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Helping hands

PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Junior high students at Blumenfeld School south of Winkler have spent the past few months learning the ins and outs of comforter making. The kids have finished three blankets that will be sent to the Mennonite Central Committee for shipment to people in need overseas. For the full story, check out Pg. 9.

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

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NEWS > VIEWS > WINKLER > MORDEN > SURROUNDING AREAS

Morden in good shape, ready to move boldly into the future: Burley

By Lorne Stelmach

The City of Morden has faced an array of challenges in the past few years, but Mayor Brandon Burley sees it as being not only in a better position now but also ready to move boldly forward.

That was the theme as he offered the annual state of the city address virtually last Thursday in conjunction with the Morden and District Chamber of Commerce's annual meeting.

"I want to assure you that our present is stable, our road map is clear, and

our future is bright together," Burley said as part of the pre-recorded moments filmed as if he was offering his address while on a walk around Morden, including stops downtown, at the lake, and by the east entrance highway sign.

"OUR PRESENT IS STABLE, OUR ROAD MAP IS CLEAR, AND OUR FUTURE IS BRIGHT TOGETHER."

He used those points as backgrounds to touch on a range of things council has accomplished, including stabilizing administration, investing in key areas such as tourism, and taking on a significant amount of capital

projects.

Continued on page 4



In his state of the city address, which was pre-recorded and streamed online this year, Morden Mayor Brandon Burley highlighted some of the capital projects in the works in the community, including a new surface and ice plant at the Huron Window Arena.



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In his state of the city address last week, Morden Mayor Brandon Burley provided a peek at the planned new entrance to Lake Minnewasta.

> STATE OF THE CITY, FROM PG. 3

"Council is committed to providing funding for capital investments that will provide good quality jobs and return money into our market," Burley said. "To that end, we have, in 2021, established a record capital budget with money being allocated to things like roads and sidewalks and parks and the things that really make our community a great place to be.

"We all know that our streets are crumbling and our sidewalks need redoing ... there's a lot of other capital programs that need to be funded. This year, we're doing a substantial amount of capital work. In fact, it's our largest capital budget.

"With improved efficiencies, savings that our staff have found, we've been able to do that with a very nominal increase to taxes," Burley added. "Our staff have identified huge amounts of savings for the City of Morden over the past year, and we've been able to put that back into investment into our community."

The mayor also credited having a full complement of city administration and staff for having made a big difference in the operation and oversight of civic matters.

"Our staffing levels have been a grave concern to this council over the past three years," he acknowledged. "Our senior staff and management positions are all full of people who are competent and character driven people who care about our city and about its residents and about its businesses."

"OUR IMMIGRATION INITIATIVE IS THE BEST IN CLASS IN CANADA."

Burley stressed the importance of economic development and cited the investment of well over a million dollars in 2021 to further that in Morden.

"These efforts and these dollars are being invested wisely through groups like Morden Community Development Corporation," he said, noting that the chamber as well is playing an important role. "The synergies that we've been able to create with the chamber in 2021 have been substantial as well."

A key part of economic development as well is continuing to boost immigration, Burley added.

"Our immigration initiative is the best in class in Canada. It is a key part of our economic engine and is a major contributor to the location decisions that businesses are making when they relocate to our community."

Another important part of spurring further development is how the city has worked to improve the planning process and streamline things like getting permit approvals.

"Council understands that red tape is extremely difficult to do business around, and one of those areas that we've always found red tape is in permitting and planning," Burley said, adding they want to have a one stop shop for people to get the approvals they need. "This will allow the city to retain substantial revenue through the permitting process but also improve results."

Returning to capital investments, Burley highlighted the importance of addressing Morden's issues with wastewater and water supply and treatment.

He noted they are investing several hundred thousand dollars into water quality as part of a four-year, \$4 million strategy, with measures this year that will help improve the water quality leaving the plant while also reducing the cost.

"This is a substantial investment and drastically reduces our bottom line in utility cost," said Burley, adding there is

\$1 million going towards engineering and design work to address wastewater capacity.

Burley went on to cite more examples of capital investment, such as the new surface and ice plant going into the Huron Window arena.

"These investments in our community are an important and integral part of who we are," he said. "We will continue to invest in our city as well and community services ... the things that bring us together."

He especially focused on Lake Minnewasta and the city's parks and green spaces.

"Lake Minnewasta is another great example where we are increasing the capacity for year round recreational usage," Burley said, highlighting the work with Sputnik Architecture to develop a master plan for the lake area.

"In addition, we are delivering a parks and urban forestry master plan in 2021 that will identify how we use and how we consume our recreational and park spaces. We'll be looking to partner with our residents and with our community partners to facilitate a workshop to better understand what your needs and what your wishes are," he said.

"You'll see parks coming to neighbourhoods, less centralized than they were before, because we believe that putting people in proximity to the services and the recreation they use leads to better consumption and better community usage of those facilities."

Those are all the key things that make Morden unique and special, the mayor stressed.

"We recognize this is our competitive advantage, and this council is committed to playing to that advantage and making sure that our city is optimally usable and optimally friendly for every one of our residents," said Burley. "One of those is tourism. We have a beautiful historic downtown Stephen Street, the Canadian Fossil Discovery Centre and Lake Minnewasta as well as a fantastic golf course."

Burley offered thanks to the chamber of commerce for being "partners in growth. Local voices in industry and growth and economic development is very important to our community."

"YOU'LL SEE PARKS COMING TO NEIGHBOURHOODS, LESS CENTRALIZED THAN THEY WERE BEFORE, BECAUSE WE BELIEVE THAT PUTTING PEOPLE IN PROXIMITY TO THE SERVICES AND THE RECREATION THEY USE LEADS TO ... BETTER COMMUNITY USAGE OF THOSE FACILITIES."

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"We need to at least be respectful of each other"

Police chief outlines stores' responsibilities when it comes to enforcing mask mandate

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Manitoba's COVID-19 mask mandate in indoor public spaces has been in effect now for five months, but not everyone feels the need to comply.

The *Voice* has been contacted by numerous readers in recent weeks voicing their concern and frustration at seeing fellow customers wandering through local businesses sans masks and wondering what, if anything, is being done to address the matter.

We asked Winkler Police Chief Ryan Hunt to provide some clarification on the obligation businesses have when it comes to public health orders.

"The only responsibility of the business is to advise customers that they're required to wear a mask," he explained. "It's not the responsibility of the store to do any enforcement. I don't think any employee or business owner wants to confront an angry customer, and neither should they be required to do so."

"If the customer decides not to [wear a mask], it's not the business' responsibility to make them leave the store, although they can," Hunt said, pointing out that stores and restaurants are private property. Asking customers to wear a mask is akin to requiring shirts and shoes for service. "Entering any store, it's not a right to be there, it's a privilege. And they have the option to require anyone to leave their store that they feel they don't want inside."

Medical exemptions from wearing a mask do exist, though health officials have made it clear there are very few conditions that justify the average person claiming they cannot wear a mask safely. Manitobans have been asked to be honest when stating they meet the limited exemption criteria laid out in the orders.

Tied in with this, the Manitoba College of Physicians and Surgeons in its guidelines to doctors about medical notes for exemption stress that its members "must abstain from providing anyone for any reason a medical mask exemption either written or verbal in the absence of a justified medical condition ... feeling uncomfortable or holding a strong opinion against mask wearing are not considered to be medical indications for exemp-

tion."

Hunt said they have received a few calls from the general public and store staff about people refusing to follow health orders or creating a disturbance in connection to those orders, but officers are not always available to respond immediately if they're dealing with higher priority calls.

"We don't always have time to respond right at the moment, just due to other responsibilities, so sometimes there's no longer a violation that's taking place when we do arrive," he said. "But other times when we are able to respond immediately we like to give the person the opportunity to leave the store. And if they do then we don't issue a ticket."

Education and warnings over tickets has been the standard for enforcement officers across Manitoba when it comes to public health order violators. The province in its enforcement bulletin April 13 noted that 100 warnings were issued the week before and only 13 tickets (five for not wearing a mask). Year-to-date has seen 1,159 tickets issued and 3,683 warnings.

Some local stores do seem to have a greater problem with customer compliance than others, but Hunt said it's not feasible for them to have officers camped out somewhere waiting to warn or even potentially fine people.

"We don't have the time to just stay there for solely that purpose. We have plenty of other calls that come in that require our officers to attend to," he said, stressing that the majority of people are complying with restrictions.

He noted public health officers are also able to issue fines and they do make unannounced visits to businesses to check for compliance. The fine for failing to wear a mask in an indoor public space is \$298.

Hunt urges people to take the high road and be kind to one another, whatever you think about the mask mandate.

"Some of the people that are not wearing masks, when they're approached by a staff member they're being disrespectful to the staff members, which is unfortunate," he said. "I realize that this is a very divided issue with very strong opinions on both



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

It's been over a year since the COVID-19 pandemic began and five months since masks were mandated in indoor public spaces in Manitoba, but unmasked customers still aren't a rare sight in local stores.

sides, but we need to at least be respectful to each other.

"No matter what you think about the masks, I just feel like if we want to go inside a store we should be courteous enough to put on a mask for that period of time that we're in there."

Curbside pickup or delivery has also been an option at most local stores for over a year now.

To make a complaint about non-compliance with the public health orders, call 1-866-626-4862 (toll-free) and press 3 on the call menu.

SUPERSTORE WEIGHS IN

We also reached out to Loblaws, the company that owns Winkler's Real Canadian Superstore, for their thoughts on the problem of maskless customers.

One of the largest grocery stores in the area, Superstore was the target of ire of many readers who contacted us about this issue.

Loblaws declined our request to interview local or corporate staff members, but its public relations department did address our questions about why unmasked customers seem to be so common at the Winkler location. What they said echoed Hunt's comments about the role businesses have

to play in enforcement.

"We checked in with the store and they have expressed their frustration with the current situation," the company said in an email. "The team is working tirelessly to provide a safe and positive environment for residents to shop for essentials, however there seems to be a small contingent of residents who refuse to follow the mask policy."

"[Staff] are required to remind each customer of the mask policy upon entry, however for their own safety and the safety of those around them, they are also instructed to avoid confrontation or escalation with anyone refusing to comply."

The company notes they have hired third-party security to help manage the situation at the Winkler store.

"For the most part, customers seem happy to do their part and wear a mask, however a group of anti-mask protesters and those falsely claiming medical exemptions have been problematic," they said, noting those with valid medical exemptions cannot be denied access to the store. "We firmly believe that everyone has a role to play in keeping one another safe and strongly encourage everyone to do their part and obey the laws as they stand to date."

"WE FIRMLY BELIEVE THAT EVERYONE HAS A ROLE TO PLAY IN KEEPING ONE ANOTHER SAFE ..."

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getheard

EDITORIAL > VIEWPOINTS > LETTERS

Water is life—let's not take it for granted

You know that feeling of taking something for granted until you no longer have it?

Health springs to mind immediately for me. I do not usually take the time to stop and consider those moments of complete health. No headache; no soreness; clear sinuses; no cough ... everything feels amazing.

Usually we come to realize the value of a thing when it is gone.

Lately I have been pondering water. Frank Herbert wrote in his classic sci-fi novel *Dune*: "A man's flesh is his own; the water belongs to the tribe." This is how important water is ... something we take for granted in Canada, a country which holds seven per cent of the world's renewable fresh water.

Have you been up to Lake Minnewasta lately? It is as low as I have



By Peter Cantelon

seen it in the 16 years I have lived here. Others say it is as low as they have ever seen it.

Recently CTV News reported on what appears to be emerging as a prairie drought:

"We are seeing serious grave situations across the prairies. I've never seen Manitoba so dry as I've seen it this particular spring," David Phillips, a senior climatologist for Environment and Climate Change Canada, told the news agency.

I add this quote because no matter how many people tell you something looks bad you really need to turn to the experts in a particular field rather than trust your local columnist or you buddy at work, etc.

So it is dry. We knew it was dry. We just came through a warm, relatively snowless winter. We can see the sandbar in Lake Minnewasta becoming larger and larger each day as it transforms into a small island.

People are noticing. Just like how we notice that missing health I mentioned earlier, people are starting to express concern at Morden's primary source of drinking water.

Questions are being asked:

"What's the plan?"

"What are our alternatives?"

"How much more money is this all going to cost us in the long run?"

"How much water, if any, does the golf course suck out of the lake annually?"

"Should I be worried?"

Of course, the existence of questions does not mean people at the City are not working diligently and already have a thorough, well thought out contingency plan for this. No, all questions mean is that people are wanting comfort through answers and information they do not feel they have.

Here's the thing: the longer it takes to get rain into the watershed the longer it will take to move out of a drought. They drier things become the more our thirsty earth will need to absorb before water makes it to the lake.

Another major consideration is evaporation. There are a lot of factors that affect evaporation but some key factors are surface area, shallowness and retained energy (warmth). Lake Minnewasta is shallow and has a surface area of 247 hectares (601 acres). The shallower it gets the warmer it becomes. The warmer it becomes the quicker it evaporates and the longer it

Continued on page 7

• GUEST COMMENTARY

The Pembina Valley is my home. I was born at Bethel Hospital in Winkler and while a lot has changed since then, one thing has always been true about the Pembina Valley: our communities and neighbours care for each other.

I am proud of many things when it comes to my hometown. However, as a public health physician, I'm not proud of our immunization rates. The Pembina Valley consistently has the lowest immunization rates in all of

Manitoba. And when we are facing the very real threat of a third wave of the COVID-19 pandemic, that's something we have to talk about.

There is no better way to care for one another than to get the vaccine. I want us all to get vaccinated to protect the most vulnerable folks in our communities.



By Dr. Joss Reimer

You might think that getting COVID-19 is not a big deal and you will be fine. However, variant strains of COVID-19 are becoming more common here, and we have seen that they cause more serious illness, and

more serious illness among younger people.

So get the vaccine for yourself, but

also think instead about your parents, your grandparents, your friend getting chemo or your niece with a weak immune system. Imagine if they were to get COVID-19. That double whammy of COVID-19 on top of another risk condition means the people you care about could be more likely to be hospitalized or face other really serious outcomes, even death. When we all get immunized, we are much less likely to pass the infection to others.

Getting the vaccine also helps reduce the burden on the healthcare system. It helps reduce the number of people that need to be hospitalized with COVID-19. This makes it possible to reschedule cancelled surgeries and ensure people waiting for life-changing procedures can get the care they need.

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.

Mulling over my next move

We are all on a wonderful journey called Life! And thankfully none of us knows the future and can accurately predict what our next move will be.

