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An 'egg-cellent' time

PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Just in time for Easter, a class at the Pembina Hills Gallery Saturday taught participants how to hand paint eggs in the style of pysanka using wax and liquid dyes. The class, which was taught by Margie Hildebrand, had a minimum registration of \$20 but further donations were welcome, with proceeds going to the Canadian Red Cross in support of Ukraine.

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Maple Leaf unveils new library mural

By Lorne Stelmach

A large wall mural that now adorns a wall of the library at Maple Leaf School not only serves an artistic purpose but can also be used as a learning tool.

The work by Indigenous artist Victor Tsessaze combines key aspects of his cultural traditions while also making nods to both Morden in general as well as the school itself.

Alongside representations of the Seven Traditional Teachings and Turtle Island are a maple tree and the famous Morden mosasaur known as Bruce.

"I really appreciate that he made an effort to connect this to our school and to our division and our community ... he made a lot of strong connections to our area," vice-principal Mike Ward said last week as Tsessaze visited the school to speak to students about the mural.

"It was a fun project. I enjoyed working on it," said Tsessaze, who is from Northlands First Nation in Lac Brochet.

Tsessaze has learned throughout his life from the different elders of various nations, and he seeks to portray the beauty of those teachings through his artwork.

Painting the nature and traditional way of life since he was a teenager, he likes to paint the beauty of life and capture it on canvas, and that certainly comes through in his mural at Maple Leaf School.

The centrepiece is the turtle representing Turtle Island. The story of Turtle Island varies among Indigenous communities but acts as a creation story, with the turtle a symbol of life and earth.

Represented as well in the mural are the Seven Teachings: love represented by the eagle, respect represented by the buffalo, courage represented by



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Artist Victor Tsessaze in front of the mural he painted for Maple Leaf School in Morden.

the bear, honesty represented by the Sasquatch, wisdom represented by the beaver, humility represented by the wolf, and truth represented by the turtle.

"What appealed to me is Morden is a place known for dinosaurs," said Tsessaze, who modelled the turtle on one of the Canadian Fossil Discovery Centre statues.

"And the Indigenous have their creation stories that I thought would work well with this, so I was interested in combining those things ... especially including the Seven Teachings."

He noted that he saw it as being especially worthwhile to be doing it in a school setting.

"A lot of schools now they teach about the Seven Teachings ... I'm very honoured to share with my artistic skills and put it into a story here to share with the community."

The project came about as a result of

a grant related to numeracy and literacy for Indigenous students, and the idea of the mural appealed because it would be something that could be long-lasting for the school.

"There was discussion with Victor as well as to what exactly would work here," said Ward, who noted a number of ideas were considered, including a medicine wheel. "We decided on the Seven Teachings because it connects well to a number of things that we do here ... that we believe in here at the school."

"The way that it's up there makes it easy to reference, it's easy to connect for the kids," he added. "We also have a number of Seven Teachings kits in French and English that teachers can take out from the library, and it can complement what they see here with those kits and work on it in the classroom."

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Winkler Senior Centre puts call out for volunteers

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Things are starting to return to something akin to normal at the Winkler Senior Centre.

With COVID-19 restrictions easing, the centre's programs and services are all gearing back up again.

On Monday they offered their first dine-in waffle breakfast and last Thursday the floor curling league hosted their first bonspiel in a good long while.

"We're seeing so many faces here now, interacting again. It's been a joy," says resource coordinator Denise Enns.

"Everyone loves being back," adds fellow resource coordinator Cathleen Bergen.

WSC's Services for Seniors has spent the downtime during the pandemic reworking a few of its programs, and now they're ready to relaunch them.

"It was a good time to get all these programs revamped and updated according to what we need," Bergen says.

But as the programs make their return, so too does the need for volunteers.

There's the transportation program,



A floor curling bonspiel was held at the Winkler Senior Centre last week. The centre's various programs and services are starting to return to normal now that pandemic restrictions have eased.

PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

which connects older adults with drivers who can give them a ride around town or to out-of-town medical appointments. Drivers are reimbursed for their mileage.

"It's for medical appointments, for running errands, or other appointments," Bergen says, noting many people use the service to get to appointments in Winnipeg or Brandon when they don't feel comfortable driving on the highway or in the city anymore.

They have a few drivers on the roster, she says, but could use several more.

The home and yard maintenance program is also back, providing old-

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Nah Yo-dle puts a Low German spin on Wordle

By Ty Dilello

Over the course of the past few months, Wordle has taken the world by storm. Hundreds of millions of people are playing the unique word game every day.

But the question is: have you ever wanted to play a Low German version of Wordle? Well, Jared Falk has got you covered with Nah Yo-dle.

Falk, who is originally from Halbstadt and went to school in nearby Altona, says it all started as an off-the-cuff idea.

"I saw a lot of these Wordle clones popping up and thought, 'Someone should make a Low-German Wordle.'

The idea itself is a little ridiculous, though: make a word puzzle game based around an unwritten language? Ha. Who would play that? Well, it turns out myself and Adrian Trimble [the backend developer] found our-

selves with some spare time and we both like doing something even if it only makes a couple of people chuckle. So really, it's a ridiculous idea that we said, 'Let's build it, why not?'"

Trimble, who was behind the coding and app development for this project, actually doesn't speak a word of Low German, even though he lived in Steinbach for a while growing up.

Falk, meanwhile, picked up bits and pieces of the language as a child.

"All the Low German I learned growing up, I learned because I wasn't supposed to," he said. "My parents and grandparents all spoke fluently, but they would speak in 'Plaut' when they didn't want us kids to understand what they were saying. So, of course, you try hard to learn what you can.

"I don't speak it fluently at all, and it takes me a while to understand what fast speakers are saying. Slowly but surely, I am learning more."

For the initial list of words that a player is trying to guess, Falk sourced suggestions from friends and family for words that might be common for both fluent speakers and people who only grew up around the language to try and make it at least accessible to as many people as possible.

"A lot of times the more common words on the list are words that I and some friends use on a daily basis without really even realizing that it's a Low German word and the people I'm talking to have no

Nah Yo-dle



SUPPLIED IMAGE

Nah Yo-dle is a Low German version of the popular Wordle game. It is the brainchild of Halbstadt native Jared Falk.

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Timely funding for early childhood programming

By Lorne Stelmach

A federal program created during the pandemic to assist community organizations provided a boost recently to a Morden and Winkler agency that supports families.

The Emergency Community Support Fund provided \$10,000 for the Morden Parent and Child Resource Centre, which is also connected to the Winkler Family Resource Centre.

The federal funding is channeled through community foundations, so the money in this case came through the Morden Area Foundation.

Cathy Savage, executive director of the two centres, said the money came at a very key time for them.

"This grant has been amazing for us, as we just had to move locations, so we were able to purchase a lot of stuff that we were going to need," she explained. "We have a really nice set-

up here now at the Morden Alliance Church with everything we need, and we were able to purchase so much.

"You don't think of it as a big deal, but scissors, markers, crayons, educational games, balls, hula hoops ... and we put together a few programming tubs for our programs ... it all adds up.

"Now that we're in person again, we had to restock for in-person programs," Savage said. "Without this grant, we wouldn't have been able to do all of this, to provide all that stuff for the services to the community."

"This is exactly what the foundation is all about, supporting all of these kinds of community organizations," said foundation executive director Lynda Lambert.

You can learn more about the early childhood programming the resource centres provide by heading to www.winklerfamilyresourcecentre.com.



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

The Morden Area Foundation's Lynda Lambert (centre) stopped by the Morden Parent and Child Resource Centre last week to celebrate funding that flowed through MAF from the Emergency Community Support Fund.

"Volunteers are why we can offer these services"

From Pg. 3

er adults with a place to call to find someone who can help them with around-the-house jobs such as minor repairs, lawn mowing, snow clearing and the like.

"We're trying to build a list of qualified people who can do these jobs," Bergen says. That could be on a volunteer basis or for a fee, with Service for Seniors there to help make the connection and ensure seniors are being charged a fair rate.

Finally, new to the centre is its Friendly Visiting/Telephone Friend program, which is looking for people interested in connecting with an older adult in the community on a regu-

lar basis, either in person or over the phone.

"It would be up to them how often, but it could be anywhere from once a month, twice a month, once a week—whatever would be suitable for the two people," Bergen says.

"We've talked about doing this for awhile now. We know there are a lot of older adults out there who have been isolated, especially in the last two years, so it's an important program to bring out."

Enns says both the volunteers and the participating older adults will fill out a form of interests so they can try

> NAH YO-DLE, FROM PG. 4

idea what schnetje [biscuits] is."

Also, some of the words in the game that the player is trying to guess are actually English words that might be common in Mennonite culture, like "quilt" or "choir."

The reception for Nah Yo-dle has been great so far as the website has been seeing a few thousand people playing every day, which is far more

to connect people who have something in common to chat about.

Adults of any age are welcome to be part of the program. Bergen notes this could be a great way for someone to volunteer who might otherwise have challenges doing so in-person.

"Because it can also be a telephone friend, it could be someone who is stuck at home but wants to visit with someone on the phone," she says.

For information on any of these programs, including the steps needed to volunteer for them, call the centre at 204-325-8964.

Bergen points out these are just a

few of the programs that could use additional helping hands at the senior centre—the congregate meal program needs a cook and other kitchen staff volunteers and the Meals on Wheels program could use some more delivery drivers.

Basically, if you've got the time and an interest in getting involved, the senior centre has a role for you.

"We need lots of volunteers right across the board right now," Bergen says. "Volunteers are why we can offer these services."

than Falk expected this early on.

"The feedback has been really great so far. We've had a lot of people reach out and say how much of a feel-good thing it is," he said. "It's part game and part nostalgia as lots of people are remembering something about their family or an event from their childhood. Or some people say, 'I use that word all the time.' And some are

saying 'that's not how you spell that,' which is always a little funny."

To play the game, head online to nahyodle.com. The website also follows up the word of the day with a definition and maybe a funny anecdote of the word in context on its Instagram account (@nahyodle) and Twitter (@nahyodle).

"WE NEED LOTS OF VOLUNTEERS RIGHT ACROSS THE BOARD RIGHT NOW."

Check out the Voice online at www.winklermordenvoice.ca or altonavoice.ca



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OUR SISTER PUBLICATIONS



• GUEST COMMENTARY

“Better care closer to home” should be more than a slogan

Investing in “better care closer to home” is the theme of a published report over a year ago by B. Wright and L. Siragusa.

This is a five-year plan for rural medical care. It claims to be the “road map how to solve rural medical problems.”

