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Les Titchkosky with
the 11 foot tall Ro-
man soldier statue
he built and has
dubbed the COVID
Warrior. For the full
story, see Pg. 4.

**PHOTO BY LORNE
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COVID warrior

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No shortage of ways to stay active: rec. programmer

By Ashleigh Viveiros

As with so many things this spring, the Winkler Parks and Recreation department's community programs ground to a halt in March thanks to the COVID-19 pandemic.

But that hasn't stopped recreation programmer Kelly Morgan from encouraging Winklerites to get up off their butts.

Morgan's "Fun Ways to #Playin While We Stay In" program was initially supposed to be a spring break campaign designed to give families some fun, affordable ideas for getting away from their digital screens and out being active each day.

But when COVID-19 hit, the temporary campaign became an indefinite one, and Morgan has been posting activity challenges and resources on the city's social media pages daily ever since.

"We decided to pivot and just really go for it and put out an activity

a day, seven days a week, for as long as this goes on," Morgan says. "When we originally started I think we all thought it would just be a few weeks. And now here we are, eight, nine weeks later, and we're still going.

"#Playin is really about encouraging everybody, no matter how old you are or where you live or what you've got around you, to use what you have to stay active and to stay well both physically and mentally," Morgan explains. "It's our way of saying we're in this together, we're thinking of you, and we're going to make it through together."

Every Sunday, Morgan posts a breakdown of the week's themes and the upcoming activity suggestions.

On Earth Day, for example, people were encouraged to get outside and get a little muddy. Other days have shone a spotlight on body weight workouts, yoga, family dance-a-thons, stretching exercises, and more.

Sometimes Morgan draws on her



Winkler recreation programmer Kelly Morgan and daughter Dylan shoot some hoops as part of the Fun Ways to #Playin While We Stay In campaign.

SUPPLIED PHOTOS

and her team's own experiences trying to stay active during the pandemic closures and restrictions. Other days she shares videos of the creative ways people in the community at large are staving off COVID-19 cabin fever.

"It's supposed to be a jump-off point for people," Morgan says. "We know not everyone is going to enjoy everything we suggest, but hopefully it inspires people and helps people to see what's going on in the rest of the community, to stay creative."

Continued on page 5



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Stardust Drive-in firing up the projector in June

By Lorne Stelmach

It won't be ready to go for May long weekend as originally planned, but Morden's Stardust Drive-in Theatre is preparing to open for the season soon.

One of only two drive-ins left in Manitoba, the Stardust is aiming to open the first weekend of June, and its owners are excited about the season ahead.

Marlene Nelson noted that many are pointing to drive-in theatres as a perfect fit in this time of COVID-19 physical distancing, but she sees it a little differently.

"You see a lot of articles where they say this should be the year of the drive-in, but that makes it sound like the drive-ins have been dying, whereas I see them as just rejuvenated."

The pandemic lockdown stirred up a lot of uncertainty as to whether drive-ins would be able to open at all this summer. They were at first lumped in with indoor cinemas in the province's plan for reopening the economy, which might have meant an opening day of months from now.

"We fell between the cracks initially," said Nelson.

The province later changed the guidelines to pave the way for outdoor theatres to fire up their projectors sooner with safety restrictions in

place.

Nelson said they've looked to the examples of what drive-ins are doing in places like British Columbia to keep customers safe.

Measures include allowing cars in every other parking space, limiting the number of people at the concession stand, and having online ticket purchases—something Nelson is working on for the Stardust.

"And usually, for a long weekend, we would have a triple feature," she said. "That's not going to be an option."

It's another twist in what has been quite a journey for Nelson and her husband Terry since she and the Freund family took over the Stardust in 2002.

"It went through a few years there where there was a decline in attendance," she noted. "Then one of the issues was that, in 2016, they were saying there's really not going to be any more 35 mm film ... you either go digital or you die."

People from all over rallied to support the drive-in through a crowdfunding effort that enabled it to make that switch and survive.

"They all came behind us and helped us with the Kickstarter," Nel-

Continued on page 4



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE Terry and Marlene Nelson, who own and operate the Stardust Drive-in with members of the Freund family, are looking forward to opening for the summer the first weekend in June.

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The COVID Warrior is on guard

By Lorne Stelmach

A retired farmer now devoting his time and energy to metal sculptural art has come up with a towering achievement for his latest creation.

Les Titchkosky has dubbed his 11 foot tall Roman soldier sculpture the COVID Warrior in a bid to aid the fight against the virus, albeit symbolically.

"I gave it that COVID theme because Roman soldiers hardly ever lost a war or battle, so I thought this is a good mascot, if we can fight COVID without losing," says Titchkosky.

Metal art has become a passion for Titchkosky since his retirement. Over the last number of years he's created everything from smaller yard ornaments to towering dinosaurs on his yard southwest of Morden

"Everything's made from recycled materials," he explains. "I don't buy anything new. Predominantly it's agriculturally related things because I was used to working with that.

"I've picked up different items over the years and I cut them up and bend them and put them into something that people could recognize and enjoy."

As for the COVID Warrior, it's made up of bits and pieces Titchkosky had

on hand or scrounged up, including a satellite dish, drain piping, and a myriad of farm equipment parts.

"It took practically all winter to build this thing ... even just looking for the parts," he notes. "Once I had the head built, it kind of gave me the perspective for where I was going, and I decided to make it into a Roman soldier."

Part of the fun of building these pieces is in seeing a project evolve once it gets going.

"It gets away from you," Titchkosky says. "You kind of put a perspective together with the head size and then it gets bigger and bigger, and that's just the way it goes. You kind of fit materials from what you have, so that determines what works and what doesn't.

"There's always challenges. Sometimes you just cut things off and have to start all over again ... you're just not happy with them ... you try to find the right materials ... I think it turned into something at least people can recognize."

Titchkosky isn't sure yet where his giant soldier will be stationed.

"I think I would like to have it end up in Morden somewhere, maybe a business ... or industrial," he said. "I'm not sure where yet."

Les Titchkosky with his giant COVID Warrior, which he made out of scrap metal and equipment parts.

PHOTO BY
LORNE STELMACH/
VOICE



One of the many other projects Titchkosky has tackled since retiring from farming.

In the meantime, one sculpture done means it's time to start the next. "I'm going to try to cut them down in size," Titchkosky says. "It's pretty demanding with something this big. It's going to be smaller. I've got a couple of items on the go."

Large or small, fun is always the goal of these projects, he says.

"I don't want it to be a job. I've given a lot of stuff away ... I want to keep it enjoyable; I don't want deadlines."

> STARDUST, FROM PG. 3

son said, adding it even helped raise awareness that the drive-in was still here—something that was equally important.

"Because if you lose it, it's not coming back," she said. "And we've been very fortunate since we went digital. We've had people coming from far and wide.

"There is still an interest," Nelson said, noting there are a number of drive-in theatres out west and even a new one in Ontario. "It's nostalgia.

It's great family time in a lifestyle that is so busy ... it gives everybody a trip back to a simpler time, having families go out together and spend that time together.

"That is what I think is coming with COVID-19 as well is that families are sticking together, but now it's to the point where they've got to get out, they've got to have something that's normal."

Despite the fact the film industry has been shut down because of the

pandemic, there will still be a good selection of films available to the Stardust.

"There's still a lot of really good movies that were shown through this past winter that should be accessible to us," Nelson said. "As well, there are some new releases that did come out.

"The classics are also being made available; it's just finding out all the logistics," she added. "We're bouncing ideas around ... there's ones

which you don't get tired of seeing, and to be able to bring them back to a big screen again is exciting."

Nelson is also looking forward to being able to continue supporting community fundraisers throughout the summer months.

"We have been so glad to be able to do that," she said. "People worked to keep us here—we've got to do the same thing back."

