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REDress Project coming to town

PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

From left: Rachelle Fehr, Denise Thiessen, Carolyn Wiebe, Amber Bezte, Courtney Yeo Thiessen, and Amara Reimer are part of a group of local women bringing artist Jaime Black's REDress Project to the Pembina Valley. For the full story, see Pg. 15.

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



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New Winkler park named in honour of Greg Ens

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Winkler's newest park will pay homage to the late Greg Ens.

The Winkler Horticulture Society and the City of Winkler revealed on Monday that the park they're building in front of the Winkler Centennial Arena will be known as the Greg Ens Memorial Park.

The announcement came on what would have been Ens' 51st birthday. He passed away two years ago after a lengthy battle with cancer.

"Greg was a tremendous person of credibility, of stability, and vision for our community," Mayor Martin Harder said, noting Ens was an active member of the local sports community, including as a participant, volunteer, and steadfast supporter. "He's left a legacy that we are proud of. It's extremely valuable to us as a city to commemorate Greg's impact on the community."

Ens' widow Kelly said her entire family is honoured by the decision to memorialize Greg in this way, and she's sure her husband would have been as well, though perhaps also a bit taken aback to be in the spotlight.

"Having grown up just one block from here on Parkview Dr., Greg spent numerous hours in the Winkler park as a child," she shared. "Spending time in the park, the arena, and ball diamonds was a regular occurrence. In many ways, these spaces were an extension of his own backyard."

"Hours were too numerous to count that were spent in the Winkler recreation facilities. As Greg became an adult he continued to spend time in these spaces. Over time his involvement switched from an active participant role to more of a coaching or volunteer role."

"Greg was a firm believer in not only giving back to those who had given to him, but also paying it forward so that



PHOTOS BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Greg Ens' family, including wife Kelly and children Mackenzie, Maria, Lani, and Lucas and his parents Al and Ruth, were on hand Monday as the City of Winkler announced the new park being built in front of the arena will be called the Greg Ens Memorial Park.

others may also benefit."

Ens noted that Greg loved sports, but he also recognized it was the relationships and life lessons they fostered that really mattered.

"Life and sport were about creating relationships and creating community," she said, explaining Greg used every opportunity he had through his volunteer roles to "build bridges and build others up."

Ens hopes the Greg Ens Memorial Park will honour the values her husband lived by.

"We hope and desire that this space can become a place where people of all ages may gather, may create rela-

tionships, and create community," she said.

Work on the park is expected to get underway this summer. It will see the space beside Winkler's giant hockey stick filled with shrubs, trees, and perennials as well as a picnic shelter, fire pit area, and a walking path that can be transformed into a skate trail in the winter. A trio of hockey player sculptures is also in the works.

"We've been really excited with how this project has just snowballed and everybody's been so excited about it," said project lead Jodi Szutu, noting it will be a place "for families to come together and enjoy."



Mayor Martin Harder was joined by horticulture society chair Margaret Penner in unveiling the name of Winkler's newest park.

Buy a tree for the new park

The Greg Ens Memorial Park will soon fill the empty green space in front of the Winkler Centennial Arena with beauty, and you can help make it happen.

The Winkler Horticulture Society is launching a donor tree program for the park, allowing supporters to purchase a tree in memory of loved ones.

"This tree will serve as a beautiful living and growing memorial while helping to create a healthy sustainable environment," the society says. "A donor tree plaque will be placed inside the shelter planned for this park."

There are several different varieties of trees to choose from ranging in price from \$100 to \$250.

For full details on sponsoring a tree, reach out to Jodi Szutu at 204-319-0177 or Margaret Penner at 204-362-2552 or email winklerhorticulture@gmail.com.

An advertisement for Central Station. At the top, it says "THANK YOU TO OUR MANY VOLUNTEERS" in large, bold, black letters. Below this, in smaller text, it says "that work with joy, dedication and passion for serving our community! There are so many different ways that people contribute to the community of Central Station. Thank you to those who make delicious food, give rides, welcome everyone coming through the door, provide childcare, carry groceries, provide a listening ear, assist those in need of clothing, clean and maintain our space, provide leadership and vision." Below the text is a photograph of the Central Station building, which has a red roof and a sign that says "CENTRAL STATION". The building is a single-story structure with large windows and a covered entrance area. The sky is blue with some clouds.

get informed

NEWS > VIEWS > WINKLER > MORDEN > SURROUNDING AREAS

Low lake levels lead council to advise water conservation

By Lorne Stelmach

As the water level at Lake Minnewasta drops, there is rising concern about the impact on the water supply for the city of Morden.

After a special meeting last Thursday, council adopted some immediate short term conservation measures

and restrictions while also looking for longer term solutions.

"This is a really serious situation and it has been on our radar for a while. It won't be as bad as 1983, they tell me, but it's getting bad," Mayor Brandon Burley said following the meeting. "We had a pretty good discussion about what needs to be done, in par-

ticular because we're expecting a dry, hot summer. So it is a substantial concern for us.

"The levels of the lake right now are beyond low. Right now we're six and a half feet below the spillway, which puts us in the Pembina Valley Water Co-op's severe drought realm," said Burley, noting that there is a rating scale similar to the fire risk levels, with each level coming with a series

of recommendations. As a result of where Morden is on the scale, the city is immediately adopting conservation measures.

"We will be permitting watering of lawns only once a week, and that will be on the scheduled day associated with your compost pickup. It will be on your composting day that you can also water and irrigate," he explained.

Continued on page 8



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Lake Minnewasta is seeing some seriously low water levels this spring, which could have a negative impact on Morden's water supply.

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Minnewasta students rally to give back in a big way

By Lorne Stelmach

Grade 3 students at Minnewasta School are learning a lesson about supporting the community while also doing their small part with a financial donation.

The school's annual charity program this year saw the students raise \$272 for the Boundary Trails Health Centre Foundation.

"We do a lot of fundraising throughout the year, and it's great coming from large corporations and individuals, but to see these students pitch in to come up with this fundraiser, I think it's great for the community and great for the foundation," said foundation board chair Ben Friesen. "They learn to do some volunteering or donating ... we need the future, we need everybody involved as much as we can, and I think in this community that's happening all the time, but to see it at this level it's just fantastic."

The project got its start from a desire to find a way for the kids to get a better grasp of what community means, explained teacher Renee Klassen.

"We started with just getting our kids to research some of the non-profits and organizations that help and support and kind of make a town the really great place to be, and



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

BTHC Foundation board chair Ben Friesen accepted a donation from Minnewasta School students (from left) Micah O., Brady Winslow, Max Klippenstein, and Colton Falk last week.

from there it kind of expanded," she said. "Most years, in February we do Wonderful Wednesdays where the kids, Gr. 3 students, bring in cookies and we sell them for 25 cents apiece, but obviously with COVID we had to change our plan."

This year, through the month of March, kids had a job jar at home and were to ask their parents for extra tasks to take on and get paid for it.

Klassen likes how the students have to take ownership of every aspect of organizing the project including hav-

ing four kids research the charity and then convince their classmates.

"I was impressed with how well they were able to explain what Boundary Trails Health Centre Foundation did, as well as I thought they came up with some pretty good questions when they interviewed Shannon [Samatte-Folkett, executive director] from the

foundation.

"I'm hoping that this is a life lesson, that they will grow up to be the kind of community citizens that we want them to be," said Klassen. "That they'll be generous with their money, with their time, with their talents, whatever they have to offer."

Stricter restrictions loom as COVID numbers rise

By Ashleigh Viveiros

More restrictions could be on the way if Manitoba's COVID-19 numbers continue to rise.

Public health officials announced 114 new cases of COVID-19 on Monday, making it the sixth straight day of triple digit increases.

"Today we're strongly advising people wear masks as much as possible, and this includes even when gathering outdoors," said Dr. Brent Roussin, chief provincial health officer. "Gatherings of any kind are not without risk, certainly if we're not following the fundamentals such as distancing.

"We know the variants of concern are much more transmissible and we're starting to see the B117 variant become more and more prevalent in Manitoba," he said, noting other jurisdictions have reported transmission of the variants of con-

cern even when outdoors.

Manitoba reported a total of 1,370 active cases of COVID-19 on Monday. The province only updates its variant tracking data from Tuesday to Saturday. As of Saturday, the number of variant cases was a 412.

The number of COVID-related deaths was at 949. There were 135 people with COVID-19 in hospital at press time, 33 in intensive care.

The increasing number of new cases of the virus coupled with the more infectious variants has health officials very concerned, especially since contact tracing is showing many people have been holding large private gatherings in their homes of late.

"We're seeing house parties, we're seeing playdates, we're seeing sleepovers," Roussin said. "We're seeing cases with many more contacts

"IF WE DON'T ACT NOW WE WILL BE RIGHT BACK INTO STRICTER RESTRICTIONS VERY SOON."

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WFRC launches new lending library

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler Family Resource Centre Lending Library is open for business.

WFRC has been lending out educational busy binders to families for a couple of months already, but now they've added board games and puzzles to the mix in conjunction with launching an online booking system.

"It's lots of stuff to learn and do with your kids," says Lending Library coordinator Galene Westhaver, explaining the goal of the library is very much to give families "activities to do together."

The themed busy binders (there are over two dozen in total) are packed full of learning activities designed to help prepare pre-schoolers for entry into Kindergarten.

"[They learn] numbers, colours, separating things from biggest to littlest, learning the alphabet," Westhaver says, noting they've received a lot of good feedback for them thus far. "The more ready you are for pre-school and Kindergarten, the better."

Adding puzzles and board games to

the library provides another avenue of outreach and gives families a chance to access some games they might not otherwise be able to invest in.

"A speech pathologist actually helped me pick them out ... they're more geared towards learning," explains WFRC coordinator Cathy Savage.

The collection includes a few classics like Monopoly but also games like Picture Charades, Pickles to Penguins, Ticket to Ride, and junior and family versions of Catan.

"We're going to get more games," Savage says, adding they're really "trying to hit the whole family" with the collection. "All those board games your kids are sick of at home, here's something new, and you don't have to go out and buy it."

To that end, if your family has gently used, complete board games and puzzles you're not using anymore, WFRC would love to accept them as a donation to the lending library.

"Send them our way and we'll give them a home here," Savage says.

You can head online to [www.wink-](http://www.winklerfamilyresourcecentre.com)



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

WFRC's Cathy Savage (left) and Galene Westhaver with some of the offerings up for grabs at the centre's new lending library. In addition to the already popular educational busy binders, families can also now borrow a host of puzzles and board games.

lerfamilyresourcecentre.com to register for the library. Thanks to a host of support grants WFRC has received, membership is free for 2021.

The library is open to anyone in the

Pembina Valley to use. Pick-up/drop off is at the WFRC offices at the Emmanuel Mennonite Church on 15th St. in Winkler.

Only minor tweaks to extended public health orders

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Anyone hoping for more lenient public health orders to come down the pike for this week are going to be disappointed.

Health officials last Thursday announced only minor amendments to the orders that were originally slated to expire on Friday, April 16 and are now in effect until Friday, April 30.

The changes include allowing liquor cart sales on golf courses and increasing the maximum attendance at self-help meetings to 25.

All other restrictions remain in place.

The province in a news release chalked the extension of the code red orders up to "increasing test positivity rates and the risk posed by variants of concern in Manitoba at this time."

The COVID-19 breakdown that same day, April 8, announced 40 new cases of the more contagious variants of concern, bringing the tally to 339. As of press time that number had reached 412 cases.

The government last week also made

some tweaks to personal care home visitor guidelines.

Residents are now allowed two general visitors at the same time, provided the visit occurs outdoors, and

one general visitor in a COVisitation shelter or designated indoor visitation room.

Visitors must wear a medical-grade mask, which will be provided by the

facility.

In-room visitation continues to be limited to designated family caregivers and end-of-life circumstances.

> COVID-19, FROM PG. 4

then we saw in the recent past and we're seeing this contribute to the transmission of the virus.

"If we don't act now we will be right back into stricter restrictions very soon."

