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getinformed

Winkler hosts open house on transportation in the community

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The City of Winkler has taken another step forward in the development of its multi-modal transportation plan.

Project leaders responsible for the ongoing transportation feasibility study held a series of meetings with local businesses and social service groups last week. On Tuesday night, the community at large was invited to Central Station for an open house on the topic.

Winkler's director of planning and engineering Scott Toews says it's still early days in the project, but community input is invaluable.

"We want to make sure that we're able to get the perspective from across the community, so the larger public open houses are very important for our process," he says. "It helps us develop the best options to serve the community in the long run."

The survey is looking at the state of the city's entire transportation network—that includes roads, sidewalks, bike paths—but it's become clear that the need for some sort of public transportation is top of mind for many people.

"What that might look like, we're not sure," Toews admits, noting these public consultations will help the city get a clearer picture of how people get around the community and where the shortcomings may be.

"We want to make sure that we're able to provide safe options for people to move around," he says, noting this is all part of "developing a long-term master transportation plan across all modes of transportation, whether you're walking, biking, driving, or if there's a form of public transportation that ends up making sense, depending on what the community tells us."

Public transportation would certainly be a blessing for sisters Phyllis Funk and Dorothy Dueck, who stopped by the open house to share their thoughts.

Neither of them drive anymore. For close to home trips, Funk gets around on a mobility scooter while Dueck walks. Longer journeys across or out of town are more challenging.

"Right now we get friends to take us around, but if they don't have time ..." Funk says, noting that a taxi is certainly an option, though that's not feasible for them to use regularly.

"I think it's about time" the city look at getting some kind of public transportation going, she says. "We're a city now and we need to make it feel and look more like a city."

While a bus system would help matters, Dueck notes greater care also needs to be taken in keeping sidewalks and intersections accessible to pedestrians year-round.



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

A good number of people came out to the open house to fill out Winkler's transportation feasibility survey, which is available online at cityofwinkler.ca.



A series of panels laid out discussion points for the City of Winkler's transportation open house last week.

"WE NEED AN EASIER

AND CHEAPER WAY

FOR PEOPLE WITH

AROUND."

LOW INCOME TO GET

"Some of the sidewalks are in bad shape," she says, noting snow and ice-covered patches in the winter are a huge challenge for seniors to safely navigate, but there are also some structural problems at a few intersections that make for scary crossings for the mobility challenged. They singled out the Stanley Ave. and Main St. intersection as needing an

overhaul. "One of my former neighbours actually tipped there. It's a bad corner."

Giselle Limaya Brito works as a language coach at Regional Connections Immigrant Services. She attended the open house to share some of the common transportation challenges she's seen newcomers struggle with as they come to call Winkler home.

"With the amount of newcomers coming to the area, we need easier ways for people to get around to places," she says, noting many newcomer families are one-car or no-car households who struggle to navigate getting to appointments or going shopping. "Some of them have made the decision to move to another province or to Winnipeg because the lack of transportation affects their ability to get a job, to get to a workplace.

"I do believe the idea of implementing [public] transportation in Winkler is really where we need to go." Amanda Penner finds herself facing the same challenges.

"I can't afford a vehicle and I don't have my driver's license," she shares. "I have a disability, so I am limited in some things I can do."

To get around town she relies on rides from family or friends, or the Central Station van.

> "Taxi money is so expensive and it's money that I don't have," Penner says. "What I do for shopping is I go along with other people when they're shopping ... so I'm maybe trying to do my month's shopping in their five-minute trip. It gets difficult sometimes." Public transporta-

tion would give her a great deal more independence.

"We need an easier and cheaper way for the people with low income to get around," Penner stresses. "I think a lot of times people just don't understand, because they do have cars and they don't have to deal with it. They don't understand when I tell them I can't do certain things because I can't get there."

If you missed the open house, you can still view the presentation and share your thoughts by heading online to cityofwinkler.ca.

Morden mayor talks sustainable development in state of the city address

By Lorne Stelmach

Maintaining Morden's growth is the aim, but it is an objective that has to reached in the right way, says Morden Mayor Brandon Burley.

That was at the heart of his message in the state of the city address he delivered last week at the Morden chamber's annual meeting.

"Morden is the fastest growing community in Manitoba ... 15.5 per cent growth over four years ... but growth for the sake of growth is no real strategy. If we cannot translate growth into quality of life improvements, into better outcomes for our families and businesses, that's the real opportunity when it comes to growth," said Burley.

"The goal of council is to make investments in sustainable development," he said. "Growth is great, but it has to be sustainable, and that is something that council is very aware of ... we also want to make investments in quality of life components and improvements for the City of Morden."

Burley said he wanted to give a sense of the direction of the city, and he stressed the important role played by the chamber and the business community.

"Thank you for the work you do as a chamber first and foremost. Morden Chamber of Commerce does such an important role in representing the business interests and the economic interests of the City of Morden," he said. "Our objectives along with the objectives of the chamber really find themselves coinciding so very frequently.

"The chamber is a very invested member of our community, and as the chamber goes and as its business community goes, so goes the fortune of our city," he continued. "It's not an understatement when I say that the role of the chamber is critically important to our community and its citizens ... we value the commitment of our business community."

They all share a common desire to

orrection

instill market confidence and investment confidence in the City of Morden, Burley stressed.

"And there's lots to be confident about. We're looking to leverage growth into opportunities for you as business partners and as community members.

"There's a lot to be excited about, but we recognize we have partners in this growth," he added. "The chamber is an important one, instilling confidence through decades in the business environment in the City of Morden."

Burley also noted other important partners, from the Morden Community Development Corporation to Western School Division. The latter "who really have to carry a lot of the brunt of that growth in the community."

He went on to say that they "see our goal as providing the context for success ... we want to be able to provide the resources and the abilities for you to grow and to succeed. We think that's the role of government.

"We see that role being played out in certain specific ways. Firstly in investing in critical infrastructure," said Burley, who highlighted the needs that were revealed in the midst of what was a historical drought.

"It was an opportunity to look at the sustainability of our position in a very small watershed and to try to understand what our goals were and the opportunities that were available to us.

"Luckily for us, we were able to develop an increased partnership with Pembina Valley Water Co-op to deliver additional litres per second that will be able to sustain our growth for at least the next 10 years of projected growth."

A longer term solution could be in the Pembina River diversion project where they could take excess spring water flow as an additional source of water

"We're also working on wastewater," said Burley, noting an announcement is expected soon.

He went on to highlight a few other priority areas for the city.

"The City of Morden also offers and will continue to offer business supports to your membership," he said, going on to talk about the success of the Morden Community Driven Initiative, which has brought 75 families into Morden so far this year. "It delivers skilled labour into the arms of businesses who can't find labour locally ... every business in this region has issues around labour."

The incubator spaces for small industrial start-ups will also continue, and Burley noted the industrial expansion that will come with the development of 142 acres south of Willcocks Road.

"There's an incredible amount of appetite in that parcel already," he said, hinting at news in the works for 2023. "There are exciting announcements coming this year in terms of developments and in terms of things coming to Morden."

Burley stressed the importance of Lake Minnewasta and highlighted how it will benefit in the long term by having dedicated investments, including a reserve fund.

"The money we're making there we're reinvesting there," he said. "The quality of life investments that we can make there I think will return not only to our own residents but also in attraction to the community ... it will also lead to investments in water quality in the lake itself."

The mayor also highlighted the progress the city has made both financially and administratively, including carrying one of the lowest debt loads in the province.

"That gives this council the ability to act boldly over the next 10 years and to identify priorities and things that we can invest in and ways that we can continue that



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE Mayor Brandon Morden Burley presented his state of the city address at the Morden chamber AGM last week.

growth cycle well into the future.

"We've been able to keep our municipal budget below both the provincial and the national rate of inflation five years in a row," he added, noting as well how they have moved to more director-driven management of the day-to-day operations. "Directors are able to manage their own budgets and make decisions that affect you on a daily basis."

Burley concluded with a thought on how they will continue to carefully manage the capital costs of growth.

"We're going to do it in a measured way, and we're going to do it in a way that anticipates that growth pays for growth, but we're also going to do it in a way that ensures that we don't act independently of the market region we're in."



Our story last week on the Manitoba Vexillology Association's poll rating municipal flags across the province noted that Morden's flag got knocked out in the first round alongside the Winkler and Portage la Prairie flags. The Town of Altona's flag ultimately came in first.

City of Morden staff have brought it to our attention that while a flag bearing a stylized Morden clocktower, name, and slogan has been flown in the community in the past, it has since

been phased out and has not been raised in some time.

Morden doesn't currently have an official flag, the City states, nor did it submit this old flag for the MBVA survey.

Plans are in the works, though, for a new official flag for Morden-one residents will have the chance to be a part of designing. Details are expected to be released in the coming months. We regret the error.

An established pharmacist, serving the community for the last two decades A family oriented person, raising his family in Morden-Winkler An award-winning business owner A strong community-oriented

voice and a champion of diversity



Fish fry this week supports Well of Plenty Foundation

By Ashleigh Viveiros

A fundraiser taking place at the Pembina Threshermen's Museum this week will help families half a world away put food on the table.

The Well of Plenty Foundation hosts a Walleye Fish Fry at the heritage museum on Hwy. 3 on Thursday, April 20.

Pre-ordered lunches are available to be picked up at noon that day (lunch orders need to be in by Wednesday, April 19; call 204-362-4101 to book).

There's also a drive-thru supper option open without reservations from 4:30-7 p.m.

Both meals are by donation, with funds going to help the charity build community wells and provide irrigation drip kits and training in their use to families in Africa.

Morden's Harry Dalke is part of a group of local farmers who have taken up this cause.

The foundation was started by an old university friend of his, Doug Dueck, in 2019.

Dueck was in Malawi to hear his daughter and her husband preach when he was approached by a pastor asking if there was any way Canadians could be mobilized to help feed the starving families in his community.

"God never intended anybody to starve, but that is the reality out there," Dalke says, sharing the struggles African farmers have to be sustainable in a climate plagued by a short rainy season and then drought for the rest of the year.

Well of Plenty was formed as a Christian ministry to help the people of Malawi create more sustainable food growing systems.

Over the last four years they've built wells in multiple villages and have provided supplies for drip irrigation systems to help families more reliably



SUPPLIED PHOTOS Well of Plenty is raising funds to buy irrigation drop kits and train families in Malawi, Africa in their use (right). The charity has also been digging wells for community use (above).

grow not just enough food to eat but also to sell as a means of supporting themselves.

