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Plum Coulee native Rosemary Siemmens and husband Eli Bennett received a very special letter of thanks from the Queen of England. For the full story, see Pg. 2.

SUPPLIED PHOTO



A letter from the queen

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“It was kind of a dream fulfilled”

Couple’s “God Save the Queen” recording gets some royal attention

By Lorne Stelmach

When Rosemary Siemens and Eli Bennett recorded a special version of “God Save The Queen,” the husband and wife duo ultimately hoped Her Majesty would hear the song.

Their dream of perhaps performing the song for Queen Elizabeth remains, but for now having received special acknowledgement is the next best thing.

Imagine their surprise when they received a letter in the mail recently from Windsor Castle in acknowledgement of the gift of a Christmas card and CD that had been sent to the queen.

“We just couldn’t believe it,” the pride of Plum Coulee said of the moment she read the thank you letter from the queen. “It was pretty amazing; to get that letter from the queen ... it was kind of a dream fulfilled.

“Hopefully that’s not the end of the story. Hopefully, someday, we would still be able to play it for her.”

The story goes back to 2013 when Bennett and Siemens were awarded Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medals for their contributions to the

arts in Canada.

It inspired them to create a special version of “God Save The Queen” as a thank you.

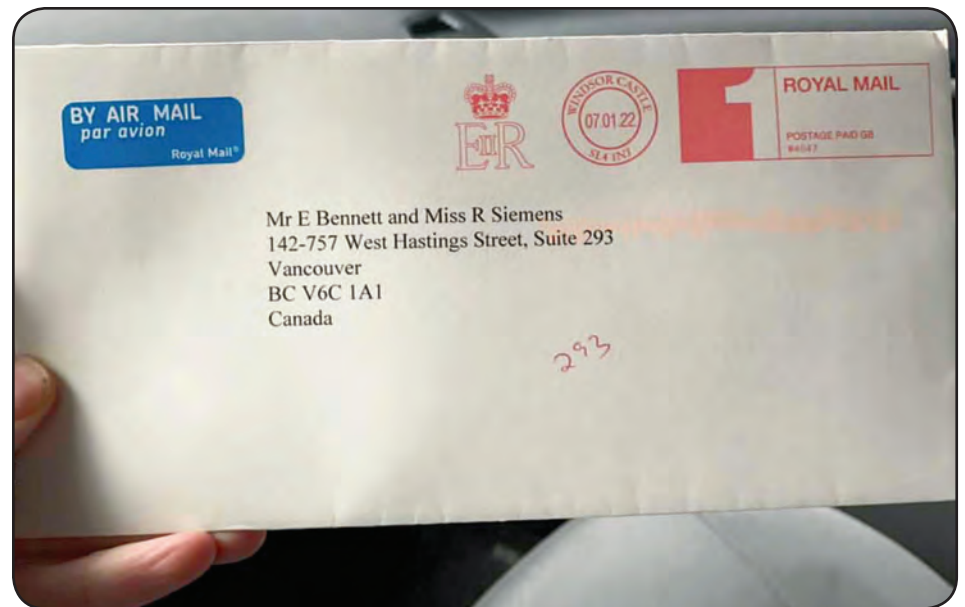
The award-winning duo who perform as SaxAndViolin went to work on it, with violinist Siemens recording all of the strings and the choir parts while saxophonist Bennett recorded, produced, orchestrated, and arranged the rest of the orchestra.

The end result featuring the sound of a 400-piece orchestra and choir created by just the two of them premiered on YouTube in September 2021 in advance of the queen’s platinum jubilee in 2022.

“Soon after our release we were contacted by a friend of a historian who knew the queen and he was so excited about the song he offered to send our version of ‘God Save The Queen’ to the queen,” explains Siemens.

“We were really excited at the possibility that the queen would hear our version of the national anthem and so we put together a CD, a letter, and a Christmas card that the historian forwarded to the queen in November of 2021.”

Credit goes to Gerry Scott, who is



SUPPLIED PHOTO

SaxAndViolin duo Rosemary Siemens and Eli Bennett were thrilled to receive a thank you from Queen Elizabeth for their unique rendition of “God Save the Queen.”

the father of Christian singer Connie Scott and who loved the song so much that he wanted to help get the song to Queen Elizabeth; he knew the historian with the connection to the monarch.

One wouldn’t necessarily expect things to really go any further, but Bennett and Siemens were thrilled then to receive a letter penned by Queen Elizabeth’s Lady-in-Waiting Mary Anne Morrison, known as one of the queen’s closest confidantes and Dame Grand Cross of the Royal Victorian Order.

The letter thanked Bennett and Siemens for their version and stated the queen was touched by their work and grateful for their generous gesture.

“We had always hoped that the queen would hear our recording, but to receive a letter like this, a personal thank you from the queen, is just amazing,” Siemens said.

For Siemens, there was reward enough in just having the opportunity to record such a special song in such an extraordinary way, and she suggested a strong connection to the song remains for many people.

“We haven’t played it live a lot, but we have played it two or three times, and instantly some people stand up,” she noted. “It’s a very special song, actually a hymn, and it is still special to so many people.”

Schanzenfeld man killed in snowmobile accident

By Voice staff

A Schanzenfeld man was killed in a snowmobile accident near Milner Ridge over the weekend.

Lac du Bonnet RCMP were called to the scene on Snoman Trail #754, located approximately five kilometres west of Provincial Road 214, just before 11 a.m. Saturday morning.

Police say the 48-year-old man was travelling on the trail when his snowmobile veered off and collided with a tree.

He was taken to hospital where he succumbed to his injuries.

The deceased was wearing a helmet at the time of the collision.

RCMP continue to investigate.

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City of Morden welcomes new youth councillor

By Lorne Stelmach

A local student leader is now also getting experience at the municipal level of government.

Bijan Salimi, a Grade 11 student at Morden Collegiate, recently began a term as the youth member of city council, and he welcomes the opportunity to make council aware of issues that affect local youth and to advocate on their behalf.

"I hope that my experience will show that having a youth council member present is beneficial for the community at large," Salimi said last week in an interview by email. "I am also definitely excited to learn about the inner workings of our local city government."

"He's a very intelligent young man, and he's very well informed ... so we're excited to have him here," said Mayor Brandon Burley.

Salimi comes to the role with the experience of not only being involved on student council locally but also as co-chair of the province's student advisory council. He was one of 29 students selected from close to 200 applicants for the council, which was formed as part of the province's review of the education system.

His other involvements include being part of Morden Collegiate's debate club, and he participated in the a national student debate seminar

hosted by the school.

Salimi sees his role as helping bridge the gap that exists between the Morden's youth and city council.

"I believed that this position would allow me to be a voice for the community's youth and to continue raising awareness about key issues that affect us," he said. "In addition, having this role will allow me to encourage my fellow peers to become involved in local politics, not only now but also for the future."

He suggested there could be a broad range of issues of interest to youth, whether that be supporting the diversity and inclusivity of Morden, tackling the effects of the drought, or supporting local athletics by building and maintaining basketball courts, outdoor hockey rinks, soccer fields, and more.

"I hope I can provide a young person's perspective in regards to important issues surrounding the community, and I believe that my past experiences in advocacy will help me do my best job," said Salimi.

"I hope that this experience will allow me to be an effective and transparent advocate now, and through the future, especially if I become involved in public service," he continued. "Public service is something that has piqued my interest for sure, and

Continued on page 4



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Bijan Salimi, shown here with Mayor Brandon Burley, is the City of Morden's new youth councillor.

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Faith Mission moving to new, larger space

Kroeker Farms has come to a property swap deal with the mission

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Faith Mission (FriedensBote) in Winkler will be on the move later this year.

The Christian non-profit that ships clothing donations overseas has come to a property swap deal with Kroeker Farms that will see them move out of their current facility on Roblin Blvd. East into a new building under construction a few blocks away at the corner of Cargill Rd. and Circle K Dr.

"Kroeker Farms came to us last year and they said they wanted this building for their Potato Store," explained board secretary-treasurer Jake Elias.

Kroeker Farms reps couldn't be reached for comment for this story as of press time, but the location is a stone's throw from the farm's current retail storefront as well as its head offices and storage facilities.

Faith Mission has only been in the building for about six years now and had intended to stay there for the long haul, but the chance for a new, slightly larger facility at no cost to them was too good to pass up.

"We figured if they really want it ..." Elias said, laughing. "At first we

weren't sure, but ... we're getting a bigger building out of it."

At 9,600 square feet, the new building is about 50 per cent bigger than their current spot, with a larger second storey.

Building new also gives them the opportunity to tweak the layout a bit to better suit their needs, Elias said.

"It's going to make it a little easier to work," he said, noting they will now have a proper loading dock and more space in both the work and storage areas.

"When we built this place, it was quite a bit bigger than our previous location, but the storage space for our [clothing] bales we kind of skimped on a little too much," Elias said, adding they've also found they could use a little more room for volunteers to do their work. The mission has a huge team of volunteers in throughout the week cleaning, sorting, and baling donated clothing for shipment to the needy overseas, mainly in Ukraine.

The clothing along with used bicycles, blankets, and, around the holidays, Christmas gift boxes are packed into shipping containers for their journey. Faith Mission this past year sent nine packed-to-the-brim containers on their way.

The new facility will allow them to do their work better, but there are a few challenges the site does bring.

For one, Circle K Dr. hasn't yet been completed as a through road connecting Roblin to Cargill, though it is ex-



PHOTOS BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Faith Mission board secretary-treasurer Jake Elias in the non-profit's current space, in which volunteers sort and bale thousands of used clothing donations for shipment overseas. The new building under construction (below) will give them much more room for their work.

pected it will be in the next year or so.

"That will be a bit of a pain, I guess," Elias said, "because both of our driveways will be off Circle K, which isn't there yet. So Kroeker's will be looking after that little piece of the street for this next year or so, until the street is done."

Work on the new facility is well underway, with hopes to have the mission settled in as soon as possible.

"It's coming together very well," said Elias.

"We're hoping end of March, maybe," he added, noting Kroeker Farms has indicated they'd like to have the Potato Store moved and set up well before the busy spring planting season.

> YOUTH COUNCILLOR, FROM PG. 3

I'm very excited to have this opportunity to explore such a career. I'm still exploring a lot of options though and it's definitely tough to make a choice right now."

Mayor Burley was glad to have a youth member again after not having had one through most of the pandemic, and he does see Salimi playing an important role.

"It brings a fresh perspective," he said. "As young people in our community, at this age, begin to look at the world around them and try to understand their place in it and how they can serve their community and take their place, it's good to their perspective because they will be the ones to inherit this community.

"It's an important position, and council intends to listen and to seek to understand because we want to be able to retain our kids who grow up in our community and give them a place here."

