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Siblings Graydon, Gavin, and Kennedy passed the puck around with a couple friends on Dead Horse Creek last weekend. The community outdoor rinks are open in both Winkler and Morden, though users are reminded that gathering sizes are still limited to five and people from different households need to keep their distance from one another to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.

PHOTO BY RICK HIEBERT/VOICE

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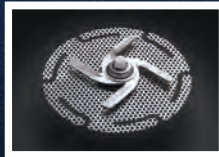
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# get informed

NEWS > VIEWS > WINKLER > MORDEN > SURROUNDING AREAS

## Couple lost in Christmas eve blaze were community builders: mayor

By Lorne Stelmach

The community has been mourning the loss of a pair of longtime Morden residents who died in a Christmas eve fire.

The house fire in the early morning hours of Dec. 24 took the lives of Lorne and Midge Kyle, and many have been paying tribute to the couple in the weeks since, including Morden Mayor Brandon Burley.

"I met Lorne and Midge after being elected and he became one of those people that I really grew very fond of and had some significant interaction with," said Burley.

"I think they were very community-minded folks and very nice people. They had a deep appreciation for each other and for their family and their community. They made a significant impact on our community, and it was very unfortunate to hear of their passing this way."

Morden police and firefighters were called to the cou-

ple's Birchwood Dr. home shortly after 4 a.m. the day before Christmas.

Police say once the fire was brought under control, firefighters entered the home and located the two residents deceased.

Police and the Office of the Fire Commissioner continue to investigate. They had not released a cause of the fire at press time.

The loss of the Kyles, who were both involved in the community in a myriad of ways, will be keenly felt, Burley said.

"Buildings can be replaced, but we can't replace people and certainly not people like this," he said.

"They're a classic example of the kind of community builders that every community needs to have," said Burley. "They were never shy to give their time or their attention to a cause ... the community will miss them."



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## Imagination Library fundraiser brings in \$7K

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The community looked at the Winkler Imagination Library's plans to raise \$3,000 from its fall fundraising campaign and said, "We can do better than that."

In fact, the Nov. 23 to Dec. 13 donation drive brought in a grand total of \$7,250 for the program, which mails out free books every month to hundreds of pre-school aged children in the Winkler area.

"Some were from previous donors but we also saw a lot of brand new donors with this," board member Judith

Baerg said in sharing the final total just before the holidays.

The campaign was held in conjunction with the world premiere of a documentary detailing how country music superstar Dolly Parton began the Imagination Library program, which today has chapters around the globe.

*The Library That Dolly Built* premiered on Facebook on Dec. 9, and supporters were encouraged to make a donation to their local chapter to celebrate. Over one million people tuned in to watch the film, donating \$241,496.

Baerg says they got a few donations online but many more through more

traditional means.

"We only got a little bit online, but I think the fact we put our name out there again with this was really helpful," she said. "We'd like to say a huge thank you to everyone who supported this amazing cause."

The money that came in will go a long way indeed. At \$65 per child per

year, \$7,250 will support over 100 kids.

The Winkler Imagination Library currently has 800 children living in the Garden Valley School Division catchment area enrolled to receive books. Children are eligible for the program from birth until they start Kindergarten.

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# Community has pulled together to get through a challenging year: Harder

By Ashleigh Viveiros

When Winkler Mayor Martin Harder is asked to sum up his thoughts on 2020 in one word, he doesn't hesitate: partnerships.

The year was full of them, he says, be it businesses reaching out to help other Winkler companies not just sur-

vive but thrive, community members stepping up to lend a hand to those in need, and major municipal projects finally getting completed with support from multiple sources.

"It's those partnerships that make a community successful," Harder stresses.

A few big projects jump to mind when looking back on the roller coaster year that was 2020.

Chief among them was the four-laning of PTH. 32 through Winkler—something the

Winkler Mayor Martin Harder says if he had to sum up the past year in one word it would be this: partnerships. The community came together in a myriad of ways in 2020 to support each other and make major projects happen.

PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE



community has spent decades lobbying for.

The job is now mostly complete (the traffic lights at Mountain Ave. are slated to arrive in spring) and the impact it has made in lessening congestion and increasing safety in the busy retail area can't be overstated, Harder says.

It was a multi-million dollar undertaking that took the cooperation and support of both the City of Winkler and the Province of Manitoba, he points out.

"I'll give credit to MIT, obviously, the money they've invested into it, but it's in partnership with the City," Harder says. "The City of Winkler spent years designing and engineering the plans for Hwy. 32 together with Manitoba Highways ... we pumped in almost \$1.5 million into Hwy. 32. Again, it's a partnership. You can't do these things alone."

The new clubhouse for the Winkler Centennial Golf Course stands out as another success story for the year.

Like Hwy. 32, it's something that has been in the works for years, and when the time came to finally run with the project, the community stepped up.

"It's kind of flown underneath the radar, but that project would never have happened without the partnerships with major businesses in this community," Harder says, noting the golf club successfully raised over one million dollars for the build. "People said, 'We need a new clubhouse' and they made it happen."

No list of 2020 projects is complete without perhaps the biggest one of them all: the Meridian Exhibition Centre.

The facility, which adds a second ice rink to the Winkler Rec. Complex along with an indoor soccer field and conference centre, is something the City of Winkler had to go it alone on when it came to government funding (neither the provincial or federal governments have contributed), but that doesn't mean it wasn't a team effort at the local level to turn dream into reality.

"That's been years in the making, years in the planning, and now here we are—8,9 years, I think, since we first started talking about it—and it's ready to open," Harder says.

And while the City is footing the bulk of the bill of the \$22 million facility, here too the community chipped in, with Meridian Industries buying the naming rights for \$1.25 million.

There are deals in the works for naming rights to other areas inside the building as well.

"The fundraising continues ... and it's going well," Harder says.

These projects—along with other ones, such as the new accessible playground in Winkler Park—leave Harder feeling pretty proud of what's been accomplished this past year.

"I can honestly say 2020 is probably the most satisfying year in my 14 years as mayor," he says, "because all of these projects have been on the back burner for so long, and now they're here."

## PULLING TOGETHER

The pandemic hasn't made things easy for local businesses, but many have found ways to weather the storm, in many cases doing what they can to help other entrepreneurs keep their heads above water.

"When I look at the growth of the businesses in our community—and the industrial park has had many new businesses and expansions—I'm struck by the uniqueness of Winkler and our businesses," Harder says.

The special difference? They support each other, he says, pointing to restaurants who source all their food locally and manufacturers who partner with other shops in the area to tackle major product development together.

"So now, all of a sudden, you have three or four businesses that are thriving because one is successful," Harder says. "It's about feeding off one another, supporting one another."

"What 2020 has done, in light of the difficulties of dealing with COVID, is it has brought the community together and shown us how valuable we are to each other," Harder says, urging Winklerites to continue to do what they can to support homegrown businesses as they try to ride out the rest of the pandemic.

"The biggest pain that I carry out of 2020 is the hardships that our small and independent businesses are going through right now," he says. "If we can do anything as a community to help them build their businesses back up again, we need to do it."

"Support your local businesses, because all of these projects we've accomplished in 2020 literally would

"IT'S THOSE PARTNERSHIPS THAT MAKE A COMMUNITY SUCCESSFUL."



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# Morden was up to the challenge in 2020: Burley

By Lorne Stelmach

The past year presented many challenges not only for the City of Morden but for its mayor on a personal level as well.

Having had COVID-19 himself however only further reinforced Brandon Burley's views, which had him speak out a number of times in encouraging the community to not only take it seriously but to remain united.

In the fall, after having recovered, he also penned an open letter to a fellow Manitoba leader, taking RM of La Broquerie Reeve Lewis Weiss to task for his COVID-19 skepticism.

"I think it certainly reinforced for me how dangerous it can be," Burley said in a year-end interview. "It certainly can be a significant setback to health, and certainly I still have had some ongoing issues related to respiration and fatigue.

"The highlight of the year for me was the way that the community pulled together around COVID-19 and the goodwill and the fraternity they showed and the resolution to be there for one another, and that's what makes Morden special," Burley added. "It's really what makes me proud to lead the community through a time like this, and I'm very grateful."

There were many challenges for the City of Morden throughout most of the year as the pandemic resulted in a widespread shutdown of facilities, programs, and services. That in turn had an impact on the bottom line for the City.

"One of the bigger challenges for us was to try to make a difference with a limited form of government. You want to try to help the organizations that are in need but while still being financially responsible to the taxpayers. That's a challenge," said Burley.

"It's not the place you expect to be or want to be in a middle of a term of office, but it's where we are, so we are going to do what we can and take the steps we need to take to minimize the impact on the community."

He feels the City not only had reached year-end in reasonably good shape but felt they had been able to make progress on some vital infrastructure and capital projects as well.

"We had a couple priorities we had identified early as a council," he said. "We really had an opportunity to put ourselves to work. I know we do have

limitations, but sometimes those limitations can really make you focus on what can be done and achieving results.

"Wastewater treatment capability is a major concern for us moving forward, and I think that's going to be a major challenge for our last two years in this term," said Burley, noting they still need to address ongoing capacity concerns that can hinder development.

"Wastewater is number one," he continued. "We do have two out of three studies back already, and the third was expected back by the end of December, which will really give us a clear picture as to where we have to go on solving the wastewater problem."

He also highlighted Valley Fiber bringing high-speed internet to Morden as well as filling some key administrative positions including a new city manager as key steps for the city's future prosperity,

"Finally getting a solution to high-speed internet was a major step forward, and I think our financial and administrative stability can't be under-estimated," he suggested.

"Being able to get back to the administrative capacity that we need to run the city allows us to look into the next two years and start doing work on other areas like service standards and tendering standards and things like that, which I think are going to be critical to the city's success down the road."

Burley also suggested Morden will come out of the year in a relatively stable financial position after having found some budgetary savings in the midst of the pandemic.

"We will end the year in a good financial position," he said, adding that \$519,000 in additional government assistance was a welcome boost.

"The money allocated from the province hasn't been committed to anything yet, however what we will be looking at is what COVID will do to the last year's operating expenses and what it will do to our budget as well," he said. "Once we've done that analysis, we can start looking at maybe how we can spread that money around to help other organizations and other community services that need help."

Council has also gotten a head start on the 2021 financial plan, aiming to have it approved in February.

"More than being conservative, though, I think we will be looking at a responsible budget," stressed Burley, adding that they hope to be able to be proactive as well. "We need to be responsible with taxpayer dollars."

Last year, they emphasized some capital projects including water treatment upgrades and road work, so they may be able to shift their focus to some degree in the year ahead.

"We were able to do a lot of those things in a responsible manner," Burley said. "We want to make sure we're responsible, but we know that we can exacerbate the impact of COVID and in particular the impact of COVID if we start pushing costs and expenses down the road.

"I think we're in a good place," the mayor said. "I think we're taking the kind of steps you expect to see ... if you don't see these progressions, you

Continued on page 7



**VOICE FILE PHOTO**  
Morden Mayor Brandon Burley says the highlight of 2020 for him was seeing the community pull together.

**"THE RESOLUTION TO BE THERE FOR ONE ANOTHER ... THAT'S WHAT MAKES MORDEN SPECIAL."**

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# get heard

EDITORIAL > VIEWPOINTS > LETTERS

• GUEST COMMENTARY

## Time to lift the shroud on Bill 64

By Alan Campbell

A month ago, Minister of Education Kelvin Goertzen introduced Bill 64, titled The Education Modernization Act.

According to Goertzen, the bill will “ensure that the education system is focused on providing the best outcome for students in Manitoba.” Contrary to normal practice, this bill was then withheld from public scrutiny, leading to rampant speculation concerning its possible contents.

Based on throne speeches, election and budget commitments and statements made by government representatives since 2016, none of the changes that this government has made to our education system thus far should come as a surprise. They are, after all, what Manitobans elected the Progressive Conservative government to do. Bill 64, however, is legislation that I believe requires a heightened awareness on the part of all Manitobans.

So what's in this secretive bill? If the “modernization” title is any sign of things to come, I fear that, contrary to remaining focused on providing students with the best outcomes, this bill will instead achieve exactly the opposite; and in the process, communities could stand to lose their democratically elected local voices and choices when it comes to public education.

What leads me to this conclusion? Nearly two decades ago, the similarly titled Public Schools Modernization Act laid the foundation for a sweeping elimination of school boards province-wide. Government naively believed that by stamping out school boards, it could take “all those funds” and increase investment in the classroom. What really happened was that school divisions naturally became bigger—you can't do more with less no matter how hard you might think you can.

As studies after the fact clearly demonstrated, there were no cost savings to be found. Instead, dollars were spent to save dimes as 17 divisions were removed from Manitoba's map.

*All columns and letters published on our Get Heard pages are the personal opinions of the submitting writers and do not necessarily reflect the viewpoint of the Winkler Morden Voice.*

“WILL 150 YEARS OF OUR HARD-WON DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS BE STRIPPED AWAY?”

Most regrettably, the process of creating larger divisions redirected valuable focus from the classroom and placed it on the administrative and bureaucratic instead. The result? The development of newly required governance, administration and organizational structures, cultures, policies and collective agreements wasted half a decade of efforts.

In the end, many students were not well served because of this focus. The time taken to address these required areas limited the time spent on improving outcomes for students.

