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VOLUME 11 EDITION 18

THURSDAY,
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Gearing up for spring planting

PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

From left: The Winkler Horticulture Society's Valerie Harder, Martha Olfert, Margaret Penner, Jodi Szutu, Carol Neufeld, and Betty Klassen were hard at work last week planting the hanging baskets that will go up downtown this summer. For more on the society's plans, see Pg. 2.

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Mother's Day
Flowers & Gifts



Winkler & Morden
Co-op Food Stores



Community wishes Winkler centenarian a happy birthday

By Lorne Stelmach

The community came together Monday to help celebrate a Winkler woman's 100th birthday.

With a large gathering not possible right now in the midst of the pandemic, a parade of vehicles drove past the Buhler Active Living Centre to wish Sarah Enns a happy birthday.

"It feels great to see the support," said Buhler Active Living Centre executive director Mike Chute, who

came up with the idea. "We did the best we could with the social distancing ... with one of our tenants turning 100, we wanted to make it a special day for her."

"It's absolutely fantastic to see," said Enns' son David Wiens. "It's really quite something ... Mom has experienced a lot in life ... and she is doing well."

"It's special for her, but also a little bit embarrassing," daughter Mary Dyck said on behalf of her mother



PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Sarah Enns (left) and daughter Mary Dyck wave to the parade of vehicles who drove past the Buhler Active Living Centre Monday to wish Enns a happy 100th birthday.

"I think it is humbling ... she's been with us a long time through a bunch of stuff. We appreciate her a lot."

Joining family and friends in the parade were police cars and a fire truck. Enns also received a number

of birthday greetings from the Governor General, Manitoba Premier Brian Pallister, and Winkler Mayor Martin Harder, who stopped by to present a plaque in recognition of her longevity.

Winkler Horticulture Soc. looking for volunteers

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Spring has finally sprung, and the Winkler Horticulture Society is getting started on beautifying our city.

Volunteers were hard at work at New Leaf Garden Centre and out at Parkview Gardens last week planting hanging baskets and preparing flower beds for their upcoming spring planting blitz.

"The actual planting is scheduled for Monday, June 1," says president Margaret Penner, stressing they very much need volunteers to help plant thousands of flowers in public gardens throughout the city. "I wonder if maybe those who find themselves with extra time on their hands these days, if they're looking for something therapeutic to do, this would be an opportunity."

If you'd like to help out, meet at the Winkler Rec. Complex at 9 a.m. on June 1 to be placed on a work team.

"We'll be fanning small groups out to different plots so that we can ensure we're all keeping the physical distancing we need to," Penner said.

If you can't make it first thing that morning but would like to help out later in the day, call Penner at 204-362-

2552 or Betty Klassen at 204-362-8784 to confirm where the crews are at.

There are jobs for green thumbs and rookie gardeners alike, including a few sit-down tasks that can be done by those with mobility issues.

"We want to make it so that it can accommodate people's needs," Penner says.

The society this year will focus its attention on such sites as Parkview Gardens on Grandeur Ave., the Parkside Pioneer Patch on Hwy. 14, the butterfly garden on Park St., and a handful of other floral displays at the cemeteries and sports parks.

Off the list this year are the plots on Hwy. 32, which is set to be under construction for four-lanning this summer.

This year's floral theme is really going pop, says volunteer Carol Neufeld. "It's multi-coloured, every colour under the rainbow, plus a lot of white," she says.

Parkview Gardens in particular is going to be something special, decked out in a "Dream White 2020" scheme.

"Our colours at Parkview Gardens are going to be very elegant, some-

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Continued on page 3

Pallister makes the rounds

By Lorne Stelmach

Manitoba Premier Brian Pallister hit the road last Thursday for several stops across the province, including in Morden for teleconference meetings with municipal leaders.

Representatives of about 20 municipalities were involved in the meetings, which also took place in Brandon and Portage.

Locally, the premier was joined by Morden-Winkler MLA and Health Minister Cameron Friesen and Midland MLA and Minister of Growth, Enterprise and Trade Blaine Pedersen.

Pallister said the visit was a chance "to visit municipal governments, to take a message of support and solidarity and encourage continued co-operation ... [and] also take the message that despite the fact the provincial government is under great stresses, we understand so too are municipal governments."

"So we wanted to assure the municipal level that our funding commitments under the budget just released a few weeks ago will be met so that they don't worry about losing funding."

Pallister said a range of issues came up during the talks with local leaders.

"I think all of us agree we would really like to move ahead with some infrastructure investments," he said. "We've made a significant increase this year in our budget, but we're prepared to do more ... not just so we can create jobs today but so we can make the necessary investments to create more jobs in the future as well."

Much of the discussion revolved around the government's plans for reopening Manitoba's economy in the midst of the pandemic. Pallister

earlier in the week had announced that many non-essential businesses previously closed by the COVID-19 public health order would be allowed to reopen May 4 under strict guidelines.

"They understand that we can't reopen everything at once, and I think most people get that this is a case of making sure we keep that COVID curve down," said Pallister. "Manitobans are the reason we're able to make progress on reopening our economy because they're the ones that are doing the necessary things to protect themselves and others."

He acknowledged there are some questions about how it is being done and concerns from different sectors that some things may be opening up too soon or not soon enough.

"I have lots of room for concern, we all have concerns, and those concerns are quite legitimate," Pallister said.

"I think what we've done here is we followed the science," he continued.

"These folks are telling us and giving us advice that, based on the science, we're safe to make certain steps happen. We're not reopening schools, we're not able to have indoor service in restaurants yet. There's a lot of things we can't do yet, but there are things we can do."

"I believe we're on the track to recovery, but we need ... to keep the discipline that got us the progress that we got so far," he stressed. "I understand the frustration. I come from a small business background. People have their lives at risk, they have money at risk, they have staff that want to work, and we're encouraging that with the programs we've introduced."

Pallister touched on some of the

"WE WANTED TO ASSURE THE MUNICIPAL LEVEL THAT OUR FUNDING COMMITMENTS ... WILL BE MET."



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Midland MLA Blaine Pedersen (left) and Morden-Winkler MLA Cameron Friesen (far right) joined Premier Brian Pallister in Morden Friday for a teleconferencing meeting with municipal leaders.

measures announced by the province recently, including wage support and gap funding for those who don't qualify for the federal programs as well as support for summer youth employment.

"Clearly, if we can work together with our 50/50 funding arrangements that we've set up to encourage summer employment, Green Team employment ... that's going to help," he

said.

As well, the premier expressed optimism for the agricultural sector, although it too is facing some pressures and challenges.

"I have seen some tractors moving," he observed. "When the ag industry does well, the province of Manitoba does well too, so we're really count-

Continued on page 3

> PLANTING, FROM PG. 2

thing different from what people are used to seeing," Neufeld says. "It's going to be a lot of greens, a lot of white, and a lot of silvers. We're just really excited to see what it's going to look like."

LOTS OF WORK TO BE DONE

If you can't help with planting, there's no shortage of work to be done throughout the rest of the summer.

The society's adopt-a-plot program welcomes volunteers to oversee the general upkeep of the gardens and flower beds.

"The city handles the watering, but the weeding is all done by volunteers," notes volunteer Betty Klassen. "It's nice to have at least one or two people per plot."

If you'd like more information on adopting a plot, contact Klassen at 204-362-8784.



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Evan Toews, General Manager

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He will fill the position well.

I want to wish you and Gerald all the best.

Thanks again!

George Elias

Local businesses weathering the COVID-19 storm

By Lorne Stelmach

You would be hard pressed to find a local business that hasn't been impacted in some way by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The past couple of months have brought challenges for many and unexpected opportunities for others.

While the province has begun to take steps to reopen the economy—many non-essential businesses were allowed to resume operations under strict guidelines on Monday—the impact of weeks of closures and new ways of having to do business are going to continue to be felt for some time.

But Morden-Winkler business owners are up to the challenge and see better days ahead for a community that has weathered economic storms in the past.