Salimi encourages youth to share their thoughts and concerns with him by email to youthmember@mymorden.ca.

Faith Mission's new home is under construction at the corner of Cargill Road and Circle K Drive.



“A cancer journey isn’t something to be taken alone”

By Lorne Stelmach

Pam King brings multiple perspectives to the table when speaking about cancer.

She is a survivor herself while also having lost her husband to the disease, and she has also been a tireless volunteer to help others who are on their own journey with cancer.

When she thinks about both her own experiences as well as those in helping others, King stresses what she has ultimately learned about facing this disease.

“I had thought people would pity me and feel sorry for me,” King recalled recently in sharing her story in advance of Feb. 4 being World Cancer Day.

“I realized a cancer journey wasn’t something to be taken alone ... it’s not to pity you, it’s to support you, and people are amazing,” she said. “People do step up, and it’s only that way that you can get through this, with the support of others.”

King’s personal experience goes back to when a lump was found in her breast in 2002.

“It was invasive and relatively fast moving,” said King, who had surgery that fall to remove the lump followed by several months of chemotherapy and radiation treatments.

“I was done my treatment in June of 2003, and I have been cancer free since.”

In 2018, her husband Kris was diagnosed with bladder cancer after finding blood in his urine.

“It is a difficult cancer to treat,” said King, who noted surgery followed to get as much of the tumor as possible, but he would be facing ongoing treatment for whatever time he had left.

“Without the surgery and the chemotherapy, they gave him three months to live. If he went through with the surgery and the chemo, he might get five years, but it wasn’t very likely,” she said.

“Some of the tumours had shrunk but not adequately, so they decided they would put him on immunotherapy and see how that went,” she continued. “He had one of those treatments

... he was very ill from that, but I think it was actually a combination of his immune system starting to fight the cancer and his body not able to tolerate it.”

Kris died in May 2019, a little over a year from his diagnosis, but King remained eternally grateful for the care provided through community cancer care program at Boundary Trails Health Centre.

As well, she noted the importance of having the navigation team of health care professionals who help guide patients through every aspect of their cancer journey.

“That has just been a godsend for cancer patients. That didn’t exist when I was going through my cancer ... it is wonderful to have those people there.”

It is that appreciation now which continues to motivate her to give back and support others in any way that she can.

“It’s all the personal struggles that you have,” said King, who recalled all the time spent waiting on the diagnosis and waiting for treatment while facing all of the other daily struggles.

“PEOPLE DO STEP UP, AND IT’S ONLY THAT WAY THAT YOU CAN GET THROUGH THIS, WITH THE SUPPORT OF OTHERS.”

“Through your treatment, your life is turned into treatments, doctor appointments, more tests; that’s your whole life, and you go on with that ... it takes over your entire life.

tire life.

“That waiting is so difficult. That’s the time when you need the support of others, and you need people around you,” said King, who went on to serve as a community contact for CancerCare Manitoba as well as a palliative care volunteer.

“A lot of it is just listening and being there for people,” said King, who also became involved in starting up the South Central Cancer Resource.

She was in the midst of her treatments for cancer when she was approached about helping start a resource centre in this area for cancer patients and their families.

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VOICE FILE PHOTO

Pam King, far right, in her capacity as South Central Cancer Resource board chair accepting a donation last year. King was one of the founders of the resource centre, coming to the role with experience as both a cancer survivor and having lost her husband to the disease.



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getheard

EDITORIAL > VIEWPOINTS > LETTERS

The “eyes” have it

You may recall that a few months ago I attended to the optometrist to have my eyes checked because of a pesky visual disturbance that turned out to have been the side effect of a stroke.

(By the way, I promised an update on things and can tell you that I did have a small stroke and that thankfully it was not caused by a vascular malformation or a mass. It has landed in the realm of fluke and so I can seek my driver's license again with a future of several more “just in case” MRIs to come. Otherwise I am well. Thank you for your concerns. My doctor said that if I was going to have a stroke this was the way to have it, so lucky me.)

While the optometrist certified my eyes as fine he did, for the first time in

my 53 years, suggest the possibility of reading glasses.

I knew this was likely coming. Getting up close and personal with text and details has been increasingly difficult and often required a two million lumen light source and arm's length distance.

All of this to say I am now the proud owner of 3.0 reading glasses.

Frankly, it is remarkable how well they work and I suspect I had been holding out a little due to pride. Having been in “perfect” health aside from a pesky stroke, I resisted the need for augmentation.

But with age comes change I suppose, and some things wear down. I was joking with a friend that it's a little like a horror movie version of the children's song “Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes” in which these are the things that start to go first.

Honestly, if I simply view glasses as steampunk cybernetics then suddenly they seem cool.

Plus I have always been one for augmentation. Why not? If we can enhance our experience of life without harming others then we should. Perhaps one day I will have reading glasses with built in augmented reality that can spellcheck my columns

live instead of doing it the Stone Age way on the computer.

Really, when you think about it, humans have been augmenting ourselves since we picked up a rock and threw it at the jerk next door instead of using our fists. Horses, wagons, cars, tractors, shoes, clothes, hearing aids, glasses, knives, forks—literally everything in our life is done and improved through augmentation. We have been cyborgs all along.

In the end this is what we do. We take the gift of Prometheus and we augment and we extend. Anyone who thinks “getting back to nature” means moving off grid also needs to shed clothes and built shelters to really be “authentic” otherwise you are augmenting just like the rest of us.

Well, here's (or “hears” as may be the case) to augmentation. I hope it continues to improve our lives. I know I don't even have to hope it will continue because I know it will. We cannot help ourselves—we will always seek such things.

Someday in my old age I hope I will be able to put on a pair of glasses and voice command them to apply a 20 times zoom while looking at the moon and stand in awe of both it and human ingenuity.



By Peter Cantelon

Letters

FREEDOM = RESPONSIBILITY

Are we, as a people, superficial with one another? Do we really, truly care for each other? Or do we show just enough compassion to satisfy our own selfish egos?

We are living in a time of relative comfort and freedom. It is my opinion and belief (I hope I'm not alone) that our comfort is not unlike complacency, and that our freedom comes with responsibility. This point brought a small but familiar and critical portion of Scripture to my

mind: “And he said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” (Matthew 22:37-39 ESV)

Some may ask, “Who is my neighbor?” We know full well that your neighbor lives next door, right? No. That is plain intentional ignorance. They are first, of course, your family whom you share a home with. They are the people next door. They

are the people down the street. They are the people shopping at the store around you. They are the people attending church around you.

You get it, right? The reason I'm making this point is simple yet seemingly hard to grasp on: it is our responsibility to do what is mandated of us, and that is to take care of each other. Part of God's plan for all people is unity—not rebellion or so-called “freedom.”

Personally, I don't feel as if ANY of

Continued on page 7

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

Local man hoping to bring back the Morden, Winkler Lions

By Lorne Stelmach

It's a service organization that is pretty much in his DNA, so Bruce Robert is likely the best person to bring back the Lions club to Morden and Winkler.

The Morden resident is involved as the global membership team chairperson for the 5M-13 Lions district, which takes in most of Manitoba and parts of northwest Ontario. He is also a zone chairperson for four clubs.

It is all fulfilling for Robert, but what is missing for him is a local club after the Winkler group folded in 2013 followed by the Morden club ceasing operations in 2020.

"I saw there was no club here, so I had joined the Crystal City Lions ... but I've wanted to bring back the Lions to Morden and Winkler because they are very worthwhile," said Robert.

Lions Clubs International is a global organization with over 48,000 clubs around the world involving about 1.4 million people serving their communities.

Robert's connection to the organization goes back a generation.

"I have a long history with the Lions. My father was a director in the Lions

Club International," he said, recalling as well how much of a support they were when his father passed away with ALS. "They became a major part in my life ... because of his involvement with the Lions, they became like family to us."

There are many worthwhile organizations in the community, but Robert sees the Lions as being able to play a key role with their involvement in areas ranging from supporting vision and reading programs to youth and leadership programs.

"OUR COMMUNITY IS GROWING, AND THERE'S A NEED FOR SERVICES."

"Our community is growing, and there's a need for services," he said. "There's so many people who don't know what the Lions do. We deal with so many things. We deal with sight, we deal with the environment, we deal with childhood cancer, diabetes and hunger, just to name a few."

In order to help the sustainability of the organization here, Robert is making it a priority to also bring back the Leo club for youth aged 12 to 17.

"The Leo club is kind of like junior Lions with the hope of them joining the Lions club," explained Robert, who noted there had been a local Leo club in the past sometime prior to 2000.

"With any organization, there needs



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Mordenite Bruce Robert is hoping to bring back the Lions to Morden-Winkler. The two cities each had their own club for years, but Winkler's called it quits back in 2013 and Morden's disbanded in 2020.

to be young people who are being trained to be fundraisers or get into organizations. We can involve and train the young people in the community," he said.

"I'm also trying to make this appealing to new arrivals because there's nothing like having a new arrival come into a community and come alongside people who have been here," Robert added. "It's just a way to get people working together, and it helps the newcomers with getting into the community."

"I'm very optimistic about it," said Robert, who also noted he hopes perhaps some past members might come back. "Their dedication firstly to their communities is to be commended, and we welcome any prior members to rejoin or become mentors to our new Lions and Leo clubs."

He anticipates holding an information night sometime in early spring. In the meantime, anyone who is interested in learning more about potentially getting involved can email Robert at educatebruce@outlook.com.

"There's people out there who care for you and will help you along the journey"

From Pg. 5

"I jumped at that opportunity because when I was in the midst of treatments I felt and I saw what cancer patients needed because I was experiencing it," said King, who not only remains involved but is currently serving as the SCCR board president. "I truly believed at that time that can-

cer patients needed more support.

"Through South Central Cancer Resource, we have started a number of really excellent programs," she said, citing the examples of everything from transportation and accommodation support to art therapy and fitness programs.

"Of course, all of the programs were on hold all of last year," King said, noting they had at least been able to start

their transportation and accommodation support again. "We're hoping that as soon as this phase passes that we get all of them going again."

In the meantime, she noted they are also looking for a marketing person to help work on fundraising and promoting the organization.

"We are totally, totally thankful for our generous communities that support us so well. We receive no funding from any government agency ... we raise all of our own funds," she noted.

"We have been supported so very, very well ... we started out with \$5,000, and now our budget is over \$200,000 a year."

She concluded by offering a message to families who are in the midst of dealing with cancer.

"Keep hope. There is always, always hope, even when you get a really bad diagnosis. There is hope because there's people out there who care for you and will help you along the journey ... it's not one to go on alone."