Ron wanted to stay in the beautiful home he built for us in Okanagan Falls. He wanted to stay until we could no longer drive and our children would have to help us move. He loved sitting on our back deck with his cup of coffee watching the big horn mountain sheep make their way down to the salt licks he generously provided for them. He enjoyed the many varieties of birds who visited our feeders and the raptors flying overhead. At night he listened to the chirping of the frogs and the howling of the coyotes. An idyllic life, one might say.



By Florence Dyck

But our idyllic life ended with Ron's sudden death on Dec. 1, 2019. After allowing me time to grieve, my family began encouraging me to make decisions regarding the house and contents. Not only did I have a two level house full of furniture but I had a garage, a shed, and a back deck full of Ron's tools. I also had a 20 minute highway drive to the nearest grocery store and other amenities.

All this, but also so many memories. The task seemed insurmountable.

With family help, I slowly started downsizing household contents in June. But when I phoned a realtor I knew, I burst into tears. "You're not ready," were her kind words.

The summer of 2020 was spent planting flowers and looking after my perennials and shrubs (which I loved) and fighting with the irrigation system (which I did not). Then our strata got after me to move Ron's utility trailer off a vacant lot where it was stored with the owner's permission. Next, I was told to fix the Nature Trust's snake fence in our back yard. They claimed our landscaping had created problems. I also had a major mouse infestation in our shed because of grass seed improperly stored. The final straw was seeing a rat on my bird feeder! Now I knew I was ready. I listed my house in October and it sold in January.

I am surprised my realtor did not fire me as we looked at apartments and condos together. She wanted me to get excited about what she was showing me but I could not. I have moved many times throughout our married life but always with Ron beside me or waiting at the other end. Now I was left alone to deal with offers and extra items the buyers wanted included. I was happy about every offer that fell through and every apartment that got sold before I could make up my mind. Then she reluctantly showed me an apartment under construction called Skaha Lake Towers.

I knew immediately, this would be my next home. The price was right, the strata fees were right, and the many large north and west facing



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The author managed to get her late husband's extensive tool collection down to just one toolbox in advance of her move into a smaller space.

windows gave me a stunning view of the city and part of Skaha Lake. Now began serious downsizing!

Our two Canadian sons took the garden tractor and trailer, the two air compressors, the two large tool chests, the larger saws and drills and sanders and things I did not even know the names of. One American son came in November to take the utility trailer and other items he wanted for himself and for our other American son. I was still disheartened by the amount of stuff left!

We advertised online and had a garage sale. I think some friends bought because they felt sorry for me but others bought because they wanted a small souvenir of Ron. He was so loved in the building trade and also among the residents of Big Horn Mountain Estates. Most everything sold and the rest will go to thrift shops. Now I will continue packing slowly until my move date on April 30.

Ron wanted to stay living here. He wanted to use his tools for building projects after he retired. There was so much he still wanted to accomplish. But as he began realizing this was not to be, he accepted his fate with grace and dignity.

When he built Red Wing Estates and Linden Estates, both retirement developments, he told me about couples who bought because the husbands were sick and they wanted their wives comfortable before they died. I am sure Ron would have wanted to do that for me also but his time left was too short. I am thankful, though, for my family and friends who helped and supported me through these past difficult months.

First I wanted to stay in our home because of all the wonderful memories. Now I find I have to leave because of all the memories! I never planned this next journey without Ron but I, too, must accept my fate and move forward without him. So with a little fear and trepidation and some excitement, I am off to the next phase of my life.

Florence Dyck is a former Mordenite now living in the Okanagan

> REIMER, FROM PG. 6

Living through a pandemic is scary and stressful, and we are all overwhelmed with information from many sources, some of which are more reliable than others. So if you're unsure, look for a reliable source of information. There are a lot of myths and outright lies out there about the COVID-19 vaccine. You may have read, for example, that the vaccine can give you COVID-19. That's not true. There is no live virus in the vaccine so it is physically impossible for it to cause an infection.

I grew up here, many of you were my friends and neighbours. I know firsthand how much you care about your communities, and I want you to be well. From an old neighbour and now

public health doctor, I am asking you to join me in taking care of this community together by getting vaccinated as soon as you are eligible. Appointments can be made in Morden at our supersite, so it's simple and convenient to book by phone or online.

To sign up to be notified when you're eligible and find more information about the vaccine—including other myths and facts—visit protectmb.ca.

Dr. Joss Reimer is the medical lead of Manitoba's vaccine implementation task force and a former Winklerite now living in Winnipeg

> CANTELON, FROM PG. 6

takes to recuperate from a drought.

The shallower it becomes the greater the impact motorboats, Sea-Doos and the gas and oil that goes with them will have, not to mention the impact on the fishery given the dryness of the western marsh where spawning usually occurs.

All this to say the lake is a VERY complex ecosystem, as is the Dead Horse Creek, and we are all linked to them. Their health affects ours, the surrounding wildlife, and the tour-

ism economy attached.

We have alternatives, of course. Morden is part of the Pembina Valley Water Co-operative which draws from the Red River, and so we're far from a time to panic.

Where we are is at that point where our throat is a little scratchy and our joints a little achy. We're at that point where the symptoms are suggesting we become proactive in order to hold off something worse down the road.

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.

Winkler neighbourhood speaks out against proposed condo project

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Winkler city council certainly got an earful from community members at their meeting last week.

Several people came out to the April 13 meeting to voice their concerns about a pair of four-storey condo buildings proposed to go up on 7th St. north of Mountain Ave.

The project calls for the closure of a portion of a public lane between 7th and 8th St., rezoning the land to multi-family residential, and variations to allow for more dwelling units per acre than required under current zoning requirements, a smaller site area and front yard minimum than required, and a height variation to allow for the fourth storey within the 45-foot maximum building requirements.

For the better part of an hour, resident after resident came up to speak out against the project, which is being spearheaded by K Block Developments Inc.

Issues of population density (the project would bring over 30 condos to the area), lack of parking, increased traffic, lack of green space, privacy concerns due to the buildings overlooking neighbouring yards, and lowering of property values were identified by multiple speakers.

Susanne Loewen and her husband Scott have lived nearby on 8th St. for 24 years. She went into detail on all of the above issues and more, and appealed to council to think twice about the project, which she feels is poised to drastically change the nature of the neighbourhood.

"We want to protect not only our investment in our property but in the daily lives of those in our community," Loewen said. "We have great concerns over the potential development of the downtown area. Developments should take into consideration all the residents of the area and not just the financial gain of the developers."

Cathleen Bergen's home on 7th St. would be right next to the condos.



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Winkler city council pushed pause on public hearings for a proposed condo development on 7th St. to give city planners and the developer time to address some of the many concerns raised last week by neighbourhood residents about the project.

She echoed Loewen's fears that the project will negatively impact existing area residents.

She pointed out that street parking is already a serious problem, especially when the nearby concert hall and senior centre are hosting events.

"This will create a situation that makes the severe shortage of parking on 7th Street and South Railway worse."

Bergen also raised concerns about bringing dozens of new residents to the neighbourhood.

"Currently our street is relatively quiet, but increasing the population significantly will potentially mean the neighbourhood will be noisy," she said, pointing out there are many seniors in the area who would prefer to keep it a quiet neighbourhood.

Representing some of those eldest residents was Elizabeth Enns of Oakview Terrace.

"Parking and the added traffic is a big concern and has the potential to devalue our property," she said, noting as well that there are four senior housing complexes in the immediate vicinity already, all with visitors who are often unable to walk long distances to hunt for parking.

She questioned the need for this residential development in the heart of downtown and asked why the land in question could not be considered instead for a park.

"Why not consider developing this space that is under consideration for rezoning as rezoning it for a green space to beautify this area where the P.W. Enns [Concert] Hall stands and

a green space for the residents of the many condos on 7th St. who dutifully continue to pay copious taxes to the town of Winkler?"

Also raising concerns of population density and parking scarcity was Doug Dyck on behalf of the Covenant Mennonite Church.

The church also took issue with the proposed closure of the public lane to accommodate the project, as doing so would make access to their property very difficult and could also hinder their own plans to build a hut for expanded programming.

Dyck pointed out the church wasn't made aware that the city was considering giving up the public lane. They feel if that's the case that they, as an active member of the community stretching back decades, should have been given the first opportunity to purchase it. That request was echoed by Loewen as well, whose property is adjacent to the lane.

DEVELOPER RESPONDS

K Block Developments' Frank Klassen appeared taken aback by the sheer number of objections to the project.

"It is not at all my intention to wreck neighbourhoods. I have a passion for development to build up community, not to tear it down ... or to invade privacy," he said at the hearing. "I will take these comments here really seriously."

Klassen noted that the parking lot plan could be reworked to avoid having to close the back lane, thus ensuring both the church and neighbour-

ing private properties continue to have access to it.

As to the other issues, he pointed out the planned buildings are consistent with condo units already in the area, including Oakview Terrace. He feels this project meets a real need as there are not a lot of residential units available for purchase downtown currently.

Council has a difficult decision to make, Klassen acknowledged.

"Given all the concerns expressed, I'm not sure what to say," he said. "I have to hand it to you as council. You do need to consider everyone, not just the one person, or just the developer, or just one homeowner. You're planning a community. You're regulating what's going to be built and how is it going to impact the future of Winkler. So I really respect the work and effort that you put into it and just thank you for considering this. I accept the outcome."

Council decided to give K Block Developments time to see if it and city planners can address some of the concerns laid out by residents before the city makes its decision on the project. As such, it adjourned the public hearing until the May 11 council meeting.

Mayor Martin Harder thanked everyone who came out to speak.

"This is really an example of what these public hearings are for. They're here to make the community a better place to live," he said. "Each and every voice that is here needs to be heard. Sometimes it doesn't go the way we want it to go, but sometimes we can make a difference as to what the future looks like."

ALSO AT COUNCIL

In other matters, city council has awarded the Clover Creek Industrial Park Roblin Blvd. paving project to Bituminex Paving Ltd.

The Winnipeg business was one of seven construction companies to bid on the project, coming in the lowest at \$864,525—significantly under what council had budgeted.

The project will to extend the paved road to the city's eastern boundary.

Councillors also okayed a rezoning request for a parcel of land in the northwest corner of town to pave the way for the second phase of The Gardens residential development.

The property located along Gemstone Drive moves from being zoned as community reserve to a residential single-family, residential two-family, and open space/recreation.

Developers plan to build 38 single-family homes and 17 two-family buildings in the space.

"IT IS NOT AT ALL MY INTENTION TO WRECK NEIGHBOURHOODS. I HAVE A PASSION FOR DEVELOPMENT TO BUILD UP COMMUNITY, NOT TO TEAR IT DOWN."

"It was great to do something to give back"



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Blumenfeld School students Ayleen Thome and Jason Krahn at work on the three comforters the school's junior high students created for Mennonite Central Committee to send to people in need overseas.

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Students at Blumenfeld School hope their hard work this winter will bring a little comfort to someone half a world away.

The school's dozen junior high students have spent the past few months sewing three comforters to donate to the Mennonite Central Committee's relief efforts.

The project was headed up by teacher Bernie Loeppky and resource teacher Waldina Reimer as a way to keep students busy during the long

winter months.

"I brought in leftover fabric and we brought sewing machines and we taught the kids certain skills," explains Reimer. "We created patterns that were easy for them to do and then said we were going to do quilts, as many as we could, to be donated back to MCC."

MCC ships comforters all over the world, but the students' donations are most likely headed to Jordan or Ukraine, the school has been told.

"The overarching theme of the entire social studies curriculum in Manitoba

is citizenship, so from my position this activity fits into the category of global citizenship," says Loeppky.

The kids were able to work on the quilts whenever they had a moment to spare during the school day.

"They were forever asking: lunch, recess, can we stay in to sew?" says Reimer, adding she was so proud to see how the kids really grabbed on to this project and ran with it. "They were just awesome with it ... and everybody did something."

They struggle to estimate how many hours their collectively poured into

the blankets, but Gr. 7 classmates Alissa Schenkel and Ayleen Thome and Gr. 8 student Rachel Loewen say it was all worth it.

"[I enjoyed] the experience of sewing something for poor people," said Schenkel.

It's pretty cool, the kids say, to think about something they made being shipped to someone in need on the other side of the globe.

"I think it was an awesome experience," said Loewen. "It's my last year here at this school, so it was great to do something to give back."

Winkler scores high in national cities ranking

By Lorne Stelmach

Winkler has again made the list as one of the best places to call home in Canada.

The annual ranking by *Maclean's* magazine rated four Manitoba cities as being among the top 50, with Winkler coming in at 26th.

It is a huge leap for Winkler from 200th in 2019, and it is in large part due to the magazine taking a different approach with the ranking this year.

"There seems to be a significant weighting on available high speed internet in their ratings and ability to work remotely," observed Mayor Martin Harder.

Given that, Harder said it was a "tribute to the fact we were early adopters

to Valley Fiber and the installation of top-notch internet services. I believe this sets us apart, as you can have a positive family lifestyle while capturing some higher income job opportunities due to being accessible to the world.

"And that was an initiative born and raised in Winkler, so we've been pretty proud of the partnerships that have been created there."

Harder said it's pretty exciting to see the community shine so brightly on the national stage.

"When you get to a point where you get this type of national recognition, it confirms that we do have a lot to offer," he said. "It's very humbling, but it's quite the feather in our cap."

The other Manitoba cities who made

the grade were Winnipeg in sixth place, Selkirk in 28th, and Brandon in 50th.

This version of the ranking, like past ones, considered such factors as housing affordability, population growth, taxes, crime, weather, access to health care, amenities, and community engagement.

Assuming remote work is here to stay, though, the magazine ranked the same 415 communities across the country from the previous year but with an eye toward great living for people who don't have to worry about finding a job within commuting distance. So it eliminated incomes and unemployment rates (since remote workers don't need to look for a local job), distance to post-secondary

institutions (since remote education was expanded and refined during the pandemic), and commuting methods.

Because it's impossible to work from home without a reliable internet connection, *Maclean's* also added a new category rating broadband performance.

Once the magazine eliminated unemployment rates and incomes—categories where Atlantic Canada has historically lagged compared to other parts of the country—the region's cities rose to the top.

Halifax took top spot thanks to its affordable housing price while three other major urban centres in the region made the top 10: Fredericton taking second, Moncton in seventh, and Charlottetown in tenth.

New Morden K-8 school moving into design phase

By Lorne Stelmach

Local education officials are glad to finally be able to get to work on the long-awaited new school for Morden.

