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THURSDAY,
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Barnswallow showcase

By Lorne Stelmach

The Barnswallow quilting club is going stronger than ever as it prepares for its 27th annual spring show.

The group's membership, which has often hovered around 30 or so, has doubled this year to over 60 quilters.

It is not only a passion for their shared hobby that draws them to the weekly quilting bees, but a sense of community as well.

"I had an interest in quilting before I came here, and it was just a wonderful opportunity to come out and meet this wonderful group of people who just welcomed us to the community," said member Tanya Waimio, who moved to our area about four years ago.

"It's been a really wonderful experience because it doesn't just happen on Wednesday afternoon," she added. "We get to go out and you get into the community and there's always familiar faces that say hello."

"That's an important thing to have



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Darlene Maxsom and Martha Epp of the Barnswallow Quilters look over one of the dozens of intricate quilts that will be on display at the annual Quilt Show taking place in Morden May 6-8.

in a community, and the quilt club has really helped us a lot."

The club's weekly gatherings have been busy lately with preparations for the annual show set for May 6-8 at the Access Event Centre in Morden.

The event will feature 250 pieces of work large and small crafted by both guild and non-member quilters.

This year's theme is "patchwork garden." The idea, says the club, is that both quilting and gardening involve

working with colour, shape, and texture, and both require planning, time, and patience. Quilts, like gardens, can often take off in an unanticipated di-

Continued on page 4

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WES Youth in Philanthropy donate to Katie Cares

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler Elementary School Youth in Philanthropy students have had a productive year, and last week they shared the fruits of it with a local charity.

The students presented Katie Cares with a donation of \$1,800 towards the care bags Katie Cares hands out to children receiving treatment at the Boundary Trails, Carman, Altona, and Portage hospitals.

"Katie Cares really stood out to us," explained Gr. 8 student Ajulu Akway, noting they looked at several good causes but decided this was the one they wanted their fundraising to support.

The charity's namesake, Kaitlyn Reimer, went to Winkler Elementary School, pointed out fellow YIP member Erica Lepp.

"She was a part of our family in our school, so it's nice to give back," she said.

The money was raised through several student-organized fundraisers

over the last few months.

"We did some bake sales, we had a cookie and hot chocolate sale," said Lepp.

"And then we had a garage sale a week or two right behind it," added Akway. "We got everyone in the school to bring some stuff that they didn't need and sold it in the gym."

The kids' efforts raised \$900, which was then matched by the Winkler Community Foundation for the full grant presented to Katie Cares.

Ruth Reimer, Kaitlyn's mother, said she's touched the kids chose to give their hard-earned funds to the charity that lives on in Katie's memory.

"It's really special because Kaitlyn herself was involved with the YIP program," she said. "She loved YIP. It was truly a great experience for her."

Reimer said after the grant assembly last week that was pleased to get the chance to impress upon the student body that anyone can make a difference.

"It doesn't matter how old you are—you can contribute and your voice



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

The Winkler Elementary School Youth in Philanthropy group donated \$1,800 to Katie Cares last week.

should be heard. Kids have so much to offer."

Katie Cares distributes upwards of 400 care bags to sick kids each year, each filled with toys, games, toiletries, and a cuddly stuffed animal to help make a stay in the hospital a little easier.

STANDING UP VS. BULLYING

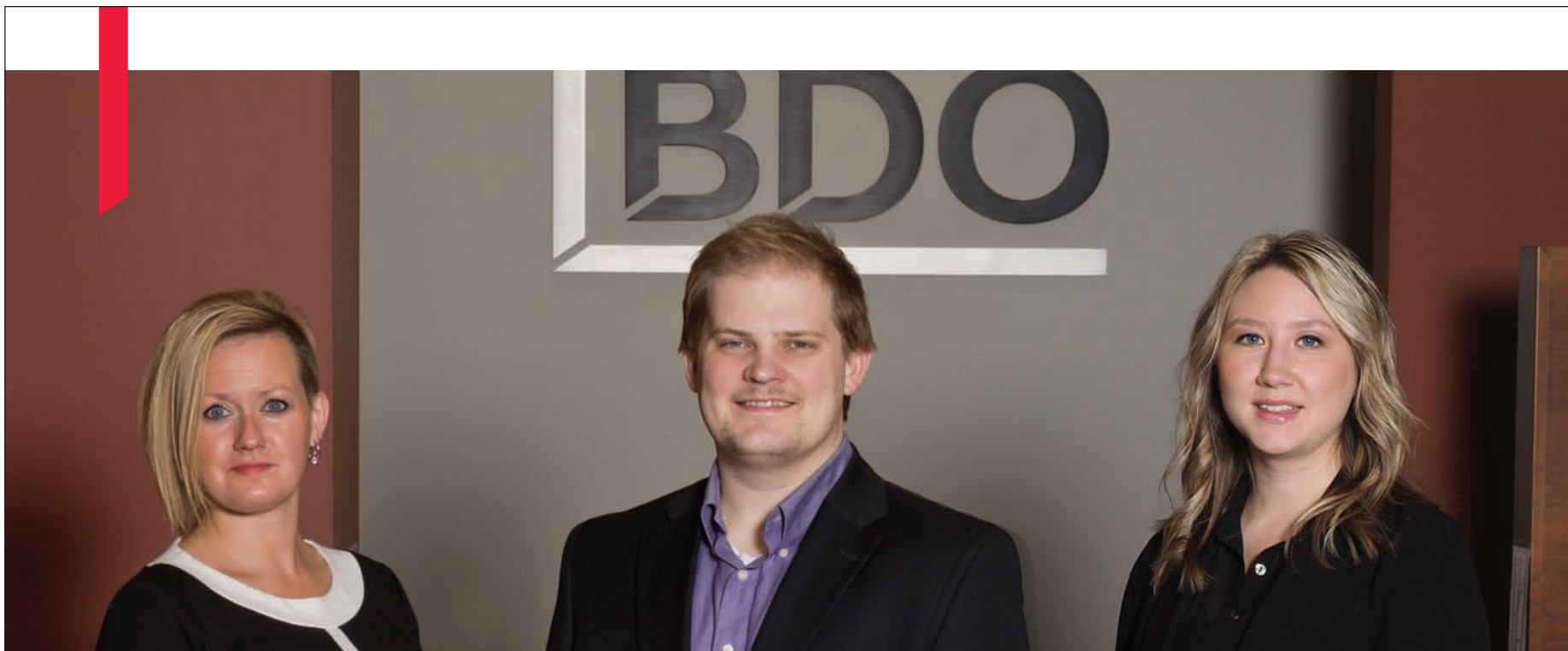
The cheque presentation was made on April 13, which was International Day of Pink. The school gymnasium was a sea of pink as students and staff

donned the colour to celebrating diversity and raise awareness to stop all forms of bullying

"It's an anti-bullying day," explained Akway, sharing the story of a Gr. 9 boy who got bullied for wearing pink and the Gr. 12 students who teamed up to show their support for him and fight back against bullying by wearing pink in his honour.

YIP members have been sharing that story and the importance of standing up to put a stop to bullying with their

Continued on page 8



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Students get their day in court

By Lorne Stelmach

It may have been dealing with a classic fairy tale, but there were real life lessons to be learned at the open house held April 14 at the Morden Court House.

At the event, a class of Grade 6 students from École Morden Middle School acted out a mock trial based on the fairy tale of Hansel and Gretel. Provincial Judge R. Pollack presided over the jury trial of the brother and sister who damaged the gingerbread house of an evil witch.

It was all part of an afternoon to celebrate the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, but also provided a great opportunity for students and visitors to learn about the Canadian justice system, said Carli Owens, crown prosecutor in Morden.

"That's something we should be really proud of in Canada ... other countries are envious of what we do have in Canada," said Owens. "We're here today to show to the public basically a mock trial of what is considered to be a fair trial in Canada."

Gr. 6 teacher Lindsey Jacobs said the day was a fun way to bring the justice system to life for the students.

"Part of our curriculum in social studies for Gr. 6 is learning about hu-



PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Above: École Morden Middle School Gr. 6 students played the roles of the prosecutors and defence counsel in the mock trial of Hansel and Gretel, played by Jonathan Dyck and Christina Schott (front). Here with Judge R. Pollack are Raveen Kaur, Lila Buhr, Eva Dyck, Lucas Thiessen, Luke Friesen, and Caleb Payment. Right: The sheriffs handcuffed teacher Lindsay Jacobs, much to the delight of his students.



man rights and the government system and the justice system, so it was a great way to integrate the classroom academics with a real life experience," he said. "It made it tangible for them."

Student Caleb Payment, who played the role of first defence counsel in the trial, said it was a unique learning experience.

"It was lots of fun practising and being with the judge and the court ... it was a great time."

"There was a lot more than I expected ... that the judge would say," he added. "We had our lines, but he said a bit more than what was in the script. That made me a bit nervous about it, but you've just got to move on."

Co-defence counsel Lucas Thiessen

"I LEARNED THAT MAYBE ONE DAY I MIGHT WANT TO BE A LAWYER."

Continued on page 7



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> QUILT SHOW, FROM PG. 1

rection but end up as beautiful creations. And both bring joy, especially in the process of creating.

The Barnswallow's show has a long history in the area, going back to its beginnings in a rural location between Morden and Winkler nearly three decades ago.

"We celebrated our 25th anniversary two years ago, and it's going strong,"

said organizer Katie Friesen. "It's a very strong group and a very diverse group. We're still always increasing [membership]."

"We meet every Wednesday year round, and we bring handwork and we learn from each other," Friesen added. "It's a really neat group. We encourage one another, and we're like family."



PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Left: Displaying one of their creations are Barnswallow quilting club members (back row, from left) Marty Penner, Darlene Maxsom, Pearl Braun-Dyck, Tanya Wainio, Ina Hollet, Jean Motheral, Bonnie Borg, Katie Friesen, (front row) Martha Epp, Elsie Braun, and Sandra Lawrence. Above: Club members at one of their recent Wednesday afternoon quilting bees check out a quilt.

Members were encouraged this year to create works with the patchwork garden theme in mind, Friesen said.

They were also challenged to complete a baby quilt based on the Star Soup pattern designed by Susan Leland, as well as to sew 50 receiving blankets. The resulting baby quilts and blankets will be donated to community charities.

The show's featured quilters this year will be sisters Carol Burton and Daphne Andrew-Peers. The event will also feature a merchant mall and guild boutique, quilting demonstrations, and a rainbow auction.

Friesen said the event is a wonderful way to show the level of skill and talent reached by this region's many quilters.

"It's a great opportunity to come and see some of the beautiful handwork that's done locally," she said.

"All of the proceeds are going to worthy causes in the community too, so a good showing of the public helps out."

The show usually attracts over 1,000 people from across southern Manitoba and even beyond from Ontario and the U.S.

"We're always encouraged by that," said Friesen. "I think there is a great appreciation for the work that's done."

"It's more than just quilts on the bed, it is really a work of art ... no matter what kind of quilting you do."

The show runs Friday, May 6 from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., Saturday, May 7 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday, May 8 from noon to 5 p.m.

Admission is \$5 a day or \$10 for a weekend pass.

You can find out more about the Barnswallow Quilters and the show online at barnswallowquilters.wordpress.com.



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Council gives okay to downtown sidewalk patios

By Lorne Stelmach

The City of Morden hopes to see sidewalk patios bringing even more life to the downtown.

Council introduced a policy at its Monday meeting to not only allow but encourage businesses to have seasonal sidewalk patios.

"We have a boutique feel in our downtown, so why wouldn't we just work with that?" said Mayor Ken

Wiebe. "We're looking at keeping our downtown alive and making it a destination for people."

The policy aims to strike a balance between ensuring safety and access.

The patios can be extended out into the parking lane if businesses wish, though only with a clearly designated area with protection from traffic. A portion of the sidewalk also needs to

Continued on page 5

Candidates hear from voters of tomorrow

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Local candidates took time in the lead-up to Tuesday's provincial election to meet with the voters of tomorrow.

Morden-Winkler Conservative candidate Cameron Friesen stopped by Garden Valley Collegiate on April 12 to present to several classes of social studies students, while Green Party candidate Mike Urichuk stopped by the school's cafeteria on Monday over the lunch hour to field questions.

"It's really important just to make sure that students are informed and that they have a face to politics ... and a chance to hear different viewpoints," said teacher Cherise Bergen.

While most high school students aren't yet eligible to vote, they still have strong opinions on the issues, Bergen said.

“When you get them one-on-one and you actually start talking to them ... they’re passionate about things. They’re passionate about taxes, they’re passionate about helmet laws. They have opinions.”

And for those youth who are less interested in politics, getting the chance to hear from candidates just might be the thing that plants a seed of interest for the future, adds teacher Donovan Giesbrecht.

"By bringing these folks in to talk to them we're trying to spark an in-

terest in politics and hopefully build connections," he says. "I know some of my students in the past have met candidates at things like this and then gone on to volunteer and get involved in politics in a more formal way.

"That's what we're after: getting the kids curious and also demonstrating that as a school we care about politics and care about the election and want to be engaged ourselves, which I think maybe sets an example for the students too."

At Friesen's presentation, the students asked about things like the legalization of marijuana, lowering the age a person can get their learner's driving permit by six months to 15, and minimum wage increases.

Gr. 10 student Michelle Bartsch stayed to chat with Friesen after the presentation specifically to express her concerns about oil fracking.

"I do not agree with it, so I just wanted to ask him some questions about oil fracking in Manitoba and how that's all working out," she said.

Bartsch said she's begun looking into the platforms of the various political parties, but it's not something she's made any firm decisions on just yet.

"I'm interested in it because it is our future, but I'm not obsessed with it or anything," she said, laughing. "I've got a few more years before I can vote ... I'm keeping an open mind."



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Morden-Winkler Conservative candidate Cameron Friesen chats with GVC student Dominick Hildebrand during a visit to the school last week.

For his part, Friesen said he's enjoyed stopping in at several schools in Winkler and Morden over the last few weeks.

"People make the assumption that

students aren't interested in politics," he said, "and it's a false assumption.

"Let's remember that 10 years from now these are the people that are going to be making the decisions."

> COUNCIL, FROM PG. 4

be kept clear for pedestrian traffic.

Wiebe noted they expect this will have minimal impact on parking between about May to October.

