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An early start

The nice weather has allowed for outdoor sports to get a super early start this spring. Playing pickleball at the Elks courts in Morden on Monday were Peter Hildebrand (attacking the ball) and Dennis Jordan (not shown) versus Jim and Barb Martin.

PHOTO BY RICK HIEBERT/VOICE

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



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Morden opens up its community hall for vaccination super site

By Lorne Stelmach

The City of Morden is making contingency plans for various user groups and potential events now that the Access Event Centre hall is to be home to the latest COVID-19 vaccination super site in the province.

The immunization clinic in Morden is expected to open this month, subject to vaccination supply. Details were still being finalized at press time, but the clinic is slated to be set up in the community hall, maintaining public access to the rest of the complex, including the rinks, the Canadian Fossil Discovery Centre, and the Manitoba Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum.

"We want to make sure that those two groups stay distinctly separate, and we think the public can be better safeguarded that way," said Mayor Brandon Burley.

Burley said the province initially considered a number of locations in the region both public and private for the super site, but then focused on solely public venues.

The City of Winkler turned down the idea of having the clinic located at the new Meridian Exhibition Centre, with a key factor being not wanting to shut the brand new facility down to the public for an extended period of time.

Indeed, Morden could see the community hall in use for vaccinations for up to a year, though Burley noted public health officials are optimistic that the timeline could be shorter.

Any inconveniences are outweighed by the public good of having a local vaccination centre, the mayor stressed.

"We're finally beginning to look towards the end of this pandemic, and Morden's more than happy to play a part in it," he said. "I think there's a moral duty to do what we can as a

"I THINK THERE'S A MORAL DUTY TO DO WHAT WE CAN AS A COMMUNITY TO HELP SEE THIS ENDED, AND WE'RE HAPPY TO DO SO."



The Access Event Centre Community Hall will be home to our region's vaccination super site in the coming weeks.

PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

community to help see this ended, and we're happy to do so.

"I would say that without a vaccine in people's arms we're not going to have much going on in any of our facilities anyway," Burley continued. "But I think there is also a moral duty that communities have to protect each other. Morden has in the past stepped

up when needed to do things for the betterment of our community and country and we're happy to do that again."

Another consideration for the City of Morden is that the province is not only paying for use of the hall but will

Continued on page 5

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The Bunker thrilled to reconnect with youth

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Four months after shutting its doors as Manitoba tightened pandemic restrictions, The Bunker youth ministry in Winkler flung them wide open again last week.

Friday evening included giving teens a chance to take out their pent-up frustrations on a COVID-19 pinata.

To say they're relieved to be able to offer their regular programming once again would be "a huge understatement," executive director Kevin Hildebrand said as he and girls ministry director Alycia Hildebrand prepared to welcome the kids back.

Every new public health order announcement this winter saw the ministry's team poring over it to see what,

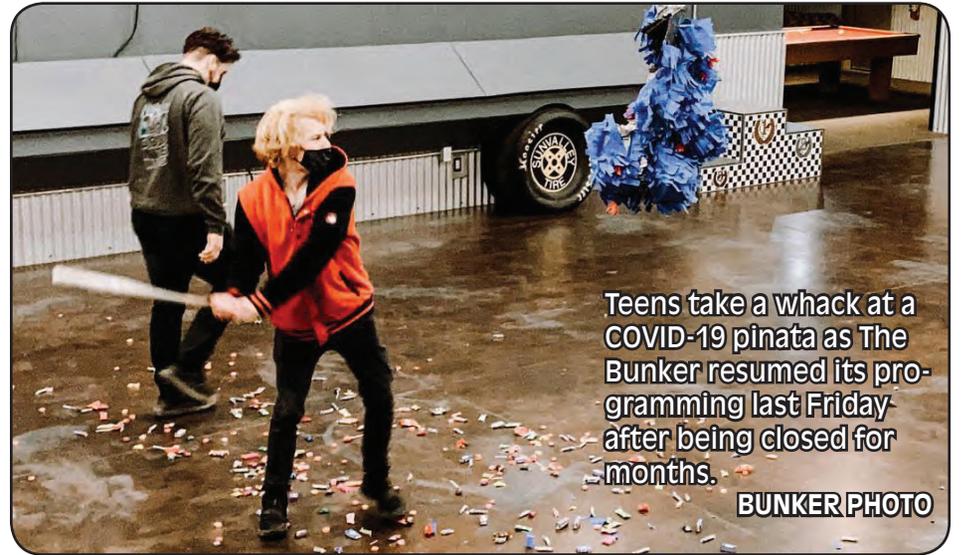
if any, programming they might be able to offer.

"And then in the end it was always, nope, it's not going to work. It was always this huge letdown," Kevin said. "And then it's a slow build-up of hope for another three weeks ... and another letdown."

And so, since mid-November, the ministry's directors have done what they could to stay in touch with teens from a distance and keep everyone's spirits up.

"There's been a lot of texting and messaging, some video calls, even some actual phone messages," said Alycia, laughing. "We actually got some kids on the phone—that's a big thing."

Continued on page 4



Teens take a whack at a COVID-19 pinata as The Bunker resumed its programming last Friday after being closed for months.

BUNKERPHOTO

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> THE BUNKER, FROM PG. 3

"And then we also, for our Friday night students ... we did Christmas stockings and care packages and the volunteers went out and delivered them to everyone."

Local youth, on the whole, have fared better this most recent lockdown compared to the one last spring, mainly thanks to the fact school in some form continued throughout the bulk of it.

"Kids are so unbelievably adaptable and I think they've made the best of it," Alycia said, explaining the high school students found at least some normalcy by going to class every other

day. Still, it's been tough, and the impact is being felt by all teens, including those who normally excel.

"These kids, they're under a whole lot of stress and anxiety and uncertainty about their future," Kevin said, pointing out that even stellar students have struggled with the partial online learning and some student athletes have found themselves adrift without the community and purpose sports provide. "These are kids that normally society looks at and says, 'They're going to be fine.' But you know what? Even they're struggling."

"Overall, there is definitely a mental health decline," agreed Alycia, "and so we're prepared to help them deal with it."

The Bunker is jumping back into things with both feet, offering all of its usual nightly programming, though with capacity limits and other pandemic safety guidelines in place such as masks and physical distancing.

"Otherwise, we're just going to go right back into normal because that's what they know," said Alycia.

"And that's what they need," added Kevin, pointing out that most teens have come to find "that they miss the community aspect of everything. Be-



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Alycia Hildebrand and Kevin Hildebrand are thrilled to be able to welcome teens back to the The Bunker now that pandemic restrictions are beginning to ease.

ing able to look in somebody's face and see that we care.

"Kids are resilient," he said. "But now it's on us as the adults to give them the tools, to give them the opportunity, to give them the hope."

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

As with all local non-profits, the past year has been a challenging one for The Bunker, who found themselves having to cancel or revise their usual fundraising events.

But the community has really

stepped up, Kevin said, especially when it came to supporting their pulled pork food truck last summer.

"The community support that we got—our slowest day on a Thursday last year was like our busiest on any previous year," he said. "We just had people coming rain or shine. That extra support really, really helped carry us through."

The Bunker will be offering pulled pork for lunch Thursdays at their location on Industrial Dr. starting in April and Wednesdays beginning in June in the industrial park.

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City of Morden unveils \$19 million financial plan

By Lorne Stelmach

An ambitious budget is in place for the City of Morden for 2021.

Council last Thursday gave first approval to a \$19 million financial plan.

The City is drawing more from reserve funds and anticipating a boost in provincial funding to help pump more into capital projects while also reducing spending in a number of areas.

Council is planning on only asking a little bit more of taxpayers with this plan, with a net municipal tax increase of one per cent. On a home valued at \$250,000, that will mean \$22.49 more in municipal taxes.

"There's a balancing act there that council has to seek to maintain, but there's also utility needs, roads that are crumbling, and things like that which have to get done," said Mayor Brandon Burley.

"Sometimes if you're deferring those costs, it makes them even more expensive, and we're finding that out now with water treatment and roads.

"There are several large capital projects that are included in the budget that are relieved by other expenditures coming off," he said, citing the example of significant work being done at the Access Event Centre as well as priorities revolving around wastewater.

"A substantial amount of it involves wastewater. There's a massive cost to us this year in engineering for wastewater as well as water treatment plant upgrades," Burley said. "We do have a huge amount of engineering work ahead of us."

Council is drawing \$3.8 million from reserve funds towards its capital projects. Burley noted council recognizes

that dipping into reserve funds is not sustainable in the longer term, but says they're positioned for it now with some funds also going back into reserve.

"Next year will be even more so because we have to restore the city to financial equilibrium," he said. "One of the things that we plan to do is make contributions back into it. We can fund some of our projects out of different sources ... and the actual draw from the reserve will likely not be as high.

"We do have some wiggle room in that we have a lot of unallocated gas tax money coming back yet, and all of these programs are eligible ... we do have about \$1.5 million in gas tax and GST coming back to us."

What overall is about \$10 million in capital projects includes \$2.2 million coming through a debenture to fund the ice plant upgrade at the event centre, while another \$2.3 million comes through the utility fund for utility projects including wastewater treatment and new water mains.

Other significant capital projects include civic centre improvements, fibre optic infrastructure, a new water tanker, and a new cemetery as well as road projects such as Buhler Dr., Parkhill Dr. west, the 100 block of Ninth St., and the Stephen and Mountain St. intersection.

Meanwhile, on the operational side, Burley said they were able to keep moving forward with a minimal tax increase with "a lot of it borne from finding cost savings ... a lot of it is also reallocating some of the resources we have."

The budget of just over \$19 million is a 23 per cent increase from the 2020 budget of \$15.3 million.

Nearly half of the revenue comes

from the municipal tax levy. The total revenue from that source overall rises 4.6 per cent to just over \$9.1 million.

The city is also drawing substantially on reserve funds with an increase from just under \$1.5 million to over \$3.8 million, while other revenue sources are budgeted to bring in an additional 17.6 per cent to a total of just under \$6.1 million.

The largest portion of that other revenue is provincial municipal tax sharing at \$1.6 million followed by other government grants. The amount forecast to come from the federal government is down 43 per cent to almost \$490,000, but the amount anticipated from the province is more than doubled to over \$1.1 million from just under \$500,000.

Other significant sources of income include \$825,000 from recreation services and \$266,500 from the beach as well as \$200,000 from added taxes and \$191,000 from the sharing of protective services.

Meanwhile, the increase in spending comes primarily under fiscal services, which nearly doubles from just under \$3.5 million to almost \$6.8 million.

The hike in spending in that category comes from a substantial boost in money going towards the capital budget with an increase from \$2.8 million to \$6.1 million.

The next largest portion of spending comes under community services, which increases just one per cent to \$3.2 million, and it includes funding for such areas as recreation, parks, and the beach and campground as well as other community facilities.

Funding for the police and fire departments comes under protective services, which sees a 4.7 per cent increase to \$3 million.

Transportation services covering everything from roads and sidewalks to planning and engineering costs sees its budget increase three per cent to \$1.7 million.

General government services such as city staffing and administration decreases



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Mayor Brandon Burley last week unveiled Morden council's plans for a \$19 million budget for 2021.

16 per cent to \$1.4 million. Next comes transfers from reserves, which rises 46 per cent to \$1.1 million.

Other lesser budget areas include economic development, which rises three per cent to \$802,000, environmental health services, which decreases 12 per cent to \$644,000, and as public health and welfare, which decreases 13 per cent to \$153,000.

Burley stressed that they feel the budget overall strikes a good balance and offers a plan that will help keep the city moving forward.

"The reserve will need to be recharged, and that is going to be next year's focus," said Burley, who added council's goal now three years into their term was "making sure we can position the city for success."

"We want to leave the city after four years in a forward facing direction," he concluded. "Over the four years of our mandate, council is pointing in that direction of the strategic vision of creating and crafting a community that is usable, a destination for people to live, work and play."

"THERE'S A BALANCING ACT THERE THAT COUNCIL HAS TO SEEK TO MAINTAIN ..."

> VACCINATION CENTRE, FROM PG. 2

be further compensating the community with funding support.

"They're also making some capital improvements to the facility as well that had been on our capital plan," Burley said. "We just are working on finalizing the actual arrangements for compensation, but once that is done it will be a public document."

As the vaccination centre prepares to open, city staff have been actively making alternate plans for hall user groups.

"There are practical considerations around usage that we are working through to try to ac-

commodate user groups who are frequent users of that facility. That's a challenge, but it's a positive challenge," Burley said.

"We are actively looking at alternate spaces that the City can accommodate these different groups in over the year, and I think we'll be able to find some solid alternatives so that we don't have to put these organizations to the curb and their programming can still happen," he said. "I think we've got very solid plan B venues for all those things that will be affected."

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get heard

EDITORIAL > VIEWPOINTS > LETTERS

Necessity is a mother

In nearly every global crisis something good arises from the ashes of the chaos that lay strewn about when the smoke clears.

Now, before I dive into these things it should be said that none of the good justifies that bad that came before. None of it. It would have come anyhow—it just would have taken longer.

It is worth noting that jet engines, synthetic oil and rubber, radar and more rose out of WW2. The financial crisis of 2008 led to the surging success of things Airbnb and Uber. The modern tea bag arose during WW1 as did the stylish trench coat. Canned food came about out of necessity during the Napoleonic Wars. WW2 also led to the mass production of penicillin.

Ultimately, necessity is the mother of invention. Often these things were not really invented during a crisis but it was the crisis that led to a large number of people realizing their potential and driving their development.

If there is one thing I am coming to appreciate in the garbage storm that has been the COVID-19 years it is

how certain technologies are leaping forward.

Let's talk about the emergence of web-based video conferencing as one of those technologies that will go down in history as having owed its major advancements to a global pandemic.

Whether you are a student, a board member, a grandparent or office employee forced to work from home, COVID has significantly accelerated the adoption of this technology and the related infrastructure required in ways that would have happened at a much slower pace otherwise.

Don't get me wrong: I am the first person to praise the value of meeting people face-to-face. However, as a habitual board member I can tell you video conferencing through Zoom, Microsoft Teams, Google Meet or whatever saves me a significant amount of time. No longer do I have to waste time on things like commuting to the meeting, commuting from the meeting, and getting dressed from the waist down.

The meetings are far more concise and to the point and frankly valuable than ever before.

In these days when all eyes are on carbon reduction these technologies are inadvertently becoming eco-heroes as telecommuting takes the place of actual commuting.

In the aftermath of this most recent pandemic when we do the post-mortem to discover how we could be better prepared for the next one it will

be obvious that communities with affordable, accessible, high-speed internet had a leg up.

SpaceX could not have chosen a better time to launch its Starlink broadband satellite internet as COVID has required so much in terms of internet access.

Historically these discoveries and advancements do not go away after the crisis. If anything, the gravity of the crisis slingshots these things into the future with greater momentum.

Things are going to change. People will ask legitimate questions like, "Is it really necessary for all of us to drive in to this location for a two-hour meeting when we could do it from home?"

With subsidiary industries like oil and gas seeing reduced demand other technologies will need to accelerate to fill the gap, and the ripple-effect list goes on.

Large, office-space corporations will be asking if it is a necessary cost to own or lease a 12 storey building in the core when they could incent employees to work from home. I imagine there will be a bit of a commercial real estate crisis in the centres of larger cities.

Large businesses like call centres will be investigating the development of an entire infrastructure without brick and mortar in favour of a distributed organization.

Gone are the days of "if I can't see you working then I don't believe you

Continued on page 7



By Peter Cantelon

Letters

RESTRAINED APPROACH IS NECESSARY

Based on Candice Bergen's comments regarding the online town hall meeting with her constituents [*Voice*, March 4, Pg. 5], I am thankful she is not in charge of responding to the pandemic.

Instead of adding to the confusion, she should be reinforcing the information provided by our medical experts who stress the importance of washing our hands, wear-

ing a mask and distancing.