Letter policy

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

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

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

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> LETTERS, FROM PG. 6

my freedoms have been taken away from me. Remember that freedom comes with responsibility. For examples: I can drive my car freely IF I obey the traffic laws and watch for the safety of others. I can freely take money from my bank account IF I don't hold them at gunpoint. I can freely go shopping IF I wear a mask to protect others.

Our children learn, in school, about something called the Golden Rule. Luke 6:31 says, "Treat others the same way you want them to treat you." (NASB 1995).

I get vaccinated for me; I wear a mask for you.

Tom Mitchell,
Morden

MPS hosting free seminars for Psychology Month

By Ashleigh Viveiros

February is Psychology Month in Canada and the Manitoba Psychological Society (MPS) is celebrating by offering a series of free online workshops.

"It's an opportunity for psychologists to give back to the community,"



Dr. Jo Ann Unger, MPS president

says society president Dr. Jo Ann Unger, a clinical physiologist with a practice in Winnipeg.

It's also, she adds, a chance to "engage with the community around psychology and the use of psychological practices and science in our lives."

To that end, the workshops run the gamut in terms of topics—everything from managing anxiety and stress to surviving chronic pain to dealing with children's temper tantrums. A complete list of topics and workshop links are available online at www.mps.ca.

All of the sessions are free and only one requires pre-registration. For the others, you need only click on the talk's link via Zoom to tune in. The first workshop—*Understanding and Managing Anxiety in the Pregnancy and Postpartum Periods*—is next Monday over the lunch hour. Other sessions are held during the afternoon and evening hours.

"Folks are welcome and encouraged to attend one or as many as they would like to get some really useful information, particularly now during COVID when our mental health is really important to pay attention to," notes Unger.

Psychology Month has been ob-

served in Canada since 2005 and MPS has hosted these workshops annually for years, though usually they're done in person.

Due to the pandemic they've shifted things online, which has come with a silver lining.

"One of the things we're really pleased about is the ability for them to be more accessible to people across the province," Unger says. "One of the things as MPS we're always looking at and trying to help with is to improve accessibility for psychologists and psychological services in the province."

Unger is leading a workshop herself, tackling the topic of stress management. It's an area of expertise she's been asked to weigh in on a lot over the past couple of years.

"We're really in a state, for many of us, of chronic stress at this point with all of the different changes that people have to adapt to, the pressures that living in a pandemic have on people's lives," she observes. "I'm hoping to focus on helping us overcome some of the obstacles of doing some of the things that we know are good for our health and our mental health."

Self-care is incredibly important for

one's mental health, but many people shrug it off or downplay the struggles they may be facing. It can also be difficult for people to ask for help when they need it, Unger says.

"There's a bit of stigma still around mental health and just folks really understanding that our wellness is a whole package—it's not just physical," she says.

In the same way that we all have a certain level of physical health that affects how we go about our lives, so too does our mental health have an impact.

"We often think about mental health as being about mental illness," Unger says. "But we all have mental health—how well are we doing emotionally, socially, behaviorally, and in our thinking? It's just a little bit less visible."

"So it's really important that just as we take care of our physical health by going and exercising regularly or eating good foods, there's certain practices that we can do for our mental health that help in times of stress, that help us manage and be resilient."

Head to www.mps.ca for more details on MPS' Psychology Month sessions.

Access CU to merge with Noventis, Sunova

By Lorne Stelmach

Another financial institution merger will take effect this summer, with members last week voting in favour of the amalgamation of the Access, Noventis, and Sunova credit unions.

Each one held special meetings of members last Thursday where all three achieved more than the two-thirds majority voting in favour to approve the merger.

Access members who voted were 76 per cent in favour, while Sunova had 74 per cent and Noventis had 86 per cent in support of the merger.

The new entity will be known as Access Credit Union when it is created July 1.

"All three credit unions are very happy that the membership supported the recommendation by all three boards," said Larry Davey, CEO of Access Credit Union.

"For our Access members, I think they realized the benefits of the latest merger and understood that this is just probably part of the landscape in the credit union system these days," he said.

Davey further suggested that mem-

bers recognized the benefits of "the alignment of the three credit unions as far as there's rural roots in all three. The new geographic footprint provides greater convenience to the membership."

In promoting the merger, Davey had cited two key factors that they said in the near-future would require credit unions to invest millions of dollars in financial technology to meet new government-mandated standards.

As a larger credit union, they maintain they can save money on these investments and that those savings will allow them to continue to offer competitive rates, lower fees, cash rewards and better account packages as

well as increase the funds available to invest in communities.

One key change is the move to open banking or consumer directed finance, while another is a move to payment modernization.

Open banking will allow people to more easily move money from one institution to another, and that will require a significant and costly change in technology. Payment modernization basically involves speeding up the time it takes for payments to go through the system. Right now, it allows three days for payments to reach their destination. The government has mandated that to be reduced to three hours and eventually to be instantane-

ous.

"I think the membership certainly understood the cost of technology these days and how the scale helps us reduce that cost per member," suggested Davey, who also cited other advantages ranging from being able to continue offering competitive rates, charges and patronage refunds to seeing no impact on local branches and services while in fact expanding on the insurance and wealth management divisions.

The new credit union will have over 169,700 members and \$9.5 billion in assets with about 800 employees in 52 branches.

Dynacare's Winkler location reopens

By Lorne Stelmach

Winkler area residents were able to get their basic medical tests such as blood work done in their own community once again this week.

Dynacare reopened its Winkler lab location Monday after having tempo-

rarily shut it down in December due to a staffing shortage.

Three staff members are now in place at the Winkler Laboratory and Health Services Centre at 385 Main St., so it was able to resume full operations.

"As the staff members are new, lon-

ger wait times may still be experienced initially as we get the location back up and running," noted Mark Bernhardt, manager of corporate communications for Dynacare, in a statement last week. "We thank the Winkler com-



SCREENSHOTS

Poor weather and public health restrictions were no problem for the South Central Regional Library's annual Family Literacy Night Pyjama Party. It was held online on the library's YouTube page this year. The Jan. 27 celebration included library staff and guests like lawyer Gary Gilmour (right) reading books to the virtually assembled kids and Mi-kaela Warkentin (above) from the Winkler Library leading everyone in a few funky dance moves.

Virtual PJ party



Public health orders extended one week to Feb. 8

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The public health orders set to expire Tuesday, Feb. 1 were extended for another week to give officials time to figure out what the next step is when it comes to battling the spread of COVID-19.

Health Minister Audrey Gordon announced last Friday that the existing orders—which include capacity limits for gatherings of all kinds in both public and private spaces—would remain in place until Tuesday, Feb. 8.

“Our government, along with public health, continue to assess the spread and impact of the omicron variant,” she said. “We’re seeing early signs of stabilization and positive indicators that COVID-19 is stabilizing in our province. Rate of hospitalization appears to be plateauing, however rate of ICU occupancy does not appear that way at this time.”

“Extending the public health orders by one week allows us time to confirm the trend in the COVID-19 data and its impacts on our health system,” Gordon explained. “We must continue to take steps to help our health system through this pandemic. We need to ensure that we continue to have hospital beds and staff available to provide care for patients in need.”

Dr. Brent Roussin, Manitoba’s chief public health officer, noted that we are entering a “critical juncture” in

this fourth wave of the pandemic.

“Based on several data points, it appears that omicron wave may have peaked or is in the process of peaking or plateauing in Manitoba,” he said, echoing Gordon and also pointing out that the health care system is still being significantly affected by the number of people ill with the virus.

That said, hospital admissions over the previous week were down by nine per cent (from 391 to 356), ICU admissions were down 22 per cent (from 46 to 36 beds filled by COVID-19 patients), and deaths had dropped 13 per cent (from 45 to 39).

“A week may not seem like a lot of time, but at the juncture we’re in it’s going to provide us likely with signifi-

cantly more information” that will allow officials to make an informed decision when drafting the next round of public health orders, Roussin said.

Gordon noted that Dr. Roussin and Premier Heather Stefanson will be updating Manitobans soon about what will happen after Feb. 8, including, she hopes, Manitoba’s reopening strategy for the months ahead.

Meanwhile, on Monday Manitoba hit a high of 735 hospitalizations due to COVID-19. Fifty-six patients were in ICU because of the virus.

The 19 new COVID-19 deaths reported over the weekend brought the death toll to 1,562.

While vaccinated individuals can still catch and spread COVID-19, es-

pecially the more contagious omicron variant, there continues to be a correlation between severe outcomes (winding up in hospital, in ICU, or dead due to the virus) and vaccination status.

According to data collected in Manitoba up to Jan. 10, an unvaccinated person who contracts the virus is three times more likely to land in the ICU than someone with one dose of vaccine, 19 times more likely than someone with two doses, and 139 times more likely than someone with three doses.

Vaccinations are available at immunization clinics and medical centres throughout the province. Head to protectmb.ca for details.

> DYNACARE, FROM PG. 8

munity for their patience while our location was temporarily closed and look forward to serving the city.”

The shutdown was precipitated by Dynacare having a number of staff on leave. They had previously been able to continue operations by contracting a nurse, but that person was no longer available after Dec. 10, and no replacement could be found.

It meant the estimated 60 to a peak of 100 patients that may have been seen daily at the Winkler location needed to go to another location for

tests, the next closest Dynacare location being the Menzies Medical Centre in Morden. The Boundary Trails Health Centre lab also picked up some of the slack.

“Our lab employees in Morden remained focused on serving our customers while managing the higher than usual volume that was directed to their location,” noted Bernhardt.

Jim Neufeld, clinic administrator at the CW Wiebe Medical Centre in Winkler, said it was good to be able to take that extra burden back from

the hospital and Morden clinic.

“They don’t need to have extra people coming to the hospital for a service that doesn’t need to be done at the hospital, but it was one of the few options we had, and the facility in Morden is also limited in scope as to what they offer,” he said.

“It was great news,” Neufeld continued of the lab’s reopening. “We hadn’t had that service for a couple or three weeks, and we soon realized the impact that it has, so it’s great to see it opened up again.”

