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The *Winkler Morden* Voice

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Snow day fun

Some people made the best of the recent spring snow storm to have some outdoor wintry fun. Among them were Stefano and Bianca Bellisario, who enjoyed building this snowman.
PHOTO BY RICK HIEBERT/VOICE

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Mayor celebrates city's success

Annual address also acknowledges challenges faced by Morden

By Lorne Stelmach

Morden Mayor Brandon Burley both celebrated the city's successes and embraced the challenges in his state of the city address last week.

His message presented in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Morden and District Chamber of Commerce highlighted Morden's status as the fastest growing city in Manitoba. However, he also readily acknowledged the growing pains that come with it.

"With growth comes opportunities and challenges that council must be prepared to meet head-on along with our business and community partners like MCDC (Morden Community Development Corporation) and the chamber of commerce," Burley said in the virtual address.

"We have at times made mistakes; we've at times succeeded. We've always tried to be effective, and we're very, very proud to have had the opportunity to serve you ... and to be partners in growth, partners in realizing the potential of Morden."

Burley touched on a number of areas ranging from council's priorities in the past year to where they think the city can go from here, and he began by emphasizing the importance of stabilizing the city's finances and administration.

"We're pleased to have achieved full financial reporting and regulatory conformity as far as our municipal finance and reporting requirements are concerned.

"This council has had a strong focus on reducing operational costs without cutting services," he said. "We're doing this in a number of ways. Firstly, we're doing it by prioritizing investment in capital projects that increase our efficiencies. In 2021, we reduced operating costs per capita over 2020 and again in our 2022 budget, we delivered another per capita reduction without cutting services."

He highlighted the move to restructure the city organization to being more department director driven and giving them the authority and the ability to make decisions.

"Each of our directors has done an outstanding job in identifying ways that they can increase efficiency in their departments," he suggested.

Burley went on then to stress the importance of finding long term solutions to growth-related challenges and spe-



SCREENSHOT

Morden Mayor Brandon Burley offered his state of the city address virtually in conjunction with the chamber of commerce annual meeting.

cifically in relation to water and wastewater.

"Water has been a significant challenge to the City of Morden over the past year. We're happy to say that, in partnership with the Pembina Valley Water Co-op and regional partners, we've been able to provide short term solutions to our water challenges," he said.

"We've learned through the drought that water security is dependent on all of us. Without regional water security, no individual municipality can have full confidence in their own security."

Burley stressed that they are striving to identify long term solutions to their wastewater needs by "pursuing every possible avenue to provide cost effective, stable means of supplying new wastewater facilities to the City of Morden.

"Water and wastewater continue to be our core priority. It's what we're engaged in every day, but on top of that, there are some other opportunities that we intend to pursue and we're going to work hard on," he said.

Burley then touched on a number of other priorities for him starting with working to approve their parks and urban forestry master plan.

"Our parks and urban forestry manager Shawn Dias has done an incredible amount of work on this document," he said.

He also emphasized wanting to really boost their immigration program again.

"After two years of almost no movement, our immigration program has begun to flow again,"

he suggested.

"This labour program has been driven by our business community, operated through MCDC, and the City of Morden has invested a substantial amount of energy into this program. We will continue to invest in this program, recognizing that many other communities have access to comparable programs, but our reputation is still best in class."

Near and dear to him as well has always been Lake Minnewasta and fully realizing its potential.

"Lake Minnewasta also continues to be a key priority for us," said Burley. "Investing in this destination amenity that we believe can be best in class and offer year round recreational programming."

Burley also celebrated the recent announcement that Assiniboine Community College in Brandon would use Morden as a site for nurse training.

"We believe that this region is ready for better access to post secondary education. It is a priority for us, but this comes with relationship building," he said.

With municipal elections set for this fall, Burley concluded by suggesting they have been taking all of the necessary steps to "ensure that the next council is ready to build on our financial planning, asset management planning and can succeed right out of the gate."

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Convoys keep staff safe during storm

Caravans organized to get workers to and from hospital

By Lorne Stelmach

Local municipal services rose to the occasion during last week's winter storm to ensure hospital staff could safely get to and from work.

Co-ordinated through the Southern Emergency Response Committee, convoys that included snowplows and local firefighters were organized to Boundary Trails Health Centre.

The effort also included ensuring that the hospital had cots for staff to use if they opted to just stay put at the facility, so the response overall was heartening for everyone there, said hospital Lorraine Cassan.

"It's just amazing the community support that this hospital gets," she said. "This makes all the difference for us because without this, we really would have been relying on the staff that was here staying here if other staff couldn't get in ... they could have ended up being really burnt out, working long hours, so this allowed a bit of a reprieve."

The Southern Emergency Response Committee had helped organize a previous effort a few years during a winter storm, this for the hospital previously, so Cassan said it was great for the hospital to know that it could be counted on again this time.

"We knew it had the potential to be a fairly big storm, so we met as a leadership team and talked through what we needed to do to get ready for it."

The plan had hospital workers meet at muster points at Meridian Exhibition Centre in Winkler and Access Event Centre in Morden.

A convoy left Winkler at 7 a.m. and Morden at 7:30 a.m. and then again at 2 and 7 p.m. in Winkler and at 2:30 and 7:30 p.m. in Morden with the convoys also taking people back at the ends of their shifts, and a snowplow and fire truck then lead them to the hospital.

Cassan said they wanted to provide options for staff, some of whom were able to manage on their own.

"We also had a shelter in place, so if they were storm stayed and didn't like to travel in this kind of weather ... the response committee also gave us some cots, and we set up some rooms for the staff to stay in when they were off shift," she said.

"We also got hotel rooms so the staff who lived out further in the country,

they were able to stay at the hotel and would probably be able to make it to the muster point easier.

"For the staff who really wanted to get home when they were not working and be with their families, then they could use this convoy to be safer."

Morden fire chief Andy Thiessen said they were glad to provide the extra support.

"There was no hesitation at all, as long as we were still able to do it safely," said Thiessen, whose Winkler counterparts assisted as well.

"It was basically just to help lead them through," he said. "The key thing was the graders and the maintainers that went ahead of us. We were basically just there to help; if someone kind of gets off to the side, we were there to help them out."

Thiessen noted he had a call from his doctor, who was uncertain about even getting to the muster point.

"That's the sort of things we're doing too is to pick people up if they can't even get down their street."

"There's always people around who are ready to help; people are ready to jump in if they can and help out as much as possible," said Thiessen.

Cassan added it is especially at times like this that the dedication of their staff is on display.

"The staff here have been amazing," she said. "Everybody who works the facility really came together to support ... staff were even looking at their schedules and saying 'you know, you live really out far, so I can cover this shift for you."

"It's been incredible, and it's been from all of our departments as well," she added. "They were all in, and they were making it work, and they were putting patient care first."



PHOTOS BY CRAIG DOELL/TWITTER

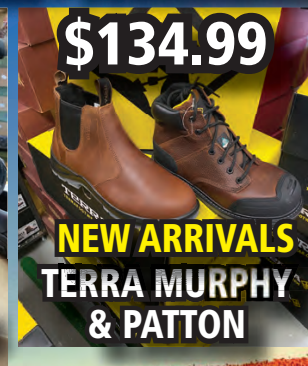
Convoys started from the arenas in Morden and Winkler and ensured hospital staff got to and from work during the blizzard.

Correction

A story on Pg. 8 of the April 7 edition of the Voice included an error in the amount the Winkler Shoppers Drug Mart store donated to Genesis House through its Shoppers Love You campaign. The total should have read \$2,711. We regret the mistake and any confusion it may have caused.

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Mail issues remain in region

By Lorne Stelmach

Many questions remain around postal service in and around Morden but especially in the RM of Stanley.

Although it appears things may be improving at least to a small degree, rural residents since before Christmas have faced varying levels of interruptions in their mail service and have continued to wonder what Canada Post is doing about it.

The issue seems to be particularly a concern on rural routes such as the one that serves Wes Hamm, an RM of Stanley resident who previously noted mail came to their new 'super mailbox' only once over a two week period over the Christmas and New Year period.

The delivery contained only a token of what should have accumulated by that time, said Hamm, who had recognized the problem does not lie with the local workers but moreso with the post office in Morden being critically understaffed.

"We think we may now be getting mail every Tuesday and Thursday when the weather is okay," Hamm said in offering an update last week.

"We still can't get any information from the post office," he said. "They're posting their hours ... but it has been changing often, and I asked if it was going to be a regular thing.

"If we actually got mail twice a week from now on, I would be happy. At least then I would know when it is coming," he continued. "There's pretty select things that come in the mail now. In some cases, it has to do with our employment, so it is important.

"From what I understand, Winkler has had some issues like this but it's not to the same extent," Hamm continued. "I know the postal workers who are left are trying their hardest, and I know that they are probably working extra hours, so it's not a lack of commitment, it's just a lack of support from Canada Post, I think.

"I know what bothers me the most is just the lack of communication. We weren't told this was going to be a problem ... if I ask about it at the post office, the standard answer is we don't know ... and they probably don't," said Hamm.

"There at least seems to be a little bit more consistency now, but it's a long ways from what it was," he said.

RM of Stanley Reeve Morris Olafson briefly weighed in on the issue last week, saying that he understands that Canada Post have had "major manpower issues which they haven't rectified yet.

"I think most rural residents were only getting their mail every week or every two weeks there for a while," he said. "I understand it's maybe getting a little better now, which is good, but they've got quite a ways to go to get themselves back up to snuff.

"Any improvement would be really appreciated ... I don't know how easily you're going to fix it because there's manpower issues all over the place ... if that's the reason," he said. "But I think it's improved in the last few weeks at least."

An earlier statement from Canada Post had only acknowledged there had been an impact on their



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

It appears there has been some minor improvement in mail service, but issues have remained now for around four months.

staffing and services as a result of the pandemic.

The Voice had also previously reached out to the Canadian Union of Postal Workers for comment but did not receive a response, and it again reached out to Canada Post for comment, but for a second time it would not provide a representative for an interview.

"Our experienced delivery and mail processing teams are working hard to provide consistent postal services while we are in the process of hiring and filling vacancies," according to a brief email statement from media relations representative Hayley Magermans.

"There are currently opportunities posted to our website, and we are expecting more to be posted in the next few weeks," she said. "In the meantime, customers can still pick up their parcels at the Morden post office, and we appreciate our customer's patience as we work through these staffing issues."

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Juried art show kicks off

Debuts in Winkler before touring the region

By Voice staff

Artists and galleries alike all embrace the annual Central Region Juried Art Exhibition as a highlight of the year.

For the artists, it is a valuable opportunity to get feedback on their work, and the galleries get a varied show with a diverse range of styles and artistic perspective.

Organized by the Central Cultural Council, the juried art show brings together pieces that represent a broad spectrum of mediums, styles and subject matter and shows the talent of the region's artists, and there is a people's choice award with the winning piece then used as part of the following year's promotional material.

Each year, it is opened and kicked off by one of the participating arts associations, and this year, the show is kicking off April 28 at Winkler Arts and Culture Centre as the host before the touring exhibit travels the region in the months ahead.

The work can feature a wide array of visual art pieces, photography, fiber arts, woodcarving, pottery and stained glass and more, and the artists receive feedback on their submissions from the panel of jurors.

Between 30 and 40 pieces are selected to go on tour, and usually there are 10 pieces are chosen to receive an invitation to participate in the MB Rural and Northern Juried Arts Show, which is a Winnipeg-based provincial level exhibition that aims to celebrate the artistic achievements of artists from Manitoba's rural communities.

The exhibit introduces Winnipeg audiences to the artistic work generated by visual artists from beyond the perimeter with pieces selected from the Eastman, Westman, Central, Parkland, Northern and Interlake regions.

After debuting in May at Winkler Arts and Culture, the juried art show continues on to Tiger Hills Arts Association in Holland for June, Golden Prairie Arts Council in Carman for July, Prairie Fusion Arts and Entertainment in Portage for August then Pembina Hills Arts Council in Morden for October before concluding in November at the Manitou Opera House.

letter to the editor

A plea to Canada's leaders

The time is now, not 2030, not 2025. Now.