It is because people in our southern health region have, for the most part, tried to follow these directives that we are in a relatively positive situation now.

We need to continue to be restrained in our desire to open up the economy completely before it is safe to do so.

**Bill Toews,
Morden**

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.

Muffins for Munchkins on March 17-19

100 per cent of proceeds going to Winkler, Morden family resource centres

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler Family Resource Centre and the Morden Parent and Child Resource Centre are teaming up with Coffee Culture in both communities for a special fundraiser next week.

The very first Muffins for Munchkins campaign runs March 17-19.

One hundred per cent of the proceeds from the purchase of any red velvet, maple pecan, chocolate chip, or lemon poppyseed 2.2 oz. muffins on those three days will go to support free early childhood programming for Morden-Winkler families.

Coffee Culture owner/manager Lisa Zacharias was quick to jump at the chance to support the two agencies.

"I'm always so thankful for the way the community has supported us, especially through this pandemic, so this is a way for me to say thank you and to give back to the community," she said, noting the muffins they're offering for the campaign are about half the size of the huge ones they usually have for sale, but that just means you can eat more of them.

Cathy Savage, who heads up both centres, is certainly grateful for Zacharias' help and hopes muffin-lovers will come out in droves to support the cause.

"This is a great way to support the family resource centres and a great



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Coffee Culture's Lisa Zacharias (third from left) with (from left) Galene Westhaver, Jen Froese, and Cathy Savage from the Winkler and Morden family resource centres and a few of the muffin flavours up for grabs in the restaurant's Muffins for Munchkins campaign next week.

way to support Coffee Culture as well," she said, noting pandemic restrictions this winter certainly took a toll on local eateries.

She hopes Muffins for Munchkins could become a yearly event.

"For us this is a huge opportunity because it's our first big partnership

campaign that we want to run annually," Savage said.

Muffins are \$1 each and can be purchased at the restaurants during the campaign days or ordered in advance at your selected Coffee Culture at least 48 hours before pick-up or delivery (pre-ordering is recommended for

large orders).

Order forms are available on the social media pages of WFRC, MPCRC, and the local Coffee Cultures. Forms can be sent to winkler@coffeeculture-cafe.com or morden@coffeeculture-cafe.com.

Case numbers on the right track, but risk remains: Roussin

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Public health officials announced 63 new cases of COVID-19 and one new virus-related death on Monday.

That brought the total of lab-confirmed cases in Manitoba to 32,288.

There were 1,145 active cases, 30,236 recoveries, and 907 total deaths due to the virus at press time. Manitoba has

thus far reported six cases of the B117 COVID-19 variant and three of the B1351 variant.

"Our case numbers for the most part continue to improve, trend in the right direction, as do our hospitalization numbers," said Dr. Brent Roussin, Manitoba's chief public health officer. "However, we still see many individuals in hospital, still see many individ-

uals still in intensive care.

"So there continues to be a need for us to be on guard. The variants of concern add to that need. We are still at risk."

A total of 164 people were in hospital due to the virus on Monday, 22 in intensive care. Fifty-four of those patients were considered to be contagious.

The five-day COVID-19 test positivity rate was 3.5 per cent provincially and 2.4 per cent in Winnipeg.

Our health region, Southern Health-Santé Sud, had a total of 34 active cases at press time and 16 people in hospital, including three in ICU. A total

of 4,627 people have recovered from the virus. One hundred and forty-two people have died.

Breaking down the numbers further in the Pembina Valley, there were four active cases in Carman at the start of the week, three in Winkler and Red River South, two each in Morden and the Altona and MacDonald areas, and one each in the Lorne/Louise/Pembina and Morris areas. Reporting no active cases were the areas of Stanley, Roland/Thompson, and Grey.

These areas together have seen 1,338 recoveries and 27 deaths since the pandemic began a year ago.

Letter policy

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

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

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

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

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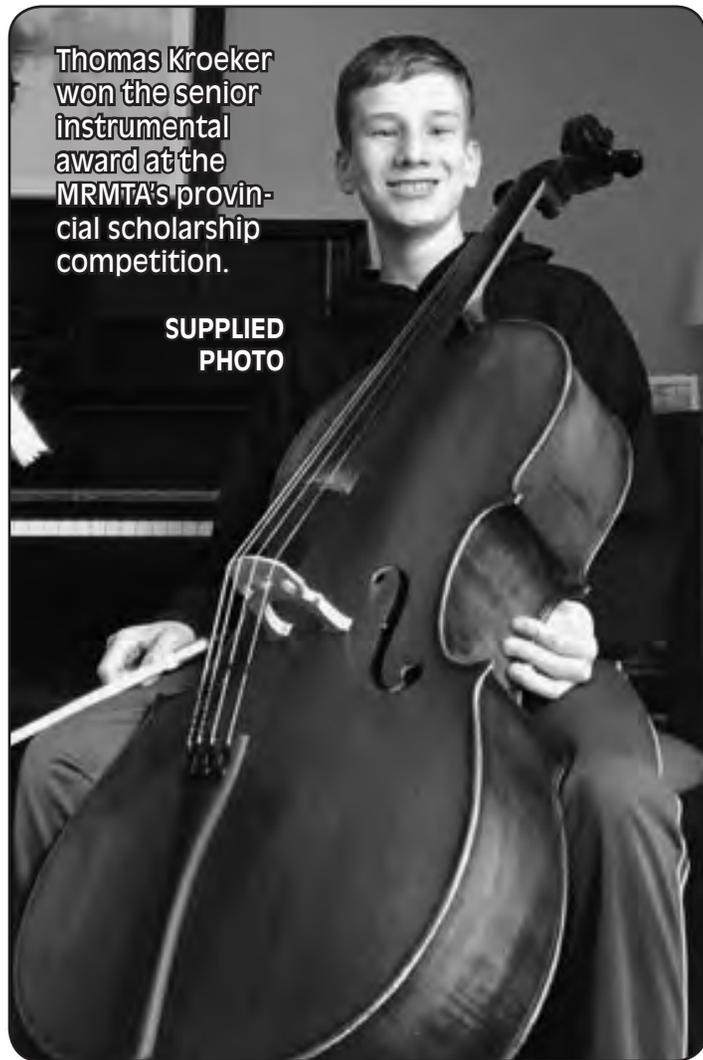
> CANTELON, FROM PG. 6

are working" in favour of more goal-based management.

Access to affordable post-secondary education leaps forward if a university student can complete a degree

without having to find an expensive apartment in downtown Toronto.

Yes, COVID-19 has changed things forever. Some of it for the better.



Thomas Kroeker won the senior instrumental award at the MRMTA's provincial scholarship competition.

SUPPLIED PHOTO

Local cellist earns provincial honours

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Manitoba Registered Music Teachers' Association (MRMTA) honoured several talented young musicians recently through its 2021 Performance Scholarship Competition, including a local teen.

Fifteen-year-old Thomas Kroeker nabbed the senior instrumental award at the event, earning a scholarship he intends to put towards his post-secondary studies in a few years.

The Morden Collegiate student has been playing the cello for about seven years now.

"When I was eight years old my grandparents took me and my brothers to this orchestra concert and I really liked the sound of the cello and decided I wanted to learn how to play it," Kroeker recalls.

He's been honing his skills ever since, taking lessons today from Douglas Kuhl School of Music teacher Natalie Goodlett.

After months of Zoom lessons from Goodlett, Kroeker says he's looking forward to the resumption of in-person practices as pandemic restrictions ease.

"It's been challenging," he says. "Especially dealing with buggy technology."

The scholarship competition—which draws upwards of 70 students from across Manitoba

each year—also had to be done virtually this year.

Kroeker recorded himself performing two pieces for the adjudicators' consideration: a section from Sebastian Bach's "Cello Suite No. 4" and Antonín Dvorák's "Silent Woods." He played the latter again in the MRMTA's winners' gala concert streamed online last Sunday.

Kroeker says he normally practises for an hour a day, but upped that by 30-60 minutes in the weeks leading up to recording his pieces for the competition.

"This competition meant a lot to me this year because it gave me something to work towards, because there's no Morden Festival of the Arts," he says. The local festival was cancelled thanks to COVID-19.

It's certainly a lot of work to master an instrument like the cello, but Kroeker says it's all worth it to see the joy his music can bring to others.

"I always get nervous before a performance, but I find that the satisfying feeling that you get at the end of a performance more than makes up for it," he says. "I like that my music makes people happy."

The Gr. 10 student hasn't made any decisions yet about whether he'll pursue music as a career, though it's certainly a possibility. He's also interested in computer science.

Manitoba delaying COVID-19 shot second doses

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Manitoba's vaccine task force announced a major change to the rollout of the COVID-19 shots last week.

Dr. Joss Reimer, the task force's medical lead, said the province is increasing the length of time between first and second doses of the vaccine. This change could allow every eligible Manitoban to receive a first dose of the vaccine by the end of May or June, depending on vaccine supply.

"This approach will allow us to immunize more eligible Manitobans sooner," Reimer said. "This helps protect us all."

Manufacturers of the Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna vaccines recommend second doses be administered three or four weeks after the first.

But recent guidance from the National Advisory Committee on Immunizations (NACI) has stated the interval between doses could potentially be extended to four months without losing a great deal of effectiveness.

"These vaccines are providing a significant level of protection even after one dose," Reimer explained. "This means that there is more of a clear advantage to getting vaccine to more people sooner."

Data from other parts of Canada, the United Kingdom, and Israel have put

first dose efficacy of the vaccines to be between 70-80 per cent.

"That's excellent real-world vaccine effectiveness," Reimer said, noting, of course, the vaccines have not been out long enough to get four-month data yet.

"We feel very comfortable with the data that we have in front of us, that it's been so consistent in so many different jurisdictions to provide that high level of effectiveness up until two months," she said. "But we also will be watching and if there's any signs after that two month point that immunity starts to decrease, we can pivot again."

"That's the nature of science—we are always putting out our best plan but then testing it and watching," Reimer said. "We need to be ready to adapt to new information as it comes in ... we feel that, based on the information available to us, this is the best plan."

Health officials have said that all second dose appointments made before this change was announced will be honoured.

It's also important to note that a second dose of the vaccine is still needed for full protection.

"For long-lasting immunity, that second dose is really important," Reimer stressed. "We don't want to have to do this next year."

"THIS APPROACH WILL ALLOW US TO IMMUNIZE MORE ELIGIBLE MANITOBANS SOONER."

"THE WHOLE WORLD IS WATCHING"

Reimer also addressed questions about the differences between the various vaccines now approved for use in Canada, including the newer AstraZeneca vaccine.

"Clinical and real-world studies have shown all of these vaccines to be effective in preventing COVID-19," she said. "The people who have been immunized are much less likely to not only become infected but also to have severe symptoms if they do become infected."

While these vaccines were developed quickly they still had to meet certain standards before being approved for use.

"There have clinical trials, there have been data reviews—all of the processes associated with a more typical vaccine authorization process," Reimer said. "Data on these vaccines are growing all the time and they con-

tinue to be very closely monitored. In fact, the whole world is watching as these vaccines get rolled out."

She pointed out that this close monitoring and quick reporting of any potential side effects doesn't happen with any other type of medical intervention.

"So we know far more about the vaccine safety than we do any prescription that I might write in my clinic, for example," Reimer said. "For me, the development of these vaccines shows what we are capable of on an international scale when there's a strong collective will to protect people's health."

Reimer urged people to get vaccinated with whichever vaccine is available as soon as they are eligible.

"They have all been tested and they have all been found to be safe and effective," she said.

Up-to-date vaccination eligibility guidelines and details about booking your appointment are available online at manitoba.ca/covid19/vaccine/index.html

Students host food drive in support of The Hub

By Lorne Stelmach

École Morden Middle School students were collecting food this past week for families who need a helping hand.

The entire Gr. 5-8 student body took part in the campaign, which ultimately saw 1,464 non-perishable items delivered to The Hub Community Centre for distribution.

The school usually participates in Farm Credit Canada's annual food drive, but that was not able to happen this year due to the pandemic.

"I felt it was still really important to do a food drive to support The Hub," said teacher Tara Chewings.

"Usually we have our 'Freedom Fighters' group that has three sub-groups focusing on making our school a better place and the community and the world," she noted. "And usually we've supported The Hub with bake sales and also, with their Better Access to Groceries program, we've had kids helping sort and bag groceries.

"We were unable to do all that stuff this year, but I thought a food drive was easy and doable, and it makes the kids feel good that they're still con-

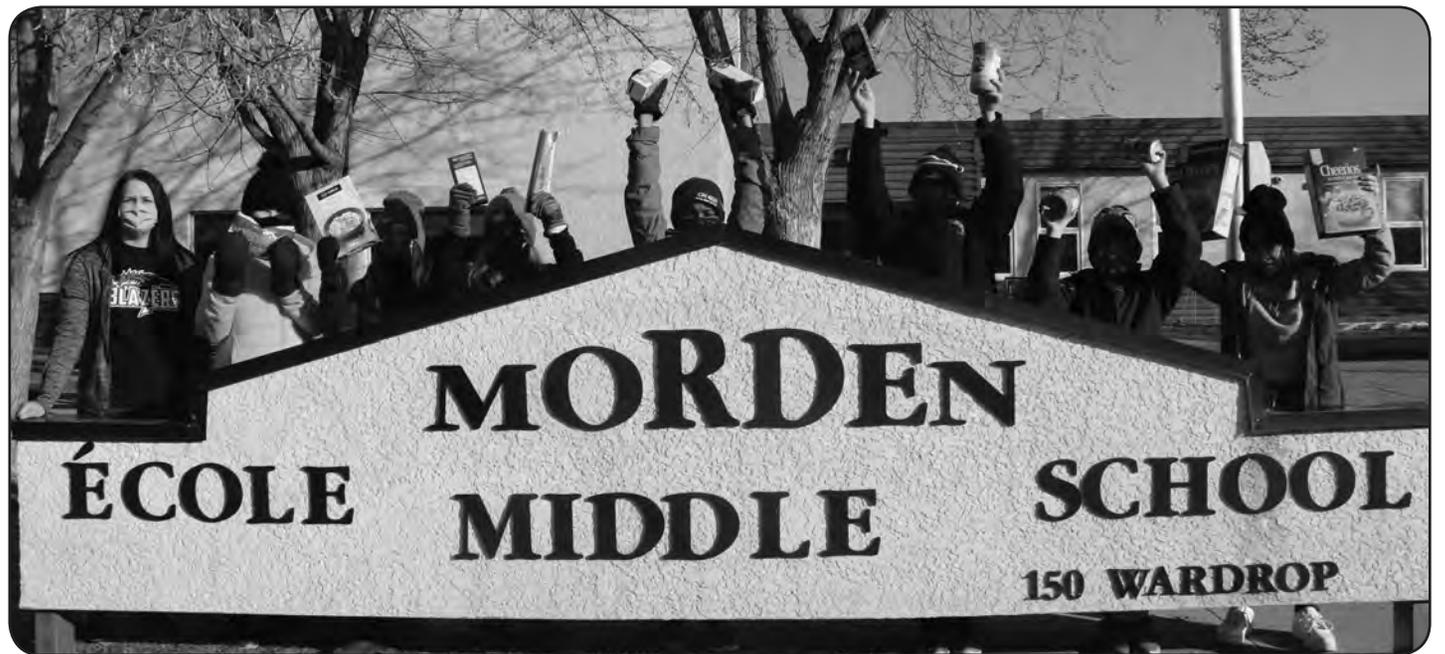


PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

École Morden Middle School students rallied together last week to fill the shelves at The Hub Community Centre in support of local families.

tributing," said Chewings. "Also our theme this year for Pink Shirt dDay was kindness, so we are showing kindness back to our community and helping our families in need."

The students really grabbed onto the

challenge of seeing which class could bring in the most donations.