That could include mandatory masks outdoors and a tightening of indoors gathering restrictions in the near future.

Roussin again urged Manitobans to stay home when ill, even mildly ill, and to get tested if showing any symptoms of COVID-19.

"We continually hear of cases that have multiple unnecessary contacts because they're out and about while symptomatic," he said. "We have people who have delayed getting

testing for quite some time because of mild symptoms.

"Even mild symptoms, even if you're not sure, get tested. Isolate pending results. This is one of the best ways that we could avert a third wave, which is pending."

Winkler's drive-thru testing site is making things a little easier for a certain segment of the population to get tested and get their results back quickly, often on the same day.

The site, located at 485 George Ave., on Monday opened a new Fast Pass option for eligible school staff and those working in licensed child-care centres. No appointments are necessary.

For more information on the Fast

Pass program and whether you're eligible, visit www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/testing/rapid-testing.html.

BY THE NUMBERS

Southern Health-Santé Sud at press time had 40 active cases of COVID-19 and 15 hospitalizations, three in the ICU. A total of 4,797 people in the region have recovered from the virus; 144 people have died.

In the Pembina Valley, areas reporting active cases on Monday included Winkler (eight), Morden (two), Stanley (one), Roland/Thompson (one), Carman (five), and Red River South (one).

The *Winkler Morden*
Voice



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EDITORIAL > VIEWPOINTS > LETTERS

The power of a united front

A local politician once related to me that they had a city councillor from Brandon say that they were glad Morden and Winkler fought efforts to unify the region because if the Pembina Valley ever truly connected it would be the biggest economic driver in Manitoba outside of Winnipeg.

Fortunately for Brandon and other cities this has not really happened. I mean, sure, we work together and we are friends. But it seems to me the idea of a truly unified region is so far



By Peter Cantelon

away that it will not happen in our lifetimes (unless it is legislated).

What would it look like, I wonder?

Well, a joint development plan for one thing and not simply in words. A unified chamber of commerce for the region, maybe a single school board (oh wait, that one is coming), joint community foundations, a single United Way (hey, that is happening now too).

When we start looking at policing and fire protection it becomes more challenging. Former Winnipeg police chief Devon Clunis recommended a shared Winkler-Morden police service, but what does he know? These are the most significant costs that come out of our local municipal budgets and so the wrangling about who would spend what and where a regional HQ would go (as if that truly matters) would make this one fairly difficult.

No, I fear parochialism is alive and well in the Pembina Valley and we will have to be dragged kicking and screaming by government mandate and regulation before such true togetherness is to happen.

Of course, such an initiative would be difficult to achieve, but some of the

best decisions are. Our leaders would have to go beyond words and into action.

Ultimately it requires people to speak up and state that this is something they would like to see and act accordingly. When I read the words "Shop Local" that includes Winkler and the RM of Stanley for me, a Mordenite. Why? Because it is ridiculous to think otherwise.

There is far too much unrealized potential in this provincial powerhouse of a region to be nitpicking over whether I should have bought a car at the local Dodge dealership instead of the Winkler Honda dealership (they're owned by the same company BTW).

It is long past the time local community and political leaders sit down at the table and start hammering out what a unified region would look like. It's time to dream big and stop hiding behind our small walls.

There are probably a thousand reasons one can come up with to remain unchanged, but maybe it's time to consider the audacious risk involved in planning something bigger than all of us combined.

Letters

KUDOS TO RECYCLING-SAAVY YOUTH

I would like to commend Orie Plett about his letter on the use of plastic bags and the environment [*Voice, Letters, March 18*]. I'm appalled seeing all those black plastic bags overflowing the bins and some ending up in the recycling blue ones.

I'm a senior with no children and don't think climate change will affect me much. But if I was a child or young person it would concern me very much. Most seniors don't care about recycling. I have been to senior games where bottled water

and canned pop was available everywhere but there was no blue box in sight.

You need more people like Orie all over the world to put pressures on their governments to take more action on climate change.

**Walter Dedio,
Morden**

IT'S TIME FOR FREEDOM

I am so encouraged to hear that the Christian Church of Morden is taking a stand for freedom for the right to meet together. It is refreshing to

finally hear common sense; that people that are healthy can have the freedom to be social, to live their lives.

For the past year we have been told what to do and what not to do in every aspect of our lives. It is time that we have the freedom to choose how we live, not be dictated by fear. We need to go back to common sense! We care for our family and friends, our community; we would not harm them.

What is harmful is the extreme restrictions we've all experienced in the past year. The real crisis is

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.

• FAITH FOCUS

Prayerful and engaged

Everywhere we go these days it seems that people have opinions about the responsibility and actions of government. This is not just a current issue related to public health but it certainly is part of the debate and interpersonal challenges of the times we are living in.

All people are entitled to an opinion. Our opinions should be based on facts. It seems likely that we all have some personal bias in how we handle the information. Christians have a responsibility to seek to correctly understand and practice the teachings found in the Bible for everyday life—

and that includes the view we have of our relationship to government.

Christians are aware of the Bible teaching to pray for our nation. We often connect that teaching with praying for the leaders of our nation but our prayer for the nation should have a bigger focus.

Do we pray for the well-being of the individuals who hold offices of trust in our community, province, and nation? Do we pray for the people of our community who are impacted by the decisions made? Do we look for ways to reach out and be the difference in our communities, as we should in every season of life?

I have considered six reasons why we do not actively pray for our nation. It could be that: 1. We take God's



By Randy Smart

provision for our nation for granted; 2. We are preoccupied with self and consumption; 3. We have lost sight of the relationship God has to government as the ultimate source of all authority (Romans 13); 4. Many of us have not lived in an oppressive political region; 5. We dislike a leader's personality and assume the right to be unrighteous toward them; and 6. Our understanding of engaged Christian worship and prayer is not adequately defined.

In the big picture of God's teaching to us from the Bible we are intended to be responsible citizens seeking the "peace and prosperity" of the place where God has placed us (Jeremiah 29:7). In the same way that we need healing for our physical bodies and wounded spirits, we need healing for our nation. Will you pray, and seek ways to help be the difference?

The apostle Paul wrote to a younger pastor, Titus, about instructions for living in the community: "Remind the

believers to submit to the government and its officers. They should be obedient, always ready to do what is good. They must not slander anyone and must avoid quarreling. Instead, they should be gentle and show true humility to everyone." (Titus 3:1,2, NLT).

When we have prayed and been shaped by that larger focus it should lead us to specific and personal actions to help us be and become a community where an informed respect and humility define our values and actions. The communities where we live will take notice.

Martin Luther King Jr stated: "Be a bush if you can't be a tree. If you can't be a highway, just be a trail. If you can't be a sun, be a star. For it isn't by size that you win or fail. Be the best of whatever you are."

Randy Smart has been a pastor in Southern Manitoba since 1979. He is currently senior pastor at Bethel Bergthaler Mennonite Church south of Winkler.

> LETTERS, FROM PG. 6

extreme isolation, depression, loneliness, broken relationships, a rise in addictions, and sadly, many suicides. There has been so much loss, and especially high school students are struggling.

Canadians have been so overly concerned about physical health, and just as the Christian Church shared, people in difficult times need help for spiritual, mental and emotional suffering. The strict restrictions are causing much more harm than good, it's not worth it.

If these restrictions had just been a short time, as proposed in the beginning, that would've been reasonable, and would not have caused other serious problems, like our mental health. The restrictions have gone on far too long and have been too much to ask

of people.

We have forgotten there's more to life than just surviving. We need to recognize there will always be a measure of risk on earth. We need to get past the fear, and learn to live with it. There will never be zero risk.

The Christian Church of Morden is addressing serious needs that have been overlooked by most. I commend the people at the Christian Church for taking a stand, for showing us that our freedoms matter. They are people that are truly caring and responsible for themselves and others. We need personal connections for our well-being. We need each other more than ever, and it is time for freedom!

Joanie Nissley,
Winkler

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 respectful.

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 letters.

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

BEING A GOOD NEIGHBOUR

My family and I recently moved to Morden from Edmonton. We love the small-town pace, short commutes, and natural beauty of the area. And we've noticed how people in Southern Manitoba are indeed friendly, considerate, and, above all, good neighbours.

That is, until the Freedom Rally rolled down our new street on Saturday, March 27th. And then again on Saturday, April 10th.

Twice now I've seen this rally pass by with horns blaring, voices shouting, and flags waving. Our quiet street, otherwise free from noise pollution and disruption, suddenly becomes oppressed by the din of those calling for "freedom."

This past Saturday, Morden's mayor was harassed at his home by this same rally, his seven-year old son at his side. His Facebook post about the incident garnered hundreds of comments from concerned citizens. Stories were shared about young families being harassed by the Freedom Rally while out for a walk, their children in tears from the cacophony of horns and shouting; another about a young teenager being called a "loser" for wearing a mask.

This is unneighbourly behaviour. I happen to disagree with the views of the Freedom Rally. And they would disagree with me. That's the beauti-

ful thing about Canada: we are free to think differently.

And here's another beautiful thing about Canada: we take care of each other here. Neighbours can think differently and still be considerate of each other in the process.

That's called being a good neighbour.

Freedom Fighters, I ask you to imagine a "mask compliance" support rally rolling down your street, horns ablaze. Among other things, it would take all day. Maybe two days. You'd be blocked into your driveway all weekend, late for your own rally. And neighbours don't do that to neighbours.

And so, I kindly suggest to the Freedom Rally that they relocate their events to the side of the highway between Morden and Winkler during weekday "rush hour" (such as it is around here—again, I love those commutes).

Honk to your heart's delight. Wave those flags. You'll have a pretty good audience, and you'll be respecting your neighbours in the process.

But please, don't harass others to make your point. Don't parade through our quiet streets causing noise and disruption. The only people you're "waking up" are sleeping babies.

Respectfully, your neighbour,

Brock Tyler,
Morden

Local officers honoured for quick thinking

By Lorne Stelmach

Four local police officers were recognized last week for their actions in handling a recent incident involving a suspected armed man in a Morden church.

The two off-duty officers from Winkler who were at the church at the time and two officers from Morden who responded to the call were honoured at a brief ceremony last Thursday.

"We need to acknowledge the good things that our officers do, and this was no exception," said Morden Police Chief Brad Neduzak, who presented certificates to officers Bill Flynn and Jordan Canart of Morden and Darnell Fehr and Trevor Marek of Winkler.

The March 14 incident at Westside Community Church saw police called about a man seated near the front of the sanctuary who was yelling, using profanities, and making gestures during the service. Witnesses told police the man appeared to have a handgun in his waistband.

Police had staff activate the fire alarm to evacuate the building without tipping off the suspect they were there.

As the suspect moved to leave, he was apprehended. Police then located what turned out to be a replica firearm on his person.

The 32-year-old is facing charges that include possession of a dangerous weapon, assault with a weapon, carrying a concealed weapon, causing a disturbance and failing to comply with a probation order.

Flynn said he was simply doing his job, but he appreciates being recognized.

"It's not common that we take time out to recognize officers in the community for things like this, so it's nice," he said. "For us, sometimes maybe it doesn't resonate how significant actions are that we take when we're serving the public. For us, it's the job ... this is what you do ... and in this case we effected a successful arrest without any risk or further risk to anybody else."

"I'm just thankful that at the end of the day that everything went the way it did and everyone is safe ... I guess the best possible outcome," said Canart.

He observed that police officers to some degree are never really fully off duty and have to always be ready to respond to these kinds of situations.

"Whether it's a call like that or it's just being approached by a member of the public, it's something that we're



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

From left: Cst. Trevor Marek (Winkler Police), Cst. Jordan Canart (Morden Police), Inspector Sean Aune (Morden), Chief Brad Neduzak (Morden), Deputy Chief Chris Kalansky (Winkler), Cst. Bill Flynn (Morden), and Patrol Sergeant Darnell Fehr (Winkler) at a ceremony honouring officers last week.

happy to deal with ... everyone knows who we are here ... it's nice to be part of the community."