Two new COVID-19 cases in Manitoba on Monday

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Manitoba's COVID-19 caseload remains relatively stable one week after the province began its phased-in approach to reopening the economy.

On Monday, Chief Provincial Public Health Officer Dr. Brent Roussin announced two new cases, bringing our total number of lab-confirmed positive and probable positive cases to 289.

With 247 people having recovered from COVID-19, Manitoba's active caseload is 35. Four people are currently hospitalized with the illness, one in intensive care. Seven Manitobans have died due to COVID-19.

Over the weekend, three new cases were identified, including two connected to a workplace cluster in the Prairie Mountain Health region, bringing the total cases there to 10.

Dr. Roussin stressed the increase in that cluster is to be expected and that public health officials continue to investigate and trace contacts. Affected staff and their close contacts are self-isolating.

The cluster outbreak clearly demonstrates that Manitoba is not done battling this virus.

The warm spring weather is not a licence to gather in large groups or disregard physical distancing efforts or good hand hygiene, Roussin stressed.

"We want to remind everyone that we have not returned to normal, that this virus is still circulating in our province," he said. "If we loosen up too quickly we could see a reversal of some of those numbers. We could see this virus being transmit-

ted again at higher rates."

Testing for COVID-19 is open to anyone showing respiratory symptoms, including fever, cough, runny nose, and sore throat.

"We have much more lab capacity than we're utilizing at this point, so we want symptomatic Manitobans to be tested," Roussin said. "It's important to quickly diagnose cases and we can do contact investigations ... it will increase our ability to limit the impact of this virus."

As of Sunday, a total of 31,029 lab tests had been completed in Manitoba since early February.

Public health officials will continue to keep a close eye on the numbers when it comes to deciding when and how COVID-19 restrictions will be lifted in the weeks to come.

"As we start to gradually reopen our economy, we're following a number of indicators very closely to ensure that we continue to be on top of this virus," said Roussin. "Our actions over these next weeks to months will be crucial to keeping this virus at bay in Manitoba."

"Please, if you're ill, stay home," Roussin said, encouraging Manitobans to contact Health Links at 1-888-315-9257 with any COVID-19 questions.

Manitobans who are in high-risk categories for COVID-19—including seniors and those with pre-existing medical conditions—should take extra care.

"[They] need to be extra cautious. For the most part you should be staying home ... washing your hands, physical distancing whenever possible," Roussin said.

Put a blue light in the window

By Lorne Stelmach

As communities continue to find ways to show their appreciation for health care workers, first responders, and other essential workers amidst COVID-19, the impact of those gestures cannot be understated.

With the promotion now of the Shine A Blue Light initiative, a local health care leader said all the ways that people are showing their support really does help to boost morale.

"I believe it is meaningful for the

staff to see that kind of support coming from the community," said Kyle MacNair, director of health services at Boundary Trails Health Centre. "Having people from the community show their support and show that we're in their minds is really helpful for the staff."

This latest campaign encourages people to join together while practicing physical distancing by shining a blue light every night in thanks to those on the frontlines.

You can also show your support

Continued on page 7



SALEM HOME PHOTO

Residents of Salem Home have been enjoying some #Playin fun in recent weeks. Here, several seniors enjoy parachute games.

> #PLAYIN, FROM PG. 2

The entire experience has been a valuable one for the rec. department team.

"This is really a chance to innovate a bit in programming and to reimagine recreation a little bit," Morgan says. "We're so used to it being facilities based. This is a neat way to look at it

more family or community based."

Morgan has a few themes planned for upcoming weeks, including activities for seniors and spring hockey training, to name a few.

To follow along, check out Winkler Parks & Recreation on Facebook or Instagram (@winklerparksandrec).

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The Winkler Morden Voice is published Thursdays and distributed as a free publication through Canada Post to 15,350 homes by BigandColourful Printing and Publishing.

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The gun control column

You knew it had to come eventually, right?

I have a complicated perspective when it comes to gun control, but this would surprise no one who knows me.

I have never been fond of extreme all or nothing “ban everything!” or “don’t ban anything!” positions because, like it or not, it is a nuanced issue.

In my life I have had the opportunity to use the following weapons: 357 Magnum handgun, Colt 45 handgun, Browning Hi-Power 9 mm handgun, a 9mm SMG C1 submachine gun, FN C2 7.62 mm machine gun, FN C1 7.62 mm rifle, a shotgun, grenades ... the list goes on.

The point: I have used a variety of weapons, most of which came from my brief time as a weapons technician in the Royal Canadian Artillery.

I am comfortable with and believe trained, responsible individuals should be able to use a variety of weapons, regardless of their original intent.



By Peter Cantelon

The hand grenade, for example, was made for one purpose: to kill and damage a large circumference of human beings, disrupting their ability to hurt or kill me and disrupting their defensive lines.

That said, I would love to be able to go to a range here in Manitoba and toss some grenades at various things (like a pile of watermelons) because it is fun.

However, I accept the limitations on my freedom preventing me from doing this because I think there is a high chance untrained and nefarious individuals would use them irresponsibly. I have seen the damage they can do. Making them illegal does not mean criminals cannot get them. It does mean you can’t walk into Walmart and buy them and it also means an angry teen can’t dip into his or her parent’s stash at home and reap vengeance upon peers they may be upset with.

I have always believed that if there is anyone who can understand the logic of keeping certain (not all) weapons out of untrained people’s hands it would be gun owners and people who have been trained to use them.

The damage one idiot can do with a semi-automatic rifle is stupendous. Is every gun owner an idiot? Nope. Most gun owners are trained, highly responsible individuals that store their

weapons appropriately and securely. All it takes is one moron to ruin it for everyone.

All this to get to the fact that Canada just banned 1,500 types of guns. I am conflicted about this.

It has been a LONG time since I have fired anything more powerful than a pellet rifle. I don’t need access to any of those 1,500 guns, but I am concerned about the political motives underneath the noble excuses offered with this latest ban.

It will be interesting to look at the gun crime stats two years out from this ban to see how this has affected it. I can tell you one thing, however: if there is no effect, I can guarantee you there will be no reinstating of some or any of these now banned weapons.

I realize that if my son or daughter were killed by a gun-toting criminal, I would want every gun in existence banned. I would want sharp sticks and rocks banned too. I would want everything that could possibly hurt anyone banned.

But that wouldn’t necessarily be the solution.

I like where Canada has been. We’re not the wild, unfettered west of the United States where in some places I could buy an operational tank and fire

Continued on page 7

letters

Put your trust in medical professionals, God

With all the information and speculation that is out there regarding COVID-19, there are three aspects of this phenomenon that encourage me.

First: Almost right from the beginning COVID-19 was compared to a war. With the 100th anniversary of WWI and the 75th anniversary of WWII commemorated in the past few years, one can see some real parallels.

At that time, as now, the whole nation is being mobilized and affected. Extremely large deficits are incurred by governments and we are all asked to sacrifice and participate in this war.

In other wars, our soldiers were sent overseas to the battlefronts. They fought in dirty and cold foxholes and trenches. They ate dehydrated field rations. At times they had very little protection from en-

emies or elements.

We, on the other hand, are asked to “stay at home!” Our foxholes are a hot bath and a warm bed. Our field rations are hot, fresh meals at a table. Our danger is not in hand-to-hand combat but in hand-to-hand hand-washing. And we complain about having to give up our personal freedom by social distancing? Really?

Continued on page 7

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.

MS Society hosting virtual fundraising, awareness campaign

By Lorne Steilmach

Unable to hold its annual spring fundraising walks and other events, the Multiple Sclerosis Society of Canada is aiming to bring people together online for MS Awareness Month.

With the launch of #WeChallengeMS, the organization hopes to see a nationwide virtual movement where people turn everyday acts into extraordinary actions.