The recent federal approval of Bay du Nord, a new oil project off the coast of Newfoundland, is a mistake.

In the 1990s, Canada had some credibility on environmental and climate change. Ripped to shreds by nice words, empty words.

In 2009, the Canadian government agreed with the other G20 nations to end fossil fuel subsidies. This still has not happened. Canada was the first country to withdraw from the Kyoto Protocol in 2011.

The Kyoto Protocol came into force in 2005 and called for emission reductions below the 1990 level by 2012. In reality, Canadian emissions increased by 30 per cent in that period. Since then, no reductions.

The Paris Agreement of 2015 made plans to meet the 1.5 temperature increase target. Not happening. The 2020 climate conference in Madrid was a disappointment. Glasgow 2021 was more pledges and some money - actual reduction remains to be seen.

The time is now.

The earth has a carbon budget. Science knows how much more GHG the earth can tolerate and still be able to moderate climate changes. Present oil production will push us over the limit into a deficit and into dramatic climate trouble for millions.

No new production to make up for changes in Russia.

For the sake of the children, fossil fuel production must be capped and reduced. For now, shut down the oil sands. U.S. Senator Manchin, shut down your coal mines.

China, India and the U.S., stop burning coal to generate electricity. Ontario did it years ago. Create transition plans now for immediate implementation.

Carbon capture is a distraction and a delaying tactic. Like recycling, good idea, but not getting at the real problem. It is a crutch and too small to meet the need.

Act as global citizens. Governments and corporations must cooperate. No more empty words. Any and all Canadian governments must act. Enough words already, action now.

- Ray & Marilyn Hamm
Neubergthal

Water rate hike in Winkler's future

By Lorne Stelmach

A water rate increase will be in Winkler's near future, but how much and when remains to be determined.

It will be set out after the completion of a water rate review, and that process and an explanation of how the rate recommendation will be arrived at was set out at last week's city council meeting.

"It won't be just a minor adjustment," Mayor Martin Harder suggested, given the impact of the water treatment plant upgrades and the coming wastewater treatment plant project.

"I think with the major investments that will be going in there, it will be, well, to put it lightly, a significant increase. I wouldn't want to speculate what it could be," said Harder. "There's no timeline available yet. I don't anticipate it will be in this term."

The presentation noted that water rate studies are typically done every five to 10 years, although every three to five years may be recommended.

The aim is to avoid large increases from rates that have remained stag-

nant for too long or incurring deficits due to outdated and inadequate rates.

Winkler's last rate application was 2012, but rates had remained adequate since the utility has been quite stable. However, the two large projects will now impact rates, so the city is getting ahead of the rate adjustments now. Instead of a single large increase in a few years, the city is proposing to step up the rates in increments over the next few years to lessen the shock.

"We should do it on a more regular basis, but if we don't have any significant changes ... and if your water utilities are carrying themselves, the rate

review isn't as critical," said Harder.

"But when you're making some significant changes or planning to, then you need to do a water rate review, and you plug in some of those other numbers and try to figure out what the rates should be," he said.

The Manitoba Public Utilities Board will take a number of things into consideration including the following"

- generally trying to assure the rates are fair to customers but allow for a self sufficient utility.

- seeing that rates are also to be the full cost of running the utility and not subsidized by other funds or itself

subsidizing other funds.

- full cost should also mean the utility does not run into a deficit under the approved rates

After council approves the proposed new rate structure by doing first reading of the new bylaw, the rate application is made to the board.

The approval process could take four to six months. In the meantime, the proposed new rates will eventually be brought to a hearing for public input. If there is public opposition, a board hearing could be scheduled to hear from the public and explain the rates in more detail.

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Smoke on the water

When it comes to political decision making I am convinced the most scientific and rigorous research efforts undertaken are the measurement of outrage on social media and email.

The loudest, most angry pile of voices clearly indicates the correct decision, even if those voices come from a group of four people in a community of 9,000.

Of course I am exaggerating ... I am prone to hyperbole. Forgive me. Research and science undergird all decisions and then screaming voices tell us how hard we have to work to rationalize choices if they don't support the research and science.

Oh crap, I did it again. What a grumpy columnist you ended up with today.

Decisions can be difficult in the political realm because councils largely depend on reliable employees to do the hard work of research so that when choices have to be made they can trust their recommendations.

When Winkler had to make the decision to allow liquor sales in the city they largely depended on public opinion. It's not that research was not available or even used. I'm sure it was. It's just that the issue of liquor was a hot button topic where making

a unilateral decision without input from residents would have been a political nightmare. Based on their community culture, their process was a good one.

In Morden, one of the fun, increasingly loud conversations people have been having over the years is the topic of motorized vehicles operating on the city's drinking water and recreational reservoir: Minnewasta Pond, errr, I mean Lake Minnewasta.

Based purely on my highly biased gut feeling I would suspect that most Mordenites would prefer that motorized vehicles stay off of the lake. I would personally prefer this given that it seems silly to immerse part of a gas engine into our drinking water, not to mention the safety concerns I have for kayaks, canoes, paddle boarders, etc.

But my gut is not science. My gut is not research. No well-managed city or organization would make a decision based on what someone simply wanted, would they? Of course not (wink).

Fortunately there is quite a lot of freely available peer-reviewed research that can speak to the value vs. detriment of motorized vehicles on a (very) small, shallow body of water.

Setting aside pollution concerns for a moment (and anyone who might argue for an electric motor), the turbidity caused by propellers is big concern for a lake like Minnewasta. Turbidity means the stirring up of sediments that propellers cause.

High turbidity stirs up sediments which can release nutrients like phosphorous leading to algae growth and blooms. This dramatically increases the cost/effort to clean the water for drinking.

In one study in 1980 phosphorous

increased on studied lakes by as much as 28-55 percent after motorized boats were used compared to control lakes without boats.

Waves caused by motorized vehicles lead to shoreline erosion and increased sediment released into the water as well leading to the same issues.

Of course we still need to talk about pollution. According to a 2013 study done by the state of Wisconsin:

"Two stroke motors can emit 25-30 per cent of their unburned gas and oil mixture into the water. This pollution can affect the pH and dissolved oxygen in the lake, which can influence the type and abundance of fish and wildlife."

That equates to one gallon per boat per hour at normal cruising speeds ... into Morden's drinking water.

Four stroke engines are substantially better with an in-efficiency rating of only four per cent. This equates to only 2.5 ounces per boat per hour at normal cruising speeds ... into Morden's drinking water.

If someone stood on the beach at Lake Minnewasta in front of a full crowd and every hour poured one gallon of fuel per boat into the water, people would rightly freak out. Even if this was their idea of fun.

"Hey, I like to light it so I can create smoke on the water!"

Of course, if that same person poured 2.5 ounces of fuel per boat into the water every hour no one would care ... would they?

You get my point.

The good news is that one good thing that may have come out of the horrible drought we all just suffered through was a ban on motorized ve

Continued on page 6

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• FAITH FOCUS

Commit to be a community builder

As local communities and as citizens of Manitoba and Canada we have been through some times that most of us have not experienced before. Our grandparents or great grandparents (depending on your age) knew about the impact of disease, wars and hardships that many of us have no memory of.

As we have read, listened to, considered and discussed the news during the past two years plus we realize that life as we have known it is changing. We need to remember core values that can guide us in every season.

As a pastor, I believe the anchor needs to be an awareness of God as Creator and sustainer of this earth. The Bible is the source I draw from for knowledge about these things. God created all of us. In His design we are equipped to be able to experience a personal relationship with Him. That foundation can become the platform for meaningful living and resources of heart, mind and spirit to deal with

the scripted and unscripted experiences of our daily lives.

You may not share this belief in God as Creator and sustainer but we should all be able to agree that living together in our communities and country calls for a shared respect for the place we call home, the people with whom we engage on a daily basis, and the opportunities we have to make a constructive and wholesome difference where we live, work and go today.

The person or family who lives beside us is our neighbour. How do we or can we engage in a way that is appropriate and encouraging to them? The person who serves us at a local business is our neighbour. Please remember that the gas attendant, or server at a local restaurant, is someone's child and grandchild. Regardless of their age, reputation or appearance we can be a ray of light to the people we meet instead of another grumpy customer, preoccupied with our own circumstances and immediate needs.

Living in a community can be encouraging or exhausting, exhilarating or exasperating. God designed us to get rest each night to renew our mind



By Randy Smart

and strength so that we could face the new day with fresh perspective.

Together we can be and become community builders, as each of us make our contributions of respect and thoughtfulness by the ways we speak and conduct ourselves. The kind of place where people want to visit, shop and live.

In Acts in the New Testament we can read about a man who made a difference in the lives of specific individuals and the community around him. His name was Joseph. We know him better by the nickname, Barnabas, which

means "son of encouragement." He encouraged, mentored and helped equip others to be godly and effective communicators and servants for good in many towns and cities. Let's share the commitment to be encouragers and contributors to a respectful and welcoming quality of life and relationship in our region.

Randy Smart has been a pastor in Southern Manitoba since 1979. He is currently senior pastor at Bethel Berghaler Mennonite Church south of Winkler.

Altona town council meets

By Ty Dilello

Altona city council dealt with a range of matters at its April 12 meeting.

Among them was a report from Altona CAO Dan Gagne on a recent meeting with representatives of the RM of Rhineland.

Up for discussion with the property owners of 332 6th Avenue NE were concerns with Manitoba Infrastructure around access in relation to Highway 30.

"Administration and council members are committed to continuing pursuing alternative solutions with Manitoba Infrastructure," said Gagne.

Council also awarded the tender for the reconstruction of 2nd St NE. Bituminex Paving Ltd was low bid at \$742,138.74.

Among the other items up for discussion:

- The tender for a new police truck

was awarded to low bidder Rhineland Car Co. Ltd.

- Gagne met with a previous landowner at the industrial park to discuss expansion plans for 2022 and to determine the land area that will not be available for seeding this spring.

- Canada Post met with the town recently to discuss requirements for community mailboxes in connection to new development. As the developer, the town is required to provide a location for up to seven mailboxes and concrete pads for each mailbox.

- The Altona fire department received a donation of \$7,143 from Friesens. As well, it was reported that 10 members completed incident command system training and four new recruits have started their basic fire training.

- Council also passed a road closure request for the downtown summer kickoff event.

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Budget 2022 includes:

Strengthening health care

- \$110 million to address the pandemic diagnostic and surgical backlogs
- \$17 million to implement year one of the five-year plan: *A Pathway to Mental Health and Community Wellness: A Roadmap for Manitoba*
- \$20 million to develop a new Seniors Strategy and \$32 million for initiatives from the Stevenson Review

Making life more affordable

- Increasing the Education Property Tax Rebate to 50 per cent by 2023, saving the average homeowner \$1,355 over two years
- Implementing the new Residential Renters Tax Credit
- Reducing child care fees

Building our economy

- Launching a new Venture Capital Fund
- Focusing on tax competitiveness for Manitoba businesses and investors
- Providing \$5 million in immigration programming to help attract newcomers to Manitoba

Budget 2022 is also **Investing in communities** and **Protecting our environment**. To learn more and what this means for you, visit manitoba.ca.

Manitoba 

Rhineland welcomes watershed role

By Ty Dilello

The RM of Rhineland welcomes now being part of the Pembina Valley Watershed District.

As part of a report at Rhineland council's April 13 meeting, the municipality's inclusion in the watershed district will provide a range of benefits.

The municipality has included the creation of a shelterbelt program in its 2022 plan and hopes to see that to fruition this year, council noted.

"Manitoba Association of Watersheds is pleased to see further expansion of the watersheds district program and thanks the province of Manitoba and the new partner municipalities for their support," said Garry Wasykowski, board chair of Manitoba Association of Watersheds.

"The importance of Manitoba's 14 watershed districts has never been greater than it is now as we collectively seek to build climate resiliency within the province."

The Pembina Valley Watershed District has received a grant for just over \$1 million from the province's Grow Trust for the Pembina-Plum initiative.

Most of the grant money will be directed to such projects as shelterbelts, a government-approved method of sequestering carbon that benefits the watershed and other initiatives to benefit the environment and farmers.