"Each home room class is going to submit their total number of items that they brought in, and the winning class in each grade is going to win

two free periods using the iPads for games or whatever they like, so it's a little bit of incentive to bring in some stuff," said Chewings. "They are proud to help out ... and I think we've had a pretty good response."

Province eases back on some restrictions

Relaxed public health orders in effect until March 25

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Another step in Manitoba's slow return to some semblance of normalcy was taken Friday as the province's latest public health orders came into effect.

At a press conference outlining the orders on March 2, Premier Brian Pallister stressed that while the province's vaccination program is making some headway, "we are not out of the woods yet" when it comes to battling COVID-19.

That's why Manitoba will continue with a slow but steady approach to re-opening, the premier said, explaining there will be two phases of health restriction rollbacks in the weeks ahead.

"These changes, once again, are cautious changes to ensure we continue to protect and safeguard Manitoba lives," Pallister said.

Dr. Brent Roussin, Manitoba's chief public health officer, went on to outline the first phase of orders, which came into effect March 5 and remain active until March 25.

"Manitoba's case numbers and test positivity rates continue to trend in

the right direction," he said. "That's why we're able to begin to look at other options to cautiously reopen services in Manitoba."

Changes to the public health orders in effect throughout Manitoba include:

- Households can either continue to designate two visitors to their homes or designate a second household so that two households can visit each other, as long as everyone in the house has authorized those designated individuals to visit.

- Gathering limits at an outdoor public or private place increase to 10 people, including for outdoor non-organized sport or recreation activities.

- Places of worship have increased capacity size of 25 per cent or 100 people, whichever is lower, with physical distancing measures in place and mask requirements.

- All business types are now able to operate, with the exception of indoor theatres, indoor concert halls, casinos, and bingo halls.

- Retail stores, malls, and personal services have increased capacity limits of up to 50 per cent or 250 people,

whichever is lower, with other public health measures still in effect.

- Restaurants and licensed premises have increased capacity limits of up to 50 per cent, with the requirement for tables to sit with only household members. Other public health measures remain in effect.

- Businesses other than casinos can resume operating video lottery terminals.

- Professional theatre groups, dance companies, symphonies, and operas can resume rehearsals that are not accessible to members of the public.

- Day camps for children can operate at 25 per cent capacity.

- Indoor recreation and sporting facilities such as gyms, fitness centres, rinks, courts, fields, ranges, studios, clubs, pools and centres can open at 25 per cent total capacity, with public health measures in place including for spectators, common areas, and locker rooms. The requirement to provide one-on-one instructions has been removed.

- Gym, fitness centres, and pool users must continue to wear a mask while working out and in all other ar-

eas of the facility, with the exception of while in a swimming pool.

- Dance, theatre, and music facilities can open for a total capacity of 25 per cent.

- Indoor recreational facilities such as arcades, go-kart tracks, and children's facilities can open at 25 per cent capacity with physical distancing measures in place.

A further easing of restrictions could happen in a few weeks.

"Later in March we'll continue to evaluate whether we will stay at this level or continue to cautiously re-open," Roussin said.

He stressed that people still need to take steps to protect themselves from contracting and spreading the virus.

"We shouldn't interpret these reopenings as a reduction in our risk," Roussin said. "We were at this place before. We know that if let our guards down we're going to see transmission of this virus again. So we all have to be on guard, continue to practise those fundamentals."

That includes the continued use of masks, practising good hand hygiene, physical distancing, and staying home when showing even mild symptoms of illness.

Morden Fire pays tribute to long-serving members

By Lorne Stelmach

Morden fire Chief Andy Thiessen is always especially grateful for his volunteer firefighters with long records of service to the community.

The dedication to Morden Fire and Rescue cannot be taken for granted on both a professional and personal level, Thiessen observed recently as the department paid tribute to several of its members.

"When you go through a down part of life, you've got 30 guys here to lift you up and encourage you, but also if something great happens, then they're celebrating with you," said the chief, who himself now has 34 years of service, including 26 as chief.

"It's hard to explain when you're part of it, but it's definitely a huge factor for us. There's a bond there that just can't explain ... it's just kind of unique."

Other Morden firefighters who have been with the department for decades include pump operator Lorne Enns (34 years) and Deputy Chief Tim Reimer (31 years).

Driver and pump operator Paul Warkentine also just marked the 30 year milestone.

"I have a high level of respect for my teammates," said Warkentine, who grew up on a farm in the area and has worked as a heavy duty mechanic and, for the past decade, instructor.

"I wanted to connect a little more with the community. I wanted to be a part of the community," Warkentine said of his decision to join the fire department at age 32, noting his interest was piqued a few years earlier when his parents experienced a barn fire.

What stands out for Warkentine is the range of skills and the level of training involved among the department members, as well as their dedication to it.



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Long-time firefighters Dennis Macklem and Paul Warkentine beside the Morden department's new fire rescue truck.

"There is a lot of training that goes into keeping up," he said. "What's kept me here this long is the leadership. We've got great leadership. We've got guys from an assortment of careers, and when we come together, it's a great team, and it makes for great insight when we get to our emergencies. We have expertise in a lot of areas."

"We have something special going with this department. These guys really want to be here. It's a nice feeling, like you're home," said Dennis Macklem, Morden Fire's radio operator and administration assistant, who is preparing to retire this spring.

Macklem not only has 15 years with the Morden department but 47 years of service overall. He served with the Killarney Turtle-Mountain department, the Emerson-Franklin fire ser-

vice as its chief, and also as chief and founding member of the Minton department in Saskatchewan.

Born and raised in Deloraine, he moved to Morden to be closer to his grandchildren. He was soon approached by Thiessen to see if he'd like to suit up once again.

"I've always looked at it as wanting to put something back into the community. That's been my whole thrust," Macklem said. "I've had a great run with these guys. It's meant a lot to me."

"I've met a ton of people, and I've learned a great many things. I consider myself very fortunate," he added. "It's all about teamwork, and everybody knows what the other person has to do, and I can do my part. You know that you can count on all of them."

The department normally holds an

annual event where they present service awards, but the pandemic this year means they have had to find others to honour its members, including on social media.

In addition to those members already mentioned, there are a number of others who have achieved milestones. Having reached 20 years of service are Bryan Gerbrandt, Allan Oray, Gord Enns, Darrel Klassen, Scott Hildebrand and Justin Hildebrand. Hitting 10 years of service were Josh Barkley, Ron Grumpelt, Ramsay Fehr, Shawn Strome, and Ray Jonsson.

Thiessen is thankful for all of the members but recently paid tribute on social media in particular to Warkentine and Macklem.

"Who does things for 30 years for nothing? I always say you better enjoy it ... there's a lot of them who have stuck around," he said. "I lean on those two in particular for different reasons."

"Paul is so mechanically inclined. I'm sure he has saved the city so much money over 30 years in just keeping the equipment in top shape."

"With Dennis, for me, it's going to be a big hit to not have him here. It's really been a case of knowing what each other thinks. It's going to be different without him around."

Both Warkentine and Macklem noted it is great to see new members beginning their fire careers with the department, with Morden Fire and Rescue having recently done a recruitment drive.

"It's great to see new guys starting. It's great to see that energy that they bring to it," said Warkentine.

"It's so great to see this young new crew coming on board," agreed Macklem. "We're so fortunate. We've brought five new people in, and they are just coming to the end of their level one training."

Winkler Cheer Board still spreading holiday cheer

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Thanks to the generosity of the community, the Winkler and District Christmas Cheer Board was able to extend its giving season by a few extra months this year.

Volunteers met last week to discuss what to do with the leftover funds that poured in for the 2020 campaign. More than \$120,000 was raised last Christmas—well over the \$95,000 goal organizers had set for the year.

President Kris Derksen says they've

earmarked \$25,000 toward an endowment fund at the Winkler Community Foundation.

"So that money will keep giving for many, many years to come," she says, explaining future Cheer Board campaigns will benefit from the annual interest the fund generates, providing a stable source of income for the cause.

The Winkler Christmas Cheer Board Fund was actually created by a local family who made a significant donation to get it started in memory of re-

cently lost loved ones. More details on the family involved is expected to be released by the foundation in the weeks ahead.

Derksen says the Cheer Board is grateful the family chose to honour their loved ones in this way.

The fund provides the community with another way to support the Cheer Board, as donations to it will continue to pay it forward in perpetuity.

"We don't want people to donate just there, but if there are larger amounts ... that will help us out for many, many

years," Derksen says. "Long after we're all done helping with the Cheer Board or being on the board, that [interest] will still be coming in every year."

While the Cheer Board will keep a bit of the remaining excess funds readily accessible for future campaigns, a good chunk of it is going to be donated to the Central Station Community Centre for its Café 545 program.

"They're feeding people as well, and I know they were at one point strug-

Services for Seniors getting the word out about ERIK

Emergency kits compile your vital information in one place

By Lorne Stelmach

Morden Services for Seniors is undertaking a campaign to help ensure the safety of the elderly in emergencies.

It is promoting and distributing Emergency Response Information Kits (ERIK) with the help of local pharmacies.

The kits compile such vital information as medical conditions, allergies, current medications, emergency contacts, and health care directives in one place on the refrigerator. They also include a copy to go in a wallet or purse.

"If it can save one life, it is worth it," suggested community resource co-ordinator Kimberly Klassen, citing how emergency responders will immediately recognize the ERIK red dot on a house's door and know where to look first.

"These kits are universal across Canada, so if they see the red ERIK kit sticker on the door then they know to go directly to the fridge," she said. "I would love to have every single senior have a red dot on their door."

Klassen said she has come to realize that having immediate access to this kind of information could be absolutely vital in many situations.

"These kits are especially needed in homes where there's individuals living by themselves," she said. "It also is very beneficial for couples because very often when there is an emergency, the other senior is so emotional that they don't know what to say or how to say it.

"It eliminates the guesswork, and it allows [emergency responders] to give medications that may save someone's life. They will have their health care information as well as their emergency contacts.

"It makes sure everyone is all connected and working together," Klassen said, adding ERIK can also include health care directives such as if a person does not want to be resuscitated.

Klassen did an initial promotion throughout February and distribut-



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Kimberly Klassen, community resource co-ordinator with Morden Services for Seniors, and pharmacist Ray Buhr of Pharmasave in Morden with one of the ERIK packages.

ed over 80 kits. Now she is giving it another push with the help of local pharmacies such as Pharmasave.

"We've already given out our entire first batch and asked for a second batch," said pharmacist Ray Buhr.

He recognizes the value of the program, noting a lot of their clients are elderly and may be uncertain about their medications, and in an emergency situation, it may not be readily known what they may need.

"Having this information sitting right on their refrigerator is some-

thing great for them, and it can help the emergency responders know exactly what they are dealing with," Buhr said. "Any time saved is great for the patient."

"We only ask for a dollar donation to cover the costs because we are a non-profit," noted Klassen, who encouraged people to contact their local pharmacy or Morden Services for Seniors for more information and assistance. "I'm willing to go to a person's home to help them fill it in as well."

Two men arrested in Main St. South stabbing

By Voice staff

Two men have been arrested in connection with an altercation that took place in Winkler last week.

Police received a report of a stabbing at a residence on Main St. South at about 5:38 a.m. on March 3.

Officers arrived to find an injured 47-year-old man on the sidewalk in the 200 block of the street.

The victim was taken to Boundary Trails Health Centre with various injuries, including cuts to both of his hands and a stab wound to his chest. He was treated and released.

Police determined that a verbal altercation escalated when a male suspect physically assaulted the victim.

A second male suspect then assaulted the victim with an edged weapon.

Both suspects turned themselves into police at the Winkler Police Station later that same day.

A 36-year-old male and a 30-year-

old male, both from Winkler, are expected to face charges of assault with a weapon and assault causing bodily harm. Their names have not been released, as formal charges have not yet been laid.

Both suspects were released on undertakings with various conditions and court dates of May 5 in Morden Provincial Court.

Police say that the suspects and the victim were all known to each other.

> CHEER BOARD, FROM PG. 10

gling to find support for the meals they give out every Monday," Derksen says. "We're glad we can help."

This is the first time the Cheer Board has ever had so much extra money to play with after a campaign.

"This was just an exceptional year," Derksen says. "We can't thank the

community enough. We were all blown away at how everyone stepped up and just gave to something that they thought was worthy."

The Cheer Board usually sends out care hampers to families in need, but this year they had to go with mainly gift cards instead thanks to the pan-

demic. A total of 368 grocery cards were given to families to help get them through the holidays and beyond.

"We've heard from Co-op that that money has been well used," Derksen says. "They've redeemed a fair bit of those gift cards already."

arts&culture

Local author creates fantastical new book series

By Lorne Stelmach

A multi-talented local resident developing a young adult fantasy series of books has high hopes for the potential of the series.

With a Kickstarter campaign in the works to help further his *Harnessing Chaos* series, Joel Grey would like to see it become an interactive adventure for people to enjoy.

"The aim eventually is to have it as more of a game, kind of a role-playing game, almost like Dungeons and Dragons. The character that someone would choose would be able to explore the world," Grey said in chatting with the *Voice* ahead of his campaign launch this Friday.

"So much of what *Harnessing Chaos* is, for me, is really a world that I've spent years with," he said. "I really want this world to feel lived-in and real. You could create a character inside the world of *Harnessing Chaos* and then explore the whole world but then also have to deal with what that means for your character. Every play-through would hopefully be unique."

Moki and the Erased Ones is the first novel in the series, which Grey says pulls influences from the *Dark Crystal* and *Avatar: the Last Airbender* as well as historical sources such as ancient Greece and the Three Kingdoms period of China.

The only blue-haired Y'nari in the city of Tess, Moki has always seen the world from the outside. Raised by the Innkeepers, who found her on their doorstep, and educated in secret, Moki spends her time studying the forbidden knowledge of "the world that came before." Moki is discovered, and the Inn destroyed along with the heretical scrolls and tomes. After making the narrowest of escapes, Moki must journey across the three varied regions of

Te'a.

Grey sees each novel in the series as giving subjective glimpses into how the world of Te'a operates through their respective title characters.

"Things you learn in one book might have a different context when you experience events from another character's perspective," he said. "No one in Te'a is uncompromisingly good and no one is irredeemably evil. Everyone has their reasons."

This is the latest in a wide range of artistic endeavours for Grey, who is also an artist and musician, and it very much springs from his family upbringing in a household of talented people.

"All streams of creativity were very important in our family. We did a lot of music but also writing, and we were big into movies," he said. "We would make little shorts on home video of things like *Star Trek* spoofs or *Star Wars* spoofs and things like that and edit it together with the old VHS technology in the '90s."

"We had quite a bit of different influences, which I think kind of particularly helps me with this series," Grey added, noting he was very much interested in the fantasy genre growing up.

"Ever since I was a little kid, watching things like *Labyrinth* and *The Dark Crystal*, I was very drawn to the sword and sorcery fantasy genre," he said, recalling the lure of the *Lord of the Rings* trilogy and the world that J.R.R. Tolkien created. "I've heard that first he had written Elvish language before he started writing the series, and that kind of resonated with me as well."

It's an approach Grey has taken with *Harnessing Chaos*, including creating art as well as maps and locations for the world and even thinking about different dialects.

"That's kind of where it started. I drew up a map ... and the conflict comes from where they are in the world," he said.

"If you throw a character into a location and you already know all of the conflicts and the things that will arise from the location that they're in, it almost kind of writes itself."

Moki understands the world from her own province but is thrust into a completely different location. It means that "her assumptions about what it was like to live in this place that she had only read about is kind of bucking up against her actual experience of this place," Grey said.

Grey is also drawn to the idea of there not being clear-cut good and evil.

"Things that really intrigue me are people who have good motives, or they want to do good things but end up inadvertently doing bad things to meet this goal," he said. "Nobody is inherently good and no one is inherently evil ... I think that makes it so much more interesting."