Chief Neduzak noted that the officers all stepped into "an incident that potentially was a dangerous situation that could have turned out a lot worse than it did, but thankfully the actions of these officers, the quick thinking, brought this incident to a very suc-

cessful and safe conclusion.

"That morning, they went to a church service like any other Sunday morning, not expecting to be on duty," he added of the Winkler officers. "It just goes to show you on this job, the expectation is there, and it's also their commitment and pride in their work.

"Going into a situation such as that, they need to plan and prepare and

make split-second decisions, assuming that this gun is for real," Neduzak pointed out. "So the actions that they possibly could have had to take that day could have been very different if that individual decided to produce the weapon and use it in any threatening manner."

> LAKE MINNEWASTA, FROM PG. 3

"There's a few others as well that are voluntary restrictions that we're asking the public to observe because we're at a dangerously low point of water level right now."

The aim is to encourage all residents and water users to do what they can to restrict their overall water usage, whether that is lessening time spent running water in showers and baths, installing low flow fixtures, or limiting how often you wash your vehicle.

"We're asking the public to help us conserve water," said Burley, noting that the city is putting out a bulletin to give residents some direction. "Even when it comes to things like filling pools and that type of thing, know where your water is coming from. Know your water source and do whatever you can to reduce our consumption out of the lake."

In addition, the city is moving to stop all access to the lake for any powered watercraft until it returns to a more normal level, which would be in the range of two feet below the spillway.

"The reason for this is not only

safety but also the incredible cost of treating water that has been stirred up with so much of the bottom now being near the top of the lake," the mayor explained. "We just can't maintain water quality very easily with powered watercraft until it returns more to normal.

"If we have the same year we had last year for precipitation and a similar amount of consumption like we had, we would be 18 feet below the spillway at this time next year, so that puts it into perspective," Burley said. "At that point, we would no longer be able to treat water out of the lake. If it gets really bad, we may have to move to full restriction and trucking in our water, or at least a certain amount of it."

The city does to a small degree draw on the Pembina Valley Water Co-op as a secondary source, but that amount is limited.

"It's not a big enough line to sup-

ply the whole city, so we will have to look immediately at increasing our consumption from the co-op," said Burley. "We are looking at increasing the size of our connection to the water co-op as well as a drought contingency option."

Burley estimated the city is currently using about 2.7 million litres a day, so he suggested they could set a target to help inform residents and get them on board with conserving as much as possible.

"It's not sustainable for another six months," he added. "We would like to get it down at least 30 per cent.

"Our daily rate of draw is something we're probably going to start bringing to people's attention. That's a metric we can use to show the community how we're doing with our consumption efforts. If that number starts going down, it's something we can be proud of.

"We've all got to do whatever we can right now."

"WE'VE ALL GOT TO DO WHATEVER WE CAN RIGHT NOW."

Vigil held in support of guaranteed liveable income

By Lorne Stelmach

Candlelight vigils were held across the country last week in support of the idea of having a guaranteed liveable income.

The events at Parliament Hill and MP offices Canada-wide including the Morden location for Portage-Lisgar MP Candice Bergen over the noon hour last Thursday also came on the eve of the Liberal and NDP national conventions, so it seemed to be an opportune time to bring attention to the issue.

There is heightened awareness now of the importance of community health and well-being as well as the demonstrated success of basic income programs, suggested local representatives of the United Church, which is calling on government to roll out a guaranteed liveable income program in collaboration with the provinces, territories, and Indigenous leadership.

"Churches have a longstanding history of not only responding with charity to the needs around us and in our community ... we have a Biblical mandate to call for social justice," said Karen Tjaden, a minister serving the Crossroads United Pastoral Charge in Carman and Elm Creek.

The United Church cites how low income racialized communities have been hit the hardest by COVID and its economic impact, and it sees a guaranteed liveable income as benefiting all but especially those in society who are economically disadvantaged by systemic racism.

Existing alongside other social programs such as health care, pharmacare, pension, and education supports, a guaranteed liveable income could address the inequities that exist within the present wage and social benefit structures, the church suggests.

Tjaden noted there is widespread support for this social policy from various national, regional, and local organizations as well as leaders of the Anglican Church of Canada, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada, Presbyterian Church in Canada, and 50 senators who have written letters to the federal government. In recent months, motion M-46 or the Guaranteed Livable Basic Income and Private Member's Bill C-273 National Strategy for a Guaranteed Basic Income Act was introduced.

"There seems to be a movement across the country, so we can amplify our small United Church voice by working together



PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Alicia Buhler, Rev. Carrie Martens, and Karen Tjaden held a vigil in front of Portage-Lisgar MP Candice Bergen's Morden offices last week in support of having a guaranteed liveable income in Canada.

with other people ... we see an opportunity," Tjaden said. "This is an opportunity to explore a whole new way of responding to people's basic needs as we go forward into the future after the pandemic. It's about creating a social fabric that people can hold on to and that they can count on."

"Our church has studied guaranteed liveable income in various forms for decades, and we've supported this concept for a long time. It's exciting to be able to put our voices with other people now."

"For me, a universal basic income is about giving folks a stable place to stand when the world around them is unstable, for whatever reason," said Rev. Carrie Martens of the Pembina Parish. "It allows the individual or family to experience the challenges of life from a healthier place, without fear for loss of home or unmanageable debt."

"While I have never feared the loss of my home, I was unemployed earlier in the pan-

demie," she noted. "My family and I applied for CERB, and it was a stable place for us to stand in that time. It allowed me to focus my attention on finding employment in the best way possible for our family, which is why we're now in Morden."

"I support a movement to a guaranteed basic income because I believe it makes individuals and communities stronger. It gives folks an opportunity to live into possibilities, instead of living in fear or desperation."

Tjaden hopes the movement could really build some momentum.

"We don't have a prescription for how to deliver it, but we want to hold it up as something that can serve the common good in Canada and help to make it more possible for everyone to participate in our society, economy, communities, cultures," she said. "It will enrich all of us because when some people are left out, it really has a negative impact on all of us."

Fishing licences available online

By Voice staff

Manitobans can get their 2021-22 fishing licences online ahead of the season's start next month.

Agriculture and Resource Development Minister Blaine Pedersen reminded Manitobans last week that the province's e-licensing portal launched last year is open for business.

"Our online e-licensing portal has made it easier than ever for Manitobans to purchase their angling licenses from their own homes," he said. "Our government is continuing to modernize the way we deliver services while decreasing our carbon footprint."

The recreational angling season officially opens on May 15 in Manitoba's southern region and May 22 in the northwest and north central regions. The northeast region remains

open to angling year round.

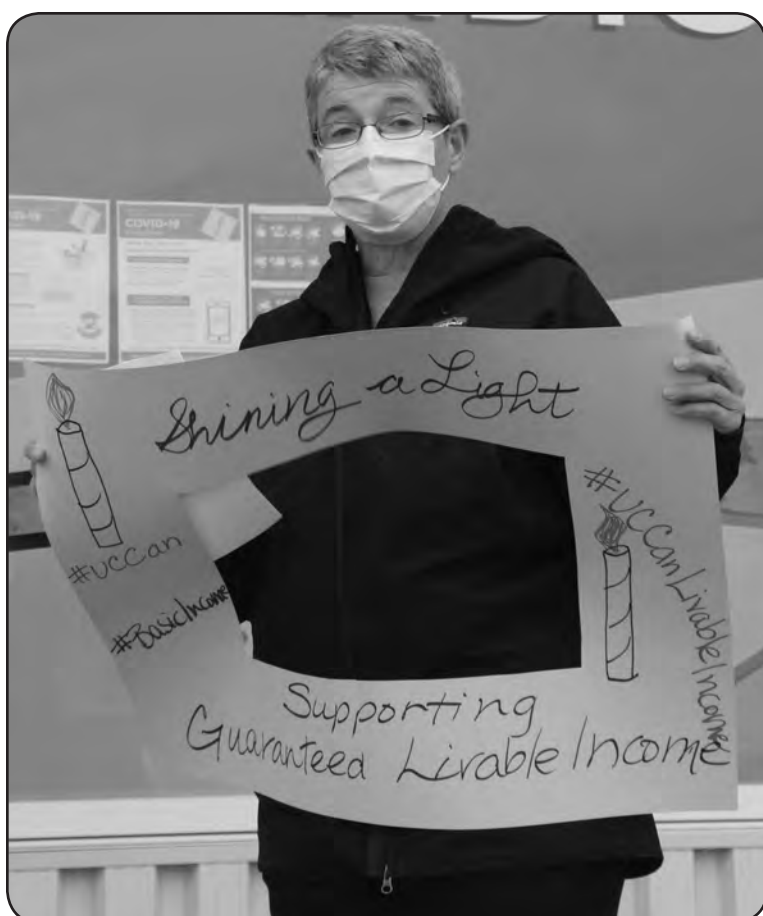
The 2020 angling season officially closed at midnight on April 4 in the southern division. It ends on April 30 in the northwest and north central divisions.

All anglers are required to obtain an angling licence to fish in Manitoba, unless exempt.

Licences are available online 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and can be immediately purchased and printed at home.

For more information and to purchase an angling licence, visit www.manitobaelicensing.ca.

Twenty fisheries, forestry, and wildlife applications have also been added to the e-licensing portal this year, ranging from competitive fishing events to taxidermy. Check out the website for details.



Pregnancy care centre sees drop in numbers for 2020

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The numbers were down across the board in 2020 for the Pembina Valley Pregnancy Care Centre, but that's to be expected considering the many hurdles the pandemic created.

PVPCC board of directors gathered online recently for their annual general meeting, taking time to reflect on what was certainly a crazy year.

Executive director Linda Marek notes they provided their pregnancy support services to over 80 different people (both men and women) in 2020, down from 100+ the year before.

The number of new clients overall also dropped from 40 to 30, and the volunteer hours hit a low of 100—way down from 900 in 2019.

None of these drops are surprising considering the centre's offices in Morden and Winkler had to close for extended periods of time at the start of the pandemic.

"To keep everyone safe we closed for in-person appointments but stayed connected for client needs as much as possible," Marek said, stressing client care remained a priority throughout all the uncertainty and changing public health restrictions.

"Having access to pregnancy and

parenting information/support during the pandemic was vital for women and families," she said. "The pressures they were facing, economic challenges, the idea of labour and birth without a partner, not having friends and family come help with a new baby ... created a lot more angst for clients. People felt desperate.

"We stayed connected by phone and text. We did drop-offs on doorsteps or if that wasn't possible for people we made arrangements and left stuff outside our door, like diapers and baby clothes. And so we could still meet the needs, but we didn't have as much in-person connection as we usually do."

The offices have since been able to reopen for in-person appointments (virtual ones, as well), though the Steps in HOPE support group for women impacted by miscarriage, infant loss, and stillbirth remains on hold for the foreseeable future.

People reach out to PVPCC to get pregnancy options information, prenatal/childbirth education, parenting education and support, pregnancy tests, and baby items.

They see people of all ages and backgrounds from right across southern Manitoba.

"It's predominantly women, but we

"HAVING ACCESS TO PREGNANCY AND PARENTING INFORMATION/SUPPORT DURING THE PANDEMIC WAS VITAL FOR WOMEN AND FAMILIES."

do see a handful of men as well, which we think is great because their role in pregnancy and parenting is really important," Marek said.

"It's women ranging from their teens, 20s, 30s, and older. We see women who are finding out that they're pregnant or they come to us for pregnancy tests. They're feeling unsure of what they want to do or they're feeling pressured in some way to make a certain decision.

"So they're asking questions about what parenting might look like, is adoption the right choice for them?" Marek continued. "They're maybe feeling overwhelmed with the idea of pregnancy."

PVPCC staff and volunteers are there to provide a listening ear and help clients take a good look at their options, Marek explained.

GENEROUS COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Finances were another struggle for the agency in 2020, as it had to cancel all of its usual fundraising events for the year.

Coming on the heels of a deficit in 2019 made for a rather bleak situation.

"However, in late summer things started to turn around and people were generous with us at year end," Marek said. "We are so thankful for those folks who have found a way to support on a monthly or annual basis."