"It's amazing how fast it's growing and how big a difference it's making in the lives of hundreds of people already out there," says Dalke, who got the chance to see the impact of the ministry firsthand during a trip to Malawi last fall.

He was joined by fellow farmers and foundation supporters Ben Friesen and John Dyck, who, along with Dalke, are members of the local SHARE (Sharing Hope with Agriculture Resources of the Earth) group that grow crops to donate to the Canadian Foodgrains Bank each year.

The Well of Plenty initiative resonated with SHARE's members, Dalke says, and they've led the charge to raise funds for it locally.

It costs \$500 to put together an irrigation drip kit and put participants through a training course on how to use it.

"They learn all about it in the church's demonstration gardenhow to use the drip lines, the filters," Dalke explains.

The technology has been a huge success.

"Their families only need about a third of what they're growing," Dalke explains. "Every week they seed something and after three months they start harvesting. So it's a rotation, and they're able to sell the extra to buy other things they need."

Thus far the program has run in five communities, but Moses Chirusha, the Congolese man who heads things up for the foundation in Malawi, has dreams to expand into many more, including in other African countries.

"He's a real go-getter," Dalke says, noting Chirusha has helped the farmers form a co-op to sell their excess produce to local hotels in tourist areas, helping the project as a whole be-



come more sustainable.

But outside funds are still needed to keep it growing, and that's why Canadian donors are so vital. Dalke has been spreading the word about the foundation's work in the hopes of drumming up further support so they can get more families into the program.

He notes that while they are a Christian ministry that works with churches in Malawi, this program is offered to all.

"It's not closed to non-Christiansit's open to everybody," he says, stressing they share God's love not by simply feeding families but by helping them learn how to feed themselves. "That's the beauty of it."

To learn more about Well of Plenty or to make a donation, contact Dalke at 204-362-4101 or hbdalke@gmail. com or head to wellofplenty.com.



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Lost bet puts Winkler mayor in Pistons jersey

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Winkler Mayor Henry Siemens found himself on the losing end of a bet last week—and he paid for it with his attire at the city council meeting.

Siemens attended the April 11 meeting wearing a Steinbach Pistons jersey, fulfilling a promise he made to Steinbach's Mayor Earl Funk.

"We were in Winnipeg at the Association of Manitoba Municipalities spring conference," Siemens explains. The conference took place as the Pistons and the Winkler Flyers were squaring off to see who would advance in the MJHL playoffs.

"Earl and I were in a session and we got to talking about Game 7—we were both very confident that our team was going to win ... so we made a good natured wager."

Whichever team won the series, the other mayor promised to wear their rival's colours to their next council meeting after the last game.

Siemens certainly had reason to believe it wouldn't be him—the Winkler Flyers had come from behind to force the final game, which took place in Steinbach April 4.

Unfortunately, despite a valiant effort, the Flyers lost the match 4-2, and Siemens went home from the game with Funk's own Pistons jersey in tow.

"We had the chance to watch that game together, and it was a tight game. All game long we were all over them, but we just couldn't find a way to convert," Siemens says.

"And then finally in the third period we tied it up ... unfortunately, we were not able to complete the comeback. They scored one to go ahead and then got the empty-netter for the win."

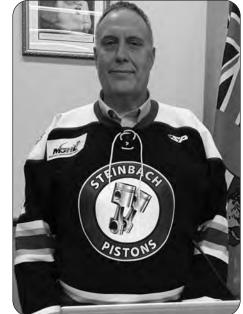
Despite having to show up at council in some questionable colours last week, Siemens is proud of how the Flyers handled themselves this season. He says he has every confidence Steinbach's mayor will find himself wearing the team's Orange and Black in the years ahead.

"It's not this year, but that opportunity is coming ... I have no doubt."

While the bet capitalizes on the long-standing rivalry between Winkler and Steinbach (yant sied or dit sied, depending on where you are), these kinds of friendly interactions help strengthen the relationship between two communities that have more in common than not, Siemens says.

"It is a good opportunity for us to grow a close relationship with a like-sized community dealing with some of the same things that we do in terms of rapid growth and having to do very large projects and finding ways to financs those in the midsts of all of the other priorities that we always have.

"We're going to continue to connect," Siemens says. "There's certainly some efficiencies that we can learn from Steinbach, as well as things hopefully we can share with them."



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Winkler Mayor Henry Siemens wasn't thrilled to be wearing a rival's jersey to council last week, but he held up his part of a losing bet with Steinbach's mayor after the Winkler Flyers lost to the Pistons.

"We're excited to see what we can accomplish together"

Morden chamber looks forward at annual meeting

By Lorne Stelmach

The Morden and District Chamber of Commerce reflected on the continuing challenges of the past year post pandemic at its annual meeting last week.

The organization however is emerging with renewed excitement and optimism, suggested chairperson Scott Hoeppner, whose term on the board came to an end at the meeting.

"We've having my first in-person AGM, but it's also going to be my last in-person AGM," joked Hoeppner, who recalled coming into the role amidst pandemic challenges.

The last year saw most of their annual events still cancelled while the chamber was also in the midst of finding a new executive director.

They're in a good place now, Hoeppner reflected, as events are starting to return to normal and Clare Agnew has stepped into the executive director role.

"It's not just been a return to the status quo. As with most things post-pandemic, there's been an element of learning what the new normal is going to be ... it's been no different with the chamber," he noted. "And so while things have changed and are continuing to change, we are then learning to change with it ... but change isn't a bad thing. It's an opportunity to question; it's an opportunity to understand; it's an opportunity to improve.

"So while we faced some speed bumps along the way, the most obvious being the [cancelled] Home and Life show ... the current board very much views this as an opportunity to revisit what we're putting our time and efforts into, to listen to what our members are telling us and an opportunity to prove how we are now serving our members," Hoeppner stressed. "That's ultimately reflected in the chamber's strategic plan, which we completed earlier this year ... and which has a renewed emphasis on enabling organizational growth, being the voice of business and enhancing member services and engagement.

"It's going to be a new normal, and I think that's ultimately a good thing," he concluded. "I invite you as our members to be part of that change. Reach out to the board members; let them know how change is impacting you, get involved. We're excited to see what we can accomplish together."

A couple of factors impacted the chamber financially in the past year, but mostly in its favour, including having most events return and having a drop in expenses from a period without an executive director.

"At the end of the day, we broke pretty close to even, a small deficit, and we were projecting about an \$18,000 deficit last year, so overall it worked out pretty well," reported treasurer Derek Hamilton.

The 2023 budget increases on both sides with income of \$121,800 and expenditures of \$131,437 for a deficit of \$9,637.

"Just with some of the revamping of the events and specifically the Home and Life Show not happening, this year that obviously has an impact on where we're sitting," Hamilton noted. "A couple years ago we had a pretty healthy surplus, so we knew there was going to be some transition that was going to be happening in the next year or two."

Stepping down from the board in addition to Hoeppner is Irma Maier. Rounding out the board now are Grant Nicholson as chair and Hamilton as treasurer along with Susan Lee, Brent Laverty, Derek Wiebe, Tyler Schroeder, Stephane Warnock, and Zoraia Constantino.

Nicholson thanked Hoeppner for his time with the chamber.

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OUR SISTER PUBLICATIONS





Brett Mitchell



REPORTER Lorne Stelmach

independent teenagers was the following: "What I don't know can't hurt you." You see what I did there? If your

child is going to do something that breaks a statute in the Code of Child Rearing then they had best be smart about it to avoid the parental ramifications that come with such things.

In other words: "If you are going to be stupid, don't be

stupid about it." Now don't get

me wrong, I do not believe in consequence-free parenting. I just recognized that as children turn into teenagers their antics become more and more interwo-

ven with their own consequences. I would also say this is HIGHLY contextual and depends heavily on the kind of child you are dealing with.

Adding a layer of parental punishment on top of an already horrible (and often comical) circumstance did nothing to strengthen a message already well on the way to being learned by the time I found out about it.

I'm also a firm believer that as a parent you better have laid a solid moral foundation well before your kids become teenagers because if not, they will have developed it through other

ne of my "rules of sources by then.

Mushroom parenting

This rule would typically be trotted out somewhere between 13-15 years old, depending on the child and the event in question. Usually it was the contravention of an already declined request:

"Can I go to BLANK'S and possibly partake of BLANK in BLANK location?"

"Absolutely not."

This would be followed by much ingenious but ultimately fruitless pleas and arguments in their favour, followed by a tantrum-fueled stomp out of the room that included shouts of how unfair I was.

By this point my parenting senses were on high alert, having memories of what I might have done in a similar circumstance as a teen after such a refusal from my own loving parent.

Invariably, having failed at obtaining parental permission, said child would sometimes go ahead with their plans anyhow and in as loud and bumbling a way as possible still go to BLANK'S and partake of BLANK in **BLANK** location.

At what point I intervened often depended on where in the timeline I would learn of the infraction and

the stupidity level being achieved. I would try to make my involvement as embarrassing and public as possible followed by a cool down period of internetless bedroom incarceration.

After a suitable point in time I would cautiously approach the cell door, inquire within, and tentatively enter to begin a conversation.

"Listen, I have these rules for your own good and for your own safety. Blah, blah, blah."

Then, after the appropriate length of parental monologuing, I would end with, "Just remember-what I don't know, can't hurt you" followed by a meaningful pause wherein they would appear confused for a few moments until apprehension slowly dawned and spread across their faces.

"Look," I would say. "I didn't raise an idiot. I trust you. But when I become AWARE of something you are doing I might find questionable I have a responsibility to intervene as a parent ... do you understand?"

"I think so." "Good."

This was never about wanting to avoid parental responsibility as much

Continued on page 7

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

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

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

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ployed as my kids

grew into more

Bv Peter Cantelon



CFDC hands out third **Betsy Nicholls Award**

By Lorne Stelmach

Dr. Michael Caldwell may have been a first-time visitor to the Canadian Fossil Discovery Centre here last week, but he certainly has a longtime connection to the museum and its fossil collection.

A palaeontologist and professor at the departments of biological sciences and earth and atmospheric sciences at the University of Alberta, Caldwell has greatly contributed to the field of palaeontology over the past three decades.

"I was in the collections room, and this was the first time I've actually been here, even though for the last 25 years I've sent my students out here all the time," Caldwell said as he received the third Elizabeth (Betsy) Nicholls Award for Outstanding Contributions to Palaeontology at the CF-DC's annual gala Saturday evening.