The series continues with *Tero and the Cave of the Ancients* and then *YRSA and the Night Wastes*. A free digital PDF of the first book can be found online at HarnessingChaos.ca

You can find a link there as well to the Kickstarter campaign, which Grey is using to raise about \$3,000 in support of getting *Moki and the Erased Ones* distributed physically as well as digitally.

He hopes that readers will be drawn into this world as he has been in developing it.

"I would love for people to want to escape to this world. I want them to have a love and a fondness for the world like I have," he said. "I feel that it's expansive enough and intriguing enough and mysterious enough that it will draw people to want to know more about the world."

Clocks spring forward this Sunday for daylight savings

By Voice staff

Daylight Saving Time goes into effect on Sunday, March 14, when clocks will "spring forward" by one hour beginning at 2 a.m. The shift will essentially make it darker in the early morning hours, while leaving one extra hour of light in the evening.

It also means that March 14 will only be 23 hours long, and you'll lose sleep if you have fixed times for waking up on the weekend. Regardless, you'll probably feel a bit discombobulated over the following days as

you adjust to a different sunlight schedule.

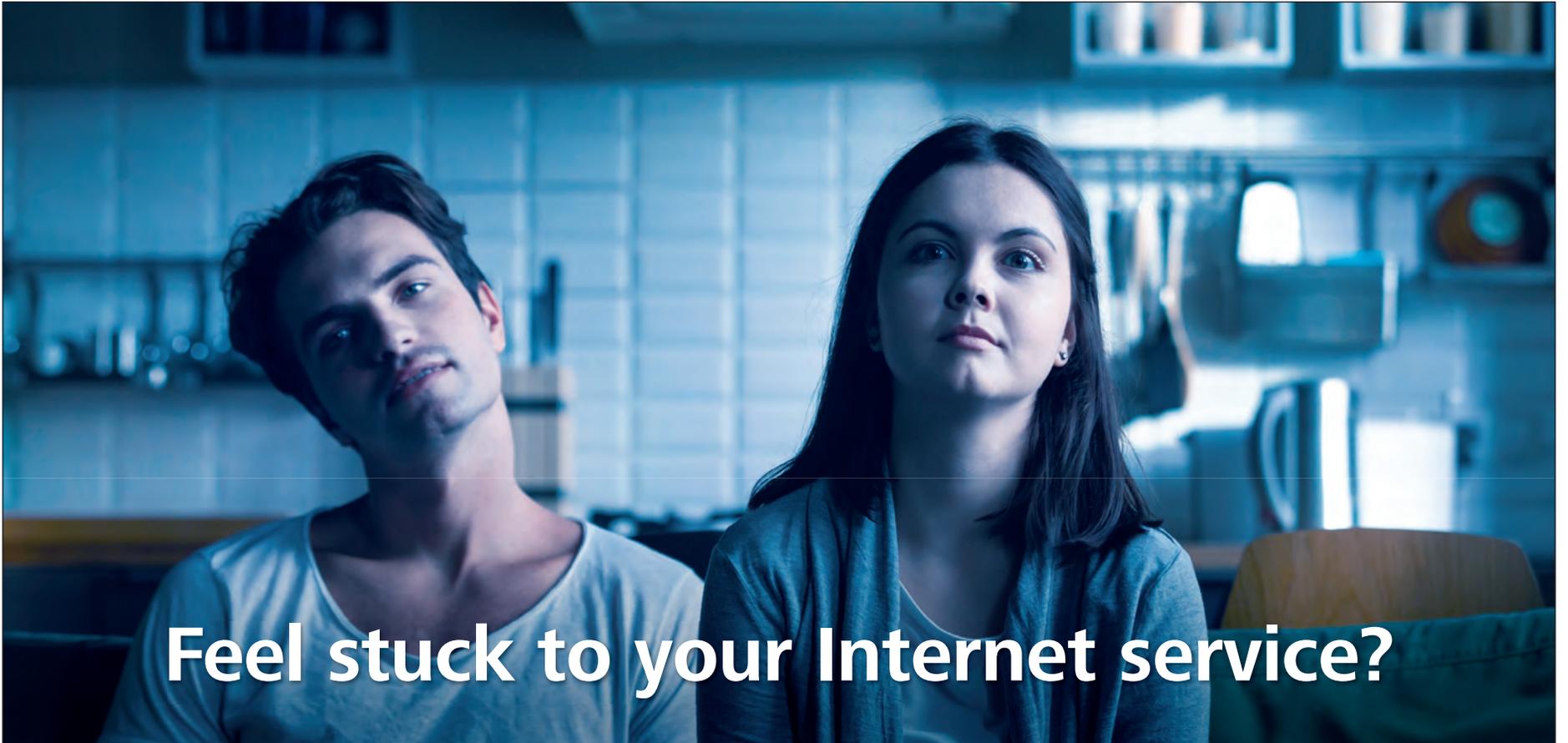
Clocks are pushed ahead one hour in spring to what's commonly called "daylight saving time," an idea first used in Germany during the First World War with the goal of saving energy. It aims to take advantage of daylight hours in the spring so that people don't sleep through the first few hours of sunshine.

When the daylight period gets shorter in the fall, the clocks are readjusted to the proper "local standard time."



Joel Grey has penned three books in his *Harnessing Chaos* series. He's launching a Kickstarter to get the first published and in the meantime is offering it digitally on his website.

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WAC reopens with its 2021 Member's Show



By Ashleigh Viveiros

Winkler Arts and Culture was finally able to reopen its Park St. gallery last week after months of pandemic-imposed closures.

Admin. and education director Jennifer Penner said they were technically allowed to welcome visitors back in February, but wanted to wait until they had some art back up on the walls before doing so.

"We kind of held off until we actually had an exhibit up so there was something for people to see when we finally opened our doors again," she said last week, noting the 2021 Member's Show is on now until the end of the month.

The show has over 30 pieces from 12 different artists, all of whom were asked to consider the theme of "Journey."

The result is a varied exhibition that includes everything from photography to paintings to ink art, some of which include write-ups sharing the artist's thoughts on the pieces and how they feel they relate to the theme.

Artist Esther Hildebrand contributed three paintings to the mix.

It's been a tough winter for artists with all the galleries closed, Hildebrand says, so she jumped at the chance to be part of this show.

Continued on page 26

PHOTOS BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE
Winkler Arts and Culture's 2021 Member's Show features pieces from 12 artists, including paintings from Esther Hildebrand (above) and photographs from Jeff Scott (right).



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Denturist proud to be a part of the Morden community

Chris Meilun was perhaps destined to become a denturist, following in the footsteps of his father.

But it took him a few years to realize it, as he started out instead as a construction worker before setting up Meilun Denture Clinic.

“What brought me back to it was just the fact that I knew it,” Meilun said. “I had been following and watching my father all my life, and a little bit later on in life when I wanted a bit more of a steady job and not a seasonal one, I came back to it.”

Meilun came to Manitoba from Ontario in 2006 after earning his Advanced Diploma in Denturism.

Meilun Denture Clinic began with a tiny office in Altona. As the business grew, it upgraded to the much larger office it has today in Morden at 320 Stephen St.

“We just love the community. It’s fantastic here, and this was a new building downtown that caught my eye,” Meilun said. “The space is what we needed.”

Meilun Denture Clinic offers a full range of services that include implant retained dentures, relines and repairs, grind guards, complete conventional dentures, custom athletic mouth guards, anti-snoring devices, partial dentures, adjustments, and cleaning and polishing.

“In particular, implant supported dentures is one of the biggest things for us,” Meilun noted.

Key for them is having their own fully-equipped lab on-site to reduce treatment and delivery times considerably. It means that in some cases they are able to offer same-day delivery for relines or repairs.

“It makes it all more efficient. It’s quicker for the patients to have it all done here, and the quality control is all right here in our hands,” said Meilun, who today has six people on staff, including his wife Tara as office manager.



Chris Meilun of Meilun Denture Clinic.

Meilun said they are fortunate and proud to be part of the community of Morden, and they like to not only support other local businesses but pay it forward by supporting charities and not-for-profit organizations.

That commitment was recognized with their nomination for a Morden and District Chamber of Commerce Business of the Year Award in 2018.

The future of the clinic looks bright, with Meilun always eager to bring new technology to the mix, including the coming introduction of digital scans.

“We’ll be starting to implement more digital technology,” Meilun said. “It’s pretty innovative. It’s been around for a few years ... we’re looking at getting that equipment here very soon.”

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Your FARM



The varied value of trees

PVWD urges landowners to take advantage of shelterbelt project funding, support

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Pembina Valley Water District is urging landowners to give some thought this spring to the value of shelterbelts.

Clinton Cavers, the district's GROW Program coordinator, says they're doing everything they can to incentivize people to plant and maintain new shelterbelts, including providing partial funding and labour for tree planting projects.

It can still be a hard sell, though, in an area where land values are so high.

"Most people want to farm as many acres as they possible can get," Cavers says.

"Shelterbelts were pretty popular 40, 50 years ago, but now because they haven't been maintained they're starting to degrade, the trees are getting to the end of their life cycle, and with machinery getting larger they're maybe not in the ideal spot. That's



SUPPLIED PHOTO

From left: PVWD GROW Program coordinator Clint Cavers with Kroeker Farms organics agronomist Jason Peters. Kroekers has for years made shelterbelt planting and maintenance a priority.

why you see so many that are being torn down."

But as aging trees come down, it's becoming more clear than ever the vi-

tal role they play in the landscape.

"I think people are starting to realize the value in trees," says Cavers. "Once

Continued on page 18

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Your FARM



Mixed farmer maintains five income streams

Although he might be among the last of the small mixed farmers, an Argyle man enjoys trying out new forms of agricultural technology.

Ian Smith generates his entire income from five different sources on his quarter-section that he bought from his parents, Malcolm and Audrey, in 1994. The industrious farmer cares for a couple hundred naturally raised pigs, 15 head of cattle, 85 laying hens as well as three fields — one for canola that he sells, one that he rents out to another farmer and one for barley that he uses for feed.

"I'm the last of the true mixed farm-



VOICE PHOTOS BY JO-ANNE PROCTER
Ian Smith with one of his shorthorns cows and her calf.

ers in the province, meaning I have a little bit of everything. Hardly nobody has a quarter-section anymore. If they do, they don't have as much diversity as I have here," said Smith, who drives a 1954 John Deere 60 tractor.

"I have no off-farm income here. I have no pension coming in. I have no spouse here that's working off the farm. I have no other money to rely on except what I'm making off this farm."

When Smith's parents bought the farm in 1953, it came with some dairy cattle. Although they shifted their focus to hogs, they still kept cattle over the years.

Since it's preferable if cattle remain calm in order to gain more weight, Smith decided to try the docile shorthorn breed. He bought four registered shorthorn heifers from Tom Walls of Balmoral in 2017, followed by two more the

Continued on page 18



Smith raises pigs along with the beef.



Smith with his bull Gallagher.



Still driving a 1954 John Deere 60 tractor.

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Your FARM



> MIXED FARMER, FROM PG. 17

next year.

"He's been my mentor and guides me through," Smith said of Walls.

Now, Smith and Walls are the only two registered shorthorn breeders in the Interlake In total, there are about 20 registered shorthorn breeders in the province, Smith notes.

Shorthorns were the first registered breed in North America, he adds. He refers to his animals as "Armac" short-horns — "Ar" for "Argyle" and "Mac" for his dad's first name (which was actually Malcolm, but everyone called him Mac.) His family, his community and the shorthorn breed all have ties that bind to Scotland.

With an appreciation for agricultural history, Smith also keeps his eye on the future of the industry — and he doesn't shy away from incorporating new technology.

About two months ago, Smith installed cameras in his cow barn so he could keep an eye on his cattle remotely.

"The cameras are quite a novelty. They're pretty nice to have. I can sit in the house and watch the cows calve from my couch. I can watch it on TV

or the computer or even my phone," he said.

"There's a camera in the centre of the barn on the ceiling and I can turn it around from inside my house or anywhere from my phone. I could be in Winnipeg and turn the camera around to see what's going on with each cow."

A couple weeks ago, he also added another technological feature — a calving sensor called Mocoall from Ireland.

The sensor is attached two to three days before the cow's due date, high on the tail opposite the vulva, using a ratchet clip. The Mocoall measures tail movement when a cow gets contractions and sends an SMS notification to a phone or computer.

"I'm only the third person in Manitoba to have this. It straps onto the cow's tail and it detects when the cow is going to have a calf. It's supposed to give you a two-hour notice, then another text an hour before they calve," Smith said.

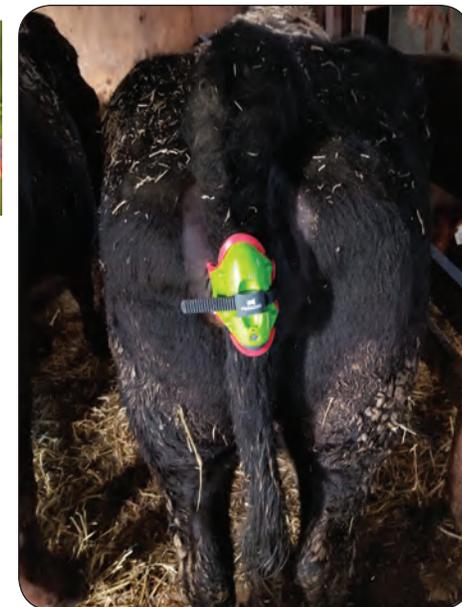
"The technology is just unreal. It's totally awesome. I have two of them now, and it's unbelievable. They'll

save a calf's life, for sure, because you can't be there all the time when a cow's calving. It gives you a warning and tells you when a cow is going to give birth."

For Smith, the best part of farm life is the hands-on experience that comes from working with the animals. All of his pigs and cattle are under a herd health program with his vet. Smith runs a closed herd, which means he keeps his own replacement females to reduce bringing in any health problems with other animals.

"Every animal has their own personality. I've only got Grade 9 education and that built character in me. I'm not a big believer in textbooks; you've got to learn by experience," said Smith, who goes outside at 5 a.m. to start his daily chores with the animals seven days a week.

"I might be the hub of the wheel of this place, but the hub is no good without the spokes, meaning the people who surround me — like the guy I buy my hay from, the veterinarian I deal with, the guy that does my AI for me for the cattle, my neighbours at New Haven Hutterite Colony, the mechanics, the electricians that I depend on. In some cases, the big operations



The Mocoall sensor is attached to the cow's tail 2-3 days before her due date. It sends regular updates when the cow is going to calve with 95 per cent accuracy.

don't depend on locals in the same way."

For Smith, the bulk of his business still comes from pork sales, he proudly maintains a binder with the names of hundreds of customers as well as a website called Natural Raised Pork at www.naturalpork.ca.

"I've got customers that have been very loyal to me," he said.

"If you love what you're doing, it's not work. I just turned 58 and I would say I've never worked a day in my life."

> VALUE OF TREES, FROM PG. 16

they're gone they can see what those old shelterbelts were doing for them and how they were beneficial."

Among the benefits? Wind erosion, for starters.

"Soil is the key to having a productive and successful farm, so if the soil's blowing away you're actually losing your productivity," says Cavers.

Shelterbelts also do their part to keep snow on the fields in the winter—something that can be immensely helpful during a dry spring.

On the flip side, they also provide a measure of flood protection.

"Having that snow stay in the field and on the field a little bit more slows the runoff in the spring, which has great effect for soil erosion and flooding," Cavers says.

A well-placed shelterbelt also provides shelter for livestock and wildlife and reduces the impact of wind on snow drifting on nearby roads and yards.

But perhaps one of the biggest benefits—and one the water district is understandably most excited about—is the role trees play in refreshing local aquifers.

One recent study shows that a single kilometre of shelterbelt can supply over nine million litres of water to an aquifer per year.