Meanwhile, council also reported that it will be continuing to lobby the province for the re-construction of the

Aux Marias and South Buffalo drains.

"This has been a long-term effort," said Rhineland CAO Michael Rempel. "We have been talking to the province about these projects for many years. Council will be sending another email to the province stating how important these drains are to our region."

Council also noted that the newly purchased public works and fire hall building in Plum Coulee has entered into the construction drawing stage.

Local pharmacies participate in province's quit smoking program

By Becca Myskiw

Almost 220,000 people in Manitoba smoke cigarettes, and the provincial government is offering to give 4,500 of them the chance to quit — for free.

The Manitoba government launched its first health-related social impact bond, Quit Smoking with Your Manitoba Pharmacist, which was announced on April 1. Mental Health and Community Wellness Minister Sarah Guillemard said the costs of smoking to the smoker and the health-care system are significant. This social impact bond could help reduce those.

Quit Smoking with Your Manitoba Pharmacist is expected to enrol up to 4,500 people across the province over a three-year period. Essentially, smokers can go to their local pharmacy and tell the pharmacist they want to quit. The pharmacist will then act as a counsellor during the quitting

process.

"Pharmacists are trained to do a lot more than they're doing," said Tanjit Nagra, CEO of Pharmacists Manitoba. "All of this is very positive if we can help combat that, but on a more internal facing note, it's a good way to show the community just how much more pharmacists can do. It opens more conversation."

More than 500 Manitoba pharmacies are signed up for the social impact bond, trained in smoking cessation tools and supports. A few of those pharmacies include Carman Pharmacy, Homestead Co-op Carman Pharmacy, Pharmasave Morden, Apothecary of Morden Inc, Shoppers Drug Mart Morden, Shoppers Drug Mart Winkler, Loblaw Pharmacy, Winkler Pharmacy, Pfahl's Drugs Ltd. The complete list of participating phar-

macies can be found at <https://www.quitsmokingmb.ca/participating-pharmacies>.

The success of the social impact bond will be measured by the number of individuals who participate in an initial assessment with a trained pharmacist, quit smoking for at least 12 months and continue to abstain from nicotine after 24 months.

Under the social impact bond model, Shoppers Drug Mart will invest \$2 million to fund these activities. If outcomes are met or exceeded, the company will receive up to \$2.12 million from the Manitoba government.

"Quitting smoking is difficult, and most people need to try more than once to be able to quit successfully," said health minister Audrey Gordon. "The goal of Quit Smoking with Your Manitoba Pharmacist is to increase

the success rate of people who are ready to quit by making it convenient to access the right supports and resources at their local pharmacies."

Manitobans over 18 are eligible for assistance and can approach participating pharmacies for an initial assessment. Follow-up counselling sessions and up to \$100 worth of prescribed medications and nicotine replacement therapies will be offered over one year to support individuals in their journey to quit.

"Pharmacists are the most accessible healthcare professionals in the province," said Nagra. "Smoking kills many people every year and leads to many other health issues. It's a good opportunity to quit and having your local pharmacist there and accessible will hopefully just increase their ability to quit."

Manitoba earns top grade in Canada from CFIB for reducing red tape

Submitted by the Manitoba government

The Manitoba government's efforts to reduce red tape have been recognized by the Canadian Federation of Independent Business (CFIB) with an 'A' rating from the small business organization, the top mark in its cross-country ranking of all provinces and territories, Justice Minister Kelvin Goertzen announced Monday following the release of the CFIB's annual Red Tape Report Card.

"This rating demonstrates the ongoing commitment from our government to reduce red tape and make it easier for small businesses to do business in Manitoba," said Goertzen. "Reducing red tape and regulatory hurdles faced by small business are especially important now as so many

business recover from the uncertainty during the last two years."

The report card grades governments in two areas. The accountability section considers whether governments are measuring regulation and setting regulatory budgets. The burden section includes some broad indicators such as the number of regulatory restrictions in each province.

"Manitoba is an established leader in regulatory accountability and has the most comprehensive measure of the regulatory burden in North America," said Laura Jones, executive vice-president, CFIB. "As small businesses look to economic recovery, it is more important than ever that governments commit to reducing costly red tape, and we applaud the

province for once again achieving an A grade."

Manitoba received a perfect score with an 'A' on regulatory accountability and 'B+' on regulatory burden for a total score of 9.4 and 'A' grade, the highest of any province in Canada.

Provincial wine importation rules are a high-visibility indicator of the regulatory burden with numerous groups advocating for a fix over the past number of decades, noted CFIB. While this is a very specific indicator, whether direct-to-consumer sales of locally produced wine from Canadian wineries are allowed, it is symbolic of a broader commitment to reduce regulatory barriers between provinces.

Only three provinces, Manitoba, British Columbia (B.C.) and Nova

Scotia, allow direct-to-consumer shipments. These provinces received the highest score in this area. Saskatchewan received a partial score as B.C.-produced wines can be shipped directly to residents. The rest of the provinces received a score of zero.

The CFIB has been ranking provincial efforts to reduce red tape since 2011. Since that time, Manitoba has consistently raised its rating to the current grade 'A' level of success.

The full results of the CFIB Red Tape Report Card can be found at www.cfib-fcei.ca/en/media/news-releases/red-tape-grades-are-governments-have-improved-accountability-have-long-way-go.

Helping out a furry friend

Fundraiser supports Altona-based cat rescue

By Ty Dilello

A cute and fluffy cat named Maverick needed to have every single tooth removed due to an autoimmune deficiency, and the community came through for him through the Altona-based Furever Friends Cat Rescue.

Last Saturday, the organization had a bake sale fundraiser that raised what they needed for the cat, so the agency was grateful to the community.

"His vet bill was \$1,081.05, and we managed to raise the full amount," said team leader Tracy Harder.

"We would like to thank all the bakers that donated the sweet treats, the volunteers that worked at the table and everyone that came to purchase the baking! Maverick calmly and sweetly accepted all of the attention and some extra donations over at the Ruff Mutts store in Altona just down the hall from the bake sale."

Furever Friends operates with volunteer support and donations from the community with a mission to rescue the lost, abandoned and homeless cats in the area.

"We learned that the town of Altona pound system was overwhelmed with abandoned cats and needed help," Harder recalled of their beginnings in 2015. "These cats were usually not spayed or neutered and have added dramatically to the overpopulation situation in our town."

It works closely with the animal control officer in an attempt to control the cat population with care and humanity, and since its inception, it has already rescued over 600 cats.

"When a cat enters the pound, the local animal control contacts us. We send over a representative to evaluate health, degree of wildness, sex and locate any identification," said Harder.

"If the cat is unhealthy, we secure a volunteer to take the cat to the vet for further assessment. If the cat is pronounced healthy, it is left in the care of the animal control in hopes that the cat's family will claim ownership. If no owner comes forward, that cat is



SUBMITTED PHOTO BY CARISSA SAWATZKY

Volunteer Isabelle Sawatzky with Maverick.

taken in by us or one of our associated societies. The majority of our adoptable cats come to us through the Altona pound."

Furever Friends provides loving foster homes, complete vet care and spay/neuter services. Each cat's medical and social concerns are taken care of before adoption, and potential owners are screened carefully for compatibility to the cat's needs.

"It is our goal to provide adoption and placement of rescued cats and

kittens in permanent homes. We are further dedicated to the care and well-being of the feral cat population and to educating the public on the need to spay/neuter, the prevention of animal cruelty, responsible pet ownership and actively encouraging members of our community to be involved in this cause."

For more information, you can go to www.fureverfriendsaltona.com, and you can also e-mail furever_friends@icloud.com or call 204-304-9173.

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Province boosts support for Manitoba 4-H

By Nicole Brownlee

After plummeting participation during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Manitoba 4-H Council is optimistic members will return.

To help spur interest in the Manitoba-originated organization, the province has committed to a \$900,000 investment in the Manitoba 4-H Council over three years. This builds on the province's \$1 million donation to 4-H Manitoba to provide post-secondary scholarships to current and former 4-H members.

"Leaders invest their time in helping to shape the youth in 4-H," said Derek Johnson, minister of agriculture.

"There are so many assets that 4-H teaches."

Started in 1913 in Roland, Man., 4-H develops leadership skills, communication and self-confidence through projects and activities. In Manitoba, 4-H offers over 90 hands-on projects focusing on topics like beef, photography and machines.

"We're able to use (the investment) for our project materials, project development, the printing of project manuals," said Shannon Carvey, Manitoba 4-H's executive director.

A portion of the investment will also be set aside for each of the 10 area councils in Manitoba to use for events and projects.

"Those area councils are able to use that funding for activities within their area, like camps and clinics," said Carvey.

Area councils can also distribute the money to clubs in their area.

"The funding goes directly to the area council and is directed on to the grassroots level."

Clubs across the province experienced a decline in memberships because the public health restrictions during the COVID-19 pandemic interrupted in-person meetings, but Carvey said the numbers are slowly improving.

Jennifer Harmon, leader of Gimli's Minerva 4-H Club, said before the COVID-19 pandemic, the club would attract around 30 to 50 members between six to 21 years old.

"This year, we're at six kids," said Harmon.



The province donated \$5,000 to the Manitoba 4-H Council to help cover Clover's \$40,000 cost. Agriculture Minister Derek Johnson got to see the cow's complexities inside and out at the Royal Manitoba Winter Fair.

"We're just trying to rebuild."

The province also kicked in \$5,000 to help Manitoba 4-H reach their \$40,000 goal to purchase Clover, a life-sized cow that simulates birthing a calf.

The 1.36-metre-tall model has an inflatable calf airbed support system, clear vinyl uterine bag and functional udder with a milk tank. The Hereford Model Dystocia Simulator made by Veterinary Simulator Industries gives trainers a realistic view and process of a cow in labour.

"We have had that purchase of the Dystocia Model in the back of our mind for a while now," said Carvey.

Clover will live at the Manitoba Beef and Forage



VOICE PHOTOS SUBMITTED

A life-sized model and simulator of a cow in labour attracted crowds at the Royal Manitoba Winter Fair on March 30.

Initiative Learning Centre as an educational tool.

"We'll be able to host workshops and teach our members under the direction of a veterinarian about calving techniques."

Johnson demonstrated Clover's abilities on March 30 at the Royal Manitoba Winter Fair in Brandon, delivering a calf he has dubbed Leaf.

"There's everything that you would feel when you would reach inside a cow to pull a calf," said Johnson.

"You can place the calf in different scenarios, like if the calf is breached."

Johnson said Clover fits Manitoba 4-H's "Learn to Do by Doing" motto perfectly.

"Clover is a very hands-on, powerful teaching tool."

To learn more about Manitoba 4-H clubs, visit 4h.mb.ca.

AUUC Winnipeg puzzle race fundraiser for medical relief in Ukraine

By Voice Staff

On April 30, at 5 p.m., the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians

Winnipeg, is hosting a perogy dinner and puzzle race to raise funds for Doctors Without Borders, in Lviv,

Ukraine. One hundred per cent of funds raised will be used to provide critical medical supplies to war-torn areas of Ukraine.

"We want to thank some of our younger AUUC members for standing up for peace in Ukraine, and for organizing this fun way for families and friends to support the important medical relief work of Doctors without Borders," says AUUC Winnipeg Vice President Emily Halldorson.

Teams of 3-4 will race against each other to complete a 500 piece puzzle, donated by Ravensburger Puzzles Canada through Across the Board game cafe. Local North End businesses have supported the event by donating prizes for the silent auction. Other event sponsors include Ira's Deli and Glen Eden Funeral Home & Cemetery.

Robyn Smith, event organizer explains, "This is a true locally supported and run event, representing our communities deep ties with Ukraine and our desire to help in anyway possible."

In addition to event tickets (\$30 for adults, \$20 for 12 and under, 5 and under free), the organizers are also selling support tickets for \$10 for those who cannot attend but may wish to support the cause. Tickets are available on Eventbrite.

The event is being held at the newly renovated national historic site: Ukrainian Labour Temple at 591 Pritchard Avenue.

Association of United Ukrainian Canadians Winnipeg is requiring attendees at our events to wear masks and show proof of vaccination.