"My research program has, for the last 30 years of my professional career, been on snakes, lizards and their palaeontology evolution ... and mosasaurs are a kind of giant marine lizard, a true lizard, so my research program has used the Morden material and it's really influenced myself and my students.

"We've travelled around the world and gone to see many collections ... and the Morden stuff informs us on a lot and is linked to all the other kinds of mosasaurs that we find around the world."

Caldwell and his team were cited for having described the oldest known fossil snakes in the world, dating 100 million years old, and this extended the fossil record of ancient snakes by 70 million years.

In 2016, he was part of the team that re-examined a primitive snake specimen, Tetrapodophis, from Brazil. This specimen implied snake ancestors weren't burrowing terrestrial animals like originally thought but instead aquatic animals that evolved their unique body shape for eel-like swimming.

Caldwell has also worked on many mosasaur projects throughout his career, and his work has drastically changed mosasaur phylogeny and has redefined the relationships both within and outside the mosasauridae family. In addition to his innovating research, he is also a dedicated professor, teaching and inspiring the next generation of paleontologists.

Additionally, Caldwell was part of the 2010 team that reclassified the species Hainosaurus pembinensis as Tylosaurus pembinensis. CFDC's own "Bruce" specimen belongs to this species.

Caldwell said he was deeply hon-



SOCIETY'S DECLINE

All societies/nations who embrace non-traditional family units fall apart within 100 years of doing so. All one has to do is study the past history. Serving porn to children in the public library only serves to speed up this process.

> Joeseph Sparrow, Rosebook

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH

Firstly, thank you, Peter Cantelon for your positive words in the column "Leaders look forward" in the April 13 edition. Also, Kevin Driedger needs a commendation for his thoughts in the letter "Council needs to move the community forward, not backward."

Morden library staff are hurting and the continuous vicious verbal attacks on the staff by this "group of angry people" must cease immediately. As for their claim of "promoting safety"—this is ridiculous and narrow minded trash talk. What kind of belief do they have that promotes this type of human treatment?

This is NOT the Canadian way of living and accepting. In Canada we "live and let live." We do not attempt to destroy! Enough is enough!

> Llynde Morris, Morden



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Longtime CFDC board member Kevin Campbell (left) and board chair Allison Halstead presented Dr. Michael Caldwell with the Elizabeth (Betsy) Nicholls Award for Outstanding Contributions to Palaeontology last weekend.

oured to receive the recognition and especially that it honours the memory and work of Nicholls.

"I knew Betsy really well, and she was someone special. I first met her when I was just starting out as a student at McGill University," he noted. "This is really a surprise. I had no idea that anybody really even knew that I existed on the other end of that scientific chain ... it's more than humbling, to be honest.

"The fact that the institution here named an award after her I think is really wonderful. The Royal Tyrell Museum hasn't done that yet, and beating those guys to the punch is a really good thing. The Tyrell doesn't even have any galas on an annual basis ... so this is really the first museum and community group in the country to create their own grassroots award." Caldwell said he would never hesitate to sing the praises of what Morden has here with the Canadian Fossil Discovery Centre. to people that even though it might be just seem like a handful of dusty bones out in their back yards and in the Pembina Valley, it's actually really important stuff, and it's been important to the scientific understanding of mosasaurs around the globe," he suggested.

"It's unique in terms of the kinds of animals ... in the broad sense marine reptile faunas are not uncommon, but they're not as easily understood as commonly in the public mind as are dinosaurs," Caldwell continued. "It's also an incredibly dense fossil record from Morden. There are lots and lots of specimens.

"There's lots of opportunity for new discoveries, even in what is sitting in collections room," he concluded. "Let alone the opportunity that will exist for hundreds of years into the future yet to go out and do field work and collect new specimens. The museum's got new stuff just waiting for somebody to open the drawer and know what to do with it."

"I'm trying to make it very clear

> CANTELON, FROM PG. 6

as it was about transitioning from the kind of parent who actively prevents their kids from sticking metal things into power outlets to the kind of parent who trusts that they raised smart kids who would no longer do this.

It was always about being the kind of parent who knew that, eventu-

> CHAMBER AGM, FROM PG. 5

"You did a phenomenal job keeping us organized, so I want to thank you for your service," he said. "He took over the role in what was most likely the most difficult time to take over that role, so it was not business as ally, their kids wouldn't have them around and they needed to learn to navigate the world's messy moral waters on their own with the tools they were given.

Based on where the kids are now, I would say so far, so good.

usual. We didn't have an opportunity for you to learn your role from what happened in the past because everything was different. We weren't able to do what we would normally do."

A Story for Every Mile paints a vivid picture of region's history

By Ashleigh Viveiros

A new history book packed full of photos and personal accounts paints a vivid picture of Southern Manitoba's storied past.

The Boundary Trail National Heritage Region (BTNHR) and the Pembina Manitou Archive (PMA) have spent the last several years working with author Ed Ledohowski on the creation of *A Story for Every Mile: An Illustrated History of the Boundary Trails National Heritage Region of Southern Manitoba.*

The book, which became available at locations across the region this spring, is 140 pages and filled with over 550 historical photographs and images depicting scenes stretching back to the 1850s, though the stories go back much, much further.

"It starts right with the ancient history of this region—the Ice Age and Lake Agassiz," says Al Thorleifson, BTNHR board member, PMA archivist, and book editor. "It talks about the history of the Aboriginal peoples in this region ... the story of Chief Yellow Quill and his promotion of the rights of the Aboriginal people in this district.

"It tells a lot of the story of the initial settlement of this area. Ed has found many of the memoirs and stories that were told by the first settlers who came here."

Through quotes and photos, the book shines a spotlight on the lives of the people who helped build our

modern communities.

"The information is largely firsthand commentary by the people who actually lived it," Thorleifson says.

The book also details the introduction of the railroad, the various waves of immigrants and their impact on local demographics, and takes readers right through to the present day.

This project, started in 2014, was originally envisioned as a series of short educational booklets. But Ledohowski's research found such a treasure trove of material that it grew into a full-fledged book.

Many of the photos included have never been published before.

"Many of them have never been seen before because Ed found them in the strangest places," Thorleifson says. "There are collections that have never been actually archived. Photo collections, map collections, photos of historical documents."

It's those photos that really bring the stories to life.

"One of the things that I think is cool about this is there are so many photos that even little kids can look at the pictures and get a sense of things," Thorleifson says. "So many history books are just words. This is really good for young folks to get a sense of what it used to look like."

The preservation of history is a passion for Thorleifson, as is raising awareness of our region's roots.

"I don't think people can know where they're going until they know where they've come from. Wheth-



er we're born here or we come from away, we have to make sure the next generation doesn't lose an awareness of where their parents and ancestors came from. And once you're here, you're part of this history too."

Thorleifson notes this project was made possible thanks to financial support from the Manitoba Government and the Boundary Trail Railway Company.

Copies of the book have been delivered free to municipalities, museums, and libraries across Southern Manito-

ba.

They're also available for sale for \$60 each at the Canadian Fossil Discovery Centre and the Pembina Hills Art Gallery in Morden, the RM of Thompson office in Miami, the Municipality of Dufferin office in Carman, and the Boundary Trail Railway Company office in Manitou.

You can also contact Thorleifson via email to pembinamanitouarchive@ gmail.com to arrange to purchase a copy.

Province invests in physio funding for post-surgery knee, hip patients

By Lorne Stelmach

Private physiotherapy clinics in the region welcome the recent move by the Manitoba government to make it easier for people recovering from total hip and knee replacement surgeries to access physiotherapy and rehabilitation services from them.

With an investment of over \$2.5 million from the provincial government, an estimated 6,100 eligible patients recovering from total hip and knee replacement surgery will have access to and coverage for physiotherapy and rehabilitation at their Manitoba provider of choice and as part of their continued care.

This is the first time the province has widely funded outpatient physiotherapy for patients outside of the hospital in private clinics, noted Ashley Froese, a physiotherapist with Morden Physiotherapy, which also operates clinics in Winkler and Carman.

"For them to recognize the need for rehabilitation, the importance of it, is for us really huge, and we're excited to start seeing these patients," Froese said. "We've had already had phone calls coming in.

"Bottom line is we just want to see patients be able to get good physiotherapy and actually participate in it, and to do that by making it easier and affordable ... that's the only way the patients are going to follow through and get greater surgical outcomes, and that's the goal."

"As soon as the announcement came out, we had patients giving us a call and excited that they would be able to access private physiotherapy care," echoed Leah Klassen, owner of Pembina Valley Physiotherapy based in Winkler but also with locations in Morden, Altona, and Carman.

Since October 2022, the Manitoba government has arranged direct-bill contracts at three private clinics for post-operative outpatient physiotherapy and rehabilitation care for patients. The next phase opens that up to all clinics.

As of April 1, the Manitoba Physiotherapy Association (MPA) began managing all physiotherapy billing services for eligible adult outpatients recovering from total hip and knee replacement surgery.

Under the contract, all registered physiotherapists in the province are eligible for reimbursement. This is an interim agreement until a more permanent billing arrangement is established, which is expected in the coming months.

Patients who have had total hip or knee replacement surgery since January 1 and who have not received treatment can qualify for up to six individual physiotherapy sessions or 10 group sessions.

With the province's commitment in recent years to increasing the number of joint replacement surgical procedures and reducing wait times, they have now realized access to physiotherapy is vital for successful post surgical outcomes and long term care of patients, suggested Froese.

And while there is some minor criteria involved, it will open up opportunities for many patients in the re-

ACAN helps Altona mark Earth Day

By Lori Penner

The Altona Community Action Network (ACAN) marked the 50th anniversary of Earth Day by hosting an Active Transportation Day last Saturday.

The event took place at the Community Exchange in Altona and included spring bike tune ups with Back Alley Cycle owner Bruce Penner, a learnto-bike demo which gave visitors a chance to try out a plain or Dutch bike, kids' activities, and a panel discussion with active transportation experts.

There was even an opportunity to make yourself a smoothie with a pedal-powered blender.

The day rounded off with a community bike ride.

The panel discussion included guest presenters Anders Swanson of Winnipeg Trails, Sherry Hoffman from the Green Action Centre, and Kayla Dawson, who is in charge of sustainability and active transportation with the City of Selkirk

Swanson's role as executive director of Winnipeg Trails and chair of the Canadian Bicycle Federation takes him to a variety of smaller communities to encourage them to implement active transportation models.

