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Voice

THURSDAY,
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Lighting up the stage

PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

The Douglas Kuhl School of Music took over Winkler's outdoor stage last week for a five-day musical theatre camp that culminated with performances of Songs in a New World on Friday. For more photos, check out Pg. 14.

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It's full speed ahead on Salem renos



Twenty rooms on Salem Home's Cottonwood unit are undergoing a metamorphosis from the cramped and retro stylings of before (right) to a much brighter, more modern layout (left). Work is expected to be completed by year's end.

SUPPLIED PHOTOS



By Ashleigh Viveiros

Renovations continue at Winkler's personal care home, with an eye to getting the first batch of residents into the redesigned rooms by the end of the year.

Since April, Salem Home has been chipping away at its plan to update the original 1972 part of its facility. The

first phase of the project involves 20 rooms in the Cottonwood wing.

"The space looks amazing," says CEO Sherry Janzen, noting the project has moved ahead pretty smoothly overall. What glitches there were with, for example, installing a new air handling unit in the aging building won't be a problem now as they move on to future phases of the renovations.

"We've got that all ironed out now and everything's on its way forward."

Over the last few months, workers have pulled apart rooms and hallways to get rid of asbestos in the walls, installed new air and fire suppression systems, and rewired the electrical system to bring it up to code and expand capacity.

The rooms themselves have also

been reworked to better accommodate larger wheelchairs and new H-track lifts.

"The residents' chairs are getting much bigger," Janzen points out. "It's harder to turn around and have more floor space because, in the old rooms, the wall and the closet were taking up so much space. So now we've configured the closet in a different place ...

this way there's more floor space for the resident."

The washrooms are also getting a major facelift—gone are the retro orange and yellow countertops and aging plumbing and fixtures. In their place will be a much more modern look.

"Those rooms looked so tired. Hardly anybody wanted to move into those rooms and I don't blame them," Janzen says, hailing the makeover as a much-needed upgrade for the space. "It's bright, it's cheerful. It looks like a brand new building."

Once these first 20 rooms are done, Salem will tackle the renovation of 20 more rooms in phase two.

The total cost of the project to Salem is about \$1.5 million. Support from the Salem Foundation, the care home's fundraising arm, is making the project possible by way of donations from

Continued on page 5



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Sixty years, 200 blood donations, hundreds of lives saved

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Winklerite Jim Thiessen rolled up his sleeve to give blood for the 200th time last week.

The 78-year-old has had a regular appointment to donate for 60 years now, stretching back to his very first time at age 18.

"My mom suggested it was a good

idea to go give blood and so I started," Thiessen recalls. "And then it was O-negative [the universal type] and so they wanted as much of that as they could get ... so I just kept going and stayed healthy enough to do it."

Thiessen's donations will have helped hundreds of patients in need of blood over the years, and it's the knowledge that such a simple act can

have a wide-reaching impact that keeps him coming back again and again.

"It's just, well, you're

helping people," he says. "They say every blood donation you can save up to four lives. Why wouldn't you do it?"

When interviewed a few years ago for his 188th donation, Thiessen had indicated he would be considering retiring when he hit 200.

That's no longer the case.

"They've already booked me for October again, so I don't know," he says, laughing. "I guess I will [retire] soon, but who knows."

Whenever the day does come that he calls it quits, he hopes the next generation will step up.

"Start giving blood," he urges anyone who hasn't. "There's really nothing to it. Some people are so afraid of it, but why? A mosquito bite bothers

me a lot more than this."

It's also only about a half-hour commitment every few months, Thiessen says, and only a few minutes of that is the actual blood donation.

"It's no time at all. It's not as difficult as a lot of people make it sound."

Thiessen has done what he can over the years to try and find blood donor converts, and he feels he's had some success.

His own grandson was slated to make his first donation last week.

"It's his first time, and I think he's O-negative too," the proud grandfather says, excited to pass on the torch.

Donors like Thiessen are quite liter-

Continued on page 5



Jim Thiessen has been giving blood since he was 18 years old. Last week he had his 200th appointment at the Winkler blood clinic.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

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Local cyclists tackling Spirit of Hope challenge

By Lorne Stelmach

A passion for both the cause as well as the physical challenge has a group of six local cyclists taking on a special venture at the end of the month.

They will be part of the Spirit of Hope fundraiser in support of Habitat for Humanity Manitoba, and it will see them go on a cycling adventure along the shores of Lake Winnipeg Aug. 23-27.

It will be a moderately challenging five day loop from Winnipeg to the northern tip of Hecla Island, covering 388 kilometres over four cycling days, with one day of rest.

Each participant of what they've dubbed Team Tinker Creek is encouraged to raise at least \$1,000, and the group had been closing in on the \$3,000 mark online as of last week.

This is something new for Debra Fehr, who decided to come on board for the effort with her friends Lynette Froese and Yvonne Stoesz.

"I've been wanting to cycle for a long time, so I thought this would be a good time to start," said Fehr.

She welcomed the physical aspects



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

The members of Team Tinker Creek include Yvonne Stoesz, Mei Stoesz-Gouthro, Brent Gouthro, Ken Froese, Lynette Froese, and Deb Fehr. They're raising funds for Habitat for Humanity, which is preparing to build its second Morden-Winkler home in Morden this year.

of the fundraiser.

"I don't expect to finish it completely, but I will do what I can," she noted.

"I love the idea of supporting social and affordable housing, and Habitat does that all around the world," said

Fehr, who gathered with the group

Continued on page 8

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Corn & Apple hosting pair of online concerts

By Lorne Stelmach

People will still be able to get a bit of their Morden Corn and Apple Festival fix this summer.

Details were announced this week for two virtual concerts that will be shown live online as well as the sale of festival gift baskets that will include corn on the cob and local apple cider.

"We would have loved to host a small, live event like we did last year, but the restrictions the way they were at the deadline for us to decide ... we just weren't able to," said executive director Tim Hodge.

"We were disappointed we couldn't host live events this year, but we are glad we can still provide entertainment," he said. "Looking ahead to next year, we are already gearing up for a massive Corn and Apple Festival in 2022."

The first concert will air on the festival's Facebook page this Saturday, Aug. 21 at 7 p.m. featuring Field Guide, who otherwise is known as Dylan MacDonald.

MacDonald spent his youth on the road with his high school best friends playing to no one and getting good at music. He paid his bills by being a guitar player for hire, all the while learning how to craft songs that land just like journal entries.

Field Guide found an audience with his EP *You Were*, which was a breakthrough success on both streaming and radio.

After abruptly moving to a new city right before the global pandemic, Field Guide holed up in his Toronto



SUPPLIED PHOTOS

The Morden Corn and Apple Festival is hosting a series of free online concerts the next two weekends featuring music from The Dirty Catfish Brass Band (above) and Field Guide (right).

apartment and did nothing but play guitar and write songs for months. In June 2020, he packed up and drove back to the Prairies to record 15 songs with his best friends.

"I think Field Guide is a fun, newer group ... the group is really talented," said Hodge, who described it as pop rock but with a number of influences in play.

The second concert, which will air on the festival's Facebook page next Friday, Aug. 27 at 7 p.m., will feature The Dirty Catfish Brass Band.

Invoking the sounds of brass bands and funk ensembles, this collective dares to re-imagine the streets of a prairie city as one that is hot, alive, and brimming with soul.

Based in Winnipeg, the crew strives to surprise, challenge, tickle, and pay homage to the New Orleans tradition by giving it a new audience in an unsuspecting locale.

"They're not the kind of group we would normally have on our main stage," Hodge said. "It doesn't really fit into our usual niche for entertainment ... but I've thought for years it would even be fun to hire them even just to walk around the festival."

"The Dirty Catfish Brass Band is something a little dif-

ferent for us. They're a group that brings a ton of energy; they're so much fun."

In addition to the music, the festival is also offering gift baskets featuring a dozen cobs of Morden sweet corn, two liters of local apple cider, and a collection of merchandise featuring the festival's new branding.

The baskets are available for pre-sale on the festival's website for \$50, and they will be available for pickup on Saturday, Aug. 28 from noon to 5 p.m. at 379 Stephen Street in Morden.

"In order to keep the corn and cider as fresh as possible, we're having it delivered the same day as the basket pickup—just like we do at the festival each year," said Hodge.

"One of the things we were told that people missed most last year was the delicious Morden sweet corn," he said. "We wanted to be able to provide a taste of our corn this summer, and we've partnered with local Burwalde Juice Company this year to provide apple cider."

"Without being able to host a festival to show it off, we are happy that people will still have a way to bring the new look into their homes," said Hodge. "This is a great way for the public to support us now that it's been two years since we could host a festival. We're hoping the community really embraces the baskets."

More information can be found on the festival website at cornandapple.com and on its Facebook and Instagram pages.

"WE ARE GLAD WE CAN STILL PROVIDE ENTERTAINMENT."

> SALEM RENOS, FROM PG. 2

generous community members.

Janzen estimates they've raised over \$130,000 thus far and she's confident fundraising efforts will bring in what's needed in the months ahead, especially once the community is clear of the challenges raised by both the pandemic and the ongoing drought.

"We're going on faith," she says. "Lots of families have expressed their appreciation for us undertaking this. It is a big project, but any-

> BLOOD DONATION, FROM PG. 3

ally the lifeblood of Canadian Blood Services, says territory manager Steve Raizen.

"That's an amazing commitment to Canada's lifeline," he says. "Milestone donors like Jim, I can't say enough that they just play a vital role in helping ensure that we're able to continue to meet patients' needs."

Regular donors, by simply sharing their ex-

periences in conversations with others, act as advocates for blood services, Raizen adds, helping to "expand the community of our donors by inspiring other Canadians to take action and help save lives."

Blood donor clinics are hosted regularly in Morden-Winkler. Head to www.blood.ca for information about booking an appointment.

Salem is planning a 65th anniversary celebration of some kind for September. Details are expected to be released soon.

In the meantime, you can lend your support to the renovation project by making a donation online at salemhome.ca/salem-foundation or calling 204-325-4316

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get heard

EDITORIAL > VIEWPOINTS > LETTERS

Sacrifice freedom to get freedom

Some people, many in fact, do not like being told what to do.

Of course, there are always outliers but it is safe to say that, in general, people get defensive when being told what to do—especially later in life.

I say later in life because there is quite a huge long list of things we are not allowed to do. We cannot be in a moving vehicle without wearing seatbelts. We cannot drive over the speed limit or with a certain amount of alcohol in our blood or without being licensed to do so. We are legally obliged to pay taxes.



By Peter Cantelon

In Manitoba it is a legal requirement to be vaccinated for measles. Ontario and New Brunswick require immunization for diphtheria, tetanus, polio, measles, mumps, and rubella.

The restrictions on our so-called

freedoms never end. We have always been restricted to one degree or another. There are 613 commandments in the Bible. We are born into a regulated world that restricts us at every turn.

The real problem people have with being told what to do is when it is a new thing that they have not grown up with. There is a brief opportunity that people see to oppose this new restriction in hopes of eliminating it.

Of course, the reality is that rules and restrictions are ironically necessary for a society to enjoy the freedoms it has. Democracy is not a world of unrestrained freedom; it is a world of restrictions protecting a limited set of freedoms. In other words, broad freedom is not free; it requires the sacrifice of specific freedoms, or, as one comedian eloquently said: "Society can only move as fast as its slowest members."

If we did not have rules against drunk driving there would be more dead on our highway and we would not be free to drive without fear. If we did not have rules related to rental housing there would be more people being taken advantage of by unscrupulous individuals.

Still, not all beneficial things are required things. There is no scientific doubt that the polio vaccine helped to eliminate polio as an epidemic in Canada and worldwide. Nevertheless, that vaccine was never a legal requirement initially (although as we can see it is now in Ontario and New Brunswick).

In fact, despite growing supplies and clear evidence of its benefit, only 40 per cent of the Canadian population over the age of 12 had been vaccinated against polio by 1959—four years after the initial introduction of the vaccine developed by Jonas Salk.

I say all of this for a number of reasons. History has shown us that it is unlikely that government will make a COVID vaccine a legal requirement in the short-term. Over time, as more and more people become convinced of its efficacy and are enculturated to the new realities of COVID and a successful vaccine, it may very well become part of the extremely small list of mandatory vaccines.

That being said, it will likely fall into the category of flu shots where people will choose whether or not they want

Continued on page 7

Letters

KEEP LOOKING UP

Over the past many months it has become apparent that many Winkler people have a genuine love for their neighbour.

