

The *Winkler* *Morden*
Voice

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JULY 8, 2021

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Evander and Aubrielle Grenier helped their parents deck out their yard for Canada Day last week as part of Winkler's second annual Canada Day Decorating Contest. For more photos, see Pg. 10.

PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

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A grandmother's love

Peony planted 88 years ago continues to bloom

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Country cemeteries are a familiar sight on the Prairies.

Some are lovingly tended by the distant descendents of the settlers who lived and died on the land they worked so hard to carve out a home on.

Others have fallen into disrepair, fading tombstones left crumbling and overrun by nature.

A small cemetery a few miles north of Plum Coulee falls closer to the former than the latter, marked all these years with a grandmother's love.

Eighty-eight years ago this March, six-month-old George (Geordie) Howard Wiebe succumbed to pneumonia.

He was laid to rest in the family plot. His grandmother, Sarah Wiebe, planted a peony to mark his final resting place.

That peony has flowered every year since.

"It's a pretty hardy plant," says Ken Wiebe, Geordie's younger brother,

born over a decade after he died. "It must have a very good root.

"It's gone through some very dry years there," he observes, noting it's pretty much been left to its own devices for decades now but seems intent to continue living up to its perennial designation.

Wiebe and his three surviving siblings grew up not far from the cemetery. They return to it each year to visit not just Geordie but their parents as well.

While there, they always sign the memory book that's been tucked into a stone pillar for as long as anyone can remember.

"The book has been there for many years already so there's a lot of entries," says Wiebe, acknowledging his two sisters are perhaps more eloquent in their annual entries than he.

"I'm not a writer," he says. But he does enjoy seeing who else has come to visit over the years. "It is amazing how many people do sign in the book and how many people are still going to that little graveyard."

He hopes his children and grandchildren will continue the tradition.

Peonies can live to be over 100 years old, so little Geordie, with some help from his grandmother, certainly left his mark on the world during his short time on it.



Geordie's peony, planted near his grave by his grandmother, has been blooming for 88 years. The extremely dry conditions this summer made for a very short bloom; this photo was taken a few years ago in better conditions.

SUBMITTED PHOTOS BY NIKKI FALK



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Winkler MCC gives back \$20K to local non-profits



By Ashleigh Viveiros

Winkler MCC Thrift Shop representatives made the rounds last week to present \$20,000 to local non-profits.

Board chair Dave Penner and treasurer Al Ens stopped by Central Sta-

tion, The Bunker Youth Ministry, Pembina Valley Pregnancy Care Centre, Gateway Resources, Winkler Family Resource Centre, and Faith Mission with donation cheques in hand.

"The bulk of our money we give to MCC to help the really, really poor

Winkler MCC Thrift Shop board members Al Ens (above, centre) and Dave Penner (far right) dropped off donation cheques to local agencies like The Bunker (above, represented by Kevin Hildebrand) and Central station (left, with Bev Wiebe) last week.

in this world ... close to half a million dollars," Ens said, but they also make grants available to a selection of local organizations each year in thanks to the community for its continued support. "It's a big thank you to all our volunteers and all the supporters, the donors who give material to us."

Penner noted the store has held its

PHOTOS BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

own through the pandemic.

"It's been amazing how our numbers have been there, sales have still been good," he said.

As a result, the thrift shop was able to issue grants to each of the six applicants it received this year.

The Bunker's Kevin Hildebrand ex-

"IT'S A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL OUR VOLUNTEERS AND ALL THE SUPPORTERS, THE DONORS ..."

Continued on page 6

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Reaching out to the vaccine-hesitant

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Manitoba government is teaming up with community-led organizations in a bid to get more COVID-19 shots into arms this summer.

Premier Brian Pallister last week announced the first 25 projects selected to receive more than \$390,000 through the ProtectMB Community Outreach and Incentive Grant.

The grant provides support to sport, religious, arts, cultural, and community organizations, businesses, and schools to encourage vaccinations and uptake rates in communities with lower immunization rates.

“Not long ago, our limiting factor was vaccine supply. It isn’t anymore,” Pallister said at a press conference in Winnipeg last Tuesday. “As we approach 75 per cent of eligible Manitobans vaccinated with at least one dose, our challenge is to reach out to those Manitobans who are experiencing vaccine hesitancy.”

“There are lots of reasons why people may feel that way,” the premier observed. “It’s important that we address those reasons. Accessibility issues, physical location, language barriers, cultural and religious beliefs and practices—all of these things can contribute to making one hesitant.”

“We know from research and from clinical leadership that there are thousands of Manitobans who are open to getting a vaccine, that would be ready to get a vaccine. I’m just not the guy

to persuade them,” Pallister continued, pointing out that it’s friends, neighbours, fellow church members, and community leaders who need to reach out to these people. “Reaching out and helping people who you know and trust—and who know and trust you—to make a decision to get vaccinated is an important part of what we’ve initiated here together.”

To that end, projects receiving funding include things like a barbecue being hosted by Steinbach Community Outreach.

The event, organized in partnership with a local clinic, will give people who don’t have phone or internet access a chance to come talk to medical professionals about the vaccine.

Similar outreach campaigns are being launched to target various cultural communities across Manitoba.

Other organizations receiving funding include the Manitoba Junior Hockey League, the RM of Thompson emergency operations team, and Altona’s The Gardens on Tenth for a variety of outreach initiatives, to name just a few.

MORE POP-UP CLINICS IN THE WORKS

In our area, the province continues to partner with sites like the C.W. Wiebe Medical Centre in Winkler, providing vaccine for distribution at various pop-up clinics so people don’t need to

“NOT LONG AGO, OUR LIMITING FACTOR WAS VACCINE SUPPLY. IT ISN’T ANYMORE.”

Pandemic’s days are numbered: Roussin

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Public health officials announced 65 new cases of COVID-19 and one more death on Monday.

The daily numbers continue to drop as the number of Manitobans getting vaccinated is on the rise, providing hope for an end to the pandemic that has upended everyone’s lives for the past year and a half.

“We know that all pandemics end, and this one will be no different,” said

Dr. Brent Roussin, Manitoba’s chief public health officer.

“Looking at other jurisdictions that have had high vaccine rates, we can see that perhaps this pandemic’s days are numbered,” he continued. “It’s certainly reason to be hopeful considering Manitoba’s vaccine uptake.”

As of Monday, 74.8 per cent of eligible Manitobans had received their first dose and 50.2 per cent their second.

Continued on page 6

go to the super site in Morden.

Clinic manager Jim Neufeld noted they’ve been hosting clinics at businesses such as Triple E/Lode King, Kroeker Farms, Integra, and Monarch and at the Central Station Community Centre in recent weeks in a bid to make the vaccine more easily accessible.

Plans are in the works for more such clinics in the weeks ahead.

Vaccination rates in the Winkler area are the lowest in all of Manitoba. As of Monday, Winkler had a vaccination rate of 34.5 per cent while the surrounding RM of Stanley had reached just 19.1 per cent.

In comparison, nearby Morden has seen 63.1 per cent of its residents vaccinated. Provincially, 74.8 of eligible Manitobans have received their first dose, 50.2 per cent their second.

Dr. Joss Reimer, vaccine task force co-lead, noted last week that efforts to reach out to the vaccine-hesitant in communities with low uptake are still in their earliest days, but there is room for optimism.

“We’re still early in what we’ve talked about as the really challenging work of reaching out to people who experience challenges with accessibility or those who are still having a lot of questions about the vaccine,” she said. “We don’t expect that we’ll see a sudden increase in any of those settings. We expect it will be a slow and steady ongoing uptake, and that’s what we’re seeing.”

“For those people who are waiting and wanted to see how the vaccine impacted other people, this is the time,” Reimer continued. “You can look to your friends and your family because there’s been 1.3 million doses that have gone out in Manitoba and over 2 billion doses around the world, so I think it’s great if you now look to the experiences that other people have had and see how this has been protecting our personal care homes, the huge drop we’ve seen in the number of people dying related to COVID, and get some confidence from the experiences that other people have had and sign up now.”



Public Notice

You’re Invited

to share your views about the proposed rate changes from Manitoba Public Insurance

The Manitoba Public Insurance Corporation (MPI) has applied to the Public Utilities Board (Board) for a 2.8 per cent decrease to Basic Autopac vehicle insurance rates and premiums effective on April 1, 2022, through March 31, 2023. MPI is also seeking to replace the 5 per cent capital release from last year’s application with a rebate request currently estimated at \$155 million to be filed later this year. If approved, the rebate would be equivalent to a rate reduction of approximately 15 per cent.

For further details, please contact MPI at inquiries@mpi.mb.ca or visit the Board’s website at www.pubmanitoba.ca.

If you are interested in learning more about this rate decrease, you are encouraged to attend the hearing, observe the hearing via live streaming, or provide your perspectives through the Board’s online comment tool.

If you wish to speak at the hearing or make a written submission, please contact the Board Secretary, Dr. Darren Christle, at 204-945-2638 or toll-free 1-866-854-3698, no later than **October 1, 2021**.

For more information, visit www.pubmanitoba.ca.

Manitoba Public Utilities Board
400-330 Portage Avenue,
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 0C4
Phone: 204-945-2638
Email: publicutilities@gov.mb.ca

An electronic-based virtual public hearing on the proposed decrease will be held beginning:

Tuesday, October 12, 2021
at 9 a.m.

Please view the hearing via the Board’s website (www.pubmanitoba.ca)

The *Winkler Morden*
Voice



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get heard

EDITORIAL > VIEWPOINTS > LETTERS

letters

COMMON SENSE ISN'T ALWAYS COMMON

Re: Bill Potter's letter [*"(Mostly) no offense meant," Voice, July 1, Pg. 6*].

I agree with him 100% and common sense says that he wasn't painting all of Winkler with the same brush in his original letter. But we all know that sometimes common sense isn't too common.

I often shop in Winkler and every single time that I have gone to the big grocery store I see people not wearing masks. Some make a feeble attempt by having their mask on but hanging below their chin or nose, but a lot just don't bother with a mask at all despite

posted notices that state masks are mandatory.

The gas kiosk for a Winkler gas bar has signs that state the masks are mandatory before entering, but the last time I was there, even the attendant wasn't wearing a mask.

I went to a popular Winkler burger take-out place a couple of weeks ago and there are signs there stating that masks are mandatory, but most people waiting for their food had no mask on.

I am trying to sell something on a popular buy and sell website in this area and recently someone from Winkler contacted me about seeing the item. I cautioned him because of the COVID restrictions and his response was: "COVID stuff doesn't affect me at all. I pay no attention to it."

My impression is that these people really don't care and they are flaunting the rules and symbolically giving

the middle finger to the Government and those of us who follow the rules.

I am looking forward to the day that I don't have to wear a mask and I can have friends and relatives over, but until these people who think that all this stuff doesn't apply to them educate themselves and get vaccinated, my wait, sadly, will be longer than it needs to be.

And, I'd like to add that I am fully vaccinated. I feel great with no side effects, no men in black suits are stalking me, there are no signs of my impending demise, and a big plus is that no metal objects are sticking to me.

Kudos to all of us who are following the rules and getting vaccinated. We're the ones who will make a positive difference.

Richard Gallant,
Morden

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.

> COVID UPDATE, FROM PG. 6

Monday's COVID numbers were part of 177 total new cases announced since Friday.

They brought the total number of active cases in Manitoba to 1,022 and recoveries to 54,309. Deaths due to COVID are at 1,151.

There are 156 Manitobans in hospital due to COVID-19, including 46 in intensive care (six in ICUs at hospitals in Ontario)

The five-day COVID-19 test positivity rate on Monday was at 6.3 per cent provincially and 6.1 per cent in Winnipeg.

One day soon, the health care system won't be under strain, daily COVID-19 briefings will be a thing of the past, and public health restrictions will no longer be needed, Roussin said of what a post-pandemic Manitoba will look like.

"With each passing day, more and Manitobans are getting vaccinated," he said. "Nearly 1.5 million doses have been administered in Manitoba already."

"This is really a tribute to the vaccine team and to Manitobans for stepping up and getting that vaccine as soon as they can. We need Manitobans to continue to do so ...

our ability to reopen businesses, services, facilities, to gather with each other once again relies on Manitobans getting those two vaccines. Immunization is our key to a post-pandemic Manitoba."

All people age 12 and up are eligible to make first- and second-dose appointments for the COVID-19 vaccine. You can do so online at protectmb.ca or by calling (toll-free) 1-844-626-8222.

BY THE NUMBERS

Red River South was leading the

> MCC THRIFT, FROM PG. 4

plained how they'll be putting their portion of the funds to good use:

"We'll be using it for our volunteer training and development so we can train up our volunteers properly so that they can go out into the world," he said, noting it's been a challenge this past year to connect with the youth they serve. "We realize with everything going on in the world now, we've got to hit the ground running."

He thanked MCC for their continued support.

"It's very much appreciated. Thank you guys so much for recognizing us, supporting us," said Hildebrand.

Pembina Valley region in COVID-19 cases on Monday with 47, followed by 17 in Lorne/Louise/Pembina, 10 in Winkler, five in the Altona area, four in Morden, and one case each in Stanley, Carman, and Morris.

Vaccination rates, meanwhile, run the gamut in this area—from lows of 19.1 per cent in Stanley and 34.5 per cent in Winkler to highs of 64.2 per cent in Carman, 65.8 per cent in Grey, and 69 per cent in Lorne/Louise/Pembina.

"We're really partners in this community in helping the less fortunate."

Right next door to The Bunker, Central Station's Bev Wiebe explained the funds will be used in support of its overall operations.

"We do the affordable housing and the community care programs, Shine and Share [Community Store], rides—there's such a combination of services," she said, going on to note they're also going to be running the weekly community meal program once again in a tent outside and are working on fall renovation plans for their new home in Main St. Plaza.

Burley says they're "moving aggressively" on wastewater project

By Lorne Stelmach

City officials say they are aggressively pursuing a couple options for wastewater treatment in Morden and remain optimistic about the possible timeline.

Concerns and questions have been raised about the city's plans since the recent announcement that a \$73 million regional wastewater treatment project is going forward in Winkler and the RM of Stanley, with funding support from all three levels of government.

Morden was left out of that announcement, its part of the project being described as a second phase, though with no clear timeline for completion.

"We're aware that every month we're not building this that costs are going up ... time is absolutely of the essence on this project, so it's on the front burner," said Mayor Brandon Burley last week.

"We're also looking at timelines. We know we're in a situation where we're at a critical juncture in growth, and council is not willing to handicap that, so we're moving very aggressively.

"We're hopeful by August that we'll have a solution identified and a path forward, and the province has already pre-committed resources to help us meet an ambitious timeline," Burley continued. "We're fairly confident

that once a solution has been identified that we can move very aggressively in pursuing it."

Burley confirmed the city became aware in summer 2020 that it needed to have its project design undergo a third-party review. The result of that review came back in January.

"At that point, the province made it very clear that they would not be funding the design as submitted, and there's a substantial amount of work that had to be considered before they were willing to fund it."

The city then went back to the drawing board to look at all of the options available to it.

"All of them are being considered in tandem and all of them are being pursued," said Burley.

"We need to make sure that it's operationally efficient as well as the most economical to build, so we were looking at both capital and operating expenses and trying to find a meeting of those that we are happy with," he added.

Burley suggested they are now looking at two primary options, one of which is a mechanical treatment plant similar to what Winkler-Stanley received funding for last month.

Another alternative is a new facultative lagoon or waste stabilization pond for the biological treatment of Morden's wastewater. There would be a few key differences from the existing

"WE KNOW WE'RE IN A SITUATION WHERE WE'RE AT A CRITICAL JUNCTURE IN GROWTH, AND COUNCIL IS NOT WILLING TO HANDICAP THAT ..."

lagoons, the mayor noted, including the scale and greater distance from the city as well as the development of wetlands in conjunction with it.

The city has been sourcing potential land for the marsh and lagoon project, which Burley noted would likely be located eight to ten miles outside of the city. He also suggested the operating cost would be significantly less than a mechanical plant.

"Any plant would still have a lagoon component to it," he said.

"This lagoon and marsh is something that the province is very keen on ... it is an environmentally friendly option," Burley suggested. "It's a substantial amount of acreage required. We're trying to source 900 acres, which is substantial, and it's hundreds of acres of wetlands."

Burley stressed again that the city is working hard to move forward as aggressively as possible.

"Both of these are well into the pro-

cess now ... and we have an ambitious timeline, as a council, but I think it's a timeline that we can achieve," he said. "And certainly, in regard to funding, we've been assured by every level of government that we're still in process, and our application is still part of a regional project that has now been put into two parts.

"We're committed to the taxpayer in terms of the cost effectiveness, not only of operating but also capital and environmental friendliness. We're looking at the long-term sustainability, impact on the environment and obviously aesthetics around smell and odour and things like that," said Burley.

"Our ambition internally has been to have a shovel ready project for spring of 2022. Considering the amount of work that has to be done, we know it's ambitious, but we think it can be done."

Man killed in rollover near Carman

By Voice staff

A Dufferin man is dead after an accident southeast of Carman on Canada Day.

Just before 2:30 a.m. on July 1, Pembina Valley RCMP received a report of single-vehicle rollover on Provincial Road 21 West.

Investigation determined that four males, all from the RM of Dufferin, were in a pickup truck travelling northbound on PR 21W when it rolled and landed on the passenger side in

the east ditch. The truck was completely burned.

The driver, a 19-year-old, and the front passenger, 18, were both ejected from the vehicle. The passenger was pronounced dead at the scene. The driver was transported to a Winnipeg hospital with serious injuries.

The two rear passengers, 19 and 20 years old, had minor injuries and were able to exit the vehicle.

Police continue to investigate but say alcohol is believed to have been a factor in the crash.



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

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

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

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Falk Fehr Fdn. chips in for Cones for Kids

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Last month's Cones for Kids in support of the Winkler Family Resource Centre and the Morden Parent and Child Resource Centre was a big success for the non-profits.

In addition to the \$460 raised by the Iceburg Drive-In in Winkler and George's Kitchen & Ice Cream in Morden, which each donated \$1 from every cone sold for part of the day June 12, the Falk Fehr Foundation contributed a matching donation last week to bring the total to \$920.

"We wanted to be involved with the Cones for Kids. We really appreciate what Winkler Family Resource Centre brings to the community," said Eric Fehr, who founded the Falk Fehr Foundation alongside fellow former NHLer Justin Falk.

"We were here for the ice cream on the day of the event and after we thought it would be great to match the donation and give them a little bit more of a boost.

The Cones for Kids funds are a blessing for the two centres, which offer free early childhood educational programming to local families.