The K-8 school in the northwest part of the city finally got the go-ahead last week as part of the Manitoba government announcing an additional \$100 million for a total of over \$260 million in school capital investments as part of a commitment to build 20 new schools across the province.

Western School Division also received word that Morden Collegiate will get its three classroom addition and a new building will be constructed for the division's pipefitters vocational program.

"Those are on a smaller scale but equally important, and I am under-

standing that these are shovel-ready projects and that every effort is being made to accelerate the tendering and construction," noted Morden-Winkler MLA Cameron Friesen in the wake of the announcement.

"Our government committed that we would accelerate school improvement projects," added Friesen, who also credited the community for its perseverance in pushing for this project. "For years, the community has advocated for a new school, and they've done so on the basis of the growing evidence that a new school is needed. This essentially makes it real ... it is exceptionally gratifying and exciting for the community."

WSD board chairperson Brian Fransen echoed that sentiment.

"It is fantastic news, without ques-

tion. It's become real," he said. "There are a lot of people who should be proud of the advocacy that they have done, and the community should be celebrating."

"It speaks to the province recognizing our needs," Fransen said, while noting the timeline for the new school is uncertain. "It is really hard to say yet ... as we progress through it, there will be more information that will become available."

"We have approval to move into the design phase ... so it's exciting. We've worked on this for years, and to have this announcement made today is really good."

Fransen also welcomed approval of the other two projects, noting that they are equally vital to the division not only in terms of addressing the shortage of space but with the MCI expansion also including a science lab.

"That is going to be a much needed update to the lab that we have in there, which I think was built before I was born," he said.

Education Minister Cliff Cullen said the government was "providing new schools on a priority basis and making substantial investments to improve existing schools."

"As the province moves ahead with its Better Education Starts Today strategy, placing our education system's focus on students first, we have to ensure the environment in which they learn will help students succeed," he said. "These critical investments

will ensure that more students have the opportunity to learn and grow in high-quality learning environments."

The \$100 million increase in education capital funding provides not only for new schools but other projects including replacements and upgrades to ventilation and electrical systems, updates to libraries, outdoor spaces, spaces for arts programming, athletic programming, vocational programming, life skills and community resources.

Specifically, the 2021-22 capital plan includes \$62 million for continuing multi-year projects, \$77 million for medium and major new schools, additions and major renovations, \$106.7 million for medium and minor existing infrastructure renewal projects, \$25.9 million for mechanical work, \$21.6 million for roofing, \$41.5 million for structural work, \$17.7 million for accessibility upgrades, \$9.1 million for science lab upgrades and \$5.5 million for modular classroom units to address immediate enrolment demands.

The commitment of 20 new schools will provide approximately 10,900 new classroom spaces along with 1,450 child-care spaces, at a total estimated cost of over \$500 million, said Cullen, adding the additional funding and accelerated schedule could have the last of the 20 new schools start design in 2023-24 for completion in fall/winter 2025, up to five years ahead of the completion date of 2030.



Manitoba tightens restrictions as third wave begins

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Public health officials tightened restrictions this week in a bid to slow down the third wave of COVID-19 in Manitoba.

Starting this past Tuesday, households may only have two designated visitors indoors and outdoor gatherings on both public and private property are limited to 10 people, including members of a household.

Wedding and funerals are also reduced to 10 people, in addition to an officiant and photographer.

Faith-based gatherings are now capped at 25 per cent capacity or 50 people, whichever is lower, with indoor mask orders in place except while household groups are seated together, are appropriately distanced from other groups, and are not singing.

Starting this Wednesday, retail stores are limited to one-third capacity or up to 333 patrons, whichever is lower. Malls are limited to 33 per cent of the facility's capacity.

The new orders will remain in effect until May 12. "Despite our best collective efforts, COVID is on

the rise again due to in large part to the new variants of concern," Premier Brian Pallister said at a news conference Monday. "Our cases are rising, our test positivity numbers are rising, hospitalization numbers are beginning to go back up."

"We'd been in this situation last year and we know that we don't want it to be recreated now," Pallister said. "We cannot stand by and wait for what happened once to happen once more."

Tightening restrictions will hopefully slow the third wave of the virus here in Manitoba, the premier said, and avoid the need for a full lockdown.

The province on Monday announced 108 new cases of the virus, bringing the tally to 36,267. The five-day test positivity rate was at 5.7 per cent both provincially and in Winnipeg.

As of press time, there were 1,685 active cases, 33,623 recoveries, and 132 people requiring hospitalization, including 30 in intensive care.

A total of 959 Manitobans have died due to COVID-19.

In the Pembina Valley, Winkler and the Altona area were reporting five active cases each on Monday;

Morden, Stanley, and Carman were at four; Lorne/Louise/Pembina was at two; Roland/Thompson, MacDonald, and Morris were all at one; and Red River South had nine active cases.

VACCINE ELIGIBILITY BROADENS

This week also saw the province open up the AstraZeneca vaccine to all Manitobans aged 40 and over.

"Tens of thousands of doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine remain in clinics and pharmacies across the province, which is why we're expanding the eligibility criteria for the vaccine," explained Health Minister Heather Stefanson. The vaccine was previously only available to people 55 and older with certain health conditions.

The province also lowered the eligibility age for vaccination at a super site or pop-up clinic to Manitobans 54 or older and First Nations people 34 and older.

Head to protectmb.ca or call 1-844-626-8222 to book a vaccination appointment or find a clinic or pharmacy near you with available doses.

Morden chamber reports on challenging but successful year

By Lorne Stelmach

There was good news from the past year for the Morden and District of Chamber of Commerce amidst the challenges posed by the pandemic.

What stood out for president Scott Hoeppner as he addressed the virtual annual meeting of the chamber last Thursday was the perseverance shown by the business community.

"We've had a very active and a very busy year," said Hoeppner, who was re-elected to another two-year term on the board. "This has been a challenging year, but we have much to be proud of, in my view, not only as a chamber but as our individual members have shown a degree of resiliency and resolve.

"This has been a tough year ... but we still accomplished much as a chamber," he continued, citing the organization's focus on the promotion of buying local with such initiatives as their Santa's Sleigh delivery program at Christmas.

While restrictions led to many things being cancelled, the chamber was still

able to do a variation of its Wrapping Up A Morden Christmas and got in a successful Home and Life Show before the pandemic restrictions came into force.

"We've engaged in a chamber re-brand, and we have a new website that will be coming out soon," added Hoeppner.

He also heralded the role the chamber and especially executive director Candace Olafson have played in keeping members informed.

"We've excelled in acting as a reliable source of information, especially during the pandemic, so we've been able to filter out information for members, provide directions to resources, answer member inquiries and connect them with information they need.

"In my view, we were and continue to be a leader in this regard," he said, recalling a conversation where someone from the Neepawa chamber noted how they looked to what was being done by the Morden chamber as a guide. "We've also continued our advocacy efforts during the pandemic, and we've done our best to leverage

our relationship with the Manitoba chamber to ensure that your voices as members are heard at a provincial level."

The chamber came out of 2020 in good shape financially, all things considered.

Fundraising and special events dropped by half, but the chamber picked up other funding support including the federal wage subsidy and over \$30,000 for its buy local initiative.

The end result was that revenue increased to \$169,120 while expenses came in at \$152,841, which left the organization with a surplus of \$16,279 and an accumulated surplus of \$27,65.

"With all the uncertainty there was going into the year, we really did benefit with the government programs that were available to us," said treasurer Derek Hamilton.

The budget approved for 2021 projects a deficit of \$14,410 based on revenue of \$113,700 and expenses of \$128,110.

In addition to re-electing Hoeppner for another term as chair, the chamber executive includes Grant Nicholson



Scott Hoeppner,
Morden chamber president

as vice chair and Derek Hamilton as treasurer. New to the board are Mark Peters and Ali Jariya, who join returning members Jared Hildebrand, Irma Maier, Brent Laverty, Heather Francis, and Susan Lee.

Officials answer Manitobans' questions at town hall

People phone in for clarity on province's COVID-19 restrictions, vaccination plans

By Lorne Stelmach

Manitoba health officials answered a range of questions on the province's immunization plans during a province-wide telephone town hall forum last week.

The focus was largely on the vaccination program as Health Minister Heather Stefanson led the session with chief public health officer Dr. Brent Roussin, medical officer of health Dr. Joss Reimer, and Johana Botha from the vaccine implementation task force.

Roussin though firstly faced a query about why the province would not be shutting the provincial borders again given the rising case numbers and increasing concern about the variants of COVID-19.

"Closing borders is a very complex issue having many, many effects, so we chose to go with the isolation requirements, and it's probably one of the factors why our third wave has been delayed compared to other provinces," he said.

"We were really the only province outside of the Atlantic provinces that had any type of isolation requirements on returning travellers ... we continue to have those in place, and we are go-

ing to continue to do what we can to message that and enforce it," Roussin added. "We do need people entering Manitoba, returning Manitobans, to follow those isolation requirements.

Other questions touched on concerns around delaying the second dose of vaccinations, with one resident noting they understood Pfizer recommended they should be done within 21 days of each other.

The current delay the province has set at a few months does not mean people are not being properly protected, insisted Reimer, citing data from studies.

"Overall, the data that we have is quite overwhelming as far as being supportive of delaying the second dose," she said. "In the real world setting that we are, this is the best approach."

Another caller wondered why teachers would not all be prioritized sooner for vaccination given the potential concern around the virus in schools.

"This is something that we are continuing to look at," said Reimer. "For the vast majority, transmission does not appear to be happening in the schools and instead it's largely community transmission where the kids or their teachers or the other staff just happen to be at that school."

Botha fielded a question about making allowance at clinics for walk-ins, for situations where appointments are left open by no-shows.

"Nothing is off the table in terms of how we run our sites," he said. "If we get to a point where we think that walk-ins will be more efficient in terms of getting more people through and getting them through safely, then of course we will look at that.

"We are not seeing a high rate of no-shows at our supersites. In cases where we do have no-shows, those doses are not wasted," Botha added, noting vaccine doses are only removed from freezers for use once people arrive for their appointment.

Botha also answered a question

around how and when it is determined to further lower the age eligibility for vaccination.

"We're watching and we're monitoring," said Botha, who explained that it "really depends on the number of appointments available and supply in the province.

"We see how those appointments fill up ... and as those are no longer filling up and we know there are appointments available ... we watch this closely; we monitor it every day, and as there are appointments available we drop by age.

"There's a bit of a balance," Botha said. "We don't want to be in a scenario where Manitobans are eligible but can't make appointments."

Roussin took on a question about what percentage of the population might need to be vaccinated in order for the province to feel that it has an adequate level of herd immunity to then ease restrictions.

"If we could get Manitobans fully vaccinated to the 70 per cent range, it's very likely that we will be seeing some big population level benefits from it," he said.

"We will continue to follow our

Continued on page 12

"AS WE SEE CASE NUMBERS IMPROVE OVER TIME ... WE WILL CONTINUE TO LOOSEN THOSE RESTRICTIONS."

getinformed

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Community garden plots are going fast

By Lorne Stelmach

The community gardens in both Winkler and Morden are well on their way to being sold out again this year.

A majority of the plots in both communities are taken up by returning gardeners from last year but there is some turnover, and Winkler is even adding more space to meet growing demand.

"I've been manager of the gardens for seven or eight years now and there is increased interest each year," said Winkler organizer Margaret Klassen. "Last year, we had increased our gardens by 26 from previous years, and this year we increased it again ... so there is more demand for people wanting to grow their own produce."

"People are looking for hobbies, and gardening can be a good way to fill that void ... you want to get out and do something, and there's a good reward at the end," said Owen Klippenstein, facility events co-ordinator for the City of Morden, which oversees the gardens there.

Morden offers two community gardens on 19th Street and Grant Street with 60 and 52 plots respectively. The cost is \$25 for a plot of about 300 sq. ft.

People who rented last year or who were on the waiting list were given first opportunity to rent them again this spring.

"We usually do that, as some people kind of invest a lot of time and money



into their little plot there," said Klippenstein. "Most people are returning, but we had about eight or ten plots available in each garden."

The Morden plots will all be tilled and water is available onsite, though people need to bring their own watering can and are encouraged to conserve it as much as possible. Additional compost and wood chips are also available for use, with recycling and garbage bins in place as well as a compost pile for garden refuse.

"We did add compost last year, so

that does help with the productivity there," said Klippenstein, who expects pandemic restrictions will once again contribute to a greater interest in the gardens this spring. "It's an activity you can do outdoors where you don't have a lot of people close by and you can get a bit of exercise and fresh air. You can produce some food for yourself, and gardening is kind of an art; some people are amazing at it."

The starting date of course depends on the weather, but they aim to have the plots open for early May.

For more information or to inquire about space in Morden, you can call 204-822-5431 ext. 205.

SOME SPOTS AVAILABLE IN WINKLER

Winkler's plot numbers jump from 130 in 2020 to 166 this year. As of late last week, there were just 11 left after past garden users had registered.

"There's usually a bit of turnover but not a lot. I would say 90 per cent of them come back," observed Klassen. "We had a waiting list, but because we added another 36 plots, that makes a difference. People on the waiting list had first chance then to get in as well."

The garden has five water stations, and there are both north-south and east-west pathways for access to the plots.

Klassen also expects the level of interest will continue to increase.

"It becomes quite a bit of a gardening community," she said. "It's really neat to see the different ideas. The new gardeners learn from the old gardeners, and it's really neat to see. People will come and ask questions ... perhaps there's something they may have never tried before. It's a really good group of people."

For more information or to inquire about space, you can call Klassen at 204-362-7552.

> TOWN HALL, FROM PG. 11

numbers. We always use those least restrictive means that are on our orders," Roussin added. "As we see case numbers improve over time, which we fully expect, we will continue to loosen those restrictions as required, so vaccines put us in that position very much sooner."

Another caller asked about the enforcement of the guidelines making masks mandatory in public places. He recounted being in one store where management told him they ultimately had no authority to force people to obey the rules.

"Masks are mandatory in indoor

public places ... private businesses are required to remind patrons that they must wear a mask," said Roussin.

"We did not want to put operators of businesses in any situations of potential peril by trying to force people to wear things," he added. "If there

are enforcement officers around, they can receive a ticket for that ... our orders don't require them to enforce it, but we do require them to remind patrons ... our enforcement officers can certainly ticket people."

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Winkler Community Fdn. put \$279K back into the community in 2020

By Ashleigh Viveiros

While 2020 certainly wasn't a normal year for anyone, the Winkler Community Foundation (WCF) reports that the highlights outweighed the challenges for them in many ways.