"We've always had a resilient business community, one that is very adaptive," said Darren Heide, president of the Winkler and District Chamber of Commerce.

"Overall, it's certainly had a significant impact on our business community, as it has with communities everywhere," he continued. "It's nice to see, with our business community, how businesses have adapted, though ... it speaks to the perseverance of the entrepreneurs in our area."

Candace Olafson, executive director of the Morden and District Chamber of Commerce, echoed that sentiment in an e-mail statement.

"We're very impressed with the adaptability and flexibility we've seen and the creative ways businesses are continuing to serve the community," she said.

In some cases, serving the community best meant closing up even be-

"WE'VE ALWAYS HAD A RESILIENT BUSINESS COMMUNITY, ONE THAT IS VERY ADAPTIVE."

fore mandated to by the province.

Shear Bliss owners Heidi Janzen and Lisa Dyck opted to close their salon and spa to the public on March 20 after the premier announced a state of emergency in Manitoba.

"We decided to close before it was mandated just because we felt we couldn't adhere to the two metre distancing," said Dyck, noting the shop has a capacity of nine stations.

With their staff laid off, they have tried to keep up some retail, promoting gift card purchases and offering 20 per cent off all products.

"It's just Lisa and I who are in and out of the salon doing orders," said Janzen, who added their clients and staff have all been very understanding.

"It's been incredible, the support we have got from our clients ... I really didn't think it would be as positive as it has been," she said.

"We knew we needed to close and to put their safety first, and all of our staff was very supportive," added Dyck. "Of course, also very sad."

The Shear Bliss team are a tight-knit group, Janzen said, and they've stayed very much in touch in recent weeks.

"We've been keeping together by doing Facebook chats and Zoom meetings just because we miss each other and want to stay connected."



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Prairie Barnwood's Blayne Wyton is looking forward to things getting back to normal in the business world, but expects to feel the impact of the COVID-19 slowdown for some time.

"We've been able to take advantage of lots of education; there's tons of webinars that have been happening," added Dyck. "It's really encouraging to see that we are going to come back stronger."

The two of them are now setting their sights on figuring out what operating under the safety and protective equipment guidelines set out by the province will look like in the weeks and months to come.

"We need to know what new measures we need to bring into our salon ... this is going to be a huge undertaking that will have to take place," Janzen said.

"We're a service industry. We can't just open our doors and it happens ... and we won't come back at the same capacity," added Dyck, noting that means they will have to look at what government assistance is available to help them make ends meet.

"It will be a struggle for a while," Janzen said. "There's a lot of expenses that go into running a salon that a lot of people don't see ... it will be a rough road for awhile, but we will come out of it."

While hair salons got the okay to reopen this week, it's going to be awhile before things begin to get back to some semblance of normalcy for local restaurants.

Dine-in eating is still not allowed, though patio service now joins take-out and delivery as ways eateries can

serve their customers.

It's been a challenging time for Ralph's German Restaurant in Winkler.

"It was never an option to close our doors and wait this out," said the restaurant's Monique Tofflinger and Ralf Dargusch in an email interview.

When they had to close the dining room last month, they quickly started offering delivery service and discounts on pickup orders in a bid to find a new way of doing business.

"Since having to shut down our dining room completely, we have had to let go nearly all of our staff," the pair noted. "We have had to reduce hours of operation and have reduced all unnecessary costs in order to keep ourselves afloat."

The restaurant has also encountered some shortages of meat supply.

"We only buy fresh meat that we hand pick each week, but due to closures and the change in demand, most of our meat needs to be ordered weeks in advance or is just super delayed, which makes our situation even harder and planning impossible most days."

Ralph's has been utilizing the federal government's wage subsidy program to keep the doors open. They remain hopeful for better days to come.

"We are hoping to be able to serve our customers back in our restaurant

"IT WILL BE A STRUGGLE FOR AWHILE."



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Charley B's Katelin Letkeman (left) and Charllotte Guenther say the COVID-19 pandemic has kept their summer eatery busier than ever.

> WEATHERING THE STORM, FROM PG. 4

soon, even if it is just at 50 per cent capacity," they said. "This would allow us to hire back most, maybe even all, of our staff."

Meanwhile, almost right next door to Ralph's, Charley B's Classic Grill & Ice Cream Parlour has been more fortunate in being set up as a pickup/delivery restaurant from the get-go.

"Since many restaurants had to close a few weeks ago, we have been busier than ever. In fact, it's been a challenge to keep up ... a challenge we welcome with open arms of course," said managing partner Katelin Letkeman.

"We have hired many laid off workers [from their other jobs] to keep delivery orders going out as timely as possible," she noted. "We are struggling to keep our order times at our usual 15 minutes during meal times but hope our customers understand we are in high demand right now."

Charley B's staff have stepped up their cleaning measures to protect customers, wiping down card machines after every transaction and using hand sanitizer, frequent hand washing, and gloves to keep everyone safe.

"Our hearts go out to all the businesses that are currently closed or are suffering financially from this pandemic," said Letkeman. "We hope everything can get back to normal for us all."

"We are also grateful for our community's continued support, and although life feels different right now, we hope we can bring some comfort and normalcy into your lives."

Down the road in Morden, Chicken Chef took a big hit in having to close their doors to eat-in diners.

"It's a pretty huge chunk of the business ... and we lost about eight staff who are either full-time or part-time staff with the closure of the dining room," noted owner Chris Krushel. "Now it's just me running the show until later on in the afternoon when I have another staff member come on and give me a hand."

Since March 20, Chicken Chef has operated under reduced hours for pickup and delivery.

"We're pretty fortunate that we still have that available to keep us going," Krushel said. "It took a while for our dine in customers to get accustomed to doing takeout. But the community support has been tremendous for us in keeping the doors open. We're really thankful for that; we're getting not only our regular customers but

we're getting all sorts of new customers out of this as well.

"We'll keep our head above water ... hopefully this will be over sooner rather than later," said Krushel, suggesting he might not need to get government assistance. "We haven't had to do any of that to keep us going, thankfully ... we can kind of survive on the customer support that we have had to help keep us going."

At Morden furniture manufacturer Prairie Barnwood, owner Blayne Wyton noted that March started off busy with them working on orders from February, but that soon changed.

"It just completely died off about mid-March ... it was almost like our legs were pulled out from underneath us and the lights went out," said Wyton.

As a result of the shutdown, he had to layoff his five staff, leaving just him and his wife Tara for the time being.

"I'm kind of wearing all the hats for now," he observed.

His biggest question has been around "just not really knowing what to do ... not really knowing how long this was going to last; it's really hard to plan."

"One thing we really struggled with was just not having the information, up-to-date good detailed information as to what the wage subsidy would be or what the loan would entail ... it just made it difficult to make good decisions in the moment," Wyton said.

"A lot of the challenge is in the uncertainty ... and if we go a month without any sales," he added. "But I've noticed this last week orders have started to come in again. It looks like in the next week or two we'll maybe be able to bring some staff members back on again."

As the spring renovation season gets underway and COVID-19 restrictions begin to ease, Wyton is feeling hopeful about the future.

"I'm pretty optimistic. I think it's going to come back, but we'll probably feel it for the next few months."

Indeed, the local chambers expect many businesses will need support for some time to come. They hope the government will have a long-term plan to continue to provide that help.

"A lot of businesses are going to be impacted. This is a short term fix," Heide said of the government assistance programs announced thus



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Local car aficionados got together last week to salute front line workers. Dozens of vehicles drove past the care homes and seniors apartments in Morden and Winkler, BTHC, and Eden, honking their horns as they passed. "The response is tremendous," said organizer Ernie Epp, who helmed his blue Mustang. "I thought maybe this was a way that we could say thanks to those who are looking after the people who need care and a way for us to even just say hi to the seniors who are in facilities and our hospital."

"THE COMMUNITY SUPPORT HAS BEEN TREMENDOUS FOR US IN KEEPING THE DOORS OPEN."

