iements anticipés



Keep playing defence: Pallister

"FOLLOW THE

HOW WE GET

BACK TO OUR

NORMAL LIVES."

FUNDAMENTALS

BECAUSE THAT'S

By Lorne Stelmach

Manitoba Premier Brian Pallister heralded the opening of the vaccination supersite in Morden this week as another key step in the province's efforts in the battle against COVID-19.

Touring the Access Event Centre site Friday along with other government and health officials, Pallister also used the occasion to urge Manitobans to not let down their guard even as restrictions continue to ease in Mani-

"Please follow the fundamentals because that's how we get back our nor-

mal lives," he said, noting that just seven per cent of the Manitoba population had been vaccinated to date."We have the ability to limit the way that it impacts on us and our friends and neighbours, so I look forward to seeing this centre be very successful.

"Manitoba has had some of the most stringent restrictions ...

we look forward to getting our lives back," Pallister said. "In the meantime, I would say again, remember to keep playing defence."

Pallister praised Morden for stepping up and embracing hosting the supersite.

"People care deeply about their community and about protecting each other. This has always been a region that has led the country in volunteerism and community support. What better place than this location? I'm proud of the folks here. I always have been ... I expect I've got another reason to be proud now."

With the Morden supersite piloting a more streamlined process for vaccinations, Pallister noted there was potential for good capacity here depending on vaccine supply.

"I think we can get up to about 4,000 a week. I think in the first week we'll start a little more slowly to work out any kinks. We're looking at about 1,400 or so in the first week," he suggested. "The idea being make sure we get it right before we get it fast, make sure that we're able to get people through the experience safely, make sure that our staff are safe, make sure that our navigators and our other folks learn their roles."

Pallister also stressed that the more Manitobans that go and get vacci-

nated, the better off we will all be.

"As soon as the vaccines become available for you, please take advantage of that opportunity because we want to get to what's called herd immunity when all of us are able to make sure we're not going to be affected by COVID," he said. "Getting that safety level higher is what this is

all about for us in Manitoba so we can get our lives back as people and as small business people.

"I believe very much that Manitobans have bent the curve, the COVID curve, but now we need the vaccines to make sure that we keep it down."

Pallister also touched on the antivaccine sentiment and opposition to restrictions that perhaps has been higher among some portion of the population in our area.

"Î think we're different people than we were last year ... when you look at the graph of the number of cases in each province, Manitoba in the first eight months virtually no cases, very, very low number of cases. Then Thanksgiving came and we saw what

COVID-19

PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Premier Brian Pallister (centre) was joined by Morden-Winkler MLA Cameron Friesen and Health Minister Heather Stefanson in touring the new vaccination supersite in Morden last week.

happened as a consequence of people giving each other COVID.

"We didn't know as much then as we do now," he continued. "Folks who said, 'Well I don't really believe in this because I haven't seen it'... okay, we can make room for their doubting, but if we knew then what we know now ... now we have had the reinforcement of losing people. Over 900 Manitobans lost their lives so far to this horrible affliction ... and we know too that

many others have suffered with the disease.

"So, knowing that, I think that more and more people have changed their minds about the issue of COVID and around COVID, and they're willing to be part of keeping that curve bent.

"As we move into other sites ... we're going to be looking really forward to helping, to loosen restrictions safely as we move forward."

GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE



The Winkler city council story that ran on Pg. 21 in our March 18 edition incorrectly stated that the public hearings had already occurred for a pair of condo buildings developers want to put up on 7th St north of Mountain

In fact, the hearing at the March 9 council meeting involved the proposed subdivision of the land in question, not the project as a whole.

The community will have a chance

to weigh in on the project-which requires the land be rezoned as residential multi-family, the closure of a public lane running from 7th St. to the concert hall parking lot, and some variation and conditional use approvals—at public hearings scheduled for the April 13 council meeting.

We sincerely regret the error and apologize for any confusion it may have caused.



Horticulture Soc. hires artist for new park sculptures

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The generosity of an anonymous donor has given the Winkler Horticulture Society the opportunity to get a jump on the art pieces planned for the new park in front of the Winkler Rec. Complex.

Society volunteers will be transforming the empty green space in front of the rink this summer into a small park complete with a walking path, plenty of trees and shrubs, a picnic shelter and fire pit area, and sports-themed art pieces to go with the giant hockey stick already on the site.

They were originally going to tackle the art last, said project lead Jodi Szutu, but this donation has allowed them to commission Winkler artist Andreas Huebert to get started this year already.

"We're really excited about it because we thought we'd have to wait and postpone that part of the project," she said, explaining their fundraising efforts right now are focused on covering the costs associated with the park's other features. "But we had somebody interested in helping us out with that portion of it, so we're



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Winkler Horticulture Society members (from left) Valerie Harder, Jodie Szutu, and Betty Klassen with artist Andreas Huebert, who has been commissioned to build a trio of hockey player sculptures for the new park the society is installing in front of the Winkler Rec. Complex.

moving forward."

Huebert will be building three large hockey player sculptures: one a goalie, one a male player, and one a female player.

Virtual Open Mic

We are looking for performers of all ages!

Sign up to perform at: info@pembinahillsarts.com

May 6, 7:30pm.

"Hopefully within a year's time we can see some of them up there," Szutu

While future sports sculptures may go up elsewhere in the park, these three will be placed, fittingly, near the hockey stick.

Huebert is eager to get to work.

"I am very proud that I'm allowed to do this project because it will be on display in Winkler in the park," he said. "I can't describe how big an honour this is for me and how I appreciate that.

"I'm looking forward to doing it and and [am] very excited about it."

Huebert says the hockey players will be about six or seven feet tall and very much in action poses.

"I like motion. Motion is in every-

thing ... in nature, in humans, in animals, everything," he said, explaining the sport of hockey is all about fast-paced motion and he's looking forward to trying to capture that with these pieces.

He'll be putting together miniature versions of the sculptures for the society to approve in the months ahead before getting to work on the large versions.

If you'd like to support the project, the society is selling shirts featuring a map of Winkler on them through townsapparelco.com. Examples of the shirt sizes are available at Dilis Boutique. Email winklerhorticulture@gmail.com for details on placing an order.



MAF looking for Citizen of Distinction Award nominees

By Lorne Stelmach

The Morden Area Foundation is once again looking to honour an outstanding community volunteer.

If you know someone who is dedicated to making Morden a better place to live and is a passionate community leader, the foundation wants you to consider nominating them for the annual Citizen of Distinction Award.

"We're looking for somebody who really just naturally lives, breathes,

eats, and sleeps Morden," said foundation executive director Lynda Lambert. "We are just looking for someone who loves the community and has made an impact on the community, whether it is through their volunteering or their employment or a mixture of both.

"I know there's lots out there. A lot of them are just under the radar and people don't know about them. It's

Central Stn. announces plans for a new home

Winkler community centre moving into Main St. Plaza later this year

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Central Station Community Centre has big plans in store for the years ahead.

At its virtual annual general meeting last week, the Winkler agency announced it will be moving from its current location at 545 Industrial Dr. into nearby Main St. Plaza.

The community centre will be taking up nearly the entirety of the much more spacious building (Red River College and the Pembina Valley Pregnancy Care Centre will remain) and the facility will be renovated to suit Central Station's needs now and for the future, said executive director Bev Wiehe.

"Our community space needs some refining," she said, noting they've long since outgrown the building they got

their start in eight years ago.

The new space "will offer meeting rooms, it will have an open concept drop-in area that is welcoming for anyone to stop in from the community, bring a friend, share a coffee," Wiebe said. "We dream of a community kitchen that will be utilized for cooking classes, community meals, breakfast for those that are coming to access the food bank, an opportunity for skills building, and repurposing of food that has been rescued from stores and restaurants.

"This new space will offer our community members a space to access multiple services under one roof, improving accessibility," she continued. "This new property will truly be a central station for all people."

All this, of course, comes with a cost. Central Station has tucked away upwards of \$400,000 in recent years that can be used for the project, and a major fundraising campaign will be launched soon to top that off.

"I think it's fair to say as a board we know that we are going to be moving into fairly aggressive fundraising for this project," said board chair Phillip Vallelly, noting the renovations are expected to be extensive and expensive. "But we also know that we have a lot of support in our community, which never ceases to amaze us."

The community centre hopes to begin moving into its new building by year's end. Right now they're putting the finishing touches on the architectural drawings.

Vallelly noted Central Station will not own the building-they will rent it from the group that also owns their current space.

"IT'S BEEN QUITE A RIDE"

Wiebe noted 2020 was a challenging year for the agency, with all the CO-VID-19 restrictions necessitating finding novel ways of keeping programming going.

She lauded the centre's staff for their resilience and adaptability.

"It's been quite a ride," Wiebe said. "They have made countless phone calls, listened to stressed out community members, adapted to very new roles, and become ingenious at serving the community in a new way."

Staff found ways to deliver meals to those who needed them when the weekly community meal and food bank had to close to gatherings.

"We've supported families through



Central Station's board and staff strive to create a place that is welcoming and inclusive to all community members.



SUPPLIED PHOTOS

The community kitchen is going to be a big part of Central Station's new home in Main St. Plaza.

job loss and illness, working through additional stresses and our own worries and concerns, "Wiebe said. "We found opportunity to offer hope in reaching out in very unexpected

The Community Care program, which currently has 12 participating households, continued to walk alongside struggling families to help them build up support networks and achieve their goals.

"With team support, families feel like they are finally moving forward for the first time in years,"Wiebe said, noting they recently celebrated the graduation of three families from the program.

Central Station also made great strides in its management of the Winkler Affordable Housing units, building trust with tenants and overseeing major renovation projects.

The agency also took some time this past year to assess what the needs of the community truly are and where they can help fill in the gaps between existing service providers.

The data gleaned from that detailed

assessment was used to create the core pillars of Central Station's work over the next handful of years. They include social advocacy for those who might not otherwise have a voice, connecting agencies and people, facilitating safe affordable housing, and providing a community space for evervone.

That last pillar has been the backbone of the organization since its inception, Vallelly pointed out.

"As we move over into Main St. Plaza, we want to create a space that is welcoming for all," he said. "This is not just about people who are on social assistance. This is not just about people that have low income earning

"One of the things we're all discovering through COVID is it's not just those without money that are broken. It's not just those without money who are lonely," Vallelly stressed. "Central Station needs to become known as a place for everybody. That is a big part of our passion, a big part of our vi-

> CITIZEN OF DISTINCTION, FROM PG. 4

just so natural to them that they just nominees can be re-nominated. do it."

Nominees must be current or former residents of Morden who have exemplified a positive leadership quality that inspires others to care for one another and uplift their fellow citizens.

The nominee's service to the community will have occurred over an extended period of time and not be focused solely on one singular event or activity. Previously unsuccessful

Two names must appear as nominators. Nomination forms are available online at mordenfoundation.ca.

The deadline for nominations is March 31, although Lambert encouraged people to contact her if they need an extension.

Past winners include Clare Agnew in 2019, Sue Nelson in 2018, Dr. Bob Menzies in 2017, and Ron Blum in

The Winkler Morden Morden



PUBLISHER Pick Peimer



ADMINISTRATION



EDITORAshleigh Viveiros



REPORTER Lorne Stelmach



SALES Gwen Keller



DISTRIBUTION Christy Brown



PRODUCTION
Tara Gionet



PRODUCTIONNicole Kapusta

The Winkler Morden Voice is published Thursdays and distributed as a free publication to 15,350 homes by BigandColourful Printing and Publishing.

The newspaper is supported solely by advertising dollars. If you enjoy the paper and would like to see it grow and prosper, visit any of the advertisers and businesses in our rural communities. Keep your dollars working at home and shop local.

Notices, classifieds, and advertisements can be purchased by calling 204-325-6888 or e-mailing ads@winklermordenvoice.ca.

Our editorial staff is available in Winkler at 204-332-3456, in Morden at 204-823-2655, or via e-mail at news@winklermordenvoice.ca.

Our commitment to you: we want to help build stronger communities through articles that both inform and entertain you about what's going on throughout the Pembina Valley. This is your community newspaper—let us know what you want to see in it.

Printed in Canada by Prolific Printing. Republishing without permission is strictly prohibited.

Find us online at winklermordenvoice.ca.

> Get in touch with us

General inquiries: 204-325-6888 News tips: 204-332-3456 Email: news@winklermordenvoice.ca Winkler Morden Voice Box 39, Stonewall, MB, ROC 2Z0

Setnember 2 Settlers Settlers

The trouble with teens

hen I was about 14 years old, I moved out of my mum's and moved into my stepfather's house for no good reason other than I was a jerk of a teenager and had another option.

Mum was destroyed. She was angry and upset and, though she didn't have to, she let me go.

I thought maybe Mum was being

an unreasonable parent (unlike every other teen in existence) and that the things would just be better at the stepdad's (no rules, etc.). A place where I could do what I wanted. FREE-DUMB!



By Peter Cantelon

The reality was

very much what I thought it would be. He really didn't care enough to lay down any rules or discipline. I moved in with him and his wife and their four kids and life went on.

Looking back now I cannot imagine the stress on his wife to have her

husband's teenage stepson move in, taking over their daughter's bedroom as my own. She had to move into her sister's room with her.

It didn't last long. Maybe a few months at most. After the police drove me home for stealing Easter Cream Eggs from Zellers (yes, I was a hardened criminal) my stepdad sat me down and told me how hard it had been on his wife to have an extra child in the house and it was best for all if I would simply go.

So go I did, back to Mum's house with my tail between my legs. She welcomed me back without a single "I told you so" and things got better with my newfound perspective.

When things got tough Mum couldn't just ship off her troubled teen to a new home (unlike stepdad). Mum dealt with it as best she could. This was love in action and it took me a long time to realize it.

That's the thing about lessons: they can take a while to sink in ... years sometimes. Many a trial and tribulation came and went with no apology to Mum from me. Just a sullen, angsty, teenage silence that reflected a grudging admittance that she had been right again.

Parents don't get manuals. Stepmothers don't get manuals and no one will ever write one that's effective. It doesn't matter how many books come our way none of them will ultimately be all that helpful because every parent-child relationship is radically unique.

There are 2.9 billion base pairs in the human genome (or about 725 megabytes of pure data) that make you unique. The same goes for every person you meet, including your kids. We are far too complex to boil down into pithy words of advice from some expert.

"So, what do we do?" asks the frustrated mum or dad or stepparent. You do the best you can with what you have and you hope. Not a terribly satisfying answer, I know.

I can say this: as a former teen whose mother had more than her hands full with myself and my sisters I look back and I know every action, every yell, every restriction, every sacrifice Mum made boiled down to one word. Love.

Just love. It's not easy (don't believe the people who say it is) but if your actions as a parent are grounded in love your kids are going to know this. They may not act like it. They may not speak like it. But hang in there. One day they will be looking back and they will comprehend that it was love that made them who they are and it will all be worth it.

Every agonizing minute when you wonder where they are at 1 a.m. or you just told them to clean their room for the thousandth time—it will be worth it if your parenting is grounded in love.

letters

A HIT TO DEMOCRACY

The Pallister government has proposed a revolution in our education system in Manitoba. I agree that there may be need for re-thinking of the way that the whole system is financed, however the suggestion of creating super-size catchment areas as a remedy is folly. The record of the

last batch of amalgamations should be ample evidence of that.

The quick research and calculation of figures I could easily find indicated that both Garden Valley and Western School divisions are among the smallest in area and are among the most economical in operating cost provincially at about \$11,000 to \$11,500 per student. It looks like

Prairie Spirit and Prairie Rose Divisions, which are the result of previous amalgamation efforts, come in at about \$13,750 per student.

To me it looks like bigger is not better and we are being misled again by the prevarications of our provincial politicians. None of the proposals

Continued on page 7

All columns and letters published on our Get Heard pages are the personal opinions of the submitting writers. They are not objective news articles, nor are they necessarily the viewpoint of the Winkler Morden Voice.

GUEST COMMENTARY

Is Bill 64 what's best for our community and our students?

"EDUCATIONAL

LEADERSHIP IS

KEY IN SHAPING

THE VALUES AND

CULTURE OF THE

SCHOOLS AND

REGION ..."

Submitted by the Garden Valley School Division board of trustees

On March 15, the Manitoba government released information about Bill 64, a bill they claim will "modernize" K-12 education within Manitoba.

As a school board, we are deeply concerned and feel it is important for our community to be aware of what is being proposed. We are concerned how this will impact student learning, the work of teachers, principals and other division staff, and our community. We are also troubled that it removes a long-standing democratic process in our province to elect local community members to have direct impact on public education.

We believe improvements can be made to Manitoba's education system and affirm many recommendations made by the Commission on K-12 Education after spending a considerable time listening to all Manitobans.

We believe the Commission report

we agree that the current education tax based on property assessment needs changing. We are very con-

cerned about the governance plan that is part of Bill 64; it ignores and goes way beyond what the Commission recommended regarding governance of schools.

What are some of the proposals in Bill 64?

1. That locally elected and locally accountschool boards be replaced by a 6-11 provincially member appointed Provincial Education Authority. Instead of having our

community choose a board to shape and guide education in our community, the Minister of Education will appoint this group.

2. That the current role of superin-

offers some helpful suggestions and tendent be replaced by a director of education that will be an equivalent to a regional manager to implement provincial directives and priorities.

This position is chosen by the Provincial Education Authority. These is also no indication in Bill 64 that the director of education requires an education degree. Currently, in addition to assessing educational qualifications experience, a school board also considers how well candidates understand and appreciate local values to ensure a good fit for

their community.