"We were just hoping families would come out and support the small businesses," said executive director Cathy Savage, thanking both restaurants for their participation and noting the extra donation from the foundation was icing on top of the cake. "It was a to-



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Eric Fehr (far left) from the Falk Fehr Foundation and Jonah Unger from Iceburg Drive-in presented Cones for Kids donations to Winkler Family Resource Centre's Cathy Savage and her son Adam last week. George's Kitchen in Morden also took part in the June 12 fundraiser.

tal shock. It's great when you can get community support from other foundations and other funding areas."

The centres have managed to offer modified programming throughout the pandemic, with nearly 80 kids participating in the final sessions be-

fore summer break.

"Hats off this year to the families who came online week after week," Savage said. "The parents really value the programs and they've seen the growth in their children from attending the programs, so for us as an orga-

nization that's just amazing."

Work is already underway on planning this fall's programs, which in Winkler includes an new after-school offering for school-age kids.

WFRC is already hiring staff for that program and have started to see registrations slowly come in. They plan to host an open house next month to give families an idea of how it will work come September.

"I think it will be a really good program," Savage said. "We've had great feedback from the school surveys we've sent out."

Learn more online at winklerfamilyresourcecentre.com.

Meanwhile, the Falk Fehr Foundation is keeping busy this summer as well.

Fehr announced that they're planning to host the Hockey Champions Charity Golf Tournament on Friday, Aug. 20. Last year's event had to be cancelled due to the pandemic.

"We definitely want to have an event this year and we're really excited to announce we'll be hosting our golf tournament in Winkler," he said, reflecting on the success of the 2019 tournament in raising funds for local charities.

"This community's so supportive," Fehr said. "We're just looking forward to getting back out there again and trying to get back to normal."

Details will be posted soon at online at falkfehrfoundation.com.

IIU finds no police fault in Morden rollover death

By Voice staff

Manitoba's Independent Investigation Unit has closed the file on an incident that ended with a fatal rollover crash in Morden.

The IIU in a news release last Friday said it found no evidence that any actions of the Morden Police Service during the vehicle pursuit earlier this year contributed to the accident.

On Jan. 23, the Morden Police Service advised the IIU of the incident that occurred around midnight Jan. 22. A Morden officer was making a

traffic stop when the suspects fled in their vehicle. The officer pursued the vehicle but then terminated the pursuit for safety reasons.

The officer later located the vehicle flipped on its side in a field, the driver and a passenger outside the vehicle needing medical attention. Both individuals involved were taken to hospital for treatment. The adult passenger later succumbed to his injuries.

The IIU assumed responsibility for the investigation in accordance with the Police Services Act, and as the matter involved a fatality, a request

for a civilian monitor was made to the Manitoba Police Commission.

IIU investigators met with and interviewed three civilian witnesses as well as the driver. They also reviewed police radio transmissions and dispatch records, RCMP collision analyst report, scene photographs, notes and reports from various witness officers, pursuit driving report, video surveillance footage, the driver's medical report and pathology report on the deceased as well as the Morden Police Service pursuit policy.

"Following a detailed review of this

comprehensive investigation, the civilian director concluded there is no evidence to support a finding there was any level of contribution by any police officer as to the cause of the collision and resulting deaths and injuries," the release stated. "As a result, there is no further requirement or need by IIU to continue with this investigation."

The driver in this incident remains before the courts, and the civilian director's report on this incident will be made available following disposition of the charges.



PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE



With public health orders being what they are, most of the usual Morden Canada Day activities—including the fireworks—were cancelled for this year, but Lake Minnewasta still proved to be a popular draw. Mordenites beat the heat swimming, venturing out on rented paddle boards, and enjoying the Splish Splash Water Park.

Canada Day at the lake

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PHOTOS BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Marking Canada Day

Winkler's Canada Day Decorating Contest saw fewer entries this year (21 compared to 60 last year) but no less enthusiasm from those who took part. Winning the grand prize was Cathleen Bergen and her daughter Lynette (top left photo), who transformed their front yard on 7th St. into a campground complete with rangers to guide guests through a selection of facts about our nation. Second and third place,



respectively, went to homes on Victoria St. (left) and Bonneville Bay (top right) for their creative efforts. The other entries were spread out all across town and ranged from giant chalk creations to yards festooned with as many Canada flags as possible. A few of the entries acknowledged the residential school children whose bodies are being found in unmarked graves across Canada, posting orange Every Child Matters signs (below) or putting out children's shoes in their memory.

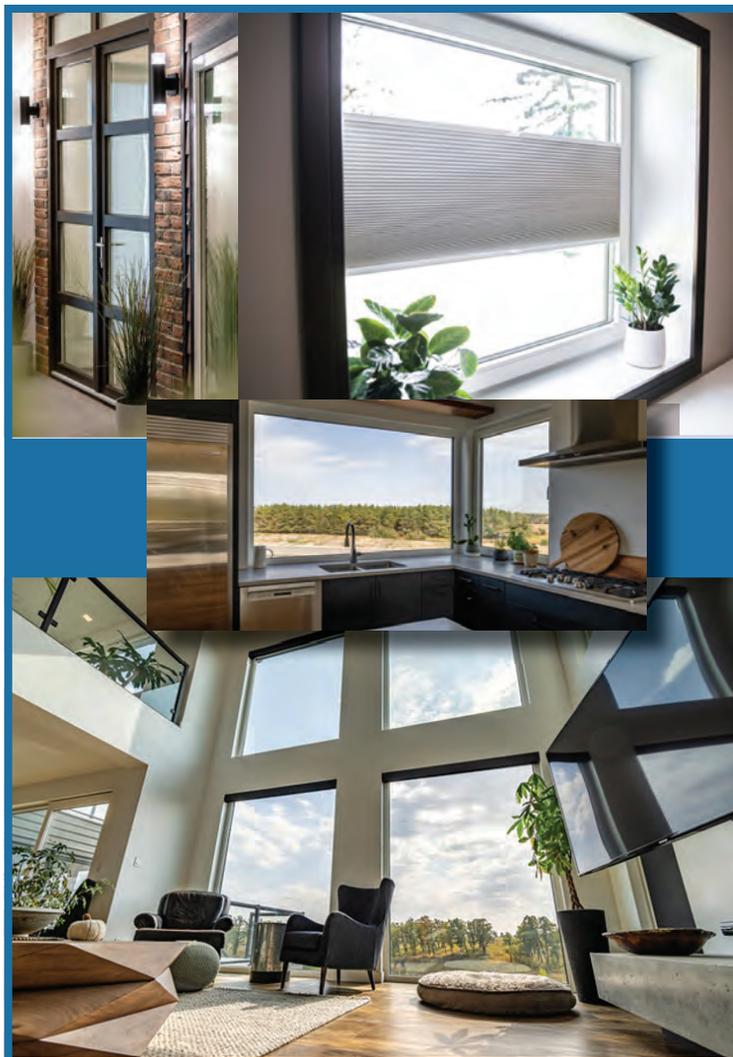
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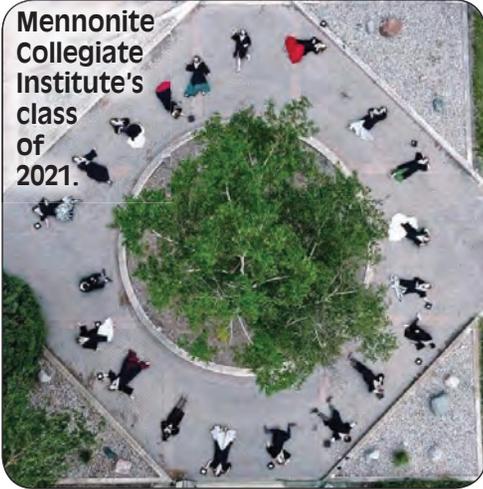


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Congratulations to the Graduating Classes of 2021



Mennonite Collegiate Institute's class of 2021.



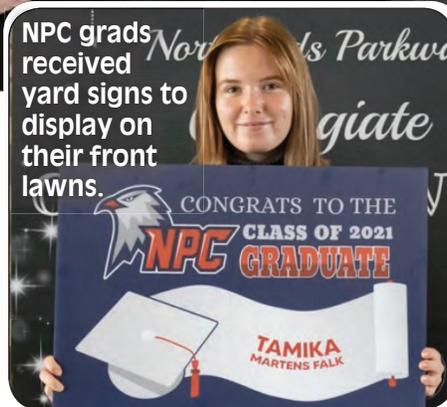
The Morden Adult Education Centre hosted an outdoor ceremony last month to celebrate the achievements of its 11 mature students.



Cheering on Morden's grads as they made their way to the Stardust Drive-in for the ceremony.



Nellie McClung Collegiate's class of 2021 paraded through the streets of Manitou in celebration.



NPC grads received yard signs to display on their front lawns.



GVC/NPC grad parade

Congratulations
TO THE CLASS OF 2021
*As you begin a new journey in your life,
 I wish to extend my sincerest
 congratulations and God's Blessings on
 this great milestone.*

Hon. Candice Bergen
 info@candicebergen.ca
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Garden Valley Collegiate *Congratulations to the Graduating Classes of 2021*

GVC's class of 2021 is its most resilient ever

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Their senior year may not have gone quite the way they had hoped, but the challenges of the past several months have left the class of 2021 stronger than ever, valedictorian Rachel Klassen said as Garden Valley Collegiate bid farewell to its graduates.

"The graduating class of 2021 is among the most resilient groups of students to ever leave GVC," Klassen said in the pre-recorded ceremony streamed online June 23. "We have faced disappointment after disappointment, struggles with motivation, and a constantly uncertain present for our entire Gr. 12 year. Yet here we are ready to take on the world in an unprecedented manner."

With remote learning dominating the year, it's better times from earlier grades that the former students will look back on with fondness, Klassen said, recalling Cinnamon Bun Fridays in the cafeteria, laughter-filled gatherings in The Zone, and Big Day festivities.

"Those were the days and the moments

that we're going to miss," she said, going on to lament the loss of such events in 2020 and 2021 and the struggle of being separated from friends.

"COVID-19 has most often felt like a curse. It stole from us the high school experience we wanted. It ruined a lot of plans," Klassen observed. "But everything happens for a reason, and some parts have been a blessing.

"For instance, the student parking lot didn't overflow for the first time in decades," she said, tongue firmly in cheek. "And, more significantly, it created an opportunity to develop grit ... people who have grit have the ability to keep going and to keep trying through failure, through disappointment, and through frustrations. Every student graduating today has grit.

"We have had every reason to be angry at our circumstances this past year and a lot of opportunities to give up," Klassen said. "Despite all that, we have achieved the end goal. Resilience has brought us to graduation day, and the lessons we've learned this past year about inner motiva-



PHOTOS BY RICK HIEBERT

Left: A fun commentary on the impact of COVID-19 on this year's grad festivities. Right: GVC principal Carrie Friesen's tassel-turning duties were done from a distance this year.

tion are not going to disappear. "Because we spent our final high school semesters in a global pandemic, we are prepared for the world and its difficulties in a way that is unprecedented. That is why I am certain that these graduates will find success and do great things ... in this group of students there are future businesspeople, artists, health

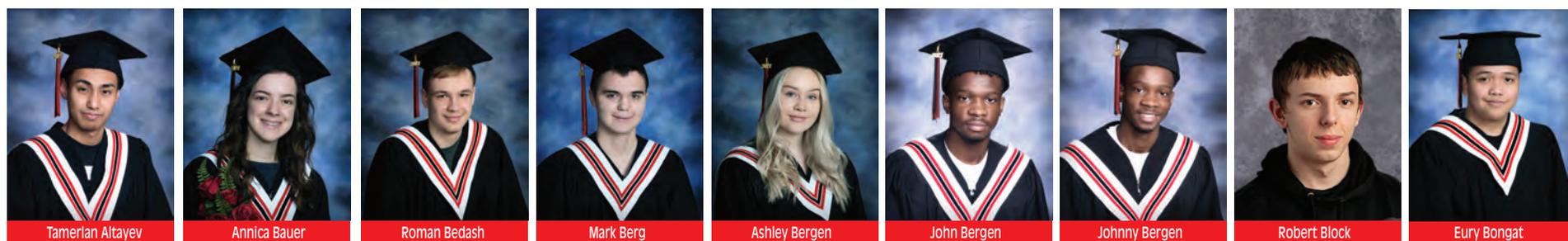
care workers, philanthropists—you name it. We have the grit to achieve whatever we want and to overcome any obstacles that will stand in our way."

Principal Carrie Friesen stressed how proud everyone is of the graduates for all that they've achieved.

"You took this unique, chal-

Continued on page 3

• Class of 2021 •



Tamerlan Altayev

Annica Bauer

Roman Bedash

Mark Berg

Ashley Bergen

John Bergen

Johnny Bergen

Robert Block

Eury Bongat

• Class of 2021 •

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Garden Valley Collegiate

Congratulations
to the **Graduating Classes of 2021**

Continued from page 2

lenging, and at times lemon of a year and made some pretty impressive lemonade," she said.

"You didn't become who you are alone and you will not be alone in your next steps," Friesen continued. "We are all cheering for you today as you celebrate what you've accomplished and for tomorrow as you move forward to your next adventures."

Guest speaker Don Bergen, GVC's home and school liaison officer, urged graduates to not just survive but thrive.

The lessons they've learned both in and outside of school have helped shaped them into the people they are today, he said, and will aid them as they continue to

grow in the future.

"What you were pretty much doing during those years were sharpening the skills that would see you through to where you needed to go next," Bergen said. "You were creating a collage of who you were through all those times and who you are today, and this collage really was about who you're going to be for the rest of your lives.

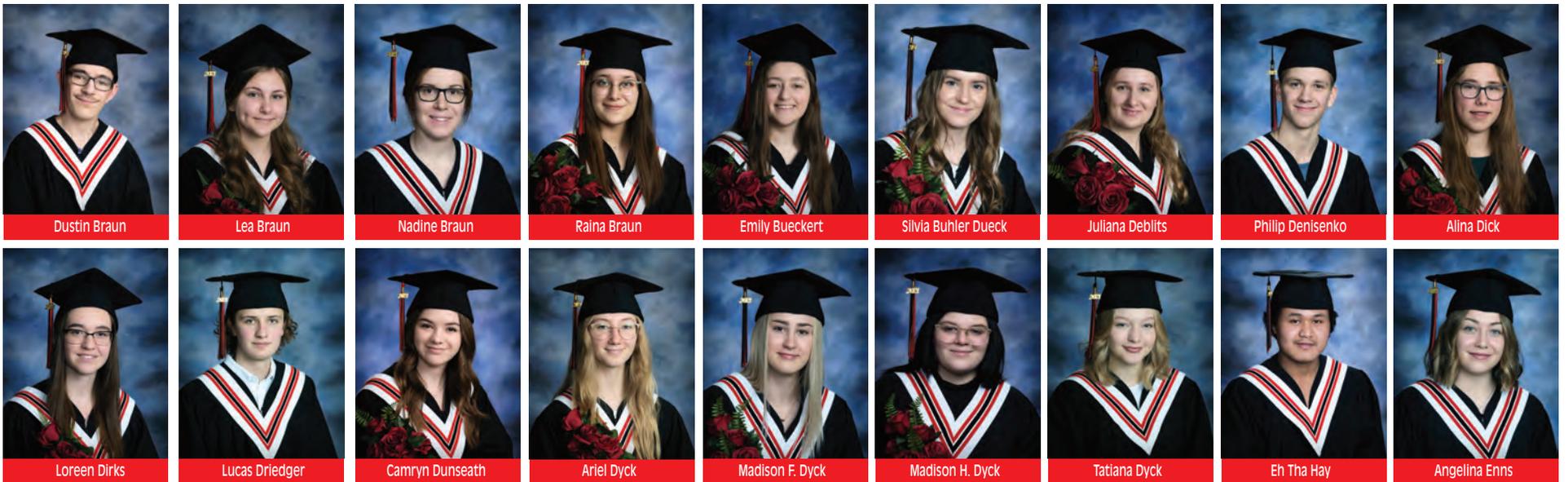
"Continue to develop your own compass," he said. "Share your dreams and trust your intuition. Dare to challenge yourselves beyond what you know you can be. Do the things that make you proud of yourselves, things that make you love yourself better."



PHOTOS BY RICK HIEBERT

Left: GVC's grads this year picked up their diplomas outside in front of the school as friends and family looked on from nearby vehicles. Right: GVC valedictorian Rachel Klassen said the class of 2021, having lived through a global pandemic, is "prepared for the world and its difficulties in a way that is unprecedented."

• Class of 2021 •



Dustin Braun

Lea Braun

Nadine Braun

Raina Braun

Emily Bueckert

Silvia Buhler Dueck

Juliana Deblits

Philip Denisenko

Alina Dick

Loreen Dirks

Lucas Driedger

Camryn Dunseath

Ariel Dyck

Madison F. Dyck

Madison H. Dyck

Tatiana Dyck

Eh Tha Hay

Angelina Enns

• Class of 2021 •

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Garden Valley Collegiate

Congratulations
to the **Graduating Classes of 2021**

• Class of 2021 •



• Class of 2021 •

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BB King

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Years of hard work have led you here today, and we're honored to celebrate with all of you. We wish you the best as you take the next step.
Thanks for making us proud!

