

PHOTO BY RICK HIEBERT/VOICE

The transformation of the heart of Morden's downtown was complete Monday, and filming began for the TV show Tales From The Loop. For the full story, see inside this edition of The Voice.

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# 2 The Winkler Morden Voice Thursday, April 18, 2019 TV show filming in Morden

#### By Lorne Stelmach

Downtown Morden became the centre of attention this week as filming got underway here for a major television show.

The city is part of the Manitoba locations for Tales From The Loop - a coproduction between Fox 21 TV Studios and Amazon Studios.

Preparations really ramped up last week with a number of storefronts being transformed in preparation for shooting to start this week, and officials with the production had high praise for what Morden had to offer and what it would do for the show.

"Morden has really welcomed us with open arms," said Robert Petrovicz, an executive producer for Tales From The Loop.

"Everybody is being very proactive and receptive to something that I don't think has every happened in the community. I don't think anybody has ever shot in Morden," he suggested. "It's almost like dating for the first time ... in the end, hopefully it's a good relationship.

"We were very much looking forward to being in town, it's a privilege," he added, noting the city has been very welcoming despite the level of disruption that can come with a production like this show. "It's always a bit of a circus ... we have needs, occupying streets, parking, displacing people ... but also I think we bring a sort of entertainment value."

Tales From The Loop is inspired by Simon Stålenhag's paintings and stories, which take place in an alternate version of Sweden in the '80s and '90s, primarily in the countryside of a string of islands west of Stockholm.

This reality came about through the development of the Loop, a large particle accelerator and the side effects of the massive project.

It takes viewers on a surprising sci-fi

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journey through various country and city landscapes from small towns in Sweden and the deserts of Nevada to the bitter chill of Siberia. Children explore and engage with abandoned robots, vehicles and machinery large and small, while dinosaurs and other creatures wander our roads and fields.

"I don't know of any other show that was inspired by paintings," said executive producer Rafi Crohn.

From that starting point came the idea of how each one could be a different story about somebody else in the town, he suggested.

"I think what we're trying to do is we're trying to create something that is sci-fi and cool and fun but is emotional and hopeful and warm all at the same time."

Tales from the Loop went into preproduction in January and had been scheduled to shoot from March through to perhaps the end of July, and it had been estimated that it could eventually employ between 300 and 400 people.

It comes at a time when the industry continues to expand in the province, and that is a large part of what drew the production here.

"It has a burgeoning film business .. a lot of shows are starting to shoot here. It's got a very attractive tax incentive and highly trained crews and stunning landscapes," said Petrovicz.

"The paintings are rooted at least in wintry conditions," he added, noting that also made Manitoba a logical choice, although they were also making and hauling in snow at the start of the week.

"The locations are a character unto themselves in the show," he added.

As for choosing Morden, Petrovicz noted they undertook an exhaustive search of potential locations in Manitoba before settling on Morden.

"We looked at 17 small communities all within up to three and a half hour



PHOTOS BY RICK HIEBERT AND LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Marathon Pizza became The Mercer Tavern for the production of Tales From The Loop, and one of the key characters got to work as filming began Monday. Crew members were set to go and got some final instructions Monday with some snow also being made to complete the transformation of downtown Morden that included a number of businesses becoming a movie theatre, bakery and appliance store among others.



Continued on page 5



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| April                                       | 23 | Tuesday  | 9:00am   | <b>Regular Cattle</b> | Sale (with Pre-sort Options)                     |
| •   | 27 | Saturday   | 10:00am  | Horse & Tack S        | ale  |
|   | 29 | Monday   | 12:00pm  | Sheep and Goat        | t & Holstein Calves                              |
|   | 30 | Tuesday  | 9:00am   |                       | Sale (with Pre-sort Options)                     |
| May   | 4  | Saturday   | MB/SK Au | ctioneer's Comp       | . & Bred Cow (receiving cattle on Fri 7am - 8pm) |
|   | 7  | Tuesday  | 9:00am   | <b>Regular Cattle</b> | Sale (with Pre-sort Options)                     |
|   | 13 | Monday   | 12:00pm  | Sheep and Goat        | t & Holstein Calves                              |
|   | 14 | Tuesday  | 9:00am   | <b>Regular Cattle</b> | Sale (with Pre-sort Options)                     |
|   | 21 | Tuesday  | 9:00am   | <b>Regular Cattle</b> | Sale (with Pre-sort Options)                     |
|   | 27 | Monday   | 12:00pm  | Sheep and Goat        | t & Holstein Calves                              |
|   | 28 | Tuesday  | 9:00am   | <b>Regular Cattle</b> | Sale (with Pre-sort Options)                     |



# Winkler examines aquifer options

#### By Lorne Stelmach

Winkler is continuing to review its water supply and wastewater treatment options to help manage its aquifer in a long term, sustainable way.

As part of that process, open houses were held Monday in Winkler and Tuesday in Roland to give the public an opportunity to see the recommendations and offer their feedback.

Donovan Toews of Landmark Planning and Design said it was important to have consultation because it is obviously something that can't be taken for granted.

"It show there's an interest in what is everybody's asset ... it's encouraging to see people out and interested in water because it's a pretty fundamental thing," said Toews. "It's in their interest and the environment's interest that we do a good job of managing the aquifer together with the province.

"It's not a red flag issue. Winkler's been doing good job of staying ahead of the curve here and planning for the future," he stressed. "We're actually just trying to be proactive and look for these solutions so the aquifer can keep providing for a long, long time."

The consulting firm has involved a team of people including a hydrogeologist working alongside others including City of Winkler staff.

He estimated it will be at least a year long process focussing on how to best manage the aquifer and deal with waste water as well.

Toews suggested the key consideration is ensuring enough intake of fresh water, and there are options to enhance the supply of fresh water intake into the aquifer.

"Because the Winkler aquifer is confined, meaning it's got limited area to it and the recharge area where fresh rain water can soak in and snow melt can soak in, that recharge area is very small," said Toews.

"So we want to target efforts over top that recharge area to make sure or to help, particularly with snow melt and then spring water as it passes over this recharge area, keep more snow there and to keep more melt water right there over the aquifer longer so it can drain more readily into the aquifer and resupply the fresh water."

One option would be to build weirs in key areas.

"These would be like little dams, maybe four or five feet high in certain portions of the Dead Horse Creek and the Shannon Creek to hold water back over the aquifer for a little longer," he suggested.

"We'd also like to co-operate on building more shelterbelts right in that recharge area to hold the snow

there so in spring it can stay there longer and just go down instead of going away," he added.

Recharge is the key, Toews stressed, as the pressure on the aquifer can mean having to use the brackish water where special treatment is required.

"It's more like the quality of the water has been lessened in terms of salinity," he said. "There is variability, it does go up and down from season to season ... but if you were to measure it over the longer distance of 30 or 40 years, that line has been rising in terms of the salinity being higher.

"It's very manageable for them," stressed Toews, noting there would be more long range ideas that could be considered as well though they could be more complex and likely more costly such as an infiltration gallery, which would basically be a reservoir to retain water when it is more readily available.

"It gets to stay there and seep into the aquifer gently over time," said Toews. "You have to find the right piece of land in the right location."

People wanting more information can contact Landmark Planning and Design at 204-453-8008 or by e-mail to info@landmarkplanning.ca.

822.6259



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Area residents had an opportunity to examine options for managing Winkler's aquifer at an open house Monday.





# Tornado hunter touches down here

#### By Lorne Stelmach

The reactions that Chris Chittick gets from people about what he does for a living can be as extreme as what he deals with for his work.

"It's either you're crazy or it's cool," said Chittick, who is part of the team on the television show Tornado Hunters.

"One of the things I stress is that I love what I do. It's like I'm never really working a day in my life, it's a cliche, but it's honestly true for me, I always go back to it's what I love to do, it's my dream, it's my passion in life, and I'm living the dream."

Chittick visited Morden and Winkler last week including speaking to students at Emerado School in Winkler and Ecole Morden Middle School.

He then spent time with his Ford F-150 that is used in the storm chasing television show at Hometown Ford, which also held a hot dog fundraising barbecue in support of The Bunker youth ministries.

Chittick, who previously appeared on Discovery Channel's Storm Chasers, has now encountered more than 400 natural weather occurrences on two continents in a decade long career.

In addition to being a videographer for Tornado Hunters, he is knowledgeable on extreme weather phenomenon, traversing the United States giving lectures on extreme weather safety.

He works closely with emergency technicians, engineers and disaster relief organizations on education, prevention and survival in the field, but it still is the chase that interests him the most.

"We'll start chasing about beginning or middle of April, and we go all the way through the beginning of August," said Chittick. "The rest of the year, I'm doing a lot of school talks, doing appearances like this."

He appreciates what these appear-

ances can do for him and the show.

"For me, it's awesome. There's fans all over the place," he said, noting he had also been in Manitou a week earlier. "Everywhere I go, there's fans who watch our show, so its awesome to see that people, number one, watch the show, and, number two, that they know everything about it.

"And then, supporting stuff like this, it's great for me, it's great for my team, that we can help out in communities," he added, noting it is especially gratifying to assist something like The Bunker and be "helping kids out in any community ... this is a great fundraiser. It's a great cause."

A large part of what attracts people to the show and what they do is the thrill and adventure of it, said Chittick, who started into this around 1998.

He obviously has a lot of stories, but one that particularly stands out is one of the largest tornados in North America in May, 2013 in Oklahoma.

"The tornado started to be a kilometre wide, and in 30 seconds it grew to five kilometres wide," he recalled. "We got caught in the outer circulation because we were close, but nobody expected it to expand four kilometres in 30 seconds."

Equally important though to what they do is the science aspect of it and better understanding tornados, he added.

"If you think about tornado genesis, it's a very young science in the science world. They didn't really start doing the research and studies on it until maybe the 40s, 50s, 60s," he suggested.

"So in that respect, it's very young. But trying to understand the atmosphere before a tornado happens, while a tornado is happening and after a tornado has happened, there's nothing that we can do that can prevent it, but we can help with an earlier warning system.

"The earlier warning system is always what we're trying to strive towards," he continued. "It's like rather



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Young fans check out Chris Chittick's truck from Tornado Hunters at Hometown Ford in Winkler last Wednesday.



**PHOTO FROM TORNADOHUNTERS.COM** As part of the Tornado Hunters team, Chris Chittick has so far encoun-

tered more than 400. than a town getting a five minute severe

than a town getting a five minute heads-up, maybe they can get a 15 minute heads-up, and down the road that saves lives."

Brian Derksen, sales manager at Hometown Ford, said they were glad to host Chittick, noting it was a natural tie-in given he uses a specially rigger up and reinforced Ford F-150 as his storm chasing vehicle.

"And it just so happened that (the schools here) were working on some severe weather and storm preparedness curriculum right now, and they were actually going to be doing some

severe weather drills this week," he noted.

"He is very knowledgeable about weather systems and what makes storms come together," Derksen said of Chittick, "so there are some people who come to talk to him about his experiences in those types of weather situations, but then you've also got the truck, which has a following too.

"Tornado Hunters have a pretty good following, so it was a great chance for the community."

### > TV SHOW, FROM PG. 2

radius of Winnipeg," he said, citing examples ranging from Selkirk to Carberry.

"When we came to Morden, in particular, it really had a timeless quality, which we were looking for ... it had a classic small town street setting," he suggested.

"Really, it is timeless ... it is what people would expect from small town America," he added. "It's like the person next door.

