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Voice

VOLUME 12 EDITION 49

THURSDAY,
DECEMBER 9, 2021

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For a few
more pho-
tos, see Pg.
12.



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Around the rink with St. Nick

news > sports > opinion > community > people > entertainment > events > classifieds > careers > everything you need to know

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PHOTOS BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE



Lighting up for the season

Over 30 houses took part in the City of Winkler's Light Up the Season decorating contest last weekend. The top three residential winners included 40 Bonnevillle Bay (top left), 87 Stingray Bay (top right), and 576 Collegiate Dr. (above). The top business entry was Jim Smith Accounting on Main St. "It was really lots of fun driving around and taking a look at everything," said Coun. Henry Siemens in announcing the winners. He noted the judges had a difficult time indeed picking the top entries. The list of participating homes is available online at lightuptheseason.ca. At the city's virtual tree lighting ceremony Monday, Mayor Martin Harder was joined by Nathan Knight in the countdown to flip the switch on the lights in Bethel Heritage Park. The evening also included a song from Cheyenne Wiebe, Mikaela Wiebe, and Josiah Penner.

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The *Winkler Morden*

Voice

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Fire breaks out at landfill

By Ashleigh Viveiros

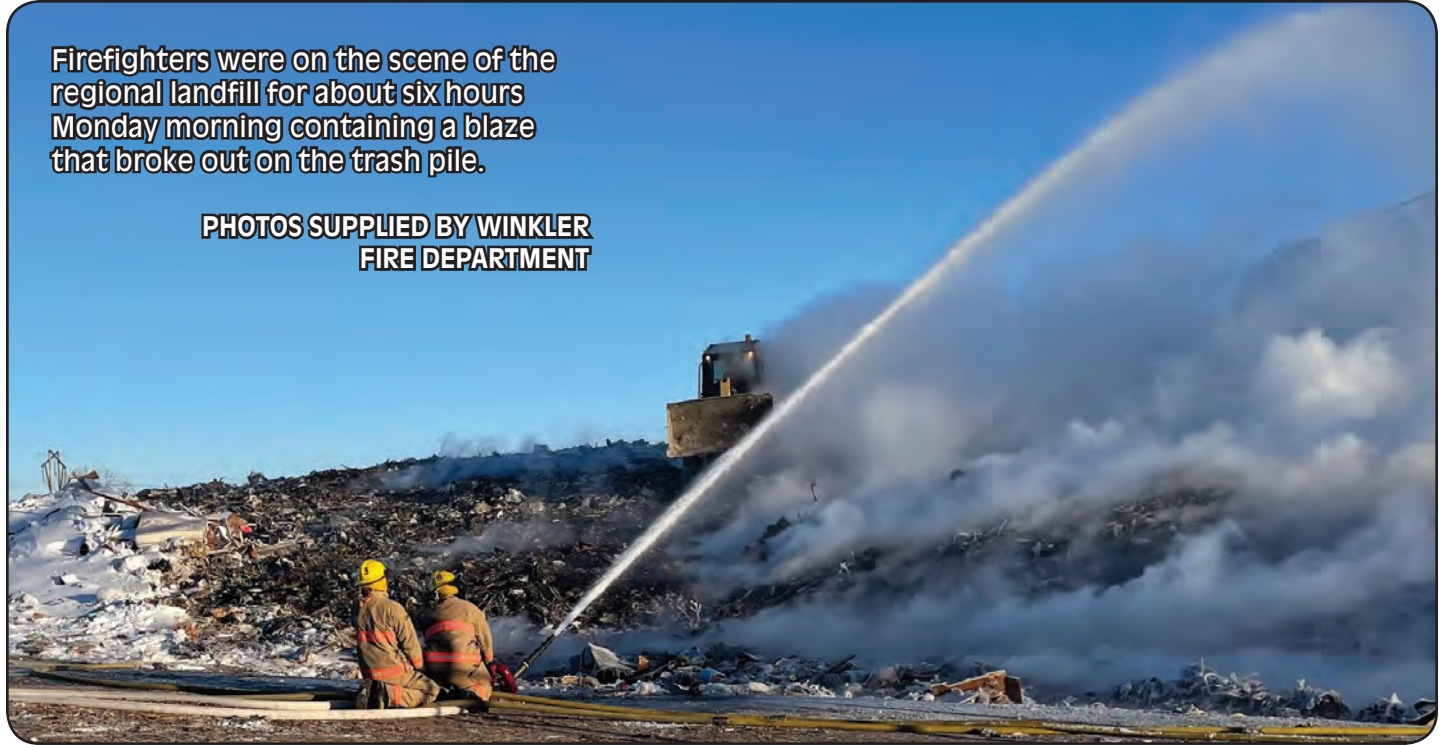
Firefighters were called to the SWAMP landfill early Monday morning.

Winkler Fire Department Chief Richard Paetzold said they were at the scene a little before 6 a.m. after a fire broke out in the garbage pile.

The blaze encompassed a full three-quarters of the cell, the chief said, but firefighters were able to get it under control and prevent it from spreading further.

"It was basically an area that wasn't capped by dirt yet," said Paetzold. SWAMP staff regularly cover compacted trash to prevent it from blowing in the wind and limit the potential for fire.

"We basically just held it at bay while heavy equipment came in and packed it down and then they were going to



Firefighters were on the scene of the regional landfill for about six hours Monday morning containing a blaze that broke out on the trash pile.

PHOTOS SUPPLIED BY WINKLER FIRE DEPARTMENT

cap it later today"

The cause of the blaze is undetermined.

Firefighters worked in shifts to stay warm amidst the frigid -30 windchill that morning.

"Because there wasn't much at risk, we definitely weren't taking any chances," Paetzold said. "We cycled the guys, two on each line. So we had six guys out working the lines at a time for half an hour or so and then they switched off with guys that were warmed up sitting in the trucks."

They were at the scene for about six hours.



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Morden

DECEMBER

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|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
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Please be aware that a change has been made to the December curbside pickup schedule.

←

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Local leaders navigate pandemic challenges

By Lorne Stelmach

With so much attention on this region in recent months amidst the continuing pandemic, local leaders have often found themselves thrust very much into the spotlight.

There has clearly been some contrasts between Morden Mayor Brandon Burley and Winkler Mayor Martin Harder in how they've lead their communities through the past couple of years.

Having had COVID himself, Burley has been especially vocal against those who are anti-vaccine and unaccepting of restrictions, even speaking out publicly against other municipal leaders for not setting a good example or actively spreading misinformation.

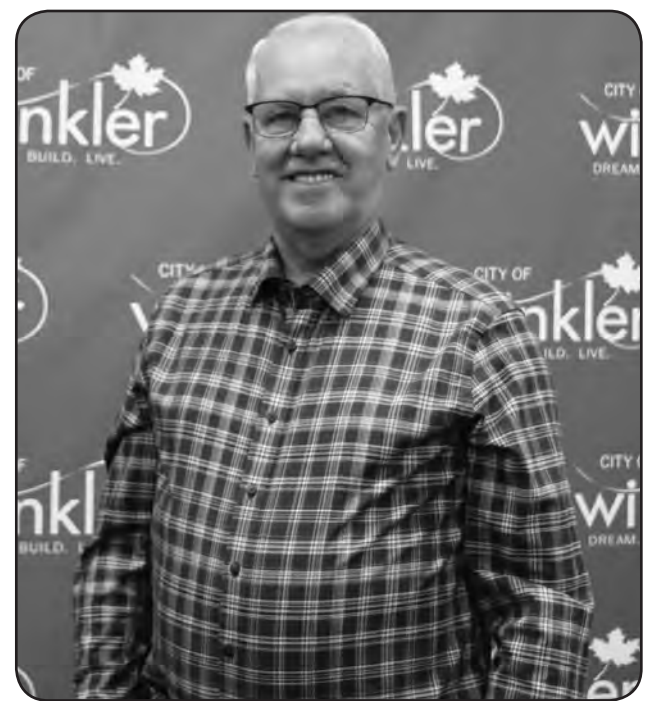
Harder has consistently encouraged his constituents to get vaccinated, though he's also been vocal in his criticisms of the provincial government's handling of the pandemic, including being involved with the Open MB campaign that lobbied for the safe re-opening of small businesses during the lockdowns.

As the pandemic has unfolded, both mayors have received a great deal of pushback every time they've been asked to weigh-in on the issues of the day, and it's clearly taken a toll.

"There is just so much animosity around these days that it's hard to handle," observed Harder, who recalled thinking early on that "the damage to our communities and to our country is going to be worse as the fallout of COVID-19 than the disease itself ... and if I look at the ridicule that is coming from outside of this community, I wish I wouldn't have to say I was right. I know it is going to take a generation to heal."

In getting involved with the Open MB campaign, Harder emphasized its message was very much about being safe but also being more fair with restrictions.

"We obviously have a very mixed opinion as to what's the right thing to do and what isn't the right thing to do," he said. "It was fully with the intent of opening our business community, asking for a fair distribution of requirements right across Manitoba. At that time, the small businesses, in my opinion, were being singled out and being closed down ... and the big



VOICE FILE PHOTOS

Morden Mayor Brandon Burley (left) and Winkler Mayor Martin Harder have been the face of their respective communities through the pandemic. It's taken a toll, but both have their eye on the end goal: getting through this global crisis and out on the other side of it.

box stores were able to operate."

Harder received a fair bit of criticism for taking that stance, though he feels some critics put words in his mouth.

"I said be safe. I did not say don't get vaccinated. I did not say you should go to work [sick]. I just said be safe, be fair, and we need to open so we can in fact open and carry on and pay our bills.

"To me, it has been a hard place to be because I fully a hundred per cent believe that the vaccine has made a huge difference," said Harder, who added that he maintains the hope "for people to finally get the idea that yes, I need to be tested, yes, I need to be restricting myself ... just don't go and spread it to anybody else. ... we have a responsibility and an obligation to protect each other. And I wish people would just stick to that now."

He also addressed the criticism that came his way for addressing attendees of a Winkler rally earlier this fall protesting vaccination/testing requirements.

"Since when is it wrong to listen to somebody?" he responded when asked why he attended. "I very, very clearly at that gathering promoted vaccinations ... people are so quick to jump to conclusions by what they see rather than what actually happened."

He expressed his disappointment at the hit Winkler's reputation has taken in recent months, as vaccination rates in the area continue to lag significantly behind the rest of the province.

"When this all first came around ... when the restrictions started coming

in, our region had no cases; Winnipeg had the cases," Harder said in cautioning people about being too quick to point fingers and lay blame. "I have had the same threats, the same accusations, and very interestingly and recently the pressure from outside our area, looking at us and thinking how stupid we are here.

"It's about getting to the end, and that, as a local politician, has been the most frustrating," he continued. "I have the pressure on both sides ... I have been vocal about people getting vaccinated, as I am today. My position hasn't changed.

"We do need to do some things different. We need to make sure that people understand that we are there to care for each other, not just simply, 'What my rights are,'" he said. "My rights become nothing compared to someone else's rights, and I wish that message would get through to people."

SPEAKING OUT, PUSHING BACK

Burley's outspoken approach has of course been in part coloured by he and his family having contracted the virus last year.

The bottom line for him, though, is

to look at and acknowledge the data that clearly shows the toll that COVID is taking on our world.

"Those are numbers that don't lie. They are very clear that COVID-19 is dangerous, and I think to take the position that we would flirt with disinformation or we would not look and act on the best information possible,

I think, would be a reckless approach," said Burley.

"There's a need to counter-balance the messaging. In particular, there are some very vocal and very loud people who have opinions, but not qualified opinions. There's a difference between opinion and qualified opinion ... I think we've lost the

ability to distinguish.

"There are consistent flaws in the information or sources of information as well as in the logic applied to data," he continued. "Largely, I felt the pushback was necessary because I felt there were voices having outsized influence on the region, and those voices were detrimental to the health and safety of our communities."

He acknowledged the challenge of maintaining his stance with all the heat that he has taken from some people, including having one protest rally pass by right outside his home.

"THIS IS OUR ROLE AND A DUTY ... TO HAVE TO PUSH BACK, BECAUSE THE SAFETY OF OUR COMMUNITY IS AT STAKE."

"IT IS GOING TO TAKE A GENERATION TO HEAL."

New picnic shelter up at Lake Minnewasta

Morden Elks donation made it possible

By Lorne Stelmach

A local community service organization stepped up to help make a new picnic shelter a reality at Lake Minnewasta.

The Morden Elks Lodge donated \$20,000 for the shelter from the proceeds of the past year's annual fundraising lottery.

"We have a good relationship with the city ... we often contact them when we're looking for a project," said Rob Dudgeon, chairperson of the lottery, which sees half of the proceeds go to the winners and the other half towards a community project.

"It's a good project for us ... and the club members pull up their socks and

get the tickets sold, and right now, with COVID, that's really the only option that we have," he noted. "We're fortunate to be able to still do this and keep the club going and keep people interested."

The club has put about \$100,000 back into the community as a result of the lottery over the past decade. City officials lauded their commitment to the betterment of Morden.

"The Elks have been so supportive of work that we have done. They always look for things that really help the community and help youth, and a lot of that is also what we are trying to do," said Clare Agnew, director of community services for the City of Morden. "We appreciate the support.



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Clare Agnew, director of community services, with Morden Elks Lodge lottery chair Rob Dudgeon (centre) and beach and campground manager Brian Thiessen in front of the new picnic shelter at Lake Minnewasta.

You can see things like picnic shelters and play structures and all kinds of things that have the Elks logo on it."

> BURLEY, FROM PG. 4

"It obviously isn't an easy path," said Burley, who noted the toll it has taken on his wife and family. "My children have been in fear.

"We have had to swim upstream in this both in the public and in private family life," he said, adding that he has also been heartened by those who have been increasingly voicing their support to him.

He sees speaking out in favour of vaccination and against misinformation as being connected to his role as mayor in the sense of having to act to protect the community that he was elected to serve.

"This is our role and a duty, more than anything, to have to push back, because the safety of our community is at stake ... in an unbridled and out of control pandemic, we've seen around the world what it can do," he said. "We're at significant risk of overwhelming our capacities ... life-saving procedures are being put on the back burners because of capacity issues, and that's coming from our inability to get the pandemic under control.

"We're looking at years ahead of us still in terms of health impacts on communities," he continued. "So we do have a duty not to act against the best interests of our communities, at a minimum. There is a duty there for everyone who is a leader or has a sphere of influence to challenge and to try to, as best they can, understand what the problem is and then

how they need to approach it in response and in a responsible way."

He is always prepared to try to engage with people but acknowledged that "sometimes, the verbiage and the language" stray from being kind.

"There's a higher bar ... I've tried to hold people who make claims of 'plandemics' or global conspiracies to a general logical principle that extraordinary claims require extraordinary evidence ... I would say that some of the claims made on behalf of COVID being fake news or planned or a hoax are so extraordinary that they would require a standard of evidence that I just don't see being applied."

He particularly drew attention for his response to RM of La Broquerie Reeve Lewis Weiss for speaking at a protest rally and spreading misinformation.

"I was very sick with COVID ... and to see somebody who is a peer go out in public and get no real response at the municipal level, I think it set a dangerous tone," explained Burley. "Every good conspiracy begins with a quasi-expert, and they had that, had somebody who would preach it, and they had somebody who appeared to have authority in government. You're abusing the role, and of course there was no evidence forthcoming from Reeve Weiss [to back up his claims]."