3. That school principals will be chosen by the Provincial Education Authority, a group which cannot possibly understand the unique character and needs of each local school and its community, rather than being chosen by a Board and Superintendent who knows the schools and community

4. That the Provincial Education Authority will govern all schools in Manitoba by making school policies about educational matters and school programs and courses. Bill 64 names that a School Community Council will be established for each of our schools and seeks to convince Manitobans that this will increase parents' say in their children's education. The reality is that these councils are not empowered to make decisions; they are simply advisory groups. They will not have the ability to decide who their school or regional education leaders will be. Educational leadership is key in shaping the values and culture of the schools and region, adapting programming to meet emerging needs

Continued on page 8

> LETTERS, FROM PG. 6

presented in the reform legislation make any impact on child poverty or mental health in youth.

As I walk down Stephen St. in Morden, I notice the banners in the windows of the Morklers store displaying the names and photos of those young people who fought and/or who died to ensure the democratic freedoms Canadians have enjoyed until now.

The Pallister government is proposing to do away with our right to vote for and elect, in democratic fashion, our representatives to our local school boards. This is a direct hit on our local autonomy and our democratic rights by an authoritarian premier who thinks that he and his cronies know what is best for Manitobans without regard for consultation or discussion. This behavior is exactly what those people shown in the Morklers banners fought to protect us from.

Mr. Pallister has also denigrated the collective bargaining system of freely negotiating wages and working conditions for thousands of Manitobans. Given the premier's disdain for the civil service, it seems incongruous to be appointing at least 17 friends to bring issues to a cabinet committee which can soon become the largest body of civil servant assistants to cabinet imaginable.

As well, he has emaciated the Public Utilities Board to the extent that it can no longer consider without bias the rate change requests put before it for consideration, verification and implementation.

Mr. Cameron Friesen [Morden-Winkler MLA], you know that our local ways of educating our students has changed over the past 50 to 70 years when the premier and his mother considered themselves to be teachers. Why not offer some encouragement to your legislative colleagues in suggesting that the education reform proposal be withdrawn before it too earns the "draconian" label as offered by a court judge in a ruling on previous misguided legislation put forward by this government?

It is time for Manitobans to find a government that is interested in protecting democracy rather than picking away at our freedoms bit by bit until we are left with no say in any of our community decisions.

We can let our MLAs know (if he has not blocked your communications by email), how this legislation will devastate our local autonomy, and then consider this government's record the next time we vote, if provincial elections have not been set aside as well.

> Hugh Lumgair, Morden

Letter policy

The Voice welcomes letters from readers on local and regional issues and concerns.

Please keep your letters short (excessively long letters are unlikely to be published), on-topic, and re-

The *Voice* reserves the right to edit, condense, or reject any submission.

Please include your full name, address, and phone number for verification purposes. Your name and city will be published with your letter. We do not print anonymous

Send your letters to us by e-mail at news@winklermordenvoice.ca.

TIME TO REOPEN

I am writing to say it is high time that the lockdowns that have been imposed for a year should be removed.

We are supposed to be a free people. We are all responsible people and know how we should behave towards the pandemic. Since when is it the government's responsibility who we can have in our homes and how we associate with our own families?

How about mask wearing by people

who are healthy? Wearing a mask makes for anti-social feeling between you and other people that we meet.

I have lived through all the childhood diseases there have been such as whooping cough, measles, chicken pox, etc. I have also been there whentuberculosis and polio were going around the country. These were never broadcast on a daily basis nor tabulated giving total numbers all the time. My own schoolmate contacted polio and became a resident of King George Hospital.

What we have today is a generation of spreading fear among people. The lockdowns have caused more than enough problems over and above the coronavirus. We need to move on with our lives and live over and above these imposed controls and fears. We have always had to use common sense in these situations.

Being under surveillance in our own homes is how dictatorships have always operated.

> Cornelius Fehr, Winkler

A BETTER PLAN IS NEEDED

In response to Bill Toews (Restrained approach is necessary, Voice, March 11, Pg. 6) I think Candice Bergen makes

Continued on page 8

• FAITH FOCUS

Pick up your socks

ave you ever noticed that we as humans aren't very good at doing what we know? There is a "knowing-doing gap" that affects all of us.

We know that we shouldn't spend more than we make, and yet the debt

to income ratio for Canadians is pretty much the highest it has ever been. For every \$1 of disposable income we owe \$1.77.

We know that in order to be physically healthy we need to eat right,



By Terry Dueck

get plenty of rest, limit stress, and regularly exercise. Yet according to Statistics Canada, only 16 per cent of Canadian adults are getting the recommended amount of physical activity.

I know that my dirty socks are supposed to go into the laundry bin, and I have pledged to my wife to never let it happen again. And yet there they remain in the corner of the bedroom. The problem is not in me not knowing how to pick up my socks, not in knowing where the laundry bin is—the problem is in my doing.

And the knowing-doing gap exists in our spiritual lives as well. We know about forgiveness and yet we so easily hold onto grudges. We know about compassion and empathy and yet we can remain cold hearted. We know about generosity and yet it's so easy to want more and more stuff for ourselves.

The knowing-doing gap isn't a new

problem, Jesus saw this in his day as well. At one point he says, "Why do you keep calling me 'Lord, Lord!' when you don't do what I say?" (Luke 6:46).

There's a famous story that Jesus shares in the letter of Luke in the Bible (chapter 11), we know it as the parable of the Good Samaritan. In the story a man is beaten, robbed and left for dead on the road. The religious leaders quickly pass by this man in desperate need of help, and it is only the Samaritan who stops, is compassionate, and takes care of the man's needs. I think Jesus shares this story because he wants to teach us that it's not enough to know what the loving thing to do is; rather we must actually DO what we know love requires of us.

In the story, the good Samaritan brings the man to an innkeeper. In many ways it's the innkeeper who is the unsung hero of the story. The innkeeper gives us three practical ways we can start closing that knowing-doing gap in our lives when it comes to loving others:

• Start with one person. Just sponsor

one child, encourage one senior, mentor one young person, help out one single parent. Andy Stanley once said, "Do for one that which you wish you could do for everyone."

- Start where God has already equipped you. The innkeeper didn't have to build a room to take care of the man, he was already equipped to do it. I believe we are created by a loving God that has given each of us unique gifts and passions. Start by using the resources, knowledge, skills, and experiences you've already been given.
- Start close to home. For the innkeeper, he didn't have to travel a long distance to meet a need, the need found him. Start in your neighbourhood, in your workplace, in your school. If you are willing to pause and look, the opportunity to help others will be there.

Do what you know is the loving thing to do. Sometimes it might just be as simple as picking up your socks.

— Terry Dueck is the lead pastor at the Winkler MB Church

> GVSD BOARD, FROM PG. 7

within the community, and in offering a community-based approach to education. School Advisory Councils will only be able to identify concerns and offer feedback. Any meaningful decisions about what happens in our schools will not be made locally; they will be made by a "Provincial Educational Authority" with few or no connections to any local community.

5. That Garden Valley School Division and Western School Division be placed in one joint region that will be governed by the Provincial Education Authority which is composed of government appointed people from across Manitoba. There will no longer be a local board to make decisions for our local schools.

We strongly believe that what's best for our community is having locally elected and locally accountable board members who know the community and advocate for OUR students. Bill 64 proposes a very different and distant approach to shaping education in our area.

Here are some pledges we wish to make to you as a community:

• We will continue to work with diligence and integrity for as long as we serve in our positions (Bill

SCRAP METAL, OLD CARS, COPPER, BRASS, ALUMINUM STAINLESS STEEL
Call (204)-239-6371

Book your "on the farm" pickup now
GERRARD METAL PROCESSORS LTD.

64 states that all school boards are abolished on July 1, 2022).

- We will continue to advocate on behalf of our students, staff and community. We will be meeting with our local MLAs, have registered to speak to Bill 64 at the Legislature, and will join other school divisions in efforts to convince the government to reconsider.
- We will create information sessions, forums to hear your voices, and offer/suggest tools or ideas so that you can express your opinions re-

lated to Bill 64.

• We will make ourselves available to anyone who would like to hear more, ask questions, share their perspective, or explore ways of responding. We are here to represent you. Contact information is available at gysd.ca

The GVSD school board includes trustees Garry Bueckert, Laurie Dyck, Jake Fehr, Barb Heide, John Klassen, Leah Klassen, Tena Lane, Tash Olfert, and Deana Wilson

> LETTERS, FROM PG. 7

a very good point! That there needs to be a bigger plan than just shutting down our economy again.

I found it interesting that the death rate for 2020 is not that different from other bad flu years.* I know our suicide rates have reached new heights. Substance-abuse is up. Depression and anxiety is way up. Two weeks to flatten the curve has turned into a year.

The harm these lockdowns are doing is much worse than the virus itself. The ones we love and care about the most are dying alone. Since when is this okay?

I don't think it's helpful for the government to tell us what we can do and where we can go and when. I think it is harmful to depend on the government for our income when we are perfectly capable of working. We just need to open up our economy completely.

Time to stop living in fear. 2 Timothy 1:7 says, "For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind."

Nobody doubts there is a virus but I think it's

being used for a bigger purpose. If you doubt this look up "the great reset world economic forum. I own nothing."

> Nettie Freund, Winkler

*Ed. note: The statistics do not support this statement. According to the Public Health Agency of Canada, since the pandemic began a year ago 22,716 Canadians have died due to COVID-19 (as of Monday) That's a rate of 60 people per 100,000 population. In comparison, Statistics Canada reports that influenza and pneumonia together were the seventh leading cause of death in 2019 with 6,893 deaths. That's a rate of 18.4 deaths per 100,000 population. Of course, not all cases of pneumonia are connected to the flu. The influenza death rate is usually between 9-13 per cent per 100,000 population, depending on the season. An average of 12,200 people are hospitalized with the flu each year. Since last April, COVID-19 has put at least 50,000 Canadians in the hospital.

Man brings replica gun to Morden church service

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Local police officers were able to bring to a peaceful conclusion an incident that took place at a Morden church last

At 10 a.m. on March 14, the Morden Police Service received a 911 call that an agitated man seated near the front of the church sanctuary might be carrying a handgun.

Witnesses told police the man was yelling, using profanities, and making gestures during the service. He lifted his sweater and revealed a gun in his waistband.

Also in attendance at the service were two off-duty police officers from Winkler, one seated near the suspect.

Morden officers arrived on the scene and, after getting into position, advised church staff to pull the fire alarm to empty the building.

As the suspect was exiting the sanctuary, uniformed officers apprehended him. When he began to resist, the offduty officers assisted so that he could be taken into custody without incident.

Police then determined the gun the man had on him was a replica.

Dustin Warkentin, 32, has been charged with possessing a weapon for a dangerous purpose, two counts of assault with a weapon, carrying a weapon in a public place, carrying a concealed weapon, causing a disturbance, creating a nuisance, and two counts of failing to comply with a probation order.

"POLICE ARE NEVER OFF DUTY"

The incident had Winkler police Chief Ryan Hunt taking to social media to applaud the efforts of all the officers in-

"Police officers are never really off duty," he told the Voice last week. "Even when you're off duty and you're out with your family or shopping or at a restaurant, you're always looking for crime that might be taking place or things that just don't look right ... you're constantly looking at what might happen."

In this situation, one of the off-duty officers was near enough to the man to see the firearm in his waistband.

After making arrangements for 911 to be called, Hunt said the officer "had already made up his mind he may have to intervene and was resigned to the fact that he may 'have to take a bullet' to protect everyone else in the building."

That, thankfully, was not necessary, with Morden officers on the scene quickly with a plan to get everyone out of the building without alerting the suspect that they were even

"That was an awesome idea that they had to do that," said Hunt. "All the officers involved there just did a really good

Still, it could have been a very different outcome, not just for innocent civilians had the gun ended up being real, but for the suspect had he brandished the fake firearm against a police officer in a threatening way.

"You never know if it's a real gun or not," said Hunt. "This one fortunately turned out to be a replica, but that doesn't really play into it because you assume it's a real gun. You can't tell until it's in your hand. Even if you're a couple of feet away from it they're so real looking you just can't tell until you pick it up and look at it closely.

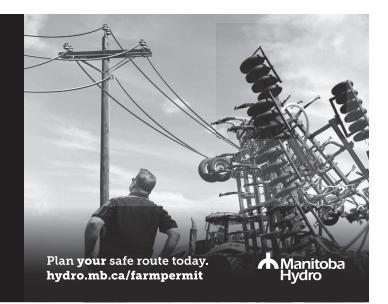
The chief said they're seeing an increasing number of replica firearms being used by criminals.

"Our first intent is always to keep the public safe and so that's why we have to always assume it's a real gun," Hunt said. "If you assume it's not and you're wrong the consequences could be dire."

DO YOU KNOW THE HEIGHT OF YOUR **FARM EQUIPMENT? YOU SHOULD!**

If it exceeds 4.8 metres, you need a Farm Equipment Clearance Permit for safety around power lines.

Contact with power lines can result in serious injury or death.





Farm the Best, **Conserve the Rest**

Local watershed districts will work with you to develop a plan that is suited to the particular needs and goals of your farming operation as they align with local program priorities.

Examples of GROW projects include:

- ✓ water retention
- wetland conservation, restoration or enhancement
- multi-species buffer strips
- riparian area enhancement
- natural area maintenance and enhancement
- buffer and grassed waterway establishment
- perennial cover for sensitive land
- soil health improvements
- shelterbelt establishment

For more information on GROW or to connect with your local watershed district, visit www.manitobawatersheds.ca, or call 204.945.0002.





Victim Services head stepping down after 20 years

By Ashleigh Viveiros

After 20 years of helping the victims of crime navigate the aftermath of what happened to them, Kris Derksen is passing on the torch.

The coordinator of Pembina Valley Victims Services for the Winkler, Morden, and Altona police departments since 2001 is in the midst of training her successor, Tash Olfert, in advance of stepping down next month.

"It's time for someone to look at it with new eyes, new insight," Derksen said in reflecting on what made her decide to leave. "It just seems like a good time."

Victim Services reaches out to people affected by all manner of crimes to keep them advised of what's going on with their cases and help them find any support they might need.

"We're contacting them in large part to help them find resources, helping them find somewhere to heal themselves," Derksen explained. "It's also court updates, court prep if there is going to be a trial ... before COVID I would go to court every other week and listen in to what is said and then let them know where their cases are at ... a lot of times it's their first time being involved with the police or court system, so they have questions.

"Sometimes it's just being a listening ear, that's all they want. And they don't have to explain everything to us because we've read the file. We know what the circumstance is, so they can talk freely."

Knowing the ins and outs of certain crimes and seeing the impact they have on the victims can be difficult to



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

After 20 years in the role, Kris Derksen (right) is stepping down as coordinator of Pembina Valley Victim Services. Filling her shoes this spring is Tash Olfert.

bear witness to, but what's kept Derksen coming back year after year has been the knowledge she's doing some good with her work.

"You do get that sense of accomplishment with helping someone work through a difficult situation," she said.

Derksen got her start on the other side of the table.

"We had our shop broken into on our property," she said, sharing that the thieves stole some garden tools and tried to break into a drink machine located outside. "The police came and did their job and got the information and then we never heard back."

The lack of closure was frustrating but understandable given how busy police are.

"They don't have the time or the resources to inform all the victims about what's going on," Derksen said. "And even if it gets to court it could be a year or two later."

When she heard that the Winkler Police Service was looking for volunteers to try and stop victims from fall-

ing through the cracks of the system, she jumped at the chance. Four years later the role became a paid position. Today Victim Services handles between 200-300 cases annually.

Winkler Police chief Ryan Hunt said the program is an invaluable asset to the department.

"It's really important to have that voice for the victims so that they don't feel lost in the justice system," he said. "So the victim doesn't become victimized again with not knowing what to expect."

He said that Derksen will most certainly be missed.

"She's going to leave big shoes to fill, but I feel very confident that Tash will have no problem doing that ... she's just the perfect fit for it," Hunt said.

Olfert certainly hopes so. She's been shadowing Derksen in the role for the past couple of months and says the job has already"exceeded all my expectations."

She comes to the post after having spent time heading up Central Station's Community Care program, working with families in crisis.

"This is still a lot of advocacy, which is what I was doing there, but a much smaller scope, a sharper focus," Olfert said. "It's a pleasure coming to work just because it's great people to work with and it's something new each day."

If you'd like information about the help Victim Services offers, you can reach them by contacting the Winkler, Morden, or Altona police departments or checking out the program's page on each department's website.

Osinski stepping into NPC principal role for 2021-22

By Voice staff

Northlands Parkway Collegiate is promoting from within for next school year.

Current vice-principal Jeff Osinski is stepping up to fill the shoes left behind by principal Tammy MacDonald for 2021-2022.

Osinski is currently in his 27th year in education, including 14 working for

the Garden Valley School Division. He has been vice-principal at NPC for eight years.

In making the appointment announcement, GVSD shared that Osinski builds his educational philosophy around three main principles: relationships, ownership of learning, and trust.

"To develop strong relationships, we must first learn who the individual is

and make every effort to connect with every student in a meaningful way," Osinski says.

"To ensure ownership of student learning is achieved, I believe students learn best in an environment where they recognize themselves as a learner and take ownership for their education and have opportunities to become active-learners rather than passive-learners. "Lastly, trust is the foundational piece in all things we do and is essential to establish with the school community.

"When interacting with people you need to be honest, approachable, openminded, and transparent in your actions and follow through on what you say."

Trustees reeling in wake of planned education changes

"TO PAINT US

ALL WITH ONE

BIG BRUSH ...

WE WOULD

FEEL THAT'S

NOT FAIR."

By Lorne Stelmach

Local school trustees are coming to grips with the government's planned wholesale changes to the provincial education system that among other things will eliminate

their roles in it.

Their concerns go far beyond that however as they and many others not only question the rationale and approach but contemplate the impact the changes will have in such ways as the loss of local control and say over schooling in our communities.