"If we lose a couple or three parking spots ... there's lots of space on side streets. We have a couple of churches that are willing to allow

us to use their parking lots. There's always lots of space in front of the 55 Plus Centre."

Businesses will need to apply to the city with their site and patio floor plans, including dimensions of temporary elements such as awnings, umbrellas, or planters.

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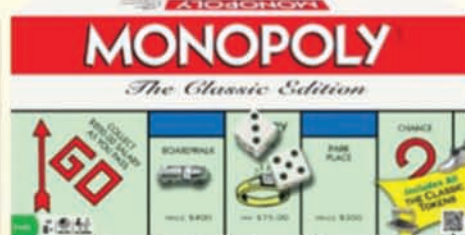
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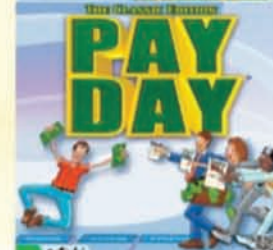
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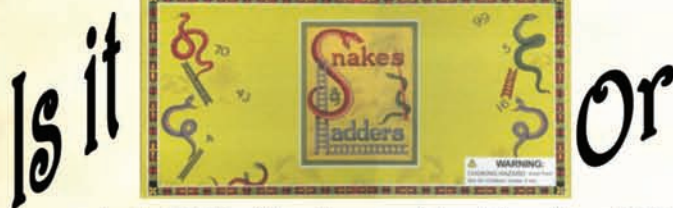
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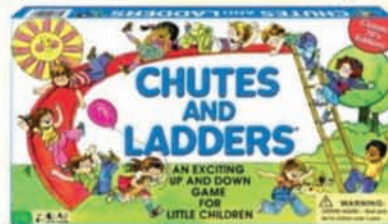
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Winkler Police make city's largest single meth bust

A two week investigation led Winkler Police to the largest single seizure of crystal meth in the city ever last week.

On the evening of April 12, officers stopped a vehicle on Navigator Dr. shortly after it entered the city and arrested both occupants for possession of methamphetamine for the purpose of trafficking.

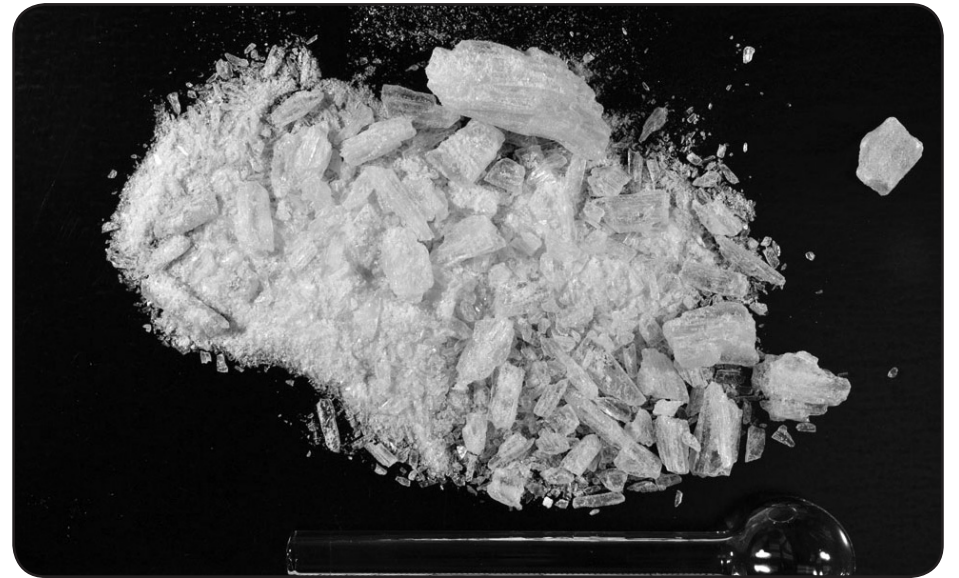
Seized was 15.5 grams of crystal meth with a street value of \$3,100.

Also seized from the vehicle were four cell phones, a digital scale, a lap-

top computer, a USB drive, SD cards, one used methamphetamine pipe, and three new unused glass methamphetamine pipes.

Now facing various trafficking and possession charges are Winklerites Daniel Raymond Michael Somerton, 30, and Kimberly Susanne Ramsey, 34.

Both were released on a Promise to Appear along with undertakings bearing numerous conditions. They will appear in Morden Court on June 14.



WINKLER POLICE PHOTO

This is the 15.5 grams of meth Winkler Police seized from two Winklerites last week. The drugs would have been divided into 155 equal amounts called "points" and sold for about \$20 a point.

'Hansel and Gretel' appear before Morden court

From Pg. 3

said they also learned there is a lot more involved in a trial than what you see on television.

"The experience was pretty cool," he said, adding that he also "learned that maybe one day I might want to be a lawyer."

Owens suggested the experience of a mock trial can help get across aspects of the justice system that may not always be fully understood or appreciated, like "the concept of how a judge arrives at a decision, particularly when they're faced with assessing the credibility of two different persons.

"Often cases end up where you have the accused person giving their version and then you have a victim or complainant giving their version and they don't line up."

Cases will often come down to "how a judge assesses sort of who to believe and then does that basis meet our standard of beyond a reasonable doubt? And that's a pretty big concept that a lot of the public doesn't understand."

Events like last week's open house can help get across a better understanding of how it really works compared to the sensationalism often seen in the media, Owens added.

"I think it is good though that the media was quite involved perhaps with the Jian

Ghomeshi case because that did get Canadians talking about how the judges arrive at decisions," she said, "and how do they assess credibility and then how do we apply that to our standard of beyond a reasonable doubt?"

The students' mock trial strictly followed all of the proper procedures and protocols to make it realistic.

Witnesses ranged from the police constable and woodcutter to Hansel and Gretel themselves.

The student legal teams offered up a few objections during the testimony and also conducted cross-examinations and then summarized their cases to a jury of fellow students.

Judge Pollack instructed the jury on the idea of reasonable doubt and the need to determine if there was a clear intent. While the jury deliberated, a police officer spoke briefly on fingerprinting and its role as evidence.

"It's a basic facts scenario where the children understand what is going on and the legal concepts are simplified," said Owens. "So we have the witch whose property has been vandalized, and Hansel and Gretel are accused."

"The trial really comes down to the defence of necessity," she added, noting the students worked hard on preparing for it over the last two to three months.

Jacobs said the students were really committed to the project from the start.

"The students really enjoyed it, and they did an excellent job. I'm very proud of them."

And Hansel and Gretel? The necessity defense worked—they were hungry and lost in the woods, after all—and they were found not guilty.

Council approves subdivision lot reduction

By Lorne Stelmach

A new subdivision approved for the north end of Winkler came back before council April 12.

The subdivision will see the total number of urban residential lots planned for the area north of Walmart reduced from 81 to 68.

The proposal for the 23.55 acre area subdivided from a 36.54 acre parcel of land included a mixture of single family homes, row housing, duplexes and multiple family developments.

The revision earned council's approval, although Coun. Don Friesen did wonder if there might not be enough parking space, particularly in an area that may be for duplexes. He suggested in the future with larger developments like this that council should have a chance to look at more detailed plans.

Council also gave final approval to two property rezonings last week.

One on Park Avenue rezones a piece of land from residential mobile home to institutional for the Winkler Arts and Culture centre.

The other rezones a section bordered by Eastview Dr. and Pembina Ave. from community reserve to industrial. Plans in the works for the area include a new storage facility for Southern Potato.

Finally, council learned at the meeting that Winkler is receiving nearly a million dollar boost towards its infrastructure needs.

The city is getting funding of about \$922,000 as part of the annual provincial government grants handed out through the Building Manitoba Fund.

Each year, municipalities receive a share of the PST revenue, which in 2015/16 amounts to over \$324 million for roads, transit and other municipal infrastructure priorities including streets and bridges, water and sewer systems, bike paths, recreation and other municipal facilities, and public transit.



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getheard

EDITORIAL > VIEWPOINTS > LETTERS

Getting to the root of the matter

Have you ever wondered about the roots of your family tree? I mean, do you wonder about why certain people look or act a certain way in the family and if it has anything to do with your ancestry?

I am not sure what drives a passion for genealogy, but for as long as I can remember I have been in love with hunting down details of my family history.

Perhaps it has to do with feeling a need for concrete identity. Maybe it has to do with wanting to know your part in the broader narrative of human history. Whatever the reason, I find genealogy incredibly fascinating.

There are many benefits to digging into your surname's past. My past is predominantly Irish with some Italian. However, unofficially, the name Cantelon has historical references

that go back more than 1,000 years to when it was Norman French and connected to the town Canteloup in a region of France settled by Vikings of Norwegian and Danish heritage.

The name is likely derived from the Latin words *Canta* and *Lupe*, meaning Song of the Wolf or Wolfson.

In 1066 A.D. Henri de Cantelupe was part of William the Conqueror's invasion of England and the family and its name kept close affiliation to the crown for several hundred years.

In the 13th century, William de Cantelupe and St. Thomas de Cantelupe were both advisors to King John (not a great thing to boast of, but there it is nonetheless).

Eventually de Cantelupe became de Cantillon, a Norman family sent to Ireland to hold land after the English conquered. Later the name became Cantelon after a part of the family immigrated to Clinton, Ontario, Canada in the mid-1800s.

It is these kinds of historical tidbits that I find exceptionally cool and that bring a certain ancestral pride to bear.

This is just a tiny part of the family history—there's still the Italian Valeriote that traces ancestry back to Roman Emperor Valerius; McCarty which is an ancient Irish name; Russell which I know almost nothing about and more.

In this area there are many with a Mennonite heritage. Loads of genealogical work has been done amongst

various Mennonite surnames. Many of the families in this region trace their heritage back to the Russian Mennonite colony of Chortitz and its daughter colony, Bergthal ... sound familiar?

These colonies were populated by Mennonites that had escaped persecution in West Prussia where they had lived between 1550-1792.

Prior to that it is noted that they were of Dutch heritage, which should come as no surprise since Menno Simons was Dutch.

I find that genealogy is a great way of focusing your study of history. History being as vast as it is, it is nice to have a method to zero in on a few extant areas.

Genealogy is on my mind these days because I recently sent my DNA in to an ancestry research company called 23&Me and am eagerly awaiting results. Soon I will receive links to pages and pages of reports on ancestral and health related info. to obsess over and send me even further into historical research.

While we are who we are, it is nice to know that we are also part of a long chain of ancestral and historical cause and effect. That certain people made certain decisions a thousand years ago that led to you.

Don't know anything about your family history? Then start digging. You never know what you'll find.



By Peter Cantelon

> Got something you want to get off your chest? How about an act of kindness to share?

Send your letters to the editor or acts of kindness to news@winklermordenvoice.ca. Please include your name, address, and phone number for confirmation purposes.

> WES YIP, FROM PG. 2

peers through class presentations over the last few weeks.

"We're presenting to them and asking them, 'What do you do if you're bullied?' and 'What do you do if you see someone else is getting bullied?'" said YIP member Abbey Peters.

"Everyone needs to know what to do when they're being bullied or if they see someone being bullied," added Lepp. "The only way that we'll stop bullying is if we do something about it."

YIP challenged each class to decorate their classroom and wear pink that day, with the best-dressed room earning an ice cream party.

YIP also hosted a bake sale with pink cupcakes, with funds slated for their global project donation later in the year.

"We did a local donation and now we're raising for a global one," explained Lepp. "We still have to decide what charity or organization we're going to give the money to."

The kids are looking into various aid groups that help disadvantaged people all over the world, she said.

Finding ways to make a difference in the world is what YIP is all about, stressed Peters, who urges younger kids to give the group a chance when they enter junior high.

"They should get involved," she said. "It's lots of fun and it's a great way to help and give back to the community."

"And the world," added Akway.



Two local students brought home gold from the Skills Manitoba Competition last week: Alex Harder (left, centre) in the electrical installations event and Leonard Heinrichs Klippenstein (right) in the outdoor power and recreation equipment division. Morden-Winkler students also brought home four silvers and two bronze medals from the competition.

SUBMITTED PHOTOS



Winkler-Morden students shine at Skills MB

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Winkler-Morden students returned from the 19th annual Skills Manitoba Competition last week with a bevy of medals in tow.

The competition took place in Winnipeg April 14 and gave high school

and post-secondary students from across the province the chance to showcase the skills they've learned in their technical vocational programs.

Bringing home gold was Alex Harder in the electrical installations competition and Leonard Heinrichs Klippenstein in the outdoor power and

recreation equipment division. The duo will now compete on behalf of Manitoba at the National Skills Competition in Moncton, N.B. in June.

Silver medalists included Nellie Albertin in aesthetics, Devin Boger in auto body repair, Brian Funk in carpentry, and Andrew Friesen in car

painting.

Bringing home bronze medals were Ruben Penner in carpentry and Chelsea Hoeppner in cooking.

Also competing was David Thiessen (automotive service), Caitlyn Hiebert (baking), and Brianna Mulvaney-Letkeman (electrical installations).

Festival 50th anniversary photo set for May 1

Corn & Apple volunteers through the years invited to group photo downtown

By Lorne Stelmach

The Corn and Apple Festival hopes to mark its 50th anniversary this year with a group photo like no other.

To help create a great lasting historical record of the milestone, organizers want to gather volunteers past and present from over the last half century.

Chairperson Lynda MacLean said the festival has always been a remarkable volunteer effort with thousands of people involved over the

years, so that led to the thought of creating a legacy photograph that would include as many people as possible.

"It's for anybody who has volunteered for Corn and Apple over the past 50 years," she said. "We would like a thousand volunteers there. Over 50 years, there must be at least a thousand who have come and gone."

Eighth St. between Stephen and North Railway will be closed off between 1:30-3:30 p.m. Sunday, May 1

for the epic group photo.

Steve Hiebert of Personal Expressions Photography will be lifted high above the street on the Morden Fire Department aerial ladder to snap the shot, which will then also be part of a memory book being compiled for the 50th anniversary.

Once the group is gathered and organized, Hiebert will aim to take the photo around 2 p.m., or shortly thereafter.

MacLean encouraged Mordenites to spread the word to anyone who

has ever been involved with the festival.

"We've got to get the word out ... so people know and hopefully we could get our thousand," said MacLean, adding the photo shoot will go on rain or shine.