Continued on page 6

#PROTECT
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KIDS



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To book, go to ProtectMB.ca or call 1-844-626-8222

Manitoba 

The *Winkler Morden*
Voice



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getheard

EDITORIAL > VIEWPOINTS > LETTERS

It came from Pete's brain

By now, faithful reader, you know me enough to know that I am nothing if not radically too open about some of my "stuff" (my middle initials could be TMI). In the spirit of this, strap in ...

About a month ago there was an incident while I was watching television: a strange blurry spot blossomed in my vision, grew to a kaleidoscope-like ring and slowly disappeared. It lasted about 10-15 minutes. This occurred a few more times over the following days and always left a permanent spot in the centre of my vision just southwest of the middle.



By Peter Cantelon

The spot bends light around it in a way best described as though I am always walking around with my own pet singularity hovering just in front of me. I cannot see through it. It is small (about thumbnail sized at arm's length) but it completely obscures what's behind it. As I look at the screen while writing this I cannot see some of the words.

For reasons that may not be too obvious, I have named it Athena.

Having a sister who has had two torn retinas, I decided it was wise to get this checked out as quickly as possible. I went to the optometrist and

had various mapping done. Nothing showed up as a concert. At 53, I have great vision from an eyeball perspective.

Queue the unfortunate but inevitable search of the internet, which simply convinced me I am dying in 1001 different ways, each more horrible than the next.

Realizing the foolishness of this, I then went to my doctor and now—two CT scans, an MRI, and two IVs later—they have mapped a 1 cm x 1.5 cm "something" in my right occipital lobe (the part of the brain responsible for vision).

I say "something" because it is likely a hemorrhage (stroke) but we cannot know for sure until I see a neurologist. The neurologist will determine what it is, hopefully why it is, and what needs to be done to treat it, which may include surgery.

Speaking of the neurologist ... the two who have reviewed my scans so far are not quite sure what it is but are proceeding as though it was a stroke for the time being. However they do not know what kind of stroke (if it was a stroke) and they are also not ruling out a cancerous mass.

Personally, I suspect a cockroach snuck into my ear while I was sleeping in a hotel room not long ago, but this seems unlikely.

In the meantime, the carnival cruise of medical testing begins in earnest. This morning my amazing family doctor (Dr. Tyler Atchison in Carman) sent me details of what will be happening in the foreseeable future.

Neurology is going to review my scans in greater detail to determine if urgent neurosurgery is required; bloodwork is being ordered to rule

out infectious disease or autoimmune issues; an ECG has been ordered as well as a 48 hour heart monitor to look for possible arrhythmias; a CT angiogram/venogram of the brain is on the way; another MRI in a month to check on "Athena"; referral to the Stroke Prevention Clinic as an outpatient at some point and a formal communication to MPI, as I am currently on a driving hold.

Whew. It's a lot.

Some of you (hopefully far older than me) are saying to your significant other right now, Oy! That's nothing. I go through all of that and 200 pills in a day! He should count himself lucky! And I do. Trust me.

I have a fantastic support network including my wife, kids, siblings, friends, and extended family. They are all fantastic. My board is letting me work remotely and my staff have been superheroes through the entirety so far.

Of all the amazing people I have around me my wife bears this load the most (perhaps even more than me because she has to deal with all of my dark, gallows humour throughout). She is the love of my life and I suspect going through this without her would be wildly different.

Why am I telling you any of this? Honestly, I just feel better taking you on this journey with me and Athena. My mum passed away when she was 67 of what's called a subarachnoid hemorrhage (a type of brain bleed) and so this stuff weighs a little.

I don't need anything from you—just journey with me and I will keep you posted. Thanks for listening.

> BURLEY, FROM PG. 5

The cracks the pandemic has caused locally will take time to heal, Burley observed, but first we need to get through the crisis at hand.

"We need to be alive, and we need to be able to reconcile with those around us, and we need to be able to live together in a post pandemic world," he said. "I would say be kind, but don't let your kindness lead you

into a position where you can't confront untruths or disinformation. If you're going to do the right things, you'll get pushback. And pride is a terrible thing, so there will need to be humility on both sides."

Burley concluded on a hopeful note.

"Have the conversations but have them in public, have them out in the

open, and have them transparently and be ready to be wrong," he said. "It's a tough time, but everywhere, there are glimmers of hope ... there's a lot of people in this region who have done the right things and do that even in opposition with family and friends."

Family Fun prize calendar on sale now

Cathy Savage with a few of the prize packages up for grabs in the Family Fun February prize calendar.

PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE



Funds support Winkler, Morden early childhood programming

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler Family Resource Centre and the Morden and Parent Child Resource Centre have launched pre-sales for their Family Fun February prize draw calendar just in time for the holidays.

"February may seem like a long ways away, but it will be here before you know it," says executive director Cathy Savage, noting they got a lot of positive feedback for their pre-Christmas sale of the calendar last year. "It gives people something to look forward to ... and it makes a great stocking stuffer."

The calendar is once again packed full of daily prizes donated by local businesses. It runs the gamut from gift cards and gift baskets to hotel stays, tickets to local and Winnipeg attractions, toys, games, puzzles, and

more.

"This year we have great prizes already," Savage says, adding that participating businesses last year had a lot of fun pulling a prize together, with many local entrepreneurs using the calendar as a way to get their name and product out there. "Lots of small businesses got some new customers thanks to the calendar, which was great to see."

Numerous Morden-Winkler businesses have provided prizes for the calendar already, but Savage says there are still a few days open if anyone else would like to come on board as a prize sponsor.

Resource centre staff will draw a winner every day in February and announce the winning ticket on social media.

"Every single day there's a prize package that you can win," she said, explaining that once you win your ticket comes out of the pool, so you need to buy more than one calendar for a crack at multiple prizes.

All funds raised to go support the resource centres' free early childhood education programming. When you purchase a calendar, you can decide whether you'd like your donation to

go to support Morden or Winkler programming.

Calendars are \$10 each or three for \$25. Contact Savage at 204-332-9418 or winklerfrfc@gmail.com for more details.

Anyone who orders a calendar in advance will get a placeholder to give out as a gift and then the actual calendar in the new year.

Calendars aside, Savage notes year-end is a perfect time for businesses and individuals alike to make a charitable donation to the resource centres.

It's a way, she says, to invest in your community through a great set of programs for the next generation.

For donation details, head online to winklerfamilyresourcecentre.com or contact Savage at the number above.

MWM working on recycling diversion in wake of Gateway fire

By Ashleigh Viveiros

With the Gateway Resources processing depot closed to communities outside Winkler for the next several months, MWM Environmental has had its hands full finding alternative places to bring its recycling.

The company, which picks up recycling for Morden, Carman, the RM of Lorne, and the RM of Stanley, normally hauls upwards of 90 tonnes a month to Gateway, general manager Tim Oliver said in an email last week.

Since the end of September, though, that option has been closed to them in the wake of the fire that destroyed Gateway's processing building. The non-profit is planning to reopen on a limited basis to handle only Winkler recycling until the building can be rebuilt next summer.

In the meantime, over the past few months MWM has sent what recycling it could to processing depots in Altona and Portage la Prairie, Oliver said, though some of it has wound up in the local landfill.

"Sometimes time restraints make it so we are unable to get to the facil-

ity in time, which results in some of the material going to the landfill," he said. "This is always a last resort and it comes with a great feeling of disappointment."

"One thing that we don't want is for people to stop recycling. It is such an important part of our lives and we need to stay on point with this," Oli-

ver stressed. "Unfortunately, with the events that have occurred with Gateway we have had to make some hard decisions that have come with a cost."

An agreement is in the works to divert some of the recycling to Penner Waste. Oliver noted they hope to begin hauling material there by mid-week.

"We hope to work with Penner Waste on all the recycling," he said. "Some of it will go back to Gateway once they are back up and running but we plan on continuing to haul some of the material to Penner Waste as well."

Southern Health test positivity rate over double rest of province

By Voice staff

Public health officials Monday announced six more deaths due to COVID-19 and 539 new cases.

Saturday saw the case count jump by 191, Sunday it was 211 (the highest it's been in months), and Monday's new cases numbered 137. Manitoba's active caseload at press time was at 1,613.

Breaking it down by region, Winnipeg added 186 cases over the weekend followed by Southern Health-Santé Sud with 176, Northern with 79, and Interlake-Eastern and Prairie Mountain with 49 each.

A total of 152 Manitobans are in hospital due to COVID-19, including 104 with active COVID-19 (still infectious). A further 30 people are in intensive care, including 24 who are still actively contagious.

Of the active hospital admissions, 67 per cent of patients were either not vaccinated at all (62 per cent) or only partially vaccinated (five per cent).

In intensive care, the unvaccinated make up 92 per cent of the active cases.

With the weekend's reported deaths, a total of 1,334 Manitobans have died due to COVID-19.

The five-day COVID-19 test positiv-

ity rate was 6.3 per cent provincially and 4.1 per cent in Winnipeg on Monday.

Last week, the province updated its regional test positivity rates. Southern Health, which has the lowest vaccination uptake in Manitoba, had a test positivity rate of 15 per cent.

No cases of the new omicron variant have been detected in Manitoba yet.

In the Pembina Valley, Winkler was reporting 45 cases Monday followed by 30 in Morden, 29 in Altona, 23 in Lorne/Louise/Pembina, 11 in Carman, eight in Stanley, seven in Grey, four in Roland/Thompson, and two each in Morris and Red River South.

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

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NEWS > VIEWS > WINKLER > MORDEN > SURROUNDING AREAS

Chamber “shop local” truck back on the road

By Lorne Stelmach

The Morden and District Chamber of Commerce is helping spread some cheer again this holiday season.

The chamber is back on the road with its decorated truck to help spread the word about the importance of shopping locally.

Its role is a little different this year, as the truck last year was deployed amidst pandemic restrictions to serve as a delivery service for local businesses. This Christmas, it is just serving as a promotional tool to encourage and promote shopping locally.

“The chamber of commerce is working hard to spread the ‘support local, love local’ message in the community,” said executive director Candace Collins. “It’s already been out and about, and I’m sure everyone will see it and hear it out and about ... it’s lit up, and we’ll have music playing as well.”

The chamber worked with Checker Signs to get the vehicle all decked out for the season, and it will serve to also



SUBMITTED PHOTO BY VLADIMIR TITARENKO

The Morden chamber’s “shop local” truck is back on the road this holiday season, encouraging people to support area businesses as they go about their Christmas shopping.

highlight a contest around the #ShopMorden theme with the chamber set to give away 10 \$200 prizes until Dec. 20.

“We have actually a bunch of gift cards to local restaurants and busi-

nesses that we will be handing out sporadically,” Collins said. “We want to see people post to social media and picture showing how they are supporting local ... all they have to do is use #shopmorden, make a post, and

that hashtag automatically gets them entered to win.

“It can be anything that you’re doing to support local,” she said. “We hope to see lots of posts showing how people love their local business community. We want to give back to those people who are supporting local through this initiative.”

In addition, the chamber will also be giving away some “stay and play” packages. There will be four valued at \$500, including a one night hotel stay at the Best Western as well as gift cards or passes for a local restaurant, salon, and attraction.

“We are going to ask people to nominate someone,” said Collins, who encouraged people to check the chamber website and social media for more information and to make their nominations by email to the chamber. “We want to hear about someone that you think you would like to spread some cheer to ... it’s paying it forward to someone else.”

Safe Driving Week takes aim at distracted driving

By Lorne Stelmach

Focusing entirely on the road when driving is not a part-time responsibility.

It may seem to be a simple message, but it is unfortunately something too many people still lose sight of, so it is the focus of this year’s National Safe Driving Week.

The initiative for Dec. 1-7 is a joint promotion of the Canada Safety Council, Manitoba Public Insurance (MPI) and the Insurance Brokers Association of Manitoba (IBAM),

You simply can’t watch the road and check your smart phone at the same time, as even a quick glance can lead to a preventable collision, said Grant Wainikka, CEO of IBAM, who noted people in general are mindful of the dangers, but the statistics show it is still a concern.

“I think there’s a certain fear of missing out ... the tendency is to want to check [your phone], and we’ve become such an immediate culture that you want to check it as soon as possible,” said Wainikka.

“We know that distracted driving is very dangerous ... distracted driving is a leading cause of fatalities on Manitoba roads ... so this is still a thing to be cognizant of and to raise awareness about.

“We’re concerned about our customers and want them to be safe when they drive ... sometimes minor behavioural changes can help lead to that,” said Wainikka. “Consumer protection is top of mind. This is what insurance brokers do for their clients. We can think of no better way of promoting consumer protection.”

Transport Canada estimates that distraction, which is often attributed to cell phone and device use, contributes to 21 per cent of fatal collisions and 27 per cent of serious injury collisions.

Overall, driver distraction is a leading contributor to fatal crashes in Manitoba, linked to nearly 50 per cent of all fatalities and 37 per cent of all serious injuries last year, according to MPI data.

In 2020, there were a total of 44,339

reportable traffic collisions on public roadways in Manitoba—70 of these were fatal collisions, while there were 5,667 injury collisions.

A 2018 survey by CAA reported Canadians view distracted driving as the number one threat to their personal safety on the road. Manitobans acknowledge the risk of distracted driving, but some still make the choice to do it.

In MPI’s 2021 traffic safety culture survey, 95 per cent of Manitobans express that using or checking a hand-held cellphone while driving is unacceptable. Of various behaviours that could cause a collision, checking/using a hand-held cellphone while driving was the highest rated potential hazard, with 86 per cent indicating it is likely to cause a collision.

Yet, in the same survey, 25 per cent admitted to driving while using a hand-held cellphone.

When your attention is not fully on the road, the impacts can be numerous—less visual scanning of your surroundings, reduced opportunities to

identify visual cues, less time to react to your surroundings and a reduction in critical brain resources needed to assess the road ahead.

“Technology has made the task of driving easier in many ways,” said Gareth Jones, president and CEO of the Canada Safety Council. “But when technology pulls our attention away from the road, we are taking on risk and need to carefully consider how and when technology is used.”

“Driver distraction is a high-risk driving behaviour and can be changed by the driver,” said Eric Herbelin, CEO and president of MPI. “Driving requires 100 per cent of your attention and concentration. Anything less can result in a crash. Our objective is to reduce fatalities, injuries and collisions in our province. This can be accomplished when drivers make the right decisions.

“The stakes are high for our customers—death, injury, property damage, fines and financial impacts on auto insurance premium and driver licence fees.”

Docs answer questions about the COVID-19 vaccine for children

By Lorne Stelmach

An online town hall last week gave Manitobans a chance to ask questions and hear from medical experts on the pediatric COVID-19 vaccine.

The session hosted by Doctors Manitoba Nov. 30 focused on the vaccine recently authorized by Health Canada for children aged five to 11, and it covered such topics as the benefits and risks of vaccination and the effectiveness of the vaccine.

The hope was to help ensure parents have the facts to make a fully-informed decision about vaccinating their children.

The panel of five doctors stressed the vaccine offers the best protection against COVID-19 and related complications, and they also sought to offer assurances about its safety and particularly about the risk of side effects.

"Immunizing your child helps to add that added level of public health security in managing the pandemic," said Dr. Ruth Grimes, president of the Canadian Paediatric Society. "With the evidence that we have so far, it seems that those major complications can be dealt with quite handily."