"There is a democratic system that has been totally eliminated from

this process," said Laurie Dyck, chair of the Garden Valley School Division board."Any qualifying voter in Manitoba has always had the ability to have that option to vote on your school board representatives, and this system does not have opportunity for all Manitobans to have a voice."

"There is no evidence that Bill 64 addresses the root cause of poor education results in Manitoba and will provide the future of Manitoba with what

it needs to be successful," said Brian Fransen, chair of Western School Division board.

"Replacing locally elected school boards with a single government appointed body puts Manitoba on the path toward state-run education governed by partisan interests. This is in contrast to public education," he stressed. "The world is getting more and more politically polarized, and

now education in Manitoba will be a new target. Is this the future we want for Manitoba?"

Government officials addressed

Continued on page 12



Premier Brian Pallister defended his government's plans to overhaul the education system, doing away with local school boards and divisions in favour of a central education authority. Local trustees are concerned about what this will mean for our communities.

THE PANDEMIC'S CURE

With considerable alarm we have witnessed a new and dangerous disease race around the globe. Looking at death tolls, we take measures to try to protect ourselves and others. There is, however, a danger far greater and more pervasive than COVID-19. The Bible records the words of an unnamed "wise woman" in 2 Samuel 14:14, who approached a king for a favor and among her lengthy request was this short statement, "We must all die." The question is not if we will die; the question is only when, and how. Why must we all die? The Bible gives us the reason: 'By one man [Adam] sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned." Not only are we born with the tendency to sin, but each of us has also become guilty of deliberate acts of sin. Handwashing and disinfectant regimen will not halt the spread of sin. The entire human race is already infected, and what's worse, the mortality rate is 100%. Physical death is only part of the result of this "disease" called sin. The far greater consequence extends throughout eternity. Hebrews 9:27 tells us "it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment." God is absolutely holy, and any sin is unacceptable to Him. Anyone who dies with their sin unforgiven is forever separated from God, and consequently from all that is good. Jesus Himself repeatedly warned about the great danger of eternal punishment. Dear friend, this is real! God has provided a remedy, but if you haven't received it yet, you are at this moment still in tremendous danger. COVID-19 has experts racing to prove an effective vaccine—and other medical

treatments—which we hope will prevent the loss of many lives, but God has a plan in place to combat and ultimately cure the sin pandemic. John 3:16 in the Bible says, "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." 1 John 4:14 says, "the Father sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world." Jesus Christ came to this world to provide the cure for our sin. His miracles and His gracious life were proof of His divine power and merit, but these were not the solution. Our sin requires death, and so He intentionally went to a Roman cross, and there willingly died. As He suffered there, we learn from the Bible that God was punishing Him for our sins. "The Lord hath laid on Him the iniquity of us all." Jesus never sinned, but took our place to endure the judgment we deserve. He died; He was buried; He rose from the dead. "Whosoever believeth in Him," John 3:16 says. God loves you and longs to save you from your sin and from eternal death. He offers every guilty, sincerely-repentant sinner the gift of salvation, simply through fully trusting Christ alone. Trusting yourself or any other way of salvation will never work. "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." Yes, the danger of judgment for our sins is very real, but you can have forgiveness and cleansing from all those sins through the Lord Jesus Christ. Rom 6:23 says "The wages of sin is death," but the good news is: "the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." www.sermon4u.com

COVID-19 VACCINE TEAM

Help Connect People With COVID-19 Vaccines

Apply To Be A Navigator Today!

We're looking for friendly, outgoing Manitobans to help others find their way at COVID-19 vaccination sites across the province.

Navigators are responsible for connecting people with their vaccine. You'll be:

- welcoming people and helping them fill out forms
- confirming appointments
- screening people for symptoms
- reminding people of the fundamentals while on site
- facilitating crowd control and clinic flow, and more

These are paid full-time, part-time term and casual positions and are available on days, evenings or weekends. Start dates depend on when sites open, but positions are expected to be in place from May to September 2021.

For complete information and to apply, visit manitoba.ca/vaccine.

manitoba.ca/vaccine



Parents weigh in on education overhaul

By Lorne Stelmach

The far-reaching changes in the works for Manitoba's education system are drawing divergent views on many levels.

Representatives of two Morden-Winkler school advisory councils last week offered different takes on the plan that includes the elimination of local school boards and merger of existing divisions under the purview of a new provincial education authority.

The province touted the long-awaited results of the Manitoba government's Kindergarten to Grade 12

review as putting students first and shifting resources to the classroom while giving parents and guardians more input as it rebuilds Manitoba's education system.

The new education authority is to include parent representation on the board, a provincial advisory council on education, and a school community council in each school, and one local parent sees some potential good coming from those changes.

"I wouldn't have minded keeping the local trustees because then you have that local voice," said Liz Reimer, who serves on the Morden Collegiate parent advisory council.

"I think it could be good for all of us ... I think parents could have a stronger voice," she suggested. "I hope they truly listen to parents when they are on this provincial board. Are they going to be open to what we have to say as parents?

"If we want parent engagement though, let's make the effort to engage," she added. "I think so many parents out there never really fully engage within the schools. They leave it up to the trustees. Where are they at budget time? Where are they at regular meetings?"

It is the loss of that local level of authority that most concerned Dr. Shanna Trinke, who is co-chairperson of the Garden Valley Collegiate advisory council.

"I am deeply disturbed by the proposed changes, as I see the government replacing our local, grassroots involvement in the school system with top-down decisions made at a distance from the concerns of our communities," Trinke said via e-mail.

"Do we really think that a central, Winnipeg-based body with only one government-appointed representative for the entire Winkler-Morden area will do a better job than local school boards when hiring staff for our schools and or deciding financial priorities that are meaningful for rural communities?" Trinke continued.

"Furthermore, when speaking with friends and family members who work in the education system and when professionally supporting teachers who have been working tirelessly in the midst of the prolonged stress associated with the pandemic, it seems unconscionable that these changes are been proposed now.

"I truly hope that the MLA for this area, Cameron Friesen, is listening to the voices of his constituents and former teaching colleagues and providing his government with sober second thoughts."

Reimer, meanwhile, pointed out that these changes have been a long time coming.

"We've been wanting change for a really, really long time," she said. "I was very appreciative of all of the consultations that the government did back in 2019.

"I really hope that they took into consideration the changes that the teachers already have had to do," Reimer added, noting the pandemic has perhaps encouraged "teachers and the administrators to realize that they can change and systems don't always have to look the same.

"I'm kind of excited to see what could happen to our system," she continued. "We've been falling behind in our literacy. We've been falling behind in our numeracy ... so to maybe do a complete reset, if you want to use that term, and to refocus on some of those basic things, could be good.

"Let's take a look at what isn't working, let's try to fix it. Change is hard for a lot of people, and a lot of people are fearful. Nobody has all the answers ... but was the system perfect the way it was? It wasn't.

"I would rather see them do this big band-aid tear off in one swoop rather than fix a little here, fix a little there. That doesn't work."



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Morden Collegiate parent advisory council member Liz Reimer hopes parents will have a stronger voice under the new Manitoba education system.

> EDUCATION SYSTEM CHANGES, FROM PG. 11

some of these concerns in the wake of the announcement last week.

"We wouldn't make a change that wasn't for the best interests of children and their families," Premier Brian Pallister maintained in defending the plan.

"We recognize, quite frankly, when it comes to administration we're out of step with pretty well every other province in the country," Education Minister Cliff Cullen said.

"As it exists now, we have so many disparities and inequalities across the province ... this will be part of the challenge for this new education authority, to make sure that resources are put where they are needed," he said. "I think we've designed a system where we can have really strong input at the local level, strong input and advice to the minister ... I think it's a well rounded mix. We're going to have a lot of people who are engaged at the local level."

MORE CONVERSATIONS NEEDED

Dyck observed that there's lots to digest yet to understand the details of the government's plan and that more conversations are needed, but the extent of the overhaul was unexpected.

"It wasn't surprising to see some form of amalgamation of school boards across the province. I think the surprise is the structure that they have now put in place to govern public education. It's definitely different than what we thought it might be," she said.

Dyck also countered the province's rationale as making a blanket statement about student outcomes being poor province-wide.

"We would feel it's unfair because we sure in Garden Valley have focused on numeracy and literacy, and we have seen great results in new practices and policies and procedures that we have put in place for our students," she suggested.

"I think that divisions can be effective in student

outcomes, and to paint us all with one big brush ... every division is dealing with many different dynamics ... so we would feel that's not fair."

Moving ahead, she noted that they will carry on "doing what we are mandated to do. We are still an elected voice, we are still governing Garden Valley School Division. We want to work through all the information out there now to help understand and help our constituents understand what this new governance model could mean.

"We can continue to be effective and still have a voice," Dyck said. "I would encourage our community to be asking lots of questions as well. Ask our MLAs, as they have a voice at that table and they need to hear from the community."

Fransen noted people should also question such rationale as how the change will reportedly save upwards of \$40 million.

Continued on page 13



> EDUCATION SYSTEM CHANGES, FROM PG. 12

"The school year of 2020-2021 in Manitoba saw the government budget \$1.33 billion for education. With local taxpayers covering the balance of expenses, we are looking at over \$2.4 billion ... \$40 million is 1.7 per cent of that," he pointed out. "That is likely less money than the province is going to have to spend to pay for the Public Services Sustainability Act (Bill 28) that has not gone as planned and has been pushed aside by recent arbitration.

"Furthermore, how much is it going to cost to transition from the current system to the new system? Nobody knows."

Fransen observed that the build-up to the government announcing such a significant reset of the education system was filled with messaging that the current system is terrible and the people running it cost too much and don't have a positive impact.

"Listening to the rhetoric around the education review for the last number of years, the government clearly believes that the senior administration and governance of school divisions in Manitoba are the root cause, despite a lack of any clear evidence demonstrating that," he said.

"In the midst of handling a pandemic while running education in a way that has never been done before, our educational leaders are told that they are unnecessary waste and dragging the system down," he continued. "It is difficult to see the wisdom in the timing, never mind the content of the bill.

"Any positive elements contained in the bill are overshadowed by the toxic, ill-timed release of the plan. Manitobans deserve better from our government," Fransen said. "There are some positive elements of the plan, but they are easily lost in the toxic statements made during its release.

> "IT IS A POLITICAL SHELL **GAME DISGUISED AS A FIX** FOR A BROKEN SYSTEM."

"The release of Bill 64 is less about better education today than it is about more power and control tomorrow. It is a political shell game disguised as a fix for a broken system."

"IT GIVES THEM TOTAL CONTROL"

NDP and opposition leader Wab Kinew called the plan little more than a power grab by Pallister and his cabi-

"It gives them total control over what our kids learn and how they will learn it. It does nothing to address the barriers kids face before they enter the classroom. It ignores challenges like poverty, mental health and additional needs —the things that must be addressed so kids can focus on learning," Kinew wrote in a statement.

"The PCs like to talk about scores and statistics, but there's a story behind every one of those numbers that they choose to ignore," he continued. "Stories from parents who worry their kids will get lost in an overcrowded class, teachers who worry they don't have time to give every student the attention they deserve, families who are struggling to keep their kids in school. We can do better than this. We owe it

Premier Pallister last week maintained the government created this plan with the best interests of Manitoba's children in mind.

"Unfortunately, we have known for some years that our results were less than every other jurisdiction, so the need for reform I think would compel anyone who cared about education and valued it to take some action and some thoughtful action is what we're going to pursue," he said.

"There were a great many recommendations ... the recommendation wasn't to keep all elected trustees. It was to have some appointed and some elected, but, upon review, we made the decision that, given we were taking 80 per cent of the responsibilities of trustees away ... the negotiation, the tax setting responsibilities are the lion's share of what trustees do ... they won't be doing that going forward, so there wasn't the need to keep trustees. One tasty night in

Displaying all the fixings for a delicious meal of fettucine alfredo with salad, dessert, and choice of beverage planned by chef Kevin Funk is Jenelle Neufeld, executive director of Brothers Big Sisters of the Pembina Valley. Their Big Night in fundraiser saw 60 of



the meal kits handed out Saturday, raising an estimated \$9,000 and counting. "For a first experience with doing a fundraiser like this, we were happy with the response," said Neufeld. "Considering we weren't able to do it in person and have a fundraiser like we traditionally would, this was a really good alternative."

PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

"Instead, the model is to put power down to the parent councils, community education councils will have much more power, much more responsibility, and principals will be educational leaders now," he said. "Parents in the community will have the ability to get feedback and response, not just from the teacher in the classroom but from the parent at the local

"That's where the real responsibilities are, and that's the strong relationship we want to build in our education system," Pallister concluded. "We want to empower teachers and parents to have that relationship, and that's a big part of our strengthening our education system going forward."

The government has said it intends to conduct more consultations in advance of releasing a more comprehensive road map to the new education system this fall.

It's expected the various structural changes will take place in time for the 2022-2023 school year.

News or sports tip?

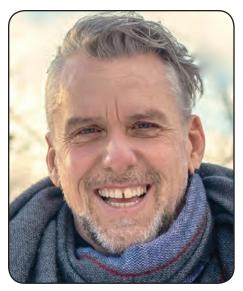
E-mail news@winklermordenvoice.ca or call 325-6888

Eden's Songs & Stories concert streams online April 5

By Lorne Stelmach

An upcoming virtual concert first and foremost is serving as a fundraiser, but the event in support of Eden Health Care Services is also aiming to help raise morale in trying times.

The organization is hosting Songs & Stories of Hope, Healing & Com-



SUPPLIED PHOTO Musician Danny Plett performs at Eden's online concert next month.

munity April 5 at 7 p.m. The virtual concert will be shown on Eden's Facebook page that night. Donations can be made online at edenhealthcare.ca/springconcert2021.

The evening will feature Danny Plett, who is not only an internationally known musician who has assembled a group of gifted musicians for the concert, but is also involved with Eden

"I have the benefit of having someone on our Eden Foundation board who is a professional musician ... and he has been involved in missions for a significant part of his life," said Earl Reimer, director of development for the foundation.

"I knew about him as a musician, but I did not realize the level of professionalism ... he's incredible. It became apparent to me when I was able to attend at least a part of the recording session for this virtual concert ... it was quite exceptional."

There is no charge to view the concert, but you are asked to make a donation toward the mission of bringing hope, healing, and community to people who are on a mental health journey.

Your support will assist Eden with a number of initiatives, including:

• Recovery of Hope counselling services. This is a fee-for-service program, but no one is turned away. The difference between what a professional counsel costs and what someone can afford to pay is made up by a grant from the Eden Foundation.

"I THINK THESE

DEFINITELY GOING

TO BE INSPIRING."

STORIES ARE

• Segue Career Options. This is a program that helps people—many who are on a mental health journey—acquire the self-confidence needed to find work and the discipline to excel in their new work.

• Supporting upgrades to properties

where people with limited financial resources find good, clean, safe and affordable homes along with mental health support workers on-site helping them to develop the skills to integrate into the community.

• Supporting the mental health services being delivered in a new wellness centre space in Steinbach.

The concert is a very timely event

given the impact the pandemic has had on so many people over the past year.

"It has become evident in the caseload ... that load has become greater," Reimer said. "The reality is there are even more people looking for help in some capacity than before.

"A concert like this is a real practical

aspect of helping people along the process of getting mental health care when they need it," he added. "The scope and the breadth of what we can offer and where we can offer counselling services is quite signifi-

"We need this, everybody needs it," Reimer

continued."The music obviously is intended to be uplifting and inspiring, and it certainly will be.

"Intertwined with this concert will be a number of different people presenting their own personal stories of their journeys with mental health," he said. "I think these stories are definitely going to be inspiring."





Corn and Apple Festival plans "up in the air"

Organizers making early plans for both scenarios—festival and no festival

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Morden Corn & Apple Festival organizing committee is in a bit of a holding pattern right now as it waits to see what the pandemic has in store for us this summer.

Executive director Tim Hodge says he's been fielding an increasing number of calls in recent weeks from vendors eager to learn whether the festival will be happening in August.

"Now that it's spring the questions are really starting to come in," he says. "But right now we're basically still up in the air.

"We're hoping to have a definitive answer in the next little while," Hodge says. "Certainly by May or hopefully even by the end of April we'll be able to make an announcement either way."

Thanks to COVID-19 restrictions, last year the committee had to cancel the usual festival—which draws tens of thousands of people to Morden the last weekend in August—in favour of a scaled-down, one-night-only concert on the main stage that allowed them to limit the number of audience members to just a few hundred. The show was also streamed live online and watched by thousands of people.

It wasn't the same but it was something, and Hodge says a similar event is a possibility for this year.

"We've been doing the preliminary work for both cases—for doing a festival and for not," he says. "We have some tentative plans for things we can do to expand what we did last year in the event that we can't have a festival, but then we're also trying to lay some groundwork for a festival as well.

"We're trying to be sure that we're on track for whatever the option is going to be for us."

Whichever route they end up taking, organizers will be working closely with public health officials to ensure a safe experience for everyone, Hodge

Whatever happens, one exciting thing taking place in 2021 is the festival will be introducing new branding, replacing its decades-old logo.

"It's something we were able to work on last year when there was no festival," Hodge says. "We're just putting the finishing touches on it now and we're extremely excited to show it off.

"It's a bold new look—energetic, exciting, and really fun. It's going to be a wonderful way to welcome people back, whether we have our first festival post-pandemic this year or next."

The new look will be unveiled in the months ahead.

The Voice also reached out to Winkler Harvest Festival organizers for this story but had not received a response by press time.



Last year's lone festival concert had a limited number of seats thanks to the pandemic, but thousands more watched the show online.

VOICE FILE PHOTO



Pork a powerhouse of nutrition

March is Nutrition Month in Canada, and the Dieticians of Canada are encouraging us to consider what healthy eating looks like in our daily lives, be it through our cultural practices and food traditions, or our own circumstances and nutritional needs.

