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Show of support

PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

A parade of vehicles travelled through Winkler and Morden Saturday to show support for the farmers in India who are battling their government over a series of laws they say threaten their livelihoods. For the full story, see Pg. 3.

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



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Rally seeks to raise awareness about the plight of Indian farmers

By Ashleigh Viveiros

A convoy of vehicles paraded through Winkler and Morden Saturday to raise awareness about the plight of farmers in India.

Over 30 vehicles set out at noon from Winkler's Parkland, winding their way through the two communities before dispersing at the Access Event Centre in Morden.

Each vehicle was to contain only household members, as per pandemic restrictions. Participants were also discouraged from gathering outside their vehicles at the parade's start and end points.

Working within these restrictions, organizers hope the parade and the signs supporters decorated their vehicles with got people thinking.

"We want to show some support to the farmers who are peacefully protesting at the outskirts of the capital city in India," explained rally co-organizer

Jorawar Ubhi, who notes many members of the local Indian community have connections to farmers back home. "That's why we feel we should show some support to them ... as they are opposing those three laws."

The Indian government passed a series of laws last fall that they say are designed to give farmers more freedom to sell their crops directly to buyers. Farmers, meanwhile, attest the changes will lead to lower crop prices and put them at the mercy of large corporations.

Ubhi says most farmers in India aren't opposed to agricultural reforms in theory, but feel they were not properly consulted on these new laws that threaten both their livelihoods and their rights to take disputed matters to court (the law sets up an Appellate Authority as a the highest level of appeal for farmers against private entities).

"That's a basic right," he stresses. "If



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Supporters set out from Winkler's Parkland Saturday afternoon and made their way through the city before heading to Morden.

I'm a farmer and I've been cheated by some big company and they haven't paid me ... what should I do? I want to go to court but I can't."

The other two laws, which deal with where and how agricultural trade is conducted and the designation of certain crops as essential commodities, come with similar negative side effects to farmers, especially smaller-scale operations, Ubhi says.

"Farmers want the reforms, but not like this," he says. "This is not right."

Farmers and their supporters have been protesting in Indian cities over the last few months, with similar rallies held around the world as a show of support.

Ongoing talks between farmers and the Indian government have not yet come up with a solution.

Code red restrictions remain in place until Jan. 22

Public consultations planned

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Manitoba's COVID-19 numbers and hospitalizations are still too high to roll back restrictions, public health officials announced last week.

The code red/critical public health orders slated to expire Jan. 8 were extended another two weeks to Jan. 22.

That means the in-person sale of non-essential products remains restricted and non-essential businesses must continue to keep their doors closed to the public, relying instead on curbside pick-up and delivery.

Dr. Brent Roussin, Manitoba's chief public health officer, said that while the previous eight weeks of restrictions had begun to lower Manitobans' COVID-19 numbers, the holiday season did lead to a spike in cases.

"We see 355 of our current cases linked to holiday gatherings, with almost 1,900 contacts," he said last Friday, adding that some of these gatherings saw over two dozen people attend. "And so these numbers are certainly things we had to take into consideration when addressing these orders that are expiring."

Extending the orders will allow "us to continue to protect Manitobans, to continue to reduce the case numbers, continue to ease the hardship in the health-care system," Roussin said.

The extended public health orders did come with one modification to allow exemptions for professional hockey teams.

The Winnipeg Jets were already allowed to train under the old orders, with players and staff exempt from self-isolation rules after travel.

The updated orders now extend those exemptions to all professional hockey teams to allow games as well as training.

"It's important to note that this is able to occur because of the strict protocols that are being put in place by the NHL," Roussin said, noting play is only taking place within Canada right now and all teams have detailed testing and exposure procedures in place. "This is a quite low risk to Manitobans."

Health officials will continue to monitor the case numbers and the strain on the health-care system in the weeks ahead to determine what will happen when the new public health orders expire in two weeks. They'll also be asking Manitobans for their thoughts on the ongoing restrictions.

"We're going to launch consultations with Manitobans for feedback on potential future changes to the order," Roussin said. "That's, of course, if our case numbers allow."

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BTHC Fdn. raffle winners take home over \$19K

By Ashleigh Viveiros

One local family certainly ended 2020 on a high note.

New Year's Eve brought news to John and Tina Bueckert that they were the big winners of the Boundary Trails Health Centre Foundation's 50/50 raffle.

The Winkler area couple brought home \$19,272.50, half of the \$38,545 pot.

John said he was at work in his yard and so missed several calls from the foundation to let him know he'd won. Once they finally connected, he planned to tell his wife later that day.

Tina beat him to it, spotting the foundation's social media announcement (John had given them the go-ahead to make his name public) before he had even walked through the door.

"I actually saw it on Instagram," Tina says, laughing.

The couple have been longtime supporters of the foundation, Tina having seen firsthand the work they do at BTHC during her career there as nurse, including time spent working in the palliative care ward.

"So we've always supported palliative care and the foundation with buying tickets," says Tina. "And I used to do a lot of volunteering, helping with all the events when I was a CRN [clinical resource nurse]."

The couple viewed the raffle ticket purchase as a donation, and so were floored to find out they had won over \$19,000. They have no plans for how they'll be spending the windfall.

"We don't know yet what we want to do with it," says Tina.

"It's too new," adds John.



John and Tina Bueckert (left) stopped by BTHC last week to pick up the cheque for over \$19,000 they won through the BTHC Foundation's 50/50 raffle. Presenting the prize was the foundation's Shannon Samatte-Folkett and Ben Friesen.

The raffle exceeded organizers' expectations.

"It was very successful," says foundation executive director Shannon Samatte-Folkett. "I had set myself little goals along the way but I didn't expect it to exceed \$30,000, so it was really exciting to see it continue to grow towards that."

The 50/50, which also included weekly early bird draw prizes courtesy of Co-op@Home, was part of the foundation's campaign to make up for fundraising dollars lost with the cancellation of its annual golf tournament and gala banquet in 2020.

The Donation Conversation initiative used advertising and social media to shine a spotlight on the foundation's three key areas of focus in the hospital: palliative care, spiritual care,

and equipment purchases.

The campaign brought in \$174,185, far surpassing its goal of \$150,000.

"We definitely want to see this trajectory continue"

COVID-19 on downward trend, but we're not out of the woods yet: Roussin

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Manitoba is finally seeing a consistent downward trend when it comes to our COVID-19 numbers, but we're not in the clear just yet.

Chief Provincial Public Health Officer Dr. Brent Roussin urged Manitobans to stay the course in battling the spread of the novel coronavirus as he announced 133 new cases and three deaths on Monday.

That brought the total number of lab-confirmed cases in Manitoba to 26,450, including 3,414 active cases and 22,295 recoveries. There have been 741 deaths due to COVID-19.

Our province's five-day test positivity was at 10 per cent at the start of the week. There were 316 COVID-19 patients (162 considered to still be infectious) in hospital with the virus, including 37 in intensive care (21 considered still infectious).

"Today's numbers are encouraging. We definitely want to see this trajectory continue," Roussin said, stressing the relatively low daily case count (which just a few weeks ago numbered in the hundreds with double

"Not only did it raise the amount of money that we wanted it to do but it also got people a lot more informed about the foundation," said board chair Ben Friesen. "We had new people giving that wouldn't have thought of it before but now they realize, 'Oh, this is what all the foundation does.'"

Combined with year-end donations and other gifts that came in throughout the year, Friesen says the foundation is on good financial footing to continue its work at BTHC heading into 2021.

"We are where we need to be financially right now," he says, adding, however, that the fundraising push never really ends. There is a big question mark, though, as to whether the usual events will be possible again this year or not. "We will start planning them, but it will be tentative until we see what the next few months bring."

Samatte-Folkett notes they haven't ruled out doing another 50/50 cash raffle for 2021.

digit death rates) are "a testament to the hard work of Manitobans following the very tough restrictions that are in place.

"We're certainly not back to normal, not out of the woods, but we are seeing the trajectory that we were wanting to see," Roussin said. "We need to continue to have Manitobans still put in that hard work to limit the transmission of this virus."

Roussin noted the holidays did lead to a spike in cases in recent weeks.

"We could be even in a better place right now, but we did see a lot of gathering over the holiday season," he said. "As of this morning we have 538 confirmed cases that were identified on or after Dec. 25 that our contact tracing indicates were related to gathering during the holiday season. Those cases are linked to 2,879 contacts."

It's expected some of those nearly 3,000 contacts will test positive for COVID-19 in the days ahead, Roussin said.

"This is really why we needed to extend the restrictions we have in place," he said, referring to the government's

Continued on page 5

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Eyes on the skies

Birders take part in annual holiday count

By Lorne Stelmach

As an avid birder, it isn't just about enjoying his feathered friends for Abe Friesen but also connecting with those who share his passion for the hobby.

The annual Christmas Bird Count is usually a welcome occasion for them to get together, but this volunteer effort, like so much else this past year, had to be done differently as a result of pandemic restrictions.

"I love the discussion and the debate," said Friesen, a longtime Mordenite now calling Winnipeg home who co-ordinated the Jan. 2 count in our area. "It's fun at the end of the day for me. I like the social aspect where we get together and compare notes, which we couldn't do this year.

"It's usually divided up, and we have three or four people going out together ... but it was just me in the car by myself, so it wasn't quite as exciting as when I get to share the experience."

"I like the camaraderie of it," agreed Paul Goossen, a Mordenite who has also been involved with the count for years. "It's a good time and good reason to get out in the winter."

Started in 1900, the Christmas Bird Count is North America's longest-running citizen science project under

the auspices of the National Audubon Society in the United States and Bird Studies Canada.

Counts happen in over 2,000 localities throughout the western hemisphere, and the information collected by thousands of volunteer participants forms one of the world's largest sets of wildlife survey data.

Each count is conducted on a single day between Dec. 14 and Jan. 5 within a 24 km diameter circle that stays the same from year to year.

They are organized at the local level, often by a birding club or naturalist organization, and can involve both field observers who cover a portion of the count circle on their own or with a small group or feeder watchers who count birds at home.

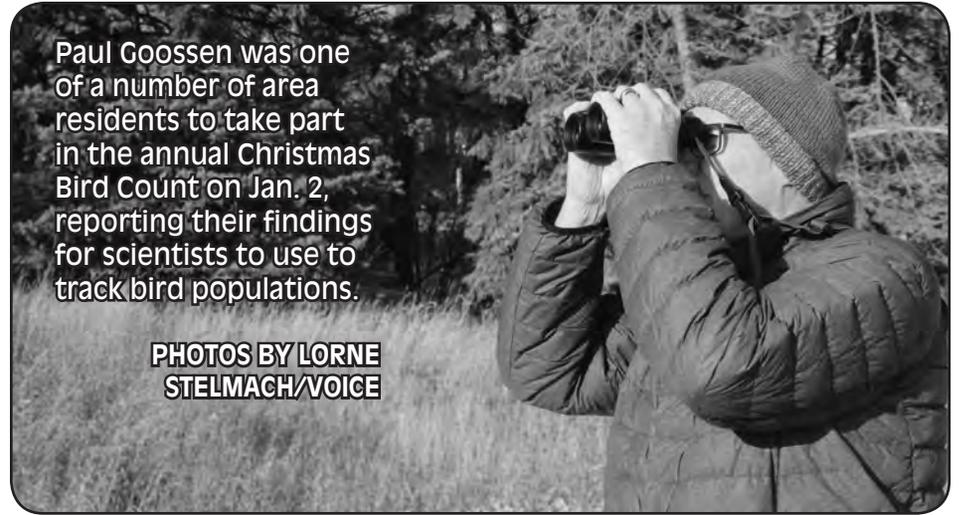
The results are used by conservation biologists and naturalists to assess the population trends and distribution of birds.

"It's been an incredible exercise over the decades ... it gives them a picture of how populations change and the health of the bird population," said Goossen.

"I think it is also kind of an indication as to how the environment is going," added Friesen. "They like the continuity of people coming to the

Paul Goossen was one of a number of area residents to take part in the annual Christmas Bird Count on Jan. 2, reporting their findings for scientists to use to track bird populations.

PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE



same place every year ... you get to know where the different feeders are and what places are best to visit as opposed to coming new to an area."

The Morden-Winkler count often has upwards of a dozen volunteers who fan out to spot and record as many birds as possible.

And while this region may not be any more notable of an area for birds than other typical prairie regions, there are usually interesting finds that become a highlight of the count each year.

"We saw four Rusty Blackbirds. That's unusual. There was only one spotted ever before ... three times they have been seen but only one," Friesen said. "One fellow saw three Red Crossbills, which is kind of unusual as well."