"We have to find ways that we can bring people together virtually. It's really open to people's creativity," said Averill Stephenson, the society's director of marketing and development for Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

"We're dependent on fundraising dollars to keep our activities going, to fund research and fund programs and services," she said. "Ninety-nine per cent of our revenue comes from donations and a good portion of that comes from events. Having to be faced with not being able to bring

people together, which is really what our events are all about, we wanted to figure out a way we could pivot [online]."

Stephenson made a particular appeal for the involvement of Morden-Winkler area residents, who usually come out in full force for the local MS Walk.

"The walk last year actually had almost 120 participants and raised just over \$28,000, which is incredible," she said. "We recognize, though, that not everybody's in a position to be able to fundraise right now, so it's really about raising awareness too."

Throughout May, #WeChallengeMS is inviting people to turn ordinary hobbies and activities into fundraising opportunities in support of Canadians affected by MS.

"It's limited only by people's imaginations," said Stephenson.

"We're seeing lots of good ideas coming in from our communities across Canada ... everything from virtual dance parties people are doing



VOICE FILE PHOTO

The annual MS Walk held in Morden each year routinely draws over 100 participants and raises upwards of \$30,000. COVID-19 has thrown a wrench into this year's plans, but the MS Society has come up with a new, virtual way for people to support the cause.

in their living rooms to personal challenges," she said. "We have people that are walking 11,000 steps a day for the month of May in recognition of the 11 people that are diagnosed with MS every day."

The campaign also includes a nationwide virtual MS Walk taking place on Sunday, May 24.

For more information on #WeChallengeMS and how to participate, visit wechallengeMS.ca.

> LETTERS, FROM PG. 6

Second: Here I may be treading on thin ice in the eyes of some Christians. Some say we should not have to give up our freedom of assembly such as family gatherings, worship services, and the keeping of our Holy Days. After all, we are told to do this in the Bible. Sometimes this is stated outright. Sometimes it is implied that the Lord will protect us because we are doing what His word tells us.

But then how do you square the devil's scriptural approach in his second temptation of Jesus where he tells Jesus to throw Himself from the highest point of the temple? "You will not strike your foot against a stone?" Now note Jesus' reply: "Do not put the Lord your God to the test." (Matthew 4:6,7).

When you contemplate or initiate such an assembly are you not testing the Lord when the health professionals who know better than you, and the national leaders who are concerned about more people than just your circle, tell you otherwise?

Fortunately, churches and organizations have listened more and more to health professionals so that these assemblies are less tempting at this time.

Third: This is the most encouraging aspect of all. It comes to

me from my friend, Bill. He said: "I would be more anxious or frustrated if I didn't know the ONE who is in control of all of this and wants what is best for us." To me, Bill has the credibility to be able to say this. A year ago his wife was diagnosed with terminal cancer. She breathed her last in the same year. For Bill to be able to say this inspires me to increase my trust

> CANTELON, FROM PG. 6

in that same One. So, I am encouraged by the relatively small sacrifice that I have been asked to make. I am encouraged by the directions, discussions and decisions that our health professionals and national leaders make and expect me to follow.

Most of all, I am encouraged by the trust of others in our Lord and God.

> BLUE LIGHT, FROM PG. 5

and inspire others by sharing photos of your blue lights on social media using #healthcareheroesmb.

Lanette Siragusa, chief nursing officer with Shared Health, recently promoted the Shine A Blue Light initiative during a daily COVID-19 provincial update as a simple way to say thanks for all those who are "stepping forward to keep us safe and to keep our communities functioning."

"So we are asking everyone to shine a blue light to show their support for

tackle poverty, hunger, racism, and the many other factors that can contribute to a disenfranchised mindset that joins a gang or picks up a weapon and robs a bank.

Research shows that policies surrounding licensing, storage, and ensuring strict background checks and preventing domestic abusers from

owning weapons has been effective at reducing gun crimes in places like Switzerland where rates of gun ownership are similar to that of the U.S. but gun violence is substantially lower.

Time will tell, I suppose.

we were before," he noted. "We're not getting the contact, so it can kind of lead to a bit of a feeling of isolation ... the parking lot is half or a quarter as full as it usually is, so you certainly can see that we're not having nearly as much traffic through the doors."

"On a day-to-day basis, it's been challenging for staff to deal with this health crisis ... so it's a good reminder that the staff is not alone in this struggle."

these workers. Whether it's in our home, our yard or our business, we can acknowledge the efforts of our very dedicated teams and boost their spirits."

Light campaigns, parades, signs—MacNair said all these efforts have been most appreciated.

"In the hospital, where we're having to keep people away due to visitor restriction and we have had to curtail a lot of services, we're not seeing the people in the community as much as

Armin Ens,
Winkler

New sign at fire hall a quick fire danger reference

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Wondering if it's safe to start a fire? Confirming the Winkler area's fire danger level is now as simple as driving past the fire hall.

The Winkler Fire Department has installed a new sign out in front of its Pembina Ave. station to show passersby what number the community is

at on the fire danger level scale.

"The question always is when is it safe to burn?" says Chief Richard Paetzold. "We wanted to make it clear."

The department and the city regularly update the level on their social media and web pages, but that doesn't reach everyone.

"There are people that don't check that regularly, and so we have a lot of

people calling in to ask if it's safe to burn or not," Paetzold says. "Our fire hall is close to the highway and we have a lot of people travelling to the villages south of us, so we thought if we put the sign up here people can drive by and have a quick reference as to whether it's safe or not to burn."

"It's a visual aid and something to help us increase the community's awareness."

The danger level system takes its lead from the provincial program, but the Winkler and Morden fire chiefs also use their knowledge of their own jurisdictions when determining what to set it at, Paetzold explains.

In Winkler, levels 0-2 mean controlled burning is allowed, fireworks permits may be issued, and recreational fire pits are permitted.

A level three rating means no controlled burning is allowed and burn permits and recreational fireworks permits are cancelled. Recreational fire pits are still permitted.

Level four continues all those cancellations and also adds burn barrels to the no-go list.

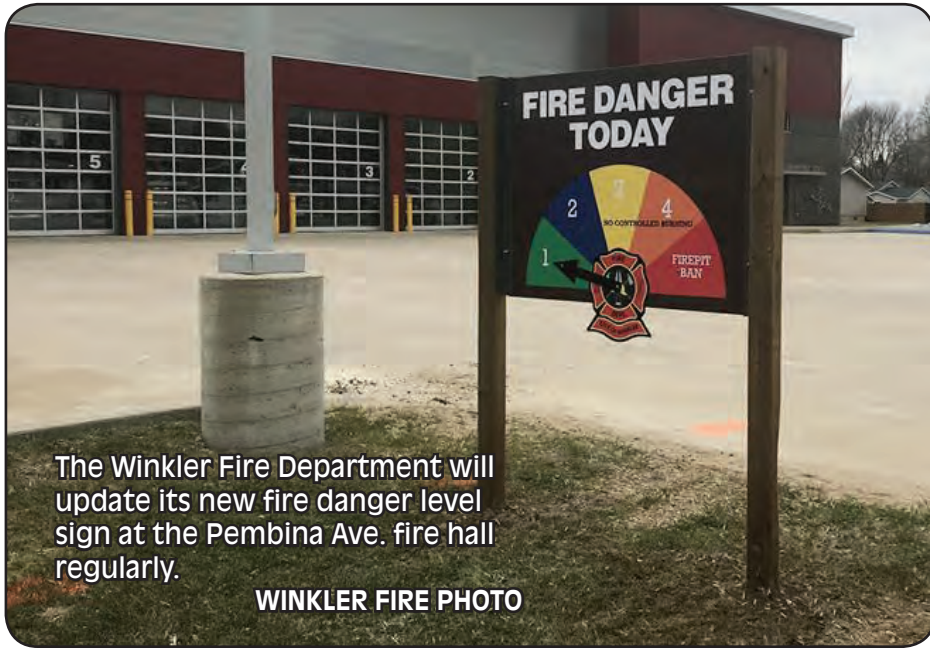
The Winkler Fire Department insti-

tutes a recreational fire pit ban after three consecutive days at level four to avoid any chance of errant sparks setting dry grass ablaze. (Due to different ratios of grassland to farmland, this ban on recreational fire pits begins on the first day of level four in the Morden fire department's coverage area.)