The festival committee continues working on the memory book and it invites anyone to submit an anecdote, story, or photo of their favourite festival memories to the festival office by April 30.

The 2016 Morden Corn and Apple Festival takes place Aug. 26-28.

"WE'VE GOT TO GET THE WORD OUT ..."

Spina bifida assoc. holding bake sale April 30

By Lorne Stelmach

It was a sharp and sudden learning curve for Connie Hesom when her son, Evan, was born almost nine years ago with spina bifida and hydrocephalus.

She and her husband, Terence, were grateful to have the Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus Association of Manitoba available immediately to turn to for help.

"It's just so much easier if you can talk about it, then people know what's out there and what is available then they're more aware of it," said Hesom, a Morden resident who is currently serving as the association's president.

"It's not as well known a disability ... but it is very much out there," she said. "Just like so many other ones, there is no cure for it. We just have to keep trying to plug away to just make life as average and accommodating as we can."

Spina bifida is a birth defect which occurs within the first four weeks of pregnancy. The spinal column fails to develop properly, resulting in varying degrees of permanent damage to the spinal cord and nervous system.

Infants born with spina bifida may have an open lesion on their spine where significant damage to the nerves and spinal cord occurs.

Although the spinal opening is surgically repaired shortly after birth, the nerve damage is permanent. This results in varying degrees of paralysis of the lower limbs, depending largely on the location and severity of the lesion.

Hesom's son had nerves at the end of his spinal column exposed and underwent surgery just four hours after

"WE'VE BEEN WORKING REALLY HARD AT FUNDRAISING ... FOR FAMILIES SO THAT THEY KNOW THAT HELP IS OUT THERE."

his birth. Another surgery followed again about 10 days later because the spinal fluid had no way to get out and had started to accumulate in his brain. Surgeons put in a shunt to help drain the fluid.

All that means Evan has no control of his bladder, so he is catheterized, which requires attention five times a day, said Hesom.

"For him, routine is very important. He has interruptions throughout his whole day," she said, noting going to the bathroom every three hours requires about 15 minutes each time to take care of the catheter.

Otherwise, Evan has been a little more fortunate than others with the disease, Hesom noted.

"He is able to walk and play ... slower than most kids ... and can't necessarily do all the things the way that they do," she said, noting he has to wear braces on his feet. "We've always taught Evan that we just try our best ... we just do things differently. He's very aware that he is different ... that affects him. He's very aware of what's happening around him and how it's different."

Knowing how important the support was to their family, the Hesoms have remained involved with the Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus Association of Manitoba over the years.

Hesom said the organization is a

lifeline for many families.

"We've been working really hard at fundraising to set up different funds for families so that they know that help is out there," she said.

There can be many expenses involved in raising a child with the disease that may not be covered, placing quite a financial burden on families.

"So those bills can get pretty expensive, medications can get pretty expensive," Hesom said. "We have a medical fund ... we can reimburse these families for some of their needs."

The association also provide other assistance such as helping send kids to camps as well as support for expenses related to extended hospital stays.

Hesom added they are also increasingly seeing a need for supports for adults.

"Once you become 18, where do you go, what do you do, where are the resources? The expenses continue, and the disability stays. That's something we've been working on."

The association is looking to hold a range of events to get more involved and expand their reach into rural Manitoba.

With that goal in mind, they are holding a 30-table craft, bake, and trade sale April 30 from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Morden Legion hall.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Terence and Connie Hesom with sons Darren and Evan. Evan, right, was born with spina bifida. Both his parents are heavily involved with the Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus Association of Manitoba.

Funds from the event will be put to good use, Hesom said.

"Some will be going to events that we plan for the kids. Some will be going directly to the kids themselves into our different funds."

The national spina bifida association is also holding a golf tournament in Winkler on June 25 with plans being made for a picnic in the area the next day to help mark June as Spina Bifida Awareness Month.

For more information, check out www.sbham.ca.

Celebrate Table Top Day in Winkler April 30

Funds go to Chance 2 Grow and Chance 2 Camp

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Does your family groan when you pull out the Monopoly board?

Have your friends sworn to never play Risk with you again?

If you're a board game lover in search of fellow enthusiasts to play with, look no further than the first annual Table Top Day Winkler.

Taking place in The Zone lounge at Garden Valley Collegiate on Saturday, April 30 from 1-5 p.m., the day will be a celebration of play, says organizer Sandra Doell, administrator of the Child and Family Services of Central Manitoba Foundation.

"If you want to meet up with some like-minded individuals—maybe your family looks down on you and your addiction to Pandemic or they've really never understood your love of other board games—bring what you love and play it with others who get it."

The event—which Doell points out

is taking place, fittingly, on International Table Top Day—will also be a chance to try out some new games led by local gaming enthusiasts.

"We'll have 'Table Top experts' on hand to introduce people to games they maybe haven't tried before," Doell said.

Sponsored by Janzen Hobbyland, the afternoon will also include stations where you can go to town building with Lego or exercise your creativity with adult colouring books.

"There certainly will be something there for people to enjoy," said Doell. "If you've never been exposed to the

Table Top phenomenon, come and see what it's like."

Admission is \$5. Children 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult.

Funds raised will go to the local Chance 2 Grow and Chance 2 Camp programs, which provide funds to disadvantaged families to help their children take part in recreational activities, including art, music, sports, and summer camp.

"We've been doing Chance 2 Grow for just about five years now and there's been an overwhelming re-

Continued on page 11

Legion to host 'Elvis'

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Morden Legion hosts its second annual fundraising supper next week, with two local charities set to benefit.

This year's Perogy & Ham Supper takes place at the Legion hall on Friday, April 29, with supper starting at 6:30 p.m. and a performance from Elvis tribute artist Corny Rempel at 8 p.m.

"Last year's dinner worked out well and a lot of people really enjoyed the meal, so we thought we'd make it an annual thing," says branch president Bob Frost, who notes the inaugural event raised about \$1,000 for Katie Cares and the Katie's Cottage respite home project. "It's a way for us to give back ... supporting different charities every year."

This year the evening will benefit two charities

doing a lot of good in our community: the Morden Parent and Child Resource Centre and Big Brothers Big Sisters of Morden-Winkler.

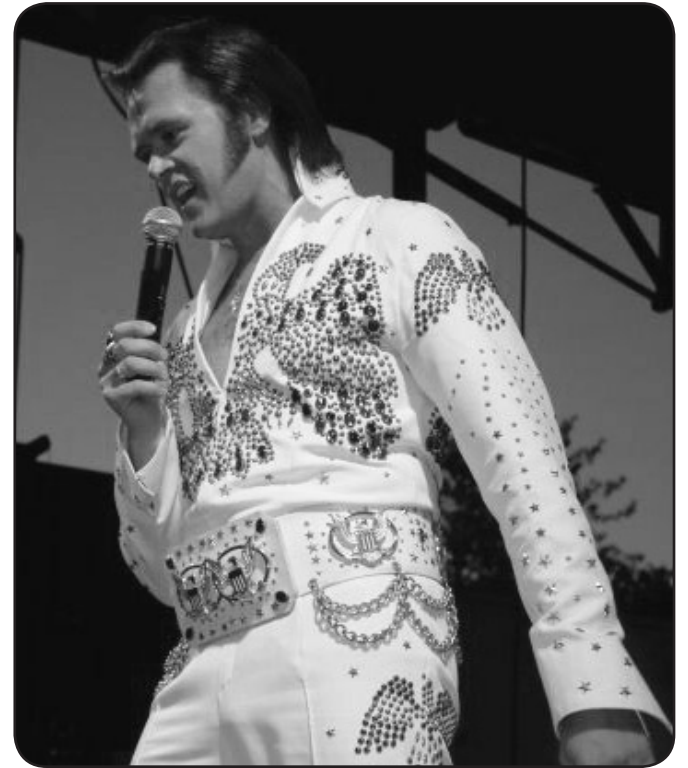
Frost hopes that adding entertainment this year—especially that of Rempel, an award-winning tribute artist and comedian—will bring more people out than ever to support these causes.

"Tickets are already selling pretty well," he said, urging people to book them soon before the event sells out.

Tickets are \$30 per person and are available at the Legion at 285 North Railway St. or by calling 204-822-4122.

Elvis tribute artist Corny Rempel performs at the Legion's fundraising supper April 29.

CORNYENTERTAINMENT.COM



Open House Winkler looking for venues

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Open House Winkler is slated to return for a second year of pulling back the curtain on local businesses and organizations next month.

City events coordinator Deb Penner is putting a call out for venues to take part in the May 27-28 event.

"The response was really, really good last year. I really didn't know what to expect going into it the first time around," she said. "There were about 15 businesses involved who had varying degrees of attendance based on what they were offering."

"I think easily the most successful one was the Kroeker Potato Store where they were doing free

french fries," Penner said. "They were mobbed, which was great."

People also got the chance to try a free workout at Core Fitness, tour the city's water treatment plant, and go behind-the-scenes at manufacturers like Grandeur Housing.

Opening your doors to the community gives people the chance to see "what you do and how you do it," Penner said. "It's a chance to truly show off what makes your business special."

"It's an opportunity to meet new potential customers and/or to show off something new that people maybe aren't aware of."

But it's not just businesses who can take part—non-profit organizations,

tourist attractions, and even community events taking place the same weekend are also welcome to sign-up as a venue.

"It can be a non-profit organization, it can be an event—the Teddy Bears' Picnic happens to take place that Saturday and so we'll be including that because it's really an open house for those organizers and also for Bethel Heritage Park."

"Really, if anybody has any inkling of wanting to get involved, call me and we'll find a way," Penner said. "The more the merrier."

"We simply ask that you have a free offer of some kind ... free tours, free food, free gifts."

One change to this year's Open House Winkler is that venues are able to sign-up for one or both days, whichever works best for them.

"Some businesses, some manufacturers aren't typically open on the Saturday, so they found that hard last year," Penner said. "I don't want to exclude anybody just because of scheduling."

The event runs 1-4 p.m. on the Friday and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the

Saturday.

To sign-up or for more information, contact Penner at 204-325-5600 or by email at dpenner@cityofwinkler.ca by the end of the month.

"IT'S A CHANCE TO TRULY SHOW OFF WHAT MAKES YOUR BUSINESS SPECIAL."

> TABLE TOP, FROM PG. 10

sponse here in the Pembina Valley," Doell said. "There's just a need there, because not every kid plays sports. Chance 2 Grow will provide funding up to \$400 per child ... to do all kinds of extracurricular activities."

"We know that if a child has something—whether it's art or guitar lessons, sometimes it's a pool pass, maybe it's ballet, dance—whatever is an outlet for them, an extracurricular way for them to feel like they're expressing themselves, developing a talent, bonding, belonging in some way, we want to fund into that ... it builds attachment, feelings of be-

longing, community."

Doell notes that funding isn't just for children in CFS care, but any family in the communities they service, which stretches across southern Manitoba.

Over the past year, 76 children received funding for a variety of activities and another 64 kids got to attend camp thanks to donors who raised over \$16,000 to make that happen.

For more information, check out the Child & Family Services of Central Manitoba Foundation Inc. on Facebook.



VOICE FILE PHOTO

One of the biggest hits of Open House Winkler 2015 was the Kroeker Potato Store's free fry samples. This year's city-wide behind-the-scenes event takes place May 27-28.

Offering the 'Quinn-tessentials'

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The first graduate of Northlands Parkway Collegiate's esthetics program is putting her skills to good use.

Megan Giesbrecht has launched Quinn-tessentials Esthetics Studio, offering a full range of esthetic services and products.

Giesbrecht has been running her one-woman business from a nook in the lower level of the Core Fitness building in downtown Winkler since early March.

"Eventually I'd love to expand, but for right now it's just me in here," she

said. "I offer everything: manicures, pedicures, waxing, facials, lash and brow tints."

Giesbrecht returned to NPC for the intensive esthetics courses a year after graduating from high school. The RRTVA program allowed her to stay close to home to train for a career she loves.

"It was what I wanted to do and I just decided that instead of moving to Winnipeg it would be easier to do it here," she said, admitting that her father, former RRTVA director Harv Giesbrecht, certainly extolled the virtues of our region's vocational train-



Megan Giesbrecht at Quinn-tessentials Esthetics Studio, located in the Core Fitness building in Winkler.

PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

ing programs. "I think it's a great program ... the teaching is top quality. You learn so much."

The studio is open daily by appoint-

ment by calling 204-362-2829.

You can also learn more about Quinn-tessentials Esthetics Studio on its Facebook page

Miami man leads police on 23 km pursuit

By Lorne Stelmach

A 48-year-old Miami man is facing a number of charges after leading Morden police on a high speed pursuit.

It all began around 7 p.m. April 13 when police on patrol saw a vehicle going west that did not have a valid license plate. Officers then recognized the driver as someone suspended from driving.

The driver led police on a 23 kilometre pursuit before officers eventually caught up to the vehicle stopped on a yard where the driver had previously lived. The man had fled the scene.

Officers searched the vehicle, noting a heavy odor of liquor and finding empty beer cans in the front

passenger and rear floor areas. The vehicle was towed from the scene and impounded.

Several hours later, the accused called police asking if they were looking for him. Officers met him at a residence and placed him under arrest.

The man, whose name was not released, is now facing charges that include dangerous driving and flight from police.

Other items of note in the Winkler and Morden police weekly reports include:

- Morden Police were called April 10 about a loud domestic assault in an apartment complex.

Police arrived and found an intoxicated man lying in the doorway of one of the apartments.

The female victim was reluctant to speak with police, but there were visible injuries on her face including a swollen eye and blood in the corner of her mouth.

Eventually she admitted he had hit her several times on the side of her head.

The 21-year-old man from Swan Lake was held until he sobered up and then released on a promise to appear in court on a charge of assault.

- Winkler Police were called April 12 about the theft of a Kaufman 18-foot flat deck trailer complete with an electric winch.

It was reported stolen from the property of All Tech Panel Products on 1st Street on April 9. The theft remains under investigation.

- Officers became involved once again at the Superstore in Winkler April 14 when two shoplifters each attempted to make off with a cart full of groceries.

One suspect abandoned his cart and ran off while the second suspect kept going with her cart.

Store staff provided police with a licence plate number and officers stopped the vehicle a short time later. Inside were two women and over \$1,200 in unpaid merchandise.