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MLA introduces new budget

Province prioritizes tax cuts, health spending: Friesen

By Lorne Stelmach

The Manitoba government promised tax cuts and a boost in health care spending as key priorities in its 2022 budget.

It is a plan that moves Manitoba on the path to recovery with strategic investments in key priority areas that focus on the health and financial well-being of all Manitobans, suggested Finance Minister and Morden Winkler MLA Cameron Friesen.

"We're strengthening care, investing in communities and we're building our economy," Friesen said last Tuesday after the release of Budget 2022: Recover Together.

"Two years of the pandemic have forced Manitobans apart, shaken our families and damaged peoples' livelihoods – now it is time to look ahead," said Friesen. "Budget 2022 implements our plan to recover together and is built to take action on the issues Manitobans care about ... and gives Manitobans hope and optimism for the future."

While the budget especially emphasized health care as the top priority, Friesen also cited the need to address the financial well being of Manitobans, as he cited a report that three in ten Manitobans feel they are in a worse place than a year ago.

"The last three months have taught us that Manitobans are really focussed on their finances, on affordability and on their household bills," he said. "We're taking action ... we've got a good record on tax reduction, but we'll go further in this budget."

The province is projecting a deficit of \$548 million for 2022-23, which is an improvement over the deficit forecast for 2021-22 of \$1.393 billion, and Friesen said they are on track to return Manitoba's books to balance in seven years.

"Our government recognizes that fiscal responsibility is critical to building up our communities and our economy," said Friesen. "From a pandemic deficit high of \$2.1 billion, our government has worked diligently to reduce the deficit and invest in the areas that matter most to Manitobans."

Friesen noted the budget makes strategic investments in five priority areas:

- Health care
 - investing \$110 million to reduce the pandemic diagnostic and surgical backlogs.
 - \$17 million to implement year one of the five-year mental health and community wellness strategy.
 - almost \$20 million to develop a new seniors strategy
 - investing over \$11 million to increase nursing enrolment.
 - \$812 million in continued capital commitment for rural and northern health care under the five-year clinical and preventative services plan.
 - \$630 million for contingencies and COVID-19 response and recovery.

- Making life more affordable
 - increasing the education property tax rebate to 50 per cent by 2023, saving the average homeowner \$1,355 over two years.
 - providing \$12 million in new income support programs for people with severe and prolonged disabilities.
- Building the economy
 - a new venture capital fund with an initial \$50 million investment.
 - providing \$5 million to strengthen immigration programming.
 - providing more than \$18 million for improving the wages of front-line workers in the community living disability, children's disability and family violence prevention sectors.
- Investing in communities
 - investing \$326 million over two years to make child care more affordable and accessible.
 - creating 716 spaces in new child-care centres and supporting 50 new home-based spaces.
 - investing in new schools with a new goal to build 22 new schools by 2027.
 - supporting the arts, culture and sports organizations with \$100 million over three years including \$34 million in 2022-23.
 - investing an additional \$10.3 million to enhance the Building Sustainable Communities Program with a \$25 million total investment in 2022-23.
 - investing \$578.5 million in capital projects for highways including projects funded under the Manitoba Restart Capital Program.
- Protecting the environment
 - developing an energy policy framework and a new water management strategy.
 - investing over \$6 million for 12 initiatives to advance the Made-in-Manitoba Climate and Green Plan including \$1.5 million for expanding the Conservation and Climate Fund.
 - allocating over \$10 million for forestry programs and over \$14 million for provincial parks.
 - developing a new multi-year parks capital strategy to modernize and enhance campgrounds, roads, trails and other key infrastructure.

In a question and answer session with rural media, Friesen touched on the need to further tweak the Building Sustainable Communities initiative especially to benefit rural Manitoba.

"It was way over subscribed," he noted. "We expanded it from about \$14 million to \$25 million. We brought a whole new fund for arts, culture and sport ... \$100 million over three years to make sure that those projects are not getting short shrift; they're not getting overlooked in lieu of other municipal projects."

Friesen also touched on how the province is moving forward in terms of changing how it will be funding education.

"We have undertaken to form that new committee that is going to study education funding. We want to make sure that it looks equitable across the province of Manitoba," he said.

"It's very important that we have a new formula. Our formula is broken. We will continue to invest in education, but we want the formula to be right."



PROVIDED PHOTO

Morden Winkler MLA and finance minister Cameron Friesen outlining highlights of Budget 2022: Recover Together.

He addressed funding for municipalities and maintained that "we have one of the most fair and equitable payment schedules to municipalities of any province."

"We'll continue that good level of support that we have been doing," he said. "We're very, very cognizant of the needs in southern Manitoba for wastewater investment. We know how important it is."

Finally, Friesen also highlighted the importance of the province's new immigration advisory council initiative.

"They are going to help us do a deep dive and do a complete top to bottom analysis of immigration ... to know what do we need to do to make it better," said Friesen. "We need to retool the program better so that it really understands the needs of employers; it understands the expertise in the community and it works fast to bring people to Manitoba."

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Teddy Bear Picnic to return this June

By Lorne Stelmach

A popular family event will return this year after having been keenly missed the past two summers.

The Morden Parent and Child Resource Centre and the Winkler Family Resource Centre, which now share an executive director, will be jointly hosting a Teddy Bear Picnic in June.

"Rather than doing one in each community, we're going to do one bigger one and work together on it, so I think it's pretty awesome," said executive director Cathy Savage.

"The Teddy Bear Picnic historically has been one of our biggest fundraisers," she added, noting that it brings in anywhere from \$7,000 to \$8,000 in support of the free early childhood programming the two centres offer local families. "So that's been a huge loss.

"And it's not even just the money—it's just such a great community event," Savage added. "To have the support of the public health nurses and the clinics and have our teddy bear clinics. It's a great experience for the kids ... it's a great day for the community."

Set for June 18 at the Parkland stage

in Winkler, the picnic will invite children to bring their special stuffed toys to have a full checkup with a variety of health care professionals.

It is not only a way for kids to see professionals like doctors, dentists, and nurses in a non-scary environment, but is also an opportunity for families to be aware of the different services that are in the community for them.

More details about the picnic will be released in the coming weeks.

Meanwhile, the family resource centres are preparing to bid farewell to Savage, who has served as executive director in Winkler for the past six years. Stepping into the role will be Sara Peters.

"I'm am looking forward to taking on this position and to make both centres in Morden and Winkler continue to provide these important programs to families," said Peters.

"I enjoy seeing the happy faces come in each morning for the programs, and I'm looking forward to carrying on with it," she said. "It is important ... moms come in and say, 'This got us out of the house today' and you know that what we do is worthwhile."



VOICE FILE PHOTO

Morden-Winkler's Teddy Bear Picnic is scheduled to return June 18.

Savage noted that she sees the two centres as being well positioned to carry on under the direction of Peters.

"Our programs have always been packed," she said, noting they currently have 97 children registered in their various programs. "And out of those 97, let's say we only know 20 of those families. Everybody else is brand new, so that's huge.

"In both Morden and Winkler now, we are in great locations that are larger and easily accessible," Savage said. Morden's programs recently relocated to the Alliance Church while Winkler is in the Emmanuel Mennonite Church. "Just being in Winkler Emmanuel Mennonite and being able

to open up five days a week has been huge; we can serve so many more people."

She believes Peters will find it as rewarding a role as she has.

"You meet so many different families from all walks of life ... and you even see the parents making friends," said Savage. "This has been the most rewarding job in my life. You see these little children come in as infants, and they are with you until they're five and they go off to school and it's oh my goodness ... I'm so happy that you're ready for school, but I'm going to miss you."

Sunflower Festival to return

By Ty Dilello

The Manitoba Sunflower Festival will be back in 2022 after a two-year hiatus due to the pandemic.

The annual signature summer festival for Altona will go the weekend of July 22-24, and it will be the first in-person festival since 2019 with a virtual festival held in 2020.

And the queen pageant sign-ups for this year's festival are taking place right now at W.C. Miller and Mennonite Collegiate Institute.

"Some of the royalty from 2019 and the modified pageant in 2020 are currently on route to Australia to take place in the festival in our sister city Emerald," noted Altona recreation manager Eric Hildebrand. "And then we look forward to royalty from Emerald visiting our festival this July."

"We're very excited to start planning community events like the Manitoba Sunflower Festival again. We've had two summers without any large-scale events, so we're looking forward to the opportunity to have some fun and help build up some community pride

as well as help bring some visitors into the community, which always has some economic benefits aside from the social benefits that community events foster."

The previous Sunflower Festival committee is back in place with Alex Loewen and Justin Friesen co-chairing, and they are still looking for volunteers, especially to assist with the parade.

Many events and activities are already booked and confirmed for the weekend including not only the queen pageant but the Legends Car Club show, Mennonite food, parade, inflatables, petting zoo, Altona Elks social, vendors, farmers market and the Saturday night fireworks and Sunday morning worship service.

One addition to this year's festival will be an Altona Collegiate all class reunion for people who were students at the original Altona Collegiate from 1956 to 1965 prior to W.C. Miller opening up.

"We're still working on some details to confirm a few new events includ-



VOICE PHOTO SUBMITTED

The Sunflower Festival will be back with such features as the queen pageant. Pictured here from 2018 are first princess Hayley Bergman, queen Aleksandra Ginters and second princess Ashley Ginter.

ing the weekend entertainment lineup," said Hildebrand.

For more information or to volun-

teer, contact the Altona recreation office at 204-324-9005 or email to recreation.office@altona.ca.

Your FARM



Green Gold program tells farmers the optimum alfalfa cutting date

By Becca Myskiw

Manitoba alfalfa growers have the opportunity to find out their optimum cutting date to get the best quality off the crop again this year.

The Manitoba Forage and Grassland Association is again offering their Green Gold program. It's been running for 27 years now.

The program encourages growers to be strategic with their alfalfa hay crop harvest, helping them make cutting decisions based on their feed and market needs. During May and June, producers cut 10-inch samples of their alfalfa crops twice a week for a three or four-week period. They then put the sample in a Ziploc bag, send it to The Manitoba Forage and Grassland Association, and send it off to be tested in Winnipeg.

The testing tells producers their optimum cutting date based on what they use their crop for. Next, it gives them the protein value and how many points it's dropping in relative feed value per day. Finally, it helps producers know if they need supplements in their herds.

Lawrence Knockaert from Bruxelles uses the program to ensure his dairy cattle get the best feed he can give them.

"It gives you real-time reporting so that you're not guessing by what the actual results are off your field, which is a bonus," he said.

He said finding out the protein status of his crop ultimately optimizes his milk production and saves him on protein supplements.

"If you have a row of really good bales you've taken off high in feed value, you can use lower feed value bales and get the optimum blend for dairy cattle," said Knockaert.

The Green Gold program currently has 13 fields in the province taking part. Terra Bergen, Communications Support & Green Gold Coordinator, said they'd prefer to have four or five fields in each region of the province at the bare minimum, but the more the better.

"It's important for knowing what the quality of your alfalfa feed is for those who need it for their protein status in either dairy or beef fields," she said. "Last year's drought made



VOICE PHOTO SUBMITTED

Alfalfa growers can take part in the Manitoba Forage and Grassland Associations' green Gold program to find out their optimum cutting date.

for a tougher year for feed quality so we'd like to figure out what we can."



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Destinies came together for Falcons

Book tells the story of the original hockey champions

By Ty Dilello

One of the greatest hockey stories of all time, the Winnipeg Falcons, were made up of a group of Icelandic-Canadians who went on to win the first Olympic gold medal in men's ice hockey.

A former Emerson resident, David Grebstad, has now written a book about the Falcons' famous flight entitled *A Confluence of Destinies: The Saga of the Winnipeg Falcons' 1920 Olympic Gold Medal Victory in Ice Hockey*.

"I've always been fascinated by the Falcons," said Grebstad, who is a career Canadian Army officer with a profound interest in military history as well as the history of Manitoba.

"The story of their perseverance and the obstacles that they had to overcome seem, to me, to be examples we can all emulate," he suggested. "More importantly, the story of the Falcons is the vehicle through which I wanted to portray a time of great upheaval, strife and challenge through which Winnipeg, Manitoba and Canada, emerged stronger and more vibrant."