In March, owing to the start of the pandemic, the government decided the time was no longer appropriate to release the long-awaited final report of the K-12 Education Review commission. It was right to do so. The timing was, and remains, inappropriate to burden our school leaders, staff and students with the outcomes of this exercise.

In spite of that, it seems whatever recommendations and agendas have been withheld from scrutiny in that report remain in play, the same modus operandi given the government's failure to publish The Education Modernization Act. Tabled, but not released. Read a first time, but not disclosed.

Major reforms are already being set in motion that will have impact on all who are involved with public schools in Manitoba, which is why for me and many others, the most worrisome prospect is what Bill 64 will entail.

Will 150 years of our hard-won democratic rights be stripped away with the passage

of a single legislative act? Will the school system go from emergency-response planning one moment to planning for bigger bureaucracies the next? How would any of this represent the best interests of our students, let alone their communities?

Schools belong to communities, and local voices and choices still matter to the quality of education our students receive. I do trust that the K-12 Review commissioners heard this message loud and clear during their consultations, and that this version of “education modernization” is not back to the future, back to the drawing board for so many whose hard work and dedication to our students have been demonstrated time and time again throughout this pandemic.

Manitobans did not elect this government to “modernize” education through widespread amalgamation of our local school divisions. At one time in this province's history, such a move was deemed to be so critical that it was in fact made the responsibility of local communities, whose referenda made their own decision concerning the future of their elected school boards. If forced amalgamation is what Bill 64 involves, I would encourage those who represent us on Broadway to go back to their own drawing board, before the bill is released.

*Alan Campbell is president of the Manitoba School Boards Association*



**The Garden Valley School Board is a member of the Manitoba School Boards Association and supports the column written by MSBA President Alan Campbell.**

# Stanley reeve looking forward to year ahead

By Lorne Stelmach

Being a growing and diversified municipality is helping the RM of Stanley get through the challenges posed by the pandemic.

That was the feeling of Reeve Morris Olafson as he both looked back and glanced ahead in a year-end interview.

"We knew that it was coming ... we could see the writing on the wall that it was going to get worse before it gets better," said Olafson.

"In terms of the financial impact on the municipality, a lot of it is in our office and how we deal with doing the day-to-day business," he said. "It makes it all a little more difficult, but that's not to say that things haven't been moving along.

"We've actually had a tremendous year in a lot of ways," Olafson suggested.

"We've done probably \$10 million or better in building permits, which is less than last year by a couple million, but that's still really, really good considering what's all gone on," he said, adding as well that they are continuing to approve new subdivisions and developments.

"I'm kind of looking forward to next year. I think we've got some momentum here; maybe not as much as we have had, but it's still there."

Additional government assistance of \$537,000 in restart funding late in the fall was a welcome boost for the RM.

"We were lucky that we got that additional grant ... that has really helped a lot for things like our small community centres and things like that, so we were able to give them a little boost.

"We didn't spend all that money right away," Olafson noted. "We don't know what this next year is going to bring, so we've kept some money back to say we'll put this money out as needed, and we'll see what transpires here.

"It's not very often that you find an extra half a million dollars to work with, so that part of it all has been really good. We're really happy with what we've got in grants from the government," he said, noting funding had come in for a number of projects ranging from flood preparation to improving asset management, developing the Reinfeld secondary plan, and upgrades to the Massey water system.

Otherwise, the RM has focused on carrying on with all of the nuts and bolts work of maintaining and operating a growing community.

In the past year, for example, there was three and a half miles of paving

**"I THINK WE'VE GOT SOME MOMENTUM HERE; MAYBE NOT AS MUCH AS WE HAVE HAD, BUT IT'S STILL THERE."**

done in Chortitz as well as a few more kilometres of new sidewalks. The RM also completed about five km of road improvements.

"We had 17 new water service connections, but of course with that came about nine water breaks along the way. The more you have, the more trouble you have," Olafson said.

"We had about nine boil water advisories along the way, but none of which caused any significant problems, so that was good," he continued. "And with our gravelling program, we've actually upped that a bit more yet. We've put about 65,000 yards of road gravel out, which is quite a bit."

A challenge in delivering its programs and services comes in how the level and pace of development varies across the municipality.

Perhaps close to three quarters of the population is to the east, where development is more dense, while to the west it is more sparsely populated.

"To try to keep it all even is a real trick to maintain everything evenly along the way," Olafson said. "All of the villages of course take more work and more resources and more time than in the west."

Looking ahead, Olafson said there are a number of priorities for council, including further road and safety

improvements. Water and wastewater services are also at the top of the list.

"We need to get all the approvals in place [for the wastewater treatment plant]. We know it's moving along. We've got some of the approvals, but it's a matter of the feds coming to the plate completely.

"I don't look forward to putting ourselves into debt any more than we are, but, on the other hand, we're looking ahead about 20 years or more with this ... so we see the benefits of this project.

"We know we're going to need more housing and more work done in general ... and we're trying to create an atmosphere where that growth can happen easier," said Olafson.

"We're continually working on procuring enough water. We do have ample water right now ... but if you go into the future a bit, our water is tight, so there's projects underway right now. We're hoping maybe to make a new water reservoir which will make us more resilient in that regard.

"We're not stopping growth. Things can still happen, but there's going to be an end point [without more water]."

In the end, Olafson remains optimistic about the RM's fortunes for the year ahead.



FILE PHOTO

RM of Stanley Reeve Morris Olafson said 2020 proved to be "a tremendous year in a lot of ways."

"We're fortunate that we're ag-based ... and the ag side has done okay this year. We had a good crop, and the prices are reasonable ... and farmers spend money, so that has helped us.

"I realize that not everybody is in the same boat," he concluded. "Hopefully, we keep our faculties about us. It's a strain on everybody.

"I think we're in good shape. This is a major thing we're dealing with, but I think there's a lot of resiliency."

## > HARDER, FROM PG. 4

not have happened if we didn't have local entrepreneurs and local businesses standing alongside us."

Even with so many keystone projects completed in 2020, now is not the time to rest on our laurels.

Harder says the next thing council is focused on is, of course, getting the regional wastewater treatment plant completed.

It'll take about two years to build once funding and approval is secured from the upper levels of government.

Harder is confident it's only a matter of time before they'll be putting shovels in the ground.

"We're not to the finish line yet, but we're close," he says.

And after that? It's unclear what the next major project will be, but

Harder points out there's never going to be a shortage of ways to improve the community.

"We need to redo the old arena," he says, adding as well that the need for more affordable and entry-level housing in Winkler very much remains on

## > BURLEY, FROM PG. 5

start to question whether or not your administration is capable of handling them. This council, as a team to work with, has been very good."

He also sees promising signs with some growth and development still happening despite the circumstances.

"And there's more coming down the pipe as well," he suggested.

"Our entire goal, as it relates to economic development and business

council's radar.

"That's another thing that was finished in 2020 was our Secondary Plan," Harder says, explaining that document delved deep into the needs of the community and has laid out a detailed strategy for future growth.

growth, is to lay the foundation and provide the utilities and the services and the business competence they need to see to invest in our community.

"There's been some really good indicators over the last few months," Burley concluded. "We're really excited about what 2021 and 2022 may bring to the City of Morden."

# Christmas card campaign gets a big response



SUPPLIED PHOTO

A campaign to deliver Christmas cards to local seniors saw upward of 600 go out throughout Morden, Winkler, and Carman.

By Lorne Stelmach

A Morden resident was pleasantly overwhelmed with the response to her campaign to collect and send Christmas cards to local seniors.

Shannon Vaughan had been uncertain what to anticipate when the idea came to her, but it certainly exceeded her expectations.

"It was an amazing response," said Vaughan, who estimated they collected and delivered around 600 cards before Christmas.

"I kept calling different residences, and I just had to keep moving on to the next one. I ran out of residences in Morden that I could get a hold of ... so I moved on to Winkler and then I moved on to Carman as well.

"It just shows the generosity here," said Vaughan, who had originally put the request for cards out through the In The Know Morden Facebook group.

"Some of the messages in the cards made so emotional because they were so sweet and thoughtful," she continued. "It shows me how nice people are in this area, and they wanted to jump on board with this idea."

Vaughan's friend Tara Routhier did a lot of the leg-work in collecting the cards, and together they saw

a range of support and involvement materialize for the effort.

Sonia Funk donated over 200 of her Christmas CDs to be gifted to seniors and care home staff, and a wide array of residents, schools, classes, teachers, and various groups made cards.

"I think it sort of gave them something to focus on and an opportunity to do something good for the community," suggested Vaughan.

In Morden, they delivered cards to Tabor Home, Homestead South, Legion House 1 and 2, Elks Place and Cottonwood Terrace, while Winkler had cards taken to Salem Home and Carman had cards dropped off at Boyne Lodge.

Vaughan credited the community for making the project much better than she could have imagined.

"You have helped bring smiles to some seniors in the area and reminded them that we care and are thinking of them especially during the holidays," she said, noting she is considering making this an annual tradition.

"I don't think it's necessarily just because of COVID that seniors might need an extra boost around the holidays. Some of them may not have a lot of family," she noted. "So I might want to do this again."

## "This is not the time that we relax our efforts against this virus"

By Ashleigh Viveiros

It's too soon to say what impact holiday revellers may have had on the COVID-19 numbers in Manitoba, or whether code red restrictions will be loosened in the weeks ahead, the province's chief public health officer said at Monday's press briefing.

"We're starting to see our case numbers coming down, and while our restrictions are due for review, we need to ensure that this is not the time that we relax our efforts against this virus," said Dr. Brent Roussin.

"Our test positivity rates are still quite high," Roussin

continued. "The hospitalization and ICU numbers are still high, and it's also too early to know what the effects of what gathering over the holidays may have had on our numbers."

The current public health orders are slated to expire on Friday. Roussin said health officials will be reviewing the caseload numbers throughout this week as they work to develop a plan for the weeks to come.

Five additional COVID-19 deaths were reported on Monday, bringing Manitoba's total to 688.

There were 118 new cases of the virus as of that morning, bringing the total number of lab-confirmed cases in our province to 25,244.

At press time, Manitoba had 4,423 active cases of COVID-19 and 20,133 recoveries. There were 245 people in hospital with active COVID-19 and another 95 patients needing care who had the virus but were no longer considered infectious. Forty-one ICU beds were filled with COVID-19 patients (35 with active cases of the virus).

The five-day COVID-19 test positivity rate on Monday was 10.7 per cent provincially and 11.8 per cent in Winnipeg.

Locally, the provincial dashboard had Winkler with 32 active cases of COVID-19 and five deaths, Morden with four active cases and two deaths, Stanley with one active case and one death, four active cases and one death in Carman, 12 active cases and three deaths in Altona, 10 active cases Lorne/Louise/Pembina, eight ac-

tive cases and two deaths in Morris, and no active cases but one death in Roland/Thompson.

Roussin continues to urge Manitobans to do their part to help slow the spread of the virus.

"Right now we all need to continue to focus on those fundamentals to protect yourself, your loved ones, our neighbours, our co-workers, our communities," he said. "We're asking people to stay home as much as possible, certainly stay home when you're sick. Go for testing when you're sick, even with mild symptoms."

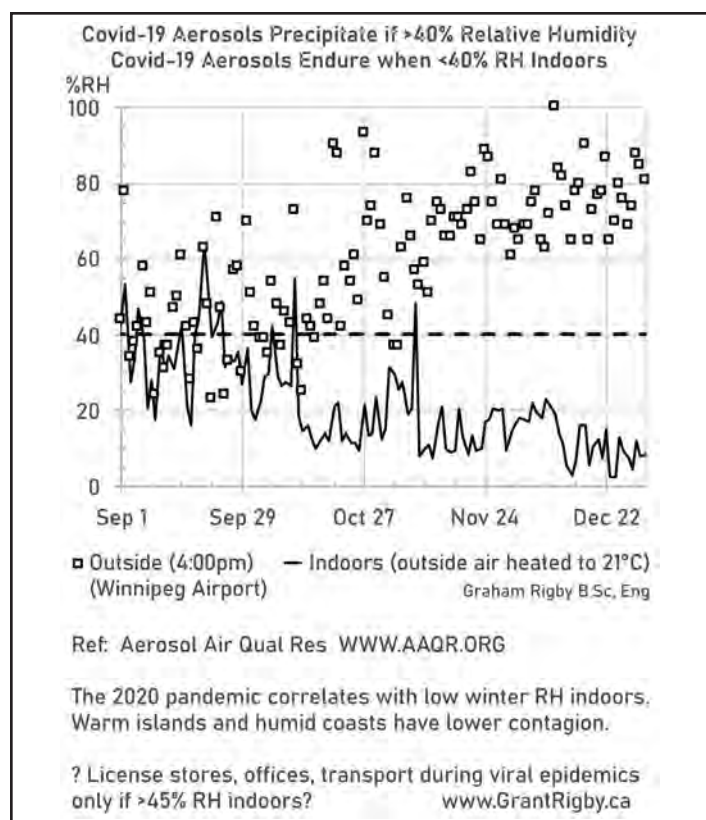
The new, more contagious variant of COVID-19 reported elsewhere has not yet shown up in Manitoba, but it is already in other parts of Canada, Roussin noted.

"We're advising all international travellers to be tested for COVID-19 upon arrival in Manitoba, even if they are not showing symptoms," he said. "And again on day seven after their arrival, even if they remain asymptomatic."