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team@jimsmithaccounting.ca



Garden Valley Collegiate

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to the **Graduating Classes of 2021**

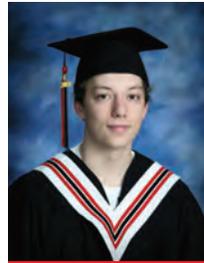
• Class of 2021 •



Larissa Heide



Nathan Heide



Michael Heppner



Colby Hiebert



Alyssa Hildebrand



Logan Hildebrand



Livia Isaak



Brody Janzen



Emily Janzen



Emmet Janzen



Hannah Janzen



Joshua Kasdorf



Breanna Klassen



Madison Klassen



Morgan Klassen



Rachel Klassen



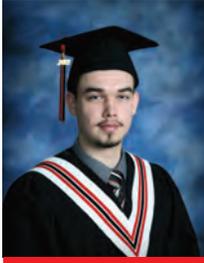
Heinrich Klassen Knelsen



Alex Knelsen



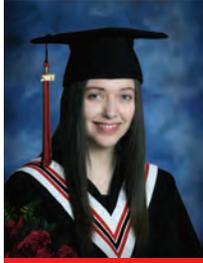
Priscilla Knelsen



James Korb



Angelina Kraemer



Victoria Krahn



Brookelyn Kuhl



Johanna Kwast



Erica Lepp



Lukas Lik



Justin Loewen



Lucas Loewen



Alexander Lust



Bernardo Martens



Isalah Martens



Michelle Martens



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Viktoria Maschkin



Stefan Morasch

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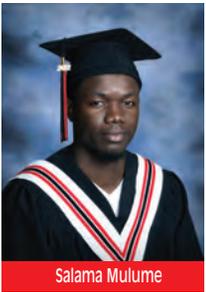
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Garden Valley Collegiate

Congratulations
to the **Graduating Classes of 2021**

• Class of 2021 •



Salama Mulume



Chloe Neufeld



Jessica Neufeld



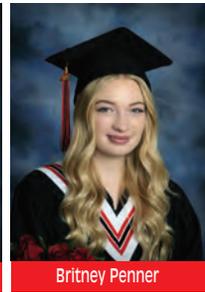
Ronnie Neufeld



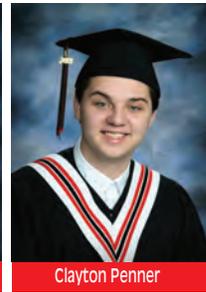
Joel Nikel



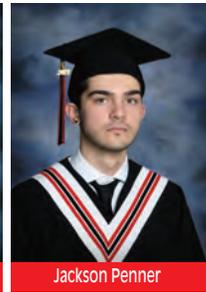
Gustavo Oliveira



Britney Penner



Clayton Penner



Jackson Penner



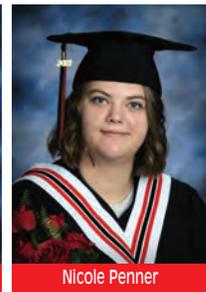
Julia Penner



Levi Penner



Madison Penner



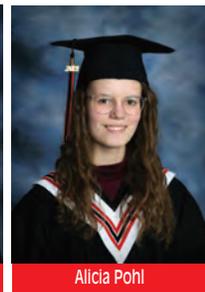
Nicole Penner



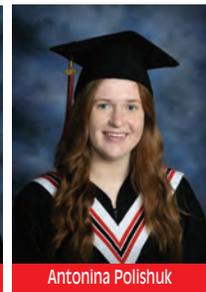
Myron Peters



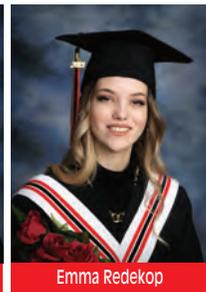
Serena Peters



Alicia Pohl



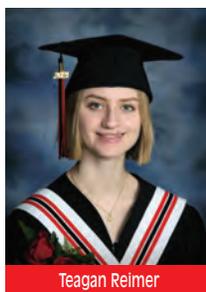
Antonina Polishuk



Emma Redekop



Amy Reimer



Teagan Reimer



Daniel Rempel



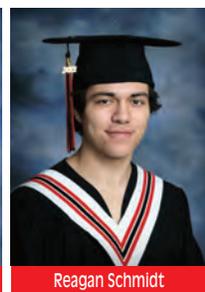
Enrico Roma Barroso



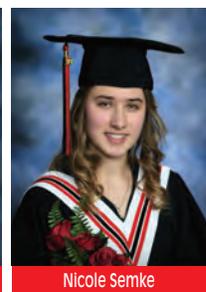
Welena Santisteban



Maxim Sawazki



Reagan Schmidt



Nicole Semke



Anya Shkavritko



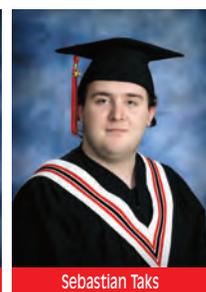
Jordan Shumey



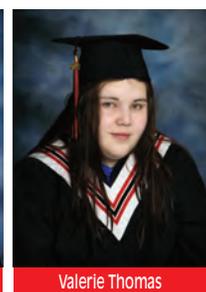
Luke Stander



Lukas Strempler



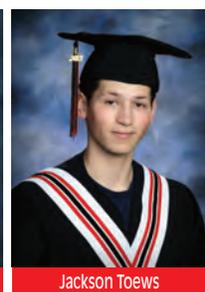
Sebastian Taks



Valerie Thomas



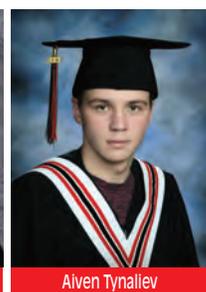
Sofia Tissen



Jackson Toews



Lea Toews



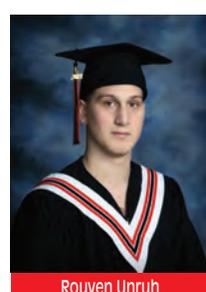
Aiven Tynaliev



Alan Unger



Alyssa Unger



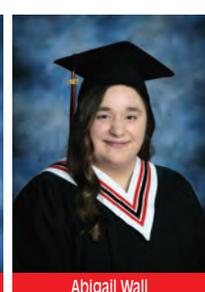
Rouven Unruh



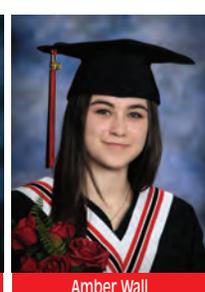
Madison Vandenberg



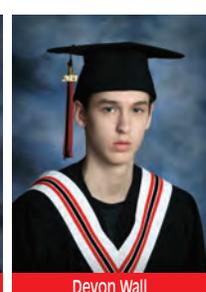
Willie Voth



Abigail Wall



Amber Wall



Devon Wall



Jennifer Wall



Nolan Wall



Shayna Wall



Susana Wall Epp



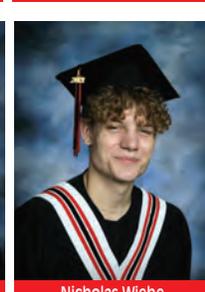
Cassandra Wiebe



Danae Wiebe



Hayden Wiebe



Nicholas Wiebe



Sabina Wiebe



Annika Wiese

• Class of 2021 •

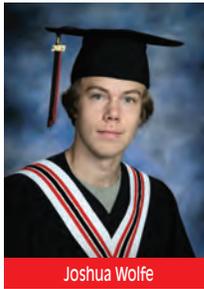


Garden Valley Collegiate

Congratulations
to the **Graduating Classes of 2021**



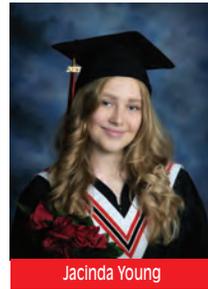
Jasmyne Wolfe



Joshua Wolfe



Robyn Wolfe



Jacinda Young



Osaid Zehri



No Photo Available

Jesse Fehr
John Fleimann
Henrik Friesen
Melissa Heide
Jonathan Neufeld
Justin Neustaeter
Jacob Rempel
Simon Schlegel

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2021
class of

GRADUATES

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• Class of 2021 • Class of 2021 • Class of 2021 • Class of 2021



Northlands Parkway Collegiate

Congratulations
to the **Graduating Classes of 2021**

“Don’t settle for good enough”

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Northlands Parkway Collegiate graduates heard words of wisdom from not just one guest speaker but several this year.

With the school year cut short, many NPC staff felt they never got a real chance to say goodbye to the students, and so history teacher Garrett Speers decided to invite some of them to share guest speaker duties with him.

“Hey, I said the ceremony was going to be unique,” he joked of the online video streamed on the school’s website June 23.

Speers and fellow teachers Dustin Rachul, Joey Elias, Andrea Breiter, and Carmelle Gerein each took a few moments to tell the grads how proud they are of them and to share words of encouragement.

“History remembers those who inspired others to be better, to motivate

others to reach for a higher standard,” said Rachul. “My final challenge to you as graduates is simple: find those around you who would inspire you to be the best versions of yourself, because you don’t know one day who might look to you as an inspiration as a friend, a coach, a leader, influencer, or even a teacher.”

“This year has been a test of everyone’s character, but in the face of this adversity you have preserved,” said Elias. “No matter where life takes you from here, you will face difficult tasks, but I believe each of you has what it takes to keep going and reach your goals.”

“During all this chaos you’ve learned the very important skill of resiliency,” echoed Breiter. “With the stress, adversity, and trauma also came your ability to function and succeed ... you’ve harnessed your inner strength and met the challenges head on.”



SUPPLIED PHOTOS

Far left: NPC valedictorian Cerulean Wolfe reminded her fellow graduates that “success is not always a straight line.” Centre photos: Garrett Speers and Andrea Breiter were among five teachers who were guests speakers this year. Far right: Michael Neufeld won both the Grad of the Year and the Governor General’s Award.

“You have all worked very hard to get where you are today, and you should be very proud of yourselves,” said Gerein. “It’s important to keep dreaming of everything you’d like to accomplish in life. Set goals for yourself and these goals will help you achieve your dreams.”

Returning to the stage to round out

the multi-speaker address, Speers urged the grads to always give their best effort.

“Don’t settle for good enough. If you give an honest 100 per cent in everything you do and you push yourself to get better each day, you will never look back with regret.”

Continued on page 18





Northlands Parkway Collegiate

Congratulations
to the **Graduating Classes of 2021**

• Class of 2021 •



Faith Giesbrecht



Jessica Goertzen



Owen Goertzen



Joshua Groening



Sheldon Guenther



Mackenzie Harder



Tyler Harder



Victoria Harder



Brian Harms



Janessa Heinrichs



Tyler Heppner



Emma Hiebert



Moriah Hiebert



Leah Hildebrand



Penelope Huntinghawk



Michael Janzen



Nathan Janzen



Sydney Janzen



Viola Janzen



Niklas Kiptschuk



Emily Klassen



Janessa Klassen



John Klassen



Regina Kornelsen



Kylie Krahn



Myla Krahn



Nathan Krahn



Nicholas Krahn



Tristan Krahn



Jeremy Lacke



Changyeong Lee



Alicia Lepp



Bryan Letkeman



Ruben Martel



Tamika Martens Falk



Johnny Martens



Donovan McNeil



Adam Neufeld



Arlen Neufeld



Gabriel Neufeld



Martin Neufeld



Michael Neufeld



Naomi Neufeld



David Neufeld-Banman



Joshua Nickel



Mia O'Neill



Philip Penner Penner



Cassidy Penner



Diedrich Penner



Emily Penner



Jannek Penner



Joel Penner



Raena Penner



Trenton Penner



Dominike Peters



Jan Peters



Laura-Lynn Peters



Madeline Peters



Rachel Peters



Inna Prus



Valeria Radchenko



Sandra Reddekopp



Dalton Rempel



Northlands Parkway Collegiate

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Lourenna Riske

Maksym Saltykov

Diana Salzseller

Ryan Sawatzky

Ryan Sawatzky

Calysta Schmidt

Olga Shagaliyeva



Gabrielle Sousa Marques

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Jim Teichreb

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Leticia Thiessen

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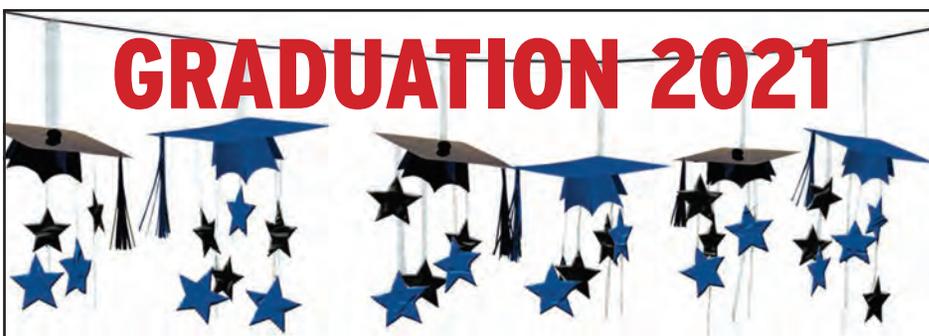
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Aviel Unruh



Faith Vandijk



Leah Voth



Martin Voth



Brooklyn Wall



Rachelle Wall



Trista Wall



Janette Warkentin



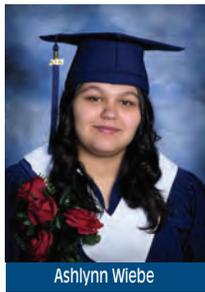
Jasmin Warkentin



Guillermo Wiebe Klassen



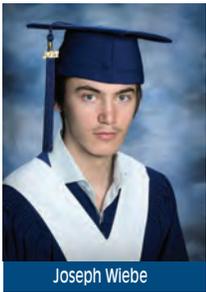
Andrew Wiebe



Ashlynn Wiebe



Brooklyn Wiebe



Joseph Wiebe



Jotham Wiebe



Tiffany Wiebe



Tyrel Wiebe



Cassandra Wieler



Tanis Wieler



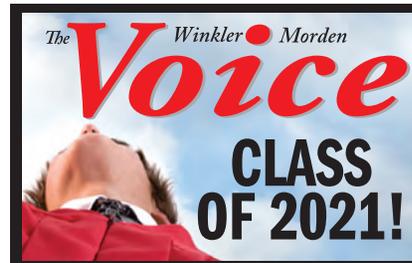
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Morden Collegiate

Congratulations
to the **Graduating Classes of 2021**

“The class of 2021 will be one to watch”

By Lorne Stelmach

A hundred Morden Collegiate graduates were honoured in pandemic style June 28.

Restrictions required students to drive by the school during the day to receive their diplomas before an evening parade took them to the Stardust Drive-In, where the prerecorded speeches were presented on the big screen.

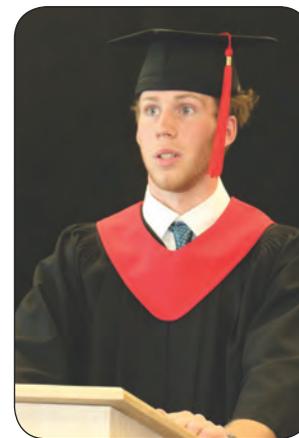
It was just another example of the perseverance that the class of 2021 has shown throughout the past year.

“Everyone who wore a cap and gown this year battled through adversity and fought to the very end,” valedictorian Dane Chapman said in his address. “We took every punch a class could take and yet we stand here victorious with nothing left to lose.

“We fought day in and day out with the world we had to live in ... I could not be more honoured to speak to such a class, filled with the fire and strength we earned,” he added. “Nothing came easy this year, and yet there’s not a person here who can look back and say they fell short. There is not a person here who could be told they didn’t deserve what they earned.

“What a year we had,” Chapman continued. “The memories of high school will live on with us forever. Sharing the classroom with you all was a pleasure, and when we all look back at the yearbooks and go through all the people we used to know, we will be filled with the amazing stories to tell and people to remember.

“The class of 2021 will be one to watch. We have



PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH

Valedictorian Dane Chapman and guest speaker Dr. Jessica Lautenschlager address the class of 2021.

Continued on page 13

• Class of 2021 •



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Morden Collegiate

Congratulations
to the **Graduating Classes of 2021**

Continued from page 12

all learned so much about ourselves and what we are capable of.”

Guest speaker Dr. Jessica Lautenschlager recalled her own graduation 17 years ago and being excited to close that chapter of her life and move on from Morden.

She was later drawn to move back in 2015 and follow in her father’s (Dr. Earl Lautenschlager) footsteps at Focal Point.

“It was a unique experience, seeing Morden through a different lens,” she reflected, noting how she gained important perspective and appreciation

as well for the community.

“Continuing to learn new things keeps life interesting,” she said. “You can’t always be afraid to experience or do something new on your own. If you have the opportunity to travel and see somewhere new, you should say yes.

“At the end of the day, Morden will always be here, ready to welcome you back from wherever you have been.”

Western School Division board chairperson Brian Fransen reflected on how much more was asked of not

Continued on page 18



PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH

Left: Morden Collegiate graduates on parade. Right: A physically-distanced photoshoot in front of Morden Collegiate.



Honouring Our Graduates

We'd like to extend our sincere congratulations and best wishes to the Class of 2021. As you celebrate this milestone achievement, please know you have made your community and your loved ones proud!

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Class of 2021

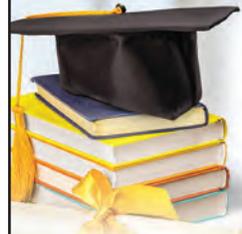
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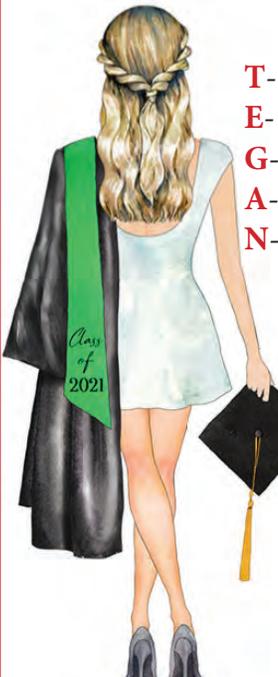
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Morden Collegiate

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Jenna Sawatzky



Melissa Schaefer



Victoria Schaeffer



Cailyn Schellenberg



Melissa Schulz



Avery Simoens



Dylan Smart



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Rory Thiessen



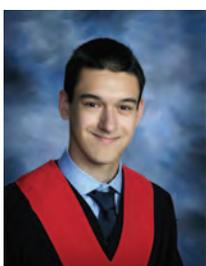
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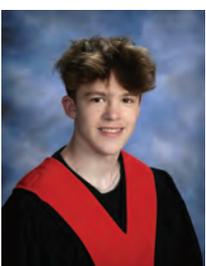
Danica Umbina



Mack Walske



Jonas Weselak



Carter Wiebe



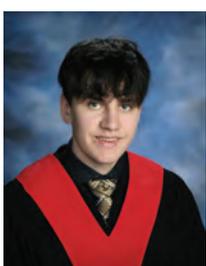
Hayden Wiebe



Tisha Wiebe



Dawson Wieler



Ryan Wiens



Tyler Witoski



Kate Yakubets



Jay Zadorozhna



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Heider Aragao
Maxim Casianenco

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CLASS OF 2021
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—Nora Ephron

Morden



Nellie McClung Collegiate

Congratulations
to the **Graduating Classes of 2021**

“We have no doubt that each of you will achieve great things”

By Lorne Stelmach

The pandemic again meant the community was not able to honour the Nellie McClung Collegiate class of 2021 in the usual way, but students, families, and dignitaries didn't let that dampen their celebration.

The June 26 ceremony was held outdoors and restricted in size for a second straight year, but principal Pat Nakonechny stressed that shouldn't make it any less special.

“I read a headline that said ‘Graduation 2021 ... Reflections on a Lost Senior Year,’ and I thought to myself: this was not a lost year. It was a frustrating year, an uncertain year, a stressful year but certainly not a lost year,” Nakonechny said in his address.

“I feel, as a school, we have tried to stay positive and focus on the things that have gone well this year. That's been important.”

He offered some encouragement as well for grads to move forward without fear.