Since the “W.S” report is the basis that the Manitoba government is going to act on for the next five years, we should study this report and make constructive criticisms. Rural people in this area deserve good medical care. Since we don’t have hospital boards, the town and municipal councils should be our “grassroot” reps. A robust regional centre (BTHC) serving this area should be on the top of our list. This five-year plan needs improvements.

This report states that we the rural people have to go to Winnipeg for 50 per cent of our medical care at the present time. Nobody goes to Winnipeg for primary care. We go to Winnipeg for “specialist care” such as specialist consultations, special investigations and specialized treatments including different surgical procedures.

If rural people have to go to Winnipeg to access 50 per cent of their medical care (specialized care), then

shouldn’t the report deal with bringing at least part of specialist care closer to home? Shouldn’t the report make suggestions and a “road map” on how to achieve this? Couldn’t cataract surgery and some of the specialist care be delivered closer to home?

This plan deals with prevention, primary care, access to specialist care, and cost.

Prevention could be at variable levels. Prevention could be avoiding complications of diabetes by appropriate medical management. Early diagnosis and treatment could be helpful. Better access to primary care should help that.

There are various illnesses we will get during our life journey. We have limited ability to prevent them.

How do we prevent cataracts? We don’t, so we have to treat them with a surgical approach. Does this mean 1,000 people from this region should go to Winnipeg for cataract specialist care? Each of them has to spend about \$700 for consultation visits, surgery, and post-op visits. Could cataract care be done closer to home? Yes, it could.

Instead of 1,000 people going to Winnipeg for cataract surgery, wouldn’t it make sense for two cataract surgeons to move to this area? He or she could also see patients for general ophthalmic care. As the saying goes: “Instead of moving the mountain to Mohammed, Mohammed could move to the mountain.”

Our government now has the Peachy report. Lots of time and money was spent on this report. When it comes to medical care in the rural area, solutions are rather scant or skimpy. For example, when it comes to the long waiting list of cataract surgery, the solution given in the Peachy report is

somewhat puzzling. Peachy suggests additional cataract surgery facilities be provided in private clinics (in Winnipeg) and that the government should pay for it.

This is a classic case of “inside the Perimeter syndrome.” We can surmise the government has to address the long waiting list and act according to the Peachy report. If that happens, we will be the victims in this process. How about putting some cataract surgery outside of Winnipeg such as at BTHC?

If reps of rural people, such as leaders in town and municipal council, don’t voice their concerns, you can guess where it is all going to go. It won’t be closer to home.

Finally, cost containment. It has been shown that moving some specialist care to secondary centres like BTHC will be 20 per cent cheaper (according to a hip and knee study from Toronto). Also, if we can repatriate a tiny percentage of specialist care, rural people will save money. That money they saved could be spent locally. Our MLA should see this approach as a win-win for the government and the rural people here as well as rural people in the central area.

The Manitoba government spends the least amount of money in our area (\$86.94) compared to Winnipeg (\$123.04), so Winnipeg gets 30 per cent more per capita dollar. Add to this money rural people spend to access 50 per cent of the medical care. It is time to act.

Dr. Chandry Jacob is a general surgeon who has been practicing medicine in the Winkler area for over 50 years.

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Cadenza Summer Music Week is back this July

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Douglas Kuhl School of Music's Cadenza Summer Music Week is planning for its return this summer after two cancelled years thanks to the pandemic.

"How the year started, we weren't sure we were going to be able to but it all started opening up and we just felt that students really needed something to look forward to and motivate them," said director Rochelle Drudge of the music camp taking place at the EMM Church in Winkler (600 Southview Dr.) July 4-8.

It's five days of musical instruction in strings (violin, viola, cello, and bass), piano, and, new this year, voice aimed at students age four to adult.

Students spend each day working with accomplished musicians and teachers on such topics as chamber music, orchestra, collaborative composition, musical theatre, and skills building.

Daily noon hour concerts—open for free to the general public—give participants the opportunity to see performances from their instructors and perhaps take to the stage themselves.

Above all, it's a chance to get together with other budding musicians to learn and grow, Drudge said.

"Especially after the last few years of not seeing other students who play, not playing in recitals ... to be able

to be together in this context where they're making connections with their peers who play instruments and teachers from across Manitoba—it's an inspiration and a great motivator, which is something we always need when we're learning music but especially right now."

Students of all skill levels are welcome, as are younger children interested in seeing if learning a musical instrument is right for them.

"You might have a four or five-year-old who is thinking they maybe want to start an instrument—violin or piano or cello, they don't know necessarily what—and this is a really great opportunity to explore that for the week," Drudge said of the Explorer program for kids age 4-6. "It's a half-day program where they're just building musical skills, getting to see the different instruments and getting a brief introduction to stings and piano."

The lunchtime concerts can also be a great way to introduce a child to music, Drudge noted, stressing they're open to anyone.

"A lot of students have peaked their interest in music by coming to those concerts ... exposure to music is a big part getting kids interested in it."

Confirmed concert times for the week will be released a little closer to it.

Piano, strings, and vocal students are invited for five days of musical fun at the Cadenza Summer Music Week hosted by the Douglas Kuhl School of Music this July.

VOICE FILE PHOTO



Early-bird registration pricing for Cadenza ends this Sunday, April 17 (\$320 for one child, \$290 for each additional child) and regular pricing registration wraps up April 30 (\$350 for the first child, \$320 for additional). The half-day explorer program is \$175, as is the adult half day program.

Financial aid is available if needed, stressed Drudge.

"One of the mandates for our music school is that music can be affordable," she said. "We work very hard at making this accessible, so if the price is a barrier families are welcome to contact us and we'll make it work."

More information and registration forms are available online at www.cadenzasummermusicweek.com or by calling 204-331-4472.

Garden Valley SD passes \$52M budget

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Garden Valley School Division approved a \$52 million operating budget last week that includes a number of cuts to staff and school spending.

GVSD secretary-treasurer Kevin Vovchuk noted in his presentation of the financial plan at a virtual public meeting April 7 that revenues overall are down for the 2022-2023 school year.

The division is seeing revenue decrease from \$52.7 million in 2021-2022 to \$52.1 million for 2022-2023.

Provincial funding makes up \$34.5 million of that number (down from the \$35.1 million received this current school year) while municipal school taxes contributes \$16.7 million (down

from \$16.8 million, with the mill rate dropping from 13.43 to 13.12) and miscellaneous other revenue streams are pegged at \$770,000 (the same as this year).

With costs rising due to inflation, provincial funding down, and the division not allowed to generate additional revenue by increasing how much it takes in from local taxpayers, cutting expenses is the only way to attempt a balanced budget, Vovchuk explained.

Staff salaries and benefits make up 86 per cent of expenses, so it is there where some big cuts were made—to the tune of \$380,000.

GVSD will have 24 fewer teachers and 16 fewer support staff in its schools this fall, owing in part to budget cuts and also reduced enrollment

(about 800 children have left GVSD schools in favour of homeschooling during the pandemic).

Board chair Laurie Dyck says they worked hard to eliminate positions that were coming to an end anyway rather than laying off returning staff members.

"There's some positions we had not filled, some positions that were terms this year that will just not be filled next year, retirements, resignations," she said.

Dyck noted there has been no clear direction on how much provincial funding might be made available to the division to hire additional teaching and support staff this fall if hundreds of homeschooled students end up returning to local schools.

Provincial funding is based on

last fall's enrolment numbers, she stressed, and the division has no way of knowing how many homeschooled students may return now that the pandemic restrictions that led many families to keep their kids home have ended. Some of those families have already begun sending their children back to class.

The funding letter GVSD received from the province invited divisions facing this challenge to contact them for further discussion but made no firm promises on funding, Dyck said.

Other areas where GVSD made cuts included reducing professional development budgets by 15 per cent for all departments, creating a savings of \$30,000. Dyck is optimistic that the

Continued on page 8

New owners cut the ribbon on Altona Memorials

By Ty Dilello

Local businessmen Marlen Bergen

and D'Arcy Hildebrand have recently purchased and renovated Altona Memorials to a new modern look.



ABOVE PHOTO SUBMITTED

Altona Memorials' new owners Marlen Bergen and D'Arcy Hildebrand cut the ribbon on the shop's newly renovated showroom last week. They're looking to bring a more modern style to the 69-year-old business.



They held an open house and ribbon cutting ceremony at the shop last Friday to kickstart a new era.

Altona Memorials was first founded in 1953 by John C. Giesbrecht and was known as Altona Monuments and Masonry. In the early years, most of the monuments were concrete and they were all handmade.

The business was purchased by Giesbrecht's three sons, Rendal, Elmer and Mel, in 1975. The company then changed its name to Altona Memorials and it began to serve a large portion of Southern Manitoba with quality granite purchased from all over the world.

It was late last year when Bergen and Hildebrand decided to purchase the business from the Giesbrecht brothers.

"I was looking for a new opportunity in town to add a property to my portfolio," said Bergen. "That was two years ago. At that point, COVID started, and things weren't lining up for me to make a purchase and start this journey here."

The opportunity arose again a year later, and this time Bergen was able to seize it.

"Then D'Arcy came into the picture as a joint venture, and so we began the

journey to bring this business back to what it once was," he said, explaining there were a lot of renovations needed to bring the showroom up to a more modern look and style. "We started in August and have been working until then, for about five months, all the while not interrupting our services during that time.

"Even though there's a bit of a transition with the old owners, we are still carrying on many of the things that caused them to be successful over the years," Bergen noted. "And one of the old owners is still working here, which is nice to have their expertise with us."

While a visit to the shop can be a sombre one for most customers, last Friday's ribbon cutting gave locals a chance to pop by for a celebration and a chance to see what the new owners have in store for the business.

"I think we want to create a place that's happy and refreshing," Bergen said. "You are typically in a tough place when you're looking for a stone, but it's also a time of putting closure to it and putting that last memory into stone.

"We're excited for this new venture and where it takes us."

Winkler Festival of the Arts returns next week

By Ashleigh Viveiros

After two years of pandemic-forced cancellations, the Winkler Festival of the Arts returns next week.

Committee member Dorothy Plett says the fate of this year's festival was a bit up in the air a few months ago, with no one knowing how things would look when it came to COVID-19 this spring.

"But once the restrictions were lifted, we went into full-bore planning," she said.

The participation numbers are down somewhat; nearly 200 performers signed up during the very short registration period a few weeks back.

"It's about two-thirds of what we usually have," Plett said. "But I think, considering the short notice, it's a really good turnout."

The piano and vocal sessions (there are no choral ones this year) will take place at the Winkler Bergthaler Mennonite Church (252 6th St.) from Tuesday, April 19 to Friday, April 22.

A full breakdown of performers, musical categories, and times are laid

out in the 2022 program, which is available for download at winklerfestivalofthearts.com.