One can go shopping and see smiles on their faces. One can take their blacksmithing needs to Winkler and receive welcome help, smiling faces, and talk about the previous Sunday's sermon. One can go for ice cream and talk to the family in line in front of them and not put one's ear in their face in order to

hear them.

Winkler, you stood up for freedom and people noticed. Yes, some non-residents were extremely jealous of your outspoken display of love, concern for one's mental health, rights, and freedoms, but I believe your city will gain now and in the future for your willingness to accept people and deal fairly with them.

We have driven the extra 15 miles to Winkler many times in the last 16 months over going north to the big city. I guess putting facts over fear has its benefits.

Keep looking up!

Chester Bartel
Bartel Freight, Morris

CONFUSED BY HESITANCY

I must admit that I am confused over the hesitancy of people, especially those of the Mennonite faith, to get vaccinated.

I was taught that one of the main

Continued on page 7

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

Discussions continue in Redhawk Trail saga

Province stands firm on intersection's closure

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Five months after the City of Winkler asked the minister of infrastructure to reconsider the closure of the Redhawk Trail and Provincial Road 428 intersection, the city has finally received a response.

In a nutshell, the province stands by its insistence that the intersection remain closed due to its proximity to Northland Parkway.

"Redhawk Trail was constructed originally to accommodate the development at the time," Minister Ron Schuler wrote to Mayor Martin Harder in a letter dated July 27 and shared with council at its Aug. 10 meeting.

"Additional development with the new school required the construction of a local street (Northland Parkway)," he continued. "To accommodate this development, Manitoba Infrastructure and the City of Winkler agreed that once Northland Parkway was opened, the need for Redhawk Trail was no longer required and would be removed."

The province closed highway access from Redhawk this February, several months after the intersection at nearby Northland Parkway opened.

The city's planning and engineering department has since attempted to have it reopened, pointing out Redhawk Trail is about the same distance away from Northland Parkway as the

Firefox Trail intersection, which the province has not required to close.

"While we understand and respect your perspective, it is important to keep the mobility of PR 428 at a higher standard than the surrounding residential streets," Schuler said, noting the department's goal is to maintain the safety and efficiency of the provincial highway network. "This includes minimizing access connections to that network and allowing intersections at appropriately spaced locations."

Mayor Harder expressed his frustration at the province's response on this matter, pointing out the varying speed limits on PR 428 in the area in question.

"I see such a double standard here," he said. "[They're] so concerned about the traffic at this intersection, but a half a mile down the road you can go 100 kilometres an hour.

"It's the inconsistency that troubles me ... how do you go from zero intersection at 50 km/hr to multiple intersections at 80 and 100 km/hr?"

City manager Jody Penner noted Winkler's planning and engineering department will continue talks with the province on this matter and he's hopeful headway can be made.

To that end, Minister Schuler noted in the letter that he has directed his staff to communicate with Winkler planning staff "to come to a resolution on this concern."

> CANTELON, FROM PG. 6

to have the enhanced protection or take their chances.

The biggest immediate need for the COVID vaccine is less about the individual and more about a health care system not designed to handle the sustained trauma numbers that COVID has introduced. Without a reduction in COVID numbers the system collapses, people who desperately need health care lose the right to that care, are denied, and at greater risk of long-term injury and death; employees become stressed and quit further stretching a stretched system, etc.

In the absence of a high number of people being vaccinated, other restrictions are put into place such as limiting gatherings and wearing masks. These will go away as vaccines

become regular and widely adopted.

Where we exist right now is the uncomfortable in-between space as we settle in to what will become the new normal.

As with the polio vaccine and many other things, there will always be people on the fringe who choose to not partake regardless of the risks and what science says (or even in spite of what science says). Some will make choices based on a narrow exposure to conspiracy-minded information and others will simply not do it out of apathy and a default mindset to say no to things they are told to do.

The good news is that history has shown that most people will participate, and, whether you call them sheep or not, everyone will benefit because of their choice.

> LETTERS, FROM PG. 6

beliefs of the Mennonites' faith was not harming others and as such they do not take up arms during a conflict. I have always respected this and find this a very admiral belief.

What I don't understand is how this belief can be upheld while refusing vaccination against the COVID virus, especially now that the delta variant is becoming widespread. It is the unvaccinated that are now the people becoming infected and before symptoms appear they are spreading a highly contagious virus that is very easily picked up by anyone in close contact with them.

In my opinion, risking getting the virus and then spreading it to others is no different than walking into a crowded room with a loaded gun and shooting people at random. The carrier of the virus may not get that sick but there is a high probability that someone they infect could die.

I hope this letter causes people to reflect on their beliefs.

Curtis Weeks,
Manitou

Letter policy

The Voice welcomes letters from readers on local and regional issues and concerns.

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.

Send your letters to us by e-mail at news@winklermordenvoice.ca.

WSEDC GETS REQUESTED FUNDING

In other council news, the City of Winkler is on board with the Winkler Stanley Economic Development Corporation's (WSEDC) proposal for funding for a business development and immigration officer.

Following up on the RM of Stanley council passing a similar resolution, Winkler councillors unanimously approved a 50/50 funding plan for the position over the next five years. In a presentation to both councils earlier this summer, WSEDC pegged costs for the role at \$120,000 a year.

This officer's duties will include focusing on the area's immigration initiative under Manitoba's Provincial Nominee Program, acting as a facilitator for major businesses looking to come into the community, and overseeing the Winkler Incubator Mall.

WSEDC has indicated it hopes to have a candidate in the role by fall.

Continued on page 8

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Pallister announces he will not run again

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Manitoba Premier Brian Pallister announced last week that he will not be seeking re-election.

In a statement made to media at the Conservative Party's caucus retreat in Brandon Aug. 10, Pallister said that he believes it's time for a new leader and a new premier to guide Manitoba into the future.

"The honour of my life has been serving as our premier," he said. "Manitobans have gifted me with the great privilege of leading our province with the two largest back-to-back majority government wins in over a century."

Pallister went on to tout his government's successes over the past five years, including introducing "the first balanced budget in 11 years, while creating the largest ongoing per person investment in health care, education, and family services of any province."

"We did this while lowering the tax burden on every working person and family, more than any other province, to keep making life affordable for Manitobans," he said. "Most important of all, we did what we said what we would do. We are a clean government with integrity. I am most proud of that."

The province is poised to recover strongly from the challenges of the pandemic, the premier said.

"Today, Manitoba is incredibly well-positioned to springboard into a stronger eco-

nomonic future with even greater social progress.

"That's why I believe this is the right time [to step back]. There's no easy time. It wasn't easy for my family and I to make the decision to enter public life and it's not easy to make the decision when to leave it either. But I believe this is the right time for my family and for our party and for Manitoba, too."

"By stepping aside at the midpoint of our mandate, I believe this will provide sufficient time not only for party members to choose a new leader but for Manitobans to get to know that new leader and premier."

"In our government I am surrounded by capable people, and I know that they will make all our optimism come true," Pallister continued, thanking both his constituents and his family for their

support over the years.

"And I want to say thanks to every Manitoban. I wish all of you the very, very best as you aspire to be all you can be. This is the province to do it in and this is the country to do it in."

"We live in a province and a country that is rich in opportunity, with endless opportunity, and that's why I say to you: the only thing better than today in Manitoba is going to be tomorrow in Manitoba."

Pallister has been leader of the Progressive Conservative Party of Manitoba since 2012 and premier since 2016.

He's worked in politics at both the provin-

"THE HONOUR OF MY LIFE HAS BEEN SERVING AS OUR PREMIER."



SCREENSHOT

Premier Brian Pallister last week announced his intention to wrap up his career in politics, which stretches back to 1992 and includes both provincial and federal positions.

cial and federal levels (serving as Portage-Lisgar MP from 2000-2008) since winning his first seat as MLA in Portage la Prairie in 1992. For the past decade he's been the MLA for Fort Whyte in Winnipeg.

Pallister did not open the floor for media questions after reading his statement.

> SPIRIT OF HOPE, FROM PG. 4

last Tuesday for a practice ride starting from the future Habitat for Humanity build site in Morden.

"I like cycling, and I have done a number of cycle rides before," noted Lynette Froese, who was taking part along with her husband Ken Froese.

"It's a cause that I think all of us are pretty passionate about supporting and raising money for it," she said of Habitat for Humanity.

"It's a good opportunity to have a goal and get in shape for it and it makes part of the summer about doing something physical for something positive," she continued. "It's going to be largely straight and flat, but it's a nice area and nice countryside ... I'm looking forward to spending some time at Hecla."

Brent Gouthro and Ken Froese had previously participated in a similar ride all the way from Kansas City to Winnipeg, so this will be less strenuous

"It's not quite as arduous ... this one will have its challenges, heading north at the end of August, there will likely be a strong headwind most of the way," said Gouthro, who is participating with his wife Yvonne Stoesz and daughter Mei. "Yvonne and I did this when we were dating, loaded up our bikes and tents and sleeping bags

> COUNCIL, FROM PG. 7

Council also gave first reading to a borrowing bylaw that paves the way for Winkler's new mechanical wastewater treatment plant.

The bylaw calls for the community to borrow just under \$10.6 million from RBC for the project at an interest rate of 2.53 per cent annually from 2022 to 2034.

SPOTLIGHT ON PVPCC

The council meeting wrapped up

and food and did this route too.

"During the pandemic, it's been hard to really raise a lot of funds for organizations, and Habitat has been near and dear to a few of our hearts for a while," he added. "I like the philosophy of Habitat, and this is a great opportunity to raise some funds and have it donated locally."

with a presentation from the Pembina Valley Pregnancy Care Centre.

Executive director Linda Marek thanked council for its financial support over the years.

"That means a lot to us ... everything we offer is free and confidential," she told the councillors, noting the agency's mission is to provide support to people coping with the challenges of pregnancy.

They offer everything free pregnancy tests and prenatal supports to mis-

You can find out more about the Spirit of Hope ride online at www.habitat.mb.ca under the events tab. You can also find a link there to lend your support to Team Tinker Creek or its individual members, including Fehr under the name Orange Cyler.

carriage and loss support.

"We believe that life matters, pregnancy matters, people matter ... and in the most difficult of circumstances people need to know that there's hope," Marek said, stressing that they aim to equip clients with information to make informed decisions about their and their baby's future. "We believe everyone deserves support for facing tough decisions and everyone has the right to accurate information."

get informed

NEWS > VIEWS > WINKLER > MORDEN > SURROUNDING AREAS

Decor Charity Classic a hole in one for local charities

By Lorne Stelmach

A highlight annual charitable event in Morden has now had two of its best results ever over the last two years, despite the global pandemic.

The Decor Charity Classic golf tournament held Aug. 5 at the Minnewasta Golf and Country Club raised around \$94,000 in total, including Decor Cabinets matching the fundraising amount by 50 per cent.

This year's total is only topped by last year when the tournament could not be held due to COVID restrictions. Instead, it was replaced by the Chip In 4 Charity trick shot challenge that brought in close to \$100,000 for local charities with Decor's matching donation.

"We ended up raising the most we ever had other than last year being the Chip-in for Charity, so we were really pleased with the turnout and the support," tournament chairperson Dave Schellenberg said of the 2021 event. "I thought it went really well overall. We were happy with how many people came out; we had 125 people.

"Everything went really good other than the fact

we weren't able to hold the banquet ... we knew that going in, but we were able to accommodate for that in a different way," he noted.

"All that stuff that we would do with the banquet ... we still wanted to get the message across to people and still get some prizes out. We tried to do as much of that as we could during the round."

Since its inception in 2004, the Decor Charity Classic has raised over \$1.3 million. Three local charities benefit from this year's donations: Youth For Christ, Pembina Counselling Centre, and Pembina Valley Pregnancy Care Centre.

Schellenberg said it feels good that the tournament has continued to get such strong support no matter the circumstances.

"It's fantastic ... and we didn't know how it would go with the pandemic," he said. "Even some of our sponsors, they might come from as far as Quebec ... they weren't able to travel here but they still wanted to support the cause," he noted.

"So we still got a ton of support from our sponsors and from the local community," he added. "People still like the cause obviously and what we're doing with it."



FACEBOOK.COM/DECORCHARITYCLASSIC
The Decor Charity Classic raised upwards of \$94,000 for three local charities.

Too soon for block parties? RM doesn't think so

By Lorne Stelmach

With the pandemic restrictions in large part having been lifted, the RM of Stanley has begun promoting block parties once again.

It was being touted as a way for residents in neighbourhoods to start reconnecting while remaining mindful of public health recommendations, but at least one resident is questioning the wisdom of promoting such gatherings right now.