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

Winkler golf course walking paths open to the public

By Ashleigh Viveiros

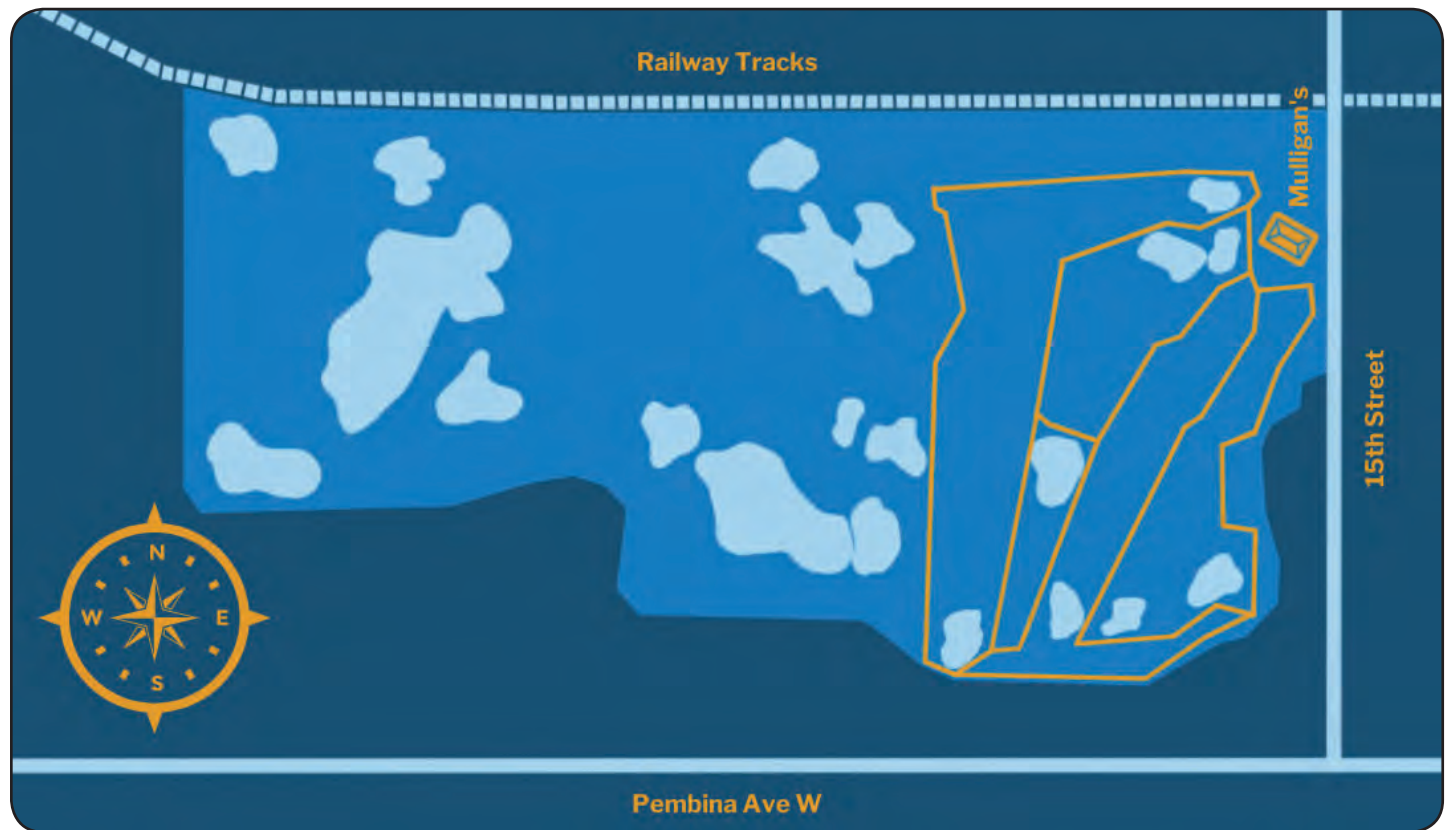
Winkler already has no shortage of paved walking paths winding their way throughout the community, but this winter we have a few more.

City of Winkler staff are clearing snow from several of the Winkler Centennial Golf Course cart paths for public use.

"We've done it for a number of years in the past, but over the last couple of years we've taken a break from it just because of the lack of snow," said recreation programmer Kaitlyn Dyck, noting sparse snow cover does put the greens at risk if there's too much foot traffic in the area. "This year, because we have so much snow, we decided it would be great to groom it and make it available for people to be able to walk along the pathways again."

The paths start from the Mulligan's Restaurant parking lot off of 15th St. and they offer loops of a few different lengths, some stretching all the way down to the southern edge of the course near Pembina Ave.

"Our maintenance staff does a great job of clearing, and so they'll be out there working to keep those paths open," Dyck said, asking the public for a little bit of patience, though, should we get a large amount of snow all at once, as other areas may take prece-



SUPPLIED IMAGE

Some of the paths in the Winkler Centennial Golf Course are getting cleared by city staff this winter for the general public to enjoy.

dence for clearing. "But they will get out there and clear it as soon as they can."

People are also asked to remain on the cleared paths and not go tromping

off on the greens. This includes snowshoers.

"We aren't currently grooming the trails for snowshoeing but if people wanted to they could—just please try

to stay on the path as much as possible," Dyck said.

The walkways aren't marked but Dyck points out the non-cleared areas have several feet of snow on them, so it should be pretty clear where it's safe to walk.

"Getting outside is great and this is just another great trail for anyone and everyone to enjoy."

Doctors MB hosting "vax-a-thon" across province Friday

By Lorne Stelmach

A one day province-wide blitz this week is aiming to boost vaccination numbers across Manitoba.

Doctors' offices across the province are participating in the "vax-a-thon" this Friday as part of continued efforts to encourage Manitobans to access COVID-19 immunizations or even just get vaccine information.

Given the low vaccine uptake in the region, it made sense for the CW Wiebe Medical Centre in Winkler to take part in the campaign while also keeping it as an ongoing priority.

"We will also have a doctor around for that whole day if anybody even

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get informed

NEWS > VIEWS > WINKLER > MORDEN > SURROUNDING AREAS

PVLIP to host Connecting Cultures and Communities Celebration



By Lorne Stelmach

An upcoming event will be drawing on art to help fulfill its goal of developing welcoming and inclusive communities.

The Pembina Valley Local Immigration Partnership (PVLIP) will hold its second annual Connecting Cultures and Communities Celebration virtually on Thursday, Feb. 24, and it is working in partnership with the Pembina Hills Arts Council.

This virtual event will put the spotlight on both newcomer and community artists who are part of an exhibit being featured at the Pembina Hills Gallery through February.

The online gathering will also feature cultural trivia and prizes alongside information on how PVLIP is working in our communities, said executive director Elaine Burton-Saindon, who noted it also essentially serves as an annual meeting for the organization.

"We talk about the goals that we met this year, some of the things that we have worked on, and what we plan to do next year," she said.

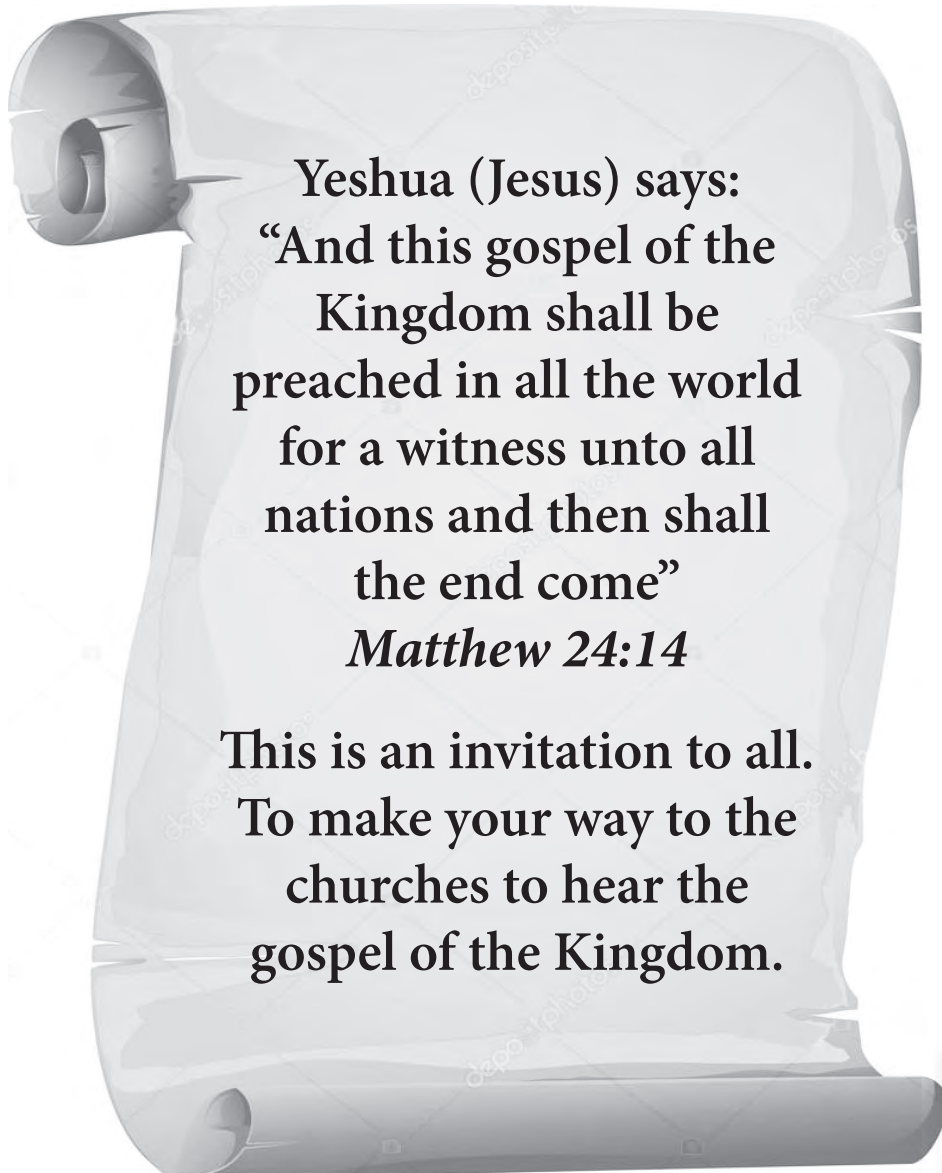
"We wanted to also combine it with a celebration of cultures ... and this was one way to recognize our local talent and just have something to celebrate and get away from the regular routine."

They had hoped to be able to do something in person this year after having had to change it to a virtual get-together in 2021.

"We had about three weeks to switch it all to virtual, and we felt it turned out quite a bit better than we expected, so we are going to do the same format again this year," said Burton-Saindon.

If you can't make the celebration itself, you can still stop by the Morden gallery to view the art exhibition, which features work around the

Continued on page 14



Yeshua (Jesus) says:
"And this gospel of the Kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations and then shall the end come"
Matthew 24:14

This is an invitation to all. To make your way to the churches to hear the gospel of the Kingdom.

February is HEART MONTH

Stay young at heart!



How sleep affects your heart health

According to the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI), nearly 70 million people suffer from a sleeping disorder. Did you know that getting a good night's rest is critical for maintaining a healthy heart? This February, join the NHLBI in celebrating Heart Month by learning about the importance of adopting healthy sleep habits.