“You've already survived some challenges you didn't even know you were capable of,” he said. “That should give you confidence when you face the unknown from here on in; you are clearly wired to be resilient.”

“The world is going to need you and your generation,” Nakonechny continued. “With the worst part of the pandemic behind you, a much more positive part of your life is in front of you. Don't let this whole COVID thing define your future.”

Co-valedictorians Ashlynn Barron and Erica Sprung reflected on the character and nature of the graduating class.

“The class of 2021 is known for their quiet mannerisms, kindness toward others—I think we broke the record for hosting the most going away parties—but especially, for hardly ever complaining, right Mr. Gundrum?”

They touched on the range of emotions being felt as they looked both back into the past and forward to the future.

“We stand here today with so many mixed feelings ... feelings of relief and accomplishment for being done high school and a mixture of excitement and uncertainty for our future, but



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Nellie McClung Collegiate's grad ceremony was held outdoors with limited guests to meet public health orders.

there is also a feeling of sadness for the amazing teachers and friends we will be leaving behind.

“Today's theme is a look back before we leap,” the pair noted. “Like most people, we spend so much of our time waiting and looking forward to the future that it's easy to forget to stop and appreciate the moment.”

“Not only did we make memories as a class, but we have so many memories with our teachers too. We have each one of you to thank for making our school years unforgettable ... and maybe teaching us a thing or two along the way.”

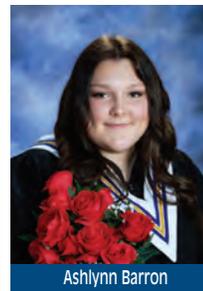
In concluding, Barron and Sprung encouraged the graduates to “be proud of your accomplishments ... we will move on to the next goal and the next dream. And, if you aren't sure what those dreams are, that's okay too; just enjoy the journey and live in the moment.”

“We have no doubt that each one of you will achieve great things in whatever path you take.”

• Class of 2021 • Class of 2021 • Class of 2021 •



Shaun Allen



Ashlynn Barron



Nicolas Funk



Noah Hoepfner



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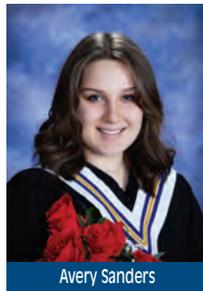
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Mennonite Collegiate Institute

Congratulations
to the **Graduating Classes of 2021**

“Take chances and trust that God will carry you through”

By Ashleigh Viveiros

It certainly wasn't a normal year at Mennonite Collegiate Institute, and the school's graduation celebrations reflected that.

Instead of a traditional ceremony, MCI's grads shared their thoughts on life and learning with their fellow students during the school day on June 21. Parents were then invited to watch the grads receive their diplomas at a special drive-by event on June 27.

Valedictorians Julie Klippenstein and Julia Suderman reflected on how the global pandemic helped shape the class of 2021.

“We have matured so much throughout the years, and sometimes I think that might be partly due to COVID,” said Klippenstein. “Don't get me wrong, I wish COVID never happened, but it taught us that sometimes we have to make sacrifices and change our plans.”

“COVID was a good example of how life isn't just one straight path—it will sometimes veer in a different direction,” she continued. “Our high school experience has been a twisty road with a few u-turns, but we found the exit and reached our destination.”

Looking to the future, Suderman and Klippenstein urged their classmates to trust in God's plan for them.



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Mennonite Collegiate Institute celebrated the graduation of 21 students this year.

“It's okay to feel uncertain about the future, but trust that everything will fall into place,” Suderman said. “Uncertainties cause a bit of fear, which is normal. Each of you is incredibly capable and whatever you choose to pursue is in your reach.”

“Pursue what will make you happy, whether that is in a career, a relationship, or any other big decision,” continued Klippenstein. “God is by your side and will help you figure it out and find joy.”

“Take chances and trust that God will carry you through,” said Suderman. “This year has taught us that nothing is guaranteed. Don't be afraid of what might happen when you try something new ... time passes

quickly and you don't want to look back in 50 years and feel like you've missed out on living.”

The duo went on to thank their classmates, parents, and MCI staff for their support and guidance over the years.

Fellow graduate Jesse Wiebe echoed those thanks in her speech to MCI staff on behalf of the class.

“Thank you just isn't enough,” she said. “You have been supportive, kind and encouraging through these past four years.”

“You all have been more than just part of the MCI staff but also mentors. You have helped to teach us to turn to God in every stage of our lives.”





Morden Adult Education

Congratulations
to the **Graduating Classes of 2021**

Adult Ed. grads overcame all challenges

By Lorne Stelmach

Going back to school to finish your education is challenge enough, never mind then also doing that in the midst of a pandemic.

The level of commitment that it required was celebrated last month as 11 mature students graduated from the Morden Adult Education Centre.

"I cannot express how excited we all are to watch you achieve this goal," director Todd Folkett said as part of the outdoor ceremony. "Although not easy, this group of graduates made it work even in the face of a global pandemic. It showed great determination as any one of these could have derailed the goal of graduating."

"We all worked so hard and pushed through all the obstacles in our way," said valedictorian Tina Fehr. "We made it through school during a global pandemic, lockdowns, self-isolation, sleepless nights, busy jobs and kids who needed us. And we are here

today to celebrate those accomplishments."

Fehr, who was the recipient of the Western School Division and Morden Adult Education Centre scholarships, described making the decision to start school again as terrifying.

"It was so out of my comfort zone, and I didn't believe that I could do it. But I pushed through the fear and never looked back," she said. "It required discipline, commitment, and most of all courage. Courage to take that first step, to want a better career and a better future for ourselves and our families."

"Thank you to my parents for always being there for me when I needed you," Fehr added. "Whether it was a babysitter, supper and a visit, or just some advice, I'm so thankful for you."

"Because of all of you, I am standing here as valedictorian and most importantly a stronger woman and mom. I couldn't have done it without you," she concluded in offering thanks for everyone who supported her.

Folkett noted the diversity of the class.

"We have graduates from many different areas in the Pembina Valley; some students have been with us for many years while others only for the year."

He went on to offer further praise for their hard work and commitment to lifelong learning.

"Being a mature student means adapting daily life to fit in school. For many, that meant rearranging work schedules, day care routines and other responsibilities. We know that most graduates had help from family and friends; this is what makes this day so special, it is an achievement by so many not just the graduate."

"It is for most a big unpredictable step. But as most of you quickly found out, the centre is a place that is inviting, encouraging and a place where friendships are made. We are happy for that, and we encourage you to keep taking those big steps with your newfound confidence."



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH

Class valedictorian Tina Fehr shared how it was scary but ultimately rewarding to return to school to earn her high school diploma.

• Class of 2021 •

> NORTHLANDS PARKWAY COLLEGIATE, FROM PAGE 8



SUPPLIED PHOTO

NPC grads picked up their diplomas from principal Tammy MacDonald in an outdoor ceremony this year. Here, Clarissa Unger poses for a shot as friends and family look on from nearby vehicles.

Also bringing greetings was parent Darcie Goertzen, who reflected on how amazing it's been to watch the class of 2021 grow up.

She recalled marvelling at the students' prowess in athletics, art, music, and drama.

"Every one of you has something special to offer. We as parents are proud of you," Goertzen stressed. "Grads, no matter where you go after today, don't give up. Follow your dreams. Do what you want to do. We as parents will be cheering you on."

The final words went to class valedictorian Cerulean Wolfe.

"This is certainly not the end any of us expected or how we pictured our senior year ending up," she said.

"COVID was certainly a huge twists in all of our paths, but there were a

few positives that came out of it," Wolfe said, pointing to all the extra sleeping-in time the class had thanks to remote learning.

Wolfe thanked NPC teachers and staff for doing everything they could to keep the school a safe space for everyone and parents for always being there to support the grads, especially during these last few challenging years.

"Usually it's the valedictorian's job to talk about the success of our graduating class from over the last four years, but because every extracurricular activity was cancelled this year and half of last year, I believe that our greatest success was simply making it through this year," Wolfe observed.

"In our futures, success can look

many different ways and take many different forms ... however, success is not always a straight line," she said. "There will be many twists along our paths and things will go wrong, but in the end even our failures contribute to our successes in one way or another."

"Unlike graduation, success is not an event but it is a process. Just like Walt Disney said: 'All of our dreams can come true if we have the courage to pursue them.'"

Wherever life may take them, this unique group of students will always have one thing in common, Wolfe stressed.

"We are the graduating class of 2021 for Northlands Parkway Collegiate."

> MORDEN COLLEGIATE, FROM PAGE 12

only the students but the parents as well this past year.

"At the best of times, it is a tall order to balance all the demands of raising kids with everything else that life throws at you. You have done well!"

"And to our teachers, EAs, support staff and administration, you were thrust into the front lines of our community's need. I know our community is grateful for everything that you

have given of yourselves to ensure that all of our community's kids had a safe and effective year.

"You have worked hard to get here," Fransen told the students. "You have persevered through some of the most challenging educational and social hurdles of the last number of generations, and we know that you are prepared for the next chapter of your lives."



Congratulations

to the Graduating Classes of 2021



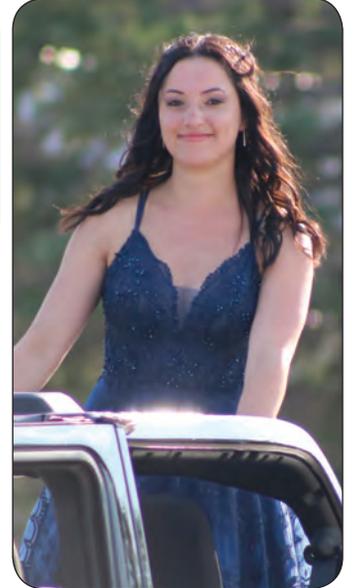
Carman Collegiate's Riley Takvam put on a show for parade-watchers.



Each of the 14 attending Dufferin Christian School grads tossed their caps to celebrate the end of their high school chapter.



Brooke Love, left, and Avrey Murdy rode in the back of a pickup during the Miami Collegiate Graduate parade.



Jaylyn Deurbrouck rode in the back of a black jeep during Elm Creek School's grad parade.



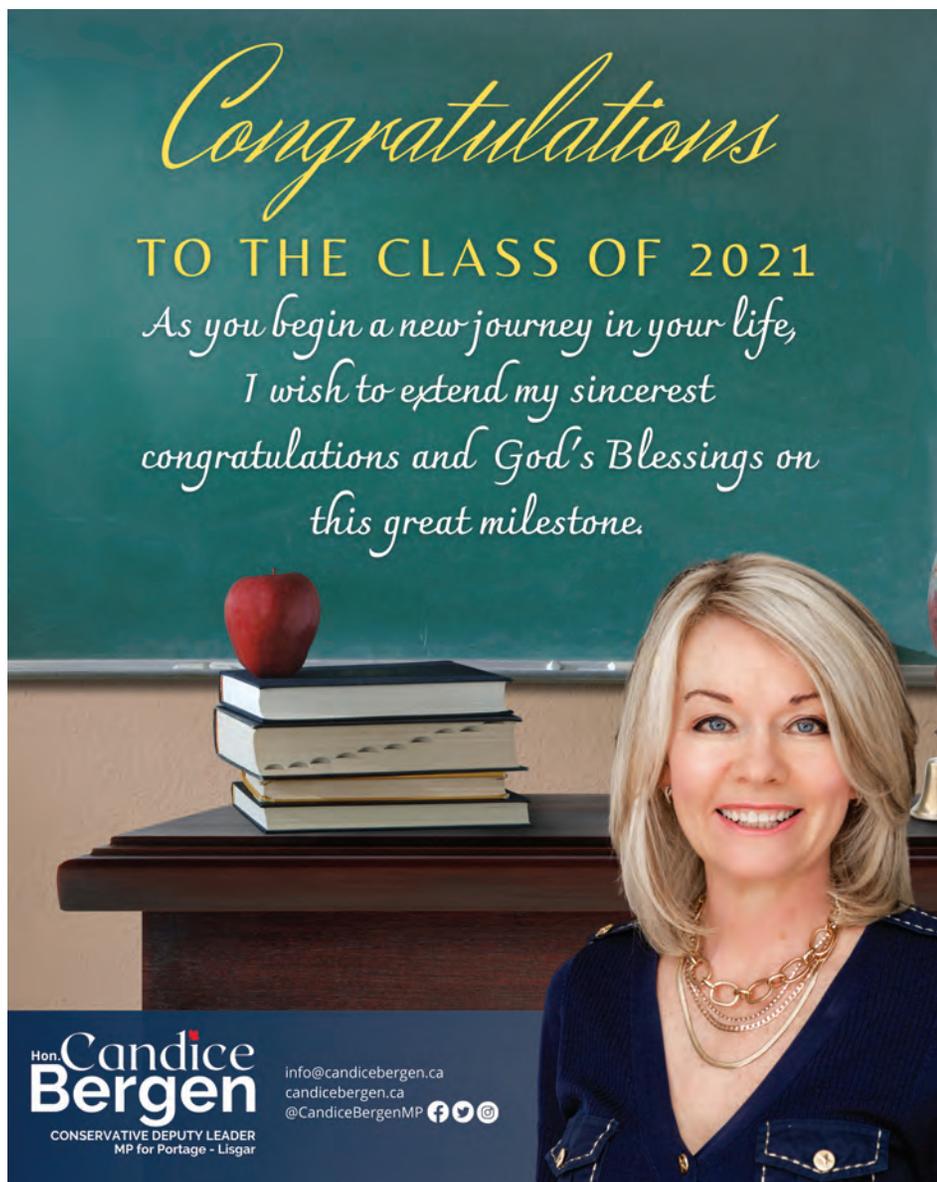
St. Claude grads sharing a congratulatory hug.

• Class of 2021 •

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Carman Collegiate

Congratulations
to the **Graduating Classes of 2021**

Carman Collegiate hosts first-ever drive-in graduation

By Becca Myskiw

The sun beat down on 45 Carman Collegiate grads last Monday, June 28.

A stage decorated with pink and white flowers and greenery of all kinds on the school's soccer field with the Carman Collegiate logo in the middle, a podium on the left and "GRAD 2021" in large wooden letters. The wooden décor was draped in outdoor patio lights, giving the whole setup a beautiful rustic feel.

After the national anthem opened Monday's ceremony, principal Jeff Latimer started the afternoon by congratulating the students. Graduates Riley Takvam and Regan Durand then gave the toast to the parents on behalf of their class.

"It blows my mind to accept that fact that we have turned the page to the next chapter of our lives," started Takvam. "We have moved from childhood to adulthood...it's time to learn what we want to be if we haven't figured it out or follow our dreams if we have."

Durand then said the graduates owe all their thanks to their parents because without them, none of the past 13 years would have been possible.

Continued on page 21



Nick Carnelley gave the student address on Monday.



PHOTOS BY BECCA MYSKIW

Grade 9 English teacher Verna Clemis was Carman Collegiate's guest speaker at grad.

• Class of 2021 •



Carter Barylski

Nicole Beichter

Anthony Bueckert

Aljun Cabato

Nicholas Carnelley

Gavin Colpitts

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Carman Collegiate

Congratulations
to the **Graduating Classes of 2021**

Continued from page 20

"To quote our Kindergarten concert song," said Durand. "Thank you, thank you. We really want to thank you. Thanks."

Once the car horns and cheering subsided, graduate Ryan Toews came on stage to give a toast to the teachers. He went through each of the staff members at Carman Collegiate, recalling a memory or a joke the students had with each of them.

"Our teachers taught us more than just the curriculum," he said. "They taught us life lessons."

Latimer and vice principal Mary Reimer had the honour of presenting the diplomas. The graduates were split into four groups and one group by one, they lined up to the side of the stage, waiting for their turn to move the tassel.

Car horns honked, parents and students cheered, staff members teared up, and Carman Collegiate's class of 2021 was officially graduated.

But the ceremony wasn't over. Grade 9 English teacher Verna Clemis was Monday's guest speaker. She started her speech by acknowledging the tough year the students had, but said she wasn't going to focus her address on the pandemic.

"Some of you have had to scratch your way up to this po-

Continued on page 22



Nick Carnelley received the Carman Collegiate Staff Award.



Karen Kucharsky was this year's winner of the Governor's General Award.



Mackayla Reimer, left, and Kayla Valentine waving to the crowd during the grad parade.



Riley Takvam, left, and Regan Durand toast the parents

PHOTOS BY BECCA MYSKIW

• Class of 2021 •



Nate Ens

Stefan Girouard

Amber Graham

Ethan Klassen

Jeffrey Klassen

Haydn Lysiuk

Brennan MacLellan

Taylor Manness

William McArthur

• Class of 2021 •

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Carman Collegiate

Congratulations
to the **Graduating Classes of 2021**

Continued from page 21

dium in the worst way possible," she started. "We get it...but you're here. You made it. So now what? I could share with you all the clichés a normal graduation speech would contain...but I won't. I want to talk more realistically. You are not the first generation of young people who have had their lives turned upside down."

Clemis then reminded the graduates about the soldiers who didn't return home in 1918, those who suffered through the Spanish flu, and how Dr. McGavin was the only doctor during that pandemic working 24/7 in a 40-mile radius with nothing but a horse and buggy.

"Keep in mind Dr. McGavin didn't quit when times got tough," Clemis said.

She went on to discuss the many life-changing events the community's gone through, including her own personal struggles. Her speech encouraged the grads to realize their struggles and to overcome them because there will be many more along the way.



Hayden Lysiuk was one of the sunglasses-wearers of Carman Collegiate.

"You come from good stock," she ended. "You come from families, a community of fighters — of not-giver-uppers."

Nick Carnelley, recipient of the Carman Collegiate Staff Award, then gave the student address, noting the year was disappointing, but there were so many positives along the way.

"We can officially say that we were Carman Col-



PHOTOS BY BECCA MYSKIW

Mackayla Reimer showed up to the ceremony in style.

legiate's first drive-in grad in the history of the school," he said.

After that, he received his special award, as did Karen Kocharski, this year's recipient of the Governor General's Award.

After the ceremony, there was a parade where the town could cheer on the graduates.

• Class of 2021 •



James McFarlane-Staples

Brett Morris

Dyllan Pelletier

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Jerry Peters

Levi Phillips

Kaedyn Reimer

Mackayla Reimer

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Carman Collegiate

Congratulations
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| Homestead Coop | Will McArthur |
| Homestead Coop | Mackayla Reimer |

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• Class of 2021 •



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Mason Summers



Riley Takvam



Caden Thiessen



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Carman Collegiate

Congratulations
to the **Graduating Classes of 2021**

• Class of 2021 •



Tyler Waddell



Mercedes Wanders



Brendan Wiebe



Jennifer Wiebe



Matthew Wiebe



Cadence Wilde



No Photo Available
Bianca Austria
Karen Kucharsky
Ariel Snider



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Graduates!
Class of 2021

• Class of 2021 •

CARMAN COLLEGIATE CLASS OF 2021

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• Class of 2021 •



Carman Collegiate

Congratulations
to the **Graduating Classes of 2021**

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PHOTOS BY BECCA MYSKIW
Ryan Toews gave the toast to the teachers.