"It's pretty incredible," says Cavers. "And with an area like Winkler in particular where you have irrigation and lots of development happening, that aquifer recharge is hugely important."

PVWD, through the GROW Program, has about \$80,000 it can spend on shelterbelt projects across the region this year. It also teams up with local municipalities in funding certain projects, including the City of Winkler and the RM of Stanley.

Whether it's a single row of trees along a driveway or several shelterbelts on a larger farm, no project is too small for consideration, Cavers stresses, explaining funding is based on the size of the shelterbelt.

"There's a huge list of trees that are available to plant," he says. "We will basically supply the trees. We can also supply some help with summer students to install the trees."

"And with this program we offer a little bit of incentive for the land that the shelterbelt takes up," Cavers explains. "So if there's an acre or two taken up by a shelterbelt along the side of your

field, you can apply for some incentive payment to offset that."

One local farm taking PVWD up on this offer are potato growers Kroeker Farms, who have made shelterbelt planting a priority for years.

Jason Peters, organic agronomist with Kroekers, says that while some trees do need to be removed at the end of their life cycle, the company is committed to replacing as many as they can.

"Potato ground is extremely vulnerable to erosion," he points out. "We know we need trees to help keep it where it is. Without the soil, we have nothing."

CEO Wayne Kroeker adds that they feel a duty to the land they oversee.

"I do think we have an obligation beyond economics—we need to protect and enhance the environment and the precious resource of our soil."

If you'd like to learn more about the incentives available for shelterbelt projects, contact Cavers at 204-245-0636 or pvwdgrow@gmail.com.

"If anybody has any ideas or inklings that they might want a project to happen on their land, just give me a call and I will come out and see them," he says.

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Researchers pleased with cover crop survey response

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The second round of the Prairie Cover Crop Survey has yielded some interesting early results.

University of Manitoba PhD student Callum Morrison said they received more responses overall than the year before and from a varied group of producers across Western Canada.

"We opened it up this year to people who had never grown a cover crop," he explained, noting over 350 producers have weighed in thus far, about 150 of which had never grown cover crops before.

Cover crops are those grown at a time when the land would otherwise be left bare, often during the shoulder seasons of spring or fall when the cash crop is not on the field. They've been gaining popularity across North American in recent years.

The survey, which Morrison is overseeing alongside assistant professor of agronomy and farming systems Dr. Yvonne Lawley, is designed to gather people's thoughts on this practice and find out what kinds of producers are using cover crops, what they're growing, and what benefits they might be seeing.

Expanding the survey's reach in 2020 allowed researchers to also hear from producers on the reasons why they haven't given cover crops a go before and what might make them decide to do so.

"We got such a wonderful snapshot" of what producers are thinking, Morrison said, noting that several things stood out to him from the results.

"We're really seeing the diversity of how cover crops are being used," he said for a start. "It's not just one group of farmers that are using them and they're not just using cover crops for one reason."

Looking at the Manitoban respondents alone (about 150 producers strong), many (47 respondents) have been growing cover crops for three to five years while 24 were giving it a try for the first time in 2020.

"Amazingly, we found 13 per cent have been growing them for more than 10 years," Morrison said. "So we know cover crops are relatively new here compared to the States, but there's still a sizeable portion that have been growing them for over a decade."

A quarter of Manitoba respondents put their cover crops in after spring wheat. The next most common preceding crops were fall rye, canola, and oats.

The most popular cover crop by far was oats, with 55 per cent of respon-

dents picking that as their crop of choice. Next up was peas and clover, respectively.

More than two-thirds of cover crop farmers reported that they grow a mix of species, most commonly two to

three, and about half reported grow-

Continued on page 25

Advertorial

Happy 90th Birthday, Mom!

Submitted by Candace Stobbe (daughter)

Marilyn Wiebe (Toews) was born on March 8, 1931. I am so proud of our Mom and her many accomplishments. She is strong, beautiful, enthusiastic, and a great source of encouragement to all of us. She and Dad raised 5 children; Candace (Dave), Gerald (Ruth), Talia (Bill), Lauren (Nancy) and Bevan (Sandra). Mom is also proud of 14 grandchildren (1 passed away) and 13 great grandchildren.

Mom started playing piano as a child when her Dad brought a piano home and encouraged her in taking lessons. At age 16, Mom went to Bible School in Winkler, where she took private piano and singing lessons, supported by her parents. Bible School formed the foundation of Mom's life. Memorizing verses is still important to her. "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me" was a guide for life. She met Dad in Bible School and they were married in 1950. By age 24, Mom and Dad had three children. Mom was a wonderful mother; sewing our clothes and nurturing us. At age 26 (Gruenthal School District), her Dad brought the piano back to her so she could start giving piano lessons to children in local families.

At age 26, in the South Thames School District in MB, Mom taught piano and also began taking piano lessons herself, with Olga Friesen. Completing Grade 9 and 10 Western Board Piano Exams was a highlight of these years. At age 27, another child was added to the family. Mom started playing piano for weddings, choir and the festivals.

When Mom was 30 in Lowe Farm MB, she continued sharing her love of music with her students and studying to complete her piano degree.

At age 32 Mom and Dad moved to Winkler MB where another child was born, but she worked hard at finishing her piano degree and played her final Grade 11 piano exam, with the help of Wanda Dick (Toews), an excellent teacher. She obtained her piano teacher degree, A.M.M. (Associate of Music Manitoba) at age 36.

When she was 36 the family moved to Thompson MB. Mom supported our family by holding us together while our family was on 4 different school shifts. She had a 2 year old at home and continued to teach students playing piano. What a strong and amazing woman!

Our next home at age 37 was Altona where Mom taught a large group of piano students. After 2 years, in the summer of 1969, she decided to take 2 summer school courses at U of M. After receiving one year of University credit for her piano degree (AMM), she took one year of elementary education courses and graduated with an "Associate in Education" from U of M in 1971. Mom began her school teaching career in Rhineland School Division, with music and classroom instruction. "Life begins at 40" was true for her. Working with her students gave Mom "instant inspiration, happiness and enthusiasm." During her teaching years, Mom had a strong desire to gather as much knowledge as possible about the subjects she was teaching. She kept taking various University courses. At age 49, Mom earned her Masters of Education from the University of MB.

She was diagnosed with Fibromyalgia at age 51, but she continues to do the physiotherapy stretches to this day; she can put her hands flat on the floor without bending her knees. Mom continued to teach some term positions and substitute in the Garden Valley School Division.

At age 60, Mom and Dad decided to move to Winnipeg. For the next 10 years Mom substitute taught and tutored in 2 school divisions. When age 68, Mom was the President of the Manitoba Registered Music Teachers Association. Then, she started studying again with a course called Sociology of Aging. Albert Einstein said, "Once you stop learning, you start dying." Mom graduated with a Post Baccalaureate in Education at age 69.

Age 70 saw Mom and Dad moving to Morden, helping Bevan (son) and Sandra with auction sales at Green Gables Auction Mart. They had



fun and enjoyed being involved with business. They also did a lot of traveling and felt privileged to travel to Hawaii, Jamaica, Denmark, Finland, Egypt, Israel, Puerto Vallarta, Cancun and Florida. Mom and Dad bought a Roadtrek Motor Home and traveled all over the U.S. and Western Canada. In 2005, they bought a Park model home and spent 3 winters in Texas. There, they sang together and participated in many musical events, Mom playing piano.

Dad passed away the summer of 2014. And so at age 84, Mom began a life alone. This was a difficult time for her, but music gave her much comfort - singing beautiful hymns and playing piano. At age 85, Mom spent a month in Jamaica with her sister and husband. She used 3 piano keyboards to introduce music to the children in an after-school program; the children were eager to play. When Mom was 86 she audited Intro. to Music Therapy at Canadian Mennonite University. This course gave her new willpower, resilience and hope to continue on with life. She has taken more piano lessons in recent years, from Helena Letkeman and Loren Hiebert. She began playing "Music for the Soul" concerts at Homestead and Mom even had the privilege of accompanying my Christmas Concerts at Maple Leaf School, age 84 and 86. This was a wonderful experience for both of us.

At age 88, Mom officiated at her grandson, Ashton Wiebe and Branna Bachynski's Wedding. What a pleasure that was for her! She is still on the substitute list for Western School Division and still plays piano for others and herself. Music has been Mom's life! God has blessed her.

Mom is one of my best friends. She says, "God is the composer of my life, His song is perfect and I trust Him. Faith in God's goodness puts a song in my heart! Life is a song... God's love is the music!" We all love you so much! Happy Birthday to an AMAZING MOM!

Candace Stobbe on behalf of the whole Family

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Multiple sclerosis (MS) is an unpredictable disorder that can cause a variety of symptoms, which for many, can flare up and then subside over the course of days, months, or even years. While MS is not contagious, its causes are not yet fully understood and researchers continue to search for answers.

MS is most frequently diagnosed in young adults, although individuals of any age may be diagnosed with this neurological condition. People who are not familiar with MS can easily be confused by its name and its unique symptoms. Particularly with today's approved treatments and wellness strategies, most individuals with MS are able to live a full and productive life, with much hope for the future.

A wide variety of symptoms can occur with MS. To help categorize the effects of MS, MSAA has listed the commonly experienced symptoms

alphabetically in three groups, as follows:

Common Physical Symptoms of MS

- balance problems
- bladder dysfunction
- bowel problems
- muscle spasticity (stiffness)

Common Emotional, Mental, and Psychological Symptoms of MS

- anxiety
- cognitive changes
- depression
- Pseudobulbar Affect (PBA – a neurologic effect characterized by sudden, uncontrollable expressions of laughter or crying without an apparent trigger)

Common “Invisible” Symptoms of MS

- dizziness/vertigo
- fatigue
- numbness
- pain

- sleep issues
- Uhthoff's syndrome (the temporary appearance of symptoms resulting from heat stress)
- visual disorders
- weakness

For more information on symptom management and handling the challenges of MS, please visit mysaa.org/symptoms. MSAA offers several helpful publications and videos, as well as an extensive collection of MS-related books from MSAA's Lending Library, which may all be found on MSAA's website at mysaa.org. Additionally, MSAA's Client Services Specialists are available to discuss a caller's needs and questions personally. Have questions about MS? We're here to help. Contact an MS Navigator: 1-844-859-6789 msnavigators@mssociety.ca All other inquiries: 1-800-268-7582 info@mssociety.ca

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arts&culture

'Disrupted Dinner Party' on display now at PHAC

By Lorne Stelmach

Her thoughts and feelings around COVID-19 are very much at the core of Susan Pharaoh's new exhibition of work.

The way that the pandemic and resulting restrictions have impacted herself especially but also others became the over-riding influence behind *Disrupted Dinner Party: Foundational Elements on Hold*.

"I had lots of time to delve into working," the La Riviere artist said last week in advance of the opening of her show featured this month at the Pembina Hills Gallery in Morden.

"My soul, my spirit, though, is nurtured when I am with people," she explained. "Bringing people together has been the source of my life, so that stopped, and it was a huge hole in my life. So this is a statement about what has happened ... my life was disrupted ... and the elements in making my pottery have been fractured in a lot of ways."

Pharaoh is a familiar face to followers of the arts in this region, as the operator of River Valley Pottery is actively involved not only as an artist but also as an instructor, although the latter role has largely been absent in

the past year.

"The pandemic has completely put that off ... but over the last 12 years I've been teaching both beginner and intermediate pottery," she said.

"I love it. It's always really good to see people learning the craft, and some of my students have gone on to make a career out of selling pottery themselves," Pharaoh noted. "That's always a good indicator that you've instilled some of the joy and the passion for pottery into people when they come back and even start teaching other people as well."

Five galleries around the province feature her work, which she describes as functional pottery.

"I am starting to work with a lot of different hand building techniques as well, but currently I'm doing pottery on the wheel that is functional," she said. "I tend to be more on the artistic side of it and put my own flair into whatever I do. If I do six or seven of one piece, then I'm done and I'm ready to move on to something else. A production potter might do hundreds. I like to try and do different things."

She traces some of her desire for exploration through her art back to influential art teachers both in high school in Winkler and later at univer-



Susan Pharaoh with some of her pieces on display at the Morden gallery this month.

PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

sity in Oklahoma.

Family largely took her time away from art for a while, but she started pursuing it seriously again about 15 years ago.

She cited a number of aspects of pottery that appeal to her.

"The medium lends itself so much to any kind of manipulation, and the good thing about it is that a thousand years from now, your fingerprint could still be on that piece of pottery shard ... it's a lasting impression.

"When you make pottery, it's the earth, the air, the water and then the fire," Pharaoh said. "All those elements are separate until you bring them together ... you can mold it into just about anything that you want; any shape is possible with the clay.

"The attraction is that there's end-

less possibilities, which is also like a blank canvas for a painter," she continued. "And there's the rhythm of the wheel, putting the clay on the wheel and getting the rhythm going, and suddenly you form the piece ... and that cylinder can become anything.

"It's soothing, it's calming, it's meditative, and it pushes the spirit of creativity to its limits."

As for the new exhibit, it incorporates elements of photography in the form of self portraits of sorts as part of her trying to reflect on how she has been impacted by the pandemic.

"In a way, this is my commentary about the way that we have been led to believe that we should be so afraid," said Pharaoh, who also incorporated masks that are spilling out and around from the displays.

"I'm leaving it open to people's interpretation," she explained. "Is this what we need right now and is that going to continue in our lives?"

"I think it's important that people don't just follow blindly," she suggested. "When they see this, they can think for themselves and interpret what they want from the pieces.

"I don't want fear," Pharaoh said in summarizing her message. "Every day, we're so inundated with so many negative emotions and ideas. I think it's time to look beyond that all. We make our own reality.

"It is an exhibition that may be a bit raw for some people to take in; it may not be their experience," she acknowledged. "I'm hoping that people kind of have the idea that they see what a disruption it has been to our lives, though."



Pharaoh says she likes to try and do different things with her pottery. "The medium lends itself so much to any kind of manipulation."



SUPPLIED PHOTOS

Morden Fire and Rescue's pooch Ophelia tagged along recently on a visit to a local school to talk fire safety.



Morden FD finding new ways to reach out, educate

By Lorne Stelmach

Fire safety education is an important component of the services that Morden Fire and Rescue provides to the community, but the department has had to find new ways of reaching out thanks to pandemic restrictions.

With in-person events limited this past year, the department has increasingly turned to its social media pages to connect with people.

The Morden Fire and Rescue Facebook page has featured everything from recently saluting members achieving service milestones to regu-

larly posting fire safety information, including photos and videos.

"Social media now has really helped us share our message," said Jonathan Baumgart, who spearheads the department's educational efforts. "Over the last year, we've been unable to get into the classrooms due to COVID, so our public education in the school system has dwindled.

"I believe as a department it's important to get into the community and share the public safety message," he said. "We're getting more followers, so we're able to share the message to a larger number of people."

Baumgart and Morden Fire's canine ambassador Ophelia did have the chance recently to stop by Maple Leaf School to show off the department's new rescue truck and share an important message with students in a COVID-safe setting outdoors.

"We spent time outside by a campfire and discussed campfire safety and other safety tips for around the home," Baumgart said. "The dog and the truck of course were the big highlights. Using the dog is an advantage for getting their interest and attention. I believe these kinds of events are great for engaging the young in

fire safety.

"As a department, any time we can get involved with the community is a bonus. After all, we're here for them," he said. "And to see us on a non-emergency level is also important to us. They enjoy having us there, and we enjoy being there to interact with them.

"So we're adapting, like everyone. We've had to adapt with COVID and the pandemic. We're hoping when this is over, we can get out and interact with the community more again."

Power of the Purse donates \$10,400 to two local projects

By Lorne Stelmach

The Morden Area Foundation's Power of the Purse fundraiser met its goal again this year.

The event, held virtually on Saturday, saw 104 women bring \$100 each to the table to gift out into the community.