All the sessions are open to the public, as is the awards night planned for Friday, April 22 starting at 6 p.m. at the P.W. Enns Centennial Concert Hall. The evening will include performances from the week's standout participants. Admission is free, though donations are appreciated.

For most of the young musicians, this is their first time taking to the stage and performing in front of an

audience in years.

"They missed it. There are a lot of the young people that miss having something to work towards," Plett said, explaining a live event like this can be an incredibly powerful motivator for students. "Because everything was closed down, they couldn't even go to old folk's homes, they couldn't go to church to perform, they couldn't go anywhere. Everything was Zoom, and everyone gets tired of Zoom after awhile."

The festival is also an opportunity

for performers to receive constructive criticism from qualified adjudicators.

This year's vocal adjudicator is long-time local choral director Loretta Thorleifson, while heading up the piano sessions is Anneli Loepp Thiesen, an accomplished pianist, piano teacher, and PhD student in the Interdisciplinary Music Research program at the University of Ottawa.

"There will be an ample amount of enthusiasm, positivity, and experience that comes from these adjudicators," Plett said.

> GVSD BUDGET, FROM PG. 7

trend in recent years of online professional development sessions will help lessen the blow of those cuts.

Finally, discretionary budgets have been cut by four per cent for all departments (schools, transportation, administration, maintenance, and IT), netting a savings of \$160,000.

"One of the things we tried to do was do make the cuts as fair as we could by making them across the

board," Vovchuk noted in his presentation. "So we tried to impact all the departments and not just one specific department."

Still, it means \$112,000 less will be spent by local schools next year. That impacts everything from classroom supplies to gym equipment to field trips.

"That means every school's budget is down," Dyck said. "Unfortunately,

ly, we decrease [funding] and we all know that the inflation has skyrocketed, so it's a tough place to be in."

As a result of these cuts, the division is projecting a budget surplus of \$52,000 in 2022-2023.

"We were able to figure out how not to go into a deficit budget by running a very lean budget," said Dyck, noting they've had to run deficit budgets the last couple of years.

Back 40 set for Sunday, June 5

Music festival hosting 70s-themed fundraising concert in Winkler next week

By Lorne Stelmach

The return to the stage after two years of pandemic shutdown will make an upcoming fundraising performance extra special for the Back 40 Folk Festival.

The 70s Show returns next Saturday, April 23 at the P.W. Enns Centennial Concert Hall in Winkler as a prelude in support of the festival, which makes its comeback Sunday, June 5 in Morden Park.

"It's exciting. It's nice to be with the board members again; it's nice to interact with the musicians again, and it's nice to be putting on shows again," said festival chairperson Scott Bell.

"Everyone's been through two years of postponements and cancellations and carefully made plans that had to be put on hold, so we're glad to finally be creating some events for people and give musicians a chance to play for an audience again.

"It had been pretty lean times for musicians. Last summer, there were a few opportunities for musicians to play live ... but through the winter, there had been so few opportunities," Bell said. "I know the musicians are really excited to be playing again."

The 70s Show will feature the music

of the Eagles, John Prine, David Bowie, John Lennon, Steve Miller, Junior Wells, and Gladys Knight performed by Jenessa Kehler, Rob James and Silas Presley, Bill Dowling, JP Lepage, The Mood, Jayme Giesbrecht and the Soul Revue, and Link and the Moustaches.

"There's something for everyone in the show, and hopefully they enjoy the entire show," Bell said. "There's a rich depth of musicians, so every year we're trying to add ones that people maybe haven't seen in our tribute shows before. I think we've got a really strong lineup both in terms of the people performing and the artists they have chosen."

He emphasized that The 70s Show is really the one and only fundraiser in support of the festival.

"It's the main fundraising event of our whole year ... basically, it's the only other show aside from the festival that we actually charge admission for," he noted. "All of the coffeehouses we put on are free to the public.

"Also, the musicians participating in The 70s Show donate their performances, which is greatly appreciated."

Meanwhile, organizers are turning their attention toward pulling things



VOICE FILE PHOTO

The first Back 40 Folk Festival since 2019 takes place in the Morden Park bowl on Sunday, June 5. Can't wait until then for tunes? Check out The 70s Show fundraiser at the Winkler concert hall next week.

together for the first festival since 2019.

"Hopefully people will want to get involved. It's not a big commitment," said Bell, who acknowledged there may be some challenge to rebuild after two years away. "Whatever continuity we had was abruptly brought to a halt, so it in many ways feels like starting over again. A couple years is a long time to not be doing anything."

More details about the festival will be announced at The 70s Show.

"We plan to announce the lineup for the Back 40 Festival at The 70s Show; that's sort of become the tradition," Bell said. "I can say it will be a nice balance of musicians from Winnipeg, from other areas of the province and then of course some southern Manito-

ba musicians. We always try to make sure the local area is represented well."

He looks forward to seeing all those musicians coming together again to perform and feed off of each other.

"We were talking about how a lot of the musical relationships in the area kind of grow out of these 70s Shows, where people meet backstage and listen to each other," Bell said. "Then as time moves on, maybe they collaborate or incorporate each other in each other's bands. That's kind of exciting when you see people joining acts and making connections."

The 70s Show tickets are available at the concert hall: winklerconcerthall.ca.

COVID-19 transmission on the rise, but severe outcomes decreasing: Roussin

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Manitoba's top doc says COVID-19 transmission in the province is on the rise once again.

"Manitoba is currently experiencing an increase in COVID-19 transmission. Our data showing wastewater signals have been trending upwards," Dr. Brent Roussin, chief provincial public health officer, announced at a press conference April 7.

The Omicron BA.2 subvariant has become the most common strain of COVID-19 circulating in Manitoba, Roussin said, noting it makes up about 60 per cent of all transmissions right now. This variant is more contagious than the Omicron variant, but not necessarily more severe.

"We're seeing that the test positivity rates have been increasing over time. We're seeing an increase in hospitalization admissions," Roussin said, going on to explain that most of those admissions are among individuals age 80 and older. "Over that same time frame, though, we are seeing a

decrease in more severe outcomes such as ICU and deaths."

The province says it appears peak hospitalizations may have passed in recent weeks.

"We've seen those increases in cases, transmission, wastewater, we've heard of the increases in hospitalizations, but our modelling continues to show a relative plateau in admissions," Roussin said.

The province no longer updates its COVID-19 data on a daily basis, instead sending out an epidemiology report every Thursday with data for the week before.

For the week ending April 2, 141 people were admitted to hospital with COVID-19, which was up from 111 the week before. Of those, 11 were ICU admissions (down from 16 the week before). Six deaths were reported for the week (down two from the week before).

While there have been calls for more information more often so Manitobans can have a clearer picture of cur-

rent COVID-19 conditions, Roussin continued to defend the province's change in its reporting of the virus.

"The data right now, I think it's appropriate for where we are in the pandemic," he said. "I think we are in that transition phase ...

"We do have to understand that we're going to not deal with this virus the same way as we have for the last two years forever, and at some point we have to transition away from that intense data reporting to less frequently updating."

Public health officials continue to urge Manitobans to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19, including getting the booster shots.

"Vaccines are still the best way to protect ourselves and the people around us," Roussin stressed.

As of last week, about 80 per cent of eligible Manitoba youth age 12-17 had received two doses of vaccine. Among adults, about 88 per cent of eligible Manitobans are fully vaccinated.

"We know in the five to 11 year age range, that's where we could use some work. We're seeing about 41 per cent of 5-11-year-olds have received two doses," Roussin said, urging parents to strongly consider getting their kids vaccinated against COVID-19.

When it comes to booster shots, more than half of Manitoban adults have received a third dose of the vaccine. That number jumps to 70 per cent in the 50+ age range.

The unvaccinated continue to be at highest risk for severe outcomes with COVID-19, Roussin noted, citing data gathered over the past several weeks in Manitoba.

"After adjusting for the age differences, those who are not fully vaccinated are seven and a half times at greater risk of hospitalization, almost 10 times greater risk for ICU admission, and 32 times greater risk of death" compared to a fully vaccinated individual, Roussin said, noting people with three doses of vaccine

Pembina Valley Watershed District welcomes new members

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Pembina Valley Watershed District has grown its membership base to include several more communities along its eastern boundaries.

The municipalities of Emerson-Franklin, Rhineland, and Montcalm along with the Town of Altona and the City of Winkler have all recently joined the land and water conservation partnership.

With these new members, the PVWD now includes almost every community affected by the Plum-Marias and Pembina River watersheds (the RMs of Morris and Roland have thus far declined to join).

It means nearly everyone has a seat at the table when it comes to developing projects aimed at improving and sustaining local resources, says PVWD manager Cliff Greenfield.

“Water in this area generally moves east, so those municipalities have to work together,” he said, explaining it’s not enough for a municipality to focus its efforts on its one little piece of the map—decisions it makes affects others, and vice versa. “If you’re just looking at the water flow from a municipal standpoint, it doesn’t really work because your neighbour impacts what your doing and what you have to deal with.

“So this is a way that we can work on some of those surface water management issues together and really fo-



cus on that—together.”

The district also includes the communities Argyle, Boissevain-Morton, Cartwright-Roblin, Killarney-Turtle Mountain, Lorne, Louise, Pembina, Prairie Lakes, Stanley, and Morden.

Each member pays a fee to be part of the program, with the provincial government then matching that amount three to one to support initiatives that protect, restore, and manage land and water resources

The district works closely with landowners across the region on a variety of projects, including those dealing with water retention, shelter belts, wetland restoration and enhancement, fence and watering systems, erosion control, and small dam construction, among others.

“When we spend a dollar it gets spent with a producer,” says Greenfield. “We don’t really do things on our own. It’s either with a producer, maybe with a municipality, but we really don’t do anything without that kind of partnership.

“Nobody’s forced to do anything,” he adds. “We’re not a regulator in any way. We do things with incentive, ed-

ucation, and demonstration.”

Greenfield encourages landowners to get in touch with PVWD to discuss what programs might be beneficial to them. You can also learn more online at www.pvwd.ca.

The district right now is working on its long-term integrated watershed management plan for the Plum-Marias area. Several public consultations have been held in recent months.

“This new, flatter Red River Valley is a little bit new to us, so we’re going through that process, we’re consulting people, we’re meeting with stakeholders and landowners and finding out what are the assets, things we need to protect and enhance, and what are the issues and what kind programs do we need to develop for that area,” Greenfield says.

“We’re hearing that people want trees, they want us to develop programs for water for agriculture. We’ve had a drought this past year and there’s a real stress on the water system and some producers got cut off from the public system. They have spray water, they have irrigation needs and livestock needs for their

watering, so if we can help develop those that should help sustainability and take some pressure off the public system.”