Anthony Bueckert had lots of honks and cheers as he left the stage.



Payton Doerksen was all smiles after receiving her diploma. She's going to Mayville State for softball in the fall.

• Class of 2021 •

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Carman Collegiate

Congratulations to the Graduating Classes of 2021



Grads sat in their lawn chairs while family stayed in their vehicles to watch the ceremony.



PHOTOS BY BECCA MYSKIW

Four groups of graduates lined up when their time came before crossing the stage.

• Class of 2021 •

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Elm Creek School

Congratulations
to the **Graduating Classes of 2021**

Elm Creek School says farewell to eight students in 2021

By Becca Myskiw

It ended with float upon float decked out in balloons, ribbons and bows — the Elm Creek class of 2021 has graduated.

At 5 p.m. on Tuesday, June 29, eight students crossed the stage — a flat deck trailer decorated by two graduates — set up outside the Elm Creek School and entered adulthood. The sun shone down, illuminating the stage in golden yellows and burnt oranges, creating a somewhat cliché moment for the grads as they move into their bright futures.

Interim principal Leslie Howard presented each graduate with their diploma before vehicles filled with graduate's family members. Then, one by one, the eight students made their way across the stage and waved on to the cheering crowd. Jaylyn Deurbrouck won the Governor General Academic Medal, the most prestigious high school award.

"Unprecedented, once in a century, strong, persistent, ever-changing," stated Howard. "When

you hear these words, you likely think, 'Great, another speech about COVID!' Well, if that was your first thought, then I am sorry to disappoint. These words, which yes, have been used to describe COVID, are instead being mentioned to describe the Elm Creek Graduating class of 2021."

Her speech talked about how the graduating class is a once in a century kind of group. She said the last 15 months was rough, but the class was persistent, pouring 100 per cent of themselves into every want, feel, and need.

Howard was a teacher and interim principal over the years and said they constantly challenged her but looking back, they've shaped her into the mother, administrator, teacher, and woman she is today.

She ended her speech with a Mark Twain quote: "Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things you didn't do than by the ones you did do. So throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover."

Continued on page 28



The Elm Creek School class of 2021.

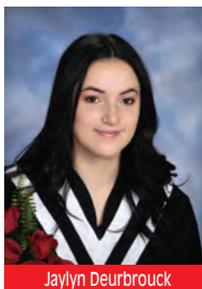
PHOTOS SUBMITTED



The traditional cap toss, signifying the end of high school.



Cody Banman



Jaylyn Deurbrouck



Josh Fayant-Dokken



Emily Janzen



Kyren Jordan



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Elm Creek School

Congratulations
to the **Graduating Classes of 2021**

Continued from page 27

Valedictorian Emily Janzen addressed her classmates, saying they're a group of oddballs — and there's nothing wrong with that.

"We would not be the people we are today without each other," she said. "Because of each individual classmate, each teacher, and every single one of our parents, we are all graduating today. To some of us, this day means more than it might to the average student, as many of us struggled mentally, physically, and academically."

Janzen thanked each teacher and parent and ended their speech with a Bill Gates and Mr. Schroeder quote: "Life's not fair, get used to it."

The ceremony was short and sweet but gave each now-adult their time in the spotlight. After graduates moved the tassel from right to left and tossed their cap, the Elm Creek School class of 2021 hopped into trucks, cars, jeeps, and ATVs to parade around town.

One graduate rode on a motorcycle, another stood in the back of a jeep, some waved from truck boxes, and one even rode his ATV around, doing burnouts every chance he got. A celebration of his own.

Community members stood in driveways and sat in parking lots to cheer on the young adults they might not even know. Some brought cowbells, noisemakers, and signs, while others used their voices to spread their congratulations.

Ladies in blue and red gowns waved while the men in black and grey suits smiled — everyone looked happy to be graduating.



Jaylyn Deurbrouck, left, won the Governor General Medal, and Emily Janzen was valedictorian.



PHOTOS BY BECCA MYSKIW

Emily Janzen waved from the back of a motorcycle during the grad parade.



Cody Banman showed off his ATV during the grad parade.

ELM CREEK SCHOOL THANK YOU!

Elm Creek School would like to thank all our sponsors for their contributions towards our Graduation.

Prairie Rose Division Teachers Association Scholarship
Newman Hand Insurance Scholarship
Nona Woodward Memorial Award
Parent Advisory Council Award
Access Credit Union Scholarship
Prairie Roots Co-op Award
RM of Grey Award
CIBC Graduation Bursary
Fund Raisers of Elm Creek Award
Westman Communications Award
Noventis Credit Union Bursary
Carman Community Health Scholarship
Richardson - Pioneer Grain Scholarship & Award
Vanderveen Commodities Awards
Candice Bergen Leadership – Portage Lisgar Association
ONE Insurance & Portage Mutual Ins. Scholarship
Prairie Rose School Division Awards & Scholarship
University of Winnipeg – Entrance Scholarship
University of Manitoba – Entrance Scholarships
Kin Canada Bursary

Legion Branch No. 18 - Ladies Auxiliary Award
Legion Branch No. 18 Award
Midland Constituency – Blaine Pedersen Award
Legion Branch No. 18 – Larry Aymont Memorial Award
MHSAA – 2021 MB's Credit Unions Scholarship Athlete Award
Subway Fresh Start Scholarship
Homestead Co-op Bursary

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East Creek Schmidt Farms - Ed & Chad Schmidt
Janice Vandasselaar
Rob & Karen Schroeder
Steven Tkachyk – Culross Commodities

ELM CREEK SCHOOL 2021 GRADUATION

1. CIBC Graduation Bursary - Cody Banman
2. Fund Raisers of Elm Creek Award - Carsten Kehler
3. Vanderveen Commodities Portfolio - Emily Janzen & Jaylyn Deurbrouck
4. Vanderveen Commodities - Jaylyn Deurbrouck
5. Noventis Credit Union Bursary - Emily Janzen
6. Prairie Roots Co-op Award - Jaylyn Deurbrouck
7. R.M. of Grey Award - Chloe Katz
8. Congeniality Award - Carsten Kehler
9. PRSD Honour Roll, School and Community Activities Award - Emily Janzen
10. PRSD Diligence and Commitment to Learning Award - Kyren Jordan
11. Access Credit Union Scholarship - Jaylyn Deurbrouck
12. Richardson-Pioneer Scholarship - Cody Banman
13. Richardson-Pioneer Award - Connor Pethybridge
14. Prairie Rose Teachers' Association Scholarship - Jaylyn Deurbrouck
15. Governor General's Bronze Medal- Jaylyn Deurbrouck
16. Parent Advisory Council Award - Joshua Fayant-Dokken
17. Candice Bergen Leadership Award - Cody Banman
18. Carman Community Health Scholarship - Chloe Katz
19. Nona Woodward Memorial Award - Jaylyn Deurbrouck
20. Chown Centennial Entrance Scholarship - Jaylyn Deurbrouck
21. University of Manitoba Guertin Scholarships - Jaylyn Deurbrouck
22. Newman Hand Insurance - Jaylyn Deurbrouck
23. ONE Insurance & Portage Mutual Scholarship - Jaylyn Deurbrouck
24. Royal Canadian Legion No. 18 Ladies Auxiliary - Emily Janzen
25. Royal Canadian Legion No. 18 - Emily Janzen
26. U of W Alumni Entrance Scholarship - Emily Janzen
27. Westman Communications - Emily Janzen
28. Midland Constituency Award - Cody Banman
29. Kin Canada Bursary/ Carmen Kinetite Club - Jaylyn Deurbrouck
30. Subway Fresh Start Scholarship Program - Jaylyn Deurbrouck
31. Homestead Co-op Bursary - Connor Pethybridge
32. Royal Canadian Legion No. 18 - Larry Aymont Memorial Award - Emily Janzen
33. Manitoba's Credit Unions Scholar Athletic Award - Jaylyn Deurbrouck



Miami School

Congratulations
to the **Graduating Classes of 2021**

Miami School sends graduates off to be tenacious, positive, and resilient

By Becca Myskiw

On Tuesday, June 29, vehicles lined up side-by-side on Miami School grounds to watch 21 students graduate.

It was 5 p.m. with nothing but clear skies and sunshine for the Miami graduates. Each grad was set up in their vehicles and was allowed to have a second one filled with family accompany them.

Vehicles were pointed towards the stage where acting principal Steve Doell presented each graduate with their diplomas and individual awards. Families and other grads sat in vehicles listening to the ceremony through an FM transmitter.

They heard valedictorians Jordon Holowachuk and Lori Stepler receive several awards. Holowachuk was the recipient of the Governor-General Medal while Stepler received a total of 12 awards.

"I know they tell us that school is



Valedictorian Lori Stepler had her whole family on the float with her.

about learning, but the things we will remember most aren't the classes we took but the people we took them with," said Stepler during the pair's speech. "So, this evening, we thought we would share a few words about the graduates of 2021."



Kezia Swan and her nephew Killian Stewart sat on a porch swing float.

The valedictorians then shared memories they had of each classmate, noting Vincent's pessimistic attitude, Kezia's jokes, and Fiddler on the Roof star William.

"Whether you've been here since kindergarten or have just joined us this year, we've made lifelong memories," finished Holowachuk. "Wherev-



PHOTOS BY BECCA MYSKIW

Jordon Holowachuk, back, Adrien Wall, front left, and Troy Steuart sat together during the parade.

er life takes you in the years to come, I wish you luck and hope to see all of you again soon. See you at the 20-year reunion."

Acting principal Steve Doell's speech went over three traits he hoped each graduate would leave with — tenacity, positivity or gratitude, and perseverance or resiliency.

"Nothing fosters success more than determination and persistence," he said. "Educa-

Continued on page 30

• Class of 2021 •



Kelsey Cox

Payten Cox

William Dyck

Michael Elias

Keesha Fiddler

Jared Friesen

Karly Friesen

Bethany Hector

Jordon Holowachuk

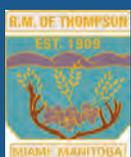
• Class of 2021 •



Congratulations on your **GRADUATION!**

Way to go!

We wish you all the best.



530 Norton Ave.
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Congratulations to all the 2021 Miami Graduates!

Wherever the road takes you after graduation, we wish you much happiness and success.

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 (Sandy Ridge Rd.) Winkler
Hats off to the Class of 2021!

Rose Valley Manufacturing



Miami High School

Congratulations
to the **Graduating Classes of 2021**

• Class of 2021 •

Continued from page 29

tion, genius, or talent is absolutely nothing without the drive and dedication to accomplish your goals. Go out into this world and explore your passions with tenacity. Meet your goals with ferocity, pursue your passions with curiosity, and you will find success."

Doell challenged his students to be like the wolverine (tenacious), the wood frog (positive), and the polar bear (resilient). The wolverine, he said, roams the toughest conditions and scares of the scariest predators. The wood frog freezes solid in the winter but wakes up every spring without fail, ready for a new year. And the polar bear, Doell said, has figured out how to hunt beluga whales when sea ice slowly disappears and takes away their main food source.

"Learn to control only what you can control," he finished. "You may not like the situation

Continued on page 36



Vincent Sanders waved on from the back of a truck.



Karly Friesen is going into the arts after high school.



| | | | |
|------------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------|
| Jared Huston | Travis Ketler | Brooke Love | Avrey Murdy |
| Kaitlin Parisien | Kezia Swain | Adrien Wall | Claudia Wall |
| Alejandro Peters | Vincent Sanders | Lori Stepler | Troy Steuart |

• Class of 2021 • Class of 2021 • Class of 2021

MIAMI AWARDS – 2020-2021 SCHOLARSHIPS

- Jeffrey Prondzinski Memorial - Lori Stepler
- Westaway Pharmacy Career Scholarship - Brooke Love
- Anne Dyck Memorial - Bethany Hector
- Blair Sharpe Career - Lori Stepler
- Brigitte Grenier Memorial - Troy Steuart
- Carman Community Health - Brooke Love
- Cory Rutter Construction - Adrien Wall
- Gary Smart - Troy Steuart
- Miami Fire and Rescue - Brooke Love / Lori Stepler split
- Miami United Church - Lori Stepler
- Orchard Grain Farms - Kezia Swain
- Pembina Creeks Wildlife - Troy Steuart
- Candice Bergan - Kezia Swain
- Refined Health - Brooke Love
- Roseisle Friendship - Troy Steuart
- Ryan Peters - Adrien Wall
- SJ Agronomy - Kezia Swain
- Station Bar and Grill - Bethany Hector
- TOPS - Lori Stepler
- Blair Sharpe Dramatic Arts - Bethany, Karly
- MPSEO Stem - Brooke Love/Lori Stepler
- Golden Prairie Arts Council Career Scholarship - Karly Friesen
- Patrick Mowbray Memorial Bursary - Jared Friesen/Jordon Holowachuk
- Prairie Rose Teachers' Association Career Scholarship - Bethany Hector
- Prairie Rose School Division Diligent Commitment to Learning Award - Jordon Holowachuk
- Prairie Rose School Division Academic Excellence & School & Community Service Award - Jordon Holowachuk
- Homestead COOP Bursary - Avrey Murdy
- Chapter M - Philanthropic Educational Organization Stellar Award Scholarship - Lori Stepler
- Access Credit Union Scholarship - Lori Stepler
- University of Manitoba Guertin Queen Elizabeth II Entrance Scholarship - Tier II - Lori Stepler
- Catherine Orchard Memorial Scholarship Highest Math Average Gr. 9-12 - Lori Stepler
- Miami School Spirit Award - Lori Stepler/Kezia Swain
- University of Manitoba Chown - Lori Stepler
- Governor General's Bronze Medal - Jordon Holowachuk

Miami School, along with the Miami Post-Secondary Educational Organization gratefully acknowledges the generous contributions of these sponsors in helping to make our 2021 Graduation a success.

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Access Credit Union - Miami Branch | Miami T.O.P.S. Club |
| Friends of Anne Dyck | Miami United Church |
| Mr. Blair Sharpe | Mile 30 Farm - Todd & Tania Vanstone |
| Brigitte Grenier Trust | Orchard Grain Farm - Mike & Rachelle |
| Carman Community Health Centre | Mr. & Mrs. Doug & Diane Mowbray |
| Carman Health Auxiliary | Pembina Creeks Wildlife Association |
| Centennial Farm Supply | Portage-Lisgar Conservative EDA |
| Cory Rutter Construction | Prairie Red Coats |
| Friends & Family of Gary Smart | Prairie Rose School Division |
| Family of Jeffery Prondzinski | Prairie Rose Teachers Association |
| Golden Prairie Arts Council | Refined Health - Dr. Nicole Krapp, ND |
| Mr. & Mrs. Ian & Sandy Stepler | Roland Air Spray |
| Mr & Mrs. Joan & Ed Driedger | Roseisle Friendship Club |
| K. Angers Transfer | Rural Municipality of Thompson |
| McCulloch Mooney Johnston Selby LLP | SJ Agronomy Services |
| Miami 4H Activity Club | Stacey's Garden |
| Miami Agricultural Society | The Station Bar & Grill |
| Miami Fire & Rescue Members | Stepler Farms |
| Miami Horticultural Society | Westaway Pharmacy |
| Miami Moose Hockey Team | The Harvey Allen Band |
| Miami School Student Council | Westwind Realty, Leann Friesen |

THANK YOU ALL FROM THE CLASS OF 2021!





Dufferin Christian School

Congratulations
to the **Graduating Classes of 2021**

DCS sends grads off with the word of the Lord

By Becca Myskiw

It was a night to remember for each of Dufferin Christian School's (DCS) 15 graduates — the day had finally come.

After 13 years of writing, equating, reading, and testing, the DCS students early, middle and high school chapter was complete. At 5 p.m. on Monday, June 28, families packed into their trucks, cars, and SUVs, and parked on the school grounds to

watch the Grade 12s cross the stage.

One by one, each graduate, whether in heels or dress shoes, climbed the steps and walked onto the stage and smiled on while former principal and teacher Dr. Chris deBoer gave the speaker address and presented the diplomas.

"You have, it seems, successfully completed high school," he started. "Tonight, you chose a challenging grad text; not so much for me to comment on, but for you to live up to."

Their chosen grad text was, "Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, and in purity." (1 Tim. 4:12) deBoer told the students that text is an encouraging one. It encourages the grads to step out of their comfort zone, practice the strong message of Christ and command it, and do bold things for God's glory and Christ's church. That text does so much more, too.

"You want to set an example for the believers," he said. "Then pray every day for the Holy Spirit to dwell in you, to mold your heart, to renew your mind and flesh. Delve into the Bible — it is the wellspring of life! It is not a boring old book; as you continue to grow in your faith, in your conviction of God's sovereignty, of His grace in Christ, and of the Holy Spirit's work in your life, you will

Continued on page 32

• Class of 2021 •



Gianna Bergsma

Joshua Blok

Todd Bouwers

Nathan deRuiter

Kelvin Hamming

Brooklyn Kamminga

Darren Onderwater

Lianne Riedstra

Danielle Smith

• Class of 2021 •

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grad class
Wishing you all the best!

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CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2021! PLAN YOUR FUTURE... REACH FOR THE STARS... AND REMEMBER TO COME HOME!

All the Best from the Councils & Staff of the Town of Carman & RM of Dufferin

Dufferin Christian School
gratefully acknowledges and appreciates the generous support of the following sponsors of the 2020-2021 DCS Achievement Award Program

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| Roseisle Friendship Club | Carman and Community Chamber of Commerce |
| Vanderveen Commodity Service | Carman Ford |
| | Carman Pharmacy |
| | Dufferin Historical Society |

1 Timothy 4:12 - Let no one despise you for your youth, but set the believers an example in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity."

DCS Growing In Grace
Equipping For Excellence
Learning For Life

We are really proud of you and for everything that you have accomplished. We are very confident that you will continue to achieve more successes in life. Good luck on your future endeavors. Congratulations!

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Dufferin Christian School

Congratulations
to the **Graduating Classes of 2021**

Continued from page 31

continue to set an example to the believers – it will be evident.”

But the ceremony wasn't over yet. Valedictorian Joshua Blok had a few things to say to their classmates. His speech focused on one word: example, which is right in their graduation text.