"You never know what you're going to see out there," added Goossen, who noted seeing a Northern Shrike.

"You like having that good find. I

think for most people on the Christmas Bird Count they're hoping to get a good count, but you never know if you're going to see a rare species."

Both Friesen and Goossen stress that birding is something anybody can easily get involved in as a hobby.

"I don't think I'm the most devoted birder of all, but I like it as much as most of the people who come out," said Friesen. "I remember as a child noticing the birds. As you get older, you realize there's lots of people who are into this birding thing.

"Birds are out there singing, and they're colourful, so it's easy to focus on them ... and it has that level of general interest in the population."

"The bird count is a great way for people who are just starting off with birding. Anybody can go out and join in on it," said Goossen. "Hopefully, we'll get more people interested here in Morden and Winkler."

Manitoba sets out to vaccinate all care home residents

By Voice staff

The provincial government is setting out to get the most vulnerable Manitobans vaccinated for COVID-19 as quickly as possible.

Premier Brian Pallister announced last week that Manitoba is embarking on a 28-day campaign to immunize all eligible personal care home (PCH) residents at 135 sites across the province with the first dose of the vaccine.

"We want to make sure that [care home residents] are looked after, because they're vulnerable," Premier Brian Pallister said at a press conference Jan. 6. "As we know, significant fatalities have occurred in personal care homes right across the world, and our folks that live in them deserve our protection and our love."

The PCH immunization campaign began on Monday with focused immunization teams visiting seven care homes in all five regional health authorities. In Southern Health-Santé Sud, residents of Boyne Lodge in Carman will receive the vaccine first.

The province expects to immunize 1,157 people this week and then expand the campaign to other care homes in the weeks ahead. An estimated 9,834 people live in Manitoba's personal care homes.

"By mid-March, every single eligible PCH resident will have received both doses and the fullest protection we can provide them with against this deadly virus," Pallister said.

The vaccine will be offered at all

care homes, regardless of whether the PCH has had an outbreak, is having an outbreak, or has never had an outbreak of COVID-19.

All eligible residents will be included in the campaign if they consent to be immunized. Residents will be offered the vaccine even if they have previously tested positive for COVID-19, as long as they do not have any other medical conditions that would exclude them from immunization.

In addition to the doses heading to personal care homes, the province is also sending thousands of doses to First Nations communities in addition to continuing to vaccinate eligible health-care workers at super sites in Winnipeg and, starting next week, Brandon.

The government is planning to have two per cent of Manitoba's population vaccinated by the end of January and four per cent by the end of February.

> COVID-19, FROM PG. 4

decision to extend the code red/critical public health orders that expired last Friday to Jan. 22 (see story on Pg. 3). "We have to still see what the impacts of this holiday gathering was."

The province will begin lifting some pandemic restrictions once it is deemed safe to do so, Roussin said.

"If we open things up too soon, if we have Manitobans that are not following the public health restrictions or public health advice, we'll see

those numbers come back up again and it will again extend the need for restrictions."

BY THE NUMBERS

The Pembina Valley's active COVID-19 numbers have dropped from the heights of a few weeks ago.

At press time, Winkler was at seven active cases, 312 recoveries, and five deaths while Morden had three ac-

tive cases, 130 recoveries, and two deaths.

Elsewhere around the region, Altona had nine active cases and three deaths, Lorne/Louise/Pembina had 19 ongoing cases and no deaths, Stanley had two active and one death, Roland/Thompson was down to one active case and one death, Carman had three active and one death, and Morris was at four active cases and three deaths.

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• GUEST COMMENTARY

Light at the end of the COVID-19 tunnel

There is finally a light at the end of the tunnel!

We now have two effective vaccines to protect us against COVID-19, the deadly virus that has killed 16,074 Canadians and 1,850,000 people worldwide. By contrast, in a typical year when we do not wear masks and mingle freely, influenza kills 3,500 Canadians.

I was lucky enough to receive my first dose of Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine Dec. 31. Other than a sore arm, I feel great, and am looking forward to my second dose.

Once fully immunized my risk of becoming ill with COVID-19 will be twenty times less than it is now. We know this because the vaccine was tested in a study of 43,651 people across six countries. Half received the vaccine, half did not. In the vaccine group, only eight people suffered from COVID-19, with only one experiencing severe disease. In the group

that did not receive a vaccine, 162 fell ill with COVID-19, nine with severe symptoms. Since this study finished, over 13 million doses of COVID-19 vaccine have been administered to people worldwide without any widespread problems.

I was eager to get the vaccine because I know that even as a healthy Canadian man in my 30s I have a 1/50 chance of needing hospitalization if I contract COVID-19, and a 1/270 chance of ending up in an intensive care unit. It just gets worse as you get older. A person in their 50s has a 1/17 chance of being hospitalized, 1/60 chance of ICU, and 1/172 chance of death. By the time you are over 80 the risk of death from catching COVID-19 is 1/4, or 25 per cent.

Although it is great news that we now have effective vaccines available, it will take many months to vaccinate enough Canadians to stop the spread of COVID-19 and allow us to return to more normal lives. So far we have only given shots to 0.3 per cent of Canadians, which puts us far behind other countries, like Israel, where 14 per cent of the population has been vaccinated.

In the meantime, we will need to continue to follow the basics of hand-

washing, social distancing, mask wearing, and staying home whenever possible. These have proven very successful in countries that have followed the rules.

Did you know that Japan, with a population four times larger than Canada's in an area half the size of Manitoba, has had less than one quarter the deaths we have had? South Korea, another densely packed country, with almost double the population of Canada, has only 981 deaths. By contrast, our neighbours to the south have placed individual desires above collective wellbeing, rights above responsibilities. There has been widespread resistance to common sense precautions such as masks, social distancing, and avoiding large gatherings. As a result, they are leading the world in total number of deaths and have double the deaths per capita that we do.

Think of the Golden Rule: If you would not want someone to spread COVID-19 to you and your loved ones, don't act in a way that can spread it to someone else's family.

Dr. Dan Hunt is a physician at the C.W. Wiebe Medical Centre in Winkler



By Dr. Dan Hunt

Letters

We agree that local schools need local voices

We would like to comment on the column in the Jan. 7 edition "Time to lift the shroud on Bill 64." Thank you for posting the commentary by Alan Campbell.

We agree with his viewpoints like "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 Re-

view Commissioners heard this message."

We have teachers in our family and grandchildren in our schools right now who are receiving an excellent education.

**Hilda and Menno Giesbrecht,
Winkler**

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

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

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

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

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

Seymour receives watershed district builder award

By Lorne Stelmach

A quarter century of service to conservation earned an area resident a special honour recently.

The Manitoba Association of Watershed Districts virtual conference in December saw Murray Seymour presented with the 2020 Watershed District Builder Award.

The honour recognizes the outstanding contributions of individuals directly associated with the growth and success of watershed districts in Manitoba. Seymour, who lives in Darlingford, got the nod after having been involved with what was up until recently called the Pembina Valley Conservation District since 1995.

"It means quite a bit to me to receive this award," said Seymour, who was originally appointed to the district board as an RM of Pembina rep and continued his involvement—including serving as the Lizard Lake sub-district chair and as board chair—until the new watershed districts were formed this past year.

"I've spent a lot of years working with the Pembina Valley district in coming up with projects and seeing

them get done throughout the region," said Seymour. "It's been really enjoyable to work with an organization like this where you come up with ideas ... and it's nice to see the improvements done out there that you have been a part of."

Just a few of his many involvements include working with the Pembina River Basin Advisory Board, serving as district representative for the Manitoba Conservation District Association, and serving as a member and board chair of the conservation district commission at the Manitoba Legislature.

Seymour said he feels fortunate to have had the opportunities to work with so many people, everyone from local district staff, board members, and municipalities to other conservation districts and provincial government departments involved with conservation.

"My greatest reward was being chair of Manitoba Conservation District Association and working with all the districts to help secure this much needed program for our future ... to convince government to invest in the future with the conservation and watershed

program."

Seymour said he realized early on the potential of the conservation district program and particularly the value of water retention for landowners.

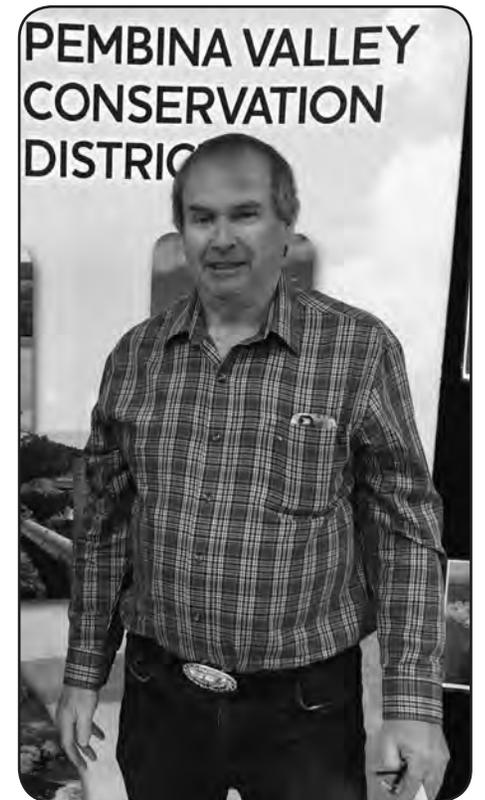
Over the years, the PVCD has built many retention structures to help keep back some of the water to protect infrastructure and supply water to local landowners.

"It has been a passion for me ... and I've always figured if we can hold back as much water as we can," Seymour said. "It can improve things for the municipalities and the people all around here."

"It's been really enlightening to be part of it. It's been a very enjoyable 24 years," he concluded.

The watershed district in a statement thanked Seymour for his years of service.

"The Pembina Valley Watershed District has been the very fortunate recipient of Murray's ongoing initiative, dedication and commitment. He has provided outstanding leadership and contributed to the development, promotion and the continued success of the conservation and watershed program."



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Murray Seymour was honoured last month with the 2020 Watershed District Builder Award.

MLA grateful for encouragement, looks forward with hope

By Lorne Stelmach

When Morden-Winkler MLA Cameron Friesen was first elected to office in 2011, he could have never imagined what he would face in 2020.

Would he have wanted the job of health minister for the province if he had known something like COVID-19 awaited him?

"You certainly never get into this role thinking you're going to be the minister of health during the next global pandemic," Friesen said last month while the health portfolio was still under his purview (see cabinet shuffle story on Pg. 8).

"For many people, when you're right in a situation that you can't avoid, then you just lean into it," he reflected. "So this year has been a year of tremendous challenge, a year of tremendous growth ... it has not been without moments of profound disappointment."

"It has also been a year in which I have received encouragement from so many people across the province but especially here in the constituency," Friesen added. "That has a real effect of helping you to keep going during those darkest moments."

Through all the myriad challenges posed by the pandemic, Friesen said the Conservative government's aim has been to act with determination in putting the health and safety of Manitobans first and foremost.

He acknowledged the criticism that has been directed at the province over its response.

"There will be a lot that is done after the pandemic. There will be many studies, there will be many investigations, there will be a lot of learning that comes out of what we have done together as a province and as a nation," he said. "There was criticism in the fall that said was the province ready? The fact of the matter is we never stopped working."

"It was difficult for us to continue to urge Manitobans to follow all of these rules when they went for a period of time—three weeks—without a single case," he suggested. "As much as it gave people a well-needed relief ... it

also had the unintended effect of having people let their guard down. We paid the price for that in the fall."

He maintained the province has continued to adjust and make changes that have been producing benefits ranging from reduced wait times for calls to Health Links to expanded virtual care as well as doubling the number of lab tests and tripling the number of contact tracers.

All of that added capability is not only helping them better respond to the surge in cases now but is also bringing about changes that will provide lasting benefit as they aim to make the health care system more responsive to the needs of the patients, Friesen stressed.

"We've built whole new systems that are durable and that will last long beyond the pandemic," he said, citing their theme of "better health care sooner."

Friesen also responded to criticism

around their overall efforts to make the health care system more lean.

"I don't mean spend less, because we're spending more than ever ... in terms of its structure and the organization, expert after expert said that Manitoba's health care system was too complex for the size of the province," he said.