Grants from agencies like the United Way, the Morden Area Foundation, and the Emergency Community Support Fund also helped PVPCC keep its head above water.

Looking ahead, there's still a big question mark over what's going to be allowed in the months to come in terms of community gatherings, which means the usual PVPCC fundraisers might not happen like normal.

"We want to be good stewards and we want to be cautious, because we know the pandemic is ongoing," Marek said. "And so we want to be modest in what we plan."

On the schedule right now is a drive-by banquet dubbed Let's Get Cookin' for a Cause taking place at the Morden Friendship Centre on Wednesday, April 28 from 5-6:30 p.m.

Ticket holders will be able to pick up a hearty meal of cranberry chicken and meatballs for \$15 or a kids meal of chicken fingers and potato wedges for \$5, plus dessert.

Pre-order your supper by April 25 at 2 p.m. at pvpcc.com, 204-325-7900, or officepvpcc@gmail.com.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

PVPCC held its 2020 AGM online recently. Back row, from left: Board members Glenda Schwarz, Davis Wieler, and Kelly Wieler. Front row: executive director Linda Marek and board member Andy Schmidt.

Winkler man facing multiple assault charges

By Voice staff

A 34-year-old Winkler man is facing assault charges after Winkler Police responded to a domestic violence incident last week.

Police received a report just before midnight on April 4 that a woman was

hiding in her home while her intoxicated boyfriend was walking around outside the building kicking windows while armed with a knife.

Upon arriving at the scene, the officers learned the woman had in fact fled her residence after being assaulted several times by her boyfriend.

She suffered minor injuries in the attack and was now safe in a different location while her boyfriend remained inside the house.

At 5:25 a.m., the Regional Support Tactical Team received an entry warrant and were deployed at the residence to take the man into custody.

He appeared in Winnipeg Provincial Court last Friday charged with assault with a weapon, three counts of assault, two counts of choking to overcome resistance, and four counts of uttering threats.

get informed

NEWS > VIEWS > WINKLER > MORDEN > SURROUNDING AREAS

Local Habitat chapter teaming up with NPC students

Cook at Home to Build a Home meal raising funds for Morden Habitat build

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Northlands Parkway Collegiate culinary and pastry arts students are putting their skills in the kitchen to good use in support of Habitat for Humanity this month.

The Winkler school has teamed up with Habitat's Winkler-Morden chapter for the April 29 Cook at Home to Build a Home fundraiser, which will support the planned house build in Morden.

"These guys are all very community-minded and they understand the importance of being connected and being part of the community," said instructor Paul Henderson while chatting with the *Voice* alongside star pupils Linda Friesen and Taggart Hanks last week.

Friesen and Hanks and their fellow culinary students will be preparing take-home ingredient boxes for a meal made up of herb-crusted chicken breast, homemade kielke noodles

with cream gravy, corn, and a chocolate brownie. There's also a vegetarian option available.

The students will also be recording a how-to video to guide people through making the meal in their own homes.

"The students will walk you through it step-by-step," said Henderson, noting a link to the video will be provided with your registration package. "We'll make it as easy as possible for people."

With local charities like Habitat struggling to find new ways of hosting fundraisers amidst COVID-19 restrictions, a DIY at-home supper seemed the perfect answer.

"It's hard to do fundraisers during COVID, and so this is a great chance to support Habitat," Henderson said.

Friesen admits she isn't very familiar with the work of Habitat for Humanity (which helps low-income families achieve home ownership through interest-free loans and sweat equity), but says she's excited for the opportunity to give back to the community as a whole.

"I think it's really cool how we're all putting it together and it's a really good way to give back," she said, noting that for her the draw of the culinary arts program at NPC is the fact that "every day is different ... the challenges are really fun ... and the people involved are great."

It's going to be quite a production to prepare all the food and get it pack-



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

NPC culinary arts instructor Paul Henderson with students Linda Friesen and Taggart Hanks. The class is cooking up a tasty meal in support of Habitat for Humanity later this month.

aged and ready to roll out of the kitchen, but Hanks says they're up for the challenge.

"I like that we're doing this to help out," he said. "I like the challenge of cooking and I just love cooking in general."

Tickets are \$30 for two meals and

must be purchased by Friday, April 23 online at www.habitat.mb.ca/chapters/winkler-morden. There are only 100 tickets available.

The ingredient boxes can be picked up on Thursday, April 29 from 4-8 p.m. at either NPC or the Westside Community Church in Morden.

Mordenites have a little more time to pay their water bills

By Lorne Stelmach

Morden residents are being given an extended period of time to pay their water bills this spring after many received significantly higher bills in the midst of the transition to the new water meter system.

Mordenites in some cases faced paying double or triple what they had paid in the past as a result of what city council attributes to a past problem with estimated readings being recorded as actual ones.

With the new smart meters, the city is now getting more accurate readings that resulted in many residents having to pay more to catch up to actual

usage.

As a result, council recognized that residents may not be in a position to pay the amounts in full by the due date of April 14, 2021, so it is waiving both the penalties and interest for three months to give residents time to catch up on their outstanding amounts without further fees.

After a special meeting last week, Mayor Brandon Burley said their hands were tied as to what measures they can take according to guidelines set out by the Public Utilities Board.

"One of the conditions that we have under the Public Utilities Board is that we assign water equally, rates equally ... part of that condition and require-

ment is that we cannot directly forgive water bills ... so we don't have that option at our disposal," he said. "The reason for that is some people will pay for consumption while others have not been fairly billed.

"The only recourse we have was to make it as lenient as possible for household to pay," Burley continued. "So council is waiving penalties and interest related to those water bills for three months, and then at that point we will take another look at it and see if we need to do more."

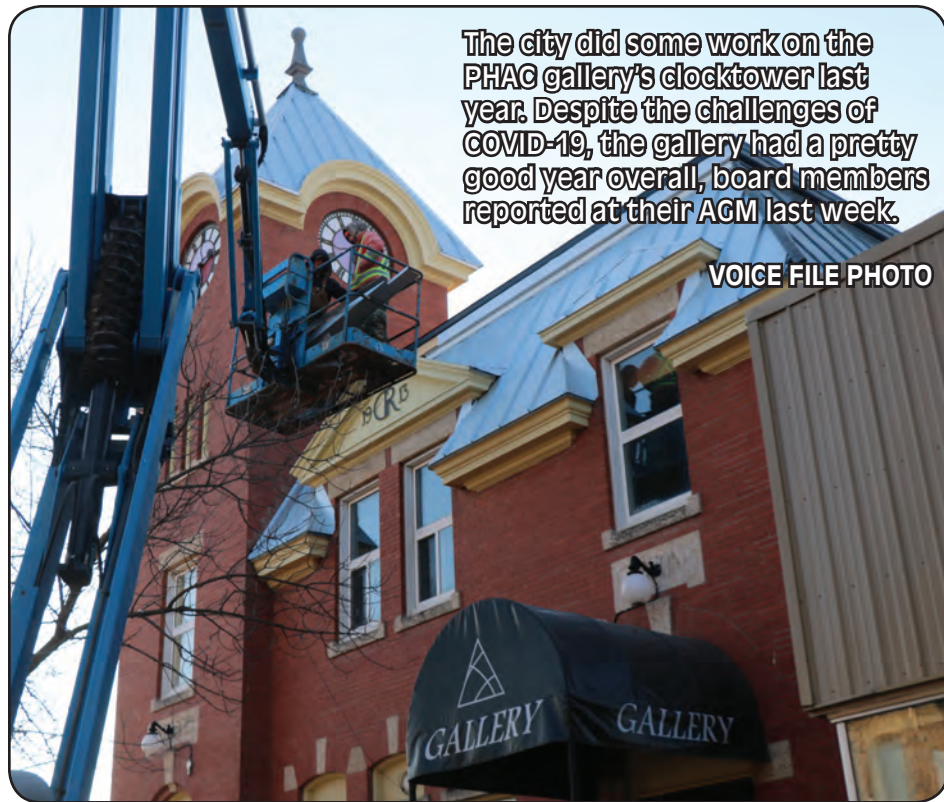
Burley again acknowledged it was an unfortunate set of circumstances that led to this situation.

"We were able to determine it was

actual consumption but some of it was never billed correctly," he said. "About 75 to 80 per cent of our households ended up getting normalized bills because they were already being read properly."

The city is encouraging residents to make payments on their water accounts in smaller increments over the next three months until the outstanding amounts are paid before the next billing cycle to avoid penalty/interest.

If you have any questions about your water bill, you can contact the City of Morden at 204-822-4434 or by e-mail to billing@mymorden.ca.



The city did some work on the PHAC gallery's clocktower last year. Despite the challenges of COVID-19, the gallery had a pretty good year overall, board members reported at their AGM last week.

VOICE FILE PHOTO

PHAC ends year with a surprising surplus

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Pembina Hills Arts Council made it through the up and downs of 2020 in fine shape, its board of directors reported at the Morden gallery's AGM last week.

Chair Lorne Stelmach, addressing board members and guests via Zoom, noted in his report that it was certainly a year like no other.

"Having to be closed to the public for a significant portion of the year brought about a great deal of transition, and we had to really rethink and adjust how we were going to do things," he said. "It was unfortunate that much was lost in terms of not being able to have people in the gallery to enjoy exhibits and participate in workshops, but one had to make the best of the situation."

Making the best of things included PHAC staff shifting focus to virtual offerings, making videos of exhibitions featuring interviews with artists and hosting presentations, educational sessions, and group gatherings online.

"These efforts were vital in helping to not only maintain some level of programming but to maintain our presence in and connection with the community," Stelmach stressed, noting in many ways it was a blessing in disguise. "We found different ways of doing things and in the process got the attention of some people who, under normal circumstances, might not have necessarily come into the gallery."

Behind-the-scenes, PHAC's board of directors have seen almost wholesale turnover in the past year as numerous longtime members finished up their terms.

In fact, Stelmach joined as a rookie member at the start of 2020 and

quickly found himself heading up the board. Now only he and his wife Michelle remain as returning directors for the year ahead. Joining them are newcomers Caylie Nicholson, Kevin Wiens, Cyndy Kutzner, Deb Petersen, and Amy Flannery.

The gallery will also be seeing more than a few changes in staff in 2021.

Administrative coordinator Laurie-ellen Wiebe and administrative assistant Wanda Pohl have both left to pursue other interests and opportunities. Stepping into the big shoes they left behind are Carla Dyck as admin. coordinator and Dani Johnson as admin. assistant.

Meanwhile, programs and outreach coordinator Tricia Dyck is gearing up to pursue her master's degree this fall, so the board will need to find someone to step into that role for at least the following year.

"We've had a great team of people who have been carrying us through this past year, so it's sad to see them leaving," Stelmach said of both the staff and board changes. "But at the same time it's also a good opportunity to bring in people with new energy and fresh ideas."

A SURPLUS YEAR

Financially, PHAC ended its fiscal year in surprisingly good condition. Financial manager Corey Hiebert reported a \$40,000 surplus for 2020.

"That was a pleasant surprise," Stelmach said, noting ending 2020 in the black owed a lot to government wage subsidies and bridge financing, reduced staffing hours, and an increase in personal donations (totaling \$6,000 for the year), including a sizeable one from an anonymous donor eager to support the gallery's work.

Continued on page 17

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ROOFING

The roof is an essential component of your home. If properly installed and regularly maintained, it can help keep your home warm and dry for many years. Additionally, numerous roof issues are easy to repair such as damaged shingles or an uneven layer of gravel. However, every roof eventually reaches the end of its lifespan. Have you noticed signs of water damage on the ceiling or in the attic? Are the shingles faded and starting to curl? In these situations, the sensible option is usually to replace the entire roof.

WINDOWS

Are the windows in your home hard to open and close? Are the frames damaged? Is one of them cracked? It should be noted that you can avoid having to prematurely replace your windows by regularly cleaning the tracks, replacing old caulk and performing other maintenance tasks. In addition, hiring a professional to conduct repairs when needed is a must. Nevertheless, it's best to replace windows that let in a draft, have fog between the panes, show signs of water damage or are in poor condition. Be sure to choose models that have the Energy Star certification.