Aiding PVWD in these efforts with the Plum system is a grant of just over \$1 million received this spring through the Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation’s Growing Outcomes in Watersheds (GROW) program.

It’s part of \$7.5 million in grants approved for 13 watersheds districts across the province, sourced from \$204 million invested in a trio of trust funds established to support conservation efforts in Manitoba.

“We are pleased that provincial investments in the Trusts, a key part of the Made-in-Manitoba Climate and Green Plan, are once again generating new dollars for GROW to build climate resilience in our watersheds,” Environment, Climate, and Parks Minister Jeff Wharton said in a statement announcing the funding last week.

“Manitoba’s locally-driven watershed districts are especially well positioned to deliver watershed-based programming, like GROW,” he said. “Through local decision-making of these grass-roots organizations, GROW provides funding to restore or conserve natural areas with farmers that provide environmental benefits for all Manitobans.”

Manitoba rolling out second booster shot

From Pg. 9

increase their chances of positive outcomes by an even greater margin.

“So we know vaccines work. It’s made the biggest difference. It’s our biggest weapon against this virus and so we continue to strongly recommend to Manitobans: get whichever dose of vaccine you’re currently eligible for as soon as you become eligible.”

The province last week announced it is offering a second booster dose of the COVID-19 vaccine to certain Manitobans.

Based on recommendations from the National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI), the following groups are now eligible for another booster:

- residents of personal care homes and elderly persons housing congregate living sites (such as supportive housing and assisted living) with no

age limit;

- individuals aged 70 or older who live in the community; and
- First Nations, Inuit and Metis people aged 50 or older, regardless of where they live.

The second booster should be Pfizer or Moderna and given at least six

months after a person’s last booster dose, the province has said.

For most people, the second booster dose will be their fourth dose of vaccine. For some immunocompromised people, however, this will be their fifth dose.

A NACI report released last week

noted the greatest benefit of a second booster shot is expected in adults age 80 and older and strongly recommended provinces begin prioritizing this age group, followed then by offering a fourth dose to adults age 70-79.

GVSD fills term position at Pine Ridge

By Voice staff

Garden Valley School Division last week announced the appointment of Garret Brook to the 100 per cent term vice-principal/teacher position at Pine Ridge Elementary School.

This appointment will be effective from Sept. 6, 2022 to June 30, 2023.

Brook is currently the vice-principal and resource teacher at Pine Ridge. He previously worked for the divi-

sion as a resource teacher at Parkland School and a teacher of a multi-grade classroom at Hochfeld School.

In a statement, the division noted Brook’s educational philosophy belief, in part, states that, “Our students need a safe place to learn and have a sense of belonging within a school community. I believe that a positive school community is built upon respect, trust, and positive relationships.

“As adults working with early and middle years students, we must facilitate an inclusive environment, that provides rich learning opportunities for all students and aims to help students become independent learners and critical thinkers.

“We must encourage a love of learning and be a community who celebrates and grows with one another.”

Studio tour artist application deadline nears

By Lorne Stelmach

Organizers hope that an annual showcase of the arts across the region will be back bigger and better this fall.

The Pembina Valley Studio Tour will be held for its 18th year Sept. 10-11, and the hope is that it won't need to be scaled back like last year given the pandemic conditions at the time.

"We hope that maybe some more group shows could be back this year," said lead organizer Margie Hildebrand. "And some people show outdoors or at least have some part of their display outside their studio and in their yards."

They are now making their final push for artists, studios, and galleries to sign up to be part of the tour. Registrations began in January with an early bird deadline of April 16 and a final deadline of April 29.

"We've gotten a lot of registrations already, so it looks like it's going really well," said Hildebrand, who noted they were up to 20 registered stops as

of last week.

There are always familiar faces and places featured on the tour, but they also aim each year to vary it a bit and always hope to get some new participants.

"We're always hoping to have some new ones. We're always hoping to have a good smattering of studios and galleries and artists from all over the region," Hildebrand said, noting the tour is a great opportunity for artists to be able to showcase their work and their creative spaces. "We want to create visibility for the artists,

The self-guided tour usually covers an area from Altona in the east to Carman in the north and west to La Riviere and features a variety of artistic mediums—everything from painting and ceramics to metal work and wood turning.

"The public can come and see how the work is done and hopefully buy some of the art as well," said Hildebrand. "I think a lot of people look forward to driving around to the differ-



VOICE FILE PHOTO

The Pembina Valley Studio Tour, slated to run Sept. 10-11, is accepting applications from artists until April 29.

ent locations ... it's a really beautiful time of year to be driving around the Pembina Valley.

"You can enjoy the scenery of the Pembina Valley and see what the art-

ists are doing and go into their homes or their studios and see how they make their art."

For more information, head to www.pembinavalleystudiotour.com.

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MCI's musical is back

Students bringing Matilda the Musical to the stage April 28-30

By Ty Dilello

Mennonite Collegiate Institute (MCI) in Gretna will be putting on performances of *Matilda the Musical* from April 28-30.

Inspired by the work of Roald Dahl, *Matilda* is the story about a special little girl with an extraordinary imagination.

The show marks MCI's first musical performance in two years due to the pandemic, and the school's drama department is pumped to return to the stage.

"Our last musical, *Annie*, was in March of 2020. And it was literally days after our final performance that the school was getting shut down with COVID," says choral director Christina Banman. "So it feels really significant just to be returning with the musical now as we feel that we're coming out the other end of this. So it's a really exciting thing to be doing

again."

The annual musical is a time-honoured tradition at MCI that is a big part of the school year for staff and students alike.

"To have not done one last year was a really big deal, and so it just feels really good and really hopeful to be returning to do a musical this year," says Banman.

Gr. 12 students Paige Anderson and Asha Hildebrand are among this year's cast, playing Matilda and Miss Honey, respectively. Both can't wait for the curtain to drop later this month.

"This is my first musical, and when I tried out I was not going for Matilda, so I was very shocked when I found out that I got that role," says Anderson. "So I'm a little nervous but also really excited because I get to be involved with a lot of different characters and people in this play."

"We've been doing lots of rehears-



SUPPLIED PHOTOS

Mennonite Collegiate Institute students are preparing for their upcoming performance of *Matilda the Musical* April 28-30.

"We're getting close to being fully prepared for everything, like memorizing all of our lines. And I already have all my songs memorized, so we feel decently prepared."

Matilda the Musical has shows nightly at 7:30 p.m. April 28-30 and a 2 p.m. matinee on the Saturday, April 30.

Tickets, which range in price from \$18-\$30, are available by calling the school at 204-327-5891 or by visiting www.mciblues.net.



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A tasty cultural connection

By Lorne Stelmach

Connecting to different cultures through their food was the idea behind a trio of international cooking classes that wrapped up recently in Morden.

Put on through the City of Morden recreation department, the classes led about a dozen participants each time through recipes from Brazil, Syria, and Nicaragua.

The latter session held April 6 featured onion steaks marinated in Coca-Cola with a rice dessert. That class was led by Jessy Berrios, who saw this as a good way for her to make connections in a community she has called home for less than a year.

"Morden is a good place for me because it is so quiet," said Berrios, explaining her family left their country because there was too much violence around them there.

"This [class] was attractive to me as well because I can get to know more people. It's difficult for me, having come from another country, I don't have many friends yet."

The cooking classes have been popular and full each time they have been offered, said Morden recreation programmer Stephanie Dueck.

"It's been a really good response. All of the classes have filled up, so there's been real strong interest in the idea of cooking together," she said. "It's been a very easy sell. I haven't even had to promote it too much because they fill up so fast."

Dueck said it can simply be a social outing for people, but she sees it as doing much more than that.

"I think we've been craving community and connection, and cooking is one of the best ways to do that," she suggested, "I think we all need some inspiration for in the kitchen from time to time, so trying out some new dishes is a great way to do that, and it's good to cook with other people and try out a new recipe together."

"We have so many people in our community who have moved here



PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE
Students came together last week to learn how to make dishes from Nicaragua as the City of Morden's international cooking classes wrapped up its winter/spring session. Right: Instructor Jessy Berrios led the class in making onion steaks marinated in Coca-Cola.

from all over the world, so it's also a chance to meet them and learning some of their cuisine is a great way to connect with cultures," Dueck added. "And there's so many options in our community as far as different cultures."

Taking part in all three classes was Trudy (who declined to give her last name), another recent newcomer to the community looking to make connections.

"It's something fun to do, and I'm interested in the different cultures in the community," she said.

"I like learning the different recipes and learning the different styles of cooking and then going home and trying to reproduce it myself. Every time I've come here they've had a slightly different way of doing something that I never thought of doing ... like marinating with Coca-Cola tonight."

Berrios agreed that food is an especially effective means for drawing people together.

"If they want to know a bit about my culture ... you can learn a bit through the food."

"And I love to cook food because I love to eat," she added with a chuckle.

Dueck was pretty certain that the city will be planning another series of cooking classes later this year.

"We're hoping to offer some more in the fall, and we hope we'll be able to hold them at the Access Event Centre at that time."



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PHAC's annual Chili Bowl night set for April 29

By Lorne Stelmach

A popular annual fundraiser in support of the Pembina Hills Arts Council offers a fun evening out with good food, and you even get to keep your bowl.

Choosing a handmade pottery bowl made by a local artist and then having some delicious locally made chili while also enjoying some music will be on the menu Friday, April 29 at the Pembina Hills Gallery in Morden.

There are two sittings at 5 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. for the event that involves and promotes the work of local artists while also raising funds for the arts council. In recent years, the evening has raised upwards of \$1,000 for arts programming.

"It's a chance to promote local artists and local potters, and it's not only through those who donate their bowls quite graciously, but it also brings people into the gallery space to see work that we have on display," said



VOICE FILE PHOTO

Pembina Hills Art Council's annual Chili Bowl fundraiser takes place at the Morden gallery on Friday, April 29. Tickets are on sale now.

programs and outreach co-ordinator Tye Dandridge-Evancio.

"I think one of the biggest things is that, as restrictions are lowered now and doors are opening, we're seeing a lot of people looking to enjoy that newfound freedom ... so we're getting back to things, and we can perhaps enjoy seeing people that we haven't had a chance to see face to face for a really long time.

"One of the things that I hope will also appeal is we will have a live performer with Mason Weselowski sharing his musical talents with us," he said. "So there's food, there's art and there's entertainment to be had, so I think those are things that may appeal to people."

A \$45 ticket includes one clay bowl, a helping of chili (regular or vegan), and one free drink. Tickets can be ordered online at www.pembinahillsarts.com, at the gallery in downtown Morden, or by calling 204-822-6026.