Blumenfeld resident Kerry Ward was dismayed when she received a text from the RM last week encouraging neighbourhoods to round out the summer by hosting a party.

"I just think it's too soon. The restrictions were literally just lifted a couple days ago," said Ward, calling the move "irresponsible" in light of the fact Stanley has the lowest vaccination uptake in the province—just 21.8 per cent of eligible residents have thus far received a dose of the COVID-19 vaccine.

Getting together with a few close friends is one thing, she said, but is it the right time to bring together per-

haps 60 people, as suggested by the municipality?

"I think it would be a good initiative to have at the end of the pandemic, but we're not at the end of the pandemic," Ward said.

"When is the right time? There will be a lot of varying opinions on that," Deputy Reeve Ike Friesen said in response to a request for comment on this matter. "As far as council is concerned, everybody was in favour of allowing these block parties and promoting people being neighbourly."

Friesen emphasized that the municipality is asking residents who choose to organize a block party to be mindful of whatever restrictions remain in place. They feel such get-togethers can be done safely with the proper precautions and with at least somewhat limited numbers.

"When we promote it, it can still be following the health restrictions and recommendations. We're not saying have a wedding or whatever and have people from all over ... we're just talking about your local neighbourhood," Friesen said. "It can be small groups, and we do actually have six already

who have applied for it.

"We realized that there would be some response like this possibly, some who would think it would be too soon. We're not working against any restrictions," he again emphasized. "You're going to get different opinions, and there's lots of them. We are asking people to be aware of the guidelines."

Ward, for one, certainly won't be organizing any large-scale community events anytime soon.

"I'll get together with other friends of mine who I know are vaccinated,"

she said, adding, however, that when it comes to things like block parties, "I think it's too much too soon, and it could still spread the virus."

"The only reason the restrictions were lifted were because as a province we hit the 80 per cent vaccination mark, but the RM of Stanley was still below 25 per cent vaccination," Ward added. "Really, our restrictions shouldn't be lifted at all, in theory."

People interested in hosting a block party can find more information on the RM of Stanley website.

The *Winkler Morden* **Voice**

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Dead Horse Cider Company earns accolades

By Lorne Stelmach

Two honours were bestowed on Winkler's Dead Horse Cider Company at a competition in the U.S. recently.

A pair of the local company's ciders picked up awards at GLINTCAP, which is the largest cider competition in North America.

Their limited edition Life is Rosé won best in class in the rosé cider category while one of their core products, Cherry On, won a gold medal in the fruit cider category of the Great Lakes International Cider and Perry Competition held July 28-30 in Grand Rapids, Michigan.



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Dead Horse Cider's Life is Rosé won best in class at an international cider competition recently, while their Cherry On beverage took home gold.

Marcus Wiebe simply believes it is the source that made their Life is Rosé cider stand out: the Manitoba Kerr apple.

"I think that is what makes the cider really special ... the bright red colour of the juice, the aroma; it's really just a really good apple," suggested Wiebe, who noted it was originally developed in Morden.

Its colour combined with tropical fruit aromas and mild tannin show what prairie apple hard cider can be, he suggested.

"We're lucky—people in the cider world wouldn't consider Manitoba as a cider hotbed ... but the Kerr apple checks a lot of boxes in terms of what you would have in a traditional cider apple, and it also has some unique characteristics as well, like the fact that you pick it after a frost."

It marks another leap forward in the continued growth of the company, which has its roots in the Burwalde Juice Company and the purchase of an apple press around 2016 that got them into doing custom pressing for customers.

"We realized that there's a ton of apples in Manitoba that are going to waste ... so we thought what would be the best way to get these apples into people's hands," said Wiebe.

"We wanted to take this product that was a waste product and make it into a sought after item," he continued. "And when we were pressing fresh pressed juice we realized they started to ferment a lot already, so we thought why not do it on purpose?"

Wiebe immersed himself in learning what he needed to know, including benefiting from the mentorship of an experienced cider maker in Saskatchewan.

"I also went to a cider making school in Oregon, and so we decided to make the leap into hard cider. We had our first batches of cider on the shelf in December of 2018."

The business has come a long way in a short time, and Wiebe feels fortunate and gives credit to Matthew Zacharias, who is a sommelier and brings a lot of knowledge and experience to the team.

"We've been lucky ... people seem to really like it ... it was just the right timing somehow, I guess," said Wiebe. "It has grown pretty quickly.

It's been a whirlwind, but it's been lots of fun and hard work ... and I'm just grateful that it's worked so well so far."

They aim to keep experimenting and expanding their product line even as it remains based on their main varieties: Looking On The Bright Cide(r), Cherry On, Feeling Fine Apple, and Far From The Tree.

"We have the four core ciders that are in the Liquor Marts ... we make these limited edition ciders as well," Wiebe said.

"It's so fun, it's awesome ... a lot of times we'll look around and

try to find whatever kinds of fruits we can get locally ... we try to find new and interesting things and pair them with apples and see what we can come up with," he said. "All we do is we try to make stuff that we would like to drink."

The next step for them now will be an addition to their operation to welcome the public.

"We are building a tasting room here at the farm just north of Winkler. It should be open in a couple of weeks," said Wiebe. "That's kind of cool for us ... we're pretty fired up about it."

You can find out more about the company at www.deadhorsecider.ca.

"A LOT OF TIMES WE'LL LOOK AROUND AND TRY TO FIND WHATEVER KINDS OF FRUITS WE CAN GET LOCALLY ..."

Winkler golf course clarifies its water usage amidst drought

By Voice staff

As communities across southern Manitoba cope with a state of drought emergency, the Winkler Centennial Golf Course and the City of Winkler have put out a joint statement clarifying the watering of the course's greens.

"The Winkler Golf Course holds a water license with the Province of Manitoba for its water usage," the statement explains. "One hundred per cent of the water used for irrigation on the course is water collected from runoff in the spring and stored in our five dugouts. The course does not use any city potable or aquifer water for irrigation."

The statement goes on to note the course has been following its own water conservation plan from the start of the season after not receiving any runoff water in spring.

"As a result, fairways have not been irrigated all year and watering tee boxes ceased at the beginning of June," they said. "As the greens are a specialized variety of grass, they do not recover if not watered, and letting them go would be a crippling cost to the course."

"We are investigating alternative water sources with the City to capture rain/storm water and/or water with treated lagoon water. Neither of these sources would affect the city potable supply or aquifer levels."

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Manitoba 

Settlement Workers in Schools eager to offer a helping hand

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The local Settlement Workers in Schools (SWIS) program is counting down the days to the new school year.

The Regional Connections program for newcomer families to Canada will have four SWIS staff providing services in Morden-Winkler schools, two in the Altona area, and one worker up in Dauphin.

“The primary goal of the program is to help connect new families to the school system,” explained coordinator Allan Jones, a former educator who came on board with SWIS earlier this year.

With the 2021-2022 school year about to start, SWIS has been focusing on helping recent immigrants to the area navigate registering their children in school and going over what to expect once the kids return to class.

“As they come in we try to assess their needs—how much information do they need to learn about the school system—and then just help them settle in,” Jones said, explaining that can include organizing school tours, connecting with school staff, and offering translation services as needed. SWIS services are all free of charge.

There can be a lot of differences between how schools work here in Canada compared to other countries, and it can be overwhelming to take it all in, Jones said, noting language barriers can further complicate matters for students and parents alike.

SWIS has been operating in Morden schools for several years now and last year expanded to include several schools in Winkler. Between the two communities, over 180 children used the program over the past year.

While schools often have liaison workers to help families out, SWIS workers are able to focus solely on the unique challenges faced by new Canadians.

“As things are coming up within the school, we can help families an-

ticipate they’re coming,” Jones said, pointing to something like Picture Day. “The information gets sent home of course, but sometimes the families don’t or can’t read the information in English ... so we can help anticipate the information coming home, calling them and saying this is what this letter is all about and then just helping to explain it.

“And then also things like parent-teacher conferences and report cards are probably very different from what they’ve seen in their own home countries.”

A big part of the program’s mandate is helping students find their place both in their school and the community at large by organizing social opportunities or connecting them with recreational programs.

Over the summer, for example, SWIS kids have been enjoying a variety of day camp activities together.

“The primary goal of the summer program is to keep kids engaged, help them keep learning English,” Jones said. “But another part of the pyramid is helping newcomer kids find connections with other kids.”

Settlement workers from Regional Connections do make sure families with children in school are put in touch with SWIS when they arrive, but there are always newcomers who don’t know this program exists to give them a hand.

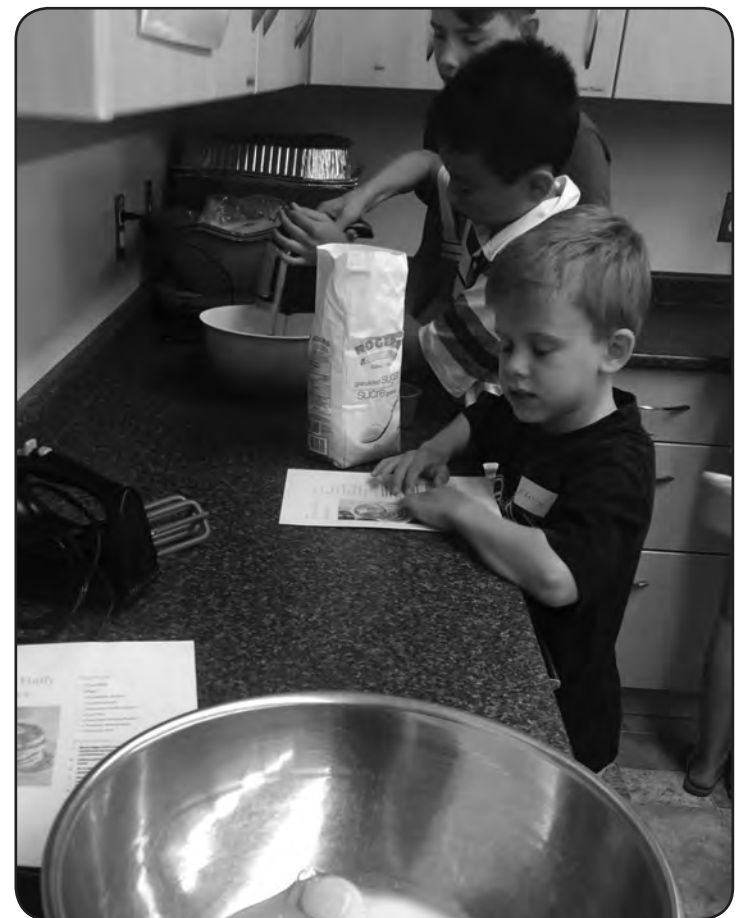
With that in mind, Jones encourages community members to let their immigrant friends and neighbours know this service is available.

“We just want people to know we exist and if they need some help or guidance navigating the school system or the community, we’re here for that.”

To connect with the program, contact SWIS staff Aubrey Krahn or Agnes Reimer in Winkler (204-325-4059) or Jenna Netrovich or Mariyam Tsygankova in Morden (204-822-4387).



SUP-PLIED PHOTOS
School may still be out for summer, but Regional Connection's Settlement Workers in Schools program has been staying connected with local kid through fun craft day activities (above) and baking sessions (right), helping newcomer children continue to hone their English skills during the summer.



Health officials keeping an eye on impending fourth wave

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Manitoba’s number of daily new COVID-19 cases remained in the double digits at the start of the week.

In the Monday bulletin, public health officials announced 102 new cases of the virus: 25 cases from last Friday, 24 on Saturday, 20 on Sunday, and 33 on Monday.

Manitoba started the week with 591 active cases and 56,271 total re-

coveries. The number of COVID-19 patients who have died in Manitoba has reached 1,187, including three from the Prairie Mountain, Winnipeg, and Interlake-Eastern health regions who succumbed to the virus over the weekend.

There were 69 people in hospital with the illness on Monday, including 12 in intensive care.

The current five-day COVID-19 test positivity rate was 1.8 per cent provin-

cially and 1.4 per cent in Winnipeg.

Southern Health-Santé Sud was reporting 48 cases of the virus at press time. In the Pembina Valley, seven cases were listed as active in Morden, four in the RM of Stanley, three in both Winkler and Lorne/Louise/Pembina, and one each in MacDonald and Red River South.

While case counts remain low in Manitoba right now, deputy chief provincial public health officer Dr.

Jazz Atwal noted health officials are keeping a close eye on how the fourth wave is beginning to play out in other jurisdictions.

“We’re taking a look at what’s happening in other provinces,” he said, noting case counts and hospitalizations are increasing in other parts of Canada.