“The word ‘example’ in 1 Tim. 4:12 is an English translation of the NT Greek word ‘tupos,’ which refers to an image produced by some powerful blow or stamp,” said Blok. “Think of the chiseling that goes into engraving words or images onto stone. The results are things like memorials, plaques, and headstones. So, guys, we should think of ourselves as walking inscriptions.”

He then went on to make his class think about the inscriptions they bared. The first was senioritis, meaning they were lazy, absent, and had dismissive attitudes here or there. But it also meant they were a close-knit group who liked everything together.

The positive inscription they bared was setting a good tone for the school, he said, and they were supportive to each other constantly.



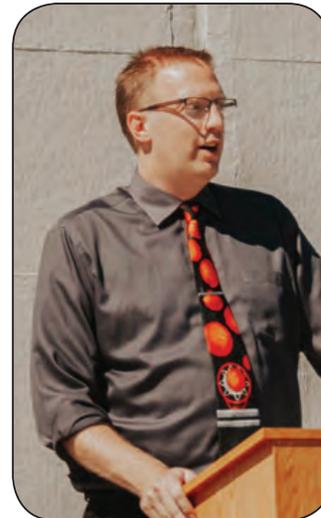
PHOTOS BY CASSIE BETH PHOTOGRAPHY
Principal Nathan Kok presented graduate Todd Bouwers with their diploma.

“These are not just memories to cherish, but things to keep up wherever life leads us,” finished Blok. “Whatever God’s plans are for our futures, may he use our exemplary living to his glory, both within the community of believers, but also wherever he leads us in life.”

Once each of the 14 attending grads had tossed their caps high into the sky,

they were ready to move onto the next chapter of their lives. Some did it in light blue gowns, while others did it in red ones. Some moved on in navy blue suits, and some moved on in black ones. But each did it with a smile and blessings from God.

DCS focuses on three things for its students: growing in grace, equipping for excellence, and learning for life.



Dr. Chris deBoer gave the speech at the graduation ceremony.



Valedictorian Joshua Blok gives his address to his classmates.

That means each student they graduate has grown through God’s grace, has been equipped with the excellence each is called for and has desired relevant, practical, and lifelong learning.

Wherever each DCS grad goes, they will do it knowing they can.

• Class of 2021 • Class of 2021 • Class of 2021 • Class of 2021 • Class of 2021



Kameron Toews



Mikala VanderGugten



Kendra Vandersluis



Devon Vanderwoude



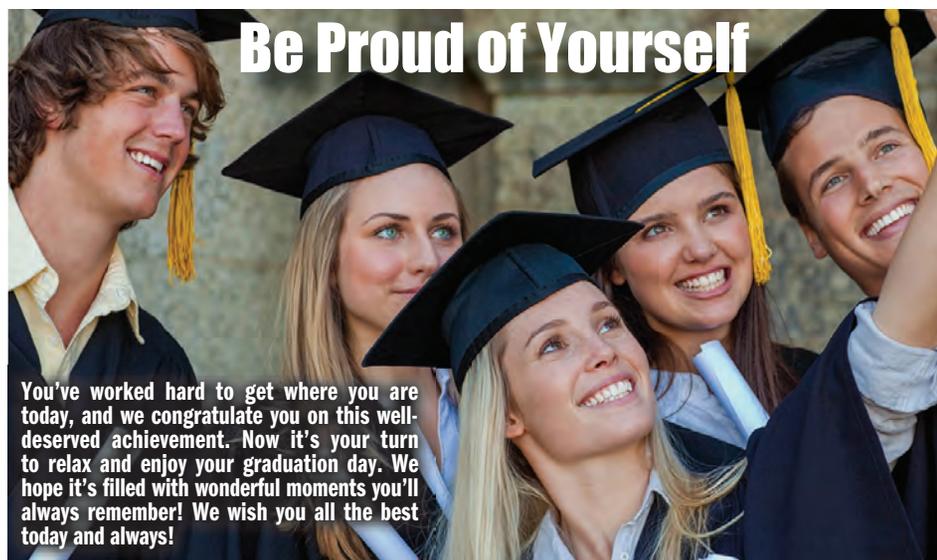
Jamin Vanderzwaag



Nathan Voogt

Dufferin Christian School Graduate Awards and Burseries listed on page 36

Congratulations on your graduation!

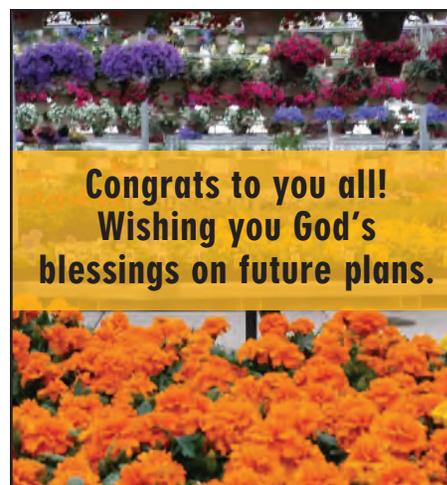


Be Proud of Yourself

You've worked hard to get where you are today, and we congratulate you on this well-deserved achievement. Now it's your turn to relax and enjoy your graduation day. We hope it's filled with wonderful moments you'll always remember! We wish you all the best today and always!



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**Congrats to you all!
Wishing you God's blessings on future plans.**



Carman, MB
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CONGRATULATIONS TO NATHAN AND ALL THE GRADUATES OF 2021! WISHING YOU GOD'S BLESSINGS ON YOUR FUTURE PLANS!



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École Regionale Notre-Dame

Congratulations
to the **Graduating Classes of 2021**

École Regionale Notre-Dame celebrates 17 graduates

By Becca Myskiw

École Regionale Notre-Dame sent 17 students off into the real world on Saturday, June 26.

It started with a slideshow, showing each of the grads adorned in grad caps and gowns. Principal Gisèle Bosc then opened the ceremony outside the school on a stage decorated with pink and white flowers and a congratulatory banner.

Families of the grads sat in vehicles together while over 270 others watched from their screens at home. The national anthem played, Bosc gave heartfelt words, then Alex Bazin was first to cross the stage in his black and green colours.

Each grad walked onto the stage, grabbed their diploma, moved their tassel from right to left, and removed their mask for a photo.

Seven certificates were handed out to eight seniors on Saturday, along with 18 bursaries. The Governor General Medal was awarded to Roux Bazin this year. It's among the most prestigious award a high school graduate can receive, recognizing the student with the high-

est GPA from their Grade 11 and 12 years combined.

Once all the 2021 École Regionale Notre-Dame graduates had crossed the stage, Division Scolaire Franco-Manitobaine (DSFM) superintendent Alain Laberge spoke to the students virtually, giving an encouraging and congratulatory speech. Next, Louise Legal-Perrin, assistant superintendent, followed him to give her own words to the grads, then secretary-treasurer Rob Dupré-Ollinik, and assistant superintendent René Déquier.

The ceremony then returned to Bosc, who gave her speech to the students she's known for the past years.

"These students start their school first with a mix of emotions," she said. "On entering kindergarten, some anticipated the first day with enthusiasm and joy, while others showed more anxiety or fear. In the years that followed, the emotions felt may have subsided. However, we are sure that during this last year of their journey with RND, the feelings took on a new dimension."

Continued on page 34



PHOTOS SUBMITTED

École Regionale Notre-Dame's graduating class of 2021. (Missing from the photo is Brett Durand).



Jamie Girouard celebrated receiving his diploma and his \$1,000 UM Hogg Centennial Entrance Scholarship Tier 3.



Vice principal Jocelyne Toupin, left, and principal Gisèle Bosc presented each grad on Saturday.

• Class of 2021 •



Alex Bazin

Roux Bazin

Paige Cenerini

Maxim Collet

Hunter Desrochers

Julien Dizengremel

Kenzie Dupasquier

Brett Durand

Gabriel Gaultier

• Class of 2021 •

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Class of 2021

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CLASS OF 2021!

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École Régionale Notre-Dame

Congratulations
to the **Graduating Classes of 2021**

Continued from page 33

Bosc went on to acknowledge the difficult year her students had gone through, and though it wasn't easy to finish high school like that, there was a lot of light hidden in the dark. She said the lessons each grad learned this year would help them to overcome other challenges they'll face in life.

École Régionale Notre-Dame, principal Bosc, finished her speech by encouraging the students to remain confident and un intimidated. She ended with this quote:

"Today we celebrate your accomplishments and efforts. Congratulations to each of you, and we wish you all success."

Vice-principal Jocelyne Toupin then gave her own words to the graduates.

The graduates tossed their caps while one could hear family cheers from miles away. From there, the grads paraded around town where the community cheered and waved them on, commending them for their achievements.



Roux Bazin won the Governor General Medal for his academics.



Julien Dizengremel earned \$5,000 in scholarships to further his education.



Yannick Grenier was all smiles. Grenier was recognized for her marks in Psychologie 40S.

ÉCOLE RÉGIONALE NOTRE-DAME – 2020-2021

Certificates

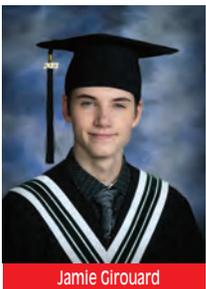
- Mathématiques pré-calcul 40S - **Jamie Girouard**
- Mathématiques au quotidien 40S - **Jolyne LeClair**
- Français: Langue et communication 40S - **Julien Dizengremel and Sydney Rondeau**
- Anglais: Comprehensive Focus 40S - **Julien Dizengremel**
- Annuaire et vidéos scolaires 41G - **Sophie Le Moullec**
- Conception avancée 40S - **Sophie Le Moullec**
- Psychologie 40S - **Yannick Grenier**

Bursaries

- Governor General Medal - **Roux Bazin**
- Division scolaire franco-manitobaine - \$800 - **Kenzie Dupasquier**
- Chambre de Commerce Notre-Dame-de-Lourdes - \$300 - **Julien Dizengremel**
- Comité culturel de Lourdes - \$350 - **Julien Dizengremel**
- Caisse Groupe Financier - \$500 - **Kenzie Dupasquier**
- Famille Lucie et Maurice Boisvert Sr des Fonds communautaires Notre-Dame - \$500 - **Kenzie Dupasquier**
- Candice Bergen Leadership Award - \$300 - **Sophie Le Moullec**
- E. Jay Watson Memorial Entrance Scholarship - \$1,000 - **Julien Dizengremel**
- Bethany Lutheran College International Scholarship - \$11,425 - **Jolyne LeClair**

- Motor Vehicle Industry of Manitoba Inc. - \$1,000 - **Alex Bazin**
- Parrish & Heimbecker Ltd. - \$250 - **Brett Durand**
- Porcherie Lac du Onze Ltée - \$500 - **Érika Plourde**
- Simplot Canada Limited Entrance Scholarship (Farm operation) - \$1,440 - **Julien Dizengremel**
- UM Hogg Centennial Entrance Scholarship Tier 3 - \$1000 - **Brett Durand, Jamie Girouard, Sydney Rondeau**
- University of Manitoba Chown Centennial Scholarship - \$1,000 - **Brett Durand**
- University of Brandon Board of Governors Entrance Scholarship Tier III - \$1,400 - **Julien Dizengremel**
- Westman's Communications Excellence Award - \$500 - **Julien Dizengremel**
- 2021 MASRC 2002 NAIG Legacy Athlete Scholarship - \$600 - **Jolyne LeClair**

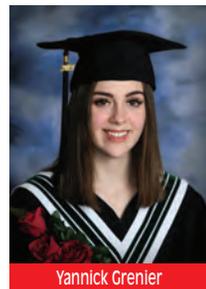
• Class of 2021 •



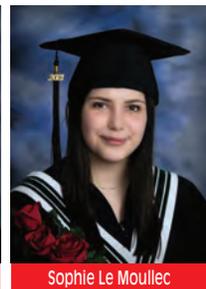
Jamie Girouard



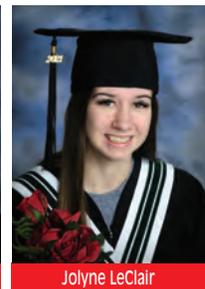
Chantal Grenier



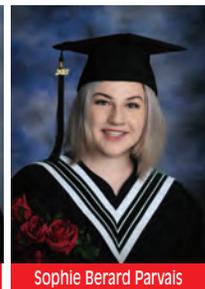
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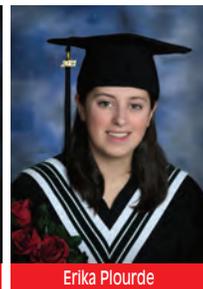
Sophie Le Moullec



Jolyne LeClair



Sophie Berard Parvais



Erika Plourde



Sydney Rondeau

• Class of 2021 •

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2021

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St. Claude School Complex

Congratulations
to the **Graduating Classes of 2021**

St. Claude School Complex graduates nine students in 2021

By Becca Myskiw

It was Friday, June 25, when St. Claude School Complex (SCSC) sent nine of their long-time students into adulthood.

Sun shining down on the graduates dressed in their very best made for a picturesque day. Each one wore a different colour — girls wore dresses of purple, light blue, red, pink, and green, while the boys wore black and white, navy blue,

Continued on page 36



Class valedictorian Jayde Chevrier has hope for positivity for her classmates.



PHOTOS SUBMITTED

The St. Claude School Complex graduating class of 2021.

• Class of 2021 •



• Class of 2021 •

St. Claude School Complex Graduation Ceremonies St. Claude Catholic Church - June 25, 2021

| Academic Awards | Sponsors | Recipient |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|
| Biology 40S | Rolling Plains Veterinary Consultants | Nicoline deRocquigny |
| Current Topics in First Nations, Metis, Inuit Studies 40S | St. Claude Fine Foods | Jayde Chevrier |
| Current Topics in Science 30S | R-Way Ag | Vanessa Theroux |
| ELA 40S Comprehensive | Pembina Coop x 2 | Nicoline deRocquigny / Vanessa Theroux |
| Essential Math 40S | Leding Edge Lights Ltd./Klotz Service | Jayde Chevrier / Carson White |
| Français 40S | Caisse Financial Group | Vanessa Theroux |
| French 40S | MIG Insurance | Tasha Layton-Souque |
| Histoire du Canada 30S | St. Claude Autobody | Vanessa Theroux |
| Music 2A: Concert Choir 40S | Caisse Financial Group | Vanessa Theroux |
| Woodwork Technology 40M | Shop Easy Foods - St. Claude | Jesse Schulz |
| Honour Roll (above 80%) | | Jayde Chevrier, Nicoline deRocquigny, Kayla Rey, Tasha Layton-Souque, Vanessa Theroux, Carson White |
| Bursaries/Scholarships | Presenters | Recipient |
| Advisory Council For School Leadership | | Nicoline deRocquigny |
| Brian Pallister Sports Scholarship | | Tasha Layton-Souque |
| Brian Pallister Ag / Ed Scholarship | | Vanessa Theroux |
| Caisse Financial Group Bursary | | Nicoline deRocquigny |
| Candice Bergen Leadership Award | | Vanessa Theroux |
| Comite Culturel de St-Claude et Haywood | | Vanessa Theroux |
| CSSC Français Bursary | | Vanessa Theroux |
| 4-H Council Scholarship | | Vanessa Theroux |
| Fortunat and Laurence Champagne Memorial Scholarship | | Kayla Rey |
| Jenn Dion Safety Programs Scholarship | | Nicoline deRocquigny |
| Lactalis Canada Bursary | | Kayla Rey |
| Mountain Foundation Bursary | | Kayla Rey |
| Prairie Spirit School Division Grad Merit Award | | Nicoline deRocquigny |
| RM of Grey Scholarship | | Tasha Layton-Souque |
| St. Claude Grad Foundation Bursary | | Tasha Layton-Souque |
| St. Claude Health District Foundation Bursary | | Nicoline deRocquigny / Kayla Rey |
| St. Claude Pharmacy Scholarship | | Nicoline deRocquigny |
| St. Claude School Academics Credits Scholarship | | Vanessa Theroux |
| Westman's Award of Excellence Scholarship | | Nicoline deRocquigny |
| U of M Entrance Scholarship | | Vanessa Theroux |
| U of M Chown Centennial Scholarship | | Nicoline deRocquigny |
| Governor General's Medal | | Nicoline deRocquigny |

Thank you to all of the sponsors for their generous donations for bursaries and scholarships. Every effort has been made to ensure that all bursaries and scholarships have been distributed according to criteria established by the donors. We appreciate all your continued support. If any other individual or businesses are interested in donating a bursary or scholarship, please contact the school. With the increasing costs of post secondary institutions, the students appreciate any help to cover the tuition costs. Thank you and enjoy the evening. Congratulations to the 2021 graduating class. Thank you to all of our sponsors for their generous donations to our graduates.



Congratulations, Graduates!



High School Grads,
Class of 2021

Learn about career training close to home at rrc.ca/winkler

Red River College Grads,
Class of Spring 2021

Learn about benefits available to RRC alumni at rrc.ca/alumni



Congratulations to the Graduating Classes of 2021

> ST. CLAUDE SCHOOL COMPLEX, FROM PAGE 35

and purple.

"School has been a prominent part of our lives for the past thirteen years, and it is now coming to an end," said English valedictorian Jayde Chevrier. "It is kind of melancholy if you ask me. Now is not the time to be sad about what was, it is time to celebrate what is and what will be. It is time to celebrate our struggles, our accomplishments, our development, and our undecided destinies."

Chevrier went on to say that though the world is "riddled with negativity" right now, she has no doubt her class's future endeavors will bring positivity.

For Chevrier, that means becoming a freelance animator and artist. For graduate Daniel Zamora, it means working hard until he opens his own business. Nicoline de Rocquigny plans to pursue a Doctor of Pharmacy

degree, Tasha Layton-Souque is getting her Bachelor of Arts degree, and Kyle Pritchard is joining the workforce. Graduate Kayla Rey plans on receiving her Bachelor of Nursing degree, Jesse Dylan Schulz wants to become a movie director or blacksmith, Vanessa Theroux wants to become an author, and Carson White is going to eventually take an electronics course in post-secondary.

All inspirational speech stuff aside, although grad didn't turn out exactly how we wanted it to be because of stricter restrictions, I still think it will be just as memorable as any other grad in the past," continued Chevrier. "Everything leading up to our grad was pretty memorable as well."

She noted how her class raised money when grad planning, went dress shopping, and put

their handprints on the wall mural. She then wrapped up her speech by thanking parents, teachers, friends, and family for getting each of the nine students to where they are today and then congratulated her class.

Some notable awards for the students were Nicoline de Rocquigny's Governor General's Academic Medal and Prairie Spirit School Division Grad Merit Award. Tasha Layton-Souque received Brian Pallister's sports scholarship and Vanessa Theroux got the Candice Bergen Leadership Award.