The reason backyard fire pits are allowed at various fire danger levels while other types of burning are not is because they are relatively low-risk most of the time, as long as they're built properly, Paetzold says.

"If recreational fire pits are built safely and according to our bylaws, then it should be very safe," he says, noting that fire pits should have enclosed sides made out of bricks, concrete, or heavy gauge metal, a non-combustible base area around its edges, and be at least 10 feet away from buildings or combustible materials.

You can learn more about the various danger levels online at winkler-fire.com. Morden's level is available at mordenfire.com. Both websites also include a map of the departments' respective coverage areas.



The Winkler Fire Department will update its new fire danger level sign at the Pembina Ave. fire hall regularly.

WINKLER FIRE PHOTO

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Ice cream deliveries

Pay It Forward May is in full swing in Morden-Winkler. Representatives of the Winkler Community Foundation and the Morden Area Foundation made special stops at the Morden Police, Winkler Police (right), and RCMP (above) offices last week to drop off donated ice cream cakes from Charley B's. Throughout the month, people are encouraged to pay forward random acts of kindness. You can share Pay It Forward May stories by sending them in to info@mordenfoundation.ca or admin@winklercommunityfoundation.com



or posting on social media under #pifmay. And if you should find a colourful Pay It Forward May sign (left) on your yard, the foundations ask you to keep it up for a couple of days before passing it on to someone else in the community to help get the word out about the campaign.



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The hunt is on once again for local thrifters

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Local thrifters are able to get back on the hunt for deals now that the thrift stores in Winkler and Morden have reopened their doors.

Winkler's MCC Thrift Shop had customers lined up at the door (at a COVID-19 safe distance from one another) when they reopened last Tuesday, and staff and volunteers were thrilled to welcome them back.

Board chair Adeline Braun says the non-profit store's volunteers had been eagerly awaiting the provincial go-ahead to return to their duties at the till and behind-the-scenes.

"We weren't able to allow them in [before]," she says. "We just had our manager and his assistant here. They worked right through, and they worked hard."

MCC staff took advantage of the unexpected customer-free weeks to undertake a store-wide reorganization and cleaning, both on the sales floor and in the facility's extensive back

rooms.

"They redid so much stuff. They redid the floors. They cleaned and organized areas that probably haven't been cleaned in years," Braun says, adding plastic guards were also installed at the tills and at the donation sorting stations in preparation for re-opening. The store also now has signs and arrows on the floor throughout to ensure people are keeping a safe distance from one another while shopping.

The bulk of the shop's volunteers are in the high-risk category for COVID-19, and so some have opted to hold off returning to work for now.

For those that did return, the store is doing everything it can to protect them, Braun says.

"We have gloves available, we have sanitizer, masks available," she says.

Store manager Peter Kornelson adds that while they are accepting donations once again (though not in the evenings nor on Sundays), everything that comes in will be quarantined for



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Barriers are up at the work stations for volunteers at the Winkler MCC Thrift Shop now that the store is able to reopen. MCC and the area's many other thrift stores are all taking precautions to protect shoppers and volunteers.

several days before volunteers are allowed to sort, price, and put items out for sale.

"Everything that comes in gets quarantined right away," he says, adding items are also sprayed with disinfectant when possible.

Braun notes that if donors were willing to do a bit of pre-sorting—

putting all clothing donations in one bag, household goods in a separate box, etc.—that would help volunteers a great deal.

Morden-Winkler's other thrift stores are also getting back into the swing of things as COVID-19 restrictions begin to ease.

Continued on page 14



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Dear Premier Pallister,

We are writing today in recognition of front line heroes and to alert you to the very real risks to vulnerable Manitobans.

Front-line staff who are providing essential, intimate, personal, challenging care to our most vulnerable population earn just over minimum wage. **Each day, these staff leave the safety of their homes, risking their own personal safety out of sheer dedication and commitment.** At their wage, employees could easily opt for the Federal CERB program without much, if any loss to their income. Recently Ontario increased Direct Support wages by \$4 an hour and Manitoba Direct Support staff are asking why they are not also being recognized as **essential**.

We are very concerned about the stability of the workforce currently supporting roughly 7000 of our most vulnerable citizens. We have been advocating for years – actually decades, for staff who care for people with disabilities to be treated as the professional and skilled staff we expect them to be. This global pandemic clearly points to the groups of staff within our province who are essential and who cannot easily be replaced. **Now is the time to step up and show support for the immense responsibility they shoulder 24 hours a day, seven days a week.**

Earning less than people at a grocery store down the street and certainly less than other essential workers is embarrassing, it's disrespectful and puts a fine point on how little our community and our government values people with disabilities.

Every day that you are not addressing this issue is putting people with disabilities at risk. **Please implement hero pay of \$5/hour to address this need to ensure that people with disabilities have consistent and trained staff working through this pandemic to ensure the health, well-being and quality of life of thousands of Manitobans.**

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Manitoba seniors to receive \$200 for COVID-19 relief

Manitoba seniors will have an extra couple hundred bucks in their pockets this spring.

Premier Brian Pallister announced last week that the provincial government will be distributing \$45 million in financial support to Manitobans age 65 or older during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Seniors Economic Recovery Credit will provide older Manitobans with a one-time, refundable tax credit of \$200.

"Senior citizens across the province are facing increased financial hardships because they now have to pay extra for grocery deliveries, or purchasing and learning to use technology at home so they can communicate with their family members and the loved ones they miss," said Pallister. "Manitobans are working together to navigate this challenging time and seniors throughout our province deserve our help and support."

The Department of Finance will mail a payment cheque as a credit

advance to each senior who filed a 2018 income tax return prior to April 1, 2020.

Seniors who have changed mailing addresses since the time of their 2018 tax filings will have an opportunity to update their address changes online at manitoba.ca/seniorseconomicrecoverycredit.

Those who do not receive a cheque, have not updated their addresses, or are new residents of Manitoba will be able to receive the \$200 credit when they file their 2020 income tax return.

Almost every senior across the province will receive the payment in May. The \$200 credit will not be counted taxable as income and will not be used to claw back income-tested benefits to seniors, the premier noted.

"Manitoba seniors deserve assistance during this pandemic," Pallister said. "We can't relieve all of their stress during these difficult times, but we can make it more affordable for them."

National **MAY** Physiotherapy Month
Helping you release pain and regain movement

Physical therapy is indeed the safest and most effective alternative treatment methods available today; especially for individuals who require regular physical activity but are unable to perform as a result of organic, muscular or neurological lesion. However, there are people who have doubts and concerns regarding the safety and efficacy of physical therapy for the management of pain, mobility issues, recovery and rehabilitation after surgeries.

You may have heard a lot of rumors, myths and misconceptions about physical therapy and physical therapists. It is recommended to clear your queries in order to get benefitted from one of the most recognized and ancient forms of alternative therapy.

Physical therapists are trained in understanding patho-physiology of joints, tissues and muscles; however, sometimes the damage is so severe that your physical therapist may require

more sessions in order to produce remission. Moreover, the aim of therapy is to promote the natural process of healing by providing an ideal environment to the muscles and tissues. This process may take time but the effects are long lasting and permanent.