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Winkler Morden Voice

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Honouring a legacy of community journalism

I was 17 years old when I got my first newspaper byline for a sports story on how the Zodiacs soccer teams had done in their first games of the season.

It was with our competitor, the Winkler Times, thanks to the kindness of then-editor Don Radford, who saw some potential in the plucky kid sitting across his desk with her “portfolio” of school news stories in hand, asking for a job at a real newspaper.

Last week, news broke that the Winkler Times, along with its sister papers in Morden, Altona, and Carman, among several others in Manitoba, will print their final editions May 7.

It's a sad end for a group of publications that were, at one time in the

distant past, locally-owned and had served their communities for decades.

A lot changed for these papers over the past 20 years or so, as national media conglomerates started buying up small weeklies by the dozens and putting an ever-increasing focus on advertising revenue and cost-cutting measures over local coverage.

It was one the reasons I left the Times a decade ago after years spent cutting my teeth as a reporter in its newsroom.

It's really the reason the Voice exists today. Everyone here began or spent a good chunk of our careers with the Times before venturing out to take a risk with something new, so the news of its demise has brought up a lot of mixed emotions.

When we started the Voice back in 2010 it was because we all felt local ownership was one of the key ingredients to a strong community newspaper. One that is run from the very top down by people who live here, shop here, raise our families here, and actually care about what's going on here.

We still feel that. And we work very

hard to continue to represent these communities we call home.

I wrestled for a long while with whether or not to write this column acknowledging the closure of our longtime competitor.

But ultimately, I feel compelled to pay tribute to all the Times journalists over the decades who took up the job of keeping the communities they loved informed, in spite of disinterested corporate owners who cut down their numbers year after year.

I honour the memories of countless press days spent frantically getting late-breaking stories written, laid out, and proofread.

I honour the memories of long lunches with my co-workers after sending an edition to the press, laughing about the mishaps of the past week and commiserating about the beast that was always waiting in the wings to be fed the next.

I honour the memories of veteran journalists being willing to take an eager cub reporter under their wings and show them the ropes.

And so, as the Times puts its final papers to bed this week, I bid them adieu and thank you.



By
Ashleigh Viveiros

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

> PALLISTER, FROM PG. 3

ing on our farm families.”

He offered some encouragement for rural Manitoba communities like Winkler and Morden, which are having to go without their summer festivals this year.

“It’s heartbreaking, right, because this is our time to be able to come together, not only with fairs and fes-

tivals but also with other events that families can share—christenings, funerals, marriages. This is a sacrifice right now because this is where this sneaky virus incubates, it’s where it spreads.

“We have to be very, very careful with this thing,” he concluded. “What we do have is discipline, and

we have to be a hundred per cent committed to make sure there is no chance of a COVID comeback in Manitoba. That lets us get our freedoms back and our services back and our friends and neighbours get their jobs back.”

> WEATHERING THE STORM, FROM PG. 5

far. “We’re certainly hoping they’ll recognize the need for some longer term support through this transition period.

“It won’t be business as normal for period of time yet ... there will be more challenges ahead,” he said. “I’m hopeful, though. At least the worst of it is over.”

Olafson noted the Morden chamber will continue to support its members by acting as an information hub.

“We continue to be a valued resource for business and have adapted our typical lunch and learn format to free virtual sessions and webinars,” she said.

“The COVID-19 pandemic has im-

pacted the local business community on various levels—from closures and layoffs to ever changing work environments to comply with public health orders,” Olafson added. “So the chamber encourages the community to continue to support our local businesses.”

Art galleries get creative with online programming

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The art galleries in Winkler and Morden have been closed to the public for weeks, but that hasn't stopped them from reaching out and encouraging local artists to keep being creative.

Winkler Arts & Culture and the Pembina Hills Arts Council have both turned to social media and online streaming to keep the arts community connected.

"We wanted to make sure we were not seen as stopped," said Tricia Dyck, PHAC's programs and outreach coordinator. "We want to make sure the arts council is continuing to offer artist support and also community engagement even while the doors have been closed."

Events originally scheduled to take place at the gallery in recent weeks have moved fairly seamlessly to an online streaming format, including painting parties, a music appreciation night, and an art talk on Egyptian art.

All these events saw good turnout despite the move from in-person to on-screen, Dyck said.

"People were still eager to take part," she said. "The listening party had 50 or 60 people watching live ... asking questions through the chat. And the paint party was a ton of fun ... we had such a wide range of ages and abilities participating and everyone had a great painting at the end of it."

The success of the online format has them thinking about how they can utilize it in the future, even once the gallery reopens to the public starting May 19.

"It's been a skill-building time for us," Dyck said. "We're learning new technologies."

The gallery right now is hosting the Regional High Schools Virtual Exhibition, posting artwork on its Facebook page from different local students every day.

Also coming up next week is an online Wine & Art Study on May 15 featuring Level 4 sommelier Julia Ferron. Ticket information is available by emailing info@pembinahillsarts.com.

Over in Winkler, Winkler Arts and Culture has launched a sketch of the week competition, encouraging artists to draw a simple black and white sketch relevant to a prompt word provided weekly on social media and winklerarts.com.

"It's a challenge just to try to get

people drawing more regularly and to help build an art community here," said the gallery's Jennifer Penner, stressing how important it is for artists to stay connected, learn, and be inspired by one another.

WAC will showcase some of their favourite drawings on their website each week and also consider them for use on the gallery's gift shop T-shirts.

Penner has also been posting art how-to videos for kids on WAC's YouTube page and hopes to post more in the weeks ahead.

The gallery's art and community director Ray Derksen said they're also working on putting their upcoming exhibitions online so people can enjoy them without having to set foot in the gallery.

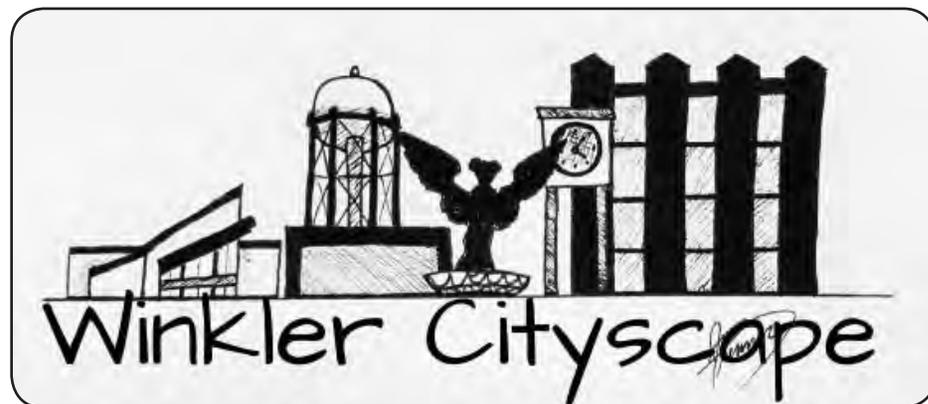
"That way artists can still show their stuff and it will actually reach further than if it's just in the gallery itself," he said, noting the first show to get the virtual treatment will be WAC's annual members' show, which launches the same day the gallery reopens to the public on May 19.

Derksen expects virtual gallery tours

Continued on page 8



Above: Messages of encouragement at the Pembina Hills Arts Council's gallery in Morden. Below: A sketch for a recent week of Winkler Arts and Culture's drawing contest.



Artists gathering together online

One of the most successful programs the Pembina Hills Arts Council has offered since the whole COVID-19 pandemic started keeping people at home is its new ART-SHARE group.

"Almost the first thing that we launched was the art share/art critique group," PHAC programs and outreach coordinator Tricia Dyck says, explaining the group meets every Thursday for a teleconferencing session where they can share what they're working on and get feedback from other artists.

"They're sharing about their art and then everybody has a chance to offer feedback in a really positive and constructive way," she says. "People are growing as artists ... it really opens up the possibilities in your own mind when you're not doing it the same as you've always done it. When you're open to hearing from others, you grow."

Painter and ART-SHARE member Kathy Forness certainly agrees.