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SAVING YOU MORE

REDress Project coming to Morden, Winkler

By Lorne Stelmach

An artist's vision that evokes the presence of missing and murdered Indigenous women in Canada is coming to the area this spring.

A group of local women spearheaded the effort to bring the REDress Project of Jaime Black to the Pembina Valley starting with a May 1 display of the collection of red dresses at Morden Park.

The Winnipeg artist created it as a public art installation that seeks to honour the victims and bring attention to the issue of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls.

It remains a critical national issue, and the project has been installed in public spaces throughout Canada and the United States as a visual reminder of the staggering number of women who are no longer with us, say local organizers.

"I think there's something really profound in seeing an empty dress and recognizing that it represents an individual," said Rachelle Fehr.

Fehr is among an organizing group that includes Denise Thiessen, Courtney Yeo Thiessen, Amara Reimer, Amber Bezte, Carolyn Wiebe, Doreen Cameron, and Janelle Kropp.

"I believe it is a really important topic socially but also personally because it has affected my family as well," she said of what drew her to the project. "We lost a family member who was murdered in Winnipeg last year.

"While I had heard about the project before, it had never hit home personally up until that moment," Fehr con-



SUPPLIED PHOTO

The REDress Project is coming to Morden, Carman, Manitou, Altona, and Winkler next month to raise awareness about the plight of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls in our country.

tinued. "As I learned more about it, I recognized that murdered and missing Indigenous women and girls is an ongoing deep systemic problem in Canada. It's also a personal one and hurts families and individuals right here locally."

Denise Thiessen has participated individually by putting up a dress in her house as well as at The Hub Community Centre, but she has wanted to bring this to the wider community for some time.

"It's been years of wanting to have this project here, and to be able to explain how this does affect us out here," she said. "It can be the people sitting

right next to you who are affected.

"I don't know anyone personally in my family who has been affected by it, but I do know people in the community ... and as a woman, it's gut-wrenching to think that this is still happening."

"As an Indigenous woman myself, I find it truly humbling to see this installation project coming to Morden and the Pembina Valley to help raise awareness of missing and murdered indigenous women and girls," added Wiebe

The schedule for the REDress Project is May 1 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Morden Park, Carman May 8 at Kings

Park from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., May 15 in Manitou at 432 Park Ave from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., May 22 in Altona at Gallery in the Park from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., and finally May 29 at Winkler Arts and Culture from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

"It's kind of our own version of it, but it's [Jamie Black's] project and her idea," said Fehr.

"Come to the park, take a walk through, and some of us will be here to answer questions that you might have about it," she said. "It's an individual experience, and that is what it's meant to be. You walk through it and you experience it and feel it."



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Julie was born and raised in Edmonton. She attended the University of Alberta and received her Bachelor of Arts degree in 2012 and law degree in 2017. She relocated to Manitoba upon graduation and articulated with Legal Aid. After being called to the Manitoba bar, Julie completed a legal internship with UNICEF in Vietnam through the Canadian Bar Association's Young

Lawyers International Program. Upon her return to Manitoba, she started a private practice with a mid-sized Winnipeg firm. She now lives in Morden with her husband and their three cats and her past times include tennis, golf, hiking, and cooking.

Julie looks forward getting involved in the Community and meeting with clients in the Morden and Winkler area.

RAIN BARREL SALE

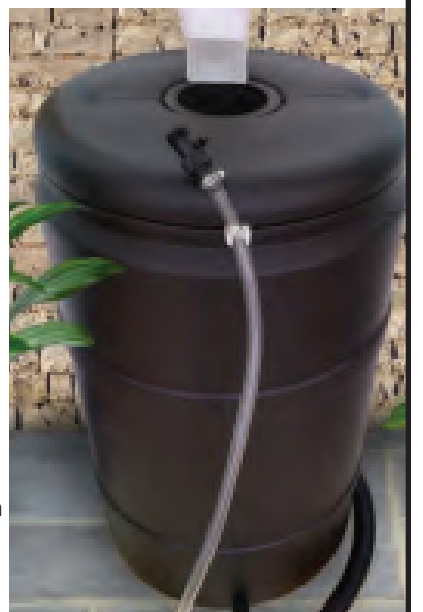
We have rain barrels for sale! They are \$60 each and can be ordered online at www.RainBarrel.ca/Redboine.

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Redboine Watershed District will receive \$10 from every rain barrel sold; and \$2 from each downspout diverter or stand sold. Proceeds from the sale will support Carman Community in Bloom.

THANK YOU!



CFDC does some shuffling to accommodate vaccination centre

By Lorne Stelmach

The Canadian Fossil Discovery Centre had to overcome a few challenges this spring before it could reopen its doors last weekend.

Those challenges were all connected to the pandemic, as not only did the vaccination supersite setting up in the Access Event Centre impact the museum, but executive director Adolfo Cuetara also faced the virus himself.

Two days before an earlier planned opening date, Cuetara learned he was identified as a potential close contact to someone. He then tested positive for the virus and found himself in self-isolation for a few weeks.

"It was fortunate that I reacted very quickly," said Cuetara, who is glad to have come out of it and now focus on the task at hand.

That in itself, of course, was complicated by the vaccination site taking over the complex and preventing the use of the museum's entrance from the main foyer, so a fair bit of work went into devising another way to access the museum.

"The only way to remain open was to use the two back emergency doors that we have," explained Cuetara.



With the COVID-19 vaccination supersite taking up space in the Access Event Centre foyer, the CFDC has had to move its entrance to the south side of the building for the foreseeable future.

CFDC PHOTO

"That's a challenge because, firstly, there are only stairs, so we have a problem with the accessibility."

Allowance has since been made to allow the use of the regular, ramped entrance for people with wheelchairs. Meanwhile, the transition to access from the south side of the building for everyone else ended up requiring a lot of work, including relocating both the admissions and the gift shop ar-

eas.

"The challenge was that we had to change all of the museum entrance to the other side of the museum," said Cuetara, noting that required having to remain closed for an additional two weeks to get it all done.

"So we were able to open again this [past] Saturday with the new configuration ... so even with all these problems, I feel lucky because we are still

able to open at least now."

Cuetara noted they are anticipating that the province will be offering some compensation or assistance.

"We had a lot of expenses with all of these changes," he said, estimating the costs could be as much as \$15,000. "I am confident that we will get some money to help cover these expenses."

Continued on page 17



Public Notice is hereby given that Enbridge Pipelines Inc. (Enbridge) intends to conduct the following Pesticide Program from May 01 2021 – November 15 2021 to control noxious weeds on Enbridge ROW's, temporary workspaces, stations and various facilities along the Enbridge Mainline and Bakken corridors.

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- 2, 4-DB
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Dry conditions keep local fire departments busy

By Lorne Stelmach

Local firefighters have had an unusually busy spring season with the dry conditions causing a higher number of grass and brush fires.

"We were hoping it won't stay this way for long," said Winkler Fire Chief Richard Paetzold prior to the snowy start to this week. "It's definitely been drier than usual. We had our first grass fire the first week of March, which is kind of a record for us."

"It's been very dry out there," agreed Morden Chief Andy Thiessen.

Both Paetzold and Thiessen said their crews had responded to about a dozen grass or brush fires in recent weeks, and a majority of them have been similar circumstances.

"Most of them that we have experienced have been from burn barrels on properties in the rural area," said Thiessen. "There have been some other instances where fire has started they burned trees two weeks prior, and the strong winds stirred up the ashes and got them going again."

"You think you've got things under

control, but then nature throws you a curve ball," he said. "Most of them man-made, people not thinking properly, when given the conditions ... it's been very high risk."

"I think it's a situation that's caught a lot of people off guard ... and with the windy conditions, that's the thing that combined with the dry situation that has gotten a lot of these fires out of control," suggested Paetzold.

With this week's snow the local fire danger level was low, but residents are advised to keep an eye on it when making decisions about controlled burns or backyard fire pits moving forward into what's expected to be a hot, dry summer.

"Over the years we've refined it, but I think we've got a pretty good system. It gives us a lot of flexibility ... it's based on

six indexes," said Paetzold, citing the examples of moisture content and time since it has last rained.

He suggested people have largely been good about following the rules and restrictions and usually don't need to get a second visit from the fire

"YOU THINK YOU'VE GOT THINGS UNDER CONTROL, BUT THEN NATURE THROWS YOU A CURVE BALL."



WINKLER FIRE PHOTO

Winkler firefighters were called to a grass fire on Hwy. 32 earlier this month. It was one of several such calls in recent weeks due to dry spring conditions.

department.

"We try to do an educational visit first, and usually that is all it takes for people to realize the direction that is in place."

Meanwhile, the province was also adding its voice to remind Manitobans to be careful with any spring burning in the weeks ahead.

"We must remember that when conditions are dry, the risk of wildfire increases," said Conservation and Climate Minister Sarah Guillemard. "The Manitoba Wildfire Service and municipalities are getting ready for another season, and we must all do our part to minimize the risks."

Southern and central Manitoba have been especially dry this spring because of low moisture levels last fall before lower-than-normal winter snow accumulations, so the dangers of spring wildfires have increased in the central and southern regions of the province especially.

The public is reminded to contact

their municipalities or their local Manitoba Conservation and Climate offices for updates. The latest information on municipal and provincial burning restrictions can be found at www.manitoba.ca/wildfire.

Provincial burn permits will not be issued for areas where municipalities have implemented burning restrictions. Where and when allowed, though, permit holders are always urged to check weather conditions, have adequate suppression equipment and ensure proper fuel breaks are in place before burning. Never leave an outdoor fire unattended and always extinguish it.

> PHAC, FROM PG. 12

Stelmach said the gallery is cautiously optimistic about the months ahead.

"We're not sure what the year's going to bring yet in terms of whether restrictions are going to come in again or how long the ones in place right now will remain," he said, noting the gallery is open again but with capacity limits. "We have start-

ed doing some limited workshops already ... so we are able to start doing some things like that again. And we have exhibits lined up through the rest of this year and pretty much 2022 as well.

"We want to build arts and culture in the region and we want to involve and engage the community," Stelmach said of PHAC's ongoing mis-

> CFDC, FROM PG. 16

They are now in a position to begin focusing more on the season ahead, although it still remains somewhat uncertain what will be possible in terms of programming. That is in part because of the restrictions that remain in place, but staffing is also an issue to be dealt with.

"The museum tours we will try to do in the summer but I don't think

we will be able to do the dig tours this year," said Cuetara who, despite all they're facing right now, is trying to remain optimistic. "I am just looking at the positive side of all of this. We have better visibility because we are on the south wall of the building, so it is the first thing you can see entering the parking lot. Now we have a larger gift shop because we

sion, stressing they always welcome people to stop by and share their thoughts on what they'd like to see from their local gallery. "We're open to new ideas.

"People don't have to be artists [to get involved]. They just have to have an interest, a passion, or an appreciation for the arts."

have a larger space for it right now.

"We are trying to take advantage of the situation ... we'll see if there is a chance for things."

The museum is currently open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekdays and noon to 6 p.m. on weekends and statutory holidays.



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Pallister says budget a “road map to a safer and healthier Manitoba”

By Lorne Stelmach

The new provincial budget may be resulting in one of Manitoba’s highest ever deficits, but Premier Brian Pallister suggested it is a financial plan that strikes a balance in setting out “the road map to a safer and healthier Manitoba going forward.”

Both Pallister and Finance Minister Scott Fielding trumpeted *Budget 2021: Protecting Manitobans, Advancing Manitoba* as a sound plan to protect Manitobans and their services through COVID-19 while also advancing the provincial economy past the pandemic.

And despite the deficit level, they defended the range of tax relief measures set out in the budget as necessary at this challenging time and as a means of fulfilling their promises to Manitobans.

“We have to address that [deficit] ... we have created that deficit as a consequence of the fact that we will not stop addressing the health care needs, the support programs of Manitobans who are vulnerable,” said Pallister.