Two charitable projects as a result are sharing \$10,400,

with Genesis House receiving \$5,840 for its pet care project and Many Hands Resource Centre getting \$4,560 towards hiring a program director.

"I am so glad that we went ahead with it, and I am even glad that we did this virtually," said executive director Lynda Lambert on Monday.

She admitted to being uncertain about whether the online format would discourage some people from participating, but the reverse was also true.

"They were some who were just too uncomfortable with this format," she noted. "We did get some new people though, and the other thing was women who generally are away during this time were here, so we were able to fill it up.

"So it was good that other people were able to see it and experience it," Lambert added. "I love the exposure that we got out of it."

The online gathering was complemented with a delivered or picked-up meal by City of Morden caterer Owen Klippenstein.

TWO WORTHY PROJECTS

The Genesis House partnership with the Pembina Valley Humane Society and a local veterinarian will provide foster and medical care to animals while their owners are staying at the shelter for the victims of domestic violence, which is unable to house pets.

In making her pitch for funding, executive director Ang Braun recalled meeting one person in 1993 as a young crisis line worker.

"I can remember the desperation in her voice when she asked about coming into the shelter ... that's when asked about bringing in her dogs ... there was no way she would leave them behind," said Braun, who then only later realized the pet could not be taken in,

so the woman returned home.

"We have to care about what she cares about," Braun stressed. "In order for her to walk through the doors of Genesis House, we need to have a plan in place to protect her pets."

Making the presentation for Many Hands

Continued on page 26

What's *Your* story?

We want to hear from you.

The Winkler Morden Voice connects people through stories to build stronger communities. Do you know someone who has a unique hobby? Will be recognized by a local organization for volunteer service?

A teacher that goes above and beyond? A hometown hero? A sports star? A business celebrating a milestone or expansion? A senior celebrating their 100th birthday?

A young entrepreneur starting out?

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

The Winkler Morden Voice

"I AM SO GLAD WE WENT AHEAD WITH IT."

sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

Morden native eager to hit the diamond

By Lorne Stelmach

A Mordenite has high hopes for a successful softball season south of the border this year.

Jamie Odlum is in her third year at Minot State University, and she has her sights set on a stellar campaign after having nearly all of her second season scuttled because of COVID-19.

"My freshman year really is the only full season I have under my belt, and we made it to the conference tournament," Odlum noted recently. "Coming into this season we were ranked number eight [out of 16]. We were happy with that, but we want to be higher.

"I think we're right in the mix and right where we want to be ... we haven't hit our peak yet."

With the benefit of having a number of domed facilities, including in Minot, the season has already gotten underway with a few invitational tournaments.

Minot had a 7-5 record as the calendar turned to March, and Odlum was off to a very strong start.

She hit .667 in going eight for 12 with five runs, four doubles and seven RBI over four games recently. Odlum recorded one double in all four games and went three for three with three RBI in game one against U Mary and then three for four with two RBI in the

"WE'RE NOT TAKING ANYTHING FOR GRANTED THIS YEAR."

finale against Bemidji State.

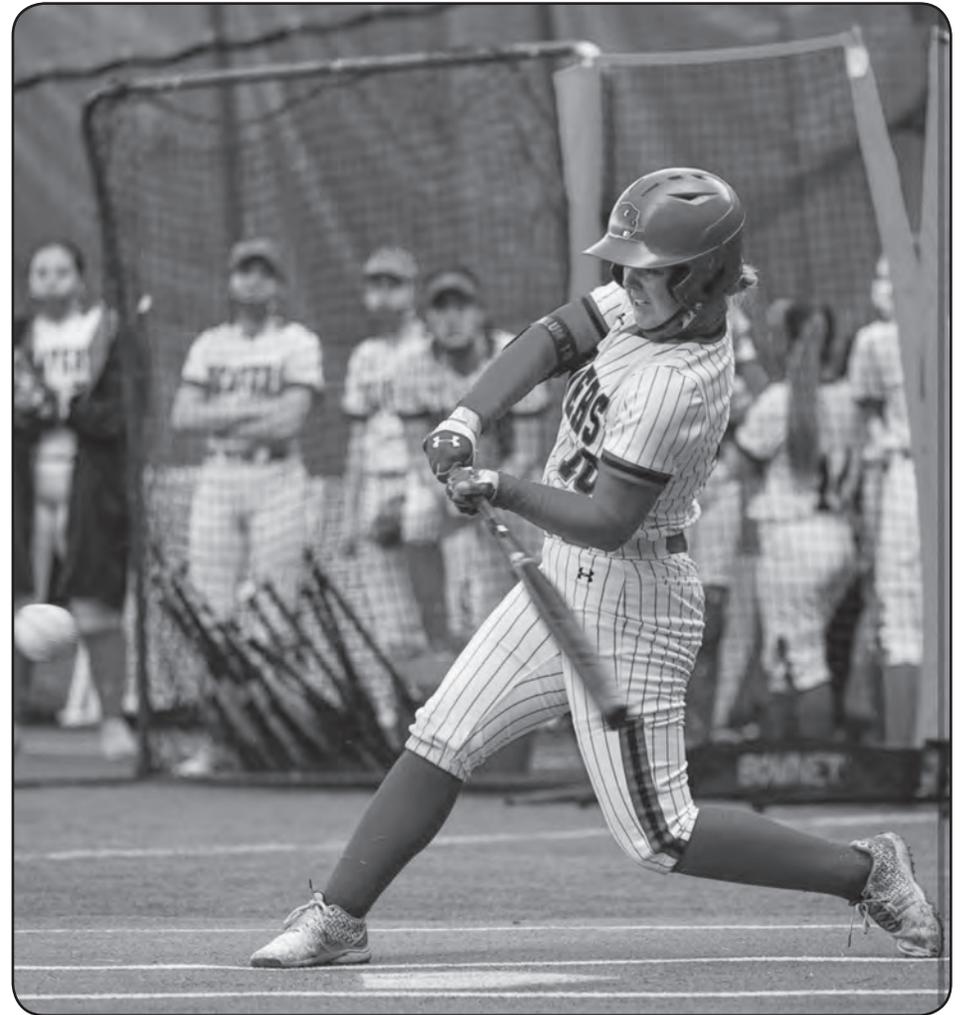
Overall, she has been leading the team with 19 hits and 12 runs in 37 at bats for a .514 average.

Softball has been a part of Odlum's life since her early years growing up first in Pilot Mound then in Morden and also playing for a time in a league in Winnipeg before going to Minot, where she is studying communication disorders.

"When I was little, I liked playing just because my brother played it, and it seemed like it would be fun ... I looked up to him," she said. "Softball was more available growing up ... there wasn't really baseball for girls.

"Now that I'm older and have been playing longer, I think it's just the teammates and the relationships that come with the game and the challenges that come with it."

Odlum is excited to be back in action after such a long break. The scrimmage games they usually play in the fall weren't possible and they did not do their a spring training trip either,



SUPPLIED PHOTO BY SEAN ARBAUT

Jamie Odlum is excited to be getting started on her second season of softball with Minot State University. Much of last season got cancelled thanks to COVID-19, but the school is poised to begin play for 2021 later this month.

but now regular conference play starts in mid-March.

"We're not taking anything for granted this year," she said. "We expected to have a special season last year. We kind of had to take last year off, only got to play a couple games. I think all of us are kind of hitting the

ground running right now.

"I'm starting to settle in," Odlum suggested. "We've been working super hard. We just got a new coach in our program. It's created a new culture, such a positive culture, and we're just excited to start new."

Winkler Flyers extend Jeanson, Cech's contracts

Pro Justin Falk coming on board as assistant coach/GM

By Voice staff

The Winkler Flyers are getting their house in order well in advance of the 2021-2022 season.

The junior hockey team last month announced contract extensions for general manager Jeff Jeanson and head coach Kelvin Cech.

Jeanson's first full season with the Flyers saw the team finish third in the standings last year before the pan-

demic put an early end to the playoffs.

"I'm honoured to be back as the GM of the Flyers," Jeanson said in a statement announcing the extensions. "There have been many challenges in the past year and a half for everybody, for our club as well as many individuals and businesses. I'm excited and looking forward to a complete season in 2021/22."

Jeanson said his first order of business was to make sure Cech was stick-

ing around for the long haul, offering him a two-year contract extension. Cech was named the MJHL Coach of the Year for the 2020-2021 season

"We are very lucky to have a coach with Kelvin's skill set. He has had a major impact on the team and I'm thrilled he'll be back with the organization for the next two years," Jeanson said. "It's been a pleasure and an honour working closely with Kelvin and I can't wait to see what the future holds

for us and the Flyers."

Cech, who joined the Flyers in 2019 after three years as an assistant coach at UBC, is equally excited at what the future holds for the team.

"There's nowhere I'd rather be than here in Winkler working towards the unfinished business we have," he said. "The past two years have been tumultuous for a lot of people, and the Flyers are a major source of pride that the community can rally around. This is my dream job.

Continued on page 24

“I still can’t believe that we were there”

Mordenite hit the ice at the Scotties

By Lorne Stelmach

One of the five Manitoba-based teams at the recent Scotties national women’s curling championship included a team member with Morden roots.

Katherine Doerksen played second for the team skipped by Beth Peterson based out of the Assiniboine Memorial club in Winnipeg.

The rink, which also included third Jenna Loder, lead Melissa Gordon, and alternate Cathy Overton-Clapham, earned the third wild card spot just behind the number two wild card team skipped by Mackenzie Zacharias of Altona.

Curling Canada expanded the field at this year’s Canadian championships to 18 teams as many provinces were unable to run playdowns due to COVID-19. The field included three wild card teams as determined by the Canadian Team Ranking System, and the news came as a pleasant surprise for Doerksen and her teammates.

“It wasn’t really on our radar,” Doerksen said after returning home from Calgary last week. “Even then, we didn’t really think of ourselves as being in the mix. We knew we were up there, but we just thought we would be at least a few spots shy of those expanded spots. So we kind of brushed it off at first.

“I still can’t believe that we were there. It’s still so surreal to me because it’s something you dream about as a kid,” she said of the experience of going up against elite curlers like Jennifer Jones, who has multiple Canadian and world titles to her credit. “It was something that took a while to sink in ... even half way through the whole thing, it was still sinking in for me. It was a really special experience.”

The team had a solid enough showing at the Scotties, advancing to the championship round and then finishing fifth with a 7-5 record.

Doerksen hopes this could just be a major stepping stone for a curling career which goes back to when she first got involved in the sport in Morden at age 12.

“I think it was the jam can event at the Morden Curling Club when I first threw some rocks, and then I was hooked,” she recalled, noting she then got involved in the local junior



Morden’s own Katherine Doerksen (second from left) competed with Team Peterson at the national Scotties curling tournament last month.

FACEBOOK.COM/TEAMPETERSON

program and curled a lot in Miami as well.

“It was a great program, and I had great people help me along the way,” Doerksen noted. “I kept my eyes open for the next opportunity with different teams every year, and now I’ve found myself here.”

Doerksen sees a couple key aspects of the game as being the attraction for her.

“I think it was first and foremost the strategy of the game. I really liked having to think about where to put the rocks and then also as a kid especially I just loved throwing them,” she said.

“It’s really about the people. I think

that’s what keeps me around in the sport now, meeting so many great people,” she added. “We’re all so close and love spending time together.”

It is that bond that has developed with the Peterson team now over the last three years that has been central to their success.

“Over the past few years, what’s made our team work was the chemistry. We all get along very well, and we love spending a lot

of time together on and off the ice,” Doerksen said. “It makes it so much better and the communication on the ice so much smoother when you are getting along so well with your team-

mates. That has really helped us.

“On top of that, we’ve really reached out to as many people as possible. We had some on ice sessions with Jeff Stoughton,” she noted. “We were just trying to make small improvements in our game wherever we could, and the second season is where that showed, and we had a good season for points.”

As well, support came through a funding program to help young teams get to the next level.

“That is what got us in touch with way more people and much more experience,” Doerksen said.

“We just tried to use those resources as much as possible,” she added, noting they had been uncertain at one point what the season would look like in the midst of the pandemic.

“By the time we got the invite to the Scotties, we were at a much more prepared level,” she suggested. “Our team just kind of took the attitude that even if we’re not on the ice, let’s soak up everything we can with what we’ve been given and see what we can do.”

Competing at the Scotties became another great learning experience for them, and Doerksen would love to get back there and make it to that final day of play.

“At the end of the day, I would have loved to have been playing on Sunday,” she said. “I’m super proud of our fifth place finish. I think we all wanted to prove to ourselves that we could be up there with Jennifer Jones and Rachel Homan ... I think we did that.

“We’re in a really tough province ... just winning the provincials is almost more difficult,” Doerksen said. “Now it’s a matter of how do we get ourselves to a spot where we can throw those critical shots at those critical times and make it to Sunday.

“Now that we’ve had a taste of it, we want to be back there.”

“IT’S SOMETHING YOU DREAM ABOUT AS A KID.”

> FLYERS, FROM PG. 23

“The players and I can’t wait to be back home at the rink, the loudest building in the MJHL.”

Joining Cech and Jeanson behind the bench next season will be former pro hockey player Justin Falk as the team’s new assistant coach and assistant GM.

Falk spent nine seasons playing pro hockey with the Ottawa Senators, Columbus Blue Jackets, Buffalo Sabres, Minnesota Wild, and the New York Rangers. He also played

in the AHL, the WHL, and, back in 2004-2005, for the MJHL’s Swan Valley Stampede.

“I am beyond thrilled to carry on my journey in the game of hockey in a community I care deeply about,” Falk said of his new role. “I’m humbled by the opportunity presented to be involved in this organization and I can’t wait to get to work and contribute to the lives of our hockey players on and off the ice.

“Giving back to this community is

a passion of mine and I can’t wait to get that started with the Winkler Flyers.”

The team also announced last week that head scout Mike McAulay is taking on the new role of director of player personnel.

McAulay has overseen the team through two junior drafts. He’ll be focusing his attention on building the Flyers’ prospect base and 50-man list.

Season cancelled for Pembina Valley Hawks

By Lorne Stelmach

The hockey season came to an end this past week for the two U18 AAA Pembina Valley Hawks teams.

The continued pandemic restrictions led both the male and female leagues to officially cancel the remainder of the season.

It was an expected but nevertheless disappointing decision, and female Hawks coach Dana Bell was thankful that there at least is opportunity for some practices and perhaps a few exhibition games yet.

"Right now, for us, it's about getting back together as a group. It hasn't been easy on anybody going through this," said Bell, who noted the team was able to start practising again this week with players in groups of 10.

"If we do get the go-ahead March 26 [when the current public health orders expire], we'll be looking at doing some exhibition series amongst the league teams," Bell said. "We're hopeful and we're pretty grateful that we at least get to be back on the ice as a group and do some practices."

The loss of the majority of the season is particularly disappointing for the five Hawks in their last year of eligibility.

"That's why we want to continue to practice, and we're very hopeful we can get at least three or four exhibition games in before the end of the year," Bell said.

Male Hawks coach Reid Sloan said he certainly understands the league's decision to pull the plug.

"We didn't know the expectations at the start of the year ... but we were ready to play," he said. "Kind of prolonging the season now didn't seem like the right thing to do.

"There's other things on people's plates now," added Sloan, noting the team has no plans for any further activities other than encouraging players to carry on training on their own. A few players may also have other opportunities to take the ice elsewhere.

Sloan agreed it is particularly disappointing for the seven Hawks who were in their last year at this level, but it is equally frustrating even for the rookies.

"It would have been nice to have given them that experience," he said. "We tried to keep the interest up for everyone as much as we could while we were off the ice. It's just too bad it didn't work out."

UNCERTAINTY LEADS TO CANCELLATION

The Manitoba U18 AAA Hockey



VOICE FILE PHOTO

The female Pembina Valley Hawks U18 AAA team won't have a regular season this year, but they hope to get in a few practices and exhibition games in late March/early April, pandemic restrictions allowing, before calling it quits.