"Our organization is focused on the connectivity of safe walking and infrastructure and the fun part of life," he said. "We play an important role in removing barriers that are in people's heads and make it easier for politicians to say yes to what are very popular ideas. "It's refreshing to come to Altona where it would be quite easy to put in a complete network of safe cycling facilities. You can do it cheaply and quickly and it will appeal to everyone because the distances are so close."

Swanson says many communities across the province are promoting active transportation.

"Making a bike-friendly community is a money-maker, and trust me, you will get much more out of it than you put in," he said. "People really want to live healthier and be outside, and stay connected to one another. Where you want to live is a choice. That transportation piece and that connection to nature and to fun and to seeing people is a huge draw to the community. Connecting with your friends and seeing people is something you can't do that behind a windshield."

Earth Day promotes awareness for the health of the environment, and ACAN spokesman and event organizer Jonah Langelotz said hosting an event that encourages people to walk and cycle more, and drive less, is definitely in line with that.

Langelotz has worked with ACAN for the past four years to raise awareness and encourage environmental sustainability in the community.

He said, by definition, active transportation is any means of getting people from point A to point B without using a vehicle. It could be biking, running, walking, driving a scooter or any other type of people-powered movement. And the benefits go beyond individual health and well-being.



PHOTOS BY LORI PENNER/VOICE

Anders Swanson of Winnipeg Trails describes the positive features of plain or Dutch bikes to visitors at Active Transportation Day on April 15 in Altona.

The hope is that the Town of Altona will adopt an active transportation strategy that will include safer, designated pathways and signage to encourage a greener, healthier, and more social way to move around the community.

"Research shows that the majority of people, if the barriers are taken away, will prefer to walk or cycle instead of using their vehicles," says Langelotz "People want to do this, but you have to make it easier for them.

"Making them feel safe on the road and making it accessible in terms of signage, and communicating with people that there are different ways to get around are all parts of that. There is so much work that still needs to be done to make those different modes of transportation accessible for the majority of people who are interested and enjoy moving around and being outdoors, but don't necessarily know or feel like it's accessible the way things are laid out now."

Swanson says there are still trouble spots and barriers that make cycling difficult.

"It may not feel like a trouble spot from behind a windshield, but it sure does to the kids. The City of Dauphin took parking lot dividers and connected all of their schools with a protected bike lane. That's the first thing I'd do here. The federal government has lots of money for projects like that. Winnipeg Trails got \$50,000 for some plans. That would go pretty far in Altona. You can put \$30,000 in cedar and wood and soil and seeds and make this beautiful flowery protected trail down Centre Ave.

"I've seen it happen over and over again. Once you create those things, people will use them. People will use them to go to work or the library, or for exercise or have fun with their grandkids. The moment you start is the moment you start making a meaningful difference where you actually get to see people be happy. That's a rare public policy thing you can do: create a happy community."



Guest speakers were on hand to discuss the benefits of active transportation planning in the community.

Zahid Zehri joins Morden-Winkler nomination race

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Another Winklerite has stepped forward to put their name on the ballot for the Conservative Party of Manitoba nomination in Morden-Winkler.

Zahid Zehri last week announced his candidacy for the position left vacant by Cameron Friesen.

Zehri has called Winkler home for nearly 20 years, having immigrated to Canada from Pakistan.

His firsthand experience as a newcomer coupled with his job as the pharmacist/owner of Winkler's Shoppers Drug Mart has given him invaluable insight into the concerns of the people he hopes to serve as MLA.

"I have a good connection with the

community, especially being a pharmacist. I see people every day, I talk with them about their mental health, their physical health, their financial issues," Zehri says. "Being a pharmacist, you have a plenty of opportunities to talk with the people ... you learn what the community needs, what the community is suffering from."

That knowledge is what led him to join the nomination race.

"We need to have somebody who understands the needs of the community, who can address those needs," Zehri says, stressing he feels he has the passion and negotiating skills needed to make things happen for the community.

Zehri has been a member of the pro-

ÉMMS students organize food drive for Many Hands



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

ÉMMS kids with some of the food the school collected as part of a weeklong food drive in support of the Many Hands Resource Centre.

By Lorne Stelmach

École Morden Middle School students were excited to work on packing their haul Monday after a weeklong food drive in support of the Many Hands Resource Centre.

The entire school of over 700 students and about 70 staff were invited to contribute in the second year of doing the food drive for the local food bank.

"The student council organized it, and kids from Grade 5-8 and staff all brought in food and hygiene products," said Gr. 5 teacher Alison Wiens. "It's something we can do to help our community and start some conversations in our classrooms about social issues.

"Last year we filled four trucks ... this year, I think we'll be pretty close, plus we had a bit of money donations, so I think we may have surpassed what we did last year," she said. "It's very nice to see when they're involved in something that is going to make a difference in our community." vincial Conservative party for over a decade and volunteered with Cameron Friesen's various re-election campaigns.

He's run for municipal office himself twice, both unsuccessfully, but considers those campaigns a success in terms of the conversations he helped spur on how to improve the community.

"I'm not a politician," Zehri says in terms of what he's bringing to the table. "I'm a very common man. I'm a citizen. I'm a community member ... my bottom line is I just want to serve the people."

There are no shortage of issues Morden-Winkler is facing today and will face tomorrow as it continues to be one of the fastest growing areas of the province, Zehri reflects.

Whether it's infrastructure, health care, the education system, or immigration, he says he'll approach every challenge with common sense.

His campaign slogan gets to the heart of his approach "Collaboration, Consultation, Constituency."

Zehri says he intends to collaborate and consult with residents, stakeholders, community leaders, and other levels of government on projects that matter to the riding. And, if elected, he pledges to stay involved and engaged in and with the constituency.

> PHYSIO FUNDING, FROM PG. 8

gion who wouldn't be able to access timely physiotherapy after surgery due to long hospital wait lists, distance to travel, and often affordability, she said.

"What it historically has looked like is that patients in the province of Manitoba had to go to hospitals for physiotherapy after they've had their surgery, which patients in our region still can access at Boundary Trails," Froese explained. "It is a wonderful service, but our region is huge. Driving from Crystal City or Notre Dame or Portage for example ... to attend physiotherapy at Boundary Trails is not necessarily an easy or accessible option for patients.

"To now be able to have the option of a clinic of their choice means they can receive physiotherapy probably a lot closer to home, which is great for everybody. It's going to help reduce wait list times and hopefully produce greater surgical outcomes."

"We're still working out the details ... one of the things that we do know is if you have private insurance, you do need to exhaust that first," noted



SUPPLIED PHOTO Winkler's Zahid Zehri is running for the Morden-Winkler Conservative nomination.

Also in the running for the nomination alongside Zehri are fellow Winklerites Carrie Hiebert and Josh Okello and Morden's Liz Reimer.

A date for the election has not yet been set. Only members of the provincial Conservative party can vote.

The winning candidate will represent the Conservatives in Morden-Winkler in this year's provincial election.

Klassen. "That's one of the restrictions, but other than that, you definitely have an ability to potentially be seen a little bit sooner than if you were going to be going to the hospital."

In general, Klassen sees this as helping "to get people up and about and walking again and mobile sooner. It also could mean, quite possibly they were already seeing a private physiotherapist prior to their surgery, so that continuation of care there as well could be a benefit."

"Agreements such as this will help patients access the care they need now as the Manitoba government expands capacity and builds a more resilient public health system for the future," said Health Minister Audrey Gordon in making the announcement earlier this month. "By streamlining billing processes and providing comprehensive support, we're also removing barriers and freeing up health-care providers to focus on delivering care to patients across Manitoba."

FTC brings Anne of the Island to the stage May 4-7

"IT'S REALLY A

STORY."

HEARTWARMING

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The P.W. Enns Centennial Concert Hall will be transformed into a slice of the Maritimes as the Flatlands Theatre Company (FTC) performs *Anne of the Island* May 4-7.

The show continues the story of L.M. Montgomery's

Anne Shirley as she leaves P.E.I. for college in Nova Scotia and navigates the rocky waters of adulthood and romance.

The play is based on the third book in the beloved *Anne of Green Gables* series. It's the fourth time FTC has

performed an *Anne* show, having put on the first play in the series in 2007 and again in 2016 and then following it up with the second part of the story in 2017.

FTC then turned to local playwright Angela Klassen to create the first non-musical adaptation of *Anne of* *the Island*. The pandemic pushed the show's world premiere back a few years, but it's now ready to take the stage.

Stepping into the part of Anne is Sasha Dyck, who took a break from rehearsals last weekend to share a bit about her process of preparing to take

on this iconic role.

"There's a bit of pressure, for sure," she says, "but so far I've received pretty positive feedback. She's such a fun character to try to portray."

Dyck says she watched the 1985 television miniseries starring Megan Follows for inspiration.

"I was just really captivated by her energy," she says, noting this part of the story includes an Anne who is trying to figure out her place in the world as an adult. "She thinks that she's made up her mind on things but it's proven over and over again that maybe she doesn't know her mind as well as she thinks.



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Sasha Dyck and Ezra Reimer play Anne Shirley and Gilbert Blythe in Flatlands Theatre Company's production of Anne of the Island May 4-7.

"It's a lot of growing; she needs to mature throughout the story," Dyck says. "You get a whole arc with her. And it's written so well. It's really a heartwarming story."

Playing Gilbert Blythe, who has been smitten with Anne since childhood, is Ezra Reimer.

"She doesn't at first want Gilbert to be anything more than a friend," he shares, noting there's definitely some ups and downs in the story for his character and Anne. "It's a great story. And Anne is a great character, despite her flaws. I think it will really tug at your heartstrings."

Having Klassen on set for rehearsals as both a writer and actor (she's play-

Continued on page 12



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PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Sasha Dyck, as Anne Shirley, strolls with Quinton Stoesz's Roy Gardner but has her eyes on Ezra Reimer's Gilbert Blythe during rehearsals for FTC's production of Anne of the Island.



> ANNE OF THE ISLAND, FROM PG. 11

ing Marilla, Anne's adopted mother) has made for a unique experience for cast and crew, Reimer notes.

"It's really cool to have the writer on stage with us, playing a part alongside us," he says.

It made the creation of the show much more of a dynamic process, adds Quinton Stoesz, who is playing Roy Gardner, another love interest of Anne's.

"A lot of times we look at something that's said in a script or something is done a certain way and we're like, 'We can't really change it because it's in the script,'" he says. "But now we're able to just talk to Angela and get permission to change things on the fly, if we need to. You're working with the person who made it."