As he learned more through research, Grebstad was struck by how many interconnected but nonetheless individual events, conditions and results had to fall into place for the Falcons to end up as the first ever ice

hockey world champions.

"I chose the title of 'Confluence of Destinies' because I hoped to convey the many story arcs at play. These many collective destinies were separate but nonetheless bound up together, but came together on the ice in Antwerp," he explained.

"So many things had to go just right, and it was by no means pre-ordained they would do so for the Falcons to emerge as the world champions on the ice in Antwerp in 1920," he continued. "In retrospect, while the Falcons still had to win the hockey games that would eventually produce the gold medal, so many other conditions had to exist in order to allow them actually to play in the Olympics."

Of the Falcons, Grebstad's favourite player to research and write about was Frank Frederickson. Not only was Frederickson a terrifically talented hockey player, but he was also a veteran, a leader and went on to become a pillar of the community.

Frederickson also went on to be the most successful of the Falcons post-Olympics as he went on to win a Stanley Cup and play in the National Hockey League for a couple of seasons. In 1926-27, Frederickson was the highest-paid player in the NHL as he made a \$6,000 salary.

"I was surprised to find how quickly hockey grew in Manitoba and how, only years after its introduction to the province, Manitoba became a real powerhouse in Canadian hockey," said Grebstad.

"I suppose that the cold climate and longer playing season meant Manitoba players had more opportunity to practice and develop their skills. Hockey very quickly became the favourite winter pass-time in Manitoba both amongst its players and the fans.

"I was amazed to see how closely the hockey matches were followed and reported upon in the local newspapers," he continued. "From the perspective of a writer, it was a research

bonanza. All the intricacies of league organization and play were commented upon extensively in the sports columns of the major Manitoba newspapers, reflecting just how hooked on the sport the people of Manitoba had become."

Grebstad notes how difficult and challenging it is to write a book when you're doing it part time while also working a full time

job with the armed forces.

"It's only possible if you dedicate time in your day to research, write, edit and then do it all over again. Of

"THE STORY OF THEIR PERSEVERANCE AND THE OBSTACLES THAT THEY HAD TO OVERCOME SEEM, TO ME, TO BE EXAMPLES WE CAN ALL EMULATE,"



STANDARD SUBMITTED PHOTO
David Grebstad shows off his new book on the Winnipeg Falcons entitled *A Confluence of Destinies*.

course, everyone has a finite amount of time in their lives, so when one dedicates time to one endeavour, it must necessarily be at the expense of another - family, sleep, exercise," he said. "That's why it took me over four years to get the book published because I had to find little independent blocks of time for me to work on it. Fortunately, I have a very supportive wife who encouraged me and understood my goal all along."

Currently, the book is available on Amazon in paperback form, but in the near future, Grebstad hopes to have an e-book version available.

Truck raffle tickets on sale to raise funds for Carman Country Fair

By Becca Myskiw

Residents can get ready to partake once again in a normal as can be Carman Country Fair.

The Dufferin Agricultural Society (DAS) is planning the fair in a shorter period than they're used to, but they're excited to be doing it nonetheless. DAS president Deena Boklaschuk said they had to wait and make sure they could have the fair because it wasn't financially wise to start putting deposits down on things when they might not be able to use them.

"It's going to be a regular fair," she said. "It's going to be an event you're used to seeing, maybe on a different scale."

There will be the usual midway, truck pull, derby, and the third and possibly final Percheron Show.

"We're very excited because it's been a very disheartening two years trying to maintain momentum," she said. "We came out of the last fair we had in 2019 with so much momentum...the pandemic took the wind out of our sails. So, we're feeling excited but overwhelmed because we only have three



STAANDARD PHOTO SUBMITTED

This year's Carman Country Fair will be back to normal. To raise funds, the DAS is hosting a truck raffle.

months to do this."

Before the fair on July 7 to 9, the DAS board needs many volunteers and funds. Boklaschuk said they're mindful that people may not be able to donate as they have in the past, but they still need dollars to put on a great fair.

So, as a new way of fundraising, DAS is hosting the 2022 Carman Country Fair Truck Raffle. For \$20 a ticket, people will have the chance to win a one-year lease on a 2022 Ford F-150 XLT, which comes to \$5,100 in value.

This year, Carman Ford donated the one-year lease as their sponsorship to the fair. Tickets will be sold until the fair when the winner is pulled at 4 p.m. on the Saturday. To buy tickets, email carmfair@mymts.net or reach out to a board member if you know them personally.

Boklaschuk said DAS is also in dire need of volunteers. They need people to help with almost every aspect of the fair. To inquire about what positions may be needed, email carmfair@mymts.net and sign-up forms will be sent out from that email.

There are also chances for youth to get involved with the fair and become junior directors. DAS is looking for fresh ideas and people to pass leadership on in the coming years. To inquire about a junior director position, email Boklaschuk at deena.b@gmail.com.

Salem BBQ fundraiser set

May 25 event to support Cottonwood renovations

By Lorne Stelmach

A summer fundraiser that will support the renovations at Salem Home in Winkler will return this year.

The Salem Foundation together with the ladies auxiliary will host a long awaited in-person summer barbecue celebration later this spring.

It is planned for Wed., May 25 in the tent on the south parking lot of Salem Home with supper to be served from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., and it will also feature musical entertainment by the Quonset Brothers with their mix of classic country artists like Don Williams, John Denver, Nitty Gritty Dirt Band, Hank Williams, Bellamy Brothers and many more.

It will be by donation with the proceeds to be used for the ongoing renovations of the Cottonwood wing of the personal care home.

"We have had in-person BBQs at Salem Home in the past and are quite excited to be able to have this event

again," said foundation executive co-ordinator Susan Hildebrand. "We had to make a change to last years planned BBQ to a drive-through due to the pandemic limiting the size of gatherings."

With phase one nearly completed, they are now starting to working on the second phase on Cottonwood.

The asbestos is gone, air circulation system and a fire suppression system built, and all the insulation has been replaced, while the rooms have been rewired to code with the plumbing and old fixtures gone, and the rooms have been redesigned to promote independence and way finding for residents living with dementia.

Fundraisers like this play an important role for projects like this that not covered by the government, she noted.

Salem Foundation raises funds for programs, equipment and projects, which are not funded through government sources, while the Salem Home ladies auxiliary's role is to participate in activities that enhance the well-being of the residents. Together though, the primary purpose of both is to provide funding for the betterment of the residents' lives today and



PROVIDED PHOTO

The Quonset Brothers will entertain at the Salem Home fundraising event.

in the future.

"The common goal of the foundation and the auxiliary to provide Salem

Home residents with the best possible lived experience is the incentive for this annual fundraising venture."

Short-lived protection against omicron infection with fourth dose of Pfizer COVID vaccine

By Patricia Barrett

An Israeli study on the effectiveness of a fourth dose of Pfizer-BioNTech's COVID vaccine shows short-lived protection against infection with the omicron variant.

The study titled "Protection by a Fourth Dose of BNT162b2 against Omicron in Israel" was published online April 5 in the New England Journal of Medicine.

Researchers found protection against infection quickly waning about four weeks after the fourth dose was given. Protection against severe illness, however, appeared to last longer.

"The results presented here indicate that as compared with three vaccine doses given at least 4 months earlier, a fourth dose provides added short-term protection against confirmed infections and severe illness caused by the omicron variant," the researchers wrote. "The incidence rate for confirmed infection was lower by a factor of 2 and the rate of severe disease lower by a factor of 3 among persons in the fourth week after receiving the fourth dose than among eligible per-

sons who did not receive the fourth dose."

Israel opened up eligibility for fourth doses in January of this year to adults 60 years of age and older.

With the emergence of omicron in December 2021 in Israel, infections began to rise. And it had been over four months since most adults had had their third dose of the Pfizer vaccine.

Omicron and its subvariants are highly contagious and able to evade vaccine-induced and natural immunity. Omicron can also re-infect people multiple times.

To stem the growing wave of infections, Israel approved fourth doses of the vaccine in January to people 60 years of age and older, health care workers and high-risk populations if four months had passed after receipt of their third dose even though the real-world effectiveness of a fourth dose was unclear.

The researchers looked at health data of 1,252,331 people from Jan. 10 to March 2 (a period of just over eight weeks) when the omicron vari-

ant (B.1.1529) was predominant. The study population was 60 years of age and older and had received only Pfizer's vaccine before the study period commenced. Researchers compared fourth dose recipients to those who had received only three doses.

Although protection against infection was found to wane at the four-week mark after the fourth dose, protection against severe illness didn't wane over the course of the study period. But further research is needed to determine the precise longevity of that protection.

"In contrast, protection against severe illness did not appear to decrease by the sixth week after receipt of the fourth dose," the researchers wrote. "More follow-up is needed in order to evaluate the protection of a fourth dose against severe illness over longer periods."

Pfizer's vaccine was tailored to the ancestral strain of COVID, not the omicron variant, which is "genetically divergent," they wrote.

It's possible the study's findings could have been confounded by be-

havioural differences between those who had received a fourth dose of vaccine and those who hadn't, the researchers wrote, as well as co-existing health conditions affecting severe illness outcomes.

After many provinces across Canada dispensed with public health measures, including in schools, COVID infections began to spike. Hospitalizations in Ontario and Quebec are rising.

"Laboratory test positivity during the latest 7-day period (April 4-10, 2022) increased to 19% nationally," said Canada's chief public health officer Dr. Theresa Tam in an April 12 statement, "and community wastewater data continue to signal sharply rising trends in a number of localities across the country."

The BA.2 subvariant of omicron – which is even more contagious than omicron – accounts for 61 per cent of the virus strains tested in Canada. And cases of a recombinant variant, called XE (with genes from the BA.1 and BA.2 strains), have already been detected in the country.

Positive year for chamber

By Lorne Stelmach

Amidst the challenges posed by the pandemic, there were also many bright spots for the Morden and District Chamber of Commerce in the past year.

President Scott Hoeppner of TDS Law reflected on some of those positives last week as the chamber held its annual meeting virtually including the annual state of the city address by Mayor Brandon Burley.

"It's been another unique year, another pandemic year, another challenging year," said Hoeppner.

"It's been another year where the chamber's operations have uniquely changed from what they've been in the past, but it was also a year in which the chamber accomplished a lot."

The chamber was successful with some events such as Wrapping Up A Morden Christmas and the Morden farmers markets, he noted, while there were also bigger tasks achieved as well.

"We accomplished both long and short term goals. We completed our accreditation process, making us one of very few chambers in Manitoba who are accredited," he noted. "We took advantage of a number of programs to assist our members when the government made funds available for us."

"So while we did accomplish much, and we managed to weather the storm yet again and the uncertainty of the pandemic, I believe that 2022 will likely be another year of change, whether it's a change back to normal or whether it's a change to a new normal, given current world events and how that impacts us here," he added.

First and foremost now will be finding a replacement for long time executive director Candace Collins, who earned praise from Hoeppner as well as other speakers.

"The chamber would certainly not be in the good situation and the good standing that it's in with-

out her efforts," said Hoeppner. "As a chamber, we continue to look forward, and we're excited for what the future holds."

"Your executive director has been a rock star ... she really has been a key component of the chamber network here in Manitoba," said Chuck Davidson, president and CEO of Manitoba Chambers of Commerce.

Davidson touched on the important role that the chamber network plays in terms of "the advocacy that we've done as well to make sure that the voice of business has been heard on issues important to you."

"The importance of the chamber network has never been more relevant than it has over the course of this pandemic ... in terms of the role that the chamber has played, it's never been stronger," he suggested. "I know the Morden Chamber of Commerce has done an unbelievable job in terms of really supporting local businesses and the retail community as well as the hospitality community."

Morden Winkler MLA Cameron Friesen noted how the chamber has played a vital role in building Morden's status as one of the fastest growing communities in the province, and Portage Lisgar MP Candice Bergen also commented on the importance of the chamber.

"You are leaders. You are leaders in our community and in our city," said Portage Lisgar MP Candice Bergen in addressing local chamber members.