Community garden plots are going fast

By Lorne Stelmach

Organizers in both Winkler and Morden are anticipating strong interest in the community gardens again this year.

The plots are usually snapped up pretty quickly, and it is likely to be no different this year.

"I'm not worried about them not being rented out," said Winkler organizer Margaret Klassen, who noted that even with increasing to 176 garden plots there were only 10 left to rent as of last week. "There is a lot of demand ... this year, we're thinking the demand will be higher.

"A lot of people are wanting to grow their own produce again, so they're looking for garden space," said Klassen, who suggested people increasingly think about where their food comes from, and she sees that trend continuing.

"There's more people wanting to get back to growing their own produce and getting back into learning how to can and things like that."

She noted that they see a wide range of people making use of the community gardens.

"I think our oldest gardener is 93, and there are a lot of young families. You have every age range getting involved.

Klassen expects there will be more favourable conditions this spring given the improved moisture.

"When you have a wet spring though, it takes a little longer to get into the area to work it. So there's pros and cons, but we want the moisture, absolutely, because the ground was so dry last year. This is a huge blessing.

"We can't give an exact date for when the gardens will be ready because it's dependent on the weather."

The gardens have a water source nearby for renters to use. The plots are tilled in both spring and fall.

"Once they're tilled, then it's up to the gardener to keep it clean," Klassen said.

In Morden, registration for the community gardens began April 7, and Heather Fehr with the City of Morden also expected that there would be strong interest.

"They do fill up pretty quickly," said Fehr, who noted one difference this year is the new site at Loren Drive in place of the former Morden Co-op location.

Overall, there will be 80 plots at Loren and another 54 at Grant Ave. The plots are about 300 square feet each.

"This year we have new water stands, so that will be nicer for people. They won't be on those pallets anymore, so they will be little more accessible for the users."

After tilling, the plan is to open the gardens up for seeding May 20.

"We're hoping that the weather will all help with the growing conditions and help the soil retain the moisture a little better," Fehr said.

As in Winkler, the Morden gardens have been seeing an increasing interest every year.

"It can be a good hobby ... a lot of people are interested in learning new things, learning about plants and growing their own food," said Fehr.

"Food sovereignty is a big thing for many people, and not everyone has access to space in their own yards, so it's nice to have this space where the community can come together and grow things for their households."

To see if you can snag a plot, contact Penner in Winkler at 204-362-2552 or call 204-822-5431 ext. 5003 in Morden (or head to mymorden.ca/gardens to book online in Morden).

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From the Canada to Ukraine

Faith Mission (FriedensBote) in Winkler helped send three pallets of Prairie Cleaners Dried Soup Mix off to Ukraine last month, and last weekend they got word they had arrived in Tuchapy and that much of it was quickly being distributed in Chernivtzi. The area has been host to refugees since the Russian invasion began in late February. Faith Mission's Jake Elias says they're hoping to expedite another shipment of food and supplies.

SUBMITTED PHOTOS



Federal government tables \$52.8B deficit budget

By Lorne Stelmach

The Liberal government sees the federal budget released last week as offering smart, necessary investments with a focus especially on growing our economy.

The Conservative Opposition however sees it differently, and Portage-Lisgar MP and interim Tory leader Candice Bergen particularly sees the influence of the NDP, who have agreed to support the minority government in return for concessions. "It's not good news for Canadians," Bergen said last week.

"It's an NDP budget. It's a tax and spend and tax and spend big NDP budget, and the Liberals are really going further to the left," she said. "It's dangerous for the country ... when things are good, this government spends, and then when things are not great and we need to have had a responsible government in terms of fiscal policy, it's not there."

The budget offered more than \$85 billion in new spending room that the government cited as coming from a stronger than anticipated economic rebound.

Money is being targeted at speeding the flow of goods through the supply chains, boosting housing supply and boosting business investment among other priorities.

Overall, there is \$452.3 billion in new spending on projected revenue of \$408.4 billion, leaving a deficit of

\$52.8 billion.

Among the highlights cited by the federal government:

- \$4 billion over five years to launch a new fund to help cities and municipalities create more affordable housing and \$1.5 billion over two years to create 6,000 new affordable housing units with at least one-quarter of the funding for women-focused projects.
- \$625 million over four years for child care to help the provinces and territories build new facilities and

make new investments.

- \$1 billion over five years to create an independent federal innovation and investment agency designed to spur economic growth and address the fact that Canada is ranked last in the G7 in spending on research and development by business.

- Over \$8 billion pledged over five years for the defence budget to better equip the Canadian Armed Forces, reinforce cyber-security and support a culture of change. The budget con-

tained no road map on whether this would be enough to boost Canada's defence spending to the NATO target of two per cent of GDP.

- Up to \$1 billion for the Ukrainian government through the International Monetary Fund to help keep its government operating.

- \$4 billion over six years to remove systemic barriers to First Nations children receiving services in health, edu-

Continued on page 21

May the Promise of Easter Fill you with Faith, Joy and Love

Hon. Candice Bergen | Leader of the Official Opposition M.P. for Portage-Lisgar

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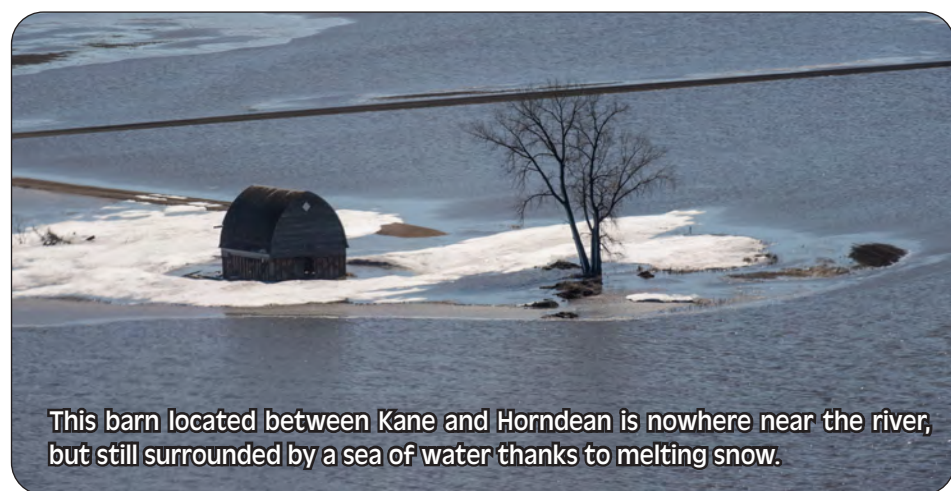
This photo and below is a look at how high the river was in the St. Jean area last week.

High waters

Photographer Rick Hiebert hitched a ride with pilot Alvin Wiebe last week to get a unique perspective of the spring melt's effect across the region. The Red River reached its peak over the weekend. A flood warning remains in effect for the Red River from St. Jean to Morris, at St. Adolphe, and in the vicinity of Selkirk due to ice jamming. A high water advisory has been issued from Emerson to the Red River Floodway inlet, except areas under flood warning. This week's forecasted blizzard could bring 30-80 centimetres of

snow to the region. The storm system is also bringing with it colder weather, though. With any luck, that will make for a slow and gradual melt. In fact, flood forecasters said on Monday that the runoff from this storm isn't expected to start before April 20, which should hopefully give the Red River's levels time to drop to accommodate the influx of water.

PHOTOS BY RICK HIEBERT/VOICE



This barn located between Kane and Horndean is nowhere near the river, but still surrounded by a sea of water thanks to melting snow.



The water on these fields just west of Letellier isn't due to the Red River at all—this is all spring melt from the mountain of snow we got this winter.



In Morden, all the snow means drought-plagued Lake Minnewasta is bursting with water these days.

Special needs, tech-voc funding announced

By Voice staff

The provincial government made a couple major funding announcements for Manitoba schools last week.

On April 7, Education Minister Wayne Ewasko announced \$7 million in funding for students with special needs.

"We know there have been impacts on learning during the pandemic and this funding reflects the high priority the provincial government places on special needs education for Manitobans," he said.

The minister said the additional

funding will provide all Manitoba school divisions with an increase in their Special Needs Level 2 and 3 funding.

"This increase for the upcoming school year will support students with special needs to provide student-specific supports determined by school teams, such as increased access to behaviour specialist supports, specialized programming or educational assistants."

The next day, April 8, Ewasko announced \$1.4 million for technology upgrades through the Skills Strate-

gy Equipment Enhancement Fund (SSEEF) for industrial arts and technical vocational programs in schools across the province.

Thirty-five schools are receiving funding to purchase equipment, including several in our area:

- Roseau Valley School, \$42,351.71 for its automotive technology program.
- Garden Valley Collegiate, \$33,724.64 for its heavy duty equipment technology program.
- Pilot Mound Collegiate Institute, \$90,317.02 for its woodwork technol-

ogy program.

- Morris School, \$12,193.69 for its collision repair and refinishing technology program.

- Morden Collegiate, \$33,261.73 for its welding technology program.

"Providing funding support to school divisions to purchase state-of-the-art equipment for technical vocational and industrial arts education provides Manitoba students opportunities to gain valuable real world experience," Ewasko noted.

sports & recreation

Flyers advance to round two

Winkler slated to face Dauphin in semi-finals

By Ty Dilello

The Winkler Flyers have advanced to the second round of the MJHL playoffs after dispatching the Winnipeg Blues in six games.

Last Wednesday evening, Winkler finished off the Blues by winning game six on the road in Winnipeg by a score of 4-2.

From puck drop in the first period of game one, this series was a roller coaster from start to finish. The home team was the victor in each game up until game six when the Flyers took their third straight win after being down two-games-to-one in the series.

The turning point took place when the Flyers came back and took a double overtime victory on home ice in game four. Winnipeg had the opportunity to take a 3-1 series lead, but a strong push from the Flyers and a late goal in the second overtime gave them a win, and the team never looked back.

"It really was a testament of home ice for the first few games in the series," said head coach Justin Falk. "It was a great opportunity for us to raise our game to another level on the road in game six, which we did to come up



PHOTO BY RAYME THOMSON/JUNIOR NIGHT IN MANITOBA

The Winkler Flyers celebrate their 4-2 win over the Winnipeg Blues last Wednesday, which gave them the MJHL quarter-final series in six games and allowed them to move on to the next round against the Dauphin Kings.

with a win there. It was exciting for our group to seal the deal that way."

Winkler will now go up against the Dauphin Kings in the MJHL semi-finals.

Dauphin finished in first place in the West Division in the regular season with a 41-12-1 record. So this series will be a battle of the second and third-place teams in the league.

The top-ranked Steinbach Pistons will meet the Virden Oil Capitals in the other semi-final.