In an earlier interview, Klassen noted she worked hard to stay true to Montgomery's work with this adaptation.

"When people see the play they're going to notice that a lot of the dialogue is right from the book, because I don't feel like I can improve on L.M. Montgomery." Prior knowledge of *Anne of Green Gables* is certainly not needed to enjoy the show.

"Even if you've never seen the other plays or never read the books, the characters are very believable, the situations are very believable and you can really connect with them," Stoesz says. "So even if you're not familiar with *Anne* at all, you can still enjoy it to its fullest. You're not going to be disappointed."

To celebrate the local roots of the play's creation, FTC is going all-out in setting the stage before audiences even take their seats.

The concert hall foyer will feature some *Anne* memorabilia and P.E.I. chocolates for sale. They're also partnering with Mulligan's Restaurant & Lounge on an East Coast supper special people can enjoy before heading to the Friday and Saturday night shows.

Anne of the Island runs nightly May 4-6 at 7:30 p.m. with a matinee at 3 p.m. May 7.

Tickets are available online at www. winklerconcerthall.ca.





May 4-6, 2023 | 7:30 pm May 7, 2023 | 3:00 pm PW ENNS CENTENNIAL CONCERT HALL 783 Mountain Ave. Winkler, MB

TICKETS winklerconcerthall.ca P.W. Enns Centennial Concert Hall Box Office - 1045 Grandeur Avenue, Winkler | Monday - Friday, 9am - 5pm Tickets are also sold at the door 1/2 an hour before the start of each performance. **flatlandstheatre.com**

Community trip to the Galápagos an incredible experience

By Ashleigh Viveiros

A student trip that turned into an adventure open to the community at large was an experience of a lifetime for a group of locals this spring.

A few years ago, pre-pandemic, Tim Wiebe, then a science teacher at Garden Valley Collegiate in Winkler, set out to plan a school trip to the Galápagos Islands.

"I've always been very much interested in the Galápagos because it is very essential to an understanding of biological sciences," says Wiebe.

The islands in the Pacific Ocean west of Ecuador are largely uninhabited by people but are home to a dizzying variety of wildlife that inspired Charles Darwin's theory of evolution after his visit there in 1835.

About two dozen travellers from the Winkler high schools signed up to see this natural diversity themselves. The trip was supposed to happen back in 2021.

But, of course, the COVID-19 pandemic foiled those plans. In the years since, Wiebe retired from teaching full-time, though he still subs.

"So I basically had crossed this off my bucket list," he says. "It wasn't going to happen."

Then the company leading the tour, EF Education Tours, reached out to Wiebe to see if he'd be interested in leading a community-based trip once it became safe to travel again, opening up spots for non-students to take part.

"It was the first of its kind in this area to do something like that, so it was a bit of unfamiliar territory," says Wiebe, who started putting the word out that anyone interested in joining the group was welcome.

Ultimately, 11 people, including Wiebe and his wife, set out for seven days in Ecuador and the Galápagos over spring break at the end of March.

Most of them were current Winkler high school students, though there were a couple graduates who were supposed to go on that first trip.

"Now that we've completed the trip, I have a bit of an idea how I might do this again, if I was to do it again, in terms of reaching out to more people in the community," Wiebe reflects. "There were a lot of people who weren't sure what this was."

What it ended up being was a mind-blowing glimpse into the wonders of the natural world.

"It was incredible," Wiebe says, describing the islands as a sort of zoo, but without cages. They're packed with tortoises, sea lions, and birds of every stripe.



SUPPLIED PHOTOS A group of locals went on a trip of a lifetime to the Calápagos Islands and Ecuador last month.

"Oftentimes we would go for hikes and we couldn't actually walk along the pathways because the sea lions were all over the paths just resting in the sun," Wiebe recalls. "It was very bizarre to be in that kind of setting."

"Once we hit the water and we did some snorkeling, that's when we saw all the colours and the diversity and the amazing number of fish and crabs ... it's just remarkable."

Crossing over each day to and between the various islands was also quite an experience.

"You're talking open water going on the speedboat ... cruising pretty good, but it still takes a couple of hours to go from one island to another," Wiebe says, noting there are a total of 21 islands, only five inhabited. They got to



visit three of them.

For Robyn Wolfe, who was supposed to be on that 2021 trip and is now studying business at Red River College Polytechnic, getting a second chance to travel to the Galápagos was worth waiting for.

"I had signed up for this back in 2019," she says. "I stayed hopeful that it would one day happen, and they kept telling us it would eventually be rescheduled.

"It was honestly the trip of a lifetime," Wolfe says. "It was so cool."

The knowledge of the tour guides really enhanced things for the group, she says.

"We learned a lot about the history of the Galápagos Islands and some of what it's like living there," she says, sharing that a highlight was touring a ranch and breeding centre for giant tortoises, which can live well over 100 years. "We got to see how they're doing research to actually keep the different species of animals from going extinct."

While she wasn't a "science kid" growing up, seeing scientific research being done in such an amazing natural environment left a profound impact on Wolfe.

"All of it was a little bit mind-boggling," she says. "They put so much emphasis on conservation ... the sites you see there are not being exploited for tourism, which is really cool to see."

RWB performs



PHOTOS BY RICK HIEBERT/VOICE

Canada's Royal Winnipeg Ballet brought its On the Edge touring show to Winkler's P.W. Enns Centennial Concert Hall Monday night. Audience members were treated to a range of both classical and modern dances performed by students of the RWB's prestigious Anna McCowan-Johnson Aspirant Program.



Second water planning tool receives funding

By Lorne Stelmach

Farmers and others in the Pembina Valley watershed region will benefit this year from two new high-tech water planning tools.

The project partners see the development of new environmental hydrologic forecasting models as helping guide land management decisions and on-farm planning by farmers, watershed districts, and communities around water resources.

"The Pembina Valley Watershed District is excited by the possibilities of this new tool," said manager Ryan Sheffield. "We hope that producers can find value in the ability to make better predictions of hydrological conditions."

The watershed district worked in partnership with Swan Lake First

Nation and the Manitoba Forage and Grassland Association on the \$35,000 project supported by the RBC Foundation through RBC Tech for Nature.

Aquanty, a Canadian software company, worked on the development of the landscape simulation project HydroGeoSphere (HGS). The soonto-be-completed model will simulate real-time water flows over, under and through the landscape of the Swan Lake region using climate and weather information to provide seven and 32-day forecasting for soil moisture, groundwater, and surface water levels.

It will be similar to another forecasting tool recently made available for the overall Pembina Valley watershed district that was supported by funding of up to \$152,250 from Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's AgriRisk Initiatives Research and Development stream via the Canadian Agricultural Partnership.

With the region in the midst of the spring melt, it's the perfect opportunity to try these tools, suggested Sheffield.

"It's definitely an ideal time to have a look at it and check it out," he said. "This time of year, flowing water is at its most significant levels, and this tool is going to be providing some real time data for what's going on out there and predicting what's going to happen.

"Depending on soils and geology and topography and all these different factors that have been used to build these models, it creates variation across the landscape," he noted. "These models have taken all of that into consideration and enables people to make predictions as to how conditions are going to be in a certain location ... it varies across the landscape."

There will be webinar introductions to the forecasting model around the ability and progress on the forecasting tool. You can find more information online at mfga.net.

"MFGA is very proud to be part of the team that brings this incredible water technology to the Pembina Valley Watershed District and Swan Lake First Nation," said chairperson Lawrence Knockaert.

"The ability to work with our partners and within the Royal Bank Tech for Nature on Aquanty's hydrolog-

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ONLINE REAL ESTATE AUCTION FOR MACK LOVE MAY 01. 2023 AT 7:00PM



160 acres RM of Fisher Manitoba

Recreation, with year round housing! Recreation NE 1/4 9-25-3 West Roll #430300. Included on property: housebarn 30 x 70ft, all urethane insulated, deep well, sewage tank, water and electricity. Barn 2nd floor is all finished out in Pine with bathroom/laundry. Present owners have spotted deer, elk, bear, geese, wolves, fox, etc.

Approx. 377 acres RM of Coldwell

NW 07-19-4W Roll #71300, 177 acres, adjoining quarter 160 acres NE 7-19-4W, Roll #71200. Total 260 cultivated acres, 110 hrs of drainage work done in the last two years. Has a deep well for water supply and electricity for spraying.

JIM AND CELINE OLEKSUK LIVE AUCTION May 06, 2023 at 10:00AM



2093 Ferndale Road, this is 3 mile south from Jct. Hwy 2 and 424 at Springstein turn off, Ph. 204-735-2478, ALL ITEMS SELL AS IS WHERE IS NO WARRANTY OF ANY KIND. Live in person auction with online bidding available beginning at 11 am. Jim and Celine are selling their beautiful acreage minutes from the perimeter at 0ak Bluff and are down sizing. This auction has some excellent yard equipment, tools and very good household furniture and appliances.

This will be a live on site auction with hot dogs and all.



MACK LOVE ONLINE EQUIPMENT AUCTION MAY 10, 2023 AT 6:00PM



Excellent line of hobby farm equipment, KUBOTA MX 125, w/ FWA loader,1300 hrs, 2012 Kubota KX0 080-3 Excavator, cab, 24" steel tracks, w/48" Ditching bucket, 24" digging bucket. Tilting bucket, Hyd, thumb, 12 ft extension boom with hook, orbit post hole, digger, 12" and 6" plus 4 ft extension, 356 Actual one owner hrs, serial # 21970. 2007 Case 850K crawler, 24" tracks, cab, power shift, series 3 w/ 6 way 10ft dozer blade, 1403 hrs, 2nd owner, serial #CAL006016. John Deere 7200 Maximerge planter 6 row 30", dry fertilizer, insecticide and corn.



DAVE ENNS COLLECTOR TRACTORS ONLINE AUCTION JUNE 02, 2023 AT 6:00PM



From the lights in Carman go 6 miles North on #13 to 305. Then go East on 305 for 2 miles. Then go 1 mile South. From Elm Creek go 6 miles South on #13 for 6 miles to 305. Then go East on 305 for 2 miles. Then go 1 mile South. 4 Massey 4 cyl Minneapolis U. 1938 John Deere D. Last year of unstyled Case VAC. Farmall H wide front. Farmall Super C. Farmall M wide front. International W4. International WD6 with loader Farmall A. SC Case. John Deere A. All tractors are running! 1997 GMC 1/2 ton. Ext cab. Running last year, not this year. 1970 Ford 3/4 ton 300 6 cyl. Auto trans. Not running. Project. 1931 Ford Model A engine only. Electric start. Runs well. Valve grinding machine. Valve seat grinding machine



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Objectives for better beetle management

By Keith Gabert, Canola Council of Canada

Flea beetles are the pest of greatest economic risk to canola production, according to our 2022 Canola Council of Canada survey of canola growers. With more striped species, which emerge earlier in the spring and seem more tolerant of common seed treatments, and with spring weather conditions that challenge rapid crop emergence, flea beetle damage seems worse than ever.