With Manitobans cooking more meals at home, choosing healthy ingredients that work best for you and your family is key. Pork has many qualities that make it easy to incorporate into a well-balanced meal plan. Not only is pork a complete, high quality protein and a good source of 10 essential vitamins and minerals, it also offers versatility. From decadent and flavourful to lean and nutrient-rich cuts that are easy to prepare, pork suits all cooking styles and is affordable to most consumers.

Manitoba pork producers are proud to provide you and your family with a tasty protein that offers quality without compromise. To learn more, visit manitobapork.com/food.

Set in Former Surrounding Areas

Three facing weapons charges after bust





Winkler Police found this replica gun and conducted energy weapon during a vehicle stop as part of a drug trafficking investigation last week. Three people were arrested. By Voice staff

Three people are facing a litany of charges in connection to a traffic stop in Winkler last week.

On March 17, Winkler officers pulled over a vehicle on 1st St. at Norquay Dr. as part of a drug trafficking investigation.

The three occupants of the vehicle were placed under arrest for having possession of a controlled substance.

Police searched the vehicle with assistance from the Morden Police Service K9 Unit and located a small quantity of methamphetamine, a weapon that was later determined to be an imitation firearm, and a conducted energy weapon.

A 37-year-old Roland man is now facing charges of methamphetamine possession, possessing a prohibited device knowing possession is unauthorized, and two counts of possessing

a weapon for a dangerous purpose. He was released on an undertaking and will appear in court in May.

A 33-year-old woman from Winkler has been charged with possessing methamphetamine, possessing a weapon knowing possession is unauthorized, two counts of possess a weapon for a dangerous purpose, and failing to comply with the conditions of an undertaking. She was remanded in custody head of a March 18 court hearing.

Finally, a 31-year-old Carman man will also be charged with possessing a weapon knowing possession is unauthorized, possessing a weapon contrary to an order, two counts of possessing a weapon for a dangerous purpose, two counts of possessing a stolen credit card, and two counts of failing to comply with a probation order. He remains in police custody.

BETTER EDUCATION STARTS TODAY

Manitoba PC MLA's are committed to strengthening our education system and **putting students first.**

- Shifting resources from topheavy administration to the classroom
- Giving parents more meaningful involvement in their children's education through new School Community Councils
- Unifying 37 school divisions into one Provincial Education Authority (while maintaining the French school division, DSFM) with 15 regions focused on parental involvement and putting students first
- Building 20 new schools and following up with a \$1.6 billion education funding guarantee

Manitoba spends some of the most in Canada per student, yet we are among the last when it comes to student outcomes in science, math and reading.

Let's prepare our students for the future.

It's time for a change. It's time to put students first.

To learn more, visit: bettereducationmb.ca

Manitoba **PC Caucus**



Safe at Home Barn Dance wraps in Winkler

"WHEN WE CAN

DO THIS AGAIN

IN PERSON WE

WILL."

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The P.W. Enns Centennial Concert Hall stage lights were on for the first time in months last weekend for a very special concert.

Country music artist Quinton Blair brought his Safe at Home Barn Dance Tour to a close in Winkler Saturday evening, following up on shows in Dauphin and Steinbach.

The performance was streamed live on Blair's Facebook and YouTube pages as he and his band played to an empty concert hall.

Lack of a real-life audience aside,

Blair said it feels pretty good to be able to get back to perform-

different, is though. It's not the same as being on stage for a live show," he said in advance of the concert."You kind of learn that it's not so much about interacting with your audi-

ence in the same way ... it's a different delivery, a different style of live performance and it's actually not something I'm totally comfortable with."

That said, it's also not something he expects to have to do forever.

"When we can do this again in person we will," Blair said.

The hunger for entertainment and live music after a year without has made these virtual shows a big hit.

"We've had lots of positive response from people across Canada, across the United States," said Blair. "And that's the interesting thing about playing a livestream is that you're able to actually play for people beyond the hyperlocal market. We're going to play in Winkler, for Winkler, but people from all over are actually going to watch the show."

The tour was sponsored by a grant from the provincial government's Safe at Home Manitoba program, which has been supporting online events and activities across the province this winter.

"They liked that we've got this ability to go and work in rural environments and that our proposal was to go to the actual towns and play," Blair said.

It was an opportunity not just to provide a free concert for people to enjoy from the safety of their own homes, but also to support entertainment

> venues that have had to be closed since last fall.

"There's so many great places to play and, to me, it's sort of a whole picture kind of thing when you look at the music business," said Blair. "We wanted to go and support local businesses, support the venues.

"It's more than just playing a show—there's all the trickle-down that's associated with live music, too."

Picking the Winkler concert hall to wrap up the series was a no-brainer for Blair.

"I just love playing in Winkler," he said. "It's a beautiful concert hall and a year ago almost to the day we were supposed to play in there [before the show was cancelled thanks to the pandemic] ... so this was kind an opportunity to get back there now."

Though 2020 saw the cancellation of dozens of shows for Blair and his band, they certainly haven't been sitting idle in recent months.

They've been pretty steadily working on new music, with two singles



FACEBOOK.COM/ **QUINTONBLAIRMU-**

Quinton Blair wrapped up his Safe at Home Barn Dance Tour at the P.W. Enns Centennial Concert Hall in Winkler on Saturday. The show was streamed live on Blair's social media pages as the band played before an empty concert hall.



out this spring.

But he's also been enjoying figuring out a new work-life balance.

"My horses have never seen this much of me,"he said, laughing."We're a band that's used to playing 80-100 times a year. We work a lot and all of a sudden that rug was just kind of pulled out from under us."

The extra time at home with his family has put into focus what Blair hopes his career will be moving forward, perhaps concentrating his shows a bit more so he's not on the road for such long stretches.

"It's really outlined what I want my work-life balance to look like,"he said.





Former Winklerite heading up MB's vaccine task force

By Ashleigh Viveiros

If you've been tuning into the province's vaccination program updates in recent weeks you might have noticed a familiar face up on the screen.

Johanu Botha is co-lead of Manitoba's Vaccination Implementation



SUPPLIED PHOTO
Johanu Botha is the co-lead of
Manitoba's Vaccination Implementation Task Force.

Task Force, working alongside Dr. Joss Reimer in developing our province's plans to get as many people vaccinated against COVID-19 as possible in the weeks and months ahead.

He comes to the role as the head of Manitoba's Emergency Measures Organization, a position he's held since 2019

But rewind the clock a little and you might remember Botha as a teenager right here in Winkler, studying at MCI in Gretna. Go back exactly 10 years, in fact, and he was a summer student reporter for the Voice.

"At some point I gave up on a journalism career," Botha said, laughing, in a chat with the Voice last month. "After that summer I pivoted to a career in emergency management pretty quickly ... studying how governments and people respond to disasters."

Advanced degrees in the topic followed, but Botha also set out to not get stuck in the world of academia for too long.

"I was super afraid about becoming pigeonholed or only becoming an academic," he said. "I didn't want to do just the teaching piece. I wanted to be hands-on."

That led him to apply for the Cana-

dian Armed Forces at the same time as he was pursuing his PhD in emergency management. He served as a part-time reservist while completing his studies.

"That was my life for a good five, six years where at that point I was a trained soldier and pretty much a functioning academic earning my PhD and publishing articles and putting together a textbook and stuff. So I was this 'prac-ademic.'"

Botha and his unit were deployed during several natural disasters on Canadian soil in that time, which gave him a first-hand look at how emergency management plays out in reallife scenarios.

"Whenever I could take best practices from the research I did so, and then vice versa where I was able to a few times look at the research and go, 'Yeah, that's never going to happen."

Though he lived and studied in Ontario for several years, Botha's heart remained in Manitoba.

"I've always had a soft spot for my home province—I actually have a bison tattooed on my shoulder—so I was looking for an opportunity to come back," he said.

He found it in a job analyzing emer-

gency plans for Manitoba's health department and, later, developing crisis and continuity plans for the provincial cabinet, eventually working his way up to his current role.

Though he only really stepped into the public spotlight when it comes to Manitoba's COVID-19 response in recent weeks, Botha has been in the thick of things since the pandemic began last year.

"It's really been about supporting the health system and the health system's response," he said, explaining that in the same way his department would be there to support Manitoba Wildfire Service or local municipalities in the case of a fire or flood situation, making sure they're getting whatever they need to address the crisis, so too have they been there for the health system through the pandemic. "We did as much as we could to ensure that they have the resources and support that they need."

The EMO also helped conduct an assessment early on in the pandemic to try and predict the impact it was going to have on all the other government departments.

Continued on page 21

False alarms cost the community thousands: fire chief

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Winkler Fire and Rescue responded to 43 false alarms in 2020.

It's the lowest number of such calls in three years (they had 45 in 2019 and 52 in 2018), but each one still cost the department—and by extension the community—a pretty penny.

"Some people are under the assumption it's a volunteer department," Chief Richard Paetzold said, explaining the fact of the matter is that Winkler Fire is a paid-on-call service. "The term volunteer basically stops when you join—you volunteer to go to the calls that you can go to, but they do get paid for being there."

Rolling out the trucks filled with fire-fighters—whether they end up fighting a fire or not—costs the community about \$1,000 each time for the lot.

"It adds up," Paetzold said.

The department is able to fine homeowners or businesses if false alarms become a regular thing at a given building, though they prefer to use such incidents as an opportunity for prevention and education.

"We work with the occupant owner to give them suggestions" to reduce false alarms, Paetzold said, explaining that might include ensuring their smoke detectors are well-placed and functioning properly and encouraging them to put a plastic box over an alarm that might otherwise be pulled frequently by those with poor impulse control.

"There was one business where the shopping carts, where they're all lined up, was right by the fire alarm," he said. "So people would put their kid down in the cart and there's this nice red panel there right beside them. The first year I was here we got multiple calls there for that."

Putting a cover over the unit that sets off an in-house alarm before

someone even touches the actual fire switch solved the problem and kept firefighters from having to show up for no reason.

Financial implications aside, false alarms also mean Winkler firefighters—who generally have full-time jobs—have to take time away from work to respond.

The department relies on the fact local businesses are willing to give their employees the flexibility to be on call as firefighters. False alarms abuse that generosity.

"Every time that happens their workplace is getting reduced production out of that employee," Paetzold

pointed out.

And then there's the Boy Who Cried Wolf situation.

"You get too many false alarms at place and people tune it out," Paetzold said. "I've got stories of times where you roll up and there's smoke coming out of a window and everybody else is looking out their window going, 'Oh, the fire trucks are here again' [instead of evacuating]. That's when bad things can happen.

"So we try to reduce fire alarms not just because of it being a financial burden ... but for all those other reasons, too."

Birthday bash still a go: Paetzold

Winkler Fire chief Richard Paetzold noted he's heard from a few kids wondering whether the birthday party he promised them is still a go.

The fire department was inundated last year by families hoping to have a fire truck drive by their homes with birthday wishes for kids unable to have parties with their friends thanks to COVID-19.

Fulfilling every request wasn't feasible, so the chief announced once the pandemic was over the fire hall would host a huge community birthday bash for everyone.

He hasn't forgotten that promise.

"We're still planning that birthday party," he said last week. "It's going to be focusing on the kids because they're the ones who have had their lives changed the most out of this."

Paetzold is optimistic restrictions will ease enough later this year to make it safe to host such an event. The public will be given plenty of notice that it's coming up, he said, so no one misses out on it.

— Ashleigh Viveiros

Province announces support funding for hotels

By Lorne Stelmach

Local hotel owners and operators welcomed word last week that some provincial support will be coming their way.

The Manitoba government announced \$8 million in funding for the creation of a hospitality sector relief program to provide financial assistance to the accommodation and tourism industry.

It will be administered by the Manitoba Hotel Association and the Manitoba Lodges and Outfitters Association for distribution to hotels and full-time licensed resource tourism operators for fixed costs that have not been covered by other relief pro-

Premier Brian Pallister noted they recognize Manitoba's tourism sector is a key contributor to the province's economy and that it has been significantly impacted by the pandemic.

"It's 11,000 people, by the way, in Manitoba who are employed by that industry," he said. "It's a big industry for our province and very important that they get the support they need."

That's welcome news to several Morden-Winkler hotels.

"We will be happy with the support. We'll take what we can get," said Jonathan Enns, general manager of the Best Western locations in Morden and Winkler. "It will be a great help for us. We'll have to see how they are going to divvy up the funds."

"We definitely needed some support

because it's been a very hard year. Any support we can get is beneficial and helpful to us, so we're grateful," said Karina Bueckert, director of development for Innkeepers, which operates the Quality Inn in Winkler. "I don't know how much that is actually going to break down for us, but I'm looking forward to seeing all those details."

The program will provide grants as a reimbursement for a percentage of eligible expenses which can include property insurance, mortgage interest, property taxes, land leases, service fees, maintenance of camps, and resource retention costs.

The hotel industry is among those sectors that have been especially hard hit by the pandemic, suggested Enns.

"It's been pretty difficult because there has been nobody travelling for so long, and then having restrictions on and off ... you get everything back on track but then they take it all away again," he said, noting they've started to see their numbers on the rise again of late. "It's slowly coming back with pools being able to open, we're seeing some families coming around ... and with the weather changing we're seeing some work crews coming out this way now as well."

Bueckert lauded the hotel association for its efforts to shine a spotlight on the industry's struggles of the past

"[They've] done a phenomenal job of advocating for us," she said." I think what this last year has done is it has definitely brought to light the impor-



tance of the advocacy role."

She noted the Quality Inn has many aspects to its operation that have been impacted, including the lounge, restaurant, and beer store alongside the hotel and conference centre.

"It's the only full service property in this region, so we've been impacted hard," Bueckert said. "In the beginning, the rural properties outperformed the city properties. Now that has shifted, and the Winnipeg property and the Edmonton property are outperforming the rural, so it kind of

"This is not going to go away," she added, noting the challenge they face is "having to convince people that it is safe to travel again. We in the tourism industry will have to convince people it's okay to stay in a hotel, it is safe, it is probably a lot cleaner than most places.

"We are hoping it picks up again in the rural areas ... we're hoping that summer brings back some business again," she said. "You can have a safe staycation ... we hope people see that as an opportunity."

It's not going to be like this forever: Roussin

By Lorne Stelmach

The province preached continued caution this week even as it moved to further ease public health restrictions.

There is still a long way to go with vaccinations, and case numbers-including variant cases—have climbed in recent days, noted chief public health officer Dr. Brent Roussin at his Monday update.

He offered some notes of optimism but continued to advise against nonessential travel and discouraged spring break and Easter celebrations plans.

"We want to continue to open in a cautious manner, but we do need to do what we can to delay the transmission of this virus, delay a third wave, as we are rolling out vaccine," he said. "We need to be cautious. We can

think back to the issues that we had following Thanksgiving. This isn't how we wanted to spend our spring break or holiday weekend. We do continue to need to be cautious with our case numbers slowly trending up and the variants of concern becoming more and more an issue," said Roussin.

"It's not going to be like this forever. We do have optimism that we see the vaccines beginning to roll out, but we're still many, many weeks to months away from having enough of the population protected for us to really significantly reduce our public health measures," he said.

"We have to keep our interactions down outside of our households, or we are going to see a third wave, and that is going to compromise our ability to rapidly vaccinate Manitobans."

On Monday, the province reported

one additional COVID-19 death in the Winnipeg health region, which brought the total deaths to 928.

The five-day COVID-19 test positivity rate was 5.2 per cent provincially and 3.7 per cent in Winnipeg. There were 65 new cases of the virus confirmed Monday to bring the total since the pandemic began to 33,418.

The number of active cases was at 1,205 at the start of the work week. A total of 138 people were in hospital due the virus, 25 in ICU.

Active cases in the Pembina Valley include eight in Winkler, two in Morden, two in the Altona area, one in Lorne/Louise/Pembina, three in Carman, and two in Red River south.

Manitoba as a whole has thus far had 63 confirmed cases of the B.1.1.7 variant and 14 of the B.1.351 variant. Officials on Friday confirmed a possible variant exposure connected to Pine Ridge Elementary School in Winkler in the two weeks prior to March 17.

A case in a school does not mean that COVID-19 was acquired or transmitted at the school, but the affected cohorts at the school and on bus routes as well as close family contacts were advised to isolate.

Meanwhile, vaccination eligibility on Monday was broadened to include people aged 65 or older and First Nation people aged 45 or older.

Eligible individuals can book their appointment at a supersite online at protectmb.ca with an email address and their health card number. Appointments can also be made by calling 1-844-626-8222.

You can also sign up at the website to receive vaccination updates via email.

arts&culture

Children's booklet a tool to spread hope: author

By Lorne Stelmach

A project that is spreading a message of hope around the world all started thanks to the lockdown that arose because of the pandemic.

What was supposed to be a twoweek stay in Thailand turned into eight months, and it was during that time the idea for what became David's Song came to James Paul Humphries.

"It's become a tool that kind of gets the conversation started about hope," Humphries said of the booklet based on Psalm 1 verses 1 to 6 and for which he originally had small expectations.

"Originally, we thought we would print a couple thousand, and now we have crossed over 167,000 books ... and we have a waiting list and about 12 countries that are waiting," he said. "We did not know at the time what the response would be for David's Song or how many pastors and leaders would want the booklet to use as a tool to share the hope of Jesus Christ with others ... the response was amazing."

Having the time on his hands became a blessing for Humphries along with his wife Hkaw Win Humphries.

It started to form in the fall of 2019 in Myanmar, which is Hkaw Win's homeland, before they returned to



their apartment in Thailand, which is where they then had to remain and drop their plans to leave to teach in China.

Being a pastor and teacher, the idea of creating the message around Psalm 1 was something that was near to Humphries' heart, and it wasn't long before everything fell into place and he began working with Myanmar artist Naw Ra.