The foundation board held their annual general meeting last week.

Board president Scott Doell says they had a solid year for granting, putting a total of \$279,594 back into the community in 2020 through flow-through funding and endowment fund grants.

"It definitely was a good year for us," he said. "It was an interesting year with its own set of challenges, but I was pretty proud of what we were able to do with the foundation."

As always, WCF with its grants tried to have as wide-reaching an impact as possible.

Thirty-two per cent of the grants were designated towards education for young people, 25 per cent for COVID relief, 23 per cent for family and community services, 13 per cent for arts, culture, and recreation, four per

cent for heritage projects, and three per cent for health programs and projects. The foundation awarded a total of 43 charitable grants and 42 scholarships.

They always receive far more applications for funding than they're able to meet, Doell noted.

"I can tell you there's a huge need," he said. "With the amount we can grant out we can barely scratch the surface."

Partnerships with the Manitoba 150 Committee, Community Foundation's of Canada, Endow Manitoba, and the Government of Canada allowed the foundation to issue additional funds this past year, including \$70,000 through the Emergency Community Support Fund created in response to the pandemic.

"It was great that we could go after those," Doell said. "If there was money up for grabs we definitely tried to get it into our area."

"We live here and we want this community to succeed, so if there's money available ... to me it's really important



SUPPLIED PHOTO

The Winkler Community Foundation board (shown here in a photo from before the pandemic) held their annual meeting last week. The foundation was able to put \$279,594 back into the community in 2020 to support a variety of programs and projects.

that there's an organization that's keep its head up looking for it and trying to get it here."

The community in turn supported the foundation in a big way in 2020, with total donations to its various endowment funds hitting \$142,357—up nearly \$17,000 over the year before.

"It just speaks to the community," said Doell. "We're such a charitable city and when people are in need the community steps up."

That bodes well for the foundation's plans for the next few years. They're hoping to get the Community Fund to \$1 million, which will require them to raise \$75,000 a year for the next three years (about \$25,000 more than was

donated to that specific fund in 2020).

"The Community Fund is the one where we have the most flexibility on," Doell said, explaining other endowment funds are earmarked for specific causes, agencies, or programs.

Reaching the \$1 million goal will allow the foundation to grant out at least \$40,000 annually from the Community Fund.

"We would like to challenge our community to support the drive in raising community funds to grow the impact grants have on the community," Doell said.

For details on the work of the foundation or to make a donation, head to winklercommunityfoundation.com.

"IT WAS AN INTERESTING YEAR WITH ITS OWN SET OF CHALLENGES, BUT I WAS PRETTY PROUD OF WHAT WE WERE ABLE TO DO ..."

Scott Edwards promoted to police sergeant



Sgt. Scott Edwards

By Lorne Stelmach

The Morden Police Service is promoting another officer within its ranks.

Following on the heels of Sean Aune being promoted from sergeant to the new position of inspector, Cst. Scott Edwards is now a sergeant.

Edwards, who officially took on the title Monday, welcomes the chance to be part of the department's leadership team.

"It's something I feel like I have been working toward for some time," he said. "I'm grateful for the opportunity, and I'm excited to step into a new role in our service, and I'm looking forward to being part of the leadership."

He noted it is good not only for the police service but for the community to have a lot of experience on the

force.

"We haven't had a lot of turnover. It's been a lot of the same officers, so with that comes a lot of experience and knowledge about the job. It's a good thing," Edwards said.

"Our service members in general are very experienced and knowledgeable. We have a lot of officers with anywhere from between 10 and 20 years of service. We are a very senior service, so that takes a little bit of pressure off of me going into this role."

Edwards joined the Morden Police Service as a constable in 2008 and graduated from the Winnipeg Police Service recruit training the following year.

He has been involved in and taken a leadership role in various major investigations and projects over the past several years. Among his train-

ing is advanced search warrant drafting from the Winnipeg Police Service as well as major crimes investigation from the Canadian Police College.

In 2015, Edwards assumed the role of K9 handler for the department, a job he continues with today.

Edwards has also always made community a priority and is involved in volunteering with various programs and organizations, including on the executive of Manitoba Special Olympics.

"We feel that Scott possesses the necessary leadership skills, knowledge and dedication to do the job that is required for this position," said Chief Brad Neduzak, who noted this promotion leaves a vacancy in the department's constable ranks, but it will not be filled in 2021.



Minor injuries in Hwy. 32 collision

By Voice staff

An accident on Hwy. 32 at the south end of Winkler slowed down traffic for a time last Friday. Emergency crews responded to a two-vehicle collision at the Prairie Dale Drive intersection just before noon on April 16. Winkler Police report that a white Chevrolet Equinox was travelling north on the highway when it slowed and attempted to make a left turn onto Prairie View.

The Equinox was struck by a south-

bound grey Grand Marquis resulting in significant damage to both vehicles, both of which had to be towed from the scene. The occupants of both vehicles were transported to the Boundary Trails Health Centre with minor injuries. Police continue to investigate the incident. They send out their thanks to members of the public who were driving by on Hwy. 32 for slowing down and following the directions of emergency responders who were directing traffic at the scene.

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Caleb Suderman



Margie Toews

New VP for Emerado Centennial School

By Voice staff

Garden Valley School Division has announced that middle years teacher Cindy Klassen will be moving into the vice-principal/teacher position at Emerado Centennial School this fall.

Klassen has worked for GVSD since 1999 serving mainly in Grades 4-8 at both Southwood School and Emerado.

"The middle school is a place in which students need to be active members, encouraged to pursue one's talents and interests with positive clear boundaries," Klassen says in her educational philosophy statement. "I believe it is important to develop trustworthy relationships not only with students, but with parents, staff, and the community as well."

"By having a strong team, students feel safe in the classroom, and it will be an inviting and engaging place for all learners and a place where everyone feels successful."



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Earth Day 2021: a focus on nature- based solutions

The theme for this year's Earth Day, which takes place on April 22, is Restore Our Earth. It's based on the growing understanding that humans can do more than simply mitigate the impacts of climate change. In addition to transforming the world's energy, urban and industrial systems, we can restore and use natural processes to combat climate change.

CAPTURING CARBON

To reduce the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, the power of nature can be harnessed in a number of ways. Solutions include planting trees,

restoring coastal wetlands and adopting agricultural practices that improve soil health.

In addition to capturing carbon emissions from the air and sequestering them in plants, soil and sediments, restored ecosystems increase biodiversity and help provide cleaner air and water.

In fact, according to the Global Commission on Adaptation, these types of ecological restoration projects can provide one-third of the climate mitigation needed over the next decade to keep global warming below two degrees Celsius.



INCREASING RESILIENCE

Communities ranging from rural towns to major cities can become more resilient against the impacts of climate change by restoring and protecting natural ecosystems.

For example, restoring mangrove forests helps protect coastal regions from rising seas and storm surges. Doing so is significantly cheaper than building breakwaters and other infrastructure.

To help celebrate Earth Day, here are a few Recycling Do's and Don'ts:



Do Recycle:

- Any plastic container with a recycling triangle on the bottom with the numbers 1,2,4,5,7 (includes bottles, pails, tubs & jugs)
- Drink cans & bottles, juice boxes
- All paper products including cardboard boxes, newspapers magazines

Don't Recycle:

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- Takeout containers or pizza boxes with food remnants
- Household hazardous waste containers

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NEWS > VIEWS > WINKLER > MORDEN > SURROUNDING AREAS

MB Big Bros/Big Sis teaming up for 50/50 raffle

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The local Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) is teaming up with its fellow mentoring agencies across the province for a massive fundraiser this spring.

Funds raised from the Better Together 50/50 Raffle will be split between BBBS of Brandon, Central Plains, Pembina Valley, and Winnipeg.

The pot was at more than \$3,000 at press time, with another week still to go until tickets sales close on April 30.

"It's pretty exciting. We've never done anything like this before," says Pembina Valley executive director Jen-

elle Neufeld, who notes the various agencies usually run their own separate fundraising campaigns.

The challenges of COVID-19 restrictions this past year, though, have seen many of the usual BBBS events cancelled, so getting on board with an initiative like this is a blessing, she says.

"We've had to come up with some out-of-the-box ideas" this past year, Neufeld says, pointing in example to the Big

Night In at-home meal held last month.

If you missed out on supporting that

Continued on page 19

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COMMUNITY NEWS



Local composting company has big dreams for the future

By Lorne Stelmach

A Morden firm continues to make inroads and gain attention with its large-scale composting process.

Enviroclean Landfill Solutions uses continuous aerobic composting technology to re-purpose organic waste into a nutrient-dense compost.

The owners see huge potential for this to expand beyond where it is now with the facility processing the compost collected in the City of Morden.

"We call it upcycling, it's not recycling. It's very environmentally friendly," said co-owner Alvin Thiessen. "It is like the little composter in the backyard, only much larger and sped up. We control the components that go in that gives it the right mix, so it turns into very top grade A compost in 24 hours."

"We saw something that had a lot of green potential, taking stuff out of landfill and making it into a use-

ful component that can grow food all over again instead of producing methane in a landfill," said fellow co-owner Hank Boschmann.

"It's a 24-hour process that can run year-round. It's not limited by winter or anything," he added, noting Morden produces about 1,100 tonnes of green waste every year, so "if you eliminate 1,100 tonnes from the landfill, you're taking 100 tonnes of methane that's not produced, which is huge."

Enviroclean continues to refine its equipment and process, which makes use of aerobic rapid bio-digestion (RBD) machines. They process food and green waste efficiently and in a controlled environment using aerobic composting, which involves the decomposition of organic matter using microorganisms that require oxygen.

The process takes only one to two days from start to finish and it produces no leachate as most of the surplus moisture is exhausted as water



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Enviroclean Landfill Solutions co-owners Hank Boschmann (left) and Alvin Thiessen are excited about the company's potential to expand far beyond the Morden area.

vapour.

The end result is high in critical crop nutrients and can be customized to suit crop-specific needs, maximize crop yields, and minimize environmental impact.

Both Thiessen and Boschmann were attracted to this venture because they saw it as being innovative and having great potential.

"The fact you could take that kind of waste and turn it into something useful within 24 hours kind of tweaked our interest. It was something that was about being green, and it was very current," said Thiessen, who had been in the construction business.

"Here, we're reversing the process. Instead of producing greenhouse gases in the landfill, we're absorbing them out in the field. That's where we kind of get excited about it," said Boschmann, who had a background in accounting but also built equipment.

They especially like the potential applications for the agricultural sector, as they understand that for every 100

tonnes used there can be 2,800 tonnes of carbon removed.

"And it works not just one time, but it works for four or five years and absorbs carbon out of the air," said Boschmann.

"That's the part that we're testing now," added Thiessen. "There's lots of potential. It's for gardening, it's for lawns, it's for organic farming and regular farming."

"We see a lot of potential for this up on northern reserves, where they pay a lot of money to have fruits and vegetables flown in, trucked in," added Boschmann. "If they could take their own food waste, compost it on their own properties, let's say a municipal site ... put up a greenhouse and they could grow their own vegetables and fruits all year round."

They have had interest and discussions with places like Assiniboine Park Zoo about the technology, which they noted could be easily adapted by

Continued on page 19

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Olivia Penner
Future Generation Manitoba Hog Farmer
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"THERE'S LOTS OF POTENTIAL. IT'S FOR GARDENING, IT'S FOR LAWNS, IT'S FOR ORGANIC FARMING AND REGULAR FARMING."

> ENVIROCLEAN, FROM PG. 18

just scaling the number of RBD units. "The potential is there. You could have one or you could have a hundred of these RBDs," Thiessen said.

The duo also expressed gratitude for how well the City of Morden and the community have embraced composting.

"It's nice to talk about green, but it's costly to make it happen ... the City of Morden has stepped up to the plate," said Boschmann.

"The citizens of Morden are very diligent with their green containers ... it's a community that has really been behind it," agreed Thiessen.

The company recently received an incentive payment from the Manitoba government through a program that supports organic waste diversion, and Morden-Winkler MLA Cameron Fri-

esen offered his praise.

"This is one important way in which our government can partner with a group that is diverting from landfill and then also exploring the potential application of the compostable material both for residential, commercial and agricultural uses," he said.

"This is just an excellent company that flies under the radar right where we live," Friesen continued. "I think few people understand the incredible reach of a company like Enviroclean but also the incredible potential."

"We're very proud to have that company here in our community, and I believe the sky is the limit when it comes to what a company like this can do, what it can mean for how we are continuing to green our planet and our community."



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Enviroclean process food and green waste by way of aerobic composting, which creates a product that can be of great use for home gardeners and agricultural producers alike.

> RAFFLE, FROM PG. 17

event, Neufeld hopes you'll take a crack at winning the 50/50.

"I'm really hoping the pot keeps growing because that entices even more people to buy."

You can get tickets by heading online to www.pembinavalley.bigbrothersbigsisters.ca or calling 204-988-8663. There are four tiers of ticket pricing ranging from \$5 for one to \$50 for 50. The winning ticket will be drawn on May 3.

BBBS Pembina Valley will use its share of the money raised to support its ongoing mentoring matches, which have had to find new ways of connecting over the past year.

Neufeld says they have about a 20 kids matched with volunteer mentors, either in the traditional mentoring program or the in-school one.

The agency recently purchased iPads to facilitate virtual meetings between their in-school Bigs and Littles (who usually get together weekly), and Neufeld hopes outdoor visits will be able to resume for traditional matches (who generally meet at least twice a month) once

the weather warms up.

"We haven't had anybody close a match [this past year], which is awesome. I consider that a huge win, because a lot of things can get lost in the shuffle with all that's going on these days," she says, noting it's been challenging to foster the kind of mentoring relationships BBBS strives for with COVID-19 throwing a wrench in the works.

That's why they've put a hold on starting up new matches for now, though anyone interested in becoming a volunteer is invited to contact Neufeld to start the process and be placed on a wait list for once things start to return to normal.

"I want to give people the best opportunity to have successful match and I don't think that meeting for the first time virtually is giving them that best shot," she says. "But we are still accepting applications, so if people are wanting to get involved we are more than happy to take them. We just don't know what things are going to look like for the next little while."

The Winkler Morden
Voice

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Damaged tree still a valued part of Morden Park

By Lorne Stelmach

A storm damaged tree in Morden Park is continuing to provide some benefit even though its days are numbered.

The elm tree located near the north end of the park was turned into what's called a constructed wildlife tree after suffering significant damage a few years ago, providing a place for birds to nest ever since.