Canola growers have two major objectives to reduce the risk:

OBJECTIVE A: RAPID CANOLA EMERGENCE

The ideal flea beetle buster is a canola crop that establishes quickly with five to eight plants per square foot. More plants mean more food for the flea beetles, which limits the damage per plant.

Scenarios that require multiple in-season foliar sprays are often the result of a slow-establishing, non-competitive crop. Many factors can cause this, including moisture, temperature, plant populations, seed treatment and overall flea beetle numbers.

Management steps to reduce the risk include:

• Seed shallow into warm, moist soil. Consider seeding cereals first as they can tolerate cooler spring soils. Seed canola after soils have warmed up and ideally just before or after a spring rain.

• Use an advanced seed treatment to improve flea beetle protection in high-risk areas. These include Buteo Start, Lumiderm, Fortenza and Fortenza Advanced.

• Use safe rates of seed-placed fertilizer. The

recommendation is to use only phosphorus in the seed row at rates of 20 lb./ac. of actual phosphate. Higher rates of seed-placed fertilizer can add more stress, slow the pace of growth and reduce the stand.

OBJECTIVE B: EFFECTIVE FOLIAR SPRAYS

Fields under moisture stress may not meet objective "A". Flea beetles love dry conditions, crops don't. In that case, growers should set up for effective foliar insecticide.

What makes a spray effective?

First, apply it at the right time. Action thresholds for canola are when damage exceeds 25 per cent cotyledon or leaf area loss. However, in warm weather with actively feeding flea beetles and slow-growing crop, this threshold can be passed quickly. Growers will want to anticipate the speed at which damage is developing and proactively begin spraying before 25 per cent defoliation. In some cases, early spraying around headlands may be enough when damage is localized from flea beetles entering the field edge.

"Right time" is also when flea beetles are most active. Warm, dry and calm are good conditions for spraying. In rainy cool weather, flea beetles often take shelter in the soil and don't feed as much. In these conditions, insecticides, which all rely on contact with the flea beetle target, will have lower efficacy.

Second, consider the temperature effect on insecticide efficacy. On spray days with highs over 25°C, malathion and Sevin XLR may provide better results. On days with highs below 20°C, pyrethroids (Decis, Pounce, Perm-UP and oth-



CANOLA COUNCIL OF CANADA

Two species of flea beetle—striped and crucifer—on the same canola plant. Striped species emerge earlier in the spring and seem more tolerant of common seed treatments.

ers) will show better results. Pyrethroids have restrictions when temperatures exceed 25°C.

Third, achieve coverage. Flea beetle insecticides do most of their work through contact. Because young canola plants take up only a small percentage of the ground area and because flea beetles are small targets, effective contact requires adequate water (at least 10 gal/ac.) and medium nozzles. Check labels for specific nozzle recommendations. Low-drift nozzles, which are a good practice for some herbicides, produce a coarse spray droplet that may not provide efficient flea beetle contact. Without coverage, results may not be as good as hoped.

This is just a quick overview of the top points. Continue regular scouting for flea beetle damage until your crop is well established. For more on flea beetle management tips and how to make the spray decision, please see our agronomy-based articles in the Insects section at canola-

watch.org/fundamentals.

Keith Gabert is an agronomy specialist and insect management lead for the Canola Council of Canada. Reach him via email to gabertk@canolacouncil.org.

> FORECASTING, FROM PG. 14

ic forecasting tool now for the Swan Lake sub-watershed is really exciting. We look forward to promoting the project and helping all stakeholders get up to speed on the forecasting tool in the near future."

"Supporting new ideas, technologies and partnerships to solve pressing environmental challenges is how we bring RBC Tech for Nature to life," said Mark Beckles, vice-president of social impact and innovation for RBC. "This multifaceted forecasting tool for land managers will help them deal with the challenges of managing their lands, waters and productivity."



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Above all, farmers recognize the importance of being good stewards of the land, water, and air — their livelihoods are directly tied to the quality of the natural resources around them. To produce the food we all depend on, farmers know that sustainability and innovation must go hand in hand. "We all know that both food production and agriculture have an impact on the environment," says Tricia Schmalenberg, a professional engineer with Maple Leaf Agri-Farms. "We're trying to do our best to reduce that impact and reduce our carbon emissions."

Thanks to technological advances, lights, fans, and heating and cooling systems use significantly less energy than they once did, and electronic feeders ensure pigs are well fed while reducing the amount of wasted feed, increasing efficiency. Hog farms today require 40 percent less water, 33 percent less feed, and as much as 59 percent less land for every kilogram of pork produced compared to 50 years ago.

"I am really enthusiastic about the future of agriculture in Manitoba," Schmalenberg added. "Farmers have been stewards of the land for decades, and combining sustainability initiatives with their knowledge of the land will make for a great future in agriculture."

Manitoba hog farmers regularly invest in research, adopting new and emerging nutrient management methods, technology, and best management practices to further lessen their environmental impact. They follow stringent legislation and regulations to ensure not only the sustainability of the hog sector, but that our natural environment is preserved for future generations. This includes working with subject matter experts including environmental engineers like Tricia as well as professionals like scientists and agrologists to ensure our land and waterways are left in a better condition than they were found.

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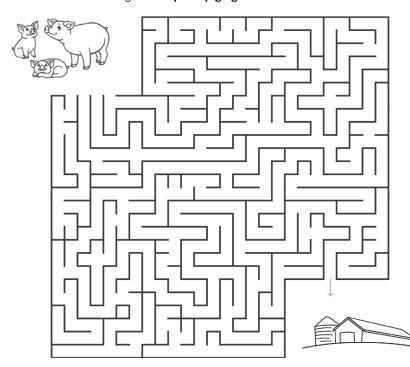


SPICY RIBS IN A BAG

These tender, fall-off-the-bone ribs come loaded with a kick of spice for those ready to dust off their BBQs and return to grilling. Find the full recipe at manitobapork.com/recipes

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Kevin Kurbis Sales Manager, New Standard Ag St. Andrews, MB Modern barns manage odour with state-of-the-art air ventilation control and monitoring technologies.



Did You Know?

The timing of when a couple cuts the wedding cake can have a specific meaning. Long ago, the cake was usually cut at the very end of the reception and would signal to the guests that it was the end of the festivities. Today, cutting the cake is an unspoken signal that represents that the formal wedding is nearing a close, and guests who

would like to leave can do so without worry of being rude. Many couples will cut the cake right after dinner as a courtesy to older guests who may want to get started on their trips home. This affords them the chance to make an earlier exit, rather than staying through the dancing that could extend into the wee hours of the night or missing

The tradition behind bridal veils

the cake entirely. Cutting the cake mid-reception also serves another practical purpose for couples who are paying a photographer by the hour. Photographers typically go home after the cake-cutting, so a mid-reception cutting can save couples a substantial amount of money.



Though couples can plan wedding ceremonies and receptions how they see fit, many weddings are steeped in tradition, some of which may be more subtle than others. One longstanding wedding tradition revolves around a bride's attire. Historians differ regarding the origins of the bridal veil, but some trace this tradition all the way back to Ancient Greece. Others suggest bridal veils were first popularized within the Roman Empire by people who believed that the veil pro-

tected the bride from evil spirits as she walked down the aisle. Traditions surrounding bridal veils even differ within various faiths, so the veil may signify one thing at a Jewish wedding and some-thing entirely different at a Christian ceremony. Veils also have long been seen by some as symbolic of purity. Despite their long-held position in wedding lore and tradition, veils are no longer seen as a must-have. Nor are brides who choose to wear a veil beholden to having it cover their face as they walk down the aisle. In fact, many modern brides now flip their veils over their head as they walk down the aisle en route to saying, "I do." Regardless of how brides who opt for veils choose to wear them, there's no denying the enduring popularity of this tradition.







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PHAC shines a spotlight on student art this month

By Lorne Stelmach

High school students from across the region set their artistic talents loose for the current exhibit on display at the Pembina Hills Gallery in Morden.

The annual show involving students from Morden, Winkler, and Altona is always a great opportunity for the youth that also presents them with the challenge of working within a theme.

This year, the work of students from Garden Valley Collegiate, Northlands Parkway Collegiate, Morden Collegiate, and W.C. Miller Collegiate had to somehow fit within the idea of *Black*, and it was interesting for their instructors to see what their students did with that theme.

"I think that may be my favorite component of the show. The central theme is decided upon by all of the schools," said Scott Bell of GVC. "Seeing the various creative ways the students interpret that central theme is always fascinating to me."

"You can take in so many different directions. It's not just dark; it's about things like elegance ... it had many places to go," said Dawn Rigaux of Morden Collegiate. "I want to see every kid take it in their own direction and do something outside the box with it and make it interesting."

"Everybody had their own take on it, and whatever they were interested in came through with that topic," noted Jill Ferris of W.C. Miller.

The four schools come up with the theme collectively and narrow it down from all of the ideas that come in from staff and students.

"It's difficult to pick a theme that's wide open enough that we can get



Artwork from Winkler, Morden, and Altona students is on display at the Pembina Hills Art Gallery this month.

all these kids from all these different schools to take it in different directions," observed Rigaux. "You need something that's got a lot of possibilities."

Morden Gr. 12 student Finley Folkett has been involved every year since Gr. 9 with work that has reflected her Métis background. Last year her piece was connected to the issue of murdered and missing Indigenous women. This year's piece is related to residential schools.

"I think it's an honour to actually get my art out there," she said. "I wanted to reflect on what I was seeing in the news and just put my emotions into it.

"It really struck a chord with me ... 'black' I associated with grief. I wanted it to also maybe strike a chord with

whoever was looking at it."

Folkett's striking piece features an Indigenous girl in the foreground and a nun in the background cutting her hair. It represents cutting off your memories.

"I wanted the Indigenous girl to be front and centre. I wanted that to be your main focus because you want to feel the emotion of that child," she explained.