"You don't when it's right until you're standing in it," said Petrovicz."And that's why we looked for almost two months at 17 communities near Winnipeg just to pick the right one."

They expected to be coming back to Morden a number of times for filming, noted Crohn, though there is always a level of uncertainty about the future.

"In the next several months, we think we're going to be making several visits to Morden. Since we don't plan that far ahead, we don't know when that's going to happen," he said.

"But we definitely will be giving Morden a nice profile in the show. It definitely will not be just a fleeting glimpse," he added. "It's been a very good beginning, and we will be in and out in the next week and then in the next three months I think two or three more times."



# Pembina Hills Arts council looking ahead

### Aiming to keep broadening its reach and scope, say directors

#### By Lorne Stelmach

Having gotten back on more solid footing in recent years, the Pembina Hills Arts Council is now looking to keep moving onward and upward.

Whether it's broadening the scope and variety of their programs or continuing work on the heritage build-

"WE'RE

**TO BRING** 

DIFFERENT

PEOPLE IN

DIFFERENT

INTERESTS."

WITH

JUST TRYING

ing housing the gallery, the bottom line is getting more people involved and engaged, say directors.

"There's lots of ongoing, new, exciting things happening, so that's been really cool ... we're always trying to think of more things," chairperson Vicki Campbell-Dyck said after the annual meeting last Tuesday at the Pembina Hills Gallery in downtown Morden.

"It's always a challenge to keep up with trends as

they change and getting new people into the gallery ... and letting people know it's not just for artists. It's for the general public."

The annual meeting heard that the arts council is in sound shape financially, despite having come out of 2018 with an operating deficit of just over \$4,400 on revenue of about \$108,800 and expenses of around \$113,200.

Financial manager Corey Hiebert reported that general and administrative expenses remained on budget while payroll related expenses went over budget. On the revenue side, the main source of funding included \$36,000 from the City of Morden and just over \$24,000 from the province, while income from programs was over \$27,000.

Dyck touched on a number of highlights from the past year ranging from the 30th anniversary celebrations last fall to a variety of new programs and activities such as the art talks, concerts and poetry slams in addition to the regular slate of monthly exhibitions and events like the November holiday sale.

The arts council also worked to expand its reach by establishing two satellite gallery spaces at the Manitou Opera House and Neubergthal heritage house barn.

"We're just trying to broaden it out for more people to be able to access ... that's nice for artists to be able to display their stuff at three different locations," said Dyck.

"And we can use their buildings also for other events, so it's a partnership," added board member Cathy Lone.

Another significant step for the arts council has been to undertake some strategic planning.

"We revisited our mission statement and evaluated and rewrote it just slightly. We went over our values and totally rewrote our values and our goals," said Dyck.

> Part of that can involve making connections to current or contemporary issues such as truth and reconciliation, added both Dyck and Lone. "We're trying to bring it more to the forefront, that we're actually living it," said Dyck, while Lone added that "as a board, we're going to discuss different parts of it every month, and we want to bring more First Nation artists for

awareness." Dyck added she sees that as fitting



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

The directors of the Pembina Hills Arts Council encourage more people to join the board.

with their goal to focus on art in a more broad context, as it is not just about the visual physical art on a wall.

"Also that's why we're doing things a little bit different, looking at things like the concerts, the poetry slams," she suggested. "All those kinds of things, it's a different medium of art ... we're just trying to bring different people in with different interests."

Dyck also looks forward to the prospect of making improvements to the building. Their priorities include bigger projects like replacing the roof. Having restored the main level floor, they also want to do the same upstairs, and they are also excited about the idea of restoring the currently hidden main level original ceiling and "bringing it back actually to the original state.

"Plus working on the facade out front. We're trying to make it a bit more attractive for people to come in," concluded Dyck.









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PRODUCTION Tara Gionet

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ness Report.

Now I realize there are several people out there reading this who are laughing at the idea that we are the ninth happi-

est country, but if you stop and realize you are laughing then you may also realize you are contributing. Ahead of

are

ery

AGRICULTURE REPORTER Harry Siemens



Nicole Kapusta



anada is the ninth

coun-

**By Peter** Scandinavian country, the Neth-Cantelon erlands, Switzer-

land, and New Zealand (the Canada of the southern hemisphere).

I find it interesting that the countries that suffer through the darkest, longest, northern winters are also measurably the happiest. It's as if we evolved a sense of humour to survive our frozen seasonal prisons.

Countries that we Canadians of-

etters

ten admire are well below us in the rankings, with the United States at 19, France at 24, and sunny Jamaica at 56th.

EDITORIAL > VIEWPOINTS > LETTERS

Don't worry, you're happy

I think sometimes it is good to be reminded how good we have things in our country. It can be difficult to see the positive from inside the familyoften you need outsiders to point it out because we lose perspective.

Six key indicators were measured in every country to come up with the scores: GDP per capita (essentially the total value of goods and services produced in the country per individual), social support, healthy life expectancy at birth, freedom to make life choices, generosity, and perceptions of corruption.

Not a bad list overall, really, and it is nice to see where we stand in comparison to the other 155 countries measured.

Now, like all broad pieces of research, this one is not specific to any one individual. You may read this and think, "I've been miserable every day of my life and so this report is total garbage" but while this report is about you it is really a measure of the country. Imagine if the list were a measure of 156 people. Canada is the ninth happiest person on the list. Your specific experience may differ, but as an average this is where we are at.

Maybe a better analogy is a comparison on families. Canada is the ninth happiest family on the block. Sure, our little brother lives in the basement and screams at people who walk past, but the rest of us bring the average up.

I think one of the takeaways from this is that many of the things we think will make us happy in life are not necessarily that important. Would it be nice if we lived in a sun-soaked, palm tree laden, beachside paradise? Maybe ... but think of the insects (read: cockroaches).

Being happy does not mean everything is okay. I know plenty of happy people that are struggling. Sometimes happy is a frame of mind in the midst of circumstances that would otherwise pull you under. Sometimes happy means having the resources you need to help you when things conspire to make you unhappy.

At any rate, I can say that I am happy I live in the ninth happiest country on the planet and can only hope one day we soar past the Scandinavians to first place.

Because, yes, everything is a competition.

### **Trudeau must** take action in **Canada-China** canola dispute

Recently, the Chinese government canceled the canola import permit for one of Canada's largest grain processors, Winnipeg-based Richardson International, citing insect infestation concerns.

Conservatives know that the issue at hand is not Canada's canola product. Canada produces the best canola in the world. Rather, this calls into question Justin Trudeau's ongoing failure to handle Canada's relationship with China.

It is clear that Canadian agricultural producers are paying for Justin Trudeau's mistakes on the world stage.

I am deeply concerned about the impacts that these unfounded actions by the Chinese government will have on Canada's agriculture and canola sector, as approximately 40 per cent of Canadian canola exports go to China, with a value of approximately \$3.6B in 2017.

Canada's Conservatives have requested an emergency meeting of the Agriculture and Agri-Food Committee to discuss the Trudeau government's lack of action on this important file. Justin Trudeau must stand up for Canada's canola industry and demand that the Chinese government stop these baseless actions against Canada's agriculture sector.

> Candice Bergen, Portage-Lisgar MP, Conservative House Leader

# Kudos for a story well chosen

Kudos to The Voice for its April 4th cover and feature story "Labour of Love."

In a time when so much global and national news reflects conflict and discontent, it is heartening to read this profile story in your paper about Tina Janzen, 91, a Winkler senior who is working hard to make our world better ... one doll at a time. With appreciation!

> Larry Danielson, Morden

# City has face to face with Friesen

#### By Lorne Stelmach

Winkler city council had an opportunity to meet recently with Morden Winkler MLA Cameron Friesen.

There was a wide ranging discussion March 27 on issues ranging from affordable housing to the Highway 32 construction project among others.

"We covered a lot of good topics ... all we can hope for is that he was listening and that our concerns were expressed," Mayor Martin Harder said after the April 9 council meeting. "We, I think, are supportive of the government ... but there's some needs that we have that are not being addressed."

A priority among those were concerns around affordable housing with not only a need for more but also around a perceived lack of proper maintenance and upkeep with Manitoba Housing units here.

"We also chatted about the changes that have taken place since we started managing in the City of Winkler and particularly the involvement of Central Station and how well that works," added Harder.

Frustration was also expressed that the city has been doing its part to prepare and budget for the Highway 32 twinning and reconstruction but without a firm commitment as of yet from the province.

"Obviously, we couldn't go without covering Highway 32, and we're hoping this government will see fit to announce this for sure prior to the next term."

Other issues touched on included security at Boundary Trails Health Centre, the provincial review of education and the regional waste water treatment project.

Meanwhile, city council is also con-

tinuing to follow up on a strategic planning process.

Council has been working on it over the last six months after having had someone lead them through a planning session, noted Harder.

"I think the first benefit was reviewing what we actually were doing," said Harder, "and how we were doing and to be able to look at where our strengths and weaknesses are and focus on where we felt the greatest need was and what our plan was in order to be able to accomplish this for our term."

There were four key priorities set out including sustainability, service, collaboration and diversity with each area setting out a goal and strategies:

• Sustainability - be proactive in planning for long term sustainability. This includes planning for and anticipating growth, bringing in talented people, enabling staff to do their jobs well and safeguarding assets.

• Service - strive to provide supportive and professional services. This includes ensuring positive experiences with the city, ensuring bylaws are understandable and relevant, using media to communicate proactively and inviting citizen participation.

• Collaboration - build on the region's strengths to enhance the city's products, services and resource. This includes building relationships with stakeholders, supporting non-profit resources and building relationships of trust.

• Diversity - provide services that address the needs of a diverse demographic. This includes being proactive in addressing needs, ensuring services and resources reflect the diversity and being flexible in the way services can be accessed.

To ensure its full effectiveness, the plan will be kept in mind with council also considering a mid-term review to assess how they are doing in fulfilling the plan.

"You need to stay focused and make sure that we meet the targets that we set," concluded Harder.

# > LETTERS, FROM PG. 6 Legislation

As a concerned Canadian citizen, I would like to draw attention to some very disturbing legislation currently in debate in the House of Commons. I can foresee that if this legislation is passed, it will NOT be beneficial to the Canadian people.

The government is bombarding the House of Commons and the Senate of Canada with numerous bills to be passed without debate or consent by the people of Canada. Is this looking out for the best interests of Canadians?

For example:

• Bill C-71: Law abiding gun owners in Canada will fall under stricter guidelines, ie: background checks, record keeping requirements for retailers and further restrictions to transport a firearm. This will not curb the gang violence in this country. Criminals do not follow the law!

• Bill C-75: An act to amend the Criminal Code of Canada. The claim is to modernize and make it more efficient. Modern and efficient for whom? This bill is an assault on The Canadian Justice System. The amendments the government is trying to push through will only weaken our justice system.

How is reducing penalties for hardened criminals going to protect the Canadian people? For example, bringing back ISIS fighters and rewarding terrorists returning to Canada, criminals that smuggle firearms across the border, those that commit acts of terrorism and acts to engage in terrorist activity or harbour terrorists. Criminals forging passports, those involved with child trafficking, recruiting children to participate in gang violence, sex crimes against children and forcing children into marriage. The list is long, but these are the amendments that are the most offensive.

To make matters worse, you want to instill these summary convictions into the hands of an already very broken system of judges, lawyers and police, who may or may not abide by the laws governing this country.