One was released on a promise to appear while the second woman from St. Rose du Lac was remanded into custody for a court appearance in Portage because she was also charged with breaching a probation order and failing to appear in court.

Both women are charged with theft under \$5,000 and possession of stolen goods. The male suspect had not been located as of press time.

- Winkler police were called April 16 shortly after midnight by a pass-

erby who noticed several youths in a school bus at Garden Valley Collegiate and saw one of them empty a fire extinguisher outside of the bus. When the witnesses confronted the youths they ran off.

Police shortly after had four youths in custody, with officers noting they got varying levels of co-operation from the boys. They did learn three of the four had been drinking inside the school bus.

The teens were charged for consuming liquor under the age of 18 years and issued a warning for mischief and trespassing before being turned over to their parents.

- A resident of Scotia Drive in Winkler reported his car window smashed overnight while it was parked on the driveway on April 16.

A metal object not belonging to the car owner was recovered from inside the vehicle.

The incident remains under investigation.

Our mistake

The April 14 edition of the *Voice* included a story on the Manitoba Air Show happening in Southport June 4.

The article included a typo in the

website for the event. The correct site to visit for more information is mbairshow.com.

We apologize for any confusion this error may have caused.

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She doesn't come into town very often so she advises booking as soon as possible.

Winkler students walk through history

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Winkler students got the chance to walk in the footsteps of the ancient Greeks during their spring break.

The joint Garden Valley Collegiate and Northlands Parkway Collegiate Travel Club headed to the cradle of civilization at the end of March.

"The Travel Club is something we've done jointly with GVC since the split," notes NPC chaperone Kim Apperly. "It fosters relationships between students at the two schools ... it's really nice to see how those friendships develop and deepen and continue afterwards."

The group's whirlwind tour included stops at ancient sites like the Parthenon, Delphi, and the first Olympic stadium, as well as a cruise of the Greek isles.

"The value of these trips is not just learning the history, it's getting people to see a different country, a different culture," notes GVC chaperone Ross Derksen.

"It's experiential learning," agrees Apperly. "Culture, language, histo-

ry—when you're actually there living it, it takes on a different meaning."

For the students, every day was packed full of new experiences.

"Being able to stand on the same places that people did 3,000 years ago, that's pretty interesting," said GVC student Joey Wilson, who was one of 23 teens who took part.

"Just exploring the city of Athens itself, getting away from the tourist areas, was pretty cool for me," he adds. "Just to see how different people in a different country live their lives."

NPC's Noah Olfert says a tour of the ruins at Mycenae was one of the highlights for him.

"Getting to walk around the castle and that really, really ancient place, kind of the birthplace of civilization, was quite extraordinary," he says. "Seeing where they lived and trying to imagine in your mind as you're walk-

ing through there how it would have been. For me, that was really cool."

"Learning the history of the place was really cool, especially learning the history while you're there," agrees fellow NPC student Connor Haney.

"I think my favourite part was going on a cruise because we were allowed

"LEARNING THE HISTORY OF THE PLACE WAS REALLY COOL, ESPECIALLY LEARNING THE HISTORY WHILE YOU'RE THERE."



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Students from Northlands Parkway and Garden Valley collegiates in Winkler embarked on a whirlwind tour of Greece during spring break last month.

to explore islands freely," says GVC's Hannah Derksen. "You could explore and actually experience what it was like instead of just being in the tourist section of the island."

The teacher chaperones sought to push the kids out of their comfort zones by issuing daily challenges, which ranged from eating new kinds of food to simply striking up a conversation with a local.

"It was really good to try some different food," says GVC's Taya Wiebe, who notes she quite enjoyed eating octopus for the first time.

Several of the students got the chance to see some of the civil unrest happening in Greece first-hand.

While attempting to go see the changing of the guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Athens, the group encountered the beginnings of a massive protest outside the Parliament buildings.

"We're going there, we're walking to this place," says Olfert, "and all of the sudden coming around the corner you see this large group of people ..."

"It was a sea of people," adds Apperly, noting they were protesting the refugee crisis. Riot police were on hand to keep the peace.

"We didn't know how we were going to get through it," says Olfert. "And then all of the sudden they broke apart and we walked through ... there were thousands of people."

As the protest grew louder and potentially more dangerous, the students and their chaperones left the area.

They never did get to see the changing of the guard that day, notes Haney.

"TAKE THAT OPPORTUNITY"

The Travel Club heads out into the world for trips every other year. Past adventures included Italy in 2012 and Costa Rica in 2014.

While the location of the 2018 trip is still up in the air, the members of this most recent one urge younger students to give it serious consideration, wherever it ends up being.

"It's not only a great opportunity to explore the world but also to make friendships within the school," says Derksen. "Being with someone and travelling in that circumstance you learn about them differently ... it's a great opportunity to explore with some of your closest friends."

"If I went on my own I feel I wouldn't have learned half the stuff that I did," adds Wiebe. "Thinking of all the stuff we did, it was so worth it. We got so much done in a week."

"It's an amazing experience that you can probably only have once," says Haney. "You will never get another chance to go with all your classmates. I would say you should take that opportunity while you have it."



A student enjoys the view at Cape Sounion, home to Poseidon's Temple.

The Winkler Morden
Voice

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Help kids feel comfortable at the dentist

Routine dental examinations and cleanings are an important component of oral healthcare for both children and adults. However, many children do not visit the dentist until well after the time recommended by medical and

dental professionals. Parents may be unaware of the dental health timeline, or they could be reluctant to bring their children for fear of how their kids will behave - especially if parents are harboring their own apprehensions about the dentist.

The American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry recommends that a child go to the dentist by age 1, or within six months of the eruption of his or her first tooth. Yet, according to a survey commissioned by Delta Dental Plans, the average age of a child's first dental visit is 2.6 years.

Parents worried about how their kids will respond to the dentist can take the following steps to acclimate kids to dental visits to make them more comfortable during their appointments now and down the road.

- Be a positive role model. Children frequently learn by example. If they see their parents being diligent about dental care, they're more likely to embrace proper oral hygiene. Bring children to your own dental appointments so they understand the process and become familiar with the type of equipment used.

- Stick to the first-tooth milestone. Take your child to the dentist on or about when his or her first tooth erupts. Early dental visits will get kids used to going to the dentist and prevent minor problems that may

lead to more complex dental issues.

- Read books about the dentist and role play. Information can allay kids' fears about the dentist. Read books together about dental visits and act out possible scenarios with your kids. Give kids toy dental health tools and have them practice exams on you and vice-versa.

- Be supportive and instill trust. Avoid telling your child that everything will be okay. If a procedure is needed, this could affect his or her trust in you and make the dental office an even greater source of anxiety. Simply be supportive and offer a hand to squeeze or a hug if your child needs you.

- Consider using your dentist. Some parents like to take their children to a pediatric dentist, but it may not always be necessary. Many family practices cater to patients of all ages, and the familiarity of the office may help make children feel more comfortable. Speak with your dentist about the ages they see.

- Steer clear of negative words. Michael J. Hanna, DMD, a national spokesperson for the AAPD, suggests using positive phrases like "clean, strong, healthy teeth" to make the visit seem fun and positive rather than scary and alarming. Let the office staff come up with their own words to describe processes that won't seem too frightening.

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Oral health impacts overall health



A healthy mouth is good for more than just a pretty smile. Oral health can affect the entire body, making dental care more than just a cosmetic concern.

Many people know that poor oral hygiene can lead to gum disease, tooth decay and even lost teeth. But are you aware that failing to brush or visit the dentist regularly also can lead to more serious health issues? According to Colgate, recent research suggests that there may be an association between oral infections, particularly gum disease, and cardiovascular disease and preterm birth. Gum disease also may make diabetes more difficult to control, since infections may cause insulin resistance and disrupt blood sugar.

Your mouth also can serve as an infection source elsewhere in the body. Bacteria from your mouth can enter the bloodstream through infection sites in the gums. If your immune system is healthy, there should not be any adverse effects. However, if your immune system is compromised, these bacteria can flow to other areas of the body where they can cause infection. An example of this is oral bacteria sticking to the lining of diseased heart valves.

Other links have been found between oral health and overall

health. In 2010, researchers from New York University who reviewed 20 years of data on the association concluded that there is a link between gum inflammation and Alzheimer's disease. Researchers in the UK also found a correlation. Analysis showed that a bacterium called "Porphyromonas gingivalis" was present in brains of those with Alzheimer's disease but not in the samples from the brains of people who did not have Alzheimer's. The P. gingivalis bacterium is usually associated with chronic gum disease and not dementia.

Researchers also have found a possible link between gum disease and pancreatic cancer. Harvard researchers found that men with a history of gum disease had a 64 percent increased risk of pancreatic cancer compared with men who had never had gum disease, based on studies of men from 1986 through 2007.

While oral health issues may lead to other conditions over time, symptoms also may be indicative of underlying conditions of which a person is unaware. Inflammation of gum tissue may be a warning sign of diabetes. Oral problems, such as lesions in the mouth, may indicate the presence of HIV/AIDS. Dentists may be the first people to diagnose illnesses patients don't even know they have.

An important step in maintaining good overall health is to include dental care in your list of preventative measures. Visit the dentist for biannual cleanings or as determined by the doctor. Do not ignore any abnormalities in the mouth. Maintain good oral hygiene at home by brushing twice a day and flossing at least once per day. Mouthwashes and rinses also may help keep teeth and gums healthy.

Oral health and other systems of the body seem to be linked. Taking care of your teeth promotes overall health.

Women have so much on their mind during pregnancy that it can be easy to overlook something that seems so mundane as keeping their teeth clean. Oral hygiene is not something readily discussed when a woman conceives, but it is important nonetheless. Doctors and dentists advise regular oral examinations and professional teeth cleaning throughout pregnancy. Hormones may trigger changes that can be cause for concern. Women are more likely to develop gingivitis, an infection of the gums that can cause swelling and tenderness, during pregnancy, when bleeding during flossing and brushing may be common. Dentists may suggest more frequent cleanings during pregnancy to prevent any problems with gingivitis from escalating. Lumps that appear along the gum line and between teeth also may appear during pregnancy. These "pregnancy tumors" are harmless and not cancerous. However, if they become bothersome, a dentist can remove them. Women should inform their dentists they are pregnant so precautions, such as knowing which medications are safe to prescribe and ensuring no dental x-rays are ordered, can be taken. All health concerns can be mentioned to your obstetrician, who may advise further action by a dentist.

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PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Cole Warkentine and Joshua Harder get into character as Oompa Loompas at rehearsal for Prairie Dale School's upcoming performance of Willy Wonka Jr.

Prairie Dale presents Willy Wonka Jr.

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Oompa Loompas were running amok at Prairie Dale School last week as the Schanzenfeld school prepared for its upcoming production of *Willy Wonka Jr.*

Based on Roald Dahl's story of the world-famous candy man and his quest to find an heir to his wacky empire, the musical runs April 27-28 at 7 p.m. nightly at the school.

It's a fun tour through Wonka's chocolate factory, says Kate Heide, who plays Grandpa Joe.

"It's really upbeat and fun, there's

lots of catchy songs," she says.

"And we have really great choreography," adds Alyssa Unger, who plays Charlie.

Colourful costumes and sets created by students and staff help to really bring the familiar *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* story to life, Heide says.

The production's Wednesday evening show is a dessert theatre. Tickets are \$10 and must be purchased in advance at the school office. Thursday's show is by donation.

For more information, contact the school at 204-325-8203 or stop by the office to pick up your tickets.

Kick up your heels at CFDC this Saturday

By Lorne Stelmach

An award-winning children's book will be the focus of a fun, free afternoon at the Canadian Fossil Discovery Centre this weekend.

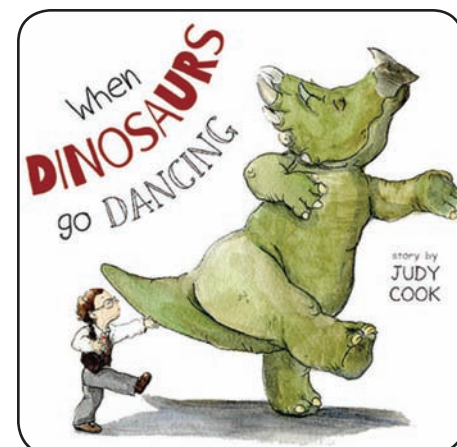
Manitoba author and artist Judy Cook will read from and sign her first book *When Dinosaurs Go Dancing* at the Morden museum Saturday starting at 2 p.m.

The afternoon will also engage everyone with a few other dino-related activities.

"Basically, what we're trying to create is just a really fun event for kids to come and not just listen to the book being read, but to participate in songs, dance, and even an illustration workshop," said executive director Peter Cantelon.

The event will be held in the CFDC's Aquasaur Theatre and feature a dance troupe who will dance the song from the book in a workshop setting for young readers.

Along with the author, book illustrator Sonia Nadeau will be leading a drawing workshop for attendees, as



Author Judy Cook will be at the CFDC Saturday for an afternoon of dino-related fun.

well.

Cook will also be premiering her song "Bruce Rap," which is named for the CFDC's very own mosasaur.

Cook's *When Dinosaurs Go Dancing* recently won the Bronze Medal at the 2015 Moonbeam Book Competition.

The connection for the CFDC goes even deeper than just the book's sub-

Continued on page 20

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'Teen Detective' sleuthing at MCI

By Lorne Stelmach

It's a busy mystery story set in a manor house with hidden jewels and a secret formula.

Then there is the crazy cast of 18 characters, all of whom are on stage at the same time in some points of the comedy show.

It's a lot to manage for Phillip Duncan, but the director of the upcoming Morden Collegiate theatre production can't wait.

"I'm really excited about the comedy of the show," Duncan said of *Trixie the Teen Detective and the Mystery of Gravestead Manor*, which the MCI drama students perform April 27-30. "The students this year have really committed to what's going on, so I think we're going to see some really great slapstick."

The play tells the tale of Trixie and her faithful chums setting out to investigate ghostly Gravestead Manor.

A wacky fortune teller and her cohorts have taken up residence in the home. Strangers keep arriving: an off-the-wall archeologist, a crew of female plumbers, even Trixie's dizzy but devoted housekeeper. But are any of them really who they say they are?

Duncan said the story was appealing because it features such great characters.