“Some have said this is a pandemic

Three students receive Mutcheson scholarships

By Lorne Stelmach

Three local students are joining the ranks of those who have benefitted from the legacy of Michael Mutcheson.

Ray Mutcheson and mother Sylvia last week presented \$3,000 scholarships from the Michael Mutcheson Memorial Trust to Kaylee Hatley, Haylee Henderson, and Carter Hynes.

The scholarship fund for students in both Morden and Milton, Ontario was established in memory of Michael Mutcheson, and the annual presentation is always a special occasion for his family.

"It's a nice opportunity to remember the impact that my brother made in a short time on this earth," said Ray, who noted the foundation had now exceeded \$1 million in gifts to charities across Canada as well as the annual scholarships.

"It's always been cathartic. It's been very good for my mom. It's a healing process; although she lost her beloved son, his legacy continues to do good," he said. "It's wonderful that we can hand out scholarships so that these well deserving students can go pursue their dreams."

The Michael Mutcheson Memorial Trust was started in 1996 to raise



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE
Sylvia Mutcheson (centre) with the \$3,000 scholarship recipients from the Michael Mutcheson Memorial Trust: Kaylee Hatley, Haylee Henderson, and Carter Hynes.

money for scholarship awards to assist worthy high school graduates involved in athletics in Ontario where he lived and in Morden where he grew up.

It was friends of Michael who were inspired to create this legacy to honour the spirit in which he lived his life,

said Ray.

Supporting youth has always been near and dear to the family, he noted, going back to 1948 when the family moved to Morden, and the father Jim, with the assistance of the Legion, built and maintained not one but two outdoor rinks and a ball diamond.

Coaching kids was to follow and continues to this day, some 73 years later, Ray noted, and thus began the Mutcheson legacy of giving time, money, and energy that continues through their children, grandchildren, and the foundation.

Gifts from the foundation have been wide-ranging, including a \$50,000 grant to the Boundary Trails Health Centre neonatal ward, and other gifts of between \$50,000 and \$75,000 to charities across the country.

The latest Morden scholarship recipients all shared their deep appreciation for the support.

"It means a lot to me, and I'm very honoured to receive it," said Hatley, who plans to attend St. Boniface University to study education.

"I'm very honoured to be able to receive this scholarship," said Henderson, who will be studying education at Brandon University. "This is such a great community, and it's nice being recognized for our hard work and dedication to community ... I'm grateful to have it to help me pursue my education."

"I'm also very honoured to receive this scholarship ... it's a really big help for me," agreed Hynes, who will also be attending Brandon University to study criminology.

"This is a pandemic of the unvaccinated right now"

From Pg. 11

of the unvaccinated right now," Atwal continued, "and I think there's a lot of evidence supporting the impacts on unvaccinated individuals and severe outcomes because of COVID, and what we're seeing across many jurisdictions and in our own experience is just that."

Over 80 per cent of eligible Manitobans have gotten the COVID-19 vaccine so far, but there are thousands of younger children for whom no vaccine has yet been approved.

"The best way to protect our children is for everyone who's eligible to get a vaccine to get that vaccine," Atwal stressed.

VACCINE ELIGIBILITY WIDENS

The province has announced that children who are turning 12 years old in 2021 are now eligible for the vaccine, even if their birthday is still to come between now and Dec. 31.

While Health Canada has not yet approved a COVID-19 vaccine for children under the age of 12, Dr. Joss Reimer, co-lead of the vaccination task force, noted this widening of eligibility is in line with the existing vaccination program in schools, which gives vaccines to children based on birth year rather than exact age.

"When we do school-based vaccinations we do it on a cohort basis," she explained. "So we go in and we provide vaccinations for a variety of things based on what grade students

are in and offer it to the whole class, the whole cohort at one time.

"As we move into the school year, we need to have a similar process for COVID," Reimer said, noting they plan to offer the COVID-19 vaccine approved for youth at all Manitoba schools this fall.

Discussions with schools and public health nurses have made it clear "logistically it was a much better approach to include the entire cohort instead of breaking it up and having some of the children in a grade getting the vaccine and others not," Reimer said, noting that there is little physiological difference between a child who is 11 years, 10 months old and one who is fully 12 years old.

Opening eligibility up to 11-year-

olds a few months shy of their 12th birthday is expected to allow between 4,000-5,000 kids to get vaccinated against COVID-19.

Reimer reminds parents that they don't need to wait to have their child vaccinated at school—eligible youth can get their shots at any immunization clinic in advance of classes beginning.

Those clinics are also now also offering the other school-based vaccines (HPV, hepatitis B, tetanus, etc.) that students may have missed over the past couple of years of remote learning.

Details are available by calling 1-844-626-8222 or going to protectmb.ca/school-immunizations.

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Rising stars



PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

DKSM's musical theatre camp last week wrapped up with students performing a medley of songs from 17 different Broadway musicals at the Parkland stage in Winkler Friday evening. The show was created and directed by Janna Larsen as an artistic expression of the many emotions and experiences we've all lived through during the pandemic.



Bathroom Fixtures Survey

Morden

The City of Morden is in the process of planning a project for the replacement of high-flow bathroom fixtures with low-flow fixtures for Morden residents on a cost-share basis. This will help reduce the potable water demand and also reduce sewage production, which will save Morden on capital upgrades to the water and sewage treatment plant.

Low-flow fixtures are designed to save water over conventional fixtures by having a lower-flow rate while still maintaining satisfactory performance.

At this time, the number of households not having low-flow fixtures is unknown.

Please fill the survey at the link below to help the City determine the project scope and an action plan for the project.



RURAL ROAD SAFETY DURING HARVEST SEASON

- This time of year, crops such as corn and other vegetation growing near rural intersections can cause visibility issues for drivers.
- Take a second look - before you pull into an intersection or make a move to pass be sure your path is clear in all directions.
- Let the dust clear - never follow behind someone in the dust.
- Do not enter an intersection unless you are certain no vehicles are coming from the side roads, and then proceed with caution.
- Drive defensively - treat every uncontrolled intersection as a yield, as if you should be able to stop just in case.
- Yield to large equipment - give a wide farm vehicle the right of way when it is traveling the opposite direction. Farm vehicles cannot always pull over to the road's shoulder safely.
- Respect work crews working along roads whether municipal or other, these folks are trying to get a job done and get home to their families.

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A message from the RM of Stanley



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New Meadows Amusements finally opens its doors

By Lorne Stelmach

It took longer than anticipated to get to opening day, but Meadows Amusements is now in business.

The first Friday of August saw the gates open just north of Winkler on PR 428, and new owner Jake Thiessen was thankful for the people who helped him get to that day.

There were a few trials and tribulations along the way that put off starting up the business, which he took over from longtime former owner Abe Epp.

"Abe had talked to me about it numerous times about, down the road, moving it to my yard. He thought I had a good spot here for it," said Thiessen, who had known Epp for some time and even did some work for him.

"I never gave it a thought until the last time we talked about it, and, for some reason it piqued my interest that day," he recalled, noting it was Labour Day weekend in 2018 when he finally decided to go for it.

"Shortly after we bought the business, my wife [Elsie] then was diagnosed with cancer, and so I lost her seven, eight months later," noted Thiessen. "That made a big change in my life and also a big change in our

plans for how we tackled the job.

"And then five months later, Abe passed away as well, so that took two big people out of my life in regards to this project. So what he had hoped to be maybe one year to set up has turned into three or maybe more years."

After some time, Thiessen found some healing in immersing his time and energy into the venture.

"It's been a good project in a sense to keep me occupied," he said. "It's been a bit of an overwhelming job at times too, but I've had good people in my life who have helped me along and have been by my side ... my family and friends have been great.

"I'm a builder by trade, so I like that part of it. I focus a bit more on the details probably," Thiessen continued. "Planning it has been fun. I like planning this kind of thing."

"When we looked at what it would look like, it actually fit quite well [on the property]," he noted. "I think there isn't much room for expansion the way we have it set up, if we ever wanted to do that, but there is a little bit. We've utilized the space fairly efficiently."

The features at Meadows Amusements so far include the go-kart track,



ABOVE PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE Meadows Amusements' Vicky Reimer and Jake Thiessen at the facility's new site north of Winkler. Open for business right now is the go-kart track (above), bumper boats (below), inflatables, and bungee trampoline. Mini golf is still to come.

bumper boats, inflatables, and a bungee trampoline.

There are some age restrictions and guidelines for each feature, and a variety of group rates and birthday or special event packages are available.

Down the road there will also be a miniature golf course, but that feature is still being developed.

"I have a plan in place for it, and now we just need to get on it," said Thiessen. "We also have some work to do where the concession stand will be in the future."

Working alongside him is Vicky Reimer, who said that the early response and feedback has been very positive and encouraging for the facility.

"They come and tell me how nicely everything is laid out and how everything looks so good," said Reimer.

"There have been some companies that have booked with us already; a few birthday parties have booked with us. We're very busy on weekends already," she noted.

"I really love watching them walk away with the big smiles on their faces. The parents and the kids all come and play and they have such a good time here. The smiles are my reward."

You can find out more online at www.meadowsamusements.com.



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COMMUNITY NEWS



Memories of West End Grocery

By Marjorie Hildebrand

Ike and Dorothy Hoepfner bought the little store at the west end of Mountain Ave. in Winkler on February 1, 1966 known as West End Grocery.

They were open six days a week from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. With larger grocery stores closing early every evening they were able to serve a sizeable following of customers. Necessities such as milk and bread were always available.

Because the Hoepfners lived near the store their children got involved helping in small ways. Daughter Cyndie recalls dusting shelves every Saturday morning, starting at about eight years old.

Her dad would give her sister Colleen and her 15 cents for cleaning, working their way up to 50 cents as they got older. Often, she recalls, they would save their money all year and pay for their own swimming lessons and swimming pass for the summer.

As Cyndie grew older she was taught to use the adding machine and the till and how to give back the cor-

rect change to customers. She learned how to slice meat and Bothwell cheese, wrapping it up with brown paper and tying it with string.

Her memories include her siblings and adventures into Winnipeg.

“Often as young children we would take the trip to Winnipeg with Dad to the wholesalers to get stock for the store and parts for his radio and TV repairs,” she recalls. “A fun trip to see all the different things the wholesalers had—sometimes they would even treat us with a candy.

“We often took turns going so we had one-on-one time with Dad. Other times me and Colleen would get to go together ... one of us would sit on the ‘dog house’ and the other on the front seat.”

She remembers with fondness an elderly bachelor neighbour coming in and buying his case of diet Pepsi and some Revels, or Abe coming in many mornings to purchase a two-litre Pepsi.

“Warm or cold, he could down that Pepsi in a couple of minutes, often emptying the bottle without taking a break. As kids we were shocked/marvelled at his skill.”

Something that Ike and Dorothy had in their little store that was a big attraction to children was candy, jars and jars of it—everything from sours



Heritage Highlights



West End Grocery on Mountain Ave. was a popular candy stop for generations of Winklerites. Today the building is home to Clay Owl Studio. SUPPLIED PHOTO

to gummy candy to licorice nibs. No-where in town could you find the variety of candy that was available in Mr. Hoepfner’s store and it was a popular stop for kids going home from school during the over 30 years it was open for business. Ike probably knew most of them by name and greeted each child as they came in.

As the years went by the children grew up and a new generation start-

ed frequenting the store where you could buy a handful of candy in exchange for pennies.

Heritage Highlights, supplied by the Winkler Heritage Society, introduces readers to the people, places, and things that still impact us today. Learn more about the society’s work and how you can support it at winklerheritagesociety.ca.

Local police receive funding

Winkler, Morden, and Altona departments benefit from Criminal Property Forfeiture

By Voice staff

Local police departments and community agencies are benefiting from the provincial government’s Criminal Property Forfeiture (CPF) Program in a big way this summer.

Justice Minister and Morden-Winkler MLA Cameron Friesen was in Altona last week to announce over \$95,000 in funds for programming and equipment purchases for the Winkler, Morden, and Altona police services.

“Our government is supporting police forces and local organizations through the Criminal Property Forfeiture

Fund, making good investments in community safety throughout southern Manitoba,” Friesen said

The Morden Police Service is receiving more than \$22,000 for an alcohol-approved screening device and to continue the operation of its existing K-9 unit. The current police service dog is nearing retirement, and a new police dog and handler will continue the unit.

The Winkler Police Service is receiving more than \$11,000 for two alcohol-approved screening devices and sur-

Continued on page 20

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Economic Development Officer
Neepawa, MB

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Skiers and snowboarders won't be able to hit the hills in La Riviere this winter, as the drought has foiled Holiday Mountain's snowmaking plans.