Once each SCSC grad threw their caps into the air, they were ready to move on to the next chapters of their lives. But the day didn't end until they paraded through the community, waving to residents who were cheering them on.

> MIAMI HIGH SCHOOL, FROM PAGE 30

you have found yourself in, but if you choose to accept it as it is, and control what you can control, you win."

Once the ceremony ended, the grads had time to take it all in — the rest of their lives was beginning. But while they took a few moments to themselves, community members started setting up lawn chairs down every street.

A town-wide parade started at 8 p.m. led by a fire truck and an RCMP vehicle. Each grad rode on a float. There was everything from a decorated semi to a porch swing on a flatbed. Local residents, friends and family cheered on the recent graduates as they motored their way through Miami.

The class of 2021 dressed in reds, greens, and blues and young men in suits of blues, blacks, and greys coloured the streets of Miami as they said goodbye to high school. But the night wasn't over until after 11 p.m. when the last firework went off at the Stepler Farm.

Doell extends his thanks to Miami Post-Secondary Educational Organization for organizing the scholarships.

> DUFFERIN CHRISTIAN SCHOOL, FROM PAGE 32

DUFFERIN CHRISTIAN SCHOOL AWARDS AND BURSARIES 2021

1. The DCS BEACON Award is based on the following criteria: B - Bold in the LORD, E - Enduring under pressure, A - Active as God's child, C - Courageous in adversity, O - Overcoming obstacles, N - Nurturing friends and others. It is awarded to Joshua Blok

2. The DCS Citizenship Award, which is open to nomination by the community, is presented to recognize a particular student's role in the wider sphere of school and community. It is based on four criteria: Christian regard for others, extra-curricular involvement, involvement in other community activities, and academic achievement. It is awarded to Lianne Riedstra

3. The Alice Linde Memorial Award, which is in remembrance of Mrs. Alice Linde, who had a passion for students that led her to use "outside the box" methods of teaching. Mrs. Linde enjoyed the challenge of these particular students and took great joy in watching them succeed. Each student that passed through her class over the years will remember her kind heart, patience, and understanding. "Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things" (Phillipians 4:8). It is awarded to Kelvin Hamming.

4. The Halarda Farms Bursary is awarded to any stu-

dent going into trades or university who has had to overcome challenges but who showed a lot of heart, determination, and courage in achieving goals. In short, "God gave you talents as gifts, praise God by using your gifts well." It is awarded to Brooklyn Kamminga.

5. The Walinga Inc. Trades and Technology Bursary, is awarded to a student pursuing a trades-based education. It is awarded to Devon VanderWoude.

6. Bud McKnight Seeds Bursary is awarded to a student pursuing post-secondary studies in the field of agriculture. It is awarded to Todd Bouwers.

7. The Carman Community Chamber of Commerce Bursary is awarded to a student going into a business related field. It is awarded to Todd Bouwers.

8. The Carman Granite and Marble Works Bursary is awarded to a student going into a business related field. It is awarded to Jamin VanderZwaag.

9. The Newman-Hand Insurance Bursary is awarded to a student entering a post-secondary program in mathematics or business who, during his or her time at school, performed at a high level academically, while contributing strongly to the extra-curricular programs of the school. It is awarded to Nathan Voogt and Kameron Toews.

10. The Field 2 Field Agronomy Bursary is awarded to

a student planning to pursue studies in agriculture or sciences. It is awarded to Danielle Smith.

11. The Janzen Chevrolet Bursary is awarded to a student, as chosen by the staff, who exemplifies responsibility and strength of character. It is awarded to Gianna Bergsma.

12. The LCL Construction Award is presented to a DCS graduate who plans to enter a trade-related career based on the following criteria: academic achievement, participation in extracurricular activities, and community involvement. It is awarded to Devon VanderWoude and Nathan deRuiter.

13. The Ed's Tire Bursary is awarded to a student pursuing a career in the trades. It is awarded to Devon VanderWoude.

14. The MMJS Law Bursary is awarded to a graduate entering university studies in a field related to mathematics. It is awarded to Nathan Voogt.

15. The Nakonechny & Power CPA Bursary is awarded to a student pursuing post-secondary studies in the field of accounting or business. It is awarded to Todd Bouwers.

16. The Roseisle Friendship Club is presenting an award to a student from the district. It is awarded to Kelvin Hamming.

17. The Vanderveen Commodity Service Bursary is

awarded to a student pursuing post-secondary education in agriculture. It is awarded to Todd Bouwers.

18. The Rev. Scholten Bursary is a DCS bursary, made available by generous community donations, awarded to students pursuing post-secondary studies in the pursuit of telling "the coming generation the glorious deeds of the Lord, and his might, and the wonders that he has done" (Psalm 78:4). It is awarded to Joshua Blok.

19. The Chown Centennial University of Manitoba Scholarship goes to the best 'all-around' graduate with an average over 85%, who is planning to attend the U of M. It is awarded to Danielle Smith.

20. The Portage-Lisgar Conservative EDA Bursary is awarded, on behalf of Candice Bergen, to the graduate that most clearly demonstrates 'leadership through quiet confidence and character.' It is awarded to Joshua Blok.

21. The Dufferin Historical Museum Bursary is awarded to a student who excelled in the study of history throughout his / her senior years. It is awarded to Joshua Blok.

22. The prestigious Governor General's Bronze Medal is awarded to the graduate with the highest academic average for Grade 11 and 12 courses. It is awarded to Danielle Smith.



COMMUNITY NEWS



Local watershed districts receive project funding

\$800K to Pembina Valley Watershed District, \$350K to Redboine

By Sydney Lockhart

The Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation is awarding \$5.5 million in grants to watershed districts across the province.

“Every year my organization is able to provide grants for environmental projects from the revenues that come out of those endowment funds,” said Tim Sopuck, CEO of the Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation (MHHC).

The money that MHHC has to award as grants comes from endowment funds that the provincial government has set up the last three years.

The Conservation Trust, the GROW Trust, and the Wetlands GROW Trust create a pool of money every year; the MHHC then gets a portion of this money and donates millions to help

individuals across the province with watershed conservation efforts.

“Wildlife conservation projects are supporting land, water and wildlife projects. These projects are generally done on private land on farmland and the projects themselves have to involve farmers and landowners to a great extent,” said Sopuck.

Since 2018, 119 conservation projects around the province have been completed thanks to the grant money that gives individuals and organization the means to do them.

“It means that groups like watershed conservation districts can step up their programs and work, if you will, on a piece-by-piece basis to fully reassemble natural areas on the landscape that will help us with these big problems,” Sopuck said.

Some of the projects that have been

taken on include perennial cover, protecting riparian areas, protecting wetlands by developing run-off storage.

“Some of the watershed groups have told me they’ve doubled and tripled their programs on the ground, as a result of the establishment of these trusts,” said Sopuck.

Locally, the Pembina Valley Watershed District received \$800,000 for its 2021 Pembina Plum Initiative.

District representatives could not be reached for comment at press time, but the project summary explains it will create 1,533 acft of water retention storage, protect or restore/enhance over 1,000 acres of wetlands, build a dozen water retention structures, exclude 1,800 cattle, install 15 kilometres of riparian fencing, protect 228 acres of the

riparian zone, install six erosion control projects, convert 120 flood-prone cultivated acres to permanent cover, plant 3,936 trees, and improve soil health on 840 acres.

The Redboine Watershed District, meanwhile, received \$350,000 in support of its Watershed Management in Action plans.

The district intends to partner with local landowners and municipalities to expand their GROW program to increase resiliency to a changing climate and help increase water quality in the watersheds.

The program, they explain, will implement beneficial management projects that will store an estimated 130 acre-feet of surface water, protect, enhance, and restore over 1000 acres of wetland, riparian and upland areas, and plant over 10,000 trees.

“IT MEANS THAT GROUPS ... CAN STEP UP THEIR PROGRAMS AND WORK.”



4-H grand champ

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Owen Friesen and his Charloais Cross Steer was named the 2021 Grand Champion for the Winkler 4-H Beef Club last weekend. Friesen has been in 4-H for four years and this is the second time that he and his steer have earned this title. Friesen’s steer weighed in at 1,510 lbs and gained an average of 3.5 lbs a day fed by North Country Feeds. The club’s annual beef auction featuring 14 steers raised by local youth was hosted online last Saturday by Bill Klassen Auctions. The club sends its thanks out to Klassen and to Centennial Supply in Winkler for purchasing the beef.



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Winnipeg is your urban oasis this July

Clockwise from left: Assiniboine Park's English Gardens (Mike Peters); Oodena Celebration Circle at The Forks (John Slipec); Explore The Forks (William Au)

Temperatures and vaccination rates continue to rise, while Winnipeg's outdoor attractions are back and better than ever.

Now's the time to rediscover the city's lush new attractions—where hidden gems will be music to your ears and hotels will have you sitting poolside within the city's glittering skyline. Here are some options for a full day of exploring this month.

Great gardens, goats, mini donkeys and massive dinos

Assiniboine Park and Zoo is a peach of a place to spend a morning, providing a little something for everyone. The English Garden

and Leo Mol Sculpture Garden provide a brilliant bouquet for the senses, from the smell of fresh flowers to visions of Mol's wondrous bronze works, which depict everything from local ambassadors to scenes from Greek Mythology.

The Gardens at The Leaf are new for summer 2021 and open July 9. This near 30-acre horticultural exhibit surrounds the impressive, 90,000 sq. ft. conical Leaf building, which is currently under construction. The outdoor gardens consist of The Indigenous Peoples Garden, the Kitchen Garden, Sensory Garden, Performance Garden, Seasonal Garden and the Grove, providing a bountiful showcase of plant species, all interconnected by charming pathways.

Assiniboine Park Zoo also offers plenty of new things from the cute and whimsical to the fierce and ferocious.

On the cute side of things, there's Aunt Sally's Farm. This new exhibit is such good fun with inhabitants that include goats that traverse right over your head via rainbow-coloured bridges. Pot-bellied pigs, mini donkeys and llamas that frolic to and fro, guaranteed to bring a smile to your face.

For something more ferocious, Dinosaurs Uncovered has returned, with 17 life-sized animatronic dinos lurking in the Zoo's forested trails. This time around, Dinosaurs Uncovered also includes museum-quality fossils and interactive archeological fun.

Plus, while you're at the zoo you might even encounter some stars—and we're not just talking about the polar bears that swim right overhead in the Sea Ice Passage. Several of the zoo's caretakers and research scientists were recently featured in CBC Television's *Arctic Vets*, which you can still stream.

Find it at The Forks

For the afternoon, adventure awaits at The Forks, where the Red and Assiniboine rivers meet and inspirational new works are ready to welcome visitors.

In the past few years The Forks has become, to quote national award-winning columnist Niigaan Sinclair, "One of the largest collections of Indigenous-led public expressions in any historical site in Canada." Sinclair is the Indigenous Curator at The Forks and the host of *The Forks: A self-guided audio tour*, which reveals some of its 6,000-year history and public works of art. This includes the massive Niimaamaa ("my mother")—a huge sculpture by KC Adams, Jaimie Isaac and Val Vint that is a must-see on the south-east side of The Forks. You'll also find signage throughout the area in Cree, Ojibway and Michif.

The Forks Market is open for shoppers and culinary enthusiasts. It's the place to be for locally made fashions, products and gifts. End your day by sipping wine or craft beers under a spacious, tree-covered patio, while sampling food from kiosks run by some of the city's best chefs.



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Leanne Zacharias releases 'Music for Spaces' album

By Lorne Stelmach

Leanne Zacharias has never been one to be confined by musical and artistic boundaries, and that continues to be the case for the Morden native.

The dynamic cellist, educator, and interdisciplinary artist has become known for innovative collaborations with artists of all stripes and across genres and geographies, and it is on display with her latest project.

For more than 15 years, Zacharias has undertaken a performance project called Music For Spaces, where she explores unique environments and architecture with sound. That spirit extends to the CD of the same name where she captures five solo cello works recorded at temporary recording sites.

Zacharias and engineer Paul Aucoin, as friends and collaborators, hiked, boated, and drove miles of dirt road to access four off-grid acoustic structures—a log cabin, a strawbale observatory, and two historic churches—in rural Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Ontario.

"I knew early on I was going to go off in a different direction. I was pretty sure, even in my early days as a university student, that a straight ahead traditional career as a classical musician wasn't for me," Zacharias said in a phone interview last week from Brandon, where she is an associate professor at the Brandon University School of Music.

"I respect immensely what orchestral musicians do, and it's very difficult to even land an orchestra job ... but I knew that wasn't exactly the right fit for me," she said. "As soon as I started my undergraduate degree, I started going to a lot of shows of all sorts of music ... I was just really intrigued by other music beyond clas-

sical, other music traditions, other sounds, other ways of playing."

Music For Spaces presents five distinctive modern works that Zacharias has championed over the years in encounters with sonic depictions of light, northern star charts, plucked grooves and an array of timbres and technical complexity, all intermingled with bird song, crickets and squirrel chatter.

And the video for the single "Shadow Play" features contemporary dancers who work with the cello piece to deliver a truly collaborative effort filmed at the Fredericton Playhouse in partnership with Theatre New Brunswick.

"Those collaborative atmospheres are really thrilling to me," Zacharias said. "It was sort of an organic evolution to working with other arts disciplines as well ... it was just natural for me to do that ... it just happened naturally."

"I was very interested in that early on," she continued. "If a musician is open to sounds that they may not be used to and open to creative processes that may be different than they're used to, it can be the most natural thing for musicians to move outside their realm and work with other creators."

Zacharias grew up with a lot of music in the family home; both she and her sister took music lessons. She recognizes how Morden is such a strong musical community.

"Sometimes, there were teachers who were brought out, who were recruited to come out once a week ... but for more of the time, we were driving into Winnipeg for our lessons," she recalled.

"Music was integral to our church experience. We were part of a house church where we did a lot of singing ... so it is a big part of the community,"



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Cellist Leanne Zacharias and her collaborator Paul Aucoin travelled across Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Ontario to record acoustic tracks in unlikely places for her new album, Music for Spaces.

she said. "The string community in the Pembina Valley has really grown by leaps and bounds since we lived there. There was just a handful of us, our family and a few other families who were interested in string playing and took lessons."

Zacharias' work has been featured as part of numerous festivals, events, and recordings with a range of artists and she has performed across North America.

Even with such varied experience and opportunities, Zacharias especially relished some of her recording that was done at locations here close to home, including St. Mary St. Alban Anglican Church near Kaleida and St. Luke's Anglican Church near Pembina Crossing.

"I've sung in those churches in the past when I was young, and they're

such special buildings, ensconced in the prairie landscape," she observed.

"Because of their size, their intimate size, they have great acoustics and particularly for the cello," she noted. "The cello doesn't need a massive hall to sound great. I knew it was a great match."

She sees much more of this kind of musical exploration in her future and especially in terms of finding interesting locations in which to perform and record.

"The place in which a performance takes place has a lot to do with how the audience takes in that experience," she said. "This is my primary practice now. It's the thing I love to do the most, and I'm always keeping my eyes and ears open for unique spaces that could lend themselves well to a good performance."

Morden Achievers 4-H Club year in review

Submitted by Emily Chawrun, Morden Achievers 4-H Club secretary

The Morden Achievers 4-H Club began our year in October 2020 with intentions to do lots of interesting projects and activities.

We held our only club meeting of the year in October. We had 11 members, and elected our executive as follows: Jeri-Lynn DeJaegher, president;

Camryn Evert, vice-president; Emily Chawrun, secretary; Khyler Sherington-Voth, treasurer.

We held our club public speaking event virtually on Zoom in February. Our members participated with speeches and visual presentations, with the following results: Emily Chawrun, 1st in Cloverbud 1-Person Visual Presentations; Leah Wolfe, 1st in Junior 1-Person Visual Presentations; Khyler Sherrington-Voth, 2nd

in Junior 1-Person Visual Presentations; Camryn Evert, 1st in Intermediate 1-Person Visual Presentations; Jeri-Lynn DeJaegher, 1st in Intermediate Speeches.

The first place members were invited to participate in the Red River Area 4-H Public Speaking event which was held on Zoom in March. Emily Chawrun placed 2nd with her Cloverbud 1-Person Visual Presentation at the Red River event.

Since we were unable to meet in person for much of the year, we tried a new project called "Explore Gardening." Our club members participated on Zoom and grew plants in their own homes in April and May. Some of the plants were able to be transplanted outdoors and are still thriving through the summer!

Our regular in-person Achievement Night had to be cancelled this year, so

Continued on page 20

sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

Winkler Aquatic Centre celebrating 25 years

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler Aquatic Centre opened for the season last week Friday, marking 25 years since it opened its doors for the first time in 1996.

A quarter-century of splashes is nothing to sneeze at, and the WAC staff certainly intend to celebrate.

"We are trying to celebrate the pool as much as we can within the regulations we are given," says aquatic programmer Lani Ens. "It can be a challenge, but we're doing our best."

In recent weeks, WAC has put a call out for people to send in their memories and photos of the pool for a chance to win a commemorative towel and sunglasses. The winner will be selected on Monday, July 12. Head to the Winkler Aquatic Centre's social media pages for details or send your entry via email to aquatics@cityofwinkler.ca.

"We also hope to do some celebrations throughout the summer with whatever we can do," Ens said, explaining the public health orders currently limit the number of people that can be in the pool to 100 (way down

from 500+ in normal years).

As a result, WAC is offering public swim slots of an hour and 45 minutes each. You can register for a slot in advance online at www.cityofwinkler.ca or by calling 204-325-8212 or stopping by the pool's front desk.

Capacity limits and pre-booking are also required for swimming lessons, Aquafit, lane swim, and early bird swim. Details are available on the website.

"We're super excited to be open and we can't wait to see everyone back," said Ens.

This is Ens' fifth summer on staff at the pool, having worked her way up from lifeguard to head honcho.

Her childhood summers were also spent at the pool.

"From as early as I can remember, I was here. This was my place every summer. I got to know the lifeguards really well. I did the swim team here. I was a pool rat.

"It's been crazy to watch the pool change over time," Ens reflected. "With the new upgrades and stuff we've had, it's just crazy now to look back at what it used to be."

Jordan Driedger, Winkler's direc-

"WE'RE SUPER EXCITED TO BE OPEN AND WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE EVERYONE BACK."



PHOTOS BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Winkler Aquatic Centre programmer Lani Ens at the pool last Friday for its first day of operations. While COVID restrictions limit how many patrons can enjoy the pool at one time this summer, they're still hoping to do a few special events to mark the facility's 25th anniversary.

tor of community services, also has plenty of fond childhood memories of the WAC, including its first summer of operation.

"My very first memory of this pool was the black asphalt of the new park-

ing lot and how hot it was as you ran across it," he says.