"They are awesome, outlandish characters. It's a real-

"IT'S A REALLY SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE PARODY KIND OF SPOOF."



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

The cast of the upcoming Morden Collegiate theatre troupe production of *Trixie the Teen Detective and the Mystery of Gravestead Manor* rehearse a seance scene last week. The show runs April 27-30 at the high school.

ly very *Saturday Night Live* parody kind of spoof," he said. "I've always been attracted to the Nancy Drew and Hardy Boys kind of genre. I was a big Hardy Boys fan when I was a kid, so that initially attracted me to the title."

Duncan said the students have been eager to dive into bringing the over-the-top comedy to life.

"There's a whole class that's dedicated to building the set," he noted. "So there's upwards of 50 students participating in the show ... but there are 18 actors."

"It's great to see 18 actors on the stage. You almost never get to see that. And they are all on stage for almost the entire second half of the show."

He said it makes it a bit challenging to direct "especially because it's a lot about that farce—entrances and exits—so just to keep track of everything that's going on is going to be a really big challenge."

"And the set is almost 45 feet wide, so we've almost used the entire width of our theatre space to build our set ... so that's sort of a unique presentational style as well."

The story written by Cynthia Mercati will be presented April 27, 28, and 29 at 7 p.m. and April 30 at 2 p.m. at the MCI Theatre.

Seating is limited, so advance tickets can be purchased at the MCI office for \$10 for adults and \$5 for students.

Retroplay returns for opera house opening

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Retroplay returns for an encore performance at the Manitou Opera House this weekend.

The heritage building is hosting a grand opening celebration for its major expansion project, including a ribbon cutting and open house Saturday afternoon starting at 2 p.m.

Wrapping up the day with a concert at 8 p.m. will be Retroplay, who wowed local audiences when they played in Manitou back in February.

"The enthusiastic audience had not even left the hall before there was talk of asking them to return," says organizer Loretta Thorleifson of the last show.

The grand opening gala provided the ideal opportunity "for an encore performance of this energetic band of millennials, whose talent and repertoire belies their age."

The eclectic group of university students, teachers, and full-time musicians play an equally eclectic mix of music, ranging from pop hits of the '50s and '60s to newer rock classics, jazz standards, funk, roots and folk.

"What you can expect from a Retroplay show is enthusiasm, energy, fun and lots of great music," says front-man Everett Fristensky.

Fristensky, who anchors the group with vocals, trumpet and guitar, is joined on stage by vocalist Alie Clark, sax player Aliana Fristensky, pianist/guitarist Jordan Myers, bass player Brendan Kupiak, and drummer Patrick Barrios.

Homegrown musician Erin Thorleifson will round out the group as she joins in on vocals for part of the set.

Tickets are \$20, with ages 19 and under half price, and are available at Sam's Foods, by calling 204-242-2794, or at the door.

The grand opening celebrations continue on Sunday with tours of the opera house from 1-4 p.m. and the Pembina Valley Music Festival Highlights Concert at 7 p.m. Admission to the concert is by donation.

> CFDC, FROM PG. 16

ject of dinosaurs, noted Cantelon.

"When she wrote it, she had the CFDC partly in mind ... in fact, we're referenced in the book, and so is Bruce, which is really cool," he said.

"The combination of the writing and the illustrations is just phenomenal," he added, noting that it ties in

well with the overall mission of the CFDC.

"The museum is most popular with families ... families with kids, and one of our priorities is education, so what this does is it gets people interested at the youngest age ... and just gets them thinking and re-

alizing how interesting and fun the subject is ... which down the road we believe translates into further interest."

When Dinosaurs Go Dancing is on sale at McNally Robinson, Toad Hall Toys, Friesen Press Books, Amazon, and at the CFDC.



Your WHEELZ

Tire maintenance an important safety precaution

Tires are the link between a vehicle and the roadway, and tire quality has a direct impact on the performance and safety of an automobile. But tire maintenance is easy to overlook. However, ignoring tire maintenance can threaten driver and passenger safety and make a vehicle operate inefficiently.

Steering, breaking ability and traction are all governed by good tires. Worn tread can result in longer stopping times and make it difficult to brake immediately in an emergency situation. Although driving tends to be the primary culprit behind worn down tires, sometimes bald or unevenly worn out tread is indicative of a larger problem, such as a misaligned wheelbase, improperly aligned tires or tires that are underinflated. The following are some common problems associated with tires and how to address these issues should they arise.

Blowouts

Worn tire treads increase the risk of punctures, which can lead to blowouts. Bald tires also may blowout as a result of friction on roadways that is met with minimal rubber. Getting caught on the side of the road with a tire blowout can be a hassle, so routinely check tire treads and replace tires accordingly.

Tread depth

Average new tires on cars usually start with 10/32 inch to 11/32 inch of original tread depth. When tread reaches a depth of 2/32 inch, they are considered worn out. There are different ways to gauge tread depth. Insert a penny into the tread groove with Lincoln's

head upside down and facing you. If you can see all of Lincoln's head, it is time to replace the tires. Another coin test is to insert a quarter into the groove. If the tread touches Washington's head, you have at least 4/32 inch of tread left. Don't have any currency on hand? Then look at the treadwear indicator bar molded into the tires. When these bars become flush with the adjacent ribs of the tire, the tires should be replaced.

Alignment

According to the Rubber Manufacturers Association, improper alignment causes rapid or uneven treadwear. Tires should be aligned and balanced periodically to avoid irregular wear and having to replace tires prematurely.

Tread pattern

Tires feature different tread patterns depending on the brand of tire. They may be directional, asymmetrical, non-directional, and directional/asymmetrical. When purchasing replacement tires, it is advisable to match the tread pattern to the existing tires. This helps enhance the performance of the car. In fact, some newer cars require tread to match. Mismatched treads may cause problems with transmission shifting or impact control and steadiness.

Tire pressure

Underinflation of tires can cause failure, stress and irregular wear. Underinflated tires also may contribute to loss of control that leads to accidents. Always maintain the manufacturer's recommendations for the correct pressure, which should be adjusted based

on the temperature.

Tires should undergo the same inspection and maintenance as other parts of the vehicle. Tires are a vital

component to safe driving, and routine maintenance can prevent accidents and other problems.

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Your

WHEELZ

What to do when faced with an auto recall

New cars are purchased or leased to provide a reliable mode of transportation. But some vehicles malfunction even when they are fresh off of the dealership lot. Other times manufacturers or safety watchdog groups determine that certain cars and trucks have an issue that requires a recall to keep roadways safe. Vehicle recall statistics are difficult to pin down. That's because there is no standard rate of recalls per year, as recalls depend on safety statistics for particular makes and models. For example, in 2009 more than 40 million Toyota vehicles were recalled due to a faulty gas pedal.

An automotive recall is how manufacturers inform drivers that there could be something about their cars or trucks that presents a risk of injury or property damage. The recall may be independently conducted by the manufacturer or ordered by a safety group, such as the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. The recall involves the manufacturer providing a free, safe and effective remedy for the faulty component.

When a recall is announced, drivers may not have to immediately visit a dealership to have the prob-

lem corrected. Owners should wait for an official letter. The letter will narrow down which vehicles are affected. There should be a specific window of time presented in which the vehicle can be repaired. Vehicle owners are urged to pay attention to the performance of their cars or trucks to see if they are exhibiting any problems. If so, schedule an appointment for repair according to the recall instructions provided.

The notification letter should include the risk of hazard posed by the problem as well as the free remedy and how long the repair should take. There also should be a description of what an owner can do if he or she is unable to have the problem remedied within a reasonable amount of time and without charge.

If repair work has been done on a vehicle prior to knowledge of the recall, owners may be eligible for reimbursement for their expenses, provided they kept their receipts. While reimbursement for damages that the defect may have caused are not covered by recalls, owners may be able to solicit reimbursement privately.



The following are steps to take when informed of a recall:

1. Contact the dealer service manager and explain that you are inquiring about work required as part of a recall.
2. If the manager has not remedied the situation and provided the next steps, contact the manufacturer, which should be able to handle the situation.
3. If all else fails, Americans can contact the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration at www.recalls.gov. Canadians can contact Transport Canada at www.tc.gc.ca.



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Your WHEELZ

Keep the environment in mind when changing motor oil

Vehicle engines rely on many components to run efficiently, and motor oil is just one of the things that can affect how well engines run.

Motor oil serves to reduce wear on moving parts. Oil also cleans, inhibits corrosion, improves sealing, and cools the engine by carrying heat away from moving parts. Each manufacturer has its own recommendations for oil-change intervals, but many advise that conventional motor oil be changed every 3,000 miles, while synthetic oils should be changed between every 7,000 to 10,000 miles. Excessive driving, extreme heat and even cold starts can cut down on oil life.

Vehicles receive many oil changes over their lifespans, and as a result motor oil can have a significant impact on the environment. When not handled responsibly or when discarded improperly, petroleum-based oils can wreak havoc on wildlife, water supplies and more. Eco-conscious motorists can keep the following tips in mind when changing their vehicles' motor oil.

- Rely on a major oil change chain or service center. Oil change locations generally offer motor oil recycling so the oil can be reused and disposed of properly. These centers also will top off other fluids and give your vehicle

a brief inspection, making them quite convenient.

- Bring oil to a recycling location. If you perform your own oil changes, be sure to collect all of the drained oil and put it into a canister. Vehicle repair centers generally offer motor oil recycling services and serve as drop-off centers. Check with your municipal recycling center as well, as they may have a motor oil drop-off policy.

- Opt for recycled motor oil. Certain brands of motor oil, such as EcoPower, are made from recycled and refined reclaimed motor oil.

- Learn about synthetic oils.

Synthetic oils can be more effective at lubricating and cooling, and they can be changed less frequently than traditional motor oils. This helps generate less waste.

- Repair leaks promptly. If you notice oil or other fluids pooling under your vehicle, take the car to a mechanic. Even small leaks can contaminate the environment. In addition, leaks put neighborhood animals and pets at risk, as animals may be drawn to the sweet taste or aroma of automotive fluids.

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Your WHEELZ

Stay safe when driving in wet weather

Drivers must modify their driving habits when weather compromises their visibility and makes road conditions unsafe. Rain can fall any time of year, but tends to be most problematic in spring.

According to the Federal Highway Administration, wet roadways, and rain in particular, are the main cause of weather-related vehicle crashes. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration notes that, between 2004 and 2013, rain caused 573,784 crashes.

To drive safely in the rain and avoid accidents, drivers should fol-

low certain precautions.

- Maintain windshield wipers. Inspect and, if necessary change windshield wipers regularly to ensure they are working optimally. Always test wipers before driving in rainy weather.

- Turn on lights with wipers. Reduced visibility is a major contributor to wet-weather accidents. Drivers' views may be hampered by falling precipitation and glare from wet roadways. Cloudy conditions and fog also compromise visibility. When using windshield wipers, turn on your headlights as well.

This makes your vehicle more visible to other motorists and improves your own ability to see the road and pedestrians.

- Recognize changing road conditions. Roadways accumulate oil and engine fluids that can float in rainwater, creating slippery road surfaces. This is usually a problem during the first few hours of a rain-storm or in areas that receive little precipitation and then are subjected to downpours. These fluids make rain-soaked roads even more slippery. Slow down, leave more room between vehicles and try driving in the tracks left by vehicles ahead.

- Reduce speed. The automotive group AAA says hydroplaning, when the tires rise up on a film of water, can occur with as little as 1/12 inch of water on the road. The group goes on to say that tires have to displace a gallon of water per second to keep the rubber meeting the road. Drivers should reduce their speeds to correspond to the amount of water on the roadway. New tires can still lose some contact with the roadway, even at a speed as low as 35 mph. Therefore, reducing speed and avoiding hard braking and turning sharply can help keep the rubber of the tire meeting the road.

- Rely on the defogger. Use the car's windshield defroster/defogger to improve visibility. Turn it on early

and keep it on until the rain has stopped and visibility has improved.

- Recover from a skid. Skids can be frightening, but when skidding, resist any temptation to slam on the breaks. Instead, continue to look and drive in the direction you want to go and slowly ease up on the accelerator.

- Skip the cruise control. It's important to maintain control over the vehicle in rainy conditions, so avoid using cruise control.

- Maintain tires. Proper inflation and tire tread levels can improve traction. AAA recommends checking tread depth by inserting a quarter upside down into the tire groove. If you can see above Washington's head, start shopping for new tires. Check tire pressure on all tires at least once a month. Get an accurate reading when tires are cold and adjust air pressure accordingly.

- Avoid other distractions. Distracted driving can be hazardous during good road conditions and even more dangerous when visibility and other factors are compromised. Switch phones and other devices off so you can fully focus on the road and other drivers.

Rainy weather can contribute to poor driving conditions. Drivers should make changes to speed and other factors to make wet weather driving as safe as possible.

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Childhood interest sparks fantasy trilogy

By Lorne Stelmach

Another young reader's loss was Chadwick Ginther's gain, not to mention the Manitoba literary world, as well.

The former Mordenite and author of the *Thunder Road* trilogy remembers watching Hercules cartoons as a kid and then going to the local library to check out all the books he could on mythology.

That's where his future tales of Norse mythology and demons meeting prairie life first took root.

"So I checked out that book ... week in and week out ... the librarian took me aside at one point and said, 'Maybe another little boy wants to learn about mythology,'" recalled Ginther, who was in Morden Saturday for a reading and book signing.

"Oddly enough, I met that little boy years later at my first book launch. I related this story ... someone from Morden was in the audience and he was like, 'I was that little boy ... that book was never in the library.' But he didn't hold it against me, and he bought the book."

Ginther's series—which includes *Thunder Road*, *Tombstone Blues*, and *Too Far Gone*—tells the story of Ted Callan, whose world changes when he learns the creatures of Norse folklore walk among us and that his fate is tied to them.

The success of the books have Ginther entertaining thoughts of writing becoming a full-time career, but not quite yet.

Having formerly worked at McNally Robinson, he currently is employed at the University of Manitoba bookstore.

"I definitely like what I do. I've been a bookseller for over 15 years now, so even when I'm not writing I'm still in the industry ... that's good."

"It is a dream, definitely, but I've found the structure of writing around a day job is good for me. It can get a little stressful, but I took a few months off in between changing jobs ... and I did not accomplish very much writing."