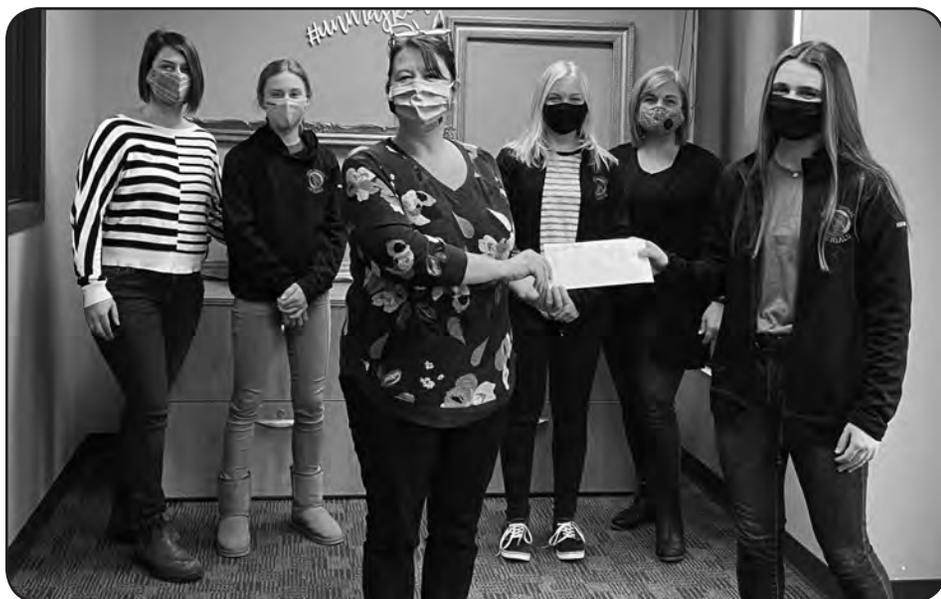
"We believe the establishment of Shared Health has helped us respond to things like human resource issues and inventory issues," Friesen continued. "There's things we're doing now that really are proving out that our system can perform better because we need it to perform better."

Looking back at 2020, Friesen touched on some key projects and priorities for his constituency. The completion of the twinning and upgrades to PTH. 32 in Winkler was certainly a highlight.

"It's not just a local road, it's a regional road, and to see it now completed on time, on budget and to see it having gone on the whole construction phase and accommodate the businesses and not shut them down

"THIS YEAR HAS BEEN A YEAR OF TREMENDOUS CHALLENGE ... TREMENDOUS GROWTH."

Gymnastics club does some good with unused registration fees



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Genesis House executive director Ang Braun (front, left) accepted a donation of \$2,710 from the South Central Aerials's Crystal and Tia Remple, Emma and Pauline Nickel, and Makayla Krahn last week.

By Ashleigh Viveiros

A gymnastics club from Plum Coulee decided to put a positive spin on the fact they weren't able to finish their season this fall.

When Manitoba went to code red in November, the South Central Aerials had to pull the plug on their already abbreviated 2020 session a few weeks earlier than they had hoped.

Club organizers offered the families of their 139 students refunds, but also put the word out to see if anyone was interested in instead donating the money to a good cause.

The response was overwhelming.

"It was unbelievable," said co-founder Pauline Nickel. "106 of the 139 said, 'Please donate ... give it to Genesis House, they could use it more than we could.' That was really heartwarming for us to see."

Last week, club reps stopped by Genesis House to present the shelter with a donation of \$2,710.

When deciding where to donate the funds, Nickel said the women's shelter seemed a good choice given how challenging the past several months of pandemic isolation have been for families dealing with domestic violence.

Genesis House executive director Ang Braun expressed her appreciation to the Aerials for their support.

"It was an amazing gift from many families that must have been so incredibly disappointed in how things turned out and yet flipped things around to make such an impactful donation," she said. "The shelter had to cancel most of our normal fundraising events not knowing how we would cover that list revenue. Donations like this have really helped us keep going."

New roles for Friesen after cabinet shuffle

Morden-Winkler MLA is now the Attorney General, Minister of Justice

By Lorne Stelmach

A cabinet shuffle last week means Morden-Winkler MLA Cameron Friesen is no longer on the hot seat as health minister for Manitoba.

The changes announced by Premier Brian Pallister however put Friesen in another challenging role as minister of justice and Manitoba's attorney general.

Friesen welcomed the opportunity to move into yet another key cabinet position after having also previously served as minister of finance.

"It's quite overwhelming to think that I had finance for over two years ... served as the health minister and during a global pandemic for two and a half years, and now moving to be the attorney general and minister of justice," he said last week.

"I continue to be very, very grateful for the confidence that the premier places in me. I think I have demonstrated that I get straight to work, I can work hard and form teams and try to get things done."

He saw his time as health minister being rewarding despite the pressure

and criticism that was going to come with the role during a pandemic.

"Being the health minister at such a crucial time in the province is an enormous weight ... it's a tremendous challenge," said Friesen. "Certainly, I would acknowledge that it does come with a certain kind of relief after two and a half years to be holding a role to be able to exit it.

"I look back and think about what we've accomplished, not just in the pandemic but before that ... it's been an incredibly important time to lead in health care," he added, noting the many steps taken towards the reformation of the system. "I feel tremendously proud of the progress that has been made to expand services."

Friesen began delving into his new role immediately with preliminary briefings already last Tuesday when the cabinet shuffle was announced. The next few weeks are going to be busy connecting with the various stakeholders in the justice system.

"There's been some important legislation introduced that is still being debated," Friesen suggested.

"There's been important changes made throughout our system in terms of remand capacity and new resources that we've made available to police services that help them more effectively interact with people who have mental health and addictions issues," he said. "I think it's an important time in our province for justice. I'm honoured to take the role. There's obvi-

ously a lot that I have to learn."

"Protecting families and keeping communities safe is the focus of our justice department," Pallister said in announcing the new role for Friesen. "Friesen has been a tireless and committed minister in fixing our finances and repairing our health services in his previous roles. He will bring that same dedication to justice."

The new provincial cabinet announced Jan. 5 saw nine ministers moved into new portfolios, including three new ministers entering cabinet for the first time.

Wayne Ewasko, MLA for Lac du Bonnet, enters cabinet as minister for advanced education, skills, and immigration.

"This new department will focus on aligning advanced education institutions with the needs of the labour markets of today and tomorrow by giving young Manitobans the skills they need to succeed and new immigrants the job opportunities our province can offer," said Pallister.

Derek Johnson, MLA for Interlake-Gimli, enters cabinet as minister for municipal relations.

"Our cities, towns and communities are the building blocks of jobs and growth and strong communities," said Pallister. "Creating new economic opportunities where people live right across this province is the focus of this department."

Audrey Gordon, MLA for Southdale, enters cabinet as the first-ever min-

ister for mental health, wellness, and recovery. She is also the first black Manitoban to be appointed to cabinet.

"Mental health is every bit as important as physical health and will be an unfortunate legacy of this pandemic," said Pallister. "This new department will develop a provincial mental health and addictions strategy across government to help Manitobans and families get the care and support they need."

Kelvin Goertzen, MLA for Steinbach, moves from education to be deputy premier and minister of legislative and public affairs. He retains his role as government house leader.

Cliff Cullen, MLA for Spruce Woods, becomes minister of education while Heather Stefanson, MLA for Tuxedo, becomes minister of health and seniors care.

Ralph Eichler, MLA for Lakeside, becomes minister of economic development and jobs, and Rochelle Squires, MLA for Riel, becomes minister of families as well as the minister responsible for francophone affairs.

Ministers whose portfolios have not changed are Ron Schuler (minister of infrastructure), Blaine Pedersen (agriculture and resource development), Eileen Clarke (Indigenous and northern relations), Cathy Cox (sports, culture and heritage), Scott Fielding (finance), Jeff Wharton (Crown services), Reg Helwer (central services), and Sarah Guillemard (conservation and climate).

MCC closing Plum Coulee warehouse

By Ashleigh Viveiros

MCC Canada and MCC Manitoba have decided to close their warehouse in Plum Coulee this summer.

The global relief agency announced last week that it is relocating its central material resources warehouse from Plum Coulee to its facility in New Hamburg, Ontario.

"It's was a two-stage decision and the first one was taken by MCC Canada, who's in charge of moving the material resources across the country in order to be prepared for shipment internationally," MCC Manitoba executive director Darryl Loewen explained. "There have been two sites and it was their decision to consolidate those activities in one location in Ontario."

MCC has said the move will help facilitate quicker distribution of relief supplies by reducing the number of shipping sites and locating the central warehouse closer to an international port. It will also allow for canned meat, produced by volunteers in Ontario with MCC's mobile meat canner, to be stored in and shipped directly from Ontario.

"THE WAREHOUSE IN COULEE HAS SERVED SUPPORTERS OF MCC REALLY WELL AND MCC REALLY WELL."

"It helps simplify the preparation of containers for delivery," Loewen said. "It puts all of the materials in a single location."

With MCC Canada making the decision to pull out of Plum Coulee, MCC Manitoba, who has run the site jointly with them since 2004, had to follow suit.

"For MCC Canada to withdraw leaves a warehouse space in Plum Coulee that MCC Manitoba just can't carry by itself," Loewen said.

The warehouse will close its doors on June 30. One staff member, warehouse manager Gord Letkeman, is affected by the closure, along with countless volunteers who used the site as a donation drop-off point and



MCC MANITOBA PHOTO

Volunteers gathered at the MCC Material Resources Centre in Plum Coulee early last year to sew and tie 150 handmade comforters as part of the Great Winter Warm-up campaign. MCC has decided to shut down the warehouse and move its operations to Ontario.

gathering space.

The warehouse had volunteers who came in regularly to sort and cut material, pack blankets, compile relief kits, and sort incoming donations from other provinces.

"The numbers of volunteers vary. There are about two dozen or so, maybe a little more, who were frequent on-site volunteers, some as many as weekly or more than weekly since 2004," Loewen said. "And as a gathering site, there were other regional volunteers from Crystal City up to Carman and further east for whom this was the delivery point where they would bring their materials."

MCC will be working hard to stay

connected with those volunteers and donors in the months ahead, Loewen stressed.

"The warehouse in Coulee has served supporters of MCC really well and MCC really well," he said. "It's been a beautiful touchpoint between community church groups and other groups that have taken the opportunity to participate in MCC mission ministry there, so we're sad about that loss. But we are hopeful to sustain and grow those connections and do so in ways that are useful to volunteers, because they are very much the core to MCC activity around the world."

Winkler Senior Centre launching online book club

By Ashleigh Viveiros

It may not be safe just yet to get together in large groups, but the Winkler Senior Centre isn't letting that stop them from organizing a meeting of minds this winter.

The centre is launching a virtual book club later this month, and they want to get the word out that it's open to all.

"This is something that's completely new for us," says Joanne Greer, volunteer coordinator. "With us not being able to host any of our programming in-house right now we've been really limited as to what we can offer, but we want to make sure we're still connecting with people, so we really wanted to be creative and move some of our programming online."

The club will first "meet" via the Zoom video conferencing program on Tuesday, Jan. 26 at 1 p.m. to discuss the book *We're All in This Together* by Amy Jones. There are copies of the book available for loan from both the local

library and the senior centre resource office.

The plan is to make the meeting a monthly event, and participants are welcome to sign-up month-to-month.

"It's a chance to provide a bit of the community that we would normally provide but can't in-person at the moment," Greer says, noting you do not need to be a WSC member to take part. "Any seniors in the community

are welcome to give us a call and sign-up. We'd love to connect with anybody that's interested."

If you'd like to join the group, email the Winkler Senior Centre at wsc.325.8964@gmail.com for the meeting link or call 204-325-8964 for details.

Greer notes that if you're not familiar with Zoom, centre staff will be happy to walk you through the pro-

cess of installing it on your computer and using it.

With any luck, this won't be the only program the senior centre is able to offer the community in the months ahead.

"We're going to be offering a lot more Zoom classes and other programming online," Greer says. "We're in the process right now of figuring out what that's all going to look like."

> FRIESEN, FROM PG. 7

was I think a tremendous win for our community."

Other vital projects included two new day cares in Morden and in Winkler as part of Pine Ridge School, and he also looked ahead at the proposed expansion and improvements at Boundary Trails Health Centre with the addition of a new building for administrative functions as a key project.

"We know that that project in and of itself continues to be highlighted ... we are encouraged to know that that project continues to get the attention of health system leadership," said Friesen.

He closed by reflecting on how it has been heartening for him to see the response from the community to help and uplift others throughout all of the challenges being faced right

now.

"In the middle of this difficulty, we have seen our community in many respects shine," he said. "We can't overlook that those simple gestures are making a difference right now when we need it most."

"I think that a pandemic has the ability to drive us further apart; it also has the ability to help us connect better to each other."



PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Community support builds visitor pod for Eden

By Lorne Stelmach

Family and friends can now have a safe and private space for visiting at Eden Mental Health Centre in Winkler.