In closing, I have to say that anyone with a shred of human decency and good conscience could never impose such preposterous ideals against other human beings.

This is an assault on the Canadian people and the laws that keep our country strong and free.

Please read and contact your Senator, MP, and MLA to vote against these outrageous amendments!

> Tara Gionet & Tim Brooke, Morden

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# **Borderland PCs select their candidate**

#### By Lorne Stelmach

Josh Guenter will carry the Progressive Conservative banner in the Borderland riding in the next provincial election.

He was selected from among four candidates for the nomination at a meeting in Altona last Thursday, and Guenter said it was exciting to have the opportunity.

"It's deeply humbling and a great honour," said Guenter. "I'm just excited to be able to serve the people and be part of such a great team. I'm very thrilled with the prospect of working with the PC team. We're a strong team, and we have a strong set of ideas for the province."

He was selected from among a strong field of candidates that included Verna Heinrichs, Liz Hildebrand and Jordan Siemens, who were all seeking to represent the PC party in what was formerly the Emerson riding but was redrawn and renamed as Borderland as part of the recent review of the province's political boundaries.

Raised on a small farm near Altona,

Guenter lives near Altona with his wife Alicia and their son Jackson.

He is a long-haul truck driver and has worked for both Portage Lisgar MP Candice Bergen, Morden-Winkler MLA Cameron Friesen, and he earlier attended the University of Ot-

tawa studying economics and political science and worked for an MP from Saskatchewan. He was motivated

to seek the nomination because he has always had an interest in politics and always loved this area. "I do have experi-

ence on the political scene, so this isn't

completely new to me," he said.

Guenter also felt there were some key issues for him that he felt may have connected with the members.

"I think people are just concerned about the rising cost of living, they're concerned about affordability, about their taxes., They're concerned about the education and health care systems, and we want to see greater performance and a lot more improvement there," said Guenter.

"These are issues that I ran on ... and also fixing roads and infrastructure among others," he added. "I think I

brought a strong Conservative message, and I think it resonated with people.

"We are a young riding, a lot of young families, but I think people were just looking for someone who was a well rounded Conservative who they knew they could count on to work with the PC team to deliver on the things that are important to them." "I'm just honoured that

they placed their trust in me," concluded Guenter, who was anxious to get to work. "I'm going to start reaching out to people, I'm going to start connecting and keep working to reach as many people as possible, hear their concerns ... and now the work begins."



SUBMITTED PHOTO Josh Guenter was chosen from among four candidates for the PC nomination for Borderland.

# Strong growth for Access Credit Union

### Credit union managing well amidst challenges: CEO

#### By Lorne Stelmach

The past year was one of continued growth for Access Credit Union amidst ongoing challenges for the system overall.

The annual meeting last Thursday in Altona heard the credit union had a strong year with total assets having increased from \$2.4 to over \$2.6 billion, while net income rose from \$13.3 to \$15.2 million.

Loans and deposits also outperformed the credit union system provincially. Loans increased by 7.3 per cent to over \$2.2 billion while deposits increased by 6.8 per cent to almost \$2.4 billion.

"We had strong growth on our asset side ... we're happy that the growth on the deposit side was significantly higher than the system in Manitoba," said president and CEO Larry Davey.

"We're happy with that growth, and we're fortunate where we are with the amount of growth in some of our communities," he suggested.

"We were able to maintain the focus that we had, which is controlling our expenses, so that the profitability keeps us going forward, and it allows us to maintain high rates that we've been paying our members as well as the strong low rates we can offer.

"The sheer growth helps, but it's also our shift in how we have been able to provide the rates," he continued.

"The credit union's been able to offer more in the way of technology; it's been able to offer more in the way of stronger rates, and we've been able to control the fees we charge," he said. "It's likely very little of that would have been possible if we had still been separate entities."

Despite the successes, Davey said there continue to be a number of challenges.

"There's the cost of technology and

the wide range of technology that's available and that members are requesting, as they do more and more away from the branch," he said.

"We've now hit almost 91 per cent of

"WE'RE HAPPY WITH

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the transactions are electronic, so it's evident that they have embraced technology, but if we're going to stay up with others, we've got to continue to purchase ... those costs are escalating faster than was anticipated," he continued.

"There's also the costs of regulation. The government keeps increasing what they're look-

ing for from an institution, especially relative to things like money laundering and terrorism."

Another significant factor is the province's move to remove the credit union tax credit.

"It's being removed over five years

... that's going to take about \$9 or \$10 million away from the credit union in the next five years, which is significant."

As for lies ahead, Davey suggested

the credit union system as a whole will need to continue to weigh opportunities to not only survive but thrive.

"We're certainly continuing down a similar path as far as what we're providing to the members," he said.

"There's always lots of talk in the system about the potential of coming together, and we've seen over the

last three years probably 10 other organizations in Manitoba ... we're now down to I believe its 24 credit unions," he concluded. "We have to decide if there's a strong partner out there for us and if that's the route that we want to go."

"WE'RE A STRONG TEAM, AND WE HAVE A STRONG SET OF IDEAS FOR THE PROVINCE."

# New faces on board with festival

### Corn and Apple beginning preparations for 2019 edition

#### By Lorne Stelmach

The Morden Corn and Apple Festival will benefit from an injection of new faces on the organizing committee this year.

A number of people have come on board to fill vacant chairperson roles as the committee gets set to start planning for this summer's event.

"This is huge for us. You always need new people to bring in new ideas and new energy," executive director Lynda Lambert said of the additions that include Nathan Knight as festival chairperson.

Knight said he read that the committee needed a number of people, and he had wanted to get involved in the community in some way.

"With what I do on a daily basis in

my full time job at the radio station, The Maverick, it seemed like a fairly natural fit for me,"he suggested.

He had not been directly involved as a volunteer in the past beyond having served as an emcee on the main stage,

and he said it very much appealed to him to dive right into it.

"It's the biggest thing that the community does. It's what Morden is known for outside of southern Manitoba. I've lived in other provinces as well, and I've always run into people ... that's what they know about Morden, they know about the festival," said Knight. "It's kind of exciting

to be part of it," he said, adding that having a large board and strong

corp of volunteers means it is not a heavy workload for anyone person.

"It seems to be a well oiled machine," he said."I think the number of volunteers works out to be about 17 per cent of the entire community ... so even just getting to work with that many people within the community who are willing to help out is exciting."

"It's exciting that someone like Nathan thought I can get involved," said Lambert, who stressed that people too

often think they may not be qualified to take on a role with the festival."Do you love the festival ... do you love being in town when everybody is here ... do you love all this ... then you qualify, right? If you have the love for the festival and the people, what more do you need?" As for the committee, there is still need for someone to take charge of first aid, but a number of other key roles have also been filled.

Adam Monteith of Access Credit Union takes on the role of parade chairperson, while children's events were taken on by Ashley Funk of The Olive Tree.

on by Ashley Funk of The Olive Tree. Rhonda Domitruk of 3M Canada steps in to lead the volunteer lounge, and Chantel Loewen of Elias Wood-



SUBMITTED PHOTO Nathan Knight will serve as chairperson of the 2019 Morden Corn and Apple Festival.

work is the new street space and vendor relations committee chairperson.

"And it was the city council that helped get these people," noted Lambert, saying members approached both Monteith and Funk. "So that's great. Pretty much everybody is in place ... and it's exciting because these are all new people who have not volunteered for the Corn and Apple before."

# **CIBC** supports United Way



#### PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

The Morden and District United got a boost from CIBC last week with a donation of \$1,850 on behalf of the Morden branch. "It's a good cause; anything local in the community, we're happy to support," said Carey Wainikka of CIBC. United Way rep Alex Fedorchuk estimated CIBC corporately has donated over \$50,000 locally since 2001. "So CIBC has been a mainstay ... they're one of our top corporate donors."

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# **Shear Bliss celebrates**



#### PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Morden Mayor Brandon Burley helped with the ribbon cutting Friday as Shear Bliss officially opened its expanded and renovated salon and spa. The expansion added another 400 square feet, providing more space in salon area, while the spa increased from two to four pedicure chairs and two to three manicure tables with more space for massage as well. The project also involved local high school welding program students who built some parts of the lighting fixtures.

"IT'S EXCITING BECAUSE THESE ARE ALL NEW PEOPLE WHO HAVE NOT VOLUNTEERED FOR THE CORN AND APPLE BEFORE."

# A close call at home

almost perished.

In March of 1953, we were living in a

small house on 1st St. in Morden. Our

home was heated by an oil-burning space heater in the living room with

stove pipes leading up to the chimney on the roof. This heating method was

common in homes before most had

the living room while Jimmy slept on

baby sister, Debbie.

a pull-out couch in the front of the living room. Our par-

ents' bedroom was also off

the living room with a crib

in it for our two-month-old

basements with furnaces in them. Jeanne and I shared a bedroom off

ast spring I read about a family of four dying of carbon monoxide poisonling. They were from Creston, lowa and it was their first night in a Tulem. Mexico condo.

This month I heard about schools in the Vancouver area installing carbon monoxide detectors after a major incident in a Quebec school. A leak in a furnace there resulted in several children and adults getting sick and some having to be hospitalized. Other incidents have been reported

in Vancouver and across British Columbia.

These stories brought back memories about the night our family of six



**By Florence** Dyck

Except for Dad, who had a chronic illness, our family was hardly ever sick. Us kids would walk across town to school morning, noon, and night through sun or storm. Jeanne and I had a paper

route that involved walking all over town every day except Sunday. And because our house was so small, Jim-

# Down the meandering path



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Author Cheryl Lynn Plett enjoyed some laughs along with the full house that she entertained at the Pembina Hills Gallery Saturday evening. The fundraiser in support of the arts council featured Plett reading from her book The Erotic Eclair as well as speak on her personal journey with a presentation she titled The Meandering Path. Plett encouraged her audience to not be afraid to be true to themselves on their journey.



### SUPPLIED PHOTO

The author and her siblings, Jeanne, Deb, and Jim, not long after the family went through a carbon monoxide scare in their home.

my and I played outside after dinner every night.

This particular night, though, would prove to be different and almost deadly. We all went to bed at the usual time. Those were the vears we kids had to be in bed by 9 p.m. Mom and Dad followed after listening to the 10 p.m. news.

I don't know what time it started but I remember waking up with a headache. Through my tears, I heard Jeanne crying. We had never before both been sick at the same time and never, since we were babies, woken Mom up at night. Jeanne and I spent most of that night awake and crying because of our terrible headaches.

Mom said later that our crying seemed to come from far away. As she also was not feeling well, she had to force herself to get up to give us aspirin and to bathe our hot heads with cold washcloths. I don't know how often we got her up but our usually concerned, caring Mother found herself thinking, "If only those girls would stop crying and let me sleep!"

Finally, early in the morning, she insisted we all get up for breakfast. She thought food might make us feel better. As she was stirring the porridge on the stove, she heard a loud thud. She turned around to see Jeanne with her head in her plate. She had fainted and banged her head on the table. After reviving her, Mom knew to open windows. She then sent Dad next door to the neighbours to phone for a doctor.

When old Dr. Menzies came he looked at our blue fingernails and knew immediately what had happened. We were suffering from carbon monoxide poisoning. He assumed correctly our chimney must have become blocked with snow and ice. He told Mom to write a note to our teachers and send us to school, even though we would be late. The fresh air would do us good.