Holiday Mountain cancels 2021-2022 ski season

By Lorne Stelmach

The extreme drought has managed to do what nothing else has done in six decades: shut down Holiday Mountain Resort at La Riviere.

The popular recreation destination in the heart of the Pembina Valley announced last week that it would not be opening for the 2021-22 season.

"This will be the first season we will ever miss ... so it's heartbreaking," said general manager Bernice Later. "We've been around for six decades. It's not what any of us want, but Mother Nature is in charge."

The reason simply is that the resort relies on water from the Pembina River for its snowmaking, and its water source is suffering like everywhere else across southern Manitoba while in the grips of drought.

"We can't operate without snowmaking, and we can't make snow without water, and the Pembina basin is extremely dry right now," said Later.

"The water level is between eight and ten feet below our pumping station. It's the lowest we have ever seen it, and we can't operate our pump houses at all with the water the way it is," she explained. "Even if it rained every day for 100 days, it would have to come up eight or nine feet for us to realistically take 17 million gallons out of there and make snow of it."

"This was the go or no go point. We had to make a decision, and we have to live with it," continued Later, who noted they usually start selling memberships now as well as make prepa-

"THIS WILL BE THE FIRST SEASON WE WILL EVER MISS ... IT'S HEARTBREAKING."

rations for the coming season, but they just couldn't see it being possible.

"It would be irresponsible to sell memberships when we don't have a product ... and it's only fair to tell the staff now that there won't be any work ... we're all out of work," she said. "In addition to everything else, you're looking at spending a couple hundred thousand dollars preparing for the season on a big maybe."

It's a disheartening milestone for the facility, which goes back to when Noel Later, who previously ran the La Riviere ski hill, opened up Manitoba's first ski resort in the winter of 1959-60.

It has come a long way since the first facilities consisted of six runs and a small warming hut, with skiers who would converge on Ida Barklay's hotel next to the railway station.

In 1959, the old ski runs were closed and the resort was relocated to just west of the village, where the new 92 acre site had a vertical rise of 300 feet. The geography provided six slopes ranging from 800 to 2,400 feet in

Continued on page 20

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Holiday Mountain has been forced to cancel the upcoming season due to a lack of water for snowmaking.

> HOLIDAY MOUNTAIN, FROM PG. 18

length, and the official opening of the new resort took place in January 1960

Near the end of the 1960s, the site launched a three-year project to expand the ski chalet which brought the total space to 24,000 ft. When the new chalet opened in 1969, the resort featured 11 runs, a ski jump and a 5 km cross-country ski trail.

More milestones came over the years including in 1985 when it became the second Manitoba resort to operate a chair lift. During the 1990s, Holiday Mountain added snowboarding to its activity list, and in 1997 it developed a website that provided snow camera

coverage, broadcasting pictures of the slopes from the top of the ski lodge every 30 minutes.

Later now can only remain hopeful for the 2022-23 winter season.

"In the meantime, we're shutting the facility down and hoping for brighter days ahead," she said, noting the impact the shutdown could have on the region. "We do 20,000 to 25,000 guests a year ... that's a lot of people to bring into a small community."

"I think everyone's going to feel it. It's going to be really, really challenging and very strange for a lot of us."



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From Pg. 17

veillance equipment.

And the Altona department is receiving over \$36,000 for safety and crime prevention programs, which will include a new backup generator to maintain operational continuity in extreme weather events and other power outages at the police station and Altona Civic Centre.

The department is also partnering with Altona Youth for Christ, which is receiving \$25,000 in CPF funding toward facility upgrades and equipment purchases for its skills programming.

"Since its inception into the community of Altona, the Altona Police Service has worked alongside our Youth for Christ," said Chief Perry Batchelor. "This expansion is only made possible through grants and donations. We thank the Manitoba government for seeing the importance of this ini-

tiative and its financial support of this project.

"The Regional Support Tactical Team comprised of members from the Morden, Winkler and Altona police services wish to thank the Manitoba government for funding a ballistic shield," Batchelor noted. "This shield will aid in officer safety in high-risk situations."

"In total we have received \$61,739.73—taking money out of criminal's hands and making good use of it in Manitoba communities."

Since its inception in 2009, the Criminal Property Forfeiture Fund has distributed more than \$19 million back to the communities throughout the province.

The program seizes and liquidates criminal assets and redirects funding to projects and initiatives designed to protect Manitobans and enhance public safety.

The Winkler Morden
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THE WINNIPEG YOUTH CHORUS

Elevator museum made the most of extended off-season

By Lorne Stelmach

The Prairie View Elevator Museum may have only just recently opened to the public for the summer, but that doesn't mean things have been quiet at the Plum Coulee destination.

There is always a lot going on behind the scenes, and it had been no different while the facility was forced to remain closed due to the pandemic restrictions.

"We've been able to get a lot of work done," noted Linda Dyck, who is a key person behind the unique venue that has transformed the prairie icon into a centre that is preserving and promoting local history and culture. "We've had lots of stuff to think about and organize ... and we are adding more photos all the time."

"Linda's got so many ideas, this will be an ongoing project for many, many years," said volunteer Deb Giesbrecht. "Linda is always filled with lots and lots of ideas, and she is very creative in putting them together."

The traditional wooden grain elevator that looms large over Plum Coulee has come a long way in its transformation from a working grain elevator into a local history museum that has much to offer visitors.

It was exciting for the volunteers to

be able to open to the public again as of Aug. 7, but Dyck said they also had made good use of the time to work on a number of projects and bins or rooms within the museum.

"We had a few bins that we opened that weren't finished yet, so we got to work on them, like the town office is an important one," she suggested. "I worked on trying to get a library together ... and we worked on the fashion department."

"WE'VE HAD LOTS OF STUFF TO THINK ABOUT AND ORGANIZE ... AND WE ARE ADDING MORE PHOTOS ALL THE TIME."

There are a variety of other ideas large and small ranging from developing a butchering corner to getting a stuffed mounted owl, just as a couple examples, but the signature addition will be an original 1948 Plum Coulee fire truck that a number of volunteers helped bring back to town.

"The fire truck is in the works. It's getting repaired," noted Dyck. "They're just doing the inside; the outside is going to stay as it is ... and we're planning to put a display outside in a setting where people can take pictures."

Both noted how much the museum relies on volunteers and the contributions of people like artist Neil Fehr.

"He's done all the murals and looks after all that kind of stuff ... and the caboose outside is something he's doing as well," said Dyck.

"There's at least five or six volun-



PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Volunteers Linda Dyck and Deb Giesbrecht with a vintage truck that is a more recent addition to the Plum Coulee Prairie View Elevator Museum, which opened for the season when COVID-19 restrictions eased earlier this month.

unteers that come regularly and that we can always count on," she added.

Dyck observed that she sees the facility as something more than just a staid museum.

"It's not a collection. It's supposed to be telling stories," she said. "The displays are all depicting how it used to be, how it may have been in the old days ... how it's displayed is how it may have been ... we try to tell the stories behind whatever is up on display."

"And the whole building itself looks antique ... it's got the older look, which goes so well along with what all is in here," added Giesbrecht.

"The one downfall is the dust," Dyck noted. "It's a grain elevator ... so it can be frustrating—you just had something clean and the next day it's dusty again."

"But with everything good, there's

something that you have to deal with," chipped in Giesbrecht. "People say it smells like an elevator."

"I guess I'm used to it ... but they say it smells like grain," agreed Dyck.

Both feel the museum continues to become more widely known and want to help keep building on that growing interest.

"Ever since I got on Facebook, that has helped a little bit," said Dyck. "We always get positive comments ... and people come here from all over the place."

"This is such a great place to come and see, it's so unique," said Giesbrecht. "There's so much to see here."

You can learn more about the museum, including hours of operation, on its Facebook page (Plum Coulee Prairie View Elevator Museum).



The museum has a varied collection of local history, including a room that portrays the old town office (above) and a new display featuring wedding gowns through the years (right).



Provincial help for producers is too late: Stepler



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The government's \$62 million in funds for livestock producers came too late, according to Miami's Andre Stepler.

By Becca Myskiw

The provincial government recently announced \$62 million in funding for AgriRecovery, but a local producer says it's too late.

On Aug. 10, the Government of Manitoba said they're investing \$62 million in programs under AgriRecovery that are "designed to support livestock producers affected by this year's drought conditions, to ensure producers have options to retain and care for their animals while also supporting the longer-term sustainability of the livestock sector."

"This extremely dry weather has affected producers' ability to find suitable pastures and feed for their animals which means that, without additional investment, producers are in the very difficult position of having to consider reducing their herds or leaving the industry altogether," said Minister of Agriculture and Resource Development, Ralph Eichler. "There is no harder decision for a livestock producer. Our government is making this significant investment to ensure there are other options available when they're needed most."

Meanwhile, producer Andre Stepler from Miami says that while it's a significant amount of funds, it's too late for farmers to use them properly.

"We needed the funding months ago," he said. "The government really missed the ball on that."

Stepler said this drought was not a wild card situation—there should have been all sorts of programs in place for it and benchmarks hit earlier to initiate these programs. With the funding being announced just now, most producers have already made decisions and sold their cows.

He said if this funding had come sooner, producers could have got the feed they needed and brought it to their cows or transported their cows to the feed. Now, most of the feed has been harvested or won't be good when it is.

Stepler said he'll likely use the money he gets to fence off an area for fall grazing to extend the grazing period for his cattle. He said other producers will have to educate themselves on what they can do and whether they'll use the funds for transport, fencing, feed, or something else.

He worries, though, that some producers won't try to get money from the programs as some are still waiting for payouts from up to two years ago. He said that gives many of them a hesitancy they don't need.

"Every day counts for being able to keep a cow herd in Manitoba and western Canada," he said.

Doctors Manitoba implore Manitobans to be cautious

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Manitoba's COVID-19 restrictions have eased significantly in recent weeks, but doctors are warning we're not out of this pandemic just yet.

"Manitobans have truly earned the opportunity to reconnect with family and friends and enjoy the best our province has to offer," said Dr. Kristjan Thompson, president of Doctors Manitoba. "But while we get out there, please be cautious. Wear a mask in public indoor spaces, stay home if you are sick, wash your hands, and get vaccinated."

"We don't want Manitoba to experience the fourth wave like we're seeing in other jurisdictions, with a more contagious Delta variant leading to serious illness and in some cases record hospitalizations among children and youth."

Thompson, who works as an emergency room physician at St. Boniface Hospital, is among the 79 per cent of doctors surveyed by Doctors Manitoba who say they are concerned too many pandemic restrictions are being loosened too quickly.

"As an ER doc, I unfortunately have

seen the sickest of the sick of COVID-19 patients," he said, noting he's lost patients to the virus. "That's why I'm among many physicians who are disappointed to see the lifting of the mask mandate from the province's pandemic restrictions."

"Granted, the risk of COVID-19 has decreased in this province, and that's because people are going out and getting vaccinated. But that risk is not zero. A fourth-wave could come very soon to our province. How soon and how severe really depends on the actions, on the decision made by you, by individual Manitobans, by our businesses and our government in the coming weeks. Our province is still extremely vulnerable."

"Truth be told, our hospitals still haven't fully recovered from the third wave of this pandemic," Thompson continued. "Having a surge from a fourth wave means more surgeries

are going to get cancelled, it means that our ICUs are going to get overwhelmed again."

To help avoid or contain a fourth wave, Doctors Manitoba is calling for the following actions:

- Everyone should continue to wear masks in public indoor settings, especially when that location is not limited to vaccinated people only.

- Businesses that continue to require masks and take other precautions should be applauded, not criticized, for their commitment to protecting their employees and customers.

- The immunization card should be used more widely, in the short term, to create

more low-risk opportunities for fully vaccinated Manitobans to gather.

- At the first sign of a potential fourth wave, the mask mandate and other restrictions should be reintroduced without delay, using either a regional or provincial approach as deemed

necessary by public health officials.

"Too many Manitobans have already died from this disease," Thompson said. "So many of us have ended up in hospital, have suffered, have had loved ones suffer. Many are living with the long-term complications following COVID infection, long COVID."

"And so we need to ensure that our families, our friends, our loved ones don't get added to these numbers."

Thompson urges Manitobans to follow the recommendations laid out by Dr. Brent Roussin and the provincial public health team, even if some of those recommendations are no longer reflected in the government's mandated restrictions.

He also urges unvaccinated Manitobans to speak to their doctor for information on why the vaccine "is our ticket out of this."

"Get the shot, wear a mask, and let's just get through this last stretch together," Thompson said.