League had been holding out hope longer than most that a season might be possible.

But the new public health orders that went into effect last week was the final push to cancel the season, save for potential exhibition games should restrictions allow at month's end.

"Given the uncertainty within the guidelines, around when indoor hockey games in the province would be allowed and the limited time remaining in a traditional hockey season, the league has made the difficult decision

to not declare a winning team for the 2020/21 season," said a league statement last week.

"However, we fully support and endorse our teams providing opportunities for their players to engage in much needed physical activity and social interaction, in accordance with the health guidelines, to support their physical and mental well being.

"If permitted, after the current health order expires, the league will work closely with all teams to establish and promote exhibition play dur-

ing the end of March/month of April period."

"Thank you to our players, coaches, managers, and volunteers for continued dedication to this program," said league commissioner Levi Taylor last week. "We share in your frustration. We will continue to engage with the provincial government, Public Health, and local facilities to ensure a safe and responsible return to play for the 2021-2022 season."

> COVER CROPS, FROM PG. 19

ing crops that die naturally over the winter so that additional herbicide or grazing is not required.

A good number of producers said they've seen benefits relatively quickly.

"I was in shock when I saw this because a lot of people will say it will take you a long time to see any benefits from cover crops, but for Manitoba about 40 per cent of farmers said they saw benefits within the first year," Morrison said.

Many producers reported seeing an increase in their profits thanks to cover crops. About one-quarter said they saw no significant increase.

Only two producers reported a decrease in profits.

When it came to common challenges, our province's short growing seasons and a lack of moisture topped the list.

"Really, our climate seems to be the biggest two hurdles," Morrison said.

Overall, Manitoba farmers, once they start growing cover crops, are more likely to grow more such acres year over year than they are to decrease them.

"That's another way to show whether farmers are enjoying it," Morrison pointed out. "You're only going to keep doing something and

keep increasing your acres if you think it's doing some good."

Only one respondent reported actually decreasing their cover crop acres. The rest either increased them or, in a few cases, kept them the same.

Morrison plans to have more details about the survey results available in the months ahead. A series of in-depth focus groups on the topic are also in the works.

You can learn more online at <https://sites.google.com/view/prairiecovercropsurvey>.

"Imagine how many lives could be positively impacted"

From Pg. 22

Resource Centre, president Natasha Doerksen spoke of the struggling families who come to them in need as well as the volunteers who come to lend a helping hand.

Facing increased isolation and challenges amidst the pandemic, many families have come to rely on the centre's regular community meal program. A food voucher program at the weekly farmers market was also a successful initiative last summer.

"Who knew the Morden Alliance Church would one day become a drive-thru," Doerksen observed. "Through a community meal, they are able to come together and find support in each other."

In order to make those programs happen again, though, requires a co-

ordinator to oversee things.

"I've seen first-hand what a program co-ordinator can do in two months," said Doerksen, noting the efforts of last year's co-ordinator Hannah Drudge, including taking on many additional tasks. "She brought it to life and made it flourish ... she was

also the personal connection, the face of Many Hands.

"Our board members have great ideas and vision for Many Hands. We're hard working, caring and committed, but we only have so much time," said Doerksen. "To make a vision materialize, it takes one more

person. This person can take one idea and give it life; that one idea in practice can touch the lives of many people."

"Imagine how many lives could be positively impacted."

> WAC, FROM PG. 14

"Marketing's always the hardest thing for me with my paintings," she says. "This was an opportunity to put at least three out there."

Being able to share her work is a major part of why Hildebrand creates in the first place.

"I love to paint, but there's no point to putting so much into it and then just having them stack up in my

basement," she says.

Her abstract pieces often have a personal story behind them she's willing to share, but Hildebrand is quick to encourage people to look for their own meaning in a piece.

Most of us search for recognizable objects in abstract art, but Hildebrand hopes people will take a moment to really explore the emotions

her paintings might generate within them.

"People are always welcome to their own interpretation of what they see that I've done," she says. "I always find it very, very interesting to find out not only what people see but what they feel."

The gallery is open Tuesday to Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

take a break

> GAMES

SUDOKU

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

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Level: Intermediate

Here's How It Works:

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

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

Sudoku Answer

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

Crossword Answer

X CROSSWORD

CLUES ACROSS

1. Large dung beetle
7. Representation of a plan
13. In a fervid way
14. The Book of Psalms
16. Morning
17. Exactly the same
19. About
20. Brown and basmati are two
22. Swiss river
23. Philippine island
25. Expressions of surprise
26. An ant
28. Common Japanese surname
29. Deoxyribonucleic acid
30. Car mechanics group
31. A person's brother or sister
33. Ancient pharaoh
34. Quantitative fact
36. Vividly colored bird
38. Your home has one
40. Organic compound
41. Section at the end of a book
43. Flat tableland with steep edges

44. Criticize
 45. Split pulses
 47. Brief trend
 48. Cool!
 51. Purposes
 53. Brews
 55. Skin condition
 56. Pops
 58. American air travel company
 59. Minute bug
 60. Anno Domini (in the year of Our Lord)
 61. One who rides in your car
 64. One of the Gospels
 65. City in southern Spain
 67. Inquisitive
 69. Jean Paul __, author
 70. Pop singer Harry
- ### CLUES DOWN
1. An ape or monkey

	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					
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2. Chemical element
3. Zodiac sign
4. Removes
5. Brew
6. Nickname
7. Architectural structures
8. Trigonometric function
9. Postmodern architectural building in Vienna
10. Henderson and Fitzgerald are two
11. Mountain (abbr.)
12. Landscaping practice
13. Capacitance unit
15. Redirect
18. Hat for women
21. In a way, dressed down
24. Granny
26. Feed
27. Endpoint
30. Indian instrument

32. Bleated
35. Cablegram (abbr.)
37. Root mean square (abbr.)
38. Jellyfishes
39. Individual TV installments
42. Talk
43. More (Spanish)
46. Leaseholder
47. Monetary units
49. Hostility
50. Work stations
52. Linguistics giant
54. Female sheep
55. Calendar month
57. Seasoning
59. Lofty nest of a bird of prey
62. Single Lens Reflex
63. A way to remove
66. Virginia
68. Old English

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204.371.5131

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NOTICES

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

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



SCLERODERMA MB INVITES YOU TO OUR 2021 ON-LINE SUPPORT GROUPS:

March 20
May 15

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

You are not alone!

For more info, visit sclerodermamanitoba.com or call 204 256-0225

PUBLIC NOTICE



RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF STANLEY
PUBLIC NOTICE REGARDING BY-LAW NO. 3-21
FOR A CAPITAL CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS THE CONSTRUCTION OF CITY OF WINKLER'S NEW WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY AND CONSTRUCTION OF A WASTEWATER CONVEYANCE SYSTEM (force main and lift stations) IN THE RM OF STANLEY

The Council of the Rural Municipality of Stanley has scheduled a public hearing in the Council Chambers on the **1st day of April 2021 at 10:00 a.m.** to present the following borrowing proposal:

The City of Winkler is proposing to construct a new Mechanical Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF), which is required in order to meet current wastewater treatment standards. The new WWTF will serve both the City of Winkler and the Rural Municipality (RM) of Stanley for a total future population of 28,800. The RM of Stanley intends to purchase capacity in the new WWTF as well as construct a new wastewater conveyance system (force main and lift stations) to accommodate future growth within the RM of Stanley.

The estimated total cost of the WWTF project is \$49,310,766, less funding of \$35,346,667, Federal (\$19,280,000) and Provincial (\$16,066,667) Funding under the Infrastructure Canada's (INFC) New Building Canada Fund - Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program - Green Infrastructure Stream - Environmental Quality Program, and the City of Winkler will also contribute \$10,592,613. As part of a wastewater treatment capacity Agreement with the City of Winkler, the Rural Municipality of Stanley will provide \$3,371,486.00 as contribution towards the project.

The estimated total cost of the Wastewater Conveyance System project is \$7,429,437, less funding of \$5,423,488, Federal (\$2,971,774) and Provincial (\$2,451,714) Funding under the Infrastructure Canada's (INFC) New Building Canada Fund - Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program - Green Infrastructure Stream - Environmental Quality Program. The RM of Stanley will provide \$2,005,949.00 as a contribution towards the project.

The Rural Municipality of Stanley intends to receive borrowing approval in the amount \$5,377,435.00 (This includes the balance of \$3,371,486 for capital contribution to WWTF and \$2,005,949 for wastewater conveyance system) to be borrowed over a 20-year period at an estimated interest rate of 5.0% per year. The debt payment of \$431,499.30 will be recovered through a mill rate on all taxable and grant-in-lieu properties within the Rural Municipality of Stanley. Based on the latest assessment roll, an estimated mill rate of 0.667 mills will be required.

This borrowing application does not include the extension of a wastewater conveyance system within the existing communities of Reinfeld and Schanzenfeld. A decision on whether to extend a wastewater conveyance system into the existing communities of Reinfeld and Schanzenfeld will be made at a later date after consultations with those communities.

A written objection may be filed with the Chief Administrative Officer, at 23111 PTH 14 in the RM of Stanley prior to the commencement of the hearing. At the hearing, Council will hear any potential taxpayer who wishes to make a presentation, ask questions, or register an objection to the by-law.

All objections, written or verbal, must be filed prior to the adjournment of the hearing and must include the name, address and property description of the person filing the objection and the grounds of their objection. We ask that you consider submitting your comments in writing to our office by email or mail (drop off box located at the office). If you wish to be present at the hearing, we will require you to contact our office a minimum of 2 business days prior to the scheduled hearing so that we can ensure we can meet the physical distancing requirements. Anyone attending the office will be required to wear a face mask. If you wish to participate in the hearing electronically, please contact mgroening@rmofstanley.ca or call 204-325-4101. Thank you for your understanding and patience.

Copies of the proposed borrowing are available at the municipal office at 23111 PTH 14 and on the municipal website at www.rmofstanley.ca. Feel free to call the RM Office for additional information at 204-325-4101.

Dated at the RM of Stanley this 5th day of March 2021 and issued pursuant to Section 169(6) of The Municipal Act.

Dale Toews, Chief Administrative Officer
Rural Municipality of Stanley

CAREERS



The Redboine Watershed District is currently seeking applicants for the position of

RESOURCE TECHNICIAN

The Resource Technician will work directly with landowners to plan, design & implement RBWD programs and project activities in the Redboine Watershed District.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Post-secondary education or equivalent experience in Environmental Sciences (e.g. Land & Water Management, GIS/ Geomatics, Agriculture etc.)
- Experience with GIS software & GPS/Survey Equipment required
- Ability to work independently, meet deadlines & follow a budget
- Organizational skills & the ability to work with members of the public are a must
- Must hold a valid class 5 driver's license
- Experience operating tractors, ATVs, UTVs, chainsaws, and other equipment is an asset

DUTIES:

Reporting directly to the District Manager, & with assistance from the RBWD GROW Coordinator, the successful candidate will be responsible for:

- Meeting & working directly with landowners in the district
- Planning, surveying, designing and supervising construction of district projects
- Ensuring projects are completed according to approved budgets and with all required permits
- Keeping accurate project files and ensuring GIS database is up to date
- Supervising summer staff and organizing summer staff schedules
- Providing regular program updates to the District Manager & RBWD Board of Directors
- Assisting with fundraising activities to bring additional external funding to the district
- Performing miscellaneous office duties & other tasks as required

The Resource Technician position is a flexible 35-hour work week with pension, and health plan options available.

If you are interested in applying for the position, please submit your resume & salary expectations before 4:00 pm CST on Friday, March 26, 2021 to:

Redboine Watershed District
Box 220, 109 Broadway Street, Holland, MB R0G 0X0
redboinewd@gmail.com

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EMPLOYMENT

OAKVIEW TERRACE IS HIRING: Part-time Caretaker
If interested please call:
Peter — 204-362-0656
Betty — 204 332-0652

PUBLIC NOTICE

MORDEN COMMUNITY HANDI-VAN CLUB 300 LGA Winners 2020

March 27/20		
110	Krahn Friesen Neufeld CPA	\$150.00
58	PKF Lawyer	\$150.00
290	Tania Sigurdson	\$500.00
April 24/20		
20	Rebecca Kehler	\$150.00
141	Dean Klatt	\$150.00
33	Triple E RV	\$500.00
May 29/20		
162	Randy Reimer	\$150.00
61	Travs Hotel	\$150.00
51	Dave Destoop	\$500.00
June 26/20		
68	Moonlight Construction	\$150.00
136	Rod Wolfe	\$150.00
88	Quality Finishing	\$500.00
July 31/20		
191	Dennis Sung	\$150.00
231	Esther Rothenburger	\$150.00
285	Dr. Brian Duff	\$500.00
August 28/20		
137	Huron Windows	\$150.00
198	Murray Borne	\$150.00
220	Earl Lautenschlager	\$500.00
September 25/20		
163	Pharmasave	\$150.00
201	Shirley Titchkosky	\$150.00
188	Richard Pauls	\$500.00
October 30/20		
100	Marge Janzen	\$150.00
80	Howard Pauls	\$150.00
269	Wiebe's Funeral Home	\$500.00
November 27/20		
86	Agnes Bueckert	\$150.00
251	John Dyck	\$150.00
195	Ron Peters	\$500.00
December 25/20		
295	Sherri Friesen	\$150.00
177	Alfred Loewen	\$150.00
296	Jan Leighman	\$500.00
January 25/21		
57	Larry Freund	\$150.00
28	Southland Honda	\$150.00
121	Paul Janzen	\$500.00
February 26/21		
186	Terry Gibson	\$150.00
65	Vern's Carpets	\$150.00
225	Henry Hoepfner	\$500.00

Thank you for supporting the Morden Community Handi-van through the purchase of a Raffle Ticket. Tickets are on sale now. Please continue your support by purchasing a Raffle Ticket.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC HEARING 2021 Financial Plan

Public notice is hereby given pursuant to subsection 162(2) of The Municipal Act that the Council of the City of Winkler will present its 2021 Financial Plan at a public hearing to be held on:

March 23, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.
City of Winkler Council Chambers,
185 Main Street, Winkler, MB

SPECIAL COVID-19 PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIREMENT:

Members of the public must confirm if they plan to attend the Public Hearing within 2 Days of the hearing date by contacting admin@cityofwinkler.ca or calling the City Office at 204-325-9524. This pre-registration process will ensure that staff have time to ensure physical distancing is achieved.

Council will hear any person who wishes to make a representation, ask questions, or register an objection to the financial plan.

Copies of the City's 2021 Financial Plan will be available at the Reception Desk at the City Hall for anyone wishing to get a copy prior to the meeting.



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

FARMLAND TENDER

FARMLAND FOR SALE BY TENDER

Sealed written tenders for the property in the RM of Roland described below must be received by 5:00 p.m. on March 17, 2021 at:

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

Property owned by R.J. Falk Farms Ltd.
153.12 Acres of BARE FARMLAND

Risk Area: 12

SE 14-4-3 WPM

RM of Roland

Located approximately 7 miles North of Plum Coulee along Road 306

Conditions of Tender:

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

Terms of Sale:

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

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

THANK YOU

Winkler Family Resource Centre would like to acknowledge all the businesses who donated prizes for our February prize draw calendar. We were excited to raise \$2000 for the centre.