SLEEP AND HEART HEALTH

Getting a good night's rest helps you stay healthy by giving your body the time it needs to restore, recharge and recuperate. Consequently, chronic sleep deprivation has been linked to numerous heart problems including high blood pressure, heart attacks, obesity, diabetes and strokes. In addition, people who don't get enough sleep are more likely to develop calcium deposits in their coronary arteries,

increasing their risk of developing heart disease.

5 TIPS FOR GETTING BETTER SLEEP

Experts recommend that adults between 18 and 65 get at least seven to eight hours of sleep each night. Here are five tips for getting a good night's rest:

1. Be physically active during the day
2. Avoid cellphones, tablets and computers the hour before bedtime
3. Avoid drinking alcohol and caffeinated beverages before going to bed
4. Sleep in a cool, dark and quiet room
5. Go to bed and wake up at the same time every day



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The Winkler Morden
Voice
Your Community
NEWSPAPER

Winkler art gallery launches revamped gift shop

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Winkler Arts and Culture is getting back to the basics with its gift shop offerings.

The Park St. gallery relaunched the store, now dubbed the WA+C Artisan Gift Shop, this past Tuesday.

"We had pretty much closed down our gift shop and switched to more selling art supplies," explained interim director Sydney Hildebrand.

But while a few gallery guests may have found themselves inspired to pick up some art supplies while there, staff have heard from many more people who want to see more locally-made products on the shelves.

"We've had a few people come in, especially around Christmastime," looking for unique gifts, Hildebrand said, noting a revamp of the gift shop had been on their radar for awhile but the repeated requests over the holidays really pushed it to the forefront.

"We want to support local makers," she said. "So we have all kinds

of things, everything from candles to scrunchies, a lot of beautiful homemade cards, pottery, different earring styles and materials, stained glass, macrame ... and we have local prints and original artwork you can pick up as well.

"I believe we're sitting at close to 15 artists right now," Hildebrand added, noting that they hail from all over southern Manitoba and include a few familiar names alongside many more relative newcomers on the local art scene.

Veteran or rookie, it's a chance for artists to have a stable place to showcase and sell their work.

"A lot of them will go to markets as they come up but to have a consistent, year-round venue to have their stuff available is a great opportunity," Hildebrand said, noting gift shop items will be on display for a six-month term to keep things varied and fresh.

A portion of the sales go to help WAC keep the lights on and offer new programming.



"So it helps support us here at the gallery, but mostly it's for the local makers," Hildebrand said.

If you're an artist looking for a venue to sell your work, you can contact the gallery for a gift shop application.

The store is open right now during regular gallery hours, though Hildebrand noted they may offer extended shopping hours in the future, especially during the holidays.



PHOTOS BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Winkler Arts and Culture's Sydney Hildebrand (above) in the gallery's relaunched gift shop, which now offers products from over a dozen local makers.



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Sheralee was born and raised in Morden. She resides on a farm north of Morden with her husband Darrell and their two children Jayden and Ty. She previously worked in the banking industry for 12 years prior to joining the MMJS team in December of 2021. In her past time, she enjoys traveling, relaxing on their farm and spending time with family, friends and her fur babies Toby and Millie. Sheralee looks forward to working in the communities of Morden, Manitou, Carman, Treherne and Deloraine.

> PVLIP, FROM PG. 12

theme of being a welcoming and inclusive community.

Burton-Saindon saw it as being open to "anything to do with home, what makes you feel at home, what makes you feel welcome.

"Some of the artists are newcomers who now live in this region or some are other community members, so it's

a combination of both," she said. "It's kind of a different way of expressing your culture ... sometimes through art it might be easier for some to express it."

The show is on from Feb. 1-23. All visitors who attend the art show in person and also the virtual celebration will be entered to win a prize for

attending both. A winner will be chosen during the online event and must be present to win.

In addition, the first 100 people to have registered for the Connecting Cultures and Communities Celebration by Feb. 7 will receive a cultural content surprise package that will include a variety of items and edible treats to enjoy during the show,

For more information and to register, visit pvlip.ca.



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> VAX-A-THON, FROM PG. 10

just wants to come in and talk to a physician and ask some questions ... even if at that point they're not quite ready to get a vaccine just yet," said clinic administrator Jim Neufeld, who noted they would have extra staff on hand to support the effort but are asking people to make appointments.

"It made sense for us to participate. We just want to make sure that we support the effort in the province and want to make sure people are aware.

"We're not doing huge numbers [of vaccinations] every week, but we do continue to do some every week," Neufeld said. "This hopefully puts out the message that the medical community is still eagerly supporting the idea that vaccines are still the best route, and we want to accommodate everybody.

"I think it's pretty clear to most people that there are certainly benefits to being vaccinated. You may still in fact get COVID, but you're not going to have the same outcome."

Announcing plans for the vax-a-thon last week, representatives of Doctors Manitoba said it was important to continue doing all they can, given there was still widespread community transmission of COVID-19 now with the omicron variant.

They highlighted the significant impact COVID-19 has had on Manitobans just this month:

- Over 35,000 have tested positive, though the actual number of infections could be eight to ten times higher;
- 1,206 have been admitted to hospital, or 48 people per day;
- 121 have died from COVID-19, or four to five people per day; and
- hundreds have had surgeries and medical tests postponed.

"The pandemic is still very much here," stressed Dr. Kristjan Thompson, president of Doctors Manitoba.

"Our hospital systems are over-run, and we really do need to do everything we can to protect the capacity we have in our health care system," he said, noting as well the extenuating impact of those people who have long term lingering effects of COVID.

"There's a very good chance that omicron is not going to be the last variant of concern we're going to have to deal with," added Thompson.

"We have come a long way," said Dr. Candace Bradshaw, president-elect for Doctors Manitoba, but she added there is still a ways to go with Manitobans who are unsure about the vaccine or have delayed getting their first, second, or booster shots.

"Getting vaccinated and boosted is the best defense against COVID-19," she said. "With over 2.7 million doses administered in Manitoba and over

9.9 billion doses worldwide, physicians continue to trust the safety and effectiveness of COVID-19 vaccines and we strongly recommend them.

"COVID-19 vaccines are not experimental; they are routine," she stressed. "These vaccines work, and doctors trust them because they have been proven in clinical trials and in the real world to be safe and effective."

Bradshaw noted they are still particularly focusing on children aged five to 11 getting vaccinated.

"It is not worth the risk of letting them get the COVID-19 infection," she suggested in acknowledging many parents may bypass it because they are generally at lower risk.

In addition, Bradshaw noted that while over 500,000 Manitobans have received their booster shots, there are

still about one third who are eligible who have not received the third dose, and it is especially vital for older age groups. Both Bradshaw and Thompson encouraged people then to not wait any further or even to wait on a particular vaccine as well.

"A little bit of discussion goes a long way with this," said Bradshaw.

"For the most part ... we've been able to shift people over and vaccinate with what we've got available. Pfizer right now is short, and we want to be able to have enough for the 12 to 17 year old age range."

"It doesn't matter whether it's Pfizer, Moderna, we know that the vaccines are safe, they're effective, they're preventing severe illness and death," agreed Thompson.

Both also remained optimistic that

some people in areas like Winkler and RM of Stanley, which have the lowest vaccine rates in the province, can still be reached.

"There is always hope," said Bradshaw. "Every single week, we're still able to have a discussion with someone who is not opposed to vaccines, just not comfortable with it and still have questions," she said. "You just have to keep trying and keep having respectful discussions and listening to people ... every person that you can shift over matters."

"There's a lot of misinformation out there," said Thompson, who encouraged people to talk to their doctors and ask those tough questions and get informed. "The sky's the limit; as many shots in arms as we can get."

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sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

Bombers down Royals

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Morden Bombers added another two to the win column as the South Eastern Manitoba Hockey League regular season enters its final week.

Morden walked away from games against the Carman Beavers and the Winkler Royals with victories of 3-1 and 5-3, respectively.

The Thursday night game in Carman saw Adam Hughesman and Tyler Peers pull Morden into the lead 2-0 at the first intermission. The Beavers got their lone goal in the second period. Morden's Jaden Townsend returned the favour as the only goal-scorer in the third.

Reed Peters made 30 saves as the Bombers outshot the Beavers 36-31.

Saturday night's game against the Royals was a back-and-forth affair, the Royals managing to match the Bombers goal for goal until the end of the third period when Morden scored two unanswered goals in the final minutes to win it.

Hughesman had a two-goal night for Morden while Andrew Clark, Cole Penner, and Mike Rey contributed singles. Scoring for Winkler was Calem Suderman, Carter Wall, and

Morden's Steve Mullin battles Winkler captain Marlin Froese for puck control in Saturday's SEMHL game, which went the Bombers' way 5-3

PHOTO BY RICK HIEBERT/VOICE



Lee Christensen.

Jayne Janzen made 40 saves for Winkler while Peters stopped 35 in Morden's net as the Bombers outshot

the Royals 44-38.

It wasn't the only loss the Royals suffered last week—they also fell to the Maroons 5-4 Wednesday night in Al-

tona.

Altona was up 3-0 before Remi Laurencelle and Austin Wiebe got Win-

Continued on page 17

Winkler Flyers melt Winnipeg Freeze in two straight

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Freeze proved no match for the Winkler Flyers in Manitoba Junior Hockey League action last week.

Winkler won both of their games against the Winnipeg team, starting with a 4-1 victory Friday night on home ice.

A goal from Daniel Isaak six minutes in ended up being the only time either side scored through the first 40 minutes of the game.

Winkler kicked it up a notch in the third, with goals from Cole Mackenzie, Troy Hamilton, and Justin Svenson making it 4-0 heading into the final minute. A powerplay goal from the Freeze with just 24 seconds left in the game foiled Winkler's chances at a shutout.

Nonetheless, Dylan Meilun stood tall in net for Winkler, making 33 saves as the Flyers outshot Winnipeg 49-34.

The Freeze managed a few more goals two nights later in Winnipeg,

but a strong third period once again sealed the win for the Flyers 5-3.

Winkler's Troy Hamilton scored two goals in the first, bookending two from Winnipeg. The Freeze then pulled ahead 3-2 with the only goal scored in the second period, but that was it for them while Mike Svenson, Hamilton, and Gavin Waltz cemented Winkler's win in the third period, Waltz firing one home on an empty net.

The Flyers fired 38 shots on goal while Klassen faced 22, saving 19.

With that, the Flyers are in third place in the MJHL East Division standings with a record of 22-13-1-1 for 46 points. They trail the Winnipeg Blues in second place by two points but have a game in hand over them. In first place are the Steinbach Pistons at 56 points.

Coming up, the Flyers have a trio of games lined up against the Pistons. They play in Steinbach this Friday and again next Wednesday and in Winkler on Saturday.