"The best thing I can say is that we know a lot about the immune system and how it responds to vaccines, how it responds to infections ... and what we see in every other infection and every other vaccine is a lack of long term surprise side effects," said Dr. Joss Reimer, medical officer of health and medical lead for the Manitoba Vaccine Implementation Task Force.

"We don't see people five years, 10 years, 20 years later having some unexpected damage to their body because of their immune response, and so we're very reassured that this will

be the same thing because the immune system hasn't changed."

"Collectively, pediatricians are very good at looking for signals that would warn us about safety in this particular age group, and we haven't seen anything to date ... so that's reassuring," noted Dr. Jared Bullard, section head of pediatric infectious diseases and associate medical director of Cadham Lab. "In addition, we'll be continuing to monitor for any sort of safety concerns or signals going forward."

The hour and a half long session covered a lot of ground, including even the doctors' thoughts on talking to your children about vaccination, with Dr. Marni Hanna, president of the Manitoba Pediatric Society, touching on her experience with her own daughter.

"We talked about it positively at home, and she saw how excited we were to get our COVID shots, and she knows that this means something big for her," said Hanna. "If you know your kid is really anxious, try to book their appointment in an environment where they feel safer ... in a place they feel familiar with."

Do whatever is needed for them to feel comfortable and give children some degree of control over the environment and situation, added Grimes.

Hanna addressed a question about whether the vaccine might in any way affect a child's development or even future fertility, and she stressed there was no basis to support that thought and that the risk instead is from getting COVID.

"If you get really, really sick [with COVID-19], in a child, that can lead to developmental delay ... so it really makes a lot more sense to get the vaccine."

Bullard addressed a youth's questions about the smaller dose for children and age considerations.

"When we were looking at this particular vaccine, we actually did look at different amounts, and we looked at all sorts of kids," he said. "There's really no reason to put off getting that vaccination ... the sooner you get the vaccine, the sooner you're going to see the benefits of getting that vaccine."

The doctors then went on to the waiting period for the second dose, noting that their current recommen-



SCREENSHOT

Dr. Joss Reimer, medical lead of Manitoba's vaccination campaign, was joined by a panel of other medical professionals for a virtual town hall hosted by Doctors Manitoba last week to field questions about the COVID-19 vaccine for children.

dation is an eight week period even though Health Canada has approved it a 21-day period.

"The reasoning for spacing it out by eight weeks instead is that a longer interval provides longer lasting and stronger protection," suggested Hanna.

"There can be some flexibility because everyone's treatment plan is a bit different," added Ashley Chopek, a pediatric oncology and bone marrow transplant specialist.

"Overall, we really do want kids to get that eight week interval because it works better and we think it's safer ... it's probably still worth waiting ... I wouldn't rush that second dose," said Reimer, who noted one exception is related to First Nations communities where there is elevated risk. In that instance, they want to get the second doses done sooner because of the more severe outcomes being seen in some of these locations.

Hanna also noted that they don't want families to wait too long if their children have recently had other vaccinations, but they are recommending other vaccines not be given within two weeks of the COVID-19 shots.

"The main reason for that is to monitor for potential side effects ... it makes it very confusing if they've had multiple vaccines at one time ... however, there may be special situations."

Addressing further questions about

side effects, Hanna said they are primarily local where they received the injection (a sore arm), but there can be some systemic side effects such as fever, chills, muscle ache and fatigue, although they are believed to be much less common in the younger age group of children.

Reimer reiterated that studies did not show any more severe outcomes among younger children than any other age group, but it is something they continue to watch very carefully.

"We're talking about incredibly low numbers ... it's still such a low risk compared to what this infection is doing in our communities," she said.

Reimer also touched briefly on the most recent COVID variant of concern and noted that they still have more to learn about it.

"I think it's very clear that experts are worried about it, but we don't know how much more transmissible it is; we don't know the impact that it will have on how well the vaccine works, but what we do know is that the vaccine will work against this variant," she said.

"Is it going to be a little bit lower effectiveness? Maybe. We're far too early to know," she said. "If you're vaccinated, you still have an army ready to go ... don't hold back on being as fully protected as you can be."

For more information, you can go online to ManitobaVaccine.ca. The site, created by physicians about COVID-19 vaccines, will be updated with answers to common questions about the pediatric vaccines.

"WE'LL BE CONTINUING TO MONITOR FOR ANY SORT OF SAFETY CONCERNS OR SIGNALS MOVING FORWARD."

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Where your trash ends up—and how some of it is repurposed

By Ashleigh Viveiros

This coming February will mark five years since Brent Kletke came on board as the manager of SWAMP, the Solid Waste Area Management Project for Morden, Winkler, and Stanley.

It's a fancy name for a simple municipal necessity: the regional landfill.

On a tour of the 160-acre site earlier this fall, Kletke's enthusiasm for improving the 25-year-old landfill was clear.

Chief among the improvements of late is the residential tipping area.

It used to be that people were directed to the towering garbage pile when they had trash to drop off, risking nails in their tires and having to dodge giant commercial trucks as they went.

These days, a visit to SWAMP for the average residential customer means you won't have to venture much further in than the collection of bins a stone's throw from the office and scale.

"This is one of the most positive changes that we've made here at the landfill," Kletke says. "We've slowly been expanding it and we're hoping to do so next year again."

The bins are set into the ground for easier access. Shovels and brooms hang nearby to help both with unloading and cleaning up one's vehicle afterwards. Wood chips help keep the area from becoming a boggy mess in the rain and staff go over the area with a magnet on the regular to try and keep stray nails at bay.

"We're trying to make it as user-friendly for our customers as we can," Kletke says. "Going to the dump used to be a negative thing. We're working

towards making this a more positive experience for people."

Beside the tipping area sits scrap metal and recycling bins to try and keep such potentially reusable items from clogging up the landfill unnecessarily.

"If you're coming to the landfill with a load of waste as it is and you have three bags of recycling, then it's very handy to just throw it right in [the recycling bin]," Kletke says, noting they do try to keep an eye out for residential recycling before it hits the pile, but the onus is very much on customers (be they individuals or communities) to do that sorting in advance. "We try to do what we can. Unfortunately with our person power that we have ... trying to find that balance is very difficult."

On the large scale, finding ways to divert waste from the landfill serves to extend the life of it, and so SWAMP has several programs in place to do just that.

Not far from the residential tipping bins is a huge concrete bunker filled with empty chemical containers (farmers are asked to triple rinse them before dropping them off), which are picked up by one of SWAMP's partners for proper processing.

A pile of old tires is nearby as well, also bound to a program that shreds them and uses them as road drainage material.

"We get lots of tires in, and there's no charge for the tires either," Kletke says. "That helps keep them out of our waste stream and it gives people incentive to bring it to us."

There's also a burn area meant to keep wood off the pile (especially



PHOTOS BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE
SWAMP general manager Brent Kletke in front of a shipping container full of mattresses bound for processing by Mother Earth Recycling.

wood where there's a concern about Dutch Elm Disease), and a new residential branch drop-off area SWAMP intends to process into wood chips for its roads.

Kletke points out that Penner Waste down the highway keeps a lot of organic material out of the landfill, transforming it into rich compost. But having on-site options are important as well, he stresses, for customers who are at SWAMP anyway and aren't willing to make a trip elsewhere.

"We certainly have diverted a huge amount of branches," he observes, noting the trick is to give people easy and varied options to avoid them deciding to just trash everything.

Even the ash pile—a smouldering site kept well away from the garbage cells where people can bring the ashes from their wood stoves and boilers—

generates material used elsewhere at SWAMP.

"We use it for what we call a daily cover in our commercial area," Kletke explains. "So then that prevents a lot of the bags and all of the lighter material from blowing around."

Likewise, any sorted glass that comes in is crushed up and used as a base for the landfill's various cells, collecting leachate (garbage juices) to be pumped into SWAMP's evaporation pond.

"Instead of us buying rock or an aggregate, we're repurposing the glass," Kletke says, noting there's currently no market for recycled glass. "So instead of it hitting the pile, we're trying to find a way to recycle it here."

But Kletke's real pride and joy is SWAMP's mattress recycling program, which had its roots in a very practical problem.

"When I first started at the landfill ... I was constantly getting mattresses twisted up underneath our old compactor," he recalls. "It was getting to be a real pain. We would have to take a grinder and physically cut the mattresses out."

Even crushed, mattresses take up a lot of "void space" in a landfill—space that's wholly unnecessary considering the various components are recyclable.

"So how do we get these out of the landfill?" Kletke recalls asking. The answer came in 2018 when they teamed up with a then-new program run by Mother Earth Recycling in Winnipeg.

"The mattress actually gets cut up—the foam gets reused for dog beds, they use a lot of the fabric for moving

Improvements to the residential tipping area at SWAMP have made it easier for people to drop off their trash at the landfill.



> SWAMP, FROM PG. 10

blankets, the metal all gets recycled ... and any of the wood, they have a number of residential customers that come and grab it for all of their wood stoves," Kletke explains. "So they've found a really amazing niche market in there."

Two shipping containers collect all of SWAMP's mattresses and are brought to Mother Earth regularly for recycling. It's free to drop off a mattress at SWAMP.

"We have certainly noticed that there are very few mattresses going up to the hill ... a year and a half ago we hit 2,000 mattresses [diverted]," Kletke says.

The program does cost SWAMP about \$15 a mattress to run, but the benefits far outweighs the costs.

"There are people out there that will

say, 'No, I don't want to pay the \$15 and they'll just toss it into a dumpster in town,'" Kletke says. "So this way, if it's a free program, our customers love it, and those mattresses go to the right place.

"Honestly, if you actually calculate the amount that it costs us in air space, each one of those mattresses would cost us, on a per-tonne basis, over \$300 [in the landfill] because we'll never, ever get that space back," he says.

"We don't sell anything here at SWAMP except the volume of space that we have. That's it. That's all we've got. And once that's full, we're done."

Check out next week's Voice for a look at the future of SWAMP.



PHOTOS BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Above: SWAMP's chemical container bin, which is taken off-site for processing. Below, left: These residential branches will be turned into wood chips to keep the landfill's roads passable. Below: The garbage pile where everything not able to be diverted ends up.



Focusing on the future of Indigenous relations

By Lorne Stelmach

A series of talks that aimed to help build greater understanding of Indigenous issues concluded recently with a clear goal in mind for speaker David Scott.

Most of the three presentations focused on the past and the present, so now the elder and policy advisor with the Swan Lake First Nation hopes the focus will be on the future.

"This is just the beginning, and we need to keep moving forward," Scott said following the final presentation Nov. 30 at the Morden Mennonite Church.

"We've got to target this now in different ways," he said. "Now my work with the community will be to take concrete action and still do the teach-

ing part as well."

Scott offered his perspective as part of the series organized by the local Truth and Action Working Group.

The talks had kicked off in September with a historical look at Canada's Indigenous policies and continued in October with a focus on treaties and the Indian Act.

It was important first to think about how First Nations people were historically treated and the continued impact of the Indian Act before leading then into where things are at now, so Scott concluded with a focus on the condition of Indigenous people today and how they are surviving amidst the realities of life on the reserves.

"I wanted to tie all these things together and how they impact us today."

Scott said he didn't want people to focus on any sort of collective guilt.

"That's not what we're here for; we're here to learn from what has happened and to learn what we can do now and how we can move forward together."

And probably the most common question he gets then is that people ask what they can do as individuals.

"I like to say talk to your friends and neighbours. Tell them there's a different history," said Scott.

He also especially encourages people to connect with their kids about these things.

"We're the adults in the room. We're the ones who should take the responsibility to teach our young kids about the history and the way that we were portrayed in their lives needs to

change and in a positive way.

"That is my ultimate aim with this," he stressed, citing their thought of forming a couple committees to pursue such ideas as working with local schools and teachers to develop curriculum material.

"We need to continue to work at this despite the bumps on the road," said Scott. "It is a really complex subject, and we never really had the time to really dig into it all, so I think there could be more conversations. Truth and Action and myself have done a lot of work to try to move our communities closer with greater understanding."

You can find more information and follow the Truth and Action Working Group on Facebook.

News or sports tip? E-mail news@winklermordenvoice.ca or call 204-325-6888



Skating with Santa



SUPPLIED PHOTOS

Santa Claus had a busy weekend in Morden-Winkler, taking part in not one but two skating events hosted by United Way Pembina Valley Sunday afternoon and evening.

New fire hall, public works building coming to Plum Coulee

By Lorne Stelmach

Plans are in place that will see a new fire hall and municipal public works shop in Plum Coulee next year.

The financing for the project is now set out, and the preliminary work is getting underway to revamp what was formerly the property of the North American Box Company at 215 Railway Ave.

The 11,000 square foot building will have about 6,000 sq. ft. used for the new shop and 5,000 sq. ft. for the new fire hall—two things RM of Rhineland Reeve Don Wiebe stresses are very much needed in the growing community.

“They sure are vital services ... and we’ll put it all into one building, so there will be some efficiencies that come with that as well,” he said.

“Our current fire hall was very inadequate ... there was no room to add even a tanker truck. There was no auxiliary space at all. There was an out-building, but it was very cramped,” Wiebe noted. “The fire hall now should be good for years to come.

“And the public works building downtown on Main Street is also quite inadequate and in a bad location for a public works building.”

Both had been on council’s radar for some time. The municipality did have some reserve funds set aside for the project, but it also involves a debenture to make up the difference.

The building was purchased for

\$720,000 and it will cost an additional \$680,000 or so to renovate the property, bringing the estimated cost overall to about \$1.4 million.

There will be \$770,000 taken from the reserve, with a portion able to be re-paid from the sale of the existing

public works shop and the civic office. Another \$327,000 will be coming from fire reserves funds, leaving \$195,000 then to be covered by debenture.

Wiebe anticipates that work including renovations to the fire hall portion of the building as well as a wall that

will separate the fire hall from the public works side could get underway by spring.

“We think it’s a great site,” he said. “We’re hoping at some point, maybe early in new year, to get out the tenders for the project.”

Miami & Area Foundation issues \$21K in grants

By Becca Myskiw

The Miami & Area Foundation granted out \$21,000 this year to nine different organizations.

They had the most applications they’ve ever received—11—and granted out the most money they have yet.

Treasurer Tricia Livingston said one of the projects they didn’t grant to was just too big of a scale and the finish line was too far away.

“The board felt strongly about trying to do the best we can on a lot of things,” she said. “We’d always like to give to every project, but we just can’t.”

The Miami & Area Foundation tries to give more money to less projects so they can really make a difference with their grants. This year, they gave the following:

- \$1,500 to Miami Railroad Station Museum for the restoration of the Cupola of the Caboose.
- \$4,000 to Miami Active Living Centre for new gym equipment.

- \$2,000 to Miami 4-H Beef Club for renovating the wash rack.

- \$1,000 to Miami Recreation & Play Spaces for building a toboggan snow slide.

- \$1,000 to Lloyd Orchard Community Arena for an arena viewing area LED lighting upgrade.

- \$3,000 to Miami Agricultural Society for semi-permanent panels for the exterior of arena.

- \$4,000 to Miami Parks Board for the pavilion/bandstand at the Miami Memory Garden.

- \$2,000 to Miami Library for a shelving project.

- \$2,500 to Miami Museum for a computer and laptop dedicated to the printer and scanner.