International travellers need to observe the full 14-day self-isolation period regardless of symptoms and test results.

On the vaccine front, 3,432 people had been vaccinated for COVID-19 as of the start of this week.

The RBC Convention Centre vaccination super site in Winnipeg opened on Monday. Thousands more appointments for the vaccination of eligible health-care workers were scheduled all through this week.



The *Winkler Morden*  
**Voice**

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# The Color record an album in quarantine

Local band locked themselves away for two weeks to record nine new songs

By Ashleigh Viveiros

A local band put themselves in quarantine this fall so they could make some headway on their next album.

The Color's deal with U.S. studio Dream Records in early 2020 came with a pledge to deliver one new album within a year.

The pandemic made that promise a difficult one to keep.

Vocalist Jordan Janzen explains the foursome normally heads down to Nashville to record songs with the help of the world-class producers who call Music City home.

"We were kind of looking at the foreseeable future and we just realized that there was no certainty involved in whether or not we'd be able to go down there anytime soon," he says, noting, to be safe, they'd have to quarantine for two weeks coming and going, meaning they'd be away from their families far longer than any of them wanted to be.

Then an idea was hatched: why not bring a producer up here and join him on his quarantine as a band, using the two weeks of isolation as two weeks of creation?

After getting the go-ahead from

public health officials, The Color in November flew up producer Bede Benjamin-Korporaal, kissed their wives and kids goodbye, and went into lockdown together on a nearby family farm.

"We couldn't see our families, which was very strange to be three miles away from home and not able to be with them," Janzen says.

Close-to-home homesickness aside, it proved to be an incredibly productive 14 days.

"We essentially worked 12-15 hours a day, every day," says Janzen. "We had intended to record seven songs and we ended up recording nine in that time frame."

Added to the one song they had previously recorded with another producer in the spring, that makes 10 songs ready to go for an album slated to be released later this year.

"We'll see if we can get down to Nashville to do a couple more songs, but we don't have to if we can't," Janzen says.

It's not unusual for bands to tuck themselves away together to focus on the music, but the experience was certainly a unique one for The Color.

"In some ways it was kind of our dream," Janzen says. "It had never happened for us before and I don't know if it will again, but it just allowed us to be present in that process for the whole time, for better or worse."

They had upwards of 60 songs written over the previous year or so to choose from for the recording ses-



SUPPLIED PHOTOS

The Color's Jordan Janzen, James Shiels, Tyson Unrau and Larry Abrams (front row) with videographer Dustin Wiebe and producer Bede Benjamin-Korporaal during their self-enforced two-week music lockdown last year.

sion—about half of which were written via Zoom during the early days of the pandemic.

But Janzen says COVID-19 most certainly is not a recurring theme in the music.

"I think there's definitely some influence from the season that we've been in, but we're always trying to push our creativity and part of that challenge has been to actually go outside of what's going on today, because we

do want to write music that's going to apply tomorrow or in a year or two or three years from now."

If there's a common thread running through the songs, it's the same one The Color always aspire to with their music.

"One of the goals of The Color has always been to write songs that are hopeful, that leave a person feeling

Continued on page 10



Jordan Janzen belts out a tune during The Color's two-week recording session recently.

## New Year Specials!!

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# Shoppers Drug Mart campaign raises \$4K for Genesis House

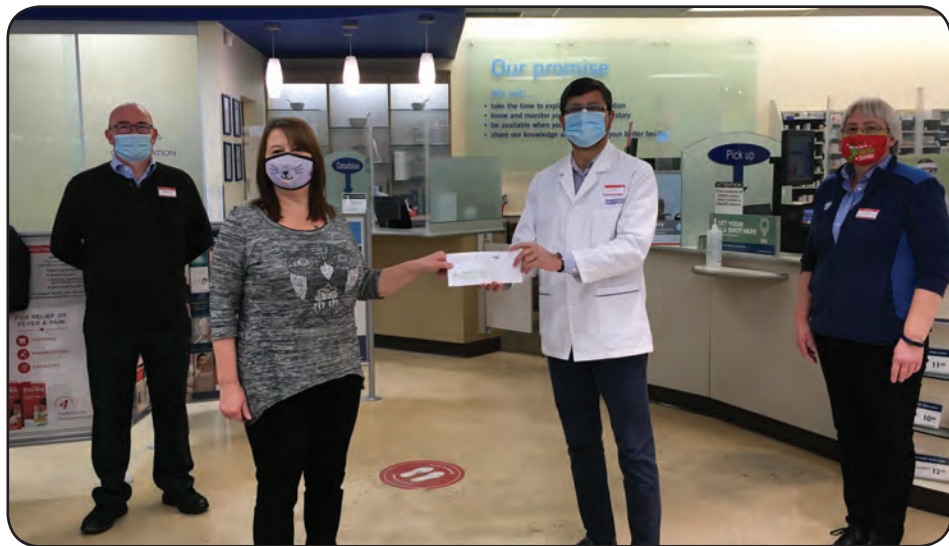


PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Genesis House executive director Ang Braun (front, left) received a donation of \$4,001 from Shopper Drug Mart Winkler's Mike Agnew, Zahid Zehri, and Cathy Jackson just before Christmas.

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Customers and staff at Winkler's Shoppers Drug Mart came through for the local women's shelter in a big way this fall.

The store's annual Shoppers Love You campaign in October coupled with funds collected at its September cosmetics gala raised \$4,001 for Genesis House.

Front store manager Mike Agnew said they were aiming for \$3,500 from Shoppers Love You alone, but exceeding the goal came as no great surprise.

"We know how this cause in particular hits people's hearts," he said in presenting the cheque to Genesis House executive director Ang Braun just before Christmas. "People feel very strongly about supporting them.

"With how difficult this year has been for everybody, people recognize there are those who are having even more difficulty and they want to do what they can to help," Agnew added. "It was just an amazing success and we want to thank our customers for the overwhelming response."

Thanks to the pandemic, finding ways to raise both funds and awareness this year has been a challenge for Genesis House, noted Braun, making this campaign and the resulting donation all the more precious.

"It's been such a hard year trying to figure out what's around the next corner," she said. "The community has been amazing. This campaign and all the general community donations, it's amazing. People remember us and we appreciate it."

# WCF distributes \$40K in second round of ECSF funding

By Voice staff

The Winkler Community Foundation was able to distribute another round of funding from the federal government's Emergency Community Support Fund this fall.

Following up on the \$40,000 they were tasked with hand-

ing out over the summer, the foundation in recent weeks has presented another \$30,000 to local charities supporting populations experiencing heightened vulnerability during the pandemic.

"The Winkler Community Foundation is here to support our community to the best of our ability," WCF president Scott Doell said in a statement. "We appreciate the opportunity to obtain grants from the government and to distribute the funds to local charities to assist them during this pandemic."

Recipients this time around included:

- Kids Korner Nursery School: \$6,000 to purchase individual supplies for participants and

wages for additional cleaning staff.

- Eden Health Care Services: \$6,000 towards a temporary outdoor visitation shelter.

- Winkler & District Multipurpose Senior Centre: \$3,500 for increased staffing needs to assist volunteers to keep up with COVID-19 regulations to provide services, and towards dishwasher replacement.

- Regional Connections Immigrant Services: \$7,000 towards a "HIPPI" program to provide access to technology to deliver services to families isolated at home.

- Eden Residential Care Services: \$7,500 to offer technology equipment to meet the needs of mental health clients.

## > THE COLOR, FROM PG. 9

like there is hope going forward," says Janzen.

That said, there were a few surprises in the album-making process this time around.

The band reached out to fans on social media and invited 50 of them to help pick their favourite songs from a selection of about 25.

"It honestly changed the outcome of the album," Janzen says. "There were songs that were not in consideration on our part, maybe songs that we didn't gravitate towards or songs that had been written a long time ago."

Some of those songs ended up being fan favourites, and they were included in the final recording list.

"And so there are songs on this album that weren't going to be, and it was such a cool thing," says Janzen. "I think people loved being involved in that process."

The Color will be releasing some of the new

music over the next few months, and they hope to be able to tour to support the album when it comes out in full, likely this fall.

It will be nice to get back on stage, Janzen says. Last year certainly didn't shape up the way any of the band members had expected when it came to concerts.

"It was supposed to look very busy for us. We were looking at probably 120 shows, so when COVID hit we had to cancel all of our spring and summer touring plans," Janzen says.

That didn't stop them from entertaining. In addition to a drive-thru concert near Portage in September, The Color also hosted a couple of online Christmas shows last month.

Janzen says they have plans for more streaming performances in the months ahead.

Check out the band's website or social media pages for more details.



## Prairie Rose School Division KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATIONS

If your child was born in 2016, he/she is eligible to attend kindergarten beginning September, 2021.

Parents and/or guardians are asked to contact one of the following schools:

**École Carman Elementary School**  
Cecile Affleck, Principal (204) 745-2623

**Elm Creek School**  
Leslie Howard, Interim Principal (204) 436-2354

**Miami School**  
David Langill, Principal (204) 435-2441

**Roland School**  
Brandy Chevalier, Principal (204) 343-2023

**St. François Xavier School**  
Marc Tellier, Principal (204) 864-2868

**École St. Eustache**  
Lindsay Noël, Principal (204) 353-2869

**St. Laurent School**  
Crystal Millar-Courchene, Principal (204) 646-2209

Your child's birth certificate or Manitoba Health Card **MUST** be presented at the time of registration.

**Registrations will be accepted between January 11 to 15, 2021, between 9:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.**

# Explore Morden Winkler hires its first exec. director

By Voice staff

Explore Morden Winkler has hired its first executive director.

The regional tourism agency announced Tyler Hildebrand, a former Golden West Broadcasting radio personality, is coming on board to lead things heading into 2021.

"Tyler brings more than 14 years of passion, involvement and experience in promoting local to this new position," said board chair Reg Braun in a media release.

Since its inception in 2018, Explore Morden Winkler and its board of directors has been focused on building and establishing the place brand de-

veloped by Travel Manitoba to promote the Pembina Valley region.

Adding an executive director to the mix should help them take things to the next level in terms of raising awareness and implementing initiatives.

"I'm super excited for the opportunity to showcase what Morden-Winkler has to offer," Hildebrand said. "I love this area—from the gorgeous walking paths, beautiful Lake Minnewasta, the almost endless recreation opportunities, unique museums to the delicious food options, there are so many parts of Morden and Winkler that Manitoba, Canada, and even the world should know about."

Braun noted they're not letting the

global pandemic stop them from working on getting the word out about what our region has to offer. The agency is hard at work on plans for the year ahead.

"We are not simply sitting back and waiting for COVID-19 to go away," Braun said. "Our call to action at Explore Morden-Winkler is 'Explore What We're Famous For.' It turns out with all of these travel restrictions, this has been a particularly good theme for our marketing and people are truly taking the opportunity to be that tourist in your own town."

To stay on top of upcoming Explore Morden Winkler campaigns, head to [exploremordenwinkler.com](http://exploremordenwinkler.com).



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Former local radio personality Tyler Hildebrand has come on board as Explore Morden Winkler's new executive director.

# Morden council approves plan for public lands

By Lorne Stelmach

The City of Morden is setting out comprehensive standards for public lands in the community.

The Landscape Specification Plan approved by council at its December meeting sets out criteria for public land and spaces such as those that come under city management in relation to new developments.

It delves into a wide array of detail such as tree plantation, types of grass, grading and contours and even widths between trees, and Mayor Brandon Burley sees them as a well thought out and workable set of guidelines.

"As private landowners, they're not affected by this, it only affects private property that we're willing to take back," said Burley.

"The goal for it is to provide a consistent and usable space for the city going forward and to standardize landscape specifications for all developers," the mayor added, citing in particular the benefit for when city takes over space.

"The goal of the policy is to ensure that we're not taking over substandard public spaces that we then have to put taxpayer dollars back into to bring to a standard that is acceptable to the city," he said. "These are all

things that I think will cut down our costs in the long run. We have taken over some substandard public space ... so we want to standardize the look and feel."

At the Dec. 21 meeting, city council also approved an interim operating budget for 2021.

Municipalities are required to have an interim budget in place until the financial plan is approved. It can be up to 50 per cent of last year's tax revenue, noted Burley, adding that in this case it comes to about \$8.3 million for the City of Morden.

Council has also gotten to work on the 2021 financial plan with a first budget meeting held earlier in December. They are hoping to present a draft budget in February.

"There's some good stuff coming

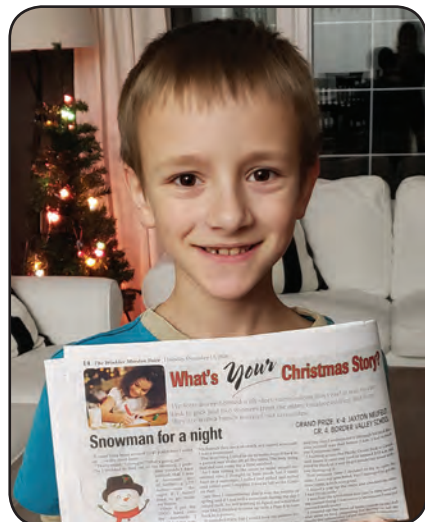
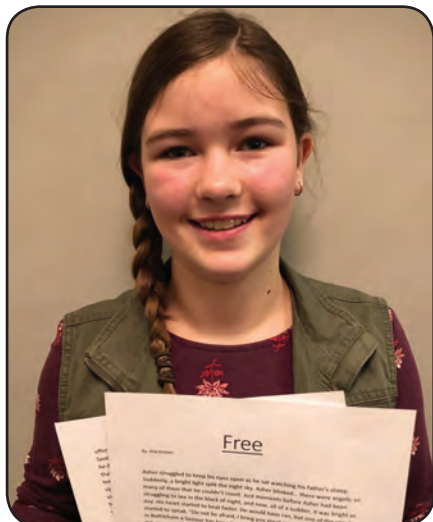
this year," suggested Burley, who said he was feeling optimistic about where the city will be with its financial plan for the year. "We're pretty happy with what we're seeing."