The facility welcomed the new year with the completion of work on a visitor pod. And while it may have been COVID-19 restrictions that brought the project about, the addition will provide a lasting benefit to help reduce the isolation felt by those in treatment.

"You always want the support of family and friends, and those social relationships are very important for someone experiencing mental health issues," said program director Karma Sheppard. "This room will give fami-

lies that opportunity to have that privacy.

"With the COVID restrictions, we have had to shut our doors ... for a while we were doing some window or door visits," she said. "The plan is that when restrictions can lessen and when we are able to remove the barrier that's there right now, families will be able to have this room to meet ... just for a nice, relaxing visit."

The idea for the visitor pod was based on those being installed by the province at long-term care facilities, but Eden Mental Health Centre does not come under that category of facility, as its focus is to provide an appropriate level of mental health care and as soon as practicable return patients to their family and the community.

Eden Health Care Centre program director Karma Sheppard and maintenance staffer Niko Thiessen in the new visitor pod that will provide patients a quiet space to connect with their families.

The length of stay can be short, ranging from a few days or a week, to a lengthier stay of weeks or months. Regardless of one's length of stay, Sheppard said, there is significant stress to not having contact with loved ones, and it's hoped the visitor pod will help fill that gap.

The \$25,000 project received a substantial boost with a \$6,000 grant through the Winkler Community Foundation. Other donations quickly poured it to make it a reality.

"The community just started coming on board to support us, and we haven't had to use any of the budget that we thought we may have needed to use," Sheppard noted.

"It's been a pleasant surprise. The

community has really just rallied around this project and it was able to happen really quickly," she said. "Within no time the contractors were lined up, and our maintenance guy Niko [Thiessen] took this on and has made this place into more than we could have ever imagined.

"It's a really nice setting for family members to come visit. There's still some things we want to put up for decorations, but it really came together very nicely," said Sheppard, ex-

pressing her gratitude to the community. "In southern Manitoba, we all pull together when a need arises to help out our community .. it really speaks to the hearts of people here."

"THE COMMUNITY HAS REALLY JUST RALLIED AROUND THIS PROJECT ..."

Pembina Counselling Centre expands east

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Pembina Counselling Centre kicked off 2021 with an expansion east.

The non-profit agency opened a new office in Altona last Friday, adding to its existing locations in Winkler and Morden.

"We've actually been planning on opening an office in Altona for awhile now," said executive director Chris Derksen. "Our plan had been to do it in 2020, however with COVID and everything it just wasn't possible. We were really focusing on our operations in Winkler and Morden and so it just wasn't feasible.

"Towards the end the year, though, we wanted to see our goal completed,

so we started reaching out to some people in Altona to see if we could find a space."

The space they found is in downtown Altona at 100-125 Centre Ave. East. It will be manned one day a week to start by counsellor Brent Thiessen. Clients can also request a female counsellor if they prefer.

Although it will only be open on Fridays for now, Derksen anticipates that could be expanded further as demand grows.

"We want to be able to fully serve the Pembina Valley and that certainly includes Altona, because we do get clients from as far away as Morris," he said. "An office in that geographi-

cal location certainly makes it more convenient for people in those communities."

The need for counselling services was on the rise in 2020. PCC had over 2,000 appointments (a number that would have been even higher if not for one of their counsellors needing to take medical leave, Derksen noted). Demand was so high that they hired two new counsellors.

"The way things are going, we fully anticipate we'll be at over 3,000 appointments in 2021," Derksen said.

The centre also saw over 300 new clients—a huge jump from previous years.

"For context, early in 2020 the aver-

age number of new clients we would see in a month, in January or February, was about 20 ... in November we had 41 new clients," said Derksen. "So it's increasing in leaps and bounds. People are obviously dealing with the stress of COVID, with the stress of isolation, dealing with maybe their employment being reduced or lost. People are going through a lot.

"We're thankful that we have the capacity to expand our services in the midst of this so we can be there for the community."

If you need someone to talk to, reach out to the Pembina Counselling Centre at 204-822-6622.

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NEWS > VIEWS > WINKLER > MORDEN > SURROUNDING AREAS

Morden yard receives provincial award

By Lorne Stelmach

Morden continues to solidify its reputation for beauty with yet another local property receiving a provincial honour for its yard.

The Manitoba Good Roads Association's annual award for best home grounds is going to Rick and Bev Klippenstein, who just recently moved to Winnipeg to be closer to family.

It is not lost on Klippenstein that this is the fifth time in recent years that the honour has gone to a Morden home, including most recently to Max Friesen.

"I think we have some unique features to work with that definitely help to create the difference between what Morden properties have versus other communities," said Klippenstein, lauding such community features as its historic homes and the value placed on parks and greenery.

"I think it just shows that people in Morden in general take pride in their property," he said. "It does show there is a lot of pride taken in maintaining yards."

A former chief administrative officer for the RM of Stanley, Klippenstein said they very much appreciated the recognition for their efforts.

"It was satisfying because, yes, we put a lot of work into it ... it was a pleasant surprise," he said, noting judges had toured the yard last July but they hadn't thought more of it until finding out they were to be honoured with the award late in the year.

He sees this as really kind of coming together particularly when they were part of the local garden tour in 2019. It was current Morden council member Nancy Penner who in 2020 asked them about putting in a nomination.

"When we did the yard tour, that really kind of spurred me to clean things up and to try to spruce it up," said Klippenstein. "Because we were contemplating selling our property then, I thought this was going to be another good opportunity to get me going to do a lot of work in the yard. So it just kind of all fell into place."

Klippenstein noted there wasn't necessarily much in his early years that would have pointed to him earning recognition for such a reason.

"I grew up in an area where there were no rocks, so I developed a bit of a love affair with rocks," he said.

"I think our yard was probably somewhat unique because we had a lot of stone," he added, explaining they had



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Rick and Bev Klippenstein's former home in Morden was recently named the winner of the Manitoba Good Roads Association's Best Home Grounds Award.

Todd Braun of Elemental Stone do features including an inukshuk in their front yard and a bird bath in the back yard.

"Because I worked with the RM, I had lots of opportunity to go into the country, and the RM allowed me to go on to their sites where they have done a lot of work."

Otherwise, Klippenstein said their yard had always just been ever-evolving during their time in Morden.

"It was an ongoing process ... it was constantly a work in progress," he observed, noting they had at one point contracted with a designer.

"We were constantly changing the

planting in the yard," he said, recalling when a neighbour removed a row of tall trees that then impacted what they could do in their yard.

"It was interesting how our yard changed over the years because when we bought the property, there was very little landscaping that had been done," he said. "That was kind of nice because it gave us the opportunity to design it the way that we wanted."

In the end, they have a lot of appreciation for the opportunities afforded to them with their time here in Morden.

"There was some hard work that went into it all ... but I enjoyed it."

Healthy Communities Conference looking for personal stories

By Lorne Stelmach

Organizers of an annual conference with a focus on health and wellness hope to tap into some personal experiences when it goes online this spring.

The Healthy Communities Conference has put a call out for volunteers to share their experiences with loneliness and how they overcome it.

The stories will be compiled into a pre-recorded video and used at the April 2021 virtual conference, which this year has the theme of *Wired for Connection: The Pathway to Resilience*.

"It can be personal and vulnerable ... but it can help reduce the stigma,"

said Stephanie Dueck, recreation programmer for the City of Morden and part of the organizing committee that also includes representatives from the Southern Health, Menzies Medical Centre, Eden Health Care Services, Genesis House, Regional Connections, and the Pembina Valley Local Immigration Partnership.

"One of the things that can help people is to realize that they are not alone in experiencing this," said Dueck. "By sharing these stories, we can help people to realize that, and it can be a pathway to healing."

The focus on loneliness is especially timely right now as the pandemic wears on. Dueck noted one 2020 sur-

vey in which nearly 50 per cent of respondents cited feeling lonely and wishing they had more human contact.

"It is very much a mental health focus," she said. "Loneliness is something that many of us experience, and we don't necessarily talk about it a whole lot."

"So as a part of that, we wanted to have some stories from local people telling us about their experiences with loneliness and how connections in the community have helped them get through it."

Dueck said they welcome stories from a wide variety of people as well as an array of experiences such as

dealing with grief, working alone, retirements or newcomer journeys.

Anyone who is interested is invited to provide a brief summary in written point form or as a short, selfie-style video and submit them by e-mail to hcc@mymorden.ca by Jan. 31.

Those who are selected will be contacted to set up a video interview to explain the circumstances of their story or experience, what helped them the most to get through it, and what community resources offered them connection.

For more information, call 204-822-5431 ext. 206 or e-mail hcc@mymorden.ca.

Winkler company honoured at MB Ag Days

By Lorne Stelmach

A Winkler company earned one of seven awards from this year's Manitoba Ag Days for its innovative solution for grain storage and aeration.

The NorBin complete bolt-together hopper with full floor aeration received the Agricultural Equipment Award and is in the running for the grand prize.

The full floor hopper aeration system earned kudos for its innovative design that judges suggested could revolutionize hopper bottom bins.

"It's really encouraging for us," said Francisco Zacharias, who is involved in both construction and welding and whose company has been setting up grain bins across the prairies with a combined 21 years of experience. "It's not just us bragging about the product. It's really exciting for us. It's really encouraging for us."

Zacharias said NorBin came about simply because farmers had told them there was a need an effective hopper bottom bin aeration system.

"If we have a bit of a wet year, in spring sometimes they have areas that didn't get proper ventilation inside the hopper bin," he explained. "That actually spoils that grain."

The NorBin hoppers with a full-floor



SUPPLIED PHOTO

The NorBin bolt-together hopper with full floor aeration won the Agricultural Equipment Award at Manitoba Ag Days.

air system come in six different sizes. They can also retrofit a full air system to fit in an existing hopper or do custom design and builds as well.

The design will aerate the whole hopper cone to eliminate wet pockets in the bin. The system includes a second, perforated floor inside the hopper, and the air is evenly distributed between the hopper floor and pushed through the perforated floor.

As a result, grain bins do not need to be filled to the top for the aeration

system to work as the grain will always receive even airflow.

With the 40-degree hopper cone, the aeration system is designed so that no grain remains in the bin, and this also allows the dust in the air cavity to spill out when the bin is emptied.

"Your full floor hopper bin aeration system is cutting edge in today's market, and you deserve to be recognized for your forward thinking. You were the clear choice," the judges wrote of the NorBin hopper.

The award included a \$1,000 prize from Manitoba Ag Days as well as a \$1,000 advertising voucher from Glacier FarmMedia and a 60 second video.

The honour also placed NorBin as one of the finalists for the grand prize innovation showcase champion and the farmer's choice grand prize champion. An innovation showcase showdown happens Jan. 14 via a Zoom webinar featuring the seven finalists. The grand prize winner of \$15,000 and farmers choice winner of \$10,000 will be announced Jan. 25.

People are invited to go to www.ag-days.com/vote2021 to vote for their top choice.

Regardless of how NorBin fares in the showcase, Zacharias said it has already really boosted their plans.

"It took us a few years to design it so that it actually worked, but we got it done," he said.

"It's incredible the number of farmers who have called us just to tell us that it's a really good idea and they can't believe that it hasn't been done before," he concluded. "We're still out-sourcing a lot of the manufacturing rather than doing everything in-house, but we've got machines ordered to do all the manufacturing in-house. We are working towards it."

MP Candice Bergen says 2021 is all about economic recovery

By Becca Myskiw

The past year brought changes for many, and Portage-Lisgar MP Candice Bergen is no exception.

Bergen was appointed Deputy Leader of the PC Party of Canada in 2020. But before she had that role, she was the House Leader.

While she was House Leader, Bergen had to negotiate around emergency pieces of legislation like the CERB and rent relief. She's proud of her work on that but said she and her party were also able to hold the Liberals back when they wanted to do certain things without parliamentary oversight.

"I know that would matter to the people in Portage-Lisgar," she said in an interview last month. "But also, to all Canadians."

Bergen said her main goal for 2020 was the same one she has every year: to get out into her riding as much as possible.

COVID-19 and its restrictions made that a challenge and required Bergen to readjust her methods of reaching out. Instead of in-person meetings, she held a lot of virtual meetings and phone calls with people that she wouldn't be able to meet at a store or in a coffee shop.

When the restrictions were more relaxed in the summer months, Bergen went out and did tours to meet with as many people as she could, also attending as many community events as was possible.

"I think I did well, but it doesn't feel like I met my goal," she said. "I'm a people person. I like talking to people."

Bergen also tries to be a mentor for young women in politics as much as she tries to encourage them to get involved.

"When mentoring women of all ages we need to say have you thought about working in politics, or have you thought about applying for that pro-

motion," she said. "Because as women, we don't often see ourselves in those roles."