He said the government is “moving our provincial budget back into a situation that we had, where we’ve tried to get it to, where it’s more sustainable and balanced over the next few years. It’s going to take time to clean up this pandemic mess, and we’re facing that today with this budget.”

“We made a vow to Manitobans that we would focus on fixing our finances, repairing our services, rebuilding the economy. We kept our word, and now we’re going to have to do it again.”

Pallister maintained it was vital to deliver on tax relief for Manitobans amidst the pandemic.

“We believe now, more than ever before, that Manitobans deserve a break, quite frankly. They deserve



Finance Minister Scott Fielding presented the Conservative government’s 2021 financial plan last week.

to keep a little bit more of their hard earned money,” he said. “I think this is the right time to give Manitobans a little bit of a break.”

“We know Manitobans deserve a break, especially during this pandemic,” said Fielding. “That’s why we will take even more steps to protect your incomes by reducing the taxes you pay and helping you keep more of your hard-earned money with you, where it belongs.”

Some reaction to the budget included Manitoba Liberal leader Dougald Lamont raising concern about what he suggested would be \$2 billion in new debt over the next eight years, while Green Party of Manitoba leader James Beddome said the net result will be increasing inequality in Mani-

toba.

“This government talks about returning money to the kitchen table of Manitobans, but in the midst of a pandemic, whose kitchen table is seeing the returns? Tax cuts are delayed, and they are unlikely to get to those that need it most,” noted Beddome.

“Now, in the midst of a global pandemic, is the perfect time to invest in poverty reduction, future generations will thank us for these smart and strategic investments,” he added. “We believe implementing a basic income as the Greens have called on for decades is a logical starting point.”

“We need to see more urgency from the Pallister government—public health and our economy depend on it,” said Kevin Rebeck, president of the

Manitoba Federation of Labour. “Government should be leading the recovery through forward looking plans to protect our economic future, with the goal of maintaining employment and getting thousands of Manitobans back to work in fairly paid, family supporting jobs.”

RECORD INVESTMENTS: FIELDING

“Despite the ongoing financial and economic challenges posed by the pandemic, this budget continues to make record investments in the priority public services that Manitobans rely on,” Fielding maintained. “We will grow our way out of deficit and back into balance by investing in more jobs, tax relief and economic growth.”

Fielding acknowledged that COVID-19 has created a significant deficit due to unanticipated health-care costs and support programs as well as unprecedented drop in revenues from the economic shutdown. The province projects a deficit of \$1.597 billion for 2021-22, which is however an improvement from the third quarter projection for 2020-21 of \$2.08 billion.

He said the first priority of the budget is to continue to protect Manitobans through the ongoing pandemic. This includes \$1.18 billion in 2021-22 for COVID-19 costs including personal protective equipment, vaccine deployment, education supports and future needs.

Health care funding increases by \$156 million to the highest level in Manitoba history at \$6.98 billion, and Fielding said it builds a stronger health care system with better care sooner.

Continued on page 19

Budget includes \$1.2B for COVID-19 response

By Lorne Stelmach

The provincial budget introduced last week includes nearly \$1.2 billion to continue protecting Manitobans through COVID-19 as well as to prepare for future pandemic and economic needs.

Making the announcement last Tuesday in advance of unveiling the full budget, Finance Minister Scott Fielding and Health and Seniors Care Minister Heather Stefanson noted the majority of the funding includes amounts for the health care system and the full year cost of the vaccine

program as well as support that may be required for the K-12 education system and additional personal protective equipment and related supplies.

“Our pandemic response has required unprecedented government support,” said Fielding, who noted their top financial priority over the past year has been to direct critical funding to the front lines. “Obviously, COVID-19 of course is the front and the most important aspect of our provincial budget ... our government’s main priority is to protect Manitobans and to really advance Manitoba.”

The COVID-19 funding includes:

- \$230 million for personal protective equipment, testing and vaccine site infrastructure, contact tracing and other preparations.
- \$350 million for additional health care systems costs in preparation for a potential third COVID-19 wave.
- \$160 million to support school and education needs.
- \$100 million for the vaccine program.
- \$40 million for Manitoba Restart Program capital initiatives at the municipal level.

The remaining \$300 million will be

set aside as a contingency for currently unbudgeted expenses, explained Fielding, who noted Manitoba to date has committed a total of \$3.2 billion to address COVID-19 including investments to address and mitigate the ongoing impacts of the pandemic and future-year spending to help recovery.

“Budget 2021 will support the health, education and financial needs of Manitobans and prepare for potential future waves of COVID-19 or other emergencies that arise,” said Stefanson.

get informed

NEWS > VIEWS > WINKLER > MORDEN > SURROUNDING AREAS

Eden CEO named deputy minister of mental health

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Eden Health Care Service's loss is the provincial government's gain.

Premier Brian Pallister last week announced that Eden CEO Kym Kaufmann has been appointed Manitoba's deputy minister of mental health, wellness, and recovery.

Pallister also named Ann Ulusoy as secretary to the treasury board and Andrea Saj as acting comptroller-general.

"I am pleased that these experienced and talented individuals are taking on new roles with Manitoba's public service," the premier said. "They bring deep knowledge and understanding of the issues associated with their portfolios, and are well-qual-

ified to serve Manitobans."

Kaufmann has served as Eden's CEO since the summer of 2018. She leaves the role behind effective this Friday and will begin her new job on April 26.

In a statement, Eden board chair Al Kehler noted that Kaufmann will most certainly be missed.

"She has shown remarkable leadership capacities, great integrity, and an energizing passion for mental health work," he said. "She has served well, and leaves Eden with an excellent staff, strong systems, and expanding services. The government of Manitoba has made a fine appointment."

Eden has appointed Ken Kroeker as the interim CEO as it begins its search for a permanent candidate for the role.



Kym Kaufmann

> BUDGET, FROM PG. 18

Commitments include \$812 million in capital for rural and northern health care, \$50 million to reduce wait times for hip, knee and cataract procedures and surgeries and services delayed by the pandemic. There is also an additional \$23 million for cancer treatments, \$2.7 million to expand dialysis and \$9.3 million to add more than 120 personal care home beds.

The budget also includes an initial \$342 million for programming and services within the new Department of Mental Health, Wellness and Recovery plus an additional \$1.7 million for the mental health and addictions strategy and \$1.8 million more for housing supports for Manitobans with diagnosed mental health conditions.

A nearly \$34 million increase to the Department of Families includes money for early learning and child care, a rent control guideline frozen through 2023, an increase for Community Living and disability Services, funds to address homelessness and new workforce training and support programs for Employment Income Assistance clients.

The budget makes a record investment above \$3 billion in the public school system including more than \$78 million for COVID-19 costs, \$5.5 million for special needs funding, \$5 million for the strategy to improve the education system plus a funding guarantee of at least \$1.6 billion over four years and nearly \$4 million to support online, distance and remote learning. There is also an increase of \$100 million in school capital project funding.

The budget delivers the \$2,020 tax rollback guarantee one year earlier than planned and

phases out education property taxes by 50 per cent over the next two years (25 per cent per year) for residential and farm properties and 10 per cent for other types of property.

The province is removing the retail sales tax on personal services including haircuts and salon services as of December and reducing vehicle registration fees a further 10 per cent in July.

Environmental investments include \$1.2 million to the climate and green plan implementation office, \$1 million for conservation and climate fund projects and a \$20 million endowment fund for provincial parks.

The budget includes more than \$62 million to help businesses retrain employees and develop e-commerce platforms and \$25 million for youth job programs while also providing additional tax relief for small businesses includes lowering payroll tax thresholds.

It helps advance post-secondary students with nearly \$700 million to post secondary institutions plus an additional \$4 million in bursaries and \$1.4 million in interest-free student loans.

The province also cited what it called a record \$2.1 billion investment in strategic infrastructure, including almost \$630 million for road construction and maintenance, \$415 million for Kindergarten to Grade 12 and post-secondary infrastructure.

The budget as well sets aside \$100 million for potential emergencies such as floods, forest fires and drought, and there is flexible funding to municipalities with \$172.6 million in operating costs and \$137 million in capital costs with advanced operating grants again this year as well as \$5.6 million more for the

Building Sustainable Communities Program to fund more than 10 larger-scale community capital projects.

THIRD QUARTER RESULTS

A day before the introduction of the budget last Wednesday, the government released its third quarter financial results for the 2020-21 fiscal year, and there is an increase in the deficit forecast for 2020-21 compared to December's mid-year financial report to \$2.08 billion from \$2.05 billion because of additional COVID-19 spending.

"The unforeseen impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on our finances and economy have greatly affected the revenue and expenditure projections we made last March in Budget 2020," said Fielding. "The rising costs of our pandemic response, combined with the economic shutdown in the final months of 2020, certainly impacted our third-quarter financials and contributed to our deficit."

Pallister concluded that he sees much reason for hope on the horizon.

"Manitobans are resilient people, and we're projected to come out of this better than most, and that is a tribute to our diverse economy and the work that this government and Manitoba small businesses have done in tandem with one another to strengthen the opportunities for recovery."

"MANITOBANS ARE RESILIENT PEOPLE, AND WE'RE PROJECTED TO COME OUT OF THIS BETTER THAN MOST ..."

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The Winkler Morden **Voice**

Genesis House receives funding for men's program

By Lorne Stelmach

Provincial funding is allowing Genesis House to continue with a group program that provides support for men to address their roles in family violence.

The Winkler-based family shelter is partnering with a Steinbach agency, with each getting half of the three-year \$100,000 commitment announced by the Manitoba government last week. The province is providing \$6.4 million to 24 community organizations to deliver programs that address the diverse needs of victims.

"What we offered was kind of a test run ... so this [funding] will provide the opportunity in a consistent way for us to offer the caring dads program," executive director Ang Braun said of the initiative that had been previously supported with funding from the Morden Area Foundation.

She now sees them being able to offer the program at least six more times over the next three years.

It is a bit of a shift of mindset for the organization, but Braun feels it has been well received.

"It is outside the scope of our regular shelter work ... but hearing our clients over many years, there's always been that thought, 'What about my husband? What support, what help is available for him?'"

"There is a commitment required for a person signing up for a 17 week program ... so there is ac-



countability," Braun noted. "It is an intense and vulnerable program in the sense that you are exploring your own childhood and how that impacted you to become the person you are today ... and then it's how to make the changes and how to make them stick."

The provincial funding is being allocated to a variety of community-based organizations developing projects to support victims of crime, including proposals for new and ex-

panded work with victims of crime, gender-based violence, or in response to the missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls inquiry recommendations.

The agencies will develop programming that will help ensure victims of crime receive a range of community-based supports, which could include culturally based, trauma-informed supports such as counselling and healing, crisis services, and peer support.

Morden-Winkler MLA Cameron Friesen said the government recognized the agencies supported with funding are in the best position to take the lead on this important work.

"Our government recognizes the need to provide victims of crime with enhanced supports, and we know that agencies working on the front lines are in the best position to develop the programming needed," he said. "We know these organizations, including Genesis House, have relationships in the community; they have built trust in the community. They have credibility in our community."

"We know that there are challenges in our community when it comes to things like vi-

Continued on page 22

Western School Division passes \$23.8M budget

By Lorne Stelmach

Western School Division gave final approval last week to a \$23.8 million budget for the 2021-22 school year.

The financial plan sees expenditures increase by 5.7 per cent over last year's budget, but ratepayers overall are not facing increases in school taxes with the total special levy of \$9,524,767 representing a 0.42 decrease in the mill rate to 13.62.

The three per cent decrease in the mill rate will result in a decrease of \$56.70 in education taxes for a house valued at \$300,000.

The division received a welcome financial boost this year with an 8.2 per cent increase in total provincial funding. The province also provided additional funding equivalent to a two per cent property tax increase through the provincial tax offset grant.

The division is forecasting a net deficit of \$138,578, which means the accumulated surplus will decrease but only to 3.8 per cent of expenditures from the current year projection of 4.63 per cent of operating expenditures, so it still falls within recommended guidelines.