Andre Stepler of the Miami 4-H Beef Club said the donation is greatly appreciated. It will aid in securing the safety and well-being of 4-H participants and the cattle themselves during the June fair.

“In a small-town community, it is pivotal to have donations from orga-

nizations to help financially to complete these larger facility projects,” he said. “The wash rack upgrade will have stalls put into the existing wash rack increase capacity and safety features.”

Jan Moody from the Miami Agricultural Society said they were thrilled to receive the funds. The money will be used for the panels of their rodeo arena, which will be important for the Heartland Rodeo they plan on hosting this summer and possibly a high school rodeo along with roping events.

She said the upgrade will allow them to have a permanent rodeo arena which will be a huge benefit for the whole community.

With this year’s donations, the Miami & Area Foundation has now granted out a total of \$118,620 in their 11 years of granting. Next year the foundation is hoping to get host their gala again and get back to naming an annual Citizen of the Year award winner.



Cause and effect

PHOTOS BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

The Winkler Family Resource Centre's After School Kids Club has proven to be a big success, with participants spending last week doing scientific experiments. In these photos, the kids demonstrate their understanding of cause and effect with some truly elaborate contraptions. Clockwise from above: Tanner Klassen sets off a successful run as Calvin Harder watches nearby; Niall Fehr fine-tunes his catapult; Danika Peters sets off her device; Samantha Elias Szwaluk went big with her invention. Next up for the club is Sports/Physical Fitness Week this week and Winter Holiday Fun next week. Reach out to the WFRC for registration details.

Morden Festival of the Arts is a go—with some changes

By Lorne Stelmach

Organizers are anxious to see the return of the Morden Festival of the Arts in the new year.

The annual event has been cancelled the last two years due to the pandemic, but it is in a position to be able to resume in 2022 with a range of precautions.

"We've been assured that the way we were planning to do this was a good way and that we were following all of the protocols," said acting chairperson Erika Dyck.

"So we're excited, even though it's not going to be a full festival," she said. "Kids who are in the arts, they practice and practice, and it's nice to have the opportunity to perform, even if it's just to an audience of one—an adjudicator."

The 2022 festival will be its 47th season, and it will look a little different than usual. The festival will be following all Manitoba public health restrictions, so everyone in attendance will be required to show proof of vaccination prior to entering church facilities. This includes all performers, parents, accompanists, adjudicators, volunteers and audience members. Masks will also be required to enter the facilities.

Under the guidance of Manitoba public health officials, there will be strings, piano and vocal (solo, duet and trio) sessions in various church facilities as performance venues. Given restrictions, however, it was determined that bands, choirs, and both individual or small group speech arts will not be performing in the festival at church facilities.

Dyck said they are anticipating that the numbers overall will be lower than usual under the circumstances, but they are still optimistic about the return of the festival.

"We're quite hopeful that we're still going to see a good number of people participating," she suggested.

The tentative festival schedule is for strings March 15-17, sacred March 20, piano March 20-23, vocal April 28-29 and the highlights concert May 1, subject to slight adjustments.

Information on the Morden Festival of the Arts can be found online at mordenfestivalofthearts.cfsites.org, including downloadable entry forms and methods for submission of entries and entry fees.

The deadline for entering the festival is Jan. 27.



VOICE FILE PHOTO



'Junctions' on display now at Winkler Arts & Culture

By Ashleigh Viveiros

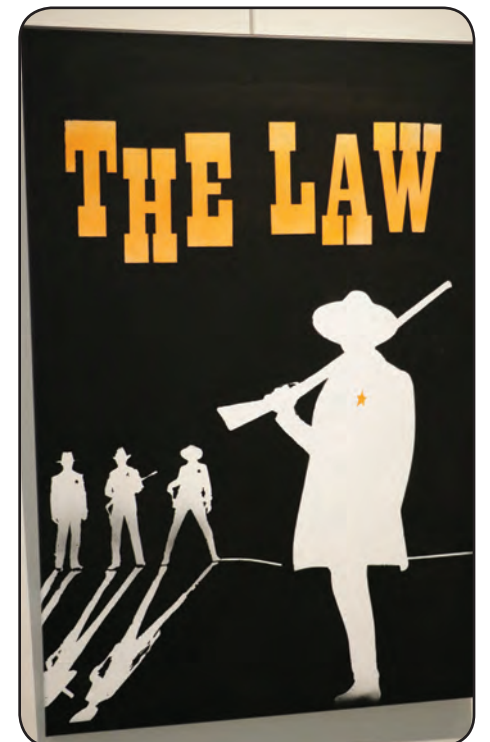
There is a story that weaves together the pieces of art on display this month at the Winkler Arts and Culture Centre.

But, in the absence of knowing that story, artist Raymond Derksen hopes you'll approach his pop art paintings with a willingness to let the art speak

to you in whatever way you wish

The pieces in Derksen's *Junctions* exhibition, which went up at the WAC late last month and will remain on display until Dec. 30, were all inspired by a film script he's written about four people who find themselves at various crossroads in their lives.

Continued on page 20



PHOTOS BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

A few of the pop art pieces in Ray Derksen's "Junctions" exhibition on display this month at the Winkler Arts and Culture Centre.

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- ➔ Stay home when you're sick
- ➔ Be prepared to provide proof of vaccinations at restaurants, events and museums
- ➔ Follow all local travel restrictions

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↑ A Maze in Corn

SNOW MAZE

MANITOBA CENTRAL

A Maze in Corn in **St. Adolphe** is home to the world's largest snow maze that holds the official Guinness title. The maze will take a family over 45 minutes to navigate, and warm-up fire pits and snow sculptures will help you navigate through the snowy corridors. Other activities include a sky-high toboggan run, horse-drawn sleigh rides and an ice bar.



PHOTO: J.P. MEDIA WORKS

↑ Assiniboine Park Zoo

JOURNEY TO CHURCHILL, ASSINIBOINE PARK ZOO

WINNIPEG

From Arctic foxes and ringed seals to wolves and polar bears, Journey to Churchill is the perfect winter activity, especially considering these animals love the cold weather. See polar bears swim in the underwater Sea Ice Passage or play outside your window at the Tundra Grill. The indoor Polar Playground is a great place for kids to burn more energy.



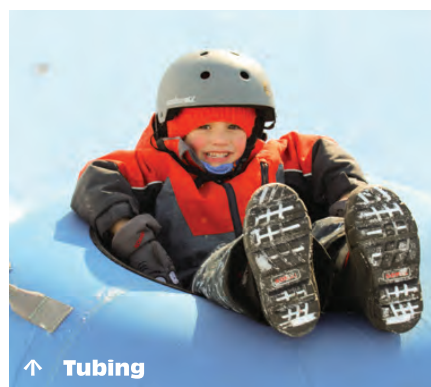
PHOTO: LAKEVIEW HOTELS

↑ Hecla Lakeview Resort

INDOOR POOLS AND WATER PARKS

MANITOBA CENTRAL MANITOBA WEST

Plan a getaway to Elkhorn Resort or Hecla Lakeview Resort, two all-inclusive family resorts that boast top water parks, including outdoor pools and hot tubs. Check into a hotel with a waterslide, such as Days Inn (**Steinbach**), Canad Inns Destination Centre (**Brandon**) and Fairfield Inn & Suites by Marriott (**Winnipeg**). Or plan a day trip for affordable family fun. **Swan Valley** and **Portage la Prairie** have great indoor pools at their recreation complexes.



↑ Tubing

VALLEY VIEW TUBING HILL

MANITOBA CENTRAL

Slide to your heart's content at the Valley View Tubing Hill located in the **Assiniboine River Valley**. Valley View is a perfect day trip for families with little ones who don't feel comfortable on skis or snowboards just yet. Kids of all ages will love swooshing down the hill and spinning in delight. The groomed run includes a tow rope system and tube rentals.

Find more family fun ideas at manito.ba/winter-explorer.

Manitoba encompasses Treaty 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 Territory and communities who are signatories to Treaties 6 and 10. It is the original lands of the Anishinaabeg, Anish-Ininiwak, Dakota, Dene, Ininiwak and Nehethowuk and the homeland of the Métis. Acknowledging these original caretakers is a reminder of our unique heritage, our important relationships and our obligations to and shared responsibilities with Indigenous peoples.





Pastors and members of the Winkler EMMC were hard at work last week getting their nativity scene up, using some of the elements from their popular *From Everywhere to Bethlehem* play alongside several new backdrops and character cutouts. Below: The finished scene all lit up.

PHOTOS BY
ASHLEIGH VI-
VEIROS/VOICE



Sharing the Christmas spirit with the community

By Ashleigh Viveiros

"This is what happens when you hire a cabinet installer as a pastor."

John Wiebe grins as he reaches up to secure one of several large pieces of a wooden starry night backdrop in front of the Winkler Emmanuel Mennonite Church last Thursday.

Nearby sits another painted scene that will be familiar to anyone who's attended the annual *From Everywhere to Bethlehem* living nativity play in Winkler Park over the past decade and a half—a trio of camels waiting patiently for their accompanying wise

men.

In between the two, a newly painted cutout of Mary, Joseph, and the Christ child sit beneath a giant lit star of Bethlehem. By day's end, they're joined by a donkey, several sheep, a pair of shepherds standing ready to guard their flock by night, and, of course, three wise men bearing gifts.

Pandemic uncertainty being what it is these days, the church decided for the second year in a row not to host *From Everywhere to Bethlehem*.

But they weren't going to let that stop them from finding a fun way to celebrate the season with the commu-

nity at large.

"The message of Christmas is still incredible valuable and it needs to be shared," says Wiebe. "So we're getting creative and finding ways to do it."

The static nativity in front of the Southview Dr. church was already drawing quite a few slowed-down vehicles as it was being set up. Wiebe and the others involved in this project hope it continues to turn heads and put smiles on people's faces over the next few weeks.

One lady, when she heard what the church was doing this Christmas, asked if selfies were allowed.

"Why not?" Wiebe laughs. "I can see

it happening."

The nativity scene has been a labour of love for a lot of people at the church.

"It's definitely not an individual effort," Wiebe says, stressing the artwork was done by several different artists and numerous other church members have lent a hand in other ways.

"It's a great way just to connect people who you normally wouldn't work with ... some of the people who normally wouldn't take front row seats inside of the church building, they're not necessarily in the sound booth or on stage, but they're very creative," he reflects. "So having the chance to meet these people and interact with them has been awesome."

One of the artists lending his talent to the project was John Reimer, who was also on hand last week to help with setup.

"I've done art for the church for years but it's not always called for. So when it's called for, I'm there," he says, adding. "I'm hoping it gets the true Christmas spirit out there."

You're invited to come check out the nativity anytime over the next few weeks, but the church is also handing out hot chocolate this Sunday, Dec. 12, from 5-8 p.m.

It'll be a drive-thru pickup and you're asked to bring a non-perishable food item for donation to the Winkler & District Food Cupboard.

If you can't make it this weekend, the church is accepting donations for the food cupboard until Christmas.



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6 ways to stick to a holiday budget



The holidays are an exciting, fun and joyful time of year. And for many people, the holidays also are expensive.

According to the Motley Fool Company, a financial wellness resource, the average person spent \$882.45 on Christmas gifts, food, decorations, travel, and other holiday-related expenses in 2019. Around 56 percent of gift shoppers set a budget for holiday spending, but only 64 percent stuck to it. In addition, 21.5 percent of respondents went into debt due to holiday shopping.

Who doesn't want to have a super holiday with delicious foods on the table and lots of presents to share with family and friends? While that's tempting, such a bounty should never result in financial peril. These six strategies can make it easy to establish and stick to a budget this holiday season.

1. Budget for everything. When working out holiday spending plans, factor in all of the expenses associated with the holidays — not just the most obvious, like gifts. Costs for gas, parking lot fees, greeting cards, postage, travel expenses, and much more should be included in your final number.

2. Determine how much you can spend. Money for gifts and other holiday expenses should ideally come from your disposable income. Look at your finances in advance of the holiday season and figure out how much extra cash you have for the holidays, and use that figure to determine how much you should spend. Find ways to make up any deficit by curtailing expenses like

dining out or entertainment extras. Many people plan to use credit cards to pay now and worry about the aftermath later. Only use credit cards if you have the money in the bank and can pay off the entire bill when the balance due is in January.

3. Set a spending limit for individuals. Based on your numbers and how much you plan to spend overall, start allocating money to categories, including gift recipients. Come up with a spending range for each person and stick to it.

4. Pay in cash as much as possible. It's easy to know what you're spending when using cash as opposed to credit. There is some risk with carrying around cash, but that risk may be offset by the benefit of spending only what you can afford to spend.

5. Track all purchases. Save the receipts and keep a running total of expenditures so you can see how your spending is measuring up to your budget. If necessary, scale back on one category if you've tipped the scales in spending on another.

6. Shop sales and deals. High-end stores may have the impressive tag, but their prices can set you back. Instead, look for comparable gifts at discount stores and other retailers. Also, if you must use a credit card, use one that earns you a cash-back bonus for added savings.

A holiday budget is a must to avoid overspending and finding yourself in debt early next year.

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PHAC featuring work of MB. Indigenous leader, artist

By Lorne Stelmach

A life largely spent in First Nations leadership roles was not what Ovide Mercredi would have chosen for himself.

The native of Grand Rapids now might not think of himself as an artist either, but the two actually do tie together.

Featured at the Pembina Hills Gallery this month as part of an exhibit co-ordinated with the local Truth and Action Working Group, one can draw parallels between what he fought for as a leader and what he portrays in his art.

"What I'm trying to do is take something from our experience in the country and in particular from within

our own communities and tell a story on canvas," Mercredi said last week as his work went on display alongside a few works by First Nations artists Errol Cameron, Doug Scott, and Glen Myerion as well.

Those stories include one that shows people within the vague shape of a bottle to represent his people's struggles with alcohol, for example, but

there are also ones like the painting Immanuel showing a bird and which he connects to spirituality.

"So I try also to deal with more positive developments in our communities ... for example the birth of a child ... that's a very important part of our community life."

Born in 1946 in Grand Rapids, Mercredi is known for his roles as a Canadian First Nations leader both provincially and nationally. Influenced by the teachings of Mohandas (Mahatma) Gandhi, Mercredi took a path of civil disobedience, passive resistance and nonviolence.

With a law degree from the University of Manitoba, Mercredi practiced criminal law and was appointed a member of the Manitoba Human Rights Commission and in 1989 became the Assembly of First Nations' vice-chief for Manitoba.

He became a leading advocate for native peoples' rights, and in June 1990 was one of the tacticians who helped Manitoba legislator Elijah Harper defeat the Meech Lake Accord because it did not address the rights of native people.

In June 1991, Mercredi was then elected national chief of the Assembly of First Nations, and he served two terms as leader of the assembly. He continued his activism on behalf of Canadian First Nations people and in 2006 was awarded the Order of Manitoba, and he became the first chancellor of Manitoba's University College of the North in 2007.

"I didn't have any intention of being a leader when I was a young kid. I was quite happy with playing outdoors," said Mercredi.

He recalled growing up in an isolated area without proper road access, but it made it an idyllic spot to some degree. He thought he would fish and trap like his parents, but then came what he called 'the great disruption' when the Manitoba Hydro dam was built.

Mercredi credited his parents for wanting to ensure their kids had the skills and training to have options and opportunities in the world.