News or sports tip? E-mail news@winklermordenvoice.ca or call 204-325-6888

> SEMHL, FROM PG. 16

kler on the board in the final minutes of the opening frame. Additional goals from Marlin Froese and Brett Dudar in the third got the Royals close but still one goal short of a tie as the final buzzer went off.

Janzen made 28 saves in net and gave up five goals before being replaced by Travis Klassen, who made three saves. Shots on goal went Altona's way 35-35.

With that, Winkler drops to last place in the SEMHL standings with a 5-9-2 record and 12 points, tying them in points with Notre Dame. Morden moves up to second place at 11-5, trailing Portage by three points and tied with Warren in third place with 22 points.

This week the Royals play a rescheduled game against the Mercs in Warren Tuesday and then close out the season in Notre Dame Saturday while the Bombers host the Hawks Thursday and then play the Maroons in Altona Saturday.

The 70th SEMHL playoffs will begin next week with the top three teams getting a breather while the remaining teams play a Survivor Series for a seat at the table.



PHOTO BY RICK HIEBERT/VOICE

Saturday's game between the Morden Bombers and the Winkler Royals was held in memory longtime Morden player Marlin Vanrobaeys, whose family members (from left: Jason Vanrobaeys, Michelle Vanrobaeys, Van Moodie, and Barb Vanrobaeys) joined players Steve Mullin (left) and Marlin Froese (right) to drop the puck. Both Mullin and Froese wore #8 jerseys in memory of Vanrobaeys. Vanrobaeys capped off an already a storied hockey career by being the second leading scorer in SEMHL history with 864 points in 363 games, including 318 goals and 546 assists.

Male Hawks win one, lose two as season winds down

By Lorne Stelmach

It was a week of polar opposites for the male U18 Pembina Valley Hawks.

They picked up a key 6-3 win over Southwest Friday in Morden, but it was bookended by losses of 7-3 to the Thrashers Wednesday in Winnipeg and a 10-3 humbling by the Wheat Kings in Brandon Saturday.

The Hawks kept it close for two periods against Winnipeg and only trailed 3-2 after 40 minutes before giving up three unanswered goals in the third.

Cameron Parr and Logan Fillion scored powerplay goals for the Hawks, while Carter Sotheran connected shorthanded and Raiden LeGall made 28 saves of 35 shots on goal. His teammates sent 39 the other way.

Against the Cougars, the Hawks broke open a 3-3 game with three unanswered goals late in the third period including an empty net shorthanded marker by Sotheran with just over a minute remaining.

Sotheran scored twice while singles came in from Carter Campbell, Keston Worley, Tyler Moroz, and Liam Goertzen, with two goals coming on the powerplay.

Bryson Yaschyshyn made 33 saves with the shots 44-36 in the Hawks' favour.

Things came apart early on against

Brandon as the Wheat Kings fired four unanswered goals early in the first on their way to period leads of 4-1 and 7-2, and they capitalized on three powerplays.

Fillion, Parr, and Campbell all scored

for the Hawks, who were badly outshot 53-38. LeGall started in goal and stopped 30 of 37, then Yaschyshyn came on for the final period and stopped 13 of 16.

The Hawks remain mired in eighth

place at 13-18-2 for 28 points, and they are just two points up on the Winnipeg Bruins, who host the Hawks Sunday afternoon. Earlier in the week, the Hawks were taking on the Wild in Winnipeg Wednesday.

Female Hawks prep for post-season

By Lorne Stelmach

Four regular season games remain for the female U18 Pembina Valley Hawks, so their challenge now is to gear up their play for the coming post-season.

Pembina Valley will finish no better than fifth at this point after the falling 5-2 to the Winnipeg Ice Saturday in Carman.

The one team that could catch them

is Central Plains, who will host the Hawks in Portage this Sunday.

The fourth place Ice rode a three goal second period to victory over the Hawks to improve to 14-9-3 for 31 points, while the Hawks slipped to 11-13-0 for 22 points, which leaves them four up on Central Plains.

Caitlin Anderson and Naomi Scharf scored for Pembina Valley while Kaylee Franz made 24 saves with the shots on goal 33-29 in favour of the Hawks.

This weekend, the Hawks also face the challenge Saturday of taking on the league leading Winnipeg Avros, who are 21-2-1 for 43 points and are fighting to stay ahead of Yellowhead at 38 points while Westman is third at 16-5-1 for 33 points.

The regular season schedule then closes out with the seventh place Eastman Selects next Friday followed by the Winnipeg Ice next Sunday.

Twisters extend win streak to five

By Lorne Stelmach

The Pembina Valley Twisters have gained ground on the MMJHL leaders thanks to their recent five game winning streak.

They extended the run this past weekend with a 5-1 victory over River East Friday on home ice in Morris before taking down the Raiders 5-3 on the road Sunday.

The Twisters have bumped their re-

cord to 22-6-4 for 48 points and closed to within four points of Transcona in second place and seven points of St. James in first while sitting six ahead of St. Vital.

Continued on page 18

SCRL branches still accepting used book donations



VOICE FILE PHOTO

By Lorne Stelmach

The South Central Regional Library is making the transition to smaller book sales in place of their traditional large spring event.

Their plans tentatively include a small sale in Morden towards the end of February, but that depends on a number of factors, including public health restrictions.

In the meantime, the library is reminding patrons that its branches are all accepting used book donations to support sales in the year ahead.

"We are hoping to have more of the smaller book sales. We had one in Altona just before Christmas, and it was very successful. That was the first time we've ever had one in Altona ... and it was at the mall, where we're hoping to move the library," said Cathy Ching, director of library services.

"We're going to bring the sales to all of our communities," she continued. "We are going to move smaller sales around to all five library communities over the next two years."

Traditionally held in spring, the giant fundraising book sale was a casualty of pandemic restrictions in 2021.

Instead, the library pivoted to offering a limited but ongoing sale from a vacant building next door to the Morden Library. They then came up

with the idea of hosting smaller sales at all the branch libraries.

"It's not a central thing anyway," Ching noted of the sale. "Every community donates these books, so we may as well share it more with all of our communities."

"That big book sale, I think, may have kind of passed. We probably won't have that big sale but we definitely will have a higher quality sale. It might be smaller, but the selection of books will be amazing. We will be a little more particular."

She added that they are also hoping to coordinate a sale in conjunction with a bake sale at the Morden Legion next month.

"If they can still work it, we are hoping to have a book sale and they will have their bake sale and we would partner with them at the same time."

For now, they are promoting their book drive to build up their inventory.

"We are having the book drive. People can drop off their books at any of our branches, and we will sort them and price what we have," said Ching.

"We have a good start, but we do need more books and especially children's books. I know people don't like to give away those books, but we don't really have a lot of books for children," she noted. "That would be a big push for us."

Gorden Wiebe Scholarships deadline is Feb. 28

Awards aimed at post-secondary students age 16-35

By Ashleigh Viveiros

If you're a young adult planning on pursuing post-secondary education this year, the Winkler Community Foundation (WCF) may be able to help.

WCF's Gordon Wiebe Scholarships Program expects to distribute \$72,000 in 2022 through its Make It a Reality and Ongoing Education Support awards.

These two scholarship categories are aimed at Winkler area residents age 16-35 planning to study at an accredited institution.

The Make It a Reality award is \$5,000 a year for four years of study, while the Ongoing Education Support scholarships are \$2,000 and can be received for up to three years.

These scholarships are not necessarily earmarked for a student who got the highest GPA during their time in school, but rather someone who has taken an active role in making their community a better place, says WCF executive director Myra Peters.

"Definitely community involvement is one aspect that we're looking for—commitment to community," she says.

"How have they given back? Whether it's volunteering or being involved and participating in different clubs or activities in their school or within the larger community.

"We're looking for individuals who are committed to giving back and who have a heart for others in the commu-

nity and want to make a difference."

The scholarship committee receives applications from many younger students, often recent high school graduates, but Peters would love to see more older applicants throw their hat in the ring.

"We have had some older, mature

students that have applied and have received the Ongoing Education Support," she says. "We definitely encourage young adults who are looking to make a change in their life to apply."

The deadline for applications is Monday, Feb. 28. More details are available online at winklercommunityfoundation.com/what-we-do/scholarships/ or by calling 204-362-9292.

> TWISTERS, FROM PG. 17

Pembina Valley took control Friday with four unanswered first period goals while also firing home two powerplay markers.

Scoring for the Twisters were Mike Heppner, Nathan Ayotte, Riley Goertzen, Travis Penner and TJ Matuszewski. Logan Enns made 23 saves in net as Pembina Valley won the shot

battle 36-24.

The Twisters' leading scorer then had a big night Sunday as Matuszewski scored four to pace Pembina Valley to a come from behind win. It boosted his totals to 24 goals and 56 points, which has him second in the league.

Joel Vigier also scored for the Twist-

ers, who outshot the Raiders 32-27 and got 24 saves from Martin Gagnon.

The Twisters have a chance to edge closer to Transcona when they pay the Railer Express a visit this Friday. This week sees them also play Stonewall Wednesday and Charleswood Saturday.

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Wearing hometown pride on their sleeves

By Lorne Stelmach

Paul Thorleifson and Brooks Keen never would have imagined where it would lead when they returned home to Manitou a few years ago for a curling bonspiel wearing a simple shirt they had created.

It featured a basic image offering an outline of their hometown, but there was something about it that caught people's attention.

Now, the lifelong friends have a fledgling company in Towns Apparel that offers a way for people to show pride in their hometown by way of custom designs based on a community's map.

"We both moved away from Manitou for school," said Thorleifson. "I hope to move back some day, but we're always proud to say where we're from, and we have that connection.

"When we started this, we thought it would just be like a couple shirts here and there that we would be making for people," he said. "We're both just thrilled and blown away with how it's gone, and we're excited for where it could be going in the future. We've got ideas for how we could evolve the business and just keep it going and keep expanding."

"All along the way, we've been con-

stantly evolving and learning the business," said Keen. "It helps that it's not our full-time jobs, which sort of relieves a bit of that pressure all the time ... that you have to make money to sustain yourselves. It really just allows us to roll with the punches."

The friends are a perfect complement to each other with Brooks having a background in design, building, and renovation projects while Thorleifson is an accountant.

The creation of Towns Apparel morphed from what was originally a tattoo idea to a laser-cut piece of wooden art they hung on their Osborne Village apartment wall and then to an outline printed on some of their own clothing.

"We wore that to a Manitou curling bonspiel, and we got some looks from people and some questions about what it was. Once we explained it, everybody thought it was pretty cool," recalled Thorleifson. "We thought it would be cool to make these for other people but never really considered it as a viable business thing.