More details on the vaccine and how to book an appointment is available at ManitobaVaccine.ca.

"WEAR A MASK IN PUBLIC INDOOR SPACES, STAY HOME IF YOU ARE SICK, WASH YOUR HANDS, AND GET VACCINATED."

sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN



Whips best Mud Hens

PHOTO BY RICK HIEBERT/VOICE

A crazy bounce on a throw from the catcher lets Morden's Jesse Mutcheson slide safely into second under the glove of Winkler's Josh Ginter. The Whips went on to win the match 9-5.

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler Whips and the Morden Mud Hens end the Border Baseball League regular season with a win apiece against each other.

The two rivals faced off in Morden Aug. 10 for their third match-up of the shortened season.

Their first game a month earlier ended in a 1-1 stalemate that was called due to darkness. Morden then took game two 4-0 a few weeks later.

This time around it was the Whips who emerged victorious, earning the win 9-5. They followed up that with a close 5-4 loss to Cartwright a few nights later.

Both Winkler and Morden had one more game scheduled this week Tuesday to close out the season—Morden against Clearwater and Winkler versus Pilot Mound. Results were not available at press time.

Prior to those final games, the Mud

Hens were in second place in the league's East Division with a record of 4-3-1, trailing the Altona Bisons (5-4-1) in first. Winkler was in third place at 4-4-1 and the Carman Cardinals were in last at 3-5-1.

On Friday, league president Darren Russell outlined how the playoffs will look this year.

"Our playoffs for 2021 will be much abbreviated from past years due to our later start date and the fact many players have other commitments at this time of year," he noted.

Storm battle to second straight tie

By Voice staff

The Winkler Storm are holding their own in the Manitoba Major Soccer League's Premier Division, with two tied games under their belts thus far.

"We felt it was important that we conduct playoffs in some form to complete our season with a champion, and given the fact we were unable to complete them in 2020."

The West Division's Killarney Lakers and Baldur Regals have both indicated they will be unable to field playoff teams this late in the summer. As a result, the division will be represented by the Cartwright Twins, Pilot Mound Pilots, and Clearwater in the post-season.

The single-game elimination format

will see the first-place finisher in the East Division take on the fourth-place team while the second-place team battles the third. Games are scheduled for Aug. 20 and Aug. 24.

In the West, the second and third-ranked teams will play to decide who will face the first-place team to see who will advance.

The final series will be a best of three between the West and East Division winners played Aug. 27, Aug. 31, and, if necessary, Sept. 3.

Following on the heels of a 1-1 draw against the Saints the week before, last Sunday the Storm battled WSA Winnipeg to a 3-3 finish.

Emil Rode, Tobias Morash, and Amajad Kissaniye scored Winkler's goals.

This weekend the team heads back into Winnipeg to face CCS.

Their next home game is Sunday, Aug. 29 at the 15th St. soccer pitch at 5 p.m.

Falk moves into head coach role, Ryan White hired as assistant

Winkler Flyers coaches eager for upcoming season

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler Flyers have gotten their coaching staff in order ahead of the upcoming season.

The junior team announced last week that Ryan White is coming on board as assistant coach. They also confirmed that Justin Falk, former as-

sistant coach and recently promoted general manager, has stepped into the head coach position.

"I'm excited at the whole opportunity that I've been given," Falk said Friday, emphasizing how eager he is to add White to a behind-the-bench team that also includes goaltending coach Jesse Deckert.

"We complement each other so well, both sides of the puck," he said of White. "He's been a forward and a forechecker and powerplay and I've been a defenseman and breakouts and penalty kills, so the way we'll be able to put our minds together and

complement each other, under all the experience and all the great coaches we've played for, it's going to be a great dynamic duo and I'm really excited to get going."

White played four seasons with the WHL's Calgary Hitmen, was a third round draft pick of the Montreal Canadiens, and went on to enjoy 13 years playing professional hockey with Montreal and the Philadelphia Flyers, Arizona Coyotes, and Minnesota Wild organizations.

"He's someone that's very experienced, played for a lot of great coaches, is a relational person, and knows how to connect with and develop players," Falk noted.

For his part, White is eager to get to work.

"It is an honor and privilege to be joining the Flyers storied hockey club and the community of Winkler," he said in a statement. "Playing with and against Justin Falk over the last 15 plus years, I know what kind of character, work ethic and family values he will bring to the rink everyday, which made this decision an easy one for us to make and commit to the club.

"With the Flyers' new professional outlook I know it is going to be the best place for me to not only help the players succeed in their goals in becoming better men and better hockey players but also the best environment for me to learn as a young coach and further my own career in hockey."

the Manitoba Junior Hockey League season.

The Flyers take to the ice for the first time in months with six exhibition games against Steinbach, Selkirk, and Virden starting Sept. 3. The regular season then opens Sept. 18 against Portage.

There's plenty to do between now and then.

This week, the Flyers are hosting their High Performance Hockey School and Bantam Prep Camp. Rookie camp, meanwhile, gets underway on Saturday.

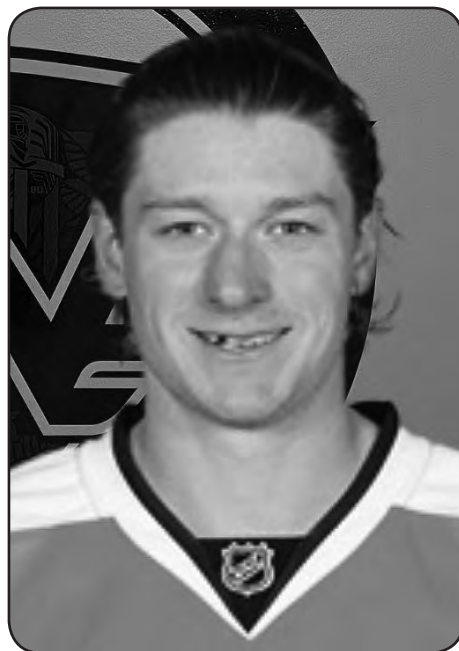
"And we just rock and roll from there," Falk said, going on to reflect on what he'll be looking for as the team's roster begins to firm up.

"Right now we feel like we have a pretty good roster on paper. I think with every team and organization in the league right now there's a bit of added uncertainty based on everyone's development, their projected development over the last year and a half with everything else going on.

"The pieces are in place—we'll see if and what we need to add to in certain areas and make any changes and adjustments we need to," Falk said. "At camp this year we're looking for energy and enthusiasm, compete level and pace."

While the team has a number of returning players, none of them were able to play a regular season last year due to the pandemic.

"Really, it's a great time for a fresh slate for everybody involved," Falk said.



SUPPLIED PHOTOS

Justin Falk (left) steps into both the general manager and head coach roles for the Winkler Flyers this season, while Ryan White is coming on board as assistant coach.

SEASON COUNTDOWN

The countdown is on to the start of

Winkler U19 softball team wins provincial gold



Winkler's U19 A female softball team are tops in the province, bringing home the gold from the championships in Brandon over the weekend. After going 2-2 in tournament play, the team downed Hamiota 12-5 in the semi-finals and then trounced Bonivital East 9-1 in the finals to clinch gold. The team includes players Annika Braun, Annika Roberts, Chloe Dyck, Isabella Cantelon, Keira Hamilton, Kennedy Friesen, Madden Weibe, Kadence Penner, Morgan Spent, Reagan Doell, Nikki Thiesen, and coaches Phil Dyck, Jennifer Penner, Kevin Thiessen, and Tiffany Redekop.

PHOTO BY PETER CANTELON/VOICE

Winkler native works the rust out at national showcase

By Lorne Stelmach

A talented multi-sport athlete from Winkler recently had the opportunity to train and compete with some of the best female baseball players in the country.

Katelyn Heppner was among 41 players who took part in Baseball Canada's women's national team showcase Aug. 8-13 in Trois-Rivières, Québec.

The camp was the first time the national program has returned to in-person activities in two years, and it could potentially be a major stepping stone towards Heppner getting a chance to play for Team Canada at the world cup.

"To play for Team Canada and play at a world cup would be the ultimate," said Heppner. "It was a very neat opportunity. You're constantly playing against some of the best female baseball players in the country. It's something I haven't really done before, so it was a great experience."

It is yet another athletic achievement for Heppner, who has also played hockey including with the Pembina Valley Hawks and in recent years with Nipissing University in North Bay, Ontario.

Sport has always been a part of her life, and she has played baseball since about age five.

"I grew up playing boys baseball. I never played softball until my final two years of high school, and for that, it was kind of just more for fun and hanging out with some of my class-

mates," noted Heppner.

She first had the opportunity to join the Team Manitoba program at age 14 and has continued to this day.

Heppner has also been part of the Canadian prospects program which could potentially lead to selection for Team Canada. COVID-19 though caused the postponement of the 2020 Women's Baseball World Cup, where Canada won a bronze medal at the last event in 2018 and came in at third in the latest WBSC rankings.

Partially filling the void was the six-day showcase camp that had participants take part in physical testing, baseball-specific testing using the latest in technology, daily practices, and inter-squad games at Stade Quillorama, the home of the Frontier League's Trois-Rivières Aigles.

The coaching staff was led by Aaron Myette who led the squad to a bronze medal at the COPABE Women's Baseball Pan Am Championships, and there were also other experienced former players and coaches.

"This was an opportunity for them to get some of the girls they've had their eyes on together and get them practicing and playing games if all of a sudden there was a world cup later on in the winter," suggested Heppner, whose primary position is shortstop, although she can also play second or third base and has even pitched a little.

She very much appreciated the array of off

field and on field training which was detailed and focused.

"It was definitely something different than year's past ... this gave us a good opportunity to train and practice as a team," she said, adding that they also split into three teams for two games a day over a three day period.

"There was such a huge abundance of knowledge there, and there were so many different coaches and perspectives you could get, and people able to learn from them and play alongside returning players who have been there for years was a very neat experience."

Now, with the future remaining somewhat uncertain, she will simply aim to build on the valuable experience that she gained from the showcase camp.

"All I can do is just keep practicing over the winter and just hope that the next world cup comes around soon," Heppner said.

Manitoba Basketball Hall of Fame induction dinner postponed

From Basketball Manitoba

The Manitoba Basketball Hall of Fame and Museum has announced that the 2021 Manitoba Basketball Hall of Fame induction dinner originally scheduled for Sept. 25 is being postponed.

The Hall of Fame committee voted unanimously on this matter at a recent meeting. Due to the continued uncertainty relative to the COVID-19 pandemic and the ever-evolving provincial health orders and regulations, it was felt that this difficult decision was necessary, they said.

The Hall wants to honour its newest inductees appropriately and also wants all of those attending to feel comfortable about being in a large group gathering. A new date is being explored and it will be in the new year, perhaps September or October 2022.

The Hall thanks everyone for their patience, understanding, and support as it works through these challenging and unprecedented times.

Orioles' season ends with championship loss to Elmwood

By Lorne Stelmach

The Pembina Valley Orioles went on a roll at the right time this past weekend, and it led them to the championship finale of the Manitoba Junior Baseball League season Monday evening.

The Orioles went into the playoff tournament as the fifth place seed after having finished the regular season at 7-11, but they then won three of four to earn a chance at taking down the defending champion Elmwood Giants.

It wasn't to be, though, as the Giants decisively defended their title with a 10-0 win.

Win or lose, coach Jim Odlum, speaking with the *Voice* in advance of the game, was proud of his team's efforts.

"The boys worked hard all weekend, and they had a lot of fun and they proved what they're made of," he said. "We had an up and down season, and I thought we could have done a lot better during our regular season, but we had the whole team stick together and they had the right attitude all the way."

The Orioles kicked things off Friday by edging the Carillon Sultans 3-1. The second round robin game then saw Pembina Valley clobber the regional rival Altona Bisons 20-2 Saturday

afternoon.

Against Carillon, the Orioles got great pitching from Kyle Dyck, who threw a complete game. Pembina Valley then let loose against the Bisons in game two.

"We asked the boys to clean up the errors," noted Odlum. "They came out and really cleaned it up, and we just hit and hit."

Sunday then brought them up against the Giants, and it was a close affair that saw Elmwood just barely win it 9-8. The Orioles rebounded to edge Altona 5-4 to earn a spot in the Monday night final.

"The boys played really well. We had a tough loss against Elmwood, but we rebounded and came out on top against Altona," Odlum said of Sunday's games. "Elmwood we knew was going to be a tough game. We went into extra innings. It was a back and forth game ... change one or two miscues that we had and we maybe could have come out on top of that one."

"Elmwood is one tough, tough team to play," he reflected, "and we gave them everything they could handle."