"I had no plans or expectations for this booklet and was not sure where it would lead. I found out quickly that God had a plan for this booklet," Humphries said. "Within about four weeks, we had a working booklet to take to the printers. It is amazing how the talents that we needed to complete the book came together so quickly."

The booklet went into Thailand and Myanmar and was translated into four different languages in about a

The project's journey expanded further when the Humphries returned to Manitoba last fall and found themselves in lockdown once again.

"We came back to Canada and we felt we should at least print a couple thousand copies that we could hand out to people and share," Humphries said."It exploded. We then went from printing another 1,500 to printing

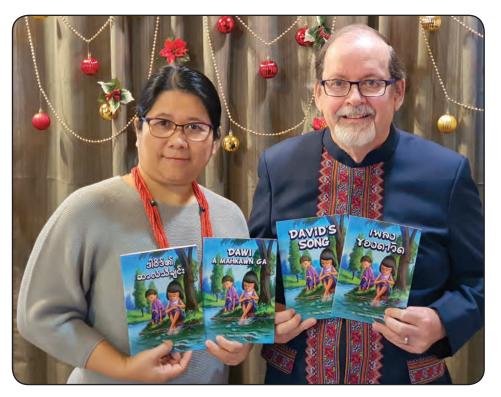
"It just continues to grow," he added, noting that about 36,000 copies went out in the Steinbach area as a flyer in the local newspaper. Thousands of copies are going out with the Voice and its sister papers this week.

Around the world, the distribution now ranges from another 25,000 copies in Thailand and 32,000 copies in Myanmar to other countries including the United States and the Fiji Islands.

"We built the website," Humphries said. "There's already 11 languages there that people can download and it is currently being translated into 22 more languages."

Humphries suggested there may be a couple key factors driving the appeal of David's Song.

"I think what it seems to be, from my point of view, is people have tried the



James Paul and Hkaw Win Humphries with David's Song, a booklet they've created about Psalm 1 that has been translated into dozens of languages and distributed in countries around the world and right here at home in Manitoba.

"I FOUND OUT

QUICKLY THAT

PLAN FOR THIS

GOD HAD A

BOOKLET."

things of this world ... what the world offers them or the governments offer them or what science offered them ... and some of these things aren't work-

He also reflected on ideas around self-identity and self-worth.

"Over this last year, I think those two things for some groups of people have

been crashing down, so it has caused people to look outside of themselves," Humphries said.

"We had a security in that, in the things we have produced or the world or the governments or science, and that has been shaken. Everything has been shaken, and now it's caused people to look outside both the churches and other people," he contin-

ued. "They're looking for something that they realize is more than who

"A lot of people seem to have wanted a positive story, something in the midst of all of this negative ... it's given people hope that there is a hope outside of themselves."

Reflecting as well on his own background of having come from a broken home before becoming a Christian at age 17, Humphries marvels at where this has all led him now.

"My journey from there has taken me to where we are now, and I guess I never would ever have thought or even dreamed that, being a person who lived off the streets who now has people reading something you wrote from all around the world," he said.

"This Psalm of David has only six verses but it causes the reader to self-

> reflect. It seems David wants to challenge the reader to make some type of decision on how to live," he continued.

> "I've printed lots of other materials over the years ... but this looks like, if everything continues to go like it looks ... it could easily go to a million copies. Every week

people are emailing, phoning and wanting more, and as long as we can put the finances toward it, it can continue to grow."

"It is very overwhelming for me. I'm just humbled that this would happen. You wake up in the morning kind of pinching yourself," he concluded. "I have a very strong faith in our Lord Jesus Christ ... and He's the one who brings it to life, not me. I'm just a vessel or a channel."

• INCREDIBLE CREATURES

New species identified in 2020

By John Gavloski

There are still a lot of undiscovered and unnamed animals and plants in the world. Each year hundreds of new species are still being identified. These include not just small creatures, but larger animals and even primates.

At least 170 new species of beetles and three species of bees were identified in 2020. Although there have been hundreds of new species identified from all corners of the earth over the past year, in this column I will focus on three continents and some of the cool new animals discovered there.

South America: Small Frogs and **Behaviour Altering Wasps**

An expedition into the cloud forests of the Zongo Valley in the Bolivian Andes uncovered 20 species new to science. These include the lilliputian frog, which is among the tiniest in the world, measuring around 10 millimeters, about the size of an aspirin tablet. These small amphibians live in tunnels beneath the moss and hu-

mus. Despite their frequent calls the researchers said they are very difficult to track. Also discovered were four new butterflies, and four orchid spe-

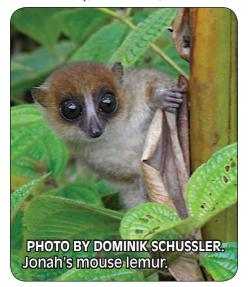
Another research expedition found 15 new wasp species in the Andean cloud forests and Amazon rainforest of Brazil. All of the wasps are in a group (genus) called Acrotaphus, and all have a unique way of parasitizing spiders. Females of these wasps use venom to temporarily paralyze a spider in its web. The wasp then lays a single egg on the spider. While the spider is hosting the wasp egg, it no longer weaves its normal web, but builds a web that will later protect the wasp pupa. When the wasp egg hatches, the larva of the wasp eats the spider, and then lives in the specially built web while it pupates.

North America: New Salamander Although previously collected, a new species of salamander was identified by examining its DNA. The Carolina sandhills salamander (Eurycea arenicola) is found in the springs and small streams in the sandhills region of North Carolina. The state has 64 named salamanders, more than any other state in the country.

Africa: From Little Lemurs to Giant Frogs

In many towns in Madagascar, giant frogs are bred in ponds or easily caught in the countryside and eaten as dishes such as frog fritters or frogs legs. One of these giant frog species, which can be more than 10 centimeters, and well-known to locals, was unknown to science. It was named Mantidactylus radaka. There are now 362 recognized species of frogs in Madagascar.

Mouse lemurs are a group of shy nocturnal primates found on the island of Madagascar, and considered the smallest group of primates in the world. They are about the size of a human fist. Scientists documented a new species called the Jonah's mouse lemur (Microcebus jonahi), which is a bit bigger than the average mouse



lemur. As far as researchers know, it occurs only in a small area of lowland rainforest in Mananara Nord National Park in northeast Madagascar. Here, it faces threats from deforestation, which is a real concern in Madagascar. There are 108 species of lemurs and 25 species of mouse lemurs. All are threatened with extinction.

Such discoveries of new species are important as they enrich our understanding of Earth's complex web of life and strengthen our ability to make informed conservation decisions. It's exciting to think about what is still out there waiting to be discovered.

"I'm confident in the system that we've built"

From Pg. 18

"The one thing about a pandemic is it affects everyone—it affects Agriculture, it affects Families, it affects Justice," Botha said, adding that the wide reach of the pandemic was something the people leading Manitoba's response to it needed to get a handle on quickly.

"What we realized, and I think what every province realized pretty quickly, is an actual pandemic-one you experience, one you're not just making plans for—it impacts everything. Everyone and their dog is impacted in some way," Botha said, explaining the localized way of approaching a natural disaster doesn't really work in this case. "This required a whole of government, a whole of society response."

As the first global pandemic in generations, it's been an eye-opening experience for everyone in-

"Like everyone else, we'll be looking at lessons learned for next time," Botha said, adding that creating and constantly adapting a response plan for a contagious virus is a challenge like no other. "The ability to experience it in a career as an emergency manager ... there's a fulfilling aspect to be a part of that. It makes the average wildfire or flood pale in comparison."

"Unlike those, this one has been very difficult to forecast and to try and predict what's going to happen next," he said, noting the response around the globe has rarely been perfect, but governments and health officials are, for the most part, simply trying to get through this the best they can, limiting the

He calls the pandemic perhaps"the most armchair quarterbacked event" in human history.

"Which is fine—we should be under scrutiny and we should be under pressure because we're expected to lead us all out of this, but it's very different when you're actually in it," Botha observed. "When you are in the thick of battle on this, there's just a fundamental difference from being in the fight and watching the fight."

With thousands of Manitobans getting vaccinated against COVID-19 every day—a number the province hopes will hit the tens of thousands in the weeks to come—Botha is proud of the work the task force has done to try and get our province across the pandemic finish line.

It's been an interesting puzzle to assemble that

"We're a very complicated province, arguably the most complicated province geographically given how many isolated, non-road access communities we have, mostly in the 55th parallel up," Botha said. 'The feds essentially take [the vaccine] to our warehouse and then they leave it. That's their job. And then from there it's on us ... it arrives and then we have to spit it out all across the province."

The various approved vaccines have different transport and storage needs, some of them requiring extremely cold temperatures. There are supersites and pop-up clinics and focused implementation teams spread out across hundreds of thousands of square kilometres, all waiting for the vaccine to arrive.

"It's a massive system ... the forecasting modeling and the by-the-hour plans that we have to get this out, it's amazing how much goes right," Botha said, giving credit to the literally thousands of people who have stepped up to get this done. "We're talking over 2,000 staff involved in this whole thing ... over 900 distinct locations overall that will have vaccines administered. It's a big endeavour."

Despite all these challenges, Botha is feeling pretty good about the months ahead.

"I'm confident in the system that we've built. It's a large system and I think we can pump out a lot of vaccine," he said. "Now, on the army side there's a famous saying that no plan survives contact with the enemy. To some degree that is always true. You can have everything in place and then reality happens and you're going have some bumps in the

"I'm sure we'll have bumps in the road, but I think the system is ready. We'll tweak as we go along, but we're ready to administer thousands of vaccines. The issue for us has really been one of supply.

"There's light at the end of the tunnel with these vaccines," Botha stressed.

If there's a silver lining to be found in the past year, Botha said it's in how Manitobans have supported one another through this crisis.

"It's been great to see especially smaller communities pull together during this time," he said, lauding areas like Morden-Winkler for their grit and stamina—attributes he feels he learned growing up in the area. "I think I brought some of that small city grit to my vaccine planning."

A LOOK BACK

The hanging of Laurence Glenvin Gowland

Submitted by Julie McNeice

The lone body buried somewhere in an unmarked grave in the courthouse prison yard in Morden is Laurence Glenvin Gowland, 21 years old, born in 1887 in Keston Wensley, Yorkshire England to parents Robert Gowland and Sarah Emily Lacy.

Gowland was hanged on a hastily-built scaffold constructed by a hangman wearing a fake moustache and beard who departed immediately after construction. The hangman was never identified except he had registered in the local hotel under assumed name "G. Mick."

Laurence Gowland was a British Home Child who came to Canada in October 1904 at the age of 18. His father, who was a maltster, died in August 1894 at 36 years of age, when Gowland was only eight. Gowland had six brothers and sisters; a younger sister Lily Marian had died in October 1894.

Although his mother Sarah was a nurse domestic, she couldn't support the family and had no help as her parents had died in 1881/82. In the 1901 census she was listed as an inmate at Leeds Union Workhouse in deplorable conditions of disease and suffering and was segregated. Because she was segregated Sarah was separated from her children. The children were separated from each other and institutionalized to Children's Society orphanages. Gowland and his sister Annie also became inmates in the workhouse.

In 1891 Britain passed the Custody of Children of Relief Act that permitted the removal of children from their parents and stripped parents of parental rights without court intervention. It prevented the return of their children after a stay in an institution



and legalized their removal from the country.

There is a misconception these children were scooped from the streets and there was no other choice for them. The vast majority were not orphans, but desperate parents believed orphanages were a better life for their children. Many believed they could retrieve them, but that didn't turn out to be true. Parents were made to repay the cost of the child's return, and once they departed the country their whereabouts were not revealed.

Dr. Thomas Bernardo brought children to Canada from National Children's Homes where they entered an indentured contract with terms of service no Canadian parent would accept for their own family. Those children became known as British Home Children and over 100,000 children were sent to Canada between 1869 and 1948, of which about 3,600 came to Manitoba.

Upon arrival in Canada children were sent to distributing and receiv-

ing homes and then on to farmers. Many children suffered terribly during this time; first in being ripped from their parents and siblings, then shipped away from everything familiar and marginalized for them. Many lost their sense of identity about love and belonging.

British Home Children were often treated as outcasts and "street rats" and not cared for lovingly; they were there to work, suffering bullying, taunting and violence. Children were beaten, abused, starved and worse. Some children were treated kindly and accepted in the home as a family member, but those were few and far between.

Gowland spent a year at a training farm at Russell and another year at a farm north of Manitou and then became a worker on a farm two miles from Killarney. He had worked there for two years for a brother and sister Brown when the tragedy happened.

The Ottawa Journal May 23, 1907 newspaper article says that on May

22nd young Georgina Brown, who kept house for her brother, was "outraged and murdered by Laurence Gowland, a Bernardo Boy, who had been making his home with the Browns for two years past.

"Her brother was absent from home for two hours yesterday afternoon, and it was during this time the brutal crime was committed. The murderer went to the girl's room where she was dressing after dinner, and after probably accomplishing his purpose, and after a terrible struggle, evidences of which were everywhere, apparently, he cut the girl's throat with a razor. He then attempted suicide by cutting his own throat with a butcher knife but will likely recover."

On December 13, 1907 Gowland was hanged at 7:45 a.m. for the murder of Georgina Brown. It is said, "without muttering a word, the prisoner stood up and accompanied by two jailers left his cell and joined in the procession ... he went to the scaffold without a tremor" and without assistance.

Reverend A. Wiley, Sheriff Piggott, and jail surgeon Dr. C.A. Parr officiated.

Surely this is not the life Robert and Sarah Gowland envisioned for their son and the values they instilled in him. And God only knows the forlorn life those have that lose their identity for love and belonging. These children had nobody; nobody to turn to, nobody to ensure they received fair and humane treatment, and evidently Gowland didn't have a lawyer.

The courthouse library is off-limits to civilians so until an extensive investigation where all documents and evidence can be reviewed into the story of Gowland, some of us hesitate to call him guilty.

RM of Stanley introducing residential recycling

Also compost drop off starting April 1

By Lorne Stelmach

The RM of Stanley will be introducing a residential recycling program this year.

The curbside recycling collection is planned to begin in July for villages and certain residential cluster areas throughout the municipality.

The municipality is estimating about

70 per cent of residents will be serviced with the bi-weekly pickup system utilizing 360 litre roll out carts, while other residents not serviced with the curbside program will be able to make use drop off depots in Morden or Winkler.

More information will be provided in the next few weeks to residents who will be receiving the curbside service, which Reeve Morris Olafson acknowledged may have been over-

"We were probably the only municipality that didn't really have anything like this," said Olafson. "We did consultation meetings with all of our rural villages, and we didn't hear anything negative, so we thought we would go ahead with the program.

"There's no cost to the individual, but everything's got a cost," he said, estimating that cost to the municipality will end up in the \$40,000 to \$50,000 range. "We're covering that from general revenues, and it's not overly exhorbitant.

"Everybody's going to get some benefit out of it," Olafson said. "And when we consider things like less burning in the villages, less stuff in the landfill ... I think it's going to be worthwhile here in the end."

Council wanted to ensure all resi-

Continued on page 23

GUEST COMMENTARY

COVID-19 pandemic – lessons to keep

By Cam Dahl, Manitoba Pork

As we approach the one-year anniversary of pandemic lockdowns, COVID-19 fatigue has set in for most. We want to see our families again. We want to have a barbeque with our neighbors. We want to be able to meet a group of friends at a restaurant. While we don't want to talk about positives coming out of the COVID-19 experience, there are lessons for our relationship to agriculture and food that need to be remembered after the pandemic response ends.

One of the foremost lessons we have learned during this pandemic is the importance of people on the front lines. There are too many "front lines" to list. I am grateful for them all.

I would like to focus on the frontline workers of Canada's food supply. Being able to put food on the table depends upon staff at grocery stores being willing to come to work every day despite the risk of infection. Hav-



Biosecurity is a higher priority to protecting our food supply.

ing full grocery shelves would not be possible without truckers who are willing to make the long haul, even with restaurants and rest facilities closed across the country. Farmers from coast to coast continue to produce healthy and nutritious food. We would be lost without them.

We cannot forget the workers who keep our processing plants running. These jobs might have been taken for granted in the past, but we need to acknowledge their importance. It would only be a matter of days before meat counters were empty if processing plants were forced to close due to labour shortages.

Canada's agriculture supply chains have proven to be incredibly resilient during the pandemic. Demand from domestic consumers continues to be met, and we are seeing record export levels for agriculture commodities as countries around the world turn to Canada as a reliable supplier. We should honour the people who have created and maintain this reliability. We can do this by giving priority vaccine access to those employed in critical infrastructure and essential

The second key lesson from COV-ID-19 is the importance of biosecurity. How do you stop a pandemic (no this is not the beginning of a bad joke)? The best way is to prevent the virus from spreading from one host to another. We have spent a year physical distancing, limiting contacts outside of our home, not travelling, and wearing masks. These lessons apply to raising livestock too.

Foreign diseases are one of the biggest threats to the animals under producers' care. Like COVID-19, these diseases are spread from contact with

> someone who has travelled to an infection zone, contact with infected animals, and contaminatequipment,

"FARMERS FROM Some estimate that more than 200 million COAST TO COAST pigs in China were lost **CONTINUE TO** in the first year of the outbreak there. There is PROVIDE HEALTHY no cure for the disease AND NUTRITIOUS and there is no vaccine to protect animals. FOOD. WE WOULD How do we keep ASF out of the Cana-**BE LOST WITHOUT** dian swine population? THEM." Through rigorous ad-

protocols, similar to steps taken to limit the spread of CO-

carefully limiting barn access to only those who provide animal care.

The threat of disease outbreaks is

ernments across the country pass legislation that impose penalties for those who trespass onto farm operations. This legislation is a necessary step to protect animals, and helps producers ensure that disease outbreaks like ASF do not happen.