Involved in the show for the first time this year, W.C. Miller Gr. 12 student Tyson Tarnick was also inspired by the theme, but in a different way.

"Right away I thought of something medieval, and I chose to do a black knight," he explained, noting he thought "using charcoal kind of made it look better and almost maybe stand out a little more."



He welcomed the opportunity to have people see his artwork.

"It feels pretty cool, and this is my last year of high school as well, so to do this feels pretty good," he said. "I'm thinking I will be taking arts in university and just continuing with it ... it's always been a bit of a passion to draw."

It was also the first exhibit for his fellow Altona student Kaylee Franz, who just picked up art class two years ago.

ago. "I think it's cool, especially in the aspect that it's alongside peers of mine ... being able to compare work from person to person and to be able to have my input is pretty cool," she said.

Continued on page 20

'70s Show' Saturday in Winkler supports Back 40 Festival

By Lorne Stelmach

The Back 40 Festival returns to the stage again this weekend in Winkler for its annual 70s Show fundraiser.

It features local musicians paying tribute to favorite musical acts from the decade, and festival chairperson Scott Bell hopes for another good crowd like they had last year in their return post-pandemic.

"We had that two-year hiatus then we were able to bring it back last year, and we were so grateful for the audience that came to that show. It was well attended, and I think everybody had a really good time.

"It is our sole fundraiser. We're a non-profit, volunteer-run organiza-

tion, so this is what helps pay for the outdoor festival aside from sponsorships from some local businesses."

The 70s Show takes place this Saturday, April 22, at 7:30 p.m. at the P.W. Enns Centennial Concert Hall with eight local music acts, including bands and solo performers, doing tributes.

Link and the Moustaches will be paying tribute to George Thorogood, Bill Dowling and the Even Breaks will perform Van Morrison, Jenessa Kehler will be playing Leonard Cohen, The Committee will be playing AC/ DC, the Monochromatics will be doing The Clash, BK and the Bad Habits will perform the Rolling Stones, Duane Hiebert and band will be doing David Bowie, and Big Robbie G will be performing the Eagles.

Bell thinks they have an interesting and varied lineup of music for the show that should appeal to a lot of people.

"We're grateful to the performers who play every year and volunteer their time and their talents," he said. "The spirit of camaraderie and musical kinship is just awesome. Back stage is such a fun place to be with the buzz of excitement, the bands cheering each other on and supporting each other.

"For the audience, I hope they really enjoy it. We're putting on the best show that we can, and I know it's also a special experience for the community of musicians who are involved." The 70s Show also serves as a prelude to the Back 40 Festival set for June 4, with a few details about this year's event often announced at the concert.

"That's sort of become the tradition," Bell said. "I can say it will be a nice balance of musicians from Winnipeg, from other areas of the province and then of course some southern Manitoba musicians. We always try to make sure the local area is represented well."

Ticket information for the concert is available at www.winklerconcerthall. ca.

20 The Voice Thursday, April 20, 2023

Spring melt begins





PHOTOS BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS AND LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

The spring melt meant the City of Morden last week was keeping its eyes on the Dead Horse Creek (left), which was running full but still within the banks. "The city so far is not expecting the creek to overflow the banks. However, there is risk of ice jamming at the railway and highway bridge, and the city is keeping a close eye on both," deputy city manager Santokh Randhawa said on Friday. In Winkler, high water levels closed Pembina Ave. by the cemetery (above), though the road was opened two days later. Various rural roads have also been closed in both Rhineland and Stanley due to water levels. Head to the RM websites for upto-date details as the spring thaw continues.

Many Hands to organize Morden Farmers Market

By Lorne Stelmach

Many Hands Resource Centre is preparing to oversee the weekly Morden farmers market starting this summer.

The organization is taking over from the Morden Chamber of Commerce, and it is seen as a good fit for Many Hands, given it has already been involved in the past through the Direct Farm Manitoba food currency program.

"They knew how much we already participate in the farmers market ... and we were very interested," said executive director Mariyam Tsygankova. "It is a perfect fit for us, and we are very excited about it."

A large part of the mission of Many Hands is to help create a healthy community, she noted, and it ties in well with the organization also co-ordinating the food bank program out of the 500 Stephen Community Centre.

"Shopping at the farmers market has a ton of advantages. You're not only supporting local farmers but it can also be a fun and inexpensive outing," Tsygankova said. "The farmers market is a great way to bring the community together and get customers for local small businesses ... it can aid in job creation and economic development. This means more money stays in the local economy."

Tsygankova also sees the food cur-

rency program not only continuing but being better co-ordinated and perhaps even expanded.

Initiated through Direct Farm Manitoba, the program provides community food coupons to participants to spend directly on products at their local farmers market, increasing access to fresh farm food for food insecure Manitobans while also supporting producers.

¹ The program was piloted in the 2020 market season. In 2022, it served 230 households.

Additional funding from the Mani-

toba Building Sustainable Communities program and Winnipeg Foundation has provided almost \$1.1 million to expand the program further for the 2023, 2024, and 2025 seasons.

As for the Morden Farmers Market, it kicks off for another year on June 29. It will run Thursdays starting at 4 p.m. at its usual location downtown by the art gallery.

"We've started registration already. We already have some vendors coming back, and we have some new people and new vendors as well, so that is exciting," said Tsygankova. "We won't change much. The location is the same, and almost everything will be the same. We will just try to bring more people, not only the vendors but we would maybe like to have some other organizations participate as well, and we want to have more people participate.

"We also have opportunities for volunteers," said Tsygankova, who encouraged people to contact her by email at director@manyhandsrc.com or phone at 1-431-774-1699.

> STUDENT ART SHOW, FROM PG. 19

"It's quite an open-ended topic, so then everyone has the opportunity to be creative and come up with their own ideas and demonstrate their own personality through their art.

"Since I started art, I've enjoyed it and being able to consider my art to be good enough to show to other people is definitely encouragement to keep creating."

"When people see the show, I think they'll be impressed with the variety and depth of thought that went into it," suggested Bell.

He always sees it as a tremendous opportunity for the students. "The regional show for the high schools in the area has always been a great opportunity to collaborate with other schools and make our students aware of what great work kids in other schools are doing.

"Any public display opportunity we get is really welcomed, but this show is always really special," Bell said. "It's a professional gallery, and I think the students learn the importance of presenting their work in the best possible way, to really carefully consider the work they're creating and who their audience will be and who will see it ... it's an awesome learning opportunity."

"It's all different types of media

and different art forms, and the students get to see what other students are creating," noted Ferris. "The gallery has hosted this student art show for years, and traditionally, in the community, there's very good participation. There's a lot of people who come to this show expecting to see good quality student artwork."

"Art's made to be shown. I tell kids that all the time," said Rigaux. "Art needs an audience. I can give them an audience here, and their peers can, but it's different to put it out there to the public."

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

Sports&recreation





Magics show off their skills

Morden Magics The gymnastics club, which has members from across the region, wrapped up its 35th season with a display night April 11. Above, left: Ava Earl on the bars. Right: Emery Griffin on the balance beam. Above and below: The Magics' CCP (Canadian Competitive Program) 3 and CCP 4 athletes performed a myriad of group floor exercises that had them leaping, doing handstands, and making human pyramids.

PHOTOS BY RICK HIEBERT/VOICE









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1. For the control of noxious weeds within the City of Morden and in accordance with the Noxious Weed Act, Environment Act and the Non-Essential Pesticide Use Regulations between May 1st and October 31st the following herbicides may be used:

- Fiesta (Iron HEDTA)
- Par 3 (mecocorp-p, 2,4-D, dicamba)
- Round-up (Glyphosate)

2. To control larval mosquitoes in stagnant/standing water, within the City of Morden and 1 mile beyond the city boundary on public property, rights-of way, and ditches between May 1st to October 1st 2022 the following biological larvicides may be used include:

• Aquabac (Bacillus thuringiensis var. israelensis -Bti) • Vectobac (Bacillus thuringiensis var. israelensis -Bti)

3. To control adult mosquitoes along streets and lanes, City parks, golf courses, cemeteries, and rights-of-ways within the City boundaries between May 1st and October 31st, 2023, by way of ultra-low volume mist sprayers the following insecticide may be used:

• DeltaGard 20EW ULV

4. To control elm bark beetles, the carrier of Dutch Elm Disease, by spraying Pyrate (chlorpyrifos) onto the lower 50cm of elm trees on both public and private property from approximately June 1st until October 15, 2023.

5. To control Dutch Elm Disease by way of macro injection directly into the root flare of American elm trees, Arbotect 20-S fungicide will be used between June 1st and August 31st.

6. To control other insect pests between May 1st and October 31st, 2023, the following may be used:

- Safer's Insecticidal Soap (potassium salts)
- Copper Fungicide Spray
- Foray 48B (Btk)
- Sevin (carbaryl)

Any person may, within 15 days after this notice is published, send a written submission to Manitoba Conservation regarding the above control program or register with the department their written objection to the use of pesticides next to their property to:

Pesticide Use Permit Program Manitoba Environment and Climate

Environmental Approvals Branch

Box 35, 14 Fultz Blvd, Winnipeg MB R3Y 0L6

T: (204) 945-7107

F: (204) 945-5229

E: pesticideusepermit@gov.mb.ca

W: www.gov.mb.ca/sd/environment_and_biodiversity/pesticides Any person who may wish to discuss the control policy may also contact the City of Morden, Parks & Urban Forestry Department at 204.362.3999 or email sdias@mymorden.ca

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Water Treatment **Plant Operator Position** -PEMBINA VALLEY **Stephenfield**, **MB** WATER COOPERATIVE INC

EMPLOYMENT

Pembina Valley Water Cooperative is seeking applicants for the fulltime (40 hrs/week) position of Water Treatment Plant Operator in Stephenfield MB. The Stephenfield plant is one of three regional plants inside the Pembina Valley Water Coop, located 20 km west of Carman on highway 245. Pembina Valley Water Coop is Manitoba's 3rd largest water utility, producing potable water for 14 municipalities in south central Manitoba. Three water plants feed a network of over 9000 square kms.