"I think as much as I would love to have all the time just for writing, I need structure to make it work. Working in a bookstore is what made me believe being a writer was possible. Until then, I thought writers came from somewhere else. I didn't know any Manitoba writers growing up."

For Ginther, the birth of his passion for writing came through family.

"I came to stories first before writing," he explained. "We had a couple of elders in the family ... who hung around long enough to make an impression on me. They made up *Long Ranger* and *Tarzan* stories to keep me occupied."

"So I think that shaped a lot of what came because it made me love the pulpy adventure kind of stuff that I ended up writing. It was a natural progression to go from there to science fiction and fantasy books."

"One of my uncles ran out of stories, so he was like, 'I've been telling you stories for years. You tell me a story.'"

It was childhood trips to the Morden library, which at that time was in the current art gallery building downtown, which introduced Chad Ginther to the characters of Norse mythology that have inspired his writing.

PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE



So then I had to make up something for him. I started creating whole worlds."

Thunder Road's fantastical story has its roots in Manitoba, which is part of why it's been such a hit, Ginther said.

"I think Manitobans don't see their home in fiction a lot ... especially not in fantasy," he said. "It's neat to see their home ... on the page."

Now that the trilogy is complete, Ginther is exploring a number of other projects.

"I'm still writing short stories that are set in the same world ... mostly with different characters," he said, noting one to be published in the fall is set in Flin Flon.

"I just had a short story come out in

a superhero anthology ... it's set in a kind of fantastic version of Morden ... I change a few things so I can still come visit my mom and not get run out on the rails," he joked. "Morden and Winkler have become one city ... one large city ... and I call it Mort Cheval because I always liked the Dead Horse Creek name and that local history."

Ginther also has another fantasy novel coming, so there is no shortage of ideas—it is simply a matter of finding the time to write them all down.

"I don't think I'll ever run out of ideas," he said. "It is work, but I enjoy it. And I'm willing to steal that time from the rest of my life to make it happen."



Dancing up a storm

DanceWorks hosted their first annual dance festival last Saturday, with over 160 dancers performing in 20 separate dances. The Bravo Dance Festival featured dancers from across south-central Manitoba presenting their footwork in Celtic, breakdance, hip hop, ballet, jazz, and contemporary dance. Performers received feedback and instruction from adjudicator Liz Markwart, who also led a dance workshop for students. Local dancers return to the stage for their May recital "A Tribute to Dance" May 13-14 at the Winkler concert hall.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Sharing a family's story of epilepsy

By Lorne Stelmach

Monica Friesen understands that her first book will be hard for some people to read.

"Even my own kids said they couldn't read it ... it hits too close to home ... was too personal," said the Morden resident and author of *And We All Fall Down: One Family's Struggle With Epilepsy*.

That's because while it is a story of a fictional family, the book is directly based on Friesen's personal experiences of raising a daughter with epilepsy.

She hopes the book will foster a greater understanding of what life with epilepsy and other chronic diseases is like for both patients and their families.

"What I hope is that people who are caregivers of people with chronic illness will give themselves a break ... that we're trying, you do the best you can when you know what to do, and when you know better, you do better.

"It's a hard place to be, but you're not alone," stressed Friesen.

"And for people who have epilepsy ... it can be overcome, and you can find a new normal ... there is life out there and a good quality of life. How that looks for you and your family is as individual as you are."

CHANGED FOREVER

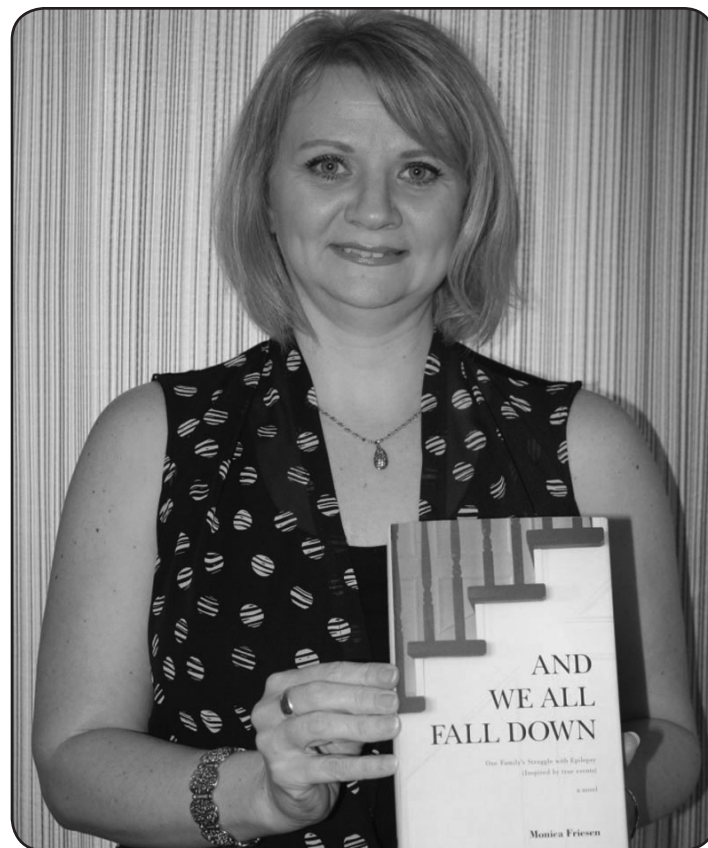
The book tells the story of the Kornelson family, who enjoy a typical busy life until their 14-year-old daughter, Ally, has an unexpected seizure.

What happens next to this family is as unpredictable as the diagnosis of epilepsy. The Kornelsons find themselves emotionally collapsing as they try to make sense of the untimely illness that has shattered their lives.

It was a similarly ordinary Sunday morning in July of 2003 when Friesen found her daughter, Jessica, at the bottom of the stairs after having had her first seizure.

It took Mordenite Monica Friesen less than a month to finish *And We All Fall Down: One Family's Struggle With Epilepsy*. The fictional story is based on her own family's experiences coping with the disease.

PHOTO
BY LORNE
STELMACH/
VOICE



"I didn't know what was happening. I thought it was a joke. When I looked down, it wasn't a joke," Friesen recalled. "Seven weeks later she had another seizure at our home in the bathroom, and then we knew that it was something more."

Then began a long process that included countless medical tests, specialist appointments, and drug

changes.

"It's constantly changing ... guesswork ... trying to figure it out," said Friesen. "What it does to you as a person and as a family changes everything. You try to find normal again. And for a 12-year-old girl, what is normal?"

Continued on page 30

Bill Dowling launching new album April 29

By Lorne Stelmach

A fixture on the local music scene, Bill Dowling follows a simple tried



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Bill Dowling is holding a launch party for his latest album, *Accidents and Incidents*, April 29.

and true creative process for his songwriting craft: just be ready when the inspiration comes and give it some time when it does happen.

"I just get ideas ... and I'm a strong believer that the best thing to do if you want to write tunes is just to be ready all the time," said Dowling, who marks the release of his new album *Accidents and Incidents* Friday, April 29 at The Zone in Garden Valley Collegiate.

"Always have some pen and paper ... access to something. Now with all these recording devices it's much easier, but I'm pretty old school in that I like pen and paper.

"So if you can jot down ideas ... when they come to you ... if you have opportunity to sit down and work on them right away, that's the best thing to do ... then just work through the night."

For Dowling, who early on played in a number of bands, writing his own original songs began in the late 1990s. He still enjoys playing with other area musicians now, but writing and performing his own material has increasingly taken up more of his time and

creative energy.

"I kind of moved into getting more serious about songwriting ... around 2003 or 2004 ... then I put out a disc in 2008," he said. "I got to know more people around here ... and I've kind of built a bit of a band now in addition to playing on my own."

His music is very much a reflection of the kind of singer-songwriters he listens to and from whom he draws his inspiration.

"People like Bruce Cockburn have always inspired me ... people who are writing things a little different from the mainstream. They talk about ideas ... and they wouldn't necessarily be getting onto radio," said Dowling. "I've always thought that people like Bob Dylan and Neil Young and Bruce Cockburn ... have the opportunity to say things through their music that you just don't hear. Now, through the Internet, you have more access to more of it.

"I just got progressively more interested in it. I went to some Back Forty songwriting workshops back in the 90s, and that increased my interest,"

he added.

He also got involved with the Manitoba Independent Songwriters Circle.

"That's just a group of songwriters in Winnipeg who get together once a month, and you just play your tunes for each other and get some feedback," he said. "It's a really good way ... if you're interested in songwriting ... to improve your craft and work on it and think about it.

"So, I've been doing all this writing, and then at some point you start to think about recording."

He finally felt ready to get to work on the new album a few years ago, although that too is a process which he doesn't rush.

"It takes me a long time. This last one, it's been three years of recording. The songs are older than that," he said. "I'm not going to make a lot of discs, but hopefully I'm going to make a few that I like."

If this latest album has a theme, it's simply life itself, Dowling says.

Continued on page 30

The Last Gladiator takes the stage at ECS

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The junior high students at Emerado Centennial School are going back in time for their spring drama next week.

The kids are putting on *The Last Gladiator* in the school gymnasium on Thursday, April 28 at 7 p.m.

"It's a comedy set in ancient Roman times," says teacher Rebekah Baerg, who explains the show follows the story of a young man who gets roped into fighting in the gladiatorial games to help save Rome's princess from having to marry the brainless brute favoured to win. "It's just a really nice, light-hearted story."

A cast of 20 young thespians bring the show to life, Baerg says, and they're having a blast with this sword and sandal spoof.

"It's been a good group this year," she said. "They're really getting into their parts."

Tickets to the show are \$5 for adults and \$4 for students. Children four and under get in for free.

Get your tickets at the door or in advance from participating students or at the school office.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The cast of Emerado Centennial School's *The Last Gladiator* strike a pose. The comedy set in ancient Rome runs at the school on Thursday, April 28 at 7 p.m.



The piano session of the Winkler Festival of the Arts wrapped up with an awards night and concert last Friday.

Adjudicator Jane Duerksen (above, second from left) presented awards and scholarships to the kids for their hard work.

Honoured with scholarships were (above photo, from left) Elias Mierau (Gr. 3) Leticia Grass (Gr. 2), Tanis Wieler (Gr. 4), and (below photo, from

left) Raphael Thome (Gr. 5), Hailey Buhler (Gr. 8), Samuel Klassen (Gr. 7), Vivian Funk (Adjudicator's Choice), Jayden Wall (Co-op Scholarship, Gr. 6) and Naemi Schaefer (Gr. 9). Naemi Schaefer also received this year's Tina Wiebe Scholarship.

Earning awards were (above right photo, from left) Hailey Buhler (studies class), Marcel Alles (Gr. 4), Joy Xia (Gr. 2), John Trinke (Gr. 3), Jaehyun Woo (recital class), Jayden Wall (sacred class), Ser-

ena and Teagan Peters (duet class). Also winning awards were (below, from left) Clarissa Unger (Gr. 7), Micah Loewen (popular class and Gr. 5), Evelyn Alles (Gr. 6), Naemi Schaefer (Gr. 9), and Charlotte Kandt (Gr. 8).

Marcel Alles, Elias Mierua, John Trinke, Hailey Buhler, Micah Loewen, Evelyn Alles, Naemi Schaefer, Vivian Funk, and Clarissa Unger also received provincial recommendations.



sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN



PHOTO BY RICK HIEBERT

Over 100 young players came out for the Winkler Flyers' spring training camp last weekend hoping to impress the coaching staff as they start looking towards building up the roster for next season.

Flyers hopefuls play to impress

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler Flyers coaching staff are feeling pretty good about the future of junior hockey in Winkler after their spring training camp last weekend.

"We had about 105 kids that came out on six teams," said coach and general manager Ken Pearson. "We saw some good skill, some big hits. The kids competed hard all weekend and we got a lot out of it."

"As a coaching staff, we were really happy with what we saw on the ice."

Most of the players were bantam and midget age.

"It was a younger camp by design," said Pearson. "With us having 14 guys returning, we're looking more two years down the road."

"We're really excited to be seeing these guys develop over the next couple of years."

With spring camp done, Pearson and his coaching assistants will spend this spring and summer on the road scouting out potential players in the lead-up to June's MJHL draft and the team's fall camp.

"They'll be some recruiting with the bantam age kids, putting our list together," he said, "and then we've already started the recruiting process of nailing down our training camp, the pre-season, and then the regular season, too."

Pearson is looking to top this past season, which was the team's best in years, ending with them taking third with a 42-13-5 record and then getting bounced from the semi-finals in five games by the Steinbach Pistons.

Karlowsky wins RBC scholarship

Winkler Flyers defenceman Nathan Karlowsky has been awarded the Manitoba Junior Hockey League's RBC Junior A Scholarship.

The 20-year-old says the \$1,000 award will go a long way toward helping him in his agriculture studies at the University of Manitoba.

"I'm obviously honoured to win this award," said Karlowsky. "This scholarship assists me in attending university; something my father wasn't able to do. By furthering my education, it will

benefit as I move forward in my chosen career."

The Brunkild native has been helping out on his family's grain operation since he was a boy, working on land first broken by his great, great grandfather.

This past fall he started his own small operation, making him a fifth generation grain farmer.

Karlowsky was a three-year player with the Flyers, serving as assistant captain this past season, his last in ju-

nior hockey.

"My time as a junior hockey player has been an experience I will always positively reflect on," he said. "I've made life-long friends and I know my hockey experience will benefit me in the next stage of my life."

Karlowsky is now one of 10 Junior A nominees eligible for a \$5,000 RBC Junior A Scholarship, which will be awarded at the RBC Cup next month in Lloydminster.



Flyers defenceman
Nathan Karlowsky

Aztecs head to prov'ls on a high note

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Aztecs 18U girls volleyball team has been racking up the wins in recent weeks.

Coming on the heels of a gold-medal performance at a 16-team tournament in Brandon earlier this month, the ladies made it all the way to the finals once again last weekend at the Cobras tournament in Winnipeg.

The Aztecs battled their way to the top of their pool to make the play-offs, where they knocked out the Cobras 17's—the top-ranked 17U team in Manitoba—to face the Cobra 18U

team in the finals.

The Cobras have been undefeated in Manitoba all season, save for an Aztecs' victory against them in the Brandon tournament final the week before.

History didn't repeat itself, though, as the host team won the match in two straight sets.