"There's always regret for what you've lost ... but you still have to find a way of finding a livelihood in the modern world ... although I think I would have preferred the role of an employee," he noted.

Art is something that is largely new to him, although he was interested in drawing as a child. It is only in recent years that he started painting with acrylics. He recalls being invited to



PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

The work of Indigenous artist Ovide Mercredi is on display now at the Morden art gallery. Right: The show also includes pieces from artist Errol Cameron alongside those from Doug Scott and Glen Myerion.



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Spreading holiday cheer to the elderly

As the Christmas season begins, it's important to plan when you'll visit your elderly friends and relatives.

Christmastime can be difficult for seniors, especially for those who've lost loved ones, who live far from their families or are no longer as active as they once were. A visit from a loved one at Christmas can mean a lot to an elderly person who might otherwise be alone.

Visiting elderly friends and relatives will be rewarding for you too. The more time you spend with your older family members, the more you'll learn about your ancestry and relatives. Someday, you'll pass this family history onto your own children and grandchildren.

The holidays are also an ideal time to bring the generations together and let your kids spend quality time with their grandparents and other older relatives. Not only do children often lift people's spirits, but they'll also get the chance to bond with the people who raised their parents and hear stories about what Mom and Dad were like at their age.

Even if you don't have an elderly relative who lives nearby, you can still bring Christmas cheer to older people in your community. Many nursing homes and assisted living facilities host holiday activities and invite community members to participate. Taking part in one of these events could be just what you need to get into the true spirit of the season.



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Christian Programs Committee looking for members

By Lorne Stelmach

The Christian Programs Committee of Morden is hoping to boost its ranks with new members.

The committee has been around since 1983, so there has always been some turnover of members but they are looking to add to the group again now.

"It's been people from all different churches in town and all walks of life," longtime group member Ken Friesen

said last week.

"Our numbers are down," said Friesen, who added the pandemic has had some impact. "We do have a couple newer guys on our committee. We have some new guys, but it's difficult ... it's been hard to recruit ... and we haven't been as visible as we have been in the past."

Friesen came to the group about three decades ago, drawn largely out of respect and admiration for Jimmy Baker, who was well known in the

community not only as the man behind Jimmy's Barbershop but as a man of faith.

"He lived it. He was a man with a mission," recalled Friesen.

The Christian Programs Committee of Morden's primary goal is to bring Christian gospel programs to the community and to encourage and uplift people in their walk of faith.

It played a pivotal role in starting what is now Pembina Counselling Centre. The committee also plans the Sunday programming for the Corn and Apple Festival.

Each Friday, the group meets at Rock's Bar & Grill for a prayer breakfast.

"We used to have as many as 50, 60 men come out," said Friesen, who recalled the gatherings formerly being at the d'Schtove restaurant downtown before moving to the motor inn.

They see these weekly gatherings as the most important and influential aspect of what they do, as men from all walks of life and/or church affiliation come together to call on God.

Starting with a challenging message from various speakers, they listen to a half-hour message at 7 a.m. followed by an invitation to share what God is

doing and the expression of requests for His intervention in the need for healing and strength.

As they share, they realize again and again the greatness of God and love for all of His Creation, said Friesen.

"Some guys, if they had to work at 8, they were gone, but other guys, maybe older and retired, stay a little longer and visited ... so there was a lot

of outreach there," he said. "People can bring prayer requests from their walk of life."

Those prayers can be for each other, for health and healing, for friends and family, or world leaders.

The bottom line really is putting their faith into practice, said Friesen,

who noted anyone who is interested is welcome to join them Friday mornings.

You can also reach out to any member of the committee, which includes Alan Schellenberg, Harry Bergman, Ken Friesen, George Martens, Rick Wiens, David Caskey, and John Zacharias.



The members of the Christian Programs Committee of Morden meet weekly for breakfast at Rock's. They invite new members to join them.

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> WAC, FROM PG. 14

"You can't really call these storyboards, and they're not necessarily movie poster ideas ... they're just ideas that pop into my head when I think about various parts of the story I wrote," Derksen says.

The as-yet-unfilmed movie is "truly about how life is," he explains. "You're always coming up to junctions. Every day you're making a choice. We all make our journeys and sometimes the journeys are wrong."

Derksen's script, also entitled *Junctions*, sees the characters all have the chance to go back and try to fix some of the wrong decisions they made in the past. The paintings represent those journeys.

"It's real-life ... the idea that we've got to look back at some of the decisions we've made, and some of them we can correct," says Derksen.

There's also a very personal thread that connects the pieces for Derksen.

One painting of a tombstone beneath a tree is entitled "Not the End,

But the Beginning." It's loosely inspired by the time in Derksen's life after his father died and some of the decisions he made as a teenager in the years that followed.

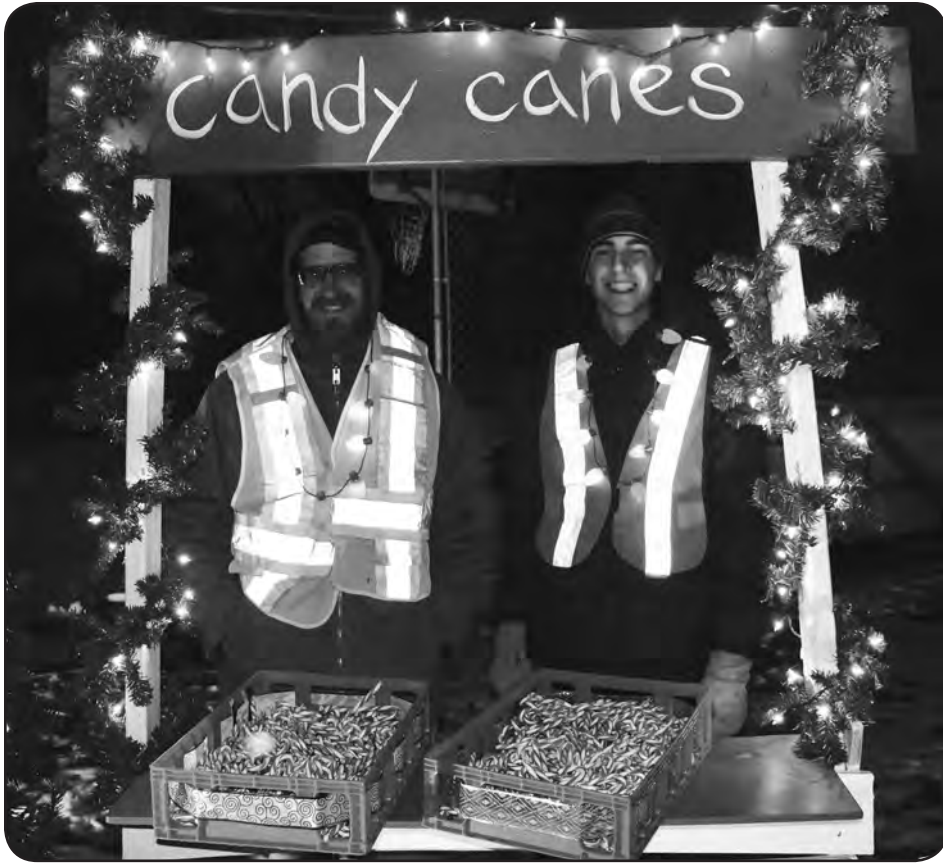
Another piece, a uniquely painted one that can only be viewed properly at just the right angle, depicts Jesus Christ on the cross.

"This is part of my junction here of choosing Christianity as my faith," Derksen shares. "Why it's done in dark is because we don't always show our faith, even though we may have it in us."

But that's Derksen's story—he stresses again that you might see something different in the work.

"Just come and enjoy it. View it for what you view it for. Read into it what you want. That's how art should be," he says. "Even though most artists may have an intentional message, I always think good art should be able to have more than one message."

Successful drive-thru feast



PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

The Winkler Bible Camp extended its holiday drive-thru meal this year to three nights instead of one, and it was a big hit. Executive director Dale Wiebe says they served 1,800 meals and were very successful in raising funds for the camp's operations. Next up, the camp is hosting "Christmas Glow in the Country" Dec. 11-12 and Dec. 16-19. Everyone is invited to come enjoy two kilometres of festive light displays. Entry is \$10 per vehicle. It runs from 6-8 p.m. nightly.

> PHAC, FROM PG. 18

an artist retreat a number of years ago that got him started on this new journey.

"I had to learn first even just how to apply the paint and even how to use a paint brush. You have no idea how many canvasses I've ruined," he said. "I'm just starting out ... so that's why I used my Cree language for the title of the exhibit because Ehgojist Tha-yan means I'm trying."

There is one thing you're not likely to find in any of his paintings, he noted.

"I've tried to do landscapes, but that was an adventure that went awry. I've given up on doing landscapes.

"I try to be as original as I can be," said Mercredi, who welcomes now having the time available to him that

he didn't have in the past.

"You know what happens when you get busy with living. Your priorities go somewhere else ... and in my case, I had to deal with the role that I was given to advocate for the First Nations people ... and that can be very time consuming," said Mercredi.

"It is all consuming. Once you take on these positions of leadership, if you're dedicated to the post, you have to keep informed, and you have to keep learning, but also you have to learn how to deal with people," he concluded. "A lot of it has to do with building co-operation or reaching an understanding on issues for my people ... and that is still important to me."

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Morden native has a leadership role with Amazon Web Services

By Lorne Stelmach

Life has been quite a journey already for Karen Hildebrand from her days growing up on a farm near Morden.

From those beginnings, Hildebrand now finds herself working as the worldwide technology leader for agriculture at Amazon Web Services (AWS).

Her story was highlighted recently with the release of an AWS YouTube video featuring Hildebrand and her life in and around agriculture. The production was filmed at her family farm south of Morden as well local businesses like Greenvally Equipment and LMS Ag Equipment.

"My mission is to help feed the world," Hildebrand says in the video, in which she goes on to talk about the role she plays in helping others connected to that goal.

"As a tech leader at AWS, I'm always listening, always asking questions. I want to know what the latest, greatest and newest thing in agriculture is ... what's coming next? I'm always researching and thinking about it. It's my life."

It was somewhat overwhelming to be chosen to be featured in the video, but Hildebrand saw it as a great chance to not only tell her story but also give back to the community that inspired her.

"I saw it as a chance to tell the story of what it's like to be pretty passionate about what you do each day ... it's pretty amazing, and I felt very lucky that as soon as I reached out ... there was a lot of support locally to make it happen, and it was a cool experience to feel like Amazon was in our hometown," said Hildebrand, who now calls Minneapolis home. Hildebrand's family still farms near Morden, and her sister as well actively farms near Glenboro.

"I feel very lucky to have had this community support ... when we had



SCREENSHOT

Morden area native Karen Hildebrand works as the worldwide technology leader for agriculture with Amazon Web Services.

this opportunity, everybody was very much on board to be part of it," Hildebrand said. "I think it, hopefully, showcases the pride that the community has in agriculture. I feel very lucky to have been involved there, and I still own a little bit of land out there as well."

Her journey started in part as a result of playing softball, which helped her earn a U.S. scholarship. She went on to study management marketing and earn her masters degree before moving back here at one point to work with CancerCare Manitoba.

"I was really lucky to have some great mentors there who really encouraged me to pursue my PhD," Hildebrand noted.

She moved back to the U.S. when her sister's husband lost his life in service

in Iraq, and she then went on to work in a number of jobs while completing her doctorate degree before eventually moving back to Thief River Falls in large part to be closer to home and the farm.

"I really love farming and living in small communities," said Hildebrand, who said that her work in data science and hi-tech opened a lot of opportunities.

"I was able to come back to agriculture when this position opened at AWS. I had been an AWS customer," she noted. "So to have the opportunity to work at AWS and combine that with agriculture was really special."

She noted how she could very much relate it to her own family's experience in adopting precision agriculture ideas.

"It was a natural transition to be able to work with the company that enables a lot of those platforms underneath what we were doing," said Hildebrand.

"I now work with all of our customers in agricultural segments all across the world, so anybody that is building on AWS to help agricultural industries," she explained.

"It's a pretty broad spectrum of what we consider to be agriculture. It's over 5,000 companies or so who I support," she said. "My job is to listen to what our customers are trying to build, to help agricultural customers and then make that easier from a tech standpoint."

The challenges can be diverse, she noted, ranging from rural connectivity issues to how to make use of drones and the information that comes from them and how it impacts decisions.

"There's lots of fun things that we get to work on, and it's nice to see some of the things that we work on across the world coming into Canada now as well," she added, citing the example of satellite connected ear tags for animals—a technology that has now been making its way more so into Canada.

She feels it is very worthwhile to play a significant role to help empower companies with many things that would be a real challenge for them on their own.

"It's a great combination of skill sets that come into play," she said.

"I think the thing that I learned the most from growing up in the ag sector was that it's really about relationships and trusting the person that's going to kind of break down barriers for you.

"It's very meaningful to feel like if, in any small way, I'm contributing to make that easier or for people to use tech in their farms or making it more cost effective ... it's really quite meaningful; I really enjoy what I do."

"I FEEL VERY LUCKY TO HAVE HAD THIS COMMUNITY SUPPORT ... EVERYBODY WAS VERY MUCH ON BOARD TO BE PART OF IT."

Province's online budget consultation survey up now

By Voice staff

The provincial government wants to hear from Manitobans about the 2022 budget.

Public meetings kicked off across

the province last week and an online survey has gone up at EngageMB.ca for people to weigh-in on Manitoba's upcoming financial plan.

"It's important as we prepare for Budget 2022 that we hear from as

many Manitobans as possible on their priorities," said Finance Minister Scott Fielding. "The online survey is an accessible way for those wishing to participate in the budget process to provide their feedback and share

which government priority is most important to them and their families."

In addition to the survey, Manitobans can pre-register to reserve a spot

Continued on page 23

Local family wins over \$20K on Family Feud Canada

By Becca Myskiw

A local family recently won big on Family Feud Canada.

The Van Den Bussche family, comprised of Kevin Van Den Bussche, Deanna Ricard, Colleen Van Den Bussche, Amanda Rheault, and Darrel Van Den Bussche went on the show representing Holland, Manitoba. Their first episode aired last Monday, Nov. 29, followed by another one on Nov. 30, and a third on Dec. 1.

Family Feud Canada is a game show hosted by comedian Gerry Dee. They survey 100 Canadians on specific questions, and the contestants have to guess their top six or so answers.

It started a year ago when the province was in another lockdown, and Darrel Van Den Bussche set up family game nights to keep everyone entertained.

"We're pretty competitive, so when we do get together, we always play cards or whatever game it might be," said Rheault. "There's always something happening."

During that time, he saw an advertisement on the TV calling for families to audition for Family Feud Canada. Unfortunately, his wife and children said they wouldn't join the team, so Darrel Van Den Bussche called up Rheault and asked her if she'd be on his team.

"I said, 'for what?'" said Rheault. "And he just said, 'are you on my team?' and I said, 'yeah Darryl I'm on your team for life.'"

He then hung up the phone. She didn't hear anything about that conversation until a few weeks later when he sent her the audition tape he made, introducing them with a hillbilly theme song and letting her know the producers wanted to do a virtual interview with the team.

So, Rheault went to the drama closet at Carman Collegiate, where she worked and borrowed a hillbilly outfit. Soon enough, they had a follow-up interview, then a practice round of the

game with a family from Alberta — which they won. Soon enough, Family Feud Canada called team Van Den Bussche and said they wanted them on the show.