She said it's not all about gender, though. Bergen wants to get by on her merit, not her gender, and she thinks it's the same for all women in all fields of work.

In 2020, Bergen was also working on providing the people in her riding with better internet. She also brought police officers, medical professionals, and counsellors together to talk about the meth crisis in the area and what resources the people suffering from it need.

"I'd like to see that continue because that has not gone away with COVID," she said.

Parts of those drug meetings taught Bergen about the problems that are unique to rural areas.

"Drug problems in rural areas are different than drug problems in urban areas," she said.

Along with continuing her work on

that, Bergen will be starting work on getting the things back to as much normal as she can, starting with the economy.

"My heart does feel heavy when driving through the riding and you see closed doors and people at home," she said. "It's hard because you know what that means."

She said the pandemic has forced many business owners to close their doors for good, while others have just closed them for the lockdown. She said 2021 is about opening business doors again and encouraging people to get back to work.

"We want to see and we're going to be talking about ideas where the Canadian economy should be firing on all cylinders," she said.

Bergen said the key to reviving the economy is by getting Canadians back to work and she doesn't see the Liberal government's incentive to do that, which is why it's a main priority of hers.

News or sports tip? E-mail news@winklermordenvoice.ca or call 325-6888

5 ways to live green in a seniors' residence

senior living

Are you concerned that moving into a seniors' residence will make it more difficult to control your carbon footprint? Here are five ways you can continue to have a positive effect on the environment in your new home.

EAT LOCAL AND ORGANIC

You can reduce your carbon footprint by shopping at your local farmers' market, growing vegetables on your balcony and by favouring organic products at restaurants and shops.

RELY ON REUSABLE PRODUCTS

Avoid single-use plastics. Carry cloth shopping bags, store food in reusable containers and when on the go, drink coffee, water and other beverages from a travel mug.

REMEMBER TO RECYCLE

In addition to recycling paper, plastic and metal, consider what items can be sold or donated rather than thrown out. Some used objects can also be repurposed.

OPT FOR ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Replace incandescent lightbulbs with LEDs. You can also reduce your energy consumption by using a smart thermostat, letting clothes and dishes air dry and cooking single-serving meals in a small appliance.

START A GREEN COMMITTEE

Collaborate with the neighbours and staff at your residence to implement recycling and carpooling programs, host sustainable living workshops or start a community garden. By working with others, you'll be able to make more of an impact.

Regardless of where you live, you can help protect the environment. By taking small steps, you can make a difference and do your part to preserve the planet.

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- Men's teeth are more masculine and long lasting
- Women's teeth are more feminine, whiter and easy to clean
- Only denture teeth that can make you look younger and more natural



Before



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SUBMITTED PHOTO

Nina Sawazki and Anastasia Dzyuba had some fun earlier this month building up a Winkler snow family. Southern Manitoba has had an unseasonably warm and largely snow-free start to 2021, but periods of snow are in the forecast for this week.

Borderland MLA named Legislative Assistant

Josh Guenter to support Minister of Health and Seniors Care

By Voice staff

A number of Conservative MLAs will be serving new roles as Legislative Assistants in the wake of Premier Brian Pallister's cabinet shuffle last week.

From our area, Borderland MLA Josh Guenter has been appointed to support Minister of Health and Seniors Care Heather Stefanson in implementing Manitoba's COVID-19 response plan while developing a strategy for enhancing supports for Manitoba's seniors.

Other appointments included Swan River MLA Rick Wowchuk as the as-

sistant to the Minister of Agriculture and Resource Development, Assiniboia MLA Scott Johnston to assist the Minister of Education, Portage la Prairie MLA Ian Wishart in finance, and Seine River's Janice Morley-Lecomte to assist the Minister of Families. Andrew Smith, MLA for Southdale, continues as Legislative Assistant to the Minister of Sport, Culture and Heritage.

"We have a strong team of hard-working and highly qualified PC MLAs to support the provincial cabinet in delivering on our mandate to protect Manitobans and create economic opportunities," said Pallister in a statement on the appointments. "Their commitment and enthusiasm will serve them well in these new roles and I look forward to working together as 'Team Manitoba' to build a safer, healthier more prosperous future for all Manitobans."

Local Pride group changes name for wider reach

By Lorne Stelmach

The Morden Pride organization is rebranding to better reflect its regional outreach.

Directors of what is now Pembina Valley Pride say it had always been their goal to be there for all of the rainbow community throughout the region and not just Morden, which is just where it started with its first rally.

"It was always really important to us that people knew that we weren't there just for Morden in particular," said president April Neufeld.

She noted most of their board members are from a number of other communities including Altona, Winkler, and Pilot Mound and that "we're very passionate about the communities that we do live in here.

"So we thought this was a good time, at the beginning of the year, to do a rebranding and refocus so the people who aren't in Morden also feel included and know we are there for them."

Their aim is to create and provide education, support, resources, community and pride centering around 2SLGBTQIANB+ experiences within the communities of the Pembina Valley.

They love and support southern Manitoba's Rainbow community and

want to help it flourish, said Neufeld, and she added building these connections has been even more important under pandemic restrictions.

"Because of us being so isolated now because of COVID, I think this has been very valuable for everyone," she said.

They want to create accessible and diverse programming that meets the needs of all Rainbow community members, and their main plans right now include doing a virtual support group meeting on a monthly basis.

"It's a casual, semi-guided conversation that helps people connect with

each other. We're also bringing in speakers every month," said Neufeld, noting plans for a Jan. 21 session include hearing from a doctor who runs a trans health clinic in Portage.

She encouraged people who are interested to follow them on social media or head to pembinavalleypride.ca.

Morden Rec. offering online programming

By Lorne Stelmach

The City of Morden is going online to move ahead with a variety of recreation classes.

The switch to virtual classes became necessary in the interests of public health, and recreation programmer Stephanie Dueck sees there being enough interest to make it worthwhile.

"There's so much unpredictability, and it doesn't seem very likely that we'll be able to offer [in person] programming soon," she said. "There's many online things that you can do, but it can be such a volume of material to sort through to find something you want to do. We all need to stay active and motivated, and by work-

ing out together we can motivate each other to keep active."

The classes are supported with a Southern Health Healthy Living Together grant as well as sponsorship from Access Credit Union and the City of Morden.

A 55-minute flowing style of yoga class that is open to all levels is being headed up Harmony Tree Studio's Sheena Kilpatrick. It runs Mondays until Feb. 8.

Another class is focusing on mindfulness meditation, which uses a variety of meditation styles including gentle stretching, walking, lying down, and sitting meditations. It is being led by Daphne Andrew Peers Tuesdays until Feb. 9.

The initial response has been en-

couraging, with the first two classes of the year quickly reaching capacity.

"We've had lots of interest," said Dueck, noting even though the classes are virtual, they still needed to be kept to a manageable number for the instructor to be able to properly engage with all of the participants.

Dueck said they are hoping to continue offering more classes depending on funding or sponsorships or perhaps by charging a small fee.

"We're hoping to be able to continue and add to this, so hopefully this is a good way forward for us in this challenging time."

You can keep up to date through the City of Morden website or Access Event Centre Facebook page.

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Everything you're looking for at Dollar Store Plus More

When you are uncertain where to find what you need, Morden's Dollar Store Plus More may be your answer.

The local family owned and operated business carries a wide array of items, everything from cards, party supplies, toys, and books to housewares, craft and scrapbooking supplies, and even some small health and beauty and electronics items. The store is also a depot for Cole's Cleanizing in Winkler.

"It covers a wide range. All kinds of things and knick knacks ... we have a lot of the little knick knacks that can be hard to find nowadays," said assistant manager Matthew Dyck, who operates the store alongside his mother Sarah.

The business goes back a decade when it started in 2010 with his mother working for the Sears depot on Sixth St.

"We thought Morden needed a dollar store again," Dyck recalled. "We hadn't had one for a number of years, so we started what was called the Lil' Dollar Store."

They were at that location for about two years before moving to their current home at 473 Stephen St.

Dyck suggested being entirely local and independent is one of their key selling points.

"We're family-owned. We don't have franchise fees. Every decision we make for ourselves," he said. "It's a different variety of items because we're not a chain. We're fully a hundred per cent independent, and we choose all of our merchandise and order what we want in the store."

"And if people need a bigger quantity of an item, if you can give us four to six weeks notice, often we can order in for people," he added. "We'll try to help out people the best we can."

Although they have been under pandemic restrictions of late in terms of what they can sell as essential items, Dyck said they have managed to carry on fairly well.

"The restrictions keep changing, so it's been challenging ... but we do what we have

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Morden's Dollar Store Plus More's Matthew Dyck said the fact they're a family-owned and operated, independent business is what makes them stand out in the marketplace.

to do to stay open and generate business," he said. "I think we've got a lot of good local support from both Morden and Winkler people. They've been supporting us with doing curbside service," Dyck noted. "I think it's been better than we thought it was going to be but still not what it should be normally without the restrictions. But overall I think it's been pretty good."

He remains optimistic for the business and looks forward to the restrictions being lifted, noting they normally see good walk-in traffic with their central location in downtown Morden.

In the meantime, people can find more information and also follow Morden's Dollar Store Plus More on Facebook.

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MORDEN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Morden Chamber of Commerce would like to thank the community for supporting local businesses during these unprecedented times. Let's continue to think local first when shopping or seeking services! #shopmorden

THE VOICE OF BUSINESS

Banner year for PVHS despite pandemic challenges

By Lorne Stelmach

Despite being under pandemic restrictions, the Pembina Valley Humane Society had a record year in 2020, particularly with its feline friends.

There were 105 cats adopted compared to 72 in 2019, while dog adoptions were down from 75 to 53, but connected to those stats are the pace of animal intakes. Also in that time frame, the society brought in a record 112 cats and 45 dogs, and that also meant doing 95 cat spay or neuters and 36 spay or neuters for dogs.

Overall, it means the organization was busier than anyone may have predicted under the circumstances.

"It seems a bit unprecedented. We had no idea how 2020 was going to turn out for the shelter. Everything was so up in the air, and we had to cancel many fundraisers," said public relations chair Holly Thorne.

"The adoptions have been phenomenal," agreed Selena Ducharme, acting board chair. "We've had a lot of turnover here with the animals, so while we're sad to see them go because we've built a connection, we're just so happy when a family is able to love an animal."

Thorne offered a few thoughts on how the impact of COVID-19 may have actually worked in their favour, including people perhaps realizing they had more time to add a pet to their family and spend quality time with it.

"Animal lovers are passionate people ... and I think people are realizing for many different reasons ... like they have more time and their kids have



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

PVHS acting board chair Selena Ducharme (left) and public relations chair Holly Thorne with two of the shelter's feline residents.

been asking for one," she said. "It really was quite surprising this year just how many people realized that, with the pandemic and spending more time at home, that they were actually able to spend the time to invite an animal into their home.

"There's also the mental health aspect to consider. It's proven that owning a pet improves mental health, and this was a big year to be aware of that," Thorne added. "Studies have shown that your mental health can be vastly improved when you are caring for a cat or caring for a dog."

Thorne noted another positive trend they saw in the past year related to the average amount of time an animal spends at the shelter.

The average length of stay for cats and dogs decreased significantly. In

2019, the average stay before being adopted was 86 days for cats and 47 days for dogs. In 2020, it was 49 days for cats and 39 days for dogs.

"It's bittersweet because we love them," said Thorne, "but they're spending less time in the shelter, so they're happier, and they get to be in that loving home way faster."

Otherwise, the biggest impact for the society in the past year amidst the pandemic has been needing to restrict the volunteer component of its operations.

"We had to re-evaluate everything," said Ducharme. "We didn't have as much of the physical support in the shelter. The managers had to take on more by doing the extra cleaning.

"The volunteers have kept in touch and been asking how can we help,"

she added. "The public still wants to help, so that has been a huge blessing throughout the pandemic. We're ready to welcome back the volunteers as soon as we can."

In addition to looking forward to bringing volunteers back, both noted they also continue to promote regular giving to the society.

"Our biggest push now is to create that group of people who are monthly donors or regular donors where we can bank on their support throughout the year. The more monthly donors we have, the less stress we're going to feel trying to plan," said Thorne.

"The monthly donations get factored in, and it can be one of the main things to really help keep the shelter running," agreed Ducharme.

The society is looking at no major projects right now, although there is a longer term goal for more substantial improvements to the shelter. In the meantime, they recently completed the installation of new doors that give dogs access to the outside kennels from their indoor spaces, and that has already paid dividends.

"With that, we have already reduced our monthly hydro bill by almost a hundred dollars a month," said Ducharme.