Gratitude for front line workers that keep our grocery shelves full. Understanding the reasons for enforcement of strict biosecurity require-

ments that keep livestock safe from devastating foreign animal diseases. These are two lessons from the global pandemic that should not be forgotten after we are vaccinated, and the lockdowns are finally lifted.



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Governments are passing biosecurity legislation to protect animals from disease outbreaks.

feed, and clothing.

African Swine Fever (ASF) is one example of a virus that has devastated the pork industry around the world. why we are seeing provincial gov-For the past fifteen

years, the disease has spread across Africa, central Asia, and several European countries.

herence to biosecurity

VID-19. Animals that are brought into barns screened to be disease free, as is the feed used to raise healthy animals. Pork producers also restrict contact with the outside world through

What's You'v story?

We want to hear from you.

The Winkler Morden Voice connects people through stories to build stronger communities. Do you know someone who has a unique hobby? Will be recognized by a local organization for volunteer service? A teacher that goes above and beyond? A hometown hero? A sports star? A business celebrating a milestone or expansion? A senior celebrating their 100th birthday? A young entrepreneur starting out?

Please share your story ideas at news@winklermordenvoice.ca Phone 204-332-3456



> RECYCLING, FROM PG. 22

dents and business in Stanley had an option to dispose of their recycling with no direct cost, so there are also the drop off options of the Municipal Waste Management depot in Morden and Gateway Resources in Winkler.

In addition, the municipality is allowing residential tree and branch drop off at the SWAMP regional landfill.

A compost drop off site will also be available as of April 1 for residential compost at no cost with a voucher provided by the RM. Residents will need to pick up vouchers from the RM of Stanley office which would then be presented to Penner Waste at the time of delivery.

SDOPTS&recreation INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

Winkler ball player finding success down south

By Lorne Stelmach

A Winklerite is making big strides south of the border in his quest for the big leagues of baseball.

Tristan Peters is enjoying a strong start in his third season playing for Southern Illinois University, including recently earning Missouri Valley Conference player of the week honours.

Peters went 10-for-15 for a .667 batting average with two doubles, a homer, seven RBIs, seven runs scored and four stolen bases in leading SIU to a perfect 4-0 week.

All four matches were multi-hit games, and he reached base at least three times all of them as he continues to solidify himself as an elite centrefielder in U.S. college baseball.

"Right now I feel pretty good, and I'm just going to keep working hard, and hopefully our team can keep winning," Peters said.

The team had been undefeated as of last week with one of the best records in college baseball, and Peters is an integral part of that success.

He was hitting at a 21-for-45 or .467 clip with three doubles, two homers, 12 RBIs, 15 runs scored and six stolen bases, and he had hit in 10 of SIUs first 11 games including a nine-game hitting streak that included eight multihit games.

The team's 11-0 start was tied for the best in program history and bumped them into collegiate baseball's top-30 national rankings at 25, and the Salu-

kis were ranked nationally for the first time since 1990.

This all follows Peters earning a NJ-CAA Gold Glove and being all-conference in 2019 when he hit .373 as a freshman with six home runs and 26 stolen bases. He then hit .354 with 13 stolen bases in the shortened 2020 season.

Peters sees a couple factors as working in both his and the team's favour right now.

"The biggest thing is how much we practice and work on our craft," he suggested. "We take probably more swings than maybe anybody in the nation.

"Everyone on our team puts in extra work. That really helps, and we've got really good coaching. I've learned a lot, not just from the coaching but my teammates as well," he added. "It's a really good environment here to get better; I think it's gotten me a lot better."

Peters, who is still considered to have three years of eligibility after last season was lost due to the pandemic, was attracted to Southern Illinois University after a visit there and meeting the coaches.

"They have a new coaching staff and they're really good,"he said. "The main thing that really got me to come here was I just knew the team was going to be good because of the age of our team. We had several 23-year-olds, so we've got a veteran team ... we've got a bunch of junior college transfers like myself, and we really only have one



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Winkler native Tristan Peters is enjoying a strong start to his third season of baseball at Southern Illinois University.

first year guy. So we really know how to play the game really good."

Peters has come a long way since very much growing up with the game here in southern Manitoba.

"I started playing at four years old, I believe, playing t-ball in Winkler. As I got older, I went through the minor ball system," he said.

At age 16, he went to Alberta and stayed with an aunt in Calgary while completing his last two years of high school.

"That's where I really began to get a lot better at baseball, which then led me to college, where I got even more experience," said Peters, who also played a number of times for provincial teams at events like the Western Canadians.

Obviously, the ultimate goal is to make the major leagues

"It would take me getting drafted, which would bring me into the minor league system," Peters said. "Then you basically move up the system from A, AA and then AAA. You don't need to necessarily go through every one of them, but sometimes it can take some time.

"That's what everybody dreams ... that's the goal for everyone," said Peters, who noted he is thankful for the opportunities that have come his way and that can be available to others starting up in the local baseball system as well. "It's grown so much bigger now, and that's really cool for kids growing up with the game now. It's good to see it growing in Canada."

Selkirk, Carberry hosting next year's Viterra, Scotties

By Brian Bowman

Next year's Viterra Men's Championship will be hosted by the Selkirk Curling Club.

CurlManitoba unveiled its choices to host Manitoba's top events in each of the next two seasons last week.

Next year's Viterra is slated for Jan. 25-30, 2022, followed by the Tim Hortons Brier scheduled for Lethbridge in early March.

"We are excited by the opportunity to host the Viterra Championship for the second time," said Garry Dola, Chair of the Selkirk host committee in a media release. "We helped launch the Viterra era in Manitoba curling when we hosted the first Viterra championship in 2016. We look forward to working with CurlManitoba and Viterra in staging a showcase event as a part of a season which relaunches Manitoba curling after this

past year of pandemic cancellations."

Meanwhile, the Scotties Tournament of Hearts will be hosted by the Carberry Curling Club from Dec. 14-19, 2021. The winner advances to the national Scotties in Thunder Bay, Ont., in January 2022.

"Carberry was one of the original seven clubs which formed the Manitoba Curling Association over 130 years ago," noted CurlManitoba past president Rob Van Kommer, who will chair the 2021-22 Scotties organizing committee.

"Our committee said an emphatic 'Yes' when we were given this opportunity. It will be one of the highlights in the history of our curling club and in the sports history of our community."

In 2022, the East St. Paul Curling Club will host the Scotties while the

Continued on page 25

ETC Commodities buys Coulee processing plant

By Voice staff

An edible beans processing plant in Plum Coulee is under new ownership. ETC Commodities Inc., the North American subsidiary of Export Trading Group (ETG), announced last week that it has acquired Globeways Canada's facility and related production assets in the community.

"This acquisition brings a lot of synergy to our existing global supply chain network and as a result we'll be able to offer a diversified portfolio of products to our existing customers," ETG North America's CEO Rav Kapoor said in a statement announcing the purchase.

"We will be further investing and upgrading the facility to maintain the high standard of quality and service

our customers expect," he added. "It marks an important milestone in our pursuit to connect local Canadian farming communities to global mar-

The addition provides ETG North America with processing capacity for dry beans by diversifying its pulses portfolio, as well as strengthening its farm-level partners across the region, the company said.

The facility is capable of sourcing and processing a variety of types of beans, including pinto, black, navy, great northern, white kidney, light and dark red kidney, and cranberry

ETG North America has continued expanding its footprint since its inception in 2012.

"The Plum Coulee facility will support ETG North America's growth and leadership in the rapidly expanding market for dry edible beans," said Kapoor.

The company said it plans to bring the plant's capacity up to 13 staff

> CURLING, FROM PG. 24

Neepawa Curling Club was selected to be the home of the Viterra Championship.

The most recent provincials, wiped out due to the COVID pandemic, were originally scheduled to be hosted by East St. Paul (Scotties) and Selkirk (Viterra).

"Although they understood and were supportive, we know that the Selkirk and East St. Paul committees were disappointed by the need to cancel this year's championships," said CurlManitoba executive director Craig Baker. "It was appropriate for us to consult with them both on their wishes going forward."

The schedule of events for qualifying into the Carberry Scotties and the Selkirk Viterra Championship will be announced in the near future.

take a break > GAMES

2 8 6

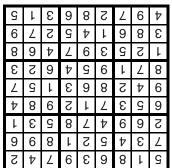
2 9 occode. 9 8 3 orozog. 5 9 3 2 wood, 7 5 7 9 9

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put vour sudoku savvy to the test!

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!





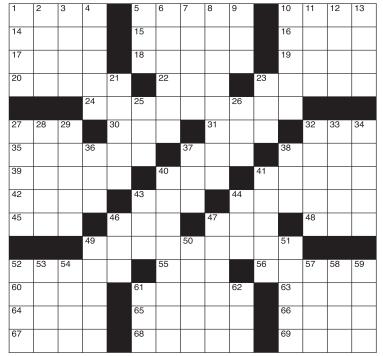


Crossword Answer

CROSSWO

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Volcanic crater
- 5. Long times
- 10. Swedish rock group
- 14. Having the means to do something
- 15. Rods or spindles
- 16. La __ Tar Pits, Hollywood
- 17. Missing soldiers
- 18. Measuring instrument
- 19. All of the components considered individually
- 20. Play "__ Irish Rose"
- 22. Gene
- 23. Barrels
- 24. London-based soccer team
- 27. Feline
- 30. Breed of sheep
- 31. Body part
- 32. Doctors' group
- 35. One who follows the rules
- 37. Cigarette residue
- 38. Ancient Greek sophist
- 39. Polish yeast cakes
- 40. Promotional materials
- 41. Pancakes made from buckwheat flour
- 42. Completed perfectly
- 43. Photo
- 44. A peninsula in SW Asia
- 45. The common gibbon
- 46. Disfigure
- 47. Ribonucleic acid
- 48. Japanese honorific
- 49. Pieces of music
- 52. Expressed pleasure
- 55. Having ten
- 56. Type of sword
- 60. Humble request for help
- 61. Eating houses
- 63. Italian Seaport
- 64. Cain and 65. Measure the depth
- 66. U. of Miami's mascot
- **67. Political outsiders** 68. Greek sorceress
- 69. Body part
- **CLUES DOWN**



- 1. Mother
- 2. Jewish calendar month
- 3. Jai ___, sport
- 4. Establish again
- 5. Swiss river 6. Racetrack wager
- _ but goodie
- 8. Closeness
- 9. Soviet Socialist Republic
- 10. At right angles to a ship's length
- 11. Women's undergarments
- 12. Mountain stream
- 13. Expresses pleasure
- 21. Painful places on the body
- 23. Automobile
- 25. Scandinavian god of battle
- 26. Expresses surprise
- 27. Secret political clique
- 28. Yields manila hemp
- 29. River in central Italy 32. Brain injury science acronym
- 33. Mental illness

- 34. A person from Asia
- 36. Father
- 37. General's assistant (abbr.)
- 38. Cooked or prepared in a specified style
- 40. Large terrier
- 41. Hillsides
- 43. Golf score
- 44. Not or
- 46. Type of student
- 47. Flower cluster
- 49. Closes tightly
- 50. Saudi Arabian desert
- 51. Famed vaccine developer
- 52. Multi-function radar (abbr.)
- 53. Actress Jessica
- 54. Pay attention to
- 57. Beloved big screen pig
- _ Clapton, musician
- 59. Take a chance
- 61. Cost per mille
- 62. Helps little firms

get inspired > MEALIDEAS



Prep time: 15 minutes Cook time: 15 minutes Servings: 4

2 bags Success Jasmine Rice

2 tablespoons canola oil

1 pound large shrimp, peeled and deveined, tails removed

8 baby bok choy, trimmed and quartered

1/2 cup diced fresh mango

1 tablespoon minced fresh ginger root

1/4 teaspoon salt

Lime-Ginger Shrimp Fried Rice

3 tablespoons soy sauce

2 tablespoons lime juice

Prepare rice according to package directions. Let cool completely.

In wok or large skillet over mediumhigh heat, heat oil. Cook shrimp, bok choy, mango, ginger and salt, stirring, 3-5 minutes, or until shrimp start to curl and bok choy starts to wilt.

Stir in rice. Cook 2-3 minutes, or until well coated. Stir in soy sauce and lime juice. Cook 2-3 minutes, or until rice is heated through.



Prep time: 10 minutes Cook time: 10 minutes

Servings: 4

1 bag Success Jasmine Rice

2 tablespoons olive oil

1 pound large shrimp, peeled and deveined, tails removed

2 cloves garlic, minced

1 teaspoon chili powder

1 teaspoon ground cumin

1/2 teaspoon dried oregano

1/2 teaspoon salt

1/4 teaspoon black pepper 1 can (15 ounces) black beans, drained

and rinsed

Cuban Shrimp and Rice Tacos

1/2 cup orange juice

3 tablespoons lime juice

8 corn tortillas, warmed

1 ripe avocado, halved, pitted, peeled and sliced

1/4 cup chopped fresh cilantro leaves Prepare rice according to package directions.

In large skillet over medium heat, heat oil. Add shrimp, garlic, chili powder, cumin, oregano, salt and pepper; saute 2-3 minutes, or until shrimp start to curl.

Stir in rice, black beans, orange juice and lime juice. Cook 5-8 minutes, or until shrimp are cooked through and liquid is mostly absorbed.

Serve shrimp and rice in warm tortillas garnished with avocado and cilantro.

Do you have a Health or Wellness Business?

Call The Winkler Morden Voice at 204-467-5836 to advertise



Expert patient here to help!

By Susie Schwartz

Want to know where to get solid intel on armpit disease?

Ditch your pride!

You may think I am talking about not being embarrassed when asked to put on an ill-fitting gown only to have it opened wide to have an abdomen exam. Well, that too, but today is a different topic.

I'm sure you've noticed pamphlets lining the halls and walls of the doctor's office covering all sorts of topics. But have you ever seen anyone actually looking at them? There's a high chance you haven't. I bet this is due to people being shy about their problems, and feeling like others might watch and judge.

First, let me tell you some benefits of getting past this. I know we have the internet, but can we say, 'over-whelm?!' And, 'uncurated?!' Let's throw in an, 'alarmist' for good measure. I won't lie. I use the internet to gather information sometimes, but a great starting point is the pamphlets on those walls, which always include reputable online resources and often support groups too. A doctor might get annoyed if you say, 'So I saw online that armpits can be anemic', but will probably thank you for doing your research if you quote a pamphlet from their office. (Please write in and tell me if you ever see armpit anemia in a pamphlet, yes?!)

And if the hunt for that ailment isn't enough to make you pick a few up, here's a few tricks to get past your shyness: Remember that you'll probably never see these people again; realize they may be struggling with something equally 'private' and



Susie Schwartz

will only see you as a brave hero for reading about it; recognize that they are too busy playing 'stripes vs plaid' (see my Feb. 18 column) or have their noses buried in their phones and really aren't that interested in your armpit ailment; refuse to give in to fear even if you know someone in the waiting room. (Or you could always pop back and grab a few after your weekly coffee date is long gone.)

So be brave and take those free and trustworthy resources. (And then wash/sanitise those hands of yours!) They might just lead you to the answers you need.

Less health stress, yes?

A published author and motivational speaker, Susie currently lives in the UK. She welcomes feedback and questions. Find her on FB @ medicalmissstress, Instagram @ medicalmiss_stress and her website lesshealthstress.com

A published author and motivational speaker, Susie currently lives in the UK. She welcomes feedback and questions. Find her on FB @ medicalmissstress, Instagram @



Chocolate Latte

1/2 cup hot brewed coffee or 2 shots espresso 1 Premier Protein 30g High Protein Chocolate

Shake

2 teaspoons cocoa nibs

1. In large 14-16-ounce mug, prepare espresso or coffee.

2. Pour chocolate shake on top to combine.

3. Top with cocoa nibs.

Golden Turmeric Vanilla Protein Latte

- 1 Premier Protein 30g High Protein Vanilla Shake
- 2 shots espresso
- 1/2 teaspoon turmeric
- 1/4 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1 dash black pepper
- 1. Froth vanilla shake using frother on warm setting. If you don't have a frother, simply shake in container 45 seconds, pour into mug and microwave 45 seconds.
- 2. Add espresso to 14-16-ounce mug then top with frothed shake, turmeric, cinna-



mon and black pepper; whisk to combine.

Classifieds

Book Your Classified Ad Today - Call 204-325-6888 or Email ads@winklermordenvoice.ca



SCRAP METAL

Buyer for all farmyard scrap, machinery and autos. NO ITEM TOO LARGE! Best prices paid, cash in hand. Phone Alf at 204-461-

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

Do vou own rental property in Winnipeg? Are you tired of dealing with long term renters and the mess they can leave? We can provide you with a different option to earn a rental income. Pawluk Realty 204-890-8141.

MISCELLANEOUS

For sale - septic tanks; 2004 Tahiti 29 ft. 5th wheel RV, \$14,500 and 2008 Starwood 27 ft. 5th wheel RV, \$17,500, both RV's have 1 large slide, air conditioner, microwave, stove, fridge, sleeps 6; storage containers or C Cans for sale or rent. Call 1-204-739-3031.



HIP/KNEE Replacement?

Other medical conditions causing
TROUBLE WALKING or DRESSING?

The Disability Tax Credit allows for \$2,500 yearly tax credit and up to \$50,000 Lump sum refund.

Apply NOW; quickest refund Nationwide! Providing assistance during Covid.