What we have to offer:

- Excellent benefits package offered by the municipal
 - government program
- Competitive industry wage (\$22.00 to start, with no previous industry experience)
- Certified Level 1-3 wage range from \$24.00-\$34.00
- (Provincial certification program based) • Company matched retirement savings program (starts at 8%
- match) through MEBP Strong support for internal training
- An environment geared towards learning
- · 2 weeks holidays to start, 3 weeks after 3 years
- Strong safety focus

Position Description:

In this position you will perform day-to-day activities consisting of the monitoring and control of the water treatment process. Performance of day-to-day maintenance, process checks, troubleshooting, laboratory analysis, administration, and duties with respect to reservoirs and pumping stations. Collect, record, and analyze data daily, perform necessary adjustments to optimize the process performance. When Certification is obtained, applicant will be scheduled into a rotation that will consist of working alone on the weekend and some holidays. During this time, they will be expected to be on call and responsible for the process after hours. All on call and afterhours work will be compensated.

Qualifications:

- Valid driver's licence
- · A good team player and positive attitude
- Good communications skills

weather conditions

· Good mechanical aptitude • Willingness to learn and further education

Excel. Scada familiarity an asset

Comfortable handling chemicals

1931 for more information.

· Ability to work at heights, in confined spaces and in inclement

· Flexibility to work some weekends and holidays

Computer competency; emphasis on Microsoft Word and

· Any trade experience or post secondary education is an asset

Training will be provided to obtain water plant operator certification.

Interested applicants should forward their resume to

water@pvwc.ca by 4pm, April 28th, 2023, or call 204-324-



The Voice Thursday, April 20, 2023 25



PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING UNDER THE PLANNING ACT

The City of Winkler, under the authority of The Planning Act, will hold a hearing at which time and place the council of the City of Winkler will receive representation from the applicants and any other persons who wish to make representations in respect of the Rezoning Application No. RZ2023-003 and By-law No. 2300-23, being an amendment to Winkler Zoning By-law 2271-21 of the City of Winkler.

The general intent of the above By-Law No. 2300-23, is to zone the land described below, Namely:

224 Victoria St, legally described as Lot 10, Block 1, Plan 30045 MLTO.

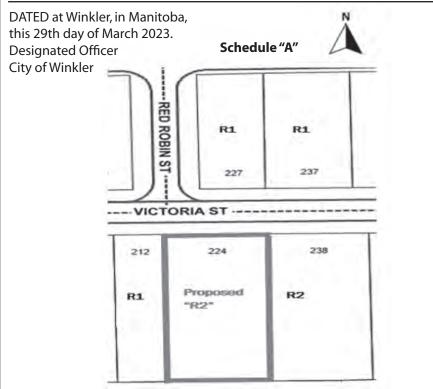
as shown outlined in a heavy solid line on the map attached hereto as Schedule "A", and forming part of this by-law, be rezoned

FROM: "R1" DEVELOPMENT RESERVE

TO: "R2" RESIDENTIAL MEDIUM DENSITY

A copy of the above By-Law No. 2300-23 and supporting material may be inspected by any persons between the hours of 9:00 AM and 5:00 PM, Monday to Thursday and 9:00 AM and 4:30 PM, Friday, in the City Office.

Date of Hearing:	May 9, 2023
Time of Hearing:	6:30 p.m.
Location:	Winkler Council Chambers, 185 Main Street, Winkler, Manitoba



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OBITUARY



1930 – 2023 Peacefully, Elma Nickel passed away on Monday, April 10, 2023 at the Boundary Trails Health Centre.

Elma Nickel (nee Unrau)

Elma was born on June 21, 1930 in Winnipeg, MB. She grew up in the Rosenheim district at the homestead of her parents, the Reverend Jacob A. and Anna Unrau. She enjoyed her years at the Rosenheim School until she was needed at home for caregiving and other duties. Mom spoke fondly of her work experience at the Boise Cannery in St. Catherines, Ontario 1949/50. Once back home in the same year a special relationship began with a young man who would be her husband for 50 years. Elma married Henry Nickel of Weidenfeld in October of 1950. For most of their years together they lived on a small farm south of Plum Coulee where

they raised six children. Once we children were grown, Mom felt she had more caring to give and so began work in homecare. She acquired a Red River College certificate to support this 15 year career. Elma was strong in spirit, tackling life with courage, sensibility, efficiency and forever strove for a higher standard. Her resourcefulness and creativity were expressed through her sewing, gardening, canning, baking and all forms of needle work. Elma had a sharp sense of humour enjoyed by all who knew her. When that sparkle appeared in those round brown eyes a good anecdote was sure to follow. She enjoyed adventures such as fishing, berry picking, sports. Mom was an avid Toronto Blue Jays fan and could talk baseball with the best of them. Elma joyfully engaged in mission work with a special love for the Grimsby Sewing Circle. Later when she moved to Winkler, she became involved with the Mennonite Central Committee Thrift Store and for as long as she was physically able contributed mounds of hand made crafts to the Christmas Shoe Box and other projects.

Elma was deeply committed to her faith which clearly guided her throughout her life journey. In June of 1950 she was baptized and became a member of the Sommerfeld Church, attending the Plum Coulee Sommerfeld Church during their years on the farm. After Dad's passing Mom moved to Winkler where she attended the Sommerfeld Church for as long as she was physically able and then very much enjoyed the church services at the Buhler Centre. Elma was a wonderful mother, with a wisdom to nurture each of her children according to their individual natures. Mom would say she had six different ways of parenting her six children. She deeply loved each grandchild and great-grandchild, making this evident through the stories she proudly told and retold about them. She was entirely devoted to her family and friends.

Elma will be greatly missed and lovingly remembered by her children: Judy Nickel, Irene and Rob Patterson, Janet and Harold Pauls, Grace Nickel and Michael Zajac, Robert Nickel, Jim Nickel and Candice McDiarmid; her grandchildren: Angela and Nathan Gerbrandt, Julia and Brad Minnis, Richard and Mandi Pauls, John Patterson and Rachael Thorleifson, Jeffrey Pauls, Joseph Nickel; and great-grandchildren: Taylor and Lauren Minnis, Zachary, James and Riley Gerbrandt, Jacob and Cooper Pauls.

Elma was predeceased by her husband, Henry Nickel; her parents, Reverend Jacob A. and Anna Unrau (Kehler); her stepmother, Katharina Unrau (Tina Penner); brother, Peter Unrau. Also, Elma leaves to mourn sisters-in-law, Helen Wiebe and Kathy Loewen, brother-in-law, John Wiebe and dear nieces and nephews.

Funeral service was held at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 15, 2023 at the Winkler Sommerfeld Mennonite Church with interment at the Weidenfeld Cemetery.

The family thanks Dr. Miller, Dr. Lane and the Boundary Trails Health Centre nursing team, the palliative care team both in hospital and at home, the first responders and homecare. All have been splendid in supporting us through this difficult journey and we are truly grateful for such quality professionals in southern Manitoba.

Donations in memory of Elma may be made to Boundary Trails Health Centre Foundation designated to the Palliative Care Unit.

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





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getinformed

Tickets still available for PHAC chili night

By Lorne Stelmach

The popular annual chili bowl fundraiser in support of the Pembina Hills Arts Council (PHAC) returns next week.

Choosing a handmade pottery bowl made by a local artist and then filling it with some delicious chili will be on the menu Friday, April 28 with two sittings at 5 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.

The event in recent years has raised upwards of \$1,000 for the arts council, but just as important is the chance to promote local artists and local potters and bring people into the gallery space, said Tye Dandridge-Evancio, PHAC programs and outreach co-ordinator.

"We have our local potters who have made quite a selection of handmade bowls," he said. "Our guests have their choice of bowl, and they will be given a delicious serving of chili with a meat option and a vegetarian option.

"It's going to be a really great evening of art and also great food and obviously good company."

A highlight of the night is seeing the work of the local potters who supply the bowls, which patrons get to take home with them.

"All the unique bowls they make are

DKSM students perform with WSO



By Voice staff

Douglas Kuhl School of Music students got the opportunity to perform with the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra at its Adventures in Music concert for school-age kids last week

On April 12, DKSM performers from Morden, Winkler, Altona, and Manitou, led by instructor Sarah-Lynn Bergen, played with the WSO on one piece: "Great Gates of Kiev" by Modest Mussorgsky.

DKSM director Rochelle Drudge notes that they've had the opportunity to send musicians to this program SUPPLIED PHOTO

in the past, but not since 2019. For all but one of the kids it was their first time taking part.

The photo above, from left, shows Bergen with Jaden Siemens, Delanie Neufeld, Emily Pelser, Macy Hildebrand, James Wiens, Charis Li, Seolah Kim, Veronica Sanders, WSO bass player Eric Timperman (who has been making the trip from Winnipeg to Morden to teach local bass students and will be in Winkler this summer to serve as an instructor at DKSM's Cadenza Music Week camp), and Drudge.



PHAC's annual chili bowl fundraiser takes place next week Friday, April 28.

exceptional, and this year is no different," said Dandridge-Evancio "This year, I think, might even be the most spectacular yet because our ceramics department has really been taking off in the past couple months, and we have quite a few 'eager beavers' so to speak working away at it. We're certainly expecting some really, really great stuff this time around."

Tickets are \$50 each. Seating is limited.

Register online at www.pembinahillsarts.com, stop by the gallery, or call 204-822-6026.

Flyers hand out awards



PHOTO BY RYAN SAWATZKY/WINKLER FLYERS

The Winkler Flyers gathered last week to celebrate the end of the season with their annual awards banquet. Taking home honours were Carter Dittmer (Scholastic Player of the Year), Dalton Andrew (Most Improved Player), Malachi Klassen (Community Commitment Award), Aidan Comeau (Unsung Hero Award), Kyle Crewe (Leadership & Perseverance Award), Trent Sambrook (Top Defenseman & MVP Award), Zach Nicolas (Rookie of the Year), and Mike Svenson and Trent Penner (Top Forwards)

Protect our Species

Meaningful fun ways to celebrate Earth Day

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 more than 193 countries.

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.

• Make it a point to bike or walk to school or work. If conditions are prohibitive, carpool to cut down on traffic. The fewer cars on the road, the less emissions in the air. • Recycle e-waste in your home. E-waste is considered outdated electronic appliances that are no longer used. The Environmental Protection Agency suggests e-waste is the fastest growing waste stream in the world.

• 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

ne

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.

Future s n

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FOR LETTING US BE PART OF YOUR COMMUNITY!

TO DATE THIS YEAR WITH THE HELP OF MANITOBANS, MWM ENVIRONMENTAL HAS DIVERTED 126.605 TONNES OF COMPOST AND 687.185 TONNES OF RECYCLING.

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 with the numbers 1,2,4,5,7 (includes bottles, pails, tubs & 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



The actions we take today affect the future for generations.

Araile at main will be able to a little