"We're always going to have needs ... but with the pandemic, we just have to be cognizant of what we are really able to do right now," concluded Thorne. "We're thinking what can we do now as the board, as the staff, as the volunteers to make this place as sustainable as we possibly can as we move forward."

Morden entrepreneur developing a one-handed controller



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Mordenite Konstantin Borysov of Knuckles-5 is developing a one-handed controller to make it easier for people with disabilities to control drones or play video games.

Will allow people with disabilities to play video games, control drones more easily

By Lorne Stelmach

A newcomer to Canada who now calls Morden home is working to pioneer a new controller for drones and video games that he believes could be revolutionary.

The idea of combining a drone controller with a computer joystick in a single gadget came to Konstantin Borysov, the founder and CEO of Knuckles-5, after he read a post on the internet.

A father of a mobility-challenged boy was asking people how to assem-

ble a one-handed joystick, as he could not find a fully-functioning one suitable for his son.

"I realized that our product could be the perfect solution for this boy and for many other people," Borysov said in an e-mail interview. "If it works out, I think it would be a good example of a technology that can be put to good use.

"From the very beginning of working with drones, I felt that the controllers used for them were not the best

Local family says thanks

By Lorne Stelmach

A Morden family is especially grateful to the community for its support of a fundraiser for their son and his ongoing treatment and care for spina bifida and hydrocephalus.

Connie and Terence Hesom hold an annual steak, sud, and spud fundraiser for their son Evan at Rocks Bar and Grill, and they were overwhelmed by the response of the most recent one, especially coming at a time when it had to be done differently because of the pandemic restrictions.

"We weren't sure how it was going to go," said Connie Hesom, noting they had to scale it back to a takeout pizza promotion, although they were still able to set up a silent auction and 50/50 draw.

"If we could have made \$3,000, I was going to be thrilled. We actually ended up raising more this year than we have other years," she said, estimating it brought in over \$7,000.

The funds raised at the event go towards a range of medical costs that are not covered by Manitoba Health. The family faces expenses for everything from equipment and medication to regular trips into Winnipeg for treatment.

Hesom said the community has always been so generous with its support.

"It just amazes me every year how our community comes together and does things like this and supports everything so well," she said, adding her thanks as well for the efforts of the staff at Rocks Bar and Grill.

Terence and Connie Hesom with sons Darren and Evan (in front) are grateful for the generosity of the community and of Rocks Bar and Grill for its support of their fundraiser for Evan in relation to his ongoing treatment and care for spina bifida and hydrocephalus.

PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE



> KNUCKLES-5, FROM PG. 16

option. But development of the new controller was a hobby until I read the message on the forum and thought that there are people around me who can't enjoy the things that I use without hesitation," he continued. "Then I took up the project in full force."

Borysov traces the roots of the idea back to 2016 while still in the Ukraine when he started on making something for himself. In 2019, a couple months before moving to Canada, he started on the project and found friends to help him with its development.

"In general, my field of interest is drones. I want to help people integrate this technology in everyday life. It can be helpful for firefighters, police, rescue teams, farmers and so on," he suggested.

"This is just one of my projects. I am involved in another project that involves using drones with special multi-spectral cameras to search for plastic pollution in a natural zone."

Borysov has high hopes right now though for Knuckles-5, which is the name given to the new controller and the team of specialists he has assembled from various fields related to the drone industry.

Initially their focus was on drones, but they soon extended the functionality of the controller by adding an additional option for games, allowing it to be plugged into a computer as a joystick.

"Knuckles-5 is a new alternative to the classic two-handed remote controller. Its purpose is to overcome the disadvantages of a two-handed

controller and to offer more possibilities and freedom to its users," said Borysov. "People will be able to control a spaceship in a computer game or a remote-controlled model or a heavy cargo drone with ease using only one hand.

"One of the benefits of Knuckles-5 is that the controller functions are extremely customizable," he added. "Users can choose the optimal control elements to act. Advanced users have the possibility to widen the functionality of Knuckles-5 even more with custom setup.

"There are many devices and gadgets around us that can expand our capabilities. Now my friends in Ukraine are helping me to squeeze all the functionality that I conceived into the small body of the joystick."

If everything falls into place, Borysov would love to have a finished product ready to market by the end of 2021, but he realizes there is no guarantee of success.

"There are hundreds of reasons why this project could fail, and only one is enough to fail," he said. "The other extreme [is] if it is in demand. This means that I will have to say goodbye to a fairly measured life and again engage in organizing production, collecting a team, logistics, registering a company, organizing several assembly points for finished products and not forgetting to continue developing new product modifications.

"So I am as wary of success as I am of failure. In any case, my friends and I have been ready for both options from the very beginning."

Learn more online at knuckles5.com.

Canada Cup curling cancelled

By Voice staff

Curling Canada has confirmed the dates for the upcoming national mixed doubles championship in Calgary while also formally announcing the cancellation of the Canada Cup.

The mixed doubles playdowns will be held March 18-25 at the Markin MacPhail Centre.

The winner will represent Canada at the world mixed doubles championship later this year.

Last year's Scotties and Brier champions are joining forces to form Canada's newest mixed doubles curling team.

Camp Morton's Kerri Einarson will be forming a team with St. John's N.L.'s Brad Gushue

The Canada Cup, which had been postponed indefinitely due to the COVID-19 pandemic, was originally scheduled for late November in Fredericton, N.B.

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Do you know someone who has a unique hobby? Will be recognized by a local organization for volunteer service?

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

The Winkler Morden
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"THE CONTROLLER FUNCTIONS ARE EXTREMELY CUSTOMIZABLE. USERS CAN CHOOSE THE OPTIMAL CONTROL ELEMENTS TO ACT."

sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

Wade Allison ready for pro debut in upcoming NHL season

By Ty Dilello

Roland's Wade Allison signed an entry-level deal with the Philadelphia Flyers last summer after four years of college hockey.

Allison recently completed four years of college at Western Michigan University in the United States. A second round (52nd overall) draft pick of the Philadelphia Flyers in 2016, the 6'2" right winger is set to make his professional debut in the club's organization when the upcoming 2020-21 season gets underway.

Allison got started in hockey at a young age in his hometown of Roland (Myrtle) and spent many years playing his minor hockey all across southern Manitoba.

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

Seeking to improve his development as a player, Allison left the Roland area at fifteen to join the Omaha 'AAA' Lancers 16U team in Nebraska.

"I met David Wilkie, the Omaha coach during the summer before I went down to the United States. Honestly, I just thought it would be a cool experience to change things up and see where it goes. I was kind of shrugged off by the WHL at 16, so I

figured I might as well try this."

Luckily for Allison, he stayed with a wonderful billet family and ended up having a monster season in Omaha where he put up a bunch of points and started to turn up on NHL scouts' radars.

"Going to live in someone else's house you don't know can be a very odd situation when you're fifteen years old, especially in another country. It's a long way from home, but luckily for me, I ended up with great people who took great care of me."

From Omaha, Allison latched onto the USHL's Tri-City Storm, where he spent the next two seasons. He won a USHL championship in his second year (2015-16) and was named MVP of the playoffs after scoring 16 points in 11 games. Allison was then selected by the Philadelphia Flyers at the 2016 NHL Entry Draft.

"I loved Omaha and the people around me and ended up having a great year where I moved up to the USHL with the Tri-City Storm. I struggled my first year with playing, school and everything going on. That first year was a struggle, adversity hit, but I learned a lot and had some success after that."

Wanting to go the college route, Allison earned a scholarship to Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, Michigan. He has spent the past four years playing at the college level and improving his game even more.

"I really enjoyed my time at Western Michigan. I met a lot of lifelong friends, had a lot of fun, made a ton of memories and of course, studied to



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Roland's Wade Allison has recently signed an entry-level contract with the NHL's Philadelphia Flyers. He joined the team at their training camp this month.

learn a few things. Playing at the Division 1 level, it was such a high level of hockey that you have no choice but to improve. It was challenging every day, and it came with a lot of up and downs, but I wouldn't trade it the experience for the world."

Last March, Allison signed an entry-level contract with the NHL's Philadelphia Flyers. The 23-year-old then kicked off 2021 by participating in the team's training camp. He is expected to begin in the AHL with the Flyers

affiliate, the Lehigh Valley Phantoms.

"I cannot wait to get things going in Philadelphia," he said before the holidays. "It's been too long without hockey. I'm excited because this is the next step that I have to take in trying to live my dream. It's very nerve-racking, but it's what's going to have me grow the most as a person and a player. This is my opportunity; it's everything I've worked for. I'm just going to go out, do my best, control what I can control and let the rest take care of itself."

Western Hockey League announces draft date change

By Voice staff

The Western Hockey League has announced that the 2021 WHL Draft, previously referred to as the WHL Bantam Draft, has been rescheduled and will be conducted in December 2021.

The WHL Draft was originally scheduled to take place in May 2021.

"Moving the 2021 WHL Draft from May to December allows additional time for players in the 2006 age group to be evaluated following a challenging season due to the COVID-19 pandemic," said WHL commissioner Ron Robison in a statement. "We anticipate minor hockey leagues and tournaments will be fully operational in the fall, which will allow players to

compete at a high level once again."

The WHL also announced that the 2021 WHL Cup is tentatively scheduled to be held in October 2021, featuring WHL Draft-eligible players. The event provides another opportunity for eligible players to showcase their talents to WHL scouts in advance of the draft.

The 2021 WHL Cup will feature Un-

der-16 teams from each of Canada's four Western branches—BC Hockey, Hockey Alberta, the Saskatchewan Hockey Association, and Hockey Manitoba competing for U-16 supremacy in Western Canada.

The 2020 WHL Cup, which was scheduled to be held in October, was cancelled due to the coronavirus pandemic.

News or sports tip? E-mail news@winklermordenvoice.ca or call 325-6888

get inspired

> MEAL IDEAS



Chicken, Spinach and Grape Pita

1 1/2 cups shredded, cooked chicken (about 8 ounces)

1 cup red California grapes, sliced
1/4 cup crumbled feta cheese
4 whole-wheat pita breads (6 1/2 inches each), warmed and halved

In small skillet over medium-high heat, toast pine nuts, stirring constantly until toasted, about 5 minutes. Transfer to bowl and let cool. In large bowl, whisk lemon juice, shallot, olive oil, red pepper flakes, sumac, salt and pepper. Add spinach, chicken, grapes, feta and pine nuts; toss to mix. Stuff into pita breads and serve.

Servings: 4
2 tablespoons pine nuts
2 tablespoons lemon juice
2 tablespoons minced shallot
3 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
1 pinch red pepper flakes
1/4 teaspoon ground sumac
salt
freshly ground black pepper
1 package (5-6 ounces) fresh baby spinach, washed and dried



Grape and Salmon Power Salad

1/2 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper

1 pinch cayenne pepper
1/2 cup extra-virgin olive oil
Cook barley according to package directions. Drain and cool.

Tenderize kale by blanching in boiling water 2-3 seconds or microwaving 1 minute. Rinse pieces in cold water to stop cooking; squeeze dry. Fluff and uncrimp dry kale pieces with fingers. In medium bowl, mix barley, kale, grapes, salmon and walnuts.

To make dressing: In small bowl, whisk lemon juice, garlic, salt, pepper and cayenne. Gradually mix in olive oil. Pour onto salad and fold gently to combine.

Servings: 6
3/4 cup pearly barley
3 cups firmly packed kale leaves, torn and sliced into ribbons
1 cup halved red or black seedless California grapes
8 ounces cold, cooked salmon, skin and bones removed
1/2 cup walnuts, lightly toasted and coarsely chopped
Dressing:
1/4 cup freshly squeezed lemon juice
1 clove garlic, mashed



Quinoa Salad with Orange Cilantro Salad Dressing

1 grapefruit, cut into pieces (optional)
1 lime, juice only
1/2 avocado, diced (optional)
1/4 cup feta cheese (optional)
1/4 cup diced red onion (optional)

To make dressing: In food processor, pulse orange soda, lime juice, olive oil, cilantro, avocado and garlic until consistency is smooth.

To make quinoa salad: Cook quinoa according to package directions and let cool.

Once quinoa is cool, add to bowl with orange pieces, if desired; grapefruit pieces, if desired; lime juice; avocado, if desired; feta cheese, if desired; and diced onion, if desired. Top with orange cilantro salad dressing.