We don't know why Dad, Jimmy, and Debbie did not suffer as Mom, Jeanne, and I did.

Debbie woke up smiling and gurgling as usual and did not seem at all affected. The theory at the time was that Debbie's breathing was shallower. She was also lying further down in her crib.

Jimmy's bed was in a larger, more open space and the nearby picture window and front door would probably not have been airtight.

Why Dad did not suffer is a mystery. He was the one with all the health problems.

Mom is sure that had it not been for our crying, she would have died in her sleep. The rest of us would have eventually succumbed the same way. Jeanne and I have never before or since suffered from headaches. We didn't understand and still don't why our family was spared such a dreadful fate, but we are, indeed, grateful. Mom called our survival a miracle.

Carbon monoxide detectors are now available to be installed in all homes as even houses with modern furnaces and chimneys have malfunctioned.

*Florence Dyck is a former Mordenite* now living in the Okanagan

# Local trustee comes home inspired

# Wide ranging discussions at major conference in the U.S.

#### By Lorne Stelmach

A local school trustee came back from a major annual education conference with both inspiration and ideas.

The National School Board Association conference March 30 to April 1 in Philadelphia covered a lot of ground, and there was a lot that Western School Division trustee Dave Guenther could take away from it.

"It was so vast," said Guenther, noting aside from keynote speakers there were also between 200 and 300 breakout sessions as well.

Ideas and issues that stood out for him ranged from encouraging creativity to facing financial challenges as well as issues around safety in our schools.

He noted how many divisions can share stories and experiences around finding efficiencies but particularly with smaller school divisions.

"There was common ground because we all face budgetary constraints, and there were so many people there trying to do more with less," said Guenther.

One keynote speaker was Ken Robinson, an internationally recognized authority in creativity and innovation in education and business. He has worked with governments in Europe, Asia and the US, international agencies, Fortune 500 companies and leading cultural organizations and led a national commission on creativity, education and the economy for the UK government.

Guenther appreciated Robinson's sentiment that children are born with a deep love of learning. We don't need to fix kids, we need to fix the school. And the good news is we can. When children find out what they're good at, they improve at everything.

Guenther observed that promoting creativity in children and requiring arts programs for all students can better equip them for what is being sought now.

"I really like the theme of creativity in schools and doing more to help students be creative and double down on the arts programs," he said.

"The employers of today are looking for creativity as a work force, and this is something that hasn't been seen in times past or was rare or in certain types of jobs," he continued.

"Now this is a very prevalent thing. Employers want creative, they want soft skills of being reliable and courteous and dependable, and all those things count for so much more in today's economy, and not just the maths and science and English."

The conference also heard from Michelle Gay, who lost her daughter Josephine in the Sandy Hook School shooting tragedy. Gay joined Sandy Hook mother Alissa Parker to establish Safe and Sound Schools as a national resource for school safety to bring messages of inspiration, recovery and school safety education and advocacy.

One lesson Guenther pulled from that is "making sure when we do our lockdowns and our drills that we have the mindset that we really are preparing for something tragic that can happen here, no matter how statistically improbable.

"We have to make sure that we're aware of the gravity of what we're doing ... and know that we want to actually foster that safety mentality before tragedy hits here.

"Sandy Hook had drills, and they had lockdown procedures," said Guenther, but some things still went wrong.

"It was heart-wrenching to listen to her and how a big part of what she said was that every parent got a phone call with ambiguous information," he added, so an entire community panicked as a result. "We have to make sure we don't create chaos when first responders are trying to do their jobs."

Safety in schools overall was a major theme, Guenther noted.

"Safety in schools is big business down there, and I don't know that that's our environment or whether it should be our environment, other than safe practices," he suggested. "It's hard to look at schools with metal detectors in place and all the security and think that this is the way it should be."

He liked the idea of divisions being in contact with first responders to be aware of students who have had a traumatic event. That can mean having a greater degree of empathy and compassion even by "just letting the teacher know that a child should be handled with care."

Guenther also liked another idea of having a student advisor to the school board. The student comes to each board meeting and are part of the agenda and report, and they can be tasked with items from the board like finding out local student's opinion on



SUBMITTED PHOTO Dave Guenther standing before the famous Liberty Hall in Philadelphia.

safety. They also can give an insight into how the school is working or not from a students perspective.

"To get students to be interested was an uphill battle at the start. Now they receive several applications, in the form of an essay, each year for the role. Both the board and student found this to be a rewarding and beneficial experience," said Guenther.

Aside from the speakers and sessions, there was also an expo centre with a vast array of vendors and displays covering such areas as school buses, computer coding, substitute teacher services, astroturf, grants, architects and defense from threats.

Guenther said this experience was inspiring and refreshing, seeing the individual and collective work being done and important issues being fought for everywhere.

"This has helped shape my perspective on the important work of school boards and the amazing collaborations that can take place across divisions," he said. "I am honored to have had the opportunity to attend and have come home a more equipped board member to serve our students."

# Accident claims one life in RM of Lorne

A car accident claimed one life and sent another person to hospital Saturday.

Manitou RCMP were called out around 4 a.m. to a single vehicle rollover highway 245 west of Carman and just east of mile 43 west in the RM of Lorne.

The vehicle was going east when it went off the road and rolled several times, and the driver, a 41-year-old man from Treherne, was thrown from the vehicle and pronounced deceased on scene.

RCMP said it does not appear the driver was wearing a seat belt at the time of the collision.

Meanwhile, the passenger, a 26-year-old man also

from Treherne, was wearing his seat belt and was being treated in hospital for minor injuries.

Manitou RCMP along with a forensic collision reconstructionist continue to investigate.

### B&Es investigated

Morden police are investigating a break-in to a local business.

They were called April 8 to a business, where the suspects gained entry to the business and stole money and electronics.

In another incident April 13, police were called to

another business about another possible break-in. In this instance, there was a broken window on the front door, but the interior glass of the doorway was still secure so no one gained entry to the business. Police are continuing their investigation.

And Winkler police report that they were called April 8 by the owner of a local store about an attempted break and enter that occurred sometime during the early morning hours of April 7. It remains under investigation. **"PEOPLE ARE SO** 

HAVE SOMETHING

TO DRESS THEIR

LITTLE ONE IN."

PLEASED TO ....

# Manitoba Angel Dresses puts call out for volunteers

#### **By Ashleigh Viveiros**

After a couple year's hiatus and one more of reorganization, Manitoba Angel Dresses is back and growing.

The agency collects used wedding and bridesmaid dresses and, with the help of an army of volunteer seamstresses, transforms them for use by families coping with an infant death.

Instead of seeing their premature or stillborn child simply wrapped in a hospital blanket, Angel Dresses provides parents with a beautiful outfit to clothe them in at no cost, says Diane Monkman, who heads up the group's operations.

"People are so pleased to have that offered to them, to have something to dress their little one in," she said, adding it's one less thing a grieving family has to worry about while making plans to lay their child to rest. "We've heard horror stories of families having to go to toy departments to look for something in the doll aisle to dress their little one in. We're trying to stop that from having to happen."

Volunteers create a variety of sizes of outfits, ranging from wraps and small gowns for premature babies to larger items for fullterm newborns.

In addition to an outfit, each family also receives a blanket and a memory pouch.

"It's something they can keep to remember their little one," Monkman said.

Angel Dresses came to Manitoba in 2014 and dress donations quickly poured in. But after two busy years in which volunteers transformed nearly 400 gowns into hundreds of baby outfits, the group stalled out.

"Things were stored all over the place, in

people's homes and basements," Monkman said."We had over 300 outfits, but there was nowhere for them all to go. Nobody was contacting the funeral homes or hospitals.

"So people got disillusioned and started to drift away from it."

A year ago, Monkman helped spearhead the group's return. She and other volunteers spent 2018 reaching out to every single hospital and funeral home in Manitoba to confirm they would stock and promote the availability of outfits to families.

"Over this last year we've stopped taking in new dresses and have concentrated on reaching out" to find places for the items already made to be put to good use, she said.

"Now they're in the hands of the people who can use them."

Monkman estimates they currently stock about 95 per cent of the funeral homes and hospitals in rural Manitoba and just shy of 100 per cent of those in Winnipeg. The group has very nearly depleted their backstock and expect to once again be putting out a call for gown donations soon.

Which means they also need volunteers to help transform those dresses and renew the supply of items across Manitoba as needed.

There are currently Manitoba Angel Dresses Community Groups operating in Winnipeg, Dauphin, St. Claude, and Steinbach. Monkman would love to see that number grow so that outfits created in a given community can stay there to help local families. You don't have to know how to sew to

help—there are a range of skills needed. "We need everything and anything," Monkman said, explaining that includes crafters willing to help make bracelets, knitters and crocheters for the head coverings



#### SUPPLIED PHOTOS

A Manitoba Angel Dresses volunteer hard at work creating outfits for families who have lost an infant.

and blankets, and even people willing to help transport the items around the province. "If somebody is a truck driver who could throw a few in their truck and help us get them out there, that would be helpful too."

The group also welcomes financial donations to help cover costs as well as gifts of wool, lining, thread, and other related sewing odds and ends.

"We can never have enough," Monkman said, adding she hopes

people will think of them when they're doing their spring cleaning over the next few months.

To learn more about Manitoba Angel Dresses, check them out online at manitobaangeldresses.com, follow them on Facebook, or email info@ manitobaangeldresses.com.







Each family receives a free outfit, cap, and blanket to lay their baby to rest in, as well as a memory pouch for parents to keep.

# **Barnswallows gearing** up for annual quilt show

#### By Lorne Stelmach

The Barnswallow Quilt Guild is making final preparations for its annual show next month.

Set for May 3-5 at the Access Event Centre in Morden, the show is not only an opportunity for members to show and share their work but also a way to perhaps encourage others to take up the hobby.

Guild spokesperson Lenore Laverty noted they have a dedicated core of members who are involved with the show every year, and they like to come up with something a little different each time to appeal to people.

"And part of, in some respects, the excitement of the show is you never know how many quilts you're going to get," said Laverty. "We always do really well, and we have a beautiful venue at the Access Event Centre, so there's lots of space and people can see them very nicely."

New this year will be an exhibit of work from the Fibre Arts Network.

"That's something different for us, to have an exhibit by another organization at our show," said Laverty, suggesting the different materials may inspire local quilters to branch out a bit themselves.

Each year's show offers a special feature, which in 2018 was a bed turning. This year they are doing something similar but downsizing it with what Laverty likened to an "easel flip" where members will flip through a sampling of their small quilts.

"Last year we had a very successful

bed turning of large quilts, so this year we're focusing on small," she said. "A number of members will come and just display their small quilts and just talk about them, whether it's the technique or why they enjoy doing it."

Those presentations are scheduled for 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. on the Friday and Saturday and 2 p.m. on the Sunday.

The show will also again have on display the president's challenge of small quilts with the theme of "the view out your window."

Laverty, meanwhile, will have an additional role at this year's show as one of the featured quilters alongside her sister Kathryn Laverty Luger.

"It's really very exciting. It's a real honour to be the featured quilters together," she said, adding that "it's interesting to see all your quilts hung in one place because you never see them that way."

While visiting the show, people will be able to stop by the guild boutique, which will be selling a variety of notions, books, and finished goods. There will also be a rainbow auction with proceeds going to the Boundary Trails Health Centre for women's health programs and to South Central Cancer Resource.

With the guild currently at about 60 members, Laverty expects there could potentially be close to 300 items on display.