The five team members got an all-expenses-paid trip to Toronto in September to film. Their flights and accommodations were covered and each of them got some spending money too.

"So we were like, well, if we lose, at least we can have a good time," said Rheault.

On the day of filming, they walked from their hotel room in downtown Toronto in their hillbilly outfits to the CBC building, where they went up to the Family Feud Canada set. Each team then got its own green room. A passerby of the Van Den Bussche room would hear their pump-up playlist with all the hits like Eye of the Tiger.

They were one of the first teams chosen to play, so by 9 a.m. they were on set and answering questions.

"We played our game, and it wasn't going so swell for us, then we managed to have a turning point in the fourth round," said Rheault. "What surprised me is the amount of times they say, 'we're going to do that intro again.' You can't redo a question right, but they make you redo high-fives and x's."

It was easy for team Van Den Bussche to be peppy on screen because they're a bunch of teachers used to being energetic early in the morning. Their first opposition team, however, took a little more convincing.

That first episode aired on Nov. 29 and as viewers saw — the Van Den Bussche's won. So, right after that, they went on to film the next game that aired on Nov. 30 — and they won again.

Kicking off their second game was Darryl Van Den Bussche when he hit the buzzer before the opposing team for the question, "Name a reason why your last relationship was a lot like riding a toboggan." His answer got a



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Van Den Bussche family recently won over \$20,000 on Family Feud Canada. Pictured left to right, Kevin Van Den Bussche, Deanna Ricard, Colleen Van Den Bussche, Amanda Rheault and Darrel Van Den Bussche.

big "X" and so did the opposition's, so Colleen Van Den Bussche got the ball rolling with her answer, "It went downhill." That was the top answer, getting the team 47 points off the bat.

Their third episode aired on Dec. 1, and they didn't win, but the team still managed to walk away with some money from that one.

"And then you're beating yourself up like, 'why didn't I say that? It's obvious,'" said Rheault.

Because they surpassed 200 points in the first two games, they won \$10,000 each time. Rheault can't remember their total in game three. The whole team on set was even cheering for them in the third game because no one had done as well as they had yet, which made the entire experience that much more fun.

"It was honestly just a blast," she said. "There was no part of that trip that wasn't fun."

The Van Den Bussche team wasn't allowed to tell anyone how they did on the show until they saw it for themselves on TV. So, up until last week, even their spouses didn't know they had come home \$20,000 richer. For Rheault, that made it more exciting, even though it was hard to keep it a secret.

If you couldn't catch the three episodes of Family Feud Canada the Van Den Bussche team was on, go to <https://gem.cbc.ca/media/family-feud-canada/s03> and watch episodes 37, 38, and 39.

> BUDGET SURVEY, FROM PG. 22

for an in-person meeting or to receive a phone call to participate in a telephone town hall.

To register by phone for a budget public engagement meeting, call Manitoba Government Inquiry at 204-945-3744 or toll-free at 1-866-626-4862.

Manitobans can also email comments and ideas to budget2022@gov.mb.ca or mail written submissions to: Minister of Finance c/o budget engagement, 103 - 450 Broadway, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3C 0V8.

The *Winkler Morden* **Voice**

What's *Your* story?

Call 325-6888

Do you have a suggestion for our news team?

Is there someone you would like to see recognized in the newspaper for their accomplishments

- athletic, academic or community service.

sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

Male Hawks drop two

By Lorne Stelmach

It was a rough weekend for the male U18 Pembina Valley Hawks as they suffered two shutout losses on home ice in Morden.

The Hawks fell 6-0 to the Winnipeg Wild Friday and then could still not break the goose egg Saturday in falling 3-0 to the Interlake Lightning.

Pembina Valley trailed 3-0 and 4-0 at the intermissions against the Wild, who continue to battle Brandon at the top of the standings with near perfect records. Bryson Yaschyshyn made 37 saves as Winnipeg outshot the Hawks 43-34.

Pembina Valley likely deserved better against Interlake, as the Hawks outshot the Lightning 49-36 but could not buy a goal against Ty Hogue. Across the ice, Raiden LeGall made 33 saves for the Hawks.

The game was a scoreless deadlock until the third period when the Lightning scored three unanswered goals, including a power play marker and an empty netter to seal the deal.

Earlier last week, the Hawks fared better in a 3-2 win over the Southwest Cougars in Killarney.

The Hawks spotted the Cougars the first two goals but fought back hard. LeGall was outstanding in stopping 51 of 53 shots by Southwest.



PHOTO BY RICK HIEBERT/VOICE

Interlake Lightning goalie Ty Hogue steers a shot to safety behind the leaping Hawks forward Carter Campbell Saturday night. Interlake got the win 3-0.

Pembina Valley took advantage of opportunities on 28 shots with goals from Keston Worley, Kam Thomas and Carter Sotheran, who got the winner

with 4:32 remaining in the game.

The Hawks have a rare weekend off this week with only one game on the schedule, but it was a key one, as the

Hawks, who are in eighth place with 20 points, were scheduled Wednesday to host the Winnipeg Bruins, who are ninth with 19 points.

Female Hawks 2-2 at Ontario tournament

By Lorne Stelmach

The female U18 Pembina Valley Hawks had a break from league play this past week but were still busy on the ice.

They travelled to Ontario to compete in the 2 Nations College Prep tournament in Brampton. They came out of it with two wins and two losses, but the results mattered less than the experience they gleaned.

The Two Nations College Prep Series is a pair of popular annual tourna-

ments hosted in Detroit and Brampton featuring teams from across North America. It not only provides high level competitive play but also serves as a vital scouting opportunities for coaches.

"We are just excited to be able to attend tournaments this year," noted coach Dana Bell. "These tournaments are great as it gives us opportunities to work on special teams and great team bonding."

The Hawks began day one Friday with a 1-0 loss to Shawinigan followed

by a 2-1 loss to Scarborough. Day two on Saturday brought better results, with the Hawks edging Clarington 3-2 and then beating Chatham Kent 2-1.

"Game one we had a slow start. Game two we lost, but we definitely had a better game with lots of opportunities. But couldn't find the back of the net," said Bell. "Game three we got better as a team."

The Hawks remain in fifth place in the Manitoba U18 league with a 7-8-0 record for 14 points. They trail the Winnipeg Ice by four points and are

ahead of Central Plains by three.

The Hawks this week head to Wilcox, Saskatchewan to take part in the Mandi Schwartz Memorial Tournament. Billed as the largest U18 female hockey tournament in western Canada, it is in memory of a young athlete who played at Athol Murray College of Notre Dame who was diagnosed with leukemia and died in 2011.

Pembina Valley will see round robin action against Swift Current, Edmonton, and St. Mary's.

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

Morden's Ravyn Wiebe named Player of the Week

By Lorne Stelmach

A young Morden athlete would dearly love to close out her university athletic career with a championship.

Ravyn Wiebe is helping the Brandon Bobcats women's volleyball team get off to a strong start in her final year of eligibility, and it is exciting for her to see the potential for the squad this season.

"We're quite confident in our team this year, and we hope to make a long playoff run," said Wiebe, who had a banner weekend recently in not only leading the team to a pair of wins but earning Canada West Player of the Week honours as well.

The fifth-year veteran put up some impressive numbers in a weekend sweep of the University of Manitoba Bisons at the end of November.

In the Friday matchup, Wiebe had 15 kills in 35 attempts in finishing the Bobcats' 3-0 win with a .314 kill percentage. Then on Saturday, in a five-set match, Wiebe again led Brandon in kills with 14 while adding 8 digs, five block assists and three aces.

Wiebe was leading the conference in points at 107, total kills at 94 and sat third in kills per set at 3.76 as the Bobcats went into an extended break with a bye in the final weekend of the first half before resuming conference competition in the new year.

She sees the team as being very strong this year with them sitting

second in their division on four wins and two losses with 10 games to go in January and February.

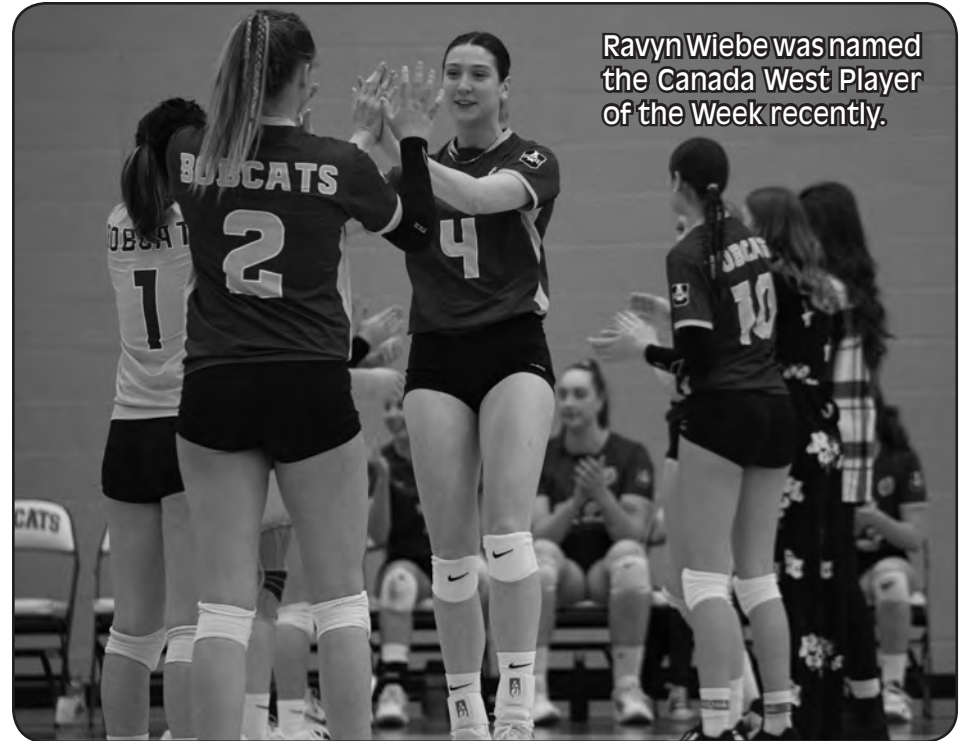
She would like to see them get first place, which would allow them to host the playoffs. Given the pandemic, their usual division that would include all the teams from Manitoba to B.C. was split up to just be the five teams in Manitoba and Saskatchewan, but the playoff would include all the teams from Alberta and B.C. Winning there could lead to Canada West finals and a chance to go to the national championship.

"Our experience for sure has helped us on the court," said Wiebe, who is part of a veteran group leading the team.

"That's one of the things that sets our team apart is that we had quite a few girls come back this year. It is different for us this year in that we have some veterans on our team," she continued.

"You need to understand the game well, and that's what our age now offers us ... I think it shows; the experience is noticeable on the court," said Wiebe. "We've had the chance to play together a lot ... so we're so comfortable with each other ... we trust each other."

"We put in a lot of hours, and we train quite hard, probably harder than people would realize, but we do it because we love it," she added. "It's such a team oriented sport, and every-



Ravyn Wiebe was named the Canada West Player of the Week recently.

SUPPLIED PHOTO BY AIDAN FROESE

body's got to be on the same page and you have to really work together ... so it offers that camaraderie."

Wiebe found her way to Brandon University from Morden Collegiate, where she was a AAA tournament all-star in her Grade 12 year.

She played three years with Team Manitoba before committing to the Bobcats, and she captained the 15U team before playing 16U as well as for the 17U team that competed at the Western Canada Summer Games in 2015.

Set the Brandon University women's volleyball school record for most kills in a match with 28 against Winnipeg Nov. 7, 2019, surpassing former team mate Nikala Majewski's previous program record of 25.

Pursuing a science degree, Wiebe

has relished the chance to both study and compete close to home.

"That was going to be a big part of my decision for any school that I was going to choose," she said. "I'm a bit of a homebody, so the chance to play in my home province was a huge factor, and it's just two hours from home, so not too far from my support."

Her coach sang her praises upon Wiebe receiving the player of the week honours.

"Rayvn has been the most underrated star in Canada West since she has arrived out of high school," said Lee Carter. "Her leadership, positivity and hard work make the entire team better. This is great that she is finally getting the recognition she deserves."

Viriden Oil Caps down Flyers twice in a row

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler Flyers just couldn't crack the Viriden Oil Capitals last weekend.

The Flyers returned home from Viriden Friday night with a 5-1 loss.

Jayden McCarthy scored Winkler's lone goal midway through the second. Viriden was already up by three at that point and added two more in the third (including an empty-netter) to take it all.

Dylan Meilun and Malachi Klassen split netminding duties, with Meilun stopping 16 of the 19 shots he faced while Klassen stopped 13 of the 14 that came his way. Viriden won the shot battle 34-23.

The Flyers didn't fare much better two nights later before a hometown

crowd.

This time it was Jackson Arpin who got Winkler up on the board 52 seconds into the second period, tying the game at 1-1.

Once again, though, only Viriden did any more scoring for the rest of the game, pulling ahead midway through

the second and then cementing the win 3-1 with another in the third.

Winkler outshot their opponents 33-21. Klassen made 18 saves in net.

With that, Winkler's record sits at 14-10-1-1 for 30 points and third place in the MJHL East Division standings. They trail the Winnipeg Blues by five

points and the Steinbach Pistons by 11 but have a healthy lead over the Selkirk Steelers in fourth place by seven points.

This week Winkler plays in Neepawa Friday and then hosts the Titans Sunday night.

Pembina Valley Twisters down Twins 5-2

By Lorne Stelmach

The Pembina Valley Twisters kept themselves within range of the MMJHL leaders this past weekend with a victory over Fort Garry Fort Rouge.

Pembina Valley held period leads of

2-0 and 5-1 on their way to the 5-2 win against the Twins Friday in Morris.

League points leader TJ Matuszewski fired his 13th of the season, while Caelen Russell and Nico Vigier each contributed their 11th goals.

Jordan Gray and Curtis Rebeck also scored for the Twisters, who were out-

shot 26-21. Martin Gagnon made 21 saves in net.

The Twisters are now riding a four game winning streak while having had a couple recent games postponed, including one that had been sched-

Continued on page 26



PHOTO BY RICK HIEBERT/VOICE

Warren's Trent Genyk tries to get at the loose puck in front of Winkler netminder Jayme Janzen Saturday. The Royals won it 9-3.

Winkler Royals best Mercs

Bombers down Hawks 5-4

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler Royals made short work of the visiting Warren Mercs in South Eastern Manitoba Hockey League action over the weekend.

The Saturday night game at the Winkler arena saw the home team up 3-2 after 20 minutes, with Jamie Thiessen, Brandon Friesen, and Brett Dudar scoring in between two Warren goals.

Winkler widened the gap to 7-2 in the second period. Mitch Fehr scored twice and singles came in from Remi Laurencelle and Brendan Heppner.

The Mercs managed one final goal a handful of minutes into the last period, but Laurencelle and Marlin Froese got that back and one more besides to end the game 9-3 for Winkler.

Jayme Janzen got the victory in net, making 38 saves as Winkler outshot Warren 45-41.

That same night the Morden Bombers narrowly won their match against the Notre Dame Hawks 5-4.

Mike Rey scored the first period's lone goal and then Tanner Wiebe and Joey Baker added two more in the middle frame to make it 3-2.