The Aztecs hope to ride the highs from these recent gold and silver wins right into provincials, which take place in Steinbach this weekend.

They then travel to Edmonton on May 5 to compete at nationals.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Aztecs 18U team are headed to provincials this weekend and nationals May 5 in Edmonton. On the team are (back row, from left) Chloe Friesen, Rayvn Wiebe, Alicia Sawatzky, Madi Enns, (front row, from left) Nicole Klassen, Tegan Penner, Raelyn Elias, and Jyana Loewen.

Winkler swimming registration now online

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The City of Winkler's swimming lessons are jumping into the 21st century with online registrations next month.

For the first time ever, parents can sign their kids up for swimming lessons at the Winkler Aquatic Centre through the city's website at www.winkler.ca.

"There's been a significant demand for that," says recreation programmer Jordan Driedger, who notes the line-ups at the Winkler Rec. Centre on registration day could get pretty long. "You had to wait in line a long time to register ... people really wanted the option of doing it all from home."

The online registration system has already been in use for a few weeks now for campground reservations with no real problems.

"That all went smoothly," Driedger says, noting people just need to be aware that they need to be prepared to pay online with a credit card when booking swimming lesson sessions.

Registration will take place online starting at noon on Tuesday, May 3 for Winkler residents only until noon the following day.

Winklerites can also register in person on May 3 from 5-9 p.m. at the arena.

Registration for non-residents begin at noon on Wednesday, May 4 online and from 5-9 p.m. at the arena that evening.

To be considered a Winkler resident, you must have a physical address within city limits (Winkler business

owners who do not reside in the city are not considered residents).

If you're planning to register online, consider creating an account on the City's site in advance to streamline the process.

Driedger says they'll be running seven sessions of lessons this season, ranging from the traditional two week courses to more intensive one week courses, including a final session that will offer one-on-one instruction. The first session begins May 30.

For more information on swimming

lesson registration, call 204-325-8333.

BADMINTON PROGRAM CONTINUES

In other Rec. Dept. news, the winter badminton program is extending its season into May and June.

From May 9 to June 20, anyone interested in playing badminton is invited to stop by the Garden Valley Collegiate gymnasium from 7-10 p.m. every Monday.

This extended program is complete-

ly free, Driedger noted.

"It's an open invitation," he said, noting the twice-a-week winter session attracts upwards of 50 people. "Anyone who wants to try it out should come down."

And if you're looking for a different kind of racket sport, the Winkler Senior Centre is hosting a doubles pickleball tournament on May 3 and May 5.

Admission is \$2 per person. To sign-up, contact John Klassen at 204-325-8964.

Minor Hockey hands out TV prize

Klassen's Furniture's Ryan Klassen (left) and Winkler Minor Hockey's Matt Peters presented the young winner of this year's television raffle, Talaya Neufeld, with her prize last week. The annual raffle sold thousands of tickets throughout the winter to help support minor hockey by offsetting ice rental costs and helping to keep registration fees low. The league sends out a big thank-you to Klassen's Furniture for donating the prize and to everyone who purchased a ticket.

SUBMITTED PHOTO



Twisters down 3-0 in best of seven finals

By Lorne Stelmach

Their chance for a championship season seems to be slipping through the Pembina Valley Twisters' fingers.

They were on the brink of elimination going into game four of the MMJHL final Wednesday.

The Stonewall Jets—coming off a semi-final sweep of the top ranked Raiders—built up a 3-0 series lead on the Twisters in the first three games of the best of seven.

Pembina Valley started strong but faltered as game one wore on April 12, giving up three second period goals on the way to a 5-3 loss on home ice in Morris.

Eric Lebrun scored his fourth of the playoffs to give the Twisters a 1-0 lead after one. Tyler Penner then extended it to 2-0 early in the second.

After a powerplay goal got the Jets on the board, Penner's fourth of the playoffs made it 3-1.

Stonewall, however, scored twice more to tie it at 3-3 after two and then put it away with two more late third period markers.

Both goaltenders had good games, with the shots ending 45-40 in Stonewall's favour. Gavin Klassen took the loss in net for Pembina Valley with 40 saves.

Hunter Ploszay had the 29 save shutout Friday as the Jets blanked Pembina Valley in game two in Stonewall.

Klassen stopped 25 of 28 shots for the Twisters, who were down 2-0 after one period and then gave up a second period shorthanded goal.

Game three, meanwhile, fell apart for the Twisters in the final frame as



PHOTO BY LANA MEIER/VOICE

The Twisters' Alex Tetrault passes the puck through the crease to teammate Paul Remillard to tie game three 1-1 early in the second period on Sunday. The Stonewall Jets defeated Pembina Valley 6-2 to take a 3-0 series leading heading into game four Wednesday night.

the Jets blew open a 2-2 game with four unanswered goals. The Twisters' goals came from Paul Remillard and Chad Miller.

Morgan Wall started in net for the Twisters, facing 23 shots in almost

44 minutes of play before being replaced in the third by Klassen. Each netminder allowed three goals.

If the Twisters were able to avoid a series sweep Wednesday, game five will be back in Morris on Friday.

> EPILEPSY, FROM PG. 26

"What was difficult was the drugs had so many side effects that we didn't know ... what the side effects meant," Friesen continued. "It was very challenging on everybody to try to figure out what our normal was, and it was constantly changing.

"It takes a toll on the entire family ... to learn to sacrifice the ordinary life you once knew. It became an illness of the family as we all had to be there for her when she had a seizure or went through many drug changes. It changed who we were. We all had to find normal again."

Friesen said it was a long process, and they waited a long time for more answers.

"We always hoped that it would stop, but it didn't. She kept seizing and we kept changing her doses of medication," she said. "You always want to live in hope that she would get better. It didn't turn out that way."

There was also the anguish of wondering what would become of her daughter's musical dreams, since she was an accomplished pianist at a young age.

"Her dream was to play piano, and we thought, 'Is this going to be compromised? Is she going to have a normal life, and what does that look like and what does that mean?'" said Friesen.

"So to keep her focussed and keep

her strong during those times ... I didn't know I had that strength until I looked back and wrote the book."

SHARING HER STORY

Friesen eventually arrived at a place where she decided to share her story because so many families are touched by chronic illness.

"I had thought my life was as exciting as vanilla ice cream," she said. "When I got some perspective, though, with [Jessica] being in university, all of a sudden I thought, do I have a story to tell? I would hear these other stories of parents ... and I just thought I think I have something to offer.

"Not that I have the answers, but I have a hope and an understanding," added Friesen.

Friesen said she had the blessing, guidance and support of not only Jessica but the rest of her family throughout the writing process. She

was sensitive to protecting their privacy, but also sought to be honest in depicting some events similar to how they really happened.

"I will say the seizures are all accurate ... to have how we experienced them," Friesen said. "It's one thing to have to relive it, it's a whole other thing to explain and describe it ... and for readers to understand the trauma of what it is to witness a seizure."

Once she got started on writing it, the story came out quickly.

"It literally took me a month from beginning to end. It just poured out of me, and I didn't have to look far for story lines," said Friesen.

Looking back on it now, she doesn't view writing the book as a healing process because she doesn't see that they were broken.

"We're still a family that's intact, and we love each other and we're supportive and we're very close. But

it was very therapeutic."

As for Friesen's daughter, she has since graduated from university with a degree in music.

"It was a struggle. It took her longer than she thought," Friesen said. "She was determined, and the faculty and staff ... everyone at the university ... was incredibly supportive.

"She has been seizure free for almost four years, but she's still very medicated.

"Her goal is to become a music therapist. She wants to work with Alzheimer patients, people with dementia. She says she understands what it is to be confused ... uncertain and scared."

Friesen will mark the release of *And We All Fall Down* with a book signing at Marni Luhu Designs in Morden on Saturday, April 30 from 1-4 p.m.

> DOWLING, FROM PG. 26

"I enjoy looking at things from a humorous point of view, so I do have a fair bit of humour on my new tunes. I enjoy those kinds of songs. I just enjoy looking at things from kind of a lighter side.

"But there's some darker things too," he added. "For example, I've got a song called No. 26. It's really about

post traumatic stress from a veterans point of view.

"There's another one there about a 19th century fighter ... then there's stuff about aging ... dogs in heaven," he added, chuckling. "There's all kinds of stuff ... I get inspiration from things I read and things I see on the news."

Next week's release concert features Dowling and the Even Breaks. They'll be joined by special guests Mika-Dawn and August Jack.

The evening begins at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are available for \$10 at Whitecap Coffee in Winkler and Thornview Grocery in Morden.

Agriculture

Pork Council looks to the future at AGM

By Harry Siemens

The recent AGM of the Manitoba Pork Council featured much discussion on where the hog industry is going and how.

Mike Teillet, the council's manager of sustainable development, says they've received the first applications for building permits under a government pilot project that will allow the construction of new hog barns in the province.

"We've had two actual applications that have come in the last three weeks," he says. "As far as the types of operation, I think we're going to see a mix.

"One of the two is a feeder operation so I know we will definitely see some of those, but, of course, you need the little pigs in order to feed into a finisher operation, so we kind of need both kinds of applications, feeders and sow to farrow. We haven't seen any of the weanling type of operations yet, but we expect we will."

Teillet says the hope is to increase hog production to a level that will allow the processing plants in Manitoba to run at full capacity.

Maple Leaf is currently running at about 70 per cent capacity—about a million pigs per year short of full capacity.

To fill the need, Manitoba will require at least 100 new barns within the next four to six years, says Teillet.

That will, of course, cost money, and finding investors is still a huge hurdle for many producers.

Barry Watson, the Steinbach district director with Farm Credit Canada, told the MPC AGM that the bulk of loan requests for financing within the hog industry have come from operators looking to renovate existing facilities rather than build new.

"We are seeing activity in the hog sector, however it's been more weighted towards barn renovations and so on for existing facilities," he says. "There has been some instances where existing barns that were out of production have come back into production with some meaningful

renovations done to those barns before they were populated with hogs. The dollars involved can be relatively significant."

In some cases, FCC is lending upwards of a million dollars for these renovations, which can include changing the hog handling infrastructure and feed systems.

Watson says the volatile hog prices, changes in exchange rates, and even some very meaningful movement in feed prices all create challenges.

"We're focusing on what can we do differently going forward," he says, "and the financing world has a role to play in that."

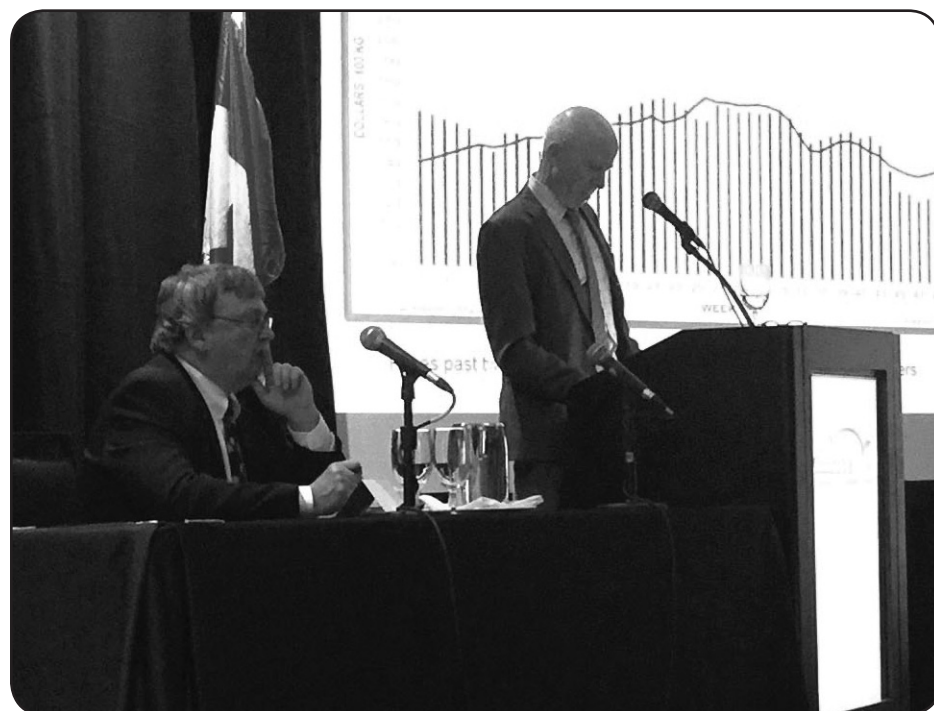


PHOTO BY HARRY SIEMENS/VOICE

Mike Teillet, the manager of sustainable development with Manitoba Pork, looks on as Manitoba Pork chair George Matheson gives his report on a stable provincial hog industry.



By Harry Siemens

Those reading this column know how much I write about the ups and downs of the hog industry. You also know that things keep changing.

At last week's annual meeting of the Manitoba Pork Council, four men representing the hog in the midwestern U.S. told Manitoba producers that it's time to step up pig movement between the two countries.

While it's beneficial to hog producers in Manitoba to ship weanlings to the U.S., it does nothing for the two processing plants in Manitoba already begging for finished pigs.

First, the dilemma has to do with the fact if a Manitoba producer builds a new sow barn there is currently no new finisher space available here, so their best option is heading south.

Putting the shoe on the other foot, if a producer does get a permit to build a new finisher barn in Manitoba, the U.S. dollar and new slaughter space still begs for those hogs to go south.

U.S.-Canada partnership is key

Bill Tentinger, past president of the Iowa Pork Producers, says with the additional slaughter space coming online in the U.S. it is an opportune time to bring hog producers on both sides of the border together.

Tentinger told me that 10 years ago Canadian producers were proposing they farrow the pigs and then finish them in the midwest where the grain is.

M-COOL effectively put an end to that idea, but things are different now.

"Now that M-COOL is rescinded and gone, it opens up that possibility again and now we have packing plants proposing to be built increasing our shackle space, so why wouldn't that be an opportune time to move on that getting that plan back together? To start creating new business relationships across the border that would facilitate those extra shackle spaces?"

Tentinger says new and existing plants process thousands, and in some cases tens of thousands, of pigs daily, millions annually.

The one at Sioux City would have

the capacity to slaughter 10,000 to 12,000 hogs per day. The way Tentinger hears it, they will only be able to fill 30 to 35 per cent, the rest they will have to buy off the open market. So that creates a demand for live animals out there that was not there before.