A few key budget points include:

- 2.6 additional teaching positions including classroom positions as well as some increased guidance time to support mental health issues in schools.
- Increased support for technology.
- Maintaining the educational assistant support.
- Adding an additional bus route and driver.
- \$5 per student increase to school allotments to assist with transportation costs for field trips and school events.
- Supporting school libraries with increased funding for digital subscriptions
- Increased funding for playground

development.

- Costs associated with recent collective agreement with teachers and adjustments to support staff pay and benefits.

- Purchase of land for a permanent home for the piping trades program.

The province is also funding \$326,200 for additional capital projects including replacing the wheelchair lift at École Morden Middle School, window upgrades at Minnewasta and Maple Leaf schools, upgrades to lighting at Maple Leaf School and Morden Collegiate, air-conditioning and heating upgrade in the Maple Leaf School gym, upgrading the millwork in the existing science labs at Morden Colle-

giate, and flooring updates at Morden Collegiate.

"It is a good news budget for taxpayers," said board chairperson Brian Fransen. "We cannot take for granted the fact that with the population growth we have seen over the last number of years that we saw a significant increase in the funding from the province when many other divisions are seeing decreases or holding flat."

"We want to maintain programming as much as possible. We are not looking at any cuts to programming at this point. We are lucky that we don't need to have those conversations."

New vice-principal for Winkler Elementary

By Voice staff

A familiar face steps into the role of vice-principal at Winkler Elementary School this fall.

Garden Valley School Division has announced that Jordan James has been appointed to the 100 per cent vice-principal/teacher position at the

school.

James is currently the school's guidance and resource teacher. He's worked at WES as a classroom teacher, physical education teacher, and guidance counsellor for the past few years.

"My view of education is that it is all about developing positive, trusting

and respect-based relationships with students," GVSD quotes James as saying in his educational philosophy belief statement. "When these relationships have been established, I believe that you can truly help students reach their potential not only in academics but also in helping them become good neighbours, workers, and citizens."

sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

Challenger Baseball starting up in Morden

By Ashleigh Viveiros

A brand new baseball league starting up in the Pembina Valley aims to give all kids the chance to play.

Following on the heels of a successful game day last August, Baseball Manitoba's Challenger Baseball is now coming to Morden for weekly practices and games starting next month (following all COVID-19 restrictions, of course).

The program is tailored for children and youth with cognitive or physical disabilities who might struggle to keep up with their peers in other local minor ball leagues.

Spearheading the effort is Connie Hesom, whose son Evan was born with spina bifida.

"We're shooting for May 1 as our start date," Hesom says, adding they're trying very hard to get the word out to families with children for whom Challenger Baseball would be a good fit, including by reaching out through the local Special Olympics chapter. "We want them to be aware that this is happening and it's something that's an option for their kids."

The program is all about providing a safe, welcoming environment for kids to be part of a team and play organized baseball.

There is no score kept in a Challenger ball game and players who need some extra help are assigned able-bodied buddies (which this

year must be someone in the player's COVID-19 bubble) to push them in their wheelchairs or help them hold the bat and take a swing.



CHALLENGER BASEBALL PHOTOS

Morden hosted a Challenger Baseball game day last summer to see what kind of response the program might get locally. It was so successful they're bringing it back for a full season this summer. Right: The program sees kids with disabilities get a helping hand if they need it to play ball.



ing forward to getting to know other local Challenger Baseball kids this summer. "I think it'll be pretty neat to know some other kids that have different kinds of disabilities from me.

"Come out and try it and have fun," he urges any potential player uncertain about getting involved.

"IT DOESN'T MATTER WHAT DISABILITY THEY HAVE, THEY CAN ALL PARTICIPATE."

Our mistake

A photo that ran with our story last week on the Pembina Valley Disc Golf League incorrectly identified the hole-in-one getter as league organizer Eric Giesbrecht.

The photo was actually of Terrell Wiebe, who made the perfect shot last summer.

We apologize for the mix-up and any confusion it may have caused.

"It doesn't matter what kind of disability they have, they can all participate," Hesom stresses. "It could be a child who is in a wheelchair and needs assistance. It could be a child who just has braces. Or it could be a child who has a cognitive disability. It doesn't really matter."

Evan, for one, certainly doesn't let his physical challenges stop him from being active in sports, including sledge hockey and baseball.

But having to drive into Winnipeg all the time to participate isn't a lot of fun, the 13-year-old says.

"I'm excited because it's always been in Winnipeg and we have to drive over an hour and a half to get there," he says. "When I played minor ball I couldn't really keep up with the play, so now I might be able to keep up with the play much more faster," Evan says, noting he's look-

League expecting to start off with practices, drills

From Pg. 21

Due to current public health orders, Hesom expects the league will have to focus on practices and drills only for the first few Saturday mornings.

"Challenger Baseball works in conjunction with the Jays Cares Foundation, the Toronto Blue Jays, and they provide a huge amount of equipment and resources and things like that, so we'll have a ton of fun activities that we can do at a practice," Hesom says.

Hopefully as the summer progresses they'll be able to add games to the mix as well.

Hesom would love to see enough participation to put together multiple teams representing communities throughout the region.

"My dream eventually is that com-

munities like Morden, Winkler, Carman, Altona—they can all have teams and then there's less travel and you can still play ... and get together and socialize and have some fun."

To register your child, head online to <https://www.baseballmanitoba.ca/challenger> or contact Hesom at 204-362-1020 or cfphesom@gmail.com for

more information.

Registration is \$25 for the season, which includes a start-up kit that will include a backpack, mask, ball cap, and a jersey.

"To anyone who might be wondering or questioning whether this is something their child would be able to do, give me a call," Hesom says. "Or

just come out on May 1 and see what it's like ... if they want to be part of it I'm pretty sure we won't turn them down."

The group will be playing at the Morden Park diamond at the corner of Gilmour St. and 12 St. from 10:30 a.m. to noon that day.

> GENESIS HOUSE, FROM PG. 20

olence and violence against women and children ... I think sometimes in that focus to provide services to the victims, we're forgetting that males have a part in this too," he continued.

"What was important to us is not just providing support to urban ar-

reas like Winnipeg, where we know there are challenges, but also rural and the north, so we put a very careful lens on this," said Friesen. "I think in terms of this local program, what stood out for program officials is the fact that it's putting an emphasis in a

different place."

The \$6.4 million comes from a reallocation of surplus funds from the Victim's Assistance Fund and supports the priorities of Manitoba's Framework: Addressing Gender-Based Violence.

take a break

> GAMES

SUDOKU

6				9				
		1		8		4		
3			5	7	4			9
4			1	6				8
						1		6
8	7			2				
			7	9		5		
		6				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 your sudoku savvy to the test!

Level: Intermediate

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!

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

Sudoku Answer

V	L	E	S	E	O	H	S	S	N	E	W	O
T	N	S	H	A	T	L	T	E	T	A	V	R
L	S	E	O	R	E	I	L	R	V	H	C	
V	H	L	A	T	A	V	N	I	D	D		
A	R	E	S	E	S	E	R	A	R	S		
S	E	U	S	M	E	B	T	U	S			
S	E	A	V	N	E	S	L	V	S	E	O	
S	E	U	T	E	D	A	T	E	G	R	A	V
D	V	S	E	S	P	N	A	V	R	S		
E	O	C	A	V	I	L	E					
C	I	T	A	V	A	P	R	A	U	H	S	A
S	E	O	M	E	D	H	O	V	C			
S	B	O	L	V	L	V	E	R	E	R		
I	N	E	I	C	E	V	E	R	E	K	A	V
S	H	B	A	S	L	O	H	S				

Crossword Answer

CROSSWORD

CLUES ACROSS

- Pituitary hormone (abbr.)
- Ceramic jars
- Monetary units
- Alias
- "Superman" actor
- Britonic tribe
- Shorten
- LA Dodgers manager
- Hoarded
- Theatrically portray
- Noah's grandson
- Dependent
- Peyton's little brother
- Cools the house
- Principle part of
- Type of wrap
- Peels
- Commercial
- Make an attempt
- Arrange in steps
- U. Utah athlete
- Old English
- Trade
- Nostrils
- Ticket seller ___ Hub
- Of I
- Institute legal proceedings against
- Takes apart
- Doorway
- Long int'l river
- Trailblazing athlete Gibson
- Former CBS News host
- Sign language
- Badgerlike mammal
- Thin strips of wood
- Brooklyn hoopster
- Portents of good or evil
- Footwear
- When you think you'll arrive

CLUES DOWN

- Batflower genus
- Predatory seabirds

1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13
14				15						16				
17				18						19				
20				21				22						
23						24	25						26	27
		28				29				30				
31	32					33		34	35	36			37	
38					39	40						41		
42					43					44	45			
46		47	48					49		50				
51					52	53	54			55			56	57
		58								59				
60	61							62	63				64	
65								66					67	
68								69					70	

- Fish farm
- Arrangements
- Go in advance of others
- Bulgarian monetary unit
- "___ Maria"
- W. African ethnoreligious group
- Wild Asian oxen genus
- Vinegary
- To this
- Explosive
- Female sibling
- Orlando museum (abbr.)
- Type of hoop
- About Holy Father
- Academic environment
- Extremely angry
- Surrenders
- Swiss mountain pass
- Sharp mountain ridge
- Erases
- Spielberg's alien
- Absurd
- Dorm worker
- Used to make pesticides
- The sister of your father or mother
- A way to let know
- Can't produce much vegetation
- Small streams
- Folk singer DiFranco
- Weights
- Start over
- Black Sea resort city
- Wimbledon champ
- Corporate executive (abbr.)
- Unskilled actor who overacts
- Bravo! Bravo! Bravo!
- Of or relating to ears

get inspired

> MEAL IDEAS



Pastry Brunch Cups

In small saucepan, melt butter. Whisk flour with butter. Gradually pour in milk, whisking each time. Bring to simmer, whisking until mixture starts to thicken. Remove from heat; stir in Swiss cheese. Set aside.

Use rolling pin to thin out puff pastries. Cut each into nine squares. Line pastry squares in muffin cups, pressing bottoms down firmly and moving pastries up sides for edges to come up just over muffin tins. Fill each cup with 1 teaspoon cheese sauce. Crack one egg into each cup and sprinkle each with diced ham.

Bake 10-15 minutes until eggs set. Sprinkle with chopped green onions.

- Servings: 18
 2 tablespoons butter
 2 tablespoons flour
 1 1/2 cups milk
 1 cup shredded Swiss cheese
 2 sheets puff pastry
 18 eggs
 2 cups diced ham
 chopped fresh green onions
 Heat oven 375 F.



Breakfast Burrito

Rub steak with oil and season with salt and pepper, to taste.

Cook until medium-rare, approximately 3-4 minutes each side. Remove from pan and cover loosely with tinfoil to rest 5 minutes.

Reduce heat to medium and add splash of oil. Add onion; cook 1 minute. Add red bell pepper and mushrooms; cook 1 minute.

Add cumin, paprika and chili powder; stir through.

When veggies are tender (about 2 minutes), add tomato and cook until soft. Season with salt and pepper, to taste.

In large bowl, whisk eggs, milk and salt and pepper, to taste.

Heat pan to medium heat and add splash of oil.

Pour egg mixture into pan and cook, lifting and folding eggs until thickened and no visible liquid egg remains. Do not stir constantly.

Lay tortillas on flat surface or plate.

In center of tortilla, add cooked veggies and top with thinly sliced beef. Add handful of spinach, scrambled eggs, crumbled feta, cilantro and avocado. Fold bottom of tortilla and roll.

Serve with lime wedges and hot sauce, if desired.

- 1 Silver Fern Farms New Zealand 100% Grass-Fed New York Strip Steak (10 ounces)
 oil
 salt, to taste
 pepper, to taste
 1/2 onion, finely chopped
 1 red bell pepper, sliced lengthwise
 4 large mushrooms, sliced
 1 teaspoon cumin
 1 teaspoon paprika
 1/2-1 teaspoon chili powder
 1 tomato, finely chopped
 8 eggs
 1/2 cup milk
 4 large tortillas
 1 cup spinach
 1 1/2 ounces feta cheese, crumbled
 1/4 cup cilantro
 1 avocado
 lime wedges (optional)
 hot sauce (optional)
 Remove steak from packaging and set aside 10 minutes. Once steak reaches room temperature, heat pan over medium-high heat.