Expert Help: 204-453-5372

MISCELLANEOUS

Having a spring online conference or virtual event? Advertise it in the 37 MB weekly newspapers and get noticed! Each week our blanket classifieds could be helping your organization get noticed in over 340,000 homes! It's AFFORD-ABLE and it's a great way to increase and connect with our 37 weekly member newspapers. For as little as \$189 + GST, get your important messaging out! Call us at 204-467-5836 to book or email classified@mcna.com for details. MCNA -Manitoba Community Newspapers Associa-204-947-1691. www.mcna.com

WANTED

Wanted: buying escontents farms, barns, garages, etc. Buying most anything old & interesting! Contwojunkies@out look.com, Text/Phone: 204-918-1607. Junkies Estate, Salvage, Antiques & Oddities.

BATTERIES FOR EVERYTHING!

50,000 BATTERIES **IN STOCK**

*Auto *Farm *Marine *Construction *ATV
*Motorcycle *Golf Carts *Rechargeables *Tools *Phones *Computers *Solar Systems & design * Everything Else!

THE BATTERY MAN 1390 St. James St., WPG

1-877-775-8271 www.batteryman.ca

SENIOR RENTALS

Garden Park Estates in Winkler has suites available.

Everything is on one level, indoor heated parking is available, common rooms for socializing and gatherings (when safe), lunches are available 5 days per week, hairdresser salon is in the building. Suites are spacious with open concept, walk-in pantry, utility room is ready for you to bring your own washer and dryer, fridge, stoye and dishwasher are provided. All suites have an outside entrance and are connected inside through common hallways. All suites have a patio and a small flower bed. Rent includes maintenance, snow removal, yard care,

and all utilities. Call or email Cindy at

204-362-7151 or cindyek@mts.net.

NOTICES

Urgent Press Releases - Have something to announce? A cancellation? A change in operations? Though we cannot guarantee publication, MCNA will get the information into the right hands for ONLY \$35 + GST/HST, Call MCNA 204-947-1691 for more information. classified@ or email mcna.com for details. www.mcna.com.

FEED AND SEED

Forage Seed for sale: & organic conventional: Sweet Clover, Alfalfa, Red Clover, Smooth Brome, Meadow Brome, Crested Wheatgrass, Timothy, etc. Star City, SK. Birch Rose Acres Ltd. 306-921-9942.

> Please support our advertisers SHOP LOCAL

HEALTH

Are you suffering from joint or arthritic pain? If so, you owe it to yourself to try elk velvet antler capsules. Hundreds have found relief. Benefits humans and pets. EVA is composed of proteins, amino acids, minerals, lipids and water. Kev compounds that work to stimulate red blood cell production & cartilage cell regeneration & development. Stonewood Elk Ranch Ltd., 204-467-8884 or e-mail stonewoodelkranch@ mymts.net

FIND THE RIGHT PERSON FOR THE POSITION **EMPLOYMENT/** CAREERS AD in

Voice 325-6888

SENIOR RENTALS

Oak West Estates

in Morden has 2 bdrm/2bthrm suites available. Everything is on one level, indoor heated parking is available, common rooms for socializing and gatherings (when safe), lunches are available 5 days per week. Suites are spacious with open concept, walk-in pantry, utility room is ready for you to bring your own washer and dryer, fridge, stove and dishwasher are provided. All suites have an outside entrance and are connected inside through common hallways. All suites have a patio and a small flower bed. Rent includes maintenance, snow removal, yard

care, and all utilities. Call or e mail Cindy at 204-362-7151 or cindyek@mts.net.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF HENRY WALL also known as HEINRICH WALL, late of the Postal District of Winkler, in the Province of Manitoba, Deceased.

ALL CLAIMS against the above Estate duly verified by Statutory Declaration must be sent to the undersigned at P.O. Box 1150, 564 Mountain Ave., Winkler Manitoba, R6W 4B2, on or before Friday, April 30,

DATED at the City of Winkler, in the Province of Manitoba, this 18th day of March, 2021.

WIENS DOELL LAW OFFICE per: Scott C. Doell Solicitor for the Administrator

BEE KEEPER WANTED

Are you a hard worker looking to try something new and exciting?

Bee Keeper Wanted!

Spring-September

No experience necessary.

Call Jake @ 204-513-0529

COMMERICAL SPACE

3600 SQ. FT. OF COMMERCIAL SPACE IN MORDEN

across from the new McDonald's location. Lots of front windows, washrooms and 2 entrances, back lane access with back door for loading. Call Brian at 204-362-0745 to see and for more info.

PUBLIC NOTICE



NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION **SALE OF LANDS FOR ARREARS OF TAXES RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF THOMPSON**

Pursuant to subsection 367(7) of The Municipal Act, notice is hereby given that unless the tax arrears for the designated year and costs in respect of the hereinafter described properties are paid in full to the Municipality prior to the commencement of the auction, the Municipality will on the 23rd day of April, 2021, at the hour of 10:00 AM, at Rural Municipality of Thompson, 530 Norton Avenue, Miami MB, proceed to sell by public auction the following described properties:

Roll Number	Description	Assessed Value	Amount of Arrears & Costs for Which Property May be Offered for Sale
17200	LOTS 4 AND 5 BLOCK 2 SS PLAN 2141 MLTO IN SW 1/4 8-5-5 WPM - 45 FIRST STREET, ROSEBANK	L -\$1,600	\$9,510.56
17600	LOT 21 BLOCK 2 SS PLAN 2141 MLTO IN SW 1/4 8-5-5 WPM EXCEPTING - ALL MINES AND MINERALS VESTED IN THE CROWN (MANITOBA) BY THE REAL PROPERTY ACT, LOT 22 BLOCK 2 SS PLAN 2141 MLTO IN SW 1/4 8-5-5 WPM - 60 SECOND STREET, ROSEBANK	L-\$1,600 B-\$89,900	\$8,012.94
56650	LOT 16 BLOCK 3 SS PLAN 1887 MLTO EXC ALL MINES AND MINERALS VESTED IN THE CROWN (MANITOBA) BY THE REAL PROPERTY ACT IN SW 1/4 8-5-6 WPM - 46 LETAIN STREET. MIAMI	L -\$8.600 B -\$231,200	\$13,090.79
56750	LOT 19 BLOCK 3 PLAN 1887 MLTO IN S 1/2 8-5-6 WPM - 54 LETAIN STREET, MIAMI	L-\$10,200 B-\$7,100	54,297.54
57700	LOT 14 BLOCK 4 PLAN 1887 MLTO IN S 1/2 8-5-6 WPM - 54 BLIGHT STREET, MIAMI	L-\$10,200 B-\$116,500	\$11,436.70

The tax sale is subject to the following terms and conditions with respect to each property:

- The purchaser of the property will be responsible for any property taxes not yet due.
- · The Municipality may exercise its right to set a reserve bid in the amount of the arrears and costs.
- · If the purchaser intends to bid by proxy, a letter of authorization form must be presented prior to the start of the auction.
- The Municipality makes no representations or warranties whatsoever concerning the properties
- The successful purchaser must, at the time of the sale, make payment in cash, certified cheque or bank draft to the Rural Municipality of Thompson as follows:
- i) The full purchase price if it is \$10,000 or less; OR
- ii) If the purchase price is greater than \$10,000, the purchaser must provide a non-refundable deposit in the amount of \$10,000 and the balance of the purchase price must be paid within 20 days of the
- iii) A fee in the amount \$309.75 (\$295 plus GST) for preparation of the transfer of title documents. The purchaser will be responsible for registering the transfer of title documents in the land titles office, including the registration costs.
- · The risk for the property lies with the purchaser immediately following the auction.
- \cdot The purchaser is responsible for obtaining vacant possession.
- · If the property is non-residential property, the purchaser must pay GST to the Municipality or, if a GST registrant, provide a GST Declaration.

Dated this 25th day of March, 2021.

Managed by:



Dallas Braun Chief Administrative Officer Rural Municipality of Thompson Phone: (204) 435-2114 Fax: (204) 435-2067

assifieas



Your Classified Ad Today - Call 325-6888 or Email ads@winklermordenvoice.ca

SERVICES



Income Tax Filing

Don Boulton Tax Service & Bookkeeping 103-400 Stephen Street, Morden, MB

Margaret Boulton

Monday-Thursday 9am - 5:30pm Friday 9am -5:00 pm Saturday 10am to 4:00 pm

(204) 822-5401 (204) 822-6031 Fax dbmb@mymts.net

UP TO \$1500 TRADE FOR YOUR OLD CUPBOARDS, TOWARDS YOUR NEW DÉCOR **KITCHEN**

EXPIRES: APR. 2, 2021

PROMPT SERVICE **FREE DESIGN USUALLY WITHIN 24 HRS**

Ph: (204) 746-2223

FEHRSCABINETS.COM office@fehrscabinets.com



GRACE VALLEY MENNONITE ACADEMY Fundraiser **Drive Thru*** Supper With Rice, Beans, Chips and Dessert

COMING EVENTS

5:00-7:00

EBY Aluminum:

Bumper Pull Cattle & **Equipment Trailers** Friday, March. 26, 2021 Truck & Service Bodies

> Generation Grain Trailers KALDECK TRUCK

Trucks, Trailers,

Truckbeds & Tires

Full Repair & Safeties

Vehicle Parts, Tires &

Wheels
Trailer Parts & Batteries

Sales, Financing,

Leasing & Rentals

& TRAILER INC. Hwy #1, MacGregor, MB

1-888-685-3127

www.kaldecktrailers.com



Class 1 & Farm Employee

Agassiz Seed Farm Ltd is looking to add a motivated, full time truck operator and farm employee to our growing team. The ideal candidate will carry a Class 1 licence with experience, general farm operation knowledge, and a desire to learn.

Responsibilities:

- Operate a truck (local) and farm operation equipment year-round
- Yard and equipment maintenance
- General daily farm operations

Specifications:

Application deadline: March 30, 2021 Start Date: April 12, 2021 (or earlier)

Location: Homewood, MB

Salary: \$19+/hr depending on experience

Please send resumes to: murray@agassizseedfarm.com

For more information visit www.agassizseedfarm.com/careers/ or call/text Murray (204) 745-7746

PUBLIC NOTICE

CITY OF WINKLER - NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING UNDER THE PLANNING ACT

The Council of the City of Winkler, under the authority of The Planning Act, will hold a Public Hearing, at the Winkler Council Chamber, 185 Main Street, Winkler, Manitoba, on Tuesday, April 13th, 2021 at 6:45 PM, at which time and place the Council will receive representations and objections from any persons who wish to make them in respect of By-Law No. 2266-21, of the City of Winkler.

The general intent of the above By-Law No. 2266-21, is to zone the land described below, Namely:

All of Plan No. (Deposit No. 636/2020) MLTO in the SW 1/4 8-3-4 WPM

as shown outlined in a heavy solid line on the map attached hereto as

Schedule "A", and forming part of this by-law, be rezoned

"CR" COMMUNITY RESERVE ZONE TO:

"RS" RESIDENTIAL SINGLE-FAMILY ZONE,

"RT" RESIDENTIAL TWO-FAMILY ZONE, AND

"OR" OPEN SPACE / RECREATION ZONE

A copy of the above By-Law No. 2266-21, and supporting material may be inspected by any persons between the hours of 9:00 AM and 5:00 PM, Monday to Thursday and 9:00 AM and 4:30 PM, Friday, in the City Office.

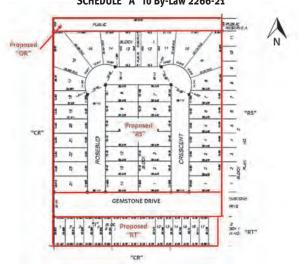
SPECIAL COVID-19 PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIREMENT:

Members of the public must confirm if they plan to attend the public hearing within 2 days of the hearing date by contacting planning@cityofwinkler.ca or calling the city office at (204) 325-9524 ext. 3. This pre-registration process will ensure that staff have time to ensure physical distancing is achieved.

DATED at Winkler, in Manitoba, this 4th day of March, 2021. Designated Officer

City of Winkler

SCHEDULE "A" To By-Law 2266-21



FINANCIAL PLAN

R.M. of ROLAND **PUBLIC NOTICE** -2021 FINANCIAL PLAN

Pursuant to Section 162(2) of The Municipal Act. The Council of the Rural Municipality of Roland will hold a Public Hearing to present the 2021 Financial Plan:

Tuesday, April 13, 2021 • 10:00 a.m. **Roland Memorial Hall**

Interested persons may make representation, ask questions, or register an objection to the Plan. Copies of the Financial Plan will be available for review from the Municipal Office after April 5, 2021.

All those who wish to attend the hearing are asked to pre-register with the municipal office to ensure that social distancing measures and Public Health orders due to COVID-19 are adhered to.



TENDER

INVITATION TO TENDER

We invite TENDERS for the purchase of 100% of the shares of a Corporation, the sole asset of the Corporation being approximately 80 Acres of land in the R.M. of Roland described as follows:

N ½ OF SE ¼ 9-4-3 WPM

(approx. 80.00 acres)

Title No. 3016626/4 Roll No. 5900.000

All of the property is cultivated farmland.

A cheque for \$10,000.00 must accompany the tender as a down payment. Written tenders must be received by 12:00 p.m. on March 31, 2021. Down payment will be returned if tender not accepted. Closing date for the sale shall be May 1, 2021, by cash or approved loan proceeds. Any loan advances paid after closing date are subject to payment of interest at loan rate during reasonable delay for registration of security. Purchaser shall be responsible for payment of all 2021 property taxes and GST or shall self-assess for GST. The highest or any Tender may not necessarily be accepted.

ADDRESS: WIENS DOELL LAW OFFICE

P.O. Box 1150,

564 Mountain Ave., Winkler, MB R6W 4B2 Ph. (204) 325-8807

To the attention of Christopher G. Doell For more information on the tender email info@wiensdoell.com

mcna

Response Builder Advertising WORKS!

- GET SEEN by over 340,000 Manitoba Homes!
- Create instant top of mind awareness
- Showcase your info, business, product, job, announcements or event
- We format it, to make it look great!
- Starting at \$239.00 (includes 35 lines of space)
- · The ads blanket the province and run in MCNA's 37 Manitoba community newspapers
- Very cost effective means of getting your message out to the widest possible audience

Contact this newspaper NOW or MCNA at 204 947 1691 or email classified@mcna.com

www.mcna.com

The Aurora 1648 SaFt **RTM**

3 bedrooms, ensuite. huge kitchen, quartz countertops, walk-in pantry, island, James Hardie Siding Huron Tripane Windows.

Pictures available

wgiesbrechthomes.ca

Brand New Show Home

204-346-3231

McSherry Auctions

12 Patterson Dr., Stonewall, MB

Online Timed Auctions @ iCollector.com

Estate & Moving Closes Wed Mar 31 @ 7:00 pm

Estate & Moving

Closes Wed Apr 7 @ 7:00 pm

Consignments Welcome! Booking 2021 Auctions/ Online Auctions at Your Facility or Ours!

(204) 467-1858 or (204) 886-7027 www.mcsherrvauction.com



Classifieds

Winkler 🔵 Morden

Book Your Classified Ad Today - Call 325-6888 or Email ads@winklermordenvoice.ca

Please support our advertisers SHOP LOCAL

PUBLIC NOTICE



UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE PLANNING ACT NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

On the date and at the time and location shown below, a PUBLIC HEARING will be held to receive representations from any person(s) who wish to make them in respect to the following matter:

THE RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF STANLEY BY-LAW 10-21 Being an AMENDMENT to the R.M. OF STANLEY ZONING BY-LAW 8-18, AS AMENDED.

HEARING R.M. of Stanley Council Chambers LOCATION: 1-23111 PTH14, SW 7-3-4W DATE & TIME: April 1, 2021 at 9:30 a.m.

GENERAL INTENT: TO RE-ZONE PARCELS OF LAND IN THE RM OF STANLEY

FROM: "AG" AGRICULTURAL GENERAL T0: "GD" GENERAL DEVELOPMENT AREA: PART OF LOT 2, PLAN 45492; PART OF LOT 6, PLAN 2255; AND

ALL OF LOT 2, PLAN 64173 BOTH WITHIN SE 24-2-4W

WITHIN THE VILLAGE OF FRIEDENSRUH



FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:

Melissa Groening, Planning and Development Officer Rural Municipality of Stanley, 1-23111 PTH14

Phone: (204) 325-4101

Email: mgroening@rmofstanley.ca

A copy of the above proposal and supporting material may be inspected at the location noted above during normal office hours, Monday to Friday. Copies may be made and extracts taken there from, upon request.

*Please note: If you wish to provide comments regarding the application we ask that you consider submitting your comments in writing to our office by email or mail (drop off box also located at the office). Due to limited seating, if you wish to be present at the hearing we will require you to contact our office a minimum of 2 business days prior to the scheduled hearing so that we can ensure we can meet the physical distancing requirements. Anyone attending the office will be required to wear a face mask. If you wish to participate in the hearing electronically, please contact mgroening@rmofstanley.ca or call 204-325-4101. Thank you for your understanding and patience.

PUBLIC NOTICE



UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE PLANNING ACT **NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

On the date and at the time and location shown below, a PUBLIC HEARING will be held to receive representations from any person(s) who wish to make them in respect to the following matter:

> THE RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF STANLEY BY-LAW 9-21 Being an AMENDMENT to the R.M. OF STANLEY ZONING BY-LAW 8-18, AS AMENDED.

HEARING R.M. of Stanley Council Chambers **LOCATION:** 1-23111 PTH14, SW 7-3-4W **DATE & TIME:** April 1, 2021 at 9:30 a.m.

GENERAL INTENT: TO RE-ZONE PARCELS OF LAND IN THE RM OF STANLEY

FROM: "AG" AGRICULTURAL GENERAL **TO:** "GD" GENERAL DEVELOPMENT

AREA: PART OF NE 8-3-6W. VILLAGE OF THORNHILL



FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:

Melissa Groening, Planning and Development Officer Rural Municipality of Stanley, 1-23111 PTH14

Phone: (204) 325-4101

Email: mgroening@rmofstanley.ca

A copy of the above proposal and supporting material may be inspected at the location noted above during normal office hours, Monday to Friday. Copies may be made and extracts taken there from, upon request.