"I came here a lot as a kid, though my brother was more of a pool rat than I

Continued on page 19

MB Junior Baseball League hits the diamond this week

By Voice staff

Baseball is finally back.

The Manitoba Junior Baseball League's season officially gets underway Wednesday with three games on its schedule.

One of those games features the Pembina Valley Orioles hosting the Altona Bisons for a 7 p.m. game in Morden.

But the current provincial health guidelines still present a long list of challenges to sport organizers and coaches in Manitoba.

The current rules, which came into effect June 26, allow for outdoor organized sports and recreation activities for groups up to 25 people.

That poses a problem for older-aged teams, specifically the MJBL, which voted on expanding its rosters to 20

players for this season.

The MJBL has been discussing the scenario of having home teams with 13 players each game and the visiting clubs only 12.

The group of 25 doesn't include coaches or officials and a maximum of 25 spectators are also allowed if they can be physically distanced by at least two metres.

The MJBL schedule has been reduced to 18 games this season. The St. Boniface Legionaires were not able to field a team this year so the league is down to seven teams this year.

At press time, the playoff format had not been announced.

The Orioles will head to Elmwood to face the Giants this Sunday and then host the St. James A's next week Wednesday, July 14.

The speed slides are out of commission this summer. The plan is to have new ones in for the 2022 season.



New splash pad open in Winkler

By Ashleigh Viveiros

While the Winkler Aquatic Centre's splash pad has long been a popular space to cool off, the fact that it's located behind the pool's fence has been a point of contention for many.

Community members have for years called for a more easily accessible, standalone splash park.

That wish has finally been granted.

The Northpoint splash pad at the corner of Northpoint Trail and Platinum Road (the development northwest of the Hwy. 14 and 15th St. intersection) turned the water on for the first time July 1.

"It's a great community feature," said Jordan Driedger, Winkler's direc-

tor of community services. "It's free, it's easily accessible, and it's a great park, too."

The park was made possible thanks to a partnership with Triple E, Driedger noted.

With the region experiencing drought conditions this summer, necessitating various levels of conservation efforts for residents and municipalities alike, for now Winkler's two splash pads will operate on alternate days.

The pool pad will be open Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays (pool admission fees apply) while the Northpoint pad is open Tuesday, Thursdays, Saturdays, and Sundays from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

The Northpoint splash pad has opened in Winkler's northwest housing development.

2021 Baseball Manitoba provincial championships cancelled

By Voice staff

Baseball Manitoba has made the decision to cancel all provincial championships in 2021.

The announcement was made on

Baseball Manitoba's website on June 29.

"The decision was made with the safety and development of our members as the top priority," read a statement. "Provincial championships

create environments with large gatherings with people from across the province. Also, by cancelling provincial championships, we believe that there is more opportunity for a longer season for more players, as they compete late into summer within their re-

gions.

"Baseball Manitoba would like to thank our 2021 championship host groups for all the work they have done this year. We will be working with each host, as we plan our 2022 provincial championships."

Justin Falk steps into GM role for Winkler Flyers

By Voice staff

Former pro hockey player Justin Falk is stepping into the general manager role for the Winkler Flyers.

Falk, who came on board with the junior team as assistant coach and assistant GM this spring, steps into the shoes left behind by departing GM Jeff Jeanson.

"We are very excited to announce Justin as our general manager," Winkler Flyers president Caleb Suderman said in announcing the change. "Justin has already done great work this off season to build off the work already done by his predecessors, and we look forward to a bright future with him at the helm."



Flyers GM Justin Falk

Falk brings a wealth of hockey experience to the role, including an 11-year professional hockey career that saw him play 279 NHL games and win the Calder Cup in the American Hockey League. Prior to that, he won the Memorial Cup with the Spokane Chiefs in the WHL.

Falk is currently working on earning his high-performance coaching certification.

He could not be reached for comment as of press time.

> AQUATIC CENTRE, FROM PG. 18

was," Driedger recalls. "It's just cool to see through the generations how everyone's enjoyed this place."

The facility has held up pretty well over the years.

"Every few years you're redoing the paint or you're touching up the floor; we got new lockers a few years ago in some area," Driedger says. "The biggest upgrade was the new liner in 2017."

The liner project also saw the addition of a climbing wall and canteen and an expansion to the kiddie pool, all meant to future-proof the pool for a few more decades.

This year they'll be upgrading the speed slides, which have finally reached the end of their life cycle and are off-limits for the summer.

"With a 25-year-old facility, things start to wear out," says Driedger, explaining they're currently in the

tender process for the replacement project. "We hope that by spring of next year the speed slides will be ready to go again for the 2022 season."

They're also keeping a close eye on the large slide, which is in good shape for its age.

"We've taken good care of it," Driedger says. "Our maintenance guys are refurbishing it every year, trying to prolong its lifespan as much as we can, but we do know there's going to come a point where that slide will need to be replaced too."

Even with capacity limits, Driedger expects it to be a solid season at the pool.

"It's just great to see—even in a COVID year, you come here and everyone's still having fun. It's a little bit of a taste of normal again."



Darlingford remembers fallen heroes

The 2021 Darlingford Memorial Service went virtual last Saturday, with pre-recorded speeches and flower-laying in memory of the local men who died in the First and Second World Wars. The full service can be viewed online at pembina.ca under the "News and Notices" tab. This summer marks the Darlingford Memorial Park's 100th anniversary.

SCREENSHOT

> 4-H YEAR IN REVIEW, FROM PG. 17

instead we did a drive-by event at the end of June. Members received their project certificates and medals. Congratulations to all of our members on making it through this very different year!

We want to acknowledge our dedicated leaders who received certificates or seals this year including: Norma Wood, 39 years; Ruth Morgan, nine years; and Janelle Chawrun, five years.

We sure miss the things we are usually able to do like the 4-H Rally, selling corn and cider at the Morden Corn & Apple Festival, and participating in the FCC Food Drive, Morden Remembrance Day service, and

Highway Clean-Up. Hopefully next year will be one where we can return to some of these activities.

We hope to be ready to have registrations for next year near the end of September.

get inspired

> MEAL IDEAS



Blackened Salmon Sliders with Pickled Beet Relish

Drain beets well. In medium bowl, combine diced beets, scallions and radishes. Set aside.

In small bowl, combine yogurt, feta, parsley and oregano. Stir in 1/4 teaspoon kosher salt and black pepper. Set aside.

Cut salmon into 12 roughly 2 1/2-inch squares, about 1/2-inch thick. Slice thick parts of fillets in half to make thinner, if needed.

Sprinkle fillets with salt, to taste, on both sides. Sprinkle evenly with blackened seasoning until well coated.

Heat nonstick skillet or cast-iron pan over medium heat and add oil. Add salmon, in batches if needed, and cook, turning once, until salmon is crisped and almost cooked through, about 1 1/2 minutes per side. Remove and let rest.

Spread each slider bun with about 1 tablespoon yogurt sauce. Layer arugula, salmon and beet relish on each slider and serve.

Recipe courtesy of tarateaspoon.com
 Prep time: 40 minutes
 Yield: 12 sliders (2 per serving)
 4 single-serve cups Aunt Nellie's Diced Pickled Beets
 1 finely chopped scallion (about 2 tablespoons)
 1/2 cup shredded radishes
 1 cup plain Greek yogurt
 1/2 cup finely crumbled feta cheese
 2 tablespoons chopped flat-leaf parsley
 2 teaspoons chopped oregano
 1/4 teaspoon kosher salt, plus additional, to taste, divided
 1 pinch ground black pepper
 2 pounds salmon fillets, skinless
 3 tablespoons blackened seasoning
 2 tablespoons olive oil
 12 slider buns
 1 cup baby arugula

3-Ingredient Strawberry Ice Cream

Servings: 4-6
 1 pound fresh strawberries, stems removed
 1 pint heavy whipping cream
 1 can (14 ounces) sweetened condensed milk

In blender, puree strawberries.
 In bowl of stand mixer, beat whipping cream and sweetened condensed milk until stiff peaks form. Fold in strawberry puree. Pour into loaf pan. Freeze 5 hours.
 Before serving, let ice cream soften 5-10 minutes.

Expert Patient Here to Help!

By Susie Schwartz

Which is worse? Brain tumour removal surgery or a pandemic?

Having experienced both, I could spin forever in circles but can land only on this:

Try to find the good in the bad. (Note: Not instead of.)

What I'm saying is, by no means should we stuff down or ignore the hard bits of life. In fact, in my opinion, that makes things worse. 'Ignorance is bliss' is only true when truly ignorant. When our body, spirit, or mind knows something, it knows.

But.

While we are feeling frustrated, impatient, sad, grief, in physical pain – all or any of it – there will also be a plus side. Actually...I take that back. Life is not about balancing positive and negatives. It just is. Circumstance and thoughts and emotions in constant flux.

Here's a couple of personal examples: While lying in my hospital bed after my brain surgery, I felt weirdly thankful for my catheter, removing the need for movement (Plus, no more brain tumour!); While at the bedside of my uncle as he died from Diabetes complications, my heart broke, my mind flashed to my possible future (also having type 1 diabetes) fear choked as I cried, and I also felt honoured that he waited for me to be there with him for his journey 'home.' We

also laughed as my aunt carried his fake leg down the hospital corridor - the most bizarre leaving present he could give her. By the time we left the elevator, we had designed it as a feature plant stand for their living room. Since I was almost delirious from 24 hours of travel on my own, knowing Uncle Ivan would approve of the dark humour freed me up of guilt over the jokes. (I maaay have instigated them.); As a 'vulnerable person' in this never-ending pandemic, the need to isolate hard-core style has triggered a felt loss of freedom, fear, given me time to observe the divide of the human spirit with such strong opposing views on the subject- causing me a deep sadness (And joy at watching so many people step up to help the weak, elderly and vulnerable). I have also: taken an online course, made more music, moved more outdoors, bought less shoes (although lately...) and got a puppy.

So yeah, life is all of it. I'm taking this as a reminder to myself to recognize and feel it all.

Less health stress, yes?

A published author and motivational speaker, Susie currently lives in the UK. She welcomes feedback and questions. Find her on FB @ [medicalmissstress](https://www.facebook.com/medicalmissstress), Instagram @ [susie.suschwa](https://www.instagram.com/susie.suschwa) and her website lesshealthstress.com

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FOR SALE - 2012 Keystone Outback Travel Trailer. 31.75 feet. Asking \$26,000. Call 1-204-937-8821 or 1-204-937-7055. Located in Roblin, MB.

SENIOR RENTALS

Garden Park Estates in Winkler has 1-2 bdrm suite and one 1-bdrm with a den available.

Everything is on one level, indoor heated parking is available, common rooms for socializing and gatherings (when safe), lunches are available 5 days per week, hairdresser salon is in the building. Suites are spacious with open concept, walk-in pantry, utility room is ready for you to bring your own washer and dryer, fridge, stove and dishwasher are provided. All suites have an outside entrance and are connected inside through common hallways. All suites have a patio and a small flower bed. Rent includes maintenance, snow removal, yard care, and all utilities. **Call or email Cindy at 204-362-7151 or cindyek@mts.net.**

MISCELLANEOUS

30056 Hillside Road, daily 10-7. Bow Flex/treadmill, lawn tractor, push mower, golf clubs (many), golf cart, antique wood stove and sewing machine, utility trailers and more. 204-228-2731.

NOTICES

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

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Email your resume and Tabor Home application to info@taborhome.ca Or Mail to:

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Attention: Director of Resident Care
450 Loren Drive, Morden, MB R6M 0E2

FARMLAND TENDER

FARMLAND FOR SALE BY TENDER MUNICIPALITY of RHINELAND

| Title # | Legal Description | Total Acres |
|-----------|---|-------------|
| 2326730/4 | The SE ¼ of Section 16-3-2 WPM Exc the Sly 1320 feet perp. | 80 |

When submitting an offer, please note:

1. The highest, or any, offer will not necessarily be accepted.
2. The date of closing and possession may be selected by the purchaser, provided it be after the 2021 crop has been removed.
3. The date of adjustments will be January 1, 2022.
4. You must provide a certified check or bank draft in the amount of \$10,000.00 payable to Cole & Mace Law Office. The cheques accompanying unsuccessful tenders will be returned.
5. You must rely on your own research of the property.
6. Tenders are binding upon acceptance and not subject to any conditions precedent.
7. Tenders may only be submitted in the form provided by Cole & Mace Law Office; a form of tender may be requested from Cole & Mace Law Office in person at the address below, or by emailing: adam@colemacelaw.com.
8. The Vendor will be responsible for the taxes on the property up to the date of adjustments.
9. The Purchaser will be required to pay GST unless the Purchaser is registered for GST and agrees to self-assess.
10. Title to the land will be transferred free and clear of all encumbrances and liens, excepting Caveat No. 1119404/4.
11. The Vendor will also give consideration to tenders which include an offer to lease the Sly 1320 feet perp of the SE ¼ of Section 16-3-2 WPM (80 acres).

Signed and sealed Tenders will be received up to 4:00 p.m. on July 20, 2021 at:

Cole & Mace Law Office

26 Centre Ave. East, Box 2039, Altona, Manitoba, R0G 0B0
Attn: Adam Mace

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LAND FOR SALE BY TENDER

Land for Sale by Tender

Completed Tenders and a \$10,000.00 per parcel deposit of the Tender Price are invited to be received up to 12:00 PM (noon) on July 28, 2021 (the "deadline") on the property described below, which Tenders and Deposits shall be received at:

PKF Lawyers,

326 Stephen St., Morden, MB R6M 1T5 (Morden Office) OR
71 Main St S, Carman, Box 1240, MB R0G 0J0 (Carman Office)

Attn: Stéphane Warnock or Karen Montgomery

Ph: 204-745-2028

Property for sale:

1. NE 1/4 6-4-8 WPM 160 acres (155 cultivated) including all buildings (excepting one temporary bin) CT #1555929/4

(the "Land")

Rural Municipality of Pembina

Conditions of Tender

1. Financing must be pre-approved
2. Tenders to be in the form prepared by PKF Lawyers. To obtain tender form or more info, contact Stéphane Warnock or Karen Montgomery @ PKF Lawyers or 204-745-2028.
3. Each Tender must be accompanied by a certified cheque, payable to PKF Lawyers (in trust), in the amount of \$10,000.00. Deposits of tenders not accepted will be returned to the tenderers.
4. Highest Tender or any Tender will not necessarily be accepted.
5. Vacant Possession date and the due date of the balance of Tender Price shall be November 1, 2021.
6. The maker of any Tender relies entirely upon his/her personal inspection and knowledge of the Land, independent of the representations made by the vendor or the solicitor and agent of the vendor. The Land will be sold "as is" and the bidder is solely responsible to determine the value and quality of the Land.

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The Winkler Morden Voice

AUCTION



26x36 house to be moved. Entrance, laminate flooring, electric furnace, 2001 PVC windows, oak cabinets. House must be removed by Sept. 30/21 located 3 mile south of Graysville. Owners, Chris and Ben Larsen 204-745-3261, or 204-745-8298. This house sells at Winding Trail Farm auction, Timed online July 12, 5 pm. Register at billklassen.com House sells to the highest bidder, if house sells for less than \$5000, buyer will need to put up another \$5000 caution fee, which will be refunded after house is removed from Property.

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AUCTION



FARM RETIREMENT AUCTION FOR MARK TREICHEL 204 373 2741
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Large farm equipment auction, 2009 Versatile 535 tractor, 2394 hrs, IHC 5288 MFWD, IHC 674 Diesel, 2010 New Holland CR9070 COMBINE, loaded, 2227 engine hrs, Zero Hrs on preharvest green light, Sunflower 50 ft air seeder model 9850, good tillage, trucks, and large collection of stationary engines check the Treichel farm auction at billklassen.com please read the blue box on the auction webpage for more details Bill Klassen auctioneers 204 325 6230

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ANNIVERSARY



Happy 60th Anniversary
Don and Shirley Pantel
Who were married on July 8, 1961
-Love your family

OBITUARY

Margaret Giesbrecht (nee Letkeman) 1941 – 2021



On Monday, June 28, 2021, Margaret Giesbrecht, beloved mom, grandma, great-grandma and watermelon lady moved on to her perfect home in Heaven.

Mom was raised in Gnadenthal alongside four sisters. She often spoke of how blessed she was to have grown up in such a loving home. She was a joyful, loving and funny person. She had a caring spot in her heart for everyone that she met or got to know throughout her life and because of that, everyone had great respect for her.

In 1957, Mom and Dad met, were baptized a few years later and married on November 27, 1960. Mom was a hard worker. She spent nine years at the Sewing Factory and then in 1974, she became known in the community as "the lady that sells watermelon" when she and Dad shared over 60 wonderful years together. When in their presence, you would be sure to hear them playfully bickering back and forth, out of love and to get a funny rise out of each other. You could always tell that Mom was so happy just to be around her family, husband and friends.

Mom leaves to mourn her passing her loving husband, Lawrence; two sons, Al (Lisa) Giesbrecht, Scott (Tina) Giesbrecht; seven grandchildren, Jesse (Korah), Nikki (Pele), Andy (Heidi), Gina (Dawson), Rhett, Lane and Kale; one great grandson, Bentley and one sister, Mary (Ed). She was predeceased by her parents and three sisters.

A private graveside service was held at Westridge Memorial Gardens.

The family would like to thank Boundary Trails Health Centre palliative care staff for providing excellent care to mom during her weeks there. Also special thanks to family and friends for their many prayers during this time.

If friends so desire, donations may be made in Margaret's memory to the Boundary Trails Health Centre Foundation designated to palliative care.

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V6 ENGINE STK W9867B
3.6 ENGINE, AUTO, LEATHER INTERIOR,
FACTORY NAVIGATION, WAS \$17,997
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2019 CHEV/SPARK LT HATCH



1.4 ENGINE, AUTO, FRONT BUCKET SEATS, A/C,
TILT, CRUISE, REAR VISION CAMERA, 31,000 KM'S, WAS \$15,993
BALANCE OF FACTORY WARRANTY, **July Credit <2,000>**
SALE ENDS JULY 31 **Sale Price \$13,993 + TAX**

2012 CHEV MALIBU LT SEDAN



2.2 ENGINE, AUTO, FRONT BUCKET
SEATS, A/C, TILT, CRUISE, WAS \$10,992
117,000 KM'S, LOCAL TRADE, **July Credit <2,000>**
SALE ENDS JULY 31 **Sale Price \$8,992 + TAX**

2015 CHEV/EQUINOX LS



2.4 ENGINE, AUTO, FRONT BUCKET
SEATS, A/C, TILT, CRUISE, WAS \$14,983
108,000 KM'S, LOCAL TRADE, **July Credit <2,000>**
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