It is often thought that physical therapy can cure all musculo-skeletal issues. Once again, it is not necessary since in a number of situations, the cause of chronic back pain or aching tissues is not an injury. Sometimes, your physical therapist may just guide you to improve your posture or stabilize your back while sitting or walking. It does not mean that the knowledge of your therapist is sparse or you need another doctor.

If you still have any misconceptions, questions or reservations towards physical therapy, make an appointment and speak to a therapist to know more about holistic healing.

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(Restoring Safe Services)

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CHAMBER MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Getting Down to Business

Olympic Source for Sports prides itself on being part of the community

Now into its fifth decade of serving the Morden area, Olympic Source for Sports continues to succeed through its commitment to community.

It continues to be family owned and operated and remains active in sponsoring numerous local sporting organizations.

"I'm in at least a couple family photo albums three times for first pair of skates for generations of kids," says owner Ed Dyck, adding it is great for them to have that strong, multi-generational connection. "I think that's what's probably helped me survive in retail so long because it's more of a personal relationship. People who are friends are customers."

Olympic Source for Sports has had steady growth since starting out at 10th and Stephen Street in 1979. They moved across the street into a larger strip mall space in 1984 and then made their way to their current location in 1997.

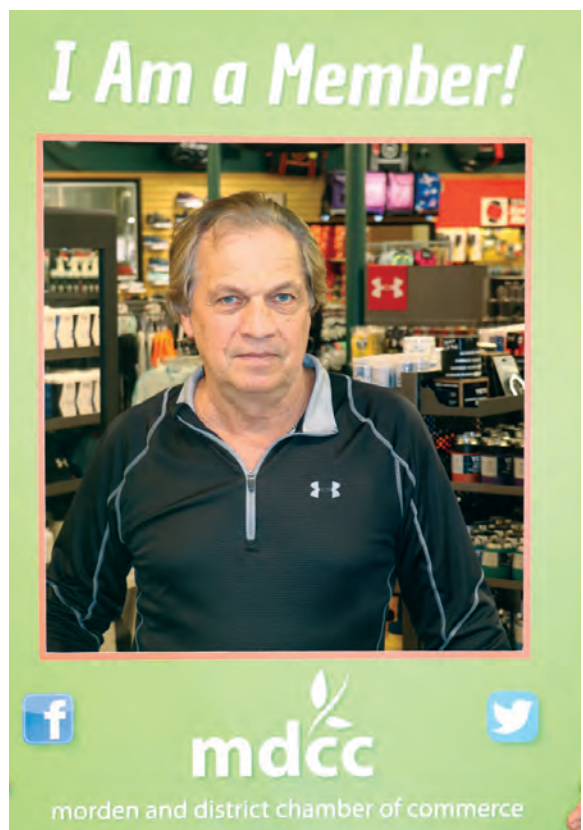
"I went from 800 square feet to 3,000 and then from 3,000 to over 6,500 here," notes Dyck.

As a sporting goods and service retailer, Olympic Source for Sports specializes in equipment for all manner of sports and fitness activities, team uniforms, bicycles, lifestyle apparel, active footwear, and much more.

"I've offered a lot of the same product categories right from day one," says Dyck. "It's been a lot of the similar products but just a different amount of variety."

The biggest key for him has always been "treating people the way I would like to be treated when I go into a business. That's always been my philosophy. It's about the customer service.

"Personalized customer service is always my main focus ... and then just trying to have the products that people want," Dyck adds. "And nowadays, with buying that's done a year in advance ... things keep changing, and you just have to try to stay on top of it."



I Am a Member!

mdcc
morden and district chamber of commerce

Ed Dyck of Olympic Source for Sports says his motto for customer service is to treat people the way he would like to be treated.

He also sees Olympic Source for Sports as succeeding here because the community is very sports-minded.

"Morden and all of our surrounding communities are good for being active ... a lot of them have a similar mindset of being community minded as well."

The store draws customers from a large market area, some coming from as far west as Killarney and as far east as Altona and Morris to shop.

As COVID-19 restrictions begin to ease, Dyck is feeling pretty optimistic about the future.

"When times are tough ... things that will stand out is if you have a solid base of customer service and a good reputation," he says.

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MORDEN CHAMBER NEWS

RESTORING SAFE SERVICES
MANITOBA'S PANDEMIC AND ECONOMIC ROADMAP FOR RECOVERY

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First quarter building permits up 20 per cent in Morden

Winkler, Stanley saw a drop to start the year

By Lorne Stelmach

New construction is off to a slower start in the region, but local officials are hopeful the level of development will pick up the pace in the months ahead.

Activity is down in some categories through the first quarter of 2020, according to an MSTW Planning District building permit report.

Morden was the only municipality in this area that showed growth in overall development with its value of construction up 20 per cent to \$1.58 million, while Winkler's was down about 25 per cent to \$6.2 million and

the RM of Stanley's was down 50 per cent to \$660,000.

MSTW general manager Glen Wieler cautioned that activity in the first three months is not usually a good barometer for the entire year.

"The first quarter, which rolls into the end of March, typically isn't a good metric because it is a slower time, but April is when it starts to pick up," he suggested.

"We're seeing a lot of activity now, which is positive, which is good. There's stuff happening, and that's exciting to see that," Wieler said. "The province is relaxing some [COVID-19] restrictions, so I think that will give confidence to people starting projects."

In the case of Winkler, Wieler noted the city has come off a couple record years with large projects such as the Meridian Exhibition Centre and Pine Ridge School

"This year, there's no, at this point, big project that's going to be starting ... but that can change quickly."

In Morden, building permits were up from 13 to 16 with a corresponding increase in development value from \$1.31 million to \$1.58 million. The value of new single housing starts was up from \$192,000 to \$720,000, while commercial improvements were down from \$950,000 to \$551,000.

In Winkler, building permits were down from 40 to 31 with a corresponding decrease in value from \$8.2 million to \$6.21 million.

The largest drop-off was in new commercial development, where the value of the activity is down from \$3.1 million to just over \$80,000. The value of new single housing starts was up from \$1.65 million to \$1.96 million, while new multi-family development had seen its value decline from \$1.8 million to \$1.12 million.

The value of development activity in the RM of Stanley was down from \$1.33 million to \$660,000 with no new single family housing starts as of the end of March.

"We've got to be sure we can continue to meet that challenge," Burley said. "We know that we will be able to maintain about two years of growth, at which point we're either going to have to build a cell or we have to have that [treatment plant] completed."

"That's something I keep on the front burner with both our own MP but also members of the governing party as well," he added. "We're still very hopeful that announcement occurs this year."

"Hopefully, at the same time, when that all clear comes [for Morden], it is with an announcement regarding wastewater treatment as well," noted Winkler Mayor Martin Harder.

He also anticipates the level of development activity in the city will improve.

"If I take a look at last year, we had a fair amount of pent-up demand which started very early, and that partly was postponed a little bit when we saw the number of businesses that were starting to do work share and layoffs ... so everyone was a little bit reluctant," he said. "We haven't had the number of housing starts related to multi-family ... but I think that's going to change over the next month or so."

"I'm not extremely optimistic for the year, simply because of the fact that things are so up in the air in regards to COVID," Harder concluded. "When those jobs start opening up again, that is going to make a big difference ... so we're cautiously optimistic that we still see some significant development this year. It might be a little later on. I think activity is going to start increasing."



Several residential projects boosted Morden's building permit stats for the start of 2020.

PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

"IT'S ALWAYS ENCOURAGING"

"It's always encouraging to see development ongoing. We were pleased to see that it is up 20 per cent over the same time last year," said Morden Mayor Brandon Burley.

He sees their statistics potentially being boosted by a number of projects this year, but a key factor for the city will be they anticipate seeing the province lift a freeze on new developments because of lagoon capacity issues.

Manitoba Hydro warns of aggressive scammers

Aggressive scammers continue to target Manitoba Hydro customers throughout the province, threatening to shut off their power unless immediate payment is made.