We look forward to working with you all next year! Thank you to all of businesses and individuals who donated prizes:

Winkler Dental	Tempo
Other Brother Roasters	Pure Anada
Playful Peanut	Impact Signs
Town n'Country Dog Grooming	Karina Bueckert
Shine Design	Alisha Hildebrand
Jenessa's Massage Therapy	Art Wiebe
Janzens Paint and Decorating	Helen Banman
Gislason Targownik Peters	Imagination Library
Aspire Dental	Flavors of Mexico
Valley Bakery	Sunny Day
Time out sports	New Leaf Greenhouse
Country Cycle	Suderman Chiropractic
Sweet Ends (Stacy Wiebe)	Softline Fabrics
Tupperware (Crystal Dejaegher)	Janzens Paint and Decorating
Tiber River (Christine Peters)	Spent
Leather Nook (Nellie Driedger)	Boston Pizza
Little Lane Boutique (Lanette Flores)	Co-op Winkler
Mimi and Mouse (Alisha Hamm)	Canadian Tire Winkler
Signature Décor (Sabrina Neufeld)	Green Valley Equipment
Norwex (Jen Froese)	Dairy Queen Winkler
Bloomin' Bon Bons (Keir Froese)	Staples Winkler
Scentsy (Mel Schwarz)	Superstore Winkler
Pearl Salon (Eva Guenter)	Winkler Emmanuel Mennonite Church
Merwin Froese (artist)	City of Winkler/friend of WFRC
Bloom	

FARMLAND TENDER

FARMLAND FOR SALE BY TENDER

Sealed written tenders for the property in the Municipality of Rhineland described below must be received by noon on March 19, 2021 at:

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

Property owned by Estate of (Peter) and Mary Klassen
66.99 Acres of BARE FARMLAND
Soil Zone: C12 Risk Area: 12
SE 8-1-2 WPM
Municipality of Rhineland
Located 6 miles west of Gretna

Conditions of Tender:

1. The parcels described will be sold "as is".
2. Highest or any tender not necessarily accepted.
3. Possession is April 15, 2021.
4. Tender must be accompanied by a refundable deposit of 5% of the amount offered (cheque made payable to Franz Hoepfner Wiens Law Office).

Terms of Sale:

1. The successful bidder(s) shall enter a formal agreement for sale for the payment of the balance on date of possession.
2. Possession is not authorized until acceptable arrangements for full payment are made following acceptance of tender.
3. GST is the responsibility of the purchaser as of date of possession.
4. Property taxes are adjusted as of January 1, 2021.

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

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PUBLIC NOTICE



UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE PLANNING ACT NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

On the date and at the time and location shown below, a PUBLIC HEARING will be held to receive representations from any person(s) who wish to make them in respect to the following matter:

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

HEARING: R.M. of Stanley Council Chambers

LOCATION: 1-23111 PTH14, SW 7-3-4W

DATE & TIME: MARCH 18, 2021 at 9:30 a.m.

GENERAL INTENT: TO RE-ZONE PARCELS OF LAND IN THE RM OF STANLEY

FROM: "AL" AGRICULTURAL LIMITED

TO: "MG" GENERAL INDUSTRIAL

AREA: LOTS 1-5, PLAN 59948

ALL WITHIN SW 27-2-4W



FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:

Melissa Groening, Planning and Development Officer
Rural Municipality of Stanley, 1-23111 PTH14

Phone: (204) 325-4101

Email: mgroening@rmofstanley.ca

A copy of the above proposal and supporting material may be inspected at the location noted above during normal office hours, Monday to Friday. Copies may be made and extracts taken there from, upon request.

****Please note: If you wish to provide comments regarding the application we ask that you consider submitting your comments in writing to our office by email or mail (drop off box also located at the office). Due to limited seating, if you wish to be present at the hearing we will require you to contact our office a minimum of 2 business days prior to the scheduled hearing so that we can ensure we can meet the physical distancing requirements. Anyone attending the office will be required to wear a face mask. If you wish to participate in the hearing electronically, please contact mgroening@rmofstanley.ca or call 204-325-4101. Thank you for your understanding and patience.

AUCTION

SCHELLENBERG RON & KAREN FARM RETIREMENT AUCTION

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



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See more at info. & pics at www.billklassen.com

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AUCTION



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

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Tractors Ago DT180A FWA, HD 11 Allis Crawler w/dozer, two MF 4840 4X4 Tractors, case 1370, MF 1085, Case vac, IHC 350 w loader, combines JD 9600, 8820, 7720, 1979 800 FORD tandem grain hauler and much more. See selling catalog at www.billklassen.com
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AUCTION



**FARM EQUIPMENT AUCTION FOR
RAYMOND & LINDA FRANSMANN,
SE FANNYSTELLE, MB.**

SE Fannystelle, MB. 2017 MF 9565 Combine less 300 sep. hrs, Versatile 400 Tractor 2100 hrs, CIH MODEL 60 Compact tractor, MF 9430 Swather 1100 hrs, Freightliner Mercedes Tandem Grain Truck automatic trans. Morris tank / Concord air seeder, CIH MODEL 60 Compact tractor, 2019 Dodge 2500 pickup 8500 Km. Etc. See the catalog at www.billklassen.com owners, 204-436-2550

See more at info. & pics at www.billklassen.com

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Margaret Boulton
Owner

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(204) 822-6031 Fax
dbmb@mymts.net

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> MEAL IDEAS



Irish Potato Bread

Turn dough onto floured surface. Adding flour as needed, knead dough to form 8-inch round shape with slight dome. Place dough onto baking sheet lined with parchment paper. Cut large "X" on top of dough about 1/2 inch deep. Bake 55 minutes until golden brown. Cool on wire rack 1 hour before serving.

- 2 medium or large russet potatoes
- 1 egg
- 1 egg white
- 1/3 cup canola oil
- 3/4 cup milk
- 2 tablespoons green onion, minced
- 1/2 teaspoon caraway seeds
- 3 1/4 cups all-purpose flour, plus additional for dusting and kneading
- 1 1/2 tablespoons baking powder
- 1 teaspoon salt

Heat oven to 375 F. Peel potatoes. Slice one potato and boil in saucepan 15 minutes, or until tender. Remove potato from saucepan into large bowl. Mash potato then set aside.

Grate second potato onto cloth. Wring potato in cloth to remove excess water. Add grated potato to mashed potato in large bowl. Add egg, egg white, oil, milk, onion, caraway seeds, 3 1/4 cups flour, baking powder and salt. Stir with wooden spoon until mixture is soft and sticky.

Mint Chocolate Chip Cookies



- Servings: 24-32
- 2 1/2 cups flour
 - 1 teaspoon baking soda
 - 1/2 teaspoon salt
 - 1 cup butter, softened
 - 1 1/4 cups sugar

- 2 eggs
- 30 drops green food coloring
- 1 teaspoon peppermint extract
- 1 package (12 ounces) chocolate chips

Heat oven to 375 F. In large bowl, mix flour, baking soda and salt until blended. Set aside.

In medium bowl, beat butter and sugar until combined. Add eggs, food coloring and peppermint extract; beat until combined.

Add wet ingredients to dry ingredients; beat until combined. Stir in chocolate chips. Drop spoonfuls of cookie dough onto baking sheet.

Bake 11-14 minutes, or until edges are lightly browned.

Cool on wire racks.

Mint Brownies



- Servings: 9-12
- Nonstick cooking spray
 - 1 box supreme brownie mix with chocolate syrup pouch
 - 3 tablespoons water
 - 1/3 cup vegetable oil
 - 1 egg
- Filling:
- 3 1/2 cups powdered sugar
 - 1/4 cup butter, softened
 - 1/4 cup whipping cream

5 ounces cream cheese, softened
1/2 teaspoon peppermint extract
5 drops green food color

Topping:
1/2 cup whipping cream
1 bag (12 ounces) chocolate chips
1/2 cup butter

Heat oven to 350 F. Spray 8-by-8-inch pan with nonstick cooking spray.

In large bowl, mix brownie mix, water, oil and egg until combined. Pour into prepared baking pan. Bake 35 minutes. Cool completely, about 1 hour.

To make filling: In large bowl, beat powdered sugar, butter, whipping cream, cream cheese, peppermint extract and food coloring. Spread over cooled brownies. Refrigerate 1 hour, or until set.

To make topping: In saucepan, melt whipping cream, chocolate chips and butter until smooth. Cool until lukewarm, about 10 minutes. Pour over filling; spread to cover. Refrigerate 2 hours, or until set.

Before serving, let brownies set 10 minutes at room temperature.

Tips: Cut brownies with wet knife for cleaner cuts. Store covered in refrigerator.

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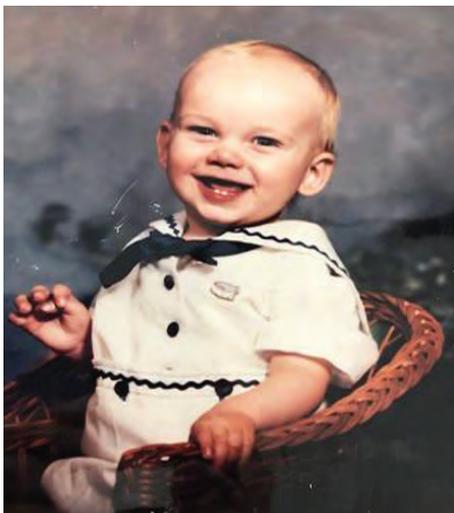


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IN MEMORIAM



Jason Edward Wesley Stoesz
1979 - 1981

We wondered how we would ever heal the day God called you home.

And there were days where we felt so all alone.

Our hearts have slowly healed and we have learned to move on.

But everyday you're still in our hearts and thoughts

And Praise God you are finally home.

-Love always, Mom and Dad,
Joey and Lindsay

IN MEMORIAM

Linda Mary Alberta Butler
March 13, 2018



In Loving Memory
Of my wife, Linda
Who left us March 13, 2018

Those we love don't go away,
They walk beside us every day;
Unseen, unheard, but always near,
Still loved, still missed and very dear.
Across the distance that separates us,
We whisper your name in the wind.
We whisper your name in the wind.
God Bless You Treasure.
We love you and miss you.

-Claire, Rob, Jay, Kim,
Emma, Luke, Jacqui and Bob.
Forever in our hearts.
I love you, Moe

CARD OF THANKS

For our Mother, Eva Peters of Pilot Mound, we thank the doctors, nurses, healthcare workers and staff of the Prairie View Lodge for their tireless efforts and loving care in keeping our Mom comfortable. We also thank the Home Care Workers in Winkler for their care and compassion when Mom's journey of Alzheimer's began.

We also thank Mona Blackburn who provided a wonderful service officiating Mom's funeral.

Thank you to Art and Larry Harms for their beautiful song.

We are especially grateful and thankful to Joey Grenier for his excellent and compassionate service to our needs. We also thank Kim Doell and staff, all from the Wiebe Funeral Home.

Thank you to all for your kindness and condolences. Our Mother will be remembered by many.

-Eva's family

OBITUARY

Eva Peters (nee Sawatzky) 1928 - 2021



On Tuesday March 2, 2021, Eva Peters, 92 of Pilot Mound, MB passed away at Prairie View Lodge.

Eva was born in Chihuahua, Mexico, September 16, 1928 to John and Susanna Sawatzky. At six years old, her parents moved back to Canada and settled in the Halbstadt area in Manitoba. Eva married Peter Peters November 6, 1949. They eventually moved to a farm south of Crystal City, later moving into town and when Peter started working at Mound Motors in Pilot Mound, they had a house moved into town. They made this their home and raised four children. Eva trained to be a Nurse's Aide and worked at the Prairie View Lodge for 17 years, not realizing that this would be her home in the later years. She loved her work at the Lodge. She was

involved in 4-H, teaching many young girls how to sew. She was a member of the Horticultural Society and the bowling club. She also loved gardening, painting, crocheting, photography, camping and traveling.

Eva was predeceased by her husband, Peter in 2000, daughter, Linda Stiff, son, Robert, granddaughter, Jennifer Groening and son-in-law, Donald Groening, her brother, Bill and many dear friends. Left to mourn her passing are her sons, Menno and David Peters (Lori), daughter, Irene Groening, son-in-law, Gordon Stiff, three sisters, Kathy Peters, Susan Rempel and Helen Neufeld, sister-in-law, Shirley Loeppky Sawatzky, grandchildren, Kristy (Kris), Scott (Jaimie), Lucas (Kayla) and Rebecca, Matthew (Mandi) and Darren, great-grandchildren, Austin, Sydney, Hunter and Abygale and one great-great grandson, Bentley. Eva loved her family very much. They were "her people" and she wanted them near as much as possible. We will miss you and you will be forever in our hearts.

Private funeral service was held at Graham's Funeral Service in Pilot Mound with interment at the Greenwood Cemetery. Donations in Eva's memory may be made to the Alzheimer Society of Canada or the Canadian Bible Society.

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



OBITUARY

Donna Joan Lumgair (nee Garwood) 1932 - 2021



Donna died peacefully at Boundary Trails Health Centre on Thursday March 4, 2021.

Born Donna Joan Garwood in Peterborough, ON in September of 1932, she grew up in St. Vital in Winnipeg, MB. Donna studied nursing at Grace Hospital, graduating in 1958. The following year, she married David G. Lumgair of Thornhill. Their daughter, Leslie was born in 1960 and son, Bradley in 1961.

Fellowship and service were important to Donna including hosting for Canada World Youth, United Church Women (UCW) and annual fundraising for the Heart and Stroke Foundation, to which she devoted time and energy for 35 years. Hosting gatherings was a great joy, as Donna loved making everyone feel at home, making sure they were well fed and included. Donna was raised with a dog by her side, and no one has ever loved dogs more. Donna was at the heart of her community of Thornhill, a city woman adapted to farm life—no chickens please—where her love for life blossomed in an abundance of house plants, perennials and annuals in the garden. The bird feeder was a source of great pleasure. It drew flocks to her kitchen window (including those d*** squirrels), as well as the deer that regularly visited the yard.

She is survived by David, her husband of 61 years; daughter, Leslie (Blair Jackson), son, Bradley (Carol-Lynn Chambers), daughter-in-law, Freda Lumgair (Dale Stambuski), three granddaughters, Nicole (Matthew Salo) and great-grandson, Coen, Kaitlyn (Travis Andersen) and Robyn (Shawn Cline).

The family would like to acknowledge the care received from Boundary Trails EMS, ER and Palliative care staff. Your compassion and kindness were greatly appreciated.

Private family memorial service was held at Wiebe Funeral Chapel, Morden. Interment will take place at Knightcot Cemetery at a later date.

Donations in Donna's memory may be made to the Heart & Stroke Foundation or to the Menzies Medical Centre Foundation.

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



OBITUARY

Nettie Peters (nee Martens) 1926 - 2021



It is with great sadness that the family announces the passing of a loving mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, Nettie Peters on Wednesday March 3, 2021.

Nettie was born in Schoenwiese, MB on May 3, 1926 to Cornelius and Helena (nee Wiens) Martens. On June 8, 1947, she married Jake Peters. They made their home and raised their family in the Morden area.

Nettie is survived by four sons, Ron (Cheryl), Albert (Debbie), Raymond (Pauline) and Norman, four daughters, Marlene (Will) Derksen, Shirley (Ed) Bergen, Lorraine (Don) Holenski, Joan Peters (Bernie Thiessen) as well as 16 grandchildren, 22 great-grandchildren and one brother. She was predeceased by her

husband Jake Peters in 2003, grandson, Matthew Peters in 2001 and great-granddaughter Chloe Boyle in 2020.

Private family funeral service was held on Monday, March 8, 2021 at Wiebe Funeral Chapel in Morden with Carrie Martens officiating. Interment followed at Hillside Cemetery.

Many thanks to all the doctors and nurses and staff at Boundary Trails Health Centre and Notre Dame Health Center.

Donations may be made in Nettie's memory to the charity of your choice.

I'm gone now but please don't weep

I knew the Angels were coming, so I went to sleep

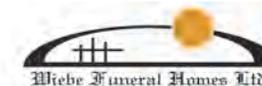
They took me and my journey has ended

But I will always be with you for hearts that need to be mended

Take comfort in knowing I will never be alone

And take comfort in knowing I am finally HOME

Wiebe Funeral Chapel, Morden
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