"Part of the multitude of benefits the trees provide is wildlife habitat, so whether they're alive or in this condition, they're providing benefits to our urban wildlife," explained Shawn Dias, an arborist and parks and forestry manager for the City of Morden.

"The majority of the top of this tree had broken, and it was unsafe, so we were faced with removal of the tree. Based on the structure and the main stem, we decided to leave it at about 18, 20 feet tall as a constructed wildlife tree," Dias explained.

The tree will eventually decay and rot, but for now it can continue to be of some use.

"About two years later, we saw there was some woodpecker activity and a cavity formed ... and for

sure last spring there was nesting pileated woodpeckers," Dias said, noting there are similar signs of activity there again this year as well.

It is just one example of some of the ways that the City of Morden aims to utilize the natural resources available to the community.

A glance around the park also reveals some of the nesting boxes and wood duck nests that were made by local students a few years ago.

Morden Park is an especially valuable habitat "based on the size, based on the connection to features like the creek. It's a great resource for the wildlife," Dias suggested. "Because it's in an urban setting, they co-exist with the residents here, and I think it's mutually beneficial to have the trees and to have the park but also have the people here enjoying the park and the wildlife."

Because of the importance of the park, it is vital that it be managed and maintained well, and Dias sees the city as really taking a proactive approach in many respects.

"I think primarily our job is to ensure there's a forested canopy here long term, so that means some replacement and renewal ... and create a safe environment for the public as well.

"Morden Park is definitely a gem ... and it is used frequently by lots of people, and it gets year round use," he said, adding that is why the city is developing a master plan for not only this park but all green space in the community.

"Not only are we going to assess and look at our existing parks, we are going to look to the future in terms of creating new park space," Dias said. "We're going to start this year with build-



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

This damaged tree has found a second life in Morden Park as what's known as a constructed wildlife tree. Instead of taking it out, the city has fostered it as a habitat for wildlife, including woodpeckers (left).

ing a new neighbourhood park, and from there we are going to have a long term plan.

"We value these parks and recreational spaces, and we will continue to improve, enhance, and grow our parks and our park amenities."



PHOTO BY NYOMI SAWATZKY



Manitoba joins eTick platform for expert identification

By Voice staff

The snow on the ground this past week makes tick season seem a ways away still, but the creepy crawlies will be out before you know it.

To help Manitobans stay safe while out exploring the great outdoors, the provincial government has joined the eTick platform to help people better determine their risk of Lyme disease.

"More and more Manitobans are exploring nature and the outdoors during the pandemic. While this is a safe, healthy way to connect during the pandemic, we also want people to pay attention to reduce their risk of Lyme disease and other tick-borne illness-

es," said Health Minister Heather Stefanson in making the announcement last week. "The eTick program will ensure people can access rapid tick identification and distribution maps, while enhancing the surveillance of tick species in Manitoba."

Manitobans can submit pictures of ticks they might find on themselves, a loved one, or a pet to the eTick program for experts to identify.

Developed by Bishop's University and funded by the Public Health Agency of Canada, the program is useful in figuring out if a given tick belongs to a species capable of transmitting the bacteria responsible for Lyme disease.

In addition to learning what species of tick users have found, identified specimens are mapped to better outline the distribution and seasonality of the various tick species. This information will help Manitobans understand where and when ticks have been found in precise areas of the province.

A new mobile application has been developed to facilitate and streamline the submission of tick observations in Manitoba. It is now available for free download under the name eTick on the Apple App Store and Google Play.

Don't want to download the app? You can also submit your tick observations directly on the eTick website

at www.etick.ca.

Blacklegged ticks, which can carry anaplasmosis, babesiosis and Lyme disease, are most commonly found within and along the edge of forests and in areas with thick, woody shrubs and other vegetation. These ticks are typically found between April and November (from snowmelt through snowfall), with adults most active in the spring and fall months.

To learn more about blacklegged ticks, tick disease, and prevention, visit www.gov.mb.ca/health/publichealth/cdc/tickborne.

WSD program helps kids get a head start

By Lorne Stelmach

Western School Division is promoting the benefits of a program that aims to help children prepare for entering Kindergarten.

Get Set for Kindergarten can be good for all children but especially those who could benefit from a bit more support in the transition, say local officials.

It focuses even on simple things like social interactions, typical school routines, and other aspects of basic school readiness, noted facilitator and longtime teacher Lavone Penner.

"The program gives children the opportunity to experience what Kindergarten will be like before the first day of school," she explained. "Children are able to make new friends and practise important skills like following directions and taking turns as well as grow in their literacy and numeracy skills."

"We hope that this program will be a positive experience and that they will have a positive take on what Kindergarten will be like."

"It has been offered for quite a few years ... and we're trying our best to maintain something with a legacy of having worked well," added interim assistant superintendent Marianne Fenn, who noted there have been a few changes to the program this year given the pandemic restrictions.

Because of a shortage of space in the schools and the need for physical dis-

tancing, the City of Morden has been able to provide temporary space in the Access Event Centre in one of the areas not zoned off for the vaccination clinic, and they are hoping to make ample use of outdoor spaces as well in the months ahead.

"Our schools are so full under regular circumstances, but they are exceptionally full right now," said Fenn. "We're lucky to have been able to partner with the city to have this space available for us to use and still continue the best we can with a program that's going to help introduce them to the routines and concepts and ideas that will benefit them."

Get Set For Kindergarten usually runs from February to June and is done in groups of six to eight kids at a time to keep it to a manageable number.

WSD is providing families with a resource kit with some tools, games, activities and other material that comes in a reusable cloth bag with a binder with re-writable and reusable activity templates. Every child who is registered for Kindergarten next year will get one regardless of whether they attend Get Set for Kindergarten.

The division offers a delivery service for students who need to be home as their place for learning, and what has been dubbed the "Pony Express" will also take care of the delivery of these resource packages over the next several weeks.

"My hope is that this bag of activities

"CHILDREN ARE ABLE TO MAKE NEW FRIENDS AND PRACTISE IMPORTANT SKILLS ..."

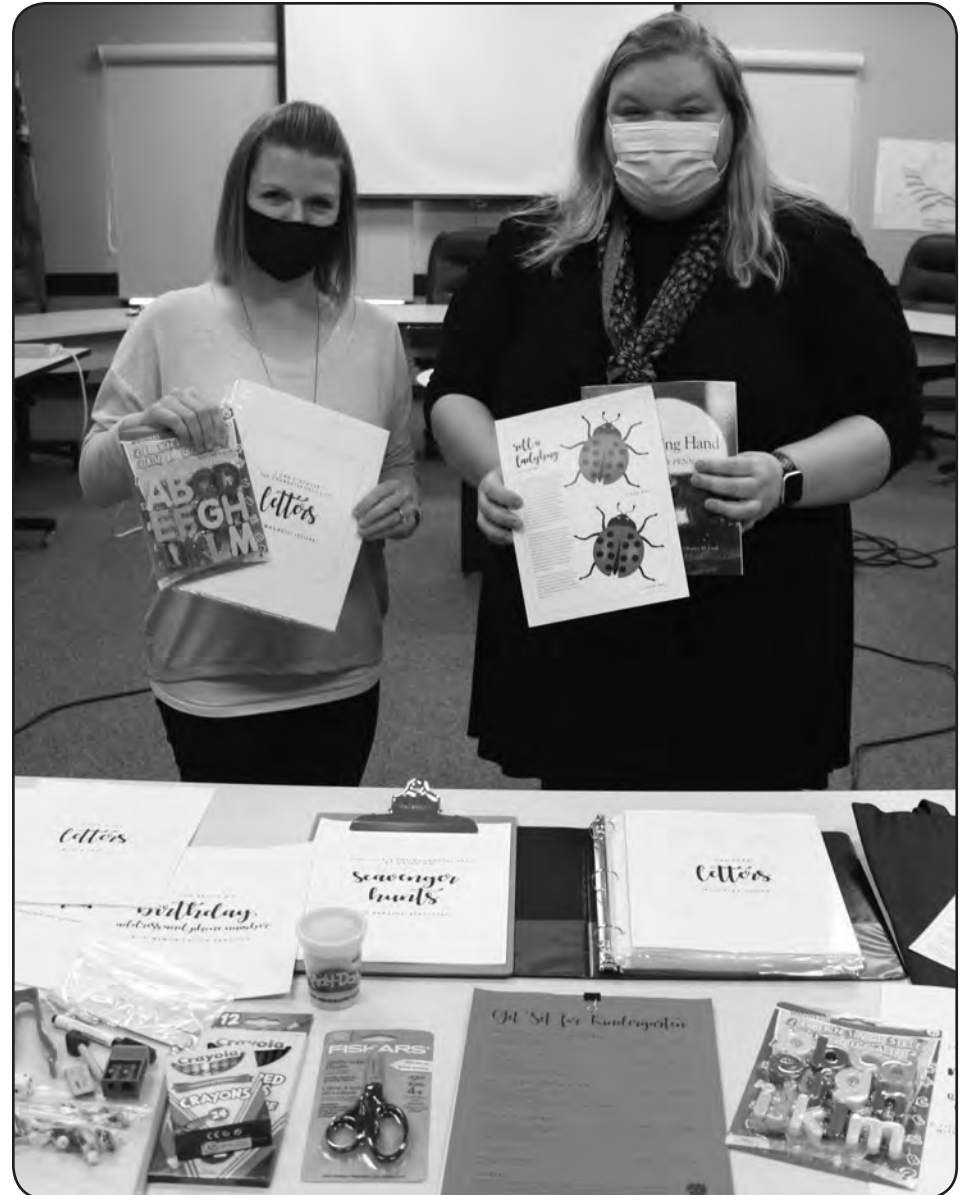


PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Western School Division's Lavone Penner and Marianne Fenn with the Get Set for Kindergarten activity packages going out to help kids prepare to enter school this fall. They're packed full of educational goodies (left).

will be used by parents and guardians to help their child develop the skills that will be required of them in Kindergarten, such as holding their writing utensil with a proper grip, being able to cut with scissors and working with letters and numbers," explained Penner.

"I believe that the practice done at home will be extremely beneficial for the child, particularly for them to be able to approach new learning situations with confidence."

Fenn urged families to not only find out more about this program if interested but also to ensure their children are enrolled for Kindergarten this fall as soon as possible.

Anyone who lives within the WSD boundaries who has a child born in 2016 who is eligible for Kindergarten next year is encouraged to contact the division office or the early years school in their catchment area for information about how to get their children registered.



SUPPLIED PHOTO

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The Winkler Morden
Voice

PVHS, Genesis House Pet Safe program looking for foster homes

By Lorne Stelmach

A joint initiative between the Pembina Valley Humane Society and Genesis House is aiming to help protect the pets as well as the families.

The Pet Safe program will provide temporary foster homes for pets while their owners seek safety from domestic violence.

The aim is to ensure women and children are able to leave a potentially violent situation without the fear of having to leave pets behind—a concern the shelter has heard many times from people accessing their services.

"I have pets myself, and I always have thought I could not leave them behind," said executive director Ang Braun, who recalled the feeling she had early on as a worker when a woman returned to her home because the shelter could not accommodate her pet.

"We've heard lots of sad stories," she continued, explaining pets "often are used as a tool to manipulate the victim. They're used as leverage to keep a person from leaving the relationship or even to show a person what could potentially happen to them."

The humane society has been in talks with Genesis House about this



PVHS PHOTOS

Got space in your home for a few furry temporary visitors? Genesis House and the Pembina Valley Humane Society want to hear from you for their new Pet Safe program, which will provide temporary foster care for pets of women escaping domestic violence.

issue for some time, says board member Tanya Rempel.

"There is a program in Winnipeg but nothing to really serve anywhere outside of the city," she said. "I think it had kind of been talked about for a number of years at the shelter but they hadn't been able to do the groundwork to get it started."

"I don't think people would real-

ize that this is a barrier, but for a lot of people, that's part of their family, and they're not going to leave their pet behind, and that was especially so during COVID," Rempel said. "There's quite a bit of a link between the two. A lot of people are scared to leave the pets behind because they're worried their partner might take it out on the pets."

The humane society is anticipating foster homes will be needed for between one to four weeks. All supplies will be provided to care for a pet, but fosters may need to be available on short notice. They're especially looking for homes able to take in cats.

PVHS does already have a roster of foster families they use to give ani-

mals a break from the shelter, but they're hoping to tap into a new group with the Pet Safe program.

"We're pretty maxed out as far as fosters, so we're hoping other people will be interested in the program," Rempel said.

Braun said it was hard to assess at this point what the level of need may be for this service.

"We won't know how well it works until we start trying it out, so that's where we are now," she said, noting they are already asking families now about pets. "We have added the question to our forms. Now we will have an option for when we ask that question."

"It may not be perfect, but it will be better than nothing," Braun said. "We still need to have that backup plan on site, but will be able to move the pets to a better quality setting shortly after they get here."

Rempel noted the humane society welcomes the opportunity to work in partnership with another community organization like Genesis House.

"Our board has really been focused on what we can do for the community. We feel we have a lot more we can offer other than adoption services," she said. "It brings more awareness to the shelter but also shows that there is a lot more to the humane society than just adopting out animals."

If you are interested in more information about becoming a foster, you can contact the humane society at 204-822-9413 or go online to www.pvhsociety.ca.

"A LOT OF PEOPLE ARE SCARED TO LEAVE THEIR PETS BEHIND BECAUSE THEY'RE WORRIED THEIR PARTNER MIGHT TAKE IT OUT ON THEIR PETS."



Bergen makes the rounds



PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Right: Portage-Lisgar MP and deputy Conservative leader Candice Bergen tried her hand at pouring a pint at Rendezvous Brewery in Morden Friday. Bergen spent a couple days in the Morden and Winkler area to connect with a variety of local businesses, including Bella's Castle (left), where she helped Chris and Lily Krushel mark the reopening and rebranding of their patio as The Courtyard. "I just want to connect with small businesses especially and not for profits," said Bergen. "I'm hearing how COVID is affecting people, affecting their livelihoods, affecting their mental health ... just hearing the message that they want me to bring back to Ottawa, which is overwhelmingly that we want to be able to get back to normal."

getinformed

NEWS > VIEWS > WINKLER > MORDEN > SURROUNDING AREAS

New 50+ condos going in on Platinum Rd.

By Ashleigh Viveiros

A new 50+ condo community is slated to go in at the corner of Platinum Rd. and Gemstone Dr. this summer, and Choice Realty's Wes Harder notes it's been some time since Winkler has seen a 50+ project like this.