"You have played such an important role in getting us through the pandemic, not only because you've been innovative and entrepreneurial and you've had so many great ideas on how to keep businesses thriving in the Morden area, but you've had a very positive outlook through what has been not only the difficult times," she continued.



SCREENSHOT PHOTO

Among the speakers addressing the annual meeting of the Morden and District Chamber of Commerce was Chuck Davidson, president and CEO of Manitoba Chambers of Commerce.

"So many of you with your positive outlook, your belief in our community, your belief in the City of Morden, you're belief in the history of who we are and the vision for the future, has really carried us through," said Bergen.

The financial report also offered a positive picture of the chamber with the organization showing a surplus of just under \$30,000 for the year.

Treasurer Derek Hamilton credited the extra pandemic related support that "helped kind of weather the storm there and allow us to continue on there and move forward in a strong position."

As far as the 2022 budget, things look a little different with it projecting just over a \$16,000 deficit, and a large part of that is the chamber not being able to do some key events like the Home and Life Show, but there is hope that things like the awards gala will now be able to go ahead.

"That as well will help with kind of getting the chamber moving forward," he said.

International Golf tournament to be hosted locally

By Becca Myskiw

The Carman Golf and Curling Club is waiting on the weather to announce an official start day for the 2022 golf season.

On a usual year, the greens would open to golfers around April 21. It seemed the same for this season until the snowstorm came, pushing back the start date by maybe 10 days, said general manager Dean North.

"Before this storm, maybe 10 more days we could open but obviously it's going to slow it down," he said on Wednesday, April 13.

The club has to wait for all the snow to melt, the ground to dry up, and the frost to come out before getting the tarps off the greens. North has no estimation of when that will happen now, but he thinks they'll open in maybe two or three weeks.

This week, temperatures are expected to slightly climb into double digits, where the end of the month will see

them steadily. He said that will help the opening process. There might, however, also be rain, which would slow it down.

The 2022 golf season marks the first one in two years where clubs will likely be able to operate with no restrictions in place. For the Carman Golf and Curling Club, it will also be the start of a new tournament.

The International was a golf tournament where golfers would play one game in courses across southern Manitoba and a bit of the USA. That has since been discontinued, so Carman, Morden, and Winkler will be starting their version The International, without the international part.

It'll be a three-day tournament with a banquet for golfers of any skill level. "It's not intended to be competitive," said North. "It's for anybody that wants to grab a club and hit a ball."



VOICE PHOTO SUBMITTED

The Carman Golf and Curling Club is waiting on the weather to open the greens.

Though the pandemic is seeing its end, North is positive golf will still be a popular pastime. He said it got so much momentum over the last two years, he doubts that'll stop.

"It's the safest way to get out the doors, get some exercise, have fun with your friends, and just enjoy life," he said.

COVID resurgence, no public health measures: boosters advised for adolescents

By Patricia Barrett

The Manitoba government announced last week that youth aged 12 to 17 can now get a COVID-19 vaccine booster, sometimes referred to as a third dose for those who already received a two-shot primary vaccine series.

In March the government lifted public health measures such as masking, capacity limits, social distancing and quarantine for infected individuals. Those measures helped prevent the spread of COVID among Manitobans. An omicron-driven wave of infections is now building across the province, prompting recommendations for COVID booster doses. Boosters also compensate for vaccines' waning effectiveness.

"Based on updated recommendations from the National Advisory Committee on Immunization, Manitoba Health is revising its guidance on booster doses of COVID-19 vaccine for young people age 12 to 17," said the government in an April 13 COVID-19 Bulletin.

The government is recommending that an mRNA vaccine be given to youth at least six months after their first two doses.

In addition to booster doses for adolescents, the government said all COVID testing sites across the province will close on April 15, with "several" having closed already – including Selkirk's – during the mid-week blizzard that started to roll in on April 12. PCR testing will become available only "through primary health-care providers for eligible individuals."

Canada's National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI) updated vaccine guidelines for adolescents last week, strongly recommending a booster dose for this age group to help reduce infections and

severe disease.

It cited the lifting of public health measures across Canada that used to help protect the population, as well as the omicron variant's ability to partially evade vaccine-induced or natural immunity.

"With NACI's updated recommendations, a first booster dose may now be offered to everyone 12 years of age and over," said the Public Health Agency of Canada in an update titled "Updated guidance on a first booster dose of COVID-19 vaccines in Canada" published April 12. "Given the current resurgence in cases due to the increased transmissibility of the Omicron BA.2 sub-lineage and the lifting of public health measures, NACI's updated recommendations may help to further reduce infections and severe disease."

Pfizer-BioNTech's Comirnaty (30 mcg) booster is preferred to Moderna's Spikevax (50 mcg) booster "as there are currently no data on the use of Moderna Spikevax (50 mcg) booster dose in adolescents 12 to 17 years of age."

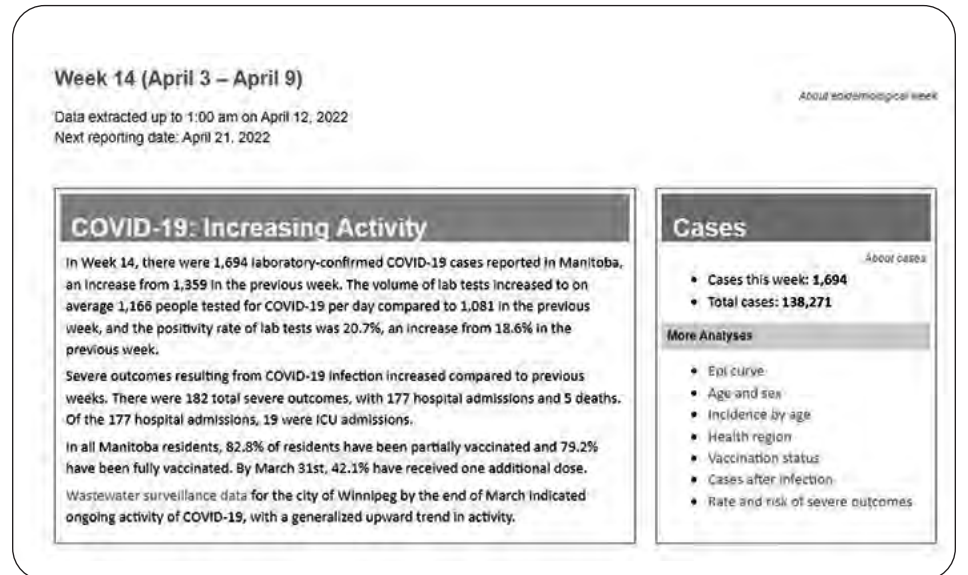
NACI said COVID surveillance data show there is a rise in infections across the country.

"The Omicron wave had been abating nationally in Canada, but there is now a rise in cases with an increasing proportion of infections being attributed to the Omicron sub-variant BA.2."

The variant and its even more infectious subvariant have the capability to repeatedly infect people.

The Manitoba government stopped releasing daily COVID infection numbers, hospitalizations and deaths. It instead releases a weekly Respiratory Surveillance Report containing data from a week previous.

The April 3-9 report, released last



MANITOBA GOVERNMENT

Hospitalizations and ICU admissions for Manitobans with COVID are currently increasing, according to the provincial government's weekly surveillance bulletin. There were 1,694 new cases between April 3 and 9. Wastewater surveillance data also show an upwards trend in infections.

Thursday, shows a jump in hospitalizations and almost 1,700 new COVID infections. It's unclear how the government will report new infections with no public testing centres.

"In Week 14, there were 1,694 laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 cases reported in Manitoba, an increase from 1,359 in the previous week," states the report. "Severe outcomes resulting from COVID-19 infection increased compared to previous weeks. There were 182 total severe outcomes, with 177 hospital admissions and 5 deaths. Of the 177 hospital admissions, 19 were ICU admissions."

The report also says city of Winnipeg wastewater surveillance data show an upwards trend in the virus.

The virus is continuing to evolve. Subvariants of omicron, as well as subvariant combinations, are being tracked by the World Health Organization.

The pandemic remains an international public health emergency, says the WHO. But the ability to monitor COVID variant trends has been "compromised" by countries/jurisdictions having cancelled their COVID testing programs or having scaled them back.

"At present there are a number of omicron sub-lineages we're following closely, including BA.2, BA.4 and BA.5 and another recombinant detected, made up of BA.1 and BA.2," said WHO director-general Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus in an April 13 United Nations news report.

The evolution of a new variant or a recombinant could result in a virus being able to completely evade immunity. The WHO recommends that people wear masks indoors.

Worldwide, 6.1 million people have died from COVID, according to the WHO data as of April 14.

Miami Active Living Centre nearing completion

By Becca Myskiw

The new Miami Active Living Centre is slated to open this July.

After five years of planning and over six months of construction work, the work is almost ready for the public.

The current active living centre is an older building with limited access. The new one is going up south of Miami's Main Street, close to the memory garden. The new Miami Active Living Centre will be a place for the local seniors to go, home of the friendship centre, a multi-purpose building, a workout gym, and anything else

people may need it to be.

It's 5,600 square feet, opens job opportunities in town, gives locals a place to host events, and is a space for anyone to stay active in during the warm and cold Manitoba months.

Rural municipality (RM) of Thompson Reeve, Brian Callum, said the total cost of the new facility is around \$1.25 million. Last year, they received \$328,185 from former Miami resident Blair Sharpe, which kickstarted the project, another \$492,215 from the federal government, and \$410,139 from the provincial government.

From Sharpe's donation and the government funds, the RM had \$1,230,539 for the new Miami Active Living Centre. The rest was paid for, thanks mainly to local donations.

Work on the grounds of the new centre started in mid to late September, with construction starting in early October. Since then, it's been non-stop progress, with only a few setbacks due to delays in getting electrical equipment to the site in time.

Callum said they've set the opening date in July with the building up, siding going on, inside painting done,

and more. It was initially going to be in May, but they were delayed by a month.

As soon as construction is done in July, the Miami Active Living Centre will open to the public. Once all the people involved in the project are able to, the RM will host a grand opening with photo opportunities and such.

"To see the fruits of your labour going up...it's exciting," said Callum. "I hope the community is excited for it cause that's what it's there for. It's for the community. I hope people use it."

sports & recreation

Flyers drop pair to Dauphin

By Ty Dilello

The Winkler Flyers dropped a pair of road games over the weekend to the Dauphin Kings in the second round of the MJHL playoffs.

The Kings led the best-of-seven series 2-0 as the series shifted to Winkler for the next two games.

On Saturday night, the Flyers fought hard in Dauphin but fell short 4-2 with an empty-net goal sealing the deal. Ryan Monais and Kyle Crewe had the two Flyers' goals on the night.

"We just gotta get off to a better start," said Monais after the game for Winklerflyers.com. "Once we were more physical, they started turning pucks over, and we got more offensive time, and we were able to get things to the crease."

The teams met the following night for game two, and it was a back-and-

forth tilt that provided the same result as the previous night. Dauphin won by a 3-1 scoreline, again including an empty netter.

Justin Svenson had the Flyers' loan goal, while goaltender Dylan Meilun made 40 saves in a losing effort.

"We got to stay resilient and come back at them in our home barn the next game, and we gotta pick up these next couple of wins at home," said Flyers' forward Lucas Ens after the game to Winklerflyers.com. "We miss our fans, and we're excited to play for them again at home."

Flyers' head coach Justin Falk noted the last couple of games were tough, but he liked his team's chances as the series shifted to Winkler.

"It was a tough real-close couple of games on the road," said Falk. "Mistakes this time of year; the good teams

like Dauphin will pounce on them and really hurt you. Dauphin played well to win those two games.

"I think we had four or five posts in the second period of game two, which could have changed things and had it go a different way. So we'll keep working hard here and get back to the drawing board and get some rest for this big week of games," he continued.

"The adversary you face along the way is important for us and now coming home to play on our home

rink, it's always a place that we enjoy playing in and like to take advantage of playing in front of our fans, in our environment."

The Flyers were hosting games three and four Wednesday and Thursday. Game 5, if necessary, will be back in Dauphin Saturday night.

"Getting off to a good start and getting a lead here is crucial," said Falk. "Scoring that first goal and having the resiliency to push through the rest of the way will be key."