She considers herself relatively new to the world of painting, and so has enjoyed the chance to learn from other artists.

"I like to get together with other artists. I value their opinion on my art because I'm kind of new to it, so I can use all the help I can get," she says, laughing.

Sometimes, just hearing someone's else take on what's not working in a piece or what can be done to improve it can be a great help, Forness says.

"This group has been really helpful to me," she says, adding she hopes the program will continue. "I would love to see it grow."

Mosaic artist Sharon Loeppky has also enjoyed the camaraderie that comes with getting together with other creatives.

"It's very interesting to see what

other people are doing each week," she says, noting it is a bit of a challenge to share certain pieces of art via video conferencing, but they're making do until it's safe to meet in person. "Week to week, you can really see the progress people are making and you get to know other artists better."

She encourages others to give it a try.

"I think it's just a very creative way of making some sort of program at the gallery in the middle of all this," Loeppky says.

"It's really providing a lifeline to artists that are otherwise stuck at home during this time," Dyck says. "But we're also definitely seeing the potential for a program that we'll have at the gallery after all this."

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—Ashleigh Viveiros

NPC esthetics student wins Skills MB contest

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The 2020 Skills Manitoba competition was cancelled earlier this spring thanks to the pandemic, but one local teen still got the chance to share her skills on the provincial stage.

Northlands Parkway Collegiate Gr. 11 student Haley Friesen won Skills Manitoba's online Home Manicure Challenge last month.

Friesen took home a cash prize after submitting photos of her applying a colourful manicure to her sister's nails.

"I was really excited when I found out," she said. "Nail art is something I really love. The contest said to make sure that the nails were bright and colourful and it just sounded like so much fun."

Friesen had been preparing to

compete at her first Skills Manitoba competition this year. She was disappointed to miss her chance, but psyched to still be able to compete against other students from across the province with this online competition.

Her design included tiny black and white flowers on the nails of one hand and a hot pink abstract design on the other.

"It was actually inspired by my favourite nail artist on Instagram: Nailed It By Alicia," Friesen explained.

The entries were judged on creativity, polish application, and cuticle work.

NPC esthetics teacher Brenda Richer is pleased to see Skills Manitoba posting various challenges on their social media accounts to keep students engaged.

"Haley had trained so hard for a

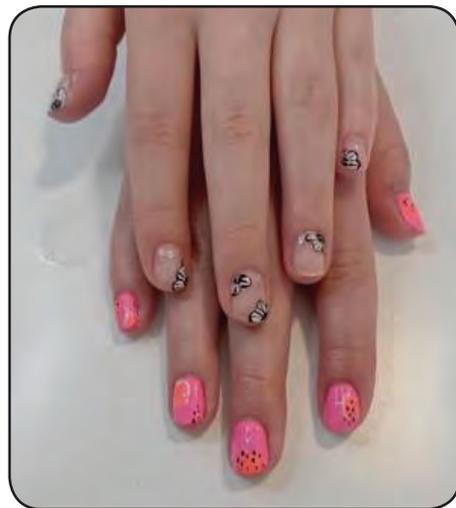
competition that never came to fruition, so this was another chance," she said.

Although schools have been closed for weeks, technical vocational students are still actively learning through online streaming and video conferencing.

"We seen so much support from parents and students. The students want to learn," Richer said. "Even today we were training hard, getting our skills through the power of technology. It's great."

That said, learning online has provided a few challenges for what is normally a very hands-on class, noted Friesen.

"It's a little trickier some days learning over video but we still get our work done," she said. "We're doing a lot of improvising."



SUPPLIED PHOTOS
NPC student Haley Friesen won Skills Manitoba's online Home Manicure Challenge last month for her work on her sister's nails.

"NAIL ART IS SOMETHING I REALLY LOVE."

WSD announces host of administrative changes

Western School Division last week announced several changes to its school administrative teams for the 2020-2021 school year.

Stepping into the principal role at Maple Leaf School is Samuel Jerema, a bilingual educator who has taught in both high school and elementary settings and served as vice-principal with the Winnipeg School Division for the past six years.

Maple Leaf's current principal, Mike Keith, is taking on the role of instructional support teacher/mentor for staff new to Western School Division.

Jennifer Kroetsch is the new vice-principal at Minnewasta School. Kroetsch has been working for WSD for the past four years. Prior to that, she spent 10 years working at Garden Valley School Division and a year with Brandon School Division. She is

currently a resource teacher at Minnewasta.

École Morden Middle School will welcome two new vice-principals in Jordan Pauls and Ashley Zylstra.

Pauls has been teaching at ÉMMS for the past three years as a Gr. 8 teacher. Prior to that, he taught for six years in Alberta across many subject areas and grade levels.

Zylstra is currently a Gr. 8 teacher at ÉMMS. Her teaching experience spans working in Winnipeg for the River East Transcona School Division and teaching abroad in Kuwait. There she taught both Gr. 7 and Gr. 8 while being lead teacher.

ÉMMS will also see a familiar face as its new principal. Current vice-principal Garth Shindle takes over from retiring principal Suzanne Powell.

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will become a regular thing moving forward.

"It has the potential to get us to so many more people," he said, add-

ing they're also exploring the possibility of hosting online art classes. "We're looking at growing a whole different virtual gallery."



Unable to hold their annual show last weekend due to the pandemic, the Barnswallow Quilt Guild instead hosted Quilts By The Yard on Saturday, encouraging participants to display their quilts outside at their own homes for passersby to enjoy. "I think it's a pretty good response," organizer Lenore Laverty said of the 44 homes that took part. "It was some people who aren't necessarily Barnswallow members; there are some community members who had taken this up and decided they would do it too, so that was great." Above: Quilter Louisa Gardiner with some of the pieces she had on display at her Morden home.



PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE



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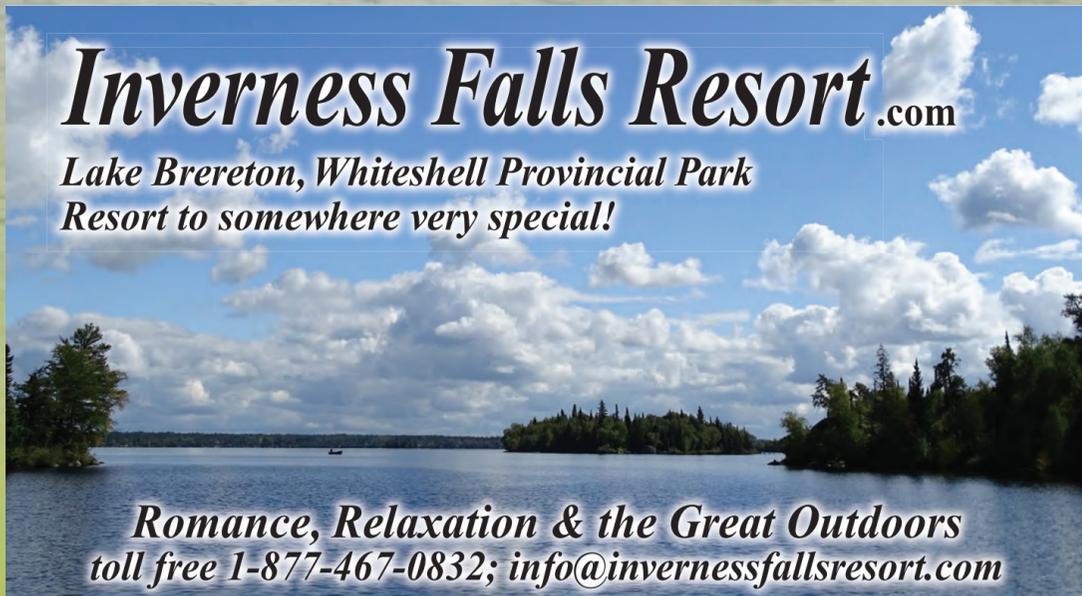
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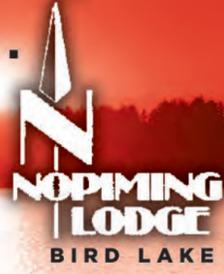
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Mother's Day is a great time of year to honor mothers and attempt to give back just a portion of the tireless love and devotion moms offer their children. Some children provide large gestures, while others feel it's the little things that can help a mom to feel appreciated. For those needing a little inspiration on treating their mothers in special ways, consider these ideas.