Council also welcomed the completion of a new agreement for policing services.

The new police agreement covers a three year period with a 2.2 per cent cost of living increase this year and 1.5 per cent in the following two years.

"The Boundary Trails Police Association was phenomenal to deal with, and the members themselves, in terms of meeting us in this agreement, they were really good to negotiate with and to deal with," said Burley. "We're happy to be able to have that done."

## Congrats to our winners!



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Gr. 4 student Jaxton Neufeld and Gr. 7 student Alia Kreiser were the big winners of our annual Christmas writing contest. Jaxton's story "Snowman for a Night" and Alia's entry "Free" won them each a gift certificate to the local movie theatre so they and five friends can enjoy a night out together once pandemic restrictions ease. We hope you enjoy the show!

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# get informed

NEWS > VIEWS > WINKLER > MORDEN > SURROUNDING AREAS

## Chamber's Santa Sleigh proves to be a big hit

By Lorne Stelmach

A free delivery service started during the Christmas season for Morden and District Chamber of Commerce members was a welcome gift for local businesses.

The chamber hoped offering the Santa's Sleigh doorstep delivery would be a benefit while businesses remained under varying restrictions due to the pandemic, and the service was very much appreciated.

"It saved us a lot of money on our own gas ... and just time as well," said Heidi Janzen, co-owner and operator of Shear Bliss along with Lisa Dyck.

"There were a lot of times that, before the Santa truck came around, Lisa and I were spending an hour or two each evening delivering on our own. So it was nice to have it picked up by four, and we could call it a day by five."

"Some people actually enjoyed having it available," added Janzen, suggesting it was an additional incentive for people to shop locally. "We had a few people message us and say how much they enjoyed having their deliv-



MORDEN CHAMBER PHOTOS

The Morden chamber's free Santa Sleigh doorstep delivery service lent a welcome hand to local businesses trying to get purchases out to customers in Morden-Winkler last month.

ery come with the Santa sleigh.

"It was a great thing for us, and it really helped us just focus on what was going on here at the salon."

The chamber offered the service for its members weekdays with free delivery available to both Morden and Winkler via a truck decorated to look

like it was full of presents.

The aim was to make shopping locally be as convenient as possible, said executive director Candace Olafson.

"It was such a fun project. It was fun to be able to help businesses in this way," she said. "We wanted to help make it easy for consumers to shop locally.

"It kind of also evolved into just spreading some Christmas cheer," Olafson added, noting they delivered pizza lunches to the local day care and medical centre staff and gift cards to workers at places like Tabor Home and Boundary Trails Health Centre.

The gift cards were to support local restaurants, which have especially been hit hard by the pandemic restrictions in losing their dine-in services.

Olafson was pleased with the overall positive response to the idea.

"We didn't know, when we launched it, what it would look like, and we were really pleased with how it turned out. We made deliveries every day right up until Dec. 23," she said.

"We are talking about whether this is something we could do again in the future ... it's definitely on our radar."

## Elks pay it forward



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

The Morden Elks Lodge recently presented the proceeds from its annual 50/50 lottery fundraiser to the City of Morden and the Boundary Trails Health Centre Foundation. Club rep. Rob Dudgeon presented \$20,000 to Morden director of community services Clare Agnew (left) for the beach committee playground project and \$7,350 to executive director Shannon Samatte-Folkett (above) for the BTHC Foundation. The service organization's annual fundraiser has put over \$100,000 back into the community over the past nine years.

# Keeping holiday shopping dollars in the community

By Lorne Stelmach

An annual campaign to promote local businesses and encourage people to shop locally took on even greater importance this Christmas season.

With tougher restrictions in place again due to the pandemic, there was an even more urgent need for something like Wrapping Up A Morden Christmas, said Candace Olafson, executive director of the Morden and District Chamber of Commerce.

"It looked a little different, but we were still able to promote local shopping through the campaign," said Olafson on Monday. "I think there was good participation, and we were impressed with the community support shown for our community businesses."

Now in its seventh year, the promotion ran for five weeks up to Dec. 18,

## Remembering the Spanish Flu of 1918

By John J. Elias

In 1918 when the great flu hit Winkler every member of the George Thiessen family came down with it.

They were our neighbors. For two weeks my dad visited them every morning and evening. Since no one was able to tend to the livestock, my dad took on that job also.

In an epidemic, of course, all kinds of precautions are taken to prevent contagion. My dad was advised to smoke himself before he visited the Thiessens and to do the same when he came back.

Mother used a different remedy for the entire family. She brewed a tea out of a mixture of dried herbs that came in a paper box. The theory

was that the more bitter the tea the more effective it would prove. Well, this tea tasted horrible! To sip it was out of the question. We were forced to drink half a cup of this tea before we could eat breakfast. I discovered that if I gulped the tea down and immediately chewed on a piece of cookie it was possible to keep it down.

Whether it was the smoke or the tea will never be known, but none of us got the flu. The Thiessens, however, lost a boy.



Heritage Highlights

instead of the usual one-night shopping event.

This year, people were asked to post a photo showing their effort to shop locally to social media with #shopmorden. Up for grabs was \$1,000 in prize money spread out throughout

the campaign.

Olafson hopes the increased focus on shopping locally is something that might remain even when conditions return to normal.

"I think more than ever people are talking about shopping locally and

the need to support our small businesses," she said. "I think that mindset is going to stay. I think there has been a shift to supporting local, and I think we're going to continue to see people focus on supporting their local business."

## Prizes galore up for grabs

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Winkler Family Resource Centre Cathy Savage (at right) kicked off the new year by rounding up the many prizes up for grabs through the centre's Family Fun February prize draw calendar.

Purchase a calendar for \$10 (or three for \$25) for your chance to win one of 28 prize packages next month donated by dozens of local businesses.

"The businesses were very generous," Savage said. "We're extremely grateful to them for their support."

"Each package has something for everyone," she added, noting they



include passes to local attractions, gift certificates, toys, kitchen gadgets, and a host of other goodies.

The month's grand prize is a family season pass for the Winkler Aquatic Centre.

Proceeds go to help WFRFC provide its free early childhood programming to local families.

Contact Savage at 204-332-9418 or winklerfrfc@gmail.com for more details.

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# Manitoba Farm Womens Conference going virtual

By Lorne Stelmach

An annual event where rural women meet to learn and share ideas to benefit themselves, their families, farms, and communities is moving online this year.

Pandemic restrictions prevent the Manitoba Farm Womens Conference from gathering in person, but organizers still feel it is vital to continue to help promote and advance awareness of what farm women contribute to the industry.

"Today's farm women are becoming increasingly more involved in running the farm," said Catherine Kroeker-Klassen, a farmer from southern Manitoba and vice-chairperson of the board for the Manitoba Egg Farmers.

She not only welcomed having the conference continue but also having the Manitoba government earlier proclaim Nov. 15-21 as Manitoba Farm Women's Week.

Initiatives like these are necessary to recognize the critical role that women play in the agricultural industry every

single day, said Kroeker-Klassen.

"We are farmers in our own right. We choose farming as a career, sometimes aside from a life partner or husband," she noted. "We operate machinery, care for our flocks and herds, handle the finances and feed hungry bellies."

"Making that proclamation was special," she added. "It recognizes the strong contribution that farm women play in growing good food for Canada and shaping the landscape of our rural Manitoba communities."

The aim of the Manitoba Farm Womens Conference is to provide farm and rural women from around the province with an opportunity to expand their knowledge and communicate ideas.

For 2021, given the continuing restrictions, the event will be held through three online Zoom presentations Jan. 13, Feb. 17, and sometime in March (date and speaker still to be announced). Each one will start at 10:30 a.m. and go for about an hour.

The January session will feature Michael Kerr speaking on humour, leadership, and creativity. Kerr will help participants see the lighter side with humour at work for less stress and more success as he addresses the idea of leading and laughing during tur-

bulent times.

His presentations touch on how many businesses, families, and individuals are benefiting from leveraging their humour resources, simple but effective strategies for maintaining a healthier, more optimistic mindset and the mental and physical health benefits of humour and laughter.

The second session in February will feature Rebecca Gray discussing the revamped mental health first aid course as well as some tips for one's overall mental health.

Gray holds a Bachelor of Social Work from the University of Manitoba and a Master of Education from Brandon University and has worked as a professional foster parent, child welfare worker, behavior specialist and guidance counsellor in the K-12 school system as well as a student advisor and instructor in the post-secondary system. Gray is also a certified mental health first aid trainer and past president of the Westman School Clinicians Association and Canadian Association of School Social Workers.

For more information on the Manitoba Farm Women's Conference, head to [manitobafarmwomensconference.ca](http://manitobafarmwomensconference.ca). The sessions will be free, but pre-registration is required.



SUPPLIED PHOTOS

Michael Kerr and Rebecca Gray will be the guest speakers at the January and February online sessions. Details for the March event TBA.

## Fall soil moisture normal to below normal in most of province

By Voice staff

Manitoba's fall freeze-up hopefully bodes well for flood season next spring.

Manitoba Infrastructure's Hydrologic Forecast Centre has released the 2020 Fall Conditions Report that indicates soil moisture levels before freeze-up were normal to below normal in most Manitoba basins.

"The 2020 Fall Conditions Report describes the hydrologic conditions of Manitoba basins at the time of freeze-up," explained Infrastructure Minister Ron Schuler. "Hydrologic and weather conditions in the winter and spring are the main factors that affect the risk and extent of high water events."

Due to minimal summer and fall precipitation, the soil moisture at freeze-up was normal to below normal for most of the southern, central, and western Manitoba basins, with the exception of the Little Saskatchewan River basin and in areas close to Brandon where the soil moisture is normal to above normal. Northern Manitoba basins, including the Saskatchewan and Churchill river basins, have nor-

mal to above normal soil moisture.

The minister noted another factor affecting potential spring high water events is the base flow in rivers and the water levels on lakes prior to freeze-up. Base flow is a portion of the stream flow that is not from surface run-off; it is water from the ground, flowing into the river channel over a period of time. Base flows on most

rivers are normal to below normal for this time of the year, with the exception of northern Manitoba rivers, where base flows are well above normal to record high.

Environment and Climate Change Canada's precipitation forecast indicates precipitation will be normal to above normal from December to February for most of Manitoba and

Saskatchewan. The National Weather Service Climate Prediction Center's outlook indicates above normal precipitation within the U.S. portion of the Red and Souris river basins.

"We will continue to monitor watershed conditions closely and will release spring flood outlooks through the winter as required," said Schuler.

### > SPANISH FLU, FROM PG. 13

There were many stories of tragedies since the disease was so widespread, in spite of complete closure of schools and churches. In one case two young men from the Winkler area travelled to Vanderhoof, B.C., one to get married and the other to act as best man. While on the train both men came down with the flu and died shortly after their arrival. Instead of a wedding their friends attended a funeral.

In the spring of 1919, Dad, Mother, and I traveled to Aberdeen, Saskatchewan to visit my married sister, Mary. While there, my parents

also wanted to visit Mary's parents-in-law, the senior Henry Sawatskys. When they were informed that Dad had taken care of the Thiessens when they all came down with the flu, the Sawatskys were not interested in us visiting them. When they were told how Dad had always smoked himself and as a result none of us contracted the disease, they consented to have us come, provided we would thoroughly smoke ourselves.

A smudge was built in the field nearby and Mother and Dad made certain they smelled like smoked herring; then my turn to stand in the

smoke. I took one look at the fire and ran into the field as fast as my legs would propel me. After gentle coaxing without avail, Mother finally said if I would just run through the smoke that would suffice. I ran through the smudge and we set off secure that we would not be flu carriers.

We stayed with sister Mary and Henry for at least a week and nobody came down with the flu and everybody was happy we had come.

*The late John J. Elias was the author of I Remember When, a collection of memories of his life in the Winkler area.*



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# JANUARY IS THYROID AWARENESS MONTH: Thyroid Disease: Know the Facts

Thyroid abnormalities are very common, yet before the founding of the Thyroid Foundation of Canada in 1980, no lay organization existed in North America to promote public education about thyroid disease and to promote public support of thyroid research.

Thyroid disorders for the most part are treatable; however, untreated thyroid disease can produce serious results in other parts of the body. Improved public awareness and understanding of thyroid disorders will enable patients and their families to cope more effectively with the sometimes disturbing course of thyroid illness. In this way individuals will also be better equipped to play a role in alerting their physicians to a suspected thyroid condition that may otherwise be difficult to diagnose in the sometimes slowly developing initial phases.