"It'll be another great opportunity for us, playing meaningful games at this time of the season," Falk said. "And that's what we'll do, continuing to worry about what we can do and playing our game. We'll have to make adjustments in a series-type format and do our due diligence and pre-scouting to give ourselves an advantage systemically."

Winkler and Dauphin's second round matchup will begin this weekend, weather allowing. A full sched-

ule was not available at press time.

"We're going to try and get through this upcoming snowstorm and then make some tentative dates and plans for when we hope to be back up and running," Falk said. "We'll see what kind of weather we get dealt with here."

"But I'm excited for round two for all these hard-working guys on our team to keep pushing for their goal here."

Wahl finishes third at U18 curling provincials

By Ty Dilello

Altona's Dayna Wahl had a strong showing finishing third at last weekend's Manitoba U18 Provincial Curling Championships at the Heather Curling Club in Winnipeg.

It was a tough pill to swallow for Wahl, who just missed out on one of two available berths to the U18 Nationals; Manitoba will be sending two

teams this year in each of the men's and women's events.

Wahl and her rink of Piper Stoesz, Anna Ginters, and Gillian Hildebrand finished first place in the round robin with a 4-1 record.

From there, Wahl advanced to the 1v1 game of the page playoffs and found themselves with two chances to punch their ticket to nationals on Sunday.

In the 1v1 game, Wahl got behind the 8-ball early and never recovered, losing 7-2 to Neepawa's Zoey Terrick.

That loss dropped them down to the semi-final, where they would have a back-and-forth game with St. Vital's Grace Beaudry. Tied up in the last end without the hammer, Wahl was unable to come up with a steal to fall 5-4.

"It was a tough loss," said Ginters, who plays second. "We worked real-

ly hard this year for this, but I know that we'll be back even stronger next season."

Team Wahl is now off for the summer to train and get ready for a big 2022-23 season, which includes an early fall goal of winning the 2022 Canada Winter Games Curling Trials to become Manitoba's representative at the 2023 Canada Winter Games.

Check out the Voice online at www.winklormordenvoice.ca or altonavoice.ca

Manitoba 55+ Games are in Selkirk June 7-9

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Manitoba 55+ Games are slated to return with an in-person competition this summer, Active Aging in Manitoba (AAIM) announced last week.

The 2022 edition of Manitoba's largest 55+ multi-sport event takes place in Selkirk June 7-9. The community was originally supposed to host the 2020 Games, but those were cancelled due to the pandemic.

"It's a tremendous honour to continue the tradition of the Games as the host city and we know the entire community is looking forward to welcoming athletes and visitors to Selkirk," host committee chair Garry Hamm said.

The event is expected to draw hundreds of athletes from all over Manitoba to compete in 15 events, ranging from bowling to pickleball to slo-pitch. It's also a qualifier for the Canada 55+ Games taking place in Kamloops, B.C. in August.

Pembina Valley Games representative Lois Dudgeon says local athletes are champing at the bit to get back out there.

"If the number of calls I've been getting recently about the Games is any indication, people are definitely anxious to get back to in-person Games after a two-year break."

Pembina Valley usually sends about



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Local Games rep Lois Dudgeon hopes to see a good turnout for Team Pembina Valley at the Manitoba 55+ Games in Selkirk this summer.

80 or athletes to the Game each year, though Dudgeon notes the numbers might be down a bit this time around.

"I'm hoping for my usual Team Pembina Valley turnout ... being the Games are closer to home again; but also expecting there may still be some hesitancy about returning to the Games due to the lingering uncertainty of the pandemic," she said, pointing out there are also a few in-

door events not happening for safety reasons, including all the card games.

The Games are always a fun time for older athletes of all ages—from people in their late 50s all the way to those in their 80s and 90s.

"It's just important for older adults to keep physically and mentally active/moving for as long as they can," Dudgeon said. "The social aspect of the Games is also very important

to keep interacting with others your same age who share the same interests."

Dudgeon urges Games rookies to consider getting involved.

"Because we really do have fun at the Games ... keeping active participating in an activity of our choice/ we enjoy not, to mention renewing old and making new friendships from Games to Games. We are one big happy Games family."

While the 2020 competition was cancelled entirely, the 2021 edition of the Games went the virtual route for the first time ever, with participants logging their activity minutes and sharing their stories for a chance to win prizes.

The method provided pretty successful, and so the 2021 Games will include an online component once again from June 10 to July 10 for anyone who can't make the Selkirk events.

The deadline for registration for the Games is May 13 (May 20 for slo-pitch). Early bird pricing is in effect until April 29.

Due to the fact that people age 55+ are at higher risk for serious COVID-19 complications, athletes need to be vaccinated to compete. Masks are also required.

Head to www.activeagingmb.ca or call 1-866-202-6663 for more information.

Twisters move on to face Canucks in final

By Lorne Stelmach

The Pembina Valley Twisters are now aiming to take down the regular season champs in the MMJHL finals.

The third-ranked Twisters advanced by dispatching second-place Transcona in six games in the semi-finals, while the St. James Canucks eliminated the Raiders in five games in the

other semi-final.

The Canucks won four of five regular season meetings with the Twisters, and St. James kicked off Sunday by edging Pembina Valley 5-4 in Winnipeg.

The Twisters trailed 2-0 and 5-1 at the intermissions before making a third period push that included a pair of powerplay goals, but the comeback fell just short.

Nathan Ayotte, Tyler Van Deynze, Merek Degraeve and Riley Goertzen scored for Pembina Valley, which had a 34-31 edge in shots on goal. Logan Enns started in goal and stopped 19 of 24 before Martin Gagnon came on in the third and stopped seven shots.

The series continues this week with game two Tuesday and game three Thursday. Game four is slated for next week Tuesday.

In the semi-final, the Twisters grabbed a 3-1 win in game five last Tuesday, and it was perhaps closer than it could have been as the Twist-

ers outshot the Express 40-25 and had nine powerplay opportunities but only capitalized on one.

Scoring for Pembina Valley were Degraeve and Travis Penner with a pair including an empty net marker with 18 seconds remaining in the game. Enns got the win in goal with 24 saves.

Game six last Friday then saw Joel Vigier win it 2:08 into overtime for the 3-2 victory. TJ Matuszewski and Zander Carels also scored for Pembina Valley, and Enns made 22 saves with the shots 26-24 in favour of Pembina Valley.

In other league news, the MMJHL has announced its 2021-22 award winners and all star teams.

Matuszewski snagged a couple honours as the regular season scoring champion as well as earning the Myron Prymak Memorial Trophy as league MVP. In addition, Matuszewski was named a first team all star



The Pembina Valley Twisters knocked the Transcona Railer Express out of the running for the MMJHL title last week.

PHOTO BY CONNOR MATUSZEWSKI/VOICE

Thiessen transfers to Minnesota-Duluth

By Ty Dilello

Altona's Matthew Thiessen has transferred to the University of Minnesota-Duluth, where he will stop pucks for his senior year of college after spending the last three years at the University of Maine.

"The transfer really was a tough decision, but once I started the process, and I heard from Duluth and their situation, it was an opportunity I couldn't pass up," says Thiessen. "They play in a great conference, pretty close to home and have had a great track record over the last few years."

Thiessen got his start on the ice in the small northern community of Lynn Lake, Manitoba, as a child. He didn't play organized hockey, however, until he moved to Altona in Gr. 1. Soon after, he found himself in the net.

"I was supposed to go to some tournament as a player, but the other goalie was sick, so I ended up getting thrown in there because I had played before," recalls Thiessen. "But apparently, I was crying my eyes out because I didn't want to play goalie. I guess I did pretty good, though, because I stuck with it and enjoyed it ever since."

Thiessen credits his hometown as being very important to his development as a top goaltending prospect.

"Growing up here in Altona and playing against teams like MacDonald, Morden, and Winkler, it was always really competitive, and there were plenty of battles with them over the years," he says. "It was also nice growing up and getting to play with your buddies, building relationships through hockey that you'll have for life."

Thiessen had his big breakthrough with the MJHL's Steinbach Pistons in 2017-18. His play was nothing short of spectacular as he boasted a .923 save percentage and a 2.06 goals-against average. He posted a .944 save percentage en route to his team winning the league championship and then the ANAVET Cup.

Thiessen's season was so good in Steinbach that he was selected at the 2018 NHL Entry Draft by the Vancouver Canucks in the seventh round (192nd overall).

After a year with Dubuque of the USHL, Thiessen moved on to college, where he has spent the last three seasons at the University of Maine.

This past season, Thiessen accumu-

lated a 1-8-1 record with a 3.11 goals-against average and .888 save percentage.

"It was not the season that myself or my team wanted. Coming in with a new coaching staff, bringing in some new players, and with the previous passing of Coach Red," Thiessen says. "It was a whole new year for everyone."

"Again, we had to deal with COVID this year, and it probably wouldn't have been possible without all the teammates that we had on our team. We had a great group of guys that really bonded together throughout the year, and even though we didn't win as many games as we wanted to, it was a blast to come to the rink every day with these guys."

Thiessen plans on training a bunch this offseason as he's gearing up to head to Duluth at the end of summer to start his new journey there.

"I couldn't be more excited to go to Duluth and get started. I've heard great things about the coaches and the culture that they have built. It'll be weird at first with being at a new school, but I think the transition will go really well."



PHOTO BY TY DILELLO/VOICE

Altona's Matthew Thiessen is excited at the prospect of joining the University of Minnesota-Duluth for his senior year of college

> FEDERAL BUDGET, FROM PG. 17

cation and social services.

- \$5.3 billion over five years and \$1.7 billion ongoing to Health Canada to provide dental care to Canadians as a result of the Liberal-NDP agreement. The plan will start with children under 12 in 2022 at an initial cost of \$300 million.

- \$1.7 billion over five years to help make zero-emission vehicles more affordable for people. The Canadian Infrastructure Bank will spend \$500 million over five years to build infrastructure to support 1,500 charging stations the government has promised to build throughout Canada.

- \$547 million over four years to help businesses upgrade their fleets to zero-emission vehicles.

Bergen said there were three key things they had wanted to see in the budget starting with tax relief for Canadians, who have been suffering with inflation and rising costs.

"We wanted to see some tax breaks ... we also were hoping that we could see just much, much controlled spending because spending is what adds to inflation.

"We wanted to see a big halt on all of the massive, permanent programs that they've been doing," she said,

adding they had also hoped for more effective housing strategies and support.

"We were very frustrated but not surprised that we didn't see any of those three things, and the reason is we can see this now in the budget," Bergen said. "The Liberals have collected a windfall of revenue on the backs of Canadians paying through the nose for things like gas and groceries and essentials. And they're using that money to again spend on big permanent government programs instead of tax cuts or things that will grow the economy and produce long term productivity and investment."