- Make mom a breakfast in bed with her favorite morning treats.
- Enjoy a movie at home with mom. Let her pick the flick and share her favorite film with you.
- Agree to not bicker for the entire day, especially if you are prone to getting into arguments with siblings.
- Put together a collage of photos from moments you have shared with mom or your family.
- Cook a meal together and learn about everyone's favorite recipes or the family history.

- Give her a locket with your photo inside and have a duplicate you can wear containing her photo.
- Customize a coffee mug, tote bag or a blanket with a meaningful sentiment or photo.
- Treat mom to a day off from her chores. Tackle all of the jobs she normally does for the family.
- Bake a delicious dessert that mom will absolutely devour.
- Pamper mom with a gift card for her favorite nail salon or massage therapy location.
- Prepare a jar of mom's favorite candies wrapped in pieces of paper that have loving sentiments written on them.
- Compile a playlist of songs and artists mom prefers and download them to her phone.
- Begin a charm bracelet tradition by purchasing a charm bracelet and a new charm each year that represents a meaningful memory you both shared.
- Write a new email each day with an inspirational quote or special words of love for mom.
- Tackle a task that she may not want to do herself, such as washing the exterior of her car and vacuuming the interior.

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Old Morden Creamery truck finding new life

By Lorne Stelmach

A long abandoned piece of Morden's history is getting another lease on life thanks to an automotive restoration service in Ontario.

The Guelph-based Drive Performance has been working with what remained of a junked Morden Creamery truck, and the man behind the project is trying to compile some of the history behind the vehicle.

"It has a story to tell and we'd like to know more about it," said Greg VanLeeuwen. "I would like to pick up some of the history of the truck ... if my dad drove that milk truck, I would want to know about it."

There likely isn't much other connection remaining to the Morden Creamery, which was established in 1912 and operated for decades, even despite a significant fire in 1940.

The vehicle was known as a "Divco" truck, an acronym which stands for the Detroit Industrial Vehicles Company that built and marketed them across North America.

Divco became known for its multi-stop delivery trucks, particularly for use as home delivery vehicles by dairy producers.

Though Divco made numerous commercial vehicles during their 64 years in business, the snub-nosed model U and its variants are certainly the most recognized. Spanning over four decades, tens of thousands of these trucks delivered fresh milk daily.

These unique vehicles have been a particular passion for VanLeeuwen, whose automotive restoration com-

pany is now doing more customization work.

"We've done a couple like this now where we basically take the outer skin of the vehicle and just make every else from spec," he explained, noting vehicles like this one coming from a salvage yard are usually in pretty rough shape.

What little is known about this particular vehicle is that it was originally built in Brantford, Ontario and purchased and sent out to the Morden Creamery.

"It ended up in a salvage yard ... from there, somehow it got out of there and it ended up in Ontario, we don't know how, and it bobbed around between two or three different people before the client that I'm working for ended up purchasing it," said VanLeeuwen. "He ran a milk truck when he was younger ... he kind of had that history, and he just loved the style of the truck.

"Nobody had done anything to it between the time it was picked up from the salvage yard and made its way to Ontario," he noted. "We've been at this for about three years now."

Van Leeuwen said there is just something unique about these trucks that appeals to him.

"There were areas of the truck that were just so cool ... the way the body line carried was pretty cool ... it's just a cool piece," he said.

"That year, it's very hard to find that vehicle," he added. "Everything was stamped into that body, as opposed to a little bit later on, a couple years later, they started to do a flat sheet



SUPPLIED PHOTOS

Drive Performance in Guelph, Ontario have been working on giving this old Morden Creamery milk delivery truck a new lease on life.

skin and they would plunk layers of body moulding on top of it to give it its rigidity.

"So it's a pretty rare find actually. It's the short one; there were so many different lengths of these trucks ... so this was your downtown or run around town truck."

VanLeeuwen said he initially struggled a bit to get his head wrapped around this project.

"When we got that truck here, I had to work through certain things about it," he said. "There's lots of restored milk trucks out there, so our objective was basically to make this a modern Cadillac version.

"It had to have the continuity from front to back," he continued. "We struggled with the look of the nose in front originally, so we did a whole bunch of changes to the front end, just to kind of make it flow."

As work on the vehicle continues, VanLeeuwen has reached out to the Morden community through social media in the hopes of finding out more of the history connected to the truck.

"I would love the opportunity to chat and gather info and pictures

from any enthusiasts who may have a connection to it," he said.

"I don't really know anything more about the truck ... there was one person that mentioned that they remembered playing on the truck when it was still kicking around town," said VanLeeuwen. "I thought once I reached out there to the community there would be lots of stories to tell about the Morden Creamery, but I guess we're talking about another whole generation ago"

He likes the thought that it was not very likely that "one day this truck was going to go through some crazy transformation and survive another century ahead of them again.

"I thought it was pretty cool with this thing because you know somebody earned their living with it. I think that's what makes restoring the vehicles a lot of fun. They just don't always come with this kind of history, though," he concluded. "We don't know the future of the truck, but we know we're lengthening its life span."

If you'd like to check out the build, head to the company's Instagram feed at [driven2performance](#) or search for [#projectdiversion](#).



Above: The truck, which was found in a salvage yard, as it has looked for decades. Right: A work in process.



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Turkey vultures descend on Morden-Winkler



By Lorne Stelmach

Local residents have been noticing a few unique birds in the area of late as the spring migration season heats up.

An increasing number of sightings of turkey vultures—large, dark birds with a broad wingspan—have been popping up on social media in recent weeks.

Bigger than other raptors save eagles and condors, they have long “fingers” at their wingtips and long tails that extend past their toe tips in flight. When soaring, turkey vultures hold their wings slightly raised, making a ‘V’ when seen head-on.

“They do a lot of soaring, and maybe that’s what is catching people’s attention,” said Paul Goossen, a retired ornithologist and chairperson of the Discovery Nature Sanctuary in Winkler. “They’re kind of an interesting bird.”

They may appear black from a distance but up close are dark brown with a featherless red head and pale bill. While most of their bodies and forewings are dark, the undersides of the

flight feathers along the trailing edge and wingtips are paler, giving a two-toned appearance.

If you see something soaring and making wobbly circles, it’s likely a turkey vulture, Goossen said, as these birds ride thermals in the sky and use their keen sense of smell to find fresh carcasses.

“They sort of teeter back and forth as they glide or as they move around,” he said. “They’re obviously taking advantage of thermal activities of up-currents and that kind of stuff. You usually don’t see them flapping—you usually see them gliding and circling.”

Goossen noted migration season starts in late March and can last into May.

“This is the time that they are moving through ... a lot of them move through the Pembina Valley,” he said. “They’ll eventually find a place to nest. They like to nest in old, broken down buildings ... or they’ll find maybe an old wind row and just find a place to nest.”

The migration of the various species of rap-

Continued on page 16

Morden Corn & Apple Festival cancelled for 2020

By Lorne Stelmach

For the first time in 53 years, the Morden Corn and Apple Festival has been cancelled.

The Aug. 21-23 celebration—which draws upwards of 80,000 people to downtown Morden each year—became the latest casualty of the COVID-19 pandemic as the province announced community festivals would not be allowed until at least September.

“It was clear it was the only real acceptable option,” executive director Tim Hodge said last week.

“Obviously there’s major humanitarian and health and safety concerns with having it,” he said. “It would just be completely unacceptable for the festival to be a cause of a COVID-19 outbreak in Morden ... it’s a cost that’s just far too great to even consider.”

“There were also major budgetary concerns as well with a lot of businesses struggling with shutdowns. We were expecting major hits to sponsorship revenue and sales revenue at the festival,” Hodge added. “But the conversation didn’t even have to get to the budgetary concerns.”