### THE THYROID GLAND

The thyroid gland is a small butterfly-shaped gland at the base of the neck. It weighs only about 20 grams. However, the hormones it secretes are essential to growth and metabolism and regulate body function.

### TYPES OF THYROID DISEASE

There are many types of thyroid disease. However, the main conditions present in most thyroid illnesses are hypothyroidism (thyroid under activity) and hyperthyroidism (thyroid over activity).

### THYROID NODULES AND THYROID CANCER

Thyroid nodules are common and often require no treatment

but should be investigated since a small proportion of them are cancerous. The majority of thyroid cancers have a favourable prognosis and require a multidisciplinary approach. The team may include endocrinologists, radiologists, surgeons, pathologists, nuclear medicine specialists and sometimes oncologists. In the past years there has been a rise in the number of thyroid cancers being identified, largely due to the incidental discovery of small low risk cancers related to the increased use of neck imaging for other unrelated conditions. There has been no change however, in the mortality rate.

### SYMPTOMS OF THYROID DISEASE

Signs and symptoms of hypothyroid and hyperthyroid conditions include:

#### Hypothyroidism

- Slow heart beat
- Muscular weakness
- Sensitivity to cold
- Dry skin
- Slowed mental processes and poor memory
- Constipation
- Increased size of the thyroid
- More on Hypothyroidism

#### Hyperthyroidism

- Rapid and/or forceful heartbeat
- Tremor
- Muscular weakness
- Weight loss in spite of increased appetite
- Restlessness, anxiety and sleeplessness
- Sweating and heat intolerance
- Diarrhea
- Eye changes
- Increased size of the thyroid

### More on Hyperthyroidism

Each person's experience of thyroid illness differs depending on a number of factors; a patient will not necessarily have all (or even any) of the above symptoms and some patients have the symptoms in the absence of thyroid disease, perhaps due to other causes. A physician should be consulted if thyroid illness is suspected.

### THE EMOTIONAL ASPECTS OF THYROID ILLNESS

There may be emotional reactions to thyroid illness. Hyperthyroid patients often feel unusually nervous or irritable. Hypothyroid patients can feel unusual fatigue or depression. It is important for thyroid patients and their families to understand that these reactions are common and if thyroid disease is the cause, then likely to resolve with treatment. It is also important to realize that some thyroid disorders develop very gradually and it can take a while before they disappear after treatment has been initiated. Since symptoms may not be easily recognized at first, subtle reactions in emotions or behaviour may be the only visible signs of thyroid disorder.

### PROGNOSIS

Most patients with significant hypothyroidism need life long therapy with thyroid hormone replacement, and life long monitoring to ensure that the dose of thyroid hormone maintains thyroid function tests in the normal range. Occasionally some forms of thyroid dysfunction can resolve, for example viral thyroiditis can resolve in a relatively short period of months. Graves' (auto-immune) hyperthyroidism can go into remission, but may return. Sometimes mild abnormalities in thyroid blood tests do not require treatment in the absence of symptoms (subclinical thyroid dysfunction), but still requires monitoring.



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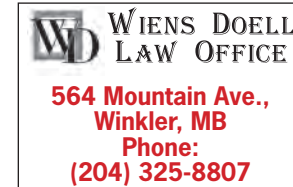
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# sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

## Morden native suiting up for NWHL

By Lorne Stelmach

A Mordenite has earned the opportunity to be part of the upcoming National Women's Hockey League campaign.

Taylor Woods will be on defence for the Toronto Six when it takes part in the NWHL's shortened regular season and playoff in Lake Placid, N.Y. from Jan. 23 to Feb. 5.

The 26-year-old, who today lives in Hamilton where she works as a strength and skills coach, welcomes the latest opportunity to come her way.

"It's a great opportunity. The league just expanded into Toronto, and I was very fortunate that they wanted me," said Woods.

It will add to what is already an impressive hockey resume for the Morden native.

At age 15, Woods went to study and play hockey at Athol Murray College in Notre Dame, Saskatchewan.

Her tenure there peaked in 2010-11 when she recorded 22 goals and 32 assists for 54 points in 23 regular season games and then 11 goals and 13 assists for 24 points in nine playoff games as the Notre Dame Hounds won the 2011 Esso Cup, Canada's national female U18 championship.

She then returned to Manitoba to complete her final year of high school at Balmoral Hall, where she picked up 21 goals and 41 assists for 62 points in 30 games and added world champion to her achievements in helping Team Canada win gold at the 2012 U18 championships.

Then came four seasons at Cornell

**"IT'S A GREAT OPPORTUNITY ... I WAS VERY FORTUNATE THEY WANTED ME."**

University followed by one in Brampton, Ont. and two in Markham, Ont. with the Thunder organization of the now-defunct Canadian Women's Hockey League.



Homegrown talent Taylor Woods will play for the Toronto Six in the NWHL's shortened regular season later this month.

SUBMITTED PHOTO  
BY KASUMI KOBO

University followed by one in Brampton, Ont. and two in Markham, Ont. with the Thunder organization of the now-defunct Canadian Women's Hockey League.

Woods has come a long way indeed from her early years in Morden where she originally played hockey with boys because there was no girls team then.

Her parents and others eventually helped spearhead development of a girls program, and she played on multiple female teams at what were then

the pee wee and midget levels.

"I had a blast travelling all over," said Woods, who called hockey a passion for the family. "I was at the rink all the time."

She observed that it is good that the girls hockey game in general has grown so much since those days.

"It has come a long way, even just knowing what I was getting taught," said Woods. "You teach these kids five years ahead of where you think they might be, and they're getting it. They're getting it quickly.

"It's a growing game," she added, despite the change and upheaval around the Canadian league ending.

"With the one league folding, it was unfortunate because it provided a lot of girls a competitive place to play. It provided fans a lot of opportunity to see the game, and right now the number one thing is visibility. Seeing is believing, and the more games we get out there, the better," said Woods.

She is grateful to have had the good



## > WOODS, FROM PG. 16

fortune of being able to play on some elite teams.

"I was very fortunate to play on Team Canada with a couple Manitoba girls, and we won gold," Woods said, adding the Esso Cup title and competing for NCAA titles in the United States were also highlights for her.

"It's all allowed me to meet different people and play with a high calibre bunch and even see different parts of the world."

She now enjoys being involved in coaching and training but does very much welcome the chance to play and compete again.

The reality of being under pandemic restrictions of course means things

are being done differently, including skating twice a week with about a dozen teammates divided into cohorts for training while following a range of public health measures.

"It's unfortunate right now that girls can't play, can't practice. It could hinder the game if girls decide they don't want to stay in it, but there's still a great opportunity to lay a foundation," said Woods.

It will all be worth it to have the opportunity to be out there again, she said.

"I do want to keep playing. I feel like I've still been improving every year, every season."

Taylor Woods is eager to take the ice at the national level this winter.

SUBMITTED PHOTO BY  
KASUMI KOBO



# MJHL hopes to get back on the ice later this month

By Voice staff

The Manitoba Junior Hockey League released a Restart Action Plan just before the holidays that aims to have players back on the ice later this month.

"The MJHL remains optimistic that teams will have the opportunity to provide on-ice training activity for their players during the latter half of January with return to game play targeted for early-to-mid February," the league announced on its website Dec. 23.

"However, with the current restrictions in place for several more weeks across the province, the MJHL cannot confirm a specific start date at this time but will remain flexible to all potential restart timelines."

When the league is given the green light from public health officials to restart the season, the action plan includes a number of key elements designed to keep everyone safe.

Among them is requiring all players and staff complete a 14-day self-isolation period before participating in team activities (this includes any new players added to the roster later in the season), requiring everyone to follow detailed travel procedures before reporting to their teams, and requiring teams to provide a modified training period of 10-14 days after the self-isolation period and before games resume. The league's schedule has also been designed to limit the potential spread of COVID-19 by limiting travel between regions and exposure to too many other teams within any given

"THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF OUR PLAYERS, STAFF, STAKEHOLDERS AND COMMUNITIES REMAINS OUR NUMBER ONE PRIORITY ..."

week.

The regular season will be extended until the end of April. The playoff format will be reviewed over the coming weeks.

"Our goal remains the same as in September, to provide a meaningful development season for the players through knowingly very challenging circumstances while continuing to exhaust all options in order to do so in a safe, structured and sensible manner," said MJHL commissioner Kevin

Saurette.

"The MJHL and all member teams will continue to meet each challenge head on in what has already been a monumental effort by all involved," he added. "The health and safety of our players, staff, stakeholders and communities remains our number one priority as we carefully navigate a responsible and beneficial pathway to restart training and on-ice competition."

# COVID-19 cancels Manitoba curling championships

By Voice staff

Selkirk won't be the host of the Manitoba women's and men's curling provincials next month after all.

Curl Manitoba announced on Dec. 21 that those two events, scheduled to take place from Feb. 2-7 at the Selkirk Recreation Complex, along with the mixed doubles curling provincial championship, have been cancelled.

The mixed doubles provincials were slated to be held at the St. Vital Curling Club in mid-February.

Last season's winners will represent the province at the 2021 nationals which are set to take place in a bubble in Calgary in February and March.

Manitoba's mixed-doubles champions Kristen Karwacki and Derek Samagalski have accepted an invitation to participate in Calgary.

Jason Gunnlaugson, the 2020 Viterra champion, and his team from Morris will compete at the Brier for the second consecutive year.

St. Vital's Jennifer Jones will make her 16th appearance at the nationals as she was the runner-up to Camp Morton's Kerri Einarson in last year's provincial final.

Einarson won the Scotties Tournament of Hearts last February and will be Team Canada at this year's event.

But she has not played much since that huge victory a year ago.

Back in March, Team Einarson had just arrived in Prince George, B.C. for the World Championships when the decision was made to cancel the event because of COVID-19 the day before the competition was scheduled to start.

More recently in mid-November, Team Einarson defeated Kelsey Rocque in the opening draw of the Okotoks Ladies Classic but that

bonspiel was soon cancelled when the Province of Alberta announced tighter restrictions for battling the coronavirus.

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# get inspired

> MEAL IDEAS

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## Veggie Sammies with Peanut Butter Satay Sauce

1/2 cup white onion, sliced into thin strips

1/2 cup red bell pepper, sliced into thin strips

1/2 cup purple cabbage

1/2 cup fresh cilantro

In small bowl, combine peanut butter, lime juice, water, hoisin sauce, soy sauce and sriracha; mix well.

Spread sauce on both sides of each roll then layer with cucumber, onion and bell pepper. Top with cabbage and cilantro.

Prep time: 30 minutes

Servings: 2

4 tablespoons creamy peanut butter

3 tablespoons lime juice

2 tablespoons water

4 teaspoons hoisin sauce

2 teaspoons soy sauce

2 teaspoons sriracha

2 French baguette rolls (6 inches each)

1/2 cup cucumber, sliced



## Very Vegan Peanut Butter Jackfruit Chili

1 can red kidney beans, drained and rinsed  
1 can green jackfruit, drained and chopped

1/4 cup peanut butter

cornbread (optional)

tortilla chips (optional)

cinnamon rolls (optional)

Heat large, heavy-bottomed pot over medium heat. Add oil, onion and peppers; cook 3 minutes, stirring often. Add garlic, salt, cumin, chili powder and tomato paste, stirring to coat. Cook 1-2 minutes, stirring constantly, then stir in crushed tomatoes, whole tomatoes, water, kidney beans and jackfruit; bring to boil then reduce heat to medium-low. Simmer 25-30 minutes. Stir in peanut butter and simmer 5 minutes.

Serve with cornbread, tortilla chips or cinnamon rolls, if desired.

Recipe courtesy of the National Peanut Board

Prep time: 5 minutes

Cook time: 35 minutes

Servings: 8

2 teaspoons oil

1/2 large white onion, chopped

1/2 green bell pepper, chopped

1/2 red bell pepper, chopped

2 garlic cloves, chopped

1/2 teaspoon salt

1 teaspoon cumin

1 teaspoon chili powder

1 tablespoon tomato paste

1 can crushed tomatoes

1 can whole tomatoes

2 cups water

## Peanut Granola Bars

Prep time: 10 minutes

Cook time: 6 minutes, plus 30-45 minutes cooling time

Servings: 12-14

1/2 cup honey

6 tablespoons unsalted butter

2 tablespoons creamy peanut butter

1/2 cup light brown sugar, firmly packed

1 teaspoon vanilla

1/4 teaspoon salt

2 cups rolled oats (quick or regular)

1 cup bran flakes



1 cup sweetened coconut flakes

1 cup dried fruit (raisins, blueberries or cranberries)

1 cup roasted peanuts, chopped

In large, shallow, microwavable dish, combine honey, butter, peanut butter, brown sugar, vanilla and salt. Microwave at 50% power 2 minutes then whisk to combine and microwave at 50% power 2 minutes.

Add oats, bran flakes, coconut flakes, dried fruit and peanuts; stir to combine. Microwave on high 1 minute. Stir and microwave 30 seconds.

Press mixture into 13-by-9-inch baking dish lined with parchment or wax paper with some extra hanging over edges to easily lift bars out. Use bottom of glass wrapped with plastic wrap to press granola mixture firmly into pan. Allow to cool completely 30-45 minutes. Cut into 12-14 bars.