Notre Dame scored the tying goal two minutes in and then pulled ahead a few minutes later. Morden returned the favour with Wiebe's second of the night and another as well from Rey in the final minutes to win it.

Goalie Reed Peters stopped 30 shots on net. His teammates fired 37 the other way.

This week the Bombers were slated to play in Warren Tuesday and then host Notre Dame Saturday while the Royals travel to play Carman on Thursday.

The SEMHL standings at press time had Morden in second place with a 5-1 record for 10 points, trailing Portage in first by a point. Carman rounded out the top three with eight points. Winkler was in fifth place at 3-5 for six points.

Winkler getting to work on its outdoor rinks

By Ashleigh Viveiros

City of Winkler staff are hoping to have the outdoor community ice rinks up and running before Christmas.

Director of community services Jordan Driedger said last week that their plan is to tackle three rinks throughout town to start.

"The Emerado rink and then another one somewhere in the centre of town [likely Lions Park, Winkler Elementary School, or the MB Church], and then something in the north as well," he said, noting that last one might be in the Parkland area or Gemstone Park. "We want to spread it out as much as we can. And then if time allows us and the weather cooperates, then we'll add some of our other rinks

that we hope to do [in various other parks around town].

"Just like every year, temperature and snow cover play a big role in how many outdoor rinks we can do," Driedger said last Friday, a couple days before Mother Nature dumped a fair bit of snow on southern Manitoba and more normal winter temperatures kicked in.

Water conservation remains top of mind for the city, even in the winter, Driedger said.

"We're working closely with the planning department as well," he said. "Some of the moisture that we got at the end of fall has helped [the drought situation] a little bit.

"The idea is if we can provide some of those outdoor public rinks that

might mean that there's less need for backyard rinks, which means less water use overall."

This will be the first year using the new concrete slab at the Emerado Park rink, which will significantly cut down on the amount of both snow and water the site needs.

With any luck, the Emerado rink will be up and running as early as this week, with the other rinks to follow soon after—just in time for Christmas break.

The City of Winkler and the Winkler Recreation Department will post the location and opening of rinks on their social media pages. Driedger asks people to stay off the rinks until they're officially declared open for skating.

"If people go on the rinks too early it can damage those rinks and make it harder to build the up the way we want to," he said. "As they're ready, we'll let people know that they're ready and where the closet rink is to them."

> TWISTERS, FROM PG. 25

uled for this past Sunday against Stonewall in Morris.

Pembina Valley remains in third place on a record of 14-3-2 for 30 points, which has them trailing Trans-

cona at 36 and St. James at 37 points.

The Twisters have a pair of games on the road this weekend as they pay a visit to River East Friday then St. Boniface Saturday.

get inspired

> MEAL IDEAS



Prep time: 20 minutes
 Cook time: 20 minutes
 Servings: 4
 12 button mushrooms
 2 tablespoons olive oil, divided
 1 large sweet onion, diced
 2 medium zucchinis, diced
 4-6 sun dried tomatoes, chopped
 2-3 garlic cloves, minced
 1 large handful spinach
 1 pinch rosemary
 salt, to taste

Vegan Stuffed Mushrooms

freshly ground black pepper, to taste
 1 pack Violife Just Like Cheddar Shreds
 finely chopped chives
 Preheat oven to 350 F.
 Use damp kitchen towel to clean mushrooms. Remove stalks from mushrooms. Rub with 1 tablespoon olive oil and place on lined baking sheet with empty sides up.
 In frying pan, saute onions in remaining olive oil until soft then add zucchinis, tomatoes and garlic. Add spinach until wilted. Remove from heat and add rosemary, salt, to taste, and pepper, to taste.
 Stuff each mushroom with vegetable mixture and sprinkle with cheese shreds. Bake 15-20 minutes. Sprinkle with finely chopped chives.



Prep time: 20 minutes
 Cook time: 10 minutes
 Servings: 8
 35 ounces Brussels sprouts
 3 green onions, finely chopped
 1/4 cup gluten-free all-purpose flour
 2 teaspoons salt
 1 teaspoon black pepper
 pink pepper
 1 teaspoon paprika
 1/4 teaspoon garlic powder
 1 flax egg (2 tablespoons flax and 2 tablespoons water)

Vegan Brussels Sprouts Fritters

1 pack Violife Just Like Cheddar Shreds
 2-4 tablespoons olive oil
 mint, roughly chopped
 Wash Brussels sprouts and finely slice. Place in bowl with green onions.
 In separate bowl, whisk flour, salt, black pepper, pink pepper, paprika and garlic powder.
 Add dry ingredients and flax egg to Brussels sprouts mixture then add cheddar shreds. Mix well and let rest in refrigerator 10 minutes.
 In frying pan, heat olive oil. Use hands to make one patty with 2 tablespoons of mixture.
 Shallow fry 4 minutes on each side. Remove and place on plate with paper towels to drain excess oil. Repeat with remaining mixture. Garnish with mint.



Lemon Cheesecake with Fresh Fruit

Servings: 6-8
 1 1/4 cups graham cracker crumbs
 1/4 cup sugar
 1/4 cup butter, melted
 2 packages (8 ounces each) cream cheese, softened
 1 can (14 ounces) sweetened condensed milk
 3 eggs
 1/4 cup fresh lemon juice
 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
 1 orange, peeled and separated
 8 raspberries
 3 mint leaves, for garnish
 Heat oven to 350 F.

Healthy Holidays (without Sacrifice!)

By Fitness & Nutrition Expert Julie Germaine Coram

Can I share a secret with you? Around the holidays, I have a slight addiction to Ritz crackers and Ferrero Rocher. If these are at a party, I cannot NOT have some. And why wouldn't I? The holidays are a time for celebrating with loved ones and indulging in life's joys, including deliciously sinful foods.

The downside, of course, is that when January rolls around, your clothes are feeling a bit snug and you suffer from regrets about your dietary decisions.

I have two solutions for you that have both worked well for me and my clients. The first involves self-control, research, and lifestyle changes to help you maintain your figure all winter-long. The second suggestion is my best advice to allow you to live it up this month without accepting that your 2022 wardrobe is going up a size.

Solution 1: portion control

Once upon a time I religiously counted calories before anything passed my lips, but I will never do that again. This kind of obsession is not healthy and is unrealistic as a long-term solution to fitness. Instead, I preach portion control. A quarter of your plate should be protein, such as meats, beans, or eggs (or a combination that could include nuts and cheeses). Whole grains should also be approximately the same size, including brown rice, whole wheat breads and pastas, or quinoa. The remaining half of your plate can heap with vegetables and fruits of all colours. Check out <https://food-guide.canada.ca/en/> for a visual representation of this, and to try their many nutritious recipes.

Solution 2: commitment immedi-

In medium bowl, combine graham cracker crumbs, sugar and melted butter. Press firmly into 9-inch springform pan.

In large bowl, beat cream cheese until fluffy. Gradually beat in sweetened condensed milk until smooth. Add eggs, fresh lemon juice and vanilla extract; mix until combined.

Pour into pan. Bake 50-55 minutes, or until center springs back when lightly pressed. Chill in refrigerator until completely cooled. Arrange orange slices around border of cake and place raspberries in middle. Top with mint leaves.



Health and Wellness Fitness expert Julie Germaine Coram

ately to a fitness program

If you sign up NOW (not on January 1) and invest in a fitness program, then you'll have support from a nutrition expert immediately who can give you tips and tricks to overcome cravings and eat well 90% of the time during all of December, so your events don't take over and makes a train wreck of your healthy regime. You will also be guaranteed to shed off any weight you did put on immediately because you are getting Pro advice on how to adjust your daily food intake to enhance fat loss in a healthy, lasting way.

Would you like to connect with me to discuss your personal fitness goals and struggles? Visit juliegermaine.com or schedule a free 15 minute diet consultation at www.calendly.com/juliegermaine

Coach Julie Germaine Coram is a fit mom, 2x Pro Fitness Champion, Certified Nutrition & Fitness Expert - and local here in Manitoba. She has helped thousands of men and women improve their health since 2005.



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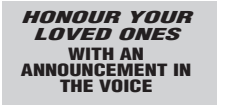
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PUBLIC NOTICE

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PUBLIC NOTICE

The City of Morden is projecting to increase the amount of water purchased from Pembina Valley Water Cooperative (PVWC) from 5% (2020 figure) to 23% due to the current drought situation. The existing City of Morden rates were set considering that only 5% of the total water demand will be purchased from PVWC in 2014. City of Morden has not increased their "pass through" rate or increased water rates since 2014. PVWC received rate increase approvals from the Public Utility Board for the years 2018 through 2022 for a total increase of \$1.37/1000 gallons.

Whereas the City of Morden must increase their "pass through" rate to account for past and current increases and for the increased volume of water to be purchased from PVWC. The calculation is as follows/1000 gallons:

| | | |
|---------------|---|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| \$0.07 | – | on account of PVWC rate increase (5% of \$1.37 for the years 2018 through 2022) at the purchase % of 5% |
| \$1.97 | – | on account of increasing the purchase volume from the current 5% to 23% |
| \$2.04 | | |

Public notice is hereby given that the water rate increase will be \$2.04/1000 gallons effective for March 1, 2022 quarterly billing in the City of Morden. That being from the present water rate of \$11.61/1000 gallons to \$13.65/1000 gallons. The sewer rate will remain as it presently is, being \$12.60/1000 gallons.

Nicole Reidle
City Manager

CAREER

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Deadline to apply is January 9, 2022.

The Winkler Morden Voice

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PART OF SE ¼ 24-2-4 WPM
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All the property is cultivated farmland and is currently in potato rotation. The adjacent land has been rezoned from Agriculture General to Development General.

A cheque for \$10,000.00 must accompany the tender as a down payment. Written tenders must be received by 12:00 p.m. on December 31, 2021. Down payment will be returned if tender not accepted.

Closing date for the sale shall be January 28, 2022, by cash or approved loan proceeds. Any loan advances paid after closing date are subject to payment of interest at loan rate during reasonable delay for registration of security. Purchaser shall be responsible for payment of all 2022 property taxes and GST or shall self-assess for GST.

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CAREERS

WESTERN School Division
Morden, Manitoba



"Rooted In Caring; Committed to Learning"

Western School Division - serving the City of Morden and the surrounding area - invites applications from aspiring and visionary leaders for the following position:

- Principal
Morden Collegiate Institute
Dual Track Grades 9 - 12 (550 students)
1.0 FTE Principal
Closing Date: January 7, 2022 at 12:00 pm noon

Western School Division, serving the City of Morden and the surrounding area, invites applications from aspiring and visionary leaders for the position of Principal of Morden Collegiate Institute.

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

The successful candidate will demonstrate abilities and positive experiences as instructional and educational leaders, school- community facilitators, visionaries, and data-informed problem solvers. The successful candidate will demonstrate an ability to manage within the cultural and educational context, including possessing experience with personnel management, as well as budget and resource allocation.

Applications received prior to Jan 7, 2022, are assured of careful consideration. An eligibility list may be established to fill similar positions and will remain in effect for 4 months.

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

<https://www.westernsd.mb.ca/Employment/Pages/EmploymentOpportunities.aspx#/>

PUBLIC NOTICE



RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF STANLEY
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

On the date and at the time and location shown below, a PUBLIC HEARING will be held to receive representations from any person(s) who wish to make them in respect to the following matter: RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF STANLEY BY-LAW NO. 25-21, an Amendment to the RM of Stanley Zoning By-law 8-18, as amended

HEARING: R.M. of Stanley Council Chamber,
1-23111 PTH 14, SW 7-3-4W
LOCATION: December 16, 2021 at 9:15 a.m.
DATE & TIME: 1) To add the definition of "Community Resource Centre"
GENERAL INTENT: 2) To add the use of "Community Resource Centre" to the Appendix I Use Table as Conditional in the AG, AL, RR, GD and RC Zones

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: Melissa Groening, Planning and Development Officer
Rural Municipality of Stanley
1-23111 PTH 14, Stanley MB R6P 0B1
Phone: (204) 325-4101
Email: mgroening@rmofstanley.ca

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

****Please note: If you wish to provide comments regarding the application we ask that you consider submitting your comments in writing to our office by email or mail (drop off box also located at the office). Due to limited seating, if you wish to be present at the hearing we will require you to contact our office a minimum of 2 business days prior to the scheduled hearing so that we can ensure we can meet the physical distancing requirements. Anyone attending the office will be required to wear a face mask. If you wish to participate in the hearing electronically, please contact mgroening@rmofstanley.ca or call 204-325-4101 a minimum of 2 business days prior to the scheduled hearing. Thank you for your understanding and patience.

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SUDOKU

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

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!

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

Sudoku Answer

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

Crossword Answer

CROSSWORD

CLUES ACROSS

- Polish city
- Very eager
- Identifies a specific person or thing
- Tennis great Naomi
- One concerned by professional advancement
- PGA Championship reward
- A fashionable hotel
- Norse mythology afterlife location
- Stood up
- Car mechanics group
- Weather forecasters use it (abbr.)
- Broken branch
- Astronomy unit
- East Asian nursemaid
- "Airplane!" actor
- Exclamation that denotes disgust
- "Batman" villain
- Downfalls
- Philippine province
- Once-vital TV part
- Valley
- Tax
- Classic Scorsese film
- Subway dwellers
- Book part
- Taxi
- Pancakes made from buckwheat flour
- Swiss river
- Founder of Babism
- Have surgery
- Withdrawal from a larger entity
- Lot's father
- Greek war god
- 2,000 lbs.
- Lemur

CLUES DOWN

- Quarrels
- Right away

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|----|---|---|---|--|----|----|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14 | | | | | | | 15 | | | | 16 | | | |
| 17 | | | | | | 18 | | | | | | | | |
| 19 | | | | | | 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 | 51 | 52 |
| 53 | | | | | | | | | 54 | | | 55 | 56 | |
| 57 | | | | | | | | | | | | 58 | | |
| 59 | | | | | | | | | 60 | | | 61 | | |

- Comedian Carvey
- Egyptian unit of weight
- A Brit's mother
- Tropical tree
- One who speaks Gaelic
- NHL legend Bobby
- Vacation spots
- Military personnel
- Shakira's don't lie
- Wimbledon champ
- Teletypewriter
- Mistakes
- Whale ship captain
- Thus
- From end to end
- Kids love him
- One and only
- Fencing swords
- Taxis
- Basics
- Refuse of grapes
- Go quickly
- French ballet dynasty
- Most open
- Popular soap ingredient
- US time zone (abbr.)
- Items of food
- Backbones
- Infrequent
- Blood type
- "Let It Snow!" songwriter
- Dutch colonist
- Pike
- Egyptian sun god
- A cardinal is one
- From a distance
- Bolivian river
- N. American student organization (abbr.)
- River (Spanish)
- Chinese life force
- Chinese surname

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IN MEMORIAM



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Forever in Our Hearts
-Love Wendy and family

Classifieds The Winkler Morden Voice Announcements

OBITUARY

Jacob Heide 1930 – 2021



On Wednesday, December 1, 2021 at Boundary Trails Health Centre, Jacob Heide, 91 years, 8 months and 24 days of Winkler, MB formerly of Hochfeld passed away peacefully with his family by his side.

Mom and dad were blessed with two sons and one daughter: Jake (Merle), Aron (Barb), Mary (John), 10 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren.