Festival chairperson Nathan Knight echoed Hodge’s thoughts.

“We had been hoping that the Corn & Apple Festival would be a rallying event for the local community and the greater province of Manitoba, but when it became clear that this

pandemic wouldn’t be over before the end of August, cancellation was the only option we were comfortable with,” he said.

Directors are now weighing their options for offering something fun to help fill the long summer months ahead.

“We still want to have something this summer. We’re looking into doing some livestream concerts that

would be available for anyone to view online,” said Hodge. “We pride ourselves on our very popular free entertainment during the festival ... so we would like to have some kind of free entertainment available online.”

The plan is to reach out to local musical acts to perform.

“It would be a nice chance for us to support some local artists,” Hodge said. “With every local event cancel-

ling, local artists are hurting ... so we would love to be able to give back to the community that supports us so well by being able to provide some local concerts with local talent.

“We’re also looking for some other ideas as well. We’ll have more information on that as summer starts and we’ve had more time to get our bearings with all these changes.”

Ditto for Winkler Harvest Festival

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler Harvest Festival committee announced last week that the 2020 festival is a no-go.

The province’s announcement that it will not be allowing large community festivals before fall took the decision out of the committee’s hands, said city events coordinator Nolan Dueck.

“In the last month and a half we’ve been looking at what are our options

as far as how this summer might work. We’d still been planning as though the festival was going to happen, so this is obviously a disappointment,” he said. “But it’s one of those things that needs to be done. The safety of our patrons, our attendees is the most important thing.”

The 36th Harvest Festival was scheduled to take place Aug. 7-9 at the Parkland fairgrounds.

Postponing the festival until September wasn’t a viable option, Dueck

noted, as it’s not clear whether large public gatherings will be allowed even by then, making planning difficult.

That said, the hope is to bring the community together in some way once COVID-19 restrictions are eased.

“We are looking at having some kind of an event once all this is said and done,” Dueck said. “Once we are able, we want to get everyone back together to celebrate.”

Plum Fest looking forward to “bigger and better” 2021

Also joining the ranks of cancelled summer festivals this year is the Plum Coulee Plum Fest.

Organizer June Letkeman con-

firmed on Monday that the Aug. 14-16 celebration has been cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

“It’s sad but we look forward to a

bigger and better Plum Fest in 2021,” Letkeman said.

CFDC has made the most of unexpected downtime

By Lorne Stelmach

It has been unusually quiet at the Canadian Fossil Discovery Centre with Morden's star attraction shut down in response to COVID-19.

Aside from the flow of tourists and visitors, the centre would normally have been busy with its annual spring break camp a few weeks ago while gearing up for the busy summer season ahead.

Instead, staff layoffs have left executive director Adolfo Cuetara holding down the fort on his own.

Although the province last week cleared the way for facilities like museums to reopen as of Monday, Cuetara anticipates it might be a little while yet before the CFDC will be in a position to do so.

"We have to wait for the city to reopen the Access Event Centre ... they have to think of the safety of the people," he said on Friday. "We also have to prepare for all of the requirements to open again because it's not easy ... it's not very clear yet what the requirements are."

Cuetara is uncertain what their summer season will look like with



CFDC executive director Adolfo Cuetara has been using the time the museum is closed to spruce up exhibits, including the MosasART display.

SUPPLIED PHOTO

the museum not being in a position to plan and prepare for such programs as its popular dig tours, so it might mean surviving on just admissions and gift shop sales in the short term.

"I think we will be open soon but just in a partial way," he said, suggesting the museum may need to start off with a skeleton staff. "I expect, with the number of visitors that we would be allowed, I think we will have to close some parts of the museum."

Cuetara has been facing this challenging time only a few months into his role as director. He's spent the past several weeks doing what he could behind-the-scenes.

"My plan was to focus on the things we can control ... to have the museum in shape and with new things for the reopening, whenever that will be," he said, noting the extra time finally allowed him to properly mount the MosasART exhibit.

He's also been working to keep the public engaged through social media with posts about the museum's history and extensive collection of prehistoric fossils.

"Every day I have been posting something that ordinarily people won't know or cannot see," Cuetara said, urging people to follow the CFDC on Facebook for updates on their reopening plans.

Local school divisions lay off support staff

By Lorne Stelmach

Temporary layoffs have impacted a range of support staff in local school divisions while schools remain closed as a result of the pandemic.

Both Garden Valley and Western School Division estimate about a third of their support staff are out of work for the time being as students learn from home.

"We would have preferred to keep them all working," said Garden Valley superintendent Todd Monster.

"All of our employees are great individuals, and we know that these kinds of changes are stressful on everyone ... at every opportunity, we want to make sure that our staff understand that they are valued members of our division education team."

"We've been assessing as we go along ... what our workforce needs are and having regular conversations, very positive ones, with our staff groups," said Western superintendent Stephen Ross. "We actually are reassessing every week, and we're talking to our schools and we are also talking to our staff."

Under the direction of the province, which has asked divisions to assess whether there is enough meaningful work for staff as schools remain closed, WSD has had to lay off about 40 people.

"We initially looked at what our work needs were and then we approached staff with a voluntary lay-off based on the amount of work that we did have," Ross explained. "We've been looking at it and refining it as the province comes out with a bit more direction."

He suggested the division was well positioned with technology to deal with the learning curve that came with the move to distance education.

"For us, a huge amount of our learning is going online through some digital platforms ... there's live teaching that's going on every day for lots of our students," Ross said.

"We also have a number of families that are receiving print packages, so we do have a delivery system set up with a few of our bus drivers right now who are delivering ... packages as well as some food and nutrition pieces and technology devices."

"WITH EACH PASSING WEEK, WE'RE ABLE TO GET A MUCH BETTER IDEA OF THE CONTINUING NEEDS ... IT WAS NOT POSSIBLE TO FIND MEANINGFUL WORK FOR EVERYONE."

Recent feedback from WSD schools suggests there is a need to maintain a good level of staffing as students began to really embrace off-site learning.

"They really need all of the people that they currently have; we're seeing a real spike in the learning things that are going on, which is awesome, and if we were to remove more people at this point in time we would likely see a drop in the connection we are having with kids at homes," Ross said. "We're going to keep an eye on that, and if we do start to see the engagement tails off, then we will have to reassess what our workforce needs are."

In Garden Valley, the layoffs impacted 124 employees including edu-

cational assistants, bus drivers, and cafeteria workers.

"At the very start of the suspension of classes, we felt it was necessary to keep all staff working until we had a good idea of the needs associated with delivering distance education because it's not something we've ever done before," Monster said. "With each passing week, we're able to get a much better idea of the continuing needs, and of course we realized it was not possible to find meaningful work for everyone."

Staffing levels are something the division will continue to reassess as the months go by.

Continued on page 16

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

Dog owners reminded to maintain control of their pets

By Lorne Stelmach

Two close calls with dogs within a week has a Morden resident appealing to the community to do a better job of keeping their animals under control.

Darlene Spence was also looking for assurances from the city that it is doing all it can to enforce its animal control bylaws after a couple of frightening incidents while she was out with her own dog.

"If your dog has any aggressive ten-

dency, please keep it on its leash," said Spence.

Spence was running past Morden Park with her leashed dog when they encountered another dog that was on a leash but had apparently gotten loose from its owner.

"I'm trying to stay between the two dogs and it just got hold of her hind end," she said. "She lost some fur, but I don't think it got through the fur to the skin at least."

She was then out with her dog again on the trail at Lake Minnewasta when

a pack of three big dogs on the loose came at them from behind.

"They came out of nowhere and just surrounded us ... they backed off when I started yelling at them, but I don't know these dogs, I don't know what they're capable of," said Spence.

"I've talked to other people on the lake trail as well, and they have all met these dogs ... there's people who are scared to go around the lake trail."

City of Morden bylaw enforcement officer Rick Paracholski said there has been a bit of a spike in incidents involving dogs of late and the city does take such reports seriously.