## See past the distractions and dream big

By Shawna Howard

Has the COVID-19 pandemic left you less than enthusiastic about your future? Are you feeling so uncertain that you don't know what to do next? Keep in mind this is merely a season and if you will see past the outward circumstances you can use this time to grow, build character, strength, endurance, to take steps towards Gods will for your life. You have an amazing destiny to fulfil, one with a purpose uniquely tailored to you. You have gifts and talents placed inside of you that will work together beautifully with your life experiences. Once you understand that those specific talents, gifts, strengths and passions are inside of you for a reason; you won't be satisfied with an idle life. You will yearn to fulfil your dreams and calling; seeking out what's been placed on your heart.

If we truly knew the awesome way in which we were created to fulfil a one of a kind purpose; we would run our race focused, driven and determined to block out the ever present distractions that get us side tracked and off course.

Distractions are hard to avoid, especially in today's world. We've all got things to do and obligations to fulfil, but I'm talking about the "unnecessary distractions". They give us a reason to idle, to procrastinate, to merely exist as we waste precious time. It's easy to just coast. The thing is; easy doesn't fulfil, ignite passion or have lasting rewards. Easy leaves us with regrets.

It's time to step out and take a chance on that dream that's been bubbling inside of you! You can try to push it down and ignore it, but it's like a beach ball under the water; you can sit on it, hold it down, pretend it's not under the surface but sooner or later it pops right back up! It will keep surfacing, just waiting for you to take that step of faith!

Your dream may feel out of reach or seem to be taking longer than you'd like, but if you recognize and reduce the distractions, stay faithful and do your part it will happen exactly when it is supposed to happen.

Sometimes we procrastinate. We put off making a move by finding excuses why it will never work out or look for other "distractions" to avoid taking that first step. This is most always because of doubt and fear. Fear of the unknown, fear it won't work out, fear of judgement, fear we haven't heard God right, fear we will lose our friends, fear of failure or rejection and possibly even a fear of success. Can I tell you; fear is merely a feeling. It only has the power you choose to give it. If we make decisions based on our feelings, they will run our life.

Other times we rush ahead trying to force our dream to happen. When we get ahead of ourselves; it rarely works out and we lose our joy along the way.

Every-thing is beautiful in its right timing.

To avoid heartache we must take one guided step at a time; growing in knowledge, truth and wisdom, building character through life experiences. Every single struggle, heartache, disappointment is stretching you, growing you, build-ing your character if you'll let it. You are being moulded for something amazing!

Sometimes we make excuses. Can I encourage you; you are not too old, or too young, you haven't made too many mistakes and that person that said you can't is not the decider. You already have exactly what you need to take the first step. You are smart enough, brave enough and you aren't dreaming too big. Stop doubting!

There may be times when we don't know exactly what to do next, that's where faith fills the gaps. I love this: "Do your part, let God do the rest."

Don't get discouraged when a family member or close friend doesn't support you. You know what God has placed on your heart. Surround yourself with positive people who inspire and encourage you. Ignore the naysayers, they are simply a distraction. It takes no courage at all to be a cynic.

You are desperately needed in ways you cannot even fathom. So you see, if you don't pursue your dream we all miss out.

I hope this message has inspired you to dig deep and step out in faith. Only you can start the process of making your dreams a reality. Don't wait until the end of your life and ask yourself why you never tried.

Some Coaching Questions for You:

1. Do you know what your dream is? Start by writing down your core values, your strengths, life experiences that have built character and what you see for your future.

2. What is it that keeps you up at night and wakes you up early in the morning?

3. Is there something holding you back? Identification is the first step to overcoming.

4. Still unclear? Message me for a coaching tool to help clear the cobwebs. Remember it's a process, not to be rushed. It's like brushing long hair after swimming in a chlorinated pool; a slow and careful process that detangles one knot at a time. The result? Clearly defined, beauty.

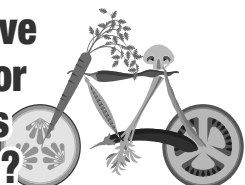
If you want help and support in the discovery process, or just don't know where to start, please reach out to me. Together we can uncover your deepest desires and what's holding you back from stepping out into your purpose.

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Shawna Howard Certified Life Coach

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papers. For as little as \$189 + GST, get your important messaging out! Call us at 204-467-5836 or email classified@mcna.com for details. MCNA - Manitoba Community Newspapers Association 204-947-1691. www.mcna.com

### NOTICES

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

### HEALTH

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

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The Winkler Morden Voice  
CALL: 204-325-6888

### COMMERCIAL SPACE

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

### EMPLOYMENT

**MARATHON PIZZA** is looking for **part-time help** taking orders over the phone and working in the kitchen. Must have a driver's license and be 18 years of age or older. Call Mike at 204-822-6228

### PUBLIC NOTICE

#### CITY OF MORDEN PUBLIC NOTICE REGARDING LOCAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN 01/20 – BY-LAW NO. 02/2021 FOR REPAIRS AND UPGRADES AT THE ACCESS EVENT CENTRE

The Council of the City of Morden has scheduled a public hearing at the Access Event Centre at 111-D Gilmour Street in Morden, Manitoba on the 25th day of January 2021 at 7:00 P.M. to present the following local improvement plan. (NOTE: This hearing may be held virtually via ZOOM if public gatherings are still not allowed by the above date. Those interested in participating virtually may contact Michelle Braun at mbraun@mymorden.ca for a link to the meeting.)

The purpose of this local improvement levy is to fund the repairs and upgrades at the Access Event Centre in the City of Morden.

These repairs and upgrades include:

1. New ice plant/compressor and building to house the equipment
2. Replacement of the floor and boards in the Huron Arena
3. Back-up generator to be installed as an emergency back-up, which would fall in line without Emergency Plan.

The local improvement tax to be levied under this proposal is to be based on the portioned value of all assessable property in the City, which includes taxable, grant-in-lieu and otherwise exempt property in the City of Morden, and the tax is to be based on the portioned value of all these properties. The potential taxpayers under this plan are the owners of said properties. The total estimated cost of this local improvement is \$2,200,000.00, and it is to be funded by City of Morden borrowing at a maximum rate of 4.5% over 15 years. The rate will be calculated as follows: Based on the calculated annual repayment amount of \$204,850.38 and the City of Morden's 2021 local improvement district preliminary assessment value of \$524,666,800.00 an estimated 0.390 mill rate will be required. Calculated on a residential property valued at \$250,000.00 (portioned value of \$112,500.00), an estimated \$43.88 local improvement tax will be levied annually for 15 years. The annual operating and maintenance costs associated with the proposed local improvement will be covered under the City of Morden's annual operating budget. A written objection may be filed with the City Manager at the Civic Office located at 100-195 Stephen Street in Morden, Manitoba prior to the commencement of the hearing. At the hearing, Council will hear any potential taxpayer who wishes to make a presentation, ask questions or register an objection to the local improvement plan. All objections, written or verbal, must be filed prior to the adjournment of the hearing and must include the name, address and property description of the person filing the objection and the grounds of their objection. Copies of the local improvement plan are available at the municipal office at 100-195 Stephen Street in Morden, Manitoba and on the municipal website at: [www.mymorden.ca](http://www.mymorden.ca). Dated at the City of Morden, this 30th day of December A.D. 2020, and issued pursuant to Section 318 of The Municipal Act.

Nicole Enns  
City Manager  
City of Morden  
204-822-4434

### SENIOR RENTALS

## Oak West Estates

**In Morden.** has 2 bdrm suites available, comes with fridge, stove and dishwasher. The utility room is ready for your own washer and dryer. Attached, heated garage is an option. Everything is on one level. Rent includes hydro and water. There is a games room, common rooms available for family gatherings, 5 lunches per week available. 55+

Call Cindy at 362-7151 or email to [cindyek@mts.net](mailto:cindyek@mts.net) for more info or to arrange a tour.

### PUBLIC NOTICE

## Public Notice

The City of Winkler purchases approximately 35% of its water from the Pembina Valley Water Cooperative (PVWC). The Public Utility Board has approved a rate increase for PVWC in the amount of \$0.18/1000 gallons, effective January 1, 2021. This rate increase reflects a "pass through" rate increase of .06/1000 gallons for Winkler consumers.

Public notice is hereby given that the water rate increase will be 0.06/1000 gallons effective for the March 15, 2021 quarterly billing in the City of Winkler. That being from the present water rate of \$9.85/1000 gallons to \$9.91/1000 gallons. The sewer rate will remain as it presently is, being \$6.42/1000 gallons.

Jody Penner,  
City Manager



CITY OF WINKLER  
185 Main Street, Winkler, MB, R6W 1B4  
204-325-9524 | 204-325-5915

### ADDITIONS TO VOTERS LIST



## Rural Municipality of Stanley ANNUAL PUBLIC NOTICE Additions to the Voters List and/or Personal Security Protection Requests

In accordance with Section 36 of *The Municipal Councils and School Boards Election Act* (MCSBEA), the Rural Municipality of Stanley Voters List is open for changes or revisions.

- Any person who is eligible to vote in municipal elections in the Local Authority of Rural Municipality of Stanley can have his or her name added to the Voters List or have any information about the voter on the Voters List corrected.
- Any person can request to have his or her name and address obscured from the Voters List.

A person whose name has been obscured will receive a Personal Security Certificate and identification number. In a civic election, that person may only vote by Sealed Envelope Ballot and cannot vote in person at the regular or advance voting places.

To implement the above, a written request must be submitted to the RM of Stanley, in person, by phone, fax or mail to:

Dale Toews, Chief Administrative Officer  
Box 1600, Winkler, MB., R6W 4B5  
Phone: (204) 325-4101  
Fax: (204) 325-4008

The next General Municipal Election takes place on October 26, 2022.

### SENIOR RENTALS

## First 3 Months Half Price

**Garden Park Estates in Winkler** has 1 bdr. with den suites available, with spacious open floor plan, patio, small garden plot, laundry hook ups in your suite, rent includes: heat, a/c, water. Small common rooms free for gatherings, also lunches are available 5 days per week, suppers can be arranged., Everything is on one level. Heated garage parking available. No more worry about repairs, maintenance, yard work or snow removal anymore.

For more information call Cindy at 362-7151 email at [cindyek@mts.net](mailto:cindyek@mts.net).

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IN MEMORIAM



In Loving Memory of  
Ruth Gall

May 13, 1928 – December 27, 1990

If we could have just one more day  
And wishes did come true;  
We would spend every glorious moment,  
Side by side with you.  
Recalling all the years we shared,  
And memories we made;  
How grateful we would be,  
To have just one more day.  
Where the tears we have shed  
Are not in vain and only fall in bliss;  
So many things we would let you know,  
About the days you've missed.  
We wouldn't have to make pretend,  
You never went away;  
How grateful we would be  
To have just one more day.  
When that day come to a close,  
And the sun began to set;  
A million times we would let you know,  
We never will forget.  
The heart of gold you left behind,  
When you entered Heaven's gate;  
How grateful we would be  
To have just one more day.

-Forever missed  
by your family

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*The Winkler Morden*  
**Voice**

IN MEMORIAM



Remembering our sweet  
Denae

Two years have passed  
And we still think of you every day  
And miss you more than the day before.  
We miss your generous smiles and hugs,  
And the genuine love you encouraged us with.  
We have so many good memories of you,  
That we treasure in our hearts.  
God has given us a peaceful hope  
Of seeing you again and worshipping our  
Saviour  
For all eternity together.

-John and Helen Letkeman  
and family

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OBITUARY



**Emma Waldner**

**June 28, 1951 - December 17, 2020**

On Tuesday, December 17, 2020 Emma Waldner, aged 69 passed away at the Tabor Home in Morden, MB with family by her side.

Emma had a generous heart and spirit who never let any visitor leave her home without a gift. She loved fiercely, was feisty, funny and courageous in spite of the health issues she had to deal with all her life. Many things, which we all take for granted, were a struggle for her, but she never complained and always had a ready smile and warm hug for family and friends when they came visiting. Her favorite activities were reading, putting together jigsaw puzzles, watching games shows on TV, sharing family news, and helping mom with crocheting rugs as she did all the chaining for mom.

One of her greatest loves was to go bargain shopping; she never missed a great sale. She pursued her many activities until her health forced her to give them up. Emma was unique and had a heart of gold and memories of her will live on in the hearts of those she left behind. Until we meet again, dear sister, know that you will always be loved.

Emma was predeceased by her father, Jacob; her two eldest brothers and three nephews. She is survived by her mother, Susie (92 years); seven sisters; two brothers; multiple nieces and nephews, grand nieces and nephews and their families.

A private graveside funeral and interment was held at Chapel Cemetery in Morden.

We wish to thank the Tabor Home staff and caregivers for the many months of care they provided Emma until she passed. We also wish to thank the Wiebe Funeral Home staff for their help in putting together her burial at such short notice. We extend a special thank you to Pastor Weldon Yeo for the many years he visited Emma in her home, prayed for her, and for officiating at her burial.

Wiebe Funeral Chapel, Morden  
In care of arrangements  
[wiebefuneralhomes.com](http://wiebefuneralhomes.com)





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CAREERS




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**NOW HIRING: DISPATCHER**  
*Responsibilities of this position include but not limited to:*

- Effectively managing all operations within the freight department.
- Order management, Customer service, Payload efficiencies, equipment maintenance and driver management.