"Quite a few people come from Winnipeg and across the Pembina Valley or even further away," she noted.

Members wishing to enter a quilt in



**VOICE FILE PHOTO** Quilts of all shapes, sizes, and styles will be on display at the Access Event Centre in Morden May 3-5.



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Out for the weekly meeting of the Barnswallow Quilt Guild recently were Lenore Laverty, Diane Craig, Jean Motheral (seated) and Marty Penner. The group are hard at work preparing for their annual guilt show next month.

the show are to drop them off at Quilters' Den April 30 or May 1 between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. with a registration form, which is available at the website below.

Show hours are Friday, May 3, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., Saturday, May 4, 10 a.m.

to 5 p.m., and Sunday, May 5, noon to 5 p.m.. Admission is \$5.

Check the website at barnswallowquilters.wordpress.com or e-mail mordenquilters@gmail.com for more information.

# **Gardiner named to Research MB Board**

A Morden entrepreneur has been appointed to the Research Manitoba Board.

The provincial government last month announced the appointment of seven new members to the board, including Earl Gardiner.

Gardiner is the founder and executive chairman of RANA Respiratory Care Group. In 2016, he also founded a new Manitobabased digital health technological start-up company, Cerebra Health, which uses new technology considered by leading sleep researchers to be one of the most significant breakthroughs in sleep diagnostics in decades.

He is a former board member for the Life Science Association of Manitoba and is a current member of the City of Morden's economic development board.

Also appointed to the board was Tracey Maconachie, Dr. Rashid Ahmed, Doreen Bilodeau, Dr. Hani El-Gabalawy, Luis Escobar, and Andrea Legary. They join returning members Dr. Digvir Jayas and Christopher Johnson.

"We are pleased to welcome these new and returning members of the board," said Growth, Enterprise and Trade Minister Blaine Pedersen. "Under the new board's leadership, we look forward to ensuring Manitoba is on the leading edge of innovative, value-added research and development."

The minister thanked the outgoing chair and board members for their commitment and service to the province.

These appointments are part of the Manitoba government's efforts to continue to refresh the agencies, boards and commissions of the province, ensuring that Manitobans continue to be represented in these important positions by highly qualified and enthusiastic individuals, the minister noted.

14 The Winkler Morden Voice Thursday, April 18, 2019



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# **Animal ambassadors highlight Raptor Fest**





Next info session:

SASSINIBOINE

April 25

A Red-Tailed Hawk spread its wings and took flight at the 2019 Raptor Festival in La Riviere Saturday morning. Visitors were able to get up close to a number of raptors including a barn owl, a hawk and a Kestrel. In addition to guided tours and a presentation by Dr. Christian Artuso, Manitoba program manager for Bird Studies Canada, there were also a variety of displays. The annual festival in recent years has drawn around 700 people to the Pembina Valley at what is a peak migration time.



PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE



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Learn more about Assiniboine's eight-month Police Studies certificate at our next free information session. On April 25, visit our Victoria Avenue East campus in Brandon.

To register, go to **assiniboine.net/infonight**.

assiniboine.net

# April 22<br/>CouncilProtect<br/>our Species

# celebrate Earth Dav

### Earth Day is a celebration of the planet that people, plants and animals call home. First celebrated in 1970, Earth Day was established to demonstrate support for environmental protection, and events are held each year on April 22. It is now coordinated

globally by the Earth Day Network and celebrated in

People may wonder what they can do at a local

level to make Earth Day a larger part of their lives.

Here are just a few great ways to embrace Earth Day.

If conditions are prohibitive, carpool to cut down on

traffic. The fewer cars on the road, the less emissions

• Make it a point to bike or walk to school or work.

more than 193 countries.

in the air.

• Invest in a reusable coffee cup or water bottle. This can reduce the amount of trash that ultimately ends up in the environment.

• Connect with nature by turning off electronics for the day and getting outside. Head to a park or nature trail and immerse yourself in the great outdoors.

• Do something as simple as switching paper statements and bills to e-bills and online invoices. This reduces reliance on trees for new sources of paper.

• Grow some edibles in your home garden or even on a windowsill. This is a fun, eco-friendly way to control the foods you consume at home and a great way to save money as well.

• Reusing and recycling does not just pertain to water bottles and aluminum cans. Find out ways to repurpose or share items with others so they get more mileage. Also, make use of sharing services like an online community sharing marketplace.

· Volunteer your time at an organization that has an environmental focus. Or suggest a task with an eco-friendly slant, like picking up trash from a beach, to a local community group or club.



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

# **Do Recycle:**

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

## **Don't Recycle:**

- Products containing multiple material types packaged together, like most coffee pods or toys containing both plastic and metal
- Takeout containers or pizza boxes with food remnants
- Household hazardous waste containers

### **Recycle Facts: Did you know?**

- When you recycle just one aluminum can, you save enough energy to power a 100-watt light bulb for 20 hours or to listen to a full album on your iPod!
- When you use recycled paper instead of "virgin" paper, you are contributing to saving 7,000 gallons of water per ton of paper produced. Save water not just trees...

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### **Environmental Hauling Services.**

# The basics of reducing and reusing

As more and more people, businesses and governments have embraced ecofriendly lifestyles and practices, it's never been easier for men and women to make a positive impact on the planet.

One of the simplest yet most effective ways to make such an impact is to look for ways to reduce waste, which often involves reusing materials and products that otherwise might be discarded. According to the United States Environmental Protection Agency, producing new items requires substantial amounts of materials and energy. Such products may require the extraction of raw materials from the earth before they can be fabricated and transported to places where they will ultimately be sold. By resolving to reuse products, consumers can greatly reduce the impact their purchases have on the planet.

#### Why reduce and reuse?

A reduce and reuse lifestyle preserves natural resources and reduces waste, but there are additional benefits to such a lifestyle as well.

• Reduces pollution: Harvesting new raw materials oftentimes contributes to pollution of our airways and waterways. By reusing items, consumers can decrease demand for new products, thereby reducing the pollution created when harvesting the resources necessary to produce those items.

• Finances: Reducing and reusing has financial perks, namely the low prices of recycled items compared to brand new items. In addition, reusing everyday items, such as coffee mugs, instead of buying new items each day can add up to sizable savings over time. Repurposing clothing, such as using once fashionable T-shirts as workout gear, also can be a great way to save money.

#### How to reduce and reuse

Just like there are myriad benefits to reducing and reusing, there many different ways for consumers to reduce waste and reuse items.

• Shop for previously used items. Whether consumers are shopping for items for their homes or for new wardrobes, their options abound in regard to previously used items. Homeowners can work with contractors who have experience in working with reclaimed materials, while also visiting antique shops or used furniture stores when furnishing their homes. When clothes shopping, consumers can visit consignment shops that sell like-new items at reduced prices.

• Pay attention to packaging. One of the biggest contributors to unnecessary consumer waste is packaging. Packaging is often made of raw materials, and heavily packaged items therefore require the use of more raw materials than items with less packaging. Packaging typically find its way into landfills, so consumers looking to reduce can favor items with less packaging when making their purchases and/or look for items packaged with reused or recycled materials.

• Maintain existing products. Reusing items does not always require repurposing them. By taking care of their existing products and possessions, consumers can get more mileage out of them, reusing them for far longer than they could if the products were not better maintained.

Reducing waste and reusing items go hand in hand. Embracing a lifestyle that emphasizes reducing and reusing can have a significant, long-lasting and positive impact on the planet.



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# Yazidi speaker overcomes hate

### Diversitas hears of persecution, personal journey

#### By Lorne Stelmach

Nafiya Naso spreads a simple but deeply held message of overcoming hate with love.

Speaking in Morden last Wednesday on the persecution faced by her Yazidi people, Naso noted how even she had to face up to the hate that she knew growing up in a world where that was all she knew as a child.

"I know for me, like 20 years ago, I absolutely hated Christians, I hated Jews, I hated Muslims, I hated everybody ... these groups of people, I didn't see them as human beings," Naso said following her presentation as part of the Diversitas speaker series. "And now, coming here and being helped by people in these communities ... I think the message is just the message of love and peace and kindness. You spread that, and it overpowers the message of hate for sure.

"Back home, all we were taught was how to hate and how to kill," she said. "Being here and having an opportunity to grow up in a great country like Canada, I think the message of peace and love, and you just spread that ... and over time, aspects change, and people change."

The Yazidis are a mostly Kurmanji speaking minority ethnoreligious group, indigenous to a region of northern Mesopotamia in northern Iraq, northern Syria and southeastern Turkey.

Many Yazidis consider Yazidism both an ethnic and a religious identity. Their religion, Yazidism, is also called Sharfadin by Yazidis. It is a monotheistic religion and has elements of ancient Mesopotamian religions.

Naso is one of more than 1,200 Yazidis in Canada and almost 400 in Winnipeg, where she is a Yazidi social worker with Jewish Child and Family Services.

She was just a child of age two when her family fled to a refugee camp in Syria after having faced extreme persecution in their homeland of Iraq.

"It was mostly hiding during the day and walking at night," she recalled of when they fled for their lives and eventually got to the camp where they lived in a tent for about eight years.

Life got no better however, as many of them were beaten and forced by Muslim extremists to study and accept their beliefs, but Naso noted this was nothing new for her people.

Their faith is an oral tradition, she said, noting they believe in one God but they also have a tradition of seven angels with the head being the peacock angel, which is a messenger between God and man, but Muslim extremists view it as the devil, she suggested.

"We are considered non-believers and infidels because Muslim extremists view us as such," she said.

"Seven hundred years ago, we used to number over seven million, and today there's just under one million Yazidis worldwide," she noted.

"This is because of forced conver-

sion, because of persecutions, genocide ... this genocide is nothing new to the Yazidi community, it's just ongoing," said Naso. "Women and children are still held captive, and people are struggling in refugee camps. They can't go back to their homes because their homes have been destroyed ... and really, the Iraqi government is not doing anything, so everybody is simply just waiting to leave Iraq."

Sadly, little has changed still for many Yazidis, as an estimated 600,000 were attacked by ISIS in 2014 with women and children being abducted and villages destroyed.

As for her journey, the United Nations eventually began the process of getting Yazidis to safety, and Naso's family was brought to Winnipeg in 1999 and then spent about two years here in Morden.

"People didn't do that for one another where we came from," she observed, noting how much the community helped them settle and adjust to life here. She is now married, having sponsored her husband to come to Canada.

She stressed that Canada has made a difference on the world stage. In 2016, about 1,200 people were airlifted from camps in Iraq with about 250 of them eventually coming to Winnipeg.

Naso is involved in the efforts now with another 10 families and about 55 people being settled here in Manitoba last March, but she stressed there is still much more to be done.

"That's a small drop in the bucket," said Naso.

"We hope more will be done to bring in more people," she said, while prais-



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE Nafiya Naso is among about 1,200 Yazidis in Canada.

ing Canada's efforts as she suggested "not many countries can stand up on the world stage and say we have saved people from genocide."

In the meantime, Naso stressed it is important for her to keep raising awareness and building dialogue through forums such as Diversitas.

"Not many people know who the Yazidis are ... People are often shocked when I say it's one of the oldest religions," she said.

"People are starting to speak up more ... men, women and children around the world who are speaking up and educating people. I find it's a responsibility of each and every Yazidi around the world to be doing the same thing."

The next speaker in the Diversitas series is to be Jagmeet Singh, leader of the federal New Democratic Party, speaking on Sikhs in Canada. A firm date was not set.