"With a lot of people out now walking a lot more, trying to get some fresh air, it has increased," he said. "Most of the times when these occur ... the dog is on a leash and they got a little too close together ... I think that's been a majority of them."

"No matter what, though, we don't tolerate if a dog bites another dog ... you can get some pretty hefty fines if you're not in control of your animal."

Those fines include \$150 for a dog wandering at large or disturbing the quiet, \$250 for being unleashed, and \$850 for an attack. If your dog bites a person and it is not up to date with its

shots, the animal is impounded for 10 days.

"We raised them all a couple years ago because people weren't taking them seriously," said Paracholski of the fines. "We do take it seriously."

Morden Police Chief Brad Neduzak said they do get contacted occasionally about dogs, but those complaints are generally handled by the bylaw enforcement officer.

"We get them every now and then ... I wouldn't say it's a persistent problem," he said. "We'll deal with it if it came to be something more serious."

Neduzak cautioned people who might be tempted to carry some sort of weapon or pepper spray as a form of defense.

"We can't condone carrying weapons for any purpose ... we obviously discourage people from carrying knives or things like that on them," he stressed. "Be conscious of where you're walking your animals, and if there are issues at a particular location, try to avoid that location."

"You obviously have to protect yourself the best way possible, but to carry weapons is not the answer."

To report a stray or vicious dog, call 204-822-5431.



Manitoba taking cautious steps forward to reopen economy

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Manitoba's chief public health officer Dr. Brent Roussin had no new cases of COVID-19 to report at Monday's daily press briefing.

The day before saw one new case added to Manitoba's tally, bringing the total number of lab-confirmed positive and probable positive cases 281.

Of those, 37 cases are currently active. There are five people in hospital with COVID-19, none in intensive care. A total of 238 people have recovered. Six Manitobans have died.

Monday also marked the first phase of Manitoba's plans to reopen the economy, with many businesses previously deemed non-essential now able to open again to the public under strict guidelines.

Dr. Roussin said health officials will be watching the impact of reopening measures very closely in the weeks to come.

"It needs to be noted that this is not a return to normal," he stressed. "This is a gradual and cautious reopening of the economy with very stringent restrictions at first to continue our limitation of the transmission of the

virus.

"We can't let our guards down at this point," Roussin said, encouraging Manitobans to continue physical distancing measures and good hand hygiene. "What's going to be very important, what's vital moving forward, is that individuals who are experiencing symptoms, people who are ill, need to stay home."

COVID-19 testing is now open to anyone showing symptoms.

"We've continued to increase our testing capacity," Roussin said. "Any Manitobans experiencing respiratory symptoms—fever, cough, sore throat, runny nose—can present for testing."

As of Monday, the province had performed 27,446 tests for COVID-19 since early February.

Even if you're not showing symptoms, avoiding non-essential errands outside your home is the best way to protect yourself and others, Roussin

said.

"Right now we're still advising to stay home as much as possible," he said. "This is vital for people who are at increased risk of severe outcomes with this virus. So those over age 65, those with underlying medical conditions ... those [who are] immune compromised need to take extra care, should stay home as much as possible, limit your exposure to others."

> TURKEY VULTURES, FROM PG. 14

tors is quite widespread, Goossen said, but this region is one area of particular interest for observation.

"There's certain areas where they appear to congregate a bit more, and the Pembina Valley is certainly one where there's thousands of raptors that move up through that particular area."

> SCHOOL DIVISIONS, FROM PG. 15

"We'll continue to monitor the situation with the combination of schools not being in session and the

direction from government," Monster said. "We'll continue to look at what supports are essential to stu-

There is much that has been learned about these birds through research, added Goossen, noting that "a lot of them have been actually wing tagged in Saskatchewan as part of a migration study."

Past tracking of one turkey vulture found it wintered in Costa Rica and summered in Nebraska, while an-

other nestling from Saskatchewan had its wing tag read all the way down in Venezuela.

Other reports have noted flight speeds of about 40 kph without a tail wind and elevations of up to 3,000 feet above ground.

dents and their learning right now, and then we'll see where things go as we get further down this path."

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PUBLIC NOTICE

R.M. of ROLAND PUBLIC NOTICE - 2020 FINANCIAL PLAN
The Council of the R.M. of Roland will hold a Public Hearing to present the 2020 Financial Plan:
Thursday May 28, 2020 • 7:00 p.m.
Roland Memorial Hall
Interested persons may make representation, ask questions, or register an objection to the Plan.
Copies of the Financial Plan will be available for review from the Municipal Office after May 20, 2020.



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PUBLIC NOTICE


RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF THOMPSON PUBLIC NOTICE 2020 FINANCIAL PLAN
PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Subsection 162(2) of the Municipal Act that Council for the Rural Municipality of Thompson intends to present its Financial Plan for the fiscal year 2020 at a public hearing located at:
**Miami Community Centre
34112 PTH23, Miami, MB
Thursday May 28, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.**
Council will hear any person who wishes to make representation, ask questions or register an objection to the Financial Plan. Copies of the Financial Plan will be made available for upon request, via e-mail or telephone. Due to COVID-19 restrictions all persons wishing to attend must contact our office in advance.
Christie de Rocquigny, CMMA
Interim CAO, RM of Thompson
info@rmofthompson.com
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PUBLIC NOTICE

LIQUOR LICENCE APPLICATION PUBLIC NOTICE CITY OF WINKLER
operating as at **WINKLER ARENA - MERIDIAN EXHIBITION CENTRE 600 PARK STREET, WINKLER, MANITOBA**
has applied for **ENTERTAINMENT FACILITY LIQUOR SERVICE LICENCE** to serve liquor from:
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Citizen and community input is an important part of the application process.
Please contact the Liquor, Gaming and Cannabis Authority of Manitoba at 204-927-5300, if you have questions about this application.
Please contact your municipality if you have questions about zoning bylaws and requirements.
If you want to make a formal objection to th is application, please send us your objection in writing by 4:30 p.m.
14 DAYS FOLLOWING THE PUBLICATION OF THIS ADVERTISEMENT
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Mail: LGCA Objections, 1055 Milt Stegall Drive, Winnipeg, MB R3G 0Z6
Fax: 204-927-5385
• We respond to all formal objections and will work to resolve objections before issuing a licence.
• A copy of the objection, including the name of the person who submits the objection, will be provided to the licence applicant.
• Each person who submits an objection will be advised in writing of the outcome to the licence application.

Announcements The Winkler Morden Voice

CARD OF THANKS

Our loss of Dad (Russ Amy) would have been sad at anytime, but it was amplified due to the restrictions amid the Covid-19 pandemic. We wish to express our sincerest gratitude for all the thoughtfulness shown to us by so many. The flowers brightened our spirits, the food sustained us and the cards, condolences and good memories of Dad that people took the time to convey to us were heart-warming. Thank-you all for your caring, it truly made a difference.

A very special thank-you to all of the homecare workers who helped dad during the past few years. He looked forward to you coming in and out during the day. Your services made it possible for him to maintain his independence until the last three weeks of his life. You are special individuals! Thanks again.

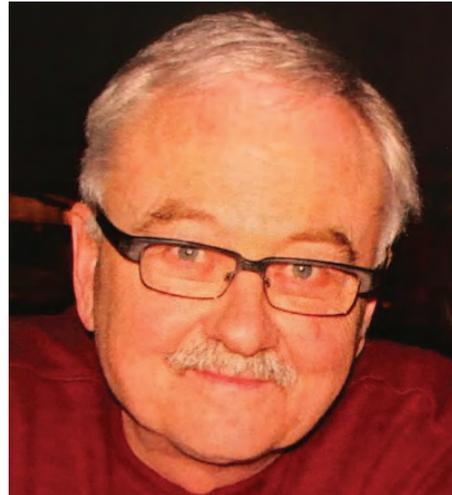
-Jan and David Henderson
Joan and David Kidd
Brent and Bonnie Amy
And Families

CARD OF THANKS

I am truly grateful for family and friends who helped me celebrate my 100th birthday. I will be making a donation to BTHC Foundation, Cancer Care in appreciation.