Sport Manitoba to hand out honours

By Voice staff

Two area athletic leaders were up for provincial honours this week.

Sport Manitoba is holding its annual awards ceremony where it recognizes the very best athletes, officials, coaches, volunteers, and alumni in Manitoba sport.

The April 21 Sport Manitoba Night of Champions returns as an in-person event with a new program that rolls its annual coaching, athlete, team, volunteer and officials awards as well as new Manitoba Sports Hall of Fame inductions into one signature event.

It is the ultimate celebration of the highest achievements in sport made by Manitobans, and two local leaders are up for the Konica Minolta Dr. Jack Hunt Award - Learn to Train category.

Nominated is Pam Parker, who has been coaching figure skating in the Pembina Valley region for over 28

years.

Parker is cited as a dedicated coach who leads her skaters with support, encouragement and positive leadership, and she has helped skaters compete at the local, provincial and national level with her dedication and guidance.

Also nominated in the same category is Adam Porte, who is cited for having established the Pembina Valley Rugby Club.

He brought rugby into communities in southern Manitoba where there was previously no community-based rugby. In 2021, his efforts brought new programs into the communities of Winkler, Morden, Plum Coulee and Kleefeld.

You can find more information and a complete list of the nominees online at www.sportmanitoba.ca/night-of-champions-nominees.

Twisters aiming for MMJHL title

By Voice staff

The Pembina Valley Twisters were looking to get back into their MMJHL championship series with the St. James Canucks this week.

The third-ranked Twisters fell to the top-ranked Canucks 5-4 April 10 to open the series before the next few games were delayed due to the recent Manitoba blizzard.

Game two took place Tuesday night

at the Morris Multiplex with game three Thursday in Winnipeg and game 4 Saturday in Morris. If the series is extended, game five goes Mon. Apr. 25 at Bell MTS IcePlex then game six Thur. Apr. 28 in Morris and game seven Sat. Apr. 30 at Bell MTS IcePlex.

The Canucks won four of the five regular season meetings with the Twisters.

Top basketball players to gather

By Lorne Stelmach

A number of players from the south central region will be part of a Basketball Manitoba event bringing together some of the best young players in the province this weekend.

The Basketball Manitoba awards and all star games will be held this Saturday at Westgate Collegiate in Winnipeg after having been postponed last week due to the winter storm that hit the province.

The day will feature four games featuring all star players from across the province including the boys and girls AAAA graduating all-star games and the boys and girls A-AA-AAA graduating all-star games.

The announcements of the Manitoba players of the year, All-Manitoba

teams, coaches of the year and other special or scholarship awards will be made online throughout the day.

The event will feature players and coaches at the Manitoba high school basketball level from this past year who had outstanding seasons.

Among them are players from the south central region including on the boys side Carson Park of Carman Collegiate. On the girls side, there is Hannah Matuszewski of Garden Valley Collegiate, Samantha Bueckert of W.C. Miller School, Lexie Nelson of Carman Collegiate and Amber VandeVelde and Leah Janzen of Elm Creek School.

More information can be found online at basketballmanitoba.ca.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Cluck & Quack Poultry Club Auction. Poultry & small animal auction on Saturday, May 7, 12 noon. Springfield Curling Club, Dugald, MB. For further vendor information contact Danica Mutchler, email danimonica@hotmail.com or phone 1-204-770-3857.

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Private mortgage lender. All real estate types considered. No credit checks done. Deal direct with lender and get quick approval. Toll free 1-866-405-1228 www.firstandsecondmortgages.ca

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WANTED: Buying estates, contents of homes, farms, barns, sheds, garages, etc. Buying most anything old & interesting! TEXT/PHONE: 204-918-1607. "Junkies Estate, Salvage, Antiques & Oddities"

NOTICES

URGENT PRESS RELEASES - Have a newsworthy item to announce? Having a spring/summer event? An exciting change in operations? Though we cannot guarantee publication, MCNA will get the information into the right hands for ONLY \$35 + GST/HST. Call MCNA 204-947-1691 for more information. See www.mcna.com under the "Types of Advertising" tab for more details.

The **Winkler Morden** Voice
Call 204-467-5836

NOTICES

Need Class 1 drivers? HIRING FOR SPRING? Construction staff? Having an AGM or on-line event and need attendees? Advertise in the 32 Weekly Manitoba Community Newspapers to get your messaging out now! Selling something? Have an on-line store to shop at, doing curbside pickup/deliveries? Let people know in the Blanket Classifieds! Call us at 204-467-5836 or MCNA at 204-947-1691 for details or to book ads. MCNA - Manitoba Community Newspapers Association. www.mcna.com

HEALTH

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

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Call 467-5836 or Email
ads@winklermordenvoice.ca



Join the fight against Prostate Cancer

RIDE DAY
Saturday
May 28, 2022

10am
Earls Polo Park
(Winnipeg)

Visit
ridefordad.ca/manitoba

to register or make a pledge

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www.kaldecktrailers.com

CAREERS



Border Land School Division invites applicants for a

TERM GRADE 4 CLASSROOM TEACHER (1.0 FTE)

FOR ÉCOLE WEST PARK SCHOOL IN ALTONA, MB

FOR DETAILS VISIT WWW.BLSD.CA

CAREERS



La Division scolaire Border Land invite les candidatures pour combler le un poste

ENSEIGNANT(E) EN IMMERSION FRANÇAISE DE 4^E ANNÉES (1.0 ETP)

a l'école West Park School à Altona, MB

POUR DE PLUS AMPLES RENSEIGNEMENTS VISITEZ : WWW.BLSD.CA

CAREERS



Border Land School Division invites applicants for a

TERM GRADE 4 FRENCH IMMERSION TEACHER (1.0 FTE) FOR ÉCOLE WEST PARK SCHOOL IN ALTONA, MB

FOR DETAILS VISIT WWW.BLSD.CA

LAND FOR SALE TENDER

FOR SALE BY TENDER

Sealed, written tenders for property in the Municipality of Rhineland described below will be received by:

AVS LAW LLP
200-600 St. Anne's Rd.
Winnipeg, Manitoba R2M 2S2

PROPERTY (Land)

1. The W ½ OF NE ¼ 30-3-3 WPM EXCEPTING FIRSTLY- ALL MINES AND MINERALS AS RESERVED IN THE ORIGINAL GRANT FROM THE CROWN. SECONDLY - PUBLIC DRAIN PLAN 36760 MLTO

CONDITIONS OF TENDER

1. Interested parties must rely on their own inspection and knowledge of the property.
2. Tenders may be placed and accepted on one or more of the above-described parcels of land. Offers to subdivide will be considered.
3. Tenders must be received on or before 2:00 p.m. on May 6, 2022. A deposit cheque in the amount of \$10,000.00, payable to "AVS Law LLP Trust", must accompany each tender. Deposit cheques accompanying unacceptable bids will be returned.
4. Highest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SALE

1. The bidder whose tender is accepted will be required to complete an agreement covering terms and conditions of sale.
2. In addition to the deposit, the balance of the accepted tender must be paid on or before the date of closing, which shall be June 15, 2022, or evidence provided that the purchase funds will be available under conditions acceptable to the Vendor. If the balance of the accepted tender is not paid within the set time limit the deposit may be forfeited as liquidated damages and not as a penalty.
3. Possession is not authorized until acceptable arrangements for full payment are made following acceptance of tender.
4. Successful bidder will be responsible for real property taxes commencing January 1, 2022, and taxes shall be adjusted at possession.
5. The purchaser shall be responsible for payment of GST or shall self-assess of GST.

For further information contact S. Tristan Smith at:

Ph: 204-254-3511

Fax: 204-257-5139

Email: Tristan@avdkslaw.ca

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www.mcna.com

Classifieds *The Winkler Morden Voice*

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CAREERS

CommUNITY Support Team invites applicants for a **COMMUNITY SUPPORT COORDINATOR**



The Altona CommUNITY Support Team Coordinator will work collaboratively with various agencies to bring individuals, families, and their supporters together, to work through complicated life issues and make life better.

For more information: CommUNITY Support Team on localjobshop.ca

CAREERS



Border Land School Division invites applicants for a **PERMANENT GRADE 6 CLASSROOM TEACHER (1.0 FTE)**

FOR ÉCOLE WEST PARK SCHOOL
IN ALTONA, MB

FOR DETAILS VISIT WWW.BLSD.CA



Marymound's Treatment Foster Care Program (TFC) is seeking treatment foster parents. TFC provides children and youth with a therapeutic home environment to grow, develop and experience belonging. Caregiving can be carried out by individuals, couples and families. Training and support provided by Marymound Clinical Case Managers.

For more info, please visit www.marymound.com or email fostercareinfo@marymound.com

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Machinist Tools & Crawler
& Ford Model T
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Estate & Moving
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(204) 886-7027
www.mcsherryauction.com



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to deliver

The Winkler Morden
Voice
and Flyers in the
City of Winkler

For more info please contact
Christy at 1-204-467-5836

PUBLIC NOTICE



RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF STANLEY

The RM of Stanley is accepting proposals for the following:

The removal and disposal of 2 old tankers located at the SE Lake Minnewasta Truck fill.

Each pipe is 45' long, 8' diameter, and made of ½" steel.

Pipes must be removed by July 1st, 2022.

Any monies offered must be pre-paid to the RM of Stanley.

Submissions can be dropped off or mailed to:

1-23111 PTH 14

Stanley Manitoba R6P 0B1

Or it can be emailed to:

publicworks@rmofstanley.ca

Submission deadline: April 29th, 2022.

NOTICE OF REGISTRATION



NOTICE OF REGISTRATION OF PROSPECTIVE CANDIDATES FOR GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF STANLEY

Please be advised that a general municipal election will be held on October 26, 2022.

Prospective municipal election candidates must register with the Senior Election Official (SEO) during the registration period before they may begin to accept contributions, incur expenses, fundraise or borrow money for their campaign.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that candidate registrations will be received:

For the office of head of council: Between May 1 and September 20, 2022

For the office of councillor: Between June 30 and September 20, 2022

at the RM of Stanley Administration Office, 1-23111 PTH 14, during the regular hours of business.

To obtain a registration form contact the SEO at the email or telephone number listed below:

Dan Giesbrecht

Senior Election Official (S.E.O.)

RM of Stanley

204-325-4101

seo@rmofstanley.ca

Dated at the RM of Stanley on April 7, 2022.

CAREERS



109-3rd Avenue NE,
Altona, MB R0G 0B0
Tel: (204) 324-5357
Fax: (204) 324-1516

e-mail: manager@rpgamb.ca

Full-time Building Inspector

The RPGA Planning District comprised of the Town of Altona and the Municipality of Rhineland require the services of a Full-time Building Inspector.

Duties: Under the direction of the RPGA Manager the successful candidate will perform inspection work enforcing compliance with the MB Building Code, the RPGA Development Plan, Municipal By-laws and other Building By-Laws.

The Building Inspector will inspect and report on the construction, alteration, repair or extension of all plumbing and mechanical installation to ensure compliance with the approved plans, the Building By-Law, and the Manitoba Plumbing Code.

Qualifications: The successful candidate will have the following:

- Construction knowledge of Residential Part 9 and preferably Commercial Part 3 buildings, along with the certification from the Office of the Fire Commissioner (OFC) and inspection experience requirements;
- Be familiar with administration and enforcement of Development Plans and Zoning By-Laws;
- An ability to work with the public, contractors, architects, engineers, and fellow employees. Preference will be given to candidates with building standards/inspection training courses through the OFC.

Please submit cover letter, resume, and 3 references by no later than

4:00 pm on Friday, April 22, 2022 to:

RPGA Planning District

Box 270, Altona, Mb R0G 0B0


Fax to (204) 324-1516, or by

email to: manager@rpgamb.ca

Book Your Classified Ad Today - Call 467-5836 or Email ads@winklermordenvoice.ca

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WANTED



**"OLD GUY"
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Where we're lucky to have a
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phone: **204-626-3260**
am at home, most any day....