At Mason City, family-owned Prestage Farms is proposing a \$240 million pork processing plant that initially would process up to 10,000 pigs a day and eventually employ as many as 2,000 workers.

Tentinger says they will need at least 25 to 30 per cent production to fill that plant and are actively campaigning to fill those spaces.

"We may see some older plants shut down, but not that many ... if they're losing money in a plant, they will pull the plant offline, but if the hogs are there, they will keep it up."

Here's the rub and concern: what will we do with the product going out the door? I'm fairly confident that when Seaboard Foods announced a new plant they at least must have

Continued on page 32

Another view from Menno Colony, Paraguay

By Harry Siemens

It seems a long time ago that this reporter travelled to Chaco, Paraguay to talk about Canadian farming practices and also to report back to people in southern Manitoba.

The coordinator and host of the cultural exchange was Adolf Harder, 18 years a German teacher in the Menno Colony who spent two and half years in Canada and works in the education department for the members of Cooperativa Chortitzer, the economic engine for the colony.

"I work with mentors that help farmers who are struggling and move alongside of them and try to give them help they need, but also support in a few cases where the struggling individual may need to change what he or she is doing," says Harder. "Farmers, some grain farmers, but more dairy farmers, cattle ranchers who raise beef for processing."

The Menno Colony has six regions and each district has one member in the administrative board touching every area of the 100 km colony and representing the producers.

For the most part, farmers grow and produce what the Cooperativa can process and sell.

"We have some that like to work with other companies," Harder says, "but here in the Chaco, and that is why the Cooperativa got so strong initially because it is 600 km away from Asuncion via a detour river and now 400 km."

When the first people left Manitoba for Paraguay in the mid-1920s, there were no roads, no hospitals, no schools, no nothing. They had to work together to survive and stay alive.

"Now most of the members depend and work within the Cooperativa, in part the prices they get are good, and there are those who work with other companies," says Harder. "The key thing, however, is participating within the co-op is voluntary, and they are can also work outside, it is not forbidden by the Cooperativa Chortitzer. The co-op pays healthy dividends and pension is dependant on what the members have paid in,

> SIEMENS SAYS, FROM PG. 31

a marketing plan to ship the finished product. The one at Mason City I don't know that for sure, but I would think they have something in mind.

"So as an industry that is a big concern: are we able to market that

"THE CO-OP PAYS HEALTHY DIVIDENDS AND PENSION IS DEPENDENT ON WHAT THE MEMBERS HAVE PAID IN ..."

mostly through selling their produce to them.

Harder is a small producer, operating the farm alongside his job, but says he is small because he started late, teaching first for 18 years and then living for a few years in Canada.

"My father was a large cattle producer with more than 1,000 ha. of land and planned making arrangement so his children would also each get some land."

All Harder's free time he spends on his 200 ha. ranch raising cattle with his son, working with 90 cows in a cow and calf operation.

He sells the nine to 10-month-old calves, building up his investment instead of a pension plan that isn't available to them.

Harder is also an ordained minister, and during his time in Canada working in Steinbach preached in the Steinbach Mennonite Church.

The North Mennonite Conference in the Chaco has 12 churches, a Bible school, and 150 students in a new faith-based school for those who speak only Spanish.

"In that school, they teach life skills, and how to work so they can get a job and work for a living," Harder says.

conversations with a couple of the procurement officers in two different packing companies, that is one thing that worries them," he says. "We have all this extra kill space, where are we going to go with the product?"

Celebrating National Soil Conservation Week

National Soil Conservation Week runs from April 17-23 this year.

This event has been recognized in Canada since 1987 through the Soil Conservation Council of Canada. The SCCC was founded under the leadership of Senator Herb Sparrow to promote the importance of soil conservation on a national scale.

For many years, soil conservation focused on protecting the soil from wind and water erosion.

Today, soil conservation is seen to be directly linked to water quality, carbon sequestration, biodiversity, and air quality.

For the last 25 years, there has been significant progress in the field of soil conservation.

Minimum tillage and zero-tillage practices have significantly reduced wind and water erosion of our soils.

Shelterbelts planted 20 or more years ago are providing soil protection, improved soil fertility, improved crop quality, and increased crop yields.

Better crop rotations, cover crops, and more effective use of manures

and composts have helped improve soil organic matter.

This progress in soil improvements has been made possible with the support of government programs, researchers, and local conservation delivery groups.

The farming community has been implementing the required changes in the landscape and tillage systems to keep the soil healthy.

But there is still room for improve-

ment—soil degradation is still occurring on many fields; low residue crops such as beans and potatoes still leave the soil open and prone to erosion in the fall and early spring; and shorter crop rotations and increased tillage speeds and depth can contribute to breaking down the soil structure, leaving fields prone to erosion.

Proper soil management will always pay in the long run. Healthy soils are the foundation of sustainable food

production, enhanced biodiversity, and cleaner air and water for future generations.

National Soil Conservation Week is a time to evaluate what has been done to protect the soil so far, and what further practices could be implemented to promote soil conservation and soil health.

—Submitted by the Stanley Soil Management Association

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BRIDAL SHOWER

Miscellaneous Bridal Shower for Brittany Somersall Tuesday, May 10 - 7:00 pm Morden Legion Clubroom

Everyone is invited to come and celebrate Brittany's upcoming marriage to Jay Fehr! A donation card has been placed at Morden Dollar-store/Sears and they are also registered at Home Outfitters. Hope to see you there!

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IN THE MATTER of the ESTATE of ALVIN BARKE, late of the Postal District of Thornhill, in the Province of Manitoba, Farmer, deceased. All claims against the above Estate, duly verified by Statutory Declaration must be forwarded to the offices of the undersigned at PO Box 279, Manitou, Manitoba, R0G 1G0, within thirty days of the publication of this Notice. DATED at the Town of Manitou, in Manitoba, this 29th day of March, 2016. McCULLOCH MOONEY JOHNSTON SELBY Solicitors for the Administrator



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> GAMES

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

Level: Intermediate

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

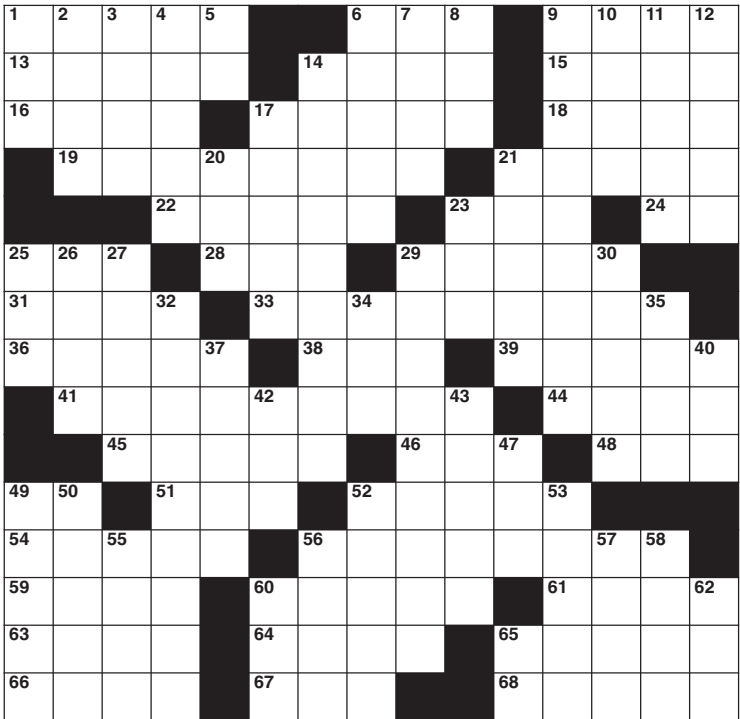
Sudoku Answer

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

Crossword Answer

X CROSSWORD

- CLUES ACROSS**
- 1. Oliver __, author
 - 6. Neuromuscular disorder (abbr.)
 - 9. Ed Sheeran song
 - 13. Flows in Greek Gods' veins
 - 14. Mounted soldier
 - 15. Theron movie " __ Flux"
 - 16. Greek portico
 - 17. Buffaloes
 - 18. Ribosomal ribonucleic acid
 - 19. Types of bonds
 - 21. Bura- __, language
 - 22. Discharges
 - 23. Principal ethnic group of China
 - 24. Air Force
 - 25. Dash
 - 28. Patti Hearst's captors
 - 29. __ percha, trees
 - 31. Expression of sorrow or pity
 - 33. Kids play here
 - 36. Fakes
 - 38. Scottish Gaelic for John
 - 39. Blocks
 - 41. Split
 - 44. DC Comics hero
 - 45. Wrap
 - 46. Cool!
 - 48. Hengyang Nanyue Airport
 - 49. Biblical Sumerian city
 - 51. Radio direction finder (abbr.)
 - 52. Gulf in the Aegean Sea
 - 54. Actress Lathan
 - 56. Class
 - 59. Copyread
 - 60. Blocks
 - 61. Whale ship captain
 - 63. Make angry
 - 64. They product honey
 - 65. One seeded fruit
 - 66. Helios
 - 67. Soviet Socialist Republic
 - 68. Accepted practice
- CLUES DOWN**
- 1. Female sibling
 - 2. Behaves



- 3. Cream puff
- 4. Knighted computer scientist Tony
- 5. Citizen (senior)
- 6. Blackthorns
- 7. One-time Yankee sensation Kevin
- 8. Autonomic nervous system
- 9. Spider
- 10. Flavoring
- 11. Colonized by Ancient Greeks
- 12. "Thundercats" character
- 14. Protestant
- 17. Not straightened
- 20. Outdoor retailer
- 21. Brazilian lagoon
- 23. Expression of bafflement
- 25. Male parent
- 26. Brews
- 27. Gadoid fishes
- 29. Gives
- 30. Hindu calendar month
- 32. Breaks up
- 34. Take in solid food
- 35. Abba __, Israeli politician
- 37. A breed of goat
- 40. It's above us
- 42. British Air Aces
- 43. Challenges
- 47. He's a bounty hunter
- 49. Exploiters
- 50. Plays music
- 52. Cavalry sword
- 53. Drenches
- 55. Will not (obsolete)
- 56. Signals
- 57. Carla from "Cheers"
- 58. Other side of yin
- 60. Ed Murrow's home
- 62. Satirist Samantha
- 65. Gold

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CARD OF THANKS

We are very fortunate to be part of such a wonderful community. Your words of comfort, visits, flowers and gifts of food were all so much appreciated as we mourned the loss of our son and brother Leonard. Your kindness and support helped ease the sadness that surrounded us. We will be forever grateful to all of you who attempted to help Leonard at the restaurant, on route and finally at Boundary Trails Hospital. Your efforts we were not in vain, but as he would have said -It was not meant to be.

To our cousins Kris and Melanie Reynolds, Mel Lantz and Ruth Moser, we can't thank you enough. You all stayed with us at the hospital and tried to hold a family together that was falling apart. We are truly blessed to have you in our lives.

Finally, to all of you who assisted with his service in any way, we could have never made it through the day without you. Jake from Wiebe's Funeral home for just everything; Jean Clayton for arranging and looking after all the little details at the hall; Tom Shipman for your kind words and scripture; and to the Darlingford UCW for providing and serving a wonderful luncheon, thank you. Listening to Leonard's friends who shared their memories at the service reminded us that we were celebrating a man who lived life, loved life and inspired us all to make the best of our own.

-Leonore Porter
Edith, Peter and family
Carol and family
Leanne, Jeff and family
Andrew and family

ENGAGEMENT



Glenn and Rhonda Banman are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter Holly to Timothy, son of George and Brenda Ives. A May wedding is planned. We wish you God's abundant blessings you begin your life together. May all your dreams come true!

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OBITUARY

Kevin Jeremy Dyck 1984 - 2016

On Friday, April 15, 2016, Kevin Jeremy Dyck, 32 years, peacefully passed away in his sleep while safe at his home in Roland, MB. Kevin is survived by his parents, Harold and Lesia Dyck; siblings, Ryan (Kailey) nieces, Charli and Sloan, Vanessa (Nicholas) nieces, Mya and Hailey and nephew, Zachary and Matthew (Nadine), Baba Olga Skochelias and many aunts, uncles and cousins. Kevin was predeceased by Grandma and Grandpa Annie and Anton Dyck, Dido John Skochelias.

Kevin was born on January 23rd, 1984 in the city of Winnipeg, MB, however grew up in the small town of Lowe Farm. Not four years of Kevin's life had passed when he was diagnosed with Prader-Willi Syndrome. As he grew older he developed multiple other health issues. This had a great effect on Kevin's development and growth when placed among peers, however, he grew a heart larger than most that cared for his family, friends, and the things he loved. Early in life Kevin enjoyed riding his bike down to Shannon's creek, jumping on the trampoline and caring for the many animals that entered his life. Kevin's passion for traveling started when his grandpa Dyck took Kevin on many adventures across Canada. Kevin's time with us was brief but his impact on many was immense. Kevin took great interest in people. It didn't matter whether it was the first time speaking with you, he genuinely cared when asking one of his many questions. Kevin was intelligent, charismatic, thoughtful and an avid listener who never forgot any detail no matter how small. Kevin's priority in life was family whether it was his brothers, sisters, nieces, uncles, cousins, baba mom or dad. Kevin would put their needs and interests before his without hesitation. Kevin cherished every single moment that he spent with his three nieces and nephews. Kevin's favourite place to be was the Sunflower Gardens cheering on his brothers and his favourite team the Altona Maroons. While at the rink he would say hi and have a conversation with as many as he could. Kevin didn't not judge on the team you cheered for, everyone was equal to him. Kevin and his dad spent many hours in a car traveling to rinks across Manitoba. Kevin graduated from Morris High School, and continued to live with his parents outside of Kane. For the last four years Kevin lived in Winnipeg where he was able to experience life on his own with support. As Kevin's health began to deteriorate he spent 10 months in the hospital before moving home for the final three weeks of his life with his family, dog Lola, and cats.

Funeral service was held at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 19, 2016 at Lowe Farm Berghthaler Mennonite Church with interment at the Lowe Farm Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made in Kevin's memory to the Pembina Valley Humane Society.

Wiebe Funeral Home, Winkler
In care of arrangements
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BIRTHDAY

Friends and relatives are invited to a

90th Birthday Celebration for Katherine Klassen

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