In her foreword to the budget, Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister Chrystia Freeland highlighted what they feel a stronger country looks like:

"It means we need housing that is affordable for everyone, and a system where an entire generation is not priced out of owning a home.

"It means we need to do our part to fight climate change so that we can leave our children with clean air, clean water and a livable planet.

"It means we need to continue to face up to the sins of our past, and ensure that Indigenous peoples in this country are able to live dignified and prosperous lives.

"It means we need a health care system that allows people to see a doctor or a dentist, and to receive mental health care too.

"It means we need to continue to build a society that is truly equal for everyone, because the colour of your skin, or who you love, or where you were born should not dictate whether you get to share in the opportunities that Canada provides.

"And it means we need an economy that allows businesses to grow and create good middle class jobs, and where everyone can earn a decent living for an honest day's work."

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> MEAL IDEAS



Easter Bunny Rolls with Spinach Dip

ach, cream cheese and garlic 3-4 minutes until cream cheese is melted. Stir in mayonnaise, salt, onion powder, chili powder, pepper and Italian seasoning. Stir in Parmesan cheese and 1/2 cup mozzarella cheese. Cook until cheese is melted. Keep skillet on burner over low heat.

Remove dough from tubes. Leaving dough intact, roll and stretch into 18-inch ropes. Cut each rope into 12 pieces for 24 total.

On baking sheet with parchment paper, form bunny head by placing one piece of dough in middle then surrounding it with six more pieces. Use 13 pieces to form round body. Use remaining pieces to form ears on top of head.

Scoop hot spinach dip into center. Spoon small portions on each ear. Sprinkle ears and belly with remaining mozzarella cheese.

Bake 18 minutes, or until crescent dough is golden brown and thoroughly cooked.

Serves: 24
 16 ounces frozen spinach, thawed
 8 ounces cream cheese
 2 cloves garlic, minced
 1/2 cup mayonnaise
 1/2 teaspoon salt
 1/2 teaspoon onion powder
 1/4 teaspoon chili powder
 1/4 teaspoon pepper
 1 teaspoon Italian seasoning
 1 cup shredded Parmesan cheese
 1 1/2 cups shredded mozzarella cheese, divided
 2 crescent roll tubes (8 ounces each)
 Heat oven to 375 F.
 In skillet, over medium heat, cook spin-



Herb Crusted Bone-In Leg of Lamb

ternal temperature reaches 95 F.

Reduce oven temperature to 300 F and cook to desired doneness. For medium-rare doneness, remove lamb once probe reaches 125 F.

To make herb crust: In bowl, whisk egg whites until evenly foamy with tiny bubbles. Brush onto both sides of lamb.

In separate small bowl, mix rosemary, thyme, peppercorns and salt. Press herb crust mixture onto areas brushed with egg whites. Place back in pan and cook about 5-7 minutes until crust is formed and browned. Remove from oven and rest 30 minutes.

Carve lamb, arrange on platter and serve with fresh mint sauce.

Prep time: 3 hours
 Cook time: about 3 hours (depending on size and doneness)

Servings: 15
 1 Atkins Ranch bone-in leg of lamb (about 8 pounds)
 1/4 cup olive oil
 8 cloves garlic, finely minced
 2 tablespoons Dijon mustard
 2 tablespoons kosher salt
 1/4 cup white wine
 Herb Crust:

2 large egg whites
 2 tablespoons minced rosemary leaves
 2 tablespoons minced thyme leaves
 2 tablespoons ground peppercorns
 1 tablespoon kosher salt
 fresh mint sauce, for serving

About 2 hours before preparing, remove leg of lamb from fridge to ensure even cooking. Remove gland to prevent gaminess during cooking.

Preheat oven to 325 F on convection setting. Score skin of both sides of leg of lamb.

In bowl, whisk olive oil, garlic, Dijon mustard, salt and white wine. Brush onto both sides of lamb, pressing into scored crevices.

Place leg in roasting pan on roasting rack. Insert cooking probe into thickest part of meat, not touching bone. Cook about 1 hour and 20 minutes, or until in-

Brown Sugar Pound Cake



Finding security in an insecure world



It seems that at the core of all conflict is the ego's need to get what it wants, regardless of the impact on others. It is like kids in a sandbox fighting over space or toys.

If what is happening in the world, with all the divisiveness and polarity, is a reflection of that ego impulse in all humans, then there is something over which we do have control. We can choose to be aware of where we are not coming from a place of wisdom and compassion for others, and to be aware of our own need to be right. Whenever we attack another, directly or in thought, we contribute to the negativity in the world. Russia attacks Ukraine and we are outraged. But on a smaller scale, a group of neighbors who gossip critically about another are doing the same thing.

Hating someone at work comes from the same place as Putin hating Ukrainians, or Nazis hating Jews. When will we truly understand this?

We all will be called upon in one way or another to shift from outer security to inner security. As we each gain inner strength, our strength as a species will grow. This is evolution of consciousness. It is growing up and becoming wise stewards of our world and having compassion for all living things.

We can redefine security. If enough humans strive, in every interaction, to be what they want to see in the world, the world will be different than it is now.

The more wisdom humans bring to the world, the more peace there will be.

Gwen Randall-Young is an author and award-winning psychologist. For permission to reprint this article, or to obtain books, CDs or MP3s, visit www.gwen.ca. Follow Gwen on Facebook for inspiration.

Times are not changing. They have already changed. And we are surviving. These have been challenging years with the pandemic and now war.

Feeling that we have no control is often at the core of anxiety. There are global and personal changes that can feel threatening. How can we feel secure?

We I have learned that security does not come from a job. Jobs can be lost, phased out, bought out or otherwise eliminated, and we still go on.

Security does not come from relationships, because relationships can change or end, and people can leave us. Security does not come from money, because you can have lots of it, and still not be happy.

It can be challenging to believe, anymore, that we live in a secure world. Perhaps it has always been. When I was a child, we had air raid sirens and people were building bomb shelters in their back yards. It is scary to think that the world is not safe.

Throughout history, people have struggled to survive. Many lives have been lost in those struggles. Since WW11 we have been secure and have lived lives of relative luxury in that sense.

We are horrified by what we see in the world. At the same time, we see outstanding examples of the strength of the human spirit.

Prep time: 20 minutes
 Cook time: 1 hour
 Servings: 8
 1 3/4 cups all-purpose flour, plus additional for coating pan, divided
 1 cup packed C&H Light Brown Sugar
 1 cup (2 sticks) butter, softened
 4 eggs
 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
 1/2 teaspoon baking powder
 1/4 teaspoon salt
 sweetened whipped cream, for topping (optional)
 fresh fruit, such as strawberries and blueberries, for topping (optional)
 Preheat oven to 350 F.

Grease and flour 9-by-5-by-3-inch loaf pan. In large bowl, beat sugar and butter until fluffy. Beat in eggs one at a time. Add vanilla. In separate bowl, combine 1 3/4 cups flour, baking powder and salt. Gradually add to sugar mixture. Pour

batter into pan.
 Bake 1 hour, or until toothpick inserted in center comes out clean. Remove from pan and turn out on rack to cool completely.
 Top with sweetened whipped cream and fresh fruit, if desired.

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RELIGION

Following the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ, the first day of the week became a weekly reminder of his risen presence. Whereas the 7th day speaks of God's work in creation, the 1st day reminds us of His love in redemption. Please visit our newly updated website for more information and resources. www.clda.ca

HEALTH

Are you suffering from joint or arthritic pain? If so, you owe it to yourself to try elk velvet antler capsules. Hundreds have found relief. Benefits humans and pets. EVA is composed of proteins, amino acids, minerals, lipids and water. Key compounds that work to stimulate red blood cell production & cartilage cell regeneration & development. Stone-wood Elk Ranch Ltd., 204-467-8884 or e-mail stonewoodelkranch@mymts.net

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Contact this newspaper NOW or MCNA at 204.947.1691 or email classified@mcna.com

www.mcna.com

CAREERS

GJ Chemical Co. *growing together*
GJ Chemical in Altona, Manitoba is currently looking for spring & summer staff.

Duties include: equipment operation, deliveries, maintenance, inventory counts, soil testing, assisting with loading fertilizer and various on site duties. Class 5 drivers is required.

GJ Chemical offers wage guarantees for our seasonal staff. No more worrying about what you will make for the season.

Learn more about us at www.gjchemical.ca

Contact is Alex Wahl 204-324-3765 or awahl@gjchemical.ca

LAND TENDER

Land for Sale by Tender

Completed Tender and a \$10,000.00 deposit of the Tender Price are invited to be received up to 12:00 PM (noon) on April 21, 2022 (the "deadline") on the property described below, which Tenders and Deposits shall be received at:

PKF Lawyers,
326 Stephen Street, Morden MB
Attn: Stéphane Warnock
Ph: 204-822-4463

Property for sale:

1. THE NW 1/4 OF SECTION 3-2-6 WPM EXC THE SLY 1045 FEET PERP OF THE NLY 1655 FEET PERP OF THE WLY 1045 FEET PERP 134.93 Acres Certificate of Title No. 2888919/4 (the "Land")

-Located in the Rural Municipality of Stanley

Conditions of Tender

1. Financing must be pre-approved.
2. Tenders to be in the form prepared by PKF Lawyers. To obtain tender form or more info, contact Stéphane Warnock @ PKF Lawyers.
3. Each Tender must be accompanied by a certified cheque, payable to PKF Lawyers (in trust), in the amount of \$10,000.00. Deposits of tenders not accepted will be returned to the tenderers.
4. Highest Tender or any Tender will not necessarily be accepted.
5. The Possession date and the due date of the balance of Tender Price shall be May 2, 2022
6. The maker of any Tender relies entirely upon his/her personal inspection and knowledge of the Land, independent of the representations made by the vendor or the solicitor and agent of the vendor. The Land will be sold "as is" and the bidder is solely responsible to determine the value and condition of the Land, Land quality, Land use, environmental condition and any other information pertaining to the Land.

EMPLOYMENT



Manitou, Manitoba
PJ Mechanical is looking to hire a Ticketed Truck/Transport Technician.