Yield: 2 cups
Dressing:
1/2 cup Zevia Orange Soda
1/4 cup lime juice
1/2 cup olive oil
1 cup fresh cilantro
1/2 avocado
1 teaspoon garlic
Quinoa Salad:
1 cup quinoa
leafy greens (optional)
1 orange, cut into pieces (optional)



Ask the Money Lady.ca

taxed the same as ordinary income and is therefore taxed at your marginal tax rate based on where you live in Canada. It is necessary to figure out the correct multiplier to calculate the additional amount of interest income you would have to earn, to then equate this after-tax interest income to the amount of after-tax income retained from an eligible dividend. Below is a list of each province, the top marginal tax rates for 2021 and the multiplier.

Let's take the first one - Alberta: Eligible dividends are taxed at an effective top marginal rate of 34.31% and interest is taxed at the top rate of 48%. Therefore, an Alberta investor would have to earn approximately \$1,263.33 more in interest income for every \$1 of eligible dividend income in the same after-tax position.

Investor A: \$1,263.27 interest income x 0.48 = \$606.37 taxes, leaving \$656.90 as income (\$1,263.27 - \$606.37 = \$656.90)

Investor B: \$1,000.00 eligible dividend x 0.3431 = \$343.10 taxes, leaving \$656.90 as income (\$1,000 - \$343.10 = \$656.90)

***Investor A has to earn more in their investment to pay more taxes to end up with the same income in 2021.

Could you tell me how interest income is taxed? My advisor wants me to switch my portfolio, but I am reluctant to do so.

Thanks, Melanie

Great question Melanie,

Many Canadians don't want to risk their retirement portfolios to the uncertainty of the stock market and instead put their money into interest savings structures like GICs to reduce risk and maintain their capital. Others, especially those who have financial planners to guide them, put their money into dividend producing guided stock portfolios. So, which is better? Is your advisor right to suggest something different? Let's compare the two options and you decide.

Dividend income gets preferential tax treatments in the form of a "dividend tax credit." Interest income is

Top Personal Marginal Tax Rates by Province for 2021:

	Interest/Ordinary Income	Eligible Dividend	Multiplier
Alberta	48%	34.31%	1.2633
British Columbia	53.50%	36.54%	1.3647
Manitoba	50.40%	37.78%	1.2544
New Brunswick	53.30%	33.51%	1.4238
Newfoundland	51.30%	42.61%	1.1784
Nova Scotia	54.00%	41.58%	1.2700
Ontario	53.53%	39.34%	1.3054
PEI	51.37%	34.22%	1.3527
Quebec	53.31%	40.11%	1.2827
Saskatchewan	47.50%	29.64%	1.3402
Yukon	48.00%	28.93%	1.3667

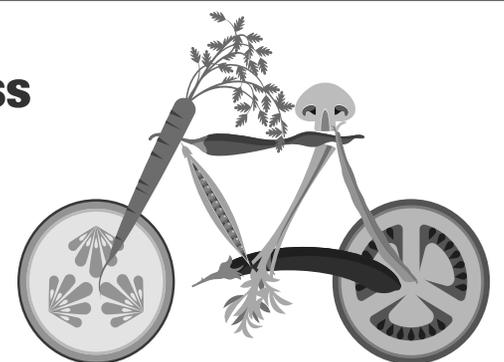
You know I am going to recommend you chose the dividend income strategy; that being said, I also know a lot of older Canadians are worried about the markets and some have little to no tolerance for market swings. Why not consider talking to your financial planner about a blue-chip dividend portfolio. It doesn't hurt to look at other options to make money wisely. No one wants to pay more taxes than they have to.

Good Luck and Best Wishes,
Money Lady

Written by Christine Ibbotson, Author of the best-selling book "How to Retire Debt Free & Wealthy" and a new book Don't Panic - How to Manage your Finances and Financial Anxieties During and After the Coronavirus" available at all bookstores across Canada. If you have a money question, please email on website: www.askthemoneylady.ca

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MISCELLANEOUS

Having a virtual event in Manitoba in 2021? Need registrants? Advertise it in the 37 MB Weekly newspapers and get noticed! Each week our blanket classifieds could be helping your organization get noticed in over 340,000 homes! It's AFFORDABLE and it's a great way to increase and connect with our 37 weekly member newspapers. For as little as \$189 + GST, get your important messaging out! Call us at 204-467-5836 to book or email classified@mcna.com for details. MCNA - Manitoba Community Newspapers 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.

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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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January 16
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May 15

Please join us at 10:30 AM to learn, share, and discuss the realities of living with scleroderma. Patients, family & friends are all welcome.

You are not alone!
For more info, visit sclerodermamanitoba.com or call 204 256-0225.

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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.

SUITE RENTAL

MARATHON PIZZA 1 bedroom suite for rent in Morden. Available Feb. 1, 2021 Call Mike at 204-822-6228 for more details.

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. 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 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 re-flects 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 re-main 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

CAMPGROUND SERVICING



NOTICE OF TENDER MUNICIPALITY OF PEMBINA MANITOBA CAMPGROUND SERVICING AND WASHROOM BUILDING

Sealed Tenders will be received by the Municipality of Pembina at the office of STECKLEY Consulting Engineers Inc., 1-915 Navigator Road, Winkler, MB R6W 0L7 up to **2:00 pm local time on Wednesday February 10th, 2021** for the following work:

Servicing with Sewer, Water, and Electrical for 4 new campsites Proposed Sewer Dump Station 624 Square Foot Washroom Building and Sidewalk

Each Tender must be accompanied by a Bid Bond and Consent of Surety or Contractor must agree to increased holdback.

Tender Documents are available on Dropbox. Contact STECKLEY for an emailed invitation to access Dropbox. Phone: 204.325.5114 Email: ksteckley@steckley.ca

The Lowest or any Tender not necessarily accepted.

Wes Unrau, CAO
Municipality of Pembina

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.

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PUBLIC NOTICE



Western School Division

Kindergarten Registration for September 2021

In order for the schools to prepare for the 2021-2022 school year, it is important that parents register their children for Kindergarten from **January 22 to January 29, 2021**. Additional information is available at www.westernsd.mb.ca.

Registrations may be completed and submitted electronically, or a registration package can be picked-up at the school and returned between 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. from January 22 to January 29, 2021. Children born in 2016 or earlier are eligible to enrol. All parents shall include a copy of their child's birth certificate when registering. Please include either a photocopy or a picture of the birth certificate with the completed registration package.

Please enrol in the school within whose catchment area your residence is located. For Kindergarten program and registration information, please call the schools directly.

Catchment areas are:

Minnewasta School, 1 Academy Drive, Mr. Geoff Sutton, Principal, 204-822-4580

- Area south of North Railway; area west of Mountain St.; and all rural students.

Maple Leaf School, 225-12th Street, Mr. Samuel Jerema, Principal, 204-822-4458

- Area north of South Railway St.; area east of Mountain St.; and all early years (K-4) French Immersion students.

Kindergarten Information Session

Western School Division will be holding a Kindergarten Parent Information session on January 21, 2021 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. online. You can access the registration link from www.westernsd.mb.ca. We look forward to seeing all the new Kindergarten parents on this evening.

More detailed information is available online at www.westernsd.mb.ca, at the schools, or at Western School Division Office, 204-822-4448.

FARMLAND TENDER

FARMLAND FOR SALE BY TENDER

Sealed, written tenders for property in the Rural Municipality of Dufferin will be received by:

GILMOUR & BRAUL LAW OFFICE

504 Stanley Avenue
Winkler, MB R6W 0M3

For: **SE ¼ 25-06-07 WPM - 80 Acres**
EXCEPTING - THE SLY 1320 FEET PERP.

Certificate of Title No. 1831894/4

CONDITIONS OF TENDER:

1. Interested parties must rely on their own inspection and knowledge of the property.
2. Tenders must be received on or before **5:00 p.m. on February 12, 2021**.
3. Tenders must be accompanied by a deposit of 5% of the amount offered, payable to GILMOUR & BRAUL LAW OFFICE. Deposit cheques accompanying unsuccessful bids will be returned following completion of a binding offer to purchase with the successful bidder.
4. The Purchaser(s) shall be responsible for payment of GST or shall self-assess for GST.
5. Highest or any tender not necessarily accepted. The Vendors are not obligated to sell the land or to accept any tender.

CONDITIONS OF SALE:

1. The bidder(s) whose tender is accepted shall be required to complete an agreement covering terms and conditions of sale.
2. In addition to the deposit, the balance of the accepted purchase price must be paid on or before the date of possession, or evidence provided by the Purchaser that the purchase funds will be available under conditions acceptable to the Vendors. If the balance of the accepted tender is not paid within the set time limit, the deposit paid may be forfeited as liquidated damages and not as a penalty.
3. The adjustment for taxes is as of January 1, 2021.
4. Possession is not authorized until acceptable arrangements for full payment are made following acceptance of tender. The Vendor is anticipating a possession date for the sale on or before March 31, 2021.
5. The farmland is currently seeded to a grass alfalfa mix, and there were two cuts removed in 2020.
6. The Vendors are prepared to accept offers conditional on approval of financing only.

For further information contact:

GARY R. GILMOUR at:

Ph: 204-325-8850 Fax: 204-325-8830
gary@gilmourlaw.ca

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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 (no customers in office due to Covid restrictions)
- Greeting drive up customers, truckers etc.
- 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

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OBITUARY



Mary Wolfe (nee Hiebert) 1944 - 2021

Mary Wolfe, of Winkler, MB formerly Altona and Hochfeld, passed away peacefully in her home at the age of 76 in the early morning of January 6th, 2021.

Left to mourn is her husband, Bernard (Barney) Wolfe; their children, Marvin, Kimberly (Michael), and Steven (Heather); Mary's brother, David (Anne); sister, Ruth (Jack); and beloved grandchildren, Jordan, Kiara (Haydon), Matthew (Shelby), Samaire and Felix; as well extended family and many friends. Mary was predeceased by her parents, David and Katharina Hiebert and her father and mother-in-law, John and Anne Wolfe.

On February 8th, 1944, Mary was born to David and Katharina Hiebert, the first of three children. Mary grew up with her family in the village of Hochfeld and told stories often from her childhood. She attended school in the village, and moved to Winnipeg in her young adulthood, where she excelled working in the kitchen at the Princess Elizabeth Hospital. Mary accepted Jesus Christ as her Lord and Saviour as a young child and continued to worship the gospel throughout her life. She radiated with joy at the opportunity to share the love of Jesus with those around her, and she remained actively faithful in her final days. Mary was baptized on June 17th, 1962, Mary attended church religiously as a child, and later she and Barney became members of the EMM Church of Altona, and later, of Winkler.

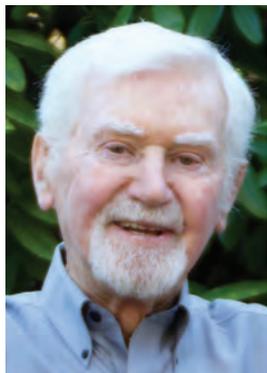
Mary and Barney met in their younger years in Hochfeld, when Mary moved to Winnipeg, Barney followed to attend school and be near her. They wed on June 16th, 1963 and celebrated their 57th wedding anniversary this summer. Together they built a beautiful life. They lived in Winnipeg, Altona and Winkler, and had three children together. Mary and Barney enjoyed traveling and exploring and made many road and camping trips with their children, grandchildren, extended family and friends throughout the years. Mary raised her young children, and later went on to work in the Co-Op Cafeteria, and the kitchen of the Eden Mental Health Centre. Mary was an avid baker and cook. She enjoyed trying new recipes, and never showed up to an event or gathering empty handed, nor sent anyone home without an assortment of goodies. She was known for her soups, buns and homemade bread. Following retirement, Mary and Barney spent their summers camping, and then enjoyed the warm weather in Arizona and Texas for the duration of the winter and spent 20 years traveling south each year. Mary was very social, and thoroughly enjoyed spending her time with friends and family, going for coffee and meals, playing cards and reading. She always cared deeply for others, loved people whole heartedly and was rarely seen without a radiant smile on her face. Mary was diagnosed with cancer in 2016 and fought bravely and elegantly for four years. She will be dearly missed but is now in her eternal resting place with her Creator, which is where she prayed to be.

A private graveside service was held at Westridge Memorial Gardens. Her family would like to send a special thank you to Dr. Woelk, and the nurses of the Palliative Care program at BTHC, as well as Wiebe Funeral Home of Winkler.

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



OBITUARY



Dr. Abe Zacharias

Dr. Abe Zacharias, born and raised in the Winkler area, passed away in Victoria, B.C. on December 21st, 2020 at the age of 83. He leaves to mourn his beloved wife Lynne, daughter Shawn, son Mark, their spouses and three grandchildren.

Abe was instrumental in establishing the radiology department of Cranbrook Hospital and it becoming a Regional Hospital in the East Kooteney region of B.C. He was a greatly respected physician, known for his leadership, humility and quiet philanthropy. He was generous in sharing his medical knowledge, especially in radiology with many hospitals and physicians across Canada.