EMPLOYMENT



Manitou, Manitoba
**PJD Mechanical is looking to
 hire a Ticketed
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 This is for full time employment
 Monday to Friday, Must have
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1094 sq. ft., 1 bdrm with a den.
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204-362-7151 or
cindyek@mts.net.**



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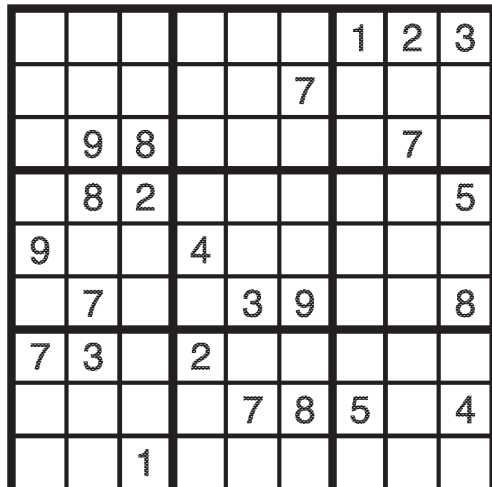
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SUDOKU



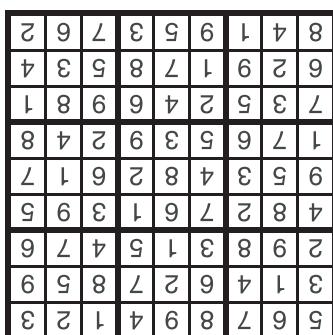
Fun By The Numbers

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

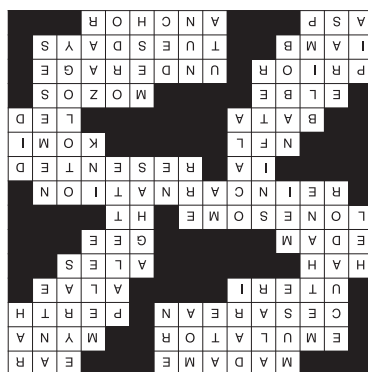
Level: Intermediate

Here's How It Works:

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



Sudoku Answer



Crossword Answer



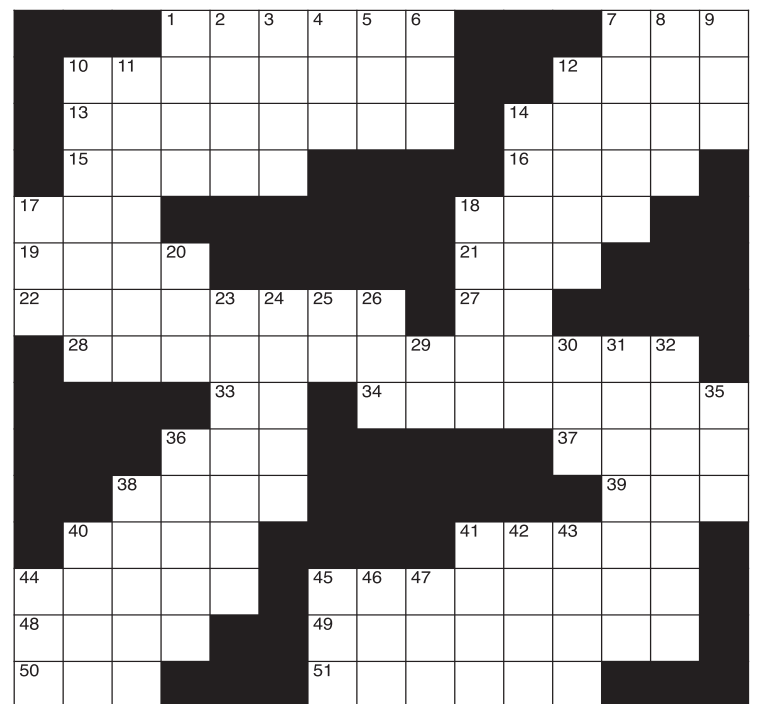
CROSSWORD

CLUES ACROSS

1. A woman of refinement
7. Body part
10. One who imitates
12. Tropical Asian starlings
13. A type of delivery
14. W. Australian capital
15. Many wombs
16. Wings
17. Expression of amusement
18. Brews
19. Mild yellow Dutch cheese
21. Mild expression
22. Solitary
27. Distance to top
28. The rebirth of a soul in a new body
33. Police who investigate police (abbr.)
34. Begrudged
36. Popular sports league
37. Autonomous republic of Russia
38. Double-headed drum
39. Type of light bulb
40. Czech River
41. Male servants (Span.)
44. Previously
45. Minor
48. Metrical foot
49. Days that follow Mondays
50. Small European viper
51. News shows have one

CLUES DOWN

1. Inspiration
2. Resembling wings
3. Form of Persian
4. Consumed
5. Extinct flightless bird of



New Zealand

6. Sea eagle
7. Jaguarundi
8. Poker stake
9. Bravo! Bravo! Bravo!
10. South American nation
11. A colorless, odorless gas
12. Disturbance
14. Artist's tool
17. Polish peninsula
18. Ottoman military leaders
20. Bird-like dinosaur
23. Drinking glass
24. Central Florida city
25. One's mother
26. To do it is human
29. Atomic #10
30. Used to write

31. The branch of medicine concerned with the ear
32. Adversaries
35. Have already done
36. One of conspicuous wealth
38. It flies over sporting events
40. Geological times
41. Net
42. Musical phrase
43. Chadic dialect
44. Private Internet Access (abbr.)
45. Lizard genus
46. Woman of the church
47. Having ten

Classifieds

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or Email ads@winklermordenvoice.ca

The **Voice** *Morden*

PUBLIC NOTICE

UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE PLANNING ACT NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

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

THE MUNICIPALITY OF RHINELAND ZONING AMENDMENT BYLAW NO. 2022-03

Being an AMENDMENT to the MUNICIPALITY OF RHINELAND
ZONING BY-LAW NO. 2021-06

HEARING LOCATION: 109 - 3rd Avenue NE Altona MB

DATE & TIME: Wednesday May 11th, 2022 at 9:00 AM

GENERAL INTENT: To amend the Municipality of Rhineland Zoning By-law No. 2021-06 as follows:

To rezone the property, legally described as Block 4 plan 47092 in the NE 1/4 33-1-1W in the Municipality of Rhineland from "AR" Agricultural Restricted Zone to "RR" Rural Residential Zone as per attached schedule "A"

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: Susan Stein, General Manager
109.3rd Avenue NE, Altona, MB R0G 0B0
Phone (204) 324-5357
Email: manager@rpgamb.ca

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



Schedule "A"
Attached to and forming part of
By/Law No. 2022-03

Amending Schedule "A" of the
Municipality of Rhineland
Zoning By/Law No. 2021-06

LEGEND:
[Shaded Box] Portion to be rezoned

From: "AR" Agricultural
Restricted
Agricultural Zone
To: "RR" Rural
Residential Zone

PUBLIC NOTICE

is hereby given that the R.M. OF ROLAND intends to conduct the following Pesticide Control Programs during 2022:

1. To control noxious weeds on road allowances and municipal properties.

The projected dates of application will be from May 15, 2022, to October 1, 2022.

The herbicides to be used include:

Curtail M 2-4-D amine 600 Glyphosate

2. To control insect pests, including grasshoppers, mosquitoes, etc. The proposed dates of application may be from May 15, 2022, to October 31, 2022.

The insecticides to be used include: **Malathion**

The public may send written submissions or objections, within 15 days of the publication of this notice, to:

Manitoba Environment
Climate and Parks
1007 Century Street
Winnipeg MB R3H 0W4



EMPLOYMENT



Maple Leaf Construction Ltd.
is currently recruiting
FLAGGERS
for our upcoming season

REQUIREMENTS:

- Direct and control traffic safely on the construction site
- Must be able to work overtime and be flexible with hours (day time / night time)
- Must be reliable
- Comfortable standing for long periods of time
- General labor duties and contributing to the team as needed
- Valid Driver's license and reliable transportation
- Strong work ethic and positive attitude
- Ability to work in all weather conditions
- The ability to handle stressful situations
- The ability to listen and communicate specific instructions clearly, firmly, and courteously
- Wear CSA approved steel-toed boots
- The ability to understand and apply safe job procedures, safe work practices, and policies
- Ability to work out of town for the season if necessary

Please send your resume to
hr@mapleleafconstruction.ca
or for more information visit our website at
www.mapleleafconstruction.ca

**Do you wanna make
some EXTRA CASH?**

Do you have a truck and are heading back to Altona on Tuesdays empty?

Would you be interested in delivering the Altona Rhineland Voice Weekly Newspaper?

Email resume and driver's abstract to
Bigandcolourful@mts.net



AUCTION



Estate auction for the late Jake Fehr. Timed online auction closing May 13, pickup and payment will be Sat., May 14 at his farm north end of Osterwick Village off the PR 201, West. 2009 JD 7130 tractor w/loader, 05 Duramax pickup, 2017 Arctic cat ZR 7000 snowmobile, Hopper grain bin, crowding tub and all cattle equipment, and household furniture and appliances.



Bidding at www.billklassen.ca/~nextlot

Bill Klassen Auctions Ltd.
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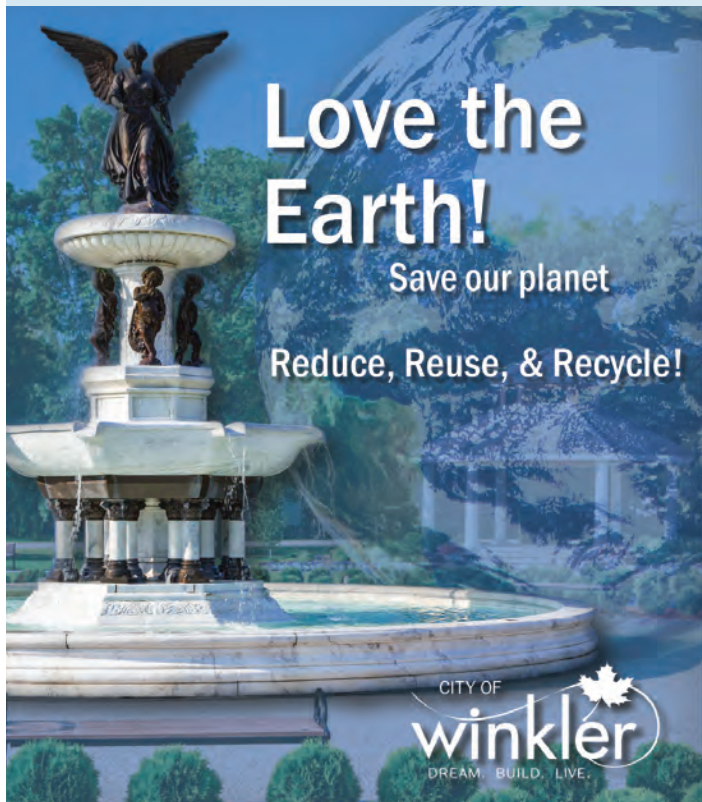
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The **Voice** *Morden*

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HOW EARTH DAY & ENVIRONMENTAL CONCIIOUSNESS HAVE EVOLVED



Reduce, reuse, recycle is a mantra for many people. It's difficult to imagine that just 50 years ago awareness of the state of the environment was not part of the collective consciousness.

Since the first Earth Day 50 years ago, many strides have been made in the environmental movement. This grassroots initiative gave rise to the establishment of the Environmental Protection Agency, the Clean Air Act and the Clean Water Act. Environmental awareness has become much more mainstream and is a less polarizing issue than it was in the 1970s, although there are still debates about the reality of climate change and other risk factors. Public demand for environmental safeguards grew in the second half of the twentieth century, and those demands have grown stronger in recent years. Legislation is continually evolving to protect the air, land and water. Sustainability has joined the buzzwords of the movement, and most industries now have a vested interest in changes that can minimize risk to human health and the environment.

There is still work to be done, but great progress has been made since 1970.



Rural Municipality of Stanley

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

THANKS 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.



MWM
ENVIRONMENTAL

AT YOUR DISPOSAL. Trash. Recycle. Compost.

(204) 822-0327

“There’s definitely a lot of exciting things happening to participate in, and we have some new programming coming through the City of Morden every Monday now as well. It’s great to see.”

www.mordenseniors.ca
mordenactivitycentre@gmail.com