****Please note: If you wish to provide comments regarding the application we ask that you consider submitting your comments in writing to our office by email or mail (drop off box also located at the office). Due to limited seating, if you wish to be present at the hearing we will require you to contact our office a minimum of 2 business days prior to the scheduled hearing so that we can ensure we can meet the physical distancing requirements. Anyone attending the office will be required to wear a face mask. If you wish to participate in the hearing electronically, please contact mgroening@rmofstanley.ca or call 204-325-4101. Thank you for your understanding

Book Your Classified Ad Today -Call 325-6888 or Email ads@winklermordenvoice.ca

AUCTION



MORDEN CONCRETE **BUSINESS CLOSING AUCTION APRIL 2 2021,** TIMED, ONLINE **AUCTION IN** MORDEN MB. **SOUTH RAILWAY AVE, OWNERS:** 204-822-5769

After 3 generations, starting in 1967, Morden Concrete Works Ltd. is retiring its business. This is an auction vou do not want to miss. You will find trucks, skid steers boom truck, Dresser pay loader, many tools, much equipment, including a CopperHead XD 3.0 Laser Screed with low hours; everything and more that is required to operate a concrete business. See the auction catalog at www.billklassen.com

See more at info. & pics at www.billklassen.com



Ph: (204) 325-4433 Cell: (204) 325-6230 Fax: (204) 325-4484



MORDEN CONCRETE BUSINESS CLOSING AUCTION APRIL 2. 2021 TIMED ONLINE AUCTION

South Railway Ave., Morden, Manitoba. **Owners 204 822-5769. After 3 generations,** starting in 1967, Morden Concrete Works Ltd. is retiring its business. This is an auction you do not want to miss. You will find trucks, skid steers, boom truck, Dresser, pay loader, many tools, much equipment, including a CopperHead XD 3.0 Laser Screed with low hours; everything and more that is required to operate a concrete business. See the auction

catalog at www.billklassen.com See more at info. & pics at www.billklassen.com



Ph: (204) 325-4433 Cell: (204) 325-6230 Fax: (204) 325-4484

BOOK YOUR ANNOUNCEMENT TODAY

- BIRTHDAYS
- MARRIAGES
- ANNIVERSARIES
- NOTICES
- OBITUARIES
- IN MEMORIAMS
- ENGAGEMENTS
- BIRTHS
- THANK YOUS

• GRADUATIONS

CALL: **204-325-6888**



Book Your Classified Ad Today - Call 325-6888 or Email ads@winklermordenvoice.ca



GERALD FRIESEN RETIREMENT FARM AUCTION, CLOSING TIMED ONLINE APRIL 20. CLOSING BEGINS AT 6 PM

From west end of Morden, MB, 4 miles north on 432, then, 5 west on mile 17 and ½ mile south on road 33 w, long driveway to the west #16068. Tractors Ago DT180A FWA, HD 11 Allis Crawler w/dozer, two MF 4840 4X4 Tractors, case 1370, MF 1085, Case vac, IHC 350 w loader, combines JD 9600, 8820, 7720, 1979 800 FORD tandem grain hauler and much more. See selling catalog at www.billklassen.com Owners 204-822-3633 Cell 204-362-0678

e more at info. & pics at www.billklassen.com



Ph: (204) 325-4433 Cell: (204) 325-6230 Fax: (204) 325-4484

AUCTION

SCHELLENBERG RON & KAREN FARM RETIREMENT AUCTION

TIMED ONLINE, CLOSING APRIL 16 /21. 91 GNADENTAL AVE WEST, GNADENTHAL VILLAGE, 6 MILE SOUTH OF PLUM COULEE AND 2 WEST OR 6 SOUTH OF WINKLER ON 32 AND 6 EAST ON 201





IHC 2007 9200I Tandem Grain truck, Versatile 956 tractor, 1586, 1086, 1085 MF, 3020 John Deere, CIH 2388 combine, full line of tillage air seeder etc, 10 grain bins, see catalog at www.billklassen.com 204-325-4433, cell 204-325-6230 or Owners 204-325-

at info. & pics at www.billklassen.com



Ph: (204) 325-4433 Cell: (204) 325-6230 Fax: (204) 325-4484

0240, 204-829-3843



FRANSMANN RAY AND LINDA FARM RETIREMENT AUCTION FANNYSTELLE, MB. **CLOSING APRIL 12, 2021**

Very nice line of farm equipment. See auction bidding catalog at www.billklassen.com

See more at info. & pics at www.billklassen.com



Ph: (204) 325-4433 Cell: (204) 325-6230 Fax: (204) 325-4484

BIRTHDAY





Happy 90th Birthday, Basil Agnew!

Family man, business man, card player, coach. Teller of stories, player of euchre, singer of Irish songs. Churchgoer, sports lover, community builder. Loving husband, smooth dancer, dedicated volunteer. We are so blessed to have lived, loved, and laughed with you into your golden years.

-Love, your family

FIND THE RIGHT PERSON FOR THE POSITION

EMPLOYMENT/ CAREERS AD in oice

325-6888

PUBLIC NOTICE

CITY OF WINKLER - NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING UNDER THE PLANNING ACT

The Council of the City of Winkler, under the authority of The Planning Act, will hold a Public Hearing, at the Winkler Council Chamber, 185 Main Street, Winkler, Manitoba, on Tuesday, April 13th, 2021 at 6:45 PM, at which time and place the Council will receive representations and objections from any persons who wish to make them in respect of By-Law No. 2263-21, of the City of Winkler.

The general intent of the above By-Law No. 2263-21, is to close a portion of the public lane located between 7th and 8th Street in the City of Winkler described below, Namely:

Parcel A of Plan No. (Dep. 0032/2021) MLTO in the SE 1/4 4-3-4 WPM

as shown outlined in a heavy solid line on the map attached hereto as Schedule "A", A copy of the above By-Law No. 2263-21, and supporting material may be inspected by any persons between the hours of 9:00 AM and 5:00 PM, Monday to Thursday and 9:00 AM and 4:30 PM, Friday, in the City Office.

SPECIAL COVID-19 PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIREMENT:

Members of the public must confirm if they plan to attend the public hearing within 2 days of the hearing date by contacting planning@cityofwinkler.ca or calling the city office at (204) 325-9524 ext. 3. This pre-registration process will ensure that staff have time to ensure physical distancing is achieved.

DATED at Winkler, in Manitoba, this 4th day of March, 2021.

Designated Officer

City of Winkler

SCHEDULE "A" To By-Law 2263-21



CITY OF WINKLER - NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING UNDER THE PLANNING ACT

The Council of the City of Winkler, under the authority of The Planning Act, will hold a Public Hearing, at the Winkler Council Chamber, 185 Main Street, Winkler, Manitoba, on Tuesday, April 13th, 2021 at 6:45 PM, at which time and place the Council will receive representations and objections from any persons who wish to make them in respect of By-Law No. 2264-21, of the City of Winkler.

The general intent of the above By-Law No. 2264-21, is to zone the land described below,

366, 352, 344 and a portion of 310 7th Street, legally described as Lots 27, 28 & 29, SP Plan 32713 MLTO, Parcel A, Plan 36563 MLTO & Deposit 0032/21 MLTO in the SE 1/4 4-3-4 WPM

as shown outlined in a heavy solid line on the map attached hereto as Schedule "A", and forming part of this by-law, be rezoned

"RS" RESIDENTIAL SINGLE-FAMILY ZONE

TO: "RM" RESIDENTIAL MULTI-FAMILY ZONE

A copy of the above By-Law No. 2264-21, and supporting material may be inspected by any persons between the hours of 9:00 AM and 5:00 PM, Monday to Thursday and 9:00 AM and 4:30 PM, Friday, in the City Office.

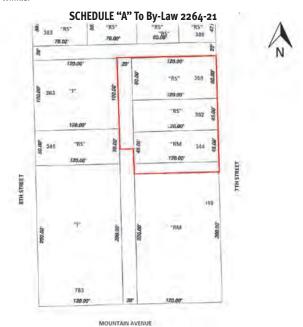
SPECIAL COVID-19 PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIREMENT:

Members of the public must confirm if they plan to attend the public hearing within 2 days of the hearing date by contacting planning@cityofwinkler.ca or calling the city office at (204) 325-9524 ext. 3. This pre-registration process will ensure that staff have time to ensure physical distancing is achieved.

DATED at Winkler, in Manitoba, this 4th day of March, 2021.

Designated Officer

City of Winkler



PUBLIC NOTICE

OBITUARY

Kathleen Doreen Treichel (nee Shapansky) 1936 - 2021

It is with deep sorrow and much love that we share the passing of Kathleen Doreen Treichel of Darlingford, MB. Doreen passed away surrounded by family on Monday March 15, 2021 at the Pembina-Manitou Health Centre at 84 years of age.

Her memory will be cherished by her children, Barry (Ellen), Brian, (Chris) and Lorie (Ken) Hutchinson; grandchildren, Jeff (Amber), Jeremy (Cherryl), Steph (Jai) Levanen, Michele Hutchinson; greatgrandchildren, Justin, Marcus, Violet and Aurora; brother, Jack (Marilyn) Shapansky; sister, Tiny (Cliff) Hauk; brother-in-law, Otto (Lois) Treichel; sister-in-law, Jean Dewar and many nieces and

nephews. Doreen was predeceased by her husband, Elmer in 1991; her parents, Peter and Anne Shapansky; parents-in-law, Gustav and Emilie Treichel and daughter-in law, Honey Treichel.

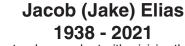
Doreen was born March 21, 1936 in Morden, MB. She completed high school and then attended normal school to obtain her basic teaching certificate. Doreen taught at Pearce School south of Darlingford for one year. Then she worked as a telephone operator in Morden until she married Elmer on July 23, 1955. They resided in Winnipeg until 1959 at which time they purchased their farm in Darlingford, MB. Doreen continued to reside on the farm after Elmer's passing in October 1991 until February 2021. She will be remembered for her passion for gardening, continuous community support and most all, the love for her family and friends. Spring always started in January when the seed catalogues arrived in the mail. She took great pride in her green house where she spent many hours starting and growing a wide variety of flowers and vegetables and would give half away to whoever needed them. Doreen was loved by all and will be missed by anyone who knew her.

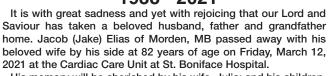
A private graveside service took place at Hillside Cemetery in Morden.

If friends so desire, donations may be made in Doreen's memory to the Darlingford Memorial Park.

> Wiebe Funeral Chapel, Morden In care of arrangements wiebefuneralhomes.com







His memory will be cherished by his wife, Julia; and his children, Jim (Evelyn) and Candice (Darren); stepchildren, Grace (Don), Irene (Tim), James (Pam); grandchildren, Shawn, Katherina, and step grandchildren, Josiah, Rachel, Matthew, Jenna, Calvin and Stephanie.

Jake was born on October 29, 1938 to Jacob P. Elias and Sarah Voth in Altona, MB. He completed high school and worked at many

places of employment including a cannery, DW Friesens and as an ad writer at CFAM in Altona. He was married to his first wife, Ruth Dueck in 1967. He decided to go to Red River College and took an Instrument Technology and Electronics Technology course. After his schooling he got a job at Transcanada Pipeline in Niverville and worked his way up into the office in Calgary. He was committed in his Christian faith and involved in the church that he attended in Calgary. His desire was for his children and grandchildren to experience their own personal relationship with Jesus. After Jake retired from TCPL (35 years) he moved to Morden. In 2004, he met Julia and they began dating. They married on July 16, 2005 with their families by their side. Since then they have really enjoyed travelling together to Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands, Hawaii, Palm Springs and many places in Canada. They loved spending time visiting family and friends at their seasonal trailer site at Miller's Campground. When in Morden they attended Hillside Church and Morden Alliance Church. Jake loved computers and keeping up with the latest technology. He even built himself a KIM 1 computer. He enjoyed different genres of music from James Last to Nitty Gritty Dirt Band to Abba, and especially Hillsong worship songs. Jake also loved to discuss politics and world events. He had a way of conversing with people that you could leave the discussion with no hard feelings, even if you were on opposite ends of the spectrum. In his last few years he loved to sit out in the sunroom and patio and enjoy the nice weather. Jake was a very humble, nonjudgmental, loving and kind man. He was very generous and had a gentle spirit about him. He is going to be greatly missed by his wife. Julia, children and grandchildren. He was very much at peace in the last few days before God called him home.

A graveside service was held at Chapel Cemetery in Morden.

If friends so desire, donations may be made in Jake's memory to World Vision.

We want to express much appreciation to the nurses, doctors and medical staff at Boundary Trails Health Centre, the Cardiac Care Unit at St. Boniface Hospital and the Palliative Care Team who provided excellent care for Jake for the short time that he was there.

> Wiebe Funeral Chapel, Morden In care of arrangements wiebefuneralhomes.com





Classifieds Announcements

Edna Grace Lumgair (nee McLean) 1922 - 2021

On Sunday March 14, 2021 at Boundary Trails Health Centre, Edna Lumgair, age 98 of Morden, MB passed away.

Edna Grace was the firstborn daughter to Ernest and Ethel (Shaidle) McLean. Memories of growing up on the farm in Londesboro District, Pilot Mound, MB during the "dirty thirties" are recorded in her first book "My Story, 2009". Edna's second book published for her 90th birthday completed her life story and included articles by family members telling why she was such a special Mother and Grandmother.

The value of education was instilled in Edna and her younger sisters by their parents. Her life was a process of learning new

skills and sharing them freely with family and community. Following completion of grades one to eight in Londesboro country school, she was determined to complete high school. During those hard times she worked for her room and board while attending Pilot Mound Collegiate. Upon graduation, she took a permit teaching job at Point Douglas School, Windygates, MB where the love and appreciation shown by those students convinced Edna that teaching was the career for her. Following a year at Winnipeg Normal School she accepted a position at Lorne School, Shadeland District.

It was a fateful occurrence that her boarding place was with Dave and Evelyn Lumgair. She soon met Dave's brother, Douglas who swept her off her feet and they married 3 July 1945, beginning their new life on Glenogil Farm.

Edna and Doug were loving partners throughout their years on the farm, sharing the labours, child rearing, elder care, community commitments, and fun of singing and playing together at hundreds of events across Southern Manitoba. When Doug suffered a debilitating heart attack at age 55, they moved to Morden and she devoted the next eight years to his care. Confined to their home most of the time, Edna used her creative talents designing her new gardens and in winters making hundreds of quilts and knitted articles for Unitarian Service and Morden Christmas Cheer.

Friends and family treasure her handcrafted gifts. Her artistic abilities were expressed in so many ways, but her musical talent was exceptional. With only one year of piano lessons, she went on to play for church and weddings, soloists and choirs, school and Scottish concerts, dances and singsongs, Tabor Home residents on Sundays for 25 years, and her final gig with 'The Guys and Gals" seniors band.

Edna received special recognition for her leadership in United Church Women, 4-H, and Morden Horticultural Society. She volunteered with the Thrift Shop, Meals on Wheels, Friendly Visitors and wrote Shadeland news for The Times. She loved having folks tour her flower gardens.

Edna was the family and local historian. She wrote the history of Lorne School and recorded stories of the McLean and Lumgair elders for posterity. Trips to Scotland and Ireland, birthplaces of their ancestors were a highlight of her life.

Edna taught her children and scores of others by encouraging them to always do their best. She never missed a 4-H achievement, dance or piano recital, operetta or festival performance. or graduation. In her final days in hospital, she was thrilled when her four little great grandsons Face Timed to show her their school projects and musical accomplishments.

Edna met the challenges of aging with her usual youthful attitude. Hearing loss left her unable to enjoy the music she loved so much. She continued quilting, sewing, knitting, reading and crosswords until macular degeneration precluded these activities. Then radio, television and visitors kept her informed of local and world news.

A quote from Sharlene's tribute to Grandma is a fitting conclusion to Edna's life story. "Grace bestows on all those who carry love in their hearts. No wonder your middle name is Grace."

She will be missed by her family, daughter, Carol and Leon Clegg, Lac du Bonnet, MB and their family, Ian Clegg and Joanne Sam and sons, Liam and Finlay, Winnipeg, MB and David Clegg and Kimberley Karpenko, Calgary, AB, son, Barry and Darlene Lumgair, Victoria, BC and their family, Jeremy Lumgair and Sharlene Starr, Brendon and Christine Lumgair and sons, Julian and Octavian, Calgary, AB, sisters, Marie Nelson, Pilot Mound, MB, Alice McKennitt, Carnduff, SK and their families.

Edna's family wishes to express their gratitude, to her relatives, friends, church community, service providers and especially her guardian angels, Cindy, Murray and Karen, Susan, Anne Marie, Margie and Eva who made it possible for her to live in her own home until age 98. And to the caring staff at Boundary Trails Health Centre who attended to her physical and spiritual needs when her family could no longer do so. And to her support network for cards, calls, prayers, messages and FaceTimes easing her final journey.

Ash interment beside Doug in Hillside Cemetery, Morden, MB. COVID-19 restrictions prevent family from coming home at this time. We hope to gather when the flowers are in bloom to honour her memory.

Donations may be made in Edna's memory to the Morden Area Foundation #13 - 379 Stephen Street, Morden, MB R6M 0G8.

> Wiebe Funeral Chapel, Morden In care of arrangements wiebefuneralhomes.com







FRED MAYOR CARMAN GRANITE MONUMENTS, INSCRIPTIONS, MEMORIAL RESTORATIONS **CEMETERY SERVICE** fmayor@mts.net

Ph. 204.822.3454 Cell 204.362.2064

HOMETOWN





少JANZEN



www.winklerautodealers.com