"It's been a number of years since we've had something that's been targeted to that kind of semi-retired, getting to be an empty-nester type community," he said, explaining the development, being built by Pinnaco, is aimed a few years younger than the usual 55+ development and caters specifically to people looking for less of the typical responsibilities that come with standalone home ownership.

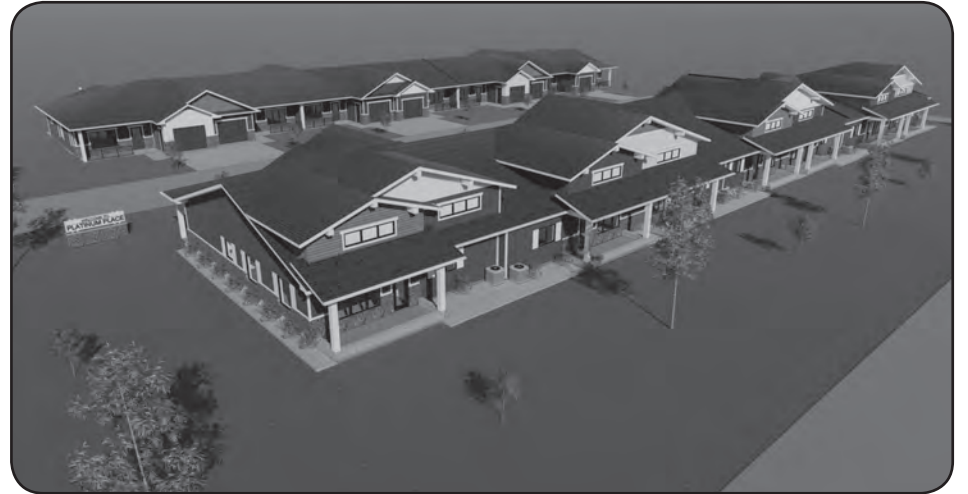
"They went 50+ here in the hopes of targeting some of those individuals ...

who are not looking for high-rise living yet but they wouldn't mind the idea of more carefree living where they can do some travelling and what-not. It's a condo, so all the yard care and snow removal is taken care of."

The two-building development, dubbed Platinum Place, will include 14 one-level units ranging in size from 1,200-1,300 sq. ft. with one to two bedrooms and heated garages. Prices start at \$299,900.

"It's going to have much more of the feel of still your own detached home, even though it is attached," Harder said, explaining there are no common areas in the facility and people have a chance to customize the interior spaces if they get on board before they're built.

That northwest corner of Winkler has been growing in leaps and bounds



SUPPLIED IMAGE

A new 50+ condo community is being built in northwest Winkler this summer.

A look back at improvements to Dead Horse Creek

By Marjorie Hildebrand

The Dead Horse Creek winds beautifully through the Burwalde district. The banks are lined with greenery and shrubs of all descriptions. Some wild fruit trees like plums, cherries and grapes add taste as well as color.

Farm yards are established along its banks, obviously long before the days of modern plumbing methods. Some yards have experienced trouble when spring run-off has been blocked by debris and ice, inundating the property. During the 1960s an attempt was made to alleviate this problem when the creek had a few bends eliminated and large culverts replaced bridges.

However that was not enough and in 1977-78, with modern technology and engineering, the water was rechanneled by straightening out the creek to bypass the yards of the Froeses, the

Peters, the Browns, the Banmans, the former George Wiebes, and others along the way.

The Norman Braun yard was newly landscaped as the creek was widened, cleaned and the banks raised to protect the yard.

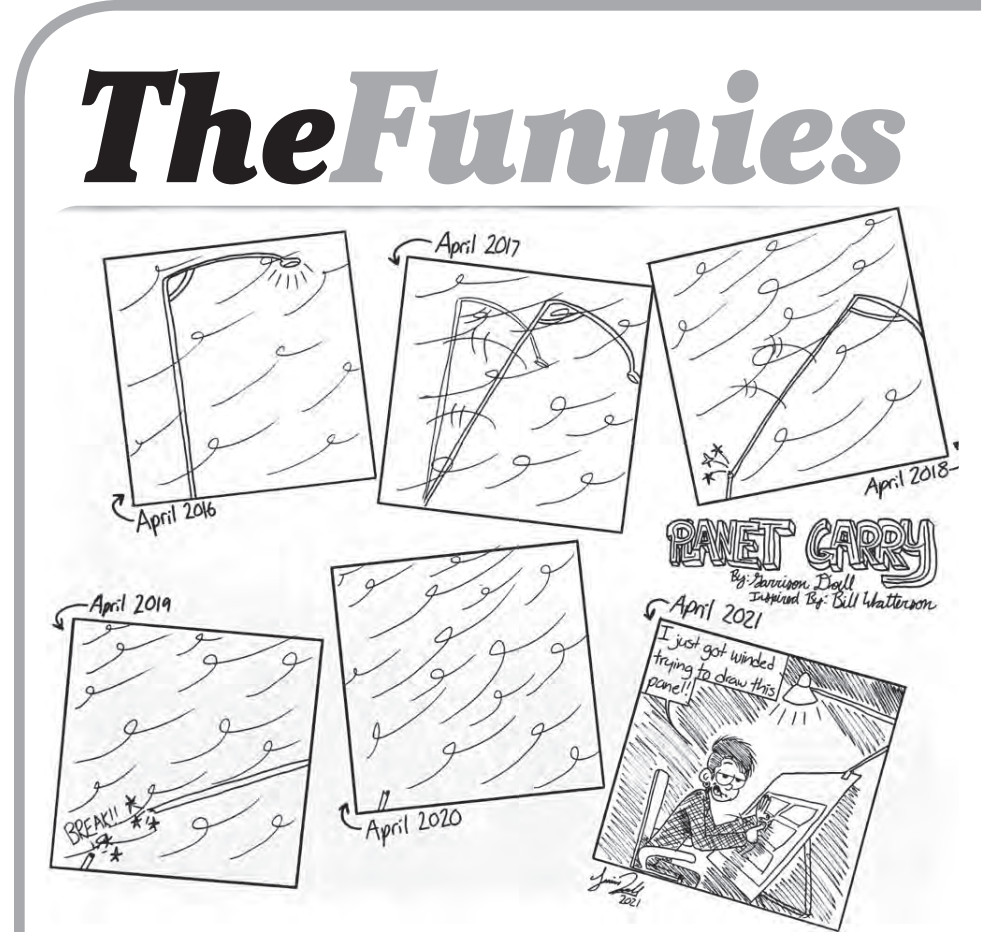
Today there are no more floods as we knew them years ago. The engineering work done in 1978 has helped avoid the overflowing banks. There are trails for biking, hiking and cross-country skiing in the Burwalde woods, trails all the way from short jaunts in the Froese woods to a five kilometre hike all the way to Don Wiebe's farm.

Phil Froese has also capitalized on the water in the creek and with the help of a beaver, dammed up water for a 600 metre ice rink for his family's use in the winter.

Marjorie Hildebrand is the author of *Reflections of a Prairie Community. Heritage Highlights*, supplied by the Winkler Heritage Society, introduces readers to the people, places and things that still impact us today. Learn more about the society's work and how you can support it at winklerheritagesociety.ca.



Heritage Highlights



2021 Manitoba Budget offers some Type 1 diabetes coverage

By Becca Myskiw

The 2021 Manitoba Budget that came out earlier this month was a huge win for Type 1 diabetes fighters.

Elm Creek mom Heidi Boyachek is most excited about the government's announcement that they will be establishing a new program to pay the costs of continuous glucose monitors (CGMs) for youth under 25 years old. They will also be raising the age limit of the insulin pump from 18 to 25.

The CGM device is essentially a small disposable sensor that sits just under the skin, attached to a wearable pack. They measure the amount of sugar in the blood every couple of minutes and send that readings to a smart phone, letting the person in charge know if everything is good. The CGM device also gives warnings when the person's blood sugar is too high or too low.

When a diabetic's blood sugar is too low, they can lose consciousness, have a seizure, go into a coma, or die. If it's too high, they can go into diabetic ketoacidosis (DKA), which is when the body starts filling with acid and goes into a coma. This can also lead to death. Both extremes also come with their own mental side effects.

Boyachek's daughter, Hayley, was diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes when she was three. She was finger pricking herself up to 10 times a day and essentially leaving her health, and by extension her life, up to chance.

Now, Hayley uses a CGM device, something the Boyachek's have had to pay out-of-pocket for. She said Pharmacare covers \$2,920 a year, or 3,650 test strips. Each sensor in the CGM device lasts for 10 days and each one is \$100. The transmitter in the sensor is around \$300, making it an annual cost of \$3,588.

Hayley was also just approved for an insulin



SUBMITTED PHOTO
Hayley Boyachek, 6, with her CGM device. The Manitoba government announced CGM coverage for Type 1 diabetics up to 25 years of age in their 2021 budget.

pump, which is a device that will constantly pump a small amount of insulin into her body. Boyachek said those are around another \$400 a month. So, the budget announcement was very exciting for them even though they don't yet know how the new programs are going to work.

"For us personally it's exciting but I instantly felt bad for all the people in our community who are over 25," she said. "On your birthday, it doesn't just go away."

Boyachek is part of a group of Manitobans fighting for Type 1 diabetes coverage in healthcare. After doing the Great Manitoban Finger Prick Challenge, she's positive it was their group who prompted this budget announcement.

MLA for Midland Blaine Pedersen said this will make Manitoba comparable to other provinces. He said there's never an end to the need in healthcare, but this is a great improvement from where the province was.

But their work isn't over, she said. They'll continue to fight for total coverage for all ages and they're working on getting resources for teachers in the classroom.

Right now, children with Type 1 diabetes don't qualify for an education assistant (EA) in the classroom and are expected to know how to prick their own fingers and treat their own lows. The group Boyachek is part of will be fighting for schools to get the support they need to give these children an EA.

However, she's happy her daughter will have even a little bit of coverage for a part of her life. Boyachek is also excited for those who didn't have a CGM device before to get one now—it changed her family's lives.

"It's comforting knowing that as parents of kids with T1D you feel like you're always educating and trying to bring awareness...it's a victory to feel like you've been heard and understood," she said.

Elm Creek woman fighting to save lives with petition

By Becca Myskiw

An Elm Creek woman is fighting for a safer Highway 2 and Highway 13 intersection.

Elizabeth Dyck has started a petition asking for better infrastructure at the Elm Creek intersection in hopes of saving lives.

The last accident at the corner Dyck recalls happened on Feb. 28, 2020. A 34-year-old man from Haywood going east on Hwy. 2 was struck by a semi-truck going south on Hwy. 13. The Haywood man died at the scene and left behind a wife and two children.

That accident was just one of 13 causing injuries and death between 2011 and 2020.

"It just got me thinking...how many more accidents do we have to see,

how many more death tolls, how many more lives are going to be lost?" said Dyck.

Dyck and her husband have two children who come to visit them from St. Claude often, travelling Hwy. 2 similar to the 43-year-old man from Haywood.

"I just don't want anybody to die," she said.

Neither do her neighbours and fellow community members. Plenty of them, she said, have had close calls at the intersection and they've all been looking for a way to change that. Hwy. 13 is a thoroughfare from the Trans-Canada Hwy., busy with semi-trucks day in and day out. Hwy. 2 is a straight route from southern Manitoba to Winnipeg, busy with commuters every day.

In other words, the Hwy. 2 and Hwy.

13 intersection at Elm Creek is always busy and Dyck said the majority of the accidents there come from someone either north or southbound running a stop sign.

"I wish I could just stand there and flash a sign all day long that says, 'Could you please stop? It's a matter of lives,'" said Dyck.

A while ago there were flashing amber lights and a larger stop sign added to the intersection, but Dyck's research shows it hasn't worked. So, her petition is asking for signatures of people who believe there should be better infrastructure there.

She wants traffic lights put there or a roundabout similar to the one just outside of Oak Bluff. Her petition also states they want additional turning lanes for school buses and the reduced speed zone to be a school

speed zone.

To get that done, Dyck will personally be bringing in the signed petition once she feels it has enough signatures to MLA Ron Schuler who is also the minister of infrastructure.

To sign the petition, go to https://secure.avaaz.org/community_petitions/en/manitoba_infrastructure_lets_make_a_change_in_our_infrastructure_and_save_lives/?rc=fb&utm_source=sharetools&utm_medium=facebook&utm_campaign=petsition-1197244-lets_make_a_change_in_our_infrastructure_and_save_lives&utm_term=rihcsb%2Ben&fbclid=IwAR1_LFS09LfA-vvXL1nV8XZD5UHDruU5ns-4zM3wKgGA9LcZ00uJDgbc-N7o.

Check out the Winkler Morden Voice online at www.winklermordenvoice.ca

sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

Tokenay signs with Norwich U

By Voice staff

Former Winkler Flyers forward Ian Tokenay is university-bound this fall. The junior team announced last week that Tokenay has committed to NCAA Norwich University for 2021-2022.

"Tooks was a perfect fit from day one, on the ice and in the room," Flyers head coach Kelvin Cech said in a statement. "He gave me a lot of great backchecking clips, and I speak for his coaches and his teammates when I say that we're proud of him. His dedi-

cation and character paid off and he's now a college man."

With the rest of the MJHL season cancelled due to COVID-19, Tokenay finished out 2020-2021 with the Ottawa Junior Senators.

During his junior hockey career, Tokenay played 185 games and scored 111 points (41 goals, 70 assists).

"I would like to thank the Winkler Flyers for giving me the opportunity to play for such an excellent organization," Tokenay said, adding the team helped "build me into the person and player I am today and I wouldn't have

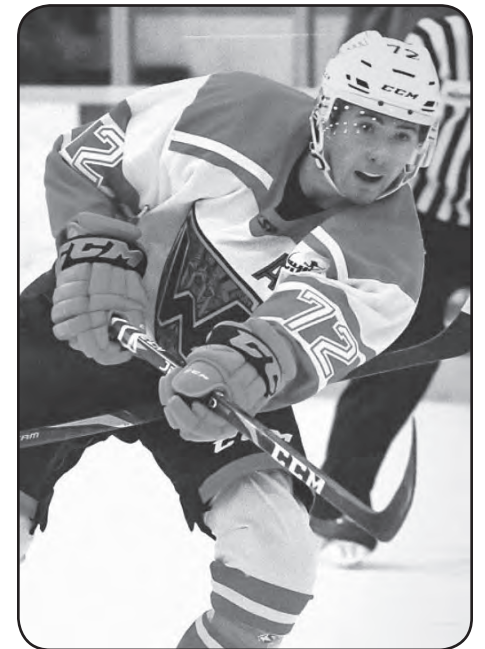
traded anything in the world for my time spent in Winkler."