*This position requires the flexibility to work 40+ hours per week and weekends as required.*

*This position reports directly to the Plant Manager.*

**This position should possess the following skills/knowledge:**

- Strong leadership, interpersonal and team building skills
- Demonstrated knowledge of regulations and freight issues
- Intermediate computer skills
- Understanding of the complexity of dispatching loads
- Courteous/friendly/positive representation of ADS
- Effective written and oral skills
- Strong organization and multi-tasking skills

*More details available to position candidates.*

**NOW HIRING: RECEPTIONIST/DATA ENTRY SPECIALIST**  
*Responsibilities of this position include but not limited to:*

- Call management /answer multi-line phone, directing calls
- Greeting drive up customers, truckers etc.  
( no customers in office due to Covid restrictions)
- Data support and filing for manufacturing, freight operations, accounting, etc.

*This position reports directly to the Plant Manager*

**This position should possess the following skills/knowledge:**

- Self-motivated
- Energetic
- dependability
- Ability to learn new skills
- Team oriented
- Basic Mathematical skills
- Professionalism
- Strong interpersonal skills
- Intermediate computer skills (MS Office)
- Strong organization and time management

Education Requirements: High School Diploma or equivalent  
Preferred Experience:

- 1-2 years office/computer experience
- Effective written and oral skills

*More details available to position candidates.*

**Please send job applications along with resume to:**  
[Gord Unger gord.unger@ads-pipe.com](mailto:Gord.Unger@gord-unger.com)

**OBITUARY**



**Patrick William Rice  
Born September 15, 1931 –  
Died December 19, 2020**

Patrick was born in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia and was predeceased by his parents, Helen and Robert Rice; his brothers, Robert Rice and Edward Rice and his sisters, Mary Hedges and Helen Rice. He is survived by his wife of 45 years, Nan Lindley Rice (nee Jackson); his sons, Steven Rice (wife, Vivian), Patrick Rice (wife, Jennifer) and Mark Chalmers (wife, Debbie); his daughters, Shelley Loreen Hildebrand (husband, Dave), Alisa Seydel (husband, Harvey) and Alana Martin; his grandchildren, Cameron and Kevin Rice, Katie Scarlett Overwater, Allister John Ledrew (wife, Joani) and Sara Morgan Seydel, and his new great-granddaughter, Hailey Angela

Ledrew and several nieces, Linda and her partner, Craig, Mary Ellen and her family and Donna and her family.

Pat loved life and lived every moment of it. He loved the outdoors and when he wasn't downhill skiing, he was usually skydiving. He was the oldest skydiver in Canada who regularly jumped. He made his last jump at 80 years old when he jumped with his granddaughter, Sara, on her 16th birthday. He had planned to purchase his ski pass to Holiday Mountain sitting there for this season. He was an inspiration to his family and he is going to be missed.

High Flight by John Gillespie Magee, Jr.  
Oh! I have slipped the surly bonds of Earth  
And danced the skies on laughter-silvered wings;  
Sunward I have climbed and joined the tumbling mirth  
Of sun-split clouds, - and done a hundred things  
You have not dreamed of - wheeled and soared and swung  
High in the sunlit silence. Hov'ring there,  
I've chased the shouting wind along, and flung  
My eager craft through footless hulls of air..  
Up the long, delirious burning blue  
I've topped the wind-swept heights with easy grace  
Where never lark, or ever eagle flew-  
And, while with silent, lifting mind I've trod  
The high untrespassed sanctity of space.  
Put out my hand and touched the face of God.

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



**Classifieds** *The Winkler Morden*  
**Announcements** **Voice**

**OBITUARY**



**Mary Klassen**

Mary Klassen (nee Voth), passed away peacefully at Eastview Place, Altona, on Tuesday, December 22, with her son Art by her side.

She is survived by her two sons, Cornelius and Elsie (Crystal City) and Arthur and Helen (Morden); her grandchildren and great-grandchildren, Scott and Meghan (Reece, Sullivan, Nixon), Lee and Pam (Leo, Ruby), Terry and Courtney (Cecelia, Lyndie), Chantelle and Allan, and Darren and Dominique (Alice, Jemma). She is survived by one sister, Sarah Hildebrand and two brothers, Willie and Hugo (Helen); sister-in-law Helen and brother-in-law Bernie (Dorothy).

She was predeceased by her husband Martin D. in 1999 and granddaughter Melanie in 2018.

She was born on October 12, 1924 at Silberfeld to parents Cornelius C. and Susanna (Wiebe) Voth and was the third born in a family of nine. Mom and Dad were married on October 14, 1948 and started their married life on the family farm at Gruenthal. She was a dedicated partner to Dad, helping with the operation of the farm. She was a professional seamstress and many ladies in the Altona area were privileged to wear a wedding dress made by her. She also made many quilts, and crocheted afghans, tablecloths and doilies. Our Mom had a very calm, quiet demeanor, with a sparkle in her eye and a nose for innocent mischief. Mom was always ready to gently tease those around her but did so in the most loving manner. After Dad's passing, she remained on the farm till 2001. She really enjoyed her time in town. She spent many hours walking and volunteering at the MCC thrift store to help with the quilting.

Family was very important to her. The highlight of her week was meeting all her brothers and sisters for breakfast every Saturday and a family birthday get together once a month.

We will miss her a lot, but know that she has joined Dad.

A private family service was held at the Rudnerweide Cemetery.

Donations in memory of Mary may be made to the Canadian Foodgrains Bank.

Wiebe Funeral Home Altona  
in care of arrangements  
www.wiebefhaltona.com

**OBITUARY**



**Tom Kroeker  
1928 – 2020**

Thomas (Tom) Kroeker passed away peacefully at Salem Home on Sunday December 20, 2020.

He is survived by his loving wife of 64 years, Nettie Kroeker (nee Unrau); one son, Laurence (Evelyn) and their three children and families, two daughters, Joyce (Walter) and their three children and families, and Rosella (Ken) and their three children and families. He was predeceased by their firstborn on December 21, 1958, at 10 days old; his parents, Bernard and Helena Kroeker; two stepsisters, one stepbrother, one half-sister, four brothers, and three sisters.

Tom is the fourth youngest of 12 born on January 6, 1928 to Bernhard and Helena Kroeker on the farm south of Morden, MB. Dad went till grade 8 at the Glencross School when he had to

quit to stay home and help. He said he was just beginning to enjoy school and understand the importance of education. At 18, Dad went to work as a lumberjack in Ontario. Dad met the love of his life February 1951. They dated five years before they married on October 21, 1956. Dad worked at the sugar factory in Winnipeg and helped install the pipeline in Alberta during this time. The first seven years of their married life they lived in a house trailer on his parents' yard. By that time Dad started farming and ventured into dairy in 1972. Dad custom swathed for many years to supplement the farm. In 1980, Dad worked at the flax plant where he contracted Farmers Lung Disease. That led to many bouts of pneumonia. They expanded the dairy in 1982 to include his son. In the winter we would play table games with Dad, in the summer we would play ball with him, go on picnics and go to the zoo every year. That was the extent of holidays due to the busy-ness of milking cows. We children remember Dad bringing bush bunnies home in his pocket which became our pets. Dad found a deserted fawn and bottle fed it which became very fond of him.

Dad and Mom both committed their lives to Christ at a camp meeting a couple of years into their marriage. Dad lived out his faith which was evident in his daily life, demonstrating his love for Christ through his example of daily Bible reading, prayer life and living a life of integrity. His greatest desire was that his children and their families had a personal relationship with Jesus. Mom and Dad's love and devotion to God and each other has been a great example to us children and grandchildren. They always held hands and never went anywhere without each other.

Mom and Dad moved to Southpark Street in Morden in 1991 and retired in 1996 when he sold the farm to his son. This gave them more free time for friends including many game nights and going out for meals/coffee. Dad couldn't just sit around so he continued to help on the farm until he was 85. They lived in Morden for 25 years till they moved to Garden Park estates in Winkler. As Dad's health slowly deteriorated, he was moved into Salem in August of this year till he went to meet his Maker.

We as a family, would like to thank all the Salem staff for the loving care you have given to our dad. Thanks to Wiebe Funeral Home for your professional care and service.

Donations may be made in Tom's memory to the Salem Foundation Inc. or to the Gideons International-Canada.

Wiebe Funeral Chapel, Morden  
In care of arrangements  
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Your memory will live forever Engraved within our hearts

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# Announcements The Winkler Morden Voice

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## OBITUARY



### Lorne Campbell Kyle and Rose-Marie (Midge) Kyle

Midge and Lorne's unexpected deaths on December 24, 2020 are nothing more than a footnote to their well-lived lives. Devoted to one another for over 63 years, it is only fitting that they remained together in their passing.

While opposite in most ways, Lorne and Midge shared a need for independence, they were brought together by their curiosity of life, and an unshaken belief in family and God. Born July 13, 1937, to Eugene and Edna (nee Early) Lorne lived at the family farm in Oakbank until his move to Morden in 1958. He always said he had two homes, one in Morden and "the cabin" as Midge like to refer to it in Oakbank. One of his many early proud teenage moments was when he consecutively won the Adult Men's Tractor Ploughing

matches in Springfield. The local Ford dealer, Mr. Manley, would lend a new tractor to him for the competition and Lorne would never let him down. Lorne was a natural-born athlete and soon ploughing was replaced with athletics when he joined the St. Vital Mustangs football team. It was during one of the games that Midge (Rose-Marie who was a petite soft-spoken French teen) noticed the Redhead on the field who possessed a very colourful English language vocabulary. Their paths crossed again when Lorne worked in the Eatons Store Mail Department. At one of those deliveries to another department he met the petite, soft spoken French lass who stole his heart and he never looked elsewhere for the rest of his life. She did not run away when she met the rest of the boisterous Kyle clan. They had a candle lite evening wedding at the Holy Trinity Anglican Church in Winnipeg during the Thanksgiving weekend in 1958.

Lorne continued farming on the homestead with his father and brother Laurie for many decades. Midge helped bridge the two-hour distance between Morden and the Oakbank by packing up the family each weekend so that Lorne could follow his farming passion. Lorne joined the Morden Research Station in 1958 as a Laboratory Technician, the position he held until his retirement. Lorne helped establish a wide variety of crops from Jerusalem Artichokes to Dill Oil. As a Registered Seed Grower (for over 50 years) he later joined Bob Anderson to establish Springfield Mills in Oakbank. Lorne's need to innovate focused on buckwheat. He developed new buckwheat varieties with Dr. Kenaschuk and various partners. His life-long dream was achieved when his son Angus joined him in Springfield Mills Inc. Giving back to the community, Lorne was honoured to help develop seed for blood sugar research materials through the St. Boniface Research Foundation. As the Founding Director, he helped develop the Prairie Oat Growers Association and was instrumental in the establishment of the Manitoba Buckwheat Association. Lorne loved competing in sports including water-skiing, baseball with the Senior Men's Morden Mohawks and Dodgers, curling and later in life as a coach and official in many sports. He and the Elks started female softball in Morden, as well as the July 1st Baseball Tournament which hosted over 24 teams to Morden. Off the field, he was an advocate for the Buhler Baseball Field for the Western Canada Championship. The fall was an early Christmas for Lorne, it was the "Fall Supper Season", in which he had a Top 10 rating for each town's meal. The season gave Midge and Lorne reasons for a road-trip in the "Sunday Sedan", eating pie while catching up chats with old friends around Southern Manitoba.

Born April 16, 1938, Midge, daughter of Elsie and Thom Bellamy was raised speaking French in St. Boniface. With steely determination and a positive outlook, she learned to live as an English speaker. Over the years in Morden, Midge volunteered as a 4-H leader, library children's book reader and was active in the Royal Purple while being a mother to her young family. Upon her retirement from Farm Credit, she took up volunteering. She volunteered for over a decade for the Morden United Way and Caring & Sharing (food hamper provider). Her undying faiths lead her to be a very active volunteer with the St. Thomas Anglican Church Vestry and their congregation. She will be deeply missed by those friends. Midge lived for the golf season. At the age of 68, she took up the game and it became her passion. She played for over a decade at the Miami Golf Club women's league with her daughter Colleen. This then evolved into their "Tuesday Date Night" throughout the whole year. Once again, this summer she participated in the "Four Play Golf Lottery". She golfed in Miami, Roland, Pilot Mound, just missing out in Treherne. Midge also had many amazing adventures as a member of the Morden-Winkler Ladies Crown Jewels Club which traveled to Halifax, La Vegas, Florida and the Caribbean. Both were active in the Royal Purple and Elks service groups where they made life-long friends which resulted in the annual Grey Cup Party. In the mid-1960's Lorne was the Exalted Ruler of the Morden Lodge. Then in 1978, he was named the Elk of the Year. Throughout the years he was on committees for the Jam Can Bonspiel and the Corn & Apple BBQ and his favourite Monday night card game with the boys. Recently they became members of the Royal Canadian Legion where they enjoyed socializing. Lorne and Midge welcomed new friends, many they recently met at Shifters. As mom mentioned many times "It's never a dull moment being with Lorne, he can talk to anyone about anything". Firm believers that the value in life is "it is what you give, not what you get" they fully participated in their community and will be missed by everyone.