Scammers contact customers by phone or email claiming they have an outstanding bill. They then demand payments of up to \$1,500. The scammers say failure to pay within 30 minutes will result in electrical service being disconnected.

Chris McColm, Manitoba Hydro's security and investigations supervisor, said the scammers appear to be taking advantage of the COVID-19 pandemic.

"We're all under a lot of stress and these scammers are trying to take

advantage of that," he said. "These scammers are extremely convincing. With so many people at home, they're preying on our anxiety and hope we let our guard down."

McColm said Manitoba Hydro has suspended all service disconnections indefinitely due to the COVID-19

pandemic.

"We will never phone you and demand immediate payment by a prepaid card or a money order," he stressed.

McColm also said scammers falsify their caller ID information to make it appear as though they're calling from

Manitoba Hydro.

Customers should call Manitoba Hydro at 204-480-5900 or 1-888-624-9376 if they get a call or email and are unsure if it's authentic. Customers can also send a message to the utility's Facebook or Twitter pages @manitobahydro.

> THRIFT STORES, FROM PG. 10

The Morden Community Thrift Store reopened May 5 with a number of safety restrictions in place (one person per family allowed in at a time, dressing rooms and washrooms are closed, limited number of people in the store at any one time).

They began accepting donations again this past Monday. Donations can be brought in from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays.

Winkler's Adult & Teen Challenge Super Thrift has also upped its cleaning regimens, is limiting

occupancy levels, and is encouraging customers to follow physical distancing requirements, as has the Gospel Echoes Thrift Store. Donations are being accepted once again at both stores.

Streaming sessions shine a spotlight on mental health

By Lorne Stelmach

Seven different sessions covered a lot of ground last Tuesday as Morden's Mental Health Week went entirely online as a result of the coronavirus.

The 45 minute sessions offered live through the City of Morden's Facebook page touched on a range of aspects surrounding mental health.

The day included two sessions led by Recovery of Hope clinical director Terry Warburton, who spoke on not only why we need our unpleasant emotions to thrive but also the critical role of play in one's emotional wellness.

"I'm sure we've got all kinds of emotions in us that need to find some expression somewhere," Warburton said.

"As human beings, we are emotional creatures and we have vulnerable hearts and we are impacted by what happens to us in our world," she said. "Sometimes, it can just be overwhelming ... layers of insulation will grow, the defenses will come up."

Warburton acknowledged those defenses are necessary at times.

"We can't be feeling everything all the time. Sometimes we have a job to do and we need to get it done ... but hopefully what happens is when we aren't working anymore, when that event has happened, our feelings can come back to us."

Warburton used the imagery of

rogue waves crashing onto shore to represent how the challenges of life can hit us.

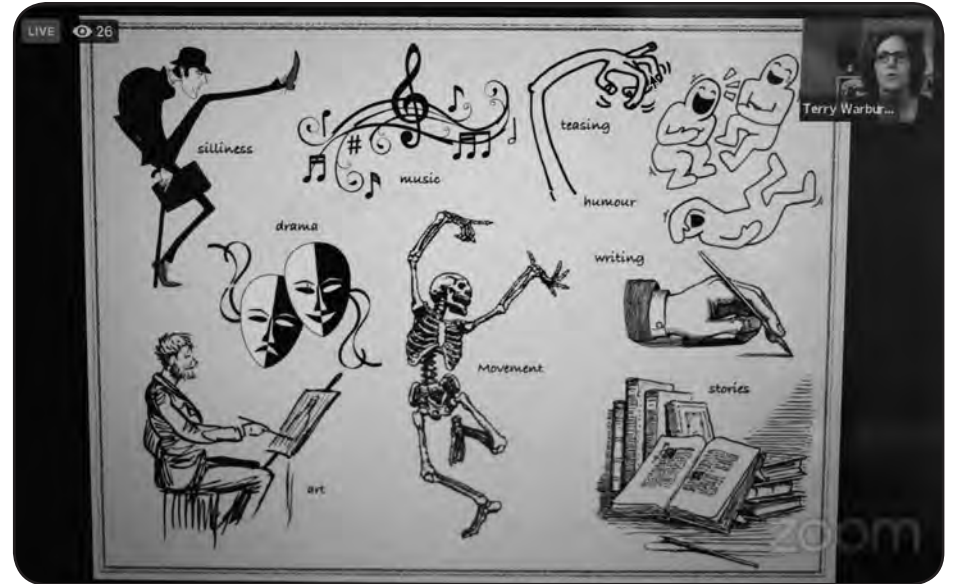
"When things and people matter to us, those are the times when the waves are going to be the biggest, and our tendency will be to not want to feel them because it can be overwhelming ... but it's probably best not to delete all of our feelings.

"It's probably a little bit of an irony that you have to feel sad in order to not be depressed," said Warburton, who went on to note how "the feelings of grief and sadness are what can change us ... and when we have been through difficult times, when it has hurt like crazy, and the wave has gone over and we come out the other side, it still might not feel great, but there can be a sense of strength in that I went through that, I did that, and I'm still here.

"The hopeful thing is that even though we can feel all kinds of unpleasant emotions ... whatever it is, it is not the presence of those things in our life that keep us from being able to find healing and to recover," she said. "Actually, the key to bounce back is being able to feel. It's a little bit counter intuitive, but that is actually the case."

Warburton then addressed how important it is to have an element of play in our lives, no matter our age.

"We're not meant to grow out of play ... other things in life tend to crowd it out, and I need to be reminded," she



Recovery of Hope's Terry Warburton hosted two of the Mental Health Week sessions the City of Morden streamed live on social media last week. In one, Warburton stressed the importance play has in our lives, no matter our age.

stressed. "We will not get to a place of self-realization without play and without making room for play in our lives."

She touched on how true play is more instinctive rather than a learned behaviour, and she stressed as well the connection between sleep and play.

"If we compare it to our dreams, both are a playground for emotion ... REM sleep and play share a common evolutionary path ... they are both a form of rest," said Warburton.

"Sleep is so critical to our emotional wellness, our physical wellness as well, but it is in sleep that our brain works through the emotions of the day, digests them ... in a sense, good sleep is like good therapy."

Given the wide range of benefits of play, such as building qualities like

resilience and adaptability, Warburton noted it is perhaps especially vital in trying times.

"It is possible to experience true play in alarming environments, like even in the midst of what's happening for us right now," she said. "Especially in times like this, we need to find those moments of play because we're not going to get it all figured out; we're not going to have all the answers right now."

Other sessions through the evening included those on building social connections, diet, kids and anxiety, sleep strategies, and how to conquer stress.

The community closed out Mental Health Week with a livestreamed concert Friday night featuring Patrick Simoens and Paul Bergman.

Pandemic not a pass to drive recklessly: RCMP

Manitoba RCMP are seeing a reduced number of motorists on Manitoba roadways but also increased speeds by those who are travelling.

On the evening of April 24, officers in the RM Of St. Andrews pulled over a motorcyclist clocked going 178 km/hr in an 80 km/hr zone.

The 50-year-old driver, a man from Winnipeg, was fined \$1,333 for speeding and \$672 for driving dangerously. He was also issued a serious offence notice for a licence review with MPI.

Approximately an hour later, the same officer clocked a vehicle going 150 km/hr in the same 80 km/hr zone. The driver, a 17-year-old female from St. Andrews, was charged with speeding and fined \$966. She was also issued a serious offence notice for a license review with MPI.

Drivers operating at dangerous

speeds have also been charged in other areas throughout the province, RCMP note.

Also on April 24, Portage la Prairie RCMP pulled over a vehicle on Hwy. 1 going 177 km/hr in the posted 110

km/h speed zone. The 28-year-old male driver told police he was tired and in a rush to get to a store to pick up dog food and get home. He was fined \$927 and issued a serious offence notice.