Elmwood's win the next night earned them the championship for the fourth season in a row.

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A young entrepreneur starting out?

Please share your story ideas at news@winklermordenvoice.ca Phone 204-332-3456

The Winkler Morden
Voice

Masterful Mimics

By John Gavloski, *Incredible Creatures*

Flies often get a lot of bad press. But there are many groups of flies that are beneficial. Some are good pollinators, others are valuable predators, and there are some that are beneficial as both. One such group of flies is the hover flies. One challenge, though, might be even identifying them as a fly.

At first glance, the hover flies in the photo may look like a wasp, but they are not. There are 593 species of hover flies (sometimes also known as flower flies) in Canada, and over 6,000 species worldwide. Adults of many species resemble bees or wasps. This mimicry may ward off predators. But hover flies can't sting. Flies do not have stingers, and only have a single functional pair of wings (the hind wings are reduced to balancing or-

gans). A wasp or bee's antennae are more noticeable than hover flies, and wasps have narrower waists than hover flies. Hover flies are also much better at hovering than bees and wasps. Adults of most species of hover flies are about 10-20 mm, but they can be up to 35 mm. In dry years like this, hover flies may land on us to gather a drink of sweat. If you can identify it as a hover fly, don't worry, you are just supplying them with insect Gatorade.

Adults often feed on nectar and/or pollen. Look for them around flowers. They can hover in place, like a hummingbird, and move around in all directions. They can be valuable pollinators, and are often considered the second-most important group of pollinators after bees.

If you have aphids starting to develop on a plant, that may also attract hover flies. As aphids feed, they excreted honeydew which creates an aroma that helps hover fly adults find an aphid colony to lay eggs near.

The more aphids and honeydew on a plant, the more likely it will be discovered by hover flies.

Larvae of most species of hover flies are slug-like, legless, and taper towards the head. Colour is commonly brown, greenish, pink, or whitish. Body contents visible through the outer covering of the body can cause larval colour to vary according to the color of what they eat. Mature larvae of most species are 5-20 mm long.

Larvae of most species are predators. Many species are important predators of aphids, and some may also feed on thrips, scale insects or small caterpillars. Larvae of some species are capable of destroying hundreds of aphids during their development. With no true eyes, hover fly larvae discover their victims by swinging their head to and fro, searching for prey with sensory structures located on the front end of its fleshy head. When it bumps into an aphid, it quickly snares its victim and sucks the fluids from its



body, and tosses the exoskeleton.

There are also some species of hover flies where the larvae live in ant or termite nests. Others live in shallow water that has decaying organic material; these have a long anal breathing tube, and are called "rat-tailed maggots."

Whether you see an adult hover fly manoeuvring like a helicopter, coming for a sip of sweat, or the larvae sucking the juice from an aphid, hover flies can be fun to watch. They also provide a bounty of benefits as pollinators and predators.

take a break

> GAMES

SUDOKU

	1	9			8			
		4						
				1	6		9	5
	8		9					3
9		7		2				
2				5		8		
					9	6		2
4	2			6				
								7

Fun By The Numbers

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

Level: Intermediate

Here's How It Works:

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

8	7	3	4	2	5	9	6	1
9	6	7	9	8	3	2	4	5
1	5	1	6	9	3	8	5	7
2	4	6	3	1	8	5	7	9
9	6	8	3	5	7	1	4	2
4	1	5	2	8	9	7	3	6
3	2	7	1	4	9	5	8	6
5	6	4	9	1	3	2	7	8
3	6	1	5	9	4	2	8	7
7	8	1	5	9	4	2	8	7
6	3	8	2	7	9	4	1	5

Sudoku Answer

A	V	C				B	E	N	
L	T	I				R	V	K	V
T	O	B	O			N	I	I	D
V	G	M	V			E	L	E	R
E	N	V	I	D	C	B	A	V	N
R	L	I	A	R		U	L	T	R
						P	E	L	E
						O	T	O	
						A	V	A	
						S	K	I	S
						O	A	V	E
						F	S		
						L	E	B	D
						T	A	S	
						P	R	A	V
						H	A	V	
						E	D	T	

Crossword Answer

CROSSWORD

CLUES ACROSS

- Midway between east and southeast
- Sun up in New York
- Japanese honorific
- Czech name for Prague
- Ochocinco's first name
- Steep cliffs (Hawaiian)
- Scots word for "home"
- Upper class young woman (abbr.)
- Monetary unit of Albania
- Raise
- Drain of resources
- Uncultured, clumsy persons
- Hikers use them
- Retrospective analysis (military)
- Tibetan form of chanting
- Influential European statesman
- Soluble ribonucleic acid
- Monetary unit of Romania
- Round green vegetable
- Well acquainted with
- Ribosomal ribonucleic acid
- Basics
- "The Godfather" actress Keaton
- Snakelike fish
- Tall deciduous tree
- Russian river
- Long Balkans river
- Ancient Greek coin
- Senegal's capital
- Unwell
- Snout
- Low bank or reef of coral

1	2	3				4	5	6	
7						8			9
10			11			12			
13						14	15		16
17				18				20	
21					22	23			24
					25			26	
					27	28			29
					30				31
					32				33
34	35	36	37	38					
39	40				41				42
43				44					45
46				47					48
49									50
									52

CLUES DOWN

- Abstain from
- Vast desert in North Africa
- Cover the crown of a tooth
- A major division of geological time
- Urban center
- Crook
- Parts per billion (abbr.)
- Questions
- A pack of 52 playing cards
- Recording of sound
- Pithy saying
- Atomic #22
- Soviet Socialist Republic
- Plant with ridged seedpods
- Innate
- Investigative body for

Congress (abbr.)

- Soda receptacle
- Spanish stew: __ podrida
- Viet Cong offensive
- Large body of water
- Beginning military rank
- Dissimilar
- Counteroffensive system (abbr.)
- Shows who you are
- Chinese dynasty
- Type of verse
- African nation
- Quite
- Former Bucks star Michael
- Showed again
- Body part
- Steal

get inspired

> MEAL IDEAS



Lamb Meatball and Veggie Skewers with Herb Sauce

1 cup flat leaf parsley
2 teaspoons fresh rosemary leaves, minced
2 tablespoons capers
1 lemon, juice only
2 cloves garlic
1/4 cup extra-virgin olive oil
grilled Italian bread, for serving
Soak skewers in water 10 minutes.

In large bowl, break apart ground lamb; add whisked eggs and breadcrumbs.

In small saute pan, add olive oil then saute yellow onion, garlic clove, coriander seeds, red pepper flakes, salt and pepper, to taste, about 5 minutes, until onion is translucent and spices are fragrant. Add to bowl with lamb. Mix until combined and form into roughly 1 1/2-ounce balls.

Add meatballs to skewers, alternating with onions and peppers. Cover and refrigerate 1 hour to ensure meatballs hold together during grilling.

To make herb sauce: In immersion blender, blend parsley, rosemary, capers, lemon juice, garlic and olive oil until smooth. Refrigerate until serving.

Preheat grill to medium-high heat.

Grill skewers about 3 minutes on each side, or until meatballs reach 150 F internal temperature. Rest 5 minutes. Serve with dipping sauce and grilled Italian bread.

Total time: 1 hour, 30 minutes
Yield: 6 skewers
6 wooden skewers
1 pound Atkins Ranch ground lamb
2 large eggs
2/3 cup Italian breadcrumbs
1 teaspoon olive oil
1/2 cup finely minced yellow onion
1 clove minced garlic
1/4 teaspoon coriander seeds, crushed
1/4 teaspoon red pepper flakes
1/2 teaspoon kosher salt
freshly ground black pepper, to taste
1 medium red onion, cut into 1-inch stacks
1 medium green bell pepper, cut into 1-inch stacks
1 medium red bell pepper, cut into 1-inch stacks
Herb Sauce:



Build-Your-Own Sausage Foil Packet Dinner

2 tablespoons parsley, chopped
Preheat oven to 425 F.

Cut foil into four sheets about 12 inches long.

Divide kielbasa, garlic, corn, tomatoes, onion and potatoes evenly over foil sheets. Drizzle with oil then season with salt and pepper, to taste. Toss gently to combine.

Top each packet with parsley and fold crosswise over kielbasa and vegetable mixture to completely cover food. Roll top and bottom edges to seal.

Place foil packets on baking sheet and bake 30 minutes.

Variations: Customize ingredients for personal preferences. Use broccoli in place of corn or substitute peppers for onions.

Prep time: 10 minutes
Cook time: 30 minutes
Servings: 4
1 package Coleman Natural Uncured Polish Kielbasa, sliced 1/2-inch thick
2 cloves garlic, minced
2 ears corn, each cut crosswise into four pieces
2 large tomatoes, chopped
1 medium red onion, thinly sliced
1 pound Yukon Gold potatoes, chopped into 1-inch pieces
2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
salt, to taste
pepper, to taste

Stuck in a rut of dread, anxiety or fear?

By Shawna Howard Certified Life Coach

Do you ever say or think things like "I can't stand this!", "I'll never make it through.", "One more thing and I'm gonna lose it!", "That's it! I'm done!"

When your alarm goes off in the morning are you already dreading the day? Woefully counting all the duties ahead. Do you have days where you just want to pull those covers back over your head and stay hidden from the world?

Honestly, I've been there too, more times than I care to remember! I've had mornings where I planned out the whole day inside my head and imagined everything that could possibly go wrong before my feet even hit the floor! Not a good way to start the day, I don't recommend it! Being uptight, full of dread and anxiety is definitely not the victorious life Jesus died to give us!

When life gets overwhelming, discouraging, or unfulfilling; it's time to look at exactly what's working and what's not. How on God's green earth did we arrive here? Somehow or another, it snuck up on us and now it's biting us right in the rear end! Stealing our peace, disintegrating our power, and manipulating our moods!

I want to encourage you today; no matter what situation you are in, you matter, your life matters and your specific calling ...matters. You are so deeply loved, needed, and wanted. I know this may seem incomprehensible when the storms of life are raging.

How do I find my way out of this?

Be intentional, pause, breathe and look up. Open your beautiful eyes and simply look up. There's the light, the truth, the answers and the reason to keep going and fighting for a fulfilling, enjoyable and exciting life. Do what you are being led to do and then lay the rest at the feet of Jesus.

This is not the time to be distracted or complaisant, it's your time to thrive! You are here at this exact time in history for a unique purpose, a specific calling. It may be time for a change!

My dad once told me that no matter how desperate life gets, there's always a reason to keep going. There's always hope. It's as simple as making a change. He said "Shawna, if life ever gets that bad, then do something different. Make a change. But never, never give up." (He was a Proverbs man.) Simple, wise words. Though, not always easy to implement.

Put things in perspective, assess, then act.

Slow down and take a long hard look at what you truly desire for your life. Where do you see yourself one year from now? 5 years from now? To get to where you want to go, it all starts with one solitary step. The de-

termined step that says "I've decided. I'm moving forward. I'm going to make that change! I'm going to be the change!"

Your time and energy are valuable. We all get 24 hours a day and it's up to us to dedicate time to our priorities. When was the last time you assessed your days activities and tasks? Keeping our priorities straight will help us be productive and lead to a greater sense of peace.

Obviously, we all have obligations; but there may be some things you can cut out, prioritize, or start doing, that will move you in the direction of a better more fulfilling tomorrow. No more hiding under the covers, dreading the day. No more wishing for things to be different.

The power to make a change is in you. You can be the force that changes things for the better! Be proactive in daily decisions and actions as you set your mind and keep it set. That vision you have for your future is attainable!

Sadly, some people wait until something tragic or life altering, forces them to look at how they're living. Others reach the end of their life and wonder what could have been, had they done things differently and had their priorities straight. Still others give up and settle, thinking this is just what life has dealt them and their dream is simply too far out of reach. Then, there are "wishers", who spend their time wishing but they aren't willing to put in the hard work, sacrifice and effort to see a change.

How can we possibly know what tomorrow will be like if we won't take the steps and make the commitment today to do what we will be happy with tomorrow?

It's a choice. If you aren't living your best life; that first step is calling your name. Your better life, is beckoning and reaching for your hand to pull you from that rut. Will you answer the call?

Some Coaching Questions for You:

1. What are your core values / top priorities in life? Does it show?
2. To get to where you want to be, what could you stop doing, start doing, do less or more of? Are you willing to put in the effort? Change your thinking? Look closely and evaluate your attitudes?
3. Have you settled for less than what you truly want? If so, in what areas?
4. If you were told today that you have only a limited time to live, what would you do differently?