Lemon Ricotta Doughnuts



Prep time: 20 minutes
 Cook time: 7 minutes

How to hit your fat loss goal fast!

Submitted by Julie Germaine

Though it may not quite feel like it, given the snowfalls we experienced at the end of March, summer sunshine is coming! I've noticed the gyms are busier than ever and that means we all have weight loss on the mind, shedding those COVID-19 pounds to feel like our early 2020 selves again.

Burning off excess fat is undoubtedly challenging, so it's important to take steps to lose weight while keeping a positive mindset. Having realistic goals will keep you feeling good about your progress, which will push you to continue on your fitness journey. If you expect to drop five inches from your waist in two weeks, you're setting yourself up for disappointment and could potentially give up.

Choosing a program that fits with your schedule will ensure you don't become overwhelmed with the process. To slim down, start by incorporating resistance training workouts 2-3 times per week for 30 minutes, and match that time commitment with equal sessions of cardiovascular activities, like walking or bike riding. This makes for a total of 2 to 3 hours of exercise each week – totally manageable! If you want to try my home and gym workouts absolutely FREE, sign up at www.sweatwithjulie.com

Adjust your diet to include at least one gram of protein per pound of bodyweight. This may take some planning, but it is worth the effort because you'll find your feel more satisfied after each meal and will likely decrease your total daily caloric intake by filling up on protein-rich foods such as eggs, chicken, seafood, and low-fat dairy products. If you aren't about counting calories, then just be sure to prioritize your



Health and Wellness Fitness expert
 Julie Germaine

protein during each meal, and gauge your hunger level often to avoid over-eating.

Start cooking with coconut oil! This healthy fat has been shown to reduce belly fat and tastes delicious. Not a fan of coconut? Opt for a flavourless version. You should also reduce your intake of refined sugars, such as milk chocolate. If you're like me and have a sweet tooth, check out my Sugar Free Peanut Butter Cup recipe on my blog to enjoy a treat every evening (bonus: this recipe uses coconut oil!).

I am passionate about helping men and women achieve their fitness goals! Please visit my website for information on my virtual personal training and nutrition programs, including my 30 Day VIP Fat Loss Challenge and one-on-one live video workouts! www.juliegermaine.com

Julie Germaine is a 2x Pro Fitness Champion, Certified Nutrition Expert and Specialized Weight Loss Coach. She has helped thousands of men and women achieve inspiring body transformations through her virtual coaching since 2005.

Doughnuts:
 Vegetable oil, for frying
 2 cups all-purpose flour
 1 3/4 cups Domino Golden Sugar, divided

2 tablespoons baking powder
 1/4 teaspoon salt
 2 tablespoons lemon zest
 5 large eggs
 1 3/4 cups ricotta cheese
 1 tablespoon pure vanilla extract
 Lemon Curd (optional):
 1 stick unsalted butter, softened
 1 1/2 cups Domino Golden Sugar
 2 large eggs
 2 egg yolks
 4 lemons, zest and juice only
 1/8 teaspoon salt

To make doughnuts: In large saucepan, preheat oil to 350 F. Prepare cookie sheet with paper towel to drain doughnuts once out of hot oil.

In bowl, mix flour, 3/4 cup sugar, baking

powder and salt. Add lemon zest, eggs, ricotta cheese and vanilla extract; mix until well combined.

Use ice cream scoop to scoop small amounts dough into oil, 4-5 pieces at a time. Fry each batch until golden brown, about 7 minutes. Keep oil at or near 350 F; if oil is too hot, doughnuts will turn golden brown but centers may still be raw. Remove from oil and drain in paper towel. Repeat with remaining dough.

While still hot, toss doughnuts with remaining sugar.

To make lemon curd, if desired: In large bowl of stand mixer, cream butter and sugar until light and fluffy. Add eggs and egg yolks, one at a time. Add lemon zest, lemon juice and salt.

Transfer mixture to saucepan and cook at low-medium heat until thick and creamy, stirring constantly. Remove from heat and let cool before serving with doughnuts.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Is hereby given that the R.M. of Thompson intends to conduct the following Pesticide Control Programs during 2021:

- To Control noxious weeds on road allowances and municipal properties.
The projected dates of application will be from May 15, 2021 to October 1, 2021
The herbicides to be used include:
 - 24D Amine 600
 - Tordon 22K
 - Glyphosate
 - Truvist
 - Navius
- To control weeds and turf fungal disease on the Miami golf course and greens.
The projected dates of application will be from May 15, 2021 to November 15, 2021
The herbicides/fungicides to be used include:
 - Par III
 - Round Up
 - Rovral Green GT
 - Banner Maxx
 - Heritage Maxx
 - Daconil
- To control insect pests, including grasshoppers, mosquitoes, etc.
The projected dates of application will be from May 15, 2021 to October 31, 2021
The insecticides to be used include:
 - Malathion

The public may send written submissions or objections, within 15 days of the publication of this notice to:

**Environmental Approvals Branch
Manitoba Sustainable Development
1007 Century Street
Winnipeg, MB R3H 0W4**

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PUBLIC NOTICE



PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that the Rural Municipality of Stanley may conduct the following Pesticide Control Programs during 2021:

- To control noxious weeds on road allowances within the Municipality. The proposed period of application would be from May 1, 2021 to October 31, 2021. The herbicides to be used could include:
 - Tordon 22K
 - 2-4-D amine 600
 - Milestone
 - Overdrive
 - Truvist
- To control insect pests including grasshoppers, mosquitoes, canker worms, etc. The proposed period of application for these programs would be from May 1, 2021 to October 31, 2021. The insecticides to be used could include:
 - Malathion
 - Dursban

The public may send written submissions or objections within 15 days of the publication of the notice to the department below.

**Manitoba Sustainable Development
Environmental Approvals Branch
1007 Century Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3H 0W4**

GOLF

Roland Golf Club - Openings for singles or teams Wednesday Night Ladies - contact Laurie 204-750-1326; Tuesday Night Men's - contact Mitch 204-745-0069. League only fee - \$234.00/person.

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The Board of Directors is accepting tenders immediately for a Contracted Custodian beginning May 1, 2021.

Diagnostic and problem solving, basic mechanical and carpentry, janitorial, and paying attention to detail are essential skills.

Tender must include a detailed description of experience, skills, and references.

The lowest or any Tender may not necessarily be accepted.

All Tenders will remain confidential.

Bids close April 23, 2021.

For a detailed Job Description or submitting a Tender, please contact: Allan Wiebe at grainwaysinc@gmail.com or Allan Wiebe, 311 - 325 6th St. Winkler, MB R6W 1G5.

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Words are inadequate to convey our gratitude for the myriad acts of kindness for our family prior to and after Edna Lumgair's passing. Thank you for all your expressions of condolence - calls, messages, cards, food, flowers, prayers, and, memorial donations. Throughout Mom's final journey we were uplifted by the love surrounding us.

-Barry and Darlene Lumgair
Leon and Carol Clegg

ANNIVERSARY



Wishing a perfect pair a perfectly happy day. Unfortunately, we have to celebrate it in a COVID way.

From a distance friends and family acknowledge the time you have shared. We will celebrate the bond and love to which no other compares.
Happy 50th Anniversary
Howard and Shirley Titchkosky!
April 17, 2021

AUCTION



Farm Equipment Auction for Art Enns Boys, Arnaud Manitoba, Jct 200 and Mile 21 N. Timed, online, closing Saturday, April 24, 10 am. Payment and pickup is Monday, April 26 9 am to 5 pm. Nice line of farm equipment. See www.billklassen.com all info right there. 204-325-4433 or cell 204-325-6230

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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 13-21
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 22, 2021 at 9:30 a.m.

GENERAL INTENT: TO RE-ZONE A PARCEL OF LAND IN THE RM OF STANLEY TO ALLOW FOR RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHOWN IN THE RED LINE BELOW)

FROM: "AG" AGRICULTURAL GENERAL / "GD" GENERAL DEVELOPMENT

TO: "RC" COMMUNITY RESIDENTIAL

AREA: ALL OF LOT 2, PLAN 39361 WITHIN SW 1-3-4W (REINFELD)



FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:

Melissa Groening, Planning and Development Officer

CONTACT: Rural Municipality of Stanley

1-23111 PTH 14

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.

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OBITUARY



Margaret Tiessen (nee Neufeld) 1932 – 2021

On Monday, April 5, 2021 at Boundary Trails Health Centre, Margaret Tiessen, 89 of Morden, MB passed away.

She leaves to mourn her passing, four daughters, Linda and Ernie Hoepfner, Connie and Kurt Wiebe, Marilyn and Tim Funk, Kathy and Dave Thiessen; 10 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren as well as one sister, one brother and their families. She was predeceased by her husband, Isaac in 1967, two sisters and three brothers.

Private funeral service was held on Saturday, April 10, 2021 at the Morden EMMC with interment at the Southside Cemetery.

Donations may be made in Margaret's memory to the Canadian Food Grains Bank and the BTHC Foundation designated to

Palliative Care.

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



OBITUARY



Lois Margaret Martha (Edie) Allison October 15, 1929 – April 7, 2021

Lois Allison, age 91, died on April 7, 2021 at Buhler Active Living Center in Winkler Manitoba.

Lois was the loving wife to Lyall Allison of Roland for 63 years. Lois was born at Dugald Manitoba. She was the third child of Bruce and Florence Edie.

Lois attended high school in Dugald and completed Grade 12 at United College in Winnipeg. The following year she attended Normal School in Winnipeg and graduated with her teacher's certificate in 1948. Lois taught at a few schools in Manitoba over the next eight years ending with teaching three years in Roland. There she met Lyall Allison. Lyall and Lois were married July 20, 1957.

Lois became a full time farm wife and mother to five girls: Linda (Doug Wilton), Beth (Blaine White, deceased), Karen (Murray Hiebert), Gwen (James MacEwan), Mavis (Bill Green).

Lois loved teaching and learning. She loved children and was patient and kind. She was a 4-H leader, a Sunday School teacher, an Auntie, a grandmother and a mother. She was an avid reader and a lifelong learner.

Lois was very proud of her five daughters, 20 grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

She loved people. Getting together with friends to play games was a joy to her. Lyall and Lois met square dancing and continued to dance for the next 60 years.

Lois and Lyall moved to a "small house" attached to Doug and Linda Wilton's house in 2014. In January 2021 Lyall and Lois moved to Buhler Center in Winkler.

Lois was a lovely person. She will be sadly missed by her husband, Lyall, family, friends and the Roland community.

Doyle's Funeral Home
in care of arrangements
www.doylesfuneralhome.ca

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AUCTION



**Farm Equipment Auction
for Ron and Karen Schellenberg,
204-829-3843.**

**TIMED, ONLINE AUCTION
closing Friday April 16, 6pm.**
Go to www.billklassen.com - click on
Farm auctions registration, need help?
Call me 204-325-4433
cell 204-325-6230

See our website www.billklassen.com for list and pictures!

Bill Klassen Auctions Ltd. Ph: (204) 325-4433
Cell: (204) 325-6230
Fax: (204) 325-4484

AUCTION



**Farm Retirement Auction for Gerald
E Friesen, NW of Morden. Timed
Online. Go to www.billklassen.com
- closing Tuesday, April 20, 6 pm.
Next day is payment and pick
at the farm, bring your receipt.
Large farm auction, lots of
equipment and lots of misc.**

See our website www.billklassen.com for list and pictures!

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AUCTION

SCHELLENBERG RON & KAREN FARM RETIREMENT AUCTION

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



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AUCTION



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

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4 miles north on 432, then, 5 west on
mile 17 and 1/2 mile south on road 33 w,
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2020 ECOSPORT SES AWD



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