RCMP remind Manitobans that, even during the pandemic, police continue to watch for dangerous and reckless driving on the province's roadways.

Manitoba Games postponed to 2021

Youth athletes will have to wait one more year to show off their skills at the Manitoba Games.

Sport Manitoba and the Dauphin Host Society has announced that the 2020 Manitoba Games scheduled to take place Aug. 9-15 have been postponed to July 11-17, 2021 thanks to the COVID-19 pandemic.

"This was a difficult decision to make as we know thousands of Mani-

tobans are affected, including athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, sponsors and people across the province who planned on attending and being a part of the Games," said Sport Manitoba president and CEO Jeff Hnatiuk. "However, the conclusion to postpone was necessary as public health and safety is ultimately our top priority, and we have to do everything we can to keep our communities safe

during this health crisis."

The delay is disappointing for the community of Dauphin, but knowing they'll have another crack at hosting next year softens the blow, say organizers.

"The collective decision to postpone the Games to 2021 is the best one we could have hoped for," said Host

sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN



SUPPLIED PHOTOS

Above: Mariko Boorberg and Garrick Wiens and their kids Ben, Naomi, Anika, Paul, James, and Joshua have been named the Family of the Year by the provincial cross country ski association. Below, from left: Also honoured with individual awards were Aaron Warkentine, William VandenBerg, Mia Sawatzky, Ben Wiens, and (not shown) Levi Warkentine.



Boundary Trails Nordic Club clinches six awards

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Members of the Boundary Trails Nordic Club were honoured with no less than six of the Cross Country Ski Association of Manitoba's dozen annual awards last week.

Morden's own Mariko Boorberg and Garrick Wiens along with their kids Ben, Naomi, Anika, Paul, James, and Joshua were named the CCSAM's Family of the Year for their involvement with the club.

"We didn't even know we were nominated," says Boorberg. "It was very exciting."

Boorberg and her husband are avid cross country skiers who introduced all their kids to the sport at a very young age.

"Our oldest was just two, turning three, when we put him in the Jackrabbits program at Burwalde Woods," Boorberg says.

Now 16, Ben today trains alongside his sisters Naomi and Anika with the BTNC Junior Development team. Ben and Naomi are also in the provincial development program and represented Manitoba at the O Cup in Ontario last season. Ben was also slated to compete at the nationals in B.C. prior to its cancellation due to COVID-19.

The younger Wiens kids, meanwhile, are all active in the Jackrabbit program, and their parents are involved as coaches and club leaders.

"It is hard to imagine BTNC and ski-

ing in Manitoba without the Wiens' enthusiasm and positive energy," nominator Vera Froese said in her pitch on behalf of the family. "The Wiens family embrace racing with enthusiasm."

That's no huge task, Boorberg says. Cross country skiing is a sport like no other.

"It's a sport that the whole family can take part in," she says, adding the BTNC community is a close-knit one with a wide range of ages and skill levels represented.

She encourages other families to reach out to the club next winter for information on getting involved.

"The club is open to all ages, and we're really encouraging families to come with their children and take part ... whether you choose to ski just for fun or competitively."

Fellow BTNC skiers in the spotlight include Levi Warkentine, who was named Senior Skier of the Year, Aaron Warkentine, who clinched one of the Junior Skier of the Year awards, and Mia Sawatzky and William VandenBerg, who are the Juvenile Skiers of the Year. Ben Wiens was also honoured with the Most Improved Skier Award.

Boorberg wasn't the least bit surprised to see the club's members dominate the CCSAM's awards.

"Our team is a team that has been developing and has some excellent racers," she says.

Flyers bid farewell to assistant coach Grimwood

The Winkler Flyers are on the hunt for a new assistant coach for the 2020-2021 season.

The junior team announced last week that Geoff Grimwood, who came on board with the Flyers in January after spending the first half of the season with the Swan Valley Stampede, has taken a job as the head coach and general manager of the BCHL's Cowichan Valley Capitals.

"I'm really sad to see Grimmer go, but it's an excellent opportunity for him to lead his own program just

down the driveway from his home in Victoria," Flyers head coach Kelvin Cech said. "Selfishly, I'd love him to stay, but I'm happy we got to be a part of his coaching journey. He was a huge help for us down the stretch. The plan now is to beat him in an RBC at some point."

In addition to Swan Valley, Grimwood has spent time as a junior head coach with the Kindersley Klippers and the West Kelowna Warriors.

Grimwood's short time in Winkler left an impression on him.

"My time in Winkler was some of the most enjoyable of my career," he said. "It is a first class organization that I know has a lot of success in the

past and coming up in the future.

"The people in Winkler made me feel welcome and I will always cherish my time there."

> GAMES, FROM PG. 15

Society co-chairs Carla Wolfenden and Clayton Swanton. "The one year postponement will be used to further plan and execute a high quality event."

The Manitoba Games are staged

every two years and alternate between summer and winter sporting events. They are the largest ongoing multi-sport event in the province, involving upwards of 3,000 athletes, coaches, officials, and volunteers.

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The Winkler Morden Voice

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PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE CITY OF MORDEN 2020 FINANCIAL PLAN



Pursuant to Section 162(2) of The Municipal Act, the Council of the City of Morden intends to present its financial plan for the fiscal year 2020 at a public hearing on Thursday, May 28, 2020 at 7:00 P.M.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the hearing will be held electronically. It will be live streamed on the City of Morden Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/cityofmorden/, and posted to the City of Morden website after the meeting at www.mymorden.ca/video. You will be required to pre-register with the Civic Centre by Wednesday, May 27th, 2020 and a link will be forwarded to you to allow you to participate in the hearing.

Council will respond to any person who wishes to make a representation, ask questions, or register an objection to the financial plan, as provided. Copies of the proposed Financial Plan will be available for review after May 22nd, 2020 and may be examined by any person at www.mymorden.ca, or by making arrangement for pickup by calling the Civic Centre at 204-822-4434.

Please note that, in the event that the Province of Manitoba amends its restrictions by May 25, there is the potential to hold this hearing in person at the Access Event Centre, where there would be ample space to continue to follow social distancing guidelines. The City of Morden will continue to keep residents updated as the situation changes. Please visit www.mymorden.ca for the most up-to-date information.



DJI Mavic Pro

with 2 batteries, micro SD card, extra propellers and pelican hard case.

Phone or text for more details
204-513-5611

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.



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
204-435-2114

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CAREERS



233 Main Street N.
Morris, MB R0G 1K0
Phone: 204-746-2317
Fax: 204-746-2785
E-mail: hrdept@rrvsa.ca

RRTVA DIRECTOR

Employment: 1.00 FTE Permanent **Start Date:** September 8, 2020
Competition #: 1920-200 **Closing Date:** 12:00 p.m., May 25, 2020

Particulars:
The Director of the Red River Technical Vocational Area is the primary liaison and direct link between the Area Council (*Border Land School Division, Garden Valley School Division, Red River Valley School Division, and Western School Division*) of the RRTVA regarding all matters pertaining to technical education. This position is the central contact for all matters pertaining to technical education within the partnership boundaries. This role establishes clear policy and procedures for the efficient delivery of services to the partners and their constituents. It provides leadership and vision to the research, development and collaborative implementation of technical and applied learning opportunities for communities within the RRTVA.

The Director is responsible for the direction and supervision of all members of the RRTVA staff who will promote, and assist with the administration of the technical education programs of the RRTVA and carry out such duties as may be assigned by the Area Council through the Executive Council comprised of the RRTVA Superintendents and the Director.