Tokenay also thanked his teammates, billet family, and all the local fans for their support.

"I will never forget the incredible atmosphere in the rink."

Former Winkler Flyers forward Ian Tokenay will play in the NCAA for Norwich University this fall.

FACEBOOK.COM/WINKLERFLYERS



New co-ed youth soccer league raring to go

By Lorne Stelmach

A new Pembina Valley youth soccer league is set to go this spring as long as conditions and restrictions allow.

It is a co-ed league for boys and girls aged nine to 14 with U10, U12 and U14 teams in Winkler, Morden, Altona, Carman, Elm Creek and Miami.

The tentative plan is for the season to kickoff May 3 and run on Monday,

Wednesday, and Thursday nights until June 30, and local organizers in Winkler and Morden are seeing good interest.

"There are a lot of families involved in this sport ... it's all inclusive, come out and learn something and have some fun," said Wes Harder, who is involved with the Winkler Wild program, which has about 90 kids registered for the season.

Harder described it as a semi-competitive league but "with the goal that every player gets equal playing time."

"We don't have formal tryouts. In Winkler, we do a player assessment day, where we make sure the teams that we're creating are balanced, that we don't have one team that's completely stacked," he noted.

"We have some players who have been playing soccer since they were in kindergarten and younger and for some, this will be their first year," Harder added. "So, for sure it's fun. We want to get the kids out there and get them active ... we also do want to see these players develop."

"If any kids want to play ... we don't want to reject anyone," said Nuno Sousa, who is involved with the Morden program.

It attracted over 50 kids to register, and Sousa was particularly pleased to see a good number of girls sign up.

"The U12, I think, we have more girls than boys playing this year. That's awesome to see," he said. "I really love soccer ... I play and coach ... and we love to see that the girls are starting to get in more ... a group that really loves soccer and really likes to play soccer."

Sousa also sees the league as striking balance between competitiveness and fun.

"It's not just a recreational league ... they enjoy the games ... but the kids are really putting in an effort," he said, adding that mix is a great way for fam-

ilies to get into the sport.

"The feedback I'm getting [from the other communities] is that they are having the same level of interest in this program. We are seeing more kids wanting to play."

Sousa sees the area as having a good core soccer community owing in part to the fact that it's such an accessible sport.

"Anyone can play. The only things they need are cleats and shin guards and the will to play. All you need then is the ball and the field," he said.

"We are not looking for kids with skills. We accept any level ... one who is playing for the first time or the one who is five, six or seven years in the game. It's nice that they can play together and they evolve."

"Soccer, being such a multicultural sport, it brings a lot of people together, and that's always exciting to see," agreed Harder.

The league is looking for more people to get involved as volunteers. All you need, stress Harder and Sousa, is a basic understanding of the game and a desire to give back to the community.

"The biggest challenge we face for sure is finding coaches ... we are always looking for people who can help in different capacities," said Harder.

You can find more information online at www.leaguelineup.com/welcome.asp?url=scys as well as South Central Youth Soccer on Facebook.



WINKLER PARKS AND RECREATION PHOTO

Fresh pickleball lines are in place at Lion's Park in Winkler this spring thanks to a partnership between Winkler Pickleball, the Winkler Senior Centre, and Winkler Parks and Recreation.

Roland's Allison makes glorious NHL debut

By Ty Dilello

With the Philadelphia Flyers seemingly out of the playoff picture with a few weeks to go in the season, they made a decision last week to call up some of their talented minor league players and give them some games and experience with the big-league club.

One of those players the Flyers called up was Roland's Wade Allison, who had nine points in eight games this season with the AHL's Lehigh Valley Phantoms.

Allison made his long-awaited debut on April 15 and played a significant role in his team's 2-1 shootout victory over the Pittsburgh Penguins.

"It's been a long road," said Allison. "There have been a lot of ups, a lot of downs, but I did it. It's pretty cool, something I'll remember forever, something that nobody can ever take from me. It's pretty special."

Allison got started in hockey at a young age in his hometown of Roland (Myrtle) and spent many years playing his minor hockey all across southern Manitoba in towns such as Carman, Morris, Lowe Farm, Winkler and Altona.

He primarily played in the Carman minor hockey program and attended Carman Collegiate before heading to the United States.

"I got into hockey at the age of five but started skating when I was four," recalled Allison. "Pretty much everyone in Canada living in a small town has to play hockey or at least try it, and I was no different as I fell in love with it right away. My dad built a rink on the farm, so my siblings and I were able to get out and skate around all the time, many times when it was -30 out there!"

After playing at home with the Pembina Valley Hawks, Allison headed to the United States where he played for the Omaha AAA Lancers 16U team



Allison celebrates his first NHL goal.

and later with the Tri-City Storm of the USHL.

He was drafted by the Flyers in 2016 and went on to spend the next four years playing college hockey at Western Michigan University. Allison ended his four-year run at Western Michigan by scoring 97 points in 106 games with a plus-30 rating.

On March 27, 2020, Allison signed an entry-level contract with Philadelphia. He attended training camp with the Flyers and started the season in the AHL to get a feel for the professional game while also still recovering from an off-season ankle injury.

He was called up to the Flyers' taxi squad on April 10 and a few nights later was making his NHL debut.

For his first NHL game, Allison skated on a line at right wing with Winnipegger Nolan Patrick and Oskar Lindblom and even saw some time on the team's power play with NHL stars Jakub Voracek and Claude Giroux.

"They're both pretty sweet players; they both make tremendous plays," Allison said of his teammates. "They know what's going on. They play the game right, so it was real easy for me



PHOTO SUBMITTED

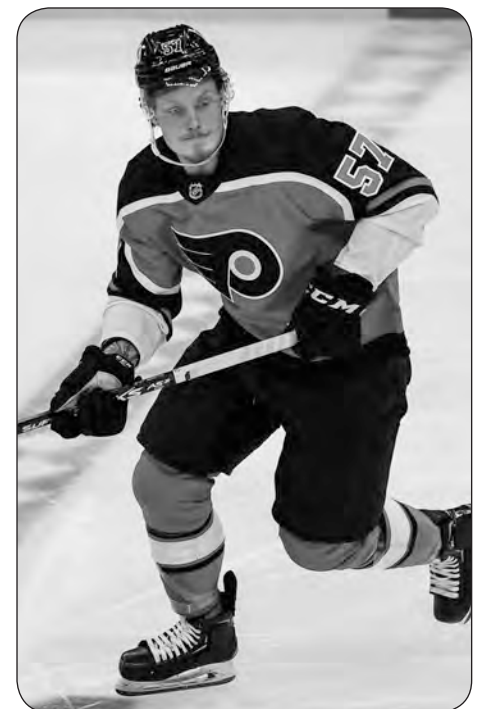
Roland's Wade Allison made his NHL debut last week for the Philadelphia Flyers and scored his first big-league goal in just his second game with the club.

to just slide in there and try to contribute."

Just two nights later, the 23-year-old Allison scored his first NHL goal in a 6-3 loss to the Washington Capitals. It came in the third period as Allison finished off a beautiful passing play by Giroux and Kevin Hayes on the power play to get his Flyers within one goal.

"I have to go out and buy Hayes a dinner because it doesn't get much easier than that one," Allison said afterwards. "But to get your first NHL goal in only your second game is something very special to me and obviously, just like my first game, something I'll never forget."

Allison has adjusted very well in his first couple of games with the Flyers and his coach hinted to the press after he scored his first goal that there's a good chance he'll be sticking around for the rest of the season if he keeps playing at the same pace.



Allison and the Philadelphia Flyers defeated the Pittsburgh Penguins 2-1 in a shootout on April 15.

Baseball Canada cancels 2021 National Championships

From Baseball Canada

Due to the ongoing concerns surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic and taking into consideration the realities of hosting national level competitions for communities, Baseball Canada's board of directors have made the difficult decision to cancel all 2021 Baseball Canada National Championships scheduled for August

and September.

"The health and safety of all of our members is our first priority and with that said we felt that there was no other choice but to cancel all of our national tournaments for 2021," said Baseball Canada president Jason Dickson. "When you consider all of the elements that go into a national championship including provincial qualification events, inter-provincial

travel, shared accommodations and the strain that running championships in a safe manner would entail for host committees, this was the best decision for all parties involved."

Although Baseball Canada has made the decision to cancel national championships for a second consecutive year, the federation would like to clearly state that baseball is not cancelled by any means across the coun-

try.

"Our provincial members and local associations proved in 2020 that by working with their local health officials in providing a safe environment that a baseball experience can be enjoyed for participants," said Dickson. "We are confident that our membership can enjoy our sport again in 2021."

get inspired

> MEAL IDEAS



Orange Shrimp Quinoa Bowls

1 cucumber, sliced into half moons
5 green onions, sliced
1 avocado, sliced
1 teaspoon sesame seeds
2 tablespoons cilantro, chopped
Cook quinoa according to package instructions. Set aside.

In medium bowl, whisk orange juice, hot sauce, honey, soy sauce, vegetable oil, lime juice and miso until combined. Pour one-quarter of liquid into separate bowl. Set aside.

Add shrimp to remaining mixture and marinate 15 minutes.

Heat large skillet over medium heat with butter. Add shrimp, salt and pepper. Cook 2 minutes on each side until pink. Add mushrooms and cook until tender.

In two serving bowls, divide quinoa, bell pepper, cucumber, onions, avocado and shrimp. Sprinkle sesame seeds and cilantro over both bowls.

Drizzle with reserved dressing.

Serves: 2
1 cup quinoa
1 cup orange juice
1 tablespoon hot sauce
1 tablespoon honey
1 tablespoon soy sauce
4 tablespoons vegetable oil
1 tablespoon lime juice
1 tablespoon white miso
1/4 cup butter
1 1/2 pounds shrimp, peeled, deveined and tails removed
1/4 teaspoon salt
1/8 teaspoon pepper
1 cup mushrooms, sliced
1 red bell pepper, diced



Orange Juice Shrimp Quinoa Bowls

3 scallions, sliced
1 avocado, sliced
1 teaspoon sesame seeds
2 tablespoons cilantro, chopped
In pot, bring water to boil.

Add quinoa, reduce to simmer, cover and cook 15 minutes. Fluff with fork.

In bowl, whisk orange juice, hot sauce, honey, soy sauce, 4 tablespoons vegetable oil, lime juice and miso. Remove half and set aside.

Add shrimp to remaining half and marinate 15 minutes.

Heat large skillet over medium-high heat and add remaining oil.

Season shrimp with salt and pepper then add shrimp to wok and saute, cooking approximately 2 minutes per side until pink and cooked through.

Place 1/2 cup quinoa in bowl and top with bell pepper, cucumber, scallions, avocado and shrimp.

Drizzle with dressing that was set aside and garnish with sesame seeds and cilantro.

Servings: 2
2 cups water
1 cup quinoa
1 cup Florida Orange Juice
1 tablespoon hot sauce
1 tablespoon honey
1 tablespoon soy sauce
6 tablespoons vegetable oil, divided
2 tablespoons lime juice
1 tablespoon white miso
1 1/2 pounds shrimp, peeled and deveined
1/4 teaspoon kosher salt
1/8 teaspoon ground black pepper
1 bell pepper, diced
1 English cucumber, sliced into half moons

Expert patient here to help!

By Susie Schwartz

In honour of my birthday and the concept of 'born naked,' here's an 'exposé' into the sometimes awkward and revealing nature of being a patient. What to do?

Laugh and laugh some more.

Let me throw out a couple of terms here: 'Alert colonoscopy', 'Standing Bladder Stress Test' and 'Defecating Proctogram'. If you are brave, look up the last two and then picture me in a room filled with a medical cheerleading squad. 'You're doing great! You've got this! Keep going!' I tell you this so that you know I know – I get it. Being a patient can be em.bar.rass.ing.

I won't lie. That proctogram was rock bottom for me in this department. And okay, I was in such shock, I didn't laugh immediately, but I sure have whilst telling the story ever since. (It's grrreat for parties.) I'm learning there is a difference between feeling vulnerable and being vulnerable. One speaks to having a sense of choice and the other, not. Laughter has saved me when feeling exposed or vulnerable.

A side perk to this? No matter what shape or size, this sure helps one become comfortable with their body. (Maybe a little too comfortable? Think: Pulling an insulin pump out of my bra whilst eating dinner at a wedding reception. Oops!) Seriously though, we are all human and there are few variations on our 'parts'. And the medical professionals that see it all, really do see it all. What is more than awkward to us is normal to them. They don't really care what we look like with our clothes off. Bellies are bellies. (Caveat: I recog-



Susie Schwartz

nize there can be cases of abuse in a medical setting, and this is not to minimize the impact on those who have been exploited. I'm terribly sorry if this has happened to you.)

I just want you to know it is okay to laugh – if not in the moment (which I recommend as being the best - chuckling with the nurse whose job is to walk you down the aisle to your colonoscopy) - then laugh later, when you can verbally share your 'I had my gown on backwards and it wouldn't stay fastened' quandary, with a trusted friend. You'll feel better about it, obsess less about the embarrassment, and I almost guarantee the belly laugh will make your friend's day!

Happy Birthday (Suit)!

Less health stress, yes?

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



Florida Sunshine Grapefruit Smoothie

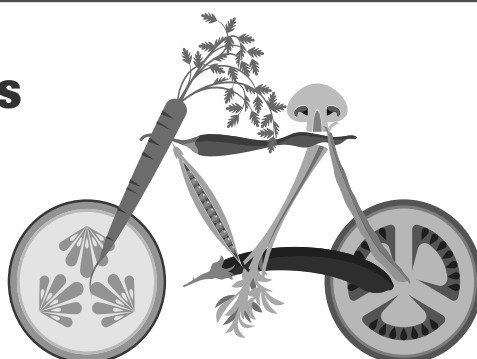
Servings: 1
1 cup Florida Orange Juice
1/2 cup Florida Grapefruit Juice
1 ripe banana
1/2 cup low-fat vanilla yogurt
1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract

In blender, blend orange juice, grapefruit juice, banana, yogurt and vanilla extract until smooth. Serve immediately.

Photo courtesy of Getty Images (smoothie)

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TENDER

INVESTMENT PROPERTY FOR SALE BY TENDER

Sealed written tenders for a 1984 - 6-unit apartment complex described below must be received by Noon on May 5, 2021 at:

Franz Hoepfner Wiens Law Office
Box 99, 1 880 J 15th Street
Winkler, Manitoba R6W 4A4
or email joan@fhwlaw.ca

Property owned by Laverne David Toews and Ruth Katherine Toews

The property is located at 1107 Mountain Avenue, Winkler, MB.