"So it kind of sat on the back burner for awhile," he said, noting it kept coming back up in conversation for a few years while they lived together in Winnipeg. It wasn't until they were cooped up during the early winter



SUPPLIED PHOTOS

Paul Thorleifson, left, and Brooks Keen have launched a new clothing company, Towns Apparel, to give people a way to showcase their hometown proudly wherever they go.

days of the COVID-19 outbreak that they finally decided to see if they could make a business of putting small towns across Manitoba back on the map.

"It kind of spurred us to get the idea into gear, and the wheels were turning finally," said Thorleifson, noting they started close to home not only with Manitou but other nearby communities like Pilot Mound and Morden.

One of the most rewarding parts as it all developed then included hearing people recount stories brought to mind by some area they would see on their map.

Towns Apparel went from being a way to show pride in the town that moulded people and grew into the way that they could help everyone else show off where their roots lie.

"Whether it be an intersection with a lane or two, a classic prairie grid town built on what's probably now an abandoned rail line, or a town carved out of the rocky landscapes of the Whiteshell, we've found there's never a place someone isn't proud to call home," Brooks and Thorleifson say on their company's website.

"One of the biggest things I think has obviously resonated with people is that it's potentially giving a lot of people from small towns who never would have really had a way to show off where they're from a way to show that pride," said Keen.

"We've done everything now from towns, lakes to farm yards and golf courses, so we can kind of keep that mantra whether you actually live in a small town," he continued. "I don't think people from Snowflake would

have really had an opportunity like this to show that pride.

"We've never really felt like salesmen because they really seem to just sell themselves," added Keen. "If someone is proud of where they're from, they are into it, so there's rarely any convincing that needs to be done."

Another factor that has worked in their favour is that the technology now makes it somewhat easier and more accessible, and it has meant they have been able to take on a project with a minimum of 10 shirts in an order.

"It kind of forced people to go tell their friends and tell their family to help spread the word," said Thorleifson.

There now, however, is what they called direct to garment printer technology which may allow them to remove the 10 order minimum completely. It isn't quite finalized yet, but they do hope to have it in place in the coming weeks.

At this point, they reflect on how far the venture has come in a short time and thought back to the days of being 10 years old out on their bikes collecting recycling in Manitou.

"I definitely thought that would be the last business we would ever start together," said Thorleifson. "We've been best friends ever since we were kids, and I don't think we ever thought we would be making shirts for people. After we launched it, it kind of snowballed, and we have rolled with it ever since."

"Throughout its life so far, it's been right on the tipping point between side hustle and a part-time job to



"WE'VE NEVER REALLY FELT LIKE SALESMEN BECAUSE THEY REALLY SEEM TO JUST SELL THEMSELVES. IF SOMEONE IS PROUD OF WHERE THEY'RE FROM, THEY'RE ARE INTO IT."

Government enhancing provincial park reservation service for 2023

By Becca Myskiw

Campers will soon have an easier time booking their sites for summer getaways.

The provincial government is currently developing a new provincial park reservation system. While the new system is being worked on, they're also adding short-term changes to the current system to "improve users' experiences when booking campsites this spring."

The conservation and climate department is looking at major changes like a completely new software application. So while they work on finding, acquiring, and implementing that, which they're aiming to have in place by 2023, the department is "addressing the major challenges users experienced in booking campsites, cabins and yurts at provincial parks on the opening days for reservations in 2021."

Those changes include: server upgrades to improve the system's performance, the addition of two opening days to five from three, a limit to the number of reservations one can book in one session for cabins and yurts to two from three, and a reduction in the maximum stay length for yurts and cabins to seven nights from 14. The last change is to give more people the opportunity to use the facilities.

Conservation and climate minister Sarah Guillemard announced on Jan. 14 that they're making the adjustments in response to public feedback, in which the majority of respondents voiced some level of dissatisfaction with the current system.

"The improvements will help manage the load on the opening day for reservations, ease the booking process for campers and provide more oppor-

tunities to book camping facilities in high demand and limited inventory, such as cabins and yurts," Guillemard said. "Our government is committed to making it easier for Manitobans to reserve campsites with this short-term and long-term approach."

Online reservations start April 4 this year.

> TOWNS APPAREL, FROM PG. 19

where, like last Christmas, it could have been a full-time job," noted Keen. "While we're both working full-time, we're both very careful to not promote too much ... we're both pretty aware too that we know the process and we're comfortable with it."

"We definitely don't want to over

promise anything ... but we're always working primarily looking at expanding geographically to the west," added Thorleifson.

"We would love to expand geographically and continue doing the same thing that we're doing, but that is a challenge that we're still trying to figure out," added Keen. "It would be

awesome to have to seriously have that conversation ... we'll see if it reaches that point ... I don't think we would necessarily be opposed.

"If it was sustainable ... I think we would both be ready to jump into that," agreed Thorleifson.

You can find Towns Apparel online at townsapparelco.com.

take a break

> GAMES

SUDOKU

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

Fun By The Numbers

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

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

Sudoku Answer

D	E	D	E	C	E	S		K	E	L	S
E	O	N	I	C	S			V	A	H	P
N	R	E	S	T	A	S	H	U	O	S	P
M	P				N	A	R	A	S	A	V
I	A				L	K	T	A	Y	M	R
R	A	F	T	I	F	S	D	E	T	R	C
					S	I	R	E	S		S
					E	N	O	S			D
					S	B	A	R	E	S	
					L	V	A	T	E	D	P
					E	O	S	R	A	N	R
					S	O	H	A	N	A	U
					P	I	C	S	A	V	A
					A	X	L	L	A	R	O
					V	A	L	E	N	O	E
					C	E	D	E	S		R

Crossword Answer

CROSSWORD

CLUES ACROSS

- de Mornay, actress
- Surrenders
- Omission
- The white poplar
- They become butterflies
- Used to chop
- Select
- Volcanic craters
- Consumer price index
- Utilize
- "True Blood" actress Paquin
- Got up
- Sank in
- Retail
- Giants
- Most bald
- Changes color
- Unit of loudness
- Undresses
- Fathers
- Learned skill
- Remove qualification
- Covered with frost
- Speak up
- Nowhere to be found
- Part of surgery (abbr.)
- Type of wrap
- Church seating
- Mathematical figure
- College football conference
- Turkish officer title
- Organized body of knowledge
- Smooth and glossy
- Left

CLUES DOWN

- Get back
- Pass or go by
- Having a sharp taste
- Midway between east and

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

- southeast
- Cairo Regional Airport
- Peace officer
- Brings to life
- Automotive vehicles
- One point south of due east
- Football position
- Goes by
- Most attractive
- Road divisions
- Not the sea
- Small, faint constellation
- Cabbage
- Least frequent
- Change slightly
- A country in NE Africa
- Metric units of measure
- More coherent
- Make uninteresting
- Nausea
- Institution of Oceanography
- Of little value
- Hindu model of the ideal man
- Biblical exclamation
- You throw it at a board
- Be about to happen
- Brutal
- Opened one's mouth widely
- 19th letter of Greek alphabet
- Saturate
- The woman
- Someone who is highly skilled
- A way to launch an attack on
- Where golfers begin
- Atomic number 58

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CAREERS

The Prairie Spirit School Division invites applications for full time Principal/Teacher positions for the 2022-23 school year:

- 1) #2022-01 - Pilot Mound Collegiate ;
- 2) #2022-02 - Nellie McClung Collegiate (Manitou, MB.)

Your application should be submitted as a single PDF that includes cover letter, CV and three professional references quoting the competition number to: pssd@prspirit.org. Closing date is Noon February 18th, 2022.

For more details visit: www.prairiespirit.mb.ca

CONT. ON NEXT COL.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION



NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION SALE OF LANDS FOR ARREARS OF TAXES RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF ROLAND

Pursuant to subsection 367(7) of The Municipal Act, notice is hereby given that unless the tax arrears for the designated year and costs in respect of the hereinafter described properties are paid in full to the Municipality prior to the commencement of the auction, the Municipality will on the 3rd day of March, 2022, at the hour of 10:00 AM, at Rural Municipality of Roland Office, 45 - 3rd Street, Roland, Manitoba, proceed to sell by public auction the following described properties:

Roll Number	Description	Assessed Value	Amount of Arrears & Costs for Which Property May be Offered for Sale
69950	LOT 11 BLOCK 6 SS PLAN 1593 MLTO IN NE 1/4 4-5-4 WPM EXCEPTING - ALL MINES AND MINERALS VESTED IN THE CROWN (MANITOBA) BY THE REAL PROPERTY ACT - 51 3RD ST	L - \$19,200	\$7,582.51

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

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

The purchaser will be responsible for registering the transfer of title documents in the land titles office, including the registration costs.

- The risk for the property lies with the purchaser immediately following the auction.
- The purchaser is responsible for obtaining vacant possession.
- If the property is non-residential property, the purchaser must pay GST to the Municipality or, if a GST registrant, provide a GST Declaration.

Dated this 3rd day of February, 2022.

Managed by:

Kristin Olson
Chief Administrative Officer
Rural Municipality of Roland
Phone: (204) 343-2061
Fax: (204) 343-2001



FARM PRODUCTION OPERATOR

RJP SEED LTD

Farm Production Operator

Looking to hire two full time Farm Production Operators on a 3000 acre seed production farm north of Carman MB. Looking for self-motivated individuals with production agriculture experience. These positions will have a lot of task variability from day to day and the work will happen in a team as well as independently.

Duties

- Seeding (air seeder and row crop) calibrating, adjusting to soil conditions, cleaning and loading.
- Spraying - mixing and handling chemicals
- Harvesting - swathing, combining, grain carting and trucking
- Land Management - ditch mowing, harrowing, land scraping, tillage and fertilizer banding
- Seed Plant Operation - not a primary duty but training will be provided
- Local Trucking - Class One license preferred
- Machinery maintenance

Training / Professional Development Opportunities

- Class One driver training
- Work place health and safety training
- Seed plant operator training
- Advanced machinery and guidance training

Salary

- Will vary depending on experience and skills

Please contact
Robert J Park
RJP SEED LTD
1-204-745-0088
rob.park@rjpsseed.com

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CAREERS

WESTERN
School Division
Morden, Manitoba



"Rooted In Caring,
Committed to Learning"

Substitute Teacher & Substitute Personnel

Job Advertisement#: 2021WSD044 & 2021WSD049
Job Type: Casual
Location: Division Wide
Start Date: Immediately
Salary: As per Collective Agreement & Benefit Summary
Daily rate from \$121.94 for Substitute Teachers and
Hourly rate from \$14.98 for Substitute Personnel

Closing Date: This is ongoing recruitment

Western School Division, serving the City of Morden and the surrounding area, is accepting applications from energetic individuals who demonstrate enthusiasm towards learning to be listed on our on-call list and function as a Substitute Teacher or Substitute Personnel. Persons who have experience coaching, providing child care, or have been in leadership positions as well as current university or college students are encouraged to apply.