-Daisy Watchorn

IN MEMORIAM



Jack Fehr
January 23, 1947- May 8, 2019

Our lives go on without you,
But nothing is the same;
We have to hide our heartache,
When someone speaks your name.
Sad are the hearts that love you,
Silent are the tears that fall;
Living without you
Is the hardest part of all.
You did so many things for us,
Your heart was so kind and true;
And when we needed someone,
We could always count on you.
The special years will not return,
When we were all together;
But with the love in our heart,
You will walk with us forever.

-Love and missed by
your family

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OBITUARY



Sandra Lorraine Kehler (nee Derksen) 1948 – 2020

On Wednesday, April 29, 2020 at Boundary Trails Health Centre, Sandra Kehler age 71 years of Plum Coulee, MB passed away of a sudden illness.

Sandra was born July 30, 1948 to David and Susan Derksen. Sandra grew up in Horndean and Rosenfeld where she babysat and helped take care of her brothers. On June 4, 1969 she married John Kehler. They spent some time traveling while John worked pipeline before they settled in Plum Coulee and had two beautiful daughters, Sheryl and Donna. Throughout these years she worked in sewing factories and did factory sewing at home. She loved gardening, crocheting and doing crossword puzzles. She was famous far and wide for her dill pickles. In 2005 her granddaughter, Bailey was born. Bailey was the light of her grandparent's life. Sandy was the best grandma, playing on the floor with Bailey, always making sure she had games and craft supplies to keep Bailey entertained. Bailey spent time at her grandparents every summer and they all treasured those times together.

Sandy is survived by two daughters, Sheryl (Jeremy) Thiessen, Donna Kehler; granddaughter, Bailey Thiessen; three brothers, Lorne (Ruth) Derksen, Ryan (Lynne) Derksen, Clifford (Mary) Derksen; brother-in-law, David (Hilda) Kehler; and sister-in-law, Mary (Dave) Klassen and many nieces and nephews.

If friends so desire donations may be made in Sandy's memory to the Boundary Trails Health Centre Foundation.

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



OBITUARY



Menno Funk January 9, 1925 - April 21, 2020

Our beloved father, grandfather, and great-grandfather, Menno Funk, entered the gates of heaven on April 21, 2020, at the Altona Hospital after a brief hospitalization. His was an extraordinary life of 95 years which we celebrate, with thanksgiving!

Menno was born on January 9, 1925, to Jacob N.H. and Katharina (Harms) Funk in the Altbargthal School District, west of Altona. He was the second of five children, and had many fond memories of farm life in a loving home and community. In 1941, Margaret Schroeder caught Dad's eye and they married in July, 1947, after Dad had served as a Conscientious Objector (CO) the latter part of World War II and then started work with CVO as it began operations in Altona in 1945.

Menno and Margaret established their home in Altona, where they raised four daughters. Theirs was a loving and welcoming home with an emphasis on faith, education, hospitality and service. Menno spent his entire career of more than 45 years with CVO/CSP Foods/Bunge, and his contributions as the Production Manager were valued by many.

Dad embraced life with vigour, enthusiasm, and a vibrant interest in others and the world around him. He was a humble man of faith, intelligence and integrity. Dad and Mom were active members of the Altona Berghthaler Church throughout their marriage as deacons, Sunday School teachers, and Dad as a lay minister for years. Faith was central to both their lives.

Dad was also very community minded as an avid Altona supporter (licence plate was 'ALTONA'), a volunteer fireman and ambulance driver for years, an Altona Town Council member, and a representative on the Credit Union and numerous other Boards. He loved participating in and following numerous sports and after no longer being involved in baseball, hockey and curling, was able to continue golfing through the summer of 2019.

After the death of Margaret in 2010, following almost 63 years of marriage, Dad persevered and remained a shining example of gratitude while maintaining his keen interest in life, no matter the circumstances. Even as health was failing in the past year, he remained a man of faith, integrity and pragmatism who loved and followed Jesus.

Menno was an amazing grandpa and great-grandpa who was always welcoming and accepting of all who entered the family over the years. His love for family was unconditional. The extended family was thankfully able to make Zoom contact with Dad/Grandpa/Opa Funk on the Easter weekend, just before hospitalization was required. He was cherished and will be dearly missed!

Menno is survived by four daughters and their families: Marlene (Baj) Permanand and their children Shadell Permanand (Maya, Chelsea), Jason (Bonnie) Permanand (Kiran, Erika), Winston (Leah) Permanand (Quinnlan); Iris (Ken) Kliever and their children J.D. (Sara) Kliever (Micaella, Annalise), Karin Kliever (Ada, Hayley); Kathryn Funk (Dwight Suderman) and their daughter Alexx (Nolan) Froese (Sophia, Logan); Denise (Lorne) Voth and their children Dylan (Teryl Sansom) Voth (Sam), Collyn (Melissa) Voth (Jettson, Finnigan), Tyler (Michele) Voth. He is also survived by one sister, three sisters-in-law and one brother-in-law. He was predeceased by his beloved wife Margaret; his brothers Edwin (Tina) Funk and Otto (Margaret) Funk; his sister Evelyn (Howard) Epp and numerous sisters-in-law and brothers-in-law.

A private family service and interment at the Altona Cemetery was held on April 24, 2020 and a memorial service will be planned for a later date. Arrangements by Wiebe Funeral Home, Altona. Donations may be made to the Canadian Foodgrains Bank or Blue Sky Opportunities.

A heartfelt thanks goes to the Altona Hospital staff for their compassionate care amid the COVID-19 restrictions. For the many prayers, condolences and offers of support, we thank you. Our Dad always believed that "For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain." (Phil. 1:21).

-The family

Wiebe Funeral Home, Altona
In care of arrangements

OBITUARY

Evelyn (Rosen) Alwin



Evelyn (Rosen) Alwin, age 99, of Janesville, WI, passed away on Saturday, April 18, 2020. She was born December 29, 1920, on the family farm in southern Manitoba, the daughter of Ferdinand and Natalie Rosen.

Evelyn earned her Canadian teaching certificate after graduating high school and proceeded to teach in one-room schoolhouses throughout rural Manitoba. She later decided to continue her education and graduated in 1950 from Lakeland College in Sheboygan, WI. She was united in marriage to Edgar O. Alwin on August 23, 1952, in Manitoba. Evelyn worked for the Palmyra-Eagle Area School District for over 30 years as a 3rd grade teacher, retiring at age 70. She was a devoted and active member of the First Congregational United Church of Christ in Elkhorn, Delavan, and most recently in Janesville, WI. She was very civic minded and

served on the Matheson Memorial Library Board in Elkhorn for several years. When not working or serving her church and community, Evelyn enjoyed gardening, birding, baking, knitting, quilting, working puzzles, and playing cribbage with friends. She and Edgar moved from Elkhorn to the Cedar Crest Retirement Community in 2003. Evelyn was a loving and devoted mother and grandmother who will be greatly missed. She was dearly loved and respected as a friendly, thoughtful neighbor and friend by all who knew her.

Evelyn is survived by her daughter, Carol Sinesi, and her beloved grandchildren, Alexandra and Peter, all of Framingham, MA; a sister, Isabel Reichert of Morden, Manitoba; a very good friend, Elaine Lundgren, of Elkhorn, WI; many nieces, nephews and their families; and many good friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Edgar; two sisters, Edna Reichert and Marjorie Brunn; and three brothers-in-law, Cecil Reichert, Roy Brunn, and Howard Reichert. Evelyn's family would like to give a special thank you to the wonderful staff and volunteers at Cedar Crest.

Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic a memorial service will be held at a later date.

Memorial contributions are welcome at ECHO Janesville or the charity of your choice.

SCHNEIDER FUNERAL HOME & CREMATORY is assisting the family. For online condolences and guestbook, please visit: www.schneiderfuneraldirectors.com

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