# t's Dance

Students at Danceworks had an opportunity for some professional feedback Saturday at the Bravo Dance Festival at the Kenmor Theatre in Morden. The local dancers performed and had workshop time on dance techniques with adjudicator Liz Markwart, who touched on styles including ballet, contemporary, hip hop, jazz and swing. "We had a great time with the adjudicator, who did some great work going through the various dance numbers," said Richard Klassen.

# **Citizen of distinction named**

### Sue Nelson to be honoured by Morden Area Foundation

#### By Lorne Stelmach

Sue Nelson will reluctantly be in the spotlight next month thanks to the Morden Area Foundation.

She will be this year's recipient of the organization's citizen of distinction award, and although it can be nice to be recognized, Nelson would seem to prefer being in the background.

"I'm the sort of person who just likes to hang out in the kitchen and wash the dishes," said Nelson. "I'm still stunned ... it's totally overwhelming."

Nominated by Freda Lumgair and Edith Lovatt, Nelson has been very much involved since their family moved to Morden 30 some years ago when they purchased the Morden Pharmacy, which later became Shoppers Drug Mart.

She was a girl guide leader for over 18 years and was honored with provincial awards for her service, and she

has also been involved with the St. Paul's United Church including being a lead fundraiser for mission and service and outreach.

Nelson served on the Many Hands Community Resource Centre board from 2012 to 2014, and upon retirement has also volunteered at the Morden Thrift Store.

She was on the South Central Cancer Resource board starting in 2014

and served as co-chair during her tenure. She took a lead roll in establishing the fashion show and was also instrumental in creating a fund at the Morden Area Foundation to assist the operations and programs.

Nelson now is a board member with Habitat for Humanity Morden/ Winkler chapter and

has taken on a lead role for fundraising.

In addition, one of her hobbies is quilting, but it is not just enough to sit at home and quilt. She joined the Barnswallow quilt guild and has been involved with the annual spring show, co-chairing various portions and now in her third year as show co-chair.

What pleases Nelson the most is if she can play a role in perhaps spurring other people to get involved as well.

"When you start out, other people come on board too ... different groups of people come together and get a job done," she said.

"Nothing I've done has been in isolation. It's been people coming and

helping me and saying that's a good idea, I can do this little piece of it. That's been the greatest thing, that other people can have that vision too." She also is just so thankful for what Morden has meant to her family that she is motivated to give back.

"This is such a great area, a communityminded area and a gen-

erous area. It's so special to be able to live here ... and I just feel it's a good thing to give back to the community," she said.

"I've always found that you get back much more than you put into it," she concluded. "Through my volunteering, I've made fabulous friends. I've



SUBMITTED PHOTO Sue Nelson will be honoured at a

May 26 reception. made great relationships through my volunteering, and I've been able to do all kinds of things that I normally wouldn't be able to do. Sometimes you get pushed out of your comfort zone to do things, and you rise to the occasion and find out you can do these things."

The citizen of distinction award reception will be held Sun., May 26 from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Morden Legion Hall with the Winkler Morden Coop as the main sponsor for the event.

# Firm supports safety in Winkler

**"I'VE ALWAYS** 

FOUND THAT

**MUCH MORE** 

INTO IT."

YOU GET BACK

THAN YOU PUT

### Giving away yellow safety vests for cyclists, walkers

#### **By Lorne Stelmach**

An employee's close call helped SWM in Winkler come up with a way for them to help mark World Day for Safety at Work April 28.

The company also has a week where they focus on safety and sustainability at SWM, and they also wanted to do something in the community.

They saw an opportunity for a project after an employee had a close encounter with a cyclist on his way to work early one morning.

"With that, we thought it's kind of negative, let's move it to a positive," said Denis Magotiaux, straw purchasing manager for SWM. "We thought what we would do was help make people aware that this could be a danger with cyclists and walkers when it's dark."

The company now has 75 high visibility vests to give away to anybody who would like one, and it was first come, first serve starting this week.

"All they have to do is come to our location here at 340 Airport Drive," said Magotiaux.

"It's a community involvement project, and we're also trying to help make the roads a little safer for the cyclists and the walkers especially," he continued.

"The other thing we would like to do is challenge other businesses in Winkler and the area to make sure that their employees are safe, not only at work but on their way to work and on their way home from work," he added, "especially if they happen to be cyclists or walkers. Make sure they do have the proper safety and high vi-



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE Denis Magotiaux with one of the yellow safety vests he is ready to hand out to any Winklerite.

sion clothing to get them there safely." in Winkler any time during their If interested, you can stop in at SWM working hours from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.

# Funding supports newcomers

### Regional Connections, Segue receive financial boosts **By Lorne Stelmach**

Two area programs are benefitting from a provincial investment of \$3.1 million for programs that support newcomers and services ranging from settlement and language to employment and community supports.

Regional Connections and Segue Career Options were among 17 organizations that received funding that arises from the reinvestment of revenue generated by Manitoba Provincial Nominee Program fees.

The province had introduced changes to the immigration nominee program to eliminate a backlog in processing applications and fast-track nominations, and it set a new \$500 application fee for skilled workers and existing \$2,500 application fees for businesses with the goal to reinvest that to help immigrants and refugees integrate and settle in the province.

"We want to make rural immigration successful," Morden Winkler MLA Cameron Friesen said Friday in announcing \$111,190 in funding to Regional Connections to support south central immigrant services.

The province continues to grow largely because of immigration, noted Friesen.

"In many ways, it has become one of the leading programs in Canada," he said.

"We know we've got challenges in this area in respect of wanting to move people to these communities.

We need the labour force. Our communities are growing. We are a natural economic hub here."

Steve Reynolds, executive director of Regional Connections, noted one key advance for them will be having people be able to access services like language classes sooner, as up to now federal funding required people to have permanent resident status.

"It will have a significant impact on clients for sure ... people who will now be able to access services who couldn't before," he suggested. "Now they'll be able to come as soon as they arrive in the community."

Meanwhile, Friesen also presented \$101,303 in funding to Segue Career Options to support job education and mentoring services for people facing barriers to employment.

"These supports are essential in our community because without this kind of a program, there isn't that kind of expertise to help get people from where they are to where they want to be," said Friesen.

"We understand how important these programs are ... we know often times people face barriers," he said. "It's a program that works and has been demonstrated to work."

The provincial nomnee program has made significant contributions to Manitoba's economy since its introduction in 1998, Friesen noted.

The program celebrated its 20th year in 2018 and saw the highest number of nominations to date, the highest amount of nominees with jobs and one of the highest levels of rural immigration.

The province issued 5,207 total nominations across all program streams. In 2019, Manitoba is able to select up to 6,000 new provincial nominees and their families. With 250 spaces



PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Morden Winkler MLA Cameron Friesen made the funding announcements Friday with staff from Regional Connections and Segue Career Options.



workers, industries such as manufac- growing labour demand.

allocated specifically for semi-skilled turing and transportation can meet

# Microloan program helps immigrants achieve their dreams

#### **By Ashleigh Viveiros**

When Olukayode Jegede moved his family to Canada two years ago, he knew it was going to be a timely and expensive process to earn the right to practise his chosen profession in his new home.

Educated as a laboratory technician in Nigeria, Jegede had to undertake extensive training in Canada before being certified to work as one here.

The Swan River transplant turned to Windmill Microlending for help.

"Funding would have been a major

limitation considering what it takes to settle down with my family of four," says Jegede. "Thanks to Windmill's loan program, I was able to access a loan of \$7,500.

"I just passed my certification exam in February," he says, noting it would have likely taken him much longer without the low-interest loan giving him a head start."Now I can go back to what I used to be before I came to Canada. It's what I wanted to be.

"I am grateful for the opportunity that Windmill gave me to pursue my dream."

Stories like that are what have kept Windmill going for the past 14 years.

The charity, which offers low-interest loans to skilled immigrants and refugees, recently increased the funds available by 50 per cent. The maximum loan since the agency's inception has been \$10,000, but now applicants can apply for up to \$15,000.

"The costs of licensing and reaccreditation are increasing each year, and we need to keep pace in order to offer newcomers the support they need," says CEO Claudia Hepburn. "Many internationally-trained professionals face Canadian licensing costs in the tens of thousands and need more from us."

Over half of Windmill's clients are in health care, a field that includes some of the highest costs for training, exams, and licensing, notes Windmill's communications director Mary Ellen Armstrong.

Internationally trained dentists, for example, may require anywhere from \$40,000 to \$100,000. Pharmacists and physicians may expect to pay be-

# Sportsærecreation INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN Belgian Bull' coming to Morden

#### By Lorne Stelmach

The man known in the ring as the Belgian Bull is alright with being a villain.

It's all part of the professional wrestling world that is sports entertainment, says Robin Lekime.

"Even though I'm one of those guys they love to hate ... the fans are very receptive; they're really the diehard fans," said Lekime, who will be among the headliners when the current Canadian Wrestling's Elite tour comes to Morden April 25 at the Access Event Centre.

A Spanish giant, a Mexican daredevil, an Austrian leg breaker and more are in store for local fans as part of the

10th anniversary tour of the CWE, which runs the most live events in one year in North America outside of any other company other than the WWE.

The tour began March 26 and goes until May 2 with 38 events spanning Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, British Columbia and Ontario, and it is featuring wrestlers representing seven different countries including Belgium, where Lekime got his start in 1999 on a local carnival circuit.

"When I was 12, I watched it on TV ... it made me realize I wanted to start doing that when I was older," recalled Lekime.

Soon, his wrestling took him to neighbouring countries including France, Holland and Germany, and he has now brought his talents to North America.

"So far, so good. I'm still doing it and still having fun doing it."

Lekime said there are a number of things he likes about professional wrestling as a career.

"I'm very independent, and I can travel a lot. I meet a lot of different people, see different countries," he said.

"I get paid for something that I love to do," he added, "and it's a sport where you can have a lot of creativity in it."

Professional wrestling may be in large part entertainment but it is also very athletic, Lekime suggested.

"I was never very athletic until I discovered wrestling, and that's when I started training and doing sports. Before that, my dad tried to get me into soccer, but it never piqued my interest," he noted.

It is also very demanding, he added, noting there is not only the training that goes into it but also the time involved for everything from travel to television interviews and more.

"There's a lot more involved than that 15 or 20 minutes that you're in the ring."

> Lekime also said the CWE is attractive to him because it is more substantial than some other lesser circuits.

> "It's the fact that these are big tours, it's not just a five day tour like some companies do," he said.

"Also it's a bit more old school, traditional style of wrestling here in Canada, that is appealing to me ... a dieing breed perhaps. There's not that many around anymore."

As for the Belgian Bull, he has a variety of signature moves in the ring including a dozen different suplexes, which involve lifting the opponent and bridging or rolling to slam the opponent on their back, and one of his finishing moves is known as the bulldriver.

"I've got many different styles I can do. I'm pretty adept at technical wrestling. If I want to, I can fly, but it's not really something I like doing," he added.

"You have to be adaptable ... I've been all over the world, so you work against many different opponents ... in front of different crowds that react to different things."

The current CWE tour is headlined by a veteran name from the mat wars. Many fans will recall Psicosis from television with World Wrestling Entertainment and World Champion-



High flying Psicosis and Robin Lekime (aka Belgian Bull) are part of the Canadian Wrestling's Elite lineup

ship Wrestling.