You can reach me at daretosoarlife-coaching@gmail.com with your questions, comments and feedback.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Morden CITY OF MORDEN PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that the audited Financial Report of the City of Morden for the year ending December 31st, 2019, together with the related financial statements have been deposited in the office of the Director of Finance & Administration and are available for inspection by any person or his/her agent during regular business hours of Monday to Friday 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and that any person or his/her agent at their own expense may make a copy thereof or extracts therefrom.

Nicole Enns, CMMA, CMML
City Manager
City of Morden

CAREERS

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- Ability to read and understand drawings.
- Willing to train the right candidate.

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We thank all applicants for their interest, but only those considered for an interview will be contacted.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

**CITY OF MORDEN
PUBLIC NOTICE - BOARD OF REVISION
2022 REAL, PERSONAL AND BUSINESS
ASSESSMENT ROLLS**

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that the 2022 assessment roll for the City of Morden has been delivered to the Municipal Office at 195 Stephen Street, Morden, Manitoba and is open to public inspection during regular business hours. Applications for revision may be made in accordance with sections 42 and 43 of the Assessment Act:

APPLICATION FOR REVISION

A person in whose name property has been assessed, a mortgagee in possession of property under section 114(1) of The Real Property Act, an occupier of premises who is required under the terms of a lease to pay the taxes on the property, or the assessor may make application for the revision of an assessment roll with respect to:

- liability to taxation;
- amount of an assessed value;
- classification of property; or
- a refusal by an assessor to amend the assessment roll under subsection 13(2).

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

43(1) An application for revision must

- be made in writing;
- set out the roll number and legal description of the assessable property for which a revision is sought;
- state the grounds on which the application is based; and
- be filed by:

- delivering it or causing it to be delivered to the office indicated in the Public Notice given under subsection 41(2), or
- submitting it upon the Secretary,

at least fifteen (15) days before the scheduled sitting date of the Board of Revision indicated in the Public Notice. The Board of Revision will sit on **Monday, September 20, 2021 at 7:00 P.M.** in the Council Chambers of the City of Morden to hear applications.

The final date on which the Secretary of the Board may receive applications is **Tuesday, September 7, 2021 by 4:30 p.m. local time.**

Dated at Morden, in Manitoba, this 19th day of August, A.D. 2021.

Michelle Braun, Secretary
Board of Revision
City of Morden
100 - 195 Stephen Street
Morden, Manitoba
R6M 1V3



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**Plum Coulee Town
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Sat., Aug. 21, 2021
9:00am - 3:00pm**
Lunch is served at the park 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
**Contact Vicki
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Check out the Community Connections event at the park!

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PERSONALS

Dauphin, MB/Missing Person - AWOL/Centennial Farm Recipient, Raymond Alexander McKillop. Last known, 2012 living in Grand Prairie, Alberta. Any information to kwkck illop@sympatico.ca

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PUBLIC NOTICE

**Borderland P.C.
Association AGM
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Chief Administrative Officer

Hamiota Municipality is looking for an experienced Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) to manage daily Admin Operations. If you are highly efficient, a strategic thinker, and an organized natural leader, we want to meet you.

Under the direction of Council, the CAO is responsible for the overall management of Municipal Operations including: Administration, Supervision of Staff & Human Resource Management, Senior Election Official duties, Planning, Controlling, Reporting, providing updates and recommendations to Council and executing plans and programs in accordance with Council's guidelines and relevant policies.

- Qualifications:**
- CMMA Grad preferred
 - 3-5 years of direct experience in Municipal Administration
 - Strong computer skills, knowledge of Muniware preferred
 - Strong communications skills required. Dealing with the public, employees as well as external stakeholders

Salary & Compensation:

- Salary dependent upon qualifications and experience (Range: \$62,001 - \$120,828)
- An attractive benefit package is also provided

For a more information email info@hamiota.com or visit hamiota.com

AUCTION



Yard Equipment & Fabricating left overs, online, timed auction closing Sept 13, beginning at 6 pm.

For Mark and Margret Elias, 10 miles north of Morden on hwy 432 & two 1/4 miles east on mile 23, yard # 23059 on north side past THE TRAILER Factory.

John DEERE 3038E, Compact yard tractor, less than 900 hrs, lots of attachments, Ferris Zero Turn Mower 310 hrs, Terex, belted Skid steer with attachments, plenty of misc welding shop items and tools and misc iron etc. Check the website www.billklassen.com
Viewing date will be Monday Aug 30, 4 pm to 8pm. Payment and pickup Tuesday, Sept 14, 9 am to 5 pm or arrangements at buyers Risk.

See our website www.billklassen.com for list and pictures!

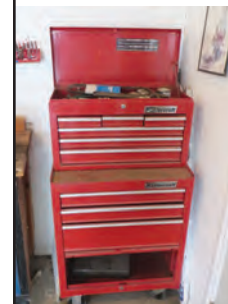


Ph: (204) 325-4433
Cell: (204) 325-6230
Fax: (204) 325-4484

AUCTION

Tool and household Auctions in Winkler, closing Friday Aug 27 at 6 pm.

Payment and pick-up on Saturday, Aug 28 from 9 am to 12 noon. For June Klassen 1565 Pembina Ave West and Susie Friesen- her items are at the Storage on Cargill Road. Viewing for both auctions will be Thursday, Aug 26 from 7 pm to 9pm at both locations. Payment will be online E-transfer, or cheque or cash or credit card, No Debit payment and will be at the Klassen residence 1565



Pembina, then come pickup on Cargill Road. Online timed auction www.billklassen.com
Register to bid by clicking on RED LINE farm auctions register here.

See our website www.billklassen.com for list and pictures!



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PUBLIC NOTICE

THE RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF THOMPSON PUBLIC NOTICE – BOARD OF REVISION

Public Notice is hereby given that the 2022 assessment roll for the Rural Municipality of Thompson has been delivered to the Municipal Office at 530 Norton Avenue, Miami, Manitoba and is open for public inspection during regular business hours. Applications for revision may be made in accordance with sections 42 & 43 of The Municipal Assessment Act:

APPLICATION FOR REVISION:

42 (1) A person in whose name property has been assessed, a mortgagee in possession of property under section 114 (1) of The Real Property Act, an occupier of premises who is required under the terms of lease to pay the taxes on the property, or the assessor may make application for the revision of an assessment roll with respect to the following matters:

- liability to taxation;
- amount of an assessed value;
- classification of property;
- a refusal by an assessor to amend the assessment roll under subsection 13 (2)

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:

43 (1) An application for revision must:

- be made in writing;
- set out the roll number and legal description of the assessable property for which a revision is sought;
- set out which of the matters referred to in subsection 42 (1) are at issue, and the grounds for each of those matters; and
- be filed by
 - delivering it or causing it to be delivered to the office indicated in the public notice given under subsection 41 (2), or
 - serving it upon the secretary, at least 15 days before the scheduled sitting date of the Board.

The Board of Revision will sit on Thursday, October 14th, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. in the Council Chamber of the Rural Municipality of Thompson to hear applications.

Applications must be received by the Secretary of the Board on or before Tuesday, September 28th, 2021.

Secretary
Board of Revision
The Rural Municipality of Thompson
530 Norton Avenue
P.O. Box 190
Miami, MB R0G 1H0



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ANNIVERSARY



Congratulations Mom and Dad (Theo and Carmen) on your 45th wedding anniversary!
-Love: Teneil, Amanda, Pierce, Brent, Terrell and Ollie

BIRTHDAY



Happy 70th Birthday Art Wiebe!
As you turn the age of 70, we give thanks for all the time we've spent together and we look forward to many more happy years.
Happy birthday Dad!
-Love, your kids

OBITUARY



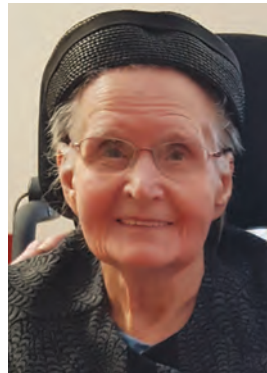
**Randolfe (Randy) John Harms
1958 - 2021**

On Monday August 9, 2021 Randy passed away at Boundary Trails Health Centre. He was a beloved father and step-father to Taryn (Jamil) and Jasmin, proud grandfather to Lochlan, loving spouse to Becki, treasured son to Susanna Harms, brother and cousin to Shirley (Paul) and Brian (Cindy) and their families. Randy will be deeply missed by his large extended family. He was predeceased by his father, John Harms
"Sometimes it's a little better to travel than to arrive". -R.M Pursig

Wiebe Funeral Chapel, Morden
In care of arrangements
wiebefuneralhomes.com



OBITUARY



**Helena Peters Penner (nee Friesen)
1926 - 2021**

Mom was born on December 20, 1926 to Peter P and Helena Friesen at the Thiessen farm in the village of Hoffnungsfeld, southwest of Winkler, MB. She was the second of 11 children. Upon confession of faith, Mom was baptized at the Winkler Sommerfeld Church on May 29, 1947. Mom married John A Peters on October 9, 1955, and they began what would be 34 years of farming in Burwalde and services to church. Their marriage was blessed with three sons and one daughter. Dad passed away on May 1st, 1990. Mom moved to Winkler in 1991 and began a new chapter in her life when she married Reverend John Penner on March 21, 1992. They lived in Winkler for a few months and then moved to Grunthal. With their marriage, Mom welcomed another daughter, two sons, one daughter-in-law and three more grandchildren into her life.

Mom's health gradually deteriorated over the past five years. She spent the last three years at the Menno Personal Care Home until her passing on Monday August 9th, 2021.

Left to mourn are her husband, Rev. John Penner; daughter, Sheila Froese and her husband, Bill, son, Doug Penner and his wife, Lisa, son, Terry Penner and his wife, Laura, nine grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. Also left to mourn is her biological family, son, Albert John Peters and his wife, Kathy, son, Bill Peters and his wife, Lee, daughter-in-law, Wendy Peters, daughter, Ruth Pauls and her husband, Albert, 13 grandchildren and 20 great-grandchildren as well as three brothers, one sister and their families. Mom was also predeceased by her son, David in 2019.

Rest in peace Mom, your battles with aging, Parkinson's and dementia are now over.
-Your loving family.
Funeral service was held on Sunday, August 15, 2021 at the Winkler Sommerfeld Mennonite Church with interment at the Rosenbach Cemetery.

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



OBITUARY



**John Martens
July 23, 1928 - August 12, 2021**

Peacefully on Thursday August 12th, 2021 at Tabor Home in Morden, MB John Martens passed away at the age of 93 years. John was predeceased by his parents, four sisters and two brothers. He is lovingly remembered by his wife, Sue, his son, Doug (Carol) from Winnipeg, MB, his daughter, Sharon (Robert) from Calgary, AB and son, Ken (Wendy) from Brandon, MB. He is also survived by his grandchildren, Miranda (Dustin), Michele, Chris (Lala) and Matthew (Meaghan) as well as three great grandchildren, Ethan, Caden and Deaken all of whom he loved dearly as well as several nieces and nephews who have graciously provided kindness and support over the years.

John and Sue were married on October 11, 1952. They had many experiences together over the past 68 years, living first in Morden and then moving to Fertile, SK. In 1958, they returned to Morden where Dad completed his journey man's ticket in plumbing and gas fitting. In 1965, they settled in Baldur, MB until 1993 when they retired "home" to Morden. In Baldur, Dad established Martens Plumbing and Heating and for 28 years he contributed to the community and was able to provide for his family. Our parent's marriage and life together has been a journey of and by the grace of God saying "Great is Thy Faithfulness" They were able to enjoy the gift of travel to Texas to escape from several of our long winters, go on an Alaskan cruise, many visits to Calgary to be with Sharon and a special trip in the Maritimes with Doug and Carol. Spending time with their grandchildren and great grandchildren brought them much joy and pleasure. Dad loved to tease and would do it with a "twinkle in his eye". Dad was a kind hearted, gentle, caring man who loved his family. He had a sense of humor and readily shared a joke with anyone he met. He had an open welcoming personality and genuinely loved people.

The family would like to say a big thank you to the many home care workers at Homestead who supported Dad prior to his admission to Tabor. We are also appreciative of the care he has received in Tabor Home since June 2020.

A funeral service celebrating John's life was held on Tuesday, August 17, 2021 at Westside Community Church in Morden, MB with interment at Chapel Cemetery.


Should family or friends so desire, donations in memory of John may be made to a charity of your choice.

Messages of condolences may be offered to the family at www.wiebefuneralhomes.com

Wiebe Funeral Chapel, Morden
In care of arrangements
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