They unconditionally loved their family: John (died in infancy), Colleen; Tanis (Steve, Jack, and Eliza Raizen); Angus (Jackie, Sloan, and Isla). They also leave to mourn Laurie Kyle, Lynn Westlund, Elsie Bellamy and their families and numerous friends.

A private family service was held on Tuesday, January 5, 2021 at Wiebe Funeral Chapel in Morden with a memorial to follow in the summer.

Donations may be made in Lorne and Midge's memory to The St. Thomas Anglican Church (Kyle Family Memorial Fund), The Morden Elks, The Morden Foundation or a charity of your choice.

Wiebe Funeral Chapel, Morden  
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## OBITUARY



### Isaac Braun (Husband of late Margaret Braun) July 12, 1924 – December 20, 2020

Dad was born to Isaac B. and Katharine Braun on the farm at Krongart NE of Winkler and passed away Sunday morning December 20, 2020 at his residence at Salem Home.

Dad was the oldest of a family of eight. When Dad completed Gr. 8 his formal education ended so he could help on the family farm with everyday chores. Dad would sometimes reminisce about the many hours he had walked behind the harrow and plough. Dad valued education and secretly worked on a distance education course to become an undercover detective, a dream that did not come to fruition. Dad married our Mom Margaret (Giesbrecht) on November 14, 1954 in the new Altona Bergthaler Church. The first years of marriage were spent in Regina, Brandon and Fort Garry where Dad worked for a stuccoing company.

October 8th, Thanksgiving weekend 1965 our family moved to a farm near Rossendale. Due to numerous crop failures, Dad took a day job at Campbell Soup in Portage. He worked hard to provide for our family which included Barry, Karen, Marvin, Leona and Melvin. One winter Dad rode his snowmobile along the railway line to Portage to work. While living at Rossendale, Dad was part of the crew that built the dam and spillway on the Assiniboine River south of Portage. When the Trans Canada Highway was four-laned, Dad worked in a truck maintenance shop of the company that was building the highway. But, underlying everything, Dad was still a farmer at heart. Family was very important to Mom and Dad. Many weekends we traveled to the Winkler and Altona area where we spent time with our grandparents, aunts and uncles, and cousins. Compassion was modeled to us children as we watched Mom and Dad care for their aging parents. At the end of December 1979, Dad and Mom moved to Plum Coulee where Dad worked as a custodian at the school. Together they also became the janitors of the Coulee church which they attended. Dad and Mom were able to enjoy and fully appreciate all the beauty Manitoba has to offer as they drove highways and roads less traveled. Dad and Mom spent many summers camping. One autumn they toured western Quebec and southern Ontario. They experienced the vastness of the prairies and the majesty of the mountains as well as the beauty of Vancouver Island and the Yukon as they visited family and friends. Although Dad was a man of few words, his strong faith in God was evident in the way he accepted the challenges of life's journey. He continuously encouraged us to have a positive outlook and to move forward knowing that "everything would be OK". We children knew Dad and Mom knelt in prayer at their bedside before retiring for the night. Their prayers were that we would follow CHRIST and walk in His ways until we all meet again in Glory.

Dad was predeceased by Mom in 2018, his parents Isaac and Katharine Braun, his youngest brother Albert Braun, his granddaughter Charity (Marvin's daughter) and grandson Matthew (Karen's son.) Dad will be greatly missed by his children: Barry (Louise) - Karen (Ivan) (granddaughter Scarlett) - Marvin (sons Tyler and Cole) - Leona (children Merissa, Cody, Travis and Tyson) - Melvin (Rhonda) (children Nathan and Taylor, Andrew, Emma and Joelle). Surviving Dad are his siblings Abe and Sara Braun, Anne and Bill Kroeker, Harry and Justina Braun, Bill and Jane Braun, Ed and Trudy Braun, Marge Braun, and their families. Surviving also are sister-in-law Sarah Unger (John), sister-in-law Joan Giesbrecht (Ed), brother-in-law John Giesbrecht (Norma), sister-in-law Lucille Giesbrecht (Ben) and their families as well as the children of the late sister-in-law Agatha Neudorf (Abe).

We children wish to acknowledge how Dad modeled his care and love for Mom as he persistently visited her at Salem April 2016 - May 2018. Gratefully, Dad's residence in Salem was on Cottonwood, the same area where Mom had lived. Dad's circle of care now included the staff with whom he already had a meaningful relationship. We as family want to express gratitude to the caring Home Care individuals and since October 2018 the many gracious compassionate Salem staff. A special thank-you to Dr. C. Woelk, Dr. H. Basson and nurse Katharina Bruhn. Thanks to past Salem Chaplain Wilbert Friesen and Salem Chaplain Aaron Friesen. Thank-you also to Pastor Art Wiebe Winkler Sommerfeld Church. Also, a big thank-you to the team at Wiebe Funeral Home, Winkler.

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## OBITUARY



### John W Rempel 1919 – 2020

John Rempel, age 101 of Salem Home in Winkler, MB passed away peacefully to be with his Lord and Saviour on Thursday, December 24, 2020.

He leaves to mourn his passing his two daughters and their families: Clara (Jake) Peters and their children, Lori (Wayne) Klassen and their daughters, Alyssa and Samantha, Terry (Erica) Peters and their children, Sadie and Dean, Steven (Krysten) Peters and their son, Wyatt; Susan (Marlin) Nagtegaal and their son, Joshua (Mya).

John was a C.O. at the labor camps in Clear Lake during WW2. He married Helen Nickel on August 10, 1945 and were blessed with 71 years together. They farmed at Sommerfeld, MB until their

retirement to Winkler in 1981. During his retirement, he spent many hours delivering "meals on wheels", volunteering as a school crossing guard and tying blankets for MCC. Earlier, he volunteered as a Sunday School teacher and later a song leader in the Sommerfeld Mennonite Church for 40 years. After his wife, Helen went to live at Salem Home and giving up his car and license at 96, things became more difficult and eventually he went to live at Salem as well. He enjoyed the care, programs and activities. He was always very grateful for the wonderful care he received. He was always cracking jokes and pulling pranks, even at Salem. Anyone who knows my dad also knows he loved to yodel. A few days before his passing, he was yodeling but got frustrated saying, "It doesn't sound like it used to." He would drive around and play tag in his wheelchair with his great grandkids.

He developed pneumonia in the beginning of December and this time he couldn't recover. He went to his eternal home and got his wish to be with Jesus on Christmas Day! He will be sadly missed!!

He was predeceased by his wife, Helen in September 2018.

Private funeral service was held with interment at Westridge Memorial Gardens.

We, the family, are forever grateful for the exceptional and incredible care Dad received at Salem Home. He loved the staff. Thank you also to the Chaplain, Aaron Friesen and to Wiebe Funeral Home for your kind, caring and thoughtful service.

If friends so desire, donations may be made in John's memory to the Salem Foundation Inc.

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## OBITUARY



### Harvey Arthur Riddell 1942 – 2020

It is with great sadness that our family announces Dad's passing on Monday, December 21, 2020, at the age of 78.

Dad was born on July 19, 1942, in Neepawa, MB and grew up in Arden. In his childhood he drove a team of horses and delivered milk each morning before school. He was an avid baseball player and had many fond memories of his playing days. He joined the Bank of Montreal at a young age and enjoyed a career of 37 years there. His job led to 17 moves across Canada during his career including Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Ontario, and Alberta. Dad and Mom were high school sweethearts who married on December 10, 1960. She was the love of his life and he simply adored her. Together they had three children – Judy, Dennis, and Lynn and he provided

a wonderful life for us all. Summers were spent camping, fall was for his beloved Saskatchewan Roughriders, and winters were for curling and watching the Jets. Mom and Dad made many great friends through the years. Howard and Oddney Sager, Gord and Betty Sager, and Dave and Gina Smith have shared many, many good times over the years and created such special memories. Dad valued these friendships greatly. Dad's other love was his family. He treasured each of his children and grandchildren and was so proud when his first great-grandchild was born. He was always interested in what we all were doing and whether we made him laugh or shake his head at us, he was never anything but supportive. He was an extremely loving and generous father and always made sure we had what we needed. Mom and Dad retired to a beautiful property outside of Morden and raised miniature horses. He loved his farm and found great peace there. Mom has many memories of Dad riding the mower and cutting the grass while singing Rock of Ages at the top of his lungs. Dad loved Christmas and having us all together and spoiling us. We are saddened that he won't be here to celebrate with us this year but will be forever grateful that he is at peace now and that we were lucky enough to call him Dad and Gramps.

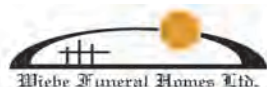
Dad is survived by his loving wife of 60 years, Joanne; daughter, Judy (Herman) Penner, Kirby, Sam, Isaiah and Josiah Krause, Whitney, Bryson, and Nolan Harms, son, Dennis Riddell, daughter, Lynn (Glen) Riddell, Brody (Samantha) Hickson, Taylor (Nitin) Riddell.

The family would like to thank Dr. Basson for his many years of excellent care and all the kind and caring nurses at Boundary Trails who provided Dad with such loving care and who were a great support to Mom as well.

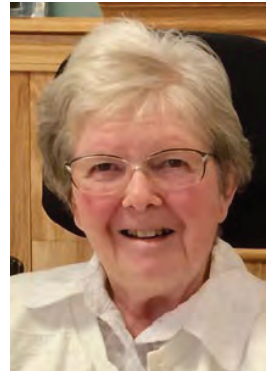
A private family service was held at Wiebe Funeral Chapel, Morden on Thursday December 24, 2020.

If desired, donations may be made to the Pembina Valley Humane Society or to the charity of your choice. However, Dad would like nothing better than for you all to lift a glass and share a drink in his memory.

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## OBITUARY



### Lena Buhler (nee Zacharias) April 18, 1941 - December 27, 2020

Lena passed away at the age of 79 years, Sunday, December 27, 2020 at Salem Personal Care Home.

Lena is survived by her son, Alvin (wife, Shirley), granddaughters, April (Johnathan Rodgers), Christina Cassidy, Tanya Cassidy; great-grandchildren: Brody and Evan Daniels, Mikaela (husband, Tommy Starr); great-great-granddaughter, Serafina Starr; son, Norman and granddaughter, Sarah Anderson; four sisters, Nettie (John Dueck), Martha (Jake Bergman), Hanna (the late Leonard Klassen), Frieda (Maynard Loewen), brothers, Otto Zacharias (friend, Cathleen Bergen) Menno Zacharias (Bev Zacharias Giroux) as well as the family of Lena's late husband, John Buhler (the Buhler Family).

Lena was born in Altona on April 18, 1941 the eldest child of Peter M. and Sara (Dueck) Zacharias. Lena received her primary school education in the School District of Kronsthal and Silberfeld. At age 16 Lena was baptized upon the confession of her faith by Bishop Jacob H. Friesen in the Neuberghthal E.M.M. Church.

Throughout her years of employment Lena ventured into many new and challenging experiences. Her first experience in the realm of employment was assistant cook at Steinbach Bible Institute (now SBC). Other work experiences came in housekeeping at the Altona Hospital. Together with her sister, Nettie they joined the MCC Summer Unit in Winnipeg. Lena was assigned the King Edward Hospital (later known as Municipal Hospitals) as Health Care Aide. This was followed by an office position with Reimer Express Lines. The most exciting and fulfilling event in Lena's life occurred August 13, 1966 when she married the love of her life, John Buhler. Lena and John took pleasure in their relationship for 45 years, less nine days. Lena and John were both employed in Winnipeg at this time. Winnipeg became their permanent home community. In the early years of their marriage, Lena provided foster care for many young children. Following her time with foster care, Lena turned her attention to a housecleaning services position. Having found employment with this company for a period of time, Lena decided she was capable of developing her own housecleaning company. And she was right. Her new venture was a success.

Lena and John chose their family through adoption. Both Alvin and Norman have been welcomed into the Buhler and Zacharias clans with open arms. Lena seemed to have an innate desire to learn new skills. Having taken piano lessons in her late teens, Lena turned her attention to music. She upgraded her own skills and taught young children to play the Spinet organ as well as the keyboard. By now Lena was proficient in playing the piano, keyboard, guitar and accordion. In retirement, Lena gave leadership to a senior's music group and arranged music entertainment at various personal care homes. Out of necessity creativity is born. This led Lena to raise rabbits as well as pure bred poodles for sale. Another skill and resource Lena tapped into was that of gardening. Lena operated a successful business selling fresh vegetables, homemade soups and home baking, along with some craft items at the St. Norbert Farmer's Market. Her baking was sought after by many. In winter, Lena turned her attention to the cleaning business once again. Her last cleaning position opened a new door for Lena. The owner of this office space (a medical practitioner) hired Lena as receptionist in the office. Accepting this position permanently ended Lena's cleaning operation and became a segue into retirement. Following the passing of Lena's husband in August 2011, Lena joined her siblings in Winkler where she resided until her passing.

Lena will be sadly missed by her two sons and their families, her siblings as well as the siblings and extended family of her late husband (the Buhler family). Auf Wiedersehen, Lena (We'll meet again)

A private graveside service was held.

We, as a family, are grateful for the care Lena was given at Salem Personal Care Home from January 2017 to December 2020. Thank you to Pastor James Peters, Winkler EMMC for leading the graveside service. Thank you to Wiebe Funeral Home for your proficient and caring service.

Donations in Lena's memory may be made to the Salem Foundation Inc.

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