It was in 1995 that Psicosis was recruited alongside fellow Mexican high flyer named Rey Misterio to introduce their high flying, high risk style to American audiences, inspiring a lucha libre revolution in the U.S. Wrestling fans will also see the return of CWE champion Danny Duggan and the return of the lady wrestlers. They are joined by an international line-up of talent, many of which are making their first visit to Canada as part of this record-breaking tour.

Those at ringside will get their first look at a roster from multiple European nations including Germany's Norman Harras, Austria's Martin Pain and seven-foot giant Alex Ace of Spain.

Doors open in Morden at 6:30 p.m. with matches starting at 7 p.m. VIP first access tickets are \$23 with general admission of \$18 in advance or \$21



at the door. Advance tickets are available at: Giant Tiger, and you can also purchase tickets online at cwetickets. com.

### "I GET PAID FOR SOMETHING THAT I LOVE TO DO," HE ADDED, "AND IT'S A SPORT WHERE YOU CAN HAVE A LOT OF CRE-ATIVITY IN IT. "

# **Pembina Valley Orioles optimistic for 2019**

#### By Lorne Stelmach

There will be high hopes for the Pembina Valley Orioles as they prepare for the 2019 Manitoba Junior Baseball League season.

Those at the helm of the team are anticipating being able to field a veteran-laden lineup when the campaign opens next month.

"We're probably going to have a good core of our guys back ... we lost only one actually," said Sheldon Bergman, who holds down a number of roles including manager as well as helping with the coaching.

The preparations kick off with the tryout weekend at Buhler Field in Morden May 4 and 5 from one to four p.m. each day.

Midget level players are welcome to be part of the tryouts in addition to junior age players.

"Based on last year, we could have 20 to 30 in camp for sure, if not more," said Bergman.

It was particularly exciting for them that there could be potential for strong leadership if a majority of last year's lineup returns.

"I'm going to say we're likely going

to have basically our starting lineup back from last year. It's exciting ... and we're getting some other players coming in who I think are going to help our team," he said.

"I think we should be competitive, and we're looking forward to a great season," he continued. "It makes a big difference having that experience, of course. Our team gelled well together last year, and I think it's going to continue this year."

As for what they will be watching for at the tryouts, Bergman suggested "we'll be looking for leadership … consistency is always a big one for us as well.

"We're looking for an exciting team. We're looking for a team that really wants to show up and play ball every night for a full seven innings."

Returning as coaches this year will be Jim Odlum and Phil Hildebrand, noted Bergman.

The Orioles finished the 2018 regular season in sixth place at 10 & 14 and 10 games back of the regular season champion St. James As. The Orioles then bowed out of the playoffs by falling to the Carillon Sultans in two games. They are scheduled o



The Orioles finished 2018 in sixth place and bowed out of the playoffs by falling to the Carillon Sultans.

begin the regular season Fri., May 10 in Winnipeg against the St. Boniface Legionaires followed by a Sun., May

12 doubleheader with Carillon. The home opener is Wed., May 15 with the rival Altona Bisons.

# **Twisters take on Canucks**

### Pembina Valley looks to cap off successful season with title

#### By Lorne Stelmach

The Pembina Valley Twisters are taking on the St. James Jr. Canucks for the Manitoba Major Junior Hockey League championship.

The Twisters, who captured the regular season banner, earned their spot in the final when they closed out their best of seven semi-final in convincing fashion last Tuesday in blanking the Stonewall Jets 6-0 to take the series in six games.

Travis Klassen got the 27 save shutout to backstop Pembina Valley to win while they fired 41 shots at the Stonewall goal, and the Twisters went 1 for 2 on their powerplays while killing off five penalties.

Wyatt Sabourin opened and closed

out the scoring with markers in the first and third periods, while the Twisters put the game away in the middle frame with goals by Braeden Beernaerts, Brendan Keck, Derek Wood and Dylan Dacquay.

Earlier, the Twisters had eliminated the Charleswood Hawks with a four game quarter-final sweep, and a balanced attack has been leading the way for Pembina Valley with a number of players contributing on offence.

Leading the way so far for the Twisters are Beernaerts with five goals and 10 points and Jeremie Goderis with four goals and 10 points through 10 games.

Right behind them are Travis Penner with four goals and nine points then T.J. Matuszewski and Wood with two goals and nine points as well.

Klassen, meanwhile, has played all 10 games in goal and was third among goaltenders with a 2.16 goals against average and .934 save percentage.

The Twisters will have to overcome the third place Canucks, who ad-



PHOTO BY LANA MEIER/VOICE

Jeremie Goderis follows the play in the Stonewall crease in game six in Stonewall. The 6-0 shutout by the Twisters advanced Pembina Valley to the MMJHL final.

vanced from a tough seven game series with the Transcona Railer Express, who took 2-0 and 3-1 leads before the Canucks came from behind to win the final three games.

The Twisters took four of the five regular season games with the Canucks, and the complete schedule for the best of seven final was not released at press time but it was scheduled to kick off Wednesday with the result not available at press time.

# Parkland students take on Robin Hood

#### By Lorne Stelmach

Junior high students at Parkland Elementary in Winkler are putting on a classic swashbuckling adventure for their annual production.

The school is presenting The Somewhat True Tale of Robin Hood April 25-26 at the school, and the Grade 7 and 8 students involved are having a lot of fun with the usual array of characters including Robin Hood,

Lady Marian, Prince John and the Sheriff of Nottingham.

Max Wilson, who plays the sheriff, really likes "how we over-reacts about everything and how he's just so evil."

"He'll go evil then be nice," Rylan Hiebert said of his Prince John character. "My favorite part

about this character is the fact he can be very different in his personalities, so he can change the way he reacts very quickly."

Playing Lady Marian, Ryanne Shep-

herd likes one of the little twists to her role.

"I like how she is very outgoing and dramatic and has a very odd obsession with skin conditions," she observed.

Raavi Maur, of course, enjoys getting to be the hero of the story.

"He's pretty egotistical, so that goes into lots of comedy," he said of his Robin Hood role, "but he's on the right path."

> In addition to playing a secondary role, Chelsea Thiessen also serves as narrator, so she is busy throughout the play.

"I'm in every scene but two ... I'm in pretty much everything."

Teacher Melissa Grenier noted they usually switch between a musical and a drama each

year for the play.

**"GOOD TRIUMPHS** 

OVER EVIL. IT'S

A FUN, CLASSIC

STORY ... AND IT'S

VERY COMEDIC."

The production in total involves 33 cast members plus at least another eight or so crew members, but other students and staff also lend support in a variety of ways, she noted.



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Rehearsing a scene from The Somewhat True Tales of Robin Hood are Raavi Maur, Chelsea Thiessen, Ryanne Shepherd, Max Wilson and Rylan Hiebert

"It takes the whole school to put a production like this together," said Grenier.

"Good triumphs over evil. It's a fun, classic story ... and it's very comedic," she said, noting for example a method of torture used in the production is a singer.

"We've been practicing since January, so the kids have put a lot of hard work into it to make the show comes together. They've been having lots of fun doing lots of different things with it."

### > MICROLOAN, FROM PG. 20

tween \$20,000 and \$35,000.

"We also deal with engineers, IT professionals, truck drivers, hair dressers—anyone, really, who needs a Canadian credential to work," Armstrong says.

"For a lot of our clients, once they come to the country and they get settled, often many of them have to take what's called a survival job ... to make end's meet," she says, pointing to taxi drivers with PhDs as an example.

"Even though they're skilled and they have all this training and experience, coming up with the cash to pay for Canadian credentials can be a huge barrier," Armstrong says, explaining that newcomers lack a Canadian credit history and so often struggle to access mainstream forms of credit. "That's where we come in."

Since 2005, Windmill has helped over 4,000 immigrants restart their careers in Canada, often doubling and tripling their income, on average, by the time their loan is repaid. The agency has a repayment rate of 97.5 per cent.

The small amount of interest generated helps Windmill issue loans to others. They also receive support funding from various levels of government alongside donations from private individuals, businesses, and charitable foundations.

This year they expect to issue loans to over 1,000 clients across the nation.

It's an opportunity Jegede urges more immigrants to pursue.

"I see a lot of people coming here and some of them drop their career and have to do something else," he says, noting many fear the cost and time it takes to get certified. "But I encourage people to go for your dreams. I think that's what Canada is all about. You can achieve whatever you want here for yourself and your family."

For details on the loan program, head to windmillmicrolending.org.

# **Ironfist brings home honours**



#### SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Winkler Ironfist Martial Arts Academy competed at the annual NextGen Jujitsu competition in Winnipeg recently, and its competitors did very well with four competitors in four different weight classes. Dallas Penner earned two silver medals, Ed Thiessen had a silver and a bronze, Gabriel Ardillo earned two silver and Artem Ivanov came home with two gold. Pictured are Dallas Penner, Ed Thiessen, Gabriel Ardillo, Artem Ivanov and instructor Wolfgang Schaefer.

# **Agriculture** Animal rights activism is big business

#### **By Harry Siemens**

Animal rights activism is big business, with prominent groups in the United States bringing in more than \$500 million annually.

Hannah Thompson-Weeman, vice president of communications with Animal Agriculture Alliance, sees the mission of the non-profit organization being to bridge a communication gap between farm and fork.

The AAA dedicates a lot of their time and resources to monitoring animal rights activist organizations and has done so since 1987.

"So an essential part of that is paying attention to the groups out there who are spreading a lot of myths and misinformation about animal agriculture," she said.

"We know they are very strategic, very savvy and often very well funded. Animal rights groups in the US are bringing in to the tune of \$500 million annually, and, as we know, they're using those funds most of the time for lobbying efforts and campaigns and negative work against animal agriculture, rather than any efforts on the ground to help animals."

In many cases, she said it might shock the public which organizations are working against animal agriculture.

"They dedicate a lot of their resources to attacking animal agriculture and encouraging people not to eat meat because these are animal rights organizations, not animal welfare,"Thompson-Weeman said.

"That's a fundamental distinction. These organizations believe that animals should be afforded the same rights as people, and that means we can't use them for food, for transportation or for really any purpose.

"They believe that's unacceptable. Such groups like the humane society here in the US, groups like Mercy For Animals, very active in the U.S. and Canada. Even a group like ASPCA (American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals), that again, people tend to think that they are doing the right thing, and they are very active in dogs and cats, but they also have a farm animal division that promotes, again, veganism and is very negative towards modern animal agriculture."

She said the AAA has profiles on over 100 of these organizations.

There are groups of all different sizes, groups of all different tactics, but she suggested they are working together, and their goal is the same, and that's to put farmers and ranchers out of business.

"And they're intentionally very misleading, realizing that just telling people 'we want you to go vegan' doesn't work for them, because people like eating our products," said Thompson-Weeman.

"The products of animal agriculture are nutritious; they're delicious. People want to support farmers and ranchers and want to eat milk, meat, poultry and eggs. So these groups are intentionally



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Hannah Thompson-Weeman (second from left), who is vice president of communications Animal Agriculture Alliance, said animal rights activism is big business with prominent groups in the United States bringing in more than \$500 million annually.

being misleading about what they want. They intentionally are targeting certain production practices because they want people to think that their goal is animal welfare, but it's not."

She said when you look at some of these organizations through their websites and the staff that they have, it's clear what their goal is - to end animal agriculture and everything that they do they view as a step towards that mission.