Qualifications and Experience:

- Bachelor of Education Degree
- A firm understanding of Manitoba Technology Education programming and Provincial Technology Education funding structures
- Demonstrated collaborative leadership, program development/implementation, supervision, educational research and fiscal management
- Experience working within a board of director's structure
- Ability to relate to the school community and the community value base
- Understanding of school timetables, student scheduling, student record protocol, confidentiality regulations
- Knowledge of Microsoft Office
- Proven success in the area of grants writing would be an asset

Duties:

1. Support the maintenance of an orderly system of records of student records, residual costs and attendance.
2. Facilitate the orderly flow of student information between home and program schools including but not limited to: *Unified Referral and Intake System (URIS); Individual Educational Plan (IEP); Student behaviour plans; Student progress reports;* and other information as required.
3. Assist with the coordination of transportation of technical programs within partner divisions.
4. Facilitate the coordination of interlocking technical education timetabling and calendars.
5. Facilitate inter-divisional student access to RRTVA Programs
6. Prepare appropriate certificate of achievement for RRTVA students and certificate of appreciation for cooperating employers.
7. Assist each division in claiming all grants based on student enrolment applicable to technical education.
8. Monitor and report on the operation of the RRTVA Programs.
9. Act as a central contact person on all matters pertaining to vocational education.
10. Assist the RRTVA Superintendents and boards in the recruitment of vocational staff upon request.
11. Recommend modifications of policy and operating procedures.
12. Conduct studies and submit such reports as may be deemed desirable by partner division boards, the Executive Committee, and the Area Council.
13. Act as liaison between RRTVA partners and post-secondary program partners.
14. Collaborate with Manitoba Education and Advanced Learning, ALL, CTT and related government departments (SPR 1.1.7)
15. Develop a clear sense of how to target the needs of adult learners (SPR 2.2.3).
16. Seek out professional development opportunities for the RRTVA Council.
17. Attend all RRTVA Executive and Council meetings, and partner board meetings as requested.
18. Demonstrate a commitment to personal professional development and growth.

Salary and Benefits:

The compensation package for the position is in accordance with the Collective Agreements between the RRTVA Partners and their Teachers' Associations.

Applications:

1. Letter of interest
 2. Resume
 3. Three current references
- Please submit in confidence to: Human Resources Department, hrdept@rrvsa.ca
Box 400, 233 Main St. N., Morris, MB R0G 1K0



CAREERS

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**Western School Division –
serving the City of Morden and the
surrounding area – invites applications
for the following positions:**

- **École Morden Middle School**
Dual Track Grade 5-8 (660 students)
Middle Years Teacher (5 positions available)
Positions vary from 0.5-1.0 FTE

- **Minnewasta School**
Early Years Teacher EAL/RR
(1 or 2 position available)
Grades K-4 (340 students)
Positions may vary between 0.5 and 1.0
FTE depending on the
candidates' preferences

- **Maple Leaf School**
Dual Track Grades K-4 (550 students)
French Immersion Teacher-Gr. 2 (1 position)
Early Years Teacher (2 positions)
All positions are 1.0 FTE

Western School Division fosters collaboration and joint planning among its stakeholders and is proactive in its approach to literacy and numeracy development, curriculum implementation, the inclusion of special needs, and technology for learning.

The successful candidates must demonstrate excellent classroom management abilities, possess knowledge of assessment and evaluation, and demonstrate knowledge of either early or middle years philosophy. S/he must have: good written and verbal communication skills, demonstrate excellent interpersonal skills, present themselves professionally, and demonstrate the ability to be a team player, functioning as part of a team and working collaboratively with teaching colleagues. We are looking for a teacher that is committed to fostering deeper thinking in our children and is comfortable with inquiry and project-based learning. The ability to teach Basic French will be considered an asset for all positions. The ability to teach in both French and English is required for any French Immersion position.

The positions will remain open until suitable applicants have been found.

For more information and how to apply, please refer to the links below and follow the application instructions:

École Morden Middle School:

<https://www.westernsd.mb.ca/Employment/Employment%20opportunities/2020EMMS013%20-%20Middle%20Years%20Teacher.pdf>

Maple Leaf Elementary School:

French Immersion Program

<https://www.westernsd.mb.ca/Employment/Employment%20opportunities/2020MLS010%20-%20Early%20Years%20Teacher.pdf>

English Program

<https://www.westernsd.mb.ca/Employment/Employment%20opportunities/2020MLS015%20-%20Early%20Years%20Teacher.pdf>

Minnewasta School:

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CARD OF THANKS

We, the family of Sarah Enns, want to thank Mike and staff of the Buhler Active Living Centre, police and fire department, family, friends and Lorne for the parade, cake and nice write up.



IN MEMORIAM



Linda Marie Giesbrecht
July 25, 1952 – May 17, 2013

We will always remember
Your special smile,
Your caring heart,
Your warm embrace.
You remain in our hearts,
And the love we have for you
Will live on forever.

-Your family

IN MEMORIAM



Liz Hiebert
October 10, 1935 – May 17, 2019

Those we love don't go away,
They walk beside us every day;
Unseen, unheard, but always near,
Still loved, still missed and forever dear.
Deep in our hearts a memory is kept,
To love, to cherish and never forget.
Today, tomorrow, our whole lives through,
We will always love and remember you.

-Loved and missed by
your family

OBITUARY



Elma Ginter (nee Kehler) 1944 - 2020

With sad hearts we announce the passing of Elma Ginter on Thursday May 7, 2020 after a battle with cancer. Elma died peacefully with her husband, Abe; sister, Martha, brother in-law, Harry, sister, Dorothy, brother in-law, Dave and sister-in-law, Mary by her side. Annette, Darryl, Alexa and Evan were unable to be in hospital but did share her last moments via FaceTime.

Elma was born on August 22, 1944 to Anna and Henry Kehler in Altona, MB. As a believer, it was important for Elma to make the commitment to the Lord with baptism. On June 9, 1963 (19 years old) she did so at Sommerfelder Mennonite Church in Winkler. In 1960, she met Abe Ginter. After three years of getting to know each other, they wed on September 29, 1963 going on to have one child,

Annette. Elma started her work career as a sewer at the Winkler Sewing Factory in 1960; went onto Triple E in 1974 to retire in 2005, after 31 great years. Elma appreciated all the friendships she had made over the years. Mom loved visiting her kids and grandkids. Filling our tummies brought her great joy – the best chocolate trifle in town. She lived for the family. Mom always had pocket mints ready and was willing to share. A passion of serving at church was how she spent her free time. Coffee time with the ladies at the local coffee spot always gave her the opportunity to share photos and stories of the kids.

Elma was predeceased by her parents, Anna and Henry, brother, Jake and sister, Nettie. Elma is survived by her husband, Abe; daughter, Annette (Darryl); her two grandchildren, Alexa and Evan; her two sisters, Martha (Harry), Dorothy (Dave); stepbrothers and sisters and nieces and nephews.

Mom was feisty, generous, energetic and loving. She made a great impact on our lives. Thanks for all you've done. You will be missed. We love you. Until we meet again.

Our family would like to thank the medical staff for their service, compassion and understanding during this difficult time. We thank friends and family for the prayers of encouragement, healing and support.

Private service was held on Tuesday, May 12, 2020 at the Westridge Memorial Gardens in Winkler.

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



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Sedan EX

STOCK NUMBER
#154926



128,356 KMS

LOCAL, ONE OWNER, CLEAN CAR

\$14,988

2014 Honda CR-V EX

STOCK NUMBER
#140782



187,000 KMS

LOCAL TRADE, ONE OWNER,
CLEAN CAR, CLEAN CARFAX

\$16,988

2015 Honda CR-V
Touring

STOCK NUMBER
#156449



88,000 KMS

MANITOBA VEHICLE,
NO DAMAGE REPORTS

\$24,988



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Permit #9725

*Honda Loyalty Program, **Lease Rate, ***Vehicles not exactly as pictured.