Funeral service was held at the Blumenfeld Old Colony Mennonite Church with interment at the Hochfeld Cemetery.

If friends so desire, donations may be made in Jacob's memory to the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Manitoba.

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



AUCTION

**NEW AUCTION DATE
FOR JIM & WENDY BISSEL
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**2015 Jeep and all household
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See Bill Klassen

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CAREERS



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Inventory Service Coordinator ("ISC")

The ISC is responsible for the control, management, and planning of all inventories.

Must be flexible to work 40+ hours per week and weekends as required.

Reporting directly to the Plant Manager, responsibilities of this position include, but not limited to:

- Work Safety and follow all safety policies and procedures
- Monitor customer orders and maintain clear communication with Production, Logistics, CSR's & Sales as required and have full grasp of inventory
- Communicate with all ADS facilities to procure inventory
- Lead and maintain cycle count of all finished goods, resale and BOM products
- Reconcile inventory discrepancies
- Review and partner with Production to ensure schedules and orders are fulfilled
- Monitor and communicate back orders
- Practice Continuous Improvement and 6S, including facility housekeeping
- Achieve expectations to meet standard production efficiencies and KPI's
- Oversee yard storage, as well as monitor yard operations

Job Skills:

- Knowledge of inventory and supply chain management principles and techniques
- Strong math skills, ability to perform intermediate calculations
- Capacity, lead time and production planning and scheduling understanding
- Clean, transparent communication with various levels within the company
- Ability to work without day-to-day direction and manage time independently to meet team goals
- Team player, with a positive can-do attitude

Educational Requirements:

- High School diploma or equivalent
- Post-secondary degree/diploma is preferred

Preferred Experience:

- Inventory management systems (Oracle)
- Manufacturing background
- Basic knowledge of logistic and shipping

Physical Requirements:

- Ability to sit and work on computer for 8+ hours per day
- Work outside (25%) in all weather conditions

Please email resume to Gord Unger at gord.unger@ads-pipe.com

OBITUARY

Brent Isaac Welch



Brent Welch was born June 12, 1956, and died December 1, 2021.

Brent attended school in Roland and Carman.

He was predeceased by his sister, Heather, and his father I. Clinton Welch.

Brent is survived by his mother, T. Doreen Welch, and his sister Brenda.

Cremation has taken place and an interment will be held at a later date in the Fairview Cemetery, Roland.

Memorial donations may be made to the Heart and Stroke Foundation, 1379 Kenaston Blvd., Wpg, MB, R3P 2T5.

Doyle's Funeral Home
in care of arrangements
www.doylesfuneralhome.ca

OBITUARY

Nettie Fehr (nee Neufeld) 1930 – 2021



Our Mom was born on July 25, 1930 three miles north of Plum Coulee. She attended the Grossweide School. After suffering from rheumatic fever disease at age six, she struggled throughout her life with a hearing impairment. She was baptized in 1949 upon her confession of faith. She married our Dad, John Fehr, in June 1950 and they enjoyed 71 years together. They settled and began their farming life in the Thames (Bergfeld) District. While raising four children and looking after the housework, she also worked side by side with our Dad doing routine farm chores as well as doing gardening, canning and baking. They both put in long hours until all the work was done. She had boundless energy and enjoyed every part of farm life. She loved planning and preparing for various

family celebrations such as birthdays and anniversaries. Christmas was often the highlight of the year with lots of shopping and food preparations.

In 1991, after 40 years of farm work and dedication to the farm, Mom and Dad retired from farming and moved to Plum Coulee, where Mom developed a renewed interest in planting flowers. Mom also bonded with her grandchildren by babysitting and playing baseball with them. She was deeply concerned about our spiritual lives and taught us and later her grandchildren to pray. In 2016, after 25 years living and maintaining a large garden in Plum Coulee, they moved to a rental home in Winkler, where all the outside work was taken care of. In April 2021 Mom was pained and temporarily admitted to the Niverville Heritage Centre until a local opening in the Winkler PCH was available, which unfortunately never happened.

She is survived by her husband, John Fehr and their children, Susan Day (Murray), Katie Friesen (Jake), Jake Fehr, Margaret Stoesz (Jerry) and their families including 10 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren. She was predeceased by three sisters and three brothers and is survived by her sister, Trudy Friesen and brother, Jake Neufeld as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

A private funeral service was held with interment at the Grossweide Cemetery.

The family wishes to thank the Niverville Heritage Centre staff for tenderly caring for our Mother and special thanks to Dr. Dreyer for the years of special attention and personal interest in our Mother. She really respected you.

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



OBITUARY

**Anne Schmidt (nee Wall)
1944 - 2021**



It is with sadness that we announce the passing of our mother, and grandmother, Anne Schmidt who passed away on Monday, November 29, 2021 at the age of 76 years.

Anne was born in Winkler, MB to Jacob and Maria Wall (nee Wieler) on December 10, 1944. She grew up in the Mountain City district, South of Morden, MB. As a young girl, she enjoyed school and reading, but had to quit at an early age to help out on the farm. She eventually got a job at Salem Home and then Tabor, where she met her future husband, Peter G. Schmidt. They got married on December 11, 1965 and moved to Winnipeg for a short while before settling down in Winkler and area. There she and Peter raised four children: three sons and one daughter. She was an avid

gardener, baker, and loved to help her family and neighbors. In 1976, she had a stroke which greatly changed her life. However, she was determined to not let it stop her from living life and relearned how to do all the things she enjoyed. Even with challenges, she joined in as many activities as she could and never complained about the things she found difficult or could not do. Anne's faith was tested, but as she herself wrote, "She had to rely on her Lord for her strength." She modelled this daily by the way she lived. When her children grew and started leaving for college and getting married, she pursued some education, learned how to use the computer and found new friends to add to her many others. She enjoyed playing games, puzzling and being a part of a ladies Bible study. She volunteered regularly, always enjoying the company of people and lending a helping hand. When her children and grandchildren came over to visit, she found joy in preparing their favorite foods for them. In 2008, Peter and Anne moved to Morden. Three years later, her mobility became more difficult, and they found a one level apartment in Winkler. Here she enjoyed being closer to friends and going for walks in town. In 2020, she ended up in Boundary Trails Health Centre and was also in Swan Lake for around six months before moving on November 3, 2020 into Salem Home where she lived just over a year.

She is survived by her husband, Peter Schmidt and her children and grandchildren: Kelvin Schmidt (Locky Dorell), Marlin and Julie Schmidt, Russ Schmidt and Carol Thiessen (Kai), Teresa and Mike Penner (Cassidy, Adrian, Reuben). She leaves to mourn her passing numerous siblings, in-laws, nieces and nephews. Anne was predeceased by her parents, brothers, sisters and one son in infancy.

Private service was held with interment at Edenburg Cemetery.

If friends so desire, donations may be made in Anne's memory to the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Manitoba.

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



OBITUARY

Edwin Jake Wiebe

November 8, 1937 – November 5, 2021

Edwin Jake Wiebe passed away on November 5th, 2021 at the Brandon Regional Health Centre.

Edwin was born November 8th, 1937 in the Winkler area. He accepted Jesus as his personal Saviour at a young age and was baptised, declaring his faith out loud, in Winnipeg, MB. by Pastor Barber. He attended school in Horndean, MB. until the eighth grade, when he dedicated his life to farming with his parents. At age 16, Ed began work in road construction, moving up the ranks to run D-8 Caterpillar units and scrapers. He went on to run heavy equipment at the Westroc Gypsum Mine north of Amaranth, MB. Edwin married Amanda Hoepfner on June 13, 1964 and together raised their four children at the family farm west of Amaranth. The

gardens they produced over the years were the stuff of legend and were always shared with family and friends alike. Ed was actively involved in the community and served on boards of the local Credit Union, CSSM Church, and the Silver Ridge Bible Chapel. Ed's love of all things mechanical paired with a love for speed led him and his brothers designing and building an airboat and snow plane. His sense of adventure will be missed by the many who were touched by his joy of water skiing, camping, hunting, curling, hockey and all things outdoors. Edwin farmed with his brothers until he retired to Brandon in 2009 where he continued to find joy in the outdoors. Many hours were spent gardening with Amanda and much of the harvest donated to charities such as Samaritan House. The garden was a place of joy, giving endless tractor rides to his great-grandsons whom he called his "little boys". Ed's life was lived to the fullest, his faith in God evident in every step he took. It would be his wish for those who loved him to grieve in their own fashion, and then to move on and live life to the fullest as he has done.

Edwin is survived by his wife Amanda (nee Hoepfner); son Anthony Wiebe (Mimi); daughters Naomi Waddell (Mike), and Alana Mackay (Nathan); grandchildren Trevor Schapansky (Andrea), Brantley Schapansky, Kaytlyn Bilodeau, Felysia Greene (Nathan), Tara Kauenhofen (Daniel), Micah Waddell, Dawson Waddell, Emily Waddell, Leham Mackay, Rachel Mackay, Bethany Mackay and Lara Mackay; great-grandchildren Owen Schapansky, and Sebastian, Damon and Barrett Kauehofen; brothers John Wiebe (Sandi), Harry Wiebe (Carol), and Elmer Wiebe (Audrey).

He was predeceased by his parents Pete and Tena Wiebe; sister Doreen Harder; daughter Loreena Schapansky (nee Wiebe); granddaughter Evalea Waddell; and grandson-in-law Austin Bilodeau.

The service to celebrate Edwin's life was held at Memories Chapel in Brandon on November 9th, 2021 with the interment held at Silver Ridge Bible Chapel.

Donations in Edwin's memory can be made to the Samaritan House in Brandon or to the Heart and Stroke Foundation.

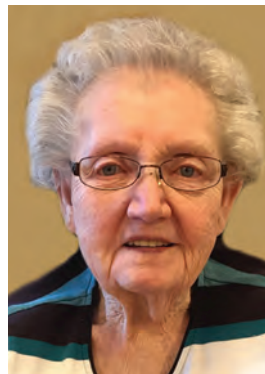


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Announcements

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OBITUARY

**Edna Joyce Thiessen (nee Friesen)
1927 – 2021**



It is with sadness that we announce the sudden passing of our mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. Edna Joyce Thiessen passed away on Tuesday, November 23, 2021 at the age of 94 years.

Edna was born in Morden, MB. to Henry H Friesen and Katharina (nee Derksen) of the Langevine District on July 17, 1927. She was the oldest child of four. Mom was baptized upon the confession of her faith on April 5, 1948 in the Sommerfeld Gemeinde by Bishop Peter Toews. She married Dave Thiessen from the Mason District, south of Morden on December 20, 1951. They raised two children and farmed in Weidenfeld, MB for 38 years. Mom worked at the Altona Sewing Factory and CSP Foods. On October 13, 1990,

Mom and Dad retired from farming and moved to Winkler, MB. Dad passed away on March 1, 1999 and mom continued living in her home until September 10, 2017. She had just celebrated her 90th birthday on July 17th. On June 14, 2018, Mom was admitted to Tabor Home, Morden. She enjoyed her stay and interaction with staff and her friend across the table always showing her appreciation for everything done for her. Mom's favorite saying was "I love my life; you should always love everyone." Before admission to Tabor. Mom faithfully watched Pastor John Hagee and Pastor Joel Osteen. She loved their messages and was hoping they could officiate her funeral someday.

We are very grateful for our strong-willed mother who was always cooking, baking and shared her hospitality with great joy. Mom will be remembered by all who knew her as a strong and capable woman who always gave to others without asking for herself. The giving brought her great joy. Her children and grandchildren were the highlight of her life.

Remaining to cherish her memory is her two daughters, Patsy and Jack Unger, grandchildren, Kimberly and Vern Derksen and Klinton Unger, great-grandsons, Jadan and Cordel Derksen; her daughter, Holly and Adrian Delorme, grandchildren, Amber and Ben Plett, Autumn and Barry Knutt, Harley and Chelsea Delorme, great-grandsons, Carter Plett and Sage Knutt. She is survived by her sister, Gladys Wiebe and sister-in-law, Truddie Friesen and many nieces and nephews as well as nieces and nephews from the Thiessen family. She was predeceased by our Dad, Dave Thiessen on March 1, 2005; sister-in-law, Agnes Friesen 1999; brothers, Henry Friesen 2013, Edward Friesen 2015, Allen Wiebe 2016.

We would like to thank Wiebe Funeral Home for helping with all the arrangements and Pastor Gerald Neufeld.

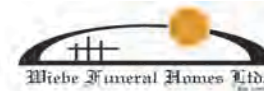
Private funeral service was held with interment at the Winkler Cemetery.

2 Timothy 4:7 "I have fought the good fight; I have finished the race. I have kept the faith."

MY MOM

Your Mom is YOUR MOM. Nobody can replace her. Nobody should replace her. Nobody can do half the things she does or has done for you. Nobody can compare to her. Only God can love you more than she does. She's only one person but she's the person that matters the most. LOVE AND APPRECIATE YOUR MOM...In Heaven or here on earth.....I LOVE YOU MOM!!

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



OBITUARY

**Cornelius Unrau
1942 – 2021**



On Saturday, November 27, 2021 at Brandon Regional Health Centre, Cornelius Unrau, 79 of Winkler, MB passed away.

He was predeceased by his wife, Martha on November 22, 2021. Dad is survived by his children, Phyllis (John); Kaitlin, Sam, Tom, Elizabeth, Tim (Jennifer); Preston, Kadence, Lisa (Mike); Claire, Orrin, Jocelyn Daniel. He leaves to mourn his passing his siblings, Diedrich, Helen, Anne, Betty, Frank (Jessie), in-laws, Susan (Dave), Cornie, Trudy, Ike (Lena), Katie, Esther (Abe), Ernie (Betty), Ed (Deb), Jim (Katherine), Don (Lisa).

Cornie was born June 7, 1942 to Diedrich and Elizabeth Unrau from Plum Coulee, MB. He was baptized in 1962. He married Martha Dyck on October 29, 1972. Cornie was born and raised

on the family farm north of Plum Coulee and continued living there till 2018, at which time they moved to Winkler.

Private service was held at the Sommerfeld Mennonite Church in Reinland with interment at the Reinland Mennonite Church Cemetery in Schanzenfeld.

We would like to thank the Brandon Regional Health Center staff for their compassionate care and for all the many people supporting the family.

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



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STK# 21U110



6.2L V8, HEATED/COOLED/MASSAGING SEATS, COOLED CUPHOLDERS & CONSOLE, BOSE PREMIUM SOUND SYSTEM, REAR SEAT DVD SYSTEM, 108,000 KM

\$58,900

PLUS PST/GST

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STK# 21U130



3.0L ECOBOOST V6, HEATED/COOLED/MASSAGING SEATS, INTELLIGENT CRUISE W/ LANE CENTERING, HEATED 2ND ROW BUCKET SEATS, ONE-TOUCH ACTIVE PARK ASSIST, 18,000 KM

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ONLY
32,000 KM!

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STK# 21U126



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31,000 KM!

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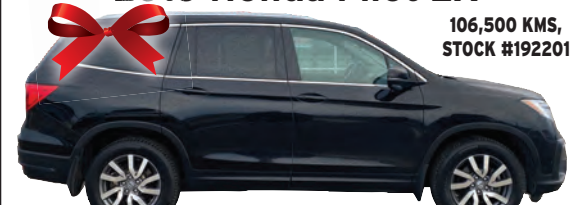


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