"A lot of these groups are attacking farmers on different platforms. So it's not just animal welfare or animal rights that they're promoting, we're seeing these same groups look at the environmental impact of animal agriculture and trying to target either individual farms or eating meat as a whole, saying that it's detrimental to the environment and the best thing people can do to reduce their footprint is to stop eating meat," she suggested.

"And that's despite the fact livestock in the US is less than 4 per cent of greenhouse gas emissions. There are a lot of other things that would be much more impactful, but the level of conversation about animal agriculture is so outsized because of activist groups intentionally trying to drive that conversa-

#### tion."

Antibiotic use is another example. Some groups are attacking farmers' ability to use antibiotics to manage animal health and animal welfare, and it's because that's a valuable tool farmers need.

She said these groups attack the efficiency; any production practice that allows farmers to be more efficient is going to come under fire by these groups because that's what they want. They want to find any way to make production less efficient, drive up costs and try to put farmers out of business that way as well.

Thompson-Weeman said it's not just consumers giving money to these groups. While they might attempt to position themselves, again, as speaking for the end consumer, they're getting a lot of funding from private foundations.

"One, in particular, the Open Philanthropy Project, has a lot of funding from one of the founders of Facebook. So obviously there's a lot of money there ... to fund their campaigns, specifically pressure campaigns on restaurant and retail brands to adopt certain policies."

# et inspired > MEAL IDEAS



Serves 4 1 recipe Stir-Together Flatbread and Pizza Dough (see below) or 1 pound frozen pizza or bread dough, thawed All-purpose flour, for sprinkling

8 kale leaves

Olive oil, for brushing and drizzling

8 ounces cooked and crumbled chorizo, Portuguese or other spicy sausage 4 new potatoes, cooked and sliced thinly 1/2 cup chopped green onion (about 6 green onions, white and light green parts) Coarse black pepper

Divide the dough into four equal parts and press or roll each piece into an 8-inch circle. Sprinkle flour on two large baking sheets and place two rounds of dough on each sheet. Prepare a hot fire on one side of your grill for indirect cooking. Oil a perforated grill rack and place over direct heat.

Brush the kale with olive oil. Grill leaves for 1 minute on each side, or until slightly charred and softened. Quickly trim off the bottom of the stalk and strip the leaves from the stems. Finely chop the leaves and set aside. To grill directly on the grill grate, brush one side of each pizza with olive oil and place, oiled side down, on the direct heat side. Grill for 1 to 2 minutes, or until you see the dough starting to bubble. Brush the top side with olive oil and flip each pizza, using tongs, onto a baking sheet. Quickly brush with more olive oil, then spoon on a fourth of the sliced potato and grilled kale. Sprinkle with sausage and green onion. Drizzle with olive oil and season with pepper. Using a grill spatula, place each pizza on the indirect side of the fire. Cover and grill for 4 or 5 minutes until the kale has slightly wilted and the topping is hot. Serve hot

# Kale, Potato and **Chorizo Pizza**

Stir-Together Flatbread and Pizza Dough Makes 1 pound dough for 4 individual pizzas or flatbreads

- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 11/4 teaspoons salt
- 2 teaspoons instant or bread-machine yeast 1 cup lukewarm water
- 1 teaspoon honey
- 1 tablespoon olive oil

In a medium bowl, stir the flour, salt and yeast together. Combine the water, honey and olive oil and stir into the flour mixture. Cover the bowl with plastic wrap and let sit at room temperature (72 F) until doubled in bulk, about 1 hour. Cover and refrigerate for up to 3 days. Bring to room temperature before rolling out.

17

21

| take | <b>a break</b><br>> GAMES |
|------|---------------------------|
|------|---------------------------|



### 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!

Level: Interr



### CROSSWORD **CLUES ACROSS** 1. A way to wound 5. Hormone secreted by the pituitary gland (abbr.)8. Shows the world 11. Decided 13. Indigenous person of NE Thailand 14. Dough made from corn flour

55

59

- 15. Honors
- **16. Political commentator Coulter**
- 17. Expresses pleasure
- 18. Heavy clubs
- 20. Defunct phone company
- 21. Algonquian language
- 22. Salts
- 25. Act of the bank
- 30. Danced
- 31. Drummer Weinberg
- 32. Small goose
- 33. Helps evade
- 38. Certified public accountant
- 41. Periods of time
- 43. Kids' book character
- 45. Type of beer
- 47. Ancient kingdom near Dead Sea
- 49. A way to attack
- 50. Talk radio personality Margery
- 55. Whale ship captain
- 56. Request
- 57. Large underground railstation in Paris
- 59. BBQ dish
- 60. No (Scottish)
- 61. Jewish spiritual leader
- 62. Tool used to harvest agave
- 63. Explosive
- 64. A reward (archaic)

### **CLUES DOWN**

- 1. One thousand cubic feet (abbr.)
- 2. Polite interruption sound
- 3. Extremely small amount

38 43 56 60 61 63 4. Very short period of time (abbr.) 34. Ballplayer's tool 5. Fires have them 35. Sun up in New York 6. Sacred place 36. Where golfers begin 7. Island capital

16

20

- **37. Soviet Socialist Republic** 
  - 39. Represented as walking
    - (animal)
  - 40. Craftsman
  - 41. Unit of force (abbr.)
  - 42. Dueling sword
  - 44. Houston hoopster
  - 45. Stone building at Mecca
  - 46. \_\_\_ and flows
  - 47. "Beastmaster" actor Singer
  - 48. American state
  - 51. Swiss river
  - 52. U.S. island territory

  - 54. One point east of northeast
  - 58. Get free of
- 29. Attention-getting

27. Where UK soldiers train

28. One point north of due east

8. Volcanic craters

champion

southeast

**19. Cheap prices** 

24. Oil company

bank

26. Paddle

14. A ceremonial staff

23. North Atlantic fish

9. Arthur \_\_, Wimbledon

10. Bullfighting maneuver

12. Midway between east and

25. A federally chartered savings

- 53. German physicist



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for printed materials. Thanks to the many great volunteers who set up and took down all the hall materials, to those who manned the canteen and barbeque, to Cindy who took care of Guest Services, to sanitary assistance, to those at the front door and raffle tables, to Jamie who organized the kids activities, to Paul and his spotters and tour guides Luc Blanchette

and raffle tables, to Jamie who organized the kids' activities, to Paul and his spotters and tour guides Luc Blanchette and Cal Cuthbert who aided newcomers to birding, to traffic patrols who kept everyone safe, to the photo contest organizer and judge Wayne Benedet and contest participants, to our junior crew and 4-H helpers, to Edith for her artistic assistance and creations, to the many willing volunteers who did so many jobs on and behind the scenes to help the festival run smoothly, to those who donated to the cupcakes table, and to the many hands who made light work contributing to another successful festival.

Special thanks to Wayne Benedet who donated the photo canvases for the raffle and to Westoba Credit Union La Riviere Branch who assisted with display and ticket sales. A very special thank you to Judy Robertson of Wildlife Haven who arranged for the release of the Red-Tailed Hawk, and to Dr. Christian Artuso who so willingly shared his knowledge of birds and enthusiasm for birding during his presentations. Thanks to Steve Loney, Ft. Whyte Alive and all other partners who so generously donated auction prizes.

Our list of thanks would not be complete without our thanks for the continued support by our local newspapers: The Winkler-Morden Voice, Sentinel Courier and Western Canadian. We could not have done it without you!

Finally, thanks to those who count inot nave uone it without you: Finally, thanks to those who came out to enjoy the day with us - we appreciate your attendance and your support! WE HOPE TO SEE YOU IN 2020 TO EXPERIENCE ANOTHER WONDER-FILLED DAY WITH RAPTORS

"If you take care of birds, you take care of most of the environmental problems in the world." Thomas Lovejoy, Biologist and Godfather of Biodiversity Keep your eyes to the skies – Paul Goossen and Ev Janzen, Co-ordinators damages and not as a penalty. 3. The adjustment for taxes is January 1st, 2019.

April 26, 2019.

self-assess for GST. CONDITIONS OF SALE

3.

5.

2

For further information contact: JARET P. HOEPPNER or JOAN FRANZ at: Ph. 204-325-4615; Fax. 204-325-6712; Email: jaret@fhwlaw.ca or joan@fhwlaw.ca

set time limit the deposit paid may be forfeited as liquidated

Tenders must be accompanied by a deposit of 5% of the amount

offered, payable to FRANZ HOEPPNER WIENS LAW OFFICE.

Deposit cheques accompanying unaccepted bids will be returned,

Highest or any tender not necessarily accepted. The Vendors are not

The purchaser(s) shall be responsible for payment of GST or shall

into a binding agreement covering the terms and conditions of sale. In addition to the deposit, evidence must be provided that the

purchase funds will be available under conditions acceptable to the

Vendor. If the balance of the accepted tender is not paid within the

1. The bidder(s) whose tender is accepted will be required to enter

obligated to sell any of the land, or to accept any Tender.



#### OBITUARY



### Abram Bueckert 1949 - 2019

On Thursday, April 11, 2019 at his residence in the RM of Rhineland, MB Abe Bueckert age 69 years went to his eternal rest. He leaves to mourn his passing his wife, Justina (ne Hiebert); four daughters and six sons: Kathy (Bernie) Sawatzky, Susan (Isaac) Dyck, Peter, Maria (Dave) Dyck, Ben (Sahra), John (Tonya), Abe (Kristel), Dave (Karina, Justina and Jake (Lidia) as well as 33 grandchildren, two grandchildren-in-law, and three greatgrandchildren. He was predeceased by his parents, seven brothers (one in infancy) and two sisters.

Funeral service was held at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 17, 2019 at the Winkler Sommerfeld Mennonite Church with interment at the Reinfeld Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to assist the family with expenses.

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





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| www.disabilitytaxcreditwinnipeg.com                |  | wgiesbrechthomes.ca                                 |

#### AUCTION

### **May 4 Consignment Auction** At our auction yard south of

JCT. # 3 AND #14 Highways. Farm Equipment, Lawn and Garden, Antique Cars, Trucks and Tractors. Yard will open for receiving Monday April 29, 30 & May 1, 8 to 5 pm daily Note: yard closes May 1. No smalls please, see our website for some items being consigned daily.





Public Notice is hereby given that Enbridge Pipelines Inc. (Enbridge) intends to conduct the following Pesticide Program from May 01, 2019 - November 15, 2019 to control noxious weeds on Enbridge ROW's, temporary workspaces, stations and various facilities along the Enbridge Mainline and Bakken corridors.

The herbicide active ingredients to be used include:

- Glyphosate
- Dicamba
- 2, 4-D
- 2, 4-DB
- Aminopyralid
- Propyzamide • Indaziflam
- Chlrosulfuron
- · Aminocylcopyrachlor
- Difluenzopyr
- Metsulfuron
- Adjuvant
  - o Surfactant blend

o Solvent (petroleum hydrocarbons) Any person may, within 15 days after the notice is published, send a written submission to the department below, regarding the control program or register with the department their written objection to the use of pesticide next to their property.

**Environmental Approvals Branch** Manitoba Sustainable Development 1007 Century Winnipeg Manitoba R3H 0W4

NOTICES

# **MORDEN'S COMMUNITY GARDENS Grant Street & 19th Street**

**Register at the Civic Centre, 195 Stephen St.** \*Returning gardeners given priority, new gardeners first come-first served

April 24, 25 & 26 • 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Cost \$46

For more information: sdias@mordenmb.com 204.362.3999 Morden.