Recent upgrades on foundation, windows, doors, siding, roof, insulation and appliances.

Parking and appliances included.

Please contact our office at 204-325-4615 to arrange an appointment to view the apartments.

Conditions of Tender:

1. The parcels described will be sold "as is".
2. Highest or any tender not necessarily accepted.
3. Possession is May 31, 2021.
4. Tender must be accompanied by a refundable deposit of 10% of the amount offered (cheque made payable to Franz Hoepfner Wiens Law Office).

Terms of Sale:

1. The successful bidder(s) shall enter a formal agreement for sale for the payment of the balance on date of possession.
2. Possession is not authorized until acceptable arrangements for full payment are made following acceptance of tender.
3. Property taxes to be adjusted as of the date of possession.
4. GST and land transfer taxes are the responsibility of the purchaser as of date of possession.

For further information contact Franz Hoepfner Wiens Law Office at 204-325-4615.

CAREERS



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PUBLIC NOTICE



RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF THOMPSON PUBLIC NOTICE 2021 FINANCIAL PLAN

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Subsection 162(2) of the Municipal Act that Council for the Rural Municipality of Thompson intends to present its Financial Plan for the fiscal year 2021 at a public hearing located at:

Miami Civic Centre
530 Norton Avenue
Miami, MB

Thursday May 13, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.

Council will hear any person who wishes to make representation, ask questions or register an objection to the Financial Plan. Copies of the Financial Plan will be made available for upon request, via e-mail or telephone.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions all persons wishing to attend must contact our office in advance.

Dallas Braun, CMAA
Chief Administrative Officer
RM of Thompson

info@rmofthompson.com
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SENIOR RENTALS

Garden Park Estates in Winkler has suites available.

Everything is on one level, indoor heated parking is available, common rooms for socializing and gatherings (when safe), lunches are available 5 days per week, hairdresser salon is in the building. Suites are spacious with open concept, walk-in pantry, utility room is ready for you to bring your own washer and dryer, fridge, stove and dishwasher are provided. All suites have an outside entrance and are connected inside through common hallways. All suites have a patio and a small flower bed. Rent includes maintenance, snow removal, yard care, and all utilities. **Call or email Cindy at 204-362-7151 or cindyek@mts.net.**

SENIOR RENTALS

Oak West Estates

in Morden has **2 bdrm/2bthrm suites available**. Everything is on one level, indoor heated parking is available, common rooms for socializing and gatherings (when safe), lunches are available 5 days per week. Suites are spacious with open concept, walk-in pantry, utility room is ready for you to bring your own washer and dryer, fridge, stove and dishwasher are provided. All suites have an outside entrance and are connected inside through common hallways. All suites have a patio and a small flower bed. Rent includes maintenance, snow removal, yard care, and all utilities. **Call or e mail Cindy at 204-362-7151 or cindyek@mts.net.**

NOTICES

Urgent Press Releases - Have a newsworthy item to announce? A cancellation? An exciting change in operations? Though we cannot guarantee publication, MCNA will get the information into the right hands for ONLY \$35 + GST/HST. Call MCNA 204-947-1691 for more information. See www.mcna.com under the "Types of Advertising" tab or Email classified@mcna.com for more details.

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The Winkler Morden
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CAREERS



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& SMART START
TEACHER (0.55 FTE)**

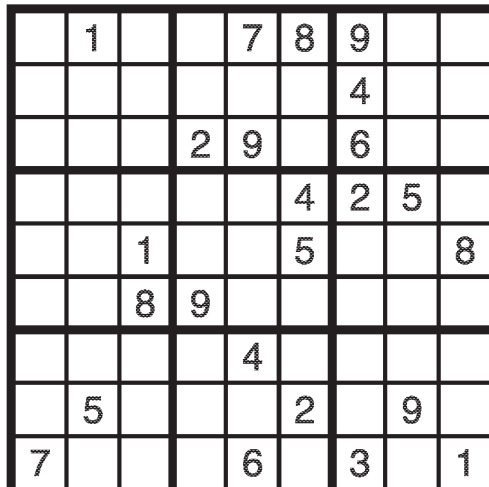
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take *a break*
 > GAMES

SUDOKU



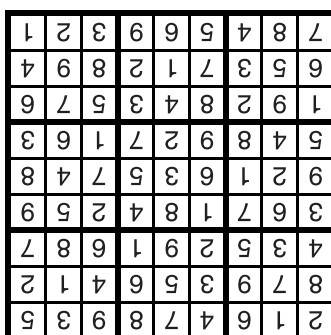
Fun By The Numbers

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!

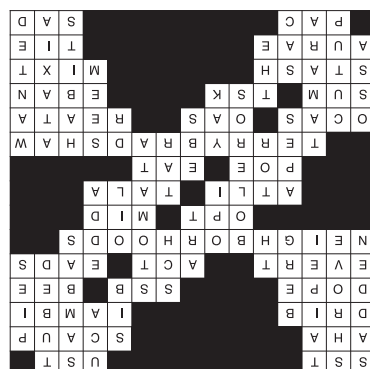
Level: Intermediate

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!



Sudoku Answer



Crossword Answer

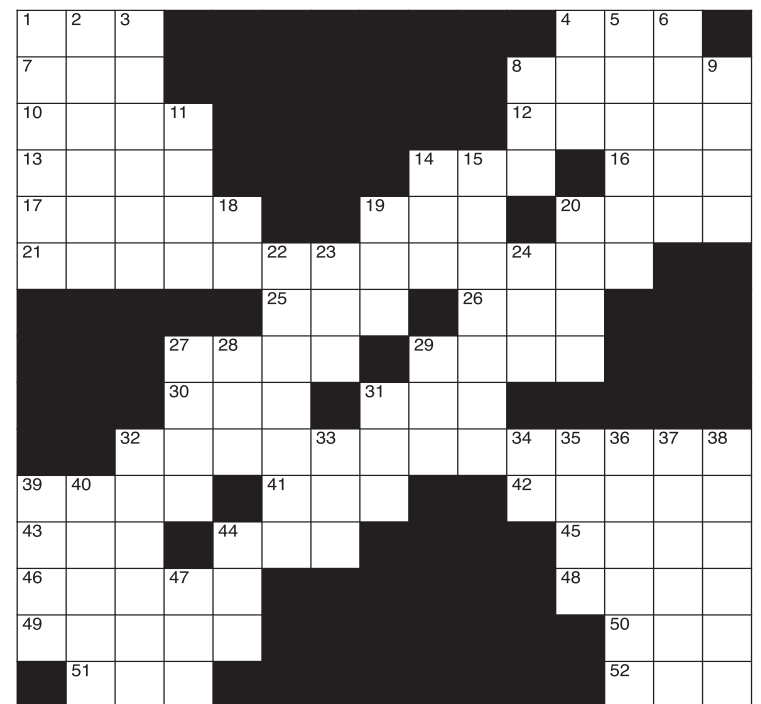
CROSSWORD

CLUES ACROSS

1. Ocean surface indicator (abbr.)
4. American time
7. Satisfaction
8. Diving duck
10. Very small amount
12. Metrical units
13. An ignorant or foolish person
14. Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)
16. It may sting you
17. Turn outward
19. Perform on stage
20. "CSI" actor George
21. Localities
25. Make a choice
26. Indicates position
27. One of Thor's names
29. Indian musical rhythmic pattern
30. "The Raven" author
31. Take in solid food
32. Legendary QB
39. Sorrels
41. Organization of nations
42. Texas pharmaceutical company
43. Mathematical term
44. Expression of disappointment
45. Abba __, Israeli politician
46. Hide away
48. Salad restaurant
49. Daughters of Boreas (mythology)
50. Men's fashion accessory
51. Political action committee
52. Unhappy

CLUES DOWN

- ### 1. Make unhappy



2. Heard the confession of
3. Capital of Taiwan
4. Fiddler crab
5. Brazilian dances
6. Fit with device to assist breathing
8. Brother or sister
9. Pastries
11. "Lone Survivor" director Peter
14. Boat type (abbr.)
15. Apertures (biology)
18. Suffix
19. Creative endeavor
20. Icelandic poem
22. Spanish dances
23. Town in Central Italy
24. Cars need it
27. Mimics
28. Rocky peak
29. Cigarette (slang)
31. One point south of due east
32. Soap actress Braun
33. Large domesticated wild ox
34. Island nation
35. Appear
36. Addictive practices
37. Loss of control of one's body
38. Type of poster
39. Greek mountain
40. Funny person
44. One and only
47. Pouch

Classifieds Announcements *The Winkler Morden Voice*

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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 15-21
Being an AMENDMENT to the R.M. OF STANLEY
ZONING BY-LAW 8-18, AS AMENDED.

HEARING LOCATION: R.M. of Stanley Council Chambers
1-23111 PTH14, SW 7-3-4W
DATE & TIME: May 6, 2021 at 9:30 a.m.
GENERAL INTENT: TO RE-ZONE PARCELS OF LAND IN THE RM OF STANLEY TO ALLOW FOR RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT
FROM: "AL" AGRICULTURAL LIMITED
TO: "RR" RURAL RESIDENTIAL
AREA: PART OF LOT 2, PLAN 50895
WITHIN NE 29-2-5W

Area to be rezoned
from "AL" to "RR"



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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ANNIVERSARY



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Happy 50th Anniversary
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-With love from the family

BIRTHDAY



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messages
Mary Schulz
April 11, 2021

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Life Long Learning

Border Land School Division invites applicants for a
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TEACHER (0.5 FTE)**
FOR ÉCOLE ELMWOOD SCHOOL
IN ALTONA, MB

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SCOLAIRE
BORDER LAND**
L'apprentissage tout au long de la vie

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IMMERSION FRANÇAIS
À LA MATERNELLE**
À L'ÉCOLE ELMWOOD SCHOOL
À ALTONA, MB

POUR DE PLUS AMPLES RENSEIGNEMENTS VISITEZ : WWW.BLSD.CA

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE MATTER OF The Estate of Lorne Campbell Kyle, Late of the City of Morden, in Manitoba, Deceased.

All claims against the above Estate, duly verified by Statutory Declaration must be filed with the undersigned at 115 Broadway St., P.O. Box 10, Crystal City, MB, R0K 0N0, on or before the 21st day of May, 2021.

Dated at the Village of Crystal City, Manitoba this 14th day of April, 2021.

Treble Law
Solicitors for the Administrator
Attn: Douglas J. Treble

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OBITUARY



Penny Pearce

In a peaceful Palliative Care Room at Boundary Trails Health Centre with family by her side, Penny Pearce left this world on her terms.

Penny Lea Johnston was born April 22, 1950 to Ed and Helen (Nan) Johnston and welcomed by sister Lynn and brother Larry. She attended school in Manitou where she was a cheerleader and took part in operettas at Nellie McClung.

Penny married Tom Pearce on March 1, 1969. They have three children, Shane (1969), James (1972) and Kristie (1976). She supported her three children while they played ball, hockey, curled, played in the band. "The Starvations", formally "Skinny and the Starvations" (fun fact for those of you keeping score). She loved to dance and have fun with friends. Her smile was infectious, and she brought joy to so many who knew her. Penny enjoyed crafting,

curling, flower gardening and was a beautiful sewer and knitter.

She worked for Income Security for the Province of Manitoba until her retirement.

Penny is survived by her husband Tom, and their three children: Shane of Spruce Grove, James of Red Deer and Kristie of Winnipeg, her sister Lynn and brother Larry.

Penny was very excited when her grandchildren arrived and enjoyed keeping in touch with them regularly. Brandy, William, Kearstene, Georgia (Shane) Jayden (James) Hunter and Sydney (Kristie).

The family appreciates the skilled care of Dr. Millar and the health care team at Boundary Trails Health Centre and the ongoing support of Dr. Martin.

Donations in Penny's name may be made to: Canadian Mental Health Association, Manitoba and Winnipeg Inc. 930 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg MB R3G 0P8.

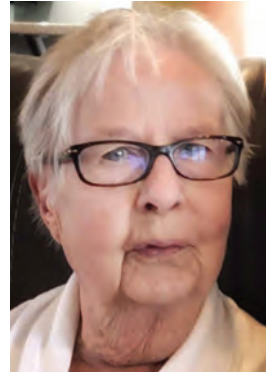
Messages of condolence may be made online at www.wheatlandfs.com.

Wheatland Funeral Service
204-825-2848

www.wheatlandfs.com

Your memory will live forever Engraved within our hearts

OBITUARY



Mary Hamm (nee Kauenhofen)

1936 - 2021

Mary Hamm age 84 peacefully passed away on Thursday, April 15, 2021 at Boundary Trails Health Centre.

She is survived by her husband, Walter Hamm and their four daughters, Wanda (Chomper Giesbrecht), Sharon (Pete Froese), Val (George Teichroeb) and Dolores (Trevor Friesen); nine granddaughters, Twyla (Ryan), Nicole (Terry), Jayme, Leanne (Nathan), Brittany (Scott), Kayla (Bryson), Brooke (Jesse), Holly and Calista; 10 great-grandchildren, Isabelle, Jackson, Tahlia, Peyton, Dior, Brielle, Sophie, Smith, Avery and Harleigh. Mary was predeceased by her parents, her brother, Ben in infancy, brother, Jake, sister, Susan and sister, Helen.

Mary was born to Jacob and Katherina Kauenhofen in Schanzenfeld on December 29, 1936. Mary was the first born of triplets, she was baptized at the Winkler Sommerfeld Church on June 16, 1957. She married Walter Hamm on June 28, 1959. Together they raised four beautiful girls. Mary enjoyed spending time in her garden which she took pride in, tending to her flowers and plants, crocheting, reading, puzzling and crossword puzzles. She loved to bake and cook for others. Mom loved her days when her great-granddaughter, Dior came to spend the day with her. They had a special bond. Mom would always call her "the little one". She was a wonderful wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother; she will be greatly missed.

Private funeral was held at Wiebe Funeral Home, Winkler with interment at Westridge Memorial Gardens.

Special Thanks to Dr Humniski, Boundary Trails Health Centre Palliative Care, especially nurse, Josee, Rev. Art Wiebe, Wiebe Funeral Home, Buhler Active Living Centre, granddaughter, Jayme for the music, granddaughter, Nicole for spending so much time with Mom and thanks to family and friends.

Donations may be made in Mary's memory to the Buhler Active Living Centre - Winkler Villages for Older Adults

Wiebe Funeral Home, Winkler
In care of arrangements
wiebefuneralhomes.com



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