His surviving siblings feel honored and fortunate to have had such a gifted and much loved brother. He is survived in Manitoba by brother John (Gloria) Zacharias of East St. Paul; sisters - Anne (Jake) Giesbrecht, Jessie (Hugh (deceased)) Dyck, Esther (Norman)

Rothenburger and families in Winkler and Morden area.

OBITUARY

Arthur "Art" John Klassen



It is with great sorrow and sadness that we announce the passing of our father, Arthur John Klassen. He passed away on January 1, 2021 at the age of 90.

Art was born in Rosenfeld, MB, on June 28, 1930 and grew up on the family farm. He met the love of his life, Mary Dyck at a baseball tournament while coaching the opposing team. Art was smitten from the first time he laid eyes on her. They were married September 6, 1953. They started their lives together in Altona, MB, where Art worked at the sunflower plant and played hockey with the Altona Maroons. A few years later Art and Mary moved to Winnipeg. Here he worked at the Imperial Oil Refinery until he was able to buy his own bulk oil agency in Morden, Manitoba.

Art and Mary made lifelong friends everywhere they moved. They spend many years living in Portage la Prairie, MB where they were very involved in the community. Art loved singing in the Trinity United Church choir. In addition to participating in church events, he was involved in the city council, Rotary Club and the Portage Golf Club. Once he retired, Art and Mary enjoyed many winters in Texas where they were able to visit family and spend time golfing and appreciating the warm weather.

Art is survived by his wife of 67 years, Mary (Dyck) Klassen; his four daughters, Marilyn Klassen (Dale), Debra Barratt (Greg), Kim Sigurdson (Brent), Tricia Klassen-Morton (Kelly); and also nine grandchildren: Josh, Charlie, Mariell, Arthur (A.J.), Jordan, Robin, Katie, Arden and Kalan. He is also survived by his siblings: Mary, Ken and Maureen as well as many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents: John and Sarah Klassen, his sister Elma and brothers: Bill, Eddie and Harold.

Art Klassen will be remembered by those who knew him as a very kind, generous and loving father, grandfather, uncle and friend.

Thank you to the doctors and nurses at the St. Boniface Hospital for the wonderful care they provided while Dad was in their care.

A memorial service will be held at a later date with more details to be announced. We would like to thank family, friends and neighbours for their kind wishes and support.

In lieu of flowers, please feel free to make a donation on Art's behalf to the Alzheimer Society of Manitoba 40 Royal Road North, Portage la Prairie MB R1N 1V1 or Central Plains Cancer Services 318 Sask. Ave. E., Portage la Prairie MB R1N 0K8 or to the charity of your choice.

A tree will be planted in memory and cared for by McKenzies Portage Funeral Chapel www.mckenzieportagefuneralchapel.com

CAREERS



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OBITUARY



**Percy Dave Doell
1946 - 2020**

On Thursday, December 31, 2020 at 9:40 p.m. Percy Dave Doell passed away peacefully in his bed at Salem Home. The COVID restrictions did not allow the whole family to be by his side but their hearts were there with him. With Facetime it was possible for some precious moments where some actually got Dad to laugh a little. Son, Kevin Doell and daughter, Jolene Peters came to be by his side the days prior. In his final moments he passed away with his daughter by his side while listening to the Glorybound Quartet, one of his favorite singing groups.

Percy Doell was born July 26th, 1946 at the old Bethel Hospital that was in Winkler. He grew up on a farm in the Winkler area for about 12 years. Percy was the second oldest, he grew up with two sisters and one brother and attended the Zion School in the country. He attended Sunday School in Burwalde when he was younger and then later attended the Kane Bergthaler Church where he was baptized in May of 1972. Percy and Marge attended the Lowe Farm Bergthaler Mennonite church for 30 years. He served as an usher as well as on the finance committee. Percy met the love of his life in 1970. He was working at Kimberly Clark flax straw company with Peter, Marge's brother. Peter brought Percy home one day and he met Marge. They dated for 1 year and 9 months, they were engaged in March of 1972 and were then married July 23, 1972 at the Winkler, MB church with Reverend Abram H officiating. Their first trip together was to Vancouver BC and Banff for two weeks for their honeymoon which was the start to many vacations that followed. In 1972 Percy and his wife Marge bought the family farm close to Sperling. They lived there with Percy's parents until his parent's home in Carman was ready for them. In the following years they raised five children and taught each of them to follow Christ. Dad was a very hard worker. Farming was his life. Dad worked hard in the barns, field work, garden work and yard work. Dad would take each one of us kids on trips to the city with a load of pigs, if we were lucky, we would get to eat at McDonalds. That was one way Mom would get a break from us busy kids. When Dad would be out on the combine, we would go for rides and for some of us, we would fall asleep in the little bunk. Dad loved each one of us so much. Dad loved spending time with all of his family. We spent many weekends camping and going to the beach. He loved being out on the water or anywhere with nature. Dad would take the jet ski out on the water wearing his jeans rolled up, not caring that he never learned how to swim. Dad loved being with his grandchildren, holding them often and always ready with a candy in hand. He greeted his grandchildren with a playful snort, and when they would leave, he would tell them "Keep your nose clean."

In the year of 1999, Dad had a serious, life altering accident. Dad survived 7200 volts of electricity. He was burned on 35% of his body. God carried him through emotional and physical healing, and he was able to be a spiritual witness to many people. The doctor said he would be in a wheelchair the rest of his life, but God had more in life for him. Dad had so much determination to still help and be a part of the farm after his accident. Those that know him well would know all the stories of his will power. The promise that God will never leave or forsake him was what strengthened him. In 2001, Dad and Mom retired to Winkler. Dad spent his mornings working at Meridian. They continued to enjoy camping and travelling with friends and family. In 2011 Mom passed away. Dad struggled to continue life without her. He moved to Cedar Estates and then to Salem Home in 2013 as his health began to fail. After seven years at Salem the Lord called him home.

Dad is survived by his children: son, Kevin and wife, Kristen along with their children, Ashley (recently married to Fernando Neufeld), Ryan and Cameron of Sperling; son, Jerry and wife, Anna and their children, Jordan and Brayden of Oak Bluff; son, Edwin of Winkler; son, Steven and wife, Beverly and their children, Kelsi, Adriane, Taylor and Adam of Kane and daughter, Jolene and husband, Pete Peters and their children, Myron, Marcus and Amalie of Winkler. He also leaves to mourn his sisters and brother: sister, Dorothy and husband, Bernie Friesen; brother, Art and wife, Tina Doell; and sister, Evelyn Doell and their families. He was predeceased by his father, David C. Doell May 14th, 1999 age 76, his brother-in-law, Abe Unrau his wife, Margaret Doreen Doell on Friday, April 22nd, 2011 at age 61 and his Mom, Margaretha Doell Sunday, November 22nd, 2020 at age 95. God takes care of us and strengthens us each day. One of Dad's favorite verses was "My body and mind may fail, but You are my strength and my choice forever." Psalm 73 verse 26. He gave the Lord the praise and glory for all his life.

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

The family would like to thank all the staff at Salem Home for the care they provided to Dad over the many years there. Thank you also to all the family and friends that supported us through prayer, text messages, phone calls, food and flowers. Thank you to Wiebe Funeral Home for helping us through the planning during these COVID inconveniences and restrictions. A special thank you to Pastor Richard Quiring for not hesitating to be our Pastor for the service and to Glorybound Quartet for pre-recording a few of Dads favorite songs.

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



OBITUARY



**Susie Hoepfner
1924 - 2021**

"Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints." Psalm 116:15

On July 7, 1924, Susie Hoepfner was born into the family of Rev. Isaac A. and Elizabeth (nee Wolfe) Hoepfner. She was the 13th of 14 children born to them. The family lived in the Glencross area where Susie received her education in the Glencross School. She was baptized upon the confession of faith, confessing Jesus as her Lord and Saviour at the age of 16 by Bishop Wilhelm Falk on June 5, 1941. Susie also attended Winkler Bible School for one year 1946-47.

Susie and her sisters were hard workers. There was always a lot to do on the farm, milking cows, feeding the animals and cleaning up after them. They always had a big garden which meant weeding, picking produce and canning. A lot of produce was shared with family, friends, neighbors and strangers. They loved flowers and there were many flowers in the garden and also in the house. The aunts took almost anybody that needed a temporary place to live into their home. July 25, 1955, Mary and Kaye were taken into their home after they lost their parents. They raised them until they got married, their home always remained open for them to come home. To this day, Susie called Kaye her daughter. Some jobs that Susie had outside the home were in the cannery, sewing factory and at the Morden Hospital. Susie and Annie moved from the farm to Grant Street in Morden in 2000. They continued to have a garden and still enjoyed having company and visiting. After Annie's passing in 2013, Susie was very lonely and by 2015 it was impossible for her to stay alone. With some difficulties as some of us know, we moved her into the Tabor Units. In November 2016, she was moved into the Tabor Home. She enjoyed it there because she was with people and she was taken care of. When we came to visit her, she was always happy, and we all felt better about that. In 2017, she made the move into the new Tabor Home. She would say, "This is where I wanted to move, into the new home." She always smiled when we came to visit her and said that the people there treated her well and the food was good.

On December 18, 2020, she had a stroke and her health kept deteriorating. Lydia Hildebrand and Kaye visited her every day. On Monday January 4, 2021 at 5:30 a.m., with Lydia by her side, Susie went to meet her Lord and Saviour. She was predeceased by all her siblings. She is survived by one sister-in-law, Elsie Hoepfner (who visited her a lot the last few years) as well as many nieces and nephews.

Thank you to all the people who visited her over the last few years and to all the staff at Tabor Home who took good care of her. Thank you for your kindness and caring during this last chapter of her life, especially these last few weeks. Thank you to Wiebe Funeral Home for their services.

We rejoice with Susie as she has fought the good fight, finished the race and kept the faith. Now she is receiving the crown of righteousness.

Private funeral service was held with interment at the Waldheim Cemetery.

If friends so desire, donations may be made in Susie's memory to Back to the Bible Canada.

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



OBITUARY



**Anne Wiebe (nee Penner)
1926 - 2021**

Anne Wiebe passed away peacefully at the Salem Home in Winkler, MB on Friday, January 8, 2021.

Anne was born June 25, 1926 in Chortitz, Manitoba. She was predeceased by her parents, Abram and Helena Penner, her siblings and her husband of 50 years, John A Wiebe (1999). Mom is survived by her five children and their spouses: Rob and Val Wiebe, Barb and Aron Heide, Jeff and Val Wiebe, Tim and Laurie Wiebe, Sandy and Brian Bissett, 12 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren.

A private family funeral was held with interment at the Winkler Cemetery.

Donations may be made in Anne's memory to the Salem Foundation Inc. or to a charity of your choice.

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



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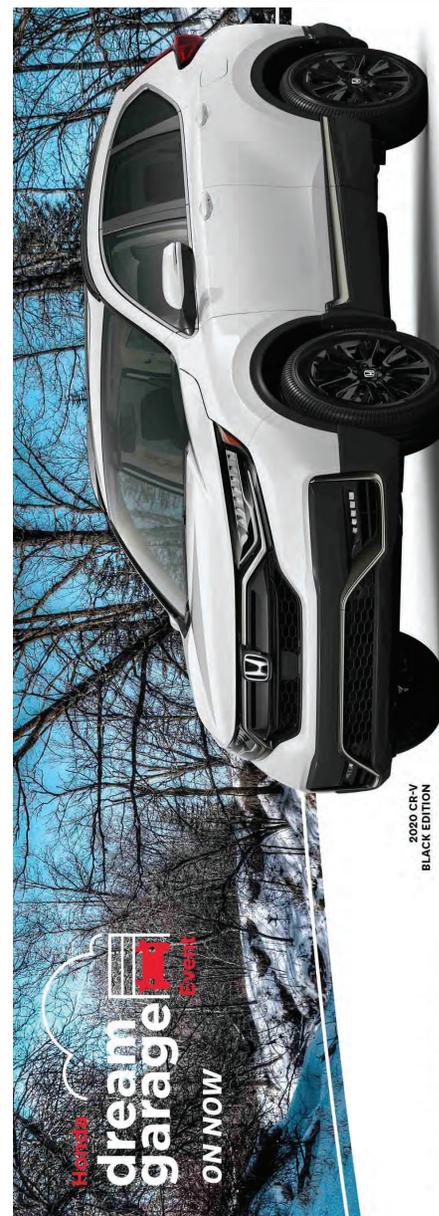
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