Successful candidates must demonstrate an aptitude toward working with children, with excellent interpersonal skills as well as verbal and written communication skills. They must be willing and able to work as part of a team, yet function independently with little guidance and present themselves professionally.

For more information and to apply, please visit the Employment Opportunities section of our website at www.westernsd.mb.ca



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CARD OF THANKS

The family of Tina Holenski would like to thank our friends and family for their support, cards, flowers and baking since her passing. Thank you to Dr. Amanda Bergman for her excellent care over the last several years. Thank you also to Dr. Aly Dhala of Cancer Care and the nurses and staff of the Boundary Trails Hospital for the wonderful care Tina received in the past few months. Your kindness is greatly appreciated and will always be remembered.

-Bob and Alice Holenski
Irene and Abe Peters
Glen and Shannon Holenski
Betty and Ken Horn
Sharon Deceuninck
and families

CAREERS

WE'RE HIRING!



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PAYROLL CLERK**

FULL-TIME POSITION

The Gardens on Tenth is a non-profit organization that provides housing, meals, activities, support, and other services to Seniors.

The Salary is competitive with a comprehensive Benefit Package.

See our website
www.gardensontenth.ca
for full job description and requirements.

THE GARDENS ON TENTH
140 10th Ave NE ALTONA MB
hr@gardensontenth.ca or
204.324.8945

ENGAGEMENT



Sheldon and Lynn Friesen of Morden are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter Kendra to Derek, son of Dieter and Cathy Nuessler of Winnipeg.

GROW TECHNICIAN

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY PEMBINA VALLEY WATERSHED DISTRICT

GROW TECHNICIAN

Principal Duties (plus other duties as assigned):

- Meet and work directly with local landowners and ag producers to develop BMP implementation plans that fit watershed plans objectives
- Identify wetland classes using Stewart & Kantrud
- Make presentations to landowners and the District
- Promote GROW and PVWD programs
- Operate within budget constraints

Qualifications:

- Strong written and verbal communication skills
- Environmental Science related post-secondary education or equivalent experience (agricultural experience an asset)
- Computer literacy with MS office, Google, Zoom, social media platforms, and GIS software desirable
- Ability to use GPS surveying equipment desirable
- Have a valid Class 5 drivers license
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team
- Ability to meet deadlines and follow a budget

This is a full-time position (40 hours per week – flex time) with some evening and weekend time required.

This position will be based out of a new (TBD) satellite office in the eastern portion of the district, but requires travel across the district.

Please visit the website for a full job description and district map. Salary based on experience.

Please submit resumes with 3 references to:
Pembina Valley Watershed District
Box 659 – 261 Main Street
Manitou, MB R0G 1G0

Phone: 204-242-3267 Website: www.pvwd.ca
E-mail: pembinavalleywd@gmail.com

Application Deadline: Tuesday March 1st, 2022.
PVWD would like to thank all applicants; however, only applicants selected for an interview will be contacted.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Morden CITY OF MORDEN ANNUAL PUBLIC NOTICE

Additions to the Voters List and/or Personal Security Protection Requests

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

VOTER ELIGIBILITY: A person is eligible to have his or her name added to the Voters List if he or she is:

- 1) A Canadian citizen and at least 18 years of age on election day; and
- 2) A resident of the City of Morden for at least six (6) months prior to election day, OR a registered owner of land in the City of Morden for at least six (6) months prior to election day.

Any person who is eligible to vote in municipal elections in the Local Authority of the City of Morden can have his or her name added to the Voters List or have any information about the voter on the Voters List corrected.

In addition, any person can request to have his or her name and address obscured from the Voters List. A person whose name has been obscured will receive a Personal Security Certificate and identification number. In a civic election, that person may only vote by Sealed Envelope Ballot and cannot vote in person at the regular or advance voting places.

To implement the above, a written request must be submitted to the Senior Election Official, in person, by e-mail, fax or mail to:

City of Morden
100-195 Stephen Street
Morden Manitoba
R6M 1V3
Phone: 204-822-4434
Fax: 204-822-6494

E-mail: seomorden2022@gmail.com

The next General Election takes place October 26, 2022.

Ted Fransen
Senior Election Official

BIRTHDAY



Happy 90th Birthday!
-With love from your family!

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OBITUARY



**Mary Anne Paetkau (nee Dyck)
1941 - 2022**

Mary Anne Paetkau, 80 of Winkler, MB passed away January 27, 2022 surrounded by her children at her hospital bedside.

Mary Anne was born June 11, 1941 in Winkler, MB to Wilhelm and Marie Dyck. Her early years were spent in Gretna and Roseisle, MB. She married Peter B Paetkau on July 17, 1967 and they had five children: Mary Melanie, Brian Rudolph Peter, Randolph William Sydney, Helen Melinda, and Leanne Melissa. They lived on a farmstead near Sperling. In December 1987, Mary Anne and Peter separated and then divorced years later. Mary Anne stayed at the farm about two years before purchasing a home in Myrtle, MB while Peter moved to Winnipeg. Mary Anne lived in Myrtle till July 2019 when she moved to an apartment in Winkler, MB. In

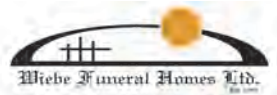
January 2020, Mary Anne suffered a terrible car accident on a very cold day in which she trudged through snow and a high wind chill over 2 ½ hours to take shelter at a farm. She spent time in the hospital and recovered. Mary Anne was passionate about gardening, wine-making, fishing, site seeing, exploring, adventuring, and she loved her family and Jesus dearly and fiercely. She loved sitting by a fire and would often be sitting by one with friends and family. She also had a passion for helping others in counselling, lending a hand, spending time with friends, making new friends, building relationships and would give whatever she possibly could. What stands out the most about Mary Anne is her love for Jesus, her witness and her desire for everyone she met or interacted with to know Jesus. She was an amazing ambassador for and of Jesus. Throughout her life, she was involved in teaching Pioneer Clubs, teaching Sunday School, and leading Bible Studies. She attended the Berghthaler Church in Lowe Farm, MB., Gospel Light Church in Carman, MB. and Westside Church in Morden, MB. Mary Anne also attended Providence College in Otterburne, MB. and obtained a diploma of Biblical Counselling in 1990-1992. In 1992, she received a certificate in Reflexology from Moreau Institute of Natural Healing. In 1994, she received a diploma in Child Psychology from International Correspondence Schools. In 1995, she received a diploma in Psychology/Social Work with highest honours from Universal Career Institute. She also started an introductory course to Psychology at University of Winnipeg in 1995 but did not finish. While taking these courses, Mary Anne also worked full time.

Mary Anne was predeceased by the following: father, Wilhelm Dyck; mother, Marie Dyck (nee Peters); mother-in-law, Helena Paetkau (nee Schmidt); father-in-law, Abram Paetkau; nephew, James Dyck, nephew, Don Hildebrand; husband, Peter Paetkau; brother-in-law, Barney Kroeker; sister, Beatrice Kroeker (Dyck); brother, Menno Dyck; brother-in-law, Henry Hildebrand; sister-in-law, Judith Hiebert (nee Paetkau); brother-in-law, Norman Hiebert.

She is survived by her five children and their spouses and children; her brother, Ed Dyck (Lena); her sister, Evelyn Hildebrand; and sisters-in-law, Helen Dyck and Johanna Paetkau as well 12 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Private funeral service was held at Westside Community Church with interment at the Lowe Farm Cemetery.

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



OBITUARY



**Anna Rietze (nee Enns)
1940 - 2022**

We, the family of Ann Rietze aged 82 of Winkler, MB formerly of Morden, are deeply saddened to announce her passing Saturday, January 29, 2022 at the Boundary Health Trails Centre.

She leaves to mourn her passing, her son, Byron of Morden, his children, Stacey and her daughters, Autumn and Meadow, Courtney and Conway and their son, Daxton, Kayla, Alyssa and Alex; her daughter, Paula and her husband, Alvin of Winkler, their children, Tamera and Mark and their children, Kaden, Leah and Emma, Tyler and Adi, Thomas, Tara and James; two sisters, Betty Reimer of Okotoks, AB. and Mary and Lawrence Heinrichs of Winnipeg; two brothers, Cornie and Ingrid of Oshawa, ON and Doug and Marilynne of Steinbach; one sister-in-law, Dorothy Rietze; brother-in-law, Howard and Betty-Ann Rietze and many, many nieces and nephews who loved her dearly.

Ann was predeceased by her husband, Laverne Rietze in 2010, her parents, Cornelius and Maria Enns and one granddaughter, Hope in 1995.

Funeral service was held at the Trinity Lutheran Church in Winkler with interment at Westridge Memorial Gardens.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Ann's memory to Katie Cares.

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



OBITUARY



**Isaac F. Hoepfner
1930 - 2022**

Isaac F. Hoepfner, 91 years young, of Winkler, MB arrived in the presence of his Lord on Thursday, January 27, 2022 from his residence at Tabor Home, Morden.

He will be dearly missed by four daughters and their families as well as four siblings and their families.

He was predeceased by his wife, Dorothy, parents, Frank and Margaretha (Friesen) Hoepfner, a sister and a brother-in-law, two grandsons and a nephew.

Isaac was born on March 29, 1930 to Frank and Margaretha (Friesen) Hoepfner in the Rudnerweide district. The family later settled on a farm in the Friedensruh district. At 14 years of age and as was expected of the eldest son, Isaac traded school studies for

work at home on the farm. Later, he was able to attend Bible School in Winkler for a year and then for a year in Steinbach to further his study of the Bible. Isaac particularly enjoyed writing essays, a talent which continued on in his years as a Sunday School teacher. Isaac's interest in the world of electronics inspired him to undertake a correspondence course from a company in California. This training led to a job repairing radios in Winkler. One day, as Isaac walked down the street, his eye fell upon a young lady who captured his interest. She was Dorothy Falk and here began a marriage and a partnership that would become a fixture in the community. Isaac and Dorothy were married on September 11, 1960. Their family grew from two to six people who divided their time between the house and the store next door, purchased in 1966. If you were in Winkler, West End Grocery was the place to go for grocery staples, frozen treats and the greatest selection of candy available in the area. Isaac is still remembered fondly by three generations of sweets-lovers. Isaac thought of himself as a family man, teacher, worker for the Lord, and most of all, a man in whom lived these words from Scripture: "If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone." (Romans 12:18)

Funeral service was held at the Winkler EMMC with interment prior at Westridge Memorial Gardens.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donating in Isaac's memory to the Alzheimer Society.

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



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AUCTION

**Friday, February 4
6:00 pm**

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for William Zacharias
435- 12th Street, Morden
www.billklassen.com

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