This is for full time employment Monday to Friday, Must have Valid License. Any other certificates of qualifications considered an asset. Send resumes or any questions you have to boult166@mts.net

CAREERS

BORDER LAND SCHOOL DIVISION
 Life Long Learning
 Border Land School Division invites applicants for a
TERM GRADE 4 FRENCH IMMERSION TEACHER (1.0 FTE)
 FOR ÉCOLE WEST PARK SCHOOL IN ALTONA, MB
 FOR DETAILS VISIT WWW.BLSD.CA

CAREERS

BORDER LAND SCHOOL DIVISION
 Life Long Learning
 Border Land School Division invites applicants for a
TERM GRADE 4 CLASSROOM TEACHER (1.0 FTE)
 FOR ÉCOLE WEST PARK SCHOOL IN ALTONA, MB
 FOR DETAILS VISIT WWW.BLSD.CA

CAREERS

LA DIVISION SCOLAIRE BORDER LAND
 L'apprentissage tout au long de la vie
 La Division scolaire Border Land invite les candidatures pour combler le un poste
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 POUR DE PLUS AMPLES RENSEIGNEMENTS VISITEZ : WWW.BLSD.CA



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PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF REGISTRATION OF PROSPECTIVE CANDIDATE FOR GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION CITY OF MORDEN

Please be advised that a general municipal election will be held on October 26th, 2022.

Prospective municipal election candidates must register with the Senior Election Official (SEO) during the registration period before they may begin to accept contributions, incur expenses, fundraise, or borrow money for their campaign.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that candidate registrations will be received: For the office of head of council: Between May 1 and September 20, 2022

For the office of councillor: Between June 30 and September 20, 2022 at the City of Morden administration office, 100-195 Stephen Street during the regular hours of business.

To obtain a registration form, contact the SEO at the email or telephone number listed below:

Ted Fransen
Senior Election Official (SEO)
City of Morden, 204-799-3817
seomorden2022@gmail.com

Dated at the City of Morden, Manitoba on April 6th, 2022

EASTER SERVICE

You are invited...
EASTER SERVICES AT MORDEN CHURCH OF GOD
MAUNDY THURSDAY - APRIL 14 - 7:00 p.m.
Communion & Footwashing
GOOD FRIDAY - APRIL 15 - 10:00 a.m.
Remember His Last Hours
EASTER SUNDAY - APRIL 17
Breakfast - 9:30 a.m.
Celebration Service - 10:30 a.m.
141 6th Street, Morden, MB
HAPPY easter

CAREERS



The Gardens on Tenth is a Seniors Complex in Altona Manitoba committed to serving our tenants through facilities, programs and Services.

We are currently seeking a dependable, detail-oriented professional to fill the role of a Bookkeeping & payroll clerk. In this full-time position, you will ensure accurate and timely payroll delivery, in addition to managing the company's accounts payable and receivable functions and budgeting. This position is ideally suited for individuals who are well organized, have excellent time management skills and can maintain a high level of performance while maintaining accuracy.

Duties of the position include

- Overseeing and providing financial, administrative, and clerical services in order to ensure effective, efficient and accurate financial reporting.
- Processing of Accounts Payables and receivables as well as Payroll
- Budget preparation
- Tenant Invoicing
- Month End and Year End procedures
- Prepare reports for government bodies
- Ensure compliance with government regulations
- Work as a member of a team and coordinate the flow of information between multiple departments while keeping maximum efficiency.

Skills and Requirements:

- Secondary Education in accounting or at least 3 years related experience and proficient knowledge in the following areas, accounts payable, accounts receivable, maintaining general ledgers, bookkeeping, assisting with payroll functions, financial reporting and procedures.
- Knowledge of Sage Premium Accounting and simply accounting procedures
- Oral, listening, written and interpersonal communication skills and phone etiquette
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office applications (especially Excel)
- Ability to work individually and as part of a team
- Strong analytical, organizational and communication skills

Pay Package

The salary will be competitive with a comprehensive benefits package.

Please submit a resume and cover letter to hr@gardensonthenth.ca

We thank all that apply, however, only candidates selected for an interview will be contacted. The position will remain posted until filled.

The candidate being considered will be required to undergo a Criminal Record Check.

CAREERS



The Gardens on Tenth is a Seniors Complex in Altona Manitoba committed to serving our tenants through facilities, programs and Services.

We are currently seeking a dependable, detail-oriented person to fill the role of an administration assistant. This position is ideally suited for individuals who are well organized, have excellent time management skills.

Duties of the position include

- Provide front desk reception duties: greet tenants and visitors answer questions, give directions and manage flow of traffic in the office
- Answer phone/email inquiries to coordinate between various departments
- Maintain email files, filing cabinet and online calendars.
- Update, organize & maintain files & records for all departments
- Provide general administrative and clerical support to all Department supervisors and board members
- Prepare outgoing mail, sort mail and distribute.
- Data Entry

Skills and Requirements:

- Work Experience 2 yrs., preferred
- Oral, listening, written and interpersonal communication skills and phone etiquette
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office applications (especially Excel)
- Ability to develop and maintain a positive working relationship with others
- Detail oriented, ability to multi-task, with strong organizational skills are required.

Please submit a resume and cover letter to hr@gardensonthenth.ca

We thank all that apply, however, only candidates selected for an interview will be contacted.

The position will remain posted until filled.

The candidate being considered will be required to undergo a Criminal Record Check.

Classifieds Announcements

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BIRTHDAY



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OBITUARY

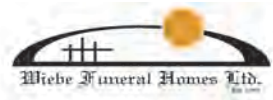


**John J Fehr
1941 – 2022**

On Thursday, April 7, 2022 at Boundary Trails Health Centre, John J Fehr, 81 of Winkler, MB formerly of Schoenweise passed away. John was a hardworking, energetic farmer who loved to work. He loved straight rows long before there was GPS. He was dependable, reliable and generous to a fault. He loved to talk and communicate but had little time for the coffee shop. He suffered much pain and was falsely accused but nothing compared to what our Saviour suffered for us. God gave the increase; shaken down and running over and John shared his wealth. We lived simply and tried to save a buck where we could. Thanks to John for all you did and gave to us. We will miss you and hope to see you in a better land. Farewell.

He is survived by his wife, Sarah (nee Gerbrandt); his son, Rick and wife, Chari; grandson, Aiden; four sisters, two brothers and many in-laws, nieces and nephews. Funeral service was held on Tuesday, April 12, 2022 at the Winkler EMM Church with interment at Westridge Memorial Gardens. The family is thankful for the compassionate care given at BTHC and SCC. If friends so desire, donations may be made in John's memory to the BTHC Foundation designated to Cancer Care or to South Central Cancer Resource.

Wiebe Funeral Home, Winkler
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CAREERS



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e-mail: manager@rpgamb.ca

Full-time Building Inspector

The RPGA Planning District comprised of the Town of Altona and the Municipality of Rhineland require the services of a Full-time Building Inspector.

Duties: Under the direction of the RPGA Manager the successful candidate will perform inspection work enforcing compliance with the MB Building Code, the RPGA Development Plan, Municipal By-laws and other Building By-Laws.

The Building Inspector will inspect and report on the construction, alteration, repair or extension of all plumbing and mechanical installation to ensure compliance with the approved plans, the Building By-Law, and the Manitoba Plumbing Code.

Qualifications: *The successful candidate will have the following:*

- Construction knowledge of Residential Part 9 and preferably Commercial Part 3 buildings, along with the certification from the Office of the Fire Commissioner (OFC) and inspection experience requirements;
- Be familiar with administration and enforcement of Development Plans and Zoning By-Laws;
- An ability to work with the public, contractors, architects, engineers, and fellow employees. Preference will be given to candidates with building standards/inspection training courses through the OFC.

Please submit cover letter, resume, and 3 references by no later than 4:00 pm on Friday, April 22, 2022 to:
**RPGA Planning District
Box 270, Altona, Mb R0G 0B0
Fax to (204) 324-1516, or by
email to: manager@rpgamb.ca**

AUCTION

Large Equipment, timed on-line auction April 19 closing, for Schweitzer Mauduit SWM, trucks, trailers, fork lifts, cranes, tooling, parts, office supplies, etc. Over 500 lots. Go to www.billklassen.com/nextlot to register and bid payment and pickup day is Wednesday April 20, 9 am to 2pm, also April 21, 9 am to noon



20/03/2022 23:37
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AUCTION



Farm Auction for Morely & Bev Wilson, Darlingford, MB. Timed on-line closing April 18/22. Good line of Farm equipment, haying, cattle, and large amount of shop items. Owners 204-246-2142



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

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

In the matter of the Estate of **HAROLD JOHN GILLIES**, late of Morden, Manitoba, Deceased. All claims against the above estate, supported by Statutory Declaration must be sent to the attention of: Justin Laurin, Estates Officer, at 155 Carlton St Suite 500, Winnipeg MB, R3C 5R9 on or before the 10th day of June, 2022. Dated at Winnipeg, Manitoba, this 8th day of April, 2022.

Nicole Hamilton
The Public Guardian and Trustee of
Manitoba
Administrator

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YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

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Helping people take to the skies

Mountain City Aviation has been making people's dreams of becoming pilots a reality for 17 years now. But the thrill of seeing the reaction when someone flies for the first time has not faded one bit for owner and operator Jim Peters. "It's always very exciting at that moment," he said. "It's cool for people to see everything from that perspective," added Vienna Peters, Jim's daughter and office manager, in noting how people love spotting their home or seeing a landmark like Lake Minnewasta in a new way. Mountain City Aviation is certainly helping fill a void in the area, as there are limited options in southern Manitoba for attaining your pilot's license. "We started the school in 2005 based on seeing a lot of interest in learning how to fly, and it just kind of grew from there," said Jim. "I've been in aviation all my life. I just have a passion for aviation ... and there's an opportunity for me to give back to our community in aviation."

Mountain City Aviation can help you get either your recreational, private or commercial license. "They differ simply by the hours of training," explained Vienna. "There's a ground school requirement for each of these licenses: 40 hours. "It's a great way to start and open people's eyes to aviation," she added, noting they just recently completed a ground school session with eight participants. There is also an online option available if people are limited by what time they can commit. "You don't have to have the ground school completed. You can be doing the ground school alongside flight training," Jim said, explaining how long it takes to get your license then will vary. "If they're working full time, it's probably going to take you about six months. If you can dedicate more time, probably about three months." Morden is an ideal location for earning your pilot's license, noted Vienna.



Jim and daughter Vienna Peters are the faces behind Mountain City Aviation, which has been helping people become pilots for 17 years.

"The Morden airport is a great place for flight training because it's not very busy with other aircraft coming in and out." Jim observed how it is interesting to see that they attract a wide variety of people and ages. "We see a large range ... we may see a 14-year-old who is interested and wondering how do we get into this ... we even had an 80-year-old guy show up years ago." And they see much potential for growth in the months and years ahead as a result of the pandemic. "There is a shortage right now because a lot of pilots ended up just retiring ... so we need more students training to become pilots; we need more pilots," said Vienna. "There's a huge potential for pilots over the next 10 years," added Jim, "which makes it attractive for us